



Miller's Field Update 2



Many of you will have seen the heavy forestry kit working away on Miller's Field – this is the piece of land [on the bend] in Baker Street, just a stone's throw from the newly re-opened Chequers.

Mr. Miller bought the land in 1973 and since then it has been [largely] neglected. He originally sought house Planning permission for this plot, but my interest is in the restoration and conservation of a natural landscape to support wildlife.

All the diseased and dangerous trees have been removed. Those included ash, which also had Ash Dieback Disease. An overmature poplar which had aerial deadwood throughout the crown, was seriously ivy-clad and in decline. The large central willow has been pollard – a normal treatment for willows. It was in poor condition with significant decay to the willow stool, along with multiple failed lateral limbs. Two sycamore were removed as they were in poor [health] form and vigour due to squirrel damage.

The large hawthorn area was thinned to allow the better trees light and space to develop into good specimens. Part of the felling licence requirements means that any tree removed is replaced at a ratio of 3 to 1. These replacement species are to be broadleaves, including lime, beech and oak with Woodland edge planting to include holly, hazel, viburnum and spindle.

I will be planting a mixed native hedge behind the post and rail fencing which will replace the existing barbed wire – this will make the frontage in keeping with the adjacent field.



The next phase is to get the ditches cleared around the site so that the springs can run freely. I also plan to have a central pond contoured where there is already a large bog area, which is due to silting and heavy reed growth, as a result of neglect of the waterway. This water body will provide a haven for many different forms of wildlife.

In the dormant winter months, replacement tree planting will start, and I am looking forward to making a new orchard to include apples, plums, damsons, cherries and mulberries. This area will be under seeded with wildflowers to provide nectar for pollinators,

which are currently in decline.

I hope you will enjoy watching this land transform into a wildlife haven over the years.

Barbara Allen,
Allen's Peace

ASTONS NEWS

October 2022 issue 584

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

BINS. GREEN+BROWN: 6, 20

GREY: 13, 27

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Weekly Events

<i>Day</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Page</i>
M to F	various	various classes	Village Hall	9
T / F	7pm/11am	Metafit exercise classes	Recreation Ground	10
Mon	9pm	Football (1 hour)	Wallingford. Sports Centre. Over 16's	38
Tues	10-12.00	Astons Café	Village Hall	9
"	10-12.00	Post Office	"	9
Tues	10.-12.00	Free Superfast Internet Access	"	9, 18
Fri	9.30am-11.30	Toddler Group (Term time only)	Centre for Reflection	18

Events in October

2	9am	16th Sunday after Trinity	All Saints'	19
15	7.30	APAC magician evening	Village Hall	21
16	10am	Harvest festival	St. Michael's AT	20
16	12.00	Climate change meeting	St. Michael's AT	7, 20
18	10.00-12.00	Astons online meeting	Village Hall	17
20	7.30pm	Astons History Project meeting	The Old School House, Aston Street	28
20	7.30pm	Downland Villages Transport Group AGM	East Hagbourne pavilion	26
31	Pm/evening	Halloween: trick or treat	Around the villages	6

Forthcoming events

Month/day	event	page	Month/day	event	page
5th November	Fireworks and Bonfire night	19	13th November	Remembrance Sunday	29



We welcome you to enjoy a delicious meal with friends and family. Cosy up in the winter months next to our fireplace or spend a long summer's evening under the veranda in our charming garden. Whatever the occasion, we look forward to having you.

Food orders:

Weds - Sat
12.00 - 14.00
18.30 - 21.00
Sun
12.00 - 14.30

Opening hours

Weds - Sat
12.00 - 15.00
18.00 - 23.00
Sun
12.00 - 17.00

Our closing times will be guided by our trade.

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phone: 01235 850 800 or Email: info@olivieratthechequers.co.uk

Astons Outdoors - *It's not just about plants & Wildlife!*

Autumn is now well and truly upon us, and the hedgerows are brimming with all sorts of goodies to harvest, blackberries, elderberries, rose hips, hazelnuts, walnuts..... Why not make some jams, syrups, jellies and pickles ready for Christmas and maybe a couple of extras for next year's Astons Fayre. Remember to leave behind plenty for the wildlife to feast on.

Autumn is also time to start preparing gardens for the winter by cutting back perennials, splitting any that are too large and mulching the beds. Try to leave a few old flower stalks in place and a small pile of branches/logs for the insects to hibernate in over winter, or better still build a designated hibernating area in a quiet corner of your garden with lots of your garden debris. Please pot up any plants that you would otherwise be discarding ready for next year's Plant Sale. We have hundreds of pots of all sizes if needed so please get in touch and we will drop them off at your house. October is also a good time to dig up any perennial weeds in veg plots in readiness for a good layer of mulch.

If the weather starts to get cooler towards the end of the month and most of the berries and seeds have disappeared, please remember the wild animals and birds will need supplementary food putting out for them. Hedgehogs need to fatten up before hibernating and birds need to store lots of calories to get through the colder nights.

A date for your diaries: Sunday 20th November.

We will be starting the next phase of the Village bulb planting scheme and the last phase of planting at the Village Hall. Please look out for more information in the November Village News as we will be needing all of you wonderful volunteers to help us.

Also look out for a Christmas wreath workshop that we will be organising in early December. Now is a good time to start collecting seed heads, fir cones, etc to dry out in readiness for your wreaths.

Please contact Naomi (contactnaomi@icloud.com) or Louise (louise.binder@live.co.uk)

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7	Editorial, Community website update, Climate Group meeting, Studmuffins quiz
9	Astons Café
11	Village Hall, U3A,
13	Pavilion
15	Astonsenews, Astons villagers facebook community (AVFC)
16	SM Preschool, Astons Toddler Group
17	Astons Online
18	Holiday home for rent– discount for VN readers
19	Astons' Fireworks and Bonfire night
20	Church news, The Astons Environment and Climate group,
21	APAC magician night
22	URC + Centre for Reflection, Cholsey repair cafe
23, 24	Astons Teens by James Hart and Astons Kids pages by Eliza Haigh
25	Father Jason, David Johnson, M.P.
26	Downland Villages Transport Group AGM, Restore-Oxford charity, The Warm Home Discount (WHD)
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29	RB poppy appeal and collection, Remembrance Sunday service
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DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER EDITION is OCTOBER 20th

SEND COPY TO: editorastonsnews@gmail.com*

(*Send in Microsoft '**WORD**' main text in **font size 11**, or as a **PDF**)

OR in writing to: Astons News, The Barn, Baker Street, Aston Tirrold Oxon OX11 9DD

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Please note that there are no issues in January or August

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Halloween

A reminder to parents that there is a village protocol for trick or treaters to only knock on the doors of houses with a lit pumpkin outside, which indicates that the resident is happy to receive the slavering hordes of sugar-rushed hyperactives. Sorry, children!



We welcome you to enjoy a delicious meal with friends and family. Cosy up in the winter months next to our fireplace or spend a long summer's evening under the veranda in our charming garden. Whatever the occasion, we look forward to having you.

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Our closing times will be guided by our trade.

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Editorial

The economy may be tanking, the pound plummeting, but we are still world-beaters at pomp and pageantry. Whether you are a monarchist or not, the funeral was a moving tribute to a human being.

The Chequers is back (p2, 30), so get on down and support Olivier and his team.

