



Parish news

August 2025

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

Church Services**Sun 3rd August**

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

Sun 10th August

9.30am	Holy Communion Service	Holy Cross, Sampford Arundel
11.15am	Sung Eucharist Service	All Saints', Rockwell Green

Sun 17th August

9.30am	Morning Service	St. Margaret's, Thorne St. Margaret
9.30am	Holy Communion Service	St. Nicholas', Kittisford
11.15am	Sung Eucharist Service	All Saints', Rockwell Green

Sun 24th August

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

Thu 28th August

7.00pm	Church in the pub	The Globe Inn RSVP welcome@westtone.org.uk
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Sun 31st August

9.30am	Benefice Holy Communion	St. Peter's, Greenham
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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
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Kittisford Annie Musgrove, Meadow Farm, Greenham, TA21 0JW	01823 672627
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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 Portrait format is ideal if possible.

Front cover - 'The Leaning Postbox of Greenham'. Photograph taken by Rachel Oliver.

Thought for the Month

Who is your neighbour? The person next door, or someone you like to hang out with? Perhaps someone who supports the same team as you, or who helps you with the kids? Is there a limit to who you consider to be a neighbour? What about the people you don't like much, who you'd rather just walk past?

There are often news stories that reveal how we sometimes treat people we see as different. You need only to think about the ongoing conflicts in Gaza, the West Bank and Israel, or Ukraine and Russia, to see this play out on a global stage.

Across the country there are different opinions about refugees who arrive on small boats, as well as immigrants who seek the right to remain. Closer to home, within our own community, there will be anxieties and tensions that flow from difference.

We can sometimes struggle to live well with people we see as different. Rather than seeing them as human beings with needs, we instead see them as people who are not like us, who don't share our thinking or background, who are not one of us.

Jesus was once asked "who is my neighbour?". He answers by telling the story of the Good Samaritan. The person asking the question would have been surprised by the answer offered as the story unfolds. Rather than neighbour being defined by who I live next to, who I like, or who is like me, we see that these boundaries are not the way forward.

Transcending boundaries

Rather than erecting fences to protect ourselves from those who we don't understand or feel threatened by, we read how compassion transcends boundaries and creates better futures. For all of us. I wonder if in our beautiful yet isolated rural villages we are more prepared to help each other than the average city dweller may? Even so, we can easily fall into the trap of "flocking together with birds of a feather".

Your local churches are as guilty of this as the next person. We are aware of this and so have started a period of intentional listening, to better hear the views of all who live, work, study and play in our parishes. We want to be better neighbours.

To do that we need your help. Please speak up and share your thoughts on how we can all support one another better. We are open to hearing from you, so if you have things to say then please do. You can write to me at the address below, drop your thoughts on email to welcome@westtone.org.uk or go online at westtone.org.uk/conversation.

Thank you for all that you already do to help your neighbour, whoever they may be. I hope you enjoy the month ahead and find time to enjoy the summer. If you would like to join us at The Globe on Thursday 28th August from 7.00pm then please know that you are invited. It would be great to meet over a drink and hear what you have been up to.

Revd Andy Barton

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.



***Spiceland is open for Heritage Day
on***

***Sunday 21st September 2025
2 - 5pm***

**Burial Grounds and Meeting House
open to the public**

You are welcome to bring your own refreshments to enjoy in the peaceful surroundings of the grounds

**COME AND SEE US - ONLY 1.5 MILES FROM
UFFCULME AND SIGNPOSTED FROM THE
A38**



**Coffee, Cake
and Chat**

Ashbrittle Village Hall

**Saturday 16th August
10.00 - 12.00 noon**

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

Please come and join us - all welcome !

Minutes of Bathealton Parish Council meeting Tuesday 17th June 2025

Note taker/Treasurer Adele Broad

Chair Philip Broad

1/ Welcome/introductions/apologies

Attendees: John Ridgley (JR), Jess Bunn (JB), Steven Cottrill (SC), Adele Broad (AB), Philip Broad (PB), Sarah Eustice (SE), David Mansell (DM).

2/ Declarations of interest

No conflict of interest was raised by anyone present.

3/ Minutes of last meeting held on 3rd March 2025.

Copy of the Minutes circulated to members of the parish council, prior to the meeting for approval/comments: ratified as a true representation of the discussion and published in the Parish News, a copy held in the Parish Council ledger.

