

ASHBRITTLE GREENHAM STAWLEY BATHEALTON KITTISFORD



# Parish news

May 2025

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

**Church Services****Sun 4<sup>th</sup> May**

<b>9.30am</b>	Holy Communion Service	<b>St. Michael's, Stawley</b>
<b>11.15am</b>	Sung Eucharist Service	<b>All Saints, Rockwell Green</b>
<b>11.15am</b>	BCP Communion Service	<b>St. John the Baptist, Ashbittle</b>

**Sun 11<sup>th</sup> May**

<b>9.30am</b>	Holy Communion Service	<b>Holy Cross, Sampford Arundel</b>
<b>11.15am</b>	Sung Eucharist Service	<b>All Saints, Rockwell Green</b>

**Sun 18<sup>th</sup> May**

<b>9.30am</b>	Holy Communion Service	<b>St. Margaret's, Thorne St. Margaret</b>
<b>11.15am</b>	Sung Eucharist Service	<b>All Saints, Rockwell Green</b>
<b>4.30pm</b>	<b>Outdoor Service at Kittisford House</b> <i>see page 5 for details.</i>	

**Sun 25<sup>th</sup> May**

<b>9.30am</b>	Holy Communion Service	<b>St. Bartholomew's, Bathealton</b>
<b>11.15am</b>	Sung Eucharist Service	<b>All Saints, Rockwell Green</b>
<b>6.00pm</b>	Evensong	<b>Holy Cross, Sampford Arundel</b>

**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** 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  
Colin Haddrell, Tucks Farm, Stawley, TA21 0HS 07974 804990

**Priest-in-Charge**

Reverend Andrew Barton, 2 White Oaks, Langford Budville, TA21 0RB  
Contacts: Home/Office - Phone 01823 924007 or 07795 699737  
*Email revdbarton@gmail.com*

**Artists Wanted!**

Do you have a painting or photograph which could be used as a cover design for the Parish News? Seasonal and local images are particularly welcome. Please send hi-res images (300dpi) to Avril at [AvrilSilk@aol.com](mailto:AvrilSilk@aol.com) Portrait format is ideal if possible.

**Front cover - 'Nature's hope, renewal and new life'.** Photograph taken by Walter Longden in Marsh Field, Greenham by the old canal

## Thought for the Month

**On the 8th May, VE Day, we will be celebrating the end of World War II in Europe.**

**Here is an account of one man's experience - Gerald Webb, by his son Gerry.**

When the war broke out, my father was too young to join-up. Living in London, he became a runner for the ARP (Air Raid Precautions) and darted around the blitz torn streets carrying messages. He eventually became a fully-fledged ARP Warden.

However, as soon as he was eighteen, in 1942, he went to the recruiting office to sign-up. 'What unit would you like to join?' said the Sergeant. The reply was that he wanted to join the Essex Regiment. The man was so thick that he could not spell Essex and so my father finished up serving for twenty eight years in the Royal Sussex Regiment. It is possible that the Sergeant was getting some kind of reward for everyone he could dupe into joining the much under-recruited Sussex Regiment.

Basic training was a real treat; they were not bombed every night and the food was more plentiful than the meagre rations he was used to at home. After completion of that, he was sent to the Royal Sussex Regiment (stationed somewhere just below the N on the map of Kent). The time came when that nice Mr Churchill thought they deserved a holiday in the sun. So, they were loaded in troopships and finished up in that glorious resort of North Africa. Having sorted out Rommel, as a reward, they were treated to a guided tour of Italy. Monte Casino was one of the attractions they visited although my father missed that as he had a bad attack of jaundice.

### The next move

As a special treat, the Prime Minister suggested that they might like to leave the war in Italy and go and fight in Greece for six months. They got shot at in Greece, but not as much as in Italy – so they looked on it as a bit of a holiday. However, all good things must come to an end and after that break they found themselves back in Italy.

It is an interesting fact that they liberated Rome on the same day as the start of the D-Day landings. Their casualty rate had been over twice that of the Normandy campaign although they were dubbed by an outspoken American lady in Parliament as 'the D-Day Dodgers'.

The end of the war found them in Austria which was an absolute haven to anything they had experienced in the previous three years. That nice Mr Churchill even threw in a bit of leave back in

England. Doesn't travel broaden the mind, especially when it involves a journey of two weeks in cattle trucks across war torn Europe.

*Gerry Webb*

*As a footnote, my father's regiment continued to fight around the world until the end of their tour in Korea in 1953.*

## War-time on the home front

Some of us oldies are still around, born in the 1940s, but even so, mostly too late to have real memories of what it was like to celebrate the ending of the dreadful toll that war had been imposed on our parents' generation. The word Peace must have been such a relief both to those at home and those who had been fighting.

As testified by many poignant war memorials, some villages had lost the backbone of their male population and some families faced a future without their next generation. Those who returned were too often physically and mentally scarred. The promise of peace was a beacon ending the dark days of sadness and uncertainty. A reason to pull out all the stops and celebrate.

Church bells remained silent during the war, only potentially, to be rung as a warning of imminent invasion. But in 1945 there was a promise of Peace. Before the days of television and wall to wall multichannel broadcast music, the sound of the bells echoing around both country and city parishes must have been truly meaningful. A resounding heartfelt yippee after all the worries of war.

On the 8th May 1945 bells rang out across Britain as the nation took to the streets in celebration of **Victory in Europe Day**.

### Celebration of the occasion

Eighty years later we celebrate this momentous occasion by recreating that moment to pay tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice, so that we might live in a free world.

