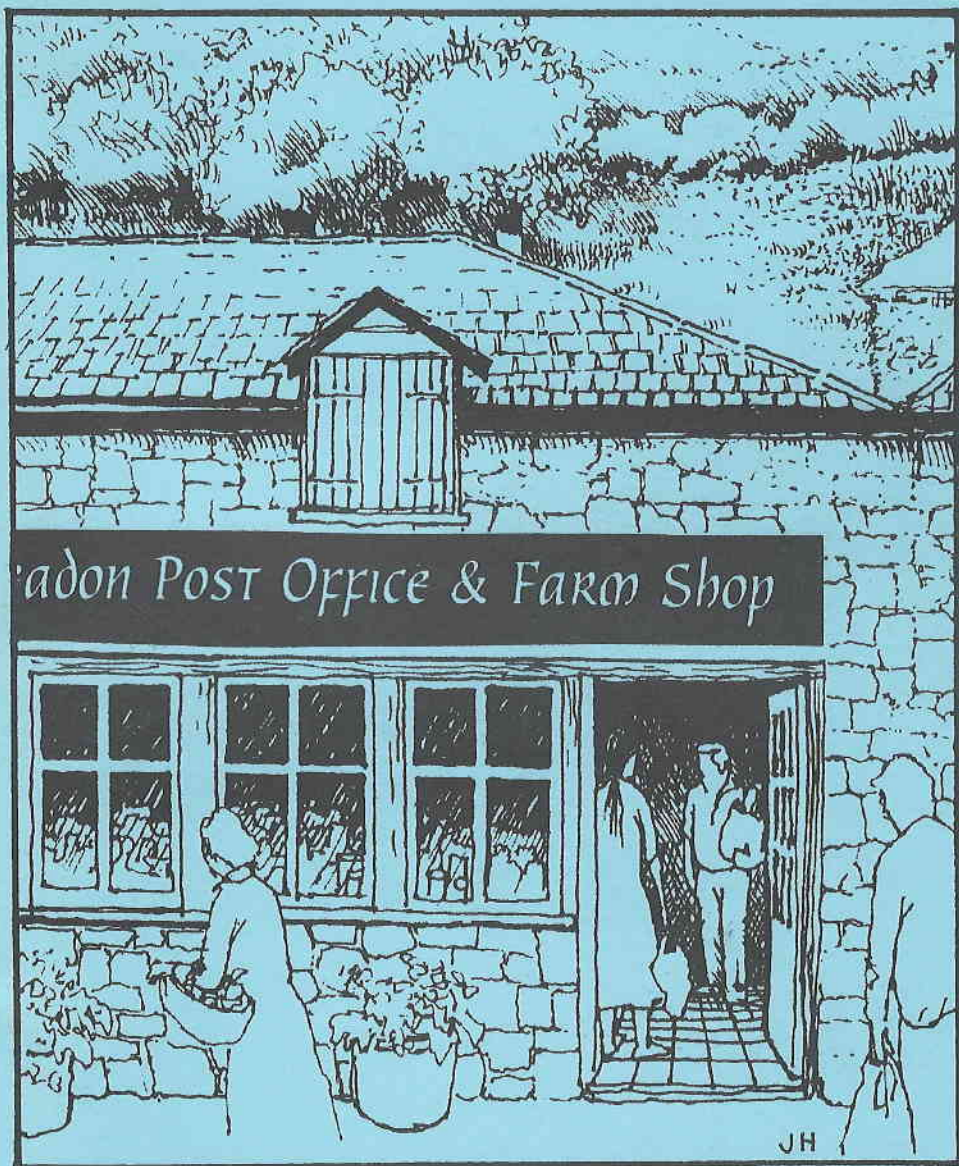


BLEADON



VILLAGE NEWS 61

Bleadon Village Monthly Market

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Local Cider. Preserves. Honey. Garden Plants.
Lavender. Crafts. Books. Antiques. Bric-a-Brac.
Refreshments. Gossip & Chat and more...



Saturday 9am - 1pm

July 17, Aug 21, Sept 18,

Oct 16, Nov 20, Dec 4

Coronation Hall, Bleadon

01934 812370 to book a stall
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YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

PENNY SKELLEY [CHAIRMAN] 'MENDIP CROFT', CELTIC WAY, BLEADON. TEL. 815331
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., LYMPHAM. TEL. 812921
KEITH PYKE 8, WHITEGATE CLOSE, BLEADON. TEL. 813127
CLIVE MORRIS 20, BLEADON MILL, BLEADON. TEL. 811591
JUSTIN HARVEY-BENNETT THE BEECHES, CELTIC WAY, BLEADON. TEL. 811373
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 wishes to, may attend these meetings, and raise any issue of interest at the end of business.

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 Friday August 27th 2004

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, there will be some spares available from the new shop.

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!

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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.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



My report for this magazine is as short as the Annual Parish Report is included in this edition of the Village News. To keep you up to date, I am pleased to report that the new shop is now up and running with great success; the Farm Shop and Post Office are expected to open in July. A pedestal type letter box will be located outside the new shop and the "old box" will be moved to the pavement only yards from its present site. This work should be completed in the next eight weeks.

During the next annual parish year, a public meeting will be held to hear your views and wishes in order that the formal Local Plan for the village may be completed. All being well, this should lead to "Quality Parish Status".

I hope that you are not too inconvenienced by the short term closure of Shiplate Road and hopefully also the resurfacing of Bridge Road - all means to an end! Enjoy the summer tubs and may I thank you on behalf of our Parish Councillors and myself for your continued support.

Penny Skelley, Chairman, Parish Council

ANNUAL PARISH REPORT - 2004

Chairman

As a Parish Council, we have had a very busy and mostly rewarding year. As a team, we have fulfilled many commitments that have been made in the past, and we believe that the Parish of Bleadon is at the forefront of the District.

The major problem of the closure of the Post Office is behind us and we welcome the enterprise of Alistair House in opening, in the near future, a Farm Shop and Post Office. The North Somerset Council has explained the schools admission policy for Bleadon children and the North Somerset officers are looking closely at future admission arrangements.

We have commissioned new fencing for the Play Park, which will be erected in April, and three free standing Village Notice Boards, the final position of these remains to be confirmed. We also continue to enhance the environment wherever possible, the replanting of the tubs for summer being one example, and suggestions for improvements to the village are always much appreciated. As a Council we look forward to all the events in the village, which serve the whole community, and we welcome a new Publican in the Queens Arms.

Mrs Penny J Skelley

PLANNING

This past year has been a very busy one for the Council with 23 applications being received. 15 site visits been made with the Council approving 20. However the District Council overrode 2 decisions made by this Council resulting in one application going to appeal. The application which North Somerset saw fit to override was the future development of Hillgate House Yard. This caused great anger and distress to the residents around The Mill.

Mrs M E Sheppard - Chairman Planning Committee

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OPEN SPACES

Overall the year has been a good one for the village and its open spaces, although a lot quieter than 2002 (Jubilee Year). Once again we managed to have a good display of flowering tubs throughout the summer and also over the winter period; our thanks must go to Sander's Garden World for supplying such good quality plants and also to all those villagers who once again turned out to help plant them up, and of course to those who helped to maintain them throughout the growing season.

