



Parish Council 2019

Arthur Peake

Chairman 408728

Roy Barker

Vice Chairman 241045

Nancy Calderbank 240445

Bob Fitch Tree Officer 241727

Ian Sadler Broadband 242570

Donia Stick Community Speed Watch 245813

Sandra Austin

Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
242304

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

Lord Thurlow Hall Committee Members

Roy Barker

Hon Chairman and Treasurer pro tem 241045

Sue Howes

Hon Secretary 242983

Peggy Elms 408357

Margaret Barrett

Village Hall Draw

Di Barker

Village Hall bookings
241045

Lindsay Pilags

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Emma Clay

Please send items for the newsletter to the Editor Mandie Beckley at mbeckley@dircon.co.uk
COPY DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE
2nd November 2019

Parish Council Summary Autumn 2019

The yearly Parish Council summary, from the annual meeting in May, was published in the last Newsletter (No. 17). Since then there have been just two meetings, one for planning and one scheduled. It has not been quiet though and the highlights are below, several of which are covered in more depth elsewhere.

Newsletter – welcome to Mandie Beckley, the new Editor. We would like to introduce pictures and local interest stories rather than just having plain text. Your pictures can be of anything, village events, home events, very tall sunflowers, the Battle of Britain planes that overflowed the village on the exhibition weekend etc. Absolutely anything that may be of interest, so please send it to the Editor.

Blue Plaque – this was presented to Maythorn, on the Wetherden Road, on 19th July and was well received. To our delight the Bury Free Press covered the event.

Exhibition – over the weekend of 20/21 July the Elmswell History Group presented a WW1 airfield exhibition in the Lord Thurlow Hall, supported by local interest items from James Spreull (who supplied the Hollond memorabilia) and airfield tours provided by Stephen Miles. It was a successful weekend with hundreds of visitors who all provided positive feedback. They donated



Some of the many visitors studying the 1911 virtual walk, taken at the November 2018 WW1 exhibition

£468 for refreshments, which was divided equally between the Royal British Legion and towards the village hall kitchen refurbishment fund.

Village Recorder – after many years Tom Eeles has retired from this role. We all thank Tom for his time and effort to date. The Suffolk Local History Council is very keen to find a replacement willing to summarise village activities each year. A note is in this Newsletter and also on the noticeboard outside the Lord Thurlow Hall.

Councillor vacancy – following Robin's retirement in May (can fishing be better than a PC meeting?), we have a vacancy to fill. There is an advertisement on each village noticeboard but if you are interested please call or email Arthur (arthur_peake@hotmail.com) or Sandra (sandra_brown60@hotmail.com).

And finally – the next Parish Council meeting is 7.30pm on Thursday 19th September in the Lord Thurlow Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Arthur Peake, Chairman

Harvest Festival in Great Ashfield and MacMillan Coffee Morning

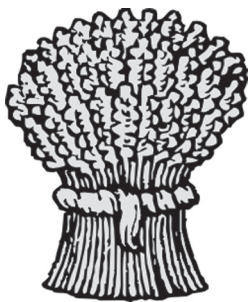
Saturday 21st September

10am – decorating the church for harvest – all are welcome. Donations of flowers, groceries, fruit and vegetables gratefully received.

Sunday 22nd September

9.30-11am – TOAST

Community Breakfast, which will include our **MacMillan Coffee Morning** fund raiser. All money will go to MacMillan Cancer Support. People will also be invited to take part in making the Harvest Sheaf Loaf, which will



then be baked and brought back for the afternoon service.

3pm – Harvest Thanksgiving Service with offerings of all aspects of harvest produce. This will be followed by refreshments.

Monday 23rd September

This morning the donations of groceries, fruit and vegetables will be taken to Tayfen House, Bury St Edmunds. Tayfen House cares for homeless people, setting them up eventually in separate accommodation. Groceries such as cereals, tinned goods, pasta, rice and so on help to give them a fresh start.

If you can spare something, please bring it along over the weekend. Thank you.

Di Barker

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COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH RESULTS AUGUST 2019

Great Ashfield 3 sessions, 32 vehicles reported to the Police
Thank you Team!

The evacuees from East London

In 1939 at least 40 evacuees arrived in Great Ashfield. Most of them were the teachers and children from Cephas Street School in Stepney.

The 1939 Register, displayed on the wall in the Village Hall, shows they were housed with at least 20 families in the village.



Later this year we plan to remember the arrival of the evacuees. We hope that this will include a virtual walk around the village in 1939, similar to the one we had in November 2018 for the 1911 Census, as shown in the photograph on page 1.

Do you have any memories, photographs or stories about the evacuees that were passed down through your family? If so stories, long or short, can be written down and given to any member of the Parish Council, or emailed to donia.stick@gmail.com as soon as possible please.

Donia Stick

Talking about birds A talk by Patrick Barker

After a very successful evening, when so many people came to watch the baby Barn Owls being ringed at Kiln Farm, Patrick (pictured right) has offered to give a talk in All Saints Church about his hobby as a licensed bird ringer and about the bird life around our village.

No tickets will be issued but there will be a chance to give a donation in aid of the church building maintenance. There will also be refreshments while you ask Patrick questions.

Put the date in your diary now!
Friday 15th November in All Saints Church, Great Ashfield at 7pm.

Di Barker



Ride and Stride for your local churches

The Churches of Suffolk need your help. If you can ride a bike or a horse, if you can walk, or if you can sit for an hour or two, then you are just the people who are needed!

Saturday 14th September is the date of the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust 'Ride and Stride Day'. Churches all over the county are open that day to receive visitors who are cycling, riding or walking between them. You sign yourself in and are recorded by those sitting in the porch and then off you go to the next church. Work out your route to visit as many as possible.

