

STEEPLE ASHTON
NEWSLETTER

GREAT HINTON
NOVEMBER 2023



Harvest Decorations in St Mary's Church



Steeple Ashton Village Shop

Opening Hours - please see page 7 for the current shop opening hours.

Shop telephone: 01380 871 211

STEEPLE ASHTON VILLAGE SHOP – UPDATE

The village shop committee would like to thank everyone for their positive support for the Shop as a result of our recent communications. We have been delighted to welcome so many new shareholders and donations; and these will be put to good use in helping us make changes for the better.

If anyone would like to donate or buy a share please see Julie Ludlow in the shop in the mornings, or contact her on 01380 871211, or email: steepleashtonvillageshop@btinternet.com



Stamps

STAMPS



Stamp

The shop has plenty of 1st class (standard size) stamps to see you through your Christmas posting requirements.

Stamps



Don't forget the Christmas Raffle Tickets will be available in the shop in November.....

**CHRISTMAS FOOD
ORDERS.....**



CHRISTMAS STOCK

Christmas stock is arriving on the shelves soon. Lots of lovely goodies. Come and fill your baskets.....



Forms for Christmas Food Orders will be available from early November.

Local fresh meat, poultry and all the trimmings, vegetables, and usual shop staples. Saves you trekking to the supermarket.

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Editorial

Hello everyone - Many thanks for all your generous contributions to this newsletter. You can contribute anytime throughout the year!

There seems to be a lot going on in our village in the next month or two. We have even got more colour - Christmas is coming - next month!!

I have included an article about St Mary's PCC partly as I had some space but also to keep you all up to date with what is happening in the church.

As you may know, our vicar, Fr Oliver is on sick leave until the end of November. Services should continue in the church this coming month including the Remembrance one on Sunday 12th November. Members of the PCC are trying to keep things going without Michael, our retired churchwarden and now without an incumbent.

The next newsletter is for December and January so that I can have a break over Christmas. **Helen**

Newsletter Deadlines for 2023/24

November 21st for December & January; January 23rd

Items for the **next** newsletter should be received by **Tuesday 21st November**. 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 **Bridget Lewis** : email: adverts4steepleashton@gmail.com or 01380 871279

Please send your ads by email if possible.

Please note, we do not deliver flyers for advertisers.



STEEPLE ASHTON

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

UPDATE OCT 23

SITE ASSESSMENTS

At the start of this process, a 'call for sites' was sent out asking people to put forward pieces of land that could potentially be built on. We received more than 20 sites and the initial assessment on suitability has been undertaken.

We are now at a stage to share this information with you all as part of the public consultation process.

We plan to have a 'drop in' event in the village hall in January for those that can attend, and also plan to have all the information available elsewhere during January for those to peruse at leisure. Dates and locations for the consultation will be published in the December's magazine, and on Facebook.

This is an opportunity for you to have your input on sites that could be built on; please come along and have your say.

Watch out for the dates in December's magazine.

Steeple Ashton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Steeple Ashton Parish Council have formed a village highways group comprising of Parish Councillors, Community Speed Watch and residents from the village.

> The group will consider all aspects of road safety for all road users. The group is already aware that the residents are concerned about the speed of vehicles travelling through our village.

> This group will also look at access to our footpaths and other rights of way.

> We would like to hear from any residents who would like to raise any concerns about our highways and paved areas to include footpaths etc.

> we would also welcome suggestions to any improvements that can be made to enhance public safety and speed re-education.

> Please make contact with the Parish Clerk via email clerk@steeple-ashton.co.uk

Jonathan A Tapper

Jonathon Seed writes

The Wiltshire Council year marches on and Councillors have just attended the October meeting of the Council. It was a full agenda with many issues from climate change to local parish boundary reviews being discussed. This was in addition to regular Council business including representations from members of the public, budget monitoring and Committee reports to the Council. Also agreed at Council meetings are appointments and changes to Committee posts and I am pleased to have been appointed as a member of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee of Wiltshire Council. This may seem a bit local government “tech” but this is the Committee which scrutinises the Executive as well as assisting with policy development. I have lengthy experience of this work and recently Chaired a policy development task group to recommend much needed change to the policy of Council housing allocations.

