

# Village Life

The community magazine  
for Aston Clinton, Buckland  
and Drayton Beauchamp

No.80 April / May 2025





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Published by

St Michael & All Angels PCC

23 New Road, Aston Clinton

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Published every even month and over 2,700 copies distributed free to addresses in Aston Clinton, Buckland and Drayton Beauchamp.

Contributors and advertisers

#### PLEASE NOTE

Copy deadline for next issue

**9 May 25**

Editorial contributions are welcomed subject to availability of space and Editor's decision on suitability for publication. The publishers take no responsibility for statements made by contributors or advertisers.

#### ADVERTISING RATES FOR ONE YEAR

Whole page .....£395

Half page .....£210

Quarter page .....£105

One-Tenth page .....£50

Front cover. Competitors assemble on Upper Icknield Way before the Open Hill event at Aston Hill, 24 July, 1909. Source - HCAAC archive.

Printed by Buxton Press, Palace Road, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 6AE

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

*"I think that you will all agree that we are living in most interesting times. I never remember myself a time in which our history was so full, in which day by day brought us new objects of interest, and, let me say also, new objects for anxiety."*

This was Joseph Chamberlain, speaking in 1898, but it could equally have been yesterday. We certainly are living in interesting times, and with so many history-changing events occurring almost on a daily basis, I know I could easily become totally caught up in the news, feverishly checking in to hear the latest, and making myself feel anxious, powerless and generally gloomy about the state of the world. To retain my sanity, I try to live in the moment, stay rooted in the reality of my own life and just do my best. Editing Village Life brings daily reminders that there are, in the three villages, hosts of people who are also very much engaged in doing their best to make life better for all of us who live here, whether through the parish councils, the churches, or one of the many other voluntary groups serving different sectors of our community.

The cover of this issue draws particular attention to the efforts of those, including Aston Clinton parish council, who have been organising our own local historic event on May 17 - the 100th anniversary of the Aston Hill climb, an event that, in its day, provided a showcase for the latest engineering developments of the major car manufacturers, as well as an exciting social occasion. (See pages 26/27.) The day will be a once in a lifetime opportunity to see and marvel at such a large assemblage of pioneering vehicles. It might also lead us to reflect on the subsequent history and life-altering effects of the motor car - how far it has come since those heady early days and the changes it's brought to the world - both good and not so good...

Whatever your viewpoint, it'll be a day for remembering an interesting time in the history of our parish, which put Aston Clinton on the British motor racing map and led to the name of Aston Hill being forever associated, albeit indirectly, with James Bond! *Have fun!*

*Barbara Muston*

## Aston Clinton Baptist Church

*Encounter on the road to Emmaus*



The concluding chapter of Luke's Gospel sees two disciples despondently trudging back to their digs along the Emmaus road, away from the events of the first Easter in Jerusalem.

'We had hoped...' (Luke 24: 21) is the sad sigh of those disappointed in God. The couple had literally and metaphorically turned their backs on putting their hope in God's Messiah, for he had been crucified by the powers that be. Incredible reports of resurrection were too much to take in; hope was gone and so were they.

As Luke's account of Easter unfolds, the good news is that Jesus walks unrecognised with people like these, the weary and confused. In this encounter, he helps them to unpack their hopes and dreams and receive a fresh perspective on life by sharing his explanations of the scriptures - but without, at first, revealing his identity.

At journey's end, Jesus is invited to share a meal with the couple. As he blesses and breaks bread, realisation that they are in the presence of Christ dawns; their hearts are aflame. The encounter quite literally turns this couple around and they race back to Jerusalem, to fellow believers - hope restored, faith rekindled.

I wonder if 'we had hoped...' resonates with you this year? Hoped for a satisfying retirement, a fruitful marriage, a wonderful career, a happy home or a healthy life? Hoped that God might come through, and now you feel that hope crucified?

Easter on the Emmaus road suggests Jesus is closer than you might think - even in your disappointment. He awaits your invitation to share your joys and sorrows with him, to allow him to make sense of life and to receive a fresh revelation that *'It is true! The Lord has risen'* (Luke 24: 33). *Happy Easter, Rev'd Nick Harris*

## 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 caters for children dropped off by parents/carers; pick up from the church.

**Monthly afternoon service 'Oasis'** – first Wednesday of each month 2 – 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 12.45 – 1.30pm.

**The Craft Club** runs on alternate Wednesday mornings 10.30 – 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 9.30 – 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 9 – 10am  
Numbers are currently limited to 20.  
*Booking is required.*

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

**Youth group** meeting weekly on Fridays 7 – 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

# 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

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

## FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Sunday, May 4, 11am Holy Communion at St Mary's Drayton Beauchamp  
*Easter Services, see page 7.*

## WEDDINGS & BAPTISMS

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

## 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.

## CONTACT DETAILS

*Rev Sally Bottomer 01296 632488,*

*Rev Jane Nash 07562 672481*

*Natalie Fieldhouse, Benefice Administrator  
01296 632488 email all on: 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)



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

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

**St Michael's Little Angels  
Toddler Group**  
every Thursday 9.30 – 11am

**Aston Bridge Club at St Michael's**  
Friday 2 – 4.30pm

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

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



# Aston Clinton School

Head Teacher.: Mrs Carol Macdonald



## Our approach to staff development

*Recent changes in Teacher Appraisal guidance prompted us to reflect on our current approach, to staff development. We wanted to create an environment that emphasised a developmental, non-bureaucratic approach, one that truly reflected our vision. Our goal was to ensure that staff felt heard, supported, and empowered to grow. We saw these changes as an opportunity to rethink how we engage with our team.*

At Aston Clinton, our approach to performance development is shaped by our core values: Aspire, Care, Succeed. Care is at the heart of everything we do, and we believe that by fostering a culture of growth and support, our staff will not only thrive but will also inspire our children to do the same. We want our staff to aspire to be the best they can be, knowing that in doing so, they will help our pupils reach their full potential. To help us realise this vision, we have worked closely with Leadership Edge, ensuring our approach is both meaningful and effective.

Traditional mid-year performance reviews often focus on assessing progress, identifying shortcomings, and meeting procedural requirements. However, this approach can sometimes feel impersonal, reducing the review

to a checklist exercise rather than a meaningful opportunity for development. By embracing relational practice, we have shifted towards performance development – a term that better reflects our focus on future success rather than past evaluation.

At Aston Clinton, performance development is not limited to formal reviews. Instead, we prioritise frequent, informal conversations that centre on growth, well-being, and professional aspirations. Regular, supportive check-ins enable leaders to acknowledge progress, adapt goals, and celebrate achievements in a way that is flexible, responsive, and empowering.

Relational practice is built on care – listening deeply, valuing each individual, and creating a safe space for honest reflection. Instead of merely evaluating past performance, we use coaching techniques to encourage open dialogue, goal-setting, and self-directed development. This approach recognises that people thrive when they feel heard, respected, and supported.

While performance reviews and coaching serve different purposes, coaching skills can be embedded into performance conversations to make them more meaningful. This includes:

- Allowing staff to lead the agenda and set their own professional goals.
- Practising active, empathetic listening to understand their challenges and aspirations.
- Asking open-ended questions that encourage deeper reflection.



- Resisting the urge to provide all the answers and instead, empowering staff to find their own solutions.
- Creating intentional pauses to allow for thoughtful responses.

By adopting a coaching-style approach, we send a powerful message: *you matter; your growth matters*. This fosters a culture of care where staff feel encouraged to take ownership of their development, leading to greater motivation and engagement.

A school culture grounded in relational practice does more than enhance performance development – it strengthens the entire organisation. When leaders genuinely care about their staff, it cultivates trust, psychological safety, and a shared sense of purpose. We have seen first-hand that when staff feel valued and supported, they are more likely to take creative risks, embrace challenges, and contribute to a positive learning environment for both colleagues and pupils.

By shifting from a review of past performance to a preview of future possibilities, we can transform performance development into an inspiring, relationship-driven process. And in doing so, we reaffirm a fundamental truth: *when people feel genuinely cared for, they thrive*.

*Carol Macdonald, Headteacher*

## St Mary's Church Drayton Beauchamp Spring Clean

Please come and give a hand with Spring cleaning St Mary's Church Drayton Beauchamp on Saturday, April 12 at 10am. Tea/coffee and homemade cake supplied for all volunteers! Thank you. Any queries, please contact [Lucy: lucy:kibble@me.com](mailto:lucy:kibble@me.com).

## Easter Church Services



**Thursday, April 17, 7pm**

Maundy Thursday Service at St Michael's

**Friday, April 18, 2pm**

Stations of the Cross at St Michael's

**Easter Day - Sunday, April 20**

8am Holy Communion at All Saints'

9.15am Easter Fire Family Eucharist  
at St Michael's

11am Easter Fire Holy Communion  
at St Mary's

*Our Easter services  
(in the church unless  
stated otherwise).*



**Maundy Thursday, April 17, 7:30pm**

Communion service

**Good Friday, April 18, 11am**

Walk of witness to Upper Icknield Way  
layby followed by social

**Low Saturday, April 19, 9:30am**

Srvice for the bereaved

**Easter Sunday, April 20, 10:45am**

Service (baptism planned)

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

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

# Aston Clinton School Association

## Spring Term so far



### Silent Disco

An incredible £936 was raised on January 30 at the Super Silent Disco. Thank you to all those kids who danced and sang their hearts out. A huge thank you also to all our volunteers and the teachers who stayed at the discos to support us. We couldn't have done it without you! A final thank you to DJ James on his debut performance.

