

Comment: The appearance of scaffolding around the Church Tower heralds another development in the long history of the church in Ashwater. Work is about to commence on the critical repairs to this Grade 1 Listed Building and we all wish those involved every success.

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

Events in the hall (unless otherwise stated)

1st June, Badminton (last Wednesday session until 7th September)

2nd June – Lunch Club in the Village Inn

8th June – Parish Council and Village Meetings, 7.00 pm Council, followed by the Village Meeting at 8.00pm

16th June – Ladies Skittles, 7.30pm

20th June – Camera Club, 7.30pm

23rd June - Referendum

Advance Notice

1st July Quiz and Curry at the pub

10th July – Garden Party

16th July - Safari Supper. Tickets now on sale

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

Post Office

Hours: Mon – Frid: 9.00am to 4.00pm
Saturday: Closed
Sunday: Closed
Telephone: 01409 211192

PARISH HALL

Following the AGM the appointed Hall Trustees are as follows: Colin Vallance (Chair), Letitia Yetman (Vice-chair), Ivan Buxton (Secretary), John Forward, Judith Addicott, Helen Bone, Mel McNeill, Paul Moon, Andrew Patterson, Steve Warring and Andrew Stacey.

After 4 years as Treasurer and Bookings Secretary Bob Griggs stood down as did Trustees Terry Darby and Rosie Axford. We thank them all for helping maintain the hall and services it provides.

At the time of the Newsletter going to press the position of Treasurer and Bookings Secretary had yet to be filled and the Trustees are looking at splitting the role. Without these important officers the hall cannot fully function. Please consider taking on some or all of the duties involved – they are not totally time consuming but do need fulfilling. Pending a further announcement the Secretary on 01409 221073 will field booking enquiries and handle the accounts.

The meeting heard that finances are sound and steady progress is being made towards securing funds for the proposed extension, but there is some way to go and whilst grant aid is being explored supporting all hall events will help achieve the goal.

Safari Supper - Saturday 16th July from 7pm.

Everyone is welcome. Starters and main courses will be served at a variety of homes in and around Ashwater followed by desserts at the Hall. Please support this fund raiser for the Hall extension. Tickets are £12.50 (to include first drink) and three courses plus coffee or tea. Tickets available from Helen Bone 01409 211601, Judith Addicott 01409 211552 or Letitia Yetman 01409 211131.

Ashwater Ceilidh

A really great evening was had by nearly 100 people in the Parrish Hall on 7th May. Christine March and the Celebration Ceilidh Band were excellent, it was lovely to see so many people taking part and enjoying the music and dancing.

Louise Webber, Michael Taylor and Mel McNeil would like to give a really big thank you to everyone who helped them make the evening such a success. Firstly to Christine and the band who very generously did not make any charge for the evening. Thanks to Helen Bone, Sue Shute and Yvonne Taylor for running the kitchen, and all the lovely 'dessert ladies' of the village, you know who you are, who supplied such a wonderful array of puddings. Thanks also to John Webber and Ivan Buxton for manning the bar and finally to John Lowe from the Village Shop for organizing the supply of drinks, snacks and pasties.

The event raised:

Raffle for Ashwater School PTFA £134.00

Ticket sales and bar for the Ashwater Parish Hall Extension £360.28

Referendum

Due to the hall being in use for the Referendum on 23rd June there will be no other bookings for that day.

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council held its AGM last month. The following officers were elected:

Chair: Michael Taylor
Vice Chair: Pat May
Finance: to be advised
Footpaths: Eric Burnill

The Parish Council would like to thank Trevor Stacey for organizing the beacon, which was lit to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's 90th birthday.

Electoral Review of Torridge – The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has formally commenced an electoral review of Torridge District Council to deliver electoral equality for voters across the district. At present, some District Councillors represent many more, or many fewer, electors than their colleagues elsewhere in the district. The review aims to correct those imbalances.

The consultation will close on 4th July 2016.

The 10 week public consultation started on the 26 April 2016 during which the Commission is inviting proposals for new warding arrangements. After considering all representations made during this consultation, the Commission intends to publish draft recommendations on 6th September 2016. There will then be a further period of consultation on the draft recommendations. Final recommendations are expected to be published on 10th January 2017. The new electoral arrangements will come into effect at the local elections in 2019.

