



N EWBOLD ASTBURY CUM MORETON N

PARISHES NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2020

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



We wish you a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

A message from the Chairman of the Parish Council:

Dear Parishioners

The March/April Newsletter contained an introductory paragraph which I prepared in response to the Government's lockdown at the beginning of the Covid Pandemic. Few would have predicted that eight months later in early November we would all be facing a similar restriction on our day to day lives due to a resurgence in infection.

Whatever our personal views on how the Authorities have handled the evolving situation, the fact remains that it is still primarily up to us as individuals to act responsibly and in accordance with temporary controls imposed by Government.

Hopefully much improved testing and tracing will enable the virus to be hunted down and largely eradicated and along with the prospect of a vaccine shortly, a brighter future beckons although we will not know how Christmas and New Year, times for family and goodwill, might be affected until December.

In the meantime as a rural community we still need to be mindful of our neighbours, Parish organisations and businesses struggling to survive. During the dark winter months loneliness and depression can easily take hold. Simple contact via phone calls, social media and emails to the elderly and those living alone can be an enormous help.

If any Parishioners know of any individuals who are genuinely struggling to cope please feel free to contact one of the Parish Councillors or the Clerk, Julie Mason.

Stay safe and positive.

John Carter
Chairman

**Vacancy for a
Councillor**

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

**There is a vacancy for a Councillor in the Parish of Newbold Astbury cum Moreton. If you
are interested in joining us and having an active role in your community**

Please contact the Clerk of the Council

Julie Mason

jmasonparishclerk@gmail.com / 01260 641854

OR talk to any of the current councillors who will be pleased to tell you about the role.

Astbury School News

Astbury School staff are so proud of all that the children have achieved since returning to school in September. There has been a happy and purposeful buzz of activity across all classes as the children and staff have worked together to create a safe and friendly environment for learning.

Exploring outdoors and mental health and well-being have been an important part of the curriculum. Children have enjoyed a mini-beast hunt which linked to learning in science and art. Never have we spotted so many woodlice and ladybirds! The younger children went on an Autumn walk across the fields to the wishing stream, developing map skills, observing the changing seasons and loving being outdoors! The all-weather track around the school field has provided an excellent resource for PE. Budding athletes have been developing stamina, skills and fitness.

Year six worked hard in the community this harvest time, carrying the food donations from the school harvest service into the 'love thy neighbour' van. The generous gifts have been donated to the Storehouse local foodbank. Hello Yellow day was celebrated to promote children's mental health. The children raised money and had great fun together - laughter really is the best medicine!

Astbury Acorns Pre- School, for children aged 3 and 4, 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 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



Thanks to a generous grant of £100.00 from the William Dean Trust, with which we purchased 60Kg. of daffodils, and the generous assistance of Sibelco with verge trimming and donating a 20Kg bag of daffodils, some members of the Parish Council spent the Saturday morning of 24th. October planting these bulbs along the A34 between Brownlow Heath Lane and the joint Parish boundary signs a few hundred metres towards Astbury. The Parish Council have also bought 10 large poppies from the British Legion to attach to signs throughout the parishes.

Suggestions for planting of daffodils next year can be sent to the clerk. Some ideas are: along Brownlow Heath Lane and Wall Hill Lane, where work has is ongoing ahead of the Link Road opening.



Lost Footpaths

As mentioned in the last Newsletter we are trying to find all the lost footpaths throughout the two parishes and so far we have identified at least half a dozen. The footpath above is remembered by some parishioners and we would like evidence from anyone in the parishes who remembers using this footpath from the A34 to Sandy Lane either through Moreton Cottages or across the field and crossing the brook and hence on to Child's Lane. Please contact us (either Phill Critchlow or Barbara Jelf, details under councillors) with your information. Thank you.



Astbury Church News.

From the Rector:

As I write this we are at the beginning of lockdown 2, and the whole community is in our thoughts and prayers. Church has had to close for services. We are still hoping to be able to have some Christmas services, although they will probably be a little bit different! The working title is ("Nine lessons and Not-Quite-Carols). So as to accommodate as many people as possible, we will be taking bookings for a pew for each family group or bubble, and details of this will be available in the next few weeks, on the notice board outside church, and (printers willing) some card deliveries. Unfortunately the Live Nativity is not feasible, but sincere thanks go to everyone in the community who has tried to find ways to make it work!

