



Ash Matters

The Ash Parish Council Newsletter

Issue Two 2015



ASH in Bloom 2015



Ash Parish Council will once again be holding its annual **ASH in Bloom** competition. This will be the sixth year that this competition has taken place. The aim of the competition is to encourage residents to make the Parish of Ash a brighter and greener place in which to live. We are extremely pleased that once again the completion is being sponsored by Mike and Jane Duffy of Duffy's Budgens,

This year there are five classes; Best Hanging Basket; Best Tub or Container; Best Garden Border; Best Front Garden and



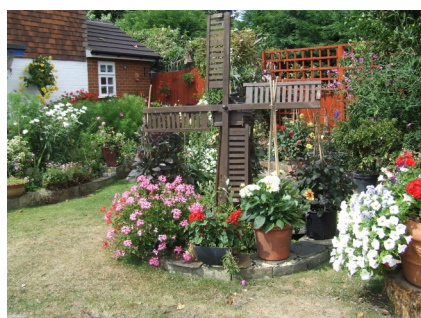
Best Kept Allotment. Entries can be made in more than one category. Parishioners may enter in their own right or you can nominate a neighbour or a friend. If you wish to nominate an entry we do NOT disclose your name in any way to the nominated party, we only ask for your name on the entry form for our confidential record. The only condition with regard to the entry is that it MUST be accessible/visible from the street.

Entry to **ASH in Bloom** is completely free and judging will take place unannounced in early August. The judges will be looking for; the quality of plants; diversity of plants, good use of colour; sustainability - for example using peat free soil, composting, water butts and wormeries (as appropriate to each category; and finally the overall impression.

Certificates (and prizes) will be awarded to the winners at a special presentation ceremony to be held in September at the Ash Centre, where there will be an opportunity to meet other prize winners, sponsors and the judges.

Ash Parish Council would like to try and beat the number of entries entered in the 2014 competition so whether you wish to enter yourself or nominate an entry, obtain an entry form from either the Council Office at the Ash Centre, or download an entry form from www.ashpcsurrey.gov.uk, complete and send or hand in at the Ash Centre.

So "dig" out your gardening gloves and tools or go "potty" with those seeds and plants and enter **ASH in Bloom 2015**.



Various entries into **ASH in Bloom 2014**

Judicial Review - Land South of Ash Lodge Drive

Following a planning decision made by Guildford Borough Council in respect of land South of Ash Lodge Drive, the Ash Residents Association asked if Ash Parish Council would consider seeking a Judicial Review of an erroneous decision making process by Guildford Borough to approve outline Planning permission for 400 houses.

This land floods on a regular basis, as was seen for example in December 2013 when this site was completely under water. Because the proposed new 400 houses on the land South of Ash Lodge Drive would suffer serious flooding implications in addition to the many existing residents houses, both adjacent to and near the site, Ash Parish Council took legal advice and subsequently decided to seek a Judicial Review of the decision making process leading up to the Guildford Borough Council Committee decision.

Ash Parish Council was successful at the oral permission hearing, but the High Court decision was not in our favour at the final hearing. However even though both decisions clearly found that Guildford planning officers did not give Councillors fully correct information, the High Court judge decided that the Committee decision was not flawed overall. Given that the vote in favour of the Planning Application was 18-16 in favour, hardly a unanimous result, and following a review of the published decision Ash Parish Council took additional legal advice and has sought leave to appeal the High Court decision to the Court of Appeal.



The above picture shows the extent of regular flooding on the proposed site of the 400 homes at land south of Ash Lodge Drive

Snaky Lane Nature Reserve



If you have not already done so, you should take some time-out to visit your very own Local Nature Reserve, Snaky Lane which is situated in Stratford Road, Ash Vale. This is a 7 acre Reserve managed by a group of enthusiastic residents, some of whom have devoted over 20 years converting what was an overgrazed horse pasture into a valuable conservation area for the use of those living in the area.

The Snaky Lane Community Wildlife Group was established in 1993. Since then it has developed the site, owned by Guildford Borough Council, into a range of natural habitats including wildflower meadows and native hedgerows. There is also a

large pond and areas of woodland tree species. Every winter, sheep, highland cattle and, more recently, goats, are a regular feature as they graze part of the wildflower meadow, and have become a major attraction to passers by.

Keith Boulnois, Chairman of the group said, *"We are so proud of our achievements over what has been a lengthy period of very hard work. We have a dedicated committee and a group of enthusiastic and committed volunteers who turn out rain or shine every month to maintain and develop Snaky Lane. Our efforts were endorsed by Natural England last year when Snaky Lane was officially designated as a Local Nature Reserve"*.



