

## Ashton under Hill Open Gardens



**Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 June**  
**1.00 to 6.00pm**



- ☀ 25 gardens open, three for the first time
- ☀ Quality plants for sale
- ☀ 'Images of Ashton' exhibition in St Barbara's Church
- ☀ Craft stalls
- ☀ Your questions on composting and organic gardening answered by experts

- ☀ Saturday tickets also valid on Sunday
- ☀ Ample free parking
- ☀ Free shuttle bus service
- ☀ Photo trail for children
- ☀ Refreshments
- ☀ Lunches and cream teas

**Admission £4.00 • Children free • please invite your friends and family!**

Web: [www.ashtonopengardens.co.uk](http://www.ashtonopengardens.co.uk) Email: [marketing@ashtonopengardens.co.uk](mailto:marketing@ashtonopengardens.co.uk) Phone: Malcolm Nelson 881778  
Proceeds in aid of St Barbara's Church and community projects

### Ashton Litter Pick

Please come and help clear our roadside verges of litter to make Ashton look its best for the Open Gardens weekend. Starting at **10.00am** at the Playing Fields on **Saturday 6 June**. All help is appreciated, even if you can only spare half an hour.

### St Barbara's Church

#### Annual Service of Thanksgiving

**Sunday 17 May at 9.30am**

You are warmly invited to our annual Service of Thanksgiving, and to stay for refreshments afterwards. This is the occasion when we give thanks for all those who help to support the life of the church throughout the year, and show our appreciation to them. Please come and share in this informal service in our village church.

#### Open Gardens

#### Service of Evening Praise

**Sunday 14 June at 6.30pm**

Please join us at the end of this year's Open Gardens weekend for an informal act of worship, led by Harry Jeffery formerly a Lay Reader in our parish. Helpers and visitors to Open Gardens will be particularly welcome.

### Wind Music for a Summer's Evening

**Saturday 16 May**

**Teddington Church, 8.00pm**

An opportunity to hear some delightful woodwind music by talented local performers. **Trio Ébano** makes a welcome return to Parish Music in St Nicholas' Church, Teddington. (admission £10 students free).

The group last played for us in November 2004 shortly after their leader, flautist Nicola Shorland, had become Gloucestershire Young Musician of the Year. She continues to be a dedicated chamber musician and has acquired an interesting collection of flutes, some of which she will demonstrate at the concert. The programme will include duos for flute and clarinet by Rutter and Villa-Lobos, and trios by Scott Joplin, Shostakovich and Mozart.

Nicola is joined in the current ensemble by clarinettist Lucy Tugwell and bassoonist Hannah Wrieden. In 2006 **Trio Ébano** took their music to Singapore where they performed with the Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra, and gave recitals and led workshops in various schools. All the members of the trio value teaching as part of their portfolio. Nicola originally learnt by the Suzuki method with Susie Alington and is now herself an accredited Suzuki Flute teacher.

Parish Music Concerts for the autumn include music for cello and harp in Beckford on Saturday 10 October, played by David Powell and Katherine Thomas. The *Santiago String Quartet* comes to Ashton on Saturday 14 November to play South American as well as European music.

*Julian Alington 01386 882060*

#### TEA ON THE LAWN at Rails End Nursery

**SUNDAY 17 MAY 3-5pm**

Music from Take Five Combo.

Tea and homemade cakes; raffle for Marie Curie Cancer Care.

**Parish Music 2009**

## Shindig Siyaya Success!

A capacity audience in the village hall was entertained to a colourful and lively performance of African music and dance by **Siyaya** on Saturday 2 May. Sixteen energetic Zimbabwean performers thrilled us with their energy and sheer musicality; another brilliant *Shindig* evening.

Thanks go to Ashton's organising team, tirelessly led by Penny Scotland, for all their hard work and especially to David and Vicky Ward for supplying an excellent dinner for the cast.

*Shindig* returns in the autumn; watch out for details of the next event in *Ashton News*.

**Shindig**  
live arts on your doorstep



**Parish Minibus Shopping  
Trips to Worcester  
Next trip Friday 22 May**

Pickup from Ashton and Beckford. Please telephone **Gilbert Watkins 881455** or **Ray Satchell 881441**.

**Ashton WI** will again be providing teas for visitors at the Village Hall on the weekend of **Open Gardens**, between 2.00pm and 5.30pm each day. We would be VERY grateful for offers of help or a cake as we need many more than the WI members can provide by themselves. Please contact **Jen Creese 881266** or **Chris Powell 881481**.

## Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy Sale Saturday 20 June 10.30am

Jenny Whitehouse and friends are trying to raise money to provide essential cancer treatment for Lydia Kakooza, a very dear Ugandan friend. Lydia spent several summers here in Ashton a few years ago and she is now married with a young family back in Uganda. She has recently started treatment for breast cancer and has been advised that she will respond well to treatment with Herceptin, the cost of which alone will be about £30,000. We are working hard to try to raise as much of this as we can to help her, and our first event will be on **Saturday 20 June** from **10.30am to 12.30pm** at Ashwood, Gorse Hill, in Ashton.

As well as coffee and delicious cake and biscuits, there will be Ugandan crafts on sale, a bring and buy table, and, weather permitting, you might like to stroll round the garden and admire the view over the Vale. There will also be another chance to view Tony Whitehouse's paintings and buy one of his prints, all the proceeds of which will be donated to the fund for Lydia.

If you would like to learn more about Lydia, and how she came to Ashton, please visit [www.squidoo.com/fundinglydia](http://www.squidoo.com/fundinglydia) which is our campaign website. There is also a link to a very interesting page about Uganda and also our Facebook Group where you can join in and give us some ideas for fundraising events!

Please come and help support a very worthwhile cause - I am sure you will have an enjoyable morning. I look forward to seeing you then.

Christine Whitehouse [christine@tonywhitehouse.co.uk](mailto:christine@tonywhitehouse.co.uk)

## Welcome to our Curate: Sunday 19 July

You are warmly invited to come along and meet Christine Turpin, the new curate, who will be living in Ashton under Hill.

Everyone is most welcome to join in an informal Family Service at 10.00 am in St Barbara's Church led by our Priest-in-Charge, Matthew Baynes, with Christine. This will be followed by a family-friendly gathering in the garden at The Old Farmhouse from 11.00 am to 2.00 pm. There will be fun for the children, a chance to relax and chat, meet Christine, and a ploughman's picnic lunch will be provided. Sunday 19 July is also Big Lunch Day, an Eden Project initiative supported by the Church of England, encouraging us to share local/homegrown/homemade food, so please feel free to bring and share a contribution to the meal.

***Please come and give Christine a warm Ashton welcome!***

If you would like to come it would help us to have an idea of numbers for catering, so please let us know by calling 881487 or 881778. We look forward to seeing you on 19 July.

*St Barbara's Church Committee*



## Footpath News - Fly tipping

Those of us who enjoy the countryside are naturally offended by littering and fly tipping, both of which are criminal acts as well as being highly anti-social. Our volunteer group occasionally has to deal with garden waste which has been dumped by local residents and, on two recent occasions, I have had to ask Wychavon District Council to remove much larger quantities of waste, including tyres, which were dumped on the footpath leading off Back Lane.

My experience is that Wychavon responds very quickly and anyone can submit a report by using the *Report It* facility on their web site at: [wychavon.whub.org.uk](http://wychavon.whub.org.uk). They will also pursue a prosecution if the offender can be identified. For the most serious cases, the penalties can include unlimited fines and imprisonment. So, if you see an incidence of fly tipping, please report it. The longer it is left, the more likely it is that someone else will think they have found a good place to dump their waste.

*Joe Aspey, Parish Paths Warden*

## Ashton First School News

We are still collecting Tesco vouchers, Sainsbury's vouchers and **Books for Schools** vouchers from the *Times* and *Sunday Times*. If you have any of these we would be delighted to receive them through the door or at the School Office. As a small school, we need as much help as possible and these tokens really do make a difference in getting some valuable equipment and books for our children. Thank you.

### Vandalism

We had an incident recently when a window in the hall was broken over the weekend. Please be vigilant at the weekends and evenings to look out for incidents around the school. As these hall windows are special ones, it is costing us a lot to have it replaced.

### School Open Evening - Monday 18 May

Everyone in the village is most welcome to come to the Open Evening on Monday 18 May and have a look round the school. from about 7.00pm onwards. Refreshments will be on offer!

*Bryony Baynes*

## ASHTON FC

Ashton Football Club's long season finally finished last Sunday, and it was one of our most successful seasons for many years: finishing 4th in Div 3 of the Birdseye league, missing out on promotion by 2 points, reaching the quarter finals of the county cup, reaching the semi-final of the Bluck cup, and having the best defensive record from all four divisions, conceding 23 goals in 18 games. Local players who contributed fantastically to the season are Jack Mayo, Robert Bromfield, James Baker, James Nicholls, Simon Large and Matthew Ross. Overall a good season, carrying a lot of promise into the next.



We would like to thank the Parish Council for their support in providing us with excellent facilities and the work undertaken with the weeding last summer, which provided us with one of the best playing surfaces in the Evesham area. We would also like to say thank you to our sponsor the Star Inn, who provided us with new kit and leisure wear clothing.



