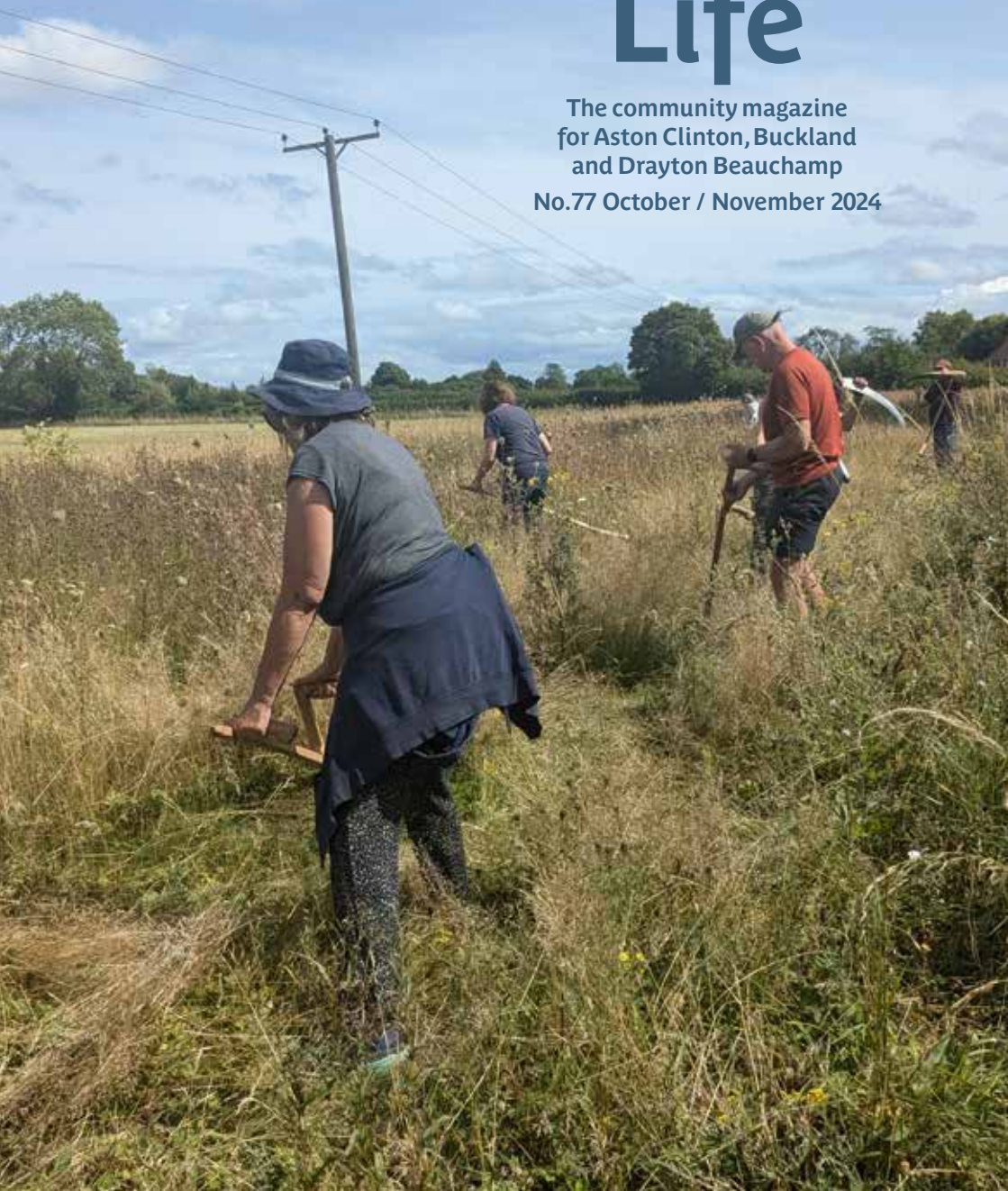


# Village Life

The community magazine  
for Aston Clinton, Buckland  
and Drayton Beauchamp  
No.77 October / November 2024



# Winter Health Check

Winter can be one of the most challenging seasons for drivers in the UK. To make sure your car is prepared for the toughest weather conditions that may lay ahead during this period, book in for one of our Winter Health Checks.

## Free

### 6 Point visual check

Free 6 point check report includes: Tyres, anti-freeze, wipers, battery, oil and lights

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Check includes: Condition report includes: Battery, alternator, exhaust, tyres, steering, suspension, cooling system, brakes, oil, wipers, anti freeze, air con, heater, screen wash and lights. Top ups of 1/2 litre of all vital fluids. Free Winter kit contains: 600ml de-icer, de-mister pad, torch, ice scraper and screen wash sachet. Free Wash and vac only available Monday to Friday.

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One-Tenth page ..... £50

Front cover. Scythers cutting the wild meadow at Estone Grange, page 28. Photo by Katy Todd.

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Village Life is funded with support from Aston Clinton Parish Council.

**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

*What a summer we've had – and no, I'm not talking about the weather! I'm referring to the many examples of sporting prowess that have been on display over the last few months, both locally (see the reports from the cricket and bowls clubs) and on the global stage. Topping them all were the Olympics, followed by the Paralympics which, as I write, have just closed. We've been treated to weeks of awe-inspiring feats of courage, determination and achievement that certainly lifted my spirits and, I hope, yours too. One of the athletes taking part was wheelchair fencer Gemma Collis from Aston Clinton, representing GB at her fourth Paralympics. Congratulations to Gemma! You can read and you will, I'm sure, be inspired by her story on page 14.*

We're also featuring two more high-achieving women, each with a prominent local role: Marion Mason, who will be known to many of you as a Parish Councillor in Aston Clinton, has recently been elected as Chair of the Parish Council and is the subject of our Village People column, while our new MP, Laura Kyrke-Smith, introduces herself in her first message for Village Life on page 8. Laura is not only the first Labour MP for Aylesbury but also the first woman to be elected as MP for the constituency. I congratulate both women on their election and wish them well in their endeavours on behalf of our community.

There are many reminders of summer in this issue; reports of events that took place on warm sunny days (and some not so much). But now, with the nights suddenly drawing in and the temperatures dropping, we turn towards the last quarter of the year. Autumn brings us harvest festivals in the churches, BBOWT's plant and produce sale at College Lake and the annual service of Remembrance, plus talks, workshops and much more to keep you going as the days shorten. Perhaps, as a bonus, we'll be lucky and have one of those spells of late warmth and golden light that make a walk in the woods crunching through the leaves so special at this time of year. We can but hope...

*Barbara Muston*



## Another Defibrillator in Aston Clinton

*The Baptist Church in Aston Clinton has now installed a defibrillator on the outside of the church building. There are several church activities and community groups of all ages using the building, so the leaders decided that a defibrillator would be a good community asset.*



The Baptist Church is grateful for the support of the Community Heartbeat Trust, who advised and supplied the equipment. It also thanks the Parish Council, who gave a grant towards the cost of installing the defibrillator.

The defibrillator is available to the public 24/7 and is registered with The Circuit, the national defibrillator network. The postcode which is required by the Emergency Services is **HP22 5EX**.

*Tim Howlett,  
Deacon at Aston Clinton Baptist Church*

Village Life is funded with support from  
Aston Clinton Parish Council



## Defibrillator locations

Unless otherwise stated, these defibrillators are available 24/7. The postcode is required by emergency services.

**AC Parish Council Office**  
(in the park) HP22 5HL

**Buckland Parish Council Office**  
(Village Hall) HP22 5JB

**Baptist Church**  
(Green End Street) HP22 5EX

**Guide Hut**  
(Aylesbury Road) HP22 5AJ

**Pilates House**  
(35 Brook Street) HP22 5ET

**Aston Clinton School**  
(8am-5pm, Mon-Fri) HP22 5JJ

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Rhubarb Café at St Michael's**  
Monday 2 – 4pm (*Closed Bank Holidays*)

**Repair Café at St Michael's**  
bring along your broken items on the  
2nd Saturday every month 9 – 12 noon

**Coffee & Produce Stall  
at All Saints'**  
homemade cakes, bacon rolls &  
preloved books on the  
1st Saturday every month 10am – 11.45am

# St Michael and All Angels Aston Clinton, All Saints' Buckland and St Mary's Drayton Beauchamp

*On this page you will find the regular church services and community events that happen within our three churches.*



## REGULAR CHURCH SERVICES

<b>St Michael's, Aston Clinton</b>	9.15am Family Eucharist every Sunday 6pm Evensong every Sunday
<b>All Saints', Buckland</b>	8am Holy Communion every Sunday 10am Midweek Communion every Wednesday 11am Messy Sunday every 2nd Sundaycdvf 11am Sung Eucharist every 3rd Sunday

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## FORTHCOMING SERVICES

<b>Sunday, October 6</b>	9.15am Harvest Family Eucharist at St Michael's 11am Harvest Messy Sunday at All Saints' 4.30pm Harvest Celebrations at St Mary's
<b>Sunday, October 20</b>	11am Harvest Festival Service at All Saints'
<b>Sunday, November 10</b>	10.45am Act of Remembrance at Aston Clinton War Memorial 11.20am RBL Remembrance Service at St Michael's 12.30pm Service for Remembrance at All Saints' 4.30pm Remembrance Sunday at St Mary's

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## WEDDINGS & BAPTISMS

You can hold your wedding at any of our wonderful churches. Baptisms every 3rd Sunday 11.30am at St Michael's church, 1.30pm at All Saints' church and time tbc at St Mary's church. Please contact *Natalie Fieldhouse*.

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## OPENING TIMES

**St Michael's** and **All Saints'** are open daily 9am to 5pm and **St Mary's** is open every Saturday and Sunday 10am to 4pm for private prayer.

