

# BLEADON



VILLAGE NEWS 80

Monthly indoor

# Saturday MARKET

18h April, 16th May, 20th June, 18th July, 15th August,  
19th September, 17th October, 21st November  
5th December Christmas Market

## Bleadon Village Coronation Hall 9-12.30



Local produce.

Somerset beef and lamb.

Local bread. Fairtrade.

Home-made cakes.

Cheeses. Cider. Honey.

Preserves. Plants. Books.

Crafts. Jewellery. Gifts.

Cards. Bric-a-brac.

*Please bring a bag*

Meet friends and chat  
over coffee and snacks



01934 812 370 for stalls info

## THE PARISH COUNCIL

PENNY SKELLEY [CHAIRMAN]	'MENDIP CROFT', CELTIC WAY, BLEADON.	TEL. 815331
PENNY ROBINSON [VICE CHAIRMAN]	1, THE VEALE, BLEADON.	TEL. 814142
GRAHAM LOCKYER	'HIGHCROFT', ROMAN ROAD, BLEADON.	TEL. 812050
MARY SHEPPARD	'LITTLEWOOD' BRIDGWATER RD., LYMPSHAM.	TEL. 812921
KEITH PYKE	8, WHITEGATE CLOSE, BLEADON.	TEL. 813127
CLIVE MORRIS	20, BLEADON MILL, BLEADON.	TEL. 811591
ROBERT HOUSE	PURN VILLA, PURN HOUSE FARM, BLEADON.	TEL. 815588
BRIAN GAMBLE	'ASHDENE', BLEADON ROAD, BLEADON.	TEL. 811709
I. D. CLARKE	'THE GRANARY' MULBERRY LANE, BLEADON	TEL. 815182

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 Parishioner who wishes to, may attend these meetings. If there is a particular issue you would like to raise, could you please let the Parish Clerk know in advance and at the latest by the Friday immediately preceding the meeting. This will give him the chance to collect the most up to date information available.

### 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. 07887 802922 or e-mail: [bruce.poole2@btopenworld.com](mailto:bruce.poole2@btopenworld.com)

**This Village Newsletter is published four times a year, March, June, September and December. Date sensitive material and publicity notices should reach the Editor well in advance of the event as a definite publishing date cannot be guaranteed.  
The Deadline for the next issue is 22nd May 2009**

Our aim is to provide a copy of this magazine free to every household within the Parish of Bleadon. Those who live outside the Parish may be able to obtain a copy from the Village shop or the Church porch. I should like to thank all those who help with the distribution of the magazine and I hope I can count on your future support. If there are others out there who would like to help please let me know (01934 814142).

Unless otherwise stated the opinions and comments expressed in this magazine are those of the contributor and not of Bleadon Parish Council. Anyone who has a comment to make on the content of this publication or has a contribution for inclusion, should send it to :-

Mrs. Penny Robinson, 1, The Veale, Bleadon. BS24 0NP  
Tel. 01934 814142 | e-mail : [penny@bleadonvillage.co.uk](mailto:penny@bleadonvillage.co.uk)

Keep up to date with the Parish Council news and to see this magazine online go to...

**[www.bleadonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.bleadonparishcouncil.gov.uk)**

I write this in the depths of winter, but by the time you read this 'the green shoots' of spring will be here. As the first tier of Local Government, Bleadon is one of nearly 9,000 Parish Councils nationwide and we are 9 members of 70,000 elected and co-opted Councillors. That is the scale and backbone of local democracy. As a smaller Parish Council, we function in the community as representatives of the views of local people in this rural part of Somerset.

The Village Plan leaflet should have been delivered to each household recently. Some of the initial requests by villagers have already been completed. A presentation on the Plan will be given at the Annual Parish Meeting on 20th April at 7.30 p.m. in the Coronation Hall. The Parish Council team looks forward to seeing you there.

The Council is always ready to take on additional responsibilities that will make a difference to the quality of life here in the village. Recently, members of the Council attended "Community Engagement" in Weston-super-Mare, where PACT – Partners and Communities Together – was introduced by the Police. As a Council, we have looked at the Preferred Option Constitution Document for the West of England, which deals with strategic waste planning issues. This difficult but environmentally necessary quest will be ongoing for many months. We have looked at the latest Bristol International Airport Development Proposal, which is in the draft planning stage, and also the North Somerset local Development Framework for Gypsies and Traveller sites. All of these were discussed at our last meeting in addition to our normal business!

The A370 road safety scheme is now completed and a speed limit is in force. An improved bus stop and the installation of new curb stones will greatly help residents and visitors entering and leaving our gateway village at this notorious "black spot".

The Historical Society will meet on Thursday, 30th April 2009 in the Coronation Hall. The Speaker, Chris Richards, will talk on Bleadon Caves and local history. We will also discuss and make a final decision on the contents of the Legend Board. We hope to form a small committee to guide the Historical Society. We already have a treasurer and an archive holder, which is a good start, so please come along and enjoy the fantastic facts of our local heritage.

The Horticultural Society has kindly renewed the Jubilee Plaque in the Jubilee Gardens. This will be unveiled on Tuesday 21st April 2009 at 7.00 p.m. before the Society meeting. The Parish Council thanks the Horticultural Society for its gift to the Parish. The Spring Plant-Up day will be on Saturday 30th April 2009 at 10.00 a.m.; please bring a trowel, all are welcome.

For the first time, the "Scarecrow Festival", under the banner of the Weston Arts Week, is coming to Bleadon on 22nd & 23rd August 2009. All Groups, Societies and Clubs will be invited to make a Scarecrow; the theme will be "Music" – fun for all - more on this later in the year.

Thank you for your support.

**Penny Skelley**, Chairman

# BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL



You are invited to the :-

## Annual Parish Meeting

The Coronation Hall  
Monday 20th April 2009  
7.30pm  
Come and see

- Where and how the village precept is spent
  - Final outcomes of the Village Plan
- The Neighbourhood Watch Scheme
  - Grant Funding Presentations

Light refreshments will be available



# Bleadon Police Report



## Greetings from the Constabulary,

I'm sure you'll read other entries regarding Neighbourhood Watch and the fact that Bleadon should now be 100% covered but it would be wrong for me not to congratulate those involved, so well done, I'm sure it's not a coincidence that as NHW 's have increased crime has decreased. Work it out for yourselves. Some of you may have heard talk of 'Policing Priorities' Well they are your village priorities and can influence the way we, the Police, operate in your village. They are formulated during the 'public participation' at the Parish Council meetings.

