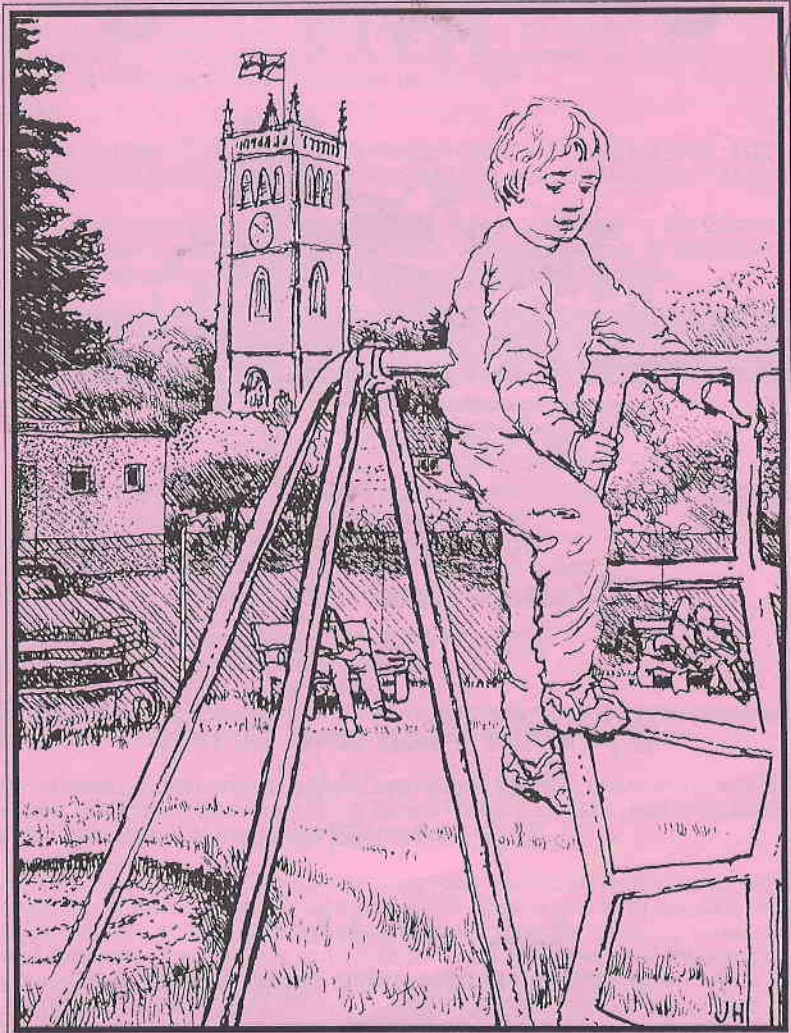


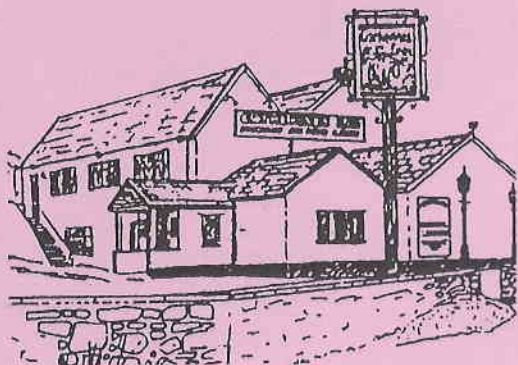
BLEADON

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PETER SMART (Chairman) Hillside Cottage, Shiplate Road, Bleadon. Tel. 812849
RAY HICKS (Vice-Chairman) Fiddler's View, Hillcote Road, Bleadon Hill. Tel. 811993
LEN CHAMBERLAIN, Newbay Cottage, 21 Coronation Road, Bleadon. Tel. 814517
MALCOLM PERRY, Westfield, 1 The Barton, Bleadon. Tel. 813940
PENNY ROBINSON, 1 The Veale, Shiplate Road, Bleadon. Tel. 814142
PENNY SKELLEY, Mendip Croft, Celtic Way, Bleadon. Tel. 815331
MARY SHEPPARD, Littlewood, Bridgwater Road, Lymphsham. Tel. 812921
KEITH PIKE, 8 Whitegate Close, Bleadon. Tel. 813127
NICK WALL

THE PARISH CLERK TO WHOM ALL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IS
BRUCE POOLE, 10 SOUTH STREET, BURNHAM-ON-SEA, SOMERSET. TEL: 01278 787555

The Council meets on the second Monday of the month at 7.30pm, in the Coronation Hall. An agenda is published on the Parish notice board, and any member of the public may attend these meetings, and raise any issue of interest at the end of business.

