

Village Life

The community magazine
for Aston Clinton, Buckland
and Drayton Beauchamp

No.44 October/November 2018



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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

In this issue we look back 100 years to the end of the First World War. In particular, we remember the local men who gave their lives in the war to end all wars.

The Aston Clinton memorial names 30 men who were born in, lived in or had some connection with the village. At one level this is just a list of names, although you may recognise some of these names, as the parish council has used some of them for new streets in the village. These 30 were among more than 150 who left the village to join the forces. The story was similar for the 11 men on the Buckland memorial and the two from Drayton Beauchamp.

What we want to do in this Village Life is to add a little background to the men who walked down the same streets as we do, went to our school, perhaps went to the same pubs or churches or even lived in the same houses as we do. Through research on historical websites, old parish magazines and Census records from early last century we can throw a little light on these local men whose lives and ambitions were not that much different from ours.

To do justice to the information we have discovered, we have set up a special page on our website, <http://acvillagelife.co.uk/war-stories.html> where you can find out more about where the local lads lived, what they did for a living and what family they had. The old records have often proved to be vague or even inaccurate but we have tried to be as diligent as possible in putting together a useful village archive on our WWI servicemen.

Several people have helped in this search and I would like to thank, amongst others, John Disbrey, Helen Sharp, John Barron and Peter Elwin. If you can help correct inaccuracies or fill in any of the gaps we would be pleased to hear from you.

Richard Vincent

Does Jesus do drive-thru?

Here I am!

I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.

Revelation 3:20



These are familiar words in the church, the source of artistic inspiration (not least Holman Hunt's 'Light of the world') and the basis of the evangelist's appeal for non-believers to open their heart's long unopened door to Jesus.

But what sort of meal does Jesus want to share with us? A drive-thru snack or something richer?

The culture of Jesus' day gives us a choice of three. The morning toast and coffee (Greek akratisma) a brief meal of dried bread dipped in wine. The lunchtime sandwich eaten at the desk whilst replying to emails (Greek ariston) a midday picnic meal. The evening meal shared

at home with loved ones and friends (Greek deipnon) the main meal of the day over which people lingered after the work of the day was done.

It is the third meal that is on offer when Jesus knocks, not a meal to be eaten on the run, nor a meal that sees us mindlessly munching whilst concentrating on the pressing events of the day, but the savoured meal with friends. A meal where the past can be reviewed, the future discussed whilst present in the moment.

So, Jesus probably doesn't do a drive-thru, at least not in this context. When he knocks it is his time he is offering and our time that he is after.

These words are addressed to a church who left their Lord outside seeking access but they apply equally to an individual and a community. The decision to grant access and feast together in friendship rests with us.

Revd Nick Harris

WI

Buckland, Drayton Beachamp and Aston Clinton WI meet the first Wednesday of every month at the Anthony Hall at 7.45pm

Our speaker in October will be Ian Beacher who will talk about "The Cylinder to the CD and Beyond". In November we have our AGM followed by a fish and chip supper. As well as our Walking Group and Lunch Group, we hope to start a Craft Group meeting once a month. In December we will join other local WIs at Carol Service at Ivinghoe and we are planning a Christmas lunch at a local hostelry.

We welcome new members at any of our meetings – *Come along and try us* – You will receive a warm and friendly welcome. For more information please contact me by email b.d.ac.wi@gmail.com *Claire Castle, Secretary*

Aston Clinton Ladies Group

Wednesday 17th October 8pm Guide Hall
We will be having a fun Bingo Evening.

Wednesday 21st November at Buckland Village Hall at **7.30 for 7.45pm** AGM and Supper and Raffle. £10.00 per head bring your own wine.

For further information please contact
Sue Sanders 630740 or Janet Watson 631014

Please mention Village Life
when responding to our advertisers.

acvillagelife.co.uk

St Michael and All Angels

Regular Services:

9.15am and 6pm on the first, second, third & fifth Sundays



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sun 14 Oct	11.00am	Pet Service	All Saints' Church
Sun 28 Oct	11.00am	BENEFICE SERVICE	All Saints' Church
Fri 2 Nov	7.30pm	Service for All Souls	St Michael's Church
Sun 4 Nov	4.00pm	Community Songs of Praise	St Michael's Church
Sun 11 Nov	10.50am	Act of Remembrance	War Memorial
Sun 11 Nov	11.20am	RBL Service of Remembrance	St Michael's Church
Sun 25 Nov	9.15am	BENEFICE SERVICE	St Michael's Church
Sat 1 Dec	11am-4pm	Christmas Fair	Anthony Hall

REGULAR EVENTS

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

St Michael & All Angels Christmas Fair

THE ANTHONY HALL SATURDAY 1st. DECEMBER 11am to 3pm

The festive celebrations will soon be upon us so why not drop in to the Anthony Hall to see what's on offer at the ever-popular Christmas Fair. There will be delicious home baked cakes and fancies, preserves and chutneys - just right for your seasonal table - as well as a fine selection of quality gifts, plants, vintage jewellery, toys, books and much, much more.

Try your luck on the tombola with over a hundred prizes or on the raffle where hampers, bottles and chocolates are to be won.

Chat with old friends over a light lunch or just a cup of coffee or enjoy a glass of warming mulled wine. The Fair is truly worth a visit; we promise you won't be disappointed. Try to be there for 11.30 when Father Christmas has promised to break from his busy schedule to wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

P.S. All the proceeds from the Fair go towards the upkeep of St. Michael's Church. Should you have any suitable items that you would like to contribute please contact *Marion* on 01296 630577.



First World War Roll of Honour

After four awful years the First World War guns finally fell silent on 11 November, 1918.

Millions of lives had been lost and, in a story repeated all over the country, the young men from our villages had gone to fight but they did not all come back. Based on Census records, about 560 males lived in Aston Clinton in 1914. Many of these were too old, too young or not fit to fight. Even so, more than 150 joined up. The sacrifice was similar in Buckland and Drayton Beauchamp.

The village war memorial was unveiled on 3 April, 1921 by Major J.C. Swann of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, in the presence of Lord Rothschild. There are 30 names in Aston Clinton, 11 at Buckland and two at Drayton Beauchamp from the 1914-18 war. We will look at the 1939-45 war at another time.

Because space is short we have here just some basic details of each man but please refer to each village on www.rollofhonour.co.uk/buckinghamshire for more information. We also have a dedicated page on our website www.acvillagelife.co.uk/warstories Please note that records were not always correct and we have tried to go back to source documents to be as accurate as possible. If there are any mistakes please accept that no disrespect is intended.

Every death was a tragedy for the family and community but there were some dreadful examples which must have added even more suffering. For example, on 19 July, 1916, Sydney Birch and George Symonds were both killed at Fromelles, just four days after Alan



Rolfe had died. On 10 March, 1917, William Dodds and Fred Turney were killed by the same exploding gas shell. Three of the Buckland soldiers died within five days during the battle of the Somme. There were three pairs of brothers, Alan and George Rolf, Cecil and Fred Pratt, and Edward and Henry Terry, plus the three Burnham cousins. Three men died within the last eight days of the war.

In small villages everyone must have known someone who died. Brook Street alone lost five men.

