

Wessington Pop Up Shop

The Pop Up Shop will be open on Saturday 25th March 2023 from 10am-12 pm.

ASHOVER VILLAGE FILM TIME

The Bassett Rooms, Ashover. Doors open at 7pm for tea and coffee - films start at 7.30 pm

2nd March 2023 **The Enigma of Kaspar Hauser (PG)**

A 1974 film by Werner Herzog which relates the strange but true tale of a man found wandering in Nuremberg with no language and unable to stand upright – how would the townspeople react? Herzog tells the tale and lets us make the judgement. In German with English subtitles.

16th March 2023 **Brian and Charles (PG)**

A lonely inventor in rural Wales attempts his biggest project yet – he creates Charles an artificially intelligent robot who learns English from a dictionary and has an obsession with cabbages - a humorous and heart-warming story about loneliness, friendship, family, finding love, and letting go.

For more information:: Jane & Mike Steel, 01246 591371, Keith & Mary Mellor 01246 591181 or Sarah Hillard 01246 590369

The Bassett Rooms

Unfortunately, during a booking in February, substantial damage was done to the building when some unknown people came in uninvited. This included a deep scratch to the wooden floor upstairs, damage to the door to the stairs upstairs and the front door, the lock on the disabled toilet, and damage to the wheelchair used for Lunch Club.

As a result we will be restricting bookings to individuals. If anyone knows who might have been responsible, please email Sarah: ashoverallsaints@gmail.com. If anyone has a wheelchair they no longer need, please let Sarah know.

Alpha Course at Wessington

On Tuesday 7th March we are starting an Alpha course in Wessington Church. Everyone is welcome.

Alpha courses are an introduction to the Christian faith, recognising that many have had no opportunity to learn about Christianity or ask questions. It is also an excellent refresher course, and a healthy space to consider questions that arise on our faith journeys. Alpha courses have been running for about 30 years. They involve refreshments, a talk or video and then groups where the talk or video can be discussed, and all questions about faith are welcome. The modern videos are excellent, but that the small group conversations are the delight and most fruitful part of the course.. Many groups continue after the "course" has finished because people have loved the friendship and opportunities to listen and talk.

The course will run for 11 weeks, including an "away day". Doors will open at 9.45 for refreshments, with the video starting at about 10am. There will be space for more coffee and cake before joining the small groups. We will aim to finish by 11.30am.

If you would like to come please contact Sarah, our administrator: ashoverallsaints@gmail.com for catering purposes etc. You don't have to come every week. And if these dates, times and venue don't suit you, don't worry. We plan to run Alpha again at different times and venues to suit as many as possible.

Uppertown Social Centre



Sat 25th March 7 for 8pm
**Murphy's Marbles– Folk and Irish
£14 incl Supper.**

Contact Eddie Marriott for Tickets
07966 154798 www.uppertown.org



amber news

For the amber churches of
Ashover, Brackenfield, Handley and Wessington
working and playing together, with God, for people
March 2023

Church Services in March

Sunday 5th March

9.15 am	Brackenfield Church	Holy Communion
10.45 am	Ashover Church	Holy Communion

Sunday 12th March

9.15 am	Wessington Church	Holy Communion
10:45 am	Handley Church	Holy Communion
10.45 am	Ashover Church	Morning Worship
6:00 pm	Bassett Rooms	Sunday at 6

Sunday 19th March

9.15 am	Brackenfield Church	Holy Communion
10.45 am	Ashover Church	All Age Service

Sunday 26th March

9.15 am	Wessington	Holy Communion
10:45 am	Handley Church	Morning Worship
10.45 am	Ashover Church	Holy Communion

Sunday 2nd April

9.15 am	Brackenfield Church	Holy Communion
10.45 am	Ashover	All Age Service

Allsorts children's group meets on Sundays 5th, 12th and 26th March from 10:30 am to 12 noon in the Bassett Rooms.

Board Games in the afternoon

Come and join us in the Bassett Rooms for fun and friendship. Play your favourite board games and learn new ones over a cup of tea!

Wednesday 8th and 22nd March from 2pm till 4pm.
Contact: Jane Steel (591371) or Elizabeth Brewer (590646)

Upcoming Events at Ashover Parish Hall

Drop in First Aid Session Sunday 26th February 10am – 3pm

Gain or improve your first aid knowledge. Provided by Local EMAS First Responders. Refreshments available

Fashion Show and Shopping Event- 23rd March – 7pm
Womens's clothing sale and fashion show for all ages and sizes.

Alternative Coffee Shop- 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month
10am – 12pm
Refreshments and Cakes. WIFI & Dog Friendly

Contact Information

Church Wardens

All Saints Church Ashover: John Phillips 07702 641777
Holy Trinity Brackenfield: Nigel Rogers 01773 836137
St Mark's Church Handley: Fran Roberts 01246 865389
Christ Church Wessington: Rita Buckley 01773 835 633

www.amberchurches.org
info@amberchurches.org

Baptisms and Weddings and General Admin:
Sarah Evans 07810656541 or email:
ashoverallsaints@gmail.com

You can view this **amber news** on the **amber churches** website and there are free printed copies in churches and local shops. If you would like a copy delivered, please let us know and we will try to oblige.

