

The Ashlink

August September 2026

*The Editor relives his youth at
Watton Show*



Ashill Village History Interested in the history of our village?

We meet at the Call-In on a Monday morning between 10.00 and 12.00.
There is always a warm welcome to visitors to come and explore our files
and photographs.

If anyone has any photographs or information to share, please contact
us.

Contact: Enid Turner 01760 440419,
or e-mail ashillarchivegroup@gmail.com

What's on at The Call In

Where is The Call In?
The Green, Hale
Road IP25 7AT
Next to the duck
pond



Find out more: Contact
Chair person Dee Bolton
01760 441 622
07926917409
AVA Contact, Bev Racher
07546409753

AVA ARCHIVES GROUP Monday 10.00 - 12.00am

COFFEE MORNINGS TUESDAY and THURSDAY 9.30 - 11.30am

All Welcome Come along, for a Mardle (Chat) and meet New Friends

PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB Every other Wednesday 7.00-9.00pm, For Details

Contact Ray 07808 922171 Email: Raydee100@googlemail.com

MEMORY CAFE Every Wed of the month from 10.30 - 1200 plus 12.30
- 2pm on second Wednesday of month Further information telephone 0754
862 6337.

BEETLE DRIVE every other Thursday 2.00 - 4.30pm

LUNCH CLUB Every Friday 12.00 - 1.30

For information regarding the Lunch Club, Contact Denise on 07808
551952

KNIT 'n' STITCH GROUP Friday 2.00 - 4.00pm

BREAKFAST CLUB (All Welcome, No Booking Required)

Saturdays 9.00 – 12.00am Last Orders 11.30am

small breakfast £6.50

Regular £8

Extra Large £10

Friday Luncheon club

If you are on your own, need a cooked meal once a week and would like to socialise with people then contact the ***organiser Denise Hucklesby on 01760 441514.***

If you normally attend but are unable to come please let Denise know by Wednesday afternoon.

We are also always looking for volunteers!

YOU ARE SO
WELCOME
TO WORSHIP
WITH US



SUNDAY MORNINGS

9:30am COFFEE AND CHAT

10am MODERN CHURCH SERVICE WITH WORSHIP BAND
INCLUDING KIDS & YOUTH ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY EVENINGS monthly

FIRST SUNDAY CLOSER | 6pm | An hour of uninterrupted worship

SECOND SUNDAY HIGHER | 6pm | An hour of prayer

FOURTH SUNDAY DEEPER | 4pm | Bible Study & discussion with video

IN THE WEEK...

All welcome, just turn up

TUESDAYS OPEN HOME GROUP | 1:30pm | Bible study and coffee

THURSDAYS NOAH'S ARK BABY & TODDLER GROUP | 10am
Closed during school holidays

SATURDAYS monthly FREE, All welcome, just turn up

FIRST SATURDAY KIDZ KLUB | 10am | Fun for Primary aged children

SECOND SATURDAY GOOD COMPANIONS | 2:30pm | Afternoon
tea & entertainment for our more senior citizens

LOCATION The Well, Swaffham Road, Ashill, IP25 7BT

EMAIL admin@folchurch.co.uk **PHONE** 01760 441902

PRAYER LINE 07722 805404 - text or leave a message

@folchurchnorfolk



www.folchurch.co.uk



fountain of life
network church

Charity Number | 1153552

St Nicholas Church



Incumbent - Revd Patrick Morrow 01760 330258.

Churchwardens – Wendy Peckham 01760 440952

Margaret Barker 01760 751771

SERVICES FOR AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

Sunday 9.30 a.m. August 2nd Lay Led

Sunday 9.30 a.m. August 9th Holy Communion

Sunday 9.30 a.m. August 16th Lay Led

Sunday 9.30 a.m. August 23rd Holy Communion

Sunday 6.30 pm. August 23rd Hymn Sing a long

Sunday 9.30 a.m. August 20th Lay Led

Sunday 10.30 a.m. September 6th NO SERVICE AT ASHILL

BENEFICE SERVICE AT OVINGTON

Sunday 9.30 a.m. September 13th Holy Communion

Sunday 9.30 a.m. September 20th Lay Led

Sunday 9.30 a.m. September 27th Holy Communion.

FORTHCOMING

Sunday 9.30a.m. October 4th HARVEST FESTIVAL

Donation of produce may be left at the church during the previous week.

