

The Austrey News

August 2017



David Smith Memorial Charity Day Raises Over £4,000!

The David Smith memorial charity day was held on Saturday 10th June and was well attended.

David loved living in Austrey and was passionate in supporting projects around the village, giving his time and energy to events such as the village bonfire, Austrey Community Group, and raising money for village charities. Sadly, David lost his short battle with cancer aged 52.

The David Smith memorial day was a whole day of fund raising events, starting with the village football match, held at Austrey playing fields.



Two teams of outstanding talent fought out a close match. The opposing teams, representing The Bird in Hand and Hazel Meadows Allotments, were expertly managed by Mick "Mourinho" Beeson and Steve "Conti" Hargreaves.

At half-time The Bird in Hand had a well-deserved 1-0 lead, despite losing one of their veterans Glen "Hoddle" McCormick to injury, early in the game. The second half was a different story, with Hazel Meadows dominating and eventually drawing level after half an hour. Our esteemed landlord Gareth cut a fine figure in goal, and was superbly protected by man-of-the-match Tristan Fraser.



Tristan Fraser (front) being awarded his trophy for Man of the Match by losing side manager Mick 'Mourinho' Beeson.

A big Thank You to Tom Reardon for giving up his time and refereeing the match ... his best quote ... "blimey that's a really big pitch!"

The Charity afternoon and evening continued at The Bird in Hand, where an auction and raffle took place with some superb lots, including a signed and framed Dan Carter All Blacks shirt, £600 Hotpoint/Whirlpool appliance, plus many, many more. A big Thank You goes out to everyone that donated the lots, especially to Heather Swan who literally gave the 'shirt off her back', but also to everyone that bid on them.

Over £4,000 was raised; £2,048 going to Cancer Research and £2,007 going to Macmillan. Thank you to everyone who helped to organise the whole day.



Simon Clarke receiving the trophy on behalf of winning team Hazel Meadow Allotments.

Parish Council Update, by Tony Treadwell, Chairman

It's been a difficult couple of months for both the Parish Council and the village as a whole.

We were sad to lose three members of the Parish Council; Anne Wilde and David Jenkins to business commitments and Chairman Di Davies who moved to Warton to be nearer to her family. This leaves us with just three councillors, a bare minimum. So if anyone has thoughts about joining us and filling one of our four vacancies, you would be most welcome.

The development continues at a pace on Newton Lane but we have regular meetings with the developers to keep up to date with goings on and to try and put our points forward. If anyone has any comments or issues with any of the sites don't hesitate to contact a councillor.

On a lighter note, the good weather recently made for several very successful events for village organisations. You can read about these in our new look newsletter, which we hope you're enjoying. Please let us know what you think!

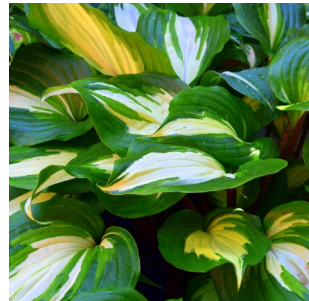
Lapping up the Sunshine at Austrey Open Gardens



Jessica Glover from Nuneaton won the photo competition with this shot, capturing the rural essence of our village.



Roses were definitely the floral stars of the event!



"WOT! No slugs?" Hostas looking verdant.

On the hottest weekend of the year 14 gardens opened to visitors in the first Open Gardens weekend to be held in Austrey for 3 years, raising funds for the Village Hall, the Baptist Chapel, St. Nicholas Church and the Gardening Society which organised the event.

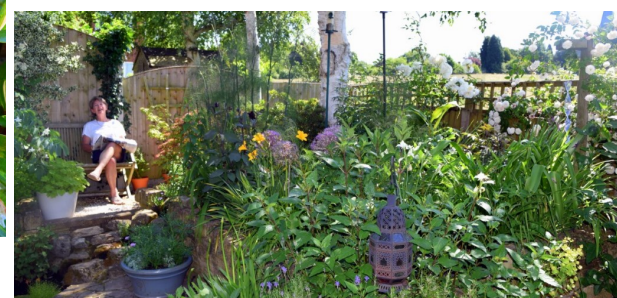
Well over 300 people who came from near and far were treated to an amazing array of gardens to visit; ranging from a small front garden full of containers and baskets filled with very colourful begonias and other bedding plants, to a large country one with a traditional vegetable garden. Each garden was totally unique, showing how everyone has completely different ideas as to what their garden should look like and how it should be used.

