

# Nynehead News

Volume 6

March 2007

Issue 1

E-mail: [newsletter@nynehead.org](mailto:newsletter@nynehead.org)

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

[www.nynehead.org](http://www.nynehead.org)



Remember Beauty & the Beast from last year's Pantomime?  
Well, this year you can follow the adventures of Dick Whittington  
on March 21<sup>st</sup> (Dress Rehearsal), 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>.  
To get your tickets call Hilary Hooper on 461518

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## Welcome to the March 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.*

### Contents

Item	Page
All Saints Church	6 & 7
Birdwatching	17
Club	14
Cricket Club	11
Editorial Comment	3
Footpaths	12 & 13
Garden Club	8
History Society	16
Influencing Nynehead	5
Local Contacts	22 & 23
Local Geology	9
Lost & Found	18

Item	Page
NADS	10
Nynehead Court	15
Parish Council	4
Playing Fields	10
Police Notice	20
Pre-School & Toddlers	11
St Margaret's Hospice	16
Three Arch Bridge - working party	19
Tree Warden	19
Food for Thought	18
Village Hall	20

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For more information Contact Peter Russell on 01823 461668

## Editorial Comment

Welcome to the first edition of your newsletter in 2007. Firstly I would like to welcome and thank Elaine Burt from Poole as a new contributor. Elaine has sent me a series of three articles about the geology of Nynehead and the surrounding area. The first is published in this edition with the others appearing in June and September. Elaine's excellent photographs are best viewed in colour and are readily viewed on our website at [www.nynehead.org/newsletter](http://www.nynehead.org/newsletter).

Also new to the index at [www.nynehead.org](http://www.nynehead.org) is a heading for 'business' where those who have paid their fiver now have their advertisements displayed for the world to view. A few of these advertisements also have 'links' that carry you to their home pages where more details of their products and services are readily available.

The major event taking place in the period covered by this edition is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May - the local elections. On that day you will be able to vote for your County & District Councillors for the next four years - *but far more importantly - your Parish Councillors as well!*

Those who keep tabs on local government politics will know that Somerset County Council is applying for 'Unitary' status. This simply means that Taunton Deane and another four of the District Councils in Somerset will disappear - becoming amalgamated with the proposed new County Unitary Authority.

At this stage we don't know the outcome, but if the project goes ahead it is likely that Parishes will have more responsibility, and hopefully the delegated authority, to enable them to become far more effective. This also means that Parish Councillors are likely to have more influence on local services, developments.

If you feel strongly about the future of our community this could be your opportunity to influence the future of our Parish. To do so however, it is important that you become a candidate for election. If you aren't interested in standing for election it is still your responsibility to show your support for those you feel most capable - by casting your vote in their favour!

The picture on our front page -taken during last year's pantomime " Beauty &The Beast" might give a clue that it will soon be 'Panto Time' again. This year Dick Whittington will be in residence at the Village Hall on the 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> March. I understand that tickets are selling like wildfire so if you haven't already got yours - don't wait!

I have received the 2007 Public Transport Timetable for our area - well, I think it covers us, except that Nynehead does not appear on the index page! However, we are listed on page 95 under service 610 from West-Fitzhead to Wellington. It runs every Thursday (except public holidays) and according to the timetable calls at East Nynehead (Old Granary) at 10.15, Nynehead Post Office (It really says so!) at 10.19, arriving at Wellington High Street at 10.22. I reckon that 7 minutes - including stops and traffic, to get from East Nynehead to Wellington is 'going some!' The return times are departing from Wellington at 12.20 and arriving at East Nynehead by 12.27. Well, at least it's as fast one way as the other! Further information on bus services throughout Somerset is available on 0845 345 9155 or by email at [transport@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:transport@somerset.gov.uk). Details of the Slinky bus service are available by calling 0844 800 9649.

Best wishes to all,

**Mike**

## Nynehead Parish Council

As most people should know there are discussions underway about major changes to the system of local government in Somerset. Whatever happens it is likely that parish councils will have more responsibilities and powers. In addition the four-yearly parish council elections will take place on 3 May, so it is widely recognised that it is even more important than ever to encourage people to stand for election and play their part in looking after the village's interests.

As a sample of what the council does during the last three months we have:

- Made representations to the Deane Council on 5 planning applications including 2 at the Poole waste disposal site. In 2006 there were 14 applications in the parish.
- Maintained close liaison with Somerset Highways to ensure that roads in the parish are kept in a good and usable state. Recent work resulting from this liaison has included clearance of leaves and mud in the Hollow, cleaning of ditches on the Hornshay road and repair of potholes.
- Kept the village footpaths in a usable condition through Colin Spackman's excellent work and in cooperation with the county council and landowners.
- Started work on a plan to help the village to respond to civil emergencies both natural and man-made.

To support the council's work we have set a precept (share of the council tax) of £3150 for 2007-8 (a 5% increase on 2006-7).

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. If you are interested in standing for the council in May come along and see what happens.

## The Annual Parish Meeting

This meeting is the opportunity for voters in the parish to hear about what has been going on in the past year. This year in addition to sharing the activities of village organisations we will have a guest speaker from the Somerset St. Margaret's Hospice. Few people in the village will not have been touched in some way by the work they do and this will be an opportunity to hear at first hand about this and their plans for the future.

The meeting will be in the Memorial Hall on Thursday 17 May starting at 7.30 p.m.

*David Rabson.*

*Clerk to the Parish Council*

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# How could you influence the future of Nynehead?

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May Nynehead will be electing Parish Councillors for the next four years. In becoming a successful candidate you could influence the future of our community.

Meetings are held in the Village Hall on the first Monday of every month (except August), starting at 7.30 pm and normally last about 1½ hours. There may also be a few occasions during the year when you might wish to help with an inspection of our highways, footpaths, planning applications and other aspects of concern to the Parish.

Looking to the future, planned changes to the structure of local government might result in Parish Councils being given increased powers. If this happens it is likely that Councillors also could become more influential.