4/ Update and Q&A from our Somerset Council representative DM

The Somerset Council finances remain in a poor state despite a programme of cuts and assets being liquidised. The cost of social care continues to rise. The Council has approached the government for help and permission to sell more assets.

Increases in car parking fees in Milverton and Wiveliscombe that were due to start in October 2025 will not go ahead as the consultation process could not be carried out in time. There is no set time for this at present, however, once the process and consultation occur there will be increased parking charges. A case has been put for no overnight or evening charges.

Public Transport: the Wiveliscombe to Wellington bus has funding from Transport in Somerset. There is a Slinky bus for rural areas, however this is only available for Bathealton on a Wednesday and is difficult to book

There is a boundary review in 2027 with an expected cut in the number of electoral boroughs reducing from 110 to 97.

5/ Planning applications

One planning application has been brought to the attention of the Parish Council. A discussion took place around that application 03/25/0001. PB requested all Parish Councillors to review details of the planning application on the Somerset Council web site, and submit any comments to him, and if necessary, he will make a formal response to the planning department

6/ Financial matters

The 2025/26 precept has been set at £2000.00.

A further review of the precept for 2026/27 will be on the agenda at the next meeting. Current balance in our account £3808.32.

Renewal of Parish Council indemnity insurance policy. At present this is with Clear Councils and is due to expire in September. The annual cost was over £500 and covered children's play areas and public monuments. AB has looked at another provider with no monuments/playgrounds cover with an annual cost of £195. The policy is due for renewal before the next parish meeting - an email will be circulated asking for thoughts on whether to proceed with a change of insurer.

7/ Projected spending 2025/26

Review of Parish Councils' budget and/or financial plans for 2025/26 and successive years, include the following:

Continued support for the IED (Defib only), located outside the village hall (Not VETs scheme). Graveyard upkeep maintenance, a discussion re rewinding was mooted. Plan to keep unchanged at present.

Consider requests for footpath maintenance.

Consider replacement of fingerpost sign.

Support for annual charitable contributions.

Village hall hire.

8/ Precept for 2025/26 will be £2000.00

No issues raised.

9/ Roads/pathways

These are being upgraded at the moment, DM highlighted that the Maintenance and Rural Superintendent position has now been filled.

Visibility at Spring Grove crossroads is much clearer now that the grass is shorter; there is still an ongoing issue with speeding at this junction.

10/ Technological Fibre installation scheme

PB read out an email from Technological that highlighted several issues the company has had with the geology of the area, but work is continuing to reach Bathealton and other areas.

11/ AOB

SC Parish Walk Date 14th September.

AB raised awareness of government grant funding for eligible rural households who currently rely on oil for their heating. The scheme involves replacement with the installation of ground/air heat source pumps and solar, at no cost to the householder. DM spoke positively of the potential benefits of this scheme

12/ Next meeting Tuesday 30th September 2025, 7.30 pm at Bathealton Village Hall

Stawley Community Village Shop & Tea Room

Opening hours

Week day opening 8.00am to 5.00pm

except:

Wednesday 8.00am to 1.00pm

Saturday 8.00am to 12.00pm

Sunday 9.00am to 11.00am

The Tea Room will close 30 minutes before shop closure

The Post Office is here every Thursday 11.30am to 1.30pm

Contact us on 01823 674361 or shop@stawleyshop.com



Suppliers at Stawley Shop

Stawley Community Shop and Tearoom have a variety of suppliers, Thursdays are our big delivery day, which you will have seen if you have popped in to pick up your bread or have a cup of coffee.

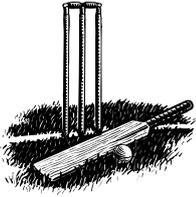
Stock has to be put away, shelves refilled and prices checked to update the till.

Our aim is to stock local produce where possible and one of the small businesses that we have very much enjoyed supporting is 'A Wittle Slice'. Colin has provided us with wonderful cakes and tray bakes that everyone has enjoyed for several years. Unfortunately, Colin is moving on to other things and we are looking to source cakes from elsewhere. We would like to wish Colin the best of luck for the future.

Other local suppliers that we use provide us with honey, apple juice, vinegar, beer, charcoal, kindling, and some knitted gifts.

The bread and baked goods from Glenmore Bakery are going well and it is good to know that if you run out of anything we will hopefully stock it.

