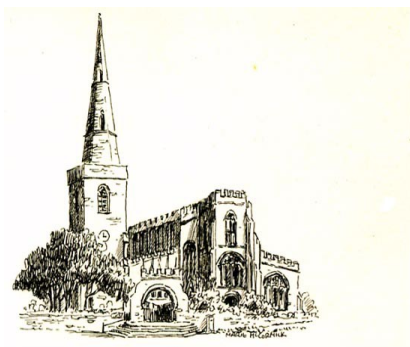


Astbury & Smallwood Parish News August 2019 Price £1



THE RECTOR

– Vacancy –

FROM THE CHURCHWARDEN

Dear parish residents,

On Sunday 21st July we said farewell to our beloved rector Jeff Cuttell, who has gone to be Chaplain at Werrington Young Offenders Unit. We will sorely miss him and his unique style of ministry but he will be a tremendous asset to Werrington and perhaps be able to bring some comfort and insight to the young residents.

We are seeking a new rector for ourselves and Smallwood and have decided to advertise nationally as there are already over a dozen vacancies in our diocese.

If you want Astbury church to be there still when you need it, for family baptisms, weddings and funerals, please show your support now.

We will endeavour to keep the services going at 8.00 am, 11.00 am and 6.30 pm as previously, and you will receive a warm welcome should you decide to visit us. Tea, coffee and cake are served after the 11.00 am service, providing an opportunity to get to know your neighbours. Children are welcome at this service where we set aside a play area if they need it.

Tell everyone you know that we are seeking a brilliant new rector, male or female, you may just chance upon a vicar looking for pastures new. Our historic, beautiful, landmark church needs no flowery description and we also have a brand new house, just purchased, for the new incumbent.

We are confident that there is someone special out there just waiting for the call, so please pray that our church and community continue to prosper.

Yours faithfully,
Brenda Cook

Editor – Mr W. Ball

The Old Vicarage, Reades Lane, Congleton, CW12 3LL

DIVINE SERVICE EACH SUNDAY

8.00 am	Morning Prayer	BCP
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	CW
6.30 pm	Evensong	BCP

We hope to maintain a Sung Eucharist at 6.30 pm each **second** Sunday, with Holy Communion on the **third** Sunday at 8.00 am (BCP) and on the **fourth** Sunday at 11.00 am (CW). These three services require an ordained minister, and if none is available, then the service will be Morning Prayer or Evensong as above. There will also be an occasional service of Compline, replacing Evensong, at 6.30 pm, as announced.

Matters are especially difficult at the moment, as you know, because of the number of clergy vacancies in Congleton Deanery already.

All Saints' Chapel, Somerford: This year's services follow the usual pattern, with Evensong celebrated at 2.30 pm on the first Sunday of each month until September. The Harvest Thanksgiving will be on 29th September and the Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols on 15th December.

We have held two draws so far this year. The winners at Easter were – 1st, £40, Mr R. Boon; 2nd, £25, Mrs Van Weerdenburg; 3rd, £15, Mr E. Porter; 4th, £10, Mrs D. King.

In the second draw last month, the winners were – 1st, Mr J. Sheard; 2nd, Mrs J. Sheard; 3rd, Mrs P. Clarkson; 4th, Mr E. Porter.

Margaret Pennington

Please keep in your prayers the Rural Dean, Rev Steve Clapham, and our Churchwarden as they seek to follow God's guidance in the appointment of our new Rector. We shall try to keep you informed of progress both here in the monthly *Parish News* and in the weekly *Newsletter*. The process will take some time, so pray and be patient.

If you have any queries about services of Holy Baptism or Holy Matrimony, please contact Mrs Cook (0260 290194); or for funerals, Mr Ball (01260 279276). Thank you.

There will be an Extraordinary Parish Meeting in church at 7.00 pm on Monday 19th August to elect a churchwarden. Candidates should obtain a Nomination Form from Brenda and return it to her, duly completed, before the meeting. As with the Annual Parish Meeting, held in March or April, this meeting is open to anyone on the Church Electoral Roll, and also to anyone who lives in the parish and whose name is on the register of local government electors.

Our Rector Jeff duly retired on Sunday 21st July. Nine words which say so little, yet express so much. Large congregations gathered at all three services to say goodbye and thanks to a man who has been a part of our lives twice over the last twenty years. At the 11 o'clock service, heartfelt thanks for his ministry and friendship were expressed by members of Junior Church and by Bill Ball, Brenda Cook and John Hulse, three of his Churchwardens over the years.

