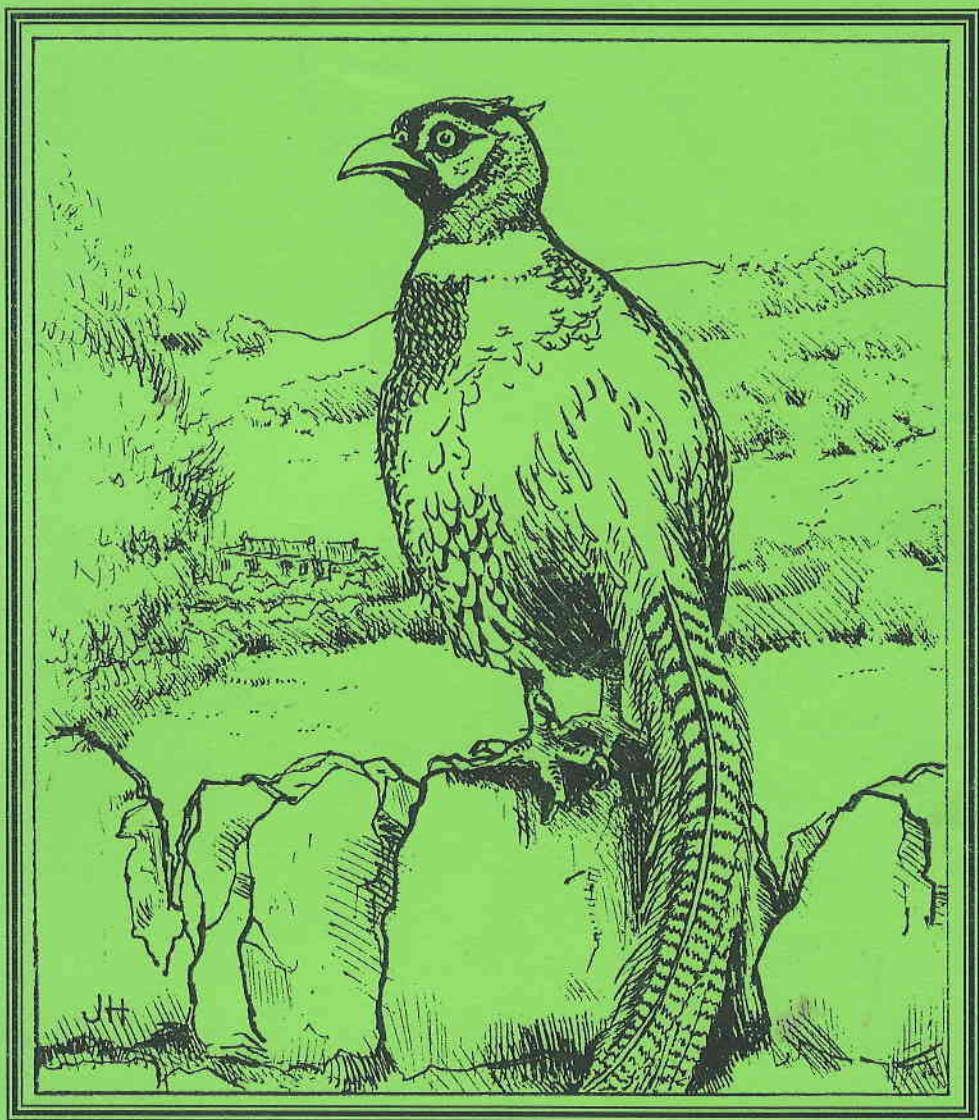


BLEADON



VILLAGE NEWS 57

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PENNY ROBINSON [VICE CHAIRMAN]..I, THE VEALE, SHIPLATE RD. BLEADON. TEL. 814142
RAY HICKS 'FIDDLER'S VIEW', HILLCOTE BLEADON HILL. TEL. 811993
MALCOLM PERRY 'WESTFIELD', I THE BARTON, BLEADON. TEL. 813940
MARY SHEPPARD 'LITTLEWOOD' BRIDGWATER RD., LYMPSHAM. TEL. 812921
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CLIVE MORRIS 20, BLEADON MILL, BLEADON. TEL. 811591
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ROBERT HOUSE LAKE FARM COTTAGES, SHIPLATE ROAD, BLEADON. TEL. 815588

THE PARISH CLERK TO WHOM ALL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IS:- BRUCE POOLE, 'THE CHIPPINGS', 21 STONELEIGH CLOSE, BURNHAM-ON-SEA, SOMERSET TA8 3EE

TEL. 01278 787555 or e-mail: bruce.poole2@btopenworld.com

The Council meets on the 2nd 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 who would like to, may attend these meetings, and raise any issue of interest at the end of business.

The above Councillors were duly elected following the May 1st 2003 elections.

We should like to welcome Rob House who has joined us following the retirement of Len Chamberlain.

WE AIM TO PUBLISH THIS VILLAGE MAGAZINE FOUR TIMES A YEAR-
MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER AND DECEMBER

HOWEVER WE MUST POINT OUT THAT ANY DATE SENSITIVE MATERIAL
SHOULD BE SENT TO THE EDITORS FOR INCLUSION WELL IN ADVANCE AS WE
CANNOT GUARANTEE A DEFINITE PUBLICATION DATE.

The deadline for the next issue will be Wednesday 3rd September 2003

I should like to thank all those of you who help with the distribution of the magazine, and I do hope that I can count on your future support. If there are any others out there who would like to help with deliveries, please let me know. (Tel. 814142)

Our aim is to provide a copy free to every household in the Village, if you don't get one delivered to your door, then there are usually some spares available from the Post Office.

UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED THE OPINIONS AND COMMENTS EXPRESSED IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE THOSE OF THE CONTRIBUTOR AND NOT OF THE BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL.

ANYONE WHO HAS ANY COMMENT TO MAKE ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION SHOULD CONTACT THE EDITOR - WE AIM TO FOLLOW 'AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES' POLICY - SO IF YOU DISAGREE WITH ANY OF THE VIEWS EXPRESSED YOU HAVE THE RIGHT OF REPLY!

BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL REPORT 2002/03

CHAIRMAN

At the beginning of the Parish Council year, we celebrated, with resounding success, the Queen's Golden Jubilee, which was enhanced in the village by the Jubilee summer planting. Our village is much admired by all who pass through and visit here, and I take great pride when local villagers thank us, the Council, for our well kept and tidy village, and also for all that we do to maintain these standards. I particularly wish to take this opportunity to thank all who help with our village "clean up days."

