



## **Yangsheng Qigong**

"Nourishing one's life"



# OIGONG TAI CHI CLASSES

"Meditation in motion"

Suitable for all ages and abilities, Tai Chi and Qigong can help you to:

Boost your immune system
Calm and quieten the mind
Improve balance and coordination
Recover from illness and injury
Loosen the joints reducing aches and pains
Improves overall health and longevity

Class held at Anthony Hall in Aston Clinton every Tuesday
And in Jordan's village hall every Thursday
Contact Jay at info@yangshengqigong.uk

www.yangshengqigong.uk

#### Website: www.acvillagelife.co.uk

#### PRODUCTION TEAM

Editor: Barbara Muston Tel: 07970 642992

Co-editors: Fiona Skeggs & Lindy Butters

Email: Editor@acvillagelife.co.uk

Advertising Manager:

Nigel Brown Tel: 07710 565143 Email: Advertising@acvillagelife.co.uk

Distribution Organiser:

Richard Vincent Tel: 07769 033794 Email: vldistribution@outlook.com

Treasurer: Rod King Secretary: James Adam

Editorial Consultant: Louise Rolfe Graphic Designer: Victoria Dicken

Published by

St Michael & All Angels PCC 23 New Road, Aston Clinton

Bucks HP22 5JD

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 **7 November 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£3	95
Half page£2	
Quarter page£1	105
One-Tenth page f	50

Front cover: View towards Aston Clinton from the Ragpits: Barbara Muston

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

It's difficult to avoid AI these days; it seems to be creeping into most aspects of our lives. Sometimes we see it, sometimes we don't; in some ways it's beneficial, while in others — well, we wait to see the eventual impacts on society.

One area that is clearly being affected is the provision of news: articles that were once carefully crafted by journalists are now produced in seconds by a chatbot and, where we once bought our newspapers daily, news is now delivered within seconds by social media and curated by algorithms to feed our preferences.

In this climate, you might ask, is there still a role for Village Life - a paper magazine, issued only six times a year? We think there is - and the clue is in our slogan, "Local stories by local people". What we provide in Village Life are stories with the human touch, reflecting our community, bringing us together. Some of our contributors might use AI - and why not, especially if it helps them get their articles in on time? But whether they do or not, we know that all their stories are honest and true and full of heart. There's no fake news in Village Life! You'll tell us if something's wrong!

What's more, in this world of digitalisation, I believe there's still something special about the tactile nature of a magazine and the way it provides, in an attractive, compact form a host of useful information that can be referred to repeatedly, without the need for a screen.

That's why we want Village Life to keep going long into the future and why we're looking for some more team members to come on board. You can find information about who we're looking for on page 7. If you believe in Village Life as we do, please get in touch.

In the meantime, I hope you all enjoy this issue – full of stories of joyful events of the summer, awards won, money raised for local charities, the work of our parish councils and churches and, of course, news of what's happening over the coming months as the evenings draw in and we begin the sprint towards another Christmas.

Barbara Muston

## **Aston Clinton Baptist Church**

This is something Jesus said around 2,000 years ago: "I am the way, the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14: 6)

This is something that was said of Jesus, printed anonymously as a newspaper advert last century...

He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another obscure village, where he worked in a carpenter's shop until he was thirty, then for three years he was an itinerant preacher.

He never had a family or owned a home. He never set foot inside a big city. He never travelled two hundred miles from the place he was born. He never wrote a book, or held an office. He did none of the things that usually accompany greatness.

While he was still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against him. His friends deserted him. He was turned over to his enemies, and went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While he was dying, his executioners gambled for the only piece of property he had - his coat.

When he was dead, he was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave. Nineteen centuries have come and gone, and today he is the central figure for much of the human race. All the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever sailed, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as this.

Here's a question to ponder today... "What about you", asked Jesus, "who do you say I am?" (Matthew 16: 13)

I hope that you may think about the answer to this question for yourself.

Every blessing, 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

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.

The hall is available for private hire. Please contact us at: lettings@acbc.church

## 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

#### MONTHLY SERVICES

Sunday, October 5, 4.30pm Harvest Festival at St Mary's Drayton Beauchamp

Sunday, November 2, 6pm All Souls' Service at St Michael's

#### REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday, November 9 10.45am, Act of Remembrance at Aston Clinton War Memorial

1.20am, RBL Service of Remembrance at St Michael's12.30pm, Service of Remembrance at All Saints'4.30pm, Remembrance Sunday at St Mary's

#### 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 for St Mary's church. Please contact *Natalie Fieldhouse*.

#### **OPENING TIMES**

St Michael's and All Saints' are open daily 9am to 4pm 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 search for: St Michael's, Aston Clinton, All Saints' or St Mary's

Benefice Website: www.ac-buck-db-churches.org

## A message from Laura Kyrke-Smith MP

One of the best parts of being the MP for the constituency of Aylesbury, including Aston Clinton, Buckland and Drayton Beauchamp, is meeting the people who bring our communities to life.



Over the past year, I've had the privilege of getting to know some truly remarkable individuals. People like Amy Scullard, who helps run a perinatal mental health peer support group in Aylesbury. She offers a calm, caring space for new and expectant parents, providing not just practical advice, but a listening ear when it's needed most.

Or Jake Crane, who's been volunteering at Aylesbury Foodbank for nine years. Come rain or shine, Jake is there, offering food, support and kindness during difficult times.

And then there's Hannah Asquith, who leads Aylesbury Youth Concern. Through her work, Hannah is helping to transform the lives of young people-offering support, guidance and opportunities to those facing challenges, and giving them a safe space to build confidence and a brighter future.

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

These are just a few of the people making a real impact in our town and villages, but I know there are many more who deserve recognition. That's why I'm launching the Aylesbury Community Champion Awards, a monthly opportunity to highlight individuals and organisations who make our area a better place to live.

Each month, I'll be choosing a Community Champion, whether that's someone who's always lending a hand, leading a youth group, running a local charity, or quietly making a difference behind the scenes. This is our chance to say thank you to the people who give their time, energy, and care to help others, not for recognition, but because they want to make a difference.

If someone comes to mind, a neighbour, a friend, a colleague, a local group, please consider nominating them. Let's tell their stories and give them the appreciation they've earned. And let's celebrate the people who help make Aylesbury and our villages such brilliant places to call home.

You can nominate a community champion today by visiting www.lauraforaylesbury.org/ community-champion-awards. Thank you.

Laura Kyrke-Smith MP

#### **Buckland Art Exhibition**

Our second annual Art Exhibition will be held at All Saints' church on Saturday, October 25 and Sunday, October 26.

The exhibition will be open from 10am to 4.30pm with amazing mixed media works from local artists.

This will be a great opportunity to start your Christmas shopping and, as always, there will be homemade cakes and refreshments available.

## Could you be part of the Village Life team?

Do you have a way with words and an eye for detail? You could be just the person we need to fill an anticipated vacancy in our editorial team. As a volunteer **co-editor**, you'll be responsible for two issues of Village Life every year, working on a rota basis, collaborating with other members of our friendly production team to create the lively magazine you're reading now.

Your role will primarily involve communicating with our regular contributors to bring together an interesting variety of articles and photographs to both inform and entertain residents of the three villages. We'll provide training to help you learn the ropes and mentor you as you embark on your Village Life journey.

Lindy Butters, who joined the team in 2024, says of her experience as co-editor,

"I enjoy being the first to read the incoming articles from our fantastic contributors (there's so much going on in and around our community!), right through to seeing the finished magazine – brought to us by our similarly fantastic distributors. That's the thing, Village Life really is a team effort and it's good to be a part of it. So for anyone thinking about giving it a go, I'd say do it – I'm glad I did!"

Maybe you'd like to be involved in a different way? We'd like to hear from you too. As a **team member**, you'd attend our bi-monthly production team meetings where we brainstorm ideas for future content, and discuss distribution logistics, finances and advertising over a cup of tea. And in due course, you might want to take on a more specific role.

So, if you have a bit of spare time to help as a co-editor or team member and would like to find out more, please do get in touch with me, *Barbara Muston*, at *editor@villagelife.co.uk* or on 07970 642992.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Gentle Stretch Class at St Michael's

Monday 10 – 11am, £5.00 per person

## Rhubarb Café at St Michael's

Monday 2 – 4pm (Closed Bank Holidays)

#### St Michael's Little Angels Toddler Group

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 Ladies Group**

#### Wednesday, October 15

A general talk by a local police officer. Meet at 7.50pm to start at 8pm in the Guide Hut opposite the Shell Garage.

#### Wednesday, November 19

Annual General Meeting, 8pm at the Baptist Church, Green End Street, Aston Clinton.

Non-members are always welcome. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to call me on *07752 100217*.

Wendy Perkins, Events Organiser

## **Aston Clinton School Association**

#### Aston Lights - October 18

We are hosting the first ever Aston Lights event on Saturday, October 18.



Come and join us from 5pm till 8pm at Aston Clinton School for a fun-filled evening.

There will be music, food, drink, games and a spectacular laser and choreographed music display for all to enjoy. Thank you to Kalm and Radley for providing the entertainment. Vendors confirmed so far are; Go Greek, Willies Garden Kitchen, Howes Fish n Chips, Oh So Dough and drinks from Brew and Bubbles.

A huge thank you to our sponsors for this event: Gold - Goodie Two Shoes and Telnik Roofing, Silver - GP Renovate and Dayla, Bronze - Tring Brewery, Coffee@108 and NR Green Builders. We could not put these events on without your support.

Tickets are still available at www.Astonlights. co.uk or scan the QR code.

#### Christmas Fayre - November 29

It's been a busy few months for us all hosting two huge events so close together. Plans are underway for an even bigger and better fair with real reindeer and grotto, as well as lots of stalls, games, food and drink to enjoy.



If you are interested in having a stall at the event, please contact us at astonclintonschoolassociation@gmail.com.

#### Michael Antony

We have partnered with Michael Antony Estate Agents in Tring and for every house they sell that has a connection with the school, they will donate £100 to us. If you're thinking of selling, contact them on 01442 891177 to arrange your no obligation valuation.

#### Goodie Two Shoes

School shoes not up to scratch so far? Try out another of our partners, Goodie Two Shoes. For every pair of shoes sold, they will donate £5 to our PTA. Take a look at their range of shoes, lunchboxes, bottles, etc, at www.goodietwoshoes.co.uk.

### Forthcoming events at St Michael's Church

#### Gentle stretch class

Every Monday now we are holding a Gentle Stretch Class from 10am – 11am.

This regular class is £5.00 per person but there is no need to book – please just turn up. The class will be run by *Mags Allen*; if you have any questions please contact her on 07425 162231.

