

ASHBRITTLE

GREENHAM

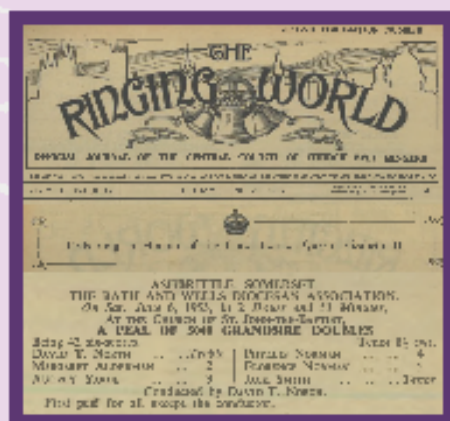
STAWLEY

BATHEALTON

KITTISFORD



Parish news



The Queen's Commonwealth Day Message 2022

“

In these testing times, it is my hope that you can draw strength and inspiration from what we share, as we work together towards a healthy, sustainable and prosperous future for all.

Her Majesty The Queen

”

Golden Jubilee Events

Thursday 2nd June: Beacons from 9.30pm

Friday 3rd June: Jubilee Tea Party: Ashbrittle Village Hall, 3.00 pm
Jubilee Picnic, Appley Pavilion, 6.30 pm

Saturday 4th June: Jubilee Picnic, Stawley Mill, 12.00 - 5.00 pm

Sunday 5th June: Bell ringing and Parish Communion,
at Stawley Church 10.00 am



June 2022

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

Church Services

Sunday June 5th 10.00 a.m. <i>(Please note slightly later start).</i>	PENTECOST (Whitsunday) Parish Communion (with the Village Festival Choir)	STAWLEY
Sunday June 12th 9.30 a.m.	TRINITY SUNDAY Parish Communion	ASHBRITTE
Sunday June 19th 9.30 a.m.	Trinity 1 Parish Communion	KITTISFORD
Sunday June 26th 9.30 a.m.	Trinity 2 Parish Communion	BATHEALTON

The Parish Communion on June 5th is the Sunday of Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

We will be joined by the Village Festival Choir at 10.00 a.m. and there will be refreshments of an appropriately celebratory nature after the service.

Do please join us and make this a part of our community celebrations.

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	Andrew Lyle, Road Hill House, Bathealton, TA4 2AW	01984 629013
	Sarah Eustice, Oakwood, Spring Grove, TA4 1NL	01823 401248
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, Milverton TA4 1JR	01823 400127
Team Rector (interim)	Revd Martin Kirkbride	07746 519311

Thought for the Month

Ruth and I have just returned from a week away in Hertfordshire. We were attending a seventieth birthday party of a friend on the evening of the first Saturday. We stayed on to catch up with other friends that we first encountered almost thirty years ago.

Walking around familiar places that we had not visited in a little while, we were surprised that the buildings and the grounds appeared relatively unchanged. However the children of our friends seemed to have been transformed and become virtually unrecognisable! Infants had become teenagers, adolescents had married and moved away, and even those on the edge of adulthood seemed somehow more substantial!

Easter is approaching its conclusion and it will soon be closely followed by Ascensiontide, Pentecost and the feast of the Trinity. But our celebrations in June sometimes mean that we lose sight of the personal nature of those events two thousand years ago.

After his resurrection, the first disciples of Jesus had been re-united with their friend. However, their relationship with him must have changed. They must have looked at Jesus and seen not just another human being but their Saviour.

In a short period of time, just forty days, the disciples will have been able to re-establish their relationship with Jesus, before he was taken from them once again at the Ascension.

Now, those first disciples would have had only their memories of Jesus, but at the feast of Pentecost, we are told that they received the gift of the Holy Spirit and discovered yet another new relationship with the person whom they believed they had lost forever.

The process of change

Although the passage of time means that other people and ourselves pass through an inevitable process of change, there is much that we can recognise in the personality and affections of others. Those whom we once knew and loved as children, continue to be loveable and recognisable thirty years later. Our adult friends might, like myself, have become fuller and more substantial in appearance but we remain the people whom we first encountered and to whom we were drawn when we first met.

An old friend of mine used to say that, "the only person you can change is yourself". We will find disappointment and disillusion in attempting to change, and inevitably failing.

We may also find the same disappointment and disillusion in attempting various methods of

"self improvement"; in my own experience at least, not a terribly successful enterprise.