From the present to the past last month we held a highly successful Melksham Area Board. I took over the Chair of this Board in June and have moved to themed meetings to try and reignite public interest in the work of our local Area Board. Last month we chose heritage as our theme and met in Melksham. The meeting started with a heritage walk of Melksham town conducted by Melksham Historical Society. This was hugely interesting but best of all 50 residents turned out in the drizzle to learn more about the town of Melksham. The meeting itself was attended by a separate and similar number of residents who received information on all sorts of heritage aspects and generated a desire to see Melksham included in the new County heritage App. The next Area Board is on Wednesday 6th December at 7pm in Semington Village Hall when the theme will be local highways including local highways issues, of roads, footpaths and cycleways. This meeting is open to the public so please come along.

The past month has also seen quite a heavy caseload of local concerns. These include alleged illegal expansion of a local travellers site, potential housing development in a village, worries about traffic increase in Great Hinton, concern at maintenance of the local WW2 pill box defences in Semington, a move to upgrade a village playing field into the village community activity area in Steeple Ashton and many others. Each of the issues noted, and many others, bring their own need for local government liaison and trying to make a difference and address people's concerns is the best part of my role as your Wiltshire Councillor.

Jonathon.seed@wiltshire.gov.uk. Tel. 07770774463 FB: JSforWC

Jonathon Seed

07770774463

COFFEE MORNING

PLEASE COME AND HELP US RAISE FUNDS



West Wilts ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT & ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 16th 2023

10.30 - 12.00

11 HOME FARM CLOSE
STEEPLE ASHTON

RAFFLE

BRING & BUY

GIFTS

BOOKS

£.3 incl tea/coffee & cake



Urgent Message

We are still looking for a new Guide Leader to keep Steeple Ashton Guides running. Please don't let this become another Village group to be lost in our community.

You do not need to have been in guiding to become a leader; you just need to enjoy working with young people. Join us at a meeting, see what we do and continue to spread the word around the local area.

Contact: by email - **Diane Bouault** dbouault676@btinternet.com or phone - 01380870545

STEEPLE ASHTON VILLAGE SHOP

Normal Opening times:

Monday – Friday: 7.30am to 4.30pm

Saturday: 8.30am – 4pm

Sunday: 9am to 12noon



Please see p2 for all our general and Christmas news - in colour!

Police Visit

The police will visit the shop from 9am until 11am on Wednesday 15th November.

Useful Information

Postal Collections:

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

Newleaze - Weekdays - 9am; Saturday - 7am

Great Hinton - Weekdays - 9am; Saturday - 7am

Mobile Library Visits - Wednesdays; Longs Arms - 11.00 - 12noon;
Ashton Common Bus Stop - 3.35pm - 4.00pm
November 1st; November 15th; November 29th



OCTOBER 2023

Crikey!!! The C Word is upon us!!! When did that happen??!

CANDLELIT SUPPER:

As you will see from the ad in this Newsletter, the tickets for our Candlelit Supper on 8th December will be on sale from 1st November. We'll be catering for 56 so don't delay in getting your tickets. If you would like to book a whole table (tables of 8), we will need your name and full payment in order to secure the table.

It will be a great evening, with the hall beautifully decorated, delicious food, excellent wines from the bar, music to get you in the Christmas mood and we will have some surprises during the evening! We are looking forward to seeing you there!

NIGHT FOR THE LADIES:

Well, what an evening that was!! Over 50 ladies, of all ages, from the village got together to do what ladies do best - have fun! The hall was buzzing with music, chat and laughter and we enjoyed browsing the pre-loved stall, drinking wine and munching on nibbles. We were also very happy to host Sally Petrie who offered sampling of her delicious 'Hedgerow Kitchen' Jams, Jellies & Pickles, all of which were thoroughly approved of and sales were made!! That's what we like to do - support our local entrepreneurs.

After a suitable period to - ahem - allow for sufficient liquid refreshment, several ladies got up to dance to a video showing a live performance of the Macarena!!! Even those still sitting were seen jigging around to the rhythm of the music! The ladies of Steeple Ashton can rock, I can tell you!! Someone did film it - but you couldn't afford the bribe money!! Despite requests to hold another Night for the Ladies the following month, we will probably keep to once a year! - so September may become the month for letting our hair down! Heartfelt thanks to everyone for supporting the Village Hall and helping to raise over £500 towards our project.

OTHER NEWS:

As many of you know, over recent weeks we have said a sad goodbye, as a village, to several villagers - including Richard Jefferies, Ann Belsom, Colin Green, John Smith and Roger Russell. Our Village Hall has been honoured to be the venue for their families to gather and celebrate their lives and we thank you all for choosing Steeple Ashton hall for such special and important occasions.

