

ISSUE No. 376

FEBRUARY 2026



ASHCOTT & PEDWELL

# WHAT'S ON

YOUR MONTHLY VILLAGE GUIDE TO NEWS AND EVENTS



Please supply all items for inclusion in the next edition by the 17th of the month to: [ashcottwhatson@gmail.com](mailto:ashcottwhatson@gmail.com)  
Or, if you can't email, you can post hard copies in the letter box at the Village Hall.

What's On is compiled, published and distributed by volunteers on behalf of Ashcott Village Hall and receives financial support from Ashcott Parish Council.

HALL CHAIR: DEBBIE SHINGLER  
HALL SECRETARY: MARTIN TIMMS

01458 210947  
01458 210691

# ASHCOTT VILLAGE HALL FEBRUARY BOOKINGS \* = In Committee Room # = Caterer Outside

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>
AM	Line Dancing	Table Tennis	Toddlers	Table Tennis	Table Tennis		
PM		Short Mat Bowls			Table Tennis		
Eve	Table Tennis	-	Table Tennis	Knit and Natter*	Pub Night # Rebel Bites #		
	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>
AM	Line Dancing	Table Tennis	Toddlers	Table tennis	Table Tennis	Short Mat Bowls lunch	
PM		Short Mat Bowls			Table Tennis		
Eve	Table Tennis	Garden Club	Table Tennis	Line Dancing VH Committee *	# Fish & Chips #		
	16 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>
AM	Line Dancing	Table Tennis Pancake Cook*		Table tennis	Table Tennis	Private Event	
PM		Short Mat Bowls			Table Tennis		
Eve	Table Tennis PCC*		Table Tennis	WI			Quiz Night
	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup>	27 <sup>th</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>	
AM	Line Dancing	Table Tennis	Toddlers	Table Tennis	Table Tennis	Avalon Stitchers	
PM		Short Mat Bowls			Table Tennis	Avalon Stitchers	
Eve	Table Tennis		Table Tennis		# Fish & Chips #		



## Polden Wheel Church Services February 2026

### Sunday 1st February

9.30 *Catcott*

11.00 *Chilton Polden*

### Sunday 8th February

9.30 *Burtle*

11.00 *Ashcott*

4.00 *Edington*

### Sunday 15th February

10.00 *Shapwick*

10.30 *Chilton Polden*

### Tuesday 17th February

7.00 *Catcott*

### Wednesday 18th February

2.30 *Ashcott*

### Sunday 22nd February

9.30 *Shapwick*

11.00 *Burtle*

11.00 *Edington*

6.30 *Ashcott*

### Wednesday 25th February

10.00 *Edington*

### Sunday 1st March

9.30 *Catcott*

11.00 *Chilton Polden*

### Third Sunday before Lent (Green)

Holy Communion (BCP)

Informal Worship\*\*

### Second Sunday before Lent (Green)

Holy Communion

Informal Worship

Holy Communion

### Sunday next before Lent (Green)

Café Church

Holy Communion

A Quiet Service

### Ash Wednesday

Holy Communion

### Lent 1 (Green)

Holy Communion

Informal Worship

Informal Worship\*\*

Holy Communion

Holy Communion

### Lent 2 (Green)

Holy Communion (BCP)

Informal Worship

\*\* *With Polden Praise*



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# PUB NIGHTS

at

**Ashcott Village Hall**

**Fridays 6<sup>th</sup> February  
and 6<sup>th</sup> March**

**Bar open 5.30 - 11pm**

**BAR SNACKS AVAILABLE**

COME ALONG FOR A FRIENDLY  
CHAT AND A DRINK OR TWO!