So if you've got something you think the Police should be doing come and tell us. Or you can come to the weekly Police 'drop in' surgeries held in the church room every Tuesday 2 – 4pm.

At the moment the Bleadon Beat Priorities are;

1. Speeding traffic Bleadon road, Celtic road.
2. Visible Police patrol.

In response to your priorities you may have noticed an increase in speed detection work in the village. It must be said that the vast majority of those caught speeding are not residents of the village but are just passing through. This month (February) 8 people have been caught speeding and have received a variety of penalties including verbal warnings, fixed penalties of £60 plus 3 points or 'Op Taboo' speed education training (cost £60 no points).

For higher levels of speeding the Magistrates can impose fines of £1,000 and/or a period of disqualification.

Sorry that this is all a bit serious but as I said earlier it shouldn't affect residents other than to make Bleadon a bit safer.

Lastly, please remember that Bleadon is still one of the safest places in Avon and Somerset to live and with your help it will remain so.

Regards

**PC Steve Church and PCSO Emma Wright**

# Neighbourhood Watch Scheme



Great News. Bleadon now has 100% coverage with co-ordinators in place to cover over 400 residential properties in the parish. There are now 22 co-ordinators in and around the village, working to help improve the safety of our community.

The last few pieces of paper are being processed to ensure that all properties are recorded as being covered by the scheme. This should not take long and hopefully will be completed by the time you read this article. Those householders are then eligible to approach their insurance companies to claim a discount off their home insurance policies.

The Parish Council has kindly funded the provision of new signage and these should be going up in the new scheme areas during the coming days. Worn and faded signs in existing areas will also be replaced.

## Bleadon Police Report

You will have seen in editions 78 and 79 how requests for volunteer co-ordinators has progressed from over 50% coverage to 100% coverage in only 6 months. We are now in a leading position for coverage in the South West.

There will be a Neighbourhood Watch presentation by PC Steve Church, our Beat Manager, and Emma Wright, our Police Community Support Officer in the Coronation Hall on 20 April, the night of the Parish Council Annual Report and Village Plan meeting, so please come along to find out more.

Steve and Emma are also available every Tuesday between 2pm and 4pm at the beat surgery in the Church Rooms.

### **David Jones**

Bleadon Village NHW Co-ordinator

## Granny Trek

### **FOURTH ANNUAL GRANNY TREK ON 26TH APRIL 2009 FOR CHILDREN'S HOSPICE SW**

Times are hard and competition intense for charities trying to raise money. The generosity of the British public is legendary, but when the bank balance has shrunk and living costs mushroomed, it's impossible to be as open-handed as one would like. The old adage 'charity begins at home' must hold firm, as without a solid base, no-one can support anything. Therefore it's imperative that we attract a lot more walkers this year.

The fourth annual Granny Trek will take place on Sunday, 26th April, at Charlton Farm, Wraxall, south of Bristol – home of the second children's hospice for the south west region. Since Somerset granny Beryl Griffiths trekked 625 miles across country with her two dogs, Rudi and Fritz, in 2005 ([www.grannytrek.co.uk](http://www.grannytrek.co.uk)) the annual treks have raised a staggering £128,000. Three lengths of walk are offered (with the welcome assistance of Bristol Severnside Rotarians) – one mile either totally on hard surfaces or with an option of half through fields; three miles through bluebell woods and fields; and six miles through the bluebells and fields, with the added treat of walking through the Tyntesfield Estate, by kind permission of the National Trust. Granny Trek veterans will be relieved to know there are far fewer stiles this year!

Does the name 'Granny Trek' put you off? Do you imagine a band of white haired old ladies shuffling along? You'd be wrong for three reasons. Firstly, the 2009 granny often cuts a youthful dash, perhaps even leaving her grown children behind both in appearance and energy. Secondly, there are thousands of white haired old ladies doing tough country walks every week of the year. Whatever the weather, they're out with the U3A or other local groups. Thirdly, and most importantly, you don't have to be a granny to take part. You are welcome if you've ever had a granny! Walk with her, or for her, or in memory of her.

Many of you reading these words will think: "I really must do that this year". Then days and weeks go by and it's too late. So register early – telephone 01271 325270 or email [grannytrek@chsw.org.uk](mailto:grannytrek@chsw.org.uk) to get your sponsor form. Try building your sponsorship little and often. Every extra £1 you raise will bring more comfort and support to those families who would love to have the choice of whether to join Granny Trek. Whether you pray, cross your fingers or touch wood for luck, please do it hard to provide some glorious sunshine for a record number of trekkers! And don't forget, Fritz and Rudi invite all well-behaved dogs to come along too.

★ **Bleadon Village** ★

**Annual  
May Day  
Fayre**



**Bank Holiday Monday  
4th May 2009  
10.30am—3.30pm**

**Licensed bar and refreshments all day  
Fun and games for all the family  
Lots of stalls—home produce, gifts, bric-a-brac, asnu clothes, plants and so much more  
Entertainment by Morris Men, RAF cadets,  
music by jazz band, and organ in church  
*Entry by programme 25p each including lucky  
programme draw—prize £50***

*Bleadon May Fayre is organised by the Friends of Bleadon Church all proceeds go towards church expenses*



## Weston Croquet Club

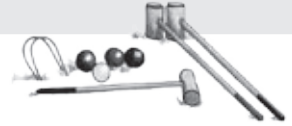
Hopefully winter is nearly over and we can now start to think about playing Croquet once again. The ground has had a lot of attention during the closed season and we should be able to have three whole lawns to play on this coming season.

We have had our Annual General Meeting and there are one of two changes of officers, all can be found on the website.

Weather permitting we hope to start the new season about 2.00pm Wednesday 8th April 2009 and we look forward to seeing all members ready with their mallets hoping to hoop!

Anyone wishing to try their hand at this game please contact

The Secretary, Shirley Buckley at 9 Manor Grange, Bleadon.