The church bells will be rung in the early evening of Thursday 8th May in Batheaston, Kitisford, Ashbrittle and Stawley, as they will all over the country.

May our children and grandchildren not have to face the dreadful horrors of war.

*Angela Medlycott*

### Mobile Library

at Greenham Bridge

**Next visits:** 6th May and 3rd June

9.50 - 10.10 a.m.



## Ashbrittle Arts Music Event

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, seventy people turned up to Ashbrittle's Church of St. John the Baptist, atmospherically lit in blues and greens, to hear the music of three incredibly talented musicians. The Revd. Andy Barton gave enthusiastic and invaluable support to the project. Paul Leyland led the Ashbrittle Arts team to create an unforgettable event with delicious refreshments from Bar and Landwich. The evening started with Irish musician Terence O'Flaherty playing some traditional music with his own gentle twist and reinterpretation. He was then joined by the haunting tones of Pete Stacey on sax and flute and Will Allen on squeeze box and fiddle.



*Left to right - Will Allen, Terence O'Flaherty and Pete Stacey. Photo - Andy Barton*

When Terence began singing Leonard Cohen's *Hallelujah* the audience joined him in the chorus to create a truly memorable and moving moment.

Each musician proceeded to show their amazing combination of talents with individual solos including a mesmerising soprano sax solo by Pete Stacey.

One member of the audience was in tears after requesting *Carrickfergus*, saying her father used to sing it when she was a child.

The evening ended with rapturous applause and I'm sure will remain with those who attended for some time to come.

It might seem irreverent to use the term magical when referring to an event in a church, but magical it most certainly was.

*Paul Leyland*

## Quaker Meeting for Worship

**Spiceland Quaker Meeting Uffculme  
EX15 3AZ**

***We Meet for Worship at Spiceland  
every Sunday at 10.30am till 11.30am  
also available on Zoom -***

***Meeting ID:865 5570 2735 Passcode:  
498173***

***All are very welcome.***

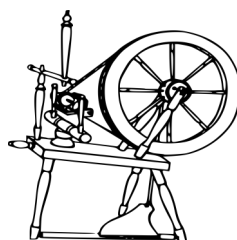
### ***10 Ways to Love***

*Listen without interrupting  
Speak without complaining  
Answer without arguing*

*Share without pretending  
Enjoy without complaining  
Promise without forgetting*

*Give without sparing  
Trust without wavering  
Forgive without punishing*

*Pray without ceasing.*



## **Spinning and Woolcraft Group**

A twice-monthly get-together at a member's house for textile crafting, chat and a cuppa

Perhaps you would like to learn to spin with us?  
Or bring along your knitting, crochet or other needlework project

**All welcome**

If you would like to join us, please contact me and I will add you to the mailing list.

