

Acton Bridge

Winter 2022 Newsletter

Acton Bridge Community Association Publication

www.actonbridge.org



"Ho-Ho-Ho!"

On Sunday November 28th it was nice to see so many people, meeting at the Parish rooms for a village get together for the Christmas tree light Switch on. We served mulled wine and mince pies donated by Jo's cakes of Chapel lane .

We were lucky with the festive weather. Grateful thanks to Jane and the Warrington West band who entertained us with plenty of festive Music. Father Christmas arrived on his sleigh thanks to help from Delamere Forest 41 club, who made sure his sleigh was ready for the big day! We have more events planned for next year.

The village will be organising a day of festivities to celebrate the Platinum jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen. ABCA will be organising this day, we are a small committee and will need a lot of volunteers to help on the day and before. We decided to have our special day on **June 11th** which is the weekend after the four day bank holiday weekend.

When we celebrated the Queens diamond Jubilee in 2012 we had a fete, with competitions for dogs, wellie throwing, children's races, tug of war, displays, bands and teas. In the evening there was music and a hog roast , something along these lines are planned.

We look forward to new ideas and we will be having an open meeting at the Parish rooms on **Wednesday January 26th at 8pm** to recruit volunteers to help with the planning and execution. Please come along and join in the planning. Lets make next year a really happy memorable one. ABCA wishes to you all a very Happy New Year.

300 CLUB

A great big thank you from ABCA to all who supported the 300 Club of 2021, residents and User Groups. The final count showed that a total of 250 shares were bought at £10 each. This meant that of the total of £2500 we could distribute half in prizes, a sum of £1250 and a similar sum for ABCA. ABCA hope that you like the new arrangements for prizes.

Instead of the £10 and £20 prizes for each of 20 weeks with Jackpot before Christmas, the total sum available was divided into monthly prizes plus more larger Jackpot prizes that were again drawn before Christmas.

As communication has been difficult over the past year, a full list of all prize winners is published below.

September Prizes

Prize	No.	Name
£100	68	P Richards, Cliff Rd
£50	156	M Burrows, W'ton Rd
£25	201	A Smithies Tae Kwon Do

October Prizes

Prize	No.	Name
£100	141	M Slater, Hill Top Rd
£50	88	D Pearson, Cliff Rd
£25	2	J Oliver, Pear Tree Lane

November Prizes

£100	193	S Rooney, Chapel Lane
£50	176	S Lee-Swain Milton R'gh
£25	248	C Goodwin, Station Rd

December Prizes

£100	172	P Coates, Milton Rough
£50	267	B Oswell, Bowls Club
£25	69	J Richards, Cliff Rd

JACKPOT PRIZES

£200	243	A Crute, Station Rd	£25	252	M Wilson, Station Road
£100	103	H Vandervell Wall Hill Wy	£25	3	R O'Sullivan Pear Tree Ln
£50	110	C Steel Wall Hill Way	£25	37	B Smith Bancroft
£50	269	S Jones, Bowls Club	£25	29	J Twose, Sandfield Ln
£50	108	F Schofield Wall Hill Way			

There would not be a 300 Club if it was not for the band of door to door sales people. ABCA recognise your efforts in these very difficult times and offer you all a very sincere Thank You.

Bob Holt: 300 Club Promoter.

P^{arish Council News}

The Parish Council has been particularly busy recently with major projects include bringing Fibre Broadband to the village, developing a Community Resilience Plan and working on reducing speeding vehicles through the village.

Councillors Hayward and Charlton are leading on the Broadband and Resilience Plan respectively and both have put in a huge amount of work into these activities and updates on both projects are included in the Newsletter.

We have also secured several hundred sandbags which will be kept in the village in case of any recurrence of last winter's flooding.

Thanks to Councillor Hayward the Parish Council now has its own facebook page and we have made a number of improvements to our website.

Councillor Forbes has been leading on speeding and we are delighted that our PCSO, Michelle Gillett has secured a hand held speed gun which is dedicated to Acton Bridge. You will start to see volunteers out around the village over the next few weeks.

