



Are going to the
MOVIES

**Official Carnival
Show Guide**

7th, 8th & 9th July 2023

FREE





BARN DANCE

Life of Riley return for their 5th successive year to get everyone up and dancing at the Carnival Barn Dance.

WHEN: Friday 7th JULY 2023

TIME: 19:30 - 22:30 Hrs

WHERE: Carnival Showground,
Sandhills Farm, SE Davis, Astwood Bank.

TICKETS: £10 each - Under 16s Free

LICENSED BAR & FOOD

Supplied by THE WHY NOT

NEW FOR THIS YEAR
Come and ride the Bucking Bronco



Link to pre order tickets:

www.astwoodbankcg.co.uk/barn-dance

For more information and to order tickets please contact us on
chair@astwoodbankcg.co.uk | www.astwoodbankcg.co.uk

Barn Dance sponsored by - Slimstock



A free shuttle bus provided by Royal Motorways on the night
- collecting and dropping revellers from the bus stops to and
from SE Davis Yard and the island at Crabbs Cross -
between 6.45 and 10.30!



@ABankCarnival



Astwood Bank Community Group CIG 36th ANNUAL CARNIVAL

Honorary Presidents: David & Julie Smith
Honorary Show Chaplin: Fr. Glenn Reading

Directors: Ashley Hewitt, Alison Flower, Bruce Jones, Charlotte Shepard, Christine Stockton, Julian Davis, Kiera Jauncey-Rock, Matt Connor-Hemming, Rob Lomas, Rob Harrington, Steve Connor-Hemming, Tess Hawkes and Vicky Hewitt.

Telephone: 07745 525840 | **Email:** secretary@astwoodbankcg.co.uk

Astwood Bank Community Group are most grateful to the Davis Family for their kind co-operation in permitting the use of the showground and car park.

All show information is available on-line at www.astwoodbankcg.co.uk

PIMM'S BAR

British Pimm's on a Summer's day!

What could be better than a refreshing glass of traditional British Pimm's on a summer's day? The quintessential way to relax and watch the Carnival go by.

Sponsored by



CARNIVAL GRAND DRAW

50p a ticket or a book of 4 for £2.00

(Available on the Carnival Showground, or we will be selling door to door, so keep an ear out for us!)

Amazing prizes to include £100.00 cash donated by Buntings Magnetics, an amazing Hair Package donated by Paul Farr and the Destin team, Vouchers from Jake - The Barbers Shop, Astwood Bank.

Plus lots more so don't miss out!

Letter from the Chairman



I am delighted to welcome you to the 36th Astwood Bank Carnival.

Before I tell you about the many great things for you to see and do, huge thanks need to be given to the exhibitors, trade stands, volunteers, and sponsors without whom this spectacular event would not take place. The Carnival has spanned many decades, bringing old and new friends together to provide a valuable event in the lives of the community and surrounding areas. In Astwood Bank we take great joy in continuing the tradition of our annual carnival.

The weekend kicks off on Friday 7th July 2023 at 7.30pm with a Barn Dance in the Marquee on the Carnival Showground, SE Davis, Sandhills Farm, Astwood Bank, B96 6BG. The Barn Dance was first held in 2017 and it has now become a much-loved village tradition on the evening before the Carnival. Last year was a sell-out event with everyone enjoying dancing into the night. This year the ever-popular *Life of Riley* will return to provide the music.

The theme for this year's Carnival is '*Astwood Bank Goes To The Movies!*', celebrating great movies through the years. The Carnival Royalty will lead a succession of floats, bands and walking groups to the showground at Sandhills Farm. The field will be packed with plenty of entertainment throughout the afternoon, including an amazing line up of arena acts and other activities, such as pony rides, fairground attractions, and the fun dog show (categories including waggiest tail, cutest puppy and best veteran) and static displays. This year's headline arena acts are *Stannage International Stunt Display Team* and *Neil Varney's Twist Mount Gundogs*, who will perform throughout the day.

There will be a car display to enjoy, featuring a wide variety of motors from classic through to modern vehicles, and a range of other activities for the family, including pony rides and face painting. In addition, a diverse range of food will be available to buy, including the return of our very popular Pimm's and Beer Tents provided by *The Why Not Inn*. The Beer Tent will host entertainment throughout the day. Take a leisurely saunter around the large shopping area of trade stands where you will find crafts, charity and retail stands, to name but a few.