This is a public consultation and we welcome views from individuals and organisations across the district on where they think new ward patterns should be drawn.

Further information can be obtained by logging on to www.lgbce.org.uk

Connecting Devon and Somerset has brought fibre connections to areas to the parish with cabinet BEAWORTHY 2 going live. Most homes and businesses at the below postcodes can connect to superfast speeds via fibre enabled cabinets and parish residents in these areas should contact their ISP to get upgraded. EX215BY, EX215DL, EX227YT, EX227YH, EX215BX, EX215UW, EX215UP, EX215UR, EX215UX, EX215DP, EX215UU, EX215UT, EX215XJ, EX215DN, EX215DW

The Connecting Devon and Somerset programme is being successfully rolled out across the area and to date over 260,000 premises are now able to access superfast broadband services.

To see which other areas have been connected see the link below to the CDS website for an interactive map: <http://www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/where-when/>

Torridge District Council is asking the public to feedback on the draft of their new Strategic Plan (2016 - 2020). The survey is available on the Council's website - on the following link you will find a copy of the Strategic Plan and access to the short survey:

<http://www.torridge.gov.uk/article/16081/New-Strategic-Plan-2016---2020>

The Consultation runs until 31st May 2016.

Potholes – residents of Ashwater are advised to keep reporting potholes using the following link:

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

The monthly Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 8 June 2016 at 7.00pm and will be followed by the Annual Parish meeting at 8.00pm.

All residents are welcome to attend the Annual Parish meeting; it's your chance to find out about what your Parish Council does.

Our guest speaker will be Barry Parsons, Devon County Councillor for Holsworthy Rural.

SHOP TALK

Monthly Meat Raffle of joint/bird/seasonal fare.

Beginning this month in June, raffle tickets cost 50p or 5 x tickets for £2; the Draw will take place at 4pm on the last Wednesday of every month.

Quiz & Curry* Night in the Village Inn, on Friday 1st July.

Form a team and come along for a mind-twisting evening, sustained by a choice of the pub's legendary curries at half time.

Tickets & more information from **John/Shop** or **Phil/Pub**.

Check out Posters around the village + Shop Facebook & Website

*If you need a foodie alternative talk to **John/Shop**.

Ashwater Village Shop Calendar

A 2016 village collaboration - featuring photographs, paintings and drawings inspired by Ashwater Parish. Ashwater School, and Ashwater Playgroup are creating masterpieces for their allotted months – the calendar layout allows every child to be included.

Have your work featured on one of the remaining months:

BRIEF & Entry Form is now available in the Shop, or download from the Shop website or Shop Facebook page.

- Open to residents of Ashwater Parish
- Photograph, painting or drawing
- Inspired by, yet recognisable as - a place, vista, landmark or building within the Ashwater Parish
- 300 dpi image, or actual drawing or painting
- Closing date Wednesday 27th July 2016

VIEW & VOTE for your favourite entry:

ASHWATER VILLAGE SHOP Wednesday 3rd August - Wednesday 17th August

AGRICULTURAL SHOW Saturday 20th August

CALENDAR DETAILS:

Size - A3 approx., will be confirmed in July's Newsletter.

Advertising – available to local businesses. Please get in touch to find out more and book your preferred month, contact details below. Size and cost will be confirmed in July's Newsletter.

Funds raised for Ashwater Village Shop, Ashwater School PTFA and Ashwater Playgroup.

BOULES, loaned to the Shop by Tim Kirk, are now available in the Shop. John is talking to interested villagers about the possibility of a **Boules League** over the summer, please talk to him in the Shop, phone or email/Facebook if you would like to enter or want to book the Boules.

English Wine Week 28th May – 5th June: Tim Kirk's wine is available in the Shop.

Telephone: 01409 211 192

Email: managerashwatershop@gmail.com

Volunteer Enquiries: secretaryashwatershop@gmail.com

Find us on:

www.facebook.com/ashwatervillageshop/

www.ashwatervillageshop.co.uk

BADMINTON – WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

Wednesday evening badminton will finish for the Summer on the 1st June. We will be starting up again on Weds 7th September.

