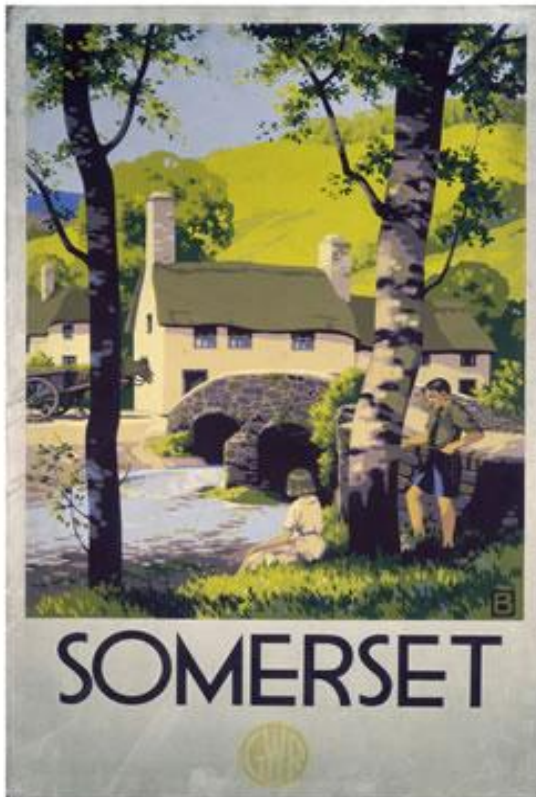


# PITCOMBE NEWS

June



2011

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## June AT A GLANCE

Friday 3	Recycling collection Farmers' Market 9.00am—12 noon	Cole, Hadspen, Pitcombe Wincanton, Memorial Hall
Sunday 5	Morning Prayer 9.30am	St Leonard's, Pitcombe
Friday 10	Refuse and Recycling collection	Cole, Hadspen, Pitcombe
Saturday 11	Farmers' Market 9.00am - 1.00pm	Frome, Cheese and Grain
Sunday 12	Holy Communion 11.00am	St Leonard's, Pitcombe
Tuesday 14	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm	Hadspen Village Hall
Friday 17	Recycling Collection	Cole, Hadspen, Pitcombe
Sunday 19	All-Age Service 11.00am Cluster Service 6.30pm	St Mary's, Bruton Wyke
Friday 24	Refuse and Recycling collection	Cole, Hadspen, Pitcombe
Saturday 25	Farmers' Market 9.00am -1.00pm	Glastonbury, St John's Car Park
Sunday 26	Holy Communion 11.00am	Cole, Hadspen, Pitcombe

# Pitcombe News

**Infor mative, Inval uable in Cole, Hadspen & Pitcombe**

So the arrival of summer is announced with the traditional autumn weather. Perhaps we bewailed the drought of spring too loudly? Now we have our reward: wet, windy and, and in the lowest lying parts of the valley, even the faintest hint of frost, just as the children begin their seventeenth week of half-term since the turn of the year. The promise, it would seem, of Michaelmas in Midsummer.

It may require remarkable feats of imagination or memory, but we have the chance to learn how to capture the beauty of a summer landscape in watercolour and mixed media at the Village Hall later this month; at least there are likely to be some Turner-esque skies to paint from life.

Of course, the experience of the Hadspen Plant Sale proves that the colour of hardy perennials— not to mention the vigour of our vegetable seedlings—cannot be dampened by predictable English drizzle. Congratulations to all those that laboured hard before, and busily on the day, to make it so successful.

After all these efforts, we should be thankful there are reserves of energy remaining to ensure we have (almost) a full complement of councillors for the new Parish Council, which has its first full meeting this month. It is likely to be an important one, as another significant planning application is presented for consideration.

If there is any time remaining before you depart for those parts of the globe which have been known to have a summer (or, if you prefer, pop to Boots in Castle Cary for the do-it-yourself tan), please consider the *Pitcombe News*, which is in need of your contributions. Now that Katherine has confessed her penchant for spinach and feta pie, and we have glimpsed the private world of Bishop Peter's CD collection, it is high time we heard from you.

