

Nynehead News

Volume 4

March 2005

Issue 1

E-mail: nyneheadnews@onetel.com

Whilst out & about where would you see this fence and why have the tops of the spikes been bent over?



The answer will be given in the next edition of Nynehead News

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Nynehead Court

Our last few months at the Court have been very busy, with many outings and events having taken place.



Residents enjoying an outing to Teignmouth.

During the festive season we enjoyed visits to the theatre, concerts at the Court and of course the unforgettable Christmas play performed for us by Nynehead School. Our Open Day on the 20th December was well supported and we thank everyone who joined us and made the day such a special one.

Early in the New Year Nynehead Care celebrated their first year at the Court. The anniversary party was greatly enjoyed by residents, their families and guests. In his speech, managing director Mr. John Lewin thanked the residents for their forbearance during the period of change, the staff and Nynehead Court Support Group for all their help, and launched the appeal for our golf buggy, which we hope to buy to take our less able residents around our lovely gardens.



Mrs. Beth Lewin and Care Manager Mrs. Dawn Berry cutting our anniversary cake.

On the 3rd February the Taunton Deane Mayor Cllr Jean Allgrove, members of the Somerset Gardens Trust, and the children of Nynehead School joined us to begin the restoration of the pinetum. Formerly an orchard, its original concept is now being reinstated with the planting of many varieties of pine. The Mayor, followed by two of our most senior residents began the planting and assisted by our gardeners, the children and our many visitors the restoration was soon well underway.



Planting the pinetum.

Most recently at the quiz organised by Nynehead School at the village hall our team comprising residents and members of staff took second place, and at the charity bridge tournament at Oake Manor Golf Club our players had an enjoyable morning in pleasant company.

Our talk in February by Mr. John Harmsworth on Norway was well attended and most enjoyable, as always anyone wishing to attend these talks is most welcome, our next being on the 9th March being given by James Williams on otters.

A busy schedule is planned for the coming months including a holiday to St. Ives for a group of our residents, talks, concerts and outings and our Spring Fair on the 8th May in aid of our buggy appeal.

We look forward to seeing many of you at Nynehead Court, where you will always receive a warm welcome.

Julia Mirylees

Welcome to the March 2005 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 editors retain the discretionary right to reject material or comments considered to be directly or potentially inappropriate or offensive

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Next Edition	Editorial Deadline	Distribution Date
June 2005	Saturday 21 st May	Saturday 4 th June

Advertising Rates

Prime banners on front and rear covers - £20 each

Inside Pages

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Top banner	£10	Bottom banner	£10
Full page	£20	Minimum charge	£5

For more information Contact Peter Russell 01823 461668

Editorial Comment

As you will see on the opposite page, Nynehead Understanding has amalgamated with Nynehead News, both operating under the Nynehead News banner. Your newsletter is now self-supporting with advertising and distribution charges being the only source of income, although it is hoped that if the training courses are successful additional revenue will come from that activity. We now pay for materials and copying, but your production team's facilities and very considerable time continue to be provided free.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking our honorary distribution team, Rosemary Lea, Janet & Chris Watson, Duncan Linklater, Jill Prior, Ann Howe and Gary Sparks – together with others who provide cover during sickness and holidays. I am aware that this issue is heavier than usual and that the 'enclosures' have added to the burden. However, with their unstinting voluntary help and the £35 we have received by way of distribution charges, Nynehead News becomes more and more financially secure.

I am delighted to welcome Peter Russell to our small team. As some may be aware, Lu Hawkins has not been keeping too well and Peter has offered to look after the advertising on her behalf. Lu remains on the production team however and will continue to help whenever possible. Get well soon Lu!

As a reader you will appreciate that this newsletter is printed on 6 sheets of A3 paper. As each sheet carries 4 pages of A4 print, multiples of 4 become quite a problem when trying to compile all the copy we receive. This time for example, we ended up with 22 pages! - so the task was to either leave things out to get down to 20 pages or add things in to get to the 24. I am pleased to say that with the help of the Under 5's, Alan Ketley, Allan Howe and Nancy Douglas we managed to get to the 24 pages you now have.

This problem has brought to the fore a request to all readers for copy that can be held in reserve to fill spaces in future editions. Please let us have anything you feel might be suitable – past experiences or events, personal profiles, photographs, amusing incidents, success or failure stories - to name just a few possible headings. Your input will always be welcome, even though it might not appear immediately.

All advertisements in this issue have been paid for apart from that for BoilerJuice on page 14. This is a new privately run operation and at this time has no funds to pay for advertising. As there could be a community benefit with the project and as Paul Ward has promised to make a donation to Nynehead News as and when he receives his first bulk order we have agreed to make an exception. However, if you decide to place business with him please let me know!

Whilst not wishing to detract from any of the many social activities taking place in our community I would like to draw your attention to the notice on page 16 about the Pantomime to be held in the Village Hall on the 17th, 18th and 19th of March. This will be the third pantomime staged by Nynehead Amateur Dramatic Society and if the last two are anything to go by, will be one of the highlights of the year. Tickets are available now from Hilary Hooper on 461518.

The Village Hall AGM on the 28th April provides your opportunity to question and influence the future direction of this key element of the Parish, so don't be shy, go along to find out what's happening. The same applies to the Annual Parish Meeting on the 12th May during which all community activities report details of their achievements for the last year, and intentions for the future, to all attending. Once again, this could be your opportunity to find out what's happening and to find out if there are activities to which you could contribute.

Mike Briginshaw

Understanding Nynehead News

As discussed and agreed at a Public Meeting held on 27th January, we are delighted to report that Nynehead Understanding has amalgamated with your newsletter and is now operating under the "Nynehead News" banner.

The management committee consists of Allan Howe (Chair) Duncan Linklater (Secretary) & Mike Briginshaw (Treasurer). Other committee members are Jenny & Denis Dodd, Lu Hawkins, Ann Howe & Jill Prior.

Copies of the Constitution are available on **nynehead.com** and the objectives of the new organisation are as follows: *To Provide an information and communication service to the whole of Nynehead's Community and act as a vehicle to enable residents to contribute their thoughts, experiences and ideas for the interest and benefit of all.*

Nynehead News may also promote training or other activities deemed by the Management Committee to be of benefit to the community.

After several false starts and a few technical problems, we can now offer instruction in digital photography (in its many manifestations) and website building. The sparsity of people and the diversity of interests they expressed through the Village Appraisal made providing instruction on any of the other subjects requested impractical.

To make the most of your expensive digital camera you really need some software. To that end we, Nynehead News, have bought a copy of

the latest version of Paint Shop Pro. (At a mere £70 PSP is very good value.)

To get the ball rolling we are going to have two 'demonstrations' of what can be done with digital images using PSP. To that end we will install the Nynehead News copy on one of the school computers as the 'official' copy - show you what can be done with it then organise future instruction at the school with individuals using their own purchased copies.

Introductory sessions will be held at Nynehead School on Wednesday 23rd March, starting at 7 pm and Saturday 26th starting at 11 am. All family members including children are welcome.

When suits you? Please let Mike Briginshaw (461627) or Allan Howe (666995) or Duncan Linklater (461637) know. Either during or immediately after the introductory sessions, and taking into account your wishes, we will put together a sequence of dates for further training, bearing in mind that we can only have access to the school computers out of hours or at week ends.