I suspect the truth is that only God can change us and the subtle mechanics of that change are often only apparent to others.

When old friends greet us with the words, "you haven't changed at all", I do hope they're wrong!

With my best wishes,

Martin Beaumont

Bathealton Plant Sale

A welcome return of Bathealton Plant Sale was celebrated by glorious sunshine. We have so many people to thank for a most successful day; those who donated an exciting selection of plants, a willing team who erected gazebos, put out tables and chairs, and our wonderful bakers who produced a delicious array of cakes served by our ever busy tea making team.

A marvellous afternoon which produced a final total for the Church of £1,111 which made all our efforts worthwhile.

Morag Berthon

Stawley Church Fete

At last! It was 2:30 pm, and the Stawley Church Garden Party and Fete was officially open. It's been two long years since our last one, and a lot of hard work, preparation and planning went into getting everything ready for this one.

The weather was ideal, and the grounds of Stawley Mill looked magnificent. The visitors came, the tea cups were filled, cakes were sliced, plants, cakes and bric a brac was sold.

Egg shells were turned over, bottles won and the occasional rat was batted. Meanwhile, in an adjacent studio, the price of a book was being haggled over between a potential customer, and a gentleman experienced in the methods of Moroccan markets, in a 'Book Bazaar'.

All perfectly normal activities for this quintessentially English, church fund-raising event.

I am delighted to say that we have made in the region of £1,200, which will go towards our tower restoration fund.

Thank you to everyone who contributed, in whatever way, to making our Garden Party and Fete such a success. We look forward to seeing you all again next year.

Colin Haddrell, Stawley PCC Secretary

COME CELEBRATE!

**PLATINUM
JUBILEE
TEA PARTY**

ALL WELCOME NO CHARGE

**FRIDAY 3RD JUNE 3:00 PM
ASHBRITTLE VILLAGE HALL**

PATRIOTIC DRESS ENCOURAGED (INCLUDING HATS)

LAWN GAMES / PROSECCO

PLATINUM JUBILEE PICNIC
EVENING CELEBRATING 70
YEARS OF OUR QUEEN
FRIDAY 3RD JUNE

FROM 6.30PM
AT APLEY PAVILION

BRING YOUR OWN PICNICS,
PROSECCO BAR AVAILABLE TO
HELP CELEBRATE!

“FREE ENTRY”

CHILL OUT TO
11TH HOUR & ROBERT WEST
WHILE YOU NIBBLE YOUR CRISPS & DIPS.

PATRIOTIC FANCY DRESS (OPTIONAL)
SORRY NO DOGS ALLOWED

Country Matters

Foliage

*Come forth, and let us through our hearts receive
The joy of verdure!—see, the honied lime
Showers cool green light o'er banks where wild-
flowers weave*

*Thick tapestry; and woodbine tendrils climb
Up the brown oak from buds of moss and thyme.*

*The rich deep masses of the sycamore
Hang heavy with the fulness of their prime,
And the white poplar, from its foliage hoar,
Scatters forth gleams like moonlight, with each
gale*

*That sweeps the boughs:—the chestnut flowers
are past,*

*The crowning glories of the hawthorn fail,
But arches of sweet eglantine are cast
From every hedge:—Oh! never may we lose
Dear friend! our fresh delight in simplest nature's
hues!*

Felicia Hemans (1793 - 1835)

Looking back over more than twenty years in this small bit of Somerset, I was thinking about the changes that have taken place. We have been lucky that no big building projects have happened around here. Houses have been extended and farm buildings converted, but there has been no great change.

On the other hand, the natural world is changing. Most of the changes are the loss of birds and mammals. The yellow hammer used to be in the hedges, especially around Greenham and there was a little owl often on a post before the main road. Both are gone, but there are barn owls still around Kittisford and several tawny owls in Appley.

The peregrines are nesting again in Tracebridge quarry and the roe deer are fairly numerous.

On the plus side there are now otters in the River Tone and hopefully the mink are no more. Little egrets and a great egret are nesting by the river, whereas twenty years ago they were unheard of. More and more Canada Geese are around, which were a rare sight and had to be protected when they first arrived in the 1970s.

It is sad not to hear the cuckoos any more, although one was seen in Ashbrittle a week ago. The house martins and swallows are still coming, but in very reduced numbers.

Wild flowers in the hedgerows are really bright this year and with the new regulations restricting verge and hedgerow cutting until later in the year, they should get better and better.

