

# *Pitcombe News*



A thorn defends the rose, harming only those  
who would steal the blossom.

*June 2008*

The PITCOMBE NEWS welcomes contributions  
from its readers

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**The DEADLINE for the JULY issue is  
FRIDAY 20 JUNE**

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

# PITCOMBE NEWS

Members of the short mat bowls club are cock a hoop, they are thrilled with their new weapon — an absolutely level playing field. Other clubs will be quite unused to playing on such a perfect floor, they will not be able to cope and thus, victory will go to the home team. If you would like to play, or learn to play, and be on a winning team then do contact Willie Constantine. Page 4 for details.

On their trip to South America, our esteemed Chairman of the board of Trustees of the Village Hall and his wife were escorted from Peru by the police. Not only that, but the incident got press coverage. Oh my dears, the shame of it! Carole tells how it happened on page 6.

David Jury has been researching what he thinks must be one of the smallest rivers in England, the River Pitt. Small it may be, but it has its very own website, [www.pitriver.org](http://www.pitriver.org). where you will find more details along with the photographs David has taken. Essential reading ,particularly for those living in Pitcombe and Cole begins on page 8.

St. Leonard's was very nearly closed in 1995. A few people were determined that that should not be so. Ken Elliott writes about bringing it back to life on page 12.

Maria Samuel details the way to send e mails to a number of people without everyone getting everyone else's address. Turn to page 9 for step by step instructions.

Now for the serious stuff. To date, the Pitcombe News account at NatWest has been free of bank charges. They now propose to charge £10 a month. Our outgoings, which are solely for printing at Sexey's school, are presently around £240-£250 a year so £120 a year in charges is simply not on. The only way to be free of charges seems to be for me to open an account in my name, dedicated solely to the PN. I shall transfer the balance of the account, £300 to that. Do feel free, please, to call me if you have any questions.

Now, to take the nasty taste of that out of your mouth, read on!  
*Susan Chamberlain, Editor*

## PITCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

**PCSO Tim Russell** attended the last meeting of the Pitcombe Parish Council on May 13. He reported that a quantity of diesel had been stolen from a car in Lancombe Lane. (Also see Neighbourhood Watch page 16).

It was reported that there have been incidents in Hadspen of dogs attacking each other. **Cllr Taylor** also mentioned that a dog had entered an enclosure at Nettlecombe Cottage and had to be forcibly removed from attacking the leg of a pygmy goat.

It appears there have been a number of cases of dogs found running loose in the Hadspen area. Tim Russell advised that such cases should be reported to the police at the time. **Cllr Robinson** advised that **Dog Warden Laura Pearse** should also be contacted on 01963 462 462 at So. Somerset DC as this is her area of responsibility.

**Cllr Jury** reported that he had received correspondence on the following:

**Lime Kiln Lane** - the Council will arrange for patching works when they have a patching team in the area.

**Mill Lane** - safety areas have been mended but also need patching. The repairs that are needed on Sunny Hill Lane will be put forward for surface dressing works.

**Wagon and Horses Crossroads** - no correspondence had been received but **Cllr Taylor** suggested that the signs still on the pub could be removed now that it is no longer functional. This would improve vision. Since the meeting news has come in that flashing speed signs will soon be installed on **Cary Hill**.

**Cllr Taylor** also asked if it was possible for a sign pointing to Hadspen Village Hall to be erected by the Highways Department.

**Cllr Elliott** asked if details of the Ansford Community School Walk had been forwarded to the Parish Council. **Cllr Taylor** reported that nothing had been received. Following the meeting a letter was received stating that the walk would take place on Friday 11 July.

*(cont page 13)*

## HADSPEN VILLAGE HALL

It happened! We took over the new village hall on Friday afternoon, 2 May. Unfortunately the building was not quite complete, and as I write it is still not quite complete! However, with sterling effort from members of the Committee we moved all the equipment back into the hall and were presentable enough to hold the plant sale and the Cheese & Wine Party on 10 May.

The plant sale was an astounding success due to Sue Chamberlain's organisation and our expert gardeners who produced an amazing display of plants for sale. It was wonderful to see 'wheelbarrow loads' of plants being taken to the car park! My sincere thanks to all those who worked so hard to achieve its success, not forgetting the Catering Committee and the ladies who made the delicious cakes for us to sell.

