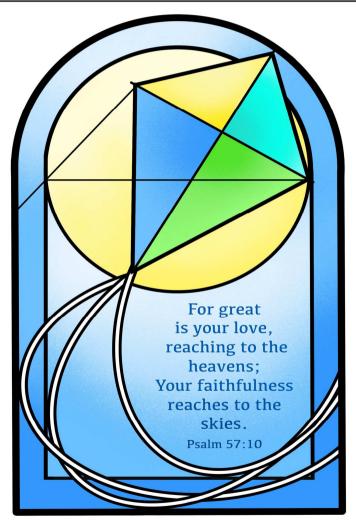
Our Parish

Aston-Cum-Aughton

August 2025



If you would like to make a donation towards the costs of producing this magazine, please contact the Editor 07950 412753









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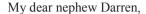
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On the annual war of pumpkin-growing

The Rectory
St James the Least of All





Anyone who thinks that the English are a peaceful race has obviously never organised the annual pumpkin growing competition. Very regrettably, one of the Pilgrim Fathers sent a handful of pumpkin seeds to a relation in this parish in the 17th century and ever since, the church has been obliged to hold an annual competition to see who can grow the largest. I suspect some of the original recipients of those seeds still compete. There is a certain irony that the church, which is supposed to promote peace and harmony, sponsors the most war-like activity in the annual calendar.

Mobilisation starts at the beginning of the year when seeds are planted. From that moment on, every other potential entrant is regarded as the Enemy. Once seedlings are planted out, then heavy armaments are placed at boundaries to deter possible invasion. By late Spring, paranoia has taken over and rumours begin to circulate of espionage and sinister undetectable herbicides. Anyone in the village with a beard is looked on with deep suspicion.

In the weeks before the competition, homes, partners and children are abandoned, as contestants talk to their pumpkins by day and snuggle up with them at night. Should bad weather arrive at this point, then I am blamed for not having prayed sufficiently fervently for sunshine and light rain. If only I had such influence.

On the day before the show, tables are put out and woe betide anyone who places their cake stand where Mrs Cholmondeley has put her tea urn for the past 25 years; she now believes she has squatters' rights to that place, and any challenge to her claim would probably result in litigation.

I find this competitive spirit a little bemusing, as for the last 25 years, the Earl of Stowe has always won first prize. That his mother, the Dowager Countess, is the judge, is, I am sure, pure coincidence. That she has arrived for the past three years with a white stick and accompanied by a golden Labrador does, however, raise doubts.

To award the Earl any prize at all does seem a little unfair, when the only time he ever gets mud on his boots is when he falls off his horse while hunting. I suspect he would be hard pressed to find where the kitchen garden is on his estate. But to give any credit to his gardening staff would be seen as bad form, so we all keep quiet.

It has been tentatively suggested that another judge should be appointed, but no one has so far had the courage to step forward. They may have the privilege of nominating the winner, but they would also have to face a 12 month period of hatred from all those who were not successful. Christmas card lists will be amended. Families may have sat next to them in church for generations, but would suddenly find it more congenial to worship in another part of the church. Letters would be strangely mis-delivered, and the butcher's boy would suddenly deliver lamb when pork had been ordered. Who could dare to take on such a poisoned chalice?

Your loving uncle, Eustace



ALL SAINTS ASTON SERVICES IN AUGUST 2025

Sunday 3 August

10:30am All Age Worship

Sunday 10 August

10:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 17 August

10:30am Holy Communion

6:00pm SAID EVENSONG with Hymns

Sunday 24 August

10:30pm Holy Communion

6:00 pm SAID COMPLINE with Hymns

Sunday 31 August

10:30pm Songs of Praise







Holy Trinity Church Ulley Services in August

Sunday 3 August

9:00am Holy Communion

Sunday 10 August

10:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 17 August

10:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 24 August

10:30am Morning Worship

Sunday 31 August

10:30am Songs of Praise - at All Saints ASTON

WHO TO CONTACT AT HOLY TRINITY

Church Wardens:

Charlotte Darling: 07957 627402 charlottedarling@live.co.uk Sue Hubbard: 07793 046238 suehermec@hotmail.com

Weddings: If you want to talk about getting married, or to book your wedding please contact Sue Hubbard 07793 046238 suehermec@hotmail.com

Baptisms: If you would like to arrange a Baptism please E-mail our Baptism co-ordinator, Gloria Hope on Baptism@gloriahope.uk

Funerals: To arrange a Funeral please contact Sue Hubbard 0114 287 3846,

suehermec@hotmail.com



THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO ALL SAINTS CHURCH



We could not fulfil our God-given vision without your generous offering of your time, talents and finance. We encourage everyone to give but especially regular members of the church in order to contribute to the vision of the church and the activities associated with it.