Rounding off the weekend festivities will be the Carnival Finale, to be held at *The Why Not Inn* on Sunday 9th July, from 12noon, with performances from *David Lloyd the Music Man*, face painting, children's entertainment, with an outside bar and BBQ.

This year, for the first time, we are asking for donations to enter the showground to help meet the ever-rising costs required to stage this event. This decision has been long discussed and postponed for several years. However, we have now arrived at the point where it is unavoidable if the carnival is to continue as the dynamic event it has become.

Any donations received will be very much appreciated as the funds raised are invested back into the community through grants to organisations and community projects, such as the Christmas lights, Astwood Bank in Bloom, and the local Air Ambulance.

We always welcome feedback and ideas so please come and talk to any of the Community Group Directors (all wearing purple high-viz jackets).

I look forward to seeing you all on the Carnival weekend and I hope you have an amazing time.

Ashley Hewitt

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

A great big THANK YOU from Astwood Bank Carnival Committee

Principal Sponsors

S.E. Davis & Son Ltd



Allelys Group

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Astwoods Construction
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Beaumont Traffic Management
Botany Bay
Bromsgrove Business Waste
Bunting Magnetics
Church Hill Big Local
Cllr Brandon Clayton
Cllr Craig Warhurst
Cllr Emma Marshall
Cllr Jo Monk
Cllr Matt Dormer
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Pete the Meat
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Redditch Dog Walking
Redditch Fire Protection
Redditch Skip Hire
Ridgeway Secondary School
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Starlight School of Dance, Redditch
Tete a Tete
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Total Construction Training
Travis Perkins
Vulco
West Mercia Police
Windsor Carpets
Wonky Donkey Creative
Worcestershire County Council
Workforce Staffing Ltd

CORRECT AT TIME OF PRINTING

Would you be interested in sponsoring the 2024 event?

Please contact Ashley Hewitt on 07745 525840 or ashley.hewitt@astwoodbankcg.co.uk

Astwood Bank Carnival 2023

A Guide to the Showground!



This year's Astwood Bank Carnival promises to be one of the best ever! Back at S E Davis' field, the showground this year offers all the fun of the fair with our visiting fairground rides for the thrill seekers amongst us. We have some bouncy offerings and obstacle courses and the return of our animal corner, to keep our younger visitors entertained.

The main arena is back with some spectacular shows, from professionals as well as displaying some fantastic local talent. We have a second arena with the return of the wonderful wrestlers, who will captivate with their athletic ability and showmanship. Those dog lovers among us can get involved in the dog arena, by entering a pooch in one of the many categories from waggiest tail to handsomest hound.

The trade stand area is bursting at the seams with a wonderful array of offerings, we have cakes, gifts, hobbies and talents on show. We are delighted to be hosting a great number of local businesses selling their wares, as well as welcoming businesses from further afield to offer a real variety to satisfy all shopping tastes.

The popular vintage vehicles area will be displaying a vast array of two and four wheeled vehicles, polished and gleaming ready for display.

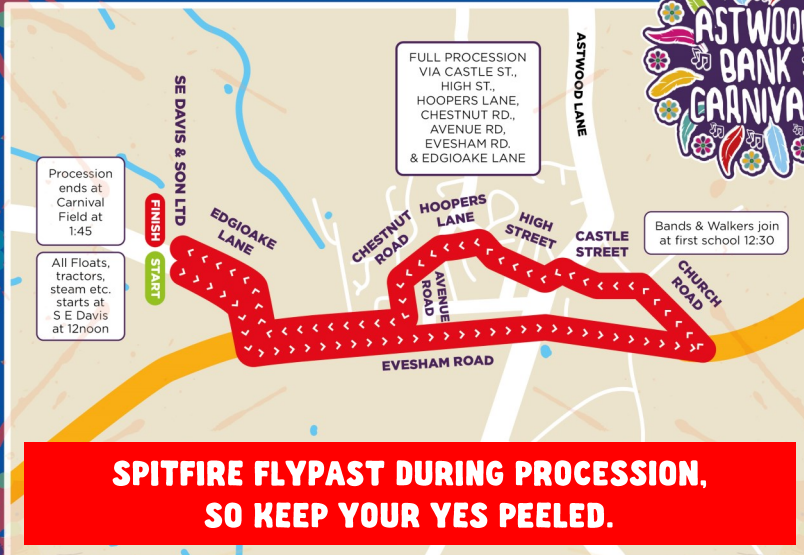
Once you have worked up an appetite you will be spoilt for choice from the selection of food vendors on offer, we have pizza, salt beef, jacket potatoes, Jamaican, Indian, burgers, ice cream and more!

