

YEAR 2000

Ideas

Have you any ideas for celebrating the Millenium in Ashton?

We are looking for ideas not only for New Year's Eve but also for celebrations throughout year 2000.

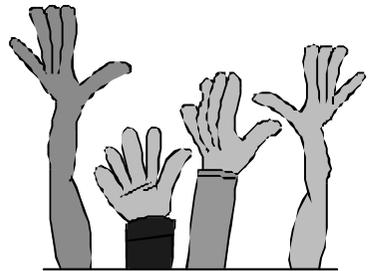
Bell ringing is already planned and rehersals are taking place.

Suggestions so far include summer street party, art and craft exhibition and beating the parish bounds.

Please contact Dave and Dee on 863225 with your suggestions.



Volunteers



**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

Volunteers are urgently needed to help plan and organise Ashton's Millenium celebrations.

Even if you will not be in Ashton on New Year's Eve, help will be needed with the other celebrations throughout year 2000.

Please contact Dave and Dee before Tuesday 15 December if you are interested in helping.

Ashton Charity Fields

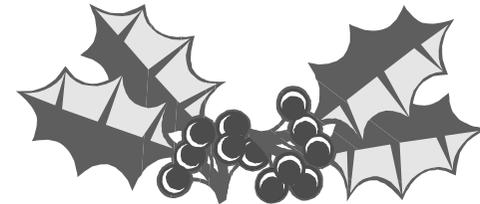
At this time of year, senior citizens in Ashton receive a sum of money towards their heating bills from the Ashton Charity Fields. The charity has been in existence since the early 1800s and derives its income for the rental of two fields alongside Hartwell Road. If any senior citizens are not benefitting from the Charity, would they please get in touch with George Bailey (Chairman of the Charity) on 864516.

Letters or Articles for A.V.N. to David & Delia Farrand, 20 Hartwell Road Telephone 863225
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

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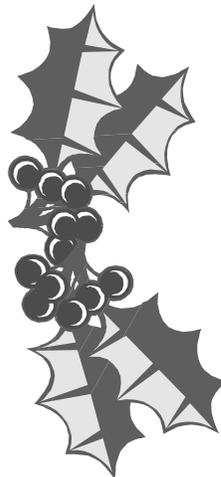
Next Issue
February 1999



Merry Christmas

from
Ashton Village News

**A special
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SPONSORED ANONYMOUSLY

School Extension/Community Room

We received twenty two completed questionnaires and thirty four people attended the open evening regarding the school extension and its possible use as a community room. The vast majority of responses, both written and verbal, were in favour of extending the school and enhancing current facilities. There was, however, not enough feedback to approach the District Council for a grant to support a community room for villagers.

We shall now be making a concerted effort to raise the additional funds required, through various fund raising activities. We are all looking forward to starting the next millenium with a brand new school building for Ashton.

If you can support in any way, please do. Thank you for the support shown to the school.

Robyn Wisbey
Head Teacher (on behalf of the Extension Committee)



Improved Bus Service

Due to the grant by the government to improve Rural Bus Services, we now have three extra buses. There is one to Milton Keynes at 0939, one to Northampton at 1245 and another one to Northampton at 1630 (1655 on Saturdays). The times of the other buses are unaltered.

Compared to many villages we are lucky to get this number of buses, so it up to us to use them whenever possible.

Mrs A Smith

Ashton School Parents Association

Many thanks to Dennis and Hazel for holding **Bonfire Night** at the Old Crown and their contribution to the spectacular firework display. Special thanks also to Bernard Day, Peter Rudkin, Derek Neal, all the Stewards and everyone else who helped. We raised nearly **£800** towards school funds.

Mrs L Frizzell

Coffee Mornings

The coffee mornings have now finished until 1999. Over the last three months **£192** has been raised which will be shared between the Church and Greenacres Riding for the Disabled Group at Puxley. Thanks to everybody who helped, gave or came along for a cup of coffee and chat. They all enjoyed themselves and there is still room for more people to come along. Thanks also go to Dennis and Hazel for allowing us to use The Old Crown again.

The next coffee mornings will be on

Tuesday January 12
Tuesday February 9
Tuesday March 9
(from 10am to 11.30am)

Proceeds from these mornings will be shared between the Church and a local charity. Suggestions please to Marion on 864254 for your choice of local charity to support in 1999.

Church Decorations

St Michaels will be open on Monday 21 December from 2 to 3 pm for anyone willing to help decorate the Church for Christmas. As we are hosting the "Midnight" Service this year, we would like to make a special effort, so any gifts of greenery or flowers would be very welcome. If you are unable to help at that time, contact Pat Nevison (862716) or Marion Wilson (864254) and your donation can be collected.



Carol Singing

In response to the appeals for aid to the victims of Hurricane Mitch in Honduras and Nicaragua, it is hoped that a large group of carol singers will meet at the Old Crown Car Park at 6.30pm on Tuesday 15 December to raise money for those stricken by the disaster.

Everyone is urged to either join in with the choir or to give as generously as possible when the singers make their way round the village. The monies will be sent directly to the Aid Fund.



TUESDAY 15 DECEMBER 6.30pm
OLD CROWN CAR PARK

Bring a torch/lantern and umbrella! Music sheets will be provided.