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## CONTACT DETAILS

*Rev Sally Bottomer 01296 632488, Rev Jane Nash 07562 672481*

*Natalie Fieldhouse, Benefice Administrator 01296 632488 email all on: [Benefice3@gmail.com](mailto:Benefice3@gmail.com)*

**Facebook:** *Aston Clinton Benefice with Buckland and Drayton Beauchamp*

**Website:** [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com) search for: St Michael's, Aston Clinton, All Saints' or St Mary's

**Benefice Website:** [www.ac-buck-db-churches.org](http://www.ac-buck-db-churches.org)

## Aston Clinton Baptist Church



### *God is Love*

How we interpret what we read can vary significantly, based on the punctuation used, as the following humorous example demonstrates. Gloria, who is looking for love, writes:

#### DEAR JOHN LETTER ONE

*Dear John, I want a man who knows what love is all about. You are generous, kind, thoughtful. People who are not like you admit to being useless and inferior. You have ruined me for other men. I yearn for you. I have no feelings whatsoever when we're apart. I can be forever happy – will you let me be yours?  
Gloria*

#### DEAR JOHN LETTER TWO

*Dear John, I want a man who knows what love is. All about you are generous, kind, thoughtful people, who are not like you. Admit to being useless and inferior. You have ruined me. For other men, I yearn. For you, I have no feelings whatsoever. When we're apart, I can be forever happy. Will you let me be? Yours, Gloria*

The Bible was originally written in Hebrew and Greek. These writings contained no punctuation; translators subsequently worked on the basic grammar to punctuate their works to assist later readers to understand the Bible better.

When the Bible, helpfully punctuated, is read and understood, we learn that each of us (including Gloria) can encounter the love of God, which is richer and deeper than brotherly or romantic love. It is sacrificial, other-focused, without condition or limit and freely offered. Such an encounter transforms us. As we gaze on the one who gazes on us in love, a new

rhythm to life, another way to punctuate our lives, forms within.

At ACBC we will be exploring the ancient Christian practices that offer such punctuation. Our ambition is to Be with Jesus, Be like Jesus, Do what Jesus did. We would love you to join us on this spiritual adventure.

*Rev'd Nick Harris*

## Aston Clinton Ladies Group

The Ladies Group held their Summer Afternoon in a member's garden. Homemade cakes, scones, sausage rolls and strawberries and cream were enjoyed by all. The raffle raised £75, which will be added to donations to a worthy local charity at our AGM In November.

### Wednesday, 16 October, 8pm

Talk on Hearing Dogs for the Deaf from Jennie Smith and her dog Lizzie at the Guide Hut (opposite the Shell garage).

### Wednesday, 20 November 7.30- 9.30pm

Annual General Meeting with cheese and wine at Buckland Hall. Members-only event.

We are a friendly group of local ladies and always make a point of welcoming new members personally. If you are interested in joining please contact [Sue Sanders 01296 630740](tel:01296630740) or [Janet Watson 01296 631014](tel:01296631014).



## REGULAR EVENTS AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH

*All services are live-streamed and available for viewing via catch up on the church YouTube channel. Follow the links on the website: [www.ACBC.church](http://www.ACBC.church)*

**Sunday morning worship** 10.45am – 12 noon. The Junior Church will cater for children dropped off by parents/carers; pick up from the church.

**Monthly afternoon service 'Oasis'** - first Wednesday of each month 2pm – 3pm in the hall with familiar older hymns, companionship and a short reflection.

**Various Homegroups** meet regularly for Bible study, fellowship and prayer.

**Lunch** is served in the hall every Wednesday 12.45pm – 1.30pm.

**The Craft Club** runs on alternate Wednesday mornings 10.30am – 12.30pm.

**All-sorts** after school club with craft, games etc; weekly on Wednesdays during term time 3.30 – 5pm in the hall.

**Noah's Ark Baby & Tots** runs Tuesdays during term time 9.30am – 11.00am.

**The Foodbank** is most active on Friday morning (preparing parcels) and Saturday mornings (delivering parcels).

**Men's Full English Breakfast** every first Saturday of the month 9am – 10am  
Numbers are currently limited to 20. Booking is required.

**A bereavement group** meets alternate Wednesday mornings from 11.30am – 12.30pm.

**Youth group** meeting weekly on Fridays 7pm – 9pm during term time.

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The hall is available for private hire. Please see website or call for more details.  
[www.ACBC.church](http://www.ACBC.church) 01296 631824 or 07972 770361

## Harvest Funday

A Harvest Funday will feature as part of our harvest celebrations from 2pm on Saturday afternoon, **October 5** with traditional harvest games and refreshments.



## A message from Laura Kyrke-Smith MP



*It is a pleasure to write my first column for Village Life as the Member of Parliament for Aylesbury. I'm very grateful to everyone who voted for me. For anyone who didn't, I respect that and I am determined to serve you all as best I can. I know it was a close election result!*

My first couple of months or so as your MP have been very busy.

There were some formalities that had to be completed in the opening weeks of the new Parliament, including electing the Speaker and the State Opening of Parliament. The King's Speech set out the legislative programme of this Government, and I was pleased to cast my votes in support of the King's Speech, to enable us to get on with the change that we have promised to deliver as quickly as possible.

I was also honoured to give my maiden speech in Parliament in July, in which I talked about the history and the diverse communities of our wonderful constituency and my priorities as your MP. I touched on improving healthcare and education opportunities, the much-needed revival of Aylesbury town centre, supporting small businesses and working with our farmers and rural communities too. I also mentioned the international work that I did prior to the election and my determination to remain a strong voice for people in conflict and crisis globally.

I have since asked several questions in the Commons chamber. I have asked the Leader of the House for a Parliamentary debate on our future house building plans, to ensure that house building is accompanied by the necessary infrastructure and services. Traffic has been terrible of late; a big part of this is the fact that infrastructure development hasn't kept pace with house building.

In the constituency, I've had some great introductory meetings, including with Buckinghamshire Council, Buckinghamshire Business First, and with brilliant charities like Aylesbury Women's Aid.

I had a great time at the Bucks County Show and met with organisations including the Country Land and Business Association and the National Farmers' Union. We had wide-ranging discussions on farming, planning, rural crime, the environment, small businesses, the cost of living, infrastructure and lots more. It was fantastic to hear everyone's feedback and ideas.



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

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



I look forward to working with the many great businesses, charities and other organisations in our constituency, as well as Bucks Council, the town and parish councils – including Aston Clinton Parish Council – to deliver the changes that we need to see.

I have met with Buckland Parish Council to discuss their very fair concerns about the proposed Thames Water booster station in the village and have since written to Thames Water to request an update and push the alternative options being proposed. I raised my concerns in an interview with BBC Three Counties Radio and will continue to work with affected residents.

Parliament has now returned and the new Labour Government will be cracking on with a packed legislative agenda. I have voted to bring rail operators gradually into public ownership and met with the Transport Secretary to raise the need for the Aylesbury rail link to Milton Keynes, the challenges with our bus services and the state of our roads.

The Government's plans also include a package of employment reforms and a crackdown on water companies' environmental performance. There will be lots to do in order to deliver the change our country needs.

Nonetheless, I am committed to being an active, visible and responsive constituency MP across all corners of the Aylesbury constituency.

I have held my first surgeries for residents, recruited my support team and am working to set up my constituency office as soon as possible. I am here to listen and to help you.

The best way to reach me is on *laura*. [kyrkesmithb.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:kyrkesmithb.mp@parliament.uk). I am also launching an E-newsletter to update residents on my work in Aylesbury and the villages, as well as in Westminster. You can sign up for the mailing list via my website, [lauraforaylesbury.org/news](http://lauraforaylesbury.org/news).

I look forward to serving the people of Aston Clinton. *Thank you.*

## Village Life in Large Print

I was approached recently by a resident who told me sadly that she was no longer able to read Village Life because the print was too small. Unfortunately, we have to keep it quite small because we have so much material to fit in. BUT, for anyone who is in this position, do remember that Village Life is also available online at [acvillagelife.co.uk](http://acvillagelife.co.uk), where you can see the magazine in a much larger font and, I hope, continue to enjoy it.

*Barbara Muston*



Aston Clinton Society invites you to a

LIVE MUSIC  
**JAZZ**  
Night

BYO Drinks

Any size table

BYO Picnic

7:30pm, Friday 8th November  
The Anthony Hall, Aston Clinton  
Tickets: £20 each  
For tickets, email: [info@astonclintonsociety.org.uk](mailto:info@astonclintonsociety.org.uk)

The poster features a red and white checkered background. On the left is a golden saxophone. In the center is a black circle with 'LIVE MUSIC JAZZ Night' in white and pink text. To the right is a blue circle with 'BYO Drinks'. Below the saxophone is a blue circle with 'Any size table'. To the right of that is another blue circle with 'BYO Picnic'. At the bottom right is the Aston Clinton Society logo, which is a circular emblem with a building and the text 'Aston Clinton Society'. The event details are at the bottom in white text on a black background.

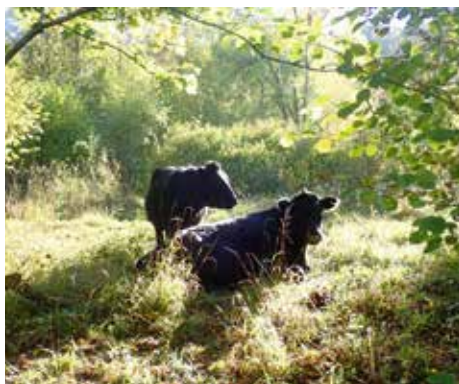


## News from your local nature reserves

*As I write this in early September, we are enjoying a show of late summer wildflowers, including Chiltern gentians, the county flower of Buckinghamshire. Numbers have recovered at Dancersend Extension after a couple of years when they were rather sparse due to very dry conditions.*



Chiltern gentian & Emperor dragonfly egg-laying.  
All photos - Mick Jones



Dexters grazing at Dancersend & Plant and Produce Sale at College Lake.

Our new pond has retained water all year and is currently a great attraction for at least six different species of dragonfly, a wonderful addition to the previously waterless valley. Livestock have recently arrived to help us deal with some exceptional vegetation growth this summer, so you will find our flock of Hebridean sheep and three Dexter cattle grazing different parts of Dancersend reserve – please keep dogs on a short lead when visiting.

Our focus now shifts to recording the autumn specialities, like fungi and plant galls, and beginning the heavy programme of winter management tasks at Dancersend, Aston Clinton Ragpits and College Lake.

If you would like to get involved with our volunteer groups managing the reserves, you can find more details by contacting [volunteering@bbowt.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@bbowt.org.uk). At the Ragpits, volunteer warden Phil Townsend plans to hold work sessions on Sundays, October 6 and 20, both 10am-4pm. Please contact him on 01923 353410 or [philjtownsend@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:philjtownsend@yahoo.co.uk).

There are other ways you can help us maintain the local reserves, by supporting our fundraising and promotional events. Our Autumn Plant & Produce Market will be held at College Lake on Saturday, October 12 from 11am-1pm. Come along and restock both your garden and pantry, replace garden tools at the Workaid stall, buy second hand environmental and wildlife books (you can never have enough!), purchase Dancersend Apple Juice and enjoy refreshments in the café.

