

Ashton Keynes & Leigh Newsletter

August 2022

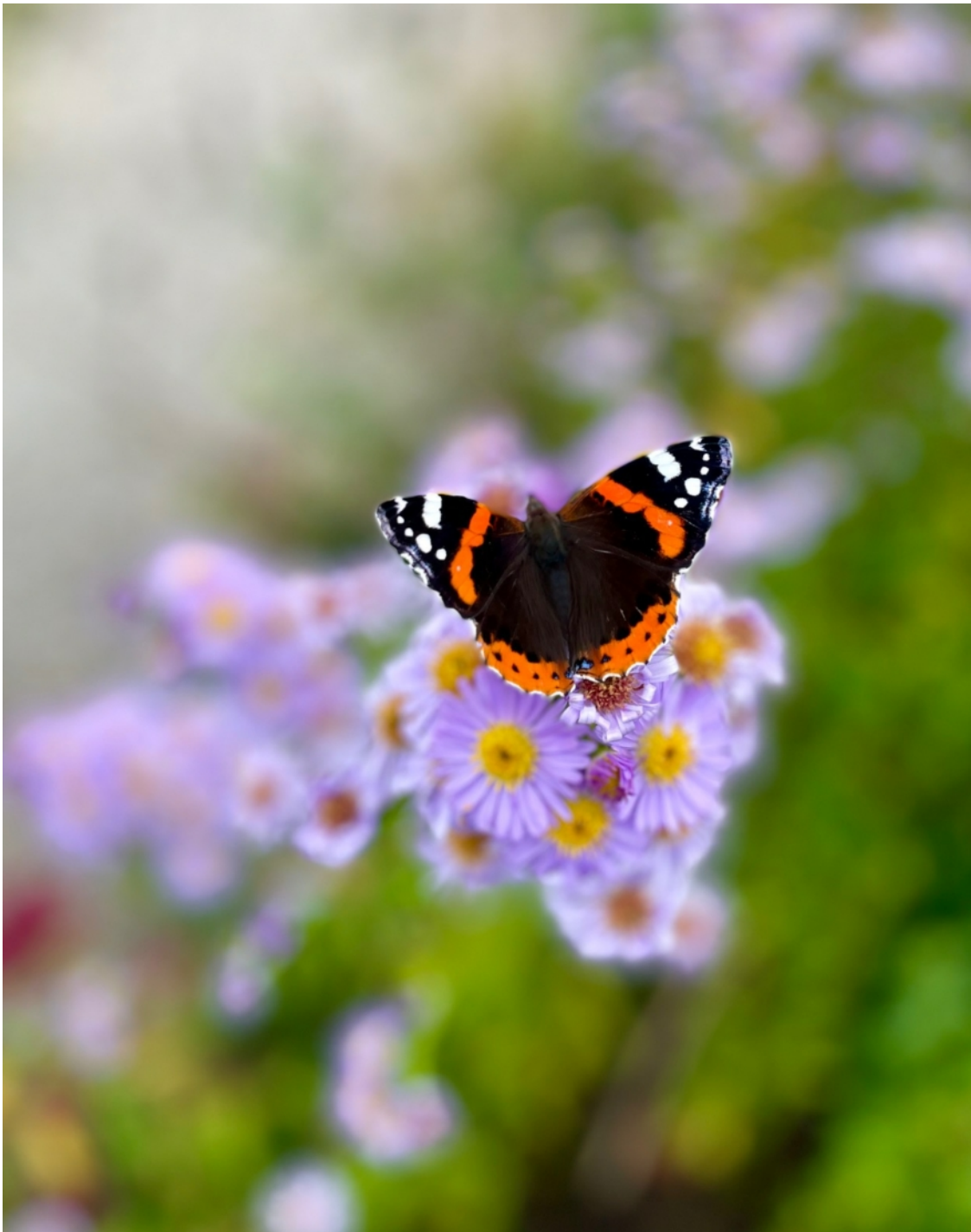


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Dear Friends,

As I wrote the words "Dear Friends" I was reminded of what we hold almost as our 'AK school Bible story' – telling of how Jesus healed a paralysed man whose friends cared so much that they carried him to see Jesus, knowing that Jesus can help. It shows us how important friendship is between people, and how when we really live out the value of friendship we enable others to 'live their best life'.

Friendship is one of the four underpinning Christian values which are at the heart of our lovely school TEAM AK (the other three values are Creativity, Trust and Perseverance). Both people and communities thrive when genuine friendship is offered, and that was, and is, borne out in our wonderful village communities and across the country during Covid.

Jesus came so that we could be friends with God and offers each of us friendship with Him. Jesus is always ready to listen, to heal, to forgive and to help us "stand up and walk" well through life. Jesus offers his friendship to anyone and everyone, and just as he welcomed the paralysed man and his friends so He welcomes you.

May you know and find you can trust the love and friendship of Jesus for your lives.

**Revd Shirley
Associate Vicar,
Upper Thames Group of Parishes**



Deadlines and Advertising

Please phone Richard Vernon if you wish to contact your distributor.

Editorial Team:	Yvonne Edmonds	07980 290598
	Sharon Gater	01285 860926
	Tessa Mills	01285 861284
	Claire Sims	01285 869479

Advertising:	Brenda Sheppard	01666 860631
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Distribution	Richard Vernon	01285 861692
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Deadline is 16th of the month. Please submit your copy (but not paid adverts) for publication in the SEPTEMBER newsletter to AKLnewsletter@gmail.com by 8pm on 16 August to Claire Sims, 18 Happy Land, Ashton Keynes.

If you wish your item to appear also in the Minety Newsletter please contact Mrs Brenda Sheppard by phone or email minetynewsletter@gmail.com

When submitting articles to the newsletters please send in the original MS Word or PowerPoint format (not a pdf), as we do have to reformat a lot to squeeze everything in. It would also help if you used Verdana font, size 10 with no underlining.

Thank you

Advertising prices per issue

Half page £28.00
Quarter page £14.00
Eighth page £8.50

All paid advertisements should be sent to:

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Paid Advertisements appear in the Ashton Keynes & Leigh Newsletter **and** the Minety Newsletter

Please check with Brenda Sheppard for this deadline, which is normally 12th of the month for paid advertisements

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Editorial



Sunshine and the odd downpour - what a mixed month of weather. The two days in the middle of July were extreme heat, we witnessed horrific fires and suffered loss - global warming is happening all around us. See more on environmental issues on page 29.



A lot of the articles and adverts in this month's newsletter are for events and activities taking place in September - so think of this as a 'Save the Date' edition and pencil them all into your calendar now!

Do you have any ideas for the newsletter? While at the AK Festival I was talking to some of you about an article recommending books to read - not a full book review, but

more an overview of your recommended novel. Or do you want more recipe ideas, places to visit, local walks, puzzles/quizzes, interviews... Or how about a page to feature a local hero, someone who provides a voluntary service to the community...please submit your suggestions to us so we can reach out for volunteers to scribe the articles.

If anyone is in between jobs or on a gap year, how do you fancy some work experience as an editor, or volunteering on one of the many committees that is in need of members (Pre-School, AK Festival)?

Wishing you an enjoyable summer, going out together, having trips and picnics out and about.

Sharon

The Outreach Post Office

Every Tuesday and Thursday
Ashton Keynes Village Hall

Tuesday morning: 9.30am -12.30pm

Thursday afternoon: 2.30pm - 4.30pm

Telephone **07512 233200**, the **AK Helpline**, if you'd like a lift.



Holy Cross Church Fete

2.30pm Sunday 11 September

Church Walk or Village Hall if raining

WANTED

GOOD QUALITY bric-a-brac & toys, plants, books, unwanted gifts, cakes, costume jewellery & accessories.

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Centrally located with car parking and extensive user facilities such as a stage, kitchen and an audio visual set up. The hall can be set up to suit your needs and can include the hire of chairs and tables. The hall hosts regular booking for various clubs and events and can also be booked for your own events and celebrations.

Community Facilities



Outreach Post Office

Tuesday 0930-1230
Thursdays 1430-1630

GP Surgery

www.crickladesurgery.nhs.uk



Rural Cinema

First Wednesday of the Month
7 Sep "The Duke"

Pre-School

www.ashtonkeynespreschool.co.uk



Regular Activities



Women's Institute

ashtonkeynessec@wiltshirewi.org.uk

Badminton

abc@live.co.uk



Baby & Toddler Group

jemmalcraven@gmail.com

Short Mat Bowls

ddsak78@gmail.com



Bridge Club

Gordon Coble 01285861444

Seniors Table Tennis

pmbblackburn@yahoo.co.uk



Keep Fit (Falcon Health)

TimothyGBird@aol.com

Big Brunch Band

Jackie@davidmitchell.co.uk



Private Bookings



The Hall is available for private bookings, regular slots, events and celebrations from as little as £27. We have everything you need including parking to make your event a success! We'd love to attract as wide a variety of village events as possible from sports to craft fairs to clubs.

