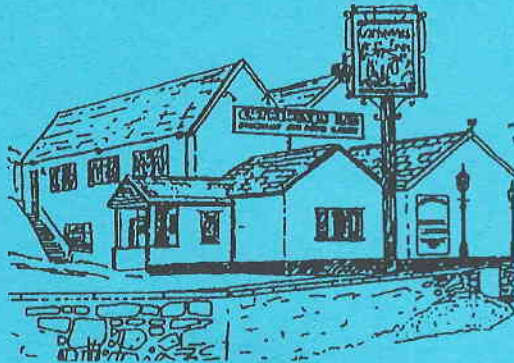


# BLEADON



VILLAGE NEWS 32

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# BLEADON VILLAGE NEWS

No: 32

December '96

## FROM OUR DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

### *Highway Improvements Petition*

North Somerset have produced an updated task list of highway improvements. Three schemes appear on the list for Bleadon. They are:

- \* 30 m.p.h speed limit in village;
- \* Heavy Goods Vehicle (H.G.V.) restriction Celtic Way, Coronation Road, Shiplate Road;
- \* Central traffic islands Bridgwater Road/ Bleadon Mill;

Other schemes are on the task list but are unlikely to be implemented in the next few years due to their low priority. In fact it will be difficult to obtain finance for the high priority tasks given the financial constraints currently placed on North Somerset.

To improve Bleadon's chances of obtaining finance for highway improvements, it has been decided by the parish council and myself to ask Bleadon residents to sign a petition requesting that the proposed improvements are implemented by North Somerset as a matter of urgency. If in excess of half the village sign the petition I will present it to a full council meeting and ask for it to be considered by the Highways and Transport sub-committee. If a poor response is obtained then the petition would only serve to lower the priority given to the highway tasks. This will be the first step in what I foresee as a long campaign in order to obtain these much needed highway improvements.

### *Consultants at North Somerset*

The Consultants have now reported on how the new authority should be changed. In the period May 1995 to April 1996, the main concern of both Woodspring District Council and Avon County Council was to achieve a 'seamless transition' to North Somerset Council. About this time last year we were very concerned that we would not achieve this in the areas of Education and Social Services. Now that the transition has been completed, we can now look to areas where duplication and overlap between directorates occur and rationalise these activities.

### *Planning Issues*

**Golf Course, Roman Road** The Golf Course application has now been approved. Unfortunately the Planning Highways and Transportation Committee allowed the club house to be built behind the copse near the Roman Road, I voted for the original site which was closer to Hutton woods. I did manage to get the access moved from near the dip in the Roman Road, to adjacent to the lay-by.

---

The application was approved with a total of fifteen conditions, including:

- \* adoption of a detailed management plan to ensure that the site is managed to maximise its ecological and landscape value
- \* formation of the complete nine hole course and implementation of all approved landscaping prior to use of the clubhouse
- \* restaurant shall not be used other than between the hours of 0800 hours to 2300 hours inclusive

*Note: One Roman Road resident said my job now is to ensure the permission is implemented to the last leaf, I agree.*

## ***1st Bleadon (St Peter & St Paul) Cub Pack***

Lots of fun and lots of badges have been awarded over the past few months, just what the boys like!! 1st Bleadon ran the District Cross Country run in November, a very successful event enjoyed by all. A big thank you to Steve for organising this event, it was a lot of hard work but very worthwhile. We would also like to thank all the people who helped on the day - it was really appreciated. We had races for 8, 9, and 10 year olds and all the boys were given certificates for taking part. The winners also received a nice trophy to keep.

On the 7th December the cubs joined in on the fun at RAF Locking at our annual Xmas Capers. They went round seven bases making Xmassy things and some of them had Xmas trees and Father Xmas's painted on their faces, and I even saw some chests painted! It is quite a tiring day for the cubs (and leaders) but a most enjoyable time was had by all. Our Xmas party was held in the Church rooms on the 12th December. We had an entertainment evening with Andrew on the organ and Richard on the clarinet. We also had two 'fairies' dancing around, Simon and Matthew, well done all of you. Thank you to all the mums who sent food for the party.

We have had one new boy this term, welcome to William Tratt. We would like to thank you all for your support during 1996, and looking forward to your further support in 1997. May we wish you all a Prosperous New Year.

