



- Community Orchard family event • Constituency confusion • Open Gardens photos •
- Bellringers D-day peal • Moles and molehills • St Peter ad Vincula • The Arts Page •

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Contributions are welcome. Please email editorsalife@gmail.com

Cover: *Bethany and Ronnie pond dipping at the Community Orchard Open Day - see page 24*
(photo by Nigel Francis)

Steeple Aston *Life*

COPY

All articles and letters to
the Editor
editorsalife@gmail.com

COPY DEADLINES

The copy deadline is the 14th of the
previous month.
This means the copy deadline for the August
2024 issue is Sunday 14th July.

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Full page (village events only) - £17.50

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Archive (SAVA)	Chairman	Stuart Cummins	349155
Badminton (Tuesday mornings)		Barbara Brewer	340423
Badminton (Thursday evenings)		Alison Moran	347033
Beekeepers (Swarm collection, advice)		Paul Honigmann	340665, 07512 224700
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Handbell ringers		Victoria Clifton	07817 025948
Brownies		Fiona McLoone	340132
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Choral Society	Chair	Geoffrey Cotterill	01608 641654
Church of England (St Peter & St Paul)	Rector	Rev'd Harriet Orridge	932224
	Churchwardens	Eileen Baglin-Jones, Graham Clifton	340099 / 347273
Methodist Church – Tackley		Rev'd Paul Carter	01865 243216
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		Cllr Andrew McHugh	
		Cllr David Rogers	
Cricket Club	Chairman	Peter Higgins	347493
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Deddington Guides		Maggie Rampley	07957 600755
Deddington Health Centre	Appointments	338611	
	Repeat Prescriptions	10am - 3pm	338847
	Out of Hours	111	
Dr Radcliffe's C of E School	Head Teacher		340204
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Garden Club	Chairman	Richard Preston	340512
Golf Society	Chairman	Alan Brewer	340423
Horticultural Society	Show Secretary	Vicky Clifton	07817 025948
Parish Council	Clerk	Cathy Fleet	347000
Police	24hr Call Centre	(non emergency)	101
Post Office & Harris Stores		Raj	340201
Pre-school			340863
Public House	Red Lion		389174
Robinson's Close	Letting Agent	Angela Smith	07734 112967
Scouts Group		Colin Cassford	243038
Sports & Recreation Centre	Letting Agent	Angela Smith	07734 112967
Steeple Aston Walking Group		Penny, Stuart, Sue and Graham	sawgox25@gmail.com
Toddler Group		Hilary Clayton-Lyne, Angela Smith	steepleastontoddlergrp@gmail.com
Valentine Club		Richard & Daphne Preston	340512
Village Hall (see advertisement)	Letting Agent	Angela Smith	07734 112967
Village Emergency Telephone System		690691	
Village Website	www.steepleaston.org.uk	Editor: Jenny Bell	943573
Volunteer Connect - Community transport scheme		0300 3030125	
WI	President	Julie Hillier	349185



“...folly is not always folly.”
Jane Austen

Steeple Aston *Life*

July 2024
Issue No. 611

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Editorial

"If I had my way, I'd remove January from the calendar altogether and have an extra July instead." – Roald Dahl (British author, 1916-1990)

Welcome to Quintilis. This is Latin for fifth and refers to the fifth month of the old 10-month long Roman calendar. It became the seventh month when January and February were added. It was renamed July in honour of the Roman General Julius Caesar who was born in this month in 100 BCE. It is believed that the titles Tsar and Kaiser are derived from the name Caesar.

Anglo-Saxons had other names for the month, including ‘Maed-monath’ (‘the flowering of meadows’) and ‘Hey-monath’ (‘hay month’).

Although the first month in the second half of the year, surprisingly 1st July is not the middle of the year. That honour, in a non-leap year, goes to 2nd July at 1pm.

The ‘dog days of summer’ typically begin in July and can be traced back to Roman astrology. They are associated with mad dog attacks, heat and drought. However, the canine connection comes from Sirius, also known as the ‘Dog Star’ – the brightest star in the night sky. The name means ‘glowing’ in Greek. ‘Dog days’ refer to the hottest days of the year.

Closer to home, we have the ‘buck moon’ – the first full moon in July (21st of the month in 2024). It is a time when bucks (male deer) grow new antlers, which are fully developed by the time of the full moon (below).

April, May and June are popular first names, but where is July? In 2013, just 15 girls and 7 boys were named July, making this a gender-neutral name. The chances are that you have never met anyone called July, but you will be aware of people with derivative names, such as Julie and Julian.

Ruby is the birthstone of July. It was believed to protect warriors in battle if embedded in their armour. Today, it is said to protect against evil. The month has two birth flowers – the water lily (a symbol of a pure heart) and the larkspur (representing the lightness of the heart).

Enjoy July. It is all downhill for the rest of the year!

Robert





Constituency confusion – we are in Banbury, not Bicester and Woodstock

With the general election due on 4th July, villagers – and others – have been confused about which parliamentary constituency the voters of Steeple and Middle Aston are in. Many presumed that we would be included in the newly-created constituency of Bicester and Woodstock. Indeed, the Conservative group in the new constituency seemed to think that was the case and have been leafleting the village promoting their candidate, though this has now been blamed on a postcode error.

However, a close examination of the boundary map of the new constituencies shows that Steeple and Middle Aston remain in the Banbury constituency. The two villages are in the Deddington ward. The new Banbury constituency includes just 60.4% of the old constituency's population. It has lost Bicester to the new Bicester and Woodstock constituency, but gained Chipping Norton, Charlbury and surrounding villages from the Witney constituency.

There are eight candidates in total. In alphabetical order, they are: Liz Adams (Liberal Democrat), Arron Baker (Green Party), Cassi Bellingham (Independent), Chris Nevile (Climate Party), Victoria Prentis (Conservative Party), Declan Soper (Social Democratic Party), Paul Topley (Reform UK) and Sean Woodcock (Labour Party).

Voting will take place on Thursday 4th July in Steeple Aston Village Hall from 7am to 10pm. Counting will be overnight, so the result should be announced on Friday 5th July.

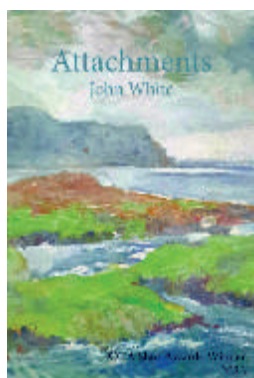
Steeple Aston Horticultural Society – Home hanging basket/planter competition

Believe it or not, we are now in summer and in Steeple Aston a major event is the summer flower show on Bank Holiday Monday 26th August.

If you would like to enter your hanging basket or planter, the deadline is Thursday 1st August. This class is judged at home so you do not need to move it (or them). Details can be found on the village website bit.ly/3xdOmLJ or you can email Vicky at vmcstedman@btinternet.com



Attachments, by John White



I recently won the iOTA Shot 2023 Poetry Pamphlet competition. My collection, entitled 'Attachments', was published on 10th June by Templar Poetry – templarpoeetry.com – and here you can listen to some of the poems, or even make a purchase.