I would like to thank the volunteers who gave their time to give the Call in Centre a face lift.

The people who did this gave it a lot of thought and it looks great.

Once again, thank you for all the time you gave to the village.

J. Stowell

Take a Break - The Bible says so

Because I have two jobs – as your rector and as a mental-health chaplain – I am guaranteed interesting conversations every week. One thing I have been asked to do, more than once, is defend the account of creation in Genesis, over against the theory of evolution. So I have surprised people – or maybe disappointed them - by saying that I think the theory of evolution is correct. It is a coherent and adequate explanation of how all life develops and adapts over time – over vast amounts of time. It comes with a superabundance of fossil evidence.

Now, it is true that if you asked me to speak at length about evolution, I would soon be out of my depth. That said, if asked to talk about the first chapter of Genesis, I could, I think, babble on to the point of needing to be interrupted. I think Genesis 1 is beautiful. But it is not an explanation of the formation of the world, in competition with scientific explanations. It paints a picture of a flat earth, with the sky as a huge dome, holding back rainwaters. And famously, it also envisages the creation of light before the creation of the sun. This takes nothing away from its majesty. It simply shows that it has the quality of legend.

The verse and chapter numbers in the Bible were added many centuries after the Bible was compiled. The way we have things set out now, it seems that the climax of chapter one is the creation of human beings (male and female) on day six. But most scholars think that is wrong, and the real point comes at the beginning of chapter 2, with God's ceasing from activity, and resting, with, in other words, the creation of the Sabbath, or Shabbat. That is justified on linguistic grounds, but I will also dare to say that I find it a wonderful idea. It means that the human beings' first full day was a day of rest. We are not only in the image of God when we work, and strive, and serve; we are as much in the divine image when we cease from any goal-oriented behaviour, and simply enjoy, enjoy creation, and enjoy company, and claim our freedom to enjoy.

And here we are in August, a month of rest for many. My hope is that we will all get some rest, in some way, and some chance for recreation – “recreation” – in the fullest sense.

Patrick Morrow

Ashill Book Club

Books – Necessity or Luxury?

It is a sad fact that reading is fast becoming a luxury. In these economically challenging times fewer people can justify the expense of buying all the books they want to read.

At a recent meeting of Ashill Book Club, as well as via a discussion in our online group Reading Something Terrific?, we brainstormed some of the ways people save when buying books. Do consider some of these as you prepare your holiday reading selection.

Amazon is often the place to go. There is a lot of information about most books, including samples you can read for free. Although books here can be expensive there are occasional sales and events that reduce the prices so keep a 'Wish List' and buy when cheaper.

Book Fairs such as those regularly held in Thompson and Ovington where reduced price books are always available. Look out for the local roadside signs confirming dates and times.

Book Shops are generally on the decline but we can all help to support them by buying, ordering and browsing. Try the Old School Bookshop in Old Buckenham for example.

Borrowing Books is an obvious way to not only reduce costs but also remove the need for storage. If there are books you want to borrow try asking on local websites or contact Ashill Book Club. It is also a great way to get to know your neighbours!

Charity Shops often have large collections of books for sale and very low prices. Usually an eclectic mix of authors and genres but a great way to find something new.

E-Readers such as Kindles can be a lot cheaper than hard copies but there is an outlay for the equipment initially. This is usually recouped quickly as books can be downloaded for pennies.

Online Stores such as Ebay, Vinted, Facebook Marketplace and many others.

Telephone Box on Church Street is always open for anyone to find a book or two free of charge.

The Call In has a selection of donated books so do have a look and maybe you will find one you have been looking for.

The Library is the main place for access to (mainly) free literature. With a visit of the mobile library to the village, as well as branches in Swaffham and Watton most titles can be found quickly.

The Works is known for discounted stationery but also stocks a range of books at reduced prices.

World of Books sells second-hand books, usually in great condition, at cheap prices.

Of course there are many other ways to obtain books but do consider giving these a try. Whatever you do, though, do keep reading. A whole new world opens up as soon as you pick up a book: the cost of that? Simply priceless. For information about Ashill Book Club (ABC), or if you would like to join our online book club Reading Something Terrific?, please email terryanneuk@gmail.com

ASHILL HARMONY CHOIR

TWO WEDDINGS AND A FUNDRAISER!

