

# Great Ashfield Village News



ISSUE NUMBER 12

SPRING 2018

## Parish Council 2018

Arthur Peake Chairman  
408728

Roy Barker Vice Chairman  
241045

Nancy Calderbank Responsible  
Financial Officer 240445

Bob Fitch 241727

Ian Sadler 242570

Donia Stick 245813

Robin Watts 240678

Sandra Austin, Parish Clerk  
242304  
[sandra\\_brown60@hotmail.com](mailto:sandra_brown60@hotmail.com)

Minutes of all Parish Council  
meetings can be accessed  
online at One Suffolk  
[greatashfield.onesuffolk.net/](http://greatashfield.onesuffolk.net/)

## 3 Villages, 2 Parishes, 1 Team

*'We have had one cat killed by a speeding car, and a dog who got out one day and was run over at a cost of approximately £800 in vet bills. The cat (vehicle) stopped. The dog (vehicle) did not.'*

*'... in 2017 I saw 3 dead cats (road kill), 2 opposite Holly Lodge, both on the road, and the other one near Moat Farm...'*

*'...cat Minty was hit by a car but was luckily not killed. I think this was near Rowan Cottage.'*

*'[Our dog] was also hit on the road when he was young. He and we were very lucky, the car only caught him with a glancing blow leaving tyre black on his fur. It did not stop.'*

*'...had a cat killed on the road in our early days in LT.'*

*'...and a chicken!'*

We wanted to get a full picture of the pattern of the speed of vehicles on Long Thurlow Road, so in January we put two flashing SIDs in the 30mph zone, facing in opposite directions.

Our SID was at the bus shelter, which is in Great Ashfield. It counted 13,661 vehicles driving towards Badwell Ash. Of those 7,718 were travelling at 35mph or more; 24 were travelling at 60mph or more.

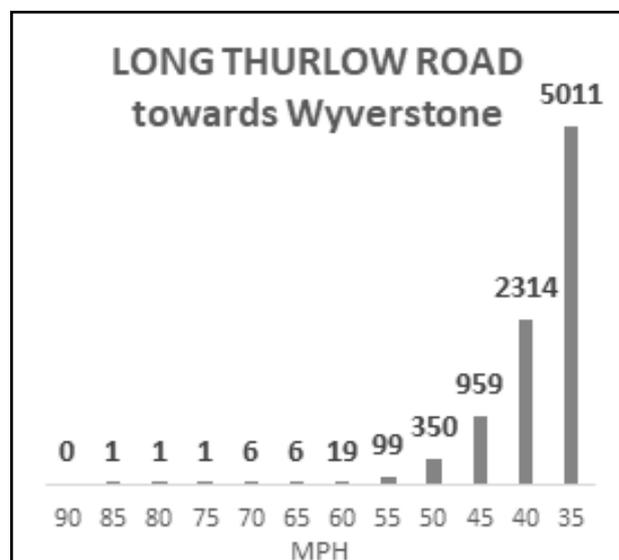
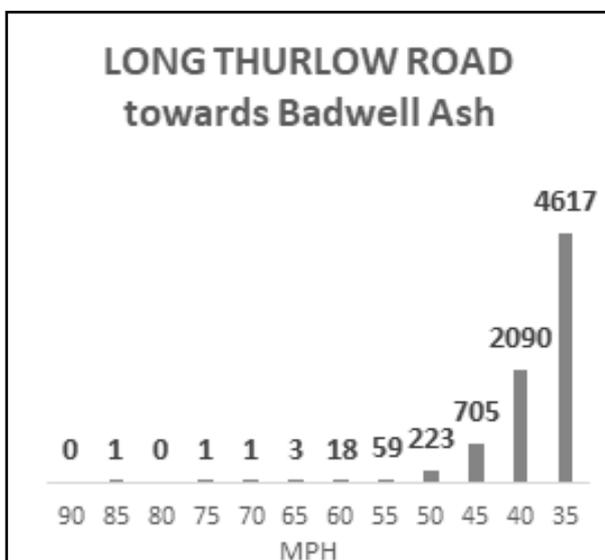
The Badwell Ash SID was on the pole opposite Holly Lodge. It counted 21,345 vehicles driving towards Wyverstone. Of those 8,767 were travelling at 35mph or more; 34 were travelling at 60mph or more.