### World Book Day

For World Book Day, March 6, ACSA funded workshops for every class in the school, run by Ellie Scott who provides musical theatre, dance and drama workshops. On the day itself, we had our fabulous Wonka chocolate bars on sale with a chance to win a golden ticket!

The children won a range of prizes such as toys, books, dog walks, hot chocolate breaks, sit on the teacher's chair for a day and more! Thank you to an anonymous parent for their kind donation of brand new toys, Laxton Properties for buying most of the chocolate, The Print Lab for our labels, SignFirm for our banner and The Village Shop/Tesco/Waitrose for a few extra bars! This event raised over £1350!!



## Summer Term

### Steel

On Friday, June 27, we have planned for Gladiator Steel to visit the children at school. The kids are very excited, as are the teachers.

### Colour Run

On Friday, July 4, we are planning our very first Colour Run! We hope the kids are ready to unleash their inner rainbow. It will be for the kids but adults are also very welcome to take part. All participants will experience the thrill of running through clouds of colourful powder, enjoy the music, and get involved in throwing the paint!



## 2025 – 2026 Year

### Laser Light Show

We have some exciting news to share. We are planning an Unforgettable Laser Light Show for the whole community on Saturday, October 18. Bring the whole family for a dazzling evening of colour and wonder at our spectacular Laser Light Show! Experience a mesmerizing blend of vibrant lights, captivating music, and enchanting visuals that will leave you in awe. We'll also have a range of food and drinks available. Don't miss out on the magic—come and see the night come alive with brilliant lasers dancing across the sky!

As soon as we have tickets available we will share on social media so make sure you're following us to grab your early bird tickets at a discount.

If you are able to support this event through business sponsorship, catering, music or porta-loos, please get in touch.

### Christmas Fayre

Our Christmas Fayre is back on Friday, November 28, with a few changes and improvements from last year so it's bound to be a great day. Please send us an email if you'd like a stall.

### Circus - save the date!

On Sunday, May 3, 2026 the circus is coming to town, so save the date! Get ready for a day filled with laughter, excitement, and unforgettable performances as the circus comes to our school. This is a unique opportunity for everyone to experience the magic of the circus right at our school. Bring your friends and family to enjoy a fun-filled afternoon that promotes creativity and joy.

Facebook: [@astonclintonschoolassociation](#)  
Instagram: [aston\\_clinton\\_PTA](#)

## WheelPower 2025 Tour de Vale Charity Cycle Ride



*Calling all cyclists! The WheelPower 2025 Tour de Vale Charity Cycle Ride is rolling back to Aylesbury on Sunday, June 8, 2025, promising a day of fun, fitness, and fundraising for a fantastic cause.*

Starting and finishing at Stoke Mandeville Stadium, this much-loved event offers three scenic routes designed for riders of all abilities: 25km for families and beginners, 75km for intermediate cyclists seeking a challenge or 110km for seasoned riders looking to push their limits.

With fully signposted routes, rest stops, first-aid support, and even a post-ride celebration, it's a day not to be missed. By taking part, you'll be helping WheelPower, the national charity for wheelchair sport, continue their vital work supporting disabled people through the power of sport and activity.

To sign up, or for more details, visit [www.tourdevale.com](http://www.tourdevale.com) or contact [info@wheelpower.org.uk](mailto:info@wheelpower.org.uk).

*Let's ride together for a brighter, more inclusive future!*

## Aston Clinton Society



*Despite its being a typical overcast and cold February morning, we had an impressive number of volunteers, including some new faces (which is always great to see) for our first litter-pick of the year. It was just as well we had extra hands on deck, as there was a lot of litter in and around the village on the surrounding roads, and we collected 39 bags of rubbish over a two hour period. We still need to do more on Upper Icknield Way and Buckland Road as they were particularly bad, so if you're walking those roads frequently and want to help pick up litter, let us know and we can provide you with bags and litter-pickers. It's worth saying that although we organise regular litter-picks, we know there are many people in the village who do this of their own accord, for which we're extremely grateful. However, we'd like to encourage more people to do so. This year's Great British Spring Clean and Great Big School Clean – initiatives of the Keep Britain Tidy campaign – take place from March 21 to April 6 if you want to get involved.*

Speaking of litter, we will be installing a new litter bin, purchased with funds from our jazz night last November, on Tring Hill by the bus stop. We hope people will make use of it.

We thank Pat Williams, who has gifted the Society a limited number of unframed prints of the Aston Clinton map which was commissioned by a committee of councillors in 1997 to mark the new millennium. The map was based on the 1997 Ordnance Survey Parish of Aston Clinton map, and enhanced by the artist Myrica Jones, whose amazing drawings, each accompanied by a brief description, depict many of the historic properties and landmarks still seen in the village today.



We've been told that the original idea was that any profit from sales would go towards the repair of the water fountain in London Road after the top had been stolen. Although it took a little while for the work to be done, it was finally completed and thus the original purpose was fulfilled. Pat felt that any future sales should go to other projects for the good of the village and that's why she has given them to our society and the church. We are selling the prints for £10 each and they can be reserved by emailing us at [info@astonclintonociety.org.uk](mailto:info@astonclintonociety.org.uk).

We have been contacted by Bucks Council recently regarding the long saga of the old lamp posts on Tring Hill. We have been campaigning for their removal on behalf of the residents whose properties front on to them. The good news from the street-lighting department is that its design engineer has completed the drawings and the schedule of work required. He has also been in touch with

his counterparts at Herts County Council to agree asset ownership and detailed proposals for the work. In the first instance, Bucks will be disconnecting and removing the relevant stumps and will also replace certain lanterns, repair cables and fit a new cycle plate. The work is scheduled to start in the new financial year. We look forward to its completion.

A big thank you to the kind-hearted and quick thinking young resident who rushed to help a walker who had slipped and broken her ankle on mud on the RAF Halton airfield

public footpath late last year. Not only did he help to carry her to his house before she was taken to hospital, but he took wood chippings from his own stockpile and put them down on the path in the hope of preventing a repeat accident. We have campaigned for a long time for the RAF to address this problem as it's unacceptable that the public footpath is not maintained to a satisfactory standard and safe enough for residents to use all year round. Hopefully, this might get their attention.

## Discover Bucks Museum

*Only a short walk from Market Square in the historic part of Aylesbury around St Mary's Church. With changing exhibitions, permanent displays about Bucks and the fabulous Roald Dahl Children's Gallery, there's something for visitors of all ages to enjoy.*



Local fossils in the newly redisplayed Geology gallery.'

Until Monday, April 21, experience special Hands-on Science Exhibits in our Light Fantastic Exhibition. Experiment with lenses, light and colour and discover brilliant exhibits on the science of optics. Also on display until Sunday, May 4 are the wonderful entries and competition winners in our Photography Exhibition with the theme of celebrating Bucks.

Don't miss our packed Easter Holiday Activity Programme that runs from April 5 - 21, with a fantastic line-up of family fun activities, including The Sand Dragon: Puppet Show & Puppet Making Workshop. Get hands-on with Eggcellent Science and step back in time with our Anglo-Saxons workshops. An Easter Egg Trail is running every day, too.

On Saturday, May 17, join award-winning children's author Mark Grist for his Big Box Bonanza Show and Rhymes and Reads as part of our Children's Book Festival.

Get behind the sofa! On Saturday, May 24, we welcome Daleks and other sci-fi creations to the museum for the opening of the stunning Sci-Fi Special FX Exhibition. Exhibits will include objects from Doctor Who, Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, Red Dwarf and many others.

Keep up-to-date and sign up to our e-newsletter on our website and for more information about the above events visit our website.

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



**Berkshire  
Buckinghamshire  
& Oxfordshire**  
Wildlife Trust

## News from your local nature reserves

*As I'm writing, at the meteorological start of spring, our earliest hedgerow blossom, Cherry Plum, has just started to flower, outshining its more common close cousin, Blackthorn, at the moment. By the astronomical first day of spring on March 20, we can expect Blackthorn to be starting to clothe the hedges and scrub blocks with its similar delicate white flowers. By the end of the month, many more wildflowers will be decorating the reserves at Dancersend and Aston Clinton Ragpits, taking advantage of the spring sunshine while it can still reach the ground through the bare canopy of the skeletal trees.*

It will be a great time to get out and explore both sites and get your eye in again for the different types of flower that form the basis of the rich ecology and are crucial for those insects braving the still cold mornings to kick off another round of astonishing life cycles. There will be swathes of primroses, especially at Dancersend, probably being visited by remarkably colour-matched Brimstone butterflies and beeflies hovering like miniature hummingbirds. Dotted around, and brightening up any otherwise unoccupied nooks and crannies along woodland edges, will be tiny plants of Wood Sorrel, Barren Strawberry and violets.

