

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div> <b>Link Scheme</b>  Mon – Fri 9 -5  Tel 520111 </div>	<div> <b>Charity Shop</b>  Tue, Wed, Thur &amp; Sat 10 – 12.30  Tue &amp; Thur 2 – 4.30 </div>	<div> <b>Library – Free Internet</b>  Mon 2–4 Wed 10–12, Thur 2-4  Sat 10–12 noon </div>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Hort Soc Summer Show Mem Hall 2-4pm		
<b>3</b> See text for church services Beth's 30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	<b>4</b> Cake & Co Aldbourne Methodist Chapel	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> WI Meeting 7pm Church Room	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> See text for church services	<b>11</b> Flyer Trip Goring-on-Thames	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> See text for church services	<b>18</b> Parish Council Meeting 7.45pm Mem Hall	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> WI coffee morning RBL 10.30am	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> See text for church Services	<b>25</b> August Bank Holiday	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> <u>Every Sunday</u> Holy Cross Church see text for services <hr/> Methodist Church see text for services <hr/> Tennis Club 10.00am	<u>Every Monday</u> Short Mat Bowls Mem Hall 1.45-4pm	<u>Every Tuesday</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tue Art Group Church Room 10-1pm <hr/> Flyer to <b>Marlborough</b> <hr/> Bowls club 5.45pm bowling green	<u>Every Wednesday</u> Flyer to <b>Hungerford</b>	<u>Every Thursday</u> Coffee Morning Lychgate 9.30am <hr/> Phoenix Pizza Memorial Hall 4.45-8pm <hr/> Bowls club 5.45pm bowling green	<u>Every Friday</u> Ramsbury Silver Band Axford Village Hall 7.30- 9.30pm <hr/> Flyer to <b>Hungerford</b>	<u>Every Saturday</u> Junior Football 10.00am <hr/> <b>August 2025</b>



# Ramsbury and Axford Village Diary

## August 2025

May we have items for the next diary before the 17th of the month.

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



**Sustainable option - read me @ [www.ramsbury.org.uk](http://www.ramsbury.org.uk) – Parish Mags - Diary**

### **Nature Notes by Peter Marren**

It was a delight to see butterflies returning in good numbers after their (for many species) disastrous season last year. I counted eight Peacocks at a time on my small garden buddleia, and twenty or more on patches of thistle and knapweed on the way to Littlecote. These butterflies are the fresh progeny of Peacocks that survived the winter in hibernation and laid their eggs in the spring, in batches on the back of stinging nettle leaves. In this warm, sunny weather, they have emerged earlier than usual, for their normal time is mid to late July. The Comma butterfly too (named after the white comma mark on their underwings) has enjoyed a good season. Those emerging early around midsummer are noticeably bright, like a fritillary. This form, known as *hutchinsoni*, is named after a Victorian lady, Emma Hutchinson, who reared this butterfly in large numbers and worked out their life cycle. The later forms, which was out by July, are noticeably darker. While Peacocks seem to like purple or lilac-coloured flowers, Commas enjoy bramble blossom. A third butterfly which was around in good numbers in July is the Large (or Cabbage) White. Cover up your cabbages! (though its bright, toxic, caterpillars like Nasturtiums even more).

The flowers of late summer were already out by early July, often in a sea of parched grass. On the downs there are clumps of blue scabious and masses of purple knapweed, both of which are full of nectar and loved by butterflies. Some places were a drift of powdery yellow formed by lady's bedstraw, which has a vanilla-like scent detectable on warm, humid evenings. By the river, the powder-puffs of meadowsweet dominated parts of the bank, along with the lilac spikes of marsh woundwort, a relative of mint. In places the kidney-shaped leaves of Butterbur, born on rhubarb-like stalks, formed a waist-high forest, like giant green mushrooms. These huge leaves were once used to wrap butter, the idea being that transpiration (water vapour) from the leaves forms a cool, almost refrigerated layer around the butter. If you spot a ragwort, look for a caterpillar with orange and black stripes, like a football jersey. This is the young stage of the Cinnabar moth, a pretty pink, day-flying moth which was on the wing earlier in the year.

