

BLEADON



Village News

NUMBER TWENTY-FIVE

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BLEADON VILLAGE NEWS

No: 25

April '95

KNOW YOUR VILLAGE

Welcome to the 25th edition of the Village News. Our cover artist, John Hickley, felt that the occasion needed to be specially marked and to that end has devised and executed a competition. On the front cover and throughout the magazine are John's drawings of twenty-five buildings in the village. Readers will not be surprised to learn that the competition consists of identifying the buildings, so we expect to see hordes of residents tramping the streets pen in hand. Entries need to be at the Post Office no later than Sunday 7th May, so that the winning correct entry can be drawn at the VE Anniversary Dance on Monday 8th. We are most grateful to John for both the idea and the work.

CORONATION HALL

We pay tribute in this report to our colleague Mr Bob Woollan, whose recent passing away will leave a big gap in our enthusiastic committee. We hope that his wife Doreen, (another hard-working committee member) will soon feel able to rejoin us.

Since the last report the committee has been faced with two major expenditures. The hot water heating unit burned out and needed replacing at a cost of £650, followed quickly by an adverse report on the condition of the space heaters within the main hall. As public safety was involved, the committee has implemented the replacement of the two oldest heaters and repair of the third at a cost of £1000. Our reserve fund is now somewhat depleted!

The proposed Hall Extension/Guides and Scout Unit project suffered a blow following Woodspring being unable to provide any grant aid whatsoever. The Avon Community Council have been urgently pursued, and we are hopeful of a more favourable consideration. We wait with fingers crossed. (Maybe someone in the village will even win the lottery - your anonymity will be protected, and you could be chairman for ever!!)

Mr Bob Woollan served as one of the two "Village Representatives" elected annually at the hall's AGM, which is to be held in the hall on Thursday 20th April at 7.30p.m. All members of the public are welcome to attend.

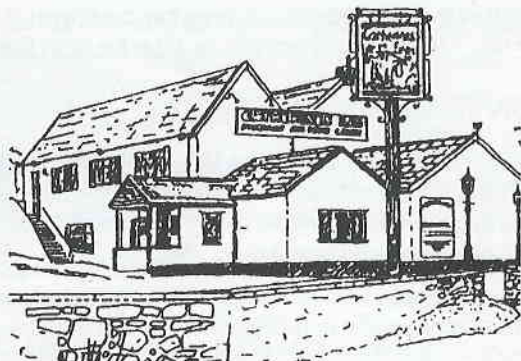
Finally, there will be a Spring Fair and Coffee Morning in aid of hall funds on Saturday 20th May, 10.30a.m. - 12 noon. We hope you will continue to support our efforts to maintain and improve this amenity so central to the village's social life.



Peter Lindsay

CATHERINES INN

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BRING BACK IMPERIAL MEMORIES

(Not Suitable for Younger Readers)

Silver is associated with 25th celebrations, so it seems appropriate to offer a competition involving knowledge of our pre-decimal coinage (including the slang terms for some of the values). To solve the puzzle, you must first find the word that matches the clue, then translate it into figures (£.s.d.) The figures must total the amount given at the foot of the last column.

A prize will be given to the first correct solution drawn out of the hat at the VE Anniversary Dance on 8th May. Solutions, on plain paper and including both words and figures, can be accepted at the Post Office up to 7th May.

George Barwick (Celtic Way) offered us this puzzle, so blame him for anything you find infuriating. Personally, I like it.

L.M.

CLUE	ANSWER	£ - s - d
OLD BICYCLE		
DISTANT OBJECT		
HAIR DO		
SOUNDS FOREIGN		
LADIES' UNDERWEAR		
A STONE		
HEADGEAR		
MONKEY JOINT		
SMALL PIG		
MALE VOICE		
	TOTAL	£26 - 9 - 2



IT'S ELECTION YEAR

Before the next issue of the Village News we shall have a new Parish Council and a new District Councillor; elections being due on May 4th. Two parish councillors, John Rhodes and John Ward are not standing again, and district councillor Alan Kerr is also settling for a single term. We wish them well - more details next time.

L.M.

WHIST DRIVES

We still enjoy our meetings on Wednesday afternoon in the Church Room from 2 - 4 p.m., and have been grateful for the extra heat allowed on some of the very cold days.

We played our 103rd. game on March 8th, and to date have given approximately £1,590.12 to the Building Fund for the Scout and Guide H.Q. As you can imagine, we are aiming for £2,000.