And of course, don't forget to keep hydrated! You can choose from the main bar, where you will be treated to a DJ and some fabulous live music. The Pimm's and prosecco bar offers some summer essentials and there will be a selection of other drinks offerings from barista coffee to specialist gin.

With so much to do and see, we cannot wait to welcome everyone to enjoy this year's carnival showground.

**There is still time to apply for a stall or be part of the Carnival showground
or procession via the weblink: www.astwoodbankcg.co.uk
or email: getinvolved@astwoodbankcg.co.uk**

PARADE ROUTE



NO PARKING

**ROAD CLOSURE IN EFFECT FROM
12 NOON - 2PM**

SATURDAY 8th JULY 2023

Can we

Ask

a favour of all
visitors to this
years Carnival



There is parking on site-
Please, please, please do not
park on the roads around
and leading up to the
Carnival Showground.
*S.E.Davis Yard

Roads and the Carnival site
NEED to be kept clear for
Emergency service vehicles
and access at all times.

- 1 Do not block the main road.**
- 2 Be considerate of residents driveways.**

Mobility

On Carnival Day

If you have ever avoided or stayed away from Carnival Day due to access or mobility, we wanted to let you know that there is specific parking for disabled visitors. Please show your blue badge to any of the parking attendants and they will direct you to the nearest space. There are a limited number of spaces.



You can also access Event Mobility Scooters, both manual and electric. These can be booked in advance or on the day.

Visit the link below:

www.eventmobility.org.uk

Thank you everyone for your cooperation and continued Support

Sustainability

Thank you for supporting Astwood Bank Carnival this year, where the focus is on the environment and all the benefits that this brings to the community.

Astwood Bank Community Group is very conscious that, although the environment is loved by all, it needs to be enhanced, protected and it's cleanliness preserved for the future of all. We have set about developing our sustainability policy to ensure that we can be environmentally friendly and drive towards a carbon neutral future.

This year we have implemented the following:

- Cementing a strong relationship with our official waste partner, Bromsgrove District Council, signage around the showground emphasises the need to carefully consider waste disposal. Clearly marked disposal bins provided by Bromsgrove District Council mean we can maximise the event's waste to recycling and minimise waste to landfill. Please help keep the showground and procession route litter free and dispose of waste appropriately.
- All of our advertising flyers, brochures and programmes are produced using paper from sustainable sources and, of course, it's all recyclable.
- The event caterers are using recyclable packaging and not using any single use plastics in preparing and serving food.
- The traders are encouraged to use sustainable materials in packaging and selling goods and will also assist in encouraging waste disposal in the appropriate way.

Which bin does it go in?

We might do things differently here in Worcestershire - please check which bin to use.

Pink: Recycling

Plastic Bottles
Plastic Pots
Drinks Cans
Cartons
Paper
Cardboard



Please flatten cardboard. You can leave tops/lids on plastic bottles & cartons. Straws that come with cartons are accepted.

Yellow: General Waste

Tissues, Napkins, Wet Wipes & Cotton Wool
Carrier & Bin Bags
Soft Plastics
Plastic Cups
Food Waste
Food Packaging
Crisp Packets
Black Plastic
Disposable Utensils/Plates
(even if they are sustainable or biodegradable, that doesn't mean they are recyclable)



Or please take it home.
Thank you for doing your bit to make our event sustainable.

 **Worcestershire recycles**



 **Bromsgrove District Council**
Business Waste Team
01527 881188



ROAD
CLOSED



CARNIVAL DAY TRAVEL ADVICE

CAR PARK

There is a free of charge car park on the showground but remember this will become very busy. The car park is open from 9am.

PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Will be in place across the carnival procession route. These restrictions allow the procession to proceed unhindered and help to ensure spectator and participant safety. Please help us by keeping the procession route clear of parked cars.

ROAD CLOSURES

A road closure will be enforced during the procession, various roads around the village will be closed for safety purposes. Roads will not be opened until the full procession has returned to the showground.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

This will be affected during the time of the road closure.

