

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Flyer to Hungerford The Square every Wed 10.06 am Fri 10.16 am	Ramsbury & Axford Link Scheme Mon-Fri 9 – 5 Tel 520111	Ramsbury Library Free internet Mon 2-5pm. Wed 10-12pm Thur 2-5pm. Sat 10-12	1 Flyer to <u>Marlborough</u> Lunch Club	2 Ramsbury WI Church Rooms 7.30pm	3	4 Treloar's Spring Fair
5 Boundary Walk	6 RAGS Ramsbury Trophy at Marlborough	7 Black & Green wheelie-bins/ Orange bags emptied	8	9 Flyer to Newbury	10 Ramsbury Roxy Memorial Hall 7.15 for 8pm	11 <u>RHS Plant Sale</u> RRC Auction of Promises
12 Tennis Club Open Day 10.30am - 2.15pm	13	14 Blue top wheelie-bins & Black boxes emptied	15 Flyer to <u>Marlborough</u> Lunch Club	16 Flyer outing to Milestones Museum	17 Royal British Legion Music quiz 8pm	18
19 Friends of Holy Cross Garden Party 2 to 5pm	20 Parish Council meeting 7.45pm Memorial Hall	21 Black & Green wheelie-bins/ Orange bags emptied	22	23	24 Ramsbury Roxy Memorial Hall 7.15 for 8pm	25
26	27	28 Blue top wheelie-bins & Black boxes emptied	29 Lunch Club	30	31 Bedwyn Music Society Concert Great Bedwyn	Charity Shop Tue, Wed, Thur & Sat 10 – 12.30. Tue & Thur 2 – 4.30
<u>Every Sunday</u> Holy Cross See notices Methodist Church See notices Tennis Club 10.am Café Bella Quiz Night 8pm	<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 st and 3 rd Tuesdays Church Room 10-1pm Bowls Club open evenings 6 pm at the Bowling Green	<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 nd and last Wednesday 7.30pm	<u>Every Thursday</u> Short Mat Bowls Memorial Hall 10am - 12 noon Royal British Legion Club - Bingo 8pm Bowls Club open evenings 6 pm at the Bowling Green	<u>Every Friday</u> Senior Band Rehearsal Methodist Church 7.30pm Seated Sports Church Rooms 11 am - 12 noon	<u>Every Saturday</u> Junior Football 10am May 2019



Ramsbury and Axford Village Diary

May 2019



May we have items for the June diary before 10 May.
They may be left at the Post Office or sent to diary@ramsbury.org

NATURE NOTES by *Peter Marren*

March and April are a great time for a nature diary. I like to record the dates when things first appear: the first returning summer birds, the opening of flowers and leaf-buds, the increased activity of insects as the weather grows warmer and the days longer. This year I found frog spawn in a nearby ditch on 18th March (which had hatched into tadpoles by April); primrose – the *prima rosa* or ‘first flower’ - fully out by the same date; bud-burst on the willow bushes by the third week in March; blackthorn coming into flower by the fourth week; and at the same time increased numbers of bumblebees and mining bees busy collecting pollen from the dandelions.

April is the time when you are likely to see violets flowering on the woodbanks and along the shaded lanes, but which violet is it? If you see violets in February they are bound to be the Sweet Violet – the one with the sweet scent. The flowers are deep purple or white. This one is followed in the second half of March by the slate-purple Early Dog-violet, ‘dog’ because it lacks any scent. As we get into April, the bluish-purple Common Dog-violet starts to replace it. What’s the difference? Easy. Look at the ‘spur’ – the projecting bit at the back of the flower. In the Early Dog-violet it is purple, in the Common one it’s white. Many of our Early Dog-violets are white which, we are told, is rather unusual.

Another wild flower to look out for in April is the Toothwort. It grows on old hazel roots often by wooded paths, and is easily spotted by its curly row of ghostly pinky-white flowers that look a bit like a set of dentures on a stalk. It lacks any green leaves and obtains all the sustenance it needs by tapping the hazel roots. Hence, unlike most plants, it doesn’t need sunlight. If I was giving Eye-spy scores, this one would get a 50.

BIRD NOTES by *Paul Swan*

The spring arrivals have all been turning up recently. The swallows arrived in the first week in April, for the eleventh year running, in spite of the not too special weather. The chiffchaffs and the blackcaps are here and the house martins are reported not far away. We have heard a Cetti’s warbler at the Nature reserve and have been blessed with multiple sightings of the kingfisher at the Triangle.

In the garden the nesting activity is really getting going. We have seen a long-tailed tit collecting feathers for its extraordinary nest, while we have a blackbird and a wren both building nests a few yards apart in our rose trellis. The blackbird is a female and the wren a male. He will build a number of nests and then show them off to the female wren, who will choose the one she sees as ‘the best’. The blackbird has completed the outer nest with twigs, straw and grass and will now line the nest with mud and fine grass. With luck, up to four broods could be born here this year.

