

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Charity Shop</b> Tue, Wed, Thur & Sat 10 – 12.30. Tue & Thur 2 – 4.30	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Blue top wheelie-bins & Black boxes emptied	<b>3</b> Flyer to Marlborough	<b>4</b> Local elections Flyer to IKEA WI meeting	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> Bowls Club open day	<b>8</b> RHS meeting Church rooms 7.45pm	<b>9</b> Black & Green top wheelie-bins/ Orange bags emptied	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Flyer to Newbury	<b>12</b> Ramsbury Roxy Memorial Hall 7.15 for 8pm	<b>13</b> Spring Plant Sale Millstream High Street 10 am to 12 noon
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Parish Council Meeting, AGM and Annual Parish Assembly	<b>16</b> Blue top wheelie-bins & Black boxes emptied	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Bedwyn Music Society Concert	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Black & Green top wheelie-bins/ Orange bags emptied	<b>24</b> Flyer to Marlborough	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Ramsbury & Wanborough Surgery Carers Roadshow	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Blue top wheelie-bins & Black boxes emptied	<b>31</b>	<b>Flyer to Hungerford</b> The Square Every Wed 10.06am Fri 10.16am	Ramsbury & Axford <b>Link Scheme</b> Mon-Fri 9 – 5 Tel 520111	<b>Ramsbury Library</b> <b>Free internet</b> Mon 2-5pm. Wed 10-12pm Thur 2-5pm Sat 10-12
<u>Every Sunday</u> Holy Cross See notices  Methodist Church See notices  Tennis Club 10.am  Crown & Anchor Quiz Night 8.30pm	<u>Every Monday</u> Short Mat Bowls Memorial Hall 4 – 6pm	<u>Every Tuesday</u> Over 60s exercise Memorial Hall 10.30am Painting Group 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays Church Room 10-1pm	<u>Every Wednesday</u> Ramsbury Lambs Mem Hall 9.30 to 11.30 Training Band Methodist Church 6.45pm Senior Band 7.45pm Axford Village Hall Bingo 2 <sup>nd</sup> and last Wednesday 7.30pm	<u>Every Thursday</u> Short Mat Bowls Memorial Hall 10am - 12 noon Royal British Legion Club - Bingo 8pm	<u>Every Friday</u> Senior Band Rehearsal Methodist Church 7.30pm	<u>Every Saturday</u> Junior Football 10am  <b>May 2017</b>

**Electronic Diary**

The Village Diary is available on the Ramsbury website every month. See [www.ramsbury.org](http://www.ramsbury.org) – What's on - Village Diary



# Ramsbury and Axford Village Diary

## May 2017



May we have items for the June diary before 17 May.  
They may be left at the Post Office or sent to [diary@ramsbury.org](mailto:diary@ramsbury.org)

### NATURE NOTES *by Rosie Pauline*

This is the month when the hawthorn will start to replace the blackthorn (sloe) which in mid April is now largely over. With dry weather for the first half of April we have been able to enjoy some grand spring blossom in our gardens. The temperature may have been variable but with no really hard frosts the flowers on the camellias and azaleas have not been spoilt. Will the blossom on the fruit trees be able to set or have they been harmed by a few slight frosts? Only time will tell.

The bees have been busy on the sunny days visiting the spring flowers and queen wasps seem to be more numerous than usual this spring. I usually get one or two in my house in spring but this year ten have come in and they are not good at getting out again. We don't like them being around when eating outdoors especially when they get drunk when feeding on ripening fruit. Earlier in summer they feed on some of the insect pests, so they do some good. Only the queens survive the winter, then much like the honey bee a nest is built up in roofs or other sheltered places. It looks much like a swarm of bees are hanging from a tree branch. It is built up of wood shavings and a new nest is made each year as they do not return to last year's creation.

Several types of butterflies can be seen on sunny days. The ones that hibernate as adults or as caterpillars. Ones that come from the continent don't survive until later in the year, such as the Painted Ladies whose numbers vary from year to year.

Earlier in the month I received a report of a muntjac visiting a garden in Back Lane; not altogether desirable as they can be destructive to roses and other plants.

It is good to have fine weather but if our seeds are to germinate rain is needed as the soil is getting rather dry. May it come at night.

### BIRD NOTES *by Paul Swan*

The first swallows arrived at the end of March, a few days earlier than in previous years. Most of the inbound warblers are now here, and one of the loveliest songs comes from the blackcap. This morning we were serenaded by a pair of them in Burnt Wood. Later on the walk, we were surprised by the sight of a tawny owl being mobbed by crows and at the end of the walk delighted by the 'cronks' of a pair of ravens.

