

Nynehead News

June 2007

Volume 6

Issue 2

E-mail: newsletter@nynehead.org

This newsletter can be viewed at - and additional copies printed - by visiting:

www.nynehead.org



Our thanks to Captain Neville Upham for this interesting picture. Many of our longer term residents will recognise the site - but can anyone tell me in which year the picture was taken? - For our newer residents, just telling me where it is will do!

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Welcome to the June 2007 Edition of Nynehead News.

Our objective is to provide an information and communication service for all members of our community and act as a vehicle to enable Nynehead's residents to contribute their thoughts, experiences and ideas for the interest and benefit of all. The editor(s) retain the right to reject material at their absolute discretion should they consider it to be inappropriate or offensive.

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Full page	£20	Minimum charge	£5

Advertisements can be included in the business section of our website - www.nynehead.org - for an additional payment of £5 for 3 months.

For more information Contact Peter Russell on 01823 461668

Editorial Comment

Welcome to the June edition of the Nynehead News.

Have you noticed the picture on the front cover? Well, I'm not going to give away the location or date the photo was taken, but would like to thank Neville Upham for taking it and trusting me to keep it, along with many others that he has taken over the years. Many of us who know Joy and Neville are sad at hearing of their move to Taunton last week as both have contributed massively to the community of Nynehead throughout their 37 years of residence, with Neville having been Clerk to the Parish council for 17 years in succession. Incidentally, Joy and Neville were amongst the earliest members of the History Society founded in 1971 and continue to support this group to the full. Both assure us that although they are moving home they will continue to take an active part in Nynehead, the community they have given such much too - we all look forward to seeing them for many years to come.

Page 5 of this edition contains two articles for your attention. Firstly, following the local elections last month we still need an additional person to join our Parish Council. Please read David Rabson's 'Notice of vacancy' and contact him directly should you feel you would like to help our community continue to thrive in the future.

Secondly I would ask you to read Tony Lock's article about the new 'Nynehead Community Fund'. As Tony states, although the fund is relatively small at the moment it would consider making loans available to those who demonstrate they have an idea that will be of benefit to our community. The Community Fund largely arises from the generosity of the Directors and Management of Nynehead Court who donated sums they had received in payment for the use of their facilities and services during the Brunel 200 celebrations last May. Continuing their support for our community the Court is holding a Summer Fair on the on Saturday 30th June in aid of All Saints Church Bell Fund. Details are shown on page 12 of this edition so please come along if you possibly can.

Another item to draw to your attention is the Mobile Library Service. Full details of how to join and when the library calls are given on page 19 and in the Diary. However, the acquisition of a new vehicle in July might lead to a revision of future services and details will be made available in due course. This is an invaluable service to small communities and those who may not be as mobile as others. The more who join and make regular use of it the more secure its future becomes - to everyone's benefit.

If you have any comments, stories or other items that you feel might be of interest to us all for our September edition please don't hesitate to let me know,.

Regards to you all,

Mike

P.S. As you may have seen on the posters in our notice boards, our 'Neighbourhood Beat Team' will be holding meetings on Thursday 7th June and Thursday 5th July, between 5.30pm and 7.00pm at the Village Hall. PC Jo Pape & PCSO Scott Windsor will be in so drop in to have a chat about any issue with which you feel they may be able to assist.

The Parish Council

The main event affecting the parish council was the local election on 3rd May. Sadly like many parish councils in Nynehead we had insufficient nominations with only four names were put forward, the previous council minus Alan Ketley. The council now consists of Mike Briginshaw (chairman), Mervyn Hooper (vice-chairman), Allan Howe and Gary Sparks. This means we have one vacancy, which we hope to fill at the next meeting on 4th June. Anyone interested should let me know, in writing please, by that date. If you would like to know more please speak to me or one of the councillors.

As reported last time we are taking a keen interest in the proposal for a unitary authority for Somerset, replacing the county and district councils. Whatever the government decides there will be significant changes affecting the parish council. In the mean time we have to get on with our day-to-day job:

- So far this year we have made representations to the Deane Council on 6 planning applications including 1 at the Poole waste disposal site. 5 of these applications were discussed at the May meeting. Contrary to popular belief the Deane Council does take notice of parish council views, so if you have made a

planning application or are interested you can tell us your views at one of our meetings. The applications being considered are listed on the agenda, which you can see on one of our three notice boards.

- As usual we maintain close liaison with Somerset Highways to ensure that roads in the parish are kept in a good usable state. On the whole we think we get good service from them. As a result of our pressure the flood markers on the Hornshay-Poole road are to be improved and the 'monolith' replaced with something more in keeping.
- We appreciate Colin Spackman's excellent work, in co-operation with the county council and landowners who keep our footpaths in good condition.
- Again resulting from our pressure the county council has agreed to put up timetables for our weekly bus service.
- We hope the much appreciated seat near Ash Bridge, which mysteriously disappeared, will shortly be replaced (if it is not there already).

Finally the council meets on the first Monday of the month in the Memorial Hall starting at 7.30 p.m. with a ten minute public question time. Everyone is welcome to attend.

David Rabson
Clerk

NYNEHEAD GARDEN CLUB

COME AND ENJOY THE

4TH ANNUAL FAMILY FLOWER SHOW

NYNEHEAD VILLAGE HALL

SATURDAY 18 AUGUST 2007

ADMISSION FREE

SHOW OPENS AT 2 PM

PRIZE GIVING AT 3.30 PM

RAFFLE DRAWN AT 4 PM

Schedules available from:-
Ann Manners - Tel 661453
or
gardening@nynehead.org

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Blackdown Garden Centre

Nynehead Community Fund

As a result of the completion of the Brunel 200 celebrations and the resulting closure of the accounts a small sum of money remained (£80). The funding for the celebrations had originally been received from various grants, which Jenny Dodd had negotiated. In the grant submission a sum of money was obviously allocated for the hire of premises i.e. Nynehead Court, which in their generosity, Nynehead Court has returned to the parish for Community use.