**The next issue of the *Village News* should be out in September.
Deadline for items to include: Friday 1st September
Make a note in your diaries now.**

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It is now twelve months since the formation of the new Parish Council. We had certain priorities:

1. The adoption of speed limits and weight restrictions;
2. The prohibiting of tourist coaches through the village;
3. The upgrading of the facilities in the children's playing field;
4. The replanting of the Jubilee Garden;
5. The tidying of the village centre;
6. The sale of Wonderstone Quarry;
7. The drawing up of a parish clerk's contract;

All these aims have now been achieved. We are progressing with the improvements in drainage and sewage disposal with North Somerset Council and Wessex Water.

We have obtained agreements with North Somerset Council to improve the visual approaches to the village, particularly from the A370 at Bleadon Road by Hutton Motor Co. and will continue to promote fuller usage of the village allotments.

However, on a less upbeat note, you may have read reports on North Somerset's decision to close a number of public conveniences in order to make a saving of £60,000. A league table of public conveniences proposed for closure, based on use, cleaning rates, refurbishment costs and incidents of vandalism, puts Bleadon just below the level for closure. The Parish Council have been asked if we would take over the running of the toilets which last year cost North Somerset Council £2419. We have informed them that we are unable to take them over because the village precept for 2000/2001 has already been submitted.

Unfortunately, we have suffered from vandalism over recent weeks. Children from the village were apprehended by Councillors at 10.00pm one Sunday night and their parents were informed. We trust that no further damage will occur otherwise either the toilets will be boarded up and closed by North Somerset Council or the Parish Council will have to take over the upkeep of them, which will mean an increase in the Parish precept.

A public meeting was held on 10th April to discuss the provision of a burial ground in the village (the church graveyard being full). Eleven members of the village attended and, after a lengthy debate, it was agreed that further investigations were necessary to take into consideration the financial costs. A second public meeting may then be called to discuss the matter further.

The Parish Council meet on the second Monday of the month. Villagers are welcome to attend and time is set aside for them to ask questions or make requests for action. Come along! You will find it interesting and informative.

Finally, I would like to thank all my councillors for their support of the projects undertaken in what has been a very busy year.

*P. J. Smart
Chairman, Bleadon Parish Council*



RENEWAL OF RAILWAY BRIDGE ON A370



The railway bridge on the A370 Bridgwater Road just past Bleadon Hill and the lay-by is to be demolished and a completely new bridge installed. This can be accomplished in two halves, allowing one way traffic or, by complete demolition, requiring total closure of the main road. Railtrack have given the highways authority two periods to operate the first option. (They will, obviously, have to close the track).

During the first period, in February, 2001, half the bridge will be demolished and rebuilt, allowing one way traffic and during the second period, at Christmas 2001, the second half of the bridge will be demolished and rebuilt. The one way system will operate for the whole time from February until the work is completely finished and the road fully open to traffic.

The other alternative is to accept the February period offered by Railtrack, close the road completely and demolish the whole bridge. This work will take five weeks and is the preferred option of the Parish Council, North Somerset Council and the Authority. There will obviously be massive disruption of traffic around the village. Consultation will take place over the next few weeks to evaluate the options available with regard to diversions and restrictions. The majority of through-traffic will be diverted via the motorway from Edithmead to Worle, but the local traffic poses a bigger problem and much of it will wish to travel through the village, up the Celtic Way and down Bleadon Hill, much of which cannot accommodate two-way traffic. The Parish Council will be involved in the planning and co-ordination of traffic schemes and all villagers will be kept fully informed of the situation as it evolves.

P.J. Smart, Chairman



MORE BANKS!

Barclay's Bank customers will be pleased to know that from 29th June they will be able to access their accounts at the Post Office and draw funds as required, instead of having to traipse into town. At present, I do not have full details, but I suspect that the facility will only apply to personal accounts. However, that leaves plenty of people who can do themselves a favour and at the same time keep their Village Post Office viable.

