



# NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2010

## AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL

### A Summary of Parish Council Business – October 2010

#### AUDLEM TRIUMPHS AGAIN!

The 2010 Community Pride competition reached its finale at Cheshire Community Action's Presentation Evening on 30th September. Audlem won the Best Kept Village award for the 5th year in a row. There was also a "Little Gem" award for Audlem Cemetery, *Audlem Online* was judged the best website in the county and there was a "Highly Commended" award for Audlem's Parish Newsletter. The Parish Council offers its congratulations to everyone who helped to achieve these high standards yet again. Congratulations also go to Nantwich, which was declared the "Overall Winner" for the second year in succession. It's quite clear that this is, thanks to the dedication of local enthusiasts and volunteers, an attractive and well-cared-for corner of Cheshire.

#### NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR



Phillip Johnson, who will be well-known to many Audlem residents, was recently elected to fill the casual vacancy resulting from the resignation of Philip Bradbury-Smith. Phillip has

lived in the village for 24 years and his children have been educated in local schools. He has a keen interest in sport and has been involved in many of the village festivals and functions. There were four applicants, all of whom were very able and well qualified. The Parish Council hopes that they, and others who have shown an interest in becoming a councillor at various times over the past few years, will seek nomination at the next election in May 2011. This election will take place at the same time as the General Election and will involve all 12 seats on the Parish Council. The Parish Council thanks Philip Bradbury-Smith for his work as a Councillor since May 2008. Philip immersed himself Parish Council business from day one and was an energetic member of the Highways, Commons & Greens, Allotments and Playground committees. The Parish Council wishes Philip and his family every happiness and good fortune during their stay in Queensland.

#### TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB AT THORNTON HOUSE

The Tuesday Lunch Club is a highly valued occasion on the social calendar of our oldest residents. However, a few months ago, there were well-founded fears that Age Concern would end their service on the 24th August. Thanks to the intervention of the Parish Council and local

residents, Cheshire East Council has given assurances that Age Concern will continue to provide the service until the end of March 2011 when a new service provider will take over.

#### A525

The A525 has been confirmed as officially de-primed and so satnav updates and new maps no longer show the road as a trunk route. The Parish Council is continuing with efforts to deter HGV through traffic by working towards having a weight limit imposed on the road.

#### **Parish Councillors' Contact Details**

Kate Down - Chair 811160

Bill Consterdine – Vice Chair 811647

Frances Christie 811340

Richard Furber 811598

Mike Hill - 811843

Peter Morgan 811575

David Rowe 812294

Pam Seddon 811282

Andrew Smith 811969

Irene Stockton 811828

Geoff Stretch 811011

Phillip Johnson 811774

Your Parish Clerk is Jean White 01948 871383 or e mail

[parishcouncil@audlem.org](mailto:parishcouncil@audlem.org)

*Parish Council meetings will be held in St James School on Mondays November 1st and December 6th, starting at 7.30 pm.*

*Dates of next year's meetings will be available in early December.*

*At the beginning of each meeting there is an opportunity for residents to bring matters of particular concern to the attention of the Parish Council.*

*Everyone is welcome to stay and listen for the rest of the meeting.*

#### **THE 'BIG SWITCH ON'**

Audlem's 'Big Switch On' Audlem Square on Thursday 25th November 2010. Jointly hosted by ADAS, Audlem Traders and Audlem School, Audlem's illuminations are switched on by this year's village tree sponsors Trixie & Norman Bonell - with an evening of late night shopping and pub events.

The evening starts with a seasonal fancy dress 'Santa Parade' from Audlem School at 6.00pm, led by Father Christmas, arriving in Audlem Square for the 6.30pm big "Switch On" ! Followed by a village shop window family fun puzzle trail - "Guess the Carol" in the window competition. Audlem Church bell ringers will herald the start of Advent, which is officially on Sunday 28th November. 'Tastings and treats' in the local stores and pubs.



