



BRYMPTON NEWSLINK - Winter 2010

Serving and informing the Community

www.brymptonparishcouncil.gov.uk



From the Chairman

To start with a topical point, *Snow!!!* I am sure that everyone felt the same as I over the poor support from our District & County Councils over the dangerous state of our roads and pavements during the recent cold snap. However in a minor support of them, a lot of our local difficulty was due to an edict from Gordon Brown during the summer for Councils to reduce their stock levels of salt/grit from 14 days to 6 days, but think there were also other mitigating circumstances that rendered our infrastructure more vulnerable, people being frightened by media to "stop at home" the more roads/pavements get used the less like snow/ice is to become compacted (witness the freedom of the main artery roads) narrow domestic roads with cars parked on them and of course our dear old friend "health/safety issues. BPC discussed long and hard the issue of buying and maintaining **grit bins** throughout the Parish...it was decided that it would be impracticable to give wide coverage, as who would, manage the situation at time of need, keep them clean or refuse abuse when not needed, who would co-ordinate the neighbourly team of gritters. Can I suggest residents take care, if able, of the pavement/road outside their property as is required by law in Europe, and to be good neighbours to each other where possible. We would be interested to hear your views or suggestions on this subject, because I have a feeling this issue will return.

On a future happier note we are organising in July, **the Noise** again (volunteers always welcome to join us in organising) and also at Brympton d' Everycy House a **Play in the Park** event, so bring your picnic and a rug and pray for good weather.

Planning continues to be a "thorn in the side" for us, especially as the development always seems to impact so badly on our roads, but we keep shouting into the wind. We are currently engaged with SSDC to try to avert impacting on the west side of Yeovil yet again with the edict from Government of providing 9000 homes in Yeovil, as we have been proved right by statistics in trip models done by SCC that our roads are already at capacity...no surprise to those of us who live here!!! *Vobis Sic Dictamus*(we told you so)

The **replanting** by SSDC of the "clearance" they have carried out recently seems to developing into a long drawn out saga, is this rocket science?

We plan to execute a **petition** regarding the **Boundary Review** another "rocket science issue it seems, but be sure we have not allowed this to be kicked into the "long grass".

We have recently lost a valued member of the council, Mary Thomas, but have gained a new councillor Eddie Galjaard, who I'm sure will be a valued member with new skills.

On another cheerful note, the evenings begin to draw out again and spring is around the corner and hopefully the worst of the winter is behind us.

If you have any comments or ideas we would be pleased to "hear" from residents

Liz Glaisher, Chairman

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Spring Bulbs -



Back in November a number of volunteers assisted with the planting of some more Spring bulbs. They planted 4000 bulbs in verges alongside Western Avenue and their efforts will be there for all to see in a couple of month's time. Many thanks to all that helped.



Clerk's Office and Community Information Point



The Parish Council is setting up a Clerk's office at the Abbey Community Centre where Liz should be able to keep all the parish files, etc. and deal with parish matters.

We are also going to operate a Community Information Point on a trial basis for a few months in the Reception area at the Community Centre. This is scheduled to start on Wednesday 10th Feb and will be available from 12.00 till 2.00pm on a weekly basis. The parish council may not be able to answer all your queries or deal with problems but we should at least be able to point you in the right direction. We hope to also have a PCSO in attendance.

Youth Club



Following an open meeting to discuss the setting up of a local youth club at Abbey Manor quite a lot of interest has been expressed and a number of people have come forward to help run it.

The main problem seems to be in finding a venue. The Abbey Community Centre at The Forum is the ideal location but because of the many existing users it is proving difficult to identify a suitable slot. At the moment it looks like the only option might be Saturday evenings but this is far from ideal - midweek is normally better.

Keep your eye on the local notice boards for further news.

Burials and Cremations are Set to Increase!

In cost that is. At a recent meeting of the Joint Burial Committee (I love that name!) who manage the Yeovil Cemetery and Crematorium facilities it was agreed that charges would be increased by 2%. The good news is that, because Brympton have a representative on the Committee and pay towards management costs, parishioners get a discount.

'The Noise'

The Oak Tree Park event is back again this year on the afternoon of Saturday 3rd July so make a note in your diaries.

Arrangements are progressing well with the 'Urban Warriors' being involved in setting things up. St James have kindly offered to organise the refreshments and lots of organisations have indicated that they will be coming along to support the event. It promises to be an excellent event and all we need is some decent weather!

We would be grateful for any assistance in setting up and/or clearing up so if you're around don't be shy.

Great Expectations !!



On Sunday, July 11th 2010 at 3.00 p.m. a performance of "Great Expectations" will take place in the gardens of Brympton House, by kind permission of Judge William Glossop, the owner of the house. The open-air performance will be performed by a travelling drama company known as 'Quantum Theatre' who have given similar performances across the country. This promises to be a great event and will give those attending the opportunity to enjoy a fantastic setting - bring your own chairs and picnic (but please take your litter home).

