



The West Ashton Magazine

Issue 44

September 2014



**Autumn Tints, Rood Ashton Parkland
Photo: Paul Workman**

**Keeping you up-to-date in West Ashton,
Rood Ashton, East Town and Dunge**



www.westashton.org.uk



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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Editorial

We are pleased to announce that we have received two very generous donations from Briken Motors and an anonymous donor which will assure the production of our magazine for the foreseeable future. One of the highlights of the West Ashton calendar has to be the Village Hall's fun fruit and veg show. Unlike the debacle of England's World Cup performance and Murray's failure to lift the trophy at Wimbledon, come along and enjoy our very own home grown winner. With plenty of classes

to choose from nearly everyone's a winner. Not only that, everything is free including the refreshments. It's not every village that can boast its own music festival, but read all about it inside. Other than flash floods in Trowbridge, at the time of writing, the weather has so far behaved itself. Hope you all summered well and managed to get away from it all. Make sure you read the footpath article and give thanks we live in such a lovely part of the country.

Jo and Paul

Vehicle thefts

Catalytic converters have been stolen from vehicles in rural areas. All the attacked vehicles relate to Citroens and the majority to Picassos. It's vitally important we do all we can to prevent this as it is still a central priority. The offences have occurred in NorthBradley/Hilperton/Downside Park. If you know of any friends or families with Citroën vehicles please pass the message on

to raise their awareness and ask them to remain vigilant. I will be conducting patrols as much as possible in the rural areas and speaking with residents when I can. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

Police Community Support Officer Maria Badder

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Parish Council Matters

1. Website

- 1.1. The West Ashton Parish Council website has been updated recently and will be undergoing a 'face lift' to make it more attractive.

<http://www.westashton.org.uk/parishcouncil.htm>

2. Planning

- 2.1. The Core Strategy

- Nothing to add, the process is slowly progressing.

http://consult.wiltshire.gov.uk/portal/spatial_planning/wcs/wiltshire_core_strategy_proposed_modifications_april_2014

- 2.2. Wind Farm – Further consultation on the separation distances hasn't, as yet resulted in any change but there are more action groups challenging wind farms on a national basis; ref the national press and planning appeals etc.

- 2.3. Keevil Airfield Development (Wind Farm) – No news on this but for information: Planned military flying times at Keevil airfield are published on the RAF Brize Norton website and can be accessed via the home page, <http://www.raf.mod.uk/rafbrizenorton> and then by following the quick link labelled 'LAF Times – Keevil' located in the Local Area Flying (LAF) section. The website is updated on a weekly basis and will only include planned military flying. Please note that all dates and times are subject to change at short notice due to numerous factors including higher priority tasking, aircraft and crew availability, and weather constraints.

These short notice changes will not be reflected on the website.

- 2.4. Parish Boundary – Wiltshire Council are about to embark on more consultation about boundaries.

Trowbridge Town Council have decided that parishes are fair game and want to subsume parts of 'our' parish, amongst others into Trowbridge, so far it is Old Farm and the proposed business park west of Biss Farm. This is the thin end of the wedge, not only will our precept go down by almost half but the massive development in the parish will be the next target for sure and here we are talking serious sums of money. Figures indicate £70 per sq metre for residential property and we the parish would, under the rules get 15% so without going into the arithmetic take the average sq metres of a house multiply it by 2600 and £70 and 15% and the takeover by Trowbridge becomes very attractive indeed whilst making the Parish Council as near as unviable. We must oppose this wholesale plunder.

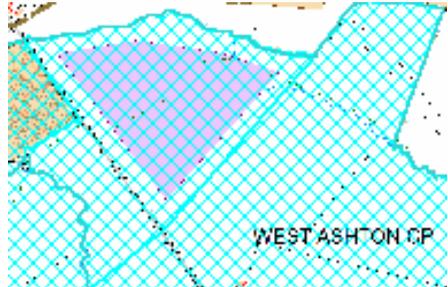
3. Other Matters

- 3.1. Street Lighting - Wiltshire Council started a 6 month trial of turning the street lights off on 1st August 2014 from midnight to 5:30am in Trowbridge and the surrounding area where considered safe to do so i.e. not at junctions etc. At the end of the 6 months any responses received from the public will then be reviewed. Any comments can be sent to the following

Parish Council Matters (continued)



Old Farm



West Ashton Employment Land

email -

streetlightinginwiltshire@atkinglobal.com or by writing to Wiltshire Council, 'Street Lighting Trial', Wiltshire Council, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, Wilts. BA14 8JN

- 3.2. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Angeline Nicholson to the parish council and who has already taken an active role with responsibility for liaison with Wiltshire Council's (Balfour Beatty team) for village maintenance team. We are already seeing signs of this around the village; grass cutting, weeding etc.

The parish council has also taken a small step of reorganisation to enable the increasing work load to be covered more broadly with councillor participation in planning, website and highways.

- 3.3. Emergency Meeting, Ref: Field East of Bratton Road, Strakers LOTs 9 and 10. A meeting was held on the 21st July in the village hall and attended by more than 50 villagers. The field on the east side of Bratton Road has been divided into two LOTs and offered for auction by

Strakers in Devizes.

