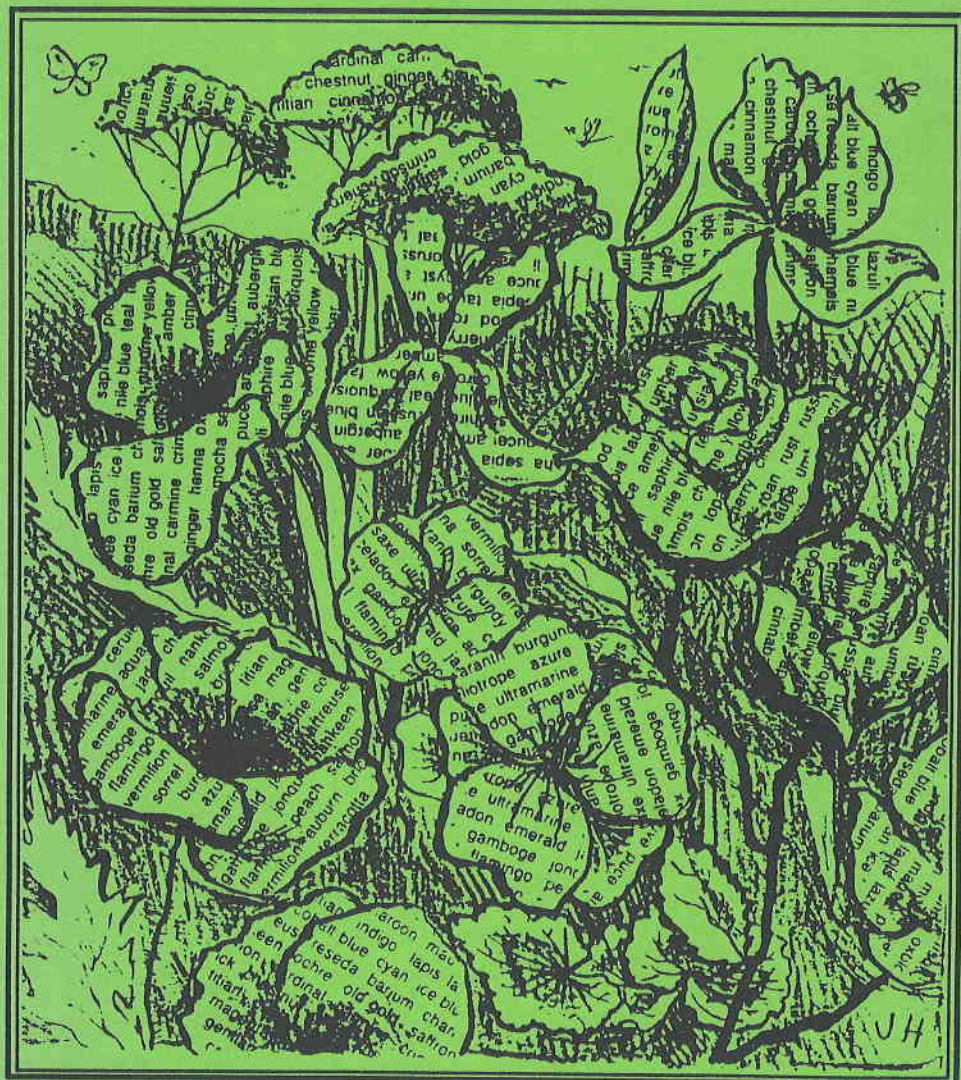


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BLEADON VILLAGE NEWS

No: 30

July '96

BROADOAK SCHOOL - Our District Councillor's View

Bleadon residents will no doubt be aware that North Somerset Council are going out to consultation on the site to be used for the new building for Broadoak School. I don't think anybody can disagree with the need for a new building for the school: the only question is where should it be built.

To rebuild on the present site would be a nightmare for the students, who would have to endure spending eighteen months on a building site. It is likely that building next to the sixth form centre would be delayed by the planning process, I also believe it is better kept as a green field site. The most viable site would appear to be on the football pitches next to Hutton Moor Leisure Centre.

