



YARBLETON

NEWS



March / April 2021

Dear Resident,

Well, lockdown continues but at least there is light at the end of the tunnel. Personally, I am looking forward to resuming our village badminton once indoor sports are allowed again, but that isn't until May 17th on the present timetable.

We did have one person question whether we should be circulating this newsletter during lockdown. We had thought it would be a valuable way of maintaining some sort of community link – not everyone by any means is on the village email circulation. However, we do understand if any of you are concerned at receiving a physical communication at this time. If so, let our distributors know.

Meanwhile, a reminder once again that news can be sent to yarbletonnews@outlook.com or direct to my personal email: don.field@gmail.com, which is checked more regularly. **Don Field**, Daisy Cottage. Deadline for the next one is April 20th.

Green Henton

Green Henton is organising a Bee Friendly initiative to make our village more bee and insect friendly! This will continue throughout the Spring and Summer, with the aim of encouraging the residents of Yarbleton (and beyond) to undertake a project that brings more insects into their garden. The main growing season has yet to get started, so now is the perfect time to start planning your project, whether small or large, and get the whole family involved! I know there are plenty of nature and garden lovers in the village, with many exciting plans already on the horizon, and looking forward to hearing about these! We have already sent out a few ideas for small things which could really make a difference, here's a recap:

- Make a bug hotel for your garden
- Leave a pile of logs out for insects to colonise
- Let your lawn grow longer in an area
- Sow some wildflower seed in your garden, or adopt a bit of roadside and scatter seed there
- Transplant spare snowdrop plants after flowering to a hedgerow near you
- Transplant primroses to the roadside

We would like to keep a database of the projects people are doing, which we can all use to refer to – in due course we will be asking you all to send along before and after photographs with a simple paragraph of your plan and outcomes. To facilitate the sharing of spare plants and seeds around the villages, Henton Garden World in the church porch will be re-opening for drop offs and collections – more details to follow soon.

A reminder of the first 'round' of the initiative: a very exciting creative COMPETITION to design Bee Positive signs for your garden gates made from upcycled materials from your home or garden. The competition will be judged in three categories: under-12s, over-12s, judged by Nigel Cox and Hazel Gibbs and a special East Court choice award, judged by East Court residents. Please submit photographs of your entries to green.yarbleton@gmail.com, or send via the village Whatsapp or Instagram, details below. The competition closes on the 31st March 2021, and winners will be announced on Saturday 3rd April.

We have three annual family memberships to the Somerset Wildlife Trust, along with further child/young adult bee friendly goodies to offer as prizes for the competition. Members of the Trust receive a guide to the Wildlife Trust Nature Reserves, two issues of the Somerset Wildlife magazine, an events guide twice per year, a car sticker and bookmark, along with regular email updates, and Wildlife Watch magazines and goodies. A family membership requires that one adult be named as the primary member, and up to four children can be added as secondary members. The trust uses the funds from memberships to support the whole range of their conservation work.

We will be posting further updates and features from Green Henton via the village email and Yarbleton News, and we would also like to announce that Green Henton's Instagram is now LIVE! Please follow us: <https://www.instagram.com/greenhenton/>. Here, we will post regular updates on subjects ranging from conservation, gardening and eco-friendly activities, along with information about the projects of Yarbletonians, and lots of other pictures you'd like to share. Please feel free to send photographs anything and everything you think relevant via the Instagram account or the email address above.

Reordering the Church

There has recently been a huge – and very welcome – influx of people into the Yarbleton Community, bringing new life, ideas – and children – to enrich the lives of we oldies (arrived with two little girls aged five and eight!).

Communications are excellent with the village WhatsApp and email – the former of which often has items for sale, requesting a donation to the Church's Reordering Fund. I thought newcomers might like to know a little more about that.

When we arrived 36 years ago, the Church was about to close down because of lack of support. But by a margin of just one vote, it was retained. The roof needed replacing, the bell was unsafe in its tower and the heating very ineffective. So, the village came together, £25,000 was raised, the roof was made new, the bell re-hung and a new heating system installed. But things move on and support for ordinary services has fallen away. Sunday Breakfast is normally held in the Hall once a month and is a fabulous opportunity for an informal get-together over free bacon butties with a quiz and a light-hearted theme. And there's a range of regular services in church, which are all detailed on the Benefice website below (Coxley, Henton and Wookey). So, the Spirit is moving in the villages.

www.chwchurches.co.uk

It was decided, several years ago, to try to raise enough money to install a new mini kitchen-servey, a proper loo and to take out all the pews inside the church to create a space with a wonderful welcome and where lots of different events can take place. So, when you buy a children's bike or some seedlings or shiny just-picked tomatoes and beans, the money you give goes into this Reordering Fund.

