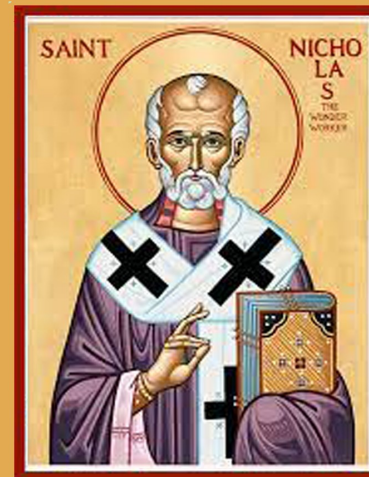
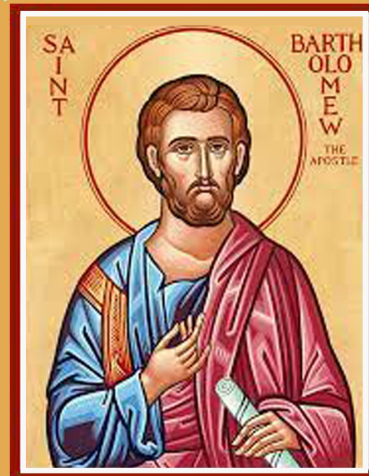


# Parish news



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

## Church Services

<b>Sunday October 2nd</b> 11.00 a.m.	TRINITY 16 Harvest Parish Communion	STAWLEY
<b>Sunday October 9th</b> 9.30 a.m.	TRINITY 17 Harvest Parish Communion	ASHBRITTL
<b>Sunday October 16th</b> 5.00 p.m.	TRINITY 18 Harvest Festival Service	KITTISFORD
<b>Sunday October 23rd</b> 9.30 a.m.	LAST AFTER TRINITY Parish Communion	BATHEALTON
<b>Sunday October 30th</b> 9.30 a.m.	ALL SAINTS Parish Communion	GREENHAM

As readers will have noticed from the above, there are two changes from our normal pattern of services.

The Harvest Service at Stawley on October 2nd is at the later time of 11.00 a.m. This service will be followed by a Harvest Lunch at Stawley Mill. Penny, who is generously hosting this event, would appreciate some idea of numbers and please let her know if you plan to join us.

The Harvest Service at Kittisford on October 16th is at 5.00 p.m. This will also be followed by refreshments and everyone will be warmly welcomed.

## Churchwardens and Clergy

### Ashbriitle with Greenham

Charles Doble, The Old Rectory, Ashbriitle, TA21 0LQ 01823 672365  
David Hanks, Manley House, Ashbriitle, 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

Since the last edition of the magazine, our nation, the Commonwealth and indeed the whole world has been in mourning for the death of Queen Elizabeth II. Much has been written about her life, her sense of duty and the seventy years of loyal service that she dedicated to all of us. I have been struck by the reminiscences of many who had the good fortune to meet her or to hear her speak. After a visit to New Zealand one person recalled the Queen quoting a Maori saying, which speaks of their belief in the purpose of our lives. It is,

*"To observe, to grow, to understand and to love."*

Whilst I believe this sentiment to be profoundly true, as our schools return for the autumn term, I reflect upon the application of the saying for our children and their development.

In school, children are taught to observe; to notice, to become aware of the world around them and to wonder at creation. Their growth is obvious; not just in physical terms but also in the development of their skills and talents.

Education also seeks to assist children to understand the world. They may have the privilege of learning another language and they will be assisted to see how the world works in the sciences. Children will learn and come to understand the use of language; how words convey meaning and the construction of sentences makes stories. In the same way, they will learn about using notes to create a tune.

### **The most important part of education**

But of course, the most important part of a child's education is to learn how to love. In a school they will learn to live and work with others. They will develop the skills of communication, respect, mutual assistance and self-giving.

These skills and their acquisition and development are not limited to formal education or our school years. All of us are going through a life-long process of observing, growing, understanding and loving.

But children, their parents and their teachers need our prayers and best wishes as they begin together this exciting but challenging process.

We ask God's blessing on our schools this term.

*With my best wishes,  
Martin Beaumont*

## The Bells Tolled in Memory

Did you hear the hour long tolling of a half muffled bell at Ashbrittle and Stawley on the day after the death of Queen Elizabeth II? The muffled tenor bells, together with Bathealton's, were also tolled again on the day of the funeral. In between those two dates, all four bells at Kittisford were rung half muffled before the Sunday morning service.

For half muffled ringing, a leather cup is fastened onto one side of the clapper, so that one strike sounds as normal, but the second strike is softened, almost like an echo, giving a melancholy tone.

Are you interested in finding out more about bell ringing and even having a go? Then please ring Lena on 01823 673261 or speak to one of the bell ringers for more details.

*Penny Stanbury*

## Lister House Patients

You can now go online to book your flu vaccination appointments or call the surgery on 01984 623471. This is for all patients 65 yrs old and over and vulnerable under 65 yr olds.

