

## News from the Village Hall

### — What have we been up to?



Morrison's 2:30pm: Tall Blond - "I'm not stalking you I just want you to tell me everything you have done and what your plans are between now and Christmas"

Mother (91) is very impressed and tightens her grip on the trolley. Until, that is, she realises the "You" in question is the Village Hall not her ne'er-do-well first born.

"Village Hall" you ask? I like to think there isn't a soul in the village who doesn't know we have one, but Sam (the blond in question) thinks there may be. So, just in case she's right, I'd better expand a little.

We have a lovely 172 year old building, part of which is beautifully crafted with original features and part of which was thrown together by random Victorian villagers using whatever came to hand.

Since COVID struck, we have done our best to make some much needed improvements; ramps, toilets, kitchens, heating, electrics, fancy fire alarms and shutters, air purifiers, new tables, dishwashers that wash in 2 minutes, we have done them all!

Best of all we had a go at the wilderness in the back. In spring 2022 it was a weed strewn, ugly mess full of old bricks, sheds and debris. Now it's a civic space that any village could be proud of. It was so messy we hadn't realised just how large it was!

What we have unwittingly done is double the size of the Hall's entertainment space - believe me, next summer it's going to be the place for parties and BBQs. Couple this with our newly acquired skittle alley and you have yourself a fun weekend.

Right, so that's the first bit done, now what about our plans? By the time you read this we will already have held our Halloween Party and served coffee and chocolate to the Village Bonfire Customers. and on the 3rd of December we are holding an Christmas Fayre which will be linked with the Santa Scarecrow Trail. Even Father Christmas will be there ready to chat to the little ones and get them in the mood to be good for the big day!

We will then draw breath for a few weeks before our Greek Themed Dinner Night in late Jan or early Feb.

The hall is available for use by everyone - contact Lynn Wynne the booking Secretary on 07531716281 to find out availability and fees.

By Chris Wynne for Austrey Village Hall



## Neighbourhood Plan

We are currently in the process of reviewing our Neighbourhood Plan which was adopted in 2017

<https://www.austreyparishcouncil.co.uk/neighbourhood-plan>

All the developments identified in there have now been built and as there is still a housing need in North Warwickshire, we need to review this plan in order to ensure that we have a say in the developments happening in our village.

The Plan has been instrumental in contributing the declining of a recent proposed development, that many residents had objected to, as it did not sit within the objectives defined in the plan so it is imperative that we keep this up to date to ensure it is still classed as relevant by both Planners and potential developers alike.

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

Neighbourhood planning is a new way for communities to have a say in the future of the places where they live and work. It gives you the power to produce a plan with real legal weight that directs development in your local area. It helps you:

- Choose where you want new homes, shops and offices to be built
- Have your say on what those new buildings should look like
- Grant planning permission for the new buildings you want to see go ahead
- Groups can get tailored advice, support and grants to develop their neighbourhood plans.

We have recently applied for and received further funding in order to continue reviewing the Plan and we desperately need some volunteers to assist us with this. If you can help, please do contact [clerk@austrey.co.uk](mailto:clerk@austrey.co.uk); ring Sam on 07976 606745 or drop us a note in the letterbox at the shop



Read us on line @ [www.austrey.co.uk](http://www.austrey.co.uk)

## The Austrey News

November/ December 2022



## Welcome to Austrey

We'd like to welcome to Austrey if you've recently moved to our lovely village; we hope that you will be very happy here. You will find it's a thriving village with lots of activities from the Gardening Society to the WI via the Youth Club. There's all sorts of activities happening at the Village Hall which is run by a friendly group of volunteers and it hosts Coffee Mornings, Lunch Clubs, Skittles Evenings, and a whole host of other events.

