

CAW

Crowcombe

Village Magazine



AUGUST 2017—SEPTEMBER 2017

Is it summer or is it something else. All the seasons and the growing of crops, blooming of flowers, harvesting, the birds having yet another brood seem to be at odds with the time of the year, all out of season. It was such a lovely warm spring and heralded a good summer, but is it confusing nature's balance. Wiser people than me will debate this. But it seems, as soon as the children break up from school we get more rain, wind and it seems cooler, although the temperature is what it should be, so it is said. Still we are more fortunate than some of other holiday places, with drought and with that water restrictions, and forest fires. The children have the summer Playday on August 11th to look forward to and of course Woodland Play Centre has lots to offer all. Unfortunately there is no Desert Island Discs section in this issue, our guest went on holiday to Italy and did not remember to send it in before their departure, but we have the choice to look forward to in another issue. The cinema returns in September so look out for that. .

**A reminder for you the Flower and Dog show on 27th August
the starting time is**

**1.00pm and not 2.00pm
as in other years**



Please email any contributions to me:
maggie.inglis@btinternet.com:
phone 01984 631793

I The Almshouses, Woolston, TA4 4LN
Please email or post items to me for insertion.
*I am happy to include one off adverts
Small charge may be applied to cover costs.*



CROWCOMBE CHURCH SERVICES

August 2017 and September 2017

July 2017

Mon 31st	10.30am	Weekday Communion Service
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August 2017

Sun 6 th	11.00am	Family Service
Sun 13 th	10.30am	CW Benefice Communion at Bicknoller
Sun 20 th	8.00am	BCP Communion
Sun 27 th	6.00pm	BCP Evening Prayer

September 2017

Sun 3 rd	11.00am	Family Service
Mon 6 th	10.30am	Weekday Communion Service
Sun 10 th	10.30am	CW Benefice Communion at Crowcombe
Sun 17 th	8.00am	BCP Communion
Sun 26 th	6.00pm	BCP Evening Prayer

Please be assured of a most warm welcome if you attend any of our services.

Should anyone require transport to any of the Benefice Communion services away from Crowcombe, please contact the Revd Jon Rose on 01984 618715 or Sue Jenkins on 01984 631995 to make an arrangement.

BCP = Book of Common Prayer – traditional worship

CW = Common Worship – more contemporary worship

Richard Boddington Memorial Presentation
Saturday 26th August

At 1.00 pm on Saturday 26th August there will be a small presentation where Pricilla and family will be present to unveil a plaque for Richard Boddington.

I hope that you have seen the Father Time weather vane which was erected earlier this year on the roof of the Hall which is part of our memorial for Richard.

We would like anyone who wishes to honour Richard not only for his chairmanship and association with the Hall but also his inspirational involvement in the Cricket Club to attend the presentation.

Everyone is welcome

Chris Staniland – Chair - Hall

Chris Fitzgerald – Chair- Cricket Club

The Crowcombe church PCC would very much welcome donations of good quality bottles and jars of things for their Flower Show stall, from August 1st onwards (no earlier please). They can be left with Linda (Cedar Cottage) or Priscilla (Pinehurst) in Crowcombe or with Michele (4, Bakers Orchard) in Crowcombe Heathfield, up to August 25th.

A Safari Supper conjures up heat, elephants and camp fires—well Crowcombe WI's June safari was somewhat different! Starting at Crowcombe Heathfield Station's beautifully restored GWR awaiting room (1862) - by kind permission of the station master—we enjoyed a colourful 3-melon starter before “sarafi-ing” to member's delightful thatched cottage for a sit down main course of either lasagne or Coronation Chicken with all the trimmings. We then moved to another member's house in Crowcombe, with a view of the Quantocks to die for, where we sampled 5 different desserts (of course I did in the interests for this report). Fresh strawberries, chocolate roulade, meringues, cheesecake and black forest gateaux—all homemade, as was the rest of the food for the evening. It was good to see that nearly all our members managed to come to an evening which reflected WI's friendliness and sociability.

In July we welcomed Stephen Wells to our meeting. His talk on Butlins, and especially Billy Butlin's life and rise to fame and fortune was full of interest and it turned out that one of our members nursed him through illness when she was at West Super Mare. Stephen worked for Butlins for over 35 years, and many of them as the Entertainments Manager for the Company, meeting many of the rising stars of entertainment, as well as established artists such as Max Wall, Frankie Howard, Tommy Cooper and so on. Of course Cliff Richards and Jimmy Tarbuck their road to fame through the Butlins entertainment system.

