



<u>Parish Council</u>	<u>Job Responsibility</u>	<u>Area Responsibility</u>
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	

<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	

WELCOME TO THE PARISH

Sally FOWLER and George & Guy to the Bicknoller Inn. Long may it prosper! Along with the shop, having a pub in the village increases the value of our properties by over 5%.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - John Lees writes:

We might yet have some balmy days - windows and doors open to the breeze, owners sunning themselves in the garden. Perfect for an opportunist thief Please tell your warden if you go away!

AN ODE TO DOGS (and their owners!):

Dogs are very splendid creatures,
 They have many lovely features,
 Cheerful faces, tails that wag, but
 Beneath the latter, there's a snag,
 From out of there comes some nasty stuff
 A smear of which is bad enough.
PLEASE TAKE IT AWAY!

BICKNOLLER FLOWER SHOW - Carole Darke writes: the committee is supporting the village's Diamond Jubilee celebrations by putting up the marquee for the events on 2 June. Then of course Clive's wonderful team will be called on again to erect the marquee for the annual **Flower Show on 28 July.**

Please have a look at the schedule that has been delivered to you (extra copies in the shop!) and enter as many classes as you can! From jams to shrubs, hanging baskets to runner beans, and photos to cakes - there's something for everyone! **RAFFLE TICKETS FOR THE GRAND DRAW** are available now from committee members.

Don't forgot the chance to see over the hedges and into your neighbours' gardens on **10 JUNE**. 8 village gardens will be open to raise funds for the British Red Cross. Cakes for the teas and prizes for the tombola would be gratefully received - phone Carole 656222.

SOCIAL CLUB - Jean Challender writes:

We are a friendly group of Bicknoller residents who meet every third Wednesday in the month, apart from August and December. We enjoy discussions, talks, quizzes, visits and demonstrations (not the violent type!). Most of our meetings start at 2.30 pm, with some evening meetings in the Summer.

We have already had a most entertaining talk on Lady Carnarvon and her time living in Bicknoller, and look forward to a talk and demonstration from the Support Dogs Charity, a visit from a re-enactor who tells of her "life" as a kitchen maid at Glastonbury Abbey in 1538, an afternoon with "Miss Joyce Grenfell", a guided tour of the house and gardens of Fairfield, the home of Lady Gass, Lord Lieutenant of Somerset, and lots more, including a guided history walk around Bicknoller 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.

BICKNOLLER W.I. - Mary Hill writes:

We have had a varied and stimulating year and our members have enjoyed a range of meetings. One of the highlights was a really amusing talk in January given by well known local resident, Clive Raisey, on his time running Hatchers, Taunton's department store, in the 80s and 90s. To a packed audience, he recounted hilarious tales of incidents and events at Hatchers and showed some fascinating old photographs.

The WI encourages its members to find out more about various craft activities. Over the last year we have learnt how to convert unwanted small pieces of fabric into beautiful evening bags and how to make traditional English pot pourri. We also had two fascinating craft demonstrations, the first on the techniques of making stained glass windows and the second was on the traditional craft of canal art.

We also make our own entertainment. The garden meeting this year was held in the lovely garden of Maggie Pumphrey, and true to form the heavens opened so we rushed inside for an excellent supper provided by our members. We also had a highly competitive beetle drive in October and enjoyed the DVD of 'Made in Dagenham' with refreshments in March. Our annual Christmas Supper was held at the home of Cerys Randell, with magnificent catering by Jenny Jenkins. A great time was had by all!

Bicknoller is also part of the Severn Sea Group of W.I.s and members attended a brilliant fundraising fashion show at Kilve Village Hall, put on by St Margaret's Hospice Shop in Watchet. The first half was casual clothing and the second half was dressing for a wedding. It was amazing to see what lovely outfits could be put together for a wedding, at less than £20 for the whole lot! Many of the clothes were sold at the end of the show to raise additional funds, and all the models were WI members.

At our next meeting on 14 June Richard Judd, the Head of Philosophy and Religion at Taunton School, will give us a 'Rough Guide to Islam'. This is an Open Meeting and everyone is invited.

We are always keen to have new members, so if you are interested, do come to one of our meetings. We are not an 'old fashioned fuddy duddy group', we are a lively, friendly group and we would love to see you.

