



November 2020

From about 1965

PARISH NEWS

November 2020

For the Parishes of ASHBRITTLE with GREENHAM, BATHEALTON, STAWLEY and KITTISFORD

Services

Sunday November 1st All Saints Day Parish Communion 9.30 a.m. Stawley Sunday November 8th **Remembrance Sunday** Service of Remembrance 10.45 a.m. Ashbrittle Sunday November 15th 2nd Sunday before Advent 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion Kittisford Sunday November 22nd Christ the King Parish Communion 9.30 a.m. Bathealton Sunday November 29th **Advent Sunday** Parish Communion 9.30 a.m. Greenham

Thank you to everyone who helped decorate our churches so beautifully for our Harvest Festivals last month. Although, due to social distancing, we were not able to worship in the same numbers as in previous years, we did manage "to make a joyful noise unto the Lord"!

We have had a substantial amount of discussion regarding Remembrance Sunday this year and the possibilities permitted under the current restrictions. As the churches of Bathealton and Ashbrittle are the two largest in the group and as the Remembrance Service was held at the former in 2019, this year, we shall be at Ashbrittle at 10.45 a.m.

It is to be hoped that this will be an outdoor service in the churchyard (weather permitting) but if wet, we should be able to accommodate safely some 40 members of the congregation indoors. Everyone is most welcome to join us at that service.

Alternatively, I feel sure that there will be An Act of Remembrance on the BBC, albeit rather different from previous years.

Churchwardens and Clergy

Ashbrittle	with Greenham Charles Doble, The Old Rectory, Ashbrittle, TA21 0LQ David Hanks, Manley House, Ashbrittle, TA21 0LE	01823 672365 01823 672436			
Bathealtor	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 Graham Henson, Court Place Farm, Stawley, TA21 0HP	01823 672183 01823 672496			
Associate Priest Revd Martin Beaumont, Hilltop, Milverton TA4 1JR 01823 400127					
Lay MinisterElaine McNicholas, School House, Bathealton, TA4 2AN01984 624428					
Team RectorRevd Tim Treanor, The Rectory, 72 High Street, Wellington01823 662248					
Missioner and Team VicarRevd Selina Garner, The Vicarage, 2 Rockwell Green, Wellington. Email: selina@thegarners.me.uk01823 662227					

Thought for the Month

At one stage in my rather idiosyncratic ministry, I found myself the Senior Chaplain of Tonbridge School in Kent. It was a very happy time for both Ruth and me, not least because from time to time we were invited to join parties of boys and staff on trips, both at home and abroad.

All of these expeditions were memorable in their own ways and not always for the right reasons; as those of you who have accompanied such trips will readily attest! However, on two occasions I was asked to travel with a small group of first year pupils and their history teachers to the First World War battlefields in France and Belgium.

Tonbridge School had lost hundreds of former pupils in the 1914-18 conflict (415 killed according to school records, about the size of the school at the time) and many of them were buried in the graves we visited. As a group, it was both moving and educational to stand in the presence of a fallen soldier who had lived, worked and played in the same buildings, classrooms and on playing fields as the pupils of the twenty first century.

One of these Old Tonbridgian fallen was buried in a mass grave at Mansel Copse, just outside the village of Mametz.

On the first of July 1916, Mametz was captured from the Germans at a tragic cost to human life. A hundred and fifty-nine men of the 8^{th} and 9^{th} Battalions the Devonshire Regiment were killed. many by a single machine gun, located at the foot of a village crucifix. They had advanced towards the village from a trench in the copse and in death, their bodies were returned to that same trench by the survivors for burial by the Padre of the regiment. They erected a wooden board (since replaced by a permanent memorial) which simply said, "The Devonshires held this trench, the Devonshires hold it still". The regiment was withdrawn at the end of July after suffering one thousand, one hundred and thirty-seven casualties. That experience reminded me that behind the vast numbers and names of the dead in wars, there lie individuals with their own history and personal experience.

One of those individuals is Private William H Harcombe, who lies in a private grave maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission in Ashbrittle churchyard. He too was a member of the 8th Battalion the Devonshires. He had enlisted at the outbreak of the war in August 1914, was wounded in the same fighting around Mametz during the Battle of the Somme, and he died of those wounds on the 31st of July 1916, aged 19, in the Mile End Military Hospital in London. Private Harcombe's mother, Jane, lived at Rowcliffe Cottages in Ashbrittle village, where he was repatriated to be buried. His gravestone has the inscription 'I have fought the good fight' and his brother, Frederick, later commissioned the fine oak Font Cover in the church in memory of his brother and their mother, who died on the eve of the Second World War in June 1939.

I would be grateful to receive any other information about Private Harcombe, or indeed Private Bertie J Parsons of the Royal Army Medical Corps, son of Mr & Mrs James & Elizabeth Parsons, who died in Bath on 13th August 1920, aged 31. Bertie served in 2nd/1st Wessex Field Ambulance, not a vehicle, but a unit of the RAMC responsible for casualty evacuation from immediately behind the front line to the Main Dressing Stations, where triage and immediate life saving surgery would be conducted. Bertie is also buried at Ashbrittle, his grave marked by the standard Commonwealth War Graves Commission Portland stone headstone with the inscription 'thy will be done' The circumstances of Bertie's death are not known, and sources conflict on whether he served in France/Flanders or not.

