

NEWBOLD ASTBURY CUM MORETO

PARISHES NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2019

Website:

<http://astbury-parish.org.uk>

email: jmasonparishclerk@gmail.com

Church News/W.I./Astbury School/ Cheshire Railings/Lychgate Light/Link Road/Roll of Honour/
Village Hall Event



Important Church News!

Until our new Rector is installed our **Sunday Services** will be as follows;-

8.00 am. Morning Prayer. - *Book of Common Prayer*.

11.00 am. Morning Prayer - *Common Worship*.

6.30 pm. Evensong - *Book of Common Prayer*

We hope to maintain a Sung Eucharist at 6.30 pm each **second** Sunday, with Holy Communion on the **third** Sunday at 8.00 am (BCP) and on the **fourth** Sunday at 11.00 am (CW).

These three services of Communion will require an ordained minister, so if none is available then the service will be Morning Prayer or Evensong as above, and you will appreciate that the majority of the services will be lay led.

For up to date information on our services please check with our website astburychurch.org.uk, the weekly newsletter or our Facebook page.

If you have any queries about the services of Holy Baptism or Holy Matrimony can you please contact Mrs. Cook (01260 290194) or for Funerals Mr. Ball (01260 279276). Thank you.

More Cheshire railings restored

After the Parish Council had the Cheshire railings at Brownlow Crossroads restored recently, we are pleased to announce that with the help of a £538 grant from Cheshire East under their Community Clean-Up programme, the parish council has had the Cheshire railings at the junction of Wharf Lane cleaned up and repainted. You can see the difference in the before and after photographs:



Congleton Link Road

To keep up to date with developments re the Link Road, please visit our website:

<http://astbury-parish.org> where the latest available information, for us all, is to be found.

'An Evening with the Kaleidoscope Swing Band'

is to be held in the Village Hall on Friday 20th. September starting at 7.30 pm. Tickets will be £10 each. There be a bar

and a raffle, and tickets are available from Dorothy Barnett on 01260 274089 email: astbury-house@yahoo.com and all proceeds will be donated to church funds.

Review of the July Meeting: 3/7/19



Margaret Pearson welcomed everyone in on such a beautiful evening and thanked everyone for coming. Margaret had tried the Bowling Club's activities for the First time that day and really enjoyed it and past a lovely afternoon. Jerusalem was sung and accompanied by Margaret Hollinshead.

Apologies were then given and Birthday Buttonholes were given out - 7 in all to Marion, Margaret, Pat, Rhodda, Christine, Linda and Mary. Yvonne went through the details for the upcoming August

Outing which is to Moreton Park 7th August and then onto Erdigg. The trip is being booked up solid again with massive demand for such a fabulous day out and Yvonne wondered whether she may need to book a larger Coach !!

The July Coffee morning was discussed and everyone was looking forward to it. This annual event was held at Congleton Library and a good day was had by all. The stalls were laden with homemade Cakes and Buns along with Jams and Jellies and Chutneys. A BottleBola stall created a lot of fun and plenty tried their hand at winning a Bottle of their favourite Tipple. The White Elephant stall also attracted plenty of interest and some fabulous bargains were to be had from Handbags to Lamps and all sorts of interesting Bric a Brac. On the whole it was a good chance to meet up and have a good chat with friends over a cuppa and cakes whilst grabbing a bargain ! The book stall also proved a hit. Everyone had a good time and this event will be run next year again in the summer.

Thanks were given to everyone who helped with the Cheshire Show the exhibitors made a tremendous effort and it was lovely to be part of the Show. The WI Marquee was superbly decorated as usual.

The speaker on the evening was Christopher Wellavise who along with his wife gave a talk on " Bringing Nature To Our Gardens" Christopher talked about how passionate he was about Gardens and Nature. He became interested in the 1960's he loved being outdoors and started Gardening at an early age. Studying at Bath University in the 70's came out with a degree in Horticulture. He met Linda in 1984 and then opened in Prestbury in 1991. It was a tradition Nursery with Herbs, plants and trees and he listened to what customers wanted and expanded with a Café later on. He talked about Garden Centres opening and changes within the industry. Organic gardening was discussed and talked about what we could do to try and not use Chemicals and that Wildlife should be part of what we do. Put Birdfood out and cover for wildlife. Nature is part of gardening and he suggested planting Buttercups and daisies and brought some plants we could buy to include into our gardens, such as Lavender. We discussed fascinating ideas and how crucial the health of our soil is so don't destroy the soil.

Refreshments were served and the raffle was drawn. The meeting closed after God Save the Queen was sung at 9.30pm.

The lamp on the wall of the lychgate to St Mary's Church, Astbury is back in place and working after extensive repairs and renovation in the workshops of Cllr Nick Plant.



Lychgate lamp returns



A fantastic year for Astbury School

An impressive set of academic results - consistent improvements in standards at the end of year six at the expected and greater depth standards with some results this year better than the national scores. 100% pass in the year one national phonics screening test. Children working hard, concentrating, resilience, support from home and excellent teaching in the class has enabled these marvellous results.

The school became an academy on 1st February this year and continued backing from Chester Diocesan Academies Trust has supported the school in leadership and improvements to teaching and learning through school to school support and staff development. An exciting programme of professional development is in place for staff for 2019/20.

The school has purchased beautiful new reading books for children's 'take home' books. Classes have inviting reading areas and the children really are excited and desperate to read more! In 2019/20 the school aspires to achieve the Liverpool Quality Mark for reading.