A year's Gym Membership had been our present for his 60th birthday recently, and this time we presented some vouchers which can be spent on keeping his motor cycle similarly fit for a while. People lingered afterwards to chat and enjoy the Pimm's and strawberries served by the ladies of the parish, while the bellringers rang a special peal in Jeff's honour.

We were pleased that Jeff's wife Liz could join us, as she was as much a part of the team for her musicianship and service in the choir, especially during Jeff's first period at Astbury.

We wish them all the best as their lives take a new direction and slow down a little bit and we look forward with hope to what God has in store for us.

The Giving Machine: Shop online and get free cash for Astbury church. We already have a link to Amazon on our website (on the right of the home page, towards the bottom). If you click on this and then

make a purchase, an undisclosed percentage of the sale goes to the church account, generating about £100 a year.

We can now raise even more using the Giving Machine, a charity which donates sales commission on online shopping from over 2,000 well-known stores and companies. For instance, if you gift aid your donation, Asda gives 4.20% on non-food items, Clarks gives 3.50%, and John Lewis and M&S give 2.10%. Perhaps the best returns are 17.50% from Ancestry.co.uk and 8.40% on local purchases from Groupon. Other companies make a donation, e.g. Confused.com gives £17.50 on car insurance comparison and EDF Energy gives £35 on combined gas and electricity.

Whenever you spend online, whether it is food, diy, electricals, travel, holidays, insurance or even donations to charity, please check the Giving Machine via the link on the church website to see if you can raise money for the church at no extra cost to yourself.

Church cleaning: On an easel by the west door are some post-it notes with dates written on them. If you can clean the church on that day, please take the note and contact Brenda Cook or Bill Ball to arrange access to church. Thank you.

Church Openings: This year the church is again open on Bank Holiday Sundays and Mondays, between 1.00 pm and 6.00 pm on Sunday and 1.00 pm and 5.00 pm on Monday, with light refreshments generally available between 2.00 pm and 4.15 pm. We started with Easter Day and Easter Monday, 21st and 22nd April, continued on 5th, 6th, 26th and 27th May, and conclude on 25th and 26th August. We thank the ladies who work so hard in providing the refreshments. Additionally, individual and group visits may also be arranged in advance throughout the year by contacting William Ball on 01260 279276 or wbbtov@gmail.com

Astbury Ladies' Fellowship: In July members and friends met at the *Legs of Man* for the Fellowship summer luncheon. In our prayers we gave thanks for family, friends and good food, particularly remembering the family of Elsie Whitehurst in the sore loss. Elsie

always joined us for the luncheon and we missed her. It was an excellent meal and we thank Mrs Norman for organizing it for us once again. It was Gwen Jones's birthday and after we had sung Happy Birthday, she thanked us and told us she was from then reversing her age, and she was now 39 years young – we all applauded.

Various notices were given out – it would be Jeff's final day with us and Sunday 21st July and there would be the three usual services. After the 11 o'clock there would be strawberries and cream and Pimm's, to which all were invited.



Jeff says goodbye . . .

We don't meet in August but on Sunday 25th the Ramblers will have tea and cake in church: if anyone could bake for this, and also for the Monday, please let me know (01260 274190).

In September, Alison Benson will run a willow weaving workshop, demonstrating and helping us to make a bird feeder. There will be a

small charge towards the materials for this evening. We hope you all have a good summer and look forward to seeing you in September.

Carole Goodwin



. . . as others wait their turn.

Astbury Women's Institute: Margaret Pearson welcomed everyone on such a beautiful evening and thanked them for coming. Margaret had tried the Bowling Club's activities for the first time that day and really enjoyed it and had a lovely afternoon. Accompanied by Margaret Hollinshead we sang *Jerusalem*. Apologies were then given and seven birthday buttonholes were given out to Marion, Margaret, Pat, Rhoda, Christine, Linda and Mary.

Yvonne went through the details for the upcoming August Outing which is to Moreton Park and then on to Erdigg on 7th August. The trip is being booked up again with massive demand for such a fabulous day out and Yvonne wondered whether she may need to book a larger Coach.