Sponsorship is obtained from friends, family and very often from people in your local church who can no longer ride or walk between the villages. You can also be sponsored for sitting in the church porch and signing people in!

The money collected from the event is sent to the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust (SHCT) and half the amount you raise is kept by the Trust and the other half is given to the church that you nominate on your form. So, if people nominate 'All Saints Church Great Ashfield', we receive a cheque towards improvements and maintenance of our ancient building.



It is a great way to see churches, a wonderful day of exercise and an enjoyable way to give money to two worthy causes.

Forms detailing all you need to know are in the porch at All Saints Church (open daily from 9am to 5pm) or ring our local organiser Heather Watts on 01359 240678 if you need information. If you need people to sponsor you, come to the Community Breakfast, TOAST, on Sunday 25th August between 9.30 and 11am.

Please take part for the sake of our historic local buildings.

Di Barker

What's on this autumn at the WI

September

Thursday 12th at 7.30pm. Janet Brown will be giving a talk about Living on a Narrowboat.

October

Thursday 10th at 7.30pm. This is an open meeting where all guests are welcome (including gentlemen). Visitors pay £3, which includes refreshments and a raffle ticket. The talk, entitled A Beginners Guide to the Night Sky, will be given by David Munton.

Also Paul Heeks, the local pharmacist from Elmswell, will be offering free flu jabs between 6.30pm and 7.30pm.

November

Thursday 14th at 7.30pm. Christmas Craft session.



Would you like to be the Local Recorder for GREAT ASHFIELD?

The Suffolk Local History Council runs a Recorders Scheme throughout Suffolk. We administer a network of volunteers to ensure that the 'present' is adequately recorded at local level for the 'future'.

A Recorder will need to note significant happenings in their parish and collect their local parish magazines, leaflets, election pamphlets and all newspaper cuttings.

At the end of each year, the Recorders are asked to submit a short report summarising the activities of their parish. The reports are deposited at the Suffolk Record Office and available to future researchers together with the collected items.

If you are interested, please look at the Recorders Pack by visiting www.slhc.org.uk to acquaint yourself with the guidelines of the scheme.

You do not need to be a historian; you do not need any qualifications other than an interest in your parish. In return you will receive a copy of the SLHC Newsletter and be invited to the annual conference specifically for Local Recorders.

To volunteer to help in this important work, please contact recorders@slhc.org.uk

Village Hall News

Thank you to everyone who came to the July BBQ. It was a great evening with perfect weather and the BBQed beef burgers and hotdogs were ably cooked by Paul and Chrissie. The bar and Pimms table were also popular and manned by Margaret and Trevor. Thank you to everyone who lent a hand!

September is the start of the new year for the Hall Draw. This is how we keep a trickle of money coming in each month to finance ongoing costs at the Hall. It only costs £12 for the year, which you give (or pay via internet banking) to draw organiser, Margaret Barrett, or any Hall Committee Member: Roy and Di Barker, Sue Howes, Peggy Elms, Lindsay Pilags and Emma Clay. Just email Di Barker (dibarker@keme.co.uk if you would like to join).

There is a draw every month, which usually takes place at a Hall event. At the July BBQ we drew for May, June and July. The monthly prizes are £25, £15, £10 and £5.

The Village Inn is on the **FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH** from 7.30-10.30pm (except August, November & January).

Dates for your Diary

Friday 6th September

Village Inn – 7.30-10.30pm

Wed 11th September

Village Hall AGM – everyone welcome – 7pm

Fri 4th October

Village Inn – 7.30-10.30pm

Sat 26th October

Pumpkin Night with Fish & Chip Supper – 7.30

No Village Inn in November

Sun 24th November

Craft Fair

Fri 6th December Christmas Pub Evening – 7.30-10.30pm

In memory of the very unsinkable Violet Jessop



On 26th July a Blue Plaque was attached to the wall of Maythorn, on the Wetherden Road. This is to commemorate one of its previous inhabitants, Violet C Jessop, who retired to Great Ashfield in 1950. Violet was a stewardess with the White Star Line, and a VAD nurse during WW1. During that period she was a survivor of the sinkings of three White Star liners, The Oceanic, Titanic and Britannic.

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 Prayer

Third Sunday

11am Family Communion

Fourth Sunday

9.30am Community Breakfast
TOAST

Church Wardens

Roy Barker 241045
Raymond Mayhew 240741

Joan Ellis 1934-2019

Joan Ellis, a resident of Great Ashfield for almost 50 years, died peacefully on 6th August.

Joan, her husband Patrick and their son Julian moved from Harlow in Essex to The Old Forge, Daisy Green in the early 1970s.



At that time their property included The Old Forge and Old Forge Cottage, and Joan's stables were housed in what is now The Old Coach House and its outbuildings. The family also owned the orchard beside this and the field behind.

Joan had seven horses and taught many of the local children to ride. Patrick, before his death in the early 1980s, was a carpenter and joiner and also acted as a farrier, though this was more as a hobby.

Joan could frequently be seen astride her pure bred Arab stallion Tali, going for long rides across the countryside. Tali would often throw her but all Joan would do is get up, wag her finger at the horse saying "You naughty boy!" and then climb back on.

Although she had several serious illnesses over the years, Joan carried on relentless, walking her various dogs for several miles every day.

Joan was also well known for playing the organ in most of the churches in the benefice and was instrumental in organising several Open Gardens in Long Thurlow as well as art shows in St Mary's Church, Badwell Ash.

Despite her small stature, Joan was a force of nature and will be sorely missed by those of us who knew her.