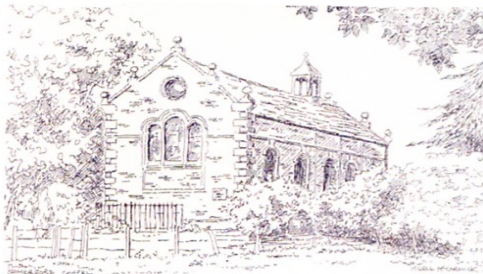
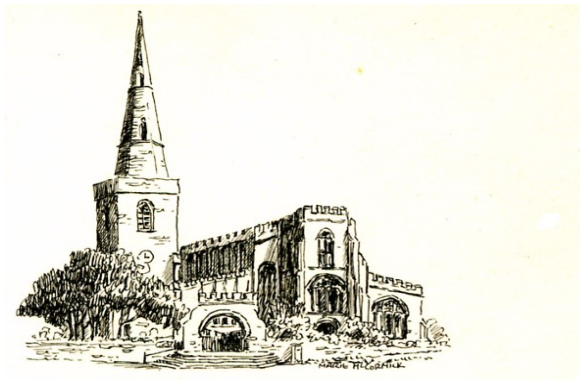


Astbury & Smallwood Parish News August 2010 Price 50p



FROM THE RECTOR,

Rev Jonathan D. M. Sharples,
Astbury Rectory, CW12 4RQ. *Telephone* 01260 272625

Dear Friends,

Some moments are what I call ‘photo moments’: an event in your life that’s frozen in your memory; it’s as if you’re looking at a photograph. You can still recall the details clearly even many years later.

I think that for the disciples one such photo moment came out on the lake when a seismic storm broke out (Matthew uses the Greek word ‘seismos’ to indicate the power behind it – this was no small squall – think ‘Perfect Storm’ but without George Clooney.) The boat is in danger of being swamped and Jesus is asleep through it all!

I’m sure that he got his regular 8 hours per night, but this is the only time that the Gospels mention that Jesus sleeps and it’s at the time of the greatest natural emergency. The scene could not be more clear in its setting out of total chaos on the one side and total peace on the other.

Earlier that same day the disciples have seen Jesus healing a leper, then healing someone’s servant at a distance and then a whole crowd of people who are brought to him at Peter’s house. Yet they’re still thinking of him as just a man. The situations he finds himself in, they expect him to deal with them as a man. The healings? Well, they probably figure God is somehow working through him but he’s surely just flesh and bones like them. And then, out there on the lake as they shake him out of his slumber and scream at him to help them he effectively says: ‘Let me show you why you should have faith in me.’

And with a word he muzzled the storm. Everything - - instantly calm. The men were amazed and asked, ‘What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!’ This was one of those photo moments for them. When their jaws dropped open like a cartoon and even though you’d think the miracles they’d already seen him carry out would be enough to convince them – this power over nature took it to another level.

If Jesus had authority over disease, authority over nature and, as he showed on other occasions, authority over death, their question ‘What manner of man is this?’ was too small a question. With one word he stopped the hurricane, stilled the waves and re-established peace. This event on the lake, it’s not so much about Jesus being able to calm the storms in our lives - it’s more important than that: it’s Jesus saying to them and to us ‘Let me show you why you should have faith in me.’

Jonathan

Editor - Mr W. Ball,
The Old Vicarage, Reades Lane, Congleton, CW12 3LL

Astbury Parochial Church Council met in the School at 7.30 pm on 24th May with the Rector in the chair and seventeen members present. Matters discussed included a rationalisation of the PCC’s bank accounts; the Growth Action Plan; a special Harvest Service to be broadcast by Radio Stoke; Junior Church; the Mothers & Toddlers group; a new course ‘Everybody Welcome’; and parish administration. The Meeting ended with prayers led by Mrs Sharples at 8.30 pm. The next PCC Meeting will be in School at 7.30 pm on Monday 26th July.

The Rector and Churchwardens would like to thank Sam Moore for taking a group of Rotary Club members around the Church: they enjoyed it so much they sent a cheque for £50 for Church Funds. The weather could not have been better for the Cheshire Show which made for a very busy time with record crowds through the gates on the Tuesday. A last-minute change meant that Astbury’s marquee was moved from the sunny side to the shady side for which the Ladies were very grateful as the heat continued to rise and they were nearer the drinks and cakes. The tombola raised £400 for Church funds, with many friends made at previous shows returning to try their luck. It was lovely to receive a visit on Tuesday morning from our Patron Sir Richard Baker Wilbraham.

