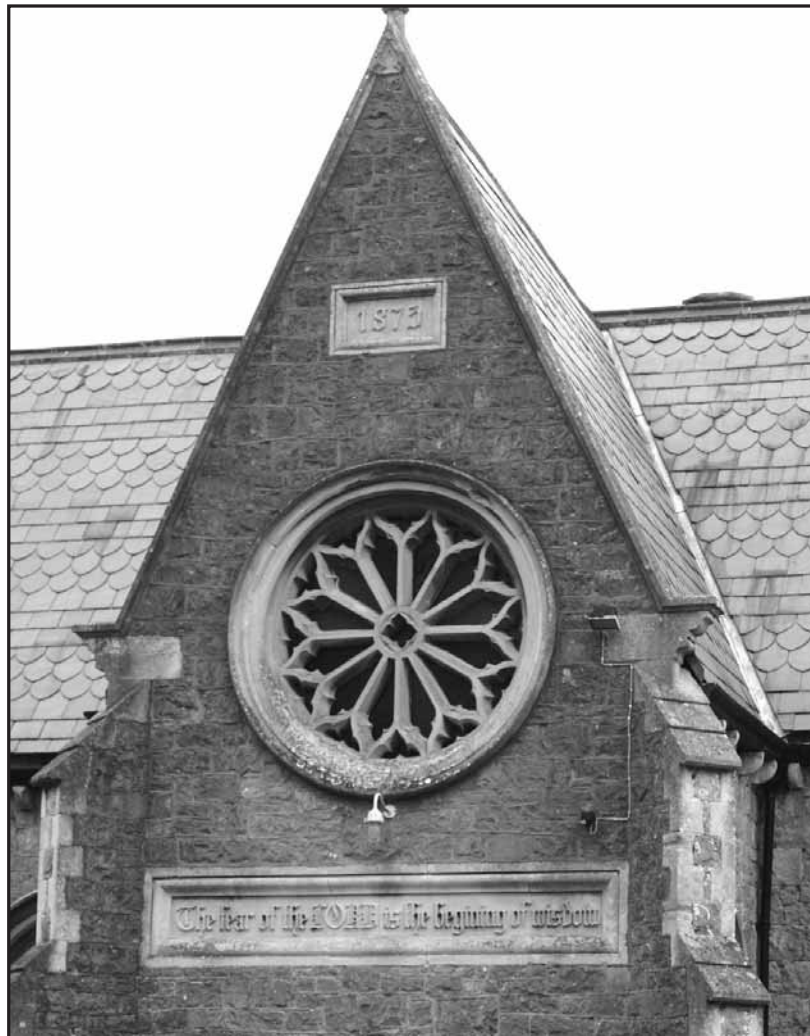


Lympsham News

March 2007



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Parish Clerk

PC or not PC

On the whole, based on the last six months, the role of Parish Clerk is interesting with queries re road safety, traffic signs, allotments, planning, etc., but most Clerks are 'dogged' (and I use the term advisedly) by the delightful topic of the fouling of play facilities and footpaths.

Ironically, as I write this article, the issue of canine waste and inconsiderate owners is being discussed (disgust?!) on the radio. I thought that Lympsham was fairly free of this problem as I see so many local dog owners looking after their pets responsibly, but in the last few weeks I have had reports of paths and play areas being contaminated by a dog/s.

Please can I ask that villagers be aware of the serious health issues and support the need to clear up after pets.

On a more fruitful note, the date of the 39th. British Legion Annual Flower, Vegetable & Craft Show will be Saturday 4th. August. Before then every household should receive a list of competition categories. The Committee have to decide on the various classes and is very aware that current seasonal changes affect the growth of flowers and produce.

Obviously the basic classes will stay the same (it would be a brave person who would abolish the Men only rock cakes competition!), but any suggestions for new classes or variations on themes would be appreciated.

Local elections are to be held on Thursday 3 May 2007 and I have already received a variety of information, not only to encourage people to vote, but also to consider 'standing' as a Parish Councillor.

Parish and Town Councils are responsible for many things like: bus shelters, litter bins, community amenities, play areas, footpaths, maintaining village greens, the provision of recreational facilities, crime prevention measures and traffic calming, to name but a few. They are also consulted on planning applications, highway improvements, street signs, grant funding and projects that affect where you live and what facilities your community has or receives.

With changes to legislation and funding opportunities becoming available, Parish Councils will be in a position to do even more in the future.

Voting in local Parish Council elections takes so little time, but will have a daily impact on you for the next four years, because Councillors remain in office for a four-year term and their decisions affect the future for your whole community.

Councillors are the most local level of government, being easily contacted and directly answerable to the community. They raise money primarily through your council tax to administer their decisions and you need to be sure that you have voted for the right people to look after your community.

What is a Parish council?

Parish Councils represent the concerns and aspirations of a genuine local community. They are not a voluntary organisation, a charity nor (a common mistake) anything to do with the Church. Despite Parish Councillors working in a voluntary capacity and usually only having a part-time Clerk, they work hard on behalf of the villages they represent.

The basic responsibilities of Parish Councils are to make the lives of their local communities more comfortable by representing the whole electorate within the parish, delivering or co-ordinating services to meet local needs and striving to improve quality of life in the parish. Parish Councils can also comment on planning applications and be represented at public enquiries.

What does a Councillor do?

The duties and pleasures of being a local Councillor are many and varied, however it is the ordinary day-to-day contact with local people in their own community that is the most important part of being a Councillor.

A Councillor signs a 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office' and thereby undertakes to observe an ethical Code of Conduct when dealing with matters on behalf of the community.

Listening: One of the most important tasks of a Councillor is listening to and understanding the views of people in their community. Many public bodies or organisations acknowledge this is the hardest information for them to capture and they, in turn, use the skills and local knowledge of the Parish Council for advice to assist and inform their services.

Meetings: A Councillor agrees to attend all meetings (as is reasonably possible) that s/he is summoned to; at least one a month in an evening although occasionally there might be additional committee meetings or working groups.

