

January 2006



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A Happy And Prosperous New Year
To All Our Readers

To all those who have helped in any
way with the production and distri-
bution of the Magazine can we say
a big

Thank You

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A Happy Christmas?

Many people will not have had a happy Christmas this year. And they are not just the famine victims and the hurricane victims and the earthquake victims and refugees in far-off countries, or those who sleep rough in most British cities and towns, or even people who 'live' in hostels or bed-and-breakfast accommodation.

These unhappy people will include many 'ordinary' English people who have enough food and a roof over their heads.

Traditionally there have been strong pressures on us all to enjoy Christmas as a family occasion. Over recent years it has become more of a television time. This is rapidly altering Christmas-time in our pleasure-seeking society into a party opportunity. But those without families, or with family pains and pressures, or with recent bereavement, can find Christmas one of the worst times of year.

Many are realising the emptiness of television (Christmas viewing figures keep falling, even including satellite and cable channels). And those who cannot cope with parties and bonhomie feel left out and lonely.

Isn't it time that we re-evaluated how to celebrate, how to enjoy ourselves? No one is against families or parties, and television brings us real benefits. This is not even a plea to put Jesus Christ or religion back into Christmas (though a trip to church and a reading of the opening chapters of Luke's Gospel wouldn't do any harm). It is simply that many of our ways of enjoying ourselves are actually destructive, bringing about more misery than happiness.

What we often end up doing is worshipping the god of family or television or food or

alcohol or sex. All these things are right and good in their place. All have a real part to play in most of our lives. But when we elevate any of them to the highest position then we experience a few days of selfish over-indulgence, followed by a time of miserable recovery, then an increased sense of emptiness and pointlessness as life begins again after the New Year.

Why not get our priorities right? Learn to spend time in God's presence. Learn to receive his love and forgiveness. Learn to accept others as he accepts us. Learn to make our whole lives, not just Christmas, celebrations of love, goodness and generosity.

Donald Allister
Archdeacon of Chester

St Kew

St Kew has nothing to do with gardens or the 'Q' of James Bond fame. This Kew lived in Cornwall in the 5th century, and should be the patron saint of girls with difficult older brothers.

Kew's older brother was a hermit who felt his younger sister was not worthy to even visit his cell. But big brothers often underestimate their younger sisters, and he was no exception. One day Big Brother saw a wild boar charge out of the woods towards his sister. She spoke to it kindly in tones of such purity and sweetness that it immediately slowed down to a peaceful walk.

Big Brother was so shaken by this that he repented of his superior attitude.

Perhaps the moral of all this is that if you want to win over an difficult older brother, you should first practise on wild boars.

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.



January

8th West Street
15th Westfield Crescent
22nd Westfield Road
29th Whitecross Lane

February

5th William Daw Close
12th Wint Hill

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.

The Revd. Sam, 852314

The Revd. D. & Mrs. H. Lockyer 822320

A depression is a period when people do without the things their parents never had.

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Banwell Bell Ringers

Banwell ringers very often spread their talents out across the surrounding district throughout the year ringing at various churches, from Weston and Worle, Meare and Ashcott, Hutton to Rowberrow, plus many other local towers beside. Over this Christmas period we thought that we would spread our name even further afield – how about Africa?

It was thought that, rather than spend money sending Christmas cards to each other, (possibly a total over 150 cards) perhaps we could give a collective donation to charity. And so it was – that a note was put on the notice board advising that the secretary would be delighted to accept donations in lieu of cards – and I am pleased to say that we have been able to 'buy' not one - but two goats for a farm in an area of Ethiopia. Perhaps a Billy and a Nanny, so perhaps kids for next Christmas?

But – there is one problem, the ringers being a generous lot didn't quite understand the rules – does anyone know a charity that accepts used Christmas cards?

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Services In Our Churches

ST. ANDREW'S

	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist
	3.30 pm	Evensong
8th	7.15 pm	Young at Heart

METHODIST

	10.30 am	Morning Service & Sunday School
	6.30 pm	Evening Service

ROMAN CATHOLIC Cheddar

Sunday	9.00 am	Mass
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ALL WELCOME

theeditor@banwellparishnews.org.uk

theeditor@banwellparishnews.org.uk

Please note our new email address

theeditor@banwellparishnews.org.uk

theeditor@banwellparishnews.org.uk

From the Registers

December

Funeral:

8th Kenneth George Marriot

Wedding

28th Mark Geoffrey Howard to

Catherine - Mary Louise Andrews

theeditor@banwellparishnews.org.uk

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 -1.45am. at the Scout Hut. Contact Jane Gomm 822972.

