

The Beacon

Ashwick, Oakhill & Binegar News



JULY 2020

Cover photo: © Patrick Emery



BEACON
TRINITY 



Holy Trinity Church,
Binegar

Photo: John Law



All Saints Church,
Oakhill

Photo: Heather Greaves



St. James Church, Ashwick

Photo: Jon Durrant



I have been very reticent to speak out about certain things that I have strong opinions about because of my position as the Priest in Charge of the local Church of England churches. Some people equate what I say as always being what the church says. Some people have the view that the church should keep out of politics too. I have decided to comment from the perspective of our vision for Beacon Trinity Parish to be *"A beacon of welcome, acceptance and hope centred on Jesus"*.

I, like most people, have been shocked to see what is going on in the USA following the murder of George Floyd. The event has highlighted the racism present in that society. Many have then pointed to the racism in our own society and the world over. Many of us grew up with racism being acceptable on TV, it was the norm, but thankfully this has changed.

Our vision of being a church that welcomes and accepts is based on the biblical teaching that *"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus"*. *Galatians 3:28*

This relates to the church, that is those who believe in Jesus. Yet, the Old Testament says, *"The Lord your God... shows no partiality."* *Deuteronomy 10:17* and Peter says, *"I now realise how true it is that God does not show favouritism,"* (*Acts 10:34-35*) and Jesus taught *"Love your neighbour as yourself."* (*Mark 12:31*). Equality is a basic Christian value.

Our church seeks to uphold this value that all people matter equally to God and therefore to us. Every person is valued, welcomed and accepted in Beacon Trinity Parish. No person should be looked down on, humiliated or persecuted. We may not agree with everyone's views and yes, I may pray that more people come to know the love of God as I have done, but in the end that is God's business. We are called as Christians to love one another, put others first, forgive and be reconciled.

I would hope this is not a value limited to the Christian church. I know we live in villages where this value is shared by many. May we be known as a community that welcomes and embraces all.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Rick A.'

Find us on 
facebook.com/beacontrinity

Follow us on Instagram! 
instagram.com/beacontrinity

Opening our churches



As we move slowly out of lockdown the Government is gradually relaxing the restrictions on life that have helped to slow down the spread of the virus, Covid-19.

On 11th June, the Government declared that churches could be open for private prayer from Saturday 13th and also that funerals can once again happen in a church. It has been the saddest and hardest thing for me to tell someone that they cannot have a funeral for their loved one in church. Since 23rd March we have had just 4 funerals in Beacon Trinity Parish. Lance Charlton was buried in Binegar 20 April, Hubert Tucker in Binegar 10 June, Ivy Purnell had ashes interred in Ashwick 11 June and Alan Hill was buried in Ashwick 12 June. All these funerals had only two or three people attending.

The news that we can now have a funeral in church was a surprise; however, the only attendees at funerals are: members of the deceased's household, close family members, or if the above are unable to attend, close friends. This is subject to 2m distancing which in terms of our three churches limits numbers considerably. There can be no singing and no extra people including an organist.

In terms of being open for private prayer, there are also restrictions. Not only has there to be social distancing but the church has to be supervised at all times and cleaning must take place after each visitor. As I said above, we are restricted to the extent we would only be able to use 1 in 3 pews. At the time of writing, 12 June, I am working with the church wardens on a risk assessment and a process to determine if, how and when, we can safely open our churches. We will advertise any decisions clearly on the church notice boards and church website www.beacontrinity.church.

The church community continues to support each other and members of the wider community at this time. I host a virtual 'Zoom' coffee morning on Tuesdays at 10am and a small group of people 'meet' at 10am on Sundays via Zoom for a short, said service. Many others worship at home themselves or connect via the internet to services from larger churches elsewhere. We have had wardens' meetings and a Parochial Church Council meeting using Zoom. As soon as we can safely hold services again, we will.

Photograph: Phil Briscoe

Do you live in Ashwick, Oakhill or the surrounding communities?

Coronavirus is making life hard, but your village wants to help by:



Collecting your medicines



Collecting groceries



Listening to your concerns



Just being someone you can talk to

Many of your Village Neighbours are helping in any way they can. If you can access the Oakhill Village Life, Facebook page you will find more information there.

Alongside this your local churches have set up a Helpline:

01749 841838

You can leave messages which will be collected every evening. We will call you back to let you know who will help.