**We look forward to seeing you soon at Stawley Community Shop
and Tea Room**



Ashbrittle, Stawley and Clayhanger Cricket Club

The first XI pulled off an impressive away win vs Morebath on Saturday, setting the hosts a score of two hundred and forty runs from their forty overs. The standout scores for Ashbrittle were Sam Shaikh's sixty one from fifty balls, Mark White's sixty two from one hundred and six deliveries, and Rob Williams' tidy thirty three runs while opening the batting.

Ashbrittle needed to take early wickets to stand a chance of earning a win on a small ground, and Luke Williams did exactly that. His figures of three wickets for twenty seven runs from seven overs set the standard. Callum White picked up one wicket in the opening spell of the game, but Morebath were to fight back through the middle overs, leading to a tight finish in store.

Sam Shaikh then turned the game on its head, with a ruthless spell of five wickets for forty three runs from eight overs, settling our brittle nerves, and leading us home with a brilliant performance, backed with some really tidy fielding from the whole side.

We have reached the Cup Final

The first XI are into the West Somerset Cricket League Cup Final for a second year running, thanks to a fine performance at home vs Crowcombe.

We won the toss and opted to bat, which proved to be a good choice since we were scoring ten runs an over for the first seven overs. Rob Williams hit an impressive sixty six opening the batting to set the tone, followed by thirty three from Sam Shaikh, and a quickfire thirty at the end from Callum White, setting the visitors a final score of one hundred and eighty five to win.

Steve Grant got us off to the perfect start when he got a wicket with the second ball of the innings, and continued his impressive form with the opposition scoring only seventeen runs from his five overs.

Rupert Gabriel took a wicket with his single over, and Callum White took four wickets for twenty three runs from his five overs, along with a run out from Sam Shaikh, to cap off a brilliant fielding performance to get us over the line.

Ashbrittle will play against either Watchet or Brompton Ralph at Stogumber on Finals Day which is scheduled for Sunday, August 10th.

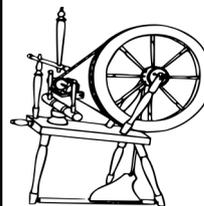
Callum Hamer

HOLYWELL ANTIQUES & LICENSED TEAROOMS

THE HOLLOWAY, HOLYWELL LAKE, WELLINGTON, TA21 0EJ
01823 976551/07710265605
OPEN THURSDAY – SATURDAY
AND THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
9.00 – 4.30



We are a small Antiques Centre with a licensed Tearooms
and a lovely garden for you to sit in and relax.
We welcome dogs in the snug or garden and we have a large car park.
We also do TakeAway Tea/Coffee and Cakes
Email nickyjane2435@yahoo.com



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: 5th and 19th August
2nd and 16th September
at 2.30pm

Contact Pauline on 01823 672222 or
email pjw200355@gmail.com

Please support your local cricket club!



★ SATURDAY 30TH AUGUST ★

9AM TIL 12PM

In aid of A.S.C Cricket Club

Appley Pavilion, TA21 0HH

Lunch Club

In June the lunch club enjoyed an fascinating talk from Mike Webb about a very curious incident in 1945, concerning New York's Empire State Building. Due to a series of human errors and deliberate acts, the building was severely damaged. There was minimal publicity at the time and now it is more or less forgotten.

Mike Webb was intrigued, researched the incident and presented a talk which for most of us was entirely new territory. It gave us much to think about.

Our next lunch club is on Thursday 28th August at 12.00 noon. There will be no speaker, but we are asking our regulars to bring along any of their recent art or craft projects to be displayed. It is not a competitive event, no prizes or judges. Just an opportunity to show what we do in our spare time and for our own pleasure.

If you would like to participate, we will be accepting contributions for display on Wednesday afternoon, 27th August from 3.00pm, to be removed immediately after the event on Thursday.

As ever, Jackie White will be providing a delicious two course lunch. If you would like to join in, with or without art works, please let me know by Monday 25th August.

My contact details are telephone 01823 672203 or email harlingdelia@gmail.com

Delia Harling

News from the Parish News

Donations received from:

The Morrison family
Monica Greenway
Anonymous in the village shop

Many thanks for your kind donations.

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

Andrew Millard, Treasurer

Village Oil Group

The next oil delivery is due on
Wednesday 13th August

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

Mobile Library

at Greenham Bridge

**Next visits: 26th August
and 23rd September**
9.50 - 10.10 a.m.

ARTS & CRAFTS

VILLAGE LUNCH CLUB
ASHBRITTLE VILLAGE HALL
Thursday 28th August at noon.

