

# STEVENTON NEWS

ESTABLISHED MAY 1969

September 2023



Villager Elsie Thomas, (Bear), not letting the rain dampen the spirits of Truck Festival 2023!

## Dates for September 2023

5<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting 7pm

6<sup>th</sup> Allotment inspection

7<sup>th</sup> Darby & Joan Cream Teas

17<sup>th</sup> Steventon News Copy date deadline

22<sup>nd</sup> Harvest Songs of Praise and Supper

24<sup>th</sup> End of Season Cricket, Boys v Girls

24<sup>th</sup> Otto Baxter TV Appearance

26<sup>th</sup> Darby & Joan Harvest Lunch

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**The Cherry Tree, 33 High Street, Steventon,  
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Hello Steventon

Well that was a whirlwind of a summer we had, all seasons in 3 months, with a nip of autumn already. We see and hear climate disasters happening all around us, nationally and internationally, and we have to push for more action, We can do something - <https://climateactionoxfordshire.org.uk>

Truck Festival seemed more organised than last year, although still some traffic woes around Featherbed and the A4130, I don't the weather helped. Any feedback is appreciated, just email me!

At the District Council we once again pushed back on a major planning development on Abingdon road and officers rejected the scheme (again!), as well as on the High Street building regeneration. The village has lost enough of its unique character, doesn't have enough surrounding services and in village facilities.

At the County Council I'm constantly questioning decisions and getting increasingly annoyed with a lack of action on rural problems, I'll keep challenging and asking why. Locally we have several schemes in progress like the Relief to Rowstock phase 1, which will run from Milton Interchange to just past Steventon Lights, this is the first in a run of schemes to speed up public transport and cycling / walking.

I'm now the public transport champion, for OCC, I want to work with bus and rail companies to ensure rural services are built on, and the offering is accessible and affordable.

The Speedwatch data around the road reduction to 20mph is showing good compliance with the speeds contrary to the jungle drums.

You'll have seen some roadworks being undertaken, I honestly spend far too much time reiterating and encouraging officers to visit the village / villages to see for themselves what we face! The pothole innovation day was chance to show officers some of our parking issues on Hanney Road and issues around parking enforcement. I'm pressing on that all I can currently.

Cllr Sally Povolotsky [Sally.Povolotsky@Oxfordshire.Gov.UK](mailto:Sally.Povolotsky@Oxfordshire.Gov.UK) What's App - 07939 912 997

## **Steventon News Contributions and Advertising**

### **Cut-off dates for next issue**

Contributions for the **October** issue to [steventonnews@outlook.com](mailto:steventonnews@outlook.com) by **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September**, please. Advert cut-off is 10<sup>th</sup> September. 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**

As you will see we have invested heavily in making our publication the best it can be. We now produce 4 colour pages per month in a new format making the publication more appealing to the reader.

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Adverts are made up of 1/10-page 5.0 cm high x 8.5 cm wide.  
Please contact us for this years advertising rates and space availability.

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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](mailto:steventonnews@outlook.com)  
Local events with no entry fee FREE if space available

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### **Your Steventon Councillors**

#### **Oxfordshire County Council:**

Sally Povolotsky **07939 912997**

[Sally.Povolotsky@Oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Sally.Povolotsky@Oxfordshire.gov.uk)

#### **Vale of White Horse District Council:**

Sally Povolotsky **07939 912997**

[sally.povolotsky@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:sally.povolotsky@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

#### **Parish Council Chairman:**

Dr Chris Wilding Tel 01235 861665

Email: [crwilding@aol.com](mailto:crwilding@aol.com)

#### **Steventon Parish Council Clerk**

Angela Einon Tel 01235 831024

Email: [steventonpc@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:steventonpc@tiscali.co.uk)

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The Booking Clerk

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## St Michael & All Angels, Steventon

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Associate Priest: Rev Phil Sutton

(revphil@damascusparish.org.uk 01235 635476 / 07507378737)

Lay Minister: Mr Jack Jarvis (01235 831395)

Church Warden: Dr Hilary Otterburn (01235 834725)

Deputy Warden: Mr Alan Binning (01235 820009)

Dear Friends

As Friday 29 September is St Michael's Day, we decided to use the following Sunday (1 Oct) to both celebrate the life of our church and to invite you to discuss how best we can continue to serve our community. We are custodians of probably the oldest building in the village and the only one which is Grade 1 listed. This presents both a restriction and an opportunity to ensure that the church building continues to show both its constancy and adaption in the way it functions as a church. We propose to start this discussion by inviting you to a short informal family service at 09:30 on Sunday 1 October to hear how law, justice, service and even underwear are linked to St Michael's! This service will be followed by refreshments and an open discussion about the life and work of your church.