## Bleadon Short Mat Bowls Club

The current season continues successfully and several new members have joined us. Although Short Mat Bowls is not as easy as it seems it is most enjoyable and tuition is available as is the loan of most equipment. All that is needed to start is a pair of shoes with flat soles.

At the time of writing our league team is situated mid table and a few new faces are receiving league experience.

Our social committee are active and over Christmas we enjoyed an end of term mince pie and wine party and this was followed in January with our annual meal at Worlebury Golf Club when in excess of 40 members and friends attended. A trip to Dawlish in February has had to be cancelled but this has been replaced with a trip to the Isle of Wight in March.

Anyone seeking further information should contact our Chairman, Graham Rogers on 811571. The season will end on the 29th May when the Annual General Meeting takes place.

### CHATTERLEY PLUMBING & HEATING

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‘The Croftings’

Purn Way

Bleadon BS24 0QE



## SSAFA FORCES HELP – “COFFEE & DANISH”

The annual “Coffee & Danish” morning in support of SSAFA Forces Help will be held in the Coronation Hall on Friday, 4th September 2009 from 10.30 a.m. to noon.

“One Day’s Service – a Lifetime of Support”

The national charity helping serving and ex-Service men, women and their families, in need  
Registered Charity No. 210760. Est 1885

Patrons  
HM The Queen  
President of the Council  
HRH Prince Michael of Kent GCVO  
Chairman  
Lieutenant General Sir Robin Ross KCB OBE

## Bleadon Friendship Club



Our New Year 2009 started off with our club lunch held at The Webbington Hotel (Now under new management part of Best Western Chain). Good food and general ambiance enjoyed by the majority of members, transport by WDCTG much appreciated in the very very cold weather at that time. So on with our programme of entertainment (credit crunch or not). We still have our friends and so some of our entertainment will be home grown variety.

April	3rd	Quiz
	4th	<b>Coffee Morning</b> ( please remember to support us)
	10th	Good Friday - No Meeting
	17th	Card Bingo
May	24th	Beetle
	1st	Gina Merrett Smith - Marianne North
	8th	Card Bingo
	15th	Diane
	22nd	Music from the Raindrops
June	29th	to be confirmed
	5th	Mike and his Music
	12th	Anne Miller - Australia

Look forward to seeing you at the Coffee Morning **APRIL 4th**

**Beryl sec.**

## Friends of Bleadon Church



**Looking forward to a very good year, here are a few dates for your diaries.**

**Monday, 4th May:** As it is Bank Holiday Monday it MUST be Bleadon's annual May Day Fayre. Your help on the day is important to us. As you know the May Day Fayre is the most important event in the Friends calendar. We need all the help we can get. Setting-up early morning, manning stalls and the entrance gates, looking after the games etc. So we need your help. Please let Reyn on 811490 or me on 813636 know if you would like to help on the day. Not all day but just one of the rota. If you cannot help, just come along and enjoy the fun and games. This year we will have, as always, something special on the programme. Soon you will be getting requests from Sandra for her Bric a Brac room. Please give all you can. Now is the time to have a good clear out. Give us a call if you have anything for collection.

**Saturday, 13th June:** In the Church at 7.30pm we are fortunate to have a performance by the Weston Light Orchestra. More details later.

**Sunday, 12th July:** In the afternoon we will open the Tower of the Church for those magnificent views across the Levels to Brean, Burnham and beyond. Followed by tea and cakes.

**Saturday, 26th September:** Our annual Harvest Supper in the Coronation Hall. 7.00pm. An evening of good food and fellowship.

**October:** On a date yet to be finalised we will be offering our contribution to the West Arts Festival. Probably some form of music in the Church or the Coronation Hall.

All our events will be advertised in the Village and Church magazines and also keep your eye on the village notice boards for up-to-date information.

New ideas are always welcome and if you would like to join our team, please give me a ring on 01934 813636.

**Brian Drinkwater**

## Parochial Church Council News



In keeping you all in touch with rapidly changing events affecting our church at Bleadon I suspect, like us, you would prefer avoidance of details of the seemingly never-ending saga of our Interregnum.

However - it was not to be! The vacancy for a priest at St Andrews, Bournville, which has been due to the departure of the Rev'd Bethan Gutteridge, has in its turn created a problem for us at Bleadon.

What problem I hear you ask? Well, Bournville like ourselves in March 2007, have now to commence the procedures to elect a replacement priest for Bethan. This process would, had events stayed as they were, have included us in the selection discussions as the two parishes of Bournville and Bleadon were scheduled to share the services of one resident priest.

The P.C.C confronted with a further delay extending over many months, with all the possibilities that our patrons, the Guild of All Souls, might yet again raise objections to any proposed selection, felt "enough was enough". Or to put it more succinctly, "we were all just about fed-up" with the

## Parochial Church Council News



various delays and obstructions,

Earlier this month therefore the P.C.C. took a unanimous decision to recommend the following actions to the Diocesan authorities:

- (a) that we discontinue the proposed official linkage with the Parish of St Andrews; (but retain our friendly associations with them in a Christian way) ;
- (b) that we would continue, certainly until the end of 2009 and hopefully beyond that date, with the services of Nigel Yenning, Peter Tullet and our Reader Jill Smith; (all three have expressed their support for us and we remain so grateful to them for this involvement);
- (c) that we urge the Deanery Pastoral Committee to seek on our behalf, a partnership with another parish in this area;

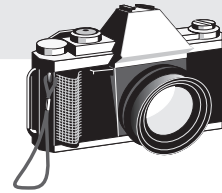
So, there it is for the time being; this arrangement we believe will go some way, in an interim manner, to achieve a equilibrium whereby we hope that our Church will achieve what is best for us in the long term.

Please note the date of our Annual Parish General Meeting — **Monday 27th April.**

Here is your chance to attend and ask questions — you would be most welcome.