The July Coffee Morning was discussed and everyone was looking forward to it. This annual event was held at Congleton Library and a good day was had by all. The stalls were laden with homemade cakes and buns along with jams and jellies and chutneys. A Bottlebola stall created a lot of fun and many tried their hand at winning a bottle of their favourite tippie. The White Elephant stall also attracted plenty of interest and some fabulous bargains were to be had from handbags to lamps and all sorts of interesting bric a brac. It was a good chance to meet up and have a good chat with friends over a cuppa and cakes whilst grabbing a bargain! The book stall also proved a hit. Everyone had a good time and this event will be run next year again in the summer.

Thanks were given to everyone who helped with the Cheshire Show: the exhibitors made a tremendous effort and it was lovely to be part of the Show. The WI Marquee was superbly decorated as usual.

The speaker on the evening was Christopher Wellavise who along with his wife gave a talk on ‘Bringing Nature To Our Gardens’, Christopher talked about how passionate he was about gardens and nature. He became interested in the 1960s as he loved being outdoors and started gardening at an early age. Having studied at Bath University in the 70s he came out with a degree in Horticulture. He met Linda in 1984 and then opened in Prestbury in 1991 a tradition nursery with herbs, plants and trees. He listened to what customers wanted and expanded with a Café later on. He talked about Garden Centres opening and changes within the industry. Organic gardening was discussed and we talked about what we could do to try and not use chemicals and that wildlife should be part of what we do. Put birdfood out and cover for wildlife. Nature is part of gardening and he suggested planting buttercups and daisies and brought some plants we could buy to include into our gardens, such as lavender. We discussed fascinating ideas and how crucial the health of our soil is – so don't destroy the soil.

Refreshments were served and the raffle was drawn. The meeting closed after the National Anthem was sung at 9.30 pm.

Kate Burrow

Sartor's Quiz (Answers on page 18)

1. What is an archimandrite? a. Greek abbot; b. Beetle; c. Musical instrument; d. Fossilised shellfish.
2. Which bishop is still by right the Lord Abbot of St Benet's Abbey, where, in the time of King Canute, a monastery was founded? a. Ely; b. Norwich; c. Oxford; d. Rochester.
3. In Leviticus the word 'log' is used as a measure with reference to which particular item? a. Wood; b. Stone; c. Iron; d. Liquid.
4. Approximately how many feet long did God tell Noah to build the ark? a. 150; b. 250; c. 350; d. 450.
5. Where did Jacob have his dream? a. Gilgal; b. Bethel; c. Jericho; d. Jordan.
6. 'It is written, "My house shall be called a house of prayer"; but you are making it a den of robbers!' In cleansing the Temple, which Old Testament prophet is Jesus quoting? a. Isaiah; b. Jeremiah; c. Ezekiel; d. Daniel.
7. Which was the most widely circulated coin in gospel times? It was also the standard day's pay for an agricultural worker. a. Mina; b. Drachma; c. Denarius; d. Didrachma.
8. How many rivers are indicated by the Indian regional name Punjab? a. 3; b. 4; c. 5; d. 6.
9. By what assumed name was Phyllis Primrose-Pechey better known as a television personality? a. Mrs Merton; b. Cilla Black; c. Mystic Meg; d. Fanny Craddock.
10. Who wore a Homburg hat, a shabby fur-collared overcoat and lived at 23 Railway Cuttings, East Cheam? a. Charlie Chaplin; b. Tommy Handley; c. Tony Hancock; d. C. S. Lewis.

WORDS OF WIT & WISDOM

‘Talk low, talk slow, and don’t say too much.’

John Wayne’s advice to Michael Caine at
the beginning of his acting career.

‘Just say the lines and don’t trip over the furniture.’

Noël Coward (1899 – 1973), *Advice on Acting*.

The only thing life owes you is an opportunity to grow.

UCB *Word For Today*, Monday 19th December 2018

‘Every day, in every way, I am getting better and better.’

Emile Coué (1857 – 1926), French psychologist:
De la suggestion et de ses applications (1915)

If a man make a better mousetrap than his neighbour, though he build
his house in the woods, the world will make a beaten path to his door.

Attributed to Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 – 1882)

But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute
you, so that you may be the children of your Father in heaven; for he
makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the
righteous and on the unrighteous.

Matthew 5, 44 – 45

Tell the people of Christ’s life of self-denial and sacrifice; of his
humiliation and death; of his resurrection and ascension; of his
intercession for them in the courts of God; of his promise, ‘I will come
again, and receive you into Myself.’ John 14, 3.

Ellen G White, *Christ’s Object Lessons*, p 25

Beliefs which keep people good are much to be preferred to moral
anarchy.

