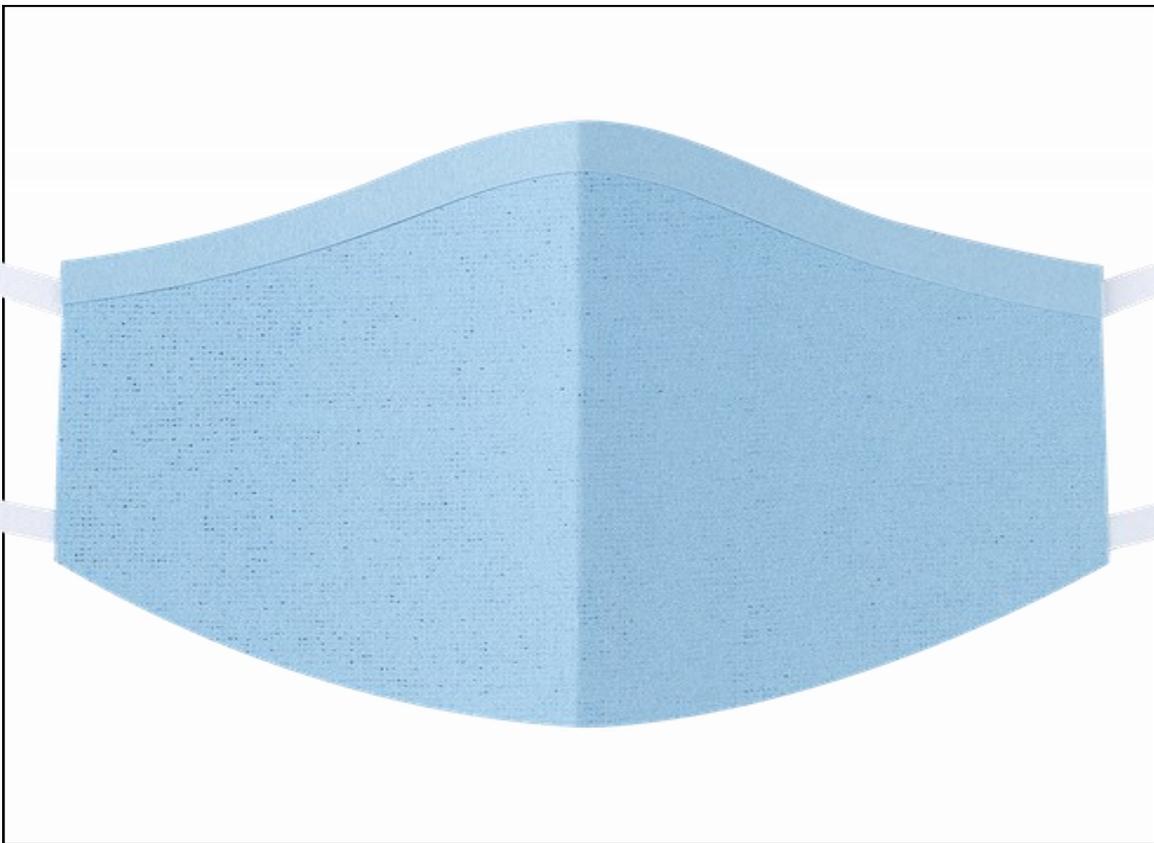


*The
Montacute Village
Magazine*

(Trial Online Version 4.0)



August 2020

Non-subscribers—35p

VILLAGE CONTACTS

VILLAGE AGENT: Catherine Holloway 01823/07968 521746
cath@somersetccc.org.uk

BAPTIST CHURCH: Pastor Heather Andrews 423137
Sec. Ruth Shoemark 823095 Treasurer Mrs Joyce Williams

BRIDGE CLUB: Dave Fox 822845

CARNIVAL CLUB: Anouska Musson 07734413801

CROQUET CLUB: Chair Bill Brown 825353

VILLAGE DIARY: Kaye Harper 824537

GARDENING CLUB: Chair Nic Laycock Nic.laycock@btinternet.com
George Stephens gstephens45@btinternet.com Chris Bevan-Davies
christinebdmhc@gmail.com 829744

VILLAGE HALL Chair Roy Littlefield rslbs@btinternet.com 827794
Bookings Kaye Harper (Hak71@btinternet.com) 824537
Web <http://montacute.org/index.php>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Montacutevillagehall>

MAGAZINE: Editor Bernard Bevan-Davies 829744
bcbevandavies@gmail.com Sec/Treas. Janet Littlefield/
Roy Littlefield janet.littlefield@btinternet.com

PANTOMIME: Dir/producer Christine Saint 822814

PRE-SCHOOL: Leader Melanie Wilkins 822022

PARISH COUNCIL: Chair Christine Saint 822814 Parish Clerk
Sarah Moore, 24, High Street, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6PS 822455
(clerk_montacutepc@hotmail.co.uk)

POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER (PCSO)

Mathew Whelan Beat Manager PC Stefan Edwards Phone 101 or
see Police website

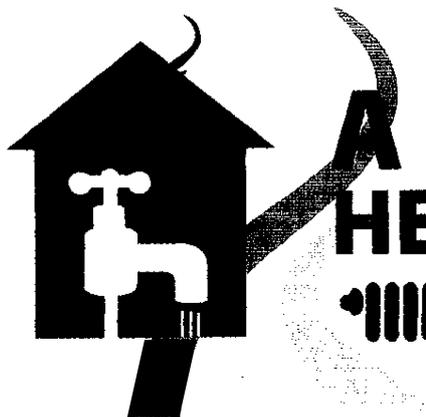
SONGTIME: Donna McNeil 07856 589 581

ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH : Churchwardens Gordon Rendell 4
South Street 822329 Margaret Messervy 822292

Rev. Annie Gurner 824167 (revgurner@btinternet.com)

STAX AND POST OFFICE: Nigel, Myrtle and Louise Hann South
Street 822645

WOMENS' INSTITUTE: Lucie Jones 824561 lujo35@uwclub.net
Kaye Harper 824537 montacutewi@btinternet.com



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EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

Here we are again, a mixture of print and online. Please pass on the message that we are both—thanks to the Post Office and Service Station. See The ‘village of Montacute. mag’ online. The next edition will be on the 1st October —doesn’t that sound miles away ?

