



## Dear Parishioner

Although we are now gradually emerging from the Corona Virus lockdown it has been an unprecedented experience for most Parishioners.

As a fairly dispersed community, thankfully there does not appear to have been any major medical or social complications. By and large, with help where needed, residents seem to have coped fairly well and grateful thanks are due to all those who have assisted neighbours and friends to overcome essential supply and communication difficulties.

As we are constantly reminded by the Government however that Covid-19 is still in circulation and failing to comply with formal guidance, even inadvertently, could result in a new spike of infection with reimposed restrictions.

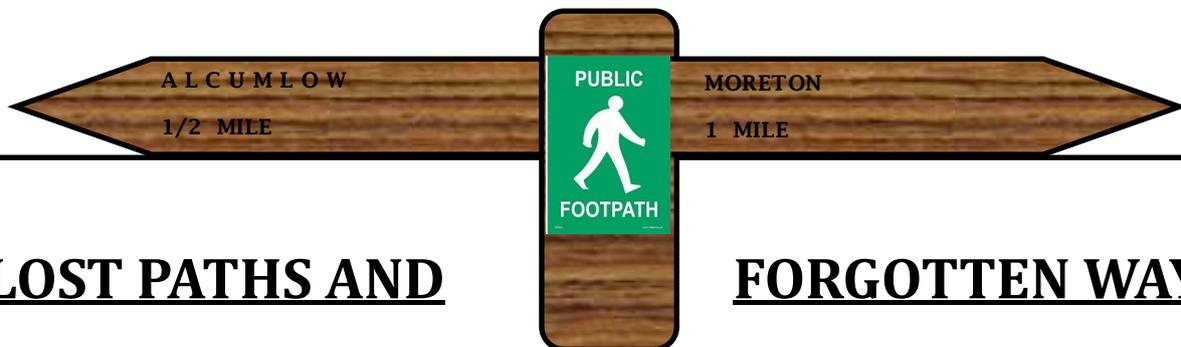
Many Parish businesses have been seriously affected by the lockdown and residents are encouraged to support the local economy as things return to the "new normal".

Have there been any apparent changes or events possibly consequent on or linked to the lockdown and restrictions? Certainly fly tipping has increased, probably due to closure of CE Waste Sites, along with a huge upsurge in recreational walking and cycling on the Parishes footpaths and lanes. Also a spate of traffic accidents has occurred in the Parishes over the last two weeks, tragically including two fatalities.

The Parish Council continues to function in virtual Zoom meetings on the second Wednesday of each month and Parishioners are welcome to contact the Clerk with any concerns and issues.

Remain vigilant and mindful of others in the Community.

*John Carter*  
Chairman



## LOST PATHS AND

## FORGOTTEN WAYS

DO YOU REMEMBER that there was once a footpath in Astbury or Moreton parish - but it is not there any longer? If you do, the Parish Council wants to hear from you. This is because unless we claim these paths before January 2026 the right to do so will be extinguished, according to the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW).

Cheshire East has an interactive map on its website, and you can check if the footpath or route that you used to walk is on it. If it isn't, the PC wants to look into claiming it as a footpath.

How is that done? Proof is documentary, such as old maps, and/or personal - statements from people. Local knowledge that goes back a few years would be useful here. The paths must have existed before 1949 - a previous Countryside Act - but old maps can help prove their existence before that date.

Some Parish Councillors already know some footpaths that have disappeared and have old maps to support their case, as well as personal testimony. We want to hear from YOU to help to verify any paths you know about.

The impetus to do this work has come from appeals by the Ramblers, who are also doing work on it throughout the country, which is a huge job, and we are liaising with them. There is useful information on their website, and on that of the Peak and Northern Footpaths Society.

We as a PC know that the countryside is under a lot of pressure now from increased use. This Act aims to give final certainty to landowners and the public as to what footpaths there are. Landowners can make a Declaration about the footpaths on their land by an application to the PROW section of Cheshire East. It can take years to get these applications considered so we need to start now!