APAC has a great night of magic entertainment at the village hall (p21)

The ARC Fireworks and Bonfire show is on 5th November. Lots of help is always needed to run this event, so do please volunteer (p19)

Studmuffins Quiz Team

Yet another stunning performance from South Oxfordshire's finest quiz team. With only the rump of a team once more, and facing the challenge of a dozen full-strength teams, the Studmuffins set about maintaining their 10 year record of continuous podium places, this time at the Red Lion, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell. The intrepid four, Henry weeks, James Haigh, Phil Diamond and Jeremy Imbush, grappled with an unusual quiz in which, sometimes for a point, there were two entirely unrelated questions with different, but correct, answers...

Hot-to-trot quizster star James Haigh, continued with his knowledgeable streak, lifting the Studmuffins to just one question short of the top spot. If only his scepticism about the state of Mancunian cuisine had been held in check.... Luckily, the prize dashed from our grasp was only a tin of mini heroes, with all the cash going to charity. Well done team! -Ed

COMMUNITY VILLAGE WEBSITE

During most of October, the Astons Web Team will be working on upgrading our village website at www.theastons.net to bring forward a new design and layout which will be more compatible with modern technology than our existing website. The website could look a bit strange during these weeks and some of the links to pages might be broken but we will be working hard to fix any bugs as we go along.

Thank you for your patience.

Astons Web Team

The Astons Environment and Climate group.

The inaugural meeting of the Astons Environment and Climate Group will take place on Sunday, the 16th of October, at St Michaels Church. We are fortunate that Maranda St John Nicolle will be with us to talk about her experience of how communities in Africa are experiencing and coping with climate change. This will be followed by discussion on the objectives of the group. George Curtis will be happy to give details of the activities of other local environmental groups. Anyone with interests on how we collectively care for our environment is encouraged to attend and is also very welcome to attend the Harvest Festival service that will take place at 10.30 before this meeting, also at St Michael's Church. (see page 22)

PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

A vacancy has arisen on the Parish Council for a councillor for Aston Upthorpe.

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WEEKLY

MONDAY	Yoga	12-2pm
TUESDAY	Aston's Café	10am-12
	Post Office	10am-12
THURSDAY	Yoga	8pm

MONTHLY

3 rd MONDAY	Parish Council	8pm
3 rd TUESDAY	Tea & Tech (Astons Online)	10am-12

See Village Information (back page) for individual event details

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Astons eNews

All Astons residents are welcome to sign up to the Astons eNews - the Astons community email service. About 200 already have done so.

Astons eNews sends infrequent village-wide emails with important news/information that cannot wait for the next monthly Astons News. The editorial team consists of Astons News editor and Astons Webteam.

The following criteria apply to eNews emails:

The email will be available to everyone in the two parishes.

Addressees will be invisible to all other recipients in order to preserve privacy.

There will be a simple unsubscribe facility on every email.

No commercials, no jokes, no opinions etc - just succinct information about events/activities.

eNews emails are not sent to highlight individual events unless the editorial team agrees that there are special circumstances.

Email addresses supplied to eNews are not used for any other purpose nor are they passed on to other groups, clubs or organisations.

(We have consulted the Information Commissioner's Office and are complying with their and GDPR guidelines for handling personal data)

Please sign up by emailing astonsenews@gmail.com if you wish to receive eNews emails and are not on the circulation already.

The Astons Villagers Facebook Community (AVFC)

The Astons Villagers Facebook group was set up for residents of the Astons. With over 170 members joining, it is becoming a valuable channel for all types of local information and knowledge sharing, including updates on local news and events, details of impromptu get-togethers, items (or pets!) that have been lost or found, or for sale, or donated, and promoting local activities and clubs.

With Astons' Facebook, you can share information and get immediate responses about time-critical events –such as last minute ticket availability, and updates on travel delays. As a social media channel, it's also a great way of interacting with other villagers, complementing our other village communications channels such as the **Astons News**, **e-news** [see below], and **website**, www.theastons.net.

We are a closed site, which means that you will be asked to confirm that you are a resident of the Astons (or if not, to give a reason why you would want to join).

This is to ensure that information is restricted to members of the community and doesn't get used for any commercial purposes (although we encourage local businesses to promote their services during the **first** week of each month).

TO JOIN:

If you already use Facebook, please search for **Astons Villagers Facebook Community**; the more members we have, the more representative the group will be!

If you'd like to join, but aren't sure about how to use Facebook, then why not come along to one of our friendly, regular technology help sessions in the Village Hall at the Astons Café on Tuesday mornings, 10.30am-12noon and occasional evening specials.

They are for complete computer and internet novices, as well as more experienced users [see pages 9 & 16]. For any more general questions about the group, please contact:

Kathryn Hawkey at kathryn.hawkey@gmail.com or Luci Didriksen-Penfold at luci.didriksen@hotmail.co.uk who are the administrators for our Facebook group,.

"Children play and explore outdoors routinely, enjoying walks in the natural environment and challenging their physical skills on large-scale equipment"



South Moreton



Pre-School

Friendly, welcoming and inclusive
Secure, spacious open plan setting
Wide range of flexible activity areas

Large garden and nature walks
Places available for children from aged 2 to 5

Flexible provider of 30-hours free childcare scheme

Register now to reserve your place



"Children thrive in the pre-school environment and parents comment how much children enjoy attending"

We welcome children from the Moretons, Astons and surrounding areas, including Didcot, Wallingford, Cholsey

For more information, to arrange a visit or register for a place, you can contact us on 01235 819657 or southmoretonpreschool@googlemail.com

Visit our website <https://southmoretonpreschool.co.uk/>

Finns Gardening

Local **Horticulturist**, level 3 qualified with over ten years professional experience.

My services include garden maintenance on a regular basis. I come fully equipped with eco-friendly equipment and tools.

info@finnsgardening.com



Astons Toddler group

Every Friday during term time
 9:30-11:30

The Centre for Reflection, Spring Lane,
 Aston Tirrold

£1 donation per adult
 £1 donation per child

Free play, enclosed outdoor play area,
 snack time, song time, coffee & biscuits

Enquiries: please contact Georgie
Astonstoddlersgroup@gmail.com



Astons Online in-person event

Tuesday 18 October 10:00 – 12:00

Astons Village Hall (OX119EQ)



Free and friendly help available for anything to do with internet, email, social networking and online safety.

Please tell us, if you can, that you're going to join us so we can make sure we have helpers available. Also please bring a mask to keep us all Covid safe

Contact us – theastonsonline@gmail.com

We'll continue to provide remote help to computer users every Tuesday morning 10:00 to 12:00 using telephone, Facetime, Skype, Zoom, Teams, WhatsApp or whatever is best for you.

**Book a 30 minute appointment:
theastonsonline@gmail.com or 07780958249.**



Our website (www.astonsonline.uk) has useful reference information, training courses (most free of charge) and online safety guidance.

‘Four Winds’

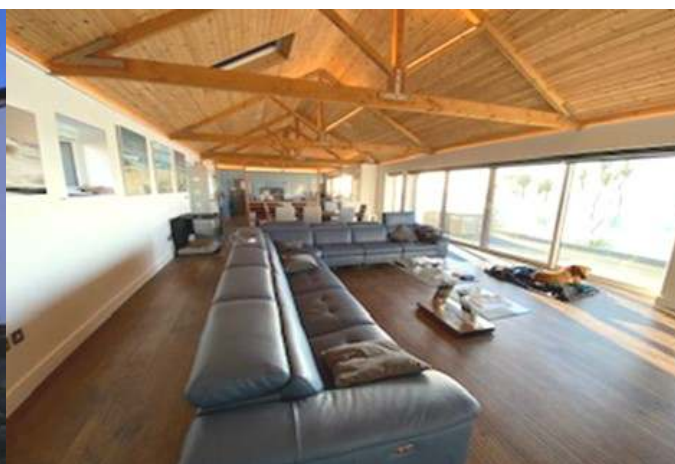
A Luxury House in Cornwall – discounted for VN readers

We have a lovely newly built House right on the Coast in Praa Sands, Cornwall.