One of the most poignant stories concerned the Terry brothers from Buckland. Edward was killed in the Persian Gulf on 22 Nov., 1915, exactly 14 days after his younger brother, Henry, had died in France. It is also hard to imagine the grief of Margaret Rolfe, who lost two brothers and her husband, Sydney Carter, leaving her with two young children.

*At 11:00 on 11 November please think of the village lads
and all the others who have given their lives for their country.*

ASTON CLINTON

SGT. EDWARD BARKER. d. 1 July, 1916. Age 33
PRIVATE GEORGE PERCY BATES. d. 7 Nov, 1916. Age 25
PRIVATE SYDNEY ALBERT BIRCH. d. 19 July, 1916. Age 20
LANCE CORPORAL JOHN (JACK) BRACKLEY. d. 20 April, 1916. Age 27
PRIVATE JOHN CHARLES (JACK) BRANDON. d. 14 September, 1916. Age 23
PRIVATE ALFRED BURNHAM. died at Gallipoli 21 August, 1915. Age 21
2ND LT ANDREW WILLIAM BURNHAM. d. 13 November, 1916. Age 29
PRIVATE RONALD WALTER CHARLES BURNHAM. d. 12 May, 1918. Age 19
RIFLEMAN SYDNEY CHARLES CARTER. d. 27 May, 1918. Age 35
PRIVATE WILLIAM DODDS. d. 10 March, 1917. Age 21
PRIVATE JOHN THOMAS FLITT. d. 5 April, 1917. Age 27
PRIVATE ALEXANDER J (ALEC) GUY. d. 11 June, 1918. Age 31
PRIVATE RICHARD HORWOOD. d. 5 July, 1918. Age 40
LANCE CORPORAL THOMAS F HORWOOD. d. 25 August, 1915. Age 22
PRIVATE JOHN HEWGILL ("Hewgal" on memorial). d. 30 August, 1917. Age 34
PRIVATE JOSEPH HENRY (HARRY) KEEN. d. 11 August, 1917. Age 35
GUNNER ALBERT THOMAS MORRIS. d. 2 Sept, 1918. Age 32
LANCE CORPORAL LEONARD PAULING. d. 4 November, 1918. Age 25
LANCE CORPORAL CECIL PRATT. d. 12 May, 1917. Age 26
PRIVATE JOSEPH HENRY FREDERICK (FRED) PRATT. d. 23 Mar, 1918. Age 29
PRIVATE GEORGE CHARLES PRICE. d. 11 April, 1917. Age 32
PRIVATE GAUIS REEVES. d. 29 July, 1916. Age 27
SAPPER ALAN ROLFE. d. 15 July, 1916. Age 29
PRIVATE GEORGE ROLFE. died of pneumonia at sea, 3 Nov, 1918. Age 31
PRIVATE HENRY GEORGE SHARP. d. 15 May, 1918. Age 19
PRIVATE GEORGE JOHN SYMONDS. d. 19 July, 1916. Age 36
PRIVATE THOMAS HENRY GEORGE THORNE. d. 15 April, 1918. Age 19
PRIVATE FRED TURNEY. d. 10 March, 1917. Age 28?
PRIVATE DAVID WARING. d. 30 December, 1917. Age 30
PRIVATE JOHN HENRY (HARRY) WHITE. d. 21 August, 1918. Age 30

Not on war memorial, but buried in war grave in St Michael's churchyard.

OFFICER'S STEWARD, 2ND CLASS V. G. BEECH L12113 R.N. Died of illness at sea 3 March, 1919. Age 18

Not on war memorial, but died in service.

BRIDGE GILBERT, FRED BOLLAND, ROBERT BARFOOT & H C HORWOOD

BUCKLAND

PRIVATE EDWARD BAIL. d. 9 October, 1917. Age 37
LANCE CORPORAL ARTHUR BALL. d. 23 July, 1916. Age 21
BOMBARDIER CHARLES THOMAS BISHOP. d. 24 July, 1916. Age 22
PRIVATE WILLIAM JOSEPH BONE. d. 19 July, 1916. Age 25
PRIVATE PHILLIP MENDAY. d. 10 May, 1917. Age 32
CHARLES EDWARD NICHOLSON
PRIVATE THOMAS RANCE. d. 4 November, 1918. Age 34
PRIVATE EDWARD STEPHEN TERRY. d. 22 November, 1915. Age 23
PRIVATE HENRY ALBERT TERRY. d. 8 November, 1915. Age 20
PRIVATE FREDERICK SELBY TOTT. d. 3 May, 1916. Age 24
PRIVATE ARTHUR LAWRENCE WORRALL. d. 22 August, 1917. Age 25

DRAYTON BEAUCHAMP

ABLE SEAMAN ERNEST THOMAS KEMPSTER. d. 31 May, 1916. Age 19
LANCE CORPORAL FRANK JOHN HEDGES. d. 5 April, 1917. Age 25

One Hundred Years of RAF Halton



The existence of RAF Halton was due to the vision of two influential men. The first was Alfred de Rothschild. The second was Sir Hugh (later Viscount) Trenchard who, as an army general, commanded the army's Royal Flying Corps (RFC) in France for much of WW1.

De Rothschild was a friend of Lord Kitchener, the Secretary of State for War at the outbreak of WW1 in 1914. Following Kitchener's 'Call to Arms', de Rothschild offered him the use of his Halton Estate for army training. By 1916, Halton was covered in huts, which had replaced the original tents, housing up to 20,000 soldiers. Extensive trench systems were dug in the grounds to train troops in trench warfare. This continued until 1917 when the camp was transferred to the RFC to provide a training establishment for the mechanics it needed.

By 1912, Trenchard had recognised the potential of military flying as a weapon of war. The outbreak of WW1 came only eleven years after the Wright Brothers first took to the air

and aeroplanes were still inherently dangerous with many lives lost through accidents and mechanical failure. He knew the importance of high maintenance standards based on technical training excellence. On 1st April 1918, the RFC amalgamated with the Royal Naval Air Service to become the independent Royal Air Force and after the war was won, Trenchard was appointed Chief of Air Staff in February 1919.

Alfred de Rothschild died in 1918 and in 1920 the War Office purchased the Halton Estate from his heir for £112,000. The ornate Rothschild mansion became a rather grand RAF officers' mess.

At a time of financial stringency in the 1920s, Trenchard resisted all attempts to disband the RAF and built proper brick accommodation to house his new School of Technical Training. This was to be a residential Aircraft Apprentice Scheme at Halton. Irrespective of their social background, boys between the ages of 15 and 17 ½ were admitted



Recruit Training lasts for ten weeks. Culminating in a Graduation Parade. Photos Trenchard Museum.

if they passed the entrance exam. Those admitted received an excellent three-year technical and general education and provided the RAF with a pool of first class engineers and technicians. *'Trenchard's Brats'* (as the apprentices became known) were presented with their own Queen's Colour in 1952 in recognition of their excellence. By 1993, when the school moved to RAF Cosford and the apprentice scheme ended, around 40,000 ground crew had been trained at Halton. One in four of these was later to become an officer, many of them reaching the highest ranks. Since 1993 Halton has been the *'Portal to the RAF'* for airman recruits and a centre for much other training.