Well 50 - 65 yr olds will be able to book an appointment but we have been asked by the Government not to vaccinate this group until mid October.

### **Village Oil Group**

The next oil delivery is due on

**Wednesday 12th October**

To place an order, please email:

*judy.milne@btopenworld.com* or contact

Judy or Michael Milne on 01823 672205 by the Monday before the Wednesday delivery

New members always welcome

### **Donations for the Parish News**

Donations received from:

Julia and Steve Swan  
and at Stawley Shop

Thanks again, for your kind support.

Donations may be left at Stawley Shop or sent directly to the treasurer: details on page 31.

*Andrew Millard, treasurer*

## The Parish News

There are very few communities lucky enough to have a monthly village magazine delivered free to every household. A visitor, who saw a copy of the Parish News for the first time last week, asked me who produced it for us. She was taken aback to hear that it was all done locally.

The Parish News relies on a team of volunteers. Each issue is composed by one of the editors, supported by a treasurer. The finished edition is proof read and then emailed to the printer who prints it and brings it to the shop. From there a big team of distributors deliver it to each house. The printing is paid for by the advertisers and donations from the parish councils and individuals.

Central to the success of the publication are the people who contribute adverts, notices, minutes and articles to fill each edition with news, information and entertainment. Particular favourites of mine include the rainfall figures, the wildlife column, pieces about history or science (and, in this edition, the monarchy) and the beautifully illustrated garden articles.

The Parish News is a huge asset to our community. It ensures that everybody hears about the events, groups, concerts, exhibitions and activities happening here. In addition, plenty of local companies advertise their goods and services. During the pandemic several other local magazines suspended production, but the Parish News proudly carried on. There was information about the help available from local authorities, the shop, the Village Emergency Telephone Scheme (VETS) and other volunteer groups. There were also quizzes filling the pages where the news of events would normally have been, new walks to try with hand drawn maps, gardening articles for those wanting to grow vegetables and a photo competition instead of the flower show.

Since I joined Maurice Stanbury as an editor I have learnt a great deal about the joy to be had from publishing. Avril Silk is joining the editorial team as I leave it, but if there are others who would like to be involved with the production of the magazine, I know they would be most welcome to join the team. Perhaps there is a student who is interested in the media who would like to gain practical experience or try out new ideas. Or someone like me, who had not done any editing before, but will discover how rewarding it is. I will particularly miss the arrival of each new edition as it plops through our letterbox.

As the Parish News heads towards its sixtieth anniversary, it has my very best wishes for the future.

*Julia Swan*

Julia - so many thanks for your input to the editorial effort over a number of years. Your contribution has been greatly valued and will be sorely missed.

*Eds*

*If you would like to find out more about the production of the Parish News please email [ashparishnews@gmail.com](mailto:ashparishnews@gmail.com) (or call Maurice Stanbury on 672216) for more information.*

## Lunch Club

Our next lunch club is on Thursday, October 27th at 12 o'clock. As a change from our regular format we are not having a speaker or formal activity; just an opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new acquaintances.

In August we handed over to Avril Silk who is preparing for an autumn writing course - *The Soundtrack of Our Lives*. Volunteers talked about a piece of music which meant something special to them and briefly told the story behind it. Gerry Webb, as a technical whizz, played snatches of each piece of music. Thank you, Avril and Gerry, for a most entertaining session which evoked memories from poignant to hilarious.

If you'd like to join us for the next lunch club please contact me on 01823 672203 or email [harlingdelia@gmail.com](mailto:harlingdelia@gmail.com)

*Delia Harling*

**The Soundtrack of Our Lives** - Thank you to everyone who contributed to last month's Lunch Club session. I already have some wonderful stories about the music that is important to local people - if you couldn't join us then but would like to take part, drop me a line ([AvrilSilk@aol.com](mailto:AvrilSilk@aol.com)) with the story behind a cherished piece of music. I'm hoping for an anthology! The project is sponsored by Western Power and organised under the banner of Wiveliscombe's Moorvale Creative Community Interest Company.

*Avril Silk*

### A Friendly Quiz

Bathealton Village Hall  
October 29th at 7.00 pm

£5 including light refreshments

**Ashbottle Village Hall Committee** will be holding its **AGM** on Thursday 17th November at 7.30 pm  
Everyone welcome.  
We are always looking for new members.