Thank you, **Rosie Inge**

Welcome

We have news of two new families to arrive in the village recently. A very warm welcome to both and we are sure you will all want to meet them when the rules allow!

Ridgemere

We are **Steve** and **Jo** who moved here on 29th January after a rather rocky ride selling our old house. We've been married for 35 years with three children, Dan, Rach and Rosie. Last September we both retired (although I still do a little gardening work). Steve worked in the aerospace industry at Filton for 46 years and I taught at a primary school.

Whilst our eldest two children have flown the nest, we have moved here with our youngest, Rosie, who is a postgraduate currently seeking employment in the field of sustainability.

Dan is a post doctorate researcher at Bristol University and is married, whilst Rach works for the environment agency and lives across the way in Cheddar.

Steve's hobbies are varied including motorcycling, cycling, wildlife and underwater hockey (as does Rosie who was a trialist for team GB!)

As for me, I prefer to keep my head above water, enjoying badminton, gardening and cycling.

Although only having been here a short time, we feel we have had such a warm welcome from so many people. When times allow, we really look forward to putting faces to names. In the meantime, we will continue living in chaos but can already say we are so glad to be here.

Jo, Steve, Rosie & Maddie our cat.

School House

Fran and **Sam Haines** moved from Chew Magna to School House, Henton in February with their two children **Alice** (4) and **William** (9 months). Coming from Shropshire and Cornwall originally, they moved from London to Bristol 7 years ago for work, and have been edging their way further South ever since! In normal times they both work in Bristol, so will return to commuting sometime (hopefully not too soon!). Fran works for the BBC, developing ideas for new programmes, and Sam is also in TV, currently working on a natural history series about Oceans. As a family, they spend lots of time outdoors - Fran and Alice are both keen horse riders, and Sam loves sailing. William is yet to decide on his hobbies....currently he enjoys eating and knocking things over. They are delighted to be here in Henton, thank everyone for their warm, WhatsApp welcome - and look forward to meeting everyone in person, before too long.

And Farewell

Gerald and Trish Burridge (aka G&T) at Stream Cottage, Yarley Cross have at last moved house to Tanglewood in Evercreech. We will have left Stream Cottage in the hands of its new owners – **Jim** and **Isabel Williams** who have moved from Dorset. We are certain that they will come to love it just as much as we have over the past 24+ years – it has been a privilege – a beautiful place to live and we will both certainly miss our fantastic view towards the Mendip Hills.

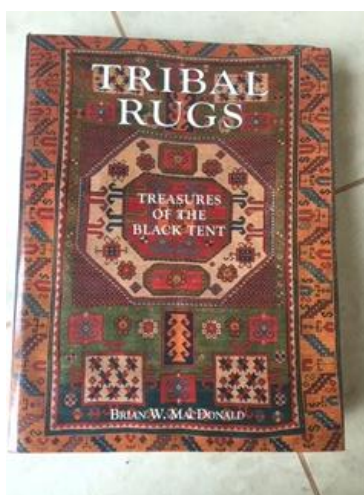
We would like to thank the community around us for the friendship and support they have given over the years and in particular whilst we both recently suffered from Covid 19. We would love to be able to come back and see old friends from time to time and would be pleased to learn about future events going on once we are all able to live freely again. We will be keeping our email address (gandt@uwclub.net) but will have a new phone number in due course.

From Jenny Crossley

The telephone box is stuffed with DVDs if you still have the wherewithal to play them. There are many children's ones as well as more grown-up!

If you have books to dispose of, I would be very happy to receive them, but please leave them on our doorstep at Ryemead, opposite the church, or give me a ring on W. 675492 and I will collect.

I also have more interesting books available, this time on tribal rugs. £4 for the two, to the Church reordering fund. Contact Jenny if interested: jennycrossley@mbzonline.net



From Somerset County Council

As a result of Coronavirus, all Somerset County Council staff have been asked to work from home, where this is practically possible, or to support other services if their role is not critical to the Coronavirus response. This will have an impact on our ability to deliver some services, so we thank you for your patience and understanding during this difficult time.

Health Connections

Health Connections can offer grants to over-50s who are struggling with energy bills or cannot afford to fix a broken boiler. To access a Health Connector, call 01373 468368.

Joke of the Month (from **Tabitha Field**, 5 years old. If your child has a joke they would like to share in a future issue, please send it along.)

Why did the cow cross the road? To go to the moovies.

Useful websites:

Village Hall: www.hentonvillagehall.co.uk

Wookey Parish Council: <https://sites.google.com/view/wookeyparishcouncil>