Did you realise that you can find four different species of wild violets at this time – Early Dog Violet, Common Dog Violet, Sweet Violet and Hairy Violet? It can be fun to take along a flower book (or the very handy little guide available from the Botanical Society of

Britain & Ireland at [https://bsbi.org/wp-content/uploads/dlm\\_uploads/dinkymoira-Violets.pdf](https://bsbi.org/wp-content/uploads/dlm_uploads/dinkymoira-Violets.pdf)) and see if you can find all four, and also learn to recognise some other flowers while the variety actually in bloom is still quite limited!

From around mid-April, much of the woodland at Dancersend will be carpeted with Bluebells, Greater Stitchwort and Yellow Archangel and in the grassy clearings an amazing variety of chalk grassland plants will be starting to show. There are few other sites in the county to rival the two reserves on your doorstep for botanical riches, with over 420 different species of flowering plants, ferns and conifers – enough to ensure something new for each visit!

If you would welcome more help with identifying the plants and animals you see on walks and understanding more about the ecology and management of our reserves, please consider booking for one of our guided reserve visits. Our programme of FREE Introductory Visits and more specialised Guided Field Visits is just being compiled and more details and booking instructions will be on the BBOWT website at [www.bbowl.org.uk/events](http://www.bbowl.org.uk/events) from around mid-April. Otherwise, just come along to our nature reserves and explore on your own, but please keep any dogs on a lead.

There are plenty of other events for both children and family groups coming up at our flagship College Lake Reserve, as you can see in the update from the Learning Team on page 15.

*Mick Jones MBE,  
Volunteer Warden at Dancersend*

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Photos: Cherry Plum blossom, Primroses at Dancersend, Early Dog Violet, Sweet Violets, Wood Sorrel, Bluebells and Greater Stitchwort. *Mick Jones*

Village Life is funded with support from  
Aston Clinton Parish Council





## Wild Estone Grange: A walk with BBOWT's Community Ecologist



*It wasn't under ideal conditions on February 28, after a long wet autumn and winter. Everywhere, February finished with a deluge, leaving the ground well under water in some places and mud where grass was trodden underfoot, and Estone Grange was no exception. By 10am, fog descended but the date had been set to meet Katie Horgan, the Community Ecologist for Future Nature, BBOWT's wholly owned ecology consultancy.*

Katie previously worked on BBOWT's Community team and is familiar with the estate, having supported the Wild Estone Grange project from the start. A condition of the 2016

planning consent was the implementation of the Land Environmental Management Plan. This applies to all larger developments but is rarely implemented and is unlikely to be enforced. "It is commendable that the management company is following the LEMP guidelines. This kind of management will become more common with the legal requirement now for all new developments to meet 10% biodiversity net gain (BNG)," Katie says. "I know it hasn't been easy for the Management Company, but the alternative would have meant next to nothing for nature. What we have here is designated space, managed for wildlife to exist alongside the human residents, something to be celebrated."

Around 25 people came on the visit, all active in their communities, volunteering to make space for nature, some wondering how to set about turning round an open space. It was hoped that they drew inspiration from the morning. Getting down to grass-roots, literally, participants identified a good variety of flowers and grasses in the wildflower meadow. Bird enthusiasts spotted a pair of stonechats and pointed out that nesting had already begun in the big pond among the dense growth. A pair of mallards flew in to claim the old field pond and towards lunchtime, the sun emerged and the birdsong grew louder.

We learned a lot about Aston Clinton that puts it, and Estone Grange in particular, on the ecological map. The following facts are from the MAGIC\* Website:

- There are 2 SSSIs within 2km - Aston Clinton Ragpits and Tring Reservoirs
- Priority habitat lowland calcareous grassland at the Ragpits (1.5km away)
- Priority habitat lowland meadows at Wilstone Reservoir (2km away)
- Ancient and semi-natural woodland at Dancersend (2km away)
- Deciduous woodlands mostly to the south on London Road (less than 400m away)



- Five traditional orchards less than 1km away in and around Aston Clinton
- Great Crested Newt licence returns show presence less than 1km away along A41
- A veteran Black Poplar tree near Gordon Smith Close (there is another on Barker Lane)
- Very near a B-line (insect pathway) that passes over Wendover
- Just outside the Chilterns Important Invertebrate Area (IIA).

Estone Grange is grateful to the Chiltern Society's National Heritage Lottery funded Wildbelt Project for leadership, volunteers and resources that have made it possible to achieve so much.

Wildlife sightings can be reported on the Wild Estone Grange FB site and provide a valuable record of nature on our doorstep.

A huge thank you to Lily O'Neil, Community Networking Officer for BBOWT, whose funding made the fantastic event possible and for bringing all the different groups and local knowledge together. Lily can be contacted at: [lilyoneill@bbowt.org.uk](mailto:lilyoneill@bbowt.org.uk).

Katie Horgan is consultant community ecologist: [katiehorgan@futurenaturewtc.co.uk](mailto:katiehorgan@futurenaturewtc.co.uk)

*Katy Todd, Wild Estone Grange Group  
Director Estone Grange Management  
Company Limited*

*\*The MAGIC website provides geographic information about the natural environment from across government. The information covers rural, urban, coastal and marine environments across Great Britain. It is presented in an interactive map which can be explored using various mapping tools that are included. Users do not require specialist software and can access maps using a standard web browser.*

Local stories  
by local people

## BBOWT College Lake Learning Team Update

*As spring begins to show, the team is excited to head out to explore our beautiful nature reserve. Seeing the changes as we transition from winter and getting to share them with schools, families and adults over the coming months is always a highlight of our year'.*



Photo by Robert Lewis.

During term time (Tuesday - Friday), we run fully staff-led days for pre-booked schools with a variety of programmes that take children on a journey of learning and discovery.

During the holidays, we run a range of children's events, from Nature Explorers Day camps (7–11 year-olds), to family fun 1hr 30min sessions (aimed at 3–11 year-olds) and workshops for children aged 7 and over, such as pond dipping.

Throughout the year we also offer Lifelong Learning for adults. These sessions range from guided walks to creative workshops, like botanical monoprinting and pond dipping. Watch this space for Forest Bathing coming soon! This is a wonderful way to experience the reserve through your senses and is a science-backed practice that supports emotional and physical well-being.

For more information about events for April and May and to book, please head to our website [www.bbowt.org.uk/events](http://www.bbowt.org.uk/events). Booking is essential for all events, both to guarantee a space and to allow us to ensure that we have enough resources for everyone attending.

## Aston Clinton Parish Council

*With the clocks going forward at the end of March 2025, visitors to the park are advised that our park opening times switch to summer hours, so from April 1, the park will be open between 7am – 10pm each day. New signage to the park is due to be installed within the next couple of months and will clearly show the seasonal times, along with other important information.*

Our ANPR parking charges public consultation ran from February 20 – March 2 to gather the views of residents, businesses, sports clubs and more on the proposal for selective charging for vehicles in the park. At the time of writing, although the consultation has concluded, the large number of comments, both online and in-person, have not been correlated and summarised, nor the results discussed by Council. When you read this, all comments made directly to ACPC will have been carefully discussed and considered, and a decision will have been made at the full Council meeting on March 18. Details of the outcome will be published in the minutes of that meeting on our website, on various notice boards around the village and our Facebook page and reported on in a future edition of Village Life.

Looking ahead to our busy events calendar, we are very excited to be working as part of the organising committee for the Aston Hill Centenary event happening on Saturday May 17. Full details can be found on pages 26 /27. Tickets for the Show can be purchased from [www.astonhill100.com](http://www.astonhill100.com). Do join in - it's going to be a great event!

Moving ahead, on Saturday, June 14, the AC Family Festival 2025 will take place in the park from 12 noon-6pm. This free community event will include entertainment, attractions, petting zoo, zorbs, food concessions, dog show,

auction, raffle and more. Do come along and join us; visit the local craft and community group stalls and support your local community. Timings and more information can be found on our website and, closer to the event, on posters throughout the village and social media. We're looking for volunteers to assist with a variety of activities, including games, event set-up and more. We'd be delighted to have your support. Sign up today by emailing [dlr.corrinejudge@gmail.com](mailto:dlr.corrinejudge@gmail.com).



These two events form the start of a very busy year in the village, and the Parish Council is pleased to be working alongside St Michael's Church, the Aston Clinton Society, AC School, Pre-School and other community groups in organising complementary events in Aston Clinton.

We continue to work on our Neighbourhood Plan review; it is particularly important that the Plan be updated in accordance with

current national planning legislation to ensure that it will be passed by the local planning authority once submitted. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which is set by the Government, and to which all local planning authorities must adhere, was changed in December 2024, with one of the most significant changes being to the way in which housing target figures for all councils are calculated. Locally, this means that Bucks Council has to increase its housing target figures by 48% and apportion that housing throughout the county. In addition, the fact that Bucks Council cannot demonstrate a five year housing land supply, means that planning officers and inspectors must find in favour of development applications unless it can be demonstrated that significant harm will be caused by allowing them. Following these changes to the NPPF, it would be reasonable to expect an upturn in the number of speculative planning applications coming our way. However, our councillors are in ongoing discussions with the Bucks Council planning team in order to fully establish what these changes will mean for our parish and, wherever possible, to limit the amount of housing allocated to Aston Clinton. It is worth pointing out that any decisions/comments that we as a council make and submit on planning applications are not final, as the local planning authority, in our case Bucks Council, has the final say.

