

Extracts from Parish Council meeting held Monday 11th Feb & 10th March

Easter has been so early this year. In fact it is as early as it can be, so that when you read this, Holy Week and Easter will be over. We will have Pentecost and Whit to come but that will be it for major festivals in the Church year for another year.

But Church life does not stop rather it changes pace and allows us to play our part in the life of the villages we serve. It will be the time for weddings and baptisms, for fetes and fund raising. It will be the time for getting on with our lives, with all the ups and downs, the happy times and the sad.

Our Churches are here to reflect the lives of those around us. We want to play our part and provide that place where families can come together just as they have done for hundreds of years. If you look around our Churches you will see glimpses of the past in the windows, the many gifts that we use every week, the plaques and the memorials. The Churchyards are real reminders of the past and the present with the names of those who have lived and worked in our parishes.

We continue that tradition and perhaps in another hundred years people will look back at the contributions we have made to the Church and its life. We look after the Churches as stewards of the past and yet prophets of the future. We need this ordinary time to sustain the Church so that we can be ready for the great festivals that will be with so soon. We need to maintain the fabric of the buildings but also to refresh the regular worship to maintain our spiritual well being.

All this we do willingly in God's name and for His glory. Our Churches are here for you and your families. We try to provide this fifty two weeks of the year so that we can be here when you need us most. Why not join us to help maintain this Christian presence in our villages. Come along and see what we do week by week. We look forward to seeing you.

With every blessing
Clive R Murrie
Rector

Bus Shelter: The bus shelter on Pensford Bridge had suffered damage from a recent accident. The bus shelter needs repairing and the Parish Council have held a site meeting with B&NES to try to secure grant funding under the Greater Bristol Transport Network for a new bus shelter to be installed.

Flood Meeting Report: This meeting was attended on the 29th January 2008. The recent flooding and affected villages were discussed. It was reported that the first warnings from the Environment Agency were given at 12.55p.m. on 11th January 2008. Three thousand sand bags were used as flood defences at a cost of £21,000. The Environment Agency will be working with farmers to try to re-instate ditching and the growing of different crops to stop water from running off of the fields. A Flood Awareness Day was attended by a Parish Council member on 4th March 2008. The Environment Agency were present alongside Insurance companies and three agents selling their anti-flood products. A company called Floodgate attended the exhibition with details of their flood protection systems. Clerk was given leaflets to hold on file. Floodgate products comprise of a door barrier product which expands to fit a doorway or garage creating a waterproof seal between it and the surfaces it expands against. Other products displayed included a Flood Ark and absorbency products which inflate when in contact with water. These products can often be cheaper than the use of sand bags. It was reported at the meeting that rivers at present appear to be very silted and full of rubbish, the Environment Agency are working on this problem. Any residents concerned about flooding can contact Clerk: Mrs Julie Bragg 01275 333549 or contact the Environment Agency: 08708 506 506 or Floodline 0845 988 1188 – www.environment-agency.gov.uk.

Wick Lane Pensford: An e.mail had been received from a resident in this area with concerns in relation to the problem of the collapsing of a mud bank wall in Wick Lane. The problem is where a new access was recently created. Details have been forwarded to the Highways department for inspection and a following a site visit it was agreed that the owner should re-grade the bank from the top, cover it in netting and re-plant to get a new root system growing.

Parsonage Lane: A site visit has been made and highways who report no problems. Highways have been made aware of the amount of water which pours from the newly installed entrance.

High Street Parking: There has been no further action at present. Discussions within the Traffic & Safety department are yet to be carried out. Clerk had received a telephone call from a resident on the High Street regarding this issue. She was assured that residents will be consulted prior to any changes proposed by B&NES. A short discussion took place problems of traffic speeding on Old Road still remains an issue. Could a traffic calming project be introduced and speed bumps installed? Clerk to follow up.

Street Lighting – Busy Junction A37: Clerk read out an e.mail from Cllr Edwards to Mr Showering at B&NES asking if anything could be done for street lighting to be installed at the junction of Woollard Lane/Sleep Lane/Norton Lane and the A37. It was reported that there are plans to replace the street lighting on the A37 from the Bristol Boundary to this location due to the age and condition of the columns on this section of the road. This request will therefore be added to the programme of lighting.