As well as helping with your daily supplies etc. the church can help confidentially with any other issues you are currently experiencing. From financial to spiritual, physical to emotional, whatever the problem we will walk beside you. **Please call, we want to help you.**

Oakhill's Coronavirus Support Network



During the coronavirus outbreak there may be people within the village or surrounding area that may need support. Whether you are identified as being in a vulnerable group, self-isolating, quarantined or have been admitted to hospital, Oakhill has a community support network of volunteers that have offered to help out. Volunteers have offered to help with shopping, collecting prescriptions and dog walking/caring for pets when/if people become ill but I am sure that if there were other reasonable requests that do not put volunteers at risk themselves they would be happy to offer other types of support.

We are very happy to help and so please don't suffer in silence!

Beth and Alan Rowlinson-Baker (coordinator) – 07533700698

Pauline West (coordinator) – 01749840293

Cath Booth (Coordinator) – 07806780943

Others have also offered help or support on the Oakhill Village Life, Somerset Facebook Page. Any problems, put out a request in the group and it will get answered!



Community corner


Lockdown thank you...

My heartfelt, sincere thanks and gratitude to my Sunnymead neighbours.

Janet, who sorts out our shopping and prescriptions and also keeps a close eye on me!

Tim, who has very kindly been taking my dog for walks every day since February. What a bond the two have built. It's Tim who gets the toys taken to him when he calls to take him out. (Well, I just live here!).

To Mary and Roger, who wanted to tidy my garden during the lockdown. Wow, they worked so hard, putting their hearts and souls into it. Transformed from an untidy, overgrown mess to now. The most inspiring place to be (eat your heart out Alan Titchmarsh!).

When I'm able to walk about again and enjoy life, I will be so grateful and proud that Sunnymead lives up to its name – thanks to the people who live here. I will never be able to thank you all enough. Tim will get wet kisses and doggy slobber! Everyone else must know how wonderful you have all been. **Thank you**  **Trish**

Binegar Church...

I hope you find the following interesting. I obtained the information from the Wells Reference Library when on library duty, many years ago.

Binegar Church was rebuilt in 1859 – except the Tower. The register dates from 1720.

The living is a Rectory, net yearly value of £280.00 with a residence and 44 acres of Glebe land, in the gift of the Bishop of Bath & Wells. Held since 1851 by the Rev. Wm Meade – a large Horse Fair is held on the first Wednesday after Whit Sunday.

Hazel Payne

Lockdown crafts...

Thank you to everyone who sent us photographs of their 'Lockdown gardens' – I hope you will enjoy looking at them and maybe getting ideas for your own patch!

Next month, August, we would like to feature any form of craft work you have been learning or doing to help fill spare time during Lockdown. Please send colour photographs of your '**Lockdown Crafts**' to magazine@beacontrinity.church, to reach us by Friday, 10th July. Thank you and we look forward to being amazed and inspired!

Pam Dennis

Oakhill Brewery stout recipe...

Does anyone have any record or knowledge of the Oakhill Breweries Double Invalid Stout recipe?

When Bristol United Breweries purchased Oakhill Brewery in 1925 they made a copy of it but most of Bristol United documents have been lost or destroyed.

I've since found in a Camra publication that in 1991, when Reg Keevil owned the New Oakhill Brewery, they had the recipe and they made a batch of Double Invalid Stout as a tribute to the old brewery.

If anyone can help me track the recipe down that would be fantastic and a huge help.

I'm a keen home brewer and being able to recreate this beer and tasting a bit of the local past would be magical!

Thanks in advance. **Scott Matthews**
(scottmatthews@live.co.uk)

This month's cover photo...

This month's cover photo was taken by Patrick Emery. Please send photos for the cover (portrait orientation, in colour) to: magazine@beacontrinity.church. Thank you.

Grenville's Ramblin's...



Looking back to the 8th of May when our Nation, amongst others, remembered the 75th anniversary since the end of the Second World War in Europe and the war that began with this country standing alone against the tyranny of Hitler and his Nazi cohorts, as they sent their armies ravaging their way towards us across Europe. As I looked back to that day when we heard that the hard-fought war had finally been brought to an end, one of the first things that came to mind after all these years was that VE day was exactly 18 days before my 14th birthday. This meant that I was able to leave school and get a job of work when we got to the August holiday. Whoopee! School and I never really got on. as I suppose is fairly obvious!