We had a busy May, supporting three events:

On the 2nd of May, our choir was invited to support the singing at the wedding held at St. Nicholas' Church, Ashill. It was a really lovely, happy occasion and choir members joined in with the Bride and Groom's chosen uplifting songs.

The team at the Ashill Memory Café asked us to perform a few of our songs for their fundraiser (for Dementia UK and Alzheimer's Society) on the following Wednesday at Ashill Community Centre. We were delighted to be invited to this wonderful community event. Our choir enjoyed singing a selection of our well-known songs. We were conducted by our Musical Director, Richard Winch and accompanied by professional pianist Will Haviland. It was so lovely hearing the audience joining in the singing with us. Some of us stayed on after our slot and found ourselves singing and dancing with Lou.

Our final event in May was at another wedding ceremony, this time held at St. Michael's Church, Great Cressingham. It was another beautiful Saturday. We supported their chosen hymns as well as giving back-up support to one of our members, Kate, who sang a beautiful solo of *Amazing Grace*.

After a busy time practising for these enjoyable events, we are now learning some new songs to add to our repertoire.

If you enjoy singing (no audition is required) and would like to join Ashill Harmony Choir, please contact Sue Cloud on 07880 508930.



Ann and Melissa Bunn would like to thank everyone who supported us to take part in THE RACE FOR LIFE .

Your generosity has helped us to raise £455 so far for Cancer Research.

Race for Life!

We started taking part in race for life around 20 years ago when Melissa's work colleagues took part in the event at the Norwich showground. We quickly got fed up with the monotony of the showground and started to take part in the event at Houghton Hall. This was a much nicer venue with the hall in the backdrop, the deer roaming and a chance to look at the estate grounds while we completed the course. The atmosphere was always that of excitement tinged with sadness as we all raced for people we had lost with their names on our backs. We also raced in celebration of the people who had fought cancer and survived. Over the years we estimate we have raised nearly £10,000 to help support research into cancer! The last 2 year's races have been tough with the searing heat and Ann's sore leg, so we have decided with heavy hearts that this year, being our 20th race, will be our last. Thank you so much to everyone who has supported us over the years and a special thanks to Peter who has cheered us on at the sidelines and treated us to an icecream at the end!

Melissa and Ann Bunn

Useful contacts

Parish Clerk, Jean Sangster : 01760 440383 (only between 9:00am – 5:00pm Mon-Fri)

Chairman Alan Ketteringham: Mobile: 07733 420588

ASHILL PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR ASHLINK HIGHLIGHTS OF AGM HELD ON 26TH MAY 2026

ALL POSITIONS REMAIN THE SAME - see details at end of report.

HIGHWAYS – Reported back that drains in Swaffham Road have now been jetted.

PLAYING EQUIPMENT – All cleaned thanks to volunteers and repairs carried out.

FOOTBALL – Shipdham United Football Club have confirmed their continued hire of the pitches at the Playing Field for 26/27 Season. Charge to remain same.

ALLOTMENTS – AW carried out routine water inspection and found taps not satisfactory so 4 new taps to be fitted to standpipes.

NORFOLKALC AGM – The Chair and Clerk attended and were advised that following the proposed formation of Unitary Authorities there will be a need for much more working together locally.

TREE SURVEY – This was carried out on all trees in the Parish and remedial work is to be carried out at Church, on property that is responsibility of Trustees and on property that is responsibility of Parish Council.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Mr Eagle thanked everyone for their support during his time as County Councillor and he felt that he had achieved a great deal for the local communities during that time.

He stressed the need for the Parish Council to keep up their campaign against Solar provision in this area especially the routes that could be used if this goes ahead.

He gave details of what's on in Breckland and their proposals to provide housing for younger residents.

PUBLIC

The state of the pavement in Church Street is to be reported to Highways. The matter of Flagpole removal was again raised and Chair advised that outcome will be given in Ashlink.

Thanks were expressed to resident who carried out a survey on this subject.

PROJECTS

Lighting for Car Park at Community Centre - Councillors to meet Electrical Engineer.

Additional Textile Bank for Community Centre – Breckland advised that

request made to Operatives to empty fortnightly to see if this solves the problem.

Rent Review with CADENT for hire of part of Allotment Site is due in 2027 and this will be investigated.

