



Parish Council 2023

Arthur Peake

Chairman 408728

Ian Sadler

Vice Chairman & Broadband
242570

Stephen Miles Tree Officer

259283

Richard Dewhirst

07557 530433

Donia Stick Community Speed
Watch 245813

Mark Taylor 07391 535233

Carol White 240780

Parish Clerk and Responsible
Financial Officer

**Minutes of all Parish Council
meetings can be accessed
online at One Suffolk
greatashfield.onesuffolk.net/**

Lord Thurlow Hall Committee Members

Chairman

Simon Laidler 244370

Acting Treasurer

Roy Barker 241045

Secretary

Lindsay Pilags 07904 053323

Bookings manager

Carol White 240780

Draw Manager

Margaret Barrett 259113

Committee members

Sue Howes 242983

Kitchen Project Sub Committee

Simon Laidler 244370

Gail Peake 408728

Please send interesting items or
photographs you would like to
see included in the newsletter to
the Editor Mandie Beckley at
mbeckley1@btinternet.com

**COPY DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT
ISSUE: 1st August 2023**

Parish Council Summary Summer 2023



Arthur Peake, Chairman

At the 16th March meeting the parish councillors reluctantly agreed to serve for a further term. We were hoping new residents with fresh ideas would step forward but, alas, that did not happen.

Bob Fitch is retiring from the Parish Council after more than a decade. We wish him well, thank him for his contributions over the years and we will need a new tree officer.

I will serve one more year but we do need volunteers to take up current and future vacancies.

If you might be interested and would like more information, please contact Carol White or me.

Our District Councillor, Rick Meyer, was not standing for re-election in May. We thanked him for his contributions and particularly his locality budget allocations to the solar powered SID, community speedwatch, village sign repairs and the village hall.

Portable Space has applied for full planning to use more land for container storage. This application makes it clear that half of all PSL lorry movements are via the unclassified roads rather than the main site at Rectory Road. The majority of unclassified road use is in Great Ashfield. Local Planning have sent this application to committee so we will get an opportunity to speak at the next committee meeting – delayed by election but likely to be mid June. Anyone can register to speak, if interested please contact Carol for the committee clerk's details.

I was at a Community Speedwatch (CSW) meeting with our neighbourhood police constable and given the high speed of some traffic on Elmswell Road he was keen that we take steps to report excessive speeders. If you can volunteer an hour a month to help slow those speeding through the village then please contact the CSW team on 245813.

The annual Parish Meeting was held at 7pm on Wednesday, 17th May 2023 in the Lord Thurlow Village Hall, and was immediately followed by the Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm.

The next PC meeting will be on Thursday, 24th August 2023 at 7.30pm in the Lord Thurlow Village Hall.

Arthur Peake, Chairman

Sponsors wanted

Would you be willing to sponsor the colour printing of this newsletter?

Printing in colour adds an extra £22 to the cost of and so far several parishioners have kindly sponsored an issue.

If you are willing to help, please contact either the parish clerk, Carol White on 240780 or the newsletter editor, Mandie Beckley on 259734.

Trash and Treasures weekend returns

After a few years break it was great to see the Trash & Treasures weekend back to its best!

Despite the dull and cool spring weather the crowds poured in over the two days, trash and treasures were sold, coffee, teas and excellent bacon rolls were consumed and Great Ashfield pulled together to make it all a great success.

We were pleased to have the SARS team with us again and their stand was always busy.

A big thank you to all those who contributed items, the many volunteers who worked for several days ahead of the weekend to sort and organise all of the items for sale and, of course, manned all the stands over the weekend. It was fantastic to see the village come together to create such a successful event which has raised an impressive total of over £4,600 for the church and village hall.

A great result and your contributions and hard work are very much appreciated.

Stephen Miles and Simon Laidler



Great Ashfield and Badwell Ash WI

At our March meeting we had a very interesting talk by Catherine Buchanan, who kindly stepped in at the last minute. Her talk was on 20th Century Women of Bury St Edmunds.

Our April meeting was an Open Meeting where Mary Newton, a forensic scientist who was involved in a number of high profile cases including that of serial killer Denis Nilsen, gave us a fascinating insight into her work.

