



<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 C Richards	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	
	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:-  
 You don't have to tell your Warden when you are away, but it makes quite good sense so to do. It also is a great help to report about things out of the ordinary- particularly unwanted phone calls.

**YOUR PARISH MATTERS**

Mike Anderson Chairman writes:  
 We have a new Parish Clerk: Mrs Claire Richards. Claire can be reached on [bicknollerpc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bicknollerpc@hotmail.co.uk) for Parish matters.  
 Take a moment at the Annual Parish Conference on the 29th May to introduce yourself and welcome Claire on board. I would like to give a very loud 'shout out'\* to Mrs Mary ter Braak. Mary stepped in to cover the period that we would have been without a Clerk, and is being active in guiding our new clerk into position.  
 Annual Parish Conference: Please support your Parish and Parish societies by attending the Annual Parish Conference on the 29th May.  
 It is a great way to catch up on the latest news on parish societies, as well as

enjoy some time to meet and greet over a drink and nibbles afterwards.  
 It is a week later this year in order to make way for the European elections.  
 Please let the Parish Clerk know your email address so that we can get notification of meeting minutes and parish pumping editions direct to your inbox!  
 \*shout-out (n.) Slang. A public expression of thanks or gratitude.

Welcome to the Parish  
 Angela and Andrew Harrison, Post Cottage  
 Kate and Stephen Rucklidge, Newton Farm

**LIGHT UP THE NIGHT** - it cheers us all to see the church lit up. If you want that done in memory of someone, please call John Lees - 656333

**BICKNOLLER FLOWER SHOW SPRING REPORT** -  
 Carole Darke writes:  
 Congratulations to all trophy winners at the Spring Show, especially Avriel Alien, Carol Thorpe and Christine Chaplin. The cut flowers absolutely filled the bench and Chris Yates our judge, only had to disqualify one entry - it belonged to the show secretary!! Our next

free event is a demonstration by local florist; Wendy Symes entitled Fun with Flowers on JUNE 5th at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall. Wendy will give us lots of hints, including how to arrange flowers in the floral art classes for the show.

Talking of which, every household should by now have received a copy of the show schedule! Extras in the shop! PLEASE ENTER SOMETHING! From cakes to photos, crafts to currants, paintings to pot plants, jams to roses and wine to beans - there is something for everyone!!!

DATE for your diaries - JULY 12th 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall BIC BOP with The Flower Power Band - great sixties food, drink and music! Tickets will sell like hot cakes! Book with either Robinson - Angela or Marie!!

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**SOCIAL CLUB** – Jean Challender writes:

The Social Club meets every third Wednesday of the month (except August and December) at 2.30 pm in Bicknoller Village Hall. Members are not restricted to residents of Bicknoller - we have members from Woolston, Sampford Brett, Williton and Cedar Falls and warmly welcome new members. Membership costs only £10 per year, or if you would like a "taster", you may attend individual events for £2.50.

We have already had a most interesting talk on the History of Watchet harbour from 1750. May sees a visit from the Calvert Trust, an Exmoor based charity that offers people with disabilities the chance to experience active holidays which the able-bodied tend to take for granted. In June, John Lees will lead another of the popular "History of Bicknoller" sessions (numbers limited, please phone John on 656333 if you wish to take part) followed by tea and a fun quiz at the home of our Chairman, Marian Greswell. You are welcome to come just to tea, but please let Marian know you are coming on 656285, so she can make sure she has enough cups!

Dr Sue Baker of the Exmoor Pony Society will be with us in July to talk about the Exmoor pony, a local and quite endangered species. In September we shall be entertained by Jane de Gruchy of the Somerset Heritage Centre, who will be talking about "Somerset women - stories from the archives". October sees the welcome return of the marvellous raconteur Gerald Toghill, who will be amusing us with tales of daring-do whilst "Riding shotgun: protecting the Royals".

For further details, please contact Jean Challender, the Secretary, on 656760.

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**BICKNOLLER W.I.** - Maggie Pumphrey writes:

Since the last issue of Pumpings members have enjoyed a Christmas dinner at Bicknoller Inn, a New Year party in the hall in January and sampled some vegetarian cooking in February. In March we learned a little about bees and bee-keeping - a fascinating subject!

Our membership is continuing to grow, now standing at 24 members and we have seen a full complement at most meetings.

Around half of our members have been meeting regularly for friendly skittles practice at The Bic, preparing ourselves for the Somerset WI skittles tournament which will commence in September!

It has been a hectic year so far as, with one of the best village halls in the area, the Somerset Federation of WI has chosen it as a venue for two county events - an "Image and Colour" bay and a County "Road Show". We have therefore been asked to provide refreshments and look after participants - for which we have received payment so it all adds to our funds!

Bicknoller WI also hosted, in March, the Group Meeting of the Severn Seas Group of WIs when 47 WI members were present and were entertained by a puppeteer with an unusual and fascinating performance.

On April 10th, our open meeting is a "Gardeners' Question Time" and we hope that our friends and neighbours in Bicknoller will join us to put their questions to a panel of 3 -all of whom live within the Parish of Bicknoller -Dave and Sally Simpson and Mike Skinner.

Between our April and May meetings, members will be participating in a sponsored walk to raise money for ACWW - Associated Country Women of the World - a charity that works with women worldwide to help communities in developing countries. A sponsorship form and collecting box will be in Bicknoller Shop and we hope to raise a little money while enjoying an enjoyable afternoon on the Quantocks.

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

The first part of this quarter commenced very quietly with the Committee meeting to discuss the on-going maintenance needs of

the Mali - such as, remedial work in the Playground and a decision made to install a new water heater in the kitchen - further improvements to the facilities and fund raisers to pay for the foregoing.

The end of the quarter finished with a bang with the Quiz. Thank you for your support, we made a net profit of £480. Many of you were very complimentary about the event and our grateful thanks go to Michele Sears for her marvellous curry and Gary Sears for his 'Quiz Mastery'. We must not forget the back-room boys - Avriel and Eddy Alien, Daphne Leggetter, Gill Southwood and our hardworking Clive Raisey.

A big 'thank you' also goes to those stalwarts who took part in the annual Spring Clean. This involves cleaning away the debris, which gathers around the Hall during the year.

Other forthcoming attractions include the May Market on 17 May and a Coffee Morning to be held on 14 June - we hope with a twist - see you there!

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

On 2nd April, the shop celebrated its 20th birthday! There was some scepticism 20 years ago as to whether the shop would survive, albeit the commitment, dedication and enthusiasm of the committee and staff at the time was strong and there was a great deal of excitement in the village about this new venture.

Well, here we are 20 years on, having seen a considerable extension, loss of the post office and many other changes over the years. The most recent of these has been the new upright freezer, which is proving to increase sales of frozen products. George Kelsey kindly made and fitted a new counter top, and a table for sorting out deliveries - both much appreciated by shop staff.

Since the last Pumpings we have had another change in the supplier of cakes with Sally Annes's Cakes of Taunton now supplying a good selection of cakes and tarts - and these are selling well.

Greetings cards are selling well, a new selection is now in which includes a good range for children. These quality cards are on sale at prices below those in Williton and further afield.

The shop turnover has been very good since Christmas and we are seeing more people from the village using the shop, as well as customers coming from areas outside the village.

One thing that hasn't changed over the years is the enthusiasm and commitment of the band of volunteers, without whom the shop could not

exist. Some faces have changed as some of the earlier volunteers have retired or moved away but, thankfully, new people have come forward to offer their time and support, and so we move towards the 21st birthday with optimism.

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#### **ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH** -

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##### **MOTHERS' UNION** -

Quantock Towers Benefice Branch

As usual, the members have been busy working for the MU in several ways.

We have supported the "MAKE A MOTHER'S DAY on Mothering Sunday by ordering ethical gifts that will help families around the world to create stable sustainable futures.

Every year MU Community Development Coordinators travel vast distances to support communities. With our help we can keep them moving to bring health, hygiene, income and relationships training to isolated communities. We thank those of you who are not members but have supported this scheme, once again, this year. We are very grateful to you.

Here at home our programme has included the annual Deanery Festival Service held on Lady Day in St Decuman's Church, Watchet, which was an uplifting Service as we remembered the life of Mary, the mother of Jesus, who accepted all that God asked of her and obeyed Him throughout

The Branch Meeting on Wednesday, 14th May is 'An Evening With Supper' to which we invite any visitors to join us, at 7.00pm in Bicknoller Village Hall, when our Speaker, Belinda Mountain, will reveal some of her experiences on "The Night Train to Lourdes" and all that happened there! If you plan to come please let Molly Farmer (656486) or any Member of the Branch know, in order to give the caterers some idea of the number of suppers' we need to provide.

On June 18th a visit to Lee Abbey in Devon, is planned. A coach will be picking up along the A39 from various stops. If you would like to join us for this outing or need to know more about the day, please get in touch with Molly, or any Member, by the 1st of June, if possible.

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##### **BICK OIL**

BickOil is the name of the community oil ordering service run for the inhabitants of

Bicknoller. Oil is usually delivered four times a year: late January, late April, August / September and early December. By ordering as a group, discounts of between 1p and 2p per litre (ie £10 to £20 per 1000 litres) are made.

In order to achieve this discount, members must monitor the sight gauges on their oil tanks on a regular basis, and order in good time to allow the co-ordinator to phone thirty-plus households and arrange a group order. This process can take over a week.

The co-ordinator of BickOil is Jean Challender (telephone 01984 656760). She receives no remuneration from the oil company for providing this service and receives only the same discount as other members of the group.

If you would like to know more /join BickOil, please give her a ring.

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

I am often very aware that we live in a house once owned by one of the most prestigious families in England - the Dashwoods. Frances came here in the early 18th Century from Yellow Wood Farm (just over the hill from Bicknoller). He then went on to High Wycombe, the Family Seat at High Wycombe (where he became famous for his "Hellfire Club, which dabbled in Drugs and loose ladies). When the IRA bomb went off in the City some 40 years ago, one of the Office Blocks badly damaged was Dashwoods House.

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

17 May May Market

29 May Annual Parish Conference

14 June Coffee Morning

12 July Bic Hop with the Flower Power Band

## 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

### 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

### Beefriends

Richard Hill 656628  
Julian Anderson 656844