Tickets will be available from the Clerk and from other outlets so look out for them in a couple of months time.

Brympton House is a wonderful building right on our doorstep and is set within 33 acres of glorious parkland and lakes. It has a history that can be traced back to the Domesday Book. The House was once at the centre of the medieval village of Brympton D'Evercy but today no traces of this remain. Brympton House was built between 1460 and 1680 and is approached by a long private drive. Nestling close to the main building is the Dower House which was built in 1350: a grouping that led Christopher Hussey - the architectural writer for Country Life - to describe Brympton as 'the most beautiful house in England'. The house featured in The Turn of the Screw which was broadcast recently on BBC. The property has also featured in the Oscar-nominated film Chocolat starring Johnny Depp. It was also the back-drop for the double Oscar winning film Restoration, which starred Hugh Grant, Ian McKellen and Robert Downey Jnr.

The house is also available for private wedding bookings (see www.brympton-weddings.co.uk/).

Somerset County Council - Budgets, etc

At the last Parish Council meeting our County Councillor Sam Crabb advised that SCC's Budget for the forthcoming year will mean a 0% Council Tax increase as far as SCC are concerned as pledged by the Conservative controlling group at the last election. Unfortunately, in order to achieve this, they are planning some significant cuts in services and there will undoubtedly be staff redundancies. They are apparently cutting £5m from the highways maintenance budget (at a time when some serious work needs doing to repair winter damage - e.g. Stourton Way). SCC are also cutting £125k from PCSO funding and there will be cuts in capital spending programmes such as provision of education facilities.

We will see what the next year brings!



PLANNING



There's not a huge amount happening planning-wise at the moment (probably a symptom of the general economic situation) apart that is from the Local Development Framework discussions that are ongoing.

The LDF is the new name for the 'Local Plan' and is all to do with locating and allocating land for future development which in this case means until the year 2026. I mentioned this process in the last edition of Newslink and since then representatives of parish councils have been invited to various meeting with SSDC planning officers to look at the options.

Central Government, in their wisdom, has determined that the South West needs an additional 240,000 homes in the plan period and of these some 19,700 are allocated for the South Somerset area with 11,400 in and around Yeovil. There will of course need to be additional employment land allocated to provide jobs for all the people who are going to live in these houses. Oh, and of course improvements to the infrastructure. This is, of course, in addition to the 2000 or so houses already allocated for Key Sites which haven't started being developed yet.

They say that Australia has lots of open space if you fancy emigrating!

There doesn't seem to be an option of saying 'No' (and a change of Government isn't going to help) so we are faced with finding where this development can go.

Further information along with the 'Evidence Base' documents and other details about the LDF can be seen on the SSDC website at www.southsomerset.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=7066 Some of the maps are interesting particularly the 'Peripheral Landscape Studies' and the 'Development Options' for Yeovil.

The Parish Council is currently raising concerns to do with proposals to change arrangements for provision of the Travel Plan required in conjunction with the development of employment land at Bunford (opposite the Council offices). It is essential that a Travel Plan is provided as a means of trying to reduce traffic impact associated with future employees here but the developer is querying the method of funding this.

On a more mundane note the Parish Council has expressed concern about a couple of issues to do with the ongoing Strongvox housing development at Alvington. Local residents will of course have noticed that the road leading to Alvington has been widened and this was one of the conditions attached to development of this site. It was also a condition that the retaining structure to support the reshaped bank was to have been a natural stone wall. The developer however chose to build a timber piled 'wall', no doubt this was considerably cheaper. We did draw this to the attention of SSDC Planning Enforcement but it would seem that the highway authority (Somerset County Council) are satisfied with this alternative so it is likely to be approved.

The other issue with this development is to do with the materials being used for the new houses. A mixture of natural stone, brick and appropriately coloured rendering was agreed at planning stage but what we have ended up with is a token gesture at use of natural stone and a significant amount of what I would suggest is a yellow rendering that is very visible from the Cartgate Link Road. We did query this colour of rendering and have been advised that it is 'Arran Cream' and that it is the 'newness' that makes it look yellow. I've not been to the Isle of Arran but I have been to Tobermory (you may have seen it on 'CBeebies') on nearby Mull and the colour would fit in well there!



BOUNDARY REVIEW



I mentioned in the last edition of Newslink that Brympton Parish Council are keen to complete a review of the parish boundaries in the area around Abbey Manor (even if SSDC don't seem too interested).

You may recall that back in 2005 SSDC invited parishes to look at boundary issues with a view to resolving various anomalies. As a result Yeovil Town came up with a suggestion that their boundary should be extended to include virtually all of the built up areas around the town boundaries including Abbey Manor Park. This would have effectively meant that parishes such as Brympton and Yeovil Without would have just been left with the relatively few houses contained in outlying hamlets such as Thorne Coffin, Alvington and Yeovil Marsh.