### **Next Sessions**

**Tuesdays: 6th and 20th May  
3rd and 17th June  
at 2.30pm**

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

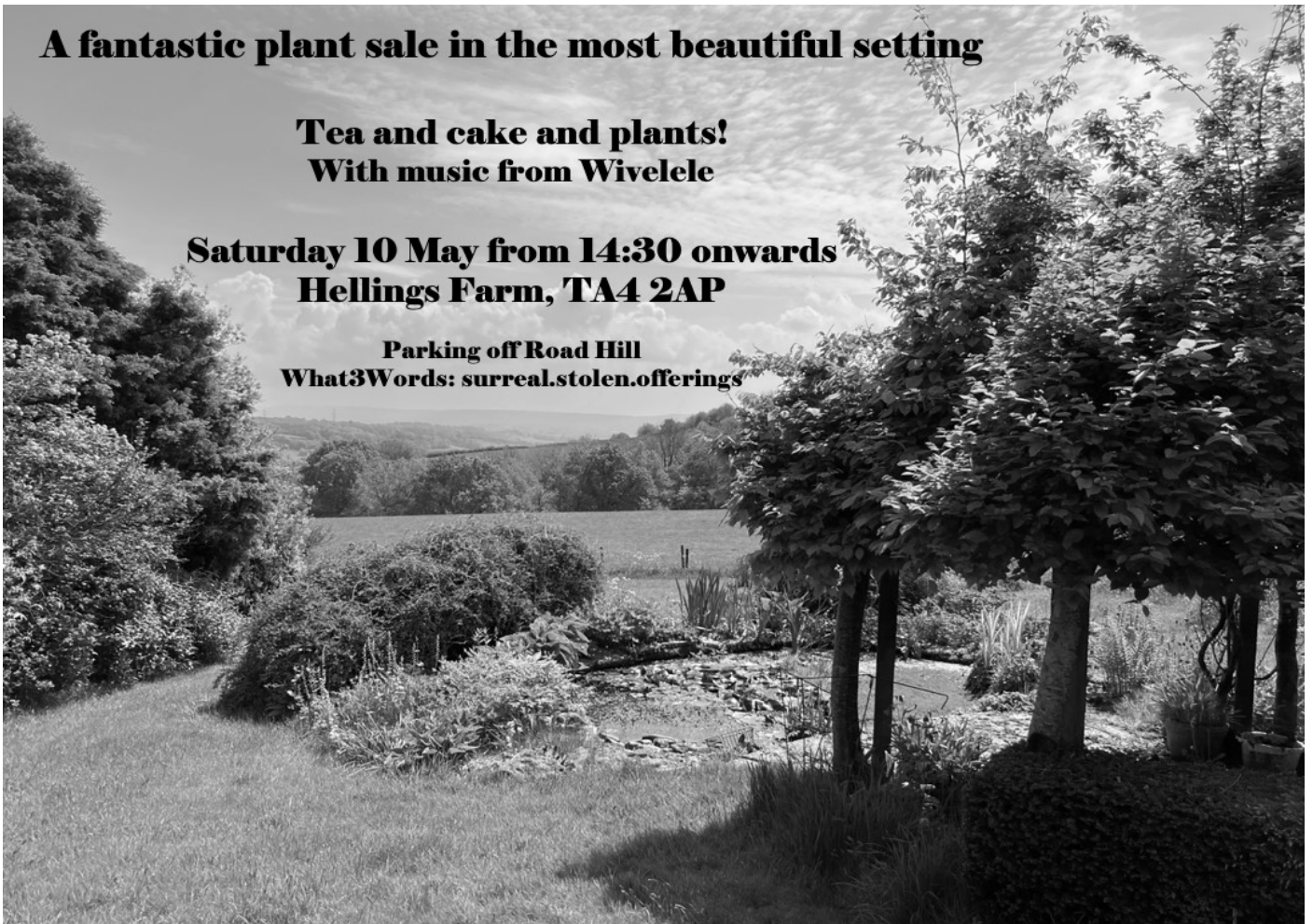


**A fantastic plant sale in the most beautiful setting**

**Tea and cake and plants!  
With music from Wivelele**

**Saturday 10 May from 14:30 onwards  
Hellings Farm, TA4 2AP**

**Parking off Road Hill  
What3Words: surreal.stolen.offerings**



## **Outdoor Church at Kittisford House**

**Sunday May 18th at 4.30 pm**

Everyone is welcome to join the congregation of Kittisford Church in this informal outdoor service to celebrate the beauty and bounty of nature

**.....and afterwards, from 6.00 til 8.00 pm**



Come and enjoy delicious, freshly made, wood-fired pizzas. **£10 a pizza**. Proceeds going to support St Nicholas Church, Kittisford.

**Please join us, as you are able**

**Kittisford House, TA21 0SA**

**Please email Paul Musgrove on [musy@cantab.net](mailto:musy@cantab.net) to pre-order a pizza (it will really help us to plan)**

## **May 2005 – 2025 Happy 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday - Appley Pavilion**

**Many thanks to all users and supporters  
for twenty successful years.  
Please come along for an evening of cele-  
bration on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00 p.m.**

### **The summer starts here!**

There were many people who put their hearts and souls into making the new Pavilion a building that would stand the test of time and the current trustees do an amazing job to maintain and improve the facilities. Here's to the next twenty years and more.

### **A bit of history**

Back in 1995 it was obvious that the old Memorial Pavilion, built in 1952, was not going to be able to be adapted to meet the requirements of new legislation for public buildings, particularly disabled access and toilets.

From a germ of an idea the Parish Council set up a subcommittee to explore grant funding and draft plans for a replacement pavilion. A community survey was sent to every household in the five parishes; the results gave overwhelming support for a new building, along with many ideas for new activities.

Then the real hard work started, culminating in 2002 with the first grants from Taunton Deane and Somerset County Councils. This proved to be the catalyst for Lottery Community Funding and other pots including Landfill Tax Credits (a master class in complicated application arrangements).

During this time the playing field and pavilion were registered as a charity with a new constitution governed by the Charity Commission. By the end of 2003 funds were in place and the painstaking work of agreeing architectural plans and a programme of works began. The old pavilion was sold on eBay to a charity, based in Shropshire, providing holidays for children affected by the Chernobyl disaster. Ground works started in late summer 2004 and, cutting a very long story short, the new building had its grand opening on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2005 *see photograph on page 32*.

How many of the children in the photograph, now young adults, can you name?

### **The first 20 years**

As well as returning groups such as Pre School and Cricket the building was soon home to new users; Stawley Youth Group, Pilates, a Young People's Environment Group, The Get Fit class, Yoga, Tai Chi and a venue for Adult Learning and Leisure classes.

Here's the trip down Memory Lane from May 2005 to 2025, hold on to your hat and take a deep breath, this is just a snapshot!

Apologies for any omissions and a huge thank you to everyone who was part of this amazing list of events and activities. Not forgetting all the bookings for families and friends.

**Cricket Club** matches throughout the summer season. A huge thank you to the club for maintaining the grounds in such immaculate condition.

**Annual Stawley Flower and Produce Show:** a regular September event when the best of local produce and crafts is on display.

**Talks;** including 'Snapshots of a Naval Career', the 'Wonders of Galapagos', a Joyce Grenfell Ladies Evening, 'Rewilding the Countryside'.

**Birthday Parties** (from infants to great grandparents) and **Wedding Breakfasts**.

**Quiz Nights and Bingo evenings.**

**Music nights,** both Classical and Modern.

Mary Owen and her professional friends have performed a classical repertoire on a number of occasions and have enjoyed a great reception.

In contrast The Thunderbridge Bluegrass Boys, a local group, brought the house down too.

**Evenings of drama;** sometimes with Ashbrittle Arts, e.g. 'Casanova' and 'Don't go into the Cellar – The Singular Exploits of Sherlock Holmes'

**Big Breakfasts;** when many appetites were satisfied by Suzette and her team.

**Fund raisers for many good causes;** 'Having a Larf' – in support of Rossholme School in Kenya. Stawley School and Pre-School Summer Fete.

**Balls, Tea Dances** and dancing classes.

**Polling Station** for Parish and County Council elections.

**Parish Council meetings** and meetings promoted by the PC.

**Apple Pressing Days** - when the juice flows from morning through to late afternoon, to be preserved as fresh juice or a more alcoholic version.