#### Pumpkin Festival

Our annual Pumpkin Festival will be back on **Friday, October 31**. The service starts at 4.30pm and everyone is invited.

There will be a carved pumpkin competition for all age groups (pre-school, infant and junior school, teenagers and adults) with prizes and certificates for our winners.

Refreshments and cakes will be available.

#### Christmas Fair - Save the date

Our FABULOUS Christmas Fair will be held on **Saturday**, **December 6** from 11am to 3pm. For more information, please contact *Marion Richards* on *01296 630577*.

## Rhubarb Café

This popular community café is held at St Michael's each Monday, other than Bank Holidays, from 2 – 4pm and all are welcome.



We serve delicious homemade cake including gluten-free, freshly brewed coffee, pots of tea and Tassimo Latte/Cappuccino. Prices are £1.75 to £2.00.

We'll be closing for the year around December 15. Do come along and join us any Monday before then!

If you are interested in joining the rota to serve, wash up and/or make cakes, then contact *Natalie* on *01296 632488* or email *Rhubarbcafe1@gmail.com*. Our café volunteers normally work once every four to six weeks.

Natalie Fieldhouse

## **Aston Clinton Beer** Festival 2025: A Toast to Community, Music, and Giving Back

From August 1 to 3, the grounds of Aston Clinton School were once again transformed into a vibrant hub of community spirit, live music, and exceptional craft brews for the annual Aston Clinton Beer Festival (ACBF).



Now in its 13th year, the festival has firmly established itself as one of Buckinghamshire's most anticipated summer events—and this year's edition was its most impactful yet.

More than just a celebration of beer and music, ACBF 2025 raised over £30,000 for local charities and community projects, continuing its proud tradition of giving back. Organised by the Aston Clinton Charitable Foundation, the festival channels its proceeds into supporting local schools, youth groups, sports teams, mental health initiatives, and other great causes.

The festival kicked off on Friday evening with a lively lineup of bands, headlined by local favourites, The Strats, setting the tone for a weekend of musical celebration. Saturday, the festival's flagship day, featured a full programme of performances from local and regional talent.





Highlights included the steelpan rhythms of Rachel Hayward, the soulful vocals of Keira Almond, more local talent from the brilliant Elastic Cats, and the extremely popular tribute band Definitely Could Be Oasis, who closed the night with a nostalgic bang.

With over 100 beers and ciders on offer, the festival catered to every palate—from traditional and contemporary cask ales and craft keg beers to old-style and fruity ciders, plus gluten-free and vegan options. Of the 72 cask ales on offer, 30 were sourced locally, from within a 20-mile radius of Aston Clinton, showcasing the region's brewing talent. The Beer Wall, curated in collaboration with Dayla Drinks and the festival's own accredited Beer Sommelier, was a particular highlight for craft keg beer enthusiasts.

For those seeking alternatives, the Craftyard Gin Bar offered a refreshing selection of spirits, while Pimm's and Prosecco added a summery sparkle. Food lovers were equally spoilt, with a wide range of street food vendors serving everything from wood-fired pizzas and curries to vegan delights.

True to its family-friendly ethos, ACBF 2025 offered a packed schedule of children's entertainment on Saturday. Elite Bounce's inflatables kept kids active and smiling, and Iron Man, Optimus Prime and Tigger even made an appearance. Children's Poet Paul Lyalls, known for his work with the Roald Dahl Museum and CBBC, enchanted young audiences with his interactive storytelling sessions.

ACBF relies heavily on a large team of volunteers, and this year was no exception. Over 60 individuals gave up their time to serve behind the bar, pick up litter and work behind the scenes, ensuring that everyone who came had the best possible experience. No capes, no pants over their trousers, but Superheroes, nonetheless.

With its winning blend of entertainment, local flavour, and charitable purpose, ACBF 2025 was a resounding success—and plans are already brewing for next year.

Dave Culliton

## Baby Loss Awareness Week



In 2025, we mark the

23rd year of Baby Loss Awareness Week and for this, a special community event will be held in the Hampden Chapel at Chilterns Crematorium on Sunday, October 5, between 10am and 1pm.

Our 'Little Lives Commemoration' event will provide a gentle and reflective space for families affected by the loss of any child, with:

- Bereavement volunteers on hand to provide support
- · Quiet space for private commemoration
- Soft background music
- · Refreshments
- · ereavement and memorial literature
- The opportunity to light a candle and add a note to our Memory Tree.

Following the event, the Memory Tree will be placed in our Chapel of Remembrance at Chilterns Crematorium for the duration of the campaign (October 9 - 15), allowing families to continue leaving messages.

We have also set up a Much-Loved tribute page where families can share tributes, photos, and make donations to SANDS, a charity working to save babies' lives and give support to be eaved families.

For more information, contact the crematorium: 01494 724263 chilternscrem.csb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk



## **Aston Clinton Parish Council**

Following a very busy summer, the parish council is now gearing up for the remaining quarter of the year, and has some exciting events to look forward to.

We're delighted to bring back some halfterm fun for the little (and not-so-little) ones! On Wednesday, October 29, there will be two free Punch & Judy shows and balloon modelling for children in the main hall at the Red Kite Pavilion. Performances will run from 11am - 12.45pm and 1 - 2.45pm. To reserve your place, scan the QR code on our posters to be found on noticeboards around the village, on the parish council website or on our Facebook page.

Residents are invited to join us at the war memorial for the annual Act of Remembrance on Sunday, November 9 from about 10.45am. As usual, the roads surrounding the memorial will be closed between approximately 10.30 and 11.40am; this will include London Road from the Shell garage roundabout (Weston Rd junction) up to the Lower Icknield Way roundabout at China Water, and the junctions at Twitchell/Church Lane and Brook Street.

The annual AC Christmas tree lighting event is scheduled to take place on Friday, November 28 at 4pm outside the Red Kite Pavilion, and once again we will be serenaded by children from Aston Clinton School who will be singing seasonal songs and carols. Please join us and support this super event!

Finally on events, we have had word that Santa will be visiting the village once again this year on his float - over the weekend of Saturday, 13 and Sunday, 14 December. For timings and details of the route, keep an eye nearer the date on posters around the village, social media and our website, and of course, the next issue of Village Life.

With planning matters in mind, new legislation has imposed increased national housing targets to try and bolster the housing supply. This has resulted in several new applications coming forward in Aston Clinton, and the planning process is biased in favour of approval unless there are very strong reasons for not doing so. Despite the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan indicating that Aston Clinton had fulfilled its quota of new housing, the upcoming Bucks Local Plan, which will take precedence, will designate the number of new houses the village has to absorb. This figure will be fiercely contested by the parish council, but when published, it will need to be fulfilled. Sadly, within this scenario, the Neighbourhood plan has much less influence than it once did. Whenever a planning application is presented to the parish council for comment, it is actively discussed at our planning meeting and our comments are submitted to Bucks Council for consideration - however, Bucks Council does have the final say on the determination of each application. The dates of our next planning meetings can be found on our website - do come along and see how the decisions are reached.

In addition, by the time this article is published, the new Bucks Local Plan will have entered its public consultation stage. It is vitally important that residents take this opportunity to view the draft plan and comment on its contents, particularly with regard to housing allocations within our parish. The draft plan for consultation will be available on the Bucks Council website, but at the time of writing we don't have a link to this. As soon as we do, we will publish the link on social media and our website, so that residents don't miss the opportunity to comment.

As regards highways, the very welcome resurfacing of London Road is now complete, and the remaining resurfacing projects of

Brook Street and Green End Street should also be finished by the time you read this article. The traffic calming scheme for the village is now also completed aside from minor snagging which Bucks Council is aware of. Speed strip data have provided very positive feedback, with significant drops in local speeds, and also a reduction in the total number of vehicles using the road. It is hoped that drivers enjoying the newly resurfaced roads between the calming measures will keep to the local speed limit of 30mph and under! Residents are reminded that if any defects to roads, pavements, street lighting, etc., are spotted, the best way to report them is to Bucks Council via the Fix My Street website (fixmystreet. buckinghamshire.gov.uk).

From the beginning of October, as the nights start drawing in, the main gate to the park will close promptly at 9pm and reopen at 7am. Visitors to the park are requested to make sure they leave the park promptly, as there are no measures in place at the present time for vehicles that are locked in.

Your parish council is here for you, but we need your voice too! Come along to our monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 6.30pm. This is your opportunity to share your views, raise any concerns and get involved with your community. Our Facilities, Finance & Staff and Planning committees also meet at regular intervals and you are most welcome to attend those meetings too. As always, information on meetings past, present and future can be found on our easy-to-navigate website, as well as details of our events and other important information.

Aston Clinton Parish Council
01296 631269 www.astonclinton-pc.gov.uk

Local stories by local people

## St Michael's Church Electric Umbrella Show

In August, it was a 'St Michael's
Got Talent' show when The Electric
Umbrella, Simon Cowell's Golden
Buzzer from the popular TV show,
Britain's Got Talent 2025, came to
perform especially for our Little Angels
Toddler and Babies group and for the
wider community.



Electric Umbrella at St Michael's Church

When our dear friend Coral Simpson, who works with this amazingly talented community of learning-disabled and neurodivergent people, offered to bring the group along for a concert, we jumped at the chance of hosting such a joyful event. St Michael's Church was packed with spectators who were given a wonderful performance of interactive singing and dancing. Even the Rector got involved when she was handed a pig costume!

Thank you Electric Umbrella, for sharing with us your mission, "There's no Such Thing as Normal" and may we all strive to "create a truly inclusive society - one where everyone, regardless of ability, is seen, heard and celebrated". Rev Sally Bottomer





### News from your local nature reserves

I am writing this in early September, and we have only recently emerged from a most unusually hot and almost completely dry summer. We had our first significant rain right at the end of August, just in time to save the pond at Dancersend from drying out completely. We now seem to be heading rapidly into a very early autumn with trees already shedding leaves and hedgerows overloaded with ripening sloes, haws and rosehips - a bountiful harvest for sure, but will these fruits still be available later for the overwintering birds visiting the UK?

Climate change makes it a worrying time to be managing our local nature reserves. Woodland areas may appear to have come through the summer largely unscathed but many of our native trees will have been stressed by the drought conditions and will now probably be more vulnerable to fungal attack and to the increasing numbers of destructive insects that are accompanying the changing weather patterns. Despite the dry conditions, brambles and other shrub species have had a field day and we may need to step up scrub control to ensure the woodland wildflowers don't get swamped.