Representation: Parish Councils also need representation at other local government meetings or on local bodies / organisations and Councillors may be asked to serve on certain groups or attend functions on behalf of the Parish Council. Councillors act as ambassadors for their community, keeping everyone aware of local needs and concerns and reporting back on District / Unitary, County and regional changes. Councillors represent the voice of their community as a whole, whilst being aware of and considerate to, specific minority needs.

Parish Clerk cont.

A Clerk is employed to advise and seek advice on behalf of Councillors to assist them in their decisions. Councillors are there to consider the information gathered and make a group decision on all matters. No individual Councillor is responsible for any single decision.

Responsibility: All Councillors are expected to abide by the Parish Councils (model code of conduct) Order 2001. The responsibilities detailed in the code of conduct are designed to protect councillors as well as the people they serve and give clear guidance so that Councillors may undertake their duties with confidence.

Applying to become a councillor?

Even those who have stood as Councillors before may forget what the process was like four years ago. Whilst relatively easy, it is strict and, if not followed exactly, will result in disappointment and rejection for the wrong reasons! The rules are there to ensure that only those who are eligible to stand for election in your community are considered and that those put forward have agreed to stand for election. Parish Councillors are elected by the public and serve four-year terms in office.

If you wish to stand as a councillor you must satisfy these requirements:

- From 3rd of May 2007 you need to be over 18 years of age
- On the Electoral Register for the council area for which you wish to stand, or have worked in the area for the preceding 12 months
- A citizen of the European Union
- A local government elector of the parish; or a person who during the whole of the twelve months before nomination as a candidate occupied land or other premises as owner or tenant in the parish. Or has, during the same period, resided in that area or within three miles thereof, or has during the same period, had a principal or only place of work in that area

Procedure:

1. Publication of the Notice of Election.

The Chief Executive of the District / Unitary Council is the Returning Officer and therefore has the power to call an election. Election staff in the District / Unitary Council Elections Office have all the papers you will need and will be able to give advice and may check nomination forms.

2. Getting the nomination forms

Contact the Parish Clerk or District / Unitary Council Elections Office to ask for the appropriate forms. Anyone who is eligible to stand can request these forms.

3. Completing the nomination forms

You will need to fill in all your personal details and those of the people nominating you. You and those nominating will be asked to fill in your Electoral Register number. This is the district code on the front of the Electoral Register i.e. A Village might be 'WEW' then this is followed by the number that appears next to your name, or next to the name of the person nominating you. The entry in this box will therefore read something like 'WEW 718'.

You must get your form completed and signed by those nominating you and it will help to copy the numbers of those nominating you when you obtain your own Electoral Register number. The Parish Clerk holds a copy of the Electoral Roll.

4. Sending the nomination forms back.

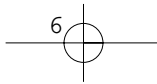
It is imperative that you submit your forms in accordance with the Timetable of Proceedings. Failure to do so will render your application null and void!

Nominations close at 12 noon on Wednesday 4th. April 2007.

The above is a distillation of a much larger file; if you would like more information, please contact me.

There is also an hour long meeting at 7.30 p.m. at East Brent Village Hall on Wednesday 21st. March arranged by the Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC) for prospective candidates to find out more about the Election process and what is involved.

Robin Leveridge, Parish Clerk
18 The Boundaries, Lympsham
Tel: 750865 Email: clerk@lympsham.org.uk



Dave Gregorys' Party

Thank you to everyone for their generous contributions and support for Dave's 'Goodbye Party.' The surprise was very well kept, especially as Dave thought he was going to play skittles!

In case you missed it, Dave 'posted' a 'Thank you' in the 22nd. December issue of the Weston Mercury as follows:

' GREGORY – A huge thank you to the wonderful people of Lympham, who made my job worthwhile. The party and gifts were wonderful – Postie Dave.'

A special thank you to Eileen Harrington and Lyn Watson for masterminding the event.



Church Tower

You may have noticed that St. Christopher's Church Tower is now floodlit from the North. This has been arranged through the good offices of the Parochial Church Council funded by generous contributions made at Harry Counsell's funeral service.

The lighting is most effective and we are sure that Harry would have approved of and appreciated this enhancement to the Church and to the village.

'FREE' NURSERY SESSIONS
for 3-5 yr olds
available, ring us on
01278 760219
to find out more



For 2+ to 5 year olds.

Give your child the right start



Rossholme Kindergarten

For Boys & Girls

Beautiful rural location

Only 2 miles from J22, M5

Spacious secure environment

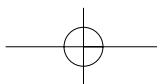
We provide the structure for children to learn, play and have fun, providing the social and educational skills they need to develop as they move into primary school education.

Please contact us if you would like to visit our Kindergarten, look at the facilities and discuss how we can help educate and care for your child.

East Brent, Highbridge, Somerset, TA9 4JA.

Tel 01278 760219 Fax: 01278 760158

E-mail: rossholme@aol.com www.rossholme.co.uk



Peter Hopkins

In recognition of the work of our late village historian, Peter Hopkins B.A. Cantab., with the kind permission of Mrs. Dorothy Hopkins.

THE PARISH COUNCIL: A HISTORY 1895 – 2007

With the approach of May's Parish Council elections, it is interesting to record Peter Hopkins' notes on the founding, in 1895, of the first, secular, Lympham Parish Council.

VESTRY MEETINGS FROM 1507

'The administration of local government in parishes had, since early times, been through Vestry Meetings. These meetings, said to have started around 1507, were meetings of church members, generally chaired by the Rector at which the inhabitants were able to put their views, appoint parish officers and impose certain rates.'

THE RATES

The rates imposed by the old vestry Parish Council were twofold – the Church Rate and the Overseers', or the Poor Rate. They equate to the present day Council Tax, but were raised entirely within the village based on the rateable value of the properties of the landowners, or their tenants.

The Church Rate was administered by the two appointed Churchwardens, appointed at the Vestry meeting, and was used to run and maintain the Church.