I am aware that there are at least two people in Steeple Aston called John White. I am the one who lives in Palmer House on South Side, sits on Steeple Aston Church PCC and – when not engaged in school work – quietly writes poetry for publication in respected magazines, anthologies and for competitions.

I will probably look to do a local launch event in the village in the autumn, as well as in Oxford, where I work and have a lot of contacts. But for now, I'd just like to ensure people know it is available to order on my publisher's website.



SAL needs a new editor!



After editing 40 editions of the magazine, Robert Scott is retiring as SAL editor next month. We will all miss his dedication and expertise and want to thank him for his wisdom and his sterling service.

This means that an urgent hunt is on for Robert's replacement. Experience in the fields of writing, editing or publishing would be useful, but not all are essential. Lots of support will be provided by members of the committee and others.

If you're interested, please first contact Robert as soon as possible on 01869 340356 or email editorsalife@gmail.com to find out more about what's involved. It's a very rewarding job, providing a real connection with every aspect of village life.

The SAL Committee

Village birdlife

Cathy Lawday photographed this wren chick in her garden a few weeks ago. The average lifespan of the bird is a couple of years, but some can live much longer. They eat insects such as beetles and spiders – and have been known to feast on tadpoles. They do not often come to bird feeders or tables, so if you want to supplement their diet, scatter high-quality bird seed on the ground or in a ground feeder. A ground bird feeder cage will help to keep them safe from predators.

Wrens might welcome a nest box in a corner of your garden, in an area protected by bushes and trees, where they can bring up their young and also over-winter.

Wrens are very common in the UK. It is estimated that there are 11 million pairs.

If you spot any wildlife in your garden, please take a photo and send it to editorsalife@gmail.com



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Nature Notes



There are some animals which we know are present, but we rarely, if ever, catch a glimpse of them. One such creature is the mole. The familiar appearance of a molehill (often materialising overnight in the middle of an otherwise pristine patch of grass) is a sign of mole activity in the area. Although there may be many molehills, there might be only one mole as they are generally solitary creatures, except for a brief period when males seek a mate and the female raises her family. As a mole is rarely above ground, its eyes are very small but still functional to give the mole limited vision, allowing them to distinguish between light and dark and to detect movement.



Adult moles are larger than a mouse, but smaller than a rat, with a compact, cylindrical body. They spend most of their life in a network of underground tunnels in which they find their food, mainly earthworms, but also other invertebrates such as insects and their larvae. The mole's body is ideally suited for its need to dig tunnels, its short legs terminating in long clawed 'hands' and feet, the 'hands' turned outwards, allowing the forelimbs to act as shovels.

The fur (once highly prized as moleskin) is soft and velvety and can lie in either direction, depending on whether the mole is going forwards or backwards in its tunnels.

The tunnel system can be quite extensive and the mole will regularly patrol the tunnels which act as a pitfall trap for invertebrates that the mole needs to catch before they escape back into the surrounding ground. Depending on the soil conditions and the distribution of food, the tunnels can range from runs just below the soil surface to deep excavations about a metre down into the ground. It has been estimated that, to support a single mole, their tunnel system may contain more than 1,000 metres of tunnels over an area of approximately 40 metres by 40 metres. This is a lot of soil that the mole needs to remove, which it does by pushing it up through vertical tunnels to form molehills.

Moles sleep underground, so the tunnel system contains at least one nest, usually of grass or other vegetation, and a similar structure is used for the raising of the young. A nest needs to be at a sufficient depth for it to remain at a relatively constant temperature and not easily accessed from above ground by predators such as badgers and foxes. In areas of shallow soil, creating deep tunnels is difficult and the mole may resort to building its nest above ground inside a very large molehill known as a fortress. A fortress may also be constructed as a refuge in areas prone to flooding.



Bridget Lewis

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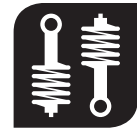
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The ARTS Page



School Holiday time, so here are some pointers to events for children and the family.

An Oxford Playhouse production at Blenheim Palace, three performances a day on 13th and 14th July of ‘Story Seekers’, a highly recommended, interactive, colourful whirlwind of international stories and music, full of laughter, family-friendly and suitable for all ages. Free entry, but Park and Gardens ticket or Annual Pass needed.

Productions at the Oxford Playhouse include:

‘Zog and the Flying Doctors’ (from the book by Julia Donaldson and Alex Scheffler), for ages 3+, from Freckle Productions and the Rose Theatre, with high-flying thrills and music by Joe Stilgoe. 17th to 21st July.

From Le Navet Bete – ‘King Arthur: A Legendary Comedy’. For all the family, a hilarious retelling of the Arthurian Legends. “It left us crying with laughter”. “Best comedy I've seen this year” (Broadway World). 25th to 27th July.

Details for all these – and much more – at oxfordplayhouse.com

Banbury Museum & Gallery (banburymuseum.org) has a fundraiser at Broughton Castle – a lecture at 7pm on 20th July – ‘The Road to Colditz’. Stuart Rolt will tell his father's story of his attempt to escape from Colditz by glider. Gardens open for picnics from 5pm.

The Banbury Museum is a local jewel, do try to support them. Their holiday time is filled with wonderful workshops and summer holiday activities. Too many to list here, but titles such as ‘3D Animal Art’, ‘Brick Madness’ and ‘Painted Bees’ give you a flavour. ‘I want to be in the 90s’ closes on 7th July, but ‘Surprise your eyes’ – an immersive and interactive 3D art exhibition – opens on 20th July (till 6th October).

Look also to Creation Theatre (creationtheatre.co.uk) – pioneering a revival of Rep Theatre. ‘Treasure Island’ and ‘As You Like It’ alternate from 23rd July to 17th August in the gardens of Wycliffe Hall, on the Banbury Road, Oxford. Also look up their masterclasses, workshops and online tutoring, all designed to enthuse youngsters with a love of theatre. Their ‘School of Creativity’ with ‘Play in a day’ and ‘Play in a week’ looks wonderful.

Pegasus Theatre (pegasustheatre.org.uk) offers similar terrific opportunities for youngsters (actors, stage technicians, sound designers, stage managers – all vital skills needed in the theatre). There is so much they are doing, I cannot summarise it effectively here, but take a bit of time on their website.

It is the 200th Anniversary of Beethoven's 9th Symphony – first performed on 7th May 1824 in Vienna. On 14th July 2024, the Trinity Camerata (trinitycamerata.org) perform this towering work in St. Edburg’s Church, Bicester at 4pm. Who can forget Bernstein's performance, celebrating the fall of the Berlin Wall, when he changed Freude (Joy) to Freiheit (Freedom) in the last movement. It is now the anthem of Europe. ‘Alle Menschen werden Brüder – ‘All men shall become brothers’.

