

CONTACTS

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CAREW RANGERS FOOTBALL		01984 618281
CHURCH FLOWERS		01984 618654
CHURCH HOUSE BOOKINGS		01984 618717
CHURCH SECRETARY		01984 618715
CONSERVATIVES - WEST QUANTOCKS BRANCH		01984 618752
CROWCOMBE BABY & TODDLER GROUP		01984 618350
	katyemmadavis@googlemail.com	
CROWCOMBE BELLRINGERS		01984 618715
CROWCOMBE BOOK CLUB		01984 618287
CROWCOWCOMBE CRICKET CLUB		01984 618670
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CROWCOMBE PLAYERS		01984 618624
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MAGAZINE EDITOR		01984 631793
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH: VILLAGE HALL END		01984 618333
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH: MIDDLE		01984 618380
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH: SCHOOL END		01984 618738
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH—CROWCOMBE HEATHFIELD		01984 618215
PARISH COUNCIL CLERK	Claire Morrison-Jones	01823 601495
POST OFFICE		01984 618471
RURAL DEAN	revjonrose@gmail.com	01984 618715
SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING		01984 618654
SHORT MAT BOWLS		01984 618444
SOUP KITCHEN		01984 618289
TENNIS CLUB	01984 618727/01984 618738	
VILLAGE SHOP		01984 618452
WI		01984 618287
WOODLAND PLAY CENTRE		07775941353
	info@woodlandplaycentre.com / www.woodlandplaycentre.com	
YOGA	beccyjh@yahoo.co.uk	01984 618237

CAW

Crowcombe

Village Magazine



APRIL—MAY 2016

Although I have moved a short distance away I will continue to edit your village magazine so I hope you will continue to read and enjoy your local information and news magazine.

What a busy, busy time this has been for what with moving house and trying to get sorted out. Now I will be enjoying having the garden prepared for summer, and you may see me at Buttercross sometimes, but the weather is not playing nice. One day lovely with sun and being able to take off jumpers but then frosty, cold and grey, rain and strong wind, and then I remember that it is still March now. I hope you all had a Happy Easter and are enjoying the Easter break.

All around us people are busy in gardens and spring cleaning, some birds have nested and fledglings will be appearing soon, spring flowers in all their colours have all appeared trees coming into leaf and plants sprouting everywhere. Spring is here. Summer is coming, tennis and cricket as well the sun to look forward to. In May there are decisions to be made we have the Police Commissioner elections and then the European referendum choice decision in June

There is good news regarding happenings at Church House—**see inside**—and there is much information inside for you to read, including the re-appearance of news from Crowcombe and Stogumber Schools—thank you Josh.

MAI.

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

I have moved to I The Almshouses, Woolston, near Bicknoller but continuing as Editor. Please email or post items or call me and I can arrange the pick up of items if necessary.

I am happy to include one off adverts.

JUNE - JULY copy by the 16TH MAY

Errors and omissions accepted by Editor





CROWCOMBE CHURCH SERVICES

April and May 2016

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

April 2016

Sun 3 rd	11.00am	Family Service
Mon 4 th	10.30am	Weekday Communion Service
Sun 10 th	10.30am	CW Benefice Communion at Stogumber
Sun 17 th	8.00am	BCP Communion
Sun 24 th	6.00pm	BCP Evening Prayer

May 2016

Sun 1 st	9.30am	CW Communion
Mon 2 nd	10.30am	Weekday Communion Service
Sun 8 th	10.30am	CW Benefice Communion at Bicknoller
Sun 15 th	8.00am	BCP Communion
Sun 22 nd	6.00pm	BCP Evening Prayer
Sun 29 th	10.30am	CW Benefice Communion

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

Crowcombe Church will hold a thanksgiving service at 10.30am on Sunday 12th June to mark the Queen's 90th year and there will be refreshments to follow. Crowcombe parish villagers are most welcome to come along and celebrate and say their thank you.

