



Damage at the River Thames

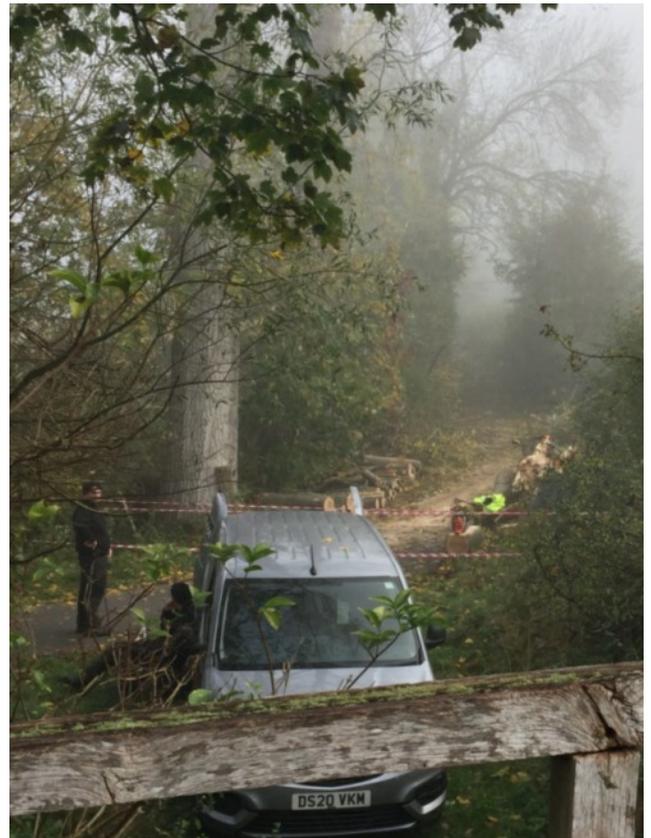
On Sunday 31st October there was mayhem at Shifford Lock. At 9.30 very high winds, a tornado?, struck the area. The wind was swirling round first one way and then the other. After half an hour there was total calm. Emerging from the house at Shifford Lock the temporary lock keeper saw that he was totally blocked in. Eighteen trees had fallen blocking the river and the tow path. The following statement appeared on the Environment Agency website:

"Shifford Lock: 31st October 11.35 Due to fallen trees the River and Thames Path are closed at Shifford."

The fallen trees were due to be felled, but were in effect an accident waiting to happen.

The first photograph, taken on Monday, shows a fallen tree blocking the road to the lock. The second photograph, taken on Tuesday, shows workers attempting to clear the tree away. Unfortunately we could not get photographs of the lock as the paths on both sides of the river had been taped off.

Andrew Long



Voices Donation Appeal

We hope you have enjoyed the editions of 'Voices' over the last year. Voices is distributed to over 600 households in Aston, Cote, Shifford and Chimney and brings local news, views and events. An on-line version can be viewed at www.astonoxon-pc.gov.uk This is brought to you absolutely free six times a year and contains many of the contributions sent in by you the readers.

Our fundraising events, advertising revenue and grants help cover the £4000 annual printing costs but we also greatly rely on your donations. We're hoping that you will be even more generous in this appeal as you have been in the past. So before you forget why not use the envelope enclosed with this edition of 'Voices' to give a donation which you can drop into either Aston Community Shop, Penny Black House (the old post office) both in The Square, or 11 Southlands.

The Aston Community Shop have also kindly provided the ability for you to make a donation by card or cash through their till using the 'Voices' tab. Or you can simply make a secure donation right now by bank transfer to Aston Newsletter, Sort code 09-01-51, Account No. 44115506.

Happy reading: *Richard Haines, Voices Treasurer, Aston Newsletter*



Launch a Memory Wells-Next-The Sea (Norfolk)

My husband Jack is a twin. Sadly, his brother Jesse passed away in 2003 and approaching their 60th Birthday Party was an emotional time. The party was shared with our daughter Zoe who was 30.

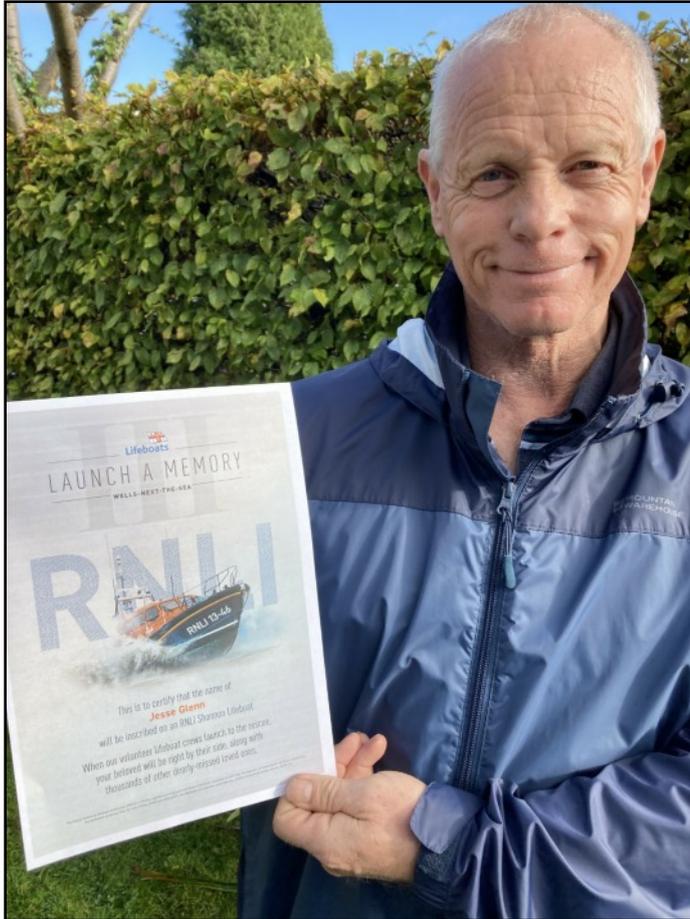
In order to mark the celebratory moment, we decided to donate to the RNLI's Launch a Memory, in Jesse's name (As children the sea was a fascination living so far inland). For events like this the RNLI have a Giving in Memory Team. They are building a Shannon class lifeboat that will bear loved one's names – and save lives at sea for generations to come.

Mike is the dedicated boat builder and he reports on his work at each stage. The Shannon will hopefully be finished in mid to late 2022, and Mike reckons he has the best job in the world. He loves to see his finished boats heading off to a station to begin the long journey of life saving. He is excited to report that there are thousands of names ready to be printed into the RNLI logo of the side of the boat.

Everyone at the All-Weather Lifeboat Centre and Training College in Poole hopes they'll be able to officially welcome Jesse's Lifeboat into the RNLI fleet with a traditional naming ceremony and launch a memorable event by the end of 2022 (Covid-19 rules have yet to be finalised).

We have monthly updates to keep us in touch with this marvellous organisation and their work.

Caron Glenn



Jack Glenn

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Dear Friends,

I would like to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for all the help and support you showed to Eric during Val's stay in hospital earlier this year. It was a very difficult time for him being without Val, he was at a loss and became more confused to the point it was evident he couldn't cope even though meals were provided by the lovely ladies in the village and their neighbours looking in on him and taking him to Witney to visit Val. Eric was then admitted to Witney Hospital himself on the same ward as Val, then they went to Freeland House whilst waiting for a care package to enable them to come home. Unfortunately after three and a half weeks of being there Eric as you know sadly passed away on 22 August with Val at his side.

The messages of sympathy that we have received have been overwhelming, even though I have been visiting Aston all my life I wasn't aware that Eric had touched so many lives with his chats and humour. He was a true gentleman in every way.

I would like to thank everyone who attended his funeral, all of our family, especially Val, were in awe of the amount of people paying their respect to him. Also thank you for the donations made at the funeral and online, a total of £600 has been donated to Cancer Research UK in Eric's memory.

