

Comment: Happy New Year to all readers, contributors, distributors, advertisers and printers of the Newsletter!



Newsletter: Contributions for the next Newsletter by Thursday 26th January please.
ibuxton16@btinternet.com

Events in the hall (unless otherwise stated)

5th Jan - Pub Lunch, Village Inn

5th Jan - Ladies Skittles, 7.30pm

6th Jan - Hall coffee morning, 10.30am

9th Jan - Camera Club, AGM, 7pm-8pm

14th Jan - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm

16th Jan - Camera Club, 7.30pm-9.30pm

18th Jan - Hall Trustees Meeting, 8.00pm

19th Jan - Art Group 1-30pm-3.30pm

21st Jan - Quiz Evening, 7.30pm - 11.00pm

28th Jan - Church Jumble Sale, Noon-3.00pm

Advance Notice

3rd Feb - Steel Band Practice, 6pm-8.30pm

Ashwater Hall – Bookings and enquiries

Email: ibuxton16@btinternet.com

Hall Secretary: Tel 01409 221073

Ashwater Shop (Opening Hours)

Hours: Mon – Frid: 8.30am to 5.00pm

Saturday: 8.30am to Noon

Sunday: 9am to 12 Noon

Tel: 01409 211192

Post Office

Hours: Mon – Frid: 9.00am to 4.00pm

Saturday: Closed

Sunday: Closed

Telephone: 01409 211192

PARISH HALL

Thanks, are due to:

....Holsworthy Rotary Club, as they kindly provided the hall with a large bag of purple crocus corms as part of the “End Polio Now” campaign organised by Rotary International. These have been planted in the grass verges at the vehicle entrance to the car park and (mice willing) should provide a colourful display in the spring. We will place a small ‘plaque’ on site when the flowers first appear as a reminder that there are still places in the world where Polio is endemic and it is difficult to operate an immunisation programme.

....Stuart Turner who kindly donated the magnificent Christmas tree displayed in the Jack Moon Hall over the festive period.

.....Everyone who has supported the hall again in the past twelve months with such a wide range of activities and those who clean and care for the building and grounds.

Ashwater Parish Hall - proposed extension.

As most people are aware, planning permission has been granted for an extension to the Parish Hall.

Since its opening in 2010, our Parish Hall has been increasingly well used, especially for popular sporting activities including table tennis and badminton.

This has seen an increased need for storage and often means that equipment, chairs and tables have to be moved around between bookings. This is not ideal.

Because of the success of the Hall, it is usually fully booked in the mornings, so there is now nowhere to hold fundraising events for the Hall or other good causes.

The proposed extension is planned to improve the storage facilities and also provide a multi-purpose room which can be used for meetings, small scale activities and coffee mornings and the like.

In its position with a good sunny outlook close to the Shop, it will be an attractive asset for the Hall.

Fundraising is well underway for the new extension, but more money does need to be raised as soon as possible before work on it can commence.

We will be holding a number of fundraising events during the Spring and the regular Friday Coffee Mornings will begin again on 6th January 10.30am - 12noon.

Our Coffee Mornings have already raised over £200 towards the extension. Please do join us for a cup of real coffee, a piece of cake and a chat. Everyone is most welcome.

The Rev Jane often joins us and sometimes people bring craft and other items for sale on the day. We would also be very grateful for help with serving coffee etc.,

For further information please contact Letitia Yetman lmyetman@btinternet.com 01409 211131

SHOP TALK

This is the time of year to say “thank you”. Firstly, to we would like to thank John, our manager, for making the shop such a welcoming environment and a place that brings the whole community together.

Thank you to all our volunteers for giving up their time to serve the Community in this way: to our local suppliers who keep us well stocked with fresh, local produce, and lastly to you, our customers, for shopping and making this essential village asset a great success.

