

EDITOR

Bob Coombs
2 Waterfield Close
Bishop's Hull
Taunton,
TA1 5HB
01823-253697

Email: robertcoombs@talktalk.net

MAGAZINE SUPPORT TEAM

Proof reader - Margaret Coombs

Magazine Cover:

Photographs by Bob & Penny Coombs & Bob Winn

Articles relating to all aspects of our village and community are always welcome.

Final date for acceptance: Mid-day on 12th of the month.

Please help to make the magazine interesting by contributing material.

When reading your free online copy or one of the the hard copies available in church please remember to support the few remaining advertisers whenever possible

It is emphasised that the views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the magazine editorial team, unless attributed, or those sent in by identifiable contributors.

IDENTIFYING OUR LOCAL BIRDS photo by Penny Coombs

A Heron caught taking off from the canal



Cover - A regular visitor to the Editor's garden



AWARD WINNING FAMILY RUN BUSINESS

Shop and Post Office

Open Monday – Friday 6.45am – 6pm Saturday 8am – 6pm Sunday 8am – 12pm Tel – 01823 279168

Butchers

Open Tuesday – Friday 8.00am – 3pm Saturday 7.00am – 2pm Sunday and Monday Closed Tel – 01823 337497

BISHOP'S HULL CAR BOOT SALES 2025

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

NEXT SALE

BH Playing Field

Bank Holiday Monday 25th AUGUST Sunday 7th SEPTEMBER Sunday 21st SEPTEMBER Sunday 5th OCTOBER





Start Time 7a.m.

Bishop's Hull Playing Field TA1 5EB

///rocket.force.Monday

Sellers' Cars: £7 Vans: £10 Buyer Parking: £2

The Money raised supports the running and maintenance of the playing field facilities for the benefit of users and community

Sellers responsible for removing their own rubbish

Toilets Available Dogs allowed on a lead

All events subject to cancellation without notice at organisers discretion. All net proceeds to the Bishop's Hull Village Hall and Playing Fields Trust, a non-profit making registered charity.

The Frank Bond Centre

84 Mountway Road, Bishop's Hull.

A place for the over 50s to meet new friends

Contact Carolyn 01823 283941 /Nadia 07958 246046

Come along to FBC Coffee morning on a Friday morning 10:00-12:00 and discover what activities could lie in store for you.

The cafe is open to members and non-members.

The centre is centrally heated and open 10:00-16:00 Monday-Friday

Weekly Activities:

Monday - The Painting Group 10:00-12:00,

Whist Club 1:30-4:00 Bridge Club 1.30-4:00

Wednesday - Flexercise & Tai Chi 10:00-12:00

Thursday - Bridge club 10:00-12:00-Beginners welcome, Croquet 2:00-4:00

Friday - Pétanque 10:00-12:00,

Friday - The FBC Coffee morning 10:00-12:00

Monthly Activities:

1st Monday in month Family History 2:00-4:00

2nd Tuesday in month Parchment 10:00-3:30

3rd Wednesday in month Games 2.00-4.00

4th Wednesday in month Music Appreciation 2.00-4.00

2nd & 4th Thursday in month Mahjong 2:00-4:00

NO MONTHLY LUNCHES

Annual membership £25 Find us on Facebook (& 'Like' us)

There are many more exciting activities...

Table tennis, cards, books, puzzles

A variety of social events take place throughout the year.

Vicar:

Reverend Philip Hughes, The Vicarage, Bishop's Hull Hill, Bishop's Hull, TA1 5EB 01823-336102 Tim Venn (Church Warden)

John Perry (Church Warden)



As the population ages there is a chance that many of us will be left behind when having to cope with the advances in computing and (AI) Artificial Intelligence. I find it hard to believe that only 25 years ago I did not own a computer and that my camera depended upon a roll of film.

Before retiring in 1998 I had been working in an environment that was moving rapidly into the computer age. Not wanting to be left behind, so to speak, I had my first computer built by an enthusiast who created desktops in the back room of a pub in Wellington. Wow! They were so expensive and all one got for one's money (between £600-£700) was something pretty basic by today's standards. One desktop, one monitor, one keyboard, one mouse and one printer (black only). If you wanted a connection to the early world wide web (www) you had to set it up using your telephone line - boy was that slow. Over the years the growth in computing has been exponentially amazing. No sooner had one update been added to your limited memory than you were driven to buy a bigger hard drive and more memory to make the computer function correctly. I am amazed to find that at this moment I have a total of 82 programs installed on my computer and of this total 14 are Microsoft (MS) powered. Without the MS software my computer would be a useless pile of junk. If your computer is connected to the Internet you will not be surprised to learn that MS automatically updates its programs every Tuesday (unless you have told it not to).

Many of us do not have a laptop or desktop computer but rely on a hand held device such as an ipad. (*An iPad is a touchscreen tablet computer made by Apple, first introduced in 2010. It runs on Apple's iPadOS operating system and is designed for various tasks like browsing the web, watching videos, and using apps*). Another wonderful device is the latest mobile phone which can also be used to take photographs. If you have decided to save all your electronically generated photos onto your computer (as I do), do you know how many there are? At the last count I had 43,000! And, how many do you have on your phone?

It would seem that 'computing' has taken over the lives of a generation and us oldies are having a hard time keeping up. I don't have the latest hand held device so I am at a disadvantage in a wide range of 'fields'. I am unable to read a QR code on a document or on a carpark notice, etc., etc, or even the more common bar code on a product. I do however carry an old phone which will be useful in an emergency, but has a miserably limited number of functions. How on earth do us oldies survive day in day out without all these electronic devices? Hello. I am here but does anyone know where I am?

The Vicar writes

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

September: A Time for Community and Gratitude.

As the seasons change, September brings a fresh start and a renewed sense of community. This month, we have several opportunities to come together and serve one another, reflecting on God's goodness and provision.



We're starting with a **garden tidy-up** on Saturday, 20 September when we'll be working on tidying the churchyard and grounds. As Ecclesiastes 3:1 says, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." This is our time to care for the grounds we share, making them a welcoming space for all. We'll provide the cups of tea, but please bring your energy and enthusiasm. All help is welcome, and it's a great way to catch up with friends and neighbours while doing something positive for our village.

On Saturday, 27 September, please join us for our monthly **village coffee morning** in the hall. It's a simple time to meet up with friends, both new and old, and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee often with some home-made cake. The Book Swap is there for you too and someone has recently donated some free CD's you can take – if you still have a CD player! Everyone is welcome to pop in for a chat.

Our **Harvest celebrations** are on Sunday, 28 September, with a special service at 10 am. We'll gather to give thanks for the harvest and the blessings we have received, remembering the words of 1 Chronicles 16:34: "Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!" Please bring donations of non-perishable goods, which will be given to the local charity Open Door (Taunton) to support those in need. See their website for details of items needed

https://www.tauntonopendoor.org.uk/donate/

Everyone is welcome at our services throughout the month – more info on the notice-boards and the website www.stpeterandstpaul.org.uk. We look forward to seeing you and sharing in this season of gratitude and community.

Your Brother in Christ,

Rev Phil Hughes "Not a born gardener, but good at eating cake

St Peter's & St Paul's Church Bridge Coffee Mornings

The Bridge is what we have called the Welcome Area.

The Church has opened the Bridge for the return of the Monthly Coffee Mornings to be held on the last Saturday of each month and running now through the rest of 2025. We would like to extend a warm welcome



to all at the next coffee morning on **Saturday 27th September.**Come along to have a Coffee/Tea and cakes, with a friendly chat and SWAP a book.

From 10am till 12noon.

Church garden tidy-up on Saturday, 20 September

Saturday, 27 September, please join us for our monthly village coffee morning in the hall..

Harvest celebrations are on Sunday, 28 September

Bell Ringing

We are very proud of our Bell Ringing team and our bells! There are 6 bells in the tower and ringing is done from ground level. The Bell Tower is accessed on the North Side of the church.

Ringing happens for the main service on Sunday (usually ringing starts at 09.15am and rings until the service starts at 10am). Practice night is Wednesday at 7.30pm.

Quarter peals (50 minutes) may be attempted up to twice a month at 11.30am, usually on Tuesday or Wednesday. Our Tower Captain is Giles Morley and he can be contacted on 01823 430710



Bishop's Hull Parish Council News

At the meeting on 3rd July the following resolutions were made:

- To renew the Allotments insurance at a cost of £175.97
- To start an application from SALC Health and Wellbeing fund for benches in the Parish.
- A budget of £500 was set to cut Rights of Way Paths, which have not been cut by Somerset Council.
- To seek permission from Somerset Council for bulbs to be planted on grass verges on Silk Mills.
- To instruct S Morris to reconfigure the earth mound and install boulders at Bishops Mead to deter illegal encampments.
- The PC are awaiting a ROSPA inspection report and repairs to be carried out at the Playpark then the PC will progress the ownership transfer.
- The PC are awaiting a tree report, confirmation of all play equipment repairs and the Road to be adopted by Somerset Council at the area formerly known as Kinglake and then the land transfer will take place.
- You can find a copy of the latest Minutes on the Parish Council
- Website: https://bishopshullparishcouhcil.gov.uk
- The Parish Council still has a vacancy for a Parish Councillor and if you would like more information about the role please contact the Clerk —
- clerk@bishopshullparishcouncil.gov.uk

Next meeting — There will be no meeting in August and the next meeting will be The Parish Council meeting **Thursday 4th September 7pm** at the HUB — all welcome to attend.