The Poor Rate was administered by the two appointed Overseers for the poor and was, essentially, a village welfare fund to support the impecunious.

The Churchwardens and the Overseers held the post for two years. We have copies of their accounts going back to 1734, some neater than others, and they give an insight into past village life.

One of the more arduous duties of the Overseers was to try and determine the fathers of illegitimate babies and bring the 'culprit' to court, so that the maintenance of a child did not fall upon the Overseers' accounts.

SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND SECULAR PARISH COUNCILS 1894

'The Local Government Act of 1894 separated the secular functions from the ecclesiastical functions of the vestry's; the first election of a parish council was at a Parish Meeting held in the manor hall on Saturday 5th. January 1895. The electors were those local government electors who attended the Parish Meeting.'

ORDER OF BUSINESS: FIRST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 1895

'The order of business was that first they elected a chairman; this could be anyone of those attending the Parish Meeting other than a candidate for election as a parish councillor. The rules permitted the election to be by a show of hands unless a poll had been demanded. On this first occasion John Stevens was elected chairman. The result of the poll for the election of parish councillors was as follows:

Candidate.	Votes cast.
John Bowering	61
Thomas Cox	60
William Board	56
James Daunton Champion	50
Thomas Daunton Champion	45
Walter Champion	45
John Frost Day	41
John Hunt	40

The report says that the first five would have been declared elected, but as there was a tie for the fifth place, and the Parish Meeting's chairman had no instructions on this matter, the decision would be left to the County Council.'

COUNCILLORS ELECTED & OFFICERS APPOINTED, 14th. JANUARY 1895

'The first Parish Council meeting ever was held on Monday evening 14th. January 1895. The first business was to elect the chairman and vice chairman; they elected John Stevens chairman and James Daunton Champion as vice-chairman. The explanation for the election of John Stevens as chairman, although not a parish councillor, was that the Act provided that the council could elect either the chairman of the Parish Meeting or one of their own number to be their chairman. At this meeting they also elected William Board to be Waywarden (footpaths) and Charles Vowles [also assistant Overseer] to be Clerk.'

R.G.E.

Editor and News

Can you help deliver?

If anyone has the time to be able to help deliver the news four times a year it would be very much appreciated. We have over 350 to get out each edition and the more helpers we have the quicker they can get them to each house. I have various pre-set routes at the moment although I could change to suit. I package up the news with a list of where they need to go and I will drop them off to you. Give me a call on the usual number (on the front) if you would like to help...thanks

Deadline for June edition

The deadline for the next edition is Wednesday 16th May. Please can I have everything in for that date...As always thanks to everyone who contributes. And don't forget, if you have an idea for an article please let me know.

Coffee Morning

At the "Open" Parish Plan meeting held last year suggestions were made that a get together for senior citizens would be of benefit to many villagers.

A Coffee Morning & Bring and Buy Sale is therefore being organised by the WI to take place in the Sports Pavilion on Wednesday 28th March at 10:30 am. Do come along for a chat, coffee and cake. Notices will be displayed nearer the time but if you have any questions about this or would like to donate something for sale or the raffle, please contact: Eileen Male, The Mallins, West Road. 01934 750504

Community initiatives grants for 2006/7

15 grants totalling £5,000 have been made to groups operating in the Brent Division by Alan Ham, the County Councillor for the Division. Each County Councillor was allocated £5,000 to promote and assist community activity in their Divisional areas.

Alan Ham said:

"There are a number of groups operating in the Brent Division whose activities add so much to the community well being of the area, and I do welcome the opportunity to assist with their activities. Often small amounts of money can make all the difference."

Among the grants made this year there was assistance with the costs of a Youth Worker to assist with the formation of a Youth Club in Lympsham.

RACE FOR LIFE

Sunday, May, 13th 2007

The Beach, Weston-super-Mare

11.00 am

"Lympsham Ladies"

Please join us, walking, jogging or running.

Sadly, most of us will be touched by cancer sometime in our lives.

One hour and 5km can make a difference.

4000 women on Weston Beach, think of it!

Last year's total raised £50 million and smashed

2 Guinness World Records at the same time!

Sign up at www.raceforlife.org

or ring Liz Rayner for details 750492

THANKYOU

Three Men and a Boot (Part 1 1/2)

These notes about the Hart and Poole mystery tours Co. are not only intended as a bit of fun but also an encouragement for others to follow us and to discover the wonderful surprises of Somerset that are there for everyone to see for themselves.

We have been going out now for almost 5 years and have no intention of stopping. We have also taken travelling guest with us and have managed to get them lost fairly easily, one of them, Bob Isgar known to many of you, vowed "you won't take me anywhere in Somerset I haven't already been, and I bet I shall meet somebody I know." Suffice it to say he didn't meet a soul he knew and we got him lost in about 15 minutes of picking him up. That was a Christmas trip a few years ago and lunch was in a pub Nr Shepton Mallet. We pulled crackers, wore silly hats and sang carols for the locals – not too extrovert. One of the joys of our outings is being able to go back to somewhere you enjoyed the first time and always finding something you missed. This was particularly true of Cirencester, which is a beautiful town even though it's not in Somerset.

Some places you may care to visit:

- 1) Castle Cary – where we saw men standing in deep water working on electrical wiring.
- 2) Clevedon Court – well worth the visit and close to home
- 3) East Coker, the birthplace of William Dampier. Who's he? I hear you say. He discovered Australia about 80 years before Captain Cook, but you don't hear his name in our history lessons do you. Perhaps he had a West Country accent 'oo ar'
- 4) Find two castles in Somerset. Fenny Castle and Castle Neroche – we did.
- 5) Visit Dowlish Wake – a very pretty place with a very interesting cider farm – we did.
- 6) Places like Somerton, don't drive by – stop and look around, you will be surprised at what you find.
- 7) Lytes Cary, Barrington Court, The Bakelite museum at Williton (Bakelite coffins!!) The list goes on and on and on!

If you should want a bit of help with routes, watering holes etc. just ask – we'll be pleased to help.