# Pitcombe People

*Perhaps it is high time that we exposed ourselves to these searching questions. We know that many of you also long to step into the spotlight so be sure to beat the rush and call or email to contribute your own answers to our searching questions and you will be known for ever after as one of the Pitcombe People!*

## PERSONAL PROFILE

*Name:* Katherine Lloyd Clark

*Age (or 'vintage' if you prefer) :* 41. I don't mind really but am looking forward to 42—it sounds neater.

*Place of Birth :* Swansea. I am half Scottish, a quarter Welsh and a quarter Irish. No Saxon!

*Family Members:* Husband, James and daughters Eleanor (8) and Cecily (4)

*Occupation:* Head of Student Recruitment and Admissions at the University of Bath.

## PITCOMBE AND YOU

*How long have you lived in the parish?* 2 and a half years

*What brought you to Pitcombe?*

A longstanding search for a really old house in a beautiful rural location. We found our cottage (the thatched one in Hadpsen) on a very still evening in August. We were getting really desperate, as we had already sold our then home in Maiden Bradley. We thought we had discovered a sort of hidden Doone Valley (no comment on the residents of Hadpsen intended of course).

*Do you have a favourite place (e.g. building, view-point, walk) in the parish?*

I love being in my garden just before nightfall, listening to the owls. And looking out at the valley very early in the morning.

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*Do you have a favourite hostelry, restaurant, or shop in the vicinity of the parish?*

Not really - I am easily pleased. I love the Spinach and Feta pie from Martins

*And highlight of the year so far:*

*Well, one of them has been discovering the beautiful house and garden at Cothay Manor.*

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

*Please state your preferences from each of the following options:*

*Bath or Shower?* Bath

*Luxury chocolates or a selection of local cheeses?*

Do I really have to choose? I will surprise everyone who knows me really well and say cheese!

*Ipod or paperback?* Paperback but I may be about to convert!

*Cat or Dog?*

Cat but I am very curious about the dog thing and would like to try it one day.

*Bruton or Castle Cary?*

Cary because I drive through Bruton every day to go to work and when I turn the other way along the lane I know I can relax. And the dentist is in Bruton!

# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

## Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting took place on 10 May, under the direction of Jenny Elliott, Vice-Chair of Pitcombe Parish Council.

The main business of the meeting was to review the annual report on the work of the Parish Council. Among other matters, the report noted the considerable work of the Council in reviewing the many planning applications submitted in the course of the year, and the efforts taken to extend the parish's provision of grit, etc., for winter roads. The meeting also accepted wholeheartedly a vote of thanks to Mrs Elliott who was stepping down from the council after many years of sterling service.