The planning system, particularly the way in which decisions of central government can affect us in Aston Clinton, is complicated, and for that reason, we are more than happy to help residents gain a better understanding of the implications and procedures either at our regular Planning Committee or Council meetings (dates and details on our website), or contact us separately.

Members of the public are welcome to attend any of our meetings, to get a view on the way that democratic decisions are reached by the Council on a wide range of projects, as well as the day to day running of the Parish Council.

We are delighted to invite all residents to the Annual Parish Meeting at the Red Kite Pavilion, at 6pm on Wednesday, May 21; refreshments will be provided. This is not a council meeting but an opportunity for you to meet representatives from many local community groups and to chat with parish councillors. In addition, Mick Jones, volunteer warden at BBOWT's Dancersend Nature Reserve, has kindly agreed to give a talk on 'Dancersend: 100 years of conservation in our parish'. *Aston Clinton Parish Council*

[www.astonclinton-pc.gov.uk](http://www.astonclinton-pc.gov.uk)

## St Michael's Church Silent Auction

*From July 1 to July 8, St Michael's church will be holding a Silent Auction to raise funds for its upkeep and maintenance.*

We are hoping to get a variety of great items and experiences that we will be able to auction. If you can donate a prize, please email *Natalie* at [Benefice3@gmail.com](mailto:Benefice3@gmail.com) with details or give her a call on **01296 632488**.

The prizes could be wine, chocolates, vouchers, days out, memorabilia, experiences, or activities, to name but a few.

So please, if you can, help us to make this Silent Auction a fantastic event. Details on the lots and how you can bid on them will be advertised on local social media groups, the church website, emails and Pews News.

*Thank you again in advance for your support.*

*Natalie Fieldhouse*

## A message from Laura Kyrke-Smith MP

*I know that buses are vital for residents here in Aston Clinton, Buckland and Drayton Beauchamp. People depend on buses for getting to work, school, the shops or to see friends and family.*



Lots of constituents speak to me about their local services. I know that whilst there are some good services, there are many problems that need addressing as well. My constituents across Aylesbury have for too long put up with unacceptable delays, cancellations and scrapped services, including Arriva's decision to end bus services to Oxford and High Wycombe.

I know in Aston Clinton there are also specific issues with buses (and other vehicles) speeding through the village, which I have raised with the bus companies and I will continue to press them on this.

Since being elected as your MP, I have been pleased with the Government's announcement that it would allocate £6.7m to Buckinghamshire Council to improve bus services, in addition to maintaining a cap on fares. We are moving fast and taking bold steps to deliver better buses for local communities in Buckinghamshire.

*However, I know there is more to be done.*

That's why I have recently launched an online survey to help improve bus services in our area. I want to know your views in order to make a stronger case to Buckinghamshire Council and local bus providers.

The survey will be used to help understand how many residents travel by bus, how satisfied they are with the current service, what improvements can be made to the passenger experience, and how to increase passenger numbers across Aylesbury and the surrounding villages. I would encourage both regular bus users and people who don't use public transport to take part in the survey. I want to understand your experiences of local bus services, so I can push as your MP for better, more accessible public transport for everyone in our community.

Aston Clinton, Buckland and Drayton Beauchamp residents are welcome to take part in the survey by filling in this short form: <https://forms.gle/j2stL3NAZw9rmNGu6>.

As ever, if there's anything I can do to support you on this or any other issue, please do reach out. The best way to reach me is on [laura.kyrkesmith.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:laura.kyrkesmith.mp@parliament.uk). You can also sign up to my E-newsletter which updates 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, [www.lauraforaylesbury.org](http://www.lauraforaylesbury.org).

*Thank you.*

*Laura Kyrke-Smith MP*

## WI

*The WI meets on the first Wednesday in the month at 7.45pm in the Anthony Hall.*



At our February meeting, we did something a little different; instead of having a speaker, we had a dance demonstration! We had a visit from Laura, a local line dancing teacher, with several members of her dance classes, who gave us a demonstration while our WI members watched. Once we had been treated to the display, it was time for us to take to the floor and try a couple of dances ourselves. Almost everyone got up and had a go. Laura walked us through the steps before turning on the music, at which point we novices realised that although it might look easy, it's much more difficult to do! One has to remember the steps, whether to move to the right or the left, not forgetting which way to turn, all while trying to keep in time to the music. There was much hilarity when some ended up facing the wrong way, but it was so much fun. After the dancing we made the most of the social occasion and enjoyed refreshments and chat.

*Lin Mitchell.*

*b.d.ac.wi@gmail.com*

Local stories  
by local people



## Chiltern Society 60th anniversary

This year marks the Chiltern Society's 60th anniversary and to celebrate, we've organised a special spring festival to showcase all the wonderful and diverse heritage and culture that's shaped this ever-changing region. From garden tours to house visits and walks, there's plenty to choose from. To view the full programme visit [www.chilternsociety.org.uk/heritage-festival/](http://www.chilternsociety.org.uk/heritage-festival/)

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## Bingo and prosecco at St Michael's

Come along and join us for this fun evening of Bingo & Prosecco on **Thursday, April 10 from 7-9pm** at St Michael's church. Entry is £5 per person, including three bingo games. Alcohol will be available to buy, along with a great raffle. For more information, contact *Natalie* on *01296 632488* or email: *Benefice3@gmail.com*.

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## Tring Choral Society's Spring Concert

On **Saturday, April 5**, Tring Choral Society will sing *Beethoven's 'Mass in C'* and *Mozart's 'Dominican Vespers'*. The choir will be accompanied by professional soloists and its regular orchestra comprising a mix of professional and local musicians. Please join us at St Peter & St Paul Church, Tring. Doors open at 6.45pm for a 7.30pm start. Tickets cost £17.50 and are available at [tringchoral.org.uk](http://tringchoral.org.uk) or £20 on the door. Children seven years and over welcome; under 18s free.





## Scouts 1st Aston Clinton

*Be part of the adventure!*

As you know, our village Scout group thrives on the dedication and enthusiasm of both our young members and the adult volunteers who make the weekly meetings and weekend residential possible.

Our Scout and Explorer sections are flourishing, and we're proud to provide an engaging and fun programme that our members thoroughly enjoy. To build on this success, we're looking for more adult volunteers to join our team – whether you have a connection to Scouts or not.

Volunteering with Scouts is rewarding and fun, and you won't be doing it alone. We work together to make it just as enjoyable for volunteers as it is for the young people. Whether you can help regularly, once a month, or just occasionally, every little bit of time makes a difference. We understand that everyone has busy lives, and volunteering can fit around your schedule without being a big commitment.

No prior experience or special skills are needed—just enthusiasm and a willingness to get involved. We'll provide all the resources and support you need to feel confident in your role. If you are interested in finding out more, why not come along to a few meetings to get a feel for it and see if it's something you'd enjoy?

Please get in touch at [ac.gsl@yahoo.com](mailto:ac.gsl@yahoo.com)

*Claire Walker*



# Matilda Florence debut album 'My Love'



*Valentine's Day was the perfect release date for Matilda Florence's debut album 'My Love'.*

Matilda,19, grew up in Wendover. At 16 she performed at The Oak, Astonbury, and The Buck Pub and a year later, in 2023, at Aston Clinton Beer Festival.

Before that, she could be seen most Sunday mornings at St Michael's and All Angels as a young chorister.

Last summer, before heading off to The University of Salford to study Music, Performance and Recording, Matilda returned to recording engineer and producer Jake Stanton at 'Big Fig Studio' in Aylesbury with these acoustic staples and really had some fun, re-interpreting and re-arranging to create a powerful and beautiful album. Her album features nine tracks including Slow Dance, Beach Song, My Love, Golden Fantasy, and Old Fashioned Love. Followers of Matilda Florence will recognise much of her collection of heartfelt love songs which have featured in live set lists for the past few years!

You can stream 'My Love' and previous single releases on all music platforms now.



To keep in the loop follow her on Instagram: [Matildaflorance\\_music](#) or visit [www.matildaflorance.co.uk](http://www.matildaflorance.co.uk)

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## 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 28)

## Chilterns Neuro Centre's Pop-Up Art Weekend raises over £21,000

*The Chilterns Neuro Centre is celebrating the outstanding success of its Pop-Up Art Weekend, which took place in Wendover over the first weekend in March. This year, the event commemorated its 20th anniversary, and brought together more than 80 talented exhibitors, welcomed over 1000 visitors and raised an impressive £21,530 in support of the Centre's vital work with people affected by MS, Parkinson's and strokes.*



This brings the total raised for the Wendover-based charity by the Pop-Up Art Weekend, since it began back in 2005, to over £212,000.

The exhibition, in partnership with the Clare Foundation, showcased a stunning and diverse range of artwork, from paintings and sculptures to ceramics and photography, creating an inspiring and vibrant atmosphere. The event is also becoming known for its incredible selection of homemade cakes, which were a huge hit with visitors and added an extra touch of community spirit.