Visitors to

Snaky Lane, in addition to enjoying peace and quiet amongst the wildlife, can also follow a nature trail or enjoy a picnic by the pond. There are hard-surface paths which make access easy for all and a number of benches to rest weary legs or just to sit and enjoy the surroundings. Close links with Holly Lodge School have resulted in learning materials being produced by the Snaky Lane Committee so that all children from the school are able to visit Snaky Lane as part of their science curriculum.

Keith also said *"Working with, and for, the local community is a key part of what we do. In addition to the school project we have installed a memorial sculpture and last year we added a sculpture of a poppy, under-sown with wild poppies, to mark the anniversary of the start of World War 1. These important elements to our work add real benefit to the local community alongside the wildlife conservation work we do."*

Snaky Lane has recently been awarded a Gold Medal in the Guildford in Bloom community category and was graded as Outstanding (the highest level of award) in South East in Bloom in 2014. If you would like to help as a volunteer at Snaky Lane or simply join the group for a cup of coffee on one of their task days to find out more about this local treasure, contact Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership on 01252 331353 or email Blackwater.valley@hants.gov.uk

Ash Museum helps Walsh Memorial School celebrate 100 years

Ash Museum, which houses a wealth of local history, played host on the 14th January 2015 to 120 pupils from Walsh Memorial Church of England Infants School. The Museum has been working with the school to help facilitate the celebrations for their Centenary. The children arrived all dressed in period costume which they were allowed to wear for the whole of the week.

The enthusiasm which filled the Cemetery Chapel was testament to all the hard work carried out by the museum, and they soon got cracking searching out objects to enable them to complete their spot the object leaflet. The Museums John Daniels and Brian Perry fielded questions by the score, the children even wanted to know the history of Brian's walking stick.

The Museum is looking forward to future school visits, (by any school) which can be arranged through Brian Perry on 01252 542341 or ash.museum@ntlworld.com.



A group of children from Walsh Memorial C of E School outside The Chapel at Ash Cemetery - the home of Ash Museum



Children from Walsh Memorial C of E School inside The Chapel at Ash Cemetery - the home of Ash Museum

Above pictures by kind permission of The Head Teacher, Walsh Memorial Church of England School

The school celebrated their centenary for a week with everyone dressing in Victorian costume.



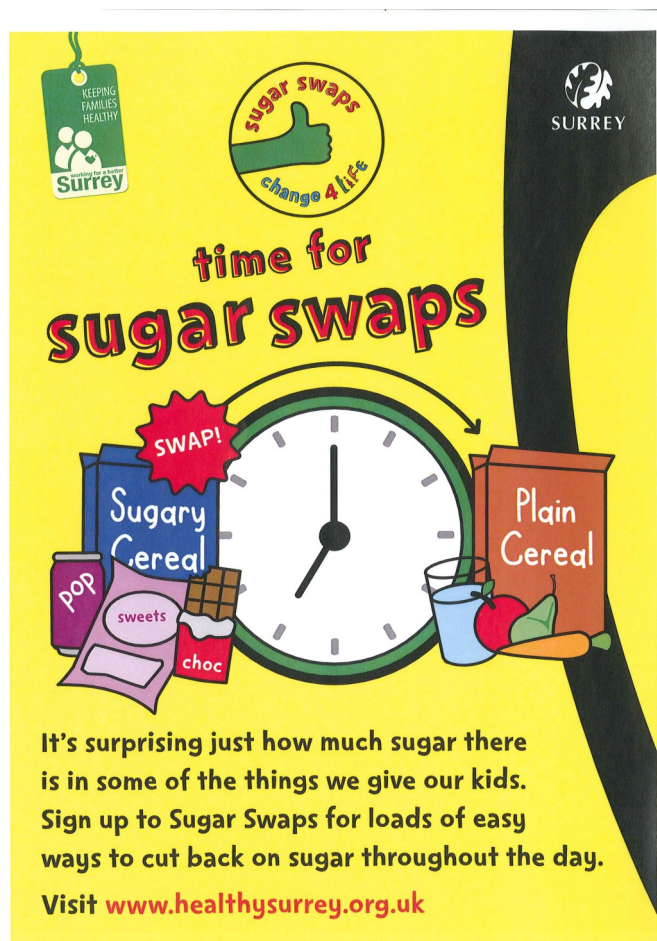
This class photo was taken it is thought in 1915 when the new school opened. The board that they are holding says "Ash CE School Infants 2 - Feb 25th. The date is unclear but it is thought to say "1915".

The windows behind can still be seen at Walsh Infants School today.