**David Elliott** Chairman PCC

## Ansel Adams – Landscape Photographer



A name synonymous with excellence in the world of landscape photographers is that of Ansel Adams, of that there can be little doubt, even to this day. For Adams died in 1984 at the age of 82 after a career spanning 60 years during which time he produced some of the finest black & white images of the American landscape

that have ever been seen. He was a conservationist as well as a photographer and had great empathy with the world around him and with a desire to record for posterity the great beauty of his world and the importance of light in the formation of that beauty. Mind you, he worked mainly in an area of America renowned for it's sheer magnificence, that of Yosemite National Park in California. He was born in San Francisco so this area was almost his back garden and he was over awed by the sheer grandeur of the scenery when he made his first visit there in 1916 at the age of 18, returning there on a regular basis throughout his life.

His career was not always in photography as at the tender age of 12 he was removed from formal education at several private schools because of his reluctance to concentrate and thereafter was taught by his Aunt and his Father. This situation gave him the time needed to pursue his interest in music and he had ambitions of becoming a concert pianist. He never attained that goal as he became more involved with an interest in photography, though he did attain a very high standard in music and continued to play the piano for the remainder of his life.

It was in 1927 when on a visit to Yosemite he was fascinated by the range of tones produced by the exceptionally clear light falling upon the vertical western face of the mountain known as "Half Dome" and visualised the dramatic effect he could achieve photographically, so using his Korona view camera and his last remaining glass plate he placed a dark red filter over the lens to heighten tonal contrast between the sky and the land mass, he took the shot. That photograph is now one of the most reproduced images of all time and is called "Monolith". The shot was successful because as he wrote " I had been able to realise a desired image, not the way the subject appeared in reality but how it felt to me and how it must appear in the finished print" and this became the maxim by which he worked for the rest of his life.

## Ansel Adams – Landscape Photographer

His images were always full of tonal quality and sharp from foreground to the far distance and he achieved this by developing a very special technique using his mastery of visualisation. He coupled this with a pioneering technique called the “Zonal System” whereby he was able to translate perceived light quality into specific tone densities on to negatives and paper thus giving him much better control over the finished print. This was a way that he had of seeing in his minds eye, the finished” print and in so doing, achieving a spiritual and intellectual connection with his subject. He also co-founded the group which called itself f/64, this being a reference to the desired aperture used in achieving the acute sharpness to his images. The overall quality of his images was in no small way due to the camera he used, his preferred one was a 10” x 8” field camera that produced such detailed images. This was a camera seldom seen these days due mainly to cost and availability of sensitised material. In the main his negatives were produced on glass plates as was the norm in those sort of cameras.

In 1941 he was contracted to the U.S. Government to photograph all the national parks and Indian reservations across the U.S. and produce mural size prints to decorate the interior of the new building of the Department of the Interior. At the same time he was able to take photographs for his own use and many exciting images were produced by him during this period, images which are held in such high regard that they have become the standard to which other photographers aspire but seldom do. In 1980 President Jimmy Carter awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom, America’s highest civilian honour and in 1985, a year after his death, the Minarets Wilderness was renamed in his honour, Ansel Adams Wilderness and a peak in the Sierra Nevada became Mount Ansel Adams, which goes to show the very high regard in which he was held. I was fortunate enough to see some of his original prints at an exhibition in San Francisco back in 1979 and to say that the photographs were stunning would be an under statement of serious magnitude. If you get a chance take a look at a book entitled “Ansel Adams: “Classic Images” ISBN 0-8212-1629-5 and I am sure you will agree that I have not over stated my appreciation of this great photographer.

### Ken Tapley.

Bleadon Photographic Group

## The Arts in Bleadon

May promises to be a busy month for lovers of the Arts in this area. As part of the **North Somerset Arts Week 2009**, there will be exhibitions in five locations within the village. The exhibitions will run from the 1st to the 10th of May. All of the venues will be well signposted, with free illustrated brochures available at the post office.

Look out for those pink triangular signs.

For music lovers, Weston Choral Society are performing Haydn’s Creation accompanied by the Locrian Ensemble, and conducted by Ray Willis, the Society’s Director of Music. The concert is at All Saints Church on Saturday 10th May. It begins at 7.30, and tickets costing £10 will be available at the door.

## BOOKS WANTED FOR THE MAY DAY FAYRE BOOK STALL.



PLEASE CONTACT  
PETE WILLIAMS ON - TEL 812020  
AND HE WILL BE ONLY TOO PLEASED TO COLLECT  
ANY BOOKS WHICH YOU FEEL ABLE TO DONATE.  
CDS, VIDEOS AND DVDS ALSO WELCOME.

### Friends of Bleadon Church

## Goods needed for the May Day Fayre

If you are having a clear out we will willingly collect:



- kitchen equipment, china and small furniture
- garage and garden tools, and car parts
- soft furnishings, and good clean clothes
- toys and games
- bric-a-brac, books, CDs, DVDs, Videos, and records
- in fact anything you would normally take to a Charity Shop.

Please call Sandra on WSM 413034 to arrange collection as soon as possible as we cannot collect during the week before May Fayre.

Very many thanks – every penny raised goes to the Church

**THANK YOU** TO THOSE WHO GRITTED AND SALTED THE ROADS IN THE RECENT SPELL OF BAD WEATHER. THE RESIDENTS ARE INDEBTED TO YOU. THERE MAY BE OTHERS, BUT IAN FINDLAY AND BRIAN THORNE ARE THE ONES I KNOW ABOUT.

SILENT AUCTION 28th FEBRUARY 2009

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported the Silent Auction, it was a fantastic night enjoyed by all. We managed to raise over £700 towards the running costs of the two halls.

Thank you also to everyone who assisted on the night, making this a very successful evening. Especially Ann, Liz, Joanne, Maggie and Tony, and not forgetting my husband for putting up with all the items in our spare bedroom, without you all I could not have achieved such a high amount.

Betty Paterson.



The Anchor



Purn Farm



Bleadon 1978





Aerial view of Bleadon



Celtic Way and Shiplate Road junction



Old Rectory from the church tower



Bleadon 1950's

**The additional cost of reproducing these photos has been met  
by the generous sponsorship from Marshall's Quarry**

## Bleadon Coronation Hall Report



Our AGM will be held on Thursday April 9th at 7.30pm and is open to all village residents. It is an opportunity to air your views on the general running of the Halls, and constructive criticism is always welcome.