I should also like to thank those who came along on the annual 'Clean-up' day. The weather was favourable and a good job was done by the volunteers who made the village look at its best for the May Fayre. At the Veale there are some new signs indicating the house numbers; we are indebted to Brian Thorne for making these, and also for the refurbishment of the seats by the bus stop and in front of the bungalows

The lay-bys in Roman road have been maintained throughout the year partly due to our own efforts but mostly due to the great support we receive from the Mendip Rangers led by Andy Eddy to whom we owe so much. The picnic table and benches in the upper lay-by have been restored by them recently. Sadly, the walnut saplings generously donated by Peter Lindsay, which were planted in the lower lay-by have fallen foul to 'vandals' - in the shape of the local deer. Recently we asked Mark Howe to wire-cage the sole surviving sapling but he tells me that that too has been chewed right down, and no new growth was visible at the last look.

Another major concern of residents of the Village is the perennial problem of dog mess. This has been the subject of much discussion, and local to me one resident has had notices made at his own expense, in order to make people aware of what a mess their dogs make and to asking them to 'Pick it Up'

The Churchyard

Few problems have arisen this year. The whole area has been maintained very well by Mark Howe, including the removal of some sycamore saplings which were encroaching a property next to the Churchyard itself. We have asked for the brambles and other weeds by the walls to be dealt with, and Mark assures me that this will be in hand soon, when the weather permits him to spray before cutting them back.

New regulations dealing with the safety of gravestones were brought to our notice, and we have been assured by the Church wardens that the memorials are checked on a regular basis.

Mrs Penny Robinson - Chairman of Open Spaces.

Play Area

Over the next couple of weeks parishioners will see the benefit of significant investment in improvements to the play area. New colour coated steel mesh fencing and gates will be installed at a cost of around 4550.00. Securing for another generation of Bleadon's families a safe play environment.

The play pit sand and safety bark had their annual top-ups and the whole play area passed its annual RoSPA safety check with just a few repairs required to the old picnic table. Mark Howe continues to provide an excellent maintenance service with the grass cutting. Generally the park looks tidy, and is well used and enjoyed.

Other Open Spaces

A North Somerset environment officer visited the Purn quarry and provided some sensible advice on maintaining the site in an environmentally friendly way. Reduction of some of the brambles and new tree saplings is something we need to tackle regularly over the coming years. We could also look at the provision of nesting boxes. It is delightful at this time of year to see the many groups of naturalised daffodils appearing along our verges. Thanks to the Autumn Planting efforts of some of our villagers.

A spate of rubbish dumping and abandoned cars down Accommodation Road and Wayacre Drove created an eyesore and costly clean-up problem for a while. The community needs to be vigilant in maintaining a look out for such antisocial behaviour.

Mr K Pyke

Village News

I am pleased to report that the magazine has been well received during the past year, and more people are coming forward with interesting articles for inclusion. At this time I should like to thank all the contributors and distributors for their help and I hope that I can count on you for your future support. My thanks also to John Hickley who manages to come up with good original cover drawings time after time.

In addition this year I have been able to introduce a centre fold of photos of 'Old Bleadon', into each issue, this having been made possible by the generous sponsorship from Marshall's Quarry. I have been given assurance from the new manager that this is likely to continue.

The 'deadline to door-mat' time is getting better, thanks to new technology both at the printers and at the editor's desktop!

We are now having 500 issues printed each quarter so that some of our Bleadon Hill neighbours can receive copies too. These people regularly support the village events and the Halls, and I feel that they contribute in their own way to the success of the Village and its Newsletter.

Mrs Penny Robinson - Editor Bleadon Village News

Allotments

The past year has been very encouraging with 15 of the 16 plots being let. Upper 9 still proves to be problematical. Having been cleared and sprayed twice the briars are determined to stay alive. However if there is anyone who is interested in a challenge then the Council would be prepared to waive the rent for 6 months. With a bit of TLC the plot would soon reward its tenant. The dead elms have been removed and the area tidied up.

I wish all the allotment holders a successful gardening year.

Mrs M E Sheppard

Guides

With the suspension of the Bleadon Cub pack last March because of the lack of leaders there now remains just a Brownie group in Bleadon. However, it is delightful to report that the 1st Bleadon Brownies continues to go from strength to strength under the leadership of Brown Owl Bella Ware. With 24 places the group has kept to 18 Brownies for the last six months whilst a new leader was trained. After Easter the group will be full with six young girls still on the waiting list.

The thanks of the Parish Councillors must go to the un-paid leaders and helpers who enable our children to develop such wonderful values and social skills.

Youth Club

We are pleased to report that there is a perceptible improvement in the relationship between the Parish Council and the Youth Club. For too long we have seemed to ignore each other. There is now a real will to work together in partnership and support. Whilst membership of the Club continues to be fairly low at just eight youngsters it is hoped that the enthusiasm of the new full-time Youth Leader Anne Fortune will bring fresh ideas to the club. She is a welcome breath of fresh air.

Coronation Hall Management Committee

The Hall Management Committee introduced new initiatives last year to supplement income from hall hire and these have now become regular fixtures that are well supported by the community. As a result, overall usage of the Coronation Hall and Jubilee Room has again increased.

Income from hall hire and fundraising events, supplemented by the above-mentioned grants, enabled the Hall Management Committee to complete the following projects during the past 12 months:

- Improved safety measures including an entrance ramp and better signage
- New kitchen units and work surfaces in the Coronation Hall incorporating lockable cupboards for regular users
- Installation of an induction loop in the Coronation Hall to assist people who use hearing aids
- Improved insulation and ceiling lighting on either side of the Coronation Hall
- Complete new strip floor in the Jubilee Room to replace the old carpet tiles
- Installation of a new electric heating system in the Jubilee Room to replace the previous unreliable overhead infrared heaters
- Complete redecoration of the Jubilee Room

Mr C Morris - Coronation Hall Representative

ALCA

ALCA continues to give a valuable service to the Parish Councils in giving guidance about new Government Legislation and in representing their views, via NALC, on Government proposals for new legislation affecting Parish Councils.

Mr R E Hicks - ALCA & Mendip Hills Representative

Highways and Footpaths

During the year ending April 2004 there have been several minor developments in the parish including the preparation to surface dress Roman Road. The schemes that are planned include the following:-

1. Facum Lane to Accommodation Road Footpath
2. Surface Dressing to Roman Road and Celtic Way
3. Accommodation Road approaches to Summerways Bridge

On the whole the conditions within the Parish are good. The main area of concern is Bridge Road and this has been highlighted to the North Somerset Highways Section on several occasions. More recently it has been noted by some Parishioners that dropped kerbs are required at locations around the village to facilitate wheelchair access. An application for funding has been submitted to North Somerset - we await their response and action.

Similarly, it has been requested that speed restrictions be considered in the village but owing to the low priority level, no foreseeable date for assessment or undertaking of work is available.

