

UNITED BENEFICE MAGAZINE - December 2006

ST JOHN'S CUTCOMBE

Dec 3rd	10.30am	Readers	Readers to be arranged
		Sidesmen	Daniel and Nick Matravers
Dec 10 th	6.00pm	CAROL SERVICE	
		Readers	to be arranged
		Sidesmen	Mr P Webber & Mr R Neal
Dec 17th	8.00am	Readers	Mr E Beckett & Mrs S Thompson
		Sidesman	Mr J Howe
Dec 24 th	6.00pm	CHRISTMAS EVE CHRISTINGLE	
		Readers	To be arranged
		Sidesman	D & M Matravers & Matthew Fowler
	11.30pm	Readers	Mrs W Schofield & Mr J Trouton
		Sidesmen	Mrs R Peto & Mrs G Langdon
Dec 31 st	10.30am	UNITED BENEFICE AT WINSFORD	
Jan 7 th	6.00pm	Readers	Mr R Webber & Mrs G Langdon
		Sidesman	Mr P Webber

FLOWERS & BRASS

Dec 23 rd & Dec 30 th	Shelagh Maxwell
Jan 6 th & 13 th	Elaine Gardner

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AT A GLANCE

- December 2nd - Table Top Sale and Coffee Morning in the Moorland Hall
- December 2nd - Church Bingo at 7.30pm in the Moorland Hall
- December 9th - School Christmas Bingo in the Moorland Hall
- December 10th - Carol Service at St John's Church at 6.00pm
- December 11th - Stain Glass Window Project. Moorland Hall
- December 13th - Cutcombe Fatstock Show and Gift Sale
- December 14th - Nativity Play in the Moorland Hall at 6.30pm
- December 18th - Stain Glass Window Project. Moorland hall
- December 23rd - Decorating St John's Church for Christmas
- December 24th - Christingle Service

January 8th - Moorland Hall Meeting
January 25th - Cutcombe PCC Meeting at Combe

CUTCOMBE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Tuesday 12th December: Teas – Mrs Jean Webber
No meeting on the 26th as it is Boxing Day.

MOORLAND HALL 100 PLUS CLUB

£20	No. 35	Mr & Mrs Lincoln
£10	No. 56	Mr & Mrs H Stevens
£5	No. 95	Mrs D Busby

CUTCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Local Policing Matters

We are lucky to live in a low crime area, however we must not get complacent, we have had an increase among our rural areas in shed and out building break ins over recent months.

There are various things that we can do to help minimise this, with the darker nights rapidly approaching we need to ensure that we have good security lighting in place. Lock away tools and equipment, using good quality locks to secure doors. Of course it is worth remembering that, a quality lock is only of use if the door and walls of the shed are also in good condition.

It is worth noting, these tools could be used to break into your home. Ladders should not be left out side unless they have to, in which case they should be secured to ensure that a thief could not make use of them. Mark all your power tools and equipment with your postcode, and house number, or the first two letters of your house name. An engraving kit is kept at Minehead Police Station which you can request the use of through your Beat Manager or PCSO.

Vigilance can and does pay off, any unknown vehicles hanging around your area take a note of the make and colour **and most important** the

registration number. Any reports of suspicious vehicles or any other information can be reported on **0845 456 7000** or to your local beat manager or PCSO. If you witness an incident that is ongoing dial **999**.

Should you wish to contact your Beat officer or Community Police Support Officer you will be able to do so on the following contact numbers.

Cutcombe and Wheddon Cross

PC Sheldon HORN Mobile no. 07766 804485

E-mail sheldon.horn@avonandsomerset.police.uk

PCSO Sue HURLEY Mobile no. 07920 477017

E-mail sue.hurley@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Exton, Bridgtown and Wins ford

PC Alan EDWARDS Mobile no. 07854 944351

E-mail alan.Edwards@avonandsomerset.police.uk

PCSO Jo DAWSON Mobile No. non at present

E-mail jo.dawson@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Luxborough

PC Dave MASTERS Mobile no. 07766 804495

E-mail david.masters@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Please note that officers will only answer these numbers when on duty, but if you leave a message then your call will be returned on their return to work.

MOORLAND HALL.

On October 21st Roger Webber and myself attended the Community Council Village Hall Conference at the brand new hall in Stoke St Gregory, a timber frame building from Canada, it was lovely and a credit to the community.

We were greeted with coffee on arrival and settled down to various talks on topics of interest to hall committees, after a superb lunch provided by the ladies of the village and two more speakers it was time for the presentation of awards.

