

# The Austrey News

Apr—May 19



## Keeping our Village Tidy

In these times of gloom and doom news, it's great to hear some good news stories; especially when they involve our very own villagers. Several of our local villagers, frustrated at the mess on the roads surrounding our village, have taken matters into their own hands and started clearing the verges.

For those who have recently noticed how much cleaner No Man's Heath Lane is looking, we have Maria McEvoy to thank for that. After removing several bags of rubbish from the verges and having barely made a dent in the accumulated litter, Maria went and spoke to Sarah McLean the franchisee at MacDonalds at junction 11. Along with her Area Manager, Mandip Jordan and seven of her team, Sarah set to work one Friday clearing the lane. Numerous black bags later, it was free of hub caps, bottles, cans and fast food wrappers and looked so much better for it.



The team from MacDonalds and their collected litter

Simon from Warton Lane has also been spotted in the lanes around the village clearing up endless bags of litter; thanks Simon, your efforts are appreciated. I also regularly see my fellow dog walkers collecting debris as they walk around the village – thank you; every little counts as they say.

We would ask everyone to take pride in our lovely village and clear up any litter that they see as they go along; whether on a dog walk, the school run or just taking a trip to the shop or pub. I understand that it's frustrating that often the litter is dropped by people travelling through the village and not the inhabitants but if we as a village all work together, we can continue to keep it a lovely place in which to work and live.

Keep Britain Tidy are promoting the "Great British Spring Clean" this month, google the event for more information.

Sam Goldney

## Parish Council Update — by Tony Treadwell

Local police officers attended the last Parish Council meeting and highlighted several points as well as thefts, including both diesel and number plate thefts, which top the rural crime lists.

They also highlighted that dangerous and inconsiderate parking are an ongoing problem in Austrey as is pavement parking. However they don't have the resources to police this problem. We were reminded not to leave any items on display in cars, and to generally be aware of our own security.

The parish is trying to get the loan of a speed gun to set up a community speed watch on the roads through our village.

The council has again raised the issue of the poor state of some of the pavements in the village. However we have been advised that there is no cash to deal with this problem due to budget cuts.

Several villagers have contacted us about the state of the roads near the ongoing developments. We have contacted NWBC about this problem. However it would be helpful if villagers could also report such issues directly to NWBC on **01827 715341**.

For those who aren't aware, the planning appeal for a Gypsy and traveller site on the edge of the village was dismissed. It was nice to win for a change. Thanks to all involved in working on the village response to this application.

## Biker Down: Would you Know What to Do?

If you were the first on the scene of an accident involving a motorcyclist:

- Would you know what to do?
- Would you know who is most at risk?
- Whether you should remove the helmet of a downed rider?

Actions taken in the first few moments after an incident can make a real difference to the lives of those involved. But, there can be some uncertainties about what to do. Biker Down is a free training course designed to answer these uncertainties.

The course is three hours long and uses the expertise and advice from the Emergency Services and Road Safety Officers. It's aimed at all ages and levels of experience. It includes:

- Practical skills to help avoid being involved in a crash (the science of being seen)
- Advice on what to do if you are first on the scene (collision scene management)
- Essential first-aid training.

To find out more:

You can find the latest news and course dates by calling **0788 007 9383**, by emailing [bikerdown@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:bikerdown@warwickshire.gov.uk) or by visiting facebook at [www.facebook.com/BikerDownWarwickshire/](http://www.facebook.com/BikerDownWarwickshire/)

## Austrey and Warton Scouts

The highlight of our year so far has to be Pancake Night with a wide variety of pancakes and crepes being created, eaten, and in some cases worn, over the course of the evening. A huge success with our young people; I think it will take a couple of weeks before the Leaders will fully recover.



The other highlight was the troop trip to Cosford Air Museum as part of the Air Activities Badge. Enjoyed by both the young people and the adults, it was voted a huge success by all of the sections who visited and who were all an absolute credit to the troop.

Our Beaver Colony has been working towards their health and fitness badge which includes understanding how exercise can affect their heart rates and how what they eat can influence their health. They had great fun sampling various delicacies at Chinese New Year where they tried some new foods as well as eating some firm favourites. They have also visited Polesworth Fire Station where two of our newest members were invested; what a special night for them and us. Burns Night meant a real treat for them – sampling haggis – which produced some very interesting reactions; not all of it bad though everyone seemed to enjoy the shortbread served.

If your young person would like to come and join any of our sections, we meet on a Monday evening at Austrey School. Please contact **Fiona Rouse** for further details on **07939 114360**

Sam Goldney

## Austrey Gardening Society



2019 has already got off to a good start with some really interesting speakers and the rest of the year is set to be equally exciting. We have already had talks about restoring a walled garden, snowdrops and hellebores, and being a reluctant gardener. Now there are two more indoor meetings planned before we head out on visits during the summer months. These are on Friday, **April 12th** – 'A Worm's Eye View of Your Garden' and Friday, **May 10th** – 'The Blue Tit, raising a family'.