To find out more contact David Rabson on 666609, or any of the Councillors listed in your Nynehead News and at:

[www.nynehead.org](http://www.nynehead.org)

Nominations must be received by the Election Officer at the Deane House by 12 noon on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April – so why not come along to a council meeting, (March 5<sup>th</sup> & April 2<sup>nd</sup>) and discover how you could make a difference

## All Saints Church, Nynehead

### Church Services:

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in the month in Nynehead Court at 10-30am

2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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 and the service is followed by coffee. This is a short service of Morning Prayer with hymns that is open to anyone to attend.

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

Pastoral matters: Please contact Rev. Margi Campbell tel 669446

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

At the time of writing the churchyard indicates that Spring is on its way as the snowdrops are in full bloom.

Christmas seems now well past but this is the first edition of the Village Newsletter since before Christmas, so I need to reflect on the various church activities which took place over the festive season when we celebrated the birth of Christ:

**Charity giving-** The collection of gifts for the Women's Refuge in Taunton was very successful and we were able to deliver 3 carloads of gifts for the children and women who were spending Christmas in the Refuge; they were extremely pleased to be remembered at this time. We also had a collection for the Church of England

Children's Society and were able to send a useful gift in support of their work. Carol services – Once again this year we held a very successful gathering in the Village Hall where those present enjoyed an evening singing carols which were interspersed with appropriate readings. The evening concluded with refreshments and we were extremely grateful to Nynehead Court for providing a wonderful spread of food. We do truly appreciate the way in which the management of the Court are always willing to support the village in so many ways.

A Candle-lit carol service was again held in Church and a large number of the village, plus many from elsewhere, enjoyed the wonderful atmosphere that a candle-lit church creates and the opportunity of joining together in order to celebrate Christmas.

This year the **Christmas Day Service** was held at 9-30am and was extremely well attended. The earlier start obviously assisted those who had a Christmas lunch to prepare and certainly many children then were able to open presents before lunch instead of waiting until later in the day.

The vicar, **Margi Campbell**, has now been with us for twelve months and during that time she has introduced many new ideas and services, which have been greatly welcomed by the Parish. We just wonder where she gets her energy from running five parishes and a family home. Obviously with the five parishes it is impossible for Margi to visit members of the church at home, unless there is an urgent need, so she is experimenting by making herself available in church for an hour on a regular basis.

In April four members of the Wellington Team Ministry will be visiting Mwenda in order to build up links with the churches there and discover how we may be able to help them. Our representative will be Allan Howe.

**Electoral Roll:** At regular intervals through the years we are invited to renew our commitment to our local parish church by joining the Church Electoral Roll. 2007 sees the reformation of this Roll where all names are removed throughout the country and all are asked to reaffirm their commitment to the local parish church. Along with this commitment one is able to influence the running of the local church and is able to be involved in the election of the Churchwardens and members of the Parochial Church Council. If you would be interested in being on the electoral roll please contact Cynthia Lock (tel 461214).

**Annual Church Meeting:** This will be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 7-30pm in Church when the Annual Report will be presented along with the financial report etc and elections will take place for Churchwardens and members of the Parochial Church Council.

**Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy:** In order to supplement church funds there will be a Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy at Bluehills, East Nyngham on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April at 10-30am. ALL WILL BE VERY WELCOME.

**Church Building etc.:** In order to create a social area in the church the pews in the southeast corner of the church have been reorganised and we were very grateful to the Chelston Carpet Warehouse for the gift of a carpet for the area. This has enabled members of the congregation to have coffee etc after Sunday Services and to have an area where they can meet socially.

As reported in the last Village Newsletter, work needs to be carried out on the Bell Openings and we have now received permission for this urgent work to go ahead at a cost of almost £4,000. The Weston Family Fund has donated £2,000 towards this cost.

In recent months we have been having problems with both the heating and electrics in the church, which has involved employing both heating engineers and electricians.

Fund raising for the bells has been extremely successful and we now only need approximately £3,000 in order to reach the total required of £24,000. Allan Howe will be delighted to receive any further gifts and if you are a taxpayer please do give under the Gift Aid Scheme as in this way we can claim tax back from the Inland Revenue. It is hoped that the bells may be back in the tower by the end of the year. Six people have shown an interest in becoming Bell Ringers and more names would be very welcome in order to make up a team. If you would be interested please contact Allan Howe tel. 666995.

As the bells will be rung from the church floor rather than from the ringing chamber we will need to protect the Della Robbia under the tower, so we have had to apply for permission to install two temporary doors to protect this valuable artefact.

In the near future work has to be carried out on the east window in the south aisle as the iron bars protecting the window are rusting in the stonework.

In such an ancient historic building there is always so much to do which involves raising a great deal of money in order to fund the repairs and all this has to be done locally. We have joined the petition to the Prime Minister in support of reimbursement of the cost of repairs to church buildings as we feel that the building is a National Heritage and therefore much of the maintenance should be funded Nationally as it is in many European countries.

Tony Lock  
Tel 461214



## Nynehead Garden Club

The new season of monthly meetings and activities is under way and soon the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Show will be upon us.

This year sees some minor changes to the schedule arising from our previous experiences. The schedule for the show is enclosed with this Newsletter.

This year it is called the **Family Flower Show** in order to encourage as big an entry as possible. It will be held on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August.

The Show is not just for the gardeners among us but for everyone living in and around the village, and to encourage a bigger and better entry this year we have introduced some new Fun Classes for all the family.

### **Scarecrow Competition**

Create a scarecrow and display it in your garden before the show. All the entries will be judged during the weekend of 11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> August and a prize awarded for the best one.

Let your imagination and creative skills run riot!

Entry will cost £1 and forms can be obtained from either Ann Manners or Alan Ketley.

### **Spud in a Bucket !**

Why not grow your own spuds AND win a prize?

The Garden Club will supply a bright orange bucket and a single seed potato for just £1 and all you have to do is grow it in your own secret recipe of soil/compost. On the day of the Show bring your bucket along to the Village Hall where it will be emptied and weighed and the grower of the heaviest crop will be declared the winner!