For bookings contact Rowena **email: bookings@akvh.org.uk**

Events



Plans are to put on a New Year's Eve Party

Watch NextDoor & Ashton Keynes Families Facebook pages for more info. If you have any ideas for events or would like to get involved with our events team then drop Libby a line at mackinnonelisabeth@gmail.com

Get Involved

Join our Committee, we meet Bi-Monthly and are looking for new Committee Members who can lend an enthusiastic hand. Specifically we are looking for a Secretary. To Join our Committee contact dave@akvh.org.uk

www.akvh.org.uk

Bookings: Tel: 08447 760001 Email: bookings@akvh.org



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**BOOK EARLY
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SCHOOL
HOLIDAYS**

ASHTON KEYNES VILLAGE SHOP

Well, immediately after submitting the shop news for June, the weather changed and we had the start of a heat wave - so Steve obviously did know something! The hot weather caused quite a bit of chaos in the shop as the chiller had to work overtime and couldn't cope, so it packed up completely. As a knock on effect the shop was over 30 degrees and all our chocolate started to melt - what a nightmare!

It really has been a trying few weeks for all the staff, and on a couple of occasions the shop had to close early due to unbearable working conditions. The Manager and Committee would like to apologise for any inconvenience caused on those days.

Some stock has been limited due to lack of chiller space, but hopefully by the time you are reading this, the problems will have been resolved, and everything should be back to running smoothly again.

Steve kept his cool (excuse the pun) and did an amazing job keeping things going as best as he could and would like to say a huge "Thank You" to all the staff for working in such difficult and extreme conditions.

Thank you too to all our customers for your concerns and support as without you the shop would not exist.

The summer holidays are here and the shop caters for all your needs - bread, delicious ham and cheese for sandwiches, crisps, drinks and biscuits all at competitive prices. If the weather continues to be sunny and warm, and you have an impromptu BBQ, don't forget we sell charcoal and lots of delicious sausages and burgers - the smell will make your neighbours envious.

Shop opening times

Monday - Saturday: 7.30am - 7pm
Sunday: 9am - 3pm

Bank Holiday

Monday 29 August: 9am - 3pm

Telephone: 01285 861931

Did you know?

The shop has a great selection of greetings cards for all occasions including Birthday, New Home, New Baby, Sympathy & blank for your own message. The cards are very reasonably priced and we also sell stamps.

Please Help Your Community Shop

During Covid many of us have got used to using a payment card for everything we buy, regardless of the amount. Due to significant increased charges incurred by the card handling companies, we would like to request that our customers revert back to paying by cash, especially for purchases less than £2.

We appreciated your support in helping the shop to reduce the ever increasing costs.

Ashton Keynes

Music Festival

The Parish Council would like to thank the organisers of the recent AK Music Festival and congratulate them on a very successful event.

Best Kept Village Competition 2022

Ashton Keynes came second in the North Wiltshire and Swindon Large Villages category of the Best Kept Village Competition this year, missing out on first place by just one point.

Below is a summary of the judges' report:

ASHTON KEYNES

The first impression given by Ashton Keynes is excellent, with the juvenile Thames running through the village backed by beautifully kept front gardens, and further investigation along Church Walk showed more very well kept gardens and waterfront.

The Recreation ground and children's play area was extremely well maintained, with thoughtfully placed seating and some appealing new planting of trees.

The shop, telephone box gallery, garage and village hall were all in good order, and it was apparent that there was good community spirit and activities.

The gate to the Sports Ground and Millennium Green was locked, so we were not able to do more than inspect from the gate, but everything looked well maintained.

The report did go on to mention some areas of improvement (not Parish Council related) which we've noted and are discussing with the relevant people.

A full copy of the report can be found on the Parish Council's website.

The Parish Council would like to thank everyone for keeping the village tidy and Councillor Ventham for putting together our entry.

Parish Steward

On his latest visit the steward strimmed around the railings at The Derry/High Road junction. He reported that the verge tractor had also visited the village, cutting junction verges and the Pot Hole gang have been round filling pot holes. Weed spraying along the High Road pavements and kerb edges is due to have been carried out on the steward's visit at the end of July.

Please do report any issues that can be dealt with by the Parish Steward, the type of works that can be reported to the Clerk are:

- Hand clearing and cutting of growth from drainage grips and drain gully covers.
- Hand clearing of blocked drainage gullies, grips, culverts, pipes and pits (unable to jet system).
- Clearing storm debris from the roads and footways.
- Pedestrian barriers preparation and painting.
- Cleaning and straightening of small road signs, street nameplates and bollards.
- Securing of existing small road signs, verge marker posts and supplied street name plates.
- Removal of limited graffiti from road signs, bollards and street nameplates.
- Hand cutting of grass and vegetation in visibility areas.
- Hand treatment of weeds.
- Hand clearance of encroaching growth and soils from footways.
- Repair of small potholes in roads and footways.

Parish Council

Planning:

New applications considered, for which there were 'Objections'

None Received

New application considered, for which there was 'Support'

None Received

New applications considered, for which there were 'No Objections'

Chyuli, 18 Rixon Gate: Incorporate existing garage into the rest of the property, increasing the kitchen dining area and adding additional glazing.

28 Richmond Court: Dawn Redwood – reduce by up to one third.

New applications considered, for which there were 'Comments'

10 Church Walk – Amendments: Demolition of existing double garages and erection of a 3-bedroom dwelling and split double garage and vehicle parking.

20 Happy Land: 50% reduction to take weight off the limbs and branches, due to a large 30cm diameter x 7-metre-long limb snapping off under its own weight and falling into the garden.

New applications considered, for which there was 'No Comment'

None Received

Applications determined by Wiltshire Council, 'No objections'

3 Cedar Lodge, Cove House Gardens: Fell 2 Lawsons Cypress trees and 1 Western Red Cedar to fulfil condition 4 of the decision notice for planning application PL/2021/03231.

16 Fore Street: Silver Birch tree – fell.

Applications determined by Wiltshire Council, 'Approved with Conditions'

The Annexe, Rear of The Willows, Kent End: First floor extension above existing annexe building.

10 High Road: Installation of two storey extension to rear and single storey extension to right side, with internal works to facilitate moving the kitchen into the extension and altering the staircase.

The Field, Spine Road: Variation of Conditions 10,11 and 15 of 19/12023/VAR (Change of use of land to provide a camping and caravanning site, landscaping, and associated facilities) to re-specify the manager's lodge.

The Old Brickyard Works, Units A, B and C, North End: Internal alterations and raising of roof to create first floor office space.

Applications determined by Wiltshire Council 'Approved'

None Received

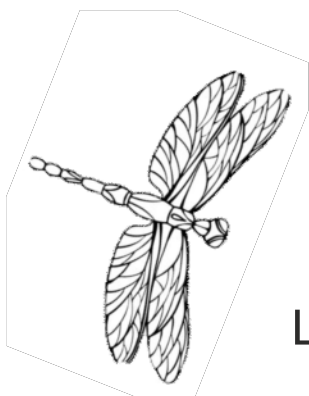
Applications determined by Wiltshire Council, 'Refused'

None Received

More news at www.akpc.org.uk

**Next Parish Council meeting on
Wednesday 21 September 2022, 7.15pm in AK Village Hall, Main Hall**

Please contact Fiona Ryder for more details
clerk@akpc.org.uk 07394 856232



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Rural Cinema

In the Village Hall

Tickets £4 available, usually two weeks before the film shows, from the Village Shop, the White Hart and Essence Hair and Beauty.

Doors and Bar 7pm – Film 7.30pm

Wednesday 7 September – THE DUKE (12A)

We open our 2022/2023 season with the return of two Rural Cinema favourites Helen Mirren and Jim Broadbent. Although a 2020 film, it has only been available on 'streaming services' very recently.



The priceless true story

In 1961, 60-year-old Kempton Bunton stole Goya's portrait of the Duke of Wellington from the National Gallery in London. He sent ransom notes saying that he would return the painting on condition that the government invested more in care for the elderly. What happened next became the stuff of legend. An uplifting true story about a good man who set out to change the world and managed to save his marriage.

"I did not realise this was based on a true story till the end, but that just made the film even more special. It's just a simple story about a simple man that is just so quintessentially British."

Wednesday 5 October – Death on the Nile: 2022

(Ashton Keynes version) (12A)

Starring Kenneth Branagh, Tome Bateman, Gal Gadot, Rose Leslie, Letitia Wright and many others

Why the 'Ashton Keynes version' – well some of the filming took place up the road, with the many shots of the Nile being played by Cleveland Lake. It also includes lots of local people taking the parts of locals and tourists.