Saturday, 1 May was a busy day for the Committee and residents alike as our Open Evening with Cheese & Wine started at 6.00pm. We were very pleased that so many residents and supporters came along to look at the hall. We are grateful to Wyke Farmhouse Cheeses who very generously donated the cheese and also to the resident who made a substantial contribution towards the cost of the evening.

Fitting out the hall is an on-going task, but we are confident that we will be ready for the Official Opening on 20 June. However, the hall is now available for hire. To book the hall for an event, please contact our Booking Secretary, Carole Wyatt (01963 350 222)

*Peter Wyatt, Chairman*

### PAST NOTABLE EVENTS ON JUNE 20

1837 Queen Victoria acceded to the throne.

1949 Gorgeous Gussie Moran shocked Centre Court by appearing in lace trimmed knickers under her tennis dress which was considerably longer than today's mini.

What would Queen Victoria have said?

## HADSPEN SHORT-MAT BOWLS CLUB winter season 2007/8

The team played 14 matches against the seven other teams in the 1<sup>st</sup> Division of the Yeovil & District Short Mat Bowls League. Each team plays every other team twice, once on their 'home' mat and again on the 'away' mat.

Under the captaincy of Stephen Wheadon, Hadspen won 7 matches, lost 5 and drew 2. The number of 'Points' awarded for our scores placed us in 4<sup>th</sup> position. This was a remarkable feat as we had been bottom of the 1<sup>st</sup> Division the previous year and 2<sup>nd</sup> from bottom the two years before that.

The Bowling equipment was moved from North Barrow Hall on 6 May by Mike Taylor who managed to get it all in his trailer. Peter Wyatt and Willie Constantine then tested the level of the floor and found it perfect. What a change from the old Hall floor!

The first bowling took place on Wednesday 7 May. It was a joy to find it level with no humps and bumps. Photographs were taken of the Chairman bowling the first official Bowl on the new floor.

The sprung Floor, as used in Sports Halls, was made by Junckers of premium beech boards 22mm thick, on beams 45mm square and sitting on a foam rubber 8mm thick base. Thus the thickness of the floor is 7.5 cms or 3 inches. It must be treated with care, eg the trolleys on which we keep our mats and also the trolley for the Village Hall tables have to be fitted with new and wider casters to avoid causing damage.

Members of the Club have taken part in Competitions held in Taunton Deane Bowling Centre where we played against the top Players of the County with encouraging results.

The Bowls Club does not compete in the Yeovil Summer League but our Secretary Carole Wyatt has arranged a number of 'Friendly' matches with other Clubs and we look forward to seeing their envious faces when they come to play in our lovely new Hall!

*Willie Constantine, Chairman*

## fourth annual hadspen plant sale

The very first event in the new Village Hall — would we want to do anything to damage the floor and incur the wrath of the Short Mat Bowls players. NEVER! And so, down with the newspapers and black plastic before all else. Outside the hall, the Cole Road trio of Jim, John and Willie put up a 30 foot long gazebo under which stood some of the bigger plants and the two tables for the veggie stall. And only then we were ready to bring in the plants ... by the car load.

All the plants were in first rate condition with a number of really unusual ones and an impeccable display of vegetables, (along with marigolds to keep out the bugs), grown by Roy Wheadon.

Our plantswomen, Kathleen Apperly, Camilla Carter, Biddy Coghill Smith, Wendy Crane, Tina Harley and Erica Holt; our vegetable men, Stephen and Nigel Wheadon, all did a sterling job advising and selling. It is a great team, they work hard not only on the day, but for months beforehand growing and nurturing the plants. Particular thanks must go to Elizabeth Winkley of Wyke Champflower who, yet again, delivered a full car load of plants for the sale.

This year we had proper wheelbarrow boys. Kevin Spratling and his friend George were kept very busy, so busy that father Gerald had to help out as well at times what with four wheelbarrows coming and going to the car park in Kathleen Apperly's yard.

