

Chilcompton Matters

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Autumn Magazine

September 2019



Welcome...

...to the 2019 Autumn edition of Chilcompton Matters.

Although technically, apparently, autumn does not start until September 23rd - so help yourself to another week of summer.

What are the pluses of autumn? You can go blackberry picking. Yay! You can step in cow pooh, scratch your fingers on the thorns and make jam that nobody will eat. There's Halloween. I'm not even going to go there, it's American and on this occasion certainly not European. There are the leaves. Aren't they pretty? All browns and yellow and red, and who is going to pick them up? You can eat wholesome warming meals. Then buy membership of a gym club in the new year. You can go back to your nice cosy jumpers, actually no because they are full of moth holes. Clothes moths are taking over the world. Someone write me an article on clothes moths in Chilcompton. You can stop cutting the grass. That's a good one, I'll buy that. Wonderful autumn.

It has been a fine summer with notable events; Redan Celebrates Chilcompton, The Mad Hatter's Tea Party down at the church, the Flower Show celebrating its Ruby anniversary (all covered in these pages). Though sadly no Fringe, no beer festival and no Chilcompton Picnic - perhaps they will be revived.

With these events we are so fortunate to be living in this village; then there are the two pubs, the Co-op, the children's recreation ground, the beautiful ponds and the sports ground. However as one of the interviewees in this issue reminds us, it is the people that make the place. Lots of personality profiles in this edition.

The thanks bit. Ta very much to the advertisers, especially the ones that have gone colour giving the magazine an extra glow. Pat on the back for Kathy Hughes who manages them. Gratitude to the distributors for their leg work. Really grateful to the contributors, keep it coming. Gracias (I'm learning Spanish) to you for reading. But, as always, most of all, thanks to Mike Hughes who does the desktop publishing, he's a star.

Bendice tu corazon (bless your heart)

Malcolm Rigby

Parish Clerk. **E-mail:** parishclerk@chilcompton.org

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Ingenious Cow or Simple Cow

Malcolm Rigby met the man behind the milk machine

It's very easy – you arrive with your washed out milk bottle, put it in the machine, insert your pound, press the button, wait a short while then walk away with your lovely local full fat milk. Simple yet ingenious.

The contraption suddenly appeared at the very end of last year – materialising like the tardis in the village hall car park – and instantly became very popular. In the first couple of months supplying 200 litres a day.

The idea is the brainchild of Oliver Day who works at Knitts Farm on Stockhill Road with his uncle, Richard Patch.

Oliver said he started it just to see if it was viable... and it is viable. The idea is not totally original as there are others and it is popular in Europe, in fact the machine is European.

“Before mine there were a couple that popped up, there's one in Frome and one on the outskirts of Wells, both of those you have to drive to. I thought there was a far stronger market if you could put it in the middle of a village where you have all the school pick-ups and there is plenty going on in the village hall all the time, just makes it more convenient for people. When it started it was bringing people in from Midsomer Norton and Tinsbury, all over. It's calmed down a bit now because it's quite a long way to go to get milk.

“I'd like to have a few of them and get them into Bath and Bristol, I think people would go crazy for them in there. You need to stage it so it is worth driving all that way to fill it up.”

The milk is local but contrary to popular opinion it is not from Chilcompton, it's from Stoke St Michael. However pasteurising equipment is being purchased and in a few weeks time the milk will actually be from Chilcompton.

The milk is slightly more expensive than the supermarket variety and I suggested that the reason for the popularity was the full fat.

Oliver refers to supermarket milk as white water, he said: “This tastes like milk should taste, there is a lot of growing evidence that full fat milk is better for you anyway. It makes you feel fuller and there's been lots of research that shows it stops people snacking.

“Everyone loves it. All positive feedback, not heard any criticism. The only criticism is that it's too nice and they drink too much of it. Somebody said the other day do you put anything in to make it more moreish? I said, no, but we don't take anything out.”

Oliver admits he was surprised at the early popularity and his, initially sceptical, uncle, even more so. The decline in consumption is not a concern as he is convinced it is seasonal rather than the novelty factor wearing off.

“I did worry a few weeks ago when the milk started to drop a bit but then we had a couple of weeks of wet weather and it came back up again. It's weather related.”

Also available at the milk machine are cheese and eggs. The latter come from >>

>> Chilcompton and the cheese is sourced as locally as possible. For the future Oliver is considering supplying locally produced butter and possibly ice cream.

Simple Cow pay a rent to the village hall for the use of the space – so everyone's a winner. There is a community element too as he donates milk to the school for special events.

Oliver is Chilcompton born and bred and was always going to go into farming but is not so pleased at how the industry has been developing. He said: "For the last 20 years I haven't liked the way that farming was going, everything was getting bigger and bigger and more intensive, I preferred the way it was when I was growing up, when Chilcompton had six dairy farms. We're trying to make a small farm profitable."



A satisfied customer

"The cows are less intensively farmed, this is far more sustainable. They're all grass fed, the longevity of the cows is much better, health of the cows is much better as opposed to big factory farms."

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Wednesday walkers

This group now numbers about 20 people. Most walks are in and around Chilcompton, but we have walked the greenway to Radstock and had a good walk in lovely weather from Radstock to Kilmersdon along the old railway line then followed footpaths into and along the waterside valley with refreshments in the Swallow Café at Radstock. The group has encountered curious cows and waded through overgrowth round the edges of



crops and lived to tell the tale! The photos show the climb up Jack and Jill hill and negotiating the river in the waterside valley.

Marlene Pickford
01761 232774



Friday Club

Friday Club was 35 years old in June. It was started in 1984 by Mary Hunt, who was concerned that elderly people spent a lot of time alone. She invited one or two people to the village hall for tea and coffee, but the venture soon grew until there were over 30 participants and four more helpers: Kay Gillard, Janet Selway, Marlene Pickford and Sue Winstone. Sue Tandy has been making cakes for the group for all those years. There was also a monthly lunch at one time, now only two a year. There are about 16 members at present, who enjoy their weekly chat. Anyone is welcome to drop in on a Friday morning for a cup of tea. Marlene Pickford 01761 232774



Golden Hour Club

A variety of speakers and choirs entertain members each month. The AGM in April saw the retirement of Janet Moon from the committee and Paulene Bell elected. There are presently 27 members, although anyone can come along at any time on a one-off basis.

Sylvia Rogers 01761233142.

Chilcompton Wives

Our events began in April with a visit from 'Taste of Timsbury', the local food festival. The team told us how the show had grown over the years, they even brought us a taste of their 'Gin and Tonic' cake, which was much enjoyed by members. We hope to visit the 2020 festival.

Helen Wall had us all exhausted with her travel tales and escapades ending with abseiling down Wells Cathedral! We hope to see her again.

The summer diary dates ended with our very own Glastonbury festival which was held in the village hall, duly decorated with beer can (empties) bunting, wellies and some heavily disguised group members. Vince Gill was the main performer on the 'Pyramid Stage'. Who needs to go to Glastonbury?

If you would like to come along to one of our evenings, the dates are displayed on the Village Hall notice board.

For further information ring Bridget Brookbank 01761 232039 or Maureen Evans 01761 233266.

The Dying of the Light - by Andrew Morris

How does it start, this poem?	And I am left like a child	To begin at the beginning
Don't tell me, it will come	with words that hide	where the words were playing
What is the word that starts it off	the memory of my days	in the cobblestreets
If I get the first word I'll be fine	I need my umbrella to	limping down to the slowback
Where is the word? Where	Protect me from the rain	crowblack bobbing sea
has it gone?	Where did I put it	They are not my words,
Where do they go all those words?	It's not here its not here	they come from the rains
I would like to go there and visit	not in my pocket but I have a pen	soaking and drenching
perhaps they would let me stay	I will put this up it will stop the	showering and spitting
with all the words I knew	rain it will give me the words	where is my pen is it mightier
All those names of people I knew	It will give me the words and	than the sword?
Where are they? Where did they go?	the names but no faces.	Is it mightier than an umbrella?
They scurry in and out	Where are their faces?	Where are the new words?
Especially when it rains	Put my pen up	Where are they hiding
they don't want to get wet	Hold it up Hold it up	No that is not it not it at all
they are dry words	That's better I remember I re-	we have lingered in the
some I recognise	member the fifth of November	chambers of the sea
some are familiar.	I'm back in Wales	by sea girls wreathed with sea
And once upon a time	Gunpowder, treason and plot	weed red and brown
it rained and rained and	I know of no reason why	till human voices wake us and
washed all the words away	gunpowder treason should	we drown.
	ever be forgot	
	Yes that's it!	

Cycle Speedway

Some residents will remember the Cycle Speedway in Chilcompton; a short-lived phenomenon in the 1950's enjoyed with enthusiasm by participants and spectators alike. Started by Maurice Clark (from Overdale Nurseries) and employee Alan Bailey, they used to practise their cycling skills during their breaks in the Nursery grounds.

Alan and Maurice persuaded Alan's father Clifford and John Golledge to allow them to build a cycle speedway track at the concrete works. They built an official size track, made from the clinker from New Rock Colliery.

The team of eight was set up and named Broadway Aces, namely Maurice and Alan, Bernard Holder, John Cottle, John Andrews, John Charles, Jim Burge and Raymond Lane (see photo). Their chairman and ardent supporter was Mr. Jim Sheppard owner of the sawmills. Alan's sister, Pam, prepared their shirts of bright orange with black on white aces. She also made black neckerchiefs and starting and finishing flags.



Official speedway bikes were purchased, wide handlebars, no brakes, and only one low gear. They then joined the league and visited many venues and other teams came to Chilcompton from Bristol and Bath to compete. Four cyclists, 2 from each team would race 4 laps and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd would gain 3, 2, and 1 point respectively. Team member John Andrews said, "Everything depended on getting the gearing right, every track was different." Alan's younger brother Malcolm remembers Shirehampton Tigers and Hawksbury 'Hawks'. Malcolm also rode with the team in its second year, when John Andrews left for National Service. John later joined circuit road racing and, with Jim Burge, represented Somerset against Hampshire at Blandford Forum. John also won the Festival of Britain cup, which Stratton organised at Downside in 1951. John took opportunities to race at gymkhanas and the horse show at Abbey Park, Glastonbury, where he was able to win more prize money than he did as a mechanic!

