

# NEWBOLD ASTBURY CUM MORETON

PARISHES NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2021

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



**LEFT:** left to right:  
New Chair Judith  
Critchlow, retiring  
chair John Carter,  
previous clerk Julie  
Mason.



**RIGHT:** Chair Judith  
Critchlow, New Clerk  
Carlton Evans.

## All change for the Council's members and clerk

After over thirty years as a Councillor, and Chairman for the last ten, **John Carter** has decided to leave the Parish Council.

**Judith Critchlow**, last year's Vice Chairman, was elected as Chairman for this year, with **Nick Plant** elected to succeed Judith as Vice Chairman. It was also the last PC meeting for **Julie Mason**, our Parish Clerk for the last five years with us. She has resigned from her part-time roles with our and three other parish councils after being appointed full-time Town Clerk at Bollington Town Council. In her comparatively short time with us, she has made a major contribution to bringing us into the twenty first century!

To fill her shoes, the council formally appointed **Carlton Evans** as our new clerk following interviews with several candidates.

The council members showed its appreciation of the hard work of John and Julie with presentations, and welcomed Judith, Nick and Carlton to their new posts.

## Vacancy for a Councillor

**Do you want to make a difference to where you live and can spare a few hours every month?**

Following the resignation of our former Chairman, there's a councillor vacancy for the Newbold Astbury ward of Newbold Astbury cum Moreton Parish Council. The council has decided to fill this vacancy by co-opting a volunteer.

Our parish council's activities include:

- Reviewing all planning applications in our area, in the context of our Neighbourhood Plan
- Looking after our two areas of common land - one of which we are currently enhancing for conservation and biodiversity
- Bulb planting in verges around the parishes - not just Astbury village green!
- Representing and supporting parishioners
- Liaising with Cheshire East Council
- Promoting the interests of the parishes
- Making sure local services are provided
- Contributing to a thriving community

If you want to make a contribution to improving the life of our parishes, please consider joining us. Apply in the first instance to our parish clerk by email ([clerk@astbury-parish.org.uk](mailto:clerk@astbury-parish.org.uk)) or phone (01260 641 854) **by 19th. Sept.**



# Astbury School News

Children in our Pre-School, Astbury Acorns, have so much fun exploring with their friends. They have been learning a story about a duck, 'Come on Daisy'. They have closely been watching our own duck sitting on the nest in the playground and visiting Glebe farm to check up on the ducklings. The children enjoyed the rain we had in May, especially putting on their waterproofs and playing in the puddles!

Class Noah have been learning about the Fire of London through a text about Samuel Peeps. They finished off their learning by building a fire, lighting it with a flint and then adding to it to keep it burning. They learnt how to kneel safely by the fire to toast their marshmallows too!

Learning to make their own glue and developing their understanding of papier mache, children in Class Mary have busy making volcanoes. This linked to their learning about Pompeii which inspired some excellent writing and historical investigation. The children learnt how to make an eruption by measuring items and carefully placing them inside their volcanoes.

Astbury children from Class Jacob have been enjoying the beautiful weather and the lovely countryside on our doorstep. With a focus on mental health and well-being - a favourite place to walk to is the stream! It is great to be able to get outside!

To find out more information about our school, visit



facebook <https://www.facebook.com/astburyschool> and follow us on [www.astburyschool.org.uk](https://www.astburyschool.org.uk)



## Astbury W I News

It gives me great pleasure to write our latest update, feeling that the gradual and cautious opening up of Astbury WI is at last underway. Our bowlers have met regularly on the green at Congleton Cricket Club for the past few Tuesday afternoons. The novice group are slowly growing in confidence (if not consistency) as the weeks go by. We are receiving excellent tuition and encouragement from a gentleman called John, which has helped us to get the feel of the game and improve our (non-existent in my case) techniques.



Our walking group is growing and we have enjoyed a walk round Astbury Mere, Swettenham and Brereton Heath Country Park. Our walks are generally a gentle stroll followed by lunch for those who are happy to eat out somewhere local to the walk. We decided that the high temperatures of Freedom Day were not conducive to walking Biddulph Grange Country Park but met up for a light lunch at Castle Inn as prearranged.

