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BANWELL PARISH NEWS

November 2007



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 at the
Village Hall

on

Monday 12th November

and

Monday 10th December

from 12.30 – 1.30pm

£1.00

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BANWELL SOCIETY OF ARCHAEOLOGY

LOCAL HISTORY TALKS



Christmas Past

By Margaret Flux

14 December 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 |

St. Andrew at Banwell

30th November is St. Andrew's Day - celebrated in Scotland and many other countries, even as far afield as Russia. In Banwell, of course, St. Andrew is the Patron Saint of the Parish Church.

There is always a special mention of the First Apostle during services on the Sunday nearest to the Saint's Day. His statue, on the east face of the tower, once looked across the roof to the countryside beyond.

In the 15th century as part of a massive rebuilding of the church, the roof was raised and the clerestory built. Standing in the church and craning one's neck to look at what is now the top of the nave's rear wall, above the window of the ringing chamber, the sharply angled outline of the old roofline can be traced. Just above, in its original niche, the ancient statue gazes benevolently at the congregation. What stories it could tell of six centuries of change and adaptation!

St. Andrew's Day leads naturally into the Advent of Christmas and 'Stir-Up' Sunday seems to remind us of domestic as well as devotional matters!

S.&J.

Life's Start

Three men of God were asked the same question: "When does life begin?" The Catholic priest answered: "At the moment of conception." The Anglican vica replied: "When the child is born." And the rabbi said: "When the children are married and the mortgage has been paid off."

The Humour of Hoffnung

The next concert of Churchill Music will be held at St John the Baptist, Church Lane, Churchill on Saturday 1st December 2007 commencing at 7.30 pm. Tickets cost £10.50 Adults - £8.50 Champions of Churchill and £4 under 18s.

Annetta Hoffnung is returning to give us further insight into her husband Gerard's humour and artistry and show us yet more gems from the treasure trove of his remarkable legacy. While the overall structure of the evening will be as before, new drawings, audio recordings and rare film clips from the famous Hoffnung concerts have been added to cause renewed mirth. Hoffnung's unique position as jester to the court of serious music is unassailable and makes this occasion not to be missed.

Gardening Tips for November

Plant Lily-of-the-Valley - fork over a lightly shaded patch and work in plenty of humus-forming, old manure. Tidy herbaceous borders - hoe out weeds on a drying day when soil is crumbly. Open cold frames on mild days to freshen air around rooted cuttings. Keep frames closed and drape with old carpet if frost threatens. Continue planting border perennials when soil is open and easily worked. Cut back early-flowering chrysanthemums to 4 inches from base. Finish planting spring-flowering bulbs. Sow weather-resistant broad beans to crop from June onwards. You can also choose heavy-cropping fortune peas for June picking.

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.

November

- 4th Wolverhill Road
- 11th Castle Hill
- 18th Chesterfield Close
- 25th Chestnut Close

December

- 2nd Church Street
- 7th Coronation 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

Memory

An elephant was drinking from a river one day when he spotted a turtle asleep on a log. Without any warning, he went over and kicked the turtle right across to the other side of the river.

"Why did you do that?" asked a passing zebra.

"Because," said the elephant, "I recognised it as the same turtle that nipped me on the trunk 44 years ago."

"Wow!" exclaimed the zebra. "What a memory."

"Yes," said the elephant. "Turtle recall."

Zero Tolerance

Two men were passing a field when they saw an altar with a large zero in the middle and a huge banner proclaiming "NIL". Furthermore, there were worshipers kneeling before the altar chanting hymns to The Great Nullity and The Blessed Emptiness. One man turned to the other and asked: "Is nothing sacred?"

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 |
| 11th November | 3.00 pm | Remembrance Service |

METHODIST

| | | |
|--|----------|---------------------------------|
| | 10.30 am | Morning Service & Sunday School |
| | 6.30 pm | Evening Service |

ROMAN CATHOLIC Cheddar
 Sunday 9.00 am Mass

ALL WELCOME

What is the difference between colds and flu?

Feel terrible? Sickening for something? Can't decide if you've got cold or flu coming? Here's a handy guide:

| | COLDS | FLU |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Onset of symptoms | gradual | sudden and rapidly worsening |
| Sore throat | scratchy | extremely sore |
| Temperature | small increase | high – up to 41C (104F) |
| Headache | minor | severe |
| Aches & pains | mild, usually legs | sudden, whole body, joints |
| Coughing/sneezing | nasal congestion | coughing usual, sneezing rare |
| Course of illness | rapid recovery | unwell for one to two weeks |

The average person catches 200 colds in a lifetime – that is two to four years of being a snivelling wreck. Young people (15 to 24) are most likely to go to bed with their symptoms; people over 65 just carry on.

Research also reveals that what women always suspected is true: men DO fuss more about their colds than women, and say they are less able to cope.

