

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| 1 See text for church services | 2 ○ Axford Blue & Black Boxes | 3 | 4 | 5 WI picnic at Ramsbury Hill 12.30 Holy Cross Communion 10am | 6 Horticultural Society show registration 6 – 8pm Memorial Hall | 7 Horticultural Society summer show Memorial Hall opens 2 - 4 pm |
| 8 See text for church services | 9 | 10 Memorial Hall AGM 6pm ○ Blue & Black Boxes □ Household Waste △ Garden Waste | 11 Luncheon Club coffee, cake, chat at the British Legion 10.30 – 12.00 noon | 12 Holy Cross Communion 10am | 13 | 14 |
| 15 See text for church services | 16 Parish Council Meeting Zoom 7.45pm ○ Axford Blue & Black Boxes | 17 | 18 | 19 Holy Cross Communion 10am WI Coffee morning British Legion 10.30am | 20 | 21 |
| 22 See text for church services The Old Mill open gardens | 23 | 24 ○ Blue & Black Boxes □ Household Waste △ Garden Waste | 25 Luncheon Club coffee, cake, chat at the British Legion 10.30 – 12.00 noon | 26 Holy Cross Communion 10am | 27 | 28 |
| 29 See text for church services | 30 ○ Axford Blue & Black Boxes | 31 | Ramsbury & Axford Link Scheme Mon-Fri 9 – 5 Tel 520111 | Flyer to Hungerford Pre-book. The Square Wed 10.16am | Charity Shop Tue, Wed, Thur & Sat 10 – 12.30 Tue & Thur 2 – 4.30 | Library Mon 2 – 4pm Wed 10 – 12 noon Sat 10 – 12 noon |
| <u>Every Sunday</u> Holy Cross See notices Methodist Church See notices Tennis Club 10am by appointment. | <u>Every Monday</u> | <u>Every Tuesday</u> Bowls Club open evenings 6 pm at the Bowling Green | <u>Every Wednesday</u> Ramsbury Lambs Mem Hall 9.30 to 11.30 Fish and Chips MH 4.30-8.30pm | <u>Every Thursday</u> HC Communion 10am Short Mat Bowls Memorial Hall 10am - 12 noon Phoenix Pizza Memorial Hall 5-8pm | <u>Every Friday</u> Ramsbury Silver Band Outside Axford Village Hall Commencing 17 th June 7.30- 9.30pm | <u>Every Saturday</u> Junior Football 10am August 2021 |

The Village Diary is available on the Ramsbury website every month. See www.ramsbury.org.uk – What's on - Village Diary



Ramsbury and Axford Village Diary

August 2021



May we have items for the next diary by the 17th of the month.
Please email to diary@ramsbury.org

Nature Notes by *Peter Marren*

At the height of summer, one hardly knows where to start! This has been a strange year with a frosty April, a washed-out May and a June that divided between drought and downpours. Not surprisingly everything was late, but also, by midsummer, extremely lush. In late June the path below Spring Hill was a beautiful wild garden of orchids and hawkbits, deep pink, lilac and golden-yellow. But with that amount of nectar on offer there should have been more flying insects about, especially bees. All the same there were plenty of marbled white, meadow brown and small tortoiseshells on the hill by early July. Flowering privet was producing its sweet, sickly scent mingling with the scented musk roses at Howe Mill. Dog-roses, pink, white and occasionally crimson, decorated the hedgerows, along with the slightly later-flowering and daintier field briar with pure white flowers. Along the lanes cow parsley was over and replaced by look-alike rough chervil, hogweed and ground elder. The bee orchids at Littlecote have all succumbed to the spraying, unfortunately, but there have been sightings of this exotic, bee-mimicking orchid elsewhere. One of the sounds of early July was roe deer barking from across the valley. The rut has begun!

Bird Notes by *Paul Swan*

For the last few days, we have been entertained by a wren, singing beautifully for hours on end. This is probably a male seeking another partner after fathering a first brood of the year. We have also had regular visits from a robin collecting food and from a group of young long tailed tits, which must have come from a nest not far away.

The cuckoos have finally left us for their journey south. Their young may still be here and will head off when fully fledged. They will never see their parents. Our other summer visitors are still with us, and Peter has recently heard and seen lesser whitethroats near West Lodge. That means that this summer our valley has hosted all of the common warblers, apart from the Dartford warbler.

The swifts now have fully fledged youngsters. And they will be on the wing until they return here next year. Swifts can live for up to twenty years, so these really are 'our' swifts. As you read this, many of the youngsters will have headed south followed by their parents a few days later.

Interesting, reported sightings include a hobby flying over a garden. Looking like a large swift, these birds are most easily identified by their shape and their red 'trousers'. At this time of year this hobby would have been feeding young, and its diet includes young swallows, martins and swifts. The circle of life.

Rainfall by *Robert Osmond*

Rainfall for June was 74mm, well above the average of 61.3mm. It was a month of two halves, with 4.5mm falling up to the 15th and then 69.5mm for the rest of the month.

If thistles are a problem in your garden take heed of this old saying. "Cut a thistle in June it will come again soon; cut a thistle in July it will be sure to die."