Also as a result of the amalgamation, Nynehead News now owns an A3 printer, binder and a digital camera which, at the discretion of the management committee could be made available for use by other Nynehead community organisations.

*Duncan Linklater
Secretary*

Nynehead Club

- Major structural alterations
- Increased seating area
- New lighting
- Completely Re-decorated
- Non Smoking Rule at the bar
- Annual subscription still only £2.00



Opening Hours continue to be: Thursday, Friday, Saturday
8.30 pm to 11.00 pm

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, NYNEHEAD

Church Services:

ALL SUNDAY SERVICES START AT 10-30am

On the first Sunday in the month the church service is held in Nynehead Court at which the usual church congregation share the service with the residents of the Court and 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 service is held in church with the exception of a 5th Sunday is a service of Parish Communion. However, one does not need to be confirmed as the majority of the service is relevant to everyone.

Sunday School:

There is a Sunday School for children over 3 years old and this is held in Nynehead Court at 10-15am on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. For further details please contact Muriel Kodritsch tel. 661609.

Pastoral matters: Please contact Rev. Josie Harrison tel. 669525 or Rev Colin Randall tel 662248.

Other matters of a general nature: either Tony Lock – Churchwarden tel 461214 or

Allan Howe – Churchwarden tel. 666995

Christmas Services: Although Christmas now seems a long time ago this is the first village newsletter of the year so I feel that I ought to report that once again the Candle-lit carol service was well attended and was enjoyed by all. Also there was a good attendance at the Christmas morning communion service.

Alternative Services: During the last few months we have been experimenting with alternative services when there has been a 5th Sunday in the month. We have been conscious that all the services in church have been communion services and in an attempt to cater for those who do not take communion, we are having some non communion services. Such a non communion service was held at the end of January to celebrate Candlemas and this proved to be very successful.

Building progress: Some progress has been made with the work being carried out in order to reduce the amount of dampness at the base of the tower. The statue of Elijah has now been

mounted in a new position and in the near future, it is hoped that the new steps to the original ringing chamber will be in situ. In order to reduce the cost of such work we are intending to do some of the labouring ourselves.

Sound enhancement and loop system: At the time of writing a faculty for the installation is being prepared. Unfortunately before any work can be carried out on the church building, we have to obtain the permission of the Diocese. As part of the faculty we also have to post notices so that people in the village have the opportunity to object to any proposals so, making changes is a very long drawn out process. The other problem we have is that we have to raise funding ourselves as we get no help from the Church Commissioners nor the Diocese. We have been successful in securing £1,000 from Wyvern Waste but we are now seeking further funds to meet the £4,500 required for the installation. Unfortunately many of the sources of grants are not available to the church as it is not a charity. If anyone would like to make a donation towards the cost, no matter how large or small, would they please let Tony Lock or one of the Parochial Church Council know.

Quota: In order to fund the church in the Diocese of Bath and Wells each year, a budget is set centrally. In order to meet the set budget, all the churches in the Diocese record over a 5 week period around February, the number of people who regularly attend church. These numbers are then added together and divided into the required budget thus giving a unit total. In this way a parish share can then be calculated i.e. we do not only support our own parish but also help to support others.

Annual Church meeting: This will take place on Monday 11th April when the Annual report will be available and elections take place.

Easter Services:

Good Friday 25th March - A short service of reflection in church at 7-30pm.

Easter Sunday 27th March -
Easter Communion 10-30am

Tony Lock – Churchwarden

Tel 461214

Nynehead Garden Club
Environment Group

The Nynehead Garden Club was formed in 2004 following the Village Appraisal carried out in 2003. The appraisal also established that there was a keen group of people in the Village who were interested in environmental matters as well. At that time there weren't any suitable projects to undertake. During 2004, however, discussion arose about the possibility of establishing a Nature Reserve within Nynehead and it is this project which we are now trying to take forward.

Initial discussions with Robin Darby who owns the area of land concerned, established his backing for the scheme. In addition to the Nature Reserve it was proposed that the footpath which passes through the area could be upgraded to allow disabled access. The project therefore has two parts, firstly to establish a Nature Reserve and secondly to upgrade the footpath to provide disabled access. Robin would also like the path to be available for cycle use as the road through Nynehead Hollow is considered dangerous for young cyclists.

To establish the practicality of the scheme we have been in touch with the footpath officers from the Deane and Barbara Collier who is responsible for local nature reserves. Both commented favourably on the idea. Following this all those who had indicated an interest in environmental matters during the Appraisal were contacted and so far support has been very positive. In order to apply for grants it was realised that it would be necessary to have a properly constituted organisation and so it was decided to form a sub committee of the Garden Club which already had the appropriate committee and constitution.

Precise plans are still being formed, however, the scheme is currently as follows. Robin will start to fence off the eastern side of the Reserve as soon as possible. Funding to assist this has been applied for. The current proposal is to move the existing stile but as and when the disabled access scheme is put in place a 'Bristol gate' would be installed. The western side of the area is currently being cropped with winter wheat and it is proposed that this would be fenced off in the autumn when the crop has been harvested. This would make an interesting study once it has been enclosed to observe the way in which the flora and fauna return to the wild once cultivation has ceased.

The proposed upgrading of the footpath will of course require a proper assessment of the scheme. It is intended to involve the disability groups in Wellington and at the Deane for advice on how we should proceed. Funding requests will follow once precise details are known.

The footpath follows the line, roughly speaking, of the old canal and central to the nature reserve is the cast iron aqueduct which took the canal over the river Tone. This is clearly of some historical significance and we have been in close contact with Dennis and Jenny Dodd of Wharf Cottage so that they are aware of the proposals. It will add greatly to the area if suitable interpretation signs can be put in place explaining the historical significance of the site.

Robin would also like to see a picnic area set aside for local use although we shall have to consider various safety matters if this is to be carried out. We would like eventually to carry out a detailed study of the area to cover birds, mammals and insects as well as the various plant communities. As anyone who knows anything about nature knows, such an area cannot be simply left to its own devices as it will simply revert to scrub land very quickly. We expect therefore to draw up a proper management plan with Robin's approval so we can maximise the wildlife value of the area.

The key thing for everyone to note is that it is NOT proposed or expected that money will be spent from the Parish Council. We expect to fund the scheme entirely from various grant applications. Anyone who has experience in this area would be most welcome!

Alan Ketley

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Nynehead Garden Club.

The Club held its first open meeting of the year on St Valentines' day when Jo Worth gave a very interesting and informative talk on the restoration of Hestercombe Gardens. Most members have been to the Gardens at various times but Jo was able to provide a great deal of interesting background using her experience as an artist. If all our remaining talks and visits are as good as this we will have a very successful year.

At the AGM in January we made several new appointments and these showed their value at the meeting. Subs were efficiently collected, the raffle properly organised and the teas on time thanks to the new appointments. We also ran a 'bring and buy' stall for the first time which should add to our evenings as it develops. Any spare plants would be gratefully received. Thanks go to everyone who helped make this evening a success.

The programmes for the rest of the year is now established and members can pick up their programmes as they pay their subs, held at £5 again this year and fantastic value.

The Show Schedule has now been printed and is sponsored this year by Blackdown Garden Centre. Everyone should have received copy by now but if you haven't please don't hesitate to let me or any other committee member know.

Our next meeting is on Monday March 14th when the topic will be **'How to present your show entries'** Don't forget even if you haven't joined the Garden Club we would still be delighted to see you at one of our meetings!