St Mary's is listed as a glorious church in Simon Jenkins' book "Britain's 1000 best churches" and rightly so. If you have seen the book you will know that the review is marred by the difficulty that Simon actually had in getting in! If we are to safeguard our amazing church for future generations then it is essential that we open it regularly outside our worship times, for people to see it. We have been trying to keep the church open for private prayer on Sunday afternoons, and this has been a great help to many people. We have also had some generous donations which is helping us to stay afloat. However, as winter evenings draw in, we are having difficulty finding stewards to be present - if you could volunteer a few hours on a Sunday please could you contact me? Otherwise it is likely that we may have to close again which would be a great shame.

Anne-Marie

Astbury WI update November 2020

It seems inconceivable to think that we are already into November and that last week, in normal circumstances, Astbury WI would have celebrated its 80th birthday with an AGM and Pea and Pie Supper. Unfortunately we were (like the rest) of the country back in lockdown. I really do hope that all our members are coping with these increased restrictions and managing to find solace in their families, phone calls from friends, or the cheery messages which abound in these trying times.

It was good to be able to attend the All Saints Day Service at Astbury Church on 1st November. Along with others I could remember the friends we have lost, in recent years. A candle was lit for Margaret Beecroft, a current member, who sadly lost her battle with cancer recently. Margaret will be sadly missed, when the WI resumes and our thoughts at present are with her daughter Lisa and family. Lisa does a wonderful job as our treasurer, and even in the midst of her personal sadness has managed to also keep WI as a priority. It was also good to see some of our members and former members in church remembering their loved ones. My thoughts are with them all.

Since our last update, two of our members have been quite poorly, Margaret Hocknell and Margaret Moores. Both ladies are recovering well and we wish a continued speedy recovery. President Margaret has delivered flowers and good wishes cards to both ladies who were pleased to receive the bouquets and good wishes of the members. There is however a little good news, Congratulations to Lynn and Jeff Armstrong on the birth of a new grandson.

It is inevitable that this year there will be no Christmas celebrations as a WI. In fact, everything has had to be cancelled, even the Dane Valley Group Carol Service, which was due to be held in early December. Let's hope that the New Year brings with it a glimmer of hope that we shall be able to meet together and resume our many group activities.

In this age of technology, where some Wi's are keeping going

on Zoom, I can't help feeling sad that so many members are not able to access this. We as a Committee are anxious to do whatever we can to keep our group together and to communicate with our members in whatever way we can. We have a Facebook page, a WhatsApp group, a website which I must update, but I am not sure how, as there are no firm plans in the pipeline until we know what happens after this month of lockdown.

If you have any ideas about what you would like from your local WI at this time, please send me a message. I am always open to suggestions as to how we can be there for each other despite all difficulties.

You could email us on astburywi@outlook.com or (me personally) at margaretp45@gmail.com or ring me on 01782954450 or 07581095418 or speak to any of our Committee Members whose numbers appear on our membership card.

Hoping that members, their families and their friends in the village all manage to stay safe and keep each other smiling.

We are pleased to be able to offer an update on **Gordon Cartlidge**, one of the men on the **Roll of Honour** in the church, mentioned in the last Newsletter, from a Parish resident, Mrs Yvonne Huntington of Watery Lane, Astbury. She writes:

"I live in Astbury now but I am actually from Oakengates in Shropshire and Rev Cartlidge was a very celebrated man in the town. He was passionate about Oakengates and after the war was responsible for organising a group of International Volunteers to remove an old pit mound spoil tip which overhung the town. He also wrote a very scholarly book called "The Vale and Gates of Usc-Con" (the Roman name for Oakengates) which was a history book of the town. I have a copy of this found on eBay!

In his honour, the town council named the local old people's home "Cartlidge House" and this still stands today with his portrait in the foyer. He was clearly a well liked man with a strong sense of public duty and a man of action."



Born at Congleton, Cheshire in 1882, Rev. Gordon Cartlidge was a member of a well-known family at Astbury - his last resting place.

After being educated at the village school, his studies began in 1906-07 at the S.P.C.K. College, Stepney and for two years after was diocesan reader in charge of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Grangemouth, Scotland, and later for five years at Seaton Hirst, Northumberland.

He was ordained in 1914, and became junior curate at St. John's, Walsall for a year until his appointment as senior curate in charge of St. James's Church there. The war interrupted his career, and he volunteered for service with the East Anglican Reserve Brigade. He was invalided home at the end of 1918.

The following year, he returned to Northumberland to form a conventional district at Seaton Hirst, remaining until 1923, when he moved to the Lichfield Diocese as curate of Lower Gornal.

