

ASHBRITTLE

GREENHAM

STAWLEY

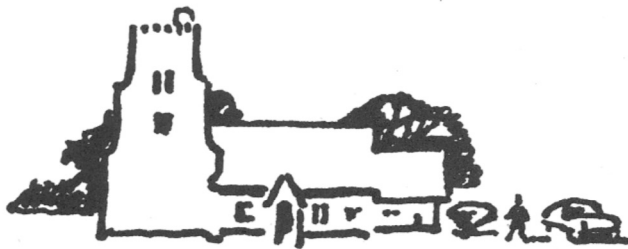
BATHEALTON

KITTISFORD



ASHBRITTLE

Parish news



STAWLEY



BATHEALTON



GREENHAM



KITTISFORD

Diana Willis '90
 DIANA WILLIS '90

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

<i>Sunday 1st March</i>	<i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>	
09:30	Stawley	Holy Communion
11:15	Bathealton	Morning Worship
<i>Sunday 8th March</i>	<i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i>	
09:30	Ashbrittle	Holy Communion
11:15	Stawley	Morning Worship
<i>Sunday 15th March</i>	<i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i>	
09:30	Kittisford	Holy Communion
11:15	Ashbrittle	Morning Worship
<i>Sunday 22nd March</i>	<i>4th Sunday of Lent, Mothering Sunday</i>	
09:30	Bathealton	Holy Communion
<i>Sunday 29th March</i>	<i>5th Sunday of Lent</i>	
09:30	Greenham	Holy Communion

Churchwardens and Clergy

Ashbrittle with Greenham

Charles Doble, The Old Rectory, Ashbrittle, TA21 0LQ 01823 672365
David Hanks, Manley House, Ashbrittle, TA21 0LE 01823 672436

Bathealton Pauline and Andrew Lyle,
Road Hill House, Bathealton, TA4 2AW 01984 629013

Kittisford Annie Musgrove, Meadow Farm, Greenham, TA21 0JW 01823 672627

Stawley Penny Hare, Stawley Mill, Wellington, TA21 0HT 01823 672183
Graham Henson, Court Place Farm, Stawley, TA21 0HP 01823 672496

Associate Priest Revd Martin Beaumont,
Hilltop, Buttsway, Milverton TA4 1JR 01823 400127

Lay Minister Elaine McNicholas, School House, Bathealton, TA4 2AN 01984 624428

Team Rector Revd Tim Treanor,
The Rectory, 72 High Street, Wellington 01823 662248

Missioner and Team Vicar Revd Selina Garner, The Vicarage,

Thought for the month

Church Bells

Where we live in Milverton, Monday is bell ringing practice night. Ruth and I often open the window, just to enjoy the sound of the bells and appreciate the enthusiasm and skill of those who ring them. I know how much the parishioners in our own group also value the dedication and commitment of our band of ringers and their willingness to move from tower to tower, summoning people to worship Sunday by Sunday.

But church bells can also celebrate great public occasions or warn of national emergencies. When they do, the church and its bells express the hopes and fears of the whole community and not just those who may choose to attend worship on a regular basis. A parish church is very much a part of the community and is used by many to celebrate significant events at the beginning and end of our earthly lives. It can also be used for other occasions; concerts, art exhibitions, a place of meeting, hospitality and shelter, weddings and the blessing of marriages.

Those who are responsible for the care of our church buildings in this group are keen to encourage the use of them by everyone in our community. In particular, I would hope that those who are planning a wedding may consider using one of our churches for their very own special occasion. Today, it is much easier for couples to

marry in church and, speaking as a good Yorkshireman, a church wedding is also cheaper than a civil ceremony! If you or a member of your family would like to discuss a wedding or any other ceremony, please do not hesitate to contact me or one of the churchwardens.

We may also be able to arrange for you the have the bells rung in your honour; just another celebration of one of those great public occasions.

With best wishes,

Martin Beaumont

Lent Course

As is often the custom here and in other parishes, there will be a brief course of study during Lent. We will be considering the way in which Art might deepen our own spirituality.

Each week, we will focus our attention on a particular work of art and seek to interpret its appeal. Each session will be 'free-standing', (you will not need to attend all of them), and they will last approximately one hour.

We will meet at Stawley Mill on Thursday the 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th March and Thursday the 2nd April at 7.00 pm.

Refreshments will be available.

In advance, may I express our gratitude to Penny for her kindness and hospitality.

Martin Beaumont



Kittisford Pudding Club

at Greater Brimley Farm in Kittisford
on Saturday 14th March at 7.30pm
tickets £12.50



from Stawley Village Shop
or Sarah Burns-Cox on 01823 672245/07599 071 867
or Penny Stanbury on 01823 672216

Come for supper, a glass of wine and then sample and rate a selection of truly delicious homemade desserts anonymously - Best Pud wins!

Proceeds go towards Kittisford Church and the Wellington Food Bank

Everyone welcome – please let us know if you have special dietary requirements
sarahburnscox@btinternet.com

Country Matters

The Daffodils

*For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash on that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.*

W. Wordsworth (1770-1850)

Late January: The ravens have begun their mating and are doing acrobatics in the skies with their harsh, almost goose like, cries. They are getting more populous in lowland areas, although still predominantly found on western mountains and cliffs.

Mallard ducks are beginning to pair up. But on the canal there seem to be more drakes than ducks. This is bad news for the ducks who can be drowned by “gang rape”.