Please join us on Sunday November the 8th at 10.45 for a Remembrance Service when these two men and so many others will be remembered with gratitude.

The service will be held outdoors (weather permitting) with the usual social distancing precautions in place.

As with many other services and occasions, we will do the best we can to keep the memory of the fallen in our minds, despite the current restrictions and concerns.

With my best wishes,

Martin Beaumont

Christmas Trees Meadow Farm, Greenham

Our Norway Spruce and Nordmann trees have grown and we are ready to harvest them for Christmas for donations to Kittisford Church. The Nordmanns range from 4' to 12' and the Norway Spruce from 9' to 14', but of course you can always trim them down. We are planning to have them dug out from Tuesday 1st December. If you would like to choose your tree before that and put your name on it, please let us know.

Be prepared to bring a spade and dig the tree out yourself. Children and strong young people very welcome.

> Annie and Paul Musgrove, musy@cantab.net 01823 672627



Latest news, Developments and AGM

10Radio has continued to broadcast throughout the pandemic restrictions - largely through home recorded programmes but now, gradually reopening the studio to bring "live" broadcasts. These include the daily breakfast shows, community updates and noticeboard to keep people abreast of news and information in and around the Wiveliscombe, Wellington and the Ten Parishes. There is also the weekly Home Service which brings an act of Christian worship into people's front room, either through the radio on 105.3 FM on Sundays at 10.00am (repeated Wednesday 11.00 am) or, at any time, through the internet via www.10Radio.org. We are also, shortly, going to trial broadcasting "live" from churches in the Ten Parishes area starting with the service on Remembrance Sunday (Sun 8th November) from St Andrew's Church. Wiveliscombe.

Like many organisations, 10Radio is challenged by how to bring together people for committee and annual general meetings (AGMs) as well as to plan for the way ahead. This year, 10Radio's AGM will be held on Thursday 12th November It will not only be conducted at 7.00 pm. virtually on Zoom, but, for the very first time, it will broadcast live over the radio. This means that anyone interested in hearing or contributing to discussions about what has been achieved in the past year, what our plans are for the future and how everyone can be a part of them are welcome to join in. In particular we shall be discussing how 10Radio plans to adjust for the future as the pandemic continues, how we will be seeking charitable status for the station and taking a fresh look at the programme schedule.

If you are interested in participating in the AGM or indeed feel you would like to contribute to the many opportunities which 10Radio has for budding presenters, producers, editors, reporters, backroom assistants, technically and in many other ways, please contact Andrew Norris at *revandrew@10Radio.org*.

Andrew Norris. Chair, 10radio

Stawley Parish Council

Stawley Parish Council will be holding a virtual meeting on Zoom at 7:30pm on the 2^{nd} November 2020. The Agenda for the meeting will be available on the website at *www.stash.org.uk* from the 28^{th} October 2020. This meeting will be open to all members of the Parish.

If you wish to join the meeting please send an e -mail to the Clerk at *stawleypc@cantab.net* before midday on the 1st November 2020. If you have any queries about this please contact the Clerk at any time.

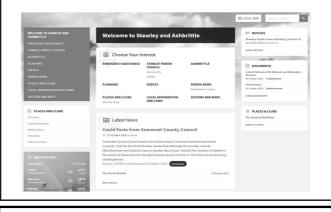
Paul Musgrove, Clerk

Stash.org.uk

The website for the civil parishes of Stawley and Ashbrittle has recently been re-built in order to be more compatible for tablets and phones. It contains information about the Parish Councils as well as the schools and some of our clubs and societies.

It can be expanded to reflect everything that is happening in our community. Please take a look and send any suggestions on improvements or other things which can be added to *stawleypc@cantab.net*.

www.stash.org.uk

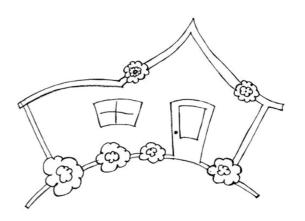


Parish News Donations

Many thanks to Mr and Mrs David Pearce Mr and Mrs A Rose and for the anonymous donations left in Stawley Village Shop.

Donations may be left at the Village Shop or sent directly to the treasurer: Andrew Millard Barton Barn, Kittisford, Wellington TA21 0RZ

Stawley Village Shop & Tea Room



November 2020 update

Your local Community Shop for bread, milk, newspapers, groceries, wine, beer, local produce, pasties, pies and lots more!

