

ASHBRITTLE

GREENHAM

STAWLEY

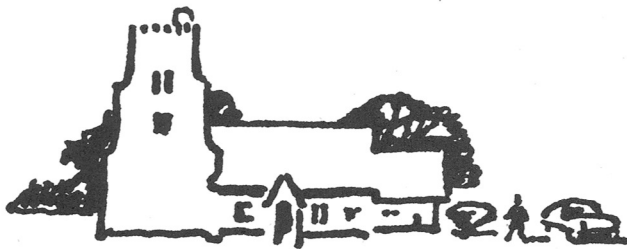
BATHEALTON

KITTISFORD

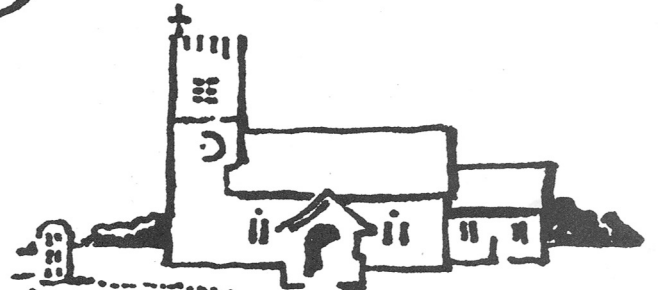


ASHBRITTLE

# Parish news



STAWLEY



BATHEALTON



GREENHAM



KITTISFORD



DIANA WILLIS '90

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

The Church of England and The Diocese of Bath and Wells have, with great regret, taken the decision following government advice:

that all of our churches will be closed until further notice, except for funerals.

10Radio 105.3 fm community radio for the 10 parishes www.10radio.org
Announcing
The Home Service
bringing local church worship into your own home
Sundays at 10.00 a.m.
Listen to 10radio on 105.3 fm or via the internet at www.10radio.org
If you need help to tune in or would like to participate, leave a message on 01984 624137 or email info@10radio.org

Churchwardens and Clergy

Ashbittle with Greenham

Charles Doble, The Old Rectory, Ashbittle, TA21 0LQ 01823 672365
David Hanks, Manley House, Ashbittle, 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, 2 Rockwell Green, Wellington. Email: selina@thegarner.me.uk 01823 662227

## Thought for the Month

### Easter in a time of Coronavirus.

This year we have celebrated the most unusual and difficult Easter of my lifetime. Our places of worship are closed, we have been unable to meet together with our friends and family and the fellowship of our neighbours and parishioners has been prohibited.

One of the strangest experiences is being denied something that we take for granted. Yesterday, conducting the funeral of Joan Fudge in Bathealton churchyard, it was not possible for those of us present to shake hands with each other. We were outside, appropriately socially distanced and few in number. However, there was a real and proper sense of thanksgiving for a long and fulfilled life and a sense of dignity in her committal.

We are grateful for the things that remain unchanged in these challenging times.

It is perhaps also the first Easter that I can recall, when there has not been a call from some to "fix" the date of Easter. Perhaps it was because our Easter observances and celebrations were limited. It may also be the case that as most shops were closed, there was a reduced level of demand for change from the retail sector. Many of you will know that it took the Church centuries to agree on the method of Easter's calculation. Saint Augustine, travelling north from Rome in the seventh century, managed to celebrate Easter in France on three separate occasions!

One of the things agreed by the Celtic and the Roman Churches at the Synod of Whitby in 664AD was the calculation of the date of Easter. The Western Church finally settled on Easter Day being the first Sunday after the first full moon, after the 19th of March. This means that the earliest date is March 21st and the latest, April 25th. Our brothers and sisters in the Orthodox East, using a different method, will be celebrating Easter on April 19th.

I was once invited to share a memorable Easter Sunday celebration with the family of an Orthodox Christian colleague. The meal seemed to have about a dozen courses, each comprising one dish and interspersed with a generous shot of vodka!

Our Easter celebrations in 2020 have been constrained by the government's regulations. However, we can reassure ourselves that each and every Sunday is a celebration of The Paschal Mystery of Easter. When we are able to meet again for a Eucharist in one of our churches, it will be celebrated not only with devotion, but also a proper

sense of enthusiasm.

I hope to be able to see you all again before too long and in the meantime, keep safe.

With my best wishes,

*Martin Beaumont*

Martin has been putting a *Thought for the day* on the [www.stash.org.uk](http://www.stash.org.uk) website daily. If you would like to have them by email please send me your address on [amusgrove@cantab.net](mailto:amusgrove@cantab.net). You may also like to look at the website for previous thoughts if you missed them.

*Annie Musgrove*



### Quaker Meeting for Worship Spiceland Quaker Meeting Uffculme EX15 3AZ

*Sadly, due to the current corona virus crisis, there will be **NO Meeting for Worship** at Spiceland until further notice*

*In the meantime we are agreeing to sit in our own homes at 10.30am every Sunday and "Meet without Meeting" For 30 minutes we can join together wherever we are to hold the world, our community and our families in the light with hope and love. Please do join us.*

*This month we would share the poem*

#### ***This is the time to be slow***

*Lie low to the wall  
Until the bitter weather passes.*

*Try, as best you can, not to let  
The wire brush of doubt  
Scrape from your heart  
All sense of yourself  
And your hesitant light.*

*If you remain generous  
Time will come good  
And you will find your feet  
Again on fresh pastures of promise  
Where the air will be kind  
And blushed with beginning.*

*By John O'Donohue from Benedictus: Book of Blessings*

**For more information phone John Bell on 07580 958275 or use the "contact us" form on our website: <http://www.spicelanduffculmequakers.com/>**

There are also instructions on the website of how to find us.

***The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)***

## A Beginner's Guide to Botanical Drawing

For the past couple of years, I have been giving botanical drawing lessons to a few people and unfortunately, we are not able meet now. With that in mind I thought it might be fun to film a lesson for beginners. Working from the premise that all you need is a pencil, paper, a subject and lots of time, maybe this would work for those of us who are spending a lot of time at home.

Most beginners claim that they can't draw, but really what they mean is that they can't draw from their imagination. If you can hold a pencil and observe what is in front of you, then you are ready to have a go at botanical drawing. There is no need to make it up, just take your time and draw what is in front of you. Enjoy observing the detail and the time will have flown before you know it.

This is a quick summary of the five video clips which can be found on YouTube by searching for Botanicaldrawing (without a space).