It has therefore been decided to set up a Nynehead Community Fund in memory of Jenny Dodd. The purpose of the fund will be to allow clubs, societies or individuals to apply for loans or grants to support Community Activities in the village. As initially the sum of money in the fund is relatively small (£3000), in the first instance it would seem sensible to restrict allocations to loans, which would then not affect the capital. Obviously if organisations, activities or individuals wish to add to the fund at any time this will mean that the capital will increase.

The fund will be managed by a Management Committee which consists of Tony Lock as Chairman, Denis Dodd - Secretary, Cynthia Lock - Treasurer, Julia Mirylees, Sheila Rabson and Malcolm Turner. Cynthia will act as treasurer but will not vote while Tony remains a voting member of the committee.

A Constitution has been agreed which includes a criteria for awards. If any club, society or individual would like to make an application would they please contact Tony Lock for details tel. 461214.

*Tony Lock
Chairman*

NYNEHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Notice of vacancy

Following the elections on 3rd May there is one vacancy on the parish council. The vacancy will be filled by co-option at the meeting of the council on Monday 4th June. The successful candidate will serve with the existing councillors until the next parish council elections in May 2011.

Any one wishing to be considered for co-option to the council should let me know in writing by the meeting on 4th June. I should be happy to provide information on what is involved in being a parish councillor.

David Rabson

**Clerk to the Parish Council
Gerrans
Nynehead**

Tel 666609

16 May 2007

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, NYNEHEAD

Church Services:

1st Sunday in the month in Nynehead Court
at 10-30am

2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays in Church
at 10-45am

On the first Sunday in the month the church service is held in Nynehead Court at 10.30am when the usual church congregation share the service with the residents of the Court. The service is followed by coffee. This is a short service of morning prayer with hymns and is open to anyone to attend.

On all other Sundays the services are held in church at 10-45am with the exception of the 5th Sunday when there is a Joint Team Service held at one of the churches of the team. These services are Parish Communion services, however, one does not need to be confirmed to attend.

Pastoral matters: Please contact Rev. Margi Campbell tel 669446

Other matters of a general nature:- Contact either churchwarden Michael Harding – tel 662940 or Allan Howe –tel. 666995

At the time of writing, Easter is well past and we are rapidly approaching Ascension Day. Lent and Easter were busy times for the church members as there was a Lent Course for 5 weeks before Easter and a group of the parish met weekly in order to follow a course which the Diocese had produced. There were also services everyday in Easter week leading up to Easter Day.

Allan Howe was part of the group who visited Mwenda in Zambia in April in order to make links with the churches in that country, he returned safely. Allan will include a report of his visit elsewhere in this newsletter. If you would like to hear more there will be a meeting in the Village Hall on June 21st.

On 29th April we presented various gifts to Rev. Josie Harrison as she has now officially retired from the Wellington Team Ministry. She will still take services but as a retired priest. As Josie had for several years been responsible for the pastoral care of our village and also had more recently been involved with the East Wellington Group. All the churches in the group contributed to her retirement gifts. Josie served the village extremely well and became very popular, we hope that we will see her frequently at our services.

Allan Howe has almost reached the estimated target for the repair of the bells and the most recent fund raising event was a concert in church given by Margi Campbell and her husband James. The concert was followed by a finger buffet in the Court, which was very kindly donated by the management. There was also a very successful skittle evening in the Nynehead Club at the end of March and again the Court donated a hot supper for everyone. It is hoped that the bells can be reinstalled by Christmas.

We are extremely grateful to everyone who has so generously made a donation to the Bell Fund.

Church Finance: In the last few years we have had to spend a great deal of money on the church building, so our reserve funding is now almost depleted. Therefore it is essential that we concentrate our efforts on attempting to replenish these funds as the quinquennial inspection of the church will take place in the autumn and this will almost certainly involve additional expense on the building. Unfortunately all building maintenance etc is the responsibility of the Parochial Church Council and grants are not easily available. To put things into perspective, just to keep the church open costs in excess of £100 per week and this is without heating, lighting, insurance, church maintenance etc. Last year the total outgoings to open our doors were in excess of £220 per week, which did not include work on the building or any charitable giving. We did have a very successful coffee

morning in aid of church funds at the end of April, but the money raised was a drop in the ocean in comparison with what is required.

We recently held our **Annual Church Meeting** and the following were elected:-

Churchwardens:

Michael Harding and Allan Howe.

P.C.C. Vice Chairman - Tony Lock

P.C.C. Secretary - Cynthia Lock

Minuting Secretary - Betty Sparks

Treasurer - Jean Sparks

Other P.C.C. members Rachel Saunders-Vest and Gary Sparks

At the Annual Church meeting it was agreed that in the coming year we would try to increase our giving to those in need. For the past few years we have given our harvest gifts and Christmas Gifts to the Taunton Women's Refuge but we are hoping to be able to give gifts to the needy at other times. If anyone would like to make donations of food or other household items during the year would they please contact Cynthia Lock tel. 461214.

Wanted: It has been suggested that we should have a box of toys, books etc at the back of the church for young children to play with during the church service. We would be grateful to receive any non noisy toys etc which you no longer require and would be suitable. Cynthia Lock or any of the PCC members will be grateful to receive them.

Forthcoming events:

Thursday 21st June Talk in the village hall about the Mwenda visit

Saturday 30th June Bridal Day at Nynehead Court in aid of the Bells.

Saturday 14th July Concert in church by Pam Roberts and Company at 7pm

Saturday 29th July Church Barbecue at Langham Farm.

Saturday 8th September & Sunday 9th September Heritage weekend when there will be conducted tours of the church.

For those new to the village, If you would like a conducted tour of the church, which is well worth a visit, please contact Tony Lock Tel 461214.

Tony Lock

Neighbourhood Watch

From time to time, when emailing Neighbourhood Watch alerts from the Police, I get a number 'returned' as being undeliverable because the addressees have changed their email address.

Should you wish to receive such information please ensure I have your correct email address.

