

# Village Life

The community magazine  
for Aston Clinton, Buckland  
and Drayton Beauchamp

No. 15 August/September 2013



Useful info  
Church news  
School news  
Local events  
Features  
Clubs & societies

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## PRODUCTION TEAM

Editor: Alec Just  
Email: [alec.just@btinternet.com](mailto:alec.just@btinternet.com)  
Tel: 01296 634955

Assistant Editor: Jennifer Just  
Email: [jenny.just@btinternet.com](mailto:jenny.just@btinternet.com)

Treasurer: James Adam  
Email: [james@jamesadam.co.uk](mailto:james@jamesadam.co.uk)  
Tel: 01296 623239

Advertising Manager:  
David Lonsdale  
Tel: 01296 631791

Editorial Consultant: Jean Kennedy

Distribution Organiser:  
Monika Faranda Bellofiglio

Published by  
St Michael & All Angels PCC  
23 New Road, Aston Clinton  
Bucks HP22 5JD

Published every even month and  
distributed free to over 1900 homes in  
Aston Clinton, Buckland and  
Drayton Beauchamp

### Contributors and advertisers please note:

The copy deadline for  
the Oct/Nov issue is:  
**Monday 2 September 2013**

Editorial contributions welcomed  
subject to availability of space and  
Editor's decision on suitability  
for publication.

### ADVERTISING RATES FOR ONE YEAR

Whole page ..... £300  
Half page ..... £150  
Quarter page ..... £75  
One-Tenth page ..... £35

NB: These rates are for a  
**SERIES OF SIX** insertions,  
printed in black. Rates for colour and  
single insertions available on request.

#### Cover picture:

A vintage Aston Martin car, c.1930  
photographed by Barry Halton.  
See also p.5

Printed by Whiteprint, Unit 9, Notley Farm,  
Chearsley Road, Long Crendon, HP18 9ER  
Telephone: 01844 201171

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  
(formerly The Parish Magazine)

THOSE well-remembered lines of the poet W H Davies

What is this life if, full of care,  
We have no time to stand and stare?

come to mind as we read the Rector's timely message on  
page 3 of this issue. Our amazement at the latest techno-  
wizardry does not compare with a child's sense of wonder  
and discovery when examining a rock pool for the first  
time. I well remember my own fascination at what I saw.

'Less is more' is another well-worn quote but, like the  
poet's couplet, it is full of truth and meaning. We must  
not forget how to turn aside occasionally from the pace  
of modern life and to cherish and enjoy peacefulness,  
simplicity and, above all, the wonders of God's world.  
Why not try James Adams' Wendover walk on pages 20  
and 21 as a way of getting close to nature?

We dip into the relative simplicity of a century ago on  
page 4 as, through the courtesy of Pat Williams, we have a  
glimpse of the Oak pub as it was then. Pat has very kindly  
loaned **Village Life** a collection of the 1970s' magazine  
'The Astonian', a predecessor of this one. The story on  
page 9 about Toby the dog, is the first of what I hope will  
be many snippets from that era.

It's back to fast and furious on page 5 as Barry Halton  
reminds us that 'the Astons are coming', if only for a  
lunch-stop at The Hub en route for Newport Pagnell to  
celebrate 100 years of the iconic car.

A majority of the children leaving ACS in September  
will probably be going to John Coler School in Wendover.  
On pages 10 and 11, they get a glimpse of the exciting  
time that awaits them. In the meantime they, and perhaps  
their younger friends, can enter our Summer Holiday  
competition and maybe win a prize. Details on page 18.

The Rev. Andrew Allen, curate for all three of our  
churches, is leaving us in August. He writes on page 24 of  
his time here and of his hopes and expectations for the  
future. We wish him well.

*Alec Just*  
Editor



## Thanks to our many distributors

ON SATURDAY 18th May, a coffee morning was held in Buckland Village Hall to thank the many voluntary distributors who deliver **Village Life** magazine to every home in the parishes of Drayton Beauchamp, Aston Clinton and Buckland.

This community magazine, the successor to the Parish Magazine, was first published in April 2011. It provides news of local events – school and church news, details of clubs and societies, useful telephone numbers, and other items of interest. Production costs are met by the advertisements placed in it by local tradespeople and organisations.

Distribution around the parish of Drayton Beauchamp is divided among four people and two of us – Erica Godman and Margaret Ross – attended the coffee morning. Local caterer

Cate Lomas provided delicious sandwiches, cakes and fruit and we enjoyed the opportunity to meet fellow distributors.

Formal thanks was given by Alec Just, editor of **Village Life**, and Monika Faranda Bellofiglio, distribution organiser. **Village Life** has proved to be a glowing example of how successful a project can be when it is driven by the dedication and hard work of a community and when monetary reward is neither the goal nor the standard by which success is judged.

*Margaret Ross*

• Although no immediate vacancy exists, if you would be interested in helping by agreeing to deliver the magazine near your home, please register your interest with the Editor on **01296 634955** or email [alec.just@btinternet.com](mailto:alec.just@btinternet.com)

## The Tigers roared!

Nine Tiger Moths flew in formation over Aston Clinton on Saturday 29th June as part of the air display on Armed Forces Day. The vintage biplanes date from the 1930s and would have been used until the 50s to train pilots at RAF Halton. Armed Forces Day was held on the Aylesbury Rugby Ground, Weston Turville.





# St Michael and All Angels

Regular Services:

9.15am and 6pm each Sunday

and Evening Prayer at 7.30pm each Friday



## Forthcoming special events

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sun 18 Aug	4pm	Farewell to Andrew Allen	St Michael's Church
Sat 14 Sept	9am-5pm	Bucks Historic Churches Ride & Stride	St Michael's Church
Sat 14 Sept	7.30pm	Harvest Supper	Anthony Hall
Sun 15 Sept	9.15am	Harvest Festival	St Michael's Church
Sun 15 Sept	6pm	Harvest Songs of Praise	St Michael's Church

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

## Message from the Rector

**H**OLIDAYS were originally holy-days, not just ways of recharging our batteries so that we could return more effectively to the world of work. At best, they are about re-creation. As I write, I am thinking about a wonderful holiday I had in Spain in June. First, there were days sightseeing in historic Granada and then a week's retreat in a white-walled hacienda in the mountains of the Sierra Nevada. It was a time to rest, to stop thinking about the immediate demands of ministry, a time to dream the future into reality.

I'm aware that as you read this it will be the summer holidays for our children – that long break from the excitement and demands of school. And I wonder, alongside the different challenges that you'll provide for them in August, will you also ensure that your

children or grandchildren have a rest? Will you give them the opportunity to mooch about, to think and dream, to be enchanted by the world about them, or will you keep them busy?