Les Masters

BLEADON CORONATION HALL

Our AGM was held on April 11th and although this meeting was open to all residents of the village, sadly no one attended. The management committee for the coming year is as follows:

Chairman:	L. J. Chamberlain
Vice Chairman	K. Pyke
Secretary	P. Williams
Treasurer	The office has not been filled and we are still looking for a volunteer!

REPRESENTATIVES OF VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Friendship Club	R. Henderson
Ladies Club	P. Daine
Bridge Club	M. Henley
Bleadon Players	C. House
Short Mat Bowls	L. Fiding
Parish Council	P. Skelley
Parochial Church Council	No nomination!
Photographic Club	C. White
Toddler Group	J. Walford
Village Representatives	H. Clements and P. Williams

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Monthly 30p

News, views, reports,
times of and information about
Services and special events.

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A LIST OF ORGANISATIONS WHICH REGULARLY USE THE HALLS

Monday

2-5pm	Bleadon Bridge Club	Mr. D. Gardner	812041
7.30pm 1st Monday	British Sugarcraft Guild W.S.M. Branch	Mrs. E. Lambert	01278-786586
7.30pm 2nd Monday	Parish Council		

Tuesday

2-4pm 2nd Tuesday	Bleadon Ladies Group	Mrs. J. Wilkes	812783
2-4pm 1st, 3rd, 4th	Bleadon Short Mat Bowling Club	Mr. J. Ward	812136
5.30-7pm	Brownies**		
7.30pm 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th	Bleadon Photographic Club	Mrs. G. Taylor	812475
7.30pm	Bleadon Players Rehearsals**	Mrs. S. Kelly	812419

Wednesday

10am-noon 2nd & 4th	Infant Welfare Clinic & Toddler Group	The Health Visitor at the Clinic	
10am-12noon 1st, 3rd & 5th	Toddler Group	Mrs. J. Walford	811718
2-4pm Sept-June	Watercolour Painting (Post Beginners)	Mrs. K. Panes	WSMTech College 411411
5.30-6.30pm	Bleadon Beavers**		
7.30pm	Bleadon Players Rehearsals	Mrs. S. Kelly	812419

Thursday

2-4pm Sept-June	Watercolour Painting (Experienced)	Mrs. K. Panes	WSMTech College 411411
6-7.30pm	Bleadon Cubs**		
8.00pm 1st & 4th Thurs. Sept.-June	Bleadon Folk Dancing Group	Mrs. J. Thorne	814007

Friday

2-4pm	Friendship Club	Mrs. J. Diment	812217
7.30pm Sept.-May	Short Mat Bowling Club	Mr. J. Ward	812136
7.30pm	Bleadon Scouts**		

Sunday

3-5pm Sept.-May	Short Mat Bowling Club	Mr. J. Ward	812136
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** in the *New Hall*

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ENQUIRIES to Mrs. J. Jones: 812370.

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CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL

FROM THE RECTOR

'Bleadon church was once 'wretched to the eye by neglect and nakedness' was the headline in the Mercury on 19th May, as it quoted Joseph Leach, a visitor in the 1840s. 'Bleadon church appears to gather the village around it', accompanied an article on local churches by John Crockford-Hawley in the Weston and Worle News on 1st June.

What a relief that it was that way round and what a delightful way of describing not only the position of the building itself within the village but of the way in which the people of the church try to operate.

In most of our Services, prayers are offered for the local community, different aspects of it or people within it. Prayers are regularly offered for those who are sick or in special need, for those who are bereaved and for those who have died. In our Tuesday morning Eucharist we use a Calendar of Remembrance, remembering by name those whose anniversary of death is that week. It is the church's way of paying tribute to former residents and of keeping their memories alive. If you wish to add a name to our list or check that a particular name is on it, please contact me. Later in the year, we will have our annual All Soulside Act of Remembrance at Evensong on 5th November and further opportunities for remembrance will be given then. Remembrance Sunday with its special Act of Remembrance will be the following week.