*Sally Scott, Pavilion Committee Secretary  
for much of this time.*



Join us to celebrate

# *APPLEY PAVILION'S 20TH BIRTHDAY*

*Band ~ 'Twisted Vinyl'*

*Hog Roast*

*Bar*

*Tickets - £20*

*(Hog Roast included in ticket price!)*



Saturday 10th May 2025  
From 7pm

Appley Pavilion, Somerset, TA21 0HH

To book your tickets:

*[williamspfa@outlook.com](mailto:williamspfa@outlook.com)*

*Suzette - 07890 261387*

*Charlotte - 07966 939093*



## Big Fundraising Week for 'Wivey Cares' 23rd – 29th June

Calling all 10 Parishes residents, clubs, societies, schools and groups! Please join in with our first ever fundraising week to celebrate our seventh year of running. We hope that many residents are going to support us with their own fundraising events to help us raise £2500.00 in one week, the equivalent of one month's of running costs.

Ever dreamed of holding a coffee morning, garden party, or BBQ - or are you a dab hand already in all things fundraising? Everything goes, be it small or large. We will provide admin support and other help, if needed, and your event is going to feature in our social media campaign.

You may even get interviewed by 10 Radio who are going to support us for the whole week. If you have any gifts or experiences that we can raffle or auction off, we would be very grateful to receive them. Online fundraising campaigns are welcome too!

We are going to organise a few fundraising events ourselves during this week, most notably our closing event:

**The Big Breakfast in Aid of 'Wivey Cares'**  
**Sunday 29th June at Wivey Rugby Club,**  
**9.30 – 12.00**

It would be fantastic if any food producers in the 10 Parishes could help us with donations of provisions for the breakfast event.

More details will be published in the next issue of the Parish News. If we are lucky, the monies raised during our fundraising week may be included in a huge national match funding event – so wish us luck with our application.

If you would like to help, or have any queries, please contact [valeria@wiveycares.net](mailto:valeria@wiveycares.net)

*Val Coots*



### Bathealton Village Hall

**POP UP CAFÉ**  
Why not 'drop in' to  
our 'Pop up'.

A friendly warm space: time to catch up with  
old friends or meet new ones.

**The next 'Pop-up' will be on  
Monday 2nd June.**



## Bee Yourself

### Beespoke Care and Support at Home

A friendly, professional service, offering-  
Home Help, Companionship, Meal Preparation,  
Personal Care, Light Cleaning, Pet care,  
Overnight Care – Sleeping or Waking  
(Respite only)

Reading, Activities, Palliative and End of Life  
Care.

Fully Insured, Enhanced DBS,  
Micro Provider registered in Somerset.  
Helping you to stay independent  
in the comfort and safety of your own home.

**Wellington and surrounding rural areas.**

Please contact:  
Charlotte Wakley on 07760 135980

## Jo Clarke FHT ITEC IHBC APNT

Holistic Therapist with 30 years experience.  
Massage, Myofascial Release, Aromatherapy  
Vibrational Healing, Reiki Healing.

My focus is on the holistic approach to health  
and healing, to look at each person as a  
whole not just at the symptoms present. My  
aim is to improve physical health and  
mobility, whilst also facilitating deep healing  
on an emotional, mental and spiritual level

I look forward to welcoming you to my  
beautiful therapy centre set in the peaceful  
Somerset countryside,  
near Stawley and Ashbrittle.

**For Appointments: Call or WhatsApp/text**  
**07929 378534 or**  
**Email: [shumwood.therapy@gmail.com](mailto:shumwood.therapy@gmail.com)**

\*\*\* Wiveliscombe Community Centre \*\*\*

# KLEZMER

MUSIC NIGHT WITH

*Zeffe*

*Klezmer, Balkan and Gypsy Music Styles*

PLUS GEMS OF THE GENRE



@2023 Karen Rawlinson

DOORS 7.00 for 7.30 start

bring your own drink

**FRI 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

TICKETS £14 (12 s' and under free) from Secret Island, North St, Wiveliscombe

or via Eventbrite

[www.tinyurl.com/zeffe9may](http://www.tinyurl.com/zeffe9may)

OR CALL 07925 223842 TO RESERVE A PLACE



Wiveliscombe Community Centre, North Street, Wiveliscombe TA4 2JP

## Where do we go from here?

Take it from here, of course. Every journey, task or idea starts from here, where I am. It can't begin from where I'm not, can it? I can't be where you are at the same time.

If something is happening that we don't like, we can hide somewhere, or pretend we are not here. We can't be in two places at once so we can't just miraculously hop into that other place. We have to run for it, get out of the way, move ourselves.

That is precisely what all the migrants are doing. Where they are, there's persecution, or violence, or some other kind of cruelty. Alternatively, they can't fulfil their dreams and ambitions. Life is regulated by corruption and poverty.

As they look across the world, via their mobile phones maybe, they see other countries. They look beautiful. The people are smiling, look happy and life seems many times better. There's an especially nice little island off the west coast of Europe that, they hear, is very welcoming. Getting there involves risks but it seems worth the dangers. So they take it from there to get where they want to be.

### A better life

Some of us want to make permanent moves for a better life. Maybe escape to the country. Many more go from home to relax and enjoy something – they go on holiday. We migrate to pleasant quiet areas and turn them into tourist hot-spots. Home from home?

But what if what we face is so big we can't escape? Have you heard on the BBC News (so it must be true!) that a largish asteroid is heading our way? Maybe ½ mile in width and coming very, very fast! If it hits us – and it is by no means certain – then an awful lot of Granny's priceless china is going to get smashed. If that is to happen, where can we go?