The Oxford Festival of the Arts continues. A concert celebrating Henry Purcell in Magdalen College Chapel on 4th July caught my eye, as did Dame Sarah Connolly's concert on the 5th at St. John the Evangelist Church, Iffley Road, a talk with Dame Evelyn Glennie on the 8th at Festival Hall, Magdalen College School, Cowley Place, and the wonderful cellist Guy Johnston on the 10th at The Divinity School, Bodleian Old Library. Check out other goodies on their website – artsfestivaloxford.org

I look forward to recommendations for future Arts Pages.

Nick Cleobury
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???? Mind Games

ROUTE FINDER

from Cathy Lawday

Start at the shaded square. Moving from one letter square to an adjacent square horizontally or vertically, find a route that visits every square just once and which spells out all the words in the list below. The answer is not published in this issue – you will know if you have got it right!

E	L	O	L	I	D	O	F	F	A
T	E	R	D	O	O	D	H	O	D
S	R	E	S	L	R	E	S	E	R
A	L	Y	S	E	S	R	T	S	O
M	R	C	A	C	S	E	A	D	D
R	E	U	R	E	A	L	C	S	A
E	A	T	S	L	D	C	U	A	T
D	N	A	T	O	R	B	P	M	E
N	D	D	D	R	A	O	B	U	L
E	T	O	O	R	K	N	O	N	C

casserole, class, creature, cupboard, daffodil, dole, doorknob
lord, masterly, matador, rode, shoes, stand, tender, treads, uncle



Looking for fun, **wraparound care** once school is over at Dr Radcliffe's, Steeple Aston?

With a blend of outdoor play to indoor sports, alongside crafting and baking, Fun Club has established itself as the club children want to belong to.

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Fun Club is bookable per term. Limited spaces.

If of interest, please email steeplefunclub@gmail.com

Or contact Antonia 'Toe' Maclean mobile 07867 516 518

Steeple Aston Open Gardens – Sunday 2nd June 2024

On a sunny Sunday afternoon, visitors descended on Steeple Aston to view the six gardens open to the public under the National Garden Scheme (NGS). For once, it was a pleasant afternoon with the sun shining and temperatures close to 20 °C. Nearly 300 paying visitors walked around the gardens and then visited the Village Hall for one of the, by now, famous teas served by a team of volunteers led, as ever, by Barbara Brewer.

The outcome was a donation of £2,300 to the NGS which in turn supports so many worthwhile charities. Thank you to all who supported this event, by either walking around the gardens, helping at the Village Hall or making a cake.

For gardeners and allotment holders, it focuses our minds, helping to make the land look as good as it possibly can and removing a few weeds that otherwise might have survived for a week or so longer. For visitors, it provides somewhere to go on a Sunday afternoon at little cost and encourages them to relax and take in the countryside. It also promotes our village, which we might take for granted. One visitor actually enquired as to property availability here as she thought this was the perfect village. Everyone was so pleasant and helpful, so what a wonderful place to live.

From all the gardeners and tea makers, thank you for your support. If you would like to be involved next year by opening your garden, give me a call on 01869 340512.

Thank you and best wishes,

Richard, Daphne and all the open gardens in this wonderful village of Steeple Aston

(Photos by Nigel Francis)





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The Gardening Spot

July in the garden

In early April, I took a chance and planted all my potato tubers outside in what could best be described as a bog! This is probably against all the advice I have given before, but as we were off on holiday, I thought this was a job best done. As I write this in early to mid-June, I am digging potatoes from this bog-land and it is still extremely moist, no wet, and the soil is coming up in lumps something like boulders from another planet, but the crop is not that bad. Should I go on about our weather or just accept that this is Britain and we can get just about anything at any time?

Anyhow, things to think about this month. Remember to feed pot plants, hanging baskets and containers once a week, maybe using a tomato feed as this will promote flower and colour.

Once flowers such as delphiniums, geraniums, poppies and lupins have finished flowering, be brave and cut the plants down to ground level. This will encourage young growth which will look much better than the old, dead foliage. If you have a gap in the herbaceous border, how about filling it with dahlias? They will give colour right through to the first frosts. Pick sweet peas regularly to encourage more flowers and keep them watered as they are very thirsty plants.

In the vegetable plot you will need to keep an eye open for caterpillars and aphids. If you are quick, you might be able to remove any caterpillars before they do damage, but if the infestation is too much then an insecticide might be the answer. You can carry on sowing small quantities of salads and carrots for late summer. Keep the weeds down as they are competing for food that should be going into your crops and water as necessary. New potatoes will be ready now and they taste so different to those purchased in the shops.

In the greenhouse, make sure you ventilate well and keep everything watered and fed. Tomatoes like a high potash feed once a week and cucumbers prefer a high nitrogen feed. Both should be available in your local garden centre.

June and July are great months to trim hedges such as box or yew and this is the time of year to prune early summer flowering shrubs such as weigela and deutzia. Keep deadheading roses to encourage a longer flowering season and cut long lavender and hang in bunches upside down for dried lavender.

It might seem a little strange, but this is a great time to prune apples and pears grown in what is known as a restricted form. That would be the likes of cordons, espaliers, fans and pyramids. Ideally, you start with pears around the middle of the month by cutting back new shoots (laterals) growing from the main stem and at least eight inches long, reducing them to about three leaves from the main cluster (basal cluster). New shoots growing from existing side-shoots can be reduced to one leaf above the basal cluster. Remove any vigorous upright shoots completely and any growth that crosses, trying to leave an open centre to the tree. For apples do the same, but a couple of weeks later around early August. This will shape up the tree for next year and help provide a good crop and reduce infection caused by overcrowding.

Finally, something for you to think about. What do you get if you place poison ivy with a four-leaf clover? A rash of good luck!

Happy gardening – Richard Preston

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As always this is a Sportive that puts 100% of its profits to charitable purposes in line with the aims and objectives of Rotary, so amongst others in 2023 we donated to:

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Closing date: Thursday, 27th June, 2024 at noon.

Interviews: Week beginning Monday, 1st July.

'Pupils care for and help each other, which builds on the very strong support that staff give pupils.' (OFSTED March 2022)

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Parish Council Meeting *Notes*



June's Parish Council meeting took place on quite a sunny evening and made the stroll to the Sports & Recreation Centre very pleasant.

One of the first topics discussed was the proposal for two new Local Green Spaces (LGS) in our village – the Lawrence Fields play area (owned by the PC) and the area at the end of Cow Lane where the footpath diverges and there's a pond. LGSs can be nominated through the neighbourhood plan and provide protection from future development. Both were thought to be 'valued spaces', so the Cow Lane landowner will be contacted to hear their thoughts on the subject.

