

UNITED BENEFICE MAGAZINE - May 2007

ST JOHN'S CUTCOMBE

May 6 th	6.30am	SONGS OF PRAISE Readers Mr R Webber & Lady Burns Sidesmen Mr P Webber
May 13 th	8.00am	BCP HC Readers Mr E. Beckett & Mr J. Webber Sidesman Mr J. Howe
May 17 th	7.00pm	ASCENSION DAY. BCP HC. Readers Mrs G. Langdon & Mrs W. Schofield Sidesman Mrs R. Peto
May 20 th	10.30am	ROGATION SUNDAY UNITED BENEFICE at Luxbrough CW HC
May 27 th	11.15am	FAMILY not HC Readers To be arranged Sidesmen Daniel, Nick and Mark Matravers
June 3 rd	6.00pm	CW HC Readers Mr R. Webber & Mrs G. Brookes Sidesman Mr P. Webber

IN MEMORIAM

Our thoughts are with Caroline and family following the death of Ian (Darley) from Honeywell after a long illness. His enthusiasm, bravery and will power towards the end even allowed him to get on a horse last year after 25 years to follow the hunt from Timberscombe. With his utter charm he could stoke an engine in South America and splash the Prince of Wales at Gordonstoun.

Ian will be greatly missed on Exmoor especially at our village fete, gymkhana and other local events. There can't be many of us who haven't sampled at least one of his excellent Pimms and been entertained at one of his BBQs. **R.I.P.**

FLOWERS & BRASS

May 5th & May 12th

Phyllis Stevens

May 19th & May 26th

Micaela Beckett

June 2nd & June 9th

Audrey Delve

EASTER AT CUTCOMBE

Holy Week began with the Palm Sunday United Service. We were delighted to welcome so many children with their parents. The children helped to distribute the palms brought into the church by the pony. The choir were in good voice leading the singing with the Shout and Anthem.

Good Friday saw a small congregation for a thoughtful meditation led by Rev David Coates. On Easter Day the church was transformed with the beautiful floral decorations. Many thanks to all the ladies and gents for their time and care making the church look and smell so lovely. Again we welcomed David Coates to take our Service.

EASTER VESTRY & AGM

This was held on the 19th April in the Moorland Hall. Jon Trouton and Gill Langdon were re-elected Churchwardens and the P.C.C. was re-elected on bloc.

CUTCOMBE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Tuesday 8th May

Teas – Eve Cummins

Tuesday 22nd May

Teas – Barbara Norman

MOORLAND HALL 100 CLUB April Draw

£20 No.104 Mr & Mrs R Willett £10 No.127 Mr & Mrs D Davies

£5 No.28 Francesca & Caroline Norman

THANK YOU

Thank you to all the kind friends and family who sent cards, flowers and lots of goodies to me during my recent stay in hospital. Also to everyone who fed the family and kept things going at home. I am pleased to say that I am feeling much better. *Eileen (Webber)*

REQUIEM

Our friend Ian Darley told many tales on dark evenings (waiting for the Rest & B to open). He met Caroline, Driving Train Engines in South America. He lasted a week working for a Bank in the City. He was a Roustabout on Oil Rigs. He dug ditches in South Africa and maybe found the largest diamond of them all (Caroline). He grew up in Virginia Water, Surrey, even then charging around on his pony. Why he never collided with Mully Woolmer (brought up about 2 miles away in Lyne) charging around on her pony, demonstrates to all Exmoor Folk that there is beautiful open countryside elsewhere.

He was educated at Gordonstoun and managed to seriously ruin his chances of a Peerage by accidentally spraying HRH The Prince of Wales (who just happened to be in the way) with cold water. He made falling over Pimms, and eye watering onions for hours on end for the Fete Bar-B-Que, mowed grass, shot game and ate it with gusto washed down with red wine and whisky. Caroline and Ian's party at Dunster Castle was a magical Evening. He might have started as a poncy outsider but was an Exmoor Lad through and through. God Bless - Charles & Mully

CUTCOMBE SCHOOL

The governors are pleased to announce that Cutcombe School has officially federated with Timberscombe School and although each school will retain their own identity there will be a single governing body and the children and staff will continue to build on their already strong partnership.

Children and staff have enjoyed their Easter break and now look forward to the busy term ahead. Key Stage 2 children have a weekly recorder club taught by Mr White who has also taken them to experience a professional

concert at Dunster School. The catchball teams are playing well against neighbouring schools every Friday and Mrs Woollam's running club is popular too.

The Easter Fayre with its delicious cake stall was a great success with £280 raised for school funds and the Easter Egg hunt at Wimbleball Lake, kindly hosted by the Cowling family was a great deal of fun for those who took part. Parents and children have been busy sorting through their old clothes, soft toys and bedding as part of the Bag 2 School Collection. As well as raising some money for school the clothing will go to some of the poorer Eastern Countries.