The first step (part 1) is to get set up. Choose something straightforward like a twig with a few leaves and buds on it. Place the twig on a piece of white paper and make sure that the lighting is good enough. It helps to have a light (artificial or from a window) shining on one side of the twig so that there is a difference between light and shade. Now find some pencils of different hardness and sharpen them. To begin, use a hard pencil, say 2H, and very lightly draw the outline on your paper so you have a clear layout that fills your page. Try to avoid making your drawing too small.

The second step (part 2) is to work on shading the twig or small branches. Using a softer pencil like a 2B or 3B, shade the darker areas of the twig. If you have a light from one direction, this will often be the underside of the twig. Leave the lighter areas unshaded for now.

The third step (part 3) is to work on the buds by shading them, again with a softer pencil. You are trying to achieve a 3D effect and will be shading the darker areas whilst leaving the lighter areas unshaded.



The fourth step (part 4) is to work on the leaves. Notice where they are darker and where they are lighter. What is the edge of the leaf like? Is it smooth or jagged? Are there any veins to add to the leaf to help identify it?

The final step (part 5) is to tidy the drawing up by rubbing out any extra marks you have made, then sit back and enjoy your achievement.

I hope you have fun making your drawings and remember that, whatever the result, this is your style of drawing which is just as valid as anyone else's.

*Annie Musgrove*

## Appley Pavilion and Playing Field

The cob hut was built in 2008 as part of an eco-group project to show and teach local young people traditional skills; making cob blocks, thatching, stained glass and flooring.

Remember the Big Cob Breakfast in January?



The £294 raised has gone towards repairing the roof, thank you.

Thatcher Simon Willey has completed a great job, including wiring the ridge. It is now good for at least another 10 years. The total cost of the work was £725 and we are very grateful to the Parish Council for helping with 50% of the cost, this means we are £68.50 short of the total needed. Unfortunately, all sources of income for the Pavilion have stopped for the time being.

If you would like to make a small donation to the cob hut repairs please contact Suzette Williams [williamspsfa@outlook.com](mailto:williamspsfa@outlook.com) or donate directly to the Pavilion's bank account (ref Cob Hut) Sort Code 60-23-05 Account Number 71612300 (Nat West). Many thanks,

*The Pavilion Committee*

# Stawley Shop & Tea Room Lockdown Update



Still open all hours - almost! Thanks to everyone who is helping in all sorts of ways to keep the shop open at this time

We are (generally) well-stocked with milk, bread, cheese, groceries, fruit/veg, wine etc (but it helps if you pre-order your bread, especially if you want it sliced!)

We are still delivering newspapers and milk, plus groceries if required - let us know, or ask a friend to give us your order

It's one at a time inside, but we have seats in the sun or an umbrella if not

**PLEASE DO RING FIRST TO CHECK THE CURRENT SITUATION**

**Opening Hours**      Monday to Friday 8.00 to 5.30  
                                 Saturday 8.00 to 2.00  
                                 Sunday 9.00 to 11.00

**Post Office services** available Thursdays 11.30 - 1.30

Come and see us on the Ashbrittle road between Greenham and Tracebridge, adjacent to Stawley School  
Ring us on 01823 674361 or email us at [shop@stawleyshop.com](mailto:shop@stawleyshop.com)

## Local Coronavirus Community Support

**The Village Shop, as the hub of our community in Stawley and Ashbrittle, is coordinating any assistance that is needed in those Parishes**

**Call 01823 674361 or email [shop@stawleyshop.com](mailto:shop@stawleyshop.com)**

**For those in the north of our area there is also assistance from Wivey**

**Call 01984 624777** (Mon to Sat: 9am - 5pm; answer-phone other times)  
or email [coronahelp@wiveliscombe.com](mailto:coronahelp@wiveliscombe.com) (please give phone number)

For more local advice and support see: [www.wiveliscombe.com](http://www.wiveliscombe.com) & [www.wiveycare.net](http://www.wiveycare.net)  
Somerset Coronavirus Support - Council Helpline: 0300 790 6275

## Country matters

### Field Flowers

*Ye field flowers! The gardens eclipse you, 'tis true  
Yet, wildings of Nature, I dote upon you,  
For ye waft me to summers of old,  
When the earth teem'd around me with fairy  
delight,  
And when daisies and buttercups gladden'd my  
sight,  
Like treasures of silver and gold.*

*Even now what affections the violet awakes!  
What loved little islands, twice seen in their lakes,  
Can the wild water-lily restore!  
What landscapes I read in the primrose's looks,  
And what pictures of pebbled and minnowy brooks,  
In the vetches that tangled their shore.  
Thomas Campbell (1777-1844)*

**Late March:** March lived up to its folklore reputation, coming 'in like a lion' - Storm Jorge and going 'out like a lamb' in settled conditions. Another folklore is of a 'Blackthorn Winter'. Blackthorn, or the sloe tree, with its frothy white flowers in the hedgerows has been out with a cold Northeast wind and some frosty nights.

**Early April:** The settled weather, sunshine and warm days have brought out the butterflies. Peacock butterflies have spent the winter in dark sheds, staying still except for an occasional rustling. They spread their wings on dry paths to warm up and then be ready to fly off. The small whites have spent the winter in brittle chrysalis cases hanging on walls. These are followed by large whites which love to lay their eggs on cabbages.

I have seen several holly blues, which as caterpillars feed on holly flowers and are now ready to lay their eggs on holly trees. A later generation of these butterflies is seen more around ivy on which they lay their eggs on the flowers in the autumn. Some tortoiseshell butterflies are about, as are the orange tips (white and smallish, with orange tips of their wings).

The wild flowers in the hedgerows are glorious; the primroses are abundant and growing upwards at the bottom of hedgerows is greater stitchwort, which is supposed to cure a painful stitch (not sure how!) or it could be named because it 'stitches' itself up the hedge. It has showy white flowers. The 'Day of the Dandelions' has arrived. These were used as early salad leaves and are a diuretic. The French call them 'piss au lit', the flowers making dandelion wine. On April 8<sup>th</sup> I saw the first swallows in Appley, but I think they were passing through on their way north. More have arrived with the house martins around the 16<sup>th</sup>.

Don't forget that the new rules for verge cutting, which allow it to be done only twice a year to help wild flowers and insects.

