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Overview

Phew! Putting this issue of the magazine together in tropical temperatures is proving to be difficult but, according to climate scientists, this is a situation we will experience much more often.

I am grateful that the weather was not as hot for the staging of Cloverleaf Productions Summer Show., as the cast had a number of complex costume changes in a very short space of time - and in very cramped surroundings!

Thank you to all who came along - and for your kind words of appreciation for our performance. Although the Village Hall was not full on either evening, it was very nice to see lots of friends who have been part of our loyal audience for many years, as well as some new faces. However, there was a time when tickets would easily have sold out for our mid-year offering of a bit of live theatrical fun. We know that the disruption of COVID-19 and the various lockdowns took their toll on the range of some people's activities, particularly amongst the older members of our community. And Cloverleaf is not alone in seeing smaller audiences. Other local organisations are struggling to recruit new members and there's less support for fund-raising events - yet our villages seem full of active, lively people. If we want to keep our community spirit alive, perhaps we all need to encourage more of the people who have recently moved into this area to come and support the wide range of activities that are such an important part of our local community.

In this issue, I'm sure that you will be pleased to see Clare from Combe Dingle Nursery back in print with 'In the Garden'. We carry some news from your local Councillor (p4) with information about the various 'works' going on around the parish and an update on the new Council merger.

There's another opportunity to see the parish History Exhibition (p11) and many of you will be pleased to read the Parish Council report this time as it has welcome information about speed control and flooding (p15). And, for his Moment in Time on page 27, John Phillips transports us back Wambrook in the 17th century with a tale of a number of local 'turbulent' priests.

Lesley Cole

Editor

In the Garden..with Claire at Combe Dingle Nursery

This time of year, I get the feeling of being reunited with an old friend. The garden is always there dealing with whatever life throws at it. Be it the weather, pests or an unsightly utility trench left gaping. Time spent in winter and spring and a little catch up here and there has the garden in good stead. Now the pace of the nursery slows a little. This allows me more time in my own garden, and I can't wait.

The most important job this month was fence rebuilding. I pride myself on trying to turn my hand to any job and soon I was digging post holes and measuring rails. The recommendation to use Hit and Miss was not referring to my hammer skills, but a fence that lets the wind pass through and still gives privacy. I look forward to attaching wires to the fence for climbers and a making new flowers bed alongside it.

I have planted several new climbers recently. Planting and wire fixing should be done at the same time. Tying the plant to the front of the wires with twine. A new climber will immediately try to climb. If there is nothing there then it will only get itself into a tangle. All roses, including climbers have been fabulous this year with no strong wind or rain to damage them. Keep dead heading by cutting back cleanly above a healthy bud.

I don't feel under any pressure to get jobs done in the garden. It will get done when I get there. A little neglect can look beautiful. The vegetable garden is dotted with red of self-seeded poppies and blue of borage. There is plenty to harvest and areas are cleared to plant new.

Broad beans and garlic are cropped and cleared. Peas, chard, kale and so much more are picked. I don't really go in for rows and neatness these days, but plant in blocks when there is a space. The Nursery has a ready supply of plants to fill the gaps. This week I have been putting in plants of French beans, beetroot etc. and those for winter and spring cropping- Purple sprouting broccoli, sprouts, leeks etc.

I have an experimental area, with the no dig method of covering a patch of stinging nettles and a grass path with cardboard and then a layer of compost. It did an amazing job of stopping the nettles and grass, but the compost dried out quickly. Maybe a thicker layer would have been better or laying it earlier in the year. I expect this area to be far more productive next year.

Remember to enjoy your bit of earth. Whether it is repairing, planting, deadheading, harvesting or sitting back enjoying the scents and sound of nature around you.

Village Hall

Lots of success stories to report this time!

Our first attempt at live streaming using the new projector and Wi-Fi worked perfectly, and we had a great evening watching the **Jubilee concert** in the hall (decorated for the event, of course – thank you Jackie Cobbledick and team).

