



The newsletter for residents of Audlem & District

Autumn 2012

## Audlem Parish Council

Business summary, October 2012

### Changes at Audlem Parish Council

Autumn has brought some changes to Audlem Parish Council. All Parish Council meetings will now be held at Thornton House, Emberton Place. We hope that this new, more spacious venue will enable more members of the public to attend meetings if they wish to do so.

Bill Consterdine has stepped down from the Parish Council after an incredible 32 years of service to the village during which he acted as Chairman for seven years and Vice-Chairman, also for seven years. Bill was responsible for many issues, most notably: new street lighting; the original dog fouling poop-scoop programme; the de-priming of the A525 and, most recently, the refurbishment of the public toilets which now belong to the Parish Council.

David Higham has filled the resulting vacancy. David has lived in Audlem since 1984. During that time he has been Chairman of the Scouts for two years and played an active part in 700 celebrations. David is currently the Secretary of Audlem & District Community Action (ADCA).

In addition, we now have a new Clerk, Kirstin Dixon, who takes up this role following the retirement of Jean White after almost 10 years of excellent service. She is the first point of contact for anyone who wishes to get in touch with the Council (see details opposite).

We wish David and Kirstin every success in their new roles.

### Making plans for Audlem

Are you interested in how planned developments in Crewe or Nantwich might affect outlying villages such as Audlem? If so, Audlem Parish Council is inviting residents to join a small committee that will focus on the implications of such developments for Audlem and present our findings to Cheshire East Council.

The committee will meet on an *ad hoc* basis and report back to the Parish Council. Meetings will be

convened in response to information received from Cheshire East Council and will be initiated by a small group of volunteers who will maintain a watching brief. Responsibility for individual tasks such as information gathering, legalities and boundaries will be allocated to members of the committee.

If you would like to take part, and especially if you have any experience of planning issues, please contact **Phillip Johnson** at [phil.crewewolves@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:phil.crewewolves@hotmail.co.uk) or telephone 811774.

### Parish Councillors' Contact Details

**Kate Down**, Chair – 811160

Phillip Johnson, Vice Chair – 811774

Frances Christie – 811340 Richard Furber – 811598

David Higham – 812069 Mike Hill – 811843

Heather Jones – 811836 John Langston – 812395

Jill Sanders – 812084 Geoff Seddon – 811282

Pam Seddon – 811282 David Siddons – 811012

Your Parish Clerk is **Kirstin Dixon** – 01630 658456 or email [audlemparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:audlemparishclerk@gmail.com).

### Superfast broadband

Thank you to everyone who registered their interest for Superfast Broadband (SFBB). We are delighted to report that Audlem appears to be amongst the 90 per cent to be included in the initial Cheshire roll out of SFBB, which will be fully funded by the Government. The Parish Council has written to Connecting Cheshire asking for confirmation.

In order to maintain momentum, if you have not already registered your interest in SFBB, please do so by using the link on *Audlem Online*.

Alternatively, if it transpires that Audlem is outside the 90 per cent, we can report that our initial submission to the Rural Development Fund has been accepted. This will allow us to go on to put in a full bid for funding if needed.

## Highways update

During the last quarter, alterations have been made to the parking arrangements in Shropshire Street. In addition to moving some bays to the Co-op side, a one-hour limit has been introduced, giving motorists more opportunity to park. Following pressure from The Parish Council and local residents, Cheshire East Council has carried out patching and drainage works that have improved both main and rural roads – although many problems remain.

## Scoop that poop!

With the start of the football season, many children and adults are using the playing fields. We can all enjoy the village's public spaces but only if we all respect them. Regrettably, some people still find it acceptable to break the law on dog fouling in public spaces. Rather than clearing up after their pet and utilising one of the two dog waste bins by the field, these inconsiderate dog owners leave it for some unsuspecting child or adult to tread, or even fall, in.

**If you do not clear up after your dog, you can be served with a fixed penalty notice of £50. It can also lead to fines of up to £1,000.**

The Parish Council is awaiting the outcome of a pilot study of Dog Control Orders elsewhere in Cheshire to help with the decision on how to proceed in eliminating this anti-social behaviour. In the meantime, if you know the name of a dog owner whom you see failing to 'poop scoop' and you are not comfortable talking to them yourself, you can report them, confidentially, to the **Dog Wardens on 0300 123 5021 or at [dogwardens@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:dogwardens@cheshireeast.gov.uk).**

**Parish Council meetings will be held at Thornton House on Mondays: 5 November, 3 December and 7 January. At the beginning of each meeting, residents have the opportunity 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. Finance Committee meets on 26 November.**

## News from Buerton

The Buerton village war memorial is now in place adjacent to the village sign on the A525/Windmill Lane junction. Flower troughs and paving will be re-instated in November and we hope to have a small dedication ceremony after that.

A contract has just been placed for a children's playground on the school field and work should commence before the end of the year. This is the first phase of the development. The playing field will have disabled access and seating.