Our May meeting was a Coronation themed members evening and our AGM. Each member was given a packet of wildflower seeds to commemorate the Coronation.

Our next three meetings are listed below:

June 8th 7.30pm, Lord Thurlow Hall, Great Ashfield - Tony Strowger a jeweller based in Bury St Edmunds.

July 13th 2.30pm - Visit to Moat House Gardens, Little Saxham

August 10th 2.30pm - Garden meeting.

For further information about joining the WI, please contact Kate Sadler at kateasadler01@gmail.com

AN ADDED EXTRA

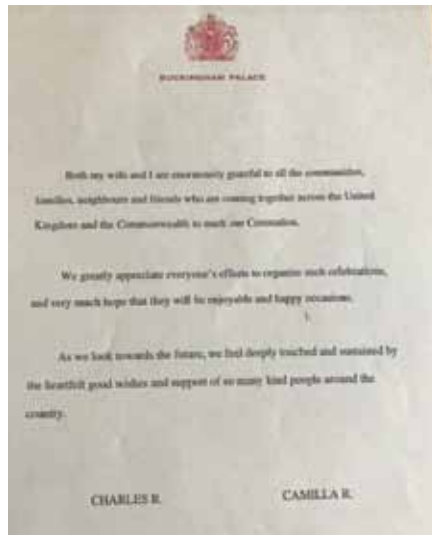
After seeing a report on the news, and one of our members doing some research, we decided that as a WI we would support the Love Grace Handbag Appeal. Grace Millane was tragically

murdered whilst travelling in New Zealand in December 2018. Grace loved a handbag and in her name her family started collecting handbags and filling them with useful items for women in need at local refuges and also further afield. What started as a target of 50, has now reached over 12,000. Each bag contains basic toiletries for women who arrive with nothing.

As a WI we have collected 32 bags and Carole Rose, who came up with the idea, has kindly offered to take them to the collection point in Essex.



Pub Night celebrates Charles III's coronation



Stephen Miles received this letter from Buckingham Palace via the Lord Lieutenant's Office, for Deputy Lieutenants to take to any events they would be attending over the Coronation weekend, so he took it to the celebration Pub night. He thought other people from the village might appreciate seeing it too.



The magnificent Coronation cake, made by Jacqui Laidler, formed the centrepiece of the evening's food.



This patriotic display was arranged by Gail Peake

The special village hall draw prize of the Charles III commemoration coin went to Lyn Elvin



Angela and John Chillingworth did sterling work behind the bar



Upcoming events at Lord Thurlow Hall

Village Hall pub nights
June 2nd - Great Ashfield Scarecrow Festival judging



July 7th – Bring a Pudding pub night

August – no pub night

September 1st – Quiz night

October 28th – Pumpkin night plus fish and chips

Fundraising for the village hall and the church:

July 15th – Airfield historical presentation and trailer rides with refreshments in the village hall afterwards. Further details overleaf.

And don't forget our monthly draw – your chance to win £25 every month! Contact Margaret Barrett on 259113 for more details.

All volunteers are welcome, offers small and large are all appreciated. We are always looking for bar staff for our pub nights and still have an outstanding vacancy on the committee for a treasurer. Please contact Simon Laidler (244370) or Roy Barker (241045) to discuss details.

Toad patrol volunteers have great success

A big THANK YOU to all those who helped one way or another with our toad patrols and to drivers who took care driving through our sites at night.

The number of toads saved during our seven week patrol this spring are Badwell Ash 291, Kiln Lane Stowlangtoft 956, School Road Great Ashfield 535 toads. Three

great crested newts were also saved.

We are delighted with the 15 patrollers who volunteered at Great Ashfield, and also the 10 children who ventured out with them to get first hand experience of their local wildlife at night and rescue these protected and priority species from an untimely death.



For more details, go to www.froglife.org for their ToadsOnRoads campaign or contact your local organiser Sylvie Fitch on 241727.