Hallmark awards were presented to a variety of villages as were other trophies, but the highlight of the afternoon was the GWILLIAM TROPHY presented to the hall that had achieved the most over the last 12 months, this was a close run contest between the Moorland Hall, and a hall from nr Yeovil, the committee felt that the deciding factor was the community involvement in the project at Wheddon Cross so the trophy was awarded to the MOORLAND HALL and it gave me great pleasure to receive on your behalf, well done everyone! Eric



Christmas Table Top Sale and Coffee Morning

This will take place on Saturday
2nd December 10.30 - 12 noon

Moorland Hall, WX

To book a table please
contact Eric on 01643 841535.



CASINO NIGHT

Thanks to everyone who helped make the casino night the success it was. Over 70 people indulged in a sit down dinner whilst a jazz band played gently in the background and then the gambling began! With Black jack, Roulette & Poker to choose from the mood became increasingly competitive! In total the event raised approximately £1200 with FOCS,

The Moorland Hall & St Johns Church Cutcombe all benefiting equally. It was nice to hear the casino staff enjoyed the evening as well and described the gamblers as a 'lively lot!'. Well done to the Willes family who took both the lady and gent prizes and thanks to all those who donated prizes for the auction. This alone raised over £600, thanks to Sean Walsh for leading everyone wallets astray!

STAINED GLASS WINDOW PROJECT FOR WHEDDON CROSS

We hope that you are all enjoying your time with Avril. I have seen some of the results of your work in hand and the light catchers all look wonderful.

Avril ran a session last week at Cutcombe First School and now has a few more people wanting to be involved. Everyone should be at the finishing stages by early December, so we are organising the following sessions:

Monday, 11th December
6pm to 7.30 pm for the young people
7pm to 9pm for everyone else

Finishing off your light catchers and a chance to view all the pieces.
Discussion on design for the window

Avril will then spend the next few days working on the design for the window.

Monday, 18th December
7pm to 9pm
Presentation of Avril's final design for your approval.
Mini exhibition of all the light catchers.
Coffee and mince pies.
Everyone invited - bring along your family too.

MAGAZINE ONLINE

This year's magazine is now available on www.wheddoncross.org.uk
Click on the link on the front page and you can read all this year's bits from Cutcombe.

MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS

Just to remind you that contributions towards the printing of the magazine would be gratefully received. Please can you give your money to your distributor or leave it clearly marked in an envelope at Dunkery View.

WELCOME TO WHEDDON CROSS

We would like to welcome Eric and Julie Norman as the new landlord and landlady of the Rest and Be Thankful. At least they won't have to do too much homework sorting the 'locals' from the 'grockles'!! as they are of 'local' stock if you will excuse the expression. We wish them every success in their new venture.

OOPS! MISTAKES LAST MONTH!

Some of the dates were incorrect last month. Hopefully this time I have got it right!

WHEDDON CROSS METHODIST CHURCH

The final service took place on Sunday October 8th 2006 and it was one of Thanksgiving for the life of the church and its witness to the community. There has been a chapel in Wheddon Cross for nearly 200 years. In 1816 the first one was fitted up from an outhouse adjoining 'a' John Kent's house on the Taunton road, this is now known as Chapel Cottage. Prior to that, services were held in his home. Then in 1830 a new chapel known as the Centenary Chapel was built on the present site, which was replaced by another on the same site in 1839. (This information from 'Methodists in West Somerset' by A.G. Pointon). After the death of their uncle – Mr Wilfrid Norman 30 years ago, Leslie and Barbara Norman honouring a promise made to him to keep the chapel going as long as they could, took on the posts of Steward and Treasurer. When Mrs Nora Ovendon died Barbara also became organist. The congregation has waxed and waned over the years and earlier this year after an appeal for support/help which didn't materialise, Leslie and Barbara felt they could no longer continue holding their positions. Reluctantly the decision was made to for the chapel to close. Rev. Linda Barriball and Rev Gareth Edwards led the

service which was supported by so many from the West Somerset Circuit and further a field and St John's Church.

It was a sad but joyful occasion too as we gave thanks for all those who had faithfully attended and served in the chapels over the past 190 years. The collection amounted to £119.20 and was given to the Methodist Relief and Development Fund

CUTCOMBE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

We had a most enjoyable evening discussing the history and current life on the Falklands together with lots of photographs of life shortly after the conflict.

This was our last meeting for 2006. We start 2007 with a combined S.G.M. and indoor meeting on 21st March. Let us have any ideas for our usual walks and supper summer programme starting in April.