New! We now have a new chiller to store and display vegetables, salad and soft fruit Unfortunately, current restrictions mean we cannot offer the Tearoom service, but hot baps, panini and toasties are available to take away

Please be aware that if any of our shop workers test positive for COVID-19 the shop would close immediately, without notice, for a 14 day period

Come and support your local shop during these difficult times - we have increased our range and amount of stock to help you! Deliveries available by arrangement

We are Open:

Monday to Friday 8 am to 5.30 pm Saturdays 8 am to 2 pm Sundays 9 am to 11 am

Post Office services available Thursdays 11.30 am to 1.30 pm Phone us on 01823 674361 or 672473 email shop@stawleyshop.com

Spark Somerset



Spark Somerset is a county INSPIRING COMMUNITIES wide charity which supports communities and volunteering in Somerset. I have just joined the spark team as a Community Development Worker with a particular focus on supporting community led groups established during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Those who do not know about our organisation please take a look at our website www.sparksomerset.org.uk and our dedicated page for groups supporting people during the pandemic https://sparksomerset.org.uk/covid-19. Sandra Smith

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 9th December

New members always welcome

Country matters

Endymion

A thing of beauty is a joy for ever: Its loveliness increases; it will never Pass to nothingness, but will keep A bower quiet for us, and a sleep Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing. Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing A flowery band to bind us to the earth, Spite of despondence, of the human dearth Of noble natures, of the gloomy days, Of all the unhealthy and o'er darkened ways Made for our searching: yes, in spite of all, Some shape of beauty moves away the pall From our dark spirits

John Keats

Late September: Most of our summer visiting birds have flown south: but the second clutches of house martins are still around. On a lane around Greenham there was quite a flock of them just before the weekend storm arrived. There are few mysteries left, but here is one, where do house martins go in winter? It is believed they migrate beyond the Sahara. Attempts to attach geolocators to them have failed, because even the smallest tracking devices are too heavy for them to bear. Only one ringed house martin has been recovered South of the Sahara, in Nigeria. There is some speculation that they winter on the wing high in the sky, but who knows. We will have to wait until March/April to know how the migrants got on.

The late flowers of the hedgerows have been seen more this year, because of the lack of cutting. Meadowsweet is still in flower on damp ditches and hedgerows. Its creamy flowers are held in clusters and can be over one metre tall. They smell of honey and were used to flavour mead and called "mead sweet". The crushed leaves were used as an insect repellent. It contains high levels of salicylic acid, used in aspirin and many herbal remedies.

Early October: The rain has brought out a lot of fungi. I found a giant puffball the other day about the size of a football growing among nettles. They can grow to a sixty inch circumference. Another fungus to be seen was the shaggy ink cap, or lawyer's wig; the white caps are ridged with scales which resemble judges' wigs. This species dispenses its spores in an unusual way - it dissolves itself (autodigestion), and liquifies into a sticky black mush, which flies and insects sip and

thereby disperse the spores.

Now the leaves are falling it is easier to spot nuthatches. These birds live their whole lives within a mile of the tree where they were born. They have warm apricot coloured under-parts, and when they descend the tree you can see the smoky blue-black eye liner.

Look out for our winter visitors coming from Northern Europe, field fares and redwings and a surprising number of blackbirds.

This year is apparently called a 'Mastipear' because it is so fruitful – the last one was 2017 in Britain. I needed a hard hat walking the canal with acoms bombing me!

Sally Merrett

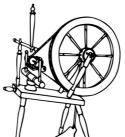
Fabric wanted

Dear readers, do you have some lightweight woven fabric and or thread, unwanted hidden away at home you would be able to donate. I am making masks for refugees and Mastectomy drain bags for Exeter Hospital using printed cotton or polycotton. I live in Tracebridge and can collect or you can drop it off.

Please contact me *jo@urbanchintz.com* tel 01823 672109. Or if you want to join me in making these items I am happy to supply the pattern and instructions.

Many Thanks,

Jo Kidd



Spinning and Woolcraft Group

With the COVID-19 restrictions and the now cooler weather, we are planning to continue the fortnightly meetings, but on Zoom. As you know, this

method of communication is very popular, and has worked well for the Spinning and Woolcraft Group so far. So if you would like to join in, please contact me, and I will add you to the list.

And we still have plenty of lovely Shetland fleeces available for free!

Next Sessions: Tuesdays 3rd and 17th November at 2.30pm

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

Defibrillators and Helplines

Would you know what to do if someone in your household collapsed, had a heart attack, needed help? Within this community, we have four DEFIBRILLATORS which are available to anyone and they are easy to use by anyone. Quick access to a defibrillator really can save a life.

They 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.lyricist

Stawley Shop, on outside wall

messaging.servers.quaking

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

(If you are not yet familiar with //what3words, look it up on your phone. The whole world is divided into 3m squares each with a unique 3 word identity so you can always be found. Most emergency services are now using it and even some delivery companies)

We also have a network of volunteers who can help you. This is the:

VILLAGE EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM (VETS)

Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS)

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 AND, IF A CHANCE ARISES THEN DIAL THE VETS NUMBER SPECIFYING THAT YOU NEED A DEFIB RATHER THAN GENERAL HELP

Coronavirus update from Somerset County Council

All our help and information is now **available in a single place** on the SCC website *https://www.somerset.gov.uk/coronavirus/covid-19-latest-advice/*

The NHS Test and Trace Support Payment scheme is now open for eligible Somerset residents if you are told to self-isolate after testing positive for Coronavirus or are contacted by the NHS Test and Trace service and cannot work from home. More details from:

https://www.somerset.gov.uk/coronavirus/covid-19-test-and-trace-support-payment/

A Farming Diary

An A-maizing Crop

The last month has been very busy on the farm. The early part of autumn was fairly dry and warm which allowed the maize crop to ripen much earlier than usual this year. We decided to harvest the crop at the end of September. Our local contractor was phoned and with his forager, four tractors and trailers we made a start. Heavy rain was forecast that night and with last year's battle of the Somme still fresh in our minds, we worked all day and late into the evening to finish bringing the crop in. The tractors and trailers didn't carry any mud out onto the roads and there was even a bit of dust flying.

