

ISSUE No. 377

MARCH 2026



ASHCOTT & PEDWELL

WHAT'S ON

YOUR MONTHLY VILLAGE GUIDE TO NEWS AND EVENTS



Floods near Huckham Farm

Cherry Mapstone making a splash!

Please supply all items for inclusion in the next edition by the 17th of the month to: 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

01458 210947

HALL SECRETARY: MARTIN TIMMS

01458 210691

BOOKING SECRETARY: MELANIE FRENCH

01458 211182

ASHCOTT VILLAGE HALL MARCH BOOKINGS

* = In Committee Room

= Caterer Outside

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
AM	Line Dancing	Table Tennis	Toddlers	Table Tennis	Table Tennis	Defib training	Private event
PM		Short Mat Bowls			Table Tennis		
Eve	Table Tennis	-	Table Tennis	Knit and Natter*	Pub Night / Pizzas		
	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th
AM	Line Dancing	Table Tennis	Toddlers	Table tennis	Table Tennis		
PM		Short Mat Bowls			Table Tennis		Mothering Sunday afternoon tea in aid of church and hall
Eve	Table Tennis	Garden Club	Table Tennis	Line Dancing VHCommittee*	# Fish & Chips #	Film Night	
	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st	22nd
AM	Line Dancing	Table Tennis		Table tennis	Table Tennis		
PM		Short Mat Bowls			Table Tennis		
Eve	Table Tennis Parish Council*		Table Tennis	WI	# Pitta & Grill #	Station to Station band	
	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th
AM	Line Dancing	Table Tennis	Toddlers	Table Tennis	Table Tennis	Avalon Stitchers	
PM		Short Mat Bowls			Table Tennis	Avalon Stitchers	Quiz
Eve	Table Tennis		Table Tennis		# Fish & Chips #		
	30th	31st					
AM	Line Dancing	Table Tennis					
PM		Short Mat Bowls					
Eve	Table Tennis						



Polden Wheel Church Services March 2026

1st March

9.30 *Catcott*
 11.00 *Chilton Polden*

Lent 2 (Green)

Holy Communion (BCP)
 Informal Worship

Sunday 8th March

9.30 *Burtle*
 11.00 *Ashcott*
 4.00 *Edington*

Lent 3 (Green))

Holy Communion
 Informal Worship**
Sunday Holy Communion

Sunday 15th March

10.00 *Shapwick*
 10.30 *Chilton Polden*

Mothering Sunday (Green)

Café Church
 Holy Communion

Tuesday 17th March

7.00 *Catcott*

A Quiet Service

Sunday 22nd March

9.30 *Shapwick*
 11.00 *Burtle*
 6.30 *Ashcott*

Lent 4 (Green)

Holy Communion
 Informal Worship**
 Holy Communion

Wednesday 25th March

10.00 *Edington*

Holy Communion

Sunday 29th March

11.00 *Ashcott*

Palm Sunday (Red)

Palm Sunday Communion

** *With Polden Praise*



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PUB



NIGHTS

at

Ashcott Village Hall

**Fridays 6th March
and 3rd April**

Bar open 5.30 - 11pm

BAR SNACKS AVAILABLE

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

*We will be serving PIZZAS
in the Hall on these nights!
(with gluten-free options)*

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THURSDAY 2ND APRIL

17:30- 20:00
PRE-ORDER VIA FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM


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PACKED WITH FLAVOUR,
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**A TASTE OF LEBANON
ON THE MOVE.**

*Pitta & Grill serves up fresh wraps,
sandwiches and mezze dishes.*

**Outside Ashcott Village Hall
Friday 20th March 5.30 - 8.00pm**



**Jason is having a sponsored sleep
out in aid of the **GREAT TOMMY
SLEEP OUT** in aid of homeless
veterans and to show their plight.**

**It will be held on the 22nd March and he will be
sleeping on the porch of the Shingler house.**

To sponsor Jason please put your name and address and
amount sponsored on a piece of paper and drop it in to
15 Middle Street, or fill in a form available at the hall.