This would result in a community school, i.e. a school with facilities available to the public: this already occurs at Churchill and Backwell, with great success. The loss of sports facilities will eventually be by releasing the playing fields at the current site of Broadoak and the use of public open space in Locking Castle: there will be no overall loss of sports facilities for the general public.

The main problem I can foresee, for Bleadon students, is the increase in their commute distance, but I believe most, if not all students would qualify for free school transport, which I believe will result in an improvement in road safety and pollution control. At the moment I am in favour of situating the new Broadoak School building at Hutton Moor. However, if you can see problems with this arrangement, please let me know soon before the plans are finalized.

The biggest problem we face is obtaining the funds, from central government!

Bryan McGrath

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BROADOAK SCHOOL - 2 - The Editor's View

Most people seem to accept that a primary school is a great asset - even vital -- to a village. Hence the closure of Bleadon's school over thirty years ago is still much lamented. Surely the same arguments apply to a secondary school serving a wider area -- yet planners in North Somerset appear to be ignoring these in favour of a grandiose scheme that may benefit numerous people elsewhere to the detriment of the residents of the southern side of the town.

They suggest a "community school" at Hutton Moor to replace Broadoak School. How can you possibly have a "community school" a mile outside its catchment area ? Such a school needs to be sited centrally, making access as easy as possible for as many people as possible. It can then provide educational, recreational and sporting facilities for pupils and public, daytime and evening, seven days a week. I suspect that somebody on North Somerset Council has various (undisclosed) reasons for wanting a school built at Hutton Moor and is therefore trying to find reasons why the Broadoak site must be ruled out.

One such reason advanced is that the rebuilding at Broadoak would cause impossible disruption, which my own experience tells me is plainly wrong. I worked at a school where major extensions took place, huts were demolished and replaced and so on. Of course there was disruption, but we all - staff and pupils - just got on with our job and put up with the nuisance because we understood the necessity for it, and I do not recall any nosedive in examination results. Certainly a couple of years' disruption is vastly preferable to forty years' costly, inconvenient and dangerous travel to Hutton Moor, particularly if the work results in a first-rate facility for the south side of the town.

I have read the Planning Department's report on the various sites, and it makes clear that any technical problems with the Broadoak site can be overcome. The Council obviously do not wish to overcome them, so it is up to the local people to make them change their minds - starting with their own District Councillor.

Les Masters

BLEADON CORONATION HALL

By now few of you will be unaware that some real progress has been made with our village hall extension. This is essentially a self help project, proceeding with very limited funding that includes a 29% grant contribution from the Rural Development Commission.

We are indebted to Harry Chatterley, a resident of Bleadon Hill, who has been the prime organizer of the planning and construction of this project. Without him it is extremely unlikely that we should have begun the project at all. Our thanks go to him for his continued optimism and contribution to this project. He remained ever cheerful in spite of the awful weather that delayed the project throughout the winter season.

More recently we have been lucky to obtain the part time services of Tony James, a resident of the village with previous building experience, who has been assisting Harry with the wall block laying. We thank him for his efforts to date.

We have every hope that we shall see the roof being constructed this summer. Once that is on we shall feel that real progress is being made. The Management Committee's prime concern is to ensure that there is enough money to finish the work and to this end we shall welcome contributions from any source.

CORONATION HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Hall Management Committee is in urgent need of a Secretary. Is there a lady or gentleman out there who is able and willing to make a really useful contribution to our village affairs ?

It is not an exceptionally demanding role. The committee meets on the second Thursday evening of each month, August excepted. You would make your own contribution to the hall management and take the minutes of each meeting. It would be nice if you were able to type or word process the minutes but if not we could probably arrange for this to be done. There is little other work except perhaps to produce a very occasional letter and act as a receiver of a small amount of incoming mail.

If you able to help please contact :-

John Ward on 812136

or

Len Chamberlain on 814517

BLEADON FOLK DANCE CLUB REPORT, JUNE, 1996.

Our Spring session has proved to be very enjoyable in every way - lots of fun, good friendly company and very marked progress in the performance of our dances. Our membership has remained static at around 25 and, apart from illness and holidays, the majority of our members have attended regularly.