Anyway, watching the TV following the 11am act of remembrance, the programme went on to show the French and German leaders also laying wreaths in remembrance of those of their countries who paid the price for the war. It reminded me that while we might have won the war, the time for jubilation and celebration is surely long gone. This thought became even more apparent, as my mind as ever rambling on reminded me of a day several years ago when I was in Binegar church doing some little job or other, an occasion that I may well have mentioned before, when the door opened, and a group of visitors came in. It turned out that they had come from Germany. However, one of them was fortunately able to both use and understand a few words of English. They showed great interest in the carved eagle on the lectern, because it seems the eagle was or is their national symbol. Was there any relationship between their eagle and ours they wanted to know? Well, I let them down as gently as possible; with a bit of arm waving, holding the bible up in the air, and trying to explain that our eagle on the lectern was a symbol of the great and powerful bird carrying the word of God to all nations of the world.

On asking where they came from, I was told Dresden, did I know Dresden? Feeling somewhat uncomfortable, I said that I'd heard of it. Having said that, for me it rather took the shine off the occasion. Because, of course, Dresden, a city that history tells us had no involvement with the manufacture of war materials, was obliterated by our bombers during the war, an act that even these days is the cause of considerable controversy.

However, my feeling of guilt was as it were salved, when, as they were preparing to leave we all shook hands and as they went out of the door the one with a bit of English said "lovely country, lovely people"; what could I say but "God bless you all my friends"!

Grenville Reakes

PS. Well done Karen & Paul, for now delivering our milk in glass bottles!.

East Mendip Gardening Club...

How are your vegetable gardens coming along? Are they already providing you with lashings of fresh, deliciously muddy produce? Are the flower gardens in peak bloom? It's a fabulous time of year to be a gardener!

According to our source, Thompson and Morgan's: 'In the Garden this Month', July is all about keeping up with growth and maximising floral displays and crops of fruit and veg. Here's a snippet of their advice to us this month:

Deadhead bedding and perennial plants, sweet peas and roses to keep them blooming.

Train cucumber stems to vertical wires or canes, to make best use of space.



Nip off the growing tips of squash and courgette plants to encourage branching.

Pinch out tomato side shoots each week. Cut off any leaves growing below the lowest ripening fruit trusses to improve air circulation.



Pick your courgettes and runner beans while they're young. Regular picking encourages more fruit/veg.

Harvest beetroot, peas, carrots, chard, potatoes, salad leaves, lettuce and tomatoes this month.



Cut back hardy geraniums, catmint, delphiniums and hanging baskets after first flush of flowers to tidy up and encourage new flowers.



...July in the garden



Keep an eye out for slugs and cabbage white butterfly eggs/caterpillars. Meanwhile, look after your aphid eaters - ladybirds, hoverflies and lacewings feast on greenfly and blackfly.

Prune your plum and cherry trees now to reduce the risk of silver leaf disease.



Cut off fruited stems of blackcurrants to harvest easily indoors and prune at the same time.

Open greenhouse vents and doors daily, shade paint if necessary, to prevent overheating in sunny weather and don't forget to water!



Direct sow turnips, Swiss chard, perpetual spinach.

Plant out winter vegetables such as sprouting broccoli, winter cabbage, hardy cauliflowers, kale, Brussels sprouts and leeks now.

Water at dusk to reduce evaporation. Use mulch to retain moisture around plants and pay particular attention to containers.



This is a greatly condensed version of T&M's advice. For much more detail, visit: <https://www.thompson-morgan.com/in-the-garden-this-month>

Here's hoping for the weather to help our plants along, and to give us opportunities to enjoy the fruits, veg and flowers of our labour.

Gardens in lockdown...

Our local community has certainly been digging deep during lockdown!



Images kindly provided by:
David & Marilyn Barlow;
Peter & Pam Dennis;
Richard Higgins;
Laura Pettigrew; David Stone;
Lin & David Thorley;
Pauline West/Vicky Grundon;



HAVE YOU SEEN THIS INSECT?



This is an Asian hornet, and it's a very unwelcome guest in the UK. It is a predator of honey bees and a serious threat to our bee populations. These insects hover outside beehives facing outwards, picking off worker bees returning from foraging.

Asian hornets are slightly smaller and slimmer than our native European hornets (ours look like huge wasps, with clear black and yellow markings). The Asian Hornet is mostly black, with some yellow and orange markings on the abdomen, and distinctive yellow legs.

