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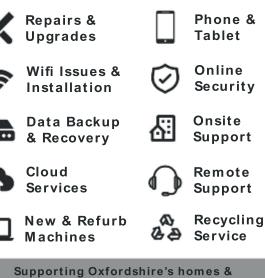


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Cover: Longhorn cattle in the Rousham mist (photo by Nigel Francis)

Contributions are welcome. Please email editorsalife@gmail.com

Steeple Aston Life

COPY

All articles and letters to the Editor <u>editorsalife@gmail.com</u>

COPY DEADLINES

The copy deadline is the 14th of the previous month. This means the copy deadline for the February issue is **Tuesday 14th January 2025**

READ STEEPLE ASTON LIFE ONLINE *https://www.steepleaston.org.uk/sal-magazine*

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"....folly is not always folly." Jane Austen



January 2025 Issue No.617

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Editorial

As we welcome the New Year, our thoughts inevitably return to significant events or milestones witnessed over the last twelve months. From birthday celebrations, anniversaries, weddings and new babies, to loved ones lost, changes experienced and achievements accomplished. So much can happen in the space of a year, and our community is no exception. Try the village quiz to see how much you can recall of local events that occurred in 2024.

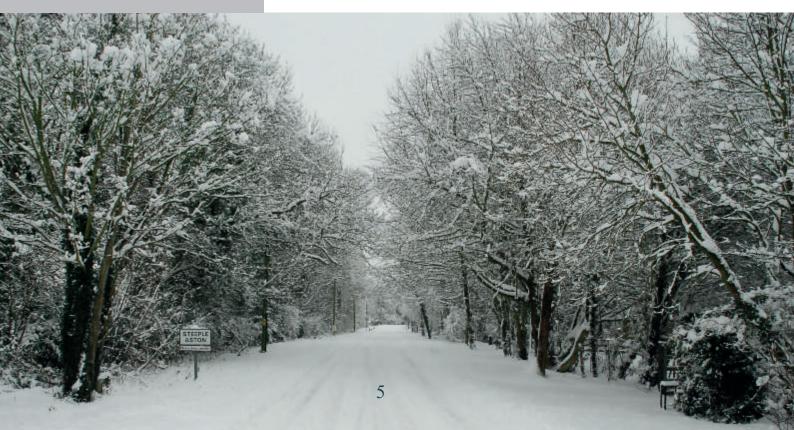
The new year also brings a chance to reset and look at opportunities to do things differently. New Year's resolutions have a notoriously bad success rate, as they are seldom adhered to for long. Rather than setting often unrealistic goals in equally uneasy timescales, maybe we should look at simpler ways of making a difference. Doing a good deed, paying a compliment or offering a smile can be equally rewarding and far easier to accomplish.

If you're looking to make new connections or try fresh pastimes, why not consider joining one of the many clubs and societies on offer by visiting the village website, or explore some of the footpaths in and around the Astons. The spring show in March offers much to look forward to, so take a look at the schedule in this issue and start planning your winning entries.

On the issue of change, I am sad to report that my dear colleague, Kate Symondson, is stepping down from her role as co-editor of SAL due to other commitments. I am immensely grateful for all her help and support over the last few months as we got to grips with the intricacies of SAL. Kate's creative flair and fresh ideas have been much appreciated, and she was the inspiration behind the colourful cover competition for Christmas enjoyed by many, especially the younger ones. We will miss her and wish her all the best, and hope she may wish to dip in now and again.

Wishing you all a Happy & Healthy New Year!

Carol





Marie MacCutcheon – a thank you

Arlene and all of Marie's family wish to convey their heartfelt thanks for all the kind messages of sympathy received, and to those who attended Marie's funeral on Friday 6th December at the North Oxfordshire Crematorium in Tackley. Thanks also for all the kind donations gratefully received in Marie's memory that will be passed on to The Valentine Club, Steeple Aston, where Marie spent many happy times as a long-term member.

Letter to the Editor

Recently there was a power cut to at least one third of the parish. The outage lasted several hours leaving the elderly and vulnerable without heat and light. The Parish has a Community Emergency Plan. It states that the Plan covers a number of events including 'prolonged power failure'. The Plan continues that, in a prolonged emergency the Emergency Committee (Normally the PC) will take whatever steps are in their power to support the community and protect lives. Priority will be given to the elderly and vulnerable.

Was the Emergency Plan activated? SSEN provided a source of hot food in the Village Hall car park. Were the elderly and vulnerable apprised of it? What was done to mitigate the absence of heating for the elderly and vulnerable? Was a warm place provided so those without heating had somewhere warm to stay for a few hours? Were those without a phone or internet signal visited to tell them? Some folk went to our local pub to find the kitchen was shut. Did the Emergency Plan not foresee this and ask for the facility to be kept open, so there was a hot drink or a meal of some sort available? If nothing of this nature happened - Why?

John Coley

(Who was fortunate to have no power cut)

SAL welcomes letters to the Editor, but it should be noted that the views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor nor the SAL Committee

Farewell & thanks to Bridget Lewis

I'm sure our readers will wish to join us in thanking Bridget Lewis for her interesting and informative articles on wildlife in her regular 'Nature Notes' contributions. I always looked forward to reading them, and her extensive knowledge and endless patience when wildlife watching is unparalleled. We wish her well in her move up to Scotland, which promises to offer countless opportunities for yet more wild encounters. Good luck, Bridget!

If anyone with an interest in nature would like to contribute articles on flora and fauna, please get in touch via <u>editorsalife@gmail.com</u>

An apology

Sincere apologies that we inadvertently missed including details of the Steeple Aston Handbell Ringers door to door fortnight from 8th December 2024. It always provides an uplifting melodic start to the festive season, and this year they were collecting for the British Heart Foundation and the church roof appeal. See Steeple Aston website for further details: *steepleaston.org.uk*/

AN EVENING OF POETRY & MUSIC

with JOHN WHITE Winner of iOTA Shots Award 2023 for his pamphlet, *Attachments*

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STEEPLE ASTON ALMSHOUSES

Many of you will have walked or driven along North Side recently and maybe noticed some building work at The Almshouses, numbers one and two. These two cottages are the legacy of Brasenose College and, more specifically, Dr Samuel Radcliffe, Rector of Steeple Aston and Principal of Brasenose back in the mid 1660s when these were built. They were originally single storey with a second storey converted from an attic space in 1814, then during the mid-twentieth century, a side extension was added to provide better kitchen space for both cottages. The new extensions were added to provide better entrance space and storage for the properties, which are grade two listed and managed by a board of trustees. The residents pay a 'contribution' to the upkeep and ongoing improvements to the properties and, in return, occupy a small but cosy cottage with most of the modern conveniences expected of the 21st century along with a small outdoor space.