Duncan Linklater

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

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2 The Old Vicarage, Nynehead, Nr Wellington, Somerset

TA21 0BL

Tel: 01823 662265

Nynehead Garden Club

Indoor meetings for the 2007 season have by now come to a temporary halt as we prepare to enjoy two summer visits.

The first is on Monday 11 June when we will have a guided tour of Holbrook Gardens at Sampford Shrubs. We meet at the Village Hall at 7.00pm and members will drive to the gardens. If you need a lift there are usually spare seats available or try to arrange with friends in advance to minimise the number of vehicles. Likewise, if you have spaces in your car, please help out with lifts. The gardens are a wonderful mix of woodland and perennial borders through to dry Mediterranean styles with many areas of different and inspiring planting. The owners will be on hand to help and answer questions and tea and biscuits will be provided. All this for just £3 per person! The excellent nursery should also be viewable and who knows, you may even be able to spend some more money!

On 9 July we visit 'Desert to Jungle' Nursery at Henlade and once again meet initially at the Hall at 7.00pm to arrange lifts. This nursery caters for those who like a more exuberant feel to their planting and help will be on hand to offer advice on the choice and viability of including some more exotic specimens into your garden plans. With the climate warming up, many such plants are more than happy to spend their time out of doors in the southwest and there is a wide choice of species both large and small which will add a truly 'hotter' feel to the garden!

Annual Family Flower Show - 18th August

The fourth Nynehead Family Flower Show will soon be upon us. Hopefully many of you already have your exhibits planned and we look forward to a bumper entry from ALL of you, gardeners and non-gardeners alike.

As explained in the last Nynehead News, the plan is to encourage the whole family to participate by entering some of the classes for cookery, handicrafts, garden produce,

flower arranging and hopefully to enter the Scarecrow Competition. Also many of you have got your 'Spud-in-a-Bucket' entries well under way. Don't forget that there is also a 'Tallest Sunflower Competition' this year although by now it will be a bit late to hope to win a prize unless you have a secret 'super-fertilizer' up your sleeve!

If you have mislaid your schedule, please contact Ann and David Manners for another copy on 01823 661453 or by email at gardening@nynehead.org

Future Events

On Saturday 8 September Nynehead once again hosts the NCCPG (National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens) Plant Hunters Fair for the South West Region. This event will take place in the grounds of Nynehead Court and will be an opportunity for 'plantaholics' to come and purchase plants from some 25 specialist growers from all across the south west. The Garden Club will be involved in the event and will have a stall selling a wide range of interesting plants grown and produced by the members. Plenty of advice will be available from the stall-holders and you are encouraged to come and see what is on offer. Nynehead Court plan to provide refreshments on the day and it also gives an opportunity to see and enjoy the beautiful gardens.

This will be a VERY busy day as also the weekend is to be the second Wellington Food Town event which was such a huge success last year and also sees the start of the 10 Parishes Festival - watch the local press for details!

In September, the Garden Club indoor meetings start again with a talk and demonstration featuring 'Carnivorous Plants' presented by SW Carnivorous Plants of Culmstock.

Ann Manners, Secretary

Local Geology - Part 2

Mercia Mudstone Group

Residents of Nynhead and East Nynhead may have noticed the red mud that forms in many of the fields in winter or indeed the red dust that during the summer infiltrates houses and lands on your car just after you have washed it. Well this can be related back to the geology that lies beneath much of the village.

The Mercia Mudstone Group (formerly known as the Keuper Marl) comprises mainly red, and sometimes grey, mudstone with occasional sandstones. It is Triassic in age (approximately 210 million years) and was deposited as flood plain mud in a desert environment.

Sandstones

The Mercia Mudstone would have originally been laid down in flat beds of mud occasionally interbedded with sand. These have been compressed to form mudstone and sandstone. Over time these beds have become tilted and now they dip gently to the East. Weathering has caused the mudstone to erode at a quicker rate than the sandstone so there are now ridges, which mark where the sandstones are.



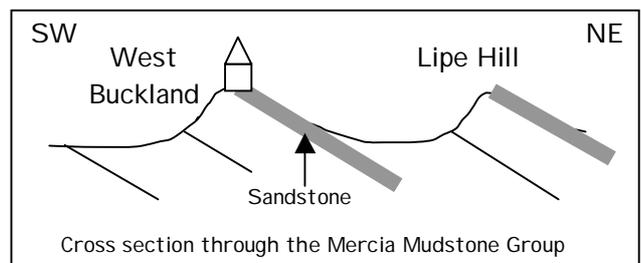
The church at West Buckland sits on the top of one of these ridges and another can be observed at Lipe Hill running along to Castlemans Hill Farm. Indeed the actual thin grey sandstones can be seen alongside the road at Lipe Hill, GR 187 215. (see photo.)

Uses of the Mercia Mudstone Group.

As many local people will be aware the Mercia Mudstone Group provided suitable material for brick and tile manufacture. In the 18th Century and earlier there would have been many small manufacturers in the area, but in the mid 19th century a large brickworks developed at Poole. The brickworks at Poole thrived because of its good transport links near to the Wellington-Nynhead road, the canal and the railway making it easy for fuel to be delivered and the product to be despatched.

The large worked-out clay pits at Poole have subsequently become a landfill site as they provide a conveniently large hole to fill and the mudstone geology makes a suitable base. Mudstone will let much less water in and out than some other rocks like sandstone, therefore much reducing the chances of the site flooding from groundwater or pollutants escaping.

The mudstone is slightly calcareous in places and has been dug by farmers to spread on other more acidic fields. The numerous remains of old marl pits are still marked by slight hollows in fields around the area.



Visit to St. Johns church, Mwenda and the 5 church group.

There has been a connection between the Bishops of Bath & Wells and the Bishops of Zambia for 30 years with many links between churches. Recently it was suggested that Wellington and Mwenda, in Northern Zambia should form their own link. So in order to assess the situation fully and to find out exactly the state of the churches in Mwenda it was decided to send a small team on a visit. The costs were met by donations, competitions and coffee mornings etc. The team of volunteers consisting of Revd. Colin Randall, June Best, Ellen Winhall and Allan Howe were assembled. On Wednesday 11th. April we set off for Heathrow. It seemed we were away many weeks instead of 10 days, all the Mwenda team felt like this; perhaps it was because we were so busy. Without a doubt it was one of the most rewarding tasks I have ever undertaken in my life. We had the opportunity to see and meet and mix with some of the poorest but seemingly contented and happy people, who depend on subsistence farming to survive. Nobody smoked.