In 1926, a senior instructor at Halton made a special plea to the Air Ministry for one of his apprentices to be awarded a cadetship at Cranwell officer training college, despite poor marks outside the classroom at Halton, especially on the sports field. The boy had achieved outstanding marks in his technical studies and the instructor felt that he could potentially become *'a most valuable technical officer'*. The plea was refused because he did not possess the leadership qualities needed, but the instructor persisted and requested an interview with Trenchard, who overruled the Air Ministry decision. Thus it was that 19-year-old

Frank Whittle, later inventor of the jet engine, became a Cranwell cadet and learned to fly.

The period between the two world wars saw steady advances in aviation and the continued expansion of Halton. In 1927, Princess Mary's Hospital was opened on the site as a large purpose-built military hospital, providing a full range of medical services. During WW2, the hospital had grown to 700 beds supported by many specialist services including an Institute of Pathology and Tropical Medicine. By 1945, it had treated some 20,000 WW2 casualties. The hospital was closed in 1995 and the site was later sold for private housing.

Aston Clinton residents have long been used to the sight and sound of light aircraft flying from and to Halton Airfield and might have assumed that this was RAF pilot basic training. In fact, official RAF pilot training is not carried out at Halton. The light aircraft belong to the Halton Aero Club and the Chiltern Gliding Club and are used for purely recreational purposes. Club membership is restricted to RAF and Ministry of Defence personnel.

RAF Halton is due to close in 2022 as part of MOD policy to reduce the number of stations in the UK and sell off surplus land. It is not yet known what will happen to the site, including the airfield.

The excellent Trenchard Museum at RAF Halton records the station's story with special reference to apprentice training. Three complete aircraft, cutaway jet and other engines are on display among thousands of military items and four flight simulators. It's a small but absorbing treasure trove for anyone interested in aeronautical engineering. It can be visited by appointment on the Trenchard Museum website: www.trenchardmuseum.org.uk

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the help given to me in the preparation of this article by Francis Hanford, curator of the Trenchard Museum. *Alec Just*

Margery Stanbridge 1914–2018

On 19 July Aston Clinton sadly lost its oldest resident.

Born Margaret Maud Gates on 9 March, 1914 (even before the start of the first World War), Margery Stanbridge was the oldest girl in a family of ten children. She had been born to Charles George and Elizabeth Maud Gates in Brook Street and lived her whole life in the village. Her Baptism was held at St Michael's on 10 April, 1914.

She was at her happiest in her garden and loved showing people around. She is fondly remembered for her flower arrangements, which could often be seen at the Horticultural Society Shows, where she won several prizes, and in the church. At Christmas and Harvest Festival, for example, she would excel at colourful displays, and her secateurs were never far from her hands.

For many years she was a regular helper at the Church fete and Christmas bazaar, selling raffle tickets or helping on the stalls.

Margery will be remembered for her positive attitude to life, preferring to look forward rather than back. She had three children, three



Margery Stanbridge

granddaughters and just a few days before she died, she learnt she had become a great grandmother for the first time.

Her daughter Pat, son Michael and the rest of the family would like to thank the many people who sent cards and messages. It was a great comfort to be reminded how much Margery was loved.

Puttenham – A Thankful Village

Elsewhere in VillageLife we talk about the tragic loss of life suffered locally during the First World War, a story common to almost every community in the country. However, there were a few exceptions and these became known as Thankful Villages, as all the men who went to war came back. There are about 50 of these in the country and one is right on our doorstep, Puttenham.

Although now part of Tring, and just over the border in Hertfordshire, Puttenham was its own civil parish in 1914. Of a population of 71 people, 15 of their young men, including three brothers from the Mapley family and four members of the Saunders family, joined up and all returned in 1918.

Unlike most villages there is no war memorial for the dead but there is a plaque in the church and a sign in the village expressing the gratitude of the village for the safe return of their lads.

Royal British Legion

In the last issue, we were told about GP90, an RBL visit to the war graves and cemeteries of France and Belgium. Now Lee Lawson, branch chairperson and wreath layer, and George Mills, standard bearer, tell us more about the event.

Lee told us that Aston Clinton school children had been asked at a special assembly to suggest the wording to go on the wreath that was to be laid at the Menin Gate memorial.



She added “Being part of such an historic event, representing Aston Clinton and District in commemorating those that lost their lives in the First World War, was an honour and something I will never forget.”

George explained that the four-day trip involved over 2000 RBL members from all over the country and replicated, in a small way, the original pilgrimage in 1928. They visited several well-known sites and he was most impressed by the white stone Vimy memorial, commemorating the Canadian forces.

“There were many times on these tours that it was hard for us to keep our emotions in check. The enormity of the sacrifice made by so many reflected in row upon row of graves was almost too much to comprehend. I struggled to understand how so many graves bore the inscription ‘Known to God’, but of course no name.”

The finale of the visit was the laying of the wreaths in Ypres, as described by George.

“Eventually the majestic sight of the Menin Gate came into view. I cannot explain the feeling of pride in being allowed the privilege of carrying our Standard under that wonderful memorial.

The ceremony itself was wonderful. The Last Post was sounded before the two minutes silence started. As the last few notes finished, poppy petals started to fall from above. Everyone immediately had lumps in their throats and tears in their eyes.

Once reveille was sounded the wreaths were laid and the service concluded. As we left the centre of town, still marching, someone started to sing ‘It’s a long way to Tipperary’ and we all joined in. It was very moving to think that 100 years ago many of our ‘boys’ would have been marching these same streets, singing the same song. We will remember them.”

Collection tins for this year’s Remembrance Day will be out mid October and a selection of special poppy badges can be ordered from [Emma Bone 07597 944223](mailto:Emma.Bone@rbl.org.uk)

The branch will be manning a collection stall at Aldi on Broadfields and Emma is the contact again if anyone has any spare time and would like to volunteer.

A service will be held at the War Memorial on Sunday 11th November followed by the Memorial Church Service.



Aston Clinton School

Head: Mrs Helen Shepherd



ACS Help the homeless!

We are in Year 4 at Aston Clinton School and have participated in the Young Citizens' *"Make a Difference Challenge"*. This is a national project encouraging children to identify and address a cause they want to do something about.

How we chose our charity

To begin with, we had images of world problems around the classroom and then had to write a persuasive sentence about the one we each thought was the most important. We all voted on which problem we were going to support and finally decided to support Aylesbury Homeless Action Group (AHAG).

How could we help?

First of all, we had to find out what problems homeless people face. We were surprised how easily situations like losing a job or a family break up can lead to people not having their home. In order to find out what help they need locally, we asked a lady from the charity to come in to tell us more about what happens to the homeless. We also found out what things were needed. It was clear that the items needed were:

- Thermos flasks
- Re-usable water bottles
- 500ml bottles of water
- Muesli bars

- New bed linen (single sheets, duvet covers)
- New towels-for starter packs
- Cleaning supplies (bin bags, washing up equipment, antibacterial wipes)
- Good quality men's trainers/ walking shoes



"Starter packs" are very useful for people in the winter or when they have just become homeless. They provide various things depending on what the homeless person needs.

In the end, we decided to hold a mufti (non-uniform) day at school to collect the items requested by AHAG. The children brought in something from the list to be allowed to wear their own clothes. We took a whole school assembly to tell everyone about it and put posters up.

A great success!