Continued.../

Hinkley Point "C" : the ongoing saga, at the beginning of the year I was 98% confident that this would proceed now I am only 45% certain. The resignation of the finance director of EDF, the drop in EDF's share price so that now the company is worth less than it will cost to build Hinkley Point "C", the continued procrastination on making the Final Investment Decision and the application to the French government by EDF for £2 billion of funding has led to my drop in confidence. I only know what I have read in the newspapers but it appears that the figures do not stack up and if the project proceeds it will be a triumph of political will over economics. I hope I am wrong as many local small businesses have invested time and money in gaining contracts for the construction period.

A rather gloomy report I am afraid. As usual please do not hesitate to contact me if you think I can help in any way.

Anthony Trollope-Bellew

Councillor for Crowcombe and Stogumber Ward, West Somerset Council,
Hurley Farm, Crowcombe TA4 4AJ

email ; atrollope-bellew@westsomerset.gov.uk

Crowcombe Flower Show - 28 August 2016

Sites for trade/ market stall at £5.00 per pitch are available for either individuals or groups living/ functioning in the parish of Crowcombe.

For further details please contact Pat Chittenden (618249) or

kevinchit@hotmail.co.uk



Report from Anthony Trollope-Bellew on West Somerset Council.

WSC's budget: a balanced budget has been achieved and was passed at full Council at the end of February. This was quite an achievement as £600,000 was needed to be saved from a budget of just over £4 million. Unfortunately we have had to cut grants we give to local voluntary bodies. But we are funding an investigation of a scheme to set up a local lottery or something similar to fund local organisations. Also the grant to the Quantock Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty had to be cut as well. Nobody wanted to carry out these savings but it was necessary to protect frontline services. Hopefully you will not notice any difference in services.

When we had finalised the budget but it had not gone to full Council government suddenly produced an extra £170,000 for this coming year and £70,000 in 2017/18. When funding for local authorities was originally brought forward for next year the rural areas, which are already underfunded compared to the urban ones, were hit harder. Fortunately the MPs from the Rural Fairer Funding Group made it clear to government that they would not support this further unfairness. So more money was found through the Rural Services Delivery Grant. I was delighted when I was given this news but the delight was short lived as within a couple of days I was warned that a probable appeal by the hospitals to change their business rates status would lead to WSC having to re-fund £320,000. So it was only provident to allocate the extra £240,000 to a reserve to fund this probable repayment.

The future of West Somerset Council is in grave doubt. We think we can set a balanced budget for 2017/18 but the predictions for April 2018 looks almost impossible. I led a delegation to see the Minister for local government in January to try and get funding to replace what we had lost from the re-rating of Hinkley Point "B". Unfortunately we were told that no funding was available and that we should merge with another authority. Following that officers are now working on business cases for West Somerset remaining independent or whether there is no alternative to merger. I will do all I can to save West Somerset as a sovereign and independent council as I believe the people of West Somerset are best served by their own council at Williton rather than one based in Taunton or Bridgwater. I accept that the chances of success are less than 50-50. I will keep you informed.

THE QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY



Calling all parents and grandparents! The shop has laid in a special stock of Crowcombe celebratory mugs, which your children and grandchildren will enjoy. I expect we can remember receiving coronation, jubilee and no doubt other celebratory mugs; now is the time to do the same for your children. We have a limited stock of 100, so it will be first come first served.

The Queen's Birthday Beacon



Hurley Beacon will be lit at 7.30 pm on 21st April to celebrate Her Majesty's birthday.

Come and join the celebrations. Bar and burger van provided.

Weather : rain will not stop it but a dry spell or high wind may.

If in doubt ring 618254 on the day.

The invitation is extended to the parish but if you have friends outside the parish who wish to attend they are welcome.

WI NEWS

It is hard to imagine the now abandoned Hoar Oak Cottage, tucked away in a beautiful Exmoor valley and home to shepherd families for hundreds of years. In February, Betty Baldwin gave us a most interesting talk entitled 'Searching for the Hoar Oak Families'. Abandoned in 1950 until conserved as a heritage site in 2014, it lies well away from roads and other buildings and offers a rare chance to imagine what a remote life on Exmoor might have been in days gone by.