- 3.4. Recreation area, there have been complaints about dog fouling, which is a potential health hazard, particularly to children. We can all see dogs being walked through the village. Responsible owners clear up but as with all things, it only takes one or two to ruin it for all so please keep dogs out of the recreation area and on a lead when walking through the school on the public footpath.
- 3.5. Gypsy / Traveller site on A350 – The application to extend the use of the site was approved by the Strategic Planning Committee. Two Wiltshire Councillors made compelling arguments against approval but the motion put forward and seconded by another, simply ignored the arguments. The policy of not developing on the A350 primary route was also not taken into account. Two questionable reasons given by the two councillors in favour were 'The site looked quite nice' and 'We fear change'. The decision can be found on the Wiltshire Council website – planning application 14/01798: <http://planning.wiltshire.gov.uk/Northgat>

Parish Council Matters (continued)

- e/PlanningExplorer/ApplicationSearch.aspx This is now closed but feel free to email or write to Mike Willmot, planning officer - Mike.Wilmott@wiltshire.gov.uk or Stephen Hawkins, enforcement officer - Stephen.Hawkins@wiltshire.gov.uk .
- 3.6. Defibrillator.... The electrical wiring at the village hall has been completed and the defibrillator installed and available when needed.
- 3.7. Fly Tipping – Just a reminder, any observed fly tipping please call Wiltshire Council on 01225 777234 or email clarence@wiltshire.gov.uk or online on <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/parkingtransportandstreets/roadshighwaysstreetcare/mywiltshirereport.htm>
- 3.8. Roundabout on the C49 (road into Trowbridge) – At the time of writing the roundabout is nearly finished. For some reason the street lights have not been switched on so the temporary works lamp sits ablaze on a pole in the centre of the roundabout, it's rather bright so it pays not to look up.
- 3.9. Broadband – It would be interesting to know, straw poll if you like what the typical download speeds are in the village. I was dismayed to here that some are as low as 0.6Mbps/sec, which is what one might expect for the upload rate.
- 3.10. Hawkeridge – Business Park proposal for Hawkeridge – again this was considered by the Strategic Planning Committee, with outline planning permission granted. Lots of half full or is half empty Business Parks looming for West Wiltshire.
WWW.HAWKERIDGE.ORG
- 3.11. Wilts Council News Letter
<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/parishnewsletterhome.htm>
- 3.12. Community Speed Watch (CSW) – This is a volunteer scheme and if you would like to help please contact me.
- 3.13. Reminder - Wilts Fire Brigade is offering a free service to check home smoke alarms and answer any of your queries. Ring 0800 3897849.

*Richard Covington, Parish Council
Chairman*

How it Was

Kelly's Directory of 1939 describes West Ashton as 'a civil parish, formed in 1894 out of the parish of Steeple Ashton. The ecclesiastical parish was formed in 1846. The church of St. John the Evangelist is a modern building of stone in the Gothic style. The church affords 200 sittings. The register dates from the year 1847. The living is a vicarage, net yearly value £275, with residence, in the gift of the governors of Canford School. Rood Ashton House, the property and residence of Mrs. Walter Shaw, is a mansion in the Domestic Gothic style, surrounded by a park of 375 acres. The population in 1931 was 262.'

Thanks to Beryl Webb for this excerpt taken from a parish magazine.

Village Defibrillator

The defibrillator is now fully functioning at the Village Hall. It is located on the outside of the side wall to the right as you face the main entrance (see picture). It has been paid for with an extremely generous donation, covering its full cost, from Clive and Julie Edwards of Rood Ashton. In addition, a donation of £500 has been made by Persimmon, which will cover the cost of servicing and replacement parts when they are needed.

The access code for the defibrillator is held by all 999 emergency services and will be given to callers to this number as required, so that emergency treatment can start before those services arrive. Once access is gained, spoken instructions on the defibrillator are automatically activated for the user, which enables it to be used by any member of the public in complete safety. For first



support for defibrillator use – Lucy Pullen 07952 984 694, Emma Pursey 01225 753997 and Kirsty Kirkwood 01225 769926.

Many thanks to all concerned for the provision of this important piece of life-saving equipment for our village and surrounding areas.

Margaret Workman

Left: Clive and Julie Edwards

Wherever you see this sign, there will be a defibrillator.



Jubilee Wood Scout Camp Site



Our Fun Day on 14 June was an unqualified success with over 500 children, parents and families attending. Danone kindly allowed us the use of their car park on the White Horse Business Park and Chandlers Coaches ran a Park & Ride service for us.

Each of our Groups staged an activity, ranging from air Rifle shooting and archery, to map reading, tracking and an assault course. Larkrise Farm kindly put on carriage rides, until a combination of the heat, horse flies and exhaustion forced Wendy to call it a day.

In the afternoon Mrs Sarah Troughton, the Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire formally opened our site, the Rev Joanna Abecassis, Rector of Bradford on Avon blessed our

“scouts own” chapel in one of the clearings, and then we all adjourned to the camp fire circle for a sing song in true scouting style. The evening was rounded off with a BBQ while we waited for the coaches to ferry some very tired members back to their cars.