Chicken soup, high in protein and vitamins, helps ease the symptoms. But any hot drink will raise the temperature in the nose and mouth, and thus help to kill off viruses, which like steady temperatures.

Before you catch anything this winter take as much exercise as you can, of the sort that makes you breath deeply. It stimulates the lymphatic system which is the body's 'highway' for immune cells. Every little helps!

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

CARING AT CHRISTMAS

Registered Charity No. 900161

We are again appealing on behalf of Caring at Christmas who, in conjunction with the Julian Trust, work throughout the year to help the homeless in Bristol. From 24th – 31st December 350 volunteers will keep the night shelter in Little Bishop Street open, offering a bed, a meal, a shower, comfort and companionship to people who have nowhere else to go. Last year over 1,605 meals were served.

We will be grateful for gifts of food, toiletries, DVDs, books & games, cleaning materials, clothing, bedding & money.

Food: non-perishable items e.g. tinned foods, tea, coffee, sugar & cereals; mince pies, Christmas puddings, chocolates & sweets are also welcome. Toiletries: shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors (travel-sized ones are ideal); also lip balm, hand & face cream to protect from cold weather. Clothing: second-hand winter clothes in good condition e.g. jumpers, coats, hats, scarves and shoes (but underwear must be new, please). Bedding: blankets, single sheets, pillow cases & towels (no duvets). Money: always needed and can be used throughout the year. Please make cheques payable to “Caring at Christmas”.

If you can help, please bring any gifts BY MONDAY DECEMBER 17TH LATEST to: Dinah Harrison at the Coach House, East Street or Eric Small at 31 West Street.

If unable to deliver, please ring Dinah on 822344 or e.mail ericjsmall@hotmail.com to arrange for collection. Thank you!

Dinah Harrison



Fair Trade Returns Again to Banwell
Saturday 10th November
in the Village Hall
10 am to 4 pm

**Fairly traded goods offer
One-Stop Christmas Shopping!**

Food products
Gifts
Jewellery
Toys
Children and Adults Clothing
Cards & Wrapping Paper

**Make a point of attending our
'Clothes Show'**
at 11.30 am and 2.00 pm
featuring a wide range of stylish clothing

Refreshments and Light Lunches available

WANTED

Toys And Books In Good Condition

If you are having a turn-out before Christmas please ring Sonia Mitchell 01934 820460.

These are urgently needed for use by our young toddlers at St. Andrew's Church for our monthly "Storytime" sessions and also for our Christmas Fayre stall at the Village Hall on 8th December.

Thank you.

If Moses had been a committee, the children of Israel would still be in Egypt.

From Your PCSO

I have been your Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) for several months now and have been very welcomed by those I have met along the way. As you will appreciate, it has taken me a fair time to cover my beat areas. I think it is safe to say that people and places are now becoming familiar and relationships with the parish council, school and other organisations are being established. None the less there are still clubs and people that I would still like to meet. If you think I could be of assistance in attending any of your meetings or organisations for talks and the like, please do contact me on the Villages Team office number. Banwell seems to be a busy village - let's hope that continues for a long time to come and that the residents can continue to enjoy a relatively crime free environment and safe place to live in.

ROAD SAFETY

With winter evenings creeping upon us I just want to take the opportunity of reminding parents and drivers to spare a thought when walking or driving in Banwell. Dark roads combined with bad weather and being late all add up to accidents waiting to happen.

- Be seen – if on foot wear fluorescent and reflective clothing and footwear, tabards and arm bands.
- When crossing the road - do so with care and with the aid of the Lollipop lady where appropriate. Remember to talk to your children about road safety and lead by example!

• Drivers feeling harassed in the morning? – then make sure you reduce your stress by leaving a bit earlier to avoid unnecessary incidents. As you know, Banwell can be a bottleneck early morning and early evening particularly, so please consider your speed, other drivers and pedestrians around you.

• East Street - residents have been very considerate in complying with the temporary parking measures along the north side of the road. We thank you for this and for your continued support.

• The Square – I should like to remind people that parking on the pavement is an offence, as is parking too near the junction which in turn obstructs other road users. Please do not park on this stretch of the road.

• Vehicles mounting the pavement in 'The Narrows' – a number of complaints have been received regarding pedestrians being narrowly missed by vehicles who have mounted the pavement. It is very likely that most of the offending drivers are passing through. However, would you ensure that you are not one of the guilty ones and exercise a little patience!

Need to speak to us?

PCSO 7369 MAGGIE EVANS & PC 2307 ADRIAN WOOLACOTT CAN BE CONTACTED ON:

VILLAGES TEAM OFFICE NO: 01934 638123

Copy for the next issue by the 23rd November

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

Winscombe Orchestra

A Concert in aid of

The Mendip Society

of Elgar, Bizet and Mendelssohn

in the
Friends' Meeting House
Sidcot

on

**Friday 23rd November at
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Entrance £5 (£4 concessions, £2
children under 16)

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Ruth on 0780 170 8606 or see our website www.banwellequestriancentre.com.