If you are interested in getting involved, for example with our resilience planning or being trained to use the speed detector please get in touch – our contact details are on our website: actonbridgeparishcouncil.org

Since the last newsletter we have also seen Bob Holt stand down as Chairman of the Parish Council, Bob first became Chairman in 1982 and has been a passionate and active supporter of Acton Bridge for a huge number of years.

At the November meeting the Parish Council were delighted to present to him an engraved tankard reflecting his dedicated service to the village and we would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank him for his hard work and commitment over many years. Bob continues to serve on the Parish Council.

CLlr Trevor Brocklebank
Chairman
Acton Bridge Parish Council

Ultrafast Broadband Update

Hopefully you have heard by now about the project the Parish Council are working with Freedom Fibre to bring full fibre, ultra-fast, 500Mbps broadband to Acton Bridge. Thank you to everyone who registered their interest in a voucher. Freedom Fibre received enough registrations of interest that they are now proceeding to the next design stage, which is excellent news. If you registered your interest, you should have received an email from Freedom Fibre asking for your address - please reply!

You will then get an email (and sometimes a text as well) from the DCMS (Department of Culture, Media, and Sport) asking you to click a link to confirm your voucher. By completing these stages you are still not committed to taking a contract of the new service, but it really helps the numbers so that as much of the village as possible can be covered by the new network, and it can receive as much government funding as possible.

If you've not registered - it's not too late! And the roads covered will all depend on the number of households along them that have registered - so if you think you might want this broadband at any time in the future, register now so your road has more chance of being included! You can register by going to www.freedomfibre.com/register - it doesn't commit you to anything.

There are full details and information on this project on the Parish Council website: www.actonbridgeparishcouncil.org/broadband, and you can email georgina.hayward@actonbridgeparishcouncil.org with any queries.



Police Community Support Officer

PCSO Michelle Gillett is busy looking after us. She has made a very impressive start and surgeries are held monthly in the Parish Rooms.

She can be contacted on her email address of michelle.gillett@cheshire.pnn.police.uk.

Phone contacts are the normal 101 and then 999 for emergencies.

Cheshire West & Chester Council: Changes to Garden Waste Collection

The current free garden waste collection service ended on Friday, 3 December 2021. From 2022, garden waste collections will become a chargeable service. Residents will therefore need to subscribe and pay for all their garden bins to be emptied by CWC. The new service will provide fortnightly collections over 40 weeks of the year with a suspension outside of growing season of 12 weeks (December to February). This winter the suspension period started on Monday 6 December 2021 with collections resuming from Monday 28 February 2022.

The service will cost £40 per year per bin that is collected and there will be no limit to the number of garden bins that residents can subscribe for.

What to do with current garden waste bins:

To help the collection crews to manage the transition to the new service CWC are asking residents to keep hold of their garden waste bins for the time being, regardless of if you want to subscribe to the new service or not.

Once the transition period is over, CWC will put in place arrangements for residents to request removal of unwanted garden bins. Please note that if you ask for your garden bin to be removed then subsequently decide to subscribe and need a new bin, there will be a **redelivery charge of £21**.

How to subscribe to the new service

Payments will be taken with a valid credit or debit card. Once you have paid there will be a 14 day period where you can change your mind and receive a full refund. Once this period has passed, CWC will be unable to issue any refunds.

You will receive your permit in the post with full instructions and information about the service. You will need to stick the permit to your bin and present your bin for fortnightly collection - see your calendar to find out your collection day.

CWC will take 25 per cent (£10) off the subscription charge to help people who are in receipt of full council tax reduction. Proof of this will need to be provided at the point of application.

To keep the application and permitting simple, and ensure you receive a full year of collections, the best time to sign up for the new service is between December and February each year before the collections start. Further information:

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/waste-and-recycling/garden-waste-collection.aspx>

ACTON BRIDGE RESILIENCE PLAN

Following the flooding that took place in January 2021, the Parish Council, in conjunction with ABCA, have started producing a Community Resilience Plan to identify resources that could be called upon during an emergency.