Time for sugar swaps

Change4Life is back to help kids cut back on sugar



Did you know that there are seven sugar cubes in a can of fizzy pop? From sugary cereals to after school snacks and puddings in the evening, it's surprising just how much sugar there is in some of the food and drinks we give children every day.

This can damage their health because sugar means extra calories which cause fat to build up and this can lead to heart disease, some cancers and type 2 diabetes. Don't forget that eating too much sugar can also cause tooth decay.

To help you and your kids cut back on sugar all you need to do is sign up to Change4Life Sugar Swaps to find out about healthy alternatives. There are loads of great ideas to help you throughout the day:

- **Breakfast swap** – some cereals are full of sugar so why don't you try out some healthier alternatives such as porridge. You can add some chopped banana to make it the perfect start to the day for you and your children.
- **Drinks swap** – swap those cans of fizzy pop for sugar-free drinks, water or lower-fat milk.
- **After school snack swap** – replace chocolate, cake and crisps with carrot sticks or unsalted nuts to keep the kids going through until dinner time.
- **Pudding swap** – you can still enjoy a treat in the

evening by making a healthy blackberry and apple crunch with some oats and low fat yoghurt. There are lots more tasty pudding recipes on the Change4Life website - <https://sugarswaps.change4life.co.uk>

To find out about more ways to reduce your family's sugary intake and receive your FREE pack full of tips and money off vouchers, visit the Healthy Surrey website - <http://www.healthysurrey.org.uk/news/c4l-sugar-swaps-2015/>



Outdoor Fitness Equipment



Ash Parish Council would like to thank everyone who responded to the article in the previous edition of "Ash Matters" requesting your thoughts and opinions on the possible installation of Outdoor Fitness Equipment. The response was very good and all of your comments will be taken into consideration before a final decision is made. However whilst investigation into various suppliers and types of equipment is underway, we would still welcome any further comments that you may have.

If you would like to still offer your thoughts please contact the Council as always by telephone on 01252 328287 or e-mail office@ashpcsurrey.gov.uk.

Ash Parish Garden Club



Ash Parish Garden Club members Chris and Joe at a recent Club Meeting

Ash Parish Garden Club has for over 52 years been meeting at the Victoria Hall, Ash Hill Road, Ash and although they currently have around 50 members they would like to increase their membership. Newcomers can be sure of a very friendly atmosphere and advice is offered on any aspect of gardening.

Membership costs are low and the meetings are either talks or demonstrations from well known authoritative RHS approved speakers. At each meeting members get a free magazine written and produced by themselves along with free tea or coffee.

Three shows a year are held along with a number of full or half day trips to local gardens, with travel via Minibus. The club also organize a four day (three night) trip for members touring various parts of the country visiting National Trust Gardens, village gardens and gardens from the Yellow NGS Book and staying at a hotel with half board for the duration of the trip.

With all these wonderful things on offer why not come and join us. Come along to any meeting and sign up, we meet the first Monday of every month 7.30pm it's that easy. If you would like any more information please give club president, Brian Perry a ring on 01252 542341.

Fitness League

Looking for an Active 50+ exercise class?



Fitness League classes offer a low impact fusion of dance, exercise and core strengthening, choreographed to music and guaranteed to put a smile on your face. Strengthen muscles; raise energy levels; improve balance and mobilise joints. Sessions are held at The Ash Centre, Ash Hill Road, Ash on Wednesday from 10:00am. Come along or contact Alison for more information by e-mail ah.fitnessleague@gmail.com or telephone 01252 328014

Shawfield School 50th Birthday



Shawfield School in Winchester Road, Ash is seeking former pupils to help celebrate its 50th birthday next year.

The school, which was then known as Shawfield County Infants, opened its doors for the first time on 10th January 1966.

The Staff and Governors want to involve as many people in the celebrations; past and present parents and pupils, staff and governors, members of the Parish Council, members of the local community - in fact anyone who has had anything to do with the school over the past 50 years.

Please contact the school on 01252 320379 or e-mail info@shawfield.surrey.sch.uk to receive further information, or if you would like to be involved in planning the commemorations.

Care Angels



*Rachel Guilford with an Ash Vale Resident
Photo copyright Eric Marsh*

Care Angels is a befriending project which aims to reduce social isolation and loneliness among older people and vulnerable adults in Guildford Borough. It is currently being piloted in Ash and the surrounding areas. The project is managed by the Church of England and funded by Guildford Borough Council.

Statistics show that loneliness is often linked with poor health. Care Angels vision is to reduce the strain on local and authority services by empowering isolated individuals with the support of volunteers and local community groups.

Volunteer Care Angels are matched with residents and meet them on a regular basis for an agreed timeframe (around six months) to help them develop confidence,

independence and community links. Residents may be isolated for many reasons including bereavement, poor health, low confidence or a lack of family support. Referrals may come from various sources including professionals across statutory services, or within the community.

