



Ducktown Echo



Summer 2019

The Aylburton Community Newsletter

Issue 36

Aylburton Parish Council

Chair: Steph Lord Parish Clerk: Meg Humphries 07850 476235 aylburtonclerk@outlook.com www.aylburton.net

The Council held its meeting on 14th May. Mark Topping was welcomed as an additional council representative.

Grass cutting

The council will be reminding the contractor to leave bulbs until the leaves had completely died back. Several areas managed by Two Rivers Housing needed maintenance.

Housing Needs Survey

The draft questionnaire was considered. Cllr Harrison presented some grammatical/tone amendments and these would be sent to the GRCC for consideration. The council also expressed interest in next steps following the survey and for seeing an analysis of results.

BT Kiosk (Upper Common)

A meeting with AUCA to discuss the way forward has been arranged.

The Cross Monument

Cllr Harrison reported that Tesco was running the Cross restoration as one of its 'blue coin' options in Lydney and Coleford branches. Historical England seem unlikely to reconsider their rejection of plans to restore the top of the monument and therefore it was noted that the focus would for now be on restoration of the base (for which the mason recommends a specialist restoration company) and including the cross's top design in interpretation materials nearby, such as a historical plaque or sign.

Church Road residents' parking

Cllr Alan Preest would be invited to June meeting to give an update.

Grave Maps

This would be investigated with a parishioner who might hold these.

Road safety

Sandford Lane resurfacing is to be scheduled for early 2020.

Flashing road sign project — A meeting is being convened with Highways soon to discuss in detail with a view to moving this project forward.

Refreshing of road markings in the parish is now scheduled for 2019/20 civic year.

Vandalism

A car in the village was deliberately scratched a few weeks ago. Residents are asked to be especially vigilant and to report any suspicious activity.

Flower tubs

A big thank you to the two very kind parishioners who came forward offering to water their nearest flower tub. We still have plenty of tubs in need, so please email Meg Humphries if you can help with watering in dry spells and perhaps a bit of deadheading too. As you will have noticed, the tubs are now sporting their summer bedding and we hope they bring you all joy into the autumn.

UPPER COMMON is a great community area. We get people picnicking, families coming to play and also have community events. It's also popular with dogs and their owners. Inevitably even the best loved dogs can have accidents, leaving a mess for others.

Please, if this happens clean up after your dog.

The Parish Council have provided plenty of disposal facilities allowing the area to be enjoyed by all.

If you see anyone breaking the by-laws, do not feel you need to confront them. The Forest of Dean Street Warden can be contacted on 01594 810000 or email street.wardens@fdean.gov.uk.

**AYLBURTON
CARNIVAL
SATURDAY 13TH JULY**

The traffic between Taurus Crafts and Sandford Road will be delayed between 2–2:30pm as the Carnival Procession moves through the High Street

On Saturday June 1st the WI held an afternoon tea in the Memorial Hall. Once again we have to give enormous thanks for the support and help from the community and other WI groups who attended. The members have to be commended for their skill at organising such a successful event. The tables were laid out beautifully, with the guests being served with tea, sandwiches and scones. With a lovely sunny afternoon, this made it even more enjoyable.

We are now looking forward to leading the Aylburton Carnival procession on Saturday July 13th, with the dress theme as 'The WI through the Ages'. Several members will be walking, while others will hop aboard a farm trailer, kindly loaned by Hanley Farm, with a vintage tractor driven by Mike Luther to take us through the street. Our usual stall on the field will consist of jams, pickles and cakes. A donation will be forwarded to the Hall and Playing Field committee after the event.

Saturday August 31st will be the Showcase Exhibition. We would still like you all to dig out any memorabilia

which we can display for this occasion. Hidden away photos and newspaper cuttings would be greatly welcomed. The well-known BBC journalist and former resident of Aylburton, Jeremy Cooke, has agreed to open this special day. This is an opportunity for the ladies to show off their excellent crafting and baking skills.

We have also been invited to represent our WI at the Gloucester Federation Centenary Celebration Service in Gloucester Cathedral on October 12th; three of the members will be selected to attend.

In August there will be our Annual Summer outing to Highclere Castle, where the Downton Abbey series was filmed. An Egyptian exhibition is also on display for members to enjoy if they wish. If you would like to join us on this trip please contact Sandra Rickards for more information regarding cost and seats available.

