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# Ashburnham and Penhurst Parish Magazine April 2019



We usually have a pretty photograph or some beautiful original artwork on the front of the Parish Magazine but this month we thought we would share a picture of a rubbish mountain instead!

This is the amount of rubbish we collected on our Village Litter Pick in February. We were all horrified by how much we found, let's all do all we can to keep our villages as clean and tidy as possible.

Have a look inside the magazine for Helen's article for more details of how we all got on!

Please send contributions for the May issue by Friday April 5th.  
We reserve the right of refusal & the right to edit any articles

## Chapel News

April is going to be a busy month for us all. Easter is much later this year and this led me to find out what determines when Easter is. I discovered that Easter Sunday is determined usually by the first Sunday after a full moon occurring on or after the March equinox. (Equinox being when the sun crosses the celestial equator; when day and night are of equal length) The March equinox or Northward equinox is the equinox on the earth when the subsolar point appears to leave the Southern Hemisphere and cross the celestial equator, heading northward as seen from earth. The March equinox is known as the vernal equinox in the Northern Hemisphere and as the autumnal equinox in the Southern. The March equinox may be taken to mark the beginning of Spring!

Good Friday falls on the 19<sup>th</sup> April and the Service this year is at St. Peter's Church

It would be lovely to see you at our Easter Sunday Service 6-30 p.m when we celebrate the resurrection of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We will take Communion during this Service in accordance with Jesus' command to us during the Last Supper (Luke 22 v 19 & 20). The Lord Jesus on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body which is for you, do this in remembrance of me". In the same way, after supper, he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." Taking Communion reminds us that because Jesus suffered and died on the cross, and rose again from the dead on the third day (Easter Day) those who believe in Him have eternal life! What a gift!

On the 28<sup>th</sup> April we have another Healing Service. What a Blessing these have turned out to be. We have experienced the presence of The Holy Spirit at these Services and many people have received Healing. Sadly, Revd. John Maxwell who was to have led this Healing Service can no longer do so but Revd. Peter Walker has kindly offered to take his place and I am positive that Our Lord will Bless everyone who joins us on the 28<sup>th</sup> at 6-30 p.m Healing Ministry will be available to all who would like it after the Service.

Revd. Peter has been in Healing Ministry for many, many years and has seen many people Healed and also has experienced Our Lord's Healing himself.



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<p><b>ROB DEDMAN</b></p> <p><b>HOME MAINTENANCE</b></p> <p>All work undertaken in and around the home</p> <p>Painting and decorating Bathrooms and tiling</p> <p>Tel: 01424 774764 Mob: 07976 741950 E: robdedman1066@gmail.com</p> <p>References available Fully insured</p>	<div data-bbox="568 427 1059 794"> <p>PRIVATE TUITION MATHS, SPANISH, LATIN KS3 and GCSE</p> <p><b>COMPASS TUTORING</b></p> <p>NICKY BISHOP M.A. Ashburnham 01424 892474 www.compasstutor.co.uk</p> </div> <div data-bbox="568 794 1059 1155"> <p><b>Ashburnham Sports Pavilion</b> Now with heating and full kitchen facilities. Available for hire for all recreational activities. Charges for village focussed groups reduced to £15 per session. Hirers liability insurance in place. Please contact Brian Holdstock on 01323 832082</p> </div>
<p><b>DEEJAY</b></p> <p>Carpentry and Joinery Props: DF &amp; JC Tough</p> <p>Windows, doors, kitchen cupboards conservatories, all maintenance</p> <p>Telephone: 01424 438814 Mobile 07977 859582</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:deejaycandj@hotmail.co.uk">deejaycandj@hotmail.co.uk</a></p>	<div data-bbox="568 1171 1059 1546">  <p><b>Mallards</b></p> <p>For all your soft furnishing needs Curtains, blinds, pelmets etc</p> <p>Call Sharon 01424 892029</p> </div>

*Rev'd. Peter considers signs of Easter and Spring together with a soldier's witness and the recognition which comes from the voice and a familiar action*

At Easter we use the easy example of an egg to remind us of new life. It is the simplicity of it which teaches a great truth in our celebration of new life and all that happened on that first Easter Day. An early kind of summer descended on us in February and spring was all speeded up as daffodils and other spring flowers began to show themselves in abundance. New Life undeniably!