When I hear the word 'church' I think more of people than a religious building. The following three quotes have helped shape my understanding of the true nature of the life and work of the church:

- "The Church is the Church only when it exists for others...not dominating but helping and serving." Dietrich Bonhoeffer German Lutheran minister, theologian and executed by the Nazis in 1945 for being an anti-Nazi dissident.
- "The Church is the only society that exists for the benefit of those who are not its members." Willian Temple Archbishop of Canterbury 1942-44
- "It is a mistake to suppose that God is only, or even chiefly, concerned with religion."

R. V. C. Bodley In Search of Serenity (1955)

What our open meeting will not about is asking for money: God's gifts of creativity, generosity and ingenuity have enabled the church in Steventon to live and work since before the Doomsday Book and I am confident that the building will remain standing whilst its people remain serving and caring. It is your presence, ideas, your challenges and encouragements we ask for whether you are a church service attender or not. Please come and join us on Sunday 1 October.

**Friday 22 Sept from 7.00p.m- Harvest Songs of Praise & Supper.**

*Phil Sutton*

Sun 3 September	08:00 Holy Communion (BCP) 09:30 Family Service 18:00 Evening Prayer (BCP)	Revd Phil Sutton 'Saints Alive' Led by Mr Mike Murray
Sun 10 September	09:30 Holy Communion	Revd Phil Sutton
Sun 17 September	09:30 Morning Worship	Mr Jack Jarvis
Sun 24 September	09:30 Holy Communion	Revd Helen Kendrick
Wednesdays	09:30 Holy Communion (BCP)	Mr Jack Jarvis

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## Steventon Cricket Club

Both Saturday teams were rained off twice this month. July 29th - for the 2nd time this season, the 1s took leaders Bampton to the wire. After being put in on a tricky pitch we made 142 all out (Dave Webb 33, Ankit Shukla 37, Carl Heaven 39). In Bampton's reply we bowled tightly and at 96-3 we still felt in the game. And so it proved, as our bowlers led by Shukla (4-18), backed up by good catching and a fine stumping by Rich Chapman, reduced Bampton to 9 wickets down, needing 9 to win off 3 balls, us needing 1 wicket. It wasn't quite to be, but a thrilling draw! The 2nd team hosted Abingdon Vale 4s, and posted a competitive 158 thanks to Steve Hawkes' 79. A good effort by the bowlers (Rushi Shinde 3-25) got them 6 down but one good partnership saw them home. August 12th- The 2s put on a decent bowling performance to keep Hendred to 176 but weren't able to back it up with the bat. The 1s went to W. Ilsley, against whom we've had some thrillers in recent times. Ilsley opted to bat and posted an imposing 235-9 (Shukla 3-39). After a rain break, the target was reduced by DLS to 185 from just 31 overs. Chapman (28) got us off to a positive start, but we lost quick wickets looking for runs in tricky conditions, and at 99-6, things looked bleak, and we were well behind the DLS "par" score when the rain arrived again. The Ilsley players headed for the bar to celebrate, but we could see a break in the clouds and so could the umpires! Sure enough, we got back out there, the target now 54 more from 6 overs! Shukla (48\*) and Joe Bennett (31\*) decided to 'go big or go home' and did it in style, to steal a famous victory with 5 balls to spare!

The women scored a 90-run win at W. Ilsley on July 19th, (Violet Thomas 22, Sophi Butler 2-14); they produced a magnificent fielding performance in drizzly conditions at Crowthorne & Crown Wood CC on July 30th, taking 4 runouts to keep a strong team to just 108-8, before unfortunately the rain deprived us of our turn to bat. August 3rd, Sarah Jones (3-16) and Bobbi Cookson (3-16) starred as we kept Hendred to 98/8. At 66-3 we were cruising before a collapse to 76-7. Enter the calm heads of Charlotte Haydon & Hannah Willett to steer us home for a 2-wicket win. Sunday August 6th saw Dinton CC visit the green. Eve

Hamilton (2-9) got us off to a dream start with 2 wickets bowled from the first 2 balls, including their best batter, before Bobbi Cookson (3-15), Sarah Jones (2-8), and the other bowlers backed it up to dismiss them for just 56. However, they also had 2 exceptional fast bowlers, and apart from Emma Vidler's brave resistance, we struggled, to slip to a 17-run defeat in a low-scoring thriller. On August 13th, we played the return fixture at Dinton, and put on a more creditable showing against the same attack, batting all 25 overs to make 111 all out (Shaan Southam 31). In reply we bowled accurately but without luck, as they made it home with 3 overs to spare. The women's team continues to make great strides - by the time you read this, they will have completed their first game against international opposition(!) with the visit of the Italian Women's team to the green. Forza!