You may remember that we don’t publish on the 1st September. This break will give time to decide how to ‘deliver’ the magazine in the future.—by hand to your homes, through our wonderful distributors, and/or online.

I do love irony. Recently Chris and I visited Port Isaac, where the TV series Doc Martin has been filmed for the last sixteen years or so. It is exactly as pictured in the series. It is lovely , Cornish, and there seems to be just one estate agent. In his large, well presented, front window is the usual display of properties, some priced tagged, some not. To the right of this display window, mounted on the wall, is the village defibrillator !

For the visitors or the locals we can only guess?

Bernard

Bernard Bevan-Davies Ed.

The Monks House 01935 829744

bcbevandavies@gmail.com

May I have any entries for the next edition by

25 SEPTEMBER PLEASE

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PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meetings

Following Government legislation, formal procedures and guidelines the parish council can now hold 'virtual Council meetings'. Montacute Parish Council will be holding their first meeting since lockdown using the Zoom app platform on Monday 17th August at 7.00pm. The basic package is free to use and can be accessed at <https://zoom.us/>. If you would like to attend our virtual parish council meeting please contact the Parish Clerk at clerk_montacutepc@hotmail.co.uk for the ID link by Friday 14th August. If you do not have access to the internet but would still like to listen in on the meeting please telephone the Parish Clerk on 01935 822455 for the telephone conferencing number so that you can dial in.

If you would like to participate in the public session, please email/ phone through the subject/question you wish to raise with the council when you asked for the ID link/telephone number.

If you are accessing the meeting via the **internet**:

- Click on the link or copy the link into your browser given to you in the email
- Download the Zoom app, if not already done so
- Test your speakers and microphone on your device (you will be prompted to do this)
- You will then be put in a 'Waiting Room' until you are invited to join
- Once connected, you must click on the video camera icon at the bottom left hand side of the screen to enable the video. This is so that councillors can see who is attending the meeting

If you are accessing the meeting by **telephone**:

- Dial the number given to you by the Clerk
- Once connected you will be prompted to type in the meeting ID plus #, then #, then the password plus #. You will be placed in a 'Waiting Room' until invited to join.

All microphones will be automatically muted from the start of the meeting. If you wish to participate in the public session your microphone will be unmuted when you are invited to speak.

Council meetings will continue in this form until such time as we are informed that public meetings/gatherings may take place in person.

20/00991/OUT - Outline Planning Application on Land Adjacent to Mason Lane

The National Trust and English Heritage have now lodged objections and observations on the grounds that the site location is not appropriate for safe access as it would spoil the landscape close to heritage assets, and would have a major impact on both villages. If you would like to read the comments relating to this application go to: <https://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/services/planning/search-for-a-planning-application/> and type in the application number 20/00991/OUT under 'Keywords'.

Parish Council Chairman's New Email Address

The Chairman of the Parish Council has a new email address. You can now contact Christine on **Chairpersonmpc@outlook.com**

Play Area

Despite the article in last month's magazine explaining why the play area was remaining closed some residents have taken it upon themselves to flout the decision of the parish council and break into the play area. This is totally unacceptable and should anything untoward happen you or your children then you are not covered under our public liability insurance.

There was good reason why we had not opened the play area:

1. New equipment was being installed and,
2. Existing equipment was being deep cleaned and if necessary repainted
- 3.

Only one piece of play equipment has been installed so far and we are waiting for a further two pieces to be installed. Also, the area where the old tyre swing used to be needs to be reseeded. Dependent on when the manufacturers can deliver the new equipment, we expect the remaining work to be carried out on 24th August.

The repainting of the existing equipment has nearly been completed and this should hopefully be finished off on 4th August. The parish council will then consider opening the play area on 7th August.

However, the play area will need to be closed again towards the end of August when the remaining equipment is installed.

Parents – When the play area reopens, please remember the 2-metre social distancing rules and to bring sanitisers! Children should be supervised carefully to maintain good hygiene and should not use play area if they have any signs or symptoms of coronavirus. There will be posters up in the play area advising on the maximum number of children allowed on equipment to keep the 2-metre rule.

New Pavilion

After some delays due to the lockdown, the parish council have now received all the new plans for the pavilion and the quotes on how we will get the utilities into the building without causing too much disruption to the recreation ground. These plans and specifications have now been sent off to the National Trust for their approval prior to us submitting a planning application.

VE 75 Day/VJ 75 Day Celebrations

We have been asked if we could move the village VE 75 Day celebrations to VJ day (Victory in Japan) which is on 15th August. Unfortunately, as mentioned in last month's magazine we are still not in the position to meet in great numbers and hold large public events. However, please feel free to celebrate individually as we did on 8th May.

These poignant celebrations will not be forgotten but it is likely that we will not be able to hold large gatherings until next year. As already said, a lot of work has already gone into organising the different aspects of the celebration weekend so it will be held when regulations permit.

