



<u>Parish Council</u>	<u>Job Responsibility</u>	<u>Area /Responsibility</u>
Mr M Andersen(Chmn) 07760 170300	Roads	Dashwoods Lane, Combe Close
Mr C Warren(Vice Ch) 07872 470133	Planning	Trendle Lane, Quantock Moor, Chilcombe La.
Mr D Venner 656637	Quantock Hills	Culverhayes, Newton, Kingswood, TA4 4ET
Mr J Grellier 656799	Police Liaison	Church Lane, Parsons Close, Gatchells Lane
Mrs N Russell 656710	Young People	13 Church Lane
Mr R Murphy 639394	Rights of Way	Quantockside, TA4 4EH, Woolston
Mrs C Skinner 618300	Environment	Hill Lane, Honey Row Lane, Halsway
Mrs J Leeming 656870	Parish Clerk	9 Pickpurse Lane Stogumber

<u>Neighbourhood Watch Wardens</u>		
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	

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH** – John Lees writes:  
 BE WARY!! We have recently had two break-ins in Outside Sheds....Suggest you deter thieves by having robust bolts and padlocks. Best of all – make a note of Serial Numbers of your valuable bits of kit. BETTER STILL ASK YOUR warden for a free Marker Pen and invisibly mark your Post Code.

**YOUR PARISH MATTERS** Mike Anderson writes:  
 Winter is here and with this comes the increased threat of snow. The Parish has access to a number of resources. We have two permanent grit bins [underneath the village notice board in Dashwoods Lane and opposite the notice board at Halsway]. Highways have also placed temporary dumpy bags with grit at the junction of the A358/Chilcombe Lane, by the road on the railway bridge from Woolston Moor to Woolston, and beside the road between Newton and Meadowsweet. In addition to this we have a number of 20 kg bags that can be delivered to affected highways [call me on 07760 170300]. Highways have placed 4 x 20 kg bags of grit beside the bench at the junction of Church Lane and Trendle Lane. They have done so as they have no budget to repair the blocked drain outside Wayville House. If the drain overflows and the water freezes on the road we could have a

nasty skid hazard. So, please use this grit there if you think this hazard will materialise. As with all this grit, it is for use on the highway. Please use it sparingly as a little goes a long way. Unfortunately family commitments mean that we will be losing Jan Leeming after the January Parish council meeting. We are very lucky to have Mary ter Braak stepping into the breach until May [at the latest]. We are actively looking for a new clerk. If you are interested in this important parish role a job description and application form can be obtained from:

Jan Leeming  
 9 Pickpurse Lane  
 Stogumber  
 TAUNTON  
 Somerset TA4 3TB

Or by email: [bicknollerpc@hotmail.com.uk](mailto:bicknollerpc@hotmail.com.uk)  
 Also, please send your email address to the clerk's email address so that we can send you future copies of Pumpings, as well as notify you when it is available online.

**Welcome to the Parish**  
 Terry Farrell and Angela – 36 Church Lane  
 Paul and Lorraine Mansfield – Combe Close  
 John and Carol Bridgland – Chilcombe House

**LIGHT UP THE NIGHT** - Cheer the world up in memory of a loved one. If you want this done call John Lees - 656333

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

BICKNOLLER FLOWER SHOW wishes you to put 2 dates in the 2014 diary.

On Saturday March 29th, the village hall will be filled with pots of daffodils and other sweet smelling spring flowers for the SPRING SHOW. Entry to the show is free, and the teas will be superb!

On Saturday 26th July, the annual FLOWER SHOW will be the main event! Fun for all the family, Grand Draw with 1st Prize of £100 stalls, exhibits, wonderful teas and plenty of trophies to be won including a new one for the BEST TASTING TOMATOES.

Other events will be advertised by poster - a spring talk in February and a big fundraising bash in mid July!

QECO will be staging an event in BICKNOLLER VILLAGE HALL on Saturday 8th February) Have you heard of INCREDIBLE EDIBLE? We are going to launch **Inquedible Edible!** POSTERS WILL GIVE FULL DETAILS!

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**SOCIAL CLUB** – Marian Greswell writes:

Bicknoller Social Club

After our August break meetings of the Club recommenced in September with an illustrated talk about the Mercy Ships Charity; this was given by a lady who had been personally involved on the Mercy Ship anchored off the coast of West Africa.

In October we had a spell-binding talk about 'Everyday Naval Expressions' and asked the speaker, Gerald Toghill, to go on longer and longer!

In November David Ayling of the Somerset Wildlife Trust gave us a fascinating, superbly illustrated talk about the Butterflies and Moths of West Somerset. All these talks generated many questions. There is still time, and the need, for refreshments and a chat afterwards.

On 31st August the Club took a table at the Table Top Sale in the Village Hall. I am delighted to report that every single item on our (dare I say it?) very attractive table of plants and produce was sold, and over £60 was raised for the Club funds. Thank you to all members who contributed time, effort and so many lovely plants, fruit and vegetables.

We have no meeting in December, but on January 15th we will have a treat - Ian

Anderson will show us the delights of Venice and Bucharest; on February 19th Nigel Phillips will return to talk about the Somerset Coast, and on 19th March we hold our Annual General Meeting.

So, there is lots going on and we, the Social Club, would be delighted to welcome new members. It is extremely good value for money and a good time is had by all!

The Committee, both for the Table Top and at all times, are cheerful and hard-working, and our Secretary Jean Challender organises a steady stream of interesting talks. Thank you to them.

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**BICKNOLLER W.I.** – Michèle Sears writes:

The members have enjoyed a varied year of activities from a visit to Sheppey's Cider Farm to Belly Dancing courtesy of Fellahine, the locally based belly dancing group. Many members joined in and realised it was a lot more energetic than it looked! We have also made gift boxes for Christmas and painted on glass, both sessions ably led by Rita Thrush and Marilyn Smith respectively.

Our membership is continuing to grow and is at its largest since the WI was restarted by our current President Maggie Pumphrey and Leslie Wood.

Leading up to Christmas, we have our annual party, the Somerset Federation Carol Service at Wells Cathedral and the Severn Seas Group Carol Service here in Bicknoller.

Looking forward to next year, we will be learning about bees and bee-keeping, the history and some of the secrets of Magic, vegetarian cookery and willow Christmas decoration making. Our Open Meeting will be a Gardener's Question Time.

Please contact Maggie Pumphrey (656394) if you would like more information, or join us on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30 in Bicknoller Village Hall

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**OUR VILLAGE HALL**- Marie Robinson writes:

My first task is to thank Robert Hardy for his many years of service on the Village Hall Committee, firstly as a member and then as Chairman. If it were not for stalwarts like Robert, we would not have a Village Hall – now approaching its 60th birthday – still in such good shape, available for our benefit.

The refurbishment of the Ladies' and Gentlemen's lavatories is now complete. The work included new flooring, which was extended into the vestibule. The facilities are

much improved and now await the finishing touches of new curtains.

Our latest fundraiser was a table top/car boot sale held at the end of August. This was reasonably successful – we certainly had plenty of sellers but if we hold another sale next year, we do need to attract many more buyers. All suggestions to achieve this will be gratefully received.

One of our other stalwarts, Clive Raisey, is hoping to reduce his Village workload and has decided, after many years, not to grow on the plug plants, which form the basis of the May Market sale. Clive regularly grew 40 trays of plants. We are looking for volunteers to grow on, say 4 trays each, so that we may continue with very useful fundraiser for the Hall.

Next year's fundraisers will include another Quiz with Gary Sears and – hopefully a Halloween Dance, next autumn.

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#### **OUR SHOP** - Maggie Pumphrey writes:

As we head towards Christmas, we have seen our range of Bicknoller Christmas cards flying out the door but there are still some left so please come and have a look. The range includes some specially printed ones with "Greetings from Bicknoller" shown on the front. These are a little more expensive but a lovely idea for close friends and family.

This year has seen a change in a number of suppliers. We were saddened when Chris Waters decided to give up cake making as her range has been a real success. Fortunately, another home-baker came to our aid and Daphne Criddle of Kingswood is now supplying our cakes. She also makes scones on Friday morning and they are in the shop by 9.30am. These are proving to be very popular.

The change to Gundenham Dairies for our milk, cream and yoghurts has provided a challenge to us and to them. However, after feedback from our customers about their "full cream" milk being too creamy and sometimes lumpy, they have changed their processing procedures of the milk and the problem is now behind us.

It is always difficult to decide what to stock and how much to stock, especially of products that don't have a long shelf life. Our customer base changes and what was popular for months can be out of favour with new customers. We do our best and always value feedback from our customers.

We are thrilled at how many people new to the parish are using the shop – and in three cases actually serving in the shop – but we would still like to see more of the Bicknoller residents supporting us so that we can continue to support the village.

The opportunity exists at present to participate in our Christmas Draw. All you have to do is spend £5.00 or more in one transaction and your name goes into the box. The draw will take place on Christmas Eve morning while customers are enjoying a glass of sherry and a mince pie. Do come and join us.

On behalf of all the shop volunteers (40 of us) our best wishes to you all for a Very Happy Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2014. Keep shopping !

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**ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH** – Belinda Mountain writes: The Songs of Praise service in July which was held in the big marquee was very well attended. The congregation chose the hymns lead by the music group with Reverend Val on the drums to aid us all in singing heartily, afterwards we were treated to delicious food and drinks. A very pleasant evening.

On 11<sup>th</sup> August Bishop Cassidy presided over a Blessing Service for the Jubilee Bell. It wasn't 'in situ' yet, but had been engraved and waiting to be installed.

The installation took place on 1<sup>st</sup> October which was a very exciting occasion. So Bicknoller is now ready to ring a full peal at last, (which takes approximately 3 hours) and we hope to welcome other teams of ringers to ring here. The full peel will only be rung very occasionally though.

On 21<sup>st</sup> November we held our first 'Coffee Church' meeting. This used to be a mid-week communion service held monthly, but it was felt that a more informal get together was needed. We managed not to eat too many biscuits while we discussed several matters and lots of chat and finished with some prayers led by Reverend Jon Rose. All are welcome at these meetings held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month at 10.30am.

And now Christmas approaches. We are looking forward to:- The WI Carol Service, Carols round the tree with the Watchet Town Band. As usual we are inviting village organisations to decorate and display a tree to place on the window sills of the church.

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**MOTHERS' UNION** – Molly Farmer writes:-

The Branch was as busy as ever, with a full programme, during the last quarter of 2013, which included a Talk concerning "Homestart" which is thriving in this area. Another Talk was given by the Reverend John Guttridge, who spoke of the great improvement made by the many Denomination in this Country to draw together in Worship regularly, together with members of other Faiths.

John brought Charity Mulenga, a member of the M.U in Zambia. She spoke about her Branch, and showed Photos of their Members at work. We plan to make a firm link with them and to keep hi touch.

We have enjoyed several events with the other Branches on Exmoor and Quantock Deaneries. We celebrated St Luke's Day (when we remember our "indoor" Members) with a Service at Roadwater, and another at St.Andrew's, Minehead, to mark the beginning of Advent. Each of these concluded with a Lunch.

In January 2014 we meet for our Branch Meeting on Wednesday 8th. At 2.15 pm at Bicknoller Village Hall. We will begin with a brief AGM, and invite all who care to come to join in the discussion, which will begin with "Why do we go to Church and Why do others not???. We look forward to hearing the views of others and to stimulating afternoon.

Watch out for news of the M.U throughout the year in "Pathways" and on various Notice Boards.

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### **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - QUANTOCK BRANCH**

Robin Miles writes:

Due to a number of donations, as well as our usual fund raising activities, 2013 has been a very successful year. One such source is from Minehead and West Somerset Golf Club who held a Memorial Cup match in July in memory of a well-loved and missed player Everett Hartley. This Cup event will be held every year in July in Everetf's memory and the funds raised will be presented to the Quantock Branch RBL. We do hope many readers (and friends) will attend our Coffee Morning (May) BBQ (August) and other activities in 2014. If you would like to support the Branch and are not members (it's only a small membership fee) please contact a Bicknoller committee member - Graham High, Charles Greswell or Martin Cox. Alternatively, contact the Secretary Robin Miles 01984 656888 or by e-mail: [secretary@quantockrbl.org](mailto:secretary@quantockrbl.org)

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**DATES TO REMEMBER** - all events take place in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated.

8 January – Mother Union Branch Meeting

29 March – Spring Flower Show

26 July - Annual Flower Show

A Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year  
To All Our Readers

# LIST OF CLUBS, COMMITTEES AND SOCIETIES

## Flower Show Committee

Chairman	Claire Rawle	618362
Secretary	Carole Darke	656222
Treasurer	Jean Challender	656760

## Mother's Union

Molly Farmer	656486
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## Parochial Church Council

Rector	Val Plumb	
Church Warden	Mike Pennington-Ridge	656555
Secretary	Belinda Mountain	631491
Treasurer	David Gover	656252

## Quantock Eco

Chairman	Ian Myers	01823 423370
Vice Chairman	Gill Gray	01823 423017
Treasurer	Carole Darke	656222

## Royal British Legion

Chairman	John Lees	656333
Vice Chairman	Martin Cox	656224
Treasurer	Clive Thorne	641713
Secretary	Robin Miles	632742

## Social Club

Chairman	Marian Gresswell	656285
Treasurer	Brian Towler	632809
Secretary	Jean Challender	656760

## Village Hall

Chairman	Robert Hardy	656738
Secretary	Marie Robinson	656904
Bookings	Carol Thorpe	656402
Treasurer/Vice Chairman	Clive Raisey	656124

## Village Shop Committee

Chairman	Clive Raisey	656124
Treasurer	Ann Raisey	656124

## W.I.

President	Maggie Pumphrey	656394
Treasurer	Glen Heaton	656459
Secretary	Jean Pennington-Ridge	656555
	Michele Sears	656616

## Bickoil

Jean Challender	656760
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## Beefriends

Richard Hill	656628
Julian Anderson	656844