Audlem Late Night Shopping **Thursday** 16th December 2010 and **Wednesday** 22nd December.

### **AUDLEM AID TO CANCER RESEARCH**

We would like to draw your attention to an article in a recent edition of the Nantwich Chronicle about charity bags which are delivered to homes.

The bags are genuine charity bags but many are collected by "middlemen" or "ragmen" who donate only a percentage of the money raised to the charities. The British Heart Foundation estimates that they have lost £3 million in the last year due to this commercial activity.

The Cancer Research Shop in Audlem sells unsaleable fabric items directly to a firm in Bradford and receives £220 per ton, all of which is donated to Cancer Research UK.

Please bear this in mind when the next charity bag drops through your letterbox

### **AUDLEM EMBROIDERERS GUILD**

Since our last report we have completed last year's programme and commenced our new one. Our final fling for the summer was a Jacob's Feast and this was opened with a talk about the present day British Wool industry given by Janet Phillips from the Threshing Barn. Janet is an enthusiastic sheep breeder and entrepreneur, as anyone who has visited her store, situated near Leek, will know. All our members pulled out the stops with their cooking and baking skills and everyone enjoyed the varied selection of treats for lunch. Our opening meeting, in September, was taken up with the AGM, and quite a few changes to the committee took place. Thanks and best wishes were given to retiring committee members - Sarah Johnson (chairman), Sylvia Stead (ex vice-chairman and creator of our website), Angela Davies and Janet Brentnall. This was followed by "Embroiderers' Question Time", when a chosen panel of our experienced embroiderers provided informative answers to a variety of questions from the floor.

For those readers who have an interest in needlework and might be considering coming to one of our meetings, I would like to take this opportunity to say that all are welcome and there is the opportunity to come as a guest before making any commitment. We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 10.00 am, at the Scout and Guide Hall, Cheshire Street. We have a varied programme of talks lined up for the coming months and we also arrange workshops and trips for members who might want to learn more practical skills. Further information can be found on our website: [www.mini-webs.com/Audlemembroiderersguild](http://www.mini-webs.com/Audlemembroiderersguild).

*Jan Aldersay*

### **NEW POLICEMAN ON THE BEAT**



PC Ken Maple is off work at the moment and, instead of leaving a gap in our coverage in relation to the Audlem Cluster beat, he has been replaced in the short term by PC Ian

Condliffe, who got off to a flying start by briefing Councillors at the recent Cluster meeting linking in with what were considered local priorities and providing an update on incidents over the last few months.

*Audlem Online and this newsletter sends best wishes to Ken Maple and, apart from his close cooperation with the website in policing issues, we are extremely grateful for the wonderful photographs he has supplied and which we hope he will continue to send us. They are used on an almost daily basis on Audlem Online and in local publications.*

### **AUDLEM CHURCHES**

Each year the churches of the village host a service for those who have been bereaved. It is open to all wherever the funeral was held, or however long ago. This year's service is at Audlem Methodist church on 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

The service of remembrance will be at 10.45am on 14<sup>th</sup> November in St James'.

The Christingle service (the one with the orange) will be held at St James' Church on 28<sup>th</sup> November at 4pm. The service is suitable for people of all ages.

#### **Celebrating Christmas:**

The Village Carol service will be on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm in St James' Church.

The crib service will be at 6pm on Christmas Eve in St James'.

There will be services of Holy Communion at 11.15pm on Christmas Eve, and at 8.15am and 10am on Christmas Day.

### **AUDLEM GUIDES**

As part of our Centenary celebrations for Guiding this year, we recently had the opportunity to take part in an overnight camp at Tabley showground, near Knutsford. This had been organised at County level and was open to Guides, Senior Section, Guiders and Commissioners to attend. Nineteen Guides, three Senior Section and three Guiders from Audlem joined 1200 further Guides from Cheshire Forest and Cheshire Border regions to enjoy live bands, various food and souvenir stalls and to bop along to

the music on a very balmy evening. There was a sea of fluorescent pink, flashing bunny ears and the brightest of tutus and outfits worn by a great many girls and the atmosphere was one of excitement and relaxation. Camping was especially memorable for some girls from our unit as they had never slept under canvas before. The following morning, they ate breakfast together in the sunshine before striking and packing tents as a team. Hopefully this will become one of their special memories of Guiding during a very busy and significant year. Karen Bradshaw, Guider, 1st Audlem Guides and Jane Dale, Guider, 1st Audlem Brownies.