AUDIT

AGAR has been completed by Internal Auditor and now sent to External Auditors. Inspection by Parishioners can be carried out until 14th July by prior arrangement with Clerk.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Mr Alan Ketteringham – Chair- 07733420588

Mr Richard Leighton –Vice-Chair – 07827225370

Mrs Andrea Binns – 07597631821 Mr Ashley Howell – 07398165339

Mr Kwadwo Kissiedu – 07825717068 Mr John Leggett – 07743741089

Mrs Jenny Lusher – 07714768471 Mrs Amanda Shepherd –
07799683930

Mr Andy Thomas - 07484377553

CLERK/FINANCIAL OFFICER - 01760440383

Email: clerk@ashillpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

FULL MINUTES CAN BE FOUND ON WEBSITE :

ashillparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

ASHILL PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR ASHLINK

HIGHLIGHTS OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 23RD JUNE 2026

HIGHWAYS – Drains in Swaffhan Road near entrance to Egg Farm are again blocked and will be reported. Potholes near entrance to Comm. Centre and in Dunnetts Close to be reported.

DOG WASTE – It has been agreed to site this at entrance to Acacia Avenue and now ordered.

PLAY EQUIPMENT – One item of Fitness Equipment is showing signs of rust and suppliers to be requested to put this right. Also wire on Zipwire is now very low and suppliers have been requested to tighten this but no response yet.

COMMUNITY CENTRE – Request for use of car park and area to front for Car Boot sale on 23rd August was granted.

VAS HALE ROAD – Westcotec has confirmed that this has been checked on

three occasions in last year and is working correctly although the 'O' glows dimmer.

ALLOTMENTS – Problems finding water meter as had been covered over when new bus stop was installed. Now found and new taps can now be fitted.

FLAGPOLE – The Trustees have received a very kind offer from a resident to replace this and the person who installed the first one without permission is willing to concrete new one in and this will have locking system. The changing of flag will be responsibility of Trustees. The offer to keep grass trimmed around pole was gratefully accepted.

TEXTILE BANKS – Due to excessive use an additional one has been requested.

TREE SURVEY – Remedial work to be carried out.

ASHLINK – Notification that funds are running low and meeting to be held with Editor and Committee to discuss the way forward.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

FE advised that the new County Council are going to challenge the decision of 3 Unitary Authorities. He feels we must keep up objections to Solar. Breckland are supporting the smaller businesses and there are Awards for these.

PUBLIC

The Chair of AVA advised that at present time the Breakfast Club and Lunch Club had been put on hold as two helpers were now unable to continue. She stated that unless more help is forthcoming and people to join Committee, the AVA will struggle. Both Clubs have been very well supported and popular and would be greatly missed if further help is not found.

PROJECTS

LIGHTING FOR COMMUNITY CENTRE CAR PARK – Agreed that one pole with 2 floodlights and one on Hall be installed. Quotes to be obtained and Clerk to apply for grant.

LOCAL PLAN – Breckland should be publishing this in July and then a Consultation will follow for public to air their views.

LYCH GATE – It is reported that the gates are in need of painting and this will be investigated and quotes obtained if thought necessary.

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Courier Man

In the last issue David described the journey a parcel makes from warehouse to your door. This issue is a description of the delivery driver's day - and it is more demanding than you might have thought!

Well, the alarm goes off ... 5:00 am ,up , wash, put on uniform (obligatory) , tea, toast and make a packed lunch for the day. Out of the door to be at the depot for 6:00 am.

First job, sort out the day's deliveries using loading slips, one per delivery, sort into order and load up, scanning parcels as they go on . All done , check the depot, yep , the floor's empty , no items missing. Scanner into the office, quick coffee out of the machine and collect my 5 or 6 A4 sheets of deliveries for day. I'm going back to when signatures were mandatory . Nowadays there are apps that will automatically sort your route out for you by postcode/ location .

My round/route was, Hillington , Sandringham, Dersingham, Ingoldesthorpe, Heacham, Hunstanton & Thornham. Usually there were 60/70 deliveries a day with a mixture of private and business addresses , covering about 200miles round trip. At 2:00 started back to depot with 4/5 business collections on way, so having just emptied Van I fill it back up again! Back to the depot, hand in delivery sheets, quick debrief as to any problems then off home 11 hours later.

Was it fun Some days ..yes. When it was raining no .. Summer time round coast .. yes and no. Holiday season was a nightmare .. and yes I too could swear at caravanners !!

FAQ's

No we were not owned by Nelson Mandela. (If you know, you know -ed)

Did I know what was in parcels? After a while you got to recognise senders so sometimes.