If you think you have spotted an Asian Hornet, it is very important that you report it, so we can prevent it from establishing in the UK. Our beekeepers are on the alert, but the role of the general public is key. In the Channel Islands, where Asian hornets are already a problem, most sightings have been reported by members of the public, enabling the taskforce of volunteers there to keep the population under control.

The easiest way to report a sighting is via the Asian Hornet Watch app. This has useful tips for identification, as well as a reporting function.

Alternatively, you can send a picture and email with details of where you saw the Asian hornet to alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk.

Your beekeepers thank you!

Lyn Gauthier

Oakhill & Ashwick Local History Group

East Mendip Gardening Club

The Club began in 1984, when it was named the East Mendip Horticultural Society. That name did not last long, however – perhaps it was thought rather grand, or too serious. It soon became known as simply ‘the Gardening Club’, much as it is today, so in December 1987 the formal name was changed to East Mendip Gardening Club (EMGC).

In that year, the club seems to have really taken off: according to the Wells Journal there was a ‘dramatic increase’ in membership.



As the name suggests, it was always intended that members would come from a relatively wide area; today they still do, with current members from Cranmore, Shepton Mallet, and Coleford. From the outset the club offered a programme of evening talks, visits and an annual Plant Sale. The records show that in its early days the club membership and officers were predominantly male, whereas now the reverse is the case. Similarly, vegetable growing featured more significantly in the early proceedings, later the balance shifted towards the decorative end.

While the club’s 1987 name change may have helped increase its popularity, in the same year EMGC staged its first Annual Produce Show, which was very popular. It was a real feature of the local social calendar, with a wide variety of classes offered in flowers, vegetables, domestic, photography, craft and for children, and some fierce rivalry between entrants (often most evident in the vegetable classes!). The club had its own ‘silverware’ – several Cups were awarded annually. 1988 saw Mr A Hedditch become the first recipient of the Society Shield; in 1989 Mr P Manders won the Shield and went on to win it five times in all. Sadly, the Produce Show was discontinued in 2016, but replaced by excellent practical skills workshops.

The first Chairman of the group was Mr Eric Davis, the Secretary Mr Matthew Aitken and the Treasurer – then as now – was Miss Jane Evans (even in the 1980’s we were much more formal with the titles!). The day for meetings (4th Tuesday in the month), time (7.30) and venue (Ashwick & Oakhill Village Hall) have all remained the same. In 1985 the total membership was 48 (fees collected £170), while £74 was paid out to the year’s speakers – about the average cost of one speaker today. From its first year the Club celebrated in December with a party featuring food and wine (expenditure on this totalled £50 in 1987! today’s members bring their own...). For many years Mr Eric Beatty audited the accounts - perhaps drafted in by his wife Bridget who was a leading member of the club from its inception until very recently. EMGC is still going strong – so join today!



Lin Thorley

Look to the skies!

Bird and wildlife photographers in our local community unite! Thank you to all contributors for these fabulous images of our larger feathered friends.



Left: Red Kite © Richard Venn

Below: Turtle Dove © Ian Donnelly



Right: Magpie take off sequence © John Law



Left: Great Spotted Woodpecker © Dave Chown

Above: Eagle Owl © Dave Chown



Left: Great White Egret
© Richard Venn

Right: Greylag Geese
© Patrick Emery



Above: Mute Swan & cygnets © Jon Durrant

Below: Sparrowhawk © John Law



Left: Barn Owl
© Alan Caldwell



Ashwick Parish Council

June 2020 Update – David Barlow & Charlotte Stott

In the absence of full meetings and minutes due to the current Covid-19 pandemic, we thought you might appreciate an update on what is happening and being discussed behind “closed doors”.

Finger Post at Badger’s Cross

Thankfully, the finger post is being kindly stored by a member of the community, however, we appreciate that it would be nice to get this restored and back in its rightful place. This is something that a specialist must deal with and be an approved contractor. We have contacted a local company to provide quotes for the restoration and resurrection of the post. Hopefully, this is something that can be agreed and started very shortly. Whilst dealing with the Badger’s Cross finger post it would be wise to ask the contractors to ensure the finger post outside the Oakhill Inn is made good too!

Highways

Back in March/April a member of the public kindly alerted us to the fact that the vegetation along the main road towards the doctor’s surgery was making the footpath unsafe especially as many of the brambles were falling at eye level. County has been out to solve the issue, and we have been assured the footpath is now much safer. If this does become a problem again please drop an email to ashwickparish@hotmail.co.uk so that it can be reported.