Garden Club Committee.

Chairman – Alan Ketley

Secretary – Jill Prior

Treasurer – Jan Fox

Refreshments – Ann Howe

Raffle – Nancy Douglas

Bring and Buy – Geraldine Orr

Visual aids – David Manners

Proof reading – Alec Reynolds

Membership - Joan Lock

Other committee members:-

Mervyn Hooper; Keith Haslam;

Louise Haslam; Paul Eaton

Alan Ketley

Nynehead Church of England Primary School Spring Term.

Back to school after Christmas and a very busy term is well under way. The Juniors have been studying the Tudors, looking at Henry VIII and his family, after half term they will be studying Exploration looking at Francis Drake, Walter Raleigh and Christopher Columbus. The Infants have been looking at Famous People for their History Topic and for Science they looked at Light and after half term Electricity. At the start of term School was visited by Waste Action who taught us all about recycling our household waste. They left us a compost bin and the children learnt about using the compost when it is ready.

The school continues to run after school clubs in Rugby, Craft, & ICT. As part of the government initiative of 2 hours sport a week, the Juniors have been having football coaching from a professional football coach and the infants are having some professional golf training.

School was also invited by Ian Clark, Taunton Deane's' Heritage & Landscape Manager, to plant Pine Trees in the gardens at Nynehead Court.

On Friday 4th February the Infants said good-bye to two Student Teachers who had been on placement from St Lukes College in Exeter. The students had spent four weeks getting to know the children and gaining valuable experience. Everyone wishes them lots of luck for the future.

Thank you to everyone who supported our quiz night at the village hall, seven teams in total competed and much fun was had.

Two dates for your diaries. School will be holding an Easter Service at Nynehead Church 24th March at 2.00p.m. Everyone is very welcome to attend. Also a Barn Dance is being organised at the village hall on 18th June all will be welcome and further details will be available nearer the time. We look forward to seeing you.

Angela Lewis

What do School Governors do?

Governors work as a team we call the governing body. They are responsible for making sure the school provides a good quality education. This has the best chance of happening when there are high expectations of what pupils can achieve.

Governors also promote effective ways of teaching and learning when setting the school aims and policies. They do this together with the head teacher, who is responsible for the day-to-day management of the school.

Every school must have a governing body. The membership will vary according to the type of school. The governing body has some discretion of the numbers of governors.

All governing bodies include governors who are:

- Parent elected by parents at the school
- Staff elected by Head, teachers and support staff at the school. The head teacher is entitled to be a staff governor without an election
- Persons appointed by the local education authority. They are from one to four of these 'LEA' governors

Additionally:

- Community and controlled schools have at least one community governor who is appointed by other members of the governing body
- Some schools have foundation governors. They are governors appointed by the church which appears in the school's name

Foundation governors form the majority on the governing bodies of Catholic and Church of England (voluntary aided) schools. They are a minority on the governing bodies of Church of England (voluntary controlled) schools.

The School will be able to tell you if there are vacancies for parent, community or foundation governors.

Usually a governor is appointed for a period of four years but may subsequently be eligible for re-appointment or re-election.

Governing bodies are responsible to parents, funders and the community. The governing body's main role is to help raise standards of achievement. It:

- is accountable for the performance of the school to parents and the wider community
- plans the school's future direction
- selects the head teacher
- makes decisions on the school's budget and staffing
- makes sure the national curriculum is taught
- decides how the school can encourage pupil's spiritual, moral and social development
- makes sure the school provides for all its pupils, including those with special needs

Governors are at the heart of how a school operates. It is important they get things right. How they do their job affects the interests of pupils, staff morale and how the school is seen by parents and others in the community.

Governors support and challenge heads by gathering views, asking questions and deciding what's best for the school. They are not there to rubber stamp decisions. They have to be prepared to give and take and be loyal to decisions taken by the governing body as a whole.

So long as they act within the law governors are protected from any financial liability for the decisions they take.

A governing body is not a supporters club. Governors are responsible for how the school is performing. Following up inspection reports is an important job. Governors should try to be ahead of the game - identifying problems and tackling them in advance.

Angela Lewis



EAST NYNEHEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (ENNW)

I rashly said I would keep the group informed about anything I discovered on home CCTV systems. Talk about the halt leading the blind! My apologies to any grandmother's if I seem to be teaching them how to suck eggs but as I was totally clueless at the outset I will start from scratch as it were.

THE PROBLEM. Neighbourhood Watch is all jolly fine; keep your eyes peeled, make a note of dodgy goings on and suspicious looking vehicles, arraign all vagrants, clap in irons all vagabonds and ne'er-do wells, and pillory scolds - but what could I realistically have done about a recent break-in to a property (lets call it 'The Target') less than fifty yards from where I live? which, in this case, had no burglar alarm. Or what is one supposed to do about a property where the burglar alarm goes off so regularly that, as far as I can tell, everyone has grown habituated to it and ignores it?

A SOLUTION. Think high tech; think of clever gadgetry seen in movies, think science fiction and cloud-cuckoo land. Someone approaches your property – friend or foe, at high noon or dead of night. Without 'the someone' being aware of it, a camera begins to film them and sends the images to a website, or records them to a video recorder – less good; see below. An automatic phone call is also made to the effect that "motion detected on Camera 3." Then a light comes on and a speaker crackles into action and announces to 'the someone'; "CCTV is operating. Smile! You are on camera." Sounds far fetched? expensive? Well it is neither. The above is do-able for about £200. I don't know how much burglar alarms cost but I suspect much more, plus they are subject to interference and faults and, because of that, are often ignored as in the case mentioned above.

SCENARIO. Suppose 'The Target' had had CCTV in operation. The owner, being away, could have arranged for the phone call the system made to be routed to his mobile, the police and two neighbours for example. Suppose moreover that this is all happening at 3 o'clock in the morning and suppose I am one of the lucky recipients of the phone call. I look out of the window – nothing. But then 'The Target' is not within my line of sight anyway. Curses. Put the kettle on

and look at the computer – oh yes! You will need a computer! There are, realistically, three possibilities – always bearing in mind that the police will have been alerted, which is not normally the case with a burglar alarm, 1) There, on camera, is a person with a ski mask and rubber gloves, looking indecisive. (Q: "How do you know he's looking indecisive if he's got a mask on?" A: "Wouldn't you be?") 2) the malefactor has heeded the recorded message and legged it – or at any rate there is nothing visible or suspicious on any camera. 3) There is no picture. I'll leave it to your lively imaginations as to what one might do next in the cases of 1 or 2. Just bear in mind that all this is happening in the luxury of my own home, without the need to put on wellies and a trench coat and remember where I put grandfather's truncheon before venturing out. But what about 3? No picture probably means that you have a savvy burglar who, alerted to the camera by the recorded message, has come equipped to lever it from its mounting. There may be no picture, but you still know the system is working because you have had the phone call. And you can check whether the burglar is of the enterprising variety by looking at the previously recorded images on the website, which, long before the burglar gets his crow-bar out, will have been filmed and recorded which indicates what action should be taken.

