

ISSUE No 378

APRIL 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
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 APRIL BOOKINGS

* = In Committee Room # = Caterer Outside

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
AM			Toddlers	Table Tennis	Table Tennis		
PM					Table Tennis		
Eve		-	Table Tennis	* Knit and Natter* # Rebel Bites Greek	Pub Night & MP # Pizza in the Hall #		
	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
AM		Table Tennis		Table tennis	Table Tennis		
PM		Short Mat Bowls			Table Tennis		Private event
Eve	Table Tennis		Table Tennis	Line Dancing *VH Committee*	# Fish & Chips #	Film Night	
	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th
AM	Line Dancing	Table Tennis		Table tennis	Table Tennis	Table Tennis Tournament	Table Tennis
PM		Short Mat Bowls			Table Tennis	"	
Eve	Table Tennis		Table Tennis	W.I.			
	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th
AM	Line Dancing	Table Tennis	Toddlers	Table Tennis	Table Tennis	Avalon Stitchers	
PM		Short Mat Bowls			Table Tennis	Avalon Stitchers	Private event
Eve	Table Tennis *PCC*		Table Tennis		# Fish & Chips #		Quiz
	27th	28th	29th	30th	1st MAY	-	-
AM	Line Dancing	Table Tennis	Toddlers	Table Tennis	Table Tennis	-	-
PM		Short Mat Bowls			Table Tennis	-	-
Eve	Table Tennis		Table Tennis		Music Quiz # Fernandos #	-	-



Polden Wheel Church Services April 2026

Friday 3rd April

2.00 *Shapwick*

Good Friday

Stations of the Cross

Sunday 5th April

6.30 *Ham Wall*

Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service

9.30 *Catcott*

Easter Holy Communion

11.00 *Ashcott*

Easter Holy Communion

Sunday 12th April

Easter 2

11.00 *Chilton Polden*

Informal Worship **

Sunday 19th April

Easter 3

10.00 *Shapwick*

Café Church

10.30 *Chilton Polden*

Holy Communion

Tuesday 21st April

7.00 *Catcott*

A Quiet Service

Wednesday 22nd April

10.00 *Edington*

Holy Communion

Sunday 26th April

Easter 4

9.30 *Shapwick*

Holy Communion

11.00 *Burtle*

Informal Worship

11.00 *Edington*

Informal Worship**

6.30 *Ashcott*

Holy Communion

Sunday 3rd May

Easter 5

9.00 *Catcott*

Holy Communion (BCP)

– *please note the earlier time*

10.0 *Moorlinch**

Holy Communion

**The new Bishop of Taunton, Fiona Gibson, is taking this service at St. Mary's Church, Moorlinch and we have been to join them.*

** *With Polden Praise*

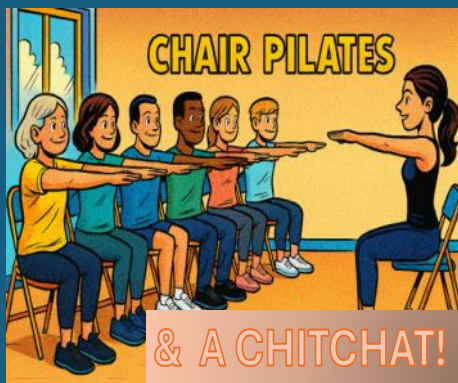


BODYKRAFT
PILATES

Please contact Sarah Jones –
07971 056 744
or bodykraft@jonesplace.co.uk
if you wish to sign up for the class.

Classes will begin on 17th April.

Fridays; 10.45 am – 12 noon @
Ashcott playing fields pavilion - £10 per session



Chair Pilates class for 45 minutes and then for those that wish to stay,
30 minutes of socialising with a cup of tea. Come along with a friend 😊

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VILLAGE HALL PUBLIC EVENTS AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY 2ND APRIL **KNIT & NATTER** 7-9pm in the Committee Room
(1st Thursday of the month)
THE REBEL BITES - Greek outside 5:30-8pm

FRIDAY 3RD APRIL **PUB NIGHT & PIZZAS** 5:30 -11:00
(plus Tessa Munt MP Surgery 6-7pm)

FRIDAY 10TH APRIL **FANCY FISH & CHIPS** outside 5:0 - 8:30

SAT 11TH APRIL **FILM NIGHT** Song Sung Blue 7:00 for 7:30 start
(See page9)

FRI 24TH APRIL **FANCY FISH & CHIPS** outside 5:0 - 8:30

FRI 1ST MAY **THE BIG MUSIC QUIZ** 7pm for 8pm start.
Bar available (please don't bring your own)
Fernandos - Shri-Lankan Food outside 5:30-8pm
(see page 31)



Please Note:

Advertisements in this publication have not been verified.

