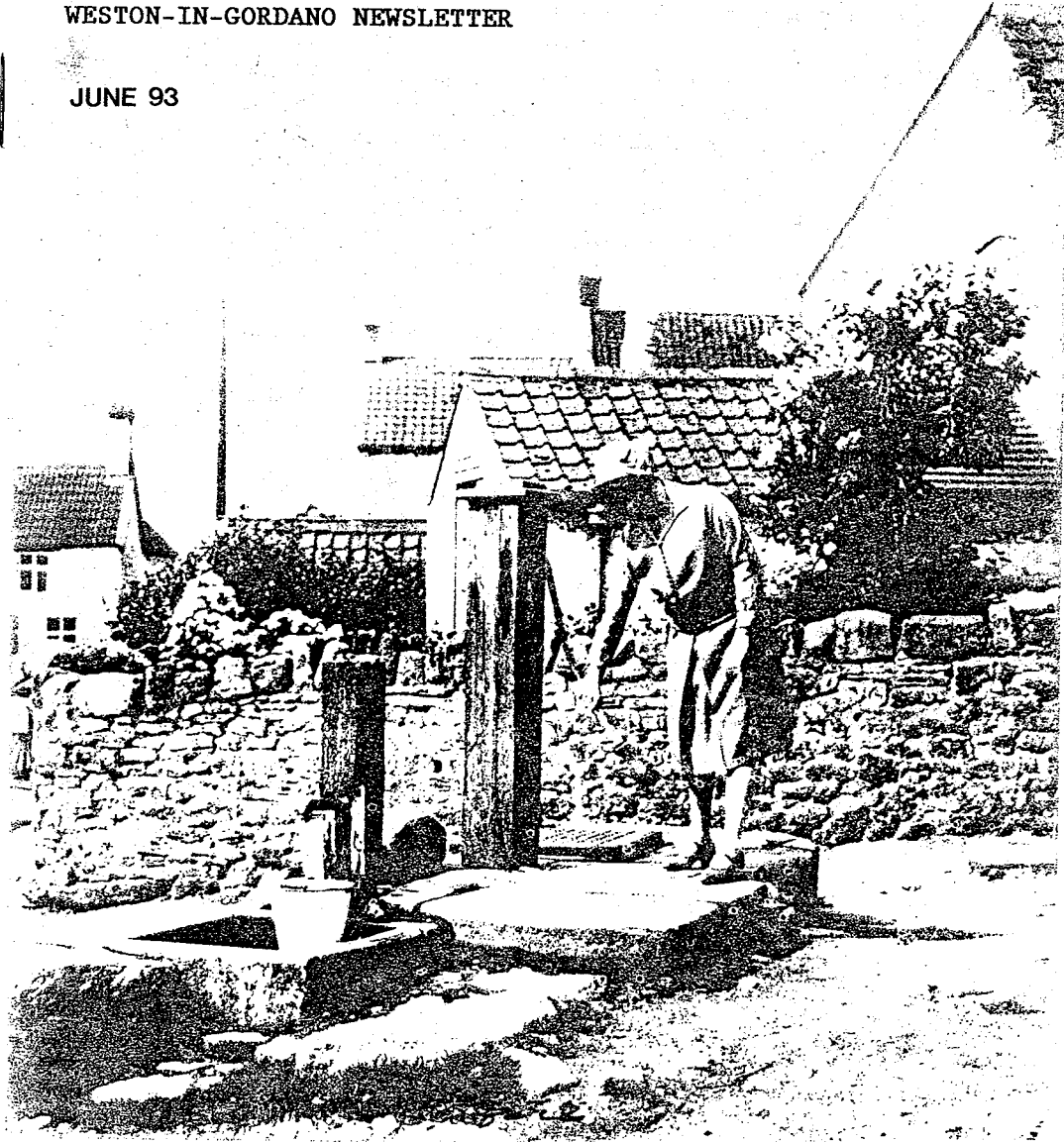


PARISH PUMP

WESTON-IN-GORDANO NEWSLETTER

JUNE 93



EDITORIAL

Well, isn't it nice to see everybody out in their gardens as you wander through the Village. We know we are not entering the Best Kept Village Competition this year but, nevertheless, it would still be worthwhile to make the most of the frontages. We would have won anyway if we'd tried!

Mind you, we would not win any prizes for supplying seating on Middle Hill at the moment. Thanks to local wanton vandalism Mr. Howard's seat is now an apology for a bench. We do all have our own thoughts on this subject and hope that the culprits realize the strength of feeling in the Village and think twice before behaving in the same way again.