Telegraph Poles: It was reported that many posters are now being put up on telegraph poles in the Parish. Posters are often not taken down and become very unsightly. It was reported to the Clerk that it is illegal to place posters on these poles.

Publow Lane: It was reported that much more traffic appears to use Woollard Lane travelling into Woollard and into Publow, often travelling at speed. Clerk to contact B&NES in relation to the traffic problems.

**From the Parish Registers of St Leonards, Chelwood
Baptisms**

24th February Evie Georgina HARDING

**From the Parish Registers of All Saints', Publow
Interment of Ashes**

3rd March Irene Elizabeth Mansell HICKS

**From the Parish Registers of St Mary's Church, Compton Dando
Funeral**

8th February Olive Eileen BAKER

Women's World Day of Prayer

In March a number of us attended the annual service at St John's Church, Keynsham, where we were joined by a considerable number of ladies from all the churches in Keynsham.

The service was special indeed, having been prepared by the Women of Guyana, a country on the N.E corner of South America, within the Commonwealth. Two aspects strongly influence Guyanese culture; the large and very diverse ethnic population, and the proximity to, and affinity with the Caribbean Islands. The Guyanese people are doing their utmost to fulfil their national motto – "One people, one nation, on destiny" The wisdom of Good was the theme of our service with readings from the Book of Job and from Luke chapter 10. The anthem written for the service, named Sophia, was so meaningful and the ladies of Guyana would have accompanied it by a special circle dance.

The address given by Shirley Penn was most moving. It ended with the words "A little less doing, a little more thinking." In other words, take time out occasionally to be still and silent and to think about like and our world. Thinking brings Wisdom!

Mary Thomas

The family of the late Mrs Olive Baker would like to thank everyone for their help, support and kindness to Olive and the family during her recent illness, especially over the last year.

Grateful thanks also to the many people who attended her thanksgiving service and to all those who gave so generously to her memorial fund for the Children's Hospice, South West.

Bold Brass

On a cold windy Saturday night a small but enthusiastic hardy group of souls gathered at "All Saints Church" Publow, to listen once again to the wonderful brass band ensemble Bold Brass. With musical numbers as widely diverse as The Beatles "Ticket to Ride" and La Cumparsita, the audience had a wonderful evenings entertainment. A sum of around £500.00 was raised which will be paid into the Memorial Hall's new roof fund.

On behalf of the hall committee I would like to express my grateful thanks; To the Churchwardens for granting permission for the use of the Church. To all the ladies who prepared and served the usual marvellous food. To Geoff Beedell for providing and serving the wine, and to all the kind people who donated raffle prizes.

Terry Phillips

**Pensford
Tennis Club**

The Avon winter league tennis matches have been completed and Pensford Tennis club performed well, winning four matches and losing four matches.

The new season is starting soon – membership fees are due 1st April and we are holding an open tennis day on Sunday, 6th April from 11.00am. This is an ideal day to come along and play with a view to joining us. Please bring refreshments – players cook their own food on our club barbecue in between enjoying games of tennis.

If you are interested in joining the club, please have a look at our website for details of fees and playing times.
www.pensfordtennisclub.co.uk

Parish Plan goes ahead!

The Parish of Compton Dando will do a parish plan! We now have both a grant and an enthusiastic team of people to take it forward!

Everyone who lives in the parish (which includes Queen Charlton, Chewton Keynsham, Burnett, Compton Dando and part of Woollard) received a leaflet about the Open Day in February and many people came along to find out about parish plans, share ideas and vote on whether we should do one here. The result was a resounding vote in favour with over 40 people volunteering to be involved. Ten of these have now formed a Steering Group, so we can now get moving!

The idea of a parish plan is to involve and consult everyone in the community and find out what is wanted and needed. What would we like to see here in the future? Ideas so far include community transport,

**Pensford
History Society**

**Monday 7th April
AGM**

**Marie Loise Luxembourg
Hannah Moore**

**Pensford Church
Room**

8.00pm

**£2.00 on the night
£1.00 School Students**

shop or food co-operative, part time post office, facilities for young people and more ways for people to meet. Importantly, parish plans are listened to by the various authorities and can actually make a difference. Communities themselves can also get grants to implement ideas in the plan.