We held our first Committee Meeting actually on 19<sup>th</sup> July and plans are now underway for our Autumn activities. We really look forward to welcoming our members to our first meeting, a very informal affair at the Village Hall at 2pm on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> August. All our existing members and any prospective members will be made most welcome. We have been able to reduce our subscription by virtually half this year, so it would be an excellent time to join us - subscriptions will be £22.40 from our August Meeting to April 2022.

We plan a second afternoon meeting on what is the WI's 106<sup>th</sup> anniversary the very first WI Meeting on Anglesey. Our group at Astbury will celebrate our 81<sup>st</sup> birthday this year. Our second Meeting will be on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 2pm at Congleton Cricket Club when we plan another informal meeting to get us back together as a group, with plenty of to chat catch up with friends, (or

make new ones). From the October Meeting (Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>) we plan to revert to our usual evening Meetings with a speaker at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of every month at our usual venue, which is of course the Village Hall.



We plan to restart our fortnightly Knit and Natter group, at the café at Glebe Farm in August. We generally meet at 11am on alternate Wednesday to knit, crochet and natter over a coffee or a cool drink, with light refreshments to follow, for those who wish to stay. We welcome members, non members anyone who would like to learn to knit or crochet is more than welcome. Our current project is to knit scarves for the Cheshire WI challenge. These will eventually be donated to local charities or groups who support individuals or families in difficulty.

We look forward to once again helping at The Astbury May Day on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September and hope that after all the setbacks we shall be blessed with pleasant weather and that the children will be able to enjoy being centre stage at long last. I was delighted to be able to attend the induction of Rev. Anne Marie Naylor, in a socially distanced service a few weeks ago. It was obvious that she is already (after a difficult year) feeling very much at home in Astbury.





I must say a huge thank you to those members who baked cakes or contributed in other ways, for National NHS Day on 5<sup>th</sup> June. We took cakes, a lovely knitted nurse complete with mask, and my poem to say thank you to Nurses and Carers who have worked so hard during this last year. It was quite an emotional occasion for all involved and made staff at both The War Memorial and Astbury Mere Care Home realise that their efforts were very much appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to contact either myself Margaret Pearson, or secretary Liz Edmunds, if you will be joining us on 4<sup>th</sup> August or 16<sup>th</sup> September (either as a member or interested visitor). We look forward to welcoming friends old and new. Phone Margaret on 07581095418, or Liz on 07766738004 07766738004 or message through our Astbury WI Facebook page.



## Cleared Footpaths.

The Parish Council have had the footpath adjacent to the A34 between the Parish Boundary sign near Little Moreton Hall and Brownlow Heath Lane, sided out and cleared as in places the width was down to about eighteen inches and forced you towards the carriageway and the speeding traffic.

Here are some before and after photographs.



# SAVE THE DATE!

Third time lucky!  
**MAY DAY IN  
 SEPTEMBER!**  
**SAT 25TH SEPT!**

Glebe Farm, Astbury,  
 BKP of Robert & Lesley Lomas.

*Dependant on the continued release of lock down restrictions, social distancing guidelines and any relevant local restrictions, the day will be different to our normal celebrations — with our usual attractions, activities and refreshments, announcements to be made closer to the date!*

**Watch this space!**

## The Great COVID Bake Off!

**Hero Cupcakes** (under 16s) - 6 cupcakes depicting your Covid Hero's, perhaps your teacher, your granny, your best friend!

**An Iced Bake** - a scene showing your new lockdown skill or hobby, be that a garden scene, a tapestry made from cakes, or the cakes itself!

**A new flavour combo** - we all delved deep into the cupboards and the bottom of the freezer when we couldn't get a slot for online delivery—what new flavour combos did you discover?

**Your Everyday Staple bake** - your "go to" bake to put a smile of the face of your nearest and dearest!

**Lock down is lifted** - a celebration bake to signify the end of restrictions and a return to the new normal!

**Rules:**

Entries to arrive by 10:00am on May Day!

Entry forms to be completed on the day to allow all food safety & allergy notices to be displayed!