THE ALBION INN

-CAFE/RESTAURANT & TRUCKSTOP-

-OPENING TIMES-

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

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

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

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PHONE (01458) 781109

MELANIEBENNETT@ALBIONINNASHCOTT.COM



ASHCOTT GARDEN CLUB

Tuesday 10th March

7.30pm

in

ASHCOTT
VILLAGE HALL

Talk by
Archaeobotanist
Samuel Fieldhouse

All welcome

£2.50 for non - members

HOW DOES THE VILLAGE HALL KEEP GOING?

You may have asked yourself this question. You may have wondered.

It costs around £26,000 to make sure it's there for all of you to use. Is that a surprise? These costs are for cleaning, utilities (gas, electricity, water, broadband), insurance, maintenance, and other smaller expenses.

Where do we find the money to cover these costs?

Our regular income (this year shown) comes from people who hire the Hall (£14,500), a grant from the Parish Council (£1,100), our solar panels (£1,400), and some other income, mainly donations (£3,700).

The remaining £6,000 needed to balance the books, which is not a predictable amount, comes from the Panto (this year was a good year, £3,400) and our own fundraising (£2,400). So we start every year knowing we need to find a minimum of £6,000 and the Panto income and our fundraising are not guaranteed to be this high. On top of this the cost of everything, as we all know, is going up every year.

So, a plea to finish with! When you see something is being organised at the Hall, do come and support it. Remember events like the Pub Nights, Film Nights and some of the quizzes all raise money for the Hall. Every pound you spend supporting the Hall helps it to keep going.

If you don't support it, then it may not be here in years to come because we might not be able to meet the costs, and you won't be able to have your birthday parties, wakes and other private events here. Please bear this in mind and give the Hall your support.

D.J. SERVICES

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ALSO OFFERING:

- .. Gardening
- .. Lawn Mowing
- .. Weeding
- .. Hedge Cutting
- .. General Maintenance



PRESSURE WASHING:

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



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HOUSE/GARDEN CLEARANCE**

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ON A TUESDAY - 11.10 -11.30 EVERY 4 WEEKS

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Mothering Sunday Afternoon Tea



Sunday 15th March
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
(Children under 14 £10)
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*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
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Since 2014

Ashcott Village Hall

on

Sunday 29th March

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

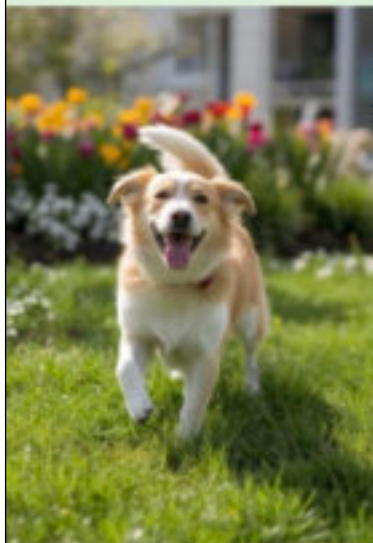
All Saints Church, Ashcott

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- ✓ Local based service



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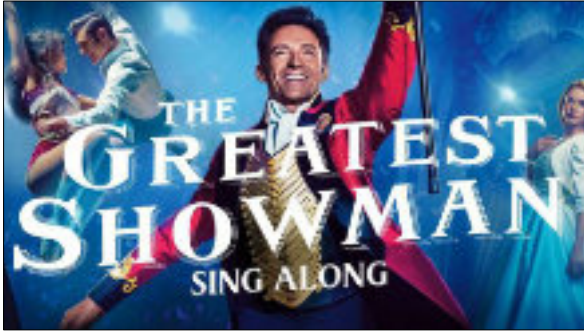
Call/Text/WhatsApp

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Limited availability for Ashcott routes

Ashcott Film Night presents...

Saturday 14th March



Doors open 2pm
Film starts 2.30pm

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Showing***

Confectionery

Doors open 7pm
Film starts 7.30pm

**Free
Showing***

Bar/Confectionery



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or Via our Facebook Page

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



It was fab to meet up with Martin and Eleanor Thatcher at the National Association of Cider Makers' event in Parliament. Martin is the NACM's Chair and he spoke passionately about the importance of cider-making and its contribution to the environment and the economy. Cider-makers need details of changes to

labelling and recycling regulations so they can plan and prepare for the future, and I'll do what I can to press Ministers to explain exactly what's wanted and by when.