Murder was just the beginning

Belgian sleuth Hercule Poirot's vacation aboard a glamorous river steamer turns into a terrifying search for a murderer when a picture-perfect couple's idyllic honeymoon is tragically cut short. Set against an epic landscape of sweeping Egyptian desert vistas and the majestic Giza pyramids, this tale of unbridled passion and incapacitating jealousy features a cosmopolitan group of impeccably dressed travellers, and enough wicked twists and turns to leave audiences guessing until the final, shocking denouement.

Note that the planned October film (above) will be confirmed in the September Newsletter.

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Tuesday	Closed	Closed
Wednesday	Closed	2:00pm - 5:30pm
Thursday	8:40am - 11:30am	8:00am - 11:30am
Friday	8:40am - 11:00am	8:00am - 11:30am

Phoenix South Cerney Branch

Clarks Hay, South Cerney. 01285 862112

Opening Times	Surgery	Dispensary
Monday	8:30am - 11:45am	2:15pm - 6:00pm
Tuesday	8:30am - 12:00pm	
Wednesday	8:45am - 12:00pm	1:45pm - 6:00pm
Thursday	8:45am - 12:00pm	
Friday	8:45am - 12:00pm	

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Purton Scarecrow Trail

Purton will be holding its Scarecrow Trail after a break for Covid, on Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 September 2022. The theme this year is Heroes and Villains, and the trail will be around Purton Village with a smaller section for children.

The cost of the trail sheet is £4 with the children's priced at £1.

Sheets will be available beforehand from 27 August at Pips Community Café, Purton Organic Farm Shop, The Royal George, Purton Co-op and Val's Hairdressers.

On the two days (10am to 5pm) trail sheets will be available as above, apart from Val's.

All monies raised will be used to maintain the two defibrillators in the village, one of which was purchased with the proceeds from the first Scarecrow Trail in 2014.

Any queries please email info@purton-scarecrow.co.uk
For previous photos please see our Facebook page.



Ashton Keynes Link Helpline

07512 233200

Please note that the number isn't manned continuously so leave a message and the Helpline Co-ordinator will get back to you.



Ashton Keynes Link Helpline is your local 'Good Neighbour' scheme. We're here to help anyone in the area who needs assistance that they're not able to get from friends, relatives and neighbours.

While the Helpline is well served by volunteers, many of the volunteers are over 70. Therefore, to enable this valuable service to continue the Helpline is looking for additional volunteers. If you can volunteer in any way, please contact the number above.

Ashton Keynes

The end of another fantastic school year

Our school year has now come to a close and we have said goodbye to our fabulous Year 6 pupils. As we recharge and prepare for another action-packed school year, here are a few of the many highlights from last term.

Sports Week Success

Recently, the whole school took part in our annual Sports Week. The children had a simply brilliant week which was jam-packed with a full range of exciting activities including tennis, football, cricket, archery, yoga, rugby, gymnastics, dance and dodgeball to name just a few.



During the week, we had a special visit from basketball coach Mark Waters who inspired the children (and staff!) with his energy and enthusiasm. We were also visited by Mel Tim and

her famous smoothie bike. Local sports clubs visited us and gave pupils the opportunities to try out different sports that are available in the area.

We finished the week with Sports Morning which all the children participated in brilliantly. The inflatable assault course was a highlight and a talking point in the playground for the next few days post Sports Week! Well done to all of our children for representing their houses so well and trying their best in all of the activities.

A Fabulous way to end the AK Festival!

Ashton Keynes school were delighted to be invited to take part in the Picnic in the Park on the last day of the AK Festival. The sun shone as many local families came together to picnic and listen to a celebration of young musicians. The Ashton Keynes school choir made us proud by singing a variety of songs, with beautiful soloists. This was followed by a selection of young performers showcasing their talents. Performances ranged from young instrumentalists to up and coming bands of the future. Our ears were treated to a wide variety of music from piano solos to drum

riffs, rock bands to stunning vocal solos. It was fabulous to see past pupils performing too. A fitting way to finish what was a fabulous festival. Many thanks to the superb team who made it all possible.



Theatre shows - Fisherman's Tale and Railway Children

We have had two excellent theatre experiences recently in our school hall. With the Fisherman's Tale, a biblical retelling, we also treated the children and staff to an ice lolly. We treat the children to an annual theatre experiences as part of their 11by11 experiences and this year it was the classic 'The Railway Children'. The older children (Years 4 and 5) got to do an exclusive backstage workshop after the performance to learn about the workings behind the theatre including the technical side. The school enjoyed this while Year 6 were enjoying the West end performance of 'The Lion King', so exciting theatre experiences all round.

Classes Shining Brightly: Year R

The last two terms in Class R have flown by and we cannot believe the children have come to the end of their first fantastic year at Ashton Keynes school. Just like the caterpillars we watched transform into butterflies, the children are ready to fly into the next stage in their school lives. Reading and writing are an important part of our learning in Class R and during Term 6 we started using our new Phonics programme.

Primary School



SHINE BRIGHT ★ REACH FOR THE STARS



All children in our class have made super progress during the whole year and are entering Year 1 with a strong set of literacy skills. Twice weekly we celebrate being 'Marvellous Me'. A child is chosen to take home the much anticipated 'Marvellous Me' box in which 3 special items are placed. The box and contents are then brought into school to be shared with the class. Tahlia finished off this year's round of 'Marvellous Me' which we all enjoyed. Jasper's turn included a very successful magic trick!

A highlight for us was performing our first-class assembly for the rest of the school and our families. Although we were a little nervous, we made our voices heard and we were so proud of ourselves. We shared experiences from our trip to Westonbirt and our Spring Walk; two occasions where we were able to get into the great outdoors and enjoy learning away from school.



done so much learning across the curriculum around this area of history. They enjoyed visiting our school outdoor timeline to see where this event happened in history! Class 2 have put their newfound recorder

playing skills to the test by rehearsing and performing a fantastic rendition of 'London's Burning' in their fabulous class assembly.

Years 3 and 4

It has been a fantastic final term for us in Classes 3 and 4. Earlier this term, we visited the Ashmolean Museum to support our learning in our history topic – Ancient Egypt. The children enjoyed looking at the artefacts and learning more about this ancient civilisation. We were also very lucky to have been invited to visit the Fresh Air sculpture trail in Quenington. The children loved exploring the sculptures, seeing what could be made using recycled materials and even getting a chance to build some of their own using the supplies issued by the fantastic education team at the venue. This inspired the creation of our own sculptures. We do hope that many of you were able to visit our recycled sculpture trail during the music festival showcasing a team creation from every class. The children loved

designing and creating these using all manner of recycled objects.

Class 4 managed to rescue and reuse old CDs that would have otherwise found their way to landfill.



We've celebrated the Queen's Jubilee, created a sculpture for the sculpture trail, learnt all about life under the sea, grown our own vegetables, Pirate and Mermaid day, listened to countless stories, learnt new and exciting vocabulary, have become confident with numbers, and above all have had a lot of fun!

Years 1 and 2

We have been loving our topic this term, 'The Great Fire of London' and have learnt so many new interesting facts. We have looked at the cause of the fire, how it destroyed houses and why it took so long to put out. The class have

Class 3 enjoyed their first ever night away from home with a sleep-over on the school field; they had the BEST time. From games on the field, to pizza, ice-cream and chocolate in the hall, followed by free time in tents with their friends. It was such a lovely evening – one we feel the children absolutely deserved.

Years 5 and 6

Classes 5 and 6 have had a brilliant summer term and have continued to work exceptionally hard. We have also been reading the graphic novel version of Tom's Midnight Garden and making comparisons with the film.

The highlight for Class 5 this term has to be their recent residential visit to the Christian Adventure



Centre at Viney Hill. From canoeing to abseiling, team building to low ropes, the children challenged themselves brilliantly throughout their stay and were a real credit to themselves and the school. The children loved the experience and enjoyed the night hike in the Forest of Dean woodland and spotting wild boar prints! Another high point had to be Class 5's trip to the Royal Air Tattoo at Fairford where they delighted in watching the Red Arrow display amongst many other attractions.

Class 6 have attended a fabulous STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) workshop led by a group of Year 8 pupils from Pinewood School. The children designed and made rockets out of paper and card. Afterwards they carried out a rocket launching experience which was thoroughly enjoyed! This has been one of the children's favourite activities this year.



The whole class were a credit to us on their residential trip to London during the last week of the term, a fitting way to end this chapter of their school journey...

Farewell Year 6

We could not be prouder of this class. They have shone so brightly both academically, making incredible progress, but also as young people. They have been brilliant role models to the rest of the school and fabulous Buddies to class R. Their leavers assembly was a mixture of reflection, thought, emotion and lots of fun. We have been so lucky to watch them grow and learn through their seven-year journey and know that they are now ready for secondary school where they will continue to reach and grow. Thank you, Class of 2022, you have been a very special part of our AK family.