I personally would like to thank Martin and Hilary Bowley, Lucy and Mike Palmer, Gill and Andrew Long, Sylvia Brown, Liz Hook, Marilyn Ordish, Irene Beadle, Liz Harper, Carolyn Simmonds, Andy and Josh from Aston Repair Depot and all of the lovely W.I Ladies. I don't know what I would have done without you all, thank you.

Kind Regards

Sheila Richards – Val Judge's sister

Dear Editors

Thank you to everyone for all the food donated at Harvest to the Witney Besom food store.

Roger Crossley

Editors Note: The Besom in Witney helps people make a difference. It provides a bridge between those who want to give time, money, things or skills and those who are in need. It ensures what is given is used effectively.

The service it provides is free.

Editorial

Gardening. In this edition Kirsty Jackson has written the first piece for her "Garden Ramblings" column. We also include an allotments update from Claire Hill. On the subject of gardening we have been asked about the possibility of a gardening club. Standlake and Bampton have one and there may be some mileage in a gardening club for our parish!

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations - will be taking place in early June 2022. In the January edition of Voices we hope to give an outline of what might be happening in the parish.

Letters to the editors. We are always pleased when letters are submitted for publication. A copy of Voices is delivered to all the homes in the parish and so letters are a good way of communicating to a wide audience. However we received a letter about parking in the parish which we are unable to print. Unfortunately the letter was not signed and had no address!

Photographs and articles appearing in Voices are subject to copyright. Should you wish to copy anything in the last edition please contact the editors.

Editors: Richard Haines and Andrew Long

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News from Aston & Cote CE Primary School

It's hard to believe that we've been back at school for two months already. Class routines have been established, new topics have been started, new friendships have been made, new members of staff and children have been welcomed. And slowly but surely, school life is beginning to feel a lot more normal – the children can mix with their friends from other classes at playtime and lunchtime; buddies from Year 6 are supporting the children in Windmill 2 at lunchtime; after-school clubs have resumed, providing the children with a variety of enrichment activities; we have taken part in our first inter-school tournament of the year (and we won it!); swimming lessons have resumed; trips and enrichment activities have taken place. It has also been wonderful to welcome parents back onto the school grounds at drop off and pick up times. It was fantastic to be able to celebrate Harvest with a service at St James'. Although parents were unable to join us, they enjoyed seeing the children's songs, poems and stories about "Growing our Talents" which were posted on Class Dojo.



Baking welsh cakes at Gogges Farm

huge issue in our school (in the end of year pupil survey in July 2021, 97% of children felt that if bullying occurs, teachers are good at resolving it), we are keen to do everything that we can to equip the children with the skills needed to tackle bullying if they come across it in the future.

Oatlands and Kingsway classes thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Cogges Farm where they learnt all about everyday life in Victorian times. They baked Welsh cakes, fed the animals, did the washing and learnt how flour was made. Some of the children even had time to explore the dairy.



Learning about Tudor times

Westerleigh class had a special Tudor visitor who taught them all about life in Tudor England. They got to try on different Tudor clothing items as well as handle different weapons and artefacts and learn their purpose. They also learnt all about traditional Tudor food, cruel punishments and how to greet people based on their class. They even managed to play a few Tudor games. It was a fantastic day which really brought their learning to life!

Fiona Taylor – Head teacher

We are very pleased to have been chosen as one of the first schools in the country to take part in the KiVa Anti-bullying Programme. The aims of the programme are to prevent new bullying cases from emerging, to tackle bullying cases effectively and to reduce the negative effects caused by bullying. Although we do not feel that bullying is a

Sports News from Aston & Cote CE Primary School

On a hot and sunny September afternoon, our Year 4 girls' football team took part in a tournament against 11 other schools from the West Oxfordshire area. The girls had been playing football with each other at lunchtimes for the past year and were looking forward to the tournament. The games started off well with three wins in a row, with Bella and Georgia getting the goals for us. After a tight 0-0 game which saw some fearless defending from Jess, Seren, and Kacie, a 3-0 win saw the girls finish top of our group and qualify for the final against Ducklington.



The winning girls team

The final was a very back and forth game, but nothing got past our defence, and after a winding run from Bella we found ourselves 1-0 up. The final whistle went soon after and the girls were thrilled to have won their first football tournament.

The girls were a delight to take to the tournament, they were great at encouraging each other and working as a team. On top of this they showed great sportsmanship towards the other teams and officials. All in all, it was a fantastic start to the sporting season here at Aston.

Sam Hook

Produce Show

The Produce Show which should have taken place on Sunday 12th September was cancelled. Despite all the hard work from Caron Glenn and her helpers the show did not take place.

The reason for the cancellation was the lack of entries, especially in the fruit and vegetable classes. This may have been due in part to the terrible growing season, very sharp frosts in early spring etc. The last day for the return of entry forms was Friday. However insufficient entries had been received which meant the show was unviable. Shame. The show has been a great village event and many of us were disappointed, having made and grown things which could not be shown. Maybe next year?

Andrew Long



Advertising in this Edition

Building Services

Abbey Decorators
Cotswold Kiwi
Drew Warren
S.J. Cooper
Wayne Austin

Food and Drink

Patrick Strainge butchers
Aston Community Shop

Garden Services

Arbocare Tree Surgery
Cotswold Garden Designer
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Halls for hire

Aston Village Hall
Fellowship Centre

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Karen Miller massage
Martin Drew chiroprapist
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Roger Bradley Fitness
Sandalwoods skin clinic

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Carpet Options

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Cloud Ten cat hotel
OXK9 Dog walking

Services

Aston Repair Depot
Catrin Russ Music Services
Day & Nightcare Assistance
Jequier Newitt insurance
Nick Nurden – Motor Body Repairs
Paul Lock Photography
Peter Smith funeral directors
Vicky's After School Club
Firewood for sale

Village organizations

Aston & Cote Badminton
Aston & Cote Pre-School

Local Authority

Aston and Cote P.C.
W.O.D.C. Steve Good & Lysette Nicholls

Nick Nurden Motor Body Repairs

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Quizzing for a Good Cause

The TEAR Fund Big Quiz Night is back this year and will be held in the Fellowship Centre on the 20th of November at 7:30pm.



2019 TEAR fund quiz

Unfortunately, it was a casualty of Covid last year, but was last held in 2019 when over 70 people ranging from regular quizzers to complete beginners enjoyed an evening of light hearted quizzing while raising much-needed funds for projects tackling poverty and climate change around the world.

‘Our annual Big Quiz Night is a great opportunity to get together with others and put your knowledge to the test,’ said Tearfund’s Head of Church and Supporter Engagement, Ruth Tormey. ‘Now in its fourth year, we are hoping the quiz will hit £1 million as quizzers from across the UK join us and help some of the world’s most disadvantaged people. In particular, we want to support families who have been made more vulnerable to disasters like floods and diseases in places such as Burkina Faso.’

There will be a half time break when soft drinks and snacks will be available for purchase. If you would like to bring your own alcohol then please feel free to do so!

A minimum donation of £6 for a team of four is requested and entry forms are available from The Aston Community Shop, the Barnett’s at 60 Cote Road and the Long’s at Penny Black House in the Square.

Tom England

Saving the planet one sandwich bag at a time!

- Place your sandwich or roll in the centre and the fold over 4 times, secure with the Velcro.



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Aston on the Telly

Imagine the surprise at the village shop when on Thursday 21st October there was a phone call from South Today. They were doing a piece about the response of rural communities to the closure of pubs and shops. The White House at Bladon and the Aston Community Shop were chosen as examples of successful community initiatives.

The two enterprises were linked by the Plunkett Foundation, an Oxfordshire charity based in Woodstock.

Shortly after the 'phone call the film crew arrived and Brennan Nicholls began to interview Lesley Brown and John Ordish, who were the volunteers on duty at the time. Both gave a really good account of the role of our community shop.

