

50/50 lottery winners



Ashton Village Group

April 2011 DRAW

1st Prize £58.75 -Peter Costello

2nd Prize £35.25 -Huw Waeland

3rd Prize £11.75 - Sue Wilson

47 Ticket holders, £12.00 to the Xmas draw , now standing at £46.25
£117.50 donated to the Church

For more information, contact:
Bron Kenny (01604 864914)
67 Stoke Road, Ashton
bronkenny@tiscali.co.uk

Thank You Ashton Church

Andy Medhurst and family would like to thank all those at Ashton Church on Sunday 15th May, where his Great grand daughter "Lucy" was christened.

Everyone at the Church made us all feel very welcome. Thank you all.

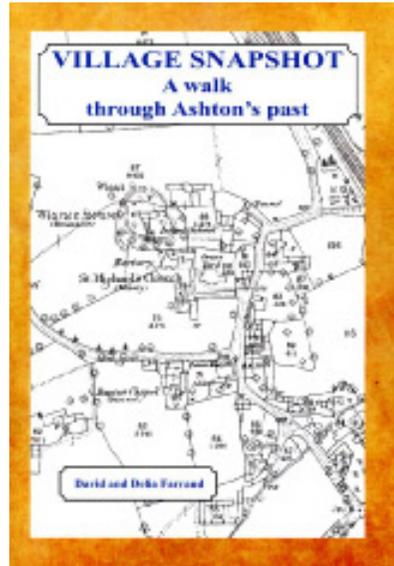
Andy Medhurst

Ashton Parish Council Minutes

are posted:

- On Ashton village web site
- On the village notice boards
- In the Old Crown

Village Snapshot



Village Snapshot - A walk through Ashton's Past. If you missed the opportunity to buy your copy, there are still some available.

Contact Marion on 01604 864254

Useful Contacts

Parish Council Chairman - Bernard Day 862383

Parish Council Clerk - Felicity Gardiner 862344

Ashton District Councillor - Martin Wilson 864254

Footpath Warden - Jeremy Roychoudhury 864306

Neighbourhood Watch - David Farrand 863225

Village Internet Site - www.ashtonvillage.co.uk

Police 03000 111 222 (999 in an emergency)

Police <http://www.northants.police.uk>

Police Community Support Officer -

Tara Cooksammy:

Direct line 03000 111 222 (ext 3346)

Mobile 07919 043778

E-mail - tara.cooksammy@northants.pnn.police.uk

Articles for A.V.N. to David Farrand, 20 Hartwell Road Telephone 863225 or david@farrand.co.uk

Whilst every care is taken regarding the issue of this newsletter, the Editors accept no liability for the accuracy of the contributions

ASHTON Village News

Issue 123
May
2011

"Afternoon Teas"



You are invited to:
**Broadacres, Roade Hill on
Wednesday 18th May
and
67 Stoke Road on
Tuesday June 14th**

from 3 - 4.30pm

£2.50 for cup of tea and cake
Proceeds to Church Parish Share Fund

>>>> ---- <<<<

Do you know that this village has to pay towards the cost of housing and pension for the rector as well as towards his salary?

We also have to make a contribution towards the upkeep of Peterborough Cathedral. Last year our Parish Share was £4013.

This has to be paid before any repairs to the Church or utility bills are paid.

Many of you may not go to Church on a Sunday, but would be sorry if the building was not there for weddings, funerals or christenings, or just to make the village a more attractive place.

So, please, support our fund raising efforts when you can. If you are unable to come to the afternoon teas, perhaps you could pop along to the Saturday morning Drop-ins (3rd Saturday of the month 10.30-12noon) or any of the other social events going on. If you can't do that either, a donation can always be made through the PCC Treasurer at The Old Rectory.

District Council

The election for the District Council took place on Thursday May 5th and this was the first such election in Ashton since 1999.

There was no election for the Parish Council as there were not enough candidates to fill the number of places available, so everyone who stood was elected. Out of 72 such Parish councils in the district there was only one election!

At the District Council election there was a 60% turnout in Ashton and 42% in Hartwell. Thank you to everyone who voted regardless of who you voted for--if no one votes there is no Council. There was also the vote on the AV system which was a "NO" result.