A new restricted account has now been opened for any donations or money raised for the access ramp, and if anyone would like to make a donation towards this please make cheques payable to ‘St. Mary’s Ramp Fund’.

I hope you all enjoy the rest of the summer and any holidays you are going on.

Susan Blakeman 01260 280067/ 273249

Church openings continue throughout the summer, and we look forward to your help in maintaining this vital part of our ministry to the wider community. We are open to visitors between 12 noon and 6.00 pm every Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday until the end of September. The rota sheet is on the table below the *Parish News* stands: please sign up for this season.

The season of services at All Saints’ Chapel Somerford continues with Evensong on the first Sunday of each month throughout the summer.

M. Pennington

The Sunday Luncheon held at the Village Hall on 4th July was a great success with over 70 people attending. Jayne Goodwin and her helpers put on a delicious meal which was enjoyed by everyone.

The amount raised for Hall funds was over £700, which included £202 from the Raffle and £93 from the Mini Auction.

Many thanks must go to Jayne and her team, Tim Gresty who was the auctioneer, June Barlow who gave lots of support, Hazel Ball and Cynthia Garside for their efforts selling raffle tickets, Bill Ball for all the printing he did and for his continuing support and many more kind helping hands on Saturday evening and also on the morning of the luncheon.

The money raised will be spent wisely together with the money from the Table Top Sale in June. The next fundraising event will be a Coffee Morning to be held in Congleton Library on Saturday 28th August between 9.30 am and 12 noon.

Ray Birchall, Treasurer

The end of the school year was marked by two special services in church. On Wednesday 14th July the Diocese held its service for Year 6 leavers, with about 300 children and 40 adults attending from the eastern part of the Diocese. The service was jointly led by the Rector, Canon Christopher Burkett from the Cathedral and Mr Jeff Turnbull, Diocesan Director of Education, with the Rt Rev Keith Sinclair, Suffragan Bishop of Birkenhead and Chairman of the Diocesan Board of Education, as surprise guest.

On Friday 16th July Astbury School held its own service, led by Rev Kenneth Burghall, who spoke of his own childhood in Chester and presented the leavers with a copy of the Book of Common Prayer.

Trailblazers is a Youth Group catering for young people between the ages of 10 and 14, it meets generally on a monthly basis on the first Sunday between 6.00 pm and 7.30 pm. at Astbury Village Hall. All are welcome, and for more information contact Chris Shone on 01260 297054, or Jen Follett on 01260 271743, or the Rector 01260 272625.

Chris Shone

The Rector and Churchwardens acknowledge with thanks £1,142 received from Pat Sutton from the Grand National Evening, giving the Ramp Appeal a flying start, and £124 in donations in memory of Mrs Marion Weaver.

The next Coffee Morning in the library will be on Saturday 24th July 9.30 am to 11.30 am: items suitable for the tombola or raffle will be appreciated and if anyone would like to make a cake for the cake stall they can be taken to the library on the Saturday or you could leave them with me at the Shop in Mill Street.

Susan Blakeman 01260 280067/273249

Astbury Women's Institute: For the seventh meeting of the year, it was another wonderful summer evening. The table flowers were done by Brenda Lightfoot, a beautiful bowl of apricot coloured roses and spray carnations, which matched the night well. The birthday button holes were done by Shelagh Steele, lemon carnations, that made the birthday

girls want to hold them between their teeth and dance a flamenco (holiday mood).

The Speaker was Roberta, on *Beauty Redefined*. The talk and demonstration were very good and members heeded the advice. A vote of thanks was given by Enid Farmer.

The competition was a powder compact and was won by Enid Farmer. There will be a shopping trip to Chester on 30th October, and on 10th November the 90th Birthday Celebrations at Chester Cathedral.

The Annual Council meeting is on 12th October, and the Speaker is Edwina Currie. The cost is £10, if any one would like to go, Please let us know, because we have to send for tickets.

The Annual General Meeting with Pie and Pea Supper is on 3rd November, cost £5.

There is no meeting in the Village Hall next month, as it is the trip to York. The coach leaves Craig House on Reades Lane at 7.30 am, and Astbury Village Hall at 7.45 am.

All new members welcome.

Mrs J Bickerdyke, 01260 270289

A picture of Astbury Church is currently on display on the wall by the South Door. It was originally a black and white photograph which has been artist-painted, a technique used until around 1970, when the price of colour film came down. It is for sale by telephone auction, with the proceeds going to the Martyn Donaldson Music Trust – www.mdmt.org.uk.