Community Speedwatch

Unfortunately, we have received news that George Stephens has had to step down as Montacute's CSW Co-ordinator for personal reasons. The parish council would like to thank George for all his hard work in trying to get the Community Speedwatch back up and running.

Despite the parish council successfully getting a 20mph speed limit through the village, we still experience speeding traffic through the village and the parish council, along with many residents would like our village to be much safer. Therefore, we do need to continue collating speed data and the Community Speed Watch is one of the ways we can do this so if anyone is willing to take over as the village's CSW Co-ordinator or just join the team please contact either the parish clerk or chairman.

Bob Alderman

It was sad to hear that Bob Alderman passed away on 10th July. Bob was on the parish council many years ago and members would like to pass on their condolences to his family. His funeral was at the end of July and as Bob always supported The

Railway Children Charity the family have asked that any donations you would like to make be sent to the charity. <https://railwaychildren.org.in/>

South Somerset District Council join up with conservationists to save the rare Shrill Carder Bee

The team at Ham Hill Country Park have begun habitat management on the site to encourage rare Shrill Carder bees to re-colonise from an existing site nearby. This will be centred around the hay meadows in the flat fields of the park and will include leaving areas of dense tussock grass for the bees to nest and hibernate. The potential site will be Shrouds Meadow. You can find out more about the Shrill Carder bee at

<https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/BBCT037-Shrill-Carder-bee-Leaflet-02.17.pdf>

The Shrill carder bee, Bombus sylvarum

Somerset Wildlife Trust

Somerset Wildlife Trust have published a new report, “Reversing the Decline of Insects” which showcases some great examples of how we can all take action for insects. Insect populations are in serious decline with 41% of insect species facing extinction in England. Somerset Wildlife Trust are encouraging us all to help insect populations recover by making small changes to our green spaces. To view the new report and see how you can help, go to:

<https://www.somersetwildlife.org/what-we-do/restore-somerset-nature/campaign-nature/action-insects>

Key Contact Numbers:

Somerset Support Helpline - 0300 790 6275. Transport to medical appointments, emotional support, advice, and financial hardship.

SSDC Wellbeing Hub - 01935 462462 between 8am and 4pm seven days a week. Business grants, free food boxes advice and support.

Who Can I Meet and Where?

We have been asked to clarify the current rules on meeting each other.

- Indoors, it is currently up to two households only – whether it is in our house or garden. That applies too to sitting together in a pub or restaurant. No groups of more than 30 people in total can meet in private homes – and no parties!

Public venues are restricted as to the number of people then can have so as to allow social distancing.

- Outdoors, it is currently a group of not more than six people from different households, unless you are one family gathering with a maximum of 30 people.
- And always 'social distance' wherever you can.

It is a now compulsory to wear masks in enclosed public spaces. This includes all public transport, shops, supermarkets, while ordering takeaways, shopping centres, banks, building societies and post offices. You must wear a face covering before entering any shop and must keep it on until you leave. Failure to do this could incur a fine of up to £100.

It is critical that you follow all of these guidelines to keep both yourself and others safe. The virus is airborne. Guidelines are changing all the time about what we can and cannot do, and so you can find the most up-to-date information at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>

Keep looking out for one another. Remember to be kind and we will get through it somehow - together. Keep washing those hands and practicing social distancing! Stay Safe.

Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour

For any advice and further/up-to-date information on incidents please go to the website: www.police.uk. If you are a witness to or the victim of a crime, then it is imperative that you report it to the police immediately whether it is during the day or at night. When reporting an incident please telephone either 101 for non-emergencies or 999 for emergencies only.

The Parish Council's day-to-day business will carry on as usual where possible. If you have any issues/questions, please contact the Parish Clerk on the contact details below.

*Contact details: Sarah Moore, Parish Clerk
24 High Street, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6PS
Email: clerk_montacutepc@hotmail.co.uk
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CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

It's a bit quiet on the Carnival front. We are having Committee meetings on Zoom.

The Literary Competition has gone ahead. The local Primary and Secondary schools entered stories and we have the results. Winners have certificates and we hope to get a piece in the Western Gazette to record the successes

In the meantime we thought a memory of a past Carnival would be good; Clive Burfield crowning the Princesses some time ago! I found it, 1993, Carla Roberts on the right and Katie Wells on the left. In the Borough Amy Yates kindly hosted the Princesses in her home. There are so many memories and we shall have more to come.

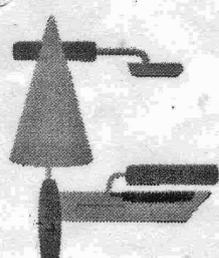
J.Fox 822845



MASKS

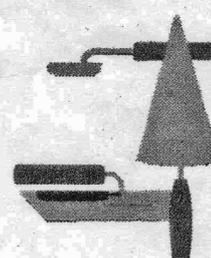
Made in Montacute from Liberty cotton lawn lined with pure antibacterial linen (yes, really - just ask those Ancient Egyptians) and some plainer, 100% cotton versions for the less flamboyant. Machine washable at 60 degrees C. £4:00 each with £2:00 going to the Village Hall coffers.

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at mansifamily@gmail.com



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GARDENING CLUB

Well here we are again. Groucho Marx said “Time flies like an arrow, fruit flies like a banana”. It’s already August and despite all the restrictions during lockdown, time certainly seems to have flown by and it’s hard to believe how much of the year has already gone. My garden has been quite pretty this year and has been weeded and tended more than ever before. However, it’s still not up to the fantastic standard of some I’ve seen around the village but it is still looking quite colourful. I am pleased with some of my old favourites, in particular some of the penstemons have been really bright and cheerful and have kept going well, as have a few hydrangeas. I also have a couple of roses that have done really well this year and are having a second show now. Mostly though, there is an increasing number of shades of green appearing more than anything else (except my apology for a lawn which is mostly shades of yellow and brown).