Equally concerning has been the possible effect of prolonged drought on the precious fragments of flower-rich chalk grassland that we conserve at Aston Clinton Ragpits and Dancersend. Within the three parishes, these are the conservation crown jewels - remnants of the chalk downland which once stretched along much of the scarp slope of the Chilterns. However, whilst looking very parched for weeks, most of the special chalk grassland flowers have proved to be remarkably resilient and there has been a fine show of our rare Chiltern Gentians for visitors to enjoy along with insect favourites like Marjoram, Scabious, Knapweed and Musk Thistle. Butterflies like Common Blue, Small Heath and Small Copper look to be having an extended flight period.

Scrub and coarser plants have not been seriously deterred either and autumn rain showers may now stimulate growth which we will need to tackle with mowing, scrub cutting and removing the arisings and as much grazing as possible over the remaining months of the year, using our Hebridean sheep, Dexter cows and Exmoor/New Forest ponies. At Dancersend Extension, we will have commercially farmed cattle and sheep grazing through to the New Year. If visiting, please keep dogs on a short lead and leave gates as you find them.

Events at our reserves and activities for both children and family groups coming up at our flagship College Lake Reserve are shown on page 16 and at www.bbowt.org.uk/events. You can also move indoors for a fresh season of wildlife-themed illustrated talks organised by the local BBOWT Chilterns Group, taking place through the autumn and winter on the third Tuesday evening each month at Great Missenden Memorial Centre. The talks are usually accompanied by a second-hand books stall and sales of Dancersend Special Reserve Apple Juice, a perfect Xmas gift. All are welcome.

Mick Jones, Volunteer Warden at Dancersend

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

acvillagelife.co.uk



## **Events at College Lake**

#### Young Rangers

A wildlife club for children aged 8-11 years who love nature and wildlife and want to get involved at our fantastic nature reserve. Fully supervised by trained staff, without the need for parental supervision.

Sessions run on the second Saturday of the month, 10.30am - 12.30pm.

#### Teen Rangers

A wildlife club for children aged 11-17 years who love wildlife and nature and helping look after our amazing nature reserve! Fully supervised by trained staff, without the need for parental supervision.

Sessions run on the second Saturday of the month, 1.30 - 3.30pm.

#### Nature Tots

Join us at College Lake for a nature discovery class for parents/caregivers and toddlers walking up to four years.

Sessions run once a month on a Tuesday and Thursday, 10.15am arrival.

#### Home Educators

An immersive day of outdoor learning for our local home-educating community. Activities aimed at 2-11-year-olds with an accompanying adult. Younger and older siblings are welcome - adults and children under two free.

Home Educators' Day 'Habitat Safari', Wednesday, October 1, 10.30am - 2.30pm

#### Family half term events

Nature exploring, games and crafts. Our family workshops have activities aimed at 2-11-year-olds with an accompanying adult. Younger and older siblings are welcome adults and children under two free.

Family event 'Sticktacular', Wednesday, October 29, 10.30am - 12noon

#### Full and half day Camps

Wildlife Day Camp for 7 - 12-year-olds. Fully supervised by trained staff, without the need for parental supervision. Sessions run in the school holidays, full or half day options.

'Nature Explorers', Tuesday, October 28, 10am - 3pm 'Introduction to Bushcraft', Wednesday, October 29, 1.30 - 3.30pm

#### Workshops for adults

From nature exploring, crafts and walks, our adult workshops offer the opportunity to try something new, meet people and spend time on our beautiful nature reserve.

Natural Crafts Workshop, every Thursday until December 4, 10.30am -12.30pm

'The Mellow Harvest', Forest Bathing, Sunday, October 12, 10.30am -12.30pm Pond Dipping for Beginners (18+), Saturday, October 25, 10.30am -12noon

'A Restful Pause' Forest Bathing, Sunday, November 9, 10.30am -12.30pm

For more information and to book any of these events, and find out about new ones, please see our events page which is continuously updated www.bbowt.org.uk/ events.

If you would like to be added to either our family or lifelong learning mailing lists, please email collegelakeeducation@bbowt.org.uk We look forward to welcoming you to this special place.

## Green Flag Award for Estone Grange



Estone Grange has received a Green Flag Community Award, one of around 2000 parks and green spaces across the country. The Green Flag is the international quality mark for public open spaces. The Community Award recognises voluntary and community groups and the assessor paid us a visit back in the spring. His report noted that,

"Quality parks and green spaces like Estone Grange make for a healthier place to live and work, and a stronger place in which to invest. Crucially, Estone Grange is a vital green space for the residents and the wider community to enjoy nature. It also provides important opportunities for local people and visitors to reap the physical and mental health benefits of green space."

The estate is managed by the Estone Grange Management Company Limited, but it would not be possible to achieve the high level of environmental care expected for the award without the Wild Estone Grange volunteers, the Chiltern Society's WildBelt Manager, Amanda Barnicoat, and her team of volunteers, together with groundsman Mark Mustoe, and Keith and Sue Corkery, who undertake the maintenance of the two playparks. The estate is well served by this fantastic team, both paid and volunteers.

The assessor made a couple of comments. The first was about information signs; this was being addressed at the time and there will be three interpretation boards installed once the ground conditions permit, i.e. when we've had enough rain. The second was seating; this too is being addressed and we're seeking funding to provide benches for people to sit and enjoy the nature on the estate.

The Green Flag Award scheme is managed by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy under licence from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. Keep Britain Tidy is a leading environmental charity. www.keepbritaintidy.org. *Katy Todd* 



Flicks In the Sticks is the community cinema that takes place in All Saints' Church, Buckland between October and March each year. We are very fortunate to have excellent AV technology in the church and show a wide range of interesting and entertaining films. As part of the £10 entry fee we provide a hot home cooked supper and the Belfry Bar serves wine, beer and soft drinks.

The 2025/2026 season kicks off on Friday, October 31, when we will be showing the Oscar winning Slumdog Millionaire. Then on November 28 we will have the crime drama, The Secret in Their Eyes.

And you might want to save the date for our sing-along showing of The Sound of Music on December 19!

Tickets are limited to 50. If you'd like to come to FLICKS or would like further information, please email bucklandvillagefits@gmail.com.

### Final Resting Places in Our Local Parishes

Thinking ahead about our final resting place is never easy, but it can be one of the kindest things we do for our families. Making sure your loved ones know your wishes gives them comfort and guidance at a difficult time. It is also important to check whether those wishes can be carried out, as there are rules about who may be buried or have their ashes interred in a particular churchyard or burial ground. Taking a little time now to talk things through and find out what is possible can bring real peace of mind for you and your family.



Many of our local churchyards are now closed and burial grounds are run by the local parish councils. These burial grounds often flow on from the church burial grounds, making it hard to distinguish who owns the burial area. Each burial ground has its own rules, which can be confusing. Someone might decide that they want to be buried in a particular burial ground, but families often find that this cannot happen because of the rules that apply.

Within the local area there are three church and two parish council burial grounds. In Buckland, All Saints' churchyard is now closed for burials but remains open for interment of cremated remains. Buckland parish council

(BPC) is responsible for the parish burial ground, both for burials and interment of ashes. Burial in the BPC burial ground is reserved for people who are resident in Buckland parish at time of death. There are both consecrated and unconsecrated areas to accommodate all faiths. Residents of Buckland who are forced to leave the parish to go into a full-time care institution are treated as being resident in the parish at the time of death.

Buckland parish council must give its approval for burial or the interment of cremated remains in the Buckland burial ground of any resident of the parish of Buckland whose name is not included in the current Register of Electors at the time of death. Proof of residency is required. This also applies to previous adult residents of Buckland who had evidence of living in the parish for 20 or more years. In these cases, Buckland parish council will work with the family of the deceased to establish when and where they were resident in the parish.

In Aston Clinton, the churchyard at St Michael's is also closed for burials. The parish council burial ground is reserved for residents of that parish. In certain circumstances, former residents may also qualify: if they had lived in Aston Clinton for at least five years before moving involuntarily (for example, into residential care elsewhere), or if they had lived in the parish for at least 20 years in total. In such cases, the parish council may, at its discretion, grant resident status. The family or executors of the deceased will be asked to provide information or evidence to support the application.

St Mary's Drayton Beauchamp has a small burial ground within the churchyard. This is part of the church; there is no parish council in Drayton Beauchamp. Burials and interments are at the discretion of the incumbent at the time, currently Rev Sally Bottomer.

Because every situation is a little different, it's always best to ask in good time about what can be arranged in your parish churchyard or burial ground. This helps avoid disappointment later and ensures that your plans are realistic and in keeping with local rules.

While these conversations and decisions can feel difficult, they are really about love and care — making things as simple as possible for those we leave behind. By sharing our wishes and checking what can be arranged, we give our families a precious gift: the assurance that they are honouring us in the way we hoped, without uncertainty or worry.

Further information can be found at the following websites, or by contacting the relevant parish council or the Benefice Office:

www.astonclinton-pc.gov.uk/ www.buckland-pc.gov.uk Benefice Office: 01296 632488



## From the Village Archive Kaiser Bill

On July 20, 1911, Constance, Lady Battersea, the daughter of Sir Anthony de

Rothschild, was aboard the Rothschilds' yacht, the 'Garland' and among the guests was Wilhelm II, the Kaiser of Germany, otherwise known as 'Kaiser Bill'. The photograph is of the music programme signed and dated by him as 'William'.

It has come to us from the estate of the late Margaret Lowe whose grandfather was the Steward on the 'Garland'. His son, Allen Lowe, was headmaster of Aston Clinton School from about 1910 until his death in 1953.

This unique artefact is now in the Aston Clinton Archive. *James Adam* 





## Drinking Songs - A Musical Evening with Vache Baroque

A reminder that the Chiltern Heritage and Culture Festival, in collaboration with Vache Baroque, is coming to St Mary's Drayton Beauchamp to present a lively evening of Drinking Songs.

From gods to lowly humans, royalty to sailors, there'll be a cellar-full of drink-inspired songs for you to enjoy. From opera arias and solo songs, to alehouse jigs and pieces for everyone to sing along to, we're very happy to be raising a glass to this squiffy musical output.

Join us on Saturday, October 4 from 7.30 – 9.30pm. Tickets are £25 per person; under 18s free. To book scan the QR code below; phone 01949 490746 or email: coordinator@chilternsociety.org.uk.

## DRINKING SONGS



A Musical Evening with Vache Baroque





## Record sum raised for local charities at Music under the Stars

Music under the Stars - in its 18th year - achieved an event record for charitable donations with £4500 raised on a perfect summer's evening. This was coupled with generous contributions of toiletries delivered to the Women's Refuge and the Homeless Action Group in Aylesbury after the event, which was attended by around 300 people..