### **Bird Notes by Paul Swan**

As I write, the swifts are screaming overhead in the clear blue sky. They seem to have done well this year, with over twenty now in the flock. A friend has them nesting in their roof space, just above the bathroom. They have had the special pleasure of seeing the youngsters inside the window! Gentle rescue required. We have rescued a fledgling sparrow from inside our dining room and an equally young dunno that had fallen into a garden barrel. They were both welcomed by anxious and noisy parents not far away.

The swallows and house martins also seem to have had a good year. There are large flocks of both species to be seen at Littlecote. The swifts will be the first to leave later this month, followed by the house martins and swallows. The cuckoos were here later than usual but are now well on their way south.

The Seven Bridges area continues to be a rich source of great sightings with a couple of families of reed warblers, as well as grasshopper, garden, and sedge warblers. There is a resident great whitethroat, as well as blackcaps, tree creepers and nuthatches. Nearby there are fledgling grey wagtails, a family of swans and kingfishers that must have nested in the area.

### **Rainfall by Robert Osmond**

Comparisons are being made between our current dry spell and 1976. Looking back through the records there is a remarkable similarity.

In 1976 rainfall in Ramsbury for February, March, April, May and June was 156mm. For the same period this year it is 171mm. The 1976 dry spell continued through July and August, finally breaking in September when there was 104.14mm of rain. Our current dry spell is continuing through July, hopefully it will end soon!

## **Recreation Centre 200 Club**

Here are the 200 Club results for July: - £100 to Geoff Doel, £50 to each of Mike Barrett, Rodney Owen-Jones, Erica Hodgson, Rodney McMahon and Jen Stoye, and £25 to each of John Barker, Muriel Lye, Anthony Francis, Alice Charlwood, Rupert Stephenson and Trevor Hunter.

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

Services are held in Holy Cross, Ramsbury (unless otherwise noted).

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August: 11:00am Team Holy Communion - with Bishop Stephen (followed by lunch in the Church Rooms).

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August: 9:30am Matins (traditional language).

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August: 9:30am Holy Communion.

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August: 8:00am Holy Communion (traditional language) 9:30am Cafe Church.

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August: 9:30am Summer Songs of Praise

Come and celebrate our Rector Beth's 30th anniversary of ordination on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August at 11am in Holy Cross. This will be followed by lunch in the Church Rooms. All are welcome to this special event. The Bishop of Salisbury, The Right Revd Stephen Lake will be with us to lead the celebration and will also recommission our Lay Worship Leaders.

Don't forget our monthly contemplative service 'Reflective Spaces' in St Michael's, Aldbourne at 7pm on Wednesday 27th August.

Our 5th Sunday service on 31st August is a Summer Songs of Praise.

There is our regular Thursday morning service of Holy Communion at 10am every Thursday this month in Holy Cross.

## **Aldbourne and Ramsbury Methodist Chapel Service**

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 10.30am Service led by Local Preacher.

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August 10.30am Service led by Revd Geoffrey Floyd.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> August 10.30am Service led by Local Preacher.

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August 10.30am Service led by Local Preacher.

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August 10.30am Service led by Revd Stephen Skinner.

All are welcome to join us for our services, remember this church is now your Methodist church.

The Aldbourne churches together Fete was held at the end of June, on a lovely hot summers day, Thank you to all, including the Ramsbury silver band. We raised a grand total of £3,552 after allowing for all expenses. An amazing result!

Coffee Morning every Thursday in the garden at 6 Whitehill Close starts at 9.30am. Join us for coffee and raise funds for our local charities by swapping puzzles and books.

## **Ramsbury WI**

Thursday 7th August monthly meeting 7pm in the Church Rooms, Back Lane. Bruni Walker, the founder of the Vitality Studio in Bath, will be talking about the **Benefits of Laughter** and leading us in a laughter workshop. In Bruni's own words "By laughing we trigger the brain into a feel-good state. We can feel better without drugs or addictive behaviour". Visitors very welcome. Enquiries to 520908 or 520261.

Thursday 21st August coffee morning at the Royal British Legion, 10.30am onwards.

## **Lunch Club**

Lunch Club will be on summer holidays over August. The first meeting for next term will be 3rd September.

