

STEEPLE ASHTON NEWSLETTER GREAT HINTON JUNE 2022

DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION.

U.  R.

STEEPLE ASHTON.
The Committee beg to announce that arrangements have been made for all Children under 16 to have a TEA on
Tuesday next, June 22.
All Women over 16, and Men, who have subscribed, will have a DINNER. Non-Subscribers (men) may have
Tickets by paying 1/- not later than June 17th.

TEA FOR CHILDREN
In Field at 4 o'clock.

DINNER FOR ADULTS
In Mr. Cary's Engine Shed at 5 o'clock.

Children will meet at the School at 3 o'clock, when Medals will be distributed; Procession will form, and headed by the
STEEPLE ASHTON BRASS BAND (Conductor, Mr. Wm. Hall) will Parade the Village.

SHORT SERVICE AT CHURCH at Two o'clock.
The Committee earnestly hope that all Chimes will make an effort to attend and join in Praise and Thanksgiving to Almighty
GOD for services received during Her Majesty's Long Reign.

The Committee have arranged the following Programme of

SPORTS

ADULTS.

100 yards FLAT RACE	Prizes 1st 2nd 3rd	1/- 5/- 2/6	1/-	SACK RACE, 100 yards	Prizes 1st 2nd 3rd	1/- 5/- 2/6
HURDLE RACE, 10 flights	- 5/- 2/6 1/-			THROWING CRICKET BALL	2/6 1/-	
FLAT RACE, quarter-mile	- 5/- 2/6 1/-			CONSOLATION RACE, 300 yards	5/- 2/6	

ENTRIES (1/- for each Event) to be made to Mr. J. E. Cuse before 7 pm. on June 21st. No 3rd Prize given unless 4 Entries.

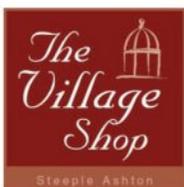
LADIES' RACES

EGG & SINDON RACE, 50 yards—3/- 2/- BASKET & STONE RACE, limit stone 20 yards—3/- 2/-
FLAT RACE, 50 yards—3/- 2/- ENTRIES (two to be made up to the time of the Race. No 3rd Prize unless 4 Entries.

Games, Races, & Scrambles for the Children. FIRE BALLOONS will ascend in the Evening.
The Committee reserve the right to alter or amend any of the foregoing items. Tickets may be obtained of the Committee.
W. H. CARY, Esq., Chairman.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.
Massey & Co., Printers, Truro, Cornwall.

Steeple Ashton Celebrates Queen Victoria's Jubilee, June 1897



Steeple Ashton Village Shop

Opening Hours - please see page 11 for the current shop opening hours.

Shop telephone: 01380 871 211

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Editorial

Hello everyone - It looks as if we are all going to be very busy over the next few days. As I write, I have another concert on Saturday and then the Open Gardens on Sunday followed by the Jubilee celebrations. The concert in St Mary's seemed to go well and was much appreciated by the audience. I'm sure you were all amused when Monkey joined us - having first made sure we were all socialising in the village hall. My grandchildren couldn't believe how friendly the cat was - he lay down at their feet to be stroked! There is a short report about the concert on p19. The choir were so impressed by our church and its acoustics - which makes it really good to sing in. It just needs a piano and some basic facilities...

Helen

Newsletter Deadlines for 2022

June 21st; July 19th for August and September

Items for the **next** newsletter should be received by **Tuesday 21st June**. They should be sent to Mrs Helen Montague-Smith, 1A Butts Lane, Steeple Ashton or by email to **helenmontaguesmith8@gmail.com**

All published items solely express **the views of the author** and are the copyright of the author and the newsletter unless otherwise stated.

The Editor would like to remind you that it is up to you, the readers, to supply all news and copy for the newsletter. The sender's name and address need to be received before printing. Telephone 01380 871285.

Inquiries for advertisements in the newsletter should be made to **Sarah Blake** on 01380 502648 email: adverts4steepleashton@gmail.com

Please send your ads by email if possible.

Please note, we do not deliver flyers for advertisers.

STEEPLE ASHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Council Meeting – May 2022

At the Annual Council Meeting held on Thursday 5th May 2022 Cllr Rob Leonard was re-elected as Chairman of the Parish Council. The election of the Vice-Chairman was deferred to the June meeting.

Parish Council Representatives – 2022/23

At the Annual Council Meeting held on Thursday 5th May 2022 the following representations were agreed:

- Highways and Parish Steward – Cllr Jones
- CATG – Cllr Jones
- Community Speed Watch – Cllr Tapper and Cllr Jones
- SID Project – Cllr Jones
- CPT and Police Liaison – Cllr Cottle
- Defibrillator checks – Mrs Lynda Beaven
- Dog bag refills – Mrs Lynda Beaven
- Emergency Plan – Cllr Tapper
- Facebook / Website – Cllr Leonard, Cllr Dampier and the Parish Clerk
- Newsletter – Parish Clerk
- Footpaths – Cllr Cottle
- Human Resources – Cllr Leonard, Cllr Tapper and Mrs Buffery-King
- Melksham Area Board – Cllr Tapper
- Model Railway Club key holder – Cllr Jones (inside) Cllr Leonard (outside)
- Planning – Cllr Dallison
- Acreshort Park Group – Cllr Ash
- Recreation Group – Cllr Dampier and Cllr Ash
- Friends of Steeple Ashton – Cllr Leonard
- St Mary's Building Management Committee – Cllr Dampier
- STASH – Cllr Ash
- Village Hall – Cllr Dallison
- Christmas Event Planning – Mrs Buffery-King and her team.
- SAVE Climate Emergency Group – Cllr Leonard
- Platinum Jubilee – Cllr Ash

Parish Council comments on Planning Applications

PL/2022/02742 - 21 Acreshort Lane, Steeple Ashton, Trowbridge, Wilts, BA14 6HD - Single storey side extension – No objection.

