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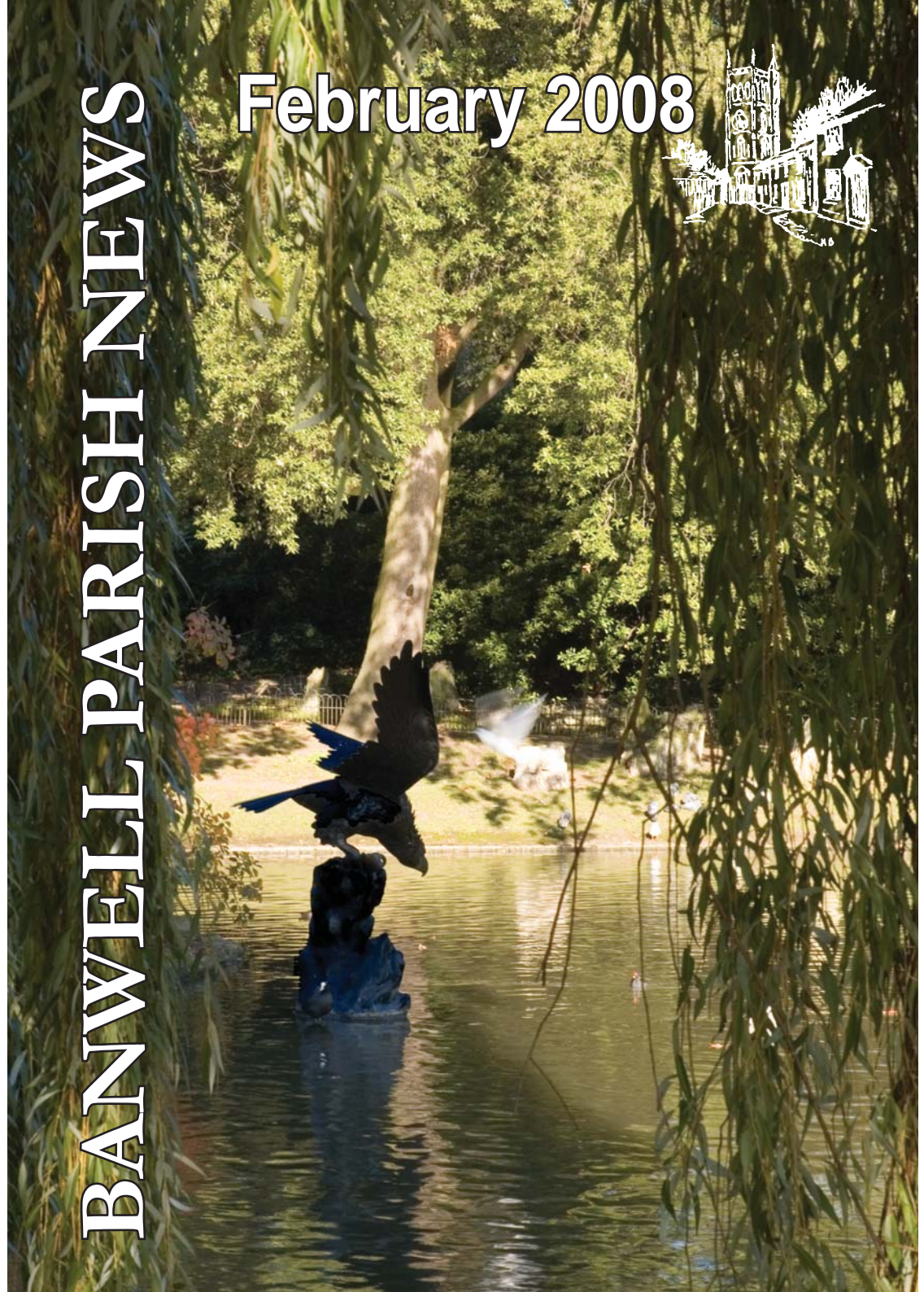
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BANWELL PARISH NEWS

February 2008



Shop Locally

St Andrew's Mothers' Union

Lent Lunches

In

The Village Hall
Commencing

Thursday 14th February

12:30pm - 1:30pm

Cost £2

All Are Welcome

Also

Thursdays:

21st & 28th February,
6th & 13th March



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tree felling, hedge cutting, whatever you need!!
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West Street, Banwell
Fish and Chips & Chinese Take Away meals
Extensive menu
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Support your local 'Community Award Winning'
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Optimise your nutrition for weight control,
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Top quality range of TP garden swings, slides, climbing frames, toboggans, trampolines, tractors and trailers, farms and forts, wooden dolls houses and furniture. Lots in stock

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Parties, Pig Roasts, Bar-B-Que's
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For new and quality used cars and light commercials.

BANWELL SOCIETY OF ARCHAEOLOGY

LOCAL HISTORY TALKS

What's in Wellington's Chest?