Most asked question on the door step "what is it?" huh you're kidding me ... you ordered it! My stock response was..... swivel box round a couple of times ... look sheepish.... "I think it's a box."

Yes I saw sights your window cleaner would have blushed at

Funniest moment After a long wait on a doorstep , a woman answered in her bathrobe , rather red in the face ... " Sorry " she said , reached out for the parcel to reveal a pink fluffy handcuff attached to her wrist ...

" Thank you "

Strange one ... it wasn't a police station delivery .

Thanks for reading .. It looks like a nice cushy job, just riding round the countryside, believe me it isn't. You either take to it or fail big time .

Unfortunately due to Data Protection laws as much as I'd like to help with your problems re deliveries, lost parcels etc , I'm not allowed.

David Smith

Swaffham & District u3a

What an inspirational talk on the work of the Purfleet Trust with the homeless in Kings Lynn at the July meeting, given by Paula Hall, Chief Executive. Their practical approach to the homeless was enlightening. The policy is not to issue sleeping bags or tents but to offer the homeless accommodation, practical advice and help to enable them to turn their lives around. They help people to help themselves by signposting them through the benefits system if needed, helping them to budget and run a home, accessing GP services and acquiring skills training and work. Every person is assigned a mentor and support is tailor made to their individual needs.

Love nature? Then this could be for you. The speaker for August will be David Horsley from the Norfolk Wildlife Trust. The Trust is the oldest one in the country and manages over 60 nature reserves and other protected sites.

30th Anniversary Celebration

On 3rd September we are celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Swaffham & District u3a, formerly called Wissey u3a. A fun morning with entertainment from some of the groups and a cake to be cut.

The monthly meetings afford an opportunity for members to join together, have a cup of tea/coffee and socialise before being entertained by excellent speakers. Members can join one of over thirty groups on offer such as Archery, Music appreciation, both classical and rock, French, and Walking. See the website for more information.

Anyone is welcome to join the u3a. The only criterion to join is that you are no longer in full-time employment and have the time to take part in the activities on offer. We meet at Holme Hale Village Hall on the first Thursday of each month. Doors open at 9.45am for socialising and the meeting starts promptly at 10.30am finishing by 12 noon. Further details on all the activities covered by Swaffham & District u3a are available on our website: <https://swaffham.u3asite.uk/>

Ashill, Holme Hale & District Garden Club
Website: ashillgardeningclub.wordpress.com/
Email: ashillholmehalegardenclub@gmail.com

Growing Soft Fruit & THE ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW

June was a busy month for the garden club, with both our normal monthly meeting, maintaining a soft fruit garden, followed 3 days later by the Club's major event of the year, the Annual Flower Show.

Maintaining a Soft Fruit Garden

Our June speaker was Annette Hurt who gave an enthusiastic presentation on how to maintain your soft fruit garden. Annette covered all the major soft fruits we grow in the UK, explaining how to grow, prune, harvest and manage possible pests. Annette also gave a shout-out for local independent fruit growers where

you can buy quality soft fruit plants to enhance your summer and autumn garden.

The Annual Flower Show 2026

The club held its annual Flower Show on Sunday June 28th. Despite the hot weather there were over 230 entries for the show, spread across 15 classes and a very good attendance of both members and the general public on the day. The standard of entries was high across all horticultural classes. The tombola and plant stalls were busy throughout the afternoon and the refreshment team were kept very busy supplying drinks and cakes. The show finished with the presentation of the show cups to the winning entries in each class and then an auction of the wonderful table decorations created by member Sue Saini and auctioned by the Chairman.

Future Meetings

Our July monthly meeting
(**July 23rd**) will be a presentation by **Jim Paine** of Walnut Tree Nursery on
‘Botanical Gardens - A Grand Tour’. Our August meeting (**August 27th**) will

incorporate our **Fruit & Vegetable Show** and a **Gardener’s Question Time** panel, after a brief AGM. August is also annual membership renewal time, with the cost remaining at **£6** for the full 2026/2027 year. New members from anywhere in the district are always welcome, so come along and join us at one of our monthly meetings to see if you fancy joining our community garden club.



