



# Village Life

The community magazine  
for Aston Clinton, Buckland  
and Drayton Beauchamp

No.42 June/July 2018

Website: [www.acvillagelife.co.uk](http://www.acvillagelife.co.uk)

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**The Editor is always pleased  
to receive local news of people,  
clubs and events.**

# Village Life

The bi-monthly community news magazine for  
Aston Clinton, Buckland and Drayton Beauchamp

Like much of the country, Aston Clinton and the surrounding area are seeing an increase in the number of new houses. This is bringing new families to the area and at Village Life we hope to play our part in helping our new neighbours to find their way around.

There are any number of societies and clubs in the area and there should be something to interest most people, whether they are new to the villages or have been here for some time. Please have a look at pages 32/33 where we have updated our list of local contacts for a range of activities and others you may need in an emergency. If your society or club is not listed please let us know.

To make it easier to contact us and see what is going on locally we now have an updated website, [www.acvillagelife.co.uk](http://www.acvillagelife.co.uk), and contact email addresses, which are noted at the top of this page. We are very grateful to Mervyn Ramsay of Mervyn Ramsay Design for donating his time to set this up for us. The magazine is available on-line so if you cannot find your paper copy or you know someone outside the village who would like to see a copy then just click on the website.

In each issue we try to publicise as many of the events being run by local organisations as we can. Because we only have 6 issues per year this can mean some events seem a bit remote when we mention them. Also, something that comes up at short notice may miss the print deadline. To help overcome this we now have a calendar of events on the website which will be updated regularly so you can see what's coming up during the next few months.

Finally, a word of welcome to Louise Rolph who has kindly taken over from Geoff Plowman, who has stood down after giving excellent service as our distribution co-ordinator.

*Richard Vincent*

## Baptist Church



*Hi everyone,  
Recently someone  
asked me if I  
was religious,  
and I found myself  
answering, "No,  
I'm not really  
religious, but I do  
love God."*

I guess as a Christian that's a strange thing to say, after all religion is supposed to bring us closer to God. Yet it seems to me it often does exactly the opposite.

Mind you, I am not sure that religion is the problem, but rather what mankind has done with it, turning it into a bunch of rules and regulations that most of us couldn't hope to fulfil.

In the Bible Jesus says these beautiful words 'Come to Me all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest'.

You see, Jesus isn't inviting people to a

system of rules, or a set of religious practices or even a particular church denomination. No, Jesus is inviting us all to Himself, inviting all of us who are ever weary, tired or burdened from all that life throws at us to come and receive His rest.

Inviting every single one of us to receive and experience His total Perfect Divine Love, be comforted by His Almighty Strength, guided by His Sovereign Wisdom and fuelled by His Glorious Power.

And do you know, the most amazing thing of all is that when we are joined to Jesus, we are immediately in God Our Father's presence, completely and continually in His company, arriving there not through religion, or personal effort, or even sheer determination, but by simply accepting the invitation from Jesus to 'Come'.

Now that royal invitation, is one that we are all entitled to accept. Love  
*Sue*  
**Sue Leach.**

## Bucks Art Weeks

This year the organisers will again be showcasing the best of Bucks artists and craftspeople. From **9 – 24 June** there will be over 300 venues where you can see (and buy) a wide range of items, including pottery, paintings, sculpture, photography and jewellery made by local artists. This is the 33rd year of the event.

For full details of dates, times and venues please visit [www.bucksartweeks.org.uk](http://www.bucksartweeks.org.uk)

Please mention Village Life  
when responding to our advertisers.

[acvillagelife.co.uk](http://acvillagelife.co.uk)

## Allsorts Summer Holiday Club

We will be open at the Baptist Church in Green End Street from **30 July to 3 August, 9.30 to 12.30**. Free fun, games and crafts for all local primary school children. More details at [astonclintonbaptist.org](http://astonclintonbaptist.org)





# St Michael and All Angels

Regular Services:

9.15am and 6pm each Sunday



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sun 24 June	10.45am	NO SERVICE AT ST MICHAEL'S BENEFICE SERVICE AT ST MARY'S DRAYTON BEAUCHAMP	
Sat 14 July	2pm – 5pm	St Michael's Summer Fete	St Michael's
Sun 29 July	11am	NO SERVICE AT ST MICHAEL'S BENEFICE SERVICE AT ALL SAINTS BUCKLAND	

## REGULAR EVENTS

Monday	2 – 4.30pm	Rhubarb Café (Closed on Bank Holidays)	St Michael's
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More details about these events on the church website: [www.s-michaels.org.uk](http://www.s-michaels.org.uk)

## Aston Clinton Ladies' Group

**Wed 20th June.** A trip to visit Mill Barn Garden in Weston Turville. Meet at the garden at 7pm.

For more information and directions please contact *Janet Leech 01296 630563*

**Wed 18th July.** A visit to Lindengate, a charity which promotes Health and Well-being through Nature and Horticulture. The visit is from 4.30 – 6.00pm and costs £5.00 per person.

For info contact *Sue Sanders 01296 630740* or *Janet Watson 01296 631014*



## St Michael's Flower Rota



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the ladies who very kindly helped with the flowers in the church over the last year. We welcome any new flower arrangers to join our team, experienced or not. If you would like to be involved please contact *Janet Watson 01296 631014* or *Janet Leech 01296 630563* or any member of the church. There is a rota in the church porch, please get in touch if you would like to be added to the list.

Berkshire  
Buckinghamshire  
Oxfordshire



## Dancersend: the cradle of nature conservation

*Are you aware that hidden in the hills to the south of our villages there is a valley that has a special place in the history of the nature conservation movement?*

The steep-sided valley just below the enigmatically-named sharp bend, The Crong, features a very impressive, ornate pumping station, part of a complex of structures built by the Rothschilds between 1862 and 1866. This is one of the most prominent records of the great influence the famous banking family had on the area. It is located where two large Rothschild estates met back in the mid-1800s, one stretching south-west from Tring Park into the Dancersend Valley and the other from Halton House to Aston Hill, Chivery and the highest point in the Chilterns.

The two estates provided a riding, hunting and shooting playground for the family and their influential house guests. In December 1873 a royal party is recorded as travelling by train to Tring and then on to Aston Clinton by carriage before shooting 400 pheasants at Dancersend and being entertained to dinner by Sir Anthony and Lady de Rothschild.

The Dancersend valley was where the young Walter Rothschild and his brother Charles developed their love of nature around the 1870s. Walter (2nd Lord Rothschild) went on to form the largest zoological collection in the world at Tring. Charles became an eminent entomologist and, realising the countryside he loved was being transformed by mechanised farming, quarrying and drainage schemes, invented the concept of nature conservation and founded the Wildlife Trusts movement.



BBOWT, Dancersend pumping station, rare fly orchid and bee pollinating a meadow clary

His daughter, Miriam, was a self-taught scientist who continued her father's work and was involved, with her brother, Victor, in establishing Dancersend Nature Reserve in 1939 in memory of her father.

Miriam once told me that her father and uncle took her to this valley when she was just four or five years old and she helped them collect Marsh Fritillaries, now a rare and endangered butterfly. The larval food plant for these butterflies, Devil's-bit Scabious is still quite plentiful near The Crong, but sadly the butterfly can no longer be found in Buckinghamshire or the surrounding counties.

The wealth of moth and butterfly species and a collection of plants rare in the county persuaded Charles Rothschild to acquire 78 acres of the richest habitat in the valley and this became one of the first nature reserves managed by the Society for the Promotion of Nature Reserves, the organisation Charles had launched in 1912.

Over many years Miriam chaired a management committee that looked after the reserve, until it was handed to what is now the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) in 1968. Dancersend Nature Reserve is now looked after by BBOWT and it has grown to 211 acres, comprising woods, chalk grassland and scrub stretching right across the southern parts of Aston Clinton, Buckland and Drayton parishes.