Resourceful

Several weeks after being hired, the young man was called into the personnel manager's office. "When you applied for this job, you said you had a degree in English Language from Cambridge plus five years' experience in this line of work. Now we discover that you have absolutely no qualifications and that this is your first job of any kind. What do you have to say for yourself?"

"Well, your ad said you wanted somebody with imagination!"

From the Registers

Baptism

September

30th Dylan Thomas Bracey

Funerals:

September

29th William Thomas Sennett

October

18th David James Melhuish

Vine Counselling Services

(Charity: 1117796)

Vine currently provides a confidential service to those resident in the villages of Banwell, Congresbury, Wrington, Sandford, Churchill, Winscombe, Burrington and Langford using counselling staff trained to professionally recognised standards.

Having opened its initial centre at the Refectory, Congresbury in April of this year its services have become increasingly busy and a second centre has now been opened based in Birch Cottage, Winscombe. Future plans include both the widening of its services and increasing the number of centres from which it operates.

It is funded by a combination of donations from its clients, supporting individuals and the churches in the villages it serves and these are supplemented by grants from other local bodies.

Whilst the service is founded on an Ecumenical basis and has at its heart the Christian principle of meeting and helping people at their point of need, it does not seek to promote a particular faith – it operates in a climate of acceptance and respect that values every person regardless of belief.

Vine supports those who may be facing a crisis through, for example, bereavement, redundancy, the breakdown of a close relationship or the onset of a serious illness and does so by providing a confidential listening ear trained to help people through such situations.

If you would like to know more about our

service, help to support us or take advantage of our services please contact us on 01934-876377 or e-mail: vine.counselling@hotmail.co.uk

Unclear

Some headlines can hinder more than help....

- Farmer Bill Dies in House
- Nation's Head Seeks Arms
- Safety Experts Say School Bus Passengers Should Be Belted
- Drunk Gets Nine Months in Violin Case
- Survivor of Siamese Twins Joins Parents
- Eye Drops off Shelf
- Squad Helps Dog Bite Victim
- Two Ships Collide, One Dies
- Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over
- Red Tape Holds Up New Bridge
- Typhoon Rips Through Cemetery; Hundreds Dead
- New Study of Obesity Looks for Larger Test Group
- Children Make Nutritious Snacks
- Hospital is Sued by Seven Foot Doctors
- Include your Children when Baking Biscuits

Take heart; the only person who always got his work done by Friday was Robinson Crusoe.

Banwell Primary School

Christmas Fayre



**Refreshments
and
Much More**



**Come and join the fun
Friday 30th November
5 - 7pm
In the new sports hall and
community room**
Please can you help us to protect the sports
hall floor by wearing suitable footwear!



God In The Arts

'BEHOLD, I STAND AT THE DOOR AND KNOCK.'

"Never mind the gas. This picture will light us all up." This was America's verdict on Holman Hunt's 'The Light of the World,' possibly one of the most well-known and well-loved of all religious paintings. It is a work that reveals for many an image of Jesus who can bring light and hope to a darkened world and to searching hearts.

Ironically, William Homan Hunt, though he was awarded the Order of Merit for the wealth of his creative work, ended his days a sad and disillusioned man. He felt that he had not moved the world to that deeper faith and holiness of life he wished for it. It was a land that seemed like Vanity Fair to him, its eyes blind and its ears deaf to the teaching of his paintings. As we look at this painting, we would disagree for it speaks powerfully to the beholder.

Its portrayal of Jesus as the Light of the world is based on the text in Revelation, 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock.' The door has no handle on the outside and it is choked by weeds: it has not been opened for some time.

Jesus stands there in the darkness of the night holding a lantern. Holman Hunt's friend, Millais, offered to paint a companion piece showing the door opened and the sinner falling at the feet of our Lord. Holman Hunt insisted that his painting should stand on its own, and so it does in Keble College, Oxford and all the reproductions made of it since 1854.

Holman Hunt followed an exacting regime as he painted. He would work from 9pm to 5am in the orchard at Ewell rectory, trying to

perfect the exact shades of night and moonlight, and the detail on each tree and plant. The lantern was specially made for the painting. It cost £5 then and was rediscovered six years ago to be bought by Manchester Art Gallery, where it can be seen by a copy of the



painting. It is no ordinary lantern, but is full of symbolism: seven apertures for the seven churches of Asia Minor in Revelation, three stars of David for the patriarchs, and the Star of Bethlehem: all to show that the holder is the true Light that enlightens everyone.

He knocks at the door, but looks out to us. Just as the door can only be opened from the inside, so the decision to welcome the Light of the world into our lives can only be made by us. Our Lord stands before us, offering to bring his light and life, his love and glory to illuminate not just these dark days of November, but each and every day of our lives.