Jenny Elliott taking the entrance fee and Maria Samuel running the raffle discovered that the sale attracted people from a wide area with many coming to their 4th sale. Raffle prizes, drawn by a visitor from Australia, went to Nick Green of Bruton, Val Gaskell of Sherborne, Sue Smith of Castle Cary, and Kathleen Apperly of Hadspen.

Contributing hugely to the success of the morning was the Catering team selling cakes, coffee and bacon butties. They kept the kitchen window open just enough so that the smell of bacon wafted out. Who could resist? A huge thanks to everyone who contributed.

In terms of enjoyment for everyone it was the best ever sale, in terms of what we had to offer, again, it was the best ever, and in financial terms, again, the best ever ... **£1,460** to the Village Hall Fund.

And yes, we will have another sale next year.  
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## Highlights of South America - Chile

The day of our departure from Cusco in Peru turned into quite an adventure. The locals had called a general strike and no traffic whatsoever was allowed to move in or out of the town and we had to get to the airport. Our luggage left at 5am before the streets were closed and we were due to leave at 12 noon for our afternoon flight. Initially we were told that more than likely we would have to travel in ambulances as they were the only vehicles allowed to move!

However, at the appointed time we were led down side streets by police officers wearing riot gear and put on an old military bus, accompanied by the Chief of Police standing menacingly in the front. We had a police vehicle in front and outriders behind and had to weave between rocks, stones and burning tyres through the backstreets as we made our way to the airport. On our arrival the Police Chief was awarded with rapturous applause and kisses from the ladies, which despite his stern demeanour, I think he really enjoyed!

Cusco is about an hour's flight over the Andes from Lima where we caught our connecting flight to Santiago, Chile. At this stage, I have to confess, I was looking forward to travelling at a lower altitude. At 11,500 feet the air is quite thin and despite drinking copious cups of coca tea, which is supposed to help combat altitude sickness, I still had very little appetite and didn't feel quite my usual self. As the plane climbed steeply out of the mountains we wondered what would await us in Chile.

Santiago is surrounded by the magnificent snow capped mountains of the Andes, has a population of 6 million and is a cultured, cosmopolitan city built on the grid system. Old colonial buildings are intermingled with modern high rise office blocks and apartments, some displaying quite spectacular modern architecture. The 18<sup>th</sup> century Cathedral situated in the Plaza de Armas is rather beautiful and well worth a visit as is the City pre-Colombian Art Museum whose collection contains more than 1,500 ceramics and textiles from the Inca, Maya and Aztec Cultures.

There is an air of sophistication about the city with its fashionable shopping malls and restaurants. However one clue to its rather un

stable past was evident from all the bullet holes in an army bus we spied parked next to the Presidential Palace!

Santiago is also home to one of the nation's most prominent wine regions. The city is flanked by the Mapocho River to the north and the Maipo River to the south. Both are shallow and meander from the Andes towards the Pacific, converge west of the city and continue on to the sea creating the Maipo Valley. Many of Chile's wineries are based in this valley, particularly known for its Cabernet Sauvignon which comprises 60% of over 10,000 hectares planted between the Andes and the eastern slopes of the Coastal range. A leisurely afternoon was spent at the Tarapaca Winery with lunch in the gardens under magnificent palm trees followed by a tour of the Winery and wine tasting. The connoisseur surprisingly however preferred the wine served with lunch to the ones sampled at the tasting!

Our next flight took us to Punta Arenas, Chile, known as 'the town at the end of the world' situated on the Magellan Straits at the far south of the Andes mountain chain. From here we could see Tierra del Fuego in the distance as we drove across the steppe to Puerto Natales. This area is very barren and the steppe grass very poor. According to our local guide the average holding of an estancia in that region is 5,000 hectares which would support about 4,000 sheep and would be worked by the farmer and 3 or 4 gauchos on horseback with their dogs. The most amazing thing to us was the fact that this huge empty steppe is all fenced, yet we didn't see one sheep, only rheas and hares. About 100 miles later we arrived at Puerto Natales, a small sleepy town with a few hotels set beside the Ultima Esperanza Gulf and the jumping off point for the Torres del Paine National Park which is one of the newest nature reserves in South America, a 927 square mile uninhabited wilderness.

