



Sancroft,
Crewkerne

Dear Friends,

Well October certainly had it's share of incidents at Cricket. You will all have seen or read about the fire in the Sauna in the leisure suite at the hotel. Fortunately no one was hurt and as the manager said: "It's only things". Already matters are being put right, the place is cleaned up and much is back in action, whilst builders are at work to repair the damage to roofs and ceilings and equipment.

Not at all the sort of fire we want in this world – Susie told you of my minor conflagration in my surplice. We all however need to be on fire with the Spirit of Christ. Holiness simply means belonging to God, by the way. In this sense we all are holy as God's creation, as is the whole universe. "All things come from you and of your own do we give you," we say at the altar Sunday by Sunday. Holy, Holy, Holy. However to realise this is one thing, to make it REAL in our experience is quite another. Not everyone acknowledges God as Lord and themselves as his possession. This we know only too well.

All Saints tide reminds us of those who have acknowledged Christ and "sanctified him in their hearts as Lord" as Peter charges us to do (1Peter 3). These are the holy people of God who make his presence real in the world. We have this festival to remind us that thousands have so done, as well as the major figures in our calendar, those honoured in our recollection as outstanding disciples of our Lord.

We each must share the ambition of the psalmist when he cried "I shall be satisfied when I awake in thy likeness". To surrender ourselves to God as his possession is by many thought to be the extinction of our personality, the loss of our distinctness as people – the paradox (and much of our faith is paradoxical) is that God wills us to be ourselves. Having surrendered we find the perfect freedom to mature as OURSELVES in His service. Put another way St. Augustine said, "O God our hearts are restless until they find their rest in Thee." All souls day is something different, for then we commend all persons who have died to their Creator in hope that they too will have found that perfect rest and ultimate freedom beyond the grave. November also brings us close to Advent when we prepare to celebrate the remembrance of the birth of our Saviour.

Of course all this concentration on holiness has also brought out the occult worst as with All hallows which enchants the young each year and appals the adults with its trick and treat nonsense etc. etc.

Once again we are caught between not taking evil seriously and making too much of it. As with all else, balance and holy sense is what we need.

Greetings to you all.

David Savill



AN ANGLICAN ALPHABET

U IS FOR UNCTION – Anointing with oil has a long historical practice from Old Testament and New Testament times. St James chapter 5:v14. "Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the Name of the Lord."



FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

WEDDING	21 st September	Ian James Peacock & Emma-Jo Plaster	Winsham
BAPTISM	29 th September	Jemma Angelica Baring-Jones	Forde Abbey Chapel



UNITED REFORMED CHURCH WINSHAM

Minister – Revd John McMinn – 01935 872105

Hon Secretary – Michael Hebditch – 01460 30201

Sunday services at 10.30am. 1st Sunday, tea and biscuits after the service. 3rd Sunday Holy Communion
3rd Thursday 12.15-1.30 monthly Soup & Cheese Lunch at the Sports Club



THORNCOMBE CHAPEL

Normal Sunday Services: 11am and 6.30pm

Bible Study: **Wednesdays – 7.30pm** Ladies Bright Hour: **Alternate Wednesdays – 2.30pm**

Saturday Club for Boys & Girls: Two age groups 5-8 years & 11-15 years. 11am to 12 noon every Saturday



ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH CHARD

Priest: Canon James O'Brien – 01460 62197

Services: Sunday Mass 8am and 11am. Weekdays – 9.30am. Holy Days – 9am and 7pm.

Confessions – Saturdays 11am – 12 noon.



MAGAZINE COPY – THORNCOMBE

If the church is locked copy for the magazine can now be left in the post box in the porch of St Mary's Church. *Ed.*



ST MARY'S CHURCH HARVEST SUPPER

The harvest supper was held in the village hall on Friday, 27th September and was extremely well attended. The hall was full of autumn flowers and the tables beautifully decorated. Supper began with Rev Ernie Chivers saying grace. Then a very efficient team in the kitchen served up a delicious meal of salmon and ham with numerous salads, followed by blackberry and apple pie and cheese.

A very polished entertainment followed by ex-farmer Colin Hile. His act included impersonations of Shirley Bassey, Tina Turner and Dame Edna Everidge. The latter was hilarious and in this he was ably assisted by his leading lady, Bunty Turner!

Churchwarden, Heather Roughton, closed the evening by thanking all those who cooked and served the meal and those who had prepared the hall so well.



LET BYGONES BE BYGONES

To hold a grudge is like sprinkling salt on an open wound. Let bygones be bygones and experience the healing effect of calm. *Luke 11:4&6:37*



The lengths some people will go just to avoid doing the church flowers is quite ridiculous!!!

Friday, 4th October began in a very dramatic fashion. Whilst everyone on the church flower rota busied themselves collecting suitable autumnal produce, a major fire erupted within the hotel leisure club. It began in the sauna but quickly spread and by the time we all gathered to decorate the church our paths were blocked by no less than eleven fire engines and a veritable army of delightful firemen. Luckily no one was hurt in the blaze and the cause is being investigated as I write.