On Spring Hill the skylarks are singing their hearts out in the bright sunshine, while red kites and buzzards wheel above. We have had regular sightings of a kestrel which is pleasing as they seem to be in decline.

In the garden the bird feeders are busy. Some birds are already feeding young, while some are still building nests. A female blackbird entertained me as it ripped small pieces from a length of twine attached to the garden fence. After three visits, it had taken over a metre of twine back to the nest.

I have had reports of a juvenile robin out and about, as well as some early house martins nearby. I have yet to hear the cuckoo, but have just received a report of one being heard in the valley at Axford.

### RAINFALL

Rainfall for the month of March was 1.89 inches (48.1mm), average 2.16 inches (54.86mm)

### ***Newcomers' Welcome Pack***

Please contact Penny Furbisher, 47 High Street, tel 521187 if you are new to the village and have not received a copy.

### ***Prospect Hospice Open Gardens***

Would you open your garden for Prospect hospice? Yes? Please call 01793 816161 for more information.

## **Ramsbury and Axford Parish Beating the Bounds - Boundary Walk**

**Sunday 30 April** Start at the Square at 6.45-7.15am for 7.30 start or join at various points through the day (see board in the Square). Transport provided but please arrive at Crooked Soley crossroads by 7.15am under your own steam if possible. 23 miles through beautiful countryside, some of it only open for the day. Full details of timings and more information on the leaflet available in the Post Office and on [www.ramsbury.org](http://www.ramsbury.org). Free bottles of water at all stops and refreshments at Preston and Stitchcombe courtesy of Peter and Veena Nandha. Bacon butties courtesy of Scouts at 10am (£2.50 each correct change please). Tea and cakes at 5pm courtesy of Preschool. No charge for tea and cakes but donations welcome. Young children **MUST** be accompanied by an adult on the walk. Sorry no dogs.

## **Recreation Centre 200 Club April results**

£100 to Jill Doore, £50 each to Dennis White, Dave Smith, John Lewis, Paul Swan and Louise Andrew, £25 each to Meg Boyle, John Eastlake, Peter Kearns, Michael Franklin, Rachel Byfield and Liz Hawes. 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 Yoga**

Classes on Tuesday evenings and Friday mornings in the village. Stretch, strengthen, tone and relax. We are a very friendly group of mixed age, gender and ability. Newcomers are very welcome to try a session. Please call Amanda on 01672 841267 or 07823 886695 or email [info@trescohouse.com](mailto:info@trescohouse.com) for details.

## **Susan Kirkman and Arran Miles Open Studio**

Susan Kirkman and Arran Miles Open Studio at Witcha Cottage and garden on Saturdays and Sundays (and on Monday 1 May) from 29 April to 21 May 11am to 5pm. More details in the Post Office, or phone 520429

## **Ramsbury Flyer**

Wednesday 3 May Flyer to **Marlborough** calling at Chilton Foliat at 1pm (booking required), Ramsbury at 1.10pm and Aldbourne at 1.25pm. Returning from Marlborough at 2.40pm. Bus passes may be used.

Thursday 4 May outing to **IKEA at Reading**. Departing the Tree at 11.30am. Fare £10. Booking required.

Thursday 11 May Flyer to **Newbury** departing the Tree at 11.30am and returning from Newbury at 2.30pm. Fare £4. Booking required.

Wednesday 24 May Flyer to **Marlborough** calling at Chilton Foliat at 1pm (booking required), Ramsbury at 1.10pm and Aldbourne at 1.25pm. Returning from Marlborough at 2.40pm. Bus passes may be used.

Thursday 1 June outing to **Bowood**. Departing the Tree at 11.30am. Fare £10. Booking required.

Booking number 07584253117.

## **Wiltshire Council Unitary Elections & Town & Parish Elections**

Thursday 4 May Polling stations open 7am to 10pm

## **Ramsbury WI**

Thursday 4 May. Discussion and vote on the NFWI AGM Resolutions followed by a talk "Prospect Hospice – New Developments" by Mike Kennedy. 7.30pm in the Church Rooms. Visitors welcome. Enquiries to 520501 or [WI@ramsbury.org](mailto:WI@ramsbury.org).

## **Holy Cross and St. Michael's Axford Services**

Sunday 7 May 10am **Baydon** Team Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 14 May 8am Ramsbury Holy Communion (BCP), 9.30am Ramsbury Informal Morning Worship

Sunday 21 May 9:30am Ramsbury Holy Communion (CW), 6pm Ramsbury Evening prayer (BCP)

Thursday 25 May Deanery Ascension Day Service 7.30pm St Mary, **Marlborough** Holy Communion

Sunday 28 May 9:30am Ramsbury Matins (BCP) {CW: *Common Worship*; BCP: *Book of Common Prayer*}

## **Methodist Church**

Sunday 7 May 10.30am joint service led by Rev Tony Barnes at Ramsbury.

