

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>Ramsbury Library</b> Mon 2 - 4pm. Wed 10am - 12pm Sat 10am – 12pm	<b>Charity Shop</b> Tue, Wed, Thur & Sat 10 – 12.30. Tue & Thur 2 – 4.30	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <u>Flyer Outing</u> WI meeting 7.30pm Church Rooms	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Ramsbury Talk Memorial Hall 7.15pm	<b>8</b> Lunch Club	<b>9</b> Flyer to <b>Newbury</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <u>Flyer Outing</u> WI coffee morning RBL Club 10.30am	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
					Ravensbury Players Mem Hall 7 / 7.45pm	
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Parish Council meeting Axford Village Hall	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Lunch Club	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Talk on Holy Cross Memorial Hall 7.15pm	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	For lifts by <b>LINK</b> to medical appointments, shopping etc please contact Penny on 520111	
<u>Every Sunday</u> Holy Cross See notices  Methodist Church See notices  Tennis Club 10.am	<u>Every Monday</u>  Short Mat Bowls Memorial Hall 2.30 – 5pm	<u>Every Tuesday</u>  Flyer to <b>Marlborough</b>	<u>Every Wednesday</u> Ramsbury Lambs Mem Hall 9.30 to 11.30  Flyer to <b>Hungerford</b>	<u>Every Thursday</u>  Phoenix Pizza Memorial Hall 5 to 8pm	<u>Every Friday</u> Ramsbury Silver Band Axford Village Hall 7.30- 9.30pm  Flyer to <b>Hungerford</b>	<u>Every Saturday</u> Junior Football 10am <hr/> <b>November 2023</b>



# Ramsbury and Axford Village Diary

## November 2023



May we have items for the December diary before 17 November.

Please email to [diary@ramsbury.org](mailto:diary@ramsbury.org)

### **NATURE NOTES** by Peter Marren

This autumn will surely be remembered for the large number of very fresh red admiral butterflies, often seen feeding greedily on ivy flowers, along with a smaller number of commas, and a buzzing multitude of bees, wasps, hoverflies, droneflies, greenbottles and hornets. By the end of September, peacocks and brimstones had left the field to go into hibernation. As the ivy goes over, some of the admirals may make their way south, while others, the very last, will go into semi-hibernation in some sheltered spot, perhaps deep in the tangle. For them it's only a light winter sleep for, being butterflies of the south, they are not habituated to northern winters and will wake up and fly on warm winter days, thus dissipating the energy they have built up on their autumnal feasting. Why are they called admirals? It's an old name, probably a corruption of 'admirables'.

After a September in which I saw very few fungi, things were hotting up in the first days of October. The massed pinky-beige mushrooms you may have seen under the young trees on the way to the Surgery, were birch brittlegills, *russula betularum*. This fungus infects the roots of the young trees, helping them to obtain trace elements from the soil, while also tapping the tree's supply of sugar and water. The emerging mushrooms are there to liberate spores; they are the equivalent of apples on a tree. This root association is an example of the quiet way one organism helps another, one that probably began with the first land plants. Still on fungi, I have heard reports of parasol mushrooms in a field opposite Cobbs. This is one of our tallest mushrooms, rather Disney-esque, with scaly caps up to the size of a saucer on long, scaly stems with a ring round the middle. The young specimens are more the shape of a chicken drumstick, and they are best to eat at this stage. You can cook them like schnitzels. But you need to be sure of identification since there is a look-alike, the shaggy parasol, which can cause upset tummies! Wild fungi are notorious for toxic lookalikes!

Sometimes the least-likely habitats can produce surprises. A big pile of well-rotted manure by the side of a field was topped by a mini-forest of a leafy plant that turned out to be fig-leaved goosefoot, a species I've only ever seen once or twice. All right, it's no one's idea of a beauty, but it's the surprise that counts!

### **BIRD NOTES** by Paul Swan

One sign of autumn is the return of the golden plovers to Spring Hill. This year the first few arrived in early October and the flock seems to increase every few days and now numbers around one hundred. They will be a wonderful sight on bright sunny days as they wheel through the sky, appearing to change colour at every turn.

Walking home one evening last week, I was delighted to hear a tawny owl in the churchyard. They are one species that enjoys the shorter days and longer nights, with more time to hunt and feed. Adult tawny owls have an established territory and will know their patch better than any human gardener. They have a very catholic diet, taking birds, small mammals and even fish from garden ponds!

Several people have commented that the robins seem to be singing very loudly now. Robins sing to protect their territories all year round, but they are always more aggressive protectors of their space in autumn. What is known as their 'autumn song' is particularly noticeable because so few birds are singing at this time of year.

