



The 39th

Ashwell at Home

Entrance
with Wristband

Sunday
May 12th, 2024
11-5pm

Entry £10 adults or £9 in advance

(under 18's free when accompanied by a paying adult)

Proceeds go to Ashwell Village Museum, St Mary's Church
Ashwell Pre-school and Ashwell Village School



Passionate About Print

LIVE LOCAL • THINK LOCAL • SUPPORT LOCAL



Having An Eye For Colour

Litho Printing

Our Heidelberg XL 75 5 colour press is equipped with built in colour management system. This allows us to maintain accurate and consistent colour throughout any job, large or small.

- Highest Quality Printing
- Consistent Colour
- Highly trained Machine Managers

Solving Your Problems

Artwork and Design

Our Artwork and Design studio is a modern design studio with the latest Apple Macs, loaded with fantastic software but more importantly we have some great guys using them.

When you print with us we hold all your artwork for five years so that you have an instantly accessible back up.



Adding A Splash Of Colour

Digital Printing

Smaller quantities of brochures, newsletters, mailers, business cards are all produced to the highest quality on our digital presses.

- Fast Reliable Service
- Highly trained experienced staff
- Top Quality printing at affordable Prices.



Creating The Perfect Display

Large Format

Our clients can truly benefit from XL Press being the ultimate "One Stop" solution for ALL your printing needs.

- High Quality products
- Unlimited Capabilities
- All under one roof



Alington Road, Little Barford, St. Neots, PE19 6WE

t: 01480 474787 e: sales@xlpress.co.uk w: www.xlpress.co.uk



Welcome to Ashwell at Home

Hidden Ashwell

Welcome to Ashwell.

Ashwell itself is a village hidden over the hills and over the watershed from the rest of the county. It is also a village full of hidden surprises and we hope you will have a rare chance today to share some of its many interesting and delightful features. You will be able to enjoy exhibitions, talks, trails, fun activities, music, dancing, art and craft demonstrations and workshops, as well as our traditional programme of open gardens. Your wristband will give you access to all these activities and events. Admission to everything is free for children under 18 if accompanied by an adult with a wristband.

Delicious food and drink are on offer at various locations around the village.

The open gardens range from the tiniest of courtyards to the large country house, with all sizes and types in between.

The map on pages 12 and 13 of this programme should help you to find everything but if you have any problems please ask the Town Crier. He'll be happy to help you and you can't miss him in his traditional gear! And please don't forget to support our raffle: it might be your lucky day.

Many of the outdoor activities planned for the day have an alternative indoor venue in case the weather is bad. Look for details printed in italics.

This annual open day is a charity event. The proceeds are donated to Ashwell Village Museum, Ashwell Primary School, Ashwell Pre-school, and St Mary's Church. We all enjoy sharing some of the pleasures and treasures of this remarkable village with friends such as yourselves.

Thank you for your kind support. Have fun!

Contents

Plan your day timeline	pages 2-3
Attractions and Events	5-6
Hidden Ashwell	8-10
Open Gardens	11, 14
Map of Ashwell	12, 13
Live Music Performances	15, 16
Children's Activities	18, 19
Walks, Talks and Trails	20
Food and Drink	22
Things to enjoy during the day	23, 24

Thank You

Ashwell at Home would not be possible without the tremendous contribution of many villagers who volunteer their time and enthusiasm before, during and after this event. They do a grand job and we are very grateful to them for enabling us to share the many things which make us proud to be Ashwellians.

Plan your day... a timeline of activities



Venue numbers refer to the map on pages 12 and 13.



























- | | | |
|---------|--|---|
| 11:00 | Morning Coffee and Cake: a refreshing chance to sit and plan your day. |  Parish Room
 Rhubarb & Mustard
 URC Hall |
| 11:00 | Sausage Rolls etc, served in the forecourt at Crumps, till 2:00-ish. |  Crumps |
| All day | Ashwell Archaeology: Digging to find hidden clues to Ashwell's past. See page 8. |  Swan Street |
| All day | Hidden Fairy Doors Trail: Hunt around the village during the day to find as many hidden Ashwell fairy doors as you can. Trail sheets available from the car park in Dixies Meadow, or from Ashwell School or Ashwell Museum |  Ashwell School
 Ashwell Museum |
| All day | Look Behind You! Be prepared to meet characters from pantomime: Ashwell Theatre Club. | Anywhere, Any time |
| 11:00 | Open Gardens: Most of the beautiful gardens open from 11:00 am. Full details on pages 11 and 14. | |
| 11:00 | Hertfordshire Police: Information stand and patrol vehicle, open till 3:00. |  Ashwell Rec. |
| 11:00 | The Outliers, Acoustic Band. |  Dixies Yard |
| 11:15 | Children's Story Time with Mrs Young, suitable for ages 3 to 7. |  Ashwell School |
| 11:30 | Gardeners' Questions Answered: Garden expert, Jane Buxton, will answer gardening questions in the Cottage Garden, Swan Street, till 12:45. <i>This session will not take place in bad weather but the later session, starting at 2:00, will go ahead anyway in the United Reformed Church (URC), map 26. See 2:00 pm below.</i> |  Cottage Garden |
| 11:30 | The Great Fire of Ashwell, guided walk and talk, led by Museum Curator, Peter Greener. |  Dixies Yard |
| 11:30 | Moving Mazes: Movement workshop for families, till 12:30 See page 10. |  Ashwell School |
| 11:45 | Welwyn Harmony Ladies Chorus: Old and new popular songs in 4-part harmony. <i>At The Three Tuns, map 33, in bad weather.</i> |  Ashwell Springs |
| 12:00 | Display of Classic Cars: Ashwell Village Hall car park, West End. |  Village Hall |
| 12:00 | Basket Making Demonstration by Ashwell's yeoman basket maker, Carter's Pond, Swan St |  Opposite Museum |
| 12:00 | Fairground Rides: Ashwell Recreation Ground. |  Ashwell Rec |
| 12:00 | Morris Dancers, Rose & Crown car park |  Rose & Crown |
| 12:00 | Lunch is served! Delicious lunches available till 2:00 pm. See page 22 for details. |  Ashwell School
 URC Hall
 Pavilion on Rec |
| 12:15 | Well Dressing: Alms Lane. Blessing by the Rector, Rev. Chris Campbell. |  Alms Lane |
| 12:30 | Welwyn Harmony Ladies Chorus: Old and new popular songs in 4-part harmony in a beautiful garden setting. |  East Lodge |

Ashwell at Home Raffle

Many stunning prizes

Tickets £1 each from the School, the Museum, various gardens or from the Town Crier.

The draw will take place at 5:00 pm at Ashwell Museum.