Billy Butlin was born in 1899 in South Africa to an English mother and South African father, who died at an early age. The widowed mother and son moved to Canada, but Billy was drawn to England, circus and fair life, and started his carer with a humble hoopla stall. His astute business sense soon increased his holdings from a few stalls to gradually build up an empire, most famous of all being the holiday camps.

The story of Tommy Cooper's visit to Morocco raised the biggest laugh of the evening. Tommy espied a stall with an Arab fez hat seller behind it. Before his wife could stop him, he had put a fez on his head. Immediately the Arab stallholder said “Ha=Ha—Tomee Cooper”. An astonished Tommy asked “Do you know who I am?” “No” said the stallholder....

“but all the English come to the stall, put on a fez, put out their hands and say ‘hu-huh—just like that’. Apparently, Tommy was speechless!,

Stephen proved to be an excellent raconteur, and we are promised a return visit. B,A.

Thank you Beryl for writing the above. We were able to send the Jo Cox Foundation £83.00—the amount of the Garden get together on the 17th June in memory of Jo.

We are having stall at the Crowcombe Flower Show on 27th August. As well as items for sale, a beautiful handmade quilt has been donated for us to raffle. Tickets {£1.00 each} are available now from me or on the day.

Pat Chittenden (01984 618249.

PLANT SALE

FLAXPOOL NURSERY PLANT SALE AT

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SATURDAY AUGUST 19: SEPTEMBER 16

9.30—12.00 NOON

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Mail on Sunday



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Daily Telegraph



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The Times

★★★★
**'Some of the superb musical pastiches they think up
might make a few West End veterans blush. Brilliant.'**
Financial Times

2016 Olivier Award Winner - Best Entertainment & Family Show

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Now heading to Crowcombe Court, three of the Showstoppers (and a musician!) will create a bespoke one hour musical based purely on your suggestions! This incredible comedy troupe never fail to impress as they create shows packed with drama, dazzling dance routines and catchy melodies.

So whether you fancy Sondheim on a ski lift or Cole Porter in Poundland – you suggest it and the Showstoppers will sing it!



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www.theshowstoppers.org



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Original artwork design: BoomEnts.com

Crowcombe Parish Council

The latest Parish Council Meeting was held on 6th July 2017 at Church House. The full draft minutes are available on the website for a more detailed description of events, but this report highlights some of the key points covered.

Playground :

Councillors had previously agreed that one major piece of equipment per year would be renovated. This year it was decided that this should be the climbing frame / tower – it was agreed to seek advice on the best way to carry out the necessary works.

Following the May meeting, the Parish Council Chairman completed a grant application to the Village Shop for funding towards the cost of re-laying of the grass mats in the playground. A grant for £1,500 has subsequently been awarded to the Parish Council. The Parish Council are most grateful to the Village Shop for their support with the costs associated with this much-used village amenity.

Refurbishment of historic finger posts :

SCC no longer have the funding available to maintain the historic fingerposts in the county. Highways are running training sessions (safe highway working procedure, materials to use etc) for volunteers to enable the historic fingerposts to be surveyed and ultimately repaired and maintained. Three volunteers have already come forward within the parish but more are needed. Please do contact the clerk if you would like to become involved with preserving these iconic pieces of street furniture.

Broadband in the Parish :

The Chairman reported that the new box at Hagleys Green has now migrated to live. A lot of help to reach this stage had been received from Nathaniel Lewis (via SCC Cllr Christine Lawrence) and, whilst it has not solved all the problems, some councillors reported an increase in speeds.

Finances :

The clerk reported that the balance total held by the council as of 31/5/17 to be £19,915.42 consisting of £7006.67 in the current account, £3224.92 in the deposit account and £9683.83 in the amenities account.

Road Closure in the Parish :

Notification has been received from Highways that Leigh Lane, from the junction with Leigh Lane to Water Lane, and Lower Vexford to Leigh Lane will be closed for a distance of 105 metres from 21st August 2017 for 5 days to enable earthworks to be carried out.

Next Parish Council Meeting :

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 7th September 2017 at Church House, commencing at 7.30pm and the agenda will be available prior to the meeting (both online and on the parish notice board).