The committee worked really hard on the **Open Gardens**, organising, publicising, signing, devising and selling programmes, providing teas and Pimm's and a hanging basket for the raffle, and directing visitors, while Heather ran the village café. The garden owners had clearly made a massive effort to ensure that their gardens were at their best (well, surely they can't look that brilliant ALL the time, can they?!). We were rewarded with a lovely sunny day, not too hot and not too cold, and with lots of visitors from near and far, to the extent that we twice had to print more programmes as we kept running out! Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day and we raised over £850 for the hall, an unprecedented amount. Too many people were involved to list individually, but thank you all, committee and garden owners, for giving us such a wonderful day.

The **film nights** continue to do well, with "Belfast" and "The Queens' Corgi" (two films that couldn't have been more different!) proving to be a particularly popular double billing, and "Death on the Nile" attracting a good audience too. The next film will be "**House of Gucci**" on Friday 5th August (doors open at 6.30 for 7.00 showing), followed by "**Operation Mincemeat**" on 2nd September, a brilliant gripping film based on the true story of deception played on the Nazis in WW2 to misdirect them regarding the D Day landings. email csnvillagehall@hotmail.com if you would like to be added to the mailing list alerting you to the forthcoming films.

Now that the Save the Dragon campaign has finished and is no longer running its monthly 50/50 draw, the Village Hall committee has decided to start up the **Combe St Nicholas Village Hall 100 Club**, which was planned some time ago but put on ice so as not to compete with Save the Dragon. It will be open to all residents of our village and the surrounding area and their families and friends. As it is a private lottery, you have to be invited to join and you must be 16 or over. You pay £12 for a year's membership, and you will be allocated a number (or more numbers at £12 each if you want). Each month there will be a draw for 50% of the monthly income. This amount will be divided between 3 lucky winners, chosen and announced at the monthly Sunday Roast Café in the hall. The more people who become members, the greater the prize money! We plan to start this in September, so look out for publicity in due course, which will include details of how to join.

Village Hall Committee

Councillors View

Firstly, thanks to all who supported me in the recent Unitary Elections and it's interesting that myself and Jenny Kenton have been elected as we have been doing the District side of the job together for a number of years.

Now all the electioneering is out of the way it's now time to get back to try to deal with the many and varied Council matters affecting us all.

Jenny and I consult and meet regularly and I can't think of a time we have not agreed on the various decisions we have had to make over the years in relation to planning etc. There are still difficulties in relation to planning with new measures being in place in relation to excess phosphate in our river system which has slowed many applications.

However, there are still a number of applications being submitted and if you have objections to or indeed support a particular application it is very helpful to your Councillors if you submitted these to South Somerset Council and also make sure the Parish Council know your views.

I'm sure we have all been frustrated by the ongoing road works particularly around Crimchard. Unfortunately, these will be moving towards us mid July with a closure between Langham and Cuttiford's door. Hopefully by the time 'Cloverleaf' reaches you they may be nearly finished!

I have found the County Council website very simple to report potholes or other faults but should you have difficulties please contact me and I will report them.

I recently received a request from Highways England seeking suggestions in relation to major routes in my 'patch'. I intend to reply to suggest a fresh assessment be made in relation to that long running saga of the Eagle Tavern junction. Not holding my breath but we shall see!

It's going to be interesting wearing two hats until next May when Districts and County Councils merge into one and I'm sure there will be some difficulties on the way but hopefully it will not interfere with the various Council services too much. At least you'll only have to contact myself or Jenny with all Council queries!

Martin Wale

Councillor Chard North (and Blackdown and Tatworth until May)

65190 or martin.wale@somerset.gov.uk

St Nicholas Christmas Fayre

This will be held in the Parish Church on **Saturday 10th December.**

Calling all stall holders book a table now to avoid disappointment.

Contact Penny Croucher – **pennycroucher@hotmail.com or 07780 081081**



Sunday School Wood

From time to time, I mention Brian's Patch. Now, you can easily identify where I mean. Stella has had a new sign made, and you will easily see where it has been placed. There is currently a wide array of wild flowers, in flower, growing in this area, with hopefully many more still to come. At the moment, the predominant colour is yellow, but hopefully, red and blue will also increase.