It is interesting to understand how residents of The Almshouses are found and how they qualify. To read from the constitution of the Dr Radcliffe Almshouse Charitable Trust, the qualifying person should be 'a poor person of good character and are resident in the parishes of Steeple or Middle Aston (except in special cases to be approved by the commissioners)'. Today, those definitions might be interpreted in a different way, but the connection with the two villages is important, and one may well ask, what constitutes a 'poor person' in this day and age? During my time as a villager, I have seen many inhabitants of the two properties and in every case, the cottages have been well loved and cherished by their respective occupants. Sadly, we have just lost one of our 'residents' after occupying number one for around two decades and we, as trustees, are refurbishing it to a modern standard with the work hopefully complete by early spring.



As you might expect, the 'contributions' do not cover the cost of major work and we are grateful to the support of The Dr Radcliffe's School Foundation as, without them, we would be placed in a very difficult situation whilst trying to provide high quality accommodation for existing and future residents.

These two cottages are some of the oldest existing properties within the village and next time you are passing, take a closer look as they hold a lot of our village's history and demonstrate that, although historic, they still have a place in our village as they, like us all, get that bit older.

If you are interested in becoming a trustee of Steeple Aston Almshouse, we have a vacancy arising where you could join the small but enthusiastic group and, at the same time, learn even more about the village and legacy gifted to us by Dr Samuel Radcliffe. We only meet about three times a year over a cup of tea or coffee.



Richard Preston – Chairperson of Steeple Aston Almshouse

Dr Radcliffe's Almshouses

We have a vacancy in Almshouse Number 1, North Side, Steeple Aston (OX25 4SE). This accommodation is for single occupancy only and comprises of a ground floor porch area, toilet and shower room, a kitchen and a living room with stairs to a first-floor bedroom. There is also a small outdoor space.

Applicants must be able to live independently and have a connection with the parishes of Steeple Aston and Middle Aston. Residents will have their gas and water bills paid, and instead of rent pay a contribution that is below commercial rent levels.

If you are interested and would like more detailed information, please contact Richard Preston on 01869 340512 or email <u>richard.preston5@btopenworld.com</u>

Richard Preston - Dr Radcliffe's Almshouse Trustees



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Happy New Year!

Hopefully you all had a lovely Christmas, enjoying time with family and friends.

In the run up to Christmas and the New Year, there were many TV shows looking back on the events last year. We especially enjoy watching the BBC Sports Personality of the Year show, as it looks back over a year of sport, which this year of course included the 2024 Olympics in Paris.

Now, at the start of 2025 it is time to look forward, and think about what is coming up. A quick internet search highlights:

- Various national elections around the world including Ecuador and Liechtenstein, and German & Canadian Federal elections.
- Various sporting world championships including Handball and Aquatics, as well as the FIFA world Cup.
- Eurovision Song Contest.
- Microsoft ending support for Windows 10 (which started in 2015).

For each of the above events to run smoothly, months and even years' worth of planning goes into them behind the scenes. Whilst the Prime Minister can call a general election with six weeks' notice, the reality is that the political parties were planning for last summer's general election well before January 2024. The same is equally true in our own lives, when we want to do something, we need to plan for it. Many of us may be planning our summer holidays even now, looking at the potential dates we can take off work, and excitedly pouring through holiday brochures/adverts. There is the old adage about failure to plan equals planning to fail. We have to choose early on what we want to do, so that we can plan the steps for us to get there. One of the difficulties we are facing with climate change is that we haven't planned enough for the transition to renewable energy sources, and so the infrastructure isn't in place for us to achieve it.

Which brings us back to the question about what do we want to do in 2025? We need to decide this and then plan the steps to help us get there, be it going on a luxury holiday, or buy a new car and then putting money aside each month to pay for it. Alternatively, perhaps it's about self-improvement, gaining a new qualification (BBC News showed an 80 year old achieving their grade 8 piano exam), and then putting the time in to learn and practice. Reading an article recently about New Year Resolutions, apparently 45% of people make them, but roughly only 8% are successful in achieving them. Having a clear goal, and planning steps to get there, will help in turning the New Year Resolutions, hopes and dreams into reality.

The Lord Bless you and those you love now and always.

Harriet



Photo: Nigel Francis



Letter from Westminster



SAL's bi-monthly epistle from our MP, Sean Woodcock

At the recent Budget, the Labour government took the tough decisions to fix the foundations and deliver change. By taking these decisions, we'll be able to make crucial investments in our public services.

A favourite measure of mine, because I know how much of a difference it will make to families in Steeple Aston, is the tripling of government investment in breakfast clubs. This week, Labour's Education Secretary, Bridget Phillipson, announced that schools are now able to apply to become one of the first to offer a new, government-backed free breakfast club. By doing so, we're proving that Labour is wasting no time in seeking to meet our manifesto commitment to roll out free breakfast clubs in primary schools and wasting no time in driving change to fulfil our mission to break down the barriers to opportunity.

The clubs have a dual-purpose. Firstly, they're proven to boost attendance and attainment and they will ensure children start the day ready to learn. Evidence shows that providing a healthy school breakfast at the start of the school day can contribute to increased concentration as well as improved wellbeing and behaviour. At the same time, they are a valuable source of childcare for parents at the beginning of the day. The clubs are estimated to save parents £400 a year. Research shows over half of parents say they have problems finding formal childcare that is flexible enough to fit their needs, while four in 10 of mothers say they have had to work fewer hours than they would like because of childcare costs. Together, these breakfast clubs will boost parents' work choices and children's life chances. That's why it's such a shame that, under the Tories, these clubs were available in just one in seven primary schools across England. Labour will make them available for all our children.

This government's mission is to break down the barriers to opportunity for every child and at every stage. That means that where you're from shouldn't determine where you end up. If you work hard, you should be able to get on. That's the ordinary hope of British people and that's what our mission will restore.

Early adopters will have the unique opportunity to shape the future of the national breakfast club policy, contributing directly to its implementation – I hope the school in Steeple Aston can be part of that, and I'll back local schools as they apply to take part.

Sean Woodcock MP

Member of Parliament for Banbury (including Chipping Norton, Charlbury and the North Oxfordshire Villages) House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA Email: <u>sean.woodcock.mp@parliament.uk</u>

Steeple Aston needs more Bell Ringers

At Steeple Aston we have been very lucky to have a team of bell ringers that ring for church services every Sunday. Unfortunately, like most organisations we are an ageing group. We now have three of our members over the age of 80. While our bells are very easy to ring, getting up the tower spiral stairs is not so easy.

On the 30th November 1974, Joe Burchell and myself from Great Tew came over to Steeple, to help the locals ring a full peal. This was the first peal on the bells for 23 years at that time. It took two hours 50 minutes to complete. It was unique because it was the first peal for five out of the six ringers taking part, and there were only six bells in the tower back then. The peal then was to mark the centenary of the birth of Sir Winston Churchill.

So, on the 30th November 2024, we successfully rang another peal in two hours 56 minutes to mark the anniversary of my first peal. We now have eight bells in the tower. It was pleasing that Jack and Lewis Knowles, two of our younger members, took part and enabled them to ring their first peal on eight bells. From the comments I have received, it was very much enjoyed, thank you.