Our meetings are held in the Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm and visitors are always very welcome. There is a small charge of £2.00 which includes refreshments following the talk. For more information contact [austreygardeningociety@gmail.com](mailto:austreygardeningociety@gmail.com) or phone **830164**.

Jane Hodgkinson

**WOULD YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?**

**Biker Down! is a FREE 3 HOUR COURSE for motorcyclists covering:**

- 1** Accident scene management
- 2** First Aid for motorcyclists
- 3** The science of being seen

## Austrey Neighbourhood Watch

We had a long article from ANW this month full of top tips on how to beat the burglar. In fact, the article was so long that it would have covered nearly two full columns of the newsletter! Due to the level of detail it was impossible to include it in this busy edition, so here is a link which, when typed into your web browser, will take you to the article: [tinyurl.com/y3yz27sm](http://tinyurl.com/y3yz27sm)

If you would like a paper copy, please contact the Parish Clerk.



# Community Timeline

Events and activities for your calendar



## Easter Services in the Parish of All Souls

14 April Palm Sunday 10.30am  
Family Worship at Austrey

18 April Maundy Thursday 7.30pm  
Holy Communion at Seckington

19 April Good Friday 7.30pm  
Service (with choir) at Shuttington

21 April Easter Day:  
- 8.30am Easter Communion at Austrey  
- 10.30am Easter Family Communion at Warton  
- 6.00pm Easter Communion (with choir) at Newton Regis

For more information, please contact  
**Revd Stephen Banks, Austrey Vicarage** on 01827 839022  
[www.allsoulsnorthwarwickshire.co.uk](http://www.allsoulsnorthwarwickshire.co.uk)

Newton Regis Tennis Club are starting the new year's membership season, so why not support your local village club and join us to play outdoor tennis in great surroundings with easy access and low cost.

We welcome renewals from existing and former members, and extend a warm welcome to new players.

Please come and visit us. Or visit our website for more information, including contact details.

[www.newtonregistennisclub.co.uk](http://www.newtonregistennisclub.co.uk)

## List Your Event With Us!

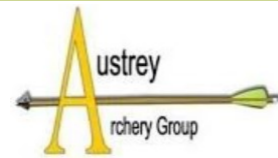
Let us know about your event(s) for our June / July edition.

## Austrey Archery Group

The Group's social calendar began on 16th Feb with a well-attended Skittles Night. An exciting evening with three active rounds, each more fierce than the previous. The wooden balls flew around, fortunately not hitting anyone, but also not hitting the pins as accurately as no doubt intended. A fish and chip supper was enjoyed during the interval, and the event was rounded off with a successful raffle.

Shooting continues indoors for the time being, enabling members to hone their skills at short distance targets, but we hope to get outside again as soon as good weather takes hold.

We already have applications for our next training course, which will commence in March, going through to April. Our courses are important for anyone who wishes to take up the sport and shoot in the club; they teach the basic skills of archery, demonstrate the safe ways to shoot, and cover the archers with insurance. If you wish to join a course, or would like more details of our small, friendly club, please contact us on [austreyarcherygroup@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:austreyarcherygroup@hotmail.co.uk). Regardless of your age or level of fitness, we can promise you a really satisfying leisure activity.



Bob Patchett

## Austrey Walking for Health Group

Who?... Never heard of them!

We are a friendly group that meet at 10am every Friday morning to provide walking for all. Our routes cover the area around the village and much further afield. The default meeting point is the Baptist Chapel car park but we also meet elsewhere, so you need to be able to access our weekly programme.

In the past we have perhaps not been the most outspoken crew and, since we had no on-line presence, there was no way to tell you what we are doing from week to week. Well, all that has changed. We now have a Austrey Walking for Health website.

### How do we find it?

Look at the Austrey Village website or Austrey Updates and you will find a link to our page. Or type [www.austreywalk.wixsite.com/forhealth](http://www.austreywalk.wixsite.com/forhealth) into your search engine. (Bit of a mouthful that, hence the suggestion you find us via the village website.)

Once you have found us bookmark the page because we will be telling you, week by week, where and when we are walking. We also have a gallery to show you who we are and where we have walked.

For more details ring Pam on 830 487.

Chris Wynne



Walk this way!

## Village Hall Breaks Through Time Portal to 21st Century

To all those Pop Pickers and Hep Cats in Austrey: we are out there for you bro! (and sis?). We have an online presence and we are not afraid to use it! We are fully up with Friends Reunited, AOL and all of those other groovy digital doings. We have a state of the art Facebook, with lots of faces in it, and a really sticky webpage just like that Spiderman bloke. All you cool dudes can find out about it by searching for "Austrey Village Hall" on your googly thing, or typing in [www.villagehallaustrey.wixsite.com/avhwebsite](http://www.villagehallaustrey.wixsite.com/avhwebsite)

So, what are we cool, real-down, cats doing when we are not digging-it with the spaced-out t'internet folks in that cool digital scene? Well, we was chillin' at the Caribbean Feast. The hottest scene in town raised lots of bread for the Hall



fund (well, a dinner roll if not the full baguette). A good night was had by all our guests who ate well and dug deep for the mysterious Bagbolla before drifting off, full of Jerk Chicken and other Caribbean goodies. On a

serious note the 8 committee members (and Jackie) were stretched a bit thin and the event suffered a little as a result, but more of that later.