Church House News

For those people who may not have heard the job of Booking Secretary for Church House has reverted back to me [Maggie Inglis]

Phone 01984 631793

The email account is the same as for Lynn Norris churchhousebookings@gmail.com, so I look forward to hearing from you again Maggie.

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Report from West Somerset Council by Anthony Trollope-Bellew.

Forming the New Council : I was hoping that the Secretary of State would have given a "minded to" decision before the parliamentary recess but as I write the recess started yesterday and nothing has been heard. Originally it was expected that the decision would be made before the end of June but then the General Election and the disastrous Grenfell Tower fire intervened so that the application to form the new council was not on the top of the pile. Once the decision is made a new process has to be gone through as WSC and TDBC are one of the first two along with two councils in Suffolk to apply. Every thing has to be complete by April 2019 for the elections in May. This includes the Boundary Commission drawing new ward boundaries.

It is looking increasingly unlikely that the Somerset Rivers Authority will be set up as a separate precepting body by next April. This is disappointing but as far as you are concerned it will make little difference as the same amount of funding will still be collected through the council tax. But the SRA will not appear as a separate line on the council tax bill.

The Somerset West Lottery has been launched and can be accessed at www.somersetwestlottery.co.uk . I was disappointed to find that no organisations in Crowcombe have put themselves forward as good causes and so become eligible for funding. As I wrote in my last report good causes do not have to be charities but have to benefit local people, have a formal constitution or set of rules, have a bank account requiring at least two unrelated signatories, operate no undue restrictions on membership and have an email address, though not a website. This means that organisations such as the cricket club can register as good causes and so fund raise by persuading their supporters to buy lottery tickets. For full details of how to become a good cause go to the website.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you think I can help in any way.

Anthony Trollope-Bellew,
Hurley Farm, Crowcombe TA4 4AJ
Telephone : 07977 591940
email : atrollope-bellew@westsomerset.gov.uk

Crowcombe

Play day

Crowcombe
VILLAGE HALL & PLAY AREA
11 August
11am to 3pm

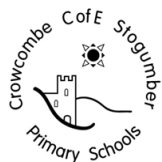
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- WOODLAND PLAY
- SPORTS
- WATERSLIDE
- GAMES
- MUSIC
- ARTS
- GRAFTS





A Summer of Invention Plus some other views from Josh.

School's out for Summer! You may have heard the bells of St Peters chiming one Friday morning recently. This was our Year Six 'Leavers' ringing out a peel to celebrate their transition from primary school to secondary - a thanks and a farewell to Crowcombe and Stogumber Primary Schools and a sign of the last day of term. Leavers' Service, as ever, was an emotionally charged event, written and led by our leavers and full of memories, celebration and songs. This year was especially poignant as we were also saying goodbye to Mrs Linda Locke, who has run our after school club, and Mrs. Maria Rose, our Year 1/2 teacher, deputy head and wonderful colleague, who is retiring after a career that began in London in the 1980s and culminated in sixteen years with Crowcombe and Stogumber. Maria has infused our schools and whole generations of children with her passion for language and stories and it has been fantastic reminiscing over tales of her classroom adventures (and mis-adventures!) through the years. Maria will be greatly missed and we wish her the best as she fulfils her dreams of voyage and discovery across Europe.

It's been a busy term for all of us, with concerts, sports events, 'Wow' days and exams punctuating our daily learning. The theme has been 'Human Invention' and we have followed avenues ranging from the creation and legacy of the Greek myths (Prometheus and fire, pan pipes, the lyre, medicine, sporting contests, democracy, modern language... the list goes on) to the construction and operation of miniature robotic vehicles. We held a Wow day for the whole school where the children worked in mixed age groups to invent life-sized junk robots, the tallest towers, strong bridges and working water courses. A second Wow day was based around an exploration of the designs in nature, with the children creating symmetrical butterflies, camouflage patterns of animals, digital art, and Fibonacci sequences. As always the children worked beautifully together; it's so rewarding and enriching for the mixed ages to support, challenge and inspire each other. Another high was our end of year concert at Crowcombe which included a thirty piece brass band, ten guitarists and some astounding singing. We also had a focus on 'Headsmart' a charity close to our hearts that supports children with brain tumours. Our pupils, along with learning about the symptoms, implications and treatment of brain tumours, made a whole range of tie-dyed, batiked and



Our Year One (5-6 year old), Year Two (6-7 year old) and Year Six (10-11 year old) children worked through their statutory government tests this term. We aim for the children to succeed in these tests, feeling as little stress as possible, but with our government shifting the criteria and content every year this is increasingly difficult. Council, police, medical, social services and school budgets have been cut so deeply that supporting our children becomes harder and harder every year. I'm astonished by the optimism and energy of the public servants that I come across in my job, from our community support officers to the staff in our pupil referral units. Our role is to nurture, strengthen and educate the children in as positive, safe, compassionate and responsible an environment as possible, and to an incredible extent we succeed. School staff certainly bear substantial stress, and there has been a marked increase in teachers leaving the profession since 2015.

