

Pitcombe News



*Apple pie, apple crumble, apple sauce, apple jelly,
apple cake, baked apple ...*

October 2009

The **PITCOMBE NEWS** welcomes contributions
from its readers

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keep up to date at
www.pitcombepc.org.uk
THE PITCOMBE WEB SITE
for details of the Parish Council, Minutes etc.
details and bookings of Hadspen Village Hall

**The DEADLINE for the NOVEMBER issue is
Tuesday 20th October**

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

PITCOMBE NEWS

There is a small, well comparatively small, oak tree half way down the lane which is absolutely smothered in acorns. The road is pretty smothered with them too. I just wonder what the oak tree is trying to tell us. Does it know that there is a credit crunch on as given another week there will be enough acorns on the road to make a decent sized pot of ersatz coffee (well, perhaps not). Does it want to be surrounded by its young as it grows old? Does it actually think that squirrels will starve? Or has it just reached twenty and puberty and producing its first acorns? Possibly that is why it is so noticeable this year. It's just never attracted my attention before.

Alan Billenness returns to this month's news with tales of school days at Sexey's on page 7.

Willie Constantine covered fifty miles in his search for open churches, but he was fortunate enough to do so on one of the very best days we have had this year. Undoubtedly it was hard work at the time, but he did seem to have rather enjoyed it. Don't forget to ante up your sponsor money. See page 15.

The Prayer Book Society is having a very special day on Oct 18th. Don't waste any time in getting in touch with Andrew Drysdale if you would like to be part of it. Details on page 14.

Now, this month's recipes come from St. Delia herself, so you know they are not only good but easy. You might even learn to love broccoli; it would be simply delicious with the mash recipe on page 6. Talking of recipes do go to see Julie and Julia, it's a wonderful film. Julia Child was an extraordinary character and Meryl Streep portrays her unbelievably well. If Delia is a saint, then Julia was a god, not a goddess, she really wasn't a domestic goddess of the Nigella variety.

It is not until November, but do keep some time on Wednesday 25th to go to the second Hadspen C..... market. (It's too early to use the C word). It was a huge success last year, everyone had a terrific time. You'll be very cross with yourself if you miss it.

That's some of this month's contents, so pour yourself a cup of tea or whatever and settle down with the mag.
Susan Chamberlain

News from the Parish Council – September 2009

At the meeting of the council on the 8th September John Knight officially became a member. His portfolio will be footpaths which he will share with Ann Whittaker.

Councillor Mrs. Anna Groskop advised the meeting of two 'shows' with sing along music being put on by the Castle Cary Neighbourhood Team with the Police called 'Trickster' and 'Too good to be true'. This is all about safety in the home and how to deal with scams and she encouraged the over 60s in particular to attend. They are to be held on Thursday 8th October 2009, at 10.00am (Trickster) and 2.30pm (Too good to be True) at the Constitutional Club, Station Road, Castle Cary. Free entry to include a goodie bag and elevenses /afternoon tea. The shows are of about an hour's duration. To reserve a place please contact PCSO Beth Poole on 0845 456 7000

Martin Jennings attended the meeting and advised the council of the work undertaken by an enthusiastic team of local residents who had worked hard to clear the silt from the river bed and brush wood from the river banks with the assistance of equipment provided by Martin Jennings and Ian Adlam. The Parish Council commended them for this work which was entirely voluntary.

The next meeting of the council will be
at 7.30 pm, Tuesday 13th October
in Hadspen Village Hall.

Other people's Parents

Congratulations to Willie and Jean Constantine who recently celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Romantics that they are, they chose to do so on a cruise as they first met fifty two years ago on board ship when both were working for P and O.



Hadspen Village Hall

At the last meeting of the Village Hall Committee a number of decisions were made. It was agreed that the hall should have its own tapestry to replace the one very kindly lent by Jean Constantine which has been on the wall for the past year. Jean has agreed to make a new one for the Hall and a design was approved.

It was felt that our cleaning equipment and the method of cleaning the floor needed improvement and it was decided to look into the acquisition of a suitable buffing machine. There was also concern expressed regarding the hot water urn. After much discussion it was decided to obtain a wall mounted model which would fill automatically from the mains.

In the absence of the Treasurer, the financial report was distributed and it was decided to repay £1,000 of the loan made to us for five years. The retention money has still not been paid as there are still a few minor items remaining on the remedial list.