Hotel guests all waited patiently in the sunshine as water from Cricket St Thomas springs quenched the flames and sent black, acrid smoke across the valley. Within hours guests had been escorted back to their rooms and were on their way home, and with literally only a couple of hours to go before four hundred new visitors arrived the mopping up operation began.

Both Stuart Gallagher and John Garside have stressed how magnificent both their staff and the emergency services were on the day, and how incredibly proud they were of the way they managed to care for both their outgoing and incoming guests during the crises.

It was not long before we were allowed into the church and the decorating for harvest festival could begin in earnest! Harvest festival itself was a splendid occasion, the church was full to bursting

point and David Salvill was in fine fettle, numerous jokes, hymns and prayers resulting in a very merry congregation.

Finally a very warm welcome to Mike and Lorna Dymond who have recently moved into Keepers Cottage. *SV*



WINSHAM POST OFFICE

I wish to thank everyone for making me so welcome and also for being patient whilst I become used to my new surroundings.

Just a reminder that the Post Office counter opening hours are:

Mon. Tues. Thurs. and Fri. – 9.00am-1.00pm and 2.00pm-5.30pm.

Wed. – 9.00am-1.00pm.

Sat. – 9.00am-12.30pm.

The last post is collected at 5.00pm.

The following products and services are available here:

Dept. of Work & Pensions: Pensions, Benefits, Allowances and Family Tax Credit payments.

Personal Banking: Cash and cheque deposits and cheques cashed for accounts with: Alliance & Leicester, Barclays, Lloyds TSB, Cooperative, Smile & Cahoot.

Business Banking: A&L. Girobank.

Bill Payments: BT, SWEB, Television Licence, Wessex Water, SW Water, Council Tax, Rent, Mail Order and others. (Please ask.)

National Savings: Ordinary and Investment accounts, Cash Isa, Savings Certificates, Pensioners Bonds, Premium Bonds.

Royal Mail: Stamps, Inland and Overseas posting, Certificates of Posting, Recorded Delivery, Special Delivery, Swift Air, International Recorded and Registered, Mail Order Returns.

Parcel Force: Overseas Parcels

Travel Products: Foreign Currency, Travel Insurance E111.

Environment Agency: Fishing Licences.

Savings Stamps: Television Licence, Car Tax.

Other Products: Flowers by post, Post Office Telephone Cards, Postal Orders.

Various forms e.g. V10 Vehicle tax application (unfortunately I cannot supply tax discs.) Driving licence application and prescription prepayments are available.

Many of you who are pensioners or in receipt of allowances or benefits will no doubt have heard that from April next year these will have to be paid into a bank account. This will be phased in over two years and the Government department will write to you before any change will take place. No action is required by you until you hear from them. You will be given a choice of how you wish to receive your money but I can assure you that you will still be able to collect from the Post Office. Please do not let this worry you as I will be happy to help with any queries and form filling when you hear from them.

If anyone has any queries about any of the Post Office services or if there is any way you feel that I may be able to help please ask. I may not know the answer but I will attempt to put you in touch with someone who does. *B Elkin*



NEW YEAR'S EVE COMMUNITY BARN DANCE – THORNCOMBE



See in the New Year with Jigs for Gigs in the village hall. Same format as last year...same band...same caller...potluck

supper...bring your own booze...non-profit making. Any proceeds after disbursements to go to Thorncombe First Responders. Tickets £5 per adult, children under 14 free. Numbers to be restricted to 80 plus children so we've got a bit more space to shake a leg! Up for it? Then ring Eve on 01460 30994 to get your name on the growing list for this popular event. Ticket money will be collected in advance at the beginning of December.

ST STEPHEN'S HARVEST FESTIVAL & LUNCH

We celebrated our Harvest Festival and Family Service on 6th October. The church looked very lovely with its flowers, vegetables, sheaves of corn and gifts brought by the school children earlier in the week. Harvest hymns were sung and the Sunday school children, helped by Gillian, led the prayers. They also sung a song with actions, 'If I were a Butterfly,' which had our feet tapping. Jean gave the talk aimed at the children but had the adults thinking as well!

After the service we met at the Jubilee Hall for our harvest lunch of roast beef with all the trimmings, followed by desserts, biscuits and cheese and coffee. This was prepared and cooked by Margaret and her willing band of helpers made sure that everything ran smoothly in the hall.

In the evening we held our Harvest Songs of Praise which was well attended. Led by Rev Ernie Chivers, we sang some of our favourite harvest hymns with appropriate readings and prayers for the festival.

On Monday the sale of produce was held in the church and with the proceeds from this and the lunch we were able to send £154.90 to Harvest Help.

Thanks must go to the flower arrangers, those who donated gifts, our 'cook' and helpers and anyone else who helped in any way over the harvest period. We had a very happy day. Shall we do it again next year?
JMS



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION – BRIDSMOORGATE BRANCH

The Remembrance Sunday Parade on November 10th will be held at St Stephen's Church Bettiscombe. Members will assemble at 10.30am at the hall car park. All are welcome.