CCTV can be triggered by motion detection and recorded either on a video machine or a computer or, via computer, on the internet. Any old video machine will do, so if you have gone DVD don't chuck the old video machine away; you could give it a new lease of life as part of a CCTV system. There is one disadvantage to video however. If the burglar can work out that the images are stored on video rather than the internet he can also probably deduce that the video recorder will be somewhere on the premises and that all he therefore needs to do is locate the machine and either steal it or just pinch the tape. Faced with a possibly lengthy search (you could perfectly easily secrete the recorder under the floor boards for example) Burglar Bill may decide to throw in the towel and try next door where there are no such anti-social deterrents. However he would definitely be wasting his time with an internet connection. Once the images are captured they are transmitted instantly to a website where they are a) beyond reach and b) viewable by anyone. Having said that, any sort of surveillance is better than none, even video, and the mere fact of its

presence, as advertised by a notice to that effect not to mention the recorded message etc should, in my view, be a powerful deterrent.

THE BASIC SET-UP. I originally thought economies of scale could be made from several neighbours collaborating in setting up CCTV systems by, for example, having one master control unit and several 'slave' cameras but such turns out not to be the case. So you are all on your own! But here, roughly, is what you might need. Unless you are relying on video alone, you will need a computer. If you have not got one, you can get an adequate second hand one for about £100. It does not need to be very fast or sophisticated. You will also need to be on broadband. This is not essential, but makes life far easier and CHEAPER! Suppose you go away for a fortnight, and you are NOT on broadband, how is the system going to a) make that phone call and b) transmit the images to a website? It is do-able but expensive and awkward.

PRICES. Cameras can be wired or wireless. Wireless are about £50 each, wired from £30. As my router (the broadband equivalent to a modem) is already wireless that is my preferred choice and saves having to feed wires all over the place. You can have (within reason!) as many cameras as you want on a system, and you can arrange that the images captured from each are displayed all on one screen or separately and therefore larger. The only other vital piece of kit you will need is the 'card' or interface to your computer. This is like a sound/graphics card or internal modem and they start at about £100. If you search on the internet for UK suppliers of CCTV kit there are zillions of them. Chose a supplier with a phone number because, unless you are a wiz at this sort of thing, you are going to need to talk to someone sooner or later. And it is always better to try and talk to the technical support people BEFORE you buy the goods than wait till after, as I did with my router to whom I have been unable to speak AT ALL in the 4 months since I bought it! "We are currently experiencing VERY high volumes of calls..." "Well employ more staff you..." I roar at what I hope is even higher volume.

SIGHTING the cameras needs a little thought. You may wish to put them where Burglar Bill can't get at them. (You can get 'vandal resistant' but they are expensive – about £150 each. However, if placed too high the images you get may just be of the bald patch on the top of

Burglar Bill's head and of little use evidentially in court should things get that far. And you may also not get the number of the vehicle or a decent shot of the oaf awaiting his accomplices return. I reckon eight to ten feet off the ground is about right for outside; indoors (don't forget about indoors!) of course you will be constrained by ceiling heights.

ON THE OTHER HAND... You may find all this a bit daunting in which case, the old ways being best, buy a dog. Lu Hawkins' dog Alice has 5 puppies currently converting rabbit into dog which should be weaned by the end of March. Book early!

AND HOW ARE WE GETTING ON IN EAST NYNEHEAD?

Having applied for and obtained 'Owner's' and Planning consents, and every household in the ENNW scheme having coughed up the princely sum of two quid without demur, ENNW signs have now been delivered and erected so we should now be fully burglar proof!

If other 'neighbourhoods' are not in a similar position their residents really need to question their existing coordinators!

Duncan Linklater



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Nynehead Parish Council.

In the last three months your parish council has:

1. Agreed to support a survey of housing need in the village being carried out by the Community Council of Somerset (questionnaire enclosed with this issue of the News).
2. Carried out a survey of users of the Hollow on foot. Although only a few people were questioned some significant comments were made about the safety of the bends at the top of the Hollow. These have been passed to the Highway Authority for their thoughts on what might be done to improve the situation.
3. Continued to take a keen interest in footpaths in the parish with the help of Colin Spackman our volunteer footpath liaison officer. In addition to helping to ensure that footpaths are usable the council is supporting a scheme to provide a small nature reserve and improved footpaths where the old canal crosses the Tone. Details will be presented to a future council meeting but it is not envisaged that any parish council funds will be needed. *We have also looked at the provisions for insurance for footpath works. We have been advised by our insurers that our policy covers only those working directly under the control of the council. Anyone else wishing to carry out for example clearance work should ensure that they have their own insurance cover.*
4. Transferred £800 from the Village of the Year/Millennium fund to the Memorial Hall to help pay for improvements such as a new projector screen and blackout curtains. From the same fund £100 is being given towards the cost of installing a loop system in the parish church.
5. Considered whether to ask the Deane Council to install 'dog waste' bins in the village. However having heard that each bin would cost £150-250 plus up to £40 for installation and £1.70 for each emptying the council decided unanimously not to proceed with the idea. Signs are being put up however.
6. Continued to press the Highway Authority to maintain the roads in good order. A meeting is to be held with the

Highway Surveyor to point out problems.

7. Responded to consultations on planning applications in the parish. The council will be considering the implications for Nynehead of the proposed housing development at Cade's Farm, Wellington.
8. Agreed its budget and parish share of the council tax for 2005-6. The parish share of the council tax has remained relatively constant in recent years despite significant increases in costs. The precept (the sum we ask the Deane to collect on our behalf) for Nynehead rose from £1900 in 1999/2000 to £2200 in 2001/2, but fell to £2000 in 2003/4 and remained at that level in 2004/5. The council therefore reluctantly agreed to increase the precept to £3000 for the coming year to ensure the council's finances remain on a sound footing in the light of growing costs.

David Rabson
Clerk to the Parish Council

NYNEHEAD'S HISTORIC STRUCTURES

Some thoughts on preserving our heritage.

The area of land between Wellington and Nynehead Village, known as *Nynehead Park* in earlier times, contains a number of landscape features and Grade II listed structures, in various states of decay, related to the derelict Grand Western Canal, the railway and the parkland created by the Sanford Family of Nynehead Court over much of the 19thC.

Structures include:

- The carriageway aqueduct.
- The Tone aqueduct.
- The Nynehead canal lift
- Railway bridge and lodge adjoining on south front.
- Walls linking aqueduct and railway-bridge.
- The Three Arch Bridge over the River.
- An early water turbine and generating set.

- Several other structures including culverts and the remains of an accommodation bridge over the canal that could be included in the conservation.

Landscape features include:

- Evidence of weirs and earthworks associated with an ornamental lake (the Great River)
- Evidence of tree planting
- Evidence of land drainage improvement
- Evidence of a grand carriageway to Nynehead Court.
- Earthworks associated with the canal.

The history of the parkland, created c1810, and developed over the next 70 years provides the background for a fascinating study of the interaction between the landed gentry, the local community and the development of canal and railway systems in the latter part of the Industrial revolution. The remaining structures, by their siting and construction, demonstrate how the needs and desires of the main protagonists, often in conflict, were satisfied. Historical evidence tells how local traders and businessmen took advantage of the opportunities provided by the arrival of the new transport systems.

Most of the features are linked by a network of public footpaths providing popular recreational facilities for local people and visitors from further afield including those from abroad. All need a degree of conservation, some more than others and it would be a shame to lose them for good particularly as some are of considerable historical significance.

