



NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2010

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2009/2010

Kate Down, Chairman of the Parish Council says:

This is my first Annual report as chairman of Audlem Parish Council. I took over the Chair from Richard Furber in May 2009, and would like to record my thanks to him, other members of the Parish Council, Jean White and John Kemble for their support and advice during my first year in office.

It has been a very busy year for the Parish Council

A new playground facility for 6-12 year olds has been provided with the aid of funding of £17k from the late Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council and £11,400 from WREN. The facility was officially opened by the Mayor of Crewe and Nantwich, Cllr Margaret Simon, on an extremely cold day in January.

With the aid of our LAP Public Transport Committee, the bus service from Audlem to Market Drayton has been reinstated on Wednesdays.

The A525 has now been confirmed as officially deprimed and so Sat Nav updates and new maps will show this. Our next move is to try to get a weight limit put on the road to stop all heavy traffic coming through the village except, of course, for access.

Audlem once again was awarded the Best Kept Village in its category in the Community Pride competition – fourth year in succession!

Our Annual Village Meeting followed the same format as last year, with a very successful cheese and wine evening on March 10th. Displays were set up by several local organisations and there were promotional activities from the local uniformed groups. It also proved a very useful evening for informal discussions with Parish Councillors.

Earlier this month, I attended the 'Cressy Cruise' celebrations held outside the Shroppie Fly to celebrate the centenary of the birth of Tom Rolt, who had visited Audlem on a pre-war canal trip and who wrote a book which inspired the restoration of the navigable canals.

We now have 9 fully trained first responders in the village and NWAS have now provided 4 defibrillators at various locations around Audlem.

The Parish Council has been very active and continues to look for a piece of land suitable for use as allotments. Currently, we do have some plots to consider but no decisions have been made so far.

A new working group has been formed to investigate opportunities for providing a lunch facility at Thornton House. The current Age Concern facility is threatened by closure in the near future, and all concerned are anxious for the service to continue.

Finally, we welcomed David Rowe as a new Parish Councillor in March and we are also pleased to have a new notice board for all to see in the centre of the village.

Parish Councillors' Contact Details

Kate Down - Chair 811160

Mike Hill - Vice Chair 811843

Frances Christie 811340

Bill Consterdine 811647

Richard Furber 811598

Peter Morgan 811575

David Rowe 812294

Pam Seddon 811282

Andrew Smith 811969

Irene Stockton 811828

Geoff Stretch 811011 Phillip Bradbury-Smith 811021

Your Parish Clerk is Jean White 01948 871383 or e mail parishcouncil@audlem.org

Parish Council meetings will be held in St James School on Mondays September 6th, October 4th and November 1st, starting at 7.30 pm.

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.

AUDLEM SAINTS SHIRTS A HIT IN ZAMBIA



At the end of another successful season for Audlem Saints U11s (League Champions & Cup Runners Up) the team received a request to "recycle" the kit from a friend of Charles Bloomer, one of the coaches. Richard Price is involved with a project doing great work in

Zambian schools and he suggested that we might donate some kit. Audlem players and parents were excited by such a project and so the yellow kit worn with such distinction was washed, pressed and packed on its way to Zambia along with several other kits and pieces of equipment from other teams!

Richard was kind enough to send us a great picture of the kit in its new home and wrote: "I write to thank everyone involved with Audlem Saints for the donation of football kit that we took to Zambia. The boys were delighted. Their school had no kit but now has two full sets. In addition, the orphanage where some of them live has a full strip. The boys were keen to send the photo as a sign of their thanks."

AUDLEM BEER FESTIVAL

Many will have noticed a marked gap in the Audlem calendar of events - there's little going on in August! This is about to change. The August Bank Holiday Sunday and Monday will see the first Audlem Beer Festival - at least the first in the modern era.

The three village pubs are working together to provide a two-day event with at least thirty cask ales on offer, lots of live music and a camp site so that visiting beer enthusiasts need not worry about having to travel too far after a day's relaxation.

So, make a note of the dates - Sunday 29th August and Bank Holiday Monday 30th. The Music Festival on the May Bank Holiday weekend was a huge success. This could well be replicated in August.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS VACANCIES

Can you help your community? Do you live or work in Audlem? Do you have an interest in your local community? Well now is your time to shine. We are currently looking to fill two positions for Community Governors at Audlem St James School, Heathfield Road.

The role of a school governor can be very rewarding and sometimes challenging, so if you feel that you can commit some time to attend a number of meetings throughout the academic year (meetings will generally take place on a Tuesday evening, 6pm – 8pm) and would like to offer your skills to the school, then this is the perfect position for you.

As you may be aware the school has been going through a turbulent time and the governing body are looking for some enthusiastic and capable individuals who can help make a positive contribution and impact within a recently reorganised governing body. You do not require a background in education but if you have strengths or are interested in any of the following areas such as Health & Safety, finance and budgeting, developing the school environment and the wider curriculum and have bags of good common sense then we are interested to hear from you.