Mr J Harvey-Bennett - Roads & Transport

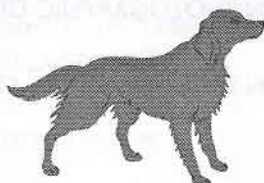
PRECEPT

INCOME	<u>Budget 03/04</u>	<u>Actual 03/04</u>	<u>Budget 04/05</u>
GENERAL INCOME			
Bank Interest	140.00	339.00	190.00
	140.00	339.00	190.00
RENTS			
Youth Club Rent	50.00	210.00	50.00
Allotments	180.00	196.00	185.00
	235.00	406.00	235.00
OTHER INCOME			
Newsletter Sponsors	420.00	785.00	650.00
Orderly Grant	130.00	126.00	125.00
War Graves	20.00	20.00	20.00
	570.00	931.00	795.00
TOTAL INCOME	945.00	1676.00	1220.00
EXPENDITURE			
EXPENDITURE	<u>Budget 03/04</u>	<u>Actual 03/04</u>	<u>Budget 04/05</u>
OPEN SPACES			
General Maintenance		35.00	100.00
Planting	450.00	421.00	525.00
Footpaths	100.00		100.00
Playground	200.00	107.00	875.00
Sundries	25.00		
Car Park/Lay Byes	200.00	125.00	
Grass Cutting	2400.00	2067.00	2020.00
Church Clock	100.00	100.00	100.00
Lighting	250.00	210.00	250.00
Jubilee Garden			50.00
Well Green -Hedges			225.00
Purn Quarry Cleansing			500.00
Shiplate Hill - Sign			75.00
Fully Cleansing			400.00
	3725.00	3065.00	4820.00
VILLAGE IMPROVEMENTS			
Village Improvements		2834.00	
Playground/Car Park	2800.00	71.00	850.00
Notification			2000.00
Jubilee Garden			850.00
Well Green			850.00
	2800.00	2905.00	4550.00
ALLOTMENTS			
Rent	150.00	73.00	150.00
Maintenance	100.00	186.00	200.00
	250.00	259.00	350.00
TOTAL OPEN SPACES	6775.00	6229.00	9720.00

ADMINISTRATION

Clerk's Salary	4300.00	4287.00	4560.00
Office Expenses		600.00	600.00
Stationery	1100.00	1726.00	1000.00
Faxes	50.00	37.00	50.00
Insurances	2200.00	2201.00	2500.00
Photocopying	600.00	136.00	200.00
Postage	150.00	219.00	250.00
Sundries	100.00	15.00	100.00
IT		613.00	600.00
Professional Fees	500.00	1040.00	500.00
Newsletter Printing	1200.00	1538.00	1600.00
Subscriptions	600.00	345.00	600.00
Chairman's Insignia		531.00	
Councillor's Expenses	1200.00	919.00	1400.00
Election Expenses	600.00	598.00	200.00
Village Plan			1000.00
	12600.00	14805.00	15160.00
GRANTS			
Coronation Hall	3000.00	3000.00	4000.00
S.137 Expenditure		180.00	
	3000.00	3180.00	4000.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	22375.00	24214.00	28880.00
INCOME	945.00	1676.00	1220.00
NET EXPENDITURE	21430.00	22538.00	27660.00
PRECEPT DIFFERENCE	21430.00 0.00	21430.00 (1108.00)	27660.00 0.00

Mr B Poole - Parish Clerk



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.

A LIST OF ORGANISATIONS WHICH REGULARLY USE THE CORONATION HALL



MONDAYS

2pm-5pm

BLEADON BRIDGE CLUB

CONTACT

Mr D Munden 812772

7-9pm**

EXERCISE CLASS

Marie Keele
07939 038071

7:30pm

1st Monday

BRITISH SUGARCRAFT GUILD
W-S-M BRANCH

Mrs Pat Bissell
01278 785282

7:30pm

2nd Monday

PARISH COUNCIL

Mr Bruce Poole, Clerk
01278 787555

TUESDAYS

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

WEDNESDAYS

10am-12 noon

2nd & 4th Wed

INFANT WELFARE CLINIC &
TODDLER GROUP

The Health Visitor
at the Clinic

10am-12 noon

1st & 3rd & 5th

TODDLER GROUP

Mrs Elise Knight
625089

1.30**

7:30pm

Yoga Class

BLEADON PLAYERS/REHEARSALS

Denise Marsh 750438
Mrs S Kelly 645135

THURSDAYS

10am-12 noon	ART: WATERCOLOUR PAINTING	Weston College 01275 810659
8:00pm Sept - June 1st & 3rd Thursday	BLEADON FOLK DANCING GROUP	Mrs J Thorne 814007

FRIDAYS

2pm-4pm	BLEADON FRIENDSHIP CLUB	Mrs J Diment 812217
7:00pm Sept - May	SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB	Mr J Ward 812136

SUNDAYS

2.30pm Sept - May	SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB	Mr J Ward 812136
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** 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 2004 DIARY!

Date	Time:	Event:	Contact:
19th June	9-1pm	VILLAGE MARKET	Jo Jones 812370
24th June	7.30 pm	Coronation Quiz	Les Masters 811976
2nd & 3rd July	7.30 pm	Bleadon Players Performance	Sandy Gibbon 511748
* 12th July	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	
* 17th July	9-1pm	VILLAGE MARKET	Jo Jones
22nd July	7.30 pm	Coronation Quiz	Les Masters
21st August	9-1pm	VILLAGE MARKET	Jo Jones
26th August	7.30 pm	Coronation Quiz	Les Masters
3rd September	10.30 am	SSAFA Coffee Morning	Penny Skelley 815331
4th September	2-5 pm	AUTUMN FLOWER SHOW	Horticultural Society Chris Cudlipp 813152
13th September	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	
18th September	9-1 pm	VILLAGE MARKET	Jo Jones
23rd September	7.30 pm	Coronation Quiz	Les Masters
25th September	7.30 pm	Harvest Supper	Friends of Bleadon Church Reyn Badger 811490
11th October	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	
16th October	9-1 pm	VILLAGE MARKET	Jo Jones
28th October	7.30 pm	Coronation Quiz	Les Masters
6th November	10.30 am	Coffee Morning	Friendship Club
8th November	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	
13th November	7.30 pm	Social Evening	Friends of Bleadon Church

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Last Summer

Daylight arrives here with the suddenness of a roller blind and the sun is soon climbing into a brassy sky raising the desert temperature to oven levels. But very early, in the pleasant morning warmth before the furnace door is fully open, to close my eyes is enough to be back in England that last summer.

Mother was in one of her 'why don't you moods?' "Come on, move your feet! How'd you expect me to clean?" Head down she determinedly thrashed the Ewbank to and fro across the carpet. "Why don't you go down the village?" she asked peevishly, "meet your friends, find something to do. Always got your head in a book. Why don't you"

I carefully closed the door, got my bike from the shed and went freewheeling down towards the river.

I would be out of her way soon enough and my stomach knotted at the thought.