By Margaret Flux

Fri 14th March Banwell Village Hall 7.30

REFRESHMENTS RAFFLE

VISITORS WELCOME

CONTACTS	Tel.
Church of England. The PCC Secretary, The Coach House, East Street, Banwell	822320
Methodist. Revd. Sam, Wesley Manse, Dinghurst Rd, Churchill	852314
Roman Catholic. Revd. Fr. Tibor Szende, The Presbytery, Tweentown, Cheddar	742564

Prayer



The Church families of St. Andrew's and Banwell Methodist Church will be praying for the people in your area on the following Sundays.

February

- 3rd High Street
- 10th Hilmer Rise
- 17th Hill path
- 24th Knightcott Gardens

March

- 2nd Knightcott Park
- 9th Knightcott Road

If you have any special prayers or concerns, whether for yourself, one of your family or for a neighbour (e.g. someone who is sick: getting married: seeking employment: going away to work or college: or in any kind of trouble or difficulty), please ring one of the following numbers either to have a chat, or leave a message, or make an appointment for one of us to visit you, or vice versa.

St Andrew's: Dinah Harrison 822344

Methodist: The Revd. Sam 852314

Banwell Playgroup for rising 3s-5yr. olds meets Monday to Friday during term-time 9.00am - 11.30am. For more information please contact the Playgroup on 823404 or Wendy Lloyd 820605.

Baby/Toddler Group meets every Friday morning 9.30am -11.45am. at the Scout Hut. Contact Gareth Thomas 823177

Banwell Scout Group: Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. Peter Bradbury, Group Scout Leader 01934 822719

Banwell Fish Scheme: Chairman Mrs Dinah Harrison 822344. Lift Co-ordinator Mrs G Boddy 823621.

Village Hall Booking Secretary: Mr David Westlake 30 Knightcott Road, Banwell. Tel: 822433.

Youth & Community Centre Booking Secretary: Nicola Hooper (Parish Clerk) 812567, email clerk@banwell.org

Methodist School Room Hire Bookings Tel: 822873 or 822066

Banwell-Potigny Twinning Assoc. Contact Jeanne Evans 823878

Banwell Bridge Club Contact: Roger Boland Tel: 820615 or Meg Tillotson Tel: 823252



BANWELL BEAT SURGERIES

0900 – 1000 HOURS
Village Hall, Banwell

15 February 2008
14 March 2008
11 April 2008
9 May 2008
27 June 2008

Please take this opportunity to come along if you have any queries or concerns

PC 2307 ADRIAN WOOLACOTT
PCSO 7369 MAGGIE EVANS
TEL: 01934 638123

Services In Our Churches

ST. ANDREW'S

	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Family Eucharist
	3.30 pm	Evensong
1st Sunday	3.30 pm	BCP Eucharist
	7.15 pm	Young at Heart
6th Feb	7.00 pm	Ash Wednesday Communion & Imposition Of Ashes
2nd March	10.00 am	Mothering Sunday Family Service

METHODIST

	10.30 am	Morning Service & Sunday School
	6.30 pm	Evening Service

ALL WELCOME

ROMAN CATHOLIC Cheddar

Sunday	9.00 am	Mass
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Our New Vicar

The Churchwardens are pleased to announce that the Revd John Franks has accepted the position of "House for Duty" Priest for St Andrew's Banwell and will be licensed on 7th April by the Right Reverend Peter Maurice, the Bishop of Taunton.

John Franks is married to Valerie (Val) and is currently the Assistant Priest at St Matthew's Bridgeman in the Portsmouth Diocese. John served for 24 years in the navy, (17 in the submarine service). After leaving the navy he trained as a secondary school teacher and worked in a residential school for boys with extreme emotional and

behaviour problems.

John was ordained deacon in 2000 and priest the following year. He has held several positions within Portsmouth Diocese. He has been involved in youth work and is interested in global issues, history and outdoor activities.

Val is an active Mothers' Union member and they both enjoy walking and gardening.

We look forward to welcoming John and Val to Banwell. Please hold them in your prayers as they prepare for this major change in their lives.

Rod Humphreys & John Haynes
Churchwardens

To advertise in this magazine give our advertisement manager

Mike Hebden

a call on 823517 to discuss your requirements

Gardening Tips for February

Hedges do tend to be taken for granted. If yours looks a little the worse for wear, give it a boost with a dressing of fertiliser or a good manure over the root run. Now is the time to sow cabbage, lettuce, peas and cauliflower in a temperature of 13°C (55°F). Rhubarb can also be planted at this time. Any turfing should be completed as conditions allow. If you have not dealt with summer bedding schemes yet, get planning sorted at your earliest opportunity so that orders can be sent in. The busy season for seed sowing approaches, and it is always worth sowing thinly. This way seedlings have room to develop and will not become overcrowded if pricking out is delayed.

Gardening Club News

At our November meeting, Mr Michael Smith gave a fascinating talk on his 35 years experience of retailing and caring for houseplants. 60% of houseplant sales go through Holland, sold by Dutch auction, coming from as far afield as South America, Kenya and Israel. He explained that the key to successful plant growth and flowering is to focus on climate: temperature, humidity, light intensity and air movement (which is important to strengthen stems). There was no December meeting, but in January the club members and their guests enjoyed a splendid Christmas dinner at Worlebury Golf Club. Our next meeting will be on 28th February, when Chris Cudlipp will be talking about growing vegetables. All are welcome. For more information please contact the Club secretary, Eleanor Baker, on 824021.

