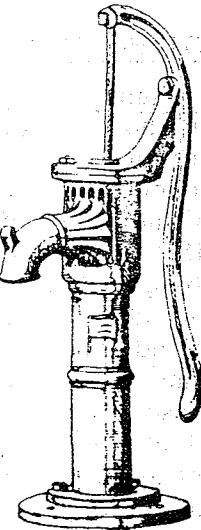


PARISH PUMP

WESTON-IN-GÓRDANO
VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



APRIL 1989

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

April 12th	Village Hall AGM
April 17th	Sponsored Slim prizegiving
April 26th	Annual Parish Meeting
May 5th	Village Dance
May 19th	Charity Quiz & Supper
June 10th	Hoe-down
June 20th	Healing Service
June 29th	Patronal Festival
July 8th	W.I. Summer Show
July 15th	Village Bar-b-cue

Editorial

The Parish Pump accounts should have been published in this issue but the Editor is being a bit tardy so see July issue. Are there any craftsmen/businessmen in the village who would be interested in taking advertisements in future issues?

POT POURRI

A Slight Case of Overcrowding

but nobody minded it was in a good cause! On Sunday morning, April 2nd, some 45/50 convivial folk crowded into 3 Meadow Drive when talk and liquid refreshment flowed freely, to the extent that £130 is being passed on to the World Wild Life Project for the rain-forests scheme in the province of Oban, in Nigeria.

The idea for this gathering came from Peggy Alexander, supported by Nightingale Valley W.I. as sponsors, and donations came from several sources.

Those who could not attend bought raffle tickets, the first prize being an original water-colour by local artist Margaret Kelsey and donated by her, and the draw for this and four other donated prizes, was made by Bill Dixon, local representative of the Avon Wild Life Trust.

Grateful thanks to all those who helped in so many ways to make this such a successful fund-raising activity.

Tug of War

We hope to take on teams from all four other churches at the Hoe-down. Practice starts the end of this month if we can find the rope! Strong volunteers of both sexes are welcome. Simon Haig is rounding up names and training will be led by Geoff who certainly has a way with the ladies!!

Best Kept Village

We shall be entering again this year - let's all make a big effort and see if we can come better than second. Mrs Hunt will be popping round the village later to remind youngsters of the Poster Competition.

Scrum

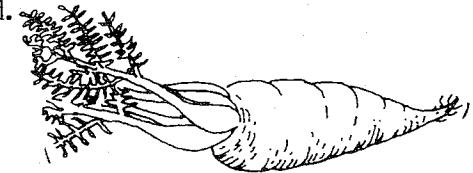
Congratulations to Chris Ettery on his selection this season for Bristol Schools' under-14 rugby squad. Chris, a second row forward in Bristol Grammar School's unbeaten under-14's team has already appeared for Bristol against Newport, Bridgend, Wiltshire and Staffordshire. In his most recent match, he enjoyed the added thrill of playing on Bristol Rugby Club's main

Memorial Ground pitch. He has also just completed an unbeaten short tour of Northumberland with Clifton Rugby Club, playing in all four matches.

Best Kept Villagers

The Keep Fit group has now been running for five years and currently there are twenty participants. Keep up the good work Fay and Ann.

This year's Sponsored Slim is now completed. 17 people took part and the final weight loss was 139lbs. Final taking in of sponsor money will be at 8p.m. on Monday 17th April when the prizes will also be presented.



Up Hill and Down Dale

Welcome to Tony Robinson who has been appointed Nature Conservancy Council Warden responsible for Gordano Valley Nature Reserve and also Avon Gorge National Nature Reserve. Tony previously worked at Yarner Wood NNR, Dartmoor.

Bill Dixon is now acting as Conservation Officer for the Portishead local group of Avon Wildlife Trust. He has also recently become editor of the Gordano Warbler.

Middle Hill Common - There has been further small sapling clearance this year and there appears to be some regrowth of 'normal' vegetation where the bracken was cleared last year. This year's programme will soon be in full swing - we would really appreciate the help of some strong youngsters. Watch the notice boards for details.

Art Class

The classes continue happily & very much enjoyed by all of us. In spite of a certain NOTICE BOARD, Derek has agreed to continue the classes so long as he can and we want. Thursdays 7.30 - 9.30. Beginners are very welcome, we are all relative beginners.

Road Action Group

The Compulsory Purchase Orders, subjects of last November's Local Public Enquiry, have now been confirmed by the Secretary of State for Transport.

Art Exhibition

Margaret Kelsey and Peggy Alexander will be holding an exhibition of their Water Colour and Natural Collage pictures in St. Mary's Church Hall, Ladye Bay, Clevedon on Saturday and Sunday, April 22nd and 23rd. No charge for admission, a voluntary collection in aid of St. Peter's Hospice.