Ashill, Holme Hale & District Garden Club
FLOWER SHOW Sunday June 28th 2026- Results

	Class		1st	2nd	3rd
1	Vase of any five different flower stems	Top Vase Cup	Hazel Chapman	Jenny Banbury	Wendy Churchill
2	Vase of annual flowers - at least two varieties	Gardener's Cup	Iris Whitby	Sue Baldwin	Ruth Seager
3	One single-headed Rose of any variety	Best Rose Cup	Julie Thorpe	Sue Robb	Ann Johnson
4	One single stem floribunda (multi-headed) Rose	Rose Cup	Wendy Churchill	Ann Johnson	Julie Thorpe
5	Vase of three rose stems, any type	Austin-Baales Cup	Jenny Banbury	Wendy Churchill	Julie Thorpe
6	Three stems of the same variety of flower	Pelargonium Cup	Anita O'Hara	Sue Robinson	Lynn McBrien
7	Jam jar of mixed cut herbs	Herb Trophy	Sue Robb	Margaret Forman	Ann Johnson
8	Geranium or pelargonium	Fuschia Cup	Iris Whitby	Jeanne Flynn	Fleur Whitby
9	Indoor pot plant	House Plant Trophy	Ann Johnson	Sue Goucher	Jenny Youden
10	Pot of any type of Cactus or Succulent	The G&M Moore Trophy	Jeanne Flynn	Kenneth Robb	Mary Laing
11	Floral Arrangement - Flowers and fabric	Best Flower Arrangement Cup	Lynn McBrien	Dawn Self	Sue Robb
12	Arrangement of foliage, feather's, seed heads	Foliage Arrangement Cup	Jeanne Flynn	Lynn Mc Brien	Julie Thorpe
13	Handmade Craft Item:	Craft Item Trophy			
	A - Painting or Drawing	Iris Whitby	Sue Robinson	Sue Baldwin	Jenny Banbury
	B - Sewing or Knitting		Iris Whitby	Iris Whitby	Emma Moore
14	Home Cooking:	Home Cooking Trophy			
	A - Homemade chocolate tray bake	Sue Robinson	Sue Robinson	Anita O'Hara	Ann Johnson
	B- Homemade plain shortbread		Sue Robinson	Ruth Seager	Anita O'Hara
15	Photography	Photography Cup			
	A - Planted container in your garden	Jenny Youden	Jenny Youden	Sue Baldwin	Dawn Self
	B - Wildlife (anything living wild)		Mary Laing	Tolly Lane	Lynn McBrien
	C - Woodland Fungi		Jenny Youden	Mary Laing	Tolly Lane
		Best in Show Cup	Lynn McBrien	Chairmans Cup	Sue Saini

Building Styles and Architecture

When looking around the village of Ashill you see an eclectic mixture of building styles and architecture, ranging from modern new builds, 1970s estates, Victorian and older buildings.

I shall pick two such examples.

The first being the Methodists Chapel on Hale Road, opened in 1893 it was well attended for many years but then congregation numbers dwindled and it closed its doors in 2004 and was subsequently converted into the private dwelling that we see today.

Another style of older period houses are the Church Street cottages. It is believed that these cottages were built in the late 18th or early 19th century and were most likely to be housing for the workers from The Rectory or Church Farm.

Originally, they were a one up one down, can you imagine it!! And even into to the 20th century the toilet facilities were outside, something that we cannot relate to nowadays.

The gardens had an interesting layout that was believed to have been developed in the late 1800s, when a hard life was made a little easier by folk growing their own vegetables. The re-organisation of the gardens

meant that some residents gardens were behind a neighbouring cottage, accessed down a pathway.

Over the years these cottages were developed to create a larger living area but they have still kept their original character.

Do you know the history of your home? Or indeed what was on the land before your house was built?

Why not pop along and have a look at the wonderful archive collection that is housed in the Call In and find out some more about our interesting village.

Ashill History Group

Meet at the Call-In Every Monday 10am - Midday



**All Parish Council minutes etc can be found online at
<https://ashillparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/> as
well as lots of extra community information**

**The Ashlink is also published online at
<https://www.ashlink.co.uk/>**

Space Debris

There is a lot of junk orbiting the Earth, old satellites, things dropped by astronauts, old stages of rockets and bits produced by collisions of the above.

The majority of stuff in low Earth orbit is travelling at around 17,500 miles an hour.