There is an old west country saying that “it’s kissing time when the gorse is in flower”. Gorse flowers can be seen all year round, but come out abundantly in early February.

Early February: The rooks in my rookery at Appley Cross are starting to rebuild their nests but the strong winds and rain are delaying their efforts, and I have yet to see them carrying new sticks for rebuilding.

In spite of the February weather living up to the old saying *February fill dyke be it black or be it white. But if it be white, the better to like.* The hazel catkins are out, the pussy willow, primroses and the first sweet white violets can be seen in the hedgerows.

The frogs spawned around the 9th February, unfortunately with quite a lot squashed on the roads.

Hedge sparrows, also called dunnocks, are singing on hedge tops and small bushes. They have strange sexual arrangements to ensure the survival of their species (belt and braces!) A male may have two or three females to mate with, while a female may keep two or three males in her territory.

There is some good news on the decline in insects and biodiversity: *some groups of species, particularly freshwater ones appear to be undergoing a strong recovery* (Charlie Outhwaite). So look out for more dragonflies, mayflies and caddisflies this summer.

Maybe dig a small pond in your garden!

Sally Merrett

Lunch Club

January started very low key in our lunch club. Many regulars were unable to come for various reasons, so at the last minute it was decided to give our cook, Jackie White, a well earned break. A small, but distinguished number of diners ate at Stawley Shop and enjoyed not only a good lunch, but also some good conversation.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 26th March when our speaker will be Nerys Gibb, a Bathelton resident. The talk title is *How to Help Hedgehogs* and she will talk about their decline as a species and how to support them in building up their numbers when the environmental odds are stacked against them. Nerys already has a reputation locally as an informative speaker, so it should prove an interesting lunch time.

If you would like to come on 26th of March, please let me know at least by Tuesday morning 24th March. Jackie regularly caters for vegetarians, but if you have any other dietary requirements please let me know and Jackie may be able to accommodate them.

My contact details are telephone 01823 672203 or email deliaharling123@tiscali.co.uk

Delia Harling

Stawley School

Stawley Primary School has been ranked as the top performing primary school in Somerset for the second year in a row for Key Stage 2 (KS2) children between 7 and 11 years.

Stawley was the only Primary School in the County in which 100% of the children reached the required standards in every subject (against a national average of 65%). The school also achieved the highest average score for reading (111) and the second highest average score in maths (also 111).

Congratulations all of the staff for their hard work and dedication and of course to the children for their achievements.

David Stirzaker

Congratulations to all at Stawley School. Eds

Pre-school Vegetable Garden

Stawley Pre-school has started work on a children’s vegetable garden, thanks to the generosity of local business Taunton Sleepers, which kindly donated the materials needed to kick-start the project. If anyone would like to contribute to this lovely local project, we would be delighted to receive any spare vegetable seeds – especially things that the children can easily pick and eat during snack time!

Becky Alder

Stawley Village Shop & Tea Room

Your local Community Shop for bread, milk, papers, groceries, wine, beer, local produce, pasties, pies and lots more!
Refill your glass milk bottles here!

Meet for coffee and cake!

Newspaper deliveries Monday to Saturday to Ashbrittle, Stawley, Kittisford, Bathealton, Appley and Greenham

Monday to Friday 8.00 - 5.30
Saturday 8.00 - 2.00
Sunday 9.00 - 11.00

Post Office services: Thursday 11.30 - 1.30

Easter hamper draw tickets now available!

Phone us on 01823 674361
Email us at shop@stawleyshop.com

Thousands are saved by phone location app

A location app that simplifies GPS co-ordinates to a three-word code is proving so successful that it is being used by three-quarters of emergency services.

The What3words system divides the world into grid squares of 3 metres by 3 metres and assigns them unique combinations of words that never change. For example, this article was written from "ample.heat.ports" and the flag pole on the front of Buckingham Palace is "fence.gross.bats".

Among the thousands of people who have been rescued thanks to the app were the four men who attempted to climb Ben Nevis, Britain's highest peak, wearing trainers and without a map in the midst of Storm Ciara.

The app has been taken up by 73% of emergency services, an increase from 54% in September and 22% in July. It has also been adopted by the AA. Yorkshire Ambulance Service, one of 87 emergency organisations to adopt it, used the system 165 times in the last quarter of 2019.

However, mountain rescue teams have warned that it is not as good as using a grid reference from an Ordnance Survey map because GPS can be wrong. What3words was invented by Chris Sheldrick, a British organiser of live music events who grew frustrated when bands kept getting lost. It says the app is not intended as a replacement for traditional navigation skills.

Jack Malvern

Taken from The Times, Saturday February 15th 2020, reproduced with permission

What3words is an app, which may be downloaded onto a smartphone or computer. Further information is available at <https://what3words.com/how-to-use-the-what3words-app/>
Eds

Parish News Donations

Many thanks for donations from:
Mrs and Mrs R Greenway

Donations may be left at the Village Shop
or sent directly to the treasurer:

**Wendy Spackman, Malthouse, Hill Farm,
Stawley, Wellington TA21 0HN**

Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS)

VETS is a community-run system and upon dialling the number, all volunteers are contacted in an attempt to raise help locally. If no volunteers are available, the caller will be notified.