The new 20mph signage is now up in the village and one keen councillor had counted a total of 16 new signs with 8 new poles – and said that some seemed to be "in peculiar settings". It's early days, but there have been no complaints so far (unless we count the resident who stopped contractors putting a sign outside their living room window). There were mixed feelings in the meeting with one councillor saying they were pleasantly surprised they didn't feel "overwhelmed" by the new signs and another saying they objected to the number of new poles!

Some good news next – our application for funding for a Community Housing Needs Survey has been granted. In a few months' time all residents will receive a survey to complete which will help pin down our housing needs. Please do take the time to fill this in.

Next on the agenda was the fact we need some new parish councillors. Our councillors play a key role in sticking up for our community and ensuring it remains the wonderful village it is. No one is too new to the village to get involved – or too old, or too young for that matter. And from what I've seen they're quite a friendly bunch and the monthly meetings seem to finish on time. So why not come along to a meeting and see what you think? Or if you have any questions drop Cathy, our Parish Clerk, an email: parishclerk.steepleaston@gmail.com

Oxford Airport has put proposals forward for changes to their flight plans and the future capacity of the airport. They then 'rapidly' sought to consult with villages who might be affected (including us). Unsurprisingly, the general feeling was that we don't want more noisy and polluting aircraft over our village, but being so low on councillor numbers no one could look at this in great detail (see previous paragraph). They would however ensure a response was made, with some local expert help. Conversation did digress briefly to recall the time when we had very loud jets flying over from Upper Heyford airbase and that people seemed to get used to the noise. And then someone flagged up that the first of three huge warehouse applications had been made near Ardley, which might affect road traffic near us.

On to Highways and Footpaths. One councillor has put a new bin up in the village which was soon filled! It was noted that whilst they are pleased it's being used, we need to make sure it's actually being emptied.

The topic of playgrounds was next on the agenda – with quotes being sought to see how far our S106 money will go. One councillor brought up pickleball and asked whether we should get a court and start a local league. I was under the impression he was perhaps muddling up pickleball with padel, but thought both sounded fun especially if located in the Pocket Park (try saying you're off for a game of pickleball or padel at the Pocket Park!). For the uninitiated, pickleball is similar to tennis, but uses a perforated hollow plastic ball, while padel is played on courts with walls where balls can be played off them in a similar way to squash.

And more fun ahead as some new bark is being ordered for the playground, which ideally needs topping up twice a year and takes a bit of time to spread around. So it was suggested we have a 'Bark Spreading Day' and get the kids involved in kicking it around in a productive manner. Which

Parish Council Meeting *Notes*



perhaps sounds like a sort of Groundhog Day for some in the village.

Also in this area, it has been brought to the PC's attention that there is a manhole cover located behind the SRC / Pre School which children have been able to remove and then "set traps for their friends". A parent has now covered it with some logs, but apparently "it's quite a large drop", so something really needs to be done before little fingers attempt to set more traps. The Educational Trust has responsibility so they will be informed.

The season for comparing our Blandford Fly bites may have now passed, but we are soon to be visited by experts from Bournemouth University who will be conducting tests and then come up with a treatment plan. The plan, it seems, is to ensure they take river water samples (these beasts like quite fast flowing water by all accounts) from a wide-ranging area (Clifton to Kidlington) and then hope to persuade other councils to join in with the treatment and so spread the cost. We then heard that Woodstock Pharmacy has confirmed the problem has been very bad this year. And at this point I must confess that I lost concentration and started daydreaming (I do apologise as this sort of lapse never seemed to have happen with Steeplejack) and the next thing I knew the Chair was checking with me about whether I'd got something down for my report. Rest assured – I'm not afraid to double check and clarify what's being said – so nothing of import has been missed here!

On to a complaint that not enough foliage had been removed from outside the Village Hall. It's going to need some closer inspection and clarification. And then it seems Cherwell Council (or their contractors) couldn't decide if the Village Hall needed a commercial, business or residential brown bin licence. Their decision has some clear financial implications and

unfortunately there is no phone number to call and make our case.

Just one planning application this month and it drew some wry smiles as apparently the house in question has been through at least three different incarnations in the last 18 months – but according to the councillor who has been roaming the village counting our speed signs, the house does now look lived in, so perhaps this is the last such incarnation.

Finally, one councillor had attended Cherwell's Parish Liaison Meeting which they described as a good opportunity to meet other councillors from different local parishes, but otherwise "a bit pathetic". Apparently, lots of nice things were said and fancy leaflets distributed ("what a waste of money") and our District Council has signed up to "The Parish Council Charter" which now means we should never have an email ignored. There is also a 'navigational aid' so we know who to contact about what – which the clerk said she had received in the past with strict instructions not to share with anyone!!

So if you want a chance to access this confidential document, maybe consider becoming a parish councillor. The next meeting is on Monday 15th July at 7.30pm.

Until next time!

Mrs Miggins

This report is the personal view of the SAL reporter and is not intended to be a complete record of the Council meeting. The official record – once approved – will be available at www.steepleaston.org.uk

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Poetry Corner



Short shrift

It seems I am the cause of editorial unease,
To fit my poems on the page is something of a squeeze.

The poor designers reduce the size of the type,
Shrink the space between verses and try not to gripe.

And though not wishing to be seen as a prude,
The editor cuts out a verse he thinks is too rude.

So this time I'm going to try and be brief,
Cos my verbosity is really the cause of some grief.

My poems tend to be rather loquacious
And SAL magazine isn't sufficiently spacious.

So I trust I don't leave you feeling a bit miffed,
That you've had short measure, the short straw, or even short shrift.

I hope this month's poem's truncated extent,
Does not lead to feelings of real discontent.

The motive for this poem's succinct duration,
Is to preclude the editor's frustration.

For once I'm doing what I oughta.
And so this poem is decidedly shorter.

Cathy Lawday

Steeple Aston Golf Society



Our first meeting of the season was at The Wychwood Golf Club, where we had 18 players commit themselves to trying to play golf! The day was won by Teddy Kay with 37 points playing off 6 who will now be cut two shots, so next time out Teddy will be playing off a 4 handicap. Runner up was dad Martin with 36 points off a 7 handicap. Martin was also nearest the pin in 2 on the 18th hole having driven through the green some 280 yards away. Vaughan Billings was nearest the pin on the 6th hole and our guest prize went to Stewart Carrol with 35 points off 24. No birdie 2s recorded. Our June meeting will be reported at a later date.



Our July meeting on the 19th is at The Springs, Wallingford OX10 6BE. If you are a golfer and have never played this course, then come along and join us. You will not be disappointed, in fact you will be in for a treat. This parkland course is bordered by the River Thames, within which lie three lakes and challenging wetland areas. A very typical American design. I just love the old club house which overlooks the 18th green. We meet at 12 noon for a 1pm start. For more information, please call Alan or Chris on 01869 340423 / 347173.

Happy golfing. Alan (Chair)

After a particularly poor round, a golfer spotted a lake as he walked despondently up the 18th. He looked at the caddy and said, "I've played so badly all day, I think I'm going to drown myself." The caddy replied, "I don't think you can keep your head down that long!"