We drove about 900 Kms. (530 miles) to get to Mwenda from Lusaka airport on Thursday 12th April, The 530 miles is roughly Penzance to Aberdeen. With a couple of stops for diesel, one for a packet of chips in the town of Serenge and a short visit to the Anglican Council mission at the town of Mansa for a cup of tea, our journey took about 9 hours. All told our total journey from London was about 9000 Kms. (nearly 6000 miles). The hard top road ended 30 miles from Mwenda. The nearest post office is 2 hours away in Mansa. Along the road vegetables were being sold on stalls and the crops changed as we travelled. Melons, tomatoes, maize, sweet potatoes and charcoal we saw for sale.

On the first day of our visit, Friday 13th. we were taken in hand by Father Joseph Kabula the priest in charge of St. Johns church, Mwenda, who spoke perfect English and laughed at my stupid jokes. He took us to

meet the chiefteness of Mwenda, at her palace; she is the only female chief in the whole of the Luopola province. She showed great interest in our programme and she asked particularly if we could make the walls of St. Johns Church safe and sound and change the thatched roof into something that would be weather and fire proof. The lack of money in the country was reflected by the palace and its surroundings, the garden was badly overgrown and we could hardly pass along the access road.

The hard-pressed members of 7 congregations in 6 churches were always ready to welcome us when we arrived at their villages, no matter how late, with singing, dancing, clapping and handshakes. The Mothers Union was very strong in most of the churches, in their distinctive blue skirts, and absorbed our two ladies into their dance routines with much hilarity and joy. We visited all of the villages and churches in the next few days to see how well they had been looked after, and to meet the congregations. During these visits we held meetings and or communion with the church officials.

The villages and churches are as follows; Bunda Chunsu. St. Josephs. One sidewall had collapsed, I could not find foundations, it is being rebuilt. 90 congregation. Kaoma Makasa. St. Peters. The Churchwarden, Stephen Kapande, told us that the church collapsed in the rainy season. I had my doubts; it looked much too damaged to have been like it for just a year. Our driver, my friend Everest also had doubts when I asked his opinion. We did not see the churchwarden again; he did not attend the final meeting of all the church councils. Mung'Anga. St. Barnabas. They grew beans to pay their quota. 270 congregation. The whole church had collapsed. As it is being re-built. Mupeta. St.Pauls. Obed assistant headmaster. A good man, a good church, and a good village. 80 congregation. It was here that an eight-foot rolled up sheet of galvanized tin fell on the two ladies in one of the rooms, knocking them to the

ground. Both Ellen and June were lucky not to be hurt more.

Fisaka. St. Agnes. Very few in the congregation. Very few men to rebuild the church. 30 congregation.

Mwenda St. Johns. Colin blessed about 100 children at one service. 480 congregation. We also presented Father Joseph with a stole at the service, the presentation was met with great delight, so much so that his wife ran up the aisle and gave him a hug and a big kiss. We hope to follow the wishes of the Chiefteness and make St. Johns safe.

Augustine. St. Philips. Have no church so share with St. Johns.

On Sunday 15th April we returned to Mwenda for a Eucharist service. .

After the Sunday service we carried on visiting churches and villages. At Mupeta, the children ran away when I tried to speak to them or take photographs, I think we may have been the first white people some of them had seen in such a remote village. After the first night of sitting around the bonfire to watch dancing and listen to singing, they changed and watched me taking photographs when I walked to the health clinic and school. I asked Obed the assistant head master why there were so many children and he told me that many of the parents had died in the towns or the copper belt and the children had come to live with their grand parents

Allan Howe



Nynehead Cricket Club The New Season

Cricket has restarted in Nynehead!

Nynehead Under 13's have made a promising start in 2007, winning both their first league and cup matches. Training is from 18:00 on Thursday evenings at the ground in Ham, all youngsters are welcome.

The "Senior" side is not enjoying such a rich vein of form with the Club's record losing streak (11 straight games across the end of last season and the start of this one) finally coming to end at home to Hemyock, phew! New adult members are always welcome - please contact David Raybould on 01823 669727 for more details about playing either youth, or adult Cricket.

Nynehead play home fixtures at Ham - From the Chelston roundabout, take the A38 to Taunton and turn left in front of the petrol station (signed Ham). The ground and pavilion are about 250 yards on the right hand side.

JUNE

3	[Sun]	A	Bishop's Hull	14:30
10	[Sun]	H	Wellington CC	14:30
17	[Sun]	A	Hemyock CC	14:30
24	[Sun]	H	Club Day, Tournament	10:00
30	[Sat]	H	Severn Vale CC (Tour)	13:30

JULY

1	[Sun]	H	East Huntspill CC	14:30
8	[Sun]	H	Churchinford	14:30
15	[Sun]	A	Staplegrave CC	14:30
22	[Sun]	H	Kentisbeare CC	14:30
29	[Sun]	H	Bishop's Hull CC	14:30

AUGUST

5	[Sun]	A	Sampford Arundel	14:30
12	[Sun]	H	The Wombat CC	14:30
19	[Sun]	H	K'church CC (VP Day)	14:00
26	[Sun]	H	North Petherton CC	14:30

David Raybould

Nynehead Court

During the early months of the year we have been enjoying a busy schedule of outings and events.

In February hearts were all a flutter for our Valentines Day tea dance. Strains of Victor Silvester and the gentle clink of china teacups mingled together to accompany the waltzes and foxtrots stirred many memories of days gone by.

On Shrove Tuesday we joined with the many visitors to Milverton village hall to support the St. Margaret's Hospice Pancake afternoon, and bumped into many old friends. The visit from the Lynmouth Brass Rubbing Centre gave us a chance to try this absorbing pastime, and to appreciate the weight of chain mail and broad sword.