There were exotic plants including bananas, ponds teeming with fish, beds full of fruit and herbs, flowers in almost every colour imaginable, lawns of all shapes and sizes and all sorts of trees and shrubs, many of which were big enough to cast some very welcome shade.

During the weekend, all around the village, people were working extremely hard as there were all sorts of other stalls and activities taking place raising much needed funds for various charities, whilst volunteers were selling programmes or serving food and drink to the visitors.

All in all it was a very successful weekend and we would like to thank all those who worked so hard and gave their time so generously to make it so.

There are loads of photographs of the event online, so if you've enjoyed reading this article head to www.facebook.com/austreyopengardens to discover more.



Archery for Everyone!

Austrey Archery Group continues to thrive and give pleasure not only to its 30 members, but also to members of the public who come along and take part in our Have-a-Go sessions.

So far this year we have run a session at Warton Carnival where about 100 people turned up to try their hand with a bow and arrows. Some of them discovered that they already had quite an eye for the sport.

Then at Thorpe Country Fair about 200 people had a go. This apparently was one of the most popular events at the fair, so much so that our team were completely exhausted at the end of the day. However there is great satisfaction in knowing that we have given pleasure to a lot of people, and in knowing that some (especially the ones who were hitting the bullseye) indicated their intention of taking up the sport seriously.

Some of our members manned a stall at Austrey's own Open Gardens Weekend, which again gave opportunity for us to talk to villagers and visitors about what we get up to. Happily some of the visitors showed interest in joining one of our training sessions.

Our training courses follow the syllabus of the national body, Archery GB, and are conducted by fully qualified instructors. They consist of five sessions of about two hours each and essentially teach how to use the equipment and, importantly, how to use it safely. All equipment is provided by the club during the course, and may continue for a while after completing training until members buy their own equipment.

Although archery is an Olympic sport, it may be practised by people of any age and any level of fitness, because equipment is geared to the strength and skill of the user. And as the picture taken at Thorpe Country Fair shows, there is no height limit! Our group shoots on Saturday afternoons and Wednesday evenings on Austrey Playing Field during the summer and indoors during the winter, so it really is an all-year-round sport.

Do come along to see us sometime. And if you would like to know more about the club, or would like to join our next training session in September, it would be good to hear from you. Check us out on the Austrey website:

www.austrey.co.uk, or email us at austreyarcherygroup@hotmail.co.uk.



Whether you're tall or small archery is the Olympic sport that everyone, of any age or any level of fitness, can try.

Austrey Social Group meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 10am to 12 noon.

There is a 3/4 size table tennis table. You can play beetle, dominoes or many other games, or just sit and chat over tea and biscuits.



GET SOCIAL WITH US!



Contact: **Diana Davies**, tel **01827 896 733**, email diana6539@yahoo.co.uk

Community Timeline

Events and activities for your calendar



Every other Monday we hold a quiz night at the Bird in Hand. The next quiz will take place at 8.00pm on 14th August. Maximum 6 people per team: £1 per person goes into the prize fund. From that night's prize fund the first 3 teams win cash and the rest win a lottery ticket per team.

Saturday 12th August is Polesworth Fire Station Open Day. This will be a fun day for all the family. Please come along and support not only the Volunteer Fire Fighters but also FACES, who will be running the bouncy castles.

Community talks by professional speakers; for those interested in gardening, nature, and history. All welcome—just turn up and listen for only £2 per talk. Enjoy a free cuppa and a biscuit (and a friendly natter) afterwards. Held monthly, on Friday nights at 7.30pm, at Austrey village hall. Organised by AGS.

8th Sep: "History of food in England"
13th Oct: "Apple juicing", bring your own apples and have a go!