It was also decided to activate the hearing loop and audio system as soon as possible and to plant some spring bulbs around the Hall under a scheme being promoted by South Somerset District Council.

I have been asked by the Committee to encourage all members of the community to use the Village Hall as much as possible. If anyone would like to start a club or activity in the hall they would be most welcome.

Peter Wyatt, Chairman

Notes for your diary

AGM Hadspen Village Hall Thursday November 26th

This year's Christmas Party will be on Saturday December 12th

Camelot U3A

The next meeting is at the Constitutional Club, Castle Cary, at 2.30pm on Thursday 29 October. The Speaker, Mrs Lyn Horrocks 'The Sky's the Limit' - Sports and activities for people with disabilities. You can be sure of a warm welcome, a free cup of tea and a biscuit.

HADSPEN SHORT-MAT BOWLS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

On Friday 28th August the Club held the Semi-Finals and Finals matches to determine the Singles Champion for this Year. Willie Constantine, Sue Smith, Nigel and Stephen Wheadon had all won matches during the summer to qualify for the semi-finals. In very close fought matches Sue knocked out Willie in the first semi-final and Stephen knocked out brother Nigel in the second.

The final which followed provided the spectators with a wonderful display of accurate bowling, Sue finally beat Stephen to become the Club's first Lady Champion. Many congratulations to her and doubly good, mother, Margaret, was able to join us that evening to witness her daughter's star performance.

A very entertaining evening of first class bowling concluded with supper prepared by Carole Wyatt and Jean Constantine.

Last winter the Club was very successful in the First Division of the Yeovil & District Winter League by coming a close 2nd and has now been promoted to the Premier Division for the coming winter season which starts in October. The Club is currently playing in the Yeovil Summer league.

Photographs of the Chairman presenting the Winner with the Championship Cup can be found on the Village Hall website.

Willie Constantine, Chairman

Other People's Kids

Congratulations to Tom Reid of Hadspen who gained 8 A* and 2A's at GCSE level. He was one of four pupils at his school to obtain 10 A's.

"Nothing interferes with my concentration. You could put on an orgy in my office and I wouldn't look up. Well, maybe once." Isaac Asimov

HADSPEN & SHEPTON MONTAGUE WI

The September meeting was a joint evening meeting at Hadspen Village Hall with Castle Cary WI. After running through County News which gives details of coming WI events throughout Somerset as well as reports and news from other Institutes, the President reminded members that the Annual General Meeting would be held on Monday, 12th October at 7.30pm at Shepton Montague Village Hall and asked members to consider putting their names forward to join the Committee before the AGM.

The speaker for the evening was Peggy Newman who took us on a trip 'Down Memory Lane'. She came from a relatively small family and knew very little about them apart from the fact that her mother came from Paddington, London. She used to tell Peggy stories about coming to stay in Stathe with her five sisters. However in 1983 Peggy and her husband decided to try to find the small holding where her mother had lived as a child.

This took them on an amazing journey as they traced the lives of her mother and aunts, one of whom went to Australia on a 'bride' ship sailing from Plymouth at the age of 23 in the 1850s, was 'chosen' on her arrival and for many years lived in a tent in the Australian Gold Fields bearing her husband eleven children. She also found some of her family buried in Burrowbridge Church and discovered a stained glass window in memory of one of her aunts.

She then decided to trace her father's family history and started to collect old photographs and details of all the houses her family had lived in through the generations. As she had always loved miniature houses, her husband started to make scaled down models (1/12th scale) of these buildings and this has now grown into a display of 500 years of English history in miniature.

All the buildings are handmade using tiny bricks, slates and tiles, and all are traditionally furnished containing every household necessity of the period. They range from thatched cottages, shops, pubs, a school even a windmill. A gypsy encampment, various handcarts, a greengrocery stall and a variety of horse-drawn vehicles complete the collection.

On their retirement Peggy and her husband moved to Somerset and can take small groups to view their private collection at Ashill near Ilminster. She can be contacted by telephone on 01823 480808.

