



Parish Council	Job Responsibility	PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS
Mr D Venner(Chmn) 656 637	Quantock Hills	Following the May elections we welcome 4 new Councillors on to the Parish Council - John Grellier, Carolyn Lighton, Chris Skinner and Chris Warren. Congratulations also to the re-elected Councillors - Desmond Venner, Mike Andersen and Nicky Russell. Details of their Job Responsibilities are shown in the box on the left.
Mr M Andersen 07760 170300	Roads	
Mr J Grellier 656 799	Police Liaison	
Mrs C Lighton 656 639	Rights of Way	
Mrs N Russell 656 710	Young People	
Mrs C Skinner 618 300	Environment	
Mr C Warren 07872 470133	Planning	
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

PUMPINGS JOINS THE 21ST CENTURY!

The Parish Council has decided that, in future, Pumpings will be made available via the parish website - www.bicknoller.com. Any parishioner who would still like Pumpings delivered should contact the Parish Clerk (Mary ter Braak - 656 633). It is hoped, however, that those parishioners with computers will be happy to view Pumpings via the parish website and/or download a copy to read at leisure. This will help a great deal in making savings on both printing and paper costs - not to mention the wear and tear on councillors' shoes!

BICKNOLLER COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

We now have 10 parishioners who have committed themselves to make this scheme operational. These First Responders have been trained to attend designated emergency calls received by the Ambulance Service in areas that are difficult to reach by ambulances within 8 minutes. They will provide basic life support and defibrillation until the emergency service arrives.

In an emergency, DO NOT contact a First Responder direct - ALWAYS call 999 and ask for the appropriate service. The decision as to whether or not to send a First Responder will be left to the Ambulance Service.

HELP US TO HELP YOU

Please ensure that your house name and/or house number are easily seen from the road, especially at night! There have been instances in the past of ambulances arriving too late due to their inability to locate the address quickly!

<p align="center">QUANTOCK ECO NEEDS YOUR VOTE!</p> <p>If you have a Co-op membership card, please help us win £2,000 in the</p> <p align="center">BIG COMMUNITY VOTE!</p> <p align="center">Please go to</p> <p>http://bigcommunityvote.co-operative.coop/ and cast your vote for Quantock Eco before 30th July</p>	<p align="center">WELCOME TO THE PARISH</p> <p>Angus & Susie JONES, Liberty and Luke at White's Meadow, Trendle Lane</p> <hr/> <p>OUR SHOP - John Lees writes: You must have bought five We're still alive! Our new newspaper service is up and running, thanks to Clive Raisey (656 124). Ring him if you have a paper problem.</p>
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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - John Lees writes:

Nii report - BUT BE WARY! summer is the best time for today's thieves (who don't like the dark). Front doors open, ground floor windows open - they can be in and away before you can say Neighbourhood Watch. Remember that, if you are going away and want your property watched over, your Neighbourhood Watch warden is there to do just that.

BICKNOLLER FLOWER SHOW - Carole Darke writes:

The Flower Show is only a few weeks away, and we do hope you will enter this year...just pick up the schedule and read the instructions! It is really easy, and a lot of fun.

Before Saturday 17 July, Clive Raisey will be appealing for help to erect the marquee. This really is a village team effort and we are very grateful to all the guys who turn up with sledge hammers and thick gloves!

On **Saturday 23 July** at 7p.m. the marquee doors will open for our annual **Hog Roast and Jazz Evening**. Last year we had so many people arriving without tickets that this year, we are inviting you to buy early at £8.50 adult/£5 for a child under 16, so we will have enough chairs, plates, rolls and cutlery! The 'hog' will be served in rolls accompanied by a fine selection of salads, followed by the best puddings you've ever seen! There will be a bar, a special raffle and of course fine music from the West Newton Jazz Band.

REMEMBER - TICKETS IN ADVANCE ONLY from Jean on 656760 and Carole on 656222

FLOWER SHOW day is **Saturday 30 July**. The show opens at 2 p.m. and features hundreds of exhibits.