As well as flooding, a number of different scenarios have been considered including severe storms, lengthy power outage, major transport incidents and fire.

We need your help

Initially in an emergency, the only resources we have to call on will be those within the village. Do you have skills or do you provide services that could be useful on these occasions? Please let us know what they are.

Already members of the WI have agreed to provide refreshments if a rest centre is needed and local farmers have agreed to remove obstacles where possible. We are keen to identify people who have been trained (or would be willing to be trained) in first aid and people who would be willing to accommodate extra pets at short notice.

Can you identify who will need extra help?

Do you know who is vulnerable in your part of the village and might need special support in an emergency? We are setting up a special phone line for these emergency events so that you can let us know the support they need.

Where can we store sandbags?

We hope to have a local store of sandbags so that these can be provided to “at risk” homes much faster than was the case in January 2021. We will need somewhere dry to store them. Can you provide a place?

Please let us know what part you can play in our resilience plan by contacting me by email:

david.charlton@actonbridgeparishcouncil.org

Thank you for your help.

David Charlton

Acton Bridge Community Association

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Please come along and join in the planning.



Milton Baptist Church contact Margaret Nixon

margaret.nixon1@btinternet.com or call 01606 851852.

Message from the Editor

Do you have an article of interest or an event coming up, for consideration for our next edition of the ABCA Newsletter, if so please e-mail the editor:

actonbridgenewsletter@gmail.com

The copy deadline for the Spring 2022 edition is 15 March 2022.



theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN



Acton Bridge WI was 75 years old last year so there was a reason to celebrate. After the AGM meeting in November members enjoyed a finger buffet of savoury food and cakes as well as a glass of wine.

One of the members, Selina Rooney, had made a beautifully decorated light sponge cake which was cut up and shared among the members.

After so many months of missing each other's company, due to Covid restrictions, members had a chance to catch up with each other and have a really good chat.

Back in August, on a really warm summer's day, some members met outside for an outing to Weaver Dairy Farm near Winsford. They climbed aboard a farm trailer then Rosie Lee, the farmer, explained how she had diversified since taking on the farm. She still rears cattle but now rears sheep and rare breed pigs as well. Some areas she is re-wilding to encourage birds and insects.



Rosie encourages various groups such as school parties and WIs to visit and learn about what is happening on many farms in Britain today. Members then enjoyed a delicious tea of various homemade cakes made by Rosie's mother.

Other meetings were held in the Parish Room in September and October with people adhering to the social distancing regulations. The Book Club continued to meet via Zoom to discuss the books the Library had lent us which were Big Little Lies by Liane Moriarty and Commonwealth by Ann Patchett.

The Walking Group have met once a month, in September, October and November and have explored hidden footpaths around Norley, the Oakmere Way returning via the Delamere Way through Delamere Forest, and a walk from Delamere station then around part of Blakemere Moss.

In 2021 instead of the usual Christmas Party with a hot meal and entertainment to which members invite senior citizens of the village, owing to an increase in Covid infections, there was a scaled down affair in the form of a Beetle Drive for members only, with mince pies and mulled wine. We are sorry if this was disappointing for those residents who usually attend the Christmas party but it is a sign of the times we are living in.

Our first meeting of 2021 was via Zoom on Tuesday 11 January at 7:30pm. The speaker was Becky Barnes who took us through the journey of the making of a pair of jeans and it's impact on the environment.

Hopefully meetings will continue to be held in the Parish Rooms on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm.

Our next WI coffee morning with produce on sale, is planned for Saturday 26th March 10-12noon.

New members are always welcome. For more information contact Veronica on 01606 853226



Selina Rooney and her exceedingly good cake.

SP Energy Network - Priority Service Register

PRIORITY SERVICES REGISTER

"In the event of a power cut, our teams work around the clock to restore your electricity as quickly as possible. We appreciate for some customers this may be particularly distressing and that's why we offer extra support to customers who feel they need our help. You can join our Priority Services Register if you:

- Are over the age of 60*
- Have a special communication need*
- Depend on electricity for home or medical care*
- Have a child under 5 years of age*
- Have chronic illness*
- Or just feel you need a little extra help*

You can also register with us if you feel you need support for a short period of time e.g. if you're recovering from an operation, if you are pregnant, or if you are recently bereaved.

