

# Acton Bridge Winter 2023 Newsletter

Acton Bridge Community Association Publication [www.actonbridge.org](http://www.actonbridge.org)

**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON**  
**SUNDAY 26TH NOVEMBER ACTON**  
**BRIDGE PARISH ROOMS**



## Diary Dates:

Sunday 26th Nov:  
Xmas Lights  
Switch On

Monday 4th Dec:  
Santa Claus in  
Acton Bridge

Friday 8th Dec:  
Distaff Singers  
Winter Concert

Tuesday 12th Dec  
WI Xmas Party

January 2024:  
Mediterranean  
Film Night

**Father Christmas will be visiting our village 3 times before Christmas Eve - Friday 24th November at The Hazel Pear, Sunday 26th November at the Parish Rooms and then touring the village on Monday 4th December.**

**Inside: Report on Floods from Acton Bridge Resilience Group (pages 7-8)  
Result of Parish Council consultation of Average Speed Cameras (page 3)**

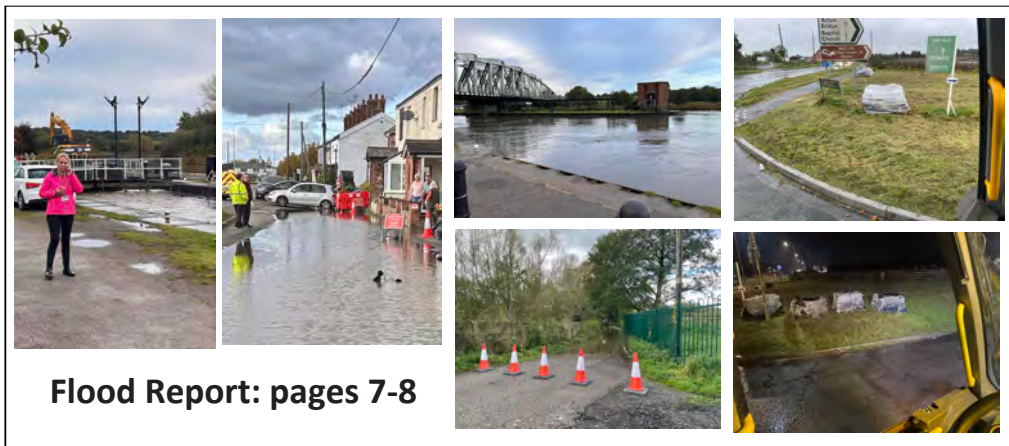
## Acton Bridge needs your help!

Both the Community Association and Parish Council are asking for volunteers in this edition. Village events such as the Coronation, Jubilee, Quiz, Xmas Lights and initiatives such as covid community volunteers, speed cameras and resilience plan simply would not happen without those who have volunteered in the past but who will volunteer in the future? Can you spare some time to help our village continue to thrive?

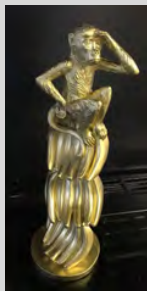


## Acton Bridge Community Association

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 17th January 2024 at 7.30pm** at the Parish Rooms. If you would be interested in getting involved, we do also have space on the ABCA Committee, please contact our Chair Selina Rooney to find out more. (selinarooney@hotmail.co.uk).



**Flood Report: pages 7-8**



**ABCA Pizza Quiz Night Report: page 11**

# Parish Council News

We are very pleased Helen Broughton answered the call to join the Parish Council in July but we still have 1 remaining vacancy. If you are interested in finding out more about the Parish Council or getting involved with Parish activities, please get in touch – our contact details are on our website:

**[www.actonbridgeparishcouncil.org](http://www.actonbridgeparishcouncil.org)**

In the last edition we consulted the village regarding a proposal for average speed cameras. We had a large response with around 1/3rd of all households voting. There were strong views both for and against the proposal. We also became aware that Network Rail were considering putting traffic lights on the bridge at the Station to reduce the traffic to single file. Whilst they have confirmed they are not proceeding with this currently, they may well be installed in the future as the bridge continues to age. Therefore, following the feedback and discussions with Cheshire West Highways and Network Rail we have decided not to proceed with the project. We would like to thank all parishioners who responded.