Our programme of monthly Wildlife Talks starts up again in September and you can look forward to Nick Marriner covering 'Conservation and Farming in the Chilterns' on Tuesday, October 15, and Chloe Bradford taking us on an illustrated tour of 'The Upper Ray – Wildflowers, Waders and Water' on Tuesday, November 12. The talks take place at the Memorial Hall in Great Missenden (HP16 9AE, free parking) with doors opening at 7pm for refreshments and conversation and the talks starting at 7.30pm. Admission costs £5, including refreshments.

For all BBOWT events and for more information, please go to [www.bbowt.org.uk/events](http://www.bbowt.org.uk/events).

*Mick Jones MBE*  
*Volunteer Warden at Dancersend*

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please visit our website.

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

## Events at College Lake

### Ranger Sessions

For children who love nature and wildlife and want to get involved at our fantastic nature reserve. Sessions are fully supervised by trained staff, without the need for parental supervision.

### Young Rangers

For children aged 8 – 11 years. *Saturdays, October 5 to December 14, 10.30am – 12.30pm*

### Teen Rangers

For children aged 11 – 17 years. *Saturdays, October 5 to December 14, 1.30 – 3.30pm*

### Nature Tots

Join us at College Lake for a nature discovery class for parents /caregivers and toddlers (walking up to 4 years). Sessions run once a month on a Tuesday and Thursday, 10.15am arrival.

*Tuesdays, October 1 to December 10*  
*Thursdays, October 3 to December 12*

### Nature Explorers Day Camp

Wildlife Day Camp for 7 – 12-year-olds. Sessions are fully supervised by trained staff, without the need for parental supervision  
*Tuesday, October 29, drop off/sign in between 9.45am and 10am. Pick up at 3pm.*

### 'A sensory tale' workshop (Age 7+)

Join us for an interactive story exploring nocturnal creatures. What really happens after dark? *Wednesday, October 30, 2 – 3pm.*

### Family events – visit us with the whole family 'Nocturnal Creatures'

Explore the lives of nocturnal creatures. What really happens after dark?  
*Wednesday, October 30, 10.15 – 11.45am.*

[www.bbowt.org.uk/events](http://www.bbowt.org.uk/events).

## Aston Clinton School Association

*With summer now over, it's time to run full speed ahead and bring on another glorious year, full to the brim with dazzling discos, Wonka Chocolate events, Christmas Fairs, Quizzes and more exciting end of year events. Even before this is published, one or two events may have already taken place – such as the Coffee & Chat Morning for new parents to meet each other and the ACSA team. There really is no stopping us now!*

### 2023/24

We had a busy but wonderful school year for which we are so grateful and proud. Check out opposite how much we raised and spent last academic year.

### OPAL

OPAL stands for outdoor play and learning and it's a brand new project we're taking part in to encourage our children to play outside, which not only helps benefit their mental

health but their social development too. We are doing well and the project is on track but we're still looking for more donations and would be extremely grateful to receive the following:

- Den building materials e.g. tarps, tyres, pallets, rope and scrap wood (in good condition and various sizes)
- Good condition outdoor paint, fence paint, garden paint, teak oil, danish oil, brushes, rollers and paint trays
- Camo/assault course netting.

### Autumn Events coming up

**Friday, October 11** – Trivia Quiz for the quiz heads amongst us

**Thursday, October 24** – our famous and spectacular Spooky Sparkly Disco

**Saturday, November 30** – our joyful, joyful Christmas Fair







## Easyfundraising

*Love to shop? Well, we've got good news for you.*

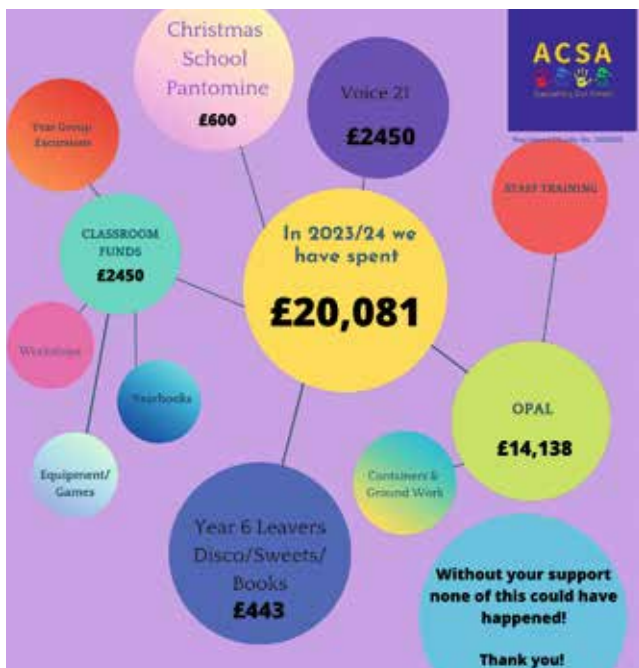
*Do you shop in any of these places online: Sainsbury's, Tesco, John Lewis, M&S, Tui, eBay or Etsy (plus thousands more)?*

If so, download the easyfundraising app and log in to support Aston Clinton school. Then, anytime you buy something from these websites, the companies will donate to us without costing you anything. There are over 8,000 retailers that will donate to our PTA when you shop with them. It's a win-win in our book. Sign up at: [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/astonclinton](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/astonclinton) or scan the QR code and get your goods whilst they give back.

If you can help in any way,  
we'd really appreciate it.

Stay updated and follow the coolest kids in town:

facebook.com/astonclinton  
schoolassociation and  
instagram.com/aston\_clinton\_  
pta/ email: *astonclinton  
schoolassociation@gmail.com*



## Aston Clinton's Paralympian

*Gemma Collis from Aston Clinton has recently returned from Paris, having represented Great Britain at wheelchair fencing in her fourth Paralympics.*



Photos © Paralympics GB

In October 2021, Village Life reported on Gemma's achievements at the Covid-postponed Tokyo games and this year she joined the same three colleagues in the GB team.

Gemma took part in the Category A Epee and Sabre disciplines, which were held in the magnificent surroundings of the Grand Palais. Although she missed out on a medal this time, Gemma reached the third round of the repechage in the sabre and the quarter-finals of the epee, where she lost to Amarilla Veres from Hungary.

Preliminary rounds lasted up to a maximum of three minutes or until one of the fencers made five hits. In the knock-out stage it was three 3-minute rounds or the first to 15 hits. In the sabre contest, Gemma actually won one of her bouts 15-0!



Brought up in Aston Clinton, Gemma went to Aston Clinton Junior school and then Aylesbury High School. Growing up, Gemma was very athletic and active in a variety of sports and had aspirations to compete in the London Olympics in 2012. Those dreams were dashed though at the age of 15, when she was diagnosed with Complex Regional Pain Syndrome - a progressive condition causing great pain in her right leg, which meant she had to rely on crutches or a wheelchair.

Determined to continue in sport, Gemma discovered she was eligible to play wheelchair basketball and went on to represent Wales. In 2011, while at University, she was approached by a fencing coach to take up the sport and the very next year she qualified to represent Britain at the London Paralympics, for which she was also a torch bearer. Four years later she again qualified, this time for Rio, and then again in 2021 for Tokyo.

In 2018, just a year after taking the difficult decision to have her right leg amputated below the knee, Gemma won the gold medal at the Wheelchair Fencing World Cup in Montreal, the first British woman to do this. In total,

she has 15 World Cup medals, including three golds. The most recent gold was in Pisa last year. Earlier this year, at the 2024 European Championships, also in Paris, she won silver.

When not fencing, Gemma is a motivational speaker and, as she says, *"It's all about focussing on what you can do and not what you can't."*

Aside from fencing and motivational speaking, Gemma is the Chair of the Wheelchair Fencing Athletes' Council and also a freelance Assistant Sports Producer with the BBC. She is also an advocate for gender equality and the athlete's voice.

Sponsorship is vital to ensure Gemma can continue in her sport. She has been self-funding since 2013 and any contributions would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to help with a one-off donation or a longer-term commitment, she can be contacted on social media, [@GemmaCollis](#) on X or [@gemma.collis](#) on Instagram.

If you have been inspired by Gemma's story and think wheelchair fencing may be for you, you can get more information about local clubs and events from [www.britishfencing.com/activityfinder](http://www.britishfencing.com/activityfinder). *Richard Vincent*

## Famous Cars to Return to Aston Hill



*Aston Clinton will be a busy place next May, when one hundred year-old cars and motorcycles arrive in the area for a big celebration.*

Aston Hill was the scene of some of the country's biggest motorsport hillclimb events from 1904 until 1925, with many notable drivers and motorcycle riders taking part. Most events held there in this period were organised by the Herts County Auto & Aero Club - a club that is still going strong today and forms

part of the organising group for the unique Centenary Event planned for 17 May 2025.

The final hillclimb meeting at Aston Hill took place on 28 February 1925. The following event, scheduled for 16 May 1925, never took place after an accident at nearby Kop Hill caused permits for speed events on public roads to be withdrawn. Hence the date of 17 May 2025 being selected for the Centenary Event.

The Centenary Event will feature cars and motorcycles from the period in a parade from Aston Clinton to the start of Aston Hill, where they will take part in a demonstration run up this famous hill. Many well-known cars from the past have already entered, including three Aston Martins that competed there in the period. This is significant as Lionel Martin named his now famous make of car 'Aston Martin' following his participation and success at the hill. In addition, in the days before the cars go up the hill, there will be an exhibition on the motoring history of Aston Hill.

The demonstration cars and motorcycles will then be displayed in the large show field at the top of the hill, next to the old finish line, surrounded by an array of early vehicles, some being of the same model and year as the early competitors. There will also be a significant gathering of vehicles from invited classic car and motorcycle clubs, along with displays, stalls and refreshments. Tickets for the show will go on sale later this year.

The Aston Hill Centenary Event is being organised in partnership with the Herts County Auto & Aero Club, Vintage Sports Car Club and Aston Clinton Parish Council

*Ed McDonough*



## Astonbury 2024

*Aston Clinton's free music festival took place in the park on 12 August. As usual, the park was packed with around 3,000 people enjoying the music and children's entertainment. The sun made an appearance too, so the weather was perfect.*



Organiser Liz Lawrence-Blake was delighted with the day's event and thanked all the many sponsors who helped make it possible. Particular thanks went to Suzi Bone of Enterprise Skips, who provided the skips for the rubbish and the very important Portaloos. The Kirby Herd and groundsman Ken Workman were also singled out for their help in clearing up afterwards.