For more information, please visit the website [www.austrey.co.uk](http://www.austrey.co.uk); follow Austrey Updates on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/AustreyUpdates> or if you would like us to keep you informed by other means, please pop a note in the Parish Council letterbox on the wall outside the shop with your name and phone number and we'll get in touch with you. If you'd like to speak with a Parish Councillor, please contact us via [clerk@austrey.co.uk](mailto:clerk@austrey.co.uk), pop a note in the letter box, send a message to Austrey Updates or give us a ring / drop us a text - we're a friendly bunch and are here to serve the interests of the village. We love to hear your ideas as well as your concerns, if you're vulnerable or need support we're absolutely here to support you so please do get in touch.

## Chairman's Report

Just when we had thought we had turned the corner, 2022 proved to be a trying year.

We thought we were over the Covid pandemic and restrictions were being lifted, but, spontaneous out breaks occurred and I think all of the Parish Council had a dose from time to time.

We had a lovely celebration and street party for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the Parish Council provided a celebration mug for all the village children. Of course this was muted with the Queen's demise in Sept followed by a period of mourning and her funeral.

Activities are getting back to normal with the ever popular coffee mornings taking place every month and November sees the start of a Luncheon Club providing a delicious, two course nourishing lunch, at the village hall.

We have just enjoyed the ever popular Bonfire Night and are making plans for our Christmas lights switch on event.

Keep you eyes and ears open because new things are being planned and of course we need the support of our villages to help things go smoothly.



## From the Vicarage

Whenever I have the pleasure of baptising, usually but not always, a baby or child, they are given a candle as a reminder that not only is Jesus the light of the world, but that he works through us and that each one of us can be lights of the world, bringing light and hope to those around us.

At Christmas we are reminded of Emanuel 'God with us' and just like the Dog's Trust Advert, God who comes into the world as a baby, is not just for Christmas. God is always with us through thick and thin, good times and bad.

As we carry God with us we reflect the light to others. Being part of a village community and supporting and receiving support from friends and neighbours, we can be people of hope and joy and love - we can bring light into, to be honest what can sometimes seem like a dark world.

So, as we put another hard year behind us let us look forward as people of hope, people of love and people joy as we work together for the good of all.

May you receive many Blessings this Christmas and look forward with hope to 2023.

Revd. Joanne Dyer,

Rector of All Souls  
New Vicarage, Main Rd, Austrey, CV9 3EB  
075969 33488  
[rector\\_all\\_souls@btinternet.com](mailto:rector_all_souls@btinternet.com)

## Christmas Fayre: Saturday 3rd December! Austrey Village Hall 2-5pm

Come join us  
3rd December 2022  
2pm - 5pm  
Austrey Village Hall

Get Christmas off to a great start. Have a chat to Father Christmas and post your Christmas letters, find unique and locally made gifts and goodies and warm yourself up with a mulled wine or yummy hot chocolate from the tearoom!

## Cuppas, cake & companionship at Community Coffee and Chat



It's hard to believe but Coffee and Chat has been running for 6 years!

Hosted from 10am till 12midday on the last Tuesday of each month at the village hall (unless otherwise advertised). All are welcome and all we ask is donation to charity. So, why not pop along and have a cuppa, some lovely home-made cakes and a chance to chat with old friends and perhaps make new ones?

There's always a poster outside the shop or village hall with the up an coming dates.

The next dates for your diary are:

November 29<sup>th</sup> and **December 20<sup>th</sup> 12 till 2pm**

(please remember that the times are different for December as this will be a Christmas buffet with a raffle and bingo, to raise funds for the Salvation Army Christmas appeal).

Transport possible by prior arrangement.

For more information please contact:

Chris Minett on 07985261855

**We look forward to your company!**

Chris Minett on behalf of Community Coffee and Chat



## Austrey Belles Club gets going just for fun!

Getting together on the first Thursday in the month the new Austrey Belles Club (ABC) has only one objective; Enjoyment! A group for women, to chat, make friends, laugh, have fun, and relax. With activities to try, trips and lots of reasons for an informal buffet or delicious taster evening!

Future events:

**1 December 22** : Christmas Crafts with Jill

**5 January 23:** Poetry night - bring your favourite poem or make one up!

**2 February 23:** Cheese and Wine featuring Chris Beard and his Guitar

Contact Lynne Wynne on 07531716281 for details.