The foxgloves we planted some long time ago have flowered well, and produced many seeds. These should self sow ready to flower next year (always hopeful). The adjacent bed to this was, at one time, becoming overgrown and we started to clear it for a new start next year, but nature took over and the area became covered in speedwell and scarlet pimpernel, and more recently poppies and corn marigold have appeared. We last sowed seeds containing these several years ago, confirming that wild flower seeds can remain dormant for some time.

The first, larger, bed on the right of the main path has become very overgrown, and is becoming invaded by rose bay willowherb.. Lots of cranesbill have also grown. As nice as these both are, we have had to be brutal and strim them back to try and retain some sort of control over the area.

One maintenance issue has arisen, in that the end fence post adjacent to the Rectory Gardens road is rotting and probably needs replacing. This is a job too far for the Tuesday morning team and needs liaison with the PCC.

Frank Warriner (67407)

Parish Emergency Plan

Many parish councils have set up a local emergency plan, to help with fire, flooding, storms and other events requiring urgent action. When COVID hit the country, the Parish set up an emergency group to provide support to parishioners where needed. Recent flooding has also necessitated the implementation of measures to deal with it. I will be helping the Parish Council develop a general plan for our community. Over the coming months, we will be looking to set out the detail of the plan and in the autumn will be holding an open public meeting to discuss it and invite people to provide assistance where appropriate. The date for the meeting will be posted nearer the time.

Rob Grimmond



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Ian Croucher.


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Dancing helps strengthen our heart and lungs, as well as all the muscles and bones, reducing the risk of osteoporosis. Co-ordination, agility and flexibility are all improved. The Arts Council also notes the personal benefits of improving our psychological well-being and giving greater confidence and self-esteem.

We're lucky to have two WORLD CIRCLE DANCE groups in Combe St Nicholas – on Mondays twice a month. You don't need a partner or any experience, and the dances are easy to learn. The classes are friendly, non-competitive, and the motto is 'there are no mistakes, only variations'. There is a huge variety of music and dances from all round the globe.

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Newcomers (AGE 50+) are invited to join the group for a **FREE TRIAL SESSION on MONDAY September 5th – choose the best time for you – 10am or 2pm. Combe St Nicholas Village Hall.**

Just come along or contact Lilly for more information

Email: lilly@newhaven4.co.uk or 07711 702460

JUST SO POPULAR WE HAD TO DO IT AGAIN!

Back at the Queen's Jubilee weekend, Combe St Nicholas Church along with the Chard Museum, put on a display of memorabilia from around our village and it was a huge success. In fact, so much so we extended how long we were open for to enable a longer time to view the exhibition. Since then, many have said they missed it and could we do it again! The answer is YES, we can and it's going to be on **SATURDAY and SUNDAY, 17th & 18th SEPTEMBER** in the church again. Chard Museum is coming back with even more goodies including a Victorian School, so even if you came before, it's worth a revisit. Teas/Coffee and light lunches will be served all day from **10 – 4pm**. Put it in your diaries now and don't miss this fantastic show of memorabilia from our village.

Penny Croucher. Church Warden.



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Combe St. Nicholas Parish Council

2 new Councillors were co-opted at the May meeting, and we welcome Louise Simmonds and Cressida Govier.

2 Planning applications were discussed last month – both in Combe Wood Lane. A site meeting was held with the Agent regarding the amended plans re heights and designs. The Parish Council objected to these amended plans as they stand now, but understand further amended plans will be forthcoming. The application for 9 new buildings on the adjacent field were strongly objected to.

The Lawns Play Area: Some work is still required around the play equipment to restore the wooden surrounds to the safer surfacing on the older equipment, and to trim the lower overhang on the large beech tree. Hopefully this will be carried out shortly. If a child is 'caught short' please make sure they use the facilities in school before they come out, or take them home or to a friends house, but do not use area behind the hedges – it is most unpleasant for other children to walk in.

Queen's 70th Jubilee: All the events went off successfully – many thanks to everyone involved and to Mick for regularly watering the new tree on the Lawns.