Inflatables and Zorbs were provided for children and a series of excellent local bands, including My Name is Jeff, The Strads, The Electric Cats and Bad Penny entertained the enthusiastic crowd. You can see more details

and videos on the Astonbury Music Festival facebook page.

Although it is a free event, it is by no means free to put it on and anyone who attended has been asked to make a suggested donation of £5 at [www.gofundme.com/astonbury-music-festival-2024](http://www.gofundme.com/astonbury-music-festival-2024).



*It is not too late to donate and this will help to ensure that Astonbury 2025 can take place next year on 16 August. Save the date!*

*Richard Vincent*



## Rhubarb Café at St Michael's Church

*Have you visited our wonderful Rhubarb Café based at St Michael's church yet? It's a friendly community café, open every Monday (apart from Bank Holidays) from 2-4pm in the church. It's a great place to make some new friends, catch up with your neighbours or just sit quietly and enjoy your cake.*



We offer table service, so you can relax and enjoy our amazing homemade cakes (including gluten free), savoury items (although not every week) and freshly brewed coffee and tea served in vintage teapots with cups and saucers. With our low prices (£1.75 each for a slice of cake, cup of coffee or pot of tea and only £2.00 for a latte, hot chocolate or cappuccino), it's not only a bargain, but a lovely way to pass your Monday afternoon.

We take cash or contactless payment, have a fully stocked children's corner with toys, cars, books, colouring and stickers, and when the weather is kind to us, there are tables outside under the marquee. So, if you haven't been before, please pay us a visit – we would love to see you.

We are also always looking for volunteers to help either serve or bake (you will only be needed once every four to six weeks), so if interested, please contact me at [Rhubarbcafe1@gmail.com](mailto:Rhubarbcafe1@gmail.com) or call 01296 632488. I will be delighted to hear from you. *Natalie Fieldhouse, Rhubarb Café Manager*



Natalie Fieldhouse being presented with Rhubarb Café's certificate

## Congratulations!

As a community café with a welcome for all, Natalie and the team were delighted to learn recently that they had been nominated for a Community Group Award through Pride of Bucks. Not only that, they were awarded Highly Commended! Their certificate has pride of place on St Michael's church notice board.

## Aston Clinton Parish Council



*As we wave goodbye to a summer filled with changeable weather, we reflect on a season of fun events attended and enjoyed by many, along with equipment renovations and additions to our park. Following on from our very successful Family Festival in June, a well-attended free play session for Teens was held at the end of August in the park. We welcomed the installation of gym stations to replace the old worn out Trim Trail and between the football seasons, a rounders pitch was marked out and proved popular with all ages.*

The most recent addition to the park was the installation of a zipwire in memory of young Dylan Mitchell, which was formally opened on 5 September by Dylan's brother Elliott and his friend Sammy. They 'zipped' through the pink ribbon, supported by Spiderman, who put in an appearance. Dylan's Mum Jess read a short speech to the crowd, which included children from Aston Clinton School and Barnowls Nursery, along with representatives from Turpin's Charity (who had provided funding) and the Parish Council. The zipwire has proved very popular so far with children of all ages!

A free defibrillator training course was held in late August, providing vital instruction on how to use this life-saving piece of equipment. The course was well attended and will hopefully give attendees the confidence they need to use any of the defibrillators in the village in an emergency. (See page 4 for a list of all defibrillator locations.)

On planning matters, August saw a public inquiry into the appeal regarding an application for 93 houses off Brandon Close, which members of both the Parish Council and the public attended over a number of days. Buckinghamshire Council had already refused this application and ACPC was aligned with Bucks Council in defending that refusal. The decision will now be made by the Planning Inspector who has the final say. His report will, we hope, be published in late October.

For the October half-term break, we will be welcoming back the amazing Matthew Garrett with his magic and Punch & Judy shows for a free children's event in the main hall at the Red Kite Pavilion on Wednesday, October 30. There will be two sessions - 10am-12pm and 1pm-3pm. Attendees will need to register beforehand as numbers are limited for each session. Either scan the QR code on the poster which can be found on the parish council website and noticeboards, or contact us via email: [assistantclerk@astonclinton.org](mailto:assistantclerk@astonclinton.org).

The beginning of November brings our thoughts back to Remembrance Sunday and all are welcome to join us at the War Memorial on Sunday, November 10 from about 10.50am for the annual service. Please remember that there will be road closures in place from 10.30-11.30am that morning on London Road at the Weston Road roundabout, the junction with Brook Street, the junctions with Twitchell/Church Lane and at China Water mini roundabout.

Looking further ahead, we have received exciting news from the North Pole that Santa will be visiting Aston Clinton again this year, closer to Christmas. Further details will be published on our website and on posters around the village at the beginning of December and of course in the next edition of Village Life, so keep an eye out!

Finally, as the clocks go back and we move towards winter, visitors with cars to Aston Clinton park are reminded that the barrier will be closed each day at 9pm and will remain closed until 7am. At present there are no arrangements in place for out-of-hours release, so please keep an eye on the time if you visit the park late in the evening as our park-keeper closes the barrier promptly.

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## Baggies Bag the Landstone Cup

*Buckland Baggies finally lifted the Landstone Cup after beating Wilstone Wasters in their annual charity match at Long Marston.*

In bright sunshine, Buckland captain Jon Sainsbury won the toss and chose to bat. Buckland's openers provided a solid foundation for an innings that finished with a formidable total of 111-7 in 20 overs. Wilstone had a poor start losing two quick wickets. From thereon, it was a tough ask to keep up with the run rate and at close of play, in fading light, the Wasters were 78-8.

The delighted Baggies had, at last, won the coveted trophy after losing to the Wasters in close competitions in the last two years.

The match, played on the evening of Friday, August 2, was organised by Richard Peel from Buckland and Guy Campbell, landlord of the Half Moon in Wilstone, who provided a



The triumphant Baggies & Buckland skipper Jon Sainsbury is presented with the cup by umpire Martin Arscott.

barbecue. The Cricket Club also opened the bar for spectators and players.

A total of £510 was raised for the Aylesbury Homeless Action Group charity. The organisers want to thank all the spectators for their donations and Long Marston Cricket Club Chairman Paul Dumbleton for enabling the fixture to take place.

*Richard Peel*

Village Life is funded with support from  
Aston Clinton Parish Council

## Girlguiding Needs You!



*Nearly ten years ago, I saw a piece in Village Life about local Girlguiding units needing adult volunteers. At the time, there were two Brownie units (ages 7-10), a Guide unit (ages 10-14) and a Rangers unit (ages 14-18) but no Rainbow unit (ages 4-7). I had been a Brownie and a Guide and I remembered the fun times I'd had, the skills I learned and the friends I made, and I wanted that for my daughter too. I responded to the advert and, before I knew it, I had opened the village's very first Rainbow unit!*

Girlguiding, and the world, has changed a lot in those nearly-ten years, but I still absolutely love what I do. Being a unit leader means that I and my amazing team of volunteers can offer the girls lots of activities and adventures in a safe space, which will help them develop, grow and become the amazing women they're destined to be. The Rainbows are young, so there's every chance they might not remember me when they grow up, but I

know that they'll remember the good times they had and the skills they learned that will serve them well as they navigate life. Friends of mine often say to me, 'How do you know how to do that?' and I tell them it's because I learned it through Guiding.

Aston Clinton is part of the wider Wendover Division, which also covers Wendover, Halton, Stoke Mandeville and Weston Turville. We have 14 units in total, all run by dedicated volunteers. However, we are desperately short of leaders, many of us running two units each just to keep them going. We need volunteers to step up and help run the units so that as many girls as possible have the opportunity to be a part of Girlguiding.

So, are you a potential volunteer? If you're fun, friendly, good with children and willing to learn then yes, you are! Volunteering benefits you as much as it does the girls. I've learned so much from being a leader and I know for a fact that I've been awarded jobs because I was able to include those skills on my CV. Being completely honest, sometimes it's hard and I go home and wonder why I do this, but then a girl will have a big breakthrough and learn something she's been struggling with, or we'll have a really fun trip out, or a girl that struggles at school will work really hard and achieve her Gold Award and I remember why. Being a member of Girlguiding is being part of something that's bigger than yourself, part of an amazing worldwide community and part of shaping the future of women.

All new volunteers are well supported and we offer lots of training and mentoring. Please note that we accept male and female volunteers, but only women can be unit leaders. If you think you can be the next amazing team member, then please do get in touch with *Fi* at [wendoverdc@gmail.com](mailto:wendoverdc@gmail.com) or call *Coral* on 07837 865915 to have a chat.

*Coral Simpson*



## Council launches on-demand flexible bus service for villages around Aylesbury



*Buckinghamshire Council has introduced an on-demand flexible bus service for some villages surrounding Aylesbury – linking them with the town and wider transport connections. This service will better connect the communities of Aston Clinton, Bishopstone, Halton, Hartwell, Hulcott, Stoke Mandeville, Weedon and Weston Turville.*

The new service, called **'Village Connect: Aylesbury'**, started in August and complements the local bus network, providing a service for those who cannot easily access existing bus services or those who prefer to leave their car at home. Passengers can book a journey online in advance, using an app or by telephone. The bus will pick them up at an agreed time and location nearby. Alternatively, the bus can be booked in real time for a pick-up within 30-60 minutes.

The service operates from Monday to Friday between the hours of 6am and 7pm. Journeys will cost between £2.50 and £4.50 with Concessionary Bus Passes accepted for free travel after 9am.

The service is partly funded for 3 years by the Department for Transport's Rural Mobility Fund, with further financial support coming from local developer funding.

Steven Broadbent, Buckinghamshire Council's Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transport said: *"This on-demand flexible bus service will enable better connections into, around and out of the urban centre of Aylesbury and Stoke Mandeville Hospital, as well as supporting onward journeys using other public transport*

*services. The Village Connect service is accessible and user-friendly and provides flexibility to meet users' individual needs. I am pleased that it will enhance the local public transport network and hopefully encourage more people to travel by bus."*



In line with the council's environmental goals, the service uses routing technology, helping to contribute to a reduction in traffic congestion and pollution. By choosing the Village Connect service, passengers will be part of the journey towards a more sustainable future.