Later in the month we enjoyed an afternoon of Wartime Cookery as part of our reminiscence program, the carrot jam being a particular success.

Graham Brewer provided us with a very entertaining talk on palmistry, Richard Fox taxed our brains with a quiz, and we enjoyed the musical interludes provided by Peter Rowsell Dobson, Glen Johnson and Malcolm Gregory.

March saw us take a trip on the West Somerset Railway to Minehead. We returned on our mini bus via the Doone Valley and Lynton and Lynmouth. A really lovely day!

Our Big Breakfast in aid of Cancer Research UK was very well supported and we were able to make a substantial donation to this worthy cause. Many thanks to all who made it such a success.

Talks in March included Janet Fowler on the Royal family, Dr. Michael Barry on Butterflies, David Bailey on Wildlife on the West Somerset Railway and Dr. Pat Hill-Cottingham on Britain's Gardens. Our regular musical afternoons continued, as did our trips out for morning coffee and our reminiscence quizzes.

In April we visited the Fisherman's Cot at Bickleigh for a pub lunch and on a lovely sunny day we enjoyed a trip to Sidmouth for lunch at the Bedford Hotel overlooking the sea. Hartland Point in Devon was the destination for this year's first holiday trip in May, where everyone enjoyed the beautiful location and wonderful weather.

Our afternoon of tea tasting proved most entertaining with Assam and Darjeeling coming out on top.

David Manners gave a very interesting illustrated talk on Finland, and Jo Pocock from Hestercombe Gardens talked on the progress of the restoration work at this beautiful historic site.

We enjoyed varied musical entertainment which include Malcolm Gregory's stirring rendition of the Warsaw Piano concerto and a classical guitar concert by Cinco.

The Friends of Nynehead Court

The continued support of the Friends is much appreciated by us all. Running the shop, providing beautiful floral displays, hosting drinks parties and sing alongs all contribute so much to life here at the Court.

Nynehead Court Summer Fair

**Fashion Show
Of Bridal Dresses
Through the ages**

**In aid of
All Saints Church
Bell Fund**

**Saturday 30th June
2pm - 5pm**

**Entrance £2.00
To include a
Cream Tea**



Raffle

Birdwatching in and around our village

This column is written as the fine Spring takes a turn for the worse but hopefully anybody reading it will be doing so in lovely Summer weather.

The summer brings a period of respite for the birds, really. By late June and early July the vast majority of our usual species will have successfully reared young. The wooded areas will sadly fall much quieter as a period of calm descends. Resultantly, birdwatchers often head for coastal lookouts for their interest.

Here in the village we get pleasure from seeing some of the new youngsters, robins without red breasts for example and sparkling new great and blue tits with accentuated colours. They will all clamour around searching for their own food rather than awaiting deliveries from a parent bird! Most common garden birds will require soft food, live stuff if they can get it and this brings me to a kind telephone call from Mrs. Derbe regarding feeding birds after the winter. Whilst there is conflicting evidence about the benefits of this where young birds are concerned it is well worth remembering that the poor tired parent birds will be most glad of a short cut. In my garden I reduce the number of feeders but still continue to put out seed and soft food. I soak bread and make sure the pieces are small.

Breadcrumbs are invariably taken by adult robins and in any case if I accidentally put larger pieces out the carrion crow or magpie will sweep them up! It is also important to keep birdbaths or bowls topped up as birds need to drink regularly.

Back to the Spring! As usual congratulations to Mervyn on the first swallow on April 3rd, eight days ahead of me this time! Indeed, despite the mild winter many migrants were slow to establish themselves and house martins were very late arriving and Nynhead had yet to record a swift by the time May began. For the third year running there was

seemingly no cuckoo recorded. I have only heard 2 this year, both on the Levels where there remains a smallish presence.

Much bigger birds have been interesting this Spring and it is a time of year for training one's eyes skyward for wandering raptors.

In early April, Martin Darbyshire & David Manners watched a large unidentified raptor for some time and we were all unable to make a positive ID. It could have been a buzzard behaving oddly, or a red kite, a harrier of some kind or even something odder still.....a short-toed eagle was recorded in north Somerset at around that time. Raptors are not easy to sort out....indeed lots of birds are tricky which is why there's never a week goes by without my learning something else about them!

In late April I found a peregrine in the village on a number of occasions and then on 28th April & 7th May saw individual hobbies flying over - a superb sight, look them up in a book if you are not sure what they look like!

In the meantime keep enjoying those new young birds, especially the yellowhammers in our village hedgerows; these are probably my favourites just now!

Alastair Riley - bird watcher

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WWW.NYNEHEAD.ORG

Through the amazing scholarship and unstinting generosity of the author, Bridget Clarke, NYNEHEAD.ORG are delighted to give access to the whole of 'The Life and Correspondence of Edward Clarke of Chipley 1650 -1710'. Apart from painstakingly transcribing a large number of letters from Edward Clarke and his wife Mary, Bridget Clarke has also provided a great deal of other background material and images, including correspondence between the Clarkes and notable contemporary figures such as the philosopher John Locke, who advised them on the health, education and upbringing of their children. All this Bridget Clarke has allowed us to make available to the World Wide Web!
From the author's own introduction;

"To read private correspondence, however long ago it was written, is a privilege, and never more so than with Edward Clarke's letters. He could not have guessed that they would be read three hundred years later by strangers, but in forty-five years of correspondence there is nothing to mar the picture of an affectionate son and brother, a loving husband and fond father, a staunch friend, a just master and an honest servant of his country.

"And to read the private correspondence of a married couple brings a certain feeling of guilt that one is prying into a secret world that should never be made public; it is a great tribute to Edward and Mary that after an arranged marriage and tribulations that would have shattered most people, they ended their life together, as they ended their letters, a "truly affectionate and faithful" couple.