PL/2022/02724 and PL/2022/01502 – The Manor, Church Street, Steeple Ashton, Trowbridge, Wilts, BA14 6EW – Internal and external alterations to house including new back staircase, relocating kitchen, changes to ceiling and floor heights, removal of 1 existing bathroom, additional of roof lights and general repairs. Alterations to modern garage and adjacent oil tank/bin store area – No objection.

PL/2022/02862 - Sunnyside, Edington Road, Steeple Ashton, Trowbridge, Wilts, BA14 6HP - Change of use of agricultural land to residential garden – No objection.

PL/2022/02672 – Unit B, Elmsgate Buildings, Edington Road, Steeple Ashton, Wilts, BA14 6HP – Notification for prior approval under Class MA for a proposed change of use from offices (Class E) to Form Flats (Use Class C3) - No objection.

Wiltshire Council Planning Decisions

PL/2021/11368 - Larks Leaze, Edington Road, Steeple Ashton, Trowbridge, Wilts, BA14 6HP - Demolition of existing dog kennels and cattery and construction of a Class E joinery workshop - Approve with Conditions.

PL/2021/09879 - Raydown, Edington, BA13 4NW - Construction of agricultural building to be used for the storage of agricultural machinery and commodities - Approve with Conditions.

PL/2022/01553 – 7 Church Street, Steeple Ashton, Trowbridge, Wilts, BA14 - T1 - Cherry tree - reduce by 3m and re shape. Reason for works - causing too much shading and overcrowding buildings - No Objection.

PL/2022/01865 - 60 A Yew Tree House High Street, Steeple Ashton, BA14 6EU - T1 - Yew tree - Monolith Yew tree to 3 m due to excessive decay in stem - No Objection.

PL/2022/00485 - The Sanctuary, 9 Dark Lane North, Steeple Ashton,

BA14 6EY - Retrospective Application for the partial renovation / reconstruction of outbuilding to form annex – Refuse – Members agreed to review the status of outstanding enforcement issues in July 2022.

Parish Council Contact:

The Clerk can be contacted on 01373 864127 / 07971 987806 or email clerk@steeple-ashton.co.uk. All Councillors have live @steeple-ashton.co.uk email addresses which are also posted on the website.