Keep in touch!

Holy Cross Church Fete

Sunday 11 September

2.30pm - 4.30pm



Children's Boat Race

Make a boat from a plastic bottle, or any other material
and race it down the river at the Church Fete!
Prize for winner and best design (KS1 and KS2)

CHURCH WALK

OR VILLAGE HALL IF RAINING

**DOG SHOW : BRIC-A-BRAC : PLANTS
TEA & CAKE : TOMBOLA : BOOKS : RAFFLE :
TOYS : COSTUME JEWELLERY & ACCESSORIES
PIZZA : ICE-CREAM : BOTTLE STALL : GAMES**

AND MORE...

We are taking new registrations for September 2022



We are a village Preschool based in Ashton Keynes taking up to 18 children a session, between the ages of 2 years 6 months to 5 years.

We accept 15 & 30 hours funding



Our emphasis is learning through play allowing children to take the lead in the direction of play and control over their own experiences, building confidence and develop independent thinking and learning. We recognise the individual and learn and play for each child.

Our opening hours are:
Monday - Friday 09:00am - 15:00pm (term time only)

If you would like to find out more information or to register, please contact us:



The Village Hall, Ashton Keynes, Wiltshire, SN6 6NT



info@ashtonkeynespreschool.co.uk



01285 869433



ashtonkeynespreschool.co.uk

Ashton Keynes Preschool Charity Registered No. 1027601





New committee team members required for September

2022



We are looking for a new team to join the Ashton Keynes Preschool committee.

We are a friendly team run by a voluntary committee of parents/carers and the local community. We meet once a month to discuss and contribute key decisions to help manage the Preschool. We run a few fundraising events throughout the year, which is not only lots of fun, we raise essential funds for extracurricular activities and resources for all the children. Joining the committee is a fantastic way to meet with new parents/carers, as well as making a positive contribution to the village community.

We are looking for the following members:

- Chair
- Secretary
- Staff Care
- Fundraising Lead/Team Members
- General Members for additional support/Adhoc basis

Did you know?

- ✓ Our Preschool is managed by a committee, predominantly made up of parents/carers and local community
- ✓ We are registered with the Charity Commission
- ✓ Without a committee in place, consisting of a minimum of 5 members, including a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, the Preschool would have to close
- ✓ The roles require a minimum of 1 year commitment
- ✓ You do not have to have a child within the Preschool
- ✓ No skills necessary, training will be given

Why choose to be a member of our committee?

- ✓ You will meet new and existing parents/carers and members from the local community
- ✓ You get to be part of the community
- ✓ Involvement in your child's education
- ✓ Make plans for the ongoing success and maximum benefit for the children
- ✓ Have your say on topics or changes
- ✓ Bring your own ideas into practise
- ✓ Update existing skills and learn new ones
- ✓ Meet socially once a month for approx. 1 hour



Sound like you could join our team?

Come and join us at our next committee meeting held **Monday 18th July 19:30pm** in The White Hart Function Room, AK. Alternatively, get in touch with us to find out more information and roles available:



01285 869433 ||



chair@ashtonkeynespreschool.co.uk

Church matters

Holy Cross Cream Tea in the church on Friday 5 August from 3pm to 4.30pm

Come and enjoy scones with jam and cream (or should it be cream and jam?) and meet friends, Canon Debbie our vicar, Revd Shirley and the Holy Cross team. Donations invited.

Our August services have a different pattern with one Communion service for all in Upper Thames Group at 10 am in one of our four churches. Our early BCP communion services remain as per usual. At our 10 am services we will be exploring characters from the Old Testament - come and learn who they are and how they can shape our lives today.

7 August, 10am at Holy Cross AK

14 August, 10am at St Sampson's Cricklade

21 August, 10am at St John the Baptist, Latton

28 August, 10am at All Saints Leigh

BCP Communion at 8am at St Sampson's on 7 & 21 August and at 8.30am at Holy Cross on August 28.

Our church – school partnership is hugely important to both Holy Cross and AK school. And as part of that we were delighted to present a copy of a booklet called 'It's Your Move' to every child in Year 6 to help them prepare for life at their secondary schools. They go with God's blessing, and as part of their leavers' assembly, the children knelt and ministers from Holy Cross placed their hands on their heads and prayed for them. Just before the end of term the children explored the booklet further with Revd Shirley. We hope the children will hold on to the words which Joshua was given by God as he prepared for the challenge of leading his people into the land God had promised them. "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

Contact details for the **Upper Thames Benefice** (Cricklade St Sampson's, Latton St John the Baptist, Ashton Keynes Holy Cross and the Leigh All Saints)

Vicar: Revd Canon Debbie Dewes (email to vicar@upperthames.org.uk
Tel 01793 752718 + answerphone)

Associate Minister: Revd Shirley Danby (email to shirleydanby21@gmail.com
Tel 07980 548844)

Parishes Administrator: Jane Templeton (email admin@upperthames.org.uk)
Website <https://www.upperthames.org.uk>/Tel: **01793 979304**)

For weddings and baptisms please check out our website
<https://www.upperthames.org.uk/what-we-offer/> or contact
Canon Debbie, Revd Shirley or Jane (Parish Administrator)



Holy Cross, Ashton Keynes
St. Sampson's, Cricklade
St. John's, Latton
All Saints', Leigh

From the registers of the Upper Thames Group of Churches June 2022

FUNERALS

Name	Date & Church/Crematorium
------	---------------------------

None

WEDDINGS

Name	Date & Church
------	---------------

Charlie Dickinson & Lisa Palfreeman 25 June: St Sampson's, Cricklade

BAPTISMS

Name	Date & Church
------	---------------

Rafe Thomas Muir 12 June: St Sampson's, Cricklade

Weekday worship: Monday morning prayers 9am on Zoom and Thursday Morning Prayers 8.30am for 8.45am start at St Sampson's. Contact Jane our Parishes' Administrator for details – admin@upperthames.org.uk

Church opening times for private prayer

St Sampson's, Cricklade: every day, 9.30am – 3.30pm

Holy Cross, Ashton Keynes: Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday, 10am - 4pm

Date	Church	Time	Service
Sunday 7 August	St Sampson's, Cricklade	8am	Holy Communion
Trinity 8	Holy Cross, Ashton Keynes	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 14 August	St Sampson's, Cricklade	10am	Holy Communion
Trinity 9			
Sunday 21 August	St Sampson's, Cricklade	8am	Holy Communion, <i>followed by breakfast</i>
Trinity 10	St John the Baptist, Latton	10am	Holy Communion
	Holy Cross, Ashton Keynes	6pm	Evensong
Sunday 28 August	Holy Cross, Ashton Keynes	8.30am	Holy Communion
Trinity 11	All Saints, Leigh	10am	Upper Thames Group Holy Communion

If this newsletter gets to you in time - a last minute reminder that we have our outdoor service in the fields at **Waterhay Old Chancel, on Sunday 30 July.**

Join our Upper Thames Churches as we worship together on this unique occasion. All ages are most welcome.

You can walk or drive up the little lane which is signposted 'Chancel' from Waterhay Lane.

10am Communion and 6.30pm Evening Worship

Leigh Parish Council Speed indicator Device and Highways Issues May and June 2022

The current speedwatch and counter device has been very busy over the last 2 months and again reveals some very interesting statistics. Within the month of May 2022 traffic monitored traveling south west and exceeding a set speed limit activation accounted for the following:

3429 record offending vehicles; these are verified and number plates can be clearly read.

Again there are at least 10% more vehicles daily that have activated the device but the registration details are not clear and cannot be recorded.

This would take the total to approx 3800 offending vehicles well exceeding the speed limit of 40mph.

- This is an average of 126 vehicles a day
- The average miles per hour is 52.45
- The top speed record is 67 mph
- The record and verified information is collated and forwarded onto the police for monitoring.

Figures for June mirrored that of May with basically the same amount of speeding vehicles.

There were 2 days over a weekend in June where the activated speeding vehicles were significantly reduced. This was achieved after a local person had parked a vehicle on the highway. This had a very positive outcome in reducing speed.

The parish council will actively request that the police review this information and will encourage them to look at setting up traffic monitoring.

Moving onto Highways issues

Since the last news item was posted we have seen the whitelining around the Swan Lane area on the B4696 refreshed along with the SLOW road markings, also the highways department have replaced some of the missing signage.

On my final note, landowners are reminded as it is getting close to that time of year that it is their responsibility to make sure hedges do not encroach onto the highway or hinder visibility, and we would like to ask them where possible hedges are trimmed to make life on the road safer. Wishing you safe and happy travels.

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Tel: 01666 718078 / 07843 082634

Email: adamroberts@acertreesurgeons.co.uk

Ashton Keynes Festival - After five years, we hope you all felt it was worth the wait!

Six days at the end of June and what felt like the whole of the village coming to one or more of the events and enjoying that feeling of togetherness; one of the reasons why people make the decision to live in this lovely village.