Why not view the piece on YouTube. The link is <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2E3DZqdDZg>

Andrew Long



Aston History Group

Our first meeting since March 2020 was held at the end of September. This was a social event, instead of the usual rather formal talk and allowed members to meet up again after the restrictions of Covid. A presentation reviewing the group's 25 year history was supported by a display of archive photographs and original sketches used in the recently published parish history. Everyone joined in a quiz identifying 20 objects of historical interest. These included a balalaika, a fleam and shove ha'penny board. A glass of wine with light refreshments completed a very pleasant evening and made a strong start to renewed interest in the group's activities. We welcome all visitors to our meetings – just come along on the last Thursday of the month. Contact details below.

Our October meeting involved a swift change of plan. The expected speaker was unwell on the day and at very short notice group member, Trevor Jackson, came to the rescue with a talk that he had prepared during the first lockdown. He recalled a brief period from his service in the RAF during the 1991 Gulf War. Trevor was specially selected to serve as the Personal Assistant to the Air Commander (Air Vice-Marshal Wratten) and latterly the Commander British Forces Middle East (Lieutenant General Sir Peter de la Billiere). His duties included organising visiting programmes for a royal visit, governmental visits and visits by high ranking officers.

Next meeting:
November 25th (7.30 pm at The Fellowship Centre, Cote Road)
'The Poppy' – A talk by Bill King

Martin Bowley



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The Pre-School is safely enclosed within our fenced outdoor play area in the school grounds. Pre-School children also have daily access to our stunning new Early Years Unit in school.

For further information or to arrange a visit please contact:

Lesley Brooks: 01993 850435
office.3120@aston-and-cote.oxon.sch.uk

Community Trust

Village Hall Refresh Continues

Improvements to Aston & Cote Village Hall continue, with the installation of a new floor and blinds in the main hall. Users may recall issues with the old wooden floor rising due to the level of moisture in the hall. We have had the floor base improved and the new wood-effect vinyl planks should not suffer the same problems. We've also replaced the very old curtains with new blinds and given the whole room a lick of paint. What a difference it has made.



The refreshed village hall

Saturday Morning Parking

We are aware of concerns about the volume of parked cars on Cote Road on Saturday mornings and are working with Aston Youth FC and other hall users to address this. As a short-term measure, overflow parking has been added in a roped-off area adjacent to the pitches. At the same time, we are looking at longer-term, economical and environmentally sound solutions to provide more parking, even though this is only needed one morning each week. We believe that some of the pressure could be taken off the site with a little help from visitors. Please could we ask parents of children who live in Aston & Cote who are attending football or ballet classes and are able, to arrive on foot or by bike (please chain bikes to the fence of the playground). Aston is a small village the houses furthest from the hall are no more than a mile away – it's a short walk or cycle that will benefit everyone.

Plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

An extended bank holiday, from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June 2022, will give our community the opportunity to come together to celebrate 70 years of service by Her Majesty, the Queen. The village hall and recreation grounds are booked, and Emma Hunter is taking the lead on the event. You can contact her on WhatsApp (07849016388) or bsahemma@hotmail.com. A sign-up list for volunteers can be found in Aston Stores.

Christmas Bingo

We are pleased to say that COVID-19 permitting, Christmas Bingo will return to Aston & Cote on Friday 26 November 2021, starting at 7pm. Children are welcome. Just turn up – we hope to see you there.

Paul Farrow on behalf of Aston & Cote Community Trust

Waiting

"You are twenty-seventh in the queue"
How familiar this telephone response has become these days.

So while you are hanging on to the end of the telephone waiting to speak to someone how do you pass the time? If you have a hands free phone there is a great deal of scope for ingenuity. I started by playing computer games, graduated to cooking a shepherd's pie – including peeling the potatoes- and am bracing myself to defrost the fridge next time!

Once the waiting time gets shorter attention becomes focussed on the phone and by the time progress has made it to single figures excitement mounts like waiting for that last number in Bingo.

Waiting can fall into many categories: Queuing at supermarkets and petrol stations; waiting in A&E; waiting for documents to arrive in the post. Moving into the marathon class we come to waiting for an operation such as a new hip or knee.

Waiting times of different lengths could be classified and graded:-

Grade 1: Easy: queuing at supermarkets and possibly at petrol stations.

Grade 2: Moderate: trying to contact your local surgery

Grade 3: Severe: A&E

Grade 4: Postal category waiting for- passports, driving licences, pension's payments...

I wonder if one could get a B.Tech qualification in waiting?

These days the fashionable thing to do is fundraising so why not have Sponsored Waits? Instead of sponsoring someone by the mile it could be by the hour or even days or weeks for the really titanic waits?

Waiting has become a national way of life. It deserves its own question on official forms.

"OCUPATION WAITING"

The spontaneity has gone out of our lives and the whole nation is holding its breath.

"You are twenty seventh in the queue"
Hang in there!

Brenda Smith

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Bridge Repairs

It is good to see that after many years of damage to the culvert bridge parapets and railings at the Yelford end of the Cote Mile have eventually been repaired by OCC Highways. It is a pity that the same cannot be said of the culvert bridge parapets and railings on the back road to Cote from Bull St sometimes known as Beddles Turn.



New railings at Cote Mile



Beddles Turn in September 2012

repaired in autumn 2012 and indeed Voices featured a photo of its shiny white railings in the November 2012 edition. Unfortunately new damage occurred within a short period of time and subsequent damage over the following nine years have led to what we see now.



Beddles Turn now

Wouldn't it be nice to see those shiny railings again instead of the variety of 'temporary' plastic barriers and hazard tape?

Richard Haines

500 Club Winners

September 2021 Draw

No. 176	40	E. Smith
No. 256	30	M. Nash
No. 43	20	A. Hopcroft
No. 229	10	S. Buxton
No. 309	10	D. Hill
No. 170	5	E. Beckinsale
No. 27	5	D. Flower
No. 193	5	R. Lucas

October 2021

No. 436	40	L. Collins
No. 157	30	R. La Forte
No. 305	20	A. Clark
No. 254	10	K. Stay
No. 122	10	I. Dunstan
No. 182	5	A. Scerri-Devonald
No. 412	5	D. Radburn
No. 445	5	H. Wheaton

Want to have the chance to be a 500 club winner? Please contact us on 500ClubAston@gmail.com or the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/AstonCote/>

ASTON & COTE BADMINTON CLUB

We are a friendly club which would welcome new members aged 15 years onwards. We meet at the Village Hall on Thursday evenings 7.45 - 9.15pm.

Annual Membership:
Adults: £6.00
Juniors(15 - 18): £2.50

Games Fees per (evening):
Adults: £2.00



Nature Natters

BOGOFF

On a warm humid night, a garden snail sets off in search of a mate. Travelling at about two metres an hour it can only cover a small area, so it is a matter of luck if it manages to find a partner. When two snails do meet, they circle each other and eventually come together. Then they fire 'love-darts' into each other, and the dance becomes serious. But the question is 'Which is the male and which the female'. The answer is both because snails are hermaphrodites.

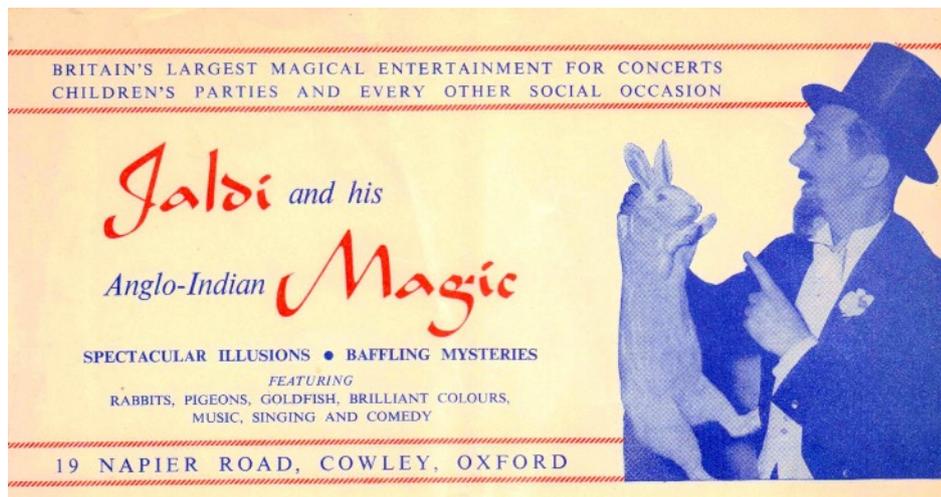


Hermaphrodite isn't one of the options open to humans who feel they are on the LGBTQ+ spectrum because it means that an animal is anatomically both male and female at the same time. What it means to a snail is that it doubles the chance of finding a mate, and when they mate, the female parts of both snails are fertilised. So, it's more like the sales pitch of 'Buy one get one for free' or BOGOFF.