The event began with a special preview evening on the Friday night, attended by many high profile figures including The Countess Howe, His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire (left); and Cllr Alan Sherwell, Mayor of Aylesbury.

*"It was truly a fantastic weekend that just gets better every year," said Hannah Prentice, Community and Events Manager at the Chilterns Neuro Centre. "We are overwhelmed by the generosity and enthusiasm of everyone who took part, from the talented artists and dedicated volunteers to the visitors who came to support us. A huge thank you to everyone who made this event such a success."*

The Pop-Up Art Weekend not only celebrated creativity, but also the power of community, bringing people together for an important cause. The funds raised will help the Centre to continue offering physical, practical and emotional support to its members, empowering them to live life to the full.

For more information about the Chilterns Neuro Centre and how to support its work, please visit [chilternsneurocentre.org](http://chilternsneurocentre.org).

## Aston Clinton Bowls Club: A hub of our local community



The clubhouse and green in early March.

*Nestled in the park next to the tennis courts in the heart of the village, the Bowls Club is more than just a place for sport, it's a hub of friendship and community spirit too. Established in 1948, the club has grown into a welcoming space for players of all ages and skill levels. Whether you're a seasoned bowler or a curious beginner who might like to play bowls, there's a warm welcome for you here, at your local bowls club. We are having a registration evening for both new (and existing) members on Wednesday, April 9 in the clubhouse from 7.00pm, and we would love to see you.*

The club boasts a rich history, with its current six-rink green opening in 1986 at Aston Clinton Park. Members enjoy a variety of activities, from friendly "roll-ups" to competitive matches in local leagues.

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when responding to our advertisers.

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

The club also hosts internal competitions, where players vie for trophies and titles, fostering a sense of achievement and fun.

Bowls is a gentle and therapeutic sport, good for both the mind and the body. People play it for all sorts of reasons and it's not just about the game and competition. Our bowls club is known for its social activities too, offering events like quizzes, social evenings, and themed meals throughout the year. It's a place where friendships are formed, and like-minded people can come together.

Our club is inclusive and welcoming to ALL men and women, young and old alike. Our members can use the green most days in the afternoon and evenings. We provide training bowls and coaching for those new to the sport, as well as advice on equipment. If you have never played before, then all you need to get started is a pair of shoes or trainers, with flat soles.

You can see from the photograph that our green is in great shape in early March. It is lovingly maintained by volunteer members and we have done a lot of work on the green over the closed season. I feel confident that we will have one of the best greens in Bucks this year. The green will open on Friday, April 25 for the new season, and on Saturday, April 26, we are hosting a visit by one of England's top suppliers of bowls and bowls accessories. All are very welcome to come along on either day, even if it's just for a look, out of curiosity.

If for any reason you can't make it to our registration evening on Wednesday, April 9, then just give me a call on my mobile number below and I will be very happy to arrange for you to be shown around the club, and for a 'taster' session on the green if you would find that helpful. We would love to see you.

*Robert Morrison, Club Chair*

*07885 595447*

## Village Business

*This is a series about the businesses that operate locally and advertise in Village Life: what they do, what services they provide and the people behind the business names.*

**Oliver Jenkins and Mike King** are directors of Bucks Boilers.



**Q. How long have you been involved with Bucks Boilers?**

A. We started Bucks Boilers in May 2022. Before that, we worked at British Gas for many years. We both left them in October 2022, after they had entered into a fire and rehire process for all the engineers. We each set up independently before joining forces to form Bucks Boilers.

**Q. Who are the people behind Bucks Boilers?**

A. Myself (Oliver Jenkins) and Mike King are directors of Bucks Boilers and Bucks Bathrooms, we also have another engineer and two apprentices.

**Q. What services do you provide?**

A. We offer a range of services including:

- Cozy Care service plans
- Boiler Installations
- Boiler Servicing
- Boiler and central heating repairs
- Smart Controls
- Power flushing
- Radiator installation
- Energy efficiency advice
- Bespoke Bathroom installations.

**Q. What are your best energy saving tips?**

A. Upgrading your boiler to an A-rated appliance is the best way to reduce your gas bill and be more efficient. You could save 25% on your bill! Regular maintenance of your boiler and central heating will also keep the efficiency up. We also recommend flushing sludge from your radiators and use of smart controls so you only have the heating and hot water on when you need it.

**Q. Have you always worked in this industry? Where did you start?**

A. Yes, we both have always worked in the boiler, heating and plumbing industry. We both started at British Gas as apprentices. Mike trained in London while I trained up in Leeds.

**Q. What are the rewards and challenges of running a local business?**

A. That's a good question. I think a very rewarding situation is when we have repaired someone's boiler and got their hot water and heating back up and running again. Especially when it's wintertime! Also the wow factor of a newly finished bathroom and the customers' faces when they see it. There

are some challenges we come across, but we always find a solution.

**Q. Have you always lived in Aston Clinton?**

A. Yes I have. I'm Aston Clinton born and bred. I went to Aston Clinton School and played Rugby at Aylesbury rugby club.

**Q. When you're not busy at work, what do you do for fun?**

A. We enjoy spending time with our families and a lot of BBQing. I am a keen darts player and have played in the local leagues for 20 years. We both like rugby and try to see England at least once a year. We also attend the great local family events held in Aston Clinton such as Astonbury, Aston Clinton beer festival and the family days at the park. Mike and I are also members at Aylesbury Rugby Club, having played there in my youth. We are also proud sponsors of the rugby club.

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

A. We have a wide range of music on our site radios but generally 80's and 90's. Mike likes country and we are also partial to Capital Dance when we need some extra motivation.

**You could save 25% on your bill!**

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*If you advertise in Village Life and would like to be featured in this column, please contact the editor at [editor@acvillagelife.co.uk](mailto:editor@acvillagelife.co.uk)*

*We are still running the Village People column as well and if you would like to recommend anyone whose contribution to village life should be featured in a forthcoming issue of Village Life, please send details to the editor at the address above*

*Interview **Nigel Brown***

*Photo: Directors Oliver Jenkins and Mike King with Parker Churchill.*



## We're getting revved up for the Aston Hill Centenary Celebration!



*Final preparations are now underway for the eagerly anticipated Aston Hill Centenary event in May, when local people will be joined by enthusiasts from all over the country to celebrate the amazing motorsport history of Aston Hill.*

To kick off the celebrations, from May 14 to 17, there will be an exhibition on the history of Aston Hill in the Red Kite Pavilion in Aston Clinton Park, open from 9am to 4pm each day. Everyone is welcome, so do come along and learn about the pioneering and exciting events that took place at Aston Hill between 1904 and 1925, when Aston Hill was one of the country's premier motorsport venues.

Then on May 17, we have the main event, the Vintage and Classic Vehicle Show in the grounds of Hill Farm at the top of Aston Hill, which will run until 5pm. All profits from this show will be donated to the event's nominated charities, some great local causes including the



Photos: (left) 1910 MAF, The Start of the Aston Hill climb, 8 June 1912 (HCAAC archive), 1923 Aston Martin Cloverleaf, (above) 1914 BSA and 1921 Aston Martin A3.

Chilterns Neuro Centre, an organisation that supports people affected by multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's and stroke, and Kirby's Herd, a local group that raises funds for Cancer Research UK.

On display at the show will be approximately 500 vintage and classic vehicles, many of them as part of club displays.

The centrepiece of the show will be 80 very rare cars and motorcycles manufactured over 100 years ago. Five of these cars actually competed at Aston Hill in the early 1920s, with the rest of them being of the same type as those that participated there between 1904 and 1925. These vehicles will first assemble in Aston Clinton Park from 9am on the morning of May 17, before, at 10am, starting the drive from the park, through the village, to the bottom of Aston Hill, which they will then climb to enter the showground.



In addition, we are excited to announce that the Aston Martin Heritage Trust (AMHT) is bringing the famous Aston Martin A3 to display at the show. Manufactured in 1921, this car was the third Aston Martin ever built and is the oldest still in existence. This car is a significant piece of automotive history and rarely leaves the AMHT Museum. Visitors to the show will be able to see A3 close up and talk to experts from the AMHT to find out all about it. Three of the event sponsors - Ecurie Bertelli, Chiltern Aston and Bicester Sports & Classics - will also have some fabulous vintage and classic cars on display, as will a number of the trade stands.

Throughout the day, there will be commentary on the event within the showground, including interviews with owners of period cars and motorcycles as well as with vintage motoring experts. This will give show-goers the opportunity to learn more about the machines that competed at Aston Hill over 100 years ago, and about the history of the hill itself.

As for refreshments, there will be various catering outlets serving a wide range of good quality food and drink throughout the day.

To ensure that all visitors to the show are parked as efficiently as possible, the experienced stewards from the Hellfire Motor Vehicle Club will be supervising the parking in both the display area and the visitor car park. We are very grateful to them for their assistance.

Finally, for those wanting to discover more about the history of Aston Hill before the event in May, a book has recently been published, entitled "The Motorsport History of Aston Hill". This provides an account of the hillclimb events that took place from 1904 to 1925, along with a foreword by Nick Mason CBE, competitor profiles and over 100 photographs, many unpublished previously. People in the Aston Clinton area can purchase the book by emailing [astonhill100@gmail.com](mailto:astonhill100@gmail.com).