If anybody is interested in taking this idea further please contact:

Denis Dodd on 01823 661653
or e-mail: - denis.dodd@btinternet.com

Nynehead Women's Institute
1969-2005 RIP

Sadly the WI has had to close. No new members came forward to boost our numbers and existing members felt that it could not continue. Over its 36-year existence we have

had a great deal of fun and learned a lot from all the speakers who came to educate, share their enthusiasm and encourage us to try something new. Some of the speakers took us to areas we are unlikely to experience, e.g. the Antarctic, whilst others shared the tricks of their trade and set some of us off on new hobbies.

Every WI is part of a group of local WIs and at times Nynehead acted as host to 100 visitors, all to be entertained and fed. We were lucky enough to have the first ever talk by the lady who starred in the Channel 4 production of 'The Victorian House', and she brought along the corset she had to wear. Our WI also hosted the first of two international evenings, serving Taiwanese food on the first occasion and French cuisine on the second.

Within the village the WI was responsible for performing the first ever pantomime and initiated the May mini-market to sell cakes and produce. The village harvest supper has traditionally been provided by the WI and ensured excellent food marked this event; sadly attendance had fallen in recent years to an average of about 45. Other events have likewise not been as successful as we would have liked. Although the whole village was invited only one non-member attended an Open Meeting on home and garden security when our policewomen showed us what action to take to secure our property.

Occasionally there were speakers who did not come up to the high standards we expected and yet these are the ones that stick in the mind as giving us cause for mirth. If I mention the topics of marquetry, plaster models or prisons those who were present will know what I mean! However those are the only ones I can recall over a 15 year membership.

The WI has folded and our bank balance has been transferred to our County Federation for safe-keeping. They will hold the cash for 3 years in case anyone wishes to restart a WI. Villages thrive on the organisations within them and the loss of one has further effects. Without the WI the Memorial Hall loses the income from 10 regular lettings a year plus the potential for more. Which group will be next? Do you contribute to an organisation in Nynehead?

Sheila Rabson.

Nynehead Sewage Farm!

Well! There's a subject to catch nobody's attention! Sometimes I write something for the village "News" under the heading of '*Birding in Nynehead*' or something like that. This quarter I am using the heading above even though **birds** are really the subject.

Throughout our departing winter Nynehead has provided an example of a strange new theme in British birds concerning the Summer visiting **Chiffchaff**. Many villagers will know this little olive coloured bird, just over 4" long, from its strident "chiff-chaff" song all through the spring and summer months. It is an early arrival, too, often showing during the second week of March. For a number of years the chiffchaff has discovered that it can just about over-winter in the southern parts of the UK, like its warbler cousin the blackcap. Small numbers of both species seem to find a cosy garden and skulk in the bushes feeding on whatever live food they can discover. Our climate can just about be tolerated by a few of these birds whilst the vast majority migrate in the normal way. In the last 5 or 6 years ornithologists have discovered that wintering chiffchaffs often congregate at sewage farms. The most famous example of this being the huge over-wintering group of 50+ chiffchaffs at Helston in Cornwall.

During late December I found a chiffchaff at Nynehead sewage farm tucked up in the hedge, showing only on bright sunny mornings. In checking the Wellington sewage farm further on the same walk I found none. During January the number grew to 3 or 4 chiffchaffs and in discussing this with David [Manners] we took more and more interest in the site. On one Friday I found 7 flitting about and then David's friend Bob discovered that the birds had 2 pals. We had the very exciting sight of **two firecrests** in the same hedgerow accompanying the chiffchaff. These rare birds are the same size as the goldcrest – Europe's smallest bird – but are very much more striking. We even wondered at one point if one of the two might just be a Pallas' warbler, but caution prevailed. It was mad enough seeing 3 birders by Nynehead sewage farm without the prospect of more than 100 turning up to see such a real rarity!

As I write this piece the chiffchaffs are still in the hedge and I have now counted as many as 11. Some of you may have seen more? Maybe 'Global warming' will increase the numbers over-wintering as time goes by?

I should like to thank Martin Darbyshire for his sightings of **barn owl** in the village and can add to this that the headteacher of West Buckland Primary School has also reported a barn owl sighting by Hornshay Farm; a rare bird this and a treasure to have in the village. Martin has also seen that very rare winter falcon the **merlin** recently, whilst if you are lucky you may occasionally see a **peregrine** in Nynehead. I have seen a male many times this winter pausing on the telegraph poles and Keith Haslam has reported evidence of their kills!

It is great to have all these bits of information. Good luck with the sightings of the first Spring arrivals and here's hoping 'our' cuckoo will return on April 16th! Thank you for reading this and for all pieces of Nynehead natural history interest.

Alastair Riley – amateur ornithologist

BoilerJuice.Com

A new way of buying cheaper heating oil!

A new free service, called 'BoilerJuice' harnesses the collective buying power of oil users to negotiate cheaper prices from oil suppliers. Paul Ward who set up BoilerJuice last year explains: "It seems crazy to see tankers delivering a small amount of oil to one household one day, and back again the next to deliver to a neighbouring home.

It seemed obvious that if householders grouped their orders they could obtain a better price by ordering a larger volume of oil. A recent example shows that the idea works with a 40 house delivery to one village. Instead of 40 individual journeys two tankers did the job in two days. Savings of up to 5p per litre were made

Oil can be ordered on-line through the BoilerJuice website on www.boilerjuice.com by individual households, but real savings come when neighbours place their orders together through a 'group co-ordinator'. BoilerJuice finds the best price in the area and passes the order to suppliers who invoice individual households directly. Eventually, it is expected that households will synchronise their oil buying so that everyone benefits from lower prices.

For further details please visit
www.boilerjuice.com

Foot Path Liaison Officer

Hollow Survey

On a pleasantly warm Thursday February afternoon I helped in a two hour traffic survey at the top of the Hollow. Putting aside for one moment the issue of a bypass footpath, what became apparent was the need to make safer for both pedestrians and vehicles the two bends between the Hollow and the Village Hall. Some signs or road markings that encourage vehicles to maintain a correct speed and line round these bends as well as warning of pedestrians using the roadway would help, be relatively inexpensive and not spoil the rural nature of the village.

Heywood Farm Diversion

An agreed plan to divert the footpath that currently passes through the yard of Heywood Farm has been with TDBC for several months, with no actual progress. Let's hope that when responsibility for rights of way reverts to Somerset County they are more active in making this useful change to the footpath network around Nynehead.

Farthings Close

Last year's partial management of the Farthings Close footpath between the Village Hall and Blackdown View, by disturbing the surface and then harrowing, has settled down and is an improvement, as has Toogoods path in East Nynehead. It is important that this good work is not undone this spring when the fields are cultivated again.

Colin Spackman
Footpath Liaison Officer

Nynehead Jubilee Playing Fields

The Playing Fields committee held a working party on the 6th of February to carry out maintenance. The work that was undertaken was the cutting back of the hedge along the side of the field, which had overgrown and encroached approximately two metres into the playing fields. Whilst the cutting back was happening, there was a constant bonfire burning (with Alan Ketley at the helm), reducing all the trimmings as they came to ash, to keep the mess down to a minimum. In the autumn there will be a further section cleared.

We are now looking for anyone who is interested in joining the committee. There are 4/5 meetings a year only, plus participation in the weekly inspection rota. This involves visiting the playing field to check all equipment has not been vandalised or damaged, and also picking up any litter. This is currently once every eight weeks for each person, but the more people on the committee the lower the frequency. One of the positions we do need to fill is that of Treasurer; anyone interested please contact Ben Tingay.