Sadly, the recent dry weather has put paid to our hopes that the grass on our camping field would be strong enough to withstand camping, so we have put this off until next year. We have however, been able to host a number of events, ranging from building bat boxes to be hung in Biss Wood to a district archery competition. The cubs held a really good day of activities, including cooking over fires and games. A number of other cup packs and beaver colonies have joined us for an evening’s fun. We have also played host to West Ashton WI.

Jubilee Wood Scout Camp Site (continued)

We now have electric light powered by solar panels and batteries but security remains the biggest item. On police advice, we have ordered gates to secure the Interpretation Centre and need to source and fit security lights and cameras. We hope to complete this in time for the school holidays, so that, combined with regular patrols by G4S, we can feel reasonably secure. We are also looking at ways to heat water for the showers and hand washing in the toilets.

On the field itself, the trees are growing remarkably well with a large percentage surviving and many well over 6 foot tall already. With Wilts Wildlife Trust, work has

started on the footbridge that will connect Biss Wood with the new Nature Park to the north and Green Lane Wood. When complete, public entry to Biss Wood will be via footpaths from the Green Lane Wood car park. Thanks to help from Chris Awdry, we now have a fine pond which is in a figure of eight, so that Scouts can build bridges across the narrow part, leaving deeper pools further away from Scouting activities where wildlife will hopefully flourish. Planting will probably start in September.

John Cox, Chairman Wiltshire West District Scout Association. Tel 01225 864270

I was delighted to receive an invitation to attend the opening of the camp site, a testament to John and his team's hard work. When I look back to the planting of over 6,000 trees earlier this year with the relentless storms and rain and John hard at work in a sea of mud, it's difficult to imagine the transformation that had taken place less than six months later. It was a day to remember, even the campfire was lit in spectacular style with the aid of fireworks, and everyone went home tired but happy. I have deep



Waiting for the fire to light.

admiration for those volunteers who work so hard to aid the continuation of the scout movement.

Jo Watkins

Walking the Walk



In the last issue of the magazine, we showed a picture of the kissing gate in the lane near East Town and the footpath across the field was cropped over. As you can see the path has been restored - hooray! The photo was taken on 21st June.

West Ashton parish footpaths 5 & 6, 5 & 6. No you aren't seeing double - these paths were traversed twice in five days, once by us and then by a West Ashton WI ramble, led by Margaret. The first amble was something of a pathfinder expedition, as from experience, occasional access problems have been encountered. Path 5 leads from Bratton Road, opposite the entrance to the road to East Town, and aside from missing one field entrance (we have yet to master the precise location of this one – are the hedges moving?) our progress went unhindered. Along the way we observed a hare and on path 6 (Kettle Lane), a startlingly bright Marbled White butterfly. Reading up later it proved to be a female, as apparently males are smaller and a little duller. So on Wednesday 9 July

members of West Ashton WI, with assorted partners, set off on the same route. As the photo shows, the path from Bratton Road borders a field with assorted livestock and this attracted the attention of us to them and them to us, this scenario was repeated with three wayward calves a couple of fields later. Those unfamiliar with these parts of the parish were impressed with the expansive view towards Somerset and a stile or two presented a bit of a challenge for some of the party, but all in all the walk proved enjoyable. A hare, probably the one observed on the previous outing, was startled by our progress and was later seen 'haring' around a large flock of sheep in a field alongside Kettle Lane.

On Saturday 21 June Paul and our daughter Emily, newly returned from a yearlong trip around the globe, set off to tackle some of the overgrown stiles and kissing gates on paths 1,2 and 3. As part of her trip, Emily had been in the South American Rain Forests but although a pair of shears and a long stick were needed now, machetes were not required!

Paul and Margaret Workman

West Ashton WI Ramble



Larkrise Farm News

This June, Larkrise Farm and RDA group held its first open afternoon and equine tack sale which was a great success! The weather was extremely kind to us and the event was very well supported by the local community.

As well as the tack sale, we had lots to entertain the families including pony rides, hook a duck (not a real one!), name the rabbit, cake stall, plant stall, refreshments and animal petting zones.

We raised an incredible £498 for the farm, which we hope to use to put towards the purchase of our Miniature Mediterranean donkeys Maddy and Petal, currently on loan to the farm. Maddy and Petal had their first trip out to attend a garden party at Hednesford House on 12 July and behaved impeccably!

Wendy and 'Eros' attended the official opening of the Jubilee Woods Scout Camp at the beginning of July and gave carriage rides through the woods which were very enjoyable.

Following great success with lambs, piglets and kids earlier this year – somewhat later than usual the poultry section sprang in to action producing four Dutch Bantam chicks, seven Polish Frizzle Bantam chicks, four Lavender Orpington chicks, two Wyandotte X chicks and three Call Duck x ducklings – so there's a lot of clucking and quacking going on!



*Swimming lessons. All say Aaahhhh now!
Photo: Ashley Wicks*

Our AGM took place on Wednesday 16 July. Sue Bradbrooke kindly agreed to remain as our Chair of Trustees and our new Treasurer Peter Barnett was officially voted on to the committee. Student of the Year award was given to Louis Rabbits. Matthew Godfrey was awarded the Long Serving Student Award and volunteers Ernie Newcombe, Les Parker, Kate Baldwin, Peter Hall and Gerry Fice were acknowledged for their efforts.