Poppy time is nearly here. This year's house to house collections will start on Monday, 28th October to Saturday, 9th November. The poppy appeal provides the bulk of funds to carry out the legion's charitable work. Every penny helps and the need is there so please be generous.
R Chiverton



FREE 'TASTER' LAPTOP COMPUTER COURSES – JUBILEE HALL

A 5-week basic computer course brought to your doorstep in 2-hour easily digestible sessions. We will provide the technology and tutor, all you have to

do is provide the commitment to learn 2 hours a week.

Please let us know if you are interested in joining this group. It will run from **Monday, 11th November at 1pm.**

This 5 week course will take you on a tour of a laptop from the basics of the machine itself, the mouse, and keys, the printer, to the software you need to work with such as word processing and spreadsheets. This friendly accredited course will enable you to decide where you want to go in your computing adventures! You will be able to build a portfolio to record your progress and will receive a certificate when you finish the course.



Places are limited to 10 – so enrol quickly. Please phone on 01460 64084 or email at crestaoffice@cresta.org.uk



ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Was it not last week we held that bazaar? Perhaps it really was a year ago? Well whenever it was, it is time to gird up the loins again.



Please may I ask all you wonderfully talented people out there to make, bake and create some more goodies to sell on **Saturday November 30th** in the Jubilee Hall, Winsham. It was such a huge success last year can we do even better? Please put your thinking caps on. The Somerset & Dorset Air Ambulance will be the beneficiary again. *PP*



COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

One of the blessings that we who live close to Thorncombe or Winsham have is a first-rate village shop. Village shops are now endangered species, and very few small communities have the privilege of still possessing a shop, which is only just down the road. Many country people today have no option but to get into their cars and spend time and money driving to their nearest town. There they will most likely have to join the crowds pushing their trollies round the supermarket and waiting in queues at the check out.

In contrast to all this, the village shop offers personal service, a willingness to order whatever (within reason) its customers want, and in season a selection of local produce. In the village shop there is always time to stop and chat and find out what is going on in the community. The shop is one of the most important hubs of community life and once it has gone, through lack of support, something vital is missing from the quality of local life.

So, it's up to us – use it or lose it!

MRM



COMPOST CORNER



Hi every one. Sorry if anyone missed the old corner spot of compost, had other things on my plate. Well not on my plate actually. I haven't grown a thing this year; the dahlias are there by their own doing. I did put in some onion sets but have lost sight of them. Now at the beginning of October with much of the building done, but not completed, I have been hit with something most confusing to the medical profession. So if I will ever get back on the allotment we shall have to wait, hope and see. Whilst in hospital I had a brain scan and they found NOTHING, so hey you all knew that anyway!

Well, what a most superb Indian summer we have had this year, the more of them the better I say. One bit of information for you. Whilst I was with the children in Wayford woods, scaring all the wildlife for miles around by blowing grass held between thumb top and base, I'm sure you know the shrieking sound it can make, I saw a laurel with berries on. I've never noticed the berries before; they looked quite inviting so I opened one. It is much like a cherry with a stone inside, I did not however taste one, but subsequently asked folk if they were edible or not. Most knew nothing.

Well I have found this out for you and me. *Prunus laurocerasus* is the Latin name of the cherry laurel; it belongs to the Rosaceae family. Other used names are *Laurocerasus officinalis* and *Padus laurocerasus*. The warning is as follows. **All parts of the plant contain hydrogen cyanide, a poison** that gives almonds their characteristic flavour. This toxin is found mainly in the leaves and seed and is readily detected by its bitter taste. It is usually present in too small a quantity to do any harm but any very bitter seed or fruit should not be eaten. In small quantities, hydrogen cyanide has been shown to stimulate respiration and improve digestion, it is also claimed to be of benefit in the treatment of cancer. In excess,

however, it can cause respiratory failure and even death.

So if you have any doubt over what you find in the wild please leave it alone until you're absolutely sure of what it is. There is a lot more information available if anyone wants it just ask me or browse on the web.

It's the ideal time to shift shrubs, bushes or trees. Dig them out keeping as much of the root ball intact as possible and with as much soil attached as you can. Place in the prepared and fed hole. Now if what you have moved needs support drive in your stake but not straight through the root ball, drive it in at 45° above the root ball, this will only provide one position of support but is ideal for trees. Fill in your hole and firm down well with the heel of your wellies. Tie in the new growth of climbing roses and support any other climbers before the winter winds do the pruning for you. Thinking of winter storms check any trees for dead or weak branches, check structures such as sheds, particularly the felt, trellis, pergolas and for the modern, your gazebo. Prune your summer flowering shrubs, cut back roses and buddleia to only half way.

Any remaining pea or bean sticks want to be put in the dry, some folk like to creosote the bottoms first, if treating your sticks or canes do it now rather than next year to allow it to soak in, fresh creosote will burn and kill young roots.

Late November you can sow "Aquadulce" broad beans preferably in a light soil. Just ensure that any tubers to be stored are free from rot and disease and not too encased in wet soil.

