

Update

Welcome to our Summer issue with updates on RCG's recent activities and future opportunities. Please share our most recent news with friends and family and remember to give us plenty of feedback which will be warmly welcomed! Thank you.

St Luke's School – Your help made a big difference

As part of our wider support, Redbourn Community Group was pleased to fund new equipment for the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Expedition at St Luke's School.

Mr Marc Tindall, Duke of Edinburgh Co-Ordinator describes The Expedition...

In June, eleven upper school students took on the final challenge of their Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze award. This consisted of 2 days of walking and 1 night of camping using their map reading skills, teamwork, resilience, camp craft and cooking skills. The students undertook a training expedition, followed by their qualifier. They walked a total of 21Km in their qualifier in 23-degree heat, which was an amazing achievement.

All the students worked very hard and were a credit to the school, some were in their element and really worked hard to help their peers. We are all very proud of their huge achievement!

"I really enjoyed walking in the countryside and camping"

"I enjoyed setting up the tents and sleeping in one for the first time"

"I enjoyed walking in the countryside and playing football with my friends"

"I enjoyed walking up the big hills in the countryside"

"I enjoyed cooking and eating the food"

"I liked cooking on my own, cooking marshmallows and hanging out with my friends in the tent"



On behalf of the students and the school we would like to thank Redbourn Community Group for their very generous donation towards the cost of equipment for the expeditions.

You have helped make the expedition safer, enjoyable and inclusive, not just for this group of children, but the many more to come through the programme in the future so thank you!!

Litter ... to be or NOT to be!

A big thank you to the 10 volunteers who are helping to support this new Community Group initiative. We have so far completed 9 litter picks, many around the High Street, with other areas including the Common, Lybury Lane, and around the schools.

Our aim is to complete a few sessions each month so volunteers can join in when it suits them. Thanks to the Parish Council, St Albans District Council and our own resources we have been able to provide everyone with a litter picker and have ordered more RCG Hi-Vis vests so that volunteers are visible. The 'team' are continuing to litter pick around their own locality too.

Lots of people stop to talk as we are out and about – they are thankful for RCG's support and share what they are doing re litter. For example, we were praised recently outside the Co-Op by someone who suggested that we had just the right skills to go to Glastonbury. Apparently, every year they need thousands of litter volunteers and love having those who are already involved in their local community. Maybe something to think about for 2023!!

Share your ideas ...

Share your ideas or offer to help occasionally

Any ideas or information about litter hot spots are very welcome.

If you would like to join us, even if it is occasional, or you want to litter pick in your own neighbourhood get in touch. We may be able to supply you with a litter picker and vest.

My contact details are:

peta@redbourncg.org

Please get in touch.

Can you help?

St Albans City & District Council (SADC) are responsible for most of the bins and litter in Redbourn. Generally, the rule is that they are responsible for grounds maintenance where the land or asset is adjacent to a highway. SADC are therefore responsible for the whole of the High Street, including the bins closest to the High Street in Cumberland Gardens, and all other Redbourn Streets.

Adopt a bin - One of the suggestions we have had (thanks to Helen) is that several people within the village could 'adopt' a litter bin close to their home. That would just involve reporting the bin if it is full and/or has litter around it. The best and simplest way to do this is to use this address.

Visit: <https://www.stalbans.gov.uk/street-cleaning>

Here you can report litter in the following categories:

- **Street and public areas**
- **Fly tipping**
- **Emptying litter bins**
- **The High Street**
- **Dog fouling**

Can you help the community access mobility equipment?

We are looking for volunteers to work as team to share this important role, delivering wheelchairs and rollators to those in our community who need them. It could be as little as 2/3 hours a month and could be ideal for someone who wants to be actively involved in supporting local people. Thank you!