Space junk in numbers:

2,000 active satellites in Earth's orbit

3,000 dead satellites in Earth's orbit

30,000 pieces of space junk larger than 10 centimetres

128 million pieces of space junk larger than 1 millimetre

One in 10,000: risk of collision that will require debris avoidance manoeuvres

25 debris avoidance manoeuvres by the ISS since 1999

Collisions are fairly rare at the moment, a Chinese satellite was destroyed in March 2021, the last satellite before that was destroyed by space junk in 2009.

Donald Kessler in 1978, hypothesised that if the amount of junk got too much, collisions would become so common that a chain reaction between the continuous space debris collisions would produce a near Earth orbit system that we could no longer use.

Another problem is that near Earth orbital objects can be very bright, like the International Space station. If too many objects are placed in near Earth orbit, ground based optical and radio telescopes will no longer be able to see the universe for any length of time.

It is useful to record here that Musk is proposing to put 1.5 million satellites in orbit over the next number of years

Albert Day

A View from Green Farm

Well, somehow we've arrived in July already. The children are counting down to the summer holidays, gardens are in full bloom, and farmers everywhere are looking at the weather forecast more often than they probably care to admit.

After spending much of the spring wishing for rain, we did see some welcome showers in places. They haven't solved everything, but they've salvaged some crops that were beginning to look like they'd rather be growing in the Sahara than Norfolk.

That said, we have had nowhere near enough rain and crops have suffered as well as gardens and even the grass is struggling now.

The next few weeks become a game of patience. Walk through almost any field and everything looks as though it should be ready tomorrow, but appearances can be deceptive. Grain has to be harvested at the correct moisture, and rushing in too early can create more problems than it solves. Farming often teaches you that doing nothing for another few days is sometimes the hardest—but best—decision. If grain comes in too hot it becomes a long term storage problem so we have to use fan systems to cool it to allow it to store safely.

Around now you'll probably notice tractors and machinery appearing a little more frequently on the roads. I know they can occasionally be frustrating when you're trying to get somewhere, but every driver is simply trying to make the most of a weather window that might only last a few hours. Harvest waits for nobody, and if rain is forecast tomorrow, today suddenly becomes a very busy day.

One thing I've always found fascinating is that no two harvests are ever the same. Every year presents its own challenges. One year it's too wet, the next it's too dry, then the temperatures are wrong or the timing of the rain isn't quite right. It keeps you humble, because despite all the technology available today, Mother Nature still has the final say.

As I write this, the combine has already rumbled in anger, the winter barley is cut and the wheat is not far behind, it's been another early harvest due to the hot dry weather we have had.

This hot dry weather does bring its own risks, whilst I know it's perfect for bbqs and a beer in the garden, it is also a heightened risk of fires. We have on a several occasions now found vapes, e-cigarettes and other battery devices in the grass margins around the fields. I appreciate it might be easy to just toss it away when it's done with, but please take these home as they only add to the risk if they are hit with a mower or machine while making hay etc.

Have a wonderful summer, and let's hope it's a safe and successful harvest for all

Ashley Howell

Green Farm



Ashill Community Gardens

The AGM was held at 13 The Oaks on Wed 20 May 2026. No members of the public attended. Jean Skeggs resigned due to ill health and the outgoing committee gave a vote of thanks for all her hard work over the years. Ruth Day was elected as Secretary in her place. Our new member Mary Baker was elected as Vice Chair. Other members were re-elected unopposed.

I think you'll all agree that the barrels this year are looking really good. A big thank you to Fabian Eagle and John Leggett who between them have provided the plants and compost.

It's hard work in this hot weather keeping the plants watered. We now have a volunteer taking care of the barrel on the corner of Millfield and the committee between us look after the other barrels. The Cressingham Road barrel is cared for entirely by a local resident. If you live near a barrel and would like to volunteer to help with watering the plants in the hot weather please contact Sue Cloud on 07880 508930 or Ruth Day on 07410 933957

**Next Deadline for the Ashlink is 10th
September
Send content to glen.ashlink@gmail.com**

If you spot anything that needs updating in the Ashlink such as email addresses, phone numbers, times can you please email the editor with the necessary changes.