Such new life was the issue that first Easter Day. Mary Magdalene went to the tomb to anoint the body of Jesus, as was the custom. Finding the tomb empty she wept thinking that the body of Jesus had been taken. Yet, one word dispelled her fears. 'Mary'. She knew that voice! Jesus alive again! It is this truth which drives the Christian faith; if it were not so, then Jesus would have been just another criminal nailed to the cross.

John Hogan, who served as a Combat-Infantryman, wrote to his mother shortly before he died: "I realise that anything can happen, but I know with a certainty that nothing can happen to me of which God has not foreknowledge, and has a glorious creative plan and purpose. His plan is simple. He takes us to the summit of the cross of Calvary and shows all the evil and pain and sorrow and danger in the universe, and then says: 'Fear not, for I have overcome the world.'"

Easter helps us to focus on the reality of the resurrection. If it were all untrue, Christianity would be a fraud. Yet, 2,000 years of Christian witness has everything to say about the authenticity of this way of life.

Two disciples walking along the Emmaus road encountered the risen Jesus. Walking beside them and then sharing a meal in their home and breaking the bread. Eyes were opened and there was the Lord they were mourning! Joy born out of deadness, power and love taking the place of grief. It was in very truth a miracle. It was, and is, the miracle of Easter; the cost to Jesus was the Cross.

We wish you every blessing this Easter time!  
Peter and Diana.

Agmerhurst Granary, Kitchenham Road,  
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Tel: 01424 892941  
[p.walker977@btinternet.com](mailto:p.walker977@btinternet.com)

## Ron's Ramblings

Is it just me or does anyone else out there find they are shouting at their TV screen lately? It's mainly politicians being interviewed that kicks it off for me. Campaigning during an election we are promised the earth, but fast forward a year and the words 'Yes' and 'No' seem to be erased from their vocabulary. If asked "Do you think minister X should resign because he asked a nice young lady in Soho, what the weather was going to be like the following day?" The response will be "It has long been my party's policy that Penhurst should withdraw from its union with Ashburnham and become independent". You just want to scream at the TV - just answer the xxxxx question! And just don't get me started on Brexit.

Other TV programmes that wind me up are the ones where the participants are given a certain amount of time to complete a task. 'You have one hour to build a scale model of the Titanic out of macaroni.' I know it's supposed to make good telly, but boy, do I get annoyed. They obviously have 40 people, just out of camera shot, helping.

Having spent most of my working life in the 'Carriage' trade, another bugbear is the classic car rebuild format. This is where they take a rusty old wreck and turn it into showroom condition in a few weeks. I really let rip at these shows, causing Mrs K. to have to restrain me in my seat. It's a good job the TV is mounted five feet up the wall, where my foot can't reach!

Ronnie King.

### What's in a name ?

Some eagle eyed members of our Parish have commented that there appear to be cases where a street name has been changed without due notice and/or roads that did not have a name now having been given new names! There have even been examples cited where multiple names seem to be used for the same road / street.

This is all very intriguing and in need of some unravelling!

As committed at last year's Village Meeting, the Parish Council intends to help assist in clarifying the correct identification of all roads in the Parish.

Keep a watch on the Ashburnham and Penhurst community page  
(found at <https://ashburnham-penhurst.net> )

for more information about how this is going to be done.

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## Village Noticeboard

**Pub Quiz**  
**at the Ash Tree Inn**  
2nd April at 7.45pm  
£1 entry, £5 set meal  
01424 892104  
Join us for a battle of wits!

