ASHBRITTLE GREENHAM STAWLEY BATHEALTON KITTISFORD



Parish News

November 2026

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

Church Services

Sun 1st Nov **All Saints Day**

10.00am	Holy Communion Service	St. Michael's, Stawley
10.30am	Sung Patronal Eucharist	All Saints, Rockwell Green
6.00pm	Shanty Singing	The Martlet, Langford Budville
	Enjoy singing Sea Shanties over a drink with a friendly crowd	

Sun 8th Nov **Remembrance Sunday**

8.45am	Peace Breakfast - Bathealton Village Hall with food from WW2 and dishes from Ukraine, Syria, Sudan and Congo	
10.00am	Remembrance Communion	Holy Cross Sampford Arundel
10.15am	Remembrance Service	St. Bartholomew's, Bathealton
10.30am	Remembrance Sung Eucharist	All Saints, Rockwell Green
6.00pm	The Pub Explorers	The Martlet Inn, Langford Budville
	A relaxed conversation over a drink; bring any question and join in	

15th Nov

10.00am	Morning Service	St. Margaret's, Thorne St. Margaret
10.30am	Sung Eucharist Service	All Saints, Rockwell Green
11.15am	BCP Communion	St. John the Baptist, Ashbrittle
6.00pm	Encounter	St. Andrew's Church, Wiveliscombe
	A charismatic worship service with live music, talk and prayer ministry	

Sun 22nd Nov **Christ The King**

10.30am	Sung Eucharist Service	All Saint's, Rockwell Green
6.00pm	Taizé Reflective Evening Service	St. Nicholas', Kittisford
6.00pm	BCP Evensong Service	Holy Cross Sampford Arundel

Sun 29th Nov **1st Sunday of Advent**

10.00am	All Age United Benefice Communion Service	St. Nicholas', Kittisford
	Holy Communion with songs, stories and activities for kids and adults	

Churchwardens and Clergy

Ashbrittle	Charles Doble, The Old Rectory, Ashbrittle, TA21 0LQ	01823 672365
	David Hanks, Manley House, Ashbrittle, TA21 0LE	01823 672436
Bathealton		07449 196673.
Kittisford	Annie Musgrove, Meadow Farm, Greenham, TA21 0JW	07530 310795
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*

Curate Reverend Sarah Rowden - Contacts: Phone 07599 336105 *Email revdrowden@gmail.com*

Front cover - *Robin's Friendship by Maddie Poppins*

Thought for the month

Making space for everyone

Despite the prolonged summer warmth extending into October, the changing colours in the trees and fields remind us that autumn is knocking on our door. A new season is upon us, and the woolly jumpers are coming out.

Whilst change is often avoided, the seasons of the year remind us that change is part of the cycle of life. As leaves fall and trees become bare, nature is preparing itself for spring. New life will come where once there appeared to be none. New life sits at the heart of the faith of the Church. A risen Jesus defeated death, and all that leads to it. We celebrate this in our weekly services and look for the signs of new life every day in our communities.

Change at St Bartholomew's

I'm heartened that change and new life have been at work in Bathealton this year. I have seen interest, both in worship and in our place of worship, from new faces. This is a both joy and a challenge. How can we make space for everyone in the village church? The path to answering this question will be paved with listening and respecting different, and at times apparently conflicting, needs. I regularly hear a clamour for new and old alike, and the future will need to make space for both if that new life is not to die.

Remembrance Service

Please join us at St. Bartholomew's on 8th November as we gather for a Remembrance Sunday service at 10.15am. If ever there was a day to lay aside differences, make space for everyone and recall how death follows if we don't, then this is it. We either make space for one another, or conflict looms. I hope we choose the former.

Please also join us on 29th November at St. Nicholas' in Kittisford at 10.00am for an all-age service at the start of Advent season. We are journeying towards the winter months and the Christmas season. New seasons in life, and in church life, will bring change. The birth of a baby with the animals in a stable reminds us that new life is for everyone, and it will make its presence felt, whether we make space for it or not.

Revd Andy Barton

Coffee, Cake and a Little Dogged Determination!

On 22nd October, we were delighted to enjoy the generous hospitality of Sue and Martin Jacoby at their lovely home, Church Cottage, for an autumn coffee morning. It was a most enjoyable occasion, bringing friends and neighbours together for a good chat, a little shopping, and, of course, the all-important coffee and biscuits!

The bring-and-buy table proved popular, with a variety of items finding new homes, while the raffle offered the usual tantalising possibility of going home with something extra. Meanwhile, the plentiful supply of biscuits ensured that nobody had to face the difficult decision of whether to have just one more!

Outside, the autumn sunshine did its best to show off Sue's beautiful garden, providing a lovely setting for the morning. There was also a four-legged resident who made sure that the occasion was not without its entertainment, with little Bertie snuffling through the undergrowth in search of bones he had thoughtfully buried earlier. Whether he was checking his private food store or simply making sure the garden was still where he left it, he certainly seemed to have an important job to do!

Our grateful thanks go to Sue and Martin for their warm welcome and generosity in hosting the morning. Thanks are also due to everyone who came along, bought items, purchased raffle tickets, enjoyed the refreshments and contributed so generously - including those who were unable to attend but supported the event in other ways.

A boost to funds

Together, we raised a splendid £275 towards the repairs to the tower of Stawley Church. This is a wonderful result, and every contribution will help towards preserving our church for the future.

Annette Haddrell

Village Oil Group

The next oil delivery is due on
9th December 2026

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.

Bluetongue Disease and its devastating impact on sheep and cattle

This summer has been one of the most challenging for farming within the last decade. We experienced an extreme drought and the arrival of bluetongue. This is a viral disease spread by midges. Clinical signs can vary, ranging from mild lameness and lethargy to widespread ulceration of the gastrointestinal tract and multi-organ failure. Unfortunately, like many other diseases, bluetongue does not discern pet from prize winner. This was something all stock keepers faced, regardless of the size of their flock or herd.

So far in my career this has been the biggest ruminant disease outbreak I have experienced. Some drew parallels with the 2001 foot and mouth epidemic – something thankfully my young age at the time has prevented me from having too many memories of. Due to the mechanism of spread however, once within a population, bluetongue disease spread relatively slowly due to the requirement of having a midge host to pass from ruminant to ruminant. This meant farmers spent weeks discovering new cases in their stock, just when they thought they had come through it.

The outcome of cases was extremely hard to predict despite our very best treatment, especially in sheep. Some patients who appeared to be coping with the disease would then rapidly decompensate to die within twelve hours. Yet others, with far more severe clinical signs and symptoms, would battle on and are thankfully still alive. Sheep were most certainly hit harder than cattle; approximately 30% of infected sheep died.

Due to such high demand, sourcing sufficient quantities of vaccine soon became problematic, but farmer clients were incredibly understanding and patient with us during this period.

