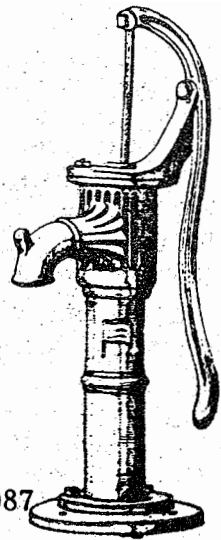


PARISH PUMP



WESTON-IN-GORDANO

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1987

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October 10th	Barn Dance
October 21st	W.I. trip to Westonbirt Arboretum
October 22nd	Parish Council meeting
November 4th	Swimming
November 8th	Quiz Night
November 11th	Parish Council Public Meeting
November 21st	St. Peter & St. Paul Christmas Fayre
December 5th	Wine and Cheese Party
December 20th	Christingle Service
December 25th	Family Communion with Carols
December 27th	Service of Carols & Readings
January 16th	Wild West Night
July	Village Barbecue
Every fortnight from October 13th	Whist Drive

EDITORIAL

It appears that Parish Pump is now travelling to many parts of the globe. For the benefit of all our readers, Parish Pump is published under the auspices of the Social Committee and edited by Gail Williams and Stuart Redway. All the village organisations make a regular editorial contribution and it looks as though we now also have a Poet's Corner! We would welcome any other items of interest, points of view etc. - contributions for the next edition to be with the editors by the last week of December please. (Normal editorial restraints will apply!)

PUMPKIN CONTEST

This took place on Sunday 4th October in the White Hart and attracted sixteen entries. First Prize was taken by Bill Williams with a record-breaking 124lb. Carol Veal took 2nd (92lbs) and Cliff Biddle Jnr. took third (75lbs). The Booby Prize was won by Lucy Williams and Bill Dixon had the best looking pumpkin. Prizes were presented by Constable Mackie.

An amount of £50 will be going to Petersfield Old Peoples Home in Portishead.

INQUIZITIVE?

The White Hart fielded two teams in this summer's Courage Quiz League and White Hart 'A' (lounge bar) won the league. Well done team! We're not saying where the 'B' team ended up but we weren't bottom!

Two teams recently entered the Walton-in-Gordano Charity Quiz night and the men (The Empty Attics) came second, each winning a Terry's Chocolate Orange. The ladies (Brief Encounters) didn't disgrace themselves. See Social Committee Report for details of return match.

BONFIRE

Sorry folks, no Bonfire this year but we'll be back next year bigger and better than ever.

BEST KEPT VILLAGERS

Keep-Fit is well under way this term with 12 ladies regularly taking part under Fay's excellent encouragement. Still room for a few more so come on girls!

We're halfway through the sponsored slim - 23 of us, most making progress and Gold Stars galore being awarded. Any-one fancy another one in time for next summer holidays?

Could all those taking part in the current session please make a special attempt to get to the Hall for the final weigh-in on October 26th.

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

The final stages of the revised Deed of Trusteeship have now been completed and the lawyer's bill paid! So another Village Hall milestone has been passed. We now approach yet another: recognition as a Registered Charity. At the time of writing we have received notification that this has been given positive

recognition by the Charity Commissioners and we should be hearing quite soon that it has been granted, together with our Official Charity Registration Number.

As usual, the annual Wine and Cheese Party is planned, and the date for your Diary is Saturday December 5th.

Paul Alexander, Secretary.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Chairman:	Mr. Cliff Biddle	849766
Vice-Chairperson:	Mrs. Gwen Griese	844605
Treasurer:	Mrs. Connie Williams	844662
Secretary:	Mrs. Angela Borland	848781
Members:	Mrs. Ann Redway	847716
	Mrs. Iris Haigh	849019
	Mr. Alan Leonard	842647

The Annual General Meeting of this committee was held recently and the conclusions drawn were that it had been another very successful year with a good variety of activities offered to the village. Both Mrs. Instone and Mrs. Ettery resigned from the committee, and we thank them most sincerely for all the help they have given us in the past. We were very pleased to welcome onto the committee two new members, Mrs. Iris Haigh and Mr. Alan Leonard, and we are all looking forward to an enjoyable year to come.

The Social Committee hold quite a healthy little bank balance on behalf of the village for any suitable activities, so we would welcome any suggestions for the good use of this cash; please contact any committee member with your ideas.

We are already filling up our calendar from now onwards, with forthcoming events including a 'Quiz Night', to be held in the village hall on Sunday, November 8th. This is a return evening with Walton-in-Gordano village who invited us to join them in September. It is purely a fun evening with teams of 4 asked for, so come and take part. Team entries to any committee member please, £4 per team.

In place of the pantomime this year we shall be holding a "Wild West Night" on January 16th. Individual 'Saloon Bar' entertainers required for this evening, offers to committee please; more details on the notice board later.

Shirehampton swimming pool has been booked for the 4th November, 8.30pm - 9.30pm, for our use, so all interested in joining us please contact a committee member.

We will be organising a coach trip to the Cardiff Tattoo next year, more details later, but please think about it.

We will also be holding our usual Barn Dances during the year, and also the annual Barbecue in July; if anybody would like to offer the use of their garden for this please let us know.

We would also be interested to know if you would like a follow-up to the judo course we held this year, and also the self-defence for the girls and ladies, please let us know so that we can organise this if the support is good.

ACTIVITY GROUP

After much discussion with committee and parents, we have decided not to continue with our regular two weekly group meetings this year, but we have promised that activities will be organised throughout the year, including the swimming, and that our younger villagers will not be neglected, don't forget, the more support we get, the more we can do.