Alan's younger sister, Christine remembers crowds would gather on speedway night from Chilcompton and visitors from Bristol and surrounding areas to support their team, so a huge following and great excitement in the village. Wendy Earl can remember many names including 'Swiftly' Sage from 'Clutton Pirates' and also Mr. Taylor's ice cream van.

The Aces later moved to a larger grass track in a field behind the Concrete works. Joe Hillman from Clutton Pirates joined the Aces and cycled from Clutton to Chilcompton for practice and race nights. The icing on the cake was when three representatives from the team rode at the Speedway stadium in Knowle, Bristol competing in a tournament.

Marlene Pickford. With thanks to Malcolm Bailey, Christine Button, John Andrews and Wendy Earle for their help.

Peace Rose

The parish council has planted a Peace rose with a plaque near the War Memorial to commemorate 100 years since the end of WWI.



American Crayfish

What do you call a big, brash oddly orange American bully who has no regard for the environment and wants to invade territories occupied by others? No, not him - we're talking about another invasive parasite that are called American or Signal Crayfish and, as has been known for some time, they have invaded at least some of our local waterways and driven out the native species.

They were first introduced to the UK in the 1970s by the government. The idea was that they could become a food crop, but as so often happens with such experiments it was not properly thought out. The crayfish soon escaped from any containment and started their deadly march across the UK and are now widespread in England and Wales. Several large colonies have also been found in Scotland. Wherever they go, they will wipe out the local species either by killing them for food or by disease. They can also cause considerable damage to river banks and kill frogs, small fish and anything else that gets in their way. If they eat all the fish, then the kingfishers may move on. On the upside, it's said that egrets will eat crayfish.

The crayfish can grow up to about 18cm. They are fiercely territorial and cannibalistic. Live specimens have been seen in several spots along the river and bodies of at least three of them have been found further upstream from the bridge at the bus shelter. It's probable they are far more widespread than that. They are known to travel across land. Trapping is a possibility, but licences and permissions are required and it's not viewed as being generally effective in the long term. It should be noted that it is illegal to return a captured Signal Crayfish to the wild - they have to be disposed of. I'm told that they are very good to eat.



There's not much else that can be done about this unwanted parasite, but we would be interested to hear of any other sightings - alive or dead. Just listen out in the dead of night for the clacking of their pincers, just like a million castanets in the distance as they march up The Pitching at the full moon. Pete Sinclair

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Memory Café



At Chilcompton Memory Café, memories, past times, are enjoyed and shared, over any number of cups of tea! With refreshments to suit different nutritional needs and preferences. Old acquaintances are rediscovered and new friendships made. Welcome all from Chilcompton and surrounding villages.

Have a break; have a chit chat! Free fellowship, fun & refreshments. Informal support and information. Welcome to all, accompanying family, carer or friend too.

Every 2nd Monday of the Month in 2019/20 including a possible outing in October and Christmas card making in November.

For further information contact:

Sarah Crosse: 01761 412042 email: csarag150@yahoo.co.uk

Local info

All villagers are invited to attend the Parish Council meetings, to make an observation or just to view the machinery of the most local tier of government.

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month, 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

If you have any ideas for the twice yearly village newsletter or would like to put some information up on the village website, contact the Parish Clerk by email: parishclerk@chilcompton.org or ring 01761 232974.

Website: www.chilcompton.org

PC noticeboards are by the Coop, by the Village Hall, on Bowden Hill and at the bus stop by Church House.

District Councillors: Josh Burr and Sam Phripp

cllr.Burr@mendip.gov.uk cllr.Phipp@mendip.gov.uk

County Councillor: Mike Pullin mpullin@somerset.gov.uk

District Council: 0300 303 8588

County Council: 0300 123 2224

Obituaries

The following villagers have died since the last newsletter:

David Obern, Joe Vango, Colin Fricker, John Webb,
Juliet Andrews, Sheila Brimacombe, John Wilmott, Barbara Collins,
Jennifer Astridge, Ann Reakes, Jeanette Bushnell,
Deborah Al-Hoori (née Wareham), Basil Dumford, Roger Perry,
Jean Griffiths, Mary Sheppard, Dr. David Field., Norma Dando,
David Gunnell, Enid Clark, Olive Wilmott, Pam Blacker (née Brown)

The following friends, who were not residents have died:

Clifford Green (church organist), Brian Fear (cars), Dr. Rye (St. Chads)

We send sincere condolences to their families and friends.

Apologies if anyone has been inadvertently omitted. Please let me know of any others and they will be included in the next newsletter.

Marlene Pickford 01761 232774 email: marlenep@mypostoffice.co.uk

News from St John's

Greetings from St. John's... We warmly invite you to join us at any of our Sunday services which start at 10.30am unless otherwise noted, and these are listed below.

1st Sunday of the month: Family Communion Service including
children's clubs (Jigsaw for 3-7 years and Buzz for 11-18 years)
and there is a crèche area at the back of church too
6.30pm Celtic Worship Communion

2nd Sunday: All Age Family Service

3rd Sunday: Family Communion Service including children's clubs

4th Sunday: 9.00am Said Communion Service

4th & 5th Sundays: Family Service of Morning Prayer including children's clubs

On the 11th of each month at 11.00am, we have Contemplative Prayer. You are more than welcome to join us.

Every Sunday evening at 6.00pm is the Powerhouse Youth Group who enjoy fun, prayer, discussion... and pizza!

During our Communion services, alcohol-free wine and gluten free wafers are available as an alternative. After our services, you are welcome to join us for refreshments and fellowship in the hall. Prayer is also available in church and all prayer requests are confidential.

Every second Monday we host Memory Café - see page 11 for details.

Lunch Club is every 3rd Thursday - if you would like to join us or know of someone who would appreciate a lunch and the chance to meet with others, we would love to see you. Please call Margaret Holcombe on 01761 415085 for more information, if you would like a lift to the lunch, or if you have any special dietary requirements. Lunch Club is preceded by a short communion service at 11.30am should you like to come along.

>>

>> Our church and hall are easily accessible with disabled facilities and ample parking. If you would like to hire the hall, call Mr. Chris Austin on 07853 228759.

We are a collection point for The Foodbank and there is a list of required items and a box in the link. Also the Shoebox Appeal, collection of which will be sometime during the second week of November. If you want to donate items and/or money, that is ok too.

There are a number of ways to contact St. John's and/or find out information:

- www.stvigorstjohn.church,
- www.facebook.com/StJohnTheBaptistChurchChilcompton,
- stvigor-stjohn@hotmail.co.uk or call me in the office (open Monday-Friday 9.00am to 12.00 noon) on 01761 502068 Kate Crossley, Administrator.

Messy Church, every 4th Sunday, is a very popular free family event from 3.00-5.00pm. Information can be found on:

- facebook.com/StJohnTheBaptistChurchChilcompton
- or email: messychurchstjohnschilcompton@gmail.com

Our Mad Hatter's Tea Party was held on Saturday 6th July - a free fun event.

The Messy Church activities were based around the Alice in Wonderland theme. There was a white rabbit trail around the grounds, you could make a crazy hat for the parade, and play croquet on the lawn with flamingo mallets.

The event was opened by our very own Mad Hatter followed by the upbeat Carnival rhythm from St. Vigor and St. John's Church School Samba Band, which put everyone in the party mood. The Year One pupils from the school entertained us with their expertly executed country dancing and there was singing from the ladies of 'Sing Your Heart Out'.



Guests at the party were invited to enter the rabbit hole into the land of Awe and Wonder.

It was lovely to see so many people, old and young, enjoying themselves joining in the fun or catching up with friends and chatting over a cup of tea and cake.



Members from our Bell Ringers led trips up the tower, these proved very popular especially with some of the young people who went up several times and could be heard calling out to passers-by.

The only profit being made was from the annual Duck Race, the proceeds from this were divided between St. Vigor

and St. John's School and Chilcompton Playgroup.

Next year's event will be on Saturday July 4th. It would be great to see you there.



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TrueSpeed Progress

People may have noticed the civil work to build our network in Chilcompton over the last few months. Overhead work to run our fibre optic cables along the poles still needs to be carried out and we await permission from some landowners to enable access to a number of poles before we can complete our network.

Going live depends on how quickly we can gain the access required, but at the moment it is estimated that most Chilcompton customers will be connected to TrueSpeed's live network during the early part of December.

Originally, we didn't quite have enough demand to enable us to build everywhere in Chilcompton. Areas where we were not able to build included part of Parsonage Lane, west from Highfield Crescent to Valley Walk (including Lewis Close, Gollodge Close and Merrick Fields). Recently, we have successfully focused on signing more people in this area. Final confirmation is awaited, but it looks as though we should be connecting people here by March/April next year.

Other areas we are looking into now include Coach Lane and Somer Lea. If anyone has any questions, including about TrueSpeed coverage in their area, then Neil Rogers, TrueSpeed's local regional manager will be happy to help. Neil can be contacted on 07948 348805 or neil@truespeed.com

Andy Moore, TrueSpeed

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Mendip Brass Band



We are, at the time of writing, in the midst of our summer playing season. We began on 8th June by playing at Collett Day in Shepton Mallet and the following Saturday we were performing at Oakhill Festival. Next we were at Stoke St. Michael school fete, which was opened by Michael Eavis. On the Sunday following this, we were really pleased to be asked to play

at the open-air service at the Rock of Ages, Burrington (see photo). This was a new venture for the band and we enjoyed the occasion very much. On 13th July we were at Henton Church fete and dog show; a lovely day with a large crowd. We have played at Henton for many years and are always made very welcome.

Earlier in the year we were able to make donations to three charities, the amount being £192.37 each to Paulton Hospital League of Friends, The Air Ambulance and The Salvation Army. These funds were raised when playing carols at local supermarkets at Christmas time. Jenny Gould.

Redan Celebrates Chilcompton

We feel so lucky to be part of such a wonderful, friendly village. The Redan Celebrates Chilcompton really felt like an intimate village day, with some also travelling from outside.