It was in the early 1800s that John Knight, a wealthy entrepreneur from the Midlands purchased the Royal Forest of Exmoor and set about an agricultural experiment. The Knights were great fans of hardy Scottish stock and purchased Scottish sheep, sheep dogs and cattle to populate this wild yet luscious area. For centuries Hoar Oak Cottage was home to shepherd families together with dogs, chickens, cattle etc. Far from civilization they were almost self-supporting, and, as it says in a poem read to us by Betty, Hoar Oak had;

'three bedrooms, a privy, a kitchen range,
no water laid on but a tap nearby,
(that was the place where it never ran dry)
whilst shepherding, living as one with their flock.'

A family would live there until the shepherd died and then, (there being no welfare state), the family disappeared and a new shepherd and family appeared. Most of what we know of the inhabitants of Hoar Oak Cottage is through the many descendants of the Shepherds who lived there throughout the years: the Vellacotts, the Hobbs, the Littles, the Antells and Sarah and James Maxwell-Johnstone all lived there over the years. Betty herself was descended from the Maxwell-Johnstones who had thirteen children, ten of whom were born at Hoar Oak Cottage

In March we had a Crochet Workshop with Debbie Wilcox. Debbie arrived with armfuls of her own work to show us and (her words not mine) described herself as a Happy Hooker. With great patience she proceeded to teach us crochet. Some of us got it, some of us didn't! Never mind it was fun trying and will be useful to teach the grandchildren.

Dates For your Diary

April 13 W.I. Meeting. 7.30 Crowcombe Church House.
Talk by Helmi Wolff. A child in Holland during Nazi Occupation.
Do come and bring visitors £4.00 a head.

April 21 Soup Kitchen 12.30 Crowcombe Church House.

*Please Note That the W.I. are looking for **NEW MEMBERS.**

P.H.W.

Continued../

event! In the Rotary Club Swimathon we fielded two teams and racked up over 120 lengths between us in just 40 minutes. Finally, our rugby squad, coached by Robin Boulton and Ben White and managed by Jo Hobbs, won Silver in the Tone Sports Partnership Central Venue League tournament. This was a Year Six tournament and yet our plucky players ranged from Year 2 up to Year 6!

Yet again we lived up to our motto - We may be small, but we stand tall!

As ever, so much of what we are able to offer our pupils comes from working closely with our parents and our community. Nick Nation, Stuart Ford and Anthony Trollope Bellew have gladly allowed us to use their land for learning and plans are afoot for us to give something back to our villages early next term...! The staff in school work tremendously hard to provide the very best education they can to the pupils, infusing the learning with challenge, energy and relevance, and we are ever grateful for the support of enthusiastic and knowledgeable parents.

Speaking of which, we must thank the PTA members who have poured their energies into supporting our little village schools through fairs and book sales to National Lottery funding bids (to name just one). A huge amount of money has been raised, thanks to their huge efforts, and hopefully soon both sites will have brand new adventure play structures gracing the school fields!

The children of Crowcombe and Stogumber Primary School are the focus of all of this creative energy and dedication, and they do us proud! To have parents and staff from other schools approach to exclaim how enthusiastic and well mannered our children are and to have event organisers thank us for making their day run so well, says so much about them. Our pupils collaborate and care for each other, work hard to learn and have fun, and really are a pleasure to teach. They're the heart of the school, and they're in every part of it, from the foundations to each beam and joist!

Nb. For more information, photos and details, do explore our school website at: Crowcombeandstogumberprimaryschools.co.uk

Josh Wedderkopp

After Easter the children of Crowcombe School will be conducting a local study, focussed on the changing use of the land alongside the stream that runs off the Quantocks and through the village.

If you have photos, documents or stories linked to the people, animals or crops upon the land we would very much appreciate hearing from you.

Linked to this topic, we are planning to design and make a "local feast", using food produced nearby. We want to understand how land use and production methods have changed over time. If you or someone you know would be willing to share your experiences you would help us immensely.

Finally, would you be willing to share some of your produce with us, to help us create our "local feast"?