Avon Wildlife Trust Bulletin

LET'S MAKE AVON A SUNNIER PLACE

Avon Wildlife Trust invites everyone, but especially children, to take part in this year's sponsored sunflower growing competition. By taking part you can help raise money for the Trust's vital conservation work and help bees, birds and butterflies to thrive in your garden. You can also help raise money for your own local project by passing half the money you raise on to them too, so it's an ideal competition if you run a local club or community group in your area which also needs to raise some funds this year. All you have to do is drop a line to Sue Stevens at 32 Jacobs Wells Road, Bristol BS8 1DR before April 20th and in May you will be sent sunflower seeds, full growing instructions and a sponsorship form. Then get as many of your friends to sponsor you as you can.

By August you will have a sunflower to be proud of and know that for every inch it has grown you will have helped make money for a really deserving cause.

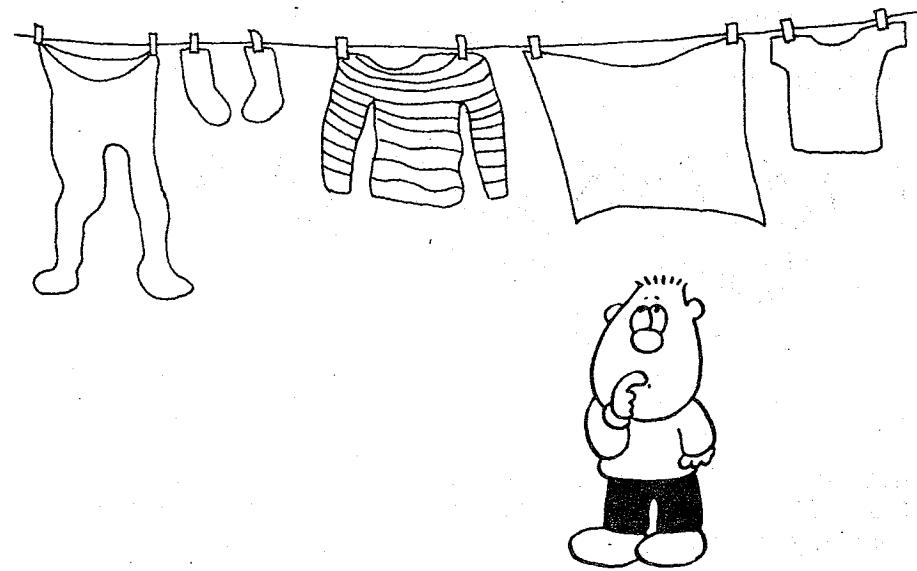
Sue Stevens, Competition Organiser

Mother & Toddler Group

When this group first met only two children were toddling, two shakily crawling, the rest flat on tums, sucking fists, toes



toys - but in one place, easy to watch. Now they are all mobile - the toddlers now runners, the crawlers now toddlers and no one stays where they 'should'! There was a day when this friendly group gave a surprise party to the tea-lady. How generous that was, the tea-lady still feels the warmth of that gesture. Thank you.



Charity Quiz and Supper

On May 19th there will be a Charity Quiz and light supper in the Hall. Half the proceeds will be given to World Wildlife's Oban project which is the charity being supported by Nightingale Valley W.I. this year, and half to the Church. As usual, teams of 4, contribution £2 per person. As the number of tables will be limited, please let Roger or Marilyn (843802) have your team names as soon as possible please.

so it should be a busy and enjoyable afternoon. We are also challenging the other churches to a tug-of-war. Tickets for the evening dance will be available soon.

The second United Benefice Healing Service will be held in our Church on June 20th at 7.15 p.m. It is hoped this will become a regular event, held in different churches in the Benefice, probably on a 3-monthly basis. The healing is of mind, body and spirit and all are welcome.

There is now an Intercession Book in the Church. Should any parishioner wish sick or troubled people to be mentioned in prayers, names can be entered in this book for the attention of the officiating clergy.

We celebrate our Patronal Festival June 29th with a service at 7.30 p.m. followed by refreshments in the Hall.

The wedding on Easter Monday was between Teresa Gibbs of Portishead and David Jacobs of the Old Farmhouse. After an unpromising period of weather, the sun really came out for this wedding. Beautiful the Church was inside - and outside in the freshly cut grass primroses and daffodils were blooming - it couldn't have been bettered anywhere. The bridegroom's mother - our Margaret! - with Paul and the 'girls' and an immaculate Mathew and Ellena, were followed by Teresa's family and friends. Then came the bridesmaids, three plus two little girls, all dressed in apricot crinoline style dresses with posies of rosebuds. Finally into the Church came Teresa in a white satin dress with lace crinoline frill with a bouquet to match the bridesmaids'. (Photographs taken after the Service include one of Teresa on her horse")

Gwen & Gail

NIGHTINGALE VALLEY W.I.