The festival started with Mama Mia as the rural cinema on the Tuesday with plenty of Prosecco being drunk.

On Wednesday, Village Voices in the church was a truly wonderful experience with The Village Choir, The Siren Sisters and The Magnificent AK's all singing their hearts out, culminating in a joint finale song that got everyone on their feet.

Thursday night was a packed Barking Toad Comedy night – the organisers were a little nervous as the erratic marquee company didn't finish setting up until 10 minutes before the event, but they managed it eventually. Matt Macaulay did a great job compering for the evening and the 7-8 artists had us all in stitches. A new event for the festival and one that very much worked.

Fri Night Live was one that will live in the memories of many people for a long time. We started with Mike "Didgeridoo" Morris and Stuart "Technoboy" Matthews and then onto a combination of sing-a-longs and Spandex to the main act of the evening, The AKsionals did an unbelievable job in ensuring the dance floor was packed from start to finish.

Ashton Keynes Shows Off went one step further from the last festival with a magnificent procession of vehicles, organised by Martin Gater, that ended up at the Bradstone, where a good number of locals were sharing their hobbies, arts and crafts, alcohol making and others with the rest of the village. In the afternoon we had a number of gardens open to the public for a gentle stroll around the village, accompanied by some stops for art and poetry recital.

The Saturday night was another great affair. Down on numbers but up on sheer energy with the theme of 'Queen' being taken in a number of very different ways. Simplicity were a great choice to dance the night away after a fantastic three course meal arranged by The Cotswold Cookery School.

On Sunday the salmon trousers came out for the Jazz Brunch event, with The Big Brunch Band and Cocktails at Eight swooning us as we had our brunch and read the papers. In the afternoon the Picnic in the Park couldn't find

many dry eyes around as the school did us proud with a number of children coming up and performing along with a few teenage bands who were amazing. The festival finished off with Sunday Compline in the church, a chance to reflect on a wonderful 6 days of village festivities.

All this wouldn't have been able to happen if it wasn't for a number of people. The volunteers, too many to name, but thanks to every single one of you. The performers, who certainly all seemed to enjoy themselves!. The hosts – the church, the village hall and the Bradstone – thanks to all for letting us use your venues. Lastly a thanks to Graham Loveday – it was his idea and his dream, I hope he was watching down on us and having a giggle.

A couple of final points. With the lack of attendees at the Big Night Out on Saturday it meant that the organisers lost some money, but we did have a cushion, so the credit cards have now been paid back! For transparency purposes and for those that are interested, the financials will be up on the

www.ashtonkeynesfestival.net website. If you can also fill in the survey there so that we can establish what did and didn't work. If you do have any photos or videos of any of the events please add them to our facebook page - **<https://www.facebook.com/ashtonkeynesfestivalpage>**

Lastly the organisers (Phil Moran, Lars Frimert, Gerald Owenson and Paul O'Reilly) ran ourselves ragged and all decided this was the last time for us. We have a tried and tested formula that we can help mentor a younger and fresher committee who would like to take it on for the next time, we'd be delighted to help ensure the festival continues. Please let us know if you'd like to be part of a team who can continue the legacy at **Philmoran@yahoo.com**

Thanks to all, what a great village we live in.



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Electric vehicles - a glovebox sized guide

There is no doubt that an electric vehicle (EV) is a better private car option than one with an internal combustion engine (ICE), but manufacturing an EV does have a higher carbon impact than that of making an ICE car, on account of the battery. However, the extra manufacturing 'debt' will be repaid in approximately two years, based on average mileage in an average sized EV on UK grid electricity. (About 1.5 tonnes of CO₂e a year) As the average life of a car in the UK is 13 years, electrics are definitely worth it in climate terms if you are buying a new car anyway. Savings will also increase as the grid decarbonises further.



What about hybrids? A major 2021 study by the International Council on Clean Transportation looked at real-world driving of around 100,000 plug-in hybrids and found emissions to be two to four times higher than that claimed by official values, primarily because they weren't really being charged very often and therefore the battery wasn't being used much (a plug-in hybrid runs on battery until it runs out of power, then switches to the ICE). With this in mind, it brings their lifetime emissions more in line with conventional ICE vehicles.

"All hybrid models have claimed economy figures that, in real world driving, are simply not achievable" states www.thisismoney.co.uk

Of course not everyone can afford a brand new EV and it is good to know that there is a growing and very active second-hand market, with thousands available to choose from. The website nextgreencar.com is a great place to sort your options with real-world data on emissions.

In Summary:

What to buy:

- An EV, if your current car is an older ICE
- A second-hand EV

What not to buy:

- A diesel ICE. The human health impacts are too great and almost all companies and governments are phasing them out entirely.
- A plug-in hybrid. Latest data suggests that, unless used carefully, they aren't any better for the climate than conventional ICE cars.

So if you are changing your car, go fully electric as the evidence seems clear that a hybrid is a 'green' herring.

Source: www.ethicalconsumer.com

Gilly Riddington

We are now under offer on our house and seeking to stay in the village (after 16 years of living here). If you have a three/four bedroom house and are thinking of selling, please get in touch. **Kimolden0@gmail.com**

Thanks, from Kim, Poppy and Oliver.

Gardening and



Aunty Planty's news & top gardening tips

August brings the summer hiatus until the longer days start to wane slowly, and there may be gaps in the border as the earlier herbaceous perennials go over. Dead heading is still very important. If you have already cut back some of the straggly perennials, then you should be seeing a flush of new growth which will produce a new flush of flowers to keep the borders looking colourful for weeks to come.

There are plenty of plants to brighten up the garden in August and beyond. Rudbeckias, Japanese anemones, sedums (now renamed hylotelephium), chrysanthemums, asters, fuchsias, grasses and late flowering clematis and roses will give colour late in the autumn so worth making space for them. Echinaceas bring spectacular colour and structure to the border with its cone-shaped flower heads, and a recent RHS trial of over 400 should result in some new varieties available in garden centres to spice up the garden. One of my late summer favourite plants is Helianthus 'Lemon Queen'. It is tall, it can reach 6ft, but if you have a sunny spot at the back of the border, then give it a try. It will flower from now right through to the end of autumn if you keep deadheading it. Flat, open flower heads are great for pollinators, so a variety of these plants will provide a great source of nectar late into the season.

August is a great time of year to think ahead, and look for seed heads that can be collected and saved. It's the easiest and most natural way to grow more of your favourite plants for free.

The best time to collect seeds is on a dry day, after a spell of dry weather, and around mid-morning, once any dew has evaporated. Seed heads that dry, such as aquilegia, lupins, love-in-a-mist, sweet peas or poppies, should rattle. Others, like lychnis, will need drying out first before storing. Always place dry seeds into a paper envelope or bag, label them and keep in a cool place till planting in the spring. Avoid storing seeds in polythene bags, which trap moisture and encourage mould.

Take salvia cuttings now as they are easy to root and good insurance in case you lose any plants over winter. Choose shoots that haven't flowered yet or pinch out the flower heads if none other available, collecting them in the morning preferably. Put into a plastic bag with a few drops of water and keep cool until ready to pot up. They will need humidity to root, put them in a propagator or plastic bag which can be tied up and place out of direct sunlight. Air them regularly and take out of the propagator once they start growing.

Agapanthus are a delight this time of the year but look out for signs that they might need some attention. If there a lack of, or poor flowering, after years of flowering well or lots of roots emerging from the drainage holes at the base, the plant will need repotting. Agapanthus likes its roots to be constricted so when you repot it, you should only move up one pot size bigger. If you need to split it, then repot into a pot that the plant fits in to snugly as restriction will force plenty of thick white roots and encourage them to flower. A new plant should be repotted after two years, then every four years after that. This is best done in the spring as doing it later in the year will result in less chance of flowers.

Deciduous agapanthus (*A. campanulatus* hybrids) have narrow leaves that die back in winter, and these are the most reliable for planting in the ground if you have good drainage and a sunny spot. The *A. praecox* types have strappy leaves and bigger flowerheads, and tend to be the evergreen ones which may need some winter protection. They are probably better grown in pots so they can be moved into a cool greenhouse or porch for overwintering.

flowers

If you are not happy with the layout of your borders as the garden changes over the seasons, i.e. the structure/height of the plants is out of alignment for their best growing position, seasonal colour doesn't flow and you have big gaps, then this is a good time to assess the layout. Make rough sketches of your flower borders, noting where plants are now and plan where to move them in the autumn, an ideal time for splitting and transplanting. Take lots of photos of your garden too as it's much easier to do this if you have a reference point.

