

West Ashton Magazine



Cottages In Yarnbrook Road

Pauline Hume

In This Issue...

The History Of these Cottages

A Wedding a Christening

A New Skittle Champ

Pets Corner

And Much More....

*Our community magazine keeping you up to date in
West Ashton, Rood Ashton, East Town, and Dunge.*



The West Ashton Magazine is published quarterly by the West Ashton Parish Council. WAPC has devolved full authority for the magazine to an independent volunteer Editorial Group formed for the sole purpose of producing this magazine. The intention is to inform and entertain the residents of West Ashton. The magazine is distributed free of charge to all residents of West Ashton village. The Editors warmly invite you to submit reports, articles and photographs relating to past or future village issues and events, or any subject that may be of interest to the readership. The editors reserve the right to edit any submissions and make corrections, omit material or do minor reorganisation to any submitted work and reserve the right to reject any submissions. We prefer typed or electronic material. Photos will be returned on request.

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All contributions welcomed. Please send any contributions, in the first instance, to Jo Watkins. Short stories and poems will also be considered. You must live or work within the West Ashton parish boundaries.

Front page photo of “Cottages In Yarnbrook Road” By Pauline Hume

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Editorial

The heat wave, the England world cup football team putting us through the wringer is now a distant memory, and now the evenings are drawing in. But take a look at the back page. There is a host of events on offer and something for all.

There is a free Halloween party in the Village Hall, as well as various events organised by the village hall committee. Make a note in your diary as well to buy tickets for the

church concert on December 7th to put you in the mood for Christmas. In this edition, you'll be reading about two festivals and the start of a fascinating series on the history of Yarnbrook Road. The WI have started a campaign to decorate the church with knitted poppies, so dig out those odd balls of wool and get knitting or crocheting. Happy reading.

Jo Watkins

A seasonal puzzle.

Answer the clues, and then use the letter whose number is indicated in the brackets to discover 9 letters that can be rearranged to give the name of a month.

- ._ . _ _ _ _ _ Poet whose work inspired 'Cats' was born on 26th of this month (7)
- _ _ _ _ _ Fruit in abundance now (3)
- _ _ _ _ A new one begins for young people (2)
- _ _ _ _ _ They shine like glittered lace on moist mornings (6)
- _ _ _ _ _ The star sign that starts around 21st of this month (4)
- _ _ _ _ _ They will begin to fall soon (2)
- _ _ _ _ _ Celebrated on the 29th of this month (10)
- _ _ _ _ _ This season begins now (5)
- _ _ _ _ _ A festival celebrated soon (5)

By Margaret Workman

IN MEMORIAM- ANTHONY JOSEPH (TONY) KANE 1939-2018

Tony passed away on June 22nd aged 79 years with his family by his side at home in Heathhill, West Ashton after a courageous battle with cancer. Megan and Tony were married in 1958 and recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with a surprise party organised by their three children, Roy, Teresa and Anita. Marrying an Irishman full of fun, there was never a dull moment, recalls Megan. Tony had a soft spot for the birds, the feathered variety, and would always be found looking up at the sky and not into the eyes of his loving bride. His passions in life were his family and his racing pigeons. The British Homing World paid tribute to Tony, a Life Vice-President and hard worker of the Central Southern Classic. Tony loved convoying and travelling around with the birds, and when the Classic purchased their state-of-the-art transporter in the late



1990s, Tony was there from the beginning, making the final journey to Holland when it was sold in 2014. Megan was his soulmate. He was proud of his children, loved seeing his seven grandchildren and seven great grandchildren and loved a bit of banter with everyone he met. He will be missed beyond words by his family.

THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH



Several years ago, Councillor Horace Prickett wrote an article about Donald Keates who is buried in West Ashton churchyard. We heard from his great niece, Mary Keates, that her husband's great grandfather, Ebenezer Keates was the village blacksmith. Mary sent this photo of Ebenezer and his wife Rosina, also buried in the churchyard.

Veronica Silcocks lives in Ebenezer's old house on the end of a terrace of three houses in Yarnbrook Road, two of which were built in the reign of Elizabeth 1. The smithy's house is believed to have been added/built c

1770s, possibly using stone from Farleigh castle with the actual forge and smithy in a separate building parallel to the lane. The only remains from the smithy are the foundations, stones and nails galore and a horseshoe which now hangs over the front door. Veronica's son Liam has provided a plan from an old will dated c1910 showing the smithy's location.



Jo Watkins

LADIES AT LEASURE

West Ashton W.I.

We have had an interesting few months. At our May meeting we discussed the WI Resolution, which called on WI members to recognize the importance of making it as acceptable to talk about mental health as it is about physical health. As everyone was in favour of this resolution it was swiftly agreed to wholeheartedly endorse it with our vote, at the National Federation of W.I.'s Annual Meeting in Cardiff in June. (This resolution was subsequently passed by a majority of 98%). Business over, we all settled down to enjoy a fish and chip supper and a very pleasant social evening. In June our speaker Barbara Cropp, a potter with some 40 years experience, gave an excellent talk and demonstration on what she described as, 'the mundane object called clay, which has been part of our everyday life since 10,000BC'. Surprisingly, we learned, bone china, which looks so delicate, is actually the strongest type of pottery as it contains actual ground up bone fragments.

