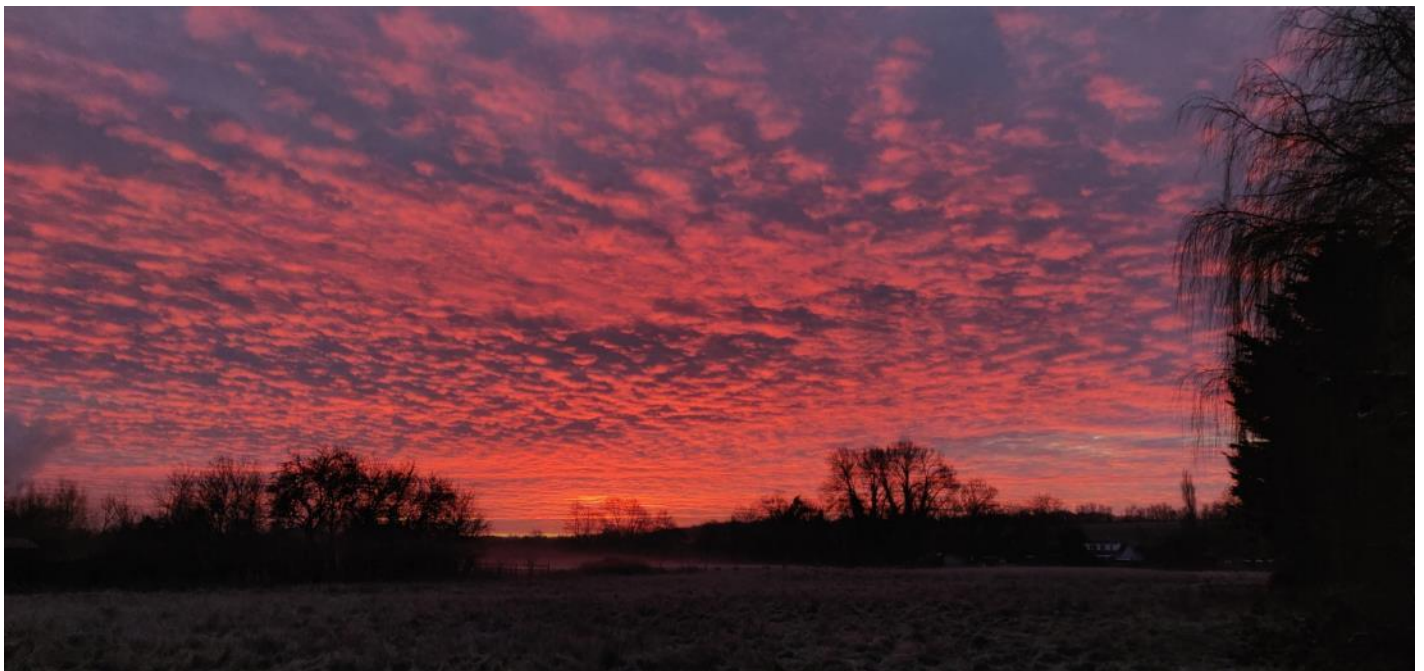


STEVENTON NEWS

ESTABLISHED MAY 1969

January 2023



©Jeanette Davey

Sunrise from the rear of Milton Lane

Dates for January

1 st	Closing date for bookings for Senior Citizens' Party	14 th	Panto tickets on sale
3 rd	First Warm Space Cafe then every following Tuesday	15 th	Senior Citizens' Party
7 th	Panto tickets on sale	17 th	WI Meeting
7 th	Parish Council Meeting	22 nd	Panto tickets on sale
11 th	SARINC meeting	26 th	Darby & Joan meeting
12 th	Darby & Joan meeting	29 th	Panto tickets on sale
		31 st	Closing date for SARINC education grants

Pyjama Appeal - Thank You!!



Thank you so much to everyone who kindly donated pyjamas for the Children's Hospital Pyjamas Christmas appeal. I filled three huge sacks of PJs and delivered these to the John Radcliffe children's hospital (Oxford) in early December, ready for handing out to children to brighten up their Christmas. Thank you again for your generosity! Here's a photo of me (and my slightly grumpy Christmas elf!) delivering the pyjamas. With many thanks, Juliet Nobbs



Truck Festival 2022 fundraising for local and national charities and organisations -

This is an extract from a long media release from the organisers - if you'd like to read more please see their website <https://truckfestival.com/>



Truck in the Community covers a range of fundraising and work opportunities provided by the festival. In 2022 over £100K was raised from the Feel Good Food Tent, which will be divided between 10 local charities to help them with their work within the Oxfordshire, plus another £20K raised through on-site fundraising for the Truck Trust.