Membership has increased to 36. This is encouraging for the future of a small village WI as many are struggling to survive in rural areas. New members have been surprised at how interesting and humorous the meetings can be.

Forest Exiles CC

Secretary: Dan Kettle 07828 577914 forestexilesc@gmail.com

Despite the mid-season weather our Juniors, the U13's XI, have played a number of enjoyable matches against Westbury, Parkend and Woodpeckers.

Training is every Saturday morning at 9:30am at the playing field. With our new cricket net the Juniors are really kicking on, not just as individuals but as a team. Joe Matthews has led the team well so far this year and with four games left it is the last big push to make a good season a great one.

On Sunday 28th July we will be hosting a 6-a-side tournament on the Playing Field with a number of other teams from the league including Down Hatherley, Huntley and Westbury. If you are interested in the game, then feel free to come and support our Juniors.



Anja Davies

Philip Davies in the nets and at Parkend

Letters to the Editor

LOWER COMMON MEMORIES

As children in the 1960s we used to visit Florence Thomas who lived at The Forge, Lower Common, Aylburton. Mrs Thomas became a sort of grandmother to us as she was housekeeper to my father before he married and she helped my mother when my brother, sister and I were born. I have such fond memories of brambling along New Road. Auntie Thomas as we knew her lived in a one up one down cottage adjacent to her late father's Forge. On summer afternoons my father would drive us all up to the Upper Common, which is why I'm contacting you.

The Upper Common was covered in green ferns and sometimes goats would be tethered up there. The thing I remember most is the giant iron swing. Is it still there? I recall the headland overlooked the Severn Estuary, but that's all I can remember. With my parents now gone I'm just trying to find out a bit more about a place with special childhood memories.

Jane Tombs *by email*

Does anyone remember Auntie T? — Ed.

HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY 2019

Parishioners will see that this issue of the *Ducktown Echo* contains a questionnaire from the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council.

The objective is to establish whether there is a need by parishioners, or those having a close connection with the Parish, for additional housing to buy or rent within the Parish.

This survey is voluntary and of course entirely anonymous, but the results of the survey will assist the Council in formulating its policy towards extra building and housing needs within the Parish.

All residents are urged to complete the form which will contribute essential information for the future planning of the village. The completed forms can be returned in the stamped addressed envelope provided.

Steph Lord
Chair
Aylburton Parish Council

Aylburton Methodist Church

Minister: Rev Michelle Ireland 01594 833247 www.aylburtonmethodistchurch.co.uk
Church Treasurer: Elizabeth Day 01594 840123
Community Room booking: Amy Reece 01594 369383 thecommunityroom-amc@outlook.com



facebook@aylburtonmethodist

In May we teamed up with members from St. Mary's Church and held our monthly coffee morning with proceeds of £140 going to Christian Aid. It was good to work together in this way and we were well supported.

On Whit Sunday we celebrated the 104th Church Anniversary, when the service was conducted by Rev. Mary Jolly from Ledbury. It was a most inspiring occasion and a celebration cake was shared together with coffee afterwards.

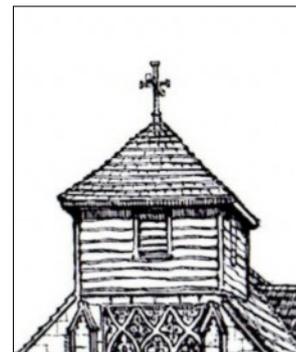
Messy Church seems to have become a regular favourite through half term breaks and school holidays. A range of activities take place with guidance from Rev. Michelle Ireland. There is a message for all to take home and where possible act on. The next Messy Church is planned for Wednesday 14th August 10:30 – 12:30.

Repair work is needed to the church tower so fund raising events will once again become a feature of Church

life. Tenders are being sought and ways of fund raising considered. It has been agreed by our Church Council that works undertaken will be on a 'like for like basis' as the building is in a conservation area. Any ideas or offers of help and support will be most gratefully received.

If you are planning a family gathering this year or need a room to host an event our Community Room is available for hire. Please contact Amy Reece for further details.

May you all know God's blessing in your life.