In the meantime, our Patronal Festival on 2nd July will be giving us the opportunity to give thanks for what is now a well-maintained, well-heated and very attractive building and for those (perhaps the parishioners of the 1840s apart) who have cared for it for nearly 700 years. We will remember - and remind ourselves - that it is the people of this parish who have maintained the building over these centuries. This would not have been possible without its regular use for worship. It is what goes on inside the building that gives it life and purpose and which ultimately ensures that it is in good structural condition. It is those who have faithfully maintained the traditions of worship and prayer and praise who are the ones to be thanked above all and it has been my great privilege to have been the main leader of worship here for twelve years. I look forward to more.

Ours is a community church which, quoting the Weston and Worle News, seeks 'to gather the village around it.' Long may this be our aim.

David Parkinson, Rector. Tel: 812297

FRIENDS OF BLEADON CHURCH

May Day Fayre

What a wonderful day May the 1st turned out to be. The sun shone, the stalls were colourful and the games varied. I hope that everyone who attended the Fayre, the Art Exhibition and the Flower Festival enjoyed themselves. On behalf of the Committee of the Friends I would like to thank everyone who helped or took part in any way, all helped to make it a memorable and happy day. At the time of writing I believe that the money raised was just over £4000, but there are still some bills to pay and some money to come in.

Congratulations and very best wishes to the Rev'd Steven Hartree of Celtic Way who will be ordained priest in Wells Cathedral on Saturday 24th June. Fr. Steve, very active in the village, will continue to serve as assistant curate at the Parish Church of St. John the Evangelist, Highbridge.

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday 18th June: Various gardens around the parish will be open during the afternoon for all those who are interested in looking at others' gardens and hoping to pick up a few ideas for their own use. None of the gardens are very large but they do provide a variation of attractions. Tickets at £2 may be obtained on the day in the Coronation Hall Car Park. The £2 enables you to view as many, or as few, as you like; all are within easy walking distance. The Gardens will be open from 2.30pm to 6.00pm and during part of this time, 'Cream Teas' will be served in the Coronation Hall. Following this, at 6.30pm, Jenny and Roy Collins and David Lowton are arranging 'Songs of Praise' in the Rectory Garden.

Saturday 24th June: Weston Revels are being held in Weston and members of Bleadon Church are having a stall. Offers of help or goods to Mrs Sandra Lowton, tel: 413034.

Saturday 22nd July: The Annual Garden Party will be held in the Rectory Garden on Saturday 22nd July. Offers of help, or items for the stalls, to Reyn Badger 811490 or myself 814812. This event usually provides a pleasant afternoon's entertainment and I hope this will prove to be the same this year. As usual refreshments will be served and will be good value. Come and join us.

Sunday 23rd July: Weston Male Voice Choir will be in Church for the evening service. They will be arranging the whole evening and providing preacher, singers and organist. Do come along and support them as they lead the worship in our lovely church. The service will be at the usual time of 6.30pm.

Saturday 5th August: The church tower will be open during the morning and again in the afternoon for any one who wishes to climb the steps and then admire the view. Exact times of opening will be advertised on posters nearer the time, as will the cost. Refreshments will be available morning and afternoon so, if you don't think you can manage the climb, you can sit and enjoy something to eat and a drink.

Friday 25th August: There will be a walk on this evening. Further details nearer the time. Refreshments will again be provided at the end of the walk.

Saturday 30th September: There will be a return of the popular Pontnewydd Male Voice Choir. The programme will also include soloist Luisa Puddy who delighted us with her singing last September. This event is part of the Weston Arts Festival Programme. We are very privileged in Bleadon that the Festival Committee includes Bleadon in its list of venues. Tickets will cost £5 and will be available from Friends of the Church and the Post Office. I advise you to buy your tickets early as this will be a popular event.

Saturday 7th October: Harvest Supper. The committee have decided to have a harvest supper this year instead of lunch. Entertainment will be provided. This will be advertised nearer the time with fuller details.

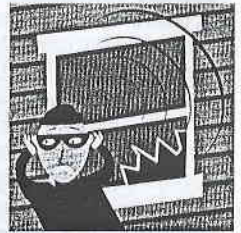
Saturday 28th October: Graham and Leoni Rogers are organising an Auction of Promises to be held on this evening. For further details contact them on 811571.