July saw us setting off from the Village Hall for our Mystery Trip clutching the carefully written instructions

as to how to reach our mystery destination. This turned out to be a building at Manor Farm, Devizes, and the home of Hive Originals. Claire, a bee farmer, who is the founder, owner and chief product designer of this business, which produces cosmetics using honey and beeswax, warmly welcomed us. An enthralling hour followed, during which Claire told us about the life of bees, the variety of ingredients used in her range of cosmetics and finally a demonstration, on a small scale, of how they make hand cream. A fascinating insight into the world of skin care products. The weather being so favourable we then moved outside where we rounded off the evening with refreshments and lively chat.

Our future programme includes a bookbinding demonstration, a hands-on Christmas Craft activity, and a chance to hear about the Bath Mineral Hospital. So if any of these catch your interest come along and join us as we are happy to welcome visitors or new members to all these meetings.

Jackie Bradley

Village Hall News...

Since the last Magazine there has been the annual Skittles and BBQ on the 14th July playing for the Cyril Sweetman cup. The Sweetman family was well represented, and son Adrian presented the cup to this year's winner. Raphael Alford was the highest scorer and skittle "putter up" with Ethan his brother, along with Charlie and Will, thanks to them all.

The Village Hall AGM took place on the 8th August, there was a lower attendance than last year but two volunteers agreed to join the committee and take two of the advertised roles. Nathan Amor and Jenny Kettle will do Bookings and be Treasurer respectively. Rachel – Treasurer and Laurie – Bookings and the Bar decided after being long serving committee members to leave the committee for personal reasons and other commitments. Thank you to both for being so helpful and committed to serving and supporting the village hall. Geoff Watkins will manage the stocking of the bar. There is a list of those authorised to serve behind the bar.

This year's committee in terms of roles are:

Richard Covington – Chairman and Secretary

Jean Robertson – Vice Chair, Entertainment and Tickets

Jenny Kettle – Treasurer

Nathan Amor – Bookings

Simon Alford – Maintenance

Geoff Watkins – Bar Stock

Paul Pursey – Pub Nights

Sylvia Preston – Tickets and House-keeping

On behalf of the village hall committee Sylvia Preston and Jackie Bradley run the 50/50 club

Events for this year:

Halloween Dance 27th Oct (free but ticketed)

WW1 commemoration 10th Nov

Xmas Lunch 15th Dec

New Years Eve Celebrations 31st Dec

If anyone has ideas for other events that they would like to organise such as a Christmas Party for the parish children, please let a committee member know. For a children's Christmas party the village hall committee would look sympathetically at covering the cost for food, soft drinks, use/hire of the hall and possibly help towards the cost of entertainment but extras, for example presents would have to be paid for. Email: westash-tonvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk

Richard Covington

50 Club Winners

June, 1st Myra Smethurst, 2nd P. Jackson, 3rd Anne Stride

July, 1st Vaughan Nichols, 2nd Gary Ogden, 3rd Sarah Lloyd.

August, 1st David Petrie, 2nd Robert Coles, 3rd Anne Stride

News from Larkrise Farm

There's a new boy on the block! His name is Merlin and he is a Piebald Cob Gelding, 14.1 hands high and around 11 years old.

Merlin belongs to Hampsley Hollow Riding for Disabled group who used to work out of Hampsley Hollow Riding School in Calne. Things had changed at the riding school which meant that the RDA group there would have had to cease operating, so they approached us to see if it would be possible for them to merge with us. After looking at our schedule and knowing how important an RDA group is and what the loss of one would mean, I put it to the trustees. We then invited the trustees of the group to meet with our trustees and a merger was agreed, this will enhance our group immensely, and also give us a wider customer area.

Merlin arrived here at the Farm on 9th July, and has settled in well. He lives with our earlier new arrival Breeze, who is also a 'Piebald' Gelding.

HH as we call them, will start operation in September. With them have come their helpers, who came for a visit to check us over and luckily



Photo Geoff Watkins

liked what they saw. Their riders have also agreed to come with them including juniors from a school in Corsham. One of their lessons is an evening lesson, which will mean that they will be using the indoor school after hours. This would be a problem especially in the winter, so after a little negotiation we got together and decided to have lighting put in which is being done this summer. This will also help on those dark days in the winter. Exciting times ahead!

If you are interested in becoming an RDA helper, please contact me on 01225 751675 and I can talk you through this very rewarding volunteering activity.