My own background

I was fortunate in a way to have two perspectives during this disease outbreak, both as a vet but also as a farmer's daughter whose own herd was affected. However, there were so many people in all links of the agricultural chain whose livelihoods were, and continue, to be affected. Recognition must go to our fallen stock collectors; those folks had an unprecedented increase in workload (some reported an increase of 300% in their collections of carcasses) and like us, were face to face with farmers at some of their lowest times. They did an outstanding job during an incredibly challenging period.

Thankfully the eye of the storm has passed, partly due to natural immunity but also from widespread vaccination. What we are beginning to experience is the aftermath. The fertility of breeding rams is extremely low this year, cattle have experienced higher pregnancy losses and the full effects in spring, farming's busiest period, will only be found out in time.

I appreciate this is a fairly negative article but I wanted to portray how this summer has been so challenging for agriculture. There are multiple avenues of help for agricultural people who are facing tough circumstances; the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution and Farming Community Network to name a couple. They are extremely good in helping farmers when the weight of circumstance starts to feel heavier than it should.

It never ceases to amaze me how resilient our farmers are, and the lengths they will go to for their animals' welfare – even if that means some extremely difficult decisions having to be made. However, looking ahead more positively, milk price is up, beef and lamb prices are strong and the grass is finally growing again.

If we could have a very cold winter to wipe out the midges, that would be even better!

Pippa White, Veterinary Surgeon with
The Mount Vets Farm Practice

For sale

Pre-owned, Norlett Tillermate Rotavator
Full working order, very reliable Briggs & Stratton engine. Forward and Reverse gears.
£25 Buyer collects, or may be able to deliver locally with help.

Also a Freezer - free to a good home!

Hotpoint Future	Height: 135 cms
RZA50	Width: 60 cms
	Depth: 60 cms

Volume: 184 litres
Working order, surplus to requirements.

Contact; Mike Parkinson, 07891 247021 or
mike.parky3@gmail.com

Mobile Library

at Greenham Bridge
Next visit: Tuesdays 3rd November and 1st December
9.50 - 10.10 a.m.

Meeting for Worship Quaker

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**

Clouds In Each Paper

"If you are a poet, you will see clearly that there is a cloud floating in this sheet of paper. Without a cloud, there will be no rain; without rain, the trees cannot grow: and without trees, we cannot make paper. The cloud is essential for the paper to exist. If the cloud is not here, the sheet of paper cannot be here either. So we can say that the cloud and the paper inter-are.

"Interbeing" is a word that is not in the dictionary yet, but if we combine the prefix "inter" with the verb "to be", we have a new verb, inter-be. Without a cloud, we cannot have paper, so we can say that the cloud and the sheet of paper inter-are.

If we look into this sheet of paper even more deeply, we can see the sunshine in it. If the sunshine is not there, the forest cannot grow. In fact nothing can grow. Even we cannot grow without sunshine. And so, we know that the sunshine is also in this sheet of paper. The paper and the sunshine inter-are. And if we continue to look we can see the logger who cut the tree and brought it to the mill to be transformed into paper. And we see the wheat. We know that the logger cannot exist without his daily bread, and therefore the wheat that became his bread is also in this sheet of paper. And the logger's father and mother are in it too. When we look in this way we see that without all of these things, this sheet of paper cannot exist."

Coffee Cup

A cup of coffee is a liked refreshment
that often brings to living some investment.

A cup of coffee in a worldwide chain,
in London, Paris, it's the same again:
no matter time, or place, where it is taken,
the basic template works, is not forsaken:
the size of cup, indoors, or takeaway,
its look and flavour rarely ever stray –
Americano, Latte, Cappuccino,
with standard cake, becomes a coffee beano.

Is cup of coffee truly a refreshment,
always – or sometimes – starts some new investment?

A cup of coffee drunk while socialising
not always spawns a life that's enterprising –
an ageing man at soft-lit café table,
he sips his cup, with loneliness unable
to cope, so sits and watches people pass
as gathered groups, indulge in chats and laughs –
or woman bending, bored, slow coffee stirring
whose suitor brags achievements, proudly purring.

Some coffee's offered, not for mere refreshment,
but for some distant deeds that need investment.

An activist decides on coffee morning,
sweet smiles and speech for clients without warning
for some good cause of which they've barely heard,
says generous hearts are safe if bad occurred:
take second coffee, biscuit, give donation,
good deeds bring happiness, and some elation:
or else, stay home, feet up, have cup at leisure,
alone, with friends, and instant coffee pleasure.

But coffee comes at end of night's refreshment,
its early planned investment breeds contentment.

A waiter comes to give cafetière
now eating's done, the evening's end is there:
two coffees poured beside some petit fours,
a candle flickers light, with restful pause:
the soup or pâté, hake or fillet steak,
a splash of sweetness does a pudding make,
to round off dinner in a restaurant,
in coffee cup, contentment that they want.

Martin Perry

Good News for Bathealton

An update from the Parochial Church Council.

There is much to gladden the hearts of folk in Bathealton when it comes to our church.

1. We have made some major structural repairs which have gone a long way to reducing dampness within the church. Many thanks to Chris and Dennis for investing considerable time in making this happen.
2. We are keen to move on to the next major phase in building works – the downpipes and guttering. We are busily gathering quotations, fundraising and stepping forward in faith to make this a reality as soon as possible. Please read the financial report included below if you want the village church to remain in good condition.
3. We are listening! We hope to have the choir stall frontals back in situ for our Remembrance Day Service on 8th November. Our services will be of a traditional nature on 8th November and 13th December, and welcoming to all over Christmas. We have been informed that many Bathealtonians are keen to 'return to worship' in a more traditional setting and we look forward to welcoming you once again.
4. It may even be the case that new pew warmers will be in place. The agreed environmental approach is to warm the people not the whole church, so pew warmers are the preferred method.
5. We are delighted with funds raised by September's Big Breakfast in aid of the people of Venezuela.
6. Our Christmas Fair is taking place on 14th November, 11.00am to 3.00pm. Funds from an Indonesian lunch, other refreshments and the raffle will go towards our church building whilst funds raised from our home-made produce stall will once again be donated to Venezuela. Please ring 07449 196673 if you would like to donate any items for the raffle or be a part of the team working hard on the day.

Christmas Fair - we would love to see a wonderful turnout. Stalls include mouth-watering home-made produce, unique handmade crafts, upcycled bits and pieces, candles, books... the list goes on. There's a raffle with quirky, worth-having prizes.

We are also providing a delicious Indonesian lunch at £10 per person. **Booking is essential** so please text 07449196673 to reserve your seats at one of the following sittings : 12pm, 12.45pm, 1.30pm or 2.15pm. Teas, coffees and snacks are also available.

We will have card-readers to facilitate purchases. Most of the funds raised will go to contributing for urgent repairs needed in Bathealton church. We will also be sending a further donation to people fighting for survival in Venezuela.