The Truck Trust offers financial support to charities and organisations in the Oxfordshire area. £20k raised and donated to the Truck Trust will now be given to 26 Oxfordshire charities to help them continue the vital work they do in

the community. These organisations include; Be Free Young Carers, Oxfordshire Wildlife Rescue, Orchard Counselling and My Life My Choice..

Before last year's event Truck Festival teamed up with the pupils from the school who drew portraits of the 2022 line up, from Sam Fender to Kelis, which were then printed onto tea towels and sold at the event. Raising £500, all profits from the sales were donated to the school alongside a signed version of the tea towel.

Steventon News Contributions and Advertising

Cut off dates for next issue

Contributions for the **February** issue to steventonnews@outlook.com by **Sunday 15 Jan.** please. Advert cut off is 8 Jan. If you do not have access to a computer then please type or write clearly and leave it in the blue folder at the Steventon Co-op counter.

Steventon News Advertising

Ad Prices until 31.03.2023			
Residents			
	12 issues	6 issues	1 issue
1/10th	£47.00	£24.00	£16.00
2/10th	£95.00	£47.00	£24.00
5/10th	£237.00	£119.00	£32.00
Non Residents			
	12 issues	6 issues	1 issue
1/10th	£79.00	£39.00	£16.00
2/10th	£158.00	£79.00	£24.00
5/10th	£395.00	£198.00	£40.00

1/10-page boxed adverts are 5.0 cm high x 8.5 cm wide and 1/5-page ads are 10.2 cm high x 8.5 cm wide.

Steventon News Advertising - formatting

Acceptable digital artwork formats for adverts only include PDF, JPG* and TIFF* (*300ppi at final size). Word files may also be acceptable, e.g. where an ad is text only; other formats on request. We strongly recommend that artworks are designed to fit the space (not stretched or shrunk) and text checked for legibility at final printed size. Please send all enquiries about adverts by email to steventonnews@outlook.com Local events with no entry fee FREE if space available

Important Information - The Editors reserve the right to alter, omit or hold over any item. The views expressed in Steventon News are not necessarily those of the Editors. We will not publish anonymous letters or contributions but will withhold names on request.

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Regular Steventon Village Hall Activities:

Monday

Active Totz MH/AM
Tea Dance MH/PM
Tai Chi MR/PM
Rainbows MH/EVE
Steventon Brownies MR/EVE
Zumba MH/EVE

Tuesday

Zumba Gold/Pilates MH/AM/PM
Short Mat Bowls MH/PM To be confirmed
W.I. MR/EVE
Square Dancing MH/EVE

Wednesday

Line Dancing MH/AM
Slimming World MR/AM/EVE
Zumba MH/EVE

Thursday

Parent and Toddler Play Group 9.30 am - 11.30 am MH
Darby & Joan MH/PM
Betty Bloom Dance Classes MH/MR/PM/EVE
Ringcraft Dog Training 7.30 pm MR
Choral Society MH/EVE

Friday

Pilates MH/PM
Children's Ballet MR/PM/EVE
Steventon Folk Dance MH/EVE(1st Fri)

Key AM = Morning; PM =Afternoon: EVE =Evening; MR = Millennium Room; MH = Main Hall

For more details and exact timings please contact the event organiser or the Hall Booking Secretary.

Halls for hire in the Village

For availability and to book

For Village Hall contact

Booking Secretary Tel: 07561 209421

SteventonVillageHallBookings@gmail.com

For St Michael's Hall contact

The Booking Clerk

Ruth Howard Tel: 01235 831409

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Sat 12pm - 11pm Football on the Green, Live Sport TV

Sun 12pm - 7pm Live Sport on TV

*Club Facilities are available outside above times by prior
arrangement. Speak to Lucy for details*

Dates for Your Diary

Sat 31st New Years Eve (Hours TBC)

January

Sun 1st Jan Membership Renewal (Hours TBC)

Sun 8th Jan Bingo – Tickets on sale from 6pm-
6.45pm
Eyes down 7pm

Mon 9th Jan Extra Opening for Oxford Utd v Arsenal in
the FA Cup – KO 8pm

Live sport on our screens throughout January

*Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with
all that's happening*

Steventon Darby & Joan Club.