We continue to press for "General Purpose" maintenance by the North Somerset Council to maintain the integrity of the village, and we look to North Somerset to keep us up to the minute with the overall picture. The problems of flooding were put to Wessex Water and North Somerset and, jointly, they have promised to tackle these further in the coming months.

Our increasing experience as a Council will, I believe, stand us in good stead for our service to the community in the coming year. The village, which we all hold so dear, should be in good heart.

PLANNING

33 Planning applications were received and considered during the year. Of those completed 17 were approved 4 Refused and 2 Withdrawn. In the main the applications are straightforward and easily considered. However occasionally some are more contentious and need a great deal more of serious thought as to the future impact on the village and its inhabitants. All applications are prior to consideration by the Parish Council published on the Agenda and members of the public have the right to peruse the plans prior to the commencement of a Parish Meeting. Time is also given at the end of a Parish Meeting for members of the public to make their views known.

OPEN SPACES

A Jubilee Stone was commissioned and installed by the Horticultural Society at the entrance to the Hall Car Park. It was suitably engraved by Mr Adams of Cheddar and the plaque put in place by Mr Brian Thorne. The stone was unveiled by Emma Yeo from Hanson's Batt Coombe Quarry in Cheddar and Keith Roberts from Marshall's Quarry in Bridge Road.

The Quarry area next to Catherines Inn which was cleared last year will need further remedial work in order to keep it tidy. This will be an on going job. The lay-bys on Roman Road have been maintained with help from the Mendip Rangers. A plaque was placed on the seat dedicated to the memory of George Wall and subsequently two walnut trees planted close by. Planning permission and the necessary licences for the new Village signs were received in time for the Jubilee celebrations.

Churchyard

Remedial work was carried out on some of the trees during the winter months but generally there have been few problems in the past year.

Allotments

The past year has been most encouraging despite a cold wet start to the season. We now have 14 plots out of 16 plots fully occupied and upper 9 which has remained somewhat overgrown and derelict for some time has now been cleaned up ready to let.

Allotment holders are to be congratulated on the high standard maintained throughout the year. The dead elm trees are to be felled as soon as possible.

Playground

In March this year we saw the installation of two new spring rides for toddlers at a cost of £1600.00. This was a major investment for the Parish Council. In the same month the other play equipment was re-painted. Thankfully this year the playground area has not suffered serious problems with vandalism or anti-social behaviour. Our only problem appears to be the constant moving of the two picnic tables and their use as platforms to climb trees and fencing. This is taking a toll on the tables and the fencing to the degree that replacement of these items with something more substantial will have to be considered in the near future.

MAGAZINE

Partly due to changing printers and partly due to new computerised equipment it is only a matter of hours between the receipt of proofs and printing of the magazine which makes the job of the editor that much easier. John Hickley continues to come up with splendid drawings for the cover and a valued band of volunteers continue to distribute a copy to every house in the village.

The cost of Advertising will in the new Council year rise slightly - however with increased printing costs it is still a long way from covering the cost of production. The Council take the view that it is a very good "news" vehicle and hopefully in the near future this will be further enhanced by going live on our own village web site.

CORONATION HALL

Another successful year and a very active year for the Hall Management Committee. Use of the Hall has increased as a result of new initiatives which have supplemented the hire fees from the regular users.

Major refurbishment has also taken place to enhance what is acknowledged to be a valuable asset to Bleadon. Lighting has been replaced in the Coronation Hall and a new kitchen installed in the Jubilee Room. The biggest project was the re-roofing of the Coronation Hall completed on schedule by a local contractor. The current project is the re-fitting of the Kitchen in the Coronation Hall.

Projects such as these require considerable investment. The second application to the Lottery Commission was rejected. We were delighted to be awarded grants from the Parish and District Councils to enable us to undertake these key projects.

SCOUTS & GUIDES

The Brownies continue to flourish with full membership and a thriving pack.

The news regarding the Scout sections is not however good due to the problems of not being able to recruit sufficient leaders. This has seen in the last 18 months the demise of the Beaver Colony Cub Pack and Scout Troop.

Bruce Poole, Parish Clerk

ADVERTISING IN THE VILLAGE NEWS

These are the current advertising tariffs for our Village News Magazine:

FULL PAGE	£50	HALF PAGE	£30
THIRD of PAGE	£25	QUARTER PAGE	£20

This is an annual fee and covers the cost of advertising in all of the four issues. We aim to publish the Magazine in June, September, December and March. For further information contact Penny on 814142.

NB at the moment there is no charge for small personal ads.

LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

Church of St. Peter & St. Paul, BLEADON, WESTON-S-MARE

I am very grateful to the many people who worked so hard to make the May Fayre, and flower exhibition in the Church, such a success. Thank you very much indeed to the Friends of the Church committee and all who supported.

On June 29th we will be celebrating our Patronal Festival and Church Anniversary. As usual, we begin at 10.10am with a procession to Church from the Church Room. Sung Eucharist will follow at 10.15am.

Our Evening Worship will take the form of Songs and Hymns of Praise. Members of The Salvation Army and Hutton Parish Church will join us and the hymns will be accompanied by the Salvation Army band. If the weather is good, this will take place in the Rectory Garden, otherwise in the Church.

The Sunday Club for Children has got off to a very good start and meets on the last Sunday of every month - briefly in Church at 10.15am. for the first hymn then across to the Church Room until 11.15am.

I hope to see many of you at the Rectory Garden Party on Saturday August 16th at 2.30pm.

The Archdeacon of Bath, The Venerable Robert Evans, will lead our worship as celebrant and preacher at 10.15am on September 14th.

Very best wishes,
Yours sincerely,

David Parkinson, Rector. Tel. 812297

BLEADON PLAYERS



On Easter Saturday the Bleadon Players presented 'A Night of Lurve' with a selection of both sentimental and funny songs, poems and sketches based on 'Love'. The Coronation Hall was given a make-over, festoons of pink drapes around the hall, silver covered pillars and candlelit tables giving the whole place a 'nightclub' atmosphere and with the help of our complimentary 'seductive' cocktails and nibbles a good time was had by all.

This autumn the Players are bringing Noel Coward's play 'Easy Virtue' to the Village. An elegant drawing room drama set in the 1930's.

Join us on Friday 17th and Saturday 18th October to relax and enjoy a bygone era.