So, over this century things have changed, but slowly. Ash dieback is bad news, but ash does seed and they spread quickly. As it is a fungus which carries the disease and not a beetle (like the one that killed the elm trees), perhaps it will not decimate the landscape.

Two things have got bigger and bigger - potholes and tractors!

I hope that the next twenty years will see this small bit of Somersst flourish and not change too much.

Thanks for reading my notes - I am running out of poems.

Sally Merrett

We shall miss you when you leave us shortly - Eds

Rainfall Statistics

April				
2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
4.59	3.08	1.43	0.71	1.42

Val Coots

Stawley Church Coffee Morning

A very successful Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy was held at the Old Rectory, Stawley on April 28th.

Our thanks go to Michael and Judy Milne and family, for once again inviting us into their lovely home and to all our supporters who came along to make it a very enjoyable occasion. The Church funds benefited by £303.20.

Graham Henson, Church Warden

Beat surgery
at
**Stawley Village Shop and
Tearoom**



15th June

From 9.00 - 10.00am
with PCSO 6945 Louise Fyne

AVON AND SOMERSET CONSTABULARY

Working together to make the communities of
Avon and Somerset feel safe and be safe

www.avonandsomerset.police.uk

JUBILEE PICNIC



AT STAWLEY MILL OPEN GARDEN

SATURDAY 4TH JUNE 12-5

ENTRANCE £5 TO INCLUDE TEA AND CAKES

BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC

ALL DAY BAR – HOT DOGS

ANY PROFIT TO STAWLEY CHURCH TOWER FUND



1952 H.M. QUEEN ELIZABETH II 1977

Silver Jubilee Celebrations

for

STAWLEY PARISH

(Appley, Greenham, Kittisford, Stawley & Tracebridge)

at

THE PLAYING FIELD

on

TUESDAY, JUNE 7th, 1977

COMMENCING at 2.30 p.m.

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME



This is what happened for the

Silver Jubilee Celebrations

Records at the Somerset archive include this programme from the Silver Jubilee in 1977. Sadly the editors have not managed to find any photos of this event, but have learnt the pram race was won by Pip Gilman (of Hill Farm, which was then a 'Pick your own strawberry farm' and also had a contract with Ribena for blackcurrants) and John Hannon. Surely someone has a photo of that! Eds

With thanks to the South West Heritage Trust: reference number D/PC/staw/7/1

2.30 p.m. Opening Ceremony by CMDR. R. BENSON

PRAM RACE Open - 2 people + 1 pram
Couples to change places, half-way through the race
ALL Competitors to be dressed as "Babies"
(Judging will take place before the race)
Please bring a Pram

FLAT RACES 50 yds. { Children under 5 yrs.
Children 6-10 yrs.
Children 11-15 yrs.

EGG & SPOON RACE 50 yds. -Ladies

SLOW BICYCLE RACE 50 yds. -Open

JUDGING OF JUBILEE HATS -Competitors to make
and bring hats

FLAT RACE 100 yds. -Adults

3 LEGGED RACES 75 yds. { Children 6-10 yrs.
Children 11-15 yrs.
Adults

BALLOON RACE 50 yds. -Children under 5 yrs.

EGG & SPOON RACES 75 yds. { Children 6-10 yrs.
Children 11-15 yrs.

BALLOON RACE 50 yds. -Adults over 55 yrs.

MAYPOLE DANCING by the Children
(Immediately before tea)

4.30 p.m. Tea Time

PLEASE REMEMBER to bring your own
knife, fork and spoon

PRESENTATION of mugs to children

OBSTACLE RACES 100 yds. { Children 6-10 yrs.
Children 11-15 yrs.
Adults

LOVELY LEGS Competition -Ladies

NOBBLY KNEES Competition -Men

RELAY RACE 275 yds. { 75 yds. Children 6-10 yrs.
100 yds. Children 11-15 yrs.
100 yds. Adults

SACK RACE 50 yds. -Open

FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL -15 minutes each way

BALLOON CHASE -Open

8 p.m. TUG OF WAR - (Teams to be selected on the
field)

8.30 p.m. onwards

BARBECUE - (Nominal charge will be made
for food)

MUSIC & DANCING - (In the Pavilion and around
the Bonfire)

10 p.m. LIGHTING OF BONFIRE & FIREWORKS
(Donations of Fireworks will be welcome)

Liquid refreshments will be available on the field during
the afternoon and evening

The Sports and Entertainment Programme may be re-
arranged to fit in with Tea Time, and according to
availability of competitors

Parish Portraits.