# **FUN RIDE**

**NEW LEAD ORGANISERS D.F.H SUPPORTED BY C.H.C**

**SUNDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2022**

**WOODLANDS FARM, BATHEALTON, TA4 2AH**

(SIGN POSTED FROM B3227 & B3187)

**12 MILES (APPROX) RIDE THROUGH FIELDS & TRACKS, JUMPS  
OPTIONAL**

**SHORTER ROUTE OF 5 MILES (SUITABLE FOR NOVICE & LEAD REINS)**

**£18 ADULTS £13 UNDER 16**

**RIDERS UNDER 14 TO ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT**

**START TIMES BETWEEN 10AM -12PM**

**PRE BOOKING PREFERRED**

**PLEASE EMAIL TO BOOK [kate123allibone@hotmail.com](mailto:kate123allibone@hotmail.com) or 07772541847**

**ROSETTES TO ALL**

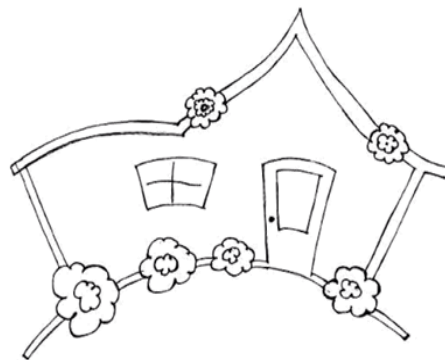
**CAT DOWN PHOTOGRAPHY**

**HOT & COLD REFRESHMENTS**





# Stawley Village Shop & Tea Room



## **Opening hours**

Monday to Friday 8.00 to 5.30

Saturday 8.00 to 2.00

Sunday 9.00 to 11.00

**The Post Office is here every Thursday 11.30 to 1.30**

**Come and use your local community shop - we are here  
for YOU**

Find us on the Ashbrittle road between Greenham  
and Tracebridge, adjacent to Stawley Primary School

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

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We are excited to announce we have an ever-growing Gift Section, tailored to all budgets and for all occasions.

We are supporting local crafters and writers

**Why not pop in and have a browse?**

We are very sorry to report that Bawdens are no longer supplying wholesale customers, so we are trying very hard to find a new source of bread.

We do have a new small-scale baker, 'A Whittle Slice' from Wellington, supplying white and wholemeal sourdough bread on a daily basis. There will be a limited amount for sale in the Shop, and orders can be taken.

We also have a new range of tray bakes, flapjacks and cakes in generous portions, and for afternoon teas at home, we have a selection of loaf cakes.



## Stawley Church Harvest Festival

will take place

on

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

We will be holding a **Holy Communion Service** at 11:00 am followed by a **Harvest Lunch** at Stawley Mill.

**Everyone is welcome.**

Stawley Church PCC is working hard to increase our funds towards the restoration of the Church tower.

We will therefore be making a modest charge of £7:50 for admission to the Harvest Lunch which covers the cost of the meal, and includes a complimentary glass of wine.

*If you wish to attend then please contact Penny Hare on 01823 672183.*



## Coffee Morning

Thursday 20th October

10.00 - 12.00 noon

at

Church Cottage, Stawley

Bring & Buy  
Produce  
Raffle

*In aid of  
Stawley Church Tower Fund.*

## Kittisford Harvest Festival

Sunday 16th October at 5 pm

Everyone is welcome to join us in a service of celebration with the Village Festival Choir



**Light refreshments after the service**

## **The Constitutional Monarchy – a point of view**

According to a government website, a quarter of a million people filed past the coffin of Queen Elizabeth II as she lay in state in Westminster Hall. *The Radio Times*, reckoned that 37.5 million people in Britain watched at least part of television coverage of the funeral ceremonies. The same source gave the world-wide figure as four billion. That is half the number of people alive today. The brilliance of the parades and sheer scale of the collective outpouring of emotion were fitting tributes to the person Queen Elizabeth was and also to the role she played as a Constitutional Monarch. It was not easy for her to have lived for nearly a century without putting a foot wrong, especially since most of her subjects were hazy about what they really expected from her.

In the hours last month of broadcast commentary on the Queen's life, I did not hear a valid historical reason for us having a Constitutional Monarch. That is why I offer my understanding here, hoping that readers will put me right.

### **The Common Law**

As so often, 'why' means two things: what was the original cause of this institution, and what is its present function? In *Parish News* for May 2020, I described, perhaps rather flippantly, a historical scenario that might have led to our form of democracy. Briefly, our Anglo-Saxon ancestors set up a system of courts in which disagreements could be settled by talking rather than fighting. The courts ranged in importance, as they do today, from local Magistrates, through County Courts to the highest which was originally presided over by the Monarch. Thus, the Monarch became the living representative of the Common Law. 'Common' because it applies to everyone, including the Monarch.

Many forms of law in the world are used to control the mass of people while some categories of elite can buy or negotiate exemption. Although parts of English Common Law may also fall into this category, much of it is based on judgements in previous cases. This mechanism of consultation at grass-root level allowed the Common Law to evolve into forms that reflected citizens' priorities, and these were predominantly equality under the Law and freedom.

### **Freedom**

The 'freedom' I mean here is not 'freedom from ...' which grades into human rights and is another

subject. Here, I mean freedom to do anything that does not limit the same freedom in other people. Of course, that is a hypothetical state because everything I do affects other people: even my being here denies the freedom of some other person to use the space I occupy. But the benefits I gain by cooperating far outweigh the costs I pay in restricting my individual freedom.

Diversity of ideas is the main source of novel solutions to unforeseen questions, which are bound to become more momentous as population density increases. Exchanging ideas through language is surely the most widely used way of cooperating, and for ideas to be exchanged they must first be expressed. Thus, freedom to express ideas is likely to be the most effective regime in which enterprise can flourish. For example, shortly before the Battle of Trafalgar, Nelson told his captains that, within reason and once he had cut the enemy's line of battle, he would support whatever tactic they decided to adopt. Admiral Villeneuve, the Franco-Spanish commander, had to get permission to leave Cadiz harbour. Although the British captains' main motive may have been the thought of prize money, Nelson's attitude was, I think, a major contributory reason for the inhabitants of a small off-shore North Atlantic island briefly ruling a quarter of the World.

### **The Great Institutions of State**

As our Common Law became more widespread and complicated, its various functions specialised: the Police defend our individual freedom from restriction by fellow citizens; the Armed Forces discourage threats from overseas; the Judiciary decide whether our freedom has or has not been compromised; the Legislature passes laws deemed necessary for defining the limits of our freedom; and the Civil Service administers governmental policies. These practical divisions of function are often called the Great Institutions of State, and it is most important to our freedom under Common Law that they remain independent of each other. We will not, for example, tolerate police or parliamentary interference with judges or juries. Nor will we allow the Armed Forces or the Civil Service to put pressure on Parliament. We also try to regularise the lobbying of other interests such as business.

### **The Monarch**

Another factor relevant to the defence of our freedom under Common Law, is that, when a legal case is brought by the State against an accused person, it is referred to as *The Crown versus (name of defendant)* or as *Rex (or Regina)*



*versus (name of defendant)*, thus signalling that the King or Queen represents the Common Law. This means that the reigning Monarch is the living head of each of the Great Institutions of State, which in turn means that no one else can be. In this way, Monarchs have ultimate power which they can hold only so long as they never use it. In fact, that power was used in 1975 when the Governor General of Australia, in the name and authority of the Queen, dismissed the Prime Minister and invited the Leader of the Opposition to form a government.

I think it is wrong to think of our Constitutional Monarchs as being 'above' politics – they *are* politics: all of it. That is why they must not express a preference. For them to do so would influence, if not limit, our freedom to make up our own minds.

### **Inheritance**

Then there remains the problem of deciding who shall be the Constitutional Monarch. Clearly, they cannot be elected for this would make them mere politicians grubbing for votes. Nor can they be appointed because that would give the appointers more power than the Monarch. The safest way is to let them breed. This has two advantages: when a Monarch dies, power passes instantly to a well-rehearsed heir and, above all, it reduces argument. In January last year, we saw a Trumped-up shambles of an elected transition in USA.

Our form of democracy with its Constitutional Monarch is by no means perfect, but it has evolved over a thousand years with only one civil war and it is not as bad as any of the others that we have tried from time to time. The greatest danger to it today comes from those who would prevent us from disagreeing with them, especially when they are the majority.

*Martin Jacoby*

*I am very grateful to Jeremy Toye who read a draft of this piece and changed my mind on several key points. Any remaining errors are mine alone.*

### **BRING & BUY BOOK BAZAAR**

**WANTED DONATIONS OF NON-FICTION BOOKS FOR SALE IN AID OF STAWLEY CHURCH FABRIC FUND**

Contact: Martin Jacoby, who will happily collect, on 01823 674471 or 07783 161187 or email [martincjacoby@gmail.com](mailto:martincjacoby@gmail.com)

### **Sponsored Walks**

Back in July, John Young, who runs the In Ecclesia choir and Kitty Hollingworth from Thorne St Margaret, organised a sponsored walk called 'The Sing & Stomp' which was attended by quite a few of the Village Festival Choir as well as members of 'In Ecclesia', and was a two day walk around the fourteen churches of the Wellington benefice, singing at every church on the way. Parishioners who came to join the singing, donated money via a bucket collection which raised £400; this was split between Rossholme School in Kenya and Reminiscence Learning.

Kitty had also planned a very challenging sponsored swim along the length of Lake Windermere and was very kindly raising more money for Rossholme School in Kenya. Unfortunately, the combination of an ear infection and the inclement weather around Lake Windermere, meant that the swim became impossible. But Kitty is made of stern stuff, so she set herself a new challenge of walking a marathon length – 26 + miles - across Dartmoor.

John Young, who was raising money for the Alzheimers' Society, joined Kitty and they valiantly completed their walk on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September. Kitty alone raised a magnificent £822 for Rossholme.

Thank you so much for the many generous donations received. Every penny for Rossholme School will go to Kenya to support the much-needed education of many very deprived children.

Thank you to both Kitty and John for their selfless efforts in raising this significant amount of money.