We hope you all enjoyed yourselves and would like to thank you for supporting this annual event and very much appreciate your custom all year through. Chilcompton really is worth celebrating!

Thanks to all bands/singers and sound who give up their time to entertain us, we appreciate the work involved for you all, the children of St Vigor's and St John's School for performing their country dancing and parent helpers who work with us on the organisations and on the stalls on the day, we couldn't do it without you all.

We raised £1062.47, this has been donated to St Vigor's and St John's and The Mill Nursery. Thank you to local companies for all of the kind raffle donations and event setup. Everyone coming together for such an event gives a great feeling of community.

We are already looking forward to next year!

Dan Oborn & Toby Gritten



Pictures courtesy of Sandy Yeates



One Hundred Blood Donations



One of our unsung heroes in this newsletter just keeps on giving. Jenny Gould has recently been awarded a certificate marking her 100 blood donations. She said, "I started giving blood in 1965 and have donated regularly, whenever possible, ever since then. It is a very worthwhile cause and we never know when we might need the service ourselves. (It doesn't hurt a bit, I promise!)" She is currently on her 106th donation.

Well done and congratulations Jenny.



In Memory of John Webb

John Webb 1933 – 2019

I asked John several times to be the subject of 'Chilcompton Lives' which Mike Newman ably describes in every newsletter and although John was happy to talk to me about his life and memories, he was too modest and unassuming to agree. Now his son Vince regrets his father's story wasn't told, so here we record some of his life.

John was born in Wells Square, Radstock and brought up with his older brother, Bernard. On leaving school he joined the Somerset & Dorset Railway as a relief porter. (Porters on relief were paid 7/6d a week more.) Based in Radstock he was sent to various stations as he was needed and in the early days he cycled to Midford, Shoscombe, Wellow, Batcombe, Evercreech and as far as Mangotsfield. There was often a hut provided, for his breaks and sandwiches, equipped with primus stove and kettle for tea. Sometimes he would stay at a station for a few days, when the Station Master was away on holiday and he actually slept and lived in his hut.

It was when working at Chilcompton station that he saw a girl crossing the line between trucks, but not in the safely prescribed place, so he told her off. Her father was a platelayer and sometime signalman and they lived in one of the railway cottages in the valley. Her retort to John was that she had always crossed where she wanted to and would continue to do so! Not a good start to a relationship, but John married May in 1955 and they had seven children.

By the 1970s when they were outgrowing their cottage, which May's grandfather had bought in 1904, the family moved in with John's mother in Radstock (10 people living in a two-up two-down for several months!) while the cottage was extended and doubled in size.

John's work with the railway came to an end soon after 1966 when the Beeching axe fell and he worked at Mardens until his retirement. May died in 2009, but John soldiered on with support from his family and in later years he enjoyed travelling with Vince to Ireland, Italy, Guernsey and France absorbing the history of such places. This was his first time in an aeroplane! John was a keen gardener and grew flowers and vegetables, winning prizes at the local flower show. Some of his children followed in his footsteps with a love of gardening and they often won the Family Cup together.

John had a great sense of humour, often seeing the funny side of things and this continued throughout his last year when his illness progressed. His well-attended funeral confirmed the popularity of this kind and quiet family man. Marlene Pickford

Older Drivers

The Parish Council is planning to host a talk that is directed at older drivers.

The presentation, called Route 60+, is provided free by the Somerset County Council Road Safety team.

Steve Greenhalgh, from the team, said: "The talk is aimed at helping to keep older drivers driving on the road safer for longer, we are very aware of when a person who lives in a remote area has to stop driving it presents a difficult lifestyle change. In the talk we cover strategies to help continue driving and offer (for a fee) a driving assessment with a driving instructor."

Everyone who attends the event gets a free copy of the highway code and other literature to assist them. The talk takes about an hour and there may be other emergency and health professionals present.



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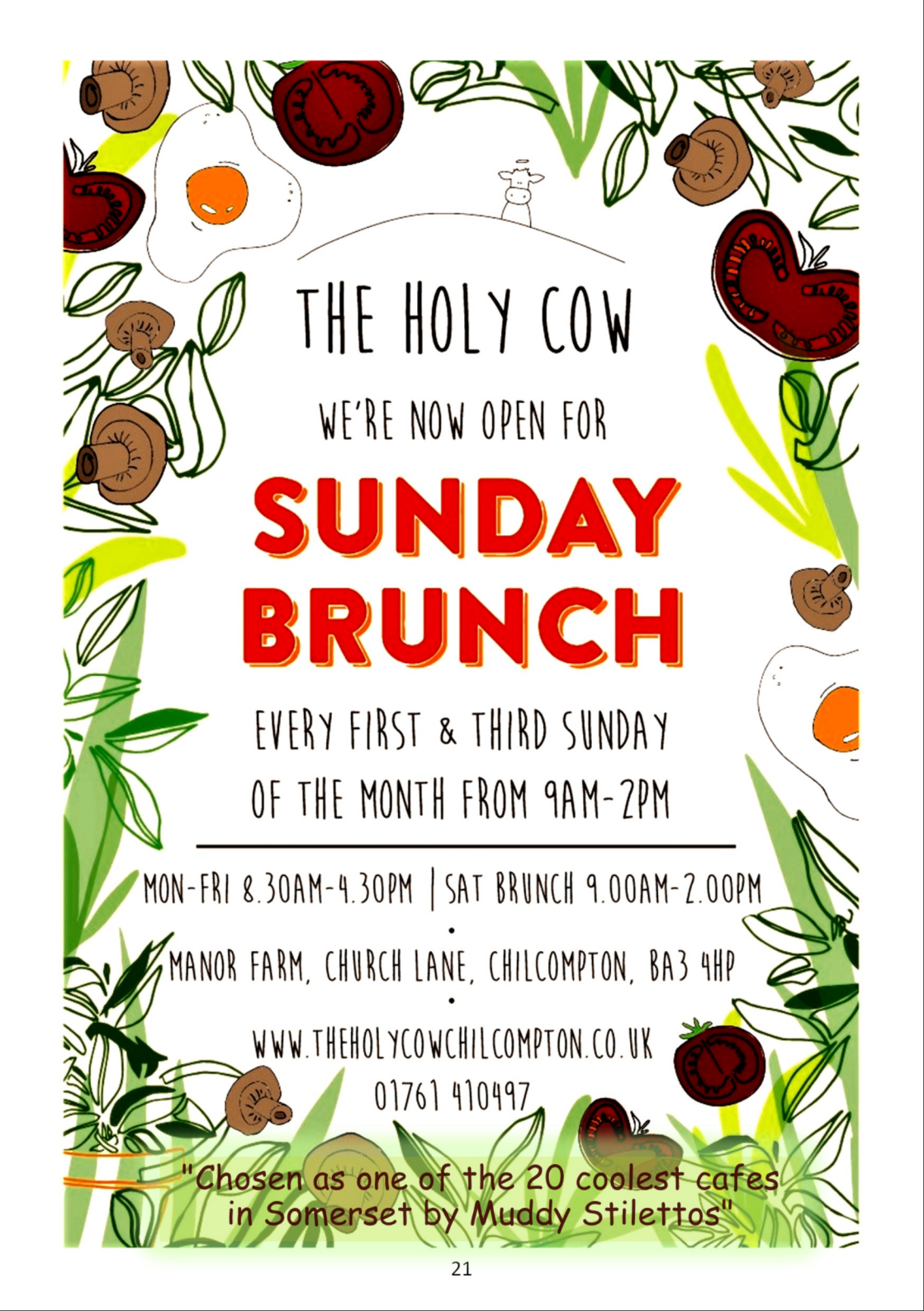
A black and white photograph of a modern interior space. On the left, a staircase with a glass balustrade and wooden treads leads upwards. The floor is made of light-colored wood. In the background, a large glass door or window looks out onto a garden. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent grey box in the center of the image.

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Chilcompton Lives... Graham Wood



Graham today

Graham has lived in Chilcompton since 1940 but was born in Wells in 1930. When Graham came to Chilcompton he first lived in Lynch Hill. Sadly Graham's mother died in 1936 aged 36. His father married again. Graham was only 5 at the time. Graham's father was a bus driver and worked on various routes.

He had two brothers called Douglas and Raymond and a sister called Irene. He

also had two step brothers, Richard and John and a step sister, Ann (Dawson).



Raymond & Graham July 1931

Graham attended Coxley Junior School from 1935 to 1940 and Stockhill C of E in 1940 aged nine.

He only had one teacher all the time he was at Stockhill School called Miss Healey. He remembers Joe Dyke, the Headmaster, spotting a boy through the hopper windows putting the school clock forward so they could finish early. The boy received the cane!

Graham didn't take the Eleven Plus and left school in 1943 to attend Bath Technical College. He was based at the Building Department just off the Lower Bristol Road and studied Masonry and Woodwork. He travelled to college by train from Chilcompton Station to Green Park Station in Bath where he walked the rest of the way to college. Graham remembers playing football in the college yard. The ball went over the wall and landed in a painter's paint pot!

Graham spoke about the bombs dropped on Radstock during the war - one landed in Victoria Square and another on Clements the Chemist on Bath Road. The bombers missed their intended target of the railway system in Radstock. The train would emit a light from the coal in the engine firebox. The light would normally be covered by a sheet but sometimes could be seen from the air.

Graham explained that following the bombing raids in Bristol, he could see Bristol alight from where he lived. He remembered the tank traps that were positioned at the back of Lynch Hill and the troop trains passing by the back of his garden - often with 2 engines - one being unhitched at Maesbury.

In 1946 Graham became an Apprentice Carpenter and Joiner at S W Fosters in Radstock. He had a break from his apprenticeship from 1950 to 1952 to join the RAF to complete his National Service.

>>

>> Graham was stationed near Blackpool and went on a signaller's course in Norfolk where he learned Morse Code. From an underground cubicle he sent dummy messages from land to aircraft at 18 words per minute.



Graham in Uniform

Graham returned to Fosters and completed his apprenticeship in 1957. Fosters was short of work which meant that Graham was loaned to Plummer and Hockey. This was meant to be for a month but he stayed until 1976 working in their carpenters shop or on building sites.