More next time Keith Hart

Sorry there are no photos this time...photographer asleep!

LAGS (Lympsham Archaeology Group)

We're still at it although the weather has been against us quite a bit in the last few weeks. And Christmas got in the way of course.

We have completed the survey of home ground in Rectory Way and the final drawings have been finished. They are too big to print here but if you would care to see them please contact me on 750614.

We have also carried out what I think is Lympsham's first "Geofizz" survey. (This equipment, which measures the electrical resistance of the soil, can produce a sort of underground or subsurface map of features not always visible on the ground.)

We did this in Lympsham Road around the area the "Village Pound". We achieved some remarkable results showing that a very large house was there, built prior to 1803 and was about 100 feet long. The "footprint" for the house indicates it may have been a Somerset Longhouse – time will tell.

We also did a "geofizz" survey in Eastertown looking for Lympsham's old Windmill, but the search proved fruitless – can't win 'em all!

If you would like to see the results, again contact me on the above number. If you would like to join us you will be very welcome.

Keith Hart

Church Notices

Coffee morning – At Pam Colling's was well attended there was plenty of coffee and gifts for Christmas for purchase which all helped to raise a fantastic £500.00, well done Pan.

Christmas soon approached, starting with the 9 Carols & 9 Lessons at East Brent this year – going on to the Crib service and the Christmas services. The crib service always popular raised over £200.00 this year.

Many of you may have noticed that the North & East Side of the church tower is now floodlit which I feel is very pleasing to the eye as you drive or walk through the village at night, this light was denoted by James and Lisa Counsell in memory of James's father the late Harry Counsell.

The Annual Meeting is in the Church on 14th April. 7.00pm service and 7.30pm AGM. Please all do come.

An early date for your diaries is the Fete in the Manor Garden which will be held on 30th June. We are always looking for more volunteers to help in any capacity. If you feel you would like to be involved, please give Rosemary Carr a call on 750395.

We are also hoping to hold an "open garden day" on the following day – Sunday the 1st July. Anybody who would be interested in opening their garden to visitors, please contact the churchwardens or any member of the PCC."

From the registers

Funerals -	Joyce Sheila Dale	14th December
	Tony Goode	19th January
Marriage-	Tracy Nichola Twining	23rd December
	Julian Richards Stearnes	
Baptism-	Noah Ledley	4th February

Barnardo Flowers

April 7th & 14	Pam Collings
April 21st and 28th	Joan Goodman
May 5th and 12th	Sally Blake
May 19th and 26th	Isabelle Wall
June 19th and 26th	Margaret Luff
June 16th and 23rd	Peggy Parsons
June 30th and July 7th	Jean Rawles

Church

Dec 16
Dec 23
Dec 30
Jan 6
Jan 13
Jan 20
Jan 27
Feb 3
Feb 10

Church Times

The Benefice of Brent Knoll, East Brent and Lympsham.
Service Rota for March -June 2007.

4th March

<i>The Second Sunday of Lent</i>	8.00am	St. Michael's Brent Knoll
	10.00am	St. Michael's Brent Knoll

11th March

<i>The Third Sunday of Lent</i>	8.00am	St. Michael's Brent Knoll
	10.00am	St. Mary's East Brent
	6.30pm	St. Christopher's Lympsham

18th March

<i>The Fourth Sunday of Lent (Mothering Sunday)</i>	8.00am	St. Christopher's Lympsham
	10.00am	St. Michael's Brent Knoll
	6.30pm	St. Mary's East Brent

25th March

<i>The Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passiontide begins)</i>	8.00am	St. Mary's East Brent
	10.00am	St. Christopher's Lympsham
	6.30pm	St. Michael's Brent Knoll

1st April

<i>Palm Sunday</i>	8.00am	St. Mary's East Brent
	10.00am	St. Mary's East Brent

2nd April

<i>Monday in Holy Week Address and Compline</i>	7.30p.m	St. Mary's East Brent
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3rd April

<i>Tuesday in Holy Week Address and Compline`</i>	7.30p.m	St. Michael's Brent Knoll
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4th April

<i>Wednesday in Holy Week Address and Compline</i>	7.30p.m	St. Christopher's Lympsham
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5th April

<i>Maunday Thursday The Washing of feet at Last Supper</i>	8.00p.m	St. Christopher's Lympsham
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6th April

<i>Good Friday</i>	10.00a.m	St. Christopher's Lympsham
<i>Liturgy of the Cross</i>	2.00p.m	St. Michael's Brent Knoll
<i>The Last Hour at the Cross</i>		

7th April

<i>Holy Saturday Easter Vigil</i>	8.00p.m	St. Mary's East Brent
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8th April

<i>Easter Day</i>	8.00am	St. Michael's Brent Knoll
	10.00am	St. Mary's East Brent
	6.30pm	St. Christopher's Lympsham

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18

Church Times

15th April

2nd Sunday of Easter

8.00am
10.00am
6.30pm

St. Christopher's Lympsham
St. Michael's Brent Knoll
Festival Evensong
St. Mary's East Brent