Much research and surveying has been carried out at Dancersend, showing it to be one of the richest wildlife sites in the Chilterns. It now boasts 390 species of flowering plants and ferns, over 600 species of fungi and 771 species of moths and butterflies, as well as many other types of insects.

Dancersend is one of a number of BBOWT reserves in this area. To find out more go to [www.bbowl.org.uk](http://www.bbowl.org.uk) *Mick Jones, Volunteer Warden* [jonesmick365@gmail.com](mailto:jonesmick365@gmail.com)

## Rosemary Mojsak

In 2017 Aston Clinton lost one of its best-known and most devoted villagers.

Rosemary Caroline Mojsak lived her whole life in the village and served it in so many ways. Born Rosemary Piotrowski in January, 1955, she was the oldest of three and her mother was a member of the King family of carpenters and undertakers. Rosemary went to the local primary school where she met Teresa Kirtland, who was to become a life-long friend and who kindly gave us much of the information for this article.

She later went to The Grange school and then went to work in the tax office, where she was to meet Andrew. It was when she had beaten him at both darts and chess that Andrew realised she was the girl for him and they married in 1976. Their three sons, Michael, Matthew and Stephen came along and it was only after they were a bit older that Rosemary was able to devote more time to helping her community.



We do not have space to do justice to all she did, but just the list of Parish Councillor (more than once), Anthony Hall Committee and helper at the Scouts and Playgroup gives you an idea of her commitment. And that is without her help with church flowers, school dinners and lollipop lady.

One of her most lasting memories for many people will be the village Millennium Map, which she helped design and was very influential in its production.

Rosemary who died at the tender age of 62, left a devoted family of Andrew, the three sons and three granddaughters.

The image is a poster for the Marsworth Steam & Classic Vehicle Rally. The text is arranged in a stylized, blocky font. At the top, 'MARSWORTH' is in red. Below it, 'STEAM & CLASSIC' is in large green letters, with 'Vehicle Rally' in smaller green letters underneath. A line of smaller text reads 'Historic Steam Engines, Agricultural, Classic Cars, Bikes and Trucks'. Below that, 'Sunday 17th June 11am-5pm' is written in red. At the bottom, 'STARTUP FARM HP23 4LL' is in white on a dark background, followed by the website 'www.MarsworthSteamRally.co.uk' in white.

**MARSWORTH**  
**STEAM & CLASSIC**  
**Vehicle Rally**  
Historic Steam Engines, Agricultural, Classic Cars, Bikes and Trucks  
**Sunday 17th June 11am-5pm**  
**STARTUP FARM HP23 4LL**  
[www.MarsworthSteamRally.co.uk](http://www.MarsworthSteamRally.co.uk)

## Induction of Revd Sally Bottomer

On a glorious early summer's evening on Ascension Day (10th May) one hundred and eighty-eight people packed into St Michael's Church for the formal induction of the Revd Sally Bottomer as our new Rector of the United Benefice of Aston Clinton with Buckland and Drayton Beauchamp. Sally's family as well as friends and clergy from the surrounding area were all there as the Bishop of Buckingham lead the service assisted by the assistant Archdeacon and the Area Dean.

Following the service the weather was so good that the refreshments were able to be enjoyed outside. The three villages are all delighted to welcome Sally in her new role as Rector. *James Adam*



Bishop Alan anoints Revd Sally

## Join us at St Michael's for our free Summer Fete

As well as afternoon teas, stalls, a prize draw and activities we will also have a dog show and the second year of our very successful 'Make, Bake and Craft' competition.

### *Would you like a stall at our event?*

*Do you run a non-profit group and would like to promote your presence in the village? Would your company like to sponsor our competition marquee or events arena?*

We would love to hear from anyone in the village who would like to play a part in the fete. Please email [Louise Jones smaa\\_fete@yahoo.com](mailto:Louise.Jones@smaa-fete@yahoo.com)

We look forward to seeing you there!

## St Michael & All Angels'



## Summer Fete

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2-5pm

Tombola trade stalls Books  
produce & plants cream teas Pimms tent  
Prize Draw Events Arena  
Make & Bake competition tent

**ALL WELCOME!**



## Aston Clinton Gardens opened for the NGS

On April 29th two residents of Green End Street opened their gardens under the umbrella of the National Garden Scheme. Jacki Connell lives at The Lantern Cottage and Sue Lipscomb at 101. Sue has radically re-designed her garden since she moved there in October 2015, and now has raised beds for vegetable production, a fruit area, wildlife pond, a Victorian style greenhouse, herbaceous borders and a Red Kite sculpture emerging from a bed of ornamental grasses. At The Lantern Cottage, spring hellebores and an abundance of tulips give way to an early summer display of roses, peonies, bearded iris and climbers. Jacki raises most of her plants from seed and cuttings and her greenhouse and conservatory are full of interest. Jacki's garden, being the larger of the two, served tea and cake. Both gardens had successful plant sales.

In spite of the day being bitterly cold, an amazing 153 visitors from far and wide came to the gardens. We were able to send a cheque for £830 to the NGS and their range of primarily medical charities. If you missed our openings in April, never fear, we will be opening again on **Sunday June 17th from 2 – 5pm**. Do come and visit then! *Sue Lipscomb*



## Aston Clinton Beer Festival 27 – 29 July 2018



Now in its 7th year, the Aston Clinton Beer Festival (ACBF) has become a firm fixture on the village social calendar. The organisers set out to put on an inclusive event which had something for everyone, but still took its beer seriously.

That ethos continues today, with the primary aim of the festival being to raise money for local charities with the secondary aim of making sure that all of the visitors to the event have a great time.

A focus on booking great bands over three themed days has kept the music fans happy, whilst an array of children's entertainment means that the youngsters don't have time to get bored!

This year's festival sees some exciting changes including a Craft Gin bar, more cover from the elements, a new compact stage and an improved range of food. Information on prices, discounted tickets, souvenir glasses and beer vouchers are available from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/aston-clinton-beer-festival](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/aston-clinton-beer-festival) Here's hoping for a sunnier festival this year and we hope to see you all there supporting local charities.

*The Aston Clinton Charitable Foundation.*





# Aston Clinton School

Head: Mrs Helen Shepherd



*It seems that every day there is an article in the news about children not being as active as in the past with the pull of technology and love of fast food. As we write this article, the London Marathon event has just taken place, which included short races for children, so all is not lost!*

Schools play an important part in promoting an active, healthy lifestyle for children and receive specific PE and Sports funding. This money is given by the Government to develop sport in school and has to be spent to support five objectives:

- The engagement of all pupils in regular physical activity - at least 30 minutes a day in school. In addition to the two hours of PE each week, this term we have introduced the Morning Mile. Children have the opportunity to run, jog or walk around the playground as many times as they wish between 8.30am and 8.40am when the whistle goes. On the infant playground parents are invited to complete the course as well. The number of laps the children complete each day is noted so we can work out how far they have travelled. There has been an enthusiastic take up of the Morning Mile so far. We are challenging the children to see if we can run the length of Britain by the end of this term!

- The profile of PE and sport being raised across the school as a tool for whole school improvement. An example of this was when

Griffin House invited Sports for Schools to run a fun, sports based fundraising activity, which was hosted by a disabled athlete. The children were enthralled by his story and went on to raise a record amount of money. We have Year 5 and 6 playground leaders trained to teach younger pupils active playground games. Residential trips provide opportunities to try new sports e.g. surfing. We have nine sports clubs available for the children to try as well as annual events such as the whole school Scavenger Hunt that includes a walk to Green Park, an activity and then a walk back with all children plus members of the community.



- Increased participation in competitive sport. We participate in events with other schools in the area such as Mandeville Games and Liaison group physical literacy events. A number of children have gone on to play cricket or run cross-country at county level.