DISPLAY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS
An opportunity to show what we do for pleasure in our spare time

Please bring along any of your recent art or craft projects to be displayed.
This is not a competitive event – there are no prizes or judges.
We will be accepting contributions for display on Wednesday afternoon, 27th August
from 3.00 pm., to be removed immediately after Lunch Club

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

ARTS & CRAFTS

ARTS & CRAFTS

ARTS & CRAFTS

STAWLEY FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW 2025

Appley Pavilion
Sunday 7th September
from 2.30pm onwards

Join us for Pimms,
puddings and traditional
cream teas, while browsing
this year's entries and
enjoying the music of
Wivelele - Wiveliscombe's
very own ukulele band.



Kindly sponsored by
Tiverton Agricultural Society



Wivey Cares raises more than £10000 in a week of fundraising!

Together, in one week, we have raised a whopping £10,441.38 (including Gift Aid) which was a total that surpassed all our hopes and dreams. A total that secures our ability to not just continue the services offered by Wivey Cares but offers opportunities to expand and do even more in the future. A total that shows the kindness and support from the amazing Ten Parishes community.

The Pink Flamingo Private Club started off our week of fundraising events. A hugely successful coffee morning in Kittisford stunned us all and eleven canines walked and raised nearly £800 on their own. Private donations from clubs and groups plus local, regional and international donations meant we had reached our match funding target by Wednesday evening!

But we didn't stop there. Swimmers glided through the lanes at Wivey Pool and people guessed, mostly incorrectly, the total number of lengths recorded and one lucky person won a Fit-bit. The Wivey Cares Memory Activity Group sang with gusto in The Square and enjoyed their first away session so much that we are already thinking of heading out further with them.

Our first online Facebook auction was a huge success too, with some fierce bidding in the final days and hours. Thank you donors for all the lovely gifts and experiences. So many people and organisations promoted and shared our posts online and created a social media buzz – we were even interviewed on Ten Radio!

And then the great finale – the Big Breakfast. We reckon we fed around one hundred and twenty people in two and a half hours. Our volunteers braced the heat of the kitchen preparing the breakfasts, the servers dashed around delivering them at record speed – and the wonderful Wivelele performed.

It all culminated in Wivelele leading everyone to sing the Wivey Cares song! We have most definitely proved that Wivey Cares!

The exhausted but exhilarated Wivey Cares campaign team.

Coffee morning at Kittisford

We would like to thank everyone who attended and contributed to a very successful coffee morning at Springers. The sunshine was not too hot making it a very sociable and enjoyable morning.

Special thanks to our helpers on the morning Sue Webber, together with Annie and Nick Benge. Also to our sponsors who contributed some super prizes for a very successful raffle, namely The Globe Inn, Antony and Kate Weeks,

the Appley Shoot, Annie Musgrove and the dedicated weed basher, Sue Jacoby.

We were delighted to be able to hand over £1010.00 to Wivey Cares.

Maurice and Penny Stanbury

Ashbrittle Parish Council

Could anyone who has concerns about potholes please report them to the Parish Council and we will immediately relay them to the County Council. They are dependent on local reports and usually respond quickly when notified.

Email ashbrittleparish@gmail.com or phone Paul Leyland on 07816413291.



Your local church would love to hear from you



We invite your thoughts on how we can be a congregation that is engaging. We wish to extend our welcome further and play a greater part in the community.

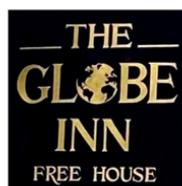
We are particularly interested in helping children, young people, and families.

We would welcome hearing what you would like to see your local church offering you. To join the conversation please complete the short questionnaire overleaf or online at

westtone.org.uk/conversation

The West Tone Benefice is a family of churches across the villages of Ashbrittle, Bathealton, Greenham, Kittisford, Rockwell Green, Sampford Arundel, Stawley and Thorne St. Margaret.

Church in the Pub



Each month the local church gathers at Appley in The Globe Inn, to enjoy good company, food, and drink. Our chats span a range of subjects about life and faith, often providing more laughs than answers.

All are welcome 7.00pm last Thursday of the month, please help us prepare by telling us you are coming.