HELP US TO HELP THE DISABLED

Next year the Disability Discrimination Act takes effect, and it is fascinating to read the definition of Disability according to this Act. It includes those with partial sight, impaired hearing, impaired mobility or mental illness, and frail elderly people, which would seem to cover a fair proportion of the local populace. I am sure I qualify on at least two counts (there are those who would say on all five).

The question is how many of my fellow disabled in or near Bleadon are put off from using the Coronation Halls because there are no provisions to meet their disability? The Hall Management Committee really would like to hear from people on this subject so that if necessary they can improve the facilities. Therefore, if you personally have a problem with using the Halls (and that includes getting to them), or know someone else who does please ring me on 01934 811976 (speak loudly) or write to me at 'Hawksmoor', Shiplate Rd. Bleadon. (large, clear handwriting).

Les Masters (Hon. Secretary)



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BLEADON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Our April meeting welcomed Dr David Cooke who gave a most interesting and informative talk on genetically modified crops. He didn't have any particular 'axe to grind' but gave very balanced talk on this most provocative of subjects. He answered all sorts of questions as the evening progressed.

The social/plant sale in May was very well attended and everyone seemed more than delighted with their bargain plants. My thanks to all those who helped make the evening such a success.

We are anticipating a good evening when we visit the walled garden at Barleywood Wroughton on **June 17th**.

Our July visit will take place on **Saturday July 12th**, when a coach will leave the Coronation Hall car park at 9.15am, destined for the famous Lady Farm at Chelwood. This is not a farm but has extensive gardens, lawns and pond areas. We have booked a room for lunch in the Carpenter's Arms pub/restaurant, and then in the afternoon we will be visiting Blackmore and Langdons superb begonia and delphinium nursery. All three venues for this trip are within 3-4 miles radius of each other and the total cost of this trip is a staggering low £10!

To book a place on this trip to the Chelwood/Pensford area near Bath please phone **01934 813152** as soon as possible as places are limited. We anticipate arriving back in the Village at 5.30pm

With no meeting in August, our next event will be the **30th Annual Flower Show on Saturday September 6th**. Schedules should be available from the Post Office or Committee members from mid-late July.

All activities and events are open to everyone!

Chris Cudlipp

BLEADON VILLAGE MARKET

At the Coronation Halls on the third Saturday in the month

Bleadon Village Market is now becoming a regular feature of village life. We hope you enjoy popping in once a month, browsing through the stalls for a gift, plant or something to eat. There are refreshments too - Keith and Tony's hot sausages in rolls are very popular - toasted teacakes, toasted sandwiches, coffee, tea, soft drinks, biscuits, sweets.....come along and meet a friend. All proceeds to Bleadon Coronation Hall.

Do you have something to sell? We welcome more stallholders, particularly local produce and crafts, but if you want to clear out the attic, hire a table and make a bit of money from unwanted treasures!

Future Market dates: 21st June, 19th July, 16th August, 20th September, 18th October, 15th November and the Christmas Market on 6th December.



Enquiries to Jo Jones 812370

BLEADON BEAT

Burglary issues

There are normally around 4 house break-ins each year within the Parish. Last year we saw an increase of 100% with 8 being reported. Much of this increase was due to the fact that there were, unusually, three burglaries over the New Year period whilst residents were away.

The Police have always recognised the distress caused to victims when their home is burgled therefore reduction of burglary has remained at the top of our priorities with many resources being directed to prevention & detection. Our efforts are reflected in the high clear up rate of around 20% within North Somerset. Despite our best efforts offences of burglary persist and continue to cause great upset to victims. With this in mind I have looked at the details of the break-ins in the Parish this year and three useful facts have emerged. The offences were committed whilst the occupier was away from the property. All the attacked homes were on the main thoroughfares through the village and none had an active alarm system. You will not be able to do much about the first two points but the lack of an effective alarm system is easily remedied.

Many feel that alarms offer little deterrent to a burglar. The figures for this village, as elsewhere, show otherwise. A burglar will always go for the easy target therefore a home that is without an alarm is always at greater risk than the one with. Alarms are now fairly cheap with an average system costing in the region of £350. They are also much more reliable than previously and require far less wiring making them much less intrusive.

We will never stop all burglaries but we could make it a lot more difficult for the criminal. Fit an alarm, activate it and the chances are the burglar will go next door or perhaps even the next village. Remember, it's too late fitting an alarm after you've been burgled!

If you would like more information about security or have any other concerns then please contact me on WsM 638181 or drop in at the monthly village surgery at the Church Room.

Pc 2307 Adrian Woolcott



GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK LEN!

At the end of the last session of the Parish Council we said our farewells to Len Chamberlain, who had decided not to seek re-election due to his health problems.

During the twelve years that Len had been on the Parish Council he had quietly achieved a great deal, for instance the hard work associated with the installation of street lights around the centre of the village was mostly down to him; and along with others he also worked tirelessly when it came to the building of the Jubilee Room, making sure that the deadlines were reached and the financial targets met. Over the years he had also been our representative on ALCA and went to meetings that dealt with many county issues which may have impacted on our lives here in Bleadon, such as the increasing number of night flights out of Bristol International Airport.

We, the present Parish council members wish Len well and are pleased to know that he will continue to be of service to our community as the Chairman of the Hall committee.

PJR

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAYRE



The May Day Bank Holiday dawned sunny and bright, just as it had so many times before and our Fayre was going to be another glorious success! The Gods surely do favour this, our best of all village days.

The bells rang out and the programme sellers were in position to welcome all comers to the jollifications; the bouncy castle was up and ready to go and the stall-holders were eager to sell their goods.

Everything was in place quite early on and by 11-00am when the official opening was due to take place there was a good queue waiting to pounce on bargains at the bric-a-brac stalls. Traffic on the M5 and the main road into Weston had caused problems for our guest, Sally Challoner from BBC Points West, but when she finally arrived the Fayre was declared open and the fun started. The cakes and plant stalls, the book bargains and the pictures, the raffles and the side shows all contributed to the wonderful atmosphere. The children had their fancy dress parade; there was the usual art exhibition. and of course there was the musical entertainment provided by the Jazzmen and the Morris dancers.

A goodly sum of money was raised for the Church (in excess of £5000)... and the Friends of the Church are grateful to all those who helped in their own way to make the day such a success.

In the Church itself a fabulous array of flowers arranged 'Continental Style' made sure that all who visited Bleadon that weekend went away with a feeling of well-being.

Here's to the next one - I'm sure someone somewhere has already started the planning!