Sally Merritt

### Tawny Owls

For two years running we have been very lucky to have Tawny owls breeding in an owl box in our garden. Alas, in addition to all the bad news 2020 has presented us with so far already, there won't be a repeat this year – intruders have taken over the nest! There is a large colony of rooks on land adjoining our garden and this year, for the first time, some have moved into trees in our garden. However, we think the cheeky couple nesting in the owl box rather than building their own nest in a tree might be jackdaws rather than rooks, they don't make any noise compared to the other lot.



What can we do to avoid this happening again next year? Is there any point clearing out the box, or will the owls no longer use it? Any owl advice would be gratefully received. We can be contacted using [vcoots@btconnect.com](mailto:vcoots@btconnect.com).

Valeria Coots

### How can we help?

Two strong local lads with lots of time on their hands, available for heavy digging, moving, garden clearing, painting, or whatever else you may want!

We have most of our own tools and of course will be social distancing.

Please contact  
Arthur and Tom Burns-Cox on  
07540 494 377 or  
[arthurburnscox@gmail.com](mailto:arthurburnscox@gmail.com)



# Cothay Manor



Due to the Covid -19 situation, the house, gardens and tearooms will be closed until further notice

Cothay Manor, Greenham, Near Wellington TA21 0JR  
E mail: [cothaymanor@btinternet.com](mailto:cothaymanor@btinternet.com)  
Telephone: 01823 672283  
[www.cothaymanor.co.uk](http://www.cothaymanor.co.uk)



somerset village & community agents  
part of CCS

Do you know your local Village Agent?



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**COVID-19:**  
CCS Agents are working in your community!

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  - Are a key point of contact in your community
  - Can help if you don't know who to turn to
- Book a call back - scan the QR code with your phone camera & complete the online form or via:



01823 331 222

[www.somersetagents.org/agent-call-back](http://www.somersetagents.org/agent-call-back)

[info@somersetccc.org.uk](mailto:info@somersetccc.org.uk)

## Parish News Donations

Many thanks for donations from:  
Mrs Joyce Norman and in the shop

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

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

## Covid-19 Coronavirus Helpline

As a temporary measure in the light of the current situation, the Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS) has been converted to a helpline. If, for any reason, you require local assistance, you can ring the appropriate number for your area shown below and, if someone is available, a local volunteer will respond.

There are ten local volunteers on each number and the first one who is available will respond to your call. If you are self-isolating and alone in your home, or whatever the circumstances, volunteers are out there to help you so please make use of this helpline. You may need some supplies, your medication or perhaps you have a concern or anxiety which you just need to talk through with someone... the community is here to help you.

The numbers are:

ASHBRITTLE & STAWLEY: 01823 244104  
BATHEALTON: 01984 322919  
KITTISFORD, TRACEBRIDGE & APPLEY: 01823 245101

The VETS numbers remain available as emergency lines should you need help to access a Defibrillator. Remember, in the event of a possible cardiac arrest in your household

**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**

## Mobile Library

*Service withdrawn until further notice*

## Lunch Club

Last month we were very sorry to have to cancel Nerys Gibb, Bathealton's 'Hedgehog Lady'. We hope that before too long we will be in a position to invite her back to Ashbrittle. Meanwhile, no doubt, hedgehogs are stirring and need all the encouragement they can get.

As with all our local events, Lunch Club continues to be cancelled until further notice.

Meanwhile please let me know if you have any ideas for future speakers, outings or workshops you would like us to organise.

A word of comfort - a virtual meal is entirely calorie free!

Email me at [deliaharling123@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:deliaharling123@tiscali.co.uk) or tel: 01823 672203

*Delia Harling*

## A Springtime March

There's a sky of blue shining overhead  
where the cold dull Winter was grey instead,  
but the evening shines with descending red,  
now that Spring is marching in!

See the hedgerows bursting with daffodils,  
though an April shower often on them spills,  
still the crocus, primrose, a garden fills,  
now that Spring is marching in!

In the spreading fields are young calf and lamb,  
on the branches pale are the buds that cram,  
where the birds with grass to their nestings  
scram,  
now that Spring is marching in!

Yet sometimes returns both the cold and rain,  
says darkness of Winter has come again,  
the catkins and elder they bear the stain  
of snowflake and frost...but the seasons reign!

For the puffy clouds say the cold's near done,  
as the air grows warm with the rising sun,  
and new greens and hues round the country run,  
now that Spring is marching in!

*Martin Perry*

Martin has suggested that somebody might be able to compose a rousing march-type tune for this poem which could then be sung by the Village Festival Choir.

Send your tune to Stawley Shop in any form, written down or as a recording.

## The May Quiz

1. What links Abbey Clancy, Harry Judd, Chris Hollins and Kara Tointen?
2. Which American retailer opened his Oxford Street department store in London in 1909?
3. What did Bill Gates, co-founder of Microsoft, become in 1987 at the age of 31?
4. What type of cheese is made backwards?
5. What is the body's heaviest organ?
6. What is the only day of the week that has an anagram?
7. Which English county contains Shrewsbury, Ludlow and Oswestry?
8. Name the latest Bond movie, its release delayed until November.
9. Tom Watson, ex Labour deputy leader, has recently been appointed to what senior role in the music industry?
10. Whose 3 wheeled van proclaimed London, Paris and Peckham as business areas covered?
11. What breed of dog was featured in the Dulux adverts?
12. Which actress plays Ada, Tommy Shelby's sister in *Peaky Blinders* also starring in *The Nest*?
13. Who spent seven years holed up in the Ecuadorian embassy in Knightsbridge, avoiding the authorities?
14. What is the art of trimming trees, shrubs, hedges etc into ornamental shapes called?
15. Name the two female lead actors playing Villanelle and Eve Polastri in *Killing Eve*.
16. The term *the evening star* is often applied to which planet?
17. Which Nobel prize winner wrote *East of Eden*, *The Grapes of Wrath* and *Of Mice and Men*?
18. What is the branch of geophysics devoted to the study of earthquakes called?
19. What is the offence of giving false evidence known as?
20. Who is credited with introducing potatoes and tobacco into the UK in the 16th century?
21. Bogotá is the capital of which South American country?
22. What number A road runs from junction 27 (M5) to Tiverton and on to Barnstaple?
23. Who is England's most prolific test wicket taker, taking 584 wickets in 151 matches?
24. How many Oscars did the film *Titanic* win?
25. What year was Prince Harry born?