Robert Skidelsky, *Historical Essays*, p xiii

The Victorians believed that the individual was accountable to God for how he lived his life.’ *ibid*, p 13

FASCINATING FACTS

(Sir) Osbert Lancaster (1908 – 1986), cartoonist, designer, writer and wit, began his employment with the *Daily Express* in 1939, when on 1st January the first of his pocket cartoons appeared in that newspaper, to be followed by roughly 10,000 others over the next forty years. He consistently combined topicality and urbane wit and introduced a cavalcade of recognisable characters from the world he knew including Canon Fontwater, Mrs Rajagolibarmi and his most enduring creation, Maudie Countess of Littlehampton and her dim monocled husband Willy. The 1960s perfectly suited Lancaster’s type of social satire, and he would come into the *Express* office, having lunched at one of his four clubs, and converse for a while, before browsing through the day’s newspapers. The annoying thing at the *Express* was, not only was he the only one who could draw; he could also write better than anyone else in the building.

Today, in cities such as Oxford, the façades of the buildings are wrecked by the fact that the basement storeys are permanently masked by phalanxes of parked cars, and the eminent and picturesque figures who were once accustomed to take their personas for an airing down The Broad or The High would now, did any such still survive, be cut off from their appreciative public by a scurrying throng of suburban shoppers and housewives from Cowley.

Osbert Lancaster, *With An Eye To The Future*, p 61

As one of a huge company, I delighted in the incomparable eye and ear, not to speak of the skill, that went into the making of Osbert Lancaster’s cartoons. But I also knew him in a less familiar capacity, that of a writer of light verse, and there too he displayed an easy and utterly individual mastery. He touched nothing he did not adorn.

Kingsley Amis

Robin Lane Fox, a Fellow of New College, Oxford, and University Reader in Ancient History, was the author of a highly-acclaimed book, *Pagans and Christians* (1986) and he writes in the Preface: ‘The origins of this book go back to my upbringing and to Eton school days when we were expected to teach ourselves the history of the Church before Constantine, to study a Gospel and the *Acts* in Greek and then to alarm visiting examiners with the results of our efforts.’

Are you interested in tracing your ancestors? Even before television programmes such as *Who do you think you are?* many people had begun to research their Family History and were discovering their ancestors. Among the best resources, of course, are the records of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials held in Church Registers and the Inscriptions on the Gravestones in Churchyards.

In 2004 we published a computer CD which contains all those inscriptions (from 1608) and also lists the burial places of everyone buried in our churchyards since 1892.

We followed this up a little later with a companion DVD containing images of our Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials from 1572 to about 1910.

But technology has marched on, and most computers (and all tablets) no longer have a CD or DVD drive. So both are now available on a memory stick costing £32 (plus £2 p&p) available from Mr Ball.

Lastly, the Report on our Eagle Lectern from the Hamilton Kerr Institute at Cambridge University is also available as a CD at £5 (until stocks run out) or on a memory stick (cost £10).

Cheques payable to *Astbury PCC*.

Parish News Publication & Copy Dates 2019 - 2020

The September issue will be published on 1st September

Last Date for material 23rd August

Publication reverts to the last Sunday of the preceding month –

The October issue will be published on 29th September

Last Date for material 20th September

The November issue will be published on 27th October

Last Date for material 18th October

The December issue will be published on 24th November

Last Date for material 15th November

The January 2020 issue will be published on 29th December

Last Date for material 20th December

The February issue will be published on 26th January

Last Date for material 17th January

The March issue will be published on 23rd February

Last Date for material 14th February

The April issue will be published on 29th March

Last Date for material 20th March

The May issue will be published on 26th April

Last Date for material 17th April

The June issue will be published on 31st May

Last Date for material 22nd May

The July issue will be published on 28th June

Last Date for material 19th June

The August issue will be published on 26th July

Last Date for material 17th July

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PATRON – Sir Richard Baker Wilbraham Bt, DL, Rode Home Farmhouse

VICAR	– Vacancy –		
CHURCHWARDENS	Mr M. Bracegirdle, Moss End Cottage	01477 500364	
	Mr R. Stockell	01477 500596	
TREASURER	Mrs T. Allcock, Sycamore House, 23a The Mount	01260 277665	
SECRETARY	Mrs H. Salter, <i>Jesmarie</i> , Spen Green		
SERVICES	9.30 am	Every Sunday	Morning Prayer CW
	A service of Holy Communion will be arranged whenever possible		
VILLAGE HALL	Mrs A. Bracegirdle.	01477 500342	