We have also seen the hall used for a Rec group meeting; PCSO meeting; Skittles; WI Indian Block Printing Saturday Workshop; Film night; Charity Quiz Night; Royal British Legion annual dinner and a 90th birthday party, as well as our regular classes and meetings each week and month. It's great to know that our wonderful village hall is being used by our community.

Don't forget that our Skittle Alley can be booked by families and friends, not just groups. You don't have to be an expert, but what a lovely way to perhaps spend a wet Saturday or Sunday afternoon, playing Skittles for fun, bringing along some food and drink and enjoying some quality time together, young and old! The only other thing you need to bring along is a Non-permanent whiteboard marker to note your scores - we tried keeping one there, but it always disappears!!

BOOKINGS: Sandra Stevens 07827 291945 email: steepleashtonvh@hotmail.com
GEN. ENQ: Marian Little (Sec) 01380 871161 email: secretary@steepleashtonvh.org.uk
TREASURER: Francesca Bufery-King email: treasurer@steepleashtonvh.org.uk
Website: www.steepleashtonvh.org.uk

THE STEEPLE ASHTON SCHOOL BUILDING

The Village Community Shop, and The Guild of Spinners, Weavers and Dyers

The old school building that houses the Village Community Shop, and the Guild of Spinners, Weavers and Dyers, is managed by the St. Mary's SBMC (School Building Management Committee).

Since at least 1846, the building has been given in trust to the local community by the Long Family. It was originally managed by the St Mary's School Board and Diocese, followed by Wiltshire County Council. When the school closed in 2004, the SBMC was formed to ensure that it was occupied by appropriate tenants, that suitable leases were agreed, and that reasonable service charges were levied to enable the maintenance of the building and ensure its continued use by the local community (and with the educational requirement of the trust deed currently being fulfilled by the Guild and the Village Shop).

From 2005 to 2023, maintenance of the building has been carried out on a rolling annual programme, and has included some substantial projects such as the renovation of the front iron railings and Bath Stone wall, which was financially supported in part by both the Parish Council and Wiltshire Council.

However, during the past couple of years, it has become clear that much more work is required, especially regarding energy efficiency. The Committee is looking at a range of improvements, including:

- o Replacement of the windows
- o Solar panels on the back roof (to produce electricity primarily for the shop)
- o Structural work on the portakabins, (to maintain them and give the Guild security of tenure in those buildings.)

All of these projects require substantial funding so a Fund-Raising Group has been established to look at how this could be achieved.

(If you have Fund-Raising expertise and experience, we would welcome your involvement -please email sbmc-group@outlook.com).

In the coming months we will update you on our progress, and the plans for moving the project forward. (Photo on p10 by Kathryn Faulkner)



Steeple Ashton WI



THEATRE COACH TRIP

We have a small number of tickets remaining - NOW OPEN TO ALL VILLAGERS

9 to 5 THE MUSICAL

THEATRE ROYAL BATH



Wednesday 28th February 2024

Tickets (Dress Circle): £38 per person including coach

- Matinee performance 2.30pm -

Coach pick up 1pm o/s The Longs Arms

Return 6pm approx

Please call Ann Hunt on 01380 871885 to book

Payment required to secure place

Cheque to 'Steeple Ashton WI' or Cash

"With a rip-roaring score by the Queen of Country, **9 to 5 the Musical** tells the story of three workmates pushed to boiling point by their sexist and egotistical boss. Concocting a plan to kidnap and turn the tables on their despicable supervisor, will the ladies manage to reform their office - or will events unravel when the CEO pays an unexpected visit?



Open Gardens 2024

Hello dear Open Garden Helpers,

My thoughts are beginning to focus on next year's Open Gardens event which I do hope you will be able to support again.

I've booked the Village Hall for a quick meeting on Thursday 2nd November at 7:30pm, where we can discuss date options (how does Sunday 2nd June sound?) and other details.

I realise that much changes in 2 years so if you no longer wish to be involved please drop me a note or give me a call on 01380 871866.

Also, if you can think of anyone in the village who has a lovely garden and who might be persuaded to open, please ask them to come along to the meeting as new gardens are a great draw to the event.

Many thanks and hope to see you on 2nd November.