I believe adults and children alike need the renewal that holidays offer. We read at the beginning of the bible that God rested after the work of creation. It's just as important that the world-weary 'been there, done that' adult is reminded of what he or she has stopped noticing or being shocked or excited by. That feels like just the sort of recreation that is supposed to come with a holiday.

*Elizabeth*

NOTE: The Rev. Andrew Allen's farewell message can be found on page 24

# 'The Oak' as it was over 100 years ago

THE OAK as it is today featured on the cover of the previous issue of Village Life. A century ago it would have looked very different as these archive photos suggest. Those were the days before marketing and competition between breweries. A public house has been from earliest times where the labouring man (and drinkers were mostly men) found congeniality and a temporary escape from the burdens of daily life. The pub served its immediate neighbourhood and served locally brewed ales and beers.

During the 19th century, as prosperity began to trickle down from the middle classes, pubs started to cater for a more discerning customer and the saloon bar was born, offering more comfortable and segregated accommodation, albeit at slightly higher prices. The Oak was (and is) very much a village pub, though now also actively catering for a wider clientele.



*Left: The Oak c.1905. The original oak timbers are already almost 500 years old. Standing at the door (now bricked up) are landlord George Pickles and his wife Elizabeth. On the bench is seated their daughter, Elizabeth Maud, who with her husband Charles Henry Gates, bore ten children. Charlie, the eldest, is pictured above in 1910. Four of the others survive to this day, still living in this area and now in their nineties!*

*We are indebted to Mrs Pat Williams, granddaughter of Elizabeth Maud, for making these photos available and for the historical family information.*



## Words of wisdom (supplied by James Adam)

'Disagree without being disagreeable.' *(From an unknown source)*

## Aston Martins on show!


**A**STON Martins will be out in strength in the village on Sunday 1st September, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the marque with a commemorative drive linking two historic locations in the company's history. Their drivers will be making a lunch stop at The Hub en route northwards and the cars will be on display to the public on the grass field in front of the restaurant. Everyone is welcome to come and have a look at the cars and talk to the driving teams. They should be making their stop between 12 and 2pm.

Aston Hill was of course very significant in the story of the cars. Lionel Martin and his



## MAKING THE MARQUE

AN ASTON MARTIN CENTENARY YEAR TOUR

Feltham – Newport Pagnell  1st September 2013

partner Robert Bamford formed a company to build sporting cars in 1913, though the first one didn't emerge until a couple of years later. Martin did so well in our local hill climb event, which was staged from 1904 until 1924, that when thinking of a name for his growing company, he linked the two names – allegedly at the suggestion of his wife.

Cars from all ages will be taking part in the run, but most will be from the pre-war and 1950s' eras when they were built at Feltham in Middlesex. Always rather a rare sight on the roads, Aston Martin produced less than 2500 in total from 1915 to 1959, when the company moved to Newport Pagnell to produce the iconic DB4 model.

*Barry Halton*



## Horticultural Society Allotment Cup

FOR MANY YEARS the Horticultural Society has had the Rolfe cup which has been presented annually for the best allotment. The competition for this cup has, in recent years, fallen into abeyance. However, in conjunction with the Parish Council, the Society has re-introduced the cup to our annual summer schedule.

Since the competition has only recently been confirmed, this year the judges will not be given specific guidelines but will select what is, in their opinion, the best plot. The winner will be presented with the Rolfe Cup at the Society's annual show on August 17th and will be given

a year's free use of their allotment in 2014.

Judging will take place in the second half of July. For next year we will advertise the competition in October so that allotment holders will have plenty of time to prepare their gardens.

*Claire Hill*

Clerk to Aston Clinton Parish Council  
Office Hours – Mon-Thurs 9.30am-2.30pm.

Tel: 01296 631269

Website: [www.astonclinton.org](http://www.astonclinton.org)

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS**



AS A RULE, we buy a certain newspaper every Saturday. And in its lifestyle supplement, there is always an article about an aspect of parenting – designed specifically to torture those of us with more than a passing interest in how our kids are raised.

One week it may be that kids today are too lazy, obsessed with computers and watch too much telly alongside a handy guide on how to liven them up. This usually involves taking up a sport. The next week it could be that too much organised activity is bad for them and by shuttling them to swimming/rugby/tennis/piano/ballet etc we are exhausting them and raising them unable to think for themselves.

Then there was the one advising that we should all be having lots of children in order to raise those who are good at compromise, sharing and being considerate to others – “Why 4 is the new 2”. I liked that one, it made me feel on-trend. Predictably, it was closely followed by “Why Only Children are Better Off”.

Often the features are food-related, a subject that drives us parents wild when it comes to ‘expert’ advice. We wean our babies, on lovingly hand-pureed sweet potato and stress when they don’t finish everything on their plates, only to find later that 30% of children are obese and by forcing them to keep eating we end up with children who don’t know when

they are full. A few months back, said newspaper interviewed a glossy blonde Hollywood actress (with a child named after a fruit—you know the one) who told us that pretty much everything we normal folk feed our kids is toxic, harmful and tantamount to child abuse. I made best speed to the nearest supermarket in search of something wholesome to feed the kids that night, but guess what? All the other middle class parents must have read the same smug article. No brown rice left. I bought

some whole-wheat flour but you try making a white sauce with that, it just looks like sick.

So at any given point on a Saturday afternoon, I can be found slumped over my kitchen table, mentally self-flagellating for my bad-parenting. I will

flounce into the living room to turn the telly off and tell them all to ‘get outside for some fresh air and exercise’. They will trudge reluctantly into the garden, for a bounce on the trampoline or to throw a ball. There will be some name-calling and a fight. At least two will end up crying and/or bleeding, while the eldest sings at the top of her voice and pretends to be Taylor Swift until neither the neighbours nor I can bear it any longer. I will welcome them all back inside with a tooth-rotting jug of squash and some nutritious chocolate biscuits. I will instruct them to choose a movie ... and let the compromising begin. *Kelly Cornish*



## RAF Association • Aylesbury and Halton Branch

Ordinary meetings are held in Building 259 at RAF Halton (first building on the right from the entrance to airfield) on the first Wednesday in every month at 7.30 for 8pm. Bar open to everyone Thursday and Saturday evening 7.30–11pm.

