### Holford news & views



May - June 2021



### **Editorial**

After the early promise of sunshine we are back to low cloud and wall to wall rain. As a child these days would have been filled with making cakes or painting (I enjoyed 'whopper' painting books using Reeves paints or colouring pencils.)

Lockdown is over, thank goodness, and we can start to emerge from hibernation, slowly and carefully. One of the most significant things to look forward to is being able to sit in a restaurant and have tasty plates of food put in front of us. I,

like several others have booked a table at the Plough and will look to book other venues in the coming weeks. 'Its an ill wind that blows nobody any good'; the new landladies at the pub have had time to do what they want to renovate and prepare for reopening.

The Hall is opening, remember coffee and cake days? The Art group will start again as will other events which will be advertised in due course.

Yesterday I heard someone comment that they had almost lost the ability to hold a conversation with others. I agree ... but with a little practice I'm sure we will manage.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Holford to our new residents at Mayfield : Desire, David, Timothy and Lily. When restrictions are lifted we hope they will join us for some fun events!

Some great news, after a great deal of lobbying from The Parish Council, the Traffic Management department at SCC has agreed to provide (at no cost to the Parish) new improved signage on the A39 including high visibility 30mph signs (at both ends of the village) with a camera logo on them, renewal of the SLOW signs on the road surface and a 'No Through Road' sign at the village triangle. Hopefully this will go ahead shortly. Excellent news – let's see if these help to improve speeding issues on the main road.

On a different note we were greatly saddened to hear of the death of Liz Talling after a long struggle with illness. Our sincere condolences go to her husband David.

This edition of Holford News and Views is kindly sponsored by Holford Gardeners Group

Don't forget to keep us informed of any interesting articles worthy of sharing

### Holford Gardeners Group Flower Show 7/8/2021 Rules and Competition Procedures

- \* All classes are open to all exhibitors & ages excepting classes 65-70 incl.
- \* Entry by completed form ONLY. One form per person. Exhibitors may only have 1 entry per class.
- \* Entry fees per class: Classes 1-64 30p Classes 65-70 10p
- \* All exhibits must be the bona fide work and property of the person exhibiting. All exhibits in classes 1-31 must have been grown/produced by the exhibitor.

  Please name the varieties if known.
- \* All exhibitors to supply own equipment i.e. vases, paper plates, etc.

  The Committee cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage to exhibits or receptacles.
- \* Please complete the Entry Form provided and send with the correct fees (make cheques payable to 'Holford Gardeners Group'), to :-

Westering, Holford, TA5 1SD (Opp. The Plough)

By 12 noon on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> August or at :-

Holford & District Village Hall (A39 Holford) on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> August between 6.30pm and 8pm.

NB. Entry Forms & Fees only accepted by above dates & times.

- \* ONLY EXHIBITORS to deliver and arrange all exhibits between 9.00am and 10.30am on the morning of the show, at no expense or risk to the organisers. No exhibits will be accepted after 10.30am.
- \* Judging will take place commencing 10.45am on the day of the show. No unauthorised person will be permitted in the hall during this time.
- \* The Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry they feel does not comply with the rules.
- \* The Show will be open to the public from 2pm to 4.30pm.
- \* To determine 'GROUP' awards, points will be awarded for each class as follows:- 1st prize 4 points, 2nd prize 2 points, 3rd prize 1 point
- \* Presentation of trophies and certificates at 4.15pm.
- \* Removal of exhibits to commence after presentation ONLY. EXHIBITORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR COLLECTING THEIR EXHIBITS, CARDS, ETC. Exhibits remaining after 5.30pm will be disposed of.
- \* Any objections must be lodged with a Committee Member before the close of show, in writing. The Committee's decision will be final.

### Flower Show 7/8/2021 ENTRY FORM

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CLASS NUMBERS AS PER SCHEDULE OVERLEAF

### PLEASE CIRCLE THE CLASS NUMBERS YOU WISH TO ENTER

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70

ENTRY FEE - 30p Classes 1-64 10p Classes 65-70

Name of Exhibitor	
Address	
	Tel Number

I declare that the proposed exhibits in the above classes will be produced by me and I agree to abide by the Rules and Competition Procedures.

Additional Entry Forms email: gilljones47@hotmail.com or ring 01278 741173

Thank you and Good Luck

### Richardsons' Ramblings

Back in September 2018 we had a week in Symonds Yat and decided to go the long way round via Gloucester so we could visit Westbury Court Garden in Westbury-on-Severn and what a delight it was. We wished that we had not already eaten our picnic as it was such a lovely peaceful spot and we could have sat in the shade of the orchard.