Find us on Social Media! Through the **Parish Council page** and **Steeple Ashton Village Discussion Group**, we cover many topics of interest to our residents. Please be assured that this page is monitored regularly, and we take all requests seriously, actioning where appropriate. We also have a group called ‘**Steeple Sells**’ for those of you that would like to buy and sell things locally – this is not a page that is part of the Parish Council policy or procedure, just a natural extension of social media activities. We would love you to get involved – search for ‘Steeple Ashton’ on Facebook. If you are a village group and need help with your social media or village event promotions, please get in touch with Pippa at pippabirch@steeple-ashton.co.uk or 871578.

~~~ [www.steeple-ashton.co.uk](http://www.steeple-ashton.co.uk) ~~~

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**Jonathon Seed writes:**

Spring moves into summer and our local countryside assumes its idyllic green mantle . Our gardens have greened up and the bright colours of summer are just emerging. However all is not idyllic in our lives. The spectrum of galloping inflation has raised its ugly head. Not everyone in our rural area will cope with the deep financial difficulties ahead and I often feel that we do not have as easy access to the same safety networks as those in towns. There are many around us on fixed incomes and pensions who are having to absorb 10% inflation and cope with rural isolation. This group also includes many families on low incomes who struggle not only to feed and care for families but also to fund the additional cost of travel to work from their villages. Many are too proud to ask for help but we all need to be very alert in the rural community in which we are privileged to live and keep a particularly close watch for those who may need a bit of help.

## **Jonathon Seed writes:**

Every village that I represent experiences planning issues. Sometimes these are unwelcome housing developments, sometimes these may be unwelcome dwelling alterations, and sometimes these are simply developments that herald change. Most development plans are legal and a few are not. I well remember nearly twenty years ago the wise District Councillor who was retiring and where I was campaigning to succeed him giving me advice to go carefully with planning issues as there are no votes in planning. Some will be in favour and some against and how true that is. Occasionally as the local Councillor I end up in the role as mediator. More often than not this role is more accurately “rumour slayer” and calming emotions. We all have to live together and our communities will inevitably develop but where planning issues are concerned talking always is a good start. That is the case in the development of a local pub where most want the pub open and where I have recently been to see what is happening and have started to try to smooth relations and kill rumours as we move towards the inevitable reopening.

Last month I was privileged to take my family to attend the first Platinum Jubilee celebration at the Royal Windsor Horse Show. Her Majesty clearly hugely enjoyed the celebration as much as we did and was radiant as ever. Our Queen has given so much to our Country over the past seventy years and let us wish her a peaceful and happy remainder of her reign and a very happy Platinum Jubilee. God Save the Queen!

**Jonathon Seed**

Wiltshire Councillor for Melksham Without West and Rural

07770774463

### **Useful Information**

#### **Postal Collections:**

**Longs Arms** - Weekdays - 4.15pm; Saturday - 10am

**Newleaze** - Weekdays - 12noon; Saturday - 11am

**Mobile Library Visits - Wednesdays;** Longs Arms - 11.00 - 12noon;  
Ashton Common Bus Stop - 3.35 pm - 4.00pm

June 1st, June 15th, 29th, July 13th



## Steeple Ashton Village Hall

For the first time since the stage improvements, the Village Hall was pleased to be the chosen venue for the amateur drama group, the Trowbridge Players' first performance since lockdown and a first in many years for the hall.

Due to the pandemic, the group have not performed together for quite some time so it couldn't have been easy to get back into the swing of things, especially as their usual venue could no longer be used. Adapting to a smaller stage and no specific dressing rooms was a challenge, but in the end with great creativity, they managed to create a space in the skittle alley for changing and chopped, sawed and painted new scenery that fitted the space!

Sadly I was unable to go as I had the grandchildren to stay, but I have spoken to some who attended and they said they had an enjoyable evening, it was good value, the set was good and the refreshments in the interval very welcome. For their part, the Players were very happy with our hall, lighting and stage space and we are hoping they will come back again with a new performance.

The Open Gardens weekend is almost upon us and the hall will be the venue for teas and delicious home made cakes as usual, I'm sure we'll see you there.

The Jubilee week will see the hall decorated with bunting and the Guides performing A Midsummer Night's Dream on the Saturday as part of the village celebrations. I have tried to plant some red, white and blue in the planters outside the hall - not sure how well they are doing yet!

For the future, our thoughts are turning towards trying out an evening for the young people of our villages, who, it seems don't often use the hall, yet may find it difficult to meet up in our rural area. I will be putting something on the Village Facebook page as we need some feedback from parents initially. So please keep an eye out and do please contact me if you have any thoughts or ideas, I will be really interested to hear them. It won't be anything too complicated - all I'll say here is that we are thinking of a 'Chat & Chips' evening....!

Well as I finish writing on this late May evening, the rain is pouring

down, the wind is blowing, but I'm hoping that by the Open Gardens at the weekend it will be calm, warm and sunny!! By the time you read this, we will all know the answer!

**Marian Little**

**BOOKINGS:** Sandra Stevens 07827 291945 or email:  
stepleashtonvh@hotmail.com

**SECRETARY:** Marian Little 01380 871161 or email:  
secretary@stepleashtonvh.org.uk

**Please feel free to contact us at any time with any queries**

## **The Astounding Impact of the WI**

The May meeting of the WI was the annual resolutions' meeting. The WI has had an enormous influence on many of our countries laws and initiatives – from equal pay for equal work to help for drug addiction, fair trade and legal aid to name but a few. We tackle problems and get results; one MP during a debate in the House on a difficult problem said, 'Give it to the WI they get things done!' And famously the WI put Tony Blair in his place; he's probably the only speaker at our annual meeting to be booed.