**Cllr Trevor Brocklebank,**

## Volunteer Required

Acton Bridge Parish Council needs your help!

We are looking to co-opt 1 resident of the village at the January Parish Council Meeting to join the Parish Council and help us represent the residents of our wonderful village.

Amongst the projects we are actively working are:

Measures to help combat speeding in the village, environmental improvements and a village survey to help us better represent our residents and understand the issues that matter to you.

Applications deadline 31st December. Find out more:

**[www.actonbridgeparishcouncil.org](http://www.actonbridgeparishcouncil.org)**

## 300 CLUB

Dear residents and Parish Room supporters, WOW !! you have done it again. Yes, the number of shares sold for 2023 is even better than last years great effort. A total of 268 shares have been bought by residents and user groups of the Rooms. This means that £1340 will go to the upkeep of the Rooms and £1340 will be given in prizes. Thank you all so much.

The extra sales also means that extra prizes over and above those listed on the share form will be paid. These are, for each of the Sept, Oct, Nov and Dec draws an extra £25 prize will be made and for the Christmas Jackpot prizes there are additional prizes of a further one at £100 and four at £35 each. Good luck to ALL. The great sales would not be possible if it were not for our door to door 'volunteers' What an effort. ABCA thank you very much indeed !!

Results for Sept, Oct and Nov draws

Sept £100 Zoe Twose, Sandfield Lane, £50 P Richards Cliff Rd, £25 Mrs A Poyle Hill Top Rd.

Oct £100 Mrs J Heaton Bancroft, £Mrs L Hall Cliff Rd, £25 I Jeffers Old Lane. Nov £100 S Rollaston Cliff Road, £50 John Oliver Pear tree Lane, £25 Sara Wakefield Hill Top Road.

The draw for December and the Jackpot prizes will be made in the Parish Rooms during the Christmas Tree Lights switch-on.

Bob Holt (300 Club Promoter) 853698.

## Tae Kwon Do

**07754 801190**

Acton Bridge Parish Rooms.

Every Monday & Wednesday Evenings.

Juniors (5-12 years): 6.30 - 7.30pm

Ages 12+ and Adults: 7.30 - 8.30pm

Instructor - Mr G Smithies - 4th Dan Black Belt



## Weaverham Library

Our opening hours are as follows:

Monday and Friday: 9.30 - 1, 2 - 7pm

Tuesday and Wednesday 9.30 - 1, 2 - 5pm

Thursday Closed. Saturday 9.30 - 1pm



In October, we celebrated Libraries Week, the theme was Green Libraries and sustainability. There was a "Bin to Brilliant" craft activity and the children let their imaginations go wild and made some wonderful creations. We asked our members to share with us what they loved about the library. Here are some of the wonderful comments the team were delighted to receive:

"I always get a warm welcome...and there are books!"

"it's a treasure trove of lovely books on all topics in a tiny space with gorgeous staff"

"the staff are friendly...we come here often and are made to feel very welcome. My children are well-known by the library staff...very grateful to have such a wonderful library".

Our regular events:	Knit & Natter Group -	Mondays 10.30am - 12.30pm
	Baby Bounce -	Tuesdays 10.30am – 11.00am
	Puzzle Club	Wednesdays 2.30 - 4.30pm
	Rhyme Time -	Fridays 11am to 11.30am
	Lego Club -	Saturdays 10.30am - 12.30pm

We will be holding Christmas Craft events for both adults and children in December, details will be advertised in the library and online.

The Order & Collect service has been relaunched, this is available for all our members. If you are struggling to find time to visit, this service could be for you. You can find out more information online or by giving us a call.

