

Comment: This month as advised in the Parish Council news item we say farewell to the Parish Clerk, Sheila Myers after 10 years in office and echo the council's sentiments as Sheila has been invaluable in always providing the council bulletin for the news letter on time..

Newsletter: Contributions for the next Newsletter by 24th October please. ibuxton16@btinternet.com

Events in the hall (unless otherwise stated)

5th October – Village Inn, Lunch Club 12.30pm

5th October – Ladies Skittles, 7.30pm

6th October – Coffee Morning, 10.30am – Noon

7th October – Car washing, 9am -11am

9th October – Horticultural Society – AGM 7.00pm

11th October – Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm

13th October – Coffee Morning 10.30am-Noon

14th October – Ashwater PTFA 3 in 1 Sale, 12Noon-5pm

16th October – Photographic Group, 7.30pm

18th October Hall Trustees Meeting, 8.00pm

20th October – Coffee Morning 10.30am – Noon

27th October – Coffee Morning 10.30am – Noon

29th October – Tower Dedication Service 11am at the Church

Advance Notice

4th November – Wine & Wisdom – 7pm

18th November – Hall Disco Night – 8pm.

Ashwater Hall – Bookings and enquiries

Email: Imyetman@btinternet.com

Tel: 01409 211131

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

Car Park and maintenance

Repairs to the car park have been completed, thanks to Carey Valley Woodlands & Estate Management for undertaking the work and Ashwater Parish Council for meeting the cost.

Independent grant applications have been made to try and secure some funding towards the expense of laying a limited amount of tarmac at the lower and most used end of the car park.

The success of the hall and village community shop mean car park use has exceeded all expectations since both were opened in 2010 and inevitably wear and tear has taken its toll.

On-going maintenance of the hall, shop and grounds to keep them both functional and presentable requires frequent attention as well as a certain amount of money.

Hall users are requested to report any damage or breakages as they occur and are reminded there is a note book in the kitchen for this purpose. For example, it was not until attempts were recently made to use the PA system that it was found that this was not functioning properly.

Constant moving of tables, chairs and other equipment in and out of the main hall adds to wear and tear which is one reason why we have been trying to raise enough to build an extension, so please make a note in your diaries that there will be a Disco at the hall on Saturday 18th November with proceeds going towards the extension fund.

Extension

The Trustees are looking forward to building the proposed extension to the Parish Hall, which will provide a multi-purpose room to enable more events to take place at once, and to cater for the increased demand for this popular facility.

Thanks to the generosity of our local community and funds from grant-making trusts and the like, £39,249 so far has been raised towards the circa £75,000 cost of this extension.

Unfortunately, it now looks as though we will be unable to reach the target for commencing the work before the expiry of the Planning Permission in November.

These days instead of merely renewing the permission, a new application now has to be submitted, which we will be doing shortly. There are not expected to be any issues with this.

In the meantime, fundraising for the extension continues apace to get the work underway as soon as possible, hopefully in the first part of 2018, and we remain most grateful for the continued, generous support from our local community towards this important project.

Colin Vallance: Chairman Ashwater Parish Hall

PARISH COUNCIL

- **Grass Cutting on the village green**

Contractors are invited to tender for a period of three years for cutting the grass on the village green commencing 2018.

The quotation should be for approximately 15 cuts plus strimming planters, the island at Longlands Cross, and strimming Church walk twice during the season. All the cuttings need to be taken away.

The contractor should have public liability insurance, and be able to supply a copy to the parish council.

All tenders should be emailed to: parishcouncil@ashwaterparish.org.uk

- **Defibrillator**

It has come to the Parish Council's attention that the door of the defibrillator cabinet is sometimes open. The door needs to be shut to keep the defibrillator warm; if it gets cold it will not be able to function.

This is a life-saving piece of equipment and it is requested that nobody should leave the cabinet open.

- **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.

Finally, the Parish Council would like to thank Sheila Myers our Parish Clerk who will be stepping down from the position at the end of September. Sheila has been invaluable to the Parish Council over the last 10 years; we will miss the guidance and wisdom that she has given to all members of the Parish Council present and past.

Thank you Sheila and very best wishes.

The next monthly parish council meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 October 2017 at 7.30pm.

LADIES AND MEN'S SKITTLES

The new season is upon us. It only seems like yesterday that we finished playing and the first game is now upon us. The men start with a 'roll-up' after the annual meeting on 26th September at 7.30pm. This is a chance for new players to come along for a taster session and old hands to shrug off the rust of and the summer. The following week (3rd October) is an away game at Week St Mary and then the 'local derby' at home against St Giles. We play most Tuesdays through to next April and are once more competing in League 2 of the Holsworthy and District League and of course challenging for promotion and aiming to win all the cups!

The ladies will again play once a month in the hall at 7.30pm and the first game is on Thursday 5th October. New players are always welcome to these friendly sessions with supper included.

ART GROUP

The group meets most Tuesday's in the Village hall from 1.30 – 4.00.

We have a varied programme including tutored sessions of drawing, painting and print making. In the New Year, we will begin life drawing again.