- 12:30 **Spinning and Weaving:** Members of the N. Herts Guild of Spinners, Weavers & Dyers demonstrate how wool is spun and the yarn woven into fabric. Till 4:30.  St Mary's Church
- 12:30 **Pre-School and Nursery Play Garden:** Open till 4:30 but children must be supervised.  Village Hall
- 12:30 **Traditional Cream Teas,** prepared and served by Ashwell Pre-school parents, till 4:30.  Village Hall
- 1:00 **Bygrave Handbell Ringers:** A talented team of local musicians perform in Swan Street. *In bad weather, this will take place in the United Reformed Church, High Street, map 26.*  Opposite Museum
- 1:00 **Julia Mitchell, Ashwell's harpist,** plays at Ashwell Springs till 2:30 and gives ten-minute mini harp lessons. No experience necessary. All ages welcome. *In bad weather in St Mary's church till 2:00, map 22.*  Ashwell Springs
- 1:00 **Morris Dancers**  Three Tuns
- 1:30 **The Outliers,** Acoustic Band.  Bushel & Strike
- 2:00 **Herts Early Dance:** Live Tudor music and dance, with plenty of opportunity for everyone to join in. Swan Street. *In the Church, map 22, if weather is bad.*  Outside Museum
- 2:00 **Herts Performing Arts Stage School Children's Workshop:** 20-minute session for 5-12 year-olds with a final performance of a rap! See page 19 for details.  Village Hall
- 2:00 **Gardeners' Questions Answered:** The garden designer and plant specialist, Jane Buxton, will be on hand to answer any questions you may have about your garden. In the Cottage Garden, Swan Street, till 3:30. *In the URC, map 26, if weather is bad.*  Cottage Garden
- 2:00 **Wildlife Allotment:** A project by Greening Ashwell, open 2:00-4:00. See page 5.  Foresters Allotments
- 2:00 **Welwyn Harmony Ladies Chorus:** Old and new popular songs in 4-part harmony, in a tranquil and hidden garden setting.  The Great Barn
- 2:00-4:30-ish **Tea Time!** Teas and home-made cakes at:  Village Hall
 Parish Room
 URC Hall
- 2:30 **Junk Boat Modeling:** Led by Ashwell Guides. Till 3:00. Details on page 19.  Ashwell School
- 2:30 **Morris Dancers**  Bushel & Strike
- 2:45 **Welwyn Harmony Ladies Chorus:** Old and new popular songs in 4-part harmony. *Inside if the weather is bad.*  Village Hall
- 3:00 **Pop and Rock Singing Workshop for Adults** with Liz Townsend. Everyone is welcome. No musical experience necessary, just come along and sing your heart out for 20 minutes!  St Mary's Church
- 3:15 **Hidden Ashwell:** A talk exploring our past, present and future Right to Roam.  Ashwell School
- 3:30 **Morris Dancers**  Outside Museum
- 3:30 **Junk Boat Racing:** Race the boats you made earlier. See page 19.  Ashwell Springs
- 4:00 **Hidden Dancer:** Gentle qi gong exercises to balance mind and body with a beautiful garden environment, releasing creativity and well-being. Till 4:45.  Pleasant Place
- 4:00 **The Great Fire of Ashwell,** guided walk and talk, led by Museum Curator, Peter Greener.  Dixies Yard
- 4:45 **Ashwell's Big Sing Choir Concert,** St Mary's church, till 5:00. Friendly and welcoming local choir perform a range of popular songs. The perfect way to round off the day!  St Mary's Church
- 5:00 **Raffle Draw:** Ashwell Village Museum.  Ashwell Museum



ASHWELL
BEAUTY

Visit

Rhubarb & Mustard

31 High Street, Ashwell

We welcome you for coffee, cakes, gifts and goodies and a full range of beauty treatments.

Drop in or call Sarah or Charlotte
on 01462 743462



Mills & Sons
Chimney Services



We are an established chimney sweeping company performing chimney sweeps and repairs throughout Herts, Beds and Cambs. We offer our customers the highest quality service available in our industry.

- Qualified chimney sweeping service
- Visual inspections and full written reports
- Fireplace and chimney stack maintenance
- Advice on recommissioning old fireplaces
- A member of the guild of master chimney sweeps



T: 07736 172 988

E: mills.chimney@btinternet.com
www.millschimneyservices.co.uk

Because a healthy hearth makes a happy home!



Rose & Crown Ashwell

Open 7 days a week!

Serving homemade hearty food,
lagers and real ales.

Dog friendly and family friendly.

Lunch and dinner from
Tuesday-Sunday.

Telephone: 01462 239365

Email: info@ashwellroseandcrown.co.uk
Website: www.ashwellroseandcrown.co.uk



ASHWELL PHARMACY

Friendly professional discrete advice
on minor ailments health and diet.

Free prescription delivery to Ashwell
and surrounding villages for vulnerable patients.

Blood pressure testing and diabetic testing.

Help with urinary tract, throat and ear infections.

Mens health - hair loss and mens sexual health.

All travel vaccinations available.

Free flu injections.

Gifts, cosmetics and much more.

Support your local community pharmacy

www.ashwellpharmacy.co.uk

22 High Street, Ashwell. 01462 742250

Ashwell.pharmacy22@gmail.com



AMBER HEALTH

**Keep doing the things you love doing,
with our help.**

- Osteopathy
- Cranial Osteopathy
- Paediatric Osteopathy
- Shockwave Therapy
- Diagnostic Ultrasound Scanning

See us in Ashwell, Baldock or Melbourn

Call us on 01462 490141

email us on info@amberhealth.co.uk

www.amberhealth.co.uk

19 High Street, Baldock, Herts SG7 5LU

Ashwell Village Stores

70 High Street, Ashwell

- General Provisions
 - Off Licence
- Newspapers and Magazines
 - Helium Balloons
 - Greeting Cards
- Sweets and Ice Cream

Opening hours

Monday to Saturday 7.45am till 6.00pm

Sunday 7.45am till 2.00pm

Attractions and Events

These are listed geographically, West to East. The numbers refer to the map on pages 12 and 13.

For **Open Gardens** see pages 11 and 14.

For **Live Music** see pages 15 and 16.

For **Children's Activities** see pages 18 and 19.

For **Food and Drink** see page 22.



2 Display of Classic Cars by members of Ashwell's Mid-Life Crisis Car Club, from 12:00.



8 Ashwell Wildlife Allotment: Come and find out about this exciting new project, initiated by the Greening Ashwell group. Please note: ground uneven and not suitable for wheelchairs or pushchairs. Open 2:00-4:00, Foresters Allotments, Back Street.



11 Plant Stall: Colin and Lee offer a large variety of summer bedding and perennial plants. Dixies Yard, opposite the car park.



11 The Great Fire of Ashwell: Guided walk, led by Peter Greener, Museum Curator. Meet in Dixies Yard at 11:30. The walk will be repeated at 4:00. Ending at the URC, map 26. There is a new exhibition on this subject in the Museum, map 15.



12 Folk Music: Live Folk Music with Ian, Mike and (possibly) friends whenever the spirit moves them. Kirby Manor, 73 High Street. Display of accordions.



14 Gardeners' Questions Answered: Ashwell garden designer and planting specialist, Jane Buxton, will be on hand to answer any questions you may have about your garden and plants. 11:30 – 12:45 and 2:00 – 3:30 in the Cottage Garden, Swan Street. *In bad weather the earlier session will be cancelled and the later session will be held in the URC, map 26.*



15 Basket Making: A demonstration of this traditional craft by Sandra Barker, Ashwell's Yeoman basket maker. From 12:00, Carter's Pond, Swan Street, opposite Museum.