Over the next few months we will be involving all those who have volunteered to help (and anyone else who is interested), talking to all the various groups in the parish and gathering everyone's ideas. A questionnaire will then be sent to everyone in the parish to give you a chance to 'have your say'.

Look out for more information on Compton Dando hall notice board, on the website www.compton-dando.org and in next month's magazine. For more information please ring Pam on 490488.

On The Doorstep

Despite dire warnings from the prophets of doom that computers would herald the end of traditional forms of reading, book publishing is still a thriving industry. Christian books in particular have seen a surge in popularity in the last few years. But keeping up to date with the latest publications can be an expensive business. Fortunately, there is an alternative. The Resource Centre at the Old Deanery in Wells has a collection of over 10,000 books, DVDs, CDs, posters and study packs on all aspects of Christianity and the world's major faiths, including many of the latest publications. All are available on free loan to any member of the public.

We welcome visits to our Centre in this lovely old building in Wells. Why not tie it in with a visit to the market on Wednesday or a stroll around the Bishop's Palace? We are open 9 to 5 on weekdays, apart from Friday when we close at 4 pm. And while you are here, you might like to take the opportunity to

look around the beautiful garden at the Old Deanery, which has been lovingly restored to its former glory by a group of dedicated volunteers.

But you don't have to come to Wells to use our service. Ring Sue Bloomfield on 01749 685129. I will be happy to answer your queries and help you find resources that will suit your interests. Books will then be sent to your nearest public library for you to collect and you can drop them off there for return to us. There is no charge for this service.

For those who are comfortable using computers, our catalogue is available online on the Bath & Wells website www.bathandwells.org.uk

There is a link from the Resource Centre pages. You can then email us at resourcecentre@bathwells.anglican.org or telephone and we will organise delivery in the same way. We can post items to you if you need them urgently. Look out for book reviews from the Resource Centre in the next issue of this magazine.

Duruflé Requiem
Vaughan Williams Five Mystical Songs
Howells Collegium Regale
The Office of Holy Communion in
St Andrew's Church. Chew Magna
7.30 pm : Saturday 26th April,

Naomi Marshall - Soprano : Stephen Foulkes – Bass
Ian Ball - Organ : David Bednall - Conductor

Tickets £10 each from choir members
by telephone 01275 333014 or on the door

It's CHILDSPLAY

THE ROTARY CLUB OF CHELWOOD BRIDGE, in association with THE ROTARY CLUB OF TAUNTON VALE, are organising a walkabout on Sunday 4th May 2008 to raise money for The Children's Hospice South West. The aim of "IT'S CHILDSPLAY" is to raise funds for the Children's Hospice South West and this event, centred in the Chew Valley, will be one of seven being held at different locations throughout Somerset on the same day and at the same time. Each event is being promoted by local Rotary Clubs.

The event is open to all: individuals, families, clubs, pub groups, church groups, school children, groups of staff from local companies. The only condition of entry is that each individual gets pledged sponsorship of at least £10.

Anyone can walk, run or ride any distance and use any route they wish to take, as long as they finish in Chew Valley School between 9.30am and 5pm. Alternatively walking, wheelchair and running participants can choose one of the three defined routes which are largely within

the grounds of Chew Valley School in Chew Stoke. The longest route is 3.5 miles and includes walking along part of River Chew and Chew Valley Lake. Two other shorter walks are solely within the grounds of Chew Valley School and are suitable for families with small children, "Evergreens", push chairs and wheel chairs.

Entrants can pre-register by post, e-mail vj.Clarke@btopenworld.com, on line at www.chelwood-rotary.com or in person at pre-registration points which will include some local post offices, businesses and pubs. Each entrant, having promised a minimum sponsorship of £10 and registered by Saturday 26 April, will receive a free "IT'S CHILDSPLAY" T-shirt to be worn to the event. As many entrants as possible should wear their T-shirt on the day thereby creating as much publicity for the event and the Hospice as possible. Entrants will also be able to register on the day at Chew Valley School. Entrants can start from anywhere as long as they finish at Chew Valley School.