## Audlem Festival of Transport



The Audlem Festival of Transport is now one of the most successful boat gatherings in the north and this year was no exception. The weather was unsettled for July but the occasional very heavy downpour did not deter the crowds who flocked to Audlem for the event.

Among the attendees were five Cowburn & Cowpar 'bottle' boats, several Fellows, Morton & Clayton ex-steamers, a number of 'station' and dayboats, and many more. Saturn attracted much attention and was generally agreed to be the star of the show. Combined with the many different land vehicles on display, there was no shortage of excitement for the multitude of visitors throughout the day.

## Audlem Methodist Church

The Methodist Church in Shropshire Street was opened in 1863. Next year, 2013, is therefore its 150th anniversary and, to help celebrate this anniversary, we are researching its history. Have you a story to tell about its past? Do you or members of your family possess old documents, artifacts or photos relating to its history? If you can help in any way, we would be pleased to hear from you. **Contact Andrew Gunstone at [minister@audlemmethodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:minister@audlemmethodistchurch.org.uk) or 811711.**

## It's good to talk

If you care for someone with a disability, illness or frailty, and want some company or advice, why not come along to the Cheshire Carers Centre coffee mornings, usually on the second Tuesday of every month at Audlem Public Hall in Cheshire Street from 10.30am to 12.30pm? It's an opportunity to enjoy a natter over a cuppa and some cake with people who are in similar circumstances. Sometimes we have craft sessions or speakers. **Our telephone Helpline is 0800 085 0307.**



## Audlem & District Community Action (ADCA)

If you don't get out much but want some stimulating company and to have some fun, why not join our Day Club? It takes place at Thornton House, Emberton Place on Tuesdays from 10.30am to 3.30pm, and includes lunch and an afternoon of chat, quizzes and other entertainment. Volunteer transport to and from the club is provided. On 20 November, a foot care specialist will be available to see members between 1pm and 3pm. **To join, please ring Ronni Briggs, our Co-ordinator, on 07845 495973.**

We also host a drop-in Coffee Club every Friday at Thornton House from 10am to 12pm for anyone who enjoys friendly conversation and talks by local speakers, including 'Gardening' on 2 November, a presentation by Ralph Warburton on 9 November, 'Textiles' by Fiona Nisbet on 23 November and a Christmas meal on 14 December. Please come along – everyone is welcome.

The 5A Company proudly presents  
*Beauty and the Beast*

at Audlem Public Hall

Evening performances from  
30 January to 2 February 2013  
Saturday matinée 2 February 2013

Tickets £6

Place your orders now with  
May Hunter on 811145.

## ADAS

The society's A.G.M took place last month and marked the 43<sup>rd</sup> year since the Amenities Society was formed and the first of Julie Hesketh in the chair. A wonderful moment was the presentation of the ADAS Citizen of the Year Award to Ann Bowles in recognition of the excellent work she has done running the old Phoenix Charity Shop. The ADAS Committee presents this award each year to an individual, group or business that has contributed to making life here in Audlem & District even more pleasant.

The newly announced Young Citizen of the Year Award was presented to Henry Bradshaw of Lightwood Green in recognition of his truly wonderful input in many ways and for his outstanding character. Awards were also presented for the Best Garden and the Best Commercial Undertaking

Plans have already been made for a greater splash of colour and variety in next summer's Audlem In Bloom display. Tulips are now being planted for next spring. Unfortunately, the supply of daffodil bulbs from Cheshire East has ceased due to cutbacks. **Contact Ralph Warburton at [rjw@notrubraw.com](mailto:rjw@notrubraw.com) or 812125 for ADAS queries and information.**

## St James' Music Group



St James' Music Group is seeking new players to provide musical accompaniment to the 'All-age' service that is usually held on the second Sunday in each month at 11am. We collect the music in advance to study at home and rehearse in church at 10am before the Sunday service. In addition, we have played for some Christmas services and weddings.

If you play a musical instrument, are able to read music and would like to join a friendly group of young and older people, we would be delighted to hear from you. Most instruments would be suitable, including orchestral stringed instruments, wind, brass, guitar, recorder and drum kit. **Please contact Geraldine Leighton on 812209.**

## Audlem WI

Audlem W.I. continues to offer a vibrant programme of events for its members. Autumn highlights include the Malbank Group Meeting at the Public Hall, featuring Judith Hibbert in *The Women's Bright Hour*, a visit to Crewe's Lyceum Theatre to see *La Cage aux Folles*, and a talk and tour of Rookery Hall followed by afternoon tea.

At our A.G.M. in November we will appoint the new committee and our newly formed concert party will provide entertainment. A 'Turkey and Tinsel' trip to Weymouth is planned in December and our talk for that month is 'Chester's Ghosts' by Tom Jones. Our annual lunch will be held at Brookfield Golf Club, with entertainment by the group In Harmony. We send best wishes for the festive season to all our members. **For information, please contact Kath Disley on 812332.**

## Audlem History Society

Last month, Ian Jones gave a most enjoyable talk about growing up in Kinsey Heath during the 1950s. Ian has two diaries that belonged to his grandfather farming at The Ash during the 1920s. These provide a lively account of local life as well as giving clues for local historians to follow up in the newspapers. For example, an entry about a quarrel between two parties was followed 10 days later by an entry recording that the case had gone to court. In 1923 alone Ian's grandfather recorded three suicides and Foot and Mouth, all locally.