"The letters of Edward Clarke and the members of his family form part of the Sanford family archive held at the Somerset Record Office. In 2004 the Record Office received grant money from the Heritage Lottery fund to re-catalogue and preserve the family's collection. The project is still

ongoing but hopes to make the new catalogue available online by the end of 2007. Details of the project can be found on their website, www.somerset.gov.uk/archives. The correspondence of Edward Clarke and the rest of the collection can be viewed by visiting the Record Office - please telephone 01823 337600 to make an appointment and the staff will also be happy to answer any questions concerning the collection or project.

"This is a selection from the vast collection of papers; I have left out most of the letters dealing with business matters and have used extracts from many much longer letters. As far as possible, the original writer's spelling has been retained, but Mary's letters were written with practically no punctuation, so I have inserted the minimum to make them easier to read. I have only used extracts from Locke's letters to illuminate the Clarkes' story, as his letters to Mary, Edward and the College would fill a book in themselves. His complete correspondence, edited by de Beer, is published by the Clarendon Press. I have also omitted most of his writings on the upbringing of the Clarke children, which can be read in 'Some Thoughts concerning Education'."

The 'selection' referred to above fills more than 600 pages of A4! and can be seen complete in PDF format at www.nynehead.org where it is split into four roughly equal sized sections. Some of the letters are also being transcribed as individual HTML pages which will link to each other. This is ongoing work.

*Duncan Linklater
(Webmaster)*



A letter to Edward Clarke

Edward Clarke died on the 1st October 1710. The last letter from Edward Clarke included in Bridget Clarke's collection is dated 22 Jan 1706 and concerns commissioning Justices of the Peace acting within Taunton. However, a nearer tricentennial letter from Edward's daughter Elizabeth [Betty] is also included in the collection. Here is what she wrote to her father nearly 300 years ago to the day: -

Elizabeth (Betty) Jones to Edward Clarke
Langford June ye 8th 1707

Honrd father

I am extremely concern'd to hear that you still continue so much indisposed; and it proceeds only from the fear I have of troubling you that I do not more frequently send you my duty and best wishes in letters addressed to your selfe. But this waits on you with my humblest thanks for your most kind present, wch coming from so good a father, and once belonging to so tender a mother renders it most acceptable to me, and whilst I live I will preserve it with such care and regard, as is due to such good things, and especially sent by so excellent a friend. Wee entreat (if the journey is not too great for you) to see you here this summer, hoping change of aire might do you good, but if you dare not try to give us the satisfaction of your company before yet I humbly beg you will not deny me one or both of my sisters against my lying in which time now draws on, I looking some time ye latter end of the next month and soe if you are pleased to grant mee it will be an unspeakable satisfaction to, Hon rd father
Your most tenderly affectionate and ever dutyfull daughter E Jones

Mr Jones I bless God is pretty well, he sends you his humble duty and many thanks for your great favours to him and he wishes you a speedy return to health and yt it may be lasting.

Duncan Linklater

Footpath Liaison officer

Stile / Kissing gate on Canal Path near Perry Farm.

A few weeks ago Mervyn Hooper and I met Sam Jones from Somerset County Council on site to discuss the problem. Subsequently Mr Jones has obtained agreement from the two landowners involved to replace the current arrangement with a metal kissing gate. This job is not at the top of the County Council's priority list but should be completed within a couple of months.

Litter-free paths

On my most recent walk round the paths I was pleased to find very little litter dropped by path users. Thanks to everyone for their consideration.

Path Re-instatement.

This is the time of year when farmers sometimes forget to reinstate rights of way disturbed where crops were planted and then grown to impede use of that path. Nynehead's rights of way are more accessible than those in most parishes in the district, a fact supported by personal experience and by the County's Rights of Way Department. However path re-instatement, or lack of it, is the event that causes most trouble to path users.

A New Stream

Earlier this year the culverted stream that crosses The Lynch Path near the parish boundary with Langford Budville became blocked upstream and overflowed its bank. The overflowing water then established a new route that created an unexpected obstacle for walkers. The problem now seems to have been resolved.

Other News

The question of dog mess was raised at a recent Parish Council meeting. It was felt that dog mess is not a big problem in the village but there were a couple of spots where it could be better.

Colin Spackman

Nynehead & District Local History Society

As usual we have not been disappointed with the speakers in the last few months, a great relief to the secretary as one is occasionally taking a gamble on someone else's recommendation.

Since the last newsletter we have had four well attended and enjoyable meetings:

- Rivers Barry on 'a brief history of English';
- Derrick Warren on 'James Gillingham - Chard's pioneer of medical photography and artificial limbs';
- Estelle Gilbert of the County Museums service on 'Textiles in Somerset' and finally, at our AGM,
- Bob Croft, the county archaeologist, who told us about the exciting discoveries of the last few years, including the Roman mosaic at Lopen.

We are now looking forward to our summer visits as detailed opposite. Times and venues are also listed on the diary page.

At our AGM the officers and committee were re-elected without dissent - Tony Lock (chairman), David Rabson (secretary) and Cynthia Lock (treasurer) plus Mike Briginshaw, Denis Dodd and Joy Upham. Our annual subscription remains a very reasonable £7 but anyone is welcome to come for a single meeting for a modest sum.

The first meeting of our 2007-8 winter programme is on Friday 12 October starting as usual at 7.45 p.m. at the Memorial Hall.

Summer Programme 2007

Friday 15 June:

An evening visit to Withycombe and Rodhuish churches with Hilary Binding.

Leave the Memorial Hall at 6 p.m. or meet at Withycombe Church (near Dunster) (grid ref. 015413) at 7 p.m.

Wednesday 18 July:

A visit to Walronds, an early 17th century house in Cullompton

Leave the Memorial Hall at 5.30 p.m. or meet in Cullompton at 6.00 p.m. Walronds is on the right hand side of the main street. There will be a charge of £2.00 per person.

Tuesday 14 August:

A flexible afternoon visit to Broadclyst to see the church (with a Nynehead connection), Clyston Mill (NT) and Marker's Cottage (NT). There will be a charge for non-NT members at the last two places.

Leave the Memorial Hall at 1.30 p.m. or meet at 2.00 p.m. at Broadclyst church. (Lunch available at the pub next to the church).

