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Overview

At last, there seems to be some definite light at the end of a very long tunnel. Reports have come in with dates for some of our clubs and societies to restart meetings! A number of events are going to take place again in the Village Hall, we have a matrix showing ACTUAL Church services and there are even a few 'dates for your diary'!

The pandemic has had a considerable effect on us all, especially those who had little or no support. Just over a year ago we were on the horns of a dilemma - should we try to continue with the magazine or throw in the towel?

Those of us involved with Cloverleaf were determined to keep editing, publishing and delivering. However, with no news and, eventually, the loss of some revenue due to advertisers reducing their outgoings - or even going out of business, we knew it might be difficult.

So a big thank you to the many regulars who carried on sending in reports; to the new contributors who have provided interesting articles on a wide range of subjects; to our wonderful printer who worked out the most cost-effective printing solution for us and, especially, to the many lovely people who have continued to pick up and deliver the magazines through all the lockdowns.

The magazine may not be completely back to normal (whatever that is!) but the pages are filled with news, information, comment and history.

If you're wondering whether you can book the Village Hall in the near future, there's some useful guidance on page 3. On page 8 you can see just a few of the beautiful birds carved by the late Bob Cleal and now on display in Underway Meade - well worth a visit. And, if you're interested in local history, John Phillips gives us another tale from times gone by on page 28.

Finally, our grateful thanks to Nick Stuparyk for this month's lovely cover picture. A keen photographer, he's shared a number of his very professional pictures, which we will feature on the cover of future magazines. If you would like to see one of your photographs on the front cover of Cloverleaf, please send a high resolution image to: csnparishmag@btinternet.com

Lesley Cole

Editor

In the Garden with Claire Pearce of Combe Dingle Nursery

As the human world awakens and tries to readjust to life coming out of Covid, nature seemed to pause. Spring has been still, dry from lack of rain, clear skies and a frost almost every night. Consequently, spring colour displays have been magnificent and lasted. The soil was cold with most plants and seeds reluctant to get going. Some, such as the beech hedge are weeks behind. Then came May, with cold rain, even hail and a wind, that up at Combe Dingle, tried to knock you down.

A great thing about the nursery is to hear people's gardening stories and to learn from each other. The experienced and the new can always gain from the old and new methods. It is estimated that the first lock down of 2020 created 3 million new gardeners. One thing that confuses a lot of us is all the discussion about peat. People are getting the idea that we shouldn't use it. But why? Why should we care? It's cheap and familiar.

Peat is made from partially decayed mosses that grow in bogs. It takes a year to produce 1- 2mm. Harvesting peat removes 20cm layer, or a century's, worth each year. Destroying peat bogs destroys their unique eco-systems. Only 20% of UK's bogs remain in a near-natural state. These invaluable habitats for wildlife, once gone are almost impossible to recreate. Peat bogs are also natural flood defences that hold onto excess rainwater.

As soon as the peat bogs are drained prior to harvest, greenhouse gases are emitted. Oxygen comes into contact with the locked in carbon and carbon dioxide is released. This continues to do so as the peat is exposed and used. With little peat now harvested in the UK because of the environmental impact, a lot is imported from the Baltic states. I have seen a lorry of Lithuanian peat. Considering how long it takes me to get through an artice load of growing media, the amount needed nationwide and the environmental impact of this makes the mind boggle.

The government ban on peat for domestic use by 2020 has been and gone. The ban for commercial use is set to be 2030. Peat free compost is becoming increasingly popular, but quality varies giving it a bad name and then there is availability. There is a lot of research going into reducing peat, but it doesn't seem to be filtering through. The compost industry is in chaos and seems unprepared. Companies are struggling to keep up with demand. The raw materials to make peat free are not available in high enough quantities. In November I was told I could not have the most popular peat product. I was more than happy with this. Within days they said I could only have the peat version. Only last night my compost delivery had only peat compost and the promise of peat free for next week, until then people will buy peat.

We as gardeners are learning to work alongside nature and with this comes changing our methods on how to garden responsibly.