Don't forget we are a warm, welcoming space, tea and coffee is available to all. Pop in, browse the books, read the paper or just enjoy the peace and quiet.

**Come along and see us soon: Gill, Val, Andrea & Hayley**

Weaverham Library, Russet Road CW8 3HY -

[www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/libraries)

**01606 274344**

# Village Contacts: 2023

Trevor Brocklebank: Chair	Parish Council	07814 013133
Carole Robinson: Clerk	clerk@actonbrigeparishcouncil.org	N/A
Selina Rooney	Chairman, ABCA	01606 852224
Gill Spanton	Secretary of ABCA	01606 852356
Gill Spanton	Parish Rooms Bookings	01606 852356
Charles Fifield	ABCA Newsletter Editor	01606 854294
John Spanton	Acton Bridge Art Group	01606 852356
John Mahan	Flat Green Bowling Club	01606 593886
Graham Soutar	Scottish Dancers	01606 883496
Gary Smithies	Tae Kwon Do	07754 801190
Peter Richards	Tennis	07802 885010
Dee Smith/ Anna Alexander	Distaff Singers	01477 532982 01925 658447
Cheryl Hamilton	Verdin Beaders Group	01606 852878
Jane Caldwell	Weaver Vale Art Society	01606 851008
Rosemary Charlton	WI Secretary	01606 852922
NHS medical advice		111
INCIDENT DESK	LOCAL POLICE	0845 458 0000
NON EMERGENCY		101
Ward Councillors	Cheshire West & Chester Council	0300 123 8123
Gillian.Edwards	@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk	07823 482982
Phil.Rimmer	@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk	07549 146467
Lynn.Stocks	@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk	07799 067150

## **ACTON BRIDGE RESILIENCE PLAN IN ACTION!**

On Friday 20th October the Acton Bridge Resilience Plan was activated for the first time. The Resilience Plan had been constructed by the Parish Council following the severe flooding in January 2021. The plan identifies what resources would be available locally in the event of flooding or another emergency to affect a significant section of the village.

The Core Team met on 4 occasions between Friday 20th and Monday 23rd. Initially the team decided to delay implementing the plan as no flood warnings had been issued. Following the amber flood warning, the team met to enact and then review implementation of the plan.

Core Team members were present in Warrington Road and Acton Lane from early Saturday morning onwards supporting residents and acting as a point of contact for local resources and external agencies. The core team meeting, early on Saturday afternoon, took place at the Riverside pub so we could simultaneously monitor the river lapping onto the patio area.

Sandbags were moved down to Warrington Road on Friday afternoon and evening. Residents were visited on Friday evening to ensure they were aware of the amber warning and again on Saturday morning to ensure that they were awake and ready to move rapidly if necessary.

As water started appearing in Acton Lane and outside the front of the houses in Warrington Road, the resilience team regularly monitored the river level gauge readings upstream. CW&C Cllr Gillian Edwards was almost continually on her phone to different agencies, not least seeking assurance that the sluice gates at Dutton had been opened. She was told that they had been but we did send someone to check!

Late on Saturday afternoon it became clear that the river level had peaked. We had avoided any properties in Acton Bridge being flooded but only by 1 or 2cm. Both CW&C and the Environment Agency had a far greater presence in Acton Bridge than in January 2021 and both of these agencies provided key support and reassurance to residents.

The Resilience Plan contains many names and resources available to the village in an emergency. On this occasion most were not needed.

However, the core team would thank Neil Schofield for transporting sandbags from Manor Farm to Warrington Road; ABCA for making the Parish Rooms available; WI members for opening them and having refreshments available on Saturday morning; Graham Law for both having a team ready to support and moving sandbags to cover grids in Warrington Road.

Perhaps inevitably, not everything in the Resilience Plan worked as smoothly as envisaged (and we learned a lot). Over the next month or so, the Parish Council will be reviewing the plan.