Bishop's Hull HUB

Bishops Hull Hub 100 Club - July 2025 winners

1st Sheena Bown-Porter - £37.60 4; 2nd Dr Julie Wooler - £18.80 ; 3rd Michael & Jane Leach - £9.40

The next draw will take place at the Flower Show on the 10th August. Tickets are £2 per month, Email

bhhub100club@gmail.com for further details

Join our 100 club today and you could be our next winner! You must be 16 years or older to purchase a ticket. The 100 club supports the Bishop's Hull Hub.

Caretaker urgently required for the Hub.

Outgoing, Responsible and Flexible person required. Remuneration and hours by agreement. Please contact one of the team below for more information.

Jon 07716 175671 David 07977 474873 Tony 07475 948820

Richard 01823 333679



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THIS PAGE IS RESERVED FOR YOU!



Is this the winner of the Flower Show 'Best Scarecrow' Competition?

<u>St Margaret's Hospice</u> <u>45th anniversary year 30-mile hike</u> from Yeovil Hospice to Taunton Hospice.

The Hike will start at Yeovil on Sunday 21" September at 6am and finish at the Taunton hospice late afternoon.

Please look out for the walkers as they finish their hike through Bishop's Hull, raising valuable funds for a very worthy cause.





Why not become a councillor?

This morning, I alerted the Hastings parks and gardens team to a giant hogweed in a patch of waste ground: it's an invasive species and can cause serious skin damage.

A communal bin on one of the streets in my ward was missing its lid. Two days ago, I asked the waste services folk to replace it. They did so within 24 hours.

This afternoon's emails included a thank-you note from a resident who has been living with black mould for years. She has a vulnerable son, and had been trying to get action from her social housing provider. A neighbour alerted me to her situation. Councillors have privileged access to housing associations, and it took a single message to secure an inspection. What their mould specialist discovered in her flat required a follow-up visit from a property surveyor, and the whole property is now in line for a new roof.

This afternoon I spent reviewing the council's housing strategy. Like many councils we are constantly on the verge of being overwhelmed by the need for temporary accommodation. It costs nearly 50% of our entire budget. Meanwhile the government's rental reforms are accelerating a trend of private landlords leaving the market.

For over 40 years I was a publisher of Christian books. It was a privilege, and a rewarding occupation – not financially, but in terms of job satisfaction. When I retired, I joined Hastings Green Party, as an expression of my reverence for the world God made, and to my surprise was elected to Hastings Borough Council on my first attempt. I became treasurer of the local party, and have helped to secure further electoral successes which led to the Greens running the council.

One of the challenges has been to get quality candidates to stand. I visited most of the town's churches, seeking to recruit Christians, but was met with silence or indifference. Our local mosque was a different matter. I met a young man (a white guy, an English convert to Islam) who was eager to learn more. A year later he was elected as the first Muslim councillor in Hastings, and many of his friends in the mosque have become Green supporters. He and I are good friends, and I have been his mentor on the council. He's hardworking and effective.

Why is it so hard to get Christians involved in civic affairs? To be a councillor is to play a vital role in your local community. The job is immensely varied, and can be demanding, but you are making a lasting difference to people's lives. Politicians do not always command respect, and you need to guard your boundaries, but I receive more thanks than brickbats.

Whatever your own political allegiance, please consider getting involved. Your local party will be delighted to hear from you.

Tony Collins is a Green councillor on Hastings Borough Council.



Bishops Hull Belles WI

Bishops Hull Belles is a group of friendly women with meetings held on the 4th Thursday of the month (except August) at 7.30pm at the Bishops Hull HUB

- These monthly meetings have a speaker or other activity together with business items
- Topics for future meetings will be published here each month.
- Lunches and coffee/brunches are organised monthly.
- Additionally there is a walking group arranged fortnightly (except mid winter and August) and a scrabble group meets on a monthly basis.
- A day trip usually takes place in August.
- Why not come along to one of our monthly meetings where you will be warmly welcomed. The cost is £4 per visit (up to 3 meetings) which is then deducted from the annual subscription upon joining.
- Further information can be obtained from Heather Blackmore the group's secretary. Tel:01823-283884 mob 07963834365

Bishops Hull Belles WI

Next Meeting at The HUB
Thursday 25th September at 7.30
Guest Speaker - Fleur White Flower Arranging
Demonstration

Secretary. Tel:01823-283884 mob 07963834365

<u>M5 — Junction 26 Closure information -</u>

A dedicated webpage has been set up to provide an overview, FAQs and updates: https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/major-refurbishment-of-junction-26-and-chelston-link-road/

To subscribe to the newsletters/further info.rmation please contact the Somerset Council Public Liaison Officer:

Syed Shah on 07717 844 042,

syed.shah@somerset.gov.uk "



Neighbourhood Beat Team

PCSO Lyndsay Smith 07802 874297









BISHOPS HULL NEIGHBOURHOOD BEAT TEAM (from village WEB site)

PCSO Lyndsay Smith - 07802 874297 lyndsay.smith@avonandsomerset.pnn.police.uk

PCSO Tony Wearmouth 8413 - 07889 655312 tony.wearmouth@avonandsomerset.police.uk

PCSO Catharine Richards - 07710 026191 catherine.richards@avonandsomerset.police.ukPCSO Catharine Richards - 07710 026191

 \mathbf{T} $\mathbf{\Lambda}$ \mathbf{J} e are appealing for witnesses to a collision earlier this month near V Norton Fitzwarren. At around 6.30pm on Wednesday 9 July, officers were called to a collision involving a black BMW and a white Kia on the B3227 between the junctions of Wick Lane and Norton Fitzwarren. Both drivers were taken to hospital with serious injuries and passengers from the Kia were taken to hospital with minor injuries. Both drivers remain in hospital with injuries which are believed to be life changing.

We are keen to hear from anyone who was in the area and witnessed the collision, or have dashcam, doorbell, or CCTV footage. If you can help, please call 101 and give the call handler the reference number 5225193006, or complete our online appeals form.

\(\) Te are also appealing to the public to help us identify the man in this CCTV image who we would like to speak to in connection with an assault in Taunton.

A 37-year-old man was approached by a group before he was punched in the face causing him to suffer a broken jaw in North Street at around 2.40am on Friday 14 June. His jaw was broken in two places, and he was taken to Musgrove Park Hospital for surgery. He has since been discharged to continue his recovery at home.

Officers would now like to identify a male we believe could assist us with our enquiries who has been described as white, slim, between the ages of 18 and 25, who was wearing a black polo shirt with a white rim around the collar and an emblem on the left side of the chest, blue skinny jeans, red trainers and a cross-body bag.

We are also appealing for help in identifying two other people who were in the area at the time who may have witnessed the incident and could hold information which could assist our enquiries. The man is described as slim,

with brown hair, wearing grey jogging bottoms and a black jacket with white and blue trainers, between the ages of 18 and 25. The woman is also believed to be within the same age range, with blonde shoulder length hair wearing black leggings, a dark jacket and white trainers.

CCTV enquiries have been conducted with businesses in the area, and we believe this to be an isolated incident.

Anybody who recognises the people in either image are asked to contact us on 101 or through our online appeals form on our website, quoting reference number 5225165924.

Attachments:

taunton-assault.pdf

investment-fraud.pdf

[Late July Police report]

Two children taken to Bristol Royal Hospital for Children by air ambulance ▲ following a collision on Exmoor remain in hospital. Tragically, a 10-yearold boy died in the collision. Formal identification processes have not yet been completed, but a specially trained officer is supporting their next of kin. Four children and three adults remain in hospital in Somerset. Emergency services were called to the single-vehicle collision on the A396 at Cutcombe Hill, between Wheddon Cross and Timberscombe, at 3pm on Thursday 17 July. Up to 70 people - children and adults travelling to Minehead Middle School were understood to have been on the coach. Teams from Avon and Somerset Police, Devon and Somerset Fire & Rescue Service and South Western Ambulance Service were all involved at the scene, supported by the National Police Air Service helicopter, as well as Devon Air Ambulance, and Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance. Chief Superintendent Mark Edgington said: "On behalf of the emergency services I would like to thank the 24 volunteers from Exmoor Search and Rescue who carried out first aid triage at the rest centre and have rope and search skills. "I also pass on thanks to the staff of the Rest and Be Thankful pub at Wheddon Cross, which opened its doors as the rest centre. "Of course, we also recognise the efforts of Minehead Middle School, for keeping parents and carers informed and providing support to the school community during what is a difficult and distressing time for them all." The vehicle left the road, overturned and came to rest about 20 feet (six metres) from the roadway, down a steep slope. Recovery of the vehicle and collision investigation are complex, and we expect the road to remain closed for a considerable time. A thorough and detailed examination of the scene is required, and the location of the vehicle makes both the investigation and the vehicle recovery more challenging. C/Supt Edgington added: "We continue to appeal for anyone who witnessed the collision or has any dashcam footage which could be relevant to contact us. Please call 101 and give the reference 5225201782. "Please avoid speculating about the circumstances on social media, to prevent additional distress for the children, their families, the school community, staff and the driver, who are all deeply affected by what's happened. "Our thoughts go out to all those involved, their families, friends and colleagues."