In 1976 Graham worked for Jacksons Fencing selling fencing panels, tools and wire fencing for cattle and deer. This involved Graham driving the Jackson's van to farmers' markets in Gloucester, Taunton, Salisbury, Abergavenny and Cowbridge. Graham retired in 1995 although he continued to work for Jacksons on Saturday mornings until 2000.

Graham met his wife to be, Jen (Janice) Bishop, at her 21st birthday party. He was invited by his brother Raymond who knew Mildred, Jen's sister. Jen lived in Benter and at the top of Stockhill Road on the corner of Coal Lane. She went to Stockhill and Somervale Schools. Raymond married Mildred.



Graham and Jen's Wedding & Golden Wedding in 2010

Jen worked at WJ Brown's Nursery in Wells at the site now occupied by Tesco – Browns moved to its current site near Coxley. Jen and Graham had a lot in common – Jen knew a lot about flowers and they both shared a keen interest in gardens.

The couple enjoyed coach holidays travelling to Scotland, Ireland, The Isle of Man and Italy.

They moved to Monsûrs Close in 1998.

Graham and Jen had two daughters, Tina, a school bursar and Julie, a post lady. Both daughters had two sons giving Graham and Jen four grandsons.

Sadly Jen passed away in March 2018.

In retirement Graham is still a keen gardener and now plays bowls at Prattens having played previously in the village hall.

If you have enjoyed reading this article and would like to share your memories, or know someone who would, please contact Mike Newman on 01761 233838 or the editor.

Many Thanks...

A big thankyou to John and Sue Anderson who undertook to remove the weeds from the pavement at the front of the village hall car park. They did an excellent job and we are grateful to them. Such community spirit deserves recognition.

Well done!

Your Village Needs You!

If you have time and skills that might be an asset to the community then please let us know.

The Parish Council is seeking to compile a potential list of volunteers who might be available to assist in doing various odd jobs around the village.

Such work might include: cleaning road signs, weeding bus shelter garden, war memorial paving, other small areas such as by the bus shelter and telephone box, removing weeds from drains, clearing the ponds, repairing/staining benches, cutting back on footpaths, stiles and gates.

Obviously, any material costs would be paid for by the Parish Council, so what is being sought is your time, effort and know-how.

If a job came up the clerk would email the list asking, 'anyone up for it?' Then, if necessary, a working party could be constructed.

Contact: parishclerk@chilcompton.org

Remembrance Day Service 2019

The Annual Remembrance Day service will this year be on Sunday 10th November, and as is our tradition, starting at 3pm. This year marks the 80th anniversary of the outbreak of the second world war as we commemorate those members of the village who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Once again there will be a brief outdoor service at the cenotaph followed by tea and cakes at the Village Hall, a Parish Council subcommittee are currently making arrangements for the event. Since moving to our current service format 4 years ago we have seen both the number of people attending rising and a wider participation from village bodies in taking part in the service; we hope this will continue again this year.

We would like as many villagers as possible to be part of the event, in particular laying a wreath; if you would like to take part in some way please contact the Parish Clerk. We can then arrange for you to do so and point you in the direction of where you can purchase a wreath.

We hope to see as many of you as possible at the War Memorial and afterwards in the Village Hall.



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Free Concerts for the Village

Musicians South West is a collective of musicians who bring live performance to new audiences in Somerset and beyond. The group are putting on four free musical events, in a series entitled 'Autumn Serenade', in the Village Hall during the next few weeks.

Professional pianist and organiser, Jacquelyn Bevan, says people should not be put off by the word 'concert' as the emphasis will be on informality and light-heartedness.

She said: "We've found that people love it when you come and do something in their village because they don't need to travel. One of the joys is to be able to walk to something, especially if it's free. The idea is to get people who don't normally go to concerts to come to an informal live performance - and they find they enjoy it. At least half our audience members have never been to a concert before."

Musicians South West have been operating as a non-profit company since 2013. There are three directors, one of which is Jacquelyn and another is Carole Jenner-Timms, a highly respected flautist and music educator, a member



of The Royal Society of Musicians and a Chilcompton resident.



Jacquelyn said: "Carole and I have long talked about putting on some concerts in Chilcompton Village Hall - it has a lovely acoustic and a good electric piano, and we are looking forward to playing there."

There is one musical evening to begin the series, and then three Sunday afternoon café concerts:

Saturday 28th September 7.30pm

'Songs from the Shows' with soprano Hannah Drury, Carole Jenner-Timms – flute and Jacquelyn Bevan – piano. Hannah will be singing some of the best-loved songs from *Les Misérables*, *Miss Saigon* and *Phantom of the Opera*, and Carole will play jazz standards by Gershwin and Cole Porter and others.

Sunday 6th October 4pm

'Duetto' Malcolm Pollock and Carole Jenner-Timms play inspirational music for two flutes, including *Valse des Fleurs* and Madeleine Dring's humorous Trio, accompanied by Jacquelyn Bevan.

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Sunday 20th October 4pm

A Little Night Music Trio Paradis (Jacquelyn Bevan – piano, Lisa Betteridge – violin and Linda Stocks – cello), who are the resident Palm Court Trio at Midsomer Norton Town Hall, where they play a lunchtime concert on the first Friday of every month, play one of their favourite collections: music inspired by night time, including *Send in the Clowns from A Little Night Music*, *Barcarolle*, *Quiet Night of Quiet Stars (Corcovado)*, *Night and Day*, and *Stardust*.

Sunday 27th October 4pm

A Song and Dance. Carole Jenner-Timms – flute, Simon Naylor – oboe and Jacquelyn Bevan – piano, play a lively programme of songs and dances from around the world. This concert is particularly suitable for children, so it is hoped families will attend, and it is fine to dance if there's space!

Entry is free, with a retiring collection after each performance, proceeds going to 'Heads Up' dementia charity in Horrington.

For all the events there will be café seating (space permitting) with refreshments: tea, coffee and cakes etc, available.

Litter Pick

The autumn litter pick will take place on Saturday 19th October. Please could volunteers meet at the Village Hall at 10.00am



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In Memory of Colin Leslie Carver

Born 26th February 1937. One of 14 children.

He first went out with Marlene on 6th April 1956 and they married on 15th March 1958, celebrating 60 years of marriage last year with a message from the Queen.

Marlene and Colin had two children Jacqueline and Kevin. Jacqueline married Steve and gave Colin and Marlene two grandchildren – Lisa and Christopher along with Granddaughter in Law Claire and four great grandchildren Molly, Lily, Oscar and Finlay of whom he thought the world.

Colin lived in Chilcompton all of his life and was both a saint and a sinner – he was a choir boy at the local church and went from there to scrumping apples.

Despite losing an eye when he was 14, due to a flying spoon, he still managed to work until his 65th birthday. His first job was working on a farm and from there he went to work for Sheppard's Saw Mills. When the Saw Mills closed he then went to work for William Oakleys.

Colin had a love of Big Band Music and dancing and following dance lessons did manage to gain some medals for dancing. Marlene and Colin spent many an evening at dances sometimes taking their granddaughter Lisa with her friend and also developed their love of dancing.

He had a few favourite TV and radio programmes that he just had to watch or listen to, such as Dads Army and Mrs Brown's Boys.

Colin loved to be on time for everything and was always ready to go at the time suggested and woe betide anyone who kept him waiting. He liked to get up early in the morning, now to most people early is probably 6 - 7am to Colin this was late and early was 3 - 4am. Needless to say this did not always go down well with some of the family, especially at Christmas when he decided that children should be up opening presents 'early', so used to get up early and make so much noise that there was no option but to get up.

He liked to try new things including food and you always knew if he loved it or hated it. He tried pizza that his Grand Daughter in Law Claire had cooked on Boxing day this year - admittedly he first thought he had picked up quiche for his plate - and declared this 'blooming lovely', this from someone who did not like 'mucked up' stuff.

Colin passed away in the RUH on the 17th February after a short illness and £340 was raised in donations at his funeral at the Mendip Crematorium for Somerton House surgery and Urology dept RUH. He was later laid to rest at St Johns Church. Chilcompton. Kevin Carver, son.

It's a Mystery

Curiously an anonymous (?) benefactor has turned up intending to plug the many notorious potholes on the ownerless Abbey Road. So far the suspicious residents are unwilling to cooperate. It wouldn't happen in The Archers.

Ash Dieback Disease - an update

Readers may recall that a year ago I made a valiant attempt to end my article on Ash Dieback Disease on as positive a note as I could muster; being the 'glass half full' man that I am.

It is with a heavy heart, therefore, that I have to concede that my optimism has been sorely dashed with the relentless advance of this pernicious scourge on the local ash tree population.

That the effect of the disease on our landscape is playing out before our eyes is unquestionable. Of more immediate and serious concern, however, is the impact on individual trees and what the implications are for public safety.

If you have an ash tree or trees on land that you own I would urge you to read on...

It is your responsibility to survey for signs of the disease. The picture below shows an example of trees with advanced symptoms of the disease. If it is present, you need to act in a structured and proportionate manner taking into account any risks to public safety.



Here are some key points to be aware of :

Trees on your land are your responsibility

Once ash die back has infected an ash tree the tree can be at considerable risk of structural failure. The tree can shed branches and limbs, or the whole tree may even collapse.

Large trees have the potential to kill or seriously injure people and damage property and vehicles – this should be the paramount consideration for tree owners when deciding how to manage ash trees affected by Ash Dieback.

A key health & safety consideration for tree owners should be “what is in the target area around the tree should it fall or shed limbs?”. For example the risk posed by the tree to infrastructure (power lines, gas lines and telecoms), highways, areas around occupied buildings and other peopled areas such as public rights of way, should be very carefully considered.

Preventing Access to Trees – if a tree owner has concerns about the safety of a tree, it may be prudent to cordon off the tree(s) to prevent access to the area where a tree may fall, as a short-term measure until a tree can be properly inspected.

Inspection of Trees should wherever possible be carried out by a competent tree inspector who has relevant experience necessary to assess the tree and the risks and to recommend work to be carried out on the tree.

Tree Surgery should wherever possible be carried out by a competent tree surgeon who has relevant experience necessary to assess the tree and the risks and to carry out the necessary work on the tree.

When to take action....