## Austrey Lunch Club



A new club, started on November 10<sup>th</sup> at Austrey Village Hall !

Fancy a nice, home cooked ,2 course meal for just £5 per person, plus tea and coffee?

Future dates December 8<sup>th</sup> January 12<sup>th</sup> February 9<sup>th</sup>  
Doors open at 12.30 Lunch served from 1pm till 2pm.  
Places are limited so booking is essential !

Transport may be provided by prior arrangement.  
Need more information?

Please contact Chris Minett on 07985261855

**We look forward to seeing you there !**

## Christmas Lights Night

On Friday 2nd December, Austrey Parish Council will be hosting Austrey's annual Christmas

Lights Night event on the corner of St. Nicholas Close & Main Road.

Come and join us from 5.30pm as children from Austrey C of E Primary School lead the crowd in singing Christmas carols around the tree.

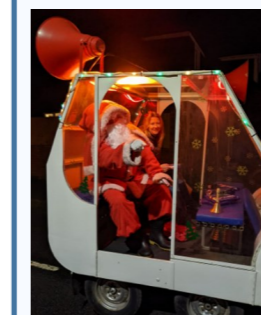


Atherstone Sleigh Group will be escorting a very special visitor to Austrey, and once the carols conclude he will be switching on the Christmas lights.

Children are invited to meet Father Christmas on his sleigh, and children on his 'good' list may receive a small treat!

But it's not just for the children! Ellen Beaty, our chief Elf, will be serving mulled wine & mince pies to keep you warm and to add good cheer.

This is a free event. No tickets are required, and we look forward to seeing you there.



The event is due to end at 7pm.

\*Please note that Main Road will be closed from Bishops Cleeve to the Crossroads from 5.15 - 7pm\*

Read us on line @ [www.austrey.co.uk](http://www.austrey.co.uk)



## Santa Scarecrow Festival



The Women's Institute (WI) want to brighten up the village Over December and promote goodwill and happiness.

Would you like to join in? It is simple, just put a Christmas themed scarecrow or decoration outside your home; I am having a Santa sitting on the chair by the front door clutching a festive drink!

We will prepare a trail so everyone can enjoy each other's efforts and hopefully, there will be Christmas cards available next year portraying this year's creations.

Have your display ready by 2nd December when the Parish Council turn on the Christmas Tree lights, then collect your trail details from the WI table at the Austrey Village Christmas Fayre on Saturday 3rd December from 2 till 5pm at the Village Hall. There will also be a copy on the village notice board.

To enter the Santa Scarecrow Festival, send your

**Name, Address and Title of your Scarecrow display** to the following address:

**50 Main Road, Austrey** or  
**austreysantascarecrows@gmail.com**

Please can we have entry details in by 20th November.



## St Nicholas Church's stone boundary walls are crumbling!

It might not look a lot, but the wall that holds the churchyard is failing. The lime mortar, which only has a limited life is crumbling and washing away.

The Church and Churchyard is part of the charm of our village and because of its heritage - its been here longer than any of us - it is a specialist job and needs to be repaired with the correct materials to minimise any future damage.

For safety reasons, some of the stones have already been removed for safety reasons, and will be replaced when the wall is refurbished.

The renovation means that some of the wall will need to be taken down and rebuilt, whilst some will just need repointing. The costs are currently in the region of £28000.

Fundraising has begun, with coffee mornings, quizzes, and grant applications. Our aim is to sensitively rebuild and restore these walls to ensure they are safe and solid for centuries to come. As a small congregation we cannot do this alone, we need your help to raise the necessary funds to repair the wall.

So what would it take? Coffee mornings, concerts, sponsored events, but by far the quickest and easiest way would be if each household (300+) in the village donated an average of £75, and some of it be gift aided. Then the wall could be repaired. If you are eligible to Gift Aid it enables us to claim an additional 25% on top of your donation from the Government.

We recognise finances are tighter for everyone, but can you help by making a donation? **Anything** you give will make a difference.