Answers on page 14  
*Alan Rose*



## Avril Silk, Ashbrittle Arts



Ashbrittle Arts, led by Avril Silk and supported by local people, is now 21 years old: a successful promoter and show caser of theatrical, musical and other creative events. Recently Avril, Chairwoman from the very beginning, decided to step aside. She has been at the helm through some amazing and successful projects.

As many will know, in Ashbrittle we have a magnificent yew tree, believed to be more than 3,800 years old. It has a special meaning for locals. In 1999 Ashbrittle Arts, working with the church, was set up to run a major event to celebrate the tree. A successful bid for lottery funding by Avril in 2000, resulted in *The Ashbrittle Millennium Book*. Locals researched the history of Ashbrittle and interviewed parishioners for their own stories. Twenty years on the book, edited by Avril has become a significant historical document. Our community has participated in, and run, workshops, musical events, art events and photographic projects using their design and writing skills too. Often aided by The Jim Laker Fund, we've had storytelling, a medieval banquet, dancing, singing and much, much more.

Ashbrittle Arts continues to provide entertainment locally, promoting exhibitions, as part of the 10 Parishes Festival and Somerset Art Week, and music and theatre via Take Art.

Avril we thank you deeply. You have contributed so much to our community.

*Ted Franklin*

### Rainfall for March in Bathealton (inches)

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
4.09	4.06	7.56	4.64	3.12

*Valeria Coots*

## Broadband

As some of you know, we have received a response from Openreach with an initial estimate of connecting 110 properties within the parishes of Ashbrittle and Stawley with 'Fibre to the Premises' (FTTP). It comes to about £250k or £2,500 per property. Grants were available for both residential and business properties, but even with these it was unlikely to reduce the cost to less than £1,000 per property. We initially thought we could get this down further by self-digging but have discovered from Openreach that they put the fibre overhead using their poles so no saving can be made there.

Over recent weeks I have been looking at telegraph poles with more interest and found that we do have some fibre already in place. The tell-tale is a little yellow tag, about 2 inches square, attached to the pole a little above head height with words such as "CAUTION OVERHEAD FIBRE DROP". There is one by the corner outside Greenham Barton, so it would seem that there is fibre to the cabinet there. If you are walking along our emptier roads and spot one of these elsewhere please let me know; perhaps we already have a network in place that Openreach have forgotten about!

At present we are at an impasse and I doubt whether we can find a way ahead until after the present lockdown is over. Even then the cost may put a lot of people off and as each property comes off the list of those interested the cost to the remainder will rise. Please let me know if you wish to be put on the list of properties that might wish to be connected to fibre by mailing me at [stawleypc@cantab.net](mailto:stawleypc@cantab.net).

The good news is that Technological are still moving their network nearer and are about to move into Waterrow.

*Paul Musgrove*  
Clerk, Stawley Parish Council

### PAIR OF CASEMENT WINDOWS

We have a pair of second hand hardwood casement windows which need to find a new home.

Double glazed, with brown PVC and hardwood surround.

They are: 120cm wide x 110 cm high and  
150 cm wide x 123 high.

Perfect for a DIY project.

Contact Paul Musgrove on 018123 672627 or  
[musy@cantab.net](mailto:musy@cantab.net)

Collect from Meadow Farm, Greenham at the gate  
Donations to Kittisford church

## Helpful Hints for Novice Gardeners

For those who are relatively new to gardening and growing their own veggies it can be daunting and difficult to be successful, so here are a few helpful hints for May which I hope will help. May is for mulching if you haven't already done it in April. Ideally weed, add a little fertiliser, water or pray for rain and then mulch. This will keep your borders looking fresh and weed free all summer. If you don't have enough of your own compost or leaf mould a lot of people are using Strulch. This is a straw based product available from local nurseries or online for larger quantities.

It is easy to be seduced into planting out seedlings of beans and bedding plants with the warm weather but beware the late frost. Last year my French beans and potatoes were frosted at the beginning of May. Some people have difficulty growing carrots. For the last few years I have used strips of carrot seeds and as long as you don't let them dry out they all germinate and don't need any pricking out. If you grow them in between onions or garlic they won't get carrot root fly either.

Happy gardening and let us know your helpful hints.  
*Sue Jacoby*

## Five Ways to Wellbeing

During these unprecedented restrictions due to the Coronavirus outbreak, I thought it would be helpful to share with you some of the principles for promoting wellbeing that have informed my practice as a Clinical Psychologist in the NHS.

The Five Ways to Wellbeing are a set of evidence-based public mental health messages aimed at improving the mental health and wellbeing of the whole population.

Now, at a time when people are having to stay home and social distance, some are turning to these five steps as a way of coping during the coronavirus crisis.

The Five Ways to Wellbeing are as follows:

### **Connect with other people**

There is strong evidence that feeling close to and valued by other people is a fundamental human need and one that contributes to functioning well in the world. Good relationships can promote a sense of belonging and boost our self-esteem.

Many of the usual ways in which we connect with others are not available to us now (such as having a coffee with friends or going out for a meal), so it is important that we find other ways to stay in touch, such as over the phone. Social media is also increasingly important to many of us, but be careful about the impact of getting too much information that increases anxiety.

### **Be physically active**

Being active is not only great for our physical health and fitness. Evidence also shows it can improve our mental wellbeing by raising our self-esteem and causing chemical changes in the brain which can help to positively change our mood. Regular physical activity is associated with lower rates of depression and anxiety across all age groups.

The restrictions currently imposed allow for exercise once a day so, now that the days are getting longer and the weather is getting warmer, at the very least we can go out and enjoy the beautiful countryside near to our homes as well as doing all of the jobs in the garden that we couldn't do during the rainy season!

### **Learn new skills**

Research shows that learning new skills can also improve our mental wellbeing by helping us to build a sense of purpose and helping us to connect with others.

Although we can't get out and about there are still many different ways in which we can learn new skills. There may be recipes you have never had the time to try out, or a DIY project, such as fixing a broken bike, garden gate or something bigger. There are lots of free video tutorials online.

We could also try new hobbies that challenge us, such as creative writing, or learning to paint.

### **Give to others**

Research suggests that acts of giving and kindness can help improve our mental wellbeing by creating positive feelings and a sense of reward. It could be small acts of kindness towards other people, or larger ones like volunteering in your local community. We have seen plenty of examples of people volunteering to help the NHS and other charitable organisations during this Coronavirus outbreak, but there are many small ways in which we can give to others such as showing our appreciation to someone who has done something for us, or offering to help a neighbour if they are struggling to get all they need whilst in self-isolation.