The following day the wind and rain came as forecast, and we had to do everyones least favourite job - covering the clamp. First you have to roll out a thin plastic film over the clamp, an easy job when it is calm, but in a force ten gale, with several hundred square feet of plastic billowed in the air like a sail, it is very difficult to keep it in place. A second sheet of black plastic is then rolled on top, with the same dramatic result. Then comes the really messy job of putting several hundred old car, lorry and tractor tyres on top to weigh the whole lot down. This keeps the sheets in place stops rain entering the clamp and makes an airtight seal so that the chopped maize can ferment, which stops the silage spoiling. The tyres are usually filled with stagnant rain water, which flies out when you throw them up onto the clamp, soaking yourself and anyone nearby. If vou do happen to find a dry tyre, you then have the added danger of a nesting rodent jumping out at you. There was one very large rat that we saw several times. We named it Basil, from an episode of a famous sit com set in a Torquay Hotel, or maybe what was we saw one of Manwells pedigree Siberian Hamsters! After four hours we were all soaked to the skin and very dirty and smelly, but relieved that it was done for another year.

We have been growing maize for twenty-eight years and, like most farmers in the area, probably had our best ever crop. It filled the clamp to the brim, and we even managed to cultivate the stubble and drill some grass seed for next year's grass silage.

We have sold several beef bullocks through Sedgemoor market, with the trade being very good, so they sold well.

The younger cattle have now come into the sheds for the winter, with the older ones hopefully staying out for the moment, to eat the grass which has grown fantastically well this autumn. The maize in the clamp has already been included in the milking cows diet, which they all seem to enjoy. I am starting to roll back the plastic sheets and take off a few tyres. The water in the tyres is not too bad but Basil and his friends are still capable of giving me a nasty surprise on a dark morning.

Derek Greenway.

Mobile Library Greenham Bridge from 10.00 to 10.30 on: Tuesday 10th Nov Tuesday 8th Dec

Browsing in the Library van is not allowed. To pre-order books email: *Librariesmail@somerset.gov.uk* Or phone: 03001 232 224



Quaker Meeting for Worship Spiceland Quaker Meeting Uffculme

We meet for Worship at Spiceland Meeting House and on Zoom at 10.30am every Sunday.

We know, with vaying degrees of acceptance into awareness, our own weaknesses, and there is a tendency to think that others - who seem, on the surface, to be very sure and confident - do not struggle in the way we do. But many of those who appear to cope and be strong and tireless are indeed very different behind their masks. We are all wounded; we all feel inadequate and ashamed; we all struggle. But this is part of the human condition; it draws us together, helps us to find our connectedness.

June Ellis 1986

Quaker faith and practice 21.14

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

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) https://www.quaker.org.uk/

Christmas craft workshops

Learn new skills and create beautiful handmade cards, decorations and gifts Enjoy a morning or afternoon session in a stunning studio in Stawley

Saturday 14th November 9.30am-12.30pm £35

Needle-felted Christmas tree decorations

Discover this absorbing craft and make adorable decorations for your tree

Sunday 15th November 10am-1pm £35 Lino-cut Christmas cards

Learn basic lino cutting and printing skills to create your own special cards

Saturday 21st November 9.30am-12.30pm £35 Natural Christmas tree decorations Use natural materials and woodland finds to make beautiful ornaments

> Sunday 22nd November 10am-1pm £40 Stitch a special stocking



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Sew a stunning festive stocking using a number of different stitching techniques Saturday 28th November 9.30am-12.30pm £35 Felt jewellery-making

Felt jewellery-making Create gorgeous bracelets, necklaces or earrings that make perfect Christmas gifts

Saturday 28th November 2pm-5pm £35

Creative Christmas cards Learn paper marbling, stamping & brush lettering skills to create unique cards

Sunday 29th November 10am-1pm £40

Sew a Christmas cushion cover Give your sofa a fun festive update with an embroidered, appliquéd cushion

Price includes all materials and delicious homemade refreshments Maximum class sizes of four (plus tutor) to allow for social distancing

For more information or to book a place on a workshop please contact Anna-Lisa on 07702 407747 or email mycraftycountrylife@gmail.com One-to-one and weekday workshops are also available, please call to discuss.

HUNNY! Book now Places are limited

Gardening Club

With the year moving on, our Gardening Club activities and outings are drawing to a close. We have just one more event, Julia Swan's Christmas Decoration Workshops on 6th and 7th December. COVID-19 restrictions permitting, Julia will go ahead with these, although they will be arranged differently, please see Julia's poster in this issue for further details.