Sadly for us all, Melanie Woollam is to retire at the end of the summer term after 22 happy years of teaching at our school. Her husband Alan who is Head Teacher at Knights Templar School in Watchet is also to retire. We shall be making a collection and if anyone wishes to donate please drop it into school. We are delighted that Mrs Alison Oakley who has already been teaching here for 9 years will teach Key Stage 1 in September.

Tesco vouchers We are collecting Tesco's vouchers at school. The more vouchers we collect the more items we can buy!

DULVERTON SURGERY

In case you haven't seen the Dulverton Surgery Newsletter Dr Burton has retired from the Practice after 18 valued years. Although his retirement date is the end September he is having six months to prepare for his new business.

When the surgery moves to Fishers Mead in 2008 Dr Burton will provide Homeopathic and Acupuncture sessions free to a limited number of NHS patients for a period of 2 years.

Moorland Hall Surgery

Same place – same time – different day

The doctor will visit on Mondays



POLLING DAY/COFFEE MORNING

Come along on Polling Day cast your vote and
join us for our coffee morning

Thursday May 3rd

10am—12 noon

In the Edwin Beckett Room and Foyer
of the Moorland Hall

Coffee - Stalls - Cakes

Draw and more

In aid of Mothers Union & Cutcombe Church

STAINED GLASS WINDOW PROJECT

On Sunday 1st April we headed off to Ashbrittle to visit Avril in her workshop and see how work was progressing on the Moorland Hall stained glass window. Jan Ross met us there and we all took photos of the work so far (with Avril trying not to be in any of the pictures!). Avril then invited us to have a go at cutting glass for the final panel of the border - no pressure then...

Whilst Tim tackled the sky, Sally firstly cut holly berries and then moved on to icicles. After a few minutes the skills Avril had taught us in the workshop sessions last year began to emerge and we were able to cut shapes that vaguely matched the design. When we left Ashbrittle Avril's last tasks were the four birds for the corners and the completion of the final panel.

The pictures are available to view on the village website

for those of you who would like a sneak preview. We really enjoyed our morning with Avril and would like to thank her for putting up with us and our ham-fisted attempts.

We can't wait to see the final piece in situ and know it will be a hugely popular addition to the Moorland Hall. *Tim and Sally Parish*

FAMILY HISTORY CLASSES

On Thursday 19th April five people met Patrick Williams, Chairman of the Somerset and Dorset Family History Society. Patrick gave us a taster of what is involved in tracing relatives and the resources available. Alison Tanton (Somerset Partnerships for Older People Project Officer for West Somerset) is able to find funding to help set up a series of 10 classes to be held in the Moorland Hall. Usually it would cost around £5 per class per person, but Alison is hopeful she can offer classes for £2 which is a bargain.

If you would be interested in taking part in the classes which are due to start around October please contact Eric (841 535) - everyone is welcome regardless of age. Please let Eric know what day of the week and time of day (morning, afternoon, early evening) would suit you so that we can encourage as many people as possible to participate. We need at least eight people to run the course. *Sally*

WHEDDON CROSS CARNIVAL CLUB

This month I've managed to meet the magazine deadline!

Since I last wrote we've had a couple of meetings & a Darts Marathon resulting in the following:- Chris Adams got together a team of seven to play for 24 hours & getting sponsors to guess the total of darts scored over the 24 hour period - they managed to play for the full time from 8.00pm on 24th until 8.00pm on the 25th February. It was getting tough near the end but as we all know when the going gets tough the tough get going and they did managing to raise a total of £880.00 in sponsorship with a further £136.41 in a collection tin passed around the pub. Our thanks go to Eric and Julie Norman & staff at the Rest & Be Thankful for hosting the event and sustaining the team to last the duration.

We would also like to thank all those who sponsored the team or gave donations especially members of the Minehead Motor Club who called at the pub for breakfast whilst taking part in one of their own events. The biggest thank you must go to team themselves Chris Adams, Jim Matravers, Mick Rice, Dave Percy, Martin Kidner, John Brand & especially to the youngest member Russell Adams. Thanks Lads

Our theme for the 2007 season has been decided now this being the Wild West so we are now planning the design and lay out and how it will all fit together on the float. We are at present looking for 2 or 3 model horses about 3-4 feet high if anyone can help please ring me on the number below.

Our next fundraising event is a Skittles weekend on the Whitsun Bank Holiday weekend so come along and have a go Adult and Children's prizes to be won. Chris Matravers - secretary Telephone 01643 841008

CLASSIC CAR RUN

Thank you to everyone who has already offered to make scones for 3rd June when we will be visited by over 200 people and their classic cars. I have also had offers from people who can wash up and help serve tea - your help is very much appreciated.

So far we have nearly half the scones required so if you are able to make a dozen or so I would be very keen to hear from you (841891). We hope to make over £500 for the Moorland Hall through this event so every scone counts! Many thanks. *Sally Parish*

CUTCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Cutcombe Parish Council met on 20th 17th April: draft minutes of all meetings are available on the website www.wheddoncross.org.uk and are posted on the Parish noticeboards at Wheddon Cross and Luckwell Bridge.