The day was a tremendous success with everyone supporting our cause. The charity wrote to tell us:

"Please pass on our thanks to the children and parents for all their generous contributions. It took two full car loads! Our volunteers are still sorting through everything and we are giving out lots of bottles of water as it is so warm. One of our newly housed rough sleepers was thrilled with his "new" trainers. We feel that it is important for the children to realise how much their donations are appreciated by our clients."

Mrs Shepherd, our Head Teacher explained, "I am very proud of 4JS – they chose an important social issue that can affect anyone. By sharing what they knew about homelessness with the school community, they were able to collect a huge amount of resources that are going to a local charity. Great child-led citizens in action."

All in all, a fantastic success and we look forward to supporting another charity next year. *Poppy Hobley & Eloise Geary. Class 4JS, Aston Clinton School*

New Parish Councillors needed

Your village needs you! If you ever thought that being on the Parish Council was all dog mess and flower baskets, we hope that Astonbury has made you think again. That and the Neighbourhood Plan, great facilities in the Park and so on. We are one councillor short and would like to hear from anyone of any age and background, who has lived in the village for a minimum of one year, is interested in what goes on and has a bit of time to give something back.

Please email parishcouncil@astonclinton.org for an info. pack.



Back to Netball

Hundreds of women from all over the country are getting 'Back to Netball' each week. Come along and give it a try in Aston Clinton!

- **Mondays:** Aston Clinton Tennis Park, Aston Park, London Road, Aston Clinton HP22 5HL 6 – 7pm
- £5 per session.
- You don't need any special kit, just clothes that you feel comfortable exercising in and trainers. Make sure you bring some water and that you've had a snack a couple of hours beforehand so that you've got plenty of energy.

See you on the court!

For further information please visit facebook.com/netball.buckinghamshire/ or englandnetball.co.uk/netball-sessions/

For other sessions in Buckinghamshire (including Walking Netball) please visit the session finder on the England Netball website – englandnetball.co.uk/netball-sessions/. Additional information can be found on the Netball South website – netballsouth.co.uk/

2nd Aston Clinton Brownies **NEED YOU!**



*Are you
interested in a
new challenge?*

- You may be new to the village and keen to get involved in the local community?
- Perhaps you have been a Girlguiding leader in your old community?
- Or perhaps you were a Brownie or a Guide and, remembering what fun you had, now wish to put something back?
- Or you may have daughters or nieces who would like to join but are concerned that there may not be provision for them?
- Or perhaps you know someone who might be interested?

We desperately need new leaders at 2nd Aston Clinton Brownies, which meets on Wednesday evenings. I will be stepping down at Christmas, at which point I will be 67 years old, and we shall also lose our excellent Unit Helper at that point, leaving only one leader.

If you would like to get involved please register your interest on girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer. or if you would like to chat about what might be involved, please call our District Commissioner *Sue Wall* on 01296 632142 or daswall@btinternet.com

Cheryl Muirhead, Snowy Owl



Scouts

Aston Clinton Scouts are searching for somewhere to call home

The Scout Association was founded by Sir Robert Baden-Powell in 1907 and by the following year we already had a Scout group in Aston Clinton, one of the first in the country.

We continue to be relevant today providing a mix of activities, life skills, creative energy and service to the community. We believe that young people develop best when “learning by doing”. We have sections for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers.

Since our foundation over 100 years ago we have operated from various sites - currently we use the Clock School. We have an opportunity right now to leave a great legacy for the children of the village but require some land where we can build. More information can be found in the link: goo.gl/i1SdH1

Please help us to spread the word and find somewhere to lay down some roots - *we'll consider anything*. Many Thanks

Nigel Pinder ac.gsl@yahoo.co.uk
Group Scout Leader,
1st Aston Clinton Scout Group

*“Every child has the
right to an adventure”*

Bear Grylls, Chief Scout.



Photo by Bruce Li

parkrun – A Free Weekly 5k Event for Everyone

parkrun started in 2004 when 13 friends got together to run 5k around Bushy Park in south west London one Saturday morning. This continued every Saturday, and by 2007 had become so popular that other communities were coming forward asking if they could bring this simple concept to their local area. Today, parkruns take place in 1,600 parks and open spaces across 20 countries every weekend, with more than three million people having taken part.

It is a very simple concept. Register for free at www.parkrun.org/register and print out your personal barcode that is then valid every weekend at every parkrun worldwide. You simply turn up and walk, jog, run or volunteer.

It doesn't matter how old you are, what you wear or how fast you go – the emphasis is

on participation, not performance. It is not a race, there are no winners, and volunteer Tail Walkers ensure that nobody ever finishes last at parkrun.

There are several venues within a short distance of here but probably the two most convenient are the fields opposite Quarrendon Community Centre, Aylesbury, HP19 9HH (fairly flat) or Tring Park, HP23 6AP (not so flat). They both start at 9:00 every Saturday, but it's best to get there 10 minutes earlier, especially for your first time.

On Sunday mornings at 9am, 2k junior parkruns are held for 4-14 year-olds. The nearest one is also on the fields at the Quarrendon Community Centre.

All events are run by a group of wonderful, dedicated, local volunteers so why not give it a try?

For a digital version of Village Life please visit our website.

acvillagelife.co.uk

A WW1 Conscientious Objector – a different angle on WWI

My grandfather was a Christian belonging to the Plymouth Brethren church. I remember him as a very quiet, gentle person who could not in all conscience take up arms and kill his fellow man. Born in Bow, in East London he trained as a cobbler and shoe repairer. I cannot find any record of his conscientious objector tribunal, but many of the London and Middlesex records have been lost. What I do know is that instead of being thrown into prison, his penance was to repair the Army's boots! I am told that the boots were delivered by the lorry load caked in the mud from the trenches and this had to be cleaned off first.

Ralph Weston

Wendover Choral Society

Do you enjoy singing?

We would like to welcome new members to our friendly choir of approximately 40 singers. We meet on Thursday evenings between 7.45 & 9.45pm during term time at St. Mary's Church, Wendover.

We are guided by our ever patient Music Director, Peter Bassano, and are privileged to have Sir Thomas Allen as our Patron.

There are no auditions and the ability to read music is not essential, but an enthusiasm for singing and some knowledge of music is helpful.

If you are interested please contact mheald@2uknet. Or just come along. www.wendoverchoralsociety.co.uk email wendoverchoralsociety@gmail.

Café Conversations In French At Aston Clinton



At the Espresso Lounge in Aston Clinton a group of people, of all abilities, meet up to speak in French on Wednesday mornings. Conversations arise absolutely naturally and cover myriad subjects just as when any group of friends get together. There is no fixed topic, no mandatory preparation and the mornings are totally informal and great fun. Everyone helps when someone becomes a bit stuck for words. It is something you can commit to on a regular basis or choose to dip into from time to time. There is no charge except for your coffee, which is excellent. And the cakes are delicious. So why not give it a try even if your French is old and rusty.

To find out more contact *Katy*, 01296 632442 or email bramleycottage73@gmail.com or just come along from 10am one Wednesday to the Espresso Lounge, London Road, Aston Clinton, HP22 5AG.



Aston Clinton's Surgery News

We hope you have all had a good summer; it has definitely been a warm one overall.