At the last Contactus Welcome Party a number of village newcomers expressed a strong interest in our folk dancing but very few have so far turned up to see what goes on. Our last session in the Coronation Hall before the Summer break will be on Thursday, 27th. June at 8-00pm, so why not come along then to see what we do, with a view perhaps to joining us when we resume our meetings on the first Thursday in September.

I can not stress too strongly the fact that it does not matter at all if you have had no experience whatever of folk dancing. We are here to introduce it to you as a very enjoyable fun activity and a healthy form of exercise. There is no need either to feel that you have to bring a partner in order to participate - two singles make a couple and no-one needs to be left out.

For present Club members we are having one special Summer gathering in the form of a barbecue and dance session at Shiplate Manor Farm, the home of Mrs. Joan Diment, one of our members. This has now become almost an annual event and I should like to put on record our sincere gratitude to Joan for her generous hospitality. This party will take place on 11th July, but we must, I regret, restrict it firmly to Club members only because of catering and accommodation.

We wish you all a thoroughly enjoyable Summer - hopefully all the better because of its late start.

John Thomlinson

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In October 1991 Jill Hobbs and I were attending a Fund Raising Committee Meeting when we were trying to think of ways to raise money for the new building. We decided that perhaps a few Whist Drives would bring in a little money - so on October 9th 1991, we held the first Drive in the Coronation Hall, and made a profit of £3.50. We have now held 156 Drives, and made a profit of £2,097, thus reaching our target of £2,000! We owe a very big thank-you to our Treasurer, Mr Keith Minett and his wife Valerie, for counting and banking all that money. Keith assures us that his wife enjoys counting money - I hope he is right. Thank-you both.

We still have twelve of the original members and have 22 members altogether. Once again thank-you all for your support.

Mrs Jill Hobbs has invited us to have our Drive and strawberry and cream tea at her home on WEDNESDAY June 26th. Thank-you Jill.

We are very grateful to Doreen Moody and her husband for preparing the Church Room for us each week, and to the Church for allowing us to use the room and for storing our tables, and to Barbara Spackman for remembering our birthdays and providing the cards.

Barbara Snelgrove

Glenise and Les Masters

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Church of St. Peter and St. Paul

VERY MANY THANKS

Bleadon and it's Parish Church were at their best and brightest for the Annual May Fayre and Flower Festival, I am most grateful to all our helpers. Church Funds benefited by £3,650 - a great help as we seek to raise the £30,000 annual operating costs. Following the Rectory Garden Party on 29th June, there will be a well-earned Summer break for the Committee of the Friends of the Church. Unless, of course, someone would like to organise a Coffee Morning!

THE CHURCH CLOCK

In my previous reports, and in correspondence with the Parish Council,, I said that, following the retirement of Mr Cullen, the Parochial Church Council was considering converting the clock from 8 day to automatic winding. This, together with necessary repairs, was estimated to cost in the region of £3,500 and grant aid was being sought. This has not materialised and I will be asking the PCC, at its meeting in July, to consider whether or not to repair the clock as it is and accept, with gratitude, the offers of help in winding it every week. Repairs needed to bring the clock back into service are estimated at £1,000. My sympathies are entirely with those who have missed the clock and its hourly chimes and I am very keen to see it back in service.

RESTORATION 3rd STAGE

In recent weeks the greater part of the restoration work - most recently to the Victorian stained glass windows in the Chancel - has been completed. More than £100,000 has spent on restoring our Church in recent years and I am very grateful indeed to those who have worked so hard and contributed so generously.

DON'T FORGET - that weekly Sunday Services continue at 10.15am and 6.30pm.

David Parkinson
Rector Tel: 812297

AN OSCAR FOR A WILD(E) PERFORMANCE ?

This September the best actor/actress/director awards will be given not in Hollywood but in Bleadon, where Bleadon Players' most ambitious production to date "The Importance of Being Earnest" takes place on the 13th, 14th and 21st.

For those too young to remember either the first production (1895) or the film (1952), this is a classic comedy notable for its ingenious plotting and its witty and elegant dialogue, and well worth getting to know. To the cognoscenti I say, "Come and enjoy it once more. This version will not disappoint you."