15 Bygrave Handbell Ringers: A talented team of local musicians. Carter's Pond, opposite Museum. 1:00. *In bad weather, this will take place in the United Reformed Church, High Street, map 26.*



15 Ashwell Archaeology: Digging a test pit to unearth clues to Ashwell's hidden past. All day, Swan Street, next door to the Museum and the Cottage Garden.



15 Ashwell Village Museum: Visit one of the oldest village museums in the country, housed in this beautiful 15th cent. building. A new exhibition, **Hidden Ashwell**, will open here today. Raffle tickets available here. **Raffle draw here at 5:00.**



15 Herts Early Dance: Live Tudor music and dance, with plenty of opportunity for everyone to join in. Experience one aspect of English country life as it was lived five hundred years ago. 2:00 pm. Outside the Museum. *If weather is bad this event will take place in St Mary's Church, map 22.*



22 Spinning and Weaving: Members of the North Herts Guild of Spinners, Weavers and Dyers demonstrate how wool is spun from fleece and the yarn woven into fabric. 12:30-4:30 in St Mary's Church.



22 Pop and Rock Singing Workshop for Adults with Liz Townsend. Everyone is welcome, No musical experience necessary, just come along and sing your heart out for 20 minutes! 3:00 in St Mary's Church.

The Three Tuns Ashwell

We invest back into our
community

01462 654664

Family friendly - Dog Friendly

We're open every morning
from 9am for Breakfast



EAT - DRINK - SLEEP

Attractions and Events cont.

- 23 Well Dressing:** Outside the museum, with the Blessing taking place at 12.15 pm. The design this year is based on the Olympics which are taking place in Paris. In Tissington, Derbyshire, this ancient tradition originated as a way for villagers to celebrate the purity of the water from the wells, after they survived the Black Death in 1348-9.
- 24 Moving Mazes Workshop:** At Ashwell School, a fun, accessible creative movement making workshop for families, drawing on Ashwell's geology and history for inspiration and material. 11:30 Duration 1 hour: Led by local choreographer and teacher Jane Turner www.janeturner.net
- 24 Hidden Ashwell:** A talk exploring our past, present and future Right to Roam. 3:15, Ashwell School. Details on page 20.
- 25 Rhubarb and Mustard:** 31 High Street, where the people of Ashwell meet, chat and relax. Enjoy delicious coffee, ice creams and chocolate in Ashwell's favourite café. Imaginative gifts and greetings cards downstairs and beauty rooms upstairs, offering a full range of treatments.
- Look Behind You!** Ashwell Theatre Club presents characters popping up from pantomime. We don't know where and we don't know when, but look out they're probably just round the bend!
- 29 Ashwell Lock Up,** Hodwell. An overnight prison, last used in the nineteenth century.
- 32 Harp Music and Mini-Harp Lessons,** with Julia Mitchell at Ashwell Springs. 1:00 - 2:30. *This will take place in St Mary's Church, map 22, and end at 2:00 if the weather is bad.*
- 35 Hertfordshire Police:** Find out about their work in this area and inspect their patrol vehicle. 11:00-3:00, Ashwell Recreation Ground.
- 35 Fairground Rides:** Ashwell Recreation Ground, from about 12:00.
- 36 Sarah's Farm Shop:** Open on Sundays 10:00 – 1:00 for fresh bread, fruit and vegetables, groceries and locally sourced treats and household items. On the road to Steeple Morden.



HERTFORDSHIRE
HBN·TREES
SUPERIOR TREE SURGERY

Contact Ewan
07487810825
hbntrees@gmail.com
www.hbntrees.co.uk

ASHWELL'S ARBORICULTURAL CONTRACTORS

An outstanding & passionate tree surgery company based in Ashwell, offering high quality Arboricultural, Horticultural & Countryside Services.

Tree Surgery • Hedge Cutting • Planting Design • Vegetation Management



The Wright Accounts
Services Ltd

- Bookkeeping • Management Accounts
- VAT returns • Payroll • Budget Forecasting
- Personal Income Tax • Sole Trade Accounts

Your local Ashwell based accounts services, helping you control your business, so your business doesn't control you.

Contact Yvonne Wright • Mobile 07872 880107 • Tel 01462 743159
Email yvonne@thewrightaccounts.com
www.thewrightaccounts.com

Yvonne Wright is licensed and regulated by AAT.



Numbers refer to the map on pages 12 – 13.

Ashwell Springs

32

The beautiful and peaceful setting which gives the village its name. Ashwell Springs (there are seven here) form one of the sources of the river Cam/Rhee, a site of Special Scientific Interest because of the rare flatworms, unexpected survivors of the last Ice Age, which live in the very cold water. Hear the **Welwyn Ladies Chorus** here, singing old and new four-part songs in beautiful harmony, 11:45-12:00. *They will be singing just along the road at The Three Tuns, map 33, if the weather is bad.* Hear **Julia Mitchell playing the harp** here, 1:00 – 2:30. Julia will give mini-harp lessons to anyone who'd like to have a go. All ages welcome, no previous experience necessary. In Church, map 22, if weather bad. **Junk boat racing** here at 3:30.

Ashwell Village Museum

15

Housed partly in a unique fifteenth century building known for many years as The Town House, Ashwell Museum is one of the oldest village museums in the country. The exhibits present a picture of country life through the ages. A new exhibition **Hidden Ashwell** opens today, featuring items not seen in public for many years. The Museum entrance is in Alms Lane. Raffle tickets available here. **Raffle draw here at 5:00.**

Ashwell Archaeology

15

Come and lend a hand to members of Ashwell Archaeology as they dig a test pit in Swan Street and seek to unearth hidden clues to life in Ashwell in the past. All day.

Ashwell Walks

Follow these entertaining and informative trails in and around Ashwell by visiting: **www.ashwellwalks.weebly.com** These walks, free to download, were devised, written and produced by Dr Sally Fletcher and Diane Jacoutot. They include one on **Ashwell Ghosts** and one entitled **Pub Crawl**. See page 20.

Hidden Ashwell

24

Exploring our past, present and future Right to Roam. 3:15 at Ashwell School. Approx. 15 minutes. Full details on page 20.

Dovecote

10

A beautiful and rare 17th century dovecote, once part of Dixie's Farm, now being used as a "man shed" and workshop. There are 17th century features in the walls and floor and signs of some 18th century rebuilding. The dovecote dates from the time when these buildings were a key feature in the national economy, not so much because of the meat from the birds but because their droppings contained saltpetre (potassium nitrate), an essential ingredient of gunpowder. In a yard off the north side of Back Street. The garden of 6 The Dovecote is also open. See page 11.



Numbers refer to the map on pages 12 – 13.

Hidden Fairy Door Trail

Hunt around the village during the day to find as many hidden Ashwell fairy doors as you can. Pick up a trail map from the car park in Dixies Meadow, the School in Silver Street, map 24, or the Museum in Alms Lane, map 15. See page 18.