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Winscombe,
Somerset BS25 1BS

From the Registers

Funerals

January

23rd Rosemarie Dyer Lewis
28th Robert Bell

**Please note our
email address &
website**

theeditor@banwellparishnews.org.uk
www.banwellparishnews.org.uk



Wonder if they know they can save money on their household insurance?

Not to mention the savings they can make on security products

Wonder if they'd like to know about local crime issues?

Or be warned when bogus callers are in the area?

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH IS THE ONE POSITIVE ACTION YOU COULD TAKE TO PREVENT YOURSELF FROM BECOMING A VICTIM OF CRIME

You are invited to a meeting to be held at BANWELL VILLAGE HALL to find out more, on: MONDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2008 AT 7 PM PC 2307 Adrian Woolacott & PCSO 7369 Maggie Evans

Parish Council

Welcome to the 4th issue of the Parish Council's informal communication trial. This is advanced notice to let you know that we will be setting up a means whereby you the parishioner can give feedback to the PC on whether you would like us to continue with this method of communication. Watch this space for the following issue in March.

The Sustainable Communities Bill

Your PC some time ago agreed to support the above Bill and I have just heard that The Sustainable Communities Bill has now become an Act of Parliament. (http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2007/pdf/ukpga_20070023_en.pdf)

By my understanding of this piece of new legislation; by October 2008 central government will ask North Somerset Council, who will have a legal duty to do so, to set up citizens panels (drawn from all sections of the community) and try to reach an agreement with those panels on suggestions that you, the parishioner make. Then NSC has to submit them to central government and (you will like this) the government has a legal duty to co-operate with NSC to try to reach an agreement on what action it will take on the suggestions made.

This is a major reversal in the power structure, yes folks, this is the new bottom up process so that policies to create sustainable communities will be driven by you and your fellow parishioners and not by the civil servants in Whitehall. I look forward with interest to see how well this will work.

David Elsey
Chair - PC.

Village Pride Committee

We have had our second meeting and the minutes will be circulated in due course.

A new planting area has been created around the Banwell sign on the Wolverhill road. The "Banwell in Bloom" team are going to include this area in their future planting scheme.

I have been in contact with Mr Adrian Leonard (NSC) for an update about the cutting back of hedges with flailing equipment in Golling Lane. Mr Leonard has come up with the proposal that North Somerset Council will pay a 1/3rd of the costs if Banwell PC pays a 1/3rd and the "Route to School Fund" would pay the final 1/3rd. Estimated total costs would be £1000. Mr Leonard to email the Parish Clerk with his funding proposal and this to become an agenda item for the PC's approval.

The area around the seat in Golling Lane. I intend to propose removing the brambles and undergrowth and replacing with grass and fencing around the border to make a quiet area for parishioners to sit and enjoy



the views across the village to Banwell Hill. But first there is a need to carry out a feasibility study and costs.

As Golling Lane is listed as a bridleway,

there are 'step-ins' (for horses to pass) which again have become badly overgrown. I intend to propose these should be cleared and paving slabs be laid to provide a safer place to stand. Again there is a need to carry out a feasibility study and costs.

Eight bags of green waste were taken from the footpath – Knightcott to Wolverhill Paddocks in our tidy-up program, we hope to look at the West Street to Littlefields footpath next.

We have purchased a Hi-Vis waistcoat in order to check quality and size before we provide all of the "Banwell in Bloom" team a coat. This is to reduce the likelihood of an accident. The next time you see our volunteers near our busy roads please give them a cheer and a wave.

Peter Shipton
Chair - Village Pride

Village Pride Meeting

Venue: Scout Hut.

Wednesday 6th February 2008

Time 19.30 hrs

All Welcome

Agenda

1. Adoption of the minutes
2. Matters arising
3. Condition of assets (flower tubs/seating/etc)
4. Hi-viz jacket approval
5. Budget 2008-2009
6. Banwell in bloom update
7. Any other business
8. Date of next meeting

Cemetery Committee

We are holding a Tidy-up Day in the cemetery on Sunday 17th February 2008 between midday and one o'clock weather, permitting. We have ten green bags so, hopefully, we can remove a lot of the fallen leaves. I shall see if I can borrow a generator to provide some hot refreshments on the day.

Many hands make light work so please turn up on the day for an hour's work.

Peter Shipton

Banwell, Winscombe and Sandford Children's Centre

Find out about the new Children's Centre which will be opening soon!!

A new Children's Centre for Banwell, Winscombe and Sandford will soon be opening in Banwell. The Centre is being converted from the former Youth and Community Centre in Banwell and it is planned that it will be a base for activities for children, young people and their families.