If you enjoy the sound of the bells and would like to help keep this ancient tradition going, come along and see what happens, and maybe have a try. We would be really pleased to see you any Tuesday evening between 7.30 - 9.00pm in the church tower.

Bell ringing started in Steeple Aston tower in 1674 when the first bells were installed, and, apart from the war years when bells were only to be rung in case of an invasion, they have rung ever since. Please help us to keep it going.

Graham Clifton. Please email me: gjclifton@btinternet.com or Tel: 01869-347273



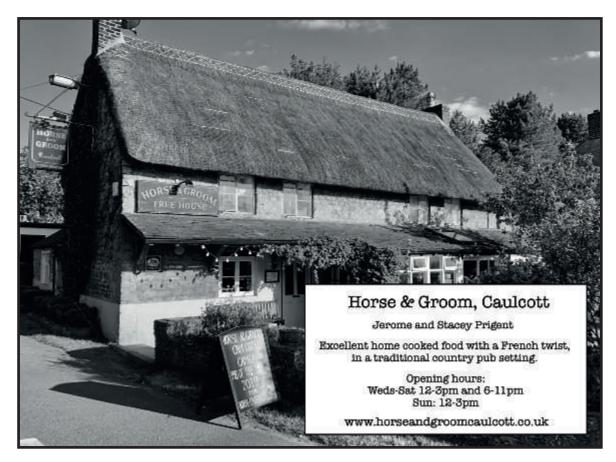
1974 ringers: left to right:

Fred Darvill, Joe Burchell, Dorothy Minett, Ron Knight, Graham Clifton, Harry Adams.



2024 ringers: left to right:

Rosemary Hemmings (Bodicote), Jack Knowles (S Aston), Sally Austin, Dan Austin (Hook Norton), Colin Lee (Adderbury), Graham Clifton, Lewis Knowles, Lawrence White (S Aston).







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How much do you recall about our community in 2024?

Test your knowledge of events in and around our villages over the past year.

1) Which village artists had their works selected for Banbury Museum's Ironstone Art Prize Exhibition in January?

a. Which team won the Annual Quiz night in January 2024?b. And by what name was the trophy known in the 1980s annual quiz?

3) Whose poetry won the iOTA Shot 2023 Poetry Pamphlet Competition?

4) Who took over the running of The Red Lion in February?

5) In March, which couple were presented with a special bench for all their hard work over the years on behalf of the Horticultural Society?

6) How many people visited six Steeple Aston gardens and the church allotments, as part of the National Garden Scheme in June?

7) Who is the new Chair of the Horticultural Society?

8) The Grain Store in Middle Aston launched a scheme to encourage people of all ages to get to know one another better. What is it called?

9) What is the speed limit now in Steeple Aston?

10) Which former Editor of SAL kindly stepped in to edit the September issue?

11) Which housing initiative was recently launched to enable local people to have more input into decision making on community housing?

12) What was the theme of Steeple Aston Village Archive (SAVA)'s annual exhibition in November?

13) a. What special occasion did the church bell ringers celebrate with a peal in November?

b. And which village bellringer took part half a century ago?

14) Which pernicious beast that has blighted village life for years is about to get its comeuppance?

15) Who most recently joined as a member of Steeple Aston Parish Council? (Answers on page 36)

Steeple Aston Choral Society



The intrepid members of the audience for the SACs concert 'Light in the Darkness', who had made challenging journeys through wind and the heavy rain of Storm Bert hoping for an evening of joyful music on November 24th, were well rewarded for their efforts. The choir coped well with the difficult Bach Cantate no 140, ably supported and lifted to heights of musicality by experienced professional soloists, Angela Kazimierczuk and Guy Harbottle. The Glorias of the final Chorale resounded around the church, leading one to wonder whether the angels in the piece might echo the glorious sound made by the choir.

Claudio Monteverdi's Beatus Vir – Blessed is the man who fears the Lord – completed the first half of the concert and was joyful indeed. This piece of music is not easy for singers or accompanist. However, led by SAC's enthusiastic and energetic Director, Paul Badley, himself a professional singer, the intricate patterns wove themselves into an uplifting completeness as the women's voices, often soaring to pure and glorious heights, were solidly anchored by the Tenors and Basses. Paul Herrington, the choir's weekly accompanist, played the organ for the whole of the concert, delivering, with the choir, a more than creditable rendering of Bach and Monteverdi's complex and complicated music. The performances of these two pieces of music were satisfying for singers and audience alike, and ensured a positive atmosphere as people enjoyed drinks and mince pies during the interval which followed the rousing climax to Beatus Vir.

Ralf Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on Christmas Carols led by Guy Harbottle, Baritone soloist, began the second part of the concert. The choir attacked its part in this with cheerful energy and spirit. It's a fast-moving piece jumping quickly from one carol to another, with the deep round notes of the bass holding the Fantasia together. It ends with offering resounding good wishes for Christmas and New Year to all who are listening.

Steeple Aston *Choral Society*



The choir's rendering of three familiar carols ending with the beautiful Nativity Carol arranged by John Rutter, gave way to a pitch perfect and tender unaccompanied performance of 'I Wonder as I Wander', an Appalachian carol, sung by Angela Kazimierczuk.

The hushed silence as she finished singing was testament to how much her performance had touched the audience.

In contrast, the three carols which the audience were invited to join the choir in singing, made the rafters ring! Everyone who participated or contributed in some way to the success of the evening was sincerely thanked. As everyone left to battle with the elements on journeys home, they were no doubt looking forward to the next concert on March 30th when the weather will surely be more clement and the singing just as good, if not better!

Eileen Baglin-Jones

Нарру New Y	ear
Midwinter bleakness	Midwinter bleakness
gone Christmas's sweetness	gone is the sweetness
it's time to sit down and reflect	my virtual bank is now real
bank balance is low	so let the bells toll
I've nowhere to go	and let the drums roll
but hey now what did I expect	it's beans for a week for my meal
the bills rolling in	the gifts in my box
where do I begin	deodorant and socks
to pay them I haven't a clue	won't fill up the hole in my tum
I'll remember next year	I'll gird up my loins
to cut back on cheer	search the settee for coins
so the future looks not quite as blue	and hope that my toes don't go numb



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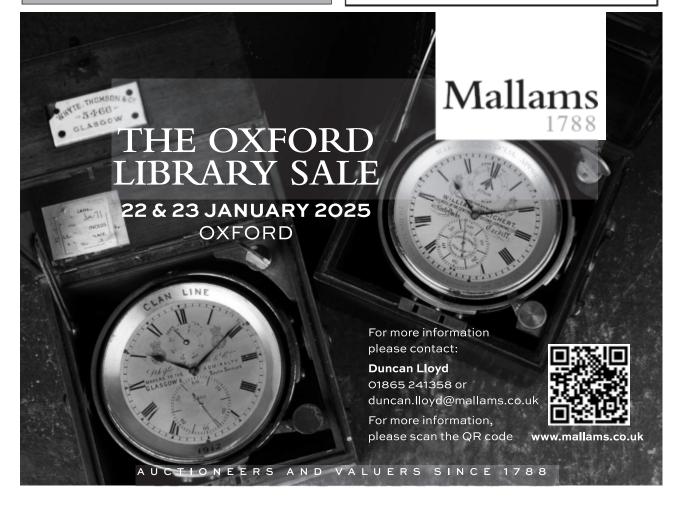
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THE VALENTINE CLUB

Happy New Year to you all and thank you to all those who actually read this brief report from The Valentine Club. I have just been reminded that I am now in my 20th year of holding the prestigious position of group organiser. I know what you are all thinking, *"he must have been very young when he took on the role!"* The Valentine Club originated as an opportunity for those of more mature years to meet up monthly, simply as a social occasion, starting way back on Valentines Day 1952, hence the name. It has seen many different formats, but basically, trying to encourage seniors to get together and enjoy life to their best ability. We now have a membership of 100 and a waiting list, so I guess we are doing something right!