Although the students have now finished for the summer, we will be kept busy with group visits and Activity Days in July & August. Full details are on our website www.larkrisefarm.org.uk.

Hope you all have a great summer.

Wendy Self, Farm Manager

Ladies at Leisure-West Ashton WI & Wives Group



As ever, the ladies of West Ashton WI continue to lead an active life, enjoying the various activities on offer. May saw us taking part in our annual topical issues debate which this year is organ donation and whether a compulsory donation register should be set up with the option to opt out. It was agreed the importance of discussion on this matter within the family unit. The debate was accompanied by a delicious fish and chip supper washed down with cider or fruit juice. To add to the fun, members were asked to guess the mystery object, which was a prayer wheel from Nepal and correctly guessed by Jo Watkins. For our June meeting we were advised to wear warm clothing and sensible shoes and bring a picnic. Drivers were allocated and after travelling for approximately 5 minutes and one mile on the A350 we reached our

destination -the Jubilee Wood Scout Camp Site. We were warmly greeted by John Cox who escorted us into the large barn building and proceeded to give us a very informative talk on the origins and aims of the camp site. After which, John gave us a walking tour of the site including woodland paths encountering wildlife including deer. Our evening concluded with an enjoyable picnic in the delightful gardens of member Catherine Holland (thank you Catherine) The picnic turned into an impromptu birthday party for Frances Uphill with Jean Covington kindly providing a birthday cake. The only problem—lighting the candles in the breeze!

In May, we visited Larkrise Community Farm, where we were shown around by Wendy Self, manager and Ashley Wicks, administrator, to see the recently installed

Ladies at Leisure (continued)

bee hives courtesy of local Lions' Clubs. Two of the hives were occupied, with two more waiting to be used. The latest additions to the farm, two miniature donkeys, Maddy and Petal were admired and petted as were the baby pigs and lambs. We didn't realise what a variety of animals and birds were kept there – a perfect place to take children (and adults) to visit. Another birthday was celebrated that day,



when we all wished Holly Westlake a happy birthday. The keen walkers in the group donned their walking boots to explore the local footpaths around West Ashton under the leadership of Margaret Workman and husband Paul. Both walks, one in May and the second in July were most enjoyable with the usual camaraderie and well earned refreshments in the village hall afterwards. Thank you Margaret and Paul. (We look forward to the next one!) Looking ahead, we have some interesting and fun evenings to look forward to, including guided walks of historical Trowbridge and another one taking us on a guided tour of Trowbridge Town Hall. Later in the year, we have an evening dedicated solely to the subject of chocolate! (Bring it on!)

Any ladies in the West Ashton area who may be interested in our group are welcome to come along as visitors and bring a friend.

Wendy Bartlett, joint President.

Wives Group

The season ended in May with a party, a glass of wine, refreshments and entertainment with music and mirth by Mr and Mrs J Craig. Again this year, we were lucky to be blessed with lovely weather on our annual coach trip. After a pit stop in Burley for the ever-welcome coffee break, we headed towards Christchurch through the picturesque scenery of the New Forest. With a charming harbour, ancient priory and ruined castle, this pretty town had plenty to offer, altogether a delightful day out. We celebrate our 50th birthday this year and are having a tea party in the Village Hall on Saturday October 25th 2-5pm. Everyone is welcome to come and join us, All meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Entry is £1.50 to include refreshments. We look forward to our next get together in September.

Sylvia Preston

Our Green and Pleasant Land



Photo Clive Edwards
Rood Ashton Lake (or Stourton Water) and surrounding parkland.

Our Polluted and Slightly Unpleasant Land



The fire at Shanley's yard as viewed from Bratton Road on the morning of Saturday 21st June

Photo Paul Workman

Then and Now - our Village School



**May 1980 by Jean Platts
July 2014 by Geoff Watkins**

The chimneys are shorter. In today's photo, note the extension housing classrooms and the school hall, and the gap in the wall leading to the playing field.



Village Hall News

The committee would like to thank all those who belong to the 50 Club for the donation of £550.00 which was presented to me at the Sunday Lunch and will be put to good use. The 50 Club provides 50% of the money towards the prizes and 50% to the Village Hall, and this year has attracted more support than ever before. My thanks go to Sylvia Preston and Jackie Bradley who administer it. A varied programme of events has been organised which commences with a Film Night and a Fun Produce Show in September, and in October we have a Murder Mystery with a three course meal. For families a Halloween Disco has been arranged and a children's Christmas Party with Father Christmas in attendance. Please see the programme of events which is enclosed with the Magazine for further details. Pin it on your notice board as a reminder of what's on and if you would like an e-mail reminder please e-mail westashtonvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk

The Film Nights introduced this year have

Some of the winning junior entrants at last year's fun garden produce show held in the Village Hall.



proved to be popular and we have now purchased a Blu-Ray player which gives a better quality picture even when using a standard DVD. The Film Nights will be advertised on the notice board outside the Village Hall and will be free to everyone as usual. If you have suggestion of a film you would like to be shown or have a film that other people may want to see then email westashtonvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk

Of course any event we organise needs your support to be a success. The residents should be thankful that they have a well-maintained village hall and an active committee who arrange the events throughout the year. As the old saying goes use it or lose it. We do our best to keep all prices as low as possible, so come along and join us, we are a friendly bunch, and you might be surprised and actually enjoy yourselves.

