

## Ashton Village Music

is on the first Monday of every month. <http://www.ashtonvillagemusic.co.uk/>  
The videos from the performances can be viewed here:  
<http://www.youtube.com/user/AshtonVillageMusic/videos>

Next meeting **Monday 3 September**, Ashton Rugby Club from **7:30 pm**  
The event is **FREE** to attend, the **BAR** is open and **ALL are welcome**, audience and performers alike.

### Drop-In at the Knights Hall

**Sat 15 September 10.30-noon.** Lots of new books to browse and delicious cakes to buy as well as the usual chat over a coffee or tea. **All Welcome**

### My Last GIG at Ashton

I would like to thank everyone for turning up for my last Gig at the August Ashton Village Music night, also all those who have helped and supported me.

**Andy Medhurst**

### Unwanted Spectacles

I am repeating the appeal on behalf of a friend to collect as many pairs of unwanted reading spectacles as possible.. She takes them to Sri Lanka, giving free eye tests and where suitable, your unwanted specs. All donations will be much appreciated and can be dropped off at my house.

**Andy Medhurst, 17 Hartwell Road, Ashton**

### Big Thank You to IAN at the Old Crown

Over the past few months Ian at The Old Crown has helped Years 5 and 6 from Ashton Primary School with a competition they were entering which involved inventing a menu fit for the Queen. He helped introduce new types of food and cooking to the children. They came up with a superb menu (and who knows we could still win!!!) which he then allowed them in to his kitchen to create. He also made the children see that a lot of the food we eat can come from locally sourced produce, be it herbs from your garden, eggs from your neighbour or even locally shot rabbit from a farm up the road. The children would just like, again, to say a big **THANK YOU**.

**Phil A Bag** Thank you to all who supported us in our recent Phil A Bag event.

**Alex (Ashton School Parents Association)**

### Useful Contacts

Parish Council Chairman - Terry Turvey 863627  
Parish Council Clerk - John Marshall 07913 080960  
Ashton District Councillor - Martin Wilson 864254  
Footpath Warden - Jeremy Roychoudhury 864306  
Neighbourhood Watch - David Farrand 863225

Village Internet Site - [www.ashtonvillage.co.uk](http://www.ashtonvillage.co.uk)

**Police** 03000 111 222 (999 in an emergency)  
**Police** <http://www.northants.police.uk>  
**Police Community Support Officer** 7012 - Tara Cooksammy:  
**Telephone** 101 Ext 343642  
**Mobile** 07919 043778  
**E-mail** - [tara.cooksammy@northants.police.uk](mailto:tara.cooksammy@northants.police.uk)

Articles for A.V.N. to David Farrand, 20 Hartwell Road Telephone 863225 or [david@farrand.co.uk](mailto: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 131

August

2012

### South Northants Homes

The next walkabout in Ashton will take place on Wednesday 29 August at 2.30pm. This will be a good opportunity for residents to inform the representatives of South Northants Homes of any problems.

### Ashton Playground Association

Permission has been received from the Parish Council and from Charles Wells (owners of the playing field behind the Old Crown) to allow football to be played there.

Ashton Playground Association has purchased goal posts and is awaiting for them to be installed. When the football pitch is ready, it is hoped to arrange a "Grand Opening" get together. More news in future AVNs.



### The Old Crown

#### Quiz Night

**Sunday 9 September from 8pm**  
Prize for killer question stands at over £800

#### Film Club

**Sunday 16 September**

#### Chinese Night

**Thursday 27 September**  
Booking essential. Telephone 01604 862268



## 50/50 lottery winners



Ashton Village Group

### June 2012

<b>First</b>	<b>Bernard Day</b>	<b>£70</b>
<b>Second</b>	<b>Ann Sale</b>	<b>£42.00</b>
<b>Third</b>	<b>June McAlear</b>	<b>£14.00</b>

56 members - Church donation £140

The Christmas bonus stands at £81.25

### July 2012

<b>First</b>	<b>Brian Jolly</b>	<b>£70</b>
<b>Second</b>	<b>Naomi Parrington</b>	<b>£42.00</b>
<b>Third</b>	<b>Jan Willetts</b>	<b>£14.00</b>