Lecture over, we hope everybody enjoys their Summer.

Deadline for the September issue of the Pump is Friday, 17th September.

And finally, we would like to wish Tom Wells good luck in his new home in Silver Street.

Editors

Richard Nelson
Angela Borland
Elaine Simons

NIGHTINGALE VALLEY LADIES

In April Connie Williams arranged for us to visit Brakenwood Nurseries for a talk on hanging baskets. We found out where we go wrong and some good tips on how to get it right. The evening ended at Connie's for coffee. Many thanks Connie.

In May we had a slide show and talk given by Mrs. Vivienne Rigby on the Kennet & Avon Canal, from its derelict state to the present day completely navigable canal. The evening raised £30.00, donated to the Kennet & Avon Canal Trust.

For June, Peggy Alexander has invited us to her home for a cheese and wine social evening and all profits will go to the Avon Wildlife Trust.

These monthly get-togethers have got off to a good start and we are pleased to see so many people enjoying them. It's all very informal, but we would like some active participation with arranging speakers, general help with the tea and coffee etc.. If you know of anyone who could speak at a meeting, every month is free in 1994! After expenses, all profits are donated to a charity or worthy cause - the choice being left to the person arranging the speaker.

There are no meetings in July or August, but the meetings after that are :-

8th September we have the hand-made and unique designs of Daisy Dee Knitwear.

20th October Bristol Waterworks film 'Man Made for Nature'.

17th November A talk by Malcolm Rowley on 'The Music Hall'.

Don't forget it's only a pound for a nice sociable evening - not W.I. - and everyone is most welcome.

Gwyneth Challenor

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

To sum up previous events, Robert Fowler had appealed against action taken by Avon County Council to curb his use of a sorting/grading plant at his tip site. The appeal was heard at Avon House during 3 days in May. Members of the Council gave up a great deal of their time and put considerable efforts into producing evidence against Mr. Fowler's appeal. The proceedings appeared to go well from our (laypersons) point of view. The date of the result is not known, but it is expected in a few weeks time.

A planning application was lodged for the conversion of the Dairy at Church Lane to a dwelling house. This building is in the Green Belt and the Council have recommended that if permission is granted, the building be tied to agricultural use, i.e. a working farm house.

The Statutory Annual meeting of the Council was held on 5th May, at which Ian Borland was elected as Chairman, and Chris Stringer as Vice Chairman. Grateful thanks are due to David Lewis for his untiring efforts during his Chairmanship.

The Annual Assembly was attended by a greater number of parishioners than for many years. An interesting debate on the policy regarding the recommendations of Planning Permission approval in the Green Belt was heard. A straw poll at the conclusion revealed that of those attending a considerable majority agreed that although permission would NOT be recommended under normal circumstances, each application should be considered on its merits.

The Council has experienced some difficulties in recent months through the lack of a Clerk. However, we are delighted to report that Grahame Tanner has now been appointed as Clerk, and we consider ourselves lucky to have such an able officer.

A number of parishioners have brought to our notice the recent parking problem on the new footpath near Silver Street. This has caused some damage to the paving and has caused some inconvenience and danger to pedestrians. The parking was the result of building work in the area, which has now been completed. We have written to the builders asking them to make good any damage.

Ian A. Borland
Chairman

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Our A.G.M. was held on Tuesday, 27th April, and was well attended, some 20 villagers being present.

Chairman, Geoff Williams conducted a lively meeting with plenty of contributions from the floor. He explained in great detail the revised plans for the proposed extensions, and all present were able to examine the plans as they were posted on the wall. Application for grant and funding has now been made to Woodspring District Council through the good officers of the Parish Council, similarly application for Planning Permission for the extension has been made.

On the financial side Mrs. Nethercot presented a healthy balance sheet, but in view of the increased costs, particularly the hall insurance premium, it has been agreed that with effect from 1st May the hire fee will be £2.00 per hour for villagers and village organisations, and £3.50 per hour for those hiring the hall from outside the village.

Your hall officers and committee for 1993/94 are listed separately, and we welcome on to the committee Mr. Ian Borland, representing the Parish Council, Mrs. Alma Youde representing the Social Committee, and Mrs. Janet Bull representing the Parochial Church Council.