*You are welcome to bring in your  
"FANCY FISH AND CHIPS"  
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as long as you purchase a drink from the bar*

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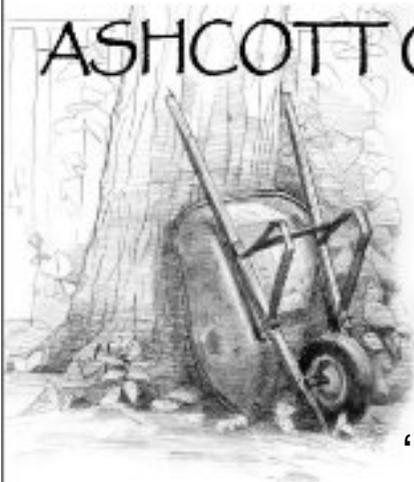
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# ASHCOTT GARDEN CLUB



Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February

7.30pm

in

ASHCOTT  
VILLAGE HALL

‘Somerset Peat History’

Speaker Chris Durston

All welcome

£2.50 for non - members

## *Mothers Day Afternoon Tea*

**Sunday 15th March at Ashcott Village Hall**

***A SPECIAL AFTERNOON TEA***

*with beautiful homemade cakes and scones*

*along with sandwiches and savouries*



All served with Twinings English Breakfast Tea  
(or coffee) in fine bone china



***£15 a head***

*with a little gift for mum!*



*All profits will be split between All Saints Restoration Fund  
and Ashcott Village Hall's hearing loop fund.*

Served from 3.30 to 5.30 and must be booked on

01458 201947 or 01458 210448

# THE ALBION INN

-CAFE/RESTAURANT & TRUCKSTOP-

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CAFÉ OPENING HOURS: MON TO SAT: 8.30AM 2.30PM SUNDAY: 9:00AM 1.00PM

RESTAURANT OPENING HOURS: MON TO THURS: 5:00PM-7.30PM

SUNDAY ROAST: 12PM TO 1PM LOCAL DELIVERY OR TAKEAWAY ONLY. WE OFFER  
BREAKFAST, LUNCH, EVENING MEALS & DAILY SPECIALS

## -TRADITIONAL SUNDAY ROAST-

LOCAL DELIVERY OR TAKE AWAY ONLY FROM 12PM TO 1PM. ORDERS TO BE BOOKED BY  
2PM ON THE FRIDAY TO ENSURE AVAILABILITY.

LOCALLY SOURCED MEAT. SERVED WITH ROAST POTATOES AND PARSNIP, SAGE AND  
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[MELANIEBENNETT@ALBIONINNASHCOTT.COM](mailto:MELANIEBENNETT@ALBIONINNASHCOTT.COM)



# MOBILE LIBRARY



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**NEXT DATES: 3rd FEBRUARY, 3rd & 31st MARCH**

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## PRESSURE WASHING:

- .. Paths,
- .. Decking
- .. Roofs



**WE ALSO OFFER TIP RUNS AND GENERAL  
HOUSE/GARDEN CLEARANCE**

# FREE PROSTATE CANCER TESTING EVENT



**Saturday 21st February 2026, 10am-4pm**  
**Wells Town Hall, Market Place, Wells, BA5 2RB**

Somerset Prostate Support Association is hosting a FREE event on Saturday 21st February 2026 for men aged 40 and over.

Every year in the UK 40,000 men are diagnosed with Prostate Cancer and around 10,000 die from the disease. Early diagnosis can be crucial to successful treatment.

Appointments take 10-15 minutes and **MUST** be **BOOKED ONLINE, IN ADVANCE**. It will **NOT** be possible to be tested on the day without a prior appointment.

All tests are confidential and are carried out by qualified medical

To book your appointment at a time to suit you:-

1. Visit <https://myspatests.org.uk/events/>
2. Register yourself using your email address.
3. Click 'Find an event' - search for SPSA.
4. Select the event, scroll down, choose a convenient time slot and book it.

practitioners.

For any questions regarding the tests please contact Peter Hopwood:- telephone 01458 441669 or email [peterhopwood46@gmail.com](mailto:peterhopwood46@gmail.com).

Donations to SPSA for future testing events will be gratefully received either at the event or via [spsa.uk](https://spsa.uk) where you can donate online.

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on  
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**Doors open @ 7:15pm, Quiz starts @ 8pm**

**Soft drinks & snacks available**

**Bring your own wine & beer**

**Teams up to 8 max**

**Entrance £2 p/p**

**In aid of**

**Ashcott Village Hall (Projector Fund)**

Sorry to be a pain, but we have reworked the scores and I made a mistake in the calculations for the overall quiz champions 2025.

Can you put "Mines a Pint" first then "Mind Your Quizness"

But the Christmas one stays the same. Thanks, Deb.



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# ASHCOTT & PEDWELL W.I.