At the end of the First World War, Joseph Henry Warner, journalist with the Western Gazette newspaper, put out an appeal for essays detailing the contribution parishes had made to the war effort. 172 of these returns survive at the Somerset Heritage Centre and provide amazing detail on the county's war effort, all of them proving to be a very valuable resource for those conducting research for the First World War centenary.

Just over 100 years later in this Platinum Jubilee year the Somerset Archives and Local Studies Service, part of the South West Heritage Trust, are putting out a similar appeal to ask you to send us portraits of your parish, something which will mark your parish's place at this unique moment in history and to provide future generations of Somerset with information on our communities.

We aren't looking for a history of the parish, we have lots of that already, but a snapshot of your parish today, a celebration of what makes your parish special in 2022. Things which you may wish to include could be:

- Local shops and business
- Services and facilities
- Clubs, societies, and village past times
- Schools and pre-schools
- Environmental initiatives
- Modern day traditions
- The effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic on your community, and how has your community come together to support each other

We are happy to receive your portrait as an essay, as a scrapbook, or a combination of the two – surprise us!

If you are including photographs please label and date them where possible and please do not include any personal information such as addresses as we wish to make them available for research. We would also ask that the copyright of all the content, including photographs, be transferred to the South West Heritage Trust and for the portraits to be gifted to us.

Bring or post your submissions to: Accessions Archivist, Somerset Heritage Centre, Brunel Way, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, or email somersetarchives@swheritage.org.uk, and please submit them by the end of July 2022.

We would really love your parish to take part to help paint a picture of Somerset to mark the Platinum Jubilee year, and to give credit to your community and all that it does and achieves.

Liz Grant, Archivist



Quaker Meeting for Worship at Spiceland, Uffculme

We meet for Worship at Spiceland every Sunday at 10.30am till 11.30am – this is a blended Meeting also available on Zoom

All are very welcome.

Meeting ID:865 5570 2735 Passcode: 498173

For more information phone Ali Dominy 07810768557 or use the “contact us” form on our website: [http://](http://www.spicelanduffculmequakers.com/)

**www.spicelanduffculmequakers.com/
or email spicelandnotices@btinternet.com**

'For us it is not so important when the perfect world will be achieved or what it will be like. What matters is living our lives in the power of love and not worrying too much about the results. In doing this, the means become part of the end. Hence we lose the sense of helplessness and futility in the face of the world's crushing problems. We also lose the craving for success, always focusing on the goal to the exclusion of the way of getting there. We must literally not take too much thought for the morrow but throw ourselves whole-heartedly into the present.

That is the beauty of the way of love; it cannot be planned and its end cannot be foretold.'

*Wolf Mendl - The Swarthmore Lecture 1974,
Prophets and Reconcilers.*

Stawley's Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on the 7th June at 7:30pm in Appley Pavilion. All residents of the Parish are welcome to attend.

The agenda for the meeting will be posted in the Shop and the Telephone Box in Appley on the 31st May.

This is an informal meeting at which the Parish Council will report on the events of the previous year.

Raffle to raise funds for the Red Cross Ukraine

Many thanks to The Globe, Appley for their donation of Pizza for Two and to Katie at the Village Shop for her donation of a take-home platter. These generous prizes will make the raffle a key event at the fund-raising **Cream Tea – Come Rain or Shine** which is being held at Meadow Farm, Greenham, TA21 0JW on **Sunday 26th June from 2 – 5 pm.**

Please contact Annie Musgrove, Sarah Jones or Rachel Oliver for more details. Further donations of raffle prizes will be very welcome.

Stawley Parish Council Report

The meeting of the Council on the 3rd May was the Annual General Meeting (AGM). It is at this meeting that the officers of the Council are elected for the coming year and it can be reported that there will be no change from last year, or indeed, the year before that! The AGM also reviews the accounts for the previous year. These accounts are “examined” by a local person as they are too small to warrant a formal audit. The financial report is then sent off to a company of auditors and also posted on the website at stash.org.uk so that they can be viewed by anyone who may be interested. In summary we had a balanced account last year with an income of £4,303 and an expenditure of £4,347. The largest spend was for a continuation of the refurbishment of our fingerposts by replacing the flat painted fingers with cast ones and repainting and repositioning of the posts. This will continue in the coming year.