Speed Indicator Devices: It was resolved to purchase 2 of these devices in an attempt to get drivers to slow down through our Parish. Permission from Highways and Police is now being sought for positions. A trained person is required to change/move these devices – if you are interested, training will be provided, or if you have a highways licence, please get in touch.

Flood Warden Training: Following the very heavy rains last June work is still progressing to try and stop the flooding happening again. Several residents in the Parish have attended flood Warden Training sessions organised by 'Somerset Prepared' and we hope to have a session organised in our village hall for residents to attend. Other investigations/dialogues are also progressing to create a Plan to mitigate future flooding, including keeping ditches clear.

Pudleigh public footpath: Repairs to the bridge along the footpath between Pudleigh and Wadeford have now been completed, together with strengthening the bank where the amount of water last June caused so much damage. Further works are planned.

The next Parish Council meetings are due on Monday 22nd August and Monday 27th September in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Anne Hunt – Parish Clerk
Tel: 61296 or email combestnicholaspc@gmail.com
website : www.combestnicholas.org.uk

Flower Arranging Workshops

I hope you have been using all those gorgeous blooms and foliage you have been growing in your garden for flower arranging this year. Walking around the parish I have seen some absolutely beautiful flowers, so well done to everyone who has made such an effort. I'm envious...

We had a wonderful time making "Wild Bouquets" recently, using plenty of materials foraged from the hedgerows. These were magnificent!

Anyway, by the time you receive this edition of Cloverleaf, the flower school will be closed for the summer break. We re-open in October starting with our Autumn workshops following through to those for Christmas. For those of you who are early birds, here are the dates for your diary:



Autumn and Christmas workshop dates

Saturday 22nd October 2022

Saturday 12th November 2022

Saturday 3rd December 2022

Saturday 17th December 2022

Further details will be published in October – see you soon!

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

Combe St Nicholas Parish Oil Co-Operative

With much regret I have decided to wind up the oil co-operative. In the current economic climate, it's becoming difficult to get meaningful group discounts. Over the years, I've got discounts of around 3-4p per litre. For the last order., the discount was only 0.2p less than an individual online order, so I can no longer guarantee worthwhile discounts. So it's just as easy for customers to order direct without the constraints of the co-operative's order schedule. Over 11 years, I've enjoyed making contact with so many people and will miss that. I'd like to thank everyone who has placed orders.

Kay Grimmond

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August

Fri	5	2pm-4pm 6.30 for 7.pm	Short Mat Bowls - Village Hall Film Night - Village Hall
Sun	7	10.30am	See Church Services
Wed	10	7pm-9.30pm	Short Mat Bowls - Village Hall
Fri	12	2pm-4pm	Short Mat Bowls - Village Hall
Sun	14		See Church Services
Wed	17	7pm-9.30pm	Short Mat Bowls - Village Hall
Fri	19	2pm-4pm	Short Mat Bowls - Village Hall
Sun	21		See Church Services
Mon	22	7.30pm	Combe Parish Council - Village Hall
Wed	24	7pm-9.30pm	Short Mat Bowls - Village Hall
Fri	26	2pm-4pm	Short Mat Bowls - Village Hall
Sun	28		See Church Services
		12pm-2pm	Combe Café Sunday Lunches - Village Hall

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- SATURDAY 15TH
OCTOBER 2022**

**Wed-Fri at 7.30pm
Sat at 2.30pm and 6.30pm**

Existing bookings for this pantomime will be honoured, including in person and online sales. Unfortunately, we are unable to stage the panto on the Tuesday of the new panto week. Ticket holders for Tuesday can rebook for another performance or, if not convenient, have their ticket cost refunded. If you are a Tuesday ticket holder and you booked online, you can ask for a refund through the Seaty website (www.seaty.co.uk) **from August 1st**. If your booking was in person or through a Cloverleaf member please contact us at **combepanto@btinternet.com** to arrange a refund.