Penns

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

-  Mowing & Strimming
-  Hedge Cutting
-  Shrub Bed Maintenance
-  Planting & Landscaping
-  Tree Care & Maintenance
-  Thermoplastic Line Marking
-  Gritting & Snow Clearances
-  Tarmacking
-  Pest Control
-  Playground Surveys
-  Sports Pitch Line Marking



Useful Information

OPENING TIMES

The Astwood Bank Carnival is held on the 8th July 2023 and is open from 10:00 – 17:30. This event is free to attend but donations for entry are welcome. Last entry to the event is at 17.00.

CAR PARKING

Parking is available at the showground.

GETTING HERE USING SAT NAV

The postcode most appropriate for Sat Nav is **B96 6BG**. This will take you to the public car park.

DISABLED VISITORS

We have specific parking for our disabled visitors. Please show your Blue Parking badge to any of the parking attendants and they will direct you to the nearest space. Please be aware that disabled parking is limited.

DOGS

Visitors are welcome to bring their dogs to the event as long as they are kept on a short lead and remain under control. Owners are also responsible for cleaning up after their dogs. Dogs are strictly not to be left in cars.

LOST AND FOUND CHILDREN

If you lose a child on the showground please report immediately to a steward. Similarly, if you find a lost child please report to a steward as soon as possible. Lost children will be taken to the information point located on the showground. If a child (or other vulnerable person) is found, or reported lost,

immediate contact should be made with any event steward, or the police. Once reported people should wait until an event official arrives.

TOILETS

Toilets are situated at various locations around the Showground. Facilities for disabled visitors are also available.

HAND WASHING AND HYGIENE

It is strongly recommended that anyone coming into direct contact with animals should wash their hands immediately afterwards and, in particular, before eating. There will be hand washing stations located around any livestock area.

EMERGENCY

Should an emergency occur at the event please contact the nearest steward who will be able to assist you.

SMOKING

Smoking is prohibited in any enclosed or partially enclosed public area. All cigarette ends should be disposed of once cooled in the bins provided.

FIRST AID

The first aid post is situated on the showground. If you need their assistance at the event, please speak to the nearest steward who will be able to help you.

VETS

We do not have any show appointed vets.

CATERING AND BARS

Numerous mobile catering units are available on the showground. Seating is available. Licensed bars will also be open during the day. Please put all litter in bins provided or take home with you - thank you!

INFORMATION POINTS

Information can be obtained from the entrance gate or from the information point located on the showground.

CASH FACILITIES

To make our traders' lives easier, please try and bring cash with you where possible. Some traders will have access to mobile broadband for card payment transactions but others may not. There will not be a cash machine onsite at the showground.

LOST PROPERTY

Any lost/found property should be taken to the information point located on the showground.

TICKETS

The procession and showground is free to attend with no prior booking required.

STEWARDS

Our stewards are there to help you and will be happy to answer your questions. They are identifiable by wearing Hi-Vis waistcoats and/or badges.

BINS

Litter bins are located throughout the showground for your convenience. Please dispose of your litter responsibly.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The organisers of the event have taken reasonable precautions to ensure the health and safety of everyone present. For these measures to be effective, everyone must take all reasonable precautions to avoid and prevent accidents occurring and must obey the instructions of the organisers, officials and stewards.

The landowners, organisers, sponsors and officials of the Astwood Bank Carnival will not hold themselves responsible for any loss, damage, accidents or injury to owners, handlers, spectators, livestock or any property or vehicle, however caused.

**The 2024 Astwood
Bank Carnival
will be held on
Saturday 13th July**



**Keep up to date with how it is
developing by following us on
Facebook & Twitter**

www.astwoodbankcg.co.uk

Davis Aggregates

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COMPLETE RANGE OF
SAND & GRAVELS, ROCKERY
STONE, WATER FEATURES,
DECORATIVE CHIPPINGS,
RECYCLED & QUARRIED
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**DAILY DELIVERIES TO
YOUR AREA
CAN BE DELIVERED
LOOSE OR IN BULK BAGS**



**OPEN TO
THE TRADE
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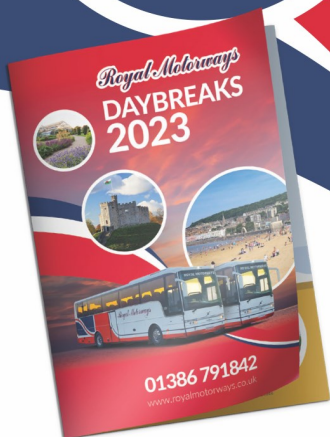
Royal Motorways

COACH HIRE AND DAYTRIPS

Our fleet of coaches is also available for Private Hire, School Trips, Sporting Events, Weddings, Event Transport and Regular Contracts.