So **three** villages, **two** Parishes, but **one** strong team working together to make our roads safer. Please join us if you would like to help.

Donia Stick [donia.stick@gmail.com](mailto:donia.stick@gmail.com)  
Community Speedwatch Coordinator

Please send items for the  
newsletter to the Editor,  
Judith Constantine  
[village\\_news@barcham.org.uk](mailto:village_news@barcham.org.uk)

**COPY DATE FOR THE NEXT  
ISSUE 13 MAY 2018**



## Dates for your diary

### Thursday 1 March

Serenity yoga with Bethany Last, Lord Thurlow Hall, 9.30am (new weekly class) £6

### Friday 2 March

Women's World Day of Prayer, Norton Baptist Chapel, 2.30pm  
*With refreshments*

### Friday 2 March

Village Inn, Lord Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm

### Thursday 8 March

\*WI meeting, Lord Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm

### Thursday 29 March

Parish Council meeting, Lord Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm  
*Village residents are invited to attend*

### Friday 6 April

Village Inn, Lord Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm

### Monday 9 April

Annual Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, All Saints' Church, 7.00pm  
*All are welcome*

### Thursday 12 April

\*WI meeting, Lord Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm

### Saturday 28 April

Plant Sale and Coffee Morning, All Saints' Church 10am to 1pm

### Friday 4 May

Village Inn, Lord Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm *Gin evening*

### Thursday 20 May

\*WI meeting, Lord Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm

### Thursday 31 May

Annual Parish meeting, 7.00pm  
Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, Lord Thurlow Hall  
*Village residents are invited to attend*

### Friday 1 June

Village Inn, Lord Thurlow Hall, 7.30pm

*\*Contact Midge Hawkins WI President 259399 for further information*

## Parish Council News

The council has met twice since the last newsletter.

The precept (parish funding from council tax) has been raised for the first time in many years. The increase from £1,900 to £2,300 represents approximately £1 per person per year. Our assets now need maintenance; the Millennium Book, the Village sign and the contribution to the new mini SID have cost £1,245 in 2017. This is in addition to regular outgoings (electricity, dog waste bins, rent, insurance etc.) that now exceed the old precept value.

We have had a request to receive this newsletter via email. If any residents want to do this please email the council at [greatashfieldpc@outlook.com](mailto:greatashfieldpc@outlook.com). This address can also be used for general items but please note that it is not reviewed frequently.

At the time of writing the floods on Elmswell Road and Daisy Green are with Highways for review. Thanks to Roy for digging out the Elmswell Road ditch to alleviate that one. We have rodded and jetted the Daisy Green drains but need the field drain water level to subside before we can safely take more action.

In this issue we have a Community Speed Watch update and a note on the 'WWI Beacons of Light 11 November 2018'. We need your help to complete the stories of those who fought in WWI.

The next meeting is at 7.30pm on **Thursday, 29 March** in the Lord Thurlow Hall. Other meetings in 2018 are scheduled for 31 May, 27 September and 29 November.

The Annual Parish Meeting is 7.00pm on 31 May.

*Arthur Peake, Chairman*

## TOAD TIME! DRIVERS TAKE CARE!

From the end of February until mid April our toads will come out of hibernation and return to their spawning ponds, crossing the roads. Toads cross after dark when the temperature is above 5 or 6°C on damp/rainy evenings.

Local drivers – we need your help too: We put up and light toad signs when we patrol. Please take care and look out for the patrollers in hi-vis jackets! Thank you.