We have been made aware of a request for a deer crossing sign on the A367, this has been passed on and hopefully we will shortly receive a response.

Planning

Some will agree, while others will disagree with the Council’s recommendations, but here is what has been put forward:

9 The Granary – 0868 - The proposed application is not believed to greatly impact the neighborhood and it would improve the appearance of the property – councillors recommended that the application is approved.

Orchard Barn Upper Benter 0937 - The immediate reaction to this proposal is that it is over-development of the original building (a conversion of a 19th century mining building)

It appears that the application really is to gain approval for a luxury house that would not ordinarily be approved due to its location by claiming it is in line with original concept of improving a derelict mining building. In essence, the objections are:

- The extension floor area is around 4 times the floor area of the original conversion and therefore dwarfs the historic renovation and cannot be an enhancement of the historic building

- A two storey extension is not at all in keeping with the single storey conversion
- It appears that several trees will have to be removed

Therefore, the parish councillors recommended that this application is refused

These are the outcomes from Mendip:

2020/0670 Bridge View Bath Road (Approved)

Mono pitch roof and Single storey side extension.

2020/0684 – 2 Storey extension at Gales Court Bungalow (Approved)

2020/0923 – Little Oakhill change of use – (withdrawn)

2020/0146 & 0147 – High Croft Farm – internal adjustments (Approved)

Some general updates received from County

1. An innovative app built by Somerset County Council is helping free up vital hospital beds by keeping track of care providers with spaces to take in patients ready for discharge. Recently there has been an increased need for hospital beds and this has allowed them to be freed up efficiently.
2. Somerset County Council are continuing to ensure that any path safety issues are investigated and resolved as soon as possible with public rights of way remaining open.
3. The Future Fund has been launched which provides government loans to UK based companies ranging from £125k to £5 Million
4. Most recycling sites are now open for essential visits only, further details can be found at www.Somersetwaste.gov.uk

Remember: Stay Safe, Stay Healthy!

The Council still has two vacancies. We very much hope two parishioners will be interested and contact the Clerk on:
ashwickparish@hotmail.co.uk.

**WEATHER REPORT:
MAY 2020**

Written by
Gerald Esain.

May was like April, a very warm, sunny month and very dry. Only 7.3mm of rainfall, it has been the driest May for this site. Previous driest May was 1990 with 8.3mm. Mean temperature 16.5°C. Highest reading 26.9°C on the 31st. Lowest - 1.6°C on May 12th.



Bishop Peter's July Message

Building a sustainable and hopeful future

One impact of the Coronavirus pandemic is there is now a lot of talk about the need to change and to re-imagine society, in order to build a sustainable and hopeful future. This is to be welcomed. However, change is something that we always have to live with. The Greek philosopher, Heraclitus, writing some 500 years before Christ, was a great proponent of this. He is known for saying: 'There is nothing permanent except change' and that you cannot step into the same river twice. By this he meant that just as the river flows so that you cannot touch the same water twice, so no two situations are exactly the same and that the world is constantly changing.

We live in a time of extraordinary change. Self-driving transport is now practical, not just for cars, but also perhaps more alarmingly for ships and aircraft. Artificial Intelligence is opening amazing new possibilities and medicine is advancing rapidly as the decoding of the human genome increases our understanding of many diseases. At the same time our world groans under the weight of lifestyles and exploitation of resources which are not sustainable. I am writing this on World Environment Day and it is becoming increasingly clear that we need to change the way we live before we wreak even more havoc on the world which God has given us to steward and care for.

But in looking for change we need perhaps to look in rather than out. I remember once reading someone saying: 'You can't change what is going on around you, until you start changing what's going on within you'. Or as Tolstoy put it: 'Everyone thinks of changing the world. But no one thinks of changing themselves.' It is sometimes said that if 'we change the way we look at things, the things we look at change.' There may be some truth in that, and perhaps we need to use this time of lockdown to continue to reflect on what it means to look at the world through God's eyes and to live faithfully in God's world so that we all play our part in building a sustainable and hopeful future.

Every blessing
Bishop Peter

www.bathandwells.org.uk

Tales of old

Christian civilisation approached Somerset in AD 650 but there were still wars and civil wars until AD 688, when Ine became king. He was Christian and the first Saxon king to issue a code of laws, including fines for failing to baptize an infant or pay tithes. King Ine also built the church that was to become Wells Cathedral.