I have been told that the Christmas Dinner went very well, food good and the entertainment, Well done all.

On behalf of the members I should say a sincere thank you to the committee and to Audrey our Leader for all the work they put in over the year. I was so sorry that I was unable to be with you.

Our first meeting in the New Year is on Thursday **12th January** 2pm, meet in the Hall when Subs will be due.

Thursday **26th January** meet in the Hall.

Jack Jarvis

Steventon Women's Institute



A very happy, healthy new year. We are looking forward to another year of trips, visits, speakers, lunches,

our various clubs and being with WI friends. Ginny Davis whose talk was 'To the Fringe and Beyond - a barrister and comedienne' was very engaging and her stories of life at the Bar and her performances at the Edinburgh Fringe certainly kept our audience's attention!

Our next speaker is Marie-Louise Kerr who will talk about 'Famous Local Folk - stories behind the blue plaques' on **17 January**. This is the third Tuesday of the month, as are all our meetings. They are held in the Millennium Room at 7.30 pm and everyone is welcome - come along and have a look. You can contact any WI member to arrange to visit or call 01235 833009.

Bus timetable changes

Oxford Bus Co. and Thames Travel are making changes to timetables from 8 Jan. Please check before you travel and wrap up warm!

SARINC (Steventon Allotments and Relief In Need Charity) – 2023

SARINC is a charity which was established in 1987 with two main roles:

- To maintain the allotment site for the villagers of Steventon
- To support any residents or groups within the village who are in need

In December the annual Christmas Lights were switched on and the Charity would like to thank the following for their support of the event:

North Star for hosting us all

Wantage Silver Band for their great musical support

Choir Master Terry Pearce who stepped in to cover for Jack Jarvis

Hayley Leyshon-Brady for switching on our lights

A huge thanks to the Steventon residents who attended and made the evening such a success – we believe a good time was had by all.

The Trustees will next meet to consider grant applications and any other business on **Wednesday 11 January**.

Residents and groups can contact the Clerk or any of the Trustees to discuss any support. All requests will need to complete the Charity's application form, this includes Education Grants, applications are being received for the 2022/2023 academic year, **the closing date for Education Grants is 31 January 2023**

To request an application form, please contact The Clerk or any of the Trustees.

Email info@sarinc.org.uk

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Thank you, Thank you

Steventon Rainbows Christmas Fair !



Rainbows would like to thank all those who supported their Christmas Fair on December 5th. They are delighted to be able to

send £50 to Children in Need.

If you would like to know more about Rainbows, do contact me, or look on line at www.girlguiding.org.uk
Mary Thompson, Rainbow Guider
steventonrainbows@gmail.com

Church Christmas Cards

I would like to say a sincere thank you to those who delivered the Church Christmas Card, it makes life so easy. Yes I do deliver some myself.
Jack Jarvis

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Result 2022

The many people in Steventon and Milton and Milton Heights who generously bought poppies will be pleased to know the final total collected was £5,216 of which over half was from the house-to-house collections. Well done. Huge thanks to all who supported this cause and special thanks to those who tramped around the village streets, also to the pubs and businesses which hosted static collecting tins. In 2020 we collected £4,648 and last year £5,833.

Steventon News

As this is a month for looking back and forward I'd like to say a huge Thank You to the magnificent band of volunteers who helped to get Steventon News put together each month and delivered to every home in the village in 2022. Special thanks to the core team - Martin, Adrian, Dilys and Audrey. Looking forward - if you would like to join in please email steventonnews@outlook.com or call me on 07954 720548
Sue Rees

Coming soon

N.S.P.C.C. Panto Sleeping Beauty

will be performed in Village Hall on Sunday 5th February 2.30pm,
Tuesday 7th, Thursday 9th, Friday 10th all at 7.30pm,
Saturday 11th at 2.30pm and 7.30pm.
Tickets: on sale in the Village Hall 10.30 - 12.00 on

**Saturday 7th, 14th January,
Sunday 22nd, 29th January, Saturday 4th February**

Or e-mail asham07@yahoo.co.uk/phone 01235 834067

PRICE FREEZE - Adults £9, Concessions £7.

Films in the Village Hall .