If you wish to help them cross safely, why not join us! We have set up patrols in Badwell Ash, Walsham, Stowlangtoft and this year for the first time in Wetherden Road, Great Ashfield. We welcome new volunteers for a couple of hours a week to patrol in teams of two. Short training, insurance and answers to all your questions are provided. If you can help please contact

Lorna Mackinnon (Walsham) 259140 [mackinnonlorna@gmail.com](mailto:mackinnonlorna@gmail.com)

Sylvie Fitch (Badwell Ash) 241727 [bob.sylvie@btinternet.com](mailto:bob.sylvie@btinternet.com)

Ian Cassidy (Stowlangtoft) 233285 [ian.cassidy4@btinternet.com](mailto:ian.cassidy4@btinternet.com)

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## Church News

### Community Breakfast with TOAST at its Heart

Having lost one service a month recently, members of our church realised that we have the opportunity to introduce a new monthly venture. Our church members want our building to remain open and useful into the future. We have been investigating similar undertakings in other village churches and would like to offer this to our own community.

**BREAKFAST** will be served in All Saints' Church from 9.30am on the fourth Sunday of each month: quality coffee, tea and juices; lots of **TOASTed** items, with home-made marmalade, jams, honey and other spreads. The selection will evolve with the time of year.

**TOAST** stands for Talking Over A Small Table so about 9.45am a thought for the day will be introduced on a theme from one of the big questions in life. Then, that theme will continue in discussions round the pew tables, using cards with easy but thought-provoking questions. This is not a 'church service', rather an opportunity to consider the questions of life in a Christian setting and community, exploring with Christian friends.

It is also an ideal opportunity to respond to the often-asked question: 'What about a village Sunday School?' At TOAST children will now be able to hear Bible stories and explore Christian values in fun activities, after having breakfast with their parents. Everyone can then come back together again for a prayer on the theme of the day.

We are also considering having a borrowing/swapping library of books in the church.

Please feel free to respond with your thoughts to any church members you know, and do come along to the first TOAST Breakfast on Sunday 25 March.

*From the PCC and Members of Great Ashfield Church*

### VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The Christmas Village Inn way back in December started off Christmas festivities with mulled wine, and seasonal food.

The hall is open as 'The Village Inn' on the **FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH (except August and January) 7.30 to 10.30pm**, and everyone is welcome including guests! Please contact Di Barker on 241045 if you would like to man the bar for the evening. Committee members are always around to assist as necessary.

January is the start of the new year for the **Hall Draw**. This is the way we keep a trickle of money coming each month, to finance ongoing costs at the Hall. It only costs £12 for the year, which you give to draw organiser, Sue Perkin-Ball, or any Hall Committee Member: Roy and Di Barker, Sue Howes, Peggy Elms and Margaret Barrett. There is a draw for each month which usually happens at a Hall event.

**The monthly prizes are £25, £15, £10 and £5.**

See village diary (opposite) for future events

### All Saints' Church

#### Priest in Charge

Revd Katharine Valentine  
01359 235095

#### Monthly pattern of Worship

*First Sunday* Family@Church,  
St Mary's Church, Pakenham  
10.00am, breakfast available  
from 9.30am

*Second Sunday* 9.30am Morning  
Prayer

*Third Sunday* 11.00am Family  
Communion

*Fourth Sunday* Sunday morning  
TOAST (see left)

#### Lent and Easter Services Sunday 11 March

Mothering Sunday service, All  
Saints' Church, 9.30am,  
*With gifts of flowers*

#### Friday 30 March (Good Friday)

*For children and adults*  
Lord Thurlow Hall, 1.30pm  
Decorating a cross for Easter  
then at 2pm the Procession of  
Witness from Hall to Church for  
a short service

#### Sunday 1 April (Easter Sunday)

Easter Family Communion, All  
Saints' Church, 9.30am

Details of all church services  
and Benefice news can be  
found on [www.vcnews.org.uk](http://www.vcnews.org.uk)  
or contact your Church Wardens

Roy Barker 241045

Raymond Mayhew 240741

### PLANT SALE AND COFFEE MORNING

In aid of the chancel roof  
repair fund

Saturday 28 April  
All Saints' Church  
10am to 1pm

Offers of plants, seedlings  
and cakes are much appre-  
ciated. Contact Stephen  
and Petrina Miles 259283  
or Shirley Meekings 240464