Compost all and every thing that is organic, sweep up all the leaves. If you have a chance to cut the grass, cut it high and mix up the grass with more coarse material on the heap.

November is a time when some of us chose to have a bonfire, so here's my annual warning, please think of hedge hogs, build your fire at a time when you are going to light it. *SR*



Many years ago I read about some research done in America about the value of milk and milk products over manufactured fat products. It was never widely published over here, if ever, and you can guess the reason why. Big business, wielding tremendous advertising strength, bombards us on television, radio and newspapers with the advantages of their products and

the potential dangers of the natural fat ones. At last, albeit slowly, we are beginning to hear about the advantages of drinking milk, especially for children. I was pleased to see that some schools are taking advantage of the recent scheme for subsidised milk. Milk products have many advantages in all sorts of ways, and you probably won't believe it, it helps you to lose weight!! So get on the milk trail, it will help you to keep healthy and help stop more dairy farmers giving up milking cows.

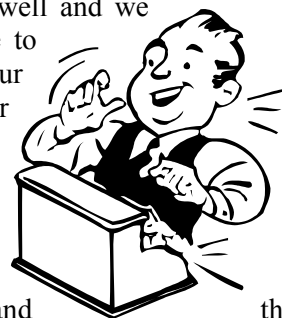
It was interesting how little publicity the BBC gave to the biggest demonstration ever held in London. The Countryside March would have merited massive media coverage if windows had been smashed with looting on a large scale, policemen and women attacked and cars and buses set on fire. Although hunting was the catalyst, which sparked off the enthusiasm, that wasn't the main issue, but it got most of the media attention. Those who went and I have spoken to say it was something they will always remember. I quote from a responsible vet, "the atmosphere and good spirit of fellow marchers will not ever be forgotten." I am afraid that the future prospects for peace in the countryside are not as good. Commuters, to London especially, know how their lives are made a misery so often, with disruptions of various kinds. An organised country demonstration could paralyse the whole road system within a few minutes. At the moment impossible, let's hope never.

Living "out in the sticks" has its advantages but also disadvantages. One of the latter was not knowing much about the concrete proposals for the Winsham village shop until reading about it in the Parish Magazine. By then it was up and running. I supported the Post Office very well until it shut every afternoon. Now I can do so again, especially as the new postmaster was so very helpful when I met him last week.

I note that last month's magazine had several abbreviations in one article, so this month's is easy.
ECJ. *MH*

Winsham Village Shop

On Saturday 7th September Winsham P.O. and Store ceased trading and the following day, after an afternoon of cleaning Winsham Village Shop opened for business. The Community Association, Winsham Shop Ltd, is running the shop, leasing the premises. We were able to restart afternoon opening immediately and to keep the Post Office going without any break in continuity. Now, after only 4 weeks, we are open through the lunch hour as well and we hope and intend to be able to stay open until 7.00pm. Our target for sales to meet our expenses is £2,800 per week. After a month, we are close to the target. It is essential to maintain at least this level of sales.



We hope to be able to expand the range of products on sale and are keen to provide the service the village needs. Please give any member of the staff or any of the directors suggestions for new products or better ways of running the shop. We cannot promise to meet all demands but we are more than willing to listen and respond if possible.

Winsham Shop Ltd can truly claim to be a Community Association with over 160 members who have subscribed more than £19,000 to establish the business. Our grant application to the Countryside Agency has been approved. A general meeting of shareholders was held on 17th September at which a Board of Directors was elected (see below). We are still open for subscriptions – call Robert Shearer on 30306 for a prospectus and application form or ask in the shop.

There remains a lot to be done. Over the next few weeks we will be carrying out building works to supply a staff toilet and to provide sound insulation for the residential property. Please be patient during this period of inevitable disruption. There will also be some difficulty because of work, which is to be carried out to the roof of the house. Although this has nothing to do with the shop itself, it will necessitate the erection of scaffolding in front of the entrance.

The success of a community project like ours depends upon the support of all in the village. If we are to open the hours we want we need volunteers as shop assistants, shelf stackers, cleaners and general handymen. The more we have, the less the burden on each individual. Our rota for cleaning means giving up one afternoon every 3 months. We would like to

reduce this burden even further but we do need your help. The director responsible for recruiting volunteers is Stella Abbey. Cleaning volunteers are being co-ordinated by Shaune Shearer (30306). Please contact her or any of the directors if you can help in however small a way. Above all, keep using the shop – we will be a success and will continue to provide this vital village facility if we have adequate sales.

The Directors are:

Chairman: Robert Shearer: Secretary: Frank Vaughan: Treasurer: Mary Pye
 Anne Rose James Crowden Stella Abbey Tony Laws-Spindler Roger Tett Margaret Long



THORNCOMBE ST MARY'S VILLAGE SCHOOL - Silver Jubilee Celebrations

The present school building was officially opened and the dedication ceremony took place at St Mary's' Church on September 30th 1977. To mark the Silver Jubilee of this occasion, the school celebrated by holding a series of events.