For those budding duck enthusiast out there, you will be pleased to hear that we will be hosting our Annual Duck Race again this year. Watch this space for further details of when this will be.

Louise Hobbs
Social Secretary

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Nynehead Amateur Dramatic Society

We are working hard on the 2005 pantomime "Aladdin and his Wonderful Lamp" to make sure that you all have a very enjoyable and laughter filled evening. Please do come along and join us in the Memorial Hall on Thursday 17th March, Friday 18th March or Saturday 19th March, at 7.30 pm.

Tickets cost £5.00 for adults and £2.50 for children. The tickets will be on sale from Tuesday 1st March and can be obtained from Hilary Hooper (telephone number 461518).

I would like to thank everyone involved in this year's pantomime, in particular all the people you won't see on the stage - they have been real troupers and we couldn't do it without them. As for the actors, well, they are just enjoying themselves (I hope!)

Rosemary Lea
Honorary Secretary

P.S. Make sure you don't miss the camel and the very creepy spiders!

Nynehead club

The club is still enjoying a good year and hopes to continue to do so. The long awaited lease with the Village Hall seems to be coming to fruition.

In line with most other clubs we have brought in a 'No Smoking' at the bar rule and already a difference can be seen. Over the past six months we have been revamping and decorating the club.

We will be having our annual Easter Saturday Party - so please make sure you bring your bonnets! We are also hoping to organise a couple of skittle nights in the near future.

Our opening times continue to be Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 8.30 pm until 11 pm. We hope that you will be able to come along and enjoy a quiet drink with us, and maybe play a game of darts or pool.

New members are always welcome and subscriptions remain at £2 per year.

Mervyn Hooper
Chairman

A Big Thank You!

Do you remember the 5th June last year?

If so you may well have been one of our many friends who witnessed our wedding at Nynehead Church and then came to the reception at Oake.

Thanks to all for your company, gifts and support on this day which was so important to us.

I've been meaning to thank you all before now, but due to a close bereavement I am sure you will appreciate that my mind has been on other things.

Anyway, we had a great day – one that we will always remember.

Thanks to you all,
Love
Gilly & Terry

Nynehead Memorial Hall (Annual General Meeting)

All local residents are invited to attend the above meeting to be held in:

Nynehead Memorial Hall

On Monday 28th April

Commencing at 7.30 p.m.

(Please refer to the Memorial Hall article for more information)

Nynehead Court

The Stepping Stone Group is a local company, based in Tiverton, who specialise in the provision of professional care and services to those people wishing to retain their independence in retirement. The Group was formed in 1998 to develop close care housing in the grounds of established care homes and has developed close care schemes in Devon, Dorset, Avon, Wiltshire and Northamptonshire.

In 1999 the Group acquired its first care home and now has both residential and nursing care homes in Somerset, Devon and Dorset, where it continues to promote the furtherance of independence with the provision of quality care in the care homes and the extended provision of care in the newly developed close care housing schemes.

Nynehead Court was acquired by The Stepping Stone Group in January last year because it was felt that the home provided an ideal setting to both improve and extend the provision of care within its own grounds. Whilst many improvements have already been made to the fabric and staffing of the home, with the emphasis on person orientated care and greater variety in the day to day programme of events, much background work has also been undertaken in conjunction with English Heritage and Taunton Deane Borough Council to see if the outhouses can be converted to enable more independent living. Consultants are nearing the completion of their first report to determine the extent to which additional accommodation may be provided and it is hoped that both the old stables and garages, as well as the dilapidated buildings to the rear of the Court, may be converted to provide close care housing and more independent living accommodation. It is also intended to reinstate the Orangery, in the front of the Court and overlooking the Church, in order to provide additional public space and an area to entertain.

One of the greatest attributes of Nynehead Court is the invaluable link with the local community provided by the Nynehead Court Support Group, without which the quality of life for the residents of the Court would not be the same. The Stepping Stone Group are indebted to the members of the Nynehead Court Support Group for their support and help provided to both the new management and the residents of the Court and very much hope that they may continue and

expand the participation to provide a mutually beneficial means of support within the Nynehead community.

John Lewin
(Managing Director)

Nynehead Court Support Group

The Support Group at Nynehead Court continues to be active, regularly helping to entertain the residents.

Recent visits by local people have been much appreciated – Ann McLaren demonstrated her beautiful beading and embroidery, Tony Lock gave a talk on the history of the house and Ann Bartaby helped some of the residents do Christmas flower arrangements for the table in the dining room.

Other events, with which the Support Group have been involved include a cocktail partying in aid of the Alzheimer's Society, a Pig Roast in aid of the Osteoporosis Society and a coffee morning for St. Margaret's Hospice, all of which were most successful and much enjoyed by residents and guests alike. A visit by the Wellington Silver Band and the Taunton Suzuki Violin Group was also a great success, despite the inclement weather!

In addition, the Support Group host monthly "in house" drinks parties, afternoon talks, musical entertainment and occasional coffee mornings. These activities hopefully add interest to the lives of the residents and help them to form a bond with the Group.

Janet Watson

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Memorial Hall AGM

The AGM of the Memorial Hall will be held in the hall on Monday 25 April at 7.30 p.m. and is open to all local residents. The Hall is a registered charity provided for the benefit of local people. Please come along to hear what the Hall Management Committee has been doing on their behalf and to discuss ideas and plans for the future. This is an important year for the hall as while it is a much-appreciated facility in the village it is in need of upgrading to ensure that it is fit for the future. We have been working on proposals for improving the toilets and how to ensure the hall otherwise meets the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act, not forgetting that day-to-day maintenance has to continue.

In order to maintain and improve the hall as a facility for Nynehead we need a good and active committee, which is appointed each year at the AGM. The Committee is responsible for the day-to-day management, upkeep and finances of the hall. In the past year we have met eight times but how often the Committee meets and when is in the hands of the members.

Various organisations in the village are entitled to appoint one person each to the Management Committee. Those appointed by organisations are full members of the Committee, along with five other members elected at the AGM. The Committee also has the power to co-opt up to three members. All members serve on the Committee for one year from the AGM.

The officers (chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, treasurer) are appointed/re-appointed by the new committee at its first meeting. However it is certain that a new secretary will be needed as I am bowing out having done the job for 7 years.

David Rabson
Memorial Hall Secretary

Nynehead and District Local History Society

Since the last newsletter we have had three meetings. In December John Page told us the story of the real King John's hunting lodge in Axbridge, and of the building in the town which commonly goes under that name. We hope to follow up the talk with a visit to Axbridge this summer.

In January our annual new year party was enlivened by a talk from David Manners with the intriguing title of 'Don't step on the cracks in the pavement'. David's description of a winter visit to look at the wildlife of Poland, Finland and Lapland was illustrated with his excellent slides, which made some of the audience shiver despite the effective hall heating!

In a complete change of topic our February meeting heard Hazel Hudson on 'the Sinners of Wedmore' with particular emphasis on the lives of women in that large village out on the Levels.

Our varied programme continues with the Lost Ports of the River Severn and Bristol Channel (March), Historic Wills (April) and The Somerset Dendrochronology Project (May).

All our winter meetings are held in the Memorial Hall on the second Friday of each month, starting at 7.45 p.m.