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: Jo Duffy (parish clerk) 824210, 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

Mothers' Union

On December 13th Banwell Mothers' Union held a celebratory Christmas Luncheon at the Mooseheart. Members from the whole of Locking Deanery, and their husbands, were invited. So many wished to attend that The Mooseheart International, Winscombe, kindly opened an additional dining room to accommodate 89 diners! The lunch was a jolly occasion, we could hardly hear each other speak!.....the Christmas meal was excellent as usual. We are now booked for Dec. 6th 2006!

Our Diocesan President, Mary Dowrick, was our guest Speaker. Mary gave an amusing account of defrosting the freezer, wondering what was in this package and that....finding stuff well past its safe date and then trying to save what was still good. Much like our own minds and lives. We all need a mental reassessment and a life sort out to keep us going in a rapidly changing world. The rubbish is obvious....the good and noble are also clear, it's the bits in between that make the difficulties and require much consideration and thought. Not everything new is good nor is everything old out dated and bad. If that was the case we wouldn't celebrate the 2000 year old birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ on Christmas Day with all the love and good will shown to family, friends, neighbours and the many Charities during the Christmas season. We might sigh over the cost and commercialism but remember the reason for the celebration and give thanks for Christ's

message of love and salvation.

So now we come to another New Year with our Good Resolutions, to throw out the rubbish and keep the good.....but we will still puzzle over the bits in between won't we?

A Happy and Prosperous New Year to Everyone from St Andrew's Mothers' Union.

Forthcoming Events 2006

Jan. 6th Deanery Epiphany Service and Tea
St Paul's W-s-M 2.30pm

Jan. 11th Branch Meeting Village Hall.
Deanery President Liz Green.
National Meeting Report 2.30pm
followed by a video of our Christmas Luncheon kindly presented by Barry Mather.

Feb. 8th Speaker: Helen Warwick from
The Christian Alliance Homes.

Missing

A friend and his wife were considering travelling to Alaska for a trip that the husband had long dreamed of taking. He kept talking about how great it would be to stay in a log cabin without electricity, to hunt moose, and drive a dog team instead of a car. "If we decided to live there permanently, away from civilization, what would you miss the most?" he asked his wife one night. She replied without hesitation: "You."

CONTACTS

		Tel.
Church of England.	Rev. David Lockyer, The Vicarage, 3 East Street. Banwell	822320
Methodist.	Rev. Sam, Wesley Manse, Dinghurst Rd, Churchill	852314
Roman Catholic.	Rev. Fr. Peter Slocombe, The Presbytery, Tweentown, Cheddar	742564

Caring at Christmas

A very big Thank You to all the generous people in Banwell who gave food, clothing and donations to the Julian Trust for Caring at Christmas.

Two van loads of your donations were taken into Bristol. A big thanks to Steve and Julie at Data Image for offering and taking items just a few days before Christmas.

Each year we put out this appeal and, thankfully, you respond wonderfully.

Dinah, Ann & Eric

When I was younger I hated going to weddings. All my aunts would poke me in the ribs and cackle: 'You're next.' They stopped that after I started doing the same thing to them at funerals.

A Big Christmas Thank You

Once again Banwell has Christmas lights. With help from the dedicated few; namely the Green family, Pete Shipton and a couple of hardy Parish Councillors, the Christmas lights have once again adorned the shops and war memorial of Banwell. Many thanks for your help. We would also like to thank Hutton Garden Centre who came up trumps with some beautiful trees this year.

The Parish Council would like to wish the residents of Banwell a Happy & Prosperous New Year.

Jo Duffy
(Clerk)

When you were born, you cried and the world rejoiced. Live your life so when you die, the world cries and you rejoice.

Native American saying

Village Websites

Banwell Village Website – www.banwell.info
Contact: Graham Found, email: graham@banwell.info Tel: 822619

Banwell Parish Council Website – www.banwell.org
Contact Jony Russell, email: wordsatwork@macunlimited.net Tel: 822715

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.geocities.com/johnnyamos2002

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

Carers are missing out on benefits

It is no secret that many social benefits go unclaimed, but one group that is particularly badly affected are people who give up their jobs early to care for dependants. Recent research by Carers UK suggests that some 250,000 carers over 60 years old are missing out on their entitlement to Pension Credit, while a further 64,000 are losing out on the extra benefit, Carer Addition.

“Every year, two million people become a carer and most people just think of doing their duty rather than thinking about their rights and entitlements,” says Imelda Redmond, of Carers UK. “They can easily suffer a ‘double whammy’. For younger carers aged under 60, giving up work and not claiming the right benefits can mean lasting poverty because their pensions will not be protected. Some 390,000 carers are currently not building up rights to a state pension. When they retire, if they have a small pension or savings, they may still not get their entitlements.”

Paid employment makes up nine per cent of a pensioner’s income (on average) and the longer a person continues to earn, the better their finances will be over the long term. People who give up work to care sacrifice an important source of income as well as the social benefits of the workplace.