56 members - Church donation £140

The Christmas bonus stands at £95.25

### August 2012

<b>First</b>	<b>Steve Wildsmith</b>	<b>£70</b>
<b>Second</b>	<b>Kerry Ryan</b>	<b>£42.00</b>
<b>Third</b>	<b>Diane Shadforth</b>	<b>£14.00</b>

56 members - Church donation £140

The Christmas bonus stands at £109.25

For more information, contact:

*Bron Kenny (01604 864914)*

*67 Stoke Road, Ashton*

*bronkenny@tiscali.co.uk*

## Grafton Historical walk & talk

Our next Grafton historical walk & talk, takes place on Saturday 29 September at 2.30pm starting from Grafton Regis Village Hall. Full details appear on our website at [www.grafton-regis.co.uk](http://www.grafton-regis.co.uk). All welcome. **Keith Harry (Grafton Regis Millennium Fund)**

## Letter from Mens Own Rugby Club to Ashton Parish Council

In our previous response we clarified the arrangements with regard to bookings of the club.

As an amateur rugby club we do not have a regular income and rely on membership and donation to keep the club afloat. We have had to be careful with budgets as you can appreciate and our operating margins are very tight.

**We are keen to get more involved with the village and are happy to allow not for profit community organisations to use the club for free.**

In this instance if additional bar staff or caterers are required then additional costs would apply as we cannot absorb these. If the club is to be booked by an individual or organisation then the booking fee of £25 per hour (£20 for members) will apply.

We are not in a position to offer the hall for free to every village member. We are happy to discuss individual arrangements and will be as flexible as possible.

If you would like any clarification or have any queries please do speak to the new bookings secretary. Natalie can be contacted on 07816 542564 or [mensownbookings@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mensownbookings@yahoo.co.uk).

**Phil Kimberley (Chairman, Mens Own Rugby Club)**

## Missing a Cat?

If anyone has been missing a small black/grey and white cat between 6th and 22nd August, it should be home soon. It was shut in our house while we were away, having got in through our entrance only cat flap. It looked thin but alert as it left through the front door. (01604 864254)

## DOGS GOTTA BARK - Reply

I am writing in reply to an article "Dogs Gotta Bark" which appeared in a recent edition of the Ashton Village News. I feel it is necessary to offer a few comments in return.

My dog can and does bark a little more than is acceptable and I would like to take this opportunity to apologise to those who may have been affected. I do resent the point made that I may be indifferent to this aspect of my dog's behaviour. I have owned dogs for over thirty years and do not consider myself lacking in knowledge of the responsibilities that comes with owning an animal.

I have been taking my dog to a professional dog trainer to resolve this problem and we are making progress. I have been told that the training will take a little time and required results will not happen overnight.

Finally if a person has a problem with their neighbour, surely it would be more appropriate and friendly to speak to the individual concerned in an attempt to resolve the issue. Maybe there would be better understanding, less bad feeling and a greater tolerance.

**(An Ashton dog owner)**

## Ashton Church events

I hope the bells woke you all up on the opening day of the Olympics. We only have two bell ringers resident in Ashton, so we did our best to make as much noise as possible, as requested by the BBC! A last minute assistant was drafted in (Mike Learoyd, who happened to be in his garden!) and he came along to give us a hand. It was not as easy as he thought but we all made the effort and became part of the Olympic team. If you think you could make a better job of it, come along to a practice night and try. Beginners and past ringers are all welcome. Alternate Tuesday evenings, (Roade/Ashton), from 7.45-9.0'clock. Ring 864254 for more details.

Don't forget that this year our harvest celebrations will be on the first weekend in October. Watch the notice boards for more information.

**The Jubilee oak was planted by Gerald Wilson and Marion Wilson on 4 June at Stoke Road Green.**



**LOCALISM ACT and new planning regulations**  
**Ashton NEEDS YOU - Meeting on Tuesday 11 Sept @ 7:15pm**  
**At Ashton School**

The localism ACT is now fully implemented. For Ashton to embrace and use it for the benefit of our village, our local community need to form a forum of at least 12 individuals with only 1 parish councillor. It is a big subject and this notice is to invite you to a meeting to discuss the way forward and how you can get involved.

The Localism Act introduces a new right for communities to come together to draw up a neighbourhood development plan or neighbourhood development order or a Community Right to Build Order. There is no legal requirement to prepare plans or orders. Parish and Town Councils, where they exist, will lead the creation of neighbourhood plans, supported by the local planning authority.