22nd April

The Third Sunday of Easter

8.00am
10.00am
6.30pm

St. Mary's East Brent
St. Christopher's Lympsham
St. Michael's Brent Knoll

29th April

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

10.00am

St. Christopher's Lympsham

6th May

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

8.00am
10.00a.m

St. Michael's Brent Knoll
St. Michael's Brent Knoll

13th May

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

8.00am
10.00am
6.30pm

St. Michael's Brent Knoll
St. Mary's East Brent
St. Christopher's Lympsham

17th May

Ascension Day

7.30p.m

20th May

*The Seventh
Sunday of Easter*

8.00am
10.00am
6.30pm

St. Christopher's Lympsham
St. Michael's Brent Knoll
St. Mary's East Brent

27th May

*Day of Pentecost
(Whit Sunday)*

8.00am
10.00am
6.30pm

St. Mary's East Brent
St. Christopher's Lympsham
St. Michael's Brent Knoll

3rd June

Trinity Sunday

8.00am
10.00am

St. Mary's East Brent
St. Mary's East Brent

10th June

The First Sunday after Trinity

8.00am
10.00am
6.30pm

St. Michael's Brent Knoll
St. Mary's East Brent
St. Christopher's Lympsham

17th June

The Second Sunday after Trinity

8.00am
10.00am
6.30pm

St. Christopher's Lympsham
St. Michael's Brent Knoll
St. Mary's East Brent

24th June

The Birth of John the Baptist

8.00am
10.00am
6.30pm

St. Mary's East Brent
St. Christopher's Lympsham
St. Michael's Brent Knoll

-9-

Lympsham Sports Club

Firstly I would like to say what a sad loss we have experienced in the last 6 weeks, of two lovely gentlemen members and characters of the Club - Mr Brian Davis & Mr Tony Goode - who we have very fond memories, and spent some happy times in conversation with, they will be greatly missed by us all.



Lympsham Sports Club
Telephone 01934 750946

We had a fun evening on New Years Eve, and brought in 2007 with a bang! the weeks since Christmas have flown by already, bring us to the

time of year - the start of the spring and lighter evenings, preparation of the playing field for cricket, it does seem odd looking out of the window onto such quiet scenes from December to March.

We have recently had lighting improvements made along the drive, which have improved safety greatly in that area.

We are presently enjoying the RBS Six Nations Rugby Tournament on the big screen over the next few weekends - hopefully it will be cheers for England!!

This year the Club will celebrate its 15th birthday - indeed a reason to celebrate - so watch this space!!

I have enjoyed the last months in the chair - so to speak, our Annual General Meeting will be held at the end of March, when we will take a review of our past year.

We are still actively looking for new members, volunteers and some more members to join our committee - it would be great to have some new blood, and it would ease the workload for those committed members at present - there is never a shortage of jobs to be done and functions to arrange.

I know I can speak on behalf of the committee in thanking Geoff Poole for his contribution to the Club and the committee - who has given up his role as Bar Manager, Bar Volunteer and Committee Member - our thanks go to him for all his efforts.

Thank yous must also go to Lin Watson, for her role as Treasurer up until 31st December 2006, and to Robin Leveridge - who has kindly agreed to take over as Treasurer from January 1st 2007.

Once again I would like to thank the committee for their continued support, and help in whatever way, and look forward to the lighter evenings, with a drink on the patio - Cheers!

Alli Coles

Chairperson



LYMPSHAM SPORTS CLUB
15th. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
All Villagers welcome.
From noon onwards on Monday 7th. May 2007
Come along and join us for family fun!





Barbeque Stalls Balloon Race
BarBouncy Castle
..... and more to be announced.
Look out for more details on local notice boards.



Lympsham Cricket Club

Lympsham Cricket Club is running winter indoor nets at Weston-s-Mare Cricket Club every Thursday evening from January 25th to April 26th (8 – 9.30pm), and any new playing members will be made more than welcome at these sessions. The clubs season starts on the weekend of 28th/29th April when both Old Down CC from Gloucestershire and Bristol Sri Lankans CC are entertained in pre-season warm-up friendlies. Anyone wishing to join the club as a player or in an administrative capacity, can ring club Chairman Larry Hallett on 07739 042979 and you will be warmly welcomed. The club is particularly looking for volunteers to man the bar on match day afternoons (Sat/Sun), so if you have a few hours to spare and would like help your local Cricket Club out please get in contact.

Lympsham Tennis Club



Sadly Lympsham lost one of its great supporters recently: Tony Goode was a generous character who is very much missed around the Sports Club and Pavilion. He was a life member of the Lympsham Tennis Club and took an active interest in all that went on. He was 'tickled pink' when we named our most recent tournament trophy after him. His good humour and ability to communicate with all ages was an example to all. A little while ago Tony and his sisters donated tennis racquets to the Club for display in the Pavilion; with typical modesty, he didn't want his name displayed, but we are pleased that he agreed to the inclusion of a photograph – an excellent reminder of a true sportsman.

At the time of writing, our three winter league teams are battling it out in divisions 2, 6 and 7 against a variety of teams across the county, including Street and Minehead.

We have also been 'battling' problems to do with court lighting! Unfortunately one of the original underground cables to the court floodlights broke and, on inspection all the wiring on both courts was deemed as 'not fit for purpose.'

Therefore we have had to have all the wiring replaced in armoured cable in February that, needless to say, has cost a considerable amount. However, we are confident that the new installation will stand us in good stead for many years and is, of course, up to 'current' standards. The Club would like to thank various neighbours and visitors for their patience whilst the road / car park was dug up and relaid and the Parish Council for its support. The Club will be replacing the plants alongside the fencing by the playpark in the near future.

During January, seventeen of our members enjoyed the privilege of playing in the Indoor Centre in Taunton; it makes a change not being able to blame the wind and the sun for wayward shots.

Our next two 'social' events are our AGM at 8 p.m. in the Pavilion on Wednesday 14th. March and our Annual Dinner and Disco at the Batch Country Hotel & Restaurant on the evening of Friday 30th March. If you are interested in either event, please contact me. (See Parish Clerk's details.)

Robin Leveridge

Chairman

Lympsham C of E V.C. First School

It's been Dads week at Lympsham First School ! We have had visits from many of our Dads, telling us about their jobs and explaining how the things we learn in school help to make us good citizens when we are older. Thank you to all who gave their time to come in.



As a reward for brilliant lunch time behaviour, the whole school enjoyed the treat of a Treasure Hunt in the garden of the Manor. Thank you to James and Lisa and their family. We had a super time hunting for teddy bears and finding the clues. We have officially become a Somerset 'Healthy School' – only one of 12 such schools in the county to receive the award for our work on healthy eating, fitness and exercise.

Our building plans await confirmation but we hope to begin soon on the construction of a new classroom for group teaching and new toilet blocks, including facilities for the disabled.