WESTON-IN-GORDANO VILLAGE HALL

Trustees: Mr. P. Scrutton, Mr. P. Jacobs,
Mr. C. Biddle, Mr. D. Lewis

Chairman: Mr. G. E. Williams
Stoneycroft, Hill Lane. Tel: 844662

Secretary: Mr. P. Scrutton
2 Meadow Drive. Tel: 842085

Treasurer: Mrs. W. H. Nethercott
Bay Tree Cottage, Hill Lane. Tel: 845037

Booking Clerk: Mrs. A. Redway
6 The Close. Tel: 817206

Committee Members: Mrs. F. Leonard Tel: 842647

Mr. I Borland Tel: 848781
(Also representing Weston-
in-Gordano Parish Council)

Mrs. A. Youde Tel: 849766
(Also representing Weston-
in-Gordano Social Comm.)

Mrs. J. Bull Tel: 846221
(Also representing Weston-
in-Gordano Parochial
Church Council)

Mrs. C. Williams Tel: 844662

Registered Charity No. 297526



CONGRATULATIONS to Ian Simons on becoming Avon County
Champion and Avon Schools Champion shot putter.

MIDDLE HILL COMMON

First the good news: The mild moist weather has given us an excellent display of flowers, well worth taking a stroll up the hill to see. All we need now is some warm sunshine to bring out the butterflies.

Even better news is a generous grant of £1,000 from Avon County Council to help pay for the interpretation signs which were put up during our work party on Sunday 13th June. Thank you Avon.

The bad news is that the seat offering a place to rest and enjoy the splendid views across the valley has been vandalised. The back-rest has been broken off. Thanks are due to those who have volunteered to organise a repair. How sad that something provided by the community for the benefit of everyone should be so treated.

Our next work party is on Sunday 18th July. Meet at 10 a.m. at the top of Hill Lane, it will not be strenuous work and we aim to finish by midday. Everybody is welcome, do come along even if it is only to enjoy the flowers and the view!

Work Party Dates

Sunday 18 July
Sunday 5 September Annual Planning Meeting
Sunday 19 September Lots to do on this day!

All 10.00 a.m. at the top of Hill Lane.



John Harrison

MIDDLE HILL COMMON - OTHER DATES

Sunday, 4th July - Nature Conservation in the Gordano Valley. A look at the wildlife of the Gordano Valley and the work of English Nature and the Wildlife Trust. A 7 mile walk, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. taking in the Gordano Valley National Nature Reserve, Weston Big Wood and Walton Common. Strong footwear advisable. Bring packed lunch. Leaders Tony Robinson and Phil Tolerton. £3. Meet at entrance to Gordano Valley National Nature Reserve in Moor Lane, ½ mile SE of Walton in Gordano. No dogs please.

Tuesday, 21st September - Gordano Valley Owl Prowl. A walk through owl territory with a good chance of seeing 3 species of owl. Leaders Chris Sperring and Tony Robinson. £3. Please ring 0272 731645 (English Nature) to book a place and for details.



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FREE ESTIMATES

THE HISTORY OF YOUR HOUSE : A GUIDE TO DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

PART I

There are 8 listed buildings in our village, but a house doesn't have to be listed to have age and history. You may have a new house built on the site of a much older building. Perhaps your new house has architectural features from older buildings.

An obvious start is to look at your title deeds; if these are originals then your search is made that much easier:

Documentary evidence is sometimes difficult to come by, and even when there's plenty of it, it is sometimes hard to link it to a specific property. Larger houses and those with special uses like public houses and blacksmiths are often easier to trace. Houses which are isolated or have unusual names are as well. Remember, however, that many house names are Victorian inventions. Apparently my Olde Thatch was once called Pear Tree Farm, but even that hasn't helped me in my quest. Properties which have been converted from ancillary buildings will be unlikely to have their own deeds. My previous home dated back at least to 1400, but it had been a military building - a gatehouse to a castle - so the deeds only dated back to 1963 when it was converted to a residence.

You may be able to identify architectural features by reference to such organisations as the Vernacular Architecture Group and the Somerset and South Avon Vernacular Building Research Group,(i), which have surveyed and described with plans and photographs over 1,650 houses in the pre-1974 county of Somerset.

Your primary source material will be maps. You should be able to pinpoint your house or its site and the date of the construction of your property.

In the next issue of the Parish Pump I will deal with the various maps that are available at the Taunton Records Office for the Weston In Gordano area.

(i) Indexes available for both in S.R.O. Taunton

References: Derek Shorrocks. Your Somerset House 1988
The History of Your House. Traditional Homes 1992.