Last year we went to the RHS Wisley flower show and at the end of the day we bought a spectacular pot of bright orange/yellow Calla Lilies that had been part of a beautiful display. Miraculously they have survived and are just coming in to bud so I’m keeping my fingers crossed that they will be adding a bit more colour in the next few days. They’re still in the same pot that they came in so I think I will have to split them after they’ve finished flowering this year.

I also heard from our esteemed Chair about some good and bad news about his gardening exploits: He very proudly announced that he had taken the advice of one of our speakers from last year and had been fantastically successful in sowing and propagating carrots in some old guttering and then had managed to slide them all into their final growing position. Unfortunately, he then had to report the

bad news that the whole lot were completely demolished by badgers that had invaded his garden. He was not overly pleased.

I hardly like to mention it, but feel I just had to say that August 11 was supposed to be our Summer Garden Party. What a shame we've had to cancel this year. I wonder whether we will be able to do something at Christmas or whether that will have to go by the board as well. At the very least let's hope we are able to resume our meetings and outings next year as I am sure we are all missing our regular monthly events.

Finally, a few things to keep you busy this month:

Keep dead heading repeat flowering plants to prolong their flowering season but rambler and climbing roses that don't repeat flower can be pruned now (unless they have decorative hips you would like to keep). Now the birds have finished nesting, it is time to trim hedges.

Strawberries can be tidied up and raspberry canes, that have finished fruiting, should be cut out to the ground.

If weather is very dry, water rhododendrons and camellias to ensure buds set properly for flowering next year.

Best wishes to everyone for the rest of the Summer (there's no magazine in September) and hopefully, keep safe.

Richard Talley

Vice Chair of Montacute Gardening Club

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

In 'The World in 1984', a book published by Penguin some twenty years before, in 1965, Sir Maurice Wilkes, an eminent British computer scientist, who amongst other achievements invented micro-programming, contemplated what it would be like to receive a few days after being caught unawares by radar exceeding the speed limit, a notice advising your bank account had been debited automatically.

Well the first part of that capability, to recognise speedsters from number plate recognition, has been used since shortly after his musings, but what ever happened to the second part? That would surely be a bigger deterrent to the problem!

As it is, whenever the Community Speedwatch team begins its work, handheld radar will be the extent of modern equipment being used - by people on the ground! The deterrent CSW seeks is to discourage speeding, not so much to 'catch' speedsters although that may also happen.

It wasn't so long ago that three of the country's highest proportion of speedsters as a percentage of licence holders in a council area were close to Monacute, in South Somerset! Recent police activity around Yeovil would indicate the problem still exists with over 150 offences recorded in just two days.

Sadly, two of the CSW volunteers have unavoidably had to step down, and so the need for more volunteers remains to help with this village problem. If you would like to be involved please contact Christine Saint.

Many thanks,

George

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A word from the Vicar.

As the Summer holidays begin for the school children, there is a sense in the village that some aspects of life are returning to familiar patterns, even though this is a 'new normal'. At home we are harvesting honey and making jams from the abundant soft fruit. We even have a litter of border terrier puppies due this week, so are surrounded by God's bounty!

The church is having to adapt rapidly – not something we are renowned for (!), just like every business and household, to living with covid. Having re-opened for private prayer on Sunday afternoons, the volunteers are now busy completing exhaustive risk assessments so we can invite people back for baptisms, weddings and funerals – you will be welcome! Although numbers are limited by the government to 30 or less, and we are using face masks and recording names for Track and Trace, the ministers will do their best to make these occasions both special and memorable.

The online provision of Sunday services, prayer and discipleship groups will continue, even after we resume services in church, as some people prefer them and some may still be vulnerable. Do check the website and notice-boards for services resuming – initially one per month in each church, as we familiarise ourselves with social distancing and other measures for your safety. Meantime we are planning a **Harvest Festival** outside the church on **Sunday 6th September 3pm** We hope this will be a time of thanksgiving and celebration! (Bring a chair if you need one)

During August we are in the habit of prayer walking the village – holding everyone who lives and works here before God – everyone of any denomination or none is most welcome. We start outside the church on Monday 3rd and 10th August at 0930am, for one hour. [Social distancing will be observed]

As we move forward we hope to maintain the deeper sense of loving our neighbour that has been so tangible during the lockdown. We have noticed more people wanting to engage with matters of faith too. As we look to the future in Ham Hill Villages, we want to offer Wider doors of Welcome and Deeper Spiritual Wells. We will set all our activities and decisions against these two priorities. If we are to continue both online and in person ministry, we need to know who to cater for in each. So we are taking stock, praying with intent and consulting widely on the shape and priorities of the future church worship and mission.

Meanwhile we have much to thank God for – a new Chaplain coming soon to Ham Hill, a new lay worship assistant, and hopefully soon a new youth minister. Do you have a vocation to serve God in these villages? And perhaps most important of all, after a very long wait, we had interviews for the role of Rector this week and hope to make an announcement very soon.

During this strange disorienting time, the unchanging nature of God and his steadfast presence with us has been very evident in our villages. It is my prayer that He will be very present with each one of you, during these Summer months. Do contact me if you have any questions of faith or would like to discuss a baptism or wedding.

