



PUMPLET NUMBER 84 Sept 25 2021

Joyce Halliday

We received a request from Alan Halliday, Joyces son, to include a notice in the next Parish Pumpings to let people know that his Mum, Joyce Halliday, sadly died on Wednesday 15th September after a very short illness. She was comfortable at the end and died in Dr Gray's hospital in Elgin.

His Mum and Dad bought 3 Church Lane in 1977 on his Dad's retirement from his job in Edinburgh where he was director of a pharmaceutical company - part of Glaxo. They were both very involved in village life particularly the flower show. Alans Dad died on 1st July 1986 and his Mum continued to live in the house on her own until December 2019.

Current thinking is that instead of having a funeral up there in Scotland, the family have decided they will have a celebration of her life in Bicknoller sometime next summer and bury her ashes next to Joyces husband..

Joyce is succeeded by 3 children, 8 grand children, 9 great grandchildren (at last count).

I have largely quoted verbatim the email received.

For all those of us who knew her, Joyce was a wonderful soul, very popular and much loved throughout our village. She will be sadly missed.

Bicklifts

Bicklifts are now operating regularly, and although some local Car Schemes remain closed, we are not. Please ring 656489 if we can help transport you anywhere locally.

The new Nissan EV, which can carry up to 5 passengers, including a wheelchair has full disabled access and a screen fitted between the driver, front passenger and the rear. More info after launch early October.



Bicknoller Wildlife

I wrote about this in Pumpings last time and had virtually no response. I attribute that to Covid 19 'fatigue' because, in my view there is no doubt that a majority of Bicknoller parishioners value and enjoy their local wildlife as part of their delight in living in a wonderfully scenic area. So I make no apologies for repeating it here again, especially when we have Nigel Phillips as our Flower Show Guest Speaker this Thursday in the Village Hall 7.30 p.m. speaking about 'Wildlife in our garden'

Transition Wellington have initiated a local Gardening for Wildlife Campaign and produced a local wildlife map. (Read more at www.ttw.org.uk and whilst our own population is obviously much different, our local wildlife could hopefully be more diverse given a less intensive human population.

If there is sufficient interest, we could form a working group of volunteers to be actively involved in constructing a Bicknoller Wildlife Map. We are still hoping that local environment groups such as Quantock Eco will respond to help make this happen.'

Bicknoller Village Hall

The Extension is now complete but still needs second fix etc to complete. Firstly, we need to raise more funds. More information will be shared at our AGM which will be held during w/c 25 October. Details to follow.

Most existing Committee members will be standing for re election and there are welcome new proposed candidates to be proposed and approved. However, we still have to fill four vacancies on the Committee, some of which will be nominations from local community organisations. Please consider putting your name forward if you can. If you'd like to learn more, or discuss, please feel free to contact any current Committee member of your choice.

We will be sharing with you what has happened regarding our Governing Documents, and asking for a confirmation of the approved mandate from 2018 for us to change our charitable status to that of a Foundation CIO

BOOKING Secretary.

Sadly, Caroline Martin has decided to resign as Booking Secretary as from the AGM, so we urgently someone to step up to replace her. Please contact any Committee member if you are interested in finding out more. I m sure Caroline will also be pleased to answer any questions or concerns. Please help if you can.

Marquee

As reported on Bicknoller Post, we had a good team of volunteers who helped us complete the taking down and storage of the Marquee. Your Flower Show Committee continues to evaluate and consider the best way forward, but we would very much like to hear your thoughts about the future of our Show and what ideas you may have.

Local History.

Mary Ter Braak has now sent me the final instalment but has some more tapes that are of inferior sound quality, that we are going to have checked by a sound engineer to see if we can also recover. I am sure you will agree how indebted we all are to Mary for painstakingly typing out these lovely recollections from an earlier time around Bicknoller.

The St. John Couch tapes – Part 13

The ownership of Woolston was divided into 3 parts some 100 years ago. The Dean and Chapter owned the common and some of the land, then the Threshers (later the Thresher-Giles') owned Dashwoods and the house up the lane near the river known as Bottoms. Many of the cottages were owned by Sir Walter Yea, they then passed on to the Aclands and then Lord St. Audries.

I suppose a feature of Woolston are the almshouses, known as Bartholomew Thomas Almshouses and I think I ought to tell you something about him and them.

Bartholomew Court Thomas was born on the 2 June 1835 in one of a block of cottages which used to stand on the site of the present almshouses. His father of course was called Thomas and his mother had been a Miss Court of Woolston. His father was enterprising, and I suppose fairly well to do because at the time of Bartholomew's birth he owned the freehold of those properties which he'd bought from the Dean and Chapter in 1827. Young Bartholomew was apprenticed to a tailor in Stogumber and when he'd learnt his trade in 1851 he joined the staff of a well established civil and military tailor in fashionable Park Street, Bristol. Bartholomew did very well and eventually became a partner. He died at the age of 64 on 6 March 1900.

He was a great benefactor to the Baptist churches both in Clifton and in Newport, South Wales where he had been responsible for raising the money to get the Baptist church built there. He'd planned to retire after 50 years in business and as a thank offering to build the almshouses on the site of his birthplace. Unhappily he died before that plan could be carried out and his widow and other members of his family carried out his wishes after his death. The almshouses were built in 1904. In the early 1950s they'd fallen into a rather poor state of repair and only one was occupied. Efforts were made and money raised and they were restored, modernised and reoccupied in 1959.

MTB Sept 2021

Quantock Eco.

Julian Anderson, Chair, has asked me to share the following with you..


Quantock Eco invites you to see the eye-opening film **“Seaspiracy”** and participate in the debate about its implications afterwards – see poster below for details.

Long standing QE supporter, Sir Angus Stirling, member of the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers writes.

“This film sets out to reveal the devastating harm being done to the world’s oceans and the wildlife that depend on them. It is not without fault. Some inaccuracy and “broad brush” approach has led to vested interests trying to demolish it.

“Please do not be put off. The imminent risks to the food chain, the wholesale slaughter of fish by factory ships employing slave labour, and the appalling consequences of waste cast into our oceans is graphically shown. It is of deep concern to humankind.”


Please join us for an evening of good entertainment and good debate.



Quantock Eco
Building Sustainable Lifestyles

in association with
Crowcombe Cinema

invites you to this eye-opening film and debate about
the **impact of fishing** on
Marine Wildlife



Friday 22nd October - Crowcombe Village Hall
Doors open at 6:30 for 7:00 pm start
Members & students free, non-members £6