Email welcomewesttone.org.uk Call 07795 699737

10 Parishes Festival

6th - 14th September 11am - 5pm daily

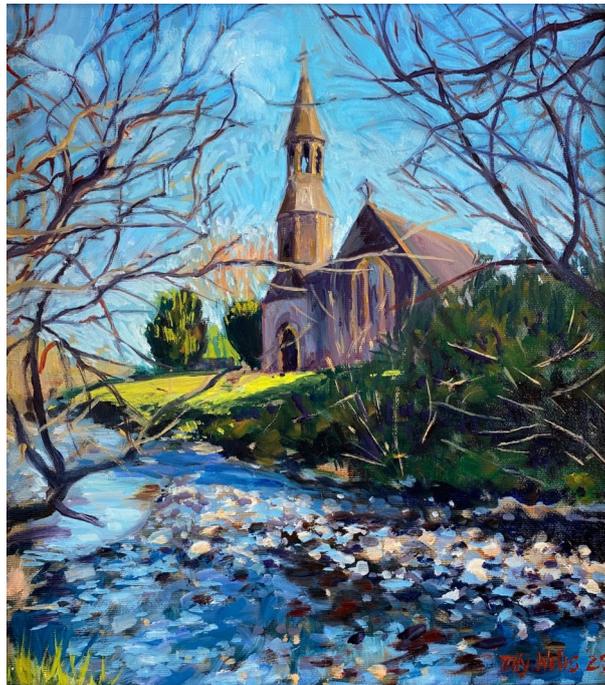
Venue 1

Tilly Willis Paintings, prints, cards

Tom Wood Garden Sculptures

at

Bicknells, Bathealton, TA42AN



Venue 2

Louise Waugh Paintings, prints, cards

Annie's Hand Made Cards, Crackers and Stocking Fillers

at

Bathealton Village Hall

The Village Festival Choir's Summer Celebration

On July 12th, the hottest Saturday so far this year, the marquee was still up from the June Fete in Penny Hare's beautiful garden at Stawley Mill. It provided much needed sun protection, in temperatures reaching thirty degrees, for the stalwart Village Festival Choir who, under the able baton of John Young, performed their Summer Celebration with its ongoing story line of picnics, recipes and comical readings from books like "The Wind in the Willows" and Elizabeth David's "Summer Cooking".

The Choir was delightfully accompanied by Hazel Jones' singing (in French) and Gibby Swaine's quick fingered accordion and flute playing. The assembled audience had all brought their own picnics and sang lustily in Rounds such as Summer is A-cumin and ending with the Teddy Bears' Picnic, during which the Choir skipped playfully off into the woods only to be chased back into the tent by a very sharp clawed bear, who looked remarkably like John Hannon.

In between we visited America, France and Scarborough for wonderful songs and rounds (loosely linked to the plot), which got everyone singing (even the reluctant ones!).

The perfect sandwich

Other highlights included a wild demonstration by star sandwich maker Sally Perry of how to make the perfect water cress sandwich.

Plus a perfect example of a perfect picnic hamper was perfectly produced by John Young disguised as "Moley" carrying his hamper under his arm, out of which leapt Button (his Jack Russell) dragging a string of sausages into the audience, ignoring all attempts to catch her.

Many thanks go to Penny for hosting the event, and to those of you who came, and gave generously to Stawley Church.

If you enjoy singing and are interested in joining the Village Festival Choir, please contact me on 07791 893 403 for more information and to find out when our next practice is scheduled.

Gail Britton

Gardening Club

On Wednesday 9th July a group of about fifteen of us descended on the garden of Sue and Martin Jacoby. We were blessed with a beautiful evening and were grateful for the shade of the gazebos provided, as it was at the tail-end of the heatwave.

After a welcoming glass of fizz we had free rein to wander round the lovely gardens and admire the wonderful Daturas, Agapanthus, Al-

stromerias and many more. The lawns were still surprisingly green considering the weather we have had. The vegetable garden looked very productive with both vegetables and soft fruit. After our wander we returned to the nibbles and fizz for a sociable natter!

Thanks, once again to Sue and Martin for a most enjoyable evening.

And a reminder from Sue:

I hope all keen gardeners have the Sunday 7th September in their diaries for the Stawley Flower and Produce Show.