Way back in November, we welcomed Emma Teasdale to tell us all about 'domestic abuse'. The talk was very informative and somewhat frightening, as this situation is probably far more common than we might like to think.

Early in December, we took a full coach to Stratford-upon-Avon for a three-course meal and entertainment based around Motown. We should have been going to a hotel in Warwick, but at the last minute we were informed that the hotel had been taken over by asylum-seekers (no comment!). As an emergency venue, The Crown Plaza in Stratford did us proud with a superb meal and, as always, great entertainment. Next came the annual Christmas meal attended by over 90 members. As I am writing this before we have actually had the party, please excuse me for assuming the outcome but, rest assured, we will have all had a great time entertained by Andy and Rosie and, not forgetting our very own star act, Alan. Thanks must be given to Becky, CJ and Arlene for giving up their Tuesday afternoons to help serve the teas and wash up. Thanks also to my committee who ensure everything goes smoothly, and to my dear wife, Daphne, who looks after the books to make sure we don't have to take out a loan, unlike certain administrative bodies whom I will not name. Our Christmas meal was amazing as always, supplied and served by S & J Cuisine and accompanied by a few drinks and some great company. But there is one very important body of people without whom this club would not be the same, and that is the members themselves who I like to count as friends and not simply members.

Next year's programme has been circulated and hopefully everyone will find something to their liking, be it a speaker, entertainer, coach outing or maybe even a holiday. Our first meeting of the year welcomes a representative from Katharine House Hospice to tell us all about the work and support provided by this very worthwhile organisation. Meeting at 2.30pm in Steeple Aston Village Hall on Tuesday 21st January.

They used to say, 'life begins at 40' but I might argue that, although 40 is not a bad age, when you get to 60 years young, life becomes that bit more precious and friends become even more essential, and The Valentine Club provides it all! To find out more, simply visit our website on *valentineclub.wixsit.com/aston* (easiest way to log on is go to the village website, go to 'clubs and societies', find The Valentine Club and click on the link), or keep up to date by looking on the village website *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, why not have a go at the *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

Email: Richard.preston5@btopenworld.com Tel. 340512

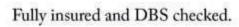




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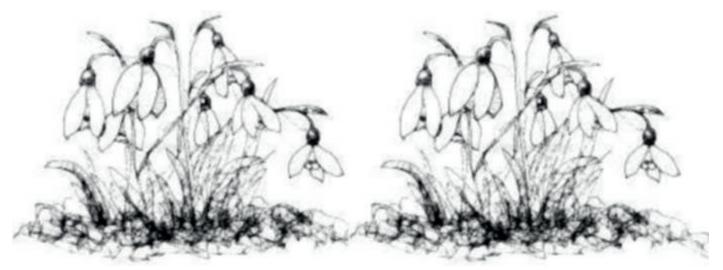
Snowdrop Sunday

Sunday 9th February

2.30 - 4.30pm

Snowdrops in the churchyard Homemade cake and tea £2.50 in the church

PLUS BOOKSTALL



Steeple Aston Village Archive



SAVA Exhibition 2024

The last panels in this year's SAVA Exhibition on the Environment of Steeple Aston go a long way to explain why a group, who are otherwise dedicated to archiving the village past, should display copious and colourful photographs of our local natural environment. These panels illustrated most starkly the changes in land use in modern times. They displayed aerial photographs which ranged from World War II right through to current Google Earth views. The older photos, often previously secret ones from military sources including the US Air Force, have become available in recent times. In one, we could see wartime aircraft secreted amongst the clumps of trees on the field south of Hopcrofts Holt and the airstrip on the other side of the main road.



Compared with the current aerial photos, what is immediately obvious in these old photos is the absence of tennis courts, swimming pools, trampolines and cars. Looking closer still, something else has also changed in land use. So much more land was previously dedicated to the production of food - formally laid out orchards and allotments. Gardens with extensive vegetable beds abound. The fields around appear to be fully

cultivated, right up to the back of gardens. The contrast with more modern aerial photos is telling. There was much less left to nature or for recreational use in the past. The reason for this difference may lie in the Agriculture Act of 1944 which encouraged food production to counteract wartime and post-war shortages, turning grassland to crops and attempting to get more workers on the land to produce potatoes and cereals. In 1944 alone, there was an increase across England of 700,000 acres newly cultivated for this purpose.

Steeple Aston Village Archive



Many photographs for the exhibition came from the SAVA exhibition of 2007, and due acknowledgement was given to the late Peter Waite who took them. They included species of butterflies, some of whose numbers are down this year due to weather, habitat loss or insecticides. The changing population of birdlife was also highlighted - where have all the sparrows and starlings gone? But there are also newcomers and not necessarily welcome ones - red kites featured much less



in 2007; muntjac deer and the Blandford fly were not then ubiquitous.



A novel feature of the exhibition was an interactive set of games, quizzes and puzzles on the theme of the environment aimed at involving younger visitors. They were encouraged to design an Aston Butterfly which features in the photographs here. Another panel recorded a tree survey of the villages, a new joint venture between SAVA and Dr Radcliffe's School.

So, the 2024 Exhibition was in some ways a divergence from most previous ones. A few

exhibition themes have been given a second look when new material or insights came along (Education, Business and Trade, for example), and the impressive stand of SAVA publications bore witness to this. At other times we have taken a popular format from television history programmes and applied them to our villages ('Steeple Aston in 100 Objects' and 'Houses in Time').

What theme or format would you like to see in 2025? SAVA would like to know. Drop into the Village History Centre any Saturday morning (10am-12 noon) to see what has been done previously, or suggest what you would like to see in future exhibitions to any SAVA member.

David Jarratt - SAVA

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A Village Affair!

No! Not what you might be imagining but something which we hope you – and everyone in the village will be excited about.

May 8th 2025 will mark 80 years since the end of the Second World War. Everyone in church on Remembrance Sunday and at the service by the war memorial on that day promised not to forget those who fought in the awful world wars, many of whom lost their lives, so that we can live and enjoy the freedoms we have. Their sacrifice changed the world.

There are fewer and fewer people in the village who have first hand memories of wartime life and before long the history of privation, fear and anxiety, hardship and hunger, damage and destruction will at best be second hand as succeeding generations learn about those unhappy days.