**Wed 7 Aug:** Talk on Amy Johnson CBE, pioneer English aviator who set many records in the 1930s

**Sat 18 Aug:** RAFALO Inter Branch BBQ - £5 per head, RAFA bar open from 12:00

**Wed 4 Sept:** Social Evening/Quiz Night - there will be the usual raffle and DVD/video sale

For any further information please contact:

Ray Mockford on 07771 591 586 or Derf Mockford on 07775 664 064



# Aston Clinton School

Head: Mrs Helen Shepherd



## Working with RAF Halton

Earlier this term the school trialled a new initiative with RAF Halton that we hope will lead to strong long-term links between the base and school. The aim was to develop teamwork skills between the children. They had a fantastic time and were very successful at working together as a team. Our thanks go to Mr Lockey and his team from RAF Halton and we hope to be able to offer this opportunity to more children next year. Community links like this benefit the children enormously and we are always on the lookout for ways to prepare the children for the future.

As you can see, the children were very busy! I asked them to write an account for you about what they did and here it is:

We are writing to tell you what a splendid time we had with Mr Lockey and his team from the RAF that came to our school.

To start off with, we did a hoop game where you were divided into 2 teams. We had a race where you have to get the hoop around the circle we made holding hands. You have to do it before the other team. Whoever loses has to do 150 press ups!

After that, we played a game called 'Splat'. It was really fun, but quite competitive. A person was in the middle and told someone 'splat'. They had to duck and if they did not they were out. The people either side had to say 'splat' too. The first one to say it is still in the game. The other one is out.

The Devil's Game was where you are in groups of three and you have two people blind. One has a blindfold on; the other can only see the person in front of them. The person in front gives a signal to do something, but they cannot speak. However, the other person can't see. And the purpose of this is to tell the person to pick up the ball and place it in a bucket.

We did a paper aeroplane race. We had to make our own plane. Whoever got the furthest won! Sam won this race!

Finally we said bye bye and thank you. We said we had good fun.

*Written by Mae and Louis*



Aston Clinton, Buckland &amp; Drayton Beauchamp

**Horticultural Society****56th Summer Show and Fête****Saturday 17 August at 2pm**

ONCE AGAIN our summer Show and Fête will be held in the grounds, in some of the classrooms and in the Old Clock School at Aston Clinton School. As always this is very much a village event with a range of stalls and fête games. Teas and refreshments are available. Admission is £1 with children free.

For those not away on holiday, it makes a pleasant break in the school summer holidays. This year, for the first time, we have managed to get the 'Aldbury Morris men' to come and give us a display. This is in addition to the Great Horwood Silver Band who regularly play for us at our show.

We want you to join in and there are plenty of classes – 143 in total – so there is something for everyone to have a go. All the classes are open, that is anybody may enter, except for two classes that are restricted to those who live in one of our three villages. The title for the main

A stunning display of dahlias at the 2012 Show

floral art class this year is 'Summer Holidays'; for the photograph the subject is 'On my Travels' and the children's photographic subject is 'My Best Friend' (pet or human).

The show is divided into nine sections: Vegetables, Novice Vegetables, Flowers, Novice Flowers, Floral Art, Domestic, and Handicrafts. There are also classes for children aged eight and under and for those aged between nine and fourteen. This range of classes makes this a truly 'Old Style' village show and fête. Please encourage your family, friends and neighbours, children and grandchildren to have a go. Entry is free but there is no prize money, just the joy of winning a certificate and perhaps a cup or shield. We do, of course, give prize money to the children. The show schedule is available from Ralph Weston (630456) and Maureen Ridler (633376). It is also downloadable from the Society's website together with the entry form.

**Wednesday 14th August** is entry night for the Summer Show, so do come to the Anthony Hall between 6 and 7.45pm.

The Show and particularly the Fête takes a lot of manpower to ensure smooth running. We need lots of helpers to set up, act as stewards, man stalls and to clear up afterwards. The Fête





helps the Society raise funds to defray the cost of putting on the show and the major cost is the hiring of the school premises so that our Society stalls such as the Raffle and Tombola are very important to us. We are looking for cakes and preserves for the cake stall. If you can help in any way, please contact **Maureen Ridler** on 633376 or **Ralph Weston** on 630456 and thank you!

We also run a book stall, a plant stall and a bric-à-brac stall so please let us recycle your books. Donations of plants, flowers and produce from your gardens and bric-à-brac will be gratefully received. Finally, if you won a cup last year, please return it to **Sue Lipscomb** on or before **Wednesday 14th August**.

### *Other News from the Society*

In June we had a very interesting talk from Prof. Sandy Primrose: 'A Floral Cornucopia'. His talk was mainly about South African plants and the European plant hunters who discovered them. Our stall at the Village Market in May was very successful and all the plants were sold. The Society thanks all those who supported the stall either by buying from us or by giving us your plants.

Our talks will resume on **11th September** with a talk on Costa Rica by Beryl Hulbert and followed in October by an illustrated talk about Stowe Gardens by John Cornwall. Everybody is welcome to come to our meetings. Visitors are charged £2 but you can always join the Society and then it is free.

*Ralph Weston*

Prize-winning onions at last year's Show



## **Toby, the pub dog**

THE Royal Siam restaurant used to be a pub called 'The Rising Sun'. Toby had been the pub dog for many years and when he died, Joe the landlord decided to commemorate him by mounting Toby's tail over the bar. But when Toby went to the Great Doggie World in the sky he was refused admittance because he had no tail. He'd have to go back and get it, he was

told. So the ghostly Toby scratched on the pub door at midnight. "Hello Toby", Jo greeted him. "I've come for my tail" said Toby. "Oh, I'm sorry Toby, you'll have to come back tomorrow." "But why?" Toby pleaded. "Now, you know the licensing laws as well as anybody, Toby," chided Jo, "we don't want to be caught retailing spirits after hours do we?".

**If you are the secretary of a local club, Village Life is your platform to tell the rest of us what your club has to offer. Just email a few notes to the Editor and we'll do the rest and send you a proof before publication.**

## An exciting place in which to learn and grow ...

THE JOHN COLET SCHOOL in Wendover is one of the secondary schools serving Aston Clinton and its surrounding villages. It is an all-ability, mixed gender school, now with accredited academy status as an Humanities College. Academy status frees the school from local authority control and, through direct funding from the government, offers a high degree of independence for the headteacher and governing body. The school's performance is subject to periodic assessment and grading

you do. The John Colet students seemed to us to be a happy bunch, through their pride in what they were learning and doing. The school offers an excellent blend of academic and vocational subjects in its curriculum. The latest

**"John Colet students seemed to us to be a happy bunch"**

Ofsted report (December 2010) referred to the effects of the problem the school has in finding science teachers. In our part of the world, the high cost of housing adversely affects the recruitment of teachers across the board. Science teaching posts seem to be the most difficult to fill. Technology and craft skills appear to figure strongly in the work of the school; indeed we saw some remarkable examples of joinery and woodwork. In the textile and graphic design department, students even had access to a laser-cutting machine!