Wendy Self Farm Manager

PETS CORNER

Eight year old Nevaeh Ricaud with her two guinea pigs Mary and Angel. Nevaeh has lived in Shepherds Drove with mum Tina and dad Dave for three years along with Ruby the dog, and was given Mary and Angel for her seventh birthday. She goes to West Ashton school and enjoys going to tai Kwon-Do classes. Nevaeh loves all animals and would like to be a vet when she grows up.

Jo Watkins



A New Skittle Star In The Village

On Saturday, 14 July, the annual Skittle and BBQ event was held in the village hall. Even though it was a warm evening, Richard Covington (our resident chef), toiled over a hot BBQ, dishing up tasty beef burgers and jumbo hot dogs, which were relished by over 40 attendees. It was great to see many new villagers attending this social event and we hope it will entice them to visit the hall in the future. The Cyril Sweetman Cup was the trophy to play for and after three legs there was a clear winner, scoring 27, a new young budding skittler from the village, Raphael Alford. Even though at the tender age of 11, he certainly showed us how to play skittles. The picture shows Cyril Sweetman's son, Adrian presenting Raphael with his prize. Thanks go

to Charlie and William Ludwell and Ethan and Raphael Alford for being the "sticker uppers" for the evening. Thanks also goes to all those who helped make this evening such a success and bringing the community together.

Jean Robertson



JUBILEE WOOD

It is now almost five years since we started our development of the campsite and the subsequent planting of a mix of more than 8,000 native deciduous trees.

The open grassed areas are now well established, with sufficient growth in many of the trees to mask the site from the A350 trunk road. In the past twelve months alone the site has been booked on 78 occasions (up from 53 the previous year), 60 of these by our own members and the remainder by other youth organisations etc.

The site has been the venue for various District events, bringing the total number of visitors for this past year to more than 3,100. There have been 159 overnight campers, and we expect visitor numbers to continue to grow by 15-20% in each of the years ahead, all achieved without any advertising. We look forward to hosting visits from local youth organisations (and the not so young).

Whilst a small number of trees have suffered damage by deer, this has been more than compensated for

by our protection of many self-seeded saplings, and the planting of replacements, which include some rare British trees such as Black Poplar and disease resistant Elm.

Our wildlife pond is doing very well, despite the drought. There are now rare water voles in the pond, and both kingfishers and herons have been observed on the margins.

One of the main reasons why we are developing the site as a haven for wildlife, is to help our young members understand the importance of practical action to protect the environment. As part of this, all electrical lighting to site buildings is provided by solar power and batteries, and we are in the process of designing a water heating system using a wind powered generator and solar panels. And, of course, our trees are busy all the time extracting carbon dioxide from the atmosphere whilst releasing oxygen, and which also take up ground and rain water, helping to reduce the flood risk for Trowbridge.

Cont.

We continue to have an excellent working relationship with the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, as owners of the adjacent Biss Wood, and our young members regularly help with maintenance, including coppicing and keeping the rides mown. In concert with the Trust, we will shortly install a lockable gate on the bridge access and pathway across the northern end of our site linking Biss Wood with the Green Lane Ecology Park, to allow for temporary closure during periods when essential management work is being carried out.

In conclusion, we have been keeping a close watch on the development plans for the new Ashton Park development of some 2,500 new houses plus employment land lying between Trowbridge and Biss Wood. After numerous letters, and a concerted joint approach with Wiltshire Wildlife and Larkrise Community Farm, it seems that the final plans will address many of our concerns about encroachment from the North, with a 100m green buffer zone and a flood catchment lake on

our northern boundary. What was originally proposed to be housing beyond the buffer opposite Biss Wood is now re-designated as Employment Land hidden behind an earth bund and an impenetrable green barrier.

However, Wiltshire Council has so far refused to do anything substantial about the impact of the realignment of the A350 on our ability to enter and leave the site in safety. With support from Andrew Murison MP, we are working with Larkrise Farm and the Wildlife Trust to try to persuade the Council and the developers to address our very real safety concerns.

John Cox

Wiltshire West District Scout Association

We congratulate John on being awarded the British Empire Medal earlier in the year for his services to the West Wiltshire Scout Movement, and for his community fund raising efforts for Bradford on Avon's Holy Trinity Church. Ed

Cottage(s) Through Time: Numbers 54-79.

When I came to 56 Yarnbrook Road in 199, I soon knew that I'd moved into a very special group of 10 stone cottages (54-79), one pair on the Trowbridge side of the A350 the other four pairs across the road. From early meetings with my neighbours, including Cyril Sweetman and Mrs Amer (77-79), Mike Noad (73a), Graham Morse (54), I discovered that some cottages had been occupied by the same family for a very long time. Mrs Marshman lived at 67 until c1998 and the family had live there since at least 1920. The Amer family had been at 77 since at least 1901 and Mrs Amer was there until the early 2000s. The Doel family was at 65 in 1920 and Mrs Doel was still there in c1994. Cyril and Evelyn Sweetman were at 79 (Evelyn lives there still), and Cyril and his parents and siblings had lived at 75.