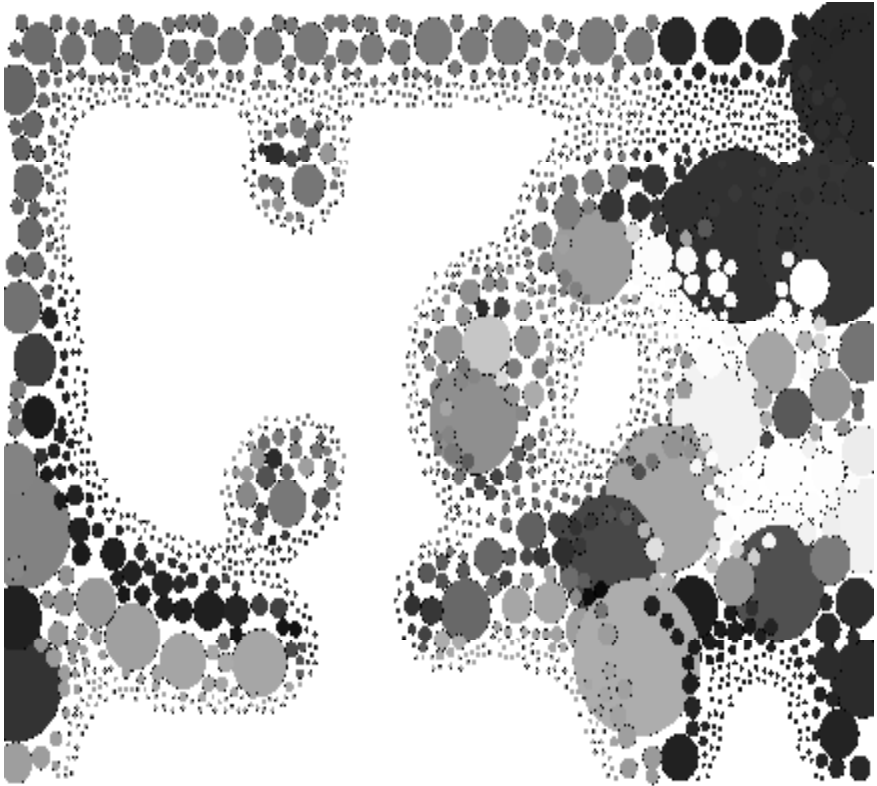
## Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council meeting followed the Annual Parish meeting. This was the first meeting of the council after the election on 5 May; the new councillors are John Knight (Chair), James Clark (Vice-Chair), Cathie Brook, and Terry Crane. The meeting co-opted Caroline Donald and Neville Hartnell as councillors.

In a short meeting it was noted that the June meeting will consider the re-submitted application 10/03340/FUL for two gypsy/traveller pitches on the former quarry site adjoining Green Lane. Any member of the parish wishing to comment on this significant application during the period of public questions is invited to attend. The next meeting will be on 14 June in Hadspen Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Since the May meeting, we have learnt that our invaluable Parish Clerk, Rosie Morgan, has suffered a minor stroke. I am sure that all members of the parish will want to join the councillors in wishing Rosie a speedy recovery.

*James Clark*



*Giles Shingler*

# Village Hall News

As the apple blossom fades an array of colourful wild flowers populate the bank around the hall making a lovely show. This, coupled with the very active bird life continues to provide an attractive setting for the Village Hall. Once again blue tits have taken up residence in the smokers bin on the wall near the entrance to the Hall.



A big thank-you to everyone who contributed to the very successful Hadspen Plant Sale held on 7 May, this is a major fund raising event for the Hall. A special thank you to Sue Chamberlain for organising the event and to her team of gardeners who gave their time and effort in producing the high quality range of plants that Hadspen is renowned for. Thanks to the committee members, the catering team and, the wheelbarrow lads whose efforts made the whole thing possible. Thanks also to those who donated raffle prizes and delicious cakes for the event. Again, visitors commented on how impressed they were with the quality of the sale and the general organisation. Thank you everyone for a splendid profitable all round effort.

Usual activities continue, plus an additional Yoga class on Friday mornings during term time, this is slowly taking off. The Hall was used as a polling station for the AV and Council elections providing an opportunity for a large number of residents to visit the Hall. A couple of children's parties (with entertainers) were also held. A local art group ran an outdoor two-day course producing some excellent paintings of Hadspen houses and gardens. Activities in the Hall have eased as we move into the summer months. Don't forget, if you want to improve your fitness, the exercise class will still be running on Tuesdays. Also the short mat bowls club running every Wednesday evening is still on the lookout for new members - no experience necessary and a very social group. At the start of June we have a maintenance period - fitting of the sound proofing to the ceiling, and cleaning /buffing of the wooden floor. An Art Workshop will be held on 11 June titled - Summer Landscape Painting Day. This is a day workshop using mixed media to capture our beautiful Somerset landscape. See below for full details.

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New members are always welcome to join the hall committee and support its activities. In particular, the catering team would like to hear from anyone who might be interested in helping them support the various functions. For more information please contact me.