Post judging, entries to be sold to raise funds for May Day

All entries must be homemade!

1st per entry!

Prizes kindly donated by Astbury Mere Care Home

Contact -- [astburywiplay@gmail.com](mailto:astburywiplay@gmail.com)



*Dependant on the continued easing of lock down restrictions, social distancing guidelines and any relevant local restrictions apply, updates to be made closer to the date!*



## ASTBURY ROLL OF HONOUR 1914-1918

**Cecil Taylor SHELDON:** Mrs Carole Goodwin (a relation of Cecil) of Fairfield Farm, Newbold Astbury has kindly provided us with some more

information about this soldier who was in the last Newsletter. After World War 1 he served in the Curragh in Ireland. He married Mary Hulme of Hulme Walfield at St. Peter's Church, Congleton in 1926. By the time of the 1939 register, the family are living on Bibby Road, Southport, Lancashire. His birthdate is given as 11th. Feb.1900 and his occupation is an agent of the Anglo-American Oil Company. He is also an Air Raid Warden. His wife Mary was born 28th. July 1902 and is a housewife. Mary dies in the Congleton area in 1990 and Cecil died 19/7/1997 in South Cheshire.

**Arthur SANDERSON.** I think Arthur was a private in The Cheshire Regiment (No. 674) and then moved to the Shropshire Light Infantry as No. 230577. He appears to be the son of Joseph and Mary Sanderson of Radnor, born 25th. March 1888 and baptised 20th. May 1888 at Hulme Walfield Church. On the 1891 census the family is living in Radnor. Still in Radnor in 1901 Arthur is described as a labourers boy on an Estate, his father Joseph being a woodsman. In 1905 Arthur married Eleanor Cooke in a civil ceremony in Congleton. By the time of the 1911 census Arthur has moved to 7 Lime Tree Avenue, Congleton, now married with 3 children. In 1939 the family have moved to Back Lane, Congleton where he is a general farm worker. I think Eleanor died in 1966 in Macclesfield and Arthur died in April 1974. Both are buried at Astbury.

**William SHUFFLEBOTHAM.** This soldier does not seem to have any surviving military paperwork. William appears to be the son of James and Judith. He was born 7/12/1876 and baptised at Astbury church on the 4/2/1877 where his father is described as a bricklayer of Astbury. At the time of the 1881 census, William is living with his parents (James a bricklayer and Judith) siblings and grandfather Michael Shufflebotham (a bricklayer) in Astbury village. On the 1891 census he is living with his parents near the Railway Bridge near Gorse Farm, Astbury and is 14 years old and a labourer at a Lime Works. He marries Ruth Boon on 25/8/1897 at Biddulph Church where he is now described as a blacksmith of Astbury, his father James a bricklayer. By the time of the 1901 census, Wm and Ruth are living in Biddulph with 3 children and he is now an underground coal hewer. In 1911 William (still a hewer) and his family have moved to Birch Tree Cottage, Astbury living with his widowed father, and family of 4 children. By 1939 he is now a widower and general labourer, still living in Birch Tree Cottage with his son Frank. Both William and his wife Ruth are buried in Astbury Churchyard and have a headstone. Ruth passed away in 1932 and William passed away on 4/8/1952.

## STOP PRESS!

## ASTBURY LADIES FELLOWSHIP

Astbury Ladies Fellowship has begun meeting again in the Village Hall. We are having a plant stall at the Mayday (with some proceeds going towards Church flowers.) If anyone is dividing their plants and can spare a part of it or even donate a houseplant it would be very much appreciated.

Our next Meeting is Wednesday 22nd. September at 1.30 in the Village Hall and I can take any plants then.

**Carole Goodwin. (01260 274190)**

Clerks email for any correspondence: [clerk@astbury-parish.org.uk](mailto:clerk@astbury-parish.org.uk)

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

Judith Critchlow (Chair) 01260 272174 (M)    Carlton Evans (Clerk) 01260 641854    Nick Plant (vice chair) 07801 545402 (A)

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

Phill Critchlow 01260272174 (M)    Barbara Jelf 01477500541 (M)    Ian Parry 07917 050 443 (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))