It was good to see a good turn out at the last two Parish Council meetings when at the first meeting the potential loss of the bus service was an issue and the second meeting was the Annual Meeting, which was also well attended.

I think the bus service issue will rear its head again as it appears that this solution is a temporary measure till the autumn.

If anyone would like to discuss any of the above issues, or anything else I can be contacted on 01604 864254.

Martin Wilson-SNC District Councillor



Saturday Drop In at the Knights' Hall Saturday May 21st & June 18th 10.30-12 noon

We meet - usually on the 3rd Saturday of the month - for a chat and browse through the book collection we are building up.

The next Drop-In at The Knights Hall inside the church will be on Saturday 21st May between 10.30 and noon. Come along and have a cup of tea or coffee and a chat and a look through the book selection.

The books are well worth browsing through and have been sorted out after their trip to The Old Crown at the Garden Party on the Royal Wedding day. Quite a few were sold raising £17 for the church. The stock is constantly replenished but I could do with more children's books - so if you are having a cull could you let me know as I would be happy to pick them up.

The following Drop-In will be June 18th.
Hope to see you there!

Wendy Turvey 01604 863 627

Vacancy for Ashton Parish Councillor.

Ashton Parish Council are looking to fill one last position amongst their lively Councillors. Anyone who has the time to give to the voluntary position, is an effective communicator and is strong minded to help look after the public interests of Ashton.

If you would like to apply for this rewarding position, please contact the Parish Clerk:

Mrs Felicity Gardiner,
14 Stoke Road, Ashton, Northampton, NN7 2JN

Tel : 01604 862344

Email: felicity.gardiner@hotmail.co.uk

A Special Thank You

We would like to thank everyone who has shown such kindness and support during our difficult time with losing our son Freddie. We have been overwhelmed with all the cards that have been posted through our door.

We would also like to thank the ladies and Reverend Mike for helping us make his funeral a memorable one. It has and always will be difficult, but we do feel lucky to have had the support we have had, we really do feel that Ashton is a special place to live and that is so because of the lovely people.

We are now members of the unique charity: Sands and one thing that sets us apart from some of the other parents we have met, is that we have never had to deal with the fear of walking out our front door, because we were afraid of what we should say to others.

Thank you

Grahame & Zena Cummins

Ashton Parent and Toddler Group

Ashton Parent and Toddler group meets at Ashton C of E Primary School on Thursday afternoons in term time, from 1.30 til 3.00 in the school hall.

All parents and carers welcome to come and bring their babies and toddlers. Come and have a coffee and a chat while the children play. Just turn up or ring the school (863189) for more information.

The HUT Ground - Ashton

In 1922 the Hut was erected on a plot of ground by the railway bridge on Hartwell Road. The land was given to the village by Mrs Fanny Shakeshaft. The hut was used as a village hall for many years until in 1977 it had become so dilapidated it was demolished (ref village snapshot, page 89)

In the 1960s the Charity Commissioners became involved for financial reasons. They now have overall control of this charity. The current trustees are Mrs Anne Sale, Reverend Mike Burton and Bernard Day.

In the 1980s the management committee (The Trustees) changed the name of the charity to "Ashton Playground Association" so any funds could be used for children's facilities on the playing field at the Old Crown, which is leased by the Parish Council from Charles Wells. Ideas at that time included a Mother and Toddler group and play equipment. Nothing materialised.

The ground on which the hut stood has outline planning permission for a house and is valued at about £100,000.

The scheme or constitution of the charity says the object of the charity is for the provision and maintenance of a village hall for the inhabitants of Ashton. Ashton is the largest village in South Northants with no village hall, but we do have Men's Own, Ashton School and Knights' Hall at the Church. Funds from a sale would not finance a new village hall, even if one was justified.

Before a sale could take place, the Charity Commissioners would have to approve a new scheme to alter the objects of the charity. It is likely that the sale funds would have to be invested and only the income could be spent. Past and present trustees would like the funds to go towards the Church towards maintenance, particularly the Knights' Hall. Other suggestions have been the street lighting and Children's playground. Street lighting would not be eligible as this is a "Statutory Function".

What do you think the funds or income should be used for?

The Parish Council are holding a public meeting at the school on Wednesday 15th June at 7.30pm.