A very entertaining evening concluded with tea and biscuits.
ACW



Oven-Roasted Cauliflower and Broccoli with Garlic and Coriander

225gr cauliflower
225gr broccoli
2 tbsp olive oil
1 heaped teaspoon whole coriander seeds, coarsely crushed
2 garlic cloves, peeled
Salt and freshly milled black pepper

All you do is trim the cauliflower and broccoli into florets, 1 inch in diameter, and place them in a mixing bowl, then sprinkle in the crushed coriander seeds. Crush the cloves of garlic together with $\frac{3}{4}$ level teaspoon salt in a pestle and mortar until you have a paste. Whisk the oil into this, then pour the whole mixture over the broccoli and cauliflower. Use your hands to toss and mix everything together to get a nice coating of oil and coriander, then arrange the florets on the roasting tray and season with salt and pepper. Bake for 25–35 minutes or until tender when tested with a skewer and serve straight away.

Pesto Mash



1 lb potatoes (Desiree or King Edward)
1 x 120gr tub fresh pesto sauce
Salt and freshly milled black pepper

Prepare and cook the potatoes then add the pesto and seasoning of salt and pepper. Using an electric hand whisk, start whisking at a slow speed to break up the potatoes, and then increase the speed to fast and whip them up to a smooth puree. Now return the saucepan to a low heat and use a wooden spoon to turn the potatoes round until they become hot – about 1 minute – season and now they are ready to serve.

Courtesy of Delia Smith

An Evacuee remembers

In 1942 Alan won a scholarship to Sexey's School. He remembers his 4 years there with great affection.

Attending Sexey's was a wonderful experience and one which I enjoyed although there were times when life proved a little harder than I would have liked. It wasn't just the academic side, but the sport and the friendships, and on reflection a certain amount of character building. Nevertheless making the change from Pitcombe was something of a cultural shock and I shall always be grateful to lads like Bob Russ and Philip Stokes who were a year ahead of me, and very helpful in those early days.

That first day after gathering for prayers, meeting the staff for the first time and finding my way around, seemed somewhat intimidating. It was made worse by being catapulted straight into the third form with just a handful of other new boys. I need not have worried, I was soon acclimatised and the teachers themselves were really quite wonderful people. In fact looking back, many of them were really like friends who really understood the minds and needs of growing lads, yet they were firm and commanded respect.

Naturally they all had nicknames. The Head, Mr. Page (Gadge) was a small chap, but knew every boy in the school and ran a very tight ship. Mr. Thomas (Tommy) taught Geography; Mr Semper (Sammy) taught History and could hit a boy at the back of the class with a piece of chalk with amazing accuracy; Mr. Barnes (Bill) taught maths, Mr. Lane (Slacker) took art and woodwork, Mr. Bullock (Reg) taught Biology and Science and was well known for his tall stories and sense of humour; Mr. Hall (Shag on account of his mop of unruly hair, yes really) taught Chemistry; Miss Boome (Fanny -you guessed!) a tall angular woman taught French. I can remember her almost touching the light bulbs as she stood on tip toe. On one occasion the boys with the aid of long lengths of cotton managed to set the bulbs swinging as a welcome diversion, it certainly confused her for a while; Mr. Williams (Titch) taught English - a really kind and understanding person with a gentle approach that encouraged respect.

They are just some of the staff I remember who made Sexey's what it was - a really fine school. When it was time to leave for the last time, the exams were finished, the books handed in, the goodbyes had been said and yet just when I should have been excited at the thought of going home again, I went to collect my bicycle from the shed, I hopped over the fence for one more look at Gant's Mill and the railway below, I could feel the tears welling up. I get the same feeling even now whenever I pass by.

I had never been at a loss for something to do whilst at Pitcombe. Conditions indoors may have been a little cramped on account of the number of us living there, but I was seldom indoors. There was so much to interest a small boy out there, so much freedom and adventure to be had or so it seemed at the time. Indoors I tended to rely a great deal on books - the Just William series were great favourites as were boys' adventure stories and of course "The Swiss Family Robinson". I joined the library and every two weeks or so I would eagerly run down to the Club Room where Miss Cannon would open up a large box, receive my returns and issue me with still more books. I often used to read by torchlight in bed as candles were not much use for the purpose of reading in bed. However after I joined Sexeys', homework occupied much of my time.

