

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

As Chairman of the Parish Council it was my privilege and honour to be involved in the Service of Remembrance to the tragic loss of so many local military personnel who gave their lives for their country in both World Wars, and the Asfordby civilians who were killed due to enemy action in the 1939 -1945 conflict

It was heartening to see so many both young and elderly residents, Girl Guides, Brownies and friends at what was a very moving service conducted by the Reverend Mike Shepherd and Methodist Minister Andrew Barker.

On behalf of the Parish Council our thanks go out to all who participated in this Service.

A collection was taken at the Service that raised £93.02 for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

When we were married they told us we were one
But they never told us what to do
when half of one is gone.
What do you do with half a life or
half a will to care?
What do you do with half a heart
now the other half's not there?
You were the other half of me,
a heart linked to my own.
What do I do with half a life
Now I'm on my own?

This poem was written for lonely widows and was sent in by Mavis Moore.

TALES OF OLD ASFORDBY

When Edward VIII, the Duke of Windsor, was in Melton he often rode to the meetings and sometimes through Asfordby. Once on his way to a meet at Saxelby his horse sprang a shoe. He asked a local about a blacksmith. Our smithy was Horace Neale who's shop was at the end of The Three Horseshoes. He seldom did horses, mostly agriculture machinery. The Duke led his horse in, "a new shoe please while I go for a pint", he said. After an hour he went back. No doubt, in the meantime, Horace had thoughts of a Royal By Appointment Sign above his shop. The Duke went into the shop and there on its back with legs stiff in the air was his valuable horse. "Good God man, what have you done with my horse?" Horace scratched his head. "Dunno Sir, it was okay when I took it out of the vice".

During the war, several London families came to Asfordby to escape the bombing. Their children used the village C of E school. To make them feel at home and settle in, Mr. Harrington, the Headmaster, moved the children about so you had an evacuee sitting with you. "Ask each other their names", he said. One cockney lad sat with my friend. "What's your name?" he said. Fred was the reply. "Fred", he said "ain't a name. That's what you sew buttons on wiv".

Bill Rudkin

Football Bowls Pool Darts Rifle Range Dominoes Whist

HOLWELL SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB – THE STUTE

**Warm, friendly members' club open to all
Open 7 days a week – Entertainment every Saturday night
2 large function rooms available for hire**

WANT TO JOIN? CALL IN FOR A MEMBERSHIP FORM
Welby Road, Asfordby Hill

It's Your Parish

By Don Tempest, Chairman

Parish Hall

Residents of Asfordby Parish may be aware that some essential repairs and re-furbishment is being carried out to the Parish Hall at this time, much of which is being done by Reg, our Handyman, and other local tradesmen. The most expensive job is the restoration of the maple wood sprung floor, now complete and looking good as new. There is much more we would like to do at this time but budget restraints won't allow.

As the stone above the main door commemorates the hall built and opened in 1927, and if I may quote from the Melton Times for Friday 23 September 1927 "The opening ceremony and dedication of the War Memorial plaque was performed by Mr Stanton J.P., Chairman of Stanton Irons Works and other village dignitaries".

The cost of the completed building was in excess of £2000 and it replaced an old delapidated building which was to be sold valued at £50 but Lieut-Colonel Dalgliesh came forward and purchased it for £400. The Rev. W.R. Finch handed over £18:17s:9d, the balance of the Soldiers and Sailors Comfort Fund, this formed the nucleus of the build fund plus a mortgage of £1200.

Today we at Asfordby Parish still have the benefit of the hall and recreation grounds, provided by Asfordby Parish residents 80 years ago.

Parish Vacancies

There are currently two vacancies on the Parish Council, one in the Asfordby Hill Ward and one in Asfordby Ward. The Parish Council are looking for local residents dedicated to the wellbeing of the Parish to put themselves forward for election to fill these vacancies.

If you are interested in putting yourself forward for election and want to know more, the Parish Council are holding an information evening on Thursday 10 January 2008 between the hours of 7.00 pm and 9.00 pm. The purpose of the evening is to provide information on the role of a Councillor and the Parish Council in the local community. Current Parish Councillors will also be in attendance to give advice and answer questions.

ASFORDBY GARDEN CLUB

Our programme for 2008 begins with a talk and slides "Weeds and Aliens" by Eric Webster of Loughborough on 14 January. Ian Whitehead of Hucknall brings his wonderful slides to demonstrate "A botanist in Italy" on 25 January. Local gardener Sid Bristowe will visit us on 10 March to talk about Hellebores. All three of these speakers have visited us before so we know we will have interesting and informative meetings.

All our meetings are on Mondays at 7.00 pm in Asfordby Captains Close School - come along if you are interested - it only costs £2 per night (optional raffle). We would be very pleased to see you. Telephone 812513 for more details.