Hector's House - which aims to prevent suicide and raise awareness about the reasons behind mental illnesses - was the main charity of choice, receiving £3000, whilst the other beneficiaries were the Chiltern Prostate Action Group and Animal Angels.

Karyn Taylor, Fundraising Manager for Hector's House (contact details opposite) said: "We truly can't thank you enough for your incredibly generous donation to Hector's House. Your support is nothing short of lifesaving and the £3,000 raised by your incredible efforts will make a powerful, lasting difference to the people we support."

> Local stories by local people

The star turn of the night was singer songwriter Frank Walsh - formerly of Old Country Union - who was persuaded to come out of retirement by bass player Dave Williams.







Australian visitors, Sam and Cherie, Frank Walsh of the Valentown Band, Emily Barker, Tilly Wall on saxaphone.

They formed a band, called Valentown, after one of Frank's songs, especially for 'Music under the Stars', with Robin Boult, another former Old Country Union member on lead guitar, Ivor Spencer, rhythm guitar, Gary Mead, bass and keyboards, Dave Williams, bass, and Richard Peel on drums.

Families took to the dance floor for a ceilidh, led by Keith Day, and there were contributions from the Boston Folk Orchestra - their last gig, more folk from Acoustic Itch, harmony led songs from The Haydays, a jazz orientated set from Emily Barker and rock from Baroque, who featured Tilly Wall on saxophone.

A silent auction of merchandise donated by Mercedes Benz of Hemel Hempstead and rock memorabilia from SoundAct also helped to add to the funds raised.

Big thanks go to them, but also to Guy and Abbi from the Half Moon in Wilstone, who generously donated two barrels of beer for the event and a meal voucher; Nigel Hayward and hair stylist Lee Moran, who have supported us for many years and donated a hair styling and cut, as well as the Spice Garden, Wendover, a meal voucher, Ivinghoe Golf Club, who provided a voucher for a four-ball, and Dayla, who donated wine. Other supporters included friends of Hector's House along with the Robin Hood Public House, Tring, and Tring Brewery.

The date for the next Music under the Stars is Saturday, June 27, 2026.

#### Richard Peel

email - Hihector@hectorshouse.org.uk Instagram - hectorshere FaceBook - Hector's House Linkedin - Hector's House

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

#### 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 37)

## Village People

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

Five years ago, Donna Ray and Paul Eccentric introduced one of Aston Clinton's landmarks, the phone box library outside the Partridge pub.



#### Q. What inspired the idea of the phone box library?

A. We had been running Poetry/Spoken Word nights in London and the home counties for years and buying the acts' poetry books to put into local schools. We have turned three telephone boxes into community libraries as a natural progression. The one in Aston Clinton was our third and we are very grateful to The Partridge for allowing us to use their box. We change the books every few weeks, swapping them around between our other 'Big Bardaid Boxes' in Long Marston and Hunton Bridge. They are cleaned every other week and we periodically

touch up the paint job and sadly have to replace the glass occasionally. Otherwise, we just enjoy being community librarians as libraries were a huge part of our lives growing up.

#### Q. Can you tell us about Bardaid?

A. The Bardaid Initiative came from our Poetry nights as, once we had a sufficient number of books, we would gift them to a local senior school. We ended up giving books to dozens of schools in London, Bucks, Herts and Middx over the years.

Q. And what about your performance poetry? Where have you performed?

A. Paul is the poet and has been performing for over 40 years. He is also the mouthy half of the comedic beat poetry act, 'The Antipoet'.

Paul: I have played all over the UK, with shows at The Edinburgh Fringe, Glastonbury, Camp Bestival, The Brighton Fringe, Rebellion, Ledbury Poetry festival, The 100 Club and various Steampunk Festivals, including The Isle of Wight. I also sing and am the front man for The Senti-Mentals. Polkabilly Circus and for 40 years, The Odd Eccentric. This has taken me all over Europe and Scandinavia.



Q. Another string to your bow is your series of Steampunk novels. What is Steampunk and what are the novels about?

A. Steampunk is essentially Victorian Science Fiction. My book series, 'The Periwinkle Perspective' begins with the first man on the moon in 1897. It's a tongue in cheek, alternative history hexalogy. Change one little thing and...

Q. Where can we find out more about you?

 $A. \ www.theantipoet.co.uk$ 

Q. How long have you lived in Aston Clinton and where did you live previously?

A. Paul: I've lived here for the past 25 years and was originally from Croxley Green.

Donna: I joined Paul here in 2009 and was originally from Chesham.

## Q. What are your hobbies, what do you do for fun?

A. Paul: I'm a collector of Sci Fi memorabilia and comics. I thoroughly enjoy reading for both pleasure and research. I am also a keen gardener, chicken whisperer and goatherd.

Donna: I love wrangling poets (I once took 33 to The Edinburgh Fringe), Tough Mudders, Spartan challenges and avoiding all forms of domesticity.

We are both National Trust and English Heritage members, as who doesn't love wandering around stately homes and derelict castles?

## Q. What's your favourite music?

A. Paul: 1970s Punk and 1920s Jazz.

Donna: I love 50s doowop and rock 'n roll and am a sucker for a good musical.

We just enjoy being community librarians.

66

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

A. We are both highly delighted that the London Road now has an actual surface.

## Q. What changes would you like to see locally?

A. Could definitely do with a larger doctors' surgery.

## Q. Do you have a favourite place or building to visit in the village?

A. We walk around the village every day, varying our routes and reminding ourselves just how much we love living here, so all of it really. Having said that, we love Mela and also enjoy eating at The Bell and The Oak.

If there is anyone whose contribution to village life you believe should be featured in a forthcoming issue of Village Life, please send details to editor@acvillagelife.co.uk.

Interview Richard Vincent



#### Covid Autumn Vaccinations

We will be working with Oakfield Surgery to deliver the Autumn COVID booster campaign from the beginning of October. Eligible patients this year are:

- Residents in a care home for older adults
- All adults aged 75 years and over
- People over 6 months old who are immunosuppressed, as defined in the Green Book

All eligible patients will be contacted nearer the time to book an appointment.

#### Autumn Flu Vaccinations

We will be sending text and /or email invitations and publishing our flu clinic dates on our website www.westongrove.com and facebook as soon as our clinic sessions are confirmed. We will be offering flu vaccinations at all three of our sites for eligible patients:

From September: pregnant women and children From October: all other eligible patients. Eligibility includes:

- Those aged 65 years and over
- Those aged 18 years to under 65 years in clinical risk groups (as defined by the Green Book, Influenza chapter 19)
- Those in long-stay residential care homes
- · Carers in receipt of carer's allowance, or those who are the main carer of an elderly or disabled person
- Close contacts of immunocompromised individuals
- Frontline workers in a social care setting without an employer-led occupational health scheme, including:
- · Registered residential care or nursing home workers

- · Registered domiciliary care providers
- · Voluntary managed hospice providers Personal Assistants employed by people with Personal Health Budgets or Direct Payments

#### Appointments and telephone calls

Did you know that Westongrove received and dealt with 7201 online appointment requests and online enquiries between August 1 and September 1, 2025?

We received 13,695 calls during the same timeframe and the average wait time for the call to be answered was 3m 24s.



## **Tring Choral Society**

Tring Choral Society meets weekly in term time on Mondays from 7:45pm to 9:45pm at Akeman Street Baptist Church in Tring. If you are interested in joining the choir you can be assured of a very warm welcome.

If you prefer to be in the audience, our next concert will be J.S. Bach's 'Christmas Oratorio' which we will be singing on Saturday, December 20 in English at St Peter & St Paul Church, Tring, accompanied by four professional soloists and our orchestra of professional and local musicians.

For more information on our concerts or singing with us, visit:

www.tringchoral.org.uk

## Happiness is Scottish Country Dancing

What a successful season we had! Tickets for our two main dances sold out and our three informal dances attracted record numbers and were much enjoyed by our less experienced dancers. We also participated in the national "Let's Dance" Campaign, spearheaded by Angela Rippon, to encourage everyone to appreciate the health benefits of dancing. Several types of dance were showcased during a local event and our ceilidh session prompted a few new dancers to join us.

A changed format in the last term meant some "added value" for our dancers - a French themed evening when everyone arrived suitably dressed, a guest teacher for our combined class and a defibrillator demonstration. A magnificent fundraising total of £1319 for our charity of the year – Bank Farm Riding for the Disabled – enabled them to buy another horse! He's called 'Hero' and will no doubt be regarded as such by another young disabled rider.

Planning is already under way for next season and our tuition classes on Thursday evenings, from 6.45pm to 8pm have begun. Scottish country dancing is particularly good for physical and mental fitness so, if you want to improve yours, you can book a place in our Beginners' Class via our website where you'll find useful information about class content, teaching videos and photographs.

Finally, a date for your diary, coming up soon: we'll be running another Ceilidh Dance in aid of St Michael's Church Open House Project on Friday, October 3 in The Red Kite Pavilion. Live music and an MC will ensure that everyone who attends will experience the happiness of Scottish dancing. It's the perfect "stressbuster"! Places are limited and can be booked by contacting Natalie at the Church Office (01296 632488). I hope to see you there.

Liz Mitchell, lucyclarkscottish@gmail.com www.lucyclarkscottish.org





## Buck Pub - Thank you

Many thanks again to all those who helped to make this year's Buck Pub a success. It was a wonderful community weekend with great food, drink and music. Together we raised around £1700 for local charities.

Buck Pub 2026 will run from Friday, June 19 to Sunday, June 21.

Nigel Kippax www.thebuckpub.co.uk



### **Celebrating Our Cubs** Leaders – and Looking to the Future

This month we want to say a huge thank you to our dedicated Cubs leadership team, who together have given an amazing 33 years of service to our group.

- Sally and Rob both reached the fantastic milestone of 10 years' service this September.
- Clare and Rob have also announced that they will be stepping down from running Cubs at the end of July, after years of commitment and countless evenings spent helping Cubs grow in confidence, learn new skills and make lasting friendships.
- · Sam's new job means that sadly, she'll be much less available to attend weekly meetings.

We're so grateful to each of them for everything they've given - from organising camps and games to supporting young people to try new adventures. They've created memories that will last a lifetime for our Cubs.

But this does mean we need new volunteers to step forward now. That way, you can start learning the ropes alongside our current leaders, before the handover next summer.

Being a volunteer with Cubs is hugely rewarding. You don't need prior experience - just enthusiasm, a sense of fun, and a willingness to get stuck in. You'll join a friendly team who help each other out, and full training and support are provided. Contact Claire at 07502 111914 for a chat about what's involved





Our Cubs Leaders: Rob (top) and Sam, Sally and Claire.