Alongside the recently installed defibrillators (defibs), we now have a group of community volunteers who can be contacted in emergencies on the following numbers:

Ashbrittle, and Stawley **01823 244104**

Bathealton **01984 322919**

Kittisford, Tracebridge and Appley
01823 245101

A map defining the different areas is shown on parish notice boards, but precise boundaries do not matter. Take note of the numbers and, if needed, ring whichever one seems most appropriate for you. Your actual location is less important than the speed of action to get a defib to where it is needed. These numbers are not 'tied' to a particular defib; the volunteer will fetch their nearest one and bring it to you.

In the event that a defib seems necessary in your household, the VETS scheme offers you help and moral support by enabling you to contact local help and can increase the speed of a local response.

ALWAYS DIAL 999 FIRST IN AN EMERGENCY. IF A CHANCE ARISES THEN DIAL THE VETS NUMBER

Defibs are permanently located at these places and can be found using the What3words codes below:

Ashbrittle Village Hall, on outside wall
blurts.flats.crouching

Bathealton Village Hall, on outside wall
relatives.widgets.rolled

Kittisford New House Farm, on barn wall,
opposite Church

bonkers.regime.lyracist

Stawley Shop, on outside wall
messaging.servers.quaking

These are accessible 24 hours a day and no access codes are required

Quiz Night

Appley Pavilion

FRIDAY 13TH MARCH

7:30 pm

Maximum of 6 per team
£6.50 pp to include supper.
Bar and raffle on the night.
To book a table please ring

01823 672266

Or email

williamspfa@outlook.com

In aid of Ashbrittle, Stawley
and Clayhanger Cricket Club

Open All Hours

Until the till

Until the till opens, that is! Do you remember Ronnie Barker's struggles with his till in "Open All Hours"? How it would spring back on him, threatening to take off his fingers?

Well, we have a new till in the shop. It's not like the one on TV. But at one point in a transaction, when it's time to put the customer's dosh into the till, a question comes up on the screen: Do you want to open the till? We have to press a button saying yes or no. Press yes and stand back – it zooms open and, if too close, punches one in the stomach!

It's those of us who don't feel confident, or are still finding our way with the till, who can be surprised by its uppercut! Meanwhile the customer waits for their change.....

We do a lot of waiting in our lives, don't we? Someone getting ready to go out, for a bus, in a dentist's waiting room, for a PC to do as it is told, for a till to open... And we often feel that time is a waste of time. Were we to add all that useless time together, we would likely find there is an awful lot of it. Think what we could do with it.

But how can we use such moments and periods? How about letting the moment speak to us. Push all else aside. Stop moaning about the bus being late or whatever. Rather, think about the people around you. What makes them tick? Wonder what their life is like? Imagine how good life can be. Count your blessings. Are such things that you've heard about real – like God, eternal life, peace and harmony.

It's quite surprising what can dawn in one's mind during times of waiting – as if you've opened a door into yourself, and you've let someone or something come in.

Now them, can't keep the customer waiting. Press the till button – yes or no?

OUCH!

Martin at the Shop

Bathealton Vintage Tea

A capacity crowd came to Bathealton Village Hall for the annual vintage tea party and enjoyed a delicious variety of sandwiches, savouries, cakes and scones. We hope that you enjoyed the opportunity to meet with your neighbours and friends in a party atmosphere.

Thank you to all who provided the wonderful food and helped to tidy up after this successful event.

Michael Tarr



Rambling/ Nordic Walking

Your chance to get to know the local area and make use of the RCI walk leaflets covering local circular walks

Meet at Ashbrittle Village Hall

Most Thursdays at 1.30 pm
but check each week with
Liz Taylor on 01823 673000



On Saturday 28th March 2020, Wellington Choral Society will be singing 'The Armed Man – A Mass for Peace'. We are delighted to be performing this mass for the first time.

Also:

Vaughan Williams' *Five Mystical Songs*
Elgar's *Great is the Lord*.

**St John the Baptist Church, Wellington
on Saturday 28th March 2020 at
7.30pm.**

Tickets: Adults £14.00 Children Free

If you are interested in coming to sing with us, we rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 7.30 – 9.30pm at the Methodist Church, Waterloo Rd, Wellington. We are a friendly choir and our musical director Laurence Blyth provides great musical direction and advice to singers.

For more information please see our website:
www.wellingtonchoralsociety.org.uk

Stawley Mill Supper Club

Eat For Charity

Friday 13th March 2020

(please ring to confirm
verbal bookings)

7.30pm for 8pm

Menu

*Chicken Breasts and sun
dried tomatoes,
with tarragon and paprika
sauce,
new potatoes and green
vegetables.*

Vegetarian option available

Lemon Cheesecake

Followed by Tea or Coffee

£18 per head

(first glass of wine included)