This year's proposed resolution called for funding for research into Autism (ASC) and Attention deficiency and hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in females and the raising of awareness of these two issues. Historically research has predominantly dwelt on boys, and as a result girls are under diagnosed as the disorders manifest themselves differently between the sexes. The members listen to the evidence researched and presented by Karina and after a short debate and comments decided unanimously to support the proposal – probably the first time the institute as return such a wholehearted decision.

Two beautiful flower arrangements had been donated and were awarded as raffle prizes to Marion and to Bett.

The competition was to complete the sentence, 'If I was PM...' Improving education and free TV licences were proposed as well as attending 'self-discipline classes for the PM' but the winner promised to make it law that all packaging would be 'tested by octogenarian ladies with arthritic hands to ensure that all jars, plastic bottles, tins, and plastic wrappings, batteries etc. could be opened/ removed with ease, without the use of sharp objects or strong language.' Refreshments and chat finished the evening.

In June the WI will be celebrating the Queen's Jubilee when refreshments and chat will be the only order of the day!

**Rosie Brett Green**

**Steeple Ashton WI - Outing to Kew Gardens – Tuesday 21st June 2022**

**We are planning an outing to Kew Gardens and may have extra spaces on our coach. If you would be interested in joining us please let me know by completing the slip below and returning it to me. Obviously the sooner you can do this the better, so I know how we are doing for numbers. Alison**

Leave Steeple Ashton at 8.00 am. with Chandlers Coaches, estimated arrival 11.00 am with comfort stop en route. Depart Kew 3.00 pm, estimate return to SA 6.00 pm, comfort stop if required.

**Price:** Coach £15  
Entrance £13. (concessions) £14 adults  
Optional 1 hr tour £5.50

If you have a discount voucher, e.g. Gardener's World 2 for 1, please make your own entrance booking. You can be included in the tour.

There are 53 seats available for the coach.

Please complete the following booking slip and let me have the money by 8th June (WI meeting). **Alison Evans**

16 Acre Short Lane (01380 870623) tonyali1947@yahoo.com

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Alison Evans

16 Acre Short Lane (01380 870623)

Kew Gardens Outing 21st June 2022

Name:

No of seats on coach @ £15:

Entrance: £13      £14      Own booking Yes/No

Tour @ £5.50

Total to pay:

Cheques payable to Steeple Ashton WI or cash please.

## FORGET-ME-NOTS CLUB

In advance of the business side of the EGM held on 18th May, Claire Humphries gave a very enlightening and interesting talk, with slides, on “Donkeys”, and the part they can play in providing enjoyment and confidence building with people with learning difficulties.

With unanimous support Gloria Philpott agreed to remain as Chairman for another year, which will bring her to her Silver Anniversary in the role. Treasurer, Secretary and Programme Organiser also agreed to stand for another term.

Bingo will be the entertainment at the next meeting on 15th June, always popular with members, whilst the Summer Lunch this year on 20th July will be a Fish&Chip Lunch in the Hall, another very popular event.

Plans are already afoot for the Autumn/Winter programme, with a Dutch Auction in October, and Christmas Bingo in November. Visitors warmly welcomed, why not join us on a Wednesday afternoon to see if the relaxed, informal and jovial atmosphere of our meetings might appeal to you? Village Hall, 2.30pm, third Wed of the month.

To learn more, please phone Gloria on 01380/870593, or Glynnis on 01225/775681

### **Friends of Steeple Ashton Oil Scheme**

We are changing arrangements for the oil scheme!

It will take a few months to get acclimatised I'm sure so don't worry about getting it wrong for a month or two.

There is a new email address **sahtonfoil@gmail.com** – the nearest available to S. Ashton oil, I'm afraid. The telephone number is the same 01380 870119 and, of course, a note through the door at 9, Church St gets the same result.

Please can you order the week you receive your newsletter for delivery the following Thursday. This will make it easier for those of us who forget until the last week!

The scheme was begun to reduce lorry deliveries to the village, to be a member of the scheme (£2pa) you must be a member of the Friends of Steeple Ashton – also a gift at £2pa – subs due now.

If you'd like the job of being secretary for the scheme get in touch as above.

**Rosie and Colin**

## **STEEPLE ASHTON VILLAGE SHOP**

**Normal Opening times:**

**Monday – Friday: 7.30am to 4.30pm**

**Saturday: 8.30 am – 4pm**

**Sunday: 9am to 12noon**



As the delivery of bread, rolls, doughnuts, etc from James our baker from Little Cheverell became ever more erratic we realised we would have to find an alternative so started looking for another baker. In the meantime, our supplier of frozen pastries was able to offer various types of bread which we started to bake inhouse with great success, as you may well have noticed. And now our search has been successful – we have found one!

Philip Johns runs a family owned, artisan bakery in Devizes. He comes from a long family history of bakers and in the 1970's, he trained at Exeter Bakery School on day release whilst and working with his father in Weston-Super-Mare in the family bakery, Links Home Bakery Ltd. They developed a strong wholesale business producing frozen patisserie products to supply national chains under the brand name of The Bavarios Gateau Company which sadly did not survive the recession in the 1990's.

Philip then joined the Police service, serving as a front line officer, retiring with enough savings in 2016 to go back into the trade and rekindle his passion for the craft. Together with his wife Deborah he now runs The Little Bake House, in Devizes. He has started to deliver bread, lardy cake, cream slices and doughnuts to us on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays and he comes early, usually before 9am, which has been a great relief. On the days during the week when he can't deliver, so that we can offer freshly baked bread, both sliced and unsliced, every weekday, we will continue to bake from frozen as before.

**Caren Felton**

### **STEEPLE ASHTON VILLAGE SHOP**

#### **The Annual General Meeting**

will be held in Steeple Ashton Village Hall

Friday 1st July at

7.00 p.m.

Please join us for refreshments from 6.30 p.m. onwards

Nominations for election to the Shop committee  
are available in the Shop