Information and finding out sessions are being held to give families the opportunity to find out about Children's Centres and give their views on the services that might be provided by the Children's Centre.

The events, which will include children's activities and refreshments, will be held on the following dates:

Monday 25th February at Banwell Village Hall from 1-3pm

Thursday 27th March at St James Church Hall Winscombe from 1-3pm

Representatives from the Children's Centre, local parents, health visitors, midwives, Children's Information Services and Job Centre Plus are amongst those who will be supporting the events as partners who will be working through the new Children's Centre. It is hoped that as many local families as possible will be able to join us to find out what is already happening as part of the Children's centre activities and help us to plan for the future.

For more information about the Children's Centre please contact Sue James on 07825 341287 or email: Sue.James@n-somerset.gov.uk

Plastic Recycling

You can now recycle plastic types 1 and 2 at eight points across North Somerset.

The amount of plastic waste generated annually in the UK is estimated to be nearly 3 million tonnes. Where possible avoid buying over-packaged products and refill plastic containers.

Please recycle the remaining plastic you may have at the following plastic recycling points:

Backwell - Recycling Centre

Nailsea - Clevedon Road Car Park

Portishead - Recycling Centre

Portishead - Waitrose

Weston-super-Mare - Recycling Centre

Weston-super-Mare - Tesco

Winscombe - The Woodborough Pub

Yatton - Somerfield

We currently accept the two most common types of plastic - Type 1 PET (PETE) and Type 2 (HDPE).

Type 1, or Polyethylene Terephthalate, is commonly used to make soft drink and cooking oil bottles.

Type 2, or High Density Polyethylene, is mainly used to make milk and detergent bottles.

You can identify what type of plastic you have by looking for an embossed triangular logo around the base with the numbers 1 or 2 in the centre as shown in the picture.



We cannot accept other plastic types for recycling because, at the moment, it is difficult to do and expensive.

For further information contact Streets and Open Spaces on 01934 888 802.

North Somerset Council

Testing Times

An old man visited his doctor in order to get some test results from the previous week. 'I've got some good news and some bad news,' said the doctor.

'Give me the good news first!' replied the patient.

'The good news is that you have only twenty-four hours to live.'

'Oh my God!' cried the patient. 'If that's the good news, then what's the bad news?'

'I forgot to call you yesterday' said the doctor.



Circus Skills Success at Banwell School



ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

BANWELL

"STORYTIME"

For young children

Coffee and chat for Mums and Dads

Monday 25th February

10.00 am

Please come and join us

All welcome

It's Leap Year!

This is a Leap Year - February has 29 days in it, bringing the total days for 2008 to 366.

Leap years happen every four years, but this one is more unusual: this February has five Fridays in it. The last time a February had 5 Fridays was in 1980 and next time will be in 2036.

So - which years are leap years? In the Gregorian calendar, used by most modern countries, the following rules decide which years are leap years:

- Every year divisible by 4 is a leap year.
- But every year divisible by 100 is NOT a leap year
- Unless the year is also divisible by 400, then it is still a leap year. This means that year 1800, 1900, 2100, 2200, 2300 and 2500 are NOT leap years, while 2000 and 2400 ARE leap years. (Not that any of us will be around in 2400 to care.)

Leap years keep the calendar in alignment with the earth's motion around the sun. If we used a calendar with only ever 365 days, we'd end up 0.2422 days wrong a year - that's about six hours. Not much to begin with - but in 50 years we'd be 12 days ahead of the seasons. By adding a leap year, the calendar follows the seasons much more closely.

Words Of Wisdom

- * Never buy a car you can't push.
- * Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because if you do, you won't have a leg to stand on.
- * Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.

Is This 'Our Banwell'?

Banwell Parish Steering Group is now called 'OUR BANWELL'. Over the coming months you will be asked for your ideas for the future of Banwell. You will receive a yellow leaflet entitled 'OUR BANWELL'. This leaflet will have information about how Banwellians can decide for themselves how they would like to improve their village.

If you have views about local schooling, youth opportunities, traffic control, heritage, the elderly, shops and amenities etc, this is your change to have your say. The group 'OUR BANWELL' will require feedback about what you like and what you would like to change about your village. The yellow leaflet will give you information on how to give us your views.

We will also be looking for volunteers so don't be shy - there are only approx 2900 people living in Banwell and everyone's views are important, whether you are nine years old or ninety nine years young.

This is 'OUR BANWELL' and it is up to us to look after our village.

Trouble And Strife

An elderly gentleman pays a visit to a wizard to ask him to remove a curse he has been living with for the last forty years. The wizard tells the man that he needs to know the exact words that were used when the curse was put on him in the first place. The old man replies without a moment's hesitation, 'I now pronounce you man and wife.'



THE PLAY POD

.. IS ON ITS WAY TO BANWELL

*If you are between 10 and 16 years old
this could be of interest to you*

In the coming months the play pod (a giant toy/activity box which can be used and equipped with the things that you would like) will be set up in the recreation field. There will also be Community Play Rangers to go with it!