For detailed information on how to use the service and to make a booking, please visit: [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/village-connect-minibuses](https://buckinghamshire.gov.uk/village-connect-minibuses)

## How many volunteers does it take to run a Scout group?



*More than you might think perhaps.* We are fortunate to have a great team of 21 adults who run the 1st Aston Clinton Scout Group between them. Some are trustees who work to make sure Scouts is run safely and legally; others are leaders who work with the young people from our village and have a lot of fun doing it. Some of us have been involved in the group for 15 years and some for less than a year, but we are all committed to keeping our group thriving and strong. One of our newest leaders shared his journey to becoming a volunteer in the Scout section. *Claire Walker, Group Lead Volunteer*

Scouting offers young people excellent opportunities to learn new life skills and enjoy fun experiences in a safe environment. However, none of this would be possible without the dedication of adult volunteers who generously offer their time and energy. We're currently seeking additional leaders to join us, and before you dismiss the idea, I invite you to read my story of becoming a Scout leader.



When I was a kid, I enjoyed going to Scouts, so I wanted my kids to have the same opportunities. Since they didn't go to the local school, I also thought Scouts would be a great way for them to make local friends. So, I put my two sons on the Scout waiting list. However, after waiting for four years, it seemed unlikely they would get in without me volunteering. Initially, the idea of becoming a leader didn't excite me; it felt like another task to add to my busy week. But with my oldest son missing out on Beavers and most of Cubs and my youngest soon eligible to join Beavers, I reluctantly decided to give it a try.

At the first few meetings, I felt a bit nervous and out of place because everyone else seemed to know what they were doing, but as with anything new, I quickly got the hang of it. I was soon getting to try new things and go to places I wouldn't usually visit. Within a couple of months, I found I was really enjoying it and realised there was something for me here too, not just for my kids.

Now, after 16 months, I feel comfortable as a leader and my sons love being in Scouts and Beavers. We've made new friends, had cool experiences and become more involved in our community. Teaching the Scouts new skills and trying new things with them is incredibly rewarding. Recently, one of the Scouts even shared in Village Life how much they enjoyed an activity I had organised. Personally, being active in Scouts has had positive effects on my mental and physical health, replacing the old habits of either watching TV or sitting in front of the laptop working on a Thursday evening.

You might still be thinking as I once did – no way do I want to be a Scout leader! But I challenge you to give it a try for a few weeks. I think it might change your mind and who knows, you might even have some fun.

*Richard Hawkins, Scout Team Leader*

If you would like to find out more about what we do or how to volunteer with us, please get in touch at [ac.gsl@yahoo.com](mailto:ac.gsl@yahoo.com) or chat to one of our leaders at any of the village events.

## Drayton Beauchamp Parish Meeting

A Parish Meeting will take place on **Thursday, November 14 at 7.30pm** in St Mary's Church.

All parishioners are welcome to attend and stay for a drink and a chat after the meeting.

For information, contact the *Clerk*, *Meryl Nodes* on 01296 630396 or email: [merylnodes2018@gmail.com](mailto:merylnodes2018@gmail.com).

## The WI

*After lockdown, I thought the WI needed an event that would get all our members to meet socially and decided that a Summer Garden party in my garden would be a good idea, particularly as we had to cancel our 90th birthday party in December 2020 due to Covid.*



In 2021, we had our first garden party and it was a great success, with WI members, as well as our husbands, partners and friends attending. As is often the case with these events, that first garden party has now become a permanent fixture in the WI calendar.

In July, we staged our third Summer Garden Party with 30 people attending. We were very lucky with the weather as the sun shone on what was probably the hottest day of the year. A delicious buffet was served, together with Pimm's and wine. A raffle with lots of interesting prizes made a good profit and everyone had a relaxed afternoon sitting in the sunshine.

We meet on the first Wednesday in the month at 7.45pm in the Anthony Hall.

You will receive a warm welcome at our meetings, please contact [b.d.ac.wi@gmail.com](mailto:b.d.ac.wi@gmail.com) for more details.

*Claire Castle, Vice President*

## Buckland and Aston Clinton Cricket Club

*It has been a strange season in many ways for Buckland and Aston Clinton Cricket Club. Perhaps more than any other popular sport, the weather has a big say in conditions for any particular match and also on how many matches you get to play. Our Senior 1st XI has lost more games to the rain than any other season in recent memory, with five out of 18 fixtures cancelled or abandoned. And the same was true for the Colts; a record number of training sessions and games were cancelled – and not all were able to be rescheduled, despite an extended deadline to play them. This all meant that it was hard to get into a rhythm, especially in the first half of the season and it definitely made life harder for our volunteer groundsmen.*

In the end, Mike Parsonage's Senior team has comfortably maintained its status in Division 1 of the Four Counties Cricket League. We finished sixth out of 10 teams, winning six and losing seven of our completed fixtures. Our batting was the main reason we didn't challenge towards the top end. We had five batsmen score over 150 league runs but we struggled to get big totals on the board. We have good depth to our line up but consistency and large individual scores eluded us until the last match of the season. Safeer Ahmed's superb unbeaten 109 clinched his place at the top of the run charts with 344 at an average of 34.4. Our bowling has been the stronger suit in 2024, with five players in double digits for wickets. Leading the way has been Max Burgess with 19 (costing 16 apiece), followed by Asrar Muhammad on 18 (average of 19).

Our midweek Senior side, skippered by Liam Smith, comfortably made it to a third Village T20 Finals Day in the four years of the competition. However, the trophy still remains



elusive after we were beaten in our semi-final by Eggington Foresters. Unfortunately, our stand-out performer in the season, Jimi Chialoufas (275 runs in five games, averaging 92 per dismissal) was unable to make Finals Day and he was missed. We were a little under par in all areas in the semi-final and didn't really deserve to progress to the final.

As mentioned in a previous issue of Village Life, we were unable to field a Saturday 2nd team this year, but remain committed to trying to rectify this next year. Potential new players are welcome to contact us via our play-cricket website [bacc.play-cricket.com/home](http://bacc.play-cricket.com/home) or our Facebook page. We were, though, able to play seven matches on Sundays this year to partly compensate for a lack of games for some of our members. In context, we had three last year and even fewer in 2022. The stand-out performer in these matches was Lakmina Gunaratne, with 171 runs at an average of 43 and 11 wickets, costing just 11 apiece.

In overall terms, it was another good year for the club. Our total number of Junior members exceeded 100 for the first time, we continue to make progress to improve our facilities and our beautiful ground remains a lovely place to spend a sunny summer afternoon or evening. We head into the off season now but the hard work continues behind the scenes to give us the best possible chance of making 2025 even better. *Phil Samuels*



# Happiness is Scottish Country Dancing



*After a summer break, we're dusting off our dance shoes ready for the start of the new season. There's much to look forward to, especially more live music for our classes and bandleaders from Scotland for our two large events.*

Classes for beginners and intermediate dancers will start on Thursday, September 26 at 6.45pm in Wendover Memorial Hall, when we look forward to welcoming some new dancers. You do not need to be Scottish, or have a partner, to

participate in the dancing, so why not consider joining us and sampling this wonderful way of keeping physically and mentally fit? You can book a place in our Beginners' Class via our website which contains useful information, teaching videos and photographs too.

Looking ahead, plans are now in place for the Village Ceilidh we're organising in aid of funds for St Michael's Church. Ceilidh dancing is the easier form of Scottish dancing: it's energetic and tremendous fun. There will be a caller to guide everyone and two local musicians, Ian and Tom Robertson, will provide music which is guaranteed to make everyone dance. The date is Friday, November 22 in The Red Kite Pavilion. Doors open at 7pm and there will be dancing from 7.30 – 10pm. Tickets will be limited and must be bought in advance – £12 each or £40 for a family of four (two children 10 years or over). They are available from *Natalie* at the Church Office (01296 632488). *See you there!*

*Liz Mitchell*  
[lucyclarkscottish@gmail.com](mailto:lucyclarkscottish@gmail.com)  
[www.lucyclarkscottish.org](http://www.lucyclarkscottish.org)

		2			1			
			9		5			7
6						5	2	1
			3			7	8	
	9			1			3	
	4	8			9			
9	2	7						3
8			4		3			
			7			8		

## Sudoku

All you have to do is fill in the squares so that each row, column and the nine small 3 x 3 squares contains the numbers 1-9.

(SOLUTION ON PAGE 32)

## Autumn 2024 Update

*We are pleased to welcome some new Doctors to our team at Westongrove who are based at Aston Clinton Surgery: **Dr Shumaila Ahmed** – works Monday and Wednesday all day. **Dr Deepal Rai** – works Monday and Thursday all day. **Dr Sindu Yoharajan** – works Tuesday and Friday all day.*

### Flu Vaccinations 2024

Our flu vaccinations are due for delivery at the end of September and we can begin vaccinating from 3 October. As usual, we will be holding Saturday clinics at all three of our sites for eligible adult patients, alongside weekday clinics for eligible children. For more information on who is eligible please visit [www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/flu-vaccine/](http://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/flu-vaccine/)

Keep an eye on our Facebook page, website and posters in the surgeries for details of our clinics and how to book an appointment.

### RSV Vaccinations

From September, we will be offering a new vaccination against RSV (Respiratory syncytial virus) that has been advised for adults aged between 75 and 80 years. Unfortunately, we can't give this vaccination at the same time as a flu vaccination, so will need eligible patients to book a separate appointment – ideally with the vaccines one week apart. Appointments are now available to book via the Ask First app or by contacting the surgery. More information about the RSV vaccination can be found here: [www.nhs.uk/conditions/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv/).

### Post-operative wound care update

For some time, we have been providing an unfunded post-operative wound care service for the convenience of our patients, even though the funding to provide this care is actually received by the hospitals. We regret that due to increasing demands on our nursing team and



financial pressures on NHS General Practice overall, we can no longer continue to provide this service for which the hospital receives payment, as continuing to do so compromises our ability to deliver our core General Practice Services.

From 1 September, patients contacting us with wounds or requiring post operative wound care will be signposted back to the hospital which carried out their surgery or to the nearest A & E department.

### Pharmacy First

Did you know that our local pharmacies can help you with lots of common ailments without needing to contact us at the surgery?

If you contact us and you are suitable for the swift pharmacy service, we will offer to refer you, or you can attend the pharmacy yourself, which many patients prefer, as it saves time.