**ASHBURNHAM &  
PENHURST WI**  
**Monday 15th April**  
**Cordelia Slaughter will lead us in**  
**Hula-Hoop Fun!**



Ashburnham Village Hall  
7.15pm for a 7.30pm start  
Visitors and new members  
always welcome

For more details see our webpage  
<https://ashburnham-penhurst.net/>



Follow us on Facebook

**Book Club**  
Our next gathering will be at **2pm on**  
**Friday 26th April**  
**Street Cottage**  
For details call Nicky on 01424 892474  
We will be chatting about the books  
we have enjoyed since the last time  
we met: sharing, swapping, lending  
and recommending

### Village Lunch

Wednesday 17th April  
at the Village Hall

Lunch is cooked for any older  
residents in our villages who would  
like a bit of company and a delicious  
home cooked meal.

Do get in touch with Janet if you'd  
like to join in, it's a good way to meet  
new people and get to know  
other villagers.

If you can't get there under your own  
steam, transport can easily be  
arranged for you

For more information or to book a  
place, ring Janet on 01424 892311

### Table Tennis Club

Meets at the Village Hall on  
Wednesdays at 7.45pm  
Call Janet on 01424 892311  
for more information

### MI

**Meets on Tuesday 9th April**  
**at the Ash Tree Inn from 8.30pm**

All men in the Villages welcome to  
join us for a drink and find out more  
about our upcoming events



## The Coffee Stop

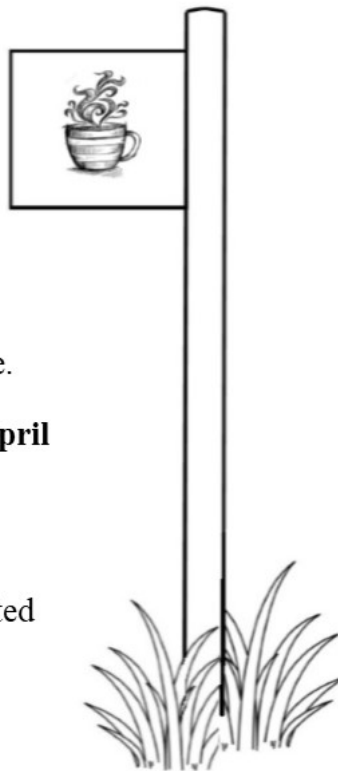
Drop in anytime between  
10.30 a.m.-12 p.m. for  
a cup of coffee and chat.

All ages and interests welcome.

The next one is on **Friday 5th April**  
(First Friday of the month)

*Hope to see you there!*

(A community initiative supported  
by the Parish Council.)



It's the last Sunday in February and I am sitting in my garden admiring the wonderful view all around me whilst basking in some very unseasonal, but welcome, sunshine.

Daffodils are in bloom, buds are appearing, birds are chirping and twittering all around, I can even see the first primroses peeping out. Nothing newsworthy in this, we all share this lovely patch of Sussex...

However, it's not just the views that make this place so special, it is of course the people who live here. Yesterday we were overwhelmed at the support for the village clean-up. Around 30 people came and walked the lanes and ferreted in the hedgerows collecting an astounding amount of rubbish - as you can see from the picture on the front of this magazine!

Whilst sadness and anger were emotions we all felt at the sight of such a huge pile, we were all in agreement that we had all enjoyed a lovely morning. The sun shone, our verges were clean, we shared stories of our finds and of course caught up on village news over coffee and cake. What's not to like about that?

Helen Hoad



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If you are planning to visit anytime here is notice that we will be closed this year for the following dates:

**MAY:** Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>  
**JULY:** Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup>  
**AUGUST:** Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> – Friday 16<sup>th</sup>, Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>  
**NOVEMBER:** Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>

We may be closed for other dates during 2019. Notice of closures will be displayed in the Orangery and on our Facebook page or please call before visiting.

**Open: Tuesday – Sunday: 10.30am-5.00pm**

Orangery Tea Room, Ashburnham Place, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 9NF  
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## The Filling Station at Ashburnham Place

The Filling Station is an informal way of expressing the Christian Faith, meeting on **Monday 8th April**



Our speaker will be John Coles who led New Wine for 14 years.  
He will be speaking on 'The God of the Impossible'

Meet at 7pm for Coffee and Cakes before gathering in  
**the Great Hall** for worship, speaker and prayer ministry.  
Come and be filled up!