It was now a case of tee shirts to the bottom of the case and out with the winter woollies!

*Carole Wyatt*



## RESEARCHING THE RIVER PITT

We have a small river that flows past the bottom of our garden, it's called the River Pitt (also known as the Pidly). Its source has always been a little vague; "somewhere up near Stoney Stoke" I was told, but no one seemed to know its exact origins. So over the past few months, with the aid of old and new maps and a sturdy pair of walking shoes I have been tracing its origins. It's been an interesting and rewarding journey with some quite unexpected finds, hidden cascades and eighteenth century stone arched river crossings as examples.

The river's origins are streams in the parish of Brewham near Hardway which join together approximately 800 metres south of Hardway close to the Leyland trail. The river then flows south west through Stoney Stoke and the valley east of Knowle Rock and west of Round Hill before turning west. It flows west for approx 1000 metres before turning north to Knowle Road Bridge where the flow increases with streams from Bratton Seymour and Redlynch joining the river. It then turns west through Lower Shepton with a stream originating in Shepton Montague joining, before continuing westward beneath the A359 Bruton Road, turning North West through the Pitcombe Valley past St Leonard's Church, through the hamlet of Pitcombe and on to its journey's end at Cole Manor where it joins the river Brue.

It falls from a height of approximately 140 metres at its origins to 50 metres at its journeys end, and with an approximate length of 5½ miles it is probably one of England's smallest rivers.

This is the first of a series of articles I hope to write for the Pitcombe News about the river, its history including man-made alterations to its flow and direction and the numerous structures built for river crossings. In the meantime, if you have an interest, you can follow my journey via the river Pitt website [www.pittriver.org](http://www.pittriver.org), or indeed if you have any information, local stories, photographs which you think may be of interest please let me know.

*David Jury*





## Computer Bytes

**(Windows XP – Hints and Tips)** - The **Start** menu includes spaces for six shortcuts to the most frequently used programs, but this can be increased if it is not enough. Right click the **Start** button, select **Properties** and click the **Customise** button. In the **Programs** section in the centre of the 'dialogue box', use the **up arrow** button to increase the number of icons that should be displayed and then **click OK**.

**Advanced Windows shortcuts (XP):** Windows XP is full of keyboard shortcuts, but there are a few that every user should know. Hold down the **Windows key**, then try pressing these letter keys: **E** will launch Windows Explorer, **R** will launch the **Run box**, **F** will launch the **Find** utility, **M** will minimise all open windows to show the desktop, and **L** will instantly **lock** the computer.

### Handling e mail

**INFO on BCC:** Bcc stands for **Blind Carbon Copy**. Like Cc recipients, Bcc gets a copy of the message. Unlike the Cc recipients, the addresses of the Bcc recipients do not show up in the mail - the email addresses stay anonymous. Just add the address into the **Bcc:** field like you would the **To:** field to send the email to. This is turned off by default. Follow the steps below:

1. From Windows Mail or Outlook Express, click **CREATE MAIL** from the toolbar.
2. The New Message window will appear.
3. Click **VIEW** and select **ALL HEADERS**.
4. The BCC field will appear – insert all the addresses you wish to send a blind copy.
5. Send an email to yourself and see how efficiently it works!

For more information and a graphic tutorial go to <http://www.somewhere-in-time.net/tutorial/OutlookBCC/>

Maria Samuel [woodcott13@btinternet.com](mailto:woodcott13@btinternet.com)



# St. Leonard's Church



## Services for June 2008

Date	Service/Time	Readings	Readers
01 June	NO SERVICE		
08 June 9.30am	Holy Communion 3rd Sunday after Trinity	Romans 4:13-25 Matthew 9:9-13 & 18-26	Ken Elliott Clergy
15 June 9.30am	Morning Prayer 4th Sunday after Trinity	Exodus 19:2-8 Matthew 9:35-10:8	Jenny Elliott Charles Brook
Saturday 21 June 6.30pm	<b>Special Service</b> Evening Prayer Rededication of St. Leonard's Church	TBA TBA	Edward Hobhouse Wendy Crane
22 June	NO SERVICE		
29 June 6.30pm	Evening Prayer 6th Sunday after Trinity	Jeremiah 28:5-9 Matthew 10:40-42	Philip Pidsley Constance Earl

*apologies for the incorrect service time given for May 25*

## CHURCHWARDEN'S NOTES

Many thanks to everyone who helped with cleaning the inside of the church on 27 May. It was very necessary to get it ready for the Rededication Service on 21 June. And there will be two weddings at St. Leonard's as well, one at the end of May and one at the end of June.