Whilst we intend to spend a lot of time there, there will be some possible dates where we will make it available for letting to family and friends but are happy to extend this slightly to, in principle, include VN readers.

In brief, the House has 4 large Double bedrooms (2 can be made twins) all en-suite, Upstairs Living area, master bed, Kitchen and Balcony (large), downstairs 3 further beds, a second living area/bar - with Pool table and TV, a utility room - washing machine/tumble dryer etc. An additional WC on each floor. Enclosed garden including a huge terrace and separate 'drinks/sitting area' towards the Sea side.

- ♦ Free ultra-fast broadband
- ♦ Full sky multiroom Tv throughout.
- ♦ An Electric Vehicle Charger (22.5kw/h) installed should that be relevant or useful.





ASTONS BONFIRE NIGHT

Saturday 5th November

ARC is delighted to announce the return of the biggest event in the Astons calendar,
the spectacular **Bonfire and Firework Night**.

*

Free entry, with suggested donation of **£10 per family** at the gate.

*

Fantastic **BBQ**, serving burgers (including the return of Olivier's amazing venison and beef burgers), hotdogs and vegan burgers.

*

Licensed **bar** serving draft real ale, cider, mulled wine, wine, soft drinks.

*

Children's stall selling sweets, soft drinks, luminous novelties, crisps.

Timings:

5pm – Gates and bar open

5.30pm – Children's Fireworks Display and BBQ

6pm – Lighting of the bonfire, followed by the MAIN stunning fireworks display
(choreographed by our very own Master of the Bangs, Richard Cox)

HELP NEEDED! This is a huge team effort and ARC are always superbly supported by our wonderful community. Preferably pledge your support in advance to one of the following people (or more than one, if you can spare the time) OR turn up at 10am on Saturday and/or Sunday to be part of the general set up/clear up team. All ages of volunteers welcome.

Bar shift – Albie - 07525 369500 or email albert.welch@hotmail.com

Food prep/service – Jo – 07787 513793 or email jo@walshe.info

Bonfire Building – Nick – 07794 670127 or email

General volunteering/support – Amberley 07771 995906 amberleyjones@hotmail.com

PLEASE BRING ALONG FRIENDS/FAMILY AND HELP MAKE THIS OUR BIGGEST YEAR YET!

Look out for more details in the November edition of ASTON NEWS.

Church Services for October

The Churn Churches are now moving towards more frequent services in our churches, but this may vary each month. Services this month are:

		Prayer Focus
Sunday 2 October 9am	THE 16th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY Parish Eucharist: All Saints AU	Children and Sunday Clubs
Sunday 1030am. 16th October	HARVEST FESTIVAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE SUNDAY St. Michael's Aston Tirrold Coffee and refreshments will be served after the service	Pastoral care and visiting

Online Services

The online services will continue every Sunday at 10.30am login after 10.00 to chat beforehand or to check your technology. Access the Churn Churches website for login details on how to join:

<https://www.churnchurches.co.uk/services-this-week/sunday-service.php>

The link for the service is published in the weekly Churn, which can be downloaded from this page:

<https://www.churnchurches.co.uk/resources/>

Weekday evenings Compline at 8.00pm for 10 minutes. Access via Churn Churches website above.

Short reflection and daily prayer

During weekdays Fr Jason writes a short reflection and prayer. If you would like to receive this, please contact the office as above.

Home Communion is available to anyone who is unable to get to church through sickness or frailty, either for a short time or on a long-term basis. If you, or anyone you know, would like to receive Holy Communion at home,

How to contact us:

Bookings for weddings, baptisms and funerals can be made by contacting the Benefice Office 01235 850267

or office@churnchurches.co.uk **You can contact the clergy & staff on: -**

Revd Jason St. John Nicolle 01235 850267 office@churnchurches.co.uk

Revd Louise Butler 07837 009730 revlouiseb@aol.co

Elaine de Ridder 01235 850267 office@churnchurches.co.uk

The Benefice Operations Manager, Elaine de Ridder, is in the office from 9.00am - 2.30pm Monday to Friday.

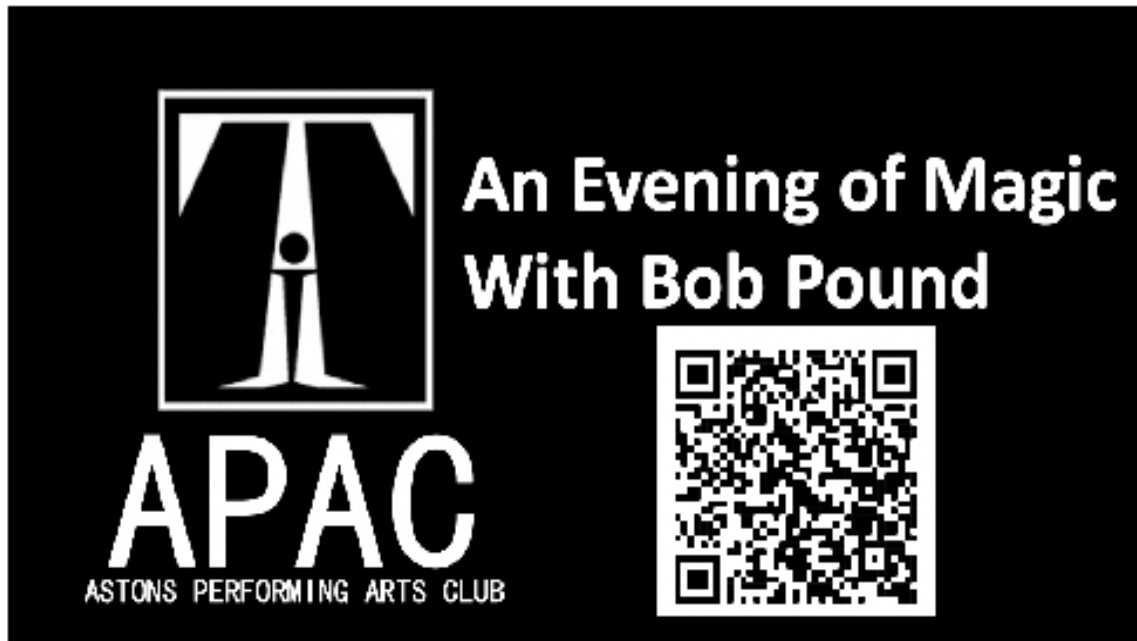
The Astons Churchwarden email is tirroldupthorpechurch@gmail.com if you wish to find out information locally.

The Astons Environment and Climate group.

The inaugural meeting of the Astons Environment and Climate Group will take place on Sunday, the 16th of October, at St Michaels Church. We are fortunate that Maranda St John Nicolle will be with us to talk about her experience of how communities in Africa are experiencing and coping with climate change. This will be followed by discussion on the objectives of the group. George Curtis will be happy to give details of the activities of other local environmental groups. Anyone with interests on how we collectively care for our environment is encouraged to attend and is also very welcome to attend the Harvest Festival service that will take place at 10.30 before this meeting, also at St Michael's Church.

Churn Climate Change Action Group

The purpose of the Churn Climate Change Action Group is to encourage conversation and action within the communities served by the Churn Benefice to reduce the impact of Climate Change. If you would like to get involved with the CCCA, please contact Elaine in the Office.



APAC is BACK!

You'll all be delighted to know that the long-awaited return of the
Astons Performing Arts Club is here!