WW II memories as recalled by Barbara Quartly

I was 10 in 1939 and living in Wiveliscombe but I can still picture that mid- Sunday morning when Neville Chamberlain came on the radio to say his talks with Germany had broken down and we were now at war. The weak prime minister was replaced by Winston Churchill, a great leader and orator with speeches like "We will fight them on the beaches" But that would have been difficult because the beaches were soon covered in rolls of barbed wire.



Soon our villages felt empty, as men who were in the Territorial Army and others over '18 were conscripted to serve in the Armed Forces. This

empty feeling didn't last' long as children from London were evacuated to the country. We often hear, quite rightly, of the heartache of mothers putting children on a train to an unknown destination. In the countryside officials had visited

every home to see who had a spare room to take one or more evacuees. It must have been hard for maiden aunts and childless couples who had no dealings with children. We young people all got on well together. We had to explain the countryside to them and they told us about their very different life in London. The local school could not absorb many more pupils, so the evacuees had their own "school" in a local hall.

One of the first things to happen was that we were all issued with a gas mask and an identity card, TO BE CARRIED AT ALL TIMES. As soldiers remember their army number, I can still remember my identity card was WP2K45/3.

The gas mask came in a cardboard box, but an entrepreneur soon produced a waterproof cover with a long string carrying handle. At school we sometimes had a practice of going to a "safe place" and putting on our gas masks. It always felt as if I was suffocating, so I found I could put my finger under the edge and let some air in. I did this so regularly that I am sure I would have done it in a real gas attack. Thankfully, gas was never used by anyone.

I had just passed the entrance exam to the grammar school 12 miles away. So, I had to cycle to the station, catch a train and finally walk a mile to school. When the train became unreliable due to the bombing of Bristol I began travelling by bus. They were always crowded, and we children were expected to give up our seats to adults. But this was not the worst part. Petrol being in short supply some buses were converted to use gas from a container towed

behind, not only was it smelly but it was not as powerful as petrol and sometimes was not able to go up a hill unless we children got out and walked.

Jean, my evacuee friend, and I were both confirmed aged 12 and then fortnightly walked a mile to the church for Holy Communion. Sometimes in the winter, it was barely light, but there was no welcoming light in the church - just altar candles. The church bells were not rung either. They would only be rung as a sign of invasion, most probably by paratroops.

During the war there was no GMT. in the winter, the clocks were put forward an hour. In the summer by 2 hours, known as "double summer time". This was so that men leaving work at the usual time could then go and help the farmers. it was important to produce as much food as we could, although many brave merchant seamen risked their lives, bringing in essential food from North America. We never saw bananas, ice-cream, which pre-war had only been eaten in the summer.

A total blackout was one of the first things the government ordered. Everyone had to have very thick curtains or shutters to avoid helping enemy aircraft. ARP wardens were appointed to see that no lights were visible; and very efficient they were too.

We were given a stirrup pump to use if incendiary bombs were dropped, but I'm not certain whether every house had one. People who worked in shops or offices had to take their turn in spending the night on the premises in case of fire.

I marvel at the way housewives coped. Almost everything was rationed. We had coupons for meat, bread, butter, sugar, cheese, sweets and probably more that I have forgotten. Housewives had to register with one retailer and could only use that one. There were coupons too for buying clothes. We didn't wear gloves in winter. I've not seen anyone with chilblains for decades, but they were all too common when we went to school.

Petrol too, was scarce and coupons were only issued to those for whom a car was essential. Driving after dark must have been difficult because the vehicle lights were covered with "Shutters" to direct light to immediately in front of the vehicle. When the driver left the vehicle, it had to be immobilised by removing something from the engine.





BISHOP'S HULL IN TIMES PAST

100 years ago

The Bishop's Hull Fete, Gymkhana and Flower Show was held in a field on Bishops Hull Road (owned by the Quartly family and where the Kinglake housing development now is). This included the re-establishment of the village flower show, which was formerly held annually. It had been 15 years since the show was last held. It was arranged by a small committee, over which Mr EA Dymond presided and of which Mr CH Payne was the hon secretary. The standard was very high and in almost every class

competition was keen. The judges, Messrs R J Case of Staplegrove and Mr P Fawle of the Franciscan Convent Taunton, had no easy task in making the awards. It was largely due to the generosity of Miss K Swete Archer of Oldbury Lodge, who provided the tent, that the show was once more held. The fete was organised on behalf of the Nursing Association and all those who live in Bishop's Hull realise the excellent work done by nurse and Mrs Petters. The President, Mr GU Farrant, said that the Association could do with more financial support and he hoped people would spend freely on behalf of the cause. In the evening the band of the 5th Battalion RLI provided music for the dancing.

50 years ago

Mrs More welcomed 33 members to the monthly meeting of the Women's Institute when of the members, Mrs Peters, gave an interesting talk on toy making. She showed some fine examples of her work and was thanked by Mrs Chandler. The competition for a piece of handiwork was judged by the speaker, who awarded Mrs Grigg and Mrs Davey ten points each. The raffle for a teddy bear made by Mrs Peters was won by Mrs Keeler.

The Parish Council again considered the very difficult traffic problems at Mountway Lane, which have been increased by heavy lorries using the lane. The council nominated three members to meet officials of Taunton Deane Council, in the hope that some long- and short-term solutions can be discussed.

Members of the Bishops Hull Village Hall and Playing Fields Committee met at the United Reformed church hall, where the treasurer, Mr A Smith, presented a balance sheet for the fete, showing a profit of £333. The skittles week had made a profit of £36 and the dance organised by Mr and Mrs Tarr a profit of £37. The chairman, Mr A Payne, congratulated everyone on an excellent result, an improvement on last year's and said how encouraging it was that so many offers of help had come from the village itself. Mr G Hooper reported that he

was organising a sponsored walk along the Bridgwater and Taunton Canal. Other fund-raising efforts included a cheese and wine party and a barbecue. It was agreed that next year's fete should be part of a festival week, including a dance and skittles week.

Mr Ernest Baker, of Lowlands Terrace, died at Tone Vale Hospital. The funeral service, at Taunton Deane cemetery chapel, was conducted by the vicar of Wellington, the Rev John George and followed by burial in the family grave. The arrangements were by the Co-operative Funeral Service of Priorswood Road Taunton. Mr and Mrs G Smith, daughter and son-in-law expressed their sincere thanks for the messages of sympathy and flowers received in their bereavement.

At the monthly meeting of the women's branch of Bishops Hull Conservatives at the Meryan House Hotel, Miss Harris a senior organiser with the Red Cross, spoke about her work with the movement and with the St John library service for hospitals. Among other things she detailed the importance of the selection of the right kind of books for hospitals. Miss Harris was thanked by the copresident, Mrs Magee.

Proposals to construct a new road from the Silk Mill crossing through Bishops Hull to join the A38 were outlined at a special open meeting called by the parish council. The chairman of Taunton Deane Council's planning committee, Mr CW Bishop, was present with borough and county council officials. The meeting heard that the Taunton area development plan envisaged the possibility of residential development on 50 acres of land within the parish by 1981, with a resultant population increase of possibly 1,500. There were proposals by Taunton Deane Council to provide 108 dwellings on 11 acres of land adjoining Mountway Road and by RM Smith (Properties) Ltd to develop land bordered by Wellington New Road and Mountway Road. Details were given of the new district sewerage and drainage scheme on which work should be completed, as far as Bishops Hull was concerned, by the end of the year. Anxiety was expressed about the effects of a substantial road being constructed through the village and in particular the need to ensure that adequate arrangements were made to allow pedestrians to cross the new road safely at its junction with Mountway Road. The hope was expressed that the drainage scheme would be adequate to deal with Bishops Hull's long-standing flood water problems. On planning, the meeting was informed that the parish council would be consulted on detailed proposals as they arose. A major topic of concern was that in view of the anticipated increase in population, adequate land should be set aside within the overall development area to allow for the provision of a site for a village hall and playing field. Whilst doubts and reservations remained, it was generally felt that a useful exchange on information had taken place and the meeting expressed thanks to Mr Bishop and the officials for their attendance.

Metric v Imperial

aving been asked to judge the 'Tallest Sunflower' competition in this year's Bishop's Hull Flower Show, I decided to measure them in centimetres. The winner an impressive 286cms tall, or perhaps I should say 2.86 metres? The problem for an old dinosaur like me, is that I really struggle to visualise 2.86 metres. Now, if I had switched to the imperial measurement of just over 9 feet tall, that I can relate to.



Whilst completing a form recently, I was asked for my height and weight, that'll be 6 feet and 13st 3lbs. Unfortunately, the form requested my height and weight in metric, I had no idea. So asked Google for assistance, which told me I'm 1.83 metres tall and weighing 84 kilograms, and yes, I've written that down so I don't forget.

I've recently changed my car and wanted to calculate my miles per gallon. More difficult than you think when we now buy fuel by the litre, I simply cannot get my head around miles per litre. Fortunately, there's an option on the dashboard to show fuel used in mpg, much happier with that.

It's all very confusing, well it is for this dinosaur anyway. At the pub, we can buy a pint of beer or an imperial measure of spirits and yet milk in the supermarket is sold by the litre.

Our road signs show destinations by the number of miles not kilometres. Our vehicles show speed in mph not kph.