Each village organisation, club etc. who are regular users of the Halls may nominate someone who will represent them for the coming year.

The Coronation Hall is a registered Charity, with the Committee as Management Trustees, and operates under the rules and objects of our 1938 trust deed.

We are fortunate to have a dedicated band of members ensuring that Hall users have excellent facilities available at all times.

**Len Chamberlain.** (Chairman)

## The Phoenix Quiz

Quiz fans and supporters of CLIC Sargent were saddened by Pat Dain's announcement in the last Village news that she could no longer organize her annual charity quiz, though everyone could fully understand her reasons. Various people have expressed their disappointment at the loss of this enjoyable event and CLIC Sargent could well do without a loss of income, so to fill the gap there will be a new quiz. This will be held on the equivalent date, this year the 21st November, Jeanette and Reyn Badger will look after the bar and I (with a little help from my friends) will take care of the quiz, and CLIC Sargent will benefit from the profits. In the circumstances it seems appropriate to call it the Phoenix Quiz. More details in due course.

**Les Masters** 811976

## Bleadon WI



**It's official – " We're jammin' " !**

At our formation meeting on 12th February, officers and committee members were appointed and Bleadon WI became the fourth new WI in Avon Federation to be formed since September '08.

Some great ideas for future activities and talks were suggested and, yes, the future does look bright!

If you would like to try something different, learn new skills – 'Encaustic Art' was demonstrated at our first meeting – make new friends and have fun doing it, then come along to our next meeting at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 9th April in the Coronation Hall.

Women of all ages are welcome to come along to our meetings, which will be held every second Thursday in the month.

Need more information? Call Libby 812050. **"Let's get this party started"**

## Report from the Guides



Following the Remembrance day service a few of the guides completed the “walk from Bleadon” that was printed in the councils Life magazine, unfortunately it poured with rain all the way and a couple of very soggy guides made their Promise at the top of the hill in the rain!

Guides and Brownies went to Weston’s Pantomime and got Malleted by Timmy Mallet as we were in the front 2 rows.

The Guides had a “Pink Party” to raise money for Breast Cancer awareness, organised by the girls themselves.

We have just started an “Everest Challenge” based on all things Mountaineering, Tietan and similar.

We are looking forward to a trip to the Theatre to see the Gang show (one of the guides is taking part) and 2 weekend camps, one in Wiltshire, sailing and canoeing, and the Malvern Challenge, a large Scout & Guide camp near Cheltenham with a hiking challenge.

One of the guides and two leaders are taking part in a world camp in Windsor Park during the summer.

### Janet Fear

Guide Leader

janetfear@btinternet.com

01934 522583

## Bleadon Horticultural Society



2008 ended on a high for Tony Pettitt as he stormed past half way leader Stella Cory, to steal top prize in the annual Beetle Drive, whilst Jean Field was presented with the prestigious garden gnome! Everyone appreciated the sumptuous spread of food, rounding off the evening in the American way.

Dr, Hamish Batten gave a superb illustrated talk on Penstemons with a practical demonstration thrown in, on how to take cuttings and also how to identify the tell-tale signs of eel-worm attack. The range of colours in this tubed flower with five stamens is amazing from white through pink, red, blue to almost black.

**Tuesday April 21st** - just before this meeting (at 7.00pm) we are aiming to unveil the new plaque which will sited in the Jubilee garden. The original engraved brick will remain in place in the wall of the garden where I presume it was positioned in 1977. I wonder how many of you even know of its existence!

This event will be followed by Paul Hending giving an illustrated talk on Organic Gardening.

**Tuesday May 19th** – we will be holding our annual plant sale and social. All plants labelled clearly please.

**Tuesday June 16th** – it will be ‘Gardener’s Question Time’ with panelists Chris Webber and Cindy Tratt.

These events will be held in the Coronation Hall at 7.30pm and are open to anyone on £1 admission.

**Tuesday July 21st**- The annual coach trip is to St Fagan’s, where we will be visiting the gardens, castle, folk museum and all things Welsh.

More details of this visit nearer the time.

**Chris Cudlipp**

## The Bleadon Players



Our pantomime was very successful and thank you to all those of you who came to cheer us on. The Players would like to say a special 'thank you' to our children, not only Edward and Heather who played Hansel and Gretel so delightfully, but also to the others who are becoming such talented little troupers as the years go by.

Our Spring production is a farce called 'Wild Goose Chase' by Derek Benfield. It is very funny from start to finish and heralds the return of the characters seen before in 'Post Horn Gallop' viz. Batty old Lord Elwood and his long-suffering wife and daughter; Ada the maid, Miss Partridge, Chester Dreadnought and the sinister Capone and Wedgewood.

**Performances on May 7th, 8th, and 9th – tickets from the Post Office or on the door.  
Watch out for the posters!**

## Only some can cycle: We can all Recycle

We are all happy to see our rubbish collected each Monday and carried away to landfill. Where exactly is landfill however? North Somerset has no sites left, and for a variety of geological and planning reasons there is no prospect of it acquiring any, so our rubbish has to be transported further afield, an expensive and inefficient process paid for by our council tax.

It is obviously in all our interests then, to recycle as much as possible, rather than put things in the black bag. Now I realize that the dedicated cynics think the material collected for recycling goes to landfill anyway and that there has been much publicity lately about the collapsing market for waste. I therefore rang the relevant department in North Somerset (01934 888802) and spoke to Lucy Elston, who explained that the contractors Biffa still have markets for the material collected and that none of it goes to landfill.

North Somerset has been steadily improving its recycling facilities, including the kerbside collection,

This now accepts in green boxes:-

- Paper and printed card together
- Glass
- Tins and cans – preferably flattened

It obviously helps the collectors if these items are bagged /boxed separately.

In green bags we can now put

- corrugated cardboard, (plain not printed)
- egg boxes
- garden waste

Many types of plastic containers (milk, drinks, detergent) can now be disposed of at recycling banks sited at Tesco, Asda or at the main centre formerly known as 'the tip'. Drinks cartons (juice etc) should also be put in special banks available at some supermarkets.

In other words by taking a little trouble we can all help tackle a problem created by the modern economy we have mostly been so eager to embrace.