Westbury Court Garden is small compared to most gardens but it is perfectly formed! It is the finest surviving 17<sup>th</sup> century Dutch water garden in the UK. Maynard Colchester designed the Long Canal, circular pond, Tall Pavilion and the framework of walls. The garden was created for 2 purposes – a pleasant place to meander round and to be productive with vegetables, fruit trees, fish in the canals and even a rabbit warren.

In the 18<sup>th</sup> century the Colchesters demolished the house but continued to maintain the garden to a certain extent although they had moved to the Forest of Dean. Fortunately it was not destroyed in favour of more 'natural' landscaping which was the fashion of the time.100 years later the family moved back into a new property with the water garden featured in *Country Life* in the early 1900's.





A housing development was put forward in the 1960's but the local council stepped in and purchased the garden. The National Trust took on a very neglected garden in 1967 – the canals had silted up, the Tall Pavilion needed re-building and the flower beds needed re-planting. This was the first major garden restoration undertaken by the National Trust, helped by detailed archival papers and an 18<sup>th</sup> engraving so it is now as it was in 1720.

The week in Symonds Yat did get curtailed! We had been advised of a landslip on the 'major' access lane and I use the term 'major' very loosely! You could leave your car in a car park 1 mile from the cottage and carry everything to the rental property. We did the alternative of negotiating a very narrow lane with high bank one side and railings then buildings, including the back of Ye Olde Ferrie Inn, on the other. It was a good job we had nothing larger than the Yeti! Mike had to angle the wing mirrors in and no chance of opening the car door a few inches. If you met another vehicle one of you had to reverse for possibly ¼ mile!! That happened once and we only drove out 3 times including coming home. No doubt tempers got very frayed in the summer!

Gae

### Riddles Time

- 1) A boy was at a carnival and went to a booth where a man said to the boy, "If I write your exact weight on this piece of paper then you have to give me £50, but if I cannot, I will pay you £50." The boy looked around and saw no scale so he agrees, thinking no matter what the man writes he'll just say he weighs more or less. In the end the boy ended up paying the man £50. How did the man win the bet?
- 2) When can you add two to eleven and get one as the correct answer?
- 3) A pregnant lady named her children: Dominique, Regis, Michelle, Fawn, Sophie and Lara. What will she name her next child? Jessica, Katie, Abby or Tilly?
- 4) A man was found dead next to a 13 story building. The police say it was a suicide, but you say it was a murder. To prove this, you go to each floor on the building, open the window, and toss a penny out. You do this to each floor until you reach the 13th floor, open the window, and toss a penny out. How does this prove it wasn't a suicide?
- 5) Three playing cards in a row. Can you name them with these clues? There is a two to the right of a king. A diamond will be found to the left of a spade. An ace is to the left of a heart. A heart is to the left of a spade. Now, identify all three cards.

You've been working your brains very hard, so give it a rest and exercise your tongue instead. Try this tongue twister 5 times.

'The sixth sick sheikh ate six sick sheep'

### Back to riddles again!

- 6) Five apples are in a basket. How do you divide them among five girls so that each girl gets an apple, but one apple remains in the basket?
- 7) If there are four sheep, two dogs and one herds-men, how many feet are there?
- 8) A farmer in Somerset owns a beautiful pear tree. He supplies the fruit to a nearby grocery store. The store owner has called the farmer to see how much fruit is available for him to purchase. The farmer knows that the main trunk has 24 branches. Each branch has exactly 12 boughs and each bough has exactly 6 twigs. Since each twig bears one piece of fruit, how many plums will the farmer be able to deliver?
- 9) What day would yesterday be if Thursday was four days before the day after tomorrow?

### The Plough is open for business!

As I write this, The Plough Inn is now open and both of us are absolutely thrilled to be welcoming you all back.

Over the past few months people have enquired why we choose to do this, what the attraction was and why anyone would take on a business in the hospitality sector whilst the world faces a pandemic!! (which is actually a very good point  $\bigcirc!$ ) The answer for us is a simple one........ life is too short to have regrets, there comes a time where you need to grab your dreams with both hands or let them go.

Mickey spent her early career in the Nightclub Industry, running nightclubs in Swindon and Southsea for nearly 15 years, before that she worked in pubs developing her hospitality skills and even as a DJ for a number of years. After a period of overseas travel, she returned to the UK and took up roles managing teams in large manufacturing plants, however the passion for hospitality never died and inside she always had the dream of running her own pub. Donna on the other hand was different, you could say it was in her blood, as she grew up in a Pub, due to her parents running the Greyhound Inn in Stogursey for many years during the late 70's and early 80's.