Local News

Village Hall

Under current guidance, by the time you receive your Cloverleaf magazine the hall will be open subject to the government rulings applicable from 17th May – 21st June.

We have a 7 page document detailing what can resume at this point, which stipulates that the hall's Covid secure capacity limit still applies unless indicated otherwise.

Our Covid secure limit is **23** (10 for exercise), so this still applies for the majority of our bookings. Exceptions from 17th May are as follows:

- Wedding receptions and funerals: 30
- "Small life events" such as christening teas: 30 seated
- Fundraising events such as fetes, auctions, quizzes, amateur dramatics, film shows, and concerts: 50% capacity (so for our hall, 50 individuals)
- Social clubs, coffee mornings, teas, café: must be seated or takeaway

From 21st June, all being well, legal limits on social contact will be removed, along with restrictions on numbers at weddings and funerals, and dancing will be permitted.

Please remember that the standard Covid restrictions still apply, including the need for masks to be worn, and for cleaning of surfaces to be carried out by group members before and after use (you can look at the requirements on the village hall section of the Combe website if you want to check them before considering a booking).

If you want to hire the hall, please contact Ian Croucher (tel 01460 64098, email csnvillagehall@hotmail.com) and he will send you the full details of the Covid requirements and booking forms. If you aren't sure whether your activity is allowed to take place, Ian will advise.

During the closure period, Jackie has worked hard to get the hall sparkling clean, including cleaning all the chairs.

We have also taken the opportunity to install a broadband connection in the hall, which all users are welcome to use. The access password will be on a poster in the hall.

Village Hall Committee

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Combe St. Nicholas Parish Council

Monthly meetings continue to be held via Zoom, although the Government regulations re Council meetings by Zoom finish on 17th May. Face-to-face meetings will be held in the Village Hall from that date, with all the regulations in place.

South Somerset District Council aims to hold a Play Day on The Lawns, probably on 20th August, regulations permitting at that time.

The play area on The Lawns is open, although it is not cleaned. Please use your own sanitisers, and wash hands as soon as possible. Keep safe distances,

The next Parish Council meetings are due on Mondays 24th May, 28th June and 26th July in the Village Hall.

Anne Hunt – Parish Clerk

Tel: 61296 or email combestnicholaspc@gmail.com

website : www.combestnicholas.org.uk

Combe St Nicholas Parish Oil Co-Operative

The oil co-operative enables residents of the Parish to obtain heating oil at bulk discount prices. The minimum order will be 500 litres. There will be deliveries every two months.

Cut-off date for July will be Monday 5th.

Please check subsequent issues of Cloverleaf or the Parish website (**www.combestnicholas.org.uk**) for the following months. For more information, please ring the number below. Please note there is no fee for membership or placing an order.

To place an order, please contact Kay on 01460 261234 or by email to motcombe@btinternet.com (stating contact details and amount required).

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Underway Meade

Well, when I wrote the last article for the Cloverleaf magazine in early March, little did I realise that due to the current imposed lockdown, very little work would be able to take place in the Meade for the foreseeable future!

Our plans to replace the picnic area fencing have had to be put on hold, but as soon as the social distancing rules are relaxed our volunteers are all ready to start work and in the meantime, we have tried to keep the area mowed, whilst of course maintaining the 2 metre rules at all times.

Thanks to Chris who has also been down and cut the meadow areas with his tractor, so the Meade is looking quite well maintained for now, though, owing to mechanical problems, this may not be the case for much longer!

Gill has been growing some more bee friendly plants for the Meade this year and as we couldn't hold a community planting session, she has been down and personally planted as many as she could manage in the last few weeks. Fingers crossed they survive and put on another beautiful show like last year.

Thanks to John and Pat for continuing to fill the bird feeders up regularly. At one point we thought the feeder had been stolen, but it reappeared, and we think it may just have been "removed" by a hungry badger or even a bodybuilding rook! Thanks also to Ross who has done some very helpful strimming to keep the paths as clear as possible.