One way in which we are very fortunate to be supported is in our pro-active PTA and interested village bodies. Our incredible parents and friends work so hard on our behalf, from running open gardens to bingo nights, and Christmas fairs to summer fetes.

A lot of tea has been stewed, cakes baked, tables carried, sponges thrown and faces painted, and it all adds up. Thank you. Thanks go too, to both Crowcombe and Stogumber's cricket clubs for their support this year, both financially and in the use of their grounds. Thank you to our PTA fundraisers for chasing charitable funds, such as the one from Wessex Water that paid for bird feeders that in turn have inspired some of our children to start up their own bird watching club. All this quiet hard work makes such a difference to our children's learning experiences and we can not thank our supporters enough. Our schools have grown again this year and our numbers now top one hundred, in four classes of vibrant and motivated children, with brilliant, collegiate, resourceful staff, a superb, a wise and decisive headteacher, and a compassionate and committed governing body. Despite the political climate our schools remain special treasures of the community; long may they remain so! We benefit so much from the support of locals, and of course this positive effect flows both ways. For example, coming in with a friend for half an hour a week to hear children read can be tremendously rewarding for both the child and the adult. We are so grateful for our regular readers - they are like gold dust! Our children may be fifty percent of the population, but they are one hundred percent of our future.

I apologise for waxing lyrical but this is my last contribution to the village newsletter and I feel that I should speak a little more from the heart than I normally would. Being the best classroom teacher I can and the best family man that I can have have proved incompatible and so I have chosen to change direction in life. I took the decision earlier this year to leave classroom teaching; I'm staying in the profession but in a way that works, I hope, for me and my family. I will remain with Crowcombe and Stogumber a day a week in a part time role, which I am overjoyed about. I'll also be working at other local schools, including Milverton, where my own children go, which will be quite a privilege!

This term the children have travelled as well. Both sites have run very successful forest schools, learning socially, emotionally, physically and academically outdoors. We had another brilliant Wow day on the Quantocks, with whortleberries, Exmoor Search and Rescue's GPS tracking system and whole school games of 'Manhunt' being particular high points. Also this term, Keystone One visited Exmoor Zoo, Year 3/4 survived two days in the wild at the wonderful Woodland Play Centre, and Year 5/6 explored Bristol for three days, based at the Quay YHA.

Both the conductor on the Bristol train and the guide at Exmoor Zoo said that our children were the best they had met this year. We are so proud that the pupils of our schools bring their manners and enthusiasm out into the world with them - these are qualities that will carry them far.

We have achieved well in sport, achieving the Gold Sports Mark for schools, a reflection of the range of inclusive sporting and leadership opportunities that the children engage in. Our rugby, handball, cross country, swimming and cricket teams did well this year and our cyclists came home from the county finals in an incredible second place. All of our older children have the opportunity to lead PE activities and some even choose to run weekly lunchtime clubs for the whole year; it's a big commitment but as well as the reward of experience and satisfaction they also benefit from training days in Taunton and access to the leadership pathway at secondary school. These 'Young Leaders' regularly inspire and entertain almost half of Crowcombe school at their weekly 'Fun Club'. Good for them!

So, long may the summer last, and in September we will be joined by our new members of staff, Mrs Anna Daley with Years 1 & 2, and Miss Louise Tyrell with Years 3 & 4. We wish them tremendous luck and a long and happy career with us.

Josh Wedderkopp

I was so surprised when I first met Josh, this bearded man so unlike my image of what he would look like appeared, and so his articles lived up to surprisingly good reading every time. I am sure there are many of the children, parents and staff, and all associated with the Crowcombe and Stogumber Schools who wish Josh every success for his future. I am sure they will welcome him back when he makes his appearances although it will only be on a weekly basis.