The building trade in general work in metric. For example, in our kitchens we have units measured in millimetres 300, 400, etc. In athletics, track races all cover metric distances such as 100, 200, 400 metres, which for some unknown reason I can relate to and yet, with the throwing/jumping events, not so much. The men's High Jump world record is 2.45 metres, which is meaningless to me. However, that converts into an incredible 8 feet plus, now that I can understand.

Am I the only dinosaur in the village?

Take care.

John Hunt

Welsh writers launch book inspired by ancient pilgrimage path

A new book documenting a Welsh language pilgrimage and literary project was recently launched at Tafarn y Plu in Llanystumdwy.

The publication brings together blogs, poems, photographs and essays from the Llwybr Cadfan Literary Project. The project aimed to create cultural events at locations along Llwybr Cadfan, the historic pilgrimage path once walked by 6th-century Saint Cadfan.



Two resident poets, Siôn Aled and Sian Northey, created original work offering a fresh perspective on this ancient trail. Working with guest artists, they staged 11 events at locations including Saint Cadfan's Church, Cymer Abbey, and aboard the Ffestiniog Railway.

Welsh writers and performers who took part included Manon Steffan Ros, Twm Morys, Gwyneth Glyn, and the late Dewi Pws. Each event combined poetry, music, creative workshops and historical presentations tailored to reflect the character and history of its location.

Project Lead Elin Owen said: "Working with artists and communities along Llwybr Cadfan has been transformative for all involved. Each location told its own story and together we've woven these voices into a book that honours both Saint Cadfan's legacy and strongly connects to our Welsh heritage, our identity and the Welsh language."

David Pickup, a solicitor, considers different versions of the Bible

Tomato, Tomato

Like the King James' version of the bible. I enjoy the old-fashioned expressions and the richness of the language. That version of the Bible has been so important to our history. So many phrases are part of our everyday speech. I began to question this when, after a service, someone said could they ask me a question. It is always worrying when people are polite. It usually means there is a problem. "Why do you use the King James version? I like to understand what I am reading." That sort of knocked me a bit. What would you do? Loving beautiful language is one thing, but if people do not understand what the book says there is a problem.

I decided to try some other versions including the New King James and New International.

Understanding the Bible is not only grappling with old fashioned words, language used in a different way or even funny, jaw cracking words no-one can pronounce. The New Testament place name 'Derbe' is a good example — do you say it like darby or derbee? (American or English!?) I never worry about how to pronounce difficult words, as I am unlikely to bump into anyone who come from there.

EAT WELL FOR LESS DURING SEPTEMBER

COLCANNON



Boiled cabbage. Cooked potatoes. A little dripping. Pepper and salt.

REMAINS of cabbage and potatoes can be used for this dish. The cabbage is better to be green—or green kale can be used. The potatoes should be very well boiled, and dry. Have about equal quantities of each vegetable. Chop cabbage finely; mash potatoes. Put a piece of dripping in a frying-pan in proportion to the quantity of vegetables you have.

Melt it; add cabbage, potatoes, pepper and salt to taste.

Stir over fire until perfectly hot.

Then dish up neatly in a pyramid, making the sides smooth and

This is a nourishing and tasty dish, and very satisfying instead of meat.

From Miss Christian Milne, Aberdeenshire.

marking with a fork.

DISHED ONION CRISPS

12 small onions.

½ pint milk.
2 cupfuls cooked peas.
3 ozs. margarine.
2 tablespoonfuls self-raising flour.
1 cupful breadcrumbs.



PEEL the onions. Boil them in milk, together with the same amount of water; and when tender, remove from saucepan, taking care not to break them.

Grease a large baking-tin, Put in the onions, covering them with the peas. Next make a sauce with the milk and water the onions were boiled in, the margarine, flour, and salt to taste. When quite smooth, pour over the onions and peas, adding a pinch of cayenne. Bind the breadcrumbs with enough melted margarine to make a nice stiff mixture and spread this over. Bake in a hot oven until golden brown.

From Mrs. H. Betteridge, Herefordshire.

MEAT "DUCKS"

½ lb. sausage meat.
3 tablespoonfuls breadcrumbs.
3 boiled onions (minced).
A little powdered sage.
Pepper, salt and mustard.

MIX quite stiff, form into round cakes, dust with flour and fry brown in fat. Peel, core and slice apple into rings and fry. Place apple rings on toast and "ducks" on top. Serve hot.

 $From {\it Mrs. Rogers, Wrexham.}$

APPLE MARMALADE CHARLOTTE



Ingredients

Left-over bread and butter or thin slices of plain bread, about ½ lb. ½ lb. apples.

1½ to 2 ozs. marmalade.

1 egg.

½ pint milk.

Sugar to taste.

PUT layer of bread into a greased piedish and cover with a layer of sliced apple and a little marmalade.

Cover with bread.

Fill the dish in this way and then beat up the egg in the milk and pour over. Bake in moderate oven for 30 to 35 Minutes.

From Anne Coltman, Leicestershire.

FRUIT FRUSHIE



THIS is an excellent way of using up windfalls quickly.

Take 1 lb. apples, cut up small, cook with some brown sugar, a teaspoon full of lemon juice and a little water. When almost done add 1/4 lb. each of currants and sultanas. Stir for 2 minutes and then stand aside.

Make a sweet paste with ½ lb. flour, ¼ lb. butter, 2 ozs. sugar and milk. Line a tart plate with half the paste. Put in the fruit, then cover with the other half. Brush with milk and bake in a hot oven 20 to 30 minutes. This is a delicious dessert dish or sliced for tea.

From

Mrs. T. Weddell, Nottinghamshire.

MIXED FRUIT STIRABOUT



THIS is an old farmhouse recipe and can be used with all kinds of fresh fruit, rhubarb, gooseberries, currants, raspberries, etc., alone or mixed.

Mix 4 ozs. flour with 2 ozs. butter and a pinch of salt, add 2 ozs. sugar and 2 breakfast- cupfuls of picked fruit (if rhubarb, cut into neat cubes). Mix with milk to the consistency of a thick batter and bake in a hot oven for about 30 minutes.

Serve with sugar and thick cream.

From Miss Peggy Crawford, Leicestershire.



Was the children's summer holiday too long for you?

As our children go back to school this month, what do parents really think about the past six weeks?

More than half of all parents found the summer break too long, and a 'challenge' to cope with.

So says the national charity, Parentkind. Its recent poll found that more than half of parents feel that the ideal length for the summer break would be four weeks. The remaining two weeks could then be redistributed across the rest of the year.

Parentkind then asked the teachers what they would most like. A majority would support a reduction of the summer holiday, but to five weeks, not four.

A full report will be published this month (September) under the charity's National Parent Survey.

Schools to teach children that being worried is not a mental health condition

More children and young people are in danger of confusing the normal anxieties of life with a genuine mental health condition.

So says the government, and it has issued new guidance to schools to try and correct the trend.

The guidance states that pupils should be taught "that worrying and feeling down are normal, can affect everyone at different times and are not in themselves a sign of a mental-health condition".

Bridget Phillipson, the Education Secretary, believes that too many children are relying on social media to learn about managing their moods and emotions. Instead, she says that they need more balanced guidance from their parents, teachers and trained professionals.

The new government guidance comes in the face of a soaring amount of young people being signed off as too ill to do anything. The number of 16 to 24-year-olds who are not in employment, education or training (Neet) has surged to a near-decade high of a million.

And so it is that schools have now been instructed to make sure that lessons help pupils understand and differentiate between genuine mental health conditions and ordinary feelings.

Dog walkers warned of deadly risk

It has not been a good summer to let your dog go swimming.

The hot and dry weather this spring sparked a rise in toxic blue-green algal blooms which have affected lakes and rivers across the UK. Blue-green algal blooms are triggered when colonies of bacteria use warmth and sunlight to reproduce rapidly. The colourful scum they produce can make people very ill and can kill dogs.

The Dogs Trust says: "We're urging all dog owners to avoid letting their dogs swim in or drink from lakes or rivers that look green, scummy, have surface foam or have warning signs nearby. Blue-green algae is not always easy to spot, so if in doubt, don't let your dogs swim in or drink from the water."

Blue-green algal blooms often persist for several months and do not disperse until cold weather arrives.

The blooms have been found from Norfolk and Essex to Birmingham and the Lake District.

Symptoms of blue-green algae poisoning in dogs can begin within minutes and include vomiting, diarrhoea, drooling, muscle tremors, seizures, breathing difficulties, and collapse.

Affected dogs should be taken to a vet immediately. The condition can be fatal as the toxins attack the liver and neurological system, and there is no antidote. Smaller dogs only need to consume a small quantity to be at high risk of death.

The pet charity Blue Cross warns: "Even small quantities of water or licking contaminated water off the coat can be dangerous."

<u>Learner drivers must wait months for</u> <u>driving test</u>



If someone in your family wants their driving licence this autumn, they may have to wait months before even getting a driving test.

For the average waiting time across all test centres has recently increased to 22 weeks, up from 14 weeks back in February 2024, according to the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA).

The AA Driving School says that: "With the vast majority of driving test centres now showing waits at the maximum the system will allow, the situation cannot get much worse.

"While we would expect [the DVSA's] changes to take a few months to show a positive impact, it is still disappointing to see that learners are continuing to face an uphill battle when it comes to booking their driving test."

**

Which milk is best?

Plant-based milk drinks, including soya milk, oat milk and almond milk, have soared in popularity in recent years. But how do these compare with cow's milk?

A recent report from the nutritional experts who advise the government says that vegan milk is not 'nutritionally equivalent' to cow's milk.

The Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN) and the Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment has also warned that the vegan alternatives to cow's milk often have a higher amount of sugar.

The report suggests that nutritional concerns might be "lessened" if people instead go for the unsweetened soya, oat and almond milk drinks, and if those drinks were to be fortified with vitamin A, riboflavin, vitamin B12, calcium and iodine at similar levels to those found in cow's milk, and also with vitamin D.

-

What time you should stop drinking the night before



If you drink alcohol after 10pm at night, you may still be over the limit by 9am the next morning.

So says IAM RoadSmart, a road safety charity. It has warned that drinking alcohol late into the night can pose a 'serious threat' to your safety as a driver the next morning. And even if you are within the legal limit, still a 'groggy head' means a slower reaction time at the wheel.

Chief Constable Jo Shiner, the National Police Chiefs' Council lead for roads policing, has said: "There is simply no excuse for getting behind the wheel when you are impaired through drink or drugs, and this includes the morning after."

Drinkaware, the drink-driving charity, says that on average, alcohol is removed from the body at a rate of one unit per hour.

How to have a 'more healthy' heart

Gratitude may help you recover more quickly from a heart attack. So says a study by the University of California, who examined gratitude as part of an outlook that involves appreciating the positive aspects of life, and often goes hand in hand with spirituality.

It was found that people who have a life attitude of being grateful are also likely to have a better mood, better sleep, less fatigue, and lower levels of inflammatory biomarkers related to cardiac health. Researchers said they were surprised to find that gratitude accounted for such beneficial effects. As one scientist put it, "It seems that a more grateful heart is indeed a more healthy heart."

How can you express gratitude in an easy-to-remember and daily way? Why not bring back the habit of pausing to say a simple grace of thanks before each meal? And why not take a few minutes to say your prayers before bed each night?

The financial squeeze that September brings



September can be a bad time for financial pressures. This is when the children have just returned to school, universities are opening, and suddenly Christmas spending looms.

Retrospectively, the bills for summer child-care and that holiday (where you spent too much) are coming in, as well as the recent outlay you had to make on school uniforms or settling your offspring into life at Uni. Then, for commuters, there is the increased use of transport, plus rising fuel costs as the cooler weather sets in. So all in all, prepare to have to spend some money this month.

Gardening in September

Late summer progresses into autumn

September is generally a cooler, gustier month than August and the days are noticeably shorter. While there's not as much to do in the ornamental garden at this time of the year, if you have a fruit or vegetable patch, you'll be busy reaping the rewards of harvest. It's also time to get out and start planting spring-flowering bulbs for next year and you can collect seeds for next summer's colour too. Make the most of the remaining warmth while you can!

Growing vegetables in September

Grow your own

Whether fruit, vegetables herbs or spices are your bag, September is the big month for harvesting, so make sure you've got plenty of space in your fridge. Once you've gathered in your harvest, there are plenty of options for what to grow in September – fruit trees most notably - and you can bring some of your herbs indoors to extend their lifespan. Elsewhere there's plenty of maintenance to take care of in your fruit and veg plots once your bounty from last season has been harvested.

Vegetables

If you find yourself wondering what vegetables can be grown in September even after you've collected in what will be one of the largest harvests of the year, then you're best off focusing on leafy greens such as lettuce, spinach and kale.

When you're not busy harvesting your lovingly grown crop, there's still plenty to do in the vegetable patch to keep it productive throughout September and into the colder months. If the hot and dry weather of the summer continues, make sure to keep your vegetable plants well-watered, and consider adding a natural feed to promote healthy growth. This is particularly important for new seedlings, which can quickly wither without a little help.

You can earth up and firm down the soil around your Brussels sprouts to prevent them from getting damaged during windy weather. It's also worth earthing up your leek stems with soil to increase the length of the white stems.

To help encourage air flow and to ripen the remaining fruit, pinch out the tops of your tomato plants. You can remove any new flowers, or any growth which is either below the lowest fruits or is shading any of the fruits. You can also pinch out the growing tips of cucumbers and feed them with a naturally derived tomato feed such as Tomorite.

If you sowed peas in summer, add supports to them – you might even be able to use twigs from all of the pruning you'll be doing this month. Allow a couple of the pods from your French and runner beans to dry out on each plant and place them in a paper bag until the spring when they can be sown again.

Once you've done the above, there's just a little pruning and thinning left to do. Remove horizontal leaves from your celeriac to expose the crowns and help the roots bulk up, and thin your turnips to roughly 8cm (3 inches) apart.

What fruits to plant in September

September is the perfect time to plant new fruit trees and bushes, with the widest selection of varieties available as bare-root plants. Fruit plants are perennials, and will be in your garden for years, possibly even decades, so consider what's best for you and your garden long term:

The size of a mature fruit tree is determined by the rootstock it has been grown on. A reputable grower will advertise which one has been used for a particular plant. It is important to know this as a full-grown tree on 'MM111' rootstock can grow up to six metres (20 feet) high. Apple, apricot, nectarine, peach, pears, plum and quince trees are all grafted onto specific rootstocks.

The amount of fruit produced can be increased by planting a variety which has a nearby fruit tree from the same pollination group. Pollination groups are a widely-used way of categorising fruit plants which flower at the same time. This maximises opportunities for insects to cross-pollinate the flowers, which will then form fruit. Apples, cherries, pears and plums are grouped in this way.

Many fruit trees can also be planted in containers. They will need lots of water during hot spells when they dry out quickly, but they are great as feature plants in ornate planters, or if you want maximum productivity from a small space. If you are watering your plants during a hot spell, consider mixing in some organic liquid plant food for tastier, more abundant produce.

Elsewhere in the garden, strawberries can still be planted in early September but it's best not to leave this any later than the first week. You can use runners from existing plants or buy new ones - either are easy to grow in the ground or in pots.

What herbs and spices to plant in September

As the weather gets colder and windier, there are fewer herbs and spices that can be planted outside, but we can bring a number of them indoors to extend their growing season. Before turning your eye indoors though, there are a few perennial herbs that can be planted into borders or containers:

Rosemary Thyme

The following can be brought indoors and grown somewhere warm and bright such as a conservatory, windowsill or (ideally) a greenhouse, which will provide a suitable environment to keep the herbs in leaf a little longer.

Basil Coriander Peppermint Bay Don't forget to save the seeds from basil, coriander, dill, caraway and fennel. Collect them on a dry day and leave them on a warm windowsill for a week before placing them in an envelope. Label the envelope with the name of the plant and the date that the seeds were harvested.

G M TREVELYAN's - English Social History A SURVEY OF SIX CENTURIES Chaucer to Queen Victoria

Under the Tudor kings the life of England north of the Trent bore a character of its,own. The constant troubles of the Scottish border, the poverty of the whole region except the clothing valleys and the mining districts, the greater strength of old feudal loyalties and pretensions, and the greater popularity of the monasteries and the old religion differentiated it from the rest of England in the reign of Henry VIII, and to a less extent under Elizabeth.

In the early years of Henry, the Border was still ruled by its fighting families, particularly the Percys and Nevilles, of whom the Earls of Northumberland and Westmorland were the heads. Among the armed farmers of these pastoral shires, a fierce spirit of personal independence was combined with lovalty to the hereditary chiefs who led them to war, not only against occasional Scottish invasion and frequent cattle raiding, but sometimes against the Tudor Government itself. The Pilgrimage of Grace (1536) was made in defence of monasteries, and also in defence of the quasi-feudal power of the noble families of the Border against the intruding force of the new monarchy. Henry seized the opportunity of the suppression of that rising to crush feudalism, and to extend the royal power, governing Yorkshire and the Border Counties through Wardens of the Marches dependent on the Crown's commission instead of their own hereditary influence. Much of Henry's work was never undone, particularly in Yorkshire. But Northumberland and Cumberland were seldom really at rest. The policy of Henry VIII and Edward VI was foolishly hostile to Scotland, and the occasional wars and perpetual ill will between the two nations prolonged the disturbed state of the border shires. Under Mary the Roman Catholic influence was revived, and with it the power of the Percy family which Henry VIII had broken.

And so, when Elizabeth came to the throne, the battle between the old and the new religion, between the power of the Crown and the of feudalism was not vet fully decided in the far north. Such was the state of things in the more civilized parts of the Border, the seaward plains of Northumberland on the east, and of Cumberland on the west. Between them lay the Middle Marches, the moors and hills of the Cheviot district, where a yet more lawless and primitive state of society survived in the regions of Redesdale and North Tyne. Those robber valleys, cut off by trackless wastes of grass 'bent', heather, and wet moss-hag from the more civilized lands round about, were inhabited by clans who paid little heed to the King's writ or even to the feudal power of the Percys, Nevilles, and Dacres. Indeed, the only allegiance of the warriors of these wild regions was loyalty towards their own clans. Family feeling served, more than anything else, to protect culprits and defy the law. Stolen property could not be followed up and recovered in the thieving valleys, because each raider was protected by the revengeful jealousy of a warlike tribe. Small families came for protection under the rule of the Charltons who answered for North Tyne. The Halls, Reeds, Hedleys, Fletchers of RCdCSf dale, the Charltons, Dodds, Robsons, and Milbournes of North Tynedale, were the real political units within a society that knew no other organization. The Crown when it raised taxes, secured the tribute through the agency of the clan chiefs. The royal commissioners, reporting in 1542 and 1550 on the state of the Border, estimated that there were 1,500 armed and able-bodied men in these two lawless valleys. The meagre soil could not yield food enough for their families. so, like the Scottish Highlanders, they eked out their living by raids on the cattle of their richer neighbours in the seaward plains to east and west. They were in close league with the robbers of Scottish Liddesdale, where a similar

state of society existed. The Moss-troopers of either nation, when close pressed by the 'fray' of the men they had robbed, could slip over the Border and be safe till the danger had passed. But usually no English officer dared 'follow the fray' even into North Tyne or Rede, still less into Liddesdale. The robber strongholds, built of oak trunks, covered with turf to prevent the application of fire, were hid in unapproachable wildernesses, among treacherous mosses, through which no stranger knew the. Paths. Henry VIII's commissioners did not venture to suggest to their royal master the expense of conquering and occupying North Tyne and Rede, but only a better system of watch and ward against the raiders, and a stronger force of lances in Harbottle and Chipchase Castles on the edge of the lawless region, to bridle the constant invasion of the Lowlands.