Our 2023 Daybreak brochure is out now!

Our ever-popular programme offers a varied selection of excursions, from family days out, trips to popular seaside resorts, and historic venues, to market locations and cultural attractions, with some new additions too!



Call for a quote or a brochure today on:

01386 791842

You can download a copy from our website:

www.royalmotorways.co.uk

Or find us on Facebook for regular updates.



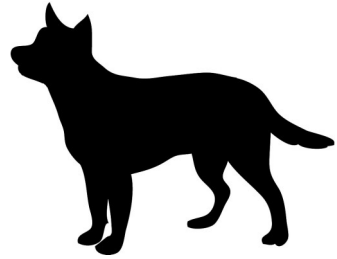
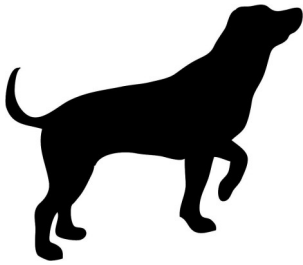
LIGHT UP THE BANK

FOR 2023 LET'S
LIGHT UP THE BANK
BRIGHTER THAN
EVER BEFORE

LAST YEAR'S LIGHT SWITCH ON WAS AN
ABSOLUTE TRIUMPH, AND WE ARE SET TO
GET BIGGER AND BETTER THIS YEAR!!

We would love to see you there on
25th November 2023

If you want to get involved in planning this brilliant event
please drop a note to getinvolved@astwoodbankcg.co.uk
We would love to hear from you.



FUN DOG SHOW

Saturday 8th July 2023

SANDHILLS FARM, SE DAVIS, ASTWOOD BANK

**NEW FOR THIS YEAR - HAY BALE CHALLENGE,
run by Redditch Dog Walking.**



Our famous Carnival Fun Dog Show is back for another year. So bring along your pooches to the Carnival field on Carnival Day and enter them in to classes detailed below. This is a fun-filled attraction for all the family - and your pet!

All dogs that come first in any class will go forward to the Best in Show Class.

Classes include;

1. Best Rescue;
2. Waggiest Tail;
3. Goldie Oldie (8+);
4. Prettiest Bitch;
5. Handsomest Dog;
6. Child Handler (16 years and under);
7. Cutest Puppy (3 to 12 months);
8. Best Condition;
9. Best Crossbreed;
10. Judges Favourite;

Best In Show (winners of categories from 1 - 10).

Sponsored by

McGettigan's 
Veterinary Surgery

ALL DOGS MUST BE ON LEADS.

Arena Timetable

Saturday 8th July 2023

MAIN ARENA

2.00pm	-	2.15pm	-	Shaun Paul Smith Dance Academy
2.15pm	-	2.45pm	-	Neil Varney - Twist Mount Gun Dogs
2.45pm	-	3.15pm	-	Stannage International Stunt Team
3.15pm	-	3.35pm	-	Full Force Wrestling (Arena 2)
3.35pm	-	4.05pm	-	Neil Varney - Twist Mount Gun Dogs
4.05pm	-	4.20pm	-	Starlight School of Dance, Redditch
4.20pm	-	4.50pm	-	Stannage International Stunt Team
4.50pm	-	5.10pm	-	Full Force Wrestling - Rumble (Arena 2)
5.10pm	-	CLOSE		

Crowning Carnival Royalty

BEER TENT / MUSIC STAGE

DJ

Pop-Voices Choir

4.40pm - **GRAND PRIZE DRAW**

Sponsored by

Penns
GROUNDS MAINTENANCE



Shaun Paul Smith Dance Academy

is an exciting new project, specialising in street dance and based at the heart of Shaun's home town *Redditch*.

The academy offers exceptional creative training whilst installing confidence in our youth and building a community like no other. Your child is going to love it!

Shaun Paul Smith is a widely renowned and sought after Choreographer who is well known for his versatility.

His credits include Choreographer for Kidz Bop UK, Choreographer on 'The Voice UK' and Resident Director for the acclaimed ZooNation Dance company.

Specialising in working with youth, Shaun, a Father of two has a passion for educating, developing and creating a fun, hard working and creative environment for our young performers.

FULL FORCE WRESTLING PRESENTS



LIVE WRESTLING

ASTWOOD BANK

CARNIVAL

08/07/23



Neil Varney - Twistmount Gundogs

Neil's team of Twistmount Gundogs gives demonstrations that are both informative and entertaining as they introduce your visitors to the way of the Gundog.