If you would like to know more then please come and meet the play rangers, along with myself on:

WEDNESDAY, 20 FEBRUARY 2008
From 10.30 – 13.00 hours at
Banwell Village Hall

FOOD & DRINKS PROVIDED

(I will need to know who is coming so look out for the notice with reply slip)

YOUR IDEAS AND VIEWS ARE NEEDED TO GET THIS PROJECT OFF THE GROUND
TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY OF HAVING A SAY IN THE THINGS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE HAPPEN

PCSO 7369 MAGGIE EVANS
TEL: 01934 638123

Banwell Fair Day


The sum of £154.75 was raised in aid of St Margaret's Somerset Hospice at the Fire Station on Banwell Fair Day. We are grateful for your support and generous donations.



BANWELL SOCIETY OF ARCHAEOLOGY

LOCAL HISTORY TALKS

Secret Hiding Places: Priest holes & Secret Passages



By Anne Bowring

Friday 8 February Banwell Village Hall 7.30

REFRESHMENTS RAFFLE

VISITORS WELCOME

BANWELL-POTIGNY TWINNING ASSOCIATION



Sunday Lunch and AGM

24th February 2008

12.30 for 1 Scout HQ

A runaway success in previous years, our special two-course Sunday lunch gives an extra something to brighten up the dull days of winter!

We are always looking for new members, so if you would like to find out more about the Twinning, then this is an ideal opportunity to come along and meet us.

Admission by ticket only - available from Jeanne on jeanne_evans70@hotmail.com or 823878 or from Banwell News

BYO wine/soft drinks Raffle

£7.50 per head £5 under 16

See you there!

Modern Art

An introduction to Modern Art - What's it supposed to be?

In three evenings at Winscombe Community Centre, one each in March, April and May, David Cuthbert, celebrated local artist, teacher and co-director of the Mendip Painting Centre, will be giving illustrated talks on the origins and development of modern art.

These evenings will be informal affairs and discussion will be encouraged. David will be drawing on forty years of study and his own understanding as a practising artist. He has exhibited widely and has work in collections in Australia, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, and USA. David is also registered with ALIAS, (Arts Council of England, South West) as a visual arts consultant. The course is suitable for anyone with an interest in modern cultural history or simply curious about the images and ideas of modern artists.

The first on March 6th is called "Ecstatic Colour" and will be looking at Matisse, the Fauves and their legacy. This is followed by "Dismantling & Rebuilding the World" on April 3rd which is devoted to the Cubism of Picasso, Braque and Gris. "Dreams & Nightmares" on May 1st will complete the first three talks with a look at Expressionism, Dada and Surrealism. Each talk is self-sufficient but it is hoped that people will book for all three. The purpose of the series is to show how modern and contemporary art has developed out of earlier art and in response to changes in society.

The dates for these fascinating talks will be 06 March, 03 April and 01 May, starting each evening at 7.45p.m. The cost will be £5 for each evening and the three sessions

can be booked together at a reduced rate of £12.

A further three sessions have been provisionally booked and will depend upon the interest shown at these initial talks.

Enquiries to David on 01934 842970 to book tickets please. Tickets can also be purchased at the door on the evening.

WI

The speaker for our January meeting was Mr.T.Merret Smith and his subject was 'Thanks for the Memory'.

We heard about the lives and careers of entertainers who were popular many years ago.

We saw slides of such stars as Rudolph Valentino. The songs were known to most of us and we sang along to many of them. It really was good music in those days.

For our next meeting on February 14th we have Mrs.Ann Bowering whose subject will be the Bayeaux Tapestry Visitors are very welcome.

Amorous Recall

The actress Ethel Barrymore was once told that an actress acquaintance had, prior to getting married, made a full confession to her prospective husband regarding her past love affairs. 'What honesty! What courage,' somebody apparently remarked, but the only comment Barrymore made was, 'What a memory!'

ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

Butcombe Brewery arc Pub Walk

21 March 2008 (Good Friday)

Lead by local journalist and walker Sue Gearing.

- Walkers meet from 11.00am at The Swan Inn, Rowberrow for a glass of mulled wine.
- Walk starts at midday
- Distance 8.75 miles.
- Walk through contrasting landscapes, ancient iron age hill fort, highest point on the Mendips, a nature reserve and old flues once used in the lead resmelting industry.
- Outstanding views!

The walk ends at The Ring O' Bells at Compton Martin where walkers will enjoy a well earned supper!

- Transport provided to return walkers to The Swan at Rowberrow.

Get sponsorship and help the Arthritis Research Campaign. Put your boots on and register with Suzie Ladbroke - arc's Southwest Area Appeals Manager. Challenge yourself and help us challenge arthritis!

REGISTRATION IS £10 and includes mulled wine, supper and return transport.

arc 0870 850 5000
www.arc.org.uk
Committed to curing arthritis

BUTCOMBE BREWERY

Suzie Ladbroke, The Old Sweet Shop, Church Street, Wedmore, Somerset BS28 4AB.
Tel/Fax: 01934 713906
Email: s.ladbroke@arc.org.uk



Village Website

The modernised Banwell Village Website hub is now up and running at www.banwell.info and provides:

- A calendar to which you can now all add events.