For details visit:

<https://redbourncg.org/.../redbourn-community-group.../>

If you would like to have a chat please call **01582 794550** or email: **info@redbourncg.org**





FOODBANK DISTRIBUTION CENTRE

Food parcel collection for registered clients

Mondays from 14.00 - 15:30

Redbourn Methodist Church, North Common, AL3 7BU



Redbourn Community Group and St Albans & District Foodbank are united in believing that no one should have to go without food or make choices about food or fuel. If you or anyone you know is in need of food support in Redbourn, please contact the RCG office on 01582 794550 for a referral

Donations of allotment produce will be welcomed during opening hours

Other donations may be left at St Mary's, the Co-op or NISA Weymans

Thank you to everyone who helps and to all who give so generously

For more information visit the St Albans & District Foodbank

[Donate food | St Albans and District Foodbank](https://www.stalbansdistrict.foodbank.org.uk)

Call 01727 613019 - option 3

Email: info@stalbandsdistrict.foodbank.org.uk

Charity Number: 1158917



Thank you Co-Op

Sincere thanks to our local Co-op who have subsidised several Redbourn Community Group outings this summer including several to WHIPSNADE ZOO.



More are planned for September. We have been able to provide many residents with their first big outing, post pandemic. Having glorious weather is debatable when visiting a zoo as the animals, like humans, search out the shade in an effort to keep cool. However, no one let that deter them from having a very enjoyable day. The scenery across the Downs was breath taking, the penguins were comical, particularly the rock hoppers and the penguin talk very informative.

We had very good sightings of white rhinos; yaks and camels, and spotted big cats and deer well camouflaged in the undergrowth. The elephants were seen in the far distance. Lunch was enjoyed in the café where the waitress was very friendly and helpful, and the conversation over lunch was non-stop. After lunch visits to the aquarium and the butterfly house ensured that we were able to see the many beautiful butterflies and two, not so beautiful, West African dwarf crocodiles! The visits end with a display of free flying birds swooping over the heads of the audience – three watched the display whilst the remainder rested in the shade of a very welcome tree.

All agreed it was a lovely day and it was so nice to be able to socialise with friends and enjoy time together. What next? A day out at Southend is planned for July and more exciting places in September! Thank you to the amazing RCG volunteers who drive the minibus and look after everyone with such care.

Jubilee Celebrations

Many of you will have enjoyed the celebrations over the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend.

One of the local highlights was the **Big Jubilee Picnic on the Common...** Local resident Susan David joined the parade - "This "housecoat" was one of two made by my mother Nora and her sister Enid in South Shields either pre or during WW2. The floral fabric is a kind of taffeta the second one was long ago cut up for patchwork etc.

I wore this outfit at a celebration event for the 50th anniversary of the NHS in 1998 at Harperbury Hospital. It has plenty of life in it for another anniversary (any suggestions?). Thanks also to the many Redbourn Community Group and other volunteers who braved the weather to support the event, including dodgem rides! It was a substantial effort in partnership with many others including the Parish Council.



Farewell Rev'd Will ...

On behalf of all the trustees and volunteers of Redbourn Community Group we want to send a huge thank you and fond farewell to Will. He has been a fantastic, hands on, involved, interested and hugely helpful trustee over the last 12 years.

Our former Chair and now President of RCG, Barry Welch, remembers his support fondly. "Will has always been very eager to take responsibility for appropriate issues arising and has played a full and important role as trustee and volunteer. I was always very pleased with and welcomed his contribution to debates and problem solving.

There is no doubt that Will has left his mark on Redbourn, and he will be very much missed by his congregation and the many people he has helped along the way. We owe a debt of gratitude for his valuable contribution to the work of Redbourn Community Group and the community in general. I wish him all the best in his new role and I am sure that our loss will be St. Albans gain."

Sally Bartlett, on behalf of all the current trustees, has this to say "Will has always been there to provide advice, guidance, direction and wisdom to RCG. His enthusiasm for the village and the community of Redbourn shines through in everything he contributes to the charity. He is a very experienced trustee of other organisations and this insight, as well as his pastoral commitment to the village, has been of great value to us. We wish him and his family much happiness and success for the future."



Redbourn Community Group

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www.redbourncg.org



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