The most cost effective way of making a donation is via internet banking, payable to:

**All Souls Parochial Church Council,**

**Sort Code 40-08-35**

**Account No 21438158**

using the ref **'Wall Fund'** followed by your name. If you are eligible for Gift Aid, please ask Revd Joanne for a gift aid form.

Thank you in anticipation of your support  
Heather Cooke, Church Warden  
Revd Joanne Dyer, Rector

## Warks. Road Safety Partnership supports use of What3words App

Warwickshire Road Safety Partnership is launching an online campaign to raise awareness of 'What3Words' in a bid to get more residents in Warwickshire using the app to provide emergency services with the location of a collision or emergency.

What3words has divided the world into 3 metre squares and given each square a unique combination of three words - what3words address.

In an emergency, callers can give the call handler the three words to help dispatch emergency services to the precise location.

This is even more important in rural locations where it's more difficult to communicate location accurately, enabling responders to get resources to the scene as quickly as possible.

This simple change, could help save more lives and reduce the seriousness of some injuries due to patients getting treatment more quickly.

*To report an emergency, always call 999. If a collision has occurred which does not require an immediate response, it can be reported online.*

Please visit: [Report a road traffic incident / Warwickshire Police](#)

To read more visit <https://warksroadsafety.org/our-strategy/>

## Austrey Baptist Church wishes to bless you all with Peace & Joy this Christmas

Do join us for our Carol Service on 11<sup>th</sup> December at 10.45am to be led by Pam Deacon.

Mince pies and a hot drink to follow.

Come and celebrate the real meaning of Christmas at 9.30am on Christmas morning, to be led by Debbie Chard



You are invited to join us any Sunday at 10.45am  
We extend a warm welcome to all—1st Sunday Communion  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Family Service  
All other services offer a Sunday School with DBS approved leaders.

## Litter Pickers make a clean sweep!

Thanks to all the volunteers during the year that help out with keeping the village litter free – both the organised ones and also the residents we see out collecting rubbish on their weekend strolls round the village.

It is really appreciated and well done to all who help keep our village looking as lovely as it does. This is just some of the rubbish from one of our recent litter picks!



**Lighthouse stay and play**

Every Tuesday 10-11.30 a.m.  
Newton Regis school  
(from September)  
All welcome with children under school age

contact John (Pa) 07967928282

Starting 15th September 2022  
Youth Club for Ages 10-15  
Sports Games Activities Refreshments

**Youth 139**

Quality donations of games & equipment wanted  
VOLUNTEERS/HELP WELCOME

Hosted by The Parish of All Souls  
Thursdays 6pm @ Austrey Primary School  
Contact: [michelle.withey@gmail.com](mailto:michelle.withey@gmail.com)

Read us on line @ [www.austrey.co.uk](http://www.austrey.co.uk)



**The Austrey News Info page:  
Stick me on your fridge!**

**Christmas Services across the Parish of All Souls**

You are welcome to join us at of the services

**Saturday 3rd December** Switching on the Lights with Carols, mulled wine and mince pies at St Mary the Virgin, Newton Regis

**Friday 9th December, 7 for 7.30** Holly Berry Eve, **Newton Regis, Village Hall**

an evening of Christmas fun and seasonal refreshment, Tickets £4 from Church Wardens or Rector.

**Sunday 11th December**

**10.30** Family Nativity at Holy Trinity, **Warton**

Come dressed as a character from the Christmas Story

**6pm** Carol Service at All Saints, **Seckington** with readings, poems, sherry and mince pies!

**Sunday 18th December**

**10.30** Family Carol Service at St Nicholas, **Austrey**

**6pm**, Carol Service at St Mary the Virgin, **Newton Regis**

A traditional service of readings and carols

**Christmas Eve, 24th December**

**5pm** Christingle Service at St Nicholas, **Austrey**

**6.15** Christingle Service at St Mary the Virgin, **Newton Regis**

**9.00** Readings, Carols and Candles, St Matthew **Shuttington**

**11.30pm** Midnight Communion Holy Trinity, **Warton**

**Christmas Day**

**9.00** Christmas Communion, All Saints, **Seckington**

**10.30** Christmas Family Communion, St Nicholas, **Austrey**



**DTW Data**  
56 High St, Measham, DE12 7HZ, (Opposite St Laurence Church)  
www.dtwdata.co.uk  
Email: info@dtwdata.co.uk