Vaughan Nichols, Chairman Village Hall



Community Volunteers - Angeline Nicholson

As a village resident of six years, Angeline is our newly elected parish councillor and keen to take an active part in our community. Previously Principal of Lowestoft College, Angeline owned a ladies fashion shop in Trowbridge before her retirement. As well as running yoga classes in the Village Hall, she is a volunteer with the Bath Cats and Dogs Home, visiting and assessing people who would like to adopt a pet. If you'd like to adopt a cat, a dog or even some chickens, make Angeline your first port of call. She also works as a volunteer with the Alzheimer's Society. Describing her fellow councillors as having a wide breadth of knowledge and experience, her vision is to see a village plan with a proactive approach to planning for the future of the village. With responsibility for the monthly community days when the village has a wash and brush up and a general tidy up, Angeline feels that they could lead on to other events when the whole of the village community could be involved.

Jo Watkins



Photo: Angeline with Foxie and Fynn, her two rescue Cairn terriers

Welcome to Our Village

With so many of our villages entering into the 'Villages in Bloom' competition, and from these photos of the area at the top of the village taken in July, it is apparent that we are long overdue for a makeover and should consider perhaps entering the competition in due course. At the other end of the village, the scruffy bank opposite the Village Hall isn't a thing of beauty. That's not to take away any of the credit from some of the beautiful gardens that adorn the village, but you have to admit that we don't offer much of a visual welcome to



people entering the village from either direction. A few tubs dotted around the village wouldn't come amiss either. In this day and age, everyone is so busy, but it would be wonderful if someone would come forward to co-ordinate

some sort of 'prettifying up' operation, even if it meant something like adopting a tub to plant up and water. I have been approached to put a few feelers out, so if anyone has even half an hour a week to spare or any ideas on how to go about this, please get in touch and I'll pass on your ideas.

Jo Watkins

West Ashton School Leavers 2014

One of the enriching things about being Vicar of West Ashton (alongside a growing Trowbridge parish!) is being involved in our Voluntary Aided Primary School. Although I don't spend nearly as much time there as I would like to, over the years I've seen generations of children pass through our school and come out better for the experience. Nowadays it only seems like the twinkling of an eye between the children arriving in Reception and leaving to go on to Secondary education. In fact I had the sobering experience recently of conducting the Wedding of a young man who remembers me taking Assembly when he was at West Ashton! And there is at least one child currently at the school whose mum I remember from her school days!

The 'Leavers Service' at the end of the summer term is always an emotional occasion for children, parents and teachers alike. For the young people moving on to new schools, there are mixed feelings of sadness, thankfulness, anticipation, fear, excitement, apprehension... and more. A few days before this year's service, I was able to spend some time with the children and give them three things to remember as they go up to 'big school'. It occurs to me these aren't bad things for us all to keep in mind at whatever stage of life, particularly times of transition.

Don't be afraid! Apparently the Bible says this 366 times (one for every day of the year, including leap years!). And it is usually combined with the statement '... because the Lord your God is with you.'

Dare to be different! It can be hard to be publicly known as a Christian these days (especially for young

people), but it remains true that if we have the courage of our convictions and stand up for what we believe, others will secretly admire us for it.

Make the most of every opportunity!

There are no dress rehearsals for life and some opportunities only come around once. *Carpe Diem* (seize the day!) can become an obsession if taken to extremes, but it is nonetheless good advice.

We wish all this year's batch of West Ashton Leavers every blessing as they settle into their new schools. And we thank God for our village school, for the dedication shown by Dr. Nash and all the Staff, and for the enrichment it brings to our community.

Allan Couatts



Parents of West Ashton School (POWA)



During May we undertook a sponsored balance. On Friday 23rd May they completed various balancing challenges cheered on by their peers! It was an event filled with fun and laughter and we raised nearly £1000 which is amazing!



Instead of our traditional fete this summer we hosted a Family Fun Evening. This new approach was based on feedback and suggestions from parents. The evening included free inflatables for the children to play on, a well-stocked refreshments bar and a bustling BBQ. We asked parents to donate puddings and there were many delicious creations on offer. The evening raised approx. £1000 and we have received positive feedback from lots of people which makes all the effort worthwhile!

With P.O.W.A.'s healthy profits we have now committed £5500 to pay for the new kitchen which will be ready for September as well as black out blinds for the hall which will



enhance school productions. We hope to assist funding for new lighting also in the future.

Quiz night is Friday 10th October 8pm 2014 and was a huge success last year so start gathering your teams and contact us for more information early October.

I will be stepping down as chairperson from October's AGM after a wonderful 2 ½ years working with a top team! We hope a new chair will come forward soon. I look forward to supporting the committee and new chair in the future.

Take a look at our noticeboard or website for our events during 2014 and remember you are always very welcome to come along or suggest ideas.

<http://www.westashton.wilts.sch.uk/>

*Very best wishes, Zoë Collins,
Chair, Parents of West Ashton (P.O.W.A)*



Wiltshire Good Neighbours



Wiltshire Good Neighbours is a service designed to connect older and vulnerable residents of rural communities with organisations who can support them to live safe, comfortable, fulfilling and independent lives. We aim to be a friendly and familiar face in the community, to listen to your concerns and provide you with a range of information on services such as:

- Where to find financial advice about benefits
- Transport for health related journeys or shopping
- Healthcare needs
- Safety issues such as home security & fire safety
- Social activities and meetings in your area
- Keeping warm in the winter months

· Befriending services

If you feel you or somebody you know may benefit from this service please feel free to contact us.