The full minutes of the meeting can be found at <https://stash.org.uk/document-category/stawley-minutes/>

Paul Musgrove

Our District and County Councillors

As you may be aware, Gwil Wren and Dave Mansell were elected to represent Upper Tone in the elections to the new Somerset Council held on the 5th May.

For the first year (that is until March 2023), these two people will serve as county councillors. Our District Councillors will remain as before; they are Dave Mansell and Mark Blaker.

From March 2023 Somerset County Council and Somerset West and Taunton Council will cease to exist and will be replaced by a new unitary authority to be called Somerset Council.

Dave Mansell and Gwil Wren will then continue as our new Somerset Councillors from April 2023.

Home & Garden Services



Emma

indianamaish@hotmail.com

01823 672003

*Covid-19-still open for business & following
Social Distancing Measures*

Home: Cleaning, Ironing, having a ‘sort out’,
Food Prep

Garden: Maintenance, Allotment, Clearance

Support Work: Enabling people with disabilities
Handy man Services

DBS, Food Hygiene, References Available

Ashbrittle Art and Craft Group

We are holding a monthly get-together as a self-directed group to do whatever ‘arty’ or ‘crafty’ project takes your fancy

Painting and drawing
Clay work
Textile crafts

Ashbrittle Village Hall
At 2.00 pm

Wednesdays 1st June and 6th July

Come and meet some local art and craft enthusiasts, see what’s going on and tell us about your favourite craft

For more information, contact Pauline
pjw200355@gmail.com

Mobile Library

Greenham Bridge

21st June

From 9.30 - 9.50 am.

VILLAGE LUNCH CLUB
ASHBRITTLE VILLAGE HALL

Thursday, June 30th

Noon start

CLIMATE CHANGE: AN EXPLANATION

Dr Terry Abiss will talk about the impact on us all of climate change,
starting with making changes locally and looking outwards.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Delia Harling 01823 672203

harlingdelia@gmail.com

Cream Tea Come Rain or Shine

Join us for a strawberry cream tea at Meadow Farm in
Greenham (TA21 0JW) to help raise money for the
Red Cross in Ukraine

Sunday 26th June 2 - 5 pm

Fabulous Raffle prizes



Contact Annie Musgrove, Sarah Jones or
Rachel Oliver for more details:
amusgrove@cantab.net



Gardening Club

The Gardening Club have made their first excursion of 2022. *Sue Jacoby writes:*

Malvern Spring Flower Show

Many members of the Gardening Club had been wanting to go to Malvern for a long time and when we finally made it we were not disappointed. Despite traffic delays on the way there, we all had a great day with fine weather and so many goodies to tempt us. There was a really upbeat atmosphere, everyone was so pleased to be out and about again and able to enjoy a public event.

The displays in the floral tent were magnificent with some wonderful succulents and cacti as well as the fascinating pitcher plants. The fuchsias and pelargoniums with which we are more familiar were most impressive. The smaller nurseries around the grounds were doing very brisk business and the landscaped gardens gave us inspiration on how to improve our gardens. It was a most enjoyable day.

Stawley Flower Show

The annual Stawley Flower show will be held at Appley Pavilion on Sunday 11th September. The Class List was published in last month's Parish News, so no doubt you will be inspired to start growing your prize-winning flowers, fruit and vegetables, together with the artistic creations. More details about the Flower Show will be published in future issues of the Parish News.

Do continue to share photos and news of your garden activities, nature finds, or pose questions or queries. We are all very interested to hear what our fellow gardeners are up to!

If you have any suggestions and new ideas, or any other inquiries, please contact me by email stawley.gardening.club@gmail.com or call on 01823 672222.

I am stepping down after this month as co-organiser of the Gardening Club, so if anyone would like to take this on, please let myself or Sue Jacoby know.

Pauline

Minutes of RCI meeting Wednesday 13th April 2022 at 7:30 pm

Welcome: The Chairman hosted the meeting which was held by Zoom.

Present (online): Michael Parkinson, Chairman (MiP), Pauline Wood, Treasurer (PW), Judy Webb, Secretary (JW), John Hannon (JH), Cilla Newsom (CN), Ann-Marie Paterson (AMP),

Laura Burrow (LB). Apologies were received from Martin Perry (MP) and Jane Embleton (JE)
Minutes of the last meeting: Were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising: JW had resubmitted the application for the Prince of Wales Competition at the Bath and West. We had been shortlisted and judges would be visiting on 26th April. JW undertook to draw up a programme for the visit.