For those further afield, the book is available from Chaters Motoring Booksellers at [www.chaters.co.uk](http://www.chaters.co.uk).

The Aston Hill Centenary is being organised by a partnership including Aston Clinton Parish Council, Vintage Sports-Car Club and Herts County Auto & Aero Club (HCAAC). It is fitting that the HCAAC is involved since it was the club that organised the majority of events at Aston Hill between 1904 and 1925. It is also the third oldest motoring club in the country that is still active.

For more information about the Aston Hill Centenary and to book tickets for the show, please visit [www.astonhill100.com](http://www.astonhill100.com) or visit the facebook page "Aston Hill Climb 100 Celebration".

The organising team is looking forward to welcoming you to the Aston Hill Centenary in May and to celebrating some truly amazing local history with all those who attend.

*Mike Stark, Chair, Aston Hill Centenary Organising Committee*





## New system update

*Since January 8, when we started our new system, in which we ask patients to complete an online form via our website [www.westongrove.com](http://www.westongrove.com), for all appointment requests and admin queries, Westongrove has dealt with 13,101 contact forms over a 29 day period.*

Of those, 3,291 appointment requests were dealt with urgently by a GP, 1,569 appointment requests were for non-urgent GP appointments and 793 patients were advised to self-care. The remaining contacts included requests for smears, blood tests, private letters, fit note requests to name but a few.

Each site now has a tablet available for patients to use if they do not have a suitable device or access to the internet at home. We ask patients to complete the form themselves, or ask a friend or relative to help, so that our receptionists can be available to assist those who do not have anyone to help them.

Using the online form is also the quickest way to contact us with any admin queries including, but not restricted to:

- Sick/Fit note requests
- Updating your details, including email addresses
- Chasing referrals
- Non-NHS Work
- Online access queries
- NHS app
- Registration queries.

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

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

We are also introducing appointment booking links that can be emailed or sent to the patient allowing them to select a date and time that is suitable for them. Please be sure to provide us with your current mobile or email address if you would like to take advantage of this. If this is not for you, we can still call you to make your appointment.

During the same time frame, Westongrove had 26,286 calls, including 99 patients who used our telephone facility to check or cancel an appointment – this meant they did not have to wait on the phone for the receptionist. A further 2,636 used the call-back function, when we call the patient back so that they don't lose their place in the queue or have to wait on the phone for the receptionist to take their call. The average queue time for the patient waiting to be answered was 8min 51sec and, once through to a receptionist, the average call lasted 3min 3sec.

If you'd like to keep up to date with all our news, please visit our website to read our monthly patient newsletters, plus you can also register to receive our news alerts using the sign-up link at the bottom of our home page.

[www.westongrove.com](http://www.westongrove.com)

## SUDOKU SOLUTION

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## AC Colts



*Aston Clinton Colts JFC is excited to announce that it has reached 75% of its fundraising target to upgrade its goals and install a much-needed new storage system at the park. This fantastic progress is thanks to the incredible support from our community, families, and players.*

A special mention goes to Mark Waller, whose personal fundraising challenge has made a significant contribution, raising £3,500 so far. (See his story below.)

With the season drawing to a close, the Club is now preparing for two key events – our End of Season BBQ on Saturday, May 10, and, on Saturday and Sunday June 28 & 29, our Summer Tournament, which remains our biggest fundraiser of the year.

Thank you for your ongoing support – every donation and helping hand makes a real difference to our players and the future of the club. *The Colts Committee*

## Mark's Challenge

*Not many of us have traumatic experiences at a young age and we may not be aware that friends, neighbours or even relatives live with unimaginable PTSD, the onset of which might be delayed for years. Mark Waller, formerly a Coldstream Guard, is living with PTSD that resulted from his experiences when deployed to support the UN Protection Force in Bosnia in 1992. Thousands of troops were tasked to secure humanitarian aid convoys and in peacekeeping duties and they witnessed horrific atrocities. Mark lives in Aston Clinton with his wife Di and two grown up sons. The whole family is involved with Aston Clinton Colts JFC.*

Mark is in training to do a 26 mile tabbing challenge on Saturday, May 10. He says,



*"I always enjoyed these Army exercises which involve tabbing, carrying a heavy load. I liked the sense of achievement. So now I want to take the challenge and raise funds for Aston Clinton Colts to purchase new goals and keep the club going for youngsters in the village."*

Mark explained how being outdoors is helping him to regain mental health and enabling him to care for Di better.

Di, who is secretary to the Colts football club, suffers from debilitating conditions/auto-immune diseases (Polymyalgia Rheumatica, Hypothyroidism, Hypertension, Lymphoedema, GERD and type 2 Diabetes), so Mark is also raising awareness for these conditions.

Mark, who has been sponsored by Salesforce, will be supported by a team of volunteers and will end the day at The Red Kite Pavilion.

To find out more, contact *Mark* on **07798 817420** or to sponsor him, please visit [www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/coltsgoals](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/coltsgoals).



## Walk of Light moves to Waddesdon Manor

*Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity's much-loved Walk of Light event will take place at Waddesdon Manor on Friday, June 13, from 6.30pm. The Walk of Light brings the community together in support of local hospice care. Participants will celebrate the lives of loved ones while walking in the stunning grounds of Waddesdon Manor.*

Walkers can choose between 5km and 10km routes, both winding through the Manor's picturesque landscape. Upon returning, participants can cheer on fellow walkers at the finish line and enjoy a heartfelt closing ceremony as the summer sun sets.

A special feature of the event will be the 'Remembrance Lanterns', where walkers can write personal dedications to honour loved ones or express gratitude to the Hospice team. These illuminated lanterns will create a moving and memorable display during the closing ceremony.

"Our Walk of Light is a cherished tradition, deeply valued by our community," says Lyn Denham, Community & Events Fundraising Manager for the Charity. "It's a wonderful event that highlights the significant impact our Hospice has across Buckinghamshire and its borders. Hosting it at Waddesdon Manor is a true privilege, and we're eagerly anticipating a beautiful walk and a breathtaking lantern display in a magnificent setting."

Tickets are currently available at their early bird rate. This lowered price is available until Tuesday, May 13.

Participants will receive a free commemorative Walk of Light 2025 T-shirt, a finisher's medal, and the option to take their Remembrance Lanterns home after the ceremony.

Two years ago, the event raised over £35,000 for the Hospice. With this year's event taking place at Waddesdon Manor, hopes are high for an even greater figure with all profits supporting hospice care across Buckinghamshire and its borders.

For more information and to sign up, please visit: [www.fnhospice.org.uk/wol25](http://www.fnhospice.org.uk/wol25).



## Wendover Choral Society Concert



*Ooh-la la! There is definitely a feeling of La Belle France amongst the members of Wendover Choral Society and we are loving it!*

Since the arrival of our new, young and inspirational conductor, Kenton Brigden, last September, we are not only exploring pastures new musically, but are having so much fun whilst learning about techniques to help us to sing better. Our next concert in May is to be made up entirely of French music and will include such favourites as Fauré's Canticum de Jean Racine as well as his ever popular Requiem, plus the

effervescent Poulenc Gloria which has surprised us with its energy and variety. We are thrilled to be joined by organist Colin Spinks and lyric soprano, Alison Langer. The concert will be held on Saturday, May 17 at St. Mary's Church, Wendover at 7.30pm.

Tickets are now on sale and can be bought for £17.50 online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/wendover-choral-society](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wendover-choral-society), by telephone at 0333 666 3366 or at the Just shop in Wendover High Street. Tickets will also be available at the door for £20 and children under 16 are free. *Do come and join us!*

In addition, Wendover Choral Society is hosting a three-week singing workshop programme with the renowned soprano Siân Dicker. This will take place in St Mary's Church, Wendover on Thursdays, June 5, 12 and 19. Cost £30. Tickets are available online as above. These workshops will be great fun and are open to all singers.

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## Aston Clinton u3a

*As publication for this article is due in April, and as the sun begins to make the days more welcoming, I thought it may be appropriate to stimulate readers to get out and about after the surprising wet weather of the year so far.*

Many of our u3a members attended our annual photography exhibition and competition last month and there were some outstanding photographs on display. The cold snaps we have had resulted in picturesque frost and ice patterns in several photos in the exhibition. In fact the "people's choice" for first prize is titled "Frozen Guardian" and is shown here. The other photo is of a quiet moment as the exhibition was being viewed.

All photographers are welcome to join the digital photography group and the next meetings are on April 8 with a trip to Stockwood Park and then on May 9, (change of day) to try to get the best photos of Bluebells. The top 10, and all the photographs in the exhibition, can be seen on the ACU3A website ([astonclinton.u3a.site.uk](http://astonclinton.u3a.site.uk)), in the Digital Photography group page, as well as the diary for future events.