Neil is an internationally recognised gundog trainer who writes for Shooting UK and regularly travels the country giving demonstrations, training sessions, seminars, competing and judging. He has over 30 years' of experience with gundogs.

Neil's teams of highly trained spaniels and retrievers will be put through their paces where Neil will show how to harness the natural drive, instinct and enthusiasm of a puppy or a young working gundog and help them become an obedient and competent shooting companion.



The Stannage Stunt Team

Established by Mark Stannage in the year 2000 the Stannage Stunt Team brings excitement to audiences of all ages.

Following in his father's footsteps - current team manager - Aaron Stannage started his professional career in 1998 at the tender age of 3. Now with over 24 years experience and specialising in car, motorbike, fire and high fall stunts, Aaron has performed some of the most spectacular stunts ever seen on film or TV.

Aaron and his team of stunt performers will perform their spectacular show which includes:

**Highfalls | High Falls on Fire | Motorbike Stunts | Quad Stunts
Ramp Jumping | Car Jumps | Fire Stunts
Explosions | Wheelies | Trick Riding**

This world record breaking stunt team have performed their shows all over Europe and the Middle East, recently returning from the Muscat Festival in Oman and the GT festival in Bahrain. These shows will generate great excitement and is a great crowd puller so don't miss this opportunity to see some of the UK's top stuntmen. Holders of three Guinness World Records.



Oya Batucada and Samba Dance Birmingham



Are looking forward to appearing at Astwood Bank Carnival once again in 2023 . Bringing the vibes and vibrations from Salvador de Bahia and Rio de Janeiro in Brazil via Birmingham !

We are always looking for more members to join us dancing or drumming or both, so if you feel inspired contact us:

oyabatucada@hotmail.co.uk
[@oya_batucada](https://www.instagram.com/oya_batucada)
[@sambadancebirmingham](https://www.instagram.com/sambadancebirmingham)

Worcester Ukulele Club

We delighted to be part of the Astwood Bank Carnival. Our participation last year was great fun and helped us towards the £13,756 that we raised for Pancreatic Cancer UK last year (photos attached).

This year, we are collecting for Acorns Children's Hospice

<https://www.acorns.org.uk/about-us/>

The Worcestershire branch serves Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Herefordshire and Gloucestershire.

We are looking forward to entertaining the Astwood Bank Carnival-goers again this year.





So much to look forward
to this year....

Diary of Events

7th July - Barn Dance, SE Davis, Edgioake Lane.

8th July - Carnival (Astwood Bank goes to the Movies), SE Davis, Edgioake Lane.

9th July - Carnival Finale, The Why Not Inn.

16th September - Food & Drink Festival - 10:00am - 5:00pm, SE Davis, Edgioake Lane.

13th - 14th October - potential Beer Festival watch this space, TBA.

28th - 29th October - Halloween Trail, TBA.

12th November - Remembrance Sunday - 11:00am, War Memorial, Evesham Road.

25th November - Christmas Light Switch On & Christmas Market, Evesham Road.

16th December - Carols at the Club - 4:30pm - 5:30pm, Astwood Bank Club

As with all our events more specific information will follow on social media and leaflets throughout the year!

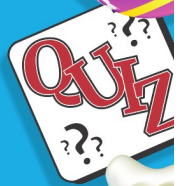
Please like and follow us to keep up to date or visit our website:

www.astwoodbankcg.co.uk for more information.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Like and follow us on:





THE
LOUNGE

Lovely atmosphere and welcoming, friendly staff.

*A vast selection of gins served with fever tree tonics,
and a large selection of cocktails (all made with double measures).
Bottled Cider, Offshore and Blue Moon on draught.*

*Two of the same cocktail for £12 between 5-7pm
Takeaway available*

*Various events throughout the year, check out Facebook:
The Lounge or Instagram: thelounge1244*

*Available for private parties, birthdays, baby showers,
hen do's, Christmas parties.*

Indoor seating and some outdoor seating available.

*Opening Hours
Thursday 5-10.30, Friday 5-11pm and Saturday 4-11pm*

Call: 01527 893965

Email: thelounge1244@outlook.com

Walk ins welcome or message via Facebook Messenger to reserve a table

1244 Evesham Road, Astwood Bank, B96 6AA

5* food hygiene rating



FOOD & Drink FESTIVAL



Sat 16th September 2023



www.astwoodbankcg.co.uk



Astwood Bank CHRISTMAS MARKET

SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER

Apply Now!