- A news page that you can now all post news on by email

(just ask me for the email address)

- Community links to local societies and organisations as before.

NEW

There are also links to the Banwell Hub groups on bebo, facebook and myspace.

If things go according to plan all the news and events published on the hub will also appear on the groups. (The Facebook group seems to be winning just now with 15 mem-

bers before we even launched!)

Banwell email alerts has been made more reliable and will also send news and events around the village.

Memory Lapse

Two old men are chatting. One man says, 'My friend, you must try this memory pill I'm taking. I remember absolutely everything, it's amazing.'

The other man says, 'It sounds wonderful. What's the name of the pill?'

The first man replies, 'The name of the pill? Well, let's see. What's the name of that small white flower with a yellow centre? It begins with "D" . . .'

The other man says, 'A daisy?'

The first man says, 'Yes, that's right!' Then, calling for his wife, he says, 'Daisy what is the name of that pill I'm taking?'

Village Websites

St Andrew's Church – www.standrewsbanwell.org.uk

Contact: Dinah Harrison, email: pccsecretary@standrewsbanwell.org.uk

Banwell Village Website – www.banwell.info

Contact: Graham Found, email: graham@banwell.info Tel:822619

Banwell Parish Council Website – www.banwellparishcouncil.co.uk

Contact: Mrs Nicola Hooper – clerk@banwellparishcouncil.co.uk

The Friends of Banwell Primary School Website – www.banwell.info/friends

Westfield Residents Assoc - www.westfield.banwell.info

email; westfield@banwell.info

Banwell Bowling Club Website – www.banwellbowlsclub.com

Banwell Royal British Legion Website – www.rbl.banwell.info

Banwell Baby and Toddler Group – www.geocities.com/banwellbabytoddlers

The Whistling Duck Informer

Tel: 01934 823127

"Hi Folks"

My name is Tim Collins, and together with my wife Joi and our son Luke I run the "Whistling Duck Public House" in Banwell and would like to take this opportunity of wishing all of you a healthy, happy & prosperous New Year. Also to thank everyone for their support over the past 2 years that we've been here and to inform you of some changes we have made to Menu & facilities for 2008.

From January, we are introducing our Fantastic "Season Changing" Fine Dining A la Carte Menu in what is now called the "Seasons Restaurant at the Whistling Duck"

Running along side the Main Menu we will be offering a selection of superb malted granary filled baguettes from £3.95 & a selection of home made Steak Burgers with Salad & Fries from £4.95.

Also, we will be offering a selection of family favourites with kiddie's portions at Half Price, with an additional Dish of the Day at £4.95, "Changing Daily"

There will also be our famous Steak section all served with Home Made Chips, Tomato, Flat Mushrooms, Butter Fried Onions & Watercress Salad.

We have also included our new Pizza Menu for your deliberation & are now offering a "Free" Home Delivery Service within a 3 Mile Radius.

I thank you for your time & sincerely hope that we can be of service to you in 2008.

For more information, please call the above telephone number.

The Whistling Duck Pizza Menu

Tel: 01934 823127

1. Margarita	=	Cheese & Tomato	£8.95
2. Napolitano	=	Cheese, Tomato, Garlic & Oregano	£9.45
3. Hawaiian	=	Cheese, Tomato, Ham & Pineapple	£9.95
4. Bolognese	=	Topped with Classical Meat Sauce & Cheese	£9.95
5. 4 Cheese	=	Cheddar, Mozzarella, Gorgonzola & Parmesan	£9.95
6. Marinara	=	Prawns, Tuna, Anchovy & Olives	£10.95
7. Roccolla	=	Rocket & Parmesan Salad	£9.45
8. Putanesca	=	Onion, Mushroom, Garlic, Chilli & Olives	£9.95

- All our Pizza's are Freshly Baked to Order.
- We offer a 50% Discount for Lunch Time Diners
- 20% Discount for "Takeaway Customers" (Self Pick-Up Only)
- Alternatively we offer a "Free Home Delivery Service" (Tues-Sat Evening only 6-10pm)
- Menus and forthcoming events can be seen on our website at www.pubrestaurantbanwell.co.uk
- Seasons Restaurant is listed with Restaurant Guide www.sugarvine.com - please see Reader Recommendations.
- Lunchtime Pizzas - Dine in the restaurant or Takeaway (Self Pick-up only) Tuesday to Sunday- all @ £5.00 each.

Nunc Dimittis

Waiting is a common human experience. Sometimes the waiting is for good and exciting things: a birthday to arrive or a wedding day to dawn. At other times the waiting is anxious and worrying: exam results or news of loved ones serving in the forces. The waiting rooms at the doctor or dentist often have that air of anxiety and foreboding. Our lives are made up of waiting that leads to encounter, and the waiting requires patience and humility. Milton wrote in his blindness, 'They also serve who only stand and wait' as he wondered what he could do for God's kingdom now that his sight had gone.