Angela Borland, Secretary

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

LOCAL PLAN: The Council are currently considering the Consultation Draft of the Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead Area Local Plan, which represents planning policy for the period up to 1996.

The aspect of this plan most relevant to our village is the proposal to do away with the "Village Fence", which is also proposed for Walton-in-Gordano. At the July meeting, a planning officer from Woodspring District Council attended and explained to the Parish Council the significance of the proposal.

As the South West Avon Green Belt is now backed by statute, and "washes over" the entire village, the removal of the fence would put the village in the same position as any of the surrounding farm land so far as planning permissions are concerned; that is, there would no longer be an argument in favour of "infilling" within the village.

A public meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 11th. November at which a planning officer will again

be present to explain and answer questions. Villagers are urged to attend to discuss this important change, as well as the other proposals in the plan. In this connection, it is worth noting that the Weston-in-Gordano bypass scheme has had another public airing recently!

As well as attending the public meeting, villagers may wish to make their views known to the planning department at Woodspring, either by writing to them direct, or by way of any Parish Councillor. The Parish Council will be making its own submission.

The plan will be available for inspection at the Public Library in Portishead in October, and the closing date for representations is December 1st.

FOOTPATH TO NATURE RESERVE: The Parish Council is trying to establish the existence of a public footpath from Cadbury Grove past the tips to the nature reserve. In order to achieve this, evidence is required that the path has been used by the public over a period of years. Anyone who has used this path can obtain an evidence form from the Clerk to the Council, or from any Parish Councillor.

TIPPING: A further meeting has been held with officers of Avon County Council, and while little positive help has been offered, the relevant Departments have been made aware that there will be no let-up in the effort to bring about an end to tipping in the valley.

LITTER: The attention of the Council has been brought to a recent increase in litter in the village, mainly consisting of sweet-wrappings, soft-drink cans and similar items. The Council does not admit to "ageist" sympathies, but none-the less feels that parents might mention this problem to their offspring. And to think we came second in the Best Kept Village Competition!

MEETINGS: The next meeting will be on ~~Wednesday~~ ^{Thurs. 22nd} 21st. October, at 7.30 pm. Please note that this is an alteration from the previously advertised date.

As usual, time will be set aside for comments and questions from the public at the start of the meeting.

Please also make a note of the public meeting on the Local Plan - Wednesday 11th. November.

PRESENTATION

On October 4th, at the Pumpkin Contest in the White Hart, Constable Mackie, our Community Policeman was presented with a retirement gift by Chairman of the Parish Council, Mr. Bill Williams. His gift was a splendid picture of the White Hart painted by Angela Borland.

ST. PETER & ST. PAUL

It is many years since there has been a Parish Harvest Supper so it was good to revive this event this year. It was an excellent evening not least the superb meal. We are most grateful to those who prepared the meal and organised the evening, especially as only a few days beforehand one of the key helpers, Marilyn Ettery, had suffered her most unfortunate accident. At the Harvest Evening Service it was good to welcome back the Revd. Peter Allen who had spent much of his boyhood in the village. It was a pity that the congregation was not larger.

As a result of the interest shown in the display of Church Registers at the Flower Festival I have had them all photocopied. As they go back to 1684 the originals are now kept at the County Record Office at Taunton but the photocopies will make it easier for local research. Contact me at the Rectory.

Our Group of Parishes have arranged a Skittle Evening for Tuesday 17th November. If you would like to take part please contact Norman or Sybil Hawken. Our own Christmas Fayre will be in the Village Hall on Saturday November 21st. at 2.30 p.m.

We continue with our normal pattern of Worship on Sundays at 6.30 p.m. On Remembrance Sunday, 8th November, we shall remember those names on our Parish War Memorial in the Church. Prior to Christmas there will be a Christingle Service on 20th December and our Service of Readings and Carols will be on 27th December.

Thank you again to all those who contributed to the Churchyard Fund. The excellent total collected by Mrs Hawken was £181. This is very helpful in keeping our Parish Churchyard in such good condition.

John Smart (Rector)

NIGHTINGALE VALLEY W.I.

Would like to join us; then why not come along to the Village Hall on the third Wednesday of the month. We have very interesting speakers and a friendly atmosphere. Apart from our meetings, there are other things to do, skittles and darts, and a lot of interesting trips. The next one is to Westonbirt Arboretum later in October. So if you are not already a member, make the effort and come along on the 21st October at 7.30 p.m.

Denise Instone

WEIGHT WATCHERS

In the village, no doubt, you may have heard tales
Of the close observation of measurement scales
Of stones, pounds and ounces plus metric conversions
Related to villagers' personal exertions.

In corners of gardens, avoided by mowers,
Are specimens nurtured by keen pumpkin growers
Encouraging plumpness by means of manure
And hoping a choice one, for them to procure
The judges' approval when they're taking part
In the annual event that's held in the "White Hart".

In contrast, on Mondays, in the Village Hall
Are those who don't want to put weight on at all!
A scheme to reduce, for these folk has been planned
But, equally eagerly their scales are scanned
To hear the announcements, the Hall remains quiet
Though whispers are heard, like ... "You'll go on a diet!"

Now ... if there's a moral to this little tale
It is "Some will succeed. Alas! Others will fail."
But what does it matter when all's said and done
For winners and losers ... it's all been great fun!

P.S. Lest you may think this rhyme's pseudonymous
The authorship remains anonymous!