Happy 10th Anniversary to the Parish of All Souls which, created in 2007, is formed of St Nicholas Church Austrey plus the churches of Warton, Newton Regis, Seckington, and Shuttington with Alvecote.

Two special celebratory events have been planned. There is a Harvest Supper on Saturday 30th September from 7pm in Newton Regis Village Hall, and a Songs of Praise service at St Nicholas Church, Austrey on Sunday 1st October at 6pm. Everyone is very welcome to join in!

For more information why not buy "The Dove" magazine, available at Austrey Stores, price only 70p.

Austrey Archery Group's next training course will run for four Saturdays from 2nd Sep at Austrey Playing Field. For info contact: austreyarcherygroup@hotmail.co.uk

Please note that from 7th August Newton Lane will be closed for 54 days. The first 10—14 days will be at the junction with Warton Lane.

List Your Event With Us!

Let us know about your event(s) for our October / November edition.

Austrey WI: 14th September "Life of a Crown Court Judges Clerk", 13th October "Fun with Clay" For more info, contact Pat Lamb 839153
Newton Regis WI : 7th September "WI Show", 5th October "I wouldn't be seen dead in a sidecar!". For more info contact Rhona Oxford 830581

England v West Indies Test Match (day 3). Saturday 19th August. Play 2 - 9pm. This is the first day/night Test Match in this country.

If you are interested in this event, add your name to the list in the bar at the Bird in Hand, Austrey. Alternatively phone **Gareth** on **07823330454** or email him on garethgriffiths1234@gmail.com

Can you spare some time on Thursday 24th August? Friends of Austrey C of E School (FACES) will be holding a tidy up day at the school. All help is welcome and will be greatly appreciated—even half an hour or so! You don't have to have a child at the school to help us out.

Austrey Social Group trips:

Sunday November 26th, coach to Thoresby Hall (Warners hotel) for lunch, followed by an afternoon of entertainment. There will be the opportunity to look around the Hall and grounds. £40 pp, £20 deposit.

April 23rd 2018 - 5 days Warner Hotel, Hayling Island. Two excursions included. £309 pp.

Contact **Diana Davies 896 733** diana6539@yahoo.co.uk

Austrey Residents' Assoc.

Austrey Residents' Association was set up several years ago to address some of the concerns that residents might have about a variety of village issues. It is free to join and provides a free monthly email bulletin to all members. The ARA is currently addressing issues including HS2, new housing and drainage; these are all points identified by members as being important through our most recent survey of their concerns. If you would like to join or know more about what we do please contact **David Rowe : 01827 830 342** davidwrowse@btinternet.com

Friendship, Fun, and Fresh Air : Austrey Golf Society

The Austrey Golf Society is over 20 years old. Although none of the founders are still playing the Society is thriving with over 25 current members.

Many of the members live in Austrey and surrounding villages. We play at various Midlands golf clubs including Drayton Park, Maxstoke, The Belfry and Willesley Park in Ashby. We play once a month, always on a week day, and at least 8 times a year. Costs vary from £25 - £40 for an 18 hole game and usually include an English breakfast before we tee-off.

Our choice of golf courses is varied, from Championship to more local courses, and we look to play at different golf clubs every few years. So far this year we have played at Kedleston in Derbyshire, Druids Heath near Walsall, Great Barr in Birmingham and Longcliffe near Loughborough and (fingers crossed) we have been very lucky with the weather at each event.

Attendance is optional, although at least 16 members meet up and play, and quite often members bring friends or work colleagues along as guests. Being in the Society is great fun as it gives golfers the opportunity to play, with friends, at different local Golf Clubs at a much reduced cost.

We have 3 events still to play this year. Ingestre (Stafford) on the 18th August, Bloxwich (Walsall) on the 22nd September, and Whittington on the 18th October. Our 2018 events, starting in March, will be organised soon.



Membership is only £25 per year, and the fee goes towards prizes and our optional annual Christmas dinner. Guests are always welcome, at the same cost. If you are interested in joining, or would like to come along as a guest to see if you would like it, then you would be most welcome.