Steeple Aston *Community Orchard*



As part of the UK's 'Great Big Green Week', Steeple Aston's Community Orchard opened its gates to local people. The aim was to give a better understanding of biodiversity and nature in our village and the surrounding area.

The team was blessed with wonderful weather and were pleased to welcome a large number of families and local residents who came to experience what the orchard has to offer. It was great to see so many children enjoying pond dipping and getting involved in learning about all the creatures they could find with the help of volunteers Nigel and Alex. Some of our visitors put on safety outfits to have a closer look at our bee colony with village beekeeper Paul. There was also the opportunity to learn about how to make a wormery as well as lessons on planting seeds with Jo from the Community Action Group. The more creative visitors also loved painting and colouring with orchard volunteer Kay.

Another of our team, Annie, gave children lots to search for and find with a fabulous nature hunt around the orchard. They were thrilled to see 'Herb', the star tortoise, who came for the day too!

Tea, coffee and lots of cake were a big hit and kept everybody well-fuelled throughout the day thanks to Shirley, Elen and Ben.

The team want to send big thanks to all the orchard volunteers and everyone who came along to make the day special for adults and children alike. So much was the success that the orchard hopes to hold another event later in the year to allow others to experience the wonders of the outdoors in Steeple Aston.

(Photos by Nigel Francis)



Steeple Aston Community Orchard



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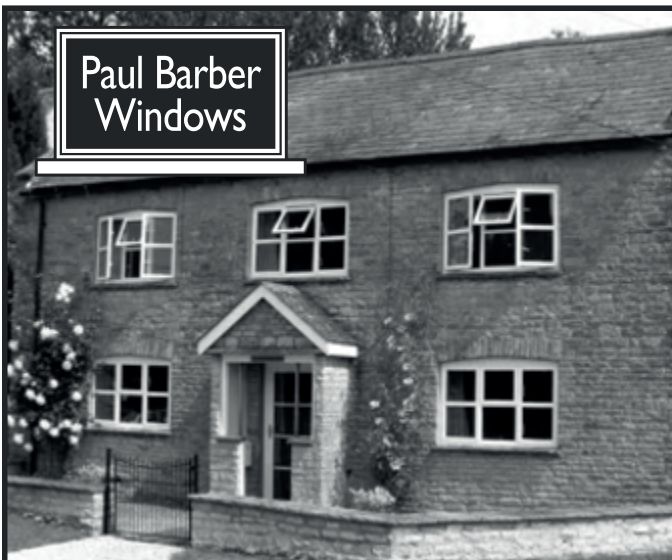
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MCC....a long way from Lords

Okay, so it's not the real MCC, but the Moo Cow Club, run by a friend of our Hon. Sec./Fixtures Secretary, Phil Chesser. The MCC won the toss and decided to bowl. We got off to a cracking start reaching 74 for no wicket before Will Doggett (19) missed a straight one. Next in, Nige Doggett (29) put on a further 40 runs with Tim Foulds, who attacked with great intent before retiring on 45. Jon Scotchbrook (13) was looking as composed as ever before being run out – just! Nick Foster never seems to be rushed and batted elegantly before retiring on 31. He put on 66 runs with Phil 'Adam Gilchrist' Chesser, who continued his fine run of form with 25 runs, which incredibly included not one, but two shots on the offside. Finally, Alain Michaelis (35*) and Jack Higgins (31*) smashed 63 for the eighth wicket, equalling the club record, to take us to 240 off our allotted 32 overs.

A new and devastating opening partnership of Paul Longman (2-9) and Josh Drennan (2-19) reduced the MCC to 17-4 and the game was as good as won. Opening with an offspinner and a leg spinner was a joy to behold and both bowled with great accuracy, supported by some agile fielding and good catches by Tom Chesser and Jack Higgins. Alain Michaelis (1-19) again bowled a tight line and the MCC closed on 167-5, a resounding victory by 73 runs for Steeple Aston CC.

Lincoln College, Oxford (aka 'The Strollers')...

The Chairman managed to win the toss (pretty much my only contribution to the game!) and we chose to bat. Richard Wilson opened the batting in dogged fashion, battling his way to 28, ably supported by Nick Foster who top-scored again with a fluent 32. However, at 115-6 we were 'wobbling', despite a combative 11 by Charlie Simmonds-Jones. Thankfully, Phil Chesser (28*) and Lewis Holland (21*) let rip, putting on 44 runs in the last few overs. This included eight boundaries and took us to a creditable 159-6 from our 30 overs. Phil is now averaging over 100! Yes, I know, it is hard to believe.

Cometh the hour, cometh the man...

Despite having not played for a year, nor having had a practice net, Ben Evans (3-36) within six overs had removed their three best batsmen. Without even doing a single stretch, Ben did a passable impersonation of Jimmy Anderson – swing bowling at its best. Ably supported by Dave McDonald (1-17) and Nige Doggett (2-27), who bowled 10 overs between them with great control, the stage was set for the final over. I should add that the team's fielding had been excellent and in a close fought match could turn out to be crucial. With the opposing Captain Tom Fletcher, Master of Hertford College, at the crease, the Strollers needed 14 runs to win. The bowler, the geriatric Chairman of Steeple Aston, had already spent 45 minutes stretching and raced in to bowl at what he thought was 'great pace', but in reality was 'slow medium'. A two off the first ball and a two off the second – 10 runs needed from four balls. The game in the balance. Fortunately, three dot balls (a ball from which a run is not scored) followed and the game was won. So that is three wins from three games for SACC. Could it be an undefeated season? It's never happened in my 21 years here – find out next month!

With best wishes to all

Peter Higgins
Chairman SACC

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Mare's milk vodka for breakfast.....cream stored in sheep's stomachs ready for the winter. She was also able to visit Ulan Baator, a city at the end of the world.

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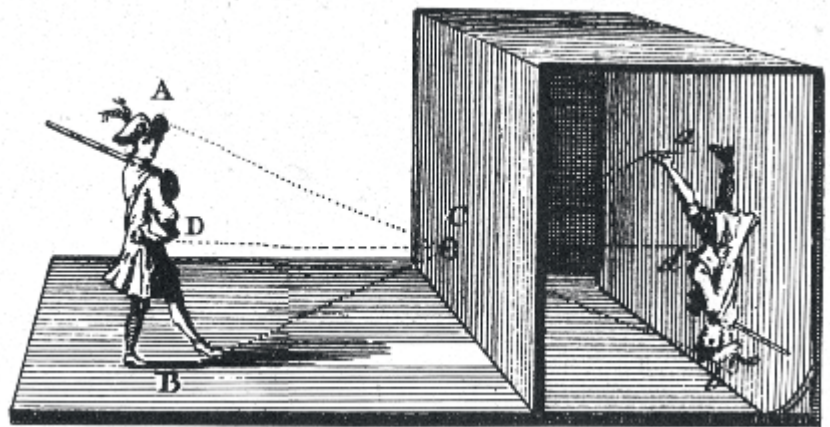


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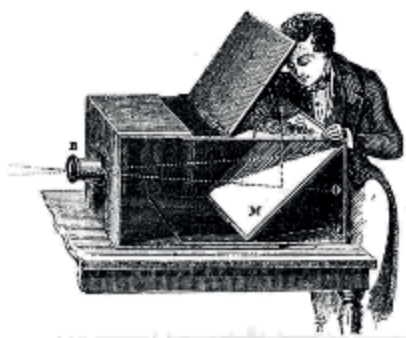


This month, our own esteemed member, Graham Marek, enthralled our members with his pictures and history of the Camera Obscura and showed everyone how it evolved over time to become the photographic wizardry it is today.