Barbara Hartree

ON THE BEAT

REPORT FROM PC 2307 ADRIAN WOOLACOTT

I have been the community police officer for the village since September last year. On taking on the Bleadon Beat it became clear that there was a feeling that the village was 'out on a limb' so far as policing was concerned. There was difficulty in contacting the Police and you were unable to identify with your local officer as he also covered the estates in Weston where he spent much of his time. My priority was to redress this imbalance and have, therefore, concentrated my efforts in getting to know the villagers and setting up good local contacts within the community.



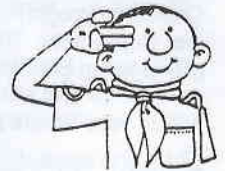
I have attended Parish Council meetings and also the latest Contactus Group Meeting earlier this year. I make regular visits to the village Youth Club and have given a talk to the village Brownies. Personal visits have also been made to all the local commercial premises including the village's three pubs and most of the local farmers. My efforts seem to be working and I now have regular contact with many villagers reporting their concerns. I hope you will agree that you now have far better access to your local officer.

The crime statistics for the last twelve months show that there has been a total of 48 reported crimes within the Parish. The figure reflects national trends with car crime being the most prevalent, followed by general theft. Much of this crime could be prevented by people taking a little more care of their property. Please don't leave items of value in vehicles or generally lying around your home. In an affluent area, house burglary is always going to occur. Compared to other areas the number of actual break-ins within the village is reasonably low. We will never eliminate house burglary, but by installing an alarm system in your home and having an efficient Neighbourhood Watch scheme we can make Bleadon less attractive to the opportunist thief who'll go elsewhere.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

SCOUT GROUP AGM

The Group AGM, held on 5th May, proved, once again, the success of the work of the leaders of our Scouts, Cubs and Beavers. The meeting was well-attended by parents and other supporters and reports were made by each of the sections. Awards were presented.



Beavers, cubs and leaders then presented entertainment which was very well received and the evening finished happily with refreshments.

There is, as always and everywhere, a need for more adults to help the leaders, even if only on an occasional basis. Help is also needed by the Trustee Committee which supports the Group financially. Please speak to any Scouter about this.

BEAVER NEWS

Beavers would like to welcome Paul Morris, who is our new Assistant Beaver Leader, and already an asset to the colony.
Congratulations to Daniel Reason who won our Beaver Trophy for 'Best Beaver' this year.

Due to the closure of some local colonies, our numbers are going up. It is therefore advisable, if you have a son of 5, who will be wishing to join in our fun on Wednesdays from 6-7 p.m. once he is six, to let us know as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Although we now have Paul, we are always looking for adult helpers so please let us know if you can help. It doesn't have to be every week - all help is welcome. Tel: Jane Steel 629903 or Paul Morris 751083

CUB SCOUT NEWS

Our Cub Scout numbers are now 23 and growing. We have received Cubs from Uphill, which I believe has now closed. We have to keep asking for helpers for the group but without it the same thing may happen to Bleadon in the future.

At the Group AGM, 5th May, 16 Cubs received awards, ranging from new Cubs awards to Adventure Crest Awards. They all did very well, as the input for these is no push over. Our well deserved Cub of the Year was Tom Court, who received the Harry Chatterley trophy from Harry himself. Well done.

Six Cubs put on a small sketch. The venue was the Maternity Ward of Weston General. This was much enjoyed but Sam Bowman's interpretation of a moody ward nurse will never be forgotten. All will get entertainer badges in due course.

AGMs often make you reflect over the past year. We have done some smashing things, such as making, cooking, carpentry, camps and visits, but one evening will stay with Helen and me for a long time.

Ethiopia was all we saw on the news for some weeks, it touched us all. At the close of one of our meetings we asked the Cubs if all our money in the "Tuck Shop" tin should go to the National appeal. Yes, they said, but we took it one step further and asked if any Cub in the line waiting for tuck would be prepared to put 10p in but not have any tuck out. This needed some thought but we are so proud of 9 Cubs who had given their "Cub Scout Promise" some thought: "Think of others before yourselves" it says and they did just that. They deserve a mention: James Sheldon, Adam Findlay, Timothy Speering, Tom Court, Sam Bowman, Natash Salter, Ben Smithers, Ashley Morris, Sam Truscott.

