

Comment: Another month of high hall activity, space below precludes Pilates and Yoga which feature most weeks as well.

Newsletter: Contributions for the next Newsletter by 23rd February please. ibuxton16@btinternet.com

Events in the hall (unless otherwise stated)

2nd Feb- Pub Lunch, Village Inn

2nd Feb - Ladies Skittles, 7.30pm

3rd Feb - Hall coffee morning, 10.30am

7th Feb - Art Group, 1.30pm - 4.00pm

8th Feb- Parish Council Meeting, 7.30 pm

8th Feb - Badminton, 7.00pm - 9.00pm

10th Feb- Coffee Morning, 10.30pm

13th Feb - Agricultural Show Committee, 8.00pm

14th Feb - Art Group, 1.30pm - 4.00pm

15th Feb - Badminton, 7.00pm - 9.00pm

15th Feb, Hall GPC Meeting, 8pm

20th Feb- Camera Club, 7.30pm-9.30pm

24th Feb - Hall coffee morning, 10.30am

21st Feb - Art Group 1-30pm-4pm

28th Feb -Art Group, 1.30pm - 4pm

Advance Notice

4th March - Craft and Produce Fair

31st March - 2nd April Ashwater Railway Exhibition

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

PARISH HALL

Friday Coffee Mornings

We are continuing to hold regular Friday coffee mornings from 10.30am - 12noon to help with funds for the hall extension.

Please do join us for a cup of real coffee, a piece of cake and a chat. Everyone is most welcome.

We vary the events with craft and other items for sale from time to time and on 10th February Brian George will be displaying nine of his hand built mandolins. Brian will be happy to answer questions about building methods and you might like to have a go at playing one!

We would also be very grateful for help with serving coffee etc.,

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

Thank you

The hall trustees are grateful for the very generous donation to the Extension Fund from the Hollow Panson Wind Turbine Opposition Group. The money was raised as a fighting fund to oppose the plan to impose a wind farm on the locality that would have affected the landscape, properties, people and wild life, but was withdrawn by the applicants and the group decided to kindly assist the hall project.

The extension fund is starting to grow and further events are planned to help raise the money needed.

Railway Exhibition Weekend

From the 31 March to 2 April we will be staging an exhibition of photographic material celebrating Ashwater Station and its associated railway line in this, the 51st year since the last train passed along it. The weekend will culminate in a lunch at the hall with entertainment with all funds raised during the weekend supporting the hall extension project.

Full details of the weekend will be published in the March Parish Newsletter.

We look forward to seeing as many people as possible over that weekend. We have already been supplied with some interesting articles and details from a variety sources including those in the Parish with actual experience of both the railway and village during and leading up to the railway closure and if anyone has material or memories they would like to contribute to the exhibition or would like to help with the event please contact Ivan Buxton in person or – 01409 221073 or ibuxton16@btinternet.com

SHOP TALK

Thank you to those people who have come forward to offer some of their time to volunteer in the shop. We do need more so please talk with John in the shop if you feel you can offer a couple of hours during the week.

Do come and see the Valentine's Day display. Lots for everyone.

We have had tremendous feedback from those of you who ordered their meat over the Christmas period. B & N, our suppliers of meat and vegetables are serving us well. There is always a good selection of fresh and frozen meat and vegetables in the shop. If you prefer to order something in particular, just ask John.

PARISH COUNCIL



Large refuse sacks of dog waste and bones are being left on the ground near to the dog waste bins at Thorney Cross and the end of Old Rectory Lane.

Non-domestic animals are getting the bones out of these bags and creating a mess.

The Parish Council would like to remind residents that these bins are for domestic dog waste only and NOT business use.

AVIAN INFLUENZA (BIRD FLU) OUTBREAK IN THE UK - As you will be aware there have been a number of Avian Influenza outbreaks in the UK and a Prevention Zone was declared in December that covers the whole of the UK. More information can be viewed at: <http://www.devon.gov.uk/tradingstandards>.

British Red Cross have issued an award-winning free mobile app that delivers real-time alerts, severe weather warnings and practical advice in an emergency. When a crisis is on its way, every second counts. So think how crucial warning of a dangerous flood or snow storm could be.

The free app will send you alerts if an emergency is about to affect your area - and tells you exactly what to do when they happen. So far over 1.5 million alerts have been sent and it's rated 4.5 out of 5 on Google Play. Not only will the app warn you about impending weather emergencies but it will also notify you if there is a change to the terrorism threat level. And since being prepared is half the battle, the app is packed with advice on getting ready for a host of common emergencies – such as fires, storms and power cuts.

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 8 February 2017 at 7.30pm.

VILLAGE INN MONTHLY LUNCH & DEVON AIR AMBULANCE LOTTERY -2nd February

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'. Booking is essential as it helps with meal planning and table allocation and of course if after booking you cannot attend please ring the pub and let them know in good time. The pub is a vital feature of the village and your regular support is appreciated.