- Broader experience of a range of sports and activities. We use the extra curricular clubs to help deliver this objective as well as the PE curriculum. For example, year 6 have been introduced to American Football and a small group of staff are being trained to deliver mini yoga in school. We hope to help children find the sport or activity they enjoy and be more motivated to continue in later life.

- Increase teacher confidence in delivering high quality PE. Twice a week sports coaches come in to school and run PE lessons alongside class teachers. This is the best kind of continuous professional development (CPD) as our staff see how to apply the theory with our children in a real lesson.

Governors have a responsibility to monitor how the school is spending the funding and there is a PE Governor who reports back to the Governing Board. We also publish our action plan on our school website so everyone can see what we are trying to achieve.

*Helen Shepherd, Headteacher*  
*Carole Green, Chair of Governors*



## School Children Help Homeless

A Year 4 class from Aston Clinton School is participating in the Young Citizens *"Make a Difference Challenge"*. This is a national project supporting children in identifying and addressing a cause that they want to do something about.

They considered various topics before deciding upon the local homeless as the cause to support. Having contacted Aylesbury Homeless Action Group, they found that the items most needed are:

- **Flasks:** these go in the emergency packs AHAG provide for rough sleepers alongside food that can be hydrated easily with hot water i.e. pot noodles, porridge and soups
- **Shoes (adult) for both genders:** clients often have poor quality footwear and this can lead to health issues. Good condition, practical footwear is very important.

If you can donate any of these items, please drop them at the Aston Clinton School office by **Friday 6th July 2018**, so they can be passed on to AHAG.

## A Portrait of Dennis Davies



Dennis was born in Islington, London in 1924. His mother, Violet, was born and raised in Aston Clinton. She moved to London when she married William Davies, but returned to Aston Clinton at the start of the last war, staying here until her death. Dennis was devoted to his mother, but also enjoyed travelling, especially to visit his family in Australia.

He attended Aylesbury Grammar School, then took a History degree at Leeds University that was interrupted by National Service. After graduation, he taught in East Ham, followed by further studies at King's College London, where he took degrees in Theology and Advanced Theology.

Following ordination, Dennis served in parishes around Aylesbury, but realised he was unsuited to full-time parish work. Instead, he taught history at Aylesbury Grammar and Quarrendon schools until retirement. He also assisted Rev Terry Lewis, and later Rev Alan Bennett, from 1955 until 2004.

Whilst Dennis' sermons tended to be formal, he was also a superb communicator with children, frequently giving impromptu talks on whatever subject the Sunday School group

was studying at the time. In addition, for many years he led the Buckland Crib Service, which he made hugely popular.

Dennis' other interests included the Scout movement, which he served for fifty years. At various times he ran a Cub pack, twice served as District Commissioner, and attained the Silver Wolf, Scouting's highest award. In retirement, he took an Open University degree in Art History and also held a keen interest in the works of Gilbert & Sullivan and Tolkien.

He died in December 2009 and lies in St Michael's churchyard. In contrast to surrounding burials, as an ordained priest, he lies with his headstone facing west. This accords with the tradition that, upon the Second Coming, and when the dead are raised, priests must rise to face their congregations.

*We still miss him. Ralph Weston*

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## Village Life - 'From the Archives'

As a new member of the Village Life editorial team I thought I should immerse myself in the culture and history of the magazine. I've lived in Aston Clinton with my family for 20 years but not paid much attention to village life, either the publication or what's happening around me, until the past few years.

It's only when you want to research the history of a publication you come to realise that this research would be so much easier if previous editors had kept at least one copy of each magazine to which future generations could refer. Previous issues of Village Life are available, but copies of its predecessors are few and far between.

We do have some issues of The Astonian (produced by the Aston Clinton Residents

Association) and The Parish Magazine which do provide insight into the activities and events in Aston Clinton and surrounding area and some of the local issues affecting residents. Issues that continue to this day.

It has been suggested that The Astonian wasn't a 'neutral' publication like The Parish Magazine and Village Life but just a platform for the Residents Association to air its grievances. Whether that's true or not an extract from The Astonian of December 1972 could have been written today:

*'Then there's all this business about the new houses being built in New Road, off Brook Street and on the Rothschild allotments. What does all this add up to? Well, to begin with, it will become fairly obvious within a very short time that the school is just not big enough to cater for the numbers likely to be wanting to attend. And if it is added on to, then there will be no playground. Unless the children want to plod across the main road to the new village green. Makes you wonder doesn't it? All these planners and what do we get? Something that is outdated before it is finished – because somebody did not think far enough ahead. We should build for the future – not for today.'*

Looking through the advertisements of that same issue of The Astonian I found that Aston Clinton had its own butcher, post office and handy store offering decorating materials, gardening supplies, china, glass, wool, toys and lawn mower repairs & servicing. There was also a pet shop, milkman, two garages and a boutique offering ladies fashions (all sizes), beachwear, swimwear, sun glasses, jewellery, accessories and parking facilities. Some would consider that to be real village life.

More from the archives next time.

*Andrew Andersz*

## Buckland Book Club in 2018

Unbelievably, the Buckland Book Club has now been running for more than 14 years. Initially organised by Barbara Fletcher when a small group of villagers gathered in the village hall one chilly February evening, it continues to flourish. We have seen changes to the group as members leave the village for pastures new or changes in career and family commitments mean they no longer have time to read for pleasure. However a number of our original members remain and newer recruits have joined.

Since 2004 we've read in the region of 150 books, ranging from contemporary fiction to classics, comedy and sci-fi and we've explored many different cultures from Biafra (*Half a Full Yellow Sun*) to Bangladesh (*Brick Lane*) and Easter Island, reflecting the catholic tastes and interests of Book Club members. Favourite authors include Maggie O'Farrell, Rose Tremain and Ian McEwan, but we are always pleased to discover new writers such as Clare Macintosh (*I See You*) and Jane Harper (*The Dry*).

Each month members take turns to host a Book Club evening, usually accompanied by wine, soft drinks and nibbles. In the summer months we've held poetry evenings over a summer supper and our Christmas gatherings are always accompanied by a delicious meal and a lighter read, not forgetting Secret Santa!

The books provoke lively discussion and, however different our views may be, we all agree it's great to be challenged to read outside our normal comfort zone.

The Book Club also provides a wonderful opportunity to make new friends with shared interests and to become involved in village life, so if you'd like to join us please call [Barbara](tel:01296631111) on 01296 631111 or email her at [brfletcher@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:brfletcher@hotmail.co.uk). *Janice Tunnickliffe*



## The London Marathon Habit



For many people running the London Marathon is a once in a lifetime event but for others, like Aston Clinton resident Helen Mulhall, it's become a habit.

You've probably seen her running through the village in all weathers and wondered why. Well Helen, a personal trainer, practises what she preaches by regularly competing in marathons. Village Life caught up with Helen soon after she ran the London Marathon in April.

*"This year's London Marathon was a real struggle. We hadn't had any hot weather in which to train so it was a huge shock to the body. You don't get much shade and not being used to it, it is hard to know how much water to take on. I knew I was in trouble before I hit halfway although I did hit halfway at the time I wanted."*

Helen first ran in London in 2007 and has also run marathons in Cologne, Dublin, Edinburgh, New York, Prague and Vienna. She's run the London Marathon on four occasions now with a best time achieved on the event this year of 3 hrs 15 mins 4 secs despite the very hot weather.

Before a marathon Helen will be committed and disciplined to training for four months, working on a six-day training week up to a maximum of about 55 miles whatever the weather. She plans her nutrition - both before, after and during her runs - and does core and weight as cross training at least once a week.