SNOWDROP VALLEY 2007

Exmoor National Park is planning to run the Park and Ride scheme from Saturday 3rd February to Sunday 25th February. Any organisation wishing to work alongside the Rest and Be Thankful offering refreshments etc in the Moorland Hall please contact Eric on 01643 841535. If you need any further information please contact Carol on 01643 841143. Details will be on the village website nearer the time.

MOTHERS UNION

Our November meeting took place at the Rectory by invitation of Barbara Staples. The MU Office was read and the Rector Terry Staples gave a talk on the recent conference he attended at St George's House, Windsor Castle. The core of the talk incorporated his letter that was published in the magazine last month but the MU members were able to discuss issues that came up in greater detail. Terry also showed some lovely photos he had taken of Windsor.

We had a very enjoyable afternoon and a lovely tea; Brenda was thanked for her hospitality. Our next meeting will be held at Doranford, the home

of Mrs Doris Neal, if you would like to come along you would be most welcome. Just contact one of the members for details.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations Doris and Ron (Neal) on your Golden Wedding Anniversary last month.

ST JOHN'S CHURCH

A PCC meeting was held on November 16th in the Moorland Hall. The minutes were read and the following items discussed:

Church Fabric – The erection of railings around the boiler house was proposed and the go-ahead was given by the PCC.

The pew book extension was discussed and an estimate has been obtained. It was decided that this could not go ahead at the present time as the church could not afford the £10 per pew shelf. If parishioners would like to make a donation to the shelf project we could go ahead with the project sooner.

Ron Neal gave a report on the recent Deanery Synod meeting and dates for the forthcoming events will be in future copies of the magazine.

CUTCOMBE FATSTOCK SHOW

The popular Christmas Fatstock Show will take place on Wednesday 13th December in the Auction Field. Do come along and see the wonderful display of poultry and meat put forward by local farmers for judging and auction. The selection and standard is excellent and well worth a visit and a bid.

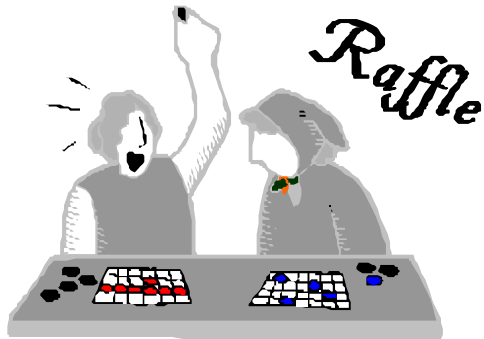
Cutcombe Church, Minehead Harriers and West Somerset Hunt all have a large selection of goods for auction. Cutcombe PCC would welcome any produce/gifts for their auction. Please give your goodies to Gill Langdon, Jon Trouton or any member of the PCC. Thank you



To be Held on 9th December 2006

At the Moorland Hall, Wheddon Cross

Eyes Down at 8pm



Proceeds to Dunkery Preschool and Cutcombe First School

WEATHER EYE



**If the deer's coat is grey in October
There will be a severe winter** (is this true?)

October started wet, with heavy overnight rain on the first, with thunder and lightning before breakfast and continuing with sunshine and showers throughout the day. This unsettled pattern continued with a strong (mainly westerly) wind at times for the rest of the first week, and on into the second week, which became progressively milder.

Overnight on the 10th/11th brought over 1" of very heavy rain, accompanied once again by thunder and lightning. Friday the 13th was again mild and damp, with some sun after a misty start, and light rain before tea.

The third week continued mild and grey, with mist/low cloud most days, and some rain. St Cleopatra's Day, on the 19th, brought torrential rain overnight from the 18th once again accompanied by thunder and lightning, and was the wettest day (just) of the month with 41mm.

The rest of the third week continued mild, grey and damp, with a strong southwesterly wind blowing by the 21st on into the fourth week with very little change but cooler at times with some low cloud.

The 29th brought the end of British Summertime, and was probably the best day of the month, with sunshine all day and a spectacular sunset in the evening. Halloween, the 31st, was much cooler, with a brisk northwesterly wind.

'October always has 21 fine days' is obviously wrong, as 240.5mm over 9.5 inches fell on 26 days, making this the third wettest October this century only 2000 and 2004 having more rain. No frosts were recorded and no late swallows were seen either although there were still several butterflies about.

COPY FOR THE MAGAZINE

Do please keep sending in bits and pieces of interest. If possible please send them to me at cynthste@talktalk.net or ring me on telephone 01643 831513 and arrange somewhere for me to collect your article. *Thanks Cynthia*