There are 24 trophies to be won, including a new one in memory of Mary Maine. Other attractions are music from the Tiverton Town Band, a dog obedience show, the amazing potato challenge, a demonstration garden by David Stubbings, Tony Richards the bee man from Blue Anchor, Wibble Nurseries, the Quantock Eco stand, the Bicknoller Community First Responders stand, the Tombola, FABULOUS TEAS, ice creams, and the **GRAND DRAW** with £100 first prize! Car parking is free, and admission is £1 for adults and 25p for children with a lucky entry ticket prize!

Remember to fill in your entry form and return it to Marie Robinson before noon on 27 July!

Further information from Carole 656222

SOCIAL CLUB - Marian Greswell writes:

The club has enjoyed a year of interesting and varied talks, demonstrations and visits. Talks have included Hats around the World (we were able to try on hats from Australia, Nepal and royal garden parties); birds of prey, with real live examples; canal boating; trains, boats and planes; musical traditions; the painter Holbein; and the west Somerset mineral line. We had a wonderful visit to Orchard Wyndham and another history of

Bicknoller by John Lees with tea and quiz up Hill Lane.

The club's present season started with the AGM when Ian Anderson stood down as Chairman - many thanks to him for his years in the post - and the club is lumbered with me for a while. We are lucky to have a hardworking committee and Ian still serves on this with publicity, Jean as Secretary, Brian as Treasurer and Carole, Win and John also members.

We have had to rethink the club's annual Christmas party - so popular until 2 years ago, support for it suddenly waned and it has had to be cancelled twice. This year we propose to hold an evening of local talent - the Bicknoller Revue - so keep 25 January 2012 free for this!

This season we have already had two great talks, one about otters by James Williams author of books on the subject, and a fascinating session on Somerset archives by Graeme Edwards from the new Somerset Heritage Centre. Good attendance at both sparked off many questions.

To come are yet another History of Bicknoller, a visit to Dunster Castle's Attics and Basements, Claire Rawle on Antiques and Collectables, Desmond Venner on his Great Wall of China Walk, Keith Cook's quiz, the work of the Quantock rangers and a musical traditions talk by Brian Heaton. All exciting stuff. Do come and join us.

Lastly, the committee agrees that we should consider a new name for the club. Any suggestions would be welcome; there might even be a prize for the suggestion considered best by the committee!

BICKNOLLER W.I. - Mary Hill writes:

The last few months have been lively and informative for WI members. Our year opened with Gary Sears coming to talk to us of his 30 years as a policeman in Wiltshire, which produced a host of very funny stories, and a lot of laughter. On a more serious note, he was also part of the armed police unit which protected the ex-prime minister Edward Heath. Gary's talk gave us a real feel for the difficult and sometimes dangerous work carried out by our police forces. In February, David Manners gave us an insight into the tremendously hard work involved in setting up a garden for the Hampton Court Flower Show (not to be undertaken lightly!). In March we enjoyed a superb chicken curry cooked for members by Jean Pennington-Ridge, followed by a DVD of 'Mrs Henderson Presents', a great film based on the setting up of the Windmill Theatre.

In April many members and friends enjoyed a talk from Sharon Bailey of Sharandys Birds of Prey, who arrived at the village hall with several very large boxes containing some of her owls, a peregrine cross falcon and a Harris hawk. She talked with great knowledge and skill about the different birds, answering question as she went, whilst each of the

birds sat on her arm in turn. The meeting culminated in members of the audience having the chance to have Barney, her huge European eagle owl sitting on their arm. He was indeed a bird of great personality!

At the end of April, Bicknoller WI hosted the Severn Sea Group Meeting of WIs. At a very well attended meeting with members from other local WIs, Nigel Ford, known to some of you as the Taunton Pantomime Dame, was the speaker on "the funny side of being an undertaker" (his day job), and he then captivated the audience with his magic. Bicknoller members provided supper for 50, and it was a great chance to get to know members from other WIs better.