A reminder for those who won trophies last year to have them engraved and polished for display on the day. The schedules will come out with the September issue of the Parish News and the Pavilion Committee tell me that there will be a Tombola and a Raffle as well as their delicious Pimms and cream teas.

Freda Parkinson

Rainfall Statistics (inches) for June 2025

2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
2.60	2.56	1.30	0.79	1.77

Val Coots

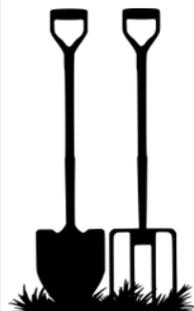
Garden Maintenance

Jon Geary

Laurel House, Ashbrittle

07790 762154

jon_geary@hotmail.com



JOIN THE HUNT!

BATHEALTON SAFARI SUPPER



Trek from course to course with us on Saturday 9 August
Starting in the Village Hall at 6.30pm
£15

Please book your places by calling 07980 994082



Local Environmental Group BBQ - All Welcome!

On Sunday 21st September at 1:00 pm
In Long Alder Field, Kittisford

(Parking in field 200m west of St Nicholas Church on the right)

W3W: starfish.deeper.darkness



With live music from local band,
"Vanessa and the Jamesons"



BBQ, drinks, marquees, stalls

Proceeds towards local environmental projects

For more info contact Nick: 07734 386243 email: nickbenge123@outlook.com

All things pavilion@apple

At our meeting held in June, officers were appointed for the following year:

Chair Suzette Williams
Minutes Secretary Lorraine Ayres
Treasurer Kath Rose
Bookings Secretary Lucy Williams
Fund Raising Committee Charlotte Westcott, Catriona Goodman-Jones, Freya Williams and Emma-Jane McEwan

User Group representatives:

Kristy Popplestone Ashbrittle, Stawley and Clayhanger Cricket Club
Ben Burden-Cooper, Stawley Pre School and Rep for Stawley School (to be confirmed)
Paul Musgrove Stawley Parish Council
Jane Embleton Community Rep and Risk Assessment Officer

If you would like to get involved and help out in any way please get in touch by email at:
info@appleypavilion.co.uk

Our next meeting is Thursday 28th August 8pm at the Pavilion.

Suzette Williams

EXMOOR EXPLORED

10 PARISHES FESTIVAL Venue 11

An exhibition of paintings, drawings and textiles inspired by the colours of Exmoor by Annie Musgrove, Innes Davis and Lindsay Shaw supporting the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity.



Saturday 6th to Sunday 14th September
10 - 4.30 pm

Parking and refreshments



Rainsbury House Studio, Upton
TA4 2HU

EXCITING NEWS

APPLEY PAVILION HAS A
WEBSITE & EMAIL!

Website:

appleypavilion.co.uk

Email:

info@appleypavilion.co.uk

*Please share & take a look.
All bookings are now being taken through
the website.
Thank you!*

STAWLEY MILL

JOIN US FOR



BOOKS & BISCUITS
COFFEE & CAKE

1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

6TH & 20TH AUGUST

10AM—12.30PM

IN AID OF CHURCH RESTORATION FUND



— THE —
GLOBE INN
APPLEY

**Start off the bank holiday weekend
at The Globe this August**

Make the most of the great summer weather by relaxing with a cold drink in our beautiful beer garden. Or why not start the weekend by enjoying a freshly made pizza on a Friday night?

THE BOYS ARE BACK IN TOWN!

Get your groove on in our garden marquee on
Friday 22nd August at 7.30pm
when you can chill out to country-fried acoustic rock and pop
classics from local band

Sundog Slide

while tucking into delicious BBQ food.

Back by
popular
demand!



Open

Wednesday to Saturday 12 noon - 11pm

Sunday 12 noon - 4pm

Food

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

Friday Night Pizzas will resume in the April



Appley, Stawley, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 0HJ



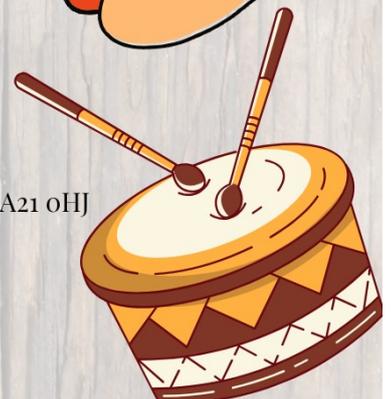
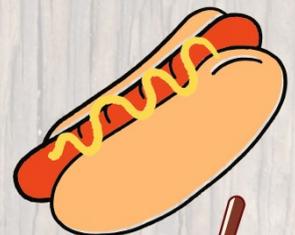
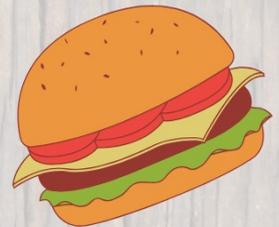
01823 673147