You can give in many different ways...

- 1. On Sundays. When the offering plate or basket is passed around the congregation. Please also consider using the envelopes in church so that we can benefit from Gift Aid, where we can **claim an extra 25p of every £1** of your donation from the Government!
- 2. Any Day the Church is open. At the back of church, we have a contactless giving machine that can take a donation from your Debit or Credit card. Contactless giving enables people to give in a way that they feel comfortable to, using their card to make a transaction in the same way they would in everyday life. It is ideal for casual visitors who do not have regular giving set up but would like to give. Please also consider using the envelopes in church so that we can benefit from Gift Aid, where we can claim an extra 25p of every £1 of your donation from the Government!
- 3. Regular Giving (Gift Aid Scheme) Please contact our Gift Aid Secretary, who will help to who will help to arrange a regular bank standing order or gift envelope where we can **claim an extra 25p of every £1** of your donation from the Government.

Gift Aid Secretary - Carl Spencer
Tel: **07450 648964** or E-Mail: **office@allsaintsaston.org**and mention Regular Giving (Gift Aid Scheme)



Smiling is Infectious

Smiling is infectious, you catch it like the flu, When someone smiled at me today, I started smiling too.

> I passed around the corner and someone saw my grin. When he smiled I realized I'd passed it on to him.

I thought about that smile, then I realized its worth. A single smile, just like mine could travel round the earth.

So, if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected. Let's start an epidemic quick, and get the world infected!

by Spike Milligan (1918 - 2002)

Terence Alan 'Spike' Milligan (16 April 1918 – 27 February 2002) was an Irish comedian, writer, musician, poet, playwright and actor.

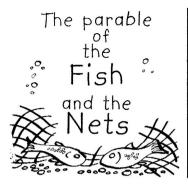
The son of an English mother and Irish father, he was born in British India where he spent his childhood before relocating in 1931 to England where he lived and worked for the majority of his life.

Disliking his first name, he began to call himself *Spike* after hearing the band Spike Jones and his City Slickers on Radio Luxembourg.

He was the co-creator, main writer, and a principal cast member of the British radio comedy programme the *Goon Show* performing a range of roles, including the characters Eccles and Minnie Bannister.

He was the earliest-born and last surviving member of the Goons.





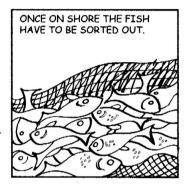




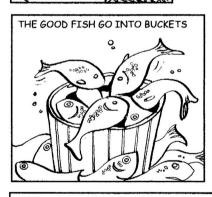
ONCE JESUS SAID THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN WAS A BITLIKE CATCHING FISH!





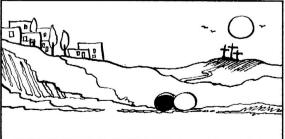


...WHEN THE NETS ARE FULL. THEY PULL THEM TO SHORE









BUT EVEN IF WE MAKE TERRIBLE MISTAKES - WE CAN ALWAYS BE FORGIVEN - THAT'S JESUS' PROMISE.



THE PILGRIM'S AIDING

God be with thee in every pass, Jesus be with thee on every hill, Spirit be with thee on every stream, Headland and ridge and lawn;

Each sea and land, each moor and meadow,
Each lying down, each rising up,
In the trough of the waves, on the crest of the billows,
Each step of the journey thou goest.

A Celtic prayer collected by Alexander Carmichael

For sixty years the folklorist Alexander Carmichael (1832–1912) traversed Scotland's Outer Hebrides isles collecting and translating the traditions of its Gaelic-Catholic people.

His eventual trove contained a little of everything - their ballads, prayers, proverbs, hymns, charms, incantations, runes,

Carmichael's labour of love was published in six volumes across seventy years as Carmina Gadelica ("Hymns of the Gael").

poems, tales and songs.