Wines from the Village Shop

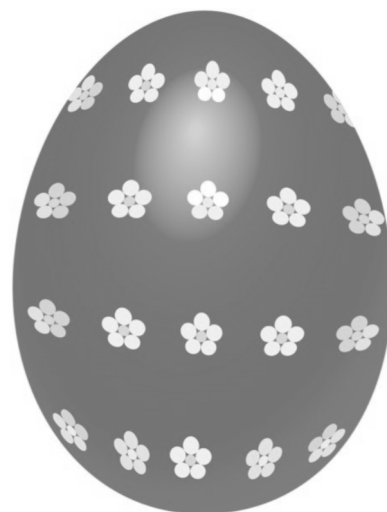
All Profit to

Alzheimers Association

To Book: Phone Penny Hare
01823 672183

Ashbrittle Village Hall

EASTER BINGO



FRIDAY 20th MARCH

Doors open 7pm Eyes down 8pm

£1 admission to include refreshments

Exhibition of the Soulful Messiah Paintings

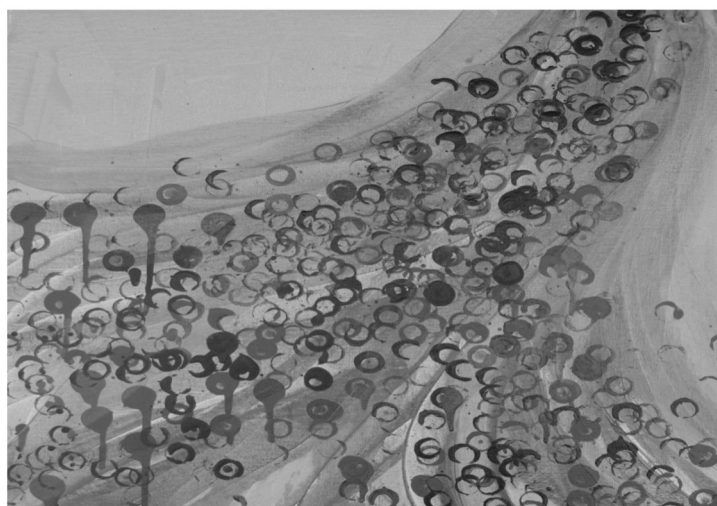


The children of Stawley Primary School helped make an amazing collection of 12 paintings whilst listening to a jazz and gospel version of the Messiah called 'A Soulful Celebration'. When Handel first composed the Messiah in 1741, he wrote 25,000 notes in just 24 days! With the help of volunteers from Stawley Church and the local area, the children of Stawley School painted faster than Handel wrote the music. Over the course of a morning they produced over 30 metres of paintings and 12 canvasses. Each canvas was made in response to one of the movements of the music.

This unique collection of canvasses will be exhibited at Kittisford Church throughout Lent and the Easter period from Wednesday 26th February until the 20th April. The church will be open daily. A service will be held on Sunday 15th March at 9.30 am and also on Maundy Thursday, 9th April at 6 pm.

Everyone is welcome to the services and to visit the exhibition of the children's work at any other time. Leaflets interpreting the paintings are available at Kittisford Church and in the Village Shop.

Annie Musgrove



ATTIC SALE

BATHEALTON VILLAGE HALL

SATURDAY
21st MARCH
at 2.30 pm
Entrance 50p

Slim My Waste, Feed My Face

Somerset Waste Partnership teams are fanning out across Somerset on a very serious mission: to make food waste recycling fun with the Slim My Waste, Feed My Face drive.

Over the next three months they will visit all 260,000 homes in Somerset to add a "no food waste" reminder to every rubbish bin, put bright yellow tape round its middle, and deliver everyone a helpful leaflet with free stickers to give food waste bins friendly faces whose pictures can be shared on social media to win free "eco-goodies".

Somerset food recycling facts

- Most Somerset residents – 62%, far higher than the national average of around 42% – recycle food waste, which becomes power for the national grid and farm compost
- Food waste is a bigger cause of climate change than plastic (source: Zero Waste Scotland)
- Somerset households produce 42,000 tonnes of food waste a year but waste composition analysis shows 42% of food is recycled, well below Somerset's overall 52% recycling rate
- If every scrap of Somerset's food waste was recycled at the anaerobic digestion plant near Bridgwater, it would save £950,000 and 882 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent a year

Food waste is 26% of rubbish in bins, with over one third – 36% – of that being food thrown away still in its packaging, including unopened and out-of-date food.

Find out more about the campaign here:

somersetwaste.gov.uk/slimmywaste

Need a food bin to Feed My Face? Free online:

somersetwaste.gov.uk/order-containers



Easter Bingo

SAT. 28th MARCH

**Doors open 7pm | Eyes down 8pm
Appley Pavilion, Stawley TA21 0HH**

LOTS OF
PRIZES!

65

ENTRY £1
*includes hot drink,
sandwiches
and cake!*

41

FRIENDLY
ATMOSPHERE!

76

RAFFLE

7

IN AID OF FRIENDS OF STAWLEY SCHOOL (FOSS)

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.1107306

***ST GEORGE'S DAY
BIG ENGLISH BREAKFAST
SATURDAY 25TH APRIL
8.30AM – 11AM***

***AT APPLEY PAVILION
IN AID OF CRICKET CLUB FUNDS***

***Full English (LARGE or small)
Scrambled eggs, pancakes, beans on toast
Or just toast!***

YOUR SUPPORT WILL BE APPRECIATED

A.S.C.C.C.

A philosophical approach to altruism

At the end of this month, Open Minds are scheduled to discuss altruism. Having decided on a subject, we invite the original proposer to open proceedings, and, if they wish, to send round any notes or references they think might be useful. There are no rules about this, and approaches differ widely.

This time we are using my piece, *Selfish Genes, W D Hamilton and Morality* which appeared in this column of December 2018. If you haven't kept one but want to read it, you can either buy a copy of *Stawley Thoughts* at the village shop (profits in aid of Church Fabric Fund) or look it up at <http://www.stawleypc.org/parish-news/4591543466>.

Anyway, the crux of the matter is that Bill Hamilton's explanation of altruism is regarded as its biological origin but, being a subject near the roots of civilisation and religion, there must be a philosophical explanation as well. On what compulsion must there? Let us see.