Rev Michael Burgess

Identity Fraud

Mike Yarwood isn't the only person who is good at impersonating people. Over 70 per cent of people in a recent survey had either been themselves affected or knew someone who had been affected by identify theft. Almost all the respondents were unsure that they were taking the right steps to protect themselves and believed that they could do more. One in four victims actually knew the person who stole their identity.

It is impossible to be 100 per cent safe from this increasingly prevalent crime, as everyday life leaves countless footprints that a criminal can use to steal your identity. Your birth certificate, driving licence, utility bill, website log-in; just one of these things (for example) can be the start point for a criminal to begin to impersonate you.

"It is essential that we all take the simple steps that make life harder for the criminal," says Owen Roberts, an identity protection expert at the credit reference agency Callcredit. "It is not just a matter of shredding documents and protecting your personal computer. It's also important to check our credit report regularly for accounts that we didn't open.* If our post goes missing we need to find out where it went and when our statements turn up it's worth checking them for suspicious spending. Each day that identity theft goes undetected gives criminals more opportunities to damage your good name."

Keep all your important documents in a safe place (but not all together if possible). They are as valuable to a burglar as jewellery and can be easily sold on to a fraudster.

If expected items of mail (such as bank statements) fail to arrive, report this to Royal Mail. Fraudsters have been known

to take over bank accounts and change the address.

Don't use your mother's maiden name as a password. It can easily be discovered.

Keep a list of all your credit cards and consider using a card protection scheme. For a small fee you can register all your cards; then if they are lost or stolen the service will contact the card suppliers on your behalf.

*To check your report see www.mycallcredit.com or telephone 0870 060 1414. There is a statutory £2 charge.

W.I.

The October meeting was our Birthday Party. We sat down to a meal of ham or cheese salad, apple pie and ice cream, with a fruit punch and, of course, a beautiful iced cake. Afterwards we all enjoyed a version of the T.V. Quiz, Call My Bluff.

Our skittle team started the season on a high, winning our first round of the County Challenge Cup. Our meeting on November 8th. is our A.G.M. starting at the earlier time of 7p.m. and then our usual meeting at 7.30p.m. when Mr Fry will talk to us about his job as a Town Crier. Visitors will be very welcome at this meeting.

Wanted

Does anyone have a garage or secure lock-up / barn in the Banwell area that would be available for rent over the winter? Please ring Kathy or Terry 01934 824552

Mothers' Union

At our October meeting, we welcomed the Revd Matthew Thompson who spoke to us about Christian healing, which is directed towards the whole person, not just their specific ailments. His talk gave us much food for thought and discussion.

Our theme for the month was St Luke the Evangelist, a Greek physician. Born in Antioch, Turkey, he is attributed by many biblical scholars to be the author of two books of the bible, the 3rd Gospel and The Acts of the Apostles that together make up just over one quarter of the whole. He became a disciple of the apostles and a follower of Paul until Paul's Martyrdom.

Material found only in Luke's gospel include much of the account of Our Lord's birth, infancy and boyhood; the parables of the Good Samaritan and the Prodigal son, and three sayings on the cross: "Father forgive them for they know not what they do"; "You will be with me in paradise"; and "Father into thy hands I commend my spirit".

St Luke's feast day is celebrated on 18th October when the following special prayer is used:

*Almighty God
you called Luke the physician,
whose praise is in the gospel,
to be an evangelist and physician of the
soul:
by the grace of the Spirit
and through the wholesome medicine of
the gospel,
give your Church the same love and
power to heal
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Spirit,
one God now and forever. Amen*

Having served the Lord continuously throughout his life, he died, unmarried and childless, at the age of c.84 near Boeotia in Greece. He is venerated in the Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Anglican and Lutheran church along with some other protestant churches.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 14th November.

All Welcome

Gloria Boddy

Beware of Smart Children

The important visitor smiled widely as the infant munched and crunched his biscuit and stared with wide unblinking eyes. The important visitor said 'My little boy eats like a dinosaur too. The infant replied between bites,' He eats raw meat then does he?

The Inspector asked the little ones 'Can you tell me a word that begins with the letter Q? and a child said 'Quistmas Twee'.

Met a guy this morning with a glass eye.
He didn't tell me – it just came out in conversation.

Jerry Dennis

What is my loftiest ambition? I've always wanted to throw an egg onto a fan.

Oliver Herford

Parish Council

Welcome to the first of your Parish Council (PC) news update. Your councillors have agreed to fund four additional pages in the Parish News for a trial period of 6 months to keep you up to-date in an informal way on local parish action.

At present, communication to parishioners has been via your PC Notice Board in the village car park and hard copies of the minutes being available for viewing upon request in our branch library. The original website had become defunct so your alternative now is to log onto our temporary website to view these minutes etc.