We began by holding a duck race at Synderford on Saturday 28th September. It was a glorious day and one which I think we shall all remember. Over 200 ducks were purchased for racing in a number of heats. The pace wasn't very lively to begin with but gathered speed over the course. The winner of the final race was Leonie Hodder, who won the £50 prize.

It was a pleasure to see so many families, dogs and children enjoying an afternoon of fun in the meadow. The BBQ was well supported and we hope to have made approximately £200 profit towards school funds. The weather was, as usual for our events, glorious. Our thanks go to Mike Turner, Eddy's daddy, for the use of his field and to Cath Atyeo for lending her BBQs. Mrs. Pakes, Mrs Walker and Lucy Walker were able river wardens, ensuring fair play and the PFA organised by Sarah Baigent and Jane Martin, organised the event. Thank you to all the committee members.

On Monday 30th, we held a service in Mary's Church. Rev.Chivers introduced the guest speakers, including former head teachers, Martin Tatlock and Mike Collins, who spoke with affection about their time at Thorncombe. A passage was read out on behalf of Alan Jordan who was unable to join us due to a prior engagement.

At lunchtime the children were given a special Jubilee tea and our reception children joined us for lunch for the first time. Past governors and staff were invited to join us for lunch, which gave old friends time to catch up with their news. During the afternoon parents and friends joined the children, staff and governors for tea. The centrepiece of the party fare was a magnificent cake decorated with a hand painted school badge. All the children, staff and governors were given a commemorative bookmark as a keepsake.

Computer Club – this has restarted at the earlier time of 3.00-4.30pm on Wednesdays. Everyone is welcome and we plan to hold evenings focusing on a range of areas including using a digital camera.

Jenny Mather-Headteacher



WINSHAM WEB MUSEUM

Work on the Winsham Web museum is continuing, and this month's additions include more names from the school logbooks dating back to the second half of the 19th Century. Check them out. It is fascinating stuff.

Have you had a look on the Cricket St.Thomas and Forde Abbey section?

www.winshamwebmuseum.co.uk

JSS



THORNCOMBE VILLAGE HALL

At Thorncombe Village Hall on Sunday, 24th November from noon until 4.00pm there will be a Christmas Food Festival. In preparation for Christmas there will be an opportunity to stock up. Many local producers, farmers and food outlets will have stalls selling a variety of cheeses, bakery, vegetables, poultry and meats. Come to buy or order your fare for Christmas.



Please note from 1st November bookings for the Village Hall should be made by contacting Vivienne Dalziel on 01460 30205.



The best way to keep your friends is not to give them away.
Anonymous



Winsham Sports & Social Club



The Annual General Meeting of Winsham Recreation Ground and an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Winsham Sports & Social Club will be held on Monday 18th November at The Pavilion, Bakersfield, starting at 7.30 pm.

The Extraordinary General Meeting of the Sports and Social Club follows the Annual General Meeting of the Club held on 30th September, at which three committee members were present and one ordinary member, who was willing to serve on the committee and was duly elected. The committee, whilst continuing in office to run the day-to-day affairs of the Club, were not prepared to continue without a stronger mandate. They will resign at the E.G.M.

The accounts of the Club showed a small loss for the year 2001-2002, despite an increase in bar takings over the previous year. The gross margin from the bar was 4%, a totally unacceptable figure, which should be around 40%. Steps have been taken over the last few months to rectify this situation and investigations are continuing to establish the reason for the poor return.

It will be clear from the above notes that there is a real possibility of the bar closing down if there are not more volunteers willing to operate and manage it. If this happens, the charges for using the Recreation Ground and the Pavilion will become far higher than they are now. Without more support it is difficult to see how funds can be raised for the local contribution to the costs of the proposed new changing rooms, which after anticipated grants are likely to be £10,000 - £15,000.

In general, sporting activities are on the increase and are being encouraged from the schools up, with substantial finance available. To sustain this development, volunteers of all sorts are needed, some active sportsmen, or 'retired'; some perhaps who have never played a game in their lives, or at least not for a long time! I do hope therefore that everyone who has an interest in encouraging sport in Winsham will come along to the meetings on Monday 18th November.

Roy Smart, Chairman,



THORNCOMBE W.I.



In August members and their husbands enjoyed a delightful supper at the home of Nora and Dick Arnold. After

the meal wits were tested in the W.I. quiz.

September's meeting was enlightened by Mr Philip Gamble who spoke about the technique of photography in the garden. A single lens reflex camera, a tripod and good film are a must. He showed some excellent slides to illustrate how it should be done.

The October meeting welcomed back Nora Arnold who was recovering from a knee operation. Members congratulated her on her surprise TV appearance in a retrospective of Michael Aspel's career. Her husband Dick had been at school with Michael during the star's time as an evacuee in Chard. They met again at an Antique's Roadshow at Forde Abbey.

Bookings for next year's lunches and teas at Chapel Thatch are already being taken together with one for a Christmas dinner. During World Rural Women's Day on October 15th President Julia Snellock will play her part by lecturing at Denman College. A suitable community project was discussed. It was decided to pursue recycling in the village. Collections are already in place for bottles, tins and newspaper but the District Council is to be pressed to collect plastics and to provide kerbside collections. The County Council is to be urged to find other means of waste disposal other than landfill.