Well Dressing

Outside the museum, with the Blessing taking place at 12.15 pm. The design this year is based on the Olympics which are taking place in Paris. This ancient tradition originated in Tissington, Derbyshire, as a way for surviving villagers to celebrate the purity of the water from their wells, after the Black Death in 1348-9.

23

The Village Lock Up

Last used in the 19th cent. Oral tradition has it that Amos Pammenter, the last man to be incarcerated here, dug his way out under the door and went off home to bed.

29

The Great Fire of Ashwell

Guided walks through Ashwell, tracing the path of the Great Fire of Ashwell of 1850. Meet in Dixies Yard at 11:30 am. Led by Ashwell Museum Curator, Peter Greener. Repeated at 4:00 pm, also starting in Dixies Yard.



Historical Herb Bed

Alms Lane, alongside Ashwell Village Museum. Re-creation of a traditional country garden herb bed, grown for culinary and medicinal purposes.

23

Herbs of Ashwell

Katie Shellard, local Sensory Herbalist explains how these medicinal herbs are used today, their folklore, and how to make your own simple remedies at home. Alongside the herb bed in Alms Lane. Talk, starting at 1:00 and lasting about 20 minutes. *Inside Ashwell Museum if the weather is bad.*

23

Tudor Music and Dance

Herts Early Dance perform Tudor music and dance, with plenty of opportunities for everyone to join in. Experience one aspect of English country life as it was lived five hundred years ago. 2:00 pm in Swan Street, outside the Museum. *In St Mary's Church, venue 22, if weather bad.*

15

Basket Making

A demonstration of this traditional craft by Sandra Barker, Ashwell's yeoman basket maker. From 12:00, Carter's Pond, Swan Street, opposite Museum

15

Spinning and Weaving

Members of the North Herts Guild of Spinners, Weavers and Dyers show you how wool is spun from fleece and the yarn woven into fabric. 12:30-4:30 in St Mary's Church.

22



Numbers refer to the map on pages 12 – 13.

Folk Music

Live Folk Music with Ian, Mike and (possibly) friends whenever the spirit moves them. Kirby Manor, 73 High Street. Display of accordions.

12

Bygrave Handbell Ringers

This talented group of local musicians will perform at 1:00 at Carter's Pond, opposite the Museum in Swan Street if the weather is fine. *In the United Reformed Church, map 26, if wet or windy.*

15

Moving Mazes Workshop

A fun, accessible creative movement making workshop for families, drawing on Ashwell's geology and history for inspiration and material. Ashwell School, 11:30-12:30. Led by local choreographer and teacher Jane Turner www.janeturner.net

24

Hidden Dancer

Join experienced movement teacher Jane Turner for some gentle qi gong exercises to balance mind and body with a beautiful garden environment, releasing creativity and well-being. Pleasant Place, 4:00.



Ashwell Wildlife Allotment

Come and find out about the development of this exciting project by the Greening Ashwell group. Please note: ground uneven and not suitable for wheelchairs or pushchairs. Open 2:00-4:00, Foresters Allotments, Back Street.



Ashwell Cottage Garden

Held in trust for the village since 1968 and maintained by volunteers. Your gardeners' questions answered here by Jane Buxton, Ashwell garden designer and garden planting specialist, 11.30 – 12:45 and 2:00 – 3:30. *If the weather is bad the first session will be cancelled but the second session will go ahead in the United Reformed Church, map 26.*



Plant Stall

Colin and Lee offer a large variety of summer bedding and perennial plants. Dixies Yard, opposite the car park.




Look Behind You!











Ashwell Theatre Club will present characters popping up from pantomime. Oh yes they will! We don't know where and we don't know when, but look out, we think they're just round the bend.

Morris Dancers

Letchworth Morris will be performing at four locations around the village. See page 15 for full details.



All gardens open 11:00 – 5:00 unless otherwise stated. Those with  are happy for well-behaved dogs on leads to visit. Please clear up after them if necessary. Thank you. Numbers refer to the map on pages 12 – 13.

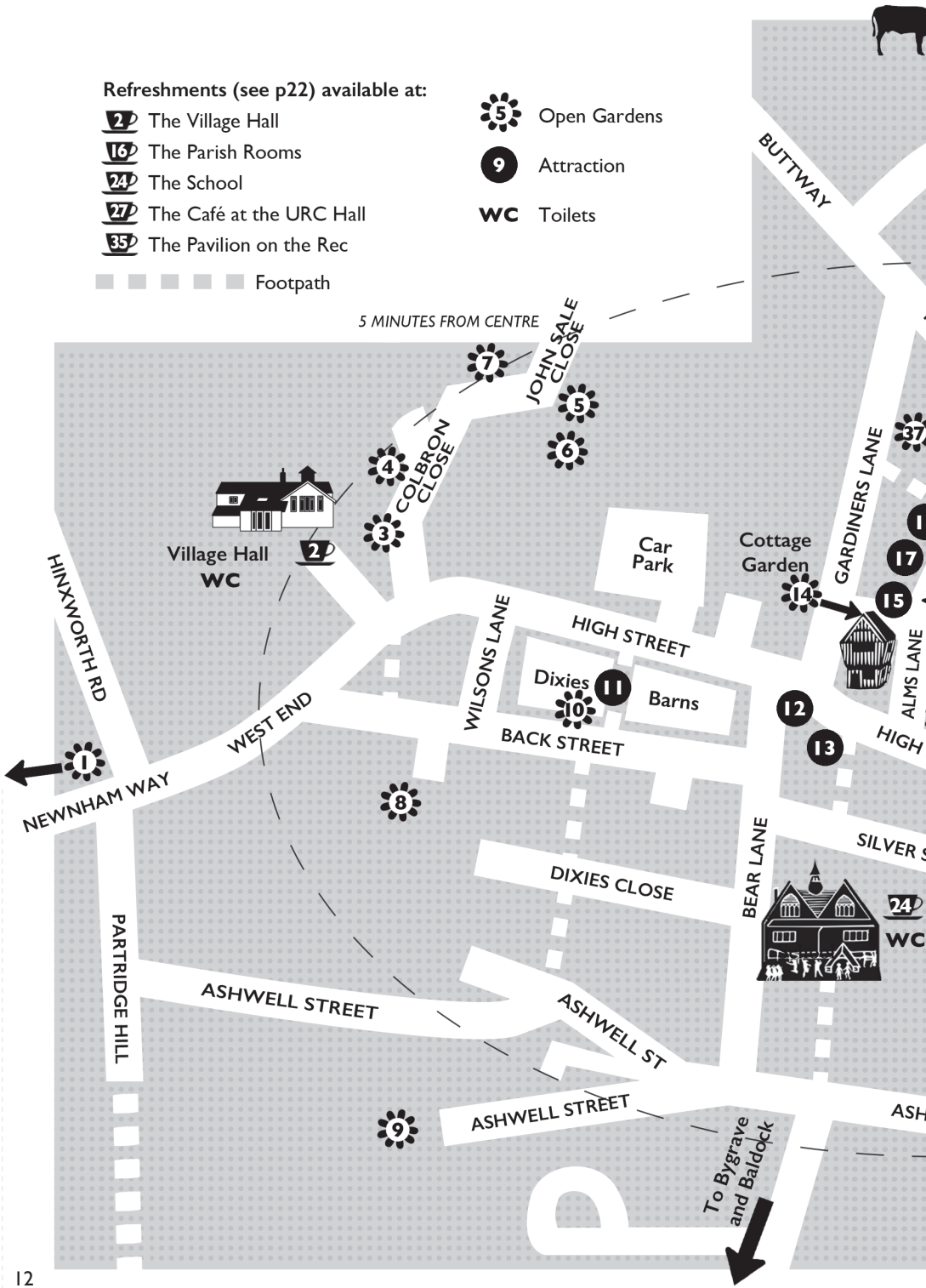
- 1 **Jenny & André van Maurik**, Hill House, 14 Newnham Way: A hill garden with a view, and maybe the Tamarix will be in spring-bloom too...  Raffle tickets on sale here (cash only).
- 3 **Linda & Tony Gee**, 2 Colbron Close. A sheltered courtyard garden with pond and rill, magnolia, roses, clematis, lavender and other herbs. 
- 4 **Paula Doran**, 4 Westbury Barns: This still evolving garden has a bit of everything: mixed flower beds, trees, ponds, lawns, and a veg patch. Look out for the topiary figures. Open 11:00am – 4:00pm. **Entrance via side gate in Colbron Close (please see map).** 
- 5 **Jill & Mike Taffs**, 9 John Sale Close: A tranquil walled garden with traditional paving and borders, and seating areas to catch the sun as it moves from east to west during the day. 
- 6 **Ursula & Paddy Byrne**, The Great Barn, 10 John Sale Close. **Entrance via garden number 5.** A peaceful garden, hidden away between three barns.  Welwyn Harmony Ladies Chorus will be performing here at 2.00.
- 7 **Beth & David Richards**, 9 Colbron Close. A long garden divided into three sections - an ornamental garden, a vegetable garden and a gravel garden. 
- 8 **Ashwell Wildlife Allotment**, Come and find out about this new project, initiated by the Greening Ashwell Group. Foresters Allotments, Back Street. 2:00-4:00.  **Please note: ground uneven and not suitable for wheelchairs or pushchairs.**
- 9 **Louise & Graham Lee**, Spade Acre, 59 Ashwell Street. An informal garden slowly being developed since 2010 from a neglected agricultural site. A wild flower area has mown paths, and woodland plants are gradually being introduced beneath the trees. 
- 10 **Marcia & Peter Taylor**, 6 The Dovecote, Back Street. In the forecourt a beautiful 17th century dovecote, once part of Dixie's Farm (details on page 8). Behind the house, the garden is being recovered and redeveloped to give a small family garden with fruit trees and flowers. 
- 11 **Plant Stall**, Dixies Yard, High Street. Colin and Lee offer a large variety of summer bedding and perennial plants.  The Outliers band perform here 11:00. Guided walks about The Great Fire of Ashwell begin here at 11:30 and 4:00. See page 20.