Helen is now preparing for the Chester Marathon in October. She's qualified for the England Age Group Masters Marathon Team so will get to wear an England vest. Helen's all-time personal best on a marathon of 3 hrs 1 min 30 secs was achieved in 2015 in Hull when she was also the first lady finisher. Maybe that England vest will help her break the three-hour barrier in October. *Andrew Andersz*

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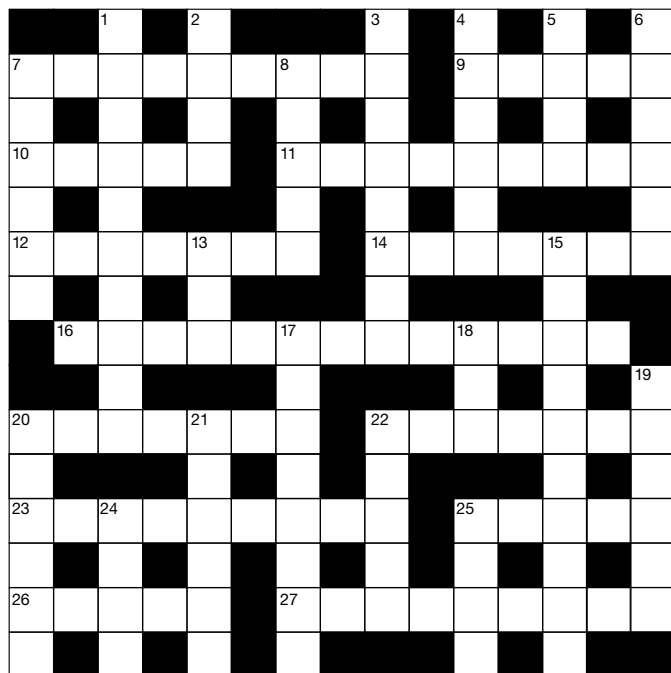
## The Adventure Learning Charity

In an issue of Village Life last year we mentioned the opportunities available at Green Park, a slightly misunderstood but important part of our village. In this article we want to tell a little more about the facilities available there through the Adventure Learning Charity, who look after almost all the Green Park grounds. Things have certainly moved on from the days when the public were not welcomed to the Stablebridge Road site.

The charity runs several activities for children and families of all abilities. Just have a look at their website, [www.adventurelearning.org.uk](http://www.adventurelearning.org.uk) to see exactly what is available. It still surprises some people that the extensive range is for individuals and families as well schools and youth groups.

# Village Life crossword no.27

Crossword compiled by **Helen Lonsdale** (SOLUTION ON PAGE 25)



## CLUES ACROSS

- 7 Bold exploit (9)
- 9 Muslim deity (5)
- 10 Premium Bond machine (5)
- 11 Work out/compute (9)
- 12 Hawaiian Guitar (7)
- 14 Tell a story (7)
- 16 Educated intellectual ladies (13)
- 20 Very bad/atrocious (7)
- 22 Trust (7)
- 23 Dried petals & Spices (9)
- 25 Herb (5)
- 26 Elsewhere/Defence (5)
- 27 Denials (9)

## CLUES DOWN

- 1 Finally (10)
- 2 In times past (4)
- 3 Of or relating to Greece (8)
- 4 Large wild cat (6)
- 5 Bone in the forearm (4)
- 6 Made from milk(6)
- 7 Tree lined road (6)
- 8 Father's brother (5)
- 13 Female sheep (3)
- 15 Hostile (10)
- 17 Forbearing (8)
- 18 Sick (3)
- 19 Beautiful girls (6)
- 20 Request (6)
- 21 Near sightedness (6)
- 22 Existence (5)
- 24 Appendage (4)
- 25 Use teeth (4)

An ideal way to find out more is to attend one of the family days, on various dates in August, where you can get a taster of the various options. Being a charity, Adventure Learning relies on events held at Green Park to help subsidise some of the facilities they offer, so corporate events are also welcomed.

Other facilities at Green Park include swimming clubs and Aston Clinton Badminton club which meet there regularly. More details are on our list of local organisations on pages 32/33.



## Volunteering at Lindengate

Lindengate is looking for additional volunteers to support our service users. Here are some words from one of our volunteers, Emma:

*"I've been a volunteer at Lindengate for 18 months now, after becoming interested in the idea of Social & Therapeutic Horticulture through a magazine article. My day job is in care and having always enjoyed gardening, it was the perfect place to combine two interests. I love the sociability of volunteering at Lindengate, meeting the variety of people that come to enjoy the garden and its myriad activities, and being able to support them in sharing new experiences and to help them grow within themselves, whatever their capabilities."*

*Seeing the Gardeners (service users) I work with build their confidence, increase their skillset and take so much enjoyment from the activities we participate in, gives me great joy and really is the highlight of my week. Being even a small part in supporting someone to achieve their goals, overcome a personal hurdle or take even the smallest step in progress, provides immense satisfaction. But most of all I love the fact that gardening as a therapy benefits all of us"*

If you'd like to help support those with mental health needs or can help on conservation activities, fund-raising or administration please call **01296 622443** or email [volunteer@lindengate.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@lindengate.org.uk). Volunteering forms can be downloaded at [lindengate.org.uk/volunteers.html](http://lindengate.org.uk/volunteers.html)

You can follow Lindengate on [Facebook@Lindengategardening](#) or visit the **Lindengate Fair** on **June 9th 2018**.



**MIKRON OUTDOOR THEATRE**  
back by popular demand  
**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June**

Please join us in the Lindengate Garden for a performance by the renowned Mikron Theatre Company in:  
"Revolting Women"  
Fight for our vote – 100 years on.  
For more info on the play visit [www.mikron.org.uk](http://www.mikron.org.uk)



**Doors open at 6pm. Performance starts 7pm**

Enjoy the gardens and why not bring a picnic  
**Tickets £13 (£11 concessions)**

can be purchased at:

<https://www.goldengiving.com/event/revoltingwomen>

All proceeds from the event will go to Lindengate.

Registered charity 1153868

Entrance to Lindengate is via the Wyevale Carpark.

The Old Allotment Site, Wyevale Garden centre,  
Aylesbury Road, Wendover HP22 6BD. 01296 622443  
[www.lindengate.org.uk](http://www.lindengate.org.uk)



**SATURDAY 9 JUNE**  
**12noon - 4.30pm**

**A fun day out for all the family!**

Craft and Conservation Stalls - BBQ - Cakes  
Hot and Cold Drinks - Raffle and Tombolas - Competition  
Children's Activities - Storyteller - Circus Workshops  
Magician - Archery - Donkeys - Free Bike Checks  
Plant and Produce Stall

The Old Allotment site, Wyevale Garden Centre, Aylesbury  
Road, Wendover, HP22 6BD.

[www.lindengate.org.uk](http://www.lindengate.org.uk)

01296 622443

Charity Number 1153868

## Relay For Life Aylesbury Hosts Biggest Birthday Bash in Bucks!

Relay For Life Aylesbury is planning a huge birthday extravaganza to celebrate its 10th anniversary from noon on **28 July**. The 24-hour event, where at least one team member is on the track throughout the Relay, will be held at the Nuffield Pavilion in Halton.

Since 2009, when Relay for Life was launched by the late Paula Watson a total of £625,287 has been raised for Cancer Research UK.

Central to Relay is the Survivors' Lap, where those who have successfully fought cancer, are undergoing treatment, or have received a cancer diagnosis, complete one lap of the track to launch the event.

The Survivors' Lap is followed by a special buffet lunch (complimentary) which a Survivor's partner, friend, carer or supporter can attend as their guest.

These honoured guests can then stay to enjoy the entertainment and festivities which run into the evening and include themed, fancy-dress laps, fundraising stalls, and free live music.

Chairman of Relay For Life Aylesbury, Paula Kirby says:

*"Our survivors are the reason we Relay. Without them Relay would not be the fantastic community event that we are all so proud of, so if you have any friends who are cancer survivors – men, woman or children – please encourage them to get in touch."*

For more information about how to register as a Survivor please visit our website at [www.relayforlifeaylesbury.org](http://www.relayforlifeaylesbury.org), email [aylesburyrflsurvivorship@gmail.com](mailto:aylesburyrflsurvivorship@gmail.com) or call **Adrienne** on 07760 377482.