AUTOGRAPH SCHOOL OF DANCE

DANCE CLASSES SUITABLE FOR 3 & 4 YEAR OLD CHILDREN ARE CURRENTLY BEING HELD EVERY THURSDAY - 3.00 PM TO 3.45 PM AT ASFORDBY PARISH HALL

**PRICE £3.00 PER SESSION (pay as you come)
Limited Places now available**

Further Information contact Sarah Streetley (Registered Teacher of British Theatre Dance Assn) on 07732 650051

MONTHLY SURGERIES

Meet your Borough Councillors Michael Dean and Mal Sheldon to discuss any matters that concern you on the first Saturday of every month at Bradgate Flats, Hall between 10 am and 11 am. No appointment necessary.

ASFORDBY ACTIVE LIFE GROUP

None of us is getting any younger, but why get old before your time ? The Asfordby Active Life Group involves gentle activities to keep your joints mobile and your muscles strong for every day life.

The Group now has 14 regular members, and meets every Thursday at 10.00am in the Parish Hall and any Asfordby Villagers over the age of 50 can come and join in the Chair Based Activities.

The sessions are aimed at improving your ability to live independently and maintain your quality of life by performing special gentle exercises in a chair with a resistance band.

Dalena Christian, the group tutor, recently gave an information session on Osteoporosis and how the Chair Based Activities can help to prevent and manage all sorts of health related problems as we get older. The group would really like to welcome any new members, even if you have joint or health problems as we can work around them, and you are encouraged to just do your own level at your own pace - after a few sessions you will really notice the benefits.

The next information session " You and your joints " will be held on the 13th December at 10am. Call 07777 609419 Dalena Christian or e-mail info@figurehappy.co.uk for more information or just call into the class

ASFORDBY ACTIVE LIFE GROUP



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Demise of the Cherry Tree on Loughborough Road

Please can we set the record straight. This tree, along with the others on Loughborough Road were planted in the late 1960s and little or no husbandry has been carried out on them since. Consequently, we have had trouble with the roots coming under our sewer pipes and under the foundations of our property. (In fact, the Council resurfaced the public footpath 4 times in a year due to the rising root problem.) Despite asking the County Council to prune the tree they refused to take any action claiming it was not their tree! Four years ago, a professional tree surgeon working on the trees on our property was prepared to prune the tree but the Council refused to allow this, even though we would pay for it rather than quibble any longer over ownership.

Out of the blue, the County Council's contracted tree surgeon appeared in September (a Thursday) to apparently lop a branch that was overhanging the highway. However, upon inspection they found the tree to be split down its main trunk and immediately condemned it. It was cordoned off overnight and felled the next day as they considered it dangerous.

We have been somewhat aggrieved to find that people are wrongly assuming that we have campaigned to get this tree felled. We have loved this tree as much as anyone else for both its beauty and the bird life it sustained.

The tree surgeon informed us that a replacement tree is planned in the near future - don't hold your breath!

Paul & Helen Carter

Memories of Asfordby Methodist Church



Following on from the article written by Mrs Grace Robb in the last issue of the Parish Magazine. Mr M. Hudson of 10 Woodhouse Road, Asfordby sent in this picture of the Womans Bright Hour taken on 7 September 1955 at the then East End Methodist Chapel (now Mr Bailey's Butchers Shop) celebrating their Silver Anniversary. Back Row (left to right) Mrs G. Robb, Mrs D Tracey, Mrs Harby. Middle Row: Mrs L Toone, Mrs Burton, Mrs Dwyer (Coal Merchant) M. Bishop, Rev. F. Robb, Mrs Childs, guest speaker. Front Row: Mrs Brown of Red Lodge Farm, Hoby Road. Mrs. E. Garner, Mrs W. Wing (President), Mrs Cox, Mrs Ratcliffe, Mrs Stapleford, Mrs. L. Thompson. Michael Hawley is the little boy.

Obituary to the Sad Passing of Common Sense

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend. Common Sense, who was with us for many years. No-one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm, that life isn't always fair and maybe it was my fault.

Common sense lived by simple sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn) and reliable parenting strategies (adults not

children are in charge). His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a six year old boy charged with sexual harrassment for kissing a classmate, teens suspended from school for using mouth wash after lunch and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student only worsened his condition.

Common sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job they themselves failed to do in disciplining their unruly children. It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to adminster paracetamol, sun lotion or a sticky plaster to a student, but, could not inform the parents when a student become pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common sense lost the will to live as The Ten Commandments became contraband, churches became businesses and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home, and the burglar can sue you for assault.

Common sense finally gave up the will to live after a woman failed to realise that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust, his wife Discretiion, his daughter Responsibility and his son, Reason. He is survived by his three step-brothers: I know my rights, Someone else is to blame and I'm a victim.