### **AUDLEM W.I.**

The W.I. started autumn with an outing to Shrugborough which was highly successful. On **10<sup>th</sup> November** we are holding a fashion show in the public hall, tickets £5 including refreshments, and the models are local ladies. Later in November we are having a ‘pamper’ day at the South Cheshire College – facial, manicure, Christmas lunch and hairdo and at the end of November we are off on our pre-Christmas holiday in Exmouth. Also in November we have our annual meeting when our new committee is formed and in December we will hear the monologues of Stanley Holloway and will have another Christmas lunch with entertainment at Mollington Hall.

Our annual dinner is on 22<sup>nd</sup> January at the golf club and we use this space to wish our members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Further details from Christine Salisbury, President 811110 and Anne Poole, Secretary 811224.

### **HGVs IN THE SPOTLIGHT**



Councillor, Irene Stockton, saw a Culina articulated truck blocking the centre of Audlem recently, she decided it was time to swing into action.

She called the company's head office in Market Drayton and asked why a truck was passing through Audlem on a road that had been removed from the Primary Route Network when, as she had ascertained, it was heading for Stafford. The Deputy Transport Manager said he'd investigate and get back to Irene. Despite wondering whether she would ever receive that call, Irene was pleased that the company responded as promised.

They said that it had been an agency driver in that particular vehicle and that the company's drivers were being briefed about the de-priming and the congestion

that's caused on Audlem's narrow roads through the village.

Audlem Parish Council has said that it is going to contact truck companies whose trucks regularly drive through the village and, working with the Parish Plan Traffic & Transport working group, encourage them to drive via the alternative roads, namely those on Primary Route Network, they should be using.

*If you see an HGV causing problems, or see a company's trucks regularly coming this way, please let the Parish Council know or email a message to [editor@audlem.org](mailto:editor@audlem.org)*

Ideally, take a photograph - landscape format please - and that can be used on Audlem Online in a 'Name & Shame' campaign.

Work is now underway to try to have weight limits imposed on one or more of Audlem's bridges as the most effective way to discourage the long-distance HGVs. So far, the Audlem Online Vote Poll on this issue shows 93% of the near 250 readers voting in favour of weight limits.

### **HISTORY SOCIETY PROGRAMME**

**Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> Nov:** AGM at 7.30pm John Whitehead - The Crosses of Sandbach and the conversion of Cheshire

**Tues 7<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas dinner

**Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> Jan:** Raymond Rush – Fairs, Feasts & Festivals

**Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> Feb:** Jeff Bryson – Policing in the 1960s

All talks start at 8pm prompt, Please try to arrive by 7.45pm. Membership £10 p.a. Visitors £2 per meeting Tea and biscuit 25p

### **AUDLEM & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB**

*The Club has continued to be very popular with the usual mix of good speakers, interesting social events and walks and with membership currently at 60 there is a short waiting list for membership*

*The Club meets at the Brookfield Golf Club on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday each month (except August) commencing 10 am for coffee followed by a guest speaker. Members are encouraged to stay on for an informal lunch. Recent talks have been North Country Folklore, Story of My Generation (alcohol related!) and Falconry. A varied program is planned including History of Peckforton Castle, Sleight of Hand, Great Families of Cheshire and Royal Trains and their passengers. Trips have included Coed-y-Dinas Country Centre and Powis Castle and Tour of RAF Shawbury (this proved so popular with over 70 taking part it had to be split over two days). In November we have a 'Call my Bluff' social evening organised by*

