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	info@woodlandplaycentre.com / www.woodlandplaycentre.com	
YOGA	beccyjh@yahoo.co.uk	01984 618237

# CAW

## Crowcombe

### Village Magazine



**FEBRUARY—MARCH 2016**

Good to see you all again. 2016 is well under way now and the New Year brings changes to our life for many of us. Friends and loved ones pass away, others move on to pastures new and new people arrive to contribute something different to our lives. I will sadly be leaving the village before the next issue but CAW will still continue, just moving a few miles away and will change my address and phone no then.

But the season is not like the usual winter, sometimes cold with so far just a couple of freezing cold mornings, but the days seem to be an endless period of rain and grey damp days with mud up to armpits, slipping around when taking our dogs for walks. However because of the unseasonal weather daffodils and other early spring flowers are showing their blooms, shrubs budding and birds nesting early. Although we do need some hard cold frosts this will cause damage to buds and any nesting birds. The unseasonal weather also effects some peoples livelihoods' with little demand for wood and coal for fires a difficult time for some.

This issue of CAW also tells those of use who did not know that there will be no panto performance this year, how sad, but I am sure we will have a healthy anticipation for a good show next year when **New talent** will be needed, more in later editions, see page 3



Please email any contributions to  
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**APRIL—MAY MAGAZINE DATE 16TH MARCH**



## CROWCOMBE CHURCH SERVICES

**February—March 2016**

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

### February 2016

Mon 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Communion
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Family Service
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	CW Benefice Service at Nettlecombe Church
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>	8.00am	BCP Communion
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Morning Prayer

*There will be an afternoon Lent study group in Crowcombe. For further details please ring Rita Butterworth on 01984-618388.*


### March 2016

Mon 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Communion
Sun 6 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Mothering Sunday Service
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	CW Benefice Communion at Sampford Brett Church
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Palm Sunday BCP Communion
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Easter CW 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



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### Crowcombe Players

The Crowcombe Players are not performing a panto or review this year, but do not worry we are not giving up.

Some of our players have circumstances by which they feel a break for a year is necessary

Be assured that in 2017 we will be back.

We will be seeking new talent, so keep a look out for information about this then we can look forward to another wonderful time of amusing and enjoyable entertainment.



And so say all of us.

#78848929



Date for your diary : Thursday 21st April is HM The Queen's birthday. Beacons are being lit throughout the country and it is hoped to light Hurley Beacon with a bar and burgers.

More details in the next edition of CAW.



## NEWS

**DECEMBER:** A Very Happy New Year to You All From the W.I.

We finished off the old year with our usual party upstairs in the beautiful gallery at the Church House. We all came suitably clad in our glad rags, laden with a plate of food to share, a present for Santa's Sack and another for the Women's Refuge and a very good punch made by members of the committee. Unfortunately our speaker, who was to teach us how to make pot-pouri, was taken ill but we were very fortunate in finding an excellent replacement in Brian Wright who talked to us about the changing ways of Christmas.

Its origins were quite heathen, celebrating not the coming of the Christ but the birth of the sun. King Alfred came up with the idea of the Twelve Days of Christmas. There was so much feasting and drunkenness that in the 17 Century the Puritans banned Christmas altogether! Charles Dickens did much to revive Christmas in his writing of Pickwick Papers and a Christmas Carol which was published on Christmas day. Father Christmas represented the season of Christmas with its jollity, goodwill and the spirit of giving. Santa Claus appeared in England in 1879 and somehow the two became synonymous.

Throughout the centuries Christmas has been evolving with the arrival of the Christmas tree, brought to England in 1841 by Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert. Pretty candles or lights were put on the tree which I like to think commemorates 'The Light of the World' There was always much feasting and drinking and the playing of games. There was a big change in the Sixties with the advent of television but it is still considered a family time and a time for giving and receiving. Let's hope it doesn't get too commercialized and we remind ourselves what Christmas is really about.

