

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Ramsbury & Axford Link Scheme Mon-Fri 9 – 5 Tel 520111			1 Bowls club home match 6.15pm	2 WI 7pm Church Rooms, Victoria Walsh on Rena Stewart bio	3 LINK 10.30am coffee morning for clients and drivers, RBL café	4 Bowls club home match 10.30am Bella Voce concert Holy Cross Church 7.30pm RBL 8pm the Singing Keeper
5 PC monthly walk to Aldbourn & back via Loves Copse 4.5miles meet Square 2pm.	6 Bowls club home match 2.00pm	7 Art Group Scout Hut 10-1 WI 7pm Church Rooms. Victoria Walsh on Rena Stewart.	8	9 RBL- World Cup ¼ final match 9pm	10 Bedwyn Music Society Concert 7.00pm St. Mary's Church, Gt Bedwyn, RBL- World Cup ¼ final match 8pm	11 Bedwyn Music Society Concert 7.00pm. St. Peter's Church, Marlborough
12	13 Bowls club home match 2.00pm	14 RBL- World Cup semi- final match 8pm	15 Lunch Club 12 noon, Church Rooms Bowls club home match 6.15pm RBL Bingo 6.30pm RBL- World Cup semi- final match 8pm	16 WI 10.30am coffee morning at the RBL	17 7pm, Holy Cross. Violinist Sarah Off	18 Bowls club home match 10.30am
19 RBL- World Cup final 8pm	20 7.45pm Parish Council meeting Memorial Hall.	21 Art Group Scout Hut 10-1	22	23	24	25
26	27 Bowls club 2 home matches 2.00pm	28	29	30 Fire Station - final decision on closure	31 RBL Pool competition 7pm	
<u>Every Sunday</u> Holy Cross See text for services Methodist Church See text for services Tennis Club 10.am	<u>Every Monday</u>	<u>Every Tuesday</u> 1 st & 3 rd Tue Bowls Club 5.45 pm at the <u>Bowling Green</u> Flyer to Marlborough	<u>Every Wednesday</u> Flyer to Hungerford <u>Bingo</u> Ramsbury British Legion Club 7 for 7.30pm	<u>Every Thursday</u> Phoenix Pizza Mem. Hall 4.45 8pm Bowls Club open evenings 5.45 pm at the Bowling Green	<u>Every Friday</u> Ramsbury Silver B& Axford Village Hall 7.30- 9.30pm ————— Flyer to Hungerford	<u>Every Saturday</u> Junior Football 10am July 2026



Ramsbury & Axford Village Diary

July 2026

The Village Diary is also available on www.ramsbury.org.uk > Diary > Diary

May we have items for the August diary before 17 July.

Please email to diary@ramsbury.org



NATURE NOTES by Peter Marren

Leading a butterfly walk to Spring Hill on 25th May, I wasn't expecting to see many species. For this was the first really hot day after a period of cool weather, during which I supposed the butterflies would be inactive. But no, our rarest species, the Duke of Burgundy had obviously been on the wing for some time, & some were already looking worn. Over 2 days I saw about 12, which is about average for this elusive butterfly. The equally elusive Grizzled Skipper was looking fresh & in larger numbers than usual. This tiny black-&-white butterfly looks very moth-like on the wing & is easily overlooked until you are familiar with its darting flight & the greyish blur of its little wings. There were good numbers of Common Blue, mainly in the meadow below the hill, whose wings have a tint of lavender - unlike the earlier Holly Blue, a garden visitor, which is more powder-blue. A third blue, the Small Blue, looks silverish in flight, but when you see it close up, reveals an attractive scatter of blue scales over a smoky-brown background. All told we saw 3 species of blue, 3 skippers & the Duke, plus 2 butterfly-lookalikes, the Burnet Companion & the Five-spot Burnet, both day-flying moths. I have been writing a Wild Flowers of Ramsbury book as a companion to our sell-out Birds of Ramsbury, & one statistic that surprised me is the number of grasses recorded from the parish: 56 species & counting! I found a new one yesterday, the Hare's-tail grass. To many people, grass is just grass. Yet nearly every species can be identified in the field at least when in flower (& some experts can ID grass from leaves alone). It helps that grasses have distinct habitats. Those of a dry bank are quite different to those of a wet meadow, & different again to a woodland ride. What's more, our native grasses are being joined by aliens springing up from bird seed, with road gutters a favourite place! That's the charm of botanising in a village: you never know what will turn up next. Sedges are easily mistaken for grasses, being mostly green - we have another 20 species of those! Plant biodiversity is alive & well in Ramsbury!