### **Pay attention to the present moment, (mindfulness)**

Paying more attention to the present moment can improve our mental wellbeing. This includes noticing, without judgement, our thoughts, emotions and physical feelings as well as the environment around us. There are lots of mindfulness exercises available online, as well as advice on how to incorporate a mindful stance in our everyday lives.

If you want to learn more about the Five Ways to Wellbeing the link below is a good place to start:

<https://www.mind.org.uk/workplace/mental-health-at-work/taking-care-of-yourself/five-ways-to-wellbeing/>

*Annette Haddrell*

## Open all hours

### Clay Feet?

A wide expanse of blue sky with an occasional smidgeon of white cloud scraped across it. That is how it is at the moment: sunny and warm, with that special mix of green in field, bush and woodland, mingled with varied sharpnesses of shadow, adding texture and depth. There is the gentle green cushion of a nearby Devon hill and the heavier rise of Ashbrittle straight ahead.

Down in the valley, through Tracebridge and by Greenham Church, the brighter, shallower River Tone tinkles its way towards the sea. Because there is less noise around, bird song is taking centre stage, and animal life seems more evident. It makes one glad to be alive and to live and work in a world like this, especially in an area like ours.

So it appears from the door of the shop and yet I am aware of the waiting customer, that only one person at a time is allowed in and how many feet we must stand away from one another. This beautiful world can carry such ugly, dangerous components, threats to our hopes of happiness and of life itself.

Clay feet! Running through so much that is brilliant, beautiful or good are flaws which so easily undermine or break all that. I remember how I used to run a lot: not long distant jogging, but sprinting. As a boy sent on an errand to the shops, I would charge off, and return with the goods, not out of breath. Now? After a decent walk I sit down to rest and my knees complain as I arise. Clay feet!

We say a lot about men and women who are wonderfully helpful and caring. We call them heroes, angels, among other grand titles: once we might have used the word saints. But we know that is probably a one-sided view. Even the greatest saints had a dark side, hidden weaknesses, characteristics that moved them from high sainthood to being simply human. Clay feet.

Very, very few of us don't have such feet. Most of us do. I do. So how do we cope with them? Ignore them? We can't, just as we can't ignore a rampant virus. We still need to walk, to progress – and hopefully reach our intended destiny.

We need help. Where do you look? I look at the Cross of Jesus. His death was not a sign of clay feet in his case. It was a consequence of his strength and greatness – a true hero! That led to his restoration to life.

It is from that event that I, and anyone, receives the inspiration and power to move on and upward – despite any clay feet we may have known!

*Martin at the Shop*

## Takeaway catering to your door

In these difficult times it is nice to know that local caterers are adapting to the circumstances. I have come across three who will deliver meals and also groceries, should you need them but be locked down.

Firstly **The Beam Bridge Hotel** (01823 672223) has a fixed menu (obtainable online) and publishes a list of groceries which they can supply. Ordering is by telephone with payment at the time by card. The food is standard pub type and tasty with good portion sizes and ready to eat.

Secondly **STC Catering** (07807473298) in Wellington supplies a slightly more upmarket menu which is changed each week. There is only one choice of main and dessert each day but is different each day. The meals are prepared in the morning, chilled and delivered in the afternoon for you to reheat as and when required. There are no separate vegetables unless included in the dish. Payment is by bank transfer a.s.a.p. after ordering. More information is available on their Facebook page.

Both establishments deliver within five miles of Wellington but it would be nice, the further away you are (?Ashbrittle and beyond) if more than one household could order simultaneously to make the delivery more worthwhile.

We have enjoyed our meals and I have had good reports from others about both places.

Other sources of meals include **White Post Café** (01823 400322).

### Grocery Deliveries

Groceries are available (delivered) from **The Village shop** (01823 674361), **Gundenham Dairy** (01823 662704), **Rumwell Farm shop** (01823 461599), **Heywood Farm shop** (01823 663112), **Mary Jenkins** (01823 662371) and **Tim Potter Family Butchers** (07585 700030 or 01823 662126))

I have no financial interest in any establishment.

*Mike Parkinson*

*Thank you Mike; is this the first restaurant review in The Parish News? Eds*



**SPINNING AND  
WOOLCRAFT GROUP**

**Please Note**

**Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, there will be no meetings until further notice.**

**In the meantime, let me know if you would like some fleece to spin, as there is plenty available.  
Call Pauline on 01823 672222**

## More gardening fun

Last month Julia offered some tips on growing beans in the garden, so let's follow through on that topic first. Succession is one of the most important issues for a successful home garden that produces vegetables for the pot through as much of the year as possible. A glut of beans, whatever type can be an embarrassment, especially when your friends and neighbours have lots in their garden too. The answer is to stagger the sowings. My own way of doing just that is to start with a sowing of climbing French beans in mid April, Cobra is an amazingly productive variety, followed by another sowing in mid May and finally a sowing of runner beans in mid June. Beans can be sown direct into the soil but I prefer to start all of my beans in pots to give them a good start away from the ravages of slugs which just love to have a feast on young bean seedlings, sometimes even before they emerge from the soil.

That should provide a succession of beans for the kitchen from early July through until late September, and occasionally in a good year, into October. There will be an almost inevitable surplus at some point, but French beans freeze particularly well and surplus runners make good chutney.

There is never too much salad material through the summer, successional sowings will keep that supply in production. I prefer to grow 'salad bowl' type lettuce rather than the hearted types because they are less prone to run to seed and become unpalatable, especially during a hot spell.

Now is the time to look ahead to next autumn and winter if you have a sufficiently large vegetable garden to keep that succession going. Some winter crops, such as leeks, which are quite slow growing, benefit from early sowing but others should not be started too soon. Purple sprouting broccoli, a great favourite of mine, is best sown in mid May before planting out in July, perhaps on ground that carries your first crop of beans, to help fill that hungry gap in late spring. Mine was cropping until about two weeks ago and can now be fed to my neighbour's chickens, before cultivating the soil and preparing for another autumn crop, perhaps the late sown beans.

*Maurice Stanbury*

Have you downloaded  
your **//what3words** yet?