ONLINE BOOKINGS WILL RECOMMENCE ON AUGUST 1ST

Or email: combepanto@btinternet.com

your diary

September

Fri	2	2pm-4pm 6.30 for 7.00pm	Short Mat Bowls - Village Hall Film Night - Village Hall
Sat	3	2pm-4pm	Wadeford Charity Book Club - Village Hall NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR BOOK SALE
Sun	4		See Church Services
Mon	5	10am & 2pm	World Circle Dance - Village Hall Free Taster Session for newcomers
Wed	7	7pm-9.30pm	Short Mat Bowls - Village Hall
Thu	8	7.30pm	Combe Folk Dance Club - Village Hall
Fri	9	2pm-4pm	Short Mat Bowls - Village Hall
Sun	11		See Church Services
Wed	14	7pm-9.30pm	Short Mat Bowls - Village Hall
Fri	16	10.00am 2pm-4pm	Art Group - Village Hall Short Mat Bowls - Village Hall
Sat	17	10am-4pm	Parish History Exhibition - Combe Church
Sun	18		See Church Services
		11am-4pm	Parish History Exhibition - Combe Church
Mon	19	7.30pm	Combe Community Group - Village Hall
Wed	21	2.30pm 7pm-9.30pm	Women's Fellowship - Methodist Rooms <i>Rev Anna Flindell</i> Short Mat Bowls - Village Hall
Thu	22	7.30pm	Combe Folk Dance Club - Village Hall
Fri	23	10.00am 2pm-4pm	Art Group - Village Hall Short Mat Bowls - Village Hall
Sun	25		See Church Services
		12-2pm	Combe Café Sunday Lunches - Village Hall
Mon	26	10am & 2pm 7.30pm	World Circle Dance - Village Hall Parish Council - Village Hall
Wed	28	7pm-9.30pm	Short Mat Bowls - Village Hall
Fri	30	10.00am 2pm-4pm 6.30 for 7.00pm	Art Group - Village Hall Short Mat Bowls - Village Hall Film Night - Village Hall

Underway Meade

The summer is racing by, and the Jubilee celebrations already seem a long time ago now. I was actually away at the time, but when I left I felt confident that all our regular volunteers had everything in hand for the planned picnic and I was proved right!

The picnic attracted about 60 people of all ages who enjoyed meeting up and taking part in the "Make your own crown" competition, eating cake - especially the beautiful traditional cake provided by a Ukrainian family now living in the village, - listening to the live folk music and generally socialising. Even the weather behaved, and the rain held off until 2pm, the advertised end point of the picnic. (Although those clearing up sadly got wet!)



There are lots of thank yous and I apologise if I omit anyone, as not being there means I had to rely on a belated update on my return, but here goes! Thanks to: Bill, Chris, Ian and the Combe Critter team who ensured that Underway Meade was looking its best after copious mowing, strimming, tidying, etc; Colin for setting up and dismantling the gazebos; all who provided bunting, cakes and prizes; Gill and Sally who served refreshments; Pat who provided hot water; Moira and her friend who played live music; Artur from Ukraine who judged the

crown competition; Tamsin who ran an activity session in the Wild Play area for our younger villagers; and special thanks to Gill and Sue who masterminded the day and lost much sleep deciding whether to go ahead or cancel when the weather forecast promised rain. And lastly, thanks to all of you who attended the event and to those who took part in the crown competition and congratulations to the winners.



Traditional Ukrainian Cake

By the time you read this issue we will have held a moth trapping evening in July

and hopefully some of you will have joined us, whether in the evening when we set up our traps or the next morning when we release the moths and identify what we have caught.

Unfortunately, due to the extreme heat, the Combe Community Group local history walk led by Anne Hunt had to be cancelled, but will be re-arranged - and Anne has kindly requested that any donations received from the walk be given to Underway Meade, for which we are very grateful.

Future plans for the Meade include return visits in the autumn by both the Wessex Water and Neroche volunteers and a list of tasks is currently being planned for them to undertake, including putting up some bat boxes and cleaning out the bird boxes.

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

Could give four hours a month to help at Chard Museum?

If the answer is yes, you could be part of our amazing Stewards team. You could be spending time sharing the history with others, being the friendly face that greets visitors, and discovering more for yourself at the same time.



Want to chat about it, then please ring Georgina on 07950 989916

Weather watch – local rainfall report



Period	2022 Actual	2021 Actual	10 Yr Ave 2002-2011	10 Yr Ave 2012-2021
May	71	285	86	86
June	60	156	60	91
Jan-June	232	338	339	408
TOTAL	363	779	485	585

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

Proving much drier than the same month in 2021, May did have some rain on the majority of days with only 11 totally dry. June was similar compared to 2021, but the first half of the month saw only very small amounts of rain with more significant amounts falling during the latter part.

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Clubs and Societies

Combe Community Group

Everyone enjoyed the outing in June to Sharandys Bird of Prey Centre in July, and seeing the range of Owls was very interesting, and the cream tea was scrumptious.

Hopefully people will have enjoyed the walk around the centre of Combe hearing about the historical changes over the years, but it was taking place after the final date for this Cloverleaf report. If anyone was unable to attend but would like to know the various changes please contact me and I can send a copy of the information.

Leading on from the History Exhibition held during the Queen's Jubilee celebrations another exhibition will be held on the weekend of 17th/18th Sept in the Church as part of Heritage Day. If anyone has any historical information/pictures etc that we could borrow please let us know.

There will be no meeting in August, and the details of the meeting due on 19th Sept have not quite been finalised, so please look out for posters, or notices on Facebook or email if you have signed up to our notifications

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Combe St Nicholas Football Club



The dust has started to settle after a fantastic 12 months for our village football club and we now look towards the start of the 2022.23 season. We can only hope at this early stage that we can offer the same delights to our supporters as we did last year!

I am really passionate about the wonderful atmosphere we have created at the club over the past few years and I hope that lots of you were able to experience this at our participation in hosting the first village jubilee event with the Young Farmers game. I would like to particularly thank Ian Croucher, John and Celia Gilbert, and Gareth and Claire Weller for their support in organising and leading the event whilst I was on holiday (oops!), and also to Fleur Nally for some wonderful singing. It was lovely to see pictures of people enjoying our great facilities who perhaps wouldn't have been before!

The hard work now moves to the start of the season. If you know of anyone who wants to get involved in football, we welcome players of all ability and experience! Our women train on Tuesdays at 6:45pm and our men train on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30pm. Come along and get involved! Take a look at our Facebook page to find out more about our club if you or friends/family may be interested in taking part.

As I write this, I am preparing for our first committee meeting of the year tonight! We are now all systems go and I look forward to seeing what the year holds for us. Hopefully we will see you soon!

James Gilbert
Combe St Nicholas FC Chairman



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Yarcombe & District Young Farmers

As the summer months have begun, the young farmers calendar is getting busier. Our latest club meeting we just held at Seaton beach, with members enjoying a BBQ and games on a nice summers evening. We have also been busy getting our club entries ready for Devon county show.

At the start of June Yarcombe YFC boys played football against Combe St Nicholas football team on the 3rd June, as part of the Combe St Nicholas jubilee celebrations. A good game was had and great to see members spectate. Well done to the boys for winning a close game 3-3, with the YFC boys winning the penalties.

On the 25th June several members enjoyed a club social cycle ride, which started at the Flintlock pub, cycling to the Candlelight, then onto the York and finishing at the Sidmouth Arms. A fun afternoon was had by all.

The evening of the 25th June several members attended the 90th anniversary Devon YFC ball, in Exeter. A great evening dancing & drinking the night away.

At the end of the month, we entered club entries into the Devon county show. Well done to those for helping get the entries ready over the past month. Our club scrapbook came 5th and our club cubicle came 11th. Also well done to Thomas Gilmartin for winning the best pen of sheep in the YFC livestock class.

Members are busy getting ready for various events, with Honiton show soon upon us, setting up and entering for a nice local show. Other events to include a foam disco and sports competitions to have fun and participate in.

If anyone has any further questions and would like to become involved with Young Farmers, please contact our Chairman Jack Tomlinson on 07712 479384, or our Secretary Emily Dunster on 07368 654447. We have our club meetings every other week on Mondays in either Yarcombe or Upton Village Hall 8pm start.

Natalie Sampson, Press Secretary



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A Moment in Time with John Phillips

"Infamy! Infamy! I am entirely of the mind that they have it in for me."

Whilst these may not have been his exact words, they undoubtedly reflected the feelings of Rev. Dr Gamalial Chase in 1646.

The Rector of Wambrook and Yarcombe was in a rare old pickle. He was one of a very small number who suffered at the hands of both Parliament and Royalists. He was a scholarly graduate of Queen's College, Oxford, which had a mild leaning towards the more 'Catholic' practice and theology of the Church of England. In 1641 he had purchased £150 worth of land from a royalist, probably the Lord of the Manor of Whitestaunton, Sir Robert Brett. For this he was fined £118 by the parliamentary authorities when the tides of war gave them control of the area.

When the Royalist Cornish Army reversed this for a time, he was imprisoned by Sir Robert Brett of Whitestaunton for paying this £118 to the parliamentarians. He somehow managed to escape, but in 1645 he is ejected with his wife and seven children from Wambrook and Yarcombe. His books, manuscripts, corn and livestock seized by Parliamentary troops from the Lyme Garrison. A year later he was fined £112 for 'delinquency' and spent time in prison at Lyme and Portsmouth.

He was replaced by the Rev. Henry Blackaller whose son was appointed Rector in 1648. As the wheel of fate turned his son was turned out of the rectorship after the restoration of Charles II in 1660 and the Rev. Dr Chase was reinstated and later his grandson became the Rector of Wambrook.

At least he had survived the turbulence of the times unlike the unfortunate Rev. Thomas Greenfield who was removed from the vicarage at Combe in 1650 and according to the Rev. Aldridge in his history of Combe (1927) died in a prison hulk on the Thames.

The manor was taken from the Dean and Chapter of Wells and sold by the Parliamentary commissioners to Nathaniel Smyth of Wiltshire and Arthur Mallock of London (gentleman). Henry Blackallar having left the Rectorship at Wambrook was then appointed Vicar of Combe in his stead. He in turn resigned in 1662, "although he had sixteen children and nothing to keep them on" as he could not agree to the Act of Uniformity.

Men and women of principle on both sides of this great division in England suffered and even those somewhat in the middle like the Rev. Chase!



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Vicar's Letter

Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.' (Matthew 19: 14). This is part of the reading that I frequently use at baptisms, and I read it yesterday as part of a service of Thanksgiving for a New Baby.

It can be a puzzling reading, and I am sure that the disciples and others listening to Jesus were perplexed as to what he might mean. After all, many of those following Jesus were expecting him to be the Messiah who would save the Jewish nation from the yoke of Roman rule. How, could little children possibly be part of this? When I read this at baptisms I do always go on and explain what I think Jesus might have meant, and in doing so I try and make it helpful to people who may never have set foot in a church before and are not familiar with the story of Jesus.

Small children are in some ways anarchists – they will do whatever they want and do not understand anyone else's needs. Putting this in a more positive way, small children are completely themselves. They do not have any 'edge' to them, no hidden agendas nor do they wear any masks. Children cannot help but be themselves. I think that Jesus saw this in children.

As we grow up, we begin to take on other 'personas', we worry more about what others think about us and tend to show different sides of ourselves to different types or groups of people. In other words we become adults, and we are complex. Jesus saw all of these complexities in others and was compassionate towards them, looking beyond all the layers we build up and seeing into people's hearts.

However, perhaps in saying that the kingdom of heaven belongs to small children, he was longing for the complex adults surrounding him to look into their own hearts and find their true selves, the selves that God created and has his deepest connection with.

Small children do not generally struggle with the concept of God or of Jesus. They are open to the spiritual, the mysterious and the wonderful. As adults, we can become very wary and cynical, but God calls us to be as small children and not close our minds and hearts. God speaks to us at the very deepest level of our being and Jesus is the example of how he does this and his church, at its very best, reflects this in the way that it welcomes everyone as they are, as themselves.