NEW BUILDING NEWS

As you may have heard Woodspring turned down our application for a Grant, (no money to spare!) BUT, we are very hopeful for help from Avon Community Council. More news of this later.

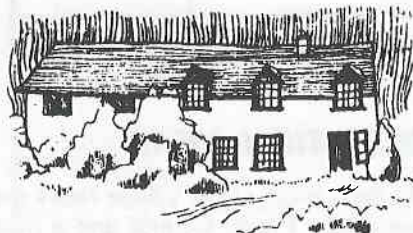
Barbara Snelgrove

ST PETER AND ST PAUL WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Since last publication there has been above average attendance at our meetings. Thank you all for supporting us so well. Our Spring Coffee morning on 2nd March was very successful. Thank you so much to all for attending and everyone who helped to make it such a success. Also the Women's World Day of Prayer was held in East Brent this year on 3rd March. The country this year being represented was Ghana and very enlightening it was too. It was a very cold, crisp and sunny day- the coffee was both welcome and warming towards the end of the service.

If you would like to join the Fellowship - our meetings are on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Church Room at 2-30pm - please come along and you will be assured of a friendly welcome.

MJB



BLEADON LADIES' CLUB

Bleadon Ladies' Club has a full and varied programme for the year and the popularity is reflected by the growing number of members. Even when plans sometimes go awry members find an answer. Broadoak School Orchestra had to cry off from the January

meeting because of illnesses, but Mrs Pat Brent came to the rescue with entertaining anecdotes from her various holidays.

The February meeting highlight was a talk on Aromatherapy by a Weston Body Shop representative and a display by the Gentle Exercise Group of Bleadon led by Mrs Pat Daine. Spring flower arranging is always a popular and topical subject and is scheduled for the March meeting with a demonstration by Jo Jacobs.

Jean Kirtland

SPEED LIMITS

People often say that you can't halt progress and that you can't slow the world down. I am not so sure.

One area of life where there is fresh thinking on the notions of speed and progress is in the field of traffic management. Calming traffic and slowing down road vehicles is now very much

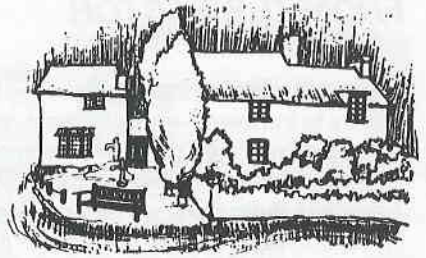
a part of the agenda of what communities are doing to improve road safety. There is today a much clearer acceptance of the dangers of fast moving traffic in built-up and residential areas and a recognition that there is a correlation between the speed of vehicles and the incidence of fatal or serious road accidents.

Throughout the district of Woodspring traffic calming measures and speed restrictions are being considered and it is time to pursue these issues once again in Bleadon and get something in place. Two separate aspects need to be looked at. First, there is the actual village itself, and second there is the problem of the main A370 which runs through the parish.

The village should have a 30mph speed limit like any other residential area. It has always been a nonsense that coming over Bleadon Hill and into Celtic Way you leave the 30mph limit just as you approach the village. Clearly, there is no reason why the residential parts of Bleadon should not be made more safe by having a speed restriction and there is probably now a good case for considering 25mph, or even 20mph, as appropriate limits on some of our roads.

The A370 needs restricting for rather different reasons. There are too many well used access points and exits on the stretch of road between The Anchor and Sanders. The road junctions at The Anchor are notoriously dangerous and the Bridge Road junction can be particularly alarming while you are waiting in the right-hand lane to turn if traffic is racing up behind you and in front of you. There are also three garages, two public houses, a restaurant and a supermarket along this stretch of road and the development at Bleadon Mill has added further traffic movements.

The time has come in this village to address the issue of road safety and traffic management and insist on speed limits. We must also, of course, as responsible citizens, drive carefully ourselves in Bleadon and everywhere else. We must respect the speed restrictions of other towns and villages, leave ourselves more time for Journeys and be patient. All this is easier said than done but, as the slogan says, we should kill our speed, not kill people.



Alan Kerr
Woodspring District Councillor

FROM THE RECTOR

Church Restoration

During March, contractors visited the Church in order to prepare their estimates for the repairs to the tower - inside and out- and the stained glass windows. This includes the repair and regilding of the weathercock. Initial comments indicate that the total cost might be well in excess of the £32,000 estimated by English Heritage. Church Treasurer, Peter Hore, will be very pleased to receive any donations residents may wish to make towards the cost of the restoration of our beautiful, historic Church. In particular, he would welcome covenanted gifts so that tax may be reclaimed. Please contact him in Church, at home or c/o The Rectory.