**Betty Paterson**  
tel. 812183

**Steve Rhodes**  
tel. 813497

## ***Poppy Appeal***

On behalf of this year's Poppy Appeal a big thank you to all the collectors and all who gave making this our greatest achievement ever of £572.15

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## **1st Bleadon Brownies**

This term has been a very busy one for our Brownie Pack. Many Brownies have passed their crime prevention badge and we have invested Mary Whittingham, Emily Blake, Lois Sankey, Emily Vigar and Elizabeth Tuttiett. We have had a theme of Health and have learnt about healthy food. To keep our bodies healthy we held an aerobics evening which was enjoyed by everybody.

Karen Wheeler (Brown Owl) has now emigrated to New Zealand. We wished her good luck in her new life and look forward to hearing about life in her new Country. Karen has given freely of her time over the years and the pack has flourished under her leadership. We are actively looking for more adult help with the pack and I would welcome hearing from anyone who might be able to help,

*Ruth Lang* 01934 750827

## **Bleadon Scouts**

Christmas is here again and another year has gone by so fast. For scouts it has been a good year. We are now up to 17, six of which are girls with two more hopefully joining us in the new year. We have enjoyed several camps with the last one being a Halloween camp, very wet and muddy but the scouts loved it. I don't know about Mums when they got home though. We have just done a small show for parents and guests. One patrol did a sketch of "Blind Date" the other "The Generation Game" and the third patrol did "Absolutely Fabulous" plus a long poem about each scout in the troop and leaders. We shall finish the year with a ten pin bowling evening. Next year, boys and girls, we plan to go to Holland camping so come and join us and see the world!

*Huw Boyce*

# **BRIDGE GARAGE**

(Prop: Peter Briffitt)  
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## ***Bleadon Ladies Club***

Christmas 1996 will be gone by the time you read this report. It will be happy and healthy 1997 greetings when we meet. Our meetings for October and November were well attended and interesting. Rev. Mitchell showed his versatility with his magic show and Mrs. Whittingham had us all nimble fingered trying out origami. Most birds flapped their wings before she had finished. The annual general meeting duly re-elected the committee. Thanks were given to Lynn Riding who retired and to Joan Wilmer who replaced her. Appreciation was expressed to members who have so willingly done necessary jobs, particularly to Joan Diment who has run the produce stall since we began with Sue Poole, and is taking a break. Finances were sound, next years programme arranged and the Christmas lunch organised for December 10th by Mrs. Doreen Ward.

We hope Laura, Rose, Eileen, Betty, Irmgard and any other member who has been sick will soon be well enough to be back with us. We say goodbye sadly to Iris Moules who is leaving the district. We hope she will be happy in her new home. We would be pleased for any other ladies in the village or local areas who enjoy good company, to join us on the second Tuesday of the month at 2.30pm in the Coronation Hall. You would be made very welcome.

We wish you all a happy 1997.

*J. Wilkes*

# ***The Queens Arms***

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# *Church of St. Peter and St. Paul*

## **WORSHIP**

Christmas Services are at the usual times and are well-publicised, but if you are not sure about the time of, or the arrangements for a particular Service, do ask.

## **NEXT YEAR**

will be a very special year for the Church in Bleadon as we celebrate 700 years of recorded history of our Church. Although the oldest part of the present building - the Chancel - wasn't dedicated until 1317, Richard Pay, the first Rector, had arrived in 1297. We are calling this year of celebration BLEADON 700 and there will be special Services and other events during the year.

## **EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE**

The first Special Service of 1997 will be an Ecumenical one, arranged for Churches Together in Weston-super-Mare and District, to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany and will be at 7.30pm on THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY. Preacher will be Canon Martin Fitzpatrick from Corpus Christi Church, who is currently President of Churches Together. There will be Coffee and mince pies in the Coronation Hall following the Service.

## **THE CHURCHYARD AND ITS APPROACHES**

The Churchyard is a precious open space, well-maintained by the Parish Council, which has been the burial place for villagers and their families for centuries. As such, it deserves to be treated with reverence and respect. However, all too often, the footpath, the grass and, even, graves themselves, as well as the approaches to the Churchyard, are spoiled by dog's mess. Please, dog owners, keep your dogs off the grass and graves and clean it up if there is an 'accident' on the path.

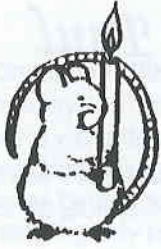
## **RESTORATION**

The work to the clock (reported elsewhere) completes the long and expensive restoration of the fabric of the Church. Very grateful thanks to all who have contributed over the years axid to those who are still contributing towards the repayment of loans.

