



# Ducktown Echo

10  
Years

Autumn 2020

The Aylburton Community Newsletter

Issue 41

## Aylburton Parish Council

Chair: Cllr Stephanie Lord

Parish Clerk: Meg Humphries 01594 719245 aylburtonclerk@outlook.com www.aylburton.net



aylburtonpc

A big 'Thank You' to everyone who has been helping family, friends and neighbours during the Covid-19 crisis so far. We are regularly updating the list of people who are able to volunteer helping out in the event of another lockdown. Please contact parish councillors Stephanie Lord or Mark Topping if you need help at any time – or to volunteer.

In August councillors met at Millbrook Green with a resident, a representative from Lydney Park Estate and a flooding engineer, to discuss what action could be taken to prevent a repeat of the flooding in February. Funding is being sought to enlarge the culvert which takes the brook under the A48 which can no longer cope with the volume of water when there is heavy rainfall. Alterations to the allotment fence are also being considered, to prevent water being directed towards houses.

Aylburton's wildflower verge got its first cut in August.

It will be mown like other verges until the end of the growing season. Volunteers have been busy raking off grass cuttings to create the best conditions for more flowers and insects in the verge next year.



Stephanie Lord

Fiona Dean and Wendy Kennison

Cllr Harrison has produced a prototype design for the historical plaque to be placed beside the village cross. This has been passed to a designer for development and eventual manufacture. The aim is to complete the exercise by the end of October with an unveiling ceremony soon after.

Volunteers taking part in a community litter pick collected four sacks of litter from Church Road one Saturday morning in September. The next community litter pick will be from Upper Common along Lodge Lane to Priors Lodge. Sacks and grabbers will be provided. To take part contact Mark Topping.



Rachel Pardoe

Following a survey, tree maintenance work is to be carried out in St Mary's churchyard in October. This will involve pruning the yews and cherry trees to enable access and grass cutting. Armistice Day on Wednesday, 11th November will be led by Methodist minister, Rev Michelle Ireland. Please gather outside the Memorial Hall at 10:45am. The two minutes silence will be observed at 11 o'clock.

## Community Speedwatch

Our first speed check took place at the beginning of September. In a community where speeding is the biggest concern, we are very pleased to be up and running.

A huge thanks to those drivers abiding by the limit - which was the vast majority. It can be tempting to warn others when you spot a speed check but it does the community a disservice. The limit is there for a reason and those who stick to the limit needn't worry.

Thanks to the residents who have stopped by to express their appreciation.



Mark Topping

Meg Humphries 'shooting' some cars

## 1939

“One is inclined to think that the '30' signs in the village are regarded by some motorists as a minimum speed rather than maximum speed, at which to race through Aylburton”

Dr. J. B. Christopherson

## Recent Planning Applications

*Discharge of condition 03 (full surface water drainage) relating to planning permission P1741/19/FUL.*

High Reddings Chapel Hill Aylburton

Ref. No: P0100/20/DISCON

Received: Fri 18 Sep 2020

Status: Pending Consideration

*Listed building consent for the replacement of windows and doors.*

Cross Inn High Street Aylburton

Ref. No: P1490/20/LBC

Received: Wed 16 Sep 2020

Status: Pending Consideration

*Removal of branches of x 2 Cherry trees. Removal of Ivy, raise canopy of x 2 Yew trees by 2m.*

St Mary's Church, Church Road, Aylburton

Ref. No: P1408/20/TCA

Received: Tue 01 Sep 2020

Status: Pending Consideration

*Application under Section 192 to establish whether dropping of kerb requires planning permission.*

6 Orchard Close Aylburton

Ref. No: P1192/20/LD2

Received: Tue 04 August 2020

Status: Pending consideration

*Hazel Tree (H1) Remove 1x limb back to the main stem. Crown reduction of 30%.*

24 High Street Aylburton

Ref. No: P0778/20/TCA

Received: Tue 09 Jun 2020

Status: Decided

*Change of use of existing barn to a dwelling house and associated landscaping works.*

Barn Adjoining Chapel Hill Barn Chapel Hill Aylburton

Ref. No: P0619/20/FUL

Received: Fri 15 May 2020

Status: Pending Consideration

Applications can be inspected electronically at the FODDC Council Offices, High Street, Coleford GL16 8HG during office hours or through the Council's website at [www.fdean.gov.uk](http://www.fdean.gov.uk) using the P reference number above.