Every Blessing,

Annie

Rev Annie Gurner, Associate Vicar, Ham Hill Villages Benefice,

Parish office: 1, Castle Street, Stokes Hamdon TA14 6RE

(01935) 824167 or email revgurner@btinternet.com

www.hamhillchurches.org

SNIPPETS FROM PHELIPS DIARIES - AUGUST 1789

4 August - Three members of household went to Sherborne to see the King (George III) who dined with Lord Digby.

6 August - Received half a buck from Lord Digby. (The diary records the Phelps dined on venison for the next 3 days)

6 August - Poor Harriett Goodford (daughter of a friend) died after five months of illness accompanied by great pain.

20 August - Wincanton Race day

21 August - A very small Martock Fair.

24 August - Dined totally alone (a very rare occurrence!)

Robert Fisher

BOOK SALE

At 10.30am Saturday 29^t August

At Yardlands

Pig Street

Townsend.

In aid of St Catherine's Church

Tea and Coffee available

If you have any surplus books you would like to donate, they would be gratefully received. They could be collected.

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BAPTIST CHURCH

I write as 'face coverings' become mandated for shopping. My first experience of venturing into a supermarket in an unfamiliar town - our first 'leaving home' since withdrawing with other at-risk over 70s at the end of February - became almost a full blown panic attack. I had become happy to be home and frankly scared to face crowds and wary of the requirements for hand sanitising at every turn of the pavement. So donning the mask as we got out of the car, and disinfecting the supermarket trolley was just the prelude to an awkward experience.

I am short sighted. I have worn glasses almost every waking moment since my first eye operation at the age of four except for two memorable occasions, my baptism at the age of 15, when I had to hand them to a guardian deacon as I entered the water for full immersion baptism, and for a few photos after my wedding when vanity triumphed over common sense.

I say I am 'blind as a bat' without them, (although of course that is an exaggeration) and also to the resigned amusement of family who think I am making this up, I can't hear properly without them on!

So stepping into the unknown little supermarket fully masked turned into a disorienting experience, as my stifled breath totally misted the glasses and I stumbled almost past the welcoming sanitising station - bad beginning. My breathing immediately became faster and the misting even worse. I was hot and bothered in a moment. I snatched off the glasses and then couldn't read the prices or find the small English notation in the Welsh-speaking shop! I shuffled round in a rising panic, much to my Long-suffering husband's annoyance, and wanted nothing more than to consign the mask to history!

Yet I know this is going to be a feature of life for the foreseeable

future.

How do the marvellous NHS staff manage?

One of the ways to deal with the panic attack is of course 'to breathe'...which caused the problem in the first place, so maybe I am on a losing wicket there.

Nevertheless, there is a Christian prayer experience that can help, to breathe in and out slowly, meditatively, concentrating on the words inhaled and exhaled with the breath.

This is a breath prayer - an invitation to breathe in the fruit of the Spirit and breathe out the negativity - by Sheridan Voysey - which I am finding helpful, maybe it will help someone else in a stressful masked moment:

Pray the words in CAPITALS breathing in, and the other words slowly breathing out:

Lord God, fill me with your Holy Spirit.

I RECEIVE YOUR LOVE, and release my insecurity
I RECEIVE YOUR JOY, and release my unhappiness
I RECEIVE YOUR PEACE, and release my anxiety
I RECEIVE YOUR PATIENCE, and release my impulsiveness
I RECEIVE YOUR KINDNESS, and release my indifference
I RECEIVE YOUR GOODNESS, and release my ungodliness
I RECEIVE YOUR FAITHFULNESS, and release my disloyalty
I RECEIVE YOUR GENTLENESS, and release my severity
I RECEIVE YOUR SELF-CONTROL, and release my self-indulgence. Amen.

Or of course adapt the words to suit!

Hope you have enjoyed the butterflies in the front garden of the chapel. Please keep looking, and take one home if you'd like to.

God bless,

Heather Andrews

Pastor, Montacute Baptist Church

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THANK YOU

I would like to thank Louise and Viv for keeping your Post Office open for the whole period of the Covid 19 lockdown, whilst I was advised to self isolate.

They were told that they could be furloughed and I would close the Post Office as a lot of Post Offices did but they decided they would stay open and for that decision I would, and I am sure, lots of customers, thank them.

On the back of this decision I hope that you will continue to support your Post Office as it is only just viable at the moment with the loss of many products normally available.

Lastly, I would beg your patience during this very difficult period and not upset the staff by being rude as a few people have been because of having to wait a little longer in a queue, and please remember the rules and regulations are NOT ours but Government requirements.

Myrtle

1^{5 7} 3⁸ 8^{3 2} 5⁶ 7^{1 5} 9⁸ 2⁷ 1¹
6 2 4 1 9 6 5 3

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tkctutoring2@gmail.com

My name is Tanya Cross and I have been a qualified teacher for 14 years and tutoring for 20 years. I have experience with all ages and abilities from KS1 to A-level. I also have experience with a range of SEN support.

VILLAGE AGENTS

Talking Café Live on Facebook:

Have you caught any of our sessions we stream live daily on Facebook? If not you can catch up on any of the Talking Café Lives here: www.facebook.com/talkingcafesomerset/live.

A Village, Carers or Community Agent from CCS are LIVE weekdays at 11am to answer any questions or concerns you have – you can also ask privately via a message to the page. Each day Agents cover a different topic, and they have been so varied and interesting - below are just a few:

I Cooking on a Budget, where Rev. Jess whipped up 5 dishes for less than £10!

I Art Therapy I Family Activities and things to do on a budget I Library Service updates

I Hydration and UTI Advice I Hospital Discharge Support I Domestic Abuse I Exercise to do from home and for people with reduced mobility I Mental Health

All the Talking Cafes we have hosted on Facebook so far have had a combined total of 65,000 views!