Not many attended his funeral because so few realised that he had gone. If you still remember him pass this reminder on. If not join the majority and do nothing.

Borrowed from another Parish Magazine
John Bullimore

POLICE VOICE

As always, I believe it is important firstly to say a big thank you to all for your continued help, support and encouragement. Policing Asfordby, Asfordby Valley and Asfordby Hill is a great job but one that, I'm sure, would be vastly more difficult without your help, support and encouragement.

What's been happening over the past couple of months? Crime up to the 4/12/07 has remained quite low. Over the last 100 days, there have been 8 reports of vehicles either damaged or broken into, 1 house burgled (by means of an unlocked door, no property stolen) and 5 reports of criminal damage. If you have been a victim of one of these crimes, I appreciate that 1 crime is too many. However, keeping things in perspective, crime is fairly low.

Please keep your calls coming into the police. Your information is very valuable and I look into everything that is passed to me.

Speeding has been highlighted as a neighbourhood priority. I have been out with the speed gun on a few occasions and 2 tickets have been issued. Please be warned!!!! It's the people of Asfordby that moan about speeding but it's the people of Asfordby that are caught.

An apology from me now. I had to change my duty at the last minute for my surgery. It was therefore unmanned and for that I am sorry. The dates for the next surgeries are: Monday 14 January, Tuesday 31 January, Wednesday 20 February, Wednesday 12 March and Sunday 23 March. All are between 7.00 and 9.00 pm at the Parish Hall.

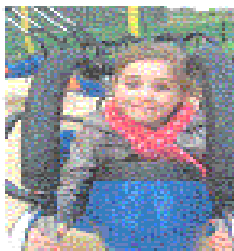
Please contact me by Email -
martin.taylor@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk or by voicemail 0116
2222222 id 1235

PC1235 Martin Taylor - Local Beat Officer

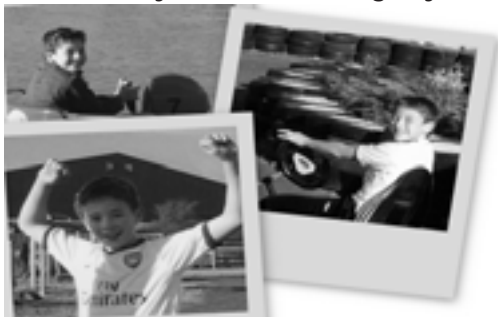
PARISH EMBLEM COMPETITION

The entries for the Parish Emblem Competition were judged by the Parish Council at their meeting held in October. First Prize of an annual pass to Twin Lakes was awarded to Lily Lennon and the second prize of a day's entry into Twin Lakes was won by Shaun Wright.

Lily said "I had a great time at Twinlakes. The first ride I went on was Buffalo Stampede and it was extremely fast with the curves. The I went on the Gladiators Galleon and it was really scary. I also went on the Flying Icarus which flies high and low. I went into Dungeon Quest together with my family. I went and saw the creepy critters and I loved looking at the emperor scorpion. I also went into the Labyrinth and finally I went onto the swings. I had a fab time".



Shaun went to Twin Lakes on 5 November 2007. "At Twinlakes I really enjoyed myself. My favourite ride was the go-karts and I liked the Labyrinth as well. The weather was nice and it wasn't very busy either. Thank you for choosing my entry as runner up".



ASFORDBY METHODIST CHURCH

It is now five months since the sudden closure of the chapel building, but the Methodist Society is adapting to its new pattern of worship and witness in the village.

Our new Minister Rev. Andrew Barker began his work with us in September and is available on 07947 106082 should you need to contact him.

Methodist Insurance finally allowed us to hold a closing service on 21 October. Spare seats were positioned in the aisles as former residents, boys brigade "lads", ministers and their families, Sunday school pupils and people who had been baptised or married in the building, joined with present members and Methodists from around the Melton Mowbray circuit to say "goodbye" to the building. Our wonderful organ helped us to raise the roof and the Circuit Superintendent Rev. Philip Maconald gave us words of encouragement for the future. It was a sad but very memorable service.

We now have a regular pattern of worship with two services per month being held at Bradgate Flats and one service per month being a Methodist-led service in All Saints Parish Church. Our Sunday Club for young people also meets monthly at Bradgate Flats. We also share Anglican Services at All Saints. We are most grateful for the good relationships with All Saints and the benefits we gain from meeting at Bradgate Flats. People who could not manage the ten steps into the Chapel now regularly share our services, and it is great to have them.

Coffee mornings are planned from 10.00 to 11.30 at Bradgate Flats on 26 January and 23 February. Services are as listed and on the Parish Website www.asfordbypc.org.uk.