## **Drayton Beauchamp** Parish Meeting

A Parish Meeting will take place on Thursday, November 20 at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church. All parishioners are welcome to attend and stay for a drink and a chat afterwards.

For information, contact the Clerk, Meryl Nodes, on 01296 630396 or email: merylnodes2018@gmail.com

Claire Walker

# **Guides**1st Aston Clinton



Last term was another busy one for us; we enjoyed the lovely summer weather, getting out and about as much as possible and enjoying a wide range of activities.

We started by utilising the lovely Aston Clinton Park for a games night where we enjoyed 'capture the flag' and parachute games, then the following week we were back there for more games and making Lava lamps. Week three saw us in the park again but this time just as a starting point as we headed off for a four mile walk to Wendover via RAF Halton. We finished with a portion of chips each. (Yes, there is a badge (unofficial) for that).

While the weather was still hot out, we headed indoors for a slightly chillier activity at Hemel Snow centre where we enjoyed the delight of sliding down the slope in 'Ringos' - inflatable rubber rings. Even the leaders took part, zipping down the moguls. Then we were off for two weeks to Phasels Wood Scout camp, this time swapping the snow for heights as the Guides reached for the sky on the high rope course. The following week, they kept their feet firmly on the ground, showing off their target skills with air rifles. Keeping on the

'enjoying the great outdoors' theme, we also visited Ashridge estate for a gentle stroll and a scavenger hunt.

We did utilise the hall for a couple of meetings when two of the older Guides led an evening on how to make 'Oobleck' by mixing cornflour and water, and we also cooked burgers on open fires.

Over the summer break, the leaders have been busy planning and looking forward to next term and the new badges that have been designed.

Sadly, at the end of the term we lost Sabrina, our unit helper, who has been brilliant for the last two years. We are now in the position of needing additional help, so if you've ever thought of volunteering, now is the time.

Find out more here: www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-

volunteer/register-to-volunteer

Join us for our

Litter pick

and Village tidy up

Saturday 4th October
08:30am – 10:30am
The Red Kite Pavilion
Aston Clinton Park

Followed by refreshments. We will provide litter pickers, bags and high vis vests

To register your interest joining, contact: info@astonclintonsociety.org.uk

## **Buckland and Aston Clinton Cricket Club**

After having to withdraw our 2nd XI from the league early in 2024, this has been a year of rebuilding for our Senior Saturday teams. Although results haven't been quite as good as we would have liked, we have only once failed to get both teams out and have given a number of youngsters opportunities to play open-age cricket.

Writing this with one game to go, our 1st team has just about managed to keep itself out of the bottom two and is safe from the relegation places in Division 1 of the Four Counties Cricket League. Batting has been our achilles heel, with only six half centuries amongst the side this year. Mohammed Shah is top of the run charts but none of the usual top order averaged above 25 and we need to improve on that in 2026. The bowling has individually been more consistent but we haven't always been able to get our strongest attack out on a regular basis. Harris Khan has been the top wicket taker with 16 at an average of below 11 (in addition to seven taken in the 2nd team early season as he worked his way back from serious injury).

The 2nd XI has had a youthful look for much of the season, with four of our U13 squad making their senior debuts and a number of other teenagers also playing their parts. Again, runs were hard to come by, with the exception of the top scorer in the club, Casey Dawson, who notched 370 at an average of over 33 (in addition to useful runs on occasion for the 1st team and Midweek side). His younger brother Kyan sits at the head of the wicket taking table with 19, including the club's best figures of the season of 6 for 26. It would have been many more if Kyan's team mates had spent more time practising their catching! Venky is just behind with 16 victims (and has another five for the 1st team).



The winning Midweek Senior Team

Away from Saturday cricket, there were several other notable highlights from the back half of the season. The U13s took the Aylesbury Midweek Cricket League North Division title after a winner takes all match with Waddesdon. Unfortunately, we lost the Divisional play-off with South champions Aston Rowant but it was still a great achievement for a squad that noticeably grew in confidence this season and coupled it with a really good team spirit to achieve what they did. We hosted our first ever Kirby Cup Village 6s Tournament in early August. With the weather favourable, we had a lot of people at the ground supporting the eight teams taking part. The cricket club team (with only one regular 1st XI player) beat Telnik Roofing in the Final. And most importantly, the Kirby Herd raised £2600 on the day towards their ongoing support of Cancer Research.

Then, at last, after three previous defeats on Village T20 Finals Day, Liam Smith's Midweek Senior team finally got their hands on the trophy. On a lovely sunny Bank Holiday Monday, with a healthy travelling support, we brushed past Linslade in the semi-final and comprehensively outplayed holders (and hosts) Studham in the final. Celebrations ran late into the evening as the squad continued to enjoy each other's company over a few refreshments.

Our thoughts will soon turn to what we need to do to make next year even better. With the long dry spells making life very difficult for our volunteer groundsmen, we are investing in revamping the square, and need to replace the netting in our practice nets. And in order to continue the good work with our Juniors, we will need to recruit a number of additional helpers after naturally losing some as their young people become too old for the Colts section. We have always struggled with getting enough bodies on board (both coaches and support workers) so this needs to be a focus over the winter months too. *Phil Samuels* 

## Aston Clinton Colts JFC – Kicking Off a New Season

The new football season is here, and the excitement is buzzing through Aston Clinton as our local kids pull on their boots and get back on the pitch. It's always fantastic to see so many young players representing the Colts with pride, energy, and smiles.

A huge thank you goes to our coaches' kit sponsor, KMS – Kindell Motor Services, for keeping our coaches looking smart on the sidelines, and to our club sponsors, Bucks College, whose ongoing support makes such a difference across the club.

Over the summer, we hosted our annual Summer Tournament, which proved to be another massive success. With hundreds of players, families, and supporters visiting, the energy across the village was brilliant. We do recognise that the extra traffic may have caused a few delays, so we would like to thank our local villagers for their patience and continued support. It really helps us make these events so special.





It may feel early, but we're already counting down to the Colts Christmas Party (yes, scary how fast it comes around). As always, we're looking for local donations for our Christmas Raffle. If you or your business would like to contribute, please email <code>di@accolts.com</code> – your generosity is hugely appreciated.

Behind the scenes, we're also excited about the arrival of our largest new investment yet: metal, foldable goals. These will help take our training and matchday experiences to the next level. We're working closely with the Aston Clinton Parish Council to create safe, organised, and secure storage facilities to house them properly.

Finally, a big shout-out and good luck to all our Colts teams for the 2025/26 season ahead. We're all rooting for you — go Colts!

The Colts Committee



Worm casts on the green at the end of August

As the chestnuts start to fall from the beautiful trees beside our green, the bowls club approaches the end of a very successful season, welcoming many new members. There have been wins and losses in the various matches played against other local clubs, but above all, everybody has enjoyed their bowls, which is by far the most important thing.

Our green has been in great condition this summer, thanks to our volunteer greenkeeper and his small team of helpers, and we have had a lot of compliments from visiting clubs about its quality. This has been a major step forward for the club in 2025 and a source of pride for all our members. The photograph shows our green during the late August rains when it was covered in worm casts. We don't use toxins on our grass, so the worms thrive and aerate the soil for the bowlers. And after all, our green is their home, so we look after our worms! Volunteer members also look after our flower beds and plants, and they do a great job for the club. Nowadays we only plant indigenous species of flowers and shrubs, and we try hard to encourage the pollinators.

Although our inter-club fixtures have now finished, the green doesn't actually close until early October. But even though there will be no more club matches, we don't go into hibernation. The winter period from October to April is an important time for us to carry out much needed maintenance of both the grassed playing surface and the planted surrounds

and so over the coming months you'll see members working on and around the green. If you're passing and are interested to learn more about the club and bowling, then don't hesitate to chat with any of them; we are always happy to talk about what the sport has to offer in enjoyment, exercise or sporting challenges. We see our club as a hub of our community, and welcome everyone.

Winter is also the time when the club's active social side comes to the fore. In the summer playing season, time for organised social events is tight, with all of the games to be played; holidays to be enjoyed; and various family commitments, etc. Come the winter months, it's a great time for the members to get together to socialise at the club bar, with many of our events being open to non-members. So it's a good opportunity to come along and learn more about bowls and what we have to offer.

This is likely to be my last article for VL for 2025, so perhaps let me be the first to wish all readers a Happy Christmas and a successful 2026. I look forward to picking up the pen again next spring and inviting you all to try your hand at bowls. It really is a sport for everyone, and we really are a welcoming and inclusive club, situated in our beautiful park in the heart of Aston Clinton.

Robert Morrison 07885 595447

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

acvillagelife.co.uk

## Two wins on the trot for Buckland Baggies

Buckland Baggies captain Jon Sainsbury lifted the Landstone Cup for the second year running after the Baggies comprehensively beat Wilstone Wasters in their annual charity cricket match at Long Marston Cricket Ground.



Jon Sainsbury, captain of Buckland Baggies, accepts the Landstone Cup from umpire Geoff Gigg with the victorious team alongside.

Put into bat by Wasters' captain Tom Folley, the Baggies scored steadily with valuable contributions from Sainsbury, who scored 27 and Tim Taylor who, following the game's rules, retired after making 25.

There were other useful cameo performances from the Baggies' batters and by the end of 15 overs they had amassed 101-7, a challenging total for the Wasters to chase on a sultry summer's evening.

Wilstone started well with Dave Underwood notching up 25 and skipper Folley, looking dangerous, hitting 27. After that the scoring slowed and by the 10th over it seemed unlikely that the side would reach their target.

With the Baggies' fielders on the boundary, wickets started to fall as the Wasters' batters attempted to swing their way to victory, but by the close of play, eight wickets had fallen and the score stood well short at 80.

The result meant that the teams have each won two matches, making next year's game another exciting prospect. The match, played on the evening of Friday, August 15, was organised by Richard Peel from Buckland and Guy Campbell, the landlord of the Half Moon, Wilstone, who provided a barbecue. The Cricket Club also opened the bar for spectators and players.

A total of £750 was raised for the charity of choice, the Hospice of St Francis. This was £240 more than the sum raised last year. The organisers want to thank all the spectators for their donations and Long Marston Cricket Club's Paul Dumpleton for enabling the fixture.

Richard Peel

## Aston Hill Climb at Chiltern Forest Golf Club



The Aston Hill 100 team is pleased to announce that there is now a permanent display of some wonderful period Aston Hill pictures at Chiltern Forest Golf Club. These pictures are located in the Spike Bar, which is just behind the main bar area. Steve Akers has also prepared a board that summarises the history of Aston Hill, which will go up alongside the pictures shortly.