VILLAGE INN MONTHLY LUNCH & DEVON AIR AMBULANCE LOTTERY

The next lunch is on 2nd June please book in advance or by 10.30am on the day at the latest. 01409 211200.

LADIES SKITTLES

Ladies Skittles will be held at the hall on Thursday 16th June 2016. This is the Agnes Gill Memorial Trophy open to all lady skittles players in the Parish. New players are always welcome, no previous experience is necessary, so why not come along and enjoy the evening?

ZUMBA GOLD

Zumba Gold is designed for active dancing involving the more mature person who is interested in keeping fit. Jenni Dodd is looking to hold a series of weekly one hour sessions at the Parish Hall on Wednesday evenings between 7.30pm and 8.30pm from June xx to July xx at £5 per person, per session. If you are interested please email jenni@nimblelimbs.com or phone 07776465236.

Jenni is a qualified secondary dance teacher, fitness instructor, Yoga teacher and licensed Zumba and Zumba Gold Instructor with a studio in Shebbear. See her website www.nimblelimbs.com

GARDEN PARTY – JULY 10TH 2016

Please don't forget the Cream Tea Garden Party that is being held on 10th July at Fools Paradise between 2pm and 4pm. £4 head in aid of Temba the charity that raises money for research into the often fatal disease for identical twins. If you would like to help with providing cakes and teas, even if unable attend on the day kindly contact Mary Gliddon on 01409 211203. We know the weather will be kind, but 'just in case' the parish Hall is on standby.

DOMINOES - RESULTS 2015/2016

Singles Winner – Steve Blackmore

Singles Runner up – Bill Fanson

Doubles Winner s– Rod Brock and Steve Blackmore

Doubles Runners up – Phil Sargent and Bill Fanson

Wooden Spoon – SueLuxton

Money raised from Dominoes Draw:

£20 to the Poppy Appeal

£500 donated to Children's Hospice South West

ASHWATER CAMERA CLUB – 20th June 2016

The June meeting will again be a practical session – Studio Portrait with a Model, bring your camera. Starting at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.

The May meeting on 'Macro' techniques was interesting as many pre-digital camera lenses were brought into play by use of conversion kits or simply 'temporarily gluing' an old lens onto the camera body.

Several members have submitted entries into the Parson Jack Russell Exhibition at Black Torrington Church which takes place across the weekend of 3rd, 4th and 5th June 2016.

Members are also invited to take part in the South West Lakes Photo Competition – Love Your Lakes 2016. There three categories, Family Fun, On the Water and Feats of Engineering. Closing Date, 30th September 2016 and send entire by email to: rvine@swlakestrust.org.uk

Club members may display their own printed work in the hall or in digital format on the website at <http://ashwatercameraclub.weebly.com/> and a membership group has been set up on www.flickr.com – simply sign up via Yahoo! There is already a diverse selection of photos on the sites.

Guests are welcome to 'try us out' before joining, just come to the next session as detailed above.

ASHWATER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The 83rd Annual Show will take place on 20th August in conjunction with the Ashwater Agricultural Show. The Show Schedule and Exhibit Entry form will shortly be available.

ARSCOTT LADIES & BENCOOLEN WRECKERS -24TH JUNE 2016

Friday 24th June 7.30pm at Arscott Hall, Tetcott in aid of Tetcott and Virginstow Churches. £8 to include supper. Bar and Draw. Enquiries to Lin Jennings 01409 211212

ENGLISH WINE WEEK 28TH MAY—5TH JUNE 2016

Uphill Vineyard, Ashwater will be conducting free tastings of the 2014 vintage during the whole of English Wine Week so come along and support the fast developing English wine industry. Wine will be available for purchase by the bottle and group tours of the vineyard can be arranged by appointment. Contact details and more information can be found on our web site at www.careyvalleywines.co.uk

Carey Valley Wines will also be appearing at a special tasting event on 20th June at Exeter Phoenix, Gandy Street, Exeter between 2pm and 6pm. Devon, Cornwall, Dorset and Herefordshire wines will be available. Tickets cost £5 in advance (from Exeter Phoenix and Rendezvous Wine Bar or £6 on the door.