## Aylburton Methodist Church

Minister: Rev Michelle Ireland 01594 833247 [www.aylburtonmethodistchurch.co.uk](http://www.aylburtonmethodistchurch.co.uk)

Church Treasurer: Elizabeth Day 01594 840123

Community Room booking: Amy Reece 01594 369383 [thecommunityroom-amc@outlook.com](mailto:thecommunityroom-amc@outlook.com)



**September** marks a new beginning for many sectors of society, for nurseries, schools and colleges and for many churches. Indeed the Methodist New Year begins in September. Each year, a phrase is chosen as the uniting theme that brings the Methodist Churches together. For 2020-2021, it is the following – *Best of all, God is with us* – words spoken by John Wesley himself. They may even have been his final words.

How have those words impacted on us so far? Well, we have been delighted to be able to re-open for worship each Sunday morning since July. Great care has been taken to ensure that all necessary precautions are in place, and services (even without the singing) have been a source of comfort and reassurance, where we have known that *Best of all, God is with us*.

It is fair to say that there have been many challenges. We are not able to open the Community Hall for outside meetings. A number of our members have not felt able to return to worship yet, however as a family we have continued to include everyone via the telephone calls, visits and printed material.

Others have suffered unexpected ill health but have felt God's hand upon them. They are now on the road to recovery and are deeply grateful for all the prayers and kind words.

Of course, we still live in a world that is deeply troubled and as we meet each week, we remember our world in prayer. Yes there are many challenges, but we hold on to John Wesley's words

*Best of all, God is with us.*

## Aylburton WI

Secretary: Sandra Rickards 01594 841041

**All members** have remained well and upbeat during these challenging times. We are still keeping in touch with phone calls, emails, the monthly newsletter and others are using Zoom. The committee meeting was held on the playing field, where the Tai Chi class was just ending the morning session which was most entertaining. A committee decision was taken not to resume WI meetings until January 2021.

Our 'Book' is now completed with 14 chapters being contributed by various members during lockdown. Each person has followed on from the previous chapter and written their own version of what might happen next. It's a tale of romance, intrigue and mystery.

The title voted as the most popular was *High Teas & Rough Seas* which was suggested by Jane Hutchins. Prices

High Teas  
&  
Rough Seas

have been quoted for the printing but are proving to be rather expensive. At the present time we are looking for sponsorship to help with the costings, as we hope to support a local charity if the book sells well. If anyone would like to help with this project please contact myself or Denise Voyce on 01594 834988.

The Parish Council have recently given permission to allow the WI to use the Cross monument for a Remembrance Sunday display in November. We would like to invite the whole village to participate, by knitting or crocheting poppies, as I know there are some great crafting skills among you ladies, gentlemen and children. Please contact me for any further details.

On a final note Aylburton WI are looking forward to the New Year, when hopefully meetings can resume in some form or other, and welcome new members who are looking for some good company and a light-hearted evening. We wish you all good health throughout the coming months.

The Ducktown Echo is the community newsletter published by the Aylburton Parish Council. The Aylburton Community Plan 2009 identified the need for a parish newsletter.

This year will mark the 10 years since the first issue was published in Autumn 2010. It is produced quarterly and distributed to every household in the parish. It includes all of the relevant information about the council and its recent activities. This is always the main item on the front page and is published as presented with only essential editing.

The newsletter, space permitting, also publishes other items of interest from individuals, local groups and organisations in the parish. Every effort is made to reproduce these articles as they are received but the Editor may edit them as necessary to achieve a professional publication. If space is available it has advertisements for businesses that are based in the parish.