Information is available at  
<https://what3words.com/how-to-use-the-what3words-app/>

## Avon and Somerset Police



No one is untouched by the COVID-19 outbreak, whether that's in a personal or professional capacity, and we're proud of the response from all agencies and partners across Avon and Somerset who have come together in this crisis and demonstrated great resilience to ensure we provide people with the support and service they need.

We would like to reassure you that our officer and staff resilience is good and we're committed to maintaining a visible police presence at this time.

We would like to reiterate that our policing strategy remains engaging, explaining and encouraging people to adhere to the rules before we consider any enforcement. Thankfully, the overwhelming majority of people and businesses are taking the social distancing instructions seriously.

As you all know the new legislation now gives police power to fine anyone who chooses to wilfully ignore the measures put in place. Since the tougher measures came into effect we have issued some fixed penalty notices— a small number in relation to the 1.8 million residents in our area. We want to stress this course of action will continue to be only used as a last resort.

The creation of the online reporting form has been received well by the public. We need to be clear that our preference is that people report any past breaches through the online form, and not 101, as we need to ensure we maximise our resources and have call handlers available to respond to ongoing requests for policing services at this critical time. We would appreciate your help in sharing this message.

Officers and staff continue to work around the clock on the frontline out in our communities. Should we face staffing issues because of illness, we have the structures in place to continue to provide the public with the service they expect.

Thank you again for your support.

*Sue Mountstevens, Police & Crime  
Commissioner Sarah Crew, Deputy Chief Constable*

### Village Oil Group

To place your order please email  
[judy.milne@btopenworld.com](mailto: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 10th June.**  
New members always welcome

# The Parish News Faces Quiz

Answers on page 14



*With thanks to Emily Rose*

## May Quiz Answers

1. Winners of Strictly
2. Harry Selfridge
3. Worlds youngest billionaire, since surpassed
4. Edam
5. The skin
6. Monday (Dynamo)
7. Shropshire
8. No time to die
9. Chairman of UK music, an umbrella body representing record labels, songwriters and promoters
10. Del Boy (Derek Trotter)
11. Old English Sheepdog
- 12.. Sophie Rundle
13. Julian Assange
14. Topiary
15. Jody Comer and Sandra Oh
16. Venus
17. John Steinbeck
18. Seismology
19. Perjury
20. Sir Walter Raleigh
21. Columbia

22. A361
23. James Anderson
24. 11
25. 1984

## Faces Quiz Answers

1. Tom Hardy
- 2..Keeley Hawes
3. Gareth Bale
4. Catherine Tate
5. Robert Webb
6. Daisy May Cooper
7. Adam Peaty
8. Lily Allen
9. Bryan Adams
10. Louise Minchin
11. Tim Peake
12. Claire Foy
13. Mark Heap
14. Honor Blackman
15. Reginald Bosanquet
16. Anna Ford
17. Louis Armstrong
18. Brenda Blethyn
19. Brian Clough
20. Penelope Wilton

*Alan and Emily Rose*

## Bring and Buy Plant Stall

We are all a bit restricted by the lockdown, but many of us still have our gardens. This year the garden club will not have its usual plant swap and neither will there be a Bathealton Plant Sale.

However Julia has set up a stall in the shop carpark for any spare plants you may have. This might help us to find some of our favourites, or even try something a little different. If you have any extra plants to give away please bring them along. If you find any you would like to grow please take them home.

There is a donation box for contributions towards local food banks and our village churches.

The stall will remain outside the shop for two or three weeks and then it will be moved to Stawley Church. It is hoped that money raised will be some small replacement for the funds usually raised in Morag's May plant sale.

Happy gardening.

*Pauline Wood*

## Stawley Primary School

I don't know how many of you take (and read!) the County Gazette but the edition dated 16th April heralded some great news.

The Headteacher, David Stirzacker, has been nominated for a silver award in the *Teacher of the Year in a Primary School* category in the competition run by the Pearson National Teaching Awards.

David has been the power and influence with the other teachers and support staff in helping Stawley Primary School achieve the top position in performance tables for key stage 2 in 2018 and again in 2019 for the entire county of Somerset. No mean feat considering the quality of the opposition!

The Pearson National Teaching Awards were founded in 1998 with a view to establishing and bringing into recognition very exceptionally high standards of teaching throughout the UK .

David is a gentle and inspirational teacher and well respected by all including the staff and the children.

In response to the nomination David said ' It's really lovely to be shortlisted, it was a real surprise with everything that's going on at the moment but it's great news to have some good news like this '.

He goes on to say that the School functions as a 'massive family where everyone chips in and

helps each other out.'

I am sure you will all join with me and wish David all good luck in the competition which will publish their results in October.

*John Hannon,  
Governor,*

*Wellington Area Rural Federation*



Stawley Primary School is part of the Wellington Area Rural Federation (WARF) and the Executive Head is Jacqui Collier. The Federation includes Sampford Arundel School and is currently investigating a further school which is hoping to join us. Stawley currently has over 60 pupils taught in three classes. Both Schools have active pre-school groups.

*Congratulations David.*

*The contact details for the pre-schools are on the back page of this magazine. Eds*

## News from the Local Churches

**Funerals** Funeral resources for those unable to attend a funeral are now available from the church team by email. We can also arrange to leave a 'funeral at home' bag to help you to remember loved ones in the shop or on a doorstep.

### Prayer bags

We have made some bags for families and schools to help children to explore prayer creatively using some simple objects including bubbles, holding crosses, wooden hearts and electric night lights. Ideas for saying thank you for good things, sharing feelings and asking for help and blessings for ourselves and people in need are included. If you email me I can find a way to drop these off locally.

### Developing our communication

The lockdown has encouraged us to experiment with some new ways of growing in faith, worshipping and communicating as a team with one another and the many communities we serve. For years people from all thirteen parishes in the Wellington Team have said we need to improve our communications. A positive legacy from this time of lockdown will, I pray, be a long-lasting improvement in our communications.

### New weekly newsletter

To support the information shared by the church locally in the Parish News and Rev Martin's daily reflections; we now offer a weekly team newsletter and are sending that to the people on our electoral rolls. (This goes to people in the villages of Ashbrittle, Greenham, Bathealton, Kittisford, Stawley, Bradford on Tone, Langford Budville, Nynehead, Runnington, West Buckland, Sampford Arundel, Thorne, Rockwell Green and to the town of Wellington). If you would like to receive it let Rev Martin or myself know and we can add you to the distribution list - which is by email or post.