Being on our register won't necessarily mean we can restore your power more quickly, however we will try to proactively contact you if we know of a problem in your area."

https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/priority_services_register.aspx

Weaverham Library

We are very pleased to announce that we are back to our normal hours and are looking forward to seeing everyone again. You are sure of a warm welcome. 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

Cheshire West and Chester libraries will no longer charge fines on overdue junior books taken out on a junior ticket.

We would like to wish everyone a Very Happy New Year!

We look forward to seeing our regular customers but also offer a warm welcome to any new faces. Come and see what we have to offer.

Need to relax with a good book?

Help with homework?

Need some new ideas for your garden?

Fancy looking at some new recipes?

Need some information?

We have Junior and Adult sections providing access to all the books you could possibly need – great stories from great authors and brilliant books on subjects from Aviation to Zulus!! And it's free to join!! PLUS

1 hour free internet access for members on our Peoples Network computers.

Please book in advance for:-

Baby bounce - Tuesdays 10.30am – 11.00am.

Rhyme time – Fridays 11am to 11.30am.

Acton Bridge Tennis Club

Wimbledon last year had some great British talent showing promise for years to come. It all starts at grass roots level and with the youth, so why not get your kids involved and join your local tennis club.

Tennis is a great form of exercise that can be enjoyed by players of all levels of experience and well into later life.

Your village club has two courts and is keen to welcome new members, details can be found on our web site actonbridgetennis.co.uk

We are also urgently seeking new committee members.



Closure of Acton Bridge Pre-school

It is with sadness and many fond memories that we share the closure of Acton Bridge Pre-School after almost 50 years of its caring for the children of Acton Bridge, Weaverham and the surrounding areas.

The Pre-School was treasured by the community and particularly the many parents whose children attended over the years. The children thrived within its nurturing care and calm, stimulating environment. One parent summed it up by saying: *"I am so grateful that my children were able to begin their learning journeys in such a special place. It will be missed."* We would like to thank the residents of the area for their support and ABCA for the use of the Parish Rooms.

Thanks go also to the many parent volunteers who gave their time to support the staff and organise the regular community fundraising activities, including the annual scarecrow trail and Halloween party.

A particularly warm thank you goes to the longest-standing members of staff, Gill Spanton, Sharon Lomax and Kathryn Heath who provided such amazing care and were loved by so many of our children.

There had been a sale event planned in early January 2022 for the remaining equipment, which has been postponed to the Covid pandemic and the re-arranged date will be published on the village website soon.

Bird and Nature Watching



As I write this (December 2021) the missing stock dove has suddenly reappeared, by itself. Where it's been most of the summer and autumn, does anyone know?

As usual in the autumn, our apples, put out for the birds, have been welcomed by over a dozen blackbirds during the cold spell, and also a small number of Redwings.

Since we started feeding them, in the autumn, we have been inundated with all the usual collection of house sparrows, chaffinch, goldfinch, all of the tits including long tailed tits, greenfinch, robins, wood pigeon, the odd great spotted woodpecker, jay and nuthatch and a pesky squirrel which takes a lot of dissuading.

The blackbirds and mistletoe thrushes have been vying for the berries but with little squabbling which is unusual! Our hedgehog has not been around for a long time.

With leaves still on the trees, lawn mowing and pruning to be done, who thought it would be a good idea to stop the green bin collections till March. It'll be visits to the tip again! Best wishes and have a safe Christmas everyone.