Thursday 13 September:

A visit to Athelney with Bob Croft, County Archaeologist.

Leave the Memorial Hall at 1.15 p.m. or meet at Athelney Bridge (grid ref.346291) at 2.00 p.m.

Friday 12 October:

First meeting of 2007-8 winter programme.

7.45 p.m. at the Memorial Hall. Speaker to be announced.

Nynehead Memorial Hall at 7.45 p.m.

David Rabson

Nynehead Jubilee Playing Fields

We are holding our annual sponsored cycle ride on 18th August. We start at 4:30 pm outside the village hall after the flower show, so come early and take a look around the show first. It is open to anyone with a bike who wishes to have an enjoyable afternoon and to raise much needed funds.

The route is approximately 10-15 miles with a refreshment stop at a local pub. I will have sponsor forms available beginning of August so please let me know if you are interested. If you have already taken part in previous years I will contact you.

*Ben Tingay
Chairman*

ELECTION THANKS

I would like to thank all the residents of the Bradford on Tone Ward who voted for me on Thursday May 3rd. and elected me as your councillor on Taunton Deane Borough Council. I will continue to work hard in the interests of all the residents

Cliff Bishop



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Nynehead Amateur Dramatic Society

Once again our annual pantomime is fading into the distance but, before it disappears completely, wasn't it a good one ?

A superb script helped along by good scenery, lighting, costumes, and enthusiastic audiences. Thanks to everyone in whatever way they participated.

DVDs of 'Dick Whittington' are now available (at £6 each) so please give me a ring (666166) if you would like a copy. This will be your one and only chance to relive 'Splat that Rat', The Shipwreck, Pussy Encore's fight with King Rat and all the rest of the fun and laughter.

We are now turning our thoughts to a production in the autumn. Further details will be available in the next issue of the Newsletter but it will be something for everyone in the family to enjoy.

The Society's AGM will be held on Wednesday 15th August in the Club at 7.30 pm. After the official business we will be talking about future productions so please come along if you are interested in knowing more about the Society.

*Rosemary Lea
Honorary Secretary*

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Nynehead Club

The Club continues to enjoy a good friendly atmosphere. We are pleased to welcome two new families to the village and it was lovely to see them in the club.

The skittle evenings are proving very popular- a big thank you to committee members who organise and help with these evenings. The next Skittle night will be held on 23rd June 2007.

We were delighted to host a skittle evening on behalf of the Church Bell Fund. Over eighty people attended. The club was creaking at the seams. Special thanks to Diana for catering for so many.

Our programme of improvements is still in hand but slightly behind schedule due to a couple of unforeseen setbacks. The new French windows that will lead out onto the patio will be installed within the next fortnight after which the patio will be built.

The revamp of the kitchen will go ahead in the next few weeks- we will be installing a cooker which will be a big improvement and prove invaluable when we have functions.

Our annual Bar-b-que will take place on Saturday 14th July 07. Fingers crossed for fine weather. Everybody welcome.

The skittle team attended the annual skittle dinner on 18th May 2007 and to stop those who were getting worried mid way through the season we did manage to 'WIN' the wooden

spoon which will soon be restored in its rightful place behind the bar.

Thank you to everyone concerned with the running of the club. New members are always welcome- membership still only cost £2. Our opening hours are 8.30- 11pm Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Mervyn Hooper
Chairman

Nynehead Club



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Nynehead's Diamond Couple



On the 19th July 2007 Sid and Doreen Derbe will join a very special group of people, A great many of us would like to join but might never get there. They will have been married 60 years.

Sid born in Langford Budville met Doreen who came from Uffculme Devon where she lived with her Auntie in Wellington. They were married at Taunton registry office and moved to Nynehead 8 years later. Both in their own ways have become well known characters of the village. Sid was one of the original members of the Nynehead skittle team, and even helped build the skittle alley. Doreen worked at The Court and Hornsey Farm. Doreen still likes to attend as many things as possible in the village today. Their only son grew up in the village and attended the school. Doreen likes nothing better than to see the children of the village in the school activities. Sid though unable to get about so much these days still passes on his support at any fund raiser by instructing Doreen to buy him raffle tickets. They both have great stories to tell from the past and I remember Doreen telling me of regular outings to Wellington in their younger days on a Saturday pub crawl. We first met Sid and Doreen 27 years ago when we briefly lived in No 5 as a young couple not yet married they soon made us welcome, Sid even teaching me to ride a moped. Today we are not only proud to call them our neighbours but very special friends.

We, with many other people would like to wish them a very happy

Diamond wedding

We hope that one day we will be joining this very special club of 60 years marriage
Have a wonderful day

Kathy, Ron, Lizzy and all

Mobile Library Service

A selection of books on many subjects including novels, large print books and book for children are always available. In addition other items such as DVD's and music CD's can be borrowed. All items are exchanged at regular intervals with those from other libraries so that you will always have a fresh choice.

You can join the service on the Mobile Library vehicle by completing a membership form and bringing some proof of your name and address, such as a recent utility bill or a driving licence. If you already have a Somerset library membership card, please show it to the driver. If you are likely to use the mobile service on a regular basis please inform the driver so that your membership record can be updated.

The Mobile Library visits Nynehead every third Tuesday but with the introduction of an additional vehicle in July this might change. Currently the times of visits are as follows:

- Nynehead Court – 2.25pm to 2.45pm
- Nynehead School – 2.50pm to 3.05pm
- Upper Nynehead (by the junction with the Milverton Road) – 3.10pm to 3.30pm
- East Nynehead (by the junction with Ash Lane) – 3.35pm to 3.45pm

Dates of the next schedules visits are:
12th June, 3rd July and 24th July

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Michael Harding	662940		

Birdwatching

Alastair Riley	663699	email	landaandcufc@btinternet.com
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Grand Western Canal Trust

Denis Dodd	661653	email	denis.dodd@btinternet.com
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Jubilee Playing Fields

Ben Tingay (Chairman)	669828	mobile	07971 496665
		email	ben.tingay@btinternet.com
David Raybould (Secretary)	669727	email	daraybould@btopenworld.com