Focus on Domestic Abuse awareness

Domestic abuse can happen to anyone, of any age. We are seeing a particular rise in cases of abuse being reported by people over 71 years and with one in four women and one in six men experiencing some form of abuse in their lifetime the chances are we all know somebody who is experiencing domestic abuse behind closed doors.

It happens in all types of relationships, regardless of race, ethnic or religious group, class, disability, sexuality, lifestyle or nationality.

Tensions can escalate due to restrictions on socialising and 'normal life', but they are never an excuse for violence, manipulation, coercion and controlling a partner or family member. Even if you are self-isolating, government guidance allows you to leave your home to flee an abuser or seek help. It's rarely a one-off occurrence, but usually a pattern of abusive and controlling behaviour.

The Government define domestic abuse as:

“Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.”

Types of domestic abuse

Domestic abuse can take many forms such as psychological, physical, sexual, economical and emotional.

Controlling behaviour is: a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

Coercive behaviour is: an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.”

Getting help if you are being abused

- Online at <http://www.somerseturvivors.org.uk>
- Call the local helpline: **0800 69 49 999**
- In an emergency always **dial 999**, even if you cannot speak for fear of being overheard, you can get help by **pressing 55** when the operator answers
- Talk to any health professional or your local Village Agent – we can help!
- Somerset pharmacies allow their consulting rooms to be a safe place for people experiencing abuse to get help and advice

TOP TIPS TO AVOID SOCIAL MEDIA SCAMS

We have all been online and on social media more since lockdown began, and it's important to stay vigilant of new scams circulating. Get Safe Online safety experts have put together some simple tips to

help you avoid becoming a victim of social media
scams. www.getsafeonline.org

If you become a victim of a social media scam:

- Report it to the social media network via the reporting mechanism on the site or app.
- If you have lost money as a result of social media scams or via any other fraudulent activity, report it to Action Fraud, the UK's national fraud reporting centre by calling 0300 123 20 40 or by visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk.



07968521746

cath@somersetccc.org.uk

CCS Village, Community & Carers Agents are in your communities across Somerset. They help to bridge the gap between isolated, excluded, vulnerable and lonely individuals and statutory and/or voluntary organisations which offer specific solutions to identified needs. We can offer advice and support to find local groups and activities available in your community and help you with any queries you may have or situations that you need advice and support with. Please visit www.ccslovesomerset.org.uk and www.somersetcarers.org or call me to find out who can advise you.



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31st August. Bank Holiday Monday

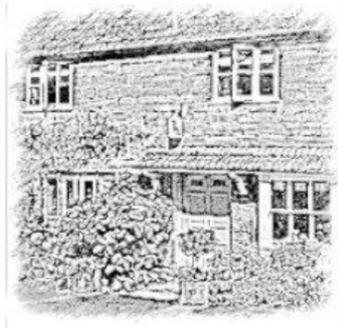
2.30—5.00pm

Live blues Band in beer garden

(Weather permitting)

Hugh Budden with Blue Chords

-Social distancing in place -



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Family Tree Genealogy:

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LAST MONTH AT WINDMILL FARM

This month has gone so fast, we had a whole herd TB test at the beginning of the month and it went smoothly with a clear test result. Tuberculosis is a viral disease, so highly contagious, and any bovine that tests positive for the disease needs to be culled under law to avoid further spread to other herds.

The Oxford Sandy & Black pigs have been doing well and enjoying the warm days sleeping outside straight after breakfast and dinner. For our pork products we had some gammon joints made and we have been boiling or baking the joints and slicing into ham, and I am so happy with the result; the flavour is brilliant and my lunchtime sandwich cannot be beaten!

The 8 hectare field of barley has been combined and baled, and yielded around 14 tonnes of grain per hectare which will be milled to make additional feed for our pigs and cattle. Barley straw is a good ad-lib source of fibre for the cattle and ideal bedding for young calves as it is more palatable than wheat straw (used as bedding for older cattle).

From 20th to 27th July it was 'Farm Safety Week', and organisations like Yellow Wellies have been posting thought-provoking facts and videos on potential hazards on farms as well as stories of tragic accidents. This year has seen the lowest number of farm related deaths, showing that these organisations are making a difference by advocating farm safety; as well as companies like ourselves providing agricultural training to teach people safe practice when using machinery, working with livestock or handling chemicals. After completion of training, candidates receive certificates of competence to use on their CV to boost employability.

Furthermore, on our 'WindmillAgri' Facebook and Instagram pages we have made the pledge to get involved in the '24 hours in farming' day on the 6th August. This event is for Farmers and Foodies to flood social media with posts of British agriculture with the #farm24.

You can get involved and pledge to join at www.fginsight.com/getinvolved

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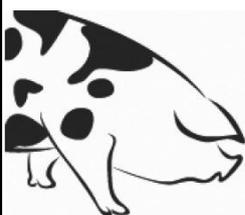
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Spare Rib Joint, Pork Belly, Diced Stewing Beef

Beef Burgers, Minced Beef, Rump & Sirloin Steak, Beef Topside & Joints

Montacute TV Radio Toy Museum

'Teens through the Time warp' – A new exhibition about growing up in Weston-Super-Mare from the 1950's onwards.

Developed by North Somerset Museum and North Somerset Youth Service put together by young people who conducted over 50 interviews exploring individuals' experiences of being a teenager. It covers various areas of life including entertainment & technology that is enhanced by the nostalgic collection of Montacute Museum. Walk back in time from the birth of TV and radio to the modern day, the museum is like a Tardis, opening up inside to reveal an unexpectedly immense number of displays, probably the largest collection of toys, books, annuals, jigsaws and games related to TV and radio programmes. Large Sci-fi & Super-Hero sections.