We are also delighted to welcome gospel, jazz and blues singer Melissa James to lead our 3.15pm Chante Nwel in Bathealton church, scheduled to last 45 minutes. What's a Chante Nwel, you might ask? It's a Caribbean Christmas tradition dating back to plantation days when people would gather after work, months before Christmas, to sing carols as an expression of joy, gratitude and togetherness. Melissa is described as having 'one of the UK's most compelling and soulful voices.' Not a traditional carol service at all; we invite you to come and join us for an upbeat community singalong of favourite carols that will stir our souls and gladden our hearts in preparation for Christmas.

Bathealton Churchwarden

Thoughts from the Treasurer

St. Bartholomew Church is the most prominent resource in Bathealton. It is part of what Bathealton is and is ready for use by any parishioner for worship, weddings, funerals or just a place to sit and ponder. However, it requires funding.

A fall of income in 2020 and subsequent years is not entirely down to the effect of Covid. There was an annual Gift Day until 2019 at which parishioners were asked to give what they could to maintain the church and keep the roof on. We have not had a Gift Day since then, but we have had to put £4,600 into roof repairs this year alone and now need to consider how we are to keep the church as it is for the generations to come.

Please consider making a gift to your church. This can be a one off by cheque or bank transfer or, even better, by making a monthly payment through a Standing Order. If you can Gift Aid your gift that would be even better as we can then claim an additional 25% of your gift from HMRC.

Please contact me for further details. Thank you.

Paul Musgrove, Treasurer
Mobile: 07939 347891 Email: musy@cantab.net


WEST TONE BENEFICE
A family of seven village churches where people encounter God and care for others
Ashbrittle, Bathealton, Kittisford, Rockwell Green, Sampford Arundel, Stawley and Thorne St. Margaret
Christmas FAIR
with a difference
Saturday
14 November
11:00am – 3:00pm
Bathealton Village Hall
Handmade Gifts
Crafts
Decorations
Local Produce
Children's Craft Drop-in
Chanté Nwèl
Carribbean Christmas Sing Along
3:15pm – 4:00pm
at St Bartholomew's Church, Bathealton
Tables available
Please ring
07449196673
Refreshments and drinks available

Apple Day 2026

The year of the long hot summer and ongoing drought inevitably resulted in smaller crops of apples, and in some cases no apples left on trees! We did not, therefore, expect the usual numbers of people turning up with their produce this year.



No shortage of volunteers to help with the first stage of the juicing process.

However, despite a smaller crowd, we did produce about nine hundred litres of juice and the catering team served very tasty meals of bangers and mash, apple crumble and apple cake.

This was much better outcome than had been expected. So, many thanks to all the volunteers who helped to make this a very enjoyable day, and to everyone who came along with what remained of their apple harvest. From the apple mashers and squishers, the pulp-to-pig trailer, and a big shout out to the amazing kitchen team, thank you all so much for giving up your time to support the Pavilion and this keep Apple Day on the calendar each year.

This was the last year that Ian and I will be arranging the event. We have handed the baton to Simon and Veronica Wilder who will be taking on the arranging of Apple Day 2027 and we will be joining the queue with our apple harvest next year!

Rachel Oliver and Ian Williams

Pavilion Matters

Thank you to all those who supported our Harvest Ceilidh Dance with 'The Barnbusters' on Friday 9th October. A fun time was had by all and we raised £774. A special thanks to our fund raising team – Kristy, Charlotte and Freya – thank you for being so organised.

Following on… on that same weekend we had the Apple Pressing Day which we thought would be a flop as there were not too many apples around, but it was well supported by the locals and a good forty 'Bangers and Mash' lunches served to help us raise around £495 so a pleasing weekend!

A big thank you to all concerned and a special thank you to Rachel and Ian who have kept this event going *(see their report)*. Good luck to Veronica and Simon taking on the task and hopefully more apples next year!

Other happenings

Hedges have been trimmed, the cricket club have put the square to bed, Tai chi and Pilates continue to run on Monday/Tuesday, Pre-School continues to enjoy the facilities Wednesday to Friday. Our next project will be to pollard some trees and sort out the veranda pillars.

If you would like to join the Pavilion Committee please do get in touch; we are looking for a treasurer and general committee members.

Suzette Williams (Chair),
info@appleypavilion.co.uk



Coffee, Cake and Chat

Ashbrittle Village Hall

Saturday 21st November

10.00 - 12.00 noon

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

Now taking bookings for festive celebrations!

THE GLOBE INN APPLEY

It's never too early to book your festive celebrations at The Globe Inn

SIT BACK, RELAX AND LET US TAKE CARE OF THE COOKING THIS FESTIVE SEASON AND ENJOY OUR SPECIAL SET CHRISTMAS MENU, AVAILABLE FROM 2ND - 24TH DECEMBER, SERVED FROM 6PM-9PM* (PRE-BOOKING ESSENTIAL).

**Lunchtime and evening parties by arrangement. Food must be pre-ordered. £10 non-refundable deposit per head.*

£29.95 FOR TWO COURSES — **£34.95 FOR THREE COURSES**

Christmas MENU

STARTERS

Duo of spicy white crab cakes
Served on a bed of salad with mayo or a sweet chilli dip

Duo of breaded Camembert rounds
Served on a bed of lettuce with a cranberry or sweet chilli dip

Pâté with Melba toast

Classic prawn cocktail
Served with Marie-Rose sauce and Melba toast

MAIN COURSES

Potter's turkey breast parcel with sausagemeat & stuffing
Served with seasonal vegetables, piggies in blankets, roast potataoes, cranberry jelly and lashings of gravy

Roast home-reared Appley beef
Served with seasonal vegetables, Yorkshire pudding, piggies in blankets, roast potatoes, horseradish sauce and lashings of gravy

Fillet of seabass
Served with seasonal vegetables, choice of potatoes and a homemade lemon butter sauce

Mediterranean vegetable and cheese Wellington
Served with seasonal vegetables and a choice of potatoes

Luxury nut roast with cashews and cranberries
Served with seasonal vegetables, Yorkshire pudding, cranberry jelly, roast potatoes and lashings of gravy.

DESSERTS

Tartlette au citron
Served with cream or ice cream

Manhattan caramel and Belgian chocolate stack
Served with cream or ice cream

Christmas pudding
Served with custard, cream or ice cream

Blackberry and apple crumble
Served with cream, ice cream or custard

Cheeseboard to share (£15 extra)
A selection of cheeses, served with crackers, apple and chutney

We'll be serving our hearty Sunday roasts on 8th & 22nd November. Booking is essential.

See our Facebook page for other Sunday roast dates.

Don't forget our Hallowe'en Spooktacular Saturday 31st October 7pm-late. Prizes for the best costumes!