During the dark evenings, the ladies usually sat round clicking their knitting needles as they made scarves, gloves, mittens and balaclava helmets as part of their war effort. The men, including myself often played darts. We set up an arrangement with a large mirror beneath the oil lamp which reflected onto the dart board itself and provided satisfactory illumination. I started off by doing the scoring, which acquitted me well for mental arithmetic at school, and later moved on to playing and became quite a useful player. After Nim died a snooker table was set up in No.2 and we made good use of that.

There always seemed to be children in the village to play with, whether it was football, cricket, hide and seek, larking about in the cart sheds when it was wet, or lifting the stones in the river and catching the fish that lurked there. We seemed to have complete freedom to roam. When we had our bikes, the freedom extended even further when I inherited inherited Dad's bike. I would ride all over the place to Kenton Mandeville, Farington Gurney and to Yeovil with and without my mother visiting friends.

There was seldom anything organised for youngsters but we made our own entertainment, anything from window tapping to pennies on the railway line. There was an attempt to create a club for us in the old club room. It was a very cold and cheerless place and although we had a billiard table, a dart board and a table tennis table, their condition left a lot to be desired and the idea didn't catch on. There was no supervision, and in an attempt to get warm, we used bits from a broken harmonium to light the stove. It was successful, but what we hadn't appreciated was that the old keys were made of celluloid and the stove quickly became red hot with sparks flying out of the chimney. We had a superb fire and I don't think anyone was any the wiser. Gave us a bit of a fright though.

Alan Billeness

Cruising

Three weeks on a crowded troopship sailing to join South East Asia Command during World War II is not perhaps the ideal introduction to cruising and I recall the experience with something less than wild enthusiasm. Yet certain aspects must have appealed for, years later as the children grew up my mind turned to a more comfortable style. I had a bit of a job in selling the idea to Mabs but persuasion triumphed eventually and she agreed, albeit with some reluctance, to give it a go.

I'd spotted an advertisement for an eleven day Mediterranean cruise involving first, a flight to Villefranche and then embarking on board a 22000 ton liner the Queen Frederika. Hard to believe now, (I still have the brochure to prove it,) the overall cost was between 50 and 100 guineas per person per day, depending upon cabin type. They called them cabins in those days, not 'staterooms' as they do now. With little idea of what to expect our first impressions were of luxury indeed and we set sail for Palma in high expectation of an enjoyable holiday. And so it proved Mabs taking to the experience like the proverbial duck to water. Calm seas, warm sunshine throughout the voyage simply added to our comfort.

Arriving at Palma we were introduced to the delights of a sucking pig barbecue by moonlight and a slightly disturbing visit to the Plaza de Toros, exciting but not to be repeated, certainly a very colourful spectacle. Tunisia next and the splendours of the Carthage ruins under a burning sun. On to Malta for a truly memorable day, touring the island and fitting in a swim in the warm sea. What I recall most of Sicily, our next port of call was Etna and the wealth of ancient buildings and monuments and, of course, the icecream of Messina. The highlight of the trip for Mabs was our visit to Capri and the hair raising drive up to the villa of San Michelle. We were on the island for just a day but we were sorry to leave. Our trip ended where it begun and we arrived home well content with our taste of a life on the ocean wave and determined to repeat the experience.

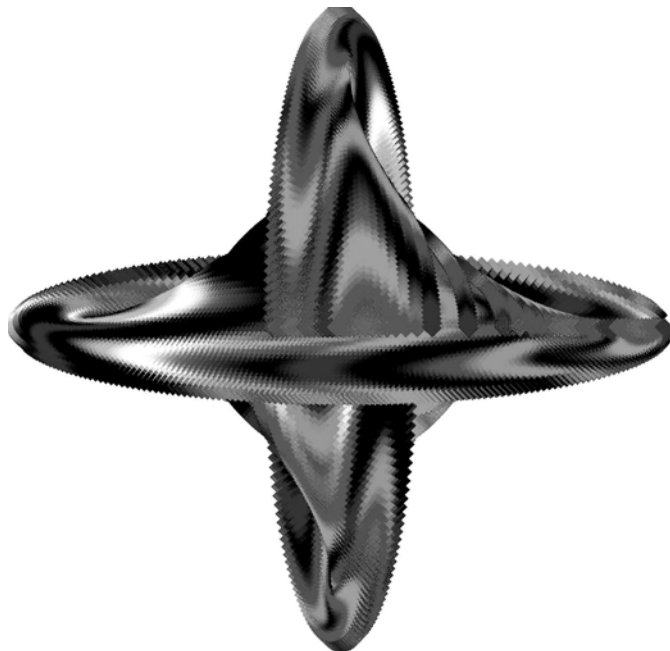
And this we did over the ensuing years, on 9 different ships, some of them twice over. Our trips took us to 23 different countries and in so doing we cruised over 40,000 sea miles. We celebrated silver, gold and diamond wedding anniversaries on board, we danced a little and won our fair share of champagne. I don't think that cruising now is quite what it was. The best days are gone. For one thing most ships today are too big, like floating blocks of flats and a bit too glitzy. Nevertheless, we still relish the idea of a carefully chosen cruise and are due off again to the Baltic. To be on the safe side we are calling this one cruise number 12A.