SOMERSET SOUND COMES TO BLEADON

Back in March I received an e-mail from Adam Thomas, the afternoon presenter on BBC Radio Somerset Sound. He invited me to become the Village correspondent with the chance to put Bleadon on the 'Radio Map' - so to speak. He knows Bleadon well, as he is Weston born and bred and his Mother is a member of the Players, in fact he calls it his favourite Somerset Village!

My first excursion into broadcasting took the form of a live telephone chat with Adam one Monday afternoon, when various topics were discussed including the very real problem of flooding in the village. He was also interested in the various activities that went on in the Coronation Hall and that gave me the opportunity to 'plug' the then forthcoming Spring Flower Show!

A few weeks later I was contacted again with reference to compiling a 'village profile', which meant finding five or six willing people who could talk about Bleadon fluently and the part it played in their lives. This did not prove too arduous a task, I soon had the requisite number of volunteers and we all met up at various times during the course of a bright, sunny, April, Monday morning. We duly recorded the interviews and to our surprise we discovered the first was to be broadcast that afternoon. The remainder were to go out each afternoon that week so there was little or no chance to give any advance publicity to our week of fame!

I have to thank all those who came forward to talk so ably about their roles in village life; they were Anne Northey-Baker for the Bleadon Players, Chris Cudlipp for the Horticultural Society (with a few weather notes thrown in for good measure), Jon at the

Post Office and Stores, and Chris in the Queen's Arms who entertained us over a drink. My special thanks go to Ruth James, who invited us into her home for a chat and where we also talked to Margaret Cullen who was on her way to hospital but took the time to give us a few of her thoughts on what made Bleadon such a special place.

Adam visits a different Somerset Village each week and he may be paying us a return visit later on in the year. If you wish to listen to the sort of programme it is then tune into '**BBC Somerset Sound**' - **1566AM on the dial**. There is also a **Phone-In** telephone number **01823 368181** which can be used to inform Adam of various happenings in the village, and he will be pleased to give them a 'plug'. It's a very good way to get your event advertised on the radio - you never know who may be listening!

Alternatively you could e-mail to :- Somerset.Sound@bbc.co.uk

Anyone wishing to obtain recordings of the six Bleadon interviews can send a blank 90 minute cassette tape to:-

**Adam Thomas, BBC Somerset Sound, Broadcasting House, Park Street
TAUNTON TA1 4DA**

Penny Robinson

BLEADON LADIES CLUB

Invitation to all the ladies of the village. Why not join our club? We meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 2.30pm in the Coronation Hall

Our June meeting was a talk on Community Safety and Closed Circuit Television, helping to make our town a safer place to shop.

Our July meeting on July 8th will be a Bring and Buy sale, followed by a game of Beetle, hosted by Mr John Tomlinson, and then to round off the afternoon a Cream Tea.

August 12th

The members and friends will enjoy our Annual Outing. This year to Tewkesbury, where we can browse around the Market, and afterwards, enjoy a river trip to Upton upon Severn.

September 9th

Garden Plants and Shrubs. A talk by Sanders Garden World, and afterwards a chance to purchase plants.

So as you can see we have a very varied programme of events.

So do come and join our club, make new friends, have a chat, and enjoy being a member of the Bleadon Ladies Club.


For more details call Barbara on 814362

North Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau

We are pleased to announce the launch of our
official website. Visit:

www.northsomersetcab.org

*for information on our sites, services, opening times,
types of advice offered, how to contact us and links
to our national advice guide.*



**citizens
advice
bureau**

HELPLINES

Advice and Counselling on Alcohol and Drugs:

55a Oxford Street, W-s-M (01934)415376.

Age Concern: 23 Boulevard, W-s-M - (01934) 629192.

Alzheimer's Disease Society: (01934) 514977.

Arthritis Care: (01934) 622808.

Young People With Arthritis: (01934)525037.

Axe District Scouts: Mrs Ann Coombes - (01934) 513699.

Business Link West: (0345) 678100.

Cancer Information Service: (0207) 608 1661 or (01 934) 510230 and (0468) 525525.

Cancer Information and Support Centre: (0117)928 3369.

Carers Centre: 1 Graham Road, W-s-M (01934) 644223. Information and advice for people caring for elderly and disabled relatives at home.

Childline: Freephone (0800) 1111.

Citizens Advice Bureau: Roselawn, Walliscote Grove Road, W-s-M (01934) 621908.

CLIC W-s-M: (01934) 812859.

Community Health Council (Bristol & District): Manulife House, 10 Marlborough Street, Bristol BS1 3NU. Also at Crossroads, Graham Road, W-s-M on Fridays from 9.30am-12.30pm. Ring (0117) 987 3800 out of hours.

Council for Voluntary Services: (01934) 631169.

CRUSE (bereavement help): (01934)628233.

Disability Information Service North Somerset: 3 Manor Court, Locking, W-s-M (01934) 820104.

Disabled Sociability Network: (01934)623752.

Dementia Care Trust: (01934) 522300.

Friends Across North Somerset: The Potteries Community Centre, Langford Road, W-s-M, BS23 3PQ. (01934) 613238. F.A.N.S@ecosse.net

FRIEND (mental health centre): (01934)622292.

Heart, Chest and Stroke Social Club: (01934) 412391.

HIV, AIDS and Sexual Health: (0117) 955 1000.

Horizon Club for the Hard of Hearing: (01934) 629412.

James Macdonald Cancer Trust: (01 934) 510230 or (0468) 525525.

Leukaemia Care Society: (01761) 453703.

Multiple Sclerosis Society (North Somerset and West Mendip Branch): Local information/helpline (01 934) 814499. National helpline: 0808 800 8000.

Myasthenia Gravis Association: (01934) 413371.

North Somerset Gateopener Family Advice and Advocacy Service: (01934) 644452 or 513726.

NSPCC: (0117) 966 4283.

Osteoporosis Group: (01934) 415096 or (01934) 844138.

Rape Helpline: (0117) 935 1707.

Red Cross: (01934) 622844.

RELATE: (marriage guidance) (01934) 627206.

R.S.P.C.A. 172 Locking Road, W-s-M (01934) 627000 or (08705)555999.

St John Ambulance: (01934)629905.

Samaritans: 137 High Street, W-s-M (01934) 632555. SSAFA

Forces Help: (01934) 644024 (11 am-12noon Wednesdays).

Sunshine Radio: Weston General Hospital - (01934) 619252.

Voluntary Agency: (01934) 410190.