It promised another hot heavy day and several small trout were gathered lethargically in the shadow of the packhorse bridge. Heads upstream, they lay motionless in the water except for the spasmodic flick of tails that kept them stationary against the current. The water looked cool and inviting. I knew the larger trout often lurked in hollows formed by overhanging banks and it was possible to catch them by hand; gently stroking the fish then scooping them from the water. Taking off shoes and socks I rolled up my trousers, and waded upstream. Crouching low, I pushed my hand slowly and gingerly into the dark watery caverns at the river's edge. My fingers brushed several unseen objects that moved away sharply, but eventually I felt the weight of a fish resting on my uplifted palm. Tentatively I began the gentle hypnotic stroking, thumb and middle finger alongside the head and first finger tickling the belly in a slow beckoning movement, slowly drawing the fish from its hide. Then, with a sudden arching arm movement amid an explosion of water, I catapulted the fish up and out of the stream to land with a thud on the opposite bank.

I splashed across and clambered up to where a large trout lay flapping desperately in the sun, the colours already fading from silvery flanks. The fierce excitement of landing the fish was followed by distress as I watched it gasping at my feet. Wetting my hands in a swirling pool and lifting the fish carefully I gently funneled it back into the water. At first the trout sank and drifted away downstream but then, with a few experimental shakes of its tail, it quickly regained strength and swam into midstream to be lost to view beneath the surface glare.

A jingle of harness caught my attention. The nodding black head of a pony watched inquisitively from the bridge and on the parapet sat a girl, her legs hanging down against the rough stone facing. She swung her feet back onto the roadway and slowly walked the horse down the steep cobbled approach.

"Will it be alright?" she called.

Barefoot, I carefully picked my way towards her, "I think so, swam away soon enough." She watched as I sat to dry my feet and replace socks and shoes. Pale-faced and slim, she was barelegged and wore a short cotton dress. Her only item of riding gear was a glossy black hat forced down over shoulder length auburn hair.

"How can you put your hands in those places," she shivered, "say there was a snake in there."

"No snakes in wet places like that. Though you might get a nip from an eel," I admitted "I'm Paula. What's your name?" The girl had a quick precise manner, her voice lacking accent. I told her and she continued in her direct way to explain that she was staying with her uncle Major Ayres and next day would return to Taunton to start the school term.

"Where are all the kids?" she enquired sharply, "you're the first I've seen in a week."

"The boys mostly got jobs during the day."
"The girls," she questioned, "what do they do?"

I frowned, not being sure what the girls did. "Help around the house I suppose, look after babies and things."

Paula screwed her face in disgust, "how awful!"

She flopped down beside me at the water's edge and leaned out over the bank. "Is it safe to drink?"

Before I could answer she had dipped her face fully into the water and without thinking I grasped her ankles lest she overbalance.

She raised her face dripping from the water. "Thanks, could've been nasty if I'd fallen in." She straightened and turned, raising her dress considerably and I snatched my hands from her legs.

"You would have rescued me though," she smiled, "wouldn't you?"

I visualised the scene, the two of us splashing around in the shallows. "It's not deep enough to drown in,"

I answered lamely.

Paula raised her eyebrows and affected a mock country accent. "Well! There's be a fine gallant thing to sey to a young maid, to be sure."

"I mean," I began.

"I know what you mean. Silly." Her voice was softer now, our bodies close. Droplets from her hair fell coldly onto my hand and she slowly brushed them away with her fingers.

"Have you got a girl?"

My face grew hot. I thought of Lorna next door, we'd often walked together in embarrassed silence to school, but I hadn't seen her much since I'd left.

"Sort of." Mouth dry I felt the need to explain. "She's not really"

"My boyfriend's in the Army, well - he goes in September." She pursed her lips, already resigned to the hardships of separation.

"I'm waiting to hear from"

"He's going to be an officer. The Major's going to speak to them about it."

The pony, reigns trailing, had wandered up the lane, cropping the overgrown verge as it went.

I stood up quickly. "I'd better catch the horse."

Paula looked up at me, seeming reluctant to move. "Don't worry Inky won't go far, it only leads up to an old barn."

I knew the barn well. "There's an owl's nest there," I ventured, "would you like to see it?"

"In the barn? Fancy!" She jumped up and started after the pony. "I'll see you there."

"Don't make a noise you'll disturbed them," I called.

Paula waved as she climbed on to Inky and galloped away, raising a wake of dust that hung in the still air. The owls left the barn while I was still a hundred yards away and I stopped to watch their undulating flight across the valley; a pair of sandy white ghosts disappearing into a riverside coppice.

"Stupid girl," I muttered.

The barn stood in a small enclosure of alder and blackthorn, knee high with grasses that hummed with insect noise. Inky, tethered to an abandoned farm implement, looked up to nod greeting. In the barn's cool dark interior the summer noises were muted. I paused, blinded by the change from bright sunlight. Layers of straw had compacted into a thick carpet so that her approach was noiseless and her touch caused me to swing around with a start. As I turned her arms were about my neck pulling my head down, kissing me fiercely with hot dry lips. Involuntary my arms had encircled her, pressing her waist clumsily. She relaxed and I released her.

"There. I frightened you," she dropped her hands to clasp mine.
"Yes, like you did the owls," breathlessly, "they'll not be back for hours."
"Owls!" Paula frowned in irritation, then stepped back to hold me at arm length. "Do you think I'm pretty?"

I considered the question carefully, sensing the answer was important. She was not as pretty as Betty Saunders the postman's daughter, nor did she have Lorna's pleasant rounded figure.

"I like your hair," I said finally but at once knew the simple truthful answer had displeased. She dropped my hands and turned away sharply, swirling the long hazel strands about her head.

"I'm going to have it dyed blue," she shouted over her shoulder.

The rattle of harness briefly startled hidden insects to silence, and then the fading beat of hooves. Quietly crossing the floor to where a scattering of feathers and disgorged black pellets lay I looked up into the roof beams. Alongside a rudimentary nest, I could see three small white bundles perched in the gloom. The barn owls' second brood of the summer had hatched and sat in perfect stillness awaiting their parents return.

Next week I would come back and watch their first flights.

The Packhorse Bridge has gone, washed away by a flash flood off the moor. Its destruction, diligently underlined by Mother in the papers she'd sent me, was enough to cause a wave of homesickness. Moreover, I don't recall ever seeing the young owls fly. Events crowded quickly that summer of 1940.

BLEADON YOUTH CLUB REPORT



Bleadon Youth Club is open for young people aged 11 to 19 on Thursday evenings from 7.15 to 9.45 pm.

The members of the club are always fully involved in deciding what they want to do as part of the youth club programme. Over the next few months we have a range of activities such as:

- Smoothie making
- Making Pizzas (and other cooking activities)
- A Barbecue at the youth club
- A visit to the beach
- Abseiling and climbing

This is all in addition to table tennis, pool, Playstation and dancemats, access to the Internet, art and craft activities, ball games and music that are available at every session.

You may have noticed that some new 'planters' have appeared on the wall of the youth club over the past few weeks. This was an idea from the young people to make their club look more attractive. They planted them themselves, many of the plants being grown from seeds inside the youth club, and are taking it in turns to look after the plants between youth club sessions.