It was not appropriate for us to sit in on an active class, but a glance at the School website shows that students receive a broad spread of education across the traditional humanities subjects (languages, history, geography, RE, music etc). Maths and science are well served

Traditional craft skills are taught alongside modern methods in the technology department



Experimenting in one of the school's recently refurbished science labs

by the Department of Education, through Ofsted who have reported that John Colet is a good school with a strong sense of purpose.

Jenny and I enjoyed a tour of John Colet School earlier this year, hosted by the headteacher Mrs Christine McLintock. At the end of our visit, we were left with two strong impressions: the obvious pride in their school shown by the well-behaved students we saw or met; and the extent and quality of the equipment and facilities available to the students to enhance their learning.

The school has an obvious work ethic. Someone once said that the secret of happiness is not doing the things you like, but liking the things



up to GCSE level. For higher level study in both academic and vocational subjects, students are able to move up to the sixth form at John Colet or on to outside specialist sixth form colleges. All students are encouraged to take part in a wide range of extra-curricular activities.

Summarising, we sensed the self-respect and confidence that students clearly gain from their time in the stimulating and caring environment

of John Colet School. Such qualities will stand them in good stead as they step out into their chosen worlds of work or further study.

The school takes its name from John Colet (1467-1519), a Christian humanist and scholar. Colet was influential during the Reformation, advocating a return by the priesthood to the humility of Jesus. Most famous as a cleric, he was also an educationalist. *Alec Just*

*Clockwise from top left:* Students at work on the laser cutting equipment; the John Colet School main entrance; students enjoy use of the latest music technology and computer packages.





# Ken Workman finally hangs up his boots

**K**en Workman retired in April this year as Chairman, Manager and Coach of Aston Park Football Club. Sadly, after much soul-searching among both team and supporters, no-one could be found to step into Ken's shoes and it was decided to wind up the Club at the end of the 2012/13 season.

Ken's lifelong passion with football began in 1968 at the age of twelve, when some volunteer dads decided to start a local football club for the youngsters. Aston Clinton Juniors was born, coached by Peter Gibson. The lads played on what was then waste ground on the site of present-day Beechwood Close. They built a hut and ran a connection to the electricity supply from one of the nearby houses, paying the owner four shillings a week for the current used. ('Health-and-Safety' had yet to be invented!)

When the new estate of houses was built on the ground in the mid-seventies, the team had to move to Aston Clinton Park, where the groundsman at the time, Peter Gibson, continued to run the team, preparing the pitches, setting up the nets and being very supportive and hard-working. Ken remarked that Peter had done a great deal for the football teams over the years before retiring in 1995, when Ken took over the management, coaching, and organising of matches etc.

By 1983, the Juniors had morphed into the Aston Clinton Colts of which Ken was an active member, coaching and fund-raising. Eventually, he had a spell as their Chairman.

Among his proudest moments was the occasion when he led the team out in the 2005

Aylesbury and District League Cup Final at Aylesbury United's former Buckingham Road ground, playing against fierce rivals Aston Clinton FC. Another was in 2007 when the team achieved the 'double', coming top of the ADL Premier Division and winning the ADL League Cup

The social life of the club was something of great value to all the members in addition to their obvious enjoyment of the football. The whole club, families included, had been on annual trips to Goodwood and other regular social outings. These enjoyable activities all helped to build trust, respect and comradeship, to say nothing of the team spirit that was behind the club's success.

Asked what were his most cherished memories, Ken said he had many, but two stood out. One was, whilst he was involved with the Colts. It was the huge satisfaction of watching

a 5-year-old lad with little idea and no sense of direction—he often faced the wrong during a game—become, years later, not only a brilliant defender but rise to the captaincy of the team!

His other cherished memory is his meeting, some years ago, with his idol, Bobby Charlton. They met at a business lunch that had no connection with football and were together for a whole day. Ken has a treasured signed photograph of his hero as a memento of the occasion.

In June 2012, he was honoured to receive the Lionel E Gibbs Memorial Award, presented in recognition of 'Meritorious Service to Association Football' in Berks and Bucks.

Ken has a modest attitude to his achievements, and insists that he 'hasn't done anything fantastic', but his long association and service



to the game of football has influenced the lives of countless people in Aston Clinton. He was touched by the gesture of the team at his last game, when they clapped him into the changing rooms. As a token of their thanks and appreciation of everything he had done over so many years, they presented him with a season ticket for London Wasps Rugby Team and a T-shirt signed by many Aston Park players, past and present.

Watching Rugby and playing golf now fills his time in addition to his work as a qualified

driving instructor. Ken was born in Rosebery Road and still lives barely a stone's throw from his birthplace. He married a local girl and now awaits the birth of two grandchildren in the next few months. Their arrival promises to keep him happy and busy for many years to come.

*Jenny Just*

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

## The Oxford Fiddle Group returns

PROMPTED by the appreciative audience last year and The Hospice of St Francis, the Oxford Fiddle Group were pleased to accept an invitation to return to Victoria Hall in Tring in 2013.

This year's concert takes place on Sunday 29th Sept at 7.30pm and a full house can be expected, as word has spread around that another highly entertaining evening is in store. A variety of songs and tunes from England, Scotland, Ireland and the USA will be played from their repertoire, performed on double bass, Celtic Harp, guitar, mandolin, viola, cello, concertina plus singers, tap dancing along with plenty of humour.

Accomplished pianist, Clare Lonsdale, will again entertain the audience prior to the concert.

The audience who attended last year's concert will no doubt feel confident in recommending and inviting their friends to secure tickets, which can be purchased from David Lonsdale on **01296 631791** or **lonsdale@hotmail.co.uk** at £10 in advance or £12 at the door.

The concert is once again in aid of The Hospice of St Francis who care for people in North Herts and the Chiltern area of Bucks, in providing excellent palliative care to patients with terminal illnesses.

*David Lonsdale*



## All Saints' Church, Buckland

Regular Services:

8am Holy Communion each Sunday except First Sunday

11am Morning Worship – First and Third Sundays

6pm Choral Evensong – Fourth Sunday each month

10am Midweek Communion each Wednesday



## Forthcoming Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sun 18 Aug	4pm	Farewell to Andrew Allen	St Michael's Church
Sun 1 Sept	11am	Harvest Festival	All Saints' Church
Sun 1 Sept	6pm	Choral Evensong for Harvest	All Saints' Church
Sat 14 Sept	9am-5pm	Bucks Historic Churches Ride & Stride	All Saints' Church

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

## Flower Festival success

Hello friends!

I am shocked, amazed and thrilled to tell you that during that 'flaming June' weekend of our Flower Festival, we made the magnificent sum of £1366.06, despite the appalling weather.