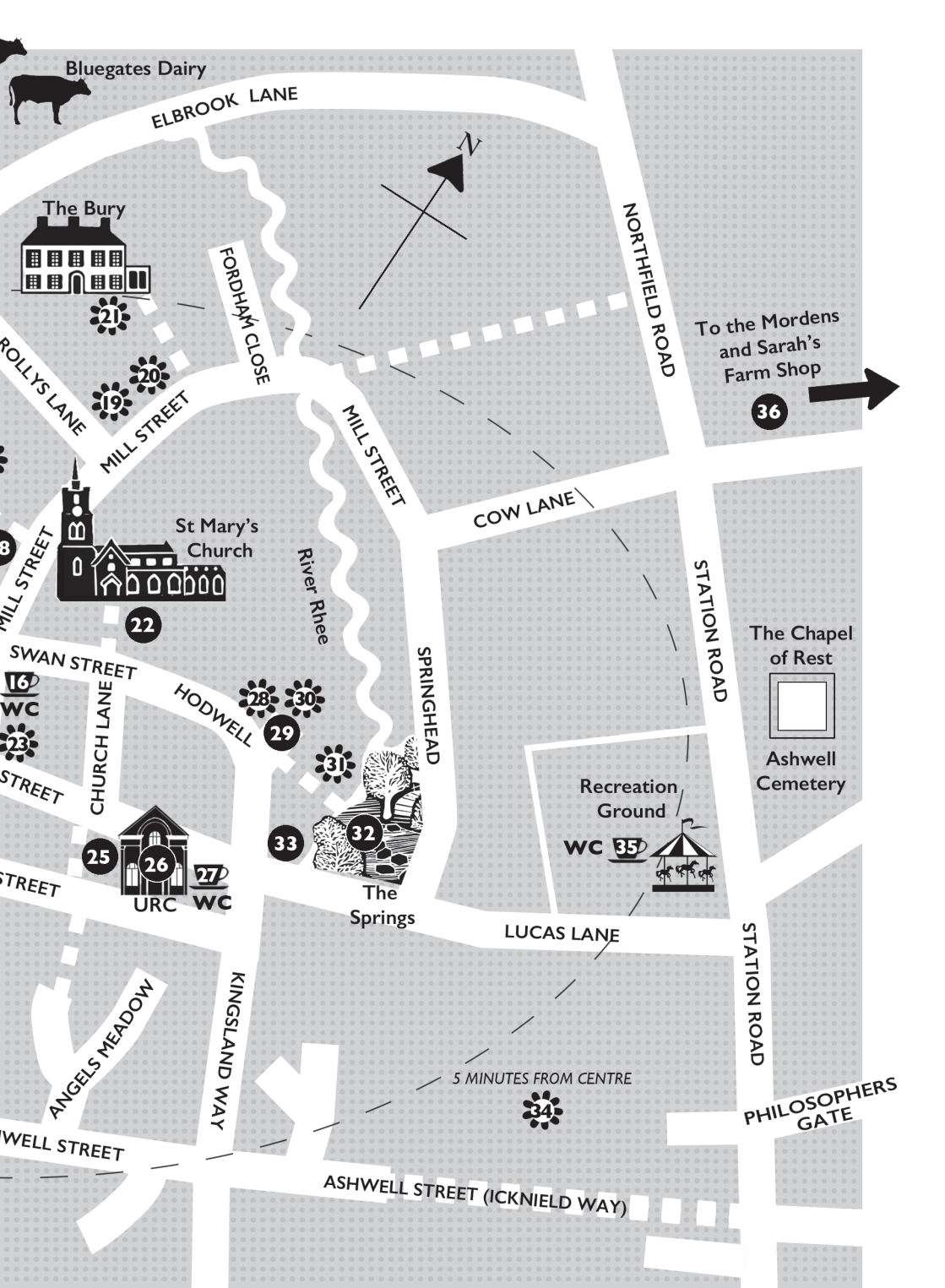
Refreshments (see p22) available at:

-  The Village Hall
-  The Parish Rooms
-  The School
-  The Café at the URC Hall
-  The Pavilion on the Rec