The foregoing was written just prior to our departure from Southampton on that 13th Cruise.

We'd chosen Arcadia, a child-free ship which, despite our misgivings about the size and the number of passengers was so well appointed and managed that we were never really conscious of overwhelming crowds.

Calm seas and perfect weather throughout; so lucky we were to have picked one of the brief periods of summer this year. It made the whole trip so very enjoyable. As always the time in Norway and Denmark was rewarding and included drives through the countryside and a journey on a vintage train. Entertainment on board was varied and the library was first class. Sir Bernard Ingham, once Mrs. Thatcher's press secretary amused us with an account of his experiences in the post and regaled us with anecdotes of a surprising clarity and frankness.

We met many people as the cruise proceeded but it was a coincidence indeed when sitting next to a lady at lunch, during which the conversation turned to family history, it turned out that she and I were distantly related. All in all we had a very good time. Mabs insists that it was one of our best cruises ever. Whether or not it will turn out to have been our last, who knows? *George Bunting*



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Computer Bytes



How to speed up a home broadband connection: Broadband speeds seldom match their advertised claims. To find out how far short your broadband falls of what you thought you were paying for, go to a website such as www.thinkbroadband.com. To increase your speed, first ensure that all the ADSL filters (the little boxes that sit between the telephone wire and the wall socket) are working properly. Unplug all land lines except for the one connected to the modem and try out each ADSL filter on that line, rechecking internet speeds as you go.

Tweakmaster software (free at www.tweakmaster.com) enables you to try out different combinations of connection settings on your computer. Another good option is to add an iPlate onto your home's master phone socket. This deactivates the bell wire, an obsolete part of the telephone wiring that was once used to make phones ring, but now merely creates electrical interference. These plates can boost ADSL line speeds by around 60%. You can buy one for €9.15 from www.broadbandbuyer.co.uk. Finally, consider upgrading your modem/router or your computer by adding more RAM or updating the operating system!

US Immigration Rules - SCAM WARNING: I saw this article in my latest FCO magazine!..... Countries that are part of the US visa waiver programme require advance completion of an online form as part of the new Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA). The official US site makes it clear that the form does not require payment of a fee; but there are, at present, reports of a scam in which a fake site appears ahead of the official one, when using the Google search engine. The scammers ask for personal information, then charge a fee and when the fee has been paid, simply refer the scammed person to the official US site - which charges nothing. Quite apart from the fee, scammers could then make use of the personal information and credit card details provided. For more information about ESTA, visit www.usembassy.org.uk.
Maria Samuel (woodcott13@btinternet.com)

Did you know that the BBC website news.bbc.co.uk has a great weather page? If you set the home page to Castle Cary, it will tell you whether it is worth getting up or not.

St. Leonard's Church



Services for October

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|
| <p>4 Oct 9.30am</p> | <p>Morning Prayer Lay Lead Trinity 17</p> | <p>Old Testament Genesis 2 v 18 - 24 Gospel Mark 10 v 2 - 16 Psalm 8</p> | <p>Wendy Crane Charles Ducane</p> |
| <p>11 Oct 11.0am</p> | <p>Holy Communion BCP Trinity 18</p> | <p>Epistle Hebrews 4 v 12 - 16 Gospel Mark 10 v 17 - 31</p> | <p>Philip Pidsley Clergy</p> |
| <p>18 Oct 9.30am</p> | <p>CLUSTER SERVICE WYKE CHAMPFLOWER Trinity 19</p> | | |
| <p>25 Oct 11.0am</p> | <p>Holy Communion BCP Last Sunday after Trinity</p> | <p>Epistle Hebrews 7 v 23 - 28 Gospel Mark 10 v 46 - 52</p> | <p>Carole Wyatt Clergy</p> |

Churchwardens' Notes

By the time you read this, Harvest Thanksgiving will have been and gone but in your diaries please note St Leonard's Patronal Festival Evensong at 6.30 1st November; Remembrance Sunday service at 1050 on 8th November with drinks afterwards at Pitcombe Farmhouse, courtesy of Mr and Mrs Drysdale and the Carol Service, 6.30 on Friday 18th December.