Open
Wednesday to Saturday 12 noon - 11pm
Sunday 12 noon - 4pm

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

Appley, Stawley, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 0HJ
01823 673147
stuartdurston@hotmail.co.uk
The Globe INN Appley

A Silver Medal - what a fantastic performance

On October 3rd, Adanna Ranson, from Kittisford competed in the Under 15 category at the British Weightlifting Age Group Championships held in Huddersfield, facing a high-profile and high-pressure environment when numerous lifters missed their attempts.



Adanna demonstrated remarkable resilience to win a well-earned **silver medal** with a winning lift of 60 kg in the 'Clean and Jerk' element of the competition.

Adanna has trained with **Excelsior Athletic** for nearly ten years, starting in gymnastics before expanding into athletics and weightlifting.

Liz Ranson

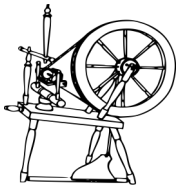
Mexican Chilli Night in Bathealton Village Hall

The latest event in our popular Suppers by Candlelight series took place on 17th October, bringing a wonderful taste of Mexico to Bathealton Village Hall.

A gathering of thirty people enjoyed a fantastic evening of good food and great company. Guests were treated to a delicious spread featuring classic Chilli, Chicken Fajitas, Vegetarian Chilli, and Enchiladas, all perfectly accompanied by freshly made Salsa and Guacamole.

Alongside the wonderful food and atmosphere, the evening was also a great success in supporting our community, with funds raised going towards the upkeep and benefit of the village hall. It was a truly great evening enjoyed by everyone who attended, continuing the wonderful community spirit of our candlelit supper series.

Simon Monty



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: 3rd and 17th November
1st and 15th December
at 2.30pm
Contact Pauline on 01823 672222 or email pjw200355@gmail.com

Rainfall Statistics (inches) September 2026

2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
3.66	5.47	5.83	4.02	1.38

September 2026 was the driest September since 2014 (0.57 inches).

Val Coots

WINTER EXHIBITION





GREENWAYS STUDIOS
ASHBRITTLE . TA21OLE





November 14th & 15th, 21st & 22nd

open 11 - 4

Minutes of the Stawley Parish Council Meeting held on October 6th 2026

Finance

- The current bank balance is £4,804.54 and the Unity Bank is £10,474.27
- Invoices presented for signature:
  - Zurich Insurance - £214.00
  - Microsoft for one year drive subscription - £54.72
  - Heartbeat for Kittisford Defib service - £151.20
- A VAT rebate of £122.99 has been received from HMRC

Planning

- Greenham Cottage field – no further news. The property is still on the market and the estate agent is aware of the outstanding enforcement order on the gate removal

Community Nature Reserve.

Nick Benge briefed the Council on the idea behind having a Community Nature Reserve based upon the Stockingford Stream. There will be a meeting on the 22nd October to flesh out the idea with landowners in the area. The Council agreed to support the idea and will have a member at the meeting.

Road Calming

The Chairman thanked Councillor Dave Mansell for his very helpful guidance on speed limits which had been sent to all the Parish Councillors. The issue of vehicle speed in our Parish was discussed. It was agreed that

- a map of the proposed area for data collection in order to justify a speed limit or other means of calming vehicles will be forwarded to Councillor Mansell for action by Somerset Council
- the cost of signage to deter people from speeding through specific areas will be sought
- the school will be approached to determine whether they could have a lesson or lessons to encourage the children to influence parents to drive safely.

Succession Planning

The Chairman and the Responsible Finance Officer (Councillor Sweet) will celebrate a decade in post in January 2028. New blood would be very useful to ensure the Council did not become stale. It was determined that an article should be written to appear in the Parish News in the middle of 2027 to find the new blood.

Website Domain name and hosting

The website, *stash.org.uk*, is hosted at the moment by a company based in the USA. The renewal is due on the 16th October. It was agreed that the website should be moved to a UK based host. Parish Councils are being encouraged to use a *.gov.uk* domain name. That for Stawley would be *stawley-pc.gov.uk* and will be registered when we move to a new website at the end of 2027.

Reports from Members

- Roads - Repairs to Greenham bridge may necessitate in some road closure.
- Footpaths – There is one spare fingerpost. The owner of the land at the west end of the Appley – Cothay footpath will be approached to see if it can be placed there.

Any Other Business

- Councillor Mansell briefed the Council on the dire financial situation at Somerset Council.
- The Council agreed to donations to the Wivey Link and Wivey Cares of £250 each.

Paul Musgrove, Chairman

STAWLEY MILL

SECOND HAND BOOKS FOR SALE

COFFEE & CAKE AVAILABLE

1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

4TH & 18TH NOVEMBER

10AM—12.30PM



IN AID OF THE CHURCH RESTORATION FUND

Stawley Community Shop
&
Tea Room



Opening hours

Weekday 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

Christmas is Coming!

Our local produce and hand-made items will really help you find that special gift

We have local honey, apple juice, chutneys, jams and marmalades
A new range of preserves and sauces are in just this week, from
Landwich at Greenham Reach, all made from their own grown produce

How about putting these together with a fun crochet animal or a useful key fob, and add a beautiful hand-painted Christmas card?
Our stock of other Christmas-related products will be coming into the shop over the next few weeks, so do come and see what we have to offer

Christmas Opening Hours

We need to give our hard-working volunteers a bit if a break from the Shop over Christmas and New Year so opening hours will be reduced

These will be published here in the next issue and posted on the shop door

Lunch Club

In September our group had a talk from Judy and Gerry Webb about their recent travels in India. As usual, their talk was entertaining and informative and impeccably presented.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, November 26th. Michael Fairfax will be launching his new book outlining his public art work from 1985 - 2026. Michael not only lives in Tracebridge, but is internationally known for his large scale art work in places throughout the world. There will be opportunities for discussion of his work and the traditional book signing.

Followed, of course, by a Jackie White lunch. If you would like to be included in this unique occasion, please let me know.

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

Delia Harling

Bathealton

POP UP CAFÉ



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

Bathealton Village Hall

Monday 2nd November 2026
We will serve food from 12 noon till 2.00 pm
The menu consists of :
Savoury:
Homemade : Lemon chicken or Bean Orzo with crusty bread and beans
Sweet:
Home made : Creamy Rice pudding with fruit compote
Unlimited Cafetiere of Coffee or a selection of teas. All for £9.00

Monday 7th December
will be a Special Festive Lunch
for which you must book in advance.

Please text or leave a message on 07980 994082

Lunches are not for profit and are fundraisers for Bathealton Village Hall

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Ashbrittle Art and Craft Group

We hold a monthly get-together as a self-directed group to do whatever 'arty' or 'crafty' project takes your fancy.

Painting and Drawing - Mosaics -

Textiles Crafts - etc.