For more details see website  
[www.thefillingstation.org/station/ashburnham](http://www.thefillingstation.org/station/ashburnham) or contact  
Catherine on 01580 881816 or [catherine@duggleby.com](mailto:catherine@duggleby.com)

## the PlayCafé 'too small for school'

Wednesday mornings (term times), 10am till 12 noon  
Adults must be accompanied by at least one baby or toddler!

You can find us at Ashburnham Church Hall, in the grounds of  
Ashburnham Place, Battle. TN33 9NF

You can park in the main car park and the Café is signposted from there.  
All are welcome to come for coffee, chat and play.

Plenty of toys, messy creative play, singing, outside fun,  
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Supported by Ashburnham Church

## Easter Explained

### The Lent Course

Lent is the period leading up to Easter and many Christians like to use those weeks to think more deeply about their faith, to take stock of their own Christian life, and to encourage one another. The meetings take place on Tuesday mornings at 10am in the Church Hall.

### Maundy Thursday

This is the day before Good Friday – the day on which Jesus died. On that day we read in John's Gospel that Jesus sat his disciples down and washed their feet. This was an eastern custom that they would have been familiar with, but it was usually performed by a servant. Jesus told his disciples that he wanted them to live as servants – to care for each other, to wash each other's feet and to love each other – just as he had done.

It was also the occasion when Jesus sat at supper with his disciples and asked them to remember him through the bread and wine. The bread would represent his body, broken on the cross for them. The wine would represent his blood, poured out to atone for their sins. So the church instituted this custom of holding a special service of Holy Communion, to remember that occasion and to thank God again for the sacrifice Jesus made. And in the course of the service, someone in a high position in the church will actually get down and wash the feet of a few people in the congregation. It can be a very moving moment.

### Good Friday

The word "celebration" probably ought not to apply to the remembrance of someone's excruciating death on a Roman cross, but it is because Jesus died that we can know that our sins can be forgiven. Over the years various traditions have existed in the church for "celebrating" this amazing event. Nowadays a simple service is held at 10.30am to worship God for his wonderful sacrifice, and usually the village Chapel and Ashburnham church join together for this. This year is the turn for it to be in the church.

### Easter Sunday

If the crucifixion was the end of Jesus' life and work, then there would be no church, no worldwide community of Christians, and no reason to celebrate. But the Bible teaches us that he rose again, and throughout the world, services take place on Easter Sunday, celebrating that incredible truth and worshipping God for his love, his sacrifice and his victory over death.



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### Grounds and Gardens

Here are some events this year that you might be interested in, exploring the beautiful grounds and gardens here.

#### Dawn Chorus Walks

Wed 10th & Sat 24th April

#### History Walks

Thur 6th June & Sat 7th Sept

#### Nature Walks

Thur 12th Sept & Sat 21st Sept

For more information go to  
[www.ashburnham.org.uk](http://www.ashburnham.org.uk)

### Penhurst Retreat Centre

Hello lovely villagers and those who enjoy this fabulous parish.

Here is an update from Penhurst Retreat centre where LOTS has been happening over the last few months.

We have now reopened, (both unofficially and officially!) and the new features are getting great reviews. We would LOVE you to come and have a look around, or even escape here for a day and enjoy a Janet lunch. Our programme of events is on the website but why not come up, ring the bell, pick up a copy and view for yourself some of the lovely upgrades and even stay for a cuppa if that is possible. We would enjoy showing you around.

At the time of writing, there are still a few places left on Emma Moreton's next two Creative days on 22 April and 20 May. The Moretons are well known locally and good days can be virtually guaranteed with them.