All History Society talks take place at the Scout & Guide Hall and start at 7.30 pm. Annual membership is £10 payable in January and talks are free to members. Visitors are welcome, £2 on the door. Please see the Diary below for details of forthcoming talks, or **contact Dorothy Jones on 811814**.

## Diary dates

### November

- 3 **Buttermarket Sale for Donna Louise Trust for Children.** Please give your support.  
**Bonfire and Fireworks** brought to you by ASET. Tickets from Audlem Post Office, Blitz Fireworks in Crewe and online at [info@aset-audlem.org](mailto:info@aset-audlem.org). £4 in advance and £5 on the day. Gates open at 4pm.
- 6 **Cheshire Carers Coffee Morning & Quiz**, Audlem Public Hall, 10.30am. All welcome.
- 7 **ADAPT meeting** on energy conservation, Baptist Chapel, 7.30pm.
- 10 **Audlem Ramblers Walk**, a moderate 10 miles in the Qyre Forest to Drakelow, returning via Wolverley Lock and the Habberley Valley.  
**Audlem Bagpipe & Hurdy Gurdy Day**, Bridge Inn, noon onwards. All welcome.
- 11 **Remembrance Sunday.** The annual service of remembrance, followed by the laying of wreaths, at St James at 10.45am. The service is arranged by the three Audlem churches on behalf of the village.
- 14 **The Big Christmas Tree** will be erected in The Square and thousands of tree lights hung by ADAS.
- 15 **'Moated Sites in the Audlem Area'**, and **'The Dig at the Moated Site at Northwoods'**, History Society talks by Celia Bloor and Elizabeth Huntbach, Scout & Guide Hall, 7.45pm, followed by AGM.
- 29 **The Big Switch On** of the tree lights by this year's sponsors, the Balaam family. Santa will arrive along the canal aboard Audlem Lass and all traders will be open for late night shopping.

## Local reminiscences

Ivy Ollier-Speed recalls: *'My grandmother and grandfather lived in Audlem from the early 1920s at Number 7 Cheshire Street, next door to the Lamb Hotel. I used to go from my grandmother's to the Lamb next door for a jug of beer for my grandfather's lunch, which cost only tuppence. This only happened on non-school days. My grandmother had lost most of her sight through cataracts but she and granddad soldiered on. She had what was known then as the 'church loaf'. This was provided by the church free to old people of the church and my grandmother was a staunch parishioner. You had to go to Buerton to pick it up, where the baker was that supplied it. So my job every Saturday morning early was to walk to Buerton to collect this loaf – quite a way!'*

If you have lived in Audlem all your life and have memories you'd like to share, **please contact Celia Bloor on [cvb@kinseycottages.org.uk](mailto:cvb@kinseycottages.org.uk) or 811260**.

### December

- 2 **Christingle Service**, St James, 4pm.
  - 4 **History Society Christmas Dinner**, details TBC.
  - 5 **ADAPT meeting** on energy conservation, Baptist Chapel, 7.30pm.
  - 8 **Audlem Ramblers Walk**, 7-8 miles in Gnosall and Norbury Junction area, full details TBC. Followed by ARS Christmas dinner in the evening.
  - 9 **Gift Service, Baptist Chapel, 10.30am.**
  - 11 **Cheshire Carers Centre Christmas Party**, Audlem Public Hall, 10.30-12.30. All welcome.
  - 21 **Community Carol Singing** round the Christmas tree in The Square with the Normid Brass Band and free hot soup from The Combermere.
  - 23 **Carol Service**, Baptist Chapel, 10.30am.  
**Evening Carol Service** organised by the Methodist, Baptist and Anglican churches, St James, 6.30pm. All welcome.
  - 24 **Crib Service** for youngsters, St James, 4pm.  
**Christmas Eve Service**, Hankelow Methodist Church, 7.30pm.  
**First Communion of Christmas**, St James, 11.15pm.
  - 25 **Christmas Day Services:**  
Holy Communion, St James, 8.15am.  
Family Communion, St James, 10am.  
Christmas Service, Audlem Methodist Church, 10am.  
Christmas Morning Worship, Baptist Chapel, 10.30am.
- January 2013**
- 8 **Carers Needs Assessment** by Cheshire Carers Centre, Audlem Public Hall, 10.30am.

The closing date for items for the winter issue is 10 January 2013 for distribution during the first week of February. Please contact Editor Kira Nicholls on 812485 or at [newsletter@audlem.org](mailto:newsletter@audlem.org), or post your submission in the box in the Post Office. All items will be carefully considered.