Very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

**David Parkinson**, Rector Tel. 812297





## ***Friends of Bleadon Church***

The Annual PUNCH AND PIE PARTY will be at Pum House Farm on Tuesday 17th December at 7.30 pm Tickets are on sale £1,50 - from the Post Office or members of the Friends Committee.

Our first CONCERT in Church for 1997 will be on Saturday 15th February at 7.30 pm and will feature the WINSCOMBE CHILDREN'S CHOIR. Tickets at £2.50 will be on sale shortly. This will be followed by a return visit of the KEYNSHAM BRASS BAND on 15th March.

Forward planning for the MAY FAYRE, which will be held on Monday 5th May, is now under way. Anyone interested in helping to plan this grand village event should speak to Graham Rogers (811571) or myself.

Next Friends Committee/Planning Meeting - Monday January 27th, 7.30pm in the Church Room.



## ***Church Clock Restoration***

The appeal for £3,500 has met with a most enthusiastic and generous response.

The Parish Council made a grant of £600, several local businesses also contributed and the Bleadon Players, The Friendship Club and Church Women's Fellowship also gave generous donations. The 50/50 sale was a well supported and enjoyable occasion and realised a profit of £900. There was hardly a day during the 8 weeks of the appeal when there was not an envelope or loose cash in the box on the Post office counter. The largest proportion of the total raised came from straight giving by residents and friends.

It is wonderful to report that the target has not only been reached but surpassed and stands at £4080. This will amply cover any contingency costs which arise and will allow for the provision of a suitable storage case for the large, original weights which are to be retained near the clock for future generations. There is a need to improve the lighting in the clock chamber so that attention to the clock will be a safer operation.

It is perhaps appropriate to make clear that it is only the winding mechanism which is being electrified. It will not become an electric clock.

Mrs. Ruth James and I would like to express our sincere thanks to you all for supporting the appeal. We look forward to hearing the clock strike in 1997.

***Margaret Cullen***



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## **The Church Clock**

As most people are aware already the clock itself was purchased by public subscription and placed in the Church tower for the benefit of all.

It broke down, however, in 1995, and Smiths of Derby, specialist clockmakers and repairers, founded in 1690, were called in to assess the cost of repair and to quote a figure for the possible conversion to automatic mechanism. This too was deemed sensible as it is an arduous task to wind the clock weekly and regulate the time when necessary. Margaret and Arthur Cullen, whose responsibility this has been for many years, had also indicated their wish to retire. Smiths found that the clock itself, installed in 1897, was mechanically sound but that the clock lines which hold the substantial weights were in a dangerous condition: servicing and cleaning were also recommended. On the matter of conversion, they pointed out that there was no difficulty; only the heavy driving weights needed to be removed. Smiths have been responsible for such conversions to automatic winding at St. James's Palace, Westminster Abbey and Windsor Castle.

Thanks to the initiative of Ruth James and Margaret Cullen and, through their appeal to the generosity of the villagers, sufficient money has been raised to "set the wheels in motion". The Parish Council has also been very generous. On the 19th November, representatives from Smiths arrived, took measurements and photographs and removed the parts which will be adapted for automatic winding. The work is being undertaken in Derby prior to final installation, and this should take approximately three months.

So, with luck, the work should be completed by mid 1997 thanks to the action of Margaret & Ruth and the generosity of the villagers who donated cash and enthusiastically supported the 50/50 auction.

**Graham Rogers**

### **PURN HOUSE FARM WORKSHOPS**

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## ***Bleadon Coronation Hall***

Our Christmas coffee morning was held on Saturday 7th. December. We had a high attendance and the event made about £185 for hall funds. Our thanks to everyone who attended this very successful and social occasion.

You will have noticed that, since I last reported on the new extension, the roofing trusses and other timbers have been erected. Once again we thank Harry Chatterley for his continued dedication to this project, very largely done single handed. He has had the part-time assistance of a professional carpenter for the roofing work. Currently they are fitting the roof insulation boards. Once this is completed, contract roofers will move on site to fit the tiles. This should be closely followed by window and door fitting. The roofing, doors and windows will absorb most of the remaining funding. Unfortunately it is highly unlikely that we shall have sufficient funds to complete all internal work on the new extension and planned modifications and improvements to the existing hall. We are currently seeking ways and means to obtain further funding.