*The charity (No 1178553) was set up by Judy and Gerry Webb in 2017 and it provides proper education for 375 children up to the age of 12, in a rough slum area of Nairobi.*

*Judy Webb*

*Further details available from me on 01823 673324; [judy@chackeridge.co.uk](mailto:judy@chackeridge.co.uk) or the website: [www.rossholme.co.uk](http://www.rossholme.co.uk)*

### **Mobile Library**

at  
Greenham Bridge

Next visits  
Tuesday October 11th and 8th November  
From 9.30 - 9.50 am.

## Country Matters

### Is it really a weed?

Recently we've been thinking about the way in which language shapes our relationship with nature. Someone once said to us "The difficulty with weeding my garden is that I don't know which plants are the weeds." She continued by explaining that she would carefully tend a beautiful plant only to find out later that it was a weed which should have been removed. By definition, a weed is any plant that is growing where it is not wanted. How then could a plant so carefully tended and bringing joy turn, upon being named as a weed, into something to be discarded?

When Shakespeare wrote "*What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet*", he was saying that the essential nature of a thing does not change regardless of what it is called. However, as he illustrates in the play, what we call something can affect how we experience it. In other words, the rose (or the Montague or the weed) by another name may not seem to smell as sweet to us. We may not even bother to smell it. We may feel worried or ashamed to have it in our garden or field or vase of flowers.

### The right category?

There are many plants that are commonly thought of as weeds in the UK: dandelions, docks, thistles and nettles are some of the most well-known ones and you surely can name others. Somehow, there seems to be a generally accepted, definitive list of weed plants despite a definition where context is essential. Categorising a plant as a weed is often enough for people to think they know all they need to know about it. These plants are often thought of not only as unwanted but as useless or damaging in all situations.

We seem to have forgotten that we each get to choose whether to treat a plant as a weed or a valuable resource. In fact, the same plant can be both weed and resource under different situations. A thistle in your carrot bed may be unwanted but perhaps it is a splash of colour in your flower bed or free bird food in your wildlife garden. Nettles may be weeds on your lawn but cultivated elsewhere as greens for the cooking pot. To your neighbour, nettles and thistles may be weeds but dandelions are delightful. One person's weed may be another person's treasured plant or the same person's treasured plant somewhere else.

It is becoming much easier to obtain information on wild plants now, particularly with the re-emerging interest in foraging and wildcraft, their increased use in garden design and

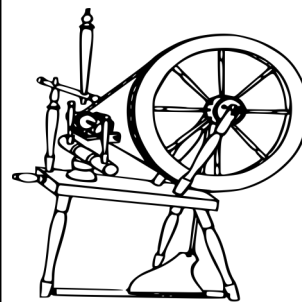
recognition of their value in ecosystem management. The more we learn about wild plants the more fascinating they become. We find ourselves surrounded on our walks by potential food, dyes, twines, bird seed, basketry material, soil improvers and herbal teas which somehow also look a lot more beautiful since we got to know them. We encourage everyone, to learn more about these often maligned and misunderstood plants. The more we know, the more informed our decisions become on when and where and whether we want to share our spaces with these plants. We invite you to seek for hidden treasure in your weeds. Who knows what you might discover.

*Alësha Naranjit and Frazer Higgins  
(with Martin Jacoby)*

### Rainfall Statistics for August

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
3.72	3.60	4.64	2.20	2.13

*Val Coots*



### Spinning and Woolcraft Group

**The group have been holding some meetings 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  
Tuesday 4th and 18th October  
at 2.30pm

Contact Pauline: on 01823 672222 or  
email [pjw200355@gmail.com](mailto:pjw200355@gmail.com)



# **APPLE DAY**

**APPLEY PAVILION - TA21 0HH**

**FREE APPLE PRESSING**

**SUNDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

**10 - 3**

**BANGERS & MASH 11-2 £7**

**AND OTHER REFRESHMENTS**

***A CHARGE OF £2 PER 20 MINS  
FOR PASTEURISER***

***BRING ALL YOUR APPLES,  
YOUR FAMILY, YOUR BOTTLES  
AND .....GOOD WEATHER!***

**STAWLEY PRESCHOOL WILL  
HAVE A CAKE STALL AND  
CHILDREN'S  
ACTIVITIES**

## Minutes of Bathealton Parish Council Meeting held on August 9<sup>th</sup> 2022

**Present:** Stephen Cottrell Jess Bunn, Joanne Greenway, Nerys Gibbs, Dennis Sheehan and Phil Broad.

**Apologies:** None

**Welcome:** The Parish Council wished to thank Mr Charles Eustice for fourteen years of service as Chairman. The Parish Council then welcomed the new Chairman Mr Phil Broad.

**Correspondence:** A planning application has been received with regards to extending the barn at Cobhay TA4 2AH. A site visit has been carried out by the Parish Council.