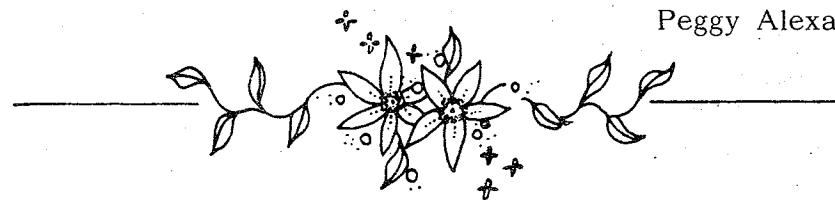
Meetings continue to be well supported due in no small measure to the interesting speakers. In January, Derek Menary told us about his experiences with the Players Theatre and the B.B.C. He was followed in February with a Tupperware Demonstration, while in March, Marian Scrivens - a very much "last-minute" speaker, due to the illness of the invited one, spoke about her lace-making, bringing with her some beautiful examples of her handicraft.

An enjoyable and informative day was spent in January when a group of us visited the Theatre Royal, Bath for a tour of the theatre, followed by seeing Leslie Crowther and Chris Harris in "Robinson Crusoe".

Future meetings will be: "Collecting for Profit and Pleasure" by Mrs Phillips on April 19th; then on May 17th, the local branch celebrates its 21st Birthday, coupled with a visit to Penhow, just outside Chepstow on May 24th, when it is hoped that husbands and friends will join us for this evening visit and a meal. Our June speaker on the 21st is to be Mrs James on "Kiss of Life Resuscitation".

The date for the W.I. Summer Show is Saturday 8th July.

Peggy Alexander



PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Black Rock Quarry

Wessex Water have reported that drainage from the quarry eventually finishes up in the Gordano Valley. They therefore recommend that no waste be tipped in the quarry which could give rise to pollution. Avon C.C. have still to make a decision on the request for Planning Permission for tipping on this site.

Cadbury Lane Planning Appeal

Mr. Hill's appeal against the decision by Woodspring D.C. not to allow two houses to be built in Cadbury Lane was upheld by the Inspector from the D.O.E.

Pavement between Hill Lane and Westfield

Woodspring D.C. have been repeatedly asked to put this pavement into a good state of repair. Eventually, they agreed to meet our representatives, and after examination of the pavement, they accept that repairs are necessary and will do the work in April (1989).

Woodspring - the Future

This document lists Woodspring D.C.'s suggested strategy for

promoting the business and leisure aspects of the district. Generally, it was agreed to recommend the following:

1. All proposals should be examined separately on their merits
2. No development on greenfield sites.
3. Infrastructure to be in place before development starts.
4. A drive in entertainment centre was not desirable near to the M5/Portishead interchange.
5. Better roads are required from Portishead and Nailsea to Bristol.
6. The Metro scheme be supported.
7. An Industrial Heritage Centre at Nailsea be supported.

Police H.Q. Liaison Committee

The Council was represented on 6th February at the 1st meeting, from which the following emerged:-

1. Building work will be done in 4 phases starting in Sept 89 with completion due in September 98.
2. High security fencing would surround the site.
3. We requested that contractors' traffic should not pass through Weston-in-Gordano.
4. Traffic to the site would use Valley Road.
5. Attention would be given to landscaping and preservation of existing wildlife.

Footpath from Weston Drove to Weston Moor

Avon C.C. have not yet reported their ruling as to whether or not this will be adopted as an official footpath.

Avon C.C. Waste Disposal Plan

The following main recommendations were made to Avon C.C. after discussion of their weighty document:

1. It is considered that the subject has not been examined as critically as it merited.
2. There should be more segregation of waste at and before collection, to reduce the amount of tipping space required, and to encourage material reclamation.
3. More use should be made of incineration, together with

heat recovery and possible electricity generation.

4. Raw or partially treated sewage should not be discharged into our coastal waters.
5. Industrial companies must be encouraged to treat their own wastes on their sites.

Avon Local Councils Association (ALCA)

The main highlights from the March meeting were:-

Village Halls & VAT - As from 1st April 1989 an EEC ruling makes village hall committees liable to VAT, because they are not classed as charities (although efforts are being made in Parliament to change this ruling). Parish Councils are ruled as charities and do not pay VAT, and it was suggested that village halls could be transferred to their ownership to prevent payment of VAT, whilst leaving the village hall committees to continue their management.