Future news updates will include short articles (with photos?) from your committees plus extracts from the Clerk's report. Before this trial period ends, the PC will need feedback from yourselves on whether you consider this means of communication to be of value. Enjoy your read.....

David Elsey
PC. Chair

website:<http://www.banwellparishcouncil.co.uk>

Nicky Hooper:clerk@banwellparishcouncil.co.uk

tel:01934 812567 (office hours)

Parish Plan

What is a Parish/Community Plan?

Our community is constantly changing and with these changes different needs often arise and when this happens many people want the opportunity to have a say in how these needs can be met.

A Parish or Community Plan sets out how community action can meet local needs, it provides important information to help

influence the policies, decisions and actions of the local authority.

This is a process which enables the whole community to voice their opinions on what actions they wish to see taken in the Parish of Banwell for the next 10 years.

The Plan, when finished, could highlight actions that may be taken by community members, it could be used to influence service providers such as North Somerset Council and can act as evidence of need when applying for funding.

Do you have an opinion on this? If so come to the open meeting on Wed. 5th Dec. at 7.30pm. (see flyer for details) where Fay McIntyre - Development & Environment will be giving a short talk on Parish Plans and how other communities in neighbouring parishes have used this process to their advantage. Dave Woolley - Blagdon PC. will also be there to share his practical experiences of the Plan in action.

Please come, it is your chance to influence the future of your village.....and there will be free tea and bickkies.



Picture shows David Elsey (Chair) witnessed by our Clerk and councillors signing the UnderLease between Banwell Parish Council and North Somerset Council in relation to the Youth & Community Centre building.

Environment Committee

After having our first meeting the committee decided that there were four main topics to deal with at the moment.

Riverside

The riverside was thought to be outstandingly beautiful and we would enhance it by



clearing the ditch on the lower side of the pumping station and the riverbank opposite. We are now working with the Environment Agency and local farmers to further improve this area.

Recycling

The committee decided it would work much closer with North Somerset and we are hoping to start our own plastic recycling soon. Further details next month.

Dog Fouling

We are looking into this problem and have invited a dog warden to help us sort this problem out. If you have any comments please come along to the Parish Council meeting when he is there (to be arranged).

Village Toilets

We are making good progress, working with

North Somerset Council to retain this asset in the village.

The environment committee are always looking for ways to enhance our village. We are a small committee looking for anyone with similar ideas to join us.

At the moment we are looking for someone to be our wildlife warden. This person would be working with North Somerset Council's Wildlife Wardens. If you are interested in this post or would like to make any comments about this article please contact the Parish Clerk or myself, Nigel Green, Chairman - Environment Committee on 822818

Village Pride Committee

Banwell in Bloom

Our group of volunteers came together originally to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee Year and after staging various activities to mark the occasion decided that we wanted to do something more permanent. After considering many of the options available to us, all of which were too costly, we decided to get some tubs and plant them with flowers in the centre of the village.

We were helped by the Parish Council who paid for some new barrels and by many kind folk who helped with planting and water-



ing. We also had a generous donation from the Kathleen Jones Trust. Many thanks to all who have helped. Since then we have gained a new nickname 'Banwell in Bloom' and there are now forty barrels to be planted as well as the area around the Millennium Stone and two Horse Troughs.

We held a plant sale at the Village Hall to raise funds to pay for the winter planting. It was very nice to see so many people supporting this effort and even nicer to raise enough money to pay for most of the plants that we need to fill the tubs.

We have loads of ideas on how we would like to develop the planting but we do need more help to both keep things going and develop the scheme. You don't need to be an expert gardener to get involved, or indeed to devote a lot of time to the project, just a couple of hours twice a year would make an enormous difference. If you would like to get involved contact Hilary on 822087 or Kath on 822919

Highways Committee

The Highways Committee meets 4 times a year and is made up of Parish Councillors; The local beat officer and Villagers.

At our last meeting the following recommendations were made and subsequently ratified by the full parish council

1. To request the moving of the 30 MPH sign, entering Banwell from Winscombe, to be relocated beyond Banwell Garden Centre to provide slower speeds in an area where many vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians are present.

2. The allocation of this years Street Light upgrade budget. It was agreed to focus this

years priority on lamps which are either missing or of strategic safety importance. i.e. road junctions, popular pedestrian crossing points, etc. These works have been ordered and we are awaiting instalment dates from the contractors.

3. To explore the viability of upgrading the lighting and CCTV system in the village car park to create a more secure and safe environment for parking during the hours of darkness

4. To approach North Somerset council regarding the lack of gully emptying. Following a site meeting some of the gullies are to be dug out by hand due to the high levels.

5. To ask North Somerset Council to mark Give Way Lines at 5 road junctions in the village that currently have no marking.