Our **JANUARY** meeting was entitled 'Film Night' and many congratulations to 'Tricia on her choice of film 'Belle' starring Mpapha-Raw. Dido Elizabeth Belle was the child of Maria Belle an enslaved black woman and Sir John Livesey, a British Naval Captain. He was later knighted and promoted to Admiral. Lyndsey took Belle with him when he returned to England in 1765 entrusting her upbringing to his Uncle, William Murray the Earl of Mansfield and his wife. The Murrays educated Belle, bringing her up as a gentle-woman, together with their niece, Lady Elizabeth Murray whose Mother had also died. In his will of 1793 Lord Mansfield confirmed her freedom and provided an outright sum of money and an annuity for her, making her an heiress. It is interesting that in those years William Murray, her great-uncle, in his capacity as Lord Chief Justice,

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[www.westsomersetadvice.org.uk](http://www.westsomersetadvice.org.uk)

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Wednesday 10am - 1pm (closed first Wednesday of the month)

Telephone Advice Service: same as opening hours above.

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### Continued...

ruled in two significant slavery cases, one of which he narrowly ruled against the owners of the ship, who he deemed not due insurance payments as the slaves were chained together and dumped overboard during the voyage when the ship ran short of water and that, against popular opinion, the officers were at fault. This is thought by many to be the beginning of the Human Rights Movement. Because of her beauty, accomplishments and intelligence, the younger son of an aristocratic family fell in love with her and they got engaged to the obvious enagement of the elder brother who hated the blacks and was not going to accept the betrothal at any price. Eventually it was annulled. Meanwhile the younger son of a clergyman had also fallen in love with her. He was interested in the Human Rights Movement and was much more up her street. Eventually they married, had two boys and as far as I know lived happily ever after. Oh I do love a happy ending don't you?

### Dates For your Diary

**Soup Kitchen 12.30 Church House.** Please Mark your diary.

Could you please remind people to mark in their diary too?

N.B. We still need helpers and cakes and soups. If you could spare the time please let me know .(Pippa 618343 or [barry@barrywatkin.co.uk](mailto:barry@barrywatkin.co.uk). Thank you very much.

\*Please Note That the W.I. are looking for **NEW MEMBERS**. If you or anyone you know would like to take a look at us please come along as our guest on Feb.10 at 7.30p.m. Our speaker will be Bette Baldwyn who is giving us a talk with slides entitled 'Searching for the Hoar Oak Families'. If you are interested please contact 'Trish on 618 212. Looking forward to hearing from you.

**P.H.W.**

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## Crowcombe Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 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.

**County Councillor's Report :** Cllr Christine Lawrence, chair of SCC, opened by thanking Crowcombe for the use of the Church for the Chairman's Civic service in November and passed on her appreciation to the Church with all their help, together with a donation to the PPC for £250.

Christine reported on the consultation process on accessible patient transport. There is currently help with transport is available for up to three months after treatment has ceased but moves to reduce funding are being seriously considered. She left some leaflets for placement in the village shop to highlight the issues to the village.

**District Councillor's Report :** Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew reported that West Somerset District Council's budget is now balanced for 2016/17 but by the 2018/19 financial year major cuts will be needed.

Anthony informed the meeting that as of the April 2017, West Somerset District Council will not be running public toilets. However it is hoped that most parishes and towns that currently have the facilities will take over their maintenance and upkeep. However more and more facilities will cease to be maintained by the District Council and parishes will have to step in to continue their upkeep. Particular warning was given to the parish of Crowcombe regarding the car park behind Church House and the potential for future resurfacing requirements.

**Councillor Co-option :** Unfortunately the parish Council was unable to co-opt a new member in time for the January meeting so was still below its full compliment of 7 members. However it is hoped to have a new member take office at the March meeting.

**Stogumber Neighbourhood Plan Consultation :** The Chairman provided the background to the Stogumber Neighbourhood Plan. It was noted that Stogumber was the only parish in West Somerset to have currently drawn up a plan. The clerk was requested to write to Stogumber in support of the plan and congratulating them on their progress in the development of their Neighbourhood Plan. Crowcombe will watch their progress with interest.

**Finances to Date :** Balances as of 30/12/15 were, after adjustment to allow for un-presented cheques Current a/c £11,683.10, Deposit a/c £3223.21, Amenities a/c £2682.20. Total available balance £17,588.51

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**Highways** : Several issues were raised involving highways, mainly regarding gullies and drains not working to their full potential during this exceptionally wet weather. These issues will be pursued with SCC Highways department.

**Bus Shelter** : Hopefully by now you will have all seen, and maybe used, the new bus shelter at the crossroads, replacing the one destroyed in a road traffic incident in the spring. Although having taken some time to finally get a replacement, it is now ready to shelter villagers from the worst of the winter weather.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 at Church House, commencing at 7.30pm and the agenda will be available (online and on the parish notice board) approximately one week prior to the meeting.



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## Report from Anthony Trollope-Bellew on West Somerset Council. Happy New Year

The main item for discussion at the moment is the budget for 2016/17. This is going to Cabinet on 3rd February and then on for approval at Full Council on 24th February. We are able to set a balanced budget for 16/17 and the outlook for 17/18 looks manageable. The problem is going to be the budget for 18/19. The cause of this is twofold, firstly, as I have told you before, the reduction in income from Hinkley Point "B" and the "repaying" to government of £1.66 million that we never received. Secondly the underfunding of rural authorities, on average rural councils receive over £100 per head of population in government funding less than urban ones. This gap was small in 1997 but the last Labour government shovelled money into its heart lands. I had hoped that a Conservative government freed from the encumbrance of the Liberal Democrats would correct this injustice. However the latest settlement rather than addressing this problem has made it worse. I know a group of rural MPs under the banner of the "Rural Fairer Funding Group" is up in arms about it. We will have to wait and see whether they manage to obtain a correction.

In the long term the Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) will be set up as a separate precepting authority similar to the police and fire service. In the meantime government has decided there will be a shadow precept included in the county and district council tax. This means that over and above any other increase the district council tax will rise by £1.76 per annum for a band D property less for lower bands. I cannot tell you what the increase will be in the county council tax. Due to the hard work of various individuals and the West Somerset Flood Board we have received more funding than could have been expected from the SRA. Everybody at WSC will work to make sure that West Somerset receives a fair return for money put in to the SRA. I have always been against increases in council tax but in this case there is no other alternative.

We still await the Final Investment Decision on Hinkley Point "C". But I would be very surprised if at this stage it does not progress.

West Somerset Council runs employment hubs every week between 9:30am and 12.30pm on Tuesdays at The River, West Somerset Children Centre, Williton and on Thursdays at The Sanctuary, Watchet. If you are looking for a job I am told that these are very worthwhile.

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*"A family run event for the family"*

The poster features a central illustration of a stylized house with a roof made of branches. Inside the house, three camels are walking. Above the house, the text 'WOODLAND PLAY CENTRE' is written. Below the house, the event title 'WONDERFULLY WILD WINTER WOODLAND' is prominently displayed. The poster also includes a list of activities, show times, ticket prices, and booking information. Decorative elements include a Star of David on the left and a series of circular icons on the right representing various woodland themes.





## **Classes for YOU on Mondays @ The Crowcombe Hall**

### **2.15pm—3.15pm Stretch and Strengthen (Starting 2nd November).**

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### **4.00pm—4.45pm Primary Ballet**

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### **4.45pm—5.30pm Grade 1 Ballet**

From age 7 upwards this class will be more focussed and we use the barre for the first time. We will improve classical ballet technique, develop French vocabulary, musicality, discipline, core strength, flexibility, self expression and confidence.

### **5.30pm—6.15pm Junior Street Dance**

For ages six to ten, this class teaches authentic street dance foundation steps and groove for popping, locking, breaking, hip hop and house. Children will learn technique and routines but also the social element of hip hop culture, how to feel the music and freestyle using the vocabulary of moves taught, plus their own creativity.

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### **Continued.../**

Reminder that the Quantock Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Joint Advisory Committee is meeting at Halsway Manor at 2.15pm on Tuesday 26th April. This meeting is open to the public and there is the chance to ask questions.

As usual please do not hesitate to contact me if you have a problem with which you think I may be able to help. If I cannot I normally know someone who can help.