Love Punch (2013) starring Pierce Brosnan and Emma Thompson is the first film of 2023. on **7th February** at 1 15 pm.
All welcome.

A new year, a new body

Over 50 and thinking about improving your health in 2023? Why not try our local tai chi class on Monday afternoons in the village hall? Tai Chi will help to restrengthen muscles, enhance flexibility, improve balance, restore posture, boost immunity, increase stamina, raise energy levels, and calm the mind. Even better, the best results are attained by practicing in an effortless and unhurried manner which makes exercising extremely pleasurable. Classes are run in Partnership with Abingdon & Witney College to ensure best practices are adhered to and are promoted by AgeUK. For more information call Alan on 01491 200471 or email taichialan@gmail.com



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Parish Council Report

The Parish Council met on Tuesday 6th December. There were 5 Parish Councillors and several members of the public present. Sally Povolotsky, our County and District Councillor, had sent her apologies, as she was attending a Vale of White Horse District Council meeting.

During public participation we heard from Nick Thompson, who updated everyone on the latest information from GARD concerning their recent public meetings and the ongoing campaign to raise awareness about the issues around the reservoir proposal. Nick also thanked everybody for their support for the Royal British Legion collections and events during November. The Armistice Day wreath laying had been very well attended and poppy sellers had collected over £5000. The Parish Council thanked him for all his hard work in organising the collections again this year.

Anti-social behaviour and lack of community policing was also discussed, following a recent fly-tipping incident on the village green. Councillor Broadbent had attended a recent public police meeting in Wantage and raised the subject of lack of police visibility with our local police inspector. Police recruitment figures have improved recently and, once PCSO numbers are back up to strength, it was hoped that community policing would become more visible in the near future.

Councillors went on to discuss issues around damage to some of the Parish Council-owned grass spaces and verges around the village, mainly from parking and vehicle manoeuvres. The verges are particularly soft after all the recent rain, and some deep muddy ruts have appeared. Some of these areas had only recently been cleared and re-seeded.

The S106 Arts working group had met recently and reported back to the other Councillors. This group had been formed a number of years ago to develop some public art projects for the village, using money from the developers of the new estates. The decision had been made to develop a series

of hand-carved benches, to place at various locations around the village, all with some link to the local history. This is now in the final stages, with designs now agreed. There are some beautiful designs by local wood carver Peter Greenfield, incorporating ideas from local groups (History group, DAMASCUS youth group) as well as other villagers. We would hope to see the first tranche of these benches being installed late Spring 2023.

The first ditching clearance of the winter took place in November and mainly focused on the ditches around the Green. There will be another ditching party clearance in January. Please contact Martin Stimpson-Tame if you are able to help, at:

steventonpc.martintame@gmail.com

The recent torrential rain showed how important it is to keep the ditches clear if we are to avoid any serious flooding in the village.

Best wishes for the New Year

Sheenagh Broadbent
Vice-Chair

The next meeting is on **Tues 7th February**

Your Steventon Councillors

Oxfordshire County Council:

Sally Povolosky **07939 912997**

Sally.Povolotsky@Oxfordshire.gov.uk

Vale of White Horse District Council:

Sally Povolosky **07939 912997**

sally.povolotsky@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Parish Council Chairman:

Dr Chris Wilding Tel 01235 861665

Email: crwilding@aol.com

Steventon Parish Council Clerk

Angela Einon Tel 01235 831024

Email: steventonpc@tiscali.co.uk

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STEVENTON Wednesdays

MORNING

Steventon Village Hall
9:00 & 10:30 am
Contact **Nicola**
07843673805

EVENING

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Contact **Emily**
07831368523

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Steventon HISTORY SOCIETY

www.steventonhistory.co.uk

The History Society is currently formulating its plans for 2023 with many exciting ideas under review. As always, our aims are to extend our knowledge of the history of this fascinating village, to encourage each other in our own particular interests and projects, and to offer opportunities to bring people together socially.

The first event of the year promises to be as intriguing and engaging as those of last year, so make a note in your diary:

Steventon's Railways – it's all Brunel's fault!
7.00pm Tuesday 21st March at St Michael's Church
An illustrated talk by Roger Orchard

The theme of the talk is to show the village before the railway arrived; its effect on the village when it did arrive; the life of the station until its closure; what might have happened and some of the other local railway items of interest such as Lockinge Depot, Wantage Tramway and Didcot War depot.