We are familiar with plants being hermaphrodite, as most flowers carry both male and female parts, but some plants have separate male and female flowers. A good example is maize, where the male flower is the feathery bit on the top of the plant and the female flowers produce the cobs in the leaf axils lower down. It is often wind pollinated plants that have distinct male and female flowers, and the one to look out for in the winter months is the hazel. The catkins are the male flowers and if you tap a ripe catkin, you can see the pollen float off. The female flowers are little bright red tufts on the branches, and when pollen reaches them, they develop into the nuts. Hazel flowers are the earliest and best sign that spring is coming.

James Gray

Jaldi and his Magic



What has Jaldi to do with Aston you may wonder. Jaldi aka Archie Johnson was born in 1906 in a cottage in Ham Lane in what is now part of number one, Wheelwright Court. Archie had an interesting life as I discovered when reading his memoirs.

Sadly for Archie his father died at the age of 39 in 1921 when Archie was 15. Times were hard and to support his mother and sister Archie joined the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry as a bandboy. From Cowley he went to Ireland where he developed his musical skills, during what was very difficult time there, and then to Germany and finally to India. While in India he left the army and worked for the Brooke Bond Tea Company before becoming disillusioned and returning to England in 1930.

Back at Aston, he realised there were no jobs except for farm work and he moved to Oxford to live with his aunt, where he got a job as a bus conductor. During this time he played in a dance band and at one concert they were short of turns so Archie told a few stories in an "Aston country yokel dialect". This went down so well that he found more stories and built up an act. He also learned some Billy Bennet and Stanley Holloway monologues and was soon invited to entertain at dinners and social events.

From the busses he moved to Morris Motors and then on to cooking at a Witney School. By this time he had his own Punch and Judy show and a few magic tricks so that he could entertain at children's parties. But it was "spectacular magic" that he really wanted to develop. He obtained a copy of "Secrets of Famous Illusionists" and was soon making his own magic apparatus. He was ambitious and wanted to progress, but didn't know how. The answer came when he went to a performance by "DANTE" the world famous magician at The New Theatre. Archie went backstage to ask for advice. Dante made suggestions and as Archie says, "I went in as Archie Johnson and came out Jaldi the Anglo- Indian illusionist"

In 1941 he was conscripted into the army where he soon rose through the ranks and combined his army duties with entertaining. He not only performed his magic but organised entertainment and in 1945 he was in London producing shows. After demobilisation he came back to Oxford and continued chopping people's heads off and sawing ladies in half. But he owned and ran a very successful chip shop in the Cowley Road and in 1960 he put an advert in a theatrical newspaper and sold all his magical apparatus and thus the curtain came down on an interesting career!

Andrew Long

You can also find
Voices
on-line
On the home page
of the Parish Website
**www.astonoxon-
pc.gov.uk**

Well spotted Podrick

It's not often that one of our canine residents becomes an overnight social media sensation. For dalmatian Podrick, or Pod to his friends, who lives in Aston this happened when his owner Jack Cooper posted a photo on Twitter.



Podrick and the mouse



Podrick and Jack

the mouse closer and Jack took the photo.

Having posted it on Twitter the photo was shared 18,400 times and received just under 220,000 likes.

So has this new found fame changed the 38kg Pod? Not at all! He is still as boisterous as ever and enjoys playing with other dogs on his walks, getting treats and lots of cuddles.

Living up to his breed -Well spotted Podrick!

Richard Haines

(photos courtesy of Jack Cooper)

Books for Christmas

Another festive season, once again different for all of us and hopefully better than last year so that we can spend it with family, friends and loved ones. And buy books as presents!

So starting with fiction, *The Couple at No 9* is an unputdownable and nail-biting story, a well plotted tale with a well crafted plot. If crime isn't your cup of tea, how about *Anxious People* by Fredrick Backman (who wrote the amazing *A Man Called Ove*). Not your typical hostage situation- one incompetent bank robber and eight disgruntled strangers! Graham Norton has penned a bestseller called *Holding*, soon to be a TV drama set in glorious West Cork. If you prefer something lighter, how about *The Christmas Bookshop* by Jenny Colgan? A feel-good festive novel.

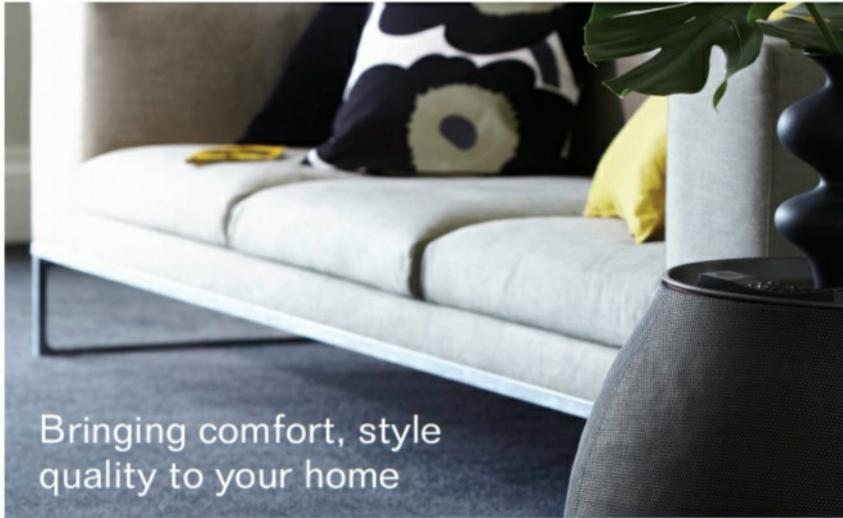
As for non-fiction, Billy Connolly's new book, *Windswept and Interesting* is a funny, frank and full autobiography. Celebrating the Seasons With the Yorkshire Shepherdess is about Farming, Family and Delicious Recipes to Share by Amanda Owen. She shares funny and charming stories about life with her family. If you're a Royalist, how about *A Queen For All Seasons, A Celebration of Queen Elizabeth II on her Platinum Jubilee*, introduced and edited by Joanna Lumley. *Leap of Faith* is a new autobiography by the legendary Frankie Dettori and apparently as gripping as any Dick Francis thriller. For the small people in the family and aimed at 2-5 years, *Greg the Sausage Roll, Santa's Little Helper* by Mark and Roxanne Hoyle – a spectacular sausage roll-ercoaster of an Christmas adventure. For young adults, *The Christmasaurus and the Naughty List* by Tom Fletcher is a story about mischievous kids learning the error of their ways and sharing the true spirit of Christmas. *Guinness World Records 2022* is always a winner for inquisitive minds. *Gangsta Granny Strikes Again* is the new sequel to *Gangsta Granny* which sold in its millions for David Walliams.

Lastly *You Are A Champion: How To Be the Best You Can Be* by the inspirational

Marcus Rashford would make a great stocking-filler.

Stephanie Blakey





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Cruising

At long last we were able to go on holiday, albeit with certain restrictions, so we decided to go on a cruise of the British Isles. Once we reached Southampton we were required to queue to have a covid test and then wait again for the results. This took longer than the drive down. Thankfully we both passed ok so were able to board, however, there was one coach load of about 50 that got turned away as someone had tested positive and they were all sent back to Yorkshire.