I set about finding out when and why they were built. I could see that in so many ways the story of the site, the cottages and their occupants mirrored the world around

them – landowner's investment in the improvement of their estates through the 19th century and working peoples' dependency on the estate and their limited occupational and residential mobility; the 1914-18 world war and the declining profitability of agricultural estates; the 1939-45 war and aftermath and the massive changes in farming and the dwindling availability of agricultural work; developments in secondary education and transport which increased opportunities for work outside the village; and the movement into the village of town-based workers/retirees looking for a rural cottage or bungalow. I started to search for information and would like to share the story of what I know. Others who have lived in the cottages or whose families have been in the village for generations will know more and I hope will be able to colour in the story. The Long family feature in much of the story of 54-79.

1818 and 1840 the Site of 54-79 - In 1818 the enclosure map shows that land by “the Westbury Turnpike Road breadth of 60 feet” (site of the present 54-56) was leased in 1760 by Richard Long to Sarah Beaven and William Beavenstock. Across the road John Griffin a butcher was the freeholder of the land, and the map shows a building on the site in 1818. (This is now the site of the bungalow 73a Sandalwood.) The boundaries of the present 77-79 were there in 1818. The current 65-75 is built on land that was leased to Mary Beaven. By 1840 the tything map shows that the site of the later 65-79 had a cottage with two tenements and an orchard occupied by William Beaven on land leased by Betty Beaven from the Long family. Two other cottages and gardens were occupied by Ann Heal and Ham Cook. (By 1861 Ham Cook, blacksmith, has a cottage and workshop at Yarnbrook and another blacksmith called Cook is living at 73.) West Ashton Road is named Black Ball Road and led to the settlement of Biss (now Lower Biss Farm on the left as you go down the hill towards Trowbridge) and the hamlet of Black Ball near Blackball Bridge on the right on what appears to be an area between Soprano Way and the service station.

When was 54-79 built? - The 1851 census lists the houses and their occupants on Ashton Hill (as Yarnbrook Road was called) and some of these are the same in the 1861 census, but there were more houses on Ashton Hill by 1861. The houses and, in some cases the occupants are in there in the 1861 and later censuses. So it seems that houses were built between 1851 and 1861.

1851-1861: The Building of 54-79 - The cottages are on land owned by the Long family and were built between 1851-1861 during the period of investment in and improvement of the Rood Ashton Estate by Walter Long. I assume that the cottages that were there in 1840 were demolished to build 65-79. There is no record of buildings on the site on the other side of the road on which 54-56 were built.

In the early 1990s Devizes Museum hosted a talk on the development of 18th and 19th century estates and improvements in rural housing. We were shown, and I made a copy of, an illustrated 19th century book of model cottage designs.

Cont.

This pattern book was provided by building companies to landowners who were considering investing in the housing stock on their estates, and it included the names of estates on which the builder had worked. The name of the builder and address of the builder in the pattern book was the same builder who corresponded with the Long Estate in the early 1860s about repair work on Heath Hill Cottages. From memory, the builder's name was Walter Beaven of Beversbrook, Hilmarton, Calne. The book included plans, drawings and dimensions of the internal layout and external elevations for a pair of semi-detached cottages. The cottages had an open porch with an arched entrance, a front living room with fireplace, a back room/kitchen with chimney and enclosed staircase, a scullery through a door under the staircase. Upstairs, off a small square landing at the top of the stairs, was a front bedroom with fireplace, a slightly smaller back bedroom with fireplace and a box room. The internal layout and dimensions, the window shapes and positions and external appearance 54-79 are replicas of the pattern book cottages. Features of improved model cottages - WCs with cesspits, wells with pumps, pig-

sties, fireplaces, sculleries, improved natural light, and separate bedrooms for adults and children – were all there in 54-79

The 19th and early 20th century OS maps show the well in the gardens at 56 and 73 – they are still there, and the working pump on the well at 56 was only removed recently. There was a purpose built pig sty with a brick wall and tiled roof and two brick walled external enclosures at the end of the garden of 71 until it was demolished by the then owner in the late 1990s to make parking space. The open arches of the porches have all been filled with doors (or at 56 a window). In 56, in the entrance had clearly been an open porch - dressed stonework around the arch and the internal porch walls, the terracotta tiles on the floor and the positioning of the old front door with blocked up letter box at the entrance to the front room. In some of the cottages, the porch and scullery is now a kitchen, 54-56 had a single storey kitchen built on the back in 1979. In the 1960s some cottages had bathrooms built on to the back of the scullery, later some bathrooms were moved upstairs into the box room.