Sighting of the month is the juvenile goosander seen at Duck Bridge, probably on the way to winter quarters. These birds are fantastic 'fishermen' and have been known to take quite large trout.

### **RAINFALL** by Robert Osmond

Another wet month, September rainfall was 104 mm, well over the average of 60.39. All of the last three months have been unusually wet, each having over 100 mm of rain. Total for the period was 356 mm, nearly twice the average of 197. It's been interesting to see the recent early morning mists, a reminder of the old saying, "mist on the hills brings rain to the mills, mist on the moors brings sunshine to the doors"!

### ***Recreation Centre 200 Club***

The results for **September** are: £100 to Mike McNeilage, £50 to each of Caroline Farrell, Carolyn Roche, Caroline Franklin, Jon Symon and Louise Andrew and £25 to each of Darren Crawford, Dido Meinertzhagen, David Stoye, Hannah McKay, Ros Fitton and Lizzie Wilson.

The results for **October** are: £100 to Ian Ritchie, £50 to each of Jen Stoye, Jean Ryder, Geraldine Smith, Terry Worrall and Ronnie Stronge and £25 to each of Darren Arekion, Gilbert Mills, Jo Owen-Jones, Paul Swan, Henrietta Hirst and Barry Hierons.

The club costs £60 a year to join. Funds are split 50/50 between prizes and the Recreation Centre. To join, contact Ian Smith on 07977 473975 or [oldtiff@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:oldtiff@hotmail.co.uk)

### ***Ramsbury and Axford Poppy Appeal 2023***

The British Legion Poppy Appeal will take place between Thursday 26 October and Sunday 12 November. Static boxes will be available around the village key points - The Surgery, The Crown and Anchor, Midway Stores, The Bell, the Post Office, RBL Poppies Cafe and the school. A house-to-house collection will be available for Isles Court, around East Ridge and Axford. Despite recent significant challenges, your support remains as important as ever for the Royal British Legion's work in providing support in times of need for our injured and sick Service and Ex Service personnel.

This is the inaugural year for Bob Foale as the Ramsbury & Axford Poppy Appeal Organiser. Please help by supporting the charity and showing your gratitude for those who have given so much but now need our support. In 2022 Ramsbury & Axford raised in the region of £3,243. It would be fantastic to match or surpass this amount this year. This is only possible with your fantastic support and generosity.

### ***Holy Cross and the Whitton Parish***

Tuesday 31 October Hallowe'en "Walk in the Light" churchyard trail starting at the Church Rooms.

We have our Parish-wide offering of alternative worship service across our churches on the first Sunday of the month, including our informal 'cafe church' in Ramsbury at 4pm.

Full details for the Whitton Benefice in Whitton Ways.

#### **Church Services:**

Sunday 5 November 8am Ramsbury BCP Communion (traditional language), 4pm Ramsbury 'Café Church' 11am Team Matins at St Michael's Aldbourne, 11.30am Zoom / Informal Worship.

Sunday 12 November 8am Ramsbury BCP Communion (traditional language) **Remembrance Sunday:** 10:30am Remembrance Parade (from The Square) followed by Service at the Memorial and Holy Cross.

Sunday 19 November 9.30am Informal worship, 11.30am Zoom / Informal Worship.

Sunday 26 November 09:30am Holy Communion, 11.30am Zoom / Informal Worship.

Phone number for Zoom services: 0203 481 5240 or 0208 080 6591

ZOOM Meeting ID: 948 3407 2630 Passcode: 343860

### ***Aldbourne Methodist Church Services***

Sunday 5 November 10.30am Service led by local preacher.

Sunday 12 November 10.30am Remembrance Service united Service led by Revd Stephen Skinner held in the Memorial Hall, Aldbourne joined by Aldbourne Silver Band for our outside service from 10.30am.

Sunday 19 November 10.30am Service led by Rev d Jonathan Pye.

Sunday 26 November 10.30am Women against Violence Service led by local Preacher.

Future dates Carols round the tree. Mon 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

Coffee Morning every Thursday at 9.30am at the Lychgate Room, Ramsbury.

Come along and join us at the Lychgate for a chat, meet new friends, swap puzzles and books. Coffee and a biscuit will put a smile on your face. It is time to go out and meet new friends and have fun.

### ***Ramsbury WI***

Thursday 2 November at 7.30pm monthly meeting in the Church Rooms. Jeff Evans will speak on The Questionable History of the T V Quiz Show. Visitors very welcome to join us for what promises to be an entertaining talk. Any enquiries to Mary on 520908 or Rosalie on 520261.