This summer we will have monthly outings to places of interest, including Axbridge, but ideas for other visits would be welcome. I had hoped to arrange a visit to the new Met Office in Exeter but they are fully booked this year so that is one for 2006.

David Rabson.

Annual Parish Meeting

Members of Nynehead's electorate are invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting to be held in:

Nynehead Memorial Hall

Thursday 12th May Commencing at 7.30 p.m.

This is your opportunity to hear reports from, and ask questions of, Nynehead's active village organisations

Wiveliscombe & Milverton Police

As it is the beginning of a New Year it is time to take a look at the levels of crime in the West Somerset area in comparison to the previous twelve month period. I am delighted to tell you that there has been a considerable reduction in the number of dwelling burglaries. The number of non-dwelling burglaries and thefts of motor vehicles has also reduced.

However, the occurrences of the following crimes have all increased by varying degrees: - theft from motor vehicle, violent crime, robberies, sex offences, shoplifting and other crime. You can view all of the current crime statistics on our force web site at www.avonandsomerset.police.uk .

These figures are of course for a vast area so before we all get too upset, let me tell you what has been going on locally. The Christmas period was very quiet, the few exceptions were that a business in Ford Road Wiveliscombe had a break in and another business in Milverton had diesel stolen. There was a burglary at Kingsmead community school and a small outbreak of minor thefts from sheds in the Kittisford, Bathealton areas. Since the beginning of January there have been a number of thefts from outbuildings; here is a summary;

Hillfarrance	horse tack stolen
Hillcommon	cycles stolen
Fitzhead	garden mower stolen
Fitzhead	chainsaw and garden tools stolen
Fitzhead	power tools and garden tools stolen
Norton Fitzwarren	power tools and other tools stolen
Wiveliscombe	propane gas cylinders stolen
Ford Bridge, Milverton	chainsaws, grinders, generator, disc cutter diesel and tools stolen
Croford	quad bike and chainsaw stolen
Fitzhead	electric saw, hedge trimmer and chainsaw stolen

All of these thefts occurred overnight or during the hours of darkness.

Other crime that has occurred recently includes:-

Fitzhead	theft from insecure motor vehicle
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Nynehead	criminal damage to motor vehicle
Wiveliscombe	criminal damage to motor vehicle

There was also a domestic burglary in Wiveliscombe during February where three suspects were arrested nearby having been chased from the scene by the victim. Enquiries are on going in relation to this.

On the whole Nynehead has fared pretty well and crime is low in your area, lets not become complacent. Please remain vigilant and check your own security.

As you are probably aware the Community Policing Unit has been suspended for a period. This is due to the support staff who manned the vehicle taking on their new roles as Police Community Support Officers. The service will return some time in the future when a decision is made about how it will be staffed.

I have visited Nynehead School on a couple of occasions since my last newsletter speaking to them about road safety. I was also invited to the pre-school in the village hall, where the children had fun trying on items of police uniform and testing out the blue lights and sirens on the police car.

Mark and I run a beat surgery every Wednesday between 1100 – 1300 at Wiveliscombe House in the Square, Wiveliscombe. You can come along and speak to us in confidence about anything. Or just pop in to meet us if you wish.

There are a number of neighbourhood watch schemes up and running in Nynehead. They receive regular updates about recent crime trends and act as our eyes and ears passing on information. If you are not a member of a scheme and would like to know more, contact Mark or I and we would be glad to assist.

You can contact us at Wellington Police Station 01823 363262 via e mail, or on our mobile phones.

Mark Jones
mark.jones@avonandsomerset.police.uk
0771 7700 659
Joanne Jeffery
joanne.jeffery@avonandsomerset.police.uk
0771 7700 6611

Jo Jeffery

More of the Guardian Angel.

Have you read the "The Book of Nynhead?" Even if you have it is unlikely that you will remember the photograph of an Austin A35 car parked in front of Havilands Farmhouse on page 72.

My father, Clarence Roney Howe, bought the smallholding sometime in the 1950's. The Austin belonged to my brother-in-law, who had motored down from Basingstoke on Saturday morning, to show off his new car and to admire the newly acquired property, thus the photograph, showing both acquisitions together.

I had just returned to Plymouth dockyard from foreign parts, and was a willing admirer of both the house and car, particularly the latter. When I was asked if I would like a ride to the "Blackbird Inn" to confirm a booked room you can imagine the excitement. Cars were a rarity at that time, particularly new models.

Rex, the brother-in-law, was proud of his car so drove via Poole Crossing to give me a longer ride. You can imagine with no roundabout at Chelston, and very few cars on the road, we were going quite fast as we approached the corner at the bottom of the Piccadilly straight. It was now late Saturday afternoon, with shoppers and farmers returning from Taunton, the cars approaching on the opposite side of the road were more or less head to tail. Suddenly there was one almighty bang and the car gave a sickening lurch to the right, turned a complete circle in the road smashing into the curb stones on the opposite side pointing back the way we had come. A short gap just happened to appear in the traffic queue at that moment, the car behind us managed to stop. We were somewhat subdued as we changed the offside front wheel and the blown tyre.

A Guardian Angel would you say?

Allan Howe



Remember me?

What do you see, nurses, what do you see?
What are you thinking when you look at me?
A crabbit old woman, not very wise,
Uncertain of habit with far-away eyes
Who dribbles her food and makes no reply
When you say in a loud voice 'I do wish you'd try'.
Who seems not to notice the things that you do
And forever is losing a stick or a shoe
Who unresistingly or not lets you do as you will,
With bathing and feeding - the long day to fill.
Is that what you're thinking? Is that what you see?
Then open your eyes nurse - you're looking at me.
I'll tell you who I am as I sit here so still
As I move at your bidding, as I eat at your will.

I'm a small child of ten with a father and mother,
Brothers and sisters who love one another.
A young girl of sixteen with wings on her feet,
Dreaming that soon a lover she'll meet.
A bride soon, at twenty my heart gives a leap
Remembering the vows that I promised to keep.
At twenty-five now I have young of my own
Who need me to build a secure happy home?
A young woman of thirty, my young now grow fast
Bound to each other with ties that should last.
At forty my young ones now grown will be gone
But my memory's beside me to see I don't mourn
At fifty, once more, babies play round my knee
Again, we know children, my loved one and me.
Dark days are upon me, my husband is dead
I look at the future, I shudder with dread.
My young are all busy rearing young of their own
And I think of the years and the love I have known.

I'm an old woman now and nature is cruel
The body it crumbles, grace and vigour depart
There now is a stone where I once had a heart.
But inside this old carcass a young girl still dwells
And now and again my battered heart swells
I remember the Joys, I remember the pain
And I'm loving and living life over again
I think of the years - all too few - gone too fast
And accept the stark fact that nothing can last
So open your eyes, nurses, open and see
Not a crabbit old woman
Look closer, see **ME!**



Gardening in winter.

The temptation at this time of year is to do as little gardening as possible.

However, bulbs are coming into flower, although the snowdrops will of course have largely finished. Nevertheless this is the time to be planning bulb displays for later in the year when the catalogues arrive. Leave it till the autumn and you can be sure that what looked so obvious in March has largely faded from memory. So look out of the window now and note where the gaps are in your garden displays. Pinch ideas from everyone else if necessary but by doing this when the catalogues arrive you will have a clear idea of what you need. Remember that daffodils vary in their flowering times. February Gold for instance is one of the earliest you will commonly find. If you really want to push the boat out try Rijnvelds Early Sensation and you will have flowers before Christmas!