If you would like to make a bid, please phone or text Andy on 07890 600138; state clearly your name, a contact number and your bid. Bids close on 26th September and the picture may be collected in early October.

Are you interested in tracing your ancestors? Even before television programmes such as *Who do you think you are?* many people had begun to research their Family History and were discovering their ancestors. Among the best resources, of course, are the records of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials held in Church Registers and the Inscriptions on the Gravestones in Churchyards. We have published a

computer CD which contains all those inscriptions (from 1608) and also lists the burial places of everyone buried in our churchyards since 1892. It is easy to search through the more than 10,000 names recorded. The CD costs £12 (plus £1.50 p & p), cheques payable to Astbury PCC) and is available from Mr Ball. A companion DVD containing images of our Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials from 1572 to about 1910 is also available. This costs £20 (plus £1.50 p & p) and is also available from Mr Ball.

Lastly, the Report on our Eagle Lectern from the Hamilton Kerr Institute at Cambridge University is also available as a CD (cost £5) of the various documents in Microsoft Word or Adobe Reader format for you to print your own copy.



To mark his retirement from the Board of Governors at Astbury School, the staff and children presented Mr Richard Moore with a print of the church by Marie McCormick at the recent end-of-term prizegiving.

Parish News Publication & Copy Dates 2010-2011

- The October issue will be published on 26th September
Last Date for material 17th September
- The November issue will be published on 31st October
Last Date for material 22nd October
- The December issue will be published on 28th November
Last Date for material 19th November
- The January **2011** issue will be published on 25th December
Last Date for material 17th December
- The February issue will be published on 30th January
Last Date for material 21st January
- The March issue will be published on 27th February
Last Date for material 18th February
- The April issue will be published on 27th March
Last Date for material 18th March
- The May issue will be published on 24th April
Last Date for material 15th April
- The June issue will be published on 29th May
Last Date for material 20th May
- The July issue will be published on 26th June
Last Date for material 17th June
- The August issue will be published on 31st July
Last Date for material 22nd July
- The September issue will be published on 28th August
Last Date for material 19th August
- The October issue will be published on 25th September
Last Date for material 16th September
- The November issue will be published on 30th October
Last Date for material 21st October
- The December issue will be published on 27th November
Last Date for material 18th November
- The January **2012** issue will be published on 25th December
Last Date for material 16th December

The new *Word for Today* booklets for August, September and October are now available at the back of the church. The *Word for Today* is a daily devotional, designed to help and encourage you in your daily walk with God. Each day you will get a quotation from Scripture and then a couple of paragraphs either discussing or exploring the verse. The booklets are a useful accompaniment and encouragement to reading the Bible: you will be amazed at the impact it has on your life. Please feel free to pick one up - there is no charge.

Jennifer Follett
UCB Representative for Astbury



ANDREA DALE, A.M.P.A.

LANDSCAPE & GARDEN CARE

We specialise in all aspects of garden maintenance - lawn care, flowerbeds, borders, vegetable plots, pruning and general tidy ups.

17 years' experience
Fully insured

For a free estimate
call Ian on 01260 275956
or 07801 473865

PHOTOGRAPHY and VIDEO FILMING

Andbry House, 97 John Street,
Biddulph (Staffordshire/Cheshire border)
ST8 6AU

Telephone 01782 511909
andreadale@talktalk.net

Approx 400 photos taken, yours to keep,
from £500

All day wedding photography.
including cake cutting

Evening photography available

Portraiture in your home
Framing & restoration

EGERTON ARMS HOTEL

Astbury Village, near Congleton

Tel 01260 273946

Fax 01260 277273

egertonarms.com
egertonarms.co.uk

~~~~~

Real Home-made food

Real beer by Robinson's

Restaurant and bar snacks

Children welcome with  
well-behaved parents

Vegetarian & Dietary dishes

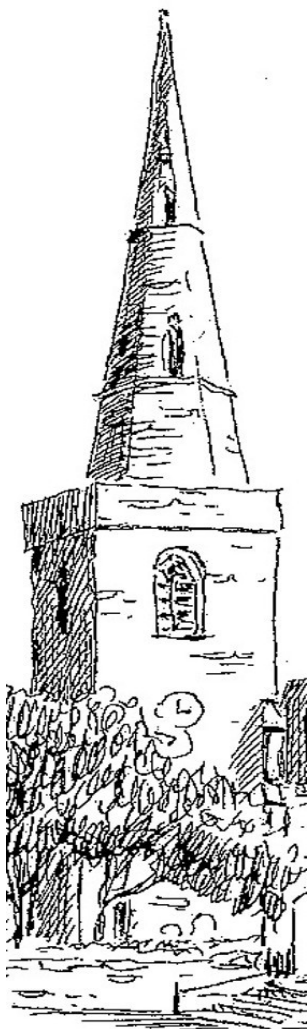
Senior Citizens' Luncheon,  
Monday through Friday

Six executive en-suite rooms