Please contact the clerk, Julie Mason, with your suggestions.

Clerks address for any correspondence: 2, Fields View Rd., Somerford, Congleton, Cheshire. CW12 4UG

Clerks email for any correspondence: [jmasonparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:jmasonparishclerk@gmail.com)

Or [phill.critchlow@astbury-parish.org.uk](mailto:phill.critchlow@astbury-parish.org.uk) OR [barbara.jelf@astbury-parish.org.uk](mailto:barbara.jelf@astbury-parish.org.uk)

### A Message from the Astbury Community Events Team

Unfortunately, this year's "ASTonBURY" music and beer festival has, like many other events, been cancelled, due to the Covid crisis.

Organising group ACE (Astbury Community Events) say it is particularly regrettable as this would have been our 10th anniversary and we were planning a fantastic programme of attractions, including music to appeal to all ages and tastes (not forgetting the usual wide selection of artisan ales supplied from local breweries) to celebrate.

Hopefully, we will be back next summer and we shall look forward to welcoming festival-goers old and new once more.

### Astbury WI

Although we are unable to meet as a group, many of us are in contact with each other checking in on one another and brightening our days with a pleasant chat. Some of us now belong to a WI WhatsApp group which keeps us all in touch too. Any of our members, or prospective members who would like to keep in touch in this way, are welcome to contact us.

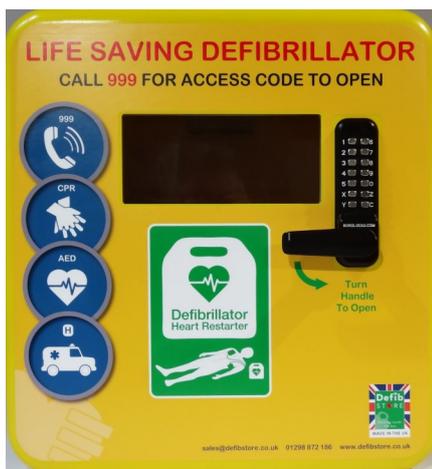
We were fortunate to be able to hold our March Meeting just before lockdown. Our speaker, David Hext, was excellent and gave us a pleasant memory to look back on. In April we should have listened to Daniel Williams and sampled some of his excellent cheeses. In May we would have held a Fish and Chip Supper following our annual Resolution Meeting when we would have discussed and voted on this year's resolutions for the National Federation AGM at the Royal Albert Hall, which would have been held this week. Our June Speaker was to have been Carol Redfern from Blood Bikes Manchester. We hope to rebook any speakers whom we have been forced to cancel in this time of crisis for our next years program. Our speaker on July 1<sup>st</sup> would have been Alison Calder from The Bubbly Wine Company and some of us we're looking forward to the odd sip at a free sample. Also this July we had planned to hold an afternoon tea with entertainment, which reflected our 80 years as a group. We shall hope to carry over our theme of Celebration into 2021.

Jean Harding, Chairman of the Cheshire Federation was brave enough to go live on their Facebook page. She encouraged us all to stay in touch by whatever means was best for us, just as we are doing at Astbury. She is keen that all Cheshire WIs should make a scrapbook of their lock down activities for their archive. If members would like to contribute a memory of this time (handwritten or typed) or some pictures, you can send them to our Secretary, Liz Edmunds, who will collate them. Those members who wish to make their own scrapbook of their activities, thoughts and feelings for the time of the pandemic are encouraged to do so. We will have a scrapbook competition when we can meet again. Sadly too, we shall have to postpone our Coffee Morning, planned for September, because even if the library is open by that point we shall be unable to collect the goods for sale in time to make it the resounding success we usually enjoy. We, at Astbury celebrate, our 80<sup>th</sup> birthday as WI this year, so we were hoping to make it a year of celebration with lots of plans in the pipeline, which will not now come to fruition, but in the words of Her Majesty The Queen, we will meet again when all this is over and the celebrations for us will be twofold.