Whilst the Government has partially reversed its disastrous Budget announcement on Business Rates rises for pubs and other hospitality venues, it's clear more support for the wider tourist industry is needed, so my colleagues and I will continue to raise this with Ministers.

Having received messages from local Childminders, I pressed the Treasury to reinstate the 10% wear and tear tax allowance for this group of workers. Their homes are put through their paces with children's potty training, learning to eat with a knife and fork, drinking from an open cup and indoor play. It's important that this allowance is reinstated or an alternative put in place for those who offer home-based childcare.

I'm honoured to have been elected Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on ME. Since becoming your MP, I've pressed the Government to reverse decades of neglect for those with this condition. I'll work with colleagues cross Party so ME receives the long overdue investment into research it needs.

I've continued my work on the Public Office (Accountability) Bill (known as the 'Hillsborough Law'). Yet again, the Government has rejected Amendment 23, which would require a High Court Judge to decide - in closed session - what safeguards should be in place and how much security and intelligence information can be passed on to an Inquiry, Inquest, Investigation or Independent Panel. This happens

now, so it's not difficult. The Hillsborough families, amongst others, have been fighting for this for 35 years. Experience tells them the law must insist everyone in public office tells the truth. No ifs, no buts.

Thank you if you've written or spoken to me to share your views, concerns and to ask questions. I take the issues you raise with me to Westminster and press for changes wherever they're needed.

As ever, if you have anything you'd like to raise, please contact me. A full list of my surgeries is available when you call or email me, but these are your most local:

Wednesday 4th March from 19:00 to 20:00 at **The Windmill Bar & Bistro, Edithmead**

Friday 6th March from 12:00 to 13:00 at **The Brent Knoll Inn, East Brent**

Friday 6th March from 18:00 to 19:00 at **The Pub Night, Village Hall, Ashcott**

Friday 13th March from 16:00 to 17:00 at **The Beer Shed, East Huntspill**

Saturday 14th March from 09:00 to 10:00 at **The Bluebird Café, Wedmore**

Saturday 21st March from 13:00 to 14:00 at **Leather & Lace Bar & Grill, Chilton Polden**

Friday 27th March from 15:30 to 16:30 at **The Wellington Arms, Rooksbridge**

Monday 30th March from 13:30 to 14:30 at **Rich's Cider Farm, Watchfield**

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

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

Harry Munt 07896 255176 harry.munt@somerset.gov.uk

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- Granny Annexes
- Conversions of Bungalows to Houses

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ON THE FOLLOWING FRIDAYS

Fancy?

13TH MARCH

Fancy?

27TH MARCH

10TH APRIL

24TH APRIL

YOU CAN ALSO PRE-ORDER BY MESSENGER AND



@fancy_fishandchips



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

THE
**CURIOUS
INCIDENT**

OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME

Based on the best
selling novel by Mark
Haddon and adapted
for the stage by
Simon Stephens.



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theatre
company

STRODE THEATRE, 18th - 21st March 2026

Wednesday 18th March opening night offer all tickets £12 (no concessions)

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Box office 01458 442846

Book online: www.strodetheatre.org.uk

This amateur production of "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd. www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

Street Theatre Company brings you this electrifying stage adaptation of Mark Haddon's beautiful, moving and funny book – a story that captured the heart of millions.

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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
March	16th	10th
April	20th	14th
May	18th	12th
June	15th	9th



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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.

If you can offer any help to keep this group thriving,
please contact Keira on 07872 473566.

Thank you!

Calling all Footpath Walkers

We will be meeting again to begin walking the local footpaths on

Wednesday 8th April

Meeting in Ashcott Churchyard

At 7.00pm



We would really love to see old friends as well as anyone new who would like to join us.

It is a really lovely way to spend Spring and Summer evenings, starting with shorter walks, then as daylight permits, the option of shorter or longer walks to your choice.