### Matters Arising:

- i) Maintenance of the finger signs to be carried out within the parish.
- ii) Footpath maintenance to be carried out by Parish Council Members
- iii) A date for the Parish walk has been confirmed for October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting at Bathealton Village Hall at 2pm, there will be refreshments afterwards.

**Accounts:** The accounts for 2020/2021 have been audited.

**Date for the next meeting is November 10<sup>th</sup> 2022, 7.30 at Bathealton Village Hall – Everyone Welcome.**

*Joanne Greenway (Clerk)*

## Stawley Parish News

Stawley Parish Council met on the 13<sup>th</sup> September and would like Parishioners to do two things.

Firstly, one of our number is standing down after many years of service so we need volunteers to step forward to be considered to take his place. We have about eight meetings a year, all in the evening, at which we consider, discuss, make suggestions to the District or County, or decide on matters that will affect the Parish such as planning applications, roads, footpaths and allocation of the Parish Precept.

If you would like to be a part of this important part of the fabric of our local society please let the Clerk know by mailing him at: [stawleypc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stawleypc@yahoo.co.uk), or mention your interest to any of the present Councillors.

Secondly, the move towards a unitary authority, Somerset Council, is going ahead quickly and as a part of this Local Community Networks (LCNs) are being established. There

will be between ten and eighteen of these across the County and there is a consultation briefing pack available online at <https://someset.inconsult.uk/LCNs/consultationHome>.

If you don't want to type all of that in you can also find a link to it on the front page of our local website at <https://www.stash.org.uk>. There is an opportunity to make your comments about the proposals on the website or you can pass them to one of the Councillors who are going to discuss them at its next meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> October.

*Paul Musgrove (Clerk)*

### Bathealton Parish Walk

**Sunday October 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Meet at Bathealton Village Hall at 2.00 pm  
Refreshments afterwards.



### Quaker Meeting for Worship at Spiceland

**We Meet for Worship at Spiceland, every  
Sunday at 10.30am till 11.30am**

**Also available on Zoom ID:865 5570 2735  
Passcode: 498173  
All are very welcome.**

### Ways of seeking – Quaker Faith & Practice

It is difficult for us to reconcile the two ideas of God as a loving Father and as the Creator of all things, because of the existence of cruelty and undeserved suffering in Nature itself. Jesus apparently did take for granted the idea that God controlled the rising of the sun and falling of the rain and had made us male and female. It makes me long to have him here now so that I could ask him some of the questions that his disciples didn't ask him. In fact I find that I am talking to him in my mind and that it is a great deal more profitable than talking to myself; even though it is, in one sense, talking to myself; and even though I don't get the answers to the questions that puzzle me. But that doesn't worry me now, because I have learned, as a scientist, how much I don't understand. I have learned too that when a scientist encounters two apparently irreconcilable ideas, these are the stepping stones to new knowledge.

*Kathleen Lonsdale, 1962*

# BIG BREAKFAST

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October**

**8:30 - 11:30am**

at Appley Pavilion

TA21 0HH



Full English (LARGE OR SMALL), Scrambled Egg, Pancakes, Beans on Toast or Just Toast!

In aid of



CANCER  
RESEARCH  
UK



## **A Fond Farewell from The Village Festival Choir**

This month, we say “cheerio” to Julia and Steve Swan. As well as being such an integral part of community life here, they have been the backbone of the Village Festival Choir and they leave behind a huge legacy.

When I met Julia in 2009, it was the beginning of an extremely creative relationship for me. Initially we followed the pattern of Services we’d inherited: just Christmas and Easter. But soon we aimed for one Service in each of the five Churches each year, and we began to get invitations from further afield.

Our first major ‘outside’ event was in September 2013. As part of the Somerset Ten Parishes Festival, we took the Choir on Tour. The idea was we should follow the Bell Ringers round all five Churches singing a fifteen minute mini festival at each. Incidents on the way included the lid jumping off the harmonium in Greenham during a vigorous Jubilate, and Bathealton’s organ providing its own harmony to “Moon River” when the top five notes got stuck. Four and a half hours after starting, we finished at the Globe Inn.

After that, there was no stopping us. As well as regular Services increasing, non-Church events began. In 2015 for example, we opened the Creative Art weekend in Ashbrittle Village Hall, singing through a medley of songs arranged by Peter Lawson called “Tunes of the Trenches” – all popular WW1 songs to commemorate the 100th anniversary. In 2016/17 we introduced Silk/Levinson’s amazing plays based on Dickens’ characters with the Choir in Victorian costumes. Songs were sung at the beginning of “The Ghost of Mr. Dickens” ending with the eerie rendition of the title tune leading seamlessly into Untold Theatre’s opening scene.

### **New opportunities**

We always welcome the chance to perform with other musicians such as in 2019 at a “Happening” in Penny Hare’s garden which saw John Young (organist) and Mary Owen (flautist) bobbing up and down in a boat playing while a couple of Choir members walked up the river, snorkling and reciting Tennyson. The Choir sang Karl Jenkins’ Adiemus and Allegrettango with musicians playing flute and double bass, folksongs and French songs with an accordionist.

