

## ST GEORGE'S CHURCH

### Weddings at St George's

Over the past month, three weddings have been held at St George's including local boy Shane Mockler, grandson of PCC member Pam Cook, to his lovely bride Natalie. St George's offered to host another of the ceremonies at just a few days' notice after it had had to be moved unexpectedly from its original venue. Despite the short notice, it went without a hitch, thanks to the hard work and organisation of our churchwardens Cilla Cook and Krys Pietrecki and extra flower arrangements by PCC members including Pam Cook. Everyone is delighted that growing numbers of couples are choosing to tie the knot at our beautiful church, a tribute to the warmth of its welcome and stunning setting. Well-attended Afternoon Tea in aid of the Church

Pam Cook, Margaret Freeman and helpers staged a successful afternoon of delicious cream teas and home-baked cakes that raised several hundred pounds for the Church. Scores of locals and visitors enjoyed sipping their cuppas in scorching sunshine amid the fragrant flowers and shrubs of School House Ashorne. The final group were just finishing their last crumbs when a tropical downpour and thunderstorm erupted – but failed to

dampen the spirits of the hard-working hosts or their guests.

### In search of a new vicar

After an interregnum of nearly a year, our parishes are advertising again for a new vicar and we very much hope that someone suitable emerges during this search. We are enormously grateful to our dedicated churchwardens, readers and PCC members who take on so much responsibility for organising worship and a range of different events and activities in the parish. As ever, all offers of help will be gratefully accepted. Whether you'd like to take part in church social activities, volunteer to do readings or prayers at our services, help out arranging flowers, be part of the cleaning rota or get involved in our occasional working parties to tidy our eco-churchyard, we'd love to hear from you. Contact Krys on 01926-651751 or Cilla on 01926-651558 if you'd be willing to give us a hand.

### Bonfire and Fireworks

St George's Church is hosting the bonfire again this year on November 5th. The bonfire will be lit at 6.15 and the fireworks at 6.45pm. There will be refreshments available. Please join us for a community event.

Cilla Cook

## THE VILLAGE HALL

The Annual Apple pressing with vintage steam engine will have taken place by the time you read this. Many thanks to all the people who donated apples, those who collected apples from trees near and far and especially to Jim and Hazel from Combrook for once again bringing the immaculate steam engine and scrapper.

Ethel Curtlin Bench. The bench donated to the hall by Mrs Ethel Curtlin who used to live in Hope Cottage has been renovated by Jim Thornton and now looks very smart. 2020 will mark 100 years since some land and an ex first world war Nissen hut were given to the village by Mrs Bouch and the village hall came into being. The current building was erected on the same site in 1983 and we are planning to commemorate the hall's 100 year life next spring. Watch this space!

Deadline for next issue is November 15th. Please send items for inclusion to Christine Thornton, 1 The Green (Tel 651436) or Judy Cooper, High Paddock (Tel 651315). You are welcome to send items by email or on disc, as well as on paper. Email: jinandchris@googlemail.com or judycooper21@btinternet.com

# THE NEWBOLD PACEY & ASHORNE VILLAGE HUT NEWS

ISSUE 143: SEPTEMBER 2019

## SWELTERING SUMMER SHOWTIME SUCCESS!

### Our WI played a key role at Newbold Pacey and Ashorne's sweltering Village Show which raised £313.

The WI's vintage craft stall, the tombola and teas plus home-made cakes all did a roaring trade. Members excelled in the baking and craft classes, Margaret Freeman again taking rosettes for her homemade fruitcake and cheese scones. Gifted florist Pam Cook won with her thoughtful purple, white and green arrangement depicting '100 years of our Village WI', complete with the musical score for the WI anthem, Jerusalem and a mini jar of jam. Pam and husband Ray dominated the vegetable section too, with rosettes for runner beans, tomatoes and beetroot while Sally Grant won the plum, apple and specimen rose classes. Mary Cobb again took the rosette for free range eggs and Pete Elliott won the homebrew class for the 3rd year running, with his eye-watering Sloe Gin. His black lab Jet also won 'Waggiest Tail' in the Pet Show, with Ian Scaramanger's white Alsatian Yuki judged 'Best turned out' and Mon McGrath's Border Terrier Finn taking the rosette for 'Scruffiest Pet'.