We're kicking off with an evening of magic with Bob Pound, a
member of the Inner Magic Circle, and a key part of Dynamo's
creative team.

October 15th
Village Hall, 19:30 for an 20:00 show.

Strictly 16s and over.
Cashless bar.

Tickets are £12.50 and on sale now either by scanning
the **QR code above**,
or by visting Eventbrite here:
<https://tinyurl.com/ms8pwk33>

ASTON TIRROLD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH & CENTRE FOR REFLECTION

SPRING LANE, ASTON TIRROLD OX11 9EJ

CHURCH SECRETARY: JULIAN GALLOP – jgallop@freeuk.com

ENQUIRIES TO: ANDREW MCBIRNIE: andrew@andrewmcbirnie.com

Dear Friends

The Quiet Garden Day was well attended last month. The last series this year will be held on 25 November, leading into advent.

Please contact josie.midwinter@gmail.com if you would like to join us.

The Writing Group have been participating in the initiative “My Speaker Friend” by way of recording their poems and prose for people who are house bound. This helps keep people connected, promotes active listening and helps them to maintain their interests. Our next session for recording will take place on 20 October.

If you would like to join us, please contact Margaret Gallop, as below.

Sunday 2 October	11.00	Morning worship including communion led by Rev Kevin Jones. IN CHURCH and on Zoom.
Sunday 9 October Harvest Festival	11.00	Morning worship led by A Yates IN CHURCH and on Zoom.
Sunday 16 October	11.00	Morning Worship led by Liz Woods IN CHURCH and on Zoom.
Sunday 23 October	11.00	Morning Worship led by H Carter in CHURCH and on Zoom.
Sunday 30 October	11.00	Morning Worship on ZOOM ONLY led Rev Margaret Yee followed by Church Meeting after service.

Our regular writing group is currently meeting in the Centre for Reflection on the first Thursday of every month 2 – 4pm. Please contact Margaret Gallop on d.margaret.gallop@gmail.com if you would like to join this group.

The meditation group will meet in the Centre for Reflection on the first and third Wednesdays of the month 11.30 – 1.30pm. Next dates will be October 5th and 19th We will listen to a recording or reading, meditate for 25 minutes and then reflect. If you would like to stay for a light lunch of soup and some quiet time, you would be most welcome.

Contact: julieireneyoung@gmail.com.

With every good wish from our corner of the village.

Cholsey Repair Café

The last Cholsey Repair Café of 2022 will be held at the Cholsey Pavilion, Station Road, Cholsey, on Saturday 19th November, from 11.00 to 13.45. All manner of broken household items can be considered, except large appliances. The café's sharpening service has been very popular and recent repairs have included clothing, clocks, hairdryers, lamps, vacuum cleaners, bicycles and much more. Volunteers ask only for a donation towards running costs, plus any spare parts required. See www.cholseyrepaircafe.com for more information or email repaircafe@cholsey.com.

ASTONS TEENS

by James Hart

Picking Up The Guitar - Lesson 6 Guitar Theory

Welcome back to the page, for this month I am going to go over a fantastic soloing trick called the pentatonic minor scale. The scale is transferable so can be used all the way up the fretboard and it covers all of the keys making it very versatile.

| ————— -5-8— | 1. Tabbed out it is rather intimidating, so simply start the scale with your index finger on the 5th fret of the low E then use your pinky to fret the 8th fret and so on

| ————— -5-7— | However, make sure to use your ring finger to fret the notes on the 7th fret.

| ————— -5-7— | 2. Practice going up and down this scale with a metronome, gradually

| ————— -5-7— | increasing the speed over time.

| -5-8— | 3. When you feel like you have perfected the motion, search up A minor pentatonic backing track on youtube and you will find many videos which you can just jam along to using the scale that has been tabbed out. As I mentioned earlier this scale is transferable, meaning you can use the same shape all over the fretboard and it will still work. However, you will need to adjust the key-something I will go into further next month. A fun challenge I

Top 10 most bought games consoles ANSWERS:

1. Playstation 2
2. Nintendo DS
3. Game Boy
4. Playstation 4
5. Nintendo Switch
6. Playstation Original
7. Wii
8. Playstation 4
9. Xbox 360
10. Gameboy Advance

Sudoku

Hard

Solution — https://www.puzzles.ca/sudoku_puzzles/sudoku_hard_1059_solution.html

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

Top 10 richest people in the world - Answers next month)

Gautam Adani, Warren Buffett, Steve Ballmer, Bill Gates, Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos Bernard Arnault, Larry Page, Sergey Brin, Larry Ellison

Score Predictions:

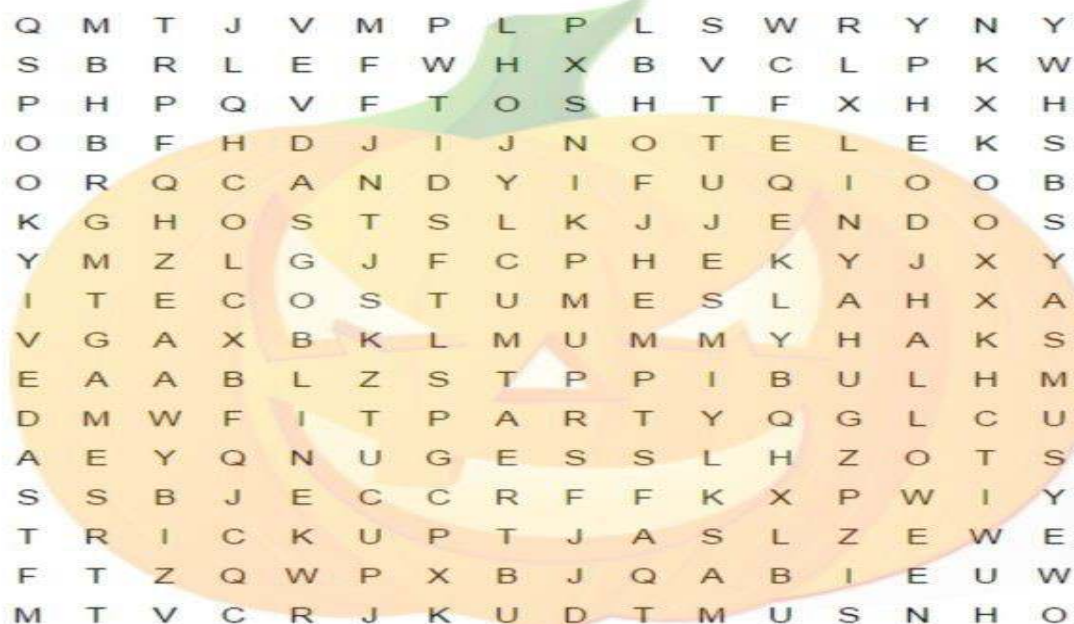
Welcome to Premier league score predictions.. Successfully predict a minimum of 3 premier league scores for GAMEWEEK 10 and I will give you a free chocolate bar.

Email your predictions to me before 12 AM SATURDAY 8th OCTOBER to be in with a chance. jwmhart1@gmail.com

ASTONS KIDS

By Eliza Haigh

Halloween Word Search



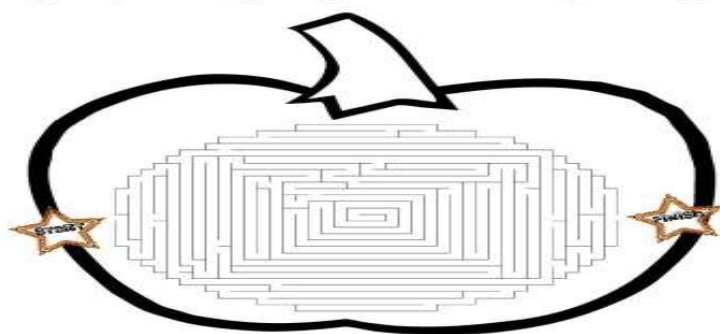
BOO
GAMES
HALLOWEEN
PARTY
SPOOKY
WITCH

CANDY
GHOSTS
MASK
PUMPKINS
TRICK

COSTUMES
GOBLIN
MUMMY
SKELETON
TREAT

www.thetypicalmom.com

PUMPKIN MAZE



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Jokes:

.what do you call a fake noodle?