No specialist skills or experience are required to become a Care Angel. Just compassion and availability. Training is provided and support given throughout. The commitment involves giving a few hours a week for a period of around six months.

To find out more, make a referral, or become a Care Angel please contact Project Co-ordinator Rachel Guilford on 07796 098077 or e-mail Rachelguilford@cofeguildford.org.uk

Dates for your 2015 Diary

Ash in Bloom Judging, during July
Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service, Sunday 8th November
Christmas Fantasia, Saturday 28th November

As always, full details of these and any other events will be printed in *Ash Matters* or displayed on the Parish Council website; www.ashpcsurrey.gov.uk.

Ash Parish Council Contact Details

Mrs Carole Olive
Clerk to Ash Parish Council
Ash Centre, Ash Hill Road, Ash, Surrey. GU12 5DP
Telephone: 01252 328287
Fax: 01252 319338
E-mail: office@ashpcsurrey.gov.uk
Website: www.ashpcsurrey.gov.uk
Twitter: [@ashpcsurrey](https://twitter.com/ashpcsurrey)



SURREY
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Surrey safer

Contact Numbers

999 or 112 - For all emergencies
101 - Report a non emergency crime to Surrey Police

Neighbourhood Panel Meetings

The next Police Neighbourhood Panel meetings for:

[Ash Wharf](#) take place at the Ash Centre, Ash Hill Road, Ash.

[Ash South & Tongham](#) take place at St. Pauls Church of England School, Eastside, Tongham.

[Ash Vale](#) take place at St. Mary's Church, Vale Road, Ash Vale.

For up to date information and dates please visit:
<http://www.surrey.police.uk/my-neighbourhood>

Community Wardens
07901 513652 - CW Jo Packman
07769 642053 - CW Lesley Telford

Dates for your 2015 Diary Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service

Sunday 8th November

Brass Band Concert

Saturday 14th November 2015

Christmas Fantasia

Saturday 28th November

Visit www.ashpcsurrey.gov.uk for news of any other events

Recycling Sites

Recycling in Ash Parish is handled by Guildford Borough Council. There is an extensive section on recycling on the following webpage: <http://www.guildford.gov.uk/guildfordweb/environment/recycling>.

Community Recycling sites in Ash and Ash Vale are located at:

Ash Football Club

Shawfield Road

Green, Brown and Clear Glass.



Carrington Recreation Ground

Lysons Avenue

Green, Brown, Clear Glass, Newspapers, Magazines, Cans, Plastic Bottles, Textiles, Shoes.

Coronation Gardens

Ash Hill Road

Green, Brown, Clear Glass, Newspapers, Magazines, Cans, Plastic Bottles, Cardboard, Books, Textiles and Shoes, Liquid Food Cartons and Drink Cartons.

If you would like to place an article or advertisement about a community event in a future issue of this newsletter, or if you have any suggestions for improving the newsletter or website, please contact The Parish Office by telephone on: 01252 328287 or e-mail office@ashpcsurrey.gov.uk

Ash Parish Councillors

Telephone No.

E-mail

Ward

Cllr Mrs Ann Graham	(01252) 329670	anngraham001@live.co.uk	(Ash South Ward)
Cllr Mrs Jo Randall	(01252) 344929	jo_randall@yahoo.co.uk	(Ash South Ward)
Cllr Douglas Richards	(01252) 328287	office@ashpcsurrey.gov.uk	(Ash South Ward)
Cllr Paul Spooner	(01252) 338627	paul.spooner@guildford.gov.uk	(Ash South Ward)
Cllr Laurence Armes	(01252) 662956	laurence.ames@ntlworld.com	(Ash Vale Ward)
Cllr Nigel Manning	(01252) 665999	nigel.manning@guildford.gov.uk	(Ash Vale Ward)
Cllr Mrs Marsha Moseley	(01252) 665999	marsha.moseley@guildford.gov.uk	(Ash Vale Ward)
Cllr Mrs Annie Norgrove	(01252) 312885	norgroves@yahoo.co.uk	(Ash Vale Ward)
Cllr Bob Bonilla	(01252) 345212	bonilla.ashparish@gmail.com	(Ash Wharf Ward)
Cllr Bill Cole	(01252) 664675	bill_cole@tinyworld.co.uk	(Ash Wharf Ward)
Cllr Mrs Jayne Hewlett	(01252) 345212	jayne.hewlett@guildford.gov.uk	(Ash Wharf Ward)
Cllr Mrs Pat Scott	(01252) 324941	scott.lpd@btinternet.com	(Ash Wharf Ward)