Heather Jack delighted the judges of the 'Village



Yuki the white Alsatian who won the 'Best Turned Out' class in the Pet Show.

landmark crafted in any medium' category with her "beautiful and artistic" 'embroidery over watercolour' image of The Old Forge. Other striking entries featured the cricket pavilion, village hall and thatched cottages, using a range of skills from embroidery to metal forging.

Show organiser and WI President Trish Handsley, even won the inaugural class for a limerick starting 'there was a young fella from Ashorne...'

She paid tribute to the exhibitors, judges, Village Hut Committee and The Cottage Tavern, Ashorne who sponsored the rosettes.

"It was a great team effort," she commented. "Funds raised this year will help refurbish our toilet block – unglamorous but crucial to keep our lovely village hall in good condition."

Trish Handsley, President 2019

Newbold Pacey & Ashorne WI Npandawi@gmail.com

MORE ON WI ACTIVITIES INSIDE

## THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on the 4th September with the first order of business being to coopt two additional Parish Councillors. It was unanimously agreed that Judith Little and Roger Wright would fill the vacancies and the Parish Council look forward to welcoming them both properly at the November meeting. Councillors also discussed the progress made with the work on the bridge, thanking all those involved. The PC continues to pursue the replacement of the allotment water meter so we can ensure accurate bills and will now be escalating the issue to the industry ombudsman. The publication of SDC's new Site Allocation plans were noted and while these don't currently impact on Newbold Pacey and Ashorne it was felt prudent to begin the process of updating the Parish's Rural Housing Needs Assessment to ensure any future development matches the needs of local people. The next meeting will be held on 6th November at 7:30pm in the Village Hall and all residents are welcome.

### WI Community Coffee Mornings in Ashorne Village Hall

*First Saturday of the month - 10am – midday*  
**5th October** we hope to welcome members of the Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service, complete with fire engine! Officers will be sharing tips for keeping us safe in our homes.

Homemade cake, a steaming cuppa, toasted tea-cakes dripping with butter, newspapers to read, books, cakes to buy – what is not to like?

This is a community initiative from Newbold Pacey & Ashorne WI. Everyone welcome.  
Contacts: Trish Handsley and Heather Jack npanda-wi@gmail.com

### Coffee Morning in aid of Myton Hospice

*Committee Room, Ashorne Village Hall*  
*10:30am-12:00 on the first Wednesday of the month*  
Contact: Pam Cook, Cilla Cook

## NEWBOLD PACEY & ASHORNE WI REPORT

In early August, we celebrated our 100th anniversary with a Garden Party at Judith Little's home in Newbold Pacey. It was a beautiful day in every way and we were thrilled to welcome current and past WI members including National WI Chair Lynne Stubbings and our past president Sue Byrd who travelled from Devon to join us.

Our centenary celebrations continued on a sunny September evening in with a meal afloat the Countess of Evesham and will wind up the year with a 1920s-themed dinner dance in December.

Our September speaker was Travel Counsellor Lucy Morgans who spoke about her 30 years in the travel industry and the changes she has seen during that time. From getting clients on their way overland during the 2010 Icelandic volcano ash cloud to booking new flights at 3am on a Sunday night when Monarch Airlines failed, Lucy is definitely the one you would want organising your travel plans. South Africa and Portugal are apparently the current 'go to' places with Kenya and Tunisia well out of favour because of political instability.

In October we'll try our hands at Block Printing at a Saturday workshop then welcome Dr Lanre Sorinola, Nuffield Consultant Gynaecologist to our monthly meeting. She will share women's health tips, particularly about leaky bladders – a supportive and humorous talk about what can be an embarrassing problem.

In November we hold our centenary AGM, looking back over the year, electing our new committee and making plans for 2020.