The speaker was Mr Bert Wood who spoke about painting and 'looking and seeing' to achieve the right perspective and colours. He showed some of his oil paintings of Tuscany and watercolours of Slapton Sands and the mill at Sturminster Newton.

September's competition winner for a photograph of a single flower was Erica Dunsmore. Joy James won in October with a pre-1939 wine glass. Flower of the month's winner in September was Gwen Warren with Sheila Joyce winning in October.

November's meeting will be the A.G.M. This will be an afternoon meeting at 2.30pm on Tuesday 12th. The competition will be for an elegant Christmas table napkin. Hostesses will be Mary Turner and Rosemary MacCrimmon. Don't forget flower of the month.

MT



WINSHAM WALKERS.

It was another bright sunny morning for the Winsham Walkers October walk. Our walk, which was slightly shorter than the previous one, took us via Bere Farm to Shedrick Bridge and then by Wheel House Lane to the footpath across the fields to Forde



one Abbey. Returning through the fields towards Ammerham, unlucky dog was surprised when he caught his tail on the electric fence. We then continued back to the village and our rendezvous at The Bell.

Our next walks are on the 7th November and the 5th December starting from The Bell at 11.00 a.m. Why not join us!

Further information from Peter Pye, 01460 30751.



THORNCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Clerk writes –

Hello, yes it is Mary and at this stage I am still the Parish Clerk. Please accept my apologies for not having an article in the October Magazine. Just a few hours after September's meeting, my husband and I went off on holiday. Before leaving, I duly wrote out a short piece on the highlights of the meeting and e-mailed it to the editor. As luck would have it, things went wrong. Little did we know as we sat in the sun, that items sent on September 3rd were still whizzing around in the cosmic zone unable to reach far off Winsham!



Interviews for the position of Parish Clerk were held 10th October in the Village Hall. It is hoped that the new clerk will be appointed at an Extraordinary (Closed) Meeting on 15th October and be available to take over office on 1st November. I know my successor will receive the same support from the council and community as I have. Thank you to all of you for that support.

Planning Applications:

Old Forge Cottage, Holditch – Erect Conservatory & lounge extension and erect new double garage. Construct new vehicular access. This was objected to on the Highway Access.

Hedgerow at Headstock Road – Hedgerow removed before WDDC Survey completed, but within legal requirements of law.

4 The Cottages, Hewood - Removal of small wall in living room. Approved.

Magdalen Farm, Maudlin Cross, Thorncombe – Erect a freestanding meditation room. Approved.

Land off Witteys Lane, Thorncombe – Erection of dwelling. This application had been withdrawn.

The Appeal Hearing to Develop land by the erection of 3 dwellings on land adjacent to The Lilacs,

As stated in the September Magazine, the Financial Committee of the Parish Council are reviewing applications for S137 Grants for the 2003-04 Precept. There has been a good response from clubs, associations and groups within the parish. Once the committee has put together its recommendations for a full budget, it will be presented to the full Council at the November meeting. All items will be discussed and a collective decision made

There has been a positive response to the website, with many organisations within the parish asking to be included. It is not too late to be part of this new project. Please contact the chairman Mark Agnew 30385 or myself for further information. The newsletter has been a great success and another 100 copies have been printed. If you have not picked up your copy yet they can be found at the church, chapel, village shop, Hibbard's, social club, school and the Squirrel.

There have been changes to the bus schedules for Thorncombe and copies of these will be posted on the notice boards. Please contact Meg Terrett if you need further information.

Neighbourhood Watch - Reports were made of two men selling items door to door. The police have asked that they be called if these men are seen again. Mike Copp had his van broken into and items stolen. Several items of interest were reported in the Home Watch News, and copies of this are on the notice board. Once again, it was stressed that all vandalism and crime should be reported as policing needs are determined by statistics. The more reports received, the higher the police presence.

Motor Insurance – Have you checked whether your motor insurance covers you for the police recovery of the vehicle if it is stolen, because we are aware that some policies do not cover this cost. If your vehicle is stolen and then abandoned, or is left causing an obstruction, or a danger to the public, the cost of recovery and storage of the vehicle is charged to the 'current owner.'

Thorncombe will be held at 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday 12th November 2002 at the Village Hall,

Thorncombe. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

The Council conducted its own traffic survey on Broadbridge Lane at the access point to the proposed extension to Chard Junction Quarry. The results will be available at the November meeting.

The accounts of 2001-02 are now available for public inspection. Please contact me to make arrangements.

If you have an idea you feel might benefit the village; or comments to make, please come to the Parish Council meeting and tell us. The next meeting is November 5th at 7:30 in the Community Room of the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome. If you would like an item placed on the agenda, please contact Mark Agnew.



Our transport theme has gone really well with the children making lots of different things like hot air balloons, wooden trains and boats. Thank you to Mike who came in and did some woodwork with the children. We have had the play bus join us for a science session, which the children greatly enjoyed.