-  Open Gardens
-  Attraction
- WC** Toilets

 Footpath





Bluegates Dairy

ELBROOK LANE

The Bury



21

19

20

FORDHAM CLOSE

MILL STREET

NORTHFIELD ROAD

To the Mordens and Sarah's Farm Shop

36

ROLLY'S LANE

MILL STREET

COW LANE

St Mary's Church



22

River Rhee

The Chapel of Rest



Ashwell Cemetery

MILL STREET

SWAN STREET

HODWELL

28

30

29

31

SPRINGHEAD

Recreation Ground

WC 35



STREET

STREET

CHURCH LANE



25

26

27

33

The Springs

32

LUCAS LANE

STATION ROAD

5 MINUTES FROM CENTRE

34

PHILOSOPHERS GATE


ANGELS MEADOW

KINGSLAND WAY

WELL STREET

ASHWELL STREET (ICKNIELD WAY)



All gardens open 11:00 – 5:00 unless otherwise stated. Those with  are happy for well-behaved dogs on leads to visit. Please clear up after them if necessary. Numbers refer to the map on pages 12 – 13.

cont. from page 11

-  **14 Ashwell Cottage Garden**, Swan Street. Held in trust for the village since 1968 and maintained by volunteers. Your gardeners' questions answered here by Jane Buxton, Ashwell garden designer and garden planting specialist, 11.30 – 12:45 and 2:00 – 3:30.  If the weather is bad the first session will be cancelled but the second session will go ahead from 2:00 in the United Reformed Church, map 26.
-  **37 Silke & Stu Endacott**, The Old School House, Gardiners Lane: Part of the old school court, a family garden featuring an ancient yew hedge, lawns and wild areas, with an old tree house and hidden platforms for the more adventurous and agile visitors (at their own risk!). No dogs please as we have rabbits.
-  **19 Kate & Peter Greener**, 39 Mill Street: An evolving, bird friendly cottage garden. 
-  **20 Joy Matthews**, 43 Mill Street: A cottage garden, full of surprises each year.
-  **21 Sam Sheppard**, Ashwell Bury, Mill Street: Garden designed by Gertrude Jekyll and now simplified to suit modern family needs.
-  **23 Historical Herb Bed**, Alms Lane, alongside the Museum. A talk here on Herbs of Ashwell by local expert, Katie Shellard, 1:00-1:20. 
-  **28 Ruth & Stephen ten Hove**, Pleasant Place, 30 Hodwell. A family garden with lovely views. Ashwell's eighth spring, a source of the river Rhee/Cam, rises here. The other seven are at Ashwell Springs.  **Dogs strictly on leads, please.** Jane Turner leads a 'Hidden Dancer' session here at 4:00 (see page 19). Raffle tickets on sale here (cash only). *In fine weather, local artists and potters will be exhibiting here.*"
-  **30 Mr & Mrs Greenbank**, 28 Hodwell. Cottage garden in front of a thatched house, with espaliered fruit trees. Open 12:00 – 5:00 pm.
-  **31 Elle & Christopher**, 24 Hodwell. A sloped garden, in the early stages of development, leading down to Ashwell Springs. Access from the footpath between Hodwell and the Springs.
-  **34 David Price**, East Lodge, 22 Lucas Lane. Recently established garden with extensive lawns, clipped holm oaks and a parterre. To the rear of the house are terraced borders with a backdrop of flowering and evergreen shrubs. Open 11:00 am – 4:00 pm.  Welwyn Harmony Ladies Chorus will be performing here at 12:30.

Live Music Performances



Numbers refer to the map on pages 12 and 13.

Music at Various Locations Around the Village

The Outliers Acoustic Band will be in Ashwell to entertain you today:

11:00 **Dixies Yard**



1:30 **Bushel & Strike garden**



and if you're lucky you might catch them during the day at other locations during the day.

Welwyn Harmony Ladies Chorus: will sing old and new popular songs in beautiful four-part harmony for you in the following locations. We sing at a wide variety of events. We also enjoy competition singing and have won awards at the National Ladies' Barbershop competition. Come and listen to us. We hope you will enjoy our singing as much as we do. We are always keen to welcome new members. For more information, please see our website: www.welwynharmony.co.uk

11:45 **Ashwell Springs**



(at The Three Tuns 33 if wet)

12:30 **East Lodge Garden**



2:00 **The Great Barn Garden**



2:45 **Village Hall Forecourt**



(Inside if wet)

Letchworth Morris will dance at four locations:

12:00 **Rose & Crown**



1:00 **Three Tuns**



2:30 **Bushel & Strike**



3:30 **Swan Street, outside Museum**



Live Music Performances



Numbers refer to the map
on pages 12 and 13.

15 Carter's Pond, opposite Ashwell Museum

1:00

The Bygrave Handbell Ringers: this talented group of local musicians will perform at Carter's Pond, opposite the Museum in Swan Street if the weather is fine. *In the United Reformed Church, High Street, map no. 26, if wet or windy.*

32 Ashwell Springs

1:00-2:30

Julia Mitchell, Ashwell's harpist, plays at Ashwell Springs and gives mini-harp lessons to anyone, of all ages, who'd like to have a go. No previous musical experience necessary. *If the weather is bad, Julia will be in St Mary's Church until 2:00, map 22.*

12 Kirby Manor

Rose & Crown Folk: Live Folk Music with Ian, Mike and (possibly) friends at Kirby Manor, 73 High Street, whenever the spirit moves them. There is also a display of accordions here.

15 Outside Ashwell Village Museum

2:00

Herts Early Dance, Beautiful Tudor music and dance in period costume, with plenty of opportunities to join in. Swan Street. *In bad weather this will take place in St Mary's Church, map 22.*

22 St Mary's Church

4:45-5:00-ish

Big Sing Choir Spring Concert: This friendly and welcoming local choir perform a range of popular songs. The perfect way to round off the day!
The Ashwell Big Sing choir meets every Monday evening at Ashwell Village Hall.
www.liztownsend.co.uk/ashwells-big-sing



ASHWELL SHOW
www.ashwellshow.co.uk

SAVE THE DATE!!

Ashwell Show

Takes place on August Bank Holiday Monday, with something for everyone! There's: horse events; fun dog show; birds of prey demos; kids' activities; craft stalls; great food and drink; and more attractions still to be announced.

See www.ashwellshow.co.uk
for pre-tickets and more information



*Bespoke designs and fine
jewellery collections.*

Rosie Veale

W: vealefinejewellery.com

E: rosie@vealefinejewellery.com

T: +44 (0)7730 691331

ARBURY ACUPUNCTURE



Acupuncture can benefit many common problems such as headaches, menstrual problems, digestive disorders, infertility, musculoskeletal aches and pains, sciatica, tennis elbow, arthritis, insomnia, anxiety and depression.

**Flexible appointments including
evenings.**

**Call Pippa on 07539 337082 to book
an appointment.**

8 Newnham Way, Ashwell, Herts. SG7 5PN
www.arburyacupuncture.co.uk



2 Groveland Way,
Stotfold
SG5 4PH.

07515 157767

paul.norman498@googlemail.com

PAUL NORMAN

PAINTER & DECORATOR
Interior & Exterior Decorator
Free Estimates

Children's Activities



Please note: children's activities are free but children must be accompanied by an adult with an Ashwell at Home wristband. Numbers refer to the map on pages 12 and 13.