ALL SAINTS CHURCH ASTON ROTA FOR SIDESPEOPLE

AUGUST 2025

3	ALL AGE WORSHIP	Paul Moakes & Marjorie O'Neil
10	HOLY COMMUNION	Gill Ward & Ann Mason
17	HOLY COMMUNION	Bill Mawson & Pauline Martin
24	HOLY COMMUNION	Sheila Brown & Pam Taylor
31	SONGS OF PRAISE	Paul Moakes & Marjorie O'Neil



WEDDINGS AT ASTON ALL SAINTS CHURCH



Are you planning your wedding? Why not come and see our beautiful 12th century church and have a chat with our wedding team to see if we can help you have a truly memorable day.

Aston All Saints is a wonderful setting for your wedding and of course it is ideally situated if you are planning to hold your reception at the outstanding Aston Hall Hotel which is just a two minute walk away.

Did you know that you can now be married in our church even if you don't live in this parish?

If you would like to come and have a look around please get in touch with our wedding team by:

E-mail weddings.astonallsaints@gmail.com or Phone 07934 101538

We would love to be 'The perfect place for your perfect day'.



8th August: St Dominic, the Saint who believed in learning



If you enjoy reading the Bible and in encouraging others to have faith in God, then Dominic is the patron saint for you. His passion for helping Christians to learn and proclaim their faith led him to found the Order of Preachers, or Black Friars, because of the black cape they wore over white habits. They are also known as the Dominicans.

Dominic was born in Calaruega, Spain in 1170, the youngest son of the warden of the town and nephew to the archpriest of Gumiel d'Izan. Becoming an Austin canon of Osma cathedral, Dominic spent seven years as a priest, devoted to prayer and penance. In 1201 he became sub-prior to his community.

In 1208 the Papal Legate was murdered. It sparked a crusade or 'holy war' against the Albigensian heretics. Dominic worked for reconciliation, refusing to join in the violence and massacres against them. Instead he used instruction and prayer to woo the heretics back, which led to him playing a leading role in founding Toulouse University. That became the foundation for his work in establishing the Friars Preachers at Toulouse in 1215, which occupied the last seven years of his life. Three times he refused a bishopric, believing that this work was more important.

Dominic's 'order' provided communities of sacred learning, with monks devoted to study, teaching and preaching as well as the usual prayer. Dominic believed monks should do more than just commune with God; they should proclaim God's love to others. Dominic was an excellent organiser, and soon his order spread rapidly all over Italy, Spain and France. It met an acute need in the medieval church, and in time the Black Friars became a pioneering missionary force in Asia and even (much later) the Americas.

Dominic travelled widely from 1216 until his death in 1220. His simple tomb was later embellished by Michelangelo, and his usual attributes in art are a lily and a black and white dog, which is a pun (Domini canis) on the name of Dominic. The dog holds a torch in its mouth as a herald of the truth.

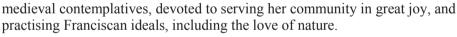


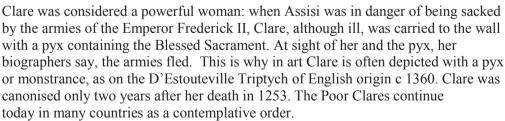
11th August: Clare choosing the riches of Poverty

Clare (1194 – 1253) was the famous virgin foundress of the Minoresses or Poor Clares. Born at Assisi of the Offreduccio family, Clare grew up to hear the teaching of St Francis of Assisi, and at 18 she renounced all her possessions and joined him at the Portiuncula, where she became a nun. Soon Francis found her and her companions a small house adjacent to the church of San Damiano, Assisi, which he had so lovingly restored.

And so it was that Clare became abbess in 1216 of a community of women who wished to live according to the rule and spirit of St Francis. The way of life was one of extreme poverty and austerity, but this did not seem to discourage anyone. For like the Franciscan friars, Clare's nuns soon spread to other parts of Europe, especially Spain, Bohemia, France and England, where four convents were founded in the late 13th and 14th centuries.

Clare never left her convent at Assisi - she became distinguished as one of the great





All in all, Clare's life was one of extreme self-denial and constant contemplative prayer. So it is hard to explain easily why Clare has been named patron saint of television. Perhaps there is a TV company somewhere who wants to launch a series called 'Help! I'm a Saint – get me out of here!'





13th August: Saint Radegund, Victim of Domestic Abuse

St Radegund (518-87) is a saint for anyone who has suffered domestic abuse. She is also a reminder that domestic abuse can occur in any family, however wealthy, and can span the generations, so that some women go straight from violent father to

violent husband.