These long tailed tits are just a few of the gorgeous hand carved birds you can now see in Underway Meade. like this Thrush they were made by Robert Cleal, who sadly passed away recently. His daughter knew that he wanted them to be enjoyed and kindly donated them to the Meade.

You may have seen my report on Facebook about the Moorhens that are once again nest building in the pond and there were quite a few nice comments from residents as a result. The reeds, that should have been thinned out during the cancelled pond maintenance session in February, are no obstacle for them and they probably appreciate the extra cover.

Sue has continued to remind people about renewing their Friend's membership when their subs are due, and, as we won't be able to hold our AGM until the lockdown is cancelled, we hope that everyone will be willing to renew in the meantime. There is no doubt that quite a few people are enjoying the chance to get their daily exercise by walking through the Meade and appreciating the flowers and wildlife there, so perhaps we can even encourage some new members to sign up too! Forms are available at the entrance to the gate in Underway or download a copy from the Combe St Nicholas Parish website at <http://www.combestnicholas.org.uk/index.php/the-parish/underway-meade>

Stay safe and please continue to use the Meade responsibly.

Lynn Osborne, Chair, Combe St. Nicholas Parochial Trust.

Tel: 01460 62015 Email: lynnosborne99@gmail.com

Local YouTube Sensation a must watch, *Oh yes it is!*

If you haven't watched the Cloverleaf Players YouTube Panto "Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs" you've really missed a treat.

For it has all the usual bits of silliness you would expect that make a Cloverleaf Panto so great but with an added twist, it's all zooming marvellous.

We are very lucky indeed to have this merry band of players in our midst.

To write, design and put together a simple but brilliant performance as this is to be commended but to do it all via Zoom during a lockdown is truly brilliant.

If you haven't watched it all I can say is BOOOOOOOO to you, turn on your computers, iPad's or watch it like we did, on a smart Tv for full widescreen technicolour and sit back for a bit of real community spirit.

Well done to all who help make this happen, you're all, each and every one of you, true **STARS, OH YES YOU ARE!**

Ian & Penny Croucher.



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Sunday School Wood

The bluebells have been absolutely brilliant, and the wood anemones were the best they have ever been. Both have benefited from the nettle and bramble clearance carried out last autumn by David and Barrie. It is always a fine balance between wild areas and wild flowers.

When we first started to see the cowslips, they looked sparse and disappointing, but we needed to be more patient, they have now put on a great show.

We got a surprise north wind a few weeks ago, so took the opportunity to have a bonfire, so we rapidly had to gather up the branches etc from the earlier tree felling. We finished up with a lot. Being very dry, and well stacked it turned out to be about the best fire we have had - lots of flame and virtually no smoke, but we certainly generated some heat. A case of taking the opportunity when it arose. While collecting up this wood, we came across a hedgehog still sleeping, so quickly covered it over with leaves, twigs and sticks, and it seemed quite happy, and went back to sleep. It has since woken properly and gone off somewhere else. We also came across a slow worm, so wildlife seems promising

We have managed to get Brian's patch rotovated, Phil Roper of AGM sorting out the problem with the machine which had not taken very well to the extremely wet weather and very damp shed interior. We then raked over the area and removed a lot of dead growth before sowing with wild flower seed, just when we ran into that spell of dry weather, but we think the seeds are germinating ok. We are also hopeful about the other flower bed, on the righthand side of the path between the entrance and the steps to Green Lane, but it is still a case of wait and see.

We gave the picnic table and seats a coating of Danish Oil. It certainly improved its appearance and hopefully durability.

Frank Warriner (67407)

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Flower Arranging Workshops

I hope you are all still safe and well. I'm excited! Thanks to our amazing vaccine programme, it looks as though our flower school will be able to open again at the village hall in July. It feels like its been forever since I taught my last workshop so - providing all restrictions have been lifted – we are going to start by making a beautiful basket arrangement. Here is what I have planned:

Basket of Beautiful Blooms

**Saturday 31 July 2021 10am-12.30pm and (*depending on numbers*)
2pm-4.30pm £25**

Come and create a modern interpretation of a traditional basket arrangement with a "just picked" floral design. Using seasonal flowers and foliage, it has a natural country garden feel. Perfect for your own home - or as a gorgeous summer gift.