If you were involved in the events of the 20th and 21st October and have some thoughts on how the plan could be improved, please let me know:

**[david.charlton@actonbridgeparishcouncil.org](mailto:david.charlton@actonbridgeparishcouncil.org)**

Similarly, if you have skills or resources that would be useful in an emergency and are not already included in the Resilience Plan, please contact me.

The Acton Bridge Resilience Plan Core Team comprises  
Trevor Brocklebank (Chair of AB Parish Council).  
Charles Fifield (Vice Chair of AB Parish Council);  
Selina Rooney (Chair of ABCA);  
Gillian Edwards (CW&C Councillor);  
David Charlton (Coordinator).

David Charlton

### **Police Community Support Officer**

PCSO Michelle Gillett is busy looking after us and has surgeries held monthly in the Parish Rooms. She is also looking for volunteers for community speed watch and neighbourhood watch schemes.  
Michelle's contact E-mail: [michelle.gillett@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:michelle.gillett@cheshire.pnn.police.uk).  
Phone contacts are the normal 101 and then 999 for emergencies.



## HAZEL PEAR WOOD - Station Road

Hazel Pear wood was planted by the residents of Acton Bridge, in conjunction with the Woodland Trust, in 1999, to mark and celebrate the Millennium.

This living Woodland environment provides a wonderful opportunity for recreation in the heart of the village.

It continues to be managed by the Woodland Trust. It is also supported by local volunteers who turn out from time to time, carrying out necessary small works, such as copicing.

If you would like to volunteer to assist in the maintenance of Hazel Pear wood, it only requires a few hours of your time each month, please contact: [cliffmallows@gmail.com](mailto:cliffmallows@gmail.com)

All training and equipment is provided by the Woodland Trust.

There is a snooker table available exclusively to members of Acton Bridge Snooker Club (or their accompanied paying guests) Membership for the remainder of the year (renewable June 24) is just £35. There are no additional costs for use of the table or lighting. There is even a few cues and chalk so you can just turn up and play.

We have a WhatsApp group which confirms the tables availability and should you wish you could use it to arrange games against other members. If you or anybody you know are interested in joining please. Text 07771 666234 and I will be in touch with further information. Thanks in advance Kev Carthy.





## CROWTON CHRIST CHURCH C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL



**\* OFSTED 2023 Inspection rated us a GOOD school \***



### Looking for a primary school place for your child?

Our school was founded in 1875 and enjoys a beautiful rural location, situated in the centre of Crowton village, conveniently located between Frodsham and Northwich.

We can show you around our wonderful school, you can discuss your individual child's needs and see our school at its best - when the children are engaged in their lessons and activities. Please contact us on **01928 788230** to arrange a visit.

We know how important a decision this is for you so please come and visit us to see our curriculum in action and experience the family feel that our staff and families are so proud of:

**The small school with a big heart.**

*"Pupils enjoy coming to this small and welcoming school and parents and carers appreciate the nurturing family feel."*

*"They are polite, confident, well mannered, behave well and try hard."*

*"A calm environment in which pupils can focus on their learning and feel happy and safe."*

OFSTED report 2023 - Overall Rating GOOD



The small school with a big heart.

[www.facebook.com/CrowtonPrimarySchool](https://www.facebook.com/CrowtonPrimarySchool)

Kingsley Road, Crowton, Cheshire CW8 2RW. Tel: 01928 788230

[www.crowton.cheshire.sch.uk](http://www.crowton.cheshire.sch.uk) E: [admin@crowton.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@crowton.cheshire.sch.uk)



**\*\* OFSTED report 2023 - Overall Rating GOOD \*\***

*"Pupils enjoy coming to this small and welcoming school and parents and carers appreciate the nurturing family feel."*

*"They are polite, confident, well mannered, behave well and try hard."*

*"A calm environment in which pupils can focus on their learning and feel happy and safe."*

**\* OFSTED inspections in 2013, 2017 & 2023 rated us a GOOD school \***

# Acton Bridge Tennis Club

The Club charges are exceptional value and will not be matched locally, meaning it is an affordable way to keep fit while enjoying the sport of tennis. Family membership is £40 and a child membership is just £10.