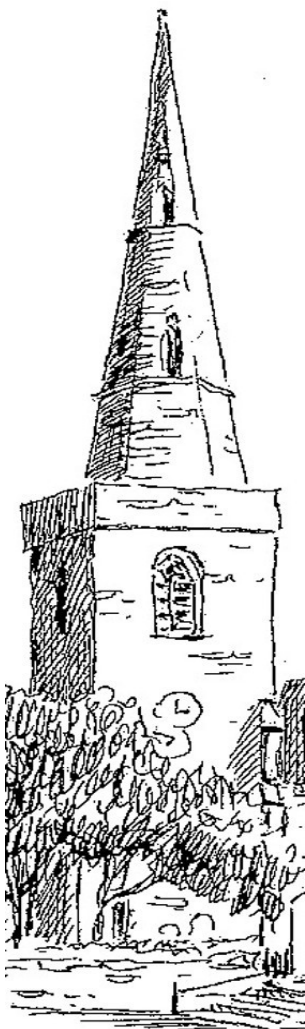
CHURCH KEYS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

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PATRON – Sir Richard Baker Wilbraham, Bt, DL, Rode Home Farmhouse

RECTOR – Vacancy –

CHURCHWARDEN Mrs B. Cook, St Mary's Cottage, School Lane 01260 290194

SERVICES	8.00 am	Every Sunday	Morning Prayer	BCP
	11.00 am	Every Sunday	Morning Prayer	CW
	11.00 am	1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays	Junior Church (Not August)	
	6.30 pm	Every Sunday	Evensong	BCP

We hope to maintain a Sung Eucharist at 6.30 pm each **second** Sunday, with Holy Communion on the **third** Sunday at 8.00 am (BCP) and on the **fourth** Sunday at 11.00 am (CW). These three services require an ordained minister, and if none is available, then the service will be Morning Prayer or Evensong as above. There will also be an occasional service of Compline, replacing Evensong, at 6.30 pm, as announced.

Funerals and Services of Holy Baptism & Holy Matrimony by arrangement with Mrs Cook

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Hon. Vice Chairman Dr S. Drage 01260 270217

Hon. Secretary Mr A. Bailey

Hon. Asst Secretary Mr W. Ball

Hon. Treasurer Mrs D. Barnett

DEANERY SYNOD Mr W. Ball, Mrs C. Goodwin, Mr A. Bailey

ELECTED PCC MEMBERS Mrs D. Barnett, Dr S. Drage, Mrs D. Graham, Mrs C. Holford, Mr J. Hulse, Dr J. Moore, Mrs J. Nadin, Mrs M. Pennington, Mr P. Powell, Mrs P. Price, Mr P. Stanway, Mrs J. Taylor.

CO-OPTED PCC MEMBER Mrs P. Worswick.

SIDSEMEMEN see ASTBURY ROTAS, next page

BELL RINGERS TOWER CAPTAIN Mr P. Stanway

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY Mrs B. Cook

CHURCH RECORDS Mr W. Ball 01260 279276

ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER Mr P. Powell, 15 Belgrave Road, Crewe 01270 560919

FLOWERS Mrs B. Cook. 01260 290194

JUNIOR CHURCH Mrs C. Holford, Mrs L. Shipton, Mrs S. Morris, Dr J. Moore

PARISH NEWS EDITOR Mr W. Ball

ORGANIST Dr S. Drage

SAFEGUARDING CO-ORDINATOR Mrs B. Cook

VILLAGE HALL BOOKING Mrs S. Brightwell 07857 234686

ASTBURY ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL, School Lane, CW12 4RG.

Head Teacher Mrs P. Worswick 01260 272528

Chairman of Governors Mrs K. Moore 01260 290135

WEBSITES

www.astburychurch.org.uk

www.achurchnearyou.com/astbury-st-mary

CHURCH KEYS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE CHURCHWARDEN

Astbury & Smallwood Parish News – August 2019

Astbury Church choir meets to practise every Friday evening
between 7.30 and 8.30 pm.

Astbury Church bellringers meet to practise on the last Wednesday
of each month between 8.00 and 9.30 pm.