We cannot accept responsibility for the quality or reliability of any services / products advertised.

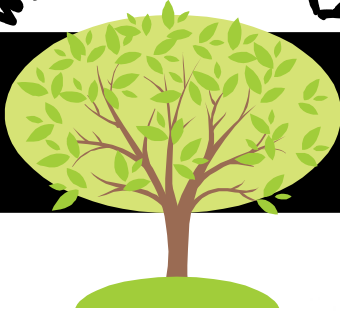
Readers should make their own checks before proceeding.

Advertisers:

Please ensure there is good contrast between your wording and background when submitting a colour design as this magazine is printed in **BLACK & WHITE**.

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-CAFE/RESTAURANT & TRUCKSTOP-

-OPENING TIMES-

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

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-TRADITIONAL SUNDAY ROAST-

LOCAL DELIVERY OR TAKE AWAY ONLY FROM 12PM TO 1PM. ORDERS TO BE BOOKED BY
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MELANIEBENNETT@ALBIONINNASHCOTT.COM



Ashcott Film Night Presents...



Saturday 11th April

Doors open 7pm – Film starts at 7.30pm

Tickets £5 per person

BAR | Confectionery

Tickets are available by emailing:

AshcottFilmNight@outlook.com or by

Phoning 01458 210437 or Via our Facebook
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Wed -Sat 12-3 & 5-10:30
Sunday 12-8

Food Served:
Wed -Sat 12-2:30 & 6-9
Sunday 12-6

Holly, Yvonne and the team would like to invite
the village, to our **Grand Opening Party**
on the **23rd of April!**

We have a live acoustic from Ryan Haynes,
complimentary drinks and food.



We hope to see you there!



KEEPING YOUR VILLAGE HALL GOING

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

Our regular income (this year shown) comes from those who hire the Hall (£14,500), a grant from the Parish Council (£1,100), solar panels (£1,400), and other income, mainly donations (£3,700). The remaining £6,000 needed to balance the books, (not a predictable amount) comes from the Panto (this year, £3,400) and our own fundraising (£2,400). So, we start every year knowing we need to find a minimum of £6,000.

The Panto income and our fundraising are not guaranteed to be this high. As you know, the cost of everything goes up every year.

When you see something is being organised at the Hall, please do come and support it. 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.

To ensure this facility is here in years to come for your birthday parties, receptions, wakes and other private events please give the Hall your support.



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PUB NIGHT

at

Ashcott Village Hall

Friday 3rd April

Bar open 5.30 - 11pm

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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 7.30p.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 16th April @ 7.30pm
79th Birthday! - Bring & Share Supper

SPEAKER: Heather Eggins

TALK: Belly Dancing

For further information please contact:

ANGELA NUTT (PRESIDENT) 07834454757

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



Hello everyone,

Thank you - many of you wrote to me about banning social media for the under 16s. This is beyond party politics. Government must do far more to hold social media companies to account for protecting our children and young people, whose health and welfare should come before these giants' mega-profits.

Here in Somerset, I joined a South West Ambulance Service crew on shift. It was humbling to spend time with this dedicated team and I learned a lot about their jobs. The Health Secretary praised our Ambulance Service in Parliament for its improved response times in December.

Whilst at A&E, local Paramedic Science graduates explained how difficult it was to find a job. Only 8 of 120 graduates from their year at Uni have found work in their chosen field. Back in Westminster, I questioned the Health Secretary about this problem, which he acknowledged.

In Parliament, I've asked the Cancer Minister about collecting data so we understand cancer treatment waiting times better – often radiotherapy is followed by surgery or by a course of drugs, but only the first treatment target is measured which distorts the statistics for response times.

I voiced my dismay at yet another Government apology for WASPI women as Ministers decided not to pay a penny in compensation for the mistreatment of this group. At £1,000 to £2,950 for each woman affected, it's hardly a high cost for justice.

