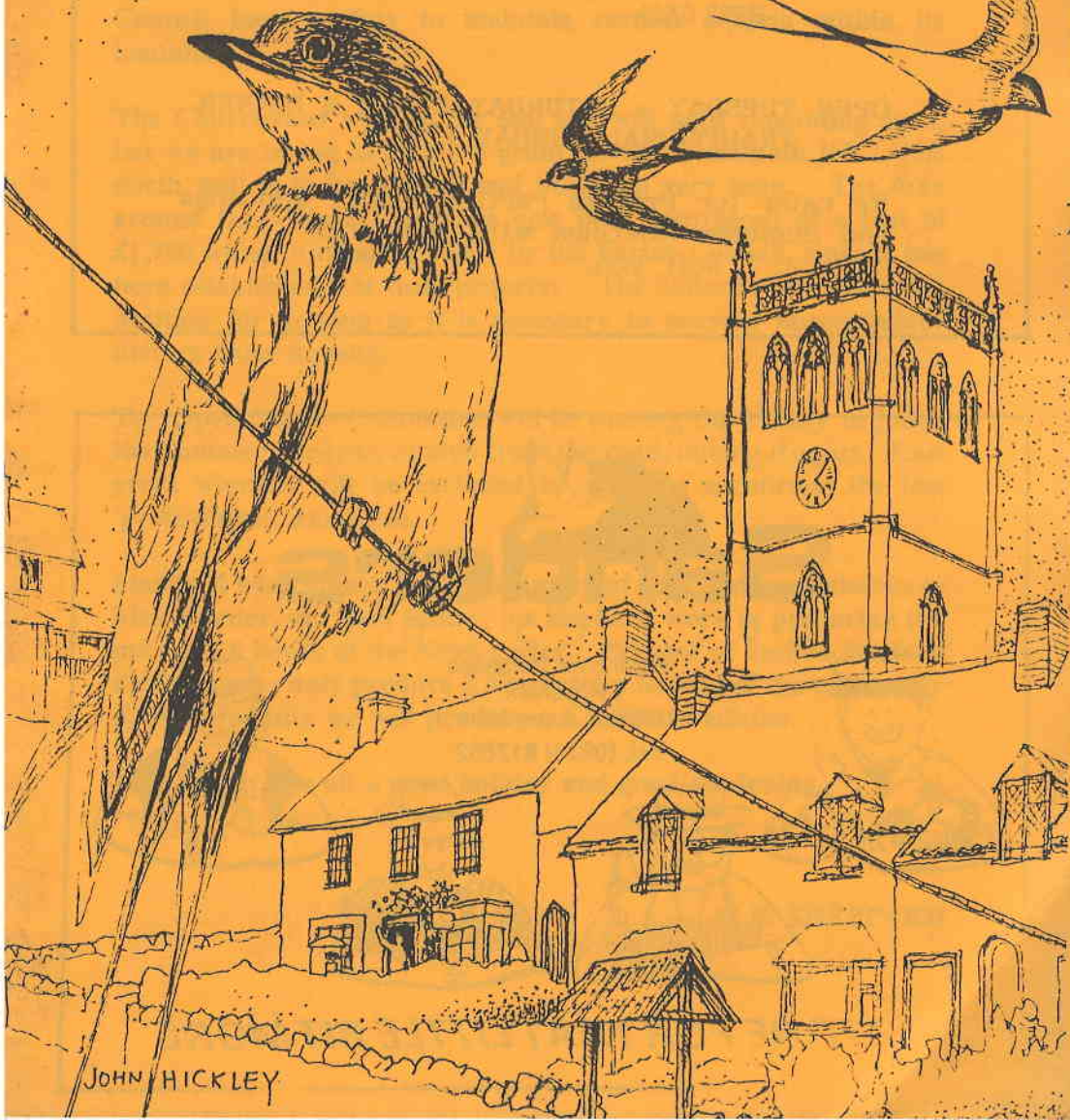


BLEADON VILLAGE NEWS

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JOHN HICKLEY

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STORE FOR THAT LITTLE BIT MORE

Dear Parishioner,

I am delighted that the seventh issue of Bleadon Newsletter has, at last, found a new Editor. He is your Village Postmaster and I am very grateful that he has volunteered.

There appears to be some discord regarding Parish Council expenditure, but I must make it quite clear that the Parish Council have a duty to maintain certain criteria within its boundary.