Kathryn Sewell

METHODIST CHURCH

God's Love for All

Sometimes we are pushed to question words from the Bible. We read in the news about so much atrocity; evil deeds from one person to another or groups of people. Where is God in all this, we ask?

We don't get a direct answer when evil makes us ask this question; however we do get to hear that God is with each one of us. God has created us all, and is with us all. The thought of God being everywhere, however, does not save us from hurt and pain. This world is not perfect, and it can certainly feel like God is far away sometimes. In evil, heartbreaking moments, the words about God's presence make me see the crucified God with arms wide open. When we cry out our 'why'? we don't get an answer, but our cry is captured by the crucified God who also cries, 'why have you forsaken me?' In that cry I sense a love that would never cause us any harm, and looks with sorrow on what is evil.

God is not far from each one of us, in the sense that God's love is never completely quenched. It is for us to search and hold on to that love, and spread it to one another, and show with love that we do not tolerate evil. *God of life, help us to believe and trust in the power of your love. When the world is a scary and unfair place, help us conquer evil with love. Amen.* (Taken from 'Fresh from the Word')

Church Diary

All services are at 9.15 am unless otherwise stated. Please come along and join us. You can be assured of a warm welcome, and a time to chat, plus a cup of tea or coffee after the service. If there is anyone for whom you would like prayers to be said, please leave details in the post box at the front door, and they will be included in the Intercessory Prayers on Sunday.

NOVEMBER

Sunday	5th	9.15 am	Rev. Graham Warmington
Tuesday	7th	7.30 pm	Housegroup
Wednesday	9th	10.30 am	Reflections & Fellowship
Thursday	10th	2.30 pm	CAMEO
Sunday	12th	9.15 am	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - Izzie Smears
Thursday	16th	2.30 pm	CAMEO
Sunday	19th	9.15 am	Rev. Gary Gotham
Tuesday	21st	7.30 pm	Housegroup
Wednesday	22nd	10.30 am	Reflections & Fellowship
Thursday	23rd	2.30 pm	CAMEO
Saturday	25th	10.30-Noon	Coffee Morning & Bring & Buy
Sunday	26th	9.15 am	Rev. Peggy Kabonde – Holy Communion
Thursday	30th	2.30 pm	CAMEO

On Saturday, 25th November we are having one of our popular Coffee Mornings with a Bring and Buy Stall. This will run from 10.30 am – Noon, and we invite anyone to come along. Our members will make some delicious cakes to be eaten or taken away. We also have a number of items left from our last sale which might make useful Christmas presents. So come along and see what we have. Entrance is by donation, and we will be collecting for our Church funds.

C A M E O (Come And Meet Each Other) A Warm Space

An open invitation for anyone who would like to meet others for a cuppa and a social 2.30 – 4.00 pm on a Thursday afternoon at Steeple Ashton Methodist Church – All welcome.

REFLECTIONS & FELLOWSHIP

A group who meet on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday mornings of the month, to have a cup of coffee, and look at parts of the Bible to see how it affects our lives. This is an informal group led by our own Izzie Smears. Feel free to come along, and try it. Any queries speak to Izzie on 01380 870538.

CATHOLIC NEWS

**Saint John the Baptist, Saint Bernadette & Saint Thomas More
Working in Communion for Mission**

Parish Priest: Canon Thomas Finnegan

TELEPHONE: 01225 752152

www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk

Diocese of Clifton Registered Charity No 1170168

Diocesan Re-Structure: There is to be a diocesan restructure of Deaneries. At present there are 13 Deaneries in the Diocese. As from September, this will reduce to nine. New Deans have been appointed by Bishop Declan to lead these 'local areas'. What was the Trowbridge Deanery, is now Deanery 6 renamed as The Pastoral Area of St. Oliver Plunkett. Canon Tom has been appointed as the new Dean. We thank Fr. Martin Queenan, former Dean of Trowbridge Deanery and wish Canon Tom all the best in his new role. A map of the new Deaneries, is available from Canon Tom on request.

**Please see below the usual weekly timings of our Masses:
but please check newsletter for changes.**

St John the Baptist - Trowbridge

Sunday & Weekday Masses:

Saturday 6pm

Sunday 10.30pm

Monday 9am

Tuesday 6pm

Friday 9am

St Bernadette's - Westbury.