Come and meet some local art and craft enthusiasts, see what's going on and tell us about your favourite craft. We meet at a member's house. Arrangements will be confirmed in advance, via a monthly reminder email

Next meetings:
12th November and 10th December
2.00 - 4.0 pm

If you are interested in joining us, contact me by email below to be added to the mailing list:

Pauline *pjw200355@gmail.com*

A Celebration of Christmas
Stawley Church
Thursday 17th December



All are welcome to join the Village Festival Choir in singing some favourite Christmas carols and sharing readings to celebrate Christmas and the arrival of winter.

MICHAEL FAIRFAX PUBLIC ARTWORKS 1985 - 2026

VILLAGE LUNCH CLUB
ASHBRITTLE VILLAGE HALL

Thursday, November 26th at 12.00 noon

MICHAEL FAIRFAX

Michael will be launching his new book outlining his public art work from 1985 - 2026.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL
Delia Harling 01823 672203
harlingdelia@gmail.com

St Nicholas Festival Weekend 5th and 6th December

In celebration of our patron saint, St Nicholas, we are holding a free art and creative writing workshop on Saturday 5th December in Kittisford House Barn. St Nicholas was known for his kindness and generosity, especially to children, and is perhaps best known today as inspiration for Father Christmas.

St Nicholas was born into a wealthy family in 270 AD during the Roman Empire in an area which today is part of Turkey. As a young man he renounced his family's wealth and travelled to Rome as a pilgrim. He had many adventures on his travels and is known for his miracles as well as his generosity.

He is credited with quelling stormy seas and rescuing sailors, halting the execution of prisoners, returning a kidnapped young boy to his family and, rather remarkably, for bringing three children back to life after being pickled by a butcher! His best-known act of generosity was to drop bags of gold through the window of a poor man who was in desperate need of money so that his three daughters could marry. These are just a few of the tales about St Nicholas to whet your appetite.

Local artists participating

We are planning to make hangings for St Nicholas church and create poetry and prose on the twin themes of St Nicholas' life of generosity and the gift of giving. We are fortunate to have a group of local artists to lead this workshop. They are brimming with ideas and creativity. We hope to encourage you to join us for a day of fun and creativity at Kittisford House Barn from 10.30 am until 3.00 pm. Don't worry if the last time you picked up a pencil or a paintbrush was in primary school; there will be many ways you can contribute in writing, paint, collage and even colouring in to this collaborative project.

Later that day, at 5.00 pm, there will be a chance to share and enjoy the wall hangings and writings in Kittisford church with some refreshments.

St Nicholas may put in an appearance

To complete our Patronal Festival there will be Choral Evensong at 3.00 pm on Sunday 6th of December, St Nicholas Day, when we hope St Nicholas will pay us a visit and leave some treats in any children's shoes left in the porch (well, that's if they have been good enough during the year!).

Please do join us for as long as you can spare. You will be amazed at what can be created by us all working together.

Annie Musgrove

Gardening Group

In September, a small group visited Castle Drogo. It was built in the early 20th Century, and only lived in for fifty years before being handed to the National Trust. Since then, extensive repairs have been recently completed, and it is now in excellent condition. But, what a strange building - a castle for recent times. WW1 and inflation meant that the original. Lutyen's design was halved, but it is still an austere building in a fantastic position.

The garden is relatively small, but beautifully stocked with autumn perennials in full bloom after the dry summer. The most impressive part for me were the four square pergolas, one at each corner of the garden. Each one consisted of four beautifully trained hornbeam trees (*Persian Ironwood)* that arch over the top. Planted during the 1980s, with a trunk at each corner of the pergola, they have been pruned and trained up to the roof which was completely enclosed. The leaves were green in September, but the autumn colours will make a most spectacular display.

Another visit

On a cold, wet Wednesday morning, six intrepid members went on a visit to Bicton Park Botanical Gardens, at Budleigh Salterton. First stop, coffee in the magnificent Orangery as we watched the rain coming down, and the stalwart gardeners outside ripping up the last of the bedding flowers in the Italian garden, in preparation for a beautiful spring show.

Once the rain stopped we set out around the gardens. There was a really well equipped museum which brought back some memories for the older members. Following a very good lunch back in the Orangery we set off in lovely sunshine this time to visit more attractions including the Palm House, which predates Kew Gardens by twenty years, constructed in 1829; the Hermitage and Shell House with a beautiful fairy garden, These gardens are well worth a visit. A very good day out.

Penny Stanbury and Pat Gainey

FREE Art and Creative Writing Workshop

for adults and accompanied children

to celebrate St Nicholas Day

On Saturday 5th December from 10.30 am til 3 pm

EVERYONE WELCOME to paint, write and collage

Light lunch provided

At Kittisford House Barn, Kittisford TA21 0SA

What 3 words: monkey.long.optimally

Afterwards come and enjoy drinks and nibbles at St Nicholas Church at 5pm to see the fruits of your labour hung in the church and enjoy listening to our local creative writers

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On Sunday 6th December

Everyone is welcome to join us for Choral Evensong at St Nicholas Church at 3 pm on Sunday 6th December for our Patronal Festival

Contact Annie Musgrove on amusgrove@cantab.net to reserve your place for the creative workshop

Medlars

In our garden we have a medlar tree. We watch the late spring pure white blooms develop to bronze fruits set amongst striking green foliage. But it seems that medlars are almost a forgotten fruit. Perhaps the current obsession with physical perfection of people, clothes, cars, food etc has clouded our appreciation of this somewhat unattractive product of nature's bounty. Nicknames such as 'open arse' and 'dog's bottom', or 'monkey's bottom' have taken precedence over alternative descriptions - 'golden globe', 'secret delight', 'hidden pleasure' or 'wait and see'! In a world where we have created a mindset of instant gratification, patience is required to enjoy this fruit.

Just a few centuries ago, the medlar was a well-known fruit tree that was commonly grown in Britain. Before the arrival of sugar, the fruits were considered a popular wintertime sweet treat that provided a supply of vitamin-rich fruit to see you through the winter months.

Medlars may have been cultivated up to 3,000 years ago in parts of south-west Asia and it is thought that they were introduced to Britain during the Roman period.

One famous reference to medlars appears in Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet...

Now will he sit under a medlar tree,
And wish his mistress were that kind of fruit
As maids call medlars when they laugh alone...
Romeo, that she were, O, that she were
An open-arse, or thou a popp'rin pear!

Gerarde's Herball, printed in 1633, is a two-page description of medlars: 'when medlars are green and unripe they do stop the belly' (i.e., they cause constipation), but 'after that they have been kept a while, so that they become soft and tender, they doe not binde or stop so much, but are then more fit to be eaten'… 'medlars be oftentimes preserved with sugar or hony and being so prepared they are pleasant and delightfull to the taste.'

Like quinces and apples, the medlar (Mespilus germanica) belongs to the rose family. They can tolerate most soils, aren't sensitive to pests and diseases, and do not require much pruning. The white blossom appears in late May:June. The hermaphrodite flower develops into flattened, reddish-brown, hairy fruits with juicy flesh, ('pomes') some 3cms in diameter, with wide-spreading sepals around a central pit, giving a 'hollow' appearance to the fruit.