The flu season is already with us and the vaccination clinic is underway. We have had to change how we administer the vaccinations this year because of national changes to the vaccines and deliveries of the injections, hence we have had two Saturday morning sessions for over 65 year olds which are pre-bookable this time. If you have not had your jab yet and are over 65 (65 before 31.3.19) please contact the surgery after 1st October when we should know more about any further deliveries.

18 to 65 year olds will be able to attend clinics at our Bedgrove and Wendover Sites, details of which will be available on our website www.westongrove.com and from our reception. These sessions can be booked through Aston Clinton Reception. If you need any further information please contact the surgery. If we have your mobile number you will be messaged. You can also look on Facebook if you have access.

Please may I remind everyone that you need to let us know when you change your contact details so that we can keep you up to date and ensure that information is sent to your correct address and mobile number. You can update this information on our Website. You can also access more of your own information, complete forms on line and access medical advice through easy links to other NHS sites. Please ask at the surgery for information on Patient Access so that we can give you secure access to the services.

Best wishes to all our patients, from everyone at *Aston Clinton Surgery, 01296 630241*

What Price the NHS?

Alison Beck, What price the NHS – Village Life No. 43, was not the only child told they were an “expensive item” in those pre-NHS days, I was born caesarian in July 1945 and heard the same!

Unlike Alison I do not have any accounts but I do have my mother's diary for 1945 in which she noted events as they occurred:

6 January was “17th week” and the following day my mother “started making maternity dress”. She gave up in February. Doctors' appointments start to come weekly from 18 May, the 36th week.

All seemed well until the “42nd week” when an X-ray showed “baby upside down”! Two days later Mum was admitted to hospital to turn baby “but it was no good”. Eventually on 4 July they tried to induce the baby and on the 6th July Mum was “moved to private ward – decided on a caesarian birth”. The following day – Saturday 7 July “baby born at 11.30 am he is lovely”. Mum was not discharged from hospital until 27 July.

It was not until 24 July that baby got a name. Dad was keen that, in accordance with family tradition, his first born would be called Charles. Mum, though, did not want a son called Charlie. A compromise must have been reached with my first name being Geoffery (never “Geoff” at home).

I never did get any brothers or sisters being told that this would have killed my mother. This may have been an easy answer to a child but perhaps Mum did not want to repeat the risk and Dad did not want to pay again.

I grew up with the impression that my Dad paid for the operation, etc. but now I am not so sure. It is likely that Dad's factory had an insurance scheme where employee & employer each paid in half the premiums.

Geoffrey M. Evans

Bowls success for Aston Clinton Bowls Club



ACBC Burnham Plate team

Aston Clinton Bowls Club, based in Aston Park, has enjoyed success in two major county bowls competitions.

Our men's team beat Burnham Bowls Club convincingly in the quarter-finals of the Bucks Plate competition before losing to Newport Pagnell in the semi-final at Waddesdon.

The ladies, skipped by ACBC President Cathy Clark, along with Margaret Sutton, Carol Watson and Jo Allwork, beat Burnham ladies in the quarter-finals of the Burnham Plate 28-18. They then met Stony Stratford BC in the semi-finals. After a tight game, Aston Clinton won 22-20 to go through to the final against Wolverton Town.

The Ladies Gala Day, held in July, was won by the team from Iver Heath.

Club secretary Brian Clark was awarded his Home Counties League flash to add to his full county badge, following a series of successful appearances in this season's competition.

In August, members played in the Dave Rymer Trophy. The competition, in memory of the club's long-time greenkeeper, has a unique scoring system, based on how close a player's bowls are to the jack. The trophy, presented by Dave's son Andrew, was won by Carol Watson who beat her husband Ian in a thrilling game by two points on the final end.

The club's friendly fixtures have also seen a fair amount of success with recent wins against Bletchley, Tring and Leighton Buzzard.

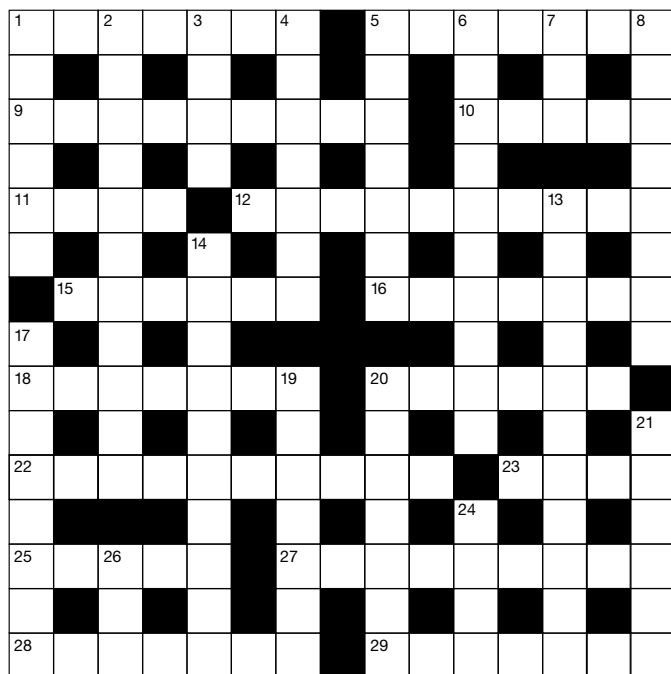
Club finals took place in mid-September and the results will be included in the next edition.

The season closed at the end of September with the club's Presidents Day, a charity fundraising fun day, which is a fitting finish to a very successful season.

New members are always welcome. A course of instruction can be arranged for novices when the season re-starts in April – please contact [Brian Clark](mailto:brianp.clark29@gmail.com) on 01844 351461 or by email brianp.clark29@gmail.com for further information.

Village Life crossword no.29

Crossword compiled by **Helen Lonsdale** (SOLUTION ON PAGE 29)



CLUES ACROSS

- 1 Desert (7)
- 5 Summer flowering tubers (7)
- 9 Gardener's prickly friends (9)
- 10 Scoured the grass (5)
- 11 Space (4)
- 12 Homes for poor people (10)
- 15 Heart operation (6)
- 16 Nocturnal edible rodents (7)
- 18 Infectious disease (7)
- 20 Contribute (6)
- 22 Entirely (10)
- 23 Impetuous (4)
- 25 Lifeless (5)
- 27 Slings/Propels (9)
- 28 Performer/trouper (7)
- 29 Avow (7)

CLUES DOWN

- 1 Stick (6)
- 2 Hermaphrodite (11)
- 3 Action (4)
- 4 Strips of pasta (7)
- 5 Neglected (7)
- 6 Sheltering (10)
- 7 Part of squid's arsenal (3)
- 8 Pussfoot (8)
- 13 African violets (11)
- 14 Door signage (4,6)
- 17 Nerve pain in back of leg (8)
- 19 Piece of writing (7)
- 20 Erased (7)
- 21 Modest (6)
- 24 A long film or book (4)
- 26 Consume (3)

Aylesbury Vale District Council's webchat service

AVDC is encouraging more residents to try its webchat service as an increasing number are finding it a more convenient way to make enquiries.

Residents can use the service for the majority of enquiries, including: recycling and waste, parking and council tax.

The webchat service is part of AVDC's award-winning digital programme which includes its MyAccount, which is set to

be expanded over the coming months. This type of contact isn't for everyone, so they also take enquiries via email, the MyAccount service and some on the telephone.