*TO ALL LADIES LIVING IN ASHCOTT & PEDWELL.*

We would like to invite you to our W.I meetings.  
They are held on the third Thursday of the month  
at 7.30 p.m in Ashcott Village Hall.

We have a monthly speaker giving talks/demonstrations  
on various subjects. Also during the evening we have fun  
quizzes and a great bookshop selling second-hand books  
for £1.

Tea, coffee and cakes are available during our social time.

Visitors are very welcome, there is just a £3 charge for the  
evening and refreshments.

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February 7.30**

**SPEAKER: Nick King**

**TALK: Goats of the Gorge**

For further information please contact:

**ANGELA NUTT (PRESIDENT) 07834 454757**



## Update from Tessa Munt, MP for Ashcott and the surrounding hamlets

Hello everyone,

Now we're well and truly into 2026, I'm flat out representing you, both in Parliament and here in Somerset.

I'm glad there's a reprieve for farming as our campaign to raise the inheritance tax threshold from its £1 million base was supported by many locals, bolstering the calls of farmers who met my colleague

Alistair Carmichael MP, Chair of Parliament's Environment Food and Rural Affairs Select Committee at Yeo Valley Canteen last February. I'll continue to do all I can, alongside my colleagues, to demand the Government scraps this tax in full. Next, it's sorting out fair business rate bills for pubs, hospitality and our High Streets.

Locally, I met farmers to discuss the problems of hare coursing, theft and the serious organised crime which is driving a rise in rural crime incidents in Somerset. Don't hesitate to call 101 if you see something suspicious, and 999 if a crime is in progress - but please don't tackle these situations yourself, as it's not safe to do so.

I'm delighted young people will, from next year, enjoy opportunities to live and study in Europe under a revived Erasmus Scheme. I supported my colleague Al Pinkerton's UK-EU Customs Union Bill through its first reading in Parliament. A new customs union with our 500 million European neighbours would provide a genuine opportunity for growth, reduce our dependence on the US and China and critically, hugely benefit trade here in the South West. There's a long way for the Bill to go before it becomes law, and I'll keep you updated.

At the end of last year, I'd spent days in Committee and meeting Ministers, Government lawyers and Clerks, poring over the detail of the Public Office (Accountability) Bill, better known as the 'Hillsborough Law'. Now I'm in a new round of discussions with Ministers and lawyers, thrashing out the final wording and trying to stop any clauses being left to 'interpretation'. It's critical this legislation is right - not just for the many individuals and families who've suffered appalling injustice when public servants have lied to protect themselves and their organisations, but because failure now might take decades to remedy.

As ever, if you have any concerns or anything you'd like to talk to me about, please write, call or come and see me. I'll be running my regular 'surgeries' throughout 2026, the most local of which are:

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February** from 18:00 – 19:00 at **Ashcott Pub Night**

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February** from 09:00 - 10:00 at **The Bluebird Café, Wedmore**

No appointment is necessary - it's first come, first served. If you can't come to meet me, I'll come to see you.

Thank you.

Tessa

**You can contact me:**

Call: 01934 440639 (answerphone outside office hours)

Email: [tessa.munt.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:tessa.munt.mp@parliament.uk)

Post: Tessa Munt Freepost (you won't need a stamp!)

**To keep updated on my work as your MP, find me on Facebook, Instagram, Bluesky and LinkedIn.**

**You can also contact your Somerset Councillors:**

Matt Martin 07766 382563 [matthew.martin@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.martin@somerset.gov.uk)

Harry Munt 07896 255176 [harry.munt@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:harry.munt@somerset.gov.uk)

# *Focusmont*

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- Loft Conversions
- Garage Conversions
- Granny Annexes
- Conversions of Bungalows to Houses

If you are looking at improving your property, then please contact Ian for a free visit and a no obligation quote.



DO YOU FANCY OUR FISH & CHIPS?  
WE WILL BE AT ASHCOTT VILLAGE HALL  
ON THE FOLLOWING FRIDAYS

*Fancy?*

**13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

**27<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

**13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

**27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

*Fancy?*

YOU CAN ALSO PRE-ORDER BY MESSENGER AND



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WE WILL BE THERE 5:30pm to 8:30pm!!