OUR VILLAGE HALL- Robert Hardy writes:

At the Shop Committee AGM a decisive majority voted to install photo-voltaic panels on the Village Hall roof, rather than on the Shop roof. Since then, the Village Hall committee has been examining ways and means, including obtaining planning permission. We also sent out nearly 200 letters to villagers asking if they would support the idea, which had an overwhelmingly favourable response. We have also obtained a grant of 25% of the cost from the Quantock Hills AONB.

It has now been decided to go ahead, confident that lower electricity bills and a sure source of extra income for many years to come will more than justify the expense involved. The PV panels will be put on the hall roof near the NW corner.

Meanwhile, the hall has been getting plenty of use, including a regular Yoga class, with new central heating adding to people's comfort. Routine maintenance and some redecoration

have been carried out and Clive Raisey led a working party for the annual Spring clean on 31 March.

OUR SHOP - Maggie Pumphrey writes:

What do we source from local suppliers? That is a question I am asked often. If you look around the shop, you may be surprised.

Honey, jams, marmalade, cakes, bread, muesli, apple juice, meats, ready meals, fruit and vegetables, ice cream, eggs, cheese, fresh cream, butter, yoghurts and milk. A small amount of our large selection of greetings cards are produced by local artists and, of course, our Bicknoller Christmas cards. Not a bad list is it?

So, in supporting your village shop, you are also supporting Somerset businesses.

Since the last edition of Pumpings the two major changes have been the addition of a new range of greetings cards by Noel Tatt. These are light hearted with a range of themes and include cards for children and cards with humour.

A change of milk supplier has resulted in an increase in milk sales and we are able to sell this top quality milk from a local dairy at a very competitive price – 80p for a litre carton! Do try it.

Gundenham Dairies also provide Somerset butter, Yeo Valley yoghurts and their own cream. As I dare not stock too much fresh cream, you can always place an order. To quote my 90 year old Bill, when he tasted the double cream – “this is cream as it used to taste”. So when strawberries are in season – look out for (or order) some local clotted cream from Gundenham.

Look out too (at the end of May) for the Bicknoller Jubilee mugs. Resident children under the age of 16 will each be presented with one at the Jubilee Tea, but we will have a small supply for sale in the shop. If you want to order one in advance, do give me a call (656394)

QUANTOCK ECO - Ian Myers (Chairman) writes:

LEAF grant project - in February and March QE ran a successful LEAF (Local Environment Action Fund) project funded by Department of Climate Change. The project aimed to raise awareness of energy efficiency, help assess the possibilities of the Government's forthcoming Green Deal and the potential for renewable energy within the Parish. There were a number of key elements of the project; modelling the housing stock and the renewable energy potential; running an Energy Advice Centre; and directing people to existing support before it runs out. The Energy Advice Centre was officially opened by Jeremy Brown and has had over 70 visitors.

A new Executive Committee was elected at our AGM in April. Ian Myers has taken over the Chair from Julian Anderson who has done such an excellent job over the last 5 years. Bicknoller residents are still well represented on the Executive by Carole Darke (Treasurer), Stuart Dowding, Kevin Ogilvie-White and Philip Comer. The AGM was followed by an excellent talk by Graham Harvey. There has been some follow-up and an interesting debate might develop regarding the sustainability of modern day farming practices versus the needs to feed a growing world population. The new Executive Committee is keen to maintain the momentum that QE has built up over the years. If you would be interested in helping us deliver our key aims of raising awareness of environmental issues, developing sustainability and a local network of likeminded people, we would love to hear from you - especially if you have any marketing or website skills.

Bumble Bee Project - a recent application has been submitted to Quantock Hills Sustainable Development Fund by the Bicknoller Bumblebee Conservation Group to help develop the habitat in gardens, farmlands and public land.

Big Lottery Fund - Quantock Eco are also working with a consortium of environmental groups and organisations to submit a Big Lottery fund application for up to £800k to help support local Western Somerset with sustainability and adaptability to climate change. The first stage was to submit an 'Expression of Interest' which was successful in being selected to receive finance to produce a 5 year Project Plan with the aid of a consultant. Groups involved include Exmoor NPA, Forum 21, Minehead Alcombe Transition Group, West Somerset DC, West Somerset Business network, WS Advice Bureau. The project design is on-going now and will address some key issues for the local area in terms of social, economic and environmental sustainability. If successful this will be a great benefit to the local area.