## Pace Big Walk Attracts Record Numbers



Around 200 people took part in April's 'Big Walk' to raise funds for Pace, the Aylesbury-based charity.

Supporters have already raised over £10,000 for the charity and the money will be put to good use. Every year Pace provides education, therapy and support to over 300 children and young people with cerebral palsy and similar disorders, as well as providing support and guidance for their families. Chief executive, Amanda Richardson MBE said:

*"We believe every child has the ability to learn and make progress whatever his or her physical or sensory challenge,"*

The walk was well supported by the local community: coaches were donated by Motts Travel, and Metro Bank, Co-op Food, Budgens, Sainsbury's, Waitrose, Marks & Spencer and Morrisons all supplied refreshments on the day. Director of fundraising, Caroline Bennett said:

*"It was great to have the Pace Big Walk so well supported by our local community. It means more of the money raised goes straight to our vital services"*

For further information about Pace, please contact **Caroline Bennett** on 01296 616976. [www.thepacecentre.org](http://www.thepacecentre.org)



## The Wendover Arm Canal - past, present & future

The Wendover Canal leaves the Grand Union at Bulbourne Junction and continues to Wendover - a distance of about 6.75 miles.

The canal was constructed as a feeder to the summit of the Grand Union Canal, and opened in 1797 to serve the Tring cutting where it joins the seven locks leading down to Marsworth village. Opposite the entrance to the Arm is a working dry dock and on the towpath side is the Toll House.

The Wendover Arm Trust (WAT) was formed in 1989 to look after this section of the canal and reconstruction work commenced in 1997 - exactly 200 years after the Arm opened. The Trust is run by a dedicated team of volunteers with no local or government subsidy.

Shortly after entering the Arm, Gammel Wharf is reached where Heygates continue to produce flour. This was originally milled using steam and wind power from the on site windmill. Timber narrowboats were constructed alongside until 1952.

The next item of interest is Tringford Pumping Station which is a Grade II listed building built in 1817 and which has recently undergone extensive refurbishment.

Electric pumps take water from the Tring Reservoirs which discharges into the Arm and flows into the main line at Bulbourne Junction.

A little further on is Little Tring Bridge. This was rebuilt by the Wendover Arm Trust in 2001 with the first passage of boats through in 2005. This bridge had been demolished and infilled in the 1970's and cost the Trust £223,000 to rebuild.

Beyond the winding hole at Little Tring the canal is without water and overgrown. This section of canal restoration continues as far as Drayton Beauchamp bridge.



Wendover Arm Trust, re-watered section

Currently two timber footbridges are in use since public footpaths across the canal cannot be used once water is flowing. About 1021 metres (1100 yards) of the dry canal has been restored. This section has been re-watered although not to full navigable depth at present. Restoration work is now approaching Whitehouses, which comprises the remains of a second pumping station built in 1802. Extensive works are to be started soon by contractors working on behalf of CRT, the Canal owners. The cost will be met by WAT.

Beyond Little Beauchamp bridge the canal is in water but unnavigable and restoration of this section is entirely dependent upon future funding and labour availability.

In the next issue we will look at future projects being planned.



Drayton Beauchamp bridge looking towards Wendover

The Trust attends a number of local events each year to spread the word and will have two Restoration Open Days in 2018 - **Sunday 3 June** and **2 September** both from **12.30pm** at Drayton Beauchamp Church when guided tours of the current restoration will be offered. There is no entrance fee or parking charge but donations are always welcome and Sales Stalls will be on site.

The Trust is always seeking active reliable volunteers and if you are interested in the restoration side please contact **Ray Orth** on **01494 786868**. We invite all interested parties to take out a membership, which is only £10 per annum, and further details are available from **Katherine Deane** on **07457 18185**.

*Nigel Williams, Publicity Director,  
Wendover Arm Trust*

## Royal British Legion



The RBL raises funds for the Poppy Appeal, which supports ex-servicemen and their families. If you know of any ex-serviceman or woman who is in need, even if it is as little as just a visit, please contact our office on the High Street in Aylesbury, where we have trained welfare officers.

Our Branch was represented at the Aston Clinton Village Market. We ran a successful tombola and wish to thank all the village businesses and residents who made donations of prizes. Visitors to our stall were not only engaged in conversation but taught to knit their own poppies!

A few members (see picture) went to Tring Road Tesco and raised £480 by packing bags and taking them out to the customers' cars.

Our chairman and standard bearer are going to Ypres this autumn as part of the GP90 remembrance. They will be parading through the Menin Gate.

We will be holding a summer social on **29th June** at the Rothchild's Arms in Weston Road. The details have not yet been finalised, but all are welcome to join us.

We shall soon be thinking about collecting for the annual Poppy Appeal in November. We need more volunteers, partly because some of us are getting too old to go door to door or stand outside shops, and our village is expanding. If you can assist, please contact **Emma** on **07597 944223**. *Ralph Weston*



I didn't realise how woefully unprepared my own kids were for starting school until I took a job as a teaching assistant in a reception class. Forget about learning the alphabet or the capital of Spain. At this level, it's basic life skills they need (I apologise now to the wonderful staff who had to put up with my gang of poor bum-wipers). Here then, for those of you with children starting primary school in September, are my tips for you to work on over the summer. The stuff I wish I'd known and the things you can help with that your child's teacher will LOVE you for.

**1. Know their own name** It's so much easier to find your own coat-peg if you know what your name looks like. Likewise identifying book-bags, discarded school jumpers and work books. The staff will take great pleasure in teaching your child to write their name but from day one they will need to know what it looks like.

**2. Get dressed** As mums we just want to get our kids up, ready and out of the house in the quickest way possible but try and sit on your hands on the odd occasion that you don't have to be somewhere. Let them figure out how to put on a top or how to get their socks on. I know it's hard to watch them struggle (and risk ending up looking like they were rolled in glue and thrown in a jumble sale) but consider the poor TA who is helping them getting ready for

PE and faced with 30 kids staring blankly at their own feet. For most reception age kids, PE is mostly spent learning to get changed.

**3. Identify their feet** I realise you will want to put off buying school shoes until the very last minute and that is a wise decision as feet have a tendency to grow very fast once the shoes start costing upwards of thirty quid. However, it helps to get your child to start putting their own shoes on NOW. Any shoes. Just the physical act will be good preparation. And how cool would it be if you didn't have to get down on your hands and knees every time you want to go somewhere?

**4. Work a zip** During their first term of school many children will stand waiting for the nearest grown up to come and unwrap them. I often see well-meaning mums come into school and take their child's coat off for them. Believe me this doesn't happen when they come in from playtime during the school day so get them used to working a zip now.

**5. Stop cutting up food** Again, I know its hard to imagine your precious baby – who might still be only 3 – standing in line and selecting their own pudding in the lunch hall but that is exactly what they'll be doing come September. They will even be able to carry a prison-style tray of food across to a table, get themselves up on to a chair and eat their lunch so it's useful to get them accustomed to doing this independently now. They'll even be clearing up after themselves, not that you will see any evidence of this until they are at least 19.

However, if all else fails and you spend the summer not getting dressed til noon, don't sweat. Appreciate every minute of this special time and trust that the lovely Teachers and TAs have got your back. You can thank them in wine at Christmas! **Kelly Cornish**

## Aston Clinton U3A news

Our monthly general meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at the Anthony Hall, 2.30 – 4.30pm. At the meeting on **19th June** there will be a talk about Captain William John Gill, a Victorian explorer and British army intelligence officer. The talk on **17th July** will be looking at the origins of place names.