Pauline Hume To be continued

ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE WEST (OUTWEST) July 2018



S N Dubstation performing on the main stage

Weather perfect, field set, music great and family friendly – thus OUTWEST 2018 once more pitched up in West Ashton for a splendid weekend of fun. This well organised and well-run festival was staged for the fifth year, with a few of our villagers taking advantage of Sunday tickets. On entering the festival site they encountered a colourful scene, some surprising and entertaining outfits and of course a lot of well performed music by a variety of

bands – each of which you couldn't help but jig around to (dad dancing by yours truly). The atmosphere was laid back and friendly with strenuous efforts being made to monitor volume levels. Yes, the festival has grown in size each year but its impact on the village is minimal and it has become, I would say, a great local annual event.

Paul Workman

Parish Council Matters



Parish Councillors are: Richard Covington (Chair), Simon Alford (Vice-Chair), Margaret Workman, Helen Barrow, Steve Molloy, Horace Prickett (Wilts Councillor).

Ashton Park (15/04736/OUT) – Part of this Planning Application includes sports pitches, changing accommodation and car parking, originally the sports pitches were made up of one full size football pitch, one junior football pitch and one full size rugby pitch, the changing accommodation is for six teams and the car park to meet that need. The Wiltshire Playing Pitch Strategy (adopted Feb 2017) does not highlight the need for a full size rugby pitch but rather another football pitch, this view has been reinforced verbally by Trowbridge RFC and the RFU. Wiltshire Council will not be taking on the ownership and ongoing maintenance of the facility, therefore the options are a management company or that one of the local town or parishes in which the development falls takes on this responsibility. There is to be an informal meeting to discuss the potential options and issues in how to take this forward.

Travellers Site on the A350 – Nothing to report. However on a recent walk

the original applicant for the site and who had given his address as being on Caps Lane has re-routed the footpath in the parish of Bratton that otherwise crossed his land. Having written to Wiltshire Council I await with interest to hear whether planning permission was approved and if not how they propose to remedy the situation.

Neighbourhood Plan – Following the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) consultation, the draft plan documents were submitted to Wiltshire Council in May 2018 for the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). When this assessment has been completed Regulation 14 required further community consultation to be carried out.

Before submitting a plan proposal to the local planning authority, a qualifying body must—

publicise, in a manner that is likely to bring it to the attention of people who live, work or carry on business in the neighbourhood area— details of the proposals for a neighbourhood development plan;

Cont.

West Ashton website <http://www.westashton.org.uk/>
please send any comments to Nikki at westashtonpc@outlook.com

details of where and when the proposals for a neighbourhood development plan may be inspected; details of how to make representations; and the date by which those representations must be received, being not less than six weeks from the date on which the draft proposal is first published; consult any consultation body referred to in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 whose interests the qualifying body considers may be affected by the proposals for a neighbourhood development plan; and send a copy of the proposals for a neighbourhood development plan to the local planning authority.

The consultation has to be advertised in advance, for example: in the local press (Wiltshire Times);

Village Newsletter; on notice boards; online (social media as well as website); flyers

Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA)

- During the (SEA) review mentioned above, Wiltshire Council has been carrying out a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). The West Ashton NP considered the impact on bats for any new proposed development, but the emerging

HRA has an impact on the West Ashton Parish NP as a result of the first early draft of the Trowbridge Bat Mitigation Strategy. West Ashton is within the bat consultation zone as per the Special Area for Conservation (SAC) guidance). The proposed housing allocation sites identified are in close proximity to bat roosts at Picket and Clanger Woods.

The NP steering group has been advised that the new Bat Mitigation Strategy clarifies that the impact of any development within 600m of these known bat roosts (within the 'Red Zone') was unlikely to be able to be mitigated (Site – Land to the west of Bratton Road, SHLAA ref 306 is within this distance).

The proposed 'reserve' site at Manor Farm was mostly within the 'yellow zone' (just beyond 600 m) which means mitigation would need to be shown to be possible. However, development close to the south western boundary of the site (adjacent to the play area – the area being proposed in the Neighbourhood Plan documents) would be just within the 600m (Red Zone) so was likely to be problematic.

The Bat Mitigation Strategy for development at West Ashton means that more than one or two dwellings were not likely to be supported. West Ashton is designated as a 'small village' in the Wiltshire Core Strategy, in which Core Policies 1 and 2 detailed the requirement for only a small number of houses to be provided, as infill within the built area of the village. This level of development might be acceptable in relation to impact on bats by providing the opportunity to put in measures to protect and enhance bat habitats. In the light of the new evidence, any further affordable housing needs could be accommodated within the Ashton Park Development (previous advice from Wiltshire Council had not supported this).

Information on the Neighbourhood Plan is posted on the West Ashton website: <http://www.westashton.org.uk/np.html> and includes the site survey and plans so far.

Biss Barn and Farm – No trees yet.