Earlier this year, the young people took photos of different parts of the village and some were entered in the horticultural society competition. Two young people won prizes in their category.

The staff team is Geoff Sharpe, Anne Fortune and Stephen Down and we are always happy to welcome new members.

If anyone would like any more information about the group, please ring Geoff Sharpe, Youth Development Worker, on 01934 625 427 e-mail geoff.sharpe@n-somerset.gov.uk

BLEADON BEAT



Unfortunately thieves who shoplift at garden centres have found it much easier to steal from a quiet front garden at three in the morning than to take on the security measures now employed at retail outlets. Hence, we have seen an increase in thefts of plants, containers and ornaments from front gardens, particularly in the village areas. Only the most expensive items are taken and often end up sold at car boot sales at knock-down prices. Open plan front gardens are especially difficult to secure and are, therefore, not the place to leave unsecured, expensive items on display. One recent theft involved an item valued at £300! These items are simply too valuable and vulnerable to be left unattended in a front garden. You may also find insurers reluctant to compensate for such thefts! I can however, suggest a few simple crime prevention ideas, which may prevent your property being stolen.

1. *Hanging baskets and similar items can be secured by using heavy-duty wire. Most thieves do not come prepared and would have great difficulty in stealing any item secured by the wire.*
2. *Use a metal stake or piece of angle iron to secure large pots or ornaments. You can either drive the stake through the drainage holes or wire the pot to the stake.*
3. *Smear the bottom of pots or ornaments with grease. This will be very unpleasant for anyone who picks it up and they probably wouldn't want to put it in their vehicle to take away. Just remember that you have put the grease on the pot when you come to move it yourself!*
4. *Consider marking your property with your post code and house number. If you make the markings obvious then the thief may be deterred, in any event if we recover the item it will be readily identifiable and can be returned.*
5. *Having secured your property you may consider installing PIR lighting at the front of your house. Secured property is much more difficult to steal and involves the thief being in your garden longer. No thief likes to be illuminated while he steals so there is every chance that he will choose somewhere else.*

These are just a few ideas, I'm sure you can think of others. If you do disturb someone stealing from your garden I would not suggest you approach them. Telephone 999 immediately and ask for the Police. If possible, make a note of the offender's description and any vehicle observed.

Preventing the crime happening is much easier than detecting it afterwards.

Pc 2307 Adrian Woolacott

Tel. 01934 638181. (Non-Emergency No.)

All other calls either 999 for an on-going incident or HQ on 01275 818181 for all other matters.



MAY DAY BOOK STALL

Many thanks to all who donated books for the May Day Fayre Book Stall.
Sales on the day raised £420 for Church funds.

We would always appreciate your unwanted books for sale at other village Charity Events in the coming year, not forgetting at the monthly Saturday markets.

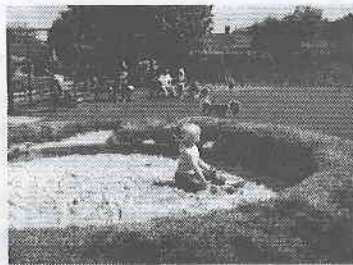
For collection please contact
Pete Williams (812020) or Sue Court (813343)

VILLAGE PLAY AREA IMPROVEMENTS

Recent visitors to the play area or the adjoining car park can't have failed to notice the improvements that the Parish Council has recently provided. New colour-coated steel mesh fencing and gates have been installed at a cost of around £4500. Securing for another generation of Bleadon's families a safe and welcoming play environment. The new 2m high fencing replaces a decaying wire mesh fence that was rapidly becoming a potential risk to park users.

You may have read some criticism voiced in the local press about the timing of the improvements. I'm afraid that sometimes we have to compromise and work within contractor's timetables. On this occasion the contractor worked tirelessly to complete the work within three days. So the park was only closed to users for four days, and we had a spanking new fence in time for Easter.

Other improvements include a new replacement specimen erect Hawthorn tree planted just inside the gates. I hope that this one doesn't suffer the attentions of some no-brain with a new penknife!



49 bags of sterile play sand have been humped into the play pit to provide a safe and clean play area for our smaller players. Plus, 2.5 cu.mtrs. of new play bark should soften any falls from the swings and slide.

Mark Howe continues to do an excellent job cutting the grass regularly. Mark tries to do this essential maintenance work on a weekday morning, when the park is usually quiet. It shouldn't be necessary to ask, (but apparently it is!), anyone using the park when Mark is trying to do his job should keep themselves

and their children well away from grass cutting equipment. If Mark asks you to move whilst he does his job, then please do so.

I should like to remind everyone that this is primarily a children's play area. So, no dogs or glass inside the area please. And if you see any litter, please pick it up and pop it in the nearby bin. Every little effort helps.

Your Parish Council is determined that this little island of green at the heart of our village remains a safe, welcoming and attractive asset. If you have any comments or suggestions to make about the play area I should be delighted to hear from you.

Keith Pyke 01934 813 127

Tiny Toes

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FROM YOUR DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Following the NSC Annual Meeting, we are pleased to report that the Council re-elected Efan as Chairman of the Strategic Planning & Economic Development Policy & Scrutiny Panel and, in addition has elected Ian as Chairman of the Community Services Policy & Scrutiny Panel.

This means that we shall continue to have an influence on such matters as the Local Plan, Weston Visioning, Employment generation, Highways development, and Tourism but also now matters such as Sports and Leisure facilities, Libraries, Parks and Open Spaces and Community Safety.

For two of the eight Policy & Scrutiny Panels to be chaired by Councillors representing the same ward is unique, but demonstrates the support we receive from our colleagues and can only be of benefit to the village.

Meanwhile, Weston Visioning grinds on and will shortly be entering another round of public consultation - including evening exhibitions somewhere near you! Make sure you go and tell the Consultants what you think, because we have detected some back tracking on previous "promises".

We hope that, even if you can't get to one of the exhibitions in June, you will write in and give your views at the time.

In the village itself, we have recently been involved in various highways issues, centering on repairs and resurfacing, but also on one or two other controversial issues. All of these have been resolved satisfactorily.

Meanwhile, we are always available to solve your NSC problems - just call us.

Cllr. Efan Ap Rees

Tel: 824758

efan.ap.rees@n-somerset.go.uk

Cllr. Ian Peddlesden

Tel: 812015

ian.peddlesden@n-somerset.go.uk

Prof. Darryl Gwynne

Biology

University of Toronto at Mississauga

3359 Mississauga Rd, Mississauga, ON L5L 1C6 CANADA

I just visited your Bleadon site and connected pages - a delight to see photos and maps etc. I wanted to email you to let you know that I have been researching our family's history in Bleadon in case anyone there might be interested (particularly the Brooks family) in my findings.

My maternal grandmother Elizabeth Gore and 4 children Joan, Jack, Ivor and Pat were evacuated to Bleadon in WW 2 and I have fond memories of summers in the 50s and 60s running all over South and Hellenge Hills! My wife (who I met in Australia) turns out to have Brooks roots that go right back to the 1700s Bleadon. I have lots of information on this line and more recent Brooks in Bleadon and Badgworth).