Emma Curtis

Good Neighbour coordinator for the Trowbridge Rural Community Area

Telephone **07584 101092** email

trowbridgegnc@communityfirst.org.uk

If you are a younger person who has health concerns or a disability that proves challenging, we may also be able to help you. Wiltshire Good Neighbours is a free and confidential service run by Community First in partnership with Age UK Wiltshire and Age UK Salisbury. Wiltshire Good Neighbours is funded by Wiltshire Council

The Magazine – 10 years ago

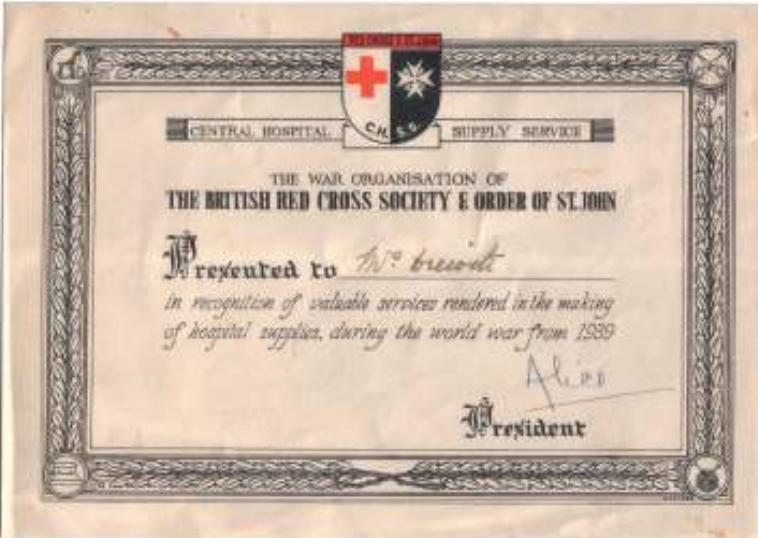
A lot of activities were organised that summer. Ian and Jean Robertson held a Celebration Barn Dance featuring top group The Wurzels, raising over £5,000 which was divided between St. John’s Church, Larkrise Community Farm and The Friends of Trowbridge Hospital Scanner Appeal. The WACAP (West Ashton Community Action Plan) Focus Group organised a plant exchange, a flower festival in the church, two cream teas, beer and burgers in the Village Hall, a barn dance, garage sales and a healthy walk to finish off.

Trevor Carbin, County Councillor, wrote about the A350, notorious for the number of fatal and serious accidents over the years. Our crossroads, one of the three most

dangerous spots, was labelled as an accident cluster site. Most of the crashes were nose to tail shunts, so the council were planning to lay some anti-skid surfacing to attempt to prevent this type of accident. Construction of the Westbury Bypass was recommended, resulting in no more improvements to the West Ashton to Heywood section until after the bypass was built.

Larkrise Community Farm received the news that Wimpey were donating £300,000 towards the building on its new site. The renovation to the porch of the Village Hall was completed to include the floor and the installation of new main overhead lighting to replace the very old lighting which was becoming unreliable.

From the Archives



Certificate awarded to Mrs. Gladys Drewett, West Ashton, mother of Edna Morse, who made a contribution towards the war effort by knitting socks and blankets for the troops.



The Class of '57, Courtesy of Marlene Pike

Back row: 1 ? 2 Linda Tucker 3 ? 4 Amanda Napolitano 5 ? 6 ? ?

8 Hilary Turner 9 ? 10 ? 11 Anthony Griffin

Middle row: 1 Josey Tomkins 2 Anne Draper 3 Marlene Hill 4 Sally Tucker 5 Denise Price
6 ? 7 Anna Zuchette 8 Tina Pike 9 Ailsa Price

Front row: 1 Keith Morse 2 Michael Noad 3 ? 4 ? 5 Barry Pow 6 ? 7 ? 8 ? 9 ? 10 Stephen
Russell

Our Mini-Glastonbury



Once Upon a Time in the West (O.U.T. West) festival was new this year, and it was my first time stewarding at a festival. I heard about it because my parents live in West Ashton and I just thought I'd see what it was like.

From the very first time I met Flounder (the main organiser) and witnessed his friendly calm considerate approach, I could tell it was going to be good. Then I also met the head steward, Emma, who is lovely and manages ALL the stewards at Glastonbury: I realised I was going to get some high-calibre training! My five fellow stewards were also inexperienced, so to have such an intimate festival for us all to learn the ropes was amazing. We all wanted to give it our all.

I've often been known to say that the people make all the difference. The crowd at this

festival were the sort who just want to have a genuine good time. Whether they were younger alternative festival-goers, families, or children of the sixties, they all had two things in common: smiles on their faces and a welcoming attitude. Many times across the weekend I thought people seemed like they were long-standing friends, and then often learned that they'd only just met. Some wild west fancy dress effort added valuable eccentricity into the mix!