....AND you get to take your own home-grown spuds away to enjoy after the show!

Buckets and potato are available now from Ann and David Manners - don't delay!

### **Tallest Sunflower**

One for the kids! - or even the whole family.....

We supply the seeds and you grow them in your garden/window box or wherever you choose. On 18 August, cut the plant off at ground level and bring it to the Show for measuring and the tallest will be the winner.

Finally, the new 2007 season is under way and we have an interesting and inspiring programme planned, so why not come and join us - or renew your membership if you haven't done so already - the subscription is just £5 for the year or £1 per meeting for visitors. Remember that you don't have to be an expert gardener to benefit.

*David Manners*  
(Tel: 661453)  
*Secretary*

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**Local Geology- Part 1**  
**Budleigh Salterton Pebble Beds Formation**  
**and Otter Sandstone Formation**

This is the first in a series of three short articles that describe the geology of the area around Nynehead. The intention is to give a general understanding of the variable rocks and soils of the district and perhaps give a new perspective on the countryside.

The first article describes the area from Langford Budville through to Nynehead Hollow. The second article describes the area around Nynehead village through to West Buckland and Bradford on Tone, while the third article describes part of the Blackdown Hills.

At Langford Budville the Budleigh Salterton Pebble Beds Formation crops out. These rocks, as the name suggests, are conglomerates (pebble beds) formed from well-rounded pebbles mixed with a matrix of sand and silt. The conglomerates are Lower Triassic in age (approx. 240 Ma). During the Triassic this area would have been a desert region, like parts of Africa today, with sand dunes, seasonal rivers and lakes and the occasional volcano. This is because the continent would have been closer to the equator.

The pebble beds were deposited in fast flowing, braided river systems (hence the well-rounded clasts), with occasional flooding events where large amounts of material would be deposited in a short period of time. When the rocks are examined closely channels and cross bedding are apparent, indicating the direction of flow of the river at that time.



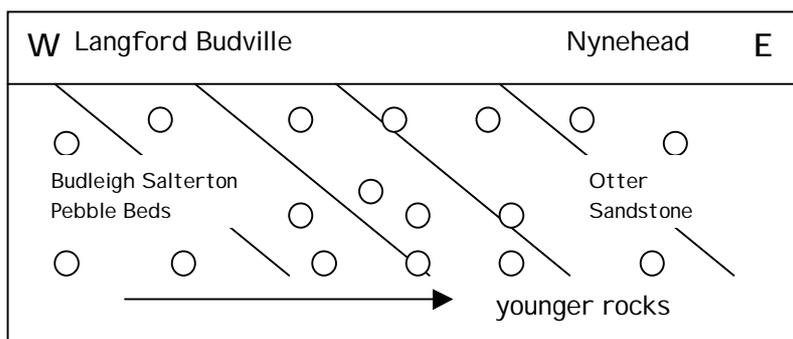
**Lime Kilns**

At Langford Budville a large number of the pebbles that make up the rocks are limestone and along the public footpath at GR 108 221 the remains of an old lime kiln can be seen next to an overgrown rock face. Other old limekilns can also be found near quarries in the pebble beds in the Taunton area.



The rocks dip gently to the East so travelling from Langford Budville towards Nynehead brings you up the geological sequence into younger rocks. Above the Budleigh Salterton Pebble Beds Formation is the Otter Sandstone Formation. This will be familiar to Nynehead residents as the red sandstone exposed in Nynehead Hollow. This is also Triassic in age and was formed in braided and meandering stream channels in arid conditions. Cross bedding within the Otter Sandstone Formation indicates that in general the rivers flowed from south to north.

*Elaine Burt*



## Nynehead Playing Fields

Due to our computer completely giving up the ghost I missed the dead-line for the last issue for Nynehead News so this is a bit of old news.

I would like to thank Robin Darby for the use of his field and the river for our annual duck race held on 16th September 2006. The committee would like to thank the sponsors of the races below and as you can see a lot of the winners live in the village so supporting the playing fields does pay back for some. See you all at the 2007 race!

### Race Sponsor Winners

- 1 Nynehead Books - Mr Parker
- 2 Discount Tiles - Kevin Tingay
- 3 The Anchor Inn - Denis Dodd
- 4 Formula cars - Rob Morgan
- 5 Nynehead Fruit Farm - Caroline
- 6 Tim Potter Butchers - David Raybould
- 7 Fox's Farm Services - S Morreu
- 8 Wellington Book Shop - Ann Howe
- 9 Blackdown MOT Centre - Zoe Eglin
- 10 White Horse Inn - Mrs Harcombe

### Final:

Nynehead Club - Terry Binding  
Hardacre Builders  
Nynehead Court

Thursday 24th May 2007 is the Annual General Meeting 7:30pm at Nynehead Club and we are looking for new committee members especially those with children. We only need a small amount of your time, 2-3 meetings a year and a playing field inspection once every 8-9 weeks. Any one interested please speak to Ben Tingay or David Raybould as many hands make light work!

*Ben Tingay*  
Chairman



## Nynehead Amateur Dramatic Society

NADS members have been busy for the last few weeks preparing for this year's pantomime, Dick Whittington, which promises to be full of action and fun. There is a character with a famous future, a cat that isn't quite the ruthless hunter a cat should be, pirates and a shipwreck plus some really good cookery tips.

Please come and join us in the Memorial Hall on Thursday 22nd March, Friday 23rd March or Saturday 24th March, at 7.30 pm. Tickets cost £5.00 for adults and £2.50 for children.

Tickets are also available for the dress rehearsal on Wednesday 21st March and cost £4.00 for adults and £2.00 for children. This year the proceeds from the dress rehearsal will go to the Bell Restoration Fund for All Saints Church, and the Children's Hospice South West.

All tickets for the pantomime are available from Hilary and Mervyn Hooper, telephone number 01823 461518.