The Churchyard wall on the east end will need repointing soon, but we are trying to obtain a grant for this mammoth job. The north wall is to be cleaned and tidied up very soon. The area around the Village Cross has now been resurfaced at a cost of £1,700 which was borne solely by the Parish Council, since it has been established it is their property. The bollards will remain in position for as long as it is necessary to prevent unscrupulous drivers from turning.

The Open Spaces Committee will be touring the Village to judge the Summer gardens, as seen from the road, during August. Last years winners will be excluded in order to encourage the less 'professional' amateurs.

Finally, I wish to take this opportunity of paying sincere thanks to Mrs. Corder, our past Editor, for her hard work in preparing the previous 6 issues of the News Letter. Because of limited funds of £350, we may only produce 2 Newsletters instead of the customary 4, but hopefully we will produce a Christmas edition.

May I wish you all a good holiday and good gardening.

M.E. SHEPPARD

PLANNING

- 0609/90 Sunnymead: 3 dwellings refused.
0574/90 Dwelling to rear of Mulberry Villa: refused.
0774/90 Greenways, Purn Way: Annexe to form independent dwelling, refused.
1000/90 The Mount amended plans for change of use to nursing home & extension of 22 rooms (original app. no. 2367/89), refused.
1075/90 Victoria Cottage: extend lobby, approved.
1171/90 5 Pine Lea: Garage & store to replace existing.
1322/90 House & Garage to 'Outlook', Roman Road.
1307/90 Haywood Golf Course, Roman Rd (original plans app), Siting of Club House & access.
0266/90 Truby Tor, Roman Rd, Renewal of Permission.
1418/90 3 Chestnut Lane, extend kitchen.

Building Regulations:

- 0723/90 8 Whitegate Close, garage.

The Parish Council was extremely upset to discover that the former station in Toll Road, Bleadon, has been demolished in favour of a natural garden. It is not two years since we drew the Planners attention to this Victorian building and our wishes to preserve it. The building was of historical interest (as photographs in Woodspring Museum Show), & was regarded by the local community as part of its heritage and deserved to be classified as a listed building. Alas, it is no more, so yet another part of Bleadon's past has been destroyed. The Parish Council endeavours to preserve the village, but it is powerless to prevent destruction of this kind.

Woodspring District Council is NOT obliged to notify adjacent properties of a planning application. However, Woodspring does provide this service, thus allowing an opportunity to object directly to the appropriate authority. The Parish Council, whilst finding a copy of these objections useful, is unable to respond to an application on behalf of an individual. Amended plans, unless they are of major significance, (and these are generally issued with a fresh application number) are not brought to the attention of objectors. It is, therefore, advisable for an interested party to follow plans through at the Planning Dept until the South Area Planning Committee reach a decision. An amended plan requires another letter of objection, for obviously details will be changed. Individual letters of objection carry more weight than a collective letter or petition.

Although the Parish Council is always happy to advise on planning matters, Woodspring District Council issue an excellent booklet which sets out, in detail, whether or not planning permission is required.

PLANNING (cont)

If still in doubt, ask the Planners. Building Regulations may apply, even if planning permission is not necessary. We appreciate the deep interest of residents on all matters related to Planning and for drawing our attention to developments which require closer scrutiny. Current plans are usually available for inspection at Parish Council meetings.

M. CORDER

CLOSE BY

A tiny part of Bleadon's history began in 1971 in the stables of Whitegate Farm when a foal was born. It was so weak, it was unable to stand unaided.

As a four year old, however, the picture changed dramatically when he triumphed as Champion Hack at the Devon County Show.

Reaching the zenith of his career in the arena in 1976 at the Royal International Horse Show, Wembley, he won the most coveted title - Champion Hack of the Year - a title he retained for four consecutive years.

His impeccable Rotten Row manners were only ever beaten on two occasions when he was ridden side-saddle.

Other victories and achievements, which are too numerous to mention here, form an impressive record, but this hack's meteoric rise to fame was followed with great interest and pride by the people of Bleadon.

Those who watched him latterly resting on his well-earned laurels, were saddened when he died recently in his eighteenth year.

Of course, he will never be forgotten for his name lives on - Close By! Did I forget to mention it? He was so famous, I assumed everyone would know I was referring to Tenterk.

M. CORDER

BLEADON - a Green village?

Being 'green' is rapidly becoming very trendy and many retail firms are using the green issue in a quite unscrupulous manner to promote goods which are of suspect benefit to the environment.