The last 10 editions, starting with Spring 2017, have included a supplement 'Historic Aylburton'. These popular articles were written by Cllr John Harrison and describe some of the interesting buildings in the village.

The four editions each year are:

- Spring* covering the Easter period onwards. Copy should be sent in at least four weeks before the Easter weekend so that it can be distributed about two weeks before Easter.
  - Summer* for the village Carnival and the holiday period. Carnival is held on the second Saturday of July. Copy is needed four weeks before this.
  - Autumn* for late September onwards. Copy should be sent in by the end of the first week of this month.
  - Winter* covering the Christmas and New Year period. Copy is required by the end of the third week in November.
- The Echo is produced and distributed entirely by volunteers. Printing is the only cost to the council.



Welcome to this the first of what we hope will be a long running series of quarterly community newsletters. Why do we need a newsletter? The answer simply is because you asked for one in your response to our recent Community Plan questionnaire.

The purpose of the newsletter is to provide a platform for individuals, clubs, societies etc., who would like the rest of the village to know what they are doing. If you're a business and want to advertise, then you can do that as well. Issues will be timed for early December to advise of dates for the Christmas period, then March for the Easter period, June to cover the end of the school year and the beginning of the new school year will be covered by the early September issue. Not being experts in this field we are feeling our way a bit, so we hope you like the appearance and content; however, if you've got any useful suggestions for improvements then please let us know on ducktownecho@gmail.com. Furthermore, if there are any budding graphic designers or journalists out there who would like to help out, then please get in touch.

One last point, volunteers are needed for distributing the newsletter to every household. Let me know if you want to help, giving me a rough area that you are willing to deliver to.

**Parish Council News.**

In addition to this newsletter you will also have noticed that several new notice boards have been made and put up around the parish. These boards were also requested by you and were kindly made and erected at a very reasonable cost by Tudor Carpentry. Furthermore, a web-site is currently being planned and designed. These innovations are being partly funded from the District Council "Quick Wins" scheme.

Other topics under consideration by the Parish Council are:

- Churchyard trees - a survey of the trees in has been conducted and initial action on the recommendations has been taken. Regrettably one tree will have to be felled and a contract has been granted for this to be done.
- Millenium Wood - negotiations to enable public access are on-going with Lydney Park Estate.
- Chapel Hill - We are still pressing the County Council to repair damage to the road surface.
- Church Rd - Promised improvements to the road edges have failed to materialise, the Council will continue to press the County Council.
- Allotments - We have released additional areas within existing allotments to allow more members of the parish to have access.

Date of next meeting: November 30th at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall.

We need new council members! Alan Edwards and Mike Prakel have both announced their intention to retire at the next election date in May 2011. Please consider giving up a little time (we only meet for a couple of hours in the evening once every 2 months). In particular we could do with the views of younger people. If you are interested then contact the Parish Clerk (see back page) or any of the Councillors.

Ducktown Echo Issue 1 Autumn 2010

**Why Ducktown?**

If you look at old photos of Aylburton you'll see that there used to be an open stream running down past the school, which then went left along the main road in front of the houses until it met with Milling Brook.

This watercourse proved a great attraction for a number of ducks and hence earned us the nickname of Ducktown.



Church Lane c1900s (now Church Road)

Forest Prints

## Forest Exiles CC

Secretary: Dan Keddle 07828 577914 forestexilesc@gmail.com

**It has** been a year of tribulation for us all and a tough decision was made by the club not to play this year. We have spent this time preparing for what already looks to be an exciting next year, with Junior and Senior events already being lined up.

We are always looking for involvement at every level of the club; from young, emerging talent to 1st XI players, scorers to umpires, coaches to tea aid. FECC would value all contributions to our great club. We pride ourselves on being a family orientated club with an innate ability to cater for anyone that wants to be involved in cricket.

As part of our preparation we are looking for places to promote as part of our new sponsorship campaign. If any of these opportunities tempt you then please don't hesitate to contact us via the details above.

1st XI to play in CGF Premier league in the 2021 season

Junior XI training to start in April 2021

### Matches

*Senior XI*

Every Saturday 13:30pm start

*Midweek XI*

Wednesday T20 18pm start

*Sunday XI*

Occasional 13:30pm start

*Junior XI*

Every Sunday 10am start

### Training Nights

*Senior XI*

Wednesday and Saturday

*Junior XI*

Every Saturday 9:30am start



Stephanie Lord

## West Gloucestershire Neighbourhood Watch Association

Chrissie Parkes Neighbourhood Watch Field Officer Gloucestershire Police



### Leaving your home checklist

Whenever you go out, it's important to leave your home secure so here's a quick reminder on what to do just before you go out. Also try to make it look like there is someone at home.

- Close and lock all your doors and easily accessible windows, even if you're only going out for a few minutes. It's best to keep doors locked if you are at home as well!
- Make sure that any valuables are out of view from windows and glass doors.
- Keep handbags and keys away from the letterbox or cat flap as thieves have been known to hook valuables out through them. Hide car keys away.
- Never leave car keys, documents, ID cards, cash or bank cards in obvious places such as kitchens or hallways or in your car!
- If you go out during the autumn and winter evenings, shut the curtains and leave lights on. Burglars look for homes that are in total darkness to attack.

- You can get plug-in timers for your lamps - and timers for your ceiling lights. Don't just light up the hall. Fool a burglar by lighting up the landing, bathroom, bedroom and living room too. Really fox him by varying the times each light comes on. Simulated TV's are also available to give the impression someone is home.
- Always set your burglar alarm.
- Make sure the side gate is locked and your rear garden is really difficult to access.
- Lock your shed or garage.
- Lock your bike inside a secure shed or garage, to a robust fitting bolted to the ground or wall, like a ground anchor. Security mark your bikes and record serial numbers. A photograph or two is useful if the bike is stolen.

Always use the best padlocks and chains you can afford. Sold Secure offers impartial advice on security products. Visit [www.soldsecure.com](http://www.soldsecure.com)

If you have concerns about your home security, your local Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) will be able to offer you help and advice. You can find who your local officer is by following this link [www.gloucestershire.police.uk/](http://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/) alternatively you could call 101 if you do not have internet access.

With Christmas coming do not leave Christmas presents within sight of a window or on the back seat of the car when shopping.

## COVID-19 UPDATE

### Parish Council

Parishioners can get in touch with us at any time via email or phone to raise any concerns, questions or comments. Council meetings are held at 7pm on the second Tuesday of each month except in January and August. They now take place remotely with as much information as possible available online.

You can view all available meeting documents as soon as they are finalised on our Agenda and Minutes pages at [www.aylburton.net](http://www.aylburton.net). Future meetings will be on

Tuesday 13th October 2020

Tuesday 10th November 2020

Tuesday 8th December 2020

The best way to stay updated day-to-day on council news is to follow [www.facebook.com/aylburtonpc](https://www.facebook.com/aylburtonpc) for the latest news on the council and parish-level activity during the pandemic.

Current community helpers for the challenges presented by the COVID-19 outbreak are:

Mark Topping: [mark.topping@fdean.gov.uk](mailto:mark.topping@fdean.gov.uk) 01594 840086

Stephanie Lord: [steph@molyneuxassociates.com](mailto:steph@molyneuxassociates.com) 01594 845561

and parishioners can also get support from Mary Court on 01594 843651

### St. Mary's Church

Parish of Lydney with Woolaston, Alvington and Aylburton

Parish Priest Rev David Gardiner 01594 730484 [admin@lydneyparish.org.uk](mailto:admin@lydneyparish.org.uk)

Churchwardens

Aylburton – Mary Court 01594 843651

Aylburton Common Mission Church – Jane Hale 01594 843917,

Alvington – Sue Rickards 01594 529581, Woolaston – Alan Robinson 01594 529551

Please contact any of the above named if you need help or support during the coming months

Weddings and funerals can be arranged with Rev David Gardiner

Services in Woolaston, Alvington and Aylburton –

Week 1 – Woolaston 10:30

Week 2 – St Mary's Lydney 10:30

Week 3 – Alvington 10:30

Week 4 – St Mary's Aylburton 10:30

Please see noticeboard in St. Mary's Aylburton for any changes.