WE NEED YOUR OPINION! FEED-BACK WANTED

The Parish Council would like your views on the following two proposals before taking the matters further.

1. Yellow lines in East Street

Following an incidence of an ambulance on emergency call being severely held up due to parked cars and the continual problem of HGV vehicles not being able to negotiate the corner of The Square the following suggestions have been made by the police.

“ That a single yellow line to limit daytime parking” be placed on the North Side of East Street” and “ That double yellow lines be placed on the corner of the Square and East Street.”

With no real possibility of an HGV restriction or a bypass for many years to come we need to ensure emergency vehicles can pass safely through our village.

Please tell us what you think!

2. Removal of the speed humps in East Street

Villagers have approached the Parish Council and asked them to put pressure on North Somerset Council to remove the speed humps in East Street. These humps appear to cause drivers to drive at high speed down the middle of the road and it is thought the more modern approach of different road colour and markings would be a safer option.

Again, tell us what you think!

Please address all comments to the parish clerk, or the chair of the highways committee, Graham Found, by email to graham@banwell.info.

We would ask you to ensure your comments are received before the middle of November.

Job Hunting

A few months ago, there was an opening with the CIA for an assassin. These highly classified positions are hard to fill, and there's a lot of testing and background checks involved before you can even be considered for the position. After sending some applicants through the background checks, training and testing, they narrowed the possible choices down to two men and a woman, but only one position was available.

The day came for the final test to see which person would get the extremely secretive job. The CIA men administering the test took one of the men to a large metal door and handed him a gun. "We must know that you will follow our instructions whatever the circumstances," they explained. "Inside this room, you will find your wife sitting

in a chair. Take this gun and kill her." The man looked horrified and said, "You can't be serious! I could never shoot my wife!" "Well," said the CIA man, "you're definitely not the right man for this job then."

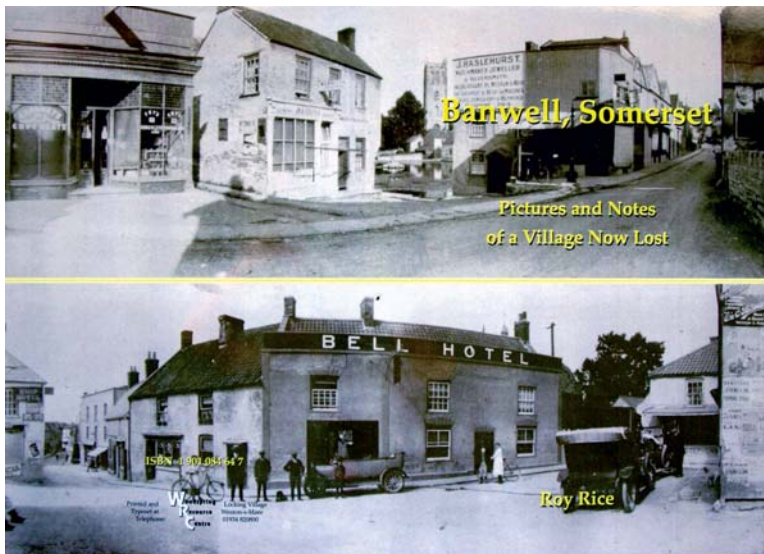
So they brought the second man to the same door and handed him a gun. "We must know that you will follow instructions no matter what the circumstances," they explained to the second man. "Inside you will find your wife sitting in a chair. Take this gun and kill her." The second man looked a bit shocked, but nevertheless took the gun and went in the room. All was quiet for about 5 minutes; then the door opened. The man came out of the room with tears in his eyes. "I tried to shoot her; I just couldn't pull the trigger and shoot my wife. I guess I'm not the right man for the job."

"No," the CIA man replied, "You don't have what it takes. Take your wife and go home."

Now they only had the woman left to test. They led her to the same door to the same room and handed her the same gun. "We must be sure that you will follow instructions no matter what the circumstances; this is your final test. Inside you will find your husband sitting in a chair. Take this gun and kill him." The woman took the gun and opened the door. Before the door even closed all the way, the CIA men heard the gun start firing, one shot after another for 13 shots. Then all hell broke loose in the room. They heard screaming, rashing, and banging on the walls. This went on for several minutes; then all went quiet.

The door opened slowly, and there stood the woman. She wiped the sweat from her brow and said, "You guys didn't tell me the gun was loaded with blanks. I had to beat the son of a bitch to death with the chair!"

Much Awaited!



Coming soon for Christmas a new pictorial book of Old Banwell by Roy Rice. Negotiations are still taking place for a date to hold an 'Old Banwell Film Show' at which the book will be launched. Watch for local advert.

Sixty years Ago



This year is the Queen's 60th wedding anniversary. On 20th November, 1947, the future Queen Elizabeth married Prince Philip in Westminster Abbey.