If you fancy hearing from a women's health expert or just popping out for a chat and a cuppa, do come along and give our WI a try - 2nd Thursday of the month, 7:30pm in Ashorne Village Hall. We have a year full of fun ahead and are keen to welcome guests and new members at any of our meetings.

Trish Handsley, President 2019

### WI Craft & Chat Group

Committee Room, Ashorne Village Hall – every Tuesday 10am – midday  
Come along with your current knitting or sewing project and join us for a cuppa.  
Contact: Trish Handsley, Pam Cook npandawi@gmail.com

## ASHORNE AND MORETON MORRELL CRICKET CLUB

**Cricketing success hasn't been limited to England's fantastic World Cup and 'patchy' Ashes form this summer, as Ashorne & Moreton Morrell Cricket Club has enjoyed a fabulous summer of our own.**

Firstly and around the time of the World Cup, our midweek 20/20 team - complete with maroon and green coloured clothing - easily reached the Finals day of the Leamington and District midweek 20/20 competition by virtue of winning every game throughout the group stage of the competition.

Although not the final winners of the competition, their performances throughout the summer were excellent and highly entertaining, with lots of balls crossing the boundary regularly to all directions.

Next, the Saturday League XI has finally been crowned champions of Cotswold Hills League Division 3, after only one defeat all season. This is the Club's highest honour, having once previously been runners-up in that Division. Promotion to Division 2 is well deserved for the Club, with some excellent performances all season by local lads Tom Husselsby, Ben Freeman, James Cutts and Andy Horley.

Meanwhile on Sundays, as other Clubs seem to struggle to find players keen on Sunday cricket, our team has continued to thrive with fabulous and competitive fixtures fulfilled every Sunday and only a small number of defeats recorded.

All in all, it has been one of the most successful seasons in the Club's history, all played out on our unique ground which has been immaculately maintained by Chris Terry and Steve Humphries throughout the summer and with refreshments kindly provided all season by Lesley and her team from the Cottage Tavern, for which we are extremely grateful.

Mark Freeman

### POP -UP TEA ROOM

Molly Bond's tea room opened its doors at the Cottage Tavern recently when villagers were able to enjoy an amazing range of sandwiches, cakes and savouries together with hot drinks or beer at a tasting session prior to regular openings.

This new venture looks set to be an outstanding success so make a note in your diaries and book for the next tea room on October 19.

## SEPTEMBER NATURE COLUMN

After the rain came the sun, slugs and snails slimed their way to any damp shady place. Some frogs, large and small, headed for the pond. One or two lay flat under the potato leaves in the well watered veg plot. In the evening the runner bean wigwams must have been dripping like rain forests for them.

it was nice to watch the young squirrels this summer. They have slim tails, much less fluffy than the adults. They would run around then stop and jump in the air for no reason, then scamper after each other again just playing while the adults stayed calmly eating seed on the grass. Oh to be young! Well they better start growing more tail before Winter, that's their duvet.

As I scribble this I've just released the twelfth Hedgehog. She was taken into care with a urine infection and pregnant. She's now fit and well and desperate to get away from the kids. The Hoglets are now independent and still at the sanctuary so she's come to join our lot here. At around ten o'clock the rustling and snuffling starts. We now have three Hedgehogs that, at the moment, seem to live in the garden. Hope they stay. Next Spring we may have the first breeding colony in over fifty years.

As evening slowly began to drift towards night a new call echoed among the trees in front of the cottage. Now if you can try to imagine a very large mouse, sneezing loudly twice, then a pause and two more sneezes, that's what it sounded like. As I quietly wandered down the lane in the twilight towards the sound another sneezy call answered the first one. I stood looking up into the well spaced branches of the Cedar tree, the calls continued. It had to be Owls. I scanned the branches trying to pin down the position. Then I saw it right in front of me. A Tawny Owlet had been watching me walk down the lane. It had no idea what I was as it bobbed up and down trying to focus on me. I could only see the silhouette of a beautiful round blob of baby Owl. Then it got even better as a second Owlet flew in to sit by the first one. There was much flapping and excited greeting before they settled down and somewhere, over the parkland an adult Tawny answered them, staying in touch as it hunted for their first meal of the night.