Following recent trips to the Post Office Museum and The Imperial War Aviation Museum, our trip on the **26th June** will be to Knole House and Gardens, a National Trust property near Sevenoaks, situated in over 1,000 acres of parkland. The house itself is a former archbishop's palace containing a renowned collection of art and furniture.

As ever, the 30+ individual interest groups continue to meet regularly. The Wildlife group have visits lined up to see the orchids at Aston Clinton Ragpits and butterflies at Bacombe Hill. The Science and Technology group have a talk arranged on Global Positioning Systems ( GPS ) and another on "*The History of Lighthouses*". The Film group, which meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month, will be watching *Sleepless in Seattle* in June and *84 Charing Cross Road* in July. On the **4th July** the Food Technology group will be holding their Summer Buffet.

Aston Clinton U3A has a vibrant membership of men and women, part of the national and international organisation, University of the Third Age, usually referred to as U3A. This organisation was created to provide access to a variety of activities both educational and therapeutic for retired and semi-retired people and probably more importantly it enables members to meet and make new friends.

For more information and a full schedule of our interest groups visit our website [acu3a.weebly.com](http://acu3a.weebly.com) *Jeff Meek*



### Dissecting Barn Owl pellets

In February, 14 people attended this very popular session of the U3A *Wildlife Group*. Each armed with tweezers and cocktail sticks, they began discovering the tiny bones amongst masses of fur within the pellet they had been given.

We believed the mammals swallowed by the Barn Owls to be mainly Voles and Mice. From the 11 pellets (regurgitated undigested food) given to us by next month's speaker, Norman Shepard, we found at least 20 skulls of small mammals and lots of other bones that are rather more difficult to identify.

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### Tring and District Model Railway Club

We will be holding a 40th anniversary exhibition, Vale Rail, on **Saturday 23 June**.

A small exhibition, featuring club and members' layouts, with a few surprises, will be held at Aston Clinton Primary School, Twitchell Lane, Aston Clinton.

For more information see our website, [www.tdmrc.co.uk](http://www.tdmrc.co.uk)

*Roy Seaward* Publicity Officer,  
Tring and District MRC



# Village People

*This is a series about the people of Aston Clinton, Buckland and Drayton Beauchamp. Not just the people who live in these villages but the people who are a part of the daily life of the villages.*



**Penny Kerry** – receptionist at Aston Clinton Dental Clinic.

Penny Kerry is the receptionist at the Aston Clinton Dental Clinic. Her ready smile and dry sense of humour welcomes you on arrival and consoles you as you depart. Village Life met with Penny recently to find out more about the person behind the smile.

## **Q. When did you start to work at the clinic?**

A. I started working as a receptionist at Aston Clinton Dental Clinic 16 years ago in October 2002 and things have changed a lot since then. Colleagues come and go and the patients that I knew as 4-year olds are now 20 – makes me feel old!

## **Q. What does your job entail?**

A. I do a lot of 'meeting, greeting and smiling' and try and make patients feel as comfortable as possible in what for some of them is a very stressful situation. There are lots of administration jobs to do most of which involve the computer. I do like to keep up to date with computer technology and therefore, in my 70th year my job enables me to do so. I love my job, because I like people – everyone has value and our patients are so nice.

## **Q. How many patients do you usually see throughout the day?**

A. I talk to approximately 60 patients a day either face to face or on the telephone. I spend so much time on the 'phone at work that I never answer the telephone at home – it drives my friends mad!

## **Q. Do you and your family live locally?**

A. I haven't much of a family – a brother in Shropshire and a son who comes and goes a bit like aboomerang.

## **Q. How long have you lived in the area?**

A. I have lived in Aston Clinton for 31 years – in the same house.

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**Q. What are your hobbies?**

A. I like cooking (and eating), do a bit of sewing – making my own curtains and cushion covers, I have reupholstered a couple of chairs. I do like antiques and craft fairs.

**Q. What's your favourite music?**

A. I love music but particularly Ed Sheeran who I went to see in Manchester last month (a treat from some friends), I also like Rag 'n' Bone Man who blasts out in my car.

**Q. What's your favourite film?**

A. Gone with the Wind because I like strong, feisty women.

**Q. What was the first car you owned and what do you drive now?**

A. The first car I owned was a Morris Minor with a split front windscreen and little arms that used to indicate whether you were going left or right. I now drive a VW Golf which is on its last legs (2003) - when it gives up the ghost I will probably replace it with another VW Golf (bit boring I know)

I do a lot of meeting, greeting and smiling and try to make patients feel as comfortable as possible

“



**Q. What changes to village life have you noticed in recent years?**

A. I think the biggest changes in the village are the increase in the number of houses and flats. Nice, historical Victorian houses knocked down to make way for two uninspiring detached homes and yew trees of over 100 years of age hacked down by builders is such a shame.

*Interview and Photo*

**Andrew Andersz**

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*If there is anyone whose contribution to village life you believe should be featured in a forthcoming issue of Village Life, please send details to [Editor@acvillagelife.co.uk](mailto:Editor@acvillagelife.co.uk)*

Here's how you and your children can have healthy teeth and keep trips to the dentist to a minimum:

- Brush twice a day with fluoride toothpaste.
- Floss between your teeth every day to remove food, debris and plaque.
- Cut down on sugar.
- Have a healthy lifestyle, including eating well, not smoking and limiting your alcohol and sugar intake. It's good for your whole body, including your teeth, gums and mouth.
- Brush baby teeth as soon as they come through.
- Get children into a teeth-cleaning routine.
- Straighten crooked teeth with braces.
- Have regular dental check-ups.
- Don't delay with dental treatments.

## Parish Council News

May sees the Parish Council looking forward to the summer months, although spring has been anything but sunny! We have several events coming up in the Park, starting off with the Aston Clinton Colts' tournament weekend on **June 30th – July 1st**. Visitors are welcome to pop along and watch the youngsters in action and sample the food & drink on offer.

Following that, we will have **PLAY IN THE PARK** on **Monday 30th July from 2-4pm**, for 2-10 year olds. This free event replaces AVDC's 'Play Around the Parishes', as we decided to organise it ourselves this year. There will be a bouncy castle, craft tent, as well as target goal, soft dart board and nerf battles from our new play providers Advanced Sports Ltd. The café will be open for soft-play free of charge, as well as the usual range of food and drinks.

Then there will be the big one – **ASTONBURY MUSIC FESTIVAL 2** – this year on **Saturday 18th August** from midday onwards. Many bands are already confirmed and any young bands and singers are welcome to get in touch to take part in an 'open mic' session before the main bands hit the stage. Much more news about Astonbury in the next issue.

Update on the New Community Centre: as most people know, the parish council intends to replace the current café/club building with a new community centre. This has been a long, tough road with funding not being enough to support the original design concept. The council is working on a new, slightly smaller specification and applying for additional funding. Fingers crossed this time it will result in a fantastic new facility. *Gill Merry*

For a digital version of Village Life  
visit our website.

[acvillagelife.co.uk](http://acvillagelife.co.uk)



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 30 July	2 – 4pm	Play in the Park
Sat 18 Aug	12pm	Astonbury Festival 2

## Neighbourhood Plan

*Aston Clinton Neighbourhood Plan  
update – good news.*

The Parish Council have had the examiner's response and except for a few small amendments, it was approved. Key points: Green Park green spaces will be designated as local green space and the proposed settlement boundary has been signed off, limiting new applications to a maximum of five houses. Now the plan carries significant weight but it has to be approved by referendum by the village residents. This will be arranged for late June – early July by AVDC when as many residents as possible will be asked to vote. The question that will be asked is: *Do you want Aylesbury Vale District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Aston Clinton to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?* For the NP to be brought into force there must be a majority vote for supporting it. Keep your eye out around the village for posters and on social media. Details will be confirmed as soon as we have them.