Ashill Community Centre Committee

Chair	Keith Collins	01760 441196
Vice Chair	Roger Bolton	07739358180
Treasurer	Cath Ready	075495 393619
Secretary	Megan Colley	07724 849225
Lettings Officer	Anne Beckett	07768 350968
Parish Representative	Andrea Binns	07597631821.
Pre Xmas Fair organiser	Dee Bolton	07926 917409

Village Services

Breckland Dog Training	07795 466007
Breckland Gundog training	07795 466007
Abbey Boilers	Chris Field 01760 440364, 07469 762435
Ashill food and Wine	Village store on Hale Road, open 7am to 8pm 01760 440932 ashillshop@gmail.com
White Hart	Excellent hostelry, https://ashillwhitehart.co.uk/ email whitehartashill@hotmail.com 01760 305922
Angela O Sullivan	Spruced up Stuff; Upcycling 07808 857763
Anna Yeomans	Beauty treatments 07824 882 049 www.treatmentsbyanna.co.uk
Ashill Fruit Farm	Fruit in season, apple juices, farm produce 01760 440 050 Open Tuesday to Friday 9am to 4pm Saturday 10am to 2pm Closed Sunday Monday
John Leggett	Garden Services 01760 440733
Norfolk Arborist	Tree Surgery 01760 724270, 07917 207781
J Dack Electrics	Electrician - 07739514060
Fitness Pilates	Thursday mornings 10:30 - 11:30am Ashill Community Centre Linda on - 07759 886777
Elizabeth Grace Jewellery.	Sterling silver jewellery . Online store www.elizabethgracejewellery.store www.facebook.com Elizabethgracejewellery
Leanne Holmes —	LH Equine Services 07920011628 Leanne@lheguineservices.co.uk
Infinite Aesthetics	non-surgical aesthetic procedures 0774 1270359 infiniteaesthetics@icloud.com
Peddars View Turkeys and Lamb.	Whole or halves supplied to order . Prepared ready for the freezer. Fresh from the farm in Ashill. A Ketteringham. Telephone 01953 885603. Mobile 0773 3420588
Farleigh Electrical Services.	Fully qualified electrician based in Ashill. Fully insured and NICEIC registered. Contact Brian Dorton on 07944 161725.
Tanks Uk Limited	01953 889231 Supplier of water tanks , oil tanks, fuel tanks, bunded tanks. Water bowsers
HG Services Grounds Maintenance	0749 3716801 henry.hgservices@gmail.com
J.Walker Electrical Services	01760 441541 07928016562
First Steps Pre-School,	Ofsted Registered Early Years provider, 01760 447444, https://firststepsashill.co.uk/

Ashill Community Centre

Weekly Activities

Badminton Club	Every Monday 4.30 - 5.30pm
1st Ashill Brownies	Every Monday (term time only) 6.30 - 8.00pm
St. John Ambulance	St. John Ambulance Every Tuesday 5:30pm - 8:15pm
	Contact Pat Grout Group Lead 07899 942192
Badgers & Cadets	Jean Rockett-Woods Youth Leader 07749 870485
Ashill Fete Co-ordinator	Denise Eaves 01760 440186
Badminton Club	Every Tuesday 1.00 - 3.00pm
Ashill Parish Council	
Committee Meetings -	Every 4th Tuesday of the month
	contact Jean Sangster Parish Clerk 01760 440383 7.00 - 9.30pm
Zumba	Every Tuesday (contact Lou Dixon 07866
534087)	11.30 - 12.30pm
1st Ashill Beavers	Every Wednesday (term time only) contact Carol Butters
	01760 440995 or 07956 387308 5.00 - 6.00pm
1st Ashill Cubs	Every Wednesday (term time only) contact Carol Butters
	6.30 - 8.00pm
Golden Link Club	Thursdays, fortnightly Please contact Dee Bolton 01760
	441622 or Sue Cloud 01760 441110
Ashill Harmony	Every Thursday Contact Sue Cloud 07880 508930
Choir	Suecloud42@hotmail.com
Pilates Class	Every Thursday (contact Linda Mellor 07759 886777)
	10.30 - 11.30am
Pickleball.	Thursday Contact Elaine Pegley 07734 111370
	Sandra Voyse 07954 823486
Coffee Mornings	Second Friday every month ie. Dec' 13th , Jan
10th	10.00 - 12 noon
Mussel Bay	Every Friday Adults only 7.30 - 10.30pm
Racing	(contact Paul Edmunds 01485 540967
Slot Cars-	or James Cliff 07867 515063)

OPENING 7th SEPTEMBER

★ Guides

1st Ashill Guides

**Girls laugh, learn
and expand their
horizons**

for ages 10 to 14



Girlguiding

For more details please call
Becky on 07795233912
or email dcsofwatton@gmail.com