DEVON and SOMERSET FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

How a Spring Clean could save your life!

It may be the last month of spring, but there's still time to squeeze in that final spring clean. As part of the Fire Kills campaign, Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service is asking everyone to clear the clutter that may be blocking their escape routes, to make sure their family, guests and loved ones know how to get out, stay out, and call 999 in the event of a fire.

Working smoke alarms are regularly the heroes in a fire, giving everyone the warning they need to get out of their home in a fire. But blocked exits, locked doors or unfamiliar surroundings can shave vital seconds from their escape time.

We all know we need to take time to test our smoke alarms, but this week make time for your home and take some simple steps to help keep your loved ones safe:

Think about how you'd all get out in case of a fire, Making an [escape plan](#) and practising it will help ensure that everyone can get out, stay out and call 999

Fit at least one [smoke alarm](#) on every level of your home so smoke can reach the alarms quicker giving you more warning time.

Test your smoke alarms regularly. Smoke alarms can save your life, but only if they work.

Clear your escape routes. Make sure you're able to escape without tripping over to ensure a speedy exit

Keep your door and window keys in a known and accessible place. Make sure everyone knows where the door and window keys are kept so they can reach them easily and get out quicker in case of a fire.

Many of us [care for others](#), children and loved ones. If this is you then consider the following:

How will they get out? Plan an escape route that works for them and think of any difficulties they may have or help they may need getting out. Would they benefit from a torch to light their way or a stair rail?

Where is the best place to go if the worst happens and they can't escape? This is especially important if they have trouble moving around or can't get downstairs on their own.

Do you have an escape champ?

If not, nominate someone in your home (perhaps a child) to be a 'escape champ'. Role-playing escape routes regularly and giving children the responsibility to keep escape routes clear makes fire safety more fun and engaging.

Marc House, Community Safety Prevention Manager said: "Just two to three breaths of toxic smoke could leave you unconscious, so every second counts when escaping a fire. Having working smoke alarms and knowing the escape plan in an emergency could make all the difference.

"If you have dependants or someone less able to care for, it could take more time to get out, stay out and call 999. Make sure you're always prepared, your exits are clear and everyone knows what to do if the worst should happen."

[Make the call](#) to request free Home Safety advice call free on: now 0800 05 02 999. For any other fire safety advice, contact the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue helpline on: 01392 872288 or visit our website www.dsfire.gov.uk

OKEHAMPTON NORTHMOOR TEAM FLOWER FESTIVAL

The Northmoor Team of Churches Flower Festival for 2016 will be hosted by St. Bridget's Church, Bridestowe, Okehampton, EX20 4EL from Friday, July 1st. to Sunday July 3rd. from 10.30 to 5.00 daily. There will be refreshments and a cake stall. The theme will be "The Queen's 90th. Birthday" and the festival will culminate with a Celebration Service on Sunday, July 3rd. at 6.30 p.m.

Enquiries to Diane Brook – 01837 810580. Email: dianeb6@hotmail.co.uk Website www.northmoorteam.org.uk.

OPEN GARDEN AT COOMBE HOUSE

The wonderful garden at Coombe House, Witheridge, EX16 8PT, is going to be opened in aid of the Devon cancer charity FORCE on Sunday 5th June, 2 - 5.30pm, admission £6 a head. (Please note there is no wheel chair access and children under 12yrs are not permitted due to the water features.

NEWSLETTER – EMAIL VERSION

We are exploring the possibility of setting up a dedicated email address for the Newsletter. At present around 120 copies are sent in this fashion in addition to the 250 hard copies printed and delivered. Don't forget if you miss an issue you can always check the website: www.ashwaterparish.org.uk for details as well as view the hall booking calendar and the various village activity pages.

AND FINALLY.....

Press and TV coverage of a rare avian visitor reported a Bearded Vulture had been spotted over Dartmoor, it also paid a visit to Cookworthy Forest on 20th May where it was mobbed by two buzzards before gliding away towards Holsworthy. There have also been reports of Red Kites in the Parish again this year – how long before they breed here again after an absence of a Century or more?

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