Best report of the month was the sighting of three ospreys to the west of the village, heading north. Presumably, these were all males, as they always return to the nest sites a few weeks before the females.

RAINFALL

March rainfall was 68.50 mm, 2.70 ins. Average for month, 54.86 mm, 2.16 ins. A similar pattern to February, first two weeks wet, second two weeks dry, from March 17th, 15 days without measurable rain. This appears to be unusual as the saying goes “March dust is worth a guinea a bushel”!

Best Kept Village competition

Ramsbury has entered the Best Kept Village competition again this year. Karen and Mark Rees are doing a great job chivvying. If everyone did a little bit by clearing weeds and picking up litter etc. the village would be enhanced. Flowers on the doorstep would help. Judging begins in May - a little effort could give us a beautiful village all summer.

Ramsbury Manor paintings on show at the National Gallery & Wallace Collection

Exhibition of the works of Louis-Léopold Boilly, some on loan from Ramsbury Manor, ends 19 May.

Did you spot the Ramsbury April Fool when Oxford Street became Axford St etc?

Recreation Centre 200 Club April Results

£100 to Roger Henry, £50 each to Tony Hopgood, Mike Dyer, Peter Cheney, Sue Crozier and Bob Foale, & £25 each to Cheryl Dyer, Mark Hayley, Sarah Swan, Kirsty Wilson, Lynne Coplestone & David de Saxe. 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

Crown and Anchor

A Bar Tapas menu is now available from 6pm to 9pm and also at lunchtime on Saturday and Sunday.

There is a new pool table and a darts board and our own pub darts team.

Acoustic / Open Mic Night is on Tuesdays from 8pm. Everyone is welcome whether you can sing or not.

Ramsbury Flyer

Wed 1 and 15 May Flyer to Marlborough calling at Chilton Foliat at 1pm (booking required), Ramsbury 1.10pm and Aldbourne at 1.25pm. Returning from Marlborough at 2.40pm. Bus passes may be used.

Thursday 9 May Flyer to Newbury leaving the tree at 11.30am and returning from Newbury at 2.30pm. Please book with Janet Hunter on 520682.

Outings: Thursday 16 May outing to **Milestones Museum**, Basingstoke. Leaving the tree in Ramsbury at 11am. Fare £12.00. Cost of entry: £13 Adult, £12 Concessions.

Monday 3 June outing to **Milletts Farm**, Wantage. Leaving the tree in Ramsbury at 10am. Fare £10.

Lunch Club

Wednesdays 1, 15 and 29 May. Lunch Club meets every two weeks in the Church Rooms, Ramsbury. Anyone interested in joining please contact Diana Trickey on 520630 or Sheila Morgan on 520501.

Ramsbury WI

Thursday 2 May. Ramsbury WI meets in the Church Rooms at 7.30pm. This year's NFWI Resolutions which concern halting the decline of rural bus services and encouraging more women to go for cervical screening will be discussed. Please bring your favourite poem with you because we shall end the meeting with an indoor picnic and poetry reading. Visitors welcome. Enquiries to 520261 or WI@ramsbury.org.

Treloar's Spring Fair

Saturday 4 May Treloar's Spring Fair in the Memorial Hall, Ramsbury at 10am.

Plants, cakes, preserves, raffle, gifts, clothes, children's corner, refreshments. Admission £1 (children free).

Boundary Walk 50th Anniversary

Sunday 5 May Beating the Bounds walk. To mark 50th anniversary of the revival the walk will be done in reverse-starting at Littlecote, ending at the Crown & Anchor. 6.45am from the Square or make your own way to Littlecote by 7.15am-all the usual refreshments so bring some cash. Watch for leaflets and signs.

Holy Cross and St. Michael's Axford

Sunday 5 May 8am Ramsbury Holy Communion (BCP). 10am Aldbourne Team Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 12 May 8am Ramsbury Holy Communion (BCP). 9.30am Ramsbury Informal Morning Worship

Sunday 19 May 9:30am Ramsbury Holy Communion (CW) with visiting speaker Sarah Dorman.

6pm Ramsbury Evening Prayer (BCP).

Sunday 26 May 9:30am Ramsbury Matins (BCP).

10:15am Aldbourne Breakfast Church followed by Informal Morning Worship at 11am.

Thursday 30 May Ascension Day 7:30pm Marlborough Deanery Ascension Service.

{CW: Common Worship; BCP: Book of Common Prayer}

Methodist Church

Sunday 5 May 10.30am Aldbourne Church Anniversary led by Rev Heather Cooper.