BIRD NOTES by Paul Swan

The last few weeks have been dominated by many young birds fledging & leaving the nest. We were surprised & delighted that the wrens nested in our nest box for the 4th year running. The parents have been feeding the 4 youngsters at close to 5-minute intervals for the last 2 weeks. They have now left the nest & are hiding under a hedge while the parents are continuing to feed them. The sparrows fledged earlier & the flock has more than trebled as the youngsters join in their raids. A real treat was to hear young tawny owls sitting high in a nearby tree, beseeching their parents to keep up the food supply. They will not start hunting until August & will only be fully independent in September. A long haul for the parents. The 2 main bridges at Seven Bridges have been rebuilt & are fully open. That area continues to be one of our richest habitats. Most of the warblers are still there, & we finally had a sighting of a kingfisher, which always takes the breath away. We have seen both male & female cuckoo in that area, although it won't be long before they are off again. They will be leaving several young to the care of their foster parents & will never meet their offspring. One of nature's oddities.

RAINFALL by Robert Osmond

Following a dry April we had a dry May. Rainfall for the two months was 34 mm, well below the average 114.35 mm. Not a good time for a dry spell when so many crops are planted. So far June has made up for some of the shortfall with above average rainfall by the 11th. Hopefully crops will be OK if the old saying "a dry May & dripping June puts everything in tune" is correct!

Recreation Centre 200 Club -To join, contact Ian Smith on 07977 473975 or oldtiff@hotmail.co.uk
June winners: £100 Lynne Coplestone, £50 each David Langton, Gillian Hill, Michelle Carrington, Margaret

Swan, Sharon Greasley & £25 each Rupert Stephenson, Mike Allman, Sarah Condie, John Barker, Colin Diss & Pip Coid. £60/year to join. Funds split 50/50 between prizes & the Recreation Centre.

Ramsbury Bowls Club

Ramsbury & Aldbourne Bowls Club home matches July. Visitors welcome, undercover or greenside seating, refreshments available.

1 st Wantage 6.15pm	13 th Purton 2.00pm	27 th Royal Wootton Bassett
4 th Cricklade 10.30am	15 th Milton Hill 6.15pm	and Highworth both at 2.00pm
6 th Wroughton 2.00pm	18 th Avon 10.30am	

Ramsbury WI

2nd July 7pm Church Rooms. Victoria Walsh talking about her recent biography of Rena Stewart, a truly remarkable woman who spent the war at Bletchley Park, sent to Germany post-war to translate Nazi officers' statements, & later enjoyed a stellar career at the BBC World Service. Visitors welcome. Enquiries to 520908 or 520261. 16th July 10.30am onwards, coffee morning at the Royal British Legion.

LINK

3rd July 10.30am free LINK coffee morning for clients & drivers in the British Legion café. The Tea party June 5th was enjoyed by about 45 clients & drivers. Thank you to all who made cakes & helped organise it. LINK helps with lifts for medical appointments, shopping, hairdresser etc. 3 new drivers joined us recently, we can always use more! Being a driver is not onerous; you can give as much or as little time as you like. We pay 55p/mile & expenses for light refreshments on long trips. We are very grateful to our drivers without whom LINK could not function. If you need a lift or want to join the team, ring Penny on 520111

Bella Voce

4th July Summer Concert "All That Jazz" Holy Cross Church. Doors open 7.00pm, 7.30 start. Favourite jazz songs, refreshments & raffle. Adults £10, accompanied under 16s free. Tickets from Ramsbury Post Office.

Ramsbury Royal British Legion

Bingo every Wednesday 7.30pm, except 15th when Bingo will start at 6.30pm

4th July 8pm Live music the Singing Keeper

9 July 9pm & 10 July 8pm World Cup quarter final matches

14 July 8pm & 15th July 8pm World Cup semi-final matches

19 July 8pm World Cup final

31 July 7pm Pool competition

Holy Cross & St. Michael's Axford

5 July Trinity 5 10.00am Baydon Team Holy Communion

12 July Trinity 6 9.30am Ramsbury BCP Matins (traditional language)

19 July Trinity 7 9.30am Ramsbury Holy Communion with Seedlings activity for children

26 July Trinity 8 8.00am Ramsbury BCP Communion (traditional language) 9.30am Café Church

Methodist Church

5th July 10.30am Service led by Deacon Stephen Roe.

12th July 10.30am Action for Children, service led by Local Preacher.

19th July 10.30am Holy Communion service led by Revd Stephen Skinner.

26th July 10.30am service led by Revd Geoffrey Floyd.

Coffee morning in our garden at 6 Whitehill Close every Thursday (2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, & 30th) 9.30 a.m.