Chris Williams – Bye

Village Contacts: 2022

Trevor Brocklebank: Chair Carole Robinson: Clerk	Parish Council clerk@actonbrigeparishcouncil.org	07814 013133 N/A
Selina Rooney	Chairman, ABCA	01606 852224
Gill Spanton	Secretary of ABCA	01606 852356
Gill Spanton	Parish Rooms Bookings	01606 852356
Keira Egerton	Newsletter Editor	07739 941331
John Spanton	Acton Bridge Art Group	01606 852356
Ian Dodd	Billiards/Snooker	0845 458 0000
Chris Williams	Birdwatching	01606 851788
Lynn Fowler	Brownies (Kingsley & Crowton)	01606 852240
John Mahan	Flat Green Bowling Club	01606 593886
Dee Smith/ Anna Alexander	Distaff Singers	01477 532982 01925 658447
Graham Soutar	Scottish Dancers	01606 883496
Gary Smithies	Tae Kwon Do	07754 801190
Lynn Fowler	Tennis	01606 852240
Cheryl Hamilton	Verdin Beaders Group	01606 852878
Carol Dooley	Weaver Vale Art Society	01606 783214
Veronica Oliver	WI Secretary	01606 853226
Dianne Leigh	Flower Arranging	07842 057377
INCIDENT DESK	LOCAL POLICE	0845 458 0000
NON EMERGENCY		101

Support Local Products and Services - Advertisements

Butchers

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**
Open: Mon-Fri 7am - 5:30pm (Wed 7am - 2:30pm, Sat 7am - 4pm)

Cakes

Celebration Cakes Naturally!

Homemade celebration cakes made from the finest organic, Fairtrade and home-produced ingredients, freshly made to order to your design. Prices from £35. *Contact Lynn on 01606 852240/07748 401082 or email celebrationcakesnaturally@aol.co.uk*

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 bizzielizzies@gmail.com

Curtains and
Blinds

Delamere Blinds and Curtains

Suppliers and installers of blinds, curtains, poles, tracks, awnings and canopies. Huge selection of styles and fabrics.
For a no-obligation estimate *contact Kevin Hand on 01606 854061 or email info@delamereblindsandcurtains.co.uk*

Dog
Grooming

Fully qualified professional Dog Grooming with collection service available. Also local dog walking and animal sitting.
Contact 07766 704136 or email 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*

Footwear



Local retailer of branded footwear - Crocs, Skechers, Birkenstok, Aigle boots and many more. Ranges for men, women and children. Come and see us.

Contact 01606 853229/782651 for opening hours or visit www.footart.co.uk. Unit 42 Cosgrove Business Park, Anderton.

Support Local Products and Services - Advertisements

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

Guest House



Wall Hill Farm Guest House, Acton Lane

Eight luxurious bedrooms, all ensuite. Ideal for your visiting family and friends. Contact Richard and Pam. *Phone 01606 852654* or email info@wallhillfarmguesthouse.co.uk or visit www.wallhillfarmguesthouse.co.uk

Legal



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



Pizza

The Outback Pizza Company

Authentic hand-stretched wood fired pizza using the finest ingredients from our converted Land Rover Defender.

Available for all occasions. Tel: **07725 266521**

Email: info@theoutbackpizzacompany.co.uk

www.theoutbackpizzacompany.co.uk



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Printed Textiles

Roofing

Weaver Podiatry Holistic Footcare



Katheryn Sheldon BSc [hons] M. Ch.S HCPC registered. Based in Weaver Business Centre, but happy to do home visits in the Acton Bridge area. Also stocking a range of urea based foot creams.
Email: kate@weaverfootcare.co.uk

Lino printed presents on textiles - Table runners, tea towels, scented bags and more. Unique gifts handmade in Acton Bridge.

Instagram: Pendencyprints or
Facebook: Sarah Pendleton-Sharp.
Call, text or message on **07888 733389**



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

Time to Celebrate by Chris Metcalfe

Strictly is over, I'm a Celeb too

Who were the Celebs? I haven't a clue

What's on at Christmas, Radio Times will tell

Mince pies in the oven, such a lovely smell

Black Friday lasted for more than one day

We all got sucked in, it's the modern way

Money spent on gifts is not a crime

The greatest gift is to give your time

Enjoy your family, they won't always be there

It's time to celebrate, love and care

Sing the carols, remember Jesus' birth

May you enjoy your peace on Earth