At last we were on board and whilst walking around the ship we were required to wear a face mask and there was hand sanitiser everywhere. All was going well until on the second night when the Captain announced that someone was ill and was going to be air lifted off. As it was going to be from the stern, passengers in a few cabins were stopped from returning to them and some were even asked to vacate theirs. We just happened to be in one of the out of bound cabins so we had to stay for another drink which was not difficult for us. Never did find out what the passenger had wrong with them but it must have been serious.

After then it all was good with loads of lovely food and plenty of drinks. Our trip included a drinks package which restricted each of us to 15 drinks a day so my husband did his best! The cruise took us passed the Channel Islands and as far as the Bay of Biscay the captain said he was following the sun for us.

After three days at sea on a zig zag route we finally reached Belfast where most disembarked and made their way to the Titanic museum and other sites. The museum was amazing certainly worth the visit. It was then all back to the ship and I was glad that there are no icebergs in sight! Whilst on board there was plenty to do and see especially as they had laid on Harry Rednapp, Lulu and Katherine Jenkins over the next three nights which were all very enjoyable and amazing. On our final day we docked in Portland and were able to take the shuttle bus to Weymouth which was lovely as the sun was shining and was a great way to end our cruise. Roll on next year for more cruising.

Lesley Brown

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Keeping Fit

Congratulations to all our readers who have recently taken part in running and walking events including the London marathon, Great North and South runs, 24 hour Endure event, Oxford half marathon and park runs, to name but a few. It has been a joy for many to again be able to take part in actual as well as virtual events. On this page and the next we include articles from two Aston residents who took part in some of the more unusual events. Why not get involved?

Don't forget our own Aston, Cote, Chimney and Shifford Runners, Ramblers and Riders Group. (www.facebook.com/groups/793397554943309/). Also many local running clubs are keen to gain new members and get people fit. For example, Eynsham Road Runners (www.eynshamroadrunners.org.uk), "Coach to 5k" programme designed especially for new and returning runners, helped by qualified English Athletics Leaders starting on Saturday 8th January 2022.

Editors

Five Day Coast Path Ultra Extreme



Robert Driver on the Coast Path Ultra Extreme

I stood with my back to Land's End, looked east and wondered how long it would take me to run the 60 kilometres of the South West Coast Path which made up day one of the Asic's Coast Ultra Extreme. Until recently ultra-running races in excess of marathon distance was largely the preserve of fell runners in the Yorkshire Dales and the Lake District. Today it is one of the fastest growing sports in the UK with a recent study reporting a 345% increase in participation over the past ten years. Races tend to be off-road allowing participants an opportunity to see some of the wilder, hillier and less-visited parts of the country.

The race lasted five days and took me in a 215 kilometre loop around Cornwall, starting and finishing at Land's End. After my 60 kilometre opener came an 'easy' 27k before finishing with three consecutive marathons. For those unfamiliar with the South West Coast Path, it is not a stroll along the promenade. The path veers continuously from cliff-top down to sandy beach, and back up again. Whilst running was one of the few things we were allowed to do in lockdown, the flat roads around Aston were not ideal preparation and training also entailed thousands of walking lunges around the garden. Unlike a road marathon where everyone is glued to their watch, no-one was worried about time or personal bests. It was all about the challenge, the views and the camaraderie and this made for a very enjoyable experience.

Having run across deserted beaches, climbed on my hands and knees over rocks and even waded through an estuary so it was that five days later I found myself back where I started, exhausted but blister-free. As I looked out to sea and enjoyed my finisher's Cornish pasty, I was already thinking about where my next challenge would take me.

Robert Driver

Guinness World Record



Susan and Rob, inset Guinness World Record medal

I have done a few virtual runs in the last 20 months but when I saw this one I felt I had to do it. Virtual running a 10k Guinness World Record Attempt. This was a worldwide challenge which had to be completed within the same 24 hour period.

I told a running friend Rob and he said he was up for it too, so on the 19th September 2021 we met in Witney and ran our 10k. We had a UK time slot to fit in with the Guinness rules. We then had to submit our proof of running; we used Strava. This then had to be verified by Guinness Records and after a two week period we received the following from the organisers, Virtual Runners:-

“Guinness World Records has now official confirmed it. Together we broke the world record! Thanks to the help of so many runners. In total, there were about 40,000 successful participants. Due to the strict technical requirements, Guinness World records confirmed 25,523! This worldwide event was a unique experience and has brought the running community together even more.”

It was confirmed that Rob and I were part of the 25,523, so we are both now Guinness World Record holders!

Susan Haines



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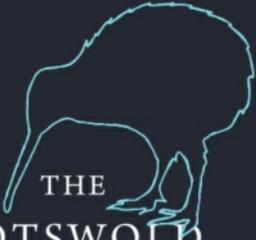
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FACS News

It's a pleasure to introduce myself Kate Heeley, as the new chair of Friends of Aston and Cote Primary School, - Kate Norton stepped down in October to embark on a new path with the School Governors. We wish her every success in the future and thank her for all her hard work during her time with FACS. I'd also like to give you an insight as to what we do and also our vision for the future.

The children have been incredibly busy producing their fantastic art work for their Christmas cards along with personalised tea towels too. We have raised funds this year by again giving children a tube of Smarties. When the Smarties have been eaten the tubes are then returned full of change (or notes). We have a donation website should you wish to donate anytime, and online shopping donation options. We were also incredibly lucky to be awarded a grant of £600 pounds, which will be helping school with school trips and resources. We have a fantastic line up of fundraising events planned which will all be in line with the current and up-to date Covid guidance at the time.

We are excited to be holding our Christmas raffle, details are to be confirmed at our next meeting and we encourage everyone to take part and help raise vital funds for our school. Equally if any local businesses or companies no matter how big or small, have a donation of a raffle prize then please don't hesitate to contact us on the email address or telephone number below, this would be very much appreciated and all companies will gain acknowledgement and recognition in our advertising in the form of our newsletter or signage, as a way of thanking you and promoting your business. I would love to see FACS, the local community, Parish and local businesses come together in celebrating our community as one from the youngest to the oldest members, and how we all pull together for one another. I would like to emphasise how welcome you all are to join us at our meetings, there is no pressure to help at events, be involved in any way shape or form unless you would like to be! just knowing we have your support and your interest in the hard work we put into, helping to provide extra activities and funds for the children is more than enough to us.

Please get in touch to say hello and join in on the fun and see how rewarding our fundraising can be and how invaluable it is. I look forward to hearing from you, stay safe and well, God Bless.

*Kate Heeley: Chair of Friends of Aston and Cote C of E Primary School.
Telephone: 07492065602 Email: facstaston@gmail.com*



**ASTON & COTE
ALLOTMENT NEWS**

Hello Allotmenters,

A few updates for you all, the trustees have agreed to an increase of £1 per half plot i.e.£11 for half a plot and £22 per full plot.

The new signs are being printed this week for both Aston & Cote.

We are working with the Parish Council on updating our page on their website.

We will add the new constitution to this page when it is completed.

Gentle reminder to ensure that your plots are always well maintained.

The new day centre would like to thank you all for your fresh produce donations.

Over the next few months, we will be clearing the field in Aston to carve out new half allotment plots. If anyone would like an allotment in either Aston or Cote please contact Claire at acallotments@gmail.com

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Day Centre

Latest Update on the opening of the New Aston & Cote Day Centre.

Preparations are going very well for the opening of the Centre.

The opening date is Wednesday, 24th, November. (This is a provisional date depending on government guidelines nearer the time) Confirmation of this date will be given out nearer the time on social media also in the window display at the Aston Community Shop. The venue is the Fellowship Centre, (Cote Road) Aston, opening from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

The centre is for the over 65's of Aston & Cote and the surrounding villages. It is a place where friendships can be made and old ones renewed. There will be a choice of activities every week, all designed to stimulate and encourage, like the art and craft table. There will be various board games, such as scrabble, dominoes, cards and there will be a seated fun exercise session for those that would like to participate. There will be regular quizzes and games such as skittles and boccia, members can select music of their choice with the help of the Alexia device.