Localism is intended to enable communities to find their own ways of overcoming the tensions between development and conservation, environmental quality and pressure on services. If communities have both a voice in decisions and a choice about development in their area they are likely to then become the proponents – rather than the opponents - of appropriate growth.

Reforms to the planning system will provide a toolbox of options for bringing forward development proposals depending on what best suits the needs of local communities. Take up of neighbourhood plans will be voluntary and at the discretion of neighbourhoods and communities.

- Neighbourhood planning aims to give people greater ownership of plans and policies that affect their local area.
- A strengthened plan-led system supported by the community is intended to increase certainty for applicants and also residents who otherwise would be worried by the threat of speculative development.
- Neighbourhood planning aims to support the rate of growth of housing and economic development in England.

Neighbourhood planning will allow communities, both residents, employees and business, to come together through a local parish council or neighbourhood forum and say where they think new houses, businesses and shops should go – and what they should look like. As part of neighbourhood planning, the Act gives groups of local people the power to deliver the development that their local community want. They may wish to build new homes, businesses, shops, playgrounds or meeting halls. A community organisation, formed by members of the local community, will be able to bring forward development proposals which, providing they meet minimum criteria and can demonstrate local support through a referendum, will be able to go ahead without requiring a separate traditional planning application. The benefits of the development, such as new affordable housing or profits made from letting the homes, will stay within the community, and be managed for the benefit of the community. The Government will also fund sources of help and advice for communities who want to bring forward development under the community right to build.

**Ashton Parish Council**

**APC meeting 11 April 2012 - Litter picking and tree planting.** Cllr Day reported that both the litter picking session and the tree planting event had been very successful. He asked that thanks to Cllr Lemon be recorded. Cllr Lemon in turn acknowledged the assistance of others in the village.

**APC meeting 11 April 2012 -** A village resident complained about those households in the village who allowed their **gravel from drives spilling onto pavements**. In the past there has been serious falls due to people slipping on loose gravel on the public footpaths. Would those responsible please keep their loose gravel swept up.

**APC meeting 16 May 2012 -** The payment of £59.98 to EON for **street lighting** electricity is the first bill for the newly installed street lighting. The Council noted with pleasure the significant reduction (approx 75%) on previous energy bills.

**APC meeting 16 May 2012 - School litter picking report.** Cll Lemon presented the results of the report compiled by the Ashton Primary School children. The Clerk was asked to write to the School, thanking them for their work and the useful data and information that had been gleaned.

**APC meeting 16 May 2012 -** An e-mail had been received by Cllr Lemon and forwarded to the Clerk, from a resident who was concerned about **dog fouling**. Various strategies had been suggested by the correspondent, several of which found favour with Cllrs who resolved that in the first instance, the best way forward to deal with this persistent problem would be to highlight the issue in the next edition of the AVN. **Please note that it is an offence to allow your dog to foul public places, footpath, etc. If reported the owner could be fined.**

**APC meeting 11 July 2012 -** There have been reports of **overgrown hedges** that were obstructing the footway at a number of households in the village. The Clerk was asked to write to the residents requesting that the hedges be cut back. **It was also considered appropriate to draw residents' attention to the issue.**

**APC meeting 11 July 2012 -** The quotation for a **bus shelter** had been received by the Clerk. After discussion concerning the type and design of the shelter, Cllr Beber proposed the resolution 'that the Council purchase a bus shelter at an installed cost of £3,265 + vat, all in favour' - **It will be noted that the New Bus shelter has now been installed. The company that provided and installed the shelter is coming back to add a half seat (for £185) to the shelter and to rectify the base.**

**APC meeting 11 July 2012 - The Hut Land.** The Clerk advised that the next step in the process to update the Scheme was to hold a meeting of the Trustees, at which the revised Scheme can be adopted and the Charity Commissioners then advised of the change. The two Parish Council Trustees to attend the meeting on 25 July at 7.15pm at The Old Crown were confirmed as Cllrs Day and Green; the Clerk will write to the two other Trustees (Ann Sale and Rev Mike Burton) and will also attend the meeting. **This meeting has now been held and will be reported in the next issue of the AVN.**