~~~~~

**THE FRIENDLY PUB FOR
FRIENDLY PEOPLE**

HOSTED BY GRACE and ALLEN SMITH



**MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION
OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

**John Garside
& Son**

Funeral Directors

A PRIVATE FAMILY BUSINESS

Established 1856

Offices and Private Chapels at

HIGH STREET, BIDDULPH

Telephone 01782 513210

and

MOUNTBATTEN HOUSE, CONGLETON

Telephone 01260 298829

Funeral Plans Available

**A COMPANY OF CARE AND
UNDERSTANDING**

South Cheshire Framing

*For all your Picture
Framing requirements*

All types of work undertaken

*Tapestry & Embroidery
A Speciality*

**Telephone Paul Nadin on
01260 279443**

email: framing@nadin.go-plus.net

GREEN MAN GARDENS

Lawn Cutting

Hedge Trimming

Weeding

Pruning

Overgrown Gardens Cleared

Organic Specialists

Tuition and Garden Planning

Services

Seasonal Hanging Baskets

& Containers

**Telephone Andrew on
01782 783105
Mobile 07961 587981**

HOMES+PLUS

Undertake a wide range of everyday
repairs and refurbishment tasks
around the home or office,
Including

- Joinery work & repairs
- Floor & wall tiling
- Painting & decorating
- Bathroom installations
- Plumbing & electrics

Some jobs can be completed in
half a day - sometimes they take a
couple of days.

35 years' industry experience.

Call Chris Shone on 07538
530264 or 01260 297054

ALAN • FINNERON

Funeral Directors

*A Complete
Professional and
Caring Service*

24 hour service

32 West Street, Congleton, Cheshire
Telephone 01260 277622

Pre-paid Funeral Plans Available

JOSEPH
EDWARDS
& SONS
FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS
SINCE 1882
*Private Chapels of Rest,
Monumental Masonry,
Floral Tributes, Catering ,
Nationwide Repatriation Service,
DSS Financial Grant Claims,
Guidance Pre-Paid Funeral Planning
All Available On A 24 Hour Basis
In Strictest Confidence.*

 **SAFE**
INDEPENDENT
FUNERAL
DIRECTORS
Member

**GOLDEN
CHARTER**
Pre-Paid Funeral Plans

Tel: (01270) 882097
144/6 Crewe Road, Alsager,
Cheshire.

Tel: (01782) 775333
3 King Street, Kidsgrove,
Stoke-on-Trent. 

www.josephedwards.co.uk

Cheshire Property Lettings

45 Mill Street, Congleton, CW12 1AG

Tel 01260 290090 Fax 01260 290880

Residential Letting and Management Specialists

If you have a property you would like to let out,
call us on 01260 290090 for a consultation
with no obligation.

All types of property required for clients on
mailing list.

NO TENANT NO FEE

Alan Lancaster

Quality Wall & Floor Tiling

97 Newcastle Road,
Congleton, CW12 4HL.

Tel 01260 274724
Mob 07835 38395

A&M

Roofing and Chimney Repairs

From odd tiles to new roof - all pointing work, e.g.

**Hips/Ridges – Full Houses
Lead flashings refixed/renewed.
Storm damage.**

Our Guarantee is peace of mind

ALL AREAS COVERED

Chimneys rebuilt or raked out and repointed, baskets fitted.

References available. For free estimate telephone

01782 761555,

01782 565800 or mobile 07949 235711 (anytime)

Ex Biddolphian.