Other Church events have included: the induction of our Vicars, Flower Festivals (here and at other Churches), Choral Evensongs, and sadly the funeral of one of our longest members (John Owen) and happily, at the wedding of another (Olga to John Dawer).

Christmas has always been a busy time with a regular Carol Service, and, occasionally, an Advent one - any excuse to sing “Adam Lay Y’Bounden.” We would visit a few residential homes for carols, and go house to house carol singing. Then in January, we joined in the Wassail season in different localities – in Appley once the splendidly hatted Green Man (from VFC), led all the village children, Pied-Piper-like, into The Globe Inn while parents and Choir were still wassailing in the field!!

Lockdown came, we just managed an Ash Wednesday Service at the end of February 2020, but after that we did not sing until April 3rd 2022 in Stawley Church. We sang again on 5th June for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee when the Choir learnt, in just two rehearsals, a specially written anthem of the Queen’s own words: “In Our Service”. Since then, we have sung at a second West Fest, an Open air event held last August, and that, sadly, was Julia and Steve’s final outing with us.

So that’s it – a brief run-down of Village Festival Choir activities while I’ve been involved with Julia at the helm. It would never have happened without her, aided and abetted by Steve. But, we have been very fortunate because John Young has offered to carry on into the future with the Choir. Later this year we hope to sing at a Harvest Service (October 16th at Kittisford at 5.00pm) and at Remembrance (November 13th) and a Christmas Carol Service (all details to be confirmed).

If anyone is interested in joining the Choir, please contact me; [gailpbritton@gmail.com](mailto:gailpbritton@gmail.com) or tel: 01398 361 418 or mob. 07791 893 403

*Gail Britton*

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## Stawley Flower and Produce Show 2022

Following the great heatwave of July and August, torrential rain restored some vigour to our gardens. This benefitted the quality of the produce at the annual Stawley Flower and Produce Show held at the Appley Pavilion on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September. The Pavilion Committee organised delicious cream teas and home-made cakes as well as a raffle.

The judges were Morag Berthon and Ann Heard who had the difficult task of tasting all the jams and jellies, home-made brews and delicious cakes as well as the craft items.

There were several more children's classes than in previous years and these seemed to be popular with seventeen children who entered; the youngest being Meredith Ker aged one who was commended for her three apples skewered together to make a caterpillar.

The winner of the **Cothay Cup** for the most points of the day was Anna-Lisa De'Ath and the winner of the Children's Junior **Rossholme Cup** for the best programme cover for 2023 went to Jasmine Burrow. **The Chair's Cup**, awarded by the organisers for the most exceptional entry went to Laura Burrow for the overall quality of her many entries. The children's **Special Prize Hen** was won by Jasmine Burrow for her brilliant cauliflower Bouchon dog.



*The Burrow family, who had an outstanding day at the Flower Show*

The other prizes were awarded as follows:

**Vegetable Award** to Anna-Lisa De'Ath

**Fruit Award** to Laura Burrow

**Flower Cup** jointly to Pat Gainey and Laura Burrow

**Produce Award** jointly to Anna-Lisa De'Ath and Sue Jacoby

**Cookery Award** to Anna-Lisa De'Ath

**Croft Bowl** to Anna-Lisa De'Ath

**Art Award** to Mike Parkinson

**Rossholme Cup** jointly to Becky Pugsley, Anna-Lisa De'Ath and Martin Jacoby

**Photo Shield** to Luke Williams.



*Chris Clapham, with his helpers, auctioned the produce and raised £154, which was a tremendous outcome.*

I would like to say a big thank you to the Pavilion Committee, to Penny Stanbury whose help to me was invaluable, to Anna-Lisa for doing the results board and to members of the Gardening Club who helped so much with the setting up and clearing up.

Finally, the last thank you goes to all members of the community of all ages who brought along the products of their efforts in the garden, kitchen and workshop and without whom there would not be a show. If anyone has new ideas for 2023, please send them through to me.

*Sue Jacoby*

### A Challenge for another year

Our family have been entering the Stawley flower and produce show ever since we moved here in 2019 and I can honestly say that it is the highlight of my year! Will that fine specimen still be blooming? Will the caterpillars eat the prize winning cabbage? Will I ever knock the gorgeous Anna-Lisa off the top notch?!

This year Jasmine and I did do rather well, winning lots of cups and prizes. It was such a fun day - the exciting build up to getting everything ready and to the hall in time, the joy of seeing the fantastic competition, the anticipation of finding



out how well we did, the cream teas and chance to catch up with friends and the final prize giving ceremony and auctioning of the produce. We're very lucky to have an auctioneer living in the village, Chris makes the event so much fun and raises lots of money too which all goes back into the pot for next year's event.

So come on everyone - get growing, making and baking ready for next year's show - I don't want to make Ian build a bigger mantelpiece for all our trophies!