Nevertheless, it is possible for ordinary folk to have a real effect on the environmental health of the world. Perhaps the best example is the way in which consumer pressure persuaded aerosol manufacturers to stop using atmosphere-damaging CFC propellant. What then can the people of Bleadon do which is of real benefit?

The most important is to use less energy. Turn the thermostat on the hot water down a couple of degrees. Turn down the central heating. You won't notice the difference between 17°C and 20°C, but you will notice the difference in your energy bills. Investing in woollen pullovers is money well spent!

Try doing the washing up only once a day; it is a tedious task anyway and you will use less hot water and less washing up liquid. When we eventually have our water metered, the benefits will be seen. Install and use a shower; very much cheaper than filling a bath! Use a bicycle or walk instead of always using the car. Surprisingly, the Badgerline bus service is quite efficient, reliable and cheap.

Many of the items in our dustbins are valuable materials. All tins can be recycled but the most valuable are the aluminium ones. Glass and paper are easily recycled. We already have an excellent paper collection service and it is high time that our Parish Council persuaded their colleagues at Woodspring to provide us with a bottle bank, and a can bank. Woodspring could, with a little effort, turn recycling into a profitable business and reduce our poll tax! All those vegetable peelings, tea leaves, tea bags, coffee grounds etc. can be turned into excellent garden compost at no cost at all. Also your dustbin will smell less and the costs of rubbish collection will be reduced.

In the garden, there are several things you can do. During my nine years in Bleadon, I have witnessed a reduction in the population of butterflies and bees, vital pollinators, and also in the number of finches and blue tits, the latter being valuable in gardens as they consume huge numbers of greenfly. To help rectify these declines, you should avoid the use of fertilizer, using instead your own garden compost and, in addition, horse manure (usually very cheap). Avoid using peat, as the companies who extract it are causing the most awful destruction of wetland habitats. Never use aerosol insecticides, for the long term effects of all insecticides, except the natural ones, are dreadful for such birds as the blue tits, coal tits, bearded tits, treecreepers and the predator of such insectivorous birds - the sparrow hawk. Marigolds are reputed to put off aphid infestation, and the natural insecticides are available from reputable dealers. Slug pellets cause appalling damage to the birds and mammals which rely on slugs and snails for their diet. If you can encourage a wild corner, and encourage natural wildlife to come into your garden, then you are unlikely to have any overwhelming infestations of pests.

There are many ways in which we can have a small, but important, impact. In order to pool the collective resolve of individuals, I recommend that you join a conservation group. Examples would be the Somerset Trust for Nature Conservation, the Avon Trust for Nature Conservation, The National Trust, Friends of the Earth, The World Wildlife Fund, and Greenpeace. I would be very happy to discuss with parishioners any issue that I have raised.

ANDY BALLARD

BLEADON SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

The short mat bowling club was inaugurated during October last year. The club normally meets each Friday evening in the Coronation Hall during the playing season, which runs from September to May inclusive. There are a few Friday evenings when the hall is committed to other long-standing obligations. On such occasions the meetings are arranged for either a Tuesday or Thursday, with adequate advance warning to club members.

Our first season was very successful, most of the members having no experience of the game. There were two successful competitive meetings with the Kewstoke Club. We hope to meet many other clubs in our area during the next season.

Apart from our bowling evenings, the club members also have occasional social events. These included a Christmas supper, an evening visit, with supper, to Taunton Cider Co., a car treasure hunt and, this August, we plan to hold an American supper.

Early this year we were fortunate in being able to acquire a second bowling mat, several sets of bowls and other accessories. This will enable us to accept additional members this September. Why not come and visit us on any Friday from the 14th September onward? We are a very friendly club, with a wide age range and only too pleased to help those with no previous experience. If you like what you see, you can join the club on the spot.

For existing members, our first meeting is on 7th September, beginning at 7.30pm. We shall start with our AGM at which the accounts for our first year will be published and a new committee elected for the coming year. We welcome nominations for the committee and will, particularly, be in need of a new secretary. Nominations please to Stonehaven, Shiplate Rd, or tel. 812136.

JOHN WARD, CHAIRMAN.

CORONATION HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

'Write something', Les Masters said, so here I am doing my bit for the Village News.

Before I really start, I wish to thank all those villagers who voted for me at the recent by-election. Indeed, I thank everyone who turned out on the 24th May, no matter how they voted.