I have a couple of images of Eastfield cottages (Shiplate Rd) in the 1950s

Best wishes

Darryl

Fax: 905 828-3792

Phone: 905 828-3892

email: dgwynne@utm.utoronto.ca

Bleadon Church and the Village Market

The bric-a-brac stall at the Village Market has been very popular and has been a useful point of contact with people as well as bringing in some useful funds. Also the bric-a-brac stall at the May Fayre was as busy as ever and I am very grateful to everyone who gave so generously. I am always willing to accept saleable items and have been encouraged by the number of people who are using this way of supporting the church instead of sending to charity shops.

I would welcome help in manning the stall at the Market, so if you would like to try your hand at market trading, give me a call! It really is fun. For details of this and collection of bric-a-brac, please ring WSM 413034.

Sandra Lowton, Churchwarden

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Norfolk Lavender
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“Coffee and Danish”

The Coronation Hall, Bleadon
Friday, 3rd September 2004 - 10.30 am to Noon

Dimitri Concert on Sunday 11th July at 6.30pm in church

Local professional cellist, Sara Lovell, has kindly agreed to arrange another concert by the Dimitri cello ensemble. This time they will be joined by Martha McLorinan, a lovely young singer from the National Youth Choir and pianist, Francis Rabbitts. Again this promises to be a wonderful concert by these very talented youngsters. There will be a retiring collection in aid of the church. What better way to spend a summer evening.

Sandra Lowton

DROP IN THE SHOP (or THE SHOP IS DEAD LONG LIVE THE SHOP!)

After an interval of less than five months Bleadon has a shop again - with a large extension to come. Many readers are, of course, already regular users, but if you have yet to discover it let me encourage you as warmly as possible.

The stock is already surprisingly wide including all the usual basics. In particular however, there is an excellent selection of bacon, sausages, cooked meats and cheese, all at very competitive prices and the shop also stocks Miles tea (remember that at the Sanders superstore?)

All credit to Alistair House for taking on this project. For the benefit of the whole Village he deserves to succeed.

L.M.



BLEADON PHOTO ARCHIVE

As a result of the exhibitions held in the Hall in February and March we now have the best ever collection of photographs of Bleadon people and places. The actual photos from the exhibition are now in a large album complete with captions, put together by Peter Lindsay. This can be loaned from me (Tel. 811976) for a £1 per person, and A4 copies of the pictures are available for £2 each - all proceeds going to the Hall funds.

LM

BLEADON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The 30th Spring Flower Show in March was yet again a spectacular success, with the Coronation Hall full of colour and scent from the many exhibits. The new class of miniature bulbs in a container was well supported as were the two photography classes.

In April Tony Gray from Sanders' Garden World gave a very good talk on 'New and Unusual Plants', and he brought many specimens with him to illustrate the various points that he had made.

The plant sale and social in May was rounded off with the cutting of the '30th Anniversary Cake' after everyone had enjoyed their celebratory bubbly!

At the time of writing there are just 8 places left to fill the coach to Otter Nursery and Forde Abbey. This trip is scheduled for Saturday July 10th leaving the village at 9.15am and returning by about 5.30pm. To book a place for this trip which is open to anyone please phone 01934 813152.

The 31st Summer Flower Show will be held on Saturday September 4th and schedules should be available in July.

Thank you all for your support over the past 30 years and may the next 30 years be as successful.

I would like to pay tribute to the hard working committee as well as everyone who as supported us in the past.

Chris Cudlipp

Coronation Hall News - Marie is Back!

After a brief pause to give birth, Marie Keele has restarted her aerobics class on Monday evenings in the Jubilee Room. You can join the slower class from 7-8 pm or a little faster from 8-9 pm. For more details call Marie on 07939 038 071.

CORONATION HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT



Improvements to the Jubilee Room are now nearing completion with the fitting of rails and curtains to the windows. The chairs have had rubber ferrules fitted in order to reduce damage to the floor surface.

The members of the Bowls Club are now building storage facilities for their mats, as they will be using the Jubilee Room from September. This move frees the Main Hall for Friday evening bookings.

The next project in the Main Hall will be the removal of the old quarry tiles, and replacing with timber to match the existing floor, but we are awaiting a feasibility report and costings on this.

A new sink unit will be fitted in the main kitchen to replace the existing one nearest the door, and a plumbed in hot water urn will be installed in order to provide constant boiling water for beverages. This will remove the current problem of filling and emptying the existing urn, which has been a cause of concern for sometime, as regards the safety factor.

Len Chamberlain (Chairman)

Hall Committee:

Len Chamberlain	Chairman
Keith Pyke	Vice-chairman
Clive Morris	Treasurer
Les Masters	Secretary
Joanne Jones	Booking Officer
Jo Reeves	Ladies Club
Mary Henley	Bridge Club
Ann Northey-Baker	Bleadon Players
Lynn Riding	Short Mat Bowls
Tony Pettitt	Village representative
Chris Cudlipp	Horticultural Society
Betty Paterson	Parochial Church Council
Beryl Davies	Friendship Club
Cath Davis	Baby and Toddler Group
Bella Ware	Brownies

MICRO-PORTAL WEBSITE

The village can now have access to "Bleadon- Micro-portal". What ever is that I hear you say. Then let me try to explain. A Christian company has made it possible for any Parish to have their own Microportal which gives a one click access to the Web through the Google Internet engine. We now have our own. It displays, for easy entry a host of local information, contact to our own village sites, and various other helps. ALL THIS IS FREE but wait there is more. If good use is made of this portal (and how is described in a bit) and it attracts a reasonable number of advertisers, both local and national, the Parish coffers will benefit (I saw the treasurer sit up at that statement!) What next... When you next log onto the web, type in "Bleadon@ 2day.ws". Hit search and a full page display will give you an even clearer picture than I have been able give here. If you want to join the many of us who use this as our own personal "Homepage" you will see on the left of the screen, below the title "Control Patiel" "Make Homepage" click this and every time, in the future that you go onto the internet, that page will appear and you are ready to surf.

This is in no way a competitor to any of the existing village sites but a support to them. If you have any queries please contact me on 01934 815357

Roy Collins

BLEADON LADIES CLUB

The club has a very interesting programme for the summer months, so spare a few hours a month to come and join us.



June 8th

Mrs Sheila Burton, Beautician

Will give a talk on "Beauty Products"

July 13th

This month is our "Homespun" meeting. This is a meeting where members get involved. This year we are asking for any funny stories or to bring any item that they have got that has a tale to tell. This does not have to be valuable

There is no meeting in August as we have our Annual outing. This year we are going to Totnes where we will board a boat for a trip up the River Dart to Dartmouth. This trip is always enjoyed, with a very special bonus if we are blessed with good weather. Places are still available.

September 14th
"Campanology"

Illustrated with slides by Mr M J Horseman

As you can see by our varied program we are going to have a very good summer at the club. We look forward to welcoming new members and friends. We meet the Second Tuesday of the Month at 2.30pm in Coronation Hall.

For more information ring Barbara on 814362.



BLEADON BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Bleadon Baby and Toddler Group meet each Wednesday 10-12 in the Village Hall everyone is welcome. We also have a resident Health Visitor who visits the group every 2nd and 4th Weds of the month who is happy to give help and advice to anyone requiring it.