Such was the society, much the same on both sides of the Border, which produced the popular poetry of the Border ballads, transmitted by word of mouth from one generation to another. Many of the stanzas took the shape we know in the days of Elizabeth and Mary Queen of Scots. These ballads, almost always tragic, describe such incidents of life and death as were of daily occurrence in those regions. Utterly different from the songs and poetry of Shakespeare's more gentle England, are these rough outpourings of the sombre north. A pair of lovers in south English song or ballad run a fair chance of 'living happily ever afterwards'. But to assume the part of lover in a Border ballad is a desperate undertaking. No father, mother, brother, or rival will have pity before it is too late. Like the Homeric Greeks, the Borderers were cruel and barbarous men, slaving each other like beasts of the forest, but high in pride and honour and rough faithfulness; and they were also (what men no longer are) untaught natural poets, able to express in words of power the inexorable fate of man and woman, and pity for the cruelties they nevertheless constantly inflicted on one another.

In Elizabeth's reign political relations with Scotland were greatly and permanently bettered, because the governments of the two countries had now a common interest in defending the Reformation against its enemies at home and abroad. Border warfare between Scottish and English armies came to an end, and cattle raiding as between the two nations was at least diminished. But the English robbers of Redesdale and North Tyne continued to raid the farms of their more civilized fellow-countrymen. In the middle of Elizabeth's reign, Camden was unable to pay an antiquarian visit to Housesteads on the Roman Wall 'for 'fear' of the Mosstroopers', who occupied that region in force. And the Grahams of Netherby, a clan situated in the Esk near where it flows into Solway, were perpetually harrying the lands of their Cumbrian neighbours. The levy of blackmail and the abduction of men and women from their homes to be held to ransom, were common incidents of life till the end of the Queen's reign.

But although mosstrooping continued, the feudal power of the Percys, Dacres, and Nevilles was wholly destroyed after the suppression of their rebellion in 1570. After that crisis, Northumberland and Cumberland were governed by noblemen loyal to government.







Generosity begets generosity By Michael Beasley, Bishop of Bath and Wells

In August I was privileged to dedicate the restored clock in the tower of Montacute church. It's not just any old clock. In fact, Montacute's is amongst the oldest in the country. Built in the village in around 1400, the clock is so old that it is held in place by iron wedges. At the time of its construction, the nut and the bolt wouldn't be invented for another hundred years!

The Montacute clock is an artefact that seems to generate generosity. In the 1980s the clock was restored by Humphrey Hamlin, for whom it is now named. Humphrey poured time and energy into its mechanism, preventing it from being scrapped. During the last two years, heroic efforts by the people of Montacute have led to its further restoration. All this was marked last month by a whole village gathering. The community choir sang, morris men danced, the local pub provided a hog roast, cake was dispended in huge quantities.

Montacute is a beautiful example of how generosity begets generosity. Like a chain reaction, one act of generosity, the restoration of the clock, led to another, another and another. As a result, a whole community was brought together in celebration and joy.

In his second letter to the Church in Corinth, Paul writes of the church in Macedonia that 'their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity' (2 Cor 8:2). Having nothing, the Macedonians discovered that they could still give. In turn, their generosity enabled Paul to challenge and encourage the church in Corinth to do the same. All to help the struggling Church in Jerusalem.

As I travel around our diocese, I see this pattern of generosity begetting generosity happening in so many places. One person starts, another adds their contribution, more join in and soon we learn that together we are so much more than the sum of our parts. This is the economy of God. It's an economy that all of us are invited to join.





PRIZE WINNERS BY CLASS

- 1 Collection of 1 pot plant, 1 vase of flowers and 1 variety of vegetables, 3 in number
- 1 TRACEY DOOLAN
- 2 Pepper, 1 in number
- 1 GARETH NEEDS
- 3 Runner Beans, 6 pods
- 1 NANCY SMALLDON
- 4 Dwarf Beans, 6 Pods
- 1 No first
- **5** Beetroot, 3 in number
- 1 GARETH NEEDS
- 6 Carrots, 3 in number
- 1 J BAKER
- 7 Onions, 3 in number, not exceeding 3" in diameter
- 1 DAVID GURR
- **8** Onions, 3 in number, exhibition 1 TIM POPE
- 9 Potatoes, white, 3 in number
- 1 ROBERT COOMBS 10 Potatoes, coloured, 3 in number
- 1 GARETH NEEDS
- 11 Squash, any type, 1 in number
- 1 TIM POPE
- **12** Tomatoes (with calyx), 5 in number
- 1 TIM POPE
- **13** Tomatoes (with calyx), cherry type, 5 in number
- 1 JEMMA GURR
- 14 Shallots, dish of 9
- 1 GARETH NEEDS
- **15** Any other vegetable not on schedule
- 1 DAVID GURR
- 16 1 pair of cucumbers
- 1 DAVID GURR
- 17 Longest bean
- 1 GARETH NEEDS
- **18** Heaviest onion, trimmed for exhibition
- 1 DAVID GURR

- **19** Collection of vegetables, 5 kinds (not less than 2 of each) displayed in a standard size seed tray
- 1 DAVID GURR
- **20** Courgettes, 3 in number, maximum 6"
- 1 GARETH NEEDS
- 21 'Wonkiest' Carrot
- 1 J BAKER
- 22 Display of cosmos in vase
- 1 DAVID GURR
- 23 Sweet-peas, 6 stems
- 1 Jane Faber-Perry
- **25** Roses, 5 blooms, individual stems 1 DAVID GURR
- **26** 1 rose (displayed with leaf on stem) in a vase
- 1 ROBERT MORGAN
- 27 Garden flowers, vase to show all round, with own foliage arranged for effect
- 1 GARETH NEEDS
- **28** Pot plant, foliage, maximum pot size 8" diameter
- 1 JASMIN POPE
- 29 Dahlias, cactus, vase of 3 blooms
- 1 Richard Venn
- **30** Dahlias, any other, vase of 3 blooms
- 1 Richard Venn
- **31** Grasses, vase of 3 varieties
- 1 Bishops Hull Hub Gardening Club
- 1. Richard Venn
- 32 3 heads of hydrangeas
- 1 LAURA POPE
- **33** 1 cactus or succulent in pot, maximum pot size 5" diameter
- 1 LAURA POPE
- **34** 1 African violet, maximum pot size 5" diameter
- 1 JENNY HILLIER
- **35** Garden flowers, distinct kinds, 3 vases
- 1 JENNY HILLIER
- 36 Geraniums, a vase of 5 stems

1 MARIAN ASH

37 1 vase of shrubs, (not to include roses)

1 NIALL WATSON

39 1 vase of cut culinary herbs, named (min 3 kinds)

1 DAVID GURR

40 Tallest Sunflower

1 Jan Steer

41 Plate of soft fruit, 1 kind

1 LAURA POPE

42 Plate of any other fruit, not soft fruit

1 NIALL WATSON

43 'A Bee's Paradise' An arrangement using flowers

1 LAURA POPE

44 An arrangement of flowers in an unusual container.

1 SUE FAIRE

45 Table arrangement displayed all round. Not to exceed 12 x 12"

1 JENNY HILLIER

47 A container of floating flower heads,

1 JENNY HILLIER

48 An arrangement of flowers in a cup and saucer

1 TRACEY DOOLAN

49 Jar of jam

1 LAURA POPE

50 Jar of marmalade

1 Richard Venn

51 Jar of jelly

1 JANE GURR

52 Jar of lemon curd

1 Jane Disborough

53 Jar of chutney

1 NANCY SMALLDON

54 5 cheese scones

1 ROBERT COOMBS

55 Quiche

1 LAURA POPE

56 Victoria sandwich cake

1 JEMMA GURR

57 5 lemon biscuits

1 Chris Morgan

58 Savoury loaf of bread with yeast

1 LAURA POPE

59 Lemon drizzle cake

1 PAT BARRETT

60 Dundee cake

1 Helen Heavns-Corrick

61 3 chocolate brownies

1 TRACEY DOOLAN

62 3 bread pudding slices

1 NANCY SMALLDON

63 Gluten free cake

1 PAT BARRETT

64 Vegan cake

1 JILL AMOS

65 1 item using textiles, hand and/or machine sewn.