Parochial Church Councils were established in 1920. On 21st October 1921 ours considered a proposal to add bells to the three we had recast in 1910. (The cost then would have been £70). 88 years later, the PCC has finally decided, after a favourable report on the structure of the tower from UK's leading tower expert, to try to do something about the proposal. It will cost rather more than £70, even at today's prices relative to those of 1921 but, nothing venture, nothing win and a plan of action will now be forthcoming.

*Make your day a masterpiece
And do your very best,
Put your whole self into it
With energy and zest.
Look up and laugh, be positive
Turn problems into challenges
To spur you on your way.*

*Welcome opportunities
That knock upon your door,
As stepping stones to better things
And learning something more.
Be bold, be strong have confidence
To hold on and come through,
So make this day a masterpiece
And to yourself be true.*

By Kathleen Gillum

Charles Brook, Wendy Crane

My wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to our six-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?" I don't know what to say," she replied. "Just say what you hear Mommy say," my wife said. Our daughter bowed her head and said: "Dear Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"

The Prayer Book Society Bath & Wells Branch

Sunday October 18th 2009

This will be a grand day

Three Churches, Matins and Choral Evensong, lunch and tea.

- 10.30 Matins, St Michael`s, North Cadbury. This fine church is unusual in that in 1427 it became a collegiate church with provision for 7 chaplains and 4 clerks. It is noted particularly for its carved bench ends.
The preacher is the well known Mr George Renwick, noted for his love of the Book of Common Prayer.
After the service, James Buxton, a Church Warden, will talk about the church while the PBS entertains the congregation to a glass of wine. Meanwhile the bell ringers, under their captain Tim Watts, will ring a Quarter Peel, which I was fortunate to buy at a recent auction in aid of the church. This lasts 50 minutes.
Parking in the avenue leading to St Michael`s.
- 12.30 Lunch at the Catash Inn, North Cadbury, There is room for 30 and booking is required.
- 15.30 Drive to Pitcombe Farmhouse, Pitcombe, Nr Bruton.BA10 0PE
Parking as directed.
- 16.00 Walk to St Leonard`s, Pitcombe, where George Bunting will talk about the church followed by tea at Pitcombe Farmhouse.
- 18.00 Arrive at St Mary`s, Bruton where we will be met by the Vicar, Rev Justin Bailey, who will tell us the history of this lovely church, with its ornate rococo chancel.
Parking in streets nearby.
- 18.30 Choral evensong sung by the Bruton choir under their Choirmaster, Harry Mills. The setting will be the Weelkes Evening Service for Trebles and the anthem Ave Verum by William Byrd. The sermon will be delivered by our Ecclesiastical Patron, the Rt Rev Michael Ball, whose sermons we treasure as prose poems.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL

DEADLINE October 8th 2009

CONTACT Andrew Drysdale at Pitcombe Farmhouse, Pitcombe,
Bruton Somerset, BA10 0PE Tel 01749 813 979.

Email andrew.drysdale@easynet.co.uk

FRIENDS OF SOMERSET CHURCHES & CHAPELS
SPONSORED RIDE and STRIDE Saturday 12th September 2009

What a glorious day! Will it last, I asked myself as I set off at 0950 hours with the sun shining in a clear blue sky and a stillness in the air which augured well for a settled day.

By 1025 I had visited Bruton Methodist, Sexey's Chapel, St Mary's Bruton, St Leonard's Pitcombe and St Peter Shepton Montague and was on my way to Wincanton. Six of the churches in Wincanton were open when I called but no one seemed to know about this year's FSCC ride and stride and the door of the Society of Friends's door was firmly shut. So it was off to St. Nicholas, Holton which was open but there was no FSCC Form to sign. Sadly, this was the case with the majority of churches this year.