Lunch will be served at 12 noon which will be a freshly cooked two course meal, and we will all sit together to enjoy. Musical entertainment will be provided by various musicians, occasionally there will also be visits from the local school and pre-school children. I have arranged for a local nail bar lady to come in to do manicures regularly and also a chiropodist who be coming in every six weeks. Every week the centre will have an Information Hub which will provide information, leaflets, contact numbers that might be useful to the members. I have also managed to get some "samples" of equipment designed to make life easier around the home, like special cutlery, cups, kettle stand, grab handles pill boxes and such like if members want to try, also representatives from organisations such as AGEUK Oxfordshire will be coming in regularly to give out information relevant to the members. The local Community Police Officer has agreed to visit us regularly, to give information out and to advise/answer questions that anyone might have.

It would be great to involve some "local" musicians coming in to entertain us so please get in touch if you are a musician and this is something you would like to do.

If you know of someone that is feeling lonely, isolated, and anxious and is struggling especially after the last 17 months that we have all gone through and would really benefit from this facility, please let them know or contact me for a chat.

If you think you might have some spare time to come and volunteer, then again please get in touch, there will be a volunteer rota put together monthly depending on each volunteer's availability.

For more information, please get in touch with me, (Karen) on 01993851506. Mobile: 07887974468. E-mail: target.meuk@gmail.com

Karen Stay



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Recipe

Lemon Chicken

This is a quick and simple way to cheer up chicken.

Ingredients (for 2)

4-6 chicken pieces, thighs (on the bone)
Juice of 1 large lemon
2 cloves of garlic, crushed to a paste with
1 tsp salt
2.5 cm knob of fresh root ginger, peeled
and grated
1 tbsp flour
1 tbsp oil
Oil for frying

Method

Place the chicken in a shallow dish. Mash together the other ingredients and rub into the chicken. Leave for 15 minutes.

Heat 1 cm or so of oil in a shallow pan, then dust the chicken pieces with flour and fry until golden. Turn down the heat, cover with a lid and cook for ten minutes till cooked through.

Serve with greens and potatoes or pillau rice.



Monica Read

Parish Council News

It has been a routine couple of months since the last edition of Voices, albeit we have welcomed greater, active public attendance at our recent monthly Parish Council meetings. Indeed, public attendance at all our meetings (first Thursday every month, 7.30pm at the Village Hall) is not just welcome but encouraged in our democratic society. Firstly, to ensure transparency and secondly to hear the views of a range of residents on matters that may concern them, as we do our best to balance the wishes and aspirations of all parish residents – within the limited powers and resources apportioned to us, of course!

The North Farm issue remains very much alive, albeit progress has been expectedly very slow. Nevertheless, OCC see this as a flagship project, the first of its kind involving such close collaboration with the community. They have now developed a proposed plan for the site that will be released to the Parish Council in early-November. This will form the focus of a third stage of more detailed public consultation that we intend to commence as soon as practicable thereafter and certainly before the next issue of Voices. Please do take the opportunity to engage in this consultation exercise, an important opportunity to shape a legacy project for the Parish, should it proceed at all. On traffic calming, there is little more to report at the time of writing. We still await the OCC Highways report on The Square, albeit our expectations of any easy and/or uncontentious solutions are pretty low! Likewise, the proposals for speed limit adjustments remain with OCC for formal consultation. Finally, siting and design of the defibrillator and its shelter in Chimney have been agreed, with construction expected to commence soon.

By the time this edition of ‘Voices’ comes through your door, we will have had the Annual Parish Meeting at the Village Hall on 8 Nov, during which I will have delivered my Annual Report. This and any other salient matters arising from the meeting will be included in the next edition. In the meantime, if you have any questions or comments for your Parish Council and you are unable to raise it directly with a councillor, please forward them to the Parish Clerk by email on clerk@astonoxon-pc.gov.uk or by post c/o 16 Foxwood, Aston, Oxfordshire, OX18 2DZ.

Finally as, a sober reminder to all who may think the Pandemic over, I have written this article in isolation at the end of October, having tested positive for Covid a few days ago, despite having been double-vaccinated and having been (I thought) reasonably prudent. So, take it from me (and as it happens, UK Government advice) Coronavirus remains a serious health risk. We should all remain cautious, to protect ourselves and others. Comprehensive advice may be found on www.gov.uk/coronavirus

*Russell La Forte,
Chairman Aston, Cote, Shifford and Chimney Parish Council*



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1st Aston Brownies

Hello everyone, I hope all Brownies and families are keeping safe and well. This year the unit took part in Remembrance Sunday in the Square on 14th, November, the unit laid a wreath and we were invited to attend the Church service after this.

We have made the decision for the last seven weeks of the autumn term to continue on Zoom and both Pat and I have been very busy converting the meetings over to Zoom friendly, as we were hoping to be face to face by now. However after careful consideration we both felt it best to start the new Spring Term face to face. I know this will be disappointing news and it has been a very difficult decision to make, but we feel the right decision for us to make.

Can I remind all parents about the Girl Guiding web site girlguiding.org.uk which is well worth checking out as there is so much information and ideas there with plenty of badges to earn and lots of ways to develop new skills while at home. Also, don't forget the unit's private & secure WhatsApp page, if you have any queries/ comments leave a message there.

Finally, just a reminder that the unit is in a position to accept new girls, for more details please get in touch with me on 07887974468 or karenthegardener123@gmail.com

Karen Stay, Leader 1st Aston Brownie



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Eating Out

Waterside Kitchen & Bar, Walters Lake at The Cotswolds Waterpark

Work colleagues raved about a restaurant near Cotswold Water Park. On looking it up, I was intrigued by the array of dishes on offer with exotic names which I had to Google to get any idea of what they were. Although only a 40-minute drive from Aston via Lechlade, a closed road near Fairford turned it into a bit of a trek.



Wayne Austin

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On booking online, there was a request to vacate your table by a certain time. On arrival, it was clear that it was very popular, and we had a short wait for a car space, so I'd consider the timing of a visit carefully, but it was certainly worth the trip. They have various dining options, inside/outside covered restaurant, pods, garden tables and a takeaway 'shed'. The menu consists of mainly Japanese and other Oriental dishes, some of which will be familiar and some you'll likely need to Google. The website suggests choosing at least two small plate dishes and a side to make a substantial meal. Now I saw this as maybe a small challenge, but went along thinking I'll just order another dish later. Well I needn't have worried, as by the end I was well sated in terms of both capacity and culinary satisfaction.

I ordered the Crispy Monkfish Fritters with Chilli Jam and Crème Fraîche, Karaage Fried Chicken with Kimchi and Sriracha Mayonnaise, and Chips with Garlic mayo.

My wife had Mixed Vegetable Tempura with Tempura sauce and California Rolls (eight mini rolls of fresh crab in rice, avocado, cucumber, Tobikko and Sesame Seeds and soy sauce but decided to share my chips (the cheek of it – there was only nine, but I bit my lip). When it was all laid before us, it was just a sight to savour, the photos of which my daughters drooled over.

My dishes were pretty substantial, especially the Monkfish, which along with the wonderful crispy chicken was fantastic and filling. The chips were actually quite large and different to those you'd get in most restaurants, (but I'd still rather not have shared given the chance). The Tempura vegetables were varied and crispy and the crab rolls delicate and delicious and we rounded off with a nice crème brûlée.

Besides the small plate options, the selection of sushi and sashimi was mouth-watering and they had mini poke bowls of seafood or beef with rice. There are so many dishes we want to try so we'll be back as soon as possible.

Russ Avis

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Wild Life Rescue in Chimney Meadows

The early October sunshine, blue sky in Chimney Meadows showed a skein of Canada Geese flying from the direction of Aston towards the Thames and beyond. The birds called each other with an eerie honking noise, flew low over the meadow near the car park which has an electric pylon crossing it.



The rescued goose

Tragedy struck as the flock flew through the wires and three birds, seen by dog walkers, collided with the wires and plummeted to the meadow below. Alerted by this information my husband and I walked across the field and found two dead birds. Perhaps killed by the 33,000-volt charge in the wires? We found another goose sitting alone, unable to move.

