

NEWBOLD ASTBURY CUM MORETON

PARISHES NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2025

WEBSITE: <http://astbury-moreton-pc.gov.uk>

The old telephone kiosk at Acker's Crossing which burnt out some time ago, destroying the Defibrillator in the process, is due to be replaced and a new defibrillator installed in the coming months. Our Clerk has spent considerable time dealing with the Insurance Company to establish how much of the damage and required works were covered by our policy. Scottish Power have already done some work and are keen to proceed. We have ordered a replacement kiosk of the same design and are currently waiting for further news regarding a delivery date. We will keep you updated.

Councillor Nick Barton, has stepped down after approximately 10 years serving the Parish Council. We'd like to say a big "Thank You" to him for all his hard work over many years and as a stalwart member of our daffodil planting team.

Look out for the daffodils at the end of Child's Lane!

"As the nights are slowly starting to draw out, Daffodils are poking through the soil and hedgerows are finally showing a few signs of green, Christmas seems but a distant memory. However if you cast your minds back only a month you will re-call the fabulous light display that our village enjoyed on the green, with the famous Sycamore Tree once again being the centrepiece. Our Village Tree Team were supported by local businesses and individuals who were able to sponsor one of the smaller trees that made up the display in return for a donation to St Mary's Church. We are thrilled to announce that in doing so they raised £1600 for St Mary's. If you would like to see the full list of sponsors, this has been published on the village notice boards and on the trees very own Facebook Page -

Astbury Christmas Tree. The display is put together each year by a team of local volunteers who give their time and resource freely, we extend our thanks to all those involved in any way for bringing a little Christmas magic to us!"



ANNUAL PARISHES MEETING 2025

Newbold Astbury cum Moreton Parish Council will hold its Annual Parishes Meeting on Wednesday 9th. April 2025 at 7.30 pm. in Astbury Village Hall.

There will be a Chairman's Report.

There will also be an opportunity to discuss Parish Issues.

Full details and further information will be found shortly on the Website and in the next Newsletter.

April

2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Astbury WI January 2025

Our January Meeting should have taken place on Wednesday January 8th in the afternoon. We had planned to enjoy a social meeting with plenty of opportunity to get together, chat and catch up after all the festivities. The weather however had other ideas! Unfortunately, in the interests of everyone's safety we had to make the unenviable decision to cancel. Not only were the roads fairly lethal but the pavements and car parks were covered in packed ice and snow which just refused to thaw.

We were really sad not to be able to meet, and although we have had no monthly meeting to report on, our groups have managed to resume their activities.

On Monday 13th January, (a week later than planned) our Knit and Natter ladies managed to change the toppers on both the post-box by the church and the one by The Horseshoe.

Three of us attended Maida Hackney's funeral at Macclesfield on the same day.

Maida had been a very talented and active member of our WI for many years. She was a committed member, who entered many of the Dane Valley competitions on our behalf. She made some wonderfully creative items to fulfil the brief.

Now we have had our first stroll around Astbury Mere, and an enjoyable Knit and Natter session at The Horseshoe. We look ahead to our Committee Meal at Bar 15, a Winter Lunch at The Plough at Eaton on 21st February and our February Meeting on Wednesday 6th February, when the guest speaker will be Ian Doughty from Congleton Museum. His talk will be entitled, 'Weaver to Wearer.... the Rise and Fall of The Textile Industry' The competition will be for an item made of silk. If anyone had created an entry for the January competition 'Something beginning with 'n.' then please bring it along and we'll run the two competitions side by side.

If you would like to come along to a meeting or need further information, please contact Margaret on [07581095418](tel:07581095418), Liz on [07766738004](tel:07766738004), or Kate on [07875691170](tel:07875691170). They will be happy to answer any questions you may have and to arrange for a member to "meet and greet" you on the day.



News from Astbury School

Following on from the good outcome of the school's OFSTED inspection, the school had its Christian distinctiveness inspection in October 2024. The opening of the report reads as follows 'Astbury St Mary's is a small school with a loving heart. Their inclusive Christian vision is understood by leaders, staff, parents and pupils. The nurturing of the community is evident, and pupils and staff show kindness towards one another.'

For the full report, please visit the school website.

In other news, the girls' Y5/6 cross country team were out in action and school is so proud of their perseverance and teamwork. The Y5s were unsure about a longer run being in the older age group, but they did so well.

Children in Y5/6 learnt Brazilian samba drumming through a sequence of ten lessons. This was a huge success culminating in a carnival of music which was performed for parents and the other children in the school.

Playing in the snow has been much enjoyed! Children have built snow men, been sledging, made snow angels and created other snow and ice sculptures.

Teaching about mental health is an important part of the school's curriculum, so on mental health awareness day, every class took part in age-appropriate activities including coming to school in their comfy and cozy clothes!

The children organised a variety of activities to raise money for Children in need. School staff were impressed with their organisational skills, good ideas and working together.

To find out more information about our school, visit www.astburyschool.org.uk and follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/astburyschool>



News from The Ladies Fellowship

It has been a busy time for us over the last few months as for starters we went to see the licensing of Andrew Bailey as a Reader in Chester cathedral. Also in the Autumn, we held a traditional harvest service with fruit, flowers and bales of straw and there was help and advice for the farming community, and a hot snack to end with.