After a bad start, losing one of our tents to pouring rain and wind, my splendid teams served lunches and cream teas in a very cramped space inside the church (bearing in mind I had every available space filled with flowers!). The aroma and beauty of the flowers in such a perfect setting hopefully gave a lot of people a lot of pleasure. We even had visitors from New Zealand! Also, I am so grateful to my wonderful ladies who braved the weather. HUGE THANKS GO OUT TO YOU ALL, whether you took part in decorating, preparing and serving refreshments, the raffle or by donating cakes, prizes, bric-à-brac, produce and plants, or by simply coming to enjoy the Festival and support us. Also special thanks to Maureen Ridler for her loyal support and

strength throughout and her husband John for the professional titles. I am grateful to Janet Elwin for the programme and special thanks also go to the Horticultural Society for the loan of their tents and for erecting them.

Last, but not least, thanks to Andrew Allen, our curate, for his support and splendid display around the altar. It was simply stunning!

The event ended with our church full of people enjoying a very special evensong led by Rev. Elizabeth Moxley and the anthem 'Hymn to St Cecilia' sung by our enthusiastic choir.

*Frances Farley*

## Parish Council Meetings

The next meetings of Buckland PC will be held in the Committee Room at Buckland Hall at 7.45pm sharp on the following Mondays: 12 August and 9 September 2013. Members of the public are always welcome to attend.

**Please support our advertisers!**

*NOTE:* The Rev. Andrew Allen's farewell message can be found on page 24



THIS poem reflects the bitterness persisting in parts of Buckland and Aston Clinton over the Arla development.

It may also be a signal to those affected that the change to our local landscape, however unpleasant, is, sadly, here to stay. Nothing we can now say or do will alter that unwelcome fact.

Let us all hope and pray that the healing power of time will do its work to reduce the pain felt by those affected.

## A poet's take on the 'Arla' debate

Hooray for 'Arla', a few will say  
But then, of course, they live far away

How wonderful to see those multicoloured blocks  
Overpowering towers with 'blobs' on their tops

Isn't it fantastic that the once green and pleasant land  
Is now concreted over with 'Lego' - so grand!

Let's hear no more demands for democrats to take heed  
Leave it to local councillors to ignore our needs

Don't complain when the traffic is so bad you can't move  
Be thankful that prospects for local employment will improve

Hundreds of jobs will be on offer we have been promised  
And surely one more patch of countryside will not be missed

So do not waste more time, trying hard not to weep  
Rejoice with Dairy Farmers that 'Arla' can produce milk  
that cheap!!

*Norman Mandry*  
Buckland Village

## Lock restoration to take longer

Engineers from the Canal and River Trust have been busy working out how best to repair Buckland Lock, built in 1839, after it collapsed just before Easter. Investigations into the cause of the collapse are still ongoing. The latest estimate is that the canal will re-open around the end of October. Work to repair the lock is scheduled to begin by around the beginning of August.

Peter Walker, engineering manager for the Canal and River Trust, told **Village Life** on 28th June: "We have been busy over these last few months setting up the works site, creating a new access track alongside the lock and removing the collapsed wall. "Unfortunately," he said, "it has taken longer than expected to get to the stage where we can start to rebuild the wall and we are now looking at reopening the

canal a few months later than first thought. "It is frustrating, and I'm sorry for any inconvenience this may cause, but we do need a bit longer to do the repair job, do it well, and to make sure the wall lasts for another 200 years."

As a result of the lock collapsing, a number of boaters were craned out of the canal after they became stranded in the Aylesbury Basin. With the new Circus Fields Marina in Aylesbury expected to open very shortly, there are plans to crane back into the canal those boaters who have already booked moorings at the marina, so they can enjoy their new marina facilities.

As well as repairing the wall and towpath, the opposite lock wall will be pinned to prevent it from moving, the top lock gate will be refurbished and minor brickwork repairs will be made to the lock approach walls.

# St Mary the Virgin, Drayton Beauchamp

Regular Services:

8am on the first Sunday

10.45am each Sunday

6pm Evening Worship each Monday



## Forthcoming Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sun 18 Aug	4pm	Farewell to Andrew Allen	St Michael's Church
Sun 8 Sept	12.30-4pm	Canal Restoration Day	St Mary's Church
Sat 14 Sept	9am-5pm	Bucks Historic Churches Ride & Stride	St Mary's Church
Sun 22 Sept	4pm	Evensong for Harvest Festival	St Mary's Church

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

## Summer Music at St Mary's

For well over twenty years, a summer concert has taken place at St Mary's, thanks to an anonymous sponsor whose generosity has ensured that outstanding students from the Royal Academy of Music are able to provide an evening of wonderful music in an idyllic rural setting.

The recent well-attended concert saw a return of The Artesian Quartet who have won several prestigious awards and who are highly sought after to give concerts both in this country and overseas.

The quartet consists of Kate Suthers (violin), Emily Davis (violin), Matthew Maguire (viola) and António Novais (cello). However demanding the music, it was clear that the four worked beautifully together and appeared to be enjoying themselves too.

The programme began with the Haydn Kaiser Quartet Opus 76 No. 3 in C whose melodic second movement is familiar from the hymn "Glorious things of Thee are spoken".

We then heard Britten's "Alla Marcia and Three Divertimenti" – a ferociously demanding piece technically and full of surprises and delights for the audience. The final work was Ravel's String Quartet in F. This too must have been very demanding of the young musicians but they proved well able to meet all the challenges of their chosen programme.

The evening was rounded off most pleasantly with a delicious supper, prepared by loyal local volunteers and served in the church. Staying put in the church after the concert provided an opportunity for the audience to socialise and catch up on local news, an important activity in small rural communities. A thoroughly enjoyable occasion – and the sun even shone.

*Margaret Ross*

## Wendover Arm Trust

Following the successful Restoration Open Day held on Sunday 2nd June, volunteers from Wendover Arm Trust are pleased to announce a second Open Day will be held on Sunday 8th September. *Continued opposite*

*NOTE:* The Rev. Andrew Allen's farewell message can be found on page 24

Come to St Mary's Church on foot, by bike or car (limited parking in the field at the end of Church Lane) and find out more about the canal restoration work on the Wendover Arm. The event kicks off at 12.30pm after church worship and finishes at 4pm. All welcome, no need to book, admission free, but donations welcome!

Meet volunteers from the Trust and find out more about this massive project, see progress made and plans for the future. Take a guided tour through the churchyard and along the towpath to our Restoration Site, about a 15-minute walk. See our restoration volunteers in action restoring the canal and find out how it is done. Visitors can either continue on a short or long (1½ or 3 miles) circular walk (map and instructions provided) back to the church or come back the way you came.

Back at the church, enjoy a cup of tea and home-made cake, and have a well-earned rest.

