
Comment: Fund raising in Ashwater is a way of life. There is always a worthy cause, but it can be fun as well. This month is a prime example with tractors, church pinnacles and buried treasure involved – enjoy!

Newsletter: Contributions for the next Newsletter by Monday 27th July please ibuxton16@btinternet.com

Events in the hall (unless otherwise stated)

2nd July – Lunch Club, at the Village Inn

4th July – Big Breakfast at the Church, 9.30am-11.30am

6th July – Photo Group, 7.30pm

8th July – Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm

12th July – Tractor Run, 10.00am, Hall Car Park

16th July – Hall Management Committee Meeting, 7.30pm

17th July – Walking Treasure Hunt and B-B-Q, 6pm onwards

Advance Notice

15th August – Agricultural Show

Ashwater Hall – Bookings and enquiries
Tel: 01409 211213
Email: Bob.griggs1@btopenworld.com

Ashwater Shop (Opening Hours)
Hours: Mon – Frid: 8.30am to 5.00pm
Saturday: 8.30am to Noon
Sunday: 9am to 12 Noon

Post Office
Hours: Mon – Frid: 9.00am to 4.30pm
Saturday: Closed
Sunday: Closed
Telephone: 01409 211192

PARISH HALL

FRIDAY 17TH JULY - WALKING TREASURE HUNT AND B-B-Q

This is a fun event for all the family commencing at 6pm onwards. You may eat from the B-B-Q before or after completing the 'hunt' and when you are ready pick up an entry sheet (£2 adults, £1 for children under 16) in the hall.

Two adults may share an adult entry and two children may use a single sheet. Your start time will be logged so in the event of a tie the team completing the course in the time nearest to the one in the sealed envelope (hidden by the infamous Pirate Mad Dog Carew) will unearth and keep the treasure!

Purchasing B-B-Q tickets in advance will help plan the catering. Tickets are available now in the shop at £5 for adults, £3 for children. These are great value as they include one BBQ item, salad and homemade dessert.

Eating is not compulsory but "Treasure Hunters" should be aware that Mad Dog Carew did not earn his name by accident and some of the clues might reflect his slight level of insanity about those not eating!

Remember the origin of the treasure revolves around the rather strange (but obviously true) tale that April 1st was a significant date when Niblett Bream of Ashwater unearthed documents of 'hysterical' importance.

Manuscripts apparently signed by the Pirate Mad Dog Carew a formally unknown relative of Sir Thomas Carew indicated that following the Battle Of Stamford Hill he together with his second cousin Sean 'Blackeye' Ewe (the dark sheep of the family) escaped with treasure destined to aid the Royalist cause.

Sailing down the Carey the weather was against them. They lost their way and were forced to land and hide their treasure hoping to return later for collection. Mad Dog charted the route by use of local landmarks but as he didn't trust 'Blackeye' he disguised his description and then hid the document in a safe place.

Returning much later the landmarks had changed so he was never able to locate the treasure and threw the chart away in disgust.

According to Niblett Bream a distant descendent of Mad Dog Carew and the unlikely hero of several unwritten works of art it was this chart that came to light recently. He therefore applied modern technology to interpreting the clues and now needs assistance to find the hidden treasure.

Will you help?

The proceeds from this zany adventure will go towards the hall extension fund. The need for the extension arises through the phenomenal use of the hall since it opened in 2010. Planning

consent has been granted to add a multi-purpose and storage room using part of the court yard adjoining the kitchen without losing all the paved open space currently generally unused. Storage has been a problem since the kitchen was extended by converting the small meeting room. Hopefully the daily game of non-musical chairs (and tables) will be curtailed with the new extension and make the cleaner's job easier and aid users enjoyment of the facilities.

Electrical Work and Decoration

Over the coming weeks essential electrical improvements are being made. The kitchen extension created space for more electrical appliances than the original circuits were designed to accommodate, creating occasional 'trip outs'. This problem is being addressed and the opportunity is being taken to upgrade other aspects of the supply wiring to 'future proof' the installation.

After more than five years of successful usage the hall is now in need of interior decoration, more of a tidy up than correction of any major problems. As the ceiling and walls of the main hall are so high this requires internal scaffolding to be used – every care will be taken not to interfere with regular hall users bookings, but inevitably there may be some minor inconvenience, please bear with us as keeping the hall in good decorative order and repair is in the best interest of everyone as it is a valuable parish asset.