To mark this important anniversary the WI and the Church are hoping to display a cascade of poppies from the top of the church tower and are hoping that many people in the village will help to make that happen. We need people to knit or crochet red poppies which, attached to netting, will create a crimson waterfall to remind all who see it of those who lost their lives in so many ways and places in those terrible wars and, we hope, it will inspire conversations in many village homes.

Please get out your needles and red wool! Patterns for knitted and crochet poppies are available to download from

https://www.thewi.org.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/277369/Poppy-Patterns.pdf,

at WI meetings, or on the table at the back of church. Or you can use your own pattern, as long as the poppies are red with a black centre.

Let's make it a true village affair as we make hundreds of poppies to commemorate the 80th anniversary and create a magnificent cascade.



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Village Hall News



Chairperson 2025

The Village Hall Trustees are still looking for someone to take over as Chairperson from May 2025. This could be an opportunity for two people to combine their skills as co–chairs. 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, therefore, a good opportunity for someone to network in 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 need a volunteer to undertake active marketing duties. We have an opportunity for a Volunteer Marketing Co-ordinator who would work as part of the 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 details.

Sunday 8th December Wassail evening

We apologise for having to cancel our annual Wassail evening at the last minute, due to a power cut late on Saturday afternoon until 11pm on Sunday evening.

Saturday 18th January 2025 Annual Quiz Night

Ring Barbara on 01869 340423 to book your team.

Entrance fee £2.50 pp, maximum of 8 people to a table. Entrance fee at time of booking please. 7.00pm for a prompt 7.30pm start. There will be a licensed bar, so please do not bring your own drinks to this event. Only 12 tables will be available for this event, and four are already booked, so please book your team early to avoid disappointment.

Saturday 10 May 2025 - "We'll Meet Again" - 6.00pm

From 'The White Cliffs of Dover' to 'The Lambeth Walk' - a red, white and blue, family event in music, words and dance to celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE Day. For more information contact Margaret Bulleyment on 01869 347346 or email: <u>mtheb749@gmail.com</u>

Our letting agent is Mrs Angela Smith – 07734 112967. Please do not call this number between 6.00pm and 8.00pm unless urgent. Email <u>steeple-aston-village-hall@hotmail.com</u> Collect keys from 'Mijas', South Side, Steeple Aston OX25 4RU.

On behalf of myself and the Village Hall Committee, we would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a safe, healthy New Year.

Barbara Brewer (Chair) savh.org.uk/







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Hedgerow Highways

Hedges are a vital part of our local nature, providing shelter and resources for many species of mammals, insects and birds, from hibernating hedgehogs to the smallest of beetles. They're crucial wildlife corridors that allow safe travel between isolated habitats.

The benefits that hedgerows provide for biodiversity are endless. In a heavily fragmented landscape, hedgerows link up valuable habitats for wildlife such as woodland, grassland and ponds. This connects populations that would otherwise be isolated and vulnerable, and allows relocation to better habitat. Over 100 priority species utilise hedgerows for a variety of reasons such as for shelter, food, or navigation. Birds and small mammal species nest in hedges, bats use hedgerows as foraging grounds and navigational markers, and reptiles hide in the long tussocky margins associated with hedgerows.

November through to March is the best time of year to plant new hedges. The first step is to acquire your roots. In Oxfordshire we recommend planting Blackthorn, Spindle, Buckthorn, Guelder Rose, Hawthorn, Wild Privet, Cherry Plum, or Hazel. Plant four or five plants per metre, about 25cm apart using the slit planting method, ensuring that all fibrous roots are completely buried in the soil. To see a detailed tutorial of this planting method, head to our website where you can watch a demonstration from expert Nigel Adams. *wildoxfordshire.org.uk/guidance/hedgerows-guidance*

Aftercare for hedgerows is crucial. Keep weeds and grass away from the hedge plants for the first two to three years to give them plenty of space to absorb moisture and light. Thoroughly water the plants during dry spells. Compost can be very helpful to maintain vigour due to the competition for nutrients between such closely situated plants. Try to trim your hedge annually in the first three to five years to encourage bushy growth. Once your hedgerow is fully established (approximately five years), you can trim every year or every two or three years, but make sure you don't trim your hedge to the same place every cut. More detailed aftercare information is also available on our website. Good luck with your new hedges!

New Year – New Nature!

Why not make some **green themed resolutions** this new year! Perhaps yours is to cultivate new hedge life. Maybe you're going to reduce your meat intake, find eco-friendly cleaning products, or make your garden more wildlife friendly using native plants. There are endless ways to make a difference! Why not sign up to our monthly email Bulletin, visit our website, and follow us on social media for the latest nature news and ways you can join others in helping nature in Oxfordshire *wildoxfordshire.org.uk/news*

Jess Bouwer – Wild Oxfordshire Hedgerows & Partnerships Officer wildoxfordshire.org.uk/

Fruity Steeple!

The Community Orchard has been hard at work again digging in sixty hedge plants donated by the Woodland Trust. The plants, Hazel, Hawthorn, Dog rose, Dogwood and Crab apple will be great habitat for insects and birds in the future when they mature. They have a small tree guard protection at the moment, but will need a more substantial deterrent at some point as they grow to keep Muntjac at bay. If anybody has something that will help, we would be grateful.

The Orchard crew have also been busy during the Autumn collecting apples from gardens of the many generous folk around the village who donated their harvest to make this year's bottles of Steeple Aston's Tiddly Pomms apple juice.

If you would like to buy some and help support further ventures on the Orchard site, they are available in the village shop to purchase.



WI Report

The WI started the run-up to Christmas with a workshop to make a welcoming Christmas wreath for the door. Lynn Humbertson from Heyford WI came and showed us how to attach greenery to a willow ring, and then members added a variety of natural items such as orange slices, poppy heads, heather, dried hydrangea, dried catkins, cones and more. Everyone was very pleased with their creation.



On December 5th the walking netball players met for supper at the Red Lion. On December 10th we enjoyed a Christmas meal in the village hall cooked for us by S & J cuisine, and then were entertained by songs, carols, anecdotes, poetry and terrible cracker jokes courtesy of Nick Cleobury. Five members also read out the poem written for the Wassail which we had not been able to perform when the power cut caused the cancellation of this year's event. The competition to make a hanging star from any material had entries constructed from paper, foil, fabric and beads. The winner was Linda Needle's folded paper 'scandi star'.







WI Report

We look forward to events planned for 2025. Our January WI meeting, a talk by Stuart Cummins, is on the **14th January - NOT** on January 7th as stated on our programme. This year will see us busy making poppies for an event in May to celebrate the 80-year anniversary of VE Day - contact Merrill for more details.

If you are interested in joining Steeple Aston WI, contact President Julie Hillier (details in the Directory on page 4).