- All day **Hidden Fairy Door Trail:**
Hunt around the village during the day to find as many hidden Ashwell fairy doors as you can. Crafted by Ashwell school children. Pick up a trail map from the car park in Dixies Meadow, the School in Silver Street, map 24, or the Museum in Alms Lane, map 15.
- All day **Digging for Treasure:** **15** Ashwell Museum
Come and help members of Ashwell Archaeology as they dig a test pit to look for hidden clues to life in Ashwell in the past. Diggers and washers of all ages welcome. The test pit is in Swan Street, next door to the Museum.
- 11.15 **Children's Story Time:** **24D** Ashwell School
with Mrs Young, suitable for ages 3 to 7.
- 11:30-12:30 **Moving Mazes Workshop:** **24D** Ashwell School
A fun, accessible creative movement making workshop for families, drawing on Ashwell's geology and history for inspiration and material. Led by local choreographer and teacher Jane Turner www.janeturner.net Duration 1 hour
- From 12:00 **Fairground Rides:** **35D** Ashwell Redl
on Ashwell Recreation Ground, not included in cost of wristband.
- 12:30-4:30 **Play Garden:** **2D** Village Hall
The Ashwell Pre-school play garden will be open from 12:30 till 4:30, suitable for children up to the age of about 5 but children will need to be supervised.
- 1:00-2:30 **Mini Harp Lessons:** **32** Ashwell Springs
with Julia Mitchell, suitable for all ages. No previous musical experience necessary. In St Mary's Church, map 22, till 2:00 in bad weather.
- 2:00-2:20 **Herts Performing Arts Stage School Children's Workshop:** **2D** Village Hall
A 20-minute session for 5-12 year-olds, during which we'll be doing various drama games which promote teamwork and creativity, with a final performance of a rap! Herts Performing Arts is an independent company that organises holiday schools based on the performing arts for children aged between 5 and 12 years in Ashwell. www.liztownsend.co.uk/herts-performing-arts



Please note: children's activities are free but children must be accompanied by an adult with an Ashwell at Home wristband. Numbers refer to the map on pages 12 and 13.

2:30-3:00 **Junk Boat Modelling:**

Have fun making boats from junk materials. Organised by Ashwell Guides.

 Ashwell School

3:30 **Junk Boat Racing:**

Bring your junk boats to Ashwell Springs and launch them in the cool waters of the river Rhee/Cam. Whose boat will win the race? Organised by Ashwell Guides.

 Ashwell Springs

4:00-4:45 **Hidden Dancer**

Join experienced movement teacher Jane Turner for some gentle qi gong exercises to balance mind and body with a beautiful garden environment releasing creativity and well-being. All ages welcome.

 Pleasant Place

Painting – Paper Hanging – Tiling – Coving

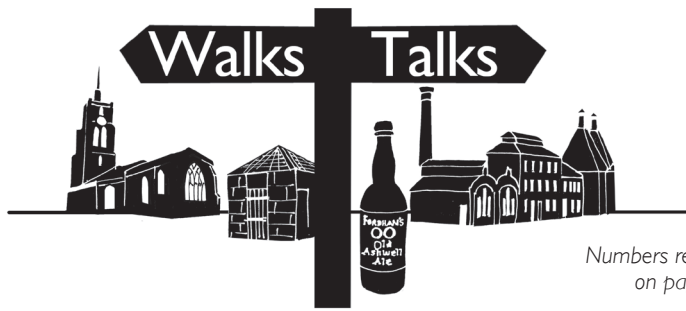


Contact Adam

T: 07795 567102, E: adam.covington@hotmail.com

www.primrosepainting.co.uk

79 Crowhill, Godmanchester, PE29 2NR



Numbers refer to the map on pages 12 and 13.

Follow these entertaining and informative walks in and around Ashwell by visiting:

www.ashwellwalks.weebly.com

These walks, free to download, were devised, written and produced by Dr Sally Fletcher and Diane Jacoutot. They include one on **Ashwell Ghosts** and one entitled **Pub Crawl**.



The Great Fire of Ashwell:

A guided walk through Ashwell, tracing the path of the Great Fire of Ashwell of 1850. Led by Ashwell Museum Curator, Peter Greener. Meet in Dixies Yard, map 11, at 11:30 am. Repeated at 4:00 pm, also starting in Dixies Yard. These walks end at the United Reformed Church, map 26.

23

Herbs of Ashwell:

Discover the Medieval and Roman herb gardens, hidden on Alms Lane, with local Sensory Herbalist, Katie Shellard. Find out how these medicinal herbs are used today, their folklore, and how to make your own simple remedies at home. 1:00 pm in Alms Lane, alongside Ashwell Museum. Talk lasts about 20 minutes. *Inside Ashwell Museum if the weather is bad.*

24

Hidden Ashwell:

Exploring our past, present and future Right to Roam. Access to the countryside sustains the life-blood of our community yet most of it is off-limits to the public. Was it always like this? And does it always have to be? This talk, led by Harry Jenkinson, Ashwell villager and founding member of the Right to Roam campaign, examines our place in nature and the local countryside. 3:15 pm at Ashwell School. Approx 15 minutes.

Ashwell Alive Plaques

Look out for Ashwell Alive plaques on many of the houses and at some of the other significant sites around the village. Each plaque tells you the story of the building or site.





DAVID'S

BOOKSHOP - MUSIC - CAFE

12-16 Eastcheap, Letchworth, SG6 3DE

Tel: 01462 684631

david-s-bookshops.co.uk

david-s-music.co.uk



Your local independent for everything books and music.

David's is an independent bookshop, record store and cafe, trading since 1963. Our passion is to bring our customers the very best in new and secondhand books, music, cards & games. We host regular author events, weekly game nights and book clubs. Pay us a visit and explore!

Books & Music

Monday - Saturday: 9am - 5:30pm

Sundays & Bank Holidays: 10am - 5pm

Cafe

Monday - Saturday: 9am - 4:30pm

Sundays & Bank Holidays: 10am - 4pm

10% off for LALG members spending £10 or more.

NEVILLE FUNERALS

We take care of the details, so you can say goodbye the way you want to.

NEVILLE. Because there is a difference.

HITCHIN

96 Walsworth Road SG4 9SU

t: 01462 444910

e: hitchin@nevillefuneralservice.com

www.nevillefuneralservice.com



ASHWELL CHAPEL

Ashwell Chapel, located in Station Road, Ashwell, is leased by Ashwell Parish Council to Neville Funerals.

This charming building can seat up to forty people and is available for funeral services or related events.



Chapel enquiries can be made via our Hitchin branch or by email - ashwell@nevillefuneralservice.com

Food Drink

Numbers refer to the map on pages 12 and 13.

16 Parish Room

All day On the corner of Swan Street and Alms Lane, next to the Museum, the Parish Room is at the heart of the village and will be open all day. Have a welcome sit down here while you enjoy refreshments including teas, coffees and beautiful home-made cake. *There are toilets here.*

27 The Café at the URC Hall

All day A range of wonderful home-baked cakes, tea and freshly ground coffee will be available all day in the United Reformed Church Hall, High Street, with sandwiches etc. at lunchtime. *There are toilets here.*

25 Rhubarb and Mustard

All day Enjoy delicious coffee, ice creams and chocolate in Ashwell's favourite café.