Music.

Our Church Choir is taking an increasingly important part in our worship and now sings Anthems on a regular basis. Under the leadership of organist David Lowton, an augmented choir will sing at a special Passiontide Service at 6.30pm on Palm Sunday, 9th April. New members - girls, boys, women, men - will be made most welcome. -benefits include companionship, active involvement in worship and, particularly for the children, some free musical tuition. Contact Mr Lowton on 413034 or have a word with me.

Worship

The full programme of worship during Holy Week and Easter will be set out in the Church's April Magazine and summarised on a poster outside the Church.

David Parkinson The Rectory, Coronation Road. Tel: 812297

Friends of the Church of St Peter & St Paul

Programmes will soon be on sale for:-

BLEADON'S 10th ANNUAL MAY FAYRE BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY - 29th MAY

(Spring Bank Holiday)

**GAMES - DISPLAYS - STALLS - FLOWER FESTIVAL
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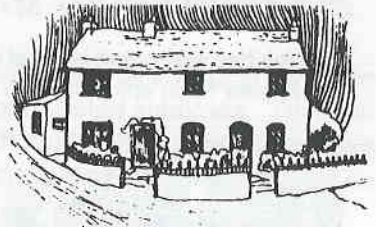
Can you help with Planning and on the day?

Phone Friends of the Church on 814642 or 812297



1ST BLEADON BROWNIES

The World Association of Girl Guides is organising the 'Peace Packs for Refugee Children' project. For the past three months the Brownies have been collecting items such as pencils, exercise books, soap and a T Shirt for these packs. Each pack has 23 items and we hope to have eight packs that will be collected in the Body Shop, and sent to countries such as Guinea and the Ivory Coast.



To commemorate Thinking Day this year the Brownies have been learning all about life as a Refugee. The Brownies wrote some lovely prayers and poems and these were presented at the Family Service in March. At the moment all the Brownies are taking their First Aid Badge. They can clean a wound, deal with a nose bleed and put an arm into a sling. Everyone has tried mouth to mouth resuscitation on Resuscitative Annie and Mrs Morris from the Red Cross is confident all will pass their test on 17th March. Three Brownies, Nikki, Katie and Michelle, are in the Gang Show at the Playhouse in April. They have given up a lot of their time to practise for this and are involved in singing excerpts from Oliver and the Lion King, and many traditional favourites.

The Guide and Scout Hut Fundraising Committee are organising a Family Disco on 6th May at the Coronation Hall. Tickets are £5 family, £2 individual. Tickets will be available from Karen Wheeler 632514 and Betty Paterson 812183.

1st Bleadon (St Peter & St Paul) Cub Scouts

I will start with some very good news this month. Our Scout troop will be starting again on Friday the 12th May. Our new leader is Lesley Hunt, who has a number of years scouting experience behind her. She will be ably assisted by Huw Boyce, a well known name in the village, and between them they will make a great team. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to call Lesley. Four of our Cub pack have left during December, Stuart, Tim, John and Ben. They are all Scout age now, and will hopefully return to the Group when it reconvenes in May. In February we had a very kind monetary donation from Bleadon Hill Football club which was presented to us by Eric Wilkinson. The money will be held until the better weather when we can buy some sports equipment and actually get outside to use it. We have had one new Cub since December, Andrew Hicks who was invested in February and is enjoying his scouting very much. The boys decided they would like to do something for RED NOSE day last week and thought car window washing might be a good idea, so we split into two groups and off we went to town. In half an hour they had collected £16.04. WELL DONE LADS!! We are holding a jumble sale on Saturday 29th April. If anyone has any jumble could they please bring it to the Cub hut any Thursday between 6.30 and 8pm or on the day of the sale between 10.30am and 1pm. Thank you.

CUBS:

Betty Paterson tel: 812183

SCOUTS:

Lesley Hunt tel: 628761

Steve Rhodes tel: 813497

BLEADON SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

The club has welcomed several new members this playing year. We are pleased that they appear to be enjoying both their bowling and our friendly social atmosphere.



On Friday 6th January some 40 or so of our members and visitors enjoyed our annual bowling and supper night in the Coronation Hall. Only the washing up presented a problem as the supply of hot water became erratic. Happily this problem should not reappear as the hall can boast of a brand new water heater.