ASHWATER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY - Events

Make a note in your diary for 13th May 2017. We have arranged an outing to an orchard and cider farm just over the border in Cornwall – no doubt samples will be necessary with some local cheese. There will be a talk on both the orchard and a demonstration on cider making. A tractor and trailer will be available for those wishing to ride rather than walk the 18 acre orchard. We will want to get an idea of numbers for the final booking, so anyone interested (partners are welcome) please let us know. We are hoping to subsidise the cost to members (having already negotiated a reduced entry fee of £10 a head to include, cider, apple juice and cheese board with tea and coffees as well) – contact Ivan Buxton on ibuxton16@btinternet.com as soon as you can please.

We are also going to hold the usual plant sale in early May at the Parish Hall, so it's time to start thinking about planting those sweet peas! Of course the Annual Show in August is already on our minds and we could do with the usual generous help from members and friends again this year, particularly on the day as we will have to operate without the ever dependable Fiona Bull in the Marquee as she will unfortunately (for us) be elsewhere that day. Anyone interested in volunteering with helping with the pre-event planning, schedule, entry forms and various 'hidden' tasks that lead to a successful show please step forward!

Meanwhile, thank you Letitia for organising the meal at the Weir in Bude, the walk afterwards and of course the good weather!

THE BIG QUIZ – Thank you

Thank you all for your support and generosity for our recently organised Big Quiz. We were raising money in aid of Parkinson's UK and at this time we have a total of: £817. Additional promised donations will still be gratefully accepted. Thank you to John, Tom, Ali, John, Bob, Bryan, Warren, Debs and Lyn for your help. Sue & Brian George

ASHWATER CAMERA CLUB - February 20th 2017

The next camera club meeting will be in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm on Monday February 20th 2017. New members are welcome, annual fees of £25.00 may be paid in two £12.50 instalments if required. If you prefer to try a taster session for £5 and decide to join this sum will be credited towards the annual fee.

This year we will concentrate on a variety of outdoor sessions as well as having guest speakers presenting differing topics. We have just invested in a new projector for club use and this will be on display at the February session with no doubt a few photos to contemplate.

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 CRAFT & PRODUCE FAIR – Saturday 4th March

Come and join us from 1.00pm until 4.00pm for refreshments including bacon rolls being served during the afternoon. There will be a raffle and a varied assortment of craft and produce stalls. We look forward to seeing you and proceeds are in aid of Ashwater Football Club.

BADMINTON

Badminton is being held on every Thursday morning at 10am for a trial period (instead of once a fortnight). The Wednesday evening sessions will continue as usual. Everyone is welcome to either or all sessions.

ASHWATER CHURCH

For Information about the work of our Holsworthy College Connect Youth Worker and to advertise the 12th of February as Connect Sunday when we will be celebrating the work of Connect youth Workers in Holsworthy, Crediton, Chulmleigh and Okehampton Colleges in our Churches and Chapels in Devon. See your local Church/ Chapel for details.

Also to advertise the Safari Lunch on Sunday 26th of February. Starting at Halwill Baptist Hall, for starters from 12-30pm. Main course at Ashwater Parish Hall followed by puddings at Chilsworthy Parish Hall. Book now for your Sunday Lunch! 01409 211205

MEN'S SKITTLES

Having beaten Milton Damerl from the 1st Division in the previous round of the 'Front Pin Cup' Ashwater were rewarded with a match against Bradford, also from the higher league and played out a most unusual and creditable draw. Neither team were sure how to proceed so both agreed to an extra leg that Bradford narrowly won on the final ball. Our next match is at local rivals St Giles on the Heath.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY – Shebbear College

Holocaust Memorial Day was Friday 27th January, marking the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, and during the week pupils in Forms 4 and 5 History classes learned more about this tragic time in human history through presentations of photographs of concentration camps as they are now, largely unchanged since their liberation. Much of the information and photographs have come from the enrichment trip to Kraków and Auschwitz last year.

Pupils now have the opportunity to join the next trip to Kraków in February 2018. Once again the trip will include excursions to Auschwitz and Birkenau Concentration Camps, Oskar Schindler's Factory, Kraków's Old Town, Jewish Quarter, the Ghetto and a meeting with a Holocaust survivor. This includes many locations where Schindler's List was filmed.

To provide a lighter balance, pupils will enjoy visits to the Wawel Royal Palace, Wieliczka Salt Mines, the historic Jagiellonian University of Science and Medicine - where they can stand in the study rooms of mathematician and astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus and Pope John Paul II - and Stalin's communist suburb of Nowa Huta. Very popular on the last trip were the shopping excursions, restaurants, live music and dancing.

This is a wonderful enrichment trip which encompasses history, religion, ethics, psychology, science, music, art and culture, and Shebbear College are delighted to be able to offer this experience to their pupils.

CHANNEL 4

Are you a house hunter looking for the buzz of the City and the bliss of the countryside? What if you find somewhere that gives you the perfect mix of city and country living? We are looking for house-hunters to take part in 'Best of Both Worlds' a new Channel 4 series with expert property Lucy Alexander. For more information send an email with your details to bobw@raisetherooftproductions.com

.....and finally

We wish Mell Lowe a speedy recovery from her recent mishap (and not just because she keeps the hall clean) – we thank her family for stepping in at short notice to cover this essential service.

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

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