*Jim Linden 01749 813145*

## **Summer Landscape Painting COURSE**

Hadspen Village Hall  
Saturday 11 June 10am—2.30 pm  
Tutor: Mrs Caroline Morriss  
Course fee: Standard £20 Concession £10.

The aim of the course is to introduce a range of watercolour and mixed media techniques to create a summer landscape from life

You will learn to use a variety of media, which may include watercolour, gouache, acrylic, pastels, charcoal and pencil; to draw and paint from the landscape around you; to use and mix colours, which suggest summer time; to create light and depth in a painting.

Key themes include a summer colour palette; using mixed media; drawing and painting from life

Contact: Jenny Sparkes, Somerset Skills & Learning, Wincanton, BA9 9BX  
01963 33246 [jesparkes@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:jesparkes@somerset.gov.uk)

## **GARDEN OPEN**

The garden at Honeywick House, Hadspen, will be open to visitors on 25 June to raise funds for the Pitcombe, Shepton Montague and Bratton Seymour Diamond Jubilee 2012 celebrations, from 2 - 6pm. Entry is £2.50 (Children under 5 free). Cream teas will be available and there will be a raffle and cake stall. Those of you who are familiar with Honeywick House will know that it has a wonderful garden which is very well worth a visit and we are fortunate to be able to enjoy its splendour.

# Hadspen PLANT SALE

No rain for two months and scarcely any rain since, but on the morning of the plant sale the noise on the skylights at 7am was ominous. We gathered in the rain outside the Village Hall at 9.30am, and decided (with some positive thinking) that it was actually serendipitous. It would be enough to stop people gardening but enough to start them shopping for plants, which they did in spades, so to speak.

The village hall was absolutely full of plants as usual with more plants and a veggie stall outside under the gazebo. It stopped raining at about 11am, the sun came out brilliantly, rain gear was discarded and we had virtually sold out by 12.15. It was a hugely successful morning with the Village Hall better off by some £1,700 at the end of it.

The morning goes very quickly and it is always very enjoyable and great fun. But it takes a lot of time and effort to raise the plants. They are produced mainly by a few dedicated gardeners working pretty much year round, notably Kathleen Apperly, Camilla Carter and Tina Harley. They are absolutely fantastic at growing and selling the plants. A couple of regulars were injured this year and unable to help very much so we were more than grateful for the plants contributed by Elizabeth Winkley, who grows for us every year and Edward and Annette Hobhouse. Thank you too Ken Elliott who revels in growing veggies and joined us for the first time on a stall. Helping with selling plants were Liz Thomas (whose garden was a favourite of the open gardens last year) and Rosie Hobhouse who knows a thing or two about plants and selling them. So they'll be on for next year as we expand to keep up with demand. Delicious refreshments were served at the other end of the hall by Jean Linden and the Catering Committee aka the cake and bacon buttie girls. It's great to have that facility alongside the sale as it creates a "buzz" in the hall; people stay longer and it contributes to the friendly atmosphere. It is notable that everyone leaves smiling as they carry their plants away, a sure sign that they had enjoyed their morning. Many many thanks to all who contributed, Jenny Elliott who took money very happily at the door, Biddy Coghill Smith rendered hors de combat but who happily sold raffle tickets. And to the people who contributed the most colourful array of raffle prizes, they were fabulous, thank you. Finally a big thank you to the guys who put it together for us: Jim Linden and the Trustees set up the room, parked cars, wheeled wheelbarrows, put up gazebos and did all those tough man things that would just ruin our nails. **THANK YOU EVERYONE!**

# Hadspen & Shepton Montague WI

The President, Mrs Sylvia Reed, welcomed members to the May meeting at Hadspen Village Hall. This is the evening when members vote on the final resolutions to be brought forward to the National AGM being held this year in Liverpool.

This year's resolutions were as follows: 'This meeting urges HM Government to maintain support for local libraries as an essential local educational and information resource' ,

and 'This meeting abhors the practice of factory farming particularly large animals such as pigs and cows and urges HM Government to ensure that planning permission is not guaranteed for such projects.'