We are now halfway through our season with only one game to play within the Woodspring League. We shall not, unfortunately, win it this year but still expect to finish near the top.

Our in-club competitions are almost completed and our new season's champions should soon be known. Our competitions comprise singles and doubles for both men and ladies plus a mixed doubles.

We have no room for additional members this year. However, if anyone wishes to know more about our game and so on they will be quite welcome to visit us, at the hall, any Friday evening or Sunday afternoon.

John Ward

BLEADON FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Friendship Club's first outing of the season is on Thursday 11th May, visiting Gloucester Docks, then on to Monmouth and Chepstow.

An interesting programme of entertainment has been compiled for the coming months, and we thank Sylvia Bird and Joan Diment for this.

We look forward to a return visit from Lt. Col. J Wynn who gave such a fascinating talk on the Tower of London. This time the subject will be 'Ghosts', date to be given later. A Beetle Drive is planned for the meeting on 7th April with a display of members' handicrafts.

Club meetings are on Friday afternoons at 2.15 and we extend a warm welcome to anyone who would enjoy an afternoon of pleasant company and entertainment at the cost of 30p for the tea and biscuits and the annual subscription of £1. Venue Coronation Hall.



E.M.T.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

There have recently been renewed efforts, at both national and local levels, to reinforce the effectiveness of the Neighbourhood Watch schemes. This has led to the creation of a Woodspring Neighbourhood Watch Association. This and several similar organisations in Avon & Somerset have been welcomed by the police authorities.

The Woodspring Association has received initial funding, for the current year only, from the Woodspring District Council. This sum was £12,500 but this leaves a shortfall of at least £2,500 this year. Appeals for financial support have been made to all town and parish councils. Your own parish council has agreed to donate £50. This sum is well in line with our parish's current scheme membership.

The Woodspring Association will have a full time clerk based in Weston police station. Their equipment already includes an 'elderly' computer but they hope this will shortly be replaced by a more up-to-date model. They will be seeking to encourage and promote more schemes throughout Woodspring, to strengthen links with the police and improve the flow of information to and from scheme members.

Many people still seem to be unaware that membership of an approved neighbourhood watch scheme can bring savings on premiums for home contents insurance. Depending on the individual insurance company, these discounts can typically be from 5 to 10%.

I have statistics showing that there are still a significant number of homes in Bleadon that are not involved with a neighbourhood watch scheme. If you are not a member of a scheme and wish to join one, or set up a new one in conjunction with near neighbours, you should make contact with the above association at Weston Police Station. The office telephone number is (01934) 638133 and this is a direct line.

Finally, a new community policeman is now responsible for our village. He is P.C. Dave Griffiths and is based at Banwell Police Station.

John Ward



OUR PREHISTORIC PAST

The historic significance of Bleadon's road names may not have dawned on all our residents, particularly the more recently arrived. Perhaps the most evocative is Celtic Way, obviously referring to Bleadon's earliest known inhabitants and the site of the ancient woad mine, the entrance to which (now firmly sealed, of course) lies about a hundred yards above The Dell.

The woad supplied from these workings was of the highest quality and great variety. The lower grade, sold to Celts outside the district, was known as Commercial Woad, while the locals reserved the best for themselves. Two favourite colours were a bright blood-red (Arterial Woad) and a rich cream (Yellow Brick Woad). For crowning the local chieftains they used a deep purple (Coronation Woad), while for religious ceremonies they preferred a medium grey (Abbey Woad). Strangers discovered wearing the local colours were ordered, on pain of death to remove them instantly, "Get out of the Bleadon Woad!".



As the workings developed, the mine owners had to draw plans of the many tunnels - the first Woad Maps - and the many underground intersections became the first Woad Junctions. In time the growth of the industry necessitated the passing of the Woad Traffic Act, establishing a code of Woad Safety for all Woad Users. The vast amount of woad sold elsewhere was transported by the Woad Haulage Association, often causing considerable congestion. Many a Celtic commuter attributed his lateness to the "Bleadon Woad Works!"

In due course most of the seams were exhausted, until the only colour left was white. There were calls for closure of the mine, but the determined locals organised a management buy-out, rallying support with their rousing anthem (later purloined by Northern Celts), "We'll keep white on till the end of the woad!"

This was, however, merely the postponement of the mine's inevitable fate - a winding-up order.



VE DAY 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Most readers already know that this year the May Day Bank Holiday has been moved from 1 May to 8 May to coincide with the 50th anniversary of VE Day (the day the war in Europe ended).