New members to the Society are always welcome. There is no subscription: the only requirement is to have an interest in the history of our village and enjoy convivial conversation and good company. We meet on the second Tuesday each month in one of the village pubs.

For more information, feel free to contact me at owentd@talk21.com.
Tim Owen, Chair

Learn to Ring for the King!

If you're looking to keep a New Year's resolution to keep fit, Steventon bell ringers are recruiting. We've currently got a lovely range of ringers and learners representing every one of the first nine decades in age and we're looking to expand our team. It's fun, it will keep you mentally and physically fit (it's a good workout for both!) and it's free. You can join a very sociable activity and take your hobby to almost anywhere in the country, or you can just stick to ringing in Steventon. We're aiming to increase the numbers of ringers we have from this village to ring on Sunday mornings because we're currently reliant on visitors from nearby villages to help us out. Our ringing starts at around 8.45am for 45 minutes and, after you've learnt, that's your main commitment. We also ring for other important national and local occasions and what better than learning to ring in time to do so for the coronation of our King. Suitable starting ages are from about nine to sixty years and it's a great family activity: there are two and three generations ringing together throughout the country.

Do get in touch with Jeanette, the Tower Captain, by email if you'd like to learn, or speak with any of the team. Training times are to suit you.
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Deputy Warden: Mr Alan Binning (01235 820009)

Dear Friends

There's a time for everything and a season for every activity

'Well Philip, you are faced with a stark choice and your decision will profoundly influence your future wellbeing!' A sobering message delivered just before Christmas – from a bank manager, bishop, or even higher? Has the vicar been to see a Fortune Teller? None of these. This message was delivered by my physiotherapist and followed up with: 'at your age do have time for both rest and vigorous exercise with no valid excuses for avoiding both!'

There is a time for everything is the title of a section of the Hebrew wisdom literature, in which the anonymous writer poses an important question, 'what do we gain from our labours?' Then proceeds to answer their question with: 'I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God. I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it, and nothing taken from it'.

Facing 2023 with all its gloomy forecasts, a piece of ancient Hebrew literature has some very contemporary advice and encouragement – finding satisfaction in our labours is a gift from God, because His nature is to enable our endeavours to achieve lasting (eternal) benefits. Self-fulfilment arises not out of self-gain but in creating opportunities for all to flourish. 2023 will undoubtedly be a very hard year but it presents opportunities for our community to flourish in compassion, care, service; such labours God will truly bless when we are ambitious for the wellbeing of self and others.

There is a time for everything activity and a season for every activity – when God made time he made enough. His time management will not match mine, not surprisingly as his timescales are set in the context of eternity. I doubt my physio knows much about Hebrew wisdom literature or how much benefit she has brought for both my physical and spiritual condition.

*No time for a hobby, no time for real rest;
No time for the Sabbath, no time for what's best;
No time for my children, no time for my wife;
No time for deep friendships, no time of my life.*

*I need time when writing for finding the rhyme.
But verse becomes worse 'cause I haven't the time.
There ought to be moments, no – hours sublime.
There are! But I miss them – I haven't the time.*

May your neighbours respect you, trouble neglect you, the angels protect you
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Phil Sutton



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Steventon Friendly Association

WED 59 Club Results

Week	No.	Winner
1156 16/11	58	Trish Goodenough
1157 23/11	37	Dave Dunsdon
1158 30/11	11	Mrs Hayden
1159 7/12	55	Joan Leahy

SAT 59 Club Results

Week	No.	Winner
1357 19/11	59	Pauline Hedges
1376 26/11	11	Val Collett
1377 3/12	23	David Hastings
1378 10/12	54	Ray Howard

SAT "59 Club Extra" Results

Week	No.	Winner
451 19/11	59	Mrs Enoch
452 26/11	11	Mrs Grace
453 3/12	23	Shirley Green
454 10/12	54	Mr & Mrs Philips

Congratulations to this month's winners

Senior Citizens Party - closing date is 1 Jan. We must have your form (p 17 - Dec. SN) back by **1 Jan.** as we need to know numbers so we can make all the preparations. Party is on 15th Jan in the Village Hall.

Pat Hemmings, Chairman- SFA
01235 83162
07808086603

Steventon Cricket Club

Despite it being the depths of winter, our women's squad have recently made their first foray into the Oxfordshire indoor league. There are some different rules & tactics in indoor cricket, so it's been a steep learning curve, but we got our first win on match day 4, in a last-ball thriller! Season highlights so far include Ava Tanner's 3 wickets in an over and Sarah Jones' 50* off just 15 balls.