Richard and Storm

[www.penhurst.org.uk](http://www.penhurst.org.uk)  
01424 892088  
[info@penhurst.org.uk](mailto:info@penhurst.org.uk)





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Time: 10-11:30am • Ages: 0-18 month old

### BUNNY FRIDAYS

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# Coffee Morning



Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2019

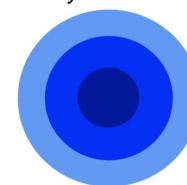
10.00 – 12.00 pm

The Pavilion, Ashburnham

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email [jay.ashworth@btinternet.com](mailto:jay.ashworth@btinternet.com)

### Battle Area Flexible Bus

A booking needs to be made in advance -  
call Peter (01424 - 772001)

#### Ashburnham to Eastbourne

B82:

Ashburnham to Tenterden/Ashford B84:

#### Ashburnham to Tunbridge Wells

B87

Bus passes can be used on all services  
after 9.30am

### Battle Area Community Transport

Every Tuesday- 10am The Pound

10.05am Ash Tree Inn

10.25am arrive Battle Abbey Green

12.05pm leave Battle Abbey Green

12.30pm Ash Tree Inn

For **Ashburnham Church** events and information go to  
[www.ashburnhamandpenhurstchurches.org.uk](http://www.ashburnhamandpenhurstchurches.org.uk)

For **Village** events and information go to  
[www.ashburnham-penhurst.net](http://www.ashburnham-penhurst.net)

### "105" IS THE NUMBER TO CALL IF YOU GET A POWER CUT

**105** is a single helpline service for householders to report power failures or safety concerns, or to get information during a blackout.

Calls to **105** are **free of charge** and will put you through to your local electricity network operator. You can call **105** from landlines and most mobile phones.

### For information about Church Services contact

#### Ashburnham Church

Jennifer Oldroyd	01323 832748
Nick Thompson	01424 219225
	07805895449

#### Penhurst Church

Anthony Ramsey	01323 764557
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#### Ashburnham Chapel

Fay Ramsden	07860 113413
	01424 830078

Please note that the inclusion of  
advertisements for local services in this  
magazine does not constitute a  
recommendation.  
Readers are advised to make their own  
enquiries to ensure good service.

### Book Club Recommendation

#### The Running Hare - The Secret Life of Farmland

by John Lewis-Stempel

This book has been praised by both Country Life and Countryfile


Edith read it first and recommended it to the rest of us.  
Paula read it next and loved it so much that she had to buy her own copy.  
It's beautifully written account of the creatures that live on our farmland,  
from the kestrel above to the microbes below the soil.  
It is full of quirky details alongside praise for chemical-free  
farming methods.

"A joy to read - a book to treasure" said Paula.


### Advertise here

contact Andy Hoad for  
details


[hoadie86@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hoadie86@yahoo.co.uk)



**MANNA ACADEMY**  
Donation based musical theatre classes for ages 5 - 18



Christian Performing Arts



**Ashburnham Academy**  
Starting February 1st | 4 pm

Contact us for more information - [sarah@mannaministries.org.uk](mailto:sarah@mannaministries.org.uk)  
[www.mannaministries.org.uk](http://www.mannaministries.org.uk) @MinistriesManna Registered Charity Number: 1163871

**Ashburnham Church  
invites you to a**



At  
**ASHBURNHAM PLACE**  
**27<sup>th</sup> April 2019 starting at 8.30am**

## **Malcolm Richards**

**Malcolm is a retired Police Inspector, former Emergency Planning Officer, Church Administrator and Manager of Hailsham Foodbank.**

**Currently he is Debt Centre Manager at Christ Church Hailsham. He is a father and grandfather and a keen cyclist who no longer looks good in Lycra, but doesn't care!**

### **Malcolm's talk is entitled "Grace and Mercy"**

**He will unpack his faith journey that has threaded its way through a variety of settings.**

**Please contact  
John French 01424 892580 or Richard Hann 01424 893130  
in advance to book your place**

## **Ashburnham Church Hall**

The Church Hall is situated in the grounds of Ashburnham Place, tucked just inside the wall of the Kitchen Garden. It is used for Sunday school, the Play Cafe, coffee after the Sunday morning service and the occasional Sunday shared lunch.