L.M.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Friendship club members enjoyed a visit to the Playhouse Theatre on June 8th organised by Mr. H. Christian.

A visit to a delightful garden centre at Ottery St. Mary on June 13th was well attended, a family day with a stop at Bicton, "The Fisherman's Cat" for a cream tea down by the river. Mrs. P. Hoffman was warmly thanked for organising the trip. The next excursion should be on July 25th for a day in Dartmouth.

It seemed appropriate that the speaker on Friday June 14th was D.C. Brown, a community Police Officer, as Bleadon had suffered a number of burglaries over the past few days. D.C. Brown stressed the importance of security and gave useful advice.

A varied programme of entertainment will take the club up to July 26th when the August break begins. The club will re-open on September 6th when we hope to welcome new members.

E.M.T.

IAN DANCE

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1st BLEADON (St Peter & St Paul) CUB SCOUTS

Our Annual District St. George's Day parade took place on the 21st April when boys and girls from 6yrs to over 21!! marched to Grove Park. It was a magnificent sight and both Steve and myself were very proud to take part with our cub pack.

We have had three new cubs since Easter. Welcome to Alexander Carter, Matthew Sexton and Jack Barker.

Our Tombola stall at the May Day Fayre was great fun and the cubs enjoyed helping out throughout the day. We are now preparing for the Rectory Garden Party.

Our Group AGM in May proved to be a great success. Parents enjoyed entertainment by the cubs and scouts after the meeting was over. We now have a very good Executive Committee lead by our new Chairman, Keith Pike. We would all like to thank Andy Eddy for his work over the past year as our Chairman. Andy will be concentrating on helping our scouts achieve their Chief Scout's Challenge award.

Cub term finishes on the 18th July with our usual visit to the animal farm at Lymsham.

Betty Paterson 812183
Steve Rhodes 813497

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BLEADON SCOUTS

Scouts are going from strength to strength. We now have sixteen, three of which are girls. Yes, we are now a mixed troop as Guides sadly collapsed through having no leaders.

Lesley and I had a meeting with the boys to discuss it and they unanimously agreed to open up the troop to the girls. So please, if any of you boys or girls would like to join a progressive troop, who will be doing summer activities such as abseiling, caving, swimming, wide games, barbecues, hiking, mountain biking and camping, to name but a few, then contact myself or Lesley. Even better, turn up at 7.30 p.m. on a Thursday night at the youth club, Bleadon car park, where you will receive a warm welcome.

An activity which the boys have been taking part in recently was the under 12 and 14 County Rugby championships of which we are proud to say that we won both trophies. So they deserved a well earned rest by going camping last weekend at the river Dart country park for a totally fun weekend. Friends and parents were invited of which a few came with us.

There are not many troop nights left before summer holidays, so remember, we would like to see new people in the troop.

Huw Boyce - 814053

Lesley Hunt - 412901

BLEADON HORTICULTURAL SUMMER SHOW

Now that summer has finally arrived, it's time to think ahead to September and the Bleadon Horticultural Summer Show. The date is Saturday September 7th, the venue is the Coronation Hall and the time is 2:30pm onwards.

Please come along and support this traditional village event. Better still come and take part by showing those vegetables, fruits and flowers you have looked after so well.

New entrants of all ages are always most welcome. Schedules available from our local P.O. nearer the time.

For any further information ring :-

Chris Cudlipp on 813152 or Sue Court on 813343

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN THE CORONATION HALL
PLEASE MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR DIARY!**

Sat	7th	Sept	2.00pm - 5.00pm	AUTUMN SHOW	Horticultural Society
Mon	9th	Sept	7.30pm	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING	
Fri	13th	Sept	7.30pm) THE IMPORTANCE) OF BEING EARNEST)	Bleadon Players
Sat	14th	Sept	7.30pm		
Sat	21st	Sept	7.30pm		
Sun	6th	Oct		HARVEST LUNCH	PCC
Mon	14th	Oct	7.30pm	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING	

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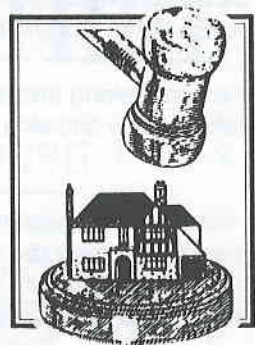
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REGULAR EVENTS IN THE CORONATION HALL