A very lively debate took place on both resolutions. On the local libraries, members felt that there are already many established local campaigns and it could be argued that in a time of economic downturn some cuts to services are inevitable. On the farming issue, members felt that the actual resolution was poorly worded. It was felt that planning permission is never 'guaranteed' on any project as it is controlled by local authorities. They had concerns that such farms could have an unacceptable environmental impact, but were divided on the opinion that large-scale farms are necessarily bad for welfare. After running through County News the President reminded members about the Group Meeting to be held on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm at Hadspen Village Hall when the speaker will be Mr Terry Stanford who will be talking about advances in forensic science entitled 'Who do you think they were?'. Other diary dates are:

Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> July - join SCFWI's day out to Cotswold Park Farm 'Adam's Farm' .

20<sup>th</sup> August - Coffee morning at the Market House, Castle Cary

Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> September - Group social evening entitled 'Poetry, Prose and Puds'.

The evening concluded with tea/coffee and biscuits and an enjoyable 'Quiz for Bright People' which is a quiz for people who know everything. I think generally members discovered that they didn't!

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm at Shepton Montague Village Hall.

# Bruton & District Flower Club

Bruton & District Flower Club are celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a Flower Festival which we hope many of you will be able to join us in celebrating this great milestone.

Over the weekend of the 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> June, the Flower Club are holding a Flower Festival 'Floral Art in the Garden at Cole Manor', Cole, Bruton to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Club being formed by Mrs. Muriel Crisp and friends.

As the title suggests this festival is being held outside in the beautiful surroundings of Cole Manor. Members together with work from members of the flower clubs Children's Workshop section will be exhibiting designs in various sites throughout the garden.

The festival opens each day from 1.30p.m., until 5.30p.m., with the cost being £5.00p., (reduction for children) which includes a cream tea. Entry is from the car park over bridge into the garden. There will be a stall from The Children's Hospice South West, and Godminster Cheese and we shall be holding a grand draw with the star prize being a 'Mulberry Handbag' kindly donated by Mulberry Designs at Chilcompton together with lots of other prizes.

Proceeds from this event are being donated to The Children's Hospice South West, Charlton Farm, Wraxall, Bristol.

On Friday September 2<sup>nd</sup> we are having an anniversary meal at The Jubilee Hall, Batcombe when members and their partners/husbands will be celebrating the anniversary and we would like anyone that has had contact with the club either now or in the past to join us. Tickets are £25.00p and will include a three course meal and entertainment, ( please contact Margaret on 01749 830408 if you would like more details of this event) proceeds from the raffle and tombola will be going to the Children's Hospice as will a contribution from our Christmas demonstration which is being held on the 16<sup>th</sup> December.

We look forward to welcoming you to 'Floral Art in the Garden at Cole Manor' over the weekend of the 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> June when we hope the weather will be kind to us.

# St Leonard's Church

## Yew Trees

As some will have seen there has been some quite drastic surgery on two of the Yew Trees in the Churchyard. It is hoped that this action will save them for the future.

As a result of this surgery we now have a quantity of timber which is sought after by wood-turners and others engaged in various wood crafts. This timber is for sale, for a modest amount, and if anyone is interested please contact me on 01963 350999.

## Re-organisation

There is not much more to report this month on developments for the re-organisation of the Church in this area. I am attending a meeting on 24th May and following this there may be a better idea of the direction in which the discussions are going.

*Ken Elliott*

## A JUBILEE CELEBRATION FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE PARISH

Plans are well under way for a party to celebrate the Queens' Diamond Jubilee next year. But how are the children of the Parish going to remember this great event? Are there any parents who would volunteer to help organise a fun day for our children.

Please contact Camilla Carter on 01963 351106 or e-mail: [cchoney-wick@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cchoney-wick@hotmail.co.uk)

*Camilla Carter*

## inspiration

Just before Easter I found myself as the 'castaway' on a version of Desert Island Discs in Ilminster. I was surprised by how much I enjoyed the experience and I was delighted that my rather bizarre choice of records, which included Adam Faith and Dusty Springfield, struck a chord with so many of the listeners - it must be my age!