In December, the fellowship had its Christmas lunch provided by members, followed by the Communion service led by our Associate Priest, Rev, Steph Morris. and assisted by our Reader, Andrew Bevington. Russell Watson delighted us as well, by his singing in the church.

January saw us having lunch at the Legs of Man—it was so good to be out and about after the isolating snow. On 19th January, our trainee Pastoral Worker, Sophie Molyneux launched a Youth Group and there was an enjoyable evening of craft and chat.

The Fellowship next meets on 19th February at 1 30pm in Astbury Village Hall. Andrew Bevington will be our speaker and everyone is welcome to come along, listen and have a cup of tea.

The Diocese have informed the Ladies Fellowship that our new Rector will be Rev. Heather Carter and her Induction to make her Rector of Astbury, Smallwood and Somerford will take place on 17th March at 7pm in Astbury church.

Please contact Carole Goodwin on 07484525829. for any more information.

ASTBURY MAY DAY

Saturday 17th May 2025

GLEBE FARM, ASTBURY
CW12 4RQ

11 AM TILL 5 PM

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!

Handmade Gifts
Maypole Dancing
BBQ + Bar
Dog Show
Live Entertainment
Inflatables
Plus so much more to
enjoy!

For more information follow us on Facebook or Instagram
@Astburymayday

Roll of Honour continued.

Charles Cumberbatch

Charles was the second son of Charles and Sarah Hannah Cumberbatch (nee Deeming) of Brownlow. He was born in Brownlow 1st. February 1894 and baptised at Astbury Church on the 11th. March 1894. On the 1901 census the family are living in Brownlow, where father Charles is a farm labourer and son **Charles** a scholar. By 1911 the family are still in Brownlow where Charles senior is a farm labourer and **Charles** junior is a waggoner on a farm. **Charles** and his elder brother Arthur both signed up to go to war. Sadly Arthur was killed on the 9th. July 1918 and was buried in Astbury churchyard, He is commemorated on the War Memorial. He was mentioned in the newsletter of Autumn 2016 (still available on our website) **Charles** signed up for the Household Cavalry and became Private: 16775 in the Dragoon Guards. At present I can't find any more military information about him. After the war he married May Critchlow on the 6th. February 1916 at St. Stephens Church in Congleton. (I don't think he had signed up at that point). They went on to have 3 children: Dora, Betty and Gordon. In 1921 the family were living in Brownlow and **Charles** was a colliery labourer (out of work) at Birchenwood Colliery, Kidsgrove. By the time of the 1939 register he had gone back to his roots and was a horseman again at Brownlow. **Charles** passed away 30th. May 1947 at West Heath Sanatorium and is buried in the churchyard along with his wife May (died 11/5/1957).



Concluding information about the Painter Family.

They were a very patriotic family as so many of them went on to serve in the First World War. Their son **George William Painter** (born 14th. May 1895 in Brownlow, died of tuberculosis 4th. June 1919 and was buried in Astbury churchyard. Details of this soldier were given in a previous newsletter, July 2018 which can still be viewed on our website.

Tom Painter one of his younger brothers was born 11th. August 1899 in Brownlow. Tom was a cabinet maker when he signed up for the Royal Navy as part of the Royal Navy Air Service as an Air Mechanic on 15th. August 1917, Service No: 36627. He transferred to the Royal Air Force 1st April 1918 when the RNAS was merged with the British Army's Royal Flying Corps. to form The Royal Air Force. I'm unable to discover anything else at present about his military service. Thankfully he survived the war and went on to marry Eva Beatrice Huebanks Mainwaring 11/8/1923 at Sandbach Parish Church, and lived and worked in Sandbach as a joiner until his death in 1982.

Another brother **Harry** (born 4th. November 1896 in Brownlow) signed up for the Army Service Corps. This was an important, often overlooked part of the Military. They were the unsung heroes of the British Army in the Great War. Soldiers can not fight without food, equipment and ammunition. They can not move without horses or vehicles. It was the ASC's job to provide them. In the Great War, the vast majority of the supply, maintaining a vast army on many fronts, was supplied from Britain. Using horses and motor vehicles, railways and waterways, the ASC performed prodigious feats of logistics and were one of the great strengths of organisation by which the war was won. At its peak, the ASC numbered an incredible 10,547 officers and 315,334 men.

There is not much available information about him at present, but we do know that he was Private H Painter No: 098491 attached to the Mechanical Transport Depot. And he was in France during the war. Again, he survived the war and married Maud Bailey 5/4/1920 at St. Peter's church, Congleton. He lived in Congleton and in 1939 was employed as a heavy motor driver at a milk factory (by Congleton Station?) He died in 1980.

An older brother, **Arthur** (born 6th. March 1893 in Brownlow) signed up and was part of the Royal Navy's 63rd. Anson Battalion, No: A B (able seaman) R-1736. There appear to be few surviving records again. However I have discovered that he was discharged on the 8/5/1919. After the war he married Alice Ann Withers at Astbury Church in 1922, and in 1939 he was living in Brownlow and his job was official Rat Catcher for Cheshire County Council. He also volunteered as an ARP warden during the second World War. He died in 1980, still living in Brownlow.



Who are we? Please feel free to get in touch

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Andy Banks 01260 281194 (A)	Peter Cliff 01260 275700 (M)	Phill Critchlow 01260272174 (M)
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Carrie Sutton 07979 983915 (A)	Megan Bailey 01260 641292 (A)	Tracey Potts 07850 329 485 (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.

Please check the website for the dates of our meetings.