

CHURCH FETE COLLECTION

There will be a door to door collection during the week 10th - 16th July for any donations to the stalls. Please look out for any items you have - books, bric-a-brac, plants, bottles, etc. Cakes (especially welcome) can be collected or taken to the Rugby Club on the morning, after 11.00am. Any offers of help would be much appreciated. Thank you for your support. Phone Marion 864 254

Mens Own Rugby Football Club

Due to recent vandalism on Mens Own Roof the committee have decided to put in place anti vandalism measures. You are therefore advised that anyone going out of bounds does so at their own risk. Parents are also requested to pass this on to their children. Trevor Newton, Club Secretary.

Ashton Playing Field

Children are requested not to kick footballs onto the roof of Sunley's barn, as this is causing serious damage. Furthermore no one should climb onto the roof for any purpose as the old asbestos and glass are very brittle and serious injury could result. Bernard Day, Chairman, Parish Council

The Bus Shelter

During the last fortnight there have been three incidents of vandalism to the bus shelter. Repair are not cheap, so parents should advise their children not to play in the vicinity of the bus shelter. Bernard Day, Chairman, Parish Council

WINE & CHEESE EVENING

Thanks to Mike and Antje Leroyd for hosting another cheese and wine party this year. Although numbers were down on previous years, everyone had a wonderful evening which ended with the usual hilarious raffle draw. Anyone who won a prize is HALF! expected to return it for next years do!!!

ASHTON GARDENS WALK

Everyone who visited Ashton for the Garden Walk on June 13th enjoyed a really lovely day. The sun shone and showed the gardens off to perfection. All the hard work that had been put in over the previous months paid off and we were treated to a glorious display of shrubs and flowers. We were very grateful to all those who so generously opened their gardens and the others who helped behind the scenes. £1,230 was raised to be shared between the School and the Church. Thank you all.

St Michael and All Angels Church

18th July Family Service & Holy Communion 11.00am
25th July Holy Communion 8.15am

Cement Mixer for Hire

Bernard Day 862 383

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
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Ashton Village Fete and Car Boot Sale

Saturday 17th July at the Rugby Club - 2.00pm

**Grand Raffle - Bouncy Castle - Quad Bikes
Agricultural & Garden Antiques
Book Stall - Bottles - Plants - Cakes
Raffle - White Elephant - Games and Teas**

A pair of special edition mountain bikes as the main prize
in the grand raffle.



All this in lovely surroundings - Don't miss it.

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

all proceeds to be shared between the
Church and the School



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An open letter to the residents of Ashton

It is with deep concern that we have learned that plans are in hand to have the willow tree, which stands in front of our house, removed.

This tree was planted, with others, on Council land and with their permission, by the school children of Ashton to celebrate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

It is the last surviving specimen and, we believe, part of the history of Ashton. It was to be included in the photographic record of the village, which is being planned for the Millennium Celebrations.

Despite the fact that the tree was recently inspected by the Borough Council's Environmental Department and was declared safe, healthy and "extremely beautiful" and that there is a tree preservation order currently in the pipeline, the County Council have decided that it must come down.

There has been no consultation with those people who are most closely affected and it seems that the normal procedures for the removal of any tree have not been followed.

As far as we are able to ascertain, a complaint has been made that the roots of the tree are causing damage to a nearby property and the County Council's Insurance Officer has decided that it must be removed.

Whilst we can understand that this may be a problem in some areas we are advised that this is not the case here. Certainly reports from Civil Engineers, Surveyors, Builders and others concerning the effects on our house, which is closest to the tree, are all agreed that there is no discernible damage being caused.

Because this claim is being made through an Insurance Company it would appear that the normal procedures for the felling, or otherwise, of a tree need not be followed. The council's Insurers instruct the Council and the work is carried out. There is no consultation with the residents, the Parish Council, the Borough Council or the Tree Wardens.

We feel very strongly that this is a case of "Big Brother" ruling the lives of normal people and will be doing everything in our power to prevent this act of vandalism

If you would like to join us please let us know or contact Mrs S Payne as follows:-

Mrs S Payne
Insurance Officer, Northants County Council, Brixworth Offices, Harbough Road,
Brixworth, Northants, NN6 9BX Telephone:- 01604 236 479

We hope that you will feel as strongly as we do and will support our actions.

Pat and Allan, "Willow Corner", 55 Stoke Road, Ashton 01604 863 303

Parish / District Council Notice

As is widely known in the village, the activities at Stonefield Holdings, Roade Hill has caused some concern for a considerable time. The Parish / District Council would like to take this opportunity to update villagers on the situation.

Two enforcement orders have been issued against Mr Jones of Stone Field Holdings.

One enforcement order has been lodged by the Northamptonshire County Council against alleged tipping of waste material on the site. Mr Jones has appealed against the order and the appeal will be heard at an informal public hearing in October. Further details of this will be published in a later edition of this newsletter.

The second enforcement order has been issued by South Northants Council against Mr Jones, regarding the siting of a mobile home and static caravan. Mr Jones has appealed against this order and the appeal is to be determined by an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State, following an exchange of written statements by the appellant (Mr Jones) and the Council and a site visit by the Inspector. It is open to the Secretary of State to grant planning permission on an enforcement appeal.

In simple terms, Mr Jones has appealed on the grounds that he claims he has had his mobile home on site for ten years so it is too late for the Council to take action. Apparently ten years is a defining period after which action cannot be taken. He is also appealing on the grounds that planning permission should be granted for his activities anyway.

Villagers will probably know that Ashton is a "Restricted Infill Village" and generally, development outside the village boundary will not be permitted.

The Inspector will accept written comments villagers wish to make before reaching his decision. Statements must reach the Planning Inspectorate by Friday 23 July 1999. The address is:

Mr M Marsden, The Planning Inspectorate, Room 1111(1), Tollgate House,
Houlton Street, Bristol BS2 9DJ
quoting ref APP/Z2830/C/99/1018891

Martin Wilson

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Ashton

Parish Council

The next meeting will be on
Monday 12 July at 7.30pm.
It will be held at the
Rugby Club