A huge thank you to Steve Moran (Chair) and the team at Chiltern Forest Golf Club for enabling this and thereby helping to preserve some important local history for everyone to enjoy. The golf club welcomes visitors, so feel free to pop along and take a look (....and I can personally recommend their fabulous breakfast whilst you're there!!!).

Mike Stark

## **Wendover Choral Society**

Come and Sing With Us!



Are you one of these people: "I love singing, but I'd be too embarrassed to sing with other people"; "I can't read music"; or "I don't like classical music"?

#### Why not come along to Wendover Choral Society?

Yes, we are a choir, and we sing together. We absolutely love it! Yes, some of us can read music, but some of us can't, and it doesn't hold them back. And new for this term, our choir leader, Kenton, is including 15 minutes of music-reading teaching in each of our rehearsals for those who are interested. And yes, a lot of what we sing is classical music, but by no means all. We try to include pieces to suit every taste.

So whether you're someone who loves to sing but has always thought singing in a choir isn't for you, or whether you've sung in a choir before, but haven't got round to joining another one, why not give us a try?

No-one is ever embarrassed at our rehearsals. We have a lot of fun and we get to share the joy of making music together. We meet every Thursday, in St. Mary's Church, Wendover, from 7.45pm to 9.45pm. This term we'll be practising for our Christmas concert on December 6. Titled "An English Christmas", it promises to be a gently rich, English choral programme, full of warm harmonies and seasonal reflection.

Come along! It could be the best thing you've done in ages.

Rod Ainsworth, Chair www.wendoverchoral.co.uk

### Aston Clinton u3a

We now have over 250 members who participate in a host of groups ranging from Line Dancing and Walking Netball to Science/Technology and History plus many other varied interest groups. Social events and day trips are also undertaken during the year for members and for just an annual fee of £17, you can get access to all these groups and events.

Members' Main Meetings take place at the Baptist Church in Green End Street on the third Tuesday each month commencing at 2.30pm and are followed by sociable light refreshments.

#### The next few months' presentations are:

October 21, Jeff Rozelaar:

Madness of the Movies, behind the scenes

November 19, Amanda Shira:

The history and development of folk music

December 16, Ann Sharman: The revival of Christmas from the time of Dickens

January 20, Colin Brown (RNLI):

Modern operations, equipment and training We also have a London Trip to Kensington (shopping or museums) on Monday, November 24.

A members' afternoon tea party takes place on Friday, October 31 at The Anthony Hall.

Further contact details for all our groups and activities can be found on the Aston Clinton u3a website (astonclinton.u3asite.uk) New members are always welcome.

Peter Sharp

#### Discover Bucks Museum



I Grew Up 90s - a new exhibition 25 October 2025 – 22 February 2026

This autumn, Discover Bucks Museum invites visitors on a vibrant journey back to the decade of Britpop, Cool Britannia, Pokémon, Power Rangers and dial-up internet with its new exhibition, I Grew Up 90s.

Running from Saturday, October 25, 2025 to February 22, 2026, the exhibition brings together more than 200 iconic objects and artworks that bring the Nineties back to vivid life.

From Teletubbies to Trainspotting, Lara Croft to The Spice Girls, I Grew Up 90s celebrates a decade defined by creativity, optimism and unforgettable pop culture moments. Visitors can revisit toys, games, fashion, films, music and television shows that shaped a generation — and even test their skills on a retro arcade machine featuring classics like Tetris, Tekken, Street Fighter, and Sonic the Hedgehog.

The exhibition is curated by cultural historian and curator Matt Fox, capturing the sights, sounds and spirit of the 1990s.

"Those that grew up 30 years ago in the 1990s before smart phones, social media or reality TV - can genuinely state that life was very different





then." Fox says. "I Grew Up 90s is a time capsule of that era, seen through the eyes of those who lived it as children and teenagers."

Sam Mason, CEO of Discover Bucks Museum said, "It is delightful to be able to take a trip down memory lane, with artefacts that so many will remember. It is also a little scary to realise that many familiar items that we grew up with now belong on show in a museum! We hope those who remember the 90s will enjoy revelling in nostalgia and that those who don't will come and experience a snapshot of life in the last millennium."

The exhibition is a chance to relive playground crazes, rediscover music and TV milestones, and remember the moments that made the 90s unforgettable. Come and visit with the whole family and get ready to exclaim, "I remember that!".

For opening times, tickets and booking, visit discoverbucksmuseum.org

Discover Bucks Museum, Church Street, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP20 2QP

## **Buckland Parish Council**

The themes for Buckland parish council (BPC) over the summer months seem to have been planning and speeding.

BPC, along with other parish councils, has been told by Buckinghamshire council that it will no longer show public comments for any planning applications due to GDPR issues. Members of the public, local councils and our MP have all asked for this to be reviewed. Many councils across the country display the comments and redact the personal details. However, at present, Bucks is standing firm and refusing to change its mind. More recently, Bucks council has also decided to stop displaying yellow notices outside properties applying for planning permission. It is required by law to publicise all planning applications, and this continues to include:

- · Weekly advertisements in the local press
- Notifications on the council's website
- · Direct neighbour notifications where appropriate.

At present, the Buckinghamshire online planning portal is undergoing a major change; once this has happened, BPC is encouraging residents to sign up for email alerts showing planning applications. This can be done for your postcode or a wider area. Once the portal is up and running, BPC will share details of how to register. In the meantime, BPC has made the decision to share planning applications within the parish on its website www.buckland-pc.gov.uk and its local Facebook page. In addition to this, it will be displaying planning notices on the Parish Council Noticeboards. These will be easily identifiable as they will be on an orange coloured sheet.

Many Buckland residents have been complaining about the increased traffic along Buckland Road over the past year. Not only has the number of vehicles increased but also the speed at which they are travelling. In November 2024, BPC commissioned a traffic survey which showed that 48% of vehicles using the road were travelling above the speed limit. In June 2025, Bucks council commissioned a speed survey to see the impact of the traffic calming scheme in Aston Clinton, in which they included a survey of Buckland Road. This showed that there was a 40% increase in traffic along the road. Again the speeds were very high. This road doesn't have any pavements and is regularly used by walkers and school children. After the November 2024 results were released, BPC wrote to Bucks, asking for some type of traffic calming along Buckland Road; this request was denied. BPC is writing again following the latest results to see what improvements can be made on this road.

Residents and parish councillors met with MP Laura Kyrke-Smith to discuss the traffic issues along Buckland Wharf and Tring Hill. Laura said she would follow up the issues facing residents along this stretch of road with Bucks council. No response has been received to date. BPC still continues to maintain a database of accidents along this stretch of road, so if you witness any, please send a brief email to clerk@buckland-pc.gov.uk including date, time and location and number of vehicles involved.

BPC volunteers have worked again with The Chiltern Society to improve the wildflower area in the burial ground. Last year the groups planted yellow rattle which has been effective, although more work is needed. Recently, a team worked in the hot weather to remove a large area of dock. More yellow rattle will be planted in the coming months.

Over the summer months there have been an increased number of smells and odours reported from the ARLA/Olleco area. We would encourage all residents to report these to the Environment Agency (EA). It does take note; after the recent spate of reports it carried out a site visit and reported back to BPC that the cause of the odours was cleaning of the facility. To report any odours, go to the Environment Agency incident hotline at: www.gov.uk/report-environmental-problem or *Telephone: 0800 80 70 60*.

If you are able, please also let BPC know and include the report number that you receive from the EA.

## All Saints' Buckland The Belfry Bar

At the beginning of 2025, I distributed around Buckland Village a leaflet listing social events for the year, designed to raise vital funds for All Saints' church. You saw it in Village Life too. My idea was to organise events that would bring the community together for fun whilst at the same time raising money to keep the doors of our beautiful 13th century church open.

All Saints' church is fortunate to have an alcohol licence in place for its monthly 'Flicks in the Sticks' sessions in the winter months so we came up with the idea of giving it an official pub name and opening it in the summer with live music outside in the churchyard......and so The Belfry Bar began. We held four Friday night sessions, 7pm-10pm from July 25 to August 15, with different musicians each week. Coral Simpson with an 'Open Mic' team officially opened The Belfry Bar on our first evening and they all loved it so much that they came back for the closing night. Nigel Kippax and the Little Edge Band entertained the crowd on our second Friday evening and Nick Atkinson played the third

Friday. We really have been spoiled with such a variety of local talent, and I can't thank them enough for their generosity in entertaining us. All Saints' Church

The Belfry Bar has been a huge success in bringing the local community together and we have met some amazing people along the way. It's been fun - and we raised more than £1000! My thanks go to Dayla, our local drinks supplier, and to all those who helped run the bar, fill the crisp bowls, set up the tables and chairs and wash up.

Landlady of the Belfry Bar
- Rev Sally Bottomer

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

acvillagelife.co.uk

## **Horticultural Society**

Well, this year has certainly been challenging for gardeners, with such a prolonged hot, dry Summer, and then the heavy rain, so it was a real pleasure to see such wonderful exhibits at our late Summer Show in September at Aston Clinton School.







We had a great display of flowers, vegetables, bakes and craft. It has been a good year for fruit and the number of entries in the jam and chutney classes showed that cooks have been making good use of nature's bounty. The plant stall and refreshments were much appreciated as always and this year's raffle went to support the RNLI. New this year was a stand from the Aston Clinton Community Archive Group which had some great information about the garden and gardener of the former Rothschild estate in the village.

This year we welcomed Christine Moxham, Chair of Governors at the school, to present the prizes and she must have been especially pleased with the marvellous display of work from the children in Years 3, 4 and 5. We were delighted that the school supported the children in taking part and we had over 100 pictures of flowers, leaves and fungi entered in the art classes showing great observational skills. Huge congratulations to the prize winners and all the artists. We so enjoyed looking at all the art; we clearly have some talented youngsters among us.



Well done to all who took part and thank you to all who came along to support the show. Show time may be over, but we still have plenty to enjoy this year. Coming up in our monthly talks on the second Wednesday of the month, starting at 7.30pm, at the Anthony Hall we have:

Wednesday, October 8: "Bulbs in the Garden Border" Given by Kerrie Lloyd-Dawson, a regular contributor to gardening publications, this will provide ideas for making the most of all those lovely bulbs we plant at this time of year. We will also have on sale our bulbs for the Spring Show 2026 classes "Grow for Show" and "The Society's Bloom" – so no excuse not to have a go this time!

Wednesday, November 12: "Get the exotic look – plants for a tropical garden". Katharine Woods, Lecturer in gardening and garden history, will be giving ideas for hardy and semi-hardy plants to create new interest in our gardens.