Meaning

Firstly, I know what I mean by 'altruism' but you might have a different interpretation of the word. For our conversation to progress meaningfully, we should each use the word in roughly the same way. Discussing the differences often enhances the understanding of all participants, which is what our next meeting is for, and I don't want to anticipate that. Instead, I shall think about language.

Though they are the key to everything that distinguishes us from all other forms of life, languages are imperfectly evolved – like our bodies. Indeed, much of both are encumbered with relics of the past that are not only grossly inefficient but apparently daft. For example, there is a nerve (the recurrent laryngeal) that emerges from the back of the brain in all mammals, travels down the neck, loops round a scrap of tissue in the heart (which is the remains of the arterial short-circuit that by-passed the lungs when we were in the womb), travels back up the neck and stimulates the larynx, all because our fish-like ancestor's gill-bar got twisted. Some words are like that; meaning one thing, digressing and now serving quite a different function.

Origin

According to Robin Dunbar in his brilliant book *Grooming, Gossip, and the Evolution of Language*, we began to speak as an extension of grooming, which is picking through another's fur. Being groomed in this way feels nice and it is not easy to fall out with someone who has soothed us. Grooming reinforces friendships and is usually a

one-to-one activity, although up to four individuals could make a small ring. As in chimpanzee societies, our ancestral social status depended on how many friends we had, so the more we groomed, the more friends we made and the higher our status. But grooming costs time which could have been spent feeding or watching out for predators. Making satisfied grunts involves any onlookers and makes them feel as if they too were being groomed. The tone of the grunts changed with the emotional state of both groomer and groomed and they added to a vocabulary of warning words already in place. This set going the landslide of vocalisations that became language.

Today, we still tend to choose our words for their emotional impact before their more precise meaning. Interestingly, people suffering from (blessed with?) any form of autism or Asperger's Syndrome often reverse this and so miss much social traffic. However, by taking a meaning literally, they often see into a problem more clearly than those whose analysis is clouded with social innuendo, which autistic people often have more difficulty understanding.

Thus, language seems to have evolved to express emotions, but they get in the way of describing the usually emotionless reality of the world around us. Indeed, some areas of thought are so unsuited to verbal description that we invented mathematics as a different set of symbols with which we could discuss their behaviour.

If the ideas being discussed are themselves driven by feelings, it adds another layer of distortion. Certainly, we feel good when we behave altruistically, and those good feelings are a reward for our actions. But doesn't a reward disqualify the action from being truly altruistic? I want to avoid pre-empting discussion at Open Minds so will leave the matter there.

A difficulty of being individual

There is a way of rearranging our mental workshops that seems to allow a deeper understanding of altruism. In this column of May last year, I tried to link the generations by comparing an individual with a standing ripple on a river (but not to a spreading ripple in still water.) Like a river-ripple, materials and energy flow through us, yet still the individual's shape and behaviour remain recognisable. They do so by being under the control of genes and ideas. These two kinds of information are respectively stored in molecules of DNA or networks of nerves. The atoms of both DNA molecules and nerve cells are continuously being replaced, and this signals clearly that the information is more important than the medium that carries it. The individual living

thing is a unit of such a medium on which Darwinian selection acts. It follows from this that the ultimate altruism is to sacrifice one's individuality to allow the information carried by other individuals to travel on through time.

But couldn't that passing on of information be seen as a reward for the altruistic action of sacrificing the materials and energy in one's own individuality? Yes, of course it could, because that, I think, is the ultimate purpose of life.

Martin Jacoby

Minutes of RCI meeting Wednesday 15th January

Welcome: The Chairman welcomed members.

Present: Michael Parkinson (Mike, Chairman), Pauline Wood (PW), Judy Webb (JW), Laura Burrow (LB), Jane Embleton (JE); John Hannon (JH).

Apologies: Cilla Newsom, Martin Perry.

Correspondence: None.

Minutes of the last meeting: They were agreed and signed.

Matters arising: The issue of the land available for sale beside Stawley School is still under discussion and various avenues are being pursued. Because sales of the Cookery Book have reached the 'break even' level of the cost of its production, 50% of takings will now go to the shop (SCA). Charitable Incorporated Organisation, (CIO) status had finally been achieved for the RCI and Mike was congratulated on his hard efforts.

Accounts: The Treasurer's Report showed a total credit balance of £3699.48 as at 15th January 2020, comprising balances as follows:

RCI	£2161.18
Active Living	£1015.35
Youth Club	£522.95

The money held for the Youth Club is still under consideration and several ideas were discussed, including Archery. LB was particularly interested in finding a suitable use for it.

Now that the RCI is formally registered as a charity, the matter of the formal transfer of Treasurer to PW was a matter of urgency and the possible change of bank. Various options were discussed but on balance, retaining the present account with the facility of using Rockwell Green PO (including Stawley Shop) for paying in was probably the best. PW to investigate.

VETS: JW reported that 25 members of the community had attended the CHT Familiarisation Session, with particular emphasis on the VETS

scheme, held at the Pavilion in November. Information about the scheme was becoming more widespread and regular updates in the Parish News were helping. The system was being regularly tested within the Ashbrittle, Appley, Greenham, Kittisford, Stawley and Tracebridge areas but reports from Bathealton were not forthcoming.

Ethical Angel. Members attention was drawn to this by the Chairman and all agreed to investigate and report back at the next meeting.