Pensford Golf Society

Another year of moaning, groaning and dodgy handicaps begins with our opening fixture at Tall Pines in April.

The format will be 'Team Stableford' with the Anniversary Shield won last year by Alan Burbridge, Laur Stenner & Nettler up for grabs.

The cost will be £30.00, coffee, golf dinner and prizes, followed by a short AGM where the committee can be abused or replaced.

Membership for 2008 will be £10.00 for new members and £5.00 for existing

members. It's important that you let Bill, Tom Davidson or Steve Whitemore know at least **7 days** ahead of each fixture so that tee times and meals can be confirmed. Confirmed fixtures to date are as follows;
Wed 23rd April - Tall Pines. Anniversary Shield 13.00pm
Wed 21st May - Thornbury. 1.00pm
Mon 16th June - Stockwood. 1.00pm
Wed 23rd July - Dewstow, PIGS Championship. 1.00pm
Mon 18th August - Saltford. 1.00pm
If you are interested in joining our friendly group, ring David Parnell for more details.
Tel: 01761 490888

CHURCH MARKET

CHURCH ROOM - PENSFORD

Saturday 5th April

10.00am – 11.30am

HOME BAKING TRAIDCRAFT

Proceeds towards Church Funds

Admission 50p to include coffee and biscuit

Market Report – February

A steady stream of people came to chat over coffee and buy from the home baking and choose cards supplied by Vivien Lee. A total of £187.20 was raised for church funds and an enjoyable time was had by everyone who baked, bought and sold. In April, Debbie Forge will be with us displaying the ever-popular Traidcraft goods. There will also be plenty of home baking.

ALL SAINTS', PUBLLOW

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 9th April, 2008, at 7.30pm in the Church Room, Pensford.** **Deanery Synod representatives** to serve for a three-year term; Up to **three elected members of the Parochial Church Council** to serve for three years.

All parishioners are warmly invited and if you are on the electoral roll you should attend to elect church officers for the coming year.

We look forward to seeing you on 9th April. Judith Hillman, 01761 490324
Secretary to Parochial Church Council

Pensford Memorial Hall 100 + Draw March 08

£75 - C. Bamford £25 - P. Hunt
£20 - B. Stone £15 - D. Parnell
£10 - M. Corp £5 - J. Smith

Pensford Beer Festival

Friday 18th/Saturday 19th July 2008

Make a note in your diary if you like beer and entertainment. Tickets on sale soon. Watch this space.

PENSFORD WITH PUBLLOW

Mrs Baber welcomed members to the March meeting. Birthday cards were given to three members. Apologies for absence and minutes of the last meeting were dealt with. The coffee morning had raised £132. Arrangements for the 90th birthday party were discussed and tickets distributed. An invitation from Stowey Sutton WI to their coffee morning had been received. Correspondence and items from the newsletter were read. The Hall representative gave details of forthcoming events.

The speaker was Mr Keith Sheather, who gave an illustrated talk on "The making of the Victorian Garden TV series". This was very interesting and many were surprised to learn that it had been made 20 years ago, but was still fresh in many members' memories.

The competition 'A flower arrangement in an eggcup' was won by Janet Ogilvie, 2nd Sheila Rice, 3rd Jo Beedell.

Our next meeting on **14th April** will be "The History of Quilt Making". Visitors welcome.

Chew Magna Gardening Society

The next meeting of the Chew Valley Gardening club will be on the 10th April at 8.00pm at the Old School Room. Our speaker for the evening will be Mr Stanley Hitt who will speak on "Bath Botanic Gardens and its plants". Mr Hitt trained at Kew and worked for a number of councils before coming to Bath about 30 years ago. We can look forward to an interesting evening which I'm sure will inspire us to visit the gardens over the coming season. New members and visitors are always welcome.

PUBLLOW WITH PENSFORD MU

On March 13th Bobbie and Ken Williams brought us news and pictures from the MAGI SAFI School Project. The original Magi Safi School now caters for about 350 children from 5 to 16 years old and has been taken over, and is now run by the Kenyan government.