*Rosemary Lea*  
Honorary Secretary

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Email:  
[adrian@exclusivetile.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:adrian@exclusivetile.fsnet.co.uk)

## Nynehead Pre-School & Toddlers

Nynehead Pre-School is celebrating praise from its recent Ofsted report.

The report praised the Pre-School for ensuring that "Children of all ages are happy and settled" and saw that children were forming strong relationships with both staff and their peers. "For example, older children try to assist younger children with their shoe laces."

The report found that 'sound planning' ensured that children experienced a range of activities and the Pre-School Leader was particularly praised for being able to introduce 'spontaneous play' and being open to new ideas and suggestions.

Nynehead Pre-School believes that outside play is extremely important and children benefit from going on walks around the village and playing in the large outside area. The Ofsted inspector commented that "Children enjoy daily physical play both inside and outside. They run around excitedly in the wind and splash in puddles on cold winter days to develop their physical skills."

The Pre-School is open Tuesday 9am – 1pm, Thursday 9am-1pm and 1pm – 4pm (all day session available). A special session aimed at child aged from 2 years old (although it is open to all children) is held on Friday 9.30am – 12 noon. Sessions are flexible.

We are currently recruiting permanent and supply staff. If you are interested in working with us at the Pre-School please contact Louisa Raybould Tel. 01823 669727.

Nynehead Toddler Group is on Wednesday mornings and is for mums-to-be, babies and toddlers. We are a small friendly group offering a wide range of activities including; painting, puzzles, dressing up, craft activities, baby toys, bikes, construction, storytime, snacktime and music. This term children at Nynehead Toddler group have been taking part in a painting extravaganza. They were joined by Art to Art, a pottery painting shop based in Taunton, who supplied

brushes, paints and tiles. Even the babies joined in by making their own mark with their hands and feet. The pottery will now be taken away, fired and glazed and returned to the children for them to keep.

For further information about Nynehead Pre-School or Nynehead Toddlers please contact Louisa Raybould Tel. 01823 669727.

*Louise Raybould*

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## Nynehead Cricket Club

I list below the fixtures for 2007.

For further information please contact:

Keith Haslam: 01823 461667

David Raybould: 01823 669727

Date	Opposition	Venue	Time
April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sampford Arundell CC	Home	2.00
April 29 <sup>th</sup>	Hemyock CC	Home	2.00
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Wombats CC	Away	2.30
May 13 <sup>th</sup>	Culmstock CC	Home	2.30
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	East Huntspill CC	Away	2.30
May 27 <sup>th</sup>	North Petherton CC	Away	2.30
May 28 <sup>th</sup>	Churchinford CC	Away	2.30
June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bishops Hull CC	Away	2.30
June 10 <sup>th</sup>	Wellington CC	Home	2.30
June 17 <sup>th</sup>	Hemyock CC	Away	2.30
June 24 <sup>th</sup>	Club Day	Home	10.00
June 30 <sup>th</sup>	Severn Vale CC	Away	2.30
July 1 <sup>st</sup>	East Huntspill CC	Home	2.30
July 8 <sup>th</sup>	Churchinford CC	Home	2.30
July 15 <sup>th</sup>	Staplegrave CC	Away	2.30
July 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Kentisbeare CC	Home	2.30
July 29 <sup>th</sup>	Bishops Hill CC	Home	2.30
Aug 5 <sup>th</sup>	Sampford Arundel CC	Away	2.30
Aug 12 <sup>th</sup>	Wombats CC	Home	2.30
Aug 19 <sup>th</sup>	Kingschurch CC	Home	2.00
Aug 26 <sup>th</sup>	North Petherton CC	Home	2.30
Sept 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Culmstock CC	Away	2.00
Sept 9 <sup>th</sup>	Kentisbeare CC	Away	2.00
Sept 16 <sup>th</sup>	Doubles Tournament	Home	1.30

*David Raybould*  
*Secretary*

## Footpaths in Nynhead

### Permissive Paths

Two new Permissive Paths were inaugurated at the end of January. The routes are shown on the map opposite. One path starts at Hornshay Bridge, crosses the Tone by the footbridge and then follows the river as far as the Three Arch Bridge. The second path starts at the Wellington end of the Three Arch Bridge and heads across the field in a south-easterly direction past Laurel Covert. After passing through two kissing gates it crosses a small stream and heads straight for the canal embankment. It then turns left along the field edge as far as the canal aqueduct where it terminates. The continuation across Mr Dodd's land is not yet in place, but when it is the footpath will provide a good shorter western circular route for the village.

There are no stiles on either path, only kissing gates. Also the knee high bars on the footbridge over the Tone have been removed, so use of both paths is relatively easy. Both paths have been waymarked and should soon appear on the footpath maps on the 3 notice boards around the village. Why not give them a try?

The paths have been created under the Defra Countryside Stewardship Scheme. The landowner takes responsibility for maintaining them to general footpath standards for ten years in return for a financial consideration. Costs of implementing the paths, including erecting the kissing gates are borne by Defra and the landowner, not the Highway Authority (Somerset County Council). Any problems associated with these paths should not therefore be reported to County Hall who have no control over them, but to Defra or the Rural Payments Agency.

The landowner does have the right to close the paths for up to 10 days a year (but not on public holidays), provided prior notice is given.

### SCC Improvement Plan

Somerset County Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan requires all rights of way to be graded according to use and usefulness. They allow for three grades: - '1' being the most useful and '3' being the least. The Chairman and the Clerk of the Parish Council and I met to assign grades to our paths and adopted the following method; all paths that are promoted in some way e.g. village circular routes and the West Deane Way, were assigned to grade one; all but one of the other paths were assigned to grade two. The exception, assigned to grade three, is the path in the north west of the parish between Daniels and Chipley.