Accounts: The Treasurer submitted her report showing the RCI Account's balances as 13th April 2022 as follows:

RCI:	£409.56
Active Living:	£814.72
Youth Club:	£522.95
Total:	£1747.23

The Ashbrittle contribution to Defib and VETS support, although agreed, remained unpaid. JW would contact the Chairman requesting two years contributions and would request further annual contributions from other PCs

VETS: Nothing to report except that the system continued to operate as a general helpline, not specifically for DeFib support

Reports:

Lunch Club had successful lunches in the past two months.

Walking Group would be continued on a more regular basis shortly.

Oil Group – continued successfully and its existence was emphasized in the Prince of Wales Competition application because of the environmental benefit of keeping large vehicles off our narrow lanes.

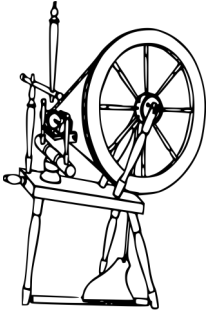
Walks Project – MiP has visited locations which hold Walks Leaflets; it continues to bring in donations which cover reprint costs including £50+ from the campsite at Waterrow.

Art and Crafts Group which now meets monthly. PW reported that new people were showing interest.

Youth Club – LB would be holding an initial meeting on 22nd April. It had been promoted in the Parish News.

Temporary Road Closure

Wessex Water will be closing Stone Hill Lane in Spring Grove from Monday 6th June to Friday 10th June.



Spinning and Woolcraft Group

The group have been holding some meetings 'in person' at members' houses where a large and well ventilated indoor space is available, but there may still be the need to have a Zoom meeting from time to time.

Meeting arrangements will be confirmed in advance when the reminder email is sent out. If you would like to join us please contact me and I will add you to the mailing list. Perhaps you would like to come along and learn to spin with us?

Next Sessions
Tuesdays 7th and 21st June

at 2.30pm

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

Our spectacular local landscape



Oil painting course with Annie Musgrove at the Old Brick Workshop, Wellington TA21 9HW

9th and 16th June

10am - 1pm

Cost £80 for 2 sessions including materials

To book a place please contact:

amusgrove@cantab.net

Tel 07530310795

www.anniemusgrove.co.uk



the FAMOUS PINK LAMPshade SUMMER CHALLENGE!

BACK BY POPULAR REQUEST!

Avril Silk still has lots of brand new pink lampshades...

For a mere £3 you can receive a lampshade and an entry form for
THE FAMOUS PINK LAMPshade COMPETITION

Contact Avril as soon as possible to book your lampshade.

First come - first served.

A maximum of two per family.

Ashbrittle Arts is delighted that, once again, your work will be displayed at Stawley Flower and Produce Show!

Please deliver your masterpiece, labelled with your name and age, to the Pavilion on Saturday, September 10th between 6 and 8 pm.

AvrilSilk@aol.com (01823 672131)

Ashbrittle Arts



Here's your chance to take part.

Ashbrittle Arts has brought our community a great range of events: music, theatre, film and workshops over the years.

Now, with Covid under better control, our lively team is looking for fresh blood to help us shape the future of Ashbrittle Arts and plan even more high-quality events.

If you have an interest in the arts and would like to contribute to your community please come along to our open evening on the 17th June. You can meet the team, find out more and enjoy some refreshments. (It would be great if you could bring some snacks to share.) Who knows, you might be tempted to join us. No pressure!

Ashbrittle Arts Open Evening
Friday 17th June, from 7pm
at Barn at Greenways, Ashbrittle
TA21 0LE

If you can't make the 17th but would like to get involved please contact Paul Leyland at pleyland@talk21.com

STAWLEY MILL HAPPENINGS

JOIN US FOR

OPEN GARDEN PLANTS TEAS

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS

CRAFTS
CERAMICS
GLASS
JEWELLERY
BOOK BAZAAR

SATURDAY 25TH

JUNE 2022

11AM — 5PM

STAWLEY MILL
TA21 0HT



'Having a Larf'

A very lively full house had a really 'Good Larf' at Appley Pavilion on Saturday 30th April and raised a wonderful sum of money for Rossholme School in Kenya. The brilliant, whacky team of Chris Britton, Steve Swan and Phil Moore supported by the House Band of Gail Britton, Paul Jacques with singing by Hazel Jones, guitarists Gerry Webb and Roddy Kilpatrick, the 11th Hour Band and compering by Judy Webb, all conspired to produce a show to be remembered.