Did you know that it costs £400 per metre to restore this historic waterway using volunteer labour? All income is raised by the Trust

through events, membership and donations. Why not buy a Grand Draw ticket (£1 each) and be in with a chance of winning a week's canal boat holiday, or £100 cash and many other wonderful prizes?

The best news is you won't have to wait long to find out if you are a winner, as the draw will be made during the afternoon. If you'd like further information, please visit our website at [www.wendoverarmtrust.co.uk](http://www.wendoverarmtrust.co.uk) or call 07547 181857.



## The Franco-British Society visits Drayton Beauchamp



The Franco-British Society, founded in 1924 and with HM The Queen as their patron, is dedicated to encouraging closer relations between Britain and France. Drayton Beauchamp resident Moira Warr-King, a member of the Society, suggested that they should visit St Mary's Church as it was originally founded by a Norman knight



## Summer holiday competition for juniors!



AS YOU CAN SEE, this is a photograph of planet Earth, taken from space. We are looking down on the United States of America. You can clearly see the Florida peninsula jutting out into the sea. Europe is in darkness.

Can you name the mighty river that is in the dead centre of the photograph? It is not visible in the photograph but see if you can work it out from a map or by going to [www.mapsofworld.com/usa/usa-river-map.html](http://www.mapsofworld.com/usa/usa-river-map.html) You have one clue: for part of its length, it forms the border between Mexico and the USA. There's a Family Atlas of the World waiting for the person under 12 years old who names it correctly. If there's more than one correct answer, then all the winning names will go in a draw and the lucky winner will be picked out.

Send or deliver your entry by 6th September to The Rectory, 23 New Road, Aston Clinton, HP22 5JD. Only one entry per person is allowed. The competition is free to enter. Don't forget to include your name and address and a phone number. The winner's name will be published in the next issue of **Village Life** magazine.

# Artistic talent returns to Waddesdon

THE Artists and Makers Fair has announced it will be showcasing some of the most talented local artists as it returns to Waddesdon Manor Plant Centre this October.

The Fair takes place 5-6th October 2013 at The Glass House in Waddesdon. It will bring together local artists including painters, print-makers, photographers, ceramicists, jewellers, textile and glassmakers and many more.



The Artists and Makers Fair is one of the largest visual arts events in the area and visitors will be able to see local artists in action giving live demonstrations of their art.

## Aston Clinton Ladies Group

### Forthcoming meetings:

**Wed 21 Aug at 7.30pm:** BBQ Summer Evening at Marion's. Cost BBQ £5, Raffle £1

**Wednesday 18th September at 8pm**

'An evening with Anne Swaithie'

A versatile entertainer!! At the Guide Hall.

If you would like to join us please call Sue Sanders on **01296 630740** or Janet Watson on **01296 631014**.

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Organiser Sally Evans, said "We are delighted to be returning to The Glass House. There is an abundance of local artistic talent and I am delighted that we can showcase and demonstrate some of the incredible work they do."

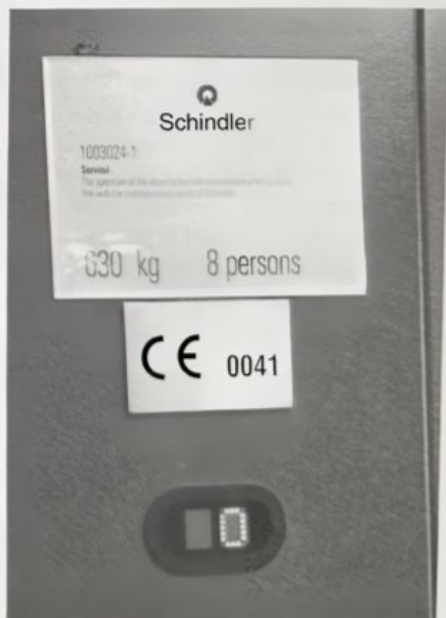
Sally continued "We really hope that people will visit the event and support our local artists and marvel at their skills. Visitors may even want to take home some locally-made, hand-crafted pieces of art that you can't find on the high street."

The event is open 10am-4pm each day and the entry cost is £3 per adult, with a significant proportion of the proceeds going to local charities Helen and Douglas House, Action Medical Research and Young Carers Bucks.

To find out more about the event and artists visit the website [www.sallyevansevents.co.uk](http://www.sallyevansevents.co.uk)

## Schindler's Lift

Seen in Aylesbury Vale Leisure Centre



# A walk around the Wendover Gap valley

*This walk will take about 2½ hours and is approximately 7½ miles long. I lost my pedometer on this walk so distances are approximate, but timings are accurate.*

**S**TARTING at Wendover Church [1] head eastwards along Church Lane and at the junction with Hale Road, carry straight on into Hogtrough Lane. This road soon becomes a rough track until, after 15 minutes from your start, you reach Boswells Farm [2]. Carry straight on again and when the road becomes a track, follow the bridal path (the right hand broad track). Ignore the footpath sign on the right.

This uphill track narrows to a rough path before emerging onto a concrete road. Turn right and after 18 minutes [from point 2] you will reach Rocky Lane [3]. Cross the road and turn left. After 200 yards turn right at a house called King's Ransom and 20 yards further on bear right through a kissing gate. With the hedge on your left, aim at 45° down the field to a hedged corner. On reaching that corner you will find a stile just to the left. (When I did the walk, the grass was so high it was difficult to see it.) [15 minutes from point 3].

Cross the stile [4] and follow the edge of the field with the hedge on your right, down the hill and up again and round to your right, keeping the hedge on your right. Where the hedge makes a sharp right turn, you will have an excellent view of this beautiful valley – a protected Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – which is to be decimated by the proposed HS2 railway.

The footpath comes out onto a track [5] where you turn left. Ignore the footpath sign to the right. [12 minutes from point 4]. Go down the track and where it reaches a road under a pylon, turn right. You are now just about in the middle of the proposed HS2

railway line, running above you on a small viaduct. Follow the road down to Wendover Dean Farm and turn right down Bowood Lane to the A413 [7]. [12 minutes from point 5].

Cross the road carefully and turn left for 20 yards where you will find a stile on your right. Cross this stile and immediately cross another into a field. Go straight ahead to a third and then a fourth stile by a white gate. The path winds up the slope to the right-hand corner of the field and a gate. Go through the gate and over the railway bridge and 20 yards on, turn sharp right into a field and keep to the right-hand edge of the field with the hedge and the railway on your right. After 120 yards [7], bear left 45° under a power line keeping the field boundary on your left. Go through a metal kissing gate and on up a field, with the hedge on your left, to another kissing gate at Coblers-hill Lane.