Our baby clinic went well and the health visitor will be joining us again on Tuesday, 5th November from 10am to 11am.

Thank you to everyone that helped and supported us at our table top sale. We made a profit of £102.45, which will be a great help to us.

We are collecting Persil stars from the Persil washing powder boxes, so if anyone uses Persil we have a collection box in the shop for the star stickers. *AE*



THORNCOMBE VILLAGE TRUST



In September members enjoyed a talk by Bryan Edwards on the "Flora of Dorset."

On November 14th in the village hall at 7.30pm a talk by David Ramsden on Owls.

David will be coming from the Barn Owl Trust at Ashburton. We hope a good number of members and non-members will be present.

Our Annual Christmas Sale and Coffee Morning takes place on Saturday November 16th at 10am when Miss Helen Brotherton from Dorset Wildlife Trust will join us. Any donations for the stalls will be appreciated. Stalls include plants, cakes, books, white elephant, Christmas, bird food, raffle. Please contact the events secretary on 01460 30313 if you would like gifts to be collected.

We look forward to seeing you at these events.

Peter Moreland is on holiday in France and so "Did you See?" will be "What I Saw!" next month.

The contributor on holiday in mid Devon in September was woken early one morning by loud screeching magpies. Looking out of the cottage window there were twelve magpies. Ten forming a circle, all facing inward and in the middle two magpies fighting, attacking one another ferociously. At one point one on its back and the other standing on him and pecking at his chest. The ten in the circle showed no emotion whatsoever, just standing and looking. Suddenly they all flew away having been disturbed by a sparrow hawk.

STOP PRESS - Due to the atrocious weather conditions on Sunday, 13th October it was decided to postpone our TVT walk until Sunday, 27th October. The walk will be as advertised and we thank Eve and John Higgs for the hours of preparation. We hope as many as possible will join us on the revised date. *JL*

I hope some of you will have seen the magazine by this date. Ed.



WINSHAM SCHOOL

It is time to say a big thank you to the community for all the help they have given the school over the past few months.

Many thanks to all who contributed Tesco tokens. We were able to acquire a new computer, plus two infant keyboards with lower case keys and three small computer mice to fit infant size hands. A major addition to our ICT equipment.

Also thanks to all the crisp eaters who collected enough Walkers tokens to exchange for a selection of children's books.

The Nestlé box tops were exchanged for art equipment. Please note that these will be appearing again soon so start collecting again please!



The school has been endeavouring to repay all these gifts by contributing to the community.

Following the harvest assembly in school the many Harvest Festival contributions were taken to church to be added to the parish gifts and sold for charity.

Following a visit from a representative of LEPRO, the charity that helps people who suffer from leprosy, particularly in India and Brazil, the children collected well over £100 towards the work of the organisation.

Well done to everyone, both villagers and school.



Residents of Thorncombe may have noticed how smart we all look in our new "Jumping Beans" sweatshirts. They are very popular with the children, some of them wanting to wear

them everyday. Of course, the main reason for them is purely practical as they will not be ruined during messy playtimes!

Rosemary, our treasurer, has just totted up our fund raising total for last year and it is a staggering £1,500. When we serve such a small village this is truly amazing. Our thanks must go to Heather and Angela who worked so hard on our fund raising sub-committee. They are now stepping down from the role. Kay is valiantly staying on and will be joined by Alice and Clem. It will be a hard act to follow, but I hope they might find as much support for our cause as last year's successful team. Thanks must also be extended to everyone in and around the village who supported our events in any way. Your generosity has enabled us to raise the standards of our playgroup enormously. I hope the events were enjoyable and that we can encourage people to continue with this wonderful level of support. It certainly makes my job all the more enjoyable to see the children's faces light up with excitement when they see our new toys and games.

Forde Abbey are happy to set us off on our first fund raising venture for this academic year by inviting us to enjoy a sponsored leaf gathering in their beautiful garden.

We have some places available at the moment; anyone who is interested and would like to come and see us enjoy our mornings should ring Lindsay on 30389.



WINSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Clerk writes: -

For my contribution to the magazine this month I have decided to write some background information on the Parish Council's role in the planning process. I hope it is helpful.

There is a requirement in primary legislation for South Somerset District Council, as the local planning authority, to notify the Parish Council of any relevant planning application. The local planning authority must allow the Parish Council at least 14 days to respond and they must take into account any representations received from the Parish Council. In practice a response is required within 14 days for agricultural notifications. For full formal applications the response time is usually 21 days and can be longer by agreement.

Copies of all planning applications for Winsham are sent to the clerk, usually on Friday of each week, along with a list for publication on the notice board. If a planning application is listed on the notice board, all correspondence associated with that application is available for inspection by residents of the parish, contact the clerk at May Cottage, 3 Fore Street. If residents wish to submit their views on a particular planning application, perhaps to seek the support of the Parish Council, they are welcome to attend the appropriate Parish Council meeting. Remember the Parish Council is only a consultee; the decision to grant or refuse an application in the first instance rests with the District Council. Any resident also has the right to make representation directly to the District Council.