For a century, Wessex and next door Mercia warred. By the 830s, Æthelwulf (Alfred the Great's father) had the upper hand but then came the Vikings! A common enemy brought the kingdoms together.

In AD 845, we come across Eanwulf, Ealdorman (or Duke) of Somerset. He, "with men of Somerset and (Sherborne's) Bishop Ealhstan . . . fought at the mouth of the Parret against the Danish army and there made great slaughter and gained the victory."

In 853, Mercian King Burgred begged for Wessex help to subdue the Welsh. King Æthelwulf obliged and even gave his daughter in marriage to cement the relationship.

In 854 Burgred got help with his fight against the North Britons while Æthelwulf, a good Christian, sent son Alfred to meet Pope Leo, gave a tenth of his land to the church and, in AD 855, set off for Rome himself.

The story then goes that Eanwulf plotted to stop the King's return to his throne. However, "neither did God suffer it nor the nobles of Wessex consent to it". Æthelwulf returned and with a young bride!

Despite his treachery, Eanwulf prospered. He had already received land from Æthelwulf at Dicheat, Hornblotton and Lottisham. Now, Glastonbury Abbey records that King Burgred granted Beagenhangran to him. The Charter is undated but was presumably after the coronation of Burgred and before the death of Eanwulf.

Since Eanwulf probably helped Burgred in his wars, AD 855 is as good a date as any for the Charter that granted Eanwulf the estate of Binegar.

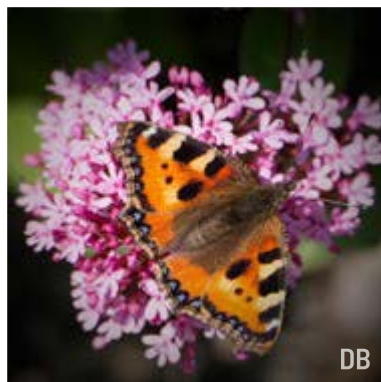
The first record of our parish, then, is 1165 years ago. It takes our history back 200 years before the next record, Edward the Confessor's to Bishop Giso of Wells. By AD 855, it looks like Christianity had reached Binegar. I wonder whether there was then a church?

Eanwulf died in AD 867 and was buried in Glastonbury Abbey.

Richard Higgins

Dive into photography

images by the Beacon Photography Group



Photographic topic/type, from left to right (this page): your pet • frozen flowers • star trails
• in the garden • water droplet refraction • oil & water • (opposite page): reflections
• smoke photography • self-portrait • water splashes • flat lay photography • photoelasticity



The Beacon Photography Group is currently meeting online, every Wednesday at 7.30pm. We welcome new members - amateur photographers as well as those with more experience. Contact Jon Durrant on 01761 232520 or email: durrantjon5@gmail.com

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Binegar and Gurney Slade – Parish Council News

WORKING TOGETHER TO SUPPORT BINEGAR AND GURNEY SLADE - COVID-19 Support Group

The Coronavirus Support Group continues to assist with the needs of our villagers requiring support at this time. Helping the community that we live in to ensure that nobody is left isolated or without support they may need.

If you need medical advice use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service at 111.nhs.uk/covid-19, or if you have no internet access, call NHS 111 from your phone. In a medical emergency, dial 999.

NEED SUPPORT?

If you would like to speak to us, or want to ask for help, please call on 01749 841182 or e-mail binegarpc@hotmail.co.uk and let's see how we can help.

We can only offer help within reason and in ways we can also stay safe.

Now into week twelve we are appreciative to all those who have offered their support and especially those making regular collections of prescriptions, shopping and looking after their neighbours.

Parish Council Meetings

The Parish Council has not met since March and will be holding a remote meeting to undertake routine governance. An agenda will be published on Parish Notice Boards and the Parish Website which will give parishioners details on how to join the meeting.

Parish Council Vacancy

The Parish Council has a vacancy for a new member. If you are interested please contact the Parish Clerk.

Keep Safe

Diane Abbott Parish Clerk: binegarpc@hotmail.co.uk

www.binegar-pc.org.uk

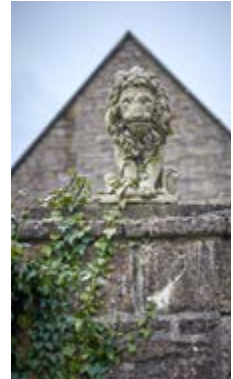
Your councillors - Jon Abbott, Philip Blatchford,

Cath Law, Phill Roberts,

John Scadding and David Stone

July Photo Quiz

We hope you continue to enjoy your daily walks around our beautiful villages and countryside. Here are a few more photos that you might recognise...