There is evidence that one in ten older carers are having to cut back on food to make ends meet. Nearly seven out of ten are having to cut back on other basics like clothes and heating.

Carers now have new rights to assessments which allow them to look at opportunities to work, to learn and to take up leisure activities – yet many carers do not know about them. Any reader affected by this issue can obtain a free guide for all carers (and an additional one for carers aged 60-plus) by calling 0808 808 7777 or by visiting www.carersuk.org

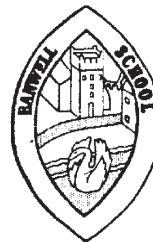
Philip Barron

Traffic Update

The next public meeting of “The Five Villages” will be on Tuesday 24th January at 7.40pm in Banwell Village Hall.

Items for discussion will include:

1. Update on the GBSTS proposals
2. Briefing on the Weston Area Action Plan (Weston Visioning) and their drop-in day on 26th January. (This covers RAF Locking, etc) .
3. Tolls/Congestion Charging - the facts and reality!
4. HGV restriction update- Churchill/Bladon
5. The ramifications and potential impact of future increased traffic through our villages.

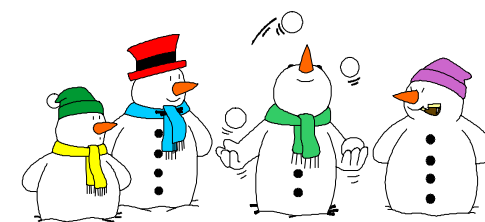


Year 3 have been looking at different types of poems. We have tried to write an acrostic poem on the theme of ‘Winter’.



Winter trees covered in snow.
It is fun, snow is fun.
Nice by the hot fire.
The snowball fights I've remembered.
Everyone is happy.
Remember the days I had so much fun.
Fiona

Wonderful winter
In the snow.
Never a Christmas without snow.
Today it's freezing cold.
Every day I wake up and see snow.
Really nice days playing in the snow!
Georgie



Winter snow covers the trees.
In the snow you play.
Never stop any time
To go in for lunch.
Even if it's five o'clock
Rain is coming, snow is falling.

Hannah



Winter times cold and wet.
It's very cold indeed.
Nobody wants to go outside.
Today I hope the snow will go.
Everybody has to wake up warm.
Rain is coming.

Seline

Copy for the next issue by the 27th January

EDITOR: Dave Colbourne, The Gate House, East Street, Banwell. Tel.822902
ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER: Mike Hebden, 1 Chestnut Close, Banwell. Tel.823517
theeditor@banwellparishnews.org.uk

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Christmas Fayres And Coffee Mornings In Abundance



WI Coffee Morning

Methodists' Coffee Morning



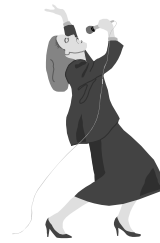
Scout & Guide Christmas Fayre



St Andrew's Coffee Morning



Banwell Singers Success!



An excellent evening was had by one and all when the Banwell Singers once again put on an entertainment for the village. As well as being a good night out it also raised £1228 shared equally between the Village Hall and Weston Hospice Care.

Our photograph shows some of the Banwell Singers presenting a cheque for £614 to Weston Hospice Care.

St Andrew's Church

A Soup Lunch

at the
Village Hall

on
Monday 9th January
and

Monday 13th February
from 12.30 – 1.30pm

£1.00

All welcome

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Ho Ho Ho Ho Ho ! Gardening Tips

What a wonderful evening the Carols Under the Tower event was. I travelled through the village in style with villagers passing



presents to me on the way to the Church, and then when I arrived to be welcomed by the band playing Jingle Bells and the crowds clapping and cheering- you would have thought that I had not been seen for a twelve month!

What super people you all are, and what good singers! And how generous. There were at least eight bags overflowing with presents taken to the Salvation Army in Weston for them to distribute. I now know that from all my travels the best mince pies and punch are found in Banwell, – thank you all who gave them – I now have to go on the dreaded after-Christmas diet so that my coat will do up for next year – but first – time for a snooze.....

So, till next year, from a very tired Father Christmas. Thank you Banwell

Ho Ho SZZZ SZZZ SZZZ



For January

Protect vulnerable plants from frost and wind damage. Firm in any autumn -planted shrubs and border plants lifted by the frost. Check stakes and ties on newly planted trees etc. Check on bulbs forced for indoor displays every week so that you do not miss flowering. Most gardens look rather drab at this time of the year, but the garden will look much better if kept tidy. Generally seeds of hardy perennials should be sown in the appropriate compost, and pots placed outside should be covered with netting to keep off cats and birds. To save time in the busy spring period, maintain your tools now.