We were told that there is evidence that even artists such as Da Vinci used a camera obscura in their works of art. In 1558, Giovanni Della Porta (Italian scholar, polymath and playwright who lived in Naples at the time of the Renaissance) published four volumes which included how to use a camera obscura. Robert Boyle and Robert Hooke had then constructed a portable camera obscura, which has theorists believing it could have been used for the famous Canaletto paintings and could have also been used by Caravaggio and Vermeer.



More recently, camera obscuras have progressed to buildings such as the Clifton Observatory in Bristol, the Royal Observatory Greenwich and the Edinburgh Camera Obscura & World of Illusions.



'Camera obscura' is Latin for 'dark chamber'. It was originally observed when a small hole in the shutter of a room projected an upside-down image of an outside scene on the opposite wall. In time, it became a portable unit where the projected image on a glass screen could be traced by an artist. Today, it is commonly a round building with a rotating angled mirror in the roof which projects an image of the surrounding landscape to a horizontal surface in a darkened space.

On 3rd July we have Jonathan Genevaux coming to discuss 'Waterscapes'.

We welcome new members to our Society nights on the first Wednesday of each month.

Website: addphoto.co.uk or find us on [facebook.com/add.photosoc](https://www.facebook.com/add.photosoc) for further information.



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- Understand that provision for each child, family and staff member is what will lead to our school community fulfilling its considerable potential.
- Have good English, Maths and communication skills.

We are looking for a teaching assistant who will enjoy working in our school. Visits to the school are welcomed and encouraged. If you want further details on the roles available, including role and candidate specifications, hours (including potential for additional hours), and application forms, please call the school on 01869 340204 or email office.3828@dr-radcliffes.oxon.sch.uk

Closing date: Thursday, 27th June, 2024 at noon.

Interviews: Week beginning Monday, 1st July.

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THE VALENTINE CLUB

At the end of May we visited Saville Gardens and had a river cruise along The River Thames, with a cream tea of course! A full coach of 56 passengers descended on Saville Gardens to be greeted by rhododendrons in full bloom and the grounds looking amazing. Even better, the restaurant was opened early especially for us so that we could get a cup of coffee and a cake before walking around the estate. Then it was off to Runnymede to join a river cruiser which took us along the Thames for a couple of hours.

I wasn't able to meet the newsletter deadline last month to say what the reaction was after hearing all about 'Medical Detection Dogs'. The talk was informative and explained how amazing these dogs are. Listening to a man whose life was transformed by Charlie, his dog, was beyond belief and actually brought some members to tears. I don't think anyone will ever forget this.

For our June meeting we welcomed Rosie to sing for us with her 60s and 70s show. At the end of the month, we ventured to The Painshill estate and then on to Denbies Wine Estate for a meal and some wine tasting. More about that next month.

For our monthly meeting in July, we are moving out of the Village Hall and travelling to Rousham House for tea and a chance to look around the world-renowned gardens. Arrival time for Rousham is 2.30pm on the 16th July. The cost of the tea will be £5 per person, including the opportunity to look around the gardens. Thanks to Charles and Angela Cottrell-Dormer for allowing us this wonderful opportunity and to Ann Starling for arranging the teas. The day after, again with a full coach, we will make our way to Weston-Super-Mare for the opportunity to build sandcastles!

To find out more about The Valentine Club, simply visit our website at www.valentineclub.wixsite.com/aston or keep up-to-date by looking on the village website www.steepleaston.org.uk or use that old-fashioned thing called a telephone and call me on 01869 340512.

If you would like to support The Valentine Club and all the great things we do, have a go at CherwellLottery.co.uk/support/the-valentine-club where you can participate in the Cherwell Lottery and hopefully, like many of our supporters, become a winner.

Richard Preston – Group organiser

richard.preston5@btopenworld.com – telephone 340512

Steeple Aston Garden Club



Late May saw 30 members of the Garden Club visit Claridges Barn Gardens in Dean. The weather was kind and we only had one shower of rain. We walked through woodland, looked at wild ponds and a family garden, all created on Limestone Brash, which isn't an easy task. Drs. David and Jill Edwards provided us with wonderful homemade cakes and tea to finish off the visit in style.

Last week we had a return visit to Bourton House Garden, Bourton on the Hill. It was a glorious afternoon, the gardens were magnificent and we all had tea in the old orchard. This seems to be a theme of our visits!

On Wednesday 10th July we are due to visit Denton House Garden, Denton, near Garsington, at 2.30pm. The Head Gardener is giving us a tour and, of course, there will be refreshments.

Chris Clarke
Secretary

Steeple Aston Church Fete



July 13th

14:00 - 16:30

**To be opened by
Mat Watson.**

*Internet personality,
and Parish Councillor.*

*Robinson's Playing
Field and Village Hall.*

Performers:

*Brass band and the Joanne Mills
School of Dance.*

*Wet weather location:
Sports and rec' centre.*

Summer Hat Competition:
*bring or make the best
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*'BBQ!' 'Raffle!' 'Games!' 'tea!'
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Please bring cash.



**Donations of nearly-new clothes,
toys, books to 7 town end, 07748182227.**

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TO.....?

St. Peter ad Vincula?

No, not the Royal Peculiar chapel in the Tower of London, but the delightfully set church, one of very few dedicated to St. Peter ad Vincula (St. Peter in chains), in the pretty ironstone village of South Newington. I had vaguely heard that this church had medieval wall paintings, but I really wasn't prepared for what I found when I visited recently. For anyone interested in church architecture and decoration it is a treasure. It is a well-preserved and well-cared-for building dating from AD 1170, with enlargements and additions made through the centuries with traces of its Saxon beginnings and developments up to the Victorian box pews to be discovered when you visit. It also has an outstanding and remarkable collection of medieval wall paintings, the earliest of which date from AD 1330 and others from the 15th century. Unusually, they were painted with oil on plaster. Sadly, over the centuries some have deteriorated severely and suffered damage – being whitewashed over at some point cannot have helped to preserve them. Having been uncovered in 1863, they were conserved in 1931 and some of the subjects are clear to recognise. All are explained by information boards, which is helpful.