At our May meeting we made traditional English Pot Pourri under the guidance of Miss C Fortlage, and we were amazed to discover how different additions of flower petals alter the resulting perfume. In the next couple of months, we have meetings shortly on bag making and making small items using stained glass window techniques.

I would love to have more members so, if what you have just read sounds interesting, do come along. We are not an 'old fashioned fuddy duddy' group, we are a lively, friendly group and we would love to see you. Please ring Anne Laffin on 01984 656 361.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - Pam Miles writes:

We started the year with the news that Graham High, our former Chairman and President had been awarded the MBE for his services to the Legion. For the last ten or so years he has been heavily involved with Dunkirk Memorial House, our nearest RBL residential home as well as co-ordinating our Poppy Appeal for some 20 years. We are most grateful for Graham's continued support.

We welcome Charles Greswell to our committee and he joins us as his son James (45 Royal Marine Commando) is deployed to Afghanistan. Our thoughts are with him.

In April, 30 or so members and guests enjoyed a fish and chip supper at the Bicknoller Inn. Our May 7th coffee morning at Combe Cottage (courtesy of Deirdre Gascoigne) went well (considering the weather) and we raised £450. A huge thank you to all who helped and supported us.

A group of busy knitters organised by Gladys Fillyar generously gave their time knitting hats for our soldiers to wear in the cold nights and under helmets in Afghanistan.

To celebrate the Legion's 90th Anniversary we are holding a special fundraising event on Friday, July 8th in the Hall. Georgina Miles, who lived in Bicknoller for many years, is presenting a talk on leading her expedition team in Antarctica drilling for ice cores with stunning photography. Time: 6.30 for 7pm with a licensed bar and nibbles. For more information see back page.

Please note that we have altered the date of our

Barbeque in the Marquee to 6.30pm Friday, August 5th, the day before the already published one. We hope this does not cause any inconvenience and that you can make it on the night.

In this 90th year, the Legion is concentrating on funding Personal Recovery Centres jointly with the Government and Help for Heroes to create places where all those who have suffered can be helped. The number of casualties has reduced in recent months but the care needs are still huge. On behalf of serving and ex-service men and women and their families, thank you for your support.

We are looking for a successor to Graham as Poppy Appeal co-ordinator. It is only for a few weeks a year and there is good team of Collectors. If you are, or know anyone who might be interested, please call 01984 632 742 or call if you have any other enquiries. More information on our website www.quantockrbl.org.

OUR VILLAGE HALL - Robert Hardy writes:

Since the last Pumpings two successful events have added to our funds. On 11 March a musical evening was provided by Martin Cox's group "Regal Rhythm" whose lively playing of a varied programme lured almost all the audience on to the floor by the end of the evening, which came too soon for them. On 21 May the Morning Market again had healthy takings, well over half coming as usual from the Raisey plant stall.

Routine maintenance of the hall, now shared between Clive Raisey and Gary Sears, keeps the hall in good order and Eddie Allen also made a big contribution by redecorating the Ladies lavatory. Outside the bedding under the swings was becoming very uneven and a working party put a concrete base under the artificial turf in a tough, staged operation. We have had to put in a new land drain in the playing field, which was becoming distinctly swampy. Our old-fashioned electricity-based heating system proved inadequate in intensely cold conditions and we are investigating a completely new set-up - if we can get a grant. David Thorpe is building a Village Hall website - www.bicknollervillagehall.org - which will include a booking calendar.

QUANTOCK ECO - Julian Anderson writes:

Quantock Eco now has support in 23 villages across the Quantocks and 97 paid-up members from eleven villages.

This success is probably due not only to our efforts, but also to the fact that our mission, to help reduce the negative impact of rising energy costs and changes in our habitat, is significant in today's circumstances.

Bicknoller citizens have continued to play an important role in making that success. They have been involved in several events either as leaders or participants. For example:

- Our Energy Efficiency Workshop in West

Quantoxhead was attended by citizens from Woolston who wrote afterwards to say that they had come away with lots of useful information for themselves and their friends; and Annabel and I have achieved a 12% reduction in the kilo watt hours used in our home by following the efficiency advice given in these workshops.