Eric J. Rice



Barry Jessop

Members gathered with Rev Mary Jolly for the 104th Church Anniversary

Aylburton C of E Primary School

Head: Rachel Dare Office: 01594 842426
admin@aylburton.gloucs.sch.uk www.aylburtoncofe.co.uk

1869 — 150 YEARS — 2019

The school is embarking on a year of celebrations for its 150th Anniversary. The pupils will be in Victorian costume on their float in the Carnival procession and there will an exhibition of old school photographs dating back to the 1930's in the Methodist Hall on Carnival day. The Governors are very grateful to the Parish Council for their donation which will be used to purchase commemorative mugs for the children. The Bishop of Gloucester has expressed an interest in attending a celebration service in the church and Lord Bledisloe will be conducting an art workshop to create a piece commemorating the anniversary.

Several of our children from Year 6 took part in the annual French trip together with pupils from our sister school in Lydney. The children enjoyed a number of outdoor activities as well as practising their French language skills in the local market.

Years 3, 4 and 5 have been enjoying learning the ukulele with Gloucestershire Music. Years 5 and 6 have recently been on a trip to St Fagans near Cardiff and took part in a Victorian School workshop. Class 2 have been carefully nurturing a large number of eel larvae and will be releasing them in early July into the Blackpool Brook at Wenckford. The elver release programme is sponsored by the Severn & Wye Smokery at Chaxhill. They will also be going to Pardons Farm in Tewkesbury at the end of this month. Class One are going to Weston-super-Mare in July to enjoy the seaside and ice cream.

Class One will be running their cake sale on the 19th July. There will be cakes, teas, games and a raffle. The school performances of 'Treasure Island' are on the 16th July at Lydney C of E School and the annual Leavers service is at 9:15 am on Tuesday 23rd July in St Mary's Church.



Pupils stayed at Le Château du Broutel activity centre in Rue

Andrea Westwood has announced her wish to retire from the Board of Governors (but not from school) after 15 years of service; the Governors wish to thank her for her valuable contribution to their work.

What's On

Parish Council

Full council meetings are held in the Methodist Community Room at 7pm on the second Tuesday of each month except January and August. There is a public forum session at each meeting. Forthcoming meeting agendas are posted online and on the village notice boards about a week beforehand.

Tuesday 9th July Full council meeting
Tuesday 10th Sept Full council meeting
Tuesday 8th Oct Full council meeting

St. Mary's Church

Rev Nina Summerfield has been appointed Assistant Curate of the new Benefice of Lydney, Woolaston, Alvington and Aylburton.
Churchwarden: Aylburton - Mary Court 01594 843651
Aylburton Common Mission Church - Jane Hale 01594 843917
Whilst we are without a regular Priest, contacts for the parish are:
Weddings - Rev Pat Cox 01594 843842; Baptisms - Sue Rickards 01594 529281; Funerals - Alan Robinson 01594 529551.
Any other questions should be put to Mary Court.

Services each Sunday are at 10:30am except where indicated
For services in the other churches in the parish please see the schedule on the notice board at St. Mary's.

July
Sunday 14th Morning Praise Aylburton Common
Sunday 28th Holy Communion St. Mary's
August
Sunday 11th Morning Praise Aylburton Common
Sunday 25th Morning Praise St. Mary's
September
Sunday 8th Morning Praise Aylburton Common
Sunday 22nd Holy Communion St. Mary's
Sunday 29th Morning Praise Aylburton Common

Methodist Church

Services each Sunday at 10:30am unless otherwise stated
A warm welcome awaits you anytime you wish to join us on a Sunday or at our other events

July
Sunday 28th SONGS OF PRAISE at 3pm
with Rev Richard Atkins (Radio Gloucestershire)
Tea to follow
August
Wed 14th **Messy Church** 10:30-12:30pm
All welcome, children to be accompanied by an adult
September
Sunday 29th HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Meetings each month

Craft, Knit & Natter - third Wednesday from 2:30pm
Coffee Mornings - third Saturday at 10:30am

Community Room

If you are planning a family gathering this year or need a room to host an event our Community Room is available for hire. Contact Amy Reece on 01594 369383 or email thecommunityroom-amc@outlook.com

WI

Meetings are held in the Memorial Hall on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm. Various speakers entertain us with interesting and witty talks. Come along and join us for tea or coffee or just some company and a chat.