MONDAYS

10.30 - 12.00		Gentle Exercise Group	Mrs P Dain	812859
	<i>Sept - May</i>			
2.00 - 5.00pm		Bleadon Bridge Club	Mr D 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		645550
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

Men's and Women's Branches Royal British Legion Bleadon & Lympsham

The Women's Section South Mendip Group Meeting was held on April 16th at the Manor Hall. The Ladies Committee provided refreshments for all. We are pleased to announce that the Women's Section have been placed 1st in the Upham Cup for Donations, and 3rd in the Houlden Cup for progress. The Group was placed 1st in the Staveley Cup for Group progress. Mrs. Clarke was presented with Group Standard Bearer's Shield for being the best Standard Bearer.

Men's Branch Social Evening. May 17th Manor Hall Lympsham

This was a very enjoyable evening and we were pleased to have the company of our new County President and his wife Mr. & Mrs. Blacker. Many thanks to Mr. Russell Rogers and Company for providing the entertainment and Miss Beverley Dawson for playing the Keyboard. A sum of £105 was raised and added to Branch Funds. Many thanks to all who attended.

Flower & Vegetable Show. Manor Hall Lympsham August 3rd 2.30pm

Please support us by attending and schedules should be available soon, from the Post Office in Lympsham or from Mr. Wally Stephens 13 Worthy Cres.

Next Men's Branch Committee Meeting at the Pavilion June 25th at 7.45pm

Next Women's Section Comm. Meeting at Blue Coat Farm, July 22nd 4pm

Forthcoming Events

- June 29th Wells Cathedral Band Concert featuring
 Western Band of the RAF and Mid Somerset Orchestra.
 7 30 p.m. Tickets from the Wells Cathedral Shop.
- July 6th Dunkirk Memorial House. Garden Fete. 2 pm.
- July 20th Royal British Legion Family Day. Weston Park, Shifnall.
 10.00am to 6.00pm Details from Mrs. Clarke 750351.
 A Coach is being organised from Bleadon 8.45am.
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BRIDGE CLUB

The Bridge Club held its Annual General Meeting on the 29th April 1996 with the majority of members attending.

The Chairman reported an average attendance of about 40 at the 50 meetings held during the year, once again including some Bank Holidays. Three members had resigned during the year for various reasons & four new members were named & made welcome. There is still a small waiting list in spite of raising the total membership limit.

The Treasurer reported a slight gain in funds over the year, but recommended that subs and Playing Fees should remain the same for the moment. There being no other nominations the Committee was re-elected en-bloc.

Since starting in 1991, the club has been very popular, with a waiting list. However, people living in the village have some priority for joining. If you would like to play, a place can usually be found. Our sessions start at 2pm every Monday in the Village Hall. We look forward to another year of happy Social Bridge.

Don Gardner 812041.

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WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We have had a series of very interesting meetings this Spring; the first of these on the 26th March, when the speaker was Mrs Mary Armstrong from Weston Hospice Care, who gave a very moving account of the good work undertaken by them. At our Meeting on the 23rd April, we were entertained with poetry and music by Mr John Osborne and friends from Bath. We were pleased to welcome Mrs Ruth Dyer, a Lay Reader at Wedmore (formerly a resident of Bleadon) to our meeting on the 28th May; the main theme of her subject being 'Pentecost', which was very informative and thought provoking.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 25th June, 1996 in the Church Room. Tea will be provided by the Committee. No Meetings are held in July and August.

New members would be very welcome to join our Meetings held on the 4th Tuesday of the month in the Church room at 2.30pm.

DATE FOR SEPTEMBER MEETING:- 24th SEPTEMBER 1996

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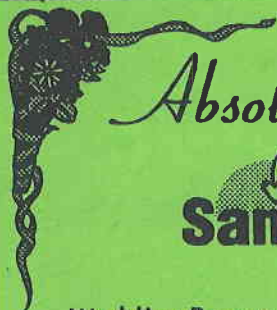
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