In view of the Rededication service the previous evening, there will be no service on June 22.

'THE WIND BLOWS WHEREVER IT PLEASES' John 3:8

By and large, we are very 'cerebral', mind-oriented, in the West; everything has to be understood before we can accept it or believe it is real. This can make us very sceptical, if not downright cynical, about anything unusual or different or that cannot be explained. But in the Bible we often see God moving in strange ways – his wind blowing where and how he wills – to achieve his purposes. The Holy Spirit certainly did some very strange things in the early church.

In Acts we see he came in wind and fire, shook rooms, did miracles, gave strange visions, rescued people from prison, gave gifts of tongues and prophecy. The list of 'the unusual' is so long that if we exclude such things from happening today, or if we are fearful if they do, we may well be in danger of missing a key aspect of what the Spirit may want to do among us.

The secret is being ready for God's wind to blow is to 'be filled with the Spirit' (Ephesians 5:18). Today, be open with God and the blowing of the wind of his Spirit in your life; be ready for the unusual. Tell Him you want to be filled with the Spirit throughout the day, so that you can be open to his wind blowing wherever and however he wills. 'I will put breathe in you, and you will come to life' (Ezekiel 37:6)

May the Holy Spirit be with now and always.

God Bless

*Wendy Crane, Churchwarden*

## St. Leonard's Church

I have just stood down from the PCC of St. Leonard's, and was asked to contribute a few notes about the Church and what has happened since 1995. The date is significant because it was at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in March 1995 that it was suggested, the Church could no longer continue and should be closed. Lack of support and money were cited as the main reasons for the decline. The Churchwardens and some of the PCC resigned. Following the meeting, at which some very straightforward views were expressed, a group got together and out of it came a new PCC.

Biddy Coghill-Smith and I became Churchwardens with the Council consisting of Gilbert Shingler, Jenny Elliott, Alan Coghill-Smith, Terry Bowring and George Bunting.

Soon after its formation, we undertook an informal survey of a number of people that we thought were likely churchgoers and asked them why they had ceased going to St. Leonard's. Some of the points made were, 'they did not like the modern services', 'they did not know the hymns', 'they were not welcomed at the church', but the most quoted dislike was the passing of the Peace where members of the congregation embraced one another. So the PCC decided to go back to the Book of Common Prayer, have hymns that people knew and abolish the Peace. The result of this was deteriorating relationships with the clergy who generally wanted the modern services. It was also decided to have a number of 'special' services in the year. These included a much more upbeat Harvest Festival, Remembrance Sunday, Carol Service (previously held jointly with Shepton Montague) etc.

Gradually over the years the congregations improved on a Sunday by Sunday basis and the 'specials' started to attract large congregations. The increases started to pose some other problems, notably car parking. However, with the improved congregations the financial state of the church improved and maintenance of the building and churchyard was able to be undertaken.

Other significant events and items included the start of the drive to produce tapestry kneelers in 1995 and over eighty have now been

worked, the joining of the Prayer Book Society in 2002, the formation of the Friends of St. Leonard's in 2003 and the purchase of new sets of Hymn and Prayer Books in 2004.

Major works have also taken place which include the reconstruction of the Sanctuary where there had been subsidence (cost about £7000 and paid for out of funds) and of course, the new roof.

Over the past dozen years or so the congregations have increased each year and a number come regularly from other parishes. To get to the present state it has required a great deal of hard graft from the original PCC and others who have joined more recently. Only Biddy Coghill-Smith and George Bunting now remain from the 1995 Council.

As I have frequently said when I was Churchwarden, in these pages, the future of facilities in rural villages depend on the desire of the parishioners to support and contribute towards the running costs. In this parish it is certainly the case that there was and still is a strong desire for a parish Church to exist.