That's the problem with living in a finite world. Whether it's an asteroid, another but more ferocious pandemic, or climate change becoming unstoppable and destructive, where do we go? Where do we go from here?

But, of course, just in the nick of time, the kind Doctor in his police box will turn up. Or NASA will unveil a vast spaceship that will take millions to Mars at least – maybe. How much did they say a one way ticket would be?

Where do we go from here? Where indeed! Of course, it's happening all the time. Everyone dies and leaves planet Earth. Where do we go from here? Do any of us know – for sure?

For me, the significance of the life of Christ brings answers to some of my questions.

*Martin Perry* 10

## Stawley Parish Council

Stawley Parish Council will be holding a Council meeting at 6:30pm in Appley Pavilion on the 6<sup>th</sup> May. This will be followed by the **Annual Parish Meeting** which will start at 7:30pm.

All parishioners are welcome to attend to discuss ongoing issues in our parish. The agendas for both meetings will be on the website at [stash.org.uk](http://stash.org.uk) from the 28<sup>th</sup> April.

### Planning Notices

We have been told by Somerset Council that they will not be putting up notices about planning applications other than those for:

- Major Applications
- Environmental Impact Assessments
- Departures from the Development Plan
- Developments Affecting a Right of Way
- Listed Buildings
- Permission in Principle

Somerset have told us that they will continue to notify adjoining neighbours and Parish Councils regarding applications however recent experience is that they notify the Parish Council by e-mail but neighbours are not being informed.

Stawley Parish Council will therefore notify immediate neighbours where they are known to us. If you would like to have an e-mail about planning forwarded to you please let the Clerk know by e-mail to [stawleypc@stash.org.uk](mailto:stawleypc@stash.org.uk) giving your property address with postcode and email you wish to be contacted on.

This information will only be used to notify you of planning applications.

*Paul Musgrove (Chairman)*

### Rainfall Statistics (inches) for March 2025

2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
2.76	3.15	7.01	4.96	0.20

What a month! Next to no rain at all. The archives reveal that since 2001 only March 2012 had a fairly low rainfall (0.91 inches). No match for March 2025.

And, consulting the archives again, March 2025 has been **the driest single month since our local records began**, with May 2020 showing 0.24 and April 2011 recording 0.38 inches of rainfall.

*Val Coots*



— THE —  
**GLOBE INN**  
APPLEY

**Get in the summer spirit this month with not one, but two, bank holidays to enjoy!**

**Soak up the summer sunshine in our gorgeous beer garden this May, while you tuck into our delicious home-cooked food and thirst-quenching selection of locally-produced beers, ciders, spirits and soft drinks.**

*Keep an eye on our Facebook page  
(The Globe INN Appley)  
for details of our upcoming  
alfresco music events.*



**Open**

Wednesday to Saturday 12 noon - 11pm

Sunday 12 noon - 4pm

**Food**

Served from 12 noon - 2pm & 6pm - 9pm

Pizza Night every Friday 6pm - 9pm



Appley, Stawley, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 0HJ



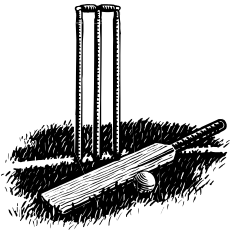
01823 673147



stuartdurston@hotmail.co.uk



The Globe INN Appley



## Ashbottle, Stawley and Clayhanger Cricket Club

### Youth Cricket Returns to Ashbottle!

We are delighted to announce that this summer will see us relaunch our youth section! Run by ECB qualified and DBS checked coaches, the club is hoping to find the next generation of players who can experience cricket in a friendly and welcoming environment and go on to play in our senior teams.

Sessions are currently due to start on Tuesday the 1st of May, and then every Tuesday following. This is subject to change, however we will communicate and confirm any dates when we have them.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch to let us know you'd be interested in bringing your child to a session this summer.

We also have our confirmed Fixture lists for our Title Defences for both our 1st and 2nd Teams this year.

The 1st XI will kick their season off at Home to Bridgetown on the 3rd of May.

Also on the 3rd, our 2nd XI will begin life in Division 3 Away to Minehead 3rd Team.

*Callum Hamer*

### Stawley Church Spring Coffee Morning

The wonderful weather meant that we could spend plenty of time outdoors at our Spring Coffee Morning held at the Old Rectory at Stawley on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April, held by the kind permission and generosity of Michael and Judy Milne.

Some of the trees were just coming into leaf, so we had an unobstructed view, as we looked out onto the parish of Stawley, and far beyond. Little wonder the Church of England chose that location for the parish rectory.

A mixture of local people, and several visitors, made up the numbers to create a strong community feel to the event. Our Coffee Mornings are also *Bring and Buy* events, which meant that we had a large selection of items for sale. With raffle ticket sales at an all-time high, and donations from those who were unable to attend, it turned out to be a very worthwhile fund raiser for the church.

Saint Michael and All Angels at Stawley will be having its Quinquennial Report (which is

a sort of full structural survey for churches) very soon - the £373 raised will be put to good use straight away.

A sincere thank you to everyone who supported us, and made the day such a great success. We look forward to seeing you all at the Stawley Church Garden Party and Fete on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June - see page 17.

*Colin Haddrell, on behalf of Stawley PCC*

## STOP PRESS

### Getting connected in Stawley - the first live connection

Like most people living in this area, we have struggled to get a decent broadband speed for many years. We have also had our hopes raised and dashed on more than one occasion with the promise of fibre optic broadband being installed in the area. So, when we heard about Technological Services offering to install full fibre to properties in the village of Stawley we were rather sceptical, but registered an interest anyway. After an interval of just four weeks, I am delighted to say that we are now connected and that Tucks Farm is the first property in Stawley to go live!!!