This proposal by YTC was, in our view, contrary to Government guidelines contained in Circular 11/97 which say that: "The general rule should be that the parish is based on the smallest area which reflects community identity and interest and which is viable as an administrative unit. This may mean, for example, that a parish should be based on a housing estate rather than on the town within which the estate lies. The larger the town, the greater will be the scope for identification of distinct communities within it"

The Circular also states that: *"it is desirable that a parish should reflect a small, distinctive and recognisable community of interest, with its own sense of identity. The feeling of local community and the wishes of local inhabitants are the primary considerations."*

With these recommendations in mind Brympton PC thought there was no justification for the incorporation of Abbey Manor Park into Yeovil Town's boundaries. Furthermore we felt that there was a very strong argument for the southern part of AMP (south of Stourton Way) to be included in the same parish as the rest of it i.e. Brympton.

However, having gone quite far with the boundary review process, SSDC decided at their meeting in 2007 to defer any changes until after the impending elections. They agreed to consider the matter again in 2008. We're still waiting and having recently asked what was happening we have been told that they are basically too busy and there are some other elections to prepare for.

Brympton PC have decided to pursue the process and for this we need to get 560 parishioners to sign a petition. Look out for a parish councillor coming to your door in June/July.

This edition of Newslink is being delivered to all properties at Abbey Manor (including those in Yeovil Town's boundaries) just so you all know what's happening. We needed to use our special, recently acquired Powers of Wellbeing to permit us to deliver outside of parish boundaries.. Unfortunately we're not allowed to ask Yeovil Town residents to sign the petition but if the boundary change is successful we hope it will be of benefit to you.

Things to Ponder :

Why toasters always have a setting so high that could burn the toast to a horrible crisp which no decent human being would eat?



Things to Ponder :

Why lemon juice is made with artificial flavour, while dishwashing liquid is made with real lemons?

CRIME & DISORDER



In her latest letter to parish councils, Chief Superintendent Nikki Watson, District Commander for Somerset East, reports that a lot of work is being done around police response times. Nikki advises that one of the Policing Pledge commitments is to answer 999 calls within 10 seconds, deploy to emergencies immediately giving an estimated time of arrival, getting to incidents as quickly and safely as possible. In urban areas, the Police aim to arrive within 15 minutes and in rural areas within 20 minutes.

"Feedback" survey forms have apparently been positive about the way officers are delivering Force values of:

- Putting the public first
- Today's business today
- Quality counts
- All staff will be professional, friendly and interested

Crime figures have reduced by 7.2% which means that there have been 842 fewer victims of crime since April 1st 2009 compared to the same period the previous year. Detection rates have improved to 27.5%. Criminal damage has been reduced by 5.1%, meaning 139 fewer victims of this type of crime.

The districts Safer Neighbourhood teams continue to work with communities to address the anti-social and nuisance behaviour that can so easily affect quality of life.

One area of concern is, apparently, violence against the person which, despite much work by all agencies concerned, is showing an increase year to date (+51 crimes). This is being treated as an urgent priority.



One of the entries for next year's Police award will be the Community Speedwatch scheme which is believed to be the first of its kind in the United Kingdom. This scheme was first trialled in Ash where it was hoped that by involving the community in speed enforcement, the message that speeding would not be tolerated by residents trained by and working closely with their local police.

Since its humble beginnings, the scheme has mushroomed and now there are over 35 Community Speed Watch teams throughout South Somerset with 250 volunteers. These committed teams have monitored over 750,000 vehicles and has contributed to a 42.3% overall reduction in speeders in the areas covered. This provides a major contribution to road safety. One such scheme is in operation at Stourton Way.

You can keep up to date with what's going on in your area by visiting the Police website at www.avonandsomerset.police.uk.

A recent report from PC Jackie Poole warns about theft of fuel from vehicles. What will they think of next?

Jackie has also advised that our local PCSO Graham Phimister is being 'swapped' for a few months for PCSO Jason Hillier from Martock. Jason is apparently a local lad and seems keen to take on a new patch.

The Iron Age Ham Hill Country Park

is being catapulted into the 21st century with a new set of audio guides that visitors can download onto their own MP3 player.



South Somerset District Council is launching the two audio files, which talk the user around the park, allowing people to take a personal 'tour guide' with them as they walk along certain routes. Heritage Lottery Funding has made the feat possible. Grace Hall, Education and Access Officer for South Somerset District Council explains, "The audio clips bring Ham Hill to life, especially for people who have visual impairments. We have created downloadable sound files on the Ham Hill website that give interesting information about the site's geology, wildlife, history and the work that our Countryside Rangers do in order to conserve the park, to accompany people as they walk around in their own time.

Audio trails for two routes are now available to download for any compatible MP3 player by visiting the Accessibility page at www.visitsouthsomerset.com/hamhill.