Medlars should be picked from late October to November, ideally after a hard frost, and stored somewhere cool for a few weeks to allow them to blet. This is a softening process in which the fruit's starches are converted into sugars, and the acids and tannins decrease. The bletting process is essential to transform the hard, bitter medlar into a soft, sweet fruit. Once bletted they appear brown and wrinkly and spoiled, but they are delicious, reminiscent of toffee apples, with undertones of citrus, date and apricot. They can be eaten raw, but are more commonly processed into a jelly or cheese.

Rich in immunity-boosting vitamin C, it is of little surprise that medlars were popular to eat in medieval winters, when there was little other fresh fruit available. Due to their diuretic and astringent properties, the fruit, leaves and bark of the tree were also used in medicines for stomach complaints. Even today, medlar jelly is eaten alongside rich meats and thought to aid digestion. Medlar fruits were found to be rich in potassium, calcium, phosphorus, magnesium and iron.

Key Health Benefits

Medlars are rich in phenolic compounds, flavonoids, and vitamin C, which help neutralise harmful free radicals and protect cells from oxidative stress.

Fruit and bark extracts soothe stomach complaints, ease diarrhoea, and treat colon infections due to high natural pectin and fibre content.

Concentrated phenolic components in medlar fruit could assist in regulating blood sugar and support metabolic health for diabetics.

The fruit provides essential amino acids, carotenoids, organic acids, and minerals .

Unripe fruits have a relatively high tannin content, used to cause protein flocculation, both for tanning and for reducing cloudiness in wine manufacturing. In Germany, a schnapps is made from the fruit of the medlar, which is refined with hawthorn.

Mespilus germanica kernel oil has been used to produce biodiesel, using the extracted linoleic and oleic acid. This can be used to fuel diesel engines.

Leaves of medlar fruit were used to produce activated carbon to remove heavy metals like Ni^{2+} from aqueous solutions.

Silver nanoparticles could be synthesised from M. germanica extract and show antibacterial, antibiofilm activities against multidrug resistance of Klebsiella pneumoniae clinical strains.

Aside from their health benefits, the French thought medlar trees (nefliers) had magical powers to protect their homes from witchcraft and sorcery.

A constant view from our kitchen window, our medlar tree is a robust and attractive focal point in the field hedge. Its branches provide shade and protective perching and nesting opportunities for garden birds. We will collect and store the fruits to benefit from its bounty.

Angela Medlycott

Kittisford Christmas Meal

at Kittisford House by kind permission of

Perdita and Davide Fraser Taliente

in aid of St. Nicholas Church, Kittisford

Friday 11th December at 7.00 pm

Roast Turkey with all the trimmings, Christmas pudding,

mince pies,

a glass of wine, and festive village fun!

(special dietary requirements on request)

Tickets £23

Giant Raffle

Our tickets include an optional 10% donation which supports the charitable work we do, and also enables us to claim Gift Aid on the full value of your ticket.

Available from Paul Musgrove

musy@cantab.net Meadow Farm, Greenham TA21 0JW

Bookings open on **Monday 9th November** and are available on a first come first served basis.

Artists always 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.*

Full Fibre Broadband - Update

Autumn has finally arrived, and like all this year's weather, did so in spectacular fashion. It's certainly been a while since the waterproofs saw action.

After another stint in Clayhanger over the last month, we've returned to the Ashbrittle area with a fresh plan. Our build at Clayhanger has started heading eastwards and sits just 2.5km from our Stawley and Ashbrittle build, edging closer one farm at a time.

There was always one property that stood out as a "how are we going to do that" location when we first started looking at the area; you know somewhere will be a challenge when water pipes span the road overhead, deep ditches line the road and the aroma of brake dust and clutch fills the air on a frequent basis. If I'm honest, we looked at it so many times and then walked away without any further progress.

With a rapidly shortening list of options to reach Ashbrittle, we found ourselves looking at increasingly complex routes with greater and greater geographical challenges; once again the local knowledge we often mention as critical came to our rescue and we are again making extremely slow horizontal but vast vertical progress towards Ashbrittle, and connecting Stawley Mill in the process.

The outside world

In the wider telecoms news, the great low cost broadband experiment that was Talktalk came to a end. For over twenty years they promoted a race to the bottom, with the lowest monthly prices which appealed to millions of customers and forced the wider market to constantly chase special introductory offers and longer and longer contract terms. A data breach impacting four million customers in 2015 and another cyber attack in 2016 cost the business huge revenue losses with customers moving to more stable alternatives. By 2026 the business was in debt to the tune of £1.6 billion and with the four year old "For Sale" sign not attracting any interest, with insolvency looming at the start of the following week, a government agreed takeover by BT Group was agreed.

The irony of the largest wholesale competitor to BT, being hours from insolvency with £1.6B debt being taken on by BT for just £160M plus acquiring 1.5M retail customers and 1M wholesale customers is not lost in a regulatory environment that promotes competition at infrastructure, wholesale and retail levels.

The point we have always made is that broadband is an essential utility in todays world, but there are two aspects to the service delivery; firstly delivering the actual fast internet connection and secondly the backup and support when something doesn't work.

We are not the cheapest and never intend to compete solely on monthly pricing, but we pride ourselves on providing the best possible customer support to backup your Broadband Service.

Jim Weir, Technological

News from the Parish News

Many thanks for the recent donations from:

Bathealton Parish Council
Suzette Williams
Val Coots
Anonymous donors at the Village Shop

Donations may be left at the Village Shop, sent directly to the bank account or to Pat Sweet, our treasurer. Details inside back cover.

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Ashbrittle, Stawley and Clayhanger Cricket Club

Following on from our last report, we are extremely happy to confirm that our 2nd XI gained promotion up to Division 2!

Finishing as runners up to Minehead in Division 3, they will now play at their highest ever level in the next division, showcasing how well this team has developed in the last few years.

With two teams operating in both Division 1 and 2, the club is now in a highly successful period, and long may it continue.

This is a great chance to advertise the club for any new players who would like to join us. We are always open and welcoming to anyone regardless of ability. Feel free to get in touch via the club's social media sites for more details on our winter training schedule.

The club also held presentation evenings for both youth and senior teams last month.

Our youth presentation was well attended, and the team's first ever presentation was a great night. The boys and girls of the hardball and softball team all received their awards for their brilliant efforts this year, and the main award winners were as follows:

Batting Award - Zach K
Bowling Award - Finley W
Coaches Player - Jai G-P
Most Improved - Lenny A
Player's Player - Tom K

The senior teams held their presentation evening at the Allerford Inn. The awards were as follows:
1st Team
Player's Player - Luke Williams
Batting Award - Luke Williams
Bowling Award - Ollie White
Captain's Award - Will Barrington

2nd Team
Player's Player - Leon Westcott
Batting Award - Rob Hill
Bowling Award - Andy Hill
Captain's Award - Jimmy Adams

President's Cup - Luke Williams

West Somerset League Awards.
Rob Hill won the Division 3 Batting Award, while Leon Westcott picked up the Fielding Award.