At my first Council Meeting, I was delighted, and proud, to be elected on to the Coronation Hall Management Committee alongside George Wall, the other Council representative.

The twenty-one members of the Committee, representing all organisations in the Village, are led by Mr. Len Chamberlain, Chairman, and by Mr. Peter Lindsay, Vice-Chairman. The Secretary, Mrs. Sandy Kelly, retired in July after two years' hard work. A big vote of thanks is due to her and, happily, she remains on the Committee as an active member of the Bleadon Players. Mr. Ron Goodman has assumed the duties of Secretary, a welcome return to active Village life. Ron's experience and expertise will be invaluable to us all.

The Hall Management Committee is responsible for all aspects involved in the day-to-day running of a Village Hall. They include decoration, maintenance, insurance, safety and, of course, financial viability. These difficult, and sometimes unappreciated, tasks are dealt with enthusiastically and competently by the Committee.

The Hall may be hired at very reasonable rates, so if you have a party or function in the future, please contact the Booking Officer, Mrs. Joanna Jones (812370). I am sure she will be very happy to assist you.

One of the responsibilities of the Hall Management Committee is to raise funds towards the upkeep of the building. The following events are planned for the next few months:

September 29th

December 1st

December 21st

Jumble Sale

Christmas Coffee Morning

Christmas dance

Please come to these events and support your Village Hall. All profits will be used for Hall improvements which will benefit us all. Do not hesitate to contact me at any time with your comments and suggestions and remember the Coronation Hall is here for your enjoyment.

BRENIG EVANS

WONDERSTONE QUARRY

The quarry is situated at the far end of Shiplate Road, between Tor View and Wonderstone Cottage. Ownership of the quarry has been vested in the Parish Council since 1840. The Council is in dispute with the owner of Wonderstone Cottage over a section of the quarry which he has fenced in and a summons is to be issued. If the case goes to court, the Council's legal costs will be several thousand pounds but the bulk of this is recoverable if the case is won. The Council's solicitor is Mr. Wilson of Fryer Collett and Mr. Richard Hickmet has been retained as counsel.

LES MASTERS

LIGHTEN OUR DARKNESS?

Being middle-aged, male and physically fit, and not having a traffic hazard outside my house, I do not personally feel any need for street lights. A councillor's job, however, is not to push for his own needs and preferences but to consider those of the residents he represents. What of the old people, the women and children, the people who travel by bus and the danger spots on our roads?

It seems to me wholly reasonable that people should resent getting out of a lighted bus into pitch darkness all winter, and if Avon and Woodspring cannot provide the residents of The Veale with decent surfaces to walk on, the Parish could, at least, help them see their way. I personally would not benefit, any more than I benefit from the children's recreation area, but I am quite willing to pay my share - about £1 this year. After all, we are supposed to be a community. So, if a significant number of people want lights in certain parts of the village, and there are clear benefits in providing them, it is the duty of the Parish Council to cater for this section of the community just as much as it caters for the church-goers and the users of the Coronation Hall.

Earlier this year, the Council decided that the money precepted for the Britain in Bloom competition would be better spent on street lights, so several hundred pounds are now available for this purpose. Avon County Council have made it clear that there are two categories of lighting:

1. **Highway Standard:** A minimum of 3 lights at intervals of no more than 50 yards and at least 13' above ground. If the Parish Council installed these, Avon County Council would maintain them and pay for the electricity. Such a group would be feasible at, say, The Veale, or the junction of Celtic Way and Shiplate Road.

2. **Footway Standard: Lights, for example, in School Lane and the churchyard, or a light at the bus shelter. The Parish Council would have to bear the whole cost of such lights.**

The cost of erecting new lamp-posts would be prohibitive but lamps fixed to brackets on existing SWEB poles are within our means. The style of lamp is wholly within the Parish Council's choice, from a wide range of models appropriate to a village.

The public meeting on the subject at the end of July was well attended and the usual diverse opinions were expressed. Some people want no lights at all in the village, a few favour lights throughout, but my impression is that many feel that the village ought to have a certain amount of lighting, sensibly placed. I would stress that some of the people who feel this were born and bred in Bleadon - this is not a question of natives versus incomers. There was also a clear majority at the meeting in favour of a referendum on the subject.

Next month, the Parish Council will take the question further. In the meantime, residents' views, written or spoken, are welcome.