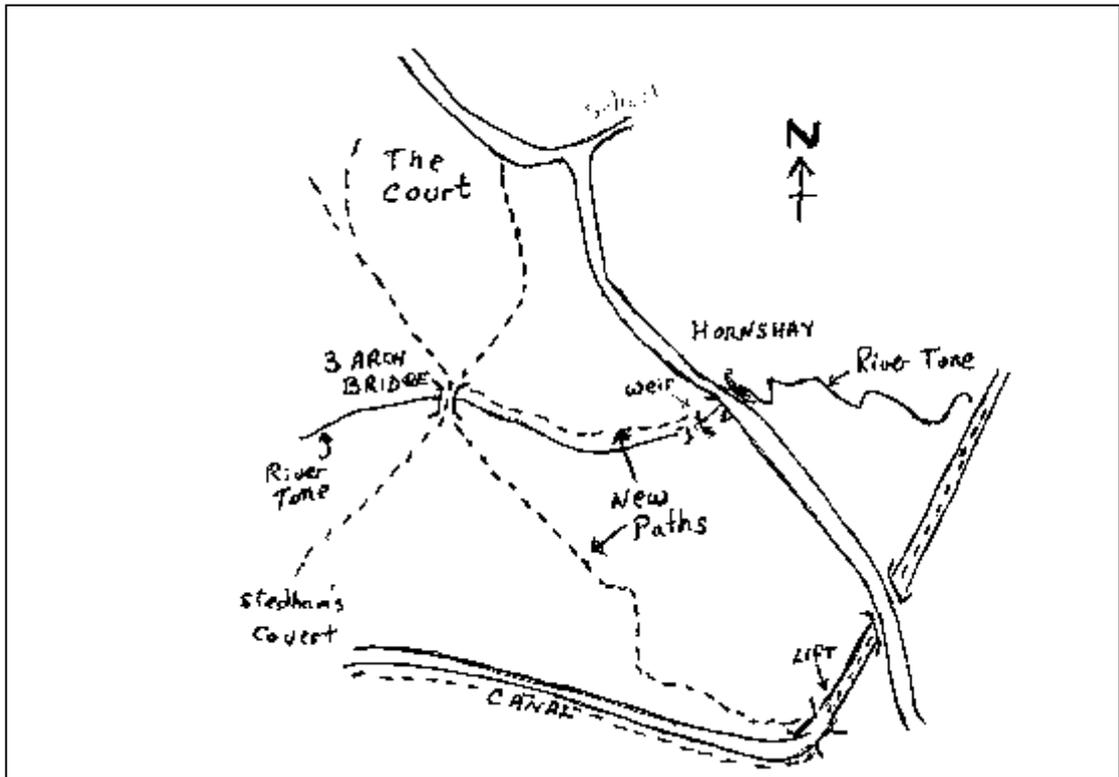
### Stile / Kissing gate on Canal Path near Perry Farm.

Resolution of this unsatisfactory situation does not seem to have any priority with the County Council. Both the Parish Council and I have tried to get the matter to the top of their priority list but to no avail. The contact at County Hall is Sam Jones on 01823 356288 if you wish to express your interest in the re-instatement of a kissing gate please don't hesitate to call!

### Other News

Thanks to Mr. Ling for improving the quality of the Ploughing Cairn Path by filling in the large puddle at its north end near Greedy's Moor - making the path more pleasant to use. The Parish Council has considered a proposal from SCC to change Gypsy Lane into a bridle path and to extend that bridle path with a new right of way northwards to the sharp corner on the Oake road.

*Colin Spackman*  
*Footpath Liaison Officer*



Sketch Map showing the new Permissive Paths



Picture taken outside Nynehead School at the start of the footpath walk on 24<sup>th</sup> September

## Nynehead Club

With the New Year in full swing the modernisation of the club is continuing with the revamping of the kitchen area. The planned patio to the rear of the Club is to be constructed later in the year.

December was a busy month, with both Christmas and New Year Parties which were enjoyed by all who attended. Our annual Boxing Day opening was also enjoyed by many due to Terry who provided his usual excellent stew.

Thanks also go to Kevin for providing the karaoke entertainment for New Years Eve and to Hilary for providing the food.

Congratulations to all who won on the raffles which were drawn at the Christmas Party.

The carol singers spent an evening around Higher Nynehead and all money collected has been sent to CLIC and the Children's Hospice South West.

Our first event of the New Year was a skittles night on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January. As ever, this was very well attended and the supper organised by Hilary helped ensure that everyone enjoyed a lovely evening.

February 10<sup>th</sup> saw us holding a Valentines Disco. Our thanks to all who attended and danced the night away.

Looking to future events we will be holding an Easter Party on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2007.

Please watch the notice board for dates of forthcoming skittle evenings and other events.

The Club Skittle team are on good form this year as they have actually been winning some of their games! This isn't all good news, as if they carry on like this they won't be bringing the magnificent wooden spoon home again!

Our opening times continue to be Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 8.30pm until 11pm.

We hope that you will be able to come along and enjoy a quiet drink, and maybe play a game of pool, darts or even ping-pong.

New members are always welcome and subscriptions remain at £2 per Calendar year. A quick reminder that 2007 membership is now due!

The next Club Committee Meeting will be held on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 pm. As ever, all members are always welcome to attend these meetings.

Sarah Hooper  
Social Secretary

## *Nynehead Club*



Are you new to the village?  
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– beside the Village Hall -  
for a night out?

No Smoking Rule in the bar area  
Annual subscription still only £2.00  
Opening Hours continue to be:  
Thursday, Friday, Saturday  
8.30 pm to 11.00 pm

## Nynehead Court

The last few months have been busy as usual here at the Court, and we have enjoyed lots of outings and events.

In November we visited the Brewhouse theatre to see the Ballet Ireland production of "A Christmas Carol". The music included pieces by Mozart and Vivaldi and provided a lovely afternoon's entertainment.

Music was provided for us here at the Court by Peter Rowsell Dobson at the piano, Gary Allen, and Malcolm Gregory who had us singing all the old favourites. Elizabeth Thurgood joined us to give a talk on Victorian England and our Armchair Travel trip to Scotland transported us to the Highlands and Islands, aided on the way by a taste of traditional Scottish fair, the whisky being greatly appreciated!