Top tips for this month

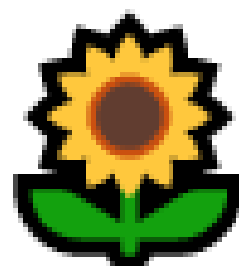
- Feed camellias and rhododendrons with an ericaceous fertiliser and keep well-watered through late summer while their flower buds are forming.
- Trim back lavender, once flowering is over, by between a third and a half, cutting off all the old flowerheads (bring them indoors to a room scenter) and a little foliage to maintain a compact, bushy shape, but avoid cutting into old wood.
- Prune wisteria after flowering by removing all the whippy side-shoots from the branch framework to about 20cm from their base (about five leaves from the main stem).
- Prune rambling roses, removing up to a third of stems that have flowered, and tie the rest to supports.
- Prune all summer flowering shrubs, such as climbing hydrangeas, once the blooms are finished.
- Leave the flowerheads of ornamental grasses as they will provide winter interest.
- Plant autumn bulbs, such as colchicums, sternbergia and nerines, in pots and borders.
- Plant up pots with 'Paper White' narcissus bulbs for fragrant indoor displays this Christmas.
- Summer prune both free-standing and trained apple trees, to encourage good fruiting in future years.
- Start planning your spring flowering bulb displays for planting over autumn. The garden centres will start getting bulbs in stock now to tempt you with a wide range of bulbs and colour.
- Lift onions and shallots once their tops die down, then leave to dry in the sun or on a warm greenhouse shelf.
- Cut back herbs now to encourage a new flush of tasty leaves you can harvest before the frost.
- Pinch out the tips of your runner bean plants once they reach the top of their support. This encourages side-shooting and more beans at a manageable height for picking.
- Summer prune both free-standing and trained apple trees, to encourage good fruiting in future years.

This made me smile:

My friend visited a nursery in her search for bedding plants. Pointing to one, she asked the nurseryman "Are these the kind that come back every year?" "No," he replied. "They die and you come back every year!"

I am taking a break from writing this article due to family and personal commitments so I wish you happy times in your garden – there is no better place to be.

Aunty Planty



LOGS FOR SALE

The Cotswold Canals Trust provides a delivery service of seasoned Ash logs for wood burners and open fires.

Delivery is free within a 16 mile radius of Kempsford.

The Trust is a charity and exists to progress the restoration of the Cotswold canals.

If you support this ambition, or would just like some logs, please visit

www.cotswoldcanals.org/support-us/log-sales or call **01453 752568** for details.

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North Wiltshire Villages Flower Club

After the great success of our very special Golden Anniversary celebration held in late May, it's now back to business as usual for the Flower Club, with monthly meetings at Crudwell Village Hall. In June we welcomed Sally Hardy, a floristry teacher from Bracknell, with her demonstration 'This and Tat'. Sally showed how a variety of cast offs and collectables could be recycled and repurposed as containers and props for floral creations, producing a wide variety of interesting designs. Our July event was a long awaited demonstration by Yvonne Berry, a freelance florist from Bromyard, Herefordshire, entitled 'Any Old Iron'. Our final event this summer will be a demonstration by Margaret Heal entitled 'Inspirations', to be held on 17 August. The new programme for 2023 is currently being finalised and should be published at our AGM in September.



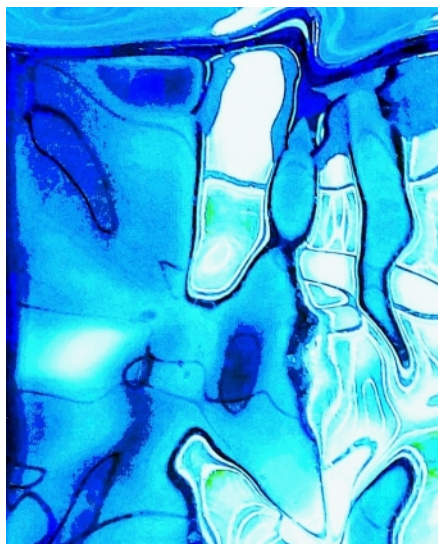
We can be contacted by email at nwvflowerclub@gmail.com, or for more information visit our website - <https://northwiltshirevillagesflowerclub.co.uk> or our Facebook page.

.....

The Telephone Gallery

It's been another busy month in (perhaps) the smallest gallery in Wiltshire with two exhibitions. After Ashton Keynes Shows Off, Jane Alexander, Sara Miller and I exhibited ceramics and mosaics in the gallery for the first half of the month in our exhibition 'Made in Ashton Keynes'. It was very well received and we're already planning our next exhibition: 'Handcrafted for Christmas'. More details closer to the time.

Jon Hughes' exhibition 'iPhone Flowers', photographs of flowers taken on his iPhone wasn't up at the time of writing this, but Jon's photos show the versatility of cameras on mobile phones and what great effects and details can be captured.



From 15 August to 5 September, the exhibition is 'The Doors of Perception', an exploration of abstract photography by Caroline Brookes. Looking through the telephone box door, you never know quite what you will see and even when you see it, you might not be able to see what the image is and as Aldous Huxley wrote, "There are things known and there are things unknown, and in between are the doors of perception". Caroline started taking photos of landscapes many years ago and then became more interested in textures and detail. More recently she started exploring shape, colour, and mystery, and started to capture colourful areas of rust on railway stations and portacabins. She explores abstract photography daily, experimenting and requesting feedback from friends and other photographers. She often asks what they see and loves to hear their responses. Please do post your thoughts on the website:

**thetelephonegallery.blogspot.com or on Instagram
[@thetelephonegallery](https://www.instagram.com/thetelephonegallery)**

The gallery is fully booked until the New Year, but please do get in touch about putting on an exhibition or display.
thetelephonegallery@gmail.com.

I plan to run the 'Big Draw' in the village later this year. It's an annual drawing festival for all ages with no drawing skills needed. This year's theme is 'Come Back to Colour' and to help fund that and other activities, I hope to sell a special mug featuring some of my lino-prints. More details next month.

Kathryn Gray



Health matters

Purton and Green Gable Surgery

Dr Chandran

It is with sadness that we inform you that after 22 years at the practice Dr Chandran has decided to leave general practice.

Dr Chandran will continue with his hospital work, but will no longer be a GP. He will be leaving us on 19 August.

We would all like to thank Dr Chandran and wish him all the best for the future.

New NHS organisation replacing CCGs

On 1 July the CCG (clinical commissioning committee) was replaced with integrated care system (ICS) made up of NHS and local authority organisations working together. Our ICS brings together an Integrated Care Board, three hospital trusts, private providers, a mental health trust, an ambulance trust and voluntary sector organisations.

Please follow the link for more information: <https://bsw.icb.nhs.uk/>

Holiday Medication – a message from Kai Howard, Practice Manager

Polite reminder: please ensure you request your medication in good time (7-10 days before running out), particularly if you are going on holiday. Also, don't forget to bring your medication back home with you!

We have had several patients asking for a prescription immediately as they are either going on holiday and forgotten to request their medication or returned from holiday and left their medication behind.

This puts a huge demand on the practice staff and means that we cannot provide the care and service to all our other patients.

Tabletop Sale and Books – Purton Surgery Waiting Room

The tabletop is now up and running in the Purton Surgery Waiting Room. There are also, once again, books in the bookcase for purchase (50p each). If you wish to purchase from the Tabletop please hand your money to the reception team, please also donate any books by handing them to the reception team ... and don't forget once you have read a book you can always bring it back for the shelves!

200 Club draw

Membership is now open again so do consider joining. The annual cost is £15, Standing Order preferred. Monthly prizes, first prize is £100, second is £15. Forms are available from the Surgery, for more information on the 200 Club contact Trish Baker (tel 770371) who is a member of the PPG committee. The July draw was done by Receptionist Marie Chapman and the £100 winner was Eric Cripps.

As always, your support for our work to both inform and support patients is much appreciated. If you know of anyone who would like to be included in our email list (all sent bcc) then please ask them to contact via groupforpatients@gmail.com

Sheila Fowler, PPG Secretary



Ashton Keynes Branch Surgery

www.crickladesurgery.nhs.uk



Cricklade Surgery

Tel: 01793 750645

We are open on Wednesdays from 10.30am to 1pm at the Village Hall.

You can collect your medication anytime between 10.30am and 1pm any Wednesday and also request medication and make appointments. When ordering repeat medication, it will be ready to collect from Ashton Keynes the following Wednesday if it is due to be issued. More urgent requests can be processed and collected from Cricklade Surgery.

Cricklade Landmark

Cricklade Surgery is unique in the modern NHS as it is still essentially a single-handed practice. It has only had three GPs in post since the end of World War 2. Dr TRF Thomson was the GP at Cricklade Surgery from 1945 to 1972 (27 years). Prior to that he had been in the Army. Dr SS Banerjee was the GP here from 1972 to 1995 (23 years). Prior to that he was a GP in Devon and before this in Wales. Dr Lanil de Silva, the current post holder, has been in post here since 1st July 1995 – to the present day which is over 27 years. Before that he was a Hospital Doctor in various specialties. Between them there have been three GPs in post over a period of 77 years. The length of time that each Doctor was here is worthy of comment.