Simeon in this month's painting of the 'Presentation of Christ' had been waiting. He belonged to a people who had been waiting for centuries. He was heir to the hopes and dreams of a nation waiting for a better world now that the holy city was in the hands of Roman invaders. With his people he clung to the hope that God would come to bring freedom and a new life. God's chosen one, the Messiah, would bring this about. When it came, there was no fanfare, no warning, just an ordinary family from faraway Nazareth in the Temple, performing the religious duties for the firstborn son. But the waiting led to encounter, and the sight of the newborn child led to insight as Simeon recognised that light and salvation had at last come.

Rembrandt has captured all this in his painting, 'Simeon with the Christ Child in the Temple': the faith and patience, the hope and humility of an old man, a priest, who takes the babe into his arms and blesses God. It was the artist's last painting and left unfinished at his death in 1669. The figure of Mary by Simeon's side may have been painted by another artist at a later stage. It is the aged priest and the newborn babe



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that impress us as we look: Simeon with his venerable beard and eyes half closed, and the tiny child cradled in his strong arms, looking up intently with his eyes open.

As Rembrandt painted this canvas, was he saying something about his own life? He had not been afraid to paint his portrait at various stages - at 21, at 35, at 53 - a total of 60 portraits covering the span of years. And in all of them, whatever the age, the artist looks out from the canvas at us, asking what a 21 year old, a 35 year old, a 53 year old can say to us and teach us.

In this final painting the years have moved on as we see Simeon, mouthing 'Nunc dimittis' with his eyes half closed. Is the waiting over and the journey coming to an end, so that his eyes will fully close? Or will he open them to see that with the babe in his arms, God has more in store: the promise of a future as they step out together on a new journey?

The Rev Michael Burgess

Farmer Support Ticket To Ride

The pursuit of cheap food coupled with the buying power of the big supermarkets is putting farming livelihoods at risk, the Church of England has told the Competition Commission. Making farmers pay for supermarkets' own promotions is just one of a number of invisible and pernicious practices squeezing farm-gate prices.

While welcoming the broad findings in the Competition Commission's recent interim report, the Church argues that a wider debate is urgently needed on the effects of retailers extracting 'below cost' supply agreements from farmers and their effect on a sustainable and flourishing agricultural sector.

"The business practices of the major food retailers have placed considerable stress on the farming community through the use of methods which we believe to be unfair and of which consumers seem to be unaware," said the Rt Rev Michael Langrish, Bishop of Exeter, who chairs the Church's Rural Strategy Group.

"Farmers seem to be unwilling to complain or to expose these practices for fear that their produce may be boycotted by the major retailers. It is clear that the Supermarkets Code of Practice is not working."

The call for wider debate comes in the report 'Fairtrade begins at home: Supermarkets and the effect on British farming livelihoods', submitted to the Competition Commission by the Church's Ethical Investment Advisory Group (EIAG). It was researched and produced in response to concerns from members of the General Synod, the Church's 'Parliament', about the doubtful viability of many farming enterprises given the squeeze on farm-gate prices.

A former bishop of Exeter was renowned for his bad memory. On one occasion he was travelling by train to a certain part of his diocese. Before he reached his destination the ticket collector appeared demanding to see all tickets. The bishop groped his way through this pocket and that, inside his purple cassock and out, but no ticket could be found. Finally the ticket collector lost patience and said; 'Tha's o'right bishop. We all know you's an harnest man. It don't matter.'

'Oh indeed it does!' replied the bishop. 'Without that ticket I shan't know where to get off this train!'

Slowly does it!

London has the slowest traffic of any major city in Europe, with an average speed of 11.8mph, 3.2mph slower than the next slowest, Berlin, a recent survey has found. Manchester, with an average speed of 17.4mph was fourth slowest, and Edinburgh (18.5mph) was fifth.



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WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

MONDAY

11th	7.30 pm	Parish Council	*	V.H.
25th	7.30 pm	“ “	*	Meth. Hall
Weekly	10.00 am	Keep Fit	*	V.H.
Weekly	5.30 – 6.30 pm	Beavers	*	Scout Hall
Weekly	6.00 - 8.45 pm	Beginners & Advanced Yoga	*	V.H.

TUESDAY

Weekly	10.00 am	Mendip Art Group (term time only)	*	V.H.
Weekly	1.00 - 3.30 pm	Playgroup	*	P. H.
Weekly	5.45 - 7.15 pm	Brownies	*	V.H.
Weekly	7.00 - 9.00 pm	Guides	*	Scout Hall

WEDNESDAY

6th & 20th	1.30 - 3.30 pm	Baby Clinic	*	V.H.
13th	2.30 pm	Mothers' Union – Speaker: Eric Small	*	V.H.
13th	7.30pm	Royal British Legion	*	Scout Hall
Weekly	7.30 pm	Bell Ringing Practice	*	St. Andrews
Weekly	8.00 pm	Banwell Sequence Dance Club	*	V.H.
Weekly	1.30 pm	Bridge Club	*	V.H.