Thank you to John Law for taking these wonderful pictures from around our villages.



**Binegar
Parish Council**

Enjoy your daily walk.
Keep your distance and keep safe.

BINEGAR SCOUTS

JULY 2020



1st North Mendip is a thriving Scout Group that meets in Binegar Memorial Hall weekly during term time. We currently have Beavers (6-8yrs), Cubs (8-10yrs) and Scouts (10-14yrs).

At the very end of April, 57 group members took part in our VE Day celebrations, also completing part of their Air Activities Stage 1 badge. The final video can be seen on our Facebook page (link below). All sections also started working towards the brand new Great Indoors Staged Badge.

Throughout May, Beavers and Cubs reflected on how they can do their best, as well as talking about the advantages of being part of a worldwide movement. They started their Cyclist badge looking at basic repairs and maintenance, and took part in lots of experiments for their Scientist badge. These included making volcanos, crystals, rocket balloons and burp gas foam. Beavers also completed their @Home Baking badge, which took them to over 200 badges earned during lockdown. Cubs completed their @Home games badge bringing them to over 100 badges earned during lockdown.

Scouts completed lots of their Skills Challenge Badge, helping out at home with cooking meals, doing washing and some DIY tasks. They also looked at their family history and old Scout badges for their Local Knowledge badge, baked cookies for their Chef badge and took part in a games night for their Teamwork Challenge. The most popular activities were for the Expedition Challenge and Naturalist badges, looking at what to do in various emergency situations whilst walking as well as what to take, having a look at local wildlife, and then researching and identifying it.

Do you have a young person aged 5, 6 or 7 that may be interested in joining our Scout In adventure? We're looking for young people who want to make new friends, have fun, and learn some new skills in our Beaver section. Why not give it a try?

If you are interested in joining us please sign up via our Online Waiting List:
<https://tinyurl.com/v7kz5kp> or contact a member of the team:

Beavers/Cubs - Gemma (Raksha) - 01749 938321

Scouts - Natalie (Gunner) - gunnerexplore@gmail.com

You can also sign up and see what we're up to on our Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/northmendipscouts



News from the Ashwick & Oakhill Village Hall Committee



As some of the lockdown rules are gradually relaxing, it is lovely to see people safely enjoying the outside space at the recreation field. You will have noticed that the grass is currently well overdue its normal cut. We apologise for this - our normal contractor, like so many other businesses, has been restricted by Covid 19. They should hopefully be back with us very soon and have the field back to its former glory.

At the time of writing, the playground and play equipment are,, unfortunately, still out of bounds under Government rules. We are following this closely and look forward to the time that we can open the gates again. Please make sure you are aware of, and following, the current guidelines for the protection of yourself and other users.

The Committee would like to offer our thanks to everyone involved with the repair of the broken bench at the bottom of the field recently. We know this bench is in a particularly popular location, and we have assessed it and feel that a permanent replacement for it will be needed very soon. We have therefore invested in 2 new benches which will be arriving shortly - one to replace the existing bench, plus another to be placed somewhere nearby. If anyone has any strong opinions on the location of the second bench, please do let us know via Facebook or email!

The first stage of the work inside the main hall, committee room and foyer has now been completed, and it's looking great with freshly decorated walls, new chairs and matching curtains. More exciting plans are in progress for the rest of the building - watch this space!!

If you need to contact anyone on the committee, we can be reached via our Facebook Page or by email at aandovillagehall@gmail.com - we look forward to hearing from you. Stay safe, and look after each other,

**Kim Hare,
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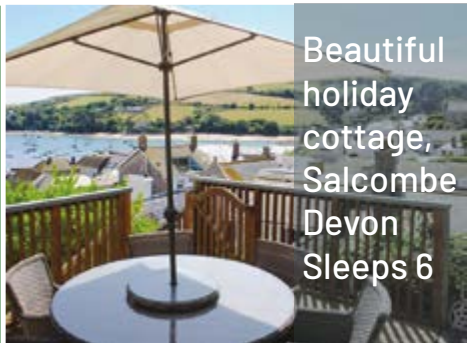
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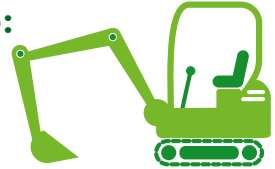
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