Sunday 12 May 10.30am Local Arrangement Christian Aid Service. (Aldbourne)

Sunday 19 May 10.30am Service led by Local Preacher (All Age) (Aldbourne)

Tuesday 21 May Bible study at the home of Rosie Pauline at 2.45pm

Sunday 26 May 10.30am Service led by local Preacher. Aldbourne.

Coffee Morning at the Lychgate every Thursday from 9am. Recent charity donations of £80 each to Bruce Trust, Prospect Hospice, Kennet Community Bus, Ramsbury Surgery, Aldbourne Methodist Church.

Ramsbury & Axford Golf Society

Monday 6 May Ramsbury and Axford Golf Society Ramsbury Trophy at Marlborough Golf Club.

For more details contact John Harrod on 01672 520026 or email johnharrod238@gmail.com

Ramsbury Roxy

Friday 10 May **Edie** Cert 12A Drama. 83 year old Edie believes that it is never too late - packing an old camping bag, leaving her life behind and embarking on an adventure she never got to have - climbing the imposing Mount Suilven in Scotland. Starring: Sheila Hancock.

Friday 24 May **The Greatest Showman** Cert PG Biography, Drama, Music. It celebrates the birth of show business. Starring: Hugh Jackman, Michelle Williams, Zac Efron

Tickets £4 in advance from Ramsbury Post Office and Midway Stores until 1pm on film day or £4.50 on the door. Doors and bar open at 7.15pm, film starts at 8pm.

Ramsbury Horticultural Society

Saturday 11 May 9.30 to 11am Spring Plant Sale at Millstream, High Street, Ramsbury (Memorial Hall if wet). Tea and coffee. (Please deliver donated plants to Millstream on Friday 10 May, 5pm onwards.)

Monday 13 May 7.45pm, Church Rooms, Back Lane, Ramsbury, talk by Charlotte Fyfe on Apples.

The Ramsbury Recreation Centre Auction of Promises

Saturday 11 May The Auction of Promises is virtually sold out but we have a few spaces left. If anyone would like to attend or they would like a brochure please contact Ian Smith at oldtiff@hotmail.co.uk

Tennis Club Open Day

Sunday 12 May open to anyone of any age who would like to come and have a go. You may never have played, or once played years ago but please come along. Times between 10.30am and 2.15pm.

Ramsbury British Legion

Friday 17 May Music quiz. Start 8pm £1 per player no more than 6 in a team.

Friday 24 May 7.30 for 8pm start. £5 per person. Cash prize for the person with the most funny money.

The Friends of Holy Cross Garden Party

Sunday 19 May 2pm to 5pm at Parliament Piece. Open to all. Please come and enjoy some Pimms, afternoon tea, some live Jazz and some entertainment for the children. Entry is £5 but children of Primary School age and under are admitted free of charge.

Parish Council

Monday 20 May Annual meeting followed by the Parish Council meeting in Ramsbury Memorial Hall at 7.45pm. All meetings are open to the public who are very welcome to attend.

Bedwyn Music Society Summer Concerts - St. Mary's Church, Great Bedwyn

Friday 31 May Concert with Jamel Aliyev (Cello) and Maria Tarasewicz (Piano) 7.30pm.

Admission at door: £15 (members £12) Children free. Enquiries to Andrew Hutchison tel 01672 870970

THANKS

The Roberts family would like to thank everyone for their cards, kind words and enormous support during the last few weeks since their loving husband and father Maurice sadly passed away. They have been greatly comforted and very appreciative of the kindness shown by so many people. Marilyn, Chris and Philip.

The Ravensbury Players thank all those who supported us in "A Bunch of Amateurs". It was a joy to put on and we really do appreciate all the assistance and hope our audience enjoyed it as much as we did.

The Café Bella Sunday quiz raised £248.20 for Prospect Hospice in just over 3 months up to 24 March.

ADVANCE NOTICES

Friday 7 June **Ravensbury Players** books and films **quiz night** with light supper in the Memorial Hall. Contact Helen to book a table 07792 047017 / helenm12017@hotmail.com. Teams of up to 8, £10 pp.

Sun 9 June **Ramsbury Airfield Remembrance Project** Commemoration Service at 11am in Burnt Wood and Memorial Dedication service at 12 noon on the main runway followed by reception and exhibition.

Saturday 15 June **Ramsbury Street Fair**. The Silver Band, other live entertainment and lots of games. Kiss's fancy dress procession and an exhibition by the Primary School. Most Village Clubs will have stalls and there are outside Craft Stalls. More Craft stalls are needed so if you want a pitch, contact Ian Smith at oldtiff@hotmail.co.uk - pitches are £15.

Saturday 22 June 7.30pm **RHS Rose Evening and Members' Supper** Ramsbury Memorial Hall.

Saturday 22 June **Ramsbury Tennis Club Family Fun Day**

Sunday 23 June **Axford Open Gardens** 2pm to 5pm + **Concert in St Michael's Church Axford**

Edited by John Herbertson

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