Radegund was born in 518, the daughter of Berthaire, king of Thuringia in east-central Germany. Berthaire was a brutal man, and Radegund grew up surrounded by violence and intrigue. When she was only 12, she was captured by the Franks, converted from paganism to Christianity and at 18 was given in marriage to Clotaire, a king of the Franks.

Sadly, Clotaire's nominal Christianity did not affect his own natural bent for violence and immorality. Though Radegund was said to have been both beautiful and good, Clotaire was repeatedly unfaithful to her, ridiculing her for her childlessness. When, six years into the marriage, Clotaire murdered Radegund's brother, she fled the court for her life, and sought refuge in the Church.



Radegund took the veil at Noyon, and became a deaconess, known for her alms-giving. But it seems that a lifetime of violence had left deep scars on her spirit, and instead of enjoying her newfound peace and freedom, Radegund turned savagely upon herself. She became an extreme ascetic, refusing most foods. She began to self-harm, binding her neck and arms with three iron circlets which badly cut into her flesh. Sadly, it seems that although her body was freed from the violence of her father and husband, her spirit was still in subjection to violence and suffering. Though she was a Christian, she never took her rightful possession of the joy, love and peace that God offers to all believers through the grace of His Son, Jesus Christ.

Still, Radegund meant well and God blessed her as much as she would let Him. She founded the monastery of Holy Cross at Poitiers, which became a centre for scholarship (the nuns spent two hours a day in study) and also of Radegund's various peace-making activities.

Various ancient churches in France and England were dedicated to her, as well as the Cambridge College now known as Jesus.



THE PEACE OF WILD THINGS

When despair for the world grows in me and I wake in the night at the least sound in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be, I go and lie down where the wood drake rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.

I come into the peace of wild things who do not tax their lives with forethought of grief. I come into the presence of still water.

And I feel above me the day-blind stars waiting with their light. For a time I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

By Wendell Berry (b 1934)

Wendell Erdman Berry is an American novelist, poet, essayist, environmental activist, cultural critic, and farmer.

Closely identified with rural Kentucky. He developed many of his agrarian themes in the early essays of

The Unsettling of America: Culture and Agriculture (1977) in which he argues that agriculture is the foundation of America's greater culture.







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EVERY 3rd WEDNESDAY

@ 2:00PM
IN THE NARTHEX

A BEREAVMENT DROP-IN GROUP WITH REV IAN JENNINGS



ALL SAINTS CHURCH ASTON

SAID EVENSONG with Hymns SUNDAY 17 AUGUST 2025 @ 6:00pm

SAID COMPLINE with Hymns SUNDAY 24 AUGUST 2025 @ 6:00pm

"ALL SAINTS - ALL WELCOME"







MEMORIES OF WARTIME IN ASTON BY JONATHAN LAYNE

In August 2000, Jonathan Layne, a former inhabitant of Aston/Swallownest from 1936-1955 sent me some reminiscences and memories of the villages during the first half of the 20th century. He wrote the following memories of war time.



This photograph shows one of the displays for a Salute the Soldier Week in Swallownest during the Second World War.

One of my father's wartime roles was as a fundraiser. Having fought in the 1914-18 war, his wish was that the troops returning at the end of the conflict should have a British Legion Club to welcome them. The actual club did not materialise until well after the war ended but he set about raising money soon after the war began. At the same time, he raised money for church funds and was local organiser for the War Savings efforts, particularly the special national weeks which were held, each focusing on a particular branch of the armed services.

My brother was a very skilled model maker and did a lot of trading at Woodhouse Grammar School to obtain damaged and battered Dinky Toys, mainly for their wheels. During "Salute the Soldier" week, he transformed Bolsover's Chemist shop window in High Street into a miniature battlefield scene with vehicles, soldiers, barbed wire etc.

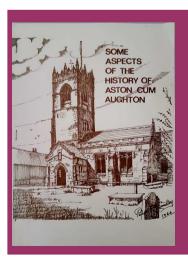


One of the main fund-raising activities were the Saturday night dances held in the Church Hall in Swallownest. This hall had a wartime monopoly since the Miners' Welfare Hall had been commandeered as an emergency first aid station, manned by spare time volunteers of the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry. The dances were very popular. Blackout conditions made travel difficult and, after the raids on Sheffield, people were loathe to travel further afield.