The juniors continue to put in good performances, most notably the U15 girls, bowling reigning champs Moreton out for just 93 (Bobbi Cookson 3-8), then almost chasing it thanks to Bella Mercer's 17. In the return match we posted 86 thanks to Lilidh Keymer's brave 20\* and 13 from Sasha Taylor, before Moreton scraped to a 3-wicket win (Lottie Hart 2-14). The U13 boys/mixed team put in an excellent showing against Faringdon, keeping them to 114 (Toby Haydon 2-14), before nearly chasing it thanks to Miles Cookson's 17 and Lilidh Keymer's 19\*. The U11s played well at Eynsham, (William Binning 19, Wilf Snuggs 2-9). The U11 girls hosted a tournament on the green on Sunday 13th August (see picture); excellent cricket was played, and the future looks bright.

If you or your child would like to get involved It's a great way to meet new people, in a fun and sociable environment. Contact Joe on 07966 592381, email [SteventonCC@gmail.com](mailto:SteventonCC@gmail.com), [SteventonCC.org.uk](http://SteventonCC.org.uk)

Home Fixtures AUG/SEPTEMBER (More tbc.)

Sat 2nd September - friendly game tbc

Sat 9th September - 1pm- The Dicko Memorial Trophy, vs Harwell

Sunday 24th - times tbc - end of season junior games, girls v boys



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## Steventon Women's Institute



**'Victorian Music Hall'**  
will be this month's talk  
given by Lesley Morris  
and there will be a  
competition for the best

Victorian sponge cupcake.

If this is a talk which appeals to you why not come along and visit on 19 September and find out what goes on at our meetings.

Everyone is welcome and we always meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm in the Millennium Room.

Details about WI can always be obtained by calling 01235 833009 or talking to a member.

In addition to the main meeting members can come along to the reading group and busy hands where, of course, tea and coffee will be available!



## HARVEST SONGS OF PRAISE & SUPPER

Friday 22nd September

7:00pm

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Drinks will be available

Tickets from Caroline Miller 01235 834015 or  
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No charge but donations on the night

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

On Wednesday 6 September, the Trustees will be walking around the allotments undertaking one of their key roles as Charity Trustees to:

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

Steventon residents are able to apply to the Charity to be considered for an Education grant providing they are in full time education and are in receipt of a student loan or are paying fees. Education grant application forms for the 2023/2024 Academic year are available from the Clerk. The application must be made via the application form and all supporting documentation must be provided at the time of application. The deadline for applications to be received by the Clerk by 31 January 2024, late or incomplete applications will not be processed.

Individuals and Groups can apply to the Charity for a grant by completing the grant application form. The Trustees will next meet to consider grant applications and any other business on Wednesday 13 September.

Residents and groups should contact the Clerk or any of the Trustees to discuss any support. All requests are dealt with confidentially.

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

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## Parish Council Report

There was no Parish Council meeting in August.

Following interviews of the recent 3 Parish Councillor applications Laurie-Jane Cann has been co-opted onto the Parish Council.

The Outline planning application for up to 80 residential dwellings (including up to 35% affordable housing) and use as a residential care Home on land off Abingdon Road has been refused.

The main reasons for refusal were:

- It is an unallocated site beyond the built-up limits of Steventon extending into the open countryside in a manner which does not accord with the District Council's strategy for growth as set out in the Vale of White Horse Local Plans.
- The site is subject to flooding resulting from ground and/or surface water flooding. The proposal fails to adequately assess drainage implications of the proposed development, incorporate an appropriate drainage strategy and demonstrate that the development can be accommodated without resulting in increased flood risk elsewhere.

OCC in 2022 launched a 3-year 20mph programme with the purpose of: "promoting lower vehicle speeds, encouraging more walking and cycling, and supporting a sense of a community place". The expected outcomes of the programme are:

- Improved experience for those using Oxfordshire's streets.
- Promotion of active travel and subsequent improved public health

- Reduction in road noise
- Improvement in air quality through reduced 'bunching' of vehicles
- More relaxed public spaces
- Reduced road casualty rate and improved road safety

Steventon, as you are aware, is one of the many 207 Parishes in Oxfordshire who are participating in this programme.