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Year 3

Two reports on year 3's walk around Banwell

We went on a walk around Banwell. We walked down High street to the Victorian pump. In the days when people did not have taps in their homes, they visited the pump to collect their water. Then we walked up Hill path to Beardstone. In 1887 a skeleton needed a proper grave so Beard got a stone mason to write a poem on the grave. Now the writing is worn away and you can only just see it. After that we walked



back down Hill path to school.

Hanna



On our walk around Banwell we went to the Victorian pump in the High street. Then we visited the Beardstone grave in a field near Banwell wood. We went for a walk around Banwell wood. We clambered over lots of styles, ate black berries and saw lots of wildlife. Then we went back to school and found out that the skeleton was buried in 1887.

Eve



To advertise in this magazine give our advertisement manager
Mike Hebden
a call on 823517 to discuss your requirements

Archeological Society

"Banwell Archeological Society enjoyed an informative talk by Mr John Page at the last meeting on 12th October about the King John Hunting Lodge at Axbridge.

The next meeting will hear Mr Horler describing 'Working with Heavy Horses'. This should be a very interesting evening and everyone is welcome to come to Banwell Village Hall on 9th November at 7.30 pm to hear this entertaining speaker."

Marriage In Decline

Married parents could be outnumbered by single mothers and cohabiting couples within a generation - leading to serious problems for the health and education of children.

Thus says a recent report on family life by the Office for National Statistics. It says that Britain may be only 24 years away from married couples being in the minority.

The number of cohabiting couples has increased 65 per cent to 2.3 million in the past ten years, while married couple families fell by four per cent to 12.1 million. The number of single mothers has gone up eight per cent, to 2.6 million, over the last decade.

It was also found that the offspring of married couples tend to be healthier than those of single mothers, and do better at schools. Married men and women are generally healthier than unmarried ones. Married couples are also most likely to look after parents, in-laws and other relatives.

Waveringdown Medical Practice PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

OPEN MEETING YOUR MEDICAL RECORD

Thursday 22nd November 2007

At Winscombe Community Centre
7.30 pm

Would you like to know more about the NHS national care record system and who will have access to your medical information and what they will know about you. If so please come along to this meeting to hear more from Adam Tuckett, Avon IM&T Consortium.

ALLERGY TEST UK

Was it something you ate?
Do you suffer from the following?

Digestive Disorders
Overweight
Tiredness and fatigue
Headaches and Migraine
Eczema and Skin complaints
Asthma
Arthritis and Joint pain
Catarrh and Sinus congestion
Irritable Bowel Syndrome
Anxiety and Depression
Hyperactivity
Hayfever

If so – then please call
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Bronze Turkeys are slow growing and take longer to mature to get the maximum flavour. After plucking, the birds are hung in a refrigerated room for at least ten days to develop tender meat with a full wholesome flavour. To protect your turkey en route they are bagged and boxed, with care.

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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.geocities.com/johnnyamos2002

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

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

Do Your Christmas Shopping at Banwell's Christmas Fair
Saturday 8th December 12noon to 4.30
In the village hall

Visit Father Christmas in his Grotto

Special attraction – available throughout the day

Gloria's hot & cold refreshments

Filled rolls are a Christmas speciality

Tea & coffee

Toys, cakes, raffle, games, DVDs, gifts, crafts, Fair Trade stall

Lots of activities for children

Entry 50p by numbered programme, the lucky programme will win a Christmas hamper.

Children under 14 free, but must be accompanied by an adult.

Event organised by St Andrew's church.



Robin Hood



1st Banwell Cub Pack recently held a Robin Hood Weekend Camp at Glenny Woods, near Portishead. The camp was well supported with 4 leaders and 12 cubs taking part. Activities included clay pot making, bows and arrows, sewing hoods and camp fire cookery.

The cubs also enjoyed wide games in the dark, tracking trails and the assault course. When asked what their favourite bit of camp was most cubs agreed it was the camp fire on Saturday night, singing songs and toasting marshmallows.

Green Taxes

WILL TAXES MAKE US MORE 'GREEN'?

In spite of the apparent popularity of taxation as a tool to tackle the UK's carbon emissions, support for green taxes is only skin deep, according to research by the chartered accountants Macintyre Hudson.

Whilst 70 per cent of the 378 people surveyed believe that taxing environmentally harmful behaviour will encourage taxpayers to be greener, most specific taxes available would be hugely unpopular and, even if

introduced, would do little to alter people's behaviour.

At the same time, 78 per cent of respondents said they were concerned about the damage to the environment caused by the UK's carbon emissions. Two thirds claimed to believe that green taxes set at a reasonable level are "a good idea", but few would willingly change their life styles, even if rises were quite high.

Replies to questions about Air Passenger Duty were also revealing. Almost all respondents (95 per cent) said that a further rise of £10 per ticket would make no change to their travel plans. Even with a rise of £40 per tickets, 45 percent would still fly as much as now. 61 per cent say there should be no further increase, while 55 per cent would disagree with even a £10 increase.