So, when the Plough Inn became available and following a promise, we made to each other to make the most of life following Mickeys survival of Cancer in 2017 the decision for us was made! For those who know us will know we never do things half-hearted and the Pub will be no different, if we are going to be the new landladies then we are all in, fully committed to the village and prepared to do our utmost to make the village pub the best it can be, giving our customers the best experience every time they walk through those doors.

### Our vision for the pub is simple, we want the community to have a village pub they are proud of.



Whether to entertain visitors and friends, treat the family to a Sunday roast, meet neighbours for a coffee or pint, or just to admire the look of your village pub as you turn in off the A39 on your way home – we want you to be proud of your pub!

To achieve this, we have been working extremely hard since February with a small dedicated team of helpers, many of whom have worked for free, we owe them a great deal and will be personally

thanking them over the coming weeks as we become operational. The employed team members that have remained have all been amazing too, supporting us and working so hard with the new plans to get us ready. Although some of the team have changed, we feel the mix of the experience giving us our solid foundation and the energy of the new staff will provide the perfect balance to give us the best start possible and our customers old and new the best experience when you choose to spend time at the Plough Inn.

We are proud of what we have achieved in a short period of time and hope you will all approve of the changes. At every step of the way we have tried to respect what sits at the heart Pub, what our locals and visitors enjoy and to remember we are a village country pub, set at the foot of the Quantock Hills.

We are wise enough to know we won't completely satisfy everyone, but we are hopeful that everyone will find something they appreciate and love about the Pub. Either way what we can guarantee is a warm welcome and consistent approach to looking after you all.

We really do need your support, as we all know hospitality has been hit really hard and building a successful business that will be here for years to come will only happen if we have you all supporting us. So, whether for a coffee (freshly ground on site from beans roasted in Somerset) or a pint to celebrate being able to meet up again, or indeed to sample our new menu and enjoy the décor we really do need you.

We opened at mid-day on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May and due to Covid-19 safety regulations we recommend you book a table, even if dinning or drinking outside for the weeks to come and until restriction are hopefully loosened in late June. Of course, we will do our best to accommodate you should you book late or indeed just walk in.

We are open 7 Days a week, from noon until late, serving food from 12 - 9pm throughout the summer, winter timing will be confirmed as the season progresses.

We are also taking future bookings for the year and have already had a number of larger party bookings to make up for those missed celebrations due to lockdown. So please do call us on our new number 01278 741 624 to avoid disappointment. You can also find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Mickey, Donna and the Team look forward to seeing you all soon and getting back to some form of normality in a safe manner.









Our long awaited season commenced on 22<sup>nd</sup> May with a very successful Plant Sale, held outside of the Holford and District hall. After a week of rain the sun actually managed to shine. Many bargain hunters turned out, not only to enjoy a good variety of plants but also to enjoy homemade cakes to go with their tea!

Our meetings begin again on June 22<sup>nd,</sup> at 7.30 pm, our speaker, Gina Merritt-Smith, will give a talk on 'Kews Victorian Gem, the intrepid Marianne North'

All are welcome Members £1.00 Visitors £3.50

### Holford Parish Council - Chairman's Annual Report May 4th 2021

As Chairman I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the councillors for their amazing enthusiasm, hard work and support over the last year. I am grateful to all but especially to both David Talling for his invaluable advice and to the Clerk – she is a great asset to the council. Special thanks also go to Mo Young who has resigned after 15 years on the council. Her enthusiasm and hard work have been greatly appreciated.

It has been a very odd year for everyone including the PC, quite unlike any other we have experienced. One sincerely hopes there will not be a repeat. We wait impatiently for our wonderful refurbished Village Hall and our local pub the Plough (with two new landladies) to re-open again during May.

It has been difficult to move projects forward due to various lockdowns and the large number of people furloughed has resulted in reduced staffing levels. Although remote working has enabled some progress it has often been painfully slow.

### <u>Planning</u>

There have been a reduced number of small scale planning applications locally over the last year. The only major project is a recent application to convert Alfoxton Park into a Buddhist retreat. The PC felt that the majority of local people would like to see the important listed building saved but given the complexity of the project the Parish Council has in general deferred any decisions to the Conservation Officer but with a request to be kept informed on developments. Building and landscaping work is being carried out by volunteers only so will take many years to complete.

Moorhouse Farm has been granted an extension to caravan housing for Hinkley C workers.

An enforcement order has been initiated to remove the building on Strawberry Field but there has been no progress so far. During the year the Silk Mills planning appeal to the Secretary of State was rejected but so far we have had no update on the future plans for the site.