It is becoming widely accepted that once more than 50% of a tree's canopy is observed to be affected by Ash Dieback (and not a separate disorder) it is unlikely that the tree will recover.

It is, however, strongly advisable to take action before a tree reaches this stage because as deadwood sections increase in size they are likely to be shed and where vulnerable targets are in the fall path, works will become necessary to control the risk, either by way of whole tree felling, pruning out dead/ dangerous parts or moving the target where possible. At this stage the tree may be too unstable for a tree surgeon to climb and as a consequence the cost of carrying out works will be considerably increased.

In a time of uncertainty on many fronts you may think this yet another example of 'project fear'. It isn't. It's happening now and it's happening here. Alister Rankine

40th Chilcompton Flower Show



The 40th Chilcompton Society Flower Show saw an enormous village talent revealed with baking, vegetables and flowers making for a colourful display for visitors. The Hobbies and Craft section was excellent, embracing knitting, sewing, quilting, upholstery, embroidery, floral arrangements, photos and paintings. The committee was please to see 12 newcomers exhibiting for the first time with Martin Stevens winning the newcomers cup with his Victoria Sponge.

Section winners were: M Holder, Pat Rich, Josie Boxall, Audrey Brown, Marlene Pickford, Jon Crouch; Jane Kerton was overall show winner.



This small show is just viable with entry fees, raffle and door takings covering the costs of putting on the event. Thanks must go to the committee and helpers, who work hard to make it a success. David Rogers has been the organiser for more than 20 years. We congratulate them all including the entrants and supporters who ensure the show goes on. The Committee ►



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~ LETTERS ~

Dear Editor,

Bonfires and smoke causing dismay.

We live the lower end of Bakers Lane. Can I please write a very polite request through this great village magazine to the one or two residents living in the upper half of our lane who light bonfires? It is very rare for me to complain about anything but yet again this year two lovely evenings have sadly been spoiled by bonfire smoke or smoke from outside burners for those living further down the lane.

The last episode on a Saturday late afternoon was from somebody living on the right side of Baker's Lane going up the hill lighting a fire... I had washing hanging out which was ruined by the smell of smoke and I had to close all the house windows. We are blessed with a lane which still feels as though we are close to the countryside, beautiful spring evenings with fresh air. Bonfire smoke is so un-neighbourly and can linger around for ages and prevents gardening and sitting outside. Dear upper lane residents – it might be blowing away from your gardens – but it affects everyone lower down. Your consideration would be so much appreciated. Thank you very much. (Anonymous) Resident of Bakers Lane.

September is Emergency Preparedness Month!

Indeed. Bet you didn't know that. Somerset Prepared will be joining in the preparedness campaign with a different focus for every week of the month.

Somerset Prepared is a multi-agency partnership working closely with communities to deliver advice, support and training to help enhance local resilience to emergencies. Bet you didn't know that either.

Over the month the organisation will be focussing on how individuals, communities and businesses can be more prepared but also on how volunteers can get involved.

~ LETTERS ~

Dear Editor,

I have today received the March 2019 Edition of this splendid Magazine, recently enhanced with the introduction of colour.

May I congratulate you and the numerous volunteers who work diligently to produce what in my opinion is a first class read, well presented and describing the many activities held in this thriving village, with much emphasis placed on those activities aimed at educating and developing the future of our young people.

Having spent 20 years of my life in the village (1979-1999) during which time my wife was active as President of the local WI, Chairperson and member of the Ladies Choir and member of the Chilcompton Society, it was a pleasure to return to my home in The Broadway from my busy life in the City to relax and enjoy life in this pleasant rural environment. Many pleasurable walks were enjoyed in the surrounding area, amongst others was the Sunday morning jaunt with my Grandchildren through the Watercress beds in the Valley passing by the pig farm and ending in the play area alongside Street ponds.

This edition of your magazine highlighted in particular two issues of great personal interest, that of 'Chilcompton Lives' and 'Unsung Hero'.

The former identified the life of Daphne Trippick, a lovely gentle Lady who made a great contribution to the education of many young children and gave of her time for the benefit of village activities.

The later described the rise and fall of the Chilcompton Brass Band and its formation into what is today known as The Mendip Brass Band.

Having been active and an avid supporter of the Brass Band movement for over 80 years this article brought back many pleasant memories.

Finally, may I wish this magazine a great future and extend my grateful thanks to all involved with its publication, not forgetting the individuals who literally post it through my door.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Sims



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Then & Now
The Street



Jack Wratten

Jack Wratten, an evacuee in Chilcompton during the war died in July in Essex. He always returned to the village annually to see friends from the war years.

(Editor's note: In an interview more than 20 years ago, Jack told me he was just 11 years old when he came down from London. The children were taken into a school classroom where they were allotted families. But he and his little brother were left shuffling their feet after everyone had gone – they had run out of families. Jack said: "We did feel a bit neglected, but then we got a bigger shock; we were told we would have to go to the police station!" Fortunately, they discovered, it was not to spend a night in a police cell, but to stay a few days with the family of the village bobby. Jack also said: "Early on we definitely felt homesick, but we soon got into the swing of village life, people made us feel welcome.")

Council Matters

Welcome to Parish Council section of the latest village magazine, I hope you have had an enjoyable summer.

We are currently four months into the new Parish Council following elections in May, that saw the departure of Christine Foster and Duncan Rideout. As a result of the latter's departure we now have a new vice chairman, with Richard Morgan succeeding to the role. In May only one new councillor, Martin Bown joined us and consequently we found ourselves three short of our full complement. In the interim we have recruited one more councillor, Lesley Newman. I would like to welcome both Martin and Lesley and wish them a long and successful time on council. However, we remain short of numbers, so if you would like to be part of the Parish council and believe you could help the village please contact the Parish Clerk.

May also saw us get two new MDC Councillors and they have immediately inherited the issue of 106 money for further development of the play area, an issue that dogged their predecessors. Having written that hopefully this issue may be nearing completion before only for it to remain unresolved, I am hesitant to do so again, however there may be light at the end of this tunnel; fingers crossed!

At the recreation field itself we have replaced the gate and hopefully improved the egress from the site. The sports field at the top of the village continues to thrive (Congratulations to the football 1st team who completed the double of Somerset FA Senior Cup winners and County League winners) and after much work around the village in recent months we will hopefully be getting Truespeed Broadband shortly.

In the last message I wrote about the increase in precept and how we intended to use the extra money generated on projects around the village. Although early in that process, we have begun. We have added extra areas to be cut and studded by our contractors, which will hopefully improve the appearance of the village and employed a professional contractor to clean and renovate the War Memorial, to leave it in the best possible condition going forward.

As a result of the changes to council in May we lost the services of Christine Foster. Christine had revitalised the litter picking day with the result that this spring we saw the largest numbers of parishioners taking part ever. We want to maintain that momentum going forward. The Autumn date has been scheduled for 19th October, from 10am at the Village Hall. We hope to see a number of you there. Going forward we are still searching for someone to succeed Christine; if you would like to be our clean up co-ordinator please contact me or the Parish Clerk. Jonathan Pike, Chairman of the Parish Council.



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Number One in Boats

You might not be aware of this but the Pele of the world of naval architecture actually lives in our village and has been a resident for more than forty years.

Apparently there is hardly a single boat designer in this country who does not have a copy of a textbook by one Kenneth Rawson on their desk. He's the main man.

Ken, now in his nineties, can often be seen walking along The Street with his wife, Rhona, walking their dog Robbie.

Starting off with an apprenticeship in the Portsmouth dockyards he went on to the Royal Naval College in Greenwich, obtaining a first class certificate in 1950.

His early work included helping the design of the Royal Yacht Britannia and restoration duties on the Cutty Sark.

Rising through the ranks of the Admiralty he eventually became Chief Naval Architect. But following the Falklands War and a national debate over whether 'short fat boats' were more effective and efficient than long thin ones, he resigned in 1983.

He moved back to academia, heading the Department of Design Technology at Brunel University for six years. But also during this period he became chair of the Royal Institute of Naval Architects and campaigned vigorously in another national debate about safer ferries.



Ken met his wife Rhona in Plymouth when she was just 17. The couple, with their three children, moved to Chilcompton in 1977. Rhona, who is very artistic, formed the Chilcompton Art Club, which is still going now (see page 43). She was also one of the group of artists who completed the mural that can still be seen in the village Hall.

After his second retirement in 1989 Ken became Secretary of the Chilcompton Twinning Committee, he says in his modestly entitled autobiography 'Ever the Apprentice': "I found that I was the only person with a smattering of French and the exchanges with Montsurs were not always easy... We spent time with three or four families and made some really good friends among the French."

The couple were also involved with the Chilcompton Gardening Club – Rhona being the Speakers Secretary for eight years.

My son, who is also a naval architect, cannot understand why a local street has not been named after this man who was champion in his field. Malcolm Rigby



No-Dig Wins The Day!

As ever it has been a mixed season for gardening, mixed weather and failure mixed with success with the plants.

The gardening season started with an unseasonably hot Easter, went through an unseasonably wet and cold June and at time of writing is a typically variable August. Notable failures in the vegetable garden were the peas – normal and sugar snap but a surprising success was the best carrots we have ever grown.

The success that I want to concentrate on however is our potatoes. Since embracing the no-dig method of gardening (see Chilcompton Matters March 2019), the normal trench and earth up method of potato growing is a thing of the past. It was hard work persuading my husband Alister to put away his earthing-up tools - he used to pride himself on his tidy earthed up rows of neatly labelled potatoes - but persuade him I did and we have been very impressed by the results.

The experiment began in late March when the chitted potatoes were laid on top of the soil in rows with normal spacing;

Each row was covered with enough straw to exclude the light.



Over subsequent weeks the rows were ‘earthed-up’ using mainly straw with some grass cuttings and compost to help bind the straw together, until the whole bed was covered in a thick layer of straw through which the

potato bind appeared. And that was that – no weeding required as there was no bare soil for weeds to get into.



The moment of truth came in July when the bind from the earlies (we planted ‘Charlotte’) began to die back. What would we find under the straw? Harvesting couldn’t be easier, we pulled back the straw and there underneath each plant was a collection of perfectly formed potatoes ready to wash, cook and eat. Much easier to harvest than digging and far less chance of leaving any behind to produce ‘volunteer’ plants in amongst next year’s crops.