-an impasta

.why was 6 afraid of 7?

-because 7 8 9

The Church and Healing

On the 18th of October, the church celebrates the life and work of an early Christian called St. Luke. As well as being the author of the Gospel of St Luke and, very probably, of the Acts of the Apostles, St. Luke was a doctor and a disciple of St. Paul. Perhaps unsurprisingly, St. Luke has become the patron saint of doctors and surgeons; he has also become the patron saint of artists.

Many churches use the feast of St. Luke as a time to pray for everyone involved in providing health care. We think of doctors and nurses, of course; but there are so many other people who play key roles in our medical system, and we pray for them as well.

There has always been a close connection between the Christian faith and the provision of health care. Christians believe that God cares about our health – not only the health of individuals, but also the health of our societies. Health needs to be seen in its widest sense. It's not just about the absence of illness. It's about fulness of life: and this means mental and spiritual health, as well as physical health.

God wants to bring healing: to heal us as individuals, and to heal our communities. Sometimes, this healing requires medical care: we go to a doctor, and the doctor prescribes a particular drug. But sometimes the healing process does not involve a doctor or a hospital at all. For example, it might be that we feel isolated or overwhelmed, and we are restored to good health through the support of our friends.

For some, care for the environment is a natural next step in the Christian ministry of healing. Many might say that our relationship with the environment has been broken by human selfishness and greed. The natural world groans with pain, and we need to put this right: we need to bring health and wholeness to a wounded planet.

I wonder: where might we need healing in our own lives? And where might we need healing in the lives of our communities? How might we pray about this? What practical steps might we take to help to bring about the healing which we seek?

- Father Jason

David Johnson MP

Parliament sat on Friday and Saturday in order that MPs could give their tributes to the late Queen. In total across the 2 days, 321 MPs gave their tributes to Her Majesty, including myself, shortly before 10pm on the Friday (you can watch it at www.david-johnston.org.uk). Before that, we received the live broadcast to the nation from our new King in the House of Commons.

The MP speeches were emotional, funny and heartfelt. Over and over the same themes emerged: that even when you hadn't met her you felt like you knew her; that she had given an incredible service to our nation; that she was sharp, passionate, selfless and mischievous, with twinkling eyes.

I bounced between different ceremonies in the constituency and in Parliament during the period of mourning, each of them poignant, but none so emotional as filing past Her Majesty's coffin in Westminster Hall when she was lying-in-state.

It is a momentous time for our nation and for the Royal Family. Our new King assumes his responsibilities at a time of great sadness for him and his family. I've no doubt he will be an excellent King. He has shown in his time as Prince of Wales the care and concern he has for this country and has had decades to learn from Her Majesty (who became Queen at just 25) the best way to conduct the role. May Queen Elizabeth II Rest In Peace and God Save the King.

The period of mourning of course affected the activities that I undertook this month, but around it were still several visits and events, including the Didcot Twinning Association's reception for the Mayor of Meylan, an area of France that Didcot is twinned with, and a fundraising launch for a 14th century chantry window in All Saint's Church, North Moreton. Two other things to note: September is Alzheimer's Month and I know a lot of your families - like my own - have been affected by related conditions, so as a 'Dementia Friend' I encourage people to take part in activities supporting this.

Similarly, the 2nd of October is Silver Sunday, the national day for older people, with plenty of events going on which I have been asked to encourage people to participate in or run. You find out more at <https://silversunday.org.uk>

As ever, if I can help with anything then do please contact me via david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk

Downland Villages Transport Group AGM -Thursday 20 October 2022

The Downland Villages Transport Group (DVTG) is due to hold its AGM in the East Hagbourne Pavilion at 7.30 pm on Thursday 20 October 2022 and all are welcome to attend.

Before the Covid pandemic DVTG used to run a popular community bus service from the Downland villages (including the Astons) to Wallingford every Friday. The service was re-started after the easing of Covid restrictions earlier this year, but then suspended in the summer due to lack of passenger demand.

The DVTG Committee is keen to establish the current level of demand for the service and would re-start the service if the number of regular users justified it. It would be helpful if anyone in the Astons that would use the service regularly either attends the AGM or, alternatively, advises Simon Young on simoncyoung40@gmail.com (who is our Parish Council representative on the DVTG Committee) that they are interested in using the bus on a regular basis before the meeting.

The Oxfordshire charity, Restore, is looking for volunteers to help in Didcot.

Restore is a mental health charity with six projects across the county, supporting people to take control of their recovery, develop skills, and lead meaningful lives.

Based at the beautiful Fleet Meadow site, Restore Didcot provides the opportunity to do activities such as gardening, crafts and woodwork in a friendly, supportive setting.

Interested in volunteering? Find out more at restore.org.uk or email: volunteer@restore.org.uk

Warm Home Discount rules updated for 2022-23 – Citizens Advice



As winter approaches, many people will be nervously anticipating the cold weather and its inevitable effect on their heating bills. The Warm Home Discount (WHD) was introduced by the government in 2011 to offset some of this burden.

For 2022-2023 there have been a couple of significant changes to the WHD: the number of energy suppliers participating in the scheme will increase, and those on disability benefits who don't have low incomes nor high energy costs will not receive the WHD.

The value of the WHD payment is currently £150. Nobody needs to apply in order to receive it, with the exception of those living in mobile homes on a park home site (see below). The payment is credited automatically to the consumer's electricity supply account (or credit is directly applied to a pre-payment meter), and energy suppliers have to make this payment by 31 March each year at the latest.

Eligibility for the WHD is ascertained by means of data-matching between energy suppliers and government departments. There are three eligible groups of consumers: low-income pensioner households; low-income people on some means-tested benefits; and households with high energy costs. This last criterium is determined by the type of property you live in, especially its age and its floor area (based on information supplied by the Valuation Office Agency or the Land Registry).

There is an alternative form of WHD for those living in mobile homes on park home sites. For more information about this, visit www.gov.uk and search for "Warm Home Discount". Also see the information under "Check if you'll get the Warm Home Discount in 2022" on <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk>. The Citizens Advice consumer helpline is 0808 223 1133 and our Adviceline is 0808 278 7907 if you have other concerns about energy costs.

THE ASTONS HISTORY PROJECT

Discovering and recording the Astons through the ages

Below are a couple of photos to mark of course the exciting works on Millers Field - thanks to Jeremy for the fantastic photo below left!

Below those is a sadder photo of the effect of dead elm disease in the 1970s, recorded by Stephen Whitwell. You may remember the recently donated painting of Downs View in 1979 in an earlier issue. When looking at it closely I saw that the walnut tree on the island in front was staked, so obviously a new tree. Putting two and two together I realised this was part of the parish councils' tree planting programme at the time to ameliorate the loss of the elms. Another walnut tree was planted outside the village school on Aston Street, and also the now splendid row of trees that line The Croft. The councils have also of course recently undertaken another such tree planting programme.

On the next page are photos taken for a particular reason, but which inadvertently show us part of Aston history otherwise lost to us.