I've also asked about:

* building on flood plains and the risk to future insurance cover for homes

- * Parole Board hearings, an alleged leak of Court reporting data, planned reductions in jury trials
- * freehold and leasehold changes for residents in care-led retirement living apartments
- * MPs' votes on the Gibraltar Treaty
- * treatment for those with severe and very severe ME
- * releasing the records relating to Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor's appointment as a UK Trade Envoy
- * ceasing Bereavement Support Payments after 18 months for widowed parents, especially those with very young children

If you have a concern or question, please contact me or come to a 'surgery'. The most local venues are below, but my office can will you the full list:

Friday 3rd April from 18:00 to 19:00 at **The Pub Night, Village Hall, Ashcott**

Friday 10th April from 11:00 to 12:00 at **The Hub Café, East Brent**

Saturday 11th April from 09:00 to 10:00 at **The Bluebird Café, Wedmore**

Saturday 11th April from 10:30 to 11:30 at **Café Burtle, Village Hall, Burtle**

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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- 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.



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WE WILL BE AT ASHCOTT VILLAGE HALL
ON THE FOLLOWING FRIDAYS

Fancy?

10TH APRIL

24TH APRIL

8TH MAY

22ND MAY

Fancy?

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ASHCOTT VILLAGE HALL

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17:30- 20:00

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**Deb's
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Ashcott Village Hall
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Sunday 26th April

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Soft drinks & snacks available

Bring your own wine & beer

Teams up to 8 max

Entrance £2 p/p

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Cancer care

Tanya

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Ashcott Village & surrounding area

Friendly, confidential enquiries welcome

Text or WhatsApp

Call me on **07477 929399**





HELP US

BUY A NEW HEARING LOOP FOR THE HALL

The Village Hall needs a new hearing loop system. After a lot of comments from people with hearing aids we have decided to get a new system.

This is going to cost around £2,000. We know we have some financial support for it, but we need more contributions to this project. We are asking groups, regular hirers and individuals to help fund this.

Maybe you have trouble hearing or know someone who does.

Maybe you hire the Hall regularly and have members who have this problem.

All contributions, large or small, will be welcome.

If you would like to give something, contact Debbie Shingler (Chair) on 01458 210947 or Martin Timms (Secretary) on 01458 210691.

BELFRY COFFEE MORNING



EVERY WEDNESDAY 10 - 12 AM

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, ASHCOTT



Open to all for a coffee and a chat

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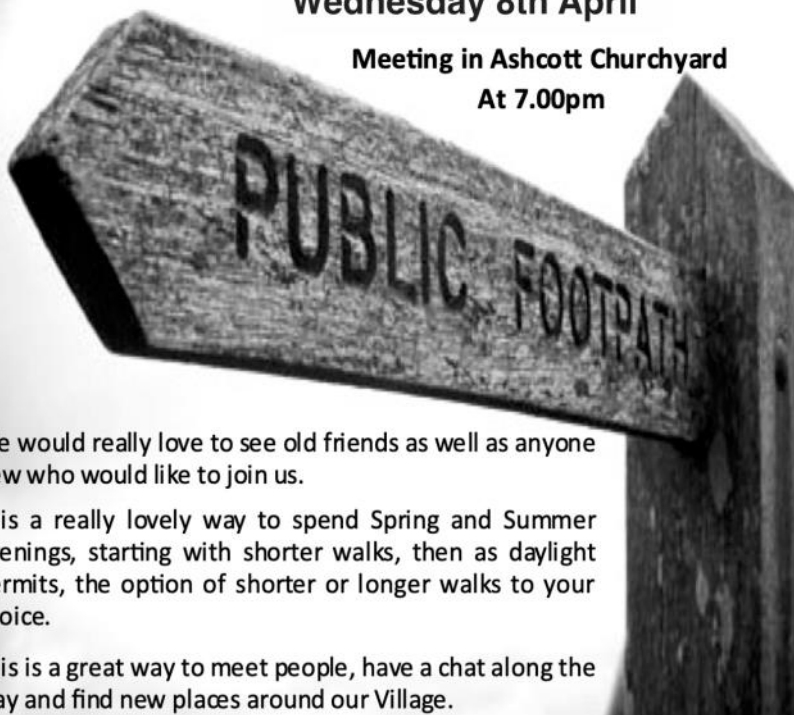
Calling all Footpath Walkers