Some forthcoming events - There are a number of forthcoming events of interest including the fantastic Sustainability Show on June 18 in Taunton with special guest Michael Eavis. See link for more information <http://sustainabilityshow.org.uk/>

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH - Cerys Randell writes:

The PCC has recently held its Annual Parochial Church Meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to report on all Church activities, Church Finance and our objectives for the coming year.

During the year we had our Quinquennial report which is carried out by the Church Architect. The report advises us of works that need to be carried out on the fabric of the Church. I am happy to say that the report was much more encouraging than the one done five years before. I would like to thank Dr Mike Pennington-Ridge for managing and overseeing all aspects of works for the Fabric Committee.

The PCC has during this year appointed a Health & Safety officer who is responsible for overseeing all aspects of Church safety within the Church and surrounding grounds. The new Health & Safety officer is Stuart Dowding. Stuart has a wealth of experience of Church Buildings so we are very grateful to have his expertise and advice ensuring we keep our property safe.

This year we have 67 members on our Electoral Role. Sadly we lost one member and have had no new members join. Anyone living in the Parish who would like to join the Electoral Role please contact Molly Farmer on 656486.

As a matter of interest our average weekly attendance is 27, three up on last year. There are very few children living in the Parish of Bicknoller but we have one and sometimes two younger children attending our Family service. We are always really happy to welcome young families into the life of our Church.

We have some very exciting projects at different stages of planning this year. The PCC have agreed in principle to install a toilet in the Church. The plans have been drawn up and will be sent to Bath & Wells for approval once we have established sufficient funds to begin the build.

We are extremely thankful to the Jubilee Committee which has launched a fund to help buy a sixth bell. Peter Darke our Tower Captain has located a bell that will fit in well with the bells we already have. Thank you to Mary Hill who is managing the Bell Appeal Fund. The PCC also wishes to acknowledge our heartfelt thanks to anyone who has already donated money to the appeal. At the last count the appeal had raised £2000.

During the week leading up to the Jubilee weekend please do visit the Church to see the flower festival which is being coordinated by Carole Darke.

MOTHERS' UNION - Molly Farmer writes:

The Mothers' Union continues to meet each month for prayers in Bicknoller Church at 11.15 a.m. On the first Friday and, for the Branch meeting, every second Wednesday in Bicknoller Village Hall.

Our speakers this year have included Mrs Jane Sefton, our rector, Valerie Plumb and Mrs Jean Pennington-Ridge. In May we welcomed Peter and Rowena Merson whose illustrated talk entitled "Why we cycled to Copenhagen for the Climate Justice Rally" was enthralling and much enjoyed.

Later in the year we look forward to the General Meeting of the Mothers' Union in Llandudno and to conducting Deanery Prayers in Wells Cathedral.

Our "Make a Mother's Day" appeal was well supported and we trust that the "Wheels Appeal" tea party later this summer will also raise funds, this time for our Community Development Co-ordinators around the world. Watch out for full details in Pathways and our posters and flyers. We thank all who support our work and would welcome any who feel they might like to join us or support us, to come to some meetings and discover more about the Mothers' Union and what it does.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - Pam Miles writes:

In 2011 we raised just over £2000 which was given to the County Welfare Fund, Dunkirk Memorial House and the Poppy Appeal.

Earlier this year we enjoyed our Annual Lunch of a roast at the Bicknoller Inn where we were

pleased to present our Past Chairman and President Graham High with a silver pin commemorating his MBE to wear at more informal events.

We would like to say a big thank you to those who supported our Coffee Morning on May 5th. We raised £520 towards the Welfare fund for serving, ex-serving forces personnel and their families. We aim to fund-raise all the year round to help the Royal British Legion reach the target of sum £90 million spent last year on support and welfare for our service people. And their needs are growing.

Our next event is our annual BBQ held in the Marquee at Bicknoller Village Hall on August 4th, this year with a band! Not August 5th as was mistakenly advertised on our recent flyer. In September committee member Martin Cox will Pedal to Paris on the Legion's annual ride to the Arc de Triomphe. Please call 01984 632742 to reserve tickets or request a sponsorship form for Martin. Your support is greatly appreciated.

DATES TO REMEMBER All events take place in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated.

10 June British Red Cross Open Gardens

13 June Tour of "Fairfields" House & Garden (Social Club event)

14 June "Rough Guide to Islam" W.I. Open meeting

18 June QE Sustainability Show, Taunton

28 July Bicknoller Flower Show

4 Aug Royal British Legion BBQ