



<b>Parish Council</b>	<b>Job Responsibility</b>	<b>Area Responsibility</b>
Mr D Venner(Chmn) 656 637	Quantock Hills	Culverhayes, Newton, Kingswood, TA4 4ET
Mr M Andersen 07760 170300	Roads	Dashwoods Lane, Combe Close
Mr J Grellier 656 799	Police Liaison]	Church Lane, Parsons Close, Gatchells Lane
Mrs N Russell 656 710	Young People]	
Mrs C Lighton 656 639	Rights of Way	Quantockside, TA4 4EH, Woolston
Mrs C Skinner 618 300	Environment	Hill Lane, Honey Row Lane, Halsway
Mr C Warren 07872 470133	Planning	Trendle Lane, Quantock Moor, Chilcombe Lane
Mrs M ter Braak 656 633	Parish Clerk	

<b>Neighbourhood Watch Wardens</b>		
Murray Bush 632 878	Woolston	
Carol Darke 656 222	South of A358	
John Lees 656 333	Dashwoods Lane, Combe Close	
Mark Ogden 656 371	Church Lane, Gatchells Lane, Parsons Close	
Cerys Randell 656 956	Trendle Lane, Quantock Moor, Chilcombe Lane	
Kees ter Braak 656 633	Honey Row Lane, Hill Lane	

**WELCOME TO THE PARISH**

George and Barbara KELSEY at 27 Church Lane.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH** - John Lees writes:

Nothing to report. Why? Because Bicknoller is regarded as a very neighbourly (not nosy!) village, where people report odd happenings and also because we are careful about our properties - leaving cars in drives whilst away, auto lights at night and, above all, letting wardens know when we are away. BE WISE, BE WARY!!

Good News! - we now have a new national non-emergency telephone number - 101 - which replaces the old number (0845 456 7000) which was rather cumbersome. This 101 number gives you an easy way to contact your local police to report all non-urgent police related issues. Calls will cost 15p per call, irrespective of how long that call may last and this applies to both landlines and mobile phones.

**LIGHT UP THE NIGHT** - cheers everybody up. So why not remember a loved one? Call John Lees on 656333

**BICKNOLLER FLOWER SHOW** - Carole Darke writes:

All the helpers at this year's show have been thanked for their excellent efforts. The village puts on a very large show with cheerful co-operation and hundreds of folk enjoy it every year! Congratulations to all the cup winners, and indeed well done to all who entered this year!

Looking forward now - on 6 October, all members will be invited to our AGM at 7.30p.m. followed by a DVD from the RHS called Secret Gardens. One section in it features our local treasure - Hestercombe. The film will start at 8.15p.m. All welcome to come then and enjoy this free film. The daffodil bulbs for growing for the Spring Show competition will be available that night to members.

After the AGM, booking forms for this year's FAB FEAST will be available! It will take place on Saturday 3 December at 12.30 p.m. First come first served - up to 50 places only!!!

Meanwhile, does anyone want BRAMLEY APPLES???? Contact Carole on 656222!

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**SOCIAL CLUB** - Jean Challender writes:

We are a friendly group of Bicknoller residents who meet every third Wednesday in the month, apart from August. We enjoy discussions, talks, quizzes, visits and demonstrations (not the violent type!). Highlights from this year included an illustrated talk by James Williams, Chairman of the Otter Group of Somerset Wildlife Trust and a visit from auctioneer Claire Rawle, who talked about antiques and collectables and valued members' belongings.

Our visit this year was a special tour of the basements of Dunster Castle (not usually open to the public). We are already planning our 2012-13 season and so far have a talk on the RNLI, a demonstration of the Alexander Technique, and a History of Bicknoller walk, ending with tea and a fun quiz, so ...do come and join us! Membership costs only £8 a year and we are always pleased to welcome new members. Please contact Jean Challender, the Secretary, on 656760.

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**BICKNOLLER W.I.** - Mary Hill writes:

WI has been busy over the summer, in spite of the dull and grey weather! In June we had an extremely interesting and very topical talk on 'Rags to Bags'. Our speaker, Miss J Tillet, showed us how to make lovely bags by using machine embroidery to embellish samples of different fabrics, then making these into bags, mainly for evening use, with delightful results!

Our garden meeting this year was held in the garden of 'Old Orchard', the home of Maggie Pumphrey, and we did manage to have the business part of the meeting outside. For the first time we had a vote on the suggestions of members for next year's meetings, which should produce an excellent programme for 2012. We were interrupted by a heavy downpour, necessitating a rapid clearance of chairs and tables, but at least we were able to enjoy the excellent supper provided by our members indoors! The evening ended with a fun quiz organised by Maggie.