But I was in luck at St. John's North Cheriton where someone was playing Handel's Water Music on the organ and a very cheerful gentleman told me how to get to Maperton where the church of St's. Peter & Paul was concealed at the end of a driveway which could easily be missed.

Thence to St. Michael at Blackford by 1200 which not only had a form but liquid refreshment. The sun was still shining and the air like wine as I cycled along, what I consider is one of the prettiest routes, to Compton Pouncefoot arriving at St. Mary's at 1210.

The next churches were St. Thomas-a-Beckett, S.Cadbury, Holy Trinity, Sutton Montis, Holy Cross at Weston Bamfylde, St. Mary Magdalene, Sparkford, St. Barnabas, Queen Camel, and All Saints West Camel. None of these Churches had a Form to sign so I signed the 'Visitors Books'.

Crossing over the very busy A303 at 1.30 pm I was soon roaring down Steart Hill at 30 mph on my way to Babcarry's Holy Cross Church. At Charlton Adam the Church of St. Peter and Paul was firmly locked so it was straight on to St. Mary at Charlton Mackerell which was my 25th church in about 4½ hours. After that it was St. Mary Magdalene at Keinton Mandeville and the Methodist Church followed by St. David at Barton St. David and All Saints at Kingweston which was the most westerly Church on my route arriving at 1525.

My last two churches were St. Peter, West Lydford and finally All Saints at Alford where they had laid on some mince pies! This was church No. 31, the time 1626 hrs and I was well fortified to take on the steep hill up to Ansford and thence to Cole and home by 1700 having covered 50 miles. I would like to express my thanks to all my sponsors whose donations will hopefully bring the proceeds to just over £300. *Willie Constantine*

FAVOURITE THINGS

Questions by Sue Smith
Responses from Nigel Wheadon, Pitcombe

What are your three favourite places?

SOMERSET - I was born and bred in Somerset and wouldn't want to live anywhere else. It's diverse and lovely scenery beats anywhere else.

JAMAICA - The family had a lovely holiday here - the people were really nice, and the whole place seemed happy and bubbly.

WIMBLEDON - Tennis is my favourite sport, and I've been to Wimbledon on a few occasions. I was lucky enough to get a ticket for the "roof" ceremony, so got to see Henman, Cljisters, Graff and Aggassi.

What are your three favourite foods?

A good steak!
Chinese - I love all the different things
Good fish and chips

If you could invite three people to dinner (dead or alive!) who would you choose and why?

JOHN McENROE_- he would have some great tennis stories, great sense of humour, and would ensure there was never a quiet moment.

TOM HANKS - a great actor who has played such a range of different roles.

KATHRYN JENKINS - A lovely voice and a lovely girl!!

If you could pick just one of your favourite things, which would it be and why?

It would have to be Tom Hanks, because of his multi-talented acting roles.

"To err is human. To blame someone else is politics."

— Hubert H. Humphrey, US politician, 38th Vice President



FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2009

**Batcombe Jubilee Hall
Doors open 7.15pm, film starts 7.45pm**

I'VE LOVED YOU SO LONG

(dir. Philippe Claudel) 2008 / 117 mins / 12A

Kristen Scott-Thomas is outstanding in this film about the relationship between two sisters, one with a secret, the other trying to reach out to her. The film opens at an airport where Juliette is meeting her younger sister, Léa (Elsa Zylberstein), for the first time in 15 years. She goes to live with Léa's family in Nancy and as Juliette slowly begins to build a life for herself there, the reason for her absence is gradually revealed in this moving and engrossing story.

(French with subtitles)

Free parking - Licensed bar & soft refreshments - Wheel-chair access - Hearing loop

The *Pitcombe News* gives details of each month's film/event but for more details, contact Elizabeth Hunt on 01749 850 304 or ehunt@mbzonline.net – for membership enquiries, Rob Sage on 01749 850 934 or robsage@uwclub.net



HADSPEN CHRISTMAS MARKET

WEDNESDAY
25th November 2009
10.30 am to 3 pm

HADSPEN VILLAGE HALL

Proceeds to MOTIVATION - a charity that enhances the quality of life for disabled people in developing countries.

Support your local producers selling items of food, clothing, jewellery, gifts etc.

REFRESHMENTS AND SOUP LUNCHES