*Ken Elliott*

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*(cont from page 2)*

**Cllr Hartnell:** reported that the final details of the accounts just needed to be tied up prior to Audit.

**County Cllr Robinson** reported that he still has £5000 to give away to community groups. There is also a fund of £15,000 for larger local projects. Any schemes that the Parish Council would like to propose would need to be submitted by August/September.

Councillor Taylor has written to John Burrows, Headmaster of Bruton School for Girls thanking him for the use of the facilities while the Village Hall was rebuilt.

*Cllr Mike Taylor, Chairman*

**Next Parish Council Meeting meeting  
Tuesday 10 June at 7.30pm, Hadspen Village Hall**

## A THIRD SOMERSET DIARIST



Claver Morris, although not Somerset born, practised as a physician in Wells for over forty years. He began his diary in 1709 and continued it until a few months before his death in 1728. Morris was a man of many parts, a doctor, and a musician, playing the organ, violin, flute, hautboy and bassoon. He was an inventor of sorts and what we would call a handyman. A question which immediately occurs is why he should wait until the age of fifty before commencing his daily record. I think it not too fanciful to conclude that it was the birth of a son which determined him. Perhaps, with half an eye on posterity, and with a son to succeed him he simply succumbed to an unconscious desire to perpetuate his name and his life.

Morris had married first in 1685, his wife Grace, was the daughter of a London clothier but she died in 1689. For seven years he was a widower until, he remarried in 1696. The girl, from Ditchat duly presented him with a daughter, Betty but did not herself survive the birth. In 1703 Morris married for the third time, "My dear Molly Bragge" and she provided him with, not only a handsome dowry but a half-brother for Betty.

By the time his diary began Morris was well established as a doctor in Wells. His treatments, as with those of his contemporaries were often quite violent, major purges, bleeding and drastic emetics but he was also capable of wielding the surgical knife and cut for the stone and the excision of cancers, all without anaesthetics. His patients were mainly from the town and surrounding villages but Morris would often ride far into the countryside at the request of fellow medical men, he was, indeed, a highly successful practitioner. His diary became a very readable journal full of interest, alive with commentary on people and events. Carefully observed details of illnesses and treatments, moving accounts of personal distress, records of his servants, particularly their shortcomings. What is missing is any reference to his past, it is as if for him life had indeed begun at fifty.

It is not possible to summarise a diary but a few vignettes, a few isolated events as described by Morris will give a flavour of his style.

An early entry is bizarre to say the least. On 27 April, 1709 he wrote, "Saw out of my garret window Cox hanged at Stockley Hill with my little telescope." A month later he despaired at his weight gain, obviously exercise is required so, "Danced at Mr. Keen's till half an hour past one with Mrs. Keen". Mr. Keen's feelings were not recorded. A major event was his son's baptism. "My Son was, at Evening Service Baptiz'd by the Name William in the Cathedral at Wells. I had a great Company both Men and Women at mine House and some staid until 4 a'clock next morning." Late in 1718 Betty ran off and was secretly married, this caused Morris much anguish and it was long before he and his daughter were reconciled. Morris succeeded in having both the clergyman who performed the ceremony and the sacristan who gave away the bride, punished.

Claver Morris ended his diary some six months before he died. In his will he asked, "That no grief might be shown but that, if possible, there might be a Concert of Musick in the Room where my body is placed."

*George Bunting*

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## T'ai Chi

With our brand new Village Hall in commission we are eager to get the weekly T'ai Chi class reinstated at Hadspen. However, unless we can get enough support for the class it may not be possible. Anyone who is interested in returning to the Hadspen class or keen to join us (including beginners) please contact me. Please note the Monday morning class is no longer an option as this will continue at South Cadbury, but I will try to organise a suitable daytime alternative with our Instructor. Jean Linden  
Please contact me on 01749 813145.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

*Below are extracts from a letter that PCSO Tim Russell sent to Neighbourhood watch co-ordinators recently.*

With the dust now settled from our move to Churchfields, I thought I would write and give you a quick update on what is happening in our area.