As part of "Wings for Victory" week, my father was persuaded to put on a 'ball' with a section of the nationally renowned RAF dance band, the Squadronnaires. If I remember correctly, tickets including supper were ten shillings (50p) and many people felt that it would be a financial disaster. However, they were proved wrong and the dance made a handsome profit.

I remember being woken in the early hours of the morning by music from downstairs - the band had retired to our house for refreshments and were playing in the living room. During the same week, I returned home from Swallownest School to find two bomber pilots and a WAAF driver drinking tea. The pilots were between tours of duty and had been sent out to raise support for the savings week. They'd just been to address the miners at Brookhouse Pit and were off to Treeton. Although it was against regulations for civilians to travel in service vehicles, I was put into the back of their truck, officer's cap put over my head (and I mean 'over'), an RAF greatcoat draped round my shoulders and off we went. What a story I had to tell at school next day.

Ann Key Secretary Aston-cum-Aughton History Group



Aston-cum-Aughton History Group

We meet in the Reading Room on 1st & 3rd Mondays of each month

7:00pm to 9:00pm.

Contact

Brian Mears 0114 287 7751 Gloria Hope 07788 123044 Ann Key 0114 287 2610



SUMMER SAFETY TIPS FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Want to protect your home?

To have the best possible protection against burglary think **WIDE(N)!**



WINDOWS INTERIOR DOORS EXTERIOR

- Lock your windows
- Put your interior lights on a timer
- Double or deadlock your doors
- Put your exterior lights on a sensor
- (N)EIGHBOURS Keep an eye out for neighbours

Research shows that a set combination of Security Actions provides up to 50 times more protection to your home verses no Security.

A combination of **WIDE** actions is the most effective and recommended by police throughout the country. Additionally, at Neighbourhood Watch we believe neighbours keeping an eye out for each other is also key to preventing burglary.

As with all types of crime, prevention is much better than cure. Taking simple measures, such as locking your windows, leaving indoor lights on a timer, double or deadlocking your doors, and having exterior lights on sensors, can significantly reduce your chances of being burgled. Always double-check you have left your home safe when you walk out your front door.

Opportunity plays a big role in enabling crimes to be committed, particularly burglaries. Most domestic burglaries are committed by opportunists.

Criminals will look for homes that:

- Seem unoccupied
- Have little or no apparent security
- Have doors or windows left open,
- Where they think they won't be seen.

A home's overall impression will influence whether a burglar targets it. As a general rule, if it looks like there is someone inside, the burglar is likely to go elsewhere. A home in a dilapidated state will seem easier to break into, so a simple deterrent might be tidying up a garden, or repainting doors and window frames.

One crime often produces the opportunity to commit another. For example, a burglar may return after a break-in because they know when the owners will likely be out and can expect the property to be full of new replacement items.

Remember, many security products may fail because of how they have been fitted or the quality of their fixings. Products must be fitted correctly and with robust fixings.

Prevention is always best Don't let a crime ruin your well-earned break



ALL SAINTS CHURCH ASTON

CHANGE OF CHURCH WEBSITE & E-MAIL ADDRESS

If you tried to look at the church website in the second half of December - or if you tried to contact us by email at the usual office address, then you will have realized that we had major problems with communication. If you got a 'site unavailable' message, or if your email bounced back, then we apologise.

All is working properly now and we have a new address:

Church Website: www.allsaintsaston.org

Office E-Mail: office@allsaintsaston.org

Our Parish Office is still: 07934 101538



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From the Registers

Baptisms:

Vienna Jean Bagnall Lottie Mae Roberts Laylah Rae Roberts Fredrick Hormsey

Funerals:

Kevin Simons



WHO TO CONTACT AT ALL SAINTS

If you want to talk about getting married, or book your wedding please telephone **07934 101538**E-Mail: weddings.astonallsaints@gmail.com

If you would like to arrange a Baptism please E-mail our Baptism co-ordinator

Gloria Hope on Baptism@gloriahope.uk

If you would like to arrange a Funeral please speak to our Funeral Co-ordinator Gloria Hope **07553 504806**

Having a meeting or party? Why not hire our Narthex.

£15 per hour. No Booking Fee.