There has been a lot in the news lately about the poor state of the world’s soils and the need for action to preserve them and some soil scientists have claimed that the UK has only enough soil left for another 100 harvests. Whilst we as gardeners cannot solve the world’s soil problems by our actions, we can at least preserve the health and productivity of the small amount of the earth that we have custodianship of in our lifetimes. Those of us lucky enough to have ownership or use of a piece of land, however small, must use it and nurture it with the aim of passing it on to the next generation in as good or better state as it was when it came into our custody. Embracing a no-dig method of gardening is one large step in that direction. Sue Rankine

Chilcompton Coffers

A review of the Parish Council finances was undertaken to ensure robust financial health of the Parish budget over the next five years.

This occurs against a backdrop of continued austerity diminishing District and County Council services, which is likely to have a significant effect upon village life. The Council agreed to increase the Parish budget for 2019/20, which will allow us to plan specific projects to improve the fabric and well-being of the village.

There are a number of projects already identified. For instance, we have completely renewed the entrance to the Old Recreation ground.

The precept had not gone up for a very long time and still will remain in line with the middle third of villages across Mendip.

As a thriving popular village, we would love for people to bring their ideas or suggestions to us for specific projects for consideration. There are only 10 people out of a population of 2000 villagers on the Parish Council and we really do need your ideas – I'm sure there are many and we look forward to hearing from you.

Philip Holme, member of the Finance sub-committee



Short Mat Bowls

This Thursday afternoon group continues to enjoy the game. There is always room for more players; a welcome awaits, so come along to the village hall at 2pm. and have a go.

David Rogers 01761 233142.

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Beware of Rogue Driveway Repairers

A favourite tactic of rogue traders is to target vulnerable people at home offering services like driveway and paving repairs but charge far too much for a poor-quality or unfinished job or take the money up front and vanish without doing any work. They may also fail to give the customer paperwork, including a 14-day cooling-off period, that they are legally required to provide.

They may say they are working for the council or other authority and show identification cards to try to look legitimate. They may say they have leftover tarmac from resurfacing roads, but council or highways authorities would never offer leftover materials to the public.

Not all traders who cold call are rogue traders, but it's important to remember the golden rules:

- Never agree to work from someone you think might be a rogue trader.
- If you're not sure, don't open the door.
- If an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is.
- Use your door chain when opening the door to strangers.
- Properly check the identity of callers before opening the door.
- Keep doors and windows secure.

If you think a crime is being committed now or you are in danger, call the police on 999 immediately.

For non-emergencies, call the police on 101.

To report a problem with a trader and get advice, call Citizens Advice on 03454 040506.

If you want to have work done at home:

- Get three quotes from reputable businesses you trust.
- Ask friends or family for recommendations.
- Use a scheme or association to find reliable businesses. For example:
- Find local, trustworthy businesses through the Buy With Confidence scheme. All businesses in the scheme are vetted, approved and monitored by Trading Standards. Visit buywithconfidence.gov.uk or call 01392 383430.
- Or use a member of an appropriate reputable trade association. Members must stick to their codes of practice. If a trader says they are a member of an association, check this is true.
- Decide who to use in your own time.

Remember, if you agree to work in your home that will cost more than £42, you are legally entitled to a 14-day cooling-off period in which you can change your mind before the work starts. If you agree to the work starting within that time, you will be liable for any cost incurred by the business up until the point at which you cancel.

This article has been written by Devon, Somerset and Torbay Trading Standards Service <https://www.devonsomersettradingstandards.gov.uk/>

Chilcompton Art Club

Chilcompton Art Club held a very successful 'Open Day' event in June, at St. John's Church Hall, Chilcompton, and would like to thank all the local people who took time out to drop by. It was very well attended, and the club received many complimentary comments about the standard of work.

Club members were asked to submit their works of art that they have completed over the past 12 to 15 months, this resulted in over 70 paintings being placed on display. Also included as part of the day, members were asked to submit entries into the annual competition, the subject for this year was 'Seascape'.



Over twenty entries were placed on display and members and visitors asked to vote for their three favourite images.



The winning entry, by just one vote, was painted by Annie Davenport.

Chilcompton Art Club's next big event will be a week-long exhibition in the Wells Cathedral cloisters 7th to the 14th September. This will be followed by a two hour watercolour workshop taken by local artist Catherine Beale on Wednesday 9th October, and then to round off the year, Saturday 23rd November is the date for the club's 'all day' bumper annual exhibition, with lots of pictures and cards on display, in time for Christmas presents.

The club is always welcoming to new members, and meets at St John's Church Hall, Chilcompton every Wednesday and Friday morning between 10:00 and 12:00. There are no restrictions on ability, with plenty of parking space and disabled access is also available. More details on our website: www.chilcomptonartclub.uk or our Facebook page or contact: Amanda Mayes (Chairperson) 01761 232475 or Nigel Punchard (Secretary) 01761 413579



All are welcome to our fun and friendly playgroup with your babies, toddlers, pre-schoolers on Tuesday mornings from 10-12 term time only in the village hall Chilcompton.

There are lots of fun activities, a variety of toys and each week we offer different craft, messy play and sensory activities suitable for all ages. Coffee and tea are available for adults and healthy snacks for children. Only £2 suggested donation per family.

New faces are very welcome, please just turn up or if you need further information and would like to volunteer please email us chilcomptonplaygroup@hotmail.com or check us out on Facebook.

This is a parent led playgroup so we particularly appreciate extra pairs of hands, we would love it if you could help us with kitchen duties, snack preparation and clearing away toys for example. Any help, however frequent, would be very welcome.

We look forward to seeing you and your little ones!

Unsung Heroes

Unsung hero, Alan Gould, could be described as the salt-of-the-earth, always willing to help anyone in need; but this time we get 2 for 1 as his wife Jenny works just as hard on all the jobs he volunteers for. He ran a greengrocer's shop all his working life, which took up much of his time.

He and Jenny came to Chilcompton in 1969. A keen supporter of rugby and football, he helped run youth football teams and in more recent years supported his grandson in High Littleton by marking out the ground every week. And now they have a new venture helping children with special needs with football on Saturday mornings.

Alan became a parish councillor in 1997 and was noted for remarking at the end of very late-night sittings that there was no point in going to bed as he had to be up at 4am to get to Bristol Market! He became the chairman of the Twinning committee and supported by members, arranged many exchange visits with Montsurs, which included young footballers. Shortly after he retired the group regrettably disbanded.

When the village hall committee was in dire straits, although solvent, but with few trustees, Alan stepped in, became chairman and Jenny took over as booking secretary; more committee members were found and the turnaround gained them the best hall in Somerset in 2007. I remember one summer Jenny scrubbed 180 hall chairs and painted the metal legs. That's dedication! They also painted the bar area in the hall and undertook caretaking duties too.

In retirement Alan and Jenny joined Mendip Brass band and both have been very supportive covering many jobs, including taking care of bookings.

For the last few years Alan has been tending the coal truck at the bottom of Rock Road, supplying all the plants without thought for any recognition, all at his own expense; also cleaning and painting it. While working on the truck, he would joke with passers-by, 'I was lucky to get this job, you have to be over 75 to qualify!'

Alan and Jenny can be seen weeding the pavers at the War Memorial from time to time. He has helped tidy the bus shelter and garden. He also planted daffodils while on the council and has had time to record his memories of Midsomer Norton and Westfield, printed recently in the Journal.

It is good that we have such volunteers in the village, who just step in and get on with tasks without being asked and we are grateful that we have these two quietly working away and with such good humour. Marlene Pickford



Green Policy

The Parish Council has set up a sub-committee to establish an environmental policy for the village.

If you have any thoughts on the subject do contact Parish Councillors Alan Bowhay, Martin Bown, Philip Holme, Richard Morgan or the Parish Clerk.

Anniversaries Celebrations

Malcolm Rigby has a pint at The Redan with top lawyer William Weller

Local law firm Thatcher & Hallam is currently celebrating two key anniversaries. The business is based in Midsomer Norton but the senior partner of the company is a long time Chilcompton resident.

William Weller said: “There’s two anniversaries coming up, there’s 250 years that Thatcher and Hallam can trace its roots back to that period of time.”

Mr Thatcher and Mr Hallam do not go back 250 years, but the company can source its origins to that date. In fact Ted Hallam, who lived in Kilmersdon, worked for the firm into his 90s and only died three years ago.



“Then there’s 35 years of us running a free legal surgery. I think it was almost the very earliest actually. We ran it at that time because there wasn’t anyone who could provide legal advice for free in those kinds of circumstances.

“People need free advice. If you can provide that then sometimes they can sort themselves out, if not you can at least signpost them, or alternatively you can say this is what we can do to help. It’s a community project really and we didn’t expect it to last as long as it did.”

Over the years it is estimated that more than 13,000 people have been helped and Will calculates that many of those came from Chilcompton.

He admits that his career path has not been the norm for his trade. “I’m a bit of an oddball, I came as a kid straight out of law school and stayed for 35 years working for the same firm. It was unusual then and it’s very unusual now. And that’s because they’re a lovely bunch of people to work with. If you like the people and the area – there’s not much point in moving somewhere else is there?”

Now the senior partner, it is as a specialist personal injury and clinical negligence lawyer that Will has earned his reputation both locally and regionally.

“If you enjoy people, if you look after people well and you’re successful in what you do and I am successful, you end up hopefully making a difference to their lives. Sometimes it’s quite straightforward, quite often it isn’t. We’re lucky enough to work for all sorts of interesting folk who come to us because we know what we’re doing and we look after them well.”

Adding, “I enjoy winning of course, I’m a courtroom lawyer.”

Of all those years with Thatcher and Hallam more than 20 have been spent bringing up his family in Chilcompton. “I think it’s a great blend actually, the people, the community; it’s a working village but it’s actually large enough for me, I don’t want somewhere too small, then there’s the close proximity to work.

“Aesthetically, it’s a lovely place. We’re lucky to have two pubs, a garage, a post office, we’re in close proximity to Wells, Bath and Bristol. We’ve got a dog and it’s a beautiful place to walk. Garden backs on to the pub. But if you like somewhere it’s because of the people.”