Our "Main Meeting", which is held in the Baptist Church, is on Tuesday, April 15 and is very relevant in this day and age. We are having a presentation on Internet Safety. Scams, fraud and general security are some of the things that we all need to be aware of. *New members are very welcome. Tony Attwood*



Local stories  
by local people



## Buckland Parish Council

### Traffic in Buckland

In November 2024, BPC carried out a traffic survey along Buckland Road. Two sets of truelove strips were laid, one just after the Hope Cottages in the 40mph zone and the second within the 30mph zone. The data received shockingly revealed that 48% of vehicles using this road were travelling above the speed limit of 30mph. Residents have also reported that the road has become busier since the installation of traffic calming measures in Aston Clinton. BPC has contacted Buckinghamshire Council for advice on what can be done to help slow the traffic on this road. If you are using the road, please be mindful of the speed limit; the road is used heavily by pedestrians, cyclists and dog walkers and there are many school children who walk along here as well but there are no footpaths for pedestrians to use.

Speeding vehicles also continue to be an issue on Tring Hill both at the junction with the Upper Icknield Way and also at Buckland Wharf. BPC has written once again to Buckinghamshire Council about this and has requested that traffic calming measures be installed. We will update you when we have received a response.

### Littering in Buckland

Over the past few months, we have noticed a large increase in the dumping of rubbish along with drug paraphernalia. Many residents have been kind enough to don thick gloves and take a sack to help clear this and we thank them for their efforts. We would ask everyone to take their litter home with them. We have identified an increase in people visiting the lower part of Buckland for drug use. We have informed Thames Valley Police who have said they will increase the number of drive-bys in the area

but if you notice anything, please report to TVP or let BPC know.

### Hedges, ditches, verges and footpaths

The weather over the last few months has been wet! Buckland Parish Council (BPC) and Buckinghamshire Council (BC) have been mindful of the general appearance of the hedges and verges throughout the Parish. Last year saw an unprecedented amount of rain leading to increased growth on the verges. Unfortunately, Buckinghamshire Council did not cut the grass when scheduled, which also added to problems of overgrowth throughout the Parish. Many local landowners have recently cut their hedges to ensure that they are not overhanging ditches and pathways. It is important to ensure that the ditches are kept clear to avoid blockages and flooding. All landowners and householders are responsible for clearing any verges and ditches that are on their land. If you have any concerns about this, please do get in touch.

Councillors have been working hard to get footpaths, stiles and bridges repaired. Unfortunately this is the responsibility of Buckinghamshire Council and we have been badgering the relevant people to little or no effect. There are some areas that were reported in 2022 that are still awaiting repair. If you are using these facilities while out walking please do take care.

Any issues relating to stiles, footpaths, potholes, fly tipping can be reported via the Fix My Street Website. [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com).

### Green Lane, Burial Ground

Councillors and residents of Buckland have been working with The Chiltern Society to improve Green Lane access to Buckland Burial Ground (this is off Peggs Lane). In October, they spent a few hours clearing the pathway and removing a large amount of dead



hedgerow. The group returned in February and planted new hedging. This project has been completely funded by The Chiltern Society and with the help of volunteers.



### Buckland Community Orchard

Over the last couple of months, we have continued our work on the community orchard. BPC would like to thank Aston Clinton, Buckland & Drayton Beauchamp Horticultural Society, the Chiltern Society and Wendover Community Board for donations which, taken together, allowed us to purchase and plant 16 trees, 250 hedge plants for the far side of the orchard, and some wildflower seeds, which will be sown in the coming months. We also thank the Gib Lane Community Fund, which provided funding for both the benches that have been installed and the new kissing gate to allow access to the orchard. All of the funds spent on the Community Orchard have been from grants and not from parish precept.

### Parish Precept

Over the last few months, BPC has been working hard to finance Parish needs. Like many, we have seen our costs rise over the past few years and we strive to ensure that we have the best contracts, offering good value

for money. A large part of the budget is spent on grass cutting throughout the Parish. In addition to this, BPC has to maintain the Burial Ground and other property owned by the Parish Council. As a goodwill gesture, we currently cut the grass in the All Saints' Churchyard. However, owing to financial constraints, we have had to reduce the number of cuts this year to four, instead of two weekly cuts over the Spring/Summer. BPC is working closely with Rev Bottomer to create a Community Group to help with the grass cutting in the Churchyard as well as creating wildflower areas. Other areas of expenditure include the cost of street lighting. We have taken the decision to gradually replace our light bulbs in the street lamps with LED bulbs. Whilst this requires upfront investment, the environmental benefits and the fact that LED bulbs have a longer life make the change worthwhile.

### Parish Council

Many members of Buckland will know that Nigel Hayward has been a member of Buckland Parish Council and also Chair of the Council for many years; he also represented BPC on Buckland Old School Trust. Nigel has decided to step down from both roles within the parish. BPC would like to thank Nigel for all his hard work over many years.

## Drayton Beauchamp's Annual Parish Meeting

A Parish Meeting will take place on **Thursday, May 15 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)

## Buckland All Saints' Church

*Help needed to maintain the Churchyard and create a Wildflower Meadow*

We are reaching out to ask for your support in maintaining the beautiful All Saints' Churchyard. This sacred space not only serves as a place of peace for our community but also plays a vital role in our local environment.

In our efforts to enhance the churchyard, we are excited to announce the creation of a wildflower meadow. This new addition will boost local biodiversity, providing a home for pollinators such as bees and butterflies, while adding even more natural beauty to the area.

To manage and maintain this space in the long term, we would like to form a group of volunteers dedicated to the care of the churchyard. Whether you have time to spare for gardening, weeding, grass cutting or simply helping with planting, we welcome your involvement. Together, we can ensure the churchyard remains a thriving, peaceful haven for generations to come.

If you are interested in joining our volunteer group or would like to learn more, please contact Rev Sally Bottomer. Let's work together to make All Saints' Churchyard a vibrant and biodiverse space for all to enjoy!

*Thank you for your support.*

*All Saints' Churchyard  
Maintenance Team*



All Saints', Buckland's Parish Church has been at the heart of our community for over 750 years. Over the years thanks to the village responding generously to appeals such as decorating & painting the inside & the clock appeal we have been able to maintain the upkeep of your church, to a high standard and everyone who visits whether for a more formal occasion like a wedding or a baptism or for just a quick look around, is blown away by this ancient, sacred place of worship.

But sadly, I now need your help, not for any specific appeal but rather just to keep the church doors open. It costs All Saints' £567.00 a week to run and with the steady decline of congregations across the country, the need to survive for many rural churches like ours is a reality.

So, as Rector I am not asking for donations..... I'm asking for you to come and enjoy yourself at one of the events we have organised throughout the year. Come and support your local Parish church by having fun!!!

As easy as that!!!  
Every blessing  
Rev Sally

email: [benefice3@gmail.com](mailto:benefice3@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 01296 631488

# BUCKLAND VILLAGE SOCIAL EVENTS 2025

April 3rd: Bingo & Prosecco  
7-9pm at Buckland Village Hall

May 30th: Quiz Night  
7-10pm at Buckland Village Hall

June 29th: Buckland Open Gardens  
1-5pm with refreshments & plant stall at All Saints'

July 25th, August 1st, 8th, 15th: The Belfry Bar  
Live Music Nights & Open Mic  
7-10pm at All Saints'

August 9th: Ceilidh Dance Evening  
7-10pm at Hastoe Hall

September 26th: Bingo & Prosecco  
7-9pm at Buckland Village Hall

October 24th-26th: Buckland Art Weekend  
10am - 4pm at All Saints'

November 7th: Quiz Night  
7-10pm at Buckland Village Hall

December 10th: Ridgeway Chorale Concert  
7.30pm at All Saints'

**ALL PROCEEDS ARE IN AID OF  
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH**

**POP ME ON YOUR  
FRIDGE**

# Horticultural Society

*Spring is here and the Society has lots going on to encourage and support you to get outside and enjoy your garden!*



## Upcoming events:

### Spring Show on Saturday, April 12

at Aston Clinton School from 2pm. Do come along and admire the beautiful spring flowers, handicrafts, photographs and cookery entered by our talented exhibitors. You can also snap up some bargains on our plant stall and enjoy a delicious slice of cake from the refreshments team. Why not enter something yourself? There are many classes to choose from and sections for novices and children. The proceeds from our raffle will be donated to the charity Lindengate, providing gardening and nature-based activities to improve mental and physical wellbeing. Full details about the show, including the schedule and entry form (last date for entering is Thursday, April 10), can be found on our website at [www.astonclintonhorticulturalsociety.co.uk/spring-show](http://www.astonclintonhorticulturalsociety.co.uk/spring-show).

**Monthly talks**, which start at 7.30pm in the Anthony Hall, continue with:

### Wednesday, April 9 “Bees & Wannabees”,

a talk by John Catton from the Bumblebee Conservation Trust. We know how important bees are for pollinating crops and wildflowers and this will be a great opportunity to learn more about how we can provide habitats to support these amazing insects.

### Wednesday, May 14 “The Chiltern

Wildbelt Project”, a talk by Amanda Barnicoat, from The Chiltern Society. The project develops and supports individuals, Parish Councils and community groups to take practical action to support nature recovery. We now have a community orchard in Aston Clinton Park with support from this project.