We summoned Louise King, Estate Manager of Chimney Meadows to the scene. Quietly wrapping a towel around the bird, to prevent violent flapping of wings, she put the injured bird into a cage, borrowed from a Chimney resident, to be taken to a rescue centre.

Oxfordshire Wildlife Rescue apologised but were unable to take any more patients as their hospital had been flooded overnight. The Nutley Ward in Banbury would take the bird but suggested we try the Little Foxes near Oxford. They were overwhelmed and suggested we take the bird to the Tiggywinkles Animal Hospital in Haddenham / Thame. (I thought it was for hedgehogs only!).

The goose sat very quietly in the cage in the back of the car as we travelled up the A40 joining the A418 towards Thame. The hospital is well signposted and appears to be a very modern organisation, working as a teaching hospital.

We reported to the Casualty Dept. which opens out onto the car park. The first nurse quietly took the bird away to be X-Rayed and the second nurse recorded the details. The bird was to be referenced under our name for future enquiries. A smooth and efficient reception – with no apparent stress. Following us into the hospital was a very sick badger.

The animals were in the best place to be treated. Since then, we have followed up by sending an email requesting an update but as yet have not received a reply.

Lizzie Wood

WI News

We are nearly back to some normality as more places are open and moving about is less restricted.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

For our September meeting, due to the difficulty in getting a speaker at short notice, we brought forward our harvest supper and this time we had a fish and chips supper supplied by the Codfather. Two of the members collected the children's size portions which were plenty big enough for us. These were washed down with a selection of soft drinks and it was all agreed it was delicious. To keep us entertained I supplied some quiz sheets to do whilst we ate and talked. They were appreciated and it identified the competitive ones amongst us.

Then for October our speaker was Anne who showed us some of her collection of scarves some of which were iconic and had been acquired over years and were now collectors items as well as probably worth something. She then demonstrated how by tying knots and twist in a scarf you could make it stay in place as well as looking elegant. We all had go with our own as well as some that she bought with her for us to try.

At that meeting we were lucky to enlist some new members which is always good to get new people who can support as well bring in new ideas. We are now looking forward to our November meeting which is a meal at The Plough at Alvescot which is to celebrate our 90th birthday. We formed in November 1931.

Going forward to December we have Ian to talk to us and demonstrate the use of chillies. He will bring some of his sauces to purchase so bring some money. If this appeals to you and you like something hot think about coming to our meeting on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm at the village hall. As always all are welcome.

Lesley Brown



Tiggywinkles reception



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Garden Ramblings

When I was asked to follow Greenfinches expert articles I had to declare that I was no expert just loved gardening and had learned by mistakes and failings so this feature will be 'Garden Ramblings' rather than expert advice!

What can you write about gardening in November? I made my husband laugh when one day in late November I announced 'I've put the garden to bed' so November for me is a tidy up month. Pulling up the last of the browning annuals, raking up the leaves and cutting back scruffy foliage and seed heads. Of course now we are encouraged to leave some for insects to overwinter in and besides they can look stunning when sparkling with frost and draped in spiders webs. I always move my pots of less hardy plants and group them together near the shelter of the house to give them a bit of extra protection. Raise them on feet, if you have them, or bricks so they are off the ground and can drain more easily. I have one precious pot which is too big to move so it is wrapped in fleece and a bag to protect it from frost.



The pot pile

The winter months are also a good time to reflect on the year's successes and failures in the garden. It's a great idea to take photos of what worked well and also the areas that didn't work so you can plan ahead to improve them next year. One of my successes was using some of my broken terracotta pots that I seem to accumulate. I recycled them by fitting some of different sizes in together and planted the nooks and crannies with rock plants. It gave an interesting display all summer and will hopefully continue in the winter months.

As the grey days of winter strike its cheering to recall some of the lovely displays we enjoyed seeing while walking round the village during the summer – orange begonias brimming over hanging baskets, those tall hollyhocks that always appear out of nothing, long lavender hedges, beautiful dusty pink roses that appear over the stone wall and the yearly display of Japanese Anemones. We have some great gardeners here and, as all gardeners do, we look forward to next year's successes and failures.

N.M.D.

Local Thefts

Although we live in one of the lowest crime areas in the country we are not crime free. Recently there have been local thefts from garages, sheds and gardens. Perhaps not the most serious of crimes but we still need to be careful!

Andrew Long

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Who's Who and What's What

With so many people moving into the parish we thought it was time for an information update.

Parish Council

(The Parish Council should not be confused with the Parochial Council that deals with St James Church at Aston and St Mary's at Shifford)

Our parish council is a really important organization. A parish council is the first level of local authority, below District and then County Councils. Although the Parish Council's statutory powers are limited it is in many ways the village voice. It is an influencer and its views are sought by organizations seeking to find village opinion. The council is currently involved in providing traffic calming measures in the parish.

There are seven councillors and they are elected for a four year term. They meet monthly, traditionally on the first Thursday of the month at the village hall. Members of the public may attend and there is a ten minute slot at the beginning of the meeting for them to be heard. More details can be found at the Parish Council website astonoxon-pc.gov.uk.

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Parish Councillors 2021

*L-R (Back) Paul Sparrowhawk, Phil West, Gill Ball, Jane West, Ben Lings
(Front) John Ordish (Deputy Chairman), Russell La Forte (Chairman),
Elaine Anstee (Clerk)*

Fellowship Centre



If you would like to hire
The Fellowship Centre
contact Andrew Long
01993850271 or
ag.long@virgin.net

Community Trust

The Community Trust was formed in 1967 and is now responsible for the village hall and playing fields. It is run and managed completely separately from the Parish Council and is a registered charity. The Trust is made up of representatives of organizations using the hall and field such as the Badminton Club, W.I. and Football Club and there are also elected members. The C.T. volunteers work hard to maintain the hall and field to a very high standard and the work is ongoing. One of their most recent projects was the installation of a new young children's play area.

The Trust is financed principally by income from lettings, but also by the 500 Club, details of which may be found by emailing 500ClubAston@gmail.com

Editors

Church Services

St James, Aston and St Mary's, Shifford

Service pattern

First Sunday 9.30 St. James Holy Communion

Second Sunday 9.15 St Mary's Holy Communion

9.30 St James Family Service

Third Sunday 9.30 St James Holy Communion

Fourth Sunday 9.30 St James Family Service

These services are regularly live streamed via Facebook



Christmas Services

St Mary's Shifford

12th Dec 6.00pm, Candle lit service

St James, Aston

24 th Dec 6.00pm Carol service

25 th Dec 9.30 Joint Christmas Day Holy Communion with Aston and Cote Community Church

Aston and Cote Community Church at the Fellowship Centre

7th Nov, 10.00am Worship and Sunday School
14th Nov, 10.00am Worship and Sunday School
21st Nov, 10.30am 'Roots and Rivers' Celebration.