We have welcomed a high number of new members to the group over the past few months,

which is great to see. We also have a new Chairperson - Chris Bevan, who has taken over the role with great enthusiasm.

As always, the Easter Bonnet Parade was a great success and enjoyed by both the parents and children alike! The winner this year was Beth, pictured below with her friend Tia. We are now planning our Summer Outing to Court Farm on July 7!

Bleadon Toddlers were thrilled to receive a grant from Awards for All for 2004, the monies will be put towards the purchase of child size tables and chairs.

BLEADON SCHOOLS

The people of Bleadon may have noted an argument going on between Bleadon residents and North Somerset Council, where North Somerset has insisted there was not an agreement that Bleadon village residents would be educated at Uphill primary school.

It has now come to our attention that during the late 1990's the residents of Uphill were involved in the opposite argument in that they wanted the priority admission for Bleadon abolished. The very same individuals at North Somerset Council insisted at this time that there was an agreement that Bleadon village residents would be educated at Uphill primary school and that it had to be honoured.

If it was not for the problems on our children, or the adverse affect on house prices in Bleadon, then this would be very funny.



Paul Hemingway-Arnold

Lymsham pre school mission statement - To prepare children for school life; academically and socially in an environment that allows children to grow in confidence and ability. Dealing with the whole child and creating a safe and warm atmosphere.



- * Opened in 1992
- * Fully Qualified Staff
- * Close link to Lymsham C of E VC First School
- * Set in school hall
- * Use of kitchen facilities
- * Attractive outdoor area for children to play and learn
- * Registered for children age 2 1/2 to 5 years
- * Government funded for over 3's
- * Open 9 - 12noon 5 days per week
- * Warm and welcoming environment
- * Holiday club available in school holiday 9am-3pm
- * More children from Bleadon are being educated in Somerset than North Somerset
- * It is on the table for Bleadon to join Somerset catchment

Our Ofsted inspection report of 2004 said "The children are confident to try new experiences showing a positive approach to their learning. They show curiosity and are excellent at exploring the wealth of relevant and stimulating activities that are provided for them."

Please contact us to arrange your free trial morning!

Contact Julie Gibbons supervisor for more details and a prospectus on 07743 188865 or email jgibbons@talkgas.net Alternatively leave a message on 01934 812131.

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*It is time we reviewed our perspective
And got our priorities right,
So that Dunkirk, and D-day and Arnhem
Can be seen in a different light.*

*A careful appraisal will tell you
It really is time to revise
All our thinking of what really mattered
So that people can now realise....*

*That the course of the war could have altered
If the sentry who bunked-off - or dozed,
And if Totterdown Bridge had been captured,
And the road to Old Mixon closed.*

*But none of these tragedies happened,
And the records acknowledge the fact
That the road to Old Mixon stayed open
And Totterdown bridge stayed intact.*

*So here's to the fellow who guarded
Those vital components so well
And managed, despite deprivations,
Our heart-stopping fears to quell.*

*And here's to the people of Weston,
And here's to the fellow who seeks
To pin that long-overdue medal
On the chest of our hero --- A. Weeks.*

Alfred Weeks lives on Bleadon Hill and was a Home Guard during the Last War. He wrote of his experiences doing guard duty in Bleadon with his friend Dave Waite. Ken Waite, Dave's brother read the Memoirs and wrote this poem as a tribute.

Join the Church Flower Ladies Team - We Guarantee You Will Enjoy Yourself

The Flower team have been severely depleted in the last few months with the loss of Ruth Hore and now another stalwart, Barbara Clarke, has had to hang up her secateurs, which leaves a small team of five doing the regular flowers and weddings, not to mention flower festivals. For the latter, we do get help from Pat Dain, Ruth James and Evelyn Rymer and we are grateful for this and there are a few ladies who arrange flowers for a loved one on an anniversary.

However, with only five regular members on the team it does mean that if one of us is ill or away or cannot do them for any reason, we can be reduced to three or even two and this can be a great deal of work as we always like to have the church looking good and in fact, have been complimented by visitors on how our church always has flowers in it.

We are therefore appealing for any ladies who would like to come and help to get in touch with either me, Sheila Ardley 813591, or Penny Skelley 815331. We must emphasise that you do not have to be a flower arranger to be of enormous help as Val Smart will tell you. She joined the team to help in taking out the old flowers, tidying up, sweeping, etc. and wound up "ding the flowers" The flowers in the niche are often Val's work.

So do get in touch or come to the church any Thursday after 2p.m. when you will find us there and happy to tell you anything you would like to know.

LOCAL BOY MAKES GOOD!

Nobody forgets a good paper boy, and Guy Morris spent over five years making himself unforgettable to our customers at the eastern end of the village with his own blend of helpfulness and cheeky humour. His well-earned money did not go on clothes and CDs but on juggling equipment, then a unicycle, then a taller unicycle, and he metamorphosed into Guy the Jolly Juggler, entertaining at each May Day Fayre and many shows in the Coronation Hall.

In due course like many local youngsters, he disappeared off to college having by this time added some guitar strumming to his repertoire. He stayed on there in Lancaster after graduating in performing arts (what else), and is now involved in teaching others some of those skills.

Imagine my surprise, then, when a few months ago I opened the latest 'Take Art' leaflet and immediately recognised in one of the photographs a now bearded Guy, the tallest member of a trio scheduled to perform at Burnham-on-Sea in April. (see photo below)

In due course tickets were booked and about a dozen Bleadonians travelled to the Ritz Club for a thoroughly entertaining evening, and I found it a great pleasure to see how Guy has progressed. He can play a steady bass accompaniment or rhythm, throw in a note-bending blues solo, or perform manfully on the drums. In a highly talented group he comfortably held his own.

The five pensioners in our party had a rejuvenating time (though the oldest was told off for being so late home) and we have the CD to remind us.

Les Masters



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CHURCHwww.bleadonchurch.info
BLEADONwww.bleadon.org.uk

MORE MEMORIES

In response to the article in the last issue about 'The Anchor Inn' Ken Durston writes:

With reference Mrs Frost 'Anchor Memories, I can remember her Grandfather very well, also some of the regular customers.

There was Bob Gilman, the local Bleadon and Uphill Railway Station Master, who would ride his bicycle to the 'Anchor' most days for his pint of cider or beer. Amongst others were Fred Wall (George's father), Stan Hart, and Walter Binding, the local coal merchant and haulage contractor of stone from Bleadon Quarry.

Teddy Purnel, who had his farm at the Homestead Shiplate Road, plus the farm workers from nearby farms, who used the 'Anchor' for Charlie's cider or beer and his bread and cheese.

Another regular was the bookies runner Cliff Fry, who called in to pick up the horse racing bets which had been left behind the bar.

I wonder if Mrs Frost's Grandfather would have told her stories of the Gypsy woman who lived in a caravan in and around Facum, and went by the name of 'Jenty'. She would sit on the steps smoking a clay pipe and as children we would be fascinated by her appearance, as she never washed and always looked a proper old crone!