Those who have heard of, and seen Forkbeard Fantasy, and have experienced Chris, Steve and Phil's Christmas Lunch Club entertainment, will know how ridiculously funny and entertaining their silly sketches are! The musicians provided perfect back up throughout the evening.



Steve Swan and Chris Britton kept a large smile on everyone's face

The support team also did a wonderful job, including running the bar, the draw, and clearing up afterwards, and was hugely appreciated. The draw included some great prizes and raised £530 alone.

At the start of the evening the audience was given an introduction and shown a five-minute video about the Rossholme School, in Kenya, showing the basic buildings, the children and Joyce Aruga, the Head Teacher. The School is located in the Kiambiu Slum in Nairobi and is attended by 330 pupils. The School benefitted from the monies raised from the evening, a magnificent total of £2228.

Some days later, Head Teacher, Joyce managed to speak to The Team - actors and musicians - over a WhatsApp call, to express her real appreciation for the commitment made to raise funds for her school enabling her to provide a proper education for those who would not otherwise have such an opportunity.

Judy Webb

Lunch Club in Ashbrittle Village Hall

Our April meeting was focussed on wood turning. A subject which I privately thought might not draw the crowds (or our usual numbers). How wrong I was. In fact Michael Parsons was a lively speaker with a fascinating skill. A life long maker of bowls and other vessels of all sorts using a variety of woods and a lathe, he clearly had extraordinary talents and produced some beautiful objects. He arrived with many finished articles which we examined, some of which were sold to the participants.

On Thursday 30th June we have a complete change of mood. Our speaker is Dr Terry Abbiss. He is a retired analytical chemist who formerly worked in many parts of the world, specialising in marine pollution. He has, in recent years, been concerned with climate change and the impact on all of us, starting with changes locally and looking outwards. His talk is entitled 'Climate Change: An Explanation'. He assures me that he will give us a scientific walk through the subject at a level slow learners like me will understand!

If you would like to join us at 12.00 noon on 30th June, please contact me. Telephone 01823 672203 or email harlingdelia@gmail.com

Delia Harling

Bathealton Church Flowers

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Friday 27th May 8am to 12 noon
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O Solitude! If I must with thee dwell, let it not be among the jumbled heap Of murky buildings: climb with me the steep, nature's observatory whence the dell, in flowery slopes, its river's crystal swell, may seem a span; let me thy vigils keep 'mongst boughs pavilion'd, where the deer's swift leap startles the wild bee from the foxglove bell.

John Keats

I was pondering which plant or garden related subject I should write about for June's Parish news. I was spoilt for choice when there is so much to see, and so much going on in our beds and borders, as well as in the hedgerows and woodlands around us.

Then one of the volunteers at Knightshayes remarked 'I love Foxgloves; some people say they're weeds and should be pulled out but I say that's nonsense'. I looked at the group of self-seeded *Digitalis purpurea* at the back of the border to which he was referring and had to agree whole heartedly... and there it was, my subject!

Our native Foxglove, usually in shades of pink to pinkish purple is found in hedgerows, woodland edges and glades. A prolific self-seeder, it often suddenly appears in large swathes on freshly disturbed ground in town, country and old gardens alike flowering from the end of May, through June and into early July.

There are many single colour selections or mixed colour improved forms available for sale; some gorgeous apricots and stunning larger white-flowered forms with purple splotches and spots such as 'Elsie Kelsie' or 'Pam's Choice', mixed colours such as 'Excelsior mixed', Dalmatian mixed and 'Foxy mixed'.

For a long time at Knightshayes, garden staff were sent out to 'rogue' the pink flowered plants and just leave the white flowered ones, so over time, ensuring that the majority growing in the woodland were the 'Alba' form (you can tell the difference before the plants flower by looking at the leaf stems- if they have a pinkish hue then they will be pink flowered and if they have a light lime-green hue then they will be white) but stop

performing this task and the pink forms very rapidly creep back in.