Weston and District Muscular Dystrophy Support Group: (01934)419853.

Weston and District Victim Support: (01934) 638179.

WRVS: (0117) 907 7700.

Woodspring Talking News: (01934)622054.

EMERGENCIES In an emergency, dial 999 for police, fire & ambulance

Electricity: (0345) 651651.

Bristol Water: (0845) 702 3797.

Gas: (0800) 111 999.

Police: North Somerset area - (01934) 635252; Sedgemoor area - (01823) 337911.

Ambulance, Fire, Police, Coastguard: Emergencies: 999.

CHEMISTS

A dispensing service is provided by chemists in Weston after closing hours at the following times:

Monday to Wednesday and Saturday - 5.30pm-8.45pm,

Thursday and Friday to 9.45pm, Sunday 3.45pm

TESCO STORES LTD, Station Road, W-s-M

SAFWAY STORES LTD, Somerset Way.

R. H. LTD, MENDIP PHARMACY 331 Locking Road.

Sundays and Bank Holidays 12.00noon - 1.00pm, 6.00pm-8.00pm:

R. H. LTD, MENDIP PHARMACY 331 Locking Road.

For details, including telephone numbers, of pharmacies in your area that are open after 5.30pm on weekdays and open on Sundays, please call NHS Direct on 0845 4647.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

North Somerset Council: (01934) 888888.

Sedgemoor District Council: (01 278) 435435.

Somerset County Council: (01823) 333451.

HOSPITAL

Weston General Hospital: Switchboard - (01934) 636363.

1ST BLEADON BROWNIES



Brown Owl: Bella Ware

24 Bleadon Mill, Bleadon, WSM BS24 OBE. TEL: 0 1934 811545

Tawny Owl:	Lucy Stevens	Snowy Owl:	Paula Guess
Pack Assistant:	Juliet Warr		
Lone Guider:	Nicky McGrath		
Guide Helper:	Katie Holder		

1st Bleadon Brownies is going from strength to strength. Bella Ware continues as Brown Owl with the support of her two leaders Lucy Stevens and Paula Guess. Parents are also encouraged to help on a rota basis to provide a 1:6 adult child ratio required for the activities.

Bella and Lucy are qualified and warranted leaders and Paula will undertake her leadership programme and become a warranted leader during the next year.

All three have a wealth of knowledge and expertise which complement each other and this year we have some surprises in store for example a summer camp (not under canvas thank goodness!)

Some of our Brownies reached the golden age of 10 this year and have left providing room for those on the long waiting list. Six new Brownies started this term and will be enrolled with the help and instruction from our very own Rector David Parkinson who regularly pops in to see what they are doing. The brownies attend as many special services as possible throughout the year at the church of St Peter and St Paul.

1st Bleadon Brownies meet every Tuesday at the Guide and Scout Jubilee hall from 6pm 7.30pm.

If your daughter is 7 years old and wishes to go on the waiting list please contact Bella Ware on Bleadon 811545.

THE GENTLE ART OF FLOWER ARRANGING

This is the part in the Village News when our red blooded gentlemen readers will hastily turn the page. Flower arranging forsooth! But I do have to tell them that some of the best flower arrangers in the country are men.

NAFAS, or the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies, is the national organisation for the art, and all the flower clubs in the country are affiliated to the Society. If on your travels, you ever see an event advertised which has been organised by NAFAS, do go because you will see outstanding flower arrangements, both traditional and the new modern ones. This year in Bleadon Church we called our theme "Bleadon Church Goes Continental when we attempted some modern arrangements in unusual containers and to our gratification we had some very complimentary comments on the results.

Like every other art or craft there are tips of the trade and I will list some which may be helpful to ladies (and men of course) who would like to know more about flower arranging. Incidentally, we are always very pleased to hear from anyone who would like to join the team of flower ladies in the church. We are hoping to have another coffee morning on similar lines to the one we organised in February and we will be giving details later in June.

Place floral foam in water and allow it to sink under its own weight until the top is level with the water surface roughly 60 seconds.

You can put plant food in the water containing the foam and always store wet foam in a plastic bag. Once dry it will not re-soak.

Spray your finished arrangements to increase its life.

Do not buy freesias unless the lowest two flowers are showing good colour.

Pluck the stamens from your lilies with your fingers - cutting them leaves a harsh tip.

Do not use water when trying to remove pollen from clothes. Use sticky tape or a sponge.

Add one drop of bleach to a vase containing Gerbera as they are sensitive to bacteria.

If roses droop cut 1 inch off the end and place the stem end in very hot water. Wait until the bubbles stop appearing then top up with cooler water. When conditioning roses or carnations, cut between the nodes so that water will flow up the stem quickly. Always condition flowers and foliage by standing them in water, preferably 24 hours before you wish to arrange them. Remember to top up the water in your arrangement, particularly after the first 24 hours when most water is absorbed.

There are, of course, many, many more "tips of the trade", but I hope that these will inspire you to have a go when you are next given a bunch of flowers. Hint, hint, in case we still have any gentlemen readers. I am sure you will surprise yourself and believe me, it is a very relaxing pastime.

Sheila Ardley

**Bleadon Youth Club.
Annual General Meeting
7.45pm. 29th July 2003**

This is your chance to learn about the group in Bleadon and around the district



IF YOU OWN A DOG

**PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW IT TO FOUL
THE FOOTPATHS AND VERGES OF OUR VILLAGE.**

THE RESULTING MESS IS UNSIGHTLY AND A SOURCE OF
INFECTION.

BLEADON BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

We had such beautiful weather at Easter this year that the Easter Egg Hunt took place in the park. We also made chicks with springy legs, on the craft table, and yet again Jonny Hale won the raffle! (This is slightly embarrassing for me as he is my son and I organise the raffle!) Still, they all left with big chocolate smiles, although I doubt many ate their lunch that day.

Thanks to our chairperson Lynette Blacklock and the 'Awards For All', lottery funding for community grants projects, the Toddler Group is a safer place to play. Lynette successfully applied for a grant to buy safety mats for the slide and trampoline and soft matting for the baby area. This is very timely as the 3 year olds start to get very boisterous this time of year signalling that it is time to move on to playschool. This leads me nicely on to a few thank yous...Sadly we will be losing many of our committee members in July for this very reason. Lynette has been helping the group run smoothly, along with our former secretary Amanda Smallwood for a few years now, and they have both put in a lot of time and effort into keeping it running from week to week and making those special occasions that bit more special. We also recently lost Nicky Frewin our Bleadon Hall Committee Representative and will be losing Alison Watkins, who is responsible for all the pictures, paintings and animal shapes that decorate my kitchen cupboards. Who else will fit the huge amount of toys we have in that small space under the stage other than Karen Rhys-Gill, and who will balance our books now that Ross Witherall is leaving? Thank you to you all.