St JOHN'S CHURCH, SMALLWOOD

PATRON – Sir Richard Baker Wilbraham, Rode Hall

VICAR		Rev Jonathan D. M. Sharples. Astbury Rectory. 01260 272625
CHURCHWARDENS		Mr L. Ford, Overton Green Farm. 01477 500466 Mr M Gilsean, Oak House, Walhill Lane. 01477 500351
TREASURER		Mrs L. Blythe, Wharams Barn, Congleton Rd. 01477 500545
SECRETARY		Mrs L Goodbrand, Holly Bush Farm. 01477 500219.
SERVICES	9.30 am	1st Sunday Family Communion 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays Holy Communion
VILLAGE HALL		Mrs A. Bracegirdle. 01477 500342

CHURCH KEYS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

St MARY'S CHURCH, ASTBURY

PATRON – Sir Richard Baker Wilbraham, Rode Hall

RECTOR Rev Jonathan D.M. Sharples. Astbury Rectory. 01260 272625

CHURCHWARDEN EMERITUS Mr G. Taylor
CHURCHWARDENS Mr W. Ball, The Old Vicarage, Reads Lane, Congleton.
01260 279276
Mr C. Shone, 89 Ennerdale Drive, Congleton
01260 297054

SERVICES	8.00 am	every Sunday	Holy Communion	BCP
	9.00 am	1st Sunday	Morning Prayer	BCP
	10.00 am	every Sunday	Junior Church	
	11.00 am	1st Sunday	Family Communion	CW
		2bd & 5th Sundays	Morning Prayer	CW
3rd & 4th Sundays		Holy Communion	CW	
6.30 pm	1st, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays	Evensong	BCP	
	2nd Sunday	Sung Eucharist	BCP	

Services of Holy Baptism & Holy Matrimony by arrangement with the Rector

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Hon. Vice Chairman Mr A. McCormick, 81 Padgbury Lane. 01260 274567
Hon. Secretary Mr W. Ball
Hon. Treasurer Mrs S. Blakeman, 3 Astbury Marsh. 01260 280067
DEANERY SYNOD Mr A. McCormick, Mr S. Moore, Mr W. Ball
ELECTED PCC MEMBERS Mr G. Allen, Mrs S. Blakeman, Mrs S. Brown,
Mr G. Dale, Dr S. Drage, Mrs J. Follett, Mrs C. Goodwin,
Mr F. Griffiths, Mrs J. Moore, Mr R. Moore, Mr I. Pennington,
Mr P. Powell, Mr H. Prince, Mr G. Taylor., Mr R. Wright
CO-OPTED PCC MEMBERS Mrs M. Cheetham, Mrs V. Gregson, Mrs J. Wagstaffe

SIDSEMEM see ASTBURY ROTAS, next page
BELL RINGERS TOWER CAPTAIN Mrs C. Worrall
CHILDREN'S SOCIETY Mrs S. Blakeman
ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER Mr H. Prince, 34 Falmouth Road. 01260 274935
FLOWERS Mrs B. Cook. 01260 290194
JUNIOR CHURCH Mrs J. Goodwin, Mrs J. Follett, Mrs M. Cheetham
PARISH NEWS EDITOR Mr W. Ball
PARISH NEWS FINANCE Mr A. McCormick
ORGANIST Dr S. Drage
VILLAGE HALL BOOKING Mrs T. Meakin, 01260 295104

ASTBURY ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL, School Lane, CW12 4RG.
Head Teacher Mrs J. Wagstaffe. 01260 272528
Chairman of Governors Mr A. McCormick. 01260 274567

WEBSITE www.astburychurch.org.uk

CHURCH KEYS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE RECTOR AND CHURCHWARDENS

Astbury & Smallwood Parish News - August 2010

Astbury Church bellringers meet to practise every Wednesday evening
between 8.00 and 9.00 pm.

Astbury Church choir meets to practise every Friday evening
between 7.30 and 8.30 pm.

Trailblazers, a group for young people aged 10 - 14 years, meet once a month on
Sundays between 6.00 and 7.30 pm at Astbury Village Hall. Contact the Rector on
01260 272625, Chris on 01260 297054 or Jennifer on 01260 271743.

ASTBURY ROTAS

		8.00am	11.00am	6.30pm
July	25th	C. Shone	G. Dale T. Gresty	E. Cartlidge P. Powell
August	1st	J. Nadin	R. Moore T. Gresty	S. Blakeman C. Bloor
	8th	H. Prince	F. Griffiths E. Riches	N. Alcock F. Davenport
	15th	C. Goodwin	R. Moore G. Dale	E. Cartlidge P. Powell
	22nd	A. McCormick	R. Wright F. Griffiths	S. Blakeman C. Bloor
	29th	C. Shone	G. Dale T. Gresty	N. Alcock F. Davenport
Sept	5th	J. Nadin	F. Griffiths E. Riches	E. Cartlidge P. Powell

At the 11.00 am Communion service, Mr Griffiths administers the chalice
on the 1st Sunday, Mrs Blakeman on the 3rd and Mrs Cook on the 4th.