Cross the lane and go through yet another kissing gate onto a horse gallop track. Cross this into a well-marked footpath with fences on either side. After 100 yards turn right up another fenced path until you reach the farm road. Turn right down the hill to the racing stables at Russell Farm [8]. The road immediately bends to the left. At the stables keep straight on up the grass track for 20 yards then turn right and immediately left through a pedestrian gate onto a broad path with friendly horses grazing in paddocks to your right. Enjoy the view over the Wendover Valley. Over the next stile, follow the path into the wood but then ignore the footpath going off up the hill to the left. On exiting the wood try and follow the path across this cultivated field to a post in the far left hand corner. Cross a concrete road and go through a yard to Dunsmore Lane [9].

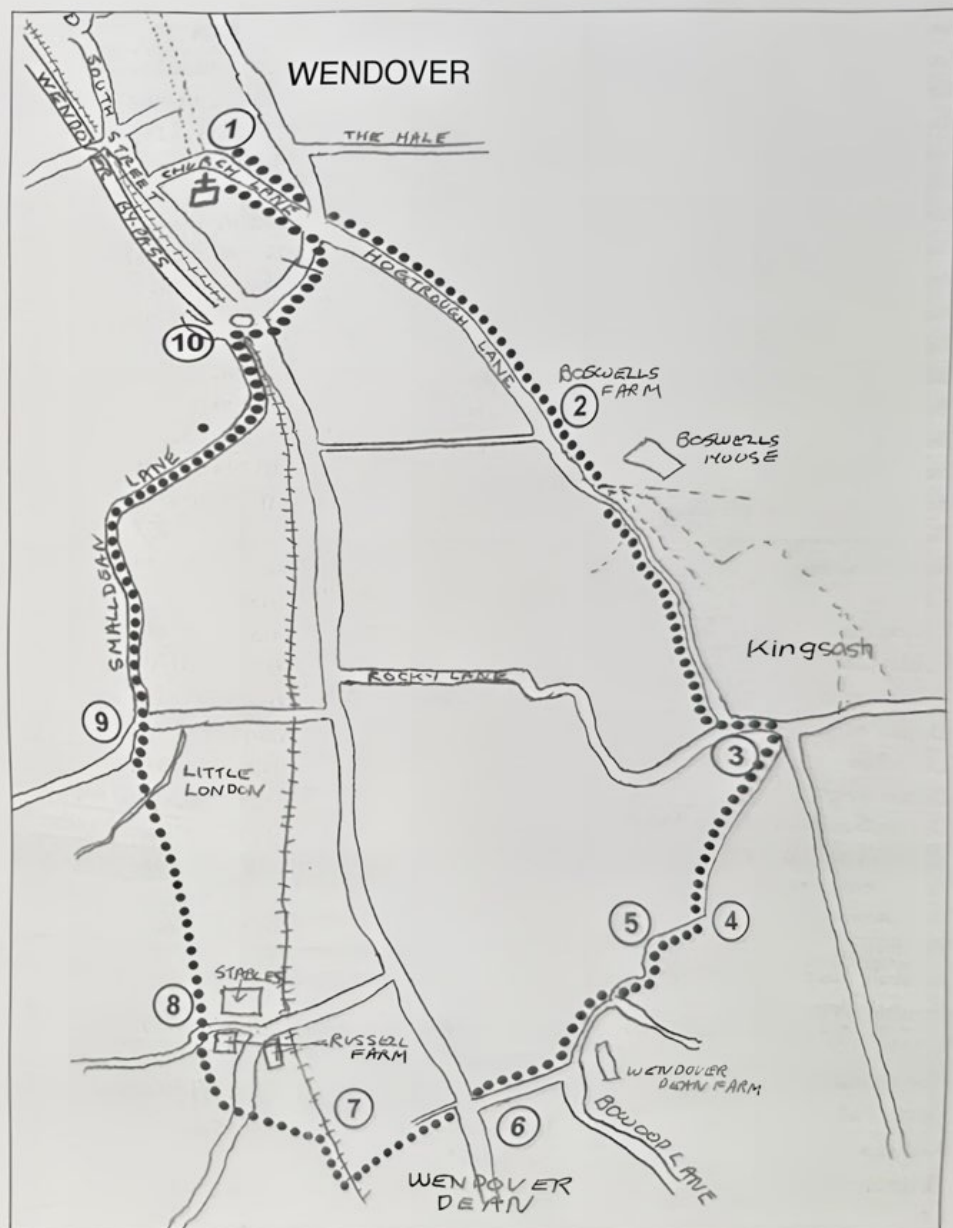
Follow the lane to the right and take great care on this short stretch of road. When it bends off to the right, keep straight on into



Smaldene Lane. Follow the lane as it wends its way for about a mile to the roundabout at the end of Wendover Bypass [10]. Go round the roundabout to the right and cross the A413 at the traffic island. Turn left and immediately

right down a road marked "Farm Access Only". Where the road is gated, go through the pedestrian gate and on down to the junction with Church Lane and turn left back to your car.

*James Adam*



# Useful telephone numbers

<i>Name</i>	<i>Contact/Line status</i>	<i>Telephone no.</i>
1st Aston Clinton Brownies	See below*	—
2nd Aston Clinton Brownies	See below*	—
Amersham Hospital		01494 434411
Anthony Hall (Bookings Sec)	Valerie Owen	01296 630303
Aston Clinton Badminton Club	Maureen Davison	07958 479690
Aston Clinton Baptist Church	Simon Downing	01296 631824
Aston Clinton Parish Council	Claire Hill	01296 631269
Aston Clinton School	Helen Shepherd	01296 630276
Aston Clinton U3A	John Bullard	01296 436403
Aston Clinton Youth Club	Brian Churchill	01296 630142
Aston Park Tennis Club	Luanda Bury	01296 630169
Aston Wine Club	Penny Ginger	01296 630383
Ballet, Tap and Jazz Classes	JoAnn Latus	07800 518654
Ballroom Dancing	Yvonne Domican	01296 630467
Baptist Church Hall	Valerie Owen	01296 630303
Bowls Club	Rosemary Stratfull	01296 631339
Buckland Bridge Club	Viv Barton	01296 630776
Buckland Village Hall (Bookings Sec)	Paula Graves	01296 630310
Buckland Parish Council	TBA	01296 626073
Buckland Society	Kelly Cornish	01296 632119
Childline		0800 1111
Citizens Advice Bureau		0870 126 4056
Cricket Club	Mike Parsonage	01296 631788
Crimestoppers		0800 555 111
Dentists' Surgery		08443 756336
Dial-a-Ride		01296 330088
Doctors' Surgery		01296 630241
Drayton Beauchamp Parish Meeting	Meryl Nodes	01296 630396
<b>Electricity emergency</b>		<b>0800 7838 838</b>
Environmental Health	Out of hours	01296 585093
Environmental Health	Helpline	01296 585605
Fly tipping	Hotline	0845 330 1856
Football: Aston Clinton FC	Mark Foster	07831 765738
Football: Aston Park FC	Ken Workman	01296 631504
Football: AC Colts	Ray Lucas	01296 630076
<b>Gas emergency</b>		<b>0800 111 999</b>
Green Park Life Saving Assocn	John Lessingham	01296 622613
Guides	See below*	—
Halton Singers	Cherry-Ann Evans	01296 622097