Please contact **Steve Fenton** at the Austrey Golf Society by email at: stephen.fenton@btinternet.com

Austrey and Warton Scouts

It has been a busy couple of months for all sections at Austrey and Warton Scouts. In June, we had a float and a walking group at Warton Carnival, both themed on what activities the children get to participate in at Scouts. Our float entry came second and the walking group came third. We also had a hook a bag stall at the carnival which was well supported.

The Beavers and Cubs joined in at Austrey Open Gardens, running Scouting themed activities in Fiona's back garden and having a night camping there. Sadly, due to a lack of volunteers, we were not able to participate at the FACES summer fayre at the school. This same lack of volunteers has also resulted in the cancellation of our summer camp.

Our Scouts were given the opportunity to join in with Tamworth District at the Staffordshire Big Camp for Scouts and Explorers with 950 other Scouts and Explorers from all across Staffordshire. All of the young people had a great time doing water activities like kayaking and canoeing, or activities like zip wire, abseiling and air rifle shooting. One of the favourite challenges was survival skills which involved gutting mackerel and cooking it—they smelled of fish for the rest of the day! Currently the group are looking for a Beavers leader, this is the section for children between 5³/₄ and 8 years old; we also need helpers for all the other sections. We are really struggling for support, so if you have any time that you could give to help the children experience new activities then please contact either **Fiona Rouse** on **07939 114360** or **David Widdas** on **07740 803807**. Please also use these contact numbers if your child is interested in joining us. All sections run on a Monday night at Austrey School and new members are always welcome. Thanks — Mark Neate – Scout Leader



*One for all, and all for fun.
Toasting marshmallows at the
Open Gardens scout camp.*

FACES (Friends of Austrey Church of England School) is a charity that exists to provide pupils with added extras that can be beyond the reach of the school. Our fundraising is mainly done by putting on events with a dual purpose - for the enjoyment of pupils at all levels, and for fundraising. FACES consists of a small group of parents who meet up a few times each year to plan these events.



Our chocolate bingo event at Easter raised over £600. This was so popular that we needed a bigger school hall as we were at maximum capacity. Every child that attended left with some chocolate and a big smile! In May, we held a sponsored walk. We all soaked up the sun and the pupils enjoyed the fun time outside. We raised in excess of £1,000 which will be split between the school and pre-school who both participated. Recently we ran a Summer Fair for the first time in a number of years. Everyone that attended had a great time, and it was a very successful event.

How have we spent the funds we have raised?

- We have secured funding for a school based text service so the school can be in direct contact with most parents.
- A recent literacy day at school was enhanced by the provision of the poet SPOZ. The children told us they had a great day and benefited from it.
- The school portion of the sponsored walk money will fund new outdoor play equipment. The children have suggested what items they would like us to buy.

Without the support of the school staff, parents, and the wider community, FACES would not be able to provide the events that it does. I would like to say a huge Thank You to all past and present members, volunteers, and everyone involved in helping to raise money for the school. FACES is very much a community organisation, so you don't need to have a child currently at the school to help us. If you have any suggestions or would like to support us in any way please email me, **Matthew Mills**, at mattym52@hotmail.co.uk.

Parish Council, Government and Austrey Village Contacts

To maximise the space we have available to bring you the news we will no longer be publishing a list of contact phone numbers in every single edition of the newsletter. However we have made sure the list is still easily available. To get the contact list **either** print it off from www.austrey.co.uk, **or** 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. Footpaths however are the responsibility of a volunteer Mr Pete Yates who should be contacted directly in the first instance on 830 009. Mr Yates is also the snow warden.

Editorial Policy

The Austrey News is prepared for the Parish Council; containing updates about local events, groups, charities and businesses which are of interest to villagers. Its aim is to keep everyone informed of anything that affects our community. It is produced bi-monthly and delivered to all houses within the parish, and can also be downloaded from www.austrey.co.uk.

Advertising charges per edition are:

- £5.00 for 4.4cm high x 6.1cm wide
- £8.75 for 8.9cm high x 6.1cm 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 Post: Austrey Parish Council postbox, outside Village Shop, Main Rd, Austrey

News Copy Deadlines

October edition — by September 7th
December edition — by November 7th
February edition — by January 7th