To help you through the potential boredom of not being able to get into your gardens quite as much as you might like, we have come up with another Gardener's Twenty Questions. We hope these keep you occupied for at least ten minutes!

Not much else to say, but keep happy and healthy in the coming months.

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 and Sue

Gardening Club Christmas Workshop

Making decorations for Christmas Friday 11th or Saturday 12th December, 10 am - 4 pm in Appley

In the hope that the regulations will allow, I am planning to arrange a series of workshops of 1½ hours for a maximum of 3 people (and me). We will be widely spaced around the table and using our own secateurs. Booking essential.

If there are more people wanting to attend I may be able to open another session, so please book early. If you would prefer to collect a box of materials from me and then learn what to do on *Zoom* please let me know.

Refreshments Materials £6, plus donations to UNICEF, Stawley Church and our local food banks

For further details and to book call Julia Swan on 672102 or *julia.swan@icloud.com*

Climate Emergency Community Fund

Somerset County Council are making grants for actions that could:

a) Reduce the reliance on car travel locally, encouraging walking, cycling and low carbon transport

b) Community electric car share and charging points

c) Support local sustainable food markets and co-operatives

d) Community Energy Projects

e) Lower energy use in the community (e.g. public buildings)

f) Lower carbon demand and consumption

g) Support biodiversity and ecological adaptation and resilience

h) Carbon capture and storage (including tree planting and other sequestration initiatives)

i) Have demonstrable impact on addressing the human impacts on the climate by affecting behaviour and lifestyle change in local communities and the residents of Somerset

j) Empower the local community to promote a culture of sustainable living

k) Help the environment to mitigate against, and adapt to, the impacts of climate change (e.g. Flood and Water schemes, Hedgerow Planting)

l) Support waste reduction initiatives which assist the local community to reuse and promote products which help reduce consumption

m) Increase local recycling of goods, especially plastic pots, tubs trays and reduces single-use plastics

n) Increase Community composting

The grants are made through Parish Councils and are for sums between $\pounds 5,000$ and $\pounds 75,000$. We have a few ideas to improve the energy usage in the Pavilion but are looking for any other ideas that Parishioners might have to help reduce our carbon footprint. If you have any ideas please contact us through any of the Councillors or me at *stawleypc@cantab.net* or 01823 672627.

Paul Musgrove

Rainfall figures for September (ins)

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
3.44	3.59	2.69	3.59	1.72

Val Coots

The Parish News Cartoons Quiz



With thanks to Alan Rose. Answers on back page

Open all hours Stawley Church

Dedicated to St. Michael and All Angels, Stawley Church dates from the 13th century. It is Grade 1 listed. It has old box pews and its appearance has hardly changed over 500 years.

It has a warm and uplifting atmosphere helpful to prayer and thought. It is said to stand on an old ley line, linked to Glastonbury Tor and Burrow Mump: both those ruined churches were also dedicated to St. Michael and All Angels.

Here are some thoughts arising out of knowing Stawley Church.

Tower across the valley

Among the fields on half-way plateau, Church Cottage homely in its shadow, stands old St. Michael's Church and tower with trees around like sanctum's bower,

where six bells call some Sunday mornings, in Summer gleams and Winter stormings, their echoes round the hills resounding and into hearts and hearths go bounding:

the cows and sheep continue eating, a tractor down a lane goes beating, as in the field the cars come parking, with drivers on the day remarking:

old oak church door is slowly opened and words of welcome warmly spoken, in polished box pews people seated to share the mood down years repeated:

they come to pray and sing their praises how life and world at depth amazes, find much in social order shallow, and human wisdom often callow

that fails when faced with dark diseases, and cannot deal with what displeases, the church is seen as ornamental, and those of faith thought sentimental:

within the church among the meadows, the faith-full sense eternal shadows cast by a Being through creation who births their certain hope's elation:

at end, from pews, down red church carpet, outside they walk in Nature's garment transcending time and space around them, where God-in-Christ has come and found them: back to their homes, their work, their playing, for ever in Christ's Spirit staying, though good and bad is life, his power remains as sound as Stawley's tower.

Martin at the Shop

Gardeners Twenty Questions Round 2

Which flower's name comes from the 1 ancient Greek word for star?

Which plant produces grains used for 2 semolina?

3 To which geographical area is the Poinsettia indigenous?

4 What defines a shrub?

5 Where would you expect to find an epiphytic plant growing?

6 Which yellow flowering garden tree has poisonous seeds?

7 At what intervals can the bark be stripped from a cork oak tree?

8 How would you describe a xeriscape garden?

9 Name the scale used for measuring the heat of chilli peppers.

10 Where would you

expect to find a

Leontopodium growing in the wild?

True or false? Ericaceous plants like acid 11 soil.

12 Which Devon garden is associated with the D'Oyly Carte family?

13 In which Spanish city would you find the Generalife Islamic gardens?

14 What is the common name of Hedera helix?

15 What common name was given to Dianthus barbatus to honour the Duke of Cumberland's victory at the battle of Culloden?

16 Who designed the gardens at Hestercombe House, Taunton?

17 'Gillyflower 'was once the name for which flower?