## Lord Thurlow Hall

### Committee members

Roy Barker Hon Chairman and  
Treasurer *pro tem* 241045

Sue Howes, Hon Secretary  
242983

Sue Perkin-Ball, Hall Draw  
Organiser 242422

Peggy Elms 408357

Margaret Barrett

For hall bookings contact  
Di Barker 241045

## HARE COURSING

*Hare coursing continues to be a problem. Men in cars are running riot over drilled farmland and have no care for anyone who gets in their way, nor for their dogs that can be left behind as they race on to the next meet.*

*Unless the police have photographic evidence they cannot enforce the law. Local land-owners have placed barriers at access points onto fields as a deterrent, but some incidents may still occur. If you are suspicious and see dogs and men in a field, please take note of vehicle make, colour and registration number and ring 999 immediately. It does not matter if it turns out to be legitimate.*

## POPPY APPEAL

*Many thanks to everyone who donated to the Poppy Appeal 2017 and special thanks to the gentleman who donated old £1 coins which boosted our collection. Many thanks to Sylvie Fitch for helping to collect. The grand sum of £362.67 was raised. Special thanks to Doris Leggett for all the years she collected for the Poppy Appeal. Doris has now retired.*

*Shirley Meekings*

## Barker's Babberlings

There are three things I want to touch on:

### 1. Waste collections

Thank you for being understanding about the waste collections over the Christmas/New Year break. Everything went smoothly from the Council point of view, it is not every year we have to collect two days late. Thanks once again.

### 2. Highways

If there are any problems with the highways, potholes, water and verges, please visit the Suffolk County Council website <http://www.suffolk.gov.uk>\* It is easy to follow and the more hits the better (on their website not pothole hits!), as they will do repairs more quickly than if a pothole has only one report. *Don't leave it to others - help by reporting and saying it is dangerous.* I have a tyre to claim for from SCC due to pothole damage last week!!

### 3. Council tax

The budget for next year is in the process of completion. It looks like a rise of under 1% from Mid Suffolk District Council: £3 approximately per year on a band D property. Suffolk County Council is going for a 4.99% rise: approximately £75 per year on a band D property. And the Police element around 5% rise: approximately £9 per year on a Band D property. Councils are really struggling and cannot cut services any further.

Do contact me if you need my help in any way.

Roy Barker [roy.barker@midsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:roy.barker@midsuffolk.gov.uk)

\*Click on 'report' and follow the instructions. First check the map, click on any relevant places, and see whether your pothole is scheduled for repair. If not then click 'continue'.

## WORLD WAR I COMMEMORATION

*In commemoration and remembrance of the end of the war and the many millions who were killed or came home dreadfully wounded, 1000 Beacons of Light will be lit at 7pm on 11 November 2018 throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories - a century after the guns fell silent.\**

*Great Ashfield has successfully registered as one of the 1000 beacon sites. Planning is at an early stage but we are keen to prepare a welcome pack for village households that would include information on the lives of those who fought in WWI. To date we have 65 individuals, of whom 55 survived but more information is always welcome.*

*The family names† (please excuse any misspellings, often names were recorded phonetically in the past) are below. If you can add to their story with photos, personal histories or similar then please contact Donia Stick [donia.stick@gmail.com](mailto:donia.stick@gmail.com)*

*Armstrong, Black, Bloomfield, Boughton, Brett, Brown, Buckle, Carter, Clover, Faiers, Finter, Flatt, Gardener, Goodwin, Goswell, Hawes, Hollond, Jaggard, Kerry, King, Largent, Lynn, Manning, Meekings, Mulley, Redit, Rodwell, Rolfe, Scase, Wakelin, Walpole, Warren, Whiting, Whitton, Wyatt*

\*This extract courtesy of the 'Battle's Over - A Nation's Tribute' guide.

†The scroll of names is in the church but is very faded. We hope to refresh this before November.