1 CHRIS MORGAN

66 A hand and/or machine embroidered picture

1 LIN TARRANT

67 A handmade knitted garment

1 DILYS MILLARD

68 A handmade crochet item

1 Jemma Gurr

69 A handmade toy, any medium

1 Ms JANE EVANS

70 A handmade wooden article

1 ROBERT MORGAN

71 A wood turned object.

1 Mr R BOOTHER

73 Any other handicraft not included in this section (no kits

1 JANE GRAY

74 A photograph "Local

Sunrise/Sunset"

1 JEMMA GURR

75 A photograph "Insect Life"

1 JENNY HILLIER

76 A watercolor painting

1 Margaret Peppard

77 A painting, any medium, not watercolour

1 MARGARET PEPPARD

78 Potato print picture 1 Shelby Gurr 79 Decorate a crown 1 JACOB AYRES **80** Face on a plate 1 LARA SMALLDON 82 Decorate 3 biscuits 1 Mr CHARLIE AYRES 83 A painted pebble 1 Mr CHARLIE AYRES **84** Display flowers in a jam jar 1 Esme Cox **85** Make and decorate a sponge cake 1 ROSA PHILLIPS **86** Make a miniature garden in a seed trav. Max 10" x 10" 1 ROSA PHILLIPS 87 Design and display a book cover

Trophy Winners

1 ROSA PHILLIPS

20 Rosette JACOB AYRES

Best exhibit preschool children aged 4 and under 21 Rosette Mr CHARLIE AYRES Best exhibit childrens class aged 5-8yrs 22 Rosette ROSA PHILLIPS Best exhibit childrens class aged 9-12 vears 23 Rosette Not Awarded Best exhibit childrens class aged 13-16 years 1 O J Fry Cup TRACEY DOOLAN Best exhibit in Class 1 2 Stan Parsons Cup NANCY SMALLDON Best runner beans in show 3 Jim Baker Cup J BAKER Best carrots in the show 24 Baker cup J BAKER Wonkiest carrot 4 Mr Gamlin Perpetual Cup and Monkton Elm £10 voucher o DAVID GURR Best exhibit in the vegetable section

15 Avery nurseries £5 voucher **GARETH NEEDS** Best exhibit in class 27 5 May Rowland Perpetual Cup JENNY HILLIER Best exhibit in Class 34, African Violet 16 Avery £5 voucher Jan Steer 1st - Best individual hanging basket in Bishops Hull 17 Avery £3 voucher LAURA POPE 2nd - Best individual hanging basket in Bishops Hull 18 Avery £1 voucher Not Awarded 3rd - Best individual hanging basket in Bishops Hull 6 C Smith Perpetual Cup and £5 DAVID GURR Best exhibit in the Flower Section 7 Fred Yeandle Perpetual Cup and £5 LAURA POPE Best exhibit in the Fruit Section 8 Mr T Nash's Silver Salver 72 **GARETH NEEDS** Exhibitor gaining the most prize cards in the Vegetable, Flower & Fruit Sections 9 Rose Bowl and £5 LAURA POPE Best exhibit in the Floral Art classes 10 George Drew Perpetual Trophy and Rumwell Farm shop £5 voucher CHRIS MORGAN 11 Robins Close Cup 20 CHRIS **MORGAN** Most prize cards in Homecraft section 12 Mrs B Harris Perpetual Cup and £10 Monkton Elm voucher LIN **TARRANT** Best exhibit in the Handicraft section 13 Diana Rose Cup o MARGARET **PEPPARD** Best exhibit in class 76 and 77, A **Painting** 14 Miss Hicks Trophy 72 GARETH **NEEDS**

BOOK REVIEWS

When the Bones Sing



by Ginny Myers Sain

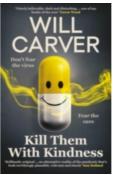
17-year-old
Dovie has the
spine-tingling
ability to hear the
dead. When they
sing to her, she
uses her
supernatural gift to

reunite bodies with their grieving families. Together with her best friend, Lo, who's tortured by the shadowy souls of hikers who've been murdered on the local hiking trails, the two teenagers must unearth the truth behind the deaths before anyone else is killed. But is the monstrous Ozarks Howler to blame? Or is there a darker truth much closer to home? Readers can count on Ginny Myers Sain to deliver a truly atmospheric tale and When the Bones Sing is as evocative as they come. Weaving together supernatural mystery with small town prejudices and a haunting mountain setting, this is a story that twists and turns, building layers of suspense as the secrets of Lucifer's Creek slowly unravel.

***** Kill Them With Kindness

by Will Carver

You'd be forgiven for avoiding contagion novels following the real-life pandemic we all lived through. But you'll want to make an exception with Will Carver's satirical



speculative thriller. When a deadly virus threatens the world, a Japanese scientist working in a Chinese research lab discovers a way to mutate the virus. Instead of making people sick, it will

make them kind by increasing the host's ability to feel and show compassion. But the repercussions of Dr Ikeda's noble deed soon begin to spiral. Dark and disturbing are words that are frequently used to describe Carver's novels and Kill Them With Kindness is no different. It's the author's black humour and thought-provoking observations on human nature and our society that make this high-concept novel take over your brain to the extent that you'll be thinking about it for weeks after.

The Lost Art of Letter Writing:



The spellbinding and cosy novel of love, loss and healing by Menna van Praag Some letters can change your life forever ...

Tucked away in a quiet corner of Cambridge sits a shop filled with charming stationery and exquisite pens. Here Clara Cohen performs her particular type of magic, writing life-changing letters to strangers in need. Clara understands the transformative power of correspondence, so when she uncovers her great-grandmother's wartime love letters, she embarks on a profound journey to Amsterdam in the hopes of healing the tragedies of the past and, in doing so, change her own future.

'Filled with magic, love and the bonds of family ... will whisk readers away to a place where anything is possible' ROMANTIC TIMES

Readers adore Menna van Praag: 'I loved everything about this whimsical book that is so magical' 'I had to keep reading' 'This book captured by imagination and my heart' 'Uplifting and thoughtful, fills you with joy'

The Spy and the Traitor:



the Greatest Espionage Story of the Cold War Ben Macintyre

If anyone could be considered a Russian counterpart to the infamous British doubleagent Kim

Philby, it was Oleg Gordievsky. The son of two KGB agents and the product of the best Soviet institutions, the savvy, sophisticated Gordievsky grew to see his nation's communism as both criminal and philistine.

He took his first posting for Russian intelligence in 1968 and eventually became the Soviet Union's top man in London, but from 1973 on he was secretly working for MI6. For nearly a decade, as the Cold War reached its twilight, Gordievsky helped the West turn the tables on the KGB, exposing Russian spies and helping to foil countless intelligence plots, as the Soviet leadership grew increasingly paranoid at the United States's nuclear first-strike capabilities and brought the world closer to the brink of war. Desperate to keep the circle of trust close, MI6 never revealed Gordievsky's name to its counterparts in the CIA, which in turn grew obsessed with figuring out the identity of Britain's obviously toplevel source. Their obsession ultimately doomed Gordievsky: the CIA officer assigned to identify him was none other than Aldrich Ames. the man who would become infamous for secretly spying for the Soviets.

Unfolding the delicious three-way gamesmanship between America, Britain, and the Soviet Union, and culminating in the gripping cinematic beat-by-beat of Gordievsky's nailbiting escape from Moscow in 1985, Ben Macintyre has crafted an electrifying account of an international hero. Like the greatest novels of John le Carré, The Spy and the Traitor brings readers deep into a world of treachery and betraval, where the lines bleed between the personal and the professional, and one man's hatred of communism had the power to change the future of nations.###

SMILE

Door-to-door

On a sunny Sunday afternoon, two young church members were going door to door to invite people to visit their services. When they knocked on one door, it was immediately clear the woman who answered was not happy to see them. She told them in no uncertain terms that she did not want to hear their message, and closed the door in their faces.

To her surprise, however, the door did not close; in fact, it bounced back open. She tried again, with the same result the door bounced back open.

Convinced these rude young people were sticking their foot in her door, she reared back to give it a slam that would teach them a lesson. Just then, one of them said quietly: "Ma'am, before you do that again, you really need to move your cat."

Wedding

This is a true story: My parents had been invited to a wedding, when I was about four. So beforehand, they went shopping for a wedding present -- a silver teapot, as I recall -- in a very posh shop.

When the assistant asked if he could help them, my father said they needed a wedding present. At this, in a totally shocked child's voice, I demanded "Are you and Mummy getting married, Daddy?"

Wave away

It is a tradition that the Queen and other members of the royal family go to Royal Ascot for the horse racing each year. They drive slowly and people come to wave. A former teacher told me that years ago, she worked at a school

on the Queen's route and told her class of little children that if they came back to where the school was a couple of hours after school had finished with their parents, and looked out for a black car travelling slowly with flowers on it, it would be the Queen, and they could cheer as she went past.

At breaktime, she went into the staffroom, and the teachers in there heard a great cheering and yelling from outside. They went to see what was going on, and they saw all the children near the school railings, loudly cheering and waving while a hearse was going by. The headmistress said, "Well, at least he got a good send-off."

Which old bore?

A tired minister was at home resting, and through the window he saw a woman from his church approaching his door. She was one of those tootalkative people, and he was not anxious to talk with her. He said to his wife, "I'll just duck upstairs and wait until she goes away."

An hour passed, then he tiptoed to the stair landing and listened ... not a sound. He was very pleased, so he started down calling loudly to his wife, "Well, my dear, did you get rid of that old bore at last?"