In spite of persistent lobbying the Parish Council has been unable to get any progress made on the re-opening of the play area at Portway. For this reason after nearly two years of the site being padlocked the PC has asked the planning authority to intervene as the planning consent for the houses was contingent on a playground and hard court to be provided for parish children. Falcon Housing has been issued with a notice to comply.

EDF has asked for the requirement of the environmental safeguard of an Acoustic Fish Deterrent be removed from the agreed plan at Hinkley C. This is currently under review by the Environment Agency.

### **Environment**

The Parish Council has decided to investigate the possibility of the 'wilding' of one of the grass verges on the A39 and this is an ongoing project. This aim is to establish an area for wild flowers and insects as endorsed by PlantLife. The hedge bank between the Church and the triangle is under review by the NT. They report that at the moment it is not unsafe but it will be monitored. Once again the potholes around the car park have re-appeared and the PC is to arrange repairs shortly.

Sadly the saplings planted as replacements for the deteriorating Memorial Trees has failed again due to the extremely dry weather and the requirement from the National Trust to plant them within the same area as the current ageing trees.

The Parish Council is concerned about the state of the SSSI sites in our area and has contacted Joanna Chesworth from Natural England to ask about their quite rare reassessment. Their detailed response will be posted on line shortly.

'Somerset Wildlife Crime and Hounds Off' has published a document about deer hunting on the Quantocks which makes for very bleak reading. There have been a number of reports of anti-social and environmentally damaging occurrences over the last year. The Parish Councillor working on improving co-operation with the local hunt is Stephen Campbell. Stephen has also been elected as the PC representative on the Quantock Hills Joint Advisory Committee.

### Traffic and Transport

Over the year the only issue raised by a significant number of local people has been inconsiderate parking by visitors. This is likely to continue in 2021 due to the limitations imposed on foreign travel. We can only hope the opening up of travel restrictions will improve the situation.

At the start of the year an independent Holford traffic monitoring group was set up and it sent out a questionnaire to various houses in the village centre regarding traffic movements. There were serious issues with the validity of the survey due in part to the selection of a only a small group of participants. This traffic group has since disbanded. The PC plans to conduct a full survey in due course, to be sent to all parishioners, not just those in the village centre, to better understand the issues that concern them.

The Parish Council's Traffic Team (EC and SC) continues to investigate ways to reduce speeding on the A39 and approached Traffic Management at SCC to see if the 30mph signs could be moved further up the road. This is not possible due to the lack of adjacent housing (a legal requirement) they will however change the signs for newer, more highly visible signs. In the last year a Community Speed Watch team has been set up by Mo Young and is now running again after lockdown. There is evidence of a number of vehicles speeding through the village on the main road.

The Parish Council is investigating the possibility of a reduced speed limit in the village centre however, in the absence of any reports of accidents or injury over the last 20 years the Police will not investigate without financial input from the Parish Council. We are looking into the costs of a monitoring system. This will not be implemented until local views have been considered as the funding would have to come out of a limited Parish Precept budget.

The Community Bus Service has been hit by coronavirus and has been out of action a lot of the time but is now restored with social distancing measures in place. We look

forward in the coming year to the promised increase in funding from central government to improve bus services across Somerset the 'Bus Back Better' proposal.

### Local Government

The Local Government Reorganisation over the various Somerset councils is under way with minimal consultation with local parishes. The proposal has been accepted in principle by HM Government but the exact model for the changes is hotly contested. We wait for clearer information on what will happen in the future but we do know that the number of councillors will be drastically reduced. It is proposed that some responsibilities will be devolved to PCs. Quite how this will work and be funded is a matter for conjecture. Your Parish Council has been in contact with Kilve Parish Council over the possibility of co-operative working on various issues in the future. We have also been approached by Nether Stowey PC with the same aim.

### **Vacancies**

Two vacancies for parish councillors have been advertised for some time and recently an application form has been received.

The official Parish Council minutes are available on our website www.holford-pc.gov.uk

### Since our May AGM there have been some significant developments which I would like to report on.

The PC requested that the planning enforcement officer at SCC send a letter to Falcon Housing reminding them of their requirement to provide a play area for the village as part of the planning consent for new housing. Since then Falcon has put in a comprehensive application to make the locked play areas accessible again. They have taken into account all the suggestions put forward by the Parish Council. (If you wish to comment on the proposal see Somerset West online information ref: 3/16/21/007).

The Parish Council is delighted to inform local residents that after a great deal of lobbying the Traffic Management department at SCC has agreed to provide (at no cost to the Parish) new improved signage on the A39 including high visibility 30mph signs (at both ends of the village) with a camera logo on them, renewal of the SLOW signs on the road surface and a 'No Through Road' sign at the village triangle. Hopefully this will go ahead shortly. Excellent news – let's see if these help to improve speeding issues on the main road.