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to  
Friday**

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# All Saints Annual **PANCAKE COOK**

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February**  
**from 10 am - 12 noon**



We will be cooking and tossing lovely pancakes again this year and would love to see you there. As usual we will do a selection of fillings for your pancake which will cost just £2.50 with a cup of tea or coffee. We will also run a raffle

Please remember to use the side door into the committee room as the table tennis folks will be in the main hall.



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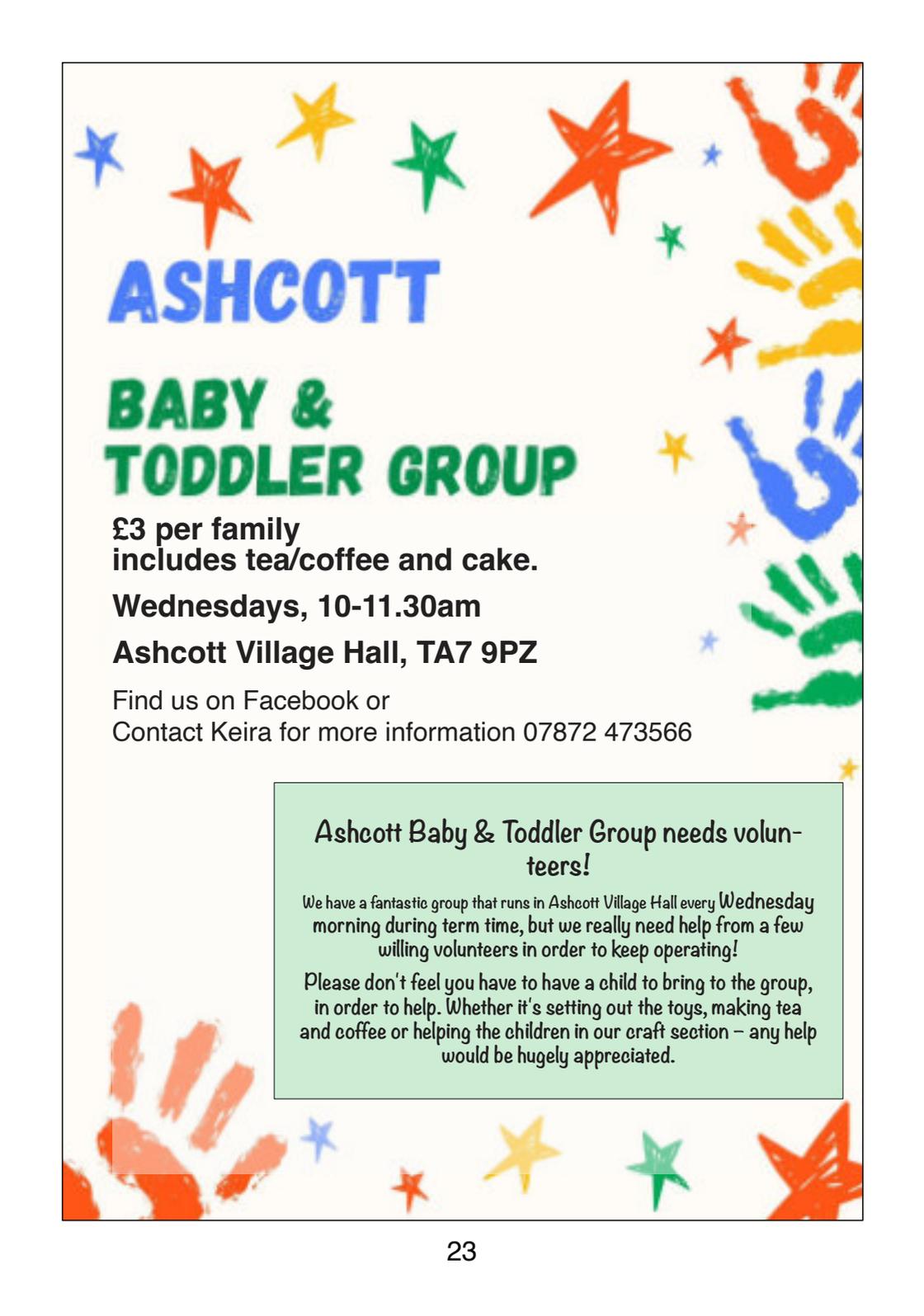
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Call Andy for a free estimate