For people that don't have an MP3 player, then an accompanying leaflet can also be downloaded from the same area on the website.

Housing and Council Tax Benefit - Are you missing out?

In the UK around £10 billion of benefits and credits go unclaimed each year. Around half of working people who would qualify for Housing and Council Tax Benefits don't claim, often because they think they earn too much. You could be missing out, but SSDC want to make sure you don't. If you want to know how much you might get you can check an estimated entitlement on the benefit calculator on their website, or call their Benefit Team who will be very happy to advise you. The changes to the rules set out below mean even more people can qualify for help with paying their rent (Housing Benefit) or get a rebate credit against their council tax (Council Tax Benefit).



Changes that may increase the help you can get: On November 2nd there were two significant changes to rules affecting the calculation of Housing and Council Tax Benefit. The first was the complete disregard of child benefit. Although SSDC still need to know whether applicants receive child benefit they will not take the income into account in deciding how much benefit you are entitled to.

The second change was an increase from £6000 to £10,000 in the amount of savings and investments that a person who has reached the qualifying age for State Pension can have before it is taken into account when deciding how much benefit can be awarded.

SSDC have written to everyone who already gets Housing or Council Tax Benefit that is affected by these changes and advised them of their new entitlement.

Anyone wanting to claim can pick up an application form from any of SSDC's offices. For more information please see the SSDC web pages or call 01935 462462.

Things to Ponder :

- Why you have to click on "Start" to stop 'Windows'?
- Why Noah didn't swat those two mosquitoes?
- Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are flat?



The Somerset Crane Chronicle -

The Newsletter of the Great Crane Project

A brighter future for Somerset's wetlands The Great Crane Project (GCP) is a partnership between the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT), the RSPB, Pensthorpe Conservation Trust and Viridor Credits Environmental Company. The project aims to re-establish a sustainable population of common cranes in Britain, securing its future as a breeding species.

The project also aims to get crane footprints back in the mud of the Levels and Moors and enrich the Somerset landscape in an inspiring and indelible way.

The crane family are one of the longest surviving of all bird species having been on the planet for over 15 million years. They also once freely roamed this part of the world, and were very much on the menu of the Iron Age wetland communities living in the Glastonbury and Meare Lake villages.

Crane footprints are also preserved in the mud of the Severn Estuary, and their name lives on...with 'cran' the prefix to many an old haunt of the crane. Cranmore near Shepton Mallet is one such place.

They were hunted to extinction over 400 years ago - the blink of an eye in terms of the species - and now they are coming back! It is the project's aim that the reintroduction of this wonderful, iconic bird to the Levels and Moors will kick-start a wider appreciation of the wetland habitats that are so vital for the birds survival.



This will also protect and enhance the habitats that already support an incredibly wide range of bird, animal and plant species.

Crane feet- The three toes of the crane's foot closely resemble an arrow symbol used in ancestry to represent family groupings. The French name for the symbol is *pied-de-grue* (cranes' foot) and this is the origin of the word *pedigree*.

Crane relations- Although they look a similar shape to herons and storks, they are not in the same family and are much more closely related to birds like moorhens, coots and water rails. This family of birds also includes the great bustard - a bird that has similarly been reintroduced to the West Country.

Why Somerset? The Somerset Levels and Moors were chosen from a shortlist of four other sites in the UK for the reintroduction. They are extensive and relatively unpopulated and they have a fantastic mix of pasture, hay meadow, swamp, reedbed and arable land. There is also a good deal of land under conservation management with suitable water levels during the breeding season. Cranes need wetlands to nest in, but outside of the breeding season they could turn up anywhere where there is suitable food, and they are not fussy eaters... insects, bugs, plant roots, seeds and grains are all on the crane's diet.

The birds won't be here until autumn 2010 but you can see cranes now at WWT centres at Slimbridge, Martin Mere, London and Washington and at Pensthorpe in Norfolk.

I want to know more you can contact the project manager, Damon Bridge on 01458 254414 to have a chat, request a leaflet, or arrange a group presentation. Alternatively, go to any of the websites below and follow the links:

wwt.org.uk, pensthorpetrust.org.uk, rspb.org.uk,

Things to Ponder :

- Why do women knit faster when they are coming to the end of a ball of wool?
- What hair colour do bald men put on their passport application?

MOTORING WITH PETE

With today's modern cars built to such very fine tolerances, the servicing and the use of correct parts at the correct service intervals has become more important than perhaps 20 to 30 years ago when it was possible to "fiddle" with an engine. The engines of today's cars are designed to run on a specific grade and type of oil with a whole set of additives which keep the oil in good condition. Most Manufacturers will insist on certain A.P.I. (American Petroleum Institute) or A.C.E.A.(Association des Constructeurs European d'Automobiles) grades, which will be prefixed with the letter 'G' for petrol engines or 'D' or 'PD' for diesel engines. Also shown is the viscosity of the oil e.g. '5W40' which means the number before the 'W' is the viscosity of the oil when cold and the number after, the viscosity when hot. The lower the "Winter number" (hence W) the easier the engine will turn over when starting in cold temperatures.