Strawberry Field – this was also pointed out the Planning Department at SCC and an enforcement reminder with a 6 week deadline has been sent. This only means that work must start on demolition must begin but it is progress of a sort.

Mike Copleston's application to return as a councillor was agreed by all the current councillors. There is still one vacancy so please consider joining.

### Emma Cavendish Chairman





### **NEWS FROM YOUR VILLAGE HALL**

### **Village Hall Update**

### Village Hall expected to re-open fully Monday 21 June – but watch this space!

In line with guidance from ACRE, we plan to re-open the village hall **on Monday 21**<sup>st</sup> **June** subject to approval from HM Government. We await confirmation as I write this!

If all goes ahead as planned the Hall will be fully open without restrictions. There will be no official need for sanitizer, masks, one-way systems, social distancing etc.

We recognise, however, that for some, venturing out of lockdown after such a long time may be problematic. So, we would ask everyone to be patient and have understanding for others as we acclimatise to 'normal' life again. Some may still wish to wear masks and be cautious about mixing.

It is still my intention to help create a village event to celebrate our escape from lockdown - THE BIG BIRTHDAY BASH! - with a focus on the 'Noughties' birthdays that occurred in lockdown. I'm aiming for early September - but open to suggestions. Expect food, drink, games, poetry and music!

So, if you had a birthday ending in ZERO during lockdown, please let me know. <a href="mailto:chair@holfordvillagehall.org">chair@holfordvillagehall.org</a>

That's it for now. Have a good summer and check out what is happening at the Hall - www.holfordvillagehall.org. Most of the previous events will be re-starting. The monthly Coffee and Cake mornings will resume on the first Saturday of each month starting 5th July: I hope to see you there!

And please think about booking the Hall for your next party or celebratory event!

Alan Falkingham, Chai	r
1	

### **Riddle Answers:**

- 1) The man did exactly as he said he would and wrote "your exact weight" on the paper.
- 2) When you add two hours to eleven o'clock, you get one o'clock.
- 3) Tilly. She seems to follow the scale Do, Re, Me, Fa, So, La, and then Ti.
- 4) If the man committed suicide, he would've left the window open and you wouldn't have had to open it.
- 5) Ace of Diamonds, King of Hearts, Two of Spades.
- 6) Give the fifth girl her apple in the basket.
- 7) Two. Sheep have hooves; dogs have paws; only people have feet.
- 8) None. A pear tree does not bear plums.
- 9) Friday.

### The Beautiful Hat

I was sitting in the garden with a friend at the start of the 'you can meet one person' phase of the lockdown when we started to talk about memories... how some seem to stay within our brains and others seem to fade away. What processes are going on in our grey matter that decides what we can recall and what is like dust on the wind?

I found myself talking about my mum, long gone, who was such a strong character that as a rather anxious soul I sometimes found challenging. She was however extraordinarily generous towards me, sometimes to the chagrin of my sisters and brother who thought she spoilt me unfairly – which with hindsight was almost certainly true.

Many years ago niece, also my God Daughter was getting married and as Grandmother my mum felt the need to have a new hat to wear. So off we went to Clifton in Bristol to a very grand milliner – I can't imagine there are many of those left in the world let alone in Britain, to find her a suitable hat for the occasion. It was a large and very elegant shop and my mum tried on a number of very suitable hats and chose a nice blue number that she looked really good in.

The woman who was looking after us, a very grand 'vendeuse' picked up a hat and put it on my head. It was the most beautiful hat I had ever seen and like all great hats made me look like something out of a Hollywood movie. It was hand made of cream silk decorated with cream and taupe roses and that wonderful frothy net. When I looked in the mirror I was taken aback... wow! However, the price tag was Super Wow. I remember thinking it was a week's wages at least. I started to take it off and began to explain that although I loved it, it was far too expensive for me. My mum said, 'oh well, if you really love it, I'll pay for it'. It was unexpected at the time but with hindsight I realise just how often she did exactly that for me.



The hat was worn for three more weddings and lent to a friend for Ascot and it always went carefully back into its hatbox with tissue paper and put away. Until finally, years later, came the day when I packed up to move into a new house with a new partner and it joined an ever growing pile of 'where will we put these?'. We only had 48 hours to pack everything up for the move (a story for another time) and suddenly on impulse I said 'let's take this lot round the corner to the Hospice Shop'. Half an hour and two boot loads later the hat went on to a new life. I do hope that someone felt half as glamourous as I did next time it went to a wedding.