Emergency Services Access: The RCI would continue to promote and publicise What3words within the community. Relevant ///what3words for the locations of the four defibs are as follows:

Ashbrittle: blurts.flats.crouching

Bathealton: relatives.widgets.rolled

Kittisford: bonkers.regime.lyracist

Village Shop: messaging.servers.quaking

Reports: Lunch Club numbers are slightly down in recent months.

Walking Group: Starting again after the winter.

The Oil Group; the work of the Milnes in keeping this active is appreciated.

The Walks Project continues.

The Art Group pictures displayed in The Globe will end on 5th February, but it was hoped that more will be displayed there.

AOB: None.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 15th April after the AGM at Stawley Shop.

Mike Parkinson, Rural Community Initiative

Oil Painting at Cothay Manor Saturdays 16th, 23rd and 30th May 10 am – 4pm



Join **Annie Musgrove** for a day workshop based in the grounds and tea room of Cothay Manor.

Subjects include wide vistas, botanical close-ups, water features, courtyards and buildings.

£55 per day includes tuition, materials, garden entry and refreshments.

Booking essential. Tel. 01823 672627
or email amusgrove@cantab.net

Ashbrittle Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting; Monday 17th February

Councillors Present: Charles Doble (Chairman), Helena Massie, Rob Simpson, Jeremy Robbins, Vicky Hughes.

Apologies for absence: None

Minutes of previous meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 12th September 2019 were agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising: i) The Village Walk, led by Rob Simpson, had been a great success. A group of parishioners, including new residents, plus assorted dogs, enjoyed the walk and the delicious tea which followed (the dogs went home to have their own tea). Many thanks were given to Rob and a Spring Walk (probably in May) has been suggested as an addition to the calendar.

Correspondence: PCSO Louise Fyne had sent a local crime report; no issues pertaining to the parish other than the usual vigilance to keep sheds and outbuildings secure.

Reports from Councillors:

Highways: (Charles Doble) i) CD has completed a walking survey of many of the roads in our parish, taking photographs of the potholes and submitting them to the Borough Council. Some repairs have been made and more scheduled for the summer months e.g. Rectory Road and the bottom of Ashbrittle Hill/Tracebridge. This area is of particular concern and the deterioration of the road was exacerbated by a mains water leak which washed away much of the substrate. More of the surface has washed away in the heavy rain. Until it can be repaired, drivers, cyclists, riders and pedestrians are urged to take care on the road. JR led the other councillors in thanking CD for his efforts in surveying the roads and maintaining pressure on the Council to attend to road conditions. It is a national problem; ii) CD was also thanked for ordering and installing the new village fingerpost sign at the Dishwell Farm T-junction. There is now a sign pointing to Ashbrittle!

Finance: (Helena Massie) i) HM presented the accounts to date. Payments were made to the Village Hall for room hire, our share of the STASH website and for the fingerpost (described above). The year's accounts will be verified at the next meeting (April) and then sent to the auditors. HM was thanked for her work.

Footpaths: No issues had been reported to the Councillors.

Any other business: i) Stawley PC and Paul Musgrove are exploring several options for introducing faster fibre broadband in our parishes. Ashbrittle councillors will liaise with Stawley and

any future developments will be passed on to our parishioners.

ii) **The vimpel** flying from the church tower has taken a battering from the winter storms; it has been kindly repaired by Mrs Claire Robbins but will be removed and replaced with a new one in the Spring/Summer. Thanks were expressed to the Robbins family for keeping the flag flying.

Date of next meeting: (tbc) 7pm on Wednesday 8th April.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.

Vicky Hughes, (Clerk)

Grand Western Canal working party

A brief update on last month's item to let you know that the working party at Jayes Cutting near Cothay went ahead as planned. We were blessed with excellent conditions for the tasks at hand, sunny and cool. Apart from myself there were 5

other volunteers all experienced from previous work on this stretch of the canal and other sections, in particular the short and attractive stretch at Nynehead where they are engaged each month.



However, experience is not essential for the type of work we undertake and any support that can be provided from the local community to keep on top of tasks would be most welcome, get in touch.

If you have the opportunity to explore this area you will see that our efforts not only keep the footpath in excellent condition but we also maintain the opposite bank, removing brambles and undergrowth to show the excellent trees to their best advantage. As shown in this photo the community has a most attractive facility on its doorstep.

Apart from the enjoyment to be had from walking this section, some enterprising young men have found an alternative activity, playing on the water in a home made raft. It seems to me a suitable case for a sponsored activity in the future, any sailors out there?

Bruce Payne 07552237951



The Globe Inn

Many of you will have already heard the sad news that I have closed the Globe Inn.

I would like to thank you all for your support during the last two years, both in The Globe and generally as I have struggled with my health.

I will be exploring various ideas and I hope that the Globe will re-open.

All best, *Roly Willett*

Stawley Mill Happenings

As part of an ongoing programme of events

Coffee morning

Saturday 4th April

10am to 12pm



In aid of

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Gardening Club

Programme Planning Meeting

A small group of club members met on 18th February to plan the year's programme and classes for the Flower Show, following a bring and share supper. A lively discussion took place, resulting in an interesting and varied programme for the year.

March Trip

The first trip for 2020 will be to the Bishop's Palace, Wells for the Rare Plant Fair, on Sunday 22nd March, 10.00-4.00. Admission is £7 per adult for the Fair, Palace and Gardens. This is a good reduction on the usual entrance fee, so no concessions apply.