The building consists of one large room, two smaller rooms, two WCs and a very well equipped kitchen. There is a small garden at the back. Village residents are welcome to use the facilities for children's parties, coffee mornings, teas, committee meetings, etc, and we simply ask for a donation towards the upkeep of the hall.

Clive Mills has taken over as caretaker of the hall, and also keeps the bookings diary. Please contact him if you would like to make a booking, or if you have any other query about the hall. You can telephone on 01424 777011, or email to [clive.mills@ymail.com](mailto:clive.mills@ymail.com)

## **The Art Group**

**meets every Thursday morning from 10am to 1pm in  
The Sports Pavilion, Ashburnham, TN33 9NU**

Artist Mark Fisher is with us on Thursday 25th April for the first Art Workshop Day of Spring!

Please contact Barbara or Elfreda to book your place and don't forget your packed lunch!

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Tea and coffee provided but please bring a packed lunch on workshop days. Details of all our Tutored Sessions and Workshop Days will be published here.

Drop in any Thursday to non-tutor sessions for £5 but **for the Tutored Sessions at £12 on the day, and Workshop Days at £20** please **book your place by texting your name (and email address if you need directions) to Barbara: 07703 284496 or Elfreda: 07774 066578.**



## Parish Council News

“For every parish there shall be a parish meeting for the purpose of discussing parish affairs . . . “, and “The parish meeting of a parish shall consist of the local government electors for the parish.” Thus spake Sections 9 and 13 respectively of the Local Government Act of 1972.

Thursday 25th April is the date this year following the usual format of an informal reception beforehand with village organisations mounting some table top display.

However, note the wording of the Act, “For every parish”. We have two parishes and each must have its own parish meeting. Naturally, they can take place consecutively at the same place and time but this year we’ll be sure to make the distinction. It’s been an oversight this past four years not to have done so but we’ll put it right this year.

This oversight came to light together with another. Penhurst never had a parish council though Ashburnham has had one since 1894. So, in 1954 a “Grouping Order” was made stating, “The parish of Penhurst shall be grouped with the neighbouring parish of Ashburnham, under a common parish council”, and “There shall continue to be a separate parish meeting for each of the parishes”, and the common parish council, . . shall be called “The Parish Council of Ashburnham with Penhurst”. No doubt the ampersand between Ashburnham and Penhurst will continue to be used widely but ‘with’ is what it should be. You can download a copy of the full grouping order from the parish council home page on the village website.

Brian Holdstock, Clerk to the Council

Email: [clerk@ashburnham-penhurst.net](mailto:clerk@ashburnham-penhurst.net), Land line: 01323 832082 with answering machine, Text: 07836 716723 If leaving telephone voice messages be sure to leave your name and a call back number.

Council meetings are on the last Wednesday of alternate months, the next is 27th March. and Planning Committee (if required) meets on the last Wednesday of intervening months.

All meetings are in public and members of the public are encouraged to attend. There is an agenda slot near the start of the meeting for members of the public to address the Council. The agenda is published online at the village web site three clear days before the meeting and hard copy is put on the notice boards at The Chapel and Penhurst Granary.

A summary of currently undecided or recently determined planning applications is on the ‘Planning’ page at the village web site. It contains a link to the Rother DC planning portal if you want to view documents.

# Village Meeting

**APRIL 25 – 7.00 pm**

**Ashburnham Village Hall**  
Ashburnham with Penhurst Parish Council

## Ashburnham Church Annual Parochial Church Meeting Thursday 11 April at Ashburnham Place

Every year, churches hold an annual meeting, where they see the church accounts, hear reports of the activities that have been going on over the past year, and elect people to serve in various capacities in the church.

The Ashburnham annual meeting will take place this year on Thursday 11 April at 7.30pm in Ashburnham Place. Everyone is welcome to attend, but only those on the electoral roll of the church will be entitled to take part in the various elections.