New Parish Council

Seven Parish Councillors have been elected to form the new Council. They are: Linda Atkins, Eric Clarbull, Maria Davies, John Davis, Tim Gardner, Susie Sanders and Roger Webber. At the time of writing the election of

officers has not yet taken place. A warm welcome is extended to Susie Sanders as a new Parish Councillor for Cutcombe and thanks go to Bas Shelley for his work as a co-opted Member over the past few years.

Please remember to vote in District Council elections on 3rd May

Annual Audit of Cutcombe Parish Council Accounts for the Year Ended 31/03/07

Look out for details of the inspection period for the Annual Audit of Cutcombe Parish Council which will appear on the Parish Council noticeboards during this month

Keep Somerset Local Petition

West Somerset Council has organized a Keep Somerset Local Campaign in response to Somerset County Council's bid for unitary authority status. Anyone wishing to know more about this subject should contact Marlene, the Clerk, on (01643) 841193. For reference, a copy of the petition is on the Parish Council noticeboards. Anyone wishing to sign in support can find a copy at the Londis shop and at other strategic points around the Parish.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 15th May 2007 at 7.30 pm in the Moorland Hall, at which officers will be elected and Members will sign up to the Code of Conduct. The agenda will be available on the website and on the Parish Council noticeboards in Wheddon Cross and Luckwell Bridge several days beforehand. Please remember that all parishioners are warmly welcomed at Parish Council meetings and time is set aside at the beginning of each meeting for public questions and statements.



**Cutcombe Horse Show & Gymkhana
& Dog Show**

Sunday 17th June 2007

At

Dunkery Hill Gate

By kind permission of Mr & Mrs H Stevens

**Showing, Mountain & Moorland, Showjumping, Clear Round Jumping,
Fancy Dress**

Fun Dog Show Terrier Show Dog Agility

Homemade refreshments

Barbecue Ice cream and Side Shows.

Schedules available from secretary Di Stevens 01643 841483

CUTCOMBE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

About 20 of us spent a very enjoyable evening in the company of Shirley West touring the old town of Lynton and learning about its past and sometimes chequered history.

We finished our evening in a cosy licenced restaurant called the 'Greenhouse' for a delicious meal consisting of either local sea-food or local quality meat. The restaurant also became part of our history lesson being built in 1890 and full of character.

Our next excursion will be to Challacombe on Wednesday 16th May where local retired vicar Christopher Tull will be giving us an excellent talk on the church and surrounding area. We shall follow this with one of our usual suppers. There will be ample parking courtesy of local farmer Philip Huxtable.

Please let me know numbers by Sunday 13th May. Jackie Ablett 841330

SNOWDROP VALLEY

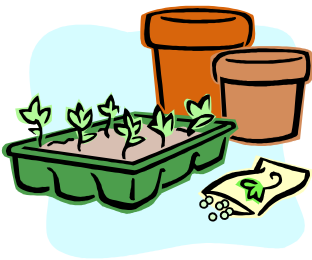
Something happened to the text after it left my computer for printing last month with the details of the lady I was describing missing. For anyone interested this is what should have been in last month's magazine:

One of my funniest moments was when I was on duty with Ron and a driver parked the car and 2 ladies got out. One of the ladies was dressed casually with sensible shoes etc the other lady had long wild hair, several layers of brightly coloured sweaters and a cape, a very long skirt (a bit hippy) and light coloured boots which jangled as she walked - they had bells on them! Ron suggested, as it was a bit muddy in the valley that she tucked her skirt in her knickers to keep her skirt clean. 'Oh' she said 'I can't do that - I don't wear any knickers'. Ron's face was a picture. I bet he didn't tell Doris that one!

FREE!

If anyone would like a replacement computer screen – in excellent condition and picture quality, 17" screen size and not an 'old' model please contact *Cynthia 831513*

WEATHER EYE



Dust in March brings grass and foliage

The first week or so of March was quite changeable and brought most of the month's rain, the 4th being the wettest day with 25mm (1") rain and the 6th having 21mm. Mainly mild with sunshine and showery or even wet at times. The end of the second week and on into the third week became

mainly drier, was relatively mild with sunshine at times and a fresh W/SW breeze.

By the 18th a strong NW wind was blowing and brought a mixture of sleet, hail, rain and snow showers. By the morning of the 19th the top fields were white although little snow remained in the garden. The cold NW wind continued with wintry showers, but the Spring Equinox (21st) had lovely sunshine after the lowest air frost of the month (-3°C). Lady Day on the 25th was grey with a chilly Northerly breeze.

An east wind on Lady Day will keep on till the end of May

(So we might be lucky with the winds anyway this spring).

The rest of the month was a mixture of misty starts, some sunshine and light showers and was wildish until the evening of the 28th when the wind changed to a cool north-westerly again, which lasted until the end of the month, turning more north-easterly on the 31st.

Total rainfall for the month was 111.5mm (nearly 4.5") and was exactly the same as in March 2002 and fell on 15days. 3 air frosts were recorded and there was a total lunar eclipse on the evening of the 3rd which lasted for several hours.