Dr de Silva would like to add that his job has been made possible for this length of time and in the modern NHS because of the excellent staff he has around him at Cricklade Surgery.

CARE QUALITY COMMISSION – Inspection Results

We had our CQC inspection in which we received a "GOOD" rating

Cancellation of Appointments

As you can appreciate, there is a large demand on appointments at the practice, and appointment-slots where patients fail to attend could have been used by other patients; but

only if the practice had been informed that you no longer required to be seen. The practice has a policy on patients not attending appointments which in extreme cases can result in the patient being removed from our practice list.

If you wish to cancel the appointment you can do so by phoning 01793 750645 or by cancelling online at <https://systmonline.tpp-uk.com> Please help us to utilise our appointments as best as possible by cancelling any future appointments that you do not need. Ideally any cancellation should be at least 24 hours in advance of the appointment.

Patient Participation Group

Here at Cricklade Surgery we have a virtual Patient Participation Group. You will simply receive our newsletter and a questionnaire every quarter so we can receive honest feedback. Please speak to the Reception Team to join our group.

Online Registration and Text Reminders

Did you know you can manage your prescriptions and book appointments online? Please bring some photo identification and complete a form at Reception. You can also register your mobile number with the surgery and we can send you appointment reminders.

Carers

Do you look after someone who is ill, frail, disabled or mentally ill? If so, you are a carer.

We are interested in identifying carers, especially those people who may be caring without help or support.

We believe carers should receive appropriate support by way of flexible appointments and access to accurate information on a range of topics such as entitlement to benefits and respite care and not least, a listening ear when things get too much. Please visit Reception to fill out a form.

Cheers! New brewery brings a cash bonus for Cotswold Lakes Trust

When seven friends set up the Cotswold Lakes Brew Co during the pandemic, they pledged to give back to their local community.

That promise was honoured when they handed over a £200 cheque to Cotswold Lakes Trust – the equivalent of 1% of gross sales revenue in the burgeoning brewery's first year. "We're lucky to be based in the beautiful Cotswold Water Park and are keen to help keep it that way," said Lee Selway, founding partner of the Cotswold Lakes Brew Co.

"Supporting Cotswold Lakes Trust was an obvious option - it's a charity dedicated to the conservation and enhancement of the Cotswold Water Park for the benefit of wildlife and people."

Development Director of Cotswold Lakes Trust Matthew Millett thanked the brewery for their support. "It's great to get the backing of local businesses. And the fact that we share the same values in protecting the environment and doing the best for the Cotswold Water Park is a real bonus," he said.



Lee Selway (centre) from Cotswold Lakes Brew Co with Matthew Millett and Davina Stirland from Cotswold Lakes Trust

The team behind Cotswold Lakes Brew Co are largely colleagues who work in the finance industry. They loved drinking beer but knew little about how to make it and decided it would be fun to find out. As lockdown began in 2020, the novice brewers got together a Powerpoint plan. By May 2021 they sold their

first beer at a pop-up event in South Cerney, and since then have produced more than 15,000 pints.

"We set out to create the best-tasting beers we could," said Lee. At the same time they wanted their idea to be about more than beer. "We wanted to make a positive difference in our local community and more widely. It's what we call 'beer with purpose'," he added. "Our support of Cotswold Lakes Trust is a long-term commitment that will hopefully grow to become a financially significant partnership."

Cotswold Lakes Trust plays a major role in the environmental welfare of the Cotswold Water Park – a network of 180 lakes stretching across 42 square miles from South Cerney in the north and Somerford Keynes in the west, to Cricklade in the south and Lechlade in the east. The Cotswold Water Park is nationally recognised as a unique wetland area which is home to tens of thousands of water birds, 20,000 residents and 1 million visitors per year.

For more information www.cotswoldlakestrust.org



Straw to the fore! Cotswold Lakes Trust gears up for Scarecrow Trail

Scarecrows will be the name of the game when Cotswold Lakes Trust holds its annual family event on Saturday 20 August.

Everyone is welcome to join the Scarecrow Trail from 11am-3pm. They'll follow a 4km route from Cleveland Lakes nature reserve, along the Thames Path and around 4 Lakes near Ashton Keynes.

There will be refreshments at a lakeside tea tent, as well as craft stalls, hook-a-duck and welly-wanging competitions, and free parking.



If anyone wants to make a scarecrow to add to the trail, entry is free. The theme is 'ducks', and there is a cash prize for the best.

Administration Manager for Cotswold Lakes Trust, Helen Hanks, said the annual event was a great family day out. "The setting alongside the lakes is stunning and it's a really fun day, not just for children but for parents and grandparents too. This year with our duck theme, it might even be a bit quackers!" she said.

Image: Rangers (l-r) Joe Fell and Michael Diss with Helen Hanks from Cotswold Lakes Trust

Tickets are £4 per person on the day, £3 in advance and £2 for members of Cotswold Lakes Trust. Under 3s go free.

Proceeds go towards supporting Cotswold Lakes Trust which plays a major role in the environmental welfare of the Cotswold Water Park – a network of 180 lakes stretching across 42 square miles from South Cerney in the north and Somerford Keynes in the west, to Cricklade in the south and Lechlade in the east.

The Cotswold Water Park is nationally recognised as a unique wetland area which is home to tens of thousands of water birds, 20,000 residents and 1 million visitors per year.



For more information, tickets and entry forms,
<https://cotswoldlakestrust.org/scarecrow-trail-2022/>

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We are looking for volunteer help at the Tetbury Music Festival

As a charity, the Tetbury Music Festival finds it indispensable to have the support of the wider community. If you enjoy helping people and feel you could join our friendly group of volunteers, around the first weekend of October, then we would love to hear from you.

Our audience comes from a wide area, specifically to see world class performers, and we want them to have the best experience possible of the Festival. Roles vary from checking tickets, handing out programmes, helping with interval refreshments and setting up the concerts and you will benefit from free access to each concert you attend as a volunteer.

Our volunteers are essential to the success of the festival!

We are also looking for a **work placement student** to assist with all kinds of administrative and practical aspects of the festival. They will gain really valuable experience in arts management. If you know a young person on a gap year or a fresh graduate, or indeed anyone of any age who would be interested, please refer them to us!

If you are interested in volunteering or a placement, please email the Festival Administrator, Orsi Torjak, at admin@tetburymusicfestival.org

Closure of local Rotary Club

It is with great sadness that we report that the local Rotary Club of the South Cotswolds closed with effect from 30 June 2022. The Club was chartered in June 1967 and had as its first President Charles Nicholls, the popular manager of Lloyds Bank in Tetbury, who continued to be an active member of the Club until his death in December 2020 aged 96.

The Club was based on the two towns of Malmesbury and Tetbury, historically great local rivals! Initially the club met weekly with one week in Tetbury and the other week in Malmesbury. Over the years it has met in a number of locations including the Kings Arms in Malmesbury, the Horse Guards at Brokenborough, the Mayfield at Crudwell and finally at the Old Royal Ship at Luckington.

Throughout its 55 year history the Club has carried out numerous activities raising hundreds of thousands of pounds for both local and national charities. In addition to its fund raising events, community service projects were carried out. A key one for Malmesbury was the annual Santa Sleigh – that toured streets in Malmesbury and in a number of the surrounding villages. The most notable for Tetbury was the annual “Fireworks Spectacular” last held in November 2019. This provided a safe environment for people to enjoy a superb pyrotechnic display at an affordable cost (far cheaper and more spectacular than buying the usual family box of fireworks!) - and visited one

year by a certain Mrs Diana Wales and her two sons from nearby Highgrove.

The Club has also, through the wider Rotary movement, engaged in International Activities. Old tools were collected for the ‘Tools for Self Reliance’ project in Africa, computers were procured to be sent to South Africa and the Sight Savers initiative was strongly supported with millions of eye patches supplied. More locally, the club made significant contributions to the Brighter Futures project to provide radiotherapy facilities at the Great Western Hospital and to the Life Education Centre (LEC) mobile classroom that visits many of the primary schools in Malmesbury and the surrounding villages.

When the Club was originally Chartered most of the members were in their 40s, but as with all organisations the members get older and unfortunately we were not able to attract new younger members in sufficient numbers to continue. Times, family priorities and work pressures have changed, and the absence of a single geographical focus did not help.

However we have had a good run and achieved a lot of good over the past 55 years through our enthusiasm, teamwork and capabilities – and lots of fun and fellowship.

Doug Hughes (Club Secretary) and Peter Wyman (Past President)

DRIVEWAY SALE



Do you have any items at home you no longer need?
Or could you host a bake or drink sale? Why not enter
your driveway onto this event map to raise funds for
Ashton Keynes preschool.