Forthcoming events at the Toddler Group are the 'Bleadon mums hit town', will either it or us recover, and the children's summer outing to Court Farm, again, will either it or us recover?

The Bleadon Baby & Toddler Group meet every Wednesday throughout the year (we break up 16th July and come back 3rd September) between 10 and 12, with Hilary Teague joining us to hold her health visitor clinic on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. We always welcome new members.

Lucy Hale

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All insertions of 20 words or fewer will be free - for other terms please contact the editor

CORONATION HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2003 - 2004

CHAIRMAN AND LICENCE HOLDERLEONARD CHAMBERLAIN

VICE-CHAIRMAN &
PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVEKEITH PYKE

TREASURER &
PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVECLIVE MORRIS

SECRETARY &
VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVELES MASTERS

BOOKING OFFICER.....JOANNE JONES

Ladies Club.....Mrs Jo Reeves
Bridge ClubMrs Mary Henley
Bleadon PlayersMiss Anne Northey-Baker
Short Mat BowlsMrs. Lynn Riding
Village RepresentativeTony Pettitt
Horticultural SocietyChris Cudlipp
Parochial Church Council.....Mrs. Betty Paterson
Friendship ClubMrs. Beryl Davies
Baby and Toddler GroupMrs. Kirsten Hemmingway-Arnold
Bleadon BrowniesMrs. Bella Ware

At the last meeting, members were asked to consider what improvements they would like to see in the Halls. The Committee would then prioritise the list in the light of available grants and other issues.

The Committee have already agreed to consider an alternative heating system and new flooring for the Jubilee room; also the provision of an induction loop system in the main Hall to help those who may be hard of hearing.

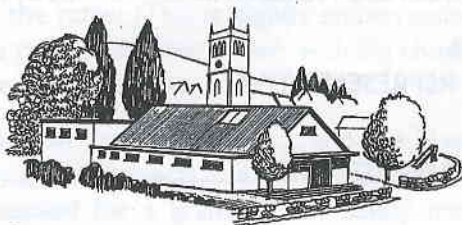
Another matter that has been debated at length, is the possibility of renewing the floor in the main hall, although this could only be achieved with the availability of a substantial grant. It has been agreed that this should be investigated.

Purchases already made include a wide-mouth toaster for the kitchen, a new step-ladder and a new fridge for the Jubilee Room.

Clive Morris and Tony Pettitt were thanked for their work installing the new kitchen units; these have lockable cupboards for the use by Village groups.

Len Chamberlain (Chairman)

A LIST OF ORGANISATIONS WHICH REGULARLY USE THE CORONATION HALL



		CONTACT
MONDAY'S		
2pm-5pm	BLEADON BRIDGE CLUB	Mr D Munden 812772
7-9pm**	EXERCISE CLASS	Marie Keele 750997
7:30pm 1st Monday	BRITISH SUGARCRAFT GUILD W-S-M BRANCH	Mrs C Peters 843754
7:30pm 2nd Monday	PARISH COUNCIL	Mr Bruce Poole, Clerk 01278 787555
TUESDAY'S		
10am-12 noon 2nd Tuesday	BLEADON SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB	Mr J Ward 812136
2pm-4pm 2nd Tuesday	BLEADON LADIES GROUP	Mrs B Pugh 814362
2.30pm-4.30pm 1st, 3rd & 4th Tuesdays	BLEADON SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB	Mr J Ward 812136
6pm-7:30pm	BROWNIES**	
6pm-7pm	WEIGHT WATCHERS	Mrs D Neale 416803
7:30pm Sept - May 1st, 2nd, 4th & 5th	BLEADON PHOTOGRAPHIC GROUP	Mr K Tapley 623877
7:30pm 3rd Tuesday Oct-May	BLEADON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY	Mr C Cudlipp 813152
WEDNESDAY'S		
10am-12 noon 2nd & 4th Wed	INFANT WELFARE CLINIC & TODDLER GROUP	The Health Visitor at the Clinic
10am-12 noon	TODDLER GROUP	Mrs Lucy Hale 815175

5.30-6.30	BLEADON BEAVERS**	Paul Morris 751083 Jane Steel 629903
7.30pm	BLEADON PLAYERS/REHEARSALS	Mrs S Kelly 645135
THURSDAY'S		
10am-12 noon	ART: WATERCOLOUR PAINTING	Weston College 01275 810659
8.00pm Sept - June 1st & 3rd Thursday's	BLEADON FOLK DANCING GROUP	Mrs J Thorne 814007
FRIDAY'S		
2pm-4pm	BLEADON FRIENDSHIP CLUB	Mrs J Diment 812217
7.00pm Sept - May	SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB	Mr J Ward 812136
7.30pm	BLEADON SCOUTS**	Mr D Biddalf 645906
SUNDAY'S		
2.30pm Sept - May	SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB	Mr J Ward 812136

** in the Jubilee Room

The Halls are available for hire by any private individual or organisation.

ENQUIRIES to Mrs J Jones: 812370

FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN THE CORONATION HALLS - PLEASE MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR DIARY!

14th July 7.30 pm	Parish Council	
19th July 9 am - 1pm	VILLAGE MARKET	Jo Jones 812370
16th August 9 am - 1pm	VILLAGE MARKET	
6th September 2 - 4 pm	AUTUMN FLOWER SHOW	Horticultural Society
8th September 7.30 pm	Parish Council	
20th September 9 am - 1 pm	VILLAGE MARKET	
27th September 7.30	Harvest Supper	Church Friends

13th October 7.30 pm	Parish Council	
17/18th October		Bleadon Players' Performance
18th October 9 am - 1 pm	VILLAGE MARKET	
10th November 7.30 pm	Parish Council	
15th November 9 am - 1 pm	VILLAGE MARKET	
22nd November 10 - noon	Coffee Morning	Friendship Club
6th December 9 am - 1 pm	CHRISTMAS MARKET	
8th December 7.30 pm	Parish Council	
14th December	Christingle Party	Church Friends



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BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET - For the year ended 31 March 2003