Sunday 14 May 10.30am Local Preacher service at Aldbourne.

Tuesday 16 May Bible Study at 2.30pm . All are Welcome.

Sunday 21 May 10.30am Aldersgate United Service at St. Michaels at Aldbourne.

Sunday 28 May 10.30am All age Worship led by Rev Heather Cooper at Aldbourne.

Coffee Morning with Charity or Card Stall every Thursday from 9am .

We need volunteers to help at the Coffee Centre to make coffee. If you have time on your hands on Thursdays morning please come along and join. Contact Julie Coe, senior Church Steward Tel 521085.

## **£5 Notes**

A reminder that on 5 May 2017 the old fashioned cotton paper notes will no longer be legal tender. If you want to swap the old notes over for new tender you will be able to in a bank, building society or Post Office.

## **Ramsbury & Aldbourne Bowls Club Open Day**

Sunday 7 May Bowls Club Open Day starting 10.30am at the Bowling Green, Ramsbury Recreation Centre. This will provide an opportunity to try out a healthy and enjoyable outdoor sport for all ages. Flat shoes such as trainers, deck shoes and sandals will be required. Instruction will be given and refreshments will be available. For further information contact Lyn Cookson 520618 or Keith Evill 520642.

## **Ramsbury Horticultural Society**

Monday 8 May talk on 'Pots for the Patio' at 7.45pm in the Church Rooms, Back Lane, Ramsbury:

Saturday 13 May 10am to 12noon Spring Plant Sale at Millstream, High Street, Ramsbury. (Ramsbury Memorial Hall if wet).

## **Ramsbury Roxy**

Friday 12 May **A United Kingdom** Biography, Drama, Romance Cert 12A. The story of King Seretse Khama of Botswana who causes an international stir in the late 1940s when he marries Ruth Williams, a white woman from London. Stars: Rosamund Pike, Tom Felton, Laura Carmichael, Charlotte Hope, Jack Davenport, David Oyelowo. Tickets £4 in advance from Ramsbury Post Office until 1pm on film day or £4.50 on the door. Doors and bar open at 7.15pm. Show starts at 8pm. Roxy returns on Friday 8 September.

## **Parish Council**

Monday 15 May Parish Council Meeting, AGM and Annual Parish Assembly at 7.45pm in the Memorial Hall. Meetings are open to all.

## **Ramsbury Memorial Hall**

Wednesday 17 May. Ramsbury Memorial Hall AGM will be held in the Lychgate Room at 6pm. Anyone is welcome to attend. Enquiries to Robert Osmond on 520568.

## **Bedwyn Music Society – Summer Concerts**

Friday 19 May – 7.30 pm at St. Mary's Church, Gt. Bedwyn. Trio York with Julian Tear on violin, Richard Tunnickiliffe on cello and John York on piano.

Admission at door: £14 (members £10) children free. Enquiries: Andrew Hutchison 01672 870 970.

## **Ramsbury & Wanborough Surgery Carers Roadshow**

Friday 26 May 2 to 4pm Annual Carers Roadshow at Ramsbury Surgery. Various organisations will be supporting the roadshow and you will be able to find out what services and support is available within the local area. Please pop along to join us for the afternoon, refreshments available.

## **THANKS**

Thanks from **Peter and Veena Nandha** for the presentation made by Sheila Glass on behalf of the residents of Ramsbury at the Village Volunteers evening on 11 March of an engraved silver key ring and bouquet of flowers.

The **Prospect Hospice** collection boxes in the **Crown & Anchor** have recently been emptied. The Sunday Quiz raised £484.55 and the Bar £53.07 a total of £537.62. This makes the grand total raised £18,759.63. Thanks to everyone for their ongoing support.

Many thanks from **Evelyn Smith** to those who have donated their used stamps to her for **Fight for Sight**. These have helped the charity to make incredible progress with treatment and technology over the last 10 years. Shortly Evelyn shall be leaving the village but **Liz Jenkins**, 8 Lawrence Mead, Ramsbury, has kindly agreed to take over. Please deliver your used stamps to Liz in future.

## **ADVANCE NOTICES**

Saturday 17 June 7.30pm **Ramsbury Horticultural Society Rose Evening and Members' Supper** in the Memorial Hall, High Street, Ramsbury.

Sat 10 & Sun 11 June **Aldbourn Open Gardens** 2 - 5pm. £5 for adults, £1 for children. Tickets / maps can be purchased from Aldbourne Post Office or on the day from The Old Bakehouse, West Street, Aldbourne.

**Edited by John Herbertson**

**Printed by Whitton Benefice, Ramsbury**