To-day there are basically two types of oil available, mineral or synthetic. Mineral oils are produced from oil that is extracted at oil wells. Synthetic oils are derived motor oils and are actually produced from mineral oils and are mostly "Polyalphaalifins" and these come from the purest part of the mineral oil refraction process.

Both mineral and synthetic oils can be mixed together without any adverse re-action from the engine but are best kept separate. Think of synthetic oil as less likely to re-act adversely with other components and also as a custom built oil which is designed to do the job efficiently but without the excess baggage that can accompany mineral based oils.

So what are the dangers of using the wrong specified oil? Although the engine may seem to run happily, deep inside, surfaces will not get the protection they were designed to have. Lubricating ports may clog with excessive sludge and pistons may overheat because the oil's not flowing freely. One thing is certain, whatever fails because of the wrong oil, it won't be cheap.

In the good old days you used a mixture of water and anti-freeze in a cars cooling system during winter and changed over to just water in summer. However today's modern engines are designed to run with anti-freeze in the cooling systems at all times. The main reason is that modern engines have lots of aluminium in them and pure water will attack the aluminium so anti-freeze now contains a cocktail of additives to stop aluminium corroding. Anti-freeze also helps to remove heat from the engine, increases boiling point, keeps evaporation to a minimum as anti-freeze doesn't evaporate like water and also helps to stop rust building up in the coolant system. The anti-freeze in your modern car should be changed every two or three years.

Like anti-freeze, brake fluid also needs to be changed every two or three years as the hydraulic brake fluid gradually absorbs moisture. The working parts of brakes heat up very quickly when the brakes are applied, and while brake fluid is heat resistant and stays liquid, the water absorbed in it will turn to steam, which is a squeezable gas so the braking effort gets lost. Also on cars with ABS systems the components can rust.

Timing belts should be changed at the correct mileage or time, which ever comes sooner as a worn belt can snap, resulting in a piston hitting a valve at high speed, resulting in a wrecked engine. It is also good practice to change the belt tensioner at the same time as the belt. Other belts such as belts for the fan, power steering, alternator and air conditioning, should be checked at regular servicing intervals and replaced if looking worn, shiny or has oil spilt on them.



Happy Motoring, Pete

A 'Gripping' Tale! (or not, as the case may be)

In the recent cold weather both Somerset County Council (responsible for public roads) and South Somerset District Council (responsible for public car parks, etc.) have been under some pressure to try and deal with ice and snow.



I have some sympathy with their dilemma as the legal issues are far from straightforward and resources are limited. Not only this but supplies of grit/salt were soon exhausted and proved difficult to replenish.

In addition, public expectations were high as many people still had to get to work and/or do the shopping.

Part of the problem is of our own making in that society nowadays is so claim conscious that it is sometimes better for the authorities to do nothing than to do part of a job and get sued.

I know for a fact that the Highways gritting lorries were working round the clock trying to keep the main roads clear as these were seen as the priority rather than treating every side road which would have exhausted salt supplies before they got more than a couple of miles from the depot.

I think they deserve a medal - just my personal opinion!

Garden waste service expands throughout South Somerset

All households across South Somerset will now be able to opt in to a garden waste collection service.

South Somerset District Council's District Executive committee has approved plans for Somerset Waste Partnership to offer chargeable garden waste collections to all households in the district, improving on the current system which only offers the collection to those living in settlements of over 1000 households.

The change is possible in part due to the introduction of new collection vehicles with approximately twice the capacity of the vehicles they will replace.

A project team has now been established to plan the implementation of the expanded garden waste collection service. Customers already on a waiting list and those who have previously enquired about the service will be the first to be offered the opportunity to subscribe. Others will be able to sign up shortly after that, with collections expected to start in late October.

New subscribers to the wheeled bin collection service will be charged £60 if joining before 12th March 2010, covering the service to the end of March 2011. The annual charge for people joining or renewing for the year commencing April 1st 2010 will be £42.50, which is excellent value for 25 fortnightly collections each year.

Households that produce less green waste also have the option of buying bundles of garden waste sacks at £15 for ten.

To register interest in subscribing to the garden waste collection service contact South Somerset District Council customer services on 01935 462462.

NEWS FROM ST. JAMES CHURCH

It was lovely to see lots of people at the range of Christmas services, and thanks to people's generosity, we raised over £1000 for our Christmas Charities approximately £400 each for Barnabas House and Help for Heroes, and £200 for the Childrens Society. The congregation from our monthly Cafe Service has also been fundraising in all sorts of creative ways to build a new primary school in Kenya, and has raised over £2300 towards the £20k needed.