Year ended 31 March 2002

Year Ended 31 March 2003

CURRENT ASSETS		
28306	Cash at Bank	27355
-	Debtors	30
500	Prepayments	500
1522	VAT on Receipts	916
30328	TOTAL ASSETS	28801
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
(75)	Creditors	(4)
8	Receipts in advance	8
-	Accruals	-
(68)		4
30396	NET ASSETS	28798
REPRESENTED BY		
1500	Recreation Fund	1500
575	Tree Planting Reserve	575
250	Legal Costs Fund	250
-	Interpretation Board	600
-	Car Park	500
1500	Playground finprovements,	1500
4500	Street Lights Fund	5500
282	Queen's Jubilee	-
12300	Wonderstone	12300
9489	General Fund at 31 March	6073
30396		28798

INCOME & EXPENDITURE - For the year ended 31 March 2003

INCOME		
21215	Precept	21000
404	Interest Redd	205
153	Rents	178
417	Advertising	525
120	Grants	124
282	Other Income	1477
22591	TOTAL INCOME	23507

EXPENDITURE

4365	General Maintenance	4024
8538	Village Improvements	1150
195	Allotments	145
7882	Office Administration	9429
3050	Grants	6712
-	Other Expenditure	3646
24030	Total Expenditure	25105

GENERAL FUND

10710	General Fund 0/B	9489
22591	Total Income	23507
33301	Sub Total	32996
24030	Total Expenditure	25105
9271	Sub Total	7891
(282)	Transfers to/from General Fund	1818
9553	General Fund at 31 March	6073

INCOME to March 2003

	Last Year	Budget	Voted	Actual	Variance	%Bdgt
GENERAL INCOME						
Precept	21215	21000	-	21000	-	100.0
Interest Rec'd	404	450	-	205	(245)	45.5
Total general Income	21619	21450		21205	(245)	98.9
RENTS						
Youth Club Rent	10	10	-	10	-	100.0
Village Pond rent	8	8	-	-	(8)	-
Allotments Rents	136	160	-	168	8	104.8
Total Rents	153	178		178	0	100.1
OTHER INCOME						
Newsletter Sponsors	417	400	-	525	125	131.1
Orderly grant	120	120	-	124	4	103.3
War Graves	-	-	-	20	20	-
Jubilee Receipts	282	-	-	1457	1457	-
Other Income	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Other Income	818	520		2125	1605	408.7
TOTAL INCOME	22591	22148		23507	1360	106.1

EXPENDITURE to March 2003

	Last Year	Budget	Voted	Actual	Variance	%Bdgt
OPEN SPACES						
General Maintenance	344	-	-	350	350	-
Planting	213	450	-	436	(14)	96.9
Seat	202	57	-	-	(57)	-
Footpaths	-	300	-	-	(300)	-
Allotment Gate	206	-	-	-	-	-
Tree Planting	(575)	-	-	-	-	-
Playground	806	800	-	949	149	118.6
Sundries	26	100	-	25	(75)	25.0
Bus Shelter	440	-	-	-	-	-
Car Park	40	500	-	-	(500)	-
Grass Cutting	1813	2000	-	1939	(61)	97.0
Church Clock	100	100	-	100	-	100.0
Clock Lighting	215	320	-	225	(95)	70.4
General Maintenance Total	3830	4627		4024	(603)	87.0
Village Improvements						
Interpretation Board	-	600	-	-	(600)	-
Playground	57	1000	-	900	(100)	90.0
Lighting	(1000)	1000	-	-	(1000)	-
Tubs & Baskets	291	-	-	-	-	-
Roman Road	1481	-	-	-	-	-
Village Signing	6669	-	-	250	250	-
Village Improvements Total	7498	2600		1150	(1450)	44.2
Allotments						
Allotments - Rent	120	150	-	145	(5)	96.7
Allotments - Maintenance	75	120	-	-	(120)	-
Total Allotments	195	270		145	(125)	53.7
TOTAL OPEN SPACES	11523	7497		5319	(2178)	70.9
ADMINISTRATION						
Clerk's Salary	3459	3800	-	4042	242	106.4
Stationery	766	500	-	1001	501	200.3
Faxes	-	-	-	15	15	-
Insurances	1312	1700	-	1624	(76)	95.5
Photocopying	395	300	-	555	255	184.9
Postage	211	250	-	191	(59)	76.4
Sundries	156	100	-	267	167	267.3

EXPENDITURE to March 2003

	Last Year	Budget	Voted	Actual	Variance	%Bdgt
Professional Fees	190	600	-	190	(410)	31.7
Newsletter - Printing Costs	870	900	-	870	(30)	96.7
Subscriptions	387	400	-	387	(13)	96.7
Councillor's Expenses	287	750	-	287	(463)	38.2
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	9429	9300		9429	129	101.4
GRANTS						
Coronation Hall	6612	3000	-	6612	3612	220.4
S.137 Expenditure	100	-	-	100	100	-
TOTAL GRANTS	6712	3000		6712	3712	223.7
OTHER EXPENDITURE						
Queens Jubilee	3238	1500	-	3238	1738	215.9
Contingencies	408	908	-	408	(500)	44.9
TOTAL OTHER EXPENDITURE	3646	2408		3646	1239	151.4
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	25105	22205		25105	2901	113.1

ELEVATING THOUGHTS (OR WHAT GOES UP)

I went into the newly refurbished M & S store in my home town recently. I hadn't been in the place since they had overhauled it in an attempt to win back shoppers. I have to say it looked good, they had done an excellent job. Automatic sliding doors to enter and exit, no more swing both way doors that people could let go in your face. Inside, open plan giving an impression of uncluttered space. And opposite the automatic doors, centrally situated, side by side, an impressive bank of escalators beckoning shoppers to explore the upper floors. Hard to resist those three sets of moving stairs humming smoothly as two travelled upwards and one down. Yes, two up, one down. I considered that arrangement and wondered if maybe they had reversed it on the next floor. Why not one up and two down? So, being the sort of person who thinks such thoughts I took one of the up escalators to the first floor (Men's clothing, travel goods and accessories.) There facing me were three elevators to and from the second floor (Lingerie, childrenswear) two going up, one coming down.