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Open  
Mon-Fri 08.30-12.00 & 12.30-17.00  
Sat 10.00-12.30

**November:**

**Nov 20** Last date for Santa Scarecrow entry details  
Coffee and chat 10am-12pm Village Hall

**Nov 29**

**December:**

**Dec 2** Austrey Christmas Tree Lights Switch on

**Dec 3** Austrey Christmas Fair Austrey Dec 20

**Dec 8** Austrey Lunch Club. Doors open at 12.30  
Lunch served from 1pm till 2pm. Austrey vil-  
lage Hall booking essential

**Dec 9** Christmas Tractor Run

**Dec 11** Carol Service Austrey Baptist Church 10.45am

**Dec 20** Austrey Coffee and Chat 12 till 2pm Austrey  
Village Hall



**Letter for Santa?**

You can post your letter to Santa at the Austrey Christmas Fayre!  
**Sat December 3rd. 2 till 5 pm**



Santa will reply by email if you have been good and include an email address.

**STEWARTS**

Quality Mobile Fish'n'Chips  
Mobile 07977965525  
In Austrey @ Hollybank Estate  
16.15pm  
Then around the village until  
17.00  
Then back around the village  
19.15 until 20.00 approx.  
Plse ring for details and times

**WANT TO GET YOUR MIND & BODY IN SHAPE?**

**Bootcamp**  
Mon 7-8pm  
Weds 7-8pm  
Sun 9-10am

**Run & Fun**  
Sun 7.45-8.45am  
(booking must be made)

Sign up on the app: www.my.coacha.app/member\_signup/BUH84A5OWR or Message 'LINK' to 07837758112 for the link to the Village Fitness app to sign up, book on and have fun!

No equipment required  Fun  
 All levels of fitness catered for  Bodyweight Exercises  
 Qualified instructor  Fully Insured

"Highly recommend it!" Kate, Warton  
"I love it!" Kelly, Austrey  
"Vicky is brilliant at motivating you!" Jess, Austrey

**VILLAGE FITNESS**  
@ Austrey Playing fields, Newton Lane, CV9 3EP

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\*within a 10 mile radius of Austrey

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48 hours for the price of 24 hours!

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**CARPET DETERGENT**  
2 litre carpet cleaning solution

**£12.95**  
(RRP £22)  
2 litres cleans approximately 800 sqft/ 76 m2 (4 rooms)

**Local Contact List**

Parish Council Contact	Phone Number	Email address
Tony Treadwell (Chair)	07854 357768	tony@austrey.co.uk
Tristan Fraser (Vice-chair)	07974 176096	tristan@austrey.co.uk
Sam Goldney	07976 606745	sam@austrey.co.uk
Heather Hadley	----	heather@austrey.co.uk
Jacqui Morton	----	jacqui@austrey.co.uk
Helen Simpson	07393 737489	helen@austrey.co.uk
Heather Swan	07966 277154	heatherswan@austrey.co.uk

To email all councillors, please use [parishcouncil@austrey.co.uk](mailto:parishcouncil@austrey.co.uk) or to email the clerk please use [parishclerk@austrey.co.uk](mailto:parishclerk@austrey.co.uk)  
There is also a Parish Council post-box mounted outside the village shop.  
Our website can be found at: [www.austreyparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.austreyparishcouncil.co.uk)

Local Government Contacts	Phone Number	Email address
Councillor David Hum-	01827 830542	davehumphreys@warwickshire.gov.uk
Councillor Marian Hum-	01827 830542	marianhumphreys@warwickshire.gov.uk
Craig Tracey - MP for North Warwickshire & Bed-	01827 715243	craig.tracey.mp@parliament.uk