### Accessing Pharmacy First services

The seven conditions pharmacists can manage across various age ranges:

Clinical pathway	Age range
Acute otitis media*	1 –17 yrs
Impetigo	1 yrs and over
Infected insect bites	1 yr and over
Shingles	18 yrs and over
Sinusitis	12 yrs and over
Sore throat	5 yrs and over
Uncomplicated urinary tract infections	1 yr and over

\* Distance selling pharmacies will not complete consultations for acute otitis media.

Patients will be able to access the seven clinical pathways element via referrals from referring organisations including general practice, urgent and emergency care settings, and NHS 111 (online and via telephone). In addition, for the seven common conditions clinical pathway consultations only, patients can access the service by attending or contacting the

pharmacy directly without the need for referral.

Our website [www.westongrove.surgery](http://www.westongrove.surgery) and our Facebook page are great ways of keeping up to date with what is happening at Westongrove, including all of our latest patient newsletters – why not have a look?

## Discover Bucks Museum

### Autumn events at Discover Bucks Museum

If you're nostalgic for the first three Star Wars films from 1977 to 1985, don't miss our current exhibition **May The Toys Be With You**, which is on until 3 November. Bring back memories of the toys you had as children and the ones you dreamt of owning, together with the original movie posters in this stunning exhibition that's a must for Star Wars fans of all ages.

Back this year is **Off the Wall Art Fair**, our popular selling show, with a fantastic range of work for sale including paintings, prints, ceramics, glass, sculpture, jewellery and photography. A fantastic opportunity to buy affordable works of art, the exhibition runs from 16 November to 15 December.

If you would like to see some of the stranger and more curious objects from the museum stores, then our autumn exhibition **WEIRD** will enthral you. And if you're looking for something different, join us on 4 October for a unique magic show **Dreams and Deceptions** that delves into the fascinating life of a magician. Or try one of our popular monthly afternoon teas which includes a fascinating talk by one of our expert curators.



If you've got toddlers to entertain during the week, bring them to one of our special sessions for under fives. Every Wednesday, our Stay and Play Café offers a play space, free tea and coffee and a chance to meet other parents. On selected Thursdays, our Discover Ducks sessions include a story, games, craft activity and museum trail and on selected Fridays the Roald Dahl Children's Gallery is open to under fives to explore.

Please check times, charges and booking information at [discoverbucksmuseum.org](http://discoverbucksmuseum.org)

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Discover Bucks Museum, Church Street,  
Aylesbury, Bucks, HP20 2QP  
[www.discoverbucksmuseum.org](http://www.discoverbucksmuseum.org)

## Nature performs better with humans than machines whatever the weather

*This year has been very different; the long cold, wet autumn and spring into early summer seemed endless. It was as if nature had given up. First the insects didn't appear when we needed them as pollinators and the birds suffered because of their diminishing food supply. When things warmed up it was almost too much and the dry late summer brought its own problems. Young trees may not survive because they need so much water in their early years. At the time of writing, the spring flowering bulbs had not arrived, delayed because of the earlier weather conditions. And they are likely to be smaller than we have come to expect.*

From the end of August we start to anticipate autumn and shutting down for the winter. The harvest is well on the way and the hedgerows yield their bounty - blackberries, damsons, cherries and plums, fruits we preserve for the larder and on which birds and small mammals rely until the spring.

Last year, the mowing of the new Rising Sun Meadow was done by Clive Latimer and Stewart Todd. The wildflower display was amazing and they mowed it again this year, though there was more of it and it was tougher. The seeds were allowed to drop and take hold before the cuttings were taken away. They came across a range of creatures, a bees nest, mice and voles, frogs and toads. After a bare winter it will regrow. Maybe not with the same effect though; this is nature after all.

At Estone Grange, the wildflower strip was cut by trainee scythers under the direction of Nicole from the Chiltern Society. Here the going was good, so much so that they want to return next year. Volunteers came along to help rake up the risings and children played in the clean hay, while making habitat piles for the



frogs, toads and newts who live beside the adjacent watercourse, along with mice and voles and a lively family of wrens and other hedgerow dwelling birds. Having people to do the mowing rather than machines is so much kinder overall.

There have been some stunning wildflower displays in meadows and hedgerows. Over the next few months, we will do the winter jobs, plant bulbs and help nature to hunker down until the spring when life will start all over again.



Wild Estone Grange has a FaceBook page where you can report sightings from nature. This is starting to build a picture of the flora and fauna that live on the estate and fields beyond. While untold disruption was caused by the building of the new houses, careful management of the open spaces, ponds, hedges and trees is creating a beautiful and calm environment for people and wildlife.

If you would like to find out more or join the working parties locally, please contact the WildBelt Officer: [AmandaBarnicoat@chilternsociety.org.uk](mailto:AmandaBarnicoat@chilternsociety.org.uk) or [Katy at bramleycottage73@gmail.com](mailto:Katy@bramleycottage73@gmail.com). We'd love to hear from you.

*Katy Todd*



## Community Wildbelt – Apply for up to £500 for your nature project

*The Chiltern Society's Community WildBelt project, funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Rothschild Foundation, is creating a lasting and joined-up approach to nature conservation through local people. The project develops and supports individuals, Parish Councils and community groups to take practical and positive action and help nature recovery on their doorsteps.*

Key to the success of the Community WildBelt project is facilitating local people to actively care for nature in their own neighbourhood.

The Community WildBelt Small Grant Fund aims to encourage local initiative, engage more people and add to the legacy of stewardship for the natural environment. It recognises that there is a strong desire within local communities to take positive action to improve nature, but they face a wide range of barriers to realising their aims. Often these can be overcome with a small amount of support.

If you or your organisation care passionately about nature in your local area, if you want to protect it and have some ideas on how to get more people involved and you need a small amount of financial support to help get things going, please get in touch. It may be that your project can get started with a small budget or that your larger project is looking for additional funding to make it even stronger.

For more information email: [amanda.barnicoat@chilternsociety.org.uk](mailto:amanda.barnicoat@chilternsociety.org.uk)

Or check out our website:  
[chilternsociety.org.uk/community-wildbelt-fund/](http://chilternsociety.org.uk/community-wildbelt-fund/)

## Tring Choral Society - Save the date

Tring Choral Society will be performing Handel's 'Messiah' at 7.30pm on Saturday, **December 21** at St Peter & St Paul's Church, Tring. The choir will be accompanied by professional soloists and its regular orchestra. Tickets go on sale on October 16 at [tringchoral.org.uk](http://tringchoral.org.uk). It is anticipated that this will be a very popular event so book as soon as you can. *Lucy Kibble*

Local stories  
by local people

## Village People

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

**Marion Mason** has recently been elected as Chair of Aston Clinton Parish Council.



### **Q. How long have you lived in Aston Clinton?**

A. I've lived in AC since 2007 and have seen quite a few changes since then!

### **Q. And how long have you been on the Parish Council?**

A. I joined in 2016 and my first task was to work on the emerging AC Neighbourhood Plan as one of the Steering Group.

### **Q. What made you want to become a Parish Councillor?**

A. Alongside my work and family, I felt that I could spare some time and had a passion to give something back to the community that I lived in, to contribute what I could to help improve our village lives.

### **Q. What gives you satisfaction about being a Parish Councillor?**

A. I've been involved with

various projects, joined committees to learn more about how the Council (and village) ticks, and whether it's planning matters, facilities, finance or events, there's always something new to learn, or a new skill to develop. To be part of a great team, and to see small ideas turn into big projects, for example the funding and building of the Red Kite Pavilion, the improvements and additions to the equipment in the park, the annual events in the park, the Aston Clinton Neighbourhood Plan, to name a few.

### **Q. And what are your aspirations as Chair?**

A. In short, to be a good team leader and help make our parish council the best that it can be. To try and bring out the best of our councillors in meetings and encourage everyone to have a say,

no matter how controversial. To encourage good relations with our residents, businesses etc. and to help solve problems where necessary.

### **Q. What are the challenges?**

A. We have a great team of councillors, each bringing something positive and different to the Council. This sometimes creates passionate opinions, but also generates great ideas and we all work hard to do our best. We are all volunteers, giving our time freely to the community; sometimes public opinion can be harsh and critical and at those times it's important to stay positive, support each other and carry on! It is also challenging to manage all of our functions within the village and when Central and Local Government cut budgets, and projects are modified or cancelled, out of our control.

I want to  
try and bring out  
the best of our  
councillors.

“

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

A. The large increase in housing developments before the Neighbourhood Plan was made, which threatened the green spaces that keep us separate from neighbouring settlements and put our services under pressure. The increase in traffic through the village is also something that we all dislike. With large-scale developments happening on our doorstep, we will continue to try and find measures to discourage rat runs through our lovely village.

*Interview: Barbara Muston*

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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)*

**Q. What advice would you give to anyone wanting to become a Parish Councillor?**

A. Just do it! It will be the most rewarding and challenging thing you can do for your village, but will give you the most satisfaction when looking back at your achievements.

**Q. What is your life outside local government?**

A. I still work as a photographer, although these days I mainly cover events, portraits and ceremonial assignments and I love my work.

**Q. Are you involved in any other activities or groups in Aston Clinton?**

A. Not specifically - between work, family and the Parish Council, there isn't much spare time!

**Q. You're a very busy person; how do you relax, what do you do for fun?**

A. I am busy, but I wouldn't have it any other way. I love family time, and my love of photography extends beyond work. Walking the footpaths in our lovely countryside is a great way to relax. And when I have the chance, I retreat to a small village in the Eifel in Germany (just like the Chilterns!) and enjoy the wonderful landscape there too.

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

A. That's a difficult question. My early working life was spent in the music industry of the 70s and 80s, a time which produced some of the greatest music ever (in my view). Although I have too many bands to mention, my last concert was Def Leppard with my daughter, but I worked closely with American band Lynyrd Skynyrd in the 70s and they were incredible live.

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

A. National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation - it has to be! A family tradition to watch at least once a year, despite knowing all of the script, it never ceases to amuse, despite being a bit naughty!

**Q. What do you think makes Aston Clinton a good place to live?**

A. AC is a well-connected village that still retains a good community spirit despite the efforts of developers in recent years to turn us into a suburb of Aylesbury. When we meet so many residents and walk around with Santa's Float at Christmas, we are reminded what a great community this is.