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators

Allan Howe	666995	email	howe@howe.eclipse.co.uk
Duncan Linklater	461637	email	duncan@designlink.co.uk
Peter McLaren	461949	email	paam@ninehides.fsnet.co.uk
Robert Needs	662620	email	angieneeds@beeb.net
Alec Reynolds	663323	email	roundoaktree1@btinternet.com

Nynehead Amateur Dramatic Society (NADS)

Rosemary Lea (Hon. Sec.)	666166		
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Nynehead News

Allan Howe - Chairman	666995	email	howe@howe.eclipse.co.uk
Mike Briginshaw - Treasurer	461627	email	mike@nynehead.plus.com
Peter Russell - Advertising	461668	email	peter@nynehead.org

Nynehead Cricket Club

Keith Haslam - Chairman	461667		
David Raybould - Secretary	669727	email	daraybould@btopenworld.com

Nynehead Garden Club & Environmental Group

Alan Ketley - (Chairman)	666249	email	alan.ketley@tiscali.co.uk
Ann Manners - (Secretary)	661453	email	goodmanners@btinternet.com

Nynehead History Society

David Rabson - Secretary	666609	email	rabsons@btinternet.com
Tony Lock - Chairman	461214	email	catlock@dsl.pipex.com

Nynehead Club

Mervyn Hooper - Chairman	461518		
Zoe Eglin - Secretary	660757		
Dennis Galpin - Treasurer	665879	email	dennis@homegalpin.eclipse.co.uk
Sarah Hooper - Social Secretary	461518		
The Club	665072		

Useful Local Contacts

Nynehead Memorial Hall

Gary Sparks (Chairman)	663745
John Sparks (Booking Secretary)	662107

Nynehead School

Angela Lewis - (Head Teacher)	662021	email	alewis1@educ.somerset.gov.uk
Sue Davies - (Chair of Govenors)	432509	email	davies.westwing@lineone.net

Footpaths Liaison Officer

Colin Spackman	666702
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Friends of Nynehead School

Mary Sparks	663745
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Parish Council:

David Rabson (Clerk)	666609	email	rabsons@btinternet.com
Mike Briginshaw - Chairman	461627	email	mike@nynehead.plus.com
Mervyn Hooper - Vice Chairman	461518		
Allan Howe	666995	email	howe@howe.eclipse.co.uk
Gary Sparks	663745		

County Councillor:

Caroline Smeaton	412830	email	csmeaton@somerset.gov.uk
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District Councillor:

Clifford Bishop	400400	email	cllr.c.bishop@tauntondeane.gov.uk
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POLICE

PCSO Scott Windsor	Mobile:	078 1079 1308
	Email:	scott.windsor@avonandsomerset.police.uk

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POLICE - Crimestoppers

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Pre-school and Toddler group (Under 5s)

Louisa Raybould - Chair	669727	email	louisaraybould@btinternet.com
Dawn Netley	666895		
Louise Wimbourne - (Wellington Parent Support Group)	665460		

Rural Youth Project

Dawn Netley	666895
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Tree Warden

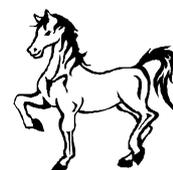
Ben Tingay	669828	email	ben.tingay@btinternet.com
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Diary: - 4th June to 1st September 2007

Jun - 4 th	Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall - 7.30pm
Jun - 7 th	Nynehead Club Committee Meeting - 7.30pm - all members welcome
Jun - 10 th	Cricket Club at home to Wellington CC - 2.30pm
Jun - 11 th	Garden Club visit to Holbrook Garden - Leave Village Hall at 7.00pm
Jun - 12 th	Mobile Library in Nynehead between 2.25pm & 3.30pm - See page 19 for details
Jun - 15 th	History Society - Visit to Withycombe & Rodhuish churches - Village Hall 6.00pm
Jun - 23 rd	Nynehead Club Skittles Night - 8.00pm
Jun - 24 th	Cricket Club - Club Day & Tournament - 10.00am
Jun - 30 th	Nynehead Court Summer Fair in aid of Church Bells - 2.00pm to 5.00pm
Jun - 30 th	Cricket Club at home to Severn Vale CC - 1.30pm
Jul - 1 st	Cricket Club at home to East Huntspill CC - 2.30pm
Jul - 2 nd	Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall - 7.30pm
Jul - 3 rd	Mobile Library in Nynehead between 2.25pm & 3.30pm - See page 19 for details
Jul - 8 th	Cricket Club at home to Churchinford CC - 2.30pm
Jul - 9 th	Garden Club visit to 'Desert to Jungle' - Henlade - Leaving Village Hall at 7.00pm
Jul - 14 th	Nynehead Club Annual Bar-b-Cue - 7.30pm
Jul - 18 th	History Society - Visit to 'Walronds' in Cullompton - Village Hall 5.30pm
Jul - 22 nd	Cricket Club at home to Kentisbeare CC - 2.30pm
Jul - 24 th	Mobile Library in Nynehead between 2.25pm & 3.30pm - See page 19 for details
Jul - 29 th	Cricket Club at home to Bishops Hull CC - 2.30pm
Aug - 12 th	Cricket Club at home to The Wombat CC - 2.30pm
Aug - 14 th	History Society - Visit to Broadclyst Church, Mill & Cottage Village Hall 1.30pm
Aug - 15 th	Nynehead Amateur Dramatic Society AGM - Nynehead Club 7.30pm
Aug - 18 th	Playing Fields Annual Sponsored Cycle Ride - Village Hall 4.30pm
Aug - 18 th	Garden Society Annual Flower Show - Village Hall from 2.00pm
Aug - 18 th	<i>Copy Deadline for September 2007 Edition of Nynehead News</i>
Aug - 19 th	Cricket Club at home to K'Church CC - 2.00pm
Aug - 26 th	Cricket Club at home to North Petherton CC - 2.30pm
Sep - 1 st	<i>Distribution date for September 2007 edition of Nynehead News</i>
Sep - 3 rd	Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall - 7.30pm

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