Broadband – [Are there still fast broadband issues in the village/parish?](#)

School Footpath – There hasn't been any further applications to re-route the footpath

Fly Tipping – Contact Wiltshire Council on 01225 777234 or online at: <http://>

www.wiltshire.gov.uk/parkingtransportandstreets/roadshighwaysstreetcare/mywiltshirereport.htm

Community Speed Watch (CSW) – Two lady volunteers were carrying out a "COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH SESSION on the 3rd July when they experienced the following incident. A small grey Nissan Micra, travelled passed them from the direction of Bratton (less than 30mph so not an issue). The driver performed a U-turn about 50 metres away, approached them on the wrong side of the road, mounted the pavement heading towards them and halted alongside a little less than ½ metre over the footpath where they were standing. He had his window down and said rather aggressively, "I strongly object to this kind of thing" when asked why he said, "Because I live here." He then reversed away, turning in the adjoining driveway, to head back down Bratton Road towards the traffic lights.

THE PURPOSE OF "COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH" IS TO ENCOURAGE MOTORIST DRIVING THROUGH THE VILLAGE TO SHOW COURTESY TO RESIDENTS BY NOT EXCEEDING THE STATUTORY SPEED LIMIT. To be rude to volunteers in this way shows scant regard for them and their personal safety!

Richard Covington,
Parish Council Chairman

End of an era?



On a baking hot Monday in August, I made my last ever visit to the New Wine Summer Conference at the Bath and West Showground. For the past thirty years, tens of thousands of people have gathered at Shepton Mallet every summer for this Christian festival, bearing some similarities to its neighbour down the road at Glastonbury, except that the main attraction is God not music! That's not to say there isn't a lot of music – as well as talks, seminars, exhibitions and lots of fun. Part of the magic of New Wine is that groups from local churches all over the country spend a week

camping together and enjoy the shared experience of living, learning and praying together. There are groups for children of all ages (one of the big attractions for parents!) and a host of fringe events. Speakers have included Archbishops of Canterbury, leaders from many different Christian denominations and groups, media personalities and less well-known people with something important and interesting to say. Songs first heard at New Wine have found their way into the repertoire of many local churches and onto Songs of Praise on the BBC!

Cont.

POTTERING IN THE GARDEN

WOW! What a Summer, I don't remember when we last had one as good as this year, alas it brings onerous watering problems, and in my experience everything does not grow as well without a regular amount of rain. And tap water is a poor substitute for the real thing. I went to Hampton Court for my annual trip with my daughter in search of something new to me, to add to my border and found a lovely physostigia which has beautiful white spires of flowers, I have included a photo, as its gives a lift and lightness when included in a colourful flower arrangement, I also found some gorgeous lilies that are now 6" tall already, which I decided to put into containers to prevent the lily beetle attack, and I can't wait to see this particular variety, as they are large pink and very exotic!

My runner beans and French dwarf beans were a waste of time and effort this year, and watering them as I did, still only produced beans of no more than 5". But that's gardening for you Best results were my butternut squash, I was given a plant from

the sales table (left over) which no one wanted, and it has grown 8 large fruits, and still the flowers keep coming! I will be peeling and roasting them for a delicious winter soup. An extremely good crop of tomatoes has made 6 pints of tomato and basil soup.

I think Autumn will come quickly, following the very dry summer, so my plan is to get on with some jobs like giving the summerhouse a couple of coats of wood preserver, protect outside taps, and check the guttering for moss or rubble that can cause blockages in down pipes, and any other maintenance needed.

Holly Westlake



physostigia

The Armchair Birdwatcher

Once again, the birds have been busy! This spring and summer however, in the hot weather, fewer came to the table, but now all of the babies are visiting. Mostly blue tits and great tits, and hordes of long-tailed tits. The long-tailed tits have very large broods, often two broods in a year. I had 10 babies on the fat balls! Gold finches are also visiting regularly, and they sometimes have three broods, so I expect to see more soon. The only birds that I ever drive away are the jackdaws and rooks.

The girls often take me out to different venues. A couple of weeks ago we went to Bourton on the Water, a place I hadn't been to for years. When we arrived, I was surprised to find out that there was a place called Birdland there, something I never knew existed. Oh, what a delight – it was a beautiful day, and so many different birds. The site was first opened in 1957 by a local builder who had a passion for birds. They have over 130 different species, penguins, owls, pelicans and storks among the residents. I could name so many more,

but it would take too long. The Marabou Stork is also referred to as the undertaker bird, due to its black and white appearance. I could name so many, but I must end it with my favourites – the budgerigars. More about my new housemate Monty the budgie next time. Thank you girls! To anyone who is interested, it's well worth a trip.



Evelyn Sweetman

Cont.

From next year, New Wine is moving to the East of England Showground, just off the A1 at Peterborough. This will be less convenient for us in Wiltshire, but easier to reach from many other parts of the country. Hence my feeling of nostalgia and it being the end of an era. I personally have so many happy memories of time spent at Shepton Mallet with friends from the Trowbridge churches over the years. Things learnt and experienced at

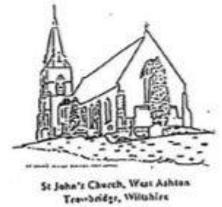
these events have left their mark on the lives of individuals, families and local churches all over the country and beyond. Nothing is forever, however, and despite our sadness, this move is an exciting new beginning for the New Wine movement as a whole. We wish it every blessing and success as it moves away from the West Country.