If you are interested or would like further information please contact the Headteacher at Audlem St James School on 01270 685120 or by email on head@stjamesaudlem.cheshire.sch.uk or the acting Chair of Governors, Hilary Serif on 01270 812413 or hilary.wymer@virgin.net by the **30th August 2010**

You can also get more information on Cheshire East website under education and also Governornet.com

ADAPT ✓

ADAPT looks at Solar Energy

The June meeting of ADAPT included a very interesting talk by Alan Draper of Hankelow on Solar Energy. Members and visitors heard about thermal and photovoltaic systems and their respective performance, the technology and the big question of costs and returns. This was the first of a series of talks which Alan will be hosting on sources of renewable energy. ADAPT is a new group which supports initiatives to create a sustainable and resilient community for the future. If you would like to be kept up to date with the group's activities contact Susan on runaways@hotmail.co.uk.

An exciting event is planned for the autumn to showcase and celebrate all the sustainability skills we have in our community and beyond. The provisional date is **2nd October** so put it in your diary and come along!

St JAMES' SCHOOL PATHWAYS

As some of you may be aware the gates surrounding Audlem St James School are now locked during school hours and over the weekend period to ensure the security of the children during school hours, which is paramount, and at weekends to cut down on the vandalism and also dog mess, which is a serious health hazard to the children. Before the decision was made to lock the gates it was confirmed by the Public Rights of Way Officer at Cheshire East and the Parish Council, that these paths are not public footpaths and therefore have no right of way, they are in fact only for direct access to the school.

However, there is one pathway that remains open giving access from Heathfield Road to Emberton Place, which goes past the Audlem Treehouse, and is not locked but is fenced off from the rest of the school.

AUDLEM WILDLIFE & ECOLOGY GROUP

For too long the village has had no focal point for wildlife enthusiasts but we have now formed Audlem Wildlife and Ecology Group. Our second meeting was held in The Lord Combermere on 15 June and the next will take place early in September. Our general approach to our natural environment is holistic, that is it includes the recording and study of everything from the inhabitants of our soil and water to birds and mammals. Records of wildlife in gardens are of interest as well as that in our fields, woods, ponds, and stream and canal corridors. In this way we hope to build up a broad picture of our surroundings and a measure of their biodiversity. Links with Cheshire Wildlife Trust and Nantwich Natural History Society are being developed and local training courses and field events brought to the attention of our members. Would anyone who is interested please contact Greville Watts on 01270 812414 or greville.watts@btinternet.com. A brief survey of Audlem area wildlife may be found on www.audlem.org, much of which was compiled by the late Jack Baker of Highfields, click on Heritage and then on Wildlife."

AUDLEM AID TO CANCER RESEARCH

We would like to thank all our supporters and helpers who contributed to the success of the Open Garden and Summer Fair. Over £2000 was raised.

Our next event is the Autumn Fair on Saturday 23rd October 2010 at the Methodist Hall 10am – 12.30pm. All are welcome.

AUDLEM BEAVERS

Audlem Beavers are the youngest section of Scouts for children aged 6 to 8 years old. Our motto is "Fun and Friends", and we offer a wide variety of enjoyable activities, you may have heard of our recent successful family camp. We meet weekly in term time and will have spaces for new Beavers in September so please contact me if you would like your child to join us. Rosie Slawinska 01270 811103

CHANGES AT ST JAMES' CHURCH

From the beginning of August Audlem St James' church will be linked with Wybunbury and Doddington. Helen will be the Vicar of all three, still based here in Audlem. She will have a part time colleague, Rev Steve Artus who will be based in Wybunbury Vicarage but working at all three churches. Helen will now have 4 schools to support and in order to fit in the extra work cannot remain a school governor at Audlem. She will, however, remain a regular visitor and friend of the school. One major change at St James' church is that the Sunday morning service that currently starts at 10.45am will move back to 11am from the 1st August.

SOUTH CHESHIRE EMBROIDERERS

The South Cheshire Embroiderers continue to enjoy a varied and interesting programme, the highlight being their successful exhibition that was part of the Audlem Music & Arts Festival. Nearly 500 visitors appreciated the items on display and the "Peoples Choice" competition again proved popular. First prize went to Ann Pearce for "Secret Garden". The runner-up was Maggie Phillips for her Audlem Banner and a "Chairman's Special Award" went to Sylvia Stead who received the most votes in total for all her pieces of work put together.

Our monthly meetings couldn't have been more different – talks have included Carol Coleman on 'The Evolution of my own Work', Jennifer Collier a young textile artist who constructs dresses, shoes, etc from found and recycled materials like paper, plastic and even slices of dried fruit! June Corner turned the Scout and Guide Hall into a comedy club, with her talk entitled 'Naughty but Nice'

which explored the evolution of undergarments. A recent trip to visit Bombay Stores and Texere Yarns in Bradford was enjoyed by many members.