The whole process was extremely straightforward, requiring a few emails, and a visit from Jim Weir to look at the site and work out where to put the underground duct. The work of getting the duct from our field into the garden and to the house was carried out quickly (but not quietly!) with no mess left behind.

If you haven't registered an interest already, I would recommend this company. The broadband speed is excellent (faster than Starlink); you get connected for free by consenting to the company applying for a government voucher on your behalf.

The monthly price you pay once you go live is very competitive.

*Annette Haddrell*

*There will be a full update on progress with the project in the June issue of the magazine.*

*Eds.*

### Bathealton Village Hall Annual General Meeting

Monday 19th May 2025

7.00 pm

All welcome

Bathealton Village Hall

www.technological.co.uk/ex16

# Full Fibre Broadband

## *Free Connection using UK Gigabit Voucher*

### *Register Interest Now*

### *Funding Available*

#### BASIC BROADBAND

**40Mbps**

Symmetrical Service

£40 a Month

- No Connection Charge\*
- 40Mbps Download
- 40Mbps Upload
- Unlimited Usage
- 12 Month Contract
- Wireless Router
- Optional Phone Service

Inc VAT (\*with Voucher)

#### ULTRAFast

**300Mbps**

Symmetrical Service

£75 a Month

- No Connection Charge\*
- 300Mbps Download
- 300Mbps Upload
- Unlimited Usage
- 12 Month Contract
- Wireless Router
- Optional Phone Service

Inc VAT (\*with Voucher)

Find out more & sign-up online  
[info@technological.co.uk](mailto:info@technological.co.uk)



Funded by  
UK Government



TECHNOLOGICAL



## Gardening Club

For our April meeting, a group of twelve went to Knightshayes Court on a visit organised by Penny Stanbury. Here is what she said about it:

The Gardening Club visited Knightshayes Court, after an invitation from John Ridgley. We saw work on the Woodland Garden, originally constructed after WW1, and then neglected for many years. You can imagine the scale of the work involved.



*John Ridgley (left) explains the restoration work taking place in the Woodland Garden. Photo - Angela Medlycott*

When rejuvenating the beds, we saw volunteers meticulously salvaging tiny bulbs from amongst the weeds. Some overgrown trees and shrubs are being removed. Replanting has involved salvaging plants, donations and micro propagation of some specialities. A large plant donation came from Broadleigh Gardens. We visited these gardens in Bishops Hull last year and we were aware it was for sale. The sale meant all the beds, tunnels and stock had to be returned to field conditions. John was invited to go over with a van to salvage all he could. What a gift! But it meant even more plants to be cared for in his nursery.

Originally, peat blocks were used to create tiering. As peat cannot be used now, they are experimenting with various block forms. Shredded bracken which is coloured by charred laurel is the current thought. It is not expected to last as well as the peat blocks, edges of which we could still see in places.

A lovely walk through some completed beds was enhanced by the dappled sunlight through the mature trees and azaleas. We saw many erythronium, cyclamen, trillium, hellebores, anemone, fritillary, and also iris with their flowers to look forward to. Elsewhere, carpets of bluebells, late daffodils and cyclamen amongst interesting shrubs.

This is a perfect time to visit a familiar but often overlooked facility. Thank you John for alerting us to this gem on our doorstep.

### A great trip out

We were blessed with lovely weather for this visit and were very grateful to John Ridgley for his extremely interesting and knowledgeable talk about the project and to Penny for coordinating it.

We always welcome new members to our group and contact can be made by email to [mike.parky3@gmail.com](mailto:mike.parky3@gmail.com)

*Mike and Freda Parkinson*



## Coffee, Cake and Chat

Ashbrittle Village Hall

**Saturday 17th May**  
10.00 - 12.00 noon

**Unlimited Coffee and Delicious Home Baked Cakes available, for just £5.00.**

*Please come and join us - all welcome !*

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**7TH & 21ST MAY**  
**10AM—12.30PM**

**IN AID OF CHURCH RESTORATION FUND**



# Stawley Community Village Shop & Tea Room

## Opening hours

Monday to Friday 8.00am to 5.00pm

Saturday 8.00am to 12.00pm

Sunday 9.00am to 11.00am



**The Post Office is here every Thursday 11.30am to 1.30pm**  
**Contact: 01823 674361 or email [shop@stawleyshop.com](mailto:shop@stawleyshop.com)**

---

## FRESH ORGANIC FRUIT AND VEGETABLES FROM RIVERFORD

Riverford make a regular delivery of fresh seasonal organic produce to the Shop on a Monday morning, so do come and look at what's on offer. If you have any specific requirements, including salad vegetables, fresh herbs and mushrooms, we can order these for you. We have produce lists in the Shop to choose from. Please contact Lesley Garner: email [lesleygarner@btinternet.com](mailto:lesleygarner@btinternet.com) by 12 noon Tuesday, for delivery the following Monday.

## BAKERY TASTING WEEK Monday 12th - Saturday 17th May

We have the opportunity to receive a regular bread delivery at the Shop, from the Devon-based Glenmore Bakery. This bakery has a range of tasty breads, including ancient grain, and gluten free, bread rolls and buns, also pies and pasties.

To introduce our customers to this brand, we are holding a

### **Bakery Tasting Week**

when we will have some of these products available for you to try

So please do come along during Shop opening hours to sample the tasty bread and pies and pasties and consider placing a regular order with us.

We also hope to carry a small stock of bakery items for general purchase.