Thanks Mum – a memory I will always cherish.

Emma Cavendish

### Ever felt a bit daunted when you meet someone at a gathering? Not sure what to say? Here are 5 Questions That Lead to Great Conversations

The key to creating meaningful interactions? Take your eyes off of yourself and place it on the other person. By giving them the attention first, you'll have a clear edge: People are naturally wired and looking for connection and positive affirmation -- to be seen and heard.

And it all starts with asking the right questions. So kill the small talk and ban questions like "What do you do?" and "Where are you from?" in favour of these great conversational starters.

### 1. What's your story?

This open-ended question is bound to trigger something interesting after the other person gets over the initial shock that you asked it. By opening up a conversation in this manner, you've given them access to speak from their hearts and share their life's journeys, dreams, and goals.

### 2. What makes you smile when you get up in the morning?

A great question that gets the interaction hopping on a positive note from the get-go. Watch the other person's wheels turn as she reflects on something for which she's excited or deeply grateful.

### 3. What is that one book that has influenced you the most?

The brilliance behind this question is not the question itself, but the invitation for follow-up questions because of the book's impact on that person's life, marriage, career, or business. Asking it deepens the conversation (and the connection) as you learn more about how the topic has positively altered that person's life in some way. If they're not avid readers, ask about movies or famous people.

### 4. What absolutely excites you right now?

This question triggers passion. Who *doesn't* like to speak from their most passionate space? It may end up being their thriving career, a new job, or an exciting new phase of their business. It could be personal: the arrival of a new baby, having beaten cancer or finding true love. Whatever it is, think of all the places the conversation will lead, and the possibilities of connecting the dots with the other person when it's your turn to shine.

### 5. What's the most important thing I should know about you?

In line with all the others, this question will elicit emotions to deepen the conversation and find connecting points. That's what you're after -- creating space to discover what makes the other person tick, unique, or maybe frustrated so you can offer encouragement or make a difference in his or her life.

Finally, did you notice a pattern? It should be obvious. Here's a hint: You take the initiative and make the conversation about the other person. People love to talk about themselves. This selfless act of putting the spotlight on someone else makes you the most interesting person in the room. From www.marcelschwantes.com

### **Volunteering Opportunities with the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme**

The Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme (QLPS) is a NLHF-funded, £2.6m, 5-year project, created to address changing pressures on the on the Quantock Hills and surrounding parishes, an area of some 400 square kilometres. The scheme comprises 23 individual projects spanning natural history, historic heritage, education and future planning, each intended to contribute to the long-term future of the hills by protecting, restoring and increasing understanding of the distinctive features of the Quantock landscape.

Of those 23 projects, a number specifically relate to the history of the hills, including archaeological excavations, archival research, and a wide ranging and inclusive events programme. Central to our work is the desire to increase the capacity and skills of the volunteer base working in the area, providing more people with more opportunities to contribute. The Covid-19 crisis has inevitably had an impact on our first year and we have some catching up to do. But, hopefully, the vaccine roll-out will allow us to get our programme of community archaeology projects up and running in the summer, by which time we might also have been able to commence some of our archival work at the Somerset Heritage Centre.

In the meantime, there are several projects which lend themselves to working remotely, and for which the QLPS is now seeking volunteers.

### LiDAR Survey.

The QLPS has commissioned a high-resolution LiDAR survey of the entire project area. For the uninitiated, LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) is a remote sensing technique which uses laser scanners, mounted on an aircraft, to produce detailed 3D maps known as Digital Terrain Models (DTMs).

The great advantage of LiDAR data to archaeological work is that, unlike conventional aerial or satellite imagery, DTMs can be processed in various ways. For example, simulated light can be cast across them to create shadow effects from various directions, helping to reveal archaeological earthworks which may be indiscernible on the ground or to aerial photography. Perhaps most excitingly, LiDAR allows the effective 'removal' of tree cover, allowing us the potential to identify archaeological features previously hidden beneath the canopy, as well as helping to more fully understand existing ones.

The aerial survey work was completed just before Christmas and we are now in need of volunteers who are interested in receiving training in LiDAR interpretation and helping to explore this exciting new resource for understanding the history, heritage and archaeology of the Quantocks.

### **Trees in the Landscape**

Focusing on how the number, size, and species of individual trees has changed over the last 200 years, this ambitious project aims to provide a detailed historical understanding of the changing use of tress in the Quantocks, uncovering the accompanying social changes affecting parkland and hedgerows. In doing so, we hope to renew interest in the importance of trees in the lowland landscape and to create a strategy to ensure that they remain a key element of the Quantock's identity.