*Helen Sharp*

## All Saints' Buckland

### Regular Services:

8am Holy Communion each Sunday  
 11am Family Communion – First and Third Sundays  
 10am Midweek Communion each Wednesday  
 9.00am Morning Prayer each Thursday



### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sun 24 June	10.45am	NO SERVICE AT ALL SAINTS' BENEFICE SERVICE AT ST MARY'S DRAYTON BEAUCHAMP	
Sun 29 July	11am	Benefice service	All Saints' Church

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sun 10 June	Afternoon	Buckland Open Gardens and Teas	All Saints', and Buckland Village
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More details about these events on the church website: [www.allsaintsbuckland.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsbuckland.org.uk)

## Buckland Church

Many thanks to all the loyal flower arrangers who decorated All Saints so beautifully for the Easter celebrations. Thanks also to those who donated but were not able to attend and, especially, Mary who kept us going with hot cross buns and coffee. After having no flowers throughout Lent, the abundance of spring flowers brought us all back to life.

A HUGE THANK YOU to all who came to support me with my fund raising tea party, which raised £150.

The weather was glorious and as friends gathered, chairs were dragged to the end of the garden under any available shade!

My husband was a saint and struggled to erect an awning with a bent leg and then improvised a table for our bring and buy!  
*(Editor's note, I think it was the awning that had the bent leg, not the husband)*

I am truly grateful and could not have succeeded without Celia, Marie, Sue and



especially Mary who did all the serving, while I was in the kitchen making tea and cutting up the cakes. I hope a happy time was had by all.

*Frances Fairley*

### CROSSWORD No.27 SOLUTION

**Across** 7. Adventure 9. Allah 10. Emie 11. Calculate  
 12. Ukulele 14. Narrate 16. Bluesstockings  
 20. Abyssmal 22. Believe 23. Potpourri 25. Basil  
 26. Alibi 27. Negatives

**Down** 1. Eventually 2. Once 3. Hellenic 4. Jaguar  
 5. Una 6. Cheese 7. Avenue 8. Uncle 13. Ewe  
 15. Aggressive 17. Tolerant 18. ILL 19. Belles  
 20. Appeal 21. Myopia 22. Being 24. Tail 25. Bite



## St Mary the Virgin Drayton Beauchamp

Regular Services:  
10.45am each Sunday



### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sun 24 June	10.45am	Benefice service	St Mary's Church
Sun 29 July	11.00am	NO SERVICE AT ST MARY'S. BENEFICE SERVICE AT ALL SAINTS BUCKLAND	

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 23 June	7.30pm	Summer Concert *	St Mary's Church
Thurs 19 July	TBC	Lunch and Bridge*	St Cecilia's Hall

\* For Concert tickets (price £15), please contact *Anne Eardley 01296 434357*

\* Lunch and Bridge at the Cecilia Hall, Puttenham, in aid of St Mary's church Drayton Beauchamp. To reserve your place telephone *Rosemary Brooke 01296 630446*.

More details about these events on the church website: [www.s-marys.org.uk](http://www.s-marys.org.uk)

## Drayton Beauchamp Litter Blitz



On a bright, sunny Saturday morning in April about 20 of the good folk of Drayton Beauchamp, plus friends, gathered for the annual litter blitz. The group split into small teams of about 3 and spent the next couple of hours hunting out any litter from the verges and hedges. An impressive collection was made, including, oddly, two car number plates.

What I suppose is evident to everyone is that litter is one of those problems that should be easy to avoid but is much more difficult to remedy. We can all take responsibility for our own actions and take our litter home but it seems more difficult to get that message across to others who just don't care. Those of us who live in the villages then have to suffer the consequences.

Although we can all complain about the situation, we know that with limited resources there is only so much the local authorities can do and that is why the Drayton Beauchamp initiative is so positive. If you would like to organise something similar for your road or estate then please let us know so we can spread the word in our next issue and on our website. Obviously you need to be careful about protective clothing and traffic but if you and your volunteers are successful the results can be very satisfying.

## Jim Cheyne comes to Drayton Beauchamp

In the last issue I mentioned the recent visit of Jim Cheyne to Drayton Beauchamp. It was a huge pleasure to welcome Jim, who was born and brought up in USA but whose father, Ernest, was born in Scotland, and emigrated to USA in 1920. Jim's mother, Alpha Mae, was born in Ohio.

Jim has lived in Arizona for most of his life. He has been married to Kaye for 60 years and the couple have 3 sons, 3 granddaughters, and 2 grandsons.

Jim began studying the Cheyne family history in the 1980s. He is editor of the Cheyne family website through which I originally "met" him in the course of my research for the village book.

During his recent trip to the UK to attend a conference, Jim made a detour to spend a day in Drayton Beauchamp. The weather could not have been more miserable, but Jim was accorded the warmest of welcomes. We started in the village church – St Mary the Virgin – where Jim was introduced to Churchwardens Margaret Dean and Anne Eardley. Rosemary Brooke, a member of the PCC, was there too and gave him lots of information about the history and restoration of the famous marble monument in the chancel to Lord William Cheyne, 2nd and last Viscount Newhaven, who died in 1728. Rosemary was closely involved in the restoration process which was completed in October 2016. David Lonsdale acted as photographer, making sure that, once back in Arizona, Jim would have many photos of the monument and of the Cheyne monumental brasses in the church. Thanks to Margaret Dean who laid on a special lunch for all concerned.

The following day Jim travelled to St Peter's Church near Hever Castle to visit the tomb of

Margaret Cheyne who died in 1419 and who is buried beneath the chancel floor. The monumental brass which marks her tomb is acknowledged to be one of the most beautiful of the surviving brasses of the early 15th century.



Margaret Ross and Jim Cheyne

We felt honoured that Jim Cheyne should come to Drayton Beauchamp and we are delighted that he enjoyed his visit so much. In his own words, he could not have imagined a better or more delightful day. *Margaret Ross*

## Drayton Beauchamp Bridge Club Event

This year's lunch and bridge event in aid of St Mary's Church, Drayton Beauchamp will be held on **Thursday 19 July at 12.00 for 12.30** at the Cecilia Hall, Puttenham.

The cost is £40 per pair or £80 per table. The price includes a glass of wine on arrival and with lunch, coffee, duplicate bridge in the afternoon, with tea and biscuits at the end. There will be choice from a selection of quiches and salads as well as of puddings for lunch. There is plenty of parking. Tickets are available from *Rosemary Brooke. 01296 630446*

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## Horticultural Society News

*Even after such a cold February and March, once the sun came out for that hot weekend of the London Marathon the gardens have burst into bloom.*

With the warmer weather, I was able to catch up with sowing potatoes, mainly in bags with special compost. As an experiment I am also growing sweet potatoes which can be grown in bags just like ordinary potatoes and make a pleasant alternative to ordinary spuds.

Many of you have just moved in to one of the new houses that are being built around the village. Your garden is likely to be small but do not despair, the Horticultural Society is here to advise. Spend the summer planning what you want to achieve. If you have high fences, this will create a microclimate so many Mediterranean plants will grow well. With a small garden you want to use height as in climbing plants. Go for evergreen plants where possible. Crops which are maturing now include peas, which are the subject of this month's recipe, and in July you should be able to pick dwarf and runner beans and shallots. With shallots, all the old gardeners used to say that they should be planted on the shortest day and harvested on the longest.

We have just completed our 22nd Spring Show. Graham Thirkettle, who ran the show, reported that because of the inclement weather this was one of the most difficult. Nevertheless, Aston Clinton defied all the odds and put on the most spectacular show for many years. We would like to thank everyone who helped organise and run the show and the exhibitors and visitors who supported us. Events like this should make Aston Clinton very proud.

It was a wonderful spring day, but the temperature was still below average, causing many exhibitors to struggle. However, all

turned out well in the end!