To give you an idea, this is the type of design we will be making – a well-deserved present to yourself after such a dreadful year.



My workshop programme for the rest of the year will be announced in August, but in the meantime, for those of you who like to plan ahead the dates are:

Saturday 2 October, Saturday 6 November,
Monday 22 November, Saturday 4 December and Monday 13 December.

Oh, and finally, just to let you know that the annual New Covent Garden British Flowers Week is from 14-20 June this year. This incentive is to encourage us all to appreciate native flowers and help local growers. You are all encouraged to decorate your windows with British flowers, foliage and/or plants either at home or in your places of work. Ideally, where passers-by can enjoy them – so before our workshops start again, why not join in and have some fun? Even a display of jam-jars full of flowers from your garden would be great. It's so simple... and fabulous fun for kids too! I look forward to seeing you in July, if not before.

All events held at Combe St Nicholas Village Hall. For more workshops and further information contact Jackie Nicholls, Ashville Design on 01460 67795 or 07906 259 683 or email ashvilledesign@outlook.com – www.ashvilledesign.co.uk – www.facebook.com/ashvilledesign

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Wadeford Charity Book Club

It seems there is a light shining at the end of the Covid tunnel and that before much longer there should be a major relaxation in the social distancing rules, amongst other impositions. Just as soon as we hear that the Village Hall is fully open for business again, we would expect to resume the regular Book Sales.



The good news is that the team are raring to go. Our first job will be to check the stock stored at the hall, for inevitably some will have deteriorated. My guess is that many of you will be wanting to sort out your own "libraries" and while we should soon be able to receive your "surplus to requirement" volumes, please hang on to them for a little longer – we too have only limited space. Look out for our posters and check-out Cloverleaf of course.

As before, free entry to our sales, most books costing just fifty pence; all proceeds to Prostate Cancer UK and Coeliac UK, our chosen charities. We look forward to seeing both new and familiar faces before too long.

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Dates for your diary

June

Sun	6		See Church Services
Sun	13		See Church Services
Sun	20		See Church Services
Wed	23	7.00pm	Combe Short Mat Bowls Club recommences at Combe Village Hall
Fri	25	10.00am	Combe Art Group recommences at Combe Village Hall
Sun	27		Alternate Rogation Sunday See Church Services
Mon	28	7.30pm	Parish Council - Village Hall

July

Sun	4		See Church Services
Mon	5		Cut-off date for Oil Co-operative
Sat	10		Save The Dragon Charity Bike Ride
Sun	11		See Church Services
Sun	18		See Church Services
Sun	25		See Church Services
Mon	26	7.30pm	Parish Council - Village Hall
Sat	31	10am-12.30pm & 2pm-4.30pm	Flower Arranging Workshop - Village Hall

Hopefully, by the time the next magazine is published we will be able to include many more events and reinstate the list of regular activities taking place in the Village Hall and Methodist Rooms in Combe.

Clubs and Societies

Combe St Nicholas Football Club

It has been so nice to see the club buzzing again! We have had some really great support up there so thank you to everyone who has come up.



The men's teams are having some great successes in the mini leagues they are playing in so by the time this is published it maybe we have secured some silverware! Unfortunately, the ladies league didn't restart so they re-group for 2021/22. If any local ladies are interested in joining the ladies team please do get in contact as we would love to hear from you. At the beginning of June most football should have finished with teams having a short rest period before training for the new season begins end of June.

The community bar @ Combe FC continues to be popular with locals, so thank you for your support. From May 17th, hopefully we will be allowed to invite people inside the club house as rule of 6 or 2 households applies per table applies.