Our popular **Christmas Wreath Workshop** will be back on **Saturday, November 29** in the Anthony Hall, starting at 1.30pm. For further information, email: *info@astonclintonhorticulturasociety.co.uk*. This event is always very popular and raises funds for Brain Tumour research and associated support charities.

Autumn is here, and there is no rest for gardeners, so here are some tips to keep you busy outside looking after your garden over winter and preparing for next year:

- Plant bulbs in the borders for a Spring display and make sure you come to our October talk!
- Plant up containers with plants such as winter flowering pansies, cyclamen and skimmia for winter colour and put containers on to pot feet to prevent waterlogging. Re-use spent compost from summer container displays as a mulch on your garden beds and borders.

- There is still time whilst the soil is warm to plant evergreen shrubs and move deciduous shrubs that are in the wrong place and to divide any overcrowded herbaceous perennials.
- Reduce the height of shrub roses to prevent wind damage over winter.
- Cut fruited stems of blackberries and autumn raspberries to ground level.
- Net ponds to prevent leaves falling into them.
   If you clear pond weed, lay it next to the pond for a day to allow wildlife to escape.
- Raise the cutting height when mowing the lawn and feed with an autumn lawn food.
- Remove any shading and clean the greenhouse. Don't forget to clean garden tools and oil them to prevent rust and corrosion.
- Plant amaryllis bulbs indoors for gorgeous flowers over Christmas time.
- Fill up your bird feeders and enjoy seeing all the visitors.
- And when the weather is too bad to get outside, sit in a comfy chair and make plans for next year!

Happy gardening!

The Horticultural Committee

### SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

### **Emergency**

Aston Clinton Surgery	01296 320384	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**

OTAME		
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

TOUTH GROUPS		
Aston Clinton Guides, Brownies and Rainbows		www.girlguiding.org.uk
Aston Clinton Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers	01296 708158	
– Waiting Lists		ac.secretary@yahoo.com
- Other enquiries		ac.gsl@yahoo.com
Aston Clinton Youth Club		astonclintonyouthclub@yahoo.com
CHURCHES		
St Michael and All Angels, Aston Clinton	01296 632488	www.ac-buck-db-churches.org
All Saints, Buckland	01296 632488	www.ac-buck-db-churches.org
St Mary the Virgin, Drayton Beauchamp	01296 632488	www.ac-buck-db-churches.org
Aston Clinton Baptist Church	01296 631824	www.acbc.church
Our Lady of Lourdes RC Church	01296 290545	www.ourladyoflourdes.uk
HALLS FOR HIRE		
Anthony Hall	07443 976639	hallbookingonline.com/anthonyhall/
Baptist Church		lettings@acbc.church
Buckland Village Hall	07749 041434	hallandbookingsmanager@ bucklandvillagehall.com
Churchill Hall		astonclintonyouthclub@yahoo.com
Red Kite Pavilion	01296 630270	nick@yourcafeinthepark.co.uk
LOCAL GOVERNMENT		
Aston Clinton Parish Council	01296 631269	clerk@astonclinton.org
		www.astonclinton.org.uk
Buckland Parish Council	01296 630962	clerk@buckland-pc.gov.uk www.buckland-pc.gov.uk
Drayton Beauchamp. Parish Meeting	01296 630396	merylnodes2018@gmail.com
Buckinghamshire Council	0300 131 6000	www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk
BC Councillors Steve Bowles	07808 531156	steve.bowles@buckinghamshire.gov.uk
Mike Collins	01296 632039	mike.collins@buckinghamshire.gov.uk
Environmental Health (fly tipping)	01296 585605	
Highways	01296 486630	www.buckscc.go.uk
MP for Aylesbury Laura Kyrke-Smith		laura.kyrkesmith.mp@parliament.uk
MISCELLANEOUS		
All Saints Friends, Buckland	01296 630454	peter.elwin@elwins.net
Aston Clinton Ladies Group	01296 630740	
Aston Clinton U3A		www.astonclinton.u3asite.uk
Horticultural Society	01296 633376	www.astonclintonhorticulturalsociety.co.uk
Royal British Legion	01296 632039	
SSAFA Forces Help	01296 631030	
Chambell Lands Clark		
Churchill Lunch Club	07921 172642	
Turpins Charity	07921 172642 01296 630162	www.turpinscharity.org.uk
		www.turpinscharity.org.uk www.whvc.co.uk

### **Local Trades and Services**

Please mention Village Life when responding to our advertisers. You can find their adverts on the following pages:

ADVERTISING FEATURE Gigaclear PF Financial	43 42
BUILDING SERVICES Bucks Bathrooms D Hewitt Building Services Jim Workman Laxton Properties M D Marriott Decorators N R Green P Greville Smashing Windows The 50 Plus	52 50 44 54 59 59 48 62 60
CARE & CARE HOMES Chilterns Neuro Centre	48
CARS & MOTORING TJK Driver Training Tyre Changers	46 51
CHILDCARE Barnowls Nursery etc PACE Charity	50 61
COMPUTER SERVICES Problems with my PC Wendover Computers	60 49

ELECTRICAL E Sharp (Electrical) Ltd MJ Electrical Page Electrical	62 58 45
GARDENS H A Phipps Fencing Lewis Developments Merryweather Mowers Passiflora R B Treecare R D Leonard	53 49 58 51 47 58
HOUSE & HOME A Brighter Home Carpets A Brighter Home Ovens Albany Carpets DF Clean Elizabeth Anne Blinds Johnson Sewing Machines Stitch & Mend Warren Ovens & Carpets	50 46 51 59 60 58 59 57
HEALTH & FITNESS Clear Aid Jazzercise Pure Pilates Physio Pilates in Bucks Progressive Sports Massage Sports Rehab TaiChi Health Qigong Tot Bop Vale Dance Academy Yoga with Sam Lees	57 53 52 49 47 59 2 55 54 55

HOTELS/RESTAURANTS/PU The Oak	BS 64
LEISURE & TRAVEL Aston Bridge Club Aston Wine Club Travel Impressions	44 53 57
PLUMBING & HEATING A C Plumbing & Heating Bucks Boilers	55 63
RETAIL Alura Candles Puddingstone Distillery Tring Brewery	62 56 56
SPECIALIST SERVICES F R Jeffery Coal J Brown Funerals Purely Dogs Sophy Winfield Counselling Studio 34 Tring Market Auctions	48 61 58 47 41 48



### **S34**

# THRIVE LOCAL NETWORKING

Helping you navigate the ever changing marketing landscape

Date: 14th October 2025

Time: 10am - 1pm

Location: Red Kite Pavilion, Aston Clinton

### FREE TO ATTEND

### **TOPICS COVERED**

- Al-Powered marketing
- Boost local SEO
- Social media performance
- Measure your success
- Grow your network



studio.thirtyfour

in studio34

# Your Pension Working for You?



Book Your Free Pension Review Today



- Check if you're on track to achieve your retirement goals
- Compare plan charges to ensure you're getting value for money
- Assess the level of risk in your investments
- Show you simple, tailored ways to boost your future income

Contact PF Financial today on 01494 778899 or email info@pffinancial.co.uk

## 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 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.





### **Defibrillator locations**

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

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

**Buckland Parish Council Office** (Village Hall) HP22 5]B

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

**Guide Hut** 

(Aylesbury Road) HP22 5A]

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

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

#### **ASTON BRIDGE CLUB**



COME AND JOIN A GROUP OF FRIENDLY BRIDGE PLAYERS

> FRIDAY AFTERNOONS 2.00 - 4.30 P.M

ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS' CHURCH, ASTON CLINTON

IF POSSIBLE. COME WITH A PARTNER. BUT INDIVIDUALS ALWAYS WELCOME

TUITION CAN BE ARRANGED

For more information, contact: 07814 108162 or astonbridgeclub@gmail.com



07725 644963

(f) iworkmancarpentry

workmancarpentry@gmail.com @ workmancarpentry









Any Size Job Welcome | 24 Hour Emergencies
Rewires | Fault Finding | Immersion Heaters
Showers | Cookers | Sockets | Lights
Smoke Alarms | Telephone points
Garden Electrics | Storage Heaters
Car Charging Points | External Lighting
Power to Outbuildings | Security Systems

Free Visual Inspections and Quotes Special Rates for Senior Citizens

Contact Mark: 07943 882412 info@pageelectrical.co.uk

www.pageelectrical.co.uk









### **DVSA APPROVED DRIVING INSTRUCTOR**

- DVSA Learner Driving Lessons (Manual Car)
  - Learn to Drive with a local fully DVSA qualified Instructor.
- Advanced Driving Lessons
  - o Professional Tuition to IAM RoadSmart Standard using your own car.
- Caravan/Trailer Safety Training
  - DVSA approved Trailer Safety Training with your Caravan, Trailer or Horsebox,

Call Tony or Paula on: 07538338445 or 07867527940

Email: tjkdrivertraining@btinternet.com

For all Details visit: www.tjkdrivertraining.co.uk



### R.B. Tree Care

Tree felling Crown reductions Crown thinning Hedge trimming Stump grinding

Riccardo Benigno Arborist

01296630424 07976450458 riccardobenigno@gmail.com www.rbtreecare.com



## A place to be **Me**

Sophy Winfield
Experienced local therapeutic
counsellor offering a friendly,
professional and private counselling
service for adults, children
and young people.
Free 30 minute initial consultation

BACP registered and insured

07749 937706 sophy@aplacetobeme.co.uk www.aplacetobeme.co.uk

Locally based

Confidential

Discreet





From constant shoulder pain to sports injuries, we'll help you progress to recovery.

## Start YOUR recovery now. Book Online

www.progressivesportsmassage.co.uk

You don't need to be a sports person to have a sports massage.

Deep Tissue Massage • Sports Injuries • Work Related Injuries • Massage Therapy

\*\*Related Injuries • Massage Therapy

\*\*BASED IN WESTON TURVILLE hannah@progressivesportsmassage.co.uk



"The Centre gives you a sense of belonging, community and support." Steve - Centre Member

Registered Charity No. 800853



## TringMarket Auctions

Antique and Fine Art Auctioneers and Valuers. Est. 1982



- Valuations for Sale, Probate & Insurance
- Total and Part House Clearance Specialists

 Fine Art Sales and Fortnightly Sales of Antique Furniture and Collectables



Buying or selling – we welcome your enquiries

BROOK STREET, TRING, HERTS HP23 5EF TELEPHONE: 01442 826446 sales@tringmarketauctions.co.uk www.tringmarketauctions.co.uk

### P Greville

**Property Maintenance** 

### Carpentry Painting & Decorating Specialist

All carpentry & joinery repairs
Door/window fitting & security locks
Kitchens, flooring
Fascias, guttering & fencing

Painting & decorating - internal & external

30 yrs exp – 12yrs Local Authority / Age Concern (Harrow) contractor

All work undertaken
Reliable, professional small local business
Free no obligation estimates

Tel: 01296 632008 / 07973 408639 paulgreville@gmail.com

### F R Jeffery & Son Coal Merchant



Smokeless Fuels Kiln Dry Logs Garden Compost

Delivered To Your Door

Contact Us: 01296 661258





### 07415 841299

www.physioandpilatesinbucks.com

Aston Clinton, Halton. Wendover. Weston Turville



Supplying turf & fencing to the trade and public.