Anthony Trollope-Bellew  
Councillor for Crowcombe and Stogumber Ward, West Somerset Council,  
Hurley Farm, Crowcombe TA4 4AJ  
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## Crowcombe Cinema at Crowcombe Hall In conjunction with Moviola Films for the Spring



### Friday 12th February Theeb (15)

In the Ottoman province of Hijaz during World War I, a young Bedouin boy experiences a greatly hastened coming of age as he embarks on a perilous desert journey to guide a British officer to his secret destination **Tickets £5**

### Sunday 28th February Spectre (12A)

A cryptic message from Bond's past sends him on a trail to uncover a sinister organization. While M battles political forces to keep the secret service alive, Bond peels back the layers of deceit to reveal the terrible truth behind SPECTRE. **Tickets £6**

### Sunday 20th March The Martian (12A)

During a manned mission to Mars, Astronaut Mark Watney is presumed dead after a fierce storm and left behind by his crew. But Watney has survived and finds himself stranded and alone on the hostile planet. With only meagre supplies, he must draw upon his ingenuity, wit and spirit to subsist and find a way to signal to Earth that he is alive. **Tickets £5**

### Sunday 3rd April Lady in the Van (12A)

Alan Bennett forms an unexpected bond with a transient woman living in her car that's parked in his driveway. **Tickets £6**

### Friday 15th April Brooklyn (12A)

An Irish immigrant lands in 1950s Brooklyn, where she quickly falls into a romance with a local. When her past catches up with her, however, she must choose between two countries and the lives that exist within. **Tickets £5**

### Sunday 1st May The Dressmaker (12A)

A glamorous woman returns to her small town in rural Australia. With her sewing machine and haute couture style, she transforms the women and exacts sweet revenge on those who did her wrong. **Tickets £6**

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March 6<sup>th</sup>!



Our Easter Sunday continues to be popular  
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January 2016

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Monday 15th

Tuesday 16th

Wednesday 17th

Thursday 18th - plus a **FAMILY DAY** for under 8's 10am - 12noon

Friday 18th

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*Playful Wishes*

*Louise & the Woodland Team*

### WOODLAND BIRTHDAY PARTIES

There are lots of options for a wild [Woodland Birthday Party](#), whether you are 3, 13, 30 or older!

As well as our popular parties, we are also working with other individuals and organisations to bring you the "best ever party".

Perhaps a story walk party full of wickedly wild tales, an adrenalin fuelled party charging through the woods shooting your friends (with paint!) or even hire the woods for a weekend celebration (40th's and weddings come to mind)!

We have a range of local organisations that can cater for all events, so we can help arrange a package to suit your needs and requirements.

### TREETOTS - WOODLAND TODDLER GROUP

Our popular [toddler group](#) in the woods runs during the term time. Toddlers bring a parent or two, grandparent, aunt or uncle for adventures exploring the woods. The highlight is ending with a hot chocolate around the campfire!

**Thursday - 10.30 - 11.30am**

**Friday - 10.00 - 11.00am**

Treetots is booked in half termly blocks, lengths of which can vary each term.

### ASPLATMASTER PAINTBALL

Check out our NEW activity in the woods for 2016. [Splatmaster Paintballing](#) is a low impact version, so ideal for young people aged 8years and over.

It is even ideal for a group of families, friends or hen party that fancy some fun without it hurting too much!

We can arrange a session for you or your group - perhaps try mixing it with other activities we can offer in the woods too.

### SCHOOL AND GROUP BOOKINGS

Planning your school or uniformed groups year...have you thought about coming to the woods? Whether for enrichment, regular nurture sessions, story walks, direct learning experience or a wild night out.

We can arrange a package to suit your needs and budget - just contact us to discuss.

### WET & WILD ADVENTURE CAMP

Keep a look out for this year's [Wet & Wild Adventure Camp](#) - there will be an early bird booking deal coming soon!

Dates coming soon, so don't miss out and get in early!

There will be day activities as well as the week long camp for those that want a taster during the Easter and Summer holidays!