This is a great way to meet people, have a chat along the way and find new places around our Village.

EVERYONE WELCOME

The object of our walks is to ensure all our footpaths are kept open, and we try to do a bit of clearing as we go. Please can we ask that you do not bring your dogs on these walks because of cattle in the fields, stiles etc.

We look forward to seeing you at the start of the new season,
which we hope will be dry !!

Any queries please ring Peter Rendle 210583

Tanya

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- ✓ Liability insurance and training up to date

Ashcott Village & surrounding area

Friendly, confidential enquiries welcome

Text or WhatsApp

Call me on 07477 929399



Another chance to attend Ashcott and surrounding villages defibrillator and CPR training

Saturday 7th March 11am at Ashcott Village Hall.

All welcome



This easy and friendly training will empower individuals to act confidently if someone is having a cardiac arrest or similar incident and therefore potentially save lives. **The training lasts about an hour and a half and is run by the South Western Ambulance Service with tea and coffee afterwards.**

The defibrillator located outside the village hall is designed to be easy to use and the machine talks you through the actions to take. The machine is checked regularly. However, coming to the short training helps you to respond quickly and effectively. The process is the same for machines locally.

The training often includes CPR instruction, a useful skill to be able to call on in a variety of situations, at home, the supermarket, on the football field etc.

This training is especially useful for the work place, community groups, sports clubs and schools as well as the general public.

Please join us for a refresher or for the first time.

BELFRY COFFEE MORNING



EVERY WEDNESDAY 10 - 12 AM

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Open to all for a coffee and a chat

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All our wood is locally produced
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ASHCOTT & PEDWELL W.I.

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 19th March 7.30

SPEAKER: Jan McNeil

TALK: Fun with Scarves

For further information please contact:

ANGELA NUTT (PRESIDENT) 07834 454757

Saturday 21st March **Get Ready, Get Dancin'**

ASHCOTT VILLAGE HALL

A premier band from Weston-Super-Mare
As seen at the Ashcott Front Garden Music Festival



STATION 2 STATION BAND

Playing all the hits and more!

Doors open 7:30 - Band from 8:30
BAR & 'BAREFOOT PIZZAS'

Tickets **£10** available from 01458 210947 or
www.ticketsource.co.uk/ashcott-village-hall

ATKINSON GALLERY 25 FEB - 21 MAR 2026
 WED TO SAT | 9.30 AM - 5.00 PM

BETWEEN THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA
 90 Years of Jazz and Surrealism

R THE REIFF COLLECTION

 **MILLFIELD**



MEYER THEATRE 

MILLFIELD WHAT'S ON
 SPRING 2026 

 **CONSTELLATIONS**
 DANCE & DRAMA SHOWCASE
 5 MARCH 2026
 7.15 PM

MILESTONES
 GCSE DRAMA SCRIPTED PERFORMANCE
 12 MARCH 2026
 6.00 PM 

 **KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN**
 A LEVEL DRAMA SCRIPTED PERFORMANCE
 20 MARCH 2026
 6.00 PM

14+ 



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
Belfry 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,

It is raining while I write. That will not surprise you given how much it has rained since the start of the year – and the Met Office says this may continue for the next month!

Intriguingly, many journalists have called the rainfall ‘biblical’. This is a reference to the floods of Noah in Genesis chapters 6 to 8, in which the rain fell continuously for 40 days and 40 nights.



There are some Christians who insist on understanding Noah’s flood as being global. However, a closer understanding of the original language used suggests something else. We in the 21st century west naturally understand the phrase “the whole earth” to mean “the whole globe” – but four millennia ago even the roundness of the Earth was not recognised, and the landmasses and animal life of places like America and Australia had not been discovered. Instead “the whole earth” corresponded to “the whole land of Israel”, and was consistently used that way in the Bible. (To check this out, Google “Gavin Ortlund flood”).

The extensive flooding that we’re seeing today demonstrates just how destructive such flooding can be. Imagine how catastrophic it would be in a world without the weather forecasting, news coverage, communication and transportation that we take for granted today!

Every blessing,
Rich Tweedy
vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk