



Parish Council	Job Responsibility	Area Responsibility
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	

Neighbourhood Watch Wardens		
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:
 Don't stop being Neighbourly not Nosey! Once again we've kept the baddies at bay so there are no crimes to report. BUT don't be complacent - keep telling your Wardens when you're away, leave a car in your drive, have automatic lights on in the house - all the simple, common sense crime prevention measures.

YOUR PARISH MATTERS
Parish Clerk - after 10 years in the job, Mary ter Braak will be standing down as Parish Clerk at the end of April 2013. If you are interested in taking over from her, or would just like more information about the job, please call her on 01984 656633.
Dog Fouling - there are still complaints about this problem. **PLEASE** remember to pick up after your dog (you can buy poo bags in the Village Shop). If you must be lazy and leave it, please at least try to ensure your dog doesn't foul the entrance to people's houses!
Mobile Library a new mobile library service began operating in August. The library visits Bicknoller every 4 weeks on a Wednesday - 11.45 to 12 noon at the Bicknoller Inn. The dates for the rest of this year are: 26 Sept; 24 Oct; 21 Nov; 19 Dec
 Finally, the provision of allotments in the parish has been mentioned - anyone interested? If so please contact the Parish Clerk on 656633.

BICKNOLLER JUBILEE WEEKEND & BICKNOLLER JUBILEE BELL APPEAL - Mary Hill writes: **Well done Bicknoller!** the Jubilee Weekend raised £1772.65. We received pump-priming money from the Parish Council, the Flower Show, the Social Club, the Village Hall Committee and WI, which covered our outgoings for decorations, the band, food, prizes etc. The tea, the Hog Roast, the raffle, bar profits, and money raised by the beautiful Flower Festival in the Church made the 'profit' mentioned above.
 We would like to thank everybody in the village who helped in any way at all to make the Jubilee Weekend such a success. The family sports afternoon was a real success, and many

people attended the marvellous Jubilee Thanksgiving Service in the church. Toasting Her Majesty with Pimm's in the church afterwards was unforgettable!

The money raised during the Jubilee Weekend will be donated to the Bicknoller Jubilee Bell Appeal which now stands at **£5,891.65 BUT** we still have a way to go, and if you would like to make a donation Mary Hill would be delighted to receive cheques or cash (Locks, 2 Church Lane) or you may donate on-line to the Bicknoller Jubilee Bell Appeal, Sort Code 60-24-05, Ac. No 86053523. Please make sure you put your name as a reference for your donation.

BICKNOLLER FLOWER SHOW - Carole Darke writes: weren't we lucky with the weather! Our annual flower show was wonderful – a glittering array of 29 trophies, happy music playing in the background, vast quantities of tea and cake consumed, benches showing high quality exhibits and of course our FAMOUS grand draw!

Thank you all for supporting the event. SPECIAL THANKS must also go to Clive and the tent team. We certainly needed the marquee this year, and this meant lots of extra work for lots of you.

Our next event is on **Thursday September 27** - 7.30 p.m. at the Village Hall, a talk called "Lift the Latch". David & Pauline Bryant from near Chard will tell us about their 'all year round garden'. Please come along – it's free!

On **25 October** we will be holding our **AGM** at 7p.m. and after the business meeting, Chris and Judy Yates will present their Lavender talk. All the members of the BUMBLE BEE GROUP are especially invited!

BOOK EARLY for the **ANNUAL FAB FEAST on December 1**. Only 50 places available, so be an early bird and catch the grub! Book with Carole – carole.darke@virgin.net or 656222

BICKNOLLER COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS - Richard Hill writes: Bicknoller Community First Responders (BCFR) became operational on 1 July 2011. Below is a report on our first twelve months' experiences.

In short, it was a year of constant learning and operational improvement, but with the satisfaction of having made a real difference in a number of urgent cases.

At our launch we had 10 responders in the team and we have 10 today. We set out in 2011 to provide coverage as close as possible to 24/7, something few other CFR groups seem to achieve. Occasional gaps are unavoidable but we have otherwise met our objective.

We have had 22 callouts where the Responder attended a patient. In addition, there have been a similar number of incidents where a Responder was alerted but was either stood down before reaching the patient, or found the ambulance already on scene. Cases attended have been in Bicknoller, Stogumber, Crowcombe, Sampford Brett and W. Quantoxhead. Understandably, the majority of call-outs have been to older patients, perhaps with chest pains or breathing difficulties, or after a fall.

We all have to requalify every six months so ongoing training from South West Ambulance Service (SWAS) is essential. We have had refresher sessions in the Village Hall, regional clinical evenings where SWAS updates us on medical and operational issues, and on-line courses to complete.

BCFR have received several much appreciated donations which have been used to purchase useful items of kit additional to those in the basic bag supplied by SWAS. These items include electronic devices for measuring blood pressure, pulse, blood oxygen level and body temperature. To help carry all this kit quickly and safely from car to patient, a purpose-designed multi-compartment Responder back-pack has also been purchased.

We only cover a three-mile radius, so you would have thought that reaching a patient must be a doddle. Not so. Houses are unnumbered or unnamed, or hidden up unmade tracks. Satnav doesn't help much when a postcode covers a big area or a lot of homes. We have invested time in mapping Crowcombe and Stogumber parishes house-by-house so we can find an address quickly, even on a dark winter's night.

Finally, 2 golden rules:

In a medical emergency, always call 999. Don't contact a First Responder direct. The ambulance service will judge whether or not to mobilise a First Responder.

Make sure your house has a name or number clearly visible on the road, night and day. It could save a life - maybe yours.

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, a guided tour of the house and gardens of Fairfield, the home of Lady Gass, Lord Lieutenant of Somerset, and a guided history walk around Bicknoller. We are looking 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, a talk with slides on the work of the National Trust on the Holnicote Estate, an afternoon with "Miss Joyce Grenfell", and a fun quiz, so ...do come and join us! Membership costs only £8.00 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:

Bicknoller WI enjoyed a fascinating evening with Gill Venn in May. Gill runs a hat hire business, and gave us an amusing account of her business, and also found hats to match outfits for several members who had weddings coming up.

Our June open meeting was more serious, with a talk given by Richard Judd, Head of Philosophy and Religion at Taunton School, who gave us a rough guide to Islam. Most of our knowledge of Islam comes from the media, and coverage is usually negative. We heard about the foundations of Islam, the main beliefs of Sunni and Shia Muslims, the celebrations in Islam, and about the artistic and scientific influence of Islam. Terrorism was mentioned, together with the beliefs of those who perpetrate these acts. Rarely has an audience been so reluctant to release their speaker! It was a very stimulating evening.

The July 'garden meeting' was held indoors (the weather again!), at the home of Anne and Jim Laflin. There was an excellent supper provided by the committee and lots of chat too!

Valerie Sherwin from the Moorland Mousie Trust spoke to us in September about Exmoor ponies, their lives and their problems. Members enjoyed her lively and informative approach.

Next month Gemma, the award winning florist from Williton, will be coming to talk to us, followed by our AGM in November.

OUR VILLAGE HALL- Robert Hardy writes:

Photovoltaic panels were installed on the Hall roof in July and they are already leading to useful savings in the cost of electricity for the Hall and the Shop. When the questionnaire was sent round the village to canvass people's views on adopting the system, a number of villagers said they would be prepared to contribute towards the cost. They have been contacted with the gratifying result that we have received donations totalling £960, getting on for 15% of the total outlay.

Other work on the Hall continues, with David Thorpe putting in long hours to upgrade the hearing aid loop; the steps down from the drive have been repaired and various jobs carried out in the Play Area to meet requirements of the annual Risk Assessment. We are currently getting estimates for resurfacing the drive, which is showing distinct wear and tear.

The Jumble Sale on 15 September (held in partnership with the Social Club) was sparsely attended. This was a poor reward for all the volunteers who helped with the various stalls and were left with mountains of stuff to clear away and dispose of at the end. Events coming up are another musical evening with Martin Cox's "**Regal Rhythm**" on **Friday 19 October** and our **AGM on Wednesday 7 November**.

OUR SHOP - Maggie Pumphrey writes:

Do we have a shop in Bicknoller? Yes we do. Run by the community for the community. Why do I ask the question? Well, I suppose I am aiming this question at the many people who live in the

village who don't use the shop.

We are so very fortunate to have a shop in the village. If it were not for the community effort we wouldn't have one because it is not financially viable to run a village shop commercially in a village of this size.

Even with volunteer helpers it can be a struggle and to survive every shop, of course, needs customers. So do come along and see our range of products.

You will not find good quality greetings cards any cheaper anywhere else in the area. An excellent range.

Our milk, at 80p a litre, is a great price. The bread tastes as bread ought to taste. We source from many local suppliers thereby supporting other businesses in West Somerset.

There is an excellent range of "Big Red Cow" products in the freezer. These are ready meals made from Somerset beef, pork, lamb and chicken, as well as vegetarian choices. If we don't have what you want you can browse through the product list on the counter and place an order.

If we are not stocking what you would want to buy there is a suggestion box on the windowsill. Please put your suggestions into the box and sign your note so that the Manager can get back to you to discuss your needs.

There are not many residents now in the village who were here when John Lees worked so hard to get a shop going. Premises had to be found and there were all sorts of loopholes to go through. It was a great learning curve but it resulted in a shop in Bicknoller. Help us to keep it – please.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH - Cerys Randell writes:

St George's Church was delighted to host the Jubilee Thanksgiving service to recognise the work of volunteers in Bicknoller.

We would like to send a very sincere thank you to the Jubilee Committee who donated their fundraising from the Jubilee weekend celebrations towards a sixth bell for the Church. We will soon be able to have a complete bell peel which should allow our very able bell ringers the opportunity to demonstrate their skills to the full. It is also the intention of the Bell Tower Captain to offer Bell ringing training to the younger members of our community. .. Watch this space.

We still have a little more money to raise but it is hoped that the new bell will be installed early next year.

It was lovely to see so many attend our Annual Songs of Praise in the marquee again this year. The occasion even managed to get on the front cover of the Pathways magazine!

We recently submitted a planning application to install a disabled toilet in the Church. The WSDC Planning Committee has asked us to make some modifications to the drawings and so the application was temporarily withdrawn. We would love our Church building to be used more frequently by Parishioners, not only for services but for other social events as well and in order to do this we must have suitable facilities. Future events planned are as follows:

Sunday 30 September Harvest Festival followed by Harvest lunch in Bicknoller Village Hall. To ensure we have enough food please contact Jean Pennington Ridge on 656555 if you would like lunch.

Friday 14 December Carols around the tree followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

Christmas Eve- 11.30pm Candle lit service with mulled wine.

On a final note we are delighted to welcome Belinda Mountain onto our PCC. Belinda will take over as Secretary from November.

THE ROYAL OAK - Part One

"The Royal Oak" is the third most popular pub name in England. There is one at Luxborough, not far away. Where does this name come from?

In May, 1651, Charles II was on the run, having been defeated by the Roundheads at the Battle of Worcester. Disguised as a woodman, helped by groups of Royalist sympathisers, he had made his way, on 29 May, to Boscobel House, (Italian: Bosco bello= beautiful wood) in Staffordshire, forty miles north of Worcester. For his successful escape to the Continent, Charles was able to make use of the network of Catholic safe houses, where priests could say Mass: Catholicism was

an outlawed faith then, with huge fines levied on worshippers, if caught, and the death penalty for priests.

He was accompanied by a Royalist officer, Major Carlis (Careless or Carliss), from a recusant (Catholic) Staffordshire family. As there were many Parliamentary troops combing the area that day (a price of £1000, an immense sum then, being on Charles' head), and fearing that Boscobel House would be searched, that morning Carlis persuaded Charles to hide in a bushy pollarded oak tree in the nearby forest, from which they had a good view of their pursuers, and even heard them talking about what they would do with Charles, if they caught him!

As there was no meat in the house, Carlis, an ever resourceful man, killed a neighbour's lamb and he and Charles cooked it for their meal. Once the danger from the troops had passed, they both spent that night in priests' holes at Boscobel House, before Charles continued on his way. The pub names celebrate this happening!

Part Two, in a later "Pumpings": Major Carlis becomes Colonel Carlos; granted a coat of arms with a Royal association, and other benefits; for two hundred years, 29 May a public holiday, Oakapple Day.

[Written by a distant descendant of Colonel Carlos, living in the parish, pen name 'Agas']