Cathy Lawday







Dr Radcliffe's School Report



Warwick Castle trip

Class 2 had a fabulous day exploring the wonders of Warwick Castle recently. They scaled towers, role-played invading the Castle and learnt about all the challenges an attacking army would face. They enjoyed their lunch in the open air watching the 'Falconer's Quest', an incredible display of the speed, wing power and mastery of the air above their heads. The class impressed everyone with their interesting observations and thoughtful questions. An unforgettable day for all! Thank you to the volunteers who came along with us and made it all possible.

Artists in School

We were very lucky to have two amazing artists in school this term. They helped the children produce some wonderful clay work. The children made time capsules. They learnt lots of new skills and were very proud of their achievements. Thanks to Cotswolds Arts Through Schools: *cotswoldsartsthroughschools.com*/



Remembrance Day Concert

Nathanael, Arlo, Charlie and Freddie were chosen to sing in the Steeple Aston Remembrance Day Concert organised by Mr Nicholas Cleobury in aid of the British Legion and the church roof appeal. The boys sang a setting of 'For the Fallen' very beautifully. The concert also featured a former Dr Radcliffe's pupil, Holly Viner, who played the theme from 'Schindler's List' on the violin, as well as The Aston Singers. The boys are to be congratulated, not only on their wonderful singing, but also for their willingness to learn this new music and take part in this special concert.

Dr Radcliffe's School Report



JustGiving

Thanks to all who have donated to the school's JustGiving page at

justgiving.com/page/dr-radcliffes-school Over £1,000 has been raised so far which is fantastic - thanks to all who have donated to date. Thanks also to the new Friends (our PTA) committee and volunteers, and to all of you who attended the excellent Christmas Fair. We plan to use all funds to boost our learning environment this year for two exciting projects:

<u>Accelerated Reader</u>: We're aiming to raise £3,000 to launch the first year of Accelerated Reader, an extensive library of books and interactive quizzes that motivates and supports all pupils in independent reading. Further details:

renaissance.com/products/accelerated-reader/

<u>Whiteboards for Interactive Learning:</u> We're aiming for £8,000 to complete our suite of interactive whiteboards, one per classroom. We replaced half of the class whiteboards last year, largely through the fundraising efforts of the Friends. These whiteboards are essential as part of a modern education. They enhance engagement, support diverse learning styles and promote collaboration in the classroom.

Rob O'Malley - Headteacher

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Answers to Village quiz 2024:

- 1. Abigail Boisot & Rebekah Tuluie
- 2. a. The Isthmians; b. The Steeple Brain
- 3. John White
- 4. Harry & Hannah Dickson
- 5. Richard & Daphne Preston
- 6. Nearly 300
- 7. Rebecca Lewin
- 8. The Chatty Café/The Chatter & Natter table
- 9. 20mph
- 10. Cathy Lawday
- 11. The Steeple & Middle Aston Community Land Trust (SAMA CLT)
- 12. The Environment
- 13. a. 150 years since the birth of Sir Winston
- Churchill; b. Graham Clifton
- 14. The Blandford Fly
- 15. Greg Elphick

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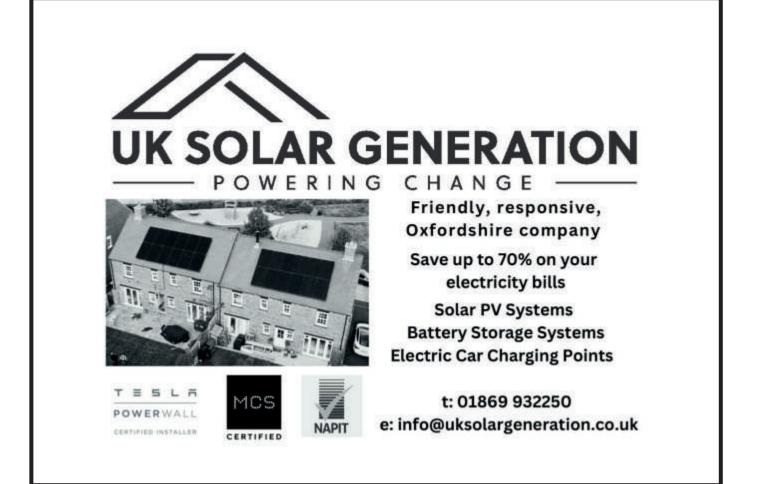


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Steeple Aston and Middle Aston Horticultural Society 2025

A new year brings new challenges and opportunities. Why not make 2025 the year you take part in one of our shows? You could win that highly coveted 1st prize card!! We will be holding our spring show on **Sunday 23rd March**. It is a small friendly village show with lots of beautifully scented spring flowers, children's crafts, cookery and photography, to name a few examples. The full schedule is in this copy of SAL and will be reprinted in March, as well as being available on the village website if you need to print more.

If you have never taken part or want advice on how to improve, the Committee and I are here to help, so please get in touch.

Vicky Clifton (Show Secretary) vmcstedman@btinternet.com / 07817025948



For budding photographers who want to get snapping for our summer show on Bank Holiday **Monday 25th August**, these are the classes that have been chosen:

- Trees (Panel of 4 photos)
- Reflections
- Harmony
- Red
- Pondlife
- Sculpture

The children's photography classes for August are:

- Birds
- View through a window
- Green

Good Luck everyone!

Vicky Clifton, Show Secretary

THE ASTONS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY - SPRING FLOWER SHOW 2025 - ENTRY FORM

The Spring Flower Show will be held in the Village Hall on Sunday 23rd March from 2.30 - 4.30 pm. Entries are open to everyone and new exhibitors are welcome. The entry fee includes the Society's membership fee. Rules for exhibitors are as laid down by the secretary in the Annual Show Schedule except (a) entries must be in by 7pm on Thursday 20th March. Late entries will be charged double, and no entry will be accepted after 7pm Friday 21st March (b) exhibits must be staged between 9 - 10.30 am on the morning of the show after which the Hall will be closed. Multiple entries in the same class will not be allowed in Divisions 1, 2 and 3. Cups will be awarded to the winner of most points in each open Division and the Mead Vase will be awarded to the person having entered in at least three of the five divisions and gaining the most points in the show. Easter eggs will be awarded to the winner of the most points in each of the children's age groups and the Bedding Cup for the best children's exhibit.