Looking ahead, we are going to a Live and Local showcase next month to pick an act for our event in the autumn. Don't miss the opportunity to influence our choice. Get on Facebook and fill in the questionnaire at the head of our home page, it's anonymous and you can have a real input to our choice of acts. We will also be the venue for the WI production of Hi De Hi in April.

Now, it occurs to me that there are lots of you out there who don't want the commitment of joining a committee or (heaven forbid! becoming a trustee) but you might not feel quite so negative about helping out at Hall events. A sort of Hall Supporters Club, we already have one or two stalwart friends who do just that and help out at the major annual events. They are very much appreciated but we need more! Could you become a supporter and help with one of our events? If so, ring me on 01827 830716 or use the general comments form on the Village Hall webpage to contact us. We Need You! and who knows? you may well find doing your bit for the Hall and the village both rewarding and satisfying. If you don't fancy taking part in the events but have DIY skills there is also a place for you as we strive to maintain a 169 year old building on the slimmest of budgets. Come and help us decorate, preserve or repair a part of the village's history.

Chris Wynne

## What's the Point? Don't Leave It!

You've made the effort to bag it, so bin it!

The law requires all dog owners to clean up after their dog, if the dog fouls in a place to which the public has access. This includes paths, footways, roads, verges, parks, play areas, recreation grounds, playing fields, canal towpaths, and the larger public areas. **How can I dispose of dog-poo? The good news is that you don't have to find a dog-poo bin.** Bagged poo can be placed in: **Any village litter bin. Any domestic black wheelie-bin. Any dog-poo bin.**



## Update from Austrey WI

Good evening campers Hi De Hi! (Ho De Ho) Oh I do apologise folks, we are in full swing with rehearsals for our version of Hi De Hi. I'm afraid by the time you read this, the two sell out nights will probably be done and dusted. Tickets sold out within a week last time. So if you missed this we are sorry, as you also will have missed the fish and chip supper as well. Hopefully we will have some photographs for the next edition.

We are a very active and fun loving Women's Institute who meet every second Thursday of the month at Austrey Village hall at 7.30pm. We welcome visitors and guests to our meeting. Here are some of the things we are up to in the next couple of months:

Thursday **11th April**: Speaker Dr Janis Lomas; "Scandalous women of the 19th century"

Thursday **2nd May**: Trip to Tutbury Castle to see Lesley Smith as Queen Elizabeth 1 to include Lunch. Members £13 guests £18. Lesley Smith portrays her characters really well—her Nell Gwynne last year was outstanding. If you would like more information please contact Lynn Wynne our Secretary on 01827 830716.

Tuesday **14th May**: we have a trip to the Concordia Theatre Hinckley to see My Fair Lady (all tickets are now sold).

Besides our monthly meeting we try to arrange other trips/ outings like the above, and some are open to non-members, so watch this space!

Chris Minett

## Parish Council, Government and Austrey Village Contacts

The village contact list is available on [www.austrey.co.uk](http://www.austrey.co.uk), **or** you can pick up a printed paper copy from the village defibrillator / phone box on Main Road, **or** view the list on the noticeboard outside Austrey Stores, **or** contact the Parish Clerk by phone or email and ask for a paper copy to be hand-delivered to you.

## Parish Responsibilities

Bus shelter; bye laws; public clocks; drainage of ditches and ponds; general spending—parish councils can spend a limited amount of money on anything they deem of benefit to the community; a parish council may accept gifts; litter bin provision and support for any anti-litter campaign; planning—parish councils must be notified of and display for residents any planning applications in the area.

**Job Advertisement: Lengthsman required for maintenance jobs around the village. For more details, and to apply, please contact the Parish Clerk.**

## Editorial Policy

The Austrey News is prepared for the Parish Council. Its aim is to keep everyone informed of anything that affects our community, or is otherwise of interest to villagers. It is produced bi-monthly and delivered to all houses within the parish, and can also be downloaded from [www.austrey.co.uk](http://www.austrey.co.uk).

**Advertising charges** per edition are:

- £5 for 4.4cm high x 6.1cm wide
- £8.50 for 8.9cm high x 6.1cm wide
- £12 for 8.9cm high x 12.2cm wide

## Contact the Parish Clerk

The Parish Clerk, Lynsey Treadwell, is the main contact for both the Parish Council & Austrey News. Tel: 818 558  
Email: [clerk@austrey.co.uk](mailto:clerk@austrey.co.uk)  
Post: Austrey Parish Council post-box, outside Village Shop, Main Rd, Austrey

## News Copy Deadlines

June edition — by May 7th  
August edition — by July 7th  
October edition — by September 7th