These two photos, one taken in the 1970s of Edlins and one taken in the 1990s of a fire at Frimley Stables, show in the background the various buildings around the stable yard - otherwise unrecorded.



This 1970s photo shows race horses returning from the gallops up on the Downs, and also shows us two large poplars beside the war memorial, and an old Chequers Inn sign - very topical.



This 1920s photo of the Astons School football team also shows the school toilet block - and in particular the open air urinal that ex pupils have told me much about!

Remember you can see photos in full colour and zoomable detail by going to the online version of the Astons News on the village website.

Contact: astonshistory94@gmail.com



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

13TH NOVEMBER 2022

This year, our combined Churches Remembrance service will take place on the 13th November by our village War Memorial (gather at 10.45am for a 10.50 start). Two wreathes will be laid at the war memorial before we join the nation in observing silence at 11.00am.



POPPY APPEAL THIS YEAR

Our RBL Poppy Appeal will run on the weekends of the 29/30th October and the 5/6th November with door to door collections and a stall in The Chequers car park on both Saturday mornings.



There will also be a tray in The Chequers.



Arise, The Chequers!

After many, many months of seriously hard work, The Chequers reopened its doors on September 21st.

An evening for villagers was very well supported with just a hint of Olivier's gorgeous food, to remind us of what we've missed, served in the form of canapés. What is there not to love about his Tempura prawns?!!



The transformation is truly remarkable. The decor, lighting and bar area are almost unrecognisable. The pub was always at the heart of the village and it's really good to have it back. I foresee some lovely evenings and long lunches.



'Olivier at the Chequers', as the pub will officially be known, will be open for food orders Wednesday to Saturday 12.00-2.30 & 18.30-21.00, and on Sunday 12-2:30.
opening hours Wednesday to Saturday 12.00-17.00 & 18.00-23.00, and on Sunday 12-17.00.
(see page 2 for full details)

SOFO Museum online talk explores the experience of Oxfordshire men fighting in the Great War's 'forgotten army' in Salonika

- Online talk streaming on the SOFO Museum website from 7pm, Thursday 27 October 2022
- Covers the lesser-known conflict in Salonika during the Great War, where two battalions of the county regiment fought.
- Speaker Alan Wakefield is a curator at the Imperial War Museum and author of *Under the Devil's Eye: Britain's Forgotten Army at Salonika 1915-1918*
- Free to view, donations are encouraged during the stream in support of Soldiers of Oxfordshire Trust

In the next online talk hosted by the Soldiers of Oxfordshire (SOFO) Museum, to be streamed alongside a live Q&A on 27 October at 7pm, Alan Wakefield will detail the campaign of the British Salonika Force during WW1, including the part played by soldiers of the county.

Though now a forgotten front, during the Great War large numbers of British and allied troops were tied up in the strategically vital Balkans. The county regiment, The Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, would send two battalions from the Western Front to see out the remainder of their service in the campaign.

Alan Wakefield has researched the lesser-known Salonika Campaign in every detail, from the arrival of the first British troops in 1915 to final victory. He is head of the First World War and Early Twentieth Century team at IWM and co-authored *Under the Devil's Eye: Britain's Forgotten Army at Salonika 1915-1918*.

Using first-hand accounts, Alan paints a vivid picture of life for the British Army while there. Learn of the disappointments of the British XII Corps offensive in April/May 1917 (The First Battle of Doiran) and the more successful aggressive raiding in the Struma Valley.

The talk, followed by a live Question & Answer session, will be streamed freely (no ticket or sign-up required) from the SOFO website, but donations will be welcomed from those wishing to support the museum.

Like all previous online talks the museum has hosted, an archived feed of the talk and recorded Q&A will also remain available from the museum website after the live event ends.

Stream Link: <https://www.sofo.org.uk/whats-on/salonika/>

United Charities of the ancient parish of Blewbury

HELP WITH RISING COST OF LIVING

With the current rise in the cost of living and energy, you may find yourself struggling financially. We are a local charity which supports people of all ages living in Blewbury, Aston Upthorpe and Upton, and have the funding to give a helping hand during these difficult times.

From the weekly food shop, clothing and equipment for the new school year, to energy bills and other living costs, we can provide one off payments to help you, or someone you know in need.

There is a short application form to complete which can be picked up from the Post Office or requested by email to unitedcharities@outlook.com. We can help you fill in the form. Please don't be reluctant to ask for help, all applications are dealt with confidentially.

United Charities of the Ancient Parish of Blewbury Registered Charity No: 203538

U3A

DIDCOT & DISTRICT UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE D&D U3A meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 2pm at Didcot Civic Hall. Visitors are welcome to come to one meeting as a taster before joining.

For details please email secretary@didcotu3a.org or chairman@didcotu3a.org or visit www.u3asites.org.uk/didcot.

Recommended Tradespersons

If you have a personal recommendation, send it to editorastonsnews@gmail.com

Recommended Tradesmen Advice: You are advised to contact the recommender before you employ the tradesperson, especially if the last recommendation is several years old. Tradespersons are kept on the list for three years, after which they are removed, so they need a new recommendation in order to stay on the list after that time.

Name	Comments	Recommended by
Builders, Decorators, Property Maintenance, Handyman		
Ben Whithead BPW Painting & Decorating bpwpainting@hotmail.com 07532 262077	He is young, works hard and is very conscientious, neat and tidy. I would highly recommend him for any domestic painting works. Ben has done both an inside and exterior painting job for us. His work is good and he charges reasonably	G H Locke 01235 850463 (2016) Errol Bishop 851990 (2019)
Jamie Weatherley. Mobile: 07951 852690 Landline: 01189 615234	Jamie has decorated my various properties for many years. I have always been totally happy with his diligent work and fantastic results. He is very tidy, trustworthy, dependable, extremely thorough, and will not do a quick fix, but the results are well worth the extra time. Jamie, and his colleague Andy, have carried out some internal and external painting for us over the summer. They have proved to be very professional. totally reliable and they work to an extremely high standard. Jamie has recently completed both internal and external redecoration works at our house. This was all completed to his usual very high standards, he is meticulous in his work and the end result is excellent. He is very clean and tidy and takes great care in the home. He is also completely trustworthy. I can recommend him without hesitation.	Debbie Cotton: 851291 (2014) Simon Young 01235 851212 (2016) Mike Hill 851149 (2022)
Interlock Paving, Drayton George Smith 07748 917917	George and his team have done a great job repairing and resurfacing the Village Hall driveway. Professional, courteous, prompt and a good price. They do all kinds of groundworks and fencing.	Margaret Morant 850895 (2018)
Simon Fuller 07833 314189 Stf.builders@ntlworld.com	Simon is a highly professional builder. He has worked on various jobs inside and outside at my house. No job is too big or small and he is very tidy. I can highly recommend him. He can find a solution when others couldn't.	Tracy Appletree Cottage 850 409 (2019)
Plasterer		
mitchpurvisplastering@yahoo.co.uk 0756 3079829	Mitch Purvis We have used Mitch for many years for our various plastering/rendering requirements. He is fast; efficient; tidy and cost effective. Highly recommended.	Tim Millin 01235 850207 0770 6663631 middlefell@ic24.net (2020)
Computers, Electronics		
Richard Andrews – 07515 821 585 richard@andrewscomputing.co.uk www.andrewscomputing.co.uk	Slow PC or not even turning on? Problems with hardware/software, Email, Internet/Wifi, computer or peripherals. Richard makes things very simple and straightforward and manages not to make me feel like an IT simpleton!	Christopher Hawker 850534 c.hawker433@btinternet.com (2018)