Agricultural Holdings - Development In June the Weston-in-Gordano delegate proposed that "All agricultural buildings be excluded from permitted development rights under Town and Country General Development Order 1988". This was overwhelmingly supported, and if adopted would mean agricultural holdings seeking planning permission for any development in the same way as other householders etc. It was reported that this motion had moved up the National pyramid, and is now being presented to the Secretary of State.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING Please note that this will be held on 26th April at 8.00 p.m. It is hoped to provide tea and biscuits.

Bill Williams

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

The Village Hall now has its own First Aid Kit. The box was supplied by the committee and equipped by Simon Crowe - thank you Simon.

The Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Committee will be held in the Village Hall on 12th April 1989 at 7.30 p.m. All villagers are welcome to attend and we will be pleased to receive new blood onto the committee.

Stuart Redway

THE WHITE HART



The first event of this season was the Comic Relief night - which was very well supported by the locals in fancy dress - with some amazing red noses!! Diane and Donna managed to collect £200 during the evening. Many thanks to all who took part.

March 25th was "The Biddles" Golden Wedding. A lovely night was enjoyed by all with presents and flowers being presented to Cliff and Phyllis.

The Easter Bonnet Parade and Children's races were held on Easter Monday morning in beautiful sunshine. Everyone enjoyed the Hot Cross Buns kindly donated by John and Ellie from Catherine's Patisserie and hot punch which raised a total of £63 for the Village Hall extension. Many thanks to Connie and Geoff for organising this event.

The Easter Egg Raffle was won by Phil Giles with the proceeds to Portishead Lions - £22.00.

Phil Hodgkinson

COUNTRYMAN'S DIARY

The very mild conditions in January and early February have caused some unusual occurrences in the Valley. By the 14th February I had recorded 30 species of wild flowers including Wood Violet, Celandine, Primrose, Anemone, Coltsfoot, Buttercup, Barren Strawberry and Pink Campion.

Birds too have been confused by the weather. A Robin was sitting on eggs in Bill Ing's garage by the 3rd February and Cliff Biddle heard a Chiffchaff - (a small brownish warbler which often overwinters with us) singing on the 22nd January.

It will be interesting to see how the very mild winter will affect the various types of wildlife. There have already been reports of many Hedgehogs 'waking up' in the mild weather and some dying of starvation. Hibernating insects such as Lady birds, Aphids, Wasps, Bees should have survived well and there may be large numbers of these insects present later in the year, especially if we have a good summer. Still with insects, look out for Small Tortoiseshell, Peacock, Comma and Brimstone butterflies - they should be waking up from hibernation any time now.

Summer visiting birds should be arriving soon. Here is a brief run-down on expected dates of the commoner ones:

Mid to late March - Chiffchaff and Wheatear

Late March to early April - Blackcap

Early to mid-April - Willow Warbler, Swallow, Reed and Sedge Warblers

Mid-April - House Martin, Cuckoo

May - Swift, the last of our Summer visitors.

Bill Dixon



CADBURY LANE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Residents of the village will have noticed a dramatic increase in the size and numbers of the tip lorries in recent weeks.

The majority of these are not going to the licensed tip - they are going to other unlicensed sites off Weston Drove. Those of you who have lived in the village for a while will know all too well what this may mean - yet more destruction of our beautiful Valley by tipping.

The residents of Cadbury Lane have for many years been fighting a running battle to prevent this private lane from being used as access to the tips. The fight has been hard, and success has been close - but still the tips continue.

Now, however, the Cadbury Lane Residents' Association is being formed, and those of us with properties adjoining Cadbury Lane are joining in a new determined effort to learn from our past mistakes and stand up for our rights.

Our primary objective is to protect our property and environment in Cadbury Lane, but ultimately it is hoped that the whole village may unite in a concerted effort to end once and for all this tipping which is such a blight on our whole community

Chris Stringer, Chairman

Looking Back

There is a quotation somewhere about events casting shadows before them, brought to my mind quite recently.

When I was in my teens, I decided I'd like to learn to play the piano-accordion, and arranged to have lessons from someone who at the time had a partnership in a music shop in Putney, not far from where I lived in those days. I happened to mention this one lunchtime to a charming young lady, a newcomer on the staff of the same firm, and was surprised when she told me that the other partner was her uncle. Quite a co-incidence I thought!

Randolph Sutton, remembered as an outstanding Music Hall and Variety artiste - especially through the song - "On Mother Kelly's Doorstep" ... later taken up by Danny La Rue - was born in Clifton in 1888 and a commemorative plaque was unveiled in February on the house. As a representative of the Avon and Somerset Music Hall Society I was invited to the unveiling ceremony.

It so happened that my piano-accordion teacher was Jack, his son. The charming young lady?... Yes, Peggy was at the unveiling ceremony too!

Paul Alexander

CONTRIBUTORS PLEASE NOTE: Deadline for next issue is 22nd June.

Contact address for contributions - The Old Post Office