St. Peter ad Vincula Church



The Virgin and Child from the Lady Chapel

There are wall paintings in the north and south aisles, in the nave and on the clerestory arches, with the one which was the most prominent (and sadly now the most degraded) on the dome over the chancel arch. This was the Doom painting which would have grabbed your attention as soon as you walked into church, with its depictions of people arriving in heaven (on God's right hand) and those condemned to hell, supposedly because of their sins when on earth, on his left. For congregations who could not read or understand the Latin mass, the Doom would have given them plenty to brood about as they stood through services! It's a pity that the Doom painting is hard to decipher, but the information board in the north aisle helps to point out various images in the Doom, while you are also helped to identify other figures from several places as you make your way around the church.

South Newington always seems to me to hide away rather amongst a network of country lanes off the A361 between Banbury and Chipping Norton. Sat. Nav reference OX15 4JP should find St. Peter's for you and it's only about five miles from Deddington. The church is in the High Street with plenty of space to park. Do go and have a look and marvel at this quiet and enduring little monument to people's determination to create a beautiful place of worship.

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Village Hall News



Sunday 2nd June NGS (National Garden Scheme) Open Gardens

On behalf of the Village Hall Committee a very big thank you to all those who provided cakes, served teas (photo right), took money, washed and dried crockery and helped clear up at the end of the day to make this event such a great success. This year – as in previous years – we were able to make a generous contribution to aid Macmillan Nurses and other charities. This could not have happened without your help and generosity.



After our last Village Hall AGM in May 2024, I decided to stand down as Chairperson, as from May 2025, but will continue to stay on the committee as Tuesday badminton rep. This means that we will be looking for someone to take over as Chairperson of the Village Hall committee in May 2025. The function of the committee as a whole is to ensure the Village Hall is run and kept in a good condition for the benefit of the village and indeed improved as funds allow. This is a good opportunity for someone to network into the community and 'get involved'. If you feel you are that person, you would be very welcome to come along to one of our monthly committee meetings and see what is involved. If you are interested, please call me on 340423 for more information.

Steeple Aston Village Hall Trustees

We have an opportunity for a Volunteer Marketing Coordinator who would work as part of a management team. This role will cover various areas of marketing with a focus on supporting the Trustees to achieve increased bookings for the Village Hall. Once set up, we anticipate that a couple of hours a week will be needed, depending on the enthusiasm of the volunteer, to undertake the duties. The main duties will be to:

- Attend monthly meetings of the Trustees to discuss and agree marketing ideas and progress.
- Create engaging and targeted copywriting for our websites.
- Plan, create and deploy marketing campaigns.
- Create and keep third-party listing up to date.
- Take on any associated duties agreed with the Trustees.

The post will be an unpaid voluntary position, suitable for a trainee (particularly good for a CV) or a retiree with a marketing background or interest. Contact Richard Preston on 340512 or John Coley on 347882 for more information.

Forthcoming events 2024 (*more details to follow*)

Tuesday 5th November: Fireworks spectacular

Sunday 8th December: Wassail evening.

Saturday 18th January 2025: Annual Quiz Night.

Our letting agent is Mrs Angela Smith – 07734 112967.

Please do not call this number between 6pm and 8pm unless urgent.

Email steeple-aston-village-hall@hotmail.com

Collect keys from 'Mijas', South Side, Steeple Aston OX25 4RU.

Barbara Brewer – Chairperson
savh.org.uk/



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For the June meeting of Steeple Aston WI, a dozen members went on an outing to Hook Norton Brewery. We had a fascinating tour round the magnificent building (see photo), which uses gravity to take the hard work out of brewing. Our guide, the genial and knowledgeable Leon, gave us lots of interesting detail about the generations of brewers and the development of this family business and the processes involved in brewing beer. He showed us the old Victorian machinery still in use today and explained how differing flavours, strengths, colours and types of beer are produced. He supplied us with a wealth of information as he guided us around the warren-like five-floor building. The tour ended with a tasting and then lunch in the restaurant (see photo). Finally, we picked out some items from the well-stocked gift shop before making our way back to Steeple Aston. Our one disappointment was not to meet the magnificent horses that the brewery uses for their deliveries.

As well as learning about brewing, we heard how the brewery loads up 4x4 vehicles with essential supplies and drives them to Ukraine, where they donate both the vehicle and its contents. To date, they have donated 55 trucks, three ambulances, one hearse and over 50 tonnes of medical supplies, food, warm clothing, vehicle spares and tools. Our WI group had an impromptu collection and donated £75 to the cause.

The Village Hall sent thanks to WI members who made cakes for the Open Gardens on 2nd June. We hope you will put your baking skills to work again to stock a WI stall at the Flower Show on August Bank Holiday Monday. We would also be grateful if you would look through your cupboards and china cabinets for any good quality bric-a-brac that you can donate.



Our next meeting is on 9th July, when Julie Neve will talk about beekeeping and the natural skincare products bees give us. There will be products on sale.

Finally, the WI members at the NFWI Royal Albert Hall meeting voted overwhelmingly in favour of the resolution 'Dental Health Matters'. A full report will be available at our July meeting.

Cathy Lawday

Bellringers D-Day peal

There had been a call for Church Bells to ring out on Thursday 6th June at 6.30pm for peace and to mark the 80th anniversary of D-day.

The bellringers decided that the Steeple Aston church bells should be part of the national commemorations along with hundreds of other churches and cathedrals all over the country.

We were pleased to play our part in remembering the great sacrifice so many gave so that we can live in peace today.



D-Day bellringers from left to right:
Dorothy Clifton, Malcom Hensher, Jenine Coaker, Lewis Knowles,
Graham Clifton, Jack Knowles, Nick Powell, Keith Thomas.



Graham Clifton



The Steeple Aston Cope

Steeple Aston church dates back to at least AD 1180. In AD 1220, the name 'Steeple' was attached to the village, so it seems a tower may have been added around then – though the one we have today is from two hundred years later. As with most medieval churches, it has been seriously altered many times. The chancel was rebuilt after the Civil War (AD 1642-1651). Most of the nave was totally re-designed in the early Victorian period.

Around AD 1330, an elaborately decorated cope was made for the church. It is one of the most astonishing surviving examples of English medieval embroidery. Originally it was a semi-circular garment to be worn for church services. Then it was cut up to make altar furnishings, probably at the time of the Reformation (around AD 1527 to 1590). Fortunately, very little of the fabric was lost.

The earliest recorded reference to the cope, in AD 1844, reveals that it was kept in the church's medieval parish chest in the form of separate altar furnishings. However, the cope's original design is still clear.

The woven silk twill on which the embroidery was worked is so fine that much of it has become worn. But dramatic figures still stand out, sewn in gilded silver thread and multi-coloured silks. The original design is based around a framework of oak and ivy branches with leaf-mask faces peering out and lions, their tails in the air, tongues protruding and teeth bared, prowling in between.