17 Crumps Forecourt, Mill Street

11:00-2:00ish Crumps legendary sausage rolls etc, made on site at this Ashwell family butcher's and delicatessen, will be on sale here from 11:00 until stocks run out.

24 Ashwell Primary School

12:00-2:00 Join us for a Mad Hatter's themed summer lunch, with entertainment from the Queen of Hearts herself, well known children's entertainer Auntie Kitty. High quality home-made lunches provided and served by members of the Ashwell School PTA. Savoury and sweet choices and other refreshments. Entry to the school is with wristband only. *There are toilets here.*

35 The Pavilion on the Recreation Ground

12:00-2:00 The Ashwell Explorer Scouts will be cooking and serving scrumptious hot dogs and burgers from the pavilion on the Rec. at lunchtime. *There are toilets here.*

2 Cream Teas at the Village Hall

12:30-4:30 Delicious traditional cream teas, prepared and served by the parents of Ashwell Pre-school children. *There are toilets here.*

Things to enjoy during the day

Numbers refer to the map on pages 12 and 13

- 36 Sarah's Farm Shop**, on the road to Steeple Morden, is open on Sundays from 10:00 till 1:00 for fresh fruit and vegetables, groceries and locally sourced treats and household items.
- 2** **Display of Classic Cars**, owned by members of the Mid-Life Crisis Car Club, Village Hall car park, from 12:00.
- 11** **Plant Stall** in Dixies Yard.
- 25** **Rhubarb & Mustard**: 31 High Street, where the people of Ashwell meet, chat and relax. Enjoy delicious ice creams, made with local milk, at Ashwell's favourite café. Imaginative gifts and greetings cards downstairs; beauty rooms upstairs, with a full range of treatments.
- 35** **Fairground Rides**: on Ashwell Rec, from about 12:00. Additional charge, not included in wristband.
- 15** **Archaeology**: Digging a test pit to find hidden clues to Ashwell's past. Swan Street, next to Museum.
- 10** **Dovecote**, Back Street. A rare 17th century brick dovecote, built chiefly to harvest the birds' droppings, which contain an essential ingredient of gunpowder. See page 8 for details.
- 14** **Ashwell Cottage Garden**, Swan Street. A good place to take the weight off your feet for a few minutes.
- 14** **Your Gardeners' Questions Answered** by garden designer and planting expert, Jane Buxton, in the Cottage Garden, 11:30-12:45 and 2:00-3:30. *If the weather is bad the first session will be cancelled but the second session will go ahead in the United Reformed Church, map 26.*
- 15** **Ashwell Village Museum**, one of the oldest village museums in the country, housed in this beautiful building, dating partly from the 15th century. Collections illustrate local life over the centuries. A new exhibition opens today: See page 8 for details. Raffle tickets are on sale here.
- 22** **St Mary's Church**: All welcome. Morning Service 10:45 till about mid-day. Come and be inspired by this beautiful 14th century building, with the tallest tower and spire in the county. See the graffiti on the wall inside the base of the tower, including some from 1350 about The Black Death and also a sketch of Old St Paul's as it was before the Great Fire of London.
- 26** **Ashwell United Reformed Church**, built in 1852 and redecorated in the Art Nouveau style in 1906, recently restored. Sunday Service 10:45, all welcome. Open to visitors during the afternoon.
- 35** **Hertfordshire Police Stand and Patrol Car**: 11:00 – 3:00 on Ashwell Recreation Ground.
- 29** **The Village Lock-Up**, an overnight prison, last used in the nineteenth century.

Cont. overleaf

Things to enjoy during the day cont.

24 **Ashwell Primary School:** Built in 1878, originally just for junior girls and mixed infants. Substantial extensions were built in 1957, 1974 and 2008. The school now caters for all children aged 3 to 11 from Ashwell and surrounding villages. Open till 3:30.

Story telling here at 11:15.

Moving Mazes movement workshop here at 11:30.

Home Made Lunches and Mad Hatter's Tea Party here, 12:00-2:00.

Making Model Boats from Junk here at 2:30.

Hidden Ashwell, a talk on the Right to Roam, here at 3:15.

Raffle tickets are on sale here (cash or card).

32 **Ashwell Springs:** The beautiful and peaceful setting which gives the village its name. Ashwell Springs (there are seven here) form one of the sources of the river Cam/Rhee, a site of Special Scientific Interest because of the rare flatworms, unexpected survivors of the last Ice Age, which live in the very cold water: Hear the **Welwyn Harmony Ladies Chorus** perform here 11:45-12:00. *At The Three Tuns, map 33, if wet.*

Julia Mitchell will play the harp here, 1:00-2:30 and give mini-harp lessons for anyone who'd like to have a try. *Julia will be in St Mary's church, map 22, till 2:00 if the weather is bad.*

15 **Basket Making Demonstration:** from 12:00, Carter's Pond, Swan Street.

22 **Spinning and Weaving Demonstration** by the North Herts Guild of Spinners, Weavers and Dyers. St Mary's Church, 12:30 – 4:30. See page 5.

12 **Live Folk Music** with Ian and Mike at Kirby Manor, 73 High Street. Exhibition of accordions.

23 **Well Dressing:** Alms Lane, beside the Museum. The design this year is based on the Olympics. This ancient tradition originated in Derbyshire as a way for surviving villagers to celebrate the purity of the water from the wells, after the Black Death in 1348-9.

23 **Historical Herb Bed:** Re-creation of a traditional country garden herb bed, grown for recipes and for their healing purposes throughout the ages. There will be a talk here at 1:00 on the medicinal and culinary uses of herbs. Alms Lane, alongside Museum.

8 **Ashwell Wildlife Allotment:** Come and find out about this new project, initiated by the Greening Ashwell Group. Please note: ground uneven and not suitable for wheelchairs or pushchairs. Foresters Allotments, Back Street. 2:00-4:00.

country
properties

If you're thinking of
selling or letting your home,
get in touch & have a free valuation.



Find out the possibilities with our experienced team.

Ashwell 01462 742077 | Baldock 01462 895061

BUTCHERS | DELI | CHEESE | FINE FOOD

CRUMPS

BUTCHERS OF ASHWELL

MILL STREET, ASHWELL

01462 742255



WE ARE EXCEPTIONALLY PROUD TO HAVE SERVED THE VILLAGE OF ASHWELL FOR OVER 100 YEARS. IN THAT TIME WE HAVE ESTABLISHED A FANTASTIC NETWORK OF FARMERS AND PRODUCERS WHO SHARE OUR PASSION FOR QUALITY.

WE TAKE A LOT OF PRIDE IN OUR WORK! ALL THE TASTY THINGS IN OUR CABINETS ARE HAND-MADE FROM SCRATCH WITH A LOT OF CARE.

WE LOVE WHAT WE DO AND WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OUR PASSION WITH YOU.

COME AND SEE US AND BE PART OF THE BEST CUSTOMER BASE IN THE WORLD!