This year, the school has had STEM ambassadors working with both science and coding (Lego mindstorm robots have been a hit this year!) and the wider curriculum has continued to develop with focussed art lessons and children enjoying sports on the school's extensive field. An addition to the field has been the daily mile track, opened on 12th July by the Mayor. Improved fitness and its links to mental health will carry on being developed into 2019/20.

The school has continued to participate and achieve in sporting activities, with five children winning individual medals and the girls' team coming third in the Congleton Town Sports - proudly wearing the new school kit! The swimathon team swam an incredible one hundred and twenty lengths as well as taking part in the swimming gala, children danced in the Eaton Bank Dance festival and the traditional May pole dancing created an impressive single plait with the new ribbons firmly attached to the new May pole.

A visit to The Quinta nature reserve with pond dipping and fire building as part of forest schools was enjoyed by children in years three and four. Children in the Astbury Choir joined with others at Crewe Lyceum for 'Sing Fest'. In school, there was much excitement as 'Google' arrived to teach on internet safety bringing their internet legends programme to educate and challenge. Friendship, collaboration, trust, patience, honesty and fun - Astbury children have worked well in their teams on team challenge activities that developed and strengthened their relationships.

Astbury School has remained at the heart of the rural community linking with church, the care home and leading the way in a community litter pick. Head girl of Congleton High School (former Astbury pupil, Hannah Tatton) visited Astbury to motivate and inspire children, while the school has also enjoyed supporting several other former pupils in work placements as they look to develop careers in education. The school's eco club has supported Congleton in Bloom, entered numerous competitions as well as regenerating a wildlife area on the field. With support from Marks and Spencer (Congleton) the schools' sensory garden has been revived.

The school needs your help in several ways. Would you promote our school through word of mouth and social media by liking and sharing our facebook posts? <https://www.facebook.com/astburyschool/> Our school offers wrap around care through Astbury MereKats and there is an active questionnaire through SurveyMonkey regarding starting pre-school provision at Astbury School - would you complete this and share with families with young children and with grandparents? <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/DMVXKT6>

Would you have the time to commit to being a school governor? In the Autumn term, the local governing body of the school will be looking to fill a vacancy. Please contact Kath Moore, chair of governors by email kmoore@astbury.cheshire.sch.uk for more information.



The Astbury Roll of Honour is in the church and commemorates not only the men who fell in the Great War, but also lists the men of the two Parishes that served their King and Country too.



Over the next set of Newsletters we will be looking at the men who are to be found on this list, as they should be remembered too, having "done their duty."

The copper plate writing has faded and is difficult to read, but there are 66 names included. It would be good to try and record what we can about each of them before they are forgotten in the mists of time. They are harder to research, as there is no date of death, or age to aid identification! Also, a lot of military (60%) records were lost in a fire after an air raid by the Luftwaffe in 1940!

JOHN BOOTH.

John appears to be the son of Samuel and Annie Marie Booth (nee Evans) who were married in 1892. John was born in 1895 in Astbury, and appears on the 1901 census living in Brownlow at "Stir Pudding" which seems to be located near to Reeves Farm (Astbury) (although there are 3 Reeves farms listed, 2 in Brownlow and 1 in Astbury.) I haven't managed to find a reference to "Stir Pudding" on any maps. **Does anyone out there have a clue where this cottage was? If so, please contact us.** By 1911, the family had moved to Spenn Green, Smallwood, and he is a waggoner on a farm. I have been unable to find any service records for him, as John Booth is a very common name. **Can anybody help? Again, please contact us if you have any information.**

JONATHAN BOOTH

As far as I know, is no relation to the man above. There are 2 possible candidates living in Astbury on the 1911 census. The first is a married man, a waggoner, born in 1881 living at Ciss Green Cottage, with his wife Hannah Ellen, born 1881, Smallwood, and son William George born Astbury aged 2.

The second and more likely candidate is living at Gorse Farm, Astbury in 1911, with his parents William and Elizabeth. He is aged 19, an engine pattern maker. His service record shows that he started in the Royal Navy and was later transferred to the Royal Air Force.

Can anybody help? Again, please contact us if you have any information.

ALFRED BOWKER/FRANK BOWKER

These two men appear to be brothers, born to Alfred and Susannah Bowker (nee Buckley, married at St. James, Congleton 7/6/1897.) Frank William baptised 14/12/1897 at St. James and James Alfred baptised 11/12/1898 also at St. James. By the time of the 1901 census the family is living on Holmes Chapel Road, Congleton, both boys their father being a farm labourer. By the time the 1911 census was taken, the family had moved to "Near the village, Astbury." James Alfred a schoolboy, still at home with parents and 3 siblings. Dad was still farm labouring (he was born in Astbury) Meanwhile Frank William was living with his mothers' parents on Holmes Chapel Road, He was also recorded as a schoolboy. **Can anybody help? Again, please contact us if you have any information.**

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

<u>John Carter (Chairman)</u> 01260 275828 (A)	<u>Julie Mason (Clerk)</u> 01260 641854	<u>Judith Critchlow (vice chair)</u> 01260 272174 (M)
Roger Sutton 01260 273677 (A)	Charles Kennerly 01260 272205 (A)	Phill Critchlow 01260272174 (M)
Peter Cliff 01260 275700 (M)	Andy Banks 01260 281194 (A)	Nick Barton 01260 280678 (A)
Nick Sharman 01260 271374 (A)	Rob Lomas 01260 272061 (A)	Peter Stanway 01260 273532 (A)
John Ward 07788418264 (A)	Nick Plant 07801 545 402 (A)	Barbara Jelf 01477500541 (M)
(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: August 21st. /September 11th. /October 9th. /November 13th.

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)