If we are truly to become part of the Kingdom of Heaven, then let us embrace this idea and allow small children to teach us about being our true selves, seeing beyond the material, and responding to all that life has to offer with wonder, curiosity and open hearts.

In the first week of August, we will be holding our Chard Churches Together Holiday Club, and sixty children will be joining us to have fun, play games, do crafts, sing and, most importantly, hear about Jesus and his love for them. I think Jesus will be very present, loving and accepting the children for who they are and speaking to their sense of wonder and fun. Let us hope that we will be up to the challenge of doing the same.

Ann

Cloverleaf Parish Pages

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Weddings:

Shaun Cooke & Fiona Hopkins

Combe

We give thanks for the life of:

Peter Beviss

Wambrook

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Combe St Nicholas



Coffee Morning

Saturday

10th September 2022

10 am – 12.00

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Whitestaunton Church

Sunday 18 September

10.30am

All Age Pet Service

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them to the service.

If you don't have a pet, that's ok,
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Community Coffee Morning

Sat 10 September 11am to 12.30pm

Whitestaunton Church

In aid of The Church Fabric Fund

Thank you from Joan at Whitestaunton

With kind donations and takings from the two open weekends a total of £1011.00 was raised towards the renovation of the gates at Whitestaunton Church. I would like to thank my wonderful friends for their help and my visitors for their generosity.

Joan

The PCC would also like to thank Joan and her team for all their wonderful hard work and generosity.

Church Services across the Benefice

AUGUST	Combe	Wambrook	Whitestaunton	Chard	Ham
August. 7th Trinity 8	10.30 am Family Service	9.15am SERVICE CANCELLED		8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Morning Worship	6.00pm BCP Evensong
August. 14th Trinity 9 BVM	10.30 am Holy Communion	9.15am Holy Communion CW	6.00pm BCP Evensong	10.00am Holy Communion	
August. 21st Trinity 10	10:30am Service of the Word with the Methodists at the Parish Church	6.00pm No Service	10.30am CW Holy Communion	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Service of the Word	6.00pm BCP Evensong
August. 28th Trinity 11	10.00am Benefice Holy Communion at Wambrook				

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

We are going to run a five-week course commencing in September where we will be preparing for Confirmation in November.

Confirmation is the step we take on our faith journey after Baptism, it is where we decide to take responsibility for our own faith and belief, at whatever age we have reached and gain more of an understanding of the family of the Church.

If you are interested in signing up or would like to know more about Confirmation, please contact us for an informal chat.

Rev Georgina 07950 989916 or Rev Ann 01460 351521

Church Services across the Benefice

SEPTEMBER	Combe	Wambrook	Whitestaunton	Chard	Ham
Sept. 4th Trinity 12	10.30 am Family Service	9:15am BCP Morning Prayer		8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Morning Worship	6.00pm BCP Evensong
Sept. 11th Trinity 13	10.30am Holy Communion	9.15am Holy Communion CW	6.00pm BCP Evensong	10.00am Holy Communion	
Sept. 18th Trinity 14	10.30am HARVEST FESTIVAL at the Methodist Church	6.00pm BCP Evensong	10.30am PET SERVICE	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Morning Worship	6.00pm BCP Evensong
Sept. 25th Trinity 15	10.00am Benefice Holy Communion at Chard				

BCP Communion: 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10.00am at Combe

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

Wambrook Flowers and Cleaning

Altar Flowers

July 31 & Aug 7

Penny Luther

Aug 14 & 21

Sue Wallace

Aug 28 & Sep 4

Susie Eames

Sep 11 & 18

Tricia Barbor

Sep28 & Oct 2

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- St Mary's, Wambrook:** Graeme Pidgeon (07807 284738)
Visit the Wambrook website www.wambrookparishchurch.com
- St Andrew's, Whitestaunton:** Jane Harris (PCC Secretary - 239113),

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- Services:** 10.30am fortnightly (as per plan on Noticeboard on railings)
- Minister:** Rev Anna Flindell (01460 261766)
- Steward:** Arnold Coleman (64892)

Copy date for October/November 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 September**. Please note: long articles may have to be edited and inclusion cannot always be guaranteed.*

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