The Christmas period has been a very busy time for both the shop and the post office, breaking records on both sides of the counter. Many customers benefitted from using the order forms distributed at the tasting event at the end of November, thus avoiding long queues and time slots in supermarkets! And perhaps the Christmas period is a good time to remember how fortunate we are in having a Post Office in the village. This was exceptionally busy in the run up to Christmas, and our thanks to Rachel and Ruth for supporting John in managing to keep it running so smoothly.

We will have new challenges in the New Year, not least in building up our vital workforce of volunteers. Without our volunteers, the shop would cease to function. We will be having an all out drive to find new volunteers, prepared to give up as little as 2 hours a week to help stock shelves, serve behind the counter, or keep the shop clean and tidy. Please speak with John if you feel you might be able to help.
Happy New Year to you all.....Tim

PARISH COUNCIL

The chair and councillors would like to wish the residents of Ashwater a happy and healthy New Year.

We have been advised by PCSO Emma Tomkies that residents should ensure that oil tanks on their properties are made secure so as to avoid the theft of oil.

Devon County Council have requested that people walking along public footpaths and through fields should advise the parish council if they are attacked by cows.

Flooding - Devon County Council’s flood risk team are looking to collate as much information as possible regarding locations that have been affected by flooding since the 21 November 2016. This would ideally include the date and location that flooding occurred, if internal flooding was experienced, specific roads / properties that were affected, any photographs if you have them, and any other information as appropriate. Please forward any information to: floodriskmanagement-mailbox@devon.gov.uk. They would greatly appreciate any information received.

Potholes – residents of Ashwater are advised to keep reporting potholes using the following link: <https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>. Due to limited funds, available to Highways for road repairs, residents are encouraged to use local roads respectfully to try and avoid additional problems with road surfaces.

The next monthly Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 14 January 2017 at 7.30pm.

WASTE BINS

There are a number of dog waste bins located around the village and these should be used for dog waste only not general refuse.

There have also been examples of both dog waste and household refuse being fly tipped at the base of the dog bins, apart from being illegal this refuse is attacked by foxes giving rise to the contents being blown about.

In order to ensure that the village verges are kept clear of such litter please deposit waste in the correct bins. Any examples of fly tipping should be reported to Torridge District Council.

VILLAGE INN MONTHLY LUNCH & DEVON AIR AMBULANCE LOTTERY -5th January

All are welcome to come along to this monthly social gathering, but please book in advance or by 10.30am on the day at the latest on 01409 211200. The two-course meal is priced very reasonably by Phil and Dee and is great value, so come along and meet up for a ‘village chat’.

ASHWATER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The post-Christmas meal and walk has been arranged at The Weir, Bude on 21st January, 12noon for 12.30pm. Booking is required to ensure the correct number of places are reserved at The Weir - ring Letitia Yetman on 01409 211131 or email lmyetman@btinternet.com No doubt the weather will be as accommodating as last year, so bring your camera as well.

Arrangements are being explored for an outing, probably in May to an orchard and cider farm just over the border in Cornwall – no doubt samples will be necessary with some local cheese. We will want get an idea of numbers before booking, so anyone interested (partners are welcome) please let us know at the lunch.

THE BIG QUIZ – 21st January 2017

Sue and Brian George are presenting ‘The Big Quiz’ at the Parish Hall on Saturday 21st January 2016 commencing at 7.30pm. The proceeds are in aid of Parkinson UK and tables of six may be booked in advance on 01409 211643 or form a team on the night. Entry is £7.00 per person to include a glass of wine and cheese & biscuits. Quiz evenings in Ashwater are always well attended and good natured fun despite the inevitable slight element of competitiveness from time to time – but don’t let that put you off as it’s surprising what your mind can dredge up after a glass of wine!

ASHWATER CAMERA CLUB - January 16th 2017

The next camera club meeting will be in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm on Monday January 16th when the New Year programme will be rolled out and memberships will be due for renewal. Any suggestions for field work once the lighter and longer days arrive are always welcome, likewise any specific topic a member or members would like to explore. We would also like to see some new photos in the hall ‘gallery’ so if you have one or two that you would like to display feel free to bring them along.