Mass times will be:

Sunday 9am

Thursday 10am

St Thomas More, Bradford-on-Avon

Mass times will be:

Saturday 4pm

Wednesday 9am

Live streaming:

All masses are streamed live on www.Churchservices.tv or on You Tube 'Mass in Trowbridge'

Parish Newsletter:

This is available weekly on the Parish website

www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk

**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

Richard Havergal (Licensed Lay Minister)
Tel. 01225 762668 rhavergal16@gmail.com

***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 November**

*Except for Evensong, all services scheduled below include
a sermon or homily.*

Sunday, 5th November THE FOURTH SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

9.15 am	Holy Communion (CW)	St Nicholas', North Bradley
11 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Mary's, Steeple Ashton
11 am	Shoebox Service for Operation Christmas Child	St Thomas', Southwick

**Sunday, 12th November THE THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT
(Remembrance Sunday)**

8 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Mary's, Steeple Ashton
10.40 am	Remembrance Sunday service	St Nicholas', North Bradley
10.50 am	Remembrance Sunday service	St Mary's, Steeple Ashton

**Tuesday, 14th November Samuel Seabury first Anglican Bishop in
North America, 1796**

9.30 am	Holy Communion (CW)	St Thomas', Southwick
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Sunday, 19th November THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

9.15 am	Holy Communion (CW)	St Nicholas', North Bradley
10.30 am	Gift Service for the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal	St Mary's, Steeple Ashton
11 am	Holy Communion (CW)	St Mary's, Steeple Ashton

Sunday, 26th November CHRIST THE KING

8 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Mary's, Steeple Ashton
10 am	Family Service	St Nicholas', North Bradley
11 am	Holy Communion (CW)	St Thomas', Southwick
	CW - Common Worship, Order 1 (contemporary language)	
	BCP - Common Worship, Order 2 (traditional language).	

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

In consideration of those around you when in church, you are encouraged to continue **using hand sanitisers and take appropriate precautions to minimise the risk of spreading the virus.**

Morning Prayer *is normally said*
at St Nicholas', North Bradley Monday – Wednesday, and
at St Thomas', Southwick at 10 am on Thursday.

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!

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

*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 !*

Getting involved at St Mary's

There are currently vacancies at St Mary's for the role of churchwarden and PCC treasurer. We are also delighted to hear from anyone who would like to read at services or act as a sidesman/woman.

*If you are interested in any of these roles,
please contact The Vicar.*

Notices

Occasional offices

For baptisms, marriage services and funeral services in church,
please contact The Vicar.

Getting involved at St Mary's

There are currently vacancies at St Mary's for the role of churchwarden and PCC treasurer and PCC secretary. We are also delighted to hear from anyone who would like to read at services or act as a sidesman/woman.
If you are interested in any of these roles, please contact The Vicar.

Concerts and other cultural events at St Mary's

We welcome such occasions.
If you are interested in using St Mary's as a venue, please direct your initial enquiries to The Vicar.

Reflection - The coins in your pocket

We don't need reminding that life is all about choices. We are constantly in situations where we can do one thing or another, or when shopping, buy something in preference to something else.

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus is presented with a choice. He is shown a coin and asked if it is lawful to pay taxes to the emperor. He replies – 'Give to the emperor what is the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's.

On first reading, this story is about separating the secular world – especially money – from the spiritual world. But this is too simple, and not how Matthew would have wished his Gospel to be read for it is full of Jesus meeting ordinary people in everyday situations and tackling the religious authorities on practical matters of faith. If the world and everything in it belongs to God, by giving to the authorities of the world what is due to them, we are ultimately giving to God.

Jesus is highlighting that we come to church primarily to worship God. We don't bring such worldly disputes as Jesus was presented with unless we intend to pray about them. Nor do we bring to church debates about the coins in our pockets, although our church has to pay its bills in our country's currency, and with our responsibilities to the wider world, we use that currency to help those in need. What we bring to church is ourselves, however spiritually rich or poor we may be. We are chosen and loved by God who has given everything uniquely to us, and as we come to church, we offer it all back to God.

Richard Havergal

Fr Oliver is currently on sick leave until the end of November. The PCC has sent good wishes for a speedy recovery to the vicar - he is in our thoughts and prayers.

We understand that services in St Mary's will continue as advertised. The Rural Dean, Jane Palmer, is dealing with this.