Ramsbury Flyer

Flyer trips - Please ring Janet for more information & to book on 01672 520682 or 07584 253117

6th July 10am: Leekes or Whitehall Garden Centre, Melksham, £12

20th July Houghton Lodge Gardens & C18th Cottage Orne, £12 plus entry

New Hungerford Timetable now in place Wednesdays: collect from Froxfield 9.25am to Hungerford.

Collect all Ramsbury stops from 10.05am, then Chilton Foliat & Hungerford. Return from Tesco to Froxfield 11.20am, then from Tesco to Ramsbury 11.50 am

Fridays: collect from Froxfield at 9.20am direct to Hungerford. Collect from all Ramsbury stops from 10.05am, to Chilton Foliat & Hungerford. Return to Froxfield at 10.45am & to Ramsbury at 11.50am, both from Tesco. Passengers from Aldbourne may go to Hungerford on Fridays (but must book their seat with Janet), & will be collected at 9.52am & returned from Tesco at 11.50.

Bedwyn Music Society Summer Concerts

10TH July, 7.00 pm Beethoven piano trios. The Paddington Trio, violin, cello, piano. St. Mary's Church, Great Bedwyn, Tickets £15 at the door. Sponsored by the Kirckman Trust.

Saturday, 11th July, 7.00 pm. The Paddington Trio, the balance of the Beethoven Piano trios, St. Peter's Church, Marlborough.

Holy Cross Violin Concert

17th July, Friday, 7pm, Holy Cross. Violinist Sarah Off plays musical meditations on nature by Jennifer Higdon, Dylan Fixmer, Kohei Kondo, Paul Elwood, Kenji Bunch & Jessie Montgomery. With Dylan Fixmer, piano, Alice Simmons, voice. Including music inspired by Savernake & Skellig Michael.

Tickets/info: alicepsimmons@gmail.com/Eventbrite

Lunch Club

Lunch Club is Wednesday 15th July, 12 noon, Church Rooms, Back Lane. We take a break in August.

Parish Council

At time of writing, we haven't heard the result of the first round of the Best Kept Village competition, judging delayed by hot weather. What we hope is good news about the closure of the fire station-there has been movement towards a stay of execution which was what we requested- but final decision on June 30th. A defibrillator has been installed in the phone box in Whittonditch Road. PC funds consumables but we are grateful to David Arnold & his team for administering them & doing the necessary checks to ensure that they remain viable. New emergency generators have been installed at the Memorial Hall & Axford Village Hall. Memorial garden & tubs planted by Mary Holdsworth & Sheila Glass with plants supplied by Paul New-thanks to Erica Hodgson for help in moving the tubs. Mid-June 2 bags of garden rubbish left at the top of Union Street were removed by a socially minded resident & on 10th June someone cut off & left flowerheads from a pot on display in the High Street-neither event world shattering but mindless stupidity which is totally unnecessary. You know who you are! PC monthly walk on Sunday July 5th is to Aldbourne(almost) & back via Loves Copse - 4.5miles meet in the Square at 2pm. No walk in August.

Monday 20th July 7.45pm Parish Council meeting in the Memorial Hall. All welcome.

Thank You from Sheila Glass In May I retired as Chairman of the Parish Council after 25 years in the post. I will continue to be a Parish Councillor. Before the AGM May 18th a small gathering of several people said some very kind words. Unbeknownst to me a collection had been organised in the village & I was presented with £1,900. A huge thank you to those who contributed & to those who have subsequently written to me. I have not yet decided what to buy with the money but it will almost certainly be garden focussed. It doesn't seem like 25 years since I first became Chairman, during that time there were 5 clerks & many councillors- I'd like to thank all of them (& Di Barnett vice chair for many years) for their help & support. I hope to continue to serve on the council for some years to come under new Chair Diann Barnett & vice chair Helen Lloyd.

Allotments

There are still some half plots, £40 pa, & beds, £15pa, available. If you would like an allotment, please contact John Cody 07901692754 or Denise Edwards 07867921878

Ramsbury Community Charity Shop

The shop continues to do well. The payout in May to each of the six organisations who manned the shop last quarter brings the total given out since we opened to almost £150,000. We are fortunate to have Paul New's plants in the summer months & we have rusting plant supports made by Clive Glass -gardening doesn't have to be expensive, come & check our prices. Also, wet suits, sand pit toys, BBQ items & lots more. Thanks as ever to our volunteers & those who help behind the scenes.

Ramsbury Roxy – taking a break in July

ADVANCE NOTICES

Saturday 1st August: Ramsbury Horticultural Summer Show 2-4pm.
Schedules from Post Office, Charity Shop or hortsoc@ramsbury.org

Edited by Dawn Gill

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