THURSDAY

14th & 28th	10.00 am	Banwell Short Mat Bowling	*	V.H.
1st & 21st	7.30 pm	“ “ “ “	*	V.H.
14th	7.30 pm	W.I. Speaker: Anne Bowring “The Bayeux Tapestry”	*	V.H.
28th	7.30pm	Gardening Club – Speaker: Chris Cudlipp “Growing Veg”.	*	V.H.
Weekly	1.00 - 3.30pm	Playgroup	*	P.H.
Weekly	2.30 pm	Seniors' Club	*	V.H.
Weekly	7.30 – 10.00 pm	Youth Club (term time only)	*	Y.C.C.
Weekly	5.30 - 6.30 pm	Rainbows	*	Scout Hall

FRIDAY

8th	7.30 pm	Archaeology Society – Speaker: Anne Bowring “Secret Hiding Places: Priest Holes & Secret Passages	*	V.H.
Weekly	9.30 - 11.45 am	Baby/Toddler Group	*	Scout Hall
Weekly	6.30 – 7.45 pm	Cubs	*	Scout Hall
Weekly	7.45 – 9.30 pm	Scouts	*	Scout Hall

SATURDAY

9th	7.30pm	“Winter Draws On” Old Time Music Hall	*	Village Hall
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SUNDAY

Weekly	11.00 am	Judo Club	*	Y.C.C.
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Abbreviations: * Visitors Welcome; **V.H.** Village Hall; **M.H.** Methodist Hall; **P.H.** Playgroup Hall; **Y.C.C.** Youth and Community Centre.

Lost In Translation

Two American preachers were visiting in Germany and attended Sunday services. Since they couldn't speak German, they decided to do as the man sitting in front of them did.

A few minutes into the service the preacher from the pulpit said something and the man in front of them stood, and they stood also. The congregation burst into laughter. They then sat down when the man did.

At the end of the service, they met the pastor and found that he spoke English. They asked him why everyone laughed so much when they stood?

The pastor explained that he had announced that they would have a christening service that evening and would the father of the child please rise.

Leave Those Emails Alone!

Want a good night's sleep tonight? Avoid your laptop, BlackBerry and mobile phone for at least an hour before you go to bed. Checking any one of them can have the same effect on your sleep as drinking two espressos.

Recent research by the Edinburgh Sleep centre has discovered that the light from a BlackBerry or laptop is concentrated enough to signal your brain to stop production of melatonin, a natural hormone known to aid sleep disturbances. And checking emails - especially to do with work - will shut down the brain's natural preparations for sleep.

No wonder that the average Briton suffers an estimated 55 nights of poor quality sleep a year.

Sick Humour

Mrs Green called her doctor's surgery to find out her husband's test results.

'I'm so sorry' the nurse told her, 'but there's been some sort of mistake. When we sent your husband's samples to the laboratory some samples from another Mr Green were sent as well. One Mr Green has tested positive for Alzheimer's disease and the other Mr Green for syphilis. We can't tell which results are your husband's.'

'That's terrible,' cried Mrs Green. 'Can we do the test over again to find the answer?'

'Your Health Maintenance Organization won't pay for these expensive tests to be run twice.'

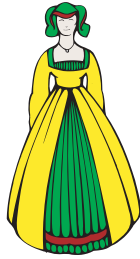
'Well, what are we supposed to do?'

'The doctor recommends that you drop your husband off in the middle of town. If he finds his way home, don't sleep with him.'

Now That I'm Older

1. I started out with nothing, and I still have most of it.
2. My wild oats have turned to prunes and All Bran.
3. I finally got my head together; now my body is falling apart.
4. All reports are in: life is now officially unfair.
5. If all is not lost, where is it?
6. It is easier to get older than it is to get wiser.

Winter Draws On! (Yet Again)



An Evening of Music Hall Entertainment

SATURDAY 9th FEBRUARY - 7.30pm BANWELL VILLAGE HALL

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PROFITS TO VINE COUNSELLING SERVICES

Family Information Days

The nationally recognised POPPINS Community Cafés are coming to Banwell Village Hall on 5 March 2008, offering help and support on a variety of issues, from housing to education.

As well as information about how to get the most from local services, such as those offered by North Somerset Council, Citizens' Advice Bureau and Age Concern, there will also be opportunities to talk to local police and councillors, plus there will be refreshments and fun activities.

The community cafés have been taking place in various venues across North Somerset over the last few months and were recently singled out for national praise by the Gov-

ernment's Improvement and Development Agency for their impact in helping "hard to reach" groups access local services

For more information telephone Celia on 01934 529 320 or Heather 01934 529321 or Fax 01934 521249.

End Of An Era!

Sue and Alan would like to thank all their customers for their loyal support over the last 26 years. They have enjoyed serving you whilst in business.

After 50 years in the butchery trade Alan has decided to retire and hang up his famous white coat. They will cease trading on Saturday 30th March 2008.

Alan & Sue Vickery

We wish them a long and happy retirement. Ed



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