All Saints' Church

Rector – Revd Katharine Valentine 01359 235095

Monthly pattern of Worship

First Sunday – 10am Benefice Family@Church
St Mary's Church, Pakenham,
breakfast available from 9.30am

Second Sunday – 9.30am Morning Worship

Third Sunday – 11am Family Communion

Fourth Sunday – 9.30-11am **TOAST Community Breakfast.** We are now holding Toast back in the church.

EASTER

On Good Friday a group processed on a Walk of Witness to the church before going on to read about and reflect on the Easter Story.

The church was decorated with lovely spring flowers and our grateful thanks to all those who helped with this.

UPDATE ON CHANCEL REPAIRWORK

The lower part of the walls have been re-plastered but due to the cool wet spring this is taking a long time to dry out.

The walls will eventually be painted. All the wood in the roof in this area has been cleaned, the altar rail and panelling have also been cleaned and polished. The new folding chairs have arrived but are in storage waiting for the completion of this project.

In the autumn we hope to organise a special service to mark the transformation of this space.

Church Wardens

Roy Barker 241045, Raymond Mayhew 240741

Details of services held in our church are at www.achurchnearyou.com

The Benefice village and church news magazine is available to read online www.vcnews.org.uk



The font, beautifully decorated for Easter

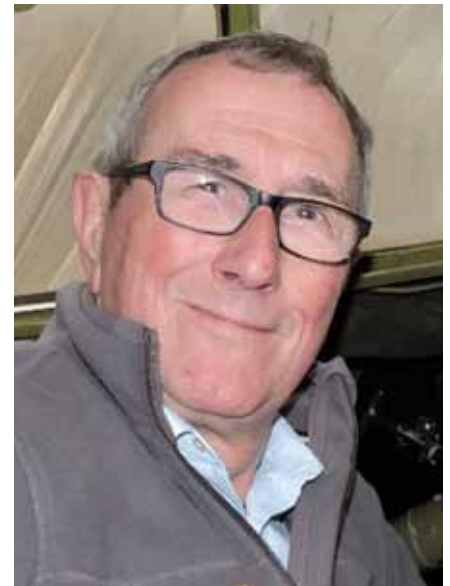
Petrina Miles

Community event Tour of Great Ashfield American WWII Airfield

July 15th at 2.30pm

We are planning a tractor and trailer ride tour of Great Ashfield Airfield to mark 80 years since the Americans arrived.

We will stop at various locations when 385TH historian, Ian Mclachlan (pictured below), will give short talks about the American's time while stationed here between 1943-1945.



He will also talk about the layout and buildings that were here.

Tea will be available at the village hall afterwards. Ian has also organised for a 1940's singing group 'Station 366' to be in attendance.

This is another community event raising money for both the village hall and the church.

There is no charge but we ask for donations.

Please reserve your place on the trailer by contacting:-

Stephen Miles 07739 987695 or
Simon Laidler 07949 845727.

We are hoping Ian will return in the winter to give a more in-depth talk and slide show.

*Produced for Great Ashfield Parish Council by Mandie Beckley
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2023*

Village Hall Draw results

MARCH	1st	£25	N McHale	No: 59
	2nd	£15	H Elms	No: 15
	3rd	£10	D Edgemore	No: 97
	4th	£5	J Bird	No: 228
APRIL	1st	£25	M Barrett	No: 30
	2nd	£15	J Harding	No: 19
	3rd	£10	M Brown	No: 54
	4th	£5	K Halls	No: 85
MAY	1st	£25	A Nye	No: 187
	2nd	£15	C Seaton	No: 233
	3rd	£10	G and A Peake	No: 43
	4th	£5	C White	No: 188

SPECIAL CORONATION PRIZE!

This was won by Sylvie Fitch. Hidden under the cellophane wrapping she found a bottle of prosecco, a bottle of elderflower cordial, Coronation themed chocolates, biscuits, shortbread, scones and a jar of preserve.



Subscriptions

We are happy to collect cash or cheques for your annual payment (£12), but if you prefer to pay online please contact me at robin@greenbee.net or phone 01359 259113. Thank you for your support of Lord Thurlow Hall.

Margaret Barrett