ADAS (Audlem & District Amenities Society)

ADAS will be holding a Table Top Sale at the Public Hall on 18th September. Contact Ralph Warburton on 01270 812125 to book a table. Cost is £5 each table.

GRAVITY



Gravity is a menswear store due to open in the village in August. It will stock a range of brands including Henri Lloyd, Remus Uomo and French Connection, and will appeal to a wide age range of customers. Along with both casual and smart clothing there will be accessories, watches and

bags.

Nathan Good has been a resident in the village for 6 years and looks forward to opening the doors of his new venture to customers from Audlem and its neighbouring communities. Nathan says "I have had my own business for a while but this is my first venture into clothing. I feel there is a gap in the village for menswear and hope that I will attract a wide range of men with the styles and products I will be stocking".

Gravity is situated in Shropshire Street in the new Moseley's Yard.

AUDLEM & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB

The first 3 months of Norman Derby's Presidency has been busy with the usual mix of good speakers, interesting social events and monthly walks

The Club meets at the Brookfield Golf Club on the 2nd and 4th 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 The Last Firing of a Bottle Oven, Bin Baby –the story of Judy Townsend's start in life and An Introduction to Acupuncture. Mike Smith has taken over as Speakers Secretary and has a varied program planned including talks on Falconry and Flags of the World and in September we are off to Powis Castle. For further details contact our President Norman Derby on 01630 647196 or Rex Rayner 01270 811896

THORNTON HOUSE -Day Care

Audlem Parish Council and local campaigners have been working to ensure the Tuesday day care facility at Thornton House continues in Audlem after Age Concern end their support. Until a short time ago, Age Concern

planned to withdraw from its involvement on 24th August. This has now been put back until the end of March 2011 which will give time for alternative arrangements to be put in place.

An average of fifteen elderly local residents use the Day Care on Tuesdays each week. Campaigners are now asking Cheshire East Social Services to divert money that was paid to Age Concern to the village to help ensure adequate funding is in place.

PODIATRY

Podiatry services in Audlem have been temporarily withdrawn and are under threat of closure. It is likely that, in future, people will have to travel to Nantwich. The Practice, Patient Panel is trying to improve the situation and together with local users and Audlem Online is now battling to ensure this local service is reintroduced.

AUDLEM & DISTRICT BRANCH CONSERVATIVES

The Branch has had a very busy time in the course of the recent General Election and it was appreciated that the successful candidate, Stephen O'Brien, took the time to write personally thanking those who had helped and given support to his campaign.

The Cheshire East Council Elections will be in May 2011 and Audlem Branch is supporting a change in the Ward geographical areas. Currently Audlem is part of the Cholmondeley Ward that also covers Wrenbury, Acton and Bunbury and elects 3 councillors. We want a return to the previous arrangements when Audlem and its adjoining parishes were a separate Ward and could elect its own Councillor to represent them.

For further information about the Branch and its events contact Roland Hall (812530) or Alan Cross (811974)

AUDLEM DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY

August No meeting

Thurs 16th Sept. Howard Hilton Hidden Treasures in out of the way churches

Thurs 21st Oct Colin Edmundson 'The River Weaver'

Thurs 18th Nov AGM at 7.30pm John Whitehead The Crosses of Sandbach and the conversion of Cheshire

Tues December 7th Christmas dinner

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 W.I.

The W.I. has been very busy this summer with some excellent speakers. Our garden party will take place on 6th August at the home of Anne Pearson and in September there will be an outing to Shugborough. We visited Market Drayton's charming little theatre to see the comedy 'Trivial

Pursuits' and in September there will be another theatre trip to Nantwich Players to see another comedy 'The Cemetery Club'. The end of November sees a party of fifteen off on a five day, all inclusive winter holiday in Exmouth, Devon.

Our meetings are held on the first Thursday in the month and visitors and new members are always welcome. Further details from Christine Salisbury (President) 811110 and Anne Poole (Secretary) 811224

ASET (Audlem Special Events Team)



The 2010 Midsummer Music was ASET's 10th annual musical picnic in the park. They promised to make it the best ever and laid on two fantastic headline acts. The

weather was kind too. After a week of strong winds and rain, the promised high pressure arrived in the nick of time and the large numbers of picnickers even saw the sun.

We heard *King Pleasure & the Biscuit Boys* who are described as the world's greatest swing band and have been on the road for over twenty years. Returning for a second year, *The Westenders* took the event by storm, warming us up with songs from Joseph, Grease, Phantom, WestSide Story, Les Miserables and more. Suddenly hundreds were up dancing in front of the stage. The evening ended with the traditional fireworks.

ASET delivered just what they promised - a great night's entertainment.

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 or post your item in the box situated in the Post Office. For the website email editor@audlem.org or go to 'Contact Webteam' on the website.

The closing date for items for the autumn issue is 10 Oct 2010. For distribution during the first week of November.

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.