## THE FRIENDS OF STEEPLE ASHTON

Members and guests thoroughly enjoyed the excellent talk given by Richard Osgood MBE on 20th May – ‘Digging for Britain – archaeology with veterans’. It was fascinating to hear about the various finds uncovered by Richard’s teams of veterans over recent years, which have subsequently revealed on the BBC’s ‘Digging for Britain’ series. His anecdotes and experiences made it clear what a wonderful contribution archaeology can make to the lives of veterans traumatised mentally and physically by their operational service. The Friends are keen to support such efforts, and will be making a donation to the ‘Breaking Ground Heritage’ charity which provides practical support to Richard and his veteran teams.

Prior to the talk the Friends AGM undertook the necessary formalities, and also took the opportunity to bid a grateful and sincere farewell from the committee to two departing stalwarts. Tony Evans joined the committee in 2012, and until recently has been leading on the maintenance and improvement of Luffenham Field; he has done a great job and leaves behind him a wonderful environmental legacy for the village to enjoy. Rosie Brett-Green has been on the committee in various guises since 1999, latterly as the Parochial Church Council representative. Her knowledge of the village and its character is second to none and she will be much missed, although for the present she and Colin will continue to administer the oil scheme until a successor is identified.

The Friends hope to generate more events and activities as we emerge from Covid restrictions, but this depends to a large extent on having sufficient committee ‘bandwidth’ to organise and plan such events as well as the wider administration of the society. As we head towards our 50th anniversary in 2023 we are keen to welcome some fresh perspectives and energy – if you are interested in joining the Friends or the committee please give me a call on 871914.

**Mike Beard**

## **STEEPLE ASHTON FILMS**

**SATURDAY 11TH JUNE 2022 at 7.30 PM (PROMPT START!)  
AT THE VILLAGE HALL, STEEPLE ASHTON  
DOORS OPEN AT 7 PM FOR REFRESHMENTS**

Thank you to all those of you who came to see the new version of West Side Story. It was a great success and enjoyed by all.

**DEATH ON THE NILE (12A)** Directed by and starring Kenneth Branagh as Hercule Poirot with a star studded supporting cast including Jennifer Saunders, Dawn French, Annette Benning, Russell Brand, Gal Gadot and many other familiar faces.

Following the success of Murder on the Orient Express, we are delighted to present Kenneth Branagh's next Agatha Christie offering. Hercule Poirot's Egyptian holiday aboard a glamorous cruise on the River Nile turns into a search for a murderer when a couple's idyllic honeymoon is tragically cut short.

This film has everything; an intriguing story, a puzzle to work out and a thrilling cast set against the stunning Egyptian landscape. There is a lot to like about this new version of a classic. Those familiar with the story will not be disappointed with some twists and interesting variations throughout.

A reviewer giving it a 5 star review said "This is a great adaptation of the Christie classic. Murder mystery at its best. A varied and superb cast who are all suspects. Lovely locations, costumes and sets. This film will keep you guessing until the end!"

**TICKETS £6 FROM STEEPLE ASHTON VILLAGE SHOP.**

**For Reservations, please ring Alison on 01380 871345 or for up to date news about Steeple Ashton Films, join our mailing list e-mail [safilms268@gmail.com](mailto:safilms268@gmail.com) or look on Facebook.**

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### **Advanced Notice**

There will be an evening wedding reception being held at Bartletts Mead on Friday 1st July which will mean extra cars parked in the village and live music during the evening. We apologise if that causes any inconvenience to any residents.

Kind regards **Jill Reynolds**

**Ministry Team for the Benefice of  
North Bradley, Southwick, Heywood  
and Steeple Ashton**  
**www.threeinonebenefice.org**

**Fr Oliver Learmont** (Vicar)  
The Vicarage, 62 Church Lane, North Bradley, BA14 0TA.  
Tel. 01225 774845, 07464 795590  
froliverlearmont@gmail.com

**Fr Tony Longdon**  
Tel. 01225 754771 07951 703187

**Richard Havergal** (Licensed Lay Minister)  
Tel. 01225 762668 rhavergal16@gmail.com  
**Churchwarden of St Mary's, Steeple Ashton**

**Michael Moore**  
Tel. 01380 870280

*The Pew News can be downloaded from the Benefice website.  
If you do not have access to the internet, do consider letting us  
have your postal address so that we can post/deliver you a copy.*

**Worship and Prayer in the Benefice  
in the month of June**

*All services scheduled below include a sermon or homily.*

**Wednesday, 1st June      Justin, Martyr at Rome, c. 165**

10 am      Holy Communion (CW)      St Nicholas', North Bradley (OL)

**Sunday, 5th June**

**DAY OF PENTECOST**

9.15 am      Holy Communion (CW)      St Nicholas', North Bradley (OL)

11 am      Holy Communion (BCP)      St Mary's, Steeple Ashton (OL)

6.30 pm      Jubilee Evensong (BCP)      St Mary's, Steeple Ashton (OL)

**Sunday, 12th June**

**TRINITY SUNDAY**

8 am      Holy Communion (BCP)      St Mary's, Steeple Ashton (TL)

10.30 am      Family Service      St Mary's, Steeple Ashton (RH)

11 am      Holy Communion (CW)      St Thomas', Southwick (OL)

**Sunday, 19th June**  
**TRINITY**

**THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER**

|         |                     |                                  |
|---------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 9.15 am | Holy Communion (CW) | St Nicholas', North Bradley (OL) |
| 11 am   | Holy Communion (CW) | St Mary's, Steeple Ashton (OL)   |

**Sunday, 26th June**      **THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

|       |                      |                                  |
|-------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 8 am  | Holy Communion (BCP) | St Mary's, Steeple Ashton (TL)   |
| 10 am | Family Service       | St Nicholas', North Bradley (RH) |
| 11 am | Holy Communion (CW)  | St Thomas', Southwick (OL)       |

CW - Common Worship, Order 1 (contemporary language);

BCP - Common Worship, Order 2 (traditional language).

OL - Fr Oliver; TL – Fr Tony; RH - Richard Havergal

\* Please note the variation of service times on Sunday 22nd May.

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On account of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and in consideration of those around you, you are strongly encouraged to maintain physical distancing; **use hand sanitisers; and wear a face covering** - unless you are exempt from doing so.

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**Morning Prayer is said at St Nicholas', North Bradley, Monday - Wednesday. Further details are posted weekly in the Pew News and on the Benefice website.**