STEEPLE ASHTON CHRISTIANS TOGETHER



*INVITE YOU TO SHARE IN OUR SIMPLE
ADVENT LUNCH*

12.30 - 2.00 PM

VILLAGE HALL

MONDAY, 4TH DECEMBER 2023



*PLEASE SIGN UP ON LISTS IN
ST MARY'S CHURCH OR METHODIST
CHURCH*

OR CONTACT

ROSIE ON 01380 870 119 OR

ALISON ON 01380 870623.

*SO WE HAVE SOME IDEA OF HOW MANY TO
CATER FOR.*

DONATIONS WELCOMED (SUGGEST £5)



For our **'Winter 23'** meeting we will be hosting:



'Sage's Seasonal Social'

Is to be held on **Thursday November 30th**
at our wonderful Village Hall, 7:30pm

Gardening quiz - tables of 6 / Raffle / Gardenalia stall

Cash & card bar – wines, beers and softs, plus teas & coffee & snacks.



Please can you all bring a plate of finger food, either sweet or savoury, to share for the Christmas buffet table!

Everyone welcome, no club to join & Entrance is FREE!

...come along and enjoy!

Barney's garden jobs for the weekends...

November - * Clear up fallen leaves, especially from lawns, ponds and beds. * Prune roses to prevent wind-rock. * Plant out tulip bulbs for a Spring display next year.
* Raise containers onto pot feet to prevent waterlogging * Put out bird food to encourage winter birds into the garden.

Contact us at: sagecontact851@gmail.com

Follow our SAGE Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2548517398732853>

THE CREATION

FRANZ JOSEF HAYDN
SELECTED CHORUSES

THE
TROWBRIDGE
PHILHARMONIC
CHOIR

FRIDAY DECEMBER 1ST
ST JAMES' CHURCH,
TROWBRIDGE BA14 8RU
DOORS 7:00 CONCERT 7:30
TICKETS £15.00

From the Creation of the World to the coming of the Messiah, Trowbridge Philharmonic Choir presents music for the season of Advent by Thomas Tallis, Palestrina, Orlando Gibbons, Vaughan Williams, Boris Ord and Haydn's greatest oratorio, 'The Creation'

Soprano Emma Lydon Organ Tony James
Directed by Graham Dalby



Tickets on-line or on the door by card/cash
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/trowbridge-philharmonic-choir/t-novaykg>

Registered Charity 293240

Christmas Wreath Workshop



Have fun making your own personal traditional

Christmas Wreath

in a beautiful festive environment with
kind permission from Sue Cottle.

Join us on Wednesday 6th December

The Shooters Lodge Church Farm

Steeple Ashton

Morning 10am till 12noon Afternoon 2 pm till 4 pm

Cost £25

All materials will be provided, cost £25

Refreshments available .

To secure a place please contact Petra.

Telephone 01380 870696

Email Petra987@btinternet.com

Payment in full before hand will secure your place

All funds towards St Mary's church flowers



Christmas Gift Fair

Steeple Ashton Village Hall on Sunday 3rd
December from 10.30 to 3.00



Lots of local producers, crafters and makers
offering a wide selection of gifts including:

Jam, chutney, honey, preserves, fresh flowers,
jewellery, ornaments, textiles, artwork,
greetings cards, tea towels, coasters,
handmade soap, fudge, toiletries, ceramics,
collectables, woodcraft, accessories

Plus, you can enjoy a cuppa and some
delicious cake from our amazing bakers!

All proceeds from refreshments and traders' table hire
will go to the Village Hall fund



Semington's
MOT & **Mobil 1**
Service Station



Accredited Member



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 **RMI**
Approved Member

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Email: jez@kingsautoservices.co.uk

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All you have to do is phone or email your order to me the first week of the month for delivery on the second Thursday– you cannot be late – if you miss the date you have to wait till the following month – and you have the first week to think about it! If you wish you can email/ phone Kinch directly and state that you are part of Steeple Ashton Oil Scheme. **BUT DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE**; the scheme is for one lorry per month.

Rosemary 870119 colingwyrddrugog@gmail.com

NATURAL HISTORY CLUB

In early October there were still Swallows taking advantage of the weather and fattening themselves up before migration to South Africa. Normally they would all be gone as their food source runs out. Now that our summer visiting birds have departed, look out for our winter visitors arriving. Redwing and Fieldfare from Scandinavia and Northern Europe who come to enjoy the milder winters. Listen out on a still night for the high pitched zeeer calls of the Redwing migrating overhead. They do migrate at night. Also look out for our sedentary finches such as Chaffinch and Linnets that flock together over farmland, especially into fields left to stubble where they take advantage of the spilled grain. You may even spot a few of their European cousins, the Brambling, amongst them. These are slightly smaller than Chaffinch and migrate here in the winter. If you're lucky you might catch the sight of Lapwing or Golden Plover, waders that migrate south from Northern England and Scotland.

