

Ashton Church Services

August 11 8.15am Holy Communion
August 18 9.00am Morning Praise

At the church of
St Michael and All Angels
Ashton

on **Friday 26 April 2002**
(Roots Weekend)

A peal of 5040 doubles in 47 methods was rung, taking 2 hours 37 minutes.
Ashton Village Bob and Stowe Bob were rung for the first time.

Treble	Sally A Mason
2nd	Paul M Mason
3rd	Victoria Samson
4th	Denis G Pearson
Tenor	Michael D Fiander
Conducted by	Paul M Mason

Northampton Soup Kitchen

The organisers of the Soup Kitchen are in need of **plastic containers** (i.e. margarine tubs but not very small ones). They are used to put food in for the clients to take away. Please ring **Joyce Kingsbury** on **01604 864390** or leave any boxes by Joyce's front door at 8A Hartwell Road. As always, **clothes** are needed. Thank you.

Useful Contacts

Parish Council Chairman - Bernard Day 862383 Community Policeman - PC Goddard 01327 303209
Parish Council Clerk - Stephanie Fowler 862904 Towcester Police Station Western Area 01327 303245
Footpath Warden - Peter Coulson 864214 Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator - David Farrand 863225
Ashton District Councillor - Martin Wilson 864254 Village Internet Site - www.ashtonvillage.co.uk

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*

Issue 65
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Ashton Village CAR BOOT SALE

Saturday 10 August 2002

Mens Own Rugby Club

Arrival from 7.30am
Trading from 9.00am

	pre-booked	on the day
Car	£5.00p	£6.00p
Extra car	£2.50p	£3.00p
Car and trailer	£7.00p	£8.00p
Vans	£7.00p	£8.00p

(No catering or games)

Refreshments available in the Rugby Club

Proceeds in aid of Church and School

Book now
01604 863225

Bank Holiday Monday

26 August 2002

THE OLD CROWN

Ashton

Barbeque

Bouncy Castle

Face Painting

Fish Weeks first week of every month

During the first week of every month, the Old Crown will offer an additional menu with a selection of the very best fresh fish.

Vegetarian Weeks third week of every month

During the third week of every month, the Old Crown will offer an additional selection of vegetarian meals to compliment the full menu. Bookings are highly recommended.

Christmas and New Year Menus now available

Please do not hesitate to contact the Old Crown at any time to make a booking or to talk through any of your arrangements.

Weddings and Parties

Theresa would be delighted to discuss with you arrangements to hold your celebration at The Old Crown. Please speak to Theresa personally to discuss your plans in detail.

Contact Theresa Thompson-Browne on 01604 862268

Joyce Kingsbury has some large rockery stones for sale. She can be contacted on 01604 864390. Any offers.

The **Village Jubilee Feast Day** was a great success. There was a small profit which was split between Church, School and Village Group.

Evacuee

David Owen from Canada recently visited Ashton. He met, after more than sixty years, old friends from the village and visited the graves of Aunts Tess and Amy and saw the Chapel once again.

He wrote this poem some time ago about his time as an evacuee in Ashton.

War Wounds

There are many ways
that children go to war
that war comes to children.

They are evacuees
laden with home-made oilskin knapsacks
and gasmasks
loaded on the back of a lorry
trucked door-to-door like vegetables
still unripe.

Just eight years old
too soon grown up
his farewell charge
"look after your sisters"
a grave trust weighing
on small shoulders.

Clinging together in a desperate plea
that they must not be separated.

But torn apart, abused, mistreated,
he did the only thing he could think of
gathered their bewildered faces
and ran away.

Ten miles and ten hours wearied
stained by their fill
of hedgerow blackberries
and ditch dirty
chilled by autumn air
they were spotted
comforted and returned.

To his surprise
people seemed to understand.

A child displaced by war and set adrift
Tess and Amy took him in
"Suffer the little children"
Tess 68 and Amy 65, spinsters

"Call us aunts" they said
conviction rich, assets poor
disciples in the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel
the small stone citadel his first anchor.

Plenty large enough
for its meagre congregation
of Aunt Tess, Aunt Amy and he
"Where three are gathered in My Name."

From his bedroom window under the thatch,
framed by vines where grapes grew
but never ripened,
He could see the stone chapel
and farmer Rogers' fields, where by day
He picked stones for six pence
and gleaned grain missed by the binder,
feed for the chickens.

And after the taper is snuffed,
the sky, colour of black-country anthracite,
spread to within a span of the horizon
to meet the nightly incendiary glow,
confirming his home fires
were still burning,
over the bend of the world
sixty miles away.

Now in its diamond anniversary,
on his pilgrimage back from worlds away
and generations past
Tess and Amy gone to their inheritance
the Chapel now the publican's garage.

His anchor long since rusted
the wounds yet deep
the scars still bleed.