The Club, like all village associations, is run voluntarily and we are keen to seek some new committee members. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Peter Richards for an informal chat. For further details and to join please contact:

[www.actonbridgetennis.co.uk](http://www.actonbridgetennis.co.uk) or email us at [actonbtennis@aol.com](mailto:actonbtennis@aol.com).

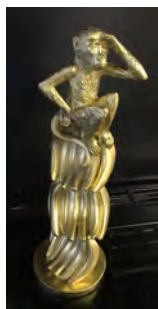
## The Distaff Singers Winter Concert

Friday 8th December, 7.30 pm at Acton Bridge Parish Rooms  
Tickets cost £8 and include festive refreshments. They are available from choir members, at the door, or from 07501 420590 and tickets will be left on the door if ordered this way.

If any ladies enjoy singing and are free on Tuesday mornings from 10am to midday, please come and join us in the Acton Bridge Parish rooms, no auditions necessary.

In the past year, we have raised a total of £557 for the charity "Young Lives Vs. Cancer". This comes from the generosity of our audiences at our 2022 Christmas concert which raised £332 and from our summer concert which raised £225. Thanks to everyone who attends our concerts.

Contact: Anna Alexander 01925 658447 [annaalexander@btinternet.com](mailto:annaalexander@btinternet.com)



The ABCA quiz took place on Friday 29th September, won by Team Fifield (5 Fifields, 2 Pearsons & 1 Hayward). The evening raised £833.14 for ABCA and was organised by Jo Forbes, Stephen Golding and Selina Rooney. The ABCA quiz will return in 2024.



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**Georges Butchers** Family run local butcher (Northwich Rd, Weaverham)  
Local produce at affordable prices, skilfully prepared as you want it. Free delivery available. Orders may be placed by phone **01606 852104**  
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## Cleaning

### **Bizzie Lizzie Cleaning Services**

For your cleaning needs and for that friendly, personal and reliable touch.  
*Phone Jan Mundy on 01606 559103/07732867488 or Maria Bate on 07749 010516 or email [bizzielizziecs@gmail.com](mailto:bizzielizziecs@gmail.com)*

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## Dog Boarding

**Fully licenced (22/AB/198) Home Boarding for Dogs** with collection service available.

*Contact 07766 704136 or email [s.puffett@sky.com](mailto:s.puffett@sky.com)*

## Falconry

**Vale Royal Falconry** Birds of prey, archery and meerkat experiences.

Gift vouchers are available for special occasions, providing a great day out for friends and families!

Visits by appointment - *Contact Phil and Nanette on 01606 851873 / 07974 064078 or visit [www.valeroyalfalconry.com](http://www.valeroyalfalconry.com)*

## Garden Design

### **Tim Fowler Garden Design**

Garden makeovers, new patios, stunning borders, water features, pergolas. Full landscaping service to suit budget. RHS gold medal 2009 Tatton, Bronze medal Chelsea 2010.

*Call 01606 852240 or 07963 955426 or email [timsgardens@aol.co.uk](mailto:timsgardens@aol.co.uk)*

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For all your legal requirements speak to one of our friendly team on **01606 74301** or email **reception@mosshaselhurst.co.uk** or visit **www.mosshaselhurst.co.uk**

Marquees

**Acton Marquees**

Whatever the event, we've got it covered!