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



JOIN US TO CELEBRATE 60 YEARS

SATURDAY 9TH MAY 2026

12PM TO 3PM

Ashcott School Playing Fields

**BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC
ICE LOLLIES
INFLATABLES
BAKE SALE
REFRESHMENTS
ACTIVITIES FOR ALL THE FAMILY**



Please share any photographs you may have
from the last 60 years of Cheeky Chimps either
to the team or email

cheekychimpschair@outlook.com

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of Reading 2026

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THE BUS STOPS AT THE TOP OF MIDDLE STREET
ON A TUESDAY 11:10 - 11:30, EVERY 4 WEEKS

NEXT DATES:

28th APRIL 26th MAY & 23rd JUNE

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Tel: 07915 659434

Email address: solefunctionpodiatry@gmail.com



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THE BIG MUSIC QUIZ NIGHT

at
ASHCOTT VILLAGE HALL
Friday 1st May

We are delighted to have **Clive** (from the famous Rotary music quiz) hosting an evening for our fundraiser for a new hearing loop for the Village Hall.

Teams of 6, £5 pp

BAR available (please don't bring your own)

Fernando's Shri-Lankan food available from 5.30 to 8pm

Doors open at 7pm Quiz starts 8pm

Booking in advance recommended

To book tables please call Debbie on 210947
or Pete Cole on 210445

Large raffle too!



FERNANDO'S
THE SRI-LANKAN GOURMET

We will be serving at
Ashcott Village Hall
on

Friday 1st May

5:30—8:00pm

Vegan Kotthu 8

Chicken Kotthu 10
->Chicken thigh cooked with SL spices

Black Pork Kotthu 12
-> Slow cooked pork belly with black curry powder

(Kotthu -> Stir fried chopped SL flat bread
with Leeks and Carrots)

Vegan Rice Box (GF) 10
->Dhal with spinach/ Carrot salad/ Caramelised onion

Meat Rice Box (GF) 13
->Chicken or Pork/
Carrot salad/ Caramelised onion

Chickpeas (GF) 7
->Stir fried with fresh coconut chunks and Curry leaves

Add Cheese for Kotthu 2

ASHCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Dear All,

Installation of Dog Waste Bins

The Parish Council have installed 3 dog waste bins in the Parish.

These are red bins and located
in Chestnut Lane, Whitley Lane and Pedwell Lane.
Please do not use the general litter bins for dog waste.

Reporting potholes & highways issues

Please report these direct to County Highways on the link
below. The Parish Council has no 'short-cut'
method of reporting them. Given the detail required you can the
pinpoint the precise location of the fault
you wish to report when filling in the online form.
[https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/report-
a-problem-on-the-road/](https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/report-a-problem-on-the-road/)

Be Safe, Be Seen

Concern has been raised that in low light it is difficult to see
people walking in the road.
Please 'Be Safe, Be Seen'. The evenings are drawing out but the
light is still disappearing quickly at
sunset – so please take care.

The Parish Council's new email address is

clerk@ashcotparrishcouncil.gov.uk.

Dates for Upcoming Meetings

Month	Meeting Date –7pm On Monday the	Items for the agenda by 5pm on Tuesday the
APRIL	20th	14h
MAY	18th	10th
JUNE	15th	9th

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 would possibly like to help organise, please contact the Chair: Debbie Shingler on 01458 210947



CHURCH NEWS

Hi folks,

The former Bishop of Durham, David Jenkins, famously compared belief in the bodily resurrection as a “conjuring trick with bones”. It was a clever sound-bite which stirred plenty of debate. However, I think he was fundamentally misguided in what he said, in so many ways.

It's clear from the gospels that the resurrection that was witnessed by the disciples was indeed bodily. In Luke's gospel, the resurrected Jesus ate a piece of broiled fish; in John's gospel, Thomas (the doubter) placed his hands in Jesus' wounds.

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet... He asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence. [Lk 24:40-43, NIV]

The point of the bodily resurrection is that it shows that God is supernaturally sovereign over even death itself. Even the evil that led to God's own son dying on the cross was defeated. The physicality of the resurrection means that we can recognise it as an objective, historical event – not just some kind of group hallucination.

We may struggle to make sense of the evil going on in the world today – but if God has shown that he can defeat death itself, then we can have hope, despite whatever fear we may be experiencing as a result of global politics.

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