DIVISION 1

HORTICULTURE - FOR DUNCAN CUP

- Daffodils (long or short trumpets) in container
- 3. Daffodils (multi-headed) in container
- 4. Miniature Daffodils in container
- 5. Hyacinths in a container
- 6. Any other container grown bulb
- Any other container grown spring flower/s of one or 7. more variety, excluding bulbs
- 8. Cactus or succulent) *must be in your*
- 9. Pot Plant Flowering) possession for
- 10. Pot plant foliage) 8 weeks
- 11. Vase of Cut Garden Blooms
- 12. Container of Garden shrubs/Hedgerow/Trees Buds or Blossom, judged on variety and quality
- 13. 5 cut stems of Daffodils (long trumpets) any varieties
- 14. 5 cut stems of Daffodil (short trumpets) any varieties
- 15. 5 cut stems of miniature Daffodils
- 16. 5 cut stems of multi-headed Daffodils
- 17. 3 Stems of Rhubarb (tops on)
- 18. Container of Cut Scented Spring Flowers
- 19. A single cut daffodil with solitary bloom
- 20. Any fresh vegetable (excluding Rhubarb)

DIVISION 2

- COOKERY FOR WI CUP
- 21. A Savoury flan (state flavour)
- 22. 3 Hot Cross Buns
- 23. 3 Savoury rolls (Sausage roll shape/type State flavour)
- 24. Bakewell tart
- 25. 3 egg Victoria Sandwich
- 26. 3 Pieces Millionaire's shortbread
- 27. Vegan cake (List ingredients)
- 28. 5 White chocolate truffles
- 29. Marmalade
- 30. Fruit curd (Lemon, orange, lime etc.)
- 31. 3 home produced eggs of domestic fowl (with saucer)
- 32. Homemade lemonade in a clear bottle with a glass
- 33. Homemade alcoholic drink in a clear glass bottle with a glass.

(No home distilled spirits. Shop purchased gins / vodkas to flavour are allowed)

DIVISION 3 - FLORAL ART FOR THE FLOWER CLUB SILVER TROPHY (All 4 classes count for the cup).

Exhibits marked * to be staged in a niche 42cm wide, 42cm deep and 59cm high. NOTE NEW SIZES

- 34. Wrist corsage
- 35. *Title 'A nursery rhyme' accessories allowed
- 36. *Foliage Arrangement no accessories allowed
- 37. *Arrangement with a candle Accessories allowed.
- DIVISION 4 FOR HANDICRAFT CUP
- 38. A Knitted / crocheted item
- 39. A brooch
- 40. A limerick 'There once was...' (With 8 syllables in 1st, 2nd and
- 5th lines and 5 syllables in 3rd and 4th lines)
- 41. A painting or drawing
- 42. A decorated pebble
- 43. Any other handicraft
- 44. Photo 'Antique'
- 45. Photo 'Wonky'
- 46. Photo 'Light'
- 47. Photo 'Silhouettes' Must be black and white photo

Photos - may be in colour or black and white for classes 44 to 46 and all photos are not to exceed 7" by 5". No mounts allowed **DIVISION 5 - NOTE NEW AGE GROUPS, age must be written** on entry form

Under 5

- 48. Finger painting A4 max size
- 49. A decorated pebble
- 50. 3 Decorated biscuits (Biscuits can be shop purchased)

Aged 5 to 7 inclusive

- 51. A decorated pebble
- 52. 3 Jam tarts to be judged on taste & appearance
- 53. A handmade animal mask

Aged 8 to 11 inclusive

- 54. A decorated pebble
- 55. Bookmark
- 56. 3 Pieces of blondie to be judged on taste & appearance.
- Aged 12 to 15 inclusive
- 57. Lemon drizzle cake. Judged on taste and appearance.
- 58. A decorated pebble
- 59. Photo 'Eyes' no larger than 7"x 5"

Please circle the classes you wish to enter and return the entry form to Rebecca Lewin, Lansdowne House, Heyford Rd, OX25 4SH (07768904841) or Victoria Clifton, Bluebell Cottage, Middle Aston, OX255PZ (07817025948) with full entry fee by 7 pm on Thursday 20st March 2025. Extra forms are available from Vicky Clifton or the village shop, or village website. Classes 1-47 entry fee 30p. Classes 48-59 entry fee 10p. Prizes first £2, second £1, third 50p

For our privacy policy see: https://www.steepleaston.org.uk/clubs-societies/gardening/#horticultural

ENTRY FORM	<u>Classes</u> 1 2 3	4 5	6	78	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19				
Name Address			21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37
Tel No			39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55
If entering Division 5 - Age on day of Show		Pa	rent	's coi	nsent	t to e	ntry:	•••••	•••••	•••••	•••••					56	57	58	59
Email																			

1. Tulips growing in a container

2.



MUSIC FOR PLEASURE

performed by Brian Thomas (Trumpet); Charmian Bartlett (Cello) Paul Herrington (Keyboard) Saturday 8th February 2025 Village Hall—7.30pm Tickets: £12 (Under 16s FREE) from MARGARET BULLEYMENT mtheb74@gmail.com or 01869 347346 Also from the SA Village Shop WINE & NIBBLES AVAILABLE

Remembering Marie Christine MacCutcheon 22nd August 1929 to 16th November 2024

Marie MacCutcheon was born and raised in nearby Deddington, and moved to Steeple Aston where she initially lived at Nizewell Head before moving to Heyford Road where she lived for many years with her mother and niece Arlene. About 20 years ago, she moved into one of the little 17th century Almshouses, where she enjoyed living for the rest of her life. She wanted to become a centenarian and almost made it reaching the grand age of 95 years!

Marie initially worked in the Glue Room of Morris's car factory in Cowley, Oxford, before moving to work at Middle Aston House as a chambermaid. She then worked at the US Air Force base in Upper Heyford as a Cashier, where she stayed until her retirement. In her early years, Marie enjoyed watching her brothers playing football at Steeple Aston, and later she regularly travelled to visit family members in Sussex spending time by the seaside. She also ventured further afield, flying to America with her brother, Gordon, to visit her twin sister and other relations. She flew to the US to celebrate her 80th birthday there with her twin sister Angela and her family. Marie and Angela, who has lived in the USA for the last 47 years, had their double birthday celebration in a tavern just outside New York. Marie flew first to Angela's home in Lakeland, Florida, and then with Angela's husband and daughter, Belinda, they took three planes to reach New York for their special birthday celebrations. They stayed in Belinda's home in the mountains outside the city for a week. Despite their long separation, the twins stayed closely in touch, talking on the phone several times a week and visited each other whenever they could. Angela met her husband Andrew Mastalski, a Master Sergeant in the USAF, when she and Marie were working at the base in Upper Heyford. Although Marie never married or had children, her family were always at the forefront of her life and meant everything to her.

Marie could be very opinionated, with a strong, feisty personality, especially when she cared deeply about specific subjects or people. She would spend time helping others when she could in and around the village. For many years she attended the monthly Valentine Club in the village hall, enjoying numerous outings arranged for club members, always booking her front seat so she didn't feel queasy! Marie was very independent and bright as a button up until the very end. She would always remember people's names and how they had helped her along the way, whether fellow villagers, friends or family. In her later years, she was fortunate to have two special carers who helped her to remain living independently in her cottage. She was particularly grateful and fond of both Catherine Crook, who helped her over four years, and then Elaine Kelly, both of whom would call in daily to assist her with various tasks and have a natter.



Her funeral took place at North Oxfordshire Crematorium, Tackley on Friday 6th December 2024. The service included a fitting montage of photographs of Marie with her beloved family, many taken overseas. The opening music was 'Thank you for the years' by Shirley Bassey, and I'm sure that all those who knew Marie will echo that sentiment, having been touched by her frank and refreshing personality.