Recommended Tradespersons Continued

Domestic: Cleaners, Ironing etc

House Cleaning Gabiella 07845 782906	Gabriela has worked for several villagers and currently has space for another client. I can thoroughly vouch for her as hard working, with attention to detail and honest.	Lizzie Thornton-Allan 851732 (2021)
The Ironing Lady Jane Harris 07941 912985	We thoroughly recommend Jane Harris's ironing service. Jane picks up and delivers from your house. She is completely reliable, very quick, and our shirts, tablecloths and bedding come back perfectly ironed, just like new.	Janet Evans & Andy McLellan 851792 (2017)
Magdalena & Marek Kosinski sjmk@hotmail.co.uk 07805375872	I really recommend Magdalena's cleaning service. She and her husband are exceptionally good at cleaning, focusing on detail. Reliable, flexible and trustworthy. Best cleaners I've ever had.	Isabelle Dupont isabelledupont69@gmail.com (2019)
Theresa James Ironing 07780 820754	Theresa will pick up and deliver your ironing back within a couple of days. She provides a friendly, reliable and quality service.	Lizzie Thornton-Allen 851732 (2019)

Oven Cleaning

Dog Sitting/walking

Astons Pet Services 01235 859218 or 07824 492443 email: theo@astonspetservices.co.uk	Theo stayed at the house and looked after the dogs. He was very thorough and caring and the dogs had a great weekend and were happy, well groomed and well walked. Much nicer than kennels and very reasonably priced.	Rachel Marffy 0778 081 4257 (2017)
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Electricians

Pete Walters 01235 817384 07710 931693	Pete has been our electrician ever since moving into Aston Tirrold 10 years ago. He has re-built much of our power and digital services, and provides certification for insurance companies. I unhesitatingly recommend Pete for any household work.	Bruno Brunskill 07780 958249 (2018)
Robin Wilkinson Causeway Electrical Solutions Ltd. E-mail: info@causewayes.co.uk Mob: 07802 487159	Robin has done lots of excellent work in the churches, in the Village Hall and in my house. Efficient, reliable, reasonably priced and very competent, I have always been more than happy to entrust him with any electrical task or project.	Christopher Hawker 850534 c.hawker433@btinternet.com (2019)

Gas & Oil

Gas & Oil

Gas & Oil

Pete Beecham 01235 821649 07807785798 Gas and boiler engineer	Pete has serviced and repaired our boiler regularly and reliably for the past five years. I fully recommend him.	Bruno 07780 958249 (2018)
Colin McMordie www.oiltec.co.uk colin@oiltec-services.co.uk 0776 654 2116, 01635 2011472 Mob: 07766 542116	Colin continues to provide excellent service to my oil-fired central heating boiler and I find him excellent for regular servicing. Also diagnosing and repairing any rare problems. Reliable, knowledgeable, friendly and reasonable charges.	Edward Betts 01235 850726 (2019)

Pest Control

Pest Control

Pest Control

Shire Pest Solutions: office@shire-pest-solutions.co.uk 07709 323095	Came out promptly and resolved a rodent issue. Friendly and good value.	Joanna Hart 01235 850517 (2019)
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Recommended Tradespersons Continued

Pets

FORWARD FOCUS Veterinary Physiotherapy <i>Hands-on complementary therapy for dogs, cats and horses</i> Alison Pearce 07989 396 369 Alisonpearcevetphysio@gmail.com forwardfocusvetphysio.co.uk	Jo Tidmarsh recommended Alison because our dog Amber had become painfully lame. Alison is very calm and gentle, but gives owners huge confidence in her abilities. She will continue with maintenance visits every few months. We couldn't be more pleased. It has been worth every penny. (Veterinary consent is required before Alison can treat an animal.)	Biddy & Christopher Hawker 01235 850534 (2020)
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Picture Framing

Peter Lancaster 01235 851518 07962 055717	A very professional framer, with a great eye for detail and a creative approach to both traditional and contemporary art. He has rejuvenated many of our works that needed a lift and they look fabulous. He is also extremely competitive and efficient. I could not recommend him more highly. Peter has framed a wide variety of work for me since he moved into the village. I have found him to be consistently helpful and professional, and value his advice when selecting frames. He works to an extremely high standard and his pricing is competitive.	Mark Holden 07894 585755 (2014) Helen Young 01235 851212 (2017)
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Plumbing/Heating engineers

Adam AA Plumbing Services, Tel: 01235 812971, mob: 07763221257; www.aa-plumbingservices.co.uk	Adam is a tidy fast worker with excellent results at a reasonable charge. He offers free estimates with no call out charge and covers anything from a simple leak to a complete bathroom installation, including associated electrics and tiling. A very experienced expert who has done many jobs for me over the last few years.	Edward Betts 01235 850726 (2019)
Plumbedwright plumbedwright@gmail.com 07590 220095	Excellent plumbing contractors who knew the fundamentals of service and price. Completed works to our extension as well as the switch from oil central heating to gas. Very conscientious. Neat. Swift, personable and straight forward.	G H Locke 01235 850463 (2017)
KWC Heating Services Ltd www.kwc-heating.co.uk contact@kwc-heating.co.uk 01235 537389	Michael Clarke is a first-class heating engineer who I have used for many years (and his father before him) Professional Engineer with many years' experience in all types of boiler/central heating/plumbing/under floor heating etc. Cost effective and very tidy. Gas Safe certified	Tim Millin 01235 850207 0770 6663631 middlefell@ic24.net

Asylum Welcome

Asylum Welcome is always looking for more donated bikes for men, women and children. We can only accept donated bikes if they are in reasonable working (rideable) condition – gears and brakes fully functioning, needing no more than lubrication, adjustment or very minor repairs.

We currently accept bikes by appointment only. Please contact Nasser, our Bike Project Coordinator, or Mark and Tino, our Bike Project volunteers at bike@asylum-welcome.org

Many thanks for the bikes already donated. Appreciation is so positive; they really do help clients at Asylum Welcome who can't afford public transport.

I go in to Asylum Welcome on Wednesdays and am happy to take in any bikes that have been accepted by AW-Tessa Mayhew, tessamayhew@btinternet.com.

Action Targeting Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking

In partnership with the National Crime Agency (NCA) and Europol, officers from Thames Valley Police identified a number of potential victims of modern slavery following three weeks of activity focusing on massage parlours under Project Aidant, an NCA-led law-enforcement response.

The activity took place between 22 August and 9 September as part of a Europe-wide operation, involving partners from Immigration Enforcement and local councils. The project aims to enhance and develop our knowledge of modern slavery linked to massage parlours, focusing specifically on adults or children (under 18) who have been trafficked to the UK, or exploited in the UK.

During Project Aidant, officers visited 57 premises across the Thames Valley and encountered 50+ people who were spoken to about Modern Slavery and given advice. Of those people, 5 were identified as potential victims and safeguarded.

Chief Superintendent Jim Weems, Head of Force Intelligence and Specialist Operations, said: Concerns around modern slavery can be reported to the Modern Slavery Helpline.

If you think you are, or have been, a victim of modern slavery there are organisations that can help including our Victims First Specialist Service which incorporates specialist skills and knowledge on exploitation and modern slavery.

They can provide practical and emotional support, tailored to meet your individual needs, to help you cope with the effects of the crime. If you feel that you need this support please contact Victims First by calling 0300 1234 148 or by getting in touch online by completing an online referral form or using our live chat : www.victims-first.org.uk/get-support-now/

You can also report to us online or by calling 101, or for 100% anonymity, by calling the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. Emily Boneham (Police, Campaigns Officer, Thames Valley)

BABY SITTING

Parents, please note

that you are responsible

for your child's welfare and safety *at all times*,

when using a baby sitter.