In Division 1, Luke Williams picked up both the Batting Award and Fielding Award, while Luke Barrington collected the Wicket-keeping Award. And finally, our 2nd Team collected the Division 3 Runners-up Shield, and the 1st Team got their hands back on the Division 1 Trophy once again.

The 2026 season overall

A great season capped with the deserved recognition for the club. A huge credit to everyone involved and just hoping 2027 can match it.

Callum Hamer

Bats in and around Kittisford Church

In August and September 2026 we held two bat walks at Kittisford church around dusk. These bat walks were well attended by the local community and enabled us to learn about bat habitats and behaviour from our local experts.

In an age of increasing urbanisation and development, churches provide an essential habitat for bats. We learnt that bats use Kittisford church as a feeding station to eat insects, such as butterflies, which are too big to eat on the wing. During late summer and early autumn bats are eating as much as possible to prepare for the winter months. Bats like to use clean, quiet, draught free crevices or cracks in a wall. They can be found in the eaves, in the porch and under roof tiles. The bats in Kittisford occupy the porch, the apex above the altar and a corner in the side aisle above the window.

With the support of the Bat Conservation Trust and Natural England we have been able to buy an ECHO Meter Touch 2 to help us survey and identify the bats in Kittisford. As a result of our Bat Walks we found the following species:
In the churchyard: **soprano pipistrelle**
In the field behind the church: **noctule**
By the footpath near a neighbouring bat barn: **soprano pipistrelle, common pipistrelle, serotine, noctual, horseshoe bat**

Many thanks to Alesha, Nick and everyone who contributed to the bat walks and the support from the **Bat Conservation Trust** as part of their programme **"Living alongside bats in churches"**.

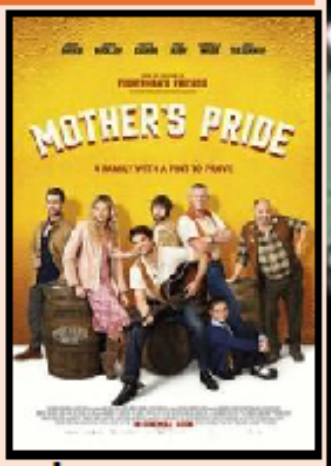
Next year we plan to conduct some citizen surveys to find out what species of bats live in our locality and increase the number and variety of habitats available to them.

Annie Musgrove, Churchwarden

FILM NIGHT

WATERROW VILLAGE HALL, TA4 2AX

Saturday November 14th 6.30pm start



The upcoming film at the ever popular film night will be THE 2026 FILM MOTHERS PRIDE, A brilliant comedy-drama from the makers of fisherman's friend, featuring an all-star cast including Jonno Davies and Martin Clunes. This is a comedy about a failing pub, a divided community and a grieving family whose lives are changed by brewing real ale and entering the Great British Beer Awards.

A delicious selection of soups and rolls will be served along with the ever-popular **dessert selections**. Please bring your own drinks. There will be a prize raffle, with raffle tickets being sold at the event.

Ticket Information: Tickets can be purchased from: Liz Kilbride at St Andrews café on Thursday Mornings. Or call - Sarah on 01398 361202, Liz on 01984 623431. Priced at only **£10 for adults - £5 for children under 12**

We look forward to seeing you there!!!

Reflecting back on a hot, dry summer in the garden

Looking out across the fields and hedgerows you'd hardly know that we'd had such an extremely hot and dry summer. The fields have returned to green and the garden has recovered remarkably well. Late-sown crops have performed better than I expected. But it has to be noted how many trees and woody plants in the landscape were scorched and lost their leaves during the blistering heat, presumably as a protective measure. As with the drought summers of 1976 and 77, it will take several years to see just how many actually recover and how many die.

For those on mains water, an inevitable hose pipe ban made watering difficult, particularly for vegetables that needed regular irrigation for successful cropping. For those of us on 'private' water supplies, the possibility of sources drying up is always there. Many of the old 'farm spring' water sources are on antiquated and leaky pipework; the chance of low pressure and, occasionally, complete loss of service is a reality. This leads to two conclusions, both much discussed in recent times, rainwater harvesting and grey water recycling. Both of these options were employed extensively in our garden this summer.

My own system

When we first moved in, I purchased an 'IBC' (intermediate bulk container). These generally hold around 1000 litres and farmers have been using them for years, to take water out to stock. In recent times, these have become popular for allotments, large gardens and small holdings and can be bought online, 'once used and pressure cleaned' delivered to your door.

There are several options for cladding or covering the tank, disguising and significantly reducing light which can cause the tank and water inside to go green with algae. Many different filters can be purchased to stop leaves and sediment from getting into the tank and, with these larger storage vessels, are well worth the investment. Alongside these, a number of 220 and 100 litre capacity water butts connected to both glasshouses and one of the house downpipes give me a total of about 2000 litres of rainwater. But after this summer, I intend to increase my rainwater harvesting capacity significantly, though, of course, if you don't get rain during the summer to top them up, this valuable asset soon starts to dwindle!

'Grey water' (recycled water from domestic sources) is an area of some debate; it depends what you've used it for previously and what detergents, chemicals or food residues may be in it. Also, what crops or plants you apply it to. I've found that most plants seem fine with washing up water and bath water, applied when cool, around the roots and best applied in the evening. Runner beans, sweet peas, potatoes and other root crops, as well as tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers all seem fine with it. I don't use it on salads and herbs or young seedlings.

The importance of good soil structure

Watering is all well and good but unless you have the soil structure to maximise it, your plants may not feel the benefit. Humus content is key; it locks up and holds moisture. Mulching not only keeps water in the soil, it keeps the soil around the plant roots cooler. I certainly saw differences in beds and borders mulched during the previous winter and spring with plants in these areas coping much better with the extreme heat.

I also stopped weeding; I have to admit that some of that was not so much a conscious decision 'not to weed' but just something I didn't want to do in the heat of summer! I had planted out a lot of plants last winter and early spring, pleased at last to have got them out of pots and into the ground. As spring prematurely turned into summer, the need to water these plants increased. It seems now that the large majority have survived, though at the time I was dubious.

Ironically, the couple of plants I lost were shrubs that had been planted for a few years and ones that I considered well established. I think this was probably more down to the underlying soil structure but also they were plants I didn't consider at risk and so didn't give an extra layer of mulch.

Some beds and plants just didn't get any water at all during the hottest periods and although many looked awful, most have since shown some semblance of recovery. Of course, it will be next year when we really find out what has survived and what has not.

In short: increase your soil's humus content by mulching regularly, increase your rainwater harvesting capability, try to avoid disturbing the soil surface to reduce stress to plant roots and keep moisture loss at a minimum and lastly, invest in some shade netting for your salads, leafy crops and vulnerable seedlings!