Fairly large flocks of 200 or more Golden Plover have been seen in the fields surrounding the village.

It has been reported by many that they are seeing more Hares this year than previously. It has been suggested that the Badger cull in Wiltshire last year could be responsible. Who knew that Badgers preyed on Leverets? Could this also be the reason Hedgehog numbers are up as well? Anyone else noticed a lack of wasps / hornets this summer?

It was noted by a member, who has Hedgehogs in her garden, that one or two reappeared with white markings on them. This usually happens when they have been 'rescued' and returned to the area where they were rescued. Do we have someone rehabilitating hedgehogs in the village? Please let us know.

Here's a thought:

It's time to clean out and re-site your nest boxes. After the end of each breeding season, ideally September or October, all nest boxes should be taken down, old nesting materials removed, and the box should be scalded with boiling water to kill any parasites. Do not use insecticides, flea-powders or soap. These can be harmful to birds. Boiling water is adequate.

Under the terms of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, if unhatched eggs are found in the box, they can only legally be removed from October to January inclusive, and they must be destroyed – it is illegal to keep them.

Re-site the box, Ideally facing North East. You can place dry hay or wood shavings in it as they might be used as a warm roost through cold winter months.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 7th December at 7:30pm in the Methodist Church Hall, High Street, Steeple Ashton. The short talk is yet to be determined. Everyone welcome.

Please report anything of interest such as sightings of animal / bird / insect activity etc. Or any 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**

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In December 2019 Ofsted rated the school **Good** in all areas, and said:
"Leaders and staff have created a nurturing school where pupils feel important and cherished. One pupils view echoed the views of many others: If everyone knew about our school, all the other schools would be empty."



St Mary's playing field project – we need you!

A big thank you to everyone who came along to see the approved plan in the village hall, show your support, sign up to help and enjoy the delicious cakes so kindly supplied by members of the WI.

It was great to see people excited about the plans and signing up to help.

Thank you all!

You can see the plan on the:

- Parish Council website
- Village Facebook group

We'll also have copies of the plan available to see at the village shop, St Mary's Church and on village noticeboards.

Let's make this happen!

With your input through the survey, we've designed a place that all members of the village can enjoy. Now it needs a whole community effort to bring the plans to life.

Skills needed include:

- Fundraising and bid writing
- Finance/treasurer
- Project management
- Procurement/contract management
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Contact us at the address below to find out more or with any questions.

Rachel Pearson, Steeple Ashton Recreation Working Group
sarecgroup@gmail.com

Many thanks...

We are all so very grateful for the many, many cards and good wishes we have received. And, above all, we are so terribly grateful for that wonderful singing at Colin's funeral. Our sincere thanks to everyone for all the help and support given us.

Rosie and all the boys.

Report from St Mary's PCC

The PCC met on 12th October under the chairmanship of David Little as the vicar was absent on sick leave.

The secretary was asked to send a get well message to Fr Oliver.

Items discussed included the following:

Faculty for the restoration of the Organ Pipes

David Little confirmed the receipt of this document and read out the recommendations made by the DAC. These include the use of Robert Woodland as our specialist which is very helpful. Helen Montague-Smith reported that she had recently spoken to Robert and he is taking a break from a very large job working on the pipes in Leeds Town Hall. He expects to return there in the early spring to complete the job. He is very keen to work on the pipes here and we hope that he will be able to work on our pipes in late spring next year.

Robert Woodland & Sons sent a revised estimate of costs for the work – the prices of most things including gold, have gone up in the year since his previous estimate. This will be forwarded to the Preservation Trust for their information.

It was again emphasised that the PCC does not have enough information about what is happening in our church during the vicar's sick leave and the fact that he is unavailable to carry out the many tasks he said he would as listed in the previous minutes.

We do know that Tony Longdon, as usual, will be taking the Remembrance Service on 12th November which is good news as this service is always very well attended. The Rural Dean, Jane Palmer, will be finding other ministers to cover for the services which are scheduled during November.

It was noted that the Rec group would like to put up information about St Mary's field on a notice board in the church.

The PCC will meet again on 14th November.



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