Allan Coutts

St. John's Celebrates Lammas

In early August, the Lammas tradition of celebrating the grain harvest is observed. Harvest time is a time for gathering in and giving thanks for its abundance. The Anglo Saxon word Lammas is derived from "loaf mass" and is indicative of how honoured is the first grain and the first loaf of the harvesting cycle. At the Sunday morning service, gifts of a loaf of bread, a dish of wheat and a corn stook were placed on the altar.

Jean Robertson



Wedding Congratulations – Sam Houkes and Stacey Campbell

Sam and Stacey were married in St John's church on June 16th. Stacey wore a silk Sassi Helford design and her bouquet was made up of peonies, roses and eucalyptus. The three bridesmaids were all wearing silver dresses from M & S Wedding creations and daughter Sophia was flower girl and wore an ivory dress. The couple have known each other since they were 13 years old. Stacey runs her own cleaning business and Sam works as a joiner. Their reception was held in Trudy and Rob's garden at 14b, Bratton Road. Sam and Stacey spent their honeymoon in Spain and their future home is on the Castle Mead development in Trowbridge. Trudy and Rob would especially like to thank all the resi-

dents for their help and understanding regarding the parking on their son's special day.

Jo Watkins



Trudy, Sam, Stacey and Rob Houkes

*Photo by Jamie McDine
(a former West Ashton resident)*

Proud Parents at St Johns

On 8th July, the christening took place of baby Oliver Luke Isaac. Oliver is being held by his mum Kim Cradock and nearby is his dad Tom Head. His godparents are Carly Morse and Adrian Baute. Oliver has a three year old brother Joseph.



Jean Robertson

Cont.



St John's Church Commemorates The Centenary Of The End Of World War 1

On Sunday, 11 November the village will commemorate the centenary of the end of the Great War. It will acknowledge the ultimate sacrifice that so many men, women and animals suffered at that time.

The Village Hall is holding an evening incorporating, possibly a film; a speaker and a sing-along, with a bread and cheese supper. This would be on Saturday, 10 November, see leaflet enclosed for detail.

The Church on Sunday, 11 November will be holding a special service at 10.30 am. Come and see the two "waterfalls" of 400 poppies that the ladies will have made. If you feel that you would like to get involved, could you knit or crochet some poppies; perhaps you have some war art, memorabilia that we could use, both in the hall and church, please contact the Churchwarden, Jean Robertson (760368).



Recipe

Raspberry, Amaretti and Salted Caramel Verrines.

This is a very simple but delicious dessert and if no raspberries are available then any other fruit would work too eg blueberries, cherries etc .

Serves 4 in tumbler glasses or wine glasses .

400ml double cream
1 tsp vanilla bean paste or essence
4 tsp icing sugar
100gm amaretti biscuits roughly crumbled
250gm raspberries

For the sauce...
90gm unsalted butter
165gm soft light brown sugar
1/2 tsp vanilla bean paste or essence
125ml double cream
1/4tsp sea salt flakes



Method....

Melt the butter gently in a saucepan. Add sugar and stir till it dissolves..... do not let it boil. Add the vanilla and cream and then bring to boiling point. Simmer for 5 minutes stirring continuously until thickened and the colour of toffee. Stir in the salt. Leave to one side. Whip the remainder of the cream until it starts to thicken. Add the icing sugar and vanilla and continue to whisk until it leaves soft peaks. Divide the crumbled amaretti biscuits into each glass. Top with a layer of salted caramel followed by a layer of cream. Top with the raspberries. Chill until ready to serve

Jo Walton

Answers to a

seasonal puzzle

T.S.Eliot
Apples
Term
Cobwebs
Libra
Leaves
Michaelmas
Autumn
Harvest

The 9-letter word is
September

By Margaret Workman

Regular Activities In The Village Hall

Social Dancing	Most Sundays at 6pm	Mr. Kevin Burge	07933 771205
Dance Class	Tuesdays at 10am	Dee Dee Wilde	01380 870489
Dog Training	Thursday's at 6.30	Ken Scott	07867 820497
Pilates	Most Tuesday's at 5pm	Amie Hawkins	07738 449245
Tai Chi	Monday's at 10.30am	Brian Wooding	01985 213474
Wives Group	19.30am 1st Wednesday of the month	Marlene Pike Sylvia Preston	01380 870272 01225 765858
WI	Fourth Wednesday of the Month	Holly Westlake	01225 758866
Yoga	6.15 intermediate Most Monday's duration 1.5 hours	Angeline Nicholson	01380 830458
Coffee Morning	every Friday 10.30 to 12, open to all	Margaret Workman	01225 766998

KNITTERS, WE NEED YOUR HELP

West Ashton W.I. is planning to create a Poppy Cascade to be part of the decorations in the Church to commemorate the Centenary of the end of the First World War. SO WE NEED A LOT OF KNITTED POPPIES.