Health & Safety regulations are now following us into our graves! Regulations now place an obligation on Parish Councils that manage cemeteries, to ensure that memorials (including gravestones) do not constitute a hazard to visitors. As a result the Cemetery Committee have carried out a risk assessment survey. There are about a dozen graves that represent a potential danger.



The Parish Council has an obligation to make safe or remove dangerous memorials, and a list will be published in the Joint Parish Magazine next month and displayed on the Parish Council notice board. This is intended to give relatives the opportunity to discuss with the Parish Council the proposed steps

that will need to be taken. Meanwhile if you have a loved one in the cemetery and you are concerned that their memorial may be unstable or becoming so, please contact the parish clerk.

At the request of the Parish Council, highway officers from the County Council toured Winsham on Tuesday 1st October. Councillors Mr Keith Marsh & Mr Peter Pye met the officers and pointed out many long-standing problems with the carriageways, footpaths, signs and poor or none existent white lines. All the points were noted but, as usual, no definite promises were made to complete any of the works by a specific time. There was one exception, a promise to resurface Colham Lane before Christmas. The comment was made, which Christmas.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on **Wednesday 6th November at 8 p.m.** in the Jubilee Hall. If you can please come along.



WINSHAM W.I.



At our October meeting Mrs Anne Rose, our president, open the meeting and introduced Mr R Hall who gave us a very amusing talk on his experiences as a 'Meter Man.' There were many face to face scuffles with dogs! Our monthly game of scrabble took place as usual.

Our Christmas present for our Australian link, which this year is a recipe book for each of their members, will be dispatched shortly. These books were put together on computer by the family of Mrs Shirley Evans and are made up of Winsham W.I. members' favourite recipes.

The Cerdic group are busy putting together their contribution to 'Celebration Jubilee – Something Old and Something New.' 22 groups will take part and it will include everything from 'Paper to Pearl,' 'Cotton to Coral,' and 'Iron to Gold.' This will take place at Montacute House on 9th and 10th November and should be well worth a visit!

We have also entered the short mat bowls competition at Creech St Michael.

There will be a workshop at the Sports and Social Club on November 13th. This will be a 'ribbon embroidery day.'

EJ

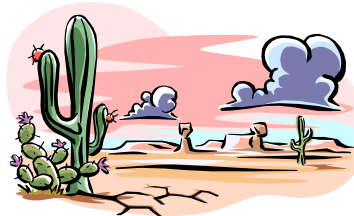


*One loyal friend is worth ten thousand relatives.
Euripides*

MAGDALEN PROJECT - NAMIBIAN DESERT TREK – AUGUST 7-16TH 2003

Are you up for a trek in aid of the Magdalen Project?

We have teamed up with Across the Divide Expeditions based in Thorncombe for a 130km trek across the spectacular Namibian Desert, Southern Africa's National Park. Join us for a 10-day trek of a lifetime, which will make a world of difference to the



development of The Magdalen Project. We'll take you from the Somerset/Dorset borders to the sunny scorching sands of the oldest desert on the

planet. Sole stretch through blood red rocky gorges, past high isolated mountains, rare wildlife and fascinating valleys. All you have to do is get fit, pay £199 and raise a minimum sponsorship.

The Magdalen Project is part of the Wessex Foundation, a pioneering educational charity with a 36 bed residential centre based at the heart of a 132 acre organic farm. The project provides a variety of courses for schools, youth groups, special needs and adults about environmental understanding and sustainable development. The monies raised will help provide greater access to a number of groups and fund specific sustainable development projects around the site.

For full details about the trip and an application form please contact:-

Gyles Morris, Director, The Magdalen Project, Winsham, Chard, Somerset, TA20 4PA. Telephone 01460 30068.

E-mail: gyles.teep@virgin.net

www.themagdalenproject.org.uk



WINSHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Society is hosting an evening with Katherine Crouch, the first winner of the B.B.C. Gardener of the Year contest, on Tuesday, 5th November at 7.30pm in the Jubilee Hall.

Since her success Katherine has become a professional garden designer and is kept busy with speaking engagements in the evenings as well. The theme on this occasion will be Garden Design – Trouble Shooting, illustrated with slides, a wide



subject to help you decide what should go where and why. Please let us have some problems to put to Katherine in advance as well as on the night so that she can come prepared, and I'm sure she won't object to dealing with problems not directly related to design as well.

Coffee and biscuits are included in the £2 entry, and you are welcome to bring along surplus plants to swap (suitably bagged and labelled) – but please take home with you any not taken up.

The Society's A.G.M. will be on Tuesday, 19th November at 8pm in the Committee Room. Please come along and support – the committee is very small and needs help and in particular a secretary! *JS*



The funeral has taken place of Monica Singer (née Scott who died on 11th September. Mrs Singer was a former resident of Winsham who left to get married and moved to Hounslow.



17th CENTURY NUN'S PRAYER

Lord thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will some day be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody: Helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest Lord that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing, and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others' pains, but help me to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory but for a growing humility and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a Saint – some of them are so hard to live with – but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places, and talents in unexpected people. And, give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so.