All the four pubs at that time belonged to Holts Brewery, of Burnham-on-Sea.

The 'Victoria Inn' also had its regulars; the licensee was a Miss Payne who was known as 'Buck'. My Grandfather used the 'Vic' regularly and drank several pints of cider a day, it was the done thing before the war to have a cider jar, while working out in the fields all day. There was only one bar at the 'Victoria' and in the long winter evenings the regulars would gather for a good old sing-song, Bob Say, the village road sweeper used to play a 'squeeze-box', and as children we would listen outside to the singing and music.

When I attended the Bleadon School and around the age of 9-11 years, it was my errand every day when I came home for dinner, to fetch two pints of cider from the 'Victoria'. These were for Mrs. Watts an old lady who lived next door to the Post Office; many the times I have had a drink out of the bottles and topped them up with water from the village pump as I was passing by.

I can just remember Ernie George who kept 'The Queens Arms' and who also kept a shotgun under the bar, but Bill Horton took over in the mid-thirties. He was an ex-Lancashire rugby player and was a rough handful when roused, a fact discovered by some of the Ack Ack gunners who were stationed on Roman road during the war!

After I joined the army and came home on leave, Bill would not serve me with beer, because I was not eighteen, but I would always be served in the 'Victoria' and the 'Anchor'.

Mrs Frost is quite right saying that the atmosphere has gone from the English public house, and that all we have are memories - 'but what memories'!

Ken Durston

CHURCH OF ST.PETER & ST. PAUL

EASTER

It was a delight to see so many people in Church on Easter morning as we celebrated that great Christian Festival.

THANKS

On Sunday, 11th July I will have been Rector here for 16years - an extremely happy time in this lovely Parish. Very many thanks to a great number of people who have been so supportive and encouraging.

MAY FAYRE AND FLOWER FESTIVAL

Once again, the May Fayre was an outstanding success. I am most grateful to the Friends of the Church and the many volunteers who worked with the Committee to provide so much entertainment and so many things to spend money on. Preparations on the day began in pouring rain but the skies cleared (for most of the time) and upwards of £6500 was raised for our village Church. Very many thanks to all who contributed in any way.

PATRONAL FESTIVAL AND CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

Sunday 27th June

10.10am Procession from the Church Room.

10.15am Sung Eucharist and Sunday Club

4.00pm Songs and Hymns of Praise in the Rectory Garden (in Church if weather isn't good) with the Weston-super-Mare Salvation Army Band.

Tuesday 29th June

9.30am Eucharist commemorating our Patron Saints, Peter and Paul.

Very best wishes, David Parkinson, Rector Tel. 812297

FRIENDS OF BLEADON CHURCH EVENTS

BRUNCH at Birchwood, Bleadon Rd. with Nursery Rhyme, song and scarecrow competition **Saturday June 26th 11am-1pm.** Tickets £4 for adults, £2 for children under 10, scarecrows 25p.

CREAM TEAS AND OPEN TOWER

Sunday 18th July

Tower open 4pm - £1 entry Cream teas at Rookery Nook, Old School Lane at 3pm, £2.50p

BLEADON PLAYERS



We're back!

The Players have been resting, as they say in the profession, and are now ready to offer an evening of Victorian style entertainment.

We have a one-act melodrama called "Is there anybody there", followed by a selection of Victorian Music Hall songs. Coronation Hall will be transformed; our audience invited to dress up appropriately and sing along or heckle - whatever takes your fancy!

Two nights only July 2nd -3rd.



ANIMAL PORTRAITS

in full colour Pastel

by Sheila Excell

I love drawing animals from life - they are nearly always much better models than their owners anticipate!

If drawing from life is not an option then good clear photos are the answer.

I am happy to show samples of my work and the full fee is not expected until the customer is quite satisfied.

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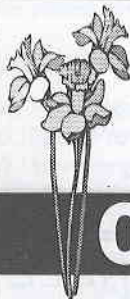
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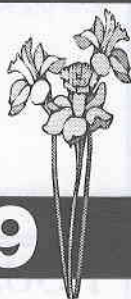
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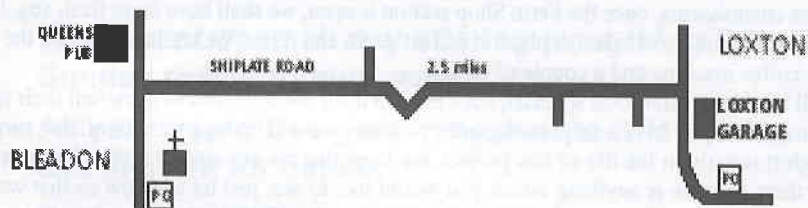
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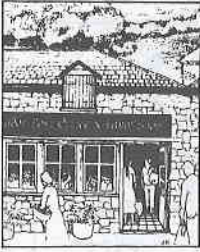


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Bleadon Post Office and Farm Shop

Now that the shop is open we have the chance to speak to you in person, but there are many things still in the pipeline, such as a wider range of fruit and vegetables, a supply of high quality ice cream, local strawberries and clotted cream of course.

And coming soon.... we are applying for an off-licence for wines and beers, which we shall be able to offer within a few weeks if all goes well.

The Post Office paperwork is progressing well, but is sure to be another couple of months, but in the overall scheme of things, I suppose a few more weeks is worth the wait(?).

For those connoisseurs, once the Farm Shop section is open, we shall have more fresh veg, fresh herbs, and, as many have asked, a place to just sit down and relax! We are investigating the idea of a tea/coffee machine and a couple of chairs.

We shall be able to offer local specials, such as a shelf for the brownies to show/sell their home made produce. If you have a surplus of garden produce, we will be happy to sell off any surplus. Although it is early in the life of this project, we hope that we are able to access foods as you require them- if there is anything which you would like to see, just let us know so that we can look into it. We hope that we will soon earn the reputation of stocking those rare items, value and quality.

Many thanks, and keep buying locally...

Alistair and Co.

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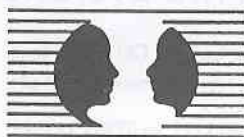
Mon - Sat: 9am - 6pm

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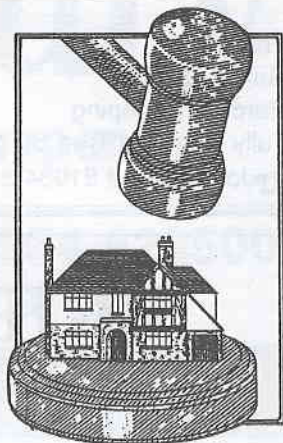
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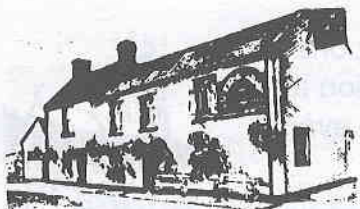
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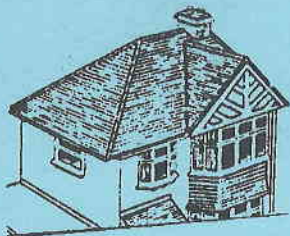
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