Electricity consumption

As many of you may know there are two arrays of solar panels on the hall roof providing energy and the shop supply is taken from the hall. Around 18 months ago the hall switched suppliers of incoming electricity from the grid to gain financially from a cheaper unit rate. Unfortunately the new supplier could not cope with the simple fact that the main hall meter consists of a six digit reading and kept inaccurately billing – this has been finally resolved and the back dated use correctly charged. The hall and shop made provision for the expected shortfall in billing and everything is now up to date with all bills paid.

The Government has very recently decided to introduce a change in the way that so called green energy subsidies are provided, indeed they are phasing them out for on shore wind turbines and ground mounted solar arrays. This will not affect the feed in tariffs paid to the hall for the existing solar panels and we will continue to benefit. The hall is extremely well insulated and is heated by a ground source heat pump, although this is not designed to be instantly controllable, thus sometimes it seems the hall is colder or warmer than users find desirable. Unlike domestic heating the hall supply has to cater for a range of group sporting and leisure activities. We would be interested to learn of any portable heating devices experienced by others that could be used occasionally to quickly boost back ground warmth in the main hall on cold winter mornings – we would emphasise that we cannot use gas fired appliances.

ASHWATER CHARITY TRACTOR RUN

Ashwater Charity Tractor Run – Sunday 12th July 2015 at 10.00am from the Parish Hall Car Park. A fun day out for all the family. All tractors old and new welcome, with some off road sections £5 per tractor followed by a two course meal and raffle. The meal costs £10 adult, £5 child and all are welcome whether driving a tractor or not.

The proceeds are in aid of Ashwater Parish Church Tower Fund. To book contact Alistair Kirk on 07773483081

ASHWATER AGRICULTURAL SHOW

This year's show is to be held on Saturday 15th August 2015. This year's Schedule is on the Ashwater Web Site with the entry forms for the cattle, sheep and fur and feather classes. The horse and Family Fun Dog Show classes enter on the day. If anyone would like to help on the day or indeed help set up from the Tuesday night onwards before the show this would be greatly appreciated. Any queries please contact Lynne on 01409 211441 or 07779 542570.

ASHWATER PARISH COUNCIL

There was a presentation at the annual parish meeting to Rowan Tidball who won a prize from Devon County Council for Ashwater for his poem and photograph. Speakers at the meeting were Ivan Buxton, PCSO Mark

James and Jane Lucas. The evening was very enjoyable and residents were able to sit and have a chat after the meeting with refreshments provided by the shop.

The parish council would like to offer grants to local organisations. Anyone wishing to apply should do so in writing by the end of July 2015. Applications can be emailed to clerk@sheanddave.plus.com or by post to Sheila Myers, Wilena, Lower Middle Hill, Pensilva, Cornwall PL14 5QS.

Work has been undertaken by the parish council to the swings on the village green.

It has come to attention of the parish council that the new footpath to Dot's Close is being used by people to walk their dogs and their horses. Please can everyone note that they should clear up after their dogs, and that the footpath is for pedestrians and not a designated bridle way.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 8 July at 7.30pm.

ASHWATER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

At the Annual General Meeting of Ashwater Horticultural Society in October 2014, it was unanimously resolved that there would be NO Ashwater Horticultural Show in 2015.

It was further resolved that at its next AGM in October 2015, this decision about the Show would be carefully reviewed, allowing for the possibility that the Show might be re-instated in 2016.

This re-instatement will wholly depend upon sufficient numbers of new volunteers coming forward to run the Show.

It is appreciated that having no Horticultural Show this year is very sad news for those who have enjoyed entering their produce and other items into the Show each year.

It is still hoped that some aspects of the Show will be incorporated within the Ashwater Agricultural Show, but run by other organisations.

In the meantime, the Horticultural Society has a new Committee and the Society will continue to meet frequently for varied and interesting garden-related activities, outings and social events.

Do please consider attending our events and joining the Society.

New members are always most welcome. For further information please contact:

Chairman Gordon Bennett dianegordon@madasafish.com
Secretary Louise Webber webber_louise@hotmail.com
Treasurer/Membership Letitia Yetman lmyetman@btinternet.com

ASHWATER PARISH CHURCH

Tower Project Newsletter 3: July 2015



ASHWATER
CHURCH
TOWER
PROJECT

Sections of the tower are now available for adoption!!