*"We lift up in prayer the people of our Benefice each morning; please let us know if you would like us to include in our prayers any particular person or cause." All are welcome!*

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**St Mary's is open for individual prayer during the day.**

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Please visit the Benefice website **www.threeinonebenefice.org** for details of services, which may be subject to change - and for a range of information about the Parish and the Benefice.

*And note that the Blog is now up and running !*

## **Other Notices**

### **Headstones in the churchyard, St Mary's, Steeple Ashton**

If you happen to be responsible for the maintenance of a headstone that has been laid flat for safety reasons (i.e. heir-at-law), please let us know without delay that you are content that the memorial should remain as it is, or that you would be prepared to refund its refixing.

Please also note that any repair or refixing of a headstone may only take place *after prior consultation with the Vicar, churchwarden and PCC.*

**The Vicar, churchwarden and PCC.**

### **Occasional offices**

For baptisms, marriage services and funeral services in church, please *contact Fr Oliver.*

### **Vacancies for church officers at St Mary's**

There are currently vacancies at St Mary's for the role of churchwarden and PCC treasurer and PCC secretary.

*If you are interested in any of these roles, please contact Fr Oliver.*

**Dear All,**

In Europe, only the reign of Louis XIV, the "Sun King" of France, which lasted 72 years and 110 days, surpasses that of our own Queen; and across our own country, in the 14 other countries of the Commonwealth of which she is Head of State, and in many other parts of the world people will of course be gathering in early June to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Elizabeth II. On the first evening of the Jubilee Weekend our beacon at Steeple Ashton will be one of well over 2,000 which are to be lit in cities, towns and villages throughout the UK. At the same time St Mary's Church will be illuminated in royal purple. There will be various activities in the village and parish over the four-day national holiday - details are to be found elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Sunday, 5th June is the date this year of the Day of Pentecost (Whit Sunday), the day that concludes and crowns the Easter Season, telling of the sending of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles. At St Mary's that day we shall be holding a special Jubilee Evensong, and later in the evening the church will, once again, be bathed in purple.

The psalm appointed for the service, the 33rd, begins:

“Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.

Praise befits the upright.

Praise the Lord with the lyre;

make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.

Sing to him a new song;

play skilfully on the strings,

with loud shouts.

For the word of the Lord is upright,

and all his work is done in faithfulness”.

It is fitting for this two-fold celebration.

While the people are called to praise God, the words of the psalm also affirm the mood of celebration that will characterise this special Whitsun weekend. And they remind us - whether we are royalist or republican - that in her unique position, for more than 70 years now, and sometimes in the most difficult of situations, our Queen herself has proved to be one who is upright and one who has done her work in faithfulness to those she has served. Her example has been a constant and remarkable one.

Have a great Jubilee Weekend.

**Yours in Christ, Fr Oliver**

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## St Mary's Church Creation Weekend

**Saturday June 11th**

**10:30 am – 12 noon**

**Join the Wildlife count  
Make a birdbox (children)  
Children's Treasure Hunt**



**Sunday June 12th**

**10:30 am**

**Creation Family Service**

**“Blowing in the wind”**

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**Date for your diaries:**

**HOG ROAST  
Saturday August 6th**

## Trowbridge Philharmonic concert at St Mary's Church Steeple Ashton Saturday May 21st

Trowbridge Philharmonic Choir put on a very memorable concert at St Mary's on Saturday May 21st. It was a beautiful day and following an afternoon rehearsal, performed a concert entitled "Peace in Europe".

This was well attended and the programme, put together by our MD Graham Dalby, was well received. We commenced the programme with "A Prayer for Ukraine". We had a collection for the Ukraine War Crisis Appeal and our choir member Nicole, who is Ukranian, spoke about the problems associated with the war. She thanked the audience for their support. The amazing sum of £ 375 was raised.

We would like to thank Father Oliver Learmont for allowing us to perform in St Mary's and Michael Moore, Churchwarden, for his help on the day. Also to the good folk of Steeple Ashton who helped support us.

Mo Belgrove, Chair



**Not impressed?** Monkey, the cat came to join us in the hall and the church.



# Steeple Ashton's Jubilee Celebrations

## The Lighting of the Beacon

Thursday 2nd June, 7.00pm at St Mary's Playing Field

- Sing-along to your favourite songs from the last 70 years with Steeple Rocks
  - The Lighting of the Beacon
  - Free food from the barbeque
    - Cash Bar

Barbeque tickets available to parish residents from  
1st May at the Village Shop or the Longs Arms

To help make the celebration run smoothly we need some volunteers  
to erect gazebos or marshal the beacon area.

If you are happy to help with the event please contact Francis Ash 01380 871306



## **Lighting the Beacon**

**Thursday 2nd June, St Mary's Playing Field**

- Evening Schedule:
  1. 7.00 PM - BBQ and bar open
  2. 8.00 – Sing-along with Steeple Rocks
  3. 9.30 – Lighting the Beacon
  4. 10.00 – Finish & disperse
- Don't forget to bring your ticket for free BBQ food
- Meals for friends & relations without tickets £5.00 (cash if possible)
- Please do not bring any glass bottles to the event
- No parking on St Mary's Road. Please walk or leave cars at the South end of the village
- Volunteers to help set up, please assemble at the playing field at 2.00 PM on the 2nd (we still need a few more marshals and fire wardens)
- In the event of inclement weather, we will retreat to the Village Hall

Francis Ash: [franciswilliamash@gmail.com](mailto:franciswilliamash@gmail.com) 01380 871306

Rob Leonard: 01380 871244

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Nicola lives in Malmesbury, and is a RHS Master of Horticulture. Her talks are very popular and inspirational, full of beautiful photographs and tons of useful tips. [www.nicolahope.com](http://www.nicolahope.com). SAGE are delighted to announce that she will be doing a slide-talk for us entitled:

### **'Organic Gardening - Happy Plants, Happy Minds'**



Of course, it will include the usual social, refreshments plus book table & raffle.



**Entry £2**

#### **SAGE 2022 outings update:**

**Thursday 22nd September - Broadleas Gardens, Devizes - *some places still available.***

**Cost for entrance, tour, tea/coffee & cake is £15pp** Please note all these trips are self-drive, and numbers are limited. If you are interested, please contact Jennie Willis at [jennie.willis@btinternet.com](mailto:jennie.willis@btinternet.com)

#### **Jobs to do this month:**

Mow lawns once a week-but consider leaving some areas uncut for wildlife \* Pinch out side shoots on tomatoes \* Stake tall or floppy plants \* Prune many spring flowering shrubs.

Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2548517398732853>

## **NATURAL HISTORY CLUB News**

June now and our summer visiting Hirundines , Swallows and House Martins, as well as Swifts have arrived back from Africa and are later than usual with seemingly their numbers down on previous years. Maybe there are still some late arrivals to come? Some of us are lucky enough to have them nest in the eaves of our houses and out buildings. Listen for the screams of the Swifts as they fly in formation over the roof tops.

Cuckoos are also back and one report from Keevil but not of anyone hearing one in steeple Ashton.. If you do hear a cuckoo please let me know. I'm getting more and more reports of Red Kites locally which can only be an encouraging sign that they are now breeding locally and expanding their territories.

Early Purple Orchids, as the name suggests is one of the first orchids to flower and were spotted early in the month of May as was Red Campion. Campion can be seen pretty much everywhere now and is an important plant as it attracts pollinators. Did you know that Red Campion, In the Anglican Church, is associated with Saint James as it traditionally flowers around his feast day and that the seed heads were used in traditional medicine for treating snakebites!

It seems the mild winter and early spring encouraged Hedgehogs to come out of hibernation early as reports of Hedgehogs seen wandering around gardens as early as January were received.

Butterfly's and Moths feature regularly amongst our WhatsApp group and beautiful pictures and videos of 'Adonis Blue' and 'Holly Blue' butterfly's, 'double striped Pug and 'Beautiful Plume' moths. I am always amazed by the imaginative names of these moths and butterfly's.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 16th June at 7pm at the Methodist Church Hall, High Street, Steeple Ashton. The short talk will be on rain forests. Everyone welcome.

Please report anything of interest such as sightings of animal / bird / insect activity etc. Or unusual or rare plants. Is there something you can't identify? Contact David Culverhouse, 01380 871621 42anchor@gmail.com or Roger Ferguson 01380 870860 r.ferguson550@btinternet.com If we can't answer your question then we probably have a member who can. Photographs are always welcome and help identification.

**Roger Ferguson**

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

Along with Father Oliver Learmont's in-depth and informative article last month on Rogationtide, and his first piece on that festival in the May 2019 issue, another article from our newsletter which tells of the ancient and now little-known tradition of 'Beating the Bounds' – and someone who could recall participating in 1904:

### 'Steeple Ashton & Great Hinton Newsletter'

In June 1973...

#### MR. RICHARD COWLEY ADMINISTERS A BEATING

The description in the May issue of the Steeple Ashton parish boundary reminded Mr. Cowley, of Sandpits Lane, of an occasion when he "beat the bounds". Mr. Cowley, now eighty, is one of the only three gentlemen members of the Forget-Me-Not WRVS Club in Steeple Ashton. In Hampton, Middlesex, from whence he came to Steeple Ashton, he used to play bowls and fish and row on the Thames. He is unable of course to pursue these recreations in Steeple Ashton. Here, in spite of failing eyesight, he gardens – he is particularly interested in flowers, for their colours – and plays the violin "a bit". He has seen a wider world than Hampton and Steeple Ashton; for he volunteered for the army in 1914 and was assigned to the Devonshire Regiment, in which he served in France, Salonika and Bulgaria.

A dictionary describes Beating the Bounds as "Marking the parish boundary by going around it in procession and striking certain points with rods". It does not state why this apparently stupid procedure was thought necessary. One can only make guesses: to frighten the "foreigners" in surrounding parishes? Or to make sure that they have not annexed part of one's own parish since the last beating? And why with rods? Rods are confirmed by Mr. Cowley – his rod in Hampton was a bamboo cane. Volunteers (bounders?) were led by a parish councillor (a job for Col. Elliott perhaps if he is elected on June 7 – the walk of about sixteen miles round Steeple Ashton parish would do him good, and indeed any other parish councillors). Stones marked various points on the Hampton parish boundary and the job of the people in the procession was to strike these stones as they passed by. Beating the bounds was done at Hampton every seven years. Mr. Cowley did it only once, when he was eleven years old and still at school. It is surprising that he had the energy to do it even once. For, at the age of eleven, he used – at 6 am – to start work at a baker's shop. His first job when he arrived was, oddly, cleaning boots. Then, at 7 am, he filled a basket with hot rolls, covered the basket with green baize to keep them warm and then took to the streets, ringing a bell to announce himself to customers. Mr. Cowley still has this seventy year old bell and used it on some obscure occasion at the Forget-Me-Not Club. The rolls were seven for 3d. At 8 am, he had to deliver hot bread to a special customer. At 9 am, he had to start his academic duties at school.

If he arrived late at school, he was caned. The test of lateness was if one arrived after the start of the communal repetition of the Catechism. He was perhaps also caned for dozing in class, after his tiring early morning duties. Mr. Cowley remembers his schoolmaster for only one thing: when the master had a cold, he used to lay his damp red hankie on the classroom hearth, where it steamed itself dry in front of the embarrassed class.

Mr. Cowley is a "Cobbler"; that is, he was born in Northampton (1892), the boot and shoe manufacturing town. He moved to Hampton in 1900 and lived there sixty years. His daughter married the son of Mrs. Harriet Foster, of 25 Acreshort Lane; Mr. and Mrs. Cowley so liked the look of Steeple Ashton when they used to visit their daughter here that, when they retired, they came to live in it. We wish them every health and happiness.