Saturday 10th September 2022

10:00-12:00pm

To enter please email fundraising@ashtonkeynespreschool.co.uk

£10 on the day or donate your takings.

Don't forget to ask family, friends, neighbours, colleagues if they can
contribute items!



Club news

Ashton Keynes WI's perfect summer evening

AK WI were blessed with the most wonderful weather for our summer garden meeting, and thanks go to Cathy Conlon for letting us share her glorious garden. It was one of those perfect English scenes you usually only see in films.

Our speakers for the evening were championing the 'Development of Wildflower Meadows' in response to the dramatic decline in insect and flower numbers and varieties. By working with community groups they have shared their experience of converting areas of grass and unused ground into wildflower areas. Our imaginations were particularly fired by the concept of 'patchwork meadows'. If a community doesn't have space for a single large wildflower meadow then a number of 1m x 1m wildflower patches can deliver a similar benefit to wildlife. We came away with packets of seeds specifically designed for our various garden patches, but most importantly full of enthusiasm for the wild meadow

cause. We rounded off our perfect evening in summer style with Pimms and puddings!

We don't meet in August but have organised an afternoon walk and tea at Lower Moor, Dragonfly Café on 10 August and Minety WI have invited us to their Mad Hatter's Tea Party.

Our regular meetings are on the evening of the second Wednesday of the month. Please get in touch if you'd like to join us.

01285 861561

ashtonkeynessec@wiltshirewi.org.uk

Susie Grier, AKWI Secretary



Cricklade and District Probosc Club

We are looking forward to meeting as a group on the 4 and 18 August. The talks on these respective dates will be on the Wiltshire Air Ambulance and Nelson's Navy.

The meetings take place fortnightly on a Thursday at 10am at the White Hart Hotel in Cricklade. Ours is a friendly group who enjoy keeping our minds active and socialising over a drink in the bar after the meetings. We are actively seeking to expand our numbers and look forward to welcoming new members to the Club.

For further information about our local club for retired gentlemen, please contact the **Honorary Secretary, Richard Roberts on 01793 751063.**

1st Ashton Keynes Scout Group News

Great News - Beavers will start in September 2022 with Katie and Ben Jarvis as leaders. If your child is looking for fun, helping the community, new activities, go on adventures and making new friends, then get your name on the waiting list fast to join our Beaver Colony - I already have several names on the list.

Cubs

This month at cubs they have completed some tracking activities, where the cubs used stones and twigs to make a trail for the leaders to follow and find some treasure. We also had a fun night with the cubs trying out tennis and golf, thank you to the parents for your help with these activities, which will count towards the cubs sports enthusiast badge. We were all delighted to welcome a family from Ukraine who came and joined us with the sports activities. We unfortunately haven't been able to hold the archery evening this term, but it's planned for next term. Wishing everyone a wonderful sunny summer break and we look forward to seeing you all again in September.

Scouts

Whilst the Scout Movement may appear to the outsider to be a bastion of long-held esoteric customs, we are in fact, and always have been, a Youth-shaped movement, the formal way we keep relevant for the young people we support today is via the Troop Forum, where the young people of the group suggest activities for the coming year.

We held one last week, and whilst ideas may occasionally be outlandish and unrealistic we try to work them into safe, engaging activities for the coming term.

So next term we will endeavour to have a mini sports day, a den building night, cooking, food tasting competition (desserts) and towards Christmas when the evenings become dark, a Lego night, a board game night and a trip to Swindon for ice skating or bowling.

Group News

Throughout the month, we have been working on our Scouts Group Community garden. Thank you for all the plant donations and all the help we have received to bring the garden to fruition; we were ready to open it during the Ashton Keynes Festival and received lots of praise and encouraging comments and probably some plant donations.

We continue to have vacancies for our active **Cub Pack**, for all children between the ages 8-10½ years of age, our meeting is on **Thursdays** between 6pm and 7.30pm and also the **Scout Troop** who meet on **Friday** evening between 6.45pm and 8.30pm, open to all children 10 - 14years old, in the **School Hall**. So come along and try joining in with our group.

We still need member for our Executive committee and Trustees to represent all sections of the group with or without a connection with the group and we are urgently looking for a Chair Person and Treasurer to head up this group. If you could spare a couple of hours every month, we would love to hear from you. Volunteers need not be a parent but someone who has the well-being of young people at heart; age is no barrier and any training will be given.

Please contact David Tarr on
david.tarr@davidwtarr.plus.com 01285 861425



Local numbers

Here are some of the **local groups, organisations and clubs** available to us.
Please also see the village website www.ashtonkeynes.org.uk where you will find further information.
Please let us know if you would like your group to be listed or you find an error.

Village Emergency Telephone System 01793 250211

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AK Link Helpline 07512 233200

AK Website Steering Group via village website

Alpha Courses Pete Tuck 01285 861466

Anglers Ryan Peare

secretary@ashtonkeynesanglingclub.co.uk

Ashton Keynes All Stars Golf Geoff Chick

geoffchick00@aol.com

Ashton Keynes Charities Richard Smith 861461

Ashton Keynes Cricket Club

www.pitchero.com/clubs/ashtonkeynescricketclub

Ashton Keynes Musical Festival Phil Moran

01285 861745

Ashton Keynes C of E Primary School

01285 861436

Ashton Keynes Village Choir Esther Thackeray

www.akvillagechoir.co.uk,

ashtonkeyneschoir@gmail.com

Ashton Keynes Seniors Table Tennis Club

Paul Blackburn pmburnblackburn@yahoo.co.uk

Baby and Toddler Group Jemma Craven

jemmalcraven@gmail.com

Badminton Club Karen Carter

01285 862371 abc@live.co.uk

Big Brunch Band jackie@davidmitchell.co.uk

Big Questions for Seniors Revd Shirley Danby

01793 751463

Bradstone Pavilion Bookings bookings@akpc.org.uk

Bridge Gordon Copley 01285 861444

Cafe Theos graham.stockill@gmail.com

Create Kathryn Gray 01285 869341,

kathryngray28@yahoo.co.uk

Cricket Mark Brooks (sec) 01285 862401

Cricklade Theatre Group

jennyperry282@gmail.com and

margaretrcooper@gmail.com

Dig Deeper Revd Shirley Danby 01793 751463

Football Junior Phil Moran 07880 715715

Friends of Holy Cross Alison Beadle 01285 861411

Holy Cross Church Canon Debbie 01793 752718

Revd Shirley 07980 548844 Admin 01793 979304,

admin@upperthames.org.uk

Holy Cross Choir

Holy Cross Flowers

Jiu Jitsu Club (Cirencester) James Slaughter,

Keep Fit Tim Bird 07794 614962, 01285 656986

TimothyGBird@aol.com

Messy Church Shirley Danby 01793 751463

Millennium Green Trustees Doug Yarrow 01285

861427 dougyarrow@msn.com

Minety Squash Club Tim 01666 860368

tim@lagondahire.co.uk

Mothers Union Margaret Godfrey 01666 860536

Neighbourhood Watch paul.eastham@totalise.co.uk

Orchestra see www.cirencesterphil.co.uk

Parish Council (AK) Fiona Ryder 07394 856232.,

clerk@akpc.org.uk, www.akpc.org.uk.

Parish Council (Leigh) Mandy Thomas

01285 860488

Parochial Church Council Yvonne Edmonds (Sec)

07980 290598

Pre-school 01285 869433,

www.ashtonkeynespreschool.co.uk,

communications@ashtonkeynespreschool.co.uk

secretary@ashtonkeynespreschool.co.uk

fundraising@ashtonkeynespreschool.co.uk

Reading Group cathy.conlon@talktalk.net

Rural Cinema Dave Sheppard dave@akvh.org.uk

Short Mat Bowls ddsak78@gmail.com

Siren Sisters Val Skehan 01285 860069,

www.sirensisters.org.uk

Tai Chi (Down Ampney) Tim Price

01793 752852, tim@cotswoldwu.co.uk,

www.cotswoldwu.co.uk

The Telephone Gallery, Kathryn Gray, 01285

869341, thetelephonegallery@gmail.com

www.thetelephonegallery.blogspot.com

Tennis Annie Dyson ashtonkeynestennis@gmail.com

The Magnificent AKs Stuart Harris

stuart.harris1965@gmail.com

Twinning Association

ashtonkeynestwinning@gmail.com

Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS)

01793 250211

Walking Group Liz Chick 01285 861317

lizzie_chick@yahoo.com

Whitefriars Sailing Club Patrick Green, 01285

861670, info@whitefriars.org

Women's Book Group Liz Chick 01285 861317

lizzie_chick@yahoo.com

Women's Institute Susie Grier 01285 861561

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01285 654875 enquiries@daveylaw.co.uk
 10-12 Dollar Street, Cirencester GL7 2AL
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