



Parish News

Issue Four
2005

Dear Parishioner

Speeding traffic is a continual problem throughout the village and one that is regularly raised, at the Local Neighbourhood Panel Meetings, which are hosted by Surrey Police. The local police have taken this issue up, and as a result, a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) was erected in Vale Road. This initiative was very welcome and successful in getting motorists to watch and reduce their speed. I am pleased to say that with the co-operation of Surrey County Council and the police, these signs will be moved around the Parish, to remind motorists to slow down and to keep to the speed limit.

Secondly, following on from the success of the Parish Fun Day held in July, I would like to invite you, to join in with the Parish's Christmas Celebrations on Saturday 3rd December 2005. Full details are below. Please put this date in your diary and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible for the countdown to Christmas.

*Cllr Nigel Manning
Chairman Ash Parish Council*

Christmas 2005 - Celebrations in Ash



The Parish Council's Christmas Celebrations begin on Saturday the 3 December 2005 at 2.00 p.m. with the opening of Christmas Fair where there will be many stalls and games.

From 4.30 p.m. at the Ash Wharf, Christmas carols will be sung around the Christmas tree with the Salvation Army and St. Peter's Church choir providing the accompaniment. Around 5 p.m. Father Christmas will be arriving to switch on the Christmas tree lights and distribute sweets to all the children present.

Father Christmas will then return to the Ash Centre where the Fair will still be open and you will have the chance to buy your last minute goodies. You are also invited to join us at the Ash Centre for mince pies and mulled wine. So do not forget to make a note in your diary of the date of these special Christmas celebrations.

What issue should Surrey police tackle in the parish for the next 6 weeks?

If you would like to have a say and vote on what issue the police should tackle throughout the parish why not come along to one of the their meetings:

15 November 2005 - 8.15pm

10 January 2006 - 8.00pm

Held at the Ash Centre, Ash Hill Road.





Ash Cemetery

Due mainly to a rising population, overcrowding in church graveyards became a serious health risk during the mid 19th Century. As a result, in 1853 a Burial Act was passed enabling local authorities outside London to administer their own cemeteries with vestries electing their own Burial Boards to manage them.

Approximately 33 years afterwards, on 29 October 1886, Ash Vestry, the forerunners of Ash Parish Council, agreed that a new Burial Ground should be provided and that day appointed a 7 member Burial Board. By 31 December 1887 the purchase had been completed, of a field near St Peter's Church, covering 1 acre 2 rods and 4 perches. By agreement at the June 1913 annual parish meeting, a further plot of land covering 4 acres 2 rods 19 perches was purchased.

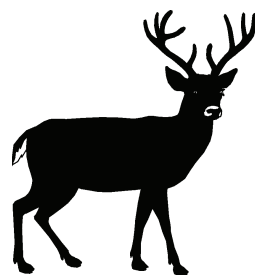
The Cemetery was opened in July 1888 and the first funeral is supposed to have been that of an unknown man found in the road outside the cemetery.

It is also understood that there was a section of the cemetery reserved for "suicides, turks and infidels", although the area has long since been consecrated for Christian Burial. When an inmate of the Workhouse died, other inmates acted as bearers, this was supposed to be an established practise and always appreciated as it was looked on as an excursion! It is also believed that one man met his death while working in the cemetery by standing on the wrong end of a tree branch he was in the process of sawing off.

The Parish Council own and manage Ash Cemetery. Burials take place Monday to Thursday 9.30am - 3.30pm and on Friday 9.30am - 12 noon. New plots are available for "Exclusive Right" purchase. Although there is no facility for the scattering of cremated remains, caskets of ashes may be interred within the Garden of Remembrance, in a conventional grave for which and "Exclusive Right" has been purchased, or in the Columbaria Vaults.

Since 2002 the Parish Council has undertaken several improvements to the cemetery these include the division of the area into named sections, to make it easier for the bereaved to find their loved ones graves, the removal of the unsightly shed at the far end of the cemetery which has greatly improved the panoramic view from the top and currently the footpaths that are being upgraded.

The Parish Council welcomes all visitors to the Cemetery. Please respect the peace and dignity of the facility by keeping children under supervision and by keeping dogs on a lead.



Stag Care

Don't just read this! We need **you** to come and join us. We are a good neighbour scheme for Seale Tongham and Ash.

We really need volunteers to join our friendly group of people, who drive elderly residents to the doctors, or to shops, or just to take telephone calls requesting transport.

If you have any spare time, no matter how small, and would like to help, please telephone Gill Gibson on 01252 668579.

Our clients really do appreciate the help they receive.

Ash Fun Day

Saturday 16 July 2005, saw a Fun Day, organised by Ash Parish Council on the Recreation Ground at The Ash Centre.



Mayor of Guildford Councillor Tamsy Baker

Events got underway in the morning with the judging of the flower and vegetable growing competition. There was also a flower theme painting competition for children. This was very well supported by two local schools; Shawfield Primary and Walsh C of E Infant School. There were so many fabulous paintings that one of the walls in the main function hall of the Ash Centre was completely covered by them!