All types of fencing, gates, decking, sleepers & more.

The Brown Barn,

Thame Road, Longwick, Bucks, HP27 9QU

01844 344435



3 Icknield Court, Back Street, Wendover HP22 6EB 01296 200275

Do you feel like throwing your computer out of the window? Fed up with it going slow? Strange messages popping up?

Or would you just like to upgrade it?



Obliterate your home Wi-Fi issues. No matter what size your home is we can get Wi-Fi into every area of your home, especially where it's most needed

iPhone & iPad repairs



Come and check out the Wendover Computers refurbished station. We stock iPads, iPhones, iMacs, Macbooks, PCs and Laptops

Speed up your slow computer with an SSD Significantly improve the performance of computer by upgrading the old HDD







help@wendover-computers.co.uk

www.wendover-computers.co.uk

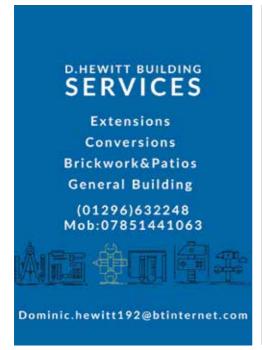














## **Barnowls**

Nursery, Pre-School and Out of School Club

Contact Claire or Nila on 01296 632692 8 New Road, Aston Clinton and AC and Weston Turville schools

enquiries@barnowlsnursery.com

### **Passiflora**

Garden Design and Maintenance



I am a fully qualified garden designer. Perhaps your garden needs just a little tender loving care after the winter, or some regular maintenance.

Or maybe you would like some fresh ideas and would like to implement a new planting plan to lift the senses and stir the emotions.

Whatever your garden needs ... Contact Claire on 0752 5336749 (Aston Clinton)



### THE TYRE CHANGERS 07746 903095

### HAVE YOUR NEW TYRES FITTED AT HOME OR YOUR PLACE OF WORK.

Local and convenient low cost tyres fitted at a time and place that suits you.

Budget, mid-range and premium tyres supplied at the best prices.

Winter and summer Tyre Changes

Email: info@thetyrechangers.co.uk



www.thetvrechangers.co.uk





### Professional Bathroom Design & Installation Services

- FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTE
- PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AND PLANNING
- FULL INSTALLATION AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT,
  PROVIDING PEACE OF MIND FROM START TO FINISH
- MICRO CEMENTING AND VENETIAN PLASTERING FOR A UNIQUE TOUCH
- TILING, FLOORING, PLASTERING, ELECTRICAL, AND PLUMBING WORK
- FINISHING TOUCHES SUCH AS LIGHTING AND ACCESSORIES



01296 914461 www.bucksbathrooms.co.uk



## Do you want to feel stronger and more toned?

r

Come and join my Pilates classes at Buckland Village Hall. Suitable for everyone regardless of age, level of fitness, or ability.

Tuesdays 9:30am

Wednesdays 9:30am: HIP\* Pilates

\*High Intensity Power Pilates is a more dynamic form of Pilates

Contact Noelle to book on **07870 595015** or at **noelle@purepilates.uk.com** 



www.purepilates.uk.com



## You don't need to know about wine to join us!



- · Learn about wine
- Expand your knowledge
- · Wines from all corners of the world
- Professional speakers
- Usually eight wines to taste
- · Light buffet
- Friendly, relaxed & informal evenings
- Tastings once a month on a Friday
- Buckland Village Hall
- Non-members are very welcome

www.astonwineclub.co.uk













## Aston Clinton Plumbing & Heating All aspects of Plumbing & Heating



- including oil & gas fired systems
- New Cylinders
   Cold Water Tanks
   Taps & Ball Valves Power Flushing
   Radiators
   Boiler Servicing & Repairs







• 24/7 Breakdown Cover

Established 1978 www.astonclintonplumbingandheating.co.uk

Aylesbury 01296 350034

**Aston Clinton customers** Tel: 01296 350034 Mobile: 07860 301576 Email: andrewhatcher55@aol.com

01442 540014





### First Aid Courses for Parents and Guardians

#### Covering:

- Chokina
- Head Injuries
- Temperature Recognition
- Anaphylaxis
- Burns
- Bleeding
- Nose Bleeds
- Common Child Illnesses
- Home First Aid Kit



£20 per person for a 3-hour course in your own home

Invite your friends over for a fun and interactive coffee morning learning First Aid



07930 224188 robby@clearaid.co.uk www.clearaid.co.uk

## **OVEN AND CARPET CLEANING**

Commercial domestic end-of-tenancy

AGA • RANGE • BBO • EXTRACTOR

CARPET • RUG • UPHOL STERY

Fully insured Extreme care Best results



Call Warren on 01442 827 899 07780 865 632



## **Looking to visit Canada...**

TOP 8 UK CANADA AGENT AS RECOGNISED BY DESTINATION CANADA

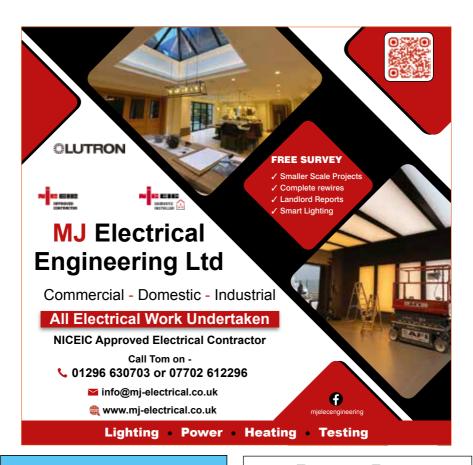
For help with creating the best itinerary for you, please call or email us

Canada specialist since 2001 • Extensive experience to arrange every detail Friendly, honest advice from an independent travel agency Specialists in tailor-making holidays to destinations worldwide Using fully bonded tour operators • No booking fees









### **Sewing Machines**

Sales, Service and Repairs

60 Green End Street, Aston Clinton Tel: 01296 630524

PROPRIETOR: M JOHNSON



## RD Leonard Ltd Fencing and Gates

Other work also undertaken

Contact Richard on 07875723201 rdleonardltd@gmail.com

### **PURELY DOGS**

Dog walking available Wendover, Aston Clinton, Tring, and Surrounding Villages.

Phone: 07516 002621

Email: info@purely-dogs.co.uk Web: https://purely-dogs.co.uk

### **Merryweather Mowers**

Sales - Service - Repairs

54 Brook Street, Aston Clinton

Tel: (01296) 631918

Proprietor: Ian Stiles



Injury Diagnosis - Injury Rehab -Manual Therapy - Chronic Pain Management - Sports Massage - and more...

### Your Health Matters

Run by an Accredited Sports
Rehabilitator
Contact @ 07712 165898
James.sportsrehab@gmail.com
https://SportsRehab.uk



### M.D. MARRIOTT



Painting, Decorating and Colour Design

Professional & reliable service

Tel: 01296 630576

128 London Road, Aston Clinton

Please mention Village Life when responding to our advertisers.

acvillagelife.co.uk



### N.R. Green

Established in 1945

Builders
Plumbers
Decorators

Tel: 01296 631922 Mobile: 07980 676803

> 224 London Road Aston Clinton HP22 5LE

### The 50 plus **Home Repairs**

- Plumbing Electrical Handy
  - Appliances
     Decorating
  - Gardening Carpentry
  - Home Improvements
- Independence at home services

Call us, pop in or visit our website for full details of our broad range of services, helpful advice & pricing

- · Offices on Chesham High Street
- · Book a timed appointment
- Free estimates & friendly advice All with Care and Consideration

01494 784 448

www.the50plus.co.uk Serving customers for over 20 vears

### Elizabeth Anne Blinds & Curtains



### ARE YOU HAVING PROBLEMS...



### WITH YOUR COMPUTER OR **GADGETS?**



### EXPERT & FRIENDLY ASSISTANCE IN YOUR HOME OR OFFICE



- ✓ Make your PC Faster ✓ Anti-Virus & Security
- ✓ Remove Viruses
- √ Backups
- ✓ Fix Internet & Email
- PC's, Macs, Printers
- ✓ Wi-Fi & Home Network ✓ iPads, iPhones, Mobiles, Tablets





**Contact Robert King on** 07968 224460

Email: Help@ProblemsWithMyPC.co.uk

READ THE NICE THINGS PEOPLE HAVE SAID AT... WWW.PROBLEMSWITHMYPC.CO.UK



### J Brown Funeral Services

### **Independent Family Funeral Director**

Ibrownfuneralservices.co.uk

Serving Wendover, Aylesbury, Aston Clinton, Amersham, and all surrounding areas.

Award winning Funeral Director Jason Brown has over 30 years experience and is here to assist you with making funeral arrangements, be they traditional, green or totally bespoke.











## **Amersham**67 Woodside Road, HP6 6AA 01494 727474

## **Wendover**23 High Street, HP22 6DU 01296 312222



# E.Sharp (Electrical) Ltd

ESTABLISHED 1932

NICEIC Approved Electrical Contractors

> Trelawney Stablebridge Road Aston Clinton

Tel: 01296 630231 Mobile: 07908 062 910 Email: esharpelectrical@tiscali.co.uk

## Alura

Candles & Diffusers



Based in Tring, we create luxurious candles & diffusers at great prices.

Order online and use the code VL20 for a 20% discount or call us on 07510 330110.

aluracandles.co.uk





New windows and Doors! Repairs & Installations

Call: **01296 630650** or log onto: www.smashingwindows.com











### STAY WARM WITH BUCKS BOILERS LTD

Looking for a reliable boiler installation? Need expert aftercare? We've got you covered!

### At Bucks Boilers Ltd, we provide:

- Professional boiler installations for a warm and energy-efficient home.
- Expert boiler servicing and repairs to keep your system running smoothly.
- Cozy Care Service Plans hassle-free maintenance and repairs, giving you peace of mind all year round.

With years of experience, trusted local service, and affordable pricing, your comfort is our priority.

Contact Us Today!

01296 914461 www.bucksboilers.com