Of the numerous other species available there are some spectacular and very garden-worthy plants, particularly for the woodland garden or semi shaded border. These include *Digitalis grandiflora* often growing to a stately 5ft with bell shaped yellow flowers often netted and marked with purplish-brown and glossy green foliage; the dwarf form 'Carillon' grows to about 1ft to 18inches and *grandiflora* has been crossed with *purpurea* to create the gorgeous *x mertonensis* 'Strawberry Crush' which has proved to be stable and will come true from seed.

Digitalis parviflora 'Milk Chocolate' has a dense spike of small bronze-brown flowers with a purplish hint to the lip of each bloom; Also of note is *Digitalis ferruginea* (the rusty foxlove) which forms a handsome rosette of glossy dark green leaves from which a 3-4ft robust spike of 'rusty' brown-orange tubular flowers, slightly darker inside - an excellent addition to any shady corner.

A mention has to be made of the medical value of the genus *Digitalis*; it has been known as a potent herb and poison back into antiquity but the first description of its use (Digitalin) for specifically treating heart complaints was in 1785 and in more recent times with Digitoxin and Digoxin.

There is much folklore and myth attached to foxgloves with one of their old country names being 'Witches gloves'. The old German name is 'Fingerhut' which literally means 'Finger hat' but actually means Thimble. The Old-English name Foxglove has been suggested to mean 'Folks-glove' referring to the fairy-folk so literally 'Fairies gloves'... but whether worn by Foxes on their paws so they can silently hunt their prey or by the hidden ancient folk of the woodlands and wild places, these plants should always be welcomed and given a home in our gardens.

John and Julie Ridgley

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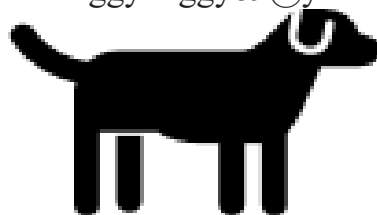
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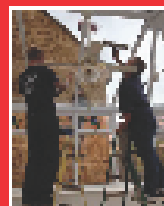
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Stawley Shop, on outside wall
messaging.servers.quaking

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

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
Stawley	Pat Sweet	01823 672380
Wellisford	William Thomas	01823 673143
Outer Bathealton	Carol Weir	01984 623565
Springrove	Doreen Orton	01823 400731

Police-non-emergency number 101

Police Beat Team

PC Rachel Lang 2347 Tel: 07889 655887

Rachel.Lang@avonandsomerset.police.uk

PCSO Louise Fyne 6945 Tel:07889 659476

Louise.fyne@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Parish Councils

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

Bathealton Chairman to be confirmed

Stawley Chairman Paul Musgrove 01823 672627

email: *stawleypc@yahoo.co.uk* www.stash.org.uk

Community Halls

Appley Pavilion and Recreation Field

– to book, ring Suzette Williams on 01823 672266 or
email: *williamspsfa@outlook.com*

Ashbrittle Village Hall

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Local Groups

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Becky Allder Pre-schools Manager

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Rural Community Initiative (RCI) is a local charity set up in 1999 to support the way of life of the people of this rural 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, or by email). Naturally, we prefer items by email *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 672102 e-mail address: *ashparishnews@gmail.com*

Treasurer: Andrew Millard . Barton Barn, Kittisford, Wellington TA21 0RZ

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

June

3rd	3.00 pm	Jubilee Tea Party, Ashbrittle Village Hall
3rd	6.30 pm	Jubilee Picnic, Appley Pavilion
4th	12 - 5.00 pm	Jubilee Picnic, Stawley Mill
7th	7.30 pm	Stawley Annual Parish Meeting at Appley Pavilion
17th	7.00 pm	Ashbrittle Arts Open Evening at Greenways, Ashbrittle
25th	11.00 - 5.00 pm	Stawley Mill Happenings - Open Garden and Studio
26th	2 - 5.00 pm	Cream Tea, at Meadow Farm
30th	12 noon	Lunch Club at Ashbrittle Village Hall

September

11th 2.00 pm Annual Flower Show, Appley Pavilion

October

9th All day Community Apple Pressing Day, Appley Pavilion

December

3rd 2.30 pm Christmas Fayre, Bathealton Village Hall

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Ashbrittle, Stawley & Clayhanger Cricket Club Fixtures

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June	4th Away v Dulverton	No Game
	11th Home v Lydeard St Lawrence	Away v Buckland St Mary
	18th Away v Kilve	Home v Over Stowey
	25th Away v Winsford	Home v Stoke St Mary

Next Deadline Date: Friday 17th June

Editors: Julia and Maurice