Ring Liz on 07766738004 or Margaret on 07581095418 for further information or updates.

*left: Captain (now Colonel) Tom Moore knitted in lockdown by Elaine Hancock. below: Members clapping rhythms at our March Meeting: left to right Cynthia Garside, Sheila Norman, Margaret Pennington and Yvonne Walker.*



### Brownlow defibrillator now at The Smithy

Our Brownlow defibrillator, formerly at the Brownlow Inn, has now been installed at The Smithy on Brownlow Heath Lane. The Parish Council is extremely grateful to Austen Pickles, the manager of Performance Ticket Printers Ltd at The Smithy, for supporting this. **You do not need a code to access it, it is available 24 hours a day.**



# ASTBURY CHURCH NEWS

## A message from our new Rector Revd. Anne-Marie Naylor.

"I am looking around me in wonder at being in such a beautiful place. A famous Jesuit priest called Gerry Hughes once wrote a book called "God of Surprises". Nobody was more surprised than me when God called to be a parish priest - in fact the idea seemed so ridiculous that I pushed it away for years. Callings have a way of being insistent! While this was niggling away at me, I held a lot of lay positions in churches, particularly in adult teaching - and so another surprise was when a true love of storytelling and being at school emerged. And then after training for priesthood I assumed that I would be working in a city centre, following my previous career as a forensic accountant - so it is another surprise to be here in the parish of Astbury. The point about these kind of surprises is that we end up in better situations than we could ever have imagined for ourselves.



Sometimes life throws us nasty surprises as well as good ones. As your parish priest I am here for everyone, at all these times. Whatever you believe doesn't matter to me. I will pray if you want me to, help you make sense of it, or just sit with you when it doesn't. Especially as we weather the storms of Covid-19, church and community are better together. I look forward to better times of celebration - and I have heard you have some good ones!"

### THE GREAT TREE IN ASTBURY

Framed and Canvas versions of the Great Tree in Astbury, illuminated to support the fabulous work of the NHS.

All profits to ECHO (the charity of the East Cheshire NHS Trust) and the fund to replace the lighting at St Mary's Church - the "Church Illumination Fund".

Canvas - £30 (size 30cm x 40cm)

Framed A4 print - £45 (Black or Light Oak Frame)



For orders please email [nigelkirby@icloud.com](mailto:nigelkirby@icloud.com) or 07592 651108



**NIGEL KIRBY**  
PHOTOGRAPHY

As of 10th. June, £430.00 had so far been raised towards the New Church Lights Illumination fund. Every penny counts!



**Astbury  
School  
News**

Astbury School has continued to provide a nurturing environment despite lockdown. Children and families have been supported by staff during their experience of a new normal during the pandemic. Parents have taken some amazing photographs (see pictures above) of their children's varied learning experiences over the last three months.

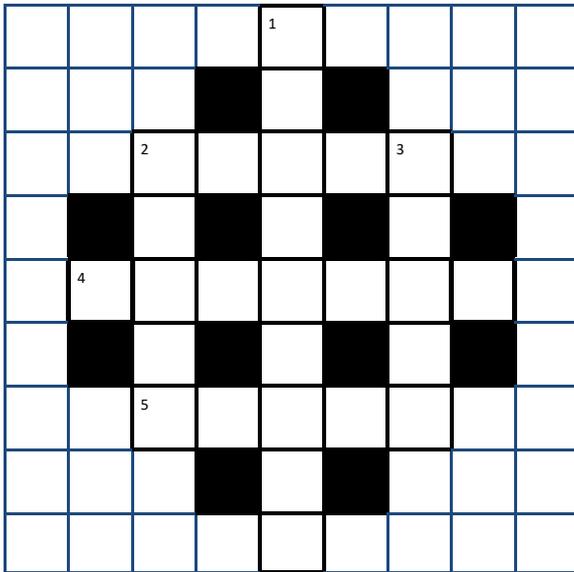
From June 1<sup>st</sup>, children started to return to school and 'bubbles' of pupils started to learn together. Children have enjoyed seeing a fox close to school - as captured on a night camera - and this photograph inspired some excellent project work. They also collected elderflowers and learnt how to make a cordial - the finished product was delicious! Using our fantastic rural environment, the children have completed a whole range of art activities including a collage based on the small habitats found on our school field.