18 Where did Harold and Vita create their garden?

19 What is the common name of Kniphofia?

20 Which Member of Parliament was a recent former owner of Cothay Manor?

> Pauline and Sue Answers on back page





A generous percentage of our proceeds are donated to the Devon Partnership NHS Trust We also support the NHS Staff Discount Scheme

HANK YOU! "Ts&Cs may apply

Three Tsunamis, Three Days

I ended April's column, which was about Covid-19, with this phrase: "... the far greater tragedy that is bearing down upon us in the form of the human population tsunami."

It needs explanation because we are living through the second of three sorts of tsunami.

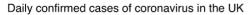
Tsunami – what a sinister word! It means simply 'harbour wave' in Japanese, but it always carries with it the connotation of immense power and destruction, by no means confined to harbours. A wave is simply the rise, peak and fall of numbers of particles as measured against time and place. By 'place' I mean a volume of space. I want to describe tsunamis of three kinds of particle: (i) water molecules, (ii) virus particles and (iii) people, and to learn from what you might have to say about my treatment of the last.

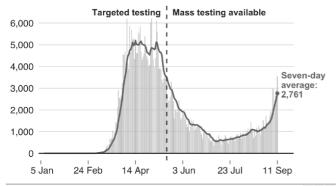
A marine tsunami

A tsunami at sea is usually generated by a submarine earthquake or landslip which may take a few minutes. The shock generates a succession of waves, less than two feet high, that can travel through the sea at up to five hundred miles per hour for hours. When the waves reach shallow water they slow down, increase in height up to a hundred feet, and penetrate inland causing serious damage in only a few minutes. Then the backwash redoubles the destruction. The waves die down as the original energy of the earthquake is dissipated. Clearing up and repairing the damage takes years.

The Covid-19 tsunami

When virus particles compose a tsunami, the timescale is different. It takes years for the genetic instructions coded in the virus to evolve into a form that allows them to bypass the defences of a new host and invade its tissues to cause disease. Given people's normal sociality and that Covid-19 is highly infectious, the overall number of its particles rises quickly until the hosts change their behaviour, develop immunity or die. This deprives the Covid-19 virus of materials and energy, and its population declines.





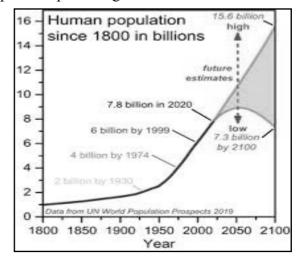
Source: Department of Health and Social Care, updated to 11 Sep 09:00 BST BBC

The pattern of virus particle population increasing and then decreasing is very like the approach and passing of a harbour wave.

The human population tsunami

To get a realistic idea of how recent has been our population rise, we ought to start at the beginning of our species, which was about 200,000 years ago. From genetical studies, our population then was probably less than 10,000, and confined to the shore of what is now South Africa. Then, with our huge brains, we discovered how to think. It probably began with making tools to kill and butcher the vast herds of grazing mammals and to chase off other predators. Our social organisation, control of fire, tool-making and ability to learn made us a most effective predator, and we quickly spread over the habitable parts of the Earth. Our population is currently about 7.8 billion, and the United Nations predict that it will go on growing: to nearly 16 billion by 2088, after which it will begin to decline they say.

Including historical estimates, the graph of human population plotted against time looks like this:



The future shape of the graph, shaded above, will almost certainly follow other wave patterns and begin to descend. The steepness of our population decline will probably match the rate at which it increased, and that depended on energy. A marine tsunami gets its energy from the initial earthquake, and catastrophe comes to the land when the sea dissipates that energy on it. A tsunami composed of virus particles gathers its energy from the bodies of its hosts. When the hosts evolve immunity or become rare, catastrophe comes to the virus because the environment no longer supplies the energy it needs. A tsunami composed of individual human beings is similar in that we humans also run out of energy - energy in the form of food and electricity. We can stock-pile food for a few weeks but cannot easily store electricity.

With the human population increasing at 81 million people per year, which equals the population of London every five weeks, there *will*

come a time when farmers, transporters and grocers can no longer feed us; nor can power stations meet demand – especially if the design and construction of them has been sold to a possibly malevolent totalitarian foreign power. Imagine the consequences of an irreparable cut in electricity.

No heating, no light, no telephone, no radio, no TV, no internet; no water – drains and loos backing up, soon no food. What shall we do? We can't do nothing. On the second day, we go out looking for help. There is none. Only 66 million other Britons seeking the same. No police, no army. Someone has borrowed our car, we take another. On the third day, we get to the countryside and find a field of turnips with sheep on it.....

It is the same all over the world. I predict that the next world war will be between the people and the rule of law. It will be interesting to see which side government takes.

Hope? It is still in Pandora's jar, and it needs a majority vote to let it out. But the majority feel that their needs are more important than their neighbour's, and the majority is always right.

There are ways of managing the human population tsunami and they make present Covid-19 regulations and their economic spin-off seem like the height of self-indulgence.

That is what I meant in April by "the far greater tragedy that is bearing down upon us".