Remembrance Day - short Services will be held in each of our churches at 10:45am on Sunday 8th November.

### Methodist Church

The church is now open for worship on Sundays at 10:30 but is still closed for all other activities during this extremely challenging time. Rev Michelle Ireland produces *Thoughts for the Day* from members and these are delivered by email or by hand.

A live service is streamed from Wesley's Chapel in London on Wednesday 12:45pm, Thursday 12:45pm and Sunday at 9:45am and 11am.

Six of the Church members have formed a phone support group and we have made sure that our Chapel members (and many others too) have been phoned and chatted to throughout these past weeks. It's been a very good way of communicating, especially for those who live alone. Jane 01594 843883 and Liz 01594 840123 are always available on the phone if any of you feel like a chat and catch up.

## Ducktown Echo

Editor: Virginia Ridley 01594 841294 [ducktownecho@gmail.com](mailto:ducktownecho@gmail.com)

Published by the Aylburton Parish Council

Copy deadline for the Winter edition is Sunday 29th November 2020

Please keep sending in items of interest or photos both old and new.

In this difficult time it is not possible to print and circulate the latest edition of The Ducktown Echo so we must rely on the Parish Council's Facebook page [www.facebook.com/aylburtonpc](https://www.facebook.com/aylburtonpc) to keep you up-to-date with what has been going on in Aylburton.

## SOME USEFUL NUMBERS

### District Councillor

*Cllr Mark Topping*

01594 840086

[mark.topping@fdean.gov.uk](mailto:mark.topping@fdean.gov.uk)

### Glos. County Councillor

*Cllr Alan Preest:*

01594 564668

[alan.preest@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:alan.preest@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

### Member of Parliament

*Mark Harper*

01594 823482

[mark.harper.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:mark.harper.mp@parliament.uk)

### Glos County Council

01452 425000

### FOD District Council

*Planning, waste, recycling,*

*nuisance, licences, street*

*wardens, dog warden*

01594 810000

### Local Police Team

01452 753800

Non-Emergency 101

### GCC Highways

08000 514514

### Neighbourhood Watch

FoD Chrissie Parkes

01452 753784

### Snow Warden

Colin Newman

01594 842532

### Community Wellbeing Agent

(formerly Village Agent)

Richard Skinner

01594 812447 or 812399

07927 051328

[richard.skinner@fdean.gov.uk](mailto:richard.skinner@fdean.gov.uk)

### Lydney Doctors

*Severnbanks Surgery*

01594 845715

*The Lydney Practice*

01594 842167

### Hospitals

*Lydney*

0300 4218722

*The Dilke*

0300 421 8640

*Gloucestershire Royal*

0300 4222222

### Pharmacists

*Lloyds Lydney*

01594 842847

*Lydney Co-op*

01594 843443

### NHS Dentists

0300 330 1348

### All Emergency Services

*Western Power (enquiries)*

0800 404090

*Western Power (power cuts)*

105

*Severn Trent Water*

0800 783 4444

### Dial-A-Ride

01594 843809

### Cinemas

*Coleford - Studio*

01594 833331

*Cinderford - The Palace*

1594 822555

### Leisure Centre, Lydney

01594 842383

### Libraries

*Lydney* 01594 842769

*Chepstow* 01291 635730

### NHS Direct

111

### National Rail Enquiries

03457 484950

### Travel Line

08712 002233

### Airports

*Bristol* 0871 3344444

*Cardiff* 01446 711111

*Gatwick* 0344 8920322

*Heathrow* 08443 351801