Our Open Day in December was a great success, and it was lovely that so many of you were able to join us. Nynehead School performed their nativity play which was very much appreciated. Another highlight in December's programme was the concert by Wellington Silver Band, which left us all feeling very festive. Later in the month we enjoyed an afternoon of reminiscing about Christmas traditions and Mrs. Ann Bartaby joined us to help the residents to make floral Christmas table centres, which made a lovely addition to our festive decorations.

Early in the New Year our trip to the Brewhouse theatre to see "Roll Out The Barrel" reminded us of all our old favourite songs. Later in January The Reg Griffiths Singers provided us with a lovely afternoon's music, and our trip to Bridgwater to see the pantomime Aladdin was much enjoyed.

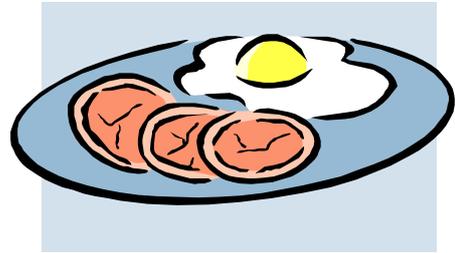
Secret World Wildlife Rescue Centre brought furry and feathered visitors to see us. The rabbits, hedgehog, ferrets and birds of prey were all very well behaved and it was great to be able to meet them at such close quarters.

The destination for Armchair Travel in January was Canada, combining a film show with lots of interesting memorabilia.

### Friends of Nynehead Court

The continuing help and support provided by the Friends is much appreciated. Running the shop, providing the lovely floral displays, hosting drinks parties and sing alongs all combine to enhance life here at the Court.

*Julia Mirylees*



**Nynehead Court**  
Come and join us  
for  
**Britain's Biggest**  
**Breakfast**  
On Thursday  
8<sup>th</sup> March  
**£4.00 in aid of**  
**Cancer Research UK**  
Full Somerset  
Breakfast served  
8.30am till 10.30am

## Nynehead History Society

We were delighted that at our February meeting we had new faces in the audience for Rivers Barry's informative and entertaining talk on the history of the English language. I had one or two phone calls from non-members asking if it was alright if they came to the meeting. There is no need to ask in advance - every one is welcome, member or non-member, Nynehead resident or visitor from the far-flung regions of Taunton Deane! All that will be needed is a small contribution to be our running costs.

A reminder about the rest of our winter programme:

In March we will hear about one of Chard's heroes, James Gillingham, a pioneer of medical photography and artificial limbs (I am told there will be examples!) and in April Estelle Gilbert, the County's specialist in the history of textiles and fashion, will talk about textiles in Somerset and the County Museum's costume collection.

The season ends in May with the return of Bob Croft, the County Archaeologist. Bob said to me a year ago that it was about time he came to speak to us again (it is always good to have an offer like that). He will bring us up-to-date on archaeology over the last year or so, including the excavations at the Maundown Water Treatment works which featured last year in the local papers.

We also have plans for monthly outings during the summer to places of interest. Details will be available at the May meeting.

*David Rabson.*

## St Margaret's Somerset Hospice

### The New Build Appeal

The Taunton Hospice first opened its doors twenty years ago and throughout that time many thousands of Somerset people and their families have received care and support. However over the years we have overstretched the building's capacity and have literally run out of space as we expand the services that allow patients to enjoy their lives to the last. Current facilities are out-dated and we need to build a brand new in-patient wing in order to offer the advanced treatments now available for patients with specialist needs. Pain relief and symptom control have progressed enormously over the years, and we must continue to ensure patients are as pain free as possible, giving them every opportunity to maintain their independence.

The new wing will provide;

- A better mix of single rooms and four bed wards
- En-suite facilities for all patients
- Larger bathrooms for easier access - essential to those with limited mobility.
- Separate rooms for physiotherapy and lymph oedema treatments
- A new day care centre and outpatient facilities
- Piped oxygen throughout the unit
- An independent nurse call-bell system

We need to raise £2 million to fund the cost of building the new inpatient wing and we are delighted to announce that we have now reached the halfway point, having raised £1 million. Please help us by making a donation - call the Appeal Office on 01823 345901.

## Birdwatching in Nynehead.....and Beyond.

By the time that villagers choose to read this the end of Winter will be relatively close. In our garden signs of Spring have been uncharacteristically early, with snowdrops two weeks in advance, bumble bees in January and several species of butterfly on the wing in mid January too. In the world of birds there is more obedience. Winter visitors tend to fly off around now because it isn't winter any more and Spring visitors arrive during the latter part of this month.

Dealing first with winter, the starling has reportedly declined by 60% in the last few years. Certainly fewer folk moan about them stealing from bird tables and there are not that many nesters in Nynehead. Thus, it was great when David Manners found a flock of c.400 performing their brilliant aerobatics for many nights in the area of the Playing Field. They were well worth seeing - in any case, the huge and now famous ' Westhay Starling Spectacular' is 35 miles away and you can never get parked!

In the last Village News I mentioned seeing a little grebe on the Tone. A much more dramatic diving bird is the great northern diver or red-throated (I forget which) that Sheila & David Rabson saw off the Cotentin in France late last year. Yet, relatively difficult though birdwatching tends to be in Somerset, it is possible to sit in the shelters off Minehead harbour after strong winds and spot divers struggling to fly by. Cheddar reservoir is another spot to see them in winter. The winter thrushes have been fewer in number this winter. About the best flock of fieldfare with a few redwing has been in the big field where the Nynehead to Langford Budville lane joins the Wellington to Milverton road.

So...to Spring! One bird which blurs the edges of the 2 seasons is the chiffchaff. Three have over-wintered at the sewage works again whilst another has lived in the hedge beside Mervyn & Hilary's home. I often saw or heard it in the ditch at dusk where it must have found sufficient soft

food. Soon, Spring arrivals from Africa will announce themselves with their monotonous "chiff - chaff" calls. Mention of Mervyn reminds me that about this time last year we saw the arrival of good numbers of cheerful sand martins which belted through the village fooling many people into thinking that the swallows were early! Maybe we shall see these again, any day! We will need to wait a bit longer for the swallows & house martins, Mervyn usually reports the first of these around the 5<sup>th</sup> April!