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*** Subject to Status**

New District Councillors



Josh Burr



Sam Phripp

One of the things Sam and I have enjoyed most since our election in May, has been getting to know local people better. We've met and spoken with lots of people across the village so far but the first job we really got stuck into was the planning application at Abbey Road. Sam worked with the parish council and residents to make sure the planners at Mendip knew this was not an appropriate development for the village.

Fortunately, the developer recognised this and withdrew the application and we're now waiting to see if another application is brought forward.

At the council, we've both had something of a baptism of fire, with Sam taking up the position at Mendip as Chair of Licensing, and me becoming the new Chair of the Audit Committee. Sam's been dealing with the fall-out from the NASS BMX Festival, which caused so much inconvenience at the beginning of July. It's brilliant that we have a venue like the Bath and West on our doorsteps, but there has to be a balance with events like this, and local people were rightly and understandably angry about the mayhem caused by organisers' failure to manage traffic properly. I know Sam has his work cut out dealing with this one.

I've had the slightly less colourful task of assessing and checking on the Council's finances. Whilst the cupboard isn't entirely bare, it'll come as no surprise that anybody arriving with a long shopping list might be disappointed. The order of the day is doing more with less, and it's a challenge we're getting to grips with.

If you have any issues or concerns you'd like us to help with please contact us using the details below.

Thanks, Josh Burr

Josh Burr 07814 749230 Cllr.burr@mendip.gov.uk

Sam Phripp 07564 737912 Cllr.Phipp@mendip.gov.uk

Somerset Wood

Plans are afoot to create a lasting memorial to those from Somerset who fought and fell in the First World War.

The idea is to create a wood by planting a tree for every soldier who died in the Great War. It is thought that only two parishes were left unscathed and so 250 parishes will be interested.

The site of the wood will be within the parishes of Cheddon Fitzpaine and West Monkton in the south of the county.

Nineteen soldiers from Chilcompton died in the war and the Parish Council are investigating getting involved. Another option would be to plant 19 trees closer to home so that there would be a memorial site within the village.

Embroidery Experiences

Embroidery classes have now stopped for the summer but start again on Tuesday 1st October 2019 and Thursday 3rd October 2019 in St. John's Church Hall from 10.30am to 12.30pm. If you would like to try something new, why not come along and see some of the varied work being done. 'Embroidery Experiences' might just be what you are looking for this winter. Please just turn up on the day or if you would like more information, contact Mrs. Patricia Ardron on 01761 232466.



Community Transport

Did you know that groups and clubs can hire the Midsomer Norton and Radstock (12 seater) Community bus. This is a charity with volunteer drivers. Bookings: 01761 416910

Mendip Community Transport will also take group bookings (12 – 16 people): 01749 880613

For individuals without transport, you can book Dial-a-Ride on 01761 420042

Chilcompton Matters - Advertising - *Can Now Be In Colour*

The Chilcompton Matters newsletter is produced in the form of an A5 size booklet twice a year, in Spring (deadline mid-February) and Autumn (deadline mid-August). For each edition 1,050 copies are printed and distributed throughout Chilcompton.

Advertisements can be accepted in the following formats. Costs are per issue.

Full page - 'portrait' - in B&W / Greyscale £60 or including Colour £120.

Half page - 'landscape' - in B&W / Greyscale £30 or including Colour £60.

Quarter page - 'portrait' - in B&W / Greyscale £15 or including Colour £30.

If you would like to advertise or you would like further information, please call us on 01761 569863. If we are out, please leave a message with contact details and we will get back to you. In order to assist the publication of the newsletter, please inform us of your intention to advertise as soon as you can.

Thanks go to all who advertise in the newsletter, their continued support enables us to produce Chilcompton Matters for the benefit of everyone in the village.

Kathy and Mike Hughes

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St Vigor and St John Church School (PTFA)

Throughout the year the parent, teacher, friends association (PTFA) have continued to raise funds with a number of activities and events, supporting the school with educational toys, equipment and musical resources as well as additional help with maths and outdoor equipment.

The summer term was a rather active one. Our annual Summer Fayre created a vibrant atmosphere with class stalls, inflatables, food, cakes and games for all to enjoy.

We also saw the departure of our wonderful Headteacher David Allinson who has been with the school for over 18 years. David maintained extremely high standards, supporting and fostering creativity throughout his time with the school. Throughout May, the children, teachers and the community worked together to show David their appreciation by creating a really special goodbye featuring songs, stories, dancing and presentations. He will be very missed.

From September 2019, we are very excited to welcome our new Headteacher Chris Chorley who will continue to guide the school in its learning and development.

This summer also saw the school researching The Dairy House and Roots Connections Charity based in Stratton-on-the-Fosse, which is helping tackle rural homelessness. The whole school visited the charity taking part in den building, fire making, tractor rides and learning about the farm. The school hopes to raise additional funds for the charity throughout the year. Our school ECO club continues to manage the second hand uniform stall, gardening vegetable produce and recycling. We also now host a crisp packet recycling box as well as eco bricks to reduce waste. We are always on the look-out for volunteer gardeners for our weekend gardening days throughout the year. Please get in touch with the school for further information about new dates.

Email: school@svsj.bwmat.org Carrie Creamer

Dates for the future:

Auction of promises - October 2019 / Christmas fayre 29th November 2019 5pm -7pm

St Vigor and St John's



Speedwatch

In the year 2018 Chilcompton CSW operated 74 roadside sessions with the police having written to 373 drivers as a result.

These sessions were carried out at the 11 different approved sites in rotation.

Of those 373 speeding drivers:

43 (11.5%) lived within Chilcompton

127 (34%) lived in the immediate villages and towns (MSN and Radstock)

This year, to date, 10 sites have been covered over 30 sessions resulting in 177 letters being sent out. Out of these sessions five had no speeding drivers recorded, this shows the presence of regular weekly sessions by the committed volunteers are making an impact on helping to keep you and your village a safer place to live.

If you would like to join Chilcompton's Speedwatch team, volunteers who are able to give an hour a month to the village where they live are always welcome.

For more details contact: Judith Stanford email: CSWChilcompton@hotmail.com

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Chilcompton Gardening Club

With nearly a hundred members, Chilcompton Gardening Club continues to thrive and will soon be celebrating its 20th anniversary.

Plenty has been going on this year, with a very successful Plant Sale in May, a trip to Hidcote at the beginning of July and a tour of Ammerdown Gardens at the end, together with a variety of talks and demonstrations, and our Plug Plant Competition which this year featured beautiful white geraniums.



We are looking forward to hearing about Trees and Shrubs, Getting ready for Winter and Herbs for Christmas, followed by our Christmas get-together with a Christmas

floral demonstration, mince pies and wine.

Our AGM is in January, with drinks and nibbles to follow. We then have a full and varied programme of speakers for 2020, starting with talks on Companion Planting, Prairie Planting and the Woodland Trust.

Our meetings are held at 7.30pm in the Village Hall on the 4th Tuesday of the month. New members are always very welcome, a subscription for the year is just £5.50 single or £8.50 per couple. Or just come along as a guest for £2.00. Judy Youngs



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History Corner

Moonbows

Some people will remember the concrete works at Broadway and the proprietors, Clifford Bailey and John Golledge. They will also recall Crete House, which was the first house in Chilcompton to be built with products from the concrete works and the Bailey family with 5 children who lived there.

On one evening in August 1945 at about 10pm. neighbours saw a moonbow straddling the main road, Crete House and the works premises. Moonbows or lunar rainbows are very rare and occur when the moon's light is reflected off water droplets in the air.

It happened that the next day following this phenomenon Roland Bailey, the 2nd born in the Bailey family, aged 16, went on his motorbike with his friend Gilbert Durbin on the pillion on an errand for Farmer Hobbs of Broadway Farm, which was next to Crete House. They headed off towards Chewton Mendip to collect a spare part for the farmer's tractor.

They crashed and both fell off when the bike skidded; Gilbert was unconscious and taken to hospital with concussion, Roland was alert and said he was alright and went home; but he died a short while later, having fractured his skull and had a brain haemorrhage.

John Golledge wrote a poem at the time, recording the moonbow, the accident and a tribute to Roland's memory.

Nipped in the bud of life
And taken from this scene
But not from hearts whose love for him
Will help to bridge the space between
The Spirit world and ours.

We're told a bow of light
Embraced the home a while
The night before dear Roland fell
From off the bike he loved so well
Which gave to him much joy.

O can it be that bow
Would indicate that we
May cherish well his memory sweet
And know that death can ne'er defeat
The wondrous power of love.

The bow encircled him
As 'neath its bridge he lay
But 'tho he's gone his memory will
Support you through each coming day
And comfort bring to you.

The bow first given by God
To make His promise sure
May still a solace prove to you
As speaking of his word so true
And help you to endure.

The bow it seems would speak
Of God's embracing power
And Love that would believers keep
Causing their hearts within to leap
In every testing hour.

May one and all then prove
The depths of God's great love
And ever in the bow's embrace
Say in our hearts, "God has a place"
And find eternal peace.

John Golledge
August 1945



N.B. There was a moonbow (Iris Lunaris), seen by Richard Paget in December 1789. John Golledge saw one on 15th August 1946. David Strawbridge was among several people who experienced one on 5th September 1987.

Diary Dates

- TBA Oct** AUCTION OF PROMISES at St Vigor and St John Church School
6th Oct SUNDAY SERVICE CELEBRATING HARVEST 10.30am at St John's Church
19th Oct AUTUMN LITTER PICK 10.00am outside Village Hall
2nd Nov CHILCOMPTON CRAFT FAYRE 10.00am - 3.00pm at Village Hall
10th Nov ALL AGE REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE 10.30am at St John's
10th Nov REMEMBRANCE SERVICE 3.00pm at War Memorial then tea at Village Hall
29th Nov CHRISTMAS FAYRE 5pm-7pm at St Vigor and St John Church School
15th Dec CAROL SERVICE with revelry thereafter! 7.00pm at St John's
19th Dec LUNCH CLUB'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH 12.00pm at St John's
(Tickets available at November's lunch or call the office nearer the time)
22nd Dec MESSY NATIVITY 10.30am at St John's
24th Dec CHRISTINGLE SERVICE 3.00pm at St. Vigor's in Stratton
24th Dec CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT COMMUNION 11.30pm at St. John's
(retiring collection in aid of the homeless)
25th Dec ALL AGE CHRISTMAS SERVICE WITH COMMUNION 10.30am at St John's

PLUS...