To digress slightly, I wonder why women's outerwear is on the ground floor but underwear on the second. Does a woman buy her slinky black dress on the ground

floor then go up to the third for the seductive little items to go under it? Or is it that, as menswear is on the first floor, chaps will not go up another flight to ogle the undies? However, back to the escalators and this problem of unmatched numbers. By now intrigued I went to the third floor (electrical goods, kitchen equipment) and facing me - yes, you've guessed - three escalators, two up one down. How strange I thought, do more people go up than come down? How can that be? I need to know. On the fourth floor (bedding, kitchenware, cafeteria) the pattern changed. Only two escalators here, one up, one down as it should be, travelling to and from Accounts, Personnel Offices. I went up, stopping on that final floor to figure out this intriguing arithmetical proposition. Two up, one down. Could twice as many people go up as come down? I remember learning in school that what goes up must come down so how did half the people who came up not go down? And if they didn't go down what did they do up here? Where did they go? Had M&S deliberately planned this? Could they be engaged in slave trading on a large scale? Were they trying to recover their lost High Street trading position by selling people? They were doing good business too considering the number of people who went up those escalators each day.

Many years ago I read a science fiction story in which a city built a super subway rail system with umpteen levels all interconnected. At the centre of the system making this impossible enterprise work was a complex piece of artificial intelligence, a computerised interchange which could switch any train from any line to any other line in an instant. The author gave a hint of the mind boggling maths involved in the procedure but I got lost counting the noughts on the end. The point I'm coming to is that in the story the incredibly intelligent interchanger lost the plot on one occasion and switched a train into another dimension. The unfortunate passengers on the train went hurtling through cyberspace and were never seen again in this dimension.

Now here is an intriguing thought: had the brainbox who designed the M&S store escalator system also read the story and maybe wondered if he could do something similar with escalators? Had he succeeded? And more to the point what was he doing to restore the missing people to their families? This question needs putting firmly to M & S management but not by me.

On this topmost floor with no more escalators to ride I looked around me. No goods to purchase here. Just three doors in a row marked respectively: Accounts, Personnel, and Staff Only. Opposite them, next to the escalators, was a fourth door. A large double door - securely locked. Why? No other doors were locked. What was the mystery behind this sinister locked door? What was M&S hiding from the public? I wasn't staying to find out. The door bore a large notice:

NO ADMITTANCE. THIS DOOR IS ALARMED.

I don't blame it, I was alarmed myself. I got out, leaving the store by the single down escalator.

COUNCIL TAX

The best thing we could do with Council Tax would be to dispatch it quickly and cleanly and bury it a long way down in the mud flats of North Somerset. Unfortunately this is unlikely to happen at present.

All of us understand the purpose of taxation, the incalculable benefits which it brings to society and the social cohesion it promotes. But, equally, we all support the notion that when we are asked to contribute to the communal coffers the method of doing this should be as fair as possible.

Council Tax is neither fair nor sensible. It is based on two flawed assumptions. The first is that property is a reasonable criterion for assessing the capacity of people to pay taxes. Clearly it is not, as those who are either retired or employed on low incomes can readily testify. Moreover, despite a reduction in contributions, the single occupant of a property can be unfairly penalised.

The second flawed assumption is the belief that council tax pays for local services. It does not. The two major areas of provision which it funds, education and social services, are local only in the sense of geographical proximity. They are in fact national services. We want and expect good schools for our children throughout the whole country and we want the best care for our relatives and friends whichever city or county they happen to live in. There should be no place for postcode lotteries of any sort in modern society.

In the longer term council tax will probably disappear. In the short term there is an obvious way to reduce the pain this tax inflicts on many people. A national funding system for schools, where all their money is raised through national taxation, would cut council tax by about a half. It's time to make a start on this, as the first stage in the final journey to the mud flats of this piece of fiscal nonsense.

Alan Kerr

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SUNDAY SOUNDS

Teacher and schoolgirl; civil servant and small businessman; engineer and language student old and young; male and female; catholic and protestant. What can all these people have in common? Well - they all know their 'tail-ends' from their 'sallies'. They are all bellringers. Bells ringing out to call the faithful to worship is a sound that epitomizes Sunday for many people. But have you ever considered what, or rather who, is at the other end of the rope. Bellringing is a peculiarly British activity that has been developed over the past three to four hundred years. It can take anything from 2 to 6 months to learn to handle a bell rope competently and a lifetime to master the intricacies of the mathematical patterns which make up the sound of a peal of bells. A ringer will normally attend an evening practice once a week and ring for Sunday services, special feasts and weddings. It requires a certain degree of commitment to the tower, but this is insignificant compared with the enjoyment and friendship to be found.

If you have ever thought you would like to find out more about bellringing - this is your chance. Anyone of any age can learn provided they can reach the rope. Don't be put off because you think you are too old! If you can scale the spiral staircase to the ringing chamber you will certainly be able to ring. Come along to a practice night or telephone Bleadon 813285 for more information. Everybody is welcome.

P. Maffey

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and for those who are interested

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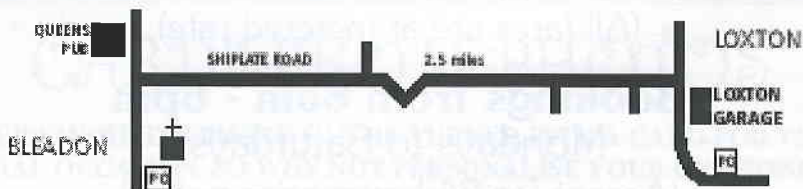
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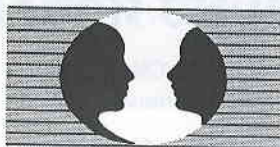
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BLEADON CHURCH - PARISH MAGAZINE

Monthly 30p



News, Views, Reports
Times of and information about
Services and special events.



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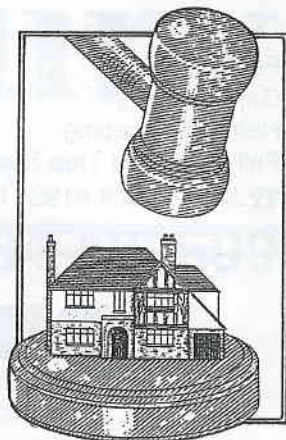
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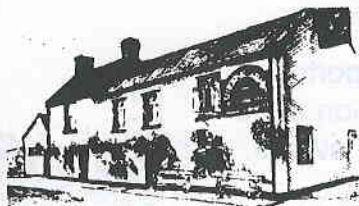


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In the 2003 Good Beer Guide

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REFERENCES ON REQUEST

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THE COVER DESIGN IS BY JOHN HICKLEY

Published by BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL, Bleadon, North Somerset.

Produced & Printed by **GFS Print** Telephone (01934) 622409 · Fax (01934) 612079