The weather could've easily challenged those smiles, but Saturday's rainy morning after a well-received opening Friday night actually brought a sense of good humour. Later, the lightning storm came so close that everything had to be turned off for 20 minutes, but the sensible approach taken by those in charge kept everyone feeling positive. It was a just reward that the sun

Our Mini-Glastonbury (continued)

came swiftly back out to create a gorgeous feel-good afternoon in a field, quality music lifting the mood for even more of a good vibe.

So the final evening of live bands was nicely teed up. I heard numerous comments about the high quality of the weekend's acts. Apparently a couple from the village who'd asked, tongue-in-cheek, for the music to be turned up so that they could hear it better in their garden, were given a free pass into the site to see for themselves what it was all about! In return for my stewarding work, I enjoyed a fantastic few hours of dancing to some tremendous local and not-so-local bands, before deciding to call it a night, the still-thriving party slowly dimming behind me as I walked across the field towards home, smiling under a huge amber crescent moon and a clear sky full of stars.

No complaints seem to have come out of the village about noise or traffic or anything else, though if you have concerns I feel sure that the team would prefer to know. At the relaxed wrap-up celebration on Sunday, after having helped to clear the crowd from the site safely and without incident, I expressed my gratitude to the organisers (Flounder, Morph and Steve) for letting me be a part of this festival. It was an absolute privilege and a pleasure to be involved: more of life's weekends should be like this! "People spend too much time staring into screens and not enough time dancing under the moon." Rachel Wolchin

Emily Workman.

Footnote – Looking at the signage in the middle of the photo, obviously someone was having a bit of fun.

Wedding Congratulations

Josephine James and Roy Cradock, 28th June



Roy was born in the village, christened in St John's, went to school in West Ashton and was married in our church. The photo shows Jo getting into Roy's American Kenworth truck, helped by Roy. The best man, Ross Morse holding the bouquet, lives in East Town.

Photo Graham Walker

Birth Congratulations - Fleur Elsie Nichols

Congratulations to Craig and Lauren who gave birth to a baby girl Fleur Elsie Nichols. Fleur was born at 1:50pm on the 21st June weighing 8lb 4oz at Trowbridge birthing centre after a relatively short labour. The new family were home at 6pm after a very brief stay in hospital. Fleur has been the model baby and is sleeping well at night and enjoying hugs from the endless stream of visitors.



Lauren is enjoying a year's maternity leave from her job at Danone where she works in learning and development. A very proud dad,

Craig runs our village oil club and works as a category manager for Yeo Valley.
Jo Watkins

Thanks

A BIG THANK YOU to Paul our village builder. We would like to thank Maple Builders (Paul and Dave) for the amazing transformation on our house. We are now watertight thanks to his hard work and wonderful ideas, if there is a problem Paul always finds a way round it. Not only is he a good builder, but he is kind and caring. We would also like to apologise to anyone we may have upset while the work was going on. Sylv and Roy Bee 36 Bratton Road.

The Cancer Research Committee would like to thank everyone who supported our cream teas event on June 14th. We raised the grand total of £437 to go towards this very worthy cause. *Sylvia Preston*

A Special Year

This year Holly and Peter Westlake, and Jo and Geoff Watkins celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary and Jean and Richard Covington and Eileen and Phil Eggleton celebrated their Ruby

Wedding anniversary. All four couples would like to thank families and friends for presents, cards and best wishes for making their days so special.



Top Left: Peter and Holly Westlake

Top Right: Geoff and Jo Watkins

Bottom Left: Richard and Jean Covington

Bottom Right: Eileen and Phil Eggleton



West Ashton Parish Council-Vacancy

VACANCY - Part time Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer

Applications are invited for the post of Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer for West Ashton Parish Council. The post involves all aspects of parish administration, including setting meeting agendas and taking minutes; dealing with matters arising between meetings; liaison with Wiltshire Council and other agencies; Parish Council finances and the annual audit and dealing with aspects of local planning. The post is based on 4 hours per week. Hours are worked flexibly from home, but the post - holder must be available to attend the Parish Council meeting held on the third Wednesday evening of alternate months.

If you are interested, and would like further information, please contact the Parish Council Clerk, Carol Hackett – telephone: 01225 760372 / email: carol-hackett@hotmail.com

Closing date for applications (CV and covering letter), is Friday 19th September.

Thanks

Recently a planning application was put before Wiltshire Council for consideration. The proposal was for a two-storey dwelling between my neighbour’s property and my own. The Parish Council (headed by Richard Covington), went above and beyond the call of duty in dealing with the complicated issues faced in tackling, and opposing, the application. Their hard work and efforts resulted in the proposal thankfully being rejected. The Parish Council work hard for **us all** on a daily basis, mostly a thankless task we should imagine. So, we would like to applaud those listed below for their dedication, consideration and time spent.