If you can help, patterns are available from the front porch of 25 Bratton Road and there will also be a box there to receive your finished poppies. We would like as many as possible by 21 September.

Thank you in anticipation of your help.

The photo shows a poppy 'waterfall' made by another WI. We are hoping to make something similar Ed.



Photo Jo Watkins

<i>Other Useful Numbers</i>	<i>Contact Information</i>	
<i>Builder</i>	Paul - New build, extensions, renovation specialist, alterations.	01225 753997/07799 563347 19 Bratton Road,
<i>Chimney Sweep</i>	I J Marshman	07831 684273
<i>Foot Reflexologist</i>	Annie Ritchens	01225 752002 Mob 07967630429
<i>Garage Services</i>	Briken Motors Garage....MOTs, servicing etc,	01225 755203
<i>All Domestic and Commercial Cleanin, Ironing, Carpets etc.</i>	Ring Heidi	07514319533
<i>Judo Classes</i>	Age 8+ W. Ashton School 7.00-8:30pm Fridays.	Mike Healy 01373 822349 www.zenjudoclub.co.uk
<i>Library</i>	The Mobile Library visits Orchard Close 3 to 3.30 pm	www.services.wiltshire.gov.uk/ MobileLibrary/Library/Stop/57
<i>Milkman</i>	Michael Bullings Dairies	01225 776494
<i>Newspapers</i>	Seend Post Office deliver	01380 828250
<i>Parish Council</i>	Chairman: Mr Richard Covington Clerk: Nicola Duke	01225 761904 01373 864127
<i>Police Concerns</i>	David Bradley Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Village Co-ordinator Alex Trombetta PC3925 Community Coordinator	01225 754100 Non-emergency No 101
<i>Refuse</i>	Community skips in Canal Road, Trowbridge for larger items.	http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/rubbish-collection-days
<i>Seamstress & Soft Furnishings</i>	Clare Humphries, curtains, dress-making and alterations	01225 767703 Mob 07929 122631
<i>St. John's Church</i>	Services Sundays 10.30am. Rev Allan Coutts	01225 754826
<i>West Ashton BoomerangTaxi Service</i> <i>West Ashton to Trowbridge.</i>	Taxi service. Mon-Sat West Ashton to Trowbridge. Price each way: adult £1.60; child 80p; children under 4 free. Bus passes can be used.	Morning pickup 9.30am, return 12 noon Or 2pm. Tel: 0800 371297 to book.
<i>West Ashton C of E School</i>	Head Teacher Mrs D. Huxham	01225 754354
<i>West Ashton Ladies Skittles Team</i>	Mrs. Sharon Shiles	01380 870196
<i>Longs Trust</i>	Jean Robertson	01225 760368
<i>Painting and Decorating</i>	<i>Carl Halls</i>	<i>Carl Halls 01225 682509 carlhallsdecorating@outlook.com</i>



What's Coming Up

5 Sept	Wives Village Hall, Welcome back evening 7.30pm.
23 Sept	Harvest Festival in the Church 10.30am
25 Sept	Parish Council Meeting V.H. 7.30
26 Sept	WI. VH. Lorna Gray Cotswold Bound Bookbinding demo 7.30
27 Sept	Children's Harvest Festival Service In Church 9.30am
28 Sept	Harvest Festival Lunch Village Hall 12.30 for 1
3 Oct	Wives VH. Sarah Bond Fabric Design For Schools 7.30
24 Oct	WI. VH. Judith Coles History Of Bath Mineral Hospital 7.30
27 Oct	Free Family Halloween Party/Disco from 6.30 live music from 8 VH. Please obtain Tickets (for numbers)
7 Nov	Wives Village Hall Bonfire, Skittles and hot Dogs 7.30
10 Nov	Commemoration of WW1 Film/Speaker Singalong light Refreshments Village Hall £5 at 7.30
27 Nov	Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.30
28 Nov	WI. VH. Margaret Hiscocks Christmas Craft Wiltshire Scrap Store 7.30
2 Dec	Christmas Christingle church 4pm
5 Dec	Wives Christmas Party Village Hall 7.30
7 Dec	Christmas Concert Church 7.30
16 Dec	Christmas Lunch 12.30 for 1 Village Hall tickets £15
19 Dec	WI. VH. Vera Hughes and David Weller Dickens at Christmas in Victorian Costume Pot Luck Supper 7.30
23 Dec	Carol Service Church 10.30am
24 Dec	Christmas Midnight Mass Church 11.15
31 Dec	New Years Celebration Village Hall live music buffet tickets £15

All Village Hall events are with a licenced bar and a raffle

Tickets From Sylvia Preston 01225 765858 or Jean Robertson 01225 760368