Sue Jacoby is organising this trip, so please contact her on 01823 674471 if you wish to go, and please let her know if you are willing to drive.

Stawley Flower and Produce Show

Please note: The Stawley Flower and Produce Show will be on Sunday 13th September 2020. Please put this date in your diary and start planning your prize-winning entries!

If you have any suggestions and new ideas, or any other inquiries, please contact Pauline on 01823 672222, email pjw200355@gmail.com, or Sue on 01823 674471.

And remember, new members are always welcome.

Pauline Wood and Sue Jacoby

Stawley Parish Council

The next meeting of Stawley Parish Council will be on the 3rd March at 7:30pm in Appley Pavilion.

STORAGE SPACE NEEDED

Does anyone have an unused spare room / garage / shed that is dry for storing our shipment of boxes and some furniture for about 4 months from mid April until we buy a house?

Would pay.

Please ring 01823 672179
c/o Rachel Oliver

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Have your say about providing care closer to home in Somerset

Health and care services in Somerset are running an engagement programme to gather feedback from local people about providing care closer to home.

Health and care services in Somerset aim to support people to live independent, healthier lives by having the right services in the right place for their needs, available at the right time and delivered by the right people. The engagement programme runs until 12th April 2020.

Everyone who lives and works in Somerset is invited to join in, think about and help shape a new way of providing services which is, where practical, closer to where they live, supports independence and maintains health. Everyone's input, ideas and suggestions are vital to helping them make sure that we have the right services in the right place.

The engagement document shares with everyone the reasons why current services need to change and the challenges faced in continuing to run them.

Using all the feedback received, a number of ways that health and care services could be delivered differently will be developed. There will be public consultation about these potential options in the future.

Health and care services would like to know what you think about their ideas so far and get your feedback.

You can read the full engagement document on their website at www.fitformyfuture.org.uk or contact them by email somccg.fitformyfuture@nhs.net or telephone 01935 384119.

Village Oil Group

To place your order please email judy.milne@btopenworld.com or contact Judy or Michael Milne on 01823 672205.

Orders by the Sunday evening, before the next delivery day please, which will be

Wednesday 8th April

New members always welcome

Mobile Library

The Mobile Library will stop from
10.00 to 10.20am
at Greenham Bridge on
Tuesday 3rd and 31st March

Your Local Village Agent.

Do you have a problem and are not sure who to turn to? Do you need some help finding the right agency, service or people to speak to? Are you a Carer that needs help and support? Does your community have a collective problem that needs a kick-start? Perhaps you are someone who is just finding life a bit hard going at the moment. I may be able to help.

The role of the Village Agent is to bridge the gap between isolated, excluded, vulnerable and lonely individuals and those statutory and/or voluntary organisations which offer specific solutions to identified needs.

All of the support that I offer is free and confidential.

Any query, large or small – do get in touch. I am available on 07746 340546 and cat@somersetccc.org.uk

Cat Sweatman, Village Agent



**Quaker Meeting for Worship
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There are instructions on the website of how to find us.

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Land at Appley Cross

The field between the Shop, the School and Appley Pavilion is being offered for sale by auction on the 31st March. There is a possibility that Stawley Parish Council will consider buying the land as a community resource but this will depend upon local interest being shown in the next few weeks, consideration of what we would use the land for, and the cost.

The next Council meeting is on the 3rd March at 7:30 at the Pavilion at which this will be discussed. If you cannot come to the meeting but wish to comment on the possibilities offered by this auction, or have other ideas, or possibly invest in some land on behalf of the community please mail me at stawleypc@cantab.net.

Further information will be available following the meeting on the website at www.stash.org.uk, in the Shop and in the Telephone Box next to the Globe Inn.

Paul Musgrove, Clerk Stawley Parish Council

Beware of rogue driveway repairers

A favourite tactic of rogue traders is to target vulnerable people at home offering services like driveway and paving repairs but charge far too much for a poor-quality or unfinished job or take the money up front and vanish without doing any work. They may also fail to give the customer paperwork, including a 14-day cooling-off period, that they are legally required to provide.

They may say they are working for the council or other authority and show identification cards to try to look legitimate. They may say they have leftover tarmac from resurfacing roads, but council or highways authorities would never offer leftover materials to the public.

Not all traders who cold call are rogue traders, but it's important to remember the golden rules:

Never agree to work from someone you think might be a rogue trader.

If you're not sure, don't open the door.

If an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is.

Use your door chain when opening the door to strangers.

Properly check the identity of callers before opening the door.

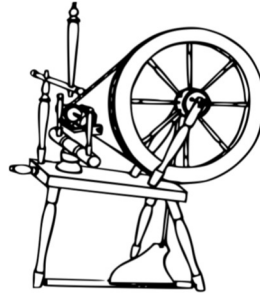
Keep doors and windows secure.

If you think a crime is being committed now or you are in danger, call the police on 999 immediately.

For non-emergencies, call the police on 101.

To report a problem with a trader and get advice, call Citizens Advice on 03454 040506.

Devon, Somerset and Torbay Trading Standards



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Come along and have a go at making your own yarn; plenty of fleece available.

Or bring along that unfinished knitting, crochet or even needlework project.