Our links with St Christopher's Church grow ever stronger as the children enjoy class visits every half term to the church and churchyard. We feel it is so important for the children to appreciate their lovely surroundings and to realise how fortunate they are to have the village and all its history around them.

We extend a warm welcome to anyone in the community to call in and see us at work, but be warned – if you're with us between 10.45 and 10.55, you will have to join in with 'Wake and Shake' ! We're not called a 'Healthy school' for nothing !

Julie Larter
Headteacher

Lympsham Pre-School - Progress Update!

Hello again and welcome to a New Year and an update on how things are going at Lympsham Pre-School.

The New Year has brought us new friends with 8 new starters to grow our numbers so we would all like to welcome Isabelle, Grace, Kaitlin, Eve, Ellie, Charlie, Samuel and Kruse and hope that they enjoy their time with Lympsham Pre-School as much as so many others have done already.

If you are interested in more information about Lympsham Pre-School, our Pre-School Leader, Deborah Smith, can be contacted on 07743 188865 or in the afternoons on 01934 814671.

"Thanks" to our Dave, Jenny, Sandy and Rob

Since we last appeared in Lympsham News in December things have moved on with our efforts to raise the funds needed for our new building. First of all we need to say a huge "Thank You" to Dave Prowton. You will remember, from our last update, that Dave and his family offered to donate the funds raised from their Christmas lights to the Pre-School New Building Fund. On top of this he also offered to shave off his beard and all his hair to raise even more for our cause. The result was a fabulous total of £2444.00 – so thank you once again to Dave and his family for all their support.

Where there is a Will there is a way

We also had some more great news this month with a very generous offer from Trust Inheritance to donate money from their Will-writing service to the Pre-School, as you will see from their advert in this month's issue. So, if you are thinking of making or even updating your Will, we would ask for your support and that you give them a call on free-phone 08000 978012 and quote: Lympsham Pre-School.

Half way home – and still going strong

In total we are now over half way towards the funds we need to make our dream of a new home a reality. Donations,

Lympsham Pre-School - Progress Update! cont.

grants and fund raising have now reached a total of over £55000 – but of course that still leaves us a long way to go. So please keep an eye open for our forthcoming events and help whenever you can.

Children’s Easter Party

Our next event is the Children’s Easter Party on Thursday 5th April at the Manor Hall from 10.45am to 1pm. We have a Magic Show, Easter Egg Hunt, children’s buffet and goody bags for all – open to everyone as long as you are between 2 ½ and 6 years old. Tickets have to be limited because of the size of the hall and are priced at a very reasonable £5.00 – not bad for over 2 hours of peace and quiet in the Easter holidays!! For tickets please call 01934 750935

And finally

The last word for this month must be another “thank you” – to all those who braved our Music Quiz on 10th February and especially to all those from the village who are not directly linked with the Pre-School but came along to support our cause. A great time was had by all and especially by the Lympsham Gunners Team – who were gallant losers but managed to keep us all highly entertained for the night.

Rachael Holland

Chair – Lympsham Pre-School Committee



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We’ll produce your Will for £49 (single or couple) and donate that £49 to Lympsham Pre-School for the new building they desperately need (for a limited period only until 30th April 2007)

HELP LOCAL PRE-SCHOOL call now free-phone: **08000 97 80 12**
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Complete this slip and give it to the consultant when you make your Will.

I / we wish to take advantage of the Lympsham Pre-School offer!

Name:

Address:

.....

Lympsham WI



We began the year with a grand presentation of cups to members. These were for croquet doubles, singles, knockout and novice matches, skittles competition plus a shield for member of the year. A lot of time and expertise had been put in by members during 2006 so it was good to see them receiving their awards.

An Epiphany service had been arranged by East Huntspill attended by the knoll group our stepping out scrapbook is doing the rounds. This was complied by four Lympsham members who walked 90 miles (not all in one go!) to celebrate 90 years of Women's Institutes. Rita and Beryl had been on courses to Denman College and gave us an account of their visit.

Our speaker in January was John Page who gave us an enlightened talk on the Royal Palace at Cheddar. Taking us back in history, we were able to see where buildings were and how they may have looked aided by drawings and sketches shown up on a screen. This was all linked into Axbridge which was a burgh protecting Cheddar and in the 10th Century, Axbridge minted its own coins. None were ever found in Axbridge although a hoard was found in Wedmore. In our country news we were advised of a visit being arranged to Bletchley Park, 6 mile Exmoor ramble and scrabble final at Creech St Michael. All in April and yes we have begun our scrabble match.

March 20th Encaustic art – Diane Sawyer. Painting with beeswax.

April 17th A family fact or fiction – Pat House.

Meetings are on the 3rd Tuesday in the Month at 7:45 in the Manor Hall. Do come along, we would be pleased to welcome you.

Joan Wood

Babe Appeal

Seeing first-hand how local donations help Children's Hospice in Wraxall

IN 2004, Radio Bristol announced a challenge for £1 million to be raised in aid of the Babe appeal. Plans had been drawn up to build a children's hospice at Wraxall – Charlton Farm. Within a few months, Steve Yabsley, a presenter from Radio Bristol came to Lympsham and accepted a cheque for over £1000. This amount was raised jointly one person's fund raising effort and donations to the Christmas Tree Festival in St Christopher's Church. IN 2005 a further donation was made by the Church and the WI.

Prior to Charlton Farm opening in the spring, groups of up to 10 people were given guided tours around the Hospice. It was a wonderful opportunity to see how the money raised had been so well used and we felt very privileged and moved by our visit and inspired to support them in the future.

Joan Wood

**TOO BUSY TO CLEAN?
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**£6.00 per hour
Call 750 440**

Harvest Home

Plans for this year's Harvest Home on Saturday 8th September are underway following our AGM last week. Ticket prices for the luncheon have been set at £14 each and will be on sale on Wednesday 18th July from 7.30pm at the Sports Club. Tickets will again be limited to 2 per person; there will be a few extra tickets available this year as we utilise the space not required by the evening entertainment.