We are very excited to have this opportunity to offer bread products to our customers but we need your continued support as always

**THANK YOU**

## Stawley Flower and Produce Show

Stawley Flower and Produce Show will be held at Appley Pavilion on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Below is a list of classes so that you have plenty of time to get sowing and sewing! After all this glorious sunshine and with some rain forecast, we could be in for a bumper year. The Flower Show is not a money-making enterprise, however we are reluctant to raise the entry fees as we feel it is very much a village and family occasion. The Pavilion Committee provide all the delicious teas and cakes while the Wiveliscombe Ukulele Band will be entertaining us again.

I am delighted to report that the Tiverton Agricultural Society has kindly agreed to sponsor the Flower Show to the tune of £100 which is much appreciated and will go towards the cost of printing the schedules.

*Sue Jacoby*

### Vegetables

- 3 potatoes
- 6 runner beans
- 6 French/other beans
- 5 chilli peppers
- 5 cherry tomatoes
- 3 large tomatoes
- A pair of root vegetables
- 5 onions or shallots
- 3 courgettes of the same variety
- A display of vegetables. Max size 45x45cm
- A display of herbs

### Fruit

- 5 dessert apples
- 5 cooking apples
- 5 stoned fruits
- A dish of soft fruit

### Flowers

- A collection of perennial flowers,  
6 stems, 3 varieties
- A collection of annual flowers,  
6 stems, 3 varieties
- A scented rose
- 5 dahlias
- A specimen bloom
- A floral display of wildflowers without Oasis
- Floating flower heads

### Produce

- A jar of honey
- A jar of marmalade
- A jar of jelly

- A jar of soft fruit jam
- A jar of chutney/pickle
- 6 eggs

### Drink

- A bottle of homemade drink

### Cookery

- A gingerbread cake
- 5 scones
- 5 cheese straws
- 5 chocolate brownies
- A loaf of handmade bread

### Arts & Crafts

- A knitted or crocheted item
- An example of needlecraft
- A painting of a front door in any medium.  
Max size 60x60cm
- An item made from upcycled or recycled material
- An item made from wood
- A photo of any British wildlife, unframed.  
Max size A4

**All to be made within the last year**

### Children's Classes Ages 3-7 & 8-12

- Cover design for the 2026 programme.
- Size A5, 21cm high by 15cm wide
- A decorated clay flower pot.  
Max diameter at top 15cm
- A painted pebble
- 3 decorated cup cakes
- 2 shop-bought digestive biscuits, decorated
- An animal made from fruit and/or vegetables

### Fun Class

- A humorous exhibit. Open to everyone

.....

## Plants for School Gardening Activities

I am looking for donations of unwanted plants please for my school where I run some of the Outdoor Learning Sessions. I am looking for anything really, especially if people have self seeded things such as Foxglove or comfrey.

I work at Court Fields in Wellington and part of our area is in the catchment. My email is [indianamaish@hotmail.com](mailto:indianamaish@hotmail.com)

Many thanks.

*Emma Hurford*



# Stawley Church

## Garden Party and Fete

Plants  
Cakes  
Bottles  
Books  
Raffles  
Bric a brac



Cream Teas  
Strawberries

**Stawley Mill** TA21 0HT  
**2pm Saturday 7th June**  
All proceeds to the Church

### Garden Maintenance

### Dog Walking

Jon Geary

Laurel House, Ashbrittle

07790 762154

[jon\\_geary@hotmail.com](mailto:jon_geary@hotmail.com)



### AGM

### Appley Pavilion

**7.30 pm on Thursday**

**22nd May**

**All welcome.**

**Come and support your  
local hall**

### Village Oil Group

The next oil delivery is due on  
**Wednesday 11th June**

To place an order, please email:-  
[judy.milne@btopenworld.com](mailto:judy.milne@btopenworld.com) or contact  
Judy or Michael Milne on 01823 672205 by the  
Monday before the Wednesday delivery  
New members always welcome

## Lunch Club

In March we were entertained with a musical experience from Paul Jacques on saxophone, clarinet and flute and his Midlands playing buddy, John Stanway, who is a fabulous guitarist. Both have a life-time of playing in bands of all sizes and genres and we were very much the beneficiaries of all that experience.

Our next lunch club is on Thursday 29th May 12.00 noon. The speakers will be Nigel and Ann-Marie Paterson, regular lunch club members, who will be talking about their recent family adventures in South America.

If you would like to join us for the talk and a very good hot lunch made by Jackie White, please let me know no later than Bank Holiday Monday, 26th May.

Our lunch club is open to anyone living within our parishes, their friends or anyone who has close connections with us. We always welcome new people, as long as you let me know in advance.

My contact details for booking are: email [harlingdelia@gmail.com](mailto:harlingdelia@gmail.com) or telephone 01823 672203.

*Delia Harling*

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## News from the Parish News

Thanks again, for your kind support and excellent response to our recent appeal.

### Donations received from:

Clive and Val Wall  
Pat and Ray Gainey  
Ann-Marie and Nigel Paterson  
Nick and Annie Bengé  
Helen and Tom Lock  
Adrian Ford  
Ian and Jennifer Yule  
Derek and Joanne Greenway and the  
Dulverton Farmers  
Rory and Susie Askew  
Alan Rose  
Liz and John Field  
Mr and Mrs Caswell  
Ms J L Wicks  
Ann and Reg Hendy  
Sarah and Charles Eustice  
Ashbrittle Parish Council  
David Hanks  
Bathealton Parish Council  
Joyce Whitaker  
Colin and Annette Haddrell  
Laurence and Susan Webber  
Joyce Wensley  
Audrey Williams  
Monthly contributors - W Parkinson,  
JT Hannon and AG & AJ Hill  
Plus anonymous donors  
in the Village Shop

Donations may be left at Stawley Shop or sent directly to the Treasurer. Details inside back cover.