Steve & Helen, Cub Scout Leaders

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The boxes have all been emptied for this year and the total collected was £313.46p. Thank you to you all. I always have a supply of empty boxes waiting to be filled! If you feel you can help please give me a ring - Tel: 813343.

Sue Court



The Bleadon Players

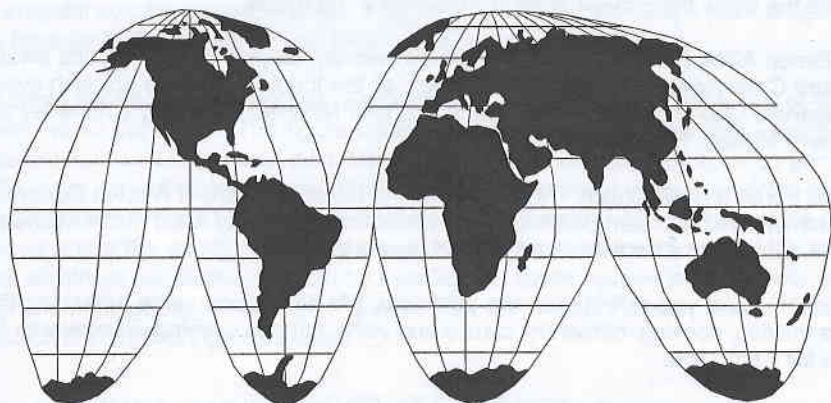


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The Bleadon Players



present

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a satirical play by
OSCAR WILDE



at

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on

Thursday to Saturday

21st, 22nd, 23rd September 2000, 7.30pm

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Lady Chiltern thought she knew when she placed Sir Robert Chiltern on a pedestal and regarded him as perfect.

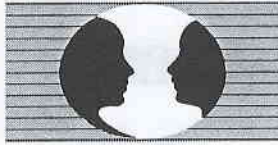
The scheming Mrs Cheeverly exposes his weaknesses and resorts to blackmail.

Lord Goring, a flawless dandy-about-town, saves the day and teaches them all a lesson.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS



30th September 2000: PONTNEWYDD MALE VOICE CHOIR from South Wales is visiting the village on 30th September for the third time this year. They will have a supporting soloist in the person of Luisa Puddy, a local mezzo soprano who gave her first public performance at the church last year. There is always considerable interest in this concert which has always proved to be very popular.

Tickets (£5) will be available in September from the Post Office or Graham Rogers (18 Bleadon Mill - Tel: 811571). The programme will be light with a mixture of traditional and modern songs. Note your diaries now: we anticipate a sell out.

28th October at 7pm: AUCTION OF PROMISES. A major fund raising event will be held later this year by Friends of the Church. Promises (either services or items of value) will be auctioned by John Hobbs of Hobbs & Webb and already we are building up a store of such promises. Elfan ap Rhys, our local Councillor has promised his support by donating a helicopter ride and we will have many other donations both large and small which could benefit most requirements. Such further donations to date include bed and breakfast items, a large knitted doll known as 'Bleadon Man', cakes, ironing, cooking for a dinner party, a conducted tour of Wells Cathedral, decorating, gardening, a weekly loaf of bread for a year and many more. To build up a good store of promises for the auction we are still on the look out for further donations, whatever size, and if you feel able to support us, please let either Leoni or Graham Rogers know. Tel: 811571 - we will need to register your donation in writing for the benefit of the auctioneer.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

BLEADON'S LADIES CLUB

Over the past few months Bleadon Ladies Club have experienced a series of varied and interesting talks. The historic tones of the town crier and the scent of fine English fragrances have delighted the senses, whilst craft demonstrations and personal insights into history have enthralled us all.

The coming months will see a great many of us travelling to Plymouth for the annual outing where we will take a boat trip to enjoy the sights and sounds of this busy maritime harbour.

Further events are planned for the second Tuesday of each month and will be advertised nearer the dates. Please feel welcome to join us in the village hall for these interesting and sociable occasions.

Barbara Pugh, 814362



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Bleadon Remembered?

Perhaps most of the newcomers to Bleadon (and most parishioners fit into that category, not being born in the village) are attracted to the old-style village atmosphere here.