Christmas Market
&
Christmas Lights Switch On!

Evesham Road, Astwood Bank





OFTEN THE
SAME PRICE OR LESS
THAN BOOKING
ONLINE!!!

Why book with your local *independent* travel advisor?

- ★ I'm Laura Murphy – Not Just Travel – based locally in Astwood Bank, Redditch
- ★ Convenient and hassle free
- ★ Guidance and advice
- ★ Expert knowledge
- ★ Assurance & security
- ★ Fully ABTA & ATOL Protected

I'm here to make booking your holiday easy and stress free



N NOT JUST
TRAVEL
Laura Murphy



01527 395170 / 07917 431135
laura.murphy@notjusttravel.com

Voted 5 star on



Letter from Rachel Maclean MP

It's hard to believe a whole year has past since last year's Carnival, and in that time I've been working hard on the issues that matter to you here in Astwood Bank.

I know one of the top concerns in the village is speeding along Evesham Road, which is why, over the past few months, your local Councillors and I have been doing all we can to find solutions to this persistent problem.



I can assure you I understand your concerns about speeding along this busy road as I've seen the problem for myself. I've been out with our local police officers and joined them on a speed enforcement exercise along Evesham Road.

I then held a public meeting at St Matthias and St George Church late last year, which many of you attended, to discuss what can be done to tackle speeding. It was made very clear how much of a problem this issue is and the impact it is having on your lives. Astwood Bank is a beautiful place to live, but speeding is a blight on the village.

As promised following the public meeting, Councillor Brandon Clayton, Councillor Craig Warhurst, Councillor Mike Rouse and I have met with our Police and Crime Commissioner, John Champion, and Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, Marc Bayliss, to discuss what more can be done to tackle speeding along Evesham Road.



I'm pleased to let you know that a clear plan of action was agreed at the meeting. This is what will be happening:

- The police and highways officers from Worcestershire County Council will be brought together to further explore options to tackle inappropriate driver behaviour and speeding.
- The Police and Crime Commissioner will ensure officers have the resources and tools they need to improve road safety on Evesham Road.
- And we have also secured a commitment from the Police and Crime Commissioner to ensure the new 'TruCam' technology is available to local Police to be deployed along the Evesham Road. These are speed enforcement devices which can be deployed in more locations where more traditional speed enforcement vehicles cant access.



I promised residents at my public meeting that there wouldn't just be more talk about this issue, but there would be clear action in tackling speeding in Astwood Bank – and that's exactly what's happening.

To receive the latest updates on my ongoing work on this issue, please sign up to my mailing list by visiting:

www.rachelmacleauk

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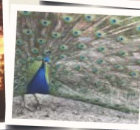
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Bloom 2023

From a very humble start in 2015 with only 13 people, Astwood Bank in Bloom is 'growing' from strength to strength, with at least 50 members of the community working hard to keep the village looking lovely all year round, with planting, watering, weeding, litter picking and generally keeping the village looking 'blooming' good!

In 2022, Bloom entered the national RHS competition 'Britain in Bloom' Heart of England, having won Gold in 2021, the team were anxious to equal this success and the hard work paid off, with a second Gold in 2022! A magnificent achievement involving the wonderful community of Astwood Bank all coming together.

Bloom didn't enter the competition in 2023, to concentrate on the Open Gardens and Flower Festival in May. This was a super successful event with many visitors travelling from far and wide and the village filled with community spirit and friendly faces, as the gardens were explored. There were 20 beautiful gardens open, large and small, as well as the fantastic Flower Festival in the Church, with special offers and discounts from the local businesses on route for ticket holders. Please come and visit us for our next triennial Open Gardens event in June 2026!



Bloom are proudly self-funded now and work hard to raise all of the money needed for the plants around the village, by running stalls and events throughout the year. Open Gardens was a hugely successful fundraiser this year but it costs thousands each year to provide the stunning planters and blooms around the village and every penny donated is much needed and always appreciated - thank you!

So please come and say hello - Bloom will be on the Carnival Field, doing something different this year! With a double stall again - Bloom will be raising awareness of the work they do and providing an amazing opportunity to win some gorgeous 'take away' ready-planted pots, baskets and planters with blooms, veggies or herbs, with their Bloom Tombola Extravaganza! Also, Children in Bloom activities using recycled and natural materials like sand, soil and water, will be set up for the children to enjoy again with their families.