John Ridgley

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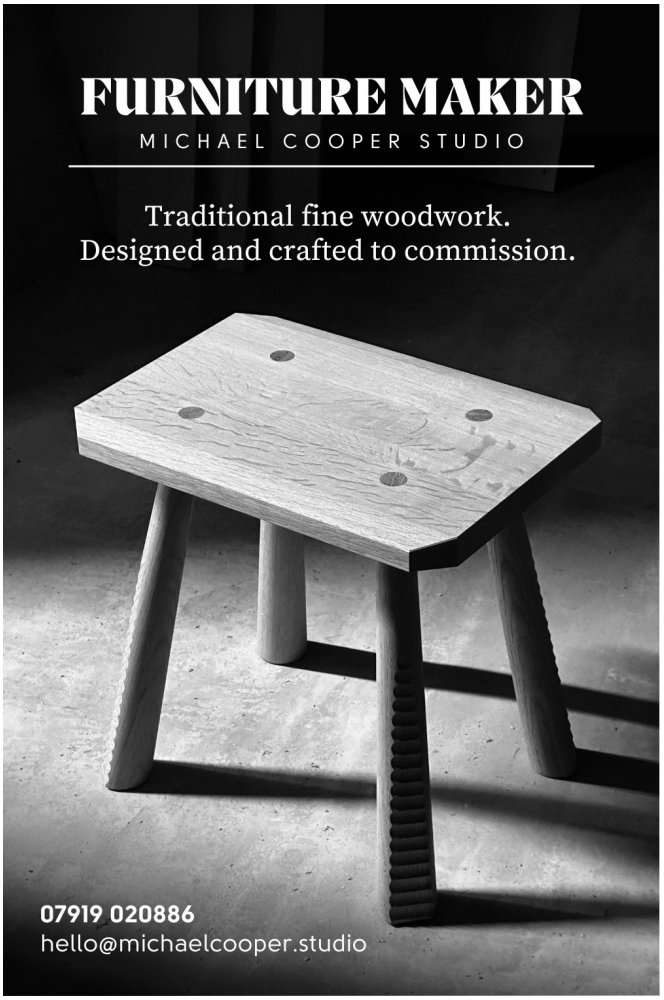
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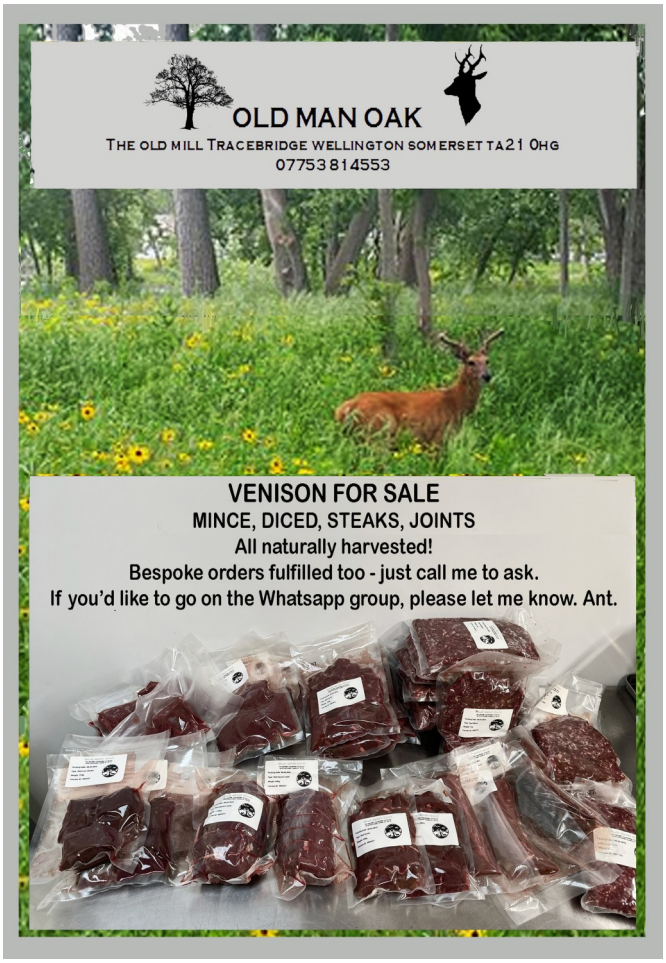
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Defibrillators in our Community

Would you know what to do if someone in your household had a Heart Attack/Cardiac Arrest?

Sudden cardiac arrest is a leading cause of premature death. In cardiac arrest the heart's steady rhythm is often replaced by disorganised electrical activity called ventricular fibrillation (VF). The sooner VF is treated by an electrical shock (defibrillation), the greater the chance of the person's life being saved. Immediate action by members of the public can save many lives.

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 Vicky Henderson
Tel: 07889 655302 or email:
victoria.henderson*@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 0793 934 7891
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 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/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: *Pat Sweet, Winkleigh, Stawley, Wellington TA21 0HR Tel:01823 672380 or 07714 545906*
Bank details*: Account Name: The Parish News, Sort Code: 30-98-45. Acc. no. 01828373*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November		
2nd	12 noon - 2.00 pm	'Pop-up cafe' in Bathealton Village Hall
4th and 18th	10.00 - 12.30 pm	Books, Biscuits, Coffee and Cakes at Stawley Mill
14th, 15th, 21st and 22nd	11.00 - 4.00pm	Winter Exhibition at Greenways Studio, Ashbrittle
14th	11.00 - 3.00 pm	Christmas Fair in Bathealton Village Hall
14th	6.30 pm	Film night in Waterrow Village Hall - "Mother's Pride"
21st	10.00 - 12 noon	Coffee, Cake and Chat in Ashbrittle Village Hall
26th	12 noon - 2.00 pm	Lunch Club in Ashbrittle Village Hall
26th	7.00 pm	Ashbrittle Village Hall AGM
December		
5th	10.00 - 3.00 pm	Free Art and Creative Workshop in Kittisford House Barn
7th	12.00 - 2.00 pm	'Pop-up Café' Festive Special in Bathealton Village Hall
11th	From 7.00 pm	Kittisford Christmas Dinner at Kittisford House Barn
11th	7.30 pm	Ashbrittle Christmas tree light switch-on
17th	7.00 pm	A Celebration of Christmas at Stawley Church
February		
26th		Annual Cricket Club Quiz for All



The Bathealton Fun Ride

Seventy horses and riders completed the Fun Ride on Sunday 4th October. A superb day for the ride which gave riders the option of a twelve mile, or shorter five mile ride through fields and tracks with jumps along the way for those who wanted the opportunity to be a little more adventurous.

The ride started and finished at Woodlands Farm, Bathealton by kind permission of Derek and Joanne Greenway.

Next Deadline Date: Friday 20th November

Editors: Maurice and Avril