Webchat can be accessed through the icon on the AVDC's home page or at aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/got-question-chat-us-online



Simply Walk-ing in the Sunshine



It's been a long season of glorious summer walks for our local 'Simply Walks' group. With our weekly numbers now averaging 25, a new 'Long' Walk up to Wendover Woods has been added and we're currently negotiating access to non-public areas on the Green Park estate. So far this year, we have already completed something over 50 walks for all abilities.

The group currently provides gentle walks of 30-60 mins duration (Short Walk) every week, for people who are just starting or only need a gentle walk, plus an additional option of a 90 mins walk (Long Walk) on 1st & 3rd Thursday of every month, for those who like to go a bit further. Unfortunately, we don't yet have enough qualified leaders to provide Long Walks every week but additional long walks are now being added on an 'ad-hoc' basis, when we have enough 'spare' Leaders.

One of the most rewarding aspects for the group's Leaders has been to see the number of 'short' walkers migrating to the longer walks as

their fitness levels improve. Another pleasing aspect is just how friendly everyone is so there's always someone to have a chat and a laugh with. This has enabled us to organise our own summertime 'Picnic in the Park' and our 2nd Birthday Party at the Park in the Autumn.

The walks start promptly at 10:30am every Thursday from outside the Cafe in Aston Clinton Park and are all lead by qualified Leaders and Backmarkers, so no-one needs to worry about getting lost or being left behind. All walks are free.

If you'd like to join in to improve your well-being, make some new friends, or even work off some of that Summer holiday excess, then simply turn up on the day and look for the person in the high viz jacket. If it's your first time, or you'd like to find out more, then please arrive about 10-15 mins early, so you can meet the Leader, have a chat and agree what's best for you. *Article & Photo, Edward Kempton*

Val Heath



Aston Clinton resident, Val Heath, has just clocked up an amazing 50 years association with Tring school.

Miss Robins, as she then was, first joined as a PE teacher in 1967. At that time there were two people in the department and the school had 250 pupils. The department now has eight staff and the school has grown to 1,600 pupils. It has always been a good sporting school and Val has often been influential in the development of two or even three generations of the same family. Many of her pupils went on to county and even national level in their chosen sports.

Val was originally from Potters Bar but moved to Tring, at one time living above Grace's hardware shop. She married Jeff Heath, whom she had met at a youth club, in 1969 and they moved to Aston Clinton in 1978. Until 1984 Val worked full time but then had a career break when Gemma was born, followed by Paul in 1986. She then returned as a supply teacher.

Although she later got involved in Music and Home Economics, PE was always Val's main interest and, in addition to her work at Tring, for over 20 years she was secretary/treasurer for the Dacorum Senior Schools Association, organizing sports events,

especially athletics and gymnastics. Her school responsibilities extended to driving a 53-seater coach to take children to sports events, even as far afield as Devon and Crystal Palace. Away from school Val was a keen netball player and only stopped playing at the age of 50.

Val remembers with affection those distant un-PC days when a more pragmatic approach to getting results was probably easier and more effective than today. Although she retired officially in 2006, Val has stayed involved at the school and she intends to carry on helping in exam invigilation work when needed.

News from BBOWT

Your local wildlife trust, BBOWT, has two of its best nature reserves situated in the parishes of Aston Clinton and Buckland. The autumn/winter work programme to maintain these sites is just getting underway. If anyone would like to help, work parties at Dancersend are held on the third Sunday each month with occasional mid-week half-day sessions in between – contact [Judi Fisher \(01494 722073\)](tel:01494722073) or the reserve warden [Mick Jones \(01296 720623\)](tel:01296720623) for more details. At Aston Clinton Ragpits work parties are planned for Saturdays 26 January and 23 February – contact reserve warden [Phil Townsend \(01923 353410\)](tel:01923353410).

The local BBOWT Chilterns Group organises a programme of evening talks in Great Missenden Memorial Hall on the third Tuesday of the month. Forthcoming subjects include 'Decline of Woodland Flowers' on 16 October and 'Hedgehogs' on 20 November. For more details go to www.bbowl.org.uk/whats-on

A Plant and Produce Market will be held on **Sunday 21 October, 10.00am to 12.00 noon**, also at Great Missenden Memorial Hall, to raise funds for BBOWT reserves in this area – perfect timing for restocking your garden and larder!

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.

Cate Prickett is the Benefice administrator and manager of the Rhubarb Café.



Q. How long have you been the Benefice administrator?

A. Nearly 5 years

Q. What does the job entail?

A. I give administrative support to our clergy team. We have three churches in the Benefice, so across the churches I help to prepare baptisms, weddings and funerals. I liaise with all three churches to collate rotas that enable the smooth running of the church services. I also oversee the organisational requirements of GDPR and safeguarding policy.

Q. Why and when was the Rhubarb Café established?

A. The Café was established in 2013. It's about community, not profit. It's about sharing a good laugh, friendship and

warmth. It's about having a safe space when your heart is breaking through grief.

– *Simple really! It's people, life and love.*

It is an immense privilege to be a part of such an important project.

Q. How many volunteers help in the Café?

A. We have about 40 regular volunteers and we are always on the lookout for more. If anyone is interested in getting involved, they should contact us. We are a jolly group of community minded people who like to bake and serve!

Q. How many local people use the Café?

A. On average we serve 50–60 people a week

Q. Are you planning to extend the opening hours in future?

A. Gosh I would love to, but we are rather challenged by the kitchen space in the vestry. I would love to be able to open earlier and serve a simple soup and a sandwich lunch.

Q. Do you and your family live locally?

A. Yes, we do! We live on College Road South and have done for 13 years. The local community has been really good to us over the years. I love it that you can walk out of the front door and in minutes be in woodland or by the canal or in open countryside. Or hop a train into London for an evening. Our life is full and varied and I thrive on the sense of community.

Q. What are your hobbies?

A. I love to sing and have been in several choirs over the years. When I have time I sew, my latest project being some snazzy blackout curtains for the caravan. I like to read and recently joined a book club which is also an excuse to catch up with good friends. Life is busy, and everyone works so the joy of friends, a good book and a glass of wine really is a treat.

Q. What's your favourite music?

A. Gosh that's a tricky one, I trained with a Dutch opera singer as a teenager and sang with the British Choir in the Netherlands. I love sacred classical music turned up really loud. There is nothing on earth like singing in a full choir with a full orchestra. I also like whacking on some tunes in the car. This can be anything from Take That to The Streets. More often than not the children are in charge of the music nowadays.

Q. What's your favourite film?

A. I can't say that I really have one, but probably Truly Madly Deeply. I think Juliet Stevenson does the best and snottiest meaningful crying ever...

...and Alan Rickman! Well!!

If we could change the question to 'what are your favourite books?' my response would be Jane Eyre and The Poisonwood Bible. I thoroughly enjoyed The Kite Runner, and The Trouble with Goats and Sheep. 'Reading Lolita in Tehran' was extremely thought provoking.

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

A. A brown Talbot Samba bought by my dad. It was sort of like a Fisher Price car – child friendly switches and buttons – hilarious.

I've been driving a little bright red Ford KA for the last three years. I bought it for my daughter, but she hasn't passed her test yet. I love it and haven't quite decided what car I'd like to drive when I grow up!