Ashcott: 01458 210992

Mobile: 07791248049

Email: [info@poldenpropertymaintenance.co.uk](mailto:info@poldenpropertymaintenance.co.uk)



# ASHCOTT

## BABY & TODDLER GROUP

**£3 per family  
includes tea/coffee and cake.**

**Wednesdays, 10-11.30am**

**Ashcott Village Hall, TA7 9PZ**

Find us on Facebook or

Contact Keira for more information 07872 473566

### **Ashcott Baby & Toddler Group needs volunteers!**

We have a fantastic group that runs in Ashcott Village Hall every Wednesday morning during term time, but we really need help from a few willing volunteers in order to keep operating!

Please don't feel you have to have a child to bring to the group, in order to help. Whether it's setting out the toys, making tea and coffee or helping the children in our craft section – any help would be hugely appreciated.

<https://therebelbites.co.uk/>



**ASHCOTT VILLAGE HALL**  
**FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**  
**17:30- 20:00**  
**PRE-ORDER VIA FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM**

**AUTHENTIC GREEK GYROS, FRESHLY MADE,  
 PACKED WITH FLAVOUR,  
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 FRESH, LOCAL INGREDIENTS, COOK WITH PASSION AND PRECISION.  
 JOIN THE REBELLION - ONE BITE AT A TIME!

## **ASHCOTT CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY SCHEME AND CAROL SINGING FOR YOUNG LIVES V CANCER**

It is my pleasure to share with you the amount our village have collected for Young Lives v Cancer through our Christmas Card Delivery Scheme and our village carol singing.

The Card Delivery Scheme made an incredible £825.75. The whole process running like clock-work thanks to our diligent and reliable posties, Jane Morton, Pete and Sam Rendle, Jan Gouldby, Lyn and John Harvey, Geoff Wilton.

Our carol singing was a little tricky and challenging this year due to the unpredictable weather, having to rearrange the night but thanks to the lovely people who gave their evening to support the carol singing, namely Delia, Lyn, David, Jo and Chris we made it well worthwhile collecting £89.05 for the charity. We definitely gave it our best shot.

Once again thank you Fred for your generous invite back for pies and mulled wine, always something to look forward to.

Total sum collected this year was **£914.80**. This is totally amazing and I thank everyone so much for continuing to support this charity each year, which has been running now since 1992. That is a staggering 33 years and over this time Ashcott has helped hundreds of children and their families who find themselves thrown in a whirlwind of fear of the unknown, not to mention financial worries.

Since 1992 we have raised in excess of £23,000 which is something we are extremely proud of.



I do hope you can continue to support this work over the years to come

Ashcott Village Hall  
Saturday 20th June

# MUSIC NIGHT



with local Rock and Roll band **REISSUE**

Doors open 7.30pm • Band from 8.30pm

Tickets £10 available from April  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/ashcott-village-hall](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/ashcott-village-hall)

# COFFEE MORNING

EVERY WEDNESDAY  
10 - 12 AM

ALL SAINTS CHURCH  
ASHCOTT



OPEN TO ALL FOR A COFFEE AND A CHAT

# **ASHCOTT SERVICE CENTRE**

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even MOT's**

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Telephone: 01278 699049

Email: [office@kleenkuttLtd.co.uk](mailto:office@kleenkuttLtd.co.uk)

[www.kleenkutt.co.uk](http://www.kleenkutt.co.uk)



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and from renewable sources

# EXCITING NEWS!



After significant fundraising and a generous donation from the **Miles and Herman Trust**, we are pleased to announce the installation of a new audio-visual system at Ashcott Village Hall.

This improvement includes a projector and screen, making it straightforward for users to display presentations clearly and effectively. It also enhances the quality of film screenings during the Village Hall's monthly film nights.

The Village Hall committee believes this upgrade will facilitate presentations, talks, events, and a variety of other activities for both individuals and groups.

We would like to thank **Jack Cave Electrical** and **Supermix Sound and Lighting** for all their knowledge and efforts.