The church, the cross, the post office and the Queen's, the heart of the village that first greets the visitor to Bleadon, is a calming antidote to the rows of identikit housing that comes up like a rash beside new roads all over the region.

It is easy to think that Bleadon is unchanged, a little time-capsule of country life. But everything changes. Within living memory, Bleadon was a very different place - a village with a bakery, a thriving school, a handful of shops, a chapel, a working quarry, a police station and a tennis club.

Have you got any memories of bygone Bleadon you would like to share with readers of the *News*? Do you remember stones crashing into your house when blasting at the quarry went with a bang? Or running up South Hill for afternoon play and staying there for the day, claiming you never heard the schoolmaster's whistle?

Your memories would be warmly welcomed, even if they're only notes jotted down on the back of an envelope!!!

~~~~~

## BLEADON BABY & TODDLER GROUP

### BONNY BONNETS!

This year, our committee decided to have a low-key approach to Easter and not to have an Easter Bonnet Parade. We hadn't realised that people actually enjoy sitting up until late at night putting hours of work into making an over-the-top hat that the little darling is very likely going to refuse to wear.

Now we know they do. Strength of feeling was so great that we *did* have a parade. Glenys Masters and Lynn Riding from the Post Office were kind enough to be our judges.

They appeared to be quite taken aback (in the nicest way) at the 'business' of the hall when filled with around 40 toddlers, commenting that they felt they had entered a 'different world.' They were also surprised - as were we all - at the huge effort put into the bonnets. Some really were of the highest standard and picking a winner must have been a difficult task.



The parade itself didn't descend into chaos until we tried to take a group photograph. We paraded to 'Chick, Chick, Chicken' and lots of children wore their bonnets and if they didn't their carers did.

We finished off with a raffle for the children and everyone received a cream egg at the end. We all enjoyed our morning and, no doubt, we will hold another next year. In the meantime, we are having a sponsored toddle around the park on Wednesday 28th June. Half of the proceeds will go to the village hall committee. So if you pass us, honk your horn or shout encouragement. The winner of the parade, by the way, was Adele Tyler and her son, Alex.

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In honour of Father's Day, we thought it would be nice to supplement the toddler's article with:

## A DAD'S VIEW



Our first child was several weeks late. 'Enjoy it while you can', I remember someone saying to me. 'Your life will never be the same again.' I didn't believe a word of it. I thought our new baby to be would fit into our lives rather smoothly, even though the traumas and tensions of the previous nine months should have taught me otherwise.

Nearly three years on and with a second toddler filling up the family, I greet prospective parents with the same knowing grin, composed of equal measures of pity and delight and a touch of *been-there-got-the-food-stained-t-shirt* smugness: 'It'll never be the same again!'

Of course, you soon forget it all. Everything changes so fast, you can't remember a time that you could stay up late and lie in in the mornings, you can't believe that the video had a use other than for Postman Pat and Bob the Builder, you can't remember what colour the carpet was before all those crumbs and stains; and, sadly, you can't remember their first funny noises or their first stumbling stabs at walking either; it all goes so fast ... and you're always so tired!

A blessing or a burden? They're both. One minute you're grinning at their growing balance and dodgily joyous jumping, the next you're rushing to the screams that greet the leap off the bed onto the sharp corners of the cupboard. One minute you're counting how many teeth they have, the next you're nursing the marks they've left in your shoulder! And how precious are those wonderful first words when what you said in deliberate privacy is repeated in front of their Gran??

But for all the tears and bruises, all the sleepless nights and bleary eyes, the warmth of the intimacy they bring and the freshness of life seen through their wondering eyes is not to be missed for a moment. 'Never the same again?' Too right - but it's me as much as my life that's changed.

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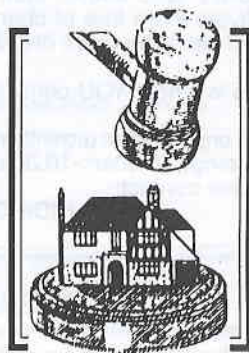
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## THE WOODSPRING TALKING NEWS



The Woodspring Talking News is the local branch of a nationwide charity that provides 'talking' newspapers and magazines for blind and visually impaired people. The Lauriston Hotel is the hub for the activities of the centre and here on a Friday, a master tape is produced by a team of readers; this is basically the Weston Mercury, recorded along with additional information that may be of interest to those who received the 'news'.