*John Ward*

## ***Dramatic Events in Bleadon***

Charlotte House and her talented cast took Bleadon Players into new territory with their first rate production of 'The Importance of Being Earnest'. Audience reaction was amazingly positive, largely because many people (unlike your long-in-the-tooth editor) had never seen this classic either on stage or on screen. Following the usual transformation from the sublime to the ridiculous, the Players present 'The Sleeping Beauty' on 17/18 January (evenings), with a matinee performance on the 18th. Demand for tickets seems to increase each year, so early booking (at the Post Office) is highly advisable.

*L.M.*

**IAN DANCE**

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There seems to be no diminishing enthusiasm for the CLIC Fun Quiz so I went ahead and prepared Quiz No. 10. It turned out to be the most successful so far and we were able to donate the splendid sum of £520 to CLIC. There was a lot of pleasant, happy noise coming from the folks in the hall as they answered the questions and unravelled the "Dingbats", and roars of triumph as correct answers were confirmed. We quite forgave the person who said that the bouncing bomb was invented by Boris Becker!! The 'Ploughman's' was consumed with evident enjoyment and people had a happy hour socialising. Most of the Quizzers are people who have been every year since they started, so it is almost like a family reunion for some.

I do try to organise the whole of the Quiz on my own so that CLIC Committee members and friends can all take part and have a night off from any responsibility, but I have to thank all those wonderful friends who turned up on Saturday afternoon to help; put out all the chairs and tables and prepare the 'Ploughman's'. There would have been great difficulties if they had not been there. I must thank Len Chambers for his continued support. What should we do without him?

The winners were Alan Freeman and his friends. Alan is the husband of Liz, a very valuable member of the Weston Branch CLIC Committee, but there were at least ten other tables who were within eight points of the winners so it was a very close run contest. However, I have to say, that the object of the exercise is for everyone to enjoy themselves. Winning has a fairly low priority. On behalf of CLIC, many thanks, once again, and see you all again next year!

*Pat Dain*

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

Fri	17th	Jan	7.30pm	PANTOMIME	Bleadon Players
Sat	18th	Jan	2.00pm & 7.30pm	PANTOMIME	Bleadon Players
Sat	1st	March	7.30pm	The Somerset Story Talk. Robin Bush	Bleadon Parish Council
Sat	15th	March	2 - 5pm	Spring Flower Show	Bleadon Hort Society
Fri	25th	April	7 - 11pm	Show/Play/Review	Bleadon Players
Sat	26th	April			
Mon	5th	May	9am - 5pm	MAY FAIR	Bleadon P.C.C.

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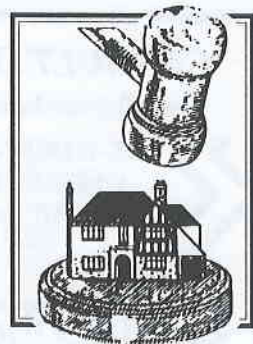
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## REGULAR EVENTS IN THE CORONATION HALL

### 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
6.00 - 7.00		Exercise Class	Mrs A Bird-Kellogg	814813
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 &amp; 5th</i>	Weston-super-Mare Camera Club	Mr K Tapley	623877

### WEDNESDAYS

10.00 -noon	<i>2nd &amp; 4th</i>	Infant Welfare Clinic and Toddler Group	The Clinic	645560
2.00 -4.00pm	<i>Feb - May</i>	Painting Class <i>Painting in Watercolour</i>	Mrs K Panes A.C.E. WSM College of F.E.	621301
6.00 - 7.00		Exercise Class	Mrs A Bird-Kellogg	814813
7.30pm		Bleadon Players <i>Rehearsals</i>	Mr L Masters	812200

### THURSDAYS

2.00 -4.00pm	<i>Sept - May</i>	Painting Class <i>Painting to extend your abilities</i>	Mrs K Panes A.C.E. WSM College of F.E.	621301
8.00pm	<i>1st &amp; 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**

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## ***Bleadon Youth Club***

The Youth Club re-opens after our Christmas break on January 7th and welcomes new members. We have pool, table tennis tables, a table tennis robot, coffee bar and music. We open our doors at 7.30pm until 10.30pm on Tuesday evenings and 7.45pm until 10.45pm on Fridays. Other nights, we have table tennis teams operating. For further information please telephone myself on 513331 or Colin Sandford on 812505.