PS How often do you accept an unnecessary plastic bag from a shop assistant?

Les Masters.

For further details of collections and information see pages in this magazine or e-mail:- [lucy.Elston@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:lucy.Elston@n-somerset.gov.uk)

# Cardboard a quick guide to recycling it in North Somerset

Did you know?

Cardboard can be recycled four or five times before it starts to disintegrate.

## Thin printed card



e.g. cereal or toothpaste boxes



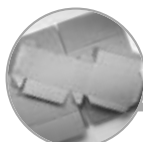
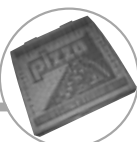
or



or



Plain or printed



Plain



Please do not take any kind of corrugated cardboard to the recycling banks as it will not be recycled.

Please note: food and drinks cartons are not classed as cardboard, these have to be recycled separately at our carton recycling banks. See our website for their location [www.n-somerset.gov.uk/recyclingcartons](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/recyclingcartons)

Printed on recycled paper 17474 01/09



Streets and Open Spaces  
01934 888 802  
[www.n-somerset.gov.uk/cardboard](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/cardboard)



# Plastic recycling – New sites and more types to recycle!

Residents can now recycle more types of plastic and we have extended the number of recycling points from nine to fourteen.

As well as being able to recycle types 1 and 2 you can now recycle types 5 and 6 which are items such as yoghurt pots and margarine tubs.

In addition we have secured some extra funding and are delighted to announce five new sites across the District, see the yellow box on the opposite page.



## Which is which?

- **Type 1**, or polyethylene terephthalate, is commonly used to make fizzy drink bottles, water bottles and salad trays.
  - **Type 2**, or high density polyethylene, is mainly used to make milk bottles, bleach, cleaners and most shampoo bottles.
  - **Type 5**, or polypropylene, is commonly used to make margarine tubs and microwaveable meal trays.
  - **Type 6**, or polystyrene, is mainly used to make yoghurt pots, foam hamburger boxes, plastic egg containers, plastic cutlery and protective packaging for electronic goods.
- Bear in mind the logo is stamped onto your plastics – see the example above. The council cannot accept plastic with any other combination of letters or numbers for recycling because, at the moment, it is difficult to process, and we do not have a secure end market for recycling the other types of plastic. Residents should not recycle plastic without a logo, flower pots, ciling film, carrier bags, bin liners, bubble wrap, or plastic types 3, 4, or 7.



## What happens to plastics once they are collected?

Mixed plastics are collected from bank sites by the firm Recresco, through custom-built suction vehicles, and are taken back to Recresco's depot.

The polymers are then cleaned and shredded into flakes. Most of the flakes is used to fuel the plant, reducing the carbon footprint.

The products are then sold onto the fibre industry or to plastic bottle manufacturers.



**Tip!** Where possible avoid buying over-packaged products and instead buy refill plastic containers.

**Fact!** The amount of plastic waste generated annually in the UK is estimated to be nearly three million tonnes.



## Our plastic banks are located at:

- Backwell - Recycling Centre **(NEW)**
- Blagdon - Village Club Car Park
- Clevedon - Millcross
- Long Ashdon - Co-op Car Park **(NEW)**
- Nailsea - Clevedon Road Car Park
- Pill - Mount Pleasant Shops Car Park **(NEW)**
- Porfishood - Recycling Centre
- Porfishood - Waitrose
- Weston-super-Mare - Recycling Centre
- Weston-super-Mare - Tesco **(NEW)**
- Weston-super-Mare - Asda
- Winscombe - The Woodborough Pub **(NEW)**
- Worle - Hill Road Car Park **(NEW)**
- Yatton - Somerfield

For more information on how to reduce, reuse and recycle your waste visit: [www.n-somerset.gov.uk/waste](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/waste)



# Bleaden Country Sports

I have been recording and measuring precipitation from the skies in a rain gauge in my back garden since 1981. Technically this includes rain, sleet, hail, drizzle, and melted snow. To qualify for a 'rain day' there must be a minimum of 0.2mm in the gauge. I usually measure twice daily 8.00am and 8.00pm. These recordings are in mm. As a guide 25.4mm = 1inch

	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
<b>Rainfall 2008</b>	120.7	33.9	91.5	62.7	107.6	49.7	101.	151.6	137.6	88.0	75.0	68.6	1087.9
<b>Average '81-07</b>	93.0	65.86	69.5	63.7	71.6	66.7	68.6	79.6	82.1	112.5	94.8	103.3	971.2
<b>Dry days 2008</b>	11	19	12	11	18	16	14	8	15	13	11	18	166
<b>Average '81-07</b>	13	14	15	16	16	18	18	18	16	13	12	14	183

As can be seen from the figures 2008 was an overall wet year with 1087.9mm or 42.8ins, compared to the average of 971.2mm or 38.2ins precipitation. There have been 4 wetter years prior to 2008 viz. 1994,1999,2000 and 2002.

December ended up as quite a remarkable month with 68.6mm (2.7ins) rainfall being recorded, with 30mm alone falling between 8.00pm on 12th to 8.00am on the 13th. This very heavy rainfall caused widespread flooding as was reported at the time. There were 18 dry days and 18 occasions when the overnight temperature fell to zero or below - the lowest was -5C on New Year's Eve followed by -4C on Jan.1st 2009.

2009 .. Following the cold end to 2008 the New Year kicked off with 11 consecutive nights of below zero temperatures, the coldest being -9C measured on the morning of the 9th Jan. Overall there were 15 nights when zero or below was recorded. Throughout January there were 96.1mm rain, melted snow and hail recorded and of this 73.8 or 77% fell overnight between 8pm -8am. There were 13 dry days.

What a start to the year and we haven't got the February statistics yet!!

**Chris Cudlipp**



## NEW TO COMPUTING?

STRUGGLING WITH THE INTERNET?  
 NOT SURE ABOUT E-MAILING?  
 CAN'T GET THE HANG OF ATTACHMENTS?  
 NEED HELP WITH ENHANCING PHOTOS?

RING PENNY ON 814142



## Bleadon Ladies Club



We know it's a bit late to be wishing you all our members, friends and families a 'Happy New Year' but we do it all the same.