Bernard Day

The HUT Land - Alternatives

According to the Charity Commissioners, the money that is made by selling the Hut Land can only be used to replace a village Hall.

The other options for the Hut Land are:

- **Not sell the land**, keep it as a village amenity which could include:
 - o A Pocket Park
 - o Allotments / Orchard
 - o Leave it as it is ie: weeds and brambles
 - o Other ideas.
- **Sell the land** and use the interest for the Church or Playground equipment.
- **Sell the land** and use the whole amount to fund a village hall.
- **Not sell the Land** and investigate the possibility of a new village hall.

Please come along to the special meeting at the School on Wednesday 15th June at 7.30pm and make your views count.

Sandra Lemon, Stephen Green and others

Keys found on Stoke Road Green

Some keys have been recently found on the Stoke Road green.

Please contact, Mrs Felicity Gardiner, 14 Stoke Road, Ashton, Northampton, NN7 2JN
Tel : 01604 862344 Email: felicity.gardiner@hotmail.co.uk

Accident on Ashton Pavement

An elderly lady has recently fallen quite badly on a pavement in Ashton. She received deep cuts to the head, a broken wrist and severe bruising to the body, face and head. Her fall was due to slipping on loose pebbles scattered across the pavement from a householders driveway.

If you have a drive / pathway adjacent to a public pavement, do please ensure that loose pebbles do not stray from your property, we would like to prevent similar problems in the future.

Ashton Fish & Chip Van New Visiting Day & Time (Early) !

Every Friday from 5.05 to 5.40pm



We are the Fish & Chip people that came to Ashton on a Monday evening.

We have been asked so many times if we could come earlier so we have changed our time from Monday evening to Fridays - which will be early. We will be in Ashton from 5.05 to 5.40pm and Hartwell from 5.45 to 8.45pm approx.

Jan Howe

The Old Crown

WHAT A WONDERFUL DAY HAD BY ALL AT THE OLD CROWN CELEBRATIONS FOR THE ROYAL WEDDING ON 29TH APRIL 2011! THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO VOLUNTEERED & PROVIDED CAKES OR RAFFLE PRIZES. WE RAISED £237.00 FOR THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

We also have a couple more events lined up for the summer:

- >>> **Thursday June 9th : Tapas night**
- >>> **Sunday June 12th : Quiz Night** at 2000 hrs
- >>> **Thursday June 16th : Strawberry Tea** to raise money for Breast Cancer from 1400 hrs

Bex Street, The Old Crown, Ashton

01604862268 bex@theoldcrownashton.co.uk

Opportunity to hear revised M1 Wind Farm proposal

Renewable energy specialist Wind Prospect Developments Limited will have a stand at the Hartwell Parish Council AGM on **Thursday, 26th May at Hartwell Community Centre**, where staff will provide local residents with an update on the proposed M1 Wind Farm development.

Operation Nightsafe - Northampton Police



Clamping Down on Drink Fuelled Violence

As Northamptonshire Police continues to tackle night time crime in the county's town centres, the Force is launching a campaign to enforce its message further; that drink fuelled violence will not be tolerated.

A robust and low tolerance approach will be adopted, sending out a strong message to people who wish to commit offences within town centres and other areas.

As part of Operation Nightsafe, officers are working hard to ensure people are able to enjoy a night out, without falling victim to those who can ruin it for others.

There are currently 290 fewer violent incidents reported across the county compared to the same period last year, and most serious violence in town centres is down by 46.2%. This is 97 fewer victims.

Despite each of these events being a reason for celebration, officers are prepared in case people become unruly; some evenings may end with fall outs, arguments, illness, fights, noise, abuse, ramblings, rudeness, or even hospital or the cells!

Operation Nightsafe lead, Chief Inspector Dave Lawson said: "Whilst we want people to enjoy their night, we are serious about tackling alcohol related crime and disorder.

"The coming weeks will see officers conducting proactive enforcement activity in identified hot spot areas within the town centres across the county,

We will crack down on offenders who have the wrong idea about what constitutes a good night out.

Save money & Help Our Church !!!

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/stmichaelsallangels

All donations to Ashton's St Michael and All Angels
Church Fund.