In Bleadon the occasion will be marked firstly by a Service of Commemoration at our Parish Church beginning at 10.00a.m. For the afternoon the scene of the action moves to Lymphsham, where the British Legion are organising a Sports Afternoon for children aged 11 and below to which the children of Bleadon (and, of course, their families) are cordially invited. This starts at 2.45 and is followed at 4.15 by TEA.



At 5.00 the gauntlet will be thrown down by the Lymphsham tug-of-war team to their Bleadon counterparts. In anticipation of this challenge that vastly experienced tug-of-war coach Councillor George Wall has agreed to organise the Bleadon team, so all aspiring tuggers should apply to him.

In the evening we celebrate in Bleadon with an Anniversary Dance at the Coronation Hall (8-12). The aim is to appeal to a wide age-range, so there will be live music provided by a talented local duo Only After Dark (I know it is a weird name but they are very versatile and really can play), plus recordings of wartime originals such as Glenn Miller - courtesy of Matthew White. There will of course be a licensed bar, with light refreshments available. Tickets (£3.00) will be available from the Post Office.



CURB THOSE CANINE COLONS!

In case anyone is wondering what punctuation has to do with dogs, I refer to the further ends of these animals' digestive systems. We all realise they have to relieve themselves somewhere, but

please, please try to ensure that it is not on public pathways, particularly in a village where street lighting is not, and never will be universal. If this proves impossible, at least move the mess into the gutter, or better still remove it altogether from the scene (as many residents already do). The numerous dogs in the village obviously provide pleasure and companionship to many people. Don't let their excretory habits make them a bone of contention.

L.M.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

SPRING FLOWER SHOW - SAT. 18TH MARCH

The 21st Spring Flower Show was very colourful with huge pots of daffodils and narcissi as well as several pot plants in the 200+ exhibits. Particularly pleasing was the increase in exhibits and exhibitors in the homecraft section. The handicrafts proved very difficult to judge because of the overall high standard. The children came up with many original ideas, especially with their novelty sandwiches and decorated wooden spoons. The afternoon visitors were very impressed with the quality of Woody White's craftsmanship as he demonstrated his wood carving skills. The organisers would like to thank all those who exhibited and helped with the preparation and smooth running of the show.

The trophy winners were as follows:

Lindley Cup for the best floral exhibit:	Mrs P Skelley
Miniature Cup for the best miniature exhibit:	Mrs C Fisher
Harold Banwell Cup for the best pot plant:	Mr C J Cudlipp
Jubilee Cup for most points in cut flowers:	Mr S J Hartree
Ernest Banwell Cup for most points in homecraft and handicraft sections	Mrs C Kennedy
Victoria Sandwich Cup for the best Victoria Sandwich:	Mrs M Durston
Irene Hilditch 'Cookie' Plate for the best 'Cookies':	Mrs C Kennedy
Society Cup for the most points in the entire show:	Mrs C Fisher
King Cup for most points in Junior Section 'A':	Tom Court
Davies Cup for most points in Junior Section 'B':	Simon Court
Junior Cup for most points in Junior Section 'C':	Tanzi Harris

The next Summer Show will be held on Saturday September 2nd.

C.J.C.



PLAYERS' PROGRESS

Bleadon Players' production of "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" was - in audience and financial terms, at least-their most successful pantomime so far. The show played to three almost full houses, was voted highly entertaining by young and old alike, and made a profit of £387. This will be donated towards the replacement of the church weathercock, making a total of £1150 raised by Bleadon Players.

The 50th anniversary of VE Day will be the occasion and theme of the next production (remember "What a Bleadon War!" six years ago?). Titled "Never Again" (the war - not B.P. shows), it will be held at the Coronation Hall on Friday/Saturday 12/13th May.



L.M.

Make a date to celebrate !

**VE ANNIVERSARY DANCE
CORONATION HALL**

**MONDAY 8th MAY
8 - 12**

Live music from *ONLY AFTER DARK*

Plus recorded wartime originals

Licensed Bar

Light Refreshments

Tickets £3.00 from Post Office

FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN THE CORONATION HALL

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR DIARY!