Grahame Tanner



*** KIDDIE'S KITCHEN ***

STRAWBERRY FLOAT

135g Packet Strawberry Jelly
150ml Boiling Water
450ml Milk
 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 200g packet marshmallows

What to do:

1. Dissolve the jelly in the water, allow to cool. Just before setting whisk in the milk.
2. Chop some of the marshmallows and stir into the jelly, pour into wetted jelly mould. Leave to set.
3. Turn out, decorate with remaining marshmallows.

Be very careful with the boiling water, get an adult to help you!

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

OLD TIME MUSIC HALL - What can I say? This was undoubtedly an evening which will go down in history, particularly if the History Society put the video into their records - what would future generations make of our efforts?

M.C. Ian Borland, having swallowed the dictionary, announced each act, his alliteration being altogether a la mode.

What was particularly memorable was that so many people who had never taken part in theme evenings, pantomimes or the like in the village threw away their inhibitions and joined in with gusto. There were a couple of surprises - the delectable Fifi who raised the blood pressure with her long black hair, and what a figure....eat your heart out girls!! BUT the biggest surprise, nay shock, was when Maximillian (alias Roger Ettery) revealed his trump card in the form of Elaine-you'll-never-get-me-on-the-stage-Simons. How long had she suffered in her grandfather's sea chest before being pulled unceremoniously forth? Was the chair leg breaking as Maximillian finally got the dummy perched on his knee all part of the act or a cruel stroke of fate?

Who would ever have expected to see a lamp post being bargained for - especially the "lady of the lamp" herself, who was intent on selling something entirely different!

Even after the "final curtain" it wasn't over - there was the longest running draw on record made by none other than the unstoppable Razor Ricardo. Little gems of acts followed in which the insect world features - beetles, bumble bees and even the humble worm had their moments.

CAR TREASURE HUNT - Eight intrepid teams set out on a beautiful Sunday morning to pit their wits against crafty clues and obscure objects to collect en route. We were taken across Kenn Moor to West End Nailsea visiting farms, churches and the like. Tickenham Church was next, didn't the choir sing well, and then up over Tickenham Hill and back to a welcoming BBQ at the back of the Village Hall. Everyone arrived back clutching their various "objects" and all appeared still to be on good terms with one another. In a close run finish Angela, Ian and Sharon took the honours followed very closely by Donna's team. Everybody had very much enjoyed themselves and our thanks to Pete Church and Richard Nelson for their efforts.

FUTURE EVENTS

Barbecue - The annual barbecue will be held on Saturday, 10th July at Ross and Maggie Merrifield's (thanks to them for offering the garden and other facilities again). Tickets priced at £3.50 are on sale from committee members. Please don't leave it until the last minute as you may be disappointed. This year, as ever, there will be live music for your entertainment. We are proud to announce that we have secured the services of the latest group to hit the music world - "Cover Story".

CATS - A reminder that the trip to the Bristol Hippodrome to see "Cats" follows the Barbecue on Wednesday, 14th July. The coach will be opposite the White Hart at 6.30 p.m. and will drop us and pick us up at the Hippodrome. Your tickets will be handed to you on the coach.

Pantomime - The script is now finished for the next Village Pantomime - Aladdin. Please think about joining us this year, front or back of stage. Notices for the first meeting in September will be put on the boards.

The Committee have recently made two purchases which we hope will be of some benefit to anyone who wishes to hire a video camera or hi-fi/PA equipment. Hire charges are as follows:

Video equipment - £3.00 per day, £5.00 per weekend
£10.00 per week.

Please contact Sue Broadway

Hi-Fi/PA - £3.00 per day, £5.00 per weekend
£10.00 per week.

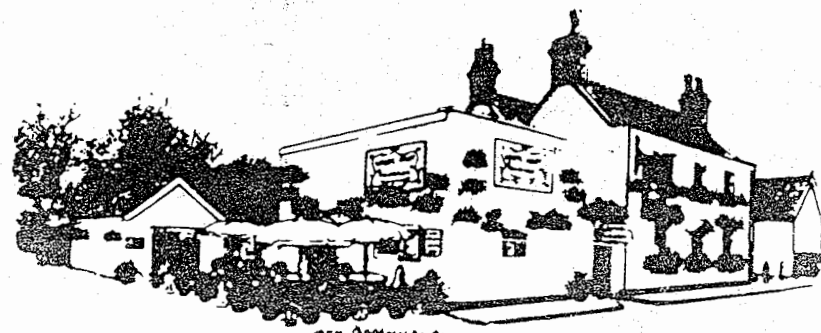
Please contact Richard Nelson

Anyone wishing to hire either of the above will be asked to sign a hire agreement.