Childrens Groups

The usual range of children's groups and activities have all restarted for the New Year

- **Junior Church:** Sunday morning, running alongside the main Sunday service. Groups for children 3 and up, crèche 0-2 yrs.
- **Tots & Toys:** 10am every Tuesday in the Church Room, with toys and refreshments, for 0-3's and parents/carers.
- **Abbey Parents and Toddlers:** 9.30 am every Wednesday in Abbey Manor Community Centre.
- **Activ8 10-14's youth group,** 6.30pm Sunday evenings,
- **Eskal8 14-18's youth Group:** 8-9.30pm every Sunday in the Church Room.

For more information on these, contact Karen, our Children and Families worker on Karen@stjamesyeovil.org.uk, or 01935 425877

Midweek Groups suitable for people around or above Mick Jagers age...

- **Coffee Mornings:** 1st Thursday of the month, 10am in the parish room, home made cakes for sale, prize draw & bring and buy stall.
- **Ladies Groups:** 2-3.30pm each Wednesday, tea chat & social group

Other Weekly Services

Sunday 10.30am

- 1st & 2nd Sundays Family-friendly service & Junior Church at Abbey Community centre; traditional service St. James.
- 3rd & 4th Sundays Family-friendly service with Junior Church at St. James

Sunday 6.30pm - Evening worship, St. James church

Late Night Worship - 4th Sunday 8.30pm in St. James

Weds 6.30pm - Holy Communion, St. James church

St. James is open on the 4th Saturday morning of each month for prayer and a quiet space.

Most people who receive Newslink are in the parish of St. James and St. Peters, which means that you're eligible to be married here, or to explore baptism for yourselves or for young children.

For more information contact: Rev Tony Perris (429398), Rev David Keen (422286) or the Parish Office (414097).

Church website <http://www.stjamesyeovil.org.uk/>

Email: revdmkeen@btinternet.com

Contacts: Church Office 414097, Rev. Tony Perris 429398, Rev. David Keen 422286, email: clergy@stjames.org.uk



THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER & ST. PAUL, LUFTON

(Also in Brympton Parish - a Part of the Church Unitea Benefice of Odcombe with Lufton, Montacute & Brympton)

Our beautiful, small, rural Church nestles at the heart of the ancient hamlet of Lufton and we welcome all those who wish to worship with us.

Our Candlelit Christmas Service of Readings and Carols was very well attended and enjoyed by all who joined us, which included members of the Trinity Singers. Seasonal refreshments were offered after the Service.

Our regular Services are more traditional, as we still enjoy BCP (1662) Services of Holy Communion on the 1st Sunday of each month & Evensong on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month 4.30pm in Winter & 6.30pm in Summer (times change with the clocks).

On the 3rd Sunday of each month we hold a less formal all age 'Service of Music & Praise', which remains at 4.30pm throughout the year. Services also include traditional hymn singing! Our regular Lay Reader, Bill Chapman takes the Services on the 3rd Sundays.

Special Services & Events coming up include:-

A Taize Service at 4.30pm on Sunday 21st February (Lead by Bill Chapman).

There is an appropriate theme running through each of these beautiful services of prayer and chanting.

Lent Talks & Lent Lunches within the Benefice. Please contact the Rector for details.

Mothering Sunday Evensong on 14th March at 4.30pm.

Lent & Easter Services are held throughout the Benefice. In Lufton, in addition to our normal services, we have the Service of 'The Last Hour' on Good Friday, 2nd April, at 2pm.

Easter Sunday (4th April) the Service of Holy Communion is at 6.30pm.

ALL ARE MOST WELCOME AT OUR SERVICES.

For more information about the Church & Services please contact Rev'd. John Jenkins (01935 863034) or Churchwardens Mr Marvin Collins (01935 426153) or Dr. Francis Burroughes (01823 652500 during office hours).

Abbey Community Centre

We understand that things are generally going well at the Abbey Community Centre and quite a few local groups continue to use the facilities here.



ACA have kindly agreed to allow the Parish Council to use one of their rooms for our Clerk's office and the Reception area as a Community Information Point.

The air conditioning unit is to be repositioned in order to improve the efficiency of the heating system.

Richard Jackson, the Association Secretary, advises that their current Treasurer is intending to stand down at the AGM in June as she is studying for an accountancy qualification. Richard says she will be sadly missed and ACA are looking for someone to take on this important role. If you are interested please contact Richard at the ACC.

Congratulations you're a winneror is it.....

'Too Good To Be True' follows the story of Sydney, the victim of a rogue tarmac tradesman and Mary, who thinks she's won the holiday of a lifetime..... the audience are invited to join in with the song choruses.