Tearooms -Garden & bright conservatory

Light lunches, Afternoon & Cream teas

Museum & tearooms open: 10th April-6th May, 25th May- 2nd June, mid-July-Sept, & Oct half-term. See website for actual days & times.

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email:info@montacutemuseum.co.uk

www.montacutemuseum.co.uk

NOTES FROM St CATHERINE'S

We have slight movement at last. Last Sunday from 2:00 p.m. 'til 4:00 p.m., the church was open for private prayer. We are required to have a steward taking down names and addresses of those attending for the government track and trace system, should it become necessary to contact anyone.

We intend being open every Sunday afternoon for private prayer, at least until we have a rota of services arranged, when we might find the need to make different arrangements. Please keep an eye on the church notice board for any changes.

G.W.Rendell.

TRUE STORY

....which I was relating, not in rhyme, at the Centenary Dinner of the Bath & Wells Ringers Association, where I was engaged to propose the toast to the church. The reply came from the Bishop of Taunton who bewailed the fact that he was not as lucky and was done for speeding. Later, at a St. Catherine's Harvest Supper, as part of the entertainment, I related both incidences and noticed Leonard Tressider and his wife deep in conversation. Leonard, at that time, was the pastor at Montacute Baptist Church and his wife approached me afterwards to tell me that Leonard, before his connection with the chapel was a policeman, and it was he who did the Bishop of Taunton for speeding. Small world.

Gordon

Bishop of Bath & Wells.

The Right Reverend Jock Henderson

One night, whilst driving back to Wells,
Right Reverend Bishop Jock,
Glanced into his mirror and
Received a nasty shock.

A blue light chasing after him
Caused him to stop and think
Was he above the limit now ?
He'd only had one drink.

He pulled his Jag' into the verge
And buzzed the window down,
To see two faces standing there,
Both wearing a big frown.

Now, Henderson was a big man,
In purple cassock dressed
"What is the problem, lads?" he says.
"Have I perhaps digressed ?"

"Oh, hello Bishop," says the lads,
The constables in blue.
"We hate to be a nuisance,
We didn' know 'twas you.

We thought your progress seemed to us
To veer a bit off course;
You sort of weaved about a bit.
Have you been at the sauce?"

"Ah, yes." says Jock "You're unaware
That bishops are required
To move diagonal you see
When we are thus attired."

He wished them both "Good evening."
And buzzed his window closed,
And left the two young constables
Bewildered in the road.

There must have been some by-law
That neither would confess
To their being quite unaware of,
It was in fact just chess.

Gordon W. Rendell © 20th October 2017,

MONTACUTE CHARITY QUIZ

More brain teasers to help relieve lock-down monotony.

General knowledge

1. The name of which 12 letter Greek dish contains an 'a' as every other letter?
2. In which two countries is the region of Patagonia located?
3. In which county is the former royal residence of Leeds Castle?
4. In Coronation Street which character was played by Bernard Youens?
5. Which bird is 'ascending' in the title of a popular Vaughan Williams composition?

Anagrams

All of the following are anagrams of named houses in Montacute.
Can you identify the properties?

6. Unhooks themes
7. Neat choruses
8. Body is huge
9. Sea husker me shoo
10. Emit shoo hulk

We very much hope to be able to start running quizzes again in the not too distant future. Until such time – keep safe & keep well.

Andy & Fizz and Steve & Jane
aka The Quizmasters

Answers (no peeking)

1)Taramasalata) 2) Argentina & Chile 3) Kent 4) Stan Ogden 5) Lark 6) The Monks House 7) Carents house
8) Digby house 9) Shoemakers house 10) The Milk house

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POST OFFICE

From behind the mask comes the August news, Urgh we will be spending half our time working out who we are talking to !!! It will be fun seeing who has the jazziest mask (I think one certain Janet Littlefield might win there on bling !! Sorry Janet :-))))....We are selling two types of masks, one lot are being sold in aid of the village hall, all in lovely fabrics & very comfy to wear, it's the ones we are wearing and kindly made by Suzy Tu Tu (as I affectionally call her). They are washable and far better for the environment than the disposable ones as Covid is evidently here for the foreseeable sadly ...In the Post Office we have new price lists because of the change of tariff for the USA. Not our doing, dear Covid 19 I'm afraid. We are still limiting to 2 people in the shop I'm afraid but it is for everybody's safety & I'm sure that you all understand & will be patient! This is here for the long haul & is not just going away and we want to be here to serve you & keep all the banking services etc going for you during this time, the only thing we can't do is Euros on demand at present, they have to be Pre ordered I'm afraid. PLEASE ASK FOR DETAILS.

The zoo is pretty non exciting... Fruit Loop is progressing slowly but there is no point hurrying her as there are no parties to go to so pointless sadly... Baby Hippo I have decided is the pony version of Mutley (the very naughty dog) out of Dastardly & Mutley !!! He is SO naughty!!! Always just looking for trouble!! Bad pony!!! ... no news on the sheepie or paca front & not much to report from down the bottom, lots of eggs being layed (evidently not by the bunnies or goats!!) but the ducks, chucks & the quails .. very busy !!! As for anything else .. I may have some exciting news to share next time with you, but I think that's it for now, off to play guess the customer!!! ... stay safe !