Since its introduction in June this year the average speed on the High Street (both ways) is 21.7mph.

The next Parish Council meeting is on Tuesday September 5th, 2023, at 7pm in the Village Hall.

Dr Chris Wilding - Chair

### Free electric blanket testing

Oxfordshire residents are being offered a free electric blanket check, part of OCC's programme to ensure everyone is safe and warm, this winter.

The electric blanket tests are very popular, with places limited. Therefore, they must be booked by phoning 01865 895999 or emailing [duty.officer@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:duty.officer@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

For the Vale of White Horse these will take place on Friday 22 September and Friday 6 October, the actual address and a specific time slot will be provided at time of booking.

"If the condition of a blanket is allowed to deteriorate there is the possibility it could become faulty, risking injury and fire. "The tests are free, as are the refreshments but remember to pre-book.



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## **Steventon Darby & Joan Club**

I understand that the trip to Poole was a great success, the weather was certainly just right for it. Thanks to Audrey for organising it all and to those none members who supported it, Thank you.

Thursday 7th September at 2pm we meet at the North Star for a Cream tea, this will be a nice change.

Thursday 14th September 1.30pm meet in the Village Hall

Thursday 21st September 1.30pm in the Village Hall again.

**Tuesday 26th** September we leave the village at 12.15pm for a Harvest Lunch at the Rose Hill Club

Please note Audrey will need to know who will be going to the North Star and also Rose Hill. 834064

Jack Jarvis 831395

## **STEVENTON FOOTBALL CLUB**

The new Season now beckons in September and as ever, we need the following:

### **1. New Players**

We always on the lookout for new players to improve both squads. We've already arranged a few friendlies (pitches permitting) before the league fixtures begin in earnest, thus providing opportunities to trial un-registered players. If you're interested find us on twitter <https://twitter.com/steventonfc> @steventonfc or come and see us @ mid-week training on the Green on Tuesdays

### **2. New Sponsors**

We're looking for a shirt sponsor for a new kit. It's a great opportunity to

promote a local business across our region. Also, it's possible to sponsor training tops and water bottles for those with a smaller marketing budget. Even matchday advertising boards, ensuring publicity when either team are featured in the Herald or on social media If you're interested contact:  
robertgreenltd@gmail.com

It's still our intention to attain FA Charter status, and eventually form a Youth Team, next season If you are 16 or under, or have a son who is interested, let us know using either of the above contacts.

I hope next month's report will be back to the normal format re-counting goals & success for the Stivvy boys and even a photo or two!

Robert Green tel. 416725

### **A Thank you**

Well, what a day - a lot of hard work for the Book Sale and a few thank you's to say. Firstly, Julia Litt for your help making the hall look inviting, your posters and signs and staff refreshments and all you did even though you felt ill - Colin Pizzie and Tara Pizzie for your help setting up and putting away. Derrick Elliott for your help doing the same and being our cashier - Joan Leahy for allowing Dad to buy yet more books!!!! And he didn't manage to sell ONE of his own books from his study (which was the original deal of this sale) !!!!!!!

We made a quite amazing £221.00

Thank you to everyone who came and bought and some who just came to donate, it was really lovely to see so many people and the money will go to such a good cause ♥ and we are all thinking of the amazing Michael Litt who remains in our hearts forever.



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5.40pm - 6.30pm - Lily (10 years +)

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## Otto Baxter

Otto Baxter is a 36 year old man with Down's syndrome – he has recently written and directed his first film, an autobiographical thirty minute short called "The Puppet Asylum" starring Paul Kaye, Myanna Buring, Dexter Fletcher and Adeel Akhtar. In this ambitious allegorical musical horror comedy Otto explores how he feels about being given up by his birth parents, his fear of institutions, concerns about his own future, and his own quest for agency and power. Otto is the subject of upcoming Sky feature documentary 'Otto Baxter: Not a F\*\*king Horror Story' charting a year of change as he makes his first film and he & his family tries to plan for the future. The film and documentary are due to screen on Sky & NOW TV on 24th September. They have already screened, and been a big hit, at Sheffield Documentary Festival; FrightFest, London; Ultimate Picture Palace, Oxford; Leicester Sq. London; Curzon, Soho; Garden Cinema, Covent Garden, BAFTA and other regional cinemas.