*Laura Burrow*

## The Pavilion and the Flower Show

Many thanks to the Gardening Club for organising another wonderful flower show. It was lovely to see so many enthusiastic children collecting their well-earned prizes!

A big afternoon for the Pavilion too, this was the first event featuring our new kitchen!

Huge thanks to Suzette Williams and Kath Rose for project managing all the works through the school holidays and troubleshooting a few last minute niggly problems, to ensure all was ready for the beginning of September and the return our regular users and Stawley Pre-School.

Suzette and Kath officially opened the kitchen just before the Flower Show began and then, as usual, served the most delicious teas all afternoon. The Pavilion raised £327 from the teas and raffle, many thanks to everyone who supported us.



*Kath and Suzette cut the tape to open the refurbished kitchen, watched by Sally Scott*

### Cleaner

The Pavilion needs a cleaner, either Mondays after 10:30 or Tuesdays during the afternoon, for two hours - £25.

Contact Suzette for more details on 01823 672266 or email [williamsspfa@outlook.com](mailto:williamsspfa@outlook.com)

## Gardening Club

The weather-imposed constraints on our gardens this season have been felt by us all. Not least, the planned visit to a member's garden in October has had to be postponed. Instead, plans for a visit to a local garden, most likely National Trust Killerton, are underway.

September's garden visit was to National Trust Tyntesfield. For some of the twelve participants, this was their first visit, so the visit was especially interesting. The property, just a stone's throw from Bristol, is extensive with some 540 acres of estate, comprising parkland, formal gardens and an ornate Victorian Gothic Revival house.

Our visit was greatly enhanced by the Head Gardener, Paul Evans, who kindly agreed to give us a conducted tour and introduce some of the garden's highlights. Tyntesfield has only been owned by the National Trust for twenty years and what it has achieved in this time in restoring the estate to its former glory is truly commendable. Paul was able to tell us of the key achievements in the garden, along with many fascinating anecdotes about the programme of work.

One key fact has been that the National Trust acquired an extensive set of Victorian plant labels from the old estate, which has enabled a complete inventory of the original plants in the garden. Although modern planting is used for many of the borders, some of the original specimen trees have been replanted in an area, aptly known as Paradise. A memorable day was had by all, despite the weather's best attempt to dampen spirits!

*Val Wall & Di Roberts*



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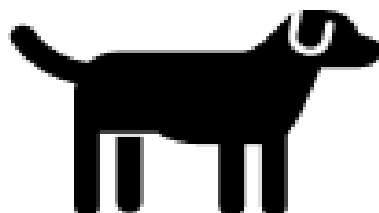
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**KITTISFORD, TRACEBRIDGE &  
APPLEY:** 01823 245101

The VETS numbers are available should you need assistance in an emergency or 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 DEFIBRILLATOR RATHER THAN GENERAL HELP**

There are four local **defibrillators** which are easy to use and available to anyone. 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 wall,  
opposite church *bonkers.regime.lyricist*

**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
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** Philip Broad 07584 657106  
Email: *Philip.broad1@outlook.com*  
**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: *williamspfa@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 Alder Pre-schools Manager  
Swallows, Sampford Arundel 01823 672342 Mon/Tues  
Stawley Under Fives 07753 552736 Weds/Thurs/Fri

**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 Avril Silk 01823 672131 *e-mail address: ashparishnews@gmail.com*  
**Treasurer:** Andrew Millard . Barton Barn, Kittisford, Wellington TA21 0RZ **Bank details:** Account Name: The Parish News,  
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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### **October**

1st	7.30 pm	'Wivelele' our local Ukulele group - Bathealton Village Hall
2nd	2.00 pm	Bathealton Parish Walk –meet at the Village Hall
9th	All day	Community Apple Pressing Day, Appley Pavilion
9th	From 10.00 am	Fun Ride starting at Woodlands Farm, Bathealton
15th	8.30am-11.30am	Big Breakfast Appley Pavilion, in aid of Cancer Research UK
20th	10.00 am - noon	Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy at Church Cottage, Stawley,
27th	12 noon	Lunch Club at Ashbrittle Village Hall
29th		Stawley Mill Happenings
29th	7.30 pm	Fun Quiz in Bathealton Village Hall

### **December**

3rd	2.30 pm	Christmas Fayre, Bathealton Village Hall
10th		Stawley Mill Happenings
17th	8.00 pm	Christmas Bingo at Appley Pavilion

### **2023**

1st July		Summer Ball at Appley Pavilion
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## Community Defibrillator Seminar



**Appley Pavilion  
6.00 pm  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October**

**Everybody is welcome, and no special skills are required, just your willingness to play an important role in the event of a medical emergency**

**The more people that know how to use the portable defibrillators installed in our community, the more chance there is of saving the life of a victim of Sudden Cardiac Arrest.**

**Next Deadline Date: Friday 21st October**

**Editors: Maurice and Avril**