Louise xxx

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(All locks British Standard)	
Union 2 ^{1/2} mortice lock for rebated doors (new)	£5
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2 ^{1/2} mortice sliding door lock (2 nd hand)	£2
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2 pr Brass lever door handles (new)	£2.50
Odd brass lever door handles (new)	£1 ea
4 Chrome bath, or handbasin taps.	£5 pr
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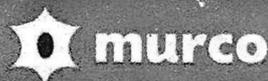
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DECKED OUT FOR TOWN

Saturday mornings - I waited beneath the archway of the Phelips Arms for the arrival of the 9 a.m. Southern National bus. Altogether with the princely sum of five shillings pocket money to spend on my expedition to Yeovil.

This being a double decker bus, I always tried to sit in the front seat on the top deck. The bell would ring and the big bus proceeded with a clash of gears. The journey took the passengers towards Yeovil via Odcombe, stopping outside the Masons Arms to let more passengers on. One felt you could reach out of the window of the bus and pull the thatch off the pub roof owing to the roof being the same height as the bus.

Houndstone corner was next to allow more fare paying customers to embark, these mainly being the soldiers from the camp who were off duty, to spend leisure time in town. Their studded boots clattered and scraped along the gangway noisily as they took their seats with mirth and laughter. Topping the rise before descending into Preston a glance to the left perceived soldiers on duty parading on the square which can be seen between the tall gun sheds at the fore-front of the camp.

Stopping at Preston School opposite Old's bakery, more children got on probably going to the same place as me. Before the Bell Inn on the right hand side there was always a Horsa Glider lying in the allotments, with the wind-sock blowing on Westlands Airfield as to signify its destiny.

Topping Cemetery Hill with its black iron gates and gold leaf spikes, the bus navigated the roundabout at the Five Cross Ways, its garden then was a picture of yellow and red tulips, a pleasant outlook for the mothers to be in the Maternity Home.

Stepping off the bus in the Borough of Yeovil and disposing of my threepenny ticket in the disposal container, I busied myself looking in the shop windows of Gammiss and Snells, showing Dinky toys and

lead farm animals. Walking down Middle Street to the foyer of Smith's book shop, I always bought a cowboy comic for sixpence; the Eagle was four pence.

On receiving my pocket money, the agreement was to spend a shilling on having a haircut, this being only every other week, was not too demanding on my resources. Court's hairdressers next to Smith's was my barber where I ascended the brass railed staircase to the Salon and waited, looking through the window at the roof tops of Yeovil, and reading if available, the Picture Post Magazine, containing the latest pictures and articles of the Korean War.

With my haircut and looking as smart as paint, flattened down by Brylcreem, I might hasten to add, I was now looking forward to Saturday morning cinema at the Odeon.

A queue was already forming for the performance. Young people jostling and very excitable eagerly waiting to spend their nine pence or sixpence in obtaining the best seat possible, The programme consisted of a sing song to begin with followed by a cartoon and the serial. This particular serial was called, "Burn-em-up-Barnes" about the escapades of a racing driver. The feature film was either a Western or Pirates on the Spanish Main.. I caught the bus to go back to Montacute, left Kingston at 12 p.m. which left me time to buy a two penny lollipop in Hunt's Dairy shop. Hutchings and Cornelius bus arrived and taking my seat which then was wooden slatted, the journey home began with reminiscences of that morning plus change of one and tuppence.

Clarence Bradley.

BOB ALDERMAN

Thank you for all your expressions of condolence and to the many in Montacute who came out to pay their respects to Bob when the funeral cortege went past. Bob had a lovely send off. I am grateful that he was able to end his life at home with me as he wished.

I thought you may like to know a bit about Bob.

He was born in Northampton and liked trains! In his mum's things we found a little book he'd made when he was about 5 years old with a picture of his favourite toy...a train.

Bob moved with his family to Yeovil in 1965, left school and became an apprentice at Westlands. We met at folk club in 1969 while I was still at the High School. We married in 1971. I was already aware of Bob's passion for model railways as he took me to the original Yeovil Model Railway Club at what was the Lodge of Hendford Manor.

We moved to Montacute in 1985 with our children David and Ruth. Bob and I helped to organise the carnival, Bob got enlisted in painting backcloths for the pantomime and later was on the parish council. He also got involved with the first Montacute speed watch.

Bob left Westlands in 1995 and took on commissions to build model railway locomotives for others. You will have seen him in the front window of Yeovil Road with head bent over his work bench.

Bob loved reading and was a prolific writer. He has had numerous articles published in the model railway magazines and has written a book for railway modellers about how to make bridges and viaducts. He used to teach people to make models at an annual summer school and also demonstrated techniques at various model railway exhibitions.

He also liked steam trains and was involved in going through the archives at York Railway museum to reproduce the blue prints for an

A1 steam locomotive. Tornado locomotive is now running rail tours 20 years later.

Bob was a determined, witty, knowledgeable man with a great sense of humour. He liked socialising in the Phelps and Kings Arms and loved the quizzes. Bob became a respected and well known part of the village.

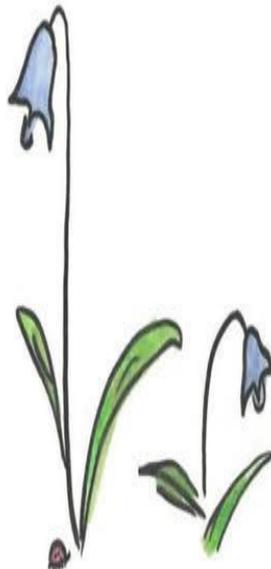
We knew, after he was diagnosed with MND in 2017, that there was no cure and his time was limited but he still kept his humour, determination and wit even when he lost the ability to move or speak.

Gosh I'll miss him. Thanks again to everyone for all your support.

Sheila

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