### Wellington Team Churches YouTube Channel

Put 'Wellington Team Churches' into a YouTube or Google search and you should find it. There are a range of resources here to encourage our prayer life and to share with others. There are also short films explaining more about the support available while in lockdown.

### Wellington Team Churches Facebook page

We have set up this new Facebook page and John Young, Fiona Brown and I are all editors. Many have been interacting with this and sending us pictures and news to share. If you or a family member use Facebook please consider liking the page and following it, as this helps us to then reach more people from the local communities. A Big Thank you to those who have already done this!

Rev Selina Garner  
selina@thegarner.me.uk or 01823 662227

## Face masks

It seems possible that we will be seeing more people wearing face masks in the future. Having personally accepted this, I was spurred into action by a friend who has been making face masks for all of her friends.

I have looked at a number of websites. The two I have found most useful are Masks4all and how to make no sew DIY face mask on YouTube.

There of course lots of options but it maybe that not everyone has internet access, the necessary material, paper or sewing machine to make their own. So I would like to offer to act as a "virtual clearing house" for the sharing of necessary material or skills. For example if you have some material such as old sheets, or you are able to make masks for others or you would like to receive some help then email me and I can try to put people in touch with each other. It should be possible to achieve this without breaking the present restrictions.

Over the next few weeks there will be more information available about what sort of mask to use and when. Until then, it would be great to hear from people who would like to make a start by making their own. Contact me on [Elizabethtaylor@compuserve.com](mailto:Elizabethtaylor@compuserve.com) or phone 01823 673000.

Liz Taylor



*While all the usual garden visits have been postponed, many of our gardens are looking particularly fine this spring. Some members of the Garden Club have shared photos and we have included some of them here.*

Eds

## On Being English

This may be the first of another series of occasional pieces in which I shall be contentious, perhaps even outrageous.

Please tell me *martincjacoby@gmail.com* where you disagree, *and why*, so that I can learn. Here we go:

Being English is an attitude of mind. It has nothing to do with skin colour or dialect – though some individuals may harbour such hypocritical prejudices. Hypocritical because we are genetically a pack of mongrels. It is our behaviour that unites us.

There is little trace of the first people to reach these islands by walking across the plain that is now the English Channel. Then there was only a strip of habitable land south of a line between what are now Bristol and London. The line was an ice cliff – the edge of a sheet that covered much of the northern hemisphere.

Ten thousand years later Julius Caesar sailed up the Channel and found an island race of woad-stained savages. He called them *pretani* – painted ones, hence ‘Britain’. The Romans stayed for 400 years, then those who could went home to Rome, taking their army with them. They would, wouldn’t they – the shirkers who had always looked to Rome as a higher authority than allegiance to each other. It was Henry VIII who made the final break, a millennium later.

### **Thinking we are English**

So what is this attitude of mind that defines us as being English? Going right back, we owe it indirectly to the Huns. (We owe them quite a lot, and not just for the outrages of 1914-1918 and 1940-1945.) In about 370 AD this war-like Asiatic people swept into Europe. I have imagined a scenario in which the foundations of Englishness were laid down during this invasion.

Imagine an agricultural village on what is now the northwest coast of Germany. Being on the continent, there was little to stop foreign armies marching into their parish, stealing the food and, well, let’s not go into detail. Anyway, the chairman of the PCC, or whatever, parleyed with the invaders’ commanding officer who was showing signs of wanting to stay, and explained, “See here, we have been overrun by Swedes, Vikings, Romans, Finns, Prussians, Russians and now you Huns. You are the last straw; we are off. Have the land – it is only infertile glacial sand anyway. We hear that the Romans have just quitted Britain, and the land there is good. And we won’t have to pay protection money, sorry, taxes, to anyone. Good bye.”

So three tribes, Saxons, Angles and Jutes, who lived along the northwest coast of what we now call Germany and Denmark, gathered their goods and chattels, sheep, cattle and geese, and took ship across the water to a land teeming with game in open forests, and deep fertile soil. They encountered little resistance from the Britons whose Roman protection had gone. The Jutes settled Kent and the Isle of Wight, and shared Surrey and Hampshire with the Saxons. The Saxons settled Sussex, Wessex, Middlesex and Essex (south, west, middle and east), and the Angles East Anglia. Two other tribes living on the Channel coast, the Frisians and the Franks stayed where they were, the Frisians becoming Dutch and the Franks spreading south to give their name to France.

As a child in east Sussex, I remember the strong Kentish dialect, and heard it said that Danish or Frisian fisherman who put into the ports of Kent did not need an interpreter. It wasn’t until several hundred years after the Jutish invasion that other Danes settled in northwest Britain. The southern Jutes are a shadowy clan and soon faded out of history. Meanwhile, the Angles and the Saxons who had settled in Britain found themselves no longer on a continent open by road to every chancer with an army. Instead, they were on an island protected to the south and the east by sea, and to the north and west by tribes of Britons who couldn’t even agree with each other that the Anglo-Saxons were a common enemy.

The Anglo-Saxons brought with them their German dialect and referred to their newly acquired territory as Angles’-land or England and the inhabitants as English. The few Britons who resented the immigrants skirmished under a succession of minor leaders whose exploits accreted into the legends of King Arthur. The majority became absorbed into the main population or sought refuge in Wales and Cornwall, whose poor acid soils held little attraction for the invaders.

### **English compromise and Common Law**

I like to think that, with so much environmental wealth to share, it made more sense to the English to negotiate with each other over petty matters – usually land-rights – rather than draw swords. If two men failed to agree over a difference, public opinion pushed them to appoint someone they both trusted to judge the grievance for them. The judges considered evidence and decisions in previous cases and sought the assistance of unbiased citizens. By the end of the tenth century, twelve men were regularly sitting in judgement on their equals in English courts.



As issues became more serious, disputants went to more powerful arbitrators. Judgements in lesser courts were passed upwards until they reached the highest court in the land, which was the King. A body of law accumulated in this way inevitably reflects the underlying ambitions of the people, and that, above all else, was to safeguard their personal freedom. Freedom from oppression by neighbours, by officials and by foreign powers. It was the law of the common citizen; it was Common Law, and it has been described as England's greatest gift to the world.