We have a few events planned over the summer most of which are supporting the Save the Dragon campaign. Please see dates and details below:

26th June – End of season celebration - Seniors

3rd July – End of season celebration - Avishayes Combe

10th July – Save the Dragon Charity Bike Ride

7th August – Save the Dragon Dragon Ball Event

4th September – Save the Dragon evening with Seatrees

Please continue to come up and support the teams or just enjoy a drink with a splendid view, either way we are very happy to see you.

Luc Logan
Chairman Combe FC

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Yarcombe & District Young Farmers

It was very pleasing and encouraging to see that April was a busier month for the club in terms of socially distanced activities around Covid-19. We now find ourselves in May already, and the Young Farmers calendar and potential future activities look to be even more promising.

We held our Easter charity duck race on Sunday 11th April, which was a huge success. We are ever so grateful to those who kindly donated prizes for the event. Thank you also to those who purchased ducks, helping us to raise a fantastic £1,370 which will be split between our two chosen charities; The Farming Community Network and Mardon Neurological Rehabilitation Centre, Exeter.

On the 18th April, we held an on farm Show & Sale of Ewes and Lambs, with Ray Burrough kindly judging the sale. In fourth place, we had Tom Olive with 5 ewes and 8 lambs and in third place we had Sarah Broom with 5 ewes and 9 lambs. In second place, we had Steven Salter with 5 ewes and 7 lambs and finally, in first place, we had Dan Olive with a great 5 ewes and 8 lambs. Dan Olive also took 'overall best presented' from the day, so a huge well done to Dan. Well done also to Jasmin Wickham and Sam Olive who participated on the day. And a big thank you to Beth Johnson for arranging and organising the sale to take place.

As the restrictions continue to ease and normality appears to be that little bit closer, we will shortly be making plans to hold a club officer meeting, to discuss and start planning our upcoming summer social events (adhering to covid restrictions). We hope to be able to share with you details of our events in the near future. We encourage all members to stay actively involved and connected with Young Farmers.

If anyone would like to become involved in Young Farmers, we would love you to join our club and encourage you to contact our Chairman or Secretary for more information. If anyone has any further questions please contact our Chairman Dan Olive on 07811744714, or our Secretary Natalie Sampson on 07775591324.

Once again, may we express our appreciation to all key workers, be it farming, NHS, health-care (to name a few) for seeing us all through this past year. We hope you all stay safe and well.

Katie Trevelyan, Press Secretary

Combe St Nicholas Art Group

The art group will be recommencing sessions on Friday June 25th, at 10.00 am, in Combe St Nicholas Village Hall. This is of course very dependent on any Covid restrictions being in force at that time.

We will be delighted to welcome the return of our existing members, together with a special welcome to new members who wish to join us.

The group intends to continue our well-tried arrangements of meeting on Fridays at 10.00 am until 12.00 midday. A familiar format of working without a tutor will continue, relying on each member to either follow the pre-arranged programme of subjects, or concentrate on their own artistic goals. In the past we have found that we all "spark off" each other and discuss our work as we proceed.

If you wish to join us, please turn up at 10.00am on June 25th when we will be pleased to explain everything to you. Please bring basic art kit with you in order that you can join in straight away. As a guide, the previous cost has been £20 00 each, per term of up to 14 weeks, to cover the cost of hiring the hall. For further information please contact either Iris or Ian, as listed below:

Iris Evans

Tel 01460 62755

Email irisevans915@yahoo.co.uk

Ian Whitehead

01460 64607

iandavidwhitehead3@gmail.com

David Selley

Tel 01460 61527 Email david.selley6@gmail.com

Local Ladies

Hearing the news today that we can possibly meet outside more, and hoping that in June the numbers involved will increase, we hope to be able to arrange a picnic for all Local Ladies in Underway Meade.

It would probably be a `bring your own picnic, drink and also a chair if wanted` basis. Watch out for posters, emails nearer the time. It will be so nice to meet up again with everyone.

Take care

From all on the Committee.

Combe St Nicholas Short Mat Bowls Club

The club is intending to start playing again on Wednesday, June 23rd, 2021, in Combe Village Hall, at 7.00pm, depending of course, on any restrictions in force at that time.

The club welcomes new members, and to this end we will be delighted to see you. Simply turn up at one of our sessions. when you will be introduced to the sport. Tuition will be provided together with bowls and friendship.

The first four sessions are free as a taster, thereafter the charge is £3.00 per session and an annual pro rata subscription of £10.00.

David Selley, Club Secretary

For further information please contact either...

Harry Platt

or

Madeline Price

Tel 01460 62780

01460 61032

email pamandharry655@gmail.com

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Combe St Nicholas Gardening Club

After much consideration, the Gardening Club Committee took the decision to cancel the Annual Show due to be held on Saturday 7th August this year.

It wasn't an easy decision.

As at the time of writing, the 21st June is the earliest date final COVID restrictions could be lifted.

There might, however, still be delays and there is uncertainty over what social distancing and other measures will apply over the summer.

It isn't practical to delay the Show to the autumn, when most plants and vegetables will be out of season.

We must look forward to next year, when, hopefully, the 2022 Annual Show can take place in August without any restrictions.

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A Moment in Time...with John Phillips

April 1812 was a very worrying time for William Slade. He had been taken ill and was unable to earn his living as an agricultural labourer. He lived at Street Ash with his wife Hanah, 30 years old (5 years younger than him) and his three young children George, Louisa and Mary, all under 3 years old.

He applied to Mr James Wyatt, yeoman farmer and overseer of the poor for Combe St. Nicholas for relief in time of need. Much to his annoyance Mr Wyatt refused him any money from the parish poor rate, a tax established in 1601 to provide funds for elderly or infirm parishioners at risk of complete destitution.

So, William complained to Mr W Palmer, Justice of the Peace, about James Wyatt's decision. Thereupon Mr Palmer sent a summons on 15th April 1812 to the constables, tythingmen and others - His Majesty's Peace Officers of Combe St. Nicholas.

This notice summoned James Wyatt, overseer of the poor, to appear before the Justices of the Peace, at the George Inn, Ilminster on Wednesday 29th April, at 10 in the forenoon, to answer the complaint of William Slade for refusing him relief in sickness and was signed by W Palmer.

Attached to the summons there was a fascinating note from Mr Palmer to Mr Wyatt:-

"The income of a man or woman and 3 small children in health, according to the price of bread now, must be 12 shillings and 3 pence [61p] a week, in sickness more is required.

Take care that from this day William Slade's family have that sum per week at least, until the return of this summons."

The note reveals the magistrate as a humane and thoughtful man, well aware that justice delayed, even for 2 weeks, could mean justice denied for the poorest in society.

It also shows the application of the Speenhamland System, formalised in 1795, when the amount of relief given was more closely related to the price of bread. During the time of the wars against the French, the price of grain rose to unheard of levels. In 1795 wheat cost over 8 shillings (40p) a bushel (60lb), 25% above any previous costs.

In 1812 Rev William Holland Rector of Overstowey wrote in his diary "We sold one half a bushel of wheat to a poor woman today. I am very sorry I sold so

much barley to Mr Ward for the poor would have bought it all up, which would have lengthened the consumption of wheat, for at present it is said that there is not wheat sufficient for the consumption of the Kingdom".

By September 1812 the price of a bushel of wheat at Taunton was 1 guinea, 21 shillings (£1.05), 3-4 times its price before the wars.

In 1800, the other time there was such a shortage of grain, Rev Holland records "Wheat is now 15 shillings a bushel, scarce any of the poor eat wheaten bread now". Hurly (a farmer) said to Rev Holland, "we can give no oats to the horses, it must be saved for the poor". He also records men, women and children planting individual wheat grains by hand as seed corn was so scarce.

To return to William and Hanah Slade. We do not know the outcome of his case, but they and their children survived their difficulties. In 1841 their son George lived in the family home with his wife and young child. William and Hanah lived nearby with their 4 other children, now all adults.

Age UK Somerset encourages a move towards "normality"

The last year has been an unusual and difficult one for most but for many older people it has been particularly hard, with long periods of self-isolation impacting both mental and physical wellbeing.

Research has shown that many previously independent older adults have reported a loss of physical strength and capability, finding it harder to do daily activities such as going up stairs or walking the same distances they used to.

Age UK plans to resume their community-based classes from the 17th May and these will be re-started over a number of weeks, so that the team can oversee and manage them safely and effectively. A variety of online sessions will continue to run for those who would prefer to stay at home for the time being.

The charity's "stay strong, stay steady" classes – falls prevention sessions run in conjunction with Somerset County Council and the NHS – will also be resuming and hope to have a positive impact on the strength and balance of vulnerable adults.

If you would like to find out more about any of Age UK Somerset's classes, please call **01823 345626** or email **ageingwell@ageuksomerset.org.uk** or visit **www.ageuksomerset.org.uk**

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Weather watch – local rainfall report



Period	2021 Actual	2020 Actual	10 Yr Ave 2001-2010	10 Yr Ave 2011-2020
March	48	77	94	65
April	4	42	91	68
Jan—Feb	286	352	209	239
TOTAL	338	471	394	372

All measurements in millimetres 25mm = 1" = 45 gallons/sq yard

A low figure was recorded in March, with only 8 days when there was any rainfall. However, this was eclipsed by April when, although rain fell on 7 days during the month, the total of just 4mm was the **lowest ever** recorded since these records began in 1987.

Tony Cole (61896)

Cloverleaf Parish Pages

Vicar's Letter

Before Friday we were absolutely desperate for some rain, my vegetable patch, which doesn't have anything in it yet apart from three stray lettuces, was cracked and so dry, looking at it made me feel so sorry for our farmers, one of which had asked me to pray for rain!

And at our spinning group a couple of weeks ago (outside and socially distanced) we experienced a shower of rain that set us off discussing the name of the smell of rain. **Petrichor** which is the earthy scent produced when rain falls on dry soil. The word is constructed from the Greek *for*, "rock", or "stone", and *īchōr*, the fluid that flows in the veins of the gods in Greek mythology.

It did smell so delicious after so long without it and there is nothing else quite like it.

Apparently, the phenomenon was first scientifically described in a March 1964 paper by Australian researchers when Thomas coined the term "petrichor" to refer to what had previously been known as "argillaceous odour". In the article, the authors describe how the smell derives from an oil exuded by certain plants during dry periods, whereupon it is absorbed by clay-based soils and rocks. During rain, the oil is released into the air along with another compound, geosmin, a metabolic by-product of certain actinobacteria, which is emitted by wet soil, producing the distinctive scent; ozone may also be present if there is lightning.

Well, who would have known it; this week we have plenty to get the crops started and you can't smell the rain now. It kind of gives a sense of normal.

Last Sunday 9th May was Rogation Sunday when we would normally walk through each of the four parishes and visit all five Churches, spending time sharing in prayer and food, a very old and ancient rite first noted in 470AD. If you would like to join us we are going to walk on June 27th instead.

Desperation in the longing for rain, company with others or freedom to go where and with who you want, the sweet smell of release is in the air.

Be Blessed

Rev Georgina

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms:

Laura Gilbert

Ham

Reginald Spiller

Ham

We give thanks for the life of:

Graham Hunt

Wambrook

For enquiries about Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals please contact the clergy. If you would like us to visit you or just want a chat please do not hesitate to contact me.

Rev Georgina

CONFIRMATION

We are looking forward to having a Confirmation Service in the Autumn, which may seem a long way off, but isn't really!

When we are baptised Godparents take on the responsibility for helping us with our Faith Journey through life. As we grow older (10-100) and have more understanding we take that responsibility on for ourselves. Confirmation is the outward sign that we want to think and explore further our relationship with God. Preparation is set as an informal get together, usually with food involved, for five sessions. Ask us more questions if you are interested in finding out what it means.

If you would like to join us please contact Rev Georgina or Rev Ann

Whitestaunton Church

would like to recruit someone who is interested in arranging flowers to come onto the rota and join the band of happy ladies.

Male or female welcomed!

Also, if someone would like to volunteer to clean the Church two or three times a year, this would be gratefully received.

The Church is often visited by ramblers as they pass by and it is so good to have a welcome respite to stop at for a moments silence.

Rev Georgina 01460 66159

Church Services across the Benefice

JUNE	Combe	Wambrook	Whitestaunton	Chard	Ham
June. 6th Trinity 1	10.30 am Family Service	9.15am Holy Communion BCP		10.00am Morning Worship	
June. 13th Trinity 2	10.30 am Holy Communion	9.15am Holy Communion CW	6.00pm BCP Evensong	10.0am Holy Communion	
June. 20th Trinity 3 Father's Day	10.30am Service of the Word	6.00pm BCP Evensong	9.15am Holy Communion	10.00am Service of the Word	
June. 27th Trinity 4 Alternate Rogation Sunday	Approx. 3.00pm Prayers and Tea and Cake.	10.30am Holy Communion With Coffee	Approx. 12.00 noon Prayers and Lunch	8.00am Holy Communion	5.00pm BCP Evensong

Wambrook Flowers and Cleaning

Altar Flowers

Cleaning

June 6 & 13

Jacqueline Cosby

Lynn Campbell

June 20 & 27

Elsbeth Hunt

Naomi Knight

July 4 & 11

Mary Perry

Steph Walsh

July 18 & 25

Jacqueline Cosby

Nicola Nicholls

Church Services across the Benefice

JULY	Combe	Wambrook	Whitestaunton	Chard	Ham
July. 4th Trinity 5	10.30am Family Service	9.15am Holy Communion BCP		8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Morning Worship	6.00pm BCP Evensong
July. 11th Trinity 6	10.30am Holy Communion	9.15am Holy Communion CW	6.00pm BCP Evensong	10.00am Holy Communion	
July. 18th Trinity 7	10.30am Service at the Parish Church with the Methodists	6.00pm BCP Evensong	9.15am Holy Communion CW	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Morning Worship	6.00pm BCP Evensong
July. 25th Trinity 8	11.30am Prayer and Praise with a picnic lunch at Ham Church			8.00am Holy Communion 11.30am Prayer and Praise with a picnic lunch at Ham Church	11.30am Prayer and Praise with a picnic lunch at Ham Church

BCP Communion:

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Clergy contact details:

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Tel: 01460 351521 Email: annkember58@gmail.com

Associate Rev'd Georgina Vye,

Vicar: The Vicarage, 57 Caraway Close, Chard, TA20 1HP

01460 66159 or 07950 989916 Email: g.vye@btinternet.com

Cloverleaf Churchwardens

St Nicholas, Combe: Keda Horn (07867300795), Penny Croucher (64098)

St Mary's, Wambrook: Graeme Pidgeon (07807 284738)

Visit the Wambrook website www.wambrookparishchurch.com

St Andrew's, Whitestaunton: Jane Harris (239113), John Barron (63716)

COMBE ST NICHOLAS METHODIST CHURCH

Services: No services until further notice

Minister: Rev Anna Flindell (01460 261766)

Steward: Arnold Coleman (64892)

Copy date for August/September issue of Cloverleaf

*Items for Cloverleaf should be e-mailed to **csnparishmag@btinternet.com** or delivered to **The Village Shop & Post Office, Combe** NO LATER THAN 12noon on **TUESDAY 13th July**. Please note: long articles may have to be edited and inclusion cannot always be guaranteed.*

Distributors: August/September Magazines will be in Combe Church ready for collection after 2.30pm on Friday 23rd July.

If you would like to advertise please call **01460 61896** or email **csnparishmag@btinternet.com** for availability of space and rates.

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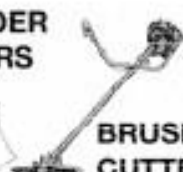
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