

## Frank Bird

Frank who passed away recently at 87 years will be remembered as a teacher at Ashton School from 1956 to 1975. He will be missed by many in the village.

### Road School Catchment Issue

The first stage of the consultation is now over and the County Council have produced a six point Draft Plan for Schools in Northampton to be considered by the Schools Organisation Committee in November.

Action point two concerns the Road School catchment issue and reads

“To alter the Road School northern catchment area which borders the Northampton Borough boundary. At least one of the primary schools will need to be taken away from the catchment area and its pupils transferred at 11 to a Northampton middle school.”

Ashton, Hartwell and Stoke Bruerne children will continue to transfer to Road School as they have always done.

238 letters were received by the Education Authority expressing a variety of views of which the strongest single expression of opinion was from parents and the communities of Ashton, Hartwell and Stoke Bruerne regarding any change of their existing catchment area link to Road School.

Attendance at the public meetings was as follows -

Mereway Upper	144	Lings Upper	136
Duston Upper	110	Trinity Upper	130
N Sch Girls	24	<b>Road School</b>	<b>500</b>
N Sch Girls	38		

As you can see by the above figures a considerable number of people wrote letters and attended the public meeting at Road School. Thank you to all those who rallied round to support our school.

**Anne Plummer 01604 862397**

**South Northampton Adult Education  
require a Part Time Rural Co-ordinator**

**For details of salary etc please call  
01327 359993 before 9 November.**

### Bonfire night

**Remember that Fireworks  
frighten animals Please  
keep all pets safe indoors  
after dark**

# ASHTON *Village News*

Issue 42  
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Next Issue  
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## *GUY FAWKES GALA*

**Thursday 5th November**

**The OLD CROWN**

**Ashton**

**Bonfire lit 6.15      Fireworks 7pm**

**BBQ**

**Admission: Adults £2    Children £1**

**Proceeds to Ashton School**

### **Bonfire Building**

From 10am Saturday October 31st

Please bring waste timber to the playing field behind the Old Crown.

*Timber only please.*

Bernard Day Tel 01604 862 383

### **School Open Evening**

## **DO WE NEED A VILLAGE HALL ?**

**We Need Your Help!**

You are invited to come along to an open evening at Ashton CE Primary School on the 11th November from 7 to 9pm to view our school extension proposals and discuss ideas.

See the display of architect's drawings  
Chat to Mrs Wisbey and the rest of the steering group  
refreshments provided

**All are welcome!**

**SPONSORED ANONYMOUSLY**

## Coffee Mornings

The first of this autumn's Coffee mornings was very successful and raised £52 to be shared between Ashton Church and Green Acres Riding for the Disabled Group.

Two more will be held before Christmas, and everybody is very welcome.

**Tuesday November 10th**

**Tuesday December 8th**

**10am to 11.30 am - Bring & Buy - Raffle - Cakes**

£1 entrance includes Coffee and biscuits

*Courtesy of Dennis and Hazel at The Old Crown Inn*

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## Do you want a Village Hall?

As you may have heard Ashton CE Primary School may have access to a grant of £60,000 for a school extension provided the residents of Ashton can raise £10,000. A charitable trust has given the school £30,000 to improve facilities with a promise of a further £20,000 if we can raise £10,000 of our own. Mrs. Wisbey the Head Teacher has taken advice from an architect and they both feel that the best way to improve the school is to provide a new room by building between the existing classrooms, effectively linking them together, and this will cost £60,000.

Obviously it is a tall order to expect such a small community to raise £10,000 and there is also a time limit of one year. One possibility is to apply to the District Council for the funds to provide us with a village hall. Apparently Ashton is the biggest community in the county not to have a village hall. The idea is that the new room would then be available to the villagers to use as they wish; hosting such activities as Cubs, Brownies, Mums and Tots, Play groups and private functions. What do you think?

A steering group has been set up by the school to coordinate a bid for funds which must be submitted to the council by January. The group considered it important that first the people of Ashton be consulted about these proposals to see if there is in fact a demand for a village hall and if so what facilities it should provide. The consultation process will take two forms. The first is an open evening to be held at the school which will display the architects drawings for the proposed extension and a chance to chat with the members of the steering group. The second form is a questionnaire, circulated with this newsletter, to give every person in the village a means by which to put their views forward. Please take the time to complete and return it to the school or 18, Roade Hill as soon as possible.

At this time more than any other, the school needs your help. To succeed will mean vastly improved facilities for the school children of Ashton and a better chance of improving the future of the school. It will also mean that for the first time the people of Ashton will have a central meeting place to call their own.

Dene Warren

## The Ashton Village Great Balloon Race

Balloon No	Owner	Returned from	Balloon No	Owner	Returned from
54	Jeff Shepherd	Holland	277	Pete Smith	Holland
92	Jenifer Adlard	Suffolk	286	C Askwith	Cambs
120	Shirley Higginbottom	Cambs	294	J Harrison	Holland
138	Andrew Learoyd	Holland	<b>330</b>	<b>Robert Burgess</b>	<b>Poland</b>
167	Philippa Hay	Cambs	337	Keith Harvey	Holland
183	Alan Sharp	Essex	350	A D'Rosario	Essex
184	Alan Sharp	Ashton	368	Christine Foster	Holland
201	Katie Coyle	Holland	384	Armanda Varty	Essex
208	Margaret Watson	Suffolk	398	D Cozens	Holland
212	Brian Nevison	Holland	412	Neil Christie	Holland
218	P J Broughton	Holland	486	Debbi Huntley	Holland
219	K Dickens	Holland	510	Lynda Frizzell	Holland
226	P Lawley	Germany	511	Geoff Slinn	Germany
250	Carole Harvey	Holland	524	Val Wilson-Gurney	Cambs
261	David Diggs	Essex			

**The Winner was: Balloon 330 - Robert Burgess - Poland**

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## Ashton Parish Council Meeting

13 October 1998

Preliminary plans for the proposed **Ashton School improvements** and the village questionnaire and meeting in November were discussed.

There was a short discussion regarding the **Playing Field Committee** and the preparations regarding the **Guy Fawkes Night** at the Old Crown.

Comments were made about the rapid filling of the **Rubbish skips** recently supplied. Details of future placing of skips will be published.

There was some concern that the **Ashton Bus Service** may be cut back further, even though the Government had promised more money to improve the County services.

There was discussion about the need for **traffic calming** and overgrown **footpaths**. [ Since the meeting the paths KA8 and 10 have been cleared ].

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY 2ND JANUARY 1999**

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**Christmas Carols at the Old Crown Ashton**

**Thursday 17th December - 8.00 pm**