FIRST TUESDAY IN THE MONTH

About 2.30pm at the Cruck Barn, Appley

Next Meetings: 3rd March and 7th April

Contact Pauline on 01823 672222, email pjw200355@gmail.com

We have great fun and interesting conversations on our spinning days, but if anyone has any ideas for specific topics, or have items for a show-and-tell, please let us know about them at the next meeting



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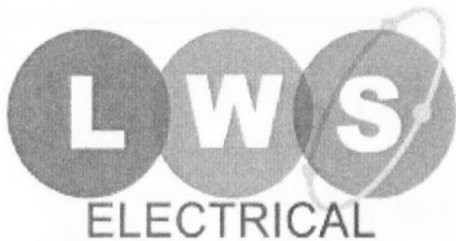
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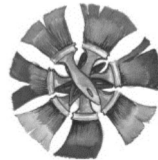
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this page

Editorial Policy

Please note that the views expressed in this magazine are the responsibility of the individual author(s) and are not necessarily the views held by the editors of the Parish News.

Local Information

Neighbourhood Watch Contact Numbers

Greenham & Tracebridge	Caro Ayre	01823 672603
Appley	Rachel Chesterton	01823 673063
Ashbrittle	Charles Doble	01823 672365
Kittisford	Roger Bradford	01823 672350
Stawley	Pat Sweet	01823 672380
Wellisford	William Thomas	01823 673143
Bathealton & Poleshill	Terry McNicholas	01984 624428
Outer Bathealton	Carol Weir	01984 623565
Springrove	Doreen Orton	01823 400731

Police-non-emergency number **101**

Police Beat Team

PC Joanne Jeffery 2378 Tel:07889 657943
Joanne.jeffery@avonandsomerset.police.uk

PCSO Louise Fyne 6945 Tel:07889 659476
Louise.fyne@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Parish Councils

Ashbrittle Chairman Charles Doble 01823 672365 / 672618
email charles.doble@ukgateway.net

Bathealton Chairman Charles Eustice 01823 401248

Stawley Chairman Paul Musgrove 01823 672627
email: stawleypc@yahoo.co.uk www.stash.org.uk

Community Halls

Appley Pavilion and Recreation Field

– to book, ring Suzette Williams on 01823 672266 or
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Ashbrittle Village Hall

– to book, ring Pat Gainey on 01823 672760

Bathealton Village Hall

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Local Groups

Stawley under Fives at the Appley Pavilion.

Becky Allder Pre-schools Manager
Swallows, Sampford Arundel 01823 672342 Mon/Tues
Stawley Under Fives 07753 552736 Weds/Thurs/Fri

Wiveliscombe Young Farmers Club meets weekly. Phone
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Rural Community Initiative (RCI) is a local charity set up in
1999 to support the way of life of the people of this rural com-
munity. For further information please contact the chair of the
committee; Mike Parkinson m_f.parkinson@btinternet.com

PARISH NEWS DETAILS

The Editors and the next issue deadline date are on the back cover. Please send items for publication to the Editors in good time to ensure publication. There is only a short time between the deadline and the printing of the Parish News and late items may not be included. We are pleased to receive items in any form (typed, in long hand, on disk or by e-mail). Naturally, we prefer items by e-mail ashparishnews@btinternet.com when they should be in Microsoft 'Word' format, as this saves a great deal of typing!

Our advertising rates are £1.40 per month for a small box, £3.00 for a quarter page, £6.00 for a half page and £12.00 for a whole page Advertising for community events, charity and church fundraising events in our area are normally carried free of charge. Occasional one-off adverts from residents in our area seeking to sell or buy an article or seeking to acquire or offer a service are also carried free of charge. In all cases the style, layout and size allocated to an advert is at the discretion of the Editors.

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Cover Design - Church illustrations derived from originals by the late Diana Willis

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March

1st until April 20th	Daily	Soulful Messiah Paintings, Kittisford Church
3rd	2.30 pm	Spinning and Woolcraft Group, Cruck Barn
4 th 11 th 18 th 25 th	2-4pm	Art Group Ashbottle Village Hall
5 th 12 th 19 th	1.30 start	Walking Ashbottle Village Hall
13th	7.30 for 8 pm	Supper Club at Stawley Mill
13th	7.30 pm	Quiz night, Appley Pavilion
14th	7.30 pm	Kittisford Pudding Club, Greater Brimley Farm
20th	7.00 pm	Easter Bingo, Ashbottle Village Hall. Eyes down 8.00 pm
21st	2.30 pm	Attic Sale. Bathealton Village Hall
26 th	12 noon	Lunch Club Ashbottle Village Hall
28th	10:30am to 12:30am	Easter Family Fun Day in aid of Stawley Preschool, Appley Pavilion,
28th	7.00 pm	FOSS Easter Bingo, Appley Pavilion. Eyes down at 8pm.

April

4th	10 - 12 noon	Coffee morning, Stawley Mill
17th	7.30 for 8 pm	Supper Club at Stawley Mill
25th	8.30 - 11 am	St George's Day, Big English Breakfast, Appley Pavilion
30th	10am – 12 noon	Coffee Morning/Bring & Buy at The Old Rectory, Stawley

May

2nd	2.30 pm	Plant Sale, Hellings Farm, Bathealton
9th		Stawley Mill Open Gardens
15th	7.30 for 8 pm	Supper Club at Stawley Mill
17th	2.00 - 5.00 pm	Stawley Summer Fete (FOSS), Appley Pavilion

June

6th		Stawley Fete and Garden Party at Stawley Mill
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September

13th		Stawley Flower and Produce Show, Appley Pavilion
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Next Deadline Date: Friday 20th March 2020
Editors Maurice and Julia