Please contact the Mr Wedderkopp or Mr MacIntyre, at the school, if you would can help (phone 01984 618273 or email jwedderkopp1@educ.somerset.gov.uk)
Thank you

Crowcombe and Stogumber Federated Primary Schools Spring Term Summary

Our theme this term has been "Structure", and on the calendar it looked to be pretty brief. Well, it's certainly been crammed! Within class, just some of the ways that we have approached the topic have been by painting murals of 3D shape onto the walls, studying the features and functions of the parts of a plant, modelling volcanoes, sculpting from clay and cardboard, and writing novellas in chapters! Two contrasting aspects of structure also appear in the brilliant weekly yoga sessions delivered by Penny Phillips, and in the (now nozzle-jammed!) 3D printer, which the staff will hopefully have figured out by next term!

Chinese New Year, World Book Day and Sports Relief played their part in the term, with the children learning dragon and parasol dances, calligraphy, haikus and construction skills. Our Sports Relief WOW day was a great success, with all of our pupils working together at Crowcombe to design, build, decorate and test drive life sized go-karts made from recycled materials. Each of the ten vehicles performed brilliantly, carrying drivers aged 4 to 11 safely through the test tracks. Thanks to Chris Locke and Eric Russell our pit crew, for their awesome mechanical support! The go-kart day was a superb conclusion to a series of Design & Technology tasks that our pupils have taken on this term, from miniature buggy making to Roman chariot construction and even a workshop day spent building huge gliders under the guidance of a real aerospace engineer, Elliot Talbott (Lucius and Sophia' dad) from Facebook's aviation wing! Structure was also the theme of our other WOW day, a whole school adventure on the Quantock ridge. In mixed age groups, the children took on challenges ranging from abseiling mountain rescue scenarios (with a real Exmoor Mountain Rescue team), egg-xtreme catapulting, fairy house construction, tower building and wind and stone sculpting! In the afternoon the children split into infants and juniors to take on a treasure hunt and an orienteering challenge.

Our Code club members, aided by James Russell, have begun designing their robots and are busy experimenting with their arduino chips to help their frankenbot make its first faltering movements. Our young journalists have put together yet another brilliant newsletter, with the support of Laura Hogevoold, who is also working with a group of our talented year sixes. Louise Ford, Ellie Furner (our brilliant student teacher) and Penny Phillips have brought gardening club back to life and fresh shoots are now bursting out at Crowcombe! Our choir goes from strength to strength and is at such capacity that Helen Napper has formed a 'youth section' to train hopefuls in the wings! Some of our more proactive and caring children have set up lunchtime maths and Lego clubs to support younger children.

It has been a brilliant term for sport. Parents, governors and staff have shared the mantle of responsibility for overseeing our squads and this has enabled us to attend more competitions. Our cross country squad ranked 4th out of 24 teams in the individual races, our new netball team, coached by Heulwen Stevenson, have gone from a standing start and zero wins in their first tournament to a 50% win rate in their last

An invitation from Sue Billinge

To my horror I find that in May I shall be 80, where have the years gone? To help me survive this trauma I would love all my friends to come to **Church House on Sunday 22nd May** any time between **noon to 4.30** to have a drink and a nibble with me. Please just bring yourselves, no presents.
No need to RSVP just drift in and out to suit yourselves.



PLANT SALES BY FLAXPOOL NURSERY

**Saturday April 9, 23rd,
May 7, 14, 21st
June 4th**

**In the Quantock Room
Crowcombe Village Hall
9.30 - 11.30**

**Shrubs, Perennials,
Trees, Alpines**

**Enquiries Julia & Ian Woollard
on 01984 618396
email: woollard304@btinternet.com
Free Tea & Coffee**

Crowcombe Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday 3rd March 2016 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.

Councillor co-option: Mr Jim Laver was co-opted to the Parish Council bringing the Parish Council back up to its full compliment of 7 councillors.

Police Matters : a report was submitted by PCSO Bolton:

Remember that this is the time of year when there are break ins on outbuildings / sheds -be aware!

Recorded crime statistics for the whole beat area (Minehead, Williton and Wellington) 2015 v 2016:

408 total recorded crimes, just under 10% down year on year

ASB	190 = 42% down on last year
CRIME	253 = 20% down on last year
GENERAL	569 = 145 down on last year
PUBLIC SAFETY etc	831 = 13% down on last year
TRANSPORTATION	386 = 16% down on last year

County Councillor's Report : Cllr Christine Lawrence distributed a press release from Somerset CC outlining an ambitious vision for the county that included, amongst other things, the desire to create a Somerset University and a garden town. Work is also under way exploring devolution which, even if full devolution does not occur, has resulted in cooperation between authorities and triggering ways to work together and save money.