CLEANING ROTAS

July	30th	C. Garside
August	6th	R. Birchall, J. Barlow
	13th	J. Nadin, T. Morgan
	20th	S. Blakeman, J. Moore
	27th	W. Prince, S. Stuffins
Sept	3rd	M. Pennington, I. Pennington
	10th	TBA
	17th	B. Sutton, D. Cotton
	24th	C. Garside

BRASS ROTAS

August 3rd S. Naden, B. Sutton
 24th B. Cook, P. Briggs, M. Hocknell

FROM THE REGISTERS

		<i>Service Attendances</i>			
		8.00	9.00	11.00	6.30
June	27th	18	-	37	39
July	4th	16	3	116	34
	11th	21	-	111	27
	18th	15	-	51	34

Holy Matrimony

June 26th David Larder & Angela Shaw
 June 26th Walter John Sterling & Natalie Clare Howell

Burial of the Dead

June	25th	Seaton David Kennerley (at Somerford)	43
July	9th	Peter Bernard Woods	65
July	10th	Joan Wilson	87
July	13th	Graham Edward Cook	58

Astbury & Smallwood Parish News - August 2010

JOINT PARISHES CALENDAR FOR THE COMING WEEKS

JULY

Sun	25th	TRINITY VIII - St JAMES THE APOSTLE	
			August <i>Parish News</i> published today
		8.00am Astbury	Holy Communion
		9.30am Smallwood	Holy Communion
		11.00am Astbury	Holy Communion
		6.30pm Astbury	Evensong
Mon	26th	7.30pm Astbury	PCC Meeting
Fri	30th	3.00pm Smallwood	Holy Matrimony

AUGUST

Sun	1st	TRINITY IX	
		8.00am Astbury	Holy Communion
		9.00am Astbury	Morning Prayer
		9.30am Smallwood	Holy Communion
		11.00am Astbury	Family Communion & Holy Baptism
		2.30pm Somerford	Evensong
		6.30pm Astbury	Evensong
Wed	4th	7.30am Craig Ho	Women's Institute Trip to York
		7.45am Astbury VH	Women's Institute Trip to York
Sat	7th	1.00pm Astbury	Holy Matrimony
Sun	8th	TRINITY X	
		8.00am Astbury	Holy Communion
		9.30am Smallwood	Family Service
		11.00am Astbury	Holy Communion
		6.30pm Astbury	Sung Eucharist
Sun	15th	TRINITY XI	
		8.00am Astbury	Holy Communion
		9.30am Smallwood	Holy Communion
		11.00am Astbury	Holy Communion
		6.30pm Astbury	Sung Eucharist
Fri	20th		<i>Parish News</i> Copy date
Sun	22nd	TRINITY XII	
		8.00am Astbury	Holy Communion
		9.30am Smallwood	Holy Communion
		11.00am Astbury	Holy Communion
		6.30pm Astbury	Evensong
Sat	28th	9.30am Congleton Lib	Coffee Morning for Village Hall
		1.00pm Astbury	Holy Matrimony

Astbury & Smallwood Parish News – August 2010

Joint Parishes Calendar, continued

AUGUST

Sun 29th TRINITY XIII

8.00am Astbury
9.30am Smallwood
11.00am Astbury
1.30pm Astbury
6.30pm Astbury

September *Parish News* published today
Holy Communion
Holy Communion
Holy Communion
Holy Matrimony
Evensong

Mon 30th 12. noon Astbury

Church open until 6.00 pm

SEPTEMBER

Wed 1st 7.30pm Astbury VH

Women's Institute

Sun 5th TRINITY XIV

8.00am Astbury
9.30am Smallwood
11.00am Astbury
2.30pm Somerford
6.30pm Astbury

Holy Communion
Holy Communion
Holy Communion
Evensong
Evensong

Mon 6th 7.30pm Astbury

PCC Standing Committee

The West Gate

Before



Now



Astbury & Smallwood Parish News
is also available in large-print format.
Please let Mr Ball know if you require such a copy.

ASTBURY & SMALLWOOD PARISH NEWS

Edited by Mr W. Ball

Cover Drawings of St Mary's Church, Astbury, St John's Church, Smallwood
and All Saints' Chapel of Ease, Somerford © Marie McCormick

Typeset by Mr W. Ball, The Old Vicarage, Reades Lane, CW12 3LL

Printed at The Old Vicarage

Telephone 01260 279276 *Fax* 01260 298913

email williamball@supanet.com *or* williamball@btinternet.com

Epson AcuLaser M2000D