At our AGM we discussed how to spend our surplus funds and it was agreed to open this up to suggestions from within the village. We would like to support a specific project, which would benefit the village as a whole, and which would not exceed £3000. If you have any ideas or suggestions please contact me on 01934 750561 or by e mail selenaluff@btinternet.com or come along to our next meeting on Wednesday 18th April at 8pm at the sports club.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Easter Sunday, 8th April from 2pm. Please do come along, every child will receive a chocolate egg and there will be refreshments available.

Selena Luff

Chairperson

CLEANERS WANTED

For local holiday cottages

Saturdays for 5 hours

Must be reliable and have transport

£7.50 per hour

Contact Liz on 01934 750506

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- Security
- Domestic
- Equestrian

Martin Rhys Fencing



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East Brent 01278 760883

www.martinrhysfencing.co.uk

Chalice Morris Men

35 years ago a group of teenagers who had learnt Morris dancing at school decided they would like to set up their own team. As most of them lived in the Weston area they knew it had to be close to the town but not in it as there was already a team nearby. After much thought they settled on Hghbridge. Then came the thorny problem of a name. They decided they did not wish to be associated with any one town so after much more thought settled on Chalice from the Chalice Well at Glastonbury. Their area of dance took a while to define but eventually settled down to what we now think of as the Sedgemoor area with bits of Mendip and North Somerset. OK you say, well enough but what does this have to do with Lymphsham. Well for very many years now you have had one of our members living in the community. Mike Ashton first learned to Morris dance at the old Grammar school in Weston. After school he took a break but was soon back and though not for long and though not a founder member of the team he is now one of the stalwarts of the club. The team itself has seen many changes in faces over the years but with a hard core of regulars always there. One of our leading members, indeed, one of the founders of the team is Weston decorator and builder Bob Cross. Bob who is currently our foreman or teacher last year successfully completed a two year stint as Squire of the Morris Ring. This is the most senior position in our national (actually international) organisation and was a great honour not only for Bob but the team as a whole. Chalice Morris Men are not sitting on their laurels though and for 2007 are organising a comprehensive agenda of outings to make sure the



Morris is taken out to the people where it belongs, not for us sitting in dusty halls no we are performers and are never happier than when we can take our ancient tradition out to the masses. Thursday nights during the summer will see us at a range of pubs and often on Saturdays we can be seen at various fetes and events. This year as always will be the Bleadon May Day Fair so please come along to see us. My main reason for writing this article though is a selfish one. You see Chalice want new dancers. We don't need you to have experience or indeed to know anything about Morris. Just to be willing to learn and have fun. A liking for beer helps but is not essential. So If you are 14 plus, have two feet (one of each is best) and are male (sorry ladies but Chalice is a traditional club. We would be only too willing to put you in touch with a women's team) then why not contact us. Call Dick Shilton on 01458 841400 or Neil Gratton on 01278 782346. Our website is worth a look at - <http://chalicemorris.org/> .

Or just come along to Brent Knoll Parish hall, most Thursdays from 8 o'clock September to April.

So as we say in the Morris... Wassail

Neil

Neil Gratton

Lympsham Manor Hall



The Annual General Meeting of the Lympsham Manor Hall Management Committee was held on Wednesday 17th January in the Manor Hall. The committee consists of representatives of organisations who use the Manor Hall. The members were sad to learn that Brian Davies, the Manor Hall Parish Council representative and caretaker had passed away a few days earlier. Brian carried out his Manor Hall duties diligently and the committee appreciated his hard work in keeping our hall in such a good condition.

The Annual Accounts were presented by Mrs Clarke, the Honorary Treasurer, and the committee noted with thanks that Mr Len Gooding had been kind enough again to complete the independent review of these accounts.

The Chair reminded the committee that the new sound system and the purchase of new tables had been made possible by grants from the Parish Council and the Nutall Trust which were gratefully received. Liz Stirk's services as Secretary to the Committee over the past few years were very much appreciated. A new secretary has yet to be appointed, anyone interested should contact the Chair.

A new caretaker is needed to open and shut up the hall for users and carry out other duties relating to the running of the Hall. Remuneration is paid to the caretaker per booking. Anyone interested in this role should contact either John Phipps -Chair on tel. 750366 or Mrs June Clarke on tel.750351.

Many thanks. Regards John Tel no 750366.



Summer at Heron's Dyke studio

Art 4 Every Palette, Adults, Mondays, 7.00 - 9.30 pm
Wednesdays, 9.30 am - 12.30 pm

Art Activities, 10 to 15 years, 6 Saturdays, term time, 2.30 - 4.30 pm

Design and Make, 8 to 12 years, holidays, various days and times

Pottery parties, age 6 to...106, by arrangement

Liz Rayner, 750492

Royal British Legion (Men's) Section Lymsham & Bleadon



Our New Years lunch was again well attended and seemed to be enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks to all who helped at the lunch, with special thanks as per normal, to Liz and Val for the organising the food, and of course organising all the helpers on the day, especially the men!!! We would also like to thank Ally Coles and the sports committee for allowing us to use the club's facilities and for the help they always freely give us.

We will be holding a general knowledge quiz night (not serious, just for fun) in the pavilion on Tuesday April 10th. This is for teams of up to 4 people, the cost will be £1-50 per person, AND this price includes bread and cheese refreshments. This is open to all who would like to come along to a 'hopefully' fun evening.

Please note the date of our next branch meeting has been changed from 10th May to 17th May to avoid clashing with the local elections.

Thanks to all who filled in the questionnaire regarding our annual day out. We are hoping to arrange a trip on the Kennet and Avon canal this will be on Tuesday 17th July, as soon as this is confirmed I will write to all members with the details.

Other dates for your dairies will be our spring lunch which is being held in the pavilion on Tuesday 8th May. Of course we must not forget The Royal British Legion annual flower show, which also encompasses vegetables, crafts, cooking, etc., etc. so get planning and thinking as this will be held in the Manor Hall on Saturday 4th August and will be under the watchful eye of Robin Leveridge. We shall sadly miss Brian Davies who always willingly helped us whenever we needed to use the Manor Hall, we extend our sympathy to his family.