He has supplied this magazine with excellent reports of the success of the children and their unique insights into the environment around us, and included their writings. They have been a revelation and he must have been an inspiration to those he taught. Long may he continue even though on a part-time basis. His article this month tells his feelings for leaving. I hope, Josh, that you will still be able to send in reports as usual, I shall send out reminders to you, I know I enjoy reading them and I am sure the readers of CAW do also, and find all the work from the children have a beauty of their own.

So thank you to you and all the teachers and young children carry on and well done.

MAI Ed

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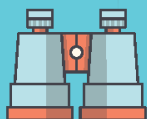


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Week 1: Earth Week

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8 years+

Wednesday 2nd August
10.00am - 4.00pm
8 years+



£22 per person
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otherwise
stated)

Early Bird from
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Week 2: Fire Week

Monday 7th August
10.00am - 4.00pm
8 years+

Tuesday 8th August
10.00am - 4.00pm
8 years+

Week 3: Air Week

Thursday 17th August
10.00am - 4.00pm
8 years+

Friday 18th August
10.00am - 4.00pm
8 years+

Night Owl until
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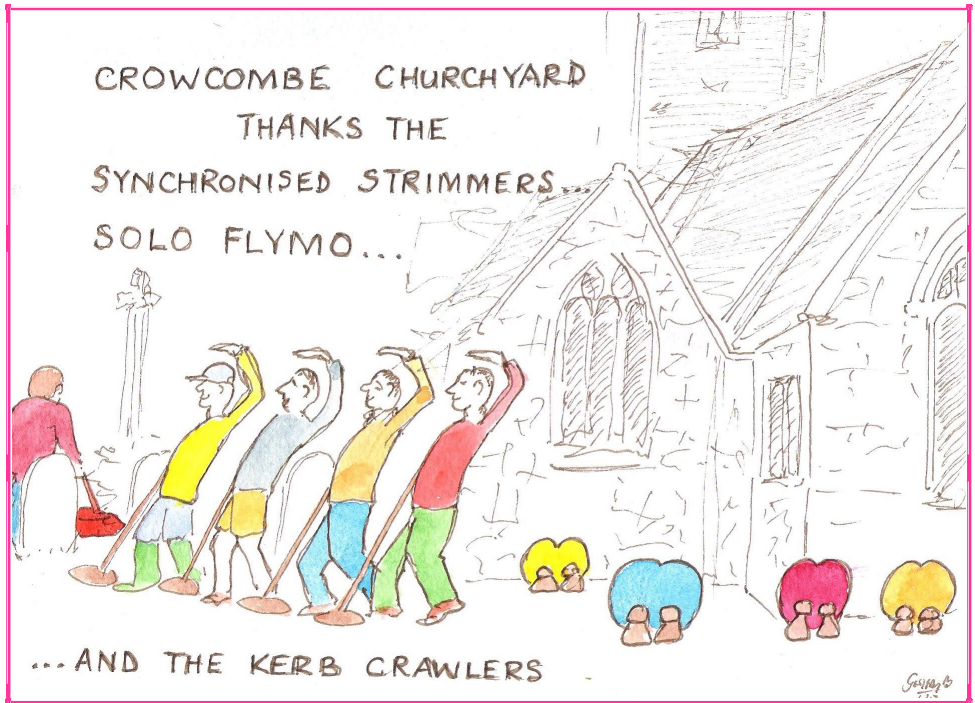
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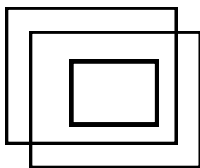
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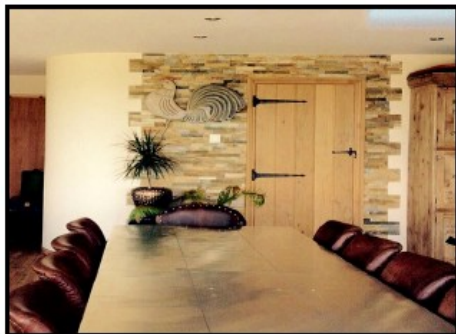
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Terry James

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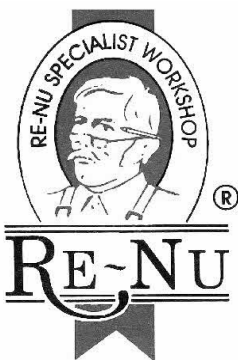
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