We also take sketchbooks outside, sometimes despite the weather and visit galleries and exhibitions.

New members always welcome, regardless of ability.

Email or telephone for details. Kate 211241 katestroud@hotmail.com Sue 211419 sueluxton@mac.com

VILLAGE INN MONTHLY LUNCH & DEVON AIR AMBULANCE LOTTERY – 5TH OCTOBER

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 – join us from 12.30pm.

ASHWATER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY – AGM 9th October

The AGM starts at 7.00pm in the hall followed by cheese and wine, beer, soft drinks or tea and coffee. Annual membership fees are very reasonable and the meeting is an opportunity to put forward suggestions for the coming year. In the past, we have had coach outings to a variety of venues (not always totally gardening oriented), practical demonstrations, talks and trips to local gardens. Every year we have a Christmas Wreath making evening during December and in May we hold a plant sale where members (and non-members) are invited to bring along plants, seedlings etc they donate to sell at low cost and proceeds go towards the Society funds. We also start planning the annual show, held in conjunction with the Ashwater Agricultural Show in August. Next year will be ‘special’ as it is our 85th Show!

The officers of the Society are elected at the AGM and if anyone is interested in standing as Secretary or Treasurer please pick up a nominee form from the hall or let the present Secretary (Letitia Yetman) know.

A questionnaire is being delivered (by hand and email) seeking ideas and to help gauge numbers likely to attend the AGM and it would be helpful if interested parties could complete and return it to Buckingham House or by email myetman@btinternet.com before the date of the AGM, which as stated above is 9th October 2017.

If you are interested in gardening at any level come and join us you will be most welcome.

ASHWATER PTFA – THREE IN ONE SALE, 14TH OCTOBER

Ashwater PTFA are holding a ‘three in one sale’ to include a car boot sale, jumble sale and new or nearly new sale on the same day, commencing at 12Noon through to 5pm at Ashwater Parish Hall.

Car boot £5.00 per table, to book please call Joy on 07879336743 or Vicky on 07917340715

There will be a raffle, tea, coffee and bacon rolls for sale. Any donations welcome. Please donate via Ashwater School. Thank you for your support.

ASHWATER CAMERA CLUB

The next meeting will take place at the hall on Monday 16th October at 7.30pm. This will be a practical session, please bring your camera and tripod if you have one.

ASHWATER FOOTBALL CLUB

Ashwater F C car wash at Ashwater Parish Hall car park on 7th October between 9am and 11am £5 a car. Bacon baps & a mug of tea or coffee on sale.

There will also be a Wine & Wisdom 4th November at Ashwater Parish Hall, 7pm for 7.30pm max 6 per team £ 5 per person to include first free drink & nibbles to book a table please ring 01409 211212.

TORRIDGE –REFUSE AND RECYCLING AT BANK HOLIDAYS

If your normal collection takes place on...	Your black bag (domestic waste) will be collected ..	Your green wheelie bin will be collected ..	Your recycling (box & bag) will be collected ..
Mon 25 Dec 2017	Tues 2nd Jan 2018	Tues 2nd Jan 2018	Tues 2nd Jan 2018
Tue 26 Dec 2017	Wed 3rd Jan 2018	Wed 3rd Jan 2018	Wed 3rd Jan 2018

W/c 1 January 2018	One day late	One day late	One day late
Fri 30th March 2018	Sat 31st March 2018	Sat 31st March 2018	Sat 31st March 2018
W/c 2nd April 2018	One day late	One day late	One day late

Don't forget if you need a compost bin they can be purchased from Torridge District Council for £13.50. Order online - www.torridge.gov.uk or call TDC on 01237 428700 and if you need a box or a bag these may also be ordered on line or by telephone.

It would be helpful if recycling could be put out by 7am on collection days.

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION CLOTHES/SHOES COLLECTION BOX

BHF have advised that due to insufficient use this facility has been removed from the Parish Hall car park and will not be replaced.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST PETER AD VINCULA

There will be a Dedication Service of the Tower and works at 11am on 29th October at the church. Meanwhile the Church and Community project is progressing with recording data from the monuments and churchwardens' accounts. Anyone interested in helping please attend the sessions on 7th or 21st October, 2pm at the church and bring a clip board if possible.

THANK YOU

Margaret May-Yates would like to thank Patrick, Viv, Alison, Peter and families and everyone who helped, made cakes, gave flowers, presents and money, sent cards and came to my surprise 80th birthday party. Especially Alison and her band of secret members who did well to keep it from me. I will be sharing the £650.00 donateds received between the Devon Air Ambulance and Prostate Cancer Appeal. Thank you all...Margaret.

.....And Finally,

The solutions to last month's questions

- Epsom Salts
- Australia
- Wellingtons
- Argentina
- Hide and Seek
- Trams
- Rain
- Sweet Pea

The word from the rearranged first letters was of course Ashwater. The answers to the other two questions was 'Warbler' as all three were birds and the connection between Hot Springs and Truth or Consequences was a game show. The town of Hot Springs rose to the challenge of the game show and changed its name to Truth or Consequences to win a prize-----only in the USA could that happen!

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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