A budget of £75 million has been agreed for investment in roads (with a large proportion towards the A358 / A303 improvements), schools and economic development and news was received last week of an additional £2.9million from central government which will be invested in key frontline services, highways and to replenish reserves.

Finances to Date : The clerk reported that the bank balance total held by the council as of 29/1/16 to be £14,698.11 consisting of £8792.24 in the current account, £3223.48 in the deposit account and £2682.39 in the amenities account.

Parish Path Liaison Officer: Following Mr and Mrs Wilson retiring from the role, Sarah Evelyn has agreed to take over as Parish Path Liaison Officer for Crowcombe. Thanks were given to Mr and Mrs Wilson for the time and effort they have put into this over the past six years.



Open Gardens Somerset 2016

Fairfield House – Stogursey TA5 1PU Sunday 8th May 2pm to 5pm

Weacombe House - West Quantoxhead TA4 4EB Sunday 15th May 2pm to 5pm

Hillcrest - Stoke St Gregory TA3 6JA Sunday 29th May 2pm to 5pm

Aller Farmhouse – Williton TA4 4LY Sunday 5th June 2pm to 5pm

Lydeard House – Bishops Lydeard TA4 3AU Sunday 19th June 2pm to 5pm

Court House – East Quantoxhead TA5 1EJ Sunday 26th June 2pm to 5pm

Yarlington House – Wincanton BA9 8DY Sunday 10th July 2.30pm to 5.30pm

redcross.org.uk

The British Red Cross Society, incorporated by Royal Charter 1908, is a charity registered in England and Wales (220949) and Scotland (SC037738). Information correct at date of print.

Refusing to ignore people in crisis



Crowcombe Tennis Club

Summer Term Junior Coaching

Starts Monday 11th April 2015

Years 2-4 4.00 – 4.40pm,

Years 5-6 4.45 – 5.45pm

For further details please contact Michele Hewitt, LTA Club Coach
advantage.tennis@btinternet.com
01823 433348/07909 703371

If you are interested in joining The Tennis Club please contact the secretary: Billie Trimble 01984 618727 wanderswimmer@aol.com
Or Mariele Smith (Chairman) 01984 618738
mariele.smith@btinternet.com

Very competitive adult/junior membership subscription.
Private coaching for adults and juniors available from Michele



Free club sweatshirt for
all juniors signing up for
summer coaching!



Continued /

Queen's Birthday Celebrations, 11 / 12th June : Councillors agreed that the Parish Council wishes to support and promote a celebratory party. A notice is to be placed in the Post Office and other village organisations are to be contacted to attempt generate offers of help.

Annual Parish Assembly : The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Thursday 19th May at Church House, commencing at 7.30pm. Reports from local groups and organisations will be read out – please do come.

Annual Parish Council Meeting : The next Parish Council meeting will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting, held on Thursday 5th May 2016 in the Quantock Room at the Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm and the agenda will be available prior to the

HOW GREEN IS MY EU ?

Or - What has the EU ever done for our environment?

**The Choice: To Stay or Go –
What's best for our Environment?**

Quantock Eco will host a Debate on the Environmental consequences of Brexit after our AGM
on **Friday 29th April** at Crowcombe Church House. Start at 7pm

On June 23rd we will be asked to vote on whether or not the UK should remain a member of the European Union. This is probably one of the most important decisions we will be asked to make in our lifetimes. There is already so much propaganda out there from the Stay In and Get Out camps that it is hard to find unbiased information to inform our decision.

The purpose of our debate will be to inform you about both the positive and negative influences that EU Membership has on our Environment to help you make up your minds on this aspect of the IN-OUT debate. We plan to have 2 or 3 informed speakers to lead the discussion. Further details to follow.

ALL ARE WELCOME to join us at 8p.m. after the AGM business is finished