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Seniors Club

As a lead up to Christmas we held our Bumper Raffle. Three trestle tables were filled with prizes:- decorations, flowers, ornamental Father Christmases, hampers of fruit, vegetables, tinned fruit, salmon, meats and chicken, etc. Father Christmas called the winning numbers.

The children from Banwell School delighted us with their rendition of our favourite carols; what a joy to watch their expressions as they sang. This is one of the joys of Christmas, to hear children singing carols, and they were excellent.

Our Christmas lunch was held on Thursday 15th December. The tables were decorated in cream and gold and we had a delicious meal, many thanks to the catering staff. A singer/organist entertained us and an enjoyable time was had by all.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on the 26th January 2006.

New members are always welcome - we meet each Thursday at 2.30p.m. in the Village Hall.

A very Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year to all.

M. Bird. (Secretary)

Man's Best Friend?

In a two-day period in New York City recently, a homeless man, a train maintenance worker, and a dog were killed on the subway tracks. Ninety people telephoned the Transit Authority to express concern about the dog, but only three called about the worker, and no-one phoned in about the homeless man.

R. B. L. Banwell

The Branch are running a Holiday to Southern Ireland from Sunday 7th to Sunday 14th May 2006. This will be 8 days 7 nights with 5 nights at the White Sands Hotel in Ballyheigue on Half Board, 1 night going out at the Lawlers Hotel in Dungarvan, 1 night on return at the Grand Hotel Waterford. The Coach will leave from Banwell only, with no overnight travel. Cost £339 per person, single supplement £105 (Why not share with a friend)? Trip to include 3 excursions, Insurance if required £20. Deposit £25 by mid January please. Why not join us? If you are interested or would like more details please contact Ms Sheila Thomas on 01934 822734 or Mr David Thompson on 01934 520216

Banwell WI

At our Christmas meeting we were treated to some very unusual entertainment with the help of 'Anne Robertson' and her diverse contestants playing the T.V. game 'Weakest Link'. This was hilarious – so many talented actresses in our WI.

Father Christmas arrived just too late to have a lovely meal with us.

Last year's committee have now got new jobs so we are looking forward to a new year.

We wish all our friends in Banwell a Happy New Year.

Blessed is the person who sees the need, recognises the responsibility, and actively becomes the answer.

William Arthur Ward

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

MONDAY

9th	7.30 pm	Parish Council	*	V.H.
Weekly	10.00 am	Keep Fit & Tap Dancing	*	V.H.
Weekly	6.45 - 8.15 pm	Cub Scouts	*	Scout Hall
Weekly	6.00 - 8.45 pm	Beginners & Advanced Yoga	*	V.H.

TUESDAY

Weekly	4.30 - 5.30 pm	Beavers	*	Scout Hall
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

4th & 18th	1.30 - 3.30 pm	Baby Clinic	*	V.H.
11th	2.30 pm	Mothers' Union - Speaker: Liz Green, Deanery President, "Ipswich National Meeting"	*	V.H.
11th	7.15 pm	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.
Weekly	1.30 - 3pm	Baby & Toddler Group	*	P.H.

THURSDAY

12th & 26th	10.00 am	Banwell Short Mat Bowling	*	V.H.
5th & 19th	7.30 pm	" " " "	*	V.H.
12th	7.00 pm	W.I. Speaker: John Bawdon "Chrysanthemums of the World"	*	V.H.
26th	6.30 pm	Banwell Gardening Club - Annual Dinner		
Weekly	7.30 - 10.00 pm	Youth Club (term time only)	*	Y.C.C.
Weekly	1.00 - 3.30pm	Playgroup	*	P.H.
Weekly	2.30 pm	Seniors' Club	*	V.H.
Weekly	5.30 - 6.30 pm	Rainbows	*	Scout Hall

FRIDAY

13th	7.30 pm	Archaeology Society - Victorian Magic Lantern Show - Keith Utteridge	*	V.H.
Weekly	7.30 - 9.30 pm	Scouts	*	Scout Hall
Weekly	9.30 - 11.45 am	Baby & Toddler Group	*	Scout Hall

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.

The Whistling Duck in Banwell



Tim, Joi and Luke would like to wish everyone a very happy New Year and offer a very warm welcome to old and new customers to their village pub and restaurant in 2006.

Is your club, group or team looking for a venue to socialise and enjoy the traditional pup games?

table skittles darts draughts chess backgammon cribbage

Then please phone for details

Also note special restaurant events. Special menus, Special offers
Spanish evening - Italian evening - St Patrick's night -
Mothers Day and Easter Sunday lunches.
Dates to be advertised

Starting 25th January Wednesday Night is Bistro Night
3 course dinner £11.95 incl.

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Ann Harley 842069

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