Staff at Astbury School are so proud of all our children who have adapted and shown great resilience during lockdown.

Astbury Acorns Pre- School, for children aged 3 and 4, has extended its opening hours to include afternoons and is now open all day. If you want to enquire about a place for your child, please call the school office 01260 272528 or email [admin@astbury.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@astbury.cheshire.sch.uk) to arrange a time to safely visit.

If you would like to see more of our school activities, please follow us on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/astburyschool/> For more information about school, please also visit the school website [www.astburyschool.org.uk](http://www.astburyschool.org.uk)

## DIAMOND CROSS



### Clues

1. Slept
- 2A. Flaw, defect
- 2D. Advertising circular
3. Fairy-tale cave dweller
4. Feature on forehead
5. Of the countryside

Solution on the Website 1st. August.

## ASTBURY ROLL OF HONOUR

John Edward CARTLIDGE and James Gordon CARTLIDGE were 2 of the 7 children born to Edward and Emma Cartlidge (nee Gordon, married at St. Stephen's 1879). John was born 26/11/1882 and baptised at St. Stephen's 25/3/1883. James was born 7/2/1887 and baptised at the same church 17/2/1887. At that time their father was a collier and they were living in Congleton.

In 1901 the family are living in Astbury. Edward is now the church sexton, John is a wheelwright and James is at school. Edward and his family are still living in Astbury village where Edward is still the sexton. James is aged 24 and a bricklayer. Meanwhile John was now a Divinity student, living in Bournemouth.

No service records seem to have survived for them. The only other info is that in 1939 John was married and the Vicar of the C of E church in Oakengates, Shropshire. He died in 1976. James was living in Astbury a bricklayer again, married to Mary E (Withers) with 3 (?) children. He died on 9/9/1957 and was buried at Astbury on 15/9/57. Can anybody help? Again, please contact us if you have any information.

Frank BAILEY is missing records too. There is a Frank Bailey son of Charles, a miner, and Frances, born 1897. Frank is living on Mow Lane, Newbold Astbury on both the 1901 and 1911 censuses, where his mother is a widow.

John BROWN is also mentioned on the Roll of Honour, but as you can imagine, this name is just about impossible to research, so if anybody out there knows who this John Brown was, please contact us!

Clerks email for any correspondence: [jmasonparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:jmasonparishclerk@gmail.com)

### Who are we? Please feel free to get in touch!

John Carter (Chairman) 01260 275828 (A) Julie Mason (Clerk) 01260 641854 Judith Critchlow (vice chair) 01260 272174 (M)

Andy Banks 01260 281194 (A) Nick Barton 01260 280678 (A) Peter Cliff 01260 275700 (M)

Phill Critchlow 01260272174 (M) Barbara Jelf 01477500541 (M) Charles Kennerly 01260 272205 (A)

Rob Lomas 01260 272061 (A) Nick Plant 07801 545 402 (A) Nick Sharman 01260 271374 (A)

Roger Sutton 01260 273677 (A) John Ward 07788418264 (A)

(A) - Newbold Astbury Ward

(M) - Moreton cum Alcumlow Ward

We meet in Astbury Village Hall on the 2nd. Wednesday of every month at 7.30 pm. Please feel free to come along.

**Next Meetings: Please check the website.**

If you have an item for the next newsletter, any comments, or you would like to sponsor the mailing costs in return for including a leaflet, contact Phill Critchlow. ([phill.critchlow@astbury-parish.org.uk](mailto:phill.critchlow@astbury-parish.org.uk))