LES MASTERS

VILLAGE TUBS

The Parish Council owns over 20 tubs that are strategically located throughout the village. This year, we did not carry out our usual planting in Spring but a sincere 'thank-you' to those residents who took it on themselves to plant and water tubs close to their houses.

We intend to carry out both a late summer and spring planting, starting in September, and would ask that those residents who have tubs in close vicinity to their houses water them on our behalf.

If there is a tub near you and you are unable to tend it for us then please be kind enough to let us know as we have a number of residents who have asked us to site a tub near them. The tubs will bring a rich bonus of colour to the village all year round so please give us your support in watering and tending the tub nearest you.

RICHARD STRODE

BLEADON FRIENDSHIP CLUB

"Friendship Club" an apt name for our very happy Group who meet in the Coronation Hall on Friday afternoons at 2.15 p.m. Our Autumn session commences on September the 14th after the holiday in the Isle of Wight.

Looking back over the past months we have enjoyed varied entertainment including musical afternoons, interesting talks ranging from Bee Keeping to Bell Ringing and several very pleasant Coach Outings.

We welcome new members or visitors and we look forward to meeting all our old friends again in September.

E.M.T.

WOMENS' INSTITUTE - URGENT APPEAL

There has been a W.I. in Bleadon for the last 52 years. Sadly, unless someone is willing to accept the office of President it will have to close. Mrs. Barbara Hillier has held office for the past three years and stands down in November. She has expressed her willingness to remain on committee to support a new President. The September meeting is the date by which a volunteer is needed as the programme for next year has to be arranged and booked.

The meeting on Tuesday the 11th of September will be an open meeting with a Tea Party to celebrate 75 years of W.I. nationally. There will be a Bring and Buy Stall, the proceeds of which will be donated to Childrens' Charities. The Speaker will be Mr. Bernard Williams, who will talk about his interest in "Old Maps".

M.W.C.

ST PETER AND ST PAUL'S WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The new session of meetings will start with a Service in Church on Tuesday the 25th of September at 2.15 p.m. This will be conducted by our Rector. There will be the customary cup of tea in the Church Room afterwards.

We look forward to renewing existing fellowship and would be delighted to welcome new members to our monthly meetings.

M.W.C.

BLEADON YOUTH CLUB

RECYCLING PROJECT

We have been collecting newspapers and cardboard now for two years, and we thank you if you have supported us in our collections during that period. (By the way we can once again take your magazines and periodicals as well).

We need all your support in our recycling project. However small and remote it may seem - we are assured every skip full "saves some tree felling". Please help by saving your newspapers, cardboard and magazines leaving them outside your gate on the last Saturday of every month, or by dumping them in the skip at the Youth Club.

We are also collecting soft drink and beer cans, receptacle by east end of club next to skip and hope shortly to be able to provide a bottle bank as well.

If you have any queries or need to contact the Youth Club regarding the recycling project please ring the Club on 812603 or Colin Sandford on 812505 or Tony Morgan on 813779.

SPONSORSHIP FOR 1/2 MARATHON

Mrs. Cynthia Richards and Mrs. Kath Roberts who run the Playgroup have entered the Burnham on Sea 1/2 Marathon and are looking for sponsors - sponsor forms are with all members of the Management Committee and it is hoped that Les Masters will kindly put one up in the Post Office. Fund raising for the Youth Club Building has to be covered these days because we have lost our grant due to the Bleadon Parish Council dragging their feet over renewal of the Lease for the ground on which the Club stands. Please help with your support.

New members welcome for :

Play Group (Cynthia 812704 or Kath 812607) Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings 9.30 - 12.30

Enquiries for :

Junior Club 9 - 12's (Colin 812505)

Senior Club Tuesday and Thursday 7.45 - 10.45 (Colin 812505)

Table Tennis teams - match and/or practice nights Monday and Wednesday 7.30 - 10.30 p.m. (Ann 812505)

Gordon C. Howe
Chairman to Management Committee

BLEADON YOUTH CLUB PLAY GROUP

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays 9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.
(Aged 3 to school)

Term starts Thursday the 6th September.
Enquiries to Mrs.C.Richardson Tel. 812704

BLEADON CHILD HEALTH CLINIC

Bleadon Coronation Hall
Fourth Tuesday in every month 2.15 - 4 p.m.
Health Visitor, Toys, Cups of Tea, Vitamins, Milk.
25th September, 23rd October, 27th November 18th December

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