Martin Jacoby

News from Stawley School

It's certainly been an interesting year so far – definitely not what anyone was expecting.

Way back in March, when the World went into Lockdown, it may have seemed that the school had closed its doors – nothing could have been further from the truth. The school continued to run, albeit in a slightly more virtual fashion!

Children, parents and staff soon came to grips with new technology and lessons continued to be conducted via Zoom and a variety of other methods. Believe me, teaching a lesson via Zoom is nothing like working with a class of children and interacting with them. To their immense credit, our children embraced this new way of learning and continued to make great progress during the lockdown period. During this time a wide range of activities took place, amongst them, Class 3 children recorded an open letter about climate change on video that was then sent to a climate campaign organiser for 'Teach The Future'. The children were impressed when they received a reply back commending them for the work they had done to highlight climate change.

Whilst all this online learning was taking place, the school set up a crèche/school for children of keyworkers based at Sampford Arundel Primary School. This continued to run until Stawley School began to open its doors once again to certain year groups from June, with other groups continuing their learning online.

I can only say how proud I am of both the children and the staff for the work they continued to produce during this period. It certainly wasn't easy, but everyone certainly rose to the challenge and I fully believe that the children in our school received a much better education during this period than most of the children in the country.

So, are we back to normal yet – no, but as close to normal as we can make it. As you may have noticed, if you've been past the school, the playground has separate zones for each class, so although classes cannot mix, we are still able to retain the family feel to our school by having all the children outside together. Once again, the children have been amazing, adapting to the new way of working and there have even been a few advantages, particularly less congestion in the car park at home time due to flexible pick up times.

The first term back at school has certainly been tiring for everyone, but just as eventful as ever. Our school leavers were able to come back and join us for the leaver's assembly. It was great to see them all after such a long time – they have already grown up so quickly and are enjoying their new schools. It was a real privilege to finally hand out their awards in person. Talking about awards, it was a very humbling experience to receive a Silver Award for Teacher of the Year in a Primary School. The awards are run by Pearson and are usually awarded at a special awards ceremony that is televised – fortunately for me, the television programme couldn't be filmed this year and the ceremony took place at school with my colleagues, pupils, ex pupils, friends and family – much more fitting!

Thank you to everyone who has passed on their congratulations, it has been great to hear from so many past pupils and families. It just shows what a family Stawley School is and I feel immensely lucky and proud to be a part of it.

David Stirzaker

Stawley Mill Happenings

Local Arts, Crafts and Gifts

1st and 3rd Saturday of each month

November quiz

1 In what year were the remains of Richard the third found under a Leicester car park?

2 Who is the only UK PM to win a Nobel prize? (For literature on 1953)

3 Which classic 1970's TV sitcom set in Torquay was written by John Cleese and Connie Booth?

4 Who succeeded John Bercow as Speaker of the House in 2019?

5 Which is England's longest beach, stretching 18 miles, located on the south coast?

6 What are the two main ingredients of Hollandaise sauce?

7 The duck billed platypus is native to what country?

8 Name the group of 70 plus islands situated off the North coast of Scotland.

9 Which Bristol based film studio produced 'Chicken Run', the highest grossing stop-motion film of all time?

10 Which Austrian tennis player won the men's singles title in the 2020 US open?

11 Name the two brothers credited with being the first to invent, build and fly the worlds first motor operated airplane in 1903.

12 Who played Geraldine Granger in The Vicar of Dibley?

13 What is a group of rooks called?

14 Bogota is the capital of which South American country?

15 What is another name for the Rowan Tree?

16 Which SNP MP has recently been in trouble for travelling the length of the country twice whilst she had Covid-19?

17 Which four counties have borders with Dorset?

18 Which Italian football manager led Leicester City to the Premier League title in the 2015/2016 season?

19 Who is currently believed to be Britain's wealthiest individual with a fortune estimated at $\pounds 16.2$ billion?

20 Helen McCrory, 'Peaky Blinders' Polly, plays the PM in which new BBC drama?

21 Name the sole surviving tea clipper, preserved at Greenwich.

22 Which classic novel from 1937 features the characters George Milton and Lennie Small?

23 Which athlete holds the women's world 100 metre record (10.49 seconds) set in 1988?

24 Until approximately 35 years ago, almost all the world's Alpacas were to be found in which South American country? 25 Which word is spelled incorrectly in every single dictionary?

With thanks to Alan Rose Answers on the back page

Harvest Festival in Ashbrittle

A good number of locals gathered in the Church which had "scrubbed up" well and looked very much the part with apples by the dozen, squashes, pumpkins, flowers and a sheaf of corn which were all displayed most beautifully in the mellow autumn sunshine streaming through the beautiful church windows.

Thank you to all those who gave their time to clean, decorate and generously provide produce.

The Revd. Martin Beaumont presided with his usual enthusiasm, the congregation needed no encouragement when it came to singing two Harvest hymns, singing in church these days is a bit of a novelty!

The Service was followed by tea, coffee, sherry and plates of delicious goodies kindly provided by Susan Kaufmann. This was an opportunity to 'fuel up' for the APCC meeting.