Gill Stringer

White Hart

Weston-in-Gordano Portishead
Nr Bristol
Tel. 0275 849478



With the Compliments of

Phil & Carol Hodgkinson

IT SEEMED LIKE A GOOD IDEA AT THE TIME....

Why not a seat on the Common, with a view over the Valley. Very user friendly for those who've made the effort to climb so high.

Well, the money was found, the seat was carried up there (and it was heavy!) and so was the concrete it was set in.



But clearly it didn't meet with someone's approval, and this is how it looked after the vandals had finished with it.

The good news is that it will shortly be repaired through the kindness of two villagers.

David Lewis

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Dave Lewis' Old Pound House was the venue on Tuesday, 25th May for a very stimulating talk given by Sandy Tebbit, Secretary of the Gordano Society. It was fascinating to listen to someone with so much experience of what we are trying to do in the group.

The talk was followed by a discussion which centred mainly on the idea that perhaps we ought to be concentrating on one goal only, rather than trying to cover too wide a subject area.

Mrs. Margaret Jacobs confirmed that she had arranged for Keith Giles to give a slide tape presentation on the Gordano Valley in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 29th September, at 8.00pm. It was agreed that an entrance fee of £1.00 would be charged to provide us with the start of a fund to enable us to provide a greater variety of events.

A very pleasant and enjoyable evening was had by all.

The next meeting was arranged for 28th July at Olde Thatch in Clevedon Road at 8.00pm. Well, actually it was arranged for the 21st July but I have a Parish Council meeting on that evening so I've had to postpone the History Group meeting until the 28th July.

Grahame Tanner



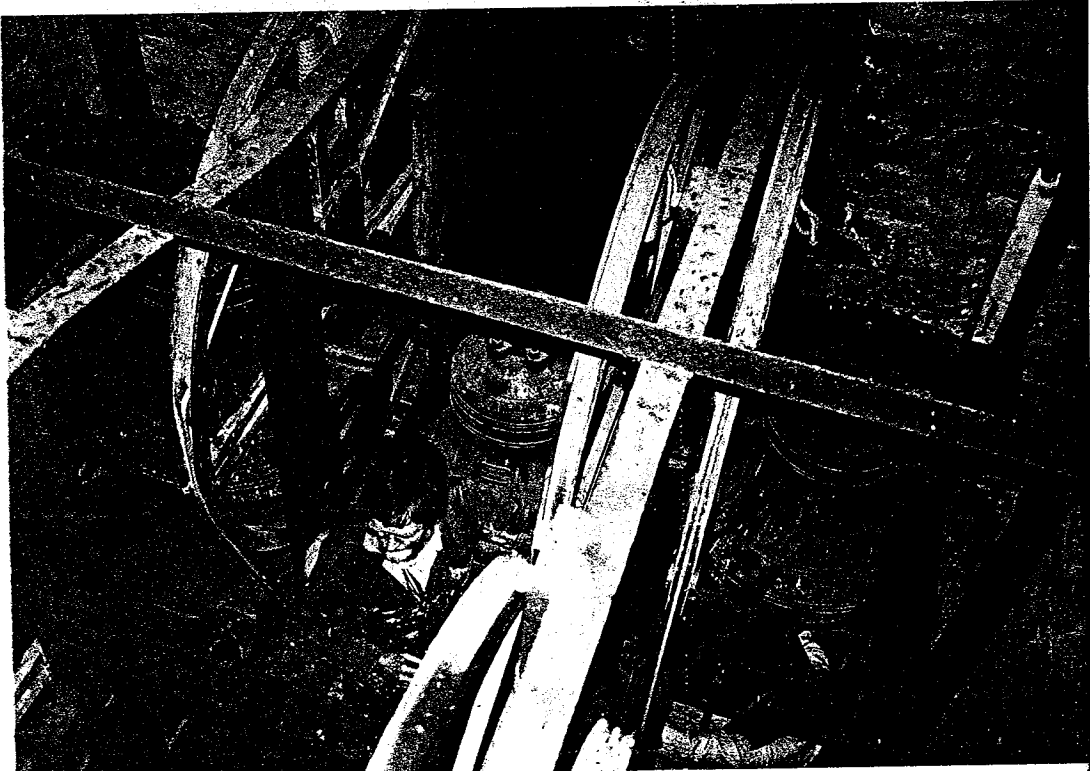
PUMPKINS

Cliff Biddle has young plants ready for this year's competition. They cost 50p each (you can buy as many as you like). So, if you have a corner in the garden with not much doing in it, why not grow your whopper there? Besides, we could do with a new name on the trophy this year.