9th July 'Walk to Rome' with Chris O'Grady
13th August Annual Outing to Highclere Castle
Sat. 31st August SHOWCASE EXHIBITION
10th September Open Social Evening
Come along and enjoy tea and chat with us
8th October 'Linking Lives' with Louise Maclay
12th November 'A WW1 Nurse' with Clare Bloomfield

Forest Exiles

MATCHES

Senior XI Every Saturday 1:30pm start
Midweek XI Wednesday Twenty-20 6pm start
Sunday XI Occasional 1:30pm start
Junior XI Every Sunday 10am start

TRAINING

Senior XI Wednesday and Saturday
Junior XI Every Saturday 9:30am start

CARNIVAL DAY SATURDAY 13TH JULY

FAMILY FUN DOG SHOW

Just come along and enter on the day
Register from 1:30pm Judging starts at 2:30pm

Classes

- 1 Cutest puppy (4-12 months)
- 2 Jolliest junior (12-24 months)
- 3 Most handsome dog
- 4 Prettiest bitch
- 5 Waggiest tail
- 6 Best crossbreed
- 7 Best pedigree
- 8 Best rescue
- 9 Best veteran (over 7 years)
- 10 Best handler (under 12)
- 11 Best handler (over 12)
- 12 Best fancy dress
- 13 Dog/Bitch the judge would most like to take home

All 1st prize winners can compete for Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show

For more information please contact
David or Glenda on 01594 843525

aylburtoncarnival@gmail.com

taurus crafts

Craft studios - Artisan businesses
Cafe - Local food & drink - Gift shop
Local art - Special events - Markets



Children's creative activities
throughout school holidays

Part of Camphill Village Trust -
supporting people with learning
disabilities lead a life of opportunity.

tauruscrafts.co.uk 01594 844841
Lydney, Forest of Dean, GL15 6BU

Ducktown Echo

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AYLBURTON CARNIVAL

Carnival coordinator: Mark Sargent marksargent8@hotmail.co.uk 01594 841732 aylburtoncarnival@gmail.com

This year's Carnival will help to celebrate two village anniversaries. It is 100 years since the WI held their first meeting and 150 years ago that the school building was completed. The WI will lead the procession with 'The WI through the Ages'. For their float the children will be in Victorian costume. In the Community Room there will be a display to mark the start of the school's 150th year.

On Carnival Day the procession will start from the Taurus car park at 2pm with the Tewkesbury Marching Band accompanied by the Harmony Twirlstars from Cinderford. Walkers in fancy dress should join in the procession at Millbrook Green.

Prizes for the decorated vehicles this year are 1st £200 'The Bledisloe Cup', 2nd £100 and 3rd £75 and all non-winning entries will receive £30. There are also some

generous prizes for the walking entries. This year's judge will be Pam Bendall.

On the Playing Field there will be many attractions including pig roast, grand draw, Punch and Judy, bouncy castle, bowling, classic vehicles, teas and a bar. A new attraction this year will be laser clay shooting. The Forest of Dean Brass Band will once again be entertaining the crowds with traditional music.

Later in the afternoon children's races will take place. The Family Fun Dog Show will be going on all afternoon. ULTRAVIOLET will be performing from 5 till 7pm.

All the Carnival proceeds are distributed back into the local community. They help with the maintenance and improvement of the Memorial Hall and Playing Field.

Google



CARNIVAL DAY

We get a lot of help with running Carnival for which we are always grateful. The day though is physically tiring. There is always a huge amount of work to be done in setting up early on the day and even more to do when clearing up afterwards.

WE DO NEED MORE HELP

If you are willing to assist please contact
Mark Sargent 01594 841732 (after 7pm)
email: marksargent8@hotmail.com

AYLBURTON CARNIVAL

SATURDAY 13TH JULY

FAMILY FUN DOG SHOW

Register from 1:30pm Judging starts at 2:30pm

PROCESSION 2PM

FREE PARKING

ADMISSION £1 CHILDREN FREE

www.aylburtonvillagehall.org.uk aylburtoncarnival@gmail.com
All proceeds are distributed back into the local community