Q. What changes to village life (good or bad) have you noticed in recent years?

A. Obviously the amount of development has been quite staggering. This has made significant changes to where we have been able to walk the dog.

**Rhubarb Café –
Simple really!
It's people,
life and love.**

“

I love the park! I do think that it's brilliant that someone decided to create a beach by the stream. There has been so much thought put into deciding what equipment is needed for the teenagers and the younger children. That big green open space looking up to Wendover Woods is magnificent and we must really hang onto it. The allotments are impressive too. There's something for everyone at Aston Clinton Park.

*Interview and Photo
Andrew Andersz*

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

Parish Council News

At the time of writing, the last stages of Summer are fading into Autumn and it's a good time to look back on a great couple of months.

The vote for the Aston Clinton Neighbourhood Plan had resounding support with a 96.7% vote in favour from a 44% turn out (the national average being around 33%). The local planning authority (AVDC) will use the document when deciding on planning applications in Aston Clinton. The ACNP Steering Group is proud that the residents had their say at every stage and the Plan became 'made' in August.

During the summer we held two very successful events in the Park. 'Play in the Park' was attended by dozens of families who enjoyed large inflatables, a chair-plane ride, snacks from the café and craft activities courtesy of the Aston Clinton childminders.



August 18th saw another very successful Astonbury Festival, with play activities from midday onwards and bands from 2.30pm. We estimate the crowd doubled in size this year and the new format of having everything in the top field, and music starting earlier, proved very popular. The parish council is delighted to provide this free event which aims to bring the whole village together.

Whilst the summer was popular, this does come with a degree of wear and tear. We will now be going into a period of repairing and replacing park equipment and implementing our programme for the year. This includes new bins, new dog bins, continued footpath clearance, lamppost maintenance and events e.g. Remembrance Sunday and Santa Float. At the time of writing we are awaiting the outcome of our application to AVDC's New Homes Bonus, for funding towards the new Community Centre. Plans are already drawn up for this new facility in the Park to replace the current Café/pavilion building. If successful, work will begin next spring.

Winter usually sees an increase in dog fouling and we would remind all residents that this is not permitted anywhere in Aston Clinton. CCTV is in operation in the park. Additionally, dogs must be kept on a lead in the churchyard. We would also like to remind everyone that pavement parking is a nuisance for pedestrians, wheelchair & mobility scooter users, prams and pushchairs. Parents are invited to park in the Park to walk and drop children at school in the mornings and for afternoon pick-up.

Remembrance Ceremony at the War Memorial: Sunday 11th November from 10.45am

London Road will be closed from the petrol station to Church Lane, for the duration of the service and parade (10.45-11.15 approx.)

Park caretaker. We are looking for someone to take on this role. If you are interested please contact the Parish Clerk **01296 631269**.

Gill Merry

All Saints' Buckland

Regular Services:

8am Holy Communion, first, second, third & fifth Sundays

11am Family Communion, first, second, third & fifth Sun

10am Midweek Communion each Wednesday

9.00am Midweek Morning Prayer each Thursday



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sat 6 Oct	10.00am	Produce Stall	All Saints' Church
Sun 14 Oct	11.00am	Pet Service	All Saints' Church
Fri 26 Oct	7.30pm	Flicks in the Sticks	All Saints' Church
Sat 27 Oct	4.00pm	Junior Flicks	All Saints' Church
Sun 28 Oct	11.00am	BENEFICE SERVICE	All Saints' Church
Fri 2 Nov	7.30pm	Service for All Souls	St Michael's Church
Sat 3 Nov	10.00am	Produce Stall	All Saints' Church
Sun 4 Nov	4.00pm	Community Songs of Praise	St Michael's Church
Sun 11 Nov	12.30pm	Act of Remembrance	All Saints' Church
Fri 23 Nov	7.30pm	Flicks in the Sticks	All Saints' Church
Sat 24 Nov	4.00pm	Junior Flicks	All Saints' Church
Sun 25 Nov	9.15am	BENEFICE SERVICE	St Michael's Church

More details about these events on the church website: www.allsaintsbuckland.org.uk

New Season at Flicks in the Sticks

As the nights start getting longer it is time again for our long established community cinema to re-open its doors, in the atmospheric space kindly provided by All Saint's Church, Buckland.

We would like to thank all who have encouraged and supported us over the years and if you've not yet experienced 'Flicks' please come along and give us a go this season. We love to welcome new folk to Flicks.

This year 'Flicks in the Sticks' is having a makeover including ticket prices being reduced to £5.00 each. We won't be serving supper, but

aim to run a licenced bar where a variety of drinks will be sold at reasonable prices. 'Flicks in the Sticks' always strives to be a bargain for a great night out!

Dates for your diary;

Friday 26th Oct	Flicks in the Sticks
Saturday 27th Oct	Junior Flicks
Friday 23rd Nov	Flicks in the Sticks
Saturday 24th Nov	Junior Flicks
Friday 7th Dec	Flicks in the Sticks
Saturday 8th Dec	Junior Flicks (with Father Christmas calling in!)

For further information about the films being screened or to ask to go onto the mailing list please contact Rev Alison 01296-630256 or email alisonroberts999@btinternet.com

St Mary the Virgin Drayton Beauchamp

Regular Services:

10.45am on the first, second, third and fifth Sundays



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sun 14 Oct	11.00am	Pet Service	All Saints' Church
Sun 28 Oct	11.00am	BENEFICE SERVICE	All Saints' Church
Sun 2 Nove	7.30pm	Service for All Souls	St Michael's Church
Sun 4 Nov	4.00pm	Community Songs of Praise	St Michael's Church
Sun 11 Nov	4.00pm	Evensong for Remembrance	St Mary's Church
Sun 25 Nov	9.15am	BENEFICE SERVICE	St Michael's Church

More details about these events on the church website: www.s-marys.org.uk

Parish Council Meeting

– 29th November

Drayton Beauchamp Parish Council is holding a meeting at The Dray House on Thursday 29 November, 2018 at 8.00pm.

All parishioners are welcome. It is an opportunity to be updated on local matters by our District and County Councillors.

Meryl Nodes, Clerk to the Parish Meeting

Aston Clinton U3A news

The U3A History Group meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month in the Anthony Hall, start time 2.30pm.

We have the following speakers booked for the next meetings: **October 23rd, John Tyler** will give us a talk on the Ancient Forest of Bernwood, one of the ancient Hunting Forests that goes back to before the Norman Conquest **November 27th, Jenny Scholes**, one of our group members, will give us a talk on Bhutan.

All U3A members are welcome

Relay for Life Event

Following the July relay at Halton, there are so many people to thank. We will be sending out special thank you letters to all our sponsors but we would like to say a special thank you to:

Joe Slater for the expertly made and decorated cake. Joe is only 15 years old and I am sure you'll all agree the cake was that of a true professional.

The Guard of Honour, complete with bag pipes.

Emily's Cakes for the delicious cup cakes.

Elaine Jackson for two delicious cakes.

Heidi Carlile for supplying the lovely gift bags for our survivor gifts.

And last, but by no means least, all our wonderful army of volunteers who stepped in and helped before, during and after the survivors lunch. **THANK YOU ALL!**

Best wishes Janine & Adrienne

Please mention Village Life
when responding to our advertisers.

acvillagelife.co.uk

Grants available from the Turpin's Charity

Further to an article written in Village Life in 2017, Turpin's charity would like to repeat its appeal for people to come forward to apply for grants should they be suffering financial hardship or require assistance to improve their lives. The grants are available to individuals residing within Aston Clinton and neighbouring areas.