## Aston Clinton Bowls Club 2024 season comes to an end



*Aston Clinton Bowls Club has once again had quite a season. We have welcomed several new members to our ranks, who have taken to our sport with great enthusiasm and dedication, playing not only in friendly matches but also competitive games and club competitions. The club plays in three inter-club competitions – the Mid Bucks League, Bucks Plate, and Burnham Plate – with varying degrees of success this year.*

Our finals weekend was held in early September. We enjoyed two days of excellent bowls and it was lovely to see some of our new bowlers making an appearance. There were six finals over the weekend, with a further three competitions completed as single-day events – two bowls (pictured), open triples and the Dave Rymer Trophy. Congratulations to all the winners and finalists.

The club was represented at the Aviva National Finals held at Victoria Park, Royal Leamington Spa in August, when Club President Cathy Clark took part in the Johns Trophy semi-finals as part of a twenty-four-strong women's team from Buckinghamshire. Overall, there was great success at the finals, with the county winning no less than five national titles and a silver medal in the Men's Senior Fours.

The green officially closed at the end of September (or was 'put to bed' as we refer to it), but work on the playing surface, the surrounds and the premises continues throughout the winter. The green still has to be mown on a regular basis (weather permitting) by our team of mowers, led by Philip Baxter and Neil Dixon, and other treatments have to be undertaken to ensure that the grass is in tip-top condition, ready for the resumption of play in April 2025. Our Monday Club – a group of volunteers who assist with jobs at the club all year round – continues to do sterling work, led by Allen Fairbrother.

New members are always welcome. We will again be taking part in Bowls Big Weekend at the end of May. The club is registered for Bowls Bash and this year we welcomed several groups of complete novices who wanted to try the sport for the first time. Why not come along and give it a go when the season restarts in April? If you enjoy it and want to learn to play, a course of instruction for beginners can be arranged.

For further details about membership or any of our social events during the winter, please contact our secretary [Brian Clark](mailto:brianp.clark29@gmail.com) on **01844 351461**, or email [brianp.clark29@gmail.com](mailto:brianp.clark29@gmail.com).

*Cathy Clark, President*

### SUDOKU SOLUTION

5	7	2	6	3	1	9	4	8
1	8	4	9	2	5	3	6	7
6	3	9	8	4	7	5	2	1
2	5	1	3	6	4	7	8	9
7	9	6	5	1	8	2	3	4
3	4	8	2	7	9	6	1	5
9	2	7	1	8	6	4	5	3
8	6	5	4	9	3	1	7	2
4	1	3	7	5	2	8	9	6



## Aston Clinton u3a

*Have we had summer this year? Fortunately from a u3a perspective, the weather is a little nuisance but not a problem, as many events are indoors and so our many groups have continued to meet regularly. Even Garden Visiting avoided heavy rain and really only Walking Netball has been hampered by the many showers. That group still meets weekly at Aston Clinton tennis club in the park – full details are available on our website.*



The view seen by the Trips Group from the Brighton i360 experience.

The website has undergone a full makeover to provide succinct information and easy user access. We are very grateful to Roger Colebrook and his team for revamping the site and making it user friendly. It is now possible to search for what is happening in the diary and individual groups have a much clearer indication of meeting frequency, location and timing.

The new site follows much of the National u3a format and has a new address: [astonclinton.u3asite.uk](https://astonclinton.u3asite.uk). Do take a look and see how easy it is to get specific information on group activity. If you are not yet a member of Aston Clinton u3a, there is full information on how to join. We welcome people to come and try us before joining formally.

In the summer, the Trips group visited Brighton. Although it was quite windy, we were blessed with lovely weather and excellent visibility so that those who ventured up the 'i360 experience' had fantastic panoramic views of the coastline, the Downs and the town. Others saw the Brighton Pavilion and there was shopping in 'The Lanes'. We have more trips coming up (see the website). The next one is to Leicester on Wednesday, October 16 before we consider Christmas lights and market excursions.

The Science and Technology group has recently been to an automated dairy farm near Quainton. That was an eye-opener for many of us who remember early morning and evening milking sessions, getting the cows in to start with, then a hectic milking session before the cows returned to their pasture. Now the automated farms have computer-controlled milking machines and the cows have collars and transducers so that they can activate the machine and get milked when they wish or need to do so, which apparently the cows prefer. I still have my own concern that they are not in big fields, but they benefit from regulated food in the large airy barns and a good life in the dry. Certainly all the animals appeared very relaxed and happy. The normal monthly group meetings resume in October.

Everything you need to know is on the website, please visit! [astonclinton.u3asite.uk](https://astonclinton.u3asite.uk)

*Tony Attwood*

## Buckland Parish Council

### Grass and Verge Cutting

We have mentioned previously the need to carefully assess the expenditure of Buckland Parish Council (BPC). As a council, we took the decision to reduce the number of grass cuts to four times per year. In addition, we are determined to ensure that Buckinghamshire Council carries out the two cuts per year that are expected.

### Bridleway, Lower Buckland

We have seen increased usage of the Bridleway at Lower Buckland leading to Puttenham. We believe this was caused by development work occurring in Puttenham with Buckinghamshire Council allowing access on a number of occasions for work vehicles to access the site. We have been working closely with residents in Puttenham, Dacorum Borough Council and Buckinghamshire Council to stop vehicles using the bridleway. Dacorum Council has now installed bollards and other preventative measures and Buckinghamshire Council has installed a bollard at the Buckland end.

### New Road

Residents of New Road in Buckland have seen a large number of vehicles using (bumpy) New Road as a cut through to Aston Clinton. This is happening particularly during school run times. This road is an unadopted highway, meaning it doesn't belong to Buckinghamshire Council or BPC and the cost of any maintenance falls to the residents. Many years ago, this road belonged to the Rothschild family, but despite many searches we have been unable to identify the current owner, if there is one. Please do NOT use this road unless you live there. It is certainly not safe for your car.



### Community Orchard

BPC continues to work on the Community Orchard in Lower Buckland and wildlife is flourishing. Recent sightings include a large variety of butterflies and crab spiders. Later this year we plan to install three benches and also plant more trees thanks to the generous donation from the Aston Clinton, Drayton Beauchamp and Buckland Horticultural Society. We are also working with The Chiltern Society to improve the area. In August, we carried out our first event with the Society, working to improve the recently planted hedgerow and later in the year, we will be planting further hedging with the Society's help. If you are interested in getting involved with this project, please do get in touch.

### Community Notice boards

At the time of going to print, we are working with Wendover Shed to get our community notice boards refurbished. Wendover Shed is a project which establishes a community workspace in Wendover. Practically-minded people are able to meet, work on joint projects (or their own) and share ideas and experience.

There is access to tools, electricity and, most importantly, a kettle! This is a voluntary group and more information can be found at [www.wendovershed.org.uk](http://www.wendovershed.org.uk).

### Tring Hill Junction and Buckland Wharf

Road traffic accidents continue to occur at the junction on Tring Hill and also at Buckland Wharf. BPC is keeping a list of accidents in these locations. This information has been passed to Buckinghamshire Council and we are currently awaiting a response. Please continue to pass any relevant accident information to the Clerk.

### Bloor Homes Development

Recently, Buckland Parish Council and two Aston Clinton Parish Councillors met with the developers, Bloor Homes. The purpose of this meeting was for Bloor Homes to share plans with BPC for the development of land for housing on the Lower Icknield Way between Dean Way and Buckland Road. Bloor Homes has put forward this site to Buckinghamshire Council as potential development land for up to 190 homes. Bloor Homes appears to be working on submitting an outline planning application for this site in the not-too-distant future.

BPC and Aston Clinton Parish Council made it clear to Bloor Homes that they will oppose any such plans which are not in line with the Buckland Neighbourhood Plan or the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (the current planning policy for our area). The increased pressure on local services such as schools, health services and other social infrastructure was also noted.

### Public Inquiry for Appeal APP/ J0405/W/24/3342894 - Land north of Brandon Close, Aston Clinton

BPC spoke at the recent Public Inquiry into the proposed building of 93 homes north of Brandon Close in Aston Clinton. The Parish

Council raised issues involving serious negative impacts of the further coalescence between Buckland and Aston Clinton, landscape issues and the very significant negative impact the development would have on the wildlife conservation area at Moat Farm, Buckland.

### Community Broadband

Buckland Village Hall recently had Community Broadband installed by Gigaclear. Gigaclear provided this for use by the community free of charge. It will be available to all users of the hall.



### Vandalism within Buckland

BPC has received reports of vandalism to parish property within the village. All vandalism is reported to Thames Valley Police. BPC does not tolerate any kind of vandalism to property. Ultimately it comes back to the residents, as all parish funds are provided through Council Tax.

Website details: [buckland-pc.gov.uk](http://buckland-pc.gov.uk)  
Facebook: [Clerk Buckland Parish Council](https://www.facebook.com/Clerk-Buckland-Parish-Council)

Contact details: Tel: **01296 630962**  
email: [clerk@buckland-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@buckland-pc.gov.uk)

The Parish Office is located upstairs in Buckland Village Hall. The clerk is generally in the office on a Monday and Thursday between 9am and 2pm.

# Horticultural Society



*We are now into autumn and it's time to think about preparing our gardens for winter and cleaning and putting away tools. It is also time to plan ahead for spring colour in the garden by planting bulbs. There is a great choice available from garden centres or, if you are looking for something more unusual, specialist bulb suppliers from whom you can order online. The Society hopes to have some bulbs for sale at its October meeting (see below).*

## Bulb Planting Tips

Bulbs are easy to grow and suitable for all kinds of garden – you can plant in drifts, small clumps or in containers and window boxes.

- When buying, look for bulbs that are plump and firm with no sign of mould; give them a light squeeze between finger and thumb to ensure they are not soft – a sure sign of disease.
- Most prefer a sunny site with good drainage but there are bulbs for shade, such as bluebells, aconites and anemones.
- Bulbs should be planted with tips pointing upwards at a depth three times their height and watered after planting.

- If you have a problem with squirrels or other wildlife digging them up, try protecting them with wire mesh or chicken wire.
- When planting in containers, plant close together for the best show. You can also layer up for a succession of flowers, for example, plant tulips lowest, then daffodils and then crocuses nearest the surface.

## Bulb suggestions

The first bulbs we see peeking up are, of course, snowdrops. These can be planted as dry bulbs in the autumn, but are best planted 'in the green' after flowering in spring. Divide any clumps you have then or if you don't have any, maybe talk nicely to any neighbours who do, or watch out for the Society ordering 'in the green' next spring.

