

Bleadon WI

We are delighted to announce that one of our skittles team has won the Avon Federation Skittles tournament – the final match was against a team from Harbourside WI (Portishead) and Bleadon 'A' won by a good margin. Continuing the sports theme, our 'Walking Netball' players are looking forward to taking part in a Festival in Bath, as well as a tournament with other WI groups in Paignton in the Autumn.

In support of 'Bleadon in Bloom' we enjoyed a talk on bee-keeping, which gave us lots of ideas for suitable planting to encourage bees.

For a bit of fun, we held a contest to find 'the best sandwich' – fighting off strong competition from fish finger, BLT and ham sandwiches, the 'egg and cucumber' sandwich proved to be the firm favourite!

No competition for the best cake made for the 'Summer Tea Party' – they were *all* delicious – and all in a good cause for the Hall refurbishment and the Gemini Project.

['Keep the date' – all welcome to our Christmas Carol Concert on Friday, 13 December, in church and afterwards in the Coronation Hall.]

Elizabeth Boucher

Music and Cake at the Coronation Halls

On a very warm day in July the WI choir, The Bleadon Belles, held a fundraising afternoon tea in the Coronation Hall and entertained an audience of friends and villagers with popular songs accompanied by Liz Rankin on piano. Guests also enjoyed tea and delicious homemade cakes provided by members.

It was a poignant event for the choir being the first, and sadly last, public performance under the leadership of its lovely musical director Meg Brand, who joined the Belles in April. Meg has received a wonderful job opportunity, which is just right for her, but will entail moving to South Wales; too far to travel to Bleadon. Although sad to see her go, we all wish Meg every success for the future.

All is not lost however and the Choir are really happy to be joined in September by Naomi Hickman, a young, talented, local singer and music teacher. So the choir carries on! The musical tea party was raising funds for the Gemini Project and for a new kitchen for the Coronation Halls.



Joanne Jones

Our new Parish Clerk—Naomi joins us from Frampton Cotterell Parish Council in South Gloucestershire, where she worked as Clerk to Council for just over a year. Before that, she was employed by Filton Town Council for three years, where she worked as Town Council Support Officer and also completed her Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA), and so she comes with a sound knowledge of Parish and Town Councils, as well as local government more generally.

She writes a regular column for the Society of Local Council Clerk's magazine "The Clerk" and is also a selected member of the International Institute of Municipal Clerk's "International Relations Committee".

Naomi has worked abroad for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and British Council, and has also taught for the Open University. She holds a Masters degree in the Christianities of Asia and Africa, and a Bachelors degree in Politics. She also speaks Hebrew and Persian. A keen runner, Naomi is a member of a local running group. She is married with 3 children.

Naomi is really looking forward to taking up her post at Bleadon Parish Council, and to working with the Councillors and residents, to achieve the best possible results for the local community.