The charity has previously helped vulnerable adults cover rent charges when unable to work due to illness; funded home improvements to improve health outcomes for the infirm and paid a contribution toward potentially life-saving private health treatment which was unavailable on the NHS. The charity has also helped larger numbers of individuals through support of literacy programmes and establishment of a volunteer-led community enterprise.

The scope of the Turpin's Charity is wide-ranging and includes short-term support to improve lives long-term. If you think you may be in a situation to benefit from the charity's assistance, please ask. All enquiries are treated in the upmost confidence.

- Are you young and in need of financial assistance to make the next step in your future career with training, or an educational visit?
- Are you elderly and struggling to receive sufficient support in some aspect of your life?
- Are you experiencing financial distress due to ill health?

Please contact *Hayley Lewis, Clerk to Turpin's Charity* by: Email: turpincharity@outlook.com
Telephone: **01494 758843** and leave a message.

Please note: All applications will be considered by the trustees; only one application per person can be submitted for an award.



Knowledge is power in the fight against scams – Aylesbury Vale

Criminals want your personal details and banking info in order that they can use it for their own gains. To stop this happening please make sure that you know how to spot a fake email, text or unsolicited telephone call.



Don't click on links unless you are completely sure they are genuine – sometimes fraudster might only change the link address very slightly, which is enough to get unsuspecting victims to enter their details onto a fake site.

Criminals can also keep your home telephone line open and use a fake dialling tone, to trick you into thinking that you are dialling another company, such as your bank.

Knowledge is power and you can greatly reduce the risk of this happening to you by staying alert. Visit the Thames Valley Police website & see their *Little Book of Big Scams*.

You can also stay up to date with the latest fraud prevention advice, by visiting Action Fraud – the National Fraud and Cyber Crime Agency. Also have a look at the National Trading Standards initiative Friends Against Scams – where you can take part in online training, help to spread the word and protect vulnerable people in our communities.

Horticultural Society

Our Horticultural Society's Summer Show, 2018

With the long, hot and dry summer, we were expecting this year's show to have fewer entries but it was quite a success. Two entrants submitted two huge lettuces each, there were many marrows and courgettes and the dabbias provided a colourful backdrop.



Fruit & Vegetable section

However, the show is not just about vegetables and flowers and other skills from flower arranging to cookery and handicrafts were all well supported. The two photographic classes had some very good entries, giving our judge a difficult time. And we must not forget the efforts of our children. They were wonderful and it was good to see the young winners covered in rosettes.

A good number of villagers came to see what was achieved and we thank them for their support. Our thanks also go to the members of the committee and volunteer helpers who helped to make the show such a success. Next year we would like more novices to try their hand as two of the cups for novices could not be awarded this time as there were no entries.

Ralph Weston

Stewed Rabbit with Savoury Dumplings



This recipe was given to me by my grandmother, Florence Terrell. It was Grandad, who worked on a farm, that caught the wild rabbit and killed them. They were cooked on a "black range". Rabbit would have been a common meal during the First World War, especially if they had been caught out in the fields. Frances Farley

Ingredients: Serves 4/5

1	rabbit	1	tblsp	fat
2	carrots	2		cloves
1	potato	2	tsps	flour
1	turnip			salt & pepper
4	medium onions	pat		of butter or
2	stalks celery			margarine

Method:

1. Dry the rabbit joints carefully and add the melted tblsp of fat in frying pan and brown well.
2. Remove joints to stew pan or casserole.
3. Add the scraped and sliced carrots, peeled, sliced potato, onions, turnip & chopped celery and season well: Cover with boiling water and simmer till tender for about 2 hours, then stir in the butter or margarine blended with flour. Bring back to the boil for one minute.
4. Serve with savoury dumplings dropped into the stew half an hour before needed.

Gardening in WW1



Photo from RHS exhibition.

Gardening in Aston Clinton during the First World War probably continued much as it had in the previous century. Every farmer had his orchard and vegetable patch. The cottagers often had large enough gardens to make themselves almost self-sufficient, including keeping chickens. We know that some of the troops that were sent to Halton camp were also billeted in the village and would have helped their landladies with their gardening.

What about the soldiers in France and in the trenches? Whenever we see pictures about life in the trenches it is usually confined to a number of standard shots of “going over the top” or “carrying the wounded”. In fact, much of war was boring. There were 475 miles of trenches and they stayed the same for much of the war. Gardening was not just an attempt to stave off homesickness and nostalgia but was also something to do for active men caught in the frustration of the waiting game. In fact, they were encouraged to cultivate patches of ground.

There are photographs of soldiers in the trenches carrying watering cans along the duckboards to water their improvised gardens. Celery, it turns out, grew well in the dark dankness of the trench bottom.

Away from the front, at Le Havre transit port, the commander encouraged each section to grow vegetables and flowers. There is even a surviving military medal in the Imperial War Museum — not for valour but for First Prize tomatoes at the Le Havre vegetable show, August 1918.

Civilians caught in Berlin when the war began were interred at Ruhleben. This is an amazing story of a ‘forgotten’ group of British men who set up a horticultural society in a German internment camp. They not only grew flowers, but also used their horticultural skills to feed their fellow prisoners, earned money to fuel its fledgling economy, and organised RHS standard flower shows to boost morale. They wrote to the RHS who made them members for free and sent huge amounts of seeds, bulbs and advice to its affiliate, deep behind enemy lines.

Ralph Weston

CROSSWORD No.29 SOLUTION

<p>Down</p> <p>1. Adhere 2. Androgynous 3. Deed 4. Noodles 5. Disused 6. Harbours 7. Ink 8. Sidestep 13. Saintpaulia 14. Name plates 17. Sociata 19. Article 20. Deleted 21. Chaste 24. Epic 26. Eat</p>	<p>Across</p> <p>11. Room 12. Almshouses 15. Bypass 16. Dormice 18. Cholera 20. Donate 22. Absolutely 23. Rash 25. Inert 27. Catapults 28. Artists 29. Declare</p>
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Please mention Village Life
when responding to our advertisers.

acvillagelife.co.uk

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	
Samaritans	116123	jo@samaritans.org

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.*

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.	07786 908219	www.astonclintoncolts.co.uk
Aston Clinton F.C.	07930 925840	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 708158	ac.scouts@Yahoo.com
Aston Clinton Cubs	01296 708158	ac.cubs@Yahoo.co.uk
Aston Clinton Beavers	01296 708158	ac.beavers@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 631269	www.astonclinton.org.uk parishcouncil@astonclinton.org.uk
Buckland Parish Council	01296 626073	bucklandpc@googlemail.com
Drayton Beauchamp. Parish Meeting	01296 630396	
Aylesbury Vale D.C.	01296 585858	
AVDC Councillors	Bill Chapple OBE	bchapple@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk
	Mike Collins	mcollins@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk
	Carole Paternoster	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	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	
Tuesday Lunch Club	07921 172642	
Turpins Charity	01494 758843	www.turpinscharity@outlook.com
Women's Institute	01296 706908	b.d.ac.wi@gmail.com