***John M. Burtenshaw*** (Chair to Management Committee)

## ***Women's Fellowship***

The first Meeting of our Fellowship Year was marked with a Service in the Church on the 24th September, 1996, conducted by the Rector. Tea and biscuits were served afterwards in the Church Room, and made a very enjoyable occasion. At our October meeting Mrs Todd, of the Salvation Army was our guest speaker, and gave a very descriptive talk on a journey she had made across India and Pakistan. Mr and Mrs Harry Beeby, visited the Fellowship on the 26th November when members were interested to hear of their travels cruising round the World, visiting various countries en route. On the 5th December, 1996, we held our Christmas Mini Bazaar in the Church Room, and despite the chilly and foggy weather the event was quite successful. Our programme for the next session is as follows:-

January	28th	Lt.Col. and Mrs J. Wynn, - Glastonbury Abbey.
February	25th	Mr Proctor - Land of Sea and Fire
March	7th	Women's World Day of Prayer - Lymphsham 10.30 am
March	9th	Mothering Sunday. Corporate Service for members 10.15am
March	13th	Spring Coffee Morning, Church Room 10.30 am
March	25th	Miss M. Brass - A Midwife in Nepal.
April	22nd	Mrs A. Barnard, S.W.E.E.P.S. Aid to Romania.

The Women's Fellowship meets in the Church Room at 2.30.pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month. New members would be very welcome.

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## **Whist Drives**

We continue to enjoy our whist and chat meetings in the Church Rooms on Wednesdays from 2pm until 4pm. We have 23 members but owing to various appointments and holidays we average 14 - 16 players each drive. I should like to thank members for their continued support in so many ways; Doreen Moody and her husband for getting the room ready each week; Barbara Spackman for remembering birthdays; Frances Baker for making our tea and various members for washing up and providing prizes sometimes. We are especially pleased to welcome Rose King, Eileen Chamberlain and Lilian Noddings back after a period of indisposition. We begin the next session on Wednesday 8th January. We hope you had a happy Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year to you all.

*Barbara Snellgrove*

## **Bleadon Friendship Club**

As the Friendship Club closes for the Christmas break, members can look back on some lively entertainment and also, thanks to Mrs P. Hoffman, some excellent outings, the last being a shopping trip to Cheltenham which was well supported.

The Christmas lunch at the Commodore Hotel on December 19th was the last social event of the year but our closing meeting on December 20 provided entertainment and mince pies with tea. The Club re-opens on January 17th and our thanks go to Sylvia Bird and Joan Diment for all their hard work in compiling the following interesting programme of events for the new year.

Jan	10th	MUSIC	Marshall Riddell
	17th	BINGO	Jack Thorne and Friends
	24th	"The two of us" Music and Monologues	Mr. & Mrs. Cooper
	31st	Slides with Music	Mr. & Mrs. Tyler
Feb	7th	BEETLE	
	14th	"Nurse on a Hospital Ship"	Mrs. Snow
	21st	"Bees and Honey" Talk with slides	Mr. A. Downes
	28th	BINGO (with A.G.M.)	Jack Thorne and Friends
March	7th	Russell Rogers and Friends	
	14th	"Escapes from the Tower"	Lt.Col. J. Wynn
	21st	"Life as a Prison Officer"	Mr. B. Ducker
	28th	Good Friday - No meeting	
April	4th	"Music and Verse"	Mr. J. Osborne and Friends
	11th	BEETLE	
	18th	Slides and Talk on Kenya	Mrs. K. Tapley
	25th	Russell Rogers and Friends	

**E.M.T.**

---

## ***Bleadon Horticultural Society***

Although you are all probably busy still unpacking Christmas presents and eating yet more mince pies, this is the last opportunity to remind everyone that spring is just round the corner and that means - the Bleadon Horticultural Show. This colourful event will be held on Saturday March 15th 1997. We look forward to seeing you there and a Happy New Year to all.

M. Pettitt

### ***“The Somerset Story”***

The Parish Council's venture into entertainments promotion started very successfully in November with the South Somerset foursome “The Gents” providing a thoroughly enjoyable performance and the Council reaping a profit of £116. We are following this with entertainment of an entirely different kind, which should appeal to a wide audience. Robin Bush, an archivist and broadcaster of over 30 years experience, presents his one man show “The Somerset Story” on Saturday, 1st March 1997. Robin has written many books on Somerset's towns and villages, and (according to the “Take Art” brochure) “recounting tales of the fickle and frustrated, he disposes of the myth that our county was ever a slow and sleepy backwater”. Tickets (£2.50) will be available at the Post Office in good time for the event.

L.M.

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Edited by Les Masters, Bleadon P. O. with help from David Andrew

Published by Bleadon Parish Council, Bleadon, Avon

Unless otherwise stated, the opinions and comments expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributor and not Bleadon Parish Council.

Cover designed and drawn by John Hickley



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