Sunday morning Winter training starts mid January in Abingdon, for Seniors & Juniors - get in touch for more info.

We welcome new players to our women's and men's squads, and boys and girls of all ages too. If you or your child would like to get involved with playing, umpiring, scoring, doing groundwork or coaching, do get in touch with Joe Bennett on 07966 592381, email SteventonCC@gmail.com, or use the website to find out more and get in touch, SteventonCC.org.uk

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"Rooting & Shooting" for Success in 2023!

Happy New Year to all!

Roots and Shoots Steventon has been formed by a group of village volunteers, as a way of supporting our local community in these difficult times. We are entirely funded through donations and grants and run as a 'not-for-profit' organisation. 100% of the donations and funds raised will be reinvested into our three core projects:

- Community Kitchen
- Warm Space Café
- Community Allotment.

We have already received grants from Steventon Parish Council and Oxfordshire County Council, with further funding applied for from the Vale of White Horse District Council, and with invaluable support from SARINC, who have provided two sites for our Community Allotment.

The 'Warm Space Café' has been running since early October in the Church Hall, welcoming around 50 people each time, but with plenty of space for more!

We provide a lovely warm environment for meeting up with friends; the opportunity for some lively conversation; a play space with toys for our younger visitors and their mums – with everyone enjoying our delicious home-made soups, cakes, teas and coffees – and sometimes we even have bacon butties! We don't expect payment for any food or drinks, but any donations are obviously most welcome.

In the New Year, the café will be running *every Tuesday* from **3rd January** and will be open from 9am until around 2pm, through the winter months and continuing throughout the year. So use this as an opportunity to use the cafe as a place to meet a friend, or just come along to meet some new people in the village. The current Warm Space café venue is Steventon Church Hall, but we are investigating possibilities of using a more central location, so watch this space!

If anyone would like to come, but needs a lift, please do contact us and we will arrange this for you – simply email vol.steventon.rootsshoots@gmail.com



Young Mums enjoying the Warm Space cafe
continued on p20

Roots & Shoots part 2

Meanwhile work continues on developing the Community Allotment, although the rain and cold weather at the end of the year slowed things down, but we have been planning for next year, with some hardy over-wintering plants already in the ground in December. In the Spring, we will have lots of opportunities for people to help, so if you would like to learn a bit about gardening, or just feel community-spirited enough to lend a hand to help growing and harvesting vegetables for use in the café and Community Kitchen, please email the address on p19. Even if you can only offer half an hour occasionally, we would still love to hear from you.



Lastly – an appeal for donations of COMPOST to get our Community Allotment in peak condition for the growing season. If you have a half-used bag of old compost hanging around, a spent tomato grow-bag, or even a full bag from last year, then we would be delighted to receive these from you. These can be left on Plot 11 on Folly Road on the village allotments (where our signs are up to guide you), otherwise contact us and someone will come to collect from you.

We look forward to seeing you all through 2023.

Please don't forget the birds !



Many of your kitchen scraps and Christmas leftovers make ideal snacks for birds visiting your garden and can help them get the food they need to survive. Here's a quick guide from the RSPB to what you can put out:

Roast potatoes - cold and opened up, these will be eaten by most garden birds.

Vegetables - cold Brussels, parsnips or carrots will be eaten by starlings and other birds, but remember not to put out more than will be eaten in one day.

Pastry - cooked or uncooked is excellent, especially if it has been made with real fats. *Cheese* - Hard bits of cheese are a favourite with robins, blackbirds and

song thrushes.. Avoid feeding them very strong or blue cheeses. *Dried fruits* - raisins, sultanas and currants are particularly enjoyed by blackbirds, song thrushes and robins. *Biscuits and cake* - Stale cake and broken pieces of biscuits from the bottom of the tin are high in fat and ideal for birds in the winter.

Don't forget to put out water too or break the ice on ponds and puddles.

Golden rules for feeding birds

Don't put out salty foods. Birds can't digest salt and it will damage their nervous systems. Only leave enough that can be eaten in one day – otherwise you may attract unwanted visitors, such as mice and rats.

Always follow sensible hygiene measures, including washing hands thoroughly after filling and washing feeders.