Bluebells are also best planted 'in the green'. Ideally, we should be planting the native English bluebell, rather than the larger Spanish variety. The charity Plantlife recommends that you don't grow the Spanish ones if you live near a native bluebell colony to prevent any accidental hybridisation and to protect our native bluebell.

No garden is complete without a show of daffodils, which are a type of narcissus – a genus with thousands of varieties. To see some of these, come along to our Spring Show in April for a fabulous display. You can have a succession of blooms by selecting early flowering varieties such as Tête-à-Tête, February Gold or Ice Follies, followed by later flowering varieties such as Sun Disc and Cheerfulness.

Tulips too can have a succession of flowers from March through to May in colours from white to near black depending on the variety chosen. Crocuses are a symbol of cheerfulness and can be used for container displays, carpeting under trees, studding lawns with



colour and in the border. Iris reticulata are perfect for pots and popular with early bees.

As well as these favourites, why not try something different? Scillas Glory-of-the-snow (Chionodoxa) are early flowering bulbs with pretty blue flowers. Camassia can be blue or white and flower in May, while the later flowering alliums (which have flower heads from three to 20cm in diameter and grow to various heights) appear in May and June. Fritillaries can have small delicate flowers and also dramatic large exotic blooms.

With such a variety, there's something for every garden and preference and the addition of even a few will bring colour, food for pollinating insects and a smile to your face.

## Summer show

An extremely successful Summer Show was held at Aston Clinton School on Saturday, September 7. Many thanks to all the exhibitors who provided an outstanding display of flowers, vegetables, domestic produce, photographs and handicrafts.



The exhibits also included an excellent display of children's work from Barnowls nursery and Weston Turville school. Thanks also go to everyone providing the exceptional tea and homemade cakes and a very well stocked plant sale. This year's raffle supported James Adam's sponsored walk on September 14 to raise funds for repairs at Aston Clinton Church and both he and Tilla Adam handed out the cups and trophies at the show. The next show will be in the spring of 2025 and if you can grow some daffodils, make a cake or crochet an item we would love to see your produce.

## Horticultural Society Meetings

Meetings and events scheduled for the rest of 2024 are listed below. All are in the Anthony Hall and start at 8pm, unless otherwise stated:

**Wednesday, October 9:** Talk, *"The Lost Forest of Bernwood"* John Tyler, plus bulb sale

**Wednesday, November 13:** Talk, *"Gardening the Globe"* Chris Leach, Commonwealth War Graves Commission

**Saturday, November 30 at 1.30pm:**  
Christmas Wreath Workshop

**Wednesday, December 11:** Christmas Social.

A special mention for our Christmas Wreath Workshop, on November 30, which will be a Community Fundraiser for Brain Tumour Support charities. The cost is £20 for members and £25 for non-members. We'll also be running a Craft activity in the small room adjacent to the main hall, which will be a cheaper option. If you are interested or would like further information, please email the address below.

The Horticultural Society meetings and events are open to all. Meetings are free for members, £2 for non-members and members receive discounts on garden visits and other events.

Membership is £5 per year, per person. Please get in touch by email to join [info@astonclintonhorticulturalsociety.co.uk](mailto:info@astonclintonhorticulturalsociety.co.uk).

*The Horticultural Committee*

### ASTON BRIDGE CLUB



COME AND JOIN A GROUP OF  
FRIENDLY BRIDGE PLAYERS

FRIDAY AFTERNOONS  
2.00 – 4.30 P.M

ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS' CHURCH, ASTON CLINTON

IF POSSIBLE, COME WITH A PARTNER,  
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# Emergency

## HEALTH

Aston Clinton Surgery	01296 630241	<a href="http://www.westongrove.com">www.westongrove.com</a>
Aston Clinton Dental Clinic	01296 323090	<a href="http://www.astonclintondentalclinic.co.uk">www.astonclintondentalclinic.co.uk</a>
Amersham Hospital	01494 434411	<a href="http://www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk">www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk</a>
John Radcliffe Hospital	01865 741166	<a href="http://www.ouh.nhs.uk/hospitals/jr/">www.ouh.nhs.uk/hospitals/jr/</a>
Stoke Mandeville Hospital	01296 315000	<a href="http://www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk">www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk</a>
Wycombe Hospital	01494 526161	<a href="http://www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk">www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk</a>
NHS Direct	111	<a href="http://111.nhs.uk">111.nhs.uk</a>
Samaritans	116123	<a href="mailto:jo@samaritans.org">jo@samaritans.org</a>

## ENERGY SUPPLIERS

Electricity Emergency	0800 7838 838	
Gas Emergency	0800 111 999	
Water Emergency	0800 3169 800	

## CRIME

Police Emergency	999	
Police non-emergency and Neighbourhood watch	101	<a href="http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk">www.thamesvalley.police.uk</a>
Childline	0800 111	

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

## EDUCATION

Aston Clinton School	01296 630276	<a href="http://www.astonclintonschool.co.uk">www.astonclintonschool.co.uk</a>
Aston Clinton Pre School	07928 309321	<a href="mailto:pre-school.acpsmanagement@gmail.com">pre-school.acpsmanagement@gmail.com</a>
Noah's Ark (AC Baptist Church)	01296 631824	<a href="http://www.acbc.church">www.acbc.church</a>

## SPORT AND LEISURE

Aston Bridge Club	01296 630552	<a href="mailto:astonbridgeclub@gmail.com">astonbridgeclub@gmail.com</a>
Aston Clinton Badminton Club	07958 479690	
Aston Clinton Bowls Club	01296 630403	<a href="http://www.astonclintonbowlsclub.org">www.astonclintonbowlsclub.org</a>
Aston Clinton Colts Junior F.C.	07786 908219	<a href="mailto:clubsecretary@accolts.com">clubsecretary@accolts.com</a>
Aston Clinton F.C.	07930 925840	<a href="http://www.astonclintonfc.co.uk">www.astonclintonfc.co.uk</a>
Aston Park Tennis Club	01296 630826	<a href="http://www.astonparktennis.co.uk">www.astonparktennis.co.uk</a>
Aston Wine Club	01296 630531	<a href="http://www.astonwineclub.co.uk">www.astonwineclub.co.uk</a>
Aylesbury Green Park Sub Aqua Club	07092 075004	<a href="http://www.aylesburydivers.org.uk">www.aylesburydivers.org.uk</a>
Back to Netball	07545 033986	<a href="mailto:net4alluk@hotmail.com">net4alluk@hotmail.com</a>
Buckland & Aston Clinton Cricket Club	01296 631788	<a href="http://www.bacc.play-cricket.com">www.bacc.play-cricket.com</a>
Colts Kickers      Liam Hickey	07585 119066	
Dolphin Swim School	07966 450458	<a href="mailto:dolphinswimschool2017@gmail.com">dolphinswimschool2017@gmail.com</a>
Swimezee	01296 730742	<a href="http://www.swimezee.co.uk">www.swimezee.co.uk</a>



## YOUTH GROUPS

Aston Clinton Guides, Brownies and Rainbows		<a href="http://www.girlguiding.org.uk">www.girlguiding.org.uk</a>
Aston Clinton Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers	01296 708158	
– Waiting Lists		<a href="mailto:ac.secretary@yahoo.com">ac.secretary@yahoo.com</a>
– Other enquiries		<a href="mailto:ac.gsl@yahoo.com">ac.gsl@yahoo.com</a>
Aston Clinton Youth Club		<a href="mailto:astonclintonyouthclub@yahoo.com">astonclintonyouthclub@yahoo.com</a>

## CHURCHES

St Michael and All Angels, Aston Clinton	01296 632488	<a href="http://www.ac-buck-db-churches.org">www.ac-buck-db-churches.org</a>
All Saints, Buckland	01296 632488	<a href="http://www.ac-buck-db-churches.org">www.ac-buck-db-churches.org</a>
St Mary the Virgin, Drayton Beauchamp	01296 632488	<a href="http://www.ac-buck-db-churches.org">www.ac-buck-db-churches.org</a>
Aston Clinton Baptist Church	01296 631824	<a href="http://www.acbc.church">www.acbc.church</a>
Our Lady of Lourdes RC Church	01296 290545	<a href="http://www.ourladyoflourdes.uk">www.ourladyoflourdes.uk</a>

## HALLS FOR HIRE

Anthony Hall	07443 976639	<a href="http://hallbookingonline.com/anthonyhall/">hallbookingonline.com/anthonyhall/</a>
Baptist Church	07834 772937	<a href="mailto:lettings@astonclintonbaptist.org">lettings@astonclintonbaptist.org</a>
Buckland Village Hall	07749 041434	<a href="mailto:hallandbookingsmanager@bucklandvillagehall.com">hallandbookingsmanager@bucklandvillagehall.com</a>
Churchill Hall		<a href="mailto:astonclintonyouthclub@yahoo.com">astonclintonyouthclub@yahoo.com</a>
Red Kite Pavilion	01296 630270	<a href="mailto:nick@yourcafeinthepark.co.uk">nick@yourcafeinthepark.co.uk</a>

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Aston Clinton Parish Council	01296 631269	<a href="mailto:clerk@astonclinton.org">clerk@astonclinton.org</a> <a href="http://www.astonclinton.org.uk">www.astonclinton.org.uk</a>
Buckland Parish Council	01296 630962	<a href="mailto:clerk@buckland-pc.gov.uk">clerk@buckland-pc.gov.uk</a> <a href="http://www.buckland-pc.gov.uk">www.buckland-pc.gov.uk</a>
Drayton Beauchamp. Parish Meeting	01296 630396	<a href="mailto:merylnodes2018@gmail.com">merylnodes2018@gmail.com</a>
Buckinghamshire Council	0300 131 6000	<a href="http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk">www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk</a>
BC Councillors	Bill Chapple OBE	<a href="mailto:Bill.Chapple@buckinghamshire.gov.uk">Bill.Chapple@buckinghamshire.gov.uk</a>
	Mike Collins	<a href="mailto:Mike.Collins@buckinghamshire.gov.uk">Mike.Collins@buckinghamshire.gov.uk</a>
	Julie Ward	<a href="mailto:Julie.ward@buckinghamshire.gov.uk">Julie.ward@buckinghamshire.gov.uk</a>
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Highways	01296 486630	<a href="http://www.buckscc.go.uk">www.buckscc.go.uk</a>
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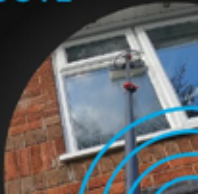
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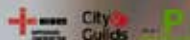
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