We invite you to 'adopt' a section of the tower. There are nearly 100 sections at various prices; you can (for example) choose a section of the stonework (£10 / £20), part of the west window (£30) a stair tower window opening (£100) a pinnacle (£250) You will get a certificate and be invited to choose a name to record against the donation you make - names will be recorded for posterity, so you can choose who to commemorate in this way. Talk to Ali Rowe she will attend every event possible (Big Breakfast 4th July, Tractor Run 12th July, Agricultural Show etc) displaying the sections / price list.

Ali can be contacted on 211222 or alirowe@hotmail.co.uk

ASHWATER CHURCH SERVICES

5th July 9-30am Ashwater Morning Worship
12th July 9-30am Ashwater Holy Communion
19th July 9-30am Ashwater said Holy Communion
23rd Ashwater PCC at Ashgreen. 7-30pm
26th July 9-30am Ashwater Holy Communion

The Ruby Run - Congratulations to all those who walked and ran! Around £2,000 was raised for the church. Spectacular!



Shop Talk

Agricultural Show.....John is currently organising a Shop stand at the Ashwater Agricultural Show selling sweets & snacks, & running games such as 'Find the Coin', 'Guess the number of sweets', Tom-bola & Eagerly anticipated Tug-of-War, John will have lists in the shop to sign-up teams in July: Men ,Women, Children.

A word from our Chair.....

2014/2015 has been a year of change for the Shop:

Our biggest change has to be John Lowe our *new* Shop manager.

In January we said goodbye to Christine Poile, who left to resume her accountancy career. We are grateful to Christine for the four years she worked in the Shop, especially getting things going at start of business.

John began in February and quickly mastered the Shop and Post Office efficiently and effectively. He never seems to get ruffled, even when on his own and faced by queues for both the Post Office and Shop! Many of you have told me how easy he is to deal with, I totally agree, we are very fortunate to have him.

Eric Burnill stood down in November after 2 years as Chair, Sue Luxton and I took over as joint Chair till April when Sue resigned for family reasons.

In February Liz Fisher joined the committee bringing with her, her valuable wine, stock and retail knowledge - great to have.

Rachael Martyn joined the committee in May, she has taken on Facebook, the volunteer rota and writing Shop Talk for the Village Newsletter.

Quite a lot has been happening this year:

- We held our first Christmas Tasting evening in December last year, this was so successful that John is currently organising one for November this year.
- The temporary display, started in December 2014, is a useful way to draw attention to items of stock as well as celebrate events such as Christmas, Valentine's Day and Easter.
- Our recent Hall/Shop Wine & Wisdom collaboration was very successful, and raised just under £500, split evenly between Hall and Shop.
- John has talked to customers about what they would like to see us selling and adjusted stock and suppliers accordingly.
- He now offers food and drink on SOR for local events. His hard work is starting to pay off - recently he supplied the PTFA Wine & Wisdom and Parish Council social evening.
- The plant stand has been refurbished to hold plant donations from the village.
- We have finally designed a Leaflet about the Shop and Post Office aimed at holiday lets, we are raising funds for professional printing.

It is almost the Shop's 5th Birthday and there is a Party being planned to celebrate this on Saturday 14 November in the Village Hall, the ticket price will include food and eight 30 minute sessions from a variety of musicians organised by Jim and Fiona Pates. Proceeds will go to Air Ambulance.

Finally a huge thank you to all the shop volunteers, we all know that John is doing good, but without you we could not operate both the shop and post office. All your help is appreciated: from regular weekend working to the occasional hour given here and there, the silent volunteers who help behind the scenes with IT, promotional stuff, sorting float monies and the working team who keep the fabric of the shop building in order.

PLEASE ** PLEASE **** PLEASE **** PLEASE **** PLEASE**

Every bit of time given to the shop makes the overall running easier for John, so please, if there is something you could do to help, or if you know someone that could be interested, come and speak to John or the committee, we'd love to hear from you.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The shop AGM was held on 24 June 2015. The meeting heard that the shop turnover had increased for the fifth year running to £104,876 plus £4,883 income from the Post Office. Sales costs had also risen to £87,624 although administration expenses were reduced to £20,140. A profit was returned after taxation of £2,324 which will be carried forward to the current year.