'Too good to be true'
the SCAMBUSTER musical for the over 60's

Trickster performances -

Wed 3rd March 11am
Westlands Leisure Complex Yeovil

Thurs 4th March 11am
Memorial Hall Wincanton

SCAM WISE

You are invited to join Neighbourhood Policing Teams and supporting agencies for tea, coffee & biscuits at a performance near you

JUSTICE DONE

tells the story of George, an elderly gentleman, who has become the victim of a distraction burglar. Once a proud soldier, we follow George as he battles with being conned and beats the bogus callers.

'Too Good To Be True' performances -

Tues 2nd March 11am Edgar Hall Somerton

Tues 2nd March 2pm David Hall South Petherton

Wed 3rd March 2pm Westlands Leisure Complex Yeovil

Thurs 4th March 2pm Memorial Hall Wincanton

Frid 5th March 10.30am Victoria Hall Crewkerne

Frid 5th March 2pm Guildhall, Chard

Please choose which play and venue you would like to attend and reserve your FREE ticket by filling in the reply slip on an advertising flier available from your local police officers or contact:

yarlington
housing group
Tel 01935 404560

These events have been funded through the Community Cashback 2009/10 Scheme

AVON AND SOMERSET CRIMINAL JUSTICE BOARD
Working Together for Justice

SCAMS



Junk mail - Junk mail is still often used to entice people to part with their money offering everything from lottery winnings to guaranteed success in life and amazing free gifts. Many of them say the recipient is a guaranteed £20,000 but has to send £19.95 off to process the claim. This con is just a simple way to get money by cheque, to acquire someone's credit card details or to make money from a premium rate phone number.

To stop getting addressed junk mail you can register with the Mailing Preference Service. Telephone 0845 7034599 or visit www.mpsonline.org.uk.

To stop unaddressed junk mail, telephone the Royal Mail on 08457 950950 or write to Royal Mail Door to Door Opt Out Services, Beaumont House, Sandy Lane West, Oxford, OX4 6ZZ.

Goods awaiting collection - This scam involves a postcard from a company asking the home-owner to ring a telephone number to arrange collection of a parcel addressed to them. The card is professionally produced, appears to have a similar design to the Royal Mail Collection card. But the telephone number is a premium rate line charged at £1.50 per minute with calls lasting up to four minutes. People should always check the small print as the phone calls often cost more than the value of the product on offer.

The Nigerian Scam - Letters, faxes and e-mails are sent to the victim for help in bringing large sums of money into this country for a reward. In some cases they set up fake banking sites to show their credit worthiness and even arrange meetings between the victim and bogus government officials. What the fraudsters want is a person's details so they can take money from their bank account. Even a response by e-mail will give them a record of the address, which can be used for other illegal purposes.

Trading standards advise people to never send money or reveal their financial details. It is estimated that millions of pounds are lost to this type of scam. Even a polite response can be abused. Headed stationery and e-mail addresses have been used in other fraudulent operations. Anyone who receives this kind of approach should notify Trading Standards.

Phishing - Spoof or 'phishing' e-mails which appear to come from genuine banks, building societies and auction sites are becoming an increasing problem for unsuspecting Internet users.



There are two types of spam e-mails, the first of which when opened infects the computer and records account log in and password details. The second directs the user to a bogus but official looking websites where people are then tricked in to disclosing personal and bank and credit card details. Genuine companies never request information this way so people check with the bank/credit card company/E-Bay/Paypal directly before responding and never give out sensitive information in response to unsolicited approaches.

For those of you on the internet, there is a very good site called **Snopes**. If you receive an e-mail warning of a virus alert and asking you to immediately forward the email to your friends, stop - go on-line to <http://www.snopes.com/snopes.asp>. So often many of these e-mail warnings actually contain a virus. One person in Crewkerne read an e-mail saying that it was attaching a delivery notice for a parcel - she knew she wasn't expecting a parcel but still clicked on the attachment. As a result her computer was hit with a virus, her e-mail addresses were hijacked and it has taken over a month to sort out the computer, she's even had to change her e-mail address.

Wise Words:

If you are going through hell, keep going.
-Sir Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

A lie gets halfway around the world before the truth has a chance to get its pants on.
Sir Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

Friends:

A friend is someone who is there for you when he'd rather be somewhere else
Only your real friends tell you when your face is dirty.
When a friend is in trouble, don't annoy him by asking if there is anything you can do. Think up something appropriate and do it.

Fate:

If you can't change your fate, change your attitude.
Fate is for those too weak to determine their own destiny.



Stay Warmer This Winter



If your home is un-insulated, you could be losing as much as 75% of the heat you pay for through walls, ceilings and draughts. That's according to figures from the Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE), who suggest that un-insulated homes can lose up to 35 per cent of heat through walls, 25 per cent through roofs and a further 15 per cent through draughts. Yet for the vast majority of properties, measures to reduce these losses are easily available and often free to install - and across Somerset, more people than ever before can now benefit from free and discounted loft and cavity wall insulation.