We had a wonderful talk in January by Mrs. Yvonne Bell about 'Harrods in Victorian Times'.

In February Mrs. Jean Rautley talked about 'Queen Alexandra'.

The March meeting was entitled 'Members Participate in Painting Boxes'

On April 14th Mr. Paul Temple will talk on 'An African Village' a charity in Tanzania.

On May 12th Mr. Terry Merrett-Smith will entertain us with a talk called 'Ration Books to Rock 'n Roll'. He is bringing tapes and records so I think this one will bring back a lot of memories.

On June 9th Mr. Peter Tinney will reflect on 'A Life in Somerset'.

As you can see from our very varied programme it's well worth joining us. The club meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the Coronation Hall at 2.30pm and we always like to welcome new members and visitors. For more information call Barbara on 814362

## Death on the Pier - A short story

It takes a long time for Barry to get to know you but once he does, he is very loyal. He's no time for people who are all over you one minute then dropping you the next but that's just what Glenda's doing, looking him straight in the eye and telling him she's met someone else. He's hurt and angry, suddenly hitting her hard across the face. They fight but it's no contest and he knocks her about badly. Glenda is quite well off, Barry has been living at her place, and before leaving he helps himself to her collection of jewellery. However, it seems the jewellery is not hers.

"I'm looking after them for someone," she screams up at him, mouth swollen and spitting blood, "and he'll be round to sort you out. Swine!"

She does not report his theft to the police just the assault and he gets two years.

After release he has real trouble getting a job, proper work that is; people soon find out you've been in prison. With faint chance of paid employment, Barry starts doing something he has learnt whilst inside, woodwork, particularly making bird boxes. In prison, he's become an accomplished box maker. He makes nesting boxes for everything: robins and wrens, tits great and small, owls and even bats. All different shapes and sizes and so well done and reasonably priced that the prison gets a contract to supply the RSPB and the National Trust. When Barry leaves they continue the work and seeing an item about it on the local news it makes him wish he were back inside.

However he's beginning to branch out a bit now, making tables, feeders and other wooden nick-knacks and does quite well with a stall at the local village markets. He's going to the Weston Farmers Market at the Winter Gardens since it started and being a regular means he always gets a position with a view of the pier and that cheers him up because that's where he's hidden the stolen jewellery.

Though Barry is always at the Winter Gardens he doesn't find the farming folk friendly, they're not interested in you at all, just want your table money. He prefers the village events, you are treated better,



## Death on the Pier - A short story

become part of something and that's what he's missing of course, a family, someone close. He considers putting another ad in The Mercury like the one he did for Glenda though things have changed with him; 35-year-old ex con with no qualifications is not much of a draw. Even if you don't mention prison, you can be sure it will crop up, Weston's a small place, so he decides to answer an advert instead; Christina, 39, outdoor type, likes camping and going to festivals, seeks similar fun male. They meet one evening in town and get on well. They have going-to-festivals in common because Barry's been breaking into the Glastonbury festival for years until the fences and patrols got properly organised and then he gets a job there on security. Christina laughs at that. She is also interested in his 'birdy houses' as she calls them and starts going with him to the markets where she enjoys raking among the bric-a-brac for bits of jewellery. She knows a lot about jewellery.

They stayed in town for a meal after the last Winter Gardens market and then went drinking until late. Drunk and keen to impress, Barry impulsively decides to show Christina the jewellery. The pier is closed, locked and deserted, but he knows how get in; he had been employed here for a year or so, before the assault charges. Clouds scud across the moon, its light shimmering on an unseen sea, and close together in the inky black shadows they start the eerie walk out to the pavilion. The security office he once occupied is inside the building and, he'd discovered, is now a cleaners' store. The trap door is still accessible; beneath it a short flight of metal steps reaching below the pier deck to a narrow platform and there a fixed cabinet, part of a never-to-be-completed sprinkler system. Christina waits while he goes down to recover his treasure. He returns and unwraps it and by the feeble glow of a torch, they survey the heap of rings, brooches, chains and bracelets.

"There're magnificent love, brilliant, priceless," she enthuses.

But even as she is feverishly sorting through the jewellery, excitedly examining each in turn, Barry, coldly sober now, realises he has made a mistake.

During the days following the jewellery disclosure, she questions him whether the hoard is safe on the pier.

"What if someone goes down there? Is the hiding place locked? Why can't we get it and keep it here, or at my place even?"

"We might do that if we were living together properly," he says.

They have been partners now for a while but she still keeps her own flat. Barry wants someone to share himself with, to depend on him more but she seems reluctant to make that commitment. Truth is he's not certain now that Christina figures in the future of the jewellery and uneasy that she knows its hiding place. Alone he anxiously walks the promenade. It's a place best avoided this time of year. It's July, and at the pier crowds of sun burnt, sand-blown holidaymakers jostle, and on the pavements you can hardly move for gangs of foreign kids and fractious family groups. Nevertheless, he finally decides.

Barry has the need to touch people, he's tactile Christina tells him because she is the same and he does like that about her. However, it is also where things are beginning to go wrong because she is a lot more gushing and 'lummy' than he is and she's like it with everyone. Barry despairs. It unsettles him seeing her all chatty and cheerful with other people. They're at Uphill Sunday market and he's watching her from behind his stack of bird boxes, seeing her acting very friendly and touchy feely again with that loud-mouthed farmer selling the meat. He's always here, 'his idea of an outdoor type girl will be someone to muck out his cowsheds,' Barry mutters to himself.

"I shan't be round tonight love," she announces as they are clearing away "a night with the girls."

"It's my birthday tomorrow," Barry reminds her, "the 28th, we said we'd go for a meal."

She moves close to give him a hug, "I'll be there birthday boy," she says coyly, "have a lie in. Wait 'till the afternoon and I'll bring round your birthday treat."

Barry is suspicious, this is Christina's first mention of any girlfriends, so as soon as it's safe he gets onto the pier goes to the pavilion and waits in hiding near the cleaners' room. It is not long before Christina appears, carefully threading her way between the games and amusements in the moonlight and there is someone with her. She's brought the Farmer!