### Plant Sale on Saturday, May 10, 10am –

1pm, Aston Clinton Park, which is a great opportunity to stock up on vegetable and bedding plants for the Summer and find some new perennials to fill gaps in the borders and refresh your garden. Our selection of tomato plants is second to none! Of course, with longer days and warmer weather, there is lots to do in the garden, so here are some tips for key tasks over the next couple of months.



## Borders

- In April, sow hardy annuals such as marigolds and native wildflowers for summer colour.
- Watch out for the voracious red lily beetle. Avoid pesticides by removing by hand and encouraging wildlife such as birds, frogs, wasps and beetles who will eat the larvae.
- Lift and divide overcrowded spring bulbs.
- Divide established border perennials such as hardy geraniums and sedums.
- In May, plant out summer bedding, but beware of late frosts and wait until after the last one. Pinch out tips to encourage bushy growth.
- Put supports in around perennial clumps such as peonies, delphiniums and phlox.
- Check for birds' nests before pruning shrubs, bushes and trees.

## Greenhouse

- In April, sow vegetables such as runner and French beans, cucumbers and squash. Growing vegetables can be a great way of getting children interested in gardening and where food comes from. Start hardening off the young plants in May by moving outside during the daytime.
- Clean the glazing to let in as much light as possible. Open doors on warmer days, but remember to close at night.

## Lawns

- New lawns can be sown and damaged patches repaired.
- When mowing, why not leave some areas uncut to encourage wildlife and wildflowers?

However, with all the new growth, out comes the gardener's foe, the slug! There are over 40 species and although not all eat young plants, controlling their activity is important if you do not want damaged plants. Slugs are most active after dark when it is warm and damp.

To combat them:

- Create habitats for slug eaters. Hedges and trees will attract birds and a pond will bring in frogs and toads.
- Go out after dark and remove slugs. Also check under their favoured cool, dark and damp hiding places during the day.
- Put fabric or mesh underneath pots so slugs cannot get in from underneath.
- Put copper rings around vulnerable plants. Other barriers to try include bark, cat litter, sand and coffee grounds. Beer traps can also work.
- Delay planting out seedlings until they are a good size.
- Choose slug resistant plants such as aquilegia, penstemon and euphorbias.

*For more inspiration on garden design, why not check out what local gardens are open as part of the National Gardens Open Scheme?*

The booklet for Buckinghamshire and Berkshire should be available in local libraries and a full listing is online at <https://ngs.org.uk/>.

We are always updating our Facebook page with the local open gardens in Bucks and Herts – search for the Group “Aston Clinton, Buckland & Drayton Beauchamp Horticultural Society”

Please get in touch by email - to join:  
[info@astonclintonhorticulturalsociety.co.uk](mailto:info@astonclintonhorticulturalsociety.co.uk).

*The Horticultural Committee*



# How Equity Release is Being Used.



Research from Equity Release lenders suggests more people are using the value within their property to meet their aspirational needs with 20% of new customers are now listing either holidays (11%) or cars (9%) as the primary reason for borrowing. These levels are the highest seen with holidays now the third most popular reason behind home improvements (24%) and paying off debts and mortgages (21%). It has long been forecast that low pension and saving levels coupled with longer life expectancy would result in some turning to their highest value asset to help them meet their essential and/or aspirational needs. Slowly but surely the desire to enjoy retirement is leading some to spend some of the equity they have gained in the last 30+ years on themselves.

Equity release products have come a long way since the 1990's when they had a justifiable reputation of being stacked in the lenders favour. They are very different today. If required, they can now allow full or partial, regular or ad hoc payments to be made to service the interest, they include no negative equity guarantee and offer inheritance protection for beneficiaries. They also can be tailored to provide a lump sum only or a lower initial lump sum with an agreed reserve amount available to 'Drawdown' for future use should an applicant prefer to access more tax-free cash at later points of their life.

Paying off debts/mortgages has remained the most common reason for those taking lump sums in isolation with 26% of applicants doing this. Home improvements remains the second most popular reason, with 11% gifting equity to family members so they can meet their aspirational needs making it the third placed reason followed by the car buyers. Just providing a contingency fund is fifth at 8%.

Drawdown customers favour even more aspirational and lifestyle-oriented uses, with only 16% of applicants primarily using released funds for repaying debts and mortgages – 10% less than lump sum customers and only marginally above the 14% taking out a lifetime mortgage primarily for holidays. My experience is that drawdown customers tend keep a higher percentage in reserve to meet their future, potential, aspirational needs but this can't be measured until they actually take it!

Research suggests homeowners across England have accumulated over £2.547trn worth of equity within their homes with 8.8m people owning their home mortgage free. This equates to about £288,000 of equity per property. At a local level, Buckinghamshire is home to the most valuable property market when it comes to total housing equity. The average home had a value of £447,579 during 2023 and that gives the housing equity estimate £40.6bn across 90,175 mortgage free homes. However, millions more people in England will be approaching or entering retirement with either mortgage or other debt and this might severely affect their ability to live as they would want or even retire at all. So, for some, Equity Release will be an option worthy of consideration. Professional advice is always a necessity to ensure you have considered all the options and help fully understand the illustration you must obtain.

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[info@pffinancial.co.uk](mailto:info@pffinancial.co.uk)

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## Why switch to full fibre broadband?

*Do you bank or shop online? Have useful apps on your phone or keep in touch with loved ones on social media?*

Perhaps you regularly stream entertainment such as Netflix or Disney+ on your TV, use digital technology to secure your home or make the most of money-saving smart gadgets?

Whichever way you currently use your broadband in Aston Clinton, the chances are your need for faster and more reliable broadband is only set to increase. That's because as the digital world expands, the less likely it is that your existing part fibre broadband will cope with the demands on it.

You see, the part fibre that you're likely on, is inherently slower and less reliable because fibre optic cables only go as far as a cabinet in your community, after which your broadband travels to your home along out-dated Victorian-era copper telephone wires. In contrast, Gigaclear's 100% full fibre is up to 15 times faster and five

times more reliable because our fibre optic cables go direct to your property.

And for many of you reading this in Aston Clinton, you'll be pleased to learn our full fibre cables are already outside your property - so all you have to do is call our friendly Oxfordshire-based team to arrange an installation.

As for the reason you may want to switch? Well, it's likely you'll find you can enjoy your rocket-fast broadband for less money than you are currently paying!

And for anyone\* with a landline telephone, Gigaclear offers Home Phone, its digital phone service, with packages starting at only £5 per month - and no monthly line rental charges. And you can keep your existing telephone number!

### Want to find out more?

**Visit [gigaclear.com](https://gigaclear.com) or call 0370 774 0514**

\*Please note: we do not recommend you purchase home phone if you are reliant on your landline due to disability or accessibility requirements and do not have alternative means to contact emergency services in the event of a power outage.

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# 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	111.nhs.uk
Samaritans	116123	jo@samaritans.org

## 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	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
Noah's Ark (AC Baptist Church)	01296 631824	www.acbc.church

## SPORT AND LEISURE

Aston Bridge Club	01296 630552	astonbridgeclub@gmail.com
Aston Clinton Badminton Club	07958 479690	
Aston Clinton Bowls Club	07885 595447	www.astonclintonbowlsclub.org
Aston Clinton Colts Junior F.C.	07786 908219	clubsecretary@accolts.com
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	net4alluk@hotmail.com
Buckland & Aston Clinton Cricket Club	01296 631788	www.baccc.play-cricket.com
Colts Kickers      Liam Hickey	07585 119066	
Buckland Book Group	01296 631111	brfletcher@hotmail.co.uk
Dolphin Swim School	07966 450458	dolphinswimschool2017@gmail.com
Swimezee	01296 730742	www.swimezee.co.uk

## 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>
Environmental Health (fly tipping)	01296 585605	
Highways	01296 486630	<a href="http://www.buckscc.go.uk">www.buckscc.go.uk</a>
MP for Aylesbury	Laura Kyrke-Smith	<a href="mailto:laura.kyrkesmith.mp@parliament.uk">laura.kyrkesmith.mp@parliament.uk</a>

## MISCELLANEOUS

All Saints Friends, Buckland	01296 630454	<a href="mailto:peter.elwin@elwins.net">peter.elwin@elwins.net</a>
Aston Clinton Ladies Group	01296 630740	
Aston Clinton U3A		<a href="http://www.astonclinton.u3asite.uk">www.astonclinton.u3asite.uk</a>
Horticultural Society	01296 633376	<a href="http://www.astonclintonhorticulturalsociety.co.uk">www.astonclintonhorticulturalsociety.co.uk</a>
Royal British Legion	01296 632039	
SSAFA Forces Help	01296 631030	
Churchill Lunch Club	07921 172642	
Turpins Charity	01296 630162	<a href="http://www.turpinscharity.org.uk">www.turpinscharity.org.uk</a>
Wendover Heights Veterinary Centre	01296 623439	<a href="http://www.whvc.co.uk">www.whvc.co.uk</a>
Women's Institute	01296 706908	<a href="mailto:b.d.ac.wi@gmail.com">b.d.ac.wi@gmail.com</a>

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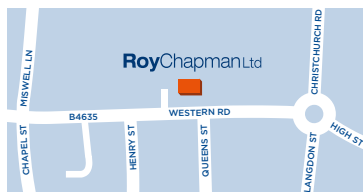
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