stuartdurston@hotmail.co.uk



The Globe INN Appley



Full Fibre Broadband Update

Very pleased to report that we've completed our fibre build in Stawley and with 100% take-up; this is every property within the boundaries of the Stawley village signs.

With a slight change of our original plan, we've continued the build onwards Kittisford and by the time you read this update the first few properties should be connected and live there too!

We were obviously delighted to leave the joys of Stawley rock behind and enjoy some time in clay; long may that continue, even if it is getting pretty dry and hard out there.

There are a number of challenges we face, geographically, to reach every property in Kittisford (and a few that are not yet signed up). We'll be in touch with residents in turn as we make progress around the area.

The decision to continue downhill to Kittisford does mean we have not yet started work towards Bathealton directly from Waterrow, which will delay connecting those on the further side of that area a little, but our focus will shift to these routes later in the summer. Unfortunately we can't build everywhere at once, so apologies for the delay.

Approval for Appley and Ashbrittle at last

After the lengthy delays getting BDUK Approval for Appley and Ashbrittle, after some less-than gentle persuasion, we successfully received confirmation that the project had been approved at the beginning of July, which is fantastic news for these areas. We will be looking to arrange community meetings and build interest in these villages in the autumn, ready for build in early 2026.

There are a few properties we can now include in our current build between Stawley and Appley who we can hopefully reach sooner.

If you live in Appley or Ashbrittle or nearby and have already registered, thank you. We will be in touch in the coming months with your voucher paperwork. If you are not yet registered and would like to be connected please do register your interest; demand drives our build decisions. It is simply easier to build contiguously where everyone has signed up for connection.

Thank you to all the local landowners who have been extremely helpful in facilitating the fibre build so far; the ground being so dry does make leaving no scar challenging. So far, we have managed to work around mowing and baling schedules; without that co-operation we wouldn't be able to make such good progress and connect your communities.

Thank you - enjoy the summer - hopefully we'll see you very soon.

Jim Weir, Technological 16

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Rodents

Mice, rats, squirrels are all rodents. Hedgehogs, rabbits, weasels are not rodents. But all of them often end up on our roads. Cars come along, day or night, and make them into road-dents and squashed. They become road-ends!

But here is an exception, on the road from Halse towards Milverton.

Inner thoughts of a rescued squirrel

So here I'm trotting down the tarmac which covers what they name as roads: I'm here to get my hazel day snack as passing hours my hunger goads:

my father said watch out for monsters
two days before he ended flat
from rubber hooves of passing roadsters:
tried running over – that was that!

Yes, here I am, a happy squirrel,
my bushy tail points up at sky:
I wear, some say, the wrong apparel,
I should be red, my grey deny!

Who cares when leaping through the treetops,
or searching fallen nuts on ground,
among the blooms wherein the bee crops,
the nectar taken honey bound?

No darkened thoughts as I go trotting
along the road with nought to fear,
the sun-filled breeze a husky blotting
out noises I should maybe hear.

But then intrudes that spurting whisper
which seems arm-linked to growing hum:
the sound is getting nearer, crisper –
dare it be true? The monster's come?

I glance behind, look past my shoulder
at glossy beast, its closeness done:
what's bright in me grows dim and colder:
I have no doubt – it's time to run!

I leap, I twist, distorted dancing,
no hole in hedgerows for escape,
to cross the tarmac I'm not chancing,
would lie as furry, blackened drape!

The monster's close, the end is coming,
he's there beside me, feel his heat,
his hooves on surface, spinning, drumming –
then to far hedgerow moves his feet!

I stop – I'm still alive – not flattened!
The beast's grown smaller – way ahead:

my nerves are calmer, fears down battered:
don't understand why I'm not dead?

In state of shock, restart my walking:
how did he miss? Why did he miss?
My questions with no answers talking:
what kind of changing world is this?

Will fox or badger say to rabbit,
no longer they will hunt and kill,
each owl and buzzard curb its habit,
let lives of mice be eased and still?