The next moment he heard the voice of the same woman caller, and she couldn't possibly have missed hearing him. Two steps down, he saw them both staring up at him. It seemed truly a crisis moment.

The quick-thinking minister's wife answered, "Yes, dear, she went away over an hour ago. But such good news - Mrs Jones has come to call in the meantime!"

St James the Least of All

The Revd Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'... If you would like a copy of our published booklet of Uncle Eustace's letters, please email us at: enquiries@parishpump.co.uk

On hymns – ancient and more ancient

From The Rectory St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

So, your church does not bother with hymnbooks but uses one of those hideous screens which are invariably strategically placed to obscure the altar. I suppose I am not bothered, as wherever you placed it in your converted cinema, it could never spoil its architectural aesthetics.

In my fortunately limited experience of such devices, they provide the projectionist with endless opportunities for showing the wrong hymn, or the right hymn but wrong verse, or the right hymn and right verse, but all upside down. In any case, the turnover from one verse to the next always takes place some milliseconds after that verse has started. This means that the congregation, having been silenced for lack of words, is then faced with the challenge of singing two lines at double time.

When we decided to move from Hymns More Ancient to Hymns Slightly Less Ancient some years ago, our Sunday attempts to 'make a joyful noise unto the Lord' threatened to get lost in the noise of battle.

Colonel Wainwright was happy so long as we continued fighting good fights and urging Christian soldiers onwards. Very keen on smiting is the Colonel; under his command, the Midianites wouldn't have stood a chance. The men wanted the hymns they remembered from school, the ladies wanted those they had sung at their weddings, and no one would consider anything that dropped 'thine's or 'wouldst's. Then a vicious rumour started that the new hymnbook might even offer hymns written in the last 50 years. At this, timetables were consulted for bus services to the next village (and church).

Eventually we reached the perfect solution: we did nothing. Instead, Miss Simpson was charged with buying yards of sticky backed plastic and repairing the current books. But there was still a crisis to come: her young (and radical) niece decided to add a note in the front of every copy. It suggested that if the page for the hymn you wanted was missing, then you could share with the person sitting next to you. Of course, no one has done that yet; it would be an experience almost as traumatic as being invited to pass the peace.

And so, we struggle on with our Hymns More Ancient, whenever we can find the words. Harmony reigns once again.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

Regular weekly events

MONDAYS

10.00-11am Nia (Dance fitness) HUB
10.00-12noon Painting Group FBC
1.30-4.00pm Whist Club FBC
2.00-4.00pm Bridge (except 1st Monday) FBC
6.15-7.15pm Zumba HUB
7.30pm Tone Big Band (1st & 3rd Mon) HUB

TUESDAYS

6.15-7.00am Group Fitness Training
HUB
10.30-11.30am Qigong
HUB
1.30-2.30pm Tai Chi
HUB
10.00-4.00pm Board Games
7.00-8.00pm Yoga
HUB

<u>WEDNESDAYS</u> 10.00-11.00am Pilates for Everyone

HUB 10.00- 11.00am Flexercise FBC 11.00-12noon Mum and Baby Pilates HUB

2.00- 4.30pm Short Mat Bowls HUB 6.00- 7.00pm Tae Kwon Do HUB

THURS DAYS

6.15-7.00am Group Fitness Training
HUB
10.00-12noon Baby Badgers
10.00-12noon Bridge Club
2.00-4.00pm Croquet
FBC

FRIDAYS

8.30-1.00 pm Star Bubs HUB 10.00-12n0on Pétanque FBC 10.00-12n0on Frank's Café 4.45-8.15pm Martial Arts HUB

SATURDAYS

6.30-7.15am Group Fitness Training
HUB
9.30-11.30am Hub Gardening Club
HUB
9.00pm Bingo
Con Club

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

YOUR SOMERSET COUNCIL COUNCILLORS

John Hunt (Independent) 07880 794554 john.hunt@somerset.gov.uk Cllr Caroline Ellis 07473 119425 cjellis1968@googlemail.com

Your Member of Parliament Gideon John Amos Lib/Dem

SUPPORT AVAILABLE FOR RESIDENTS

Taunton Citizens advice - 0808 278 7842 Village Agent - 01823 331 222

Mindline, a 24/7 phoneline available to support people of all ages offering a listening and advice service for wellbeing. You can call Mindline on 01823 27689. Information about childcare http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/

Taunton Foodbank

https://taunton.foodbank.org.uk/gethelp/

Free support and advice about: Money, food, home, health and wellbeing, domestic abuse, problems with drugs and alcohol and parenting visit:

www.connectsomerset.org.uk/help4 all

BISHOP'S HULL FACILITIES

BH Parish Council - Helen McGladdery 07518144614 clerk@bishopshullparishcouncil.go v.uk

BH Pre School - 07928 950230 BH Primary School - 331624 Castle School - 274073 Spring Nursery - 793506

Community Room & School Hall Rick Moon 354908

Frank Bond Centre - Nadia 07958 246046

Neighbourhood Beat Team

PSCO Lyndsay Smith & PCSO Marshall Bernhardt Call 101 or 999 in emergency lyndsay.smith@avonandsomerset.pol ice.uk

marshall.bernhardt@avonandsomers et.police.uk

Robin Close Hall - 356389

St Peter & St Paul Parish Church Rev. Phil Hughes 336102

BISHOP'S HULL ORGANISATIONS

BH Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Show - Amanda Gallacher 337720

Bishop's Hull HUB -

booking: bhhubbookings@gmail.com General enquiries and events: bishopshullhub@gmail.com Bishops Hull Hub cafe -

bishopshullhubcafe@gmail.com

BH Short Mat Bowls - Alan Chapman 01823 630641

bhsmbc@yahoo.com

BHVH & Playing Fields Trust -Paul Bulbeck 283941

BH WI — Sue Hazelwood 01823 323986

British Martial Arts and Boxing Association Tae Kwon Do alecmhay@aol.com

Brownies - Sheena Grinter 331184 Community Woodland Volunteer -David 272415

Nia (Dance Fitness) - Jackie 07949735139 FBC Activities - Carolyn 283941

Infinity Martial Academy - Jon 07736 714370

ionakkc@hotmail.co.uk

Pilates - Larissa

lapilates7@gmail.com / larissa@lapilates.com

Somerset Hills Chorus - Brenda Palfrey 07857 244272

Tae Kwon Do - Sebastian Morey-Weale 07900 517767

Tai Chi - Bev Fernandes 07880 555984

Zumba - Felicity 07939 580327

REFUSE / RECYCLING /GARDEN COLLECTIONS

Dates below taken from Somerset Council Website.

Please note new day for recycling and refuse collections.

Recycling: Every Thursday - all areas

BISHOP'S HULL, SHUTEWATER, UPCOTT & BARR

Refuse: Thursday Garden: Monday

<u>RUMWELL</u>

Refuse: Thursday Garden: Wednesday

STONEGALLOWS

Refuse: Thursday Garden: Monday

BH COUNCIL PRIVACY STATEMENT AND POLICY

http://wwwbishopshull.org.uk/ Parish/BHPCprivacyNotice.pdf http://www.bishopshull.org.uk/ parish/BHPCprivacyPolicy.pdf

SERVICES AT ST PETER & ST PAUL SEPTEMBER 2025

Wednesday 3 rd September	Holy Communion	10.00 a.m.		
Sunday 7th September Trinity 12	Holy Communion Holy Communion		Philemon 1-21 (1200); Luke 14:25-33 (1048)	Sue Martin
Wednesday 10 th September	Holy Communion	10.00 a.m.		
Sunday 14 th September Trinity 13	Holy Communion Holy Communion	8:00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	I Timothy 1:12-17 (1191); Luke 15:1-10 (1048)	Bob Coombs
Wednesday 17 th September	Holy Communion	10.00 a.m.		
Sunday 21 st September Trinity 14	Holy Communion Holy Communion	8:00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	I Timothy 2:1-7 (1191); Luke 16:1-13 (1049)	Will Osmond
Wednesday 24 th September	Holy Communion	10.00 a.m.		
Sunday 28 th September Trinity 15	Holy Communion Holy Communion Harvest Celebrations	8:00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	I Timothy 6:6-19 (1194); Luke 16:19-31 (1050)	Tim Venn

GRASS CUTTING



CHURCH DIRECTORY (01823)

Church web site: www.stpeterandstpaul.org.uk

Vicar: Rev. Philip Hughes

336102

(Usual day off - Friday)

phil2overflowing@gmail.com

John Perry

Tim Venn



Rev Philip Hughes

Treasurer

Electoral Roll Officer

Church Wardens:

Safeguarding Officer: Beverley Keitch

Other PCC Members - Rachel Horder. Mark Dakin

Sue Martin Hilary Harper . Lillian Priest

St Peter and St Paul's PCC 2025-2026

- 1. Rev Phil Hughes (Vicar)
- 2. Tim Venn (Church Warden)
- 3. John Perry (Church Warden)
- 4. Rachel Horder
- Beverley Keitch(Parish Safeguarding Officer),
- 6. Mark Dakin
- Sue Martin
- 8. Hilary Harper
- Lillian Priest
- And you? The PCC is a great team to belong to and is there to assist the Vicar in the Mission and function of the church. If you think God may be calling you to serve in this way there are lots of opportunities, so do have a chat with one of the fab team!