David Berrett

---

## **New service to help record your life story**

Bradford on Avon writer Jo Moyser is encouraging people to share their life stories and boost their mental wellbeing in the wake of the Covid crisis.

Jo established Milestone Press Wiltshire, a private autobiography service, to encourage would-be authors to write a book about their lives with a team of expert interviewers, ghostwriters, editors and proofreaders. She said 'If you made a start on your memoirs during lockdown and need some editorial assistance, or if you think writing a book about your life would be a worthwhile thing to do, but don't know where to start, we can help.

'Our editors will help to make your stories flow; our interviewers will help to draw out the richness of your memories, and our ghostwriters will transcribe your interviews into a manuscript - so all you have to do is sit back, reminisce, and let us do the writing for you.

'A regular visit from a friendly, keen and responsive listener can be a marvelous tonic, and sharing your life story is a great way to bring the family together, build empathy and pass knowledge and experience down through the generations.'

Jo previously freelanced for a large private autobiography publisher where she met a number of other ghostwriters and interviewers and realised the joys of helping people to write a book about their lives.

She said 'I started helping people record their life stories after my grandfather-in-law passed away. We used to spend hours talking about the past, and I dearly wish I had recorded his stories whilst I had the chance. It's too late for that now, but it's not too late to help others.

'By pooling our talents, free of corporate restraints, with Milestone Press Wiltshire we can continue to do the jobs we enjoy whilst offering a

truly individual service with tailor-made solutions for all budgets.'  
For further details please call 01225 309149, or email  
[info@milestonepresswiltshire.co.uk](mailto:info@milestonepresswiltshire.co.uk) [www.milestonepresswiltshire.co.uk](http://www.milestonepresswiltshire.co.uk)



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**Great Hinton Summer Fete**  
**Saturday 2nd July**  
**2.30**  
**field at Devizes end**  
**of the village**  
**supporting the PSP Association**  
(Progressive Supranuclear Palsy)  
  
Raffle, cakes, games, plants, bottle  
tombola, teas, ice cream  
  


## METHODIST CHURCH

On Saturday 7th May, a gloriously sunny day, we held a coffee morning in aid of [toilettwinning.org](http://toilettwinning.org). I am delighted to say that we raised over £275, so thank you to all those who came and those others who donated.

A number of people have asked ‘who are [toilettwinning.org](http://toilettwinning.org)’ and what is their purpose. Every toilet twin celebrates a new toilet for a family living in a poorer country, and the average size of a household is six people. Every £60 donation represents help for one family of six people. However, once a family has the knowledge about the link between sanitation and health, they will go on to tell other family members, or people in neighbouring villages, about the importance of building a toilet – so the multiplication effect of your donation will be far greater than help for a household. It will, over the years, represent transformation for many more people without a doubt. The impact over generations to come is immeasurable, as their sustainable programmes are aimed at behaviour change and cultural change that will last beyond our immediate lifetime as knowledge is passed down from generation to generation.

As a church, we feel part of our calling is to help others, and this was a different charity from one that we normally help. We are all aware that around this country and all over the world, there are more people who need love and care, and with your help, this is just our small contribution.

Thank you, **Alison**

## CHURCH DIARY

Our services are normally at 9.15, followed by refreshments; we welcome everyone; why not come and join us. If you are new to the village come and see who we are.

### June

|        |     |         |                                     |
|--------|-----|---------|-------------------------------------|
| Sunday | 5th | 9.15 am | Rev. Peggy Kabonde – Holy Communion |
|--------|-----|---------|-------------------------------------|

|        |      |         |              |
|--------|------|---------|--------------|
| Sunday | 12th | 9.15 am | Tracey Lewis |
|--------|------|---------|--------------|

|        |      |         |               |
|--------|------|---------|---------------|
| Sunday | 19th | 9.15 am | Eric Clifford |
|--------|------|---------|---------------|

|        |      |         |              |
|--------|------|---------|--------------|
| Sunday | 26th | 9.15 am | Izzie Smears |
|--------|------|---------|--------------|

### July

|        |     |         |            |
|--------|-----|---------|------------|
| Sunday | 3rd | 9.15 am | Ed Colling |
|--------|-----|---------|------------|

## **CATHOLIC NEWS**

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST TROWBRIDGE & ST BERNADETTE'S  
WESTBURY (incl VILLAGES).**

**PARISH PRIEST FR TOM FINNEGAN**

TELEPHONE: 01225 752152

[www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk](http://www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk)

Diocese of Clifton Registered Charity No 1170168

**Please see below the usual weekly  
timings of our Masses: but please  
check newsletter for changes.  
St John the Baptist - Trowbridge**

### ***Sunday & Weekday Masses:***

Saturdays 12noon & 6pm (Vigil Mass)

Sundays 10.30am & 12noon

Monday/Weds/Friday 9am (First Friday  
of the Month 6pm) Tuesday 6pm

### **St Bernadette's - Westbury.**

Mass times will be:

Sunday 9am

Thursday 10am

Pope Francis has invited the whole Universal Church  
to walk with him towards a Church Synod in 2023.

Resources to help engage with this process can be found at  
[www.cliftondiocese.com/synod](http://www.cliftondiocese.com/synod)

### **Live streaming:**

All masses are streamed live on

[www.Churchservices.tv](http://www.Churchservices.tv) or on

You Tube 'Mass in Trowbridge'

### **Parish Newsletter:**

This is available weekly on the Parish website

[www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk](http://www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk)

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HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN



THE CORONATION  
OF HER MAJESTY  
QUEEN  
ELIZABETH II  
APPROVED SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

KING GEORGE'S

2/6

JUBILEE TRUST