From this master tape, approximately 300 copies are made on Saturday morning by two copiers, who deliver them to the spring office in Warne Road; from here the Post Office delivers them free of charge so that they reach their destinations on Monday morning. The blind have the news only 3 days after the rest of us, not bad for volunteers is it?

This is where YOU come in!

The organisation urgently needs people to help with this work for a couple of hours on Saturday mornings (8.30am-10.30am every third Saturday). If you feel that you could do this, then please contact:

JOHN RIDING, 3 CHURCH MEADOWS, BLEADON or Tel: 813040

## BLEADON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The first Spring Show of the Millennium was highly successful with over 200 exhibits filling the Coronation hall with colour and perfume.

Steve Hartree achieved the heights of success with his pot plants and cut flowers and carried off three cups.

Barbara Butler won 2 trophies, while Penny Skelley, Sheila Ardley and Peter Langstone (who produced the best Victoria Sandwich) won other cups.



In the Junior Classes, brothers James and George Tyson won their respective age groups and Kieran McGrath won the 11-16 year age group. All received cups for their efforts.

After a break of 12 years an evening meeting was held on 18th April when Dr George Hargreaves gave an interesting and informative talk entitled: 'Summer colour in the garden'; this was illustrated with many superb slides.

At this meeting, it was decided that the club should resume its occasional trips and discussions/slide shows. So on 16th May Chris Cudlipp gave a talk on the bulbfields of Holland, also well accompanied by slides.

Two evening outings have been organised for the Summer, the first to Rackley House Gardens in Compton Bishop on Tuesday 13th June (7.00pm in the Coronation Hall car park) and the second to Bristol Botanical gardens on Tuesday 11th July (6.15pm same place).

As we need to know numbers in advance, please ring 813152 to join in one or both of these visits.

The Summer Flower Show will be held on Saturday 2nd September, so make a date in your diary not to miss it!

*Chris Cudlipp*

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## JOBS

Bleadon Baby and Toddler Group are looking for  
someone to come along to make our tea/coffee  
and wash up.

We meet on Wednesday mornings and need  
someone from 10.30 to 11.30am.

We will pay £5 per session.

If you are interested, please contact Jill on 811718



## WEATHER RECORDS

I have been keeping weather records on Bleadon Hill since 1981. This primarily involves recording rainfall in a rain gauge in my back garden. It is surprising how often I get asked for other details of the weather. (I jot down other aspects, for example: gales) to back up insurance claims, etc.

The following is a summary of precipitation (rain, sleet, snow, hail) recorded so far this year.

| Month | Precipitation | 81-99<br>Average Precipitation | Dry Days | 81-99<br>Average Dry Days |
|-------|---------------|--------------------------------|----------|---------------------------|
| JAN   | 37.1mm        | 99.6mm                         | 18       | 12                        |
| FEB   | 112.4mm       | 60.5mm                         | 6        | 14                        |
| MAR   | 58.7mm        | 69.5mm                         | 18       | 14                        |
| APR   | 156.0mm       | 63.0mm                         | 9        | 16                        |

(1 inch = 25.4mm)

*Chris Cudlipp*

## IS YOUR BONFIRE REALLY NECESSARY?

Just recently there seems to have been a spate of bonfires around the village, and a number of residents have complained that their 'fire happy' neighbours seem oblivious to the fact that sometimes lighting up is anti-social as well as environmentally unfriendly.

During the afternoon and early evening, it could be that someone near you still has washing on the line or maybe they just want to sit in their gardens to enjoy the last warm rays of sunshine with a well earned cup of tea after a long day's work. So before you set your bonfire, think about those living close to you and *their* needs and also think about the environment and the pollution that you may be causing.

The refuse collectors will take almost anything away if it's in a black plastic bag, so why not let them? They, after all, get paid to do it and THAT won't annoy your neighbours.

*P.R.*



## DID YOU KNOW?

BLEADON (first recorded spelling: *BLEODUN* in 956) means '*COLOURED HILL*', referring to the mixture of white limestone and plant life that marks out the hillside.

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Edited by Penny Robinson (1, The Veale) and Steve Miles (16, The Veale)  
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