Contact E-Mail: office@allsaintsaston.org



REGULAR SERVICES

PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS ASTON CUM AUGHTON

SUNDAYS:	All Age Worship (1st Sunday of the month)	10:30am
	Parish Communion (2nd Sunday and 4th Sunday)	10:30am
	Morning Worship (3rd Sunday)	10:30am
	When there is a 5th Sunday To Be Arranged	10:30am
	Evensong (2nd Sunday)	6.00pm
	Compline (4th Sunday)	6:00pm

WEDNESDAYS: Holy Communion 9.30am

TEAM STAFF ALL SAINTS ASTON CUM AUGHTON

CHILDREN'S MINISTER	R & WORSHIP LEA	ADER: Beth Henshaw	07813 789255
WARDEN: Chris	Ward (All Saints	5)	07949 186202
SAFEGUARDING OFFI	CER: Louise Co	oper	07581 421976
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:	Elliott Wa	lker	07954 685831
MAGAZINE	Peter Maxted	peter@themax2020.co.uk	07950 412753
GIVING SECRETARY	Carl Spencer	office@allsaintsaston.org	07450 648964
MEDDINGS	C:II Marad		

WEDDINGS Gill Ward weddings.astonallsaints@gmail.com

PARISH CHURCH OF HOLY TRINITY ULLEY

SUNDAYS:	Holy Communion (1st Sunday)	9:00am
	Morning Worship (2nd Sunday & 4th Sunday)	10.30am
	Holy Communion (3rd Sunday)	10.30am

TEAM STAFF HOLY TRINITY ULLEY

ASSOCIATE PRIEST : Rev Vicky Camber <i>Vicky_camb</i>	per@yahoo.co.uk 01909 771101
--	------------------------------

FOCAL MINISTRY TEAM HOLY TRINITY:

Peter Hutchinson	0114 442 5340
Margaret Oakley	07803 118944
Gloria Hope	07788 123044

WARDENS: Sue Hubbard (Holy Trinity) 0114 287 3846

Charlotte Darling (Holy Trinity) 07957 627402



Groups and Societies

Aston & District Footpath Walkers Association

Local friendly walking every Thursday. Contact **Mel Partridge on 07731 773832,** or E-Mail melpartridge1943@gmail.com.

Aston Ladies Circle

Meetings are at 7.15pm on Tuesday evenings in the Parish Hall or 'OUT' on trips. **Contact Audrey Jones 0114 287 5518**

Aston-cum-Aughton History Group

Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, 7 - 9pm, William Layne Reading Room, Aughton Lane, Aston. Visitors welcome.

Aston-cum-Aughton Ladies Group

Meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month at 1.45pm in the Narthex at All Saints Church.

Contact: Linda on 0114 287 6696

Dinnington & District Horticultural Society

Evening talks in Anston Parish Hall, Ryton Road, North Anston S25 4DL at 7.30pm. Non members £2.50.

For more details contact: 01909 567326.

Chatterbox Activity Group

for pensioners, carers and over 55's.

Tuesdays 10am to 12:30

at Central Methodist Church Hall, Lodge Lane, Aston.

Members £3.00.

Board Games, Outings and other Events.

Friends of Ulley Country Park

Sunday Café: 11 am to 3 pm. Homemade refreshments including soup, crusty bread, coffee, tea, fruit cordials, cakes and scones. We hope to host a special event at each Café day. Details on the website.



5th Age (charity number 1068378)

This social group meets every Tuesday, 2 - 4pm at Heighton View Community Centre (off Turnshaw Avenue in Aughton).

Open to anyone over 55. Just drop in: ask for Julia. Membership free.

Contact: enquire5thage@outlook.com

Prospects

An inclusive service with those with learning difficulties. All welcome! We learn stories from the Bible, (sometimes acted out); sing songs together in worship and celebration and end with cake.

Swallownest Baptist Church 3rd Sunday of each month at 3pm.

Contacts: Malcolm 07720 776081 or Elizabeth 07594 410801



Little Angels - CURRENTLY CLOSED

Playgroup for babies and pre-school children at The Narthex, All Saints Church, Aston Every Monday 9.30 - 11.30am in Term-time Admission FREE, but donations welcome

Contact for updates: Gloria Hope 07553 504806 or gloria@gloriahope.uk



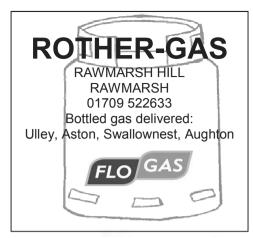
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