Thursday 16 November coffee morning at the Royal British Legion Club, 10.30am onwards.

### ***Ramsbury Roxy***

Please visit [www.ramsburyroxy.org](http://www.ramsburyroxy.org) for full details or see the A board in the Square for the next screening.

## ***Ramsbury Talks***

Tuesday 7 November and Tuesday 5 December Memorial Hall 7.15pm A talk by John Benson and virtual tour of the interior of Ramsbury Manor and part of the Harry Hyams art collection.

Tuesday 28 November Holy Cross at 7.15pm The Rt Revd. Dr Andrew Rumsey, Bishop of Ramsbury and Dr Rowan Whimster explore the 1,100 year history of Holy Cross – a church and its people.

Friday 8 December Memorial Hall 7.15pm a talk by Peter Marren on butterflies, their cultural history in England and why Ramsbury is home to several rare species.

Tickets £10 from Ramsbury Post office & Eventbrite.com/cc/the-ramsbury-talks-1273989

## ***Lunch Club***

Lunch Club this month will be on Wednesday 8 and Wednesday 22 November.

## ***The Ravensbury Players***

“It runs in the Family” will be in Ramsbury Memorial Hall on 16, 17 and 18 November; Door & Bar open 7pm. Curtain Up 7.45pm Ticket Price: £10 Thursday, £12 Friday & Saturday (No Reserved Seats) Tickets available from Ramsbury Post Office, on-line at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/ravensbury-players](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/ravensbury-players) or by contacting Alison at [ab.mac@idnet.com](mailto:ab.mac@idnet.com)

## ***Parish Council – Emergency Plan – please read***

All residents are requested to complete a data information sheet which can be downloaded from the website [www.ramsbury.co.uk](http://www.ramsbury.co.uk) and return to the Parish Council. This is for the village **Emergency plan** so residents can be contacted in case of an emergency. **If you haven't returned the form yet – please do!**

The Wiltshire Local Plan consultation continues to 2 November, details on [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/local-plan](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/local-plan)  
Please continue to report blocked road drains.

## ***Hills Stores Charity Shop***

We hope to move the shop in November to the Community Space in the Memorial Hall car park. We have school uniform at £1 an item and some lovely outdoor coats (Ramsbury) for £5. We hope to hit £125,000 donated to village organisations by the end of the year. Sheila Glass and Mary Holdsworth

## ***Allotments***

The Allotment Association will hold the AGM in November- watch for posters. If you would like an allotment (rent is £60 p.a. for a full allotment, £35 p.a. for half an allotment and £10 p.a. for a taster raised bed) contact Denise Edwards on 07867921878 for more details or look at [www.ramsburyallotments.co.uk](http://www.ramsburyallotments.co.uk)

## ***Ramsbury Flyer Community Bus***

Tuesday 7 and 21 November leaving Ramsbury at 9.45 am Flyer to **Marlborough** via Aldbourne, Axford and Minal arriving at 10.20. This service leaves Marlborough to return at 12 noon. Bus passes can be used.

Tuesday 14 and 28 November leaving Ramsbury at 9.45am Flyer to **Marlborough** via Chilton Foliat and Froxfield arriving at 10.20. This service leaves Marlborough to return at 12 noon. Bus passes can be used.

Thursday 9 November leaving Ramsbury Square at 11.30 am Flyer to **Newbury**. Returning from Newbury at 2.30pm. Fare £5 and seats must be booked with Janet (see below). Bus passes cannot be used.

Wednesdays collecting at Ramsbury stops from 10am Flyer to **Hungerford** via Chilton Foliat, Herongate, Froxfield, Cobbs. Dobbies garden centre by request. Bus passes may be used.

Fridays collecting at Ramsbury stops from 10am Flyer to **Hungerford** via Aldbourne and all of the above stops. Dobbies by request. Bus passes may be used.

Full timetable details are posted in shops, notice boards, Post Office and on [www.ramsburyflyer.org](http://www.ramsburyflyer.org)

**Surgery transport** is available on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings. Please book through the receptionist at the Surgery.

**Flyer Outings:** Thursday 2 November **Christmas Floral Demonstration, Minal**. Thursday 16 Nov **Orbital Shopping Centre Swindon**. Monday 4 December **Whitehall Garden Centre / Leekes Department Store**.

Please call Janet for more information and to book your seats: 01672 520682 or 07584 253117

## ***ADVANCE NOTICES***

Thursday 7 December A police officer will attend the **Police Surgery** in the Lychgate room 7pm to 8pm.

Saturday 9 December Bella Voce Christmas Past and Christmas Present concert.