The new committee comprises:

Yvonne Taylor – Chair. Liz Fisher – Treasurer. Rachael Martyn – Secretary. Committee members: Eric Burnill, Fiona Bull, Ivan Buxton and Diane Buxton.

The meeting adopted the Financial Statements and agreed the committee should re-appoint Simon J Gould as the shop accountant for a further year. After the formalities Ivan and Diane Buxton were presented with tokens of appreciation as they stood down from the positions of Treasurer and Secretary respectively and everyone then sampled the fine wines and cheeses from the shop, donated for the occasion.

THE COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE FOR THE TORRIDGE DISTRICT

We will be running First Aid Training on the 3rd August 9.30-12.30pm at Bideford Rugby Club, priced at £15pp for members £20pp for Non members.

If you would like to book a place on this training please let me know:-

Jo Manley - Group Development Worker

TTVS, 14 Bridgeland Street, Bideford, Devon, EX39 2QE

Working hours: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday. Telephone: 01237 420132

WITHERDON WOOD WIND TURBINE

The original application for an 84metre tall wind turbine on land adjacent to Witherdon Wood was refused by Torridge District Council. Their decision was upheld by the Government Inspectorate upon appeal, but a subsequent High Court ruling decreed the case had to be re-determined by the Inspectorate. The time for submitting representations against the application (or in support) expired and a final decision has been awaited.

The new Government Energy Minister however, recently issued a policy statement removing the subsidy arrangement for the majority of on shore wind turbines with effect from April 2016. In the meantime from 18 June 2015, there will be a grace period for on shore turbines that had planning consent, a grid connection acceptance and evidence of land rights for the sites on which their projects will be built. This affects the Witherdon Wood turbine, so the Inspectorate has concluded that a hearing would be the best way to proceed and is trying to arrange a date for the end of July. All "interested parties", i.e. those who have made submissions to the Inspectorate should contact the relevant case officer to ensure that they are consulted. They should also contact the Local Planning Authority Case Officer to ask that they contact the PINS case officer to ensure that full consultation is made on this issue. The Inspectorate reference is APP/W1145/A/13/2201363 and Torridge District Council Reference is 1/0922/2012/FUL.

WEST VENN SOLAR FARM

This planning application for a revised layout has been submitted to Torridge District Council for consideration. The matter has been 'called in' for determination by the Planning Committee. Anyone who wishes to submit

representations should write or email the case officer quoting reference 1/0566/2015/FULM. The original application was refused by Torridge District Council and their decision was upheld by the Inspectorate upon appeal. As with on-shore wind turbines the Government Energy Minister made a recent Ministerial comment about preference for solar energy to be developed by community energy, on people's houses and on other buildings as opposed to field scale developments. Those supporting this type of development however, have pointed out that more energy might be generated by field installations.

ADVERT

Join the Revolution!

We are a local postal service operating from Brandis Corner, five miles outside of Holsworthy. Collections (EX20, 21, 22 & 23 postcodes) are made daily from local businesses, with delivery the same or next day to their customers. Geared towards business traffic, Postees offers same or next day delivery of letters and packages for a delivery charge at least 10% less than its competitors. We offer credit facilities – so use the service before you pay for it!

Postees runs alongside BAC Couriers, a delivery service for over 100 online shopping outlets such as Next, Amazon, Dorothy Perkins, Cotton Traders and many more well known brands. They currently deliver up to 6,000 parcels per week to an area stretching from Week St Mary to Whiddon Down, Tavistock to Torrington. Both businesses are looking to expand into Exeter, then Barnstaple.

Postees / BAC Director Mike Clark said: "This is an opportunity for people to both save money and support local enterprise. Currently we have created 12 jobs and believe with local support this could build to over thirty within 12 months. As we succeed and grow further we will in turn, support local charities and worthwhile causes".

For further information – or to explore the possibility of working for us – please contact Mike, Jane Drummond or John Ody on 01409 231106.

PS – We can even hire you a bouncy castle with Jump On Us via 07814 442667!



- Your local Hermes delivery agent in the EX19, 20, 21, 22, 23 & 38

postcode area

- Drivers always required for local delivery work
- Contact us on 01409 231106



Postees Mail Services

- Delivering postal services for local businesses offering safe storage, pick, pack & dispatch for would be eBay entrepreneurs and local businesses.
- Contact us on 01409 231106 for more detail.

Advertising in the Newsletter

Small adverts cost £10 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