Richard Covington

Carol Hackett

Tim le-mare

Paul Butterworth

Peter Westlake

Margaret Workman

Neil Heard

With thanks, Paul & Emma Pursey, David and Daphne Petrie

Village Hall 50 Club Winners

May – 1st Sarah Lloyd, 2nd Mrs E Cronan, 3rd Mr. Bonome Maciver

June – 1st Andrew Walton, 2nd Mr M Cronan, 3rd Mrs. J Covington

July – 1st Eileen Trigger, 2nd Robert Pike, 3rd Sheila Jones

IN
MEMORIAM

Sheila Roberts, Bratton Road 1940-2014

Useful Information

Village Hall activities

ALW School of Dance	Children inc pre-school, Miss Amy Watts 01225 774849
Ballroom Dancing	Mr. Kevin Burge 07933 771205
Dance Class	Dee Dee Wilde – 01380 871608
Dog Training	Mrs. Rosemary Banfield 01380 870574
Dolly Mixtures Art Class	Mrs. Kay Norris 01985 840157
Tai Chi	Mr. Brian Wooding 01985 213474
Wives Group	Mrs. Marlene Pike 01380 870272
WI	Mrs. Eileen Eggleton 01225 769636
Yoga	Mrs. Angeline Nicholson 01225 777452



Village Hall Bookings Angeline Nicholson 01225 777452 or email westashtonvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk

Builder	Paul. New build, extensions, renovation specialist, alterations. 19 Bratton Road Tel: 01225 753997/07799 563347
Electrician	Chris Parnell 01225 764874 or 07875 372940
Foot Reflexologist	Annie Ritchens Tel 01225 752002 Mob 07967630429
Garage Services	Briken Motors Garage....MOTs, servicing etc, Tel 01225 755203
Good neighbour Co-ordinator	Emma Curtis 07584 101092 or trowbridgegnc@communityfirst.org.uk
Handyman	GAS SAFE-registered domestic appliance fitter, painting and decorating, plumbing and other odd jobs Garry Tucker 01225 353268 or 07711 837419
Judo Classes	Age 8+ W. Ashton School 7.00-8:30pm Fridays. Mike Healy 01373 822349. www.zenjudoclub.co.uk
Library	Mobile Library Van visits Orchard Close alternate Fridays 1.40-1.55pm. From Sept 12 2014 onwards.
Logs & Marquees	Logs for sale/ Marquee hire for all outdoor events. Rob Pike 01380 870808
Milk	Bullings Dairies deliver Tel: 01225 776494
Newspapers	Seend Post Office deliver Tel: 01380 828250
Parish Council	Chairman Mr Richard Covington Tel: 01225 761904 Clerk Mrs Carol Hackett Tel: 01225 760372
Police	Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Village Co-ordinator Mr David Bradley 01225 754100. Neighbourhood Policing Team PC Mark Hough & PCSO Maria Badder can be contacted on the non-emergency Wiltshire Police tel no 101.
Refuse	Collection days vary - seek local advice. Community skips in Canal Road, Trowbridge for larger items.
Seamstress & Soft Furnishings	Clare Humphries, curtains, dressmaking and alterations Tel 01225 767703 Mob 07929 122631
St. John's Church	Services Sundays 10.30am. Rev Allan Couotts Tel: 01225 754826
West Ashton Boomerang	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, afternoon pickup 12.10 return 2pm. Tel 0800 371297 to book.
West Ashton C of E School	Headteacher Dr Sam Nash Tel: 01225 754354
West Ashton Ladies Skittles Team	Mrs. Betty Cronan 01225 755908
West Ashton Oil Club	Craig Nichols 01225 774476 or email craignichols@hotmail.com

Coming Attractions

What's On in West Ashton

September

Wed 3rd

School term starts.

Wives Group, Village Hall 7.30pm. Call the Midwife with Emma Pursey.

Fri 12th

Film Night – Captain Phillips. **A Village Hall event.**

Wed 17th

Parish Council Meeting, 7.15pm, Village Hall.

Sat 20th

Fun Flower/Veg Show. **A Village Hall event.**

Sept 24th

W.I., Village Hall, 7.30pm. Sing Your Heart Out with Lee Ingram.

Sun 28th

St. John's Church Harvest Festival service, 10.30am.

October

Wed 1st

Wives Group, Village Hall 7.30pm. Wiltshire Wildlife Trust with Maria Woods.

Sun 5th

Harvest Festival Lunch, Village Hall, 12.30 for 1pm. Tickets £12

Sat 18th

Murder Mystery Evening, Tickets £12 with meal. **A Village Hall event.**

Sat 25th

Wives Group 50th anniversary party, 2-5pm. Everybody welcome.

Wed 24th

W.I., 7.30pm Village Hall. Choc on Choc with Masha Sutton. Open to Visitors.

November

Sat 1st

Family Halloween Disco, children £4 adults free. **A Village Hall event.**

Wed 5th

Wives Group, Village Hall, 7.30pm, Walk on the Wild Side with Andy Thompson.

Sun 9th

St. John's Church, Special Remembrance service, 10.30am

Sat 15th

40s/50s Themed Dance Night. Tickets £10 with light meal.

A Village Hall event.

Wed 26th

W.I., Village Hall, 7.30pm. Story of Christmas Dinner with Dinah Starkey

December

Wed 3rd

Wives Group, Village Hall, 7.30pm Christmas Party.

Fri 5th

St. John's Church Annual Christmas Concert. 7.30pm. Tickets £5.

All Village Hall events with licensed bar and raffle.

NB - Village Hall email address: westashtonvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk

Tickets : Village Hall events - Sylvia Preston 01225 765858