The current Covid restrictions means we are unable to access the archives at the Somerset Heritage Centre, but we are seeking volunteers to begin the process of exploring the online catalogue of Estate Records in search of any documents which might prove useful for this study of tree use in the Quantock parklands. We are also seeking volunteers, interested in using digital maps of various dates to identify changing patterns of tree use and note potentially significant, individual trees.

All of these roles are intended as pieces of work which can be done from home following some online training.

Full details of the various projects are available on the QLPS website: <a href="https://qlps.org/">https://qlps.org/</a>

If you are interested in assisting with any of the above roles, please contact me: Dan Broadbent, Historic Heritage Officer, Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme, dbroadbent@somerset.gov.uk

### **Congratulations!**



David and I were married on 31st March 2021 in St Mary's Church Holford with Reverend Stephen Campbell officiating and keeping our little group in line. Luckily just a few days before the service good old Boris upped our wedding guest numbers from 4 to 6 and another friend, who is a brilliant wildlife and countryside photographer, had a go at photographing humans! It was

sad that no family and long distance friends were allowed to attend, but our Somerset ones and our Clumbers helped make up for lack of numbers. It was a lovely happy service and a perfect day and, hopefully, many others will chose this lovely little church for their perfect day too.

Jan Linley-Hare - Sandyacre, Dodington

### **Cousin Sylvia's Fruit Cake**

This fruit cake recipe was given to me by my cousin Sylvia, she swam for Great Britain in the Tokyo Olympics many, many years ago and in the Commonwealth Games in Australia. We believe it might have been a recipe handed down from our great grandmother as my cousin says she remembers her own mother (my aunt) making it and she says it was just as well she didn't eat any before she competed! The method is basic and it's quite a moist cake, we're not sure of the temperature for baking but in modern day terms, probably around 170 degrees (fan) and guessing on size of tin; we assume nowadays people will use castor sugar, but some old recipes did only suggest granulated; flour we assume used these days would be self raising. We've also converted weights! Enjoy! Mo (Plomgren)

8oz (225g) Margarine or butter

8oz (225g) Sugar

12oz (350g) Flour

2oz (75g) Cherries (cut into 4's!)

About 15 oz (450g) Mixed fruit - currants, sultanas, raisins.

Four eggs

2 Tablespoons of marmalade

Cream margarine (or butter) and sugar together, gradually add the beaten eggs, then the flour gradually and finally the fruit and marmalade.

Into a 9" (22cm) greased cake tin and bake for a couple of hours, keep an eye on it!

### **BRAIN TEASERS**

See inside for the latest riddles on Page 5

?

(Answers on Page 11)

Thanks to Mike Richardson

### Oil delivery

Time to stock up again?
For those wishing to make use of the community oil delivery scheme.
Orders will need to be placed by Monday for deliveries in the following week, usually on Wednesday

Please put these dates on your calendar

June 1st and 28th

### Contact:

**David Young on 741249** davidyoung1934@talktalk.net



### Lottery

**April** Winner (£20): No. 114 Sarah Nason Runners-up (£10 each): No. 90 Pauline and Ph

No. 90 Pauline and Phil Hill; and No. 46 Graham Koppa

May Winner (£20): No. 29 Jerry Anderson May Runners-up: No. 67 Matt Pardoe; No. 73 Mike and Sheila Wise Some events are restarting please see the Village Hall page for details

Holford and District Village Hall

Bookings: Emily Hecksher T: 741694

What's On? - Dates for your Diary

**Bookings**: Emily Hecksher T: 741694 or on line at www.HolfordVillageHall.org



The Plough Inn Is open



As you can imagine, due to the latest government updates on gatherings during Coronavirus epidemic many events

have been on hold.

Hopefully things will get back to normal sooner rather than later



VARIOUS EVENTS PLANNED ONCE THE VILLAGE HALL IS ABLE TO RE-OPEN. PLEASE SEE THE VILLAGE HALL WEBITE FOR UPDATES web address above

**Weekly regulars CURRENTLY ON HOLD** 

Mon	Computer Club	10.00 - 12.00			
	Short Mat Bowls – Kilve Village Hall	7.00pm			
	Aerobics, Pilates and Stretch	6.30pm			
Tues	Karate – (ex 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues in month)	6.30 pm (1hr)			
Wed	Music and Movement	2.30pm (1hr)			
Thu	Coffee and Play	9.30 - 11.30			
	Table Tennis	7.00pm			
Fri	Art Group	10.00 - 1 pm			
	Craft Group	1.00 - 4pm			

Recycling collections every Friday
Collections a day later after Bank Holidays
Refuse collections: Every two weeks.
Collections a day later after Bank Holidays.