Carol Neville

With thanks to Arlene Such, Marie's niece, for sharing information on her life

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Local Info

Church Services January 2025

	North Aston	Steeple Aston	Tackley
Sunday 5 th Jan	9.30am Epiphany Crib Service	11am Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer	
			5.30pm Evensong
Sunday 12 th Jan	9.30am Morning Prayer	11am Family Service	10.30am Covenant Service at Tackley Methodist Church
Sunday 19 th Jan	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Holy Communion	
			5.30pm Evensong
Sunday 26 th Jan	9.30am Morning Prayer	11am Morning Prayer	9.30am Family Communion
			www.sntchurch.

STAGECOACH S4 BUS SERVICE

This timetable is effective from 10th March 2024

BUS TIMES

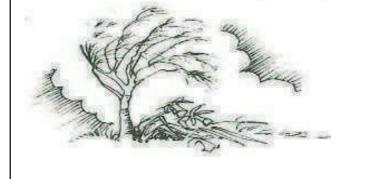
From Steeple Aston (outside Post Office) to Oxford (arrival time in italics) Mondays to Fridays (except public holidays)									
0619 0721 0831 0931 then hourly	to	1531	1645	1754	1849	1937	2037	2216	
0703 0817 0920 1020		1620	1737	1840	1932	2022	2147	2253	
Saturdays									
0721 0821 0931 then hourly 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 Pos	st Off	ice) to) Ban	bury	(arriva	time	in ita	lics)	
Mondays to Fridays (except public	holida	ys)							
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									

OURBUS BARTONS

OurBus Bartons offers services through Steeple Aston to and from Lower Heyford Station (Monday to Friday), to and from Chipping Norton (Wednesdays) and to and from Bicester (Fridays). See *https://ourbusbartons-org-uk.stackstaging.com/* for details and times.



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Steeple Aston Sport & Recreation Centre and Field

Letting charges				
Social Function peak times (Daily up to 6 hours from 6pm)	£55.00			
Social Function off-peak times (Daily up to 5 hours before 6pm)	£27.50			
Meeting of represented clubs (Daily per session up to 2 hours)	£11.00			
Caution money for private lettings	£100.00			
Block bookings for social events 15% discount for 6 or more bookings in advance				
Contact us if you wish to hire the field or use the changing facilities				
Letting Agent – Angela Smith rec.trust@googlemail.com	07734 112967			
Chair – Torquil McLusky	01869 347914			
Treasurer - Chris Cooper	01869 347173			

· The Sport & Rec is available to hire

- The "Friendly" space the ideal venue for smaller parties, children's parties and get togethers
- Need more space? Hire the Sport & Rec and Village Hall together
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- Internet
- Full disabled access, toilets, showers and changing rooms
- High quality grass playing field with power supply for football, marquees, events etc. (contact us for details and availability)
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- Regular events include Home Education, Babies & Toddlers, Brownies, After School Club, Bridge and of course the Football Club (it's been going since 1898J)
- Next event Quiz & Chilli Night March 22nd - more details to follow!

STEEPLE ASTON VILLAGE HALL HIRING FEES

Website: www.savh.org.uk

All Facilities

Peak Times – involving hire after 6pm					
Village Residents (up to 6 hrs) (Additional hours at £10/hr)	£65 (Plus Refundable Deposit £200)				
Non-Village (up to 6 hrs) Non-Village (over 6 hrs)	£110 (Plus Refundable Deposit £300) £160 (Plus Refundable Deposit £300)				
<u>Off-Peak – all hire before 6pm</u>					
Hourly Rate	£10/hr (or £30 for 4 hours)				
Plus Refundable Deposit £200					
Hall Only					
Represented Clubs	£9 (up to 3 hrs)				
Others	£17 (up to 3 hrs)				
plus Refundable Deposit £200)					
Committee Room					
Represented Clubs	£6 (up to 3 hrs)				
Others	£12 (up to 3 hrs)				
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 and Middle Aston rubbish bin collection day Is Thursday.

January 2025

2 nd	Green
9 th	Blue and Brown
16 th	Green
23 rd	Blue and Brown
30 th	Green



February 2025

6 th	Blue and brown
13 th	Green

- 13 20^{th} Blue and brown
- 27^{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 February and March to <u>editorsalife@gmail.com</u>

January 2025			
Tuesday 14th January	WI: Talk on Civil Engineering	Village Hall	7.00pm
Tuesday 14th January	SAL February copy & advert deadlines		
Thursday 16th January	Evening of Poetry & Music	Red Lion	7.30pm
Saturday 18th January	Annual Quiz Night	Village Hall	7.00pm for 7.30 start
Monday 20th January	Parish Council Meeting	S & R Building	7.30pm
Tuesday 21st January	Valentine Club: Katharine House	Village Hall	2.30pm
Saturday 25th January	Deddington Farmers Market	Deddington	9.00am - 12.30pm
February 2025			
Saturday 8th February	Music for Pleasure	Village Hall	7.30pm
Sunday 9th February	Snowdrop Sunday	Churchyard	2.30-4.30pm
Tuesday 11th February	WI: Dogs for Good	Village Hall	7.00pm
Friday 14th February	SAL March copy & advert deadlines		
Monday 24th February	Parish Council Meeting	S & R Building	7.30pm
SAVE THE DATE!			
Tuesday 11th March	WI: Sugar and Spice	Village Hall	7.00pm
Monday 17th March	Parish Council Meeting	S & R Building	7.30pm
Saturday 22nd March	Quiz & Chilli Night	S & R Building	ТВС
Sunday 30th March	SACS: Nautical Spring Concert	Village Hall	6.30pm for 7.00pm start

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

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Unit 2 Glenmore Business Centre, Range Road, Witney, OX29 0AA Tel: 01865 246762

e-mail: print@joshuahorgan.co.uk

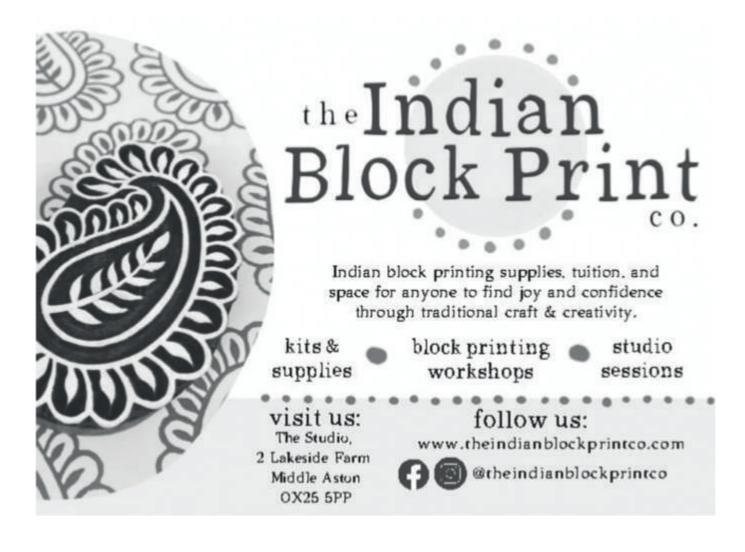
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