THE CHURCH CLOCK

Most of you probably have alarm clocks or clock radios to wake you in the mornings. It's simple, you just wind up the key or set the radio for the appropriate time - easy!! But the chimes on the church clock? Well, that is not so straightforward. Apparently ya can't just move the hands round to the hour and set the bells off. No, you have to synchronise it..? Well, anyway that's what we're told.

For some years now Ted Haste and Dave Seaton, both from Portishead, have been working on the clock in their spare time. They take parts away to either renew or restore, then bring them back on Sunday mornings to install them. Keith Williams regularly winds the clock and lets Dave and Ted in to do their work. A vote of thanks to all three chaps for the interest shown in our time-piece and one day, hopefully, we shall hear the chimes on the hour. Please note this work is voluntary, what's more it's free!!



THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL

The Rector, John Smart, Rosemary and Andrew are all safely back from New Zealand. We get little cameos of this trip - the Valley through which they travelled to the Church, very much like ours, the first experience of an earthquake tremor, beaches with free (and un-vandalised) BBQs, etc. etc. Now they are back to business.

Easter Services this year included the pleasure of having our own Village Choir for one celebration. This Choir has been an unexpected bonus to some of our special services. We were however glad that our friends of the Conygar Choir were also able to join us at Easter.

The monthly "House Meetings" next meet on 6th July at 2.30 p.m. at Mrs. Howard's, Greenacres, Hill Lane. We welcome anyone who might like to join us.

June 29th Our Patronal Festival Service 7.30 p.m.
Preacher Rev. Michael Peters, Chaplain, Horfield Prison.
(Supper follows).

July 3rd Patronal Festival Concert with the Miscellany Singers. Starting at 8 p.m. refreshments to follow at Gordano Lodge (home of Mr. & Mrs. Horner). Tickets £2.50 from Churchwardens - Mrs. Jacobs, Mrs. Hawken. This now well-known local "group" came to us before and gave us an evening's singing to remember, light, classical, folk music - something for everyone!

July 24th Our Summer Fete at Barn End (Mr. & Mrs. Carrad) overflow Barn Close (Mr. & Mrs. Pearce). At Barn End the extensive and intricate model railway with many working pieces will be open to visitors - you must see it! There will be the usual stalls, attractions and surprises. Opening 2.30 p.m.

Finally, September 19th Harvest Festival - it is rumoured that our Village Choir will again join us? Wellworth coming to hear! After this Celebration refreshments wellworth coming to partake!

The sum of £271 was raised by Mrs. Hawken for the Church Yard Fund. Thank-you to all contributors. The fund is well used for the Churchyard upkeep - it always looks well 'cared for'.

Reminder The Family Service will now take place on alternate Sunday mornings starting at 10.30. The first Service will be on Sunday, 4th July. This Service is particularly for young children and parents and should finish at about 11.00.

There is a Celebration of Holy Communion each Wednesday at 9.30 a.m. - a short, quiet, friendly Service - seating in the choir stalls. At least six regular attenders.

Gwen Griese



ART GROUP

Thursdays, 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. Village Hall.

Another member, Frances, has joined us. We are still all "beginners". We are still awaiting warm Summer evenings for outside sessions. Why not "drop in"?

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

June	29	St. Peter & St. Paul Patronal Festival Service
July	3	St. Peter & St. Paul Patronal Festival Concert
	4	Gordano Valley Guided Walk
	10	Village Barbecue
	14	Trip to CATS - Bristol Hippodrome
	18	Middle Hill Work Party
	21	Parish Council Meeting
	24	Church Summer Fete
	28	Local History Meeting - Olde Thatch

August

September	5	Middle Hill Annual Planning Meeting
	8	Nightingale Valley Ladies "Daisy Dee Knitwear" (please note date)
	17	DEADLINE PARISH PUMP
	19	Middle Hill Work Party
	19	Church Harvest Festival
	21	Gordano Valley Owl Prowl

Wednesdays 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion

Thursdays 7.30 p.m. Art Group

Alternate Sundays 10.30 a.m. Family Service