Our September meeting heard a fascinating talk from Steve and Val Honey on stained glass window techniques. Val gave us a demonstration of the art of putting together leaded lights for old windows or Tiffany style lamps, then showed us how to make glass decorations, putting together a lovely glass leaf decoration for us. She also showed us some delightful glass Christmas decorations.

Our next meeting will be a Beetle Drive followed by a Fish & Chip supper, which if you come, will bring out a competitive spirit you didn't know you had. Then we have our AGM and supper in November, and our Christmas dinner in December. Members will also be attending the Somerset WI Carol Service at Wells Cathedral in December, a very moving and joyous start to the Christmas season.

Want to have fun and get to know people in your village? Come and join us by ringing Anne Laflin on 01984 656 361. Joining now will give you the rest of this year free on next year's subscription!

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**OUR VILLAGE HALL**- Robert Hardy writes:

The summer has been much occupied with plans to replace our electric heating system (which proved inadequate during the extreme cold of last winter) with something more efficient and economical. Grants from the Big Lottery fund and the Quantock Hills AONB, topped up from our reserves, mean that we can afford to install a gas-fired system and work is already under way. The unpopular arrangement of pay-as-you go by meter will be replaced

by a new scale of charges, revised to incorporate heating costs. We hope to be up and running by mid-October.

At the same time, we plan to put in suspended ceilings to improve the insulation of the Hall before winter sets in. Meanwhile, various items of routine maintenance have been carried out and the Play Area has passed its annual inspection.

Events coming up are our AGM on 9 November and another evening with Martin Cox's "Regal Rhythm" on 11 November.

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**OUR SHOP** - Maggie Pumphrey writes:

If you don't already order your daily or weekly newspapers via Bicknoller Shop, why not start now? For only £1.00 a week (or 30p if you only want weekend papers) you can have them delivered to Bicknoller and you can pick them up at one of two pickup points in the village. Ring our Secretary, Clive Raisey on 656124 if you are interested.

And – if you have not already placed an order for bags of salt/grit you can still do so. The order form is on the shop counter and we will be starting our deliveries to your door any time now. At only £3.50 per bag, it's a bargain.

You can also order your bread, milk and cooked or fresh meat. Come and browse and see what your shop has to offer. It could well save you a trip to Williton or further afield, thus saving you petrol and car parking expenses – and your time, of course.

We stock many local products including lovely free range eggs, honey, preserves, muesli, meats and vegetables, so supporting local producers. We have a large range of greetings cards and a range of Christmas cards of scenes of Bicknoller will be in stock shortly.

**For the housebound or those with a temporary illness, we provide an order/delivery service – let us know if we can help you.**

If you are not already a volunteer and would like to give it a try, contact our Shop Manager, Maggie Pumphrey on 656394. The shop provides a good opportunity for volunteers and customers to socialise and exchange news and enables us all to offer a helping hand when needed to our elderly or sick residents.

Do support your shop – by doing so you will be securing its future.

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**QUANTOCK ECO** - Julian Anderson writes:

There is not much to report since the last Pumpings was published as most of us have been on holiday! What may be of interest is our forthcoming programme of events in the run up to Christmas.

In **mid-October** we shall launch a **Wildlife Habitat Competition** together with the AONB and Friends of Quantock. The idea is to promote community awareness and involvement in conserving and enhancing the flora and fauna of the Quantock Hills through encouraging the creation of new wildlife habitats.

The competition is open to parish councils, community groups, organisations, charities or individuals within the Quantock Hills area who wish to enhance or create wildlife areas within their community. There will be some funding from the Quantock Hills Sustainable Development Fund for the winners.

On **Friday 4 November** in our **Village Hall from 6:45 to 9:30 pm** we shall be offering a **fish & chip supper** followed by a talk by experts on **Heat Pumps**.

Over the last two years QE has encouraged the use of PV to generate your own electricity.

Although that is still a “no-brainer” we now wish to provide information on ways to beat back the rising cost of space and water heating through the use of Heat Pumps. After the experts have spoken, local people who have actually installed heat pumps will let us know whether they think it is a good idea or not.

On **Saturday 10 December** we shall be having a QE **Christmas Green Fair** in **Bishops Lydeard Village Hall**. The Fair will run from **2:00 to 4:30 pm** and will be in a similar format to the one we held in Kingston St. Mary last year when over 200 people visited. There will be stalls for solar hot water and solar electricity; electric bikes and scooters; insulation for your home; food and veg boxes; bread making; delicious cakes; eco household products; jewellery; plants, seeds and bulbs; pottery; prints & cards; Friends of the Earth, Somerset Wildlife Trust, Sustrans, and the Quantock Hills AONB.

Join us for tea and hot mince pies. Buy your Christmas presents! For further information on any of these events please contact Carole Darke on 656222.

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**ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH** - Cerys Randell writes:

St George's along with the other five churches in the Quantock Towers Benefice, has been taking part in a round of prayers for our Rector Val Plumb. Rev Val has been facing many serious challenges to her health for more than a year and they have now come to a head requiring major surgery. She is now on the road to recovery and we of course continue to pray for her return to good health. We hope to welcome her back into our Church and local community before the end of the year.

Thanks to all of you who have asked after her and prayed for her. Ronnie continues to pass on any good wishes received for Val.

It seems like a long time ago when I wrote a note for the Pumpings; we missed the last one due to holidays conflicting with the deadline date for editing. Sorry!

The PCC and members of St Georges' were delighted to see so many people attend our Songs of Praise in the village marquee. This has turned into a popular event and we hope to do something similar again next year. We would like to record our thanks to everyone who helped organise the event, especially David Hawketts who played the keyboard so beautifully.

We are very grateful to friends in the community who have agreed to learn to ring the church bells. Some of you may have noticed the extra practice sessions. Thank you to new ringers Marie Robinson, Angela Robinson, Anne Laflin and Gary Sears, John & Jane Grellier, Barry Wilcox and Claire Rawle. Thank you also to the continued commitment made by Mike Andersen & Bell Tower Captain Peter Darke.

**Looking ahead** - Sunday 13 November at 10.50am Royal British Legion Remembrance Service. Oh and dare I mention Christmas so soon! Friday 16 December - Carols around the tree followed by mulled wine and mince pies. (Times will be posted around the village). Saturday 24 December 11.30pm Christmas Eve Midnight Service.

If there is anyone who doesn't receive our Benefice magazine 'Pathways' and would like to do so please contact Cerys Randell on 656956.

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**MOTHERS UNION** - Molly Farmer writes:

The Quantock Towers branch of Mothers' Union has been as busy as ever since the June edition of Pumpings. We have enjoyed a Garden Meeting at Fiddington; members attended the annual Quiet Day in Exmoor & Quantock Deanery at Stoweys, Porlock the home of the Rev Rex Hancock - a former Rector of the Quantoxhead Benefice.

The 135th Birthday of the M.U. Was celebrated with a Garden Party in Minehead and a service, followed by tea in Carhampton. The Branch meeting in September was one to which the members of the nine Branches were invited. Our Archdeaconry President, Sandra Lee, came to speak on "Relationships" which led us to think about the things we are good at and those at which we are Bad!

In October, our Reader, Gill Southwood, will also speak on the theme of the year "Faithfulness in Relationships" and in November we look forward to welcoming Tess Woodland, the widow of our former Rector, Alan. She will speak about "Travelling Alone". Branch meetings take place in the Village Hall on the second Wednesday in each month at 2.15 p.m. They are open to all who care to come along.

In 81 countries across the world, 4 million members hold fast to the vision of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships. Our mission to support family life has led us to set up a Worldwide Parenting Programme, a Family Life Programme and a Literacy & Development Programme, to name but 3 of the projects in which we are involved at present. If you would like to find out more about the Mother's Union, please contact me on 656 486.

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#### **HISTORY IN OUR MIDST** - John Lees writes:

My great (x 4) grandfather (a Hillyar) was Captain of a ship, HMS Phoebe, at the beginning of the 19th Century. When the war of 1812 (between America and England) broke out, HMS Phoebe was sent to the South Pacific (via Cape Horn) to stop an American frigate, the Essex, under the command of Captain Porter, which was plundering British ships on the lucrative South Seas trade routes.

It was not an easy task for a sailing ship without radar ..... After several months searching, Phoebe holed up in Valparaíso harbour (Chile) to replenish essential stores. There, lo and behold, she found the Essex doing the same thing. As it was a neutral harbour, the two ships could only glare at each other.

For nearly two months the stalemate lasted, with the crews fraternising in the bars ashore, and the officers mixing at the houses of the local gentry. Eventually, one stormy night, the Essex up anchored and set sail, closely followed by the Phoebe. The two ships fought in Valparaíso Bay and Phoebe won!

Chivalry was the norm in those days. Captain Porter and his crew (of which David Farragut, a ten year old midshipman and the future head of the US Navy was one) were put aboard a requisitioned merchant ship and sent back to America. If you would like to see a fine painting of Admiral Hillyar (as he became) feel free to drop by at Dashwoods House!

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#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

All in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated:

6 Oct	Flower Show AGM	7.30 p.m.
13 Oct	W.I. Beetle Drive	7.30 p.m.
4 Nov	QE "Heat Pump" talk	6.45 p.m.
9 Nov	Village Hall AGM	(time tbc)
11 Nov	"Regal Rhythm"	(time tbc)
13 Nov	Remembrance Day Service at St. George's church	10.50 a.m.
23 Nov	Royal British Legion AGM	11 a.m.
3 Dec	Flower Show FAB FEAST	12.30 p.m.
10 Dec	QE Christmas Green Fair Bishops Lydeard V. Hall	2 p.m.