For more details about the meeting, nomination forms for churchwardens and PCC members, and any applications to join the electoral roll, please contact Jennifer Oldroyd at [jennifer.oldroyd@btinternet.com](mailto:jennifer.oldroyd@btinternet.com).

### “Sing like no one is listening.” The motto of the Tuneless Choir



On a recent visit to my sister, I went with her to her Tuneless Choir. Apparently a number of these have been established around the country. Tuneless Choirs are for those who love singing but lack the ability or confidence to do it in public. (See [www.tunelesschoir.com](http://www.tunelesschoir.com).) Research has found that singing in groups brings physical, emotional and social benefits and so, in the belief that everyone has a right to sing, Tuneless Choir groups have been formed.

They sing purely for the pleasure of it – with no pressure to improve – and just aim for everyone to leave the session feeling uplifted. That was certainly the case on the evening I visited the West Bridgford choir in Nottingham. During the course of the evening they announced that they had been asked to sing at a local Christmas charity meal, at the Christmas lights switch-on, and there were also photographs of them singing in support of the runners in a recent half-marathon.

There are so few opportunities for people to sing nowadays. Maybe if you attend football matches you might get to sing, or you may sing along to the car radio. I have a pile of 60s CDs that I play in the car and join in enthusiastically on long journeys! And I remember with affection music lessons at school and learning things like the Skye Boat Song, Linden Lea and Early One Morning.

And the idea of it not mattering if you can’t sing very well is very attractive. When I sing at church there are usually enough people to cover the noise I make. When I sing at home, my very musical daughter says, “Choose a key, any key, don’t tell me which one!” So if, like me, you are not good enough for a choir, but love singing, then maybe we should start a something similar to a tuneless choir in the village...? See you there!

*Jennifer Oldroyd*

## The Ashburnham Estate – Gratitude for Surviving the Civil War

At the Restoration of the monarchy in 1660, John Ashburnham “the Cavalier” and his brother William were reinstated to their former positions as Grooms of the Bedchamber by King Charles II. Loans made to the King’s father were also repaid through grants of leases, such as one on Ampthill Park in Bedfordshire.



St Peter's Church, Ashburnham

When they were able to return to Ashburnham they were so grateful to God for surviving the Civil War, that they set about rebuilding the Church before they undertook any work on their own home. At the East end they built a new family vault for 45 places along with the Ashburnham family Chapel of St. James containing the two monuments we can see today. William’s memorial, with its very fulsome wording to his wife, was created by renowned sculptor John Bushnell.

As a further sign of their gratitude to God for His faithfulness in bringing them safely through the Civil War, John, my great grandfather with eight “greats”, donated a set of Silver Communion plate to the church on its rededication in 1665 as a “thank offering” to God. This is now on public display in the Treasury at Chichester Cathedral. John Ashburnham’s mark of the event “IA 1665” can be seen on the lintel above the two exterior doors on the new East end.

Once the church had been rededicated by the Bishop of Chichester, the brothers then embarked on rebuilding Ashburnham Place. At the same time they relocated it to its current position, from the West Lawn where the original Tudor House sat.

Although John died in 1671 before the house could be finished, he and his brother (who had been appointed Cofferer to the Household of Charles II) had much happier times after the Civil War, not least helped by marrying well! As described on his



William Ashburnham's Memorial

memorial William married the wealthy but widowed Countess of Marlborough and John’s memorial captures his two wives: Francis Holland and when she died his second Elizabeth Poulett, both from land owning families. Samuel Pepys also mentions John and William in his Diary ([www.pepysdiary.com](http://www.pepysdiary.com)) during their latter years.

But after the extraordinary times they lived through: Royal Patronage, Civil War, Kingly master beheaded, Restoration and rebuilding, perhaps the final words about their lives should be those on William’s memorial: “The praise and glory of it be to God alone.”

Richard Bickersteth



Registered Charity Number 1178448

## New Village Hall Update

You might have noticed some villagers hard at work at the New Village Hall site last month and spotted some changes around the edge of the field. They were planting some native hedging around the perimeter which will look good as it grows up as well as being fantastic for all the local wildlife that we all appreciate so much.