The Mayor of Guildford, Councillor Tamsy Baker officially opened the Fun Day.

The Radio Frimley Park Hospital Team compered the main festivities, and the D.J. s, with their humour and imaginative choice of music, did a brilliant job, of getting people to join in with the swing of things.



Connaught School - Steel Band



Taekwon-do

Various displays were staged in the central arena, ranging from the excellent Connaught School steel band, to a Taekwon-do demonstration. The Ladies Keep Fit display attracted a large audience, as did the Ash Playmakers with their Gypsy Dance and a story of murder and intrigue. 'The Canine Circus' of performing dogs, on only their second public event, provided light relief.

Also in the central arena was the Children's Fancy Dress Competition that was judged by Michael Gove the new Member of Parliament for Surrey Heath.



Michael Gove - MP with fancy dress winners

There were numerous stallholders who represented various groups from in and around the village. They were there to either raise money for charity, or to promote and raise awareness of their particular activities. The feedback confirms they had a great day.



Playmakers Mummies Play

Also present were the traditional selection of refreshments, a burger bar, ice cream, candy floss and not forgetting, the beer tent. There was also short tennis, provided by Ash Tennis club and a funfair for the children.

The Fun Day was an enormous success, which was helped by the glorious sunshine. Ash Parish Council would like to thank all those volunteers, helpers and staff who gave up their time, to give everybody a very enjoyable day.

Schools in Ash Parish

Walsh C of E Junior School is a Church of England (Controlled) Day School promoting a dynamic learning environment in which children are supported, respected, encouraged and motivated as individuals.



The school caters for 360 pupils in the 7 – 11 year age range and has recently been awarded the Basic Skills Quality Mark. Four year groups are divided into mixed ability classes. Each class has an average of 26 children in a single academic year. There are no mixed age classes.

Staff provide a safe, secure and loving environment which reflects the Christian ethos of the school and children are given an understanding of their role as a citizen in an ever changing and multi-cultural world. High quality teaching, both meaningful and relevant to the pupils, with a broad, creative and stimulating curriculum equips the children with the basic skills for life in the 21st century. Every child is valued and every achievement celebrated.

The school aims to develop excellent relationships with parents, believing the link with a child's home is vital for their education and has recently been awarded the "Parents in Partnership" award by the Local Education Authority. Parents are welcomed into the school environment in a variety of ways and regular contact is maintained by weekly newsletters and regular parents evenings. Come and take a look around, you'll be warmly welcomed. Staff are happy to arrange visits - just call for an appointment or information pack on 01252 329525 or E mail us on school@walsh-junior.surrey.sch.uk

Shawfield Centre, is a drop-in centre in Ash for the over 55's where you are always guaranteed a warm welcome! You are welcome to join us Monday to Friday between 9.00 am to 4.00 pm. We offer a comfortable, friendly place to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, light refreshments or a nutritional two-course lunch!

We are local and offer a great opportunity to make new friends and have fun whilst taking part in our coffee mornings, lunches and theme days where the entertainment is included! Each day we offer various activities for you to take part in bingo, a game of cards or scrabble, gentle exercise or line dancing for the more energetic! If not, just come and relax and chat about the old and the new times.

Or maybe, you just want to visit our Chiropodist, get your hair done with one of our hairdressers or like the idea of a pamper session with our Aroma Therapist. The choice is yours!

If you like the sound of what we have to offer but think you'd have difficulty getting to us don't worry, transport is available too: Call us on (01252) 362304, we can give you more details and arrange to show you around. Drop-in and say hello, we really would like to meet you! See you soon!

If you would like to place an article about a community event in a future issue of this newsletter, or if you have any suggestions or comments for improving the newsletter or website, please contact :
The parish office telephone: 01252 328287.



Ash Parish Councillors

Cllr John G Ades	(01252) 323909	<i>(Ash South Ward)</i>
Cllr Mrs Jennifer Cole	(01252) 664675	<i>(Ash South Ward)</i>
Cllr William Cole	(01252) 664675	<i>(Ash South Ward)</i>
Cllr Mrs Rosemary Hall	(01252) 321427	<i>(Ash South Ward)</i>
Cllr Mrs Ann Graham	(01252) 329670	<i>(Ash Wharf Ward)</i>
Cllr Graham Hawes	(01252) 317763	<i>(Ash Wharf Ward)</i>
Cllr Mrs Jayne Hewlett	(01252) 660913	<i>(Ash Wharf Ward)</i>
Cllr Nigel Manning	(01252) 665999	<i>(Ash Vale Ward)</i>
Cllr Mrs Marsha Moseley	(01252) 665999	<i>(Ash Vale Ward)</i>
Cllr Mrs Pat Scott	(01252) 324941	<i>(Ash Wharf Ward)</i>
Cllr Eric Worrall	(01483) 568080	<i>(Ash Vale Ward)</i>
Cllr Mrs Mandy Worrall	(01483) 568080	<i>(Ash Vale Ward)</i>

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