*Andrew Millard, Treasurer*



## Beat Surgery Stawley Village Shop and Tearoom

**13th May and 10th June**

9.00 - 10.00am

with PCSO Brianna Whelan

Tel 07761 405460 or email:

[brianna.whelan@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:brianna.whelan@avonandsomerset.police.uk)



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**What?** We play Brazilian samba reggae rhythms with choreographed dance moves

**When?** Saturday afternoons

**Where?** A beautiful small holding in Stawley, under the sun or in a polytunnel

A decorative border surrounds the central text, featuring a repeating geometric pattern of squares and diamonds, with four globes showing the continent of South America at the corners.

VILLAGE LUNCH CLUB  
ASHBRITTLE VILLAGE HALL  
Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at noon

## TRAVELS IN SOUTH AMERICA

Nigel and Ann Marie Paterson  
will talk about their recent adventures  
in South America.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL  
Delia Harling ~ 01823 672203  
harlingdelia@gmail.com



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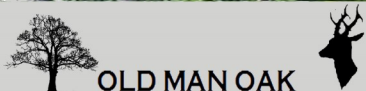
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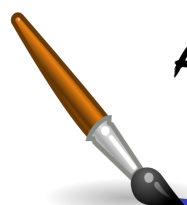
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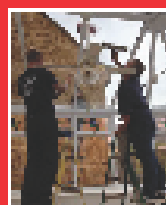
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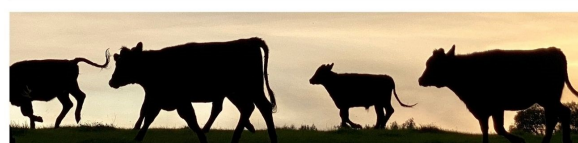


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## Defibrillators and The Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS)

### ASHBRITTLE & STAWLEY:

**01823 244104**

**BATHEALTON: 01984 322919**

**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.

**Ashbottle 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
Ashbottle	Charles Doble	01823 672365
Stawley	Pat Sweet	01823 672380
Wellisford	William Thomas	01823 673143

**Police non-emergency number 101**

### Police Beat Team

PCSO Brianna Whelan

Email: [brianna.whelan@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:brianna.whelan@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

### Parish Councils

**Ashbottle - Chairman** Charles Doble 01823 672365 or 672618 Email: [charles@greenandcarter.com](mailto:charles@greenandcarter.com)

**Bathealton - Chairman** Philip Broad 07584 657106  
Email: [philip.broad1@outlook.com](mailto:philip.broad1@outlook.com)

**Stawley - Chairman** Paul Musgrove 01823 672627  
Email: [stawleypc@stash.org.uk](mailto:stawleypc@stash.org.uk)

### Somerset Councillors

Cllr Dave Mansell – 01984 623823 or email:  
[dave.mansell@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:dave.mansell@somerset.gov.uk)

Cllr Gwil Wren – 01823 400657 or email:  
[gwil.wren@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:gwil.wren@somerset.gov.uk)

### Community Halls

**Appley Pavilion and Recreation Field**  
– to book, ring Suzette Williams on 01823 672266  
or email: [williamspfa@outlook.com](mailto:williamspfa@outlook.com)

**Ashbottle Village Hall**  
– to book, ring Pat Gainey on 01823 672760 or 07713 276656

**Bathealton Village Hall**  
– to book, ring Tilly Willis on 07961 970743

### Local Groups

**Stawley under Fives at the Appley Pavilion.**

Becky Allder Pre-schools Manager  
Swallows, Sampford Arundel 01823 672342 Mon/Tues  
Stawley Under Fives 07707 416871 Weds/Thurs/Fri

## 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](mailto:ashparishnews@gmail.com) when they should be in Microsoft 'Word' format, as this saves a great deal of typing!

**Advertising** Our rates are £2.00 per month for a small box, £4.00 for a quarter page, £8.00 for a half page and £16.00 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](mailto:ashparishnews@gmail.com)

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### **May**

7th and 21st	10.00 - 12.30 pm	Books, Biscuits, Coffee and Cakes at Stawley Mill
10th	2.30 pm onwards	Plant Sale at Hellings, Bathealton
10th	From 7.00 pm	Appley Pavilion 20th Birthday Celebrations
17th	10.00 - 12 noon	Coffee, Cake and Chat in Ashbrittle Village Hall

### **June**

7th	2.00 - 5.00 pm	Stawley Church Garden Party at Stawley Mill.
21st		‘Walk West Tone’ - walking, music, flowers with tea and cake!
23rd - 29th		Big Fund Raising Week for ‘Wivey Cares’
29th	9.30 - 12.00 noon	The Big Breakfast in aid of ‘Wivey Cares ‘ in the Rugby Club, Wiveliscombe

### **August**

10th	10.00 am start	Waterrow Tractor Run
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### **September**

7th	2.30 - 5.00 pm	Stawley Flower and Produce Show at Appley Pavilion
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### **October**

12th		Apple Pressing Day at the Pavilion
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### **December**

18th	12 noon	Christmas Lunch Club in Ashbrittle Village Hall
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*The official opening of the Appley Pavilion carried out by the Mayor of Taunton Deane, Councillor Jean Allgrove and helped by the children of Stawley School - 2nd May 2005.*

**Next Deadline Date: Friday May 23rd 2025**

**Editors: Maurice and Avril**