Another area is the fruit garden. Good quality fruit doesn't just happen, so this is the time of year to apply fertilisers. Strawberries, black and red currents and raspberries will all benefit from an application of sulphate of potash. This ensures adequate levels of potash or potassium in the soil. Apple trees might well need some nitrochalk so that calcium is applied to the soil and you avoid 'bitter pit' those annoying brown spots inside a cooking apple

The English garden is supposed to be famous for its lawns and action at this time of year will ensure that your lawn sustains this idea. Abandoning your green patch from November till April is a guarantee of problems to come. Right now you can be applying lawn sand to reduce moss levels but remember moss is a symptom of poor conditions and the lawn sand won't change the underlying problem. This means that if you have a lot of moss you should check the drainage of the lawn and perhaps spike to relive compaction or check to see if your lawn is too shady. Both problems will assist the growth of moss. It is still too early to be applying lawn fertiliser which should be left until April. However there are some good deals to be had at the Garden Centres so it isn't a bad idea to stock up and be ready. Don't forget Blackdown Garden Centre has sponsored our show schedule this year.

Alan Ketley

Nynehead Under 5's Pre-School

Nynehead Under 5s Pre-School continues to flourish and a number of children have joined us this term. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new families and to extend an invitation to anyone who might be interested to come along and see what we can offer. Alternatively, please contact Dawn for a prospectus tel. 01823 666895.

Nynehead Under 5s recently held a very successful Prize Bingo night. The fantastic prizes included chicken dinners and egg and bacon breakfasts! Thanks to the large turnout we managed to raise over £120 and had a good night out. Another night is planned for Easter so watch out for the posters!

Nynehead Under 5s Toddler Group is on Wednesday mornings (term time only) from 9.30 – 12noon.

It continues to offer a wide range of activities including; painting, puzzles, dressing up, craft activities, baby toys, bikes, construction, story-time, snack-time and music.

If anyone is interested in helping with these activities, whether you have children or not, please contact: -

Dawn tel. 01823 666895.

Business Fair

In partnership with the Wellington Chamber of Commerce we are holding a Business event on Thursday 7th April. The event will provide a one-stop shop for existing businesses (or those thinking of setting up) to talk to training providers, the Inland Revenue, TDBC, finance institutions, grant providers etc. The event will run from 4-7pm at the Cleve Hotel in Mantle Street, Wellington.

The event is free of charge, businesses attending will receive a free listing in the following weeks paper, there will an opportunity to sign up for training and there is the obvious opportunity to develop new business relationships locally.

Please come along - and pass this message onto others who may be interested.

For further information please contact Hattie Winter on 01823 356485 or e-mail h.winter@tauntondeane.gov.uk

Useful Local Contacts

All Saints Church

Tony Lock	461214		
Allan Howe	666995	email	howe@howe.eclipse.co.uk

Grand Western Canal Trust

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

Ben Tingay (Chairman)	669828	Mobile	07971 496665
David Raybould (Secretary)	669727		

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators

Jenny Dodd	661653	email	doddy@talk21.com
Lu Hawkins	461781	email	luhawkins@dollings.fsnet.co.uk
Alan 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		
Chris Watson	662740		

Nynehead Amateur Dramatic Society (NADS)

Alison Ellis	664248		
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Nynehead News

Allan Howe - Chairman	666995	email	howe@howe.eclipse.co.uk
Duncan Linklater - Secretary	461637	email	duncan@designlink.co.uk
Mike Briginshaw - Treasurer	461627	email	bmike1@onetel.com

Nynehead Cricket Club

Keith Haslam	461667		
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Nynehead Garden Club & Environment Group

Alan Ketley	666249	email	alan.ketley@homecall.co.uk
Jill Prior	660164	email	rogerandjill@eclipse.co.uk

Nynehead History Society

David Rabson	666609	email	rabsons@btinternet.com
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Nynehead Club

Mervyn Hooper - Chairman	461518		
Zoe Eglin - Secretary	660757		
Dennis Galpin - Treasurer	665879		

Useful Local Contacts

Nynehead Memorial Hall

Gary Sparks (Chairman)	663745
Louise Hobbs (Treasurer)	669828
John Sparks (Booking Secretary)	662107

Nynehead School

Angela Lewis - (Head Teacher)	662021	email	alewis1@educ.somerset.gov.uk
Carole Darby - (Chair of Govenors)	663166	email	caroledarby306@hotmail.com

Friends of Nynehead School

Mary Sparks	663745
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Parish Council:

Mervyn Hooper - Chairman	461518		
David Rabson (Clerk)	666609	email	rabsons@btinternet.com
Mike Briginshaw - Vice Chairman	461627	email	bmike1@onetel.com
Phil Bassett	665766	email	swiftline42@aol.com
Alan Ketley	666249	email	alan.ketley@homecall.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

Wellington Station	363262		
Wellington Fax	660396		
Taunton Station	337911		
PC Mark Jones - Voice Mail	01823 363287	then	70733
PC Mark Jones - Mobile	0771 7700 659	email	markj.jones@avonandsomerset.police.uk
PC Joanne Jeffery	0771 7700 6611	email	joanne.jeffery@avonandsomerset.police.uk

POLICE - Crimestoppers

To give anonymous information	0800 555 111
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Pre-school and Toddler group (Under 5s)

Dawn Netley	666895
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Rural Youth Project

Dawn Netley	666895
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Diary – 6th March 2005 to 3rd June 2005

7-Mar	Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 7.30 pm
9-Mar	Nynehead Court – Talk by James Williams on Otters
11-Mar	History Society – Lost Ports of River Severn & Bristol Channel – 7.45 at Village Hall
14-Mar	Garden Club –Talk & tips on your show entries – Village Hall – 7.30 pm
17, 18, 19 - Mar	Pantomime - "Aladdin and his Wonderful Lamp" – Village Hall – 7.30 pm
23-Mar	Introductory session on 'Digital Photography' – Nynehead School – 7 pm
24-Mar	Nynehead School Easter Service at All Saints Church – 2 pm
26-Mar	Introductory session on 'Digital Photography' – Nynehead School – 11 am
4-Apr	Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 7.30 pm
8-Apr	History Society – Historic Wills – 7.45 at Village Hall
11-Apr	Garden Club – Floristry & flower arranging – Village Hall 7.30
28-Apr	Nynehead Memorial Hall Annual General Meeting at Village Hall – 7.30 pm
8-May	Nynehead Court Spring Fair
9-May	Parish Council Annual Meeting – Village Hall – 7.30 pm
9-May	Garden Club – Visit to Sheppy's Cider works – meet at Village Hall 7.30 pm
12-May	Annual Parish Meeting at Village Hall – 7.30 pm
13-May	History Society – AGM & The Somerset Dendrochronology Project – 7.45 at Village Hall
21-May	Copy Deadline for June Edition of Nynehead News
4-Jun	Distribution of June Edition of Nynehead News
18-Jun	Barn Dance at Village Hall – further details to be announced



The picture on the front of our December 2004 edition showed a group of dead elms in the paddock on the right going towards Court Gardens from Nynehead Court

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Wed, Thurs & Fri – 1 Course £5.95; 2 Course £6.95; 3 Course £7.95

Mothering Sunday

Sunday 6th March – Book early to avoid disappointment