<i>Name</i>	<i>Contact/Line status</i>	<i>Telephone no.</i>
High Wycombe Hospital		01494 526161
Highways on Call	9am – 5pm	0845 230 2882
Highways on Call	Out of hours	01296 486630
Horticultural Society	Maureen Ridler	01296 633376
John Radcliffe Hospital		01865 741166
Ladies Group	Irene Wharton	01296 630195
<i>Local Councillors:</i>		
Bucks County	Bill Chapple OBE	01296 426814/382095
Aylesbury Vale District	Carole Paternoster	01296 630710/585717
Aylesbury Vale District	David Thompson	01296 425656
Aylesbury Vale District	Phil Yerby	07769 621507
Luncheon Club	Marion Richards	01296 630577
Marsworth Pre-School Group		07506 179658
MP for Aylesbury	David Lidington	020 7219 3432
Neighbour'd Watch Administrator	Helen Thomas	01296 396262
Neighbourhood Watch, Buckland	Edwin Domican	01296 630467
Neighbourhood Watch, DB	Elizabeth Dutton	01296 631613
NHS Direct		0845 4647
Old Friends	Selly Clarke	01296 630207
Police	Non emergency	101
Pre-School	Jo Johnson	01296 632672
RAF Association (local branch)	Selly Clarke	01296 630207
RAF Halton (Mon-Fri )	0800-1700hrs	01296 656367
RAF Halton	At all other times	01296 656211
Rector	Revd Elizabeth Moxley	01296 632488
Royal British Legion	Janet Tye	01296 434866
Scouts, Cubs and Beavers	David Wall	01296 632142
SSAFA Forces Help	Ann Smith	01296 631030
Stoke Mandeville Hospital		01296 315000
Tot Spot (Baptist Church)	Nicky Downing	01296 631824
Trading Standards		0845 4040506
Veterinary Centre		01296 630600
Women's Institute	Anne Floyd	01296 434372

\* To register an interest in joining the Brownies or Guides, visit [www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested)

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

## Police information

The Police Community Support Officers who have been assigned to the area are Mandy Aplin and Christina Pringle. Wendover Police Station is open to the public: Monday to Friday, 9am-1pm. The new non-emergency number is 101. For real emergencies the number is 999.



## And finally ... Farewell from Rev. Andrew

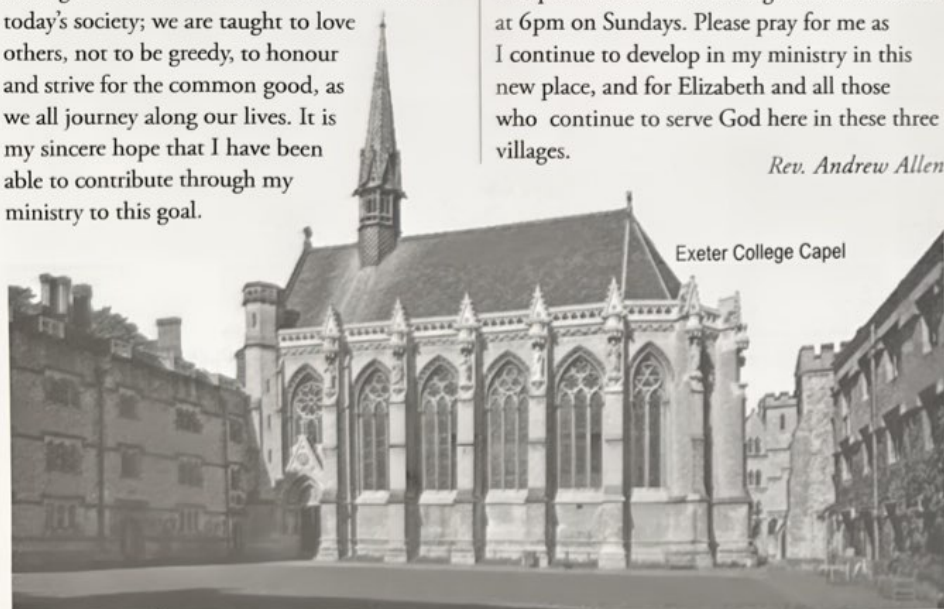
**M**Y theological training included studying Greek and Hebrew to be able to read the Bible in its original languages, history of the church, ethics, the intricacies of modern theological doctrine, and whether Mary was the Mother of God or just the Bearer of God. However since coming here as curate just over three years ago I've increased my knowledge of chair-moving, flower arranging, making models of churches out of boxes with upturned milk cartons as pulpits!

Ministry in the Church requires both areas of training: of having a theological underpinning of what it means to serve all of God's people and also being able to adapt to help with the practicalities of the Church. I have relished the opportunity to learn and develop into a priest in these three villages. Central to my understanding of the priesthood is serving all God's people and proclaiming the love of God; a message for everyone and not just those in the pews on Sundays. This is because the message of God's love makes God relevant to today's society; we are taught to love others, not to be greedy, to honour and strive for the common good, as we all journey along our lives. It is my sincere hope that I have been able to contribute through my ministry to this goal.

There are many people to whom I am indebted for their patience, open-mindedness and generosity of time, spirit, and skills. There will be an opportunity to thank them at my final service, on Sunday 18th August at St Michael's Church in Aston Clinton. This will be at 4pm, followed by tea in the churchyard if the weather is good. However, I do wish to record here my profound thanks to Elizabeth Moxley for all she has done over the past three years.

Curacies are the beginning of ordained ministry, and it is time for me to move on. I have been appointed Chaplain and Fellow of Exeter College in the University of Oxford and will take up this appointment on 1st September. Unlike for Carole or Elizabeth there will not be a special licensing service, but you are all most welcome to any of the services in the Chapel: Choral Evensong on Tuesdays and Fridays at 6.15pm and Choral Evensong/Choral Eucharist at 6pm on Sundays. Please pray for me as I continue to develop in my ministry in this new place, and for Elizabeth and all those who continue to serve God here in these three villages.

*Rev. Andrew Allen*



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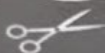
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