Finally, keep your feeders stocked - you know what March can do and it's worth it to see the goldfinches and long tailed tits which are on the increase aren't they? Nice to finish with positive news!

*Alastair Riley*

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### Food for Thought!

Remember, old folk are worth a fortune with silver in our hair, gold in our teeth, stones in our kidneys and gas in our stomachs.

I have become a little older since I last spoke to you and changes have come into my life.

I am quite a frivolous old girl. I am seeing five gentlemen each day; as soon as I awake, Will Power helps me out of bed. Then I go and visit Lou. Next it's time for Mr Quaker to give me my oats. They leave me and Arthur Ritis shows up and stays for the rest of the day. He doesn't stay in one place very long so he takes me from joint to joint. After such a busy day I am ready for bed with Johnnie Walker.

What a life! Oh yes, I'm flirting with Al Zymer. The vicar came the other day and said "at your age you should be thinking of the hereafter". I told him: I do, no matter where I am, in the lounge, upstairs, in the kitchen or in the cellar I ask myself "now what am I here after".

*Nancy*

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### Lost & Found

During the strong winds in January a light green SWP recycling box turned up outside our house. It has a large number 11 on the side in black marker pen. It is not our recycling box as ours is dark green and we would like to return it to it's owner. If you want it back please call at 11 Farthings Close.

*Ben & Lou  
(Tel. 669828)*

## Go Native!

Going Native is the best way to encourage wildlife into your garden. Planting native species of trees and shrubs will provide the best habitat to attract the maximum number of invertebrate species. The chart below shows the difference between introduced and native British trees:

Tree Species Status & Total number of insect and mite species

Willows Native	450
Oaks Native	423
Birch Native	334
Common Hawthorn Native	209
Poplar Native	189
Blackthorn Native	153
Alder Native	141
Elms Native	124
Crab apple Native	118
Hazel Native	106
Sycamore Introduced	43
Larch Introduced	38
Sweet Chestnut Introduced	11
Horse Chestnut Introduced	9
Walnut Introduced	7

(from Kennedy & Southwood)

As the main food source of birds and animals is either the insects on the trees or the seeds/fruits they produce it is easy to see that native species of trees and shrubs will bring more wildlife to your garden. The only spanner in the works is Yew which is a native species to the UK but only attracts 6 species of insects!!

*Ben Tingay*  
*Volunteer Tree Warden*

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## Village Working Party at The Three Arch Bridge

We are looking for volunteers to help remove the Ivy which is growing over the Three Arch bridge.

If you have a pair of secateurs and gloves please bring them along on Saturday 10th March at 10:00am.

Members of the canal working group will be joining us as it is a big job to complete in one day.

If you want any more information please contact:

Ben Tingay      669828 or  
Denis Dodd.     661653

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## Police Notice

We are advised that PC Kevin Challis, until recently our local 'Beat Manager' has transferred to Taunton and will no longer be looking after us.

Our Community Police Support Officer, Scott Windsor remains in position and can be contacted by mobile on:  
078 1079 1308

or by Email at:

[scott.windsor@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:scott.windsor@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

Scott tells me that our new beat manager will be Jo Page who has transferred from plain clothes operations in Taunton back into a uniformed role based in Wellington.

Jo is currently on leave but I hope to be able to let you have more details, together with her picture, in our next Newsletter.

*Mike Briginshaw*  
Editor

## Nynehead Memorial Hall

The committee has continued to make progress with improvements to the hall in the past year:

- New fitted kitchen
- Cycle rack
- Replacement railings for emergency exit
- Replacement cladding to side of hall
- Plans being prepared for new toilet facilities

If you would like to help and support your village hall please come to our A.G.M. on **THURSDAY 26<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2007** at 7.30pm in the hall.

*Gary Sparks*  
Chairman

# Martin Bellamy

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## Useful Local Contacts

### All Saints Church

Allan Howe	666995	email	<a href="mailto:howe@howe.eclipse.co.uk">howe@howe.eclipse.co.uk</a>
Michael Harding	662940		

### Birdwatching

Alastair Riley	663699	email	<a href="mailto:landaandcuafc@btinternet.com">landaandcuafc@btinternet.com</a>
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### Grand Western Canal Trust

Denis Dodd	661653	email	<a href="mailto:denis.dodd@btinternet.com">denis.dodd@btinternet.com</a>
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### Jubilee Playing Fields

Ben Tingay (Chairman)	669828	mobile	07971 496665
		email	<a href="mailto:ben.tingay@btinternet.com">ben.tingay@btinternet.com</a>
David Raybould (Secretary)	669727	email	<a href="mailto:daraybould@btopenworld.com">daraybould@btopenworld.com</a>

### Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators

Allan Howe	666995	email	<a href="mailto:howe@howe.eclipse.co.uk">howe@howe.eclipse.co.uk</a>
Duncan Linklater	461637	email	<a href="mailto:duncan@designlink.co.uk">duncan@designlink.co.uk</a>
Peter McLaren	461949	email	<a href="mailto:paam@ninehides.fsnet.co.uk">paam@ninehides.fsnet.co.uk</a>
Robert Needs	662620	email	<a href="mailto:angieneeds@beeb.net">angieneeds@beeb.net</a>
Alec Reynolds	663323	email	<a href="mailto:roundoaktree1@btinternet.com">roundoaktree1@btinternet.com</a>
Alan Ketley	666249	email	<a href="mailto:alan.ketley@tiscali.co.uk">alan.ketley@tiscali.co.uk</a>

### Nynehead Amateur Dramatic Society (NADS)

Rosemary Lea (Hon. Sec.)	666166		
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### Nynehead News