*A detail from the Steeple Aston Cope:
an angel playing a lute*

The spaces are filled with scenes from the life of Christ and the Virgin, together with 20 saints. Some of the saints are depicted immediately before or during their martyrdoms, mostly accompanied by one or two executioners raising weapons or fists. The saints all wear long golden robes lined with brightly coloured silks, while their tormentors wear knee-length tunics and striped stockings which have retained the bright blues and greens of the silks used to embroider them.

Two panels on either side of the altar frontal were originally part of the orphrey (a decorative strip that runs along the straight edge of the cope). The main subject on each of them is an angel seated on a horse playing a musical instrument. One angel, sitting on a yellow horse and wearing a blue robe, leans his head to the right to play a fiddle, a popular instrument of the 14th century. The other angel, wearing green, plays a lute – possibly the earliest depiction of this instrument in English art.

The Cope has been on loan to the Victoria & Albert Museum, London, since 1905 and occasionally features (as in 2017) in major exhibitions.

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Church Services



	North Aston	Steeple Aston	Tackley
Sunday 7th July	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	11.00am Holy Communion (BCP)	5.30pm Evensong
Sunday 14th July	9.30am Morning Worship	11.00am Family Service	5.30pm Holy Communion
Sunday 21st July	9.30am Holy Communion	11.00am Holy Communion	5.30pm Family Service
Sunday 28th July	9.30am Morning Prayer	11.00am Morning Prayer	9.30am Holy Communion
<p><i>www.sntchurch.com</i></p> <p><i>The church buildings are open every day. Feel free to visit at any time.</i></p>			



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Non-Village (up to 6hrs)	£110 (Plus Refundable Deposit £300)
Non-Village (over 6hrs)	£160 (Plus Refundable Deposit £300)

Off-Peak – all hire before 6pm

Hourly Rate	£10/hr (or £30 for 4 hours)
Plus Refundable Deposit	£200

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Represented Clubs	£9 (up to 3hrs)
Others	£17 (up to 3hrs)
plus Refundable Deposit	£200

Committee Room

Represented Clubs	£6 (up to 3hrs)
Others	£12 (up to 3hrs)
Letting Agent	Angela Smith (07734-112967)
Chairperson	Barbara Brewer (01869-340423)
Secretary	Margaret Bulleyment (01869-347346)

Represented Clubs must nominate a trustee to attend Village Hall committee meetings.

Discounted rate for represented clubs – 15% for six block bookings.

Steeple Aston Sports & Recreation Centre Letting Charges

Social Function peak times: (Daily up to 6 hours, from 6.00pm)	£55.00
Social Function off-peak times: (Daily up to 5 hours, up to 6.00pm)	£27.50
Meeting of represented clubs: (Daily per session, max 2 hours)	£11.00
Caution money for Private Lettings:	£100.00
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Chair – Torquil McLusky Tel : 01869 347914	
Treasurer – Chris Cooper Tel : 01869 347173	

BUS TIMES

STAGECOACH S4 BUS SERVICE

This timetable is effective from 10th March 2024

From Steeple Aston (outside Post Office) to Oxford (arrival time in italics)

Mondays to Fridays (except public holidays)

0619 0721 0831 0931 then hourly to 1531 1645 1754 1849 1937 2037 2216
0703 0817 0920 1020 1620 1737 1840 1932 2022 2147 2253

Saturdays

0721 0821 0931 then hourly to 1531 1641 1746 1849 1937 2037 2216
0809 0909 1019 1619 1729 1834 1932 2022 2147 2253

Sundays and most public holidays

0907 1037 1207 1337 1507 1637 1806
0953 1123 1253 1423 1553 1723 1852

From Steeple Aston (outside Post Office) to Banbury (arrival time in italics)

Mondays to Fridays (except public holidays)

0758 0910 1008 then hourly to 1508 1624 1732 1835 1933 2025 2113 2213 2341
0837 0947 1045 1545 1703 1809 1909 2006 2053 2142 2242 0009

Saturdays

0758 0908 1008 then hourly to 1608 1718 1828 1927 2025 2113 2213 2341
0837 0945 1045 1645 1755 1905 1958 2053 2142 2242 0009

Sundays and most public holidays

0917 1044 1214 1344 1514 1644 1814 1944
0956 1122 1252 1422 1552 1722 1852 2022

Times subject to change. Before starting your journey please check the timetables at www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables E&OE

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See <https://ourbusbartons-org-uk.stackstaging.com/> for details and times.

Steeple and Middle Aston rubbish bin collection day is Thursday.



July 2024

4 th	Green
11 th	Blue and brown
18 th	Green
25 th	Blue and brown

August 2024

1 st	Green
8 th	Blue and Brown
15 th	Green
22 nd	Blue and Brown
29 th	Green

Food caddy is collected weekly

Batteries and small electrical items packed in clear plastic bags and placed on the top of any bin lid are collected weekly.

Steeple Aston Calendar

Check the village website at steepleaston.org.uk/home/calendar for any changes.

Please send details of events for July and August to editorsalife@gmail.com

July 2024			
Wednesday 3rd	AD&D Photographic Society Jonathan Genevaux discussing 'Waterscapes'	Adderbury Institute	7.30pm
Thursday 4th	UK General Election voting	Village Hall	7am to 10pm
Sunday 7th	SA Cricket Club v. Minster Lovell CC	Wash Meadow	1pm
Tuesday 9th	WI. Talk by Julie Neve: 'Neve's Bees'	Village Hall	7pm for 7.30pm
Wednesday 10th	Garden Club. Visit to Denton House Garden, near Garsington	14:30:00	
Saturday 13th	Church Fete	Robinsons Close	2pm to 4.30pm
Sunday 14th	SAL July 2024 copy and advert deadlines		
Monday 15th	Parish Council meeting	S&R Building	7.30pm
Tuesday 16th	Valentine Club. Rousham House tea	Rousham	2.30pm
Wednesday 17th	Valentine Club. Coach trip to Weston-super-Mare		
Friday 19th	Golf Society. The Springs	Wallingford	12 noon for 1pm
Thursday 25th	Church Talk. 'Travels in Mongolia'	SA Church	19:00:00
Saturday 27th	Deddington Farmers' Market	Deddington	9am to 12.30pm
Saturday 27th	Sustainable Steeple	Deddington Church	9am to 12.30pm

Choral Society Rehearsals. Village Hall - 7.45pm - Mondays
Badminton. Village Hall - 10am -12.30pm - Tuesdays
Bell Ringing practice. Church Tower - 7.30pm - Tuesdays
Walking Netball. Village Hall - 10.15am - Wednesdays
Brownies. Sport & Rec Centre - 6pm - 7.30pm - Wednesdays
Toddler Group. Sport & Rec Centre - 9.30am -11.30am - Thursdays
Badminton. Village Hall - 8pm - Thursdays
Village History Centre (SAVA). 10am - 12 noon - Saturdays

Steeple Aston Life is published by Steeple Aston Life Committee

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