The following year he was asked to form a new conventional district at Harlescote, Shrewsbury, at the same time acting as chaplain at Shrewsbury Prison. Four years later he was appointed Vicar of Oakengates, a living he held for 20 years. For nine years Rev. Cartlidge represented Wombridge Ward on the County Council and was for some time Chairman of the County records committee. At one time he was a member of no fewer than 65 committees.

A fellow of the Royal Historical Society, he was also a member of the council of Shropshire Archaeological Society, and was for many years a member of Cheshire and North Wales Archaeological and Historical Society, and Yorkshire Archaeological Society. For many years he was Chairman of Ludlow museum committee.

While curate of St. John's Church, Walsall he wrote his first book on "Newbold Astbury and its History," followed in 1935 by "The Vale and Gates of Usc-con."

After he retired from Ford, he returned to St. Georges in 1963 at the age of 81. He lived there until his death in 1976 at the age of 94.

ASTBURY ROLL OF HONOUR 1914-1918

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 who served their King and Country.

HARRY YEARSLEY. - Although I can't be certain at present, due to the absence of any surviving Military records, Harry appears to be born as Harold Yearsley on the 28/7/1889 at 11 Holford Street, Congleton, and baptised at St. James' church on 15/11/1891 son of Arthur and Emma (nee Mellor) Yearsley, a silk weaver. On the 1901 census the family are still in Holford St. but by 1911 have moved to Antrobus St. where Harold is a baker. By the time of the 1939 Register he is living at The Crescent and is a baker/confectioner and married to Eliza. He lived to the ripe old age of 85, still living at The Crescent, dying on 21st June 1975.

ALBERT WARD. - Again, I can't be certain at present, due to the absence of any surviving Military records, but Albert seems to have been born on 20/2/1888 and baptised at Hulme Walfield Church on 18/3/1888 the son of Arthur and Ellen Elizabeth (nee Barber) Ward of Somerford Booths, miller. On the 1891 census he is living in Darnhall Mill, near Northwich. The family are still there in 1901 and 1911. Albert is still living there on the 1939 register, being a farmer and miller. I think he dies in 1956 in Northwich.

GEORGE YATES. - George Timmis Yates was born at Home Farm, Swettenham in 1893 the son of John Thomas and Elizabeth Yates (nee Smith) married at Astbury 3rd June 1890. By the time of the 1911 census the family are living at Moreton Farm, Moreton cum Alcumlow (now Brownlow Hall) where George is described as farmers son working on farm. When he signs up on 18/4/1916 he is described as 22 years 3 months old, a cowman, living at Moreton farm, 5feet 4 inches tall, weight 127 pounds. He became private 4655 in the 7th. Cheshire Regiment, but was transferred to the Agricultural Company Labour Corps. 7/3/1917. His surviving records are difficult to decipher and it is not known when he was demobbed. He may have been wounded in the war (or gassed), as sadly he died 21st January 1922 and was buried at Astbury 24th January 1922 aged only 28 years. George's brother Hector John Yates is on the War Memorial as he was killed in action on 26th. September 1916 and was included in an earlier newsletter.

JOSEPH TIPPING. - was born early 1896 and baptised at Astbury church 10/5/1896 the firstborn of Henry and Helena Tipping (nee Ward) who had married in the same church on 6th. February 1895. The family were living at Wall Hill Farm on both the 1901 and 1911 censuses. In 1911 Joseph is assisting his father on the farm.

Joseph enlisted at Congleton on the 19/2/1916 where he is described as 19 years 11 months old, a six feet tall farmer of Home Farm, Somerford. He became gunner 160161 in the Royal Field Artillery, was part of the French Expeditionary Force of 1917, was wounded in the field on 23/3/1918 and I think was invalided out of the military on 16/4/1918. He was entitled to and awarded the Victory and British War Medals. After the war I think he married Mary H Clews at Horton, near Leek in 1925 and in 1939 he and his family were living in White House Farm, Dalbury, near Repton, Derbyshire running a dairy farm. I think he died 20/5/1956 aged 60, still at the same address.

As always, if anyone has any corrections or other helpful or useful information about any of these men, we would love to hear from you! Please contact the clerk.

KEEP BRITAIN TIDY! LITTER PICKERS are available to borrow on your local walks- please contact the clerk for more details.

Clerks email for any correspondence: 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

Odd Rode Ward Councillor (Cheshire East) Liz Wardlaw. 01260 272252 liz.wardlaw@cheshireeast.gov.uk

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 or with the clerk for details of ZOOM Meetings.

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)