Not content with setting up and funding one school, the Keynsham based project started on a second, called Inspiration School. This serves a traditional mud hut village deep in the jungle called Shika Adabu. As well as classrooms, the school required a water borehole and a toilet block, which also has rainwater storage for hand washing – a total novelty! Children attending the school have checks from the doctors and some injections. Each child is given a mosquito net, which is large enough for the whole family to sleep under, as malaria is a constant threat.

Over six years the school has expanded to 280 pupils and the final block of classrooms is now under construction. The children attending have improved visibly in health and confidence. They are very good at learning English, which is essential for getting a decent job.

It was soon noticed that none of the village children had any sort of toys, so each time Bobbie has visited she goes with a suitcase full of toys and equipment for the school. Particularly popular with the little ones are the dozens of woollen dollies knitted by Mary Thomas.

The talk was totally fascinating, the charity guarantees that 100% of money received will go to the school and is obviously doing an excellent job.

On 10th April, Jill Harman will talk about Partis College in Bath

April 08

- Thur 3 Pensford Evergreens John Osborne - Poet, Farmer, Singer.
Memorial Hall 7.00 p.m. Visitors welcome £1.50
Keynsham Film Works - The Lives of Others
- Sat 5 Publow Church Market. Church Rooms. 10.00am - 11.30am
- Sun 6** Compton Dando Churchyard Working Party 9.00am
Pensford Tennis Open Day 11.00am
- Mon 7 Pensford History Society, Church Rooms 8.00pm
- Tue 8 Getting Lost in Nepal, Compton Dando Village Hall 7.30pm
- Wed 9 Publow Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Church Rooms. 7.30pm
- Thur 10 Mothers Union. Church Rooms. 2.15pm
Pensford Evergreens Under the Counter - Musical Mix.
Memorial Hall 7.00 p.m. Visitors welcome £1.50
Chew Valley Gardening Society Old School Rooms 8.00pm
- Fri 11 Cardboard & Garden Waste Collection Day
- Sun 13** Benefice Sunday School. Church Rooms. 10.00am 11.00am
- Mon 14 Pensford WI. History of Quilt making. Pensford Memorial Hall 7.30pm
Publow with Pensford PC meeting. Church Rooms. 7.15pm
- Tue 15 Compton Dando PC meeting. Village Hall 8.00pm
- Thur 17 Pensford Evergreens Backwell Trio - Traditional & Fun.
Memorial Hall 7.00 p.m. Visitors welcome £1.50
Compton Dando CA meeting. Village Hall 7.30pm
- Wed 23 Pensford International Golf Society - Tall Pines. 1.00pm
- Fri 25 Cardboard & Garden Waste Collection Day
- Sat 26 Marji & Bryan's Coffee Morning and Sale
Chew Valley Choral Society. St Andrews Church 7.30pm
- Sun 27** Pensford 10k
Compton Dando Plant & Garden Sale. Village Hall 10.30am - 4.00pm
- Mon 28 Pensford Ladies Group. Hair Pamper. Rising Sun 8.00pm
- Mon 28 Chelwood Village Hall AGM. Village Hall, 8.00pm

MAY

- Mon 12 Publow with Pensford PC AGM. Church Rooms. 7.15pm

The mobile library visits the area fortnightly on Wednesdays

Compton Dando	1.55pm – 2.15pm	Hunstrete	2.25pm – 2.45pm
Pensford Bridge	3.00pm – 3.45pm	Pensford Hillcrest	3.50pm – 4.20pm
Publow Layby	4.25pm – 4.40pm	Woollard Bridge	4.45pm – 5.05pm

Dates and times can be checked on:-

<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/BathNES/lifeandleisure/leisure/Libraries/general/routem.htm> or ring Keynsham Library: 01225 394191 or 07980 998772

Marje and Bryans

Coffee Morning & Sale

Saturday 26th April

10.00am to 12noon - 100 Chelwood

Cakes & Jams

Plants, Tombola, Books

Nearly New Gifts

Jewellery : Handicrafts : Cards

Toys & Puzzles

50p Entry - includes

Coffee & Biscuits

Proceeds to

St Leonard's Church