They also tackled a few of the young trees that were growing up and were in danger of crowding out some of the amazing views that make the site so attractive to villagers and visitors alike.

We hope that the new hedging soon establishes and that we start to see an increase in wildlife diversity. We look forward to hearing what gets spotted up there during the months to come!

Jay Ashworth

### 100 Club

**Raise money for the New Village Hall and you could win a cash prize!**

It costs just £12 for a full year and you could win the monthly draw of £25

The Prize Draw is held at the Pub Quiz at the Ash Tree Inn each month

To sign up or renew your membership  
Ring Robin or Gill on 01424 892674

## Ashburnham and Penhurst Flower Show and Country Fair

Our next planning meeting is on 3rd April, 7.30pm at the Sports Pavilion.

Do come along and get involved!

April Diary

Mon 1	9.15-10.45am	Yoga	Sports Pavilion
Tue 2	10am 7.45pm	Lent Course Pub Quiz	Ashburnham Church Hall Ash Tree Inn
Wed 3	10am-12pm 7.30pm 7.45pm	Play Cafe Flower Show and Country Fair Planning Meeting Table Tennis	Ashburnham Church Hall Sports Pavilion  Village Hall
Thu 4	10am-3.30pm 7.30pm 8pm	Art Group Bell Ringing Ashburnham Church Housegroups	Sports Pavilion Ashburnham Church Various Locations
Fri 5	10.30am-12pm	Coffee Stop	Sports Pavilion
Sat 6			
Sun 7	10.30am 10.30am 6.30pm	Morning Service with Children's Activities Holy Communion Evening Service	Ashburnham Church Penhurst Church Ashburnham Chapel
Mon 8	9.15-10.45am 7pm	Yoga Filling Station	Sports Pavilion Ashburnham Place
Tue 9	10am 8.30pm	Lent Course MI	Ashburnham Church Hall Ash Tree Inn
Wed 10	10am-12pm 7.45pm	Play Cafe Table Tennis	Ashburnham Church Hall Village Hall
Thu 11	10am-1pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	Art Group Bell Ringing Ashburnham Church Annual Meeting	Sports Pavilion Ashburnham Church Ashburnham Place
Fri 12			
Sat 13			
Sun 14	10.30am 10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion with Children's Activities Passiontide Service Evening Service	Ashburnham Church Penhurst Church Ashburnham Chapel

Mon 15	9.15-10.45am 7.30pm	Yoga WI	Sports Pavilion Village Hall
Tue 16			
Wed 17	12.30pm 7.45pm	Village Lunch Table Tennis	Village Hall Village Hall
Thu 18 Maundy Thursday	10am-1pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	Art Group Bell Ringing Communion Service with Foot Washing	Sports Pavilion Ashburnham Church Ashburnham Church
Fri 19 Good Friday	10.30am 2pm	Good Friday Service Book Club	Ashburnham Church Street Cottage
Sat 20	10am-12pm	Out of the Blue Coffee Morning	Sports Pavilion
Sun 21 Easter Day	10.30am 10.30am 6.30pm	Easter Communion Service Easter Day Communion Evening Service	Ashburnham Church Penhurst Church Ashburnham Chapel
Mon 22	9.15-10.45am	Yoga	Sports Pavilion
Tue 23			
Wed 24	10am-12pm 7.30pm 7.45pm	Play Cafe Parish Council Meeting Table Tennis	Ashburnham Church Hall Sports Pavilion Village Hall
Thu 25	10am - 3.30pm 7pm 7.30pm 8pm	Art Group Workshop Day Annual Parish Meeting Bell Ringing Ashburnham Church House Groups	Sports Pavilion Village Hall Ashburnham Church Various Locations
Fri 26	2pm	Book Club	Street Cottage
Sat 27			
Sun 28	10.30am 10.30am 6.30pm	Morning Prayer with Children's Activities Morning Prayer Healing Service	Ashburnham Church Penhurst Church Ashburnham Chapel
Mon 29			
Tue 30			