We have been fortunate to gain a few new members in recent months and are always delighted to welcome more, as I always remind readers you do not to have been in the armed forces to join us, please give me a ring on 750461 if you are interested, or come along to our next meeting in the pavilion on 17th May.

Colin Poole (Hon. Sec.)

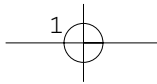
"Second's Best" Children's Clothing

Enterprising mother Clare Beretvas has opened a children's clothing store called "Second's Best". It is a shop mainly selling new and nearly new children's clothing from newborn to 14 years. "I spent the last 13 years living in America and shops like this are very popular". Clare has 3 children and says that "you can really save a lot of money by using a shop like this on a regular basis". Clare's shop has lots of designer label clothing e.g. Gap, Quicksilver and Catamini; as well as brand names like Marks and Spencers, Bhs, and lots of Next. The clothes are in excellent condition with no marks and very reasonably priced. Clare often has clothing bundles available at a discounted price or can make them up by request.

"Second's Best" also has a supply of equipment such as Cots, pushchairs etc. Contact Clare on secondsbest@tiscali.co.uk if there is anything you are looking for and she will try and locate it.

The shop also sells a few toys, books, shoes and school uniform items. Clare says she hopes that she will be a bigger source of uniforms when people become more aware of the shop.

Second's Best is located at Yew Trees Nursery School on the A38 in Tarnock, about 10 to 15 minutes from Weston, It is open Mondays 9 to 5, Tuesdays 9 to 3 and Wednesdays 1 to 6pm. You can contact Clare on 07722532811.



Lympsham Gardening Club

We start off our 2007 programme on March 13th with our AGM starting at 7:30pm followed by ISOBEL LILLICO entertainment based on gardens.

April 10th: Return visit of Dan Everritt to talk on Lilies.

May 8th: Mrs Leslie Irving from Tor Hale Plant Nursery to talk on Moisture saving plants.

June 12th: 'New Plants' for Sanders Garden World. A summer outing is being planned. New members and visitors are always welcome. We meet at the Manor Hall, starting at 7:45pm unless otherwise stated. We are now also on the Lympsham village Website.



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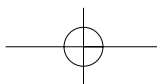
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Village Contact Numbers

Lympsham Harvest Home

Chairperson: Selena Luff, Ryecroft, Lympsham Road,
Lympsham, Somerset.

Tel: 750561

Meetings take place bi-monthly at Lympsham Sports Club Pavilion

East Brent Day Care Centre

Organiser: Mrs Jean Dovey. Tel: 01278 760838

Meet every Friday in East Brent Village Hall, 9.30am – 3.00pm

Lympsham Holiday Club

Supervisor: Mrs Deborah Smith

Tel: 07743 188865

Cater for children aged between 3 and 9 years. Open every school holiday except Xmas between 9.00am and 3.00pm

Lympsham PCC

Secretary: Mrs Victoria Daintree

Tel: 750313

Lympsham Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Mr Robin Leveridge, 18 The Boundaries,
Lympsham

Tel: 750865 | Email: clerk@lympsham.org.uk

Meetings take place monthly (except August) in the Manor Hall, Lympsham

Lympsham W.I.

President: Mrs Sheila Frost, Holmlea, Lympsham, Somerset

Tel: 750906

Meetings take place monthly in the Manor Hall, Lympsham

Lympsham Manor Hall Bookings

Booking Clerk: Brian Davis, The Lodge, West Road,

Lympsham, Somerset

Tel: 750540

Lympsham Pre-School

Supervisor: Mrs Deborah Smith

Tel: 07743 188865

Pre-School meet in the Manor Hall, Monday – Friday (term-time only),

9.00am – 12.00 noon

Lympsham Sports Club

Tel: 750946 – 7-11pm

Meetings take place on the 2nd Tuesday in every month at the Cricket Club Pavilion

Lympsham Tennis Club

Secretary: Mrs Alex Bath, South Hill Cottages, Shiplate Road

Bleadon, North Somerset, BS24 0NJ

Tel: 811388

Various events take place every evening – ring for membership details

Lympsham First School

Headmistress: Mrs Larter, Lympsham First School, Rectory Way, Lympsham

Tel: 750473

Lympsham Gardening Club

Chairman: Ian Gibson, Dubonni, Wick Road, Lympsham

Tel: 01278 751593

Meet 2nd Tuesday most months in the Manor Hall

Bleadon Brownies

Brown Owl: Rachel Hemmings, 3 Ferry Lane, Lympsham,
Somerset BS24 0BI

Tel: 01934 811891

Meet 6.00pm – 7.30pm, every Tuesday (except school holidays) at Bleadon Village Hall, Bleadon.

Royal British Legion (Men's Section)

Branch Secretary: Colin Poole, Meadow View, Eastertown,
Lympsham, Somerset

Tel: 750461

Various events take place throughout the year in addition to quarterly meetings.

Meet in Lympsham Cricket Pavilion

Royal British Legion (Women's Section)

Hon. Secretary: Mrs E J Clarke, Beck's Farm Cottage,

Lympsham, Somerset

Tel: 750351

Various events take place throughout the year in addition to meetings which are announced in the Lympsham News. Meet in Manor Hall.

Brent Knoll Beavers

Tel: Jim or Annette on 01278 760655

Meet every Monday 5pm – 6.15pm in Brent Knoll Village Hall.

Lympsham Local Beat Bobby

P.C. Tracey Stiles, Tel: 0845 456 7000 and at the prompt dial 72357

Mobile: 07917 001501

Police Community Support Officer

P.C.S.O. Claire Chambers, Mobile: 07825 011 847

Mother's Union

Mrs Pauline Chadwick, Tel: 01278 760224

Every 3rd Thursday, various venues.

If you would like details of your organisation/club/group to appear on this page please contact the Editor.