### **Roman Law**

It is likely that the Romans had brought to Britain a different kind of law. They had been at war for most of their history and, while fighting, there is no time to chat about the rights and wrongs of individuals' claims. Victory in war is achieved by instant obedience. Roman Law was designed by officers to control the people they commanded, not to protect their freedoms. English Common Law was created by many judgements in many cases, and many people had thought about the wording and its implications. Only after such extensive trial and consideration were judgements treated as creating a precedent and engrossed in the law of the land. Roman Law was created and refined by only a few people on its way to the statute book. Roman or Civil Law – law designed to control people rather than protect their freedom – was the basis of law in the Roman Empire. It has persisted in continental Europe, and is deeply engrained in Scots Law but only lightly infused English Law until November 1993 when the Treaty of European Union was signed. We left that Union this year.

So deeply did Common Law become embedded in the English view of their personal freedom that even King William I, who had just conquered England by force of arms, was forced to swear an oath at his coronation that he would uphold it. He knew that had he not done so, the country would have been ungovernable.

### **The Norman Conquest**

Before the Norman conquest, English society was based on the yeoman farmer owning his hide of land and owing allegiance to no one under the King. The 'three estates' of feudal society: nobility, clergy and peasantry, were poorly developed in 11<sup>th</sup> century England – King Harold often worked in the fields at harvest. After the conquest, William the Conqueror rewarded the men who had supported him by dispossessing the English land owners and giving their land to his knights, often making them Barons. The Normans' main legacy to England was the class system based on breeding.

The French Kings of England were also kings of various bits of France, and their loyalty was to their homeland. They ruled England as a colony, milking it

for taxes to finance the almost perpetual wars between families vying for the crown. However, many of the Norman barons married English women who brought up their children as English and spoke English in preference to their husbands' French.

One hundred and fifty years after the conquest, some of the anglicised barons presented King John with *Magna Carta*, that quintessentially English document, demanding relief from pernicious taxes and the restoration of English freedoms – admittedly, only to them and not to the bulk of English people.

### **The English Language**

Even though the Normans gave us many words of more direct Latin origin, the language of the English emerged from 300 years of foreign occupation, unscathed in *The Canterbury Tales*. With a vocabulary that is hugely enlarged from many other tongues, and a grammar much simplified from the original German, English grew into the richest, most flexible and beautiful language in the world. Small wonder that it is the most widely used but a pity that it is also so widely abused – mostly by people trying to hide their ignorance of it. [A minor indoor sport is to count how often you hear BBC spokespersons\* use the word 'epicentre'. I suspect that they think it is a contraction of 'epic-centre', meaning a VERY BIG AND IMPORTANT centre, and hoping that what they are talking about rubs off onto them. In fact, the prefix 'epi' means 'on top of', and 'epicentre' is a precise geological term meaning 'the point on the surface of the Earth immediately above an earthquake.']

### **The Oath of Allegiance**

As I said above, the monarch was the final court of appeal and so represented the law, which was the Common Law of England. Swearing an oath of loyalty to the monarch was swearing to uphold the Common Law. Anyone who refused to swear such an oath signalled that his allegiance lay outside the Law, so was highly suspect. The oath was sworn, not to a woman in her nineties, nor to a man in his seventies or thirties but to the institution of Monarchy and the rule of law.

In my view, every citizen ought to swear such an oath. In addition, all members and employees of the great institutions of state: the legislature, the judiciary, the police, the armed forces, the civil service and the church should also do so. There should be no exceptions, especially on grounds of religion. And the penalties for breaking the oath at least eye-watering.

*Martin Jacoby*

\* *spokesperson* – a wonderfully horrible word that never fails to conjure up in me the image of someone with a brush kneeling beside a bicycle wheel. I offer a small prize for the worst collection of other examples.

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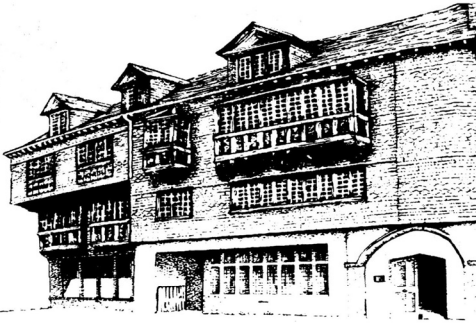


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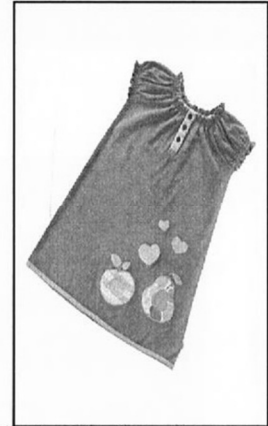
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## Editorial Policy

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](mailto:Joanne.jeffery@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

**PCSO Louise Fyne** 6945 Tel:07889 659476  
[Louise.fyne@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:Louise.fyne@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

### Parish Councils

**Ashbrittle Chairman** Charles Doble 01823 672365 / 672618  
email [charles.doble@ukgateway.net](mailto:charles.doble@ukgateway.net)

**Bathealton Chairman** Charles Eustice 01823 401248

**Stawley Chairman** Paul Musgrove 01823 672627  
email: [stawleypc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stawleypc@yahoo.co.uk) [www.stash.org.uk](http://www.stash.org.uk)

### Community Halls

#### Appley Pavilion and Recreation Field

– to book, ring Suzette Williams on 01823 672266 or  
email: [williamspsfa@outlook.com](mailto:williamspsfa@outlook.com)

#### Ashbrittle Village Hall

– to book, ring Pat Gainey on 01823 672760

#### Bathealton Village Hall

– to book, ring Tilly Willis on 01984 624459

### 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  
Becky Hurd on 01984 623006 to find out more.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

**Editors:** Maurice Stanbury 01823 672216 and Julia Swan 01823 672102 e-mail address: [ashparishnews@btinternet.com](mailto:ashparishnews@btinternet.com)

**Treasurer:** Wendy Spackman 07545 967386

**Distribution:** Graham Henson 01823 672496

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

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## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**All events previously advertised have been cancelled or postponed**

**Events below will be kept under review by the  
organisers and further information will be given  
in the June Issue of the Parish News**

***June***

6th

Stawley Fete and Garden Party at Stawley Mill

***September***

13th

Stawley Flower and Produce Show, Appley Pavilion



**Next Deadline Date: Friday 22nd May 2020  
Editors Maurice and Julia**