Please note, Bloom's main Plant Sale, with Tessa's infamous Canna's, will still be happening (as always) at The Flower and Produce Show, held on Saturday 18th August from 12pm, at Astwood Bank Club, Dark Lane, B966AS. This event has a lovely atmosphere and the chance to buy fabulous plants and the Club auction all of the produce and flowers from the show. You can bag a bargain box of veg and all monies go to Charity!

There is a Bloom Christmas Decoration course first weekend in December, this is run by fully qualified, expert Florist-Rosemary. This will be the third year and is planned for 2nd & 3rd December 2023. It's a very popular workshop, and getting booked up quickly is key to securing one of the limited spaces.



With seasonal refreshments, including homemade biscuits and Prosecco, what a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the festive season with friends and family! A good time for all, doing something different and you'll leave having learned new skills and with a beautiful hand-made wreath or table decoration (tbc) you can be proud of!

Bloom will also be present at the new 'Light Up the Bank' Christmas Market, the last Saturday in November - it was the first year

in 2022 with fantastic stalls set along the Evesham Road, with entertainment for all!



If you are interested in joining us or if you are interested in any of the events please email Tessa, at **Bloom@astwoodbankcg.co.uk**



Jeremy McGinn & Co are delighted to be supporting the Astwood Bank Carnival once again!

2023 is proving to be another very successful year with local property achieving higher sales figures than expected and we have been delighted to prove this time and again.

You may have noticed some adjustments to our own home here in Astwood Bank as we have merged the team, Dana & Tom, with our Alcester office, to create a formidable team covering Alcester, Astwood Bank, Cookhill, Feckenham, Studley and ALL of the surrounding areas in between.

The door at Alcester is always open for any advice on marketing your home and we offer a completely free, no obligation market appraisal by appointment.

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Carnival Royalty 2023

*Thank you so much for all of the amazing entries into Carnival Royalty 2023.
No Carnival Queen this year but many Princesses waiting in the wings!*

We are proud to announce your Royalty for this year are:

Three Amazing Princesses:

Abi Lomas | Maisey Woodward | Pippa Woodward

One Rosebud: Aoife McCarth

Give them a wave on Carnival Day!

Look out for social media posts from March 2024 on how to get involved in next years Carnival Royalty.



At the Astwood Bank Welfare Association we provide social support & aid for the over 65's and organise social events through different means of fund raising.

With the funds raised so far we have managed to put on Christmas bingo brunch, monthly coffee mornings & a Coronation tea party!

With more funds being raised, we hope to put on a lot more future events for the Astwood Bank Welfare Association, to help raise money, please sign up to the Astwood Bank tote lottery for the weekly prize draws!

We are always looking for volunteers, please contact the ABWA for more information on how to get involved!

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The RBL was formed in 1921 and our branch came into being on the 3rd of March 1933. In the early days we had to have separate meetings for the women's branch and the men as the men met in the coach and horses (now smiles nursery) - This was considered unladylike so it was the Methodist hall and a cup of tea for the ladies!

The Astwood Bank Branch is a small but perfectly formed group and our activities to support the RBL overall mission reflects this.

We have 3 key objectives:

- **Fund Raising** - principally via running the Poppy Appeal in our local area - Tescos being our main site. We raise around £30,000 per year with the help of our army of poppy appeal volunteers
- **Remembrance** - Leading the Act of Remembrance on the 11th of November, the church services & parade on Remembrance Sunday, and other events such as support to local schools Remembrance Services
- **Welfare** - Providing welfare support to local veterans in need

Clearly the busiest time of year for the group is November, however in order to stay in touch and sustain our community throughout the year we have regular monthly meetings at the Astwood Bank Club, a dinner night and summer BBQ and not forgetting the fantastic Xmas lunch that the Bell put on for us. We are also active supporters of the Carnival and the Flower Show

If you are interested in joining the group or becoming a Poppy Volunteer please email our Chairman - Mark Banwell at: mjbanwell@gmail.com

There is absolutely no requirement to be ex services to join us, just an interest in helping our veterans and service families.

**Please join us on 12th November 2023 for Remembrance Sunday,
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
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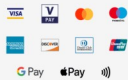
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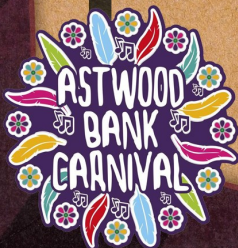
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