## **LINK**

Don't forget we run a FREE coffee morning on the first Friday of each month for drivers and clients - for a lift ring Penny on 520111. LINK can give lifts for medical appointments, shopping, hairdresser etc. Ring Penny for details.

Without our wonderful drivers LINK couldn't operate and we always need more. If you would like to help us ring Penny for details - 45p a mile and light refreshments on a long trip.

## **Ramsbury Roxy**

Roxy is taking a summer break, back on 19th September. NT live will present 'Inter Alia', a new play by Suzie Miller.

## **Flyer Outings - available to all local villages**

Monday 11th August: Goring-on-Thames: a picturesque riverside setting, with charming shops: perfect for a day out! £15 fare, leaving at 9.30am.

4th September: Flyer lunch at the Tally-Ho, with Carena and Vanessa.

18th September : Aston Pottery for the flowers, plus lovely shop and very nice cafe: amended details: £20 to include cream tea : leaves 1pm.

9th October: trip to Filkins to visit the Cotswold Woollen Weavers shop and café.

20th October: Studley Grange: garden centre, animals, cafe : leaving 11am 3 November: Westonbirt.

6th November : Marlborough Flower Club Christmas demonstration: Minal: £6 entrance.

Full timetable details are posted in shops, notice boards, post offices and on [www.ramsburyflyer.org](http://www.ramsburyflyer.org): details of trip times are for Ramsbury.

Please ring Janet for more information and to book on 01672 520682 or 07584 253117

Surgery transport is available on Tuesday pm and Thursday am. Book via the Receptionist at the Surgery.

## **Ramsbury Community Charity Shop**

We have come to the end of Paul's lovely plants for this year. Thanks to him for sharing them with us. Thanks also to Joan Edwards who ran a jigsaw stall for us at the Street Fair and raised over £70 - all in £1 and £2 sales! Lots of things to take on holiday-wet suits, flippers, books, jigsaws. Also the usual toys, cookery equipment, tennis rackets, toiletries and some lovely glass and ceramics. Come and take a look - you may find something that you didn't know you need! Without all the wonderful volunteers from the organisations which benefit from the shop we couldn't keep running so thanks to all of you. Sheila Glass Mary Holdsworth

## **Parish Council**

At the June meeting George Hawes, who retired in May after serving for over 30 years on the Parish Council, was thanked for his long service and presented with a card and a leaving present. Following the retirement of George Hawes, Helen Lloyd has agreed to take his place as a PC rep on the Hall Trustees.

The Parish Council agreed to go ahead with replacement speed indicator devices and purchase of a climbing net pyramid and zipline for Whittonditch play area.

Hopefully white gates at the village entrance on Newtown Road will alert drivers that there may be pedestrians and with the speed indicator nearer the village, will make some contribution to speed reduction. There will be no monthly walk in August.

The Parish Council will organise CPR training in the Autumn. If you would be interested in taking part please contact [parishcouncil@ramsbury.org](mailto:parishcouncil@ramsbury.org) or 520045

The PC has adopted the telephone box in the High Street. Both it and the box in Whittonditch Road will be painted soon.

We came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the first round of the Large Village category of Best Kept Village. Congratulations to those who keep the village looking clean and tidy.

In July Parish Stewards cleared weeds and filled potholes around the village. No visit in August. If you notice anything that they could address please contact the clerk as above with items for September.

**Wiltshire Connect** has been extended to Ramsbury. Leaflets in the PO and posters give details of the service which is an excellent alternative to present bus services. Fares £2 up to 5 miles, £3 over 5 miles.

Looking for funding for your organisation? Marlborough Area Board has grants of up to £3,000 for projects. See [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk) for details - search area board grants.

PCSO Melissa Camilleri will be in the British Legion on Friday August 8th 11am to noon. If you have matters that you wish to raise or require advice please come along and speak to her.

The Parish Council can co-opt two Councillors. If you are interested in volunteering contact the clerk as above. See the village website [www.ramsbury.org.uk](http://www.ramsbury.org.uk) for news of events and Parish Council meetings. Next meeting on Monday 18th August at 7.45pm in the Memorial Hall.

## **Advanced Notices**

Friday 19th September

Ramsbury Roxy, NT live, Memorial Hall

Saturday 20th September

Church Concert, Holy Cross