I was reminded of the evening because I have just received a 'thank you' letter from the charity that I wanted to support that evening, 'Kid's Company' and with it a gift of a wonderfully colourful tie made by one of the vulnerable young people who are helped by it. The founder is an inspirational Iranian woman called Camilla Batmanghelidjh. Kid's Company, based in Inner City Peckham, supports kids whom many others have given up on, and by offering them a place of safety and welcome, lives are often turned around.

'One of our street boys', writes Camilla, 'who came in the early days and drove me crazy is now an ambulance driver and is working as a gang mediator trying to prevent shootings in the streets. One of our girls who arrived homeless aged 16 just got a 2:1 at Oxford in experimental psychology. Your friendship for our vulnerable children will always be treasured.' In fact we raised just over £450. It doesn't sound much, but then it is often the small acts of generosity and kindness that make all the difference.

I spent the week after Easter in Normandy and visited the town of Lisieux, now famous as the place where St Therese lived as a Carmelite Nun. Therese lived only a short time. She never went on missions; she never founded a religious order; she never performed great works and it is only her written journal, 'The story of a Soul' that the church has to remember her by, and yet, within a relatively short time, the Catholic Church made her a saint. Why?

Because she was a reminder to those of us who can feel that we can do so little to make a difference in the world, that it is the small acts of kindness and generosity that keep God's kingdom growing. When Henry James was saying goodbye to his young nephew Billy, he said something the boy never forgot. 'There are three things that are important in human life. The first is to be kind; the second is to be kind; the third is to be kind.'

The **PITCOMBE NEWS** welcomes, and relies upon, contributions  
from its readers

Articles for publication should be sent to the

EDITORS: James Clark and Katherine Lloyd Clark  
[hadspencottage@btinternet.com](mailto:hadspencottage@btinternet.com)

Advertisements submitted by parish residents for local  
businesses, services and events are welcomed.

Contact the editors for details of suggested donations.

The **DEADLINE** for the **JULY** issue is  
Wednesday XXXX

Keep up to date at

[www.pitcombepc.org.uk](http://www.pitcombepc.org.uk)

**THE PITCOMBE WEB SITE**

for details of the Parish Council, Minutes etc.

details and bookings of Hadspen Village Hall

*The PITCOMBE NEWS regrets any errors or omissions that may occur and will do its best to avoid them. The information contained within the NEWS is published in good faith. The views expressed are those of the contributors and are not necessarily endorsed by the PITCOMBE NEWS.*

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# Broadband



## Connecting Devon and Somerset

**Summary:** A strong alliance of Somerset and Devon local authorities backed by our Local Enterprise Partnership will make a compelling bid for vital Government funding **to provide superfast and better broadband to over 300,000 businesses and households**. This will ensure better broadband for every home and business in Somerset - and superfast for the vast majority.

Government, through Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) has made available £530m of funding to ensure that the UK has the best broadband network in Europe by 2015. Somerset will be bidding in April for a significant amount of funding from these funds.

### How Parishes can help

Help us make the best case for why this is so important to our businesses and communities by completing the demand survey on [www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk](http://www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk)

Help us demonstrate to Government the local consensus behind our plans by emailing [somerseteconomicdevelopment@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:somerseteconomicdevelopment@somerset.gov.uk) if you support our plans. We intend to publish expressions of support on the Connecting Devon and Somerset website to demonstrate the local consensus.

Encouraging residents and businesses to fill in the survey and sign-up to say they support our plans.

Make Somerset County Council aware if you feel that your parish may be interested in developing and helping fund a community hub to deliver even better services to your community

Keep up to date on our plans through the Connecting Devon and Somerset website - we will need your help throughout this project to ensure our plans deliver what you need.

*For further information and to arrange briefings please contact Matt Ballard, Somerset at [mdballard@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:mdballard@somerset.gov.uk) 355867.*