Recreation Centre 200 Club

£100 to George Hawes, £50 to each of Penny Willetts, Jill Doore, Jen Stoye, Vicky McCall and Paul Snook, and £25 to each of Lizzie Wilson, Chris Wilson, Katerina McMahon, Caroline Springfield, Sarah Williamson and Colin Diss.

Holy Cross and St. Michael's Axford

Every Thursday 10am Holy Cross - Holy Communion

Sunday August 1st 10:00am Team Communion at Holy Cross (also live-streamed on Zoom)

Sunday August 8th 8:00am Holy Cross - (BCP) Communion

9:30am Holy Cross - Holy Communion

11:30am online ZOOM - Informal Worship

Sunday August 15th 9:30am Holy Cross - Informal Morning Worship

11:30 Holy Cross - Baptism

11:30am online ZOOM - Informal Worship

Sunday August 22nd 9:30am Holy Cross - Matins

11:30am online ZOOM - Informal Worship

Sunday August 29th 8:00am Holy Cross - (BCP) Communion

6:00pm in the Churchyard (weather permitting) Hymns & Pimms!

(inside the church if its wet!)

We continue to hold services attended in Holy Cross each Sunday, but please continue to observe COVID safety measures. We also continue to hold our Parish-wide Zoom service online each Sunday at 11:30am. Refer to details on our website (www.whittonteam.org.uk), Facebook (@WhittonTeamnews) and notices.

Aldbourn Methodist Church Services

Sunday 1st Aug 10.30am Local Arrangement Service.

Sunday 8th Aug 10.30am service led by local Preacher.

Sunday 15th Aug 10.30am United Service at Christchurch Marlborough.

Sunday 22nd Aug 10.30am H/C Service led by Revd Stephen Skinner.

Sunday 29th Aug 10.30am Service led by local Preacher.

Coffee morning occurs every other Thursday and include swapping of books and puzzles and provides an opportunity to catch up with local news. All are welcome to join us.

Ramsbury WI

Our August meeting will be a picnic lunch at Ramsbury Hill on Thursday 5 August at 12.30pm. Please bring your own refreshments plus a chair. We shall also be having a coffee morning at the Royal British Legion Club on Thursday 19 August from 10.30am onwards. Any enquiries to 520908.

Ramsbury Memorial Hall

There will be an AGM in the main hall on Tuesday 10 August at 6pm. This is your opportunity to find out more about this important village amenity and put any questions you may have to the Trustees. Any enquiries to 520568.

Ramsbury Roxy

All being well, Ramsbury Roxy will resume as soon as it is considered safe to do so. Please look out for film details which will be published on posters, our website, mailing lists, etc. Our website is: www.ramsburyroxy.org

Library

Our library has now reopened on reduced hours as follows:

Mondays 2.00-4.00 pm Wednesdays 10.00am to 12 noon Saturdays 10.00am to 12 noon.

Borrowing and returning books will be resumed as previously, but the PCs are not available for use at present. Please respect the measures that are in place to protect yourselves and our volunteers. We look forward to seeing you again!

The Best Kept Village Competition

At the time of writing, a few visitors have been spotted walking around the village with clipboards. Ramsbury is being judged in the last round of the competition.

Horticultural Society

Because lockdown is lifting, we have decided to go ahead with the Summer Show on Sat Aug 7th in the Memorial Hall. We are spreading exhibits over a bigger area, creating more space for movement and viewing. There will be hand sanitizer available, and masks are welcome should you wish. This is the first show since autumn 2019 (22 months ago) so please push the boat out and enter as much as you can and make it a great one. There are categories for everyone - from vegetables to photography, flowers to marmalade! Schedules can be found at the Post Office or on-line at ramsburyhortsoc.co.uk.

Keep an eye out for the Bowls Clubs lovely cakes, available with tea or coffee.

Parish Council

The Parish Council is presently considering quotes for work to some of the pavements in the High Street, we are also in the process of upgrading the PC website and improving communications in the village. Covid 19 is still with us and cases in Wiltshire are increasing. We request that residents continue to wear face coverings in shops and respect social distancing. PC meetings are on the 3rd Monday of the month, at present on zoom please contact the Clerk on parishcouncil@ramsbury.org if you wish to attend.

Hills' Stores Charity Shop

The shop is open for business as usual - we are approaching a milestone of £100,000 distributed since we opened. We need your donations and please come to find a bargain - toys, books, kitchen, garden, plants and lots more.

Advance Notices

Saturday 4th September, Ramsbury WI hopes to start its long-delayed Centenary Celebrations with tea and cake round 'The Tree' from 10.30am till noon. All welcome – please come along and help us celebrate this important milestone. More publicity to follow.

Saturday 18th September, Autumn Fair in aid of Treloar's; Memorial Hall, High Street, Ramsbury, 10.00am to 12 noon (Government Regulations permitting). Contact Hilary Hicklin on 01672 520899 for further information.

Saturday 18th September, an evening of choral and organ music with the clerks of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford and organist Ben Sheen, 18th September 2021 at Holy Cross Church.

Edited by Karen Rees

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