ASTBURY ROTAS

		8.00 am	11.00 am	6.30 pm
August	4th	J. Nadin	A. Bailey B. Cook	P. Snape
	11th	W. Ball	B. Cook N. Price	F. Griffiths
	18th	W. Ball	N. Price A. Bailey	T. Gresty
	25th	C. Goodwin	A. Bailey B. Cook	P. Powell
September	1st	J. Nadin	B. Cook N. Price	P. Snape

Answers to Sartor's Quiz this month (page 9)

1 – a; 2 – b; 3 – d; 4 – d; 5 – b; 6 – a; 7 – c; 8 – c; 9 – d; 10 – c.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Service Attendances

		8.00	9.00	11.00	6.30
July	7th	17	3	31 + 7	62 + 5
	14th	17	-	32 + 9	18
	21st	20	-	92 + 19	41
	28th	12	-	27 + 6	15

		<i>Gift Aid</i>	<i>Collections</i>
July	7th	£ 814.00	£ 196.62
	14th	£ 322.06	£ 132.95
	21st	£ 563.83	£ 383.67
	28th	£ 463.55	£ 95.21

Burial of the Dead

July	8th	Richard Carlidge	87
July	9th	John Graham Winterbottom	87 ashes
July	9th	Valerie Sybil Dorothy Winterbottom	92 ashes
July	9th	Winifred Doris Gunnuel	94
July	17th	Ursula Nolan	66 ashes
July	31st	Kenneth Gibson	95

FROM THE REGISTERS, continued

Holy Matrimony

July	6th	Mark James Capewell & Laura Sandra Astley-Bourne
July	19th	Peter Philip Lilley & Charlotte Whalley
July	20th	Michael James Keith Shippam & Charlotte Elizabeth Nield

JOINT PARISHES CALENDAR FOR THE COMING WEEKS

AUGUST

Sun 4th TRINITY VII

				August <i>Parish News</i> published today
		8.00 am	Astbury	Morning Prayer
		9.30 am	Smallwood	Morning Prayer
		11.00 am	Astbury	Morning Prayer
		2.30 pm	Somerford	Evensong
		6.30 pm	Astbury	Evensong
Fri	9th	1.30 pm	Astbury	Holy Matrimony
Sat	10th	12.00 noon	Astbury	Holy Matrimony

Sun 11th TRINITY VIII

		8.00 am	Astbury	Morning Prayer
		9.30 am	Smallwood	Morning Prayer
		11.00 am	Astbury	Morning Prayer
		6.30 pm	Astbury	Sung Eucharist
Wed	14th	12.45 pm	Astbury	Holy Matrimony
Fri	16th	1.00 pm	Astbury	Holy Matrimony
Sat	17th	1.00 pm	Smallwood	Holy Matrimony

Sun 18th TRINITY IX

		8.00 am	Astbury	Holy Communion
		9.30 am	Smallwood	Morning Prayer
		11.00 am	Astbury	Morning Prayer
		6.30 pm	Astbury	Evensong
Mon	19th	7.00 pm	Astbury	Extraordinary Parish Meeting
		7.30 pm	Astbury	PCC Standing Committee Meeting
Fri	23rd			September <i>Parish News</i> deadline
Sat	24th	2.00 pm	Astbury	Holy Matrimony

Joint Parishes Calendar, continued

AUGUST

Sun	25th	TRINITY X		
		8.00 am	Astbury	Morning Prayer
		9.30 am	Smallwood	Morning Prayer
		11.00 am	Astbury	Holy Communion
		1.00 pm	Astbury	Church open for visitors until 6.00 pm
		6.30 pm	Astbury	Evensong
Mon	26th	1.00 pm	Astbury	Church open for visitors until 5.00 pm
Wed	28th	11.45 am	Astbury	Holy Communion in VH
Fri	30th	2.00 pm	Astbury	Holy Matrimony

SEPTEMBER

Sun	1st	TRINITY XI		
				September <i>Parish News</i> published today
		8.00 am	Astbury	Morning Prayer
		9.30 am	Smallwood	Morning Prayer
		11.00 am	Astbury	Morning Prayer
		2.30 pm	Somerford	Evensong
		6.30 pm	Astbury	Evensong

ASTBURY & SMALLWOOD PARISH NEWS

is also available in large-print format.

Please let Mr Ball know if you require such a copy.

Editor – Mr W. Ball

Telephone 01260 279276 Fax 01260 298649

email wbbtov@gmail.com

Cover Drawings of St Mary's Church, Astbury, St John's Church, Smallwood and All Saints' Chapel of Ease, Somerford by Marie McCormick

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