We now have the Response Teams back at Wincanton. This will not necessarily guarantee a faster response in our area for all calls, as units may be in the far south west of the District, but in general terms it means more police in our area, more often.

Since Christmas, Bruton and Tower have again been reasonably quiet but please be aware that there are people touring the area looking for a quick steal. Favorite items at the moment are scrap metal (especially lead garden ornaments and farm and garden machinery). Bruton has also had a bit of graffiti, some anti social behavior around Bruton Bridge and boy racers late at night.

Please do not hesitate to report any suspicious activity using 0845 456 800, the non emergency number.

If you can record number plate details it helps us enormously.

If there is a burglary in progress then call it in on 999.

If you need any crime prevention advice please telephone or e mail me on 0845 456 700 Force Service Centre.

[timothy.russell@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:timothy.russell@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

Yours sincerely  
Timothy Russell  
PCSO 7467



# **CAMELOT U3A**

## **(UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE)**

Camelot U3A is coming to the end of the 2007/2008 session.

31 Study and Leisure Groups have been meeting regularly; weekly, fortnightly or monthly. Several new Groups are in the pipeline for the 2008/2009 session, including French Conversation, Maths for Fun, Greek and Cycling.

Before the majority of groups close down for the summer months of July and August there will be

**OPEN DAY**

**ON THURSDAY 5 JUNE**

**FROM 2.00PM TO 4.30PM**

**AT THE CONSTITUTIONAL HALL, CASTLE CARY**

Everybody is invited to come and see what has been achieved by the various Groups over the past year. During the afternoon, in addition to the static displays, there will be demonstrations of Painting, Patchwork and MahJong, Scottish Country Dancing, Poetry and Creative Writing readings, a tea interval with Recorders and Tombola prizes.

Make a note in your diary. Year 2008/2009 starts with Enrolment Day on Thursday 4 September at the Constitutional Club, Castle Cary, at 2.30pm.

For further information contact  
Mrs Margaret Dickinson, 01963-350626

## TEN GARDENS TO VISIT THIS MONTH

(mostly culled from the yellow book)

1. Our own Gants Mill & Garden. Open every Sunday and bank holiday afternoon (2—5). New sculptures. [www.gantsmill.co.uk](http://www.gantsmill.co.uk)
2. Hestercombe Gardens, Cheddon Fitzpaine, Taunton daily 10—5 Georgian landscape garden. Lutyens/Jekyll formal garden, 40 acres of everything. [www.hestercombe.com](http://www.hestercombe.com)
3. **1 June** (2—6) Maple House, South Barrow, Gentle sloping 5 acres with lake, shrubberies, wild life garden, herbaceous borders.
4. **7 June** (6— 8.30); **8 June** (2—5) Manor Farm, Stourton Caundle 17C house and barns with walled gardens.
5. **15 June** (2—6); **25 June** (6.30—9) Darkey Pang Tso Gang, High Street, Oakhill N of Shepton Mallet off A367 3/4 acre of lush plants in a fantastically named garden.
6. **15 June** (2—5) Northfield House, Barton St. David. 2 acres of semi-formal gardens, with views over levels to the Tor. Rose arbor, nepeta beds. [donald@clarke2186.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:donald@clarke2186.fsnet.co.uk)
7. **June 21/22** (2—6) Hinton St. Mary Over 20 gardens will be open in the village including the Manor house and the Millenium garden. [www.hintonstmary.com](http://www.hintonstmary.com)
8. **June 29** (2—5) Frankham Farm, Ryme Intrinseca Very attractive 3.5 acre garden with extensive wall plantings, herbaceous borders, vegetable garden, some unusual trees and shrubs.
9. Weds, Thurs, Suns (2—6) Cothay Manor Gardens, Greenham, Wellington. 12 acres of beautiful romantic gardens laid out in 1920s and replanted in 1990s. [cothaymanor@btinternet.com](mailto:cothaymanor@btinternet.com)
10. Weds only (9—4) Cranborne Manor Garden. Historic garden laid out by John Tradescant and enlarged in C20. Many rooms, white, herb, water and wild gardens. [www.cranborne.co.uk](http://www.cranborne.co.uk)