Eve Lancaster (14)

Available for babysitting

at weekends, evenings

and during school holidays.

Mobile: 07962 182844

Roselle Isaac (14)

Available for:

Babysitting

Pet care/pet-sitting

weekends, evenings and school holidays

Lives in the Astons

Please contact: 07751195432

Daisy Wakefield
(Lives in Aston Tirrold)

Aged 15

Available for babysitting

Contact: 07826254137

Zara Butcher (16)

Available for babysitting in the evening

Lives in the Astons

07377115093

James Hart (15)

**Available for babysitting
weekends
and school holidays.**

Home 01235850517

Mobile 07485284784

Florence Sheedy (16)

Available for babysitting
on weekends, evenings
and
during school holidays.

Mobile: 07483 247 537

Olivia McCarthy

17 years old

Available to babysit

Lives in Aston Tirrold

07544 109 504

Claire Belcher (38)

Experienced mother of two boys, with previous care and babysitter experience. Available for babysitting, evenings and weekends.

References available on request.

Weekday evenings £8phr

Weekend evenings £10phr.

07568 477 599

Felix Diamond

- ♦ Aged 16
- ♦ Lives in the Astons
- ♦ Is available for babysitting duties
- ♦ Phone **07553 763 980.**

Ella (19) & Martha (18) Blomfield

We live in Aston Upthorpe

Available for babysitting and waitressing at
weekends and school holidays

Ella: 07939 054 150

Martha: 07958 016 480

Home: 01235 850244

-References available

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND POLICE INFORMATION

DEFIBRILLATOR SITES: CHEQUERS Car park, PAVILION at The REC. *Ring 999*

Countywide Dial a Ride Service for the disabled & mobility impaired

0845 3101111 <http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/oxfordshire-dial-ride#routes>

Thames Valley Alert, contacts

Email emma.wilkes@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk, or phone **07800 702188 (on duty only)**. Non emergency calls quote my shoulder number C9976. 'Community Messaging' provides information about crime and police activity in your area via phone or email. Visit our website, where you can sign up: <http://www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org/rmwebportal/startup.aspx>

CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymously pass on information about crime to the Crimestoppers 24:7 hotline **0800 555 111**

Crimestoppers is a charity and not part of the police.

Thames Valley Police Team for the Astons area

Your Neighbourhood Policing Team consists of Inspector Mark Harling, Sergeant Fraser Weller, PC Bob McIntyre, PC Simone O'Dell, PCSO Sue Harris, PCSO Marie Davenport, PCSO Sarah Jones, PCSO Tarran Golby & PCSO Clare Beale.

Nuisance phone calls: To register your number with the telephone preference service to help prevent the receipt of live unsolicited sales and marketing calls, phone **0800 398 893** or go to www.tpsonline.org.uk. It will not stop computer generated calls or calls that are not sales and marketing related.

Fly-Tipping– How to report it:

Go to southoxon.gov.uk, then click on 'services and advice' and type 'fly-tipping' into the search box; click 'Fly-tipping' when it appears & fill in the 'report fly-tipping online' form, or phone **03000 610 610**

Reporting Potholes in the Astons

Report potholes and other hazards on the roads in Aston Tirrold and Aston Upthorpe to:

www.potholes.co.uk and www.fixmystreet.com

Reporting Rural Crime

If you become a victim of rural crime or suspect that a crime has taken place, you should report it to police by calling the **non-emergency number, 101**. If an incident is in progress, or there is an **immediate threat to life, you should call 999**.

Cineworld Didcot:-----0871 200 2000, cineworld.co.uk/didcot,

Cornerstone Arts Centre: 01235 515 144, cornerstone-arts.org

The Corn Exchange: ----01491 825 000, [Www.comexchange.org.uk/boxoffice](http://www.comexchange.org.uk/boxoffice)

Village Representative Organisations & Village Information

AT & AU Parish Councillors

Jane Imbush (Chair) and H&D	07739 644064
Simon Young (Vice-chair) & Housing and Development	07934 401377
Joanna Hart (ARC)	850517
Peter Butcher (Footpaths)	07956 976159
Henry Weeks (Broadband)	07977 578479
Neil Carter (Broadband)	07932 748110
Jane Barr Knight (Roads & Traffic)	07968 300282
Nigel Hawkey (ARC)	07748 704151
Sarah Brown	astons.parishclerk@gmail.com

Village Clubs & Organisations

APAC	Emma Machin	07840 862946
Astons Café	Margaret Morant	07899 748209 850895
	Louise Binder	07713 314662 851433
Astons Outdoors	Naomi Simmonds	859218
	Louise Binder	851433
Church Cleaning	Biddy Hawker	850534
Church Flowers	Penelope Curtis	850794
Cricket Club	Steve Smith	850775
Football	Jeremy Imbush	851053
History Group	Jan Smith	850775
Thames Valley Alert	Tirrold: Steve Morant	07561 315882
	Upthorpe: Ian Clark	850103
Pavilion Hire	Luci D-P	astonspavilion@gmail.com
Pilates	Rachel Marffy	07780 814257
South Moreton Pre-School		819647
Toddlers' Group	Georgie	astonstoddlersgroup@gmail.com

Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Tim Lake (Chair and Churchwarden)	850468
Amanda le Conte (Churchwarden)	851546
Christopher Hawker	850534
George Curtis (Deanery Synod Rep)	850794
Biddy Hawker (Secretary)	850534
Mike Hill (Treasurer)	851149
Claire Picken	850398
Joanna Hart	850517
Email	tirroldupthorpechurch@gmail.com

Village Hall Management Committee

Chris Coupland (Chair)	07801 715439
Mike Hill	851149
Debbie Coates (Bookings) -not after 9pm-	850238
or email: astons.vhbooking@gmail.com	
Margaret Morant (Astons Café)	850895
Louise Binder (Astons Outdoors)	851433
Greg Locke	850463
Nicole West (Parish Council)	07939 265555

Astons enews team: astonsenews@gmail.com
 Facebook team: Kathryn.hawkey@gmail.com or
Luci.didricksen@hotmail.co.uk
 theAstons.net website team : webmaster@theastons.net

Astons Recreation Committee (ARC)

(ARC is a sub-committee of the Parish Councils)

Gavin Wood	
Jo Walshe (Treasurer)	850502
Joanna Hart	850517
Luci D-P (Bookings)	astonspavilion@gmail.com
Kirsty Richardson	07961 113213
Nigel Hawkey	07748 704151
Amberley Diamond	
Pavilion key holders: Luci, Joanna	

Agencies and Emergency numbers

Citizens Advice Bureau	0344 411 1444
Didcot Volunteer Centre	816709
NHS non-emergency number	111
Police: non urgent calls	101
Police: Crime Stoppers	0800 555 111
Power Cuts	105
Thames Water	0800 316 9800

CLP Groups

Roads and Traffic:- Jane Barr Knight	07968 300282
Housing and Development :- Simon Young:	
youngastonspc@gmail.com	07934 401377
Environment Group –	
Anna Dillon	dillon.anna@gmail.com

Astons Village Hall Post office Tuesdays 10.30-12

Pangbourne Post Office: 01189 842294

Blewbury Post Office: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays,
 Fridays: 8.30 am - 12 noon and 2.30 - 5 pm

Wednesdays: 8.30 am - 12 noon

Saturdays: 9.30 am - 12 noon

East Hagbourne Post Office

Open Mon-Fri 9am -12.30pm. **Cholsey Post office** (in
 Tesco) 6a.m.-10.00pm