Acton Marquees provides marquees and furniture for all occasions. Contact Phil on **01606 854566** or **07973 258922**. Email: **info@actonmarquees.co.uk** or visit **www.actonmarquees.co.uk**

Pest Control

**Four Seasons Pest Solutions Ltd** for domestic and commercial pest control of all pests including birds, rats, mice, wasps and bees. Phone Robert on **01606 620524/07828149211** or email **info@fourseasonpestsolutions.co.uk** or see **www.fourseasonpestsolutions.co.uk**



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Roofing

**Horne Roofing Cheshire**

Acton Bridge based, we have experience on all types of roofs. Testimonials can be provided on jobs we have completed in the village and beyond. For quotes and roofing advice, contact Geoff on **07765 373941** or email **grhorne@hotmail.co.uk**

## Chippy Tea by Chris Metcalfe

It's Friday night  
It's a chippy tea  
It's battered cod  
Or a pie for me

Mushy peas and gravy  
A northern delight  
Sausage and chips  
Love at first sight

Queue on the  
pavement Fryer flat out  
Whose turn next  
Don't be shy, just shout

Full speed ahead  
Get them home hot  
Sauce, salt and vinegar  
Then scoff the lot

## Weaver Vale Art Society



Paintings by -Carol Dooley, Graham Watson and Sally Bebbington Award Winners at  
Summer Exhibition 2023

Our Spring 2023 Art  
Exhibition will be held at the  
Parish Rooms on Saturday  
27th and Sunday 28th April  
and we look forward to  
seeing you there.

We meet every Monday  
1-5pm at Acton Bridge  
Parish Rooms if you'd like to  
see more or join us.

## **Weaverham History Society**

The Weaverham History Society holds meetings at  
Weaverham Primary School (Northwich Road) on the  
second Tuesday in the month at 7.30pm.

Jacque Williams: Chair Weaverham History Society:  
[www.history.weaverham.org.uk](http://www.history.weaverham.org.uk)

**Message from the Editor:** Do you have an article of interest or an event for consideration for our next edition of the ABCA Newsletter? If so please e-mail Charles Fifield: [actonbridgenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:actonbridgenewsletter@gmail.com)

The copy deadline for the Spring 2024 edition is: 15th February 2024.

## Flukes Charity Musical Morning: Saturday 18th November

Thanks everyone and well done! Our "Spotacular" event in Acton Bridge has raised £280 for Children in Need.

We, the Flukes had jolly good fun and enjoyed entertaining you with tunes from the 20s to the present day. We had a further feast for our ears from the exceptionally talented Hoffmen duet!

More importantly, there was a lovely sense of community and a nice buzz in the hall. The games and activities went down well and much cake was consumed. Pudsey bear himself made a surprise appearance - seen here perusing cake!

Special thanks to our helpers on the door, in the games room and to our WI friends serving refreshments and baking for us. Big thanks to Acton Bridge Community Association for facilitating.

It's not too late to donate either. Help us get to £300 and beyond. Or if you weren't able to attend but would like a ukulele themed item such as a note book or teatowel please get in touch.



Call Sarah on 07888 733389 for information.

Flukes are a locally based band (who practice in Acton Bridge) and whose members came together through their love of the humble ukulele!



Update from your local women's group in Acton Bridge. There are lots of activities to join in with over the end of 2023 and into 2024!

You can be sure of a warm welcome at our monthly meetings (2nd Tuesday of each month 7.30pm in the parish rooms). If you'd like to come along to a meeting to see if it's for you - you're very welcome. No commitment required.

Craft club, gardening club, book and walking group all have exciting things planned for your enjoyment!

Pictured above are members at our recent AGM on Tuesday 14 November; our President Pam Lyon with a great team behind her! Lorraine - Treasurer, Rosemary - Secretary and minute Secretary Yvonne. The AGM was followed by a demonstration of Bollywood dancing, and audience participation!!

More information about the WI, from our secretary Rosemary Charlton:

01606 852922 or e-mail [actonbridgewi@gmail.com](mailto:actonbridgewi@gmail.com)

## ACTON BRIDGE WI CHRISTMAS PARTY

At the Parish Rooms on Tuesday 12 December 2023; 6.30pm for 7.00pm

Do join us for a Christmas meal and entertainment with friends old and new.  
Open to anyone living in Acton Bridge over 60, WI and partners.

To book your meal, please contact Veronica Oliver 853226 to confirm menu choices and pay £13 per person by 30th November.