Allan Howe - Chairman	666995	email	<a href="mailto:howe@howe.eclipse.co.uk">howe@howe.eclipse.co.uk</a>
Mike Briginshaw - Treasurer	461627	email	<a href="mailto:mike@nynehead.plus.com">mike@nynehead.plus.com</a>
Peter Russell - Advertising	461668	email	<a href="mailto:peter@nynehead.org">peter@nynehead.org</a>

### Nynehead Cricket Club

Keith Haslam - Chairman	461667		
David Raybould - Secretary	669727	email	<a href="mailto:daraybould@btopenworld.com">daraybould@btopenworld.com</a>

### Nynehead Garden Club & Environmental Group

Alan Ketley - (Chairman)	666249	email	<a href="mailto:alan.ketley@tiscali.co.uk">alan.ketley@tiscali.co.uk</a>
Ann Manners - (Secretary)	661453	email	<a href="mailto:goodmanners@btinternet.com">goodmanners@btinternet.com</a>

### Nynehead History Society

David Rabson - Secretary	666609	email	<a href="mailto:rabsons@btinternet.com">rabsons@btinternet.com</a>
Tony Lock - Chairman	461214	email	<a href="mailto:catlock@dsl.pipex.com">catlock@dsl.pipex.com</a>

### Nynehead Club

Mervyn Hooper - Chairman	461518		
Zoe Eglin - Secretary	660757		
Dennis Galpin - Treasurer	665879	email	<a href="mailto:dennis@homegalpin.eclipse.co.uk">dennis@homegalpin.eclipse.co.uk</a>
Sarah Hooper - Social Secretary	461518		
The Club	665072		

## Useful Local Contacts

### Nynehead Memorial Hall

Gary Sparks (Chairman)	663745
John Sparks (Booking Secretary)	662106

### Nynehead School

Angela Lewis - (Head Teacher)	662021	email	<a href="mailto:alewis1@educ.somerset.gov.uk">alewis1@educ.somerset.gov.uk</a>
Sue Davies - (Chair of Govenors)	432509	email	<a href="mailto:davies.westwing@lineone.net">davies.westwing@lineone.net</a>

### 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	<a href="mailto:rabsons@btinternet.com">rabsons@btinternet.com</a>
Alan Ketley - Chairman	666249	email	<a href="mailto:alan.ketley@tiscali.co.uk">alan.ketley@tiscali.co.uk</a>
Mike Briginshaw - Vice Chairman	461627	email	<a href="mailto:mike@nynehead.plus.com">mike@nynehead.plus.com</a>
Allan Howe	666995	email	<a href="mailto:howe@howe.eclipse.co.uk">howe@howe.eclipse.co.uk</a>
Gary Sparks	663745		
Mervyn Hooper	461518		

### County Councillor:

Caroline Smeaton	412830	email	<a href="mailto:csmeaton@somerset.gov.uk">csmeaton@somerset.gov.uk</a>
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### District Councillor:

Clifford Bishop	400400	email	<a href="mailto:cllr.c.bishop@tauntondeane.gov.uk">cllr.c.bishop@tauntondeane.gov.uk</a>
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### POLICE

PCSO Scott Windsor	Mobile:	078 1079 1308
	Email:	<a href="mailto:scott.windsor@avonandsomerset.police.uk">scott.windsor@avonandsomerset.police.uk</a>

Local Police Station	0845 456 7000
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### POLICE - Crimestoppers

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

Louisa Raybould - Chair	669727	email	<a href="mailto:louisaraybould@btinternet.com">louisaraybould@btinternet.com</a>
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	<a href="mailto:ben.tingay@btinternet.com">ben.tingay@btinternet.com</a>
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## Diary: - 4<sup>th</sup> March to 2nd June 2007

Mar - 5	Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall - 7.30 pm
Mar - 8	Nynehead Court - Big Breakfast - 8.30 am to 10.30 am
Mar - 9	Nynehead Club Committee Meeting - 7.30
Mar - 9	History Society - Medical photography & artificial limbs - Village Hall 7.45 pm
Mar - 10	Three Arch bridge working party - 10.00 am
Mar - 12	Garden Club - Plants & witchcraft - Village Hall 7.30 pm
Mar - 21	'Dick Whittington Pantomime' at Village Hall 7.30 pm (Dress Rehearsal)
Mar - 22	'Dick Whittington Pantomime' at Village Hall 7.30 pm
Mar - 23	'Dick Whittington Pantomime' at Village Hall 7.30 pm
Mar - 24	'Dick Whittington Pantomime' at Village Hall 7.30 pm
Apr - 2	Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall - 7.30 pm
Apr - 4	Deadline for submitting nomination forms to Election Officer at TDBC - noon
Apr - 7	Nynehead Club - Easter Party
Apr - 13	History Society - Textiles in Somerset - Village Hall 7.45 pm
Apr - 16	Garden Club - Hydroponics - Village Hall 7.30 pm
Apr - 21	Church fund raising coffee morning at 'Bluehills, East Nynehead - 10.30 am
Apr - 22	Nynehead Cricket Club at home to Sampford Arundel - 2.00 pm
Apr - 26	Memorial Hall AGM - in the Hall at 7.30 pm
Apr - 29	Nynehead Cricket Club at home to Hemyock - 2.00 pm
May - 3	Local Elections - Village Hall - 7.00 am to 10.00 pm
May - 7	Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall - 7.30 pm
May - 11	History Society - Recent Archaeological Work & AGM - Village Hall 7.45 pm
May - 13	Nynehead Cricket Club at home to Culmstock - 2.30 pm
May 14	Annual Council Meeting - Village Hall - 7.30 pm
May - 17	Annual Parish Meeting - Village Hall - 7.30 pm
<i>May - 19</i>	<i>Copy Deadline for June 2007 Edition of Nynehead News</i>
May 21	Garden Club - The World of Alpines - Village Hall 7.30 pm
May - 24	Jubilee Playing Fields AGM - Nynehead Club - 7.30 pm
<i>June - 2</i>	<i>Distribution date for June 2007 edition of Nynehead News</i>
June - 4	Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall - 7.30 pm

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