Most recycling centres are open but on Limited days and there is no assistance available. Masks mandatory. Please check before travelling to the site.

New refuse and recycling systems are to be brought on line from next Spring - to be confirmed

We hope you have enjoyed this edition

If anyone has any articles, ideas, news, snippets etc please do let us have them

before the deadline July 12th

Please send items for the next issue to **Emma at Winsors Farm** 

Email: EmmaCavendish01@aol.com

Publication date July 31st

Please don't send pdf files or images and text directly from your phone— these are very difficult to edit. Save your photos to a jpeg file.



# Schedule of Classes and Entry Form

# Annual Flower Show

2pm-4.30pm Saturday 7th August 2021. Holford Village Hall

## 'The Margaret Upson Award' Group A. Flowers and Container Plants

- Rose

- Mixed Herbaceous Perennials
- Pansies or Violas #see below Hydrangea - Lace Cap
- Hydrangea Mop Head
- Annual Flowers
- Dahlias (any variety)
- Vase of Cut Flowers any one colour5 stems (min 3 varieties)
- 11. Scented Rose Potted house plant
- 13. Cacti and succulents
- I single bloom Max 8" pot

Max 8" pot

Small arrangement

vegetables

single bloom

5 stems (different varieties)

3 stems (different varieties)

stem

5 stems

5 heads

3 blooms

3 blooms

3 stems

# Heads shown flat (with short stems) - in oasis or on water

### The Alan Date Award'

### Group B. Produce

- 14. Herbs (5 named varieties) 15. Runner Beans
- 16. Longest Runner Bean French Beans
- 18. Tomatoes
- . Cherry tomatoes
- Courgettes 21. Potatoes
- 22. Beetroot
- 23. Peas, Mange Tout or Sugar Snaps 5 pods (1 variety with stalks)
- 24. Carrots
- 25. Cucumber
- 26. Chillies
- 27. Raspberries
- 28. Dish of Fruit (1 variety-not raspberries) 5
- 5 different fruit and/or 29. Plate of edible produce - max 8"
- 30. Home grown salad+edible flowers 6" bowl

diameter plate

- 31. An Unusually Shaped Vegetable

### Home-craft Trophy'

### Group C. Home-craft

- 32. Fresh fruit jam i.e. raspberry \*
- 33. Fruit Jelly\*
- 34. Plum Jam\*
- Mixed fruit jam [not32,33 or34]\*
- Mamalade\*
- Lemon or Orange Curd\*\*
- \* 38. Vegetable Cake max 8" diameter or max 2lb tin
- \* 39. Victoria Sandwich max 8" (raspberry jam, castor sugar dredging)
- \* 40. Fruit Cake max 8" diameter (to your ownrecipe)
- \* 41. Flapjacks x3
- \* 42. Chocolate Brownies x3
- \* 43. Savoury Sconesx3
- \* 44 Shortbread x3 pieces
- \* 45. Gluten free cake [with ingredients listed] max8"
  - \* Please note classes 38-44 incl. are required to be covered in cling film

\* .Minimum 12" pot \*\* No Metal lid 4oz pot min

### Floral Art Trophy'

### Group D. Floral Art

- Arrangement in a teacup

- 24" x 24" Height

un-limited

### Certificate for 'Best Floral Arrangement'.

- Arrangements may be brought to the hall assembled.
- No arrangement to exceed the measurements given.
- No artificial flowers or plant material to be used in any of the arrangements.

### Photographic Trophy'

### Group E. Photography

- 'Colour Explosion'
- 'Any Old Iron'
- 'Character/s'

- & unframed

Max 12" x 14"

excluding

frame

Max 7" x 5"

unmounted

### 'Art Trophy'

### Group F. Art

- Unsigned and ready to hang.
- 53 'Mostly White'
- 'Seven'
- 'Mother Nature'
- Picture in Pencil,
  - Charcoal or Ink

### Handicraft Trophy'

### Group G. Handicraft

### Needlework

- Applique Wall Hanging
- Hand knitted or crocheted item using 50g of wool
- Handmade Shopping Bag
- Rug –using recycled fabrics

### Craft

- Handmade Xmas Card
- Handmade Papier Mache
- Handmade Childrens Book [can include sewing techniques]

Decoupage Item

### Group H. Junior

### Under 5 years

- Colour a flower picture (max A4)
- Vegetable or fruit animal

### 5-8 years

- Decorated Pebble
- Starfish Mosaic

### 9-12 Years

- .Fossil picture [any medium]
- 70 Comothing upoful from rowaled materials