The King's School, Witney

28th Nov, 10.00am Family Service

5th Dec, 10.00am Worship and Sunday School

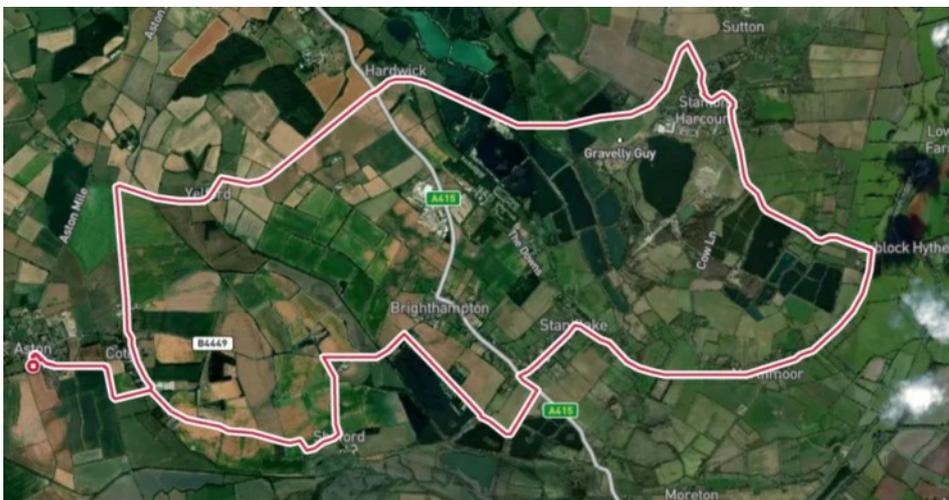
12th Dec, 10.00am Worship and Sunday School

19th Dec, 6.00pm Family Carol Service

25th Dec, 9.30am Joint Christmas Day Holy Communion at St James

26th Dec No meeting

We invite you to join us on any Sunday, or contact us for more information on acc2021@outlook.com, or via our website Aston & Cote Community Church – Fellowship Centre, Cote Road. Aston OX18 2DU (astoncotecc.org.uk)
Alastair Barnett (Pastor)



The Rhino Route

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Riding the Rhino

Like many others over the last 20 months, early on I delved into the back of the garage and retrieve my trusty steed, a Raleigh Pioneer Spirit bicycle bearing the proud brand sticker 'Designed and handbuilt in Nottingham, England'. From this you will understand that whilst being a piece of quality engineering, due to its age I needed to replace brake pads, oil all moving parts and change the tyres, which I upgraded to 'puncture proof'.

Having acquired suitable cycling clothing (including the mandatory lycra shorts), I set off to explore the back roads, off-road tracks and cycle paths in the area. I also used a GPS tracker so that I could see where and how far I had been.

On one trip having downloaded this data I was surprised to have created what definitely resembled a Rhino. From Aston I went through Cote, Shifford, the back tracks of Standlake onto Northmoor, Bablock Hythe, Stanton Harcourt, bypassing Hardwick to Yelford and back through Cote. A pleasurable country ride with only a short 100 yards of the A415 to negotiate. In all just over 17 miles and being no Bradley Wiggins it took me about 1 hour and 20 minutes.

Riding the Rhino has become one of my favourite shorter routes.

Richard Haines

C J Smith

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Answers to the Alphabet Quiz

1. Cher 2. Charlie Brown. 3. Canaletto 4. Cheltenham. 5. Cassiopeia 6. Cartography. 7. Coffees. 8. Collage. 9. Saint Catherine. 10. Cats 11. Clowns. 12. Courteney Cox. 13. One chain. 14. A camel. 15. Charlbury. 16. Capability Brown 17. Carnaby Street. 18. Catchphrase. 19. Charlton. 20. Charlotte's Web.

Where in the |Village answer

From Church Lane into St. James church.

Diary

November

Thursday 4th

Parish Council

7.30 Village Hall

Wednesday 24th

Day Centre

Fellowship Centre

Lunch at 12.00

Thursday 25th

History Group

'The Poppy' – A talk by Bill King

7.30 The Fellowship Centre.

Saturday 20th

TEAR Fund Big Quiz Nigh

7.30 Fellowship Centre

Friday 27th

7.00pm Bingo

Village Hall

December

Thursday 2nd

Parish Council

7.30 Village Hall

Wednesday 8th

W.I.

7.30 Village Hall

January

Wednesday 7th

Parish Council

7.30 Village Hall

Wednesday 12th

W.I.

Christmas Meal

Vicky's After School Club

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For more information call Vicky on 01993 851883 or 0788 7711 454 or email vickyhickman1@gmail.com

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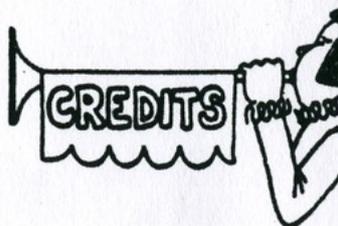
- Looking to improve your outside space but stuck for ideas on how to make the most of it?
- Want somewhere to entertain?
- A space for your children to play?
- Or maybe you just need a quiet place to relax, a calming, scented corner, just for you?



I can provide a full garden design, planting plans or a simple garden report - some ideas of how you could best use your outdoor space and the types of plants that you like and would suit the environment.

CONTACT LORRAINE:
lorraine@cotswoldgardendesigner.co.uk
07516262560
www.cotswoldgardendesigner.co.uk

Andrew Long - Chair & Editor (Content);
Richard Haines - Treasurer & Editor (Technical);
Martin Bowley - Secretary & Lay up;
Paul Lock - Lay up;
Tom England - Lay up;
Liz Harper - Advertising;
Susan Haines - Distribution;
Lizzie Wood;
Brenda Smith.



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St Mary's Church

Vicar – Rev Canon Janice Collier
Tel: 01993 851222

Aston & Cote Community Church Fellowship Centre

Alastair Barnett
Tel: 01993 22872
Bookings: Andrew Long
Tel: 01993 850271
ag.long@btinternet.com

Aston Community Shop

Tel: 01993 850441

Aston & Cote CE School

Tel: 01993 850435

Police

Tel: (Non-essential calls)
Dial 101 & ask for
Eynsham Neighbourhood Team

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Citizens' advice

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West Oxfordshire District Council

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Member of Parliament Robert Courts

robert@robertcourts.co.uk
Tel: 0207 219 5638
01993 702302

County Councillor

Dan Levy
Tel: 0785248362
dan.levy@oxfordshire.gov.uk

District Councillors

Lysette Nichols 07766 251125
Steve Good 01993 851586

Aston, Cote, Shifford & Chimney Parish Council

Clerk- Elaine Anstee
Tel: 07368466413 - office hours only
- clerk@astonoxon-pc.gov.uk
Postal address - 16 Foxwood, Aston,
OX18 2DZ

Aston & Cote Thespian Society (ACTS)

Val Crowson
Tel: 01993 850139

Allotments

Sec. Claire Hill
Tel: 07787431604

Badminton Club

James Angus
Tel: 01993 850533

Aston Village Hall

Bookings: Vicky Fuller
No calls after 8.00 pm
Tel: 01993 851649

Aston Football Club

Jack Goodchild – manager
07766442025

Aston History Group

Martin Bowley
Tel: 01993 850440

Aston Parish

Community Minibus

Bookings: Tony Harris
Tel: 01993 850792

Brownies

Karen Stay
Tel: 01993851506

Chimney Meadows (BBOWT)

Tel: 01367 870904

Cote Chapel

Peter Forsaith
forsaith.family@btinternet.com.

Community Trust

Carolyn Simmonds
Tel: 01993 851215

Day Centre

Karen Stay
Tel: 01993851506

Voices Magazine

Andrew Long or Richard Haines
Tel: 01993 850271 or 850855
astonnewsletter@hotmail.com

Women's Institute

Miriam Williams
Tel: 01993 850678

Youth Football:

Nick Angus
Tel:07972037882

Alphabet Quiz

A simple twenty question quiz, but all the answers begin with the letter C.



1. Which singer pictured above is sometimes referred to as the goddess of pop?
2. Who is this cartoon character?
3. Who painted this picture?
4. Which is the nearest spa town to Aston?
5. Which constellation, formed by five bright stars, is easily recognizable due to its distinctive 'W' shape?
6. What is the study and practice of making and using [maps](#) called?
7. Arabica and Robusta are both types of what?
8. From the French "to glue" which art form consists of materials glued to backing?
9. Who is the patron saint of artists?
10. In which musical does the character Buster Jones appear?
11. Coulrophobia is the fear of what?
12. Who played Monica in the TV programme Cheers?
13. In measurement what are 22 yards equivalent to?
14. What is said to be a horse made by a committee?
15. Which village lies 11 miles due north of Aston?
16. Who designed the gardens of Blenheim Palace?
17. Which street in 1960s London was famous for fashion?
18. Which quiz has been hosted by Roy Walker and Stephen Mulhern?
19. What was the surname of the brothers who played for England in the football world cup of 1966 ?
20. Wilbur the pig appears in which book?

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Where in the village would you find this gate?





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