The research casts a similarly cynical light upon the effectiveness of raising fuel duty. Only at high levels would there be a significant reduction in car usage. There was also strong opposition to an increase on VAT on domestic fuel.

The researchers conclude that while penal green taxes could raise adequate revenue to replace (for example) Inheritance Tax, the belief that green taxes alone are a way to reduce the country's carbon emissions is sadly misplaced.

These findings will come as no great surprise. But there is a challenge here, especially for Christians. If we are truly concerned about global warming, will we adapt our current lifestyles without compulsion (whatever form it takes)?

Or, to paraphrase Augustine, do we pray "Please make me green – but not yet."?

Philip Green

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

MONDAY

| | | | | |
|--------|----------------|---------------------------|---|--------------|
| 12th | 7.15 pm | Royal British Legion | * | Brewers Arms |
| 12th | 12.30 - 1.30pm | Soup Lunch | * | V.H. |
| 12th | 7.30 pm | Parish Council | * | V.H. |
| 26th | 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

| | | | | |
|--------|----------------|--|---|------------|
| 27th | 7.30 pm | Banwell Flower Arranging Group Video Evening “Highgrove” at “Rowan Wick”, Wolverhill Rd. | * | |
| 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

| | | | | |
|------------|----------------|-----------------------------|---|-------------|
| 7th & 21st | 1.30 - 3.30 pm | Baby Clinic | * | V.H. |
| 14th | 2.30 pm | Mothers’ Union | * | V.H. |
| 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

| | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|---|---|------------|
| 8th & 22nd | 10.00 am | Banwell Short Mat Bowling | * | V.H. |
| 1st 15th & 29th | 7.30 pm | “ “ “ “ | * | V.H. |
| 8th | 7.00 pm | W.I. AGM Speaker: Mr Fry “Town Cryer”* | | V.H. |
| 22nd | 7.30 pm | Gardening Club – Speaker: Michael Smith “Caring for Houseplants” | * | 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

| | | | | |
|--------|-----------------|--------------------|---|------------|
| 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

| | | | | |
|------|-----------------|----------------------------------|---|------|
| 10th | 10.00 am – 4 pm | Fair Trade Goods & Fashion Shows | * | V.H. |
|------|-----------------|----------------------------------|---|------|

SUNDAY

| | | | | |
|--------|----------|-----------|---|--------|
| Weekly | 11.00 am | Judo Club | * | Y.C.C. |
|--------|----------|-----------|---|--------|

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

Organ Donation

Giving oneself and one's possessions voluntarily for the well being of others and without compulsion is a Christian duty of which organ donation is a striking example, the Church of England has told the House of Lords. The Church's Mission and Public Affairs Division was responding to the Lords' EU Social Policy and Consumer Affairs sub-committee's inquiry into the EU Commission's Communication on organ donation and transplantation: policy actions at EU level.

"Christians have a mandate to heal, motivated by compassion, mercy, knowledge and ability," the response says. "The Christian tradition both affirms the God-given value of human bodily life, and the principle of putting the needs of others before one's own needs."

The response repeats the Church's opposition to selling organs for commercial gain, while accepting organs being freely given by living donors, with no commercial gain. It argues that, if the present opt-in system of organ donation is to continue, it will need to be backed by a properly resourced programme of public awareness-building and education.

Whether organ donation should be arranged through an "opt-in" or an "opt-out" system is not a question on which Christians hold a single set of views, the response explains. The opt-in system, where people sign up to be donors if they die, reflects Christian concern to celebrate and support gracious gifts, freely given. An opt-out approach, where people state that they do not wish to donate organs, could stress the Christian concern for human solidarity and living sacrificially for others'.

The response goes on to say: "The undoubted need for more organs to be donated for the healing of others has to be weighed against the changed relationship between persons and the State which moving to an opt-out system could entail." Either way, all EU member states would need to adopt the same opt-out or opt-in approach to consent for organ donation, it argues.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH
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"STORYTIME"
 For young children
 Coffee and chat for Mums and Dads
 MONDAY 26th NOVEMBER
 10.00 am
 Please join us
 All welcome

Guy Fawkes – an early terrorist

If modern security at the Houses of Parliament seems a bit weak to you, take heart, it's never been much better. Back in 1605 Guy Fawkes managed to stow a good few barrels of gunpowder under the House of Lords without anybody noticing.

He wasn't a member of Al-Qaeda, he was part of a Roman Catholic plot to murder James 1 of England and his parliament at the state opening.

Fortunately, Guy Fawkes was found - and stopped - in time.

Banwell WI

Christmas Crafts Coffee & Cakes



Banwell Bowling Club

Saturday 1st December

10.00am – 12.30pm



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