Heard People beasts talk of salvation,
an end to death, erased their strife,
know freeing joy, not degradation
since one of them came back to life.

Don't understand, I'm safe, surviving,
can't cope with all these ifs and buts:
up through the hedge, in woodland thriving,
go in my dray and eat my nuts.

Martin Perry



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And this year we are all invited to *Le Mondial du Lion*, an international eventing competition held in the grounds of the renowned racecourse of Le Lion d'Angers.

The trip will take place from **Tuesday 14th – Sunday 19th October. 2025**

For more details and to book a place please call 07948 377586 or e-mail alistairgregory@hotmail.com or martin.valuks@gmail.com



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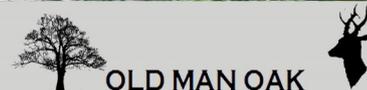
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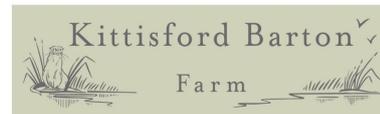
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DIAL 999 FIRST

But, there are four defibrillators within our community which are easy to use with verbal and visual instructions and available to anyone. They are permanently located at these places and can be found using the // What3words codes below.

Ashbrittle Village Hall, on the outside wall.
blurts/flats/crouching

Bathealton Village Hall, on the outside wall.
relatives.widgets.rolled

Kittisford, New House Farm, on the wall opposite the church. *bonkers.regime.lyricist*

Stawley Village Shop, on the outside wall
messaging.servers.quaking

Each one can be removed and taken to where it is needed. **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

Police Beat Team PCSO Brianna Whelan
Tel: 07761 405460 or email:
brianna.whelan@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Parish Councils

Ashbrittle - Chairman Charles Doble 01823 672365 or 672618
email: *charles@greenandcarter.com*

Bathealton - Chairman Philip Broad 07584 657106
email: *philip.broad1@outlook.com*

Stawley - Chairman Paul Musgrove 01823 672627
email: *stawleypc@stash.org.uk*

Somerset Councillors

Cllr Dave Mansell – 01984 623823 or email:
dave.mansell@somerset.gov.uk

Cllr Gwil Wren – 01823 400657 or email:
gwil.wren@somerset.gov.uk

Community Halls

Appley Pavilion and Recreation Field

– to book, call 01823 672266 or email:-
Lucy Williams *info@appleypavilion.co.uk* or book
online at *https://appleypavilion.co.uk*

Ashbrittle Village Hall
– to book, ring Pat Gainey on 01823 672760 or
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Bathealton Village Hall
– to book, ring Tilly Willis on 07961 970743

Local Groups

Stawley under Fives at the Appley Pavilion.

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

Parish News information

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. Please send items for publication by email *ashparishnews@gmail.com* preferably as attachments in Microsoft 'Word' format.

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

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

Bank details: Account Name: The Parish News, Sort Code: 30-98-45. Acc. no. 01828373

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

August

4th	12 noon - 2.00 pm	Pop-Up Café in Bathealton Village Hall
6th and 20th	10.00 - 12.30 pm	Books, Biscuits, Coffee and Cakes at Stawley Mill
9th	6.30 pm	Safari Supper starting at Bathealton Village Hall
10th	10.00 am start	Waterrow Tractor Run
15th	6.00 pm	Ashbrittle Arts AGM - Greenways Barn
16th	10.00 - 12 noon	Coffee, Cake and Chat in Ashbrittle Village Hall
28th	12.00 noon	Ashbrittle Lunch Club in the Village Hall
30th	9.00 - 12.00 noon	End of season - Big Breakfast at Appley Pavilion

September

7th	2.30 - 5.00 pm	Stawley Flower and Produce Show at Appley Pavilion
6th - 14th	11.00 - 5.00 pm	10 Parishes Festival - Bicknells and the Parish Hall, Bathealton. Also at Rainsbury House, Upton
13th - 18th	11.00 - 5.00 pm	Somerset Arts Week

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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*Enjoying a summer's evening BBQ on the Green at Ashbrittle - photograph by Nigel Paterson
Many thanks to the Village Hall Committee, chef Andrew Burt and helpers for delicious food and a much appreciated opportunity to catch up with old and new friends.*

Next Deadline Date: Friday August 22nd 2025

Editors: Maurice and Avril