Otto is no stranger to the screen, having acted in several films, including the BAFTA nominated 'Samuel 613', 'Lola', 'Happiest Day' & 'Ups & Downs'. He was nominated for Best Actor at the Van d'Or independent film awards 2014, for 'Ups & Downs' and Winner, Best Actor at Cannes 'Festival Entr'2 Marches' 2014 also for 'Ups & Downs'.

Otto is a seasoned stage performer, most notably in a critically acclaimed turn in 'Waiting for Godot' at the Hackney Showroom in 2018. Some of you may know him from the local amdram performances in the village, where he had walk on parts. Otto was accepted as a member of BAFTA in 2022.

Since 2019 Otto has been a regular performer in Culture Device's drag troupe 'Drag Syndrome', as his alter ego Horrora Shebang and has toured all over the world performing with them.

Otto is an advocate for disability rights and has appeared in multiple TV documentaries growing up, with his brothers and adoptive mother.

Otto has three brothers, who also have Down's syndrome, two of whom are also artists in their own right. Titus, who goes by the name of William Percy, has made films which have been screened at Experimental film festivals and in Art Galleries in London. His youngest brother Rafi also appears in Otto's film as himself and has been in other short films. Under the creative mentorship of The Royal Ballet, as part of Culture Device, an innovative dance theatre for artists with Down's Syndrome, Otto and Rafi completed a residency at the Royal Opera House with a powerful reinterpretation of Stravinsky's 'The Rite of Spring', Rafi is also a Drag Queen. James, the eldest brother does not crave the limelight in the same way. His passions are Music, historical dramas especially Dickens and Thackeray, Looney Tunes, & Disney and horse-riding.

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## Steventon Friendly Association

### WED 59 Club Results

Week	No.	Winner
1191 19/7	40	David Goodenough
1192 26/07	33	Denis Hastings
1193 02/08	16	Jummy Lister
1194 09/08	54	John Webb

### SAT 59 Club Results

Week	No.	Winner
1410 22/07	2	Nicola Kelly
1411 29/07	25	Joanne Dunsdon
1412 05/08	2	Nicola Kelly
1413 12/08	44	Steve Miles

### SAT "59 Club Extra" Results

Week	No.	Winner
486 22/07	2	Trish Chambers
487 29/07	25	Gill Gay
488 05/08	2	Trish Chambers
489 12/08	44	Mrs Enoch

Congratulations to this month's winners

Many thanks to the North Star and all its customers for the kind donation this month.

Pat Hemmings, Chairman- SFA  
01235 831462  
07808086603

## Brownies and Rainbows in Steventon.

Rainbows is for girls aged 5 - 7 years and meet on Mondays in term time in the Village Hall from 5pm till 6.15.

The Autumn term meetings start on September 18th and we are very excited to have a new Leader! Debra Moffat will start in this new role in September , and I will be stepping back to support her .

Steventon Brownies start the Autumn term on September 11th in the Millennium Room at the Village Hall from 6pm till 7.30pm.

To find out more or to register your daughter please look at [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk) or contact Mary Thompson  
Debra Moffat  
steventonrainbows@gmail.com

Vicky Hook  
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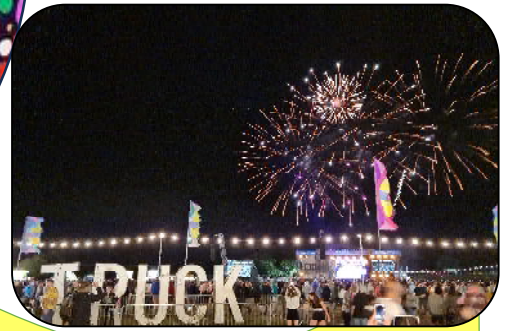
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The Feel Good Food Tent raised a record amount for charity this year.

A fantastic total of **£139,000** was raised between the following.....

Batemans Trust, Gethin's charity, Faringdon Rotary, Blood Cancer, Milton Church, Air Force Cadets Wallingford, Friends of St Michaels and All Angels, Blue Skye Thinking and Maggie's were some of the charities supported.

In addition to our regular Truck stalls, we had three new charities involved this year, Yellow Submarine, a charity supporting people with learning disabilities and autism in Oxfordshire. Style Acre, who support over 270 adults with learning disabilities and autism in Oxfordshire and YOCO, Youth Challenge Oxfordshire, who develop young people through personal challenge. The people these charities support volunteered on the stalls over the weekend.

A massive thank you goes out to all that supported us and these great charities.







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