TABLE TENNIS

Table Tennis is played in the Parish Hall twice weekly on Tuesdays from 11am for one hour and Saturdays from 10am for two hours. All levels are welcome and we can provide bats and limited tuition. There are four tables so plenty of opportunity for practice as well as contested games!

ASHWATER CHURCH

January 2017 Services

Sunday 1 st January	9.30am	Morning Worship	Trevor May
Sunday 8 th January	9.30am	Holy Communion	Rev. Jane
	6.30pm	Evensong	Rev. Jane
Sunday 15 th January	9.30am	said Holy Communion	Rev. Jane
Sunday 22 nd January	9.30am	Holy Communion	Rev. Jane

Service on Sunday 29th January will be at Beaworthy – Ashwater Benefice Service, Celtic Communion, Rev. Jane

PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT TO THE REAR OF FAIRFIELD, ASHWATER

Stags Property Agents have written to a number of residents regarding a proposal to build houses in the centre of the village (on part of the land behind the Village Inn). It is envisaged an outline planning application will be made for circa 22 homes and changing rooms for Ashwater Football Club. The plan is to include some affordable homes and consultation is presently underway with an invitation for comments and suggestions by 20th January 2017. A draft illustration of the possible layout accompanied the letters and for information purposes a copy of the illustration has been placed on the hall notice board.

CPRE – Our Outdoors Competition 2017

The Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) is unashamedly a campaigning organisation and has been for over 90 years, since it was first formed with a remit to support new development, a growing economy with social progress, but without forfeit of the countryside.

What bearing does that have on the newsletter and all things ‘Ashwater’ you may ask?

Ashwater in many ways epitomises why the CPRE exists. Nestling deep within rural Devon the parish serves as a sense of place, a place that evokes and embraces gradual change yet exemplifies a modern rural community.

Part of the CPRE strategy is to promote community spirit, champion outdoor space and encourage both young and not so young to improve the environment. In Devon, the ‘Best Kept Village’ competition (BKV) was introduced by the CPRE and for many years featured annually as a method of urging people to take pride in and look after their communities.

In 2016 the BKV was replaced by ‘Our Outdoors’ competition and features several different categories aimed at promoting use of the outdoors by communities in the Devon towns and cities as well as villages and hamlets. These spaces can be any size and this year the prize winners were: - Offwell Village for their decorated Haycart, St Mary’s Catholic Primary School for their woodland area and Colyford Goose Fayre.

Ashwater, as a former winner of the BKV has a number of ideal places that could be entered in any one of the ‘Our Outdoors’ categories in the 2017 competition and hopefully will consider taking part. Entry forms will be available in the Spring.

CPRE is a registered charity with membership open to everyone – see www.cpredevon.org.uk

.....and finally

Much has been written, debated and speculated about the past year and all that has occurred throughout the world and even in Space and it is likely to continue in 2017. A little known, but immensely important fact however, is that this issue of the newsletter is the 167th since it was resurrected in 2003 and hard copies of every one are available for historians (or the ‘bin men’) – Happy New Year!

Advertising in the Newsletter

Small adverts cost £25 per issue and help to cover the cost of paper and printing, which are otherwise donated or paid from parish council funds raised through the local precept.

Distribution of Newsletters

My thanks to those who provide articles for and distribute the newsletters. If you know of anybody who did not receive a copy please let me know: copies will always be available at the Village Shop, Parish Hall and in the Village Inn. Any information for inclusion in or offers to help please contact Ivan Buxton on 01409 221073, e-mail ibuxton16@btinternet.com. Don't forget to visit the Ashwater Website www.ashwaterparish.org.uk

Printed by: Parish Magazine Printing, Northmoor, Whitstone, Holsworthy EX22 6TD Tel: 01288 341617 Email: phillip.tucker@parishmagazineprinting.co.uk