# STATION

# 2

# STATION

# BAND



(as seen at Ashcott Front Garden Music Festival)

# ASHCOTT VILLAGE HALL

## Saturday 21st March

Doors open 7.30 • Band from 8.30

Tickets £10

**BAR AVAILABLE**

*Book tickets on 01458 210947  
or [www.ticketsource.co.uk/ashcott-village-hall](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/ashcott-village-hall)*

*Guest Caterer BAREFOOT PIZZAS will be attending*

# The Ashcott

**JUDY & NIGEL** ARE YOUR HOSTS UNTIL MID-FEBRUARY  
WHEN NEW MANAGEMENT WILL BE TAKING OVER.  
SO WHY NOT COME ON DOWN FOR A DRINK OR A MEAL.  
MOST OF THE TEAM WILL BE STAYING THE SAME.

## BAR OPEN

TUESDAY - SATURDAY 12 - 2.30PM 5 - 11PM,  
SUNDAY 12 - 10PM

## FOOD SERVED

WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY:  
LUNCH 12 - 2.30PM  
EVENINGS 6 - 9PM  
SUNDAY LUNCH 12 - 4PM

TEL: 01458 767187



## ASHCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

In case you missed it before, there is a new method of contacting  
highways to report faults.

Please report on their portal on this link

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/report-a-problem-on-the-road/>

Month	Meeting Date —7pm on Monday the	Items for the agenda by 5pm on Tuesday the
February	16th	10th
March	16th	10th
April	20th	14th

**A big thank you to everyone who attended Boxing  
Day Brunch or the Christmas quiz. We raised £541  
for the Beacon Ward Redecorating Fund at the  
Beacon Centre Taunton.**

# VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

The following activities listed below regularly take place in the Village. A contact name and telephone number are also given for those requiring further information on any activity.

Ashcott Ladies Rounders Team	Ali Evans	210828
Ashcott Village Hall Committee	Debbie Shingler	210947
Ashcott Parish Council	Vicky Young	860827
Ashcott Garden Club	Trish Hulatt	210861
Playing Field Pavilion Bookings	Paula Willoughby	210523
Ashcott Youth Football	Colin Macpherson	07921210364
Avalon Stitchers	Daphne Willis	07484101425
Coffee Morning - Ashcott Church	Marion Folkes	211246
Ashcott Garden Show	Kay Wensley	210973
Line Dancing (U3A)	Elaine Robertson	01458 840252
Miles & Hurman Trust	Sandra Frampton	210050
Baby & Toddlers	Paula Willoughby	210523
Retired Men's Breakfast Club	Ian Bagg	210770
Pantomime	Sue Wilton	210585
Ashcott Beer Festival	Duncan Cameron	210713
Short Mat Bowls	Jenny Todman	210437
Table Tennis	Peter Rendle	210583
Table Tennis (U3A)	Wendy Fouracres	07890604059
Village Agent	Main Line	01823 331222
W.I.	Angela Nutt	210889
All Saints Church	John Harvey	210562
Ashcott Church Bell Ringers	Henry Routley	210238

If there are any other activities which you may be interested in, and possibly like to help organise, please contact the Chair:  
Debbie Shingler on 210947



# CHURCH NEWS

Hi folks,

Names are important. If you don't believe me – try getting to know someone well without knowing their name! I've embarrassed myself quite a few times when I've failed to remember someone's name when I should know it quite well – I suspect most of us have had that experience at one time or another. Forgetting a name is definitely a barrier towards knowing someone.

There's a lovely passage in the Old Testament, where God speaks to his people through the prophet Isaiah.

*“Fear not, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.*

[Isaiah 43:1, ESV]

The point of it is to express God's intimate care for his people – we are each known by God by name.

As you may know, the six churches of the Polden Wheel (from Ashcott, Burtle, Catcott, Chilton Polden, Edington and Shapwick) will be joined by two more (from Moorlinch and Stawell). **We therefore need a new name** to reflect the new identity!

We are inviting people to come up with suggestions. If you have an idea for one, please let me know ([vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk](mailto:vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk)), or pass one to your local churchwarden, by **Saturday Feb 28<sup>th</sup>**. These will be collected up and sent round to the eight different church friends' groups, who will be able to select their preferred choices. From this, the name preferred by the majority of the friends' groups will become the new benefice name.

Every blessing,

Rich Tweedy

[vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk](mailto:vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk)