- Many of you were present at our generating "Electricity from Panels on Your Roof" event organised by Richard Hill, when 98 people packed the Village Hall to hear how to do so. The number of photovoltaic arrays in the village has increased dramatically since then.
- A pilot study to reduce plastic going to landfill by converting that which still remains in our bins into useful products is being led by Stuart Dowding with the full participation of Ian Liddell Grainger.
- Our plan to help increase pollination was well supported by the Ogilvy-Whites and Jill Canney whom we consider, because of her landholding here, as being from Bicknoller. They all received training in honey beekeeping.
- Carole Darke, Stuart and I are involved in helping the AONB carry out three aspects of its Management Plan: the reduction of carbon emissions across the Hills; the creation of wildlife habitats; and the formation of village history groups.
- Cerys Randell blazed the trail with regard to involving young people in what Quantock Eco is doing.
- Our Treasurer, Carole, kept the books so well that we have ended our first year with a surplus. And those books were audited by Clive Raisey.
- Of the 197 readers of our newsletter, Quantock Eco News, 76 are from Bicknoller. Several have contributed articles and the feedback is positive.

Sadly both Cerys and Richard have left Quantock Eco's Executive Committee to devote their energies to other important village tasks, but Bicknoller will still be well represented on that Committee: Jill Canney is leader of our Pollination project, Carole continues as Treasurer, Stuart is Vice Chairman, and I continue in the hot seat.

So thank you Bicknoller for your continued support. It is that support that helps Quantock Eco go from strength to strength.

MOTHERS UNION - Molly Farmer writes: 2010 found us celebrating 100 years of active Branch membership in the churches of the Benefice. From 1910 we have proof of the existence of three

branches in the seven villages and further proof of others opening by 1913.

Our special events last year meant that we were able to donate over £200 to various Mothers' Union projects worldwide.

Our speakers this year have included the poet Doris Soley, the musician Derek Mott and the intrepid travellers Joe and Rita Butterworth, who have recently returned from visits to Sri Lanka, Bangkok and Burma. We look forward to hearing our Rector - the Rev Valerie Plumb - who will speak on the subject of "Wellbeing" and later this year our Archdeaconry President - Gill Southwood - and a very great friend, Mrs Tess Woodland, who is the widow of our former Rector, the Rev Alan Woodland.

Our annual visit to Wells to lead Cathedral prayers takes place on 16 June and we will be taking part in other Exmoor & Quantock Deanery events, all of which can be found in "Pathways" month by month.

Let me take this opportunity to thank all who support the work of the Mothers' Union and invite you to join us for any oncoming events which may be of interest to you.

EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA - Georgina Miles writes: In 2006 I led an ice core drilling expedition with the British Antarctic Survey to the Antarctic Peninsula. We drilled cores from three islands off the coast of Antarctica, where small weather stations had been placed the year before to monitor the weather. The concept of the expedition was to try and identify atmospheric signals in the snow after it fell, in order to improve the interpretation of deeper ice cores. The expedition took over a year to plan and occurred over 2 months in the Antarctic summer. It involved 3 islands, 3 British Antarctic bases and many plane rides where, depending upon the weather, the team put up camp living directly on the snow and ice, drilling and working in the field. We collected some good data and had a few surprises along the way, including buried weather stations and blind take-offs when the weather deteriorated. It was a wonderful experience. I hope the photos I present in my talk will show what an incredible and pristine environment Antarctica is and how important it is for helping us understand our planet's climate.

DATES TO REMEMBER

All in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated:

8 July	"Expedition to Antarctica"	6.30 for 7 p.m.
23 July	Hog Roast & Jazz Evening (Marquee)	7 p.m.
30 July	THE Flower Show	2 p.m.
5 Aug	RBL Barbeque (Marquee)	6.30 p.m.