Presentation Night will be in early June at the Star Inn and pre-season training will begin in July on Sunday mornings at the pitch at 10.30am. New players are always welcome, please contact Nick Organ for any info: [nick.orgon@yahoo.com](mailto:nick.orgon@yahoo.com)

## Ashton Frolix

### Fun Summer Activity Days for children aged 7 - 13 years

Following the successful workshop last year, Ashton Social Centre Committee has organised four more exciting fun-filled days of children's activities during the summer holidays - including Sports, Circus Skills, Dancing and much more!

**See the leaflet delivered with this newsletter  
for more information and a booking form.**

**Places are limited, so book early!**

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## Ashton Social Centre Committee (ASCC)

ASCC is a charity set up to manage the Village Hall and Playing Fields. We meet roughly 4 to 5 times a year to discuss management of facilities, new ideas, future development, fundraising, distribution of funds, Village Events and much more...

We currently have a vacancy for someone who is interested in the present and future of these valuable resources. If you would like to have your say in how they are run and help formulate plans for the future, please contact **Tony Lewis 881555** or **Penny Scotland 881594** for more details.

**We look forward to hearing from you!**

**Saturday 30 May  
7.30pm Beckford Village Hall**

## Umdumo Wesizwe (Sound of the Nation)

Eight young men from Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, singing songs of love, hope, worship, courtship, hardship and African social commentary will mesmerise you with their harmonies and tip-toe dance routines. This is vocal music laced with styles of Afro Pop, Jazz, R&B and Reggae; it's a must for all ages and very well worth supporting.

There will be theatre-style seating and demand is sure to be high, so please book early. **Tickets £8** from **Beckford Stores 881248**. Bring your own refreshments. For a preview see: [www.umdumowesizwe.com](http://www.umdumowesizwe.com)

The **DON HANDS** memorial bench has now arrived and is awaiting installation beside the War Memorial by the Parish Council. Once in place, we will organise an unveiling ceremony, which will primarily be for Don's three brothers and some of his colleagues from the Evesham Post Office, who made a significant contribution to the cost of the bench. We will, of course, publish the date when it is known, to ensure that those in the village who wish to be present can do so.

*Jeremy and Christine King*



## Neighbourhood Watch News

Over the last month a series of **hoax telephone calls** have been made to the emergency services from the Ashton public phone box, below the First School. All calls are recorded and are apparently being made by children at various times of the day. The police have asked for any information that may be relevant - please telephone 08457 444 888. Although these calls may not be being made by local children, parents are asked to ensure their children are made aware of the seriousness of making such calls, both for their own sakes and for the sake of those who may need the services which have been sent out in response to a hoax.

Another problem which has also occurred in the last month involves the **theft of money** from plant sales opposite the First School. All proceeds of the sales are donated to the local Air Ambulance, so, although amounts are relatively small, this petty theft is particularly frustrating. Any information or feedback would be very welcome please.

We do need a few more people who are willing to act as **NW volunteers** in the village. Their role is to pass on information to other residents close to where they live; receiving the information direct from West Mercia police. If you would like to help, or would like to receive up-to-date NW information and alerts by email, please contact Roger Umpelby.

Ashton NW co-ordinators: Roger Umpelby 881449, Ted Williams 881018

# PACT

## PACT - Partners And Communities Together

**PACT** is a scheme designed to enable more effective community engagement. It aims to provide communities with:

- Access – to local authorities through a named point of contact
- Influence – over priorities in their neighbourhood
- Interventions – joint action with partners and communities
- Answers – sustainable solutions and feedback

This is your chance to voice issues and concerns that you feel affect your local community. Everyone in Ashton under Hill will have the opportunity to raise any issue or concern they may have within the village. Once this information is gathered and processed, the top matters raised will then be looked at and taken on by a panel of representatives from local agencies - the **PACT** panel.

### *Who is on the PACT panel?*

- The Local Police & Community Support Officer
- A Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator
- Local Councillors
- Depending on identified priorities, representatives from appropriate agencies

### *How do I raise an issue or concern?*

This can be done through the form distributed with this newsletter, which you can complete and leave at your convenience in one of the drop-in boxes situated in the village. The boxes are situated:

- In the Village Hall (Green Room)
- At Bredon Hill Middle School
- In St Barbara's Church

All **PACT** slips need to be returned to one of these boxes by **MONDAY 1 JUNE 2009** please.

*Kind Regards, PC Gary Shephard, CSO Simon Williams*

The next edition of  
Ashton News will be published  
in September.

If there's something you'd like to  
include please let us have details by  
Friday 4 September.

### Ashton News Contacts

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