Thur 20th April	7.30 p.m.	Annual General Meeting Members of the public welcome	Coronation Hall Management Committee
Mon 24th April	7.30 p.m.	Annual Parish Meeting	Bleadon Parish Council
Thur 4th May	9am - 9pm	Local Government Election	
Sat 6th May	10.30am-noon Evening	Coffee Morning Family Disco (Betty Paterson 812183)	Bleadon Friendship Club Guide & Scout Hut Fundraising Committee
Mon 8th May	7.30pm	V.E. Day Celebrations Anniversary Dance	Parish Council
Fri 12th May/ Sat 13th May	7.30pm	V.E. Celebrations - Show 'Never Again'	Bleadon Players
Sat 20th May	10.30pm -noon	V.E. Coffee Morning	Hall Management
Mon 29th May	9am - 5pm	May Fair	Friends of Bleadon Church
Thur 29th June	7.30pm	Play	Reflections Drama Group

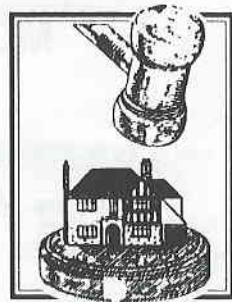
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REGULAR EVENTS IN THE CORONATION HALL

MONDAYS

10.30 - 12.00		Gentle Exercise Group	Mrs P Dain	812859
2.00 - 5.00pm	<i>Sept - May</i>	Bleadon Bridge Club	Mr R Gardiner	812041
7.30pm	<i>1st Monday</i>	British Sugarcraft Guild W.S.M. Branch	Mrs J Garrad	632632
7.30pm	<i>2nd Monday</i>	Parish Council		

TUESDAYS

2.00 -4.00pm	<i>2nd Tuesday</i>	Bleadon Ladies Group	Mrs J Wilkes	812783
7.30pm	<i>1st, 2nd, 4th & 5th</i>	Weston-super-Mare Camera Club	Mr K Tapley	623877

WEDNESDAYS

10.00 -noon	<i>2nd & 4th</i>	Infant Welfare Clinic and Toddler Group	Mrs J Morant at the Clinic	
2.00 -4.00pm	<i>Feb - May</i>	Painting Class Painting in Watercolour	Mrs K Panes A.C.E. WSM College of F.E.	621301
7.30pm		Bleadon Players Rehearsals	Mr F Davies	812858

THURSDAYS

2.00 -4.00pm	<i>Sept - May</i>	Painting Class Painting to extend your abilities	Mrs K Panes A.C.E. WSM College of F.E.	621301
8.00pm	<i>1st & 4th Sept-June</i>	Folk Dancing	Miss B Snelgrove	812226

FRIDAYS

2.00 -4.00pm		Friendship Club	Mrs E M Tucker	813940
7.30pm	<i>Sept - May</i>	Short Mat Bowling Club	Mr J Ward	812136

SUNDAYS

3.00 -5.00pm	<i>Sept - May</i>	Short Mat Bowling Club	Mr J Ward	812136
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The Hall is available for hire by any private individual or organisation,

ENQUIRIES TO: Mrs J Jones, 812370

Royal British Legion Lymsham & Bleadon.

Men's Branch and Women's Section.

The Christmas Carol Service held on December 8th 1995 at Bleadon Parish Church was well supported by Members and their families, Our thanks to the Revd D. Parkinson for conducting the Service and to Mrs. J. Diment and her Team for again providing the Refreshments.

The Earl Haig Poppy Appeal 1994. The money sent has been increased and the total from Lymsham and Bleadon is £1339. Many thanks to you all as this is the most money sent since records began.

The Women's Section will be represented at the South Mendip Group Meeting at Memorial Hall Churchill on April 11th commencing at 7 30 p.m.

£15 is being sent to Somerset County to be added to the County Purse. This will be presented to Dame Vera Lynn at National Conference held at the National Conference Centre Bournemouth on April 30th 1995.

Forthcoming Events.

British Legion Carnival Worle, May 29th.
Miss Hall is organising a South Mendip Stall.

May 7th. Parade in Weston super Mare
Commencing from High Street 10 30 a.m.
Royal Air Force Band. All Members are invited.

Local V. E. Celebrations. May 8th 1995.

Somerset Legion House Open Day,
June 10th 1995.

Royal British Legion Flower Show
Manor Hall Lymsham August 6th.



Purn International Holiday Park

Tel No: 01934 812342

TO ALL OUR FRIENDS & VISITORS FROM
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** Free Entertainment **

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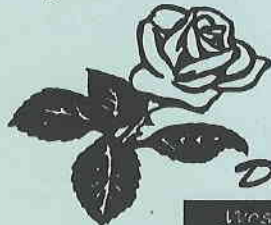
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