*Derek Rooke in the Scout and Guide Hall and next years special break is to Sussex and already fully booked.*

*In addition there are the usual lunches and social evenings plus monthly walks.*

*For further details contact our President Norman Derby on 01630 647196 or Rex Rayner 01270 811896*

### **ADAS Award**



There was huge applause when the winner of the very first ADAS Community & Heritage award was announced recently at the Amenities Society's annual

general meeting. The award was presented to Gavin Davies who is out sweeping Audlem's roads in all weathers and has done so much to ensure the village has won the Cheshire 'Best Kept Village' award for an amazing five years in a row.

Chairman of ADAS, Ralph Warburton, described the contribution that Gavin makes to the village and how the very first award of this new trophy could not go to a more deserving recipient.

At the recent Cheshire Community Action awards event, Audlem received the accolade of the Best Kept Village for the whole county for the fifth time in succession. The plaques for this Cheshire award are displayed in the Square.

### **ADAS (Audlem District Amenities Society)**

#### **Audlem in Bloom.**

Displays are now coming to the end. They have been very well received and we are planning more for summer 2011. The new bed in Audlem St James is well established and the lavenders attracted large numbers of bees. We have planted the car park bed in a similar fashion and next year this will be another fine place for our winged visitors – and give pleasure we hope to our bipeds too! We will be planting some 1000 fresh tulip bulbs in tubs and troughs in readiness for the new spring season.

**October 14<sup>th</sup>** was the AGM of the society. The 41<sup>st</sup> year since the Amenities Society was formed. Hannah Bradshaw gave a small presentation of her adventures and we were delighted to present the inaugural *Community & Heritage Award* to Gavin Davies in recognition of the very worthwhile work that he does in the village. This award will be presented each year to an individual, a group or business, who in the opinion of the ADAS committee, have contributed to making life here in Audlem & District even more pleasant.

**October 30<sup>th</sup>** was the Grand Choral Concert in St James Church with the Massed singers of Crewe & Nantwich Male Choir joining in with Audlem Voices to sing a very wide range of songs from the traditional to those of today's musicals.

**November 12<sup>th</sup>** this is the big night (masterminded by Julie Hesketh – our Vice Chairman ) when we showcase as many of the village businesses - who will put on displays of their products ranging from high fashion, jewellery, home baking and many others. Wine and savouries will be served. Judging by the great success of last year, demand for entry will be high. Tickets are £5 (which includes a glass of wine or a drink) available from *Williams' Newsagents* or from *Ralph* on 812125.

**November 19<sup>th</sup>** sees the erection of the big Christmas tree in the Square as well the installation of thousands of lights on this and even more trees to give Audlem that now very famous display for the Christmas Season. Lots of hard work provided by many volunteers helping with this endeavour.

#### **December 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Sees the ever popular Carol Singing round the tree, with Normid Brass Band and free hot soup from the Lord Combermere plus a visit from that Jolly fellow in red!

Any queries on **ADAS matters** to **Ralph Warburton** on 812125 or at [rjw@notrubraw.com](mailto:rjw@notrubraw.com)

#### **Audlem Cemetery**

We are delighted to be the recipient of the *Little Gem Award* by the Cheshire Community Awards Committee for the superb state of the grounds. Any queries, **Contact Ralph Warburton 812125**

#### **HAVE YOUR SAY**

If you would like your views in the Newsletter or on the Website contact: Newsletter editor Margaret Roberts on 812942 or [newsletter@audlem.org](mailto:newsletter@audlem.org) or post your item in the box situated in the Post Office. For the website email [editor@audlem.org](mailto:editor@audlem.org) or go to 'Contact Webteam' on the website.

**The closing date for items for spring 2011 issue is 10 Jan 2011 for distribution during the first week of February 2011.**

**Please Note:** All items submitted will be given careful consideration. However, the Editorial Team is responsible for the content of the Newsletter and the final decision for inclusion rests with it.