- Mondays** KARATE DO 6.30pm-8pm Stratton-on-the-Fosse Village Hall
Mondays BELL RINGING 7pm at St John's Church
2nd Monday MEMORY CAFÉ 2.00pm at St John's
Tuesdays & Thursdays EMBROIDERY GROUP 10.30am at St John's Church Hall
2nd Tuesday GOLDEN HOUR CLUB 7.30pm at Village Hall
4th Tuesday WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP 2.30pm at St John's
4th Tuesday GARDEN CLUB 7.30pm at Village Hall
Wednesdays & Fridays ART CLUB 10.30am at St John's Church Hall
1st & 3rd Wednesdays WEDNESDAY WALKERS 10.25am outside Village Hall
1st & 3rd Wednesdays CHILCOMPTON WIVES 7.30pm at Village Hall
Thursdays SHORT MAT BOWLS 2pm at Village Hall
Thursdays KARATE DO 6.30pm-8pm Village Hall
Thursdays NETBALL 7pm Sports Club
3rd Thursday LUNCH CLUB 12.00pm at St John's
Fridays FRIDAY CLUB 10.15am at Village Hall
Sundays KARATE DO 10.30am-12.00 Wwithlington Sports Centre
Sundays POWERHOUSE YOUTH GROUP 6.00pm at St John's Hall
1st Sunday CELTIC WORSHIP COMMUNION SERVICE 6.30pm at St John's
1st & 3rd Sundays COMMUNION SERVICE at St John's
2nd Sunday ALL AGE SERVICE at St John's
4th Sunday MESSY CHURCH 3.00pm at St John's
4th & 5th Sundays MORNING PRAYER at St John's

Friends of St Chad's and Chilcompton Surgeries

The 21st and Last Anniversary?

It was 21 years ago that some enterprising patients and staff of St Chad's Surgery set up a Patients Participation Group in order to improve the clinical experience of the patients. The object was to relieve suffering by fostering and improving communication between the patients of St Chad's Surgery and those providing a service from the Surgery. To advance the education of the membership in health care issues by the provision of lectures and provide funds, for the purchase of medical and other equipment, not normally provided by the Local Health Authority. When Chilcompton Surgery was absorbed into the practice the PPG became The Friends of St Chad's and Chilcompton Surgeries.



Twenty-one years later and after raising £47,000, and spending it, with only £3,000 left, after spending over £2,000 on surgery equipment last month, The Friends still need help spending it! The committee of ten that meet about five times a year, are desperately in need of some fresh blood to carry on the good work. If you have any inclination of doing some good for the local community, please contact either surgeries or the Chairman on 232188.

At least twice a year The Friends have organised a public medical talk covering topical medical problems, often with hospital consultants giving the low down on common medical problems. Topics that include joint replacements and skin cancer were well attended although a talk on organ donations was not so popular. A Christmas Draw raises most of the funds as well as a stall at the MSN Fayre. The AGM is on Monday 2nd September, 7pm in the waiting room at St Chad's Surgery and all are invited to attend. *Alan Webb* (Chairman).

~ LETTERS ~

Dear Editor,

I was very interested to read the article about 'pillboxes' in the current magazine. It might be of interest that in my childhood at White Cottage in Midsomer Norton, there was a pillbox, or as we called it an air raid shelter at the bottom of the garden, which bordered on to the railway line, at the top of Norton hill. This pillbox may well have been spotted but thought I would just bring it to your attention in case it hadn't.

Yours sincerely,
Michael Kinnersley



Chilly Senior Cup Winners 18-19 – Squad photo from the Senior Cup game

Senior Cup Presentation – Dane Edwards pictured with Cup Sponsor John Mitchard of Melhuish and Saunders

Chilly League Winners – Squad photo following Chilcompton's last league game v Worle (League Winners)

Chilcompton Sports Football Club

Chilcompton Sports FC have completed the League and Cup Double.

A feat completed by a few, Chilcompton Sports have attained both the Somerset County FA Senior Cup and Winners of the Somerset County League, the last local side to achieve this feat was over 40 years ago by Paulton Rovers back in the 1973-74 season. Since the 1970's only three other Somerset teams have made this grade with Robinsons DRG and Brislington back in the 1980s and more recently Bridgwater in 2008 (over 10 years ago)

A squad of local men from Chilcompton and the surrounding area has seen them retain their crown as Winners of the Somerset County League for the second time with them needing to win their last game. Win their last game they did and with a 7 goal thriller with goals from Ryan Gay, Jacob Sloggett, Jack Smith and Harvey Hadrill. On top of the league win Saturday they saw themselves in the Somerset County FA Senior Cup action on a Tuesday night at Bishop Sutton, narrowly missing out the previous season, Tuesday saw a thrilling game against Clevedon Utd, a young and skilful team with Chilcompton taking the edge with a one-goal winner in the 88th minute from Harvey Hadrill which completed the league and Cup double.

<< See Pictures

Under 12's won the second division of the Midsomer Norton League.

Under 14's reached the final of the Somerset County cup for the second year running and won the Mid Wilts League Cup.

And another achievement - the U7's winning the Norton youth league divisional knockout cup at Shepton Mallet.

Interested players/coaches/volunteers should visit our website to find contact details for particular age groups and opportunities: www.chilcomptonssports.com



**Chilcompton Sports
Club, Wells Road,
Chilcompton,
BA3 4EY**

**£4 Per Session
All abilities welcome**

Sports Club – Netball

After a summer break the new season of netball begins this month, this time with sessions running every Thursday.

The sessions run between 7pm and 8pm, simply turn up if you wish to take part.

To date the attendance has been pretty good so there are early optimistic talks about forming a Chilcompton team.

For more information contact:

samantha.kemmish@englandnetball.co.uk

07738 696 362

Chilcompton Cricket Club

This year has been our fifth season as Chilcompton Sports Cricket Club and we have again felt lucky to enjoy the fantastic sport and social facilities at Chilcompton Sports Club.

Saturday Senior 1st XI

The team finished a creditable 4th place in Bristol & District Division 5 following their promotion in 2018. They held their own against the higher level of opposition and could still gain promotion through the side door.

Saturday Senior 2nd XI

The team finished runners up and are promoted from Division 13. They finished level on points with local rivals Mells but Mells won the title on matches won over the season.

This was an excellent season for the ageing legends, more young players will be drafted in next season!

Sunday Senior 1st XI

The team finished a creditable 4th place in North Somerset Division 3 following their promotion in 2018. After a slow start they almost gained promotion and regularly fielded players with ages from 14 to 72!

The senior sides started to integrate some of the Chilcompton youth players into the Saturday and Sunday Sides which is great news for the club's future.

The Senior 1st XI also fielded the first lady in the club's 100 plus year history in Lauren Bowen-Jones and Lauren finished the season as one of the club's leading wicket takers.

Many new local players were recruited during the season following the notices on the Parish Magazine, Club Website, Facebook, Twitter and the local press.

Senior Indoor Nets will start in February 2020 at Wells Blue School, details to follow in the next edition of this magazine.

Senior Outdoor Nets will start again in April 2020 on a Thursday evening, new players of any ability are always welcome.

The youth section had a hugely enjoyable third season with expert professional coaching from Frome's Mark Watts.

Mark also had great help from many of the Chilcompton senior players including Lauren Bowen-Jones, Jordan Harding & Kyle Gloudemans.

Both the U11 side & U13 sides finished mid-table in the Bath & District Youth Cricket League and more than held their own against the giants from the Bath area.

The membership for the junior section increased year on year which was great to see.

Junior training sessions will be held again at Chilcompton Sports Club on Wednesday evenings in 2020 from mid-April to end July (6.15pm – 7.45pm).

Enrolment nights will be held at Chilcompton Sports Club during March 2020. Full details to follow in the next edition of this magazine.

In April we launched our new website which is linked to the Sports Club website www.chilcomptionsports.com/cricket

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>> The Club wish to thank our main sponsors for their continued support – Parker Transport (SW) Ltd, PG Owen Limited Spectrum Form Design Ltd.

Also thanks to the many local businesses who sponsored the match balls and “Simple Cow” who provided fresh milk every week for the teas!

The Club are keen to recruit more senior and junior players for the new season. For further information contact:

Dave Travis 07725 458404 or email: dave.travis@hotmail.co.uk

Chilcompton Sports Club - Boule

After the success of an open day last year it has been decided to build two permanent Boule pitches at the sports club. PETANQUE or BOULES can be played with two teams of one, two, three or four players on each side. The ambition is to form a club to play for fun with a view to forming a team to take part in the Bath league who have already agreed to allow Chilcompton to join.

For more information and register your interest please contact Martin 07971 173809

Email: martin.bown1@btinternet.com

Feedback

What are your views on the magazine? The team that put it together is always looking for your comments, be they good or bad. Is there something missing? What could be done better? Please let us know. Contact the parish clerk (details on the inside of the front cover).

The Lost Duckling



At the beginning of July a small baby duck mysteriously appeared in The Street Ponds. No one seemed to know where it had come from. No one seemed to know why he/she was on his/her own.

Although there is uncertainty about the sex, the general feeling from her colours is that it is female. Ironical then that she has been christened Bill.

Some people have been feeding her but in fact there is more than enough weed in the river for her to survive. She is a smart duck.

In the space of a month Bill had more than doubled her size.

She likes to swim through the weed, wander along the grass verge and seems oblivious to human attention. However with passing cars and foxes – she has got to be at risk.

Chris Scarterfield, who lives opposite, said: “Despite all the odds our plucky little lonesome duckling has grown into a handsome adolescent. We’re still not sure of its gender but fingers crossed he/she will continue to thrive and perhaps bring off a brood of its own next year.”



Rebuilt



Landmarks



Restored

Refreshed