'The faithless cow!' Anger rising, Barry feels like jumping up and attacking them both but he

## Death on the Pier - A short story

grits his teeth and stays silent as, tool bag in hand, the Farmer follows Christina into the room. There is scraping and squeaking as the trapdoor is raised and Barry moves closer. The Farmer has passed down onto the platform and is soon cursing that he can't get the dammed cabinet open. Following several sharp clangs from below and a frantic 'Shhhusssssh' from Christina, there is the sound of hesitant steps on the ladder; she is going down to join him. Barry has been hoping for this, quickly he goes in slams down the trapdoor then drags a steel locker over it. Frantic shouts and thumping from below urge him to pull another locker over and lay it across the trap. Standing for a moment gathering his breath he smiles, they'll be discovered in the morning but it'll be a chilly and comfortless night for them he hopes, trapped beneath the pavilion, marooned by mud and tide. He turns, making towards the exit, the desperate cries and banging slowly fading.

Crossing the pavilion the ghostly shapes and the smells remind Barry of past times: the rubber-and-firework smell of the dodgems, the sweet scent surrounding the candy floss stall and the cooking fumes from the restaurant which tonight seem particularly pungent. He leaves, unaware that a fire in the kitchen has already started and the automatic alarm system, the system that made him and his security mates redundant, is busy sending out signals that nobody will hear. Within hours, the pier pavilion and all its contents are destroyed. The Farmer's body washes ashore in Sand Bay. Christina's body not yet found. The jewels? Barry removed them from the pier the previous week and has somewhat placated the underworld by returning them intact to Glenda and her friend. Barry's going to start a new venture making garden furniture and would like a female helpmate; soon he will be answering lonely-hearts adverts in The Mercury.

End



## Is there no end to the mess?!

As a responsible dog owner of two wonderful dogs, I am disgusted by the number of people who fail to clear up the faeces left by their pets. On a recent walk I was appalled to see such a mess in our lovely churchyard. Is it too much to ask that people with dogs (well loved pets I'm sure) to clear up after them?. We now have dog bins around the village so really there is no excuse.

### **SO PLEASE BE PROUD TO LIVE IN BLEADON AND MAKE IT 'A DOG MESS FREE ZONE'**

Barbara Pugh



**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. BE A GOOD CITIZEN AND CARRY A POOP-SCOOP OR A PLASTIC BAG AND DEPOSIT IT IN THE DOG LITTER BINS THAT HAVE BEEN PROVIDED IN THE VILLAGE. PLEASE DON'T LEAVE IT FOR OTHERS TO CLEAN UP**

## A list of organisations which regularly use the Coronation Halls

### Mondays

11.00 am - 12.00	Marie's Mini Movers**
2.00 -5.00 pm	Bleadon Bridge Club
7.00 - 9.00 pm	Exercise Classes **
7.30 pm	British Sugarcraft Guild
1st Monday	W.S.M. Branch
7.30 pm	Bleadon Parish Council
2nd Monday	

### Contact

Mrs M Keele	07939 038 071
Mr D Munden	812772
Mrs M Keele	07939 038 071
Mrs F Hatcher	620784
Mr B Poole, Clerk	07887 802922

### Tuesdays

2.00 - 4.00 pm	Bleadon Ladies Group
2nd Tuesday	
2.30 - 4.30 pm	Bleadon Short Mat Bowling Club** Sept-May
6.00 - 7.30 pm	Bleadon Brownies**
7.30-9.00 pm	Bleadon Guides** (term time)
7.30 pm	Bleadon Photographic Group
1st,2nd,4th,5th	Sept-May
7.30 pm	Bleadon Horticultural Society
3rd – Oct-June	

Mrs B Pugh	814362
Mrs G Bonham	811630
Mrs R Hemmings	811891
Mrs B Ware	811545
Mr K Tapley	623877
Mr C Cudlipp	813152

### Wednesdays

10.00 am - noon	Infant Welfare Clinic & Toddler Group
2nd & 4th	
10.00 am - noon	Toddler Group
1st,3rd & 5th	
1.30pm	Yoga Class
7.30pm	Bleadon Players/Rehearsals

The Health Visitor at the Clinic	
Mrs D Marsh	
Mrs S Gibbon	645135

### Thursdays

10-12 noon	Art: Watercolour painting class**
7.30pm	Bleadon Womens' Institute
2nd Thur	
8.00pm	Bleadon Folk Dancing Group
3rd Thurs	Sept-June
7.30pm	Bleadon Sugarcraft Club
4th Thursday	

Mrs B Davies	813363
Mrs L. Lockyer	812050
Mrs J Thorne	814007
Mrs C Peters	843754/626587

## A list of organisations which regularly use the Coronation Halls

### Fridays

2-4pm	Bleadon Friendship Club	Mrs B Davies	813363
7.00pm	Short Mat Bowling Club** Sept-May	Mrs G Bonham	811630
5.30 - 6.30 pm	Pilates Classes	Mrs E Duffill	623653

### Saturdays

3rd Saturday	Village Market	Mrs J Jones	812370
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### Sundays

2.30 Sept-May	Short Mat Bowling Club**	Mrs G Bonham	811630
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\*\*in the Jubilee Room

The Halls are available for hire by private individuals or organisations. There is a reduced rate for Bleadon residents. ENQUIRIES: 812370

## What's On - In the Coronation Halls - Make a note in your Diary!

<b>Thurs, Fri, Sat 8, 9, 10 January</b>	PANTOMIME! "Hansel & Gretel"	Bleadon Players
<b>Tues 27th January 9.30-1.00 pm</b>	Public Rights of Way Public Meeting	North Somerset c.c
<b>Tuesday 3rd March</b>	Public Meeting In the Youth Club	Mendip Hills AONB 6.30 - 9.00 pm
<b>Saturday 14th March 2-4 pm</b>	SPRING FLOWER SHOW and Art Exhibition	Horticultural Soc.
<b>Saturday 4th April 10.30 – noon</b>	COFFEE MORNING	Friendship Club
<b>Monday 4th May</b>	MAY FAYRE Art Exhibition, Stalls, Fun, Games and Bumper Bric-a-Brac	Bleadon Church

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This Newsletter is Edited by **PENNY ROBINSON** of 1, The Veale, Bleadon BS24 ONP

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