Send news for inclusion in the April issue to ashoverallsaints@gmail.com. by Sunday 19th March

The Rector Writes ... Pancakes, parties and prayer?...



Dear Friends,

The church calls the days from Ash Wednesday to Good Friday "Lent" - a time of preparation for Easter.

When I was a child the one fact I knew about Lent was that on the day before it started we had pancakes - my mother made the most delicious pancakes I have ever had, but she did not make them very often—a family of six can eat a lot of pancakes and so it was lot of work.

The reason that we had pancakes before Lent started was that Lent was the time when you were meant to give things up - "fasting" from chocolate, alcohol etc. The problem with this fact is that it puts Lent in a rather miserable light—it is a sad fact that some people think that being a Christian is about being miserable.

Reading any of the gospels gives a very different picture. Jesus was known for being at parties with all sorts of dubious characters. He miraculously produced gallons of wine for a wedding banquet. He provided an excess of food for the vast crowds that came to listen to him. He is the good shepherd who came so that we may "have life and have it to the full". (John 10:10)

Jesus did fast in the wilderness in preparation for his three years of public ministry, and on occasions during that ministry did not have time to eat. He also got up very early to get away from the crowds to pray, and probably missed breakfast with it.

However he did not fast at these times to be "religious". He fasted to make space for better things—his relationship with his Father and his work in the world. The point of fasting was not the fasting itself, but the space it gave for something even better.

In our Bibles, Isaiah declared to the Jews who thought they were being very religious:

"Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:
to loose the chains of injustice
and untie the cords of the yoke,
to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?
Is it not to share your food with the hungry
and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter"

In that sense, when we eat fairly traded food, including chocolate, or drink fairly traded drinks, which can include coffee and wine, we are joining in with breaking chains of injustice and setting the oppressed free. May you have a joyful, fruitful and constructive Lent.

Peter

Repairs to Ashover Church

Following our "quinquennial inspection" we need to do a number of repairs to Ashover church to keep it in good condition:

The total cost will be about £16,000. All donations gratefully received.

Ashover Celebration Choir

Ashover Celebration Choir meet on Mondays during term time from 7:30-9pm in the Bassett Rooms. New members are very welcome to join us. We sing for Celebration Services, and are also available for weddings by prior arrangement. If you would like to join us, please contact Anna (07788455959) or Sarah (07774540003)

Ashover Coffee Shop

The Coffee Shop is open 10-12 in the Bassett Rooms on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month. Books and DVDs are available to swap.



SUNDAY @ 6 and prayer during lent

You may have noticed SUNDAY @ 6 on our church calendar and wondered what happened at this in the Bassett Rooms!

It's a time set aside on the 2nd Sunday of each month to pray informally for about 45 minutes for our church, our community, those in need locally and in the wider world and so much more! Prayer has been described as 'the engine room of the church' which is why it's important to pray together as a church as well as individually. We need to keep the engine running, fuelled by the Holy Spirit! You are welcome to join us.

Additionally, we will be having a time for prayer every Wednesday in March 9:30-10am upstairs in the Bassett Rooms.

Ashover Annual Church Meeting

Our annual Church meeting will be held after the morning service on Sunday 23rd April 2023, with a bring and share lunch in the Bassett Rooms.

In advance of this meeting, if you would like to be on the Electoral Roll for Ashover, please contact Sarah Evans for a form.

To be on the Electoral Roll, you either have to live in the Parish, or have regularly attended services at All Saints Ashover for the previous 6 months. All applicants need to have been baptised.

If you would be interested in serving on the PCC (Church Committee), please contact Sarah Evans: ashoverallsaints@gmail.com



High Ashes Community Garden

Why not join an established friendly voluntary group who meet up regularly in rural Ashover.

- Meets weekly (no obligation)
- No gardening experience required
- Free and open to all : no need to be local
- Good company, with cuppa & sticky bun (on a good week!)
- A Green Gym : eat what you grow!
- Great feel-good factor

For further details contact Penny
0785 220 9639

or email:pennyfishboard@yahoo.co.uk



Children's activities

All age services are on different dates than usual in March and April. On 19th March, we have a service for Mothering Sunday, and on 2nd April we have a service for Palm Sunday.

Allsorts will be on in the Bassett Rooms from 10:30-12:30 on Sunday 5th, 12th and 26th March

Kindness Crew Craft Club meets on Fridays in term time from 3:30-5pm

Acorns is on Thursday 2nd and 16th March from 10-11:30. Both groups meet in the Bassett Rooms

From the Registers Ashover

Funerals:

8th February Peter Alan Whitford age 84
(Known as Alan)

9th February William George Astell age 78
(known as George)