Amongst the topics on the Agenda was the subject of Church Funds. We have lost many services throughout 'lockdown' and the current restraints of the pandemic; therefore regular church collections are low. A decision was taken to invite the parishioners of Ashbrittle (and beyond) to contribute to the fabric and maintenance of our church and churchyard. Any donation, whether large or small, is most welcome as some major repair work will be necessary in the near future. Please consider donating via a BACS transaction using the following details:

Sort code 30-98-45. Account number 01828489. For cash, cheque, card or Paypal transactions. please contact the Chairman of Ashbrittle with Greenham P.C.C. *ajja19@ukgateway.net* or telephone 01823 672365

A warm welcome awaits anyone who would like to attend services or to join in with our friendly church-supporting community, whether it be flower arranging, church cleaning or attending any of our other activities throughout the year!

Sarah Royal



Photo: Susan Kaufmann



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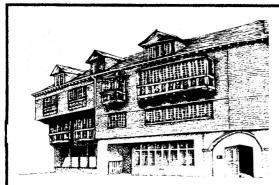
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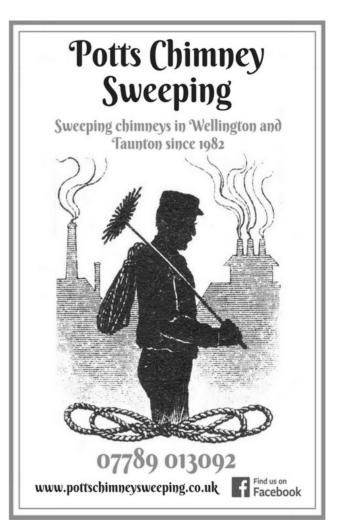
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Local Information

Neighbourhood Watch Contact Numbers

Police-non-emergency number 101				
Springrove Doreen Orton 01823 400731				
Outer Bathealton	Carol Weir	01984 623565		
Bathealton & Poleshill	Terry McNicholas	01984 624428		
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Ashbrittle	Charles Doble	01823 672365		
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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

AshbrittleChairmanCharles Doble 01823 672365 / 672618Emailcharles.doble@ukgateway.netBathealtonChairmanCharles Eustice 01823 401248StawleyChairmanPaul Musgrove 01823 672627email:stawleypc@yahoo.co.ukwww.stash.org.uk

Community Halls

Appley Pavilion and Recreation Field – to book, ring Suzette Williams on 01823 672266 or email: williamspfa@outlook.com

Ashbrittle Village Hall – to book, ring Pat Gainey on 01823 672760

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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 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 community. 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@gmail.com* when they should be in Microsoft 'Word' format, as this saves a great deal of typing! *Advertising* Our 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 672102e-mail address: ashparishnews@gmail.comTreasurer: Andrew MillardPrinted by Sharper Print Tel 07906 752190Cover Design - Church illustrations derived from originals by the late Diana Willis.Distribution: Pat Sweet 01823 672380

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December

11th and 12th 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Gardening Club Christmas Workshop in Appley

Quiz - Answers

Cartoons:

- 1 Snow White
- 2 Popeye
- 3 Eeyore
- 4 Pink Panther
- 5 Jerry Mouse
- 6 Montgomery Burns
- 7 Wilma Flintstone
- 8 Carl
- 9 Dora the explorer
- 10 Donald Duck
- 11 Betty Boop
- 12 Sylvester
- 13 Fred Flintstone
- 14 Tin Tin
- 15 Tweety
- 16 Dopey
- 17 Elsa
- 18 Roger Rabbitt
- 19 Lisa Simpson
- 20 Yosemite Sam
- 21 Winnie the Pooh

Gardening Quiz

- 1 Aster
- 2 Wheat
- 3 Mexico/Central America
- 4 A plant with multiple woody stems
- 5 On another plant
- 6 Laburnum
- 7 Every 7-9 years
- 8 Drought tolerant
- 9 Scoville
- 10 In the Alps (Edelweiss)
- 11 True

- 12 Coleton Fishacre
- 13 Granada
- 14 Ivy
- 15 Sweet William
- 16 Gertrude Jekyll
- 17 Carnation
- 18 Sissinghurst
- 19 Red hot poker
- 20 Edward du Cann

November Quiz

- 1 2012
- 2 Winston Churchill
- 3 Fawlty Towers
- 4 Sir Lindsay Harvey Hoyle
- 5 Chesil Beach
- 6 Egg yolks and butter
- 7 Australia
- 8 Orkney Islands
- 9 Aardman Animations
- 10 Dominic Thiem
- 11 Orville and Wilbur Wright
- 12 Dawn French
- 13 A Parliament
- 14 Colombia
- 15 Mountain Ash
- 16 Margaret Ferrier
- 17 Somerset, Devon, Wiltshire and Hampshire
- 18 Claudio Ranieri
- 19 James Dyson
- 20 Roadkill
- 21 Cutty Sark
- 22 Of mice and men
- 23 Florence Griffith-Joyner
- 24 Peru
- 25 Incorrectly

Next Deadline Date: Friday 20th November 2020 Editors: Maurice and Julia