Warm Streets is a major insulation project set up by the local authorities in Somerset* along with Scottish and Southern Energy and CSE. This year the scheme has already helped install over 750 measures across Somerset - helping to reduce fuel bills and ensure their homes will be warm this winter. Changes to the scheme mean that more and more households are now eligible for grants to cover insulation as well as a package of additional energy saving measures.

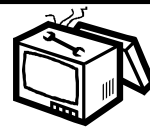
All private households in Sedgemoor, West Somerset, Taunton Deane, South Somerset and Mendip - including privately rented properties - will qualify for free loft and cavity wall insulation, if residents: are over the age of 60

- OR have children under 16 years
- OR are in receipt of certain benefits
- OR have an annual combined income of less than £20,000 and savings of less than £20,000

The project also offers benefit checks for householders who wish to check that they are claiming their full entitlement.

To be referred to Warm Streets, or for further information on this and other grant schemes available in your area, please contact your local Energy Saving Trust advice centre on: **0800 512 012**.

DIGITAL TV



A joint campaign has begun in South Somerset to make sure a new wave of satellite dishes and aerials are being installed safely during the digital switchover.

South Somerset District Council and Inspectors from the Health and Safety Executive will be talking to television supplier shops and visiting installation contractors to raise safety standards amongst trades-people, particularly those who may be working on house roofs in the coming months as they want to encourage safe installation work and avoid fatal accidents.

Anyone with concerns about the safety of installers can contact South Somerset District Council Food and Safety Team on 01935 462462. More information on the Digital Switchover can be found at www.digitaluk.co.uk

**Yeovil Town Road Running Club
Beginners & Returners running group**



Is your New Year's Resolution to get fit, lose weight or even to run a marathon? The Beginners and Returners group is for all those new to running or those returning to running after a break for illness, injury, pregnancy or apathy and are not sure they could manage to run with the main club. If you can run at least 200 yards, you are welcome - come and give it a go!

This free group meets at Huish Park at **6.30pm every Tuesday** and is supported by Yeovil Town Road Running Club.

Further details can be obtained by contacting Debbie Neal on 0780 701 4840 or deb@moultonneal.f9.co.uk. Details of Yeovil Town Road Running Club at www.yeoviltownrrc.com or Martin Chaffey on 07929 054576

Somerset Arts



Somerset Arts has re-launched their website as the one-stop shop for arts and events in Somerset. The new-look site has lots of fantastic features, which visitors can tailor to their own preferences. You can book tickets, keep a calendar of events, create your own directory profile and keep up-to-date with what is happening with your favourite artists, bands and venues. The site also hosts the first dedicated on-line gallery for the county with five brand-new artworks specially commissioned for the launch, from digital artists Kathy Hinde, Dane Watkins, Intercre8, 4 Reel Films and Peter Snelling. Go to www.somersetarts.com and take a look for yourself!

Your Parish Council

Elizabeth Glaisher (Chairman)
 Roger Meecham
 Mark Amor
 Peter Dutton
 Eddie Galjaard
 Alan Graham
 Denise Jagger
 Chris Legg
 Graham Pritchard
 Peter Seib
 Darren Shutler
Parish Clerk: Elizabeth James

11 Athelney Way, Yeovil, BA21 3TN
 13 Tintagel Road, Yeovil, BA21 3RE
 47 Shrewsbury Road, Yeovil, BA21 3UY
 46 Thorne Gardens, Yeovil, BA21 3RG
 1 Percivale Way, Yeovil
 c/o South West Coaches, Oak Way, Yeovil
 2 Poplar Drive, Yeovil, BA21 3UL
 3 Glastonbury Court, Yeovil. BA21 3TW
 10 West Combe, Yeovil, BA21 3UE
 11 Forde Park, Yeovil, BA21 3QP
 5 Streamside Cottages, Dodham Crescent, Yeovil,
 102 Monks Dale, Yeovil, BA21 3JH

Parishioners can contact the Parish Council by:
 Telephone: 01935 424332
 e-mail: clerk@brymptonparishcouncil.gov.uk
 post to: Brympton Parish Council, FREEPOST NAT 14843, Yeovil, BA21 3TZ

Parish Council Meetings

Members of the public are always welcome at Brympton Parish Council Meetings and there is an open forum at the start to raise any concerns.

Agendas are published on the Parish Notice Boards 5 days before the meetings and also on our web site www.brymptonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Next meetings:

- 24th February Abbey Community Centre
- 24th March Abbey Community Centre
- 28th April Function Room, Airfield Tavern
- 26th May Abbey Community Centre
- 23rd June Abbey Community Centre

All meetings start at 7.30 p.m.
 The meetings held at the Community Centre are held at the Parish Room and entrance is from the external ramp only - there is no entrance from the main hall

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 The views in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of Brympton Parish Council or the Editor (Roger Meecham)