The most prestigious award in the daffodil section, The Violet Rolfe Daffodil Shield was won by Richard Marriot who also won the prize for the best bloom in show. Full results are on our website. The awards were presented by our Vice Chairman, Mr John Seaton and his wife Evelyn.



Beside the daffodils, there were a range of other classes, from flower arranging to handicrafts and domestic cooking. I was challenged and entered the Cornish Pasty class. I came fourth! Each year we encourage children to take part and this year the winners were; *Vicky Pearson - The Lorna Price Cup (Children 5 and under)*, *Oscar Bradley and Beth Amer - The Lorna Price Cup (Children 6 to 8)* and *Megan Box - The Savigar Cup (Children 9 to 14)*. Congratulations to all children who took part.

Don't forget that the Horticultural Society is open to all. We have monthly meetings on a range of interesting subjects, a summer trip (this year to Kew Gardens), two shows a year, a supper in March and a Christmas buffet at our December meeting. We also run a bulk seed order with good discounts. *Ralph Weston*

## Pea and Bacon Soup



### Ingredients:

25ml	cooking oil (grapeseed or groundnut) or 1oz butter
1	large onion or 3 – 4 shallots, chopped
1	clove garlic (optional)
125g	unsmoked streaky bacon, chopped or lardons
600ml	ham or vegetable stock
500g	peas, garden fresh
Handful	fresh garden mint leaves, rinsed

### Method:

1. Melt the butter or heat the oil in a large pan
2. Add the bacon, onions and garlic. Stir gently together until the onion is translucent
3. Add the stock and simmer for **5 minutes**.
4. Add the peas and bring back to the boil, simmer until fresh peas are soft, or for just a couple of minutes if using frozen peas
5. Switch off the heat and toss in the mint leaves. Allow to cool a while, then blitz all together in the pan until smooth and luscious green.

Reheat, then you could add some extra cooked ham or bacon pieces, if you wish. Ladle into bowls and serve with a crusty baguette.

## Buckland Village Open Gardens Day



### Sunday 10 June 2-5pm

There are eight gardens to enjoy, and just £5 allows entry to all of them. All proceeds to All Saints' church.

The gardens are at the Old Rectory, Church Lea, The Old Dukes Head, Yew Tree Cottage are all around the church, Rannoch House, Inglands (NEW) (both on Lower Icknield Road), 14 Blackmore Gate on Buckland road and Canal Cottage, 11 Wharf Row, near Homesitters (NEW).

Tea and cakes will be served in All Saints' church from 3pm and there will be a plant stall run by the Horticultural Society. Enquires to [Kate Eckett 01296 630461](mailto:Kate.Eckett@live.co.uk) or [keckett@live.co.uk](mailto:keckett@live.co.uk)

## Aston Clinton FC

Congratulations to Aston Clinton on a very successful season. Jordan King's men won the Wycombe Senior Cup, beating Flackwell Heath in the final. They finished second in the Spartan South Midlands Division 2 and were also runners-up in the league cup.



## Emergency

### HEALTH

Aston Clinton Surgery	01296 630241	www.westongrove.com
Aston Clinton Dental Clinic	01296 323090	www.astonclintondentalclinic.co.uk
Amersham Hospital	01494 434411	www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk
John Radcliffe Hospital	01865 741166	www.ouh.nhs.uk/hospitals/jr/
Stoke Mandeville Hospital	01296 315000	www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk
Wycombe Hospital	01494 526161	www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk
NHS Direct	111	

### ENERGY SUPPLIERS

Electricity Emergency	0800 7838 838	
Gas Emergency	0800 111 999	
Water Emergency	0845 9200 800	

### CRIME

Police Emergency	999	
Police non-emergency and Neighbourhood watch	101	www.thamesvalley.police.uk
Childline	0800 111	

## Organisations *Any error or omission in this list should be notified to the Editor.*

### HEALTH

Aston Clinton Surgery	01296 630241	www.westongrove.com
Aston Clinton Dental Clinic	01296 323090	www.astonclintondentalclinic.co.uk
NHS Direct	111	

### EDUCATION

Aston Clinton School	01296 630276	www.astonclintonschool.co.uk
Aston Clinton Pre School	07928 309321	pre-school.acpsmanagement@gmail.com
Totspot (AC Baptist Church)	01296 631824	www.astonclintonbaptist.org
Marsworth pre-school Group	07506 179658	www.marsworthpreschool.org.uk

### SPORT AND LEISURE

Aston Clinton Badminton Club	07958 479690	
Aston Clinton Bowls Club	01296 630403	www.astonclintonbowlsclub.org
Aston Clinton Colts Junior F.C.		www.astonclintoncolts.co.uk
Aston Clinton F.C.		www.astonclintonfc.co.uk
Aston Park Tennis Club	01296 630826	www.astonparktennis.co.uk
Aston Wine Club	01296 630531	www.astonwineclub.co.uk
Aylesbury Green Park Sub Aqua Club	07092 075004	www.aylesburydivers.org.uk
Back to Netball	07545 033986	weststandmolly@aol.com
Buckland & Aston Clinton Cricket Club	01296 631788	www.baccc.play-cricket.com
Buckland Book Group	01296 630531	brfletcher@hotmail.co.uk

Buckland Bridge Club	01296 630552	Buckland.bridge@gmail.com
Dolphin Swim School	07966 450458	dolphinswimschool2017@gmail.com
Swimezee	01296 730742	www.swimezee.co.uk

## YOUTH GROUPS

Aston Clinton Guides, Brownies and Rainbows		www.girlguiding.org.uk
Aston Clinton Scouts	01296 631740	ac.gsl@yahoo.com
Aston Clinton Cubs	01296 631740	accubs@yahoo.co.uk
Aston Clinton Beavers	01296 631740	acbeavers@yahoo.co.uk
Aston Clinton Youth Club	01296 298682	

## CHURCHES

St Michael and All Angels, Aston Clinton	01296 632488	www.s-michaels.org.uk
All Saints, Buckland	01296 632488	www.allsaintsbuckland.org.uk
St Mary the Virgin, Drayton Beauchamp	01296 632488	www.s-marys.org.uk
Aston Clinton Baptist Church	01296 631824	www.astonclintonbaptist.org

## HALLS FOR HIRE

Anthony Hall	01296 630229	Theanthonyhallac@gmail.com
Baptist Church	01296 630303	www.astonclintonbaptist.org
Buckland Village Hall	01296 630310	
Green Park / Adventure Learning Charity	03303 030101	alfvillages.org.uk

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Aston Clinton Parish Council	01296 631239	www.astonclinton.org.uk parishcouncil@astonclinton.org.uk
Buckland Parish Council	01296 626073	bucklandpc@googlegmail.com
Drayton Beauchamp Parish Meeting	01296 630396	
Aylesbury Vale D.C. Councillor Bill Chapple OBE	01296 426814	bchapple@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk
Councillor Mike Collins	01296 632039	mcollins@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk
Councillor Carole Paternoster	01296 630710	cpaternoster@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk
Bucks County Council. Councillor Bill Chapple OBE	01296 426814	b.chapple@buckscc.gov.uk
Environmental Health (fly tipping)	01296 585605	
Highways	01296 486630	www.buckscc.gov.uk
M.P. for Aylesbury David Lidington	020 7219 3432	david.lidington.mp@parliament.uk

## MISCELLANEOUS

All Saints Friends, Buckland	01296 630454	peter.elwin@elwins.net
Aston Clinton Ladies Group	01296 630740	
Aston Clinton U3A	01296 436403	http://acu3a.weebly.com
Aston Clinton Veterinary Centre	01296 630600	www.acvets.co.uk
Horticultural Society	01296 633376	www.astonclintonhorticulturalsociety.co.uk
Royal British Legion	01296 632039	
SSAFA Forces Help	01296 631030	
Turpins Charity	01494 758843	www.turpincharity@outlook.com
Women's Institute	01296 706908	www.bucksfwi.org.uk