

# *Nynehead News*

April 2004

E-mail:

Volume 3

[Nynehead.news@ntlworld.com](mailto:Nynehead.news@ntlworld.com)

Issue 2

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## Editorial Comment

### Welcome to the April 2004 Edition of Nynehead News.

*The 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 retains the discretionary right to reject material or comments considered to be directly or potentially inappropriate or offensive*

Spring is a time for rejuvenation and so it is going to be for this community Newsletter. Changes are in the pipeline - there will be a 'New Look' and Mike will at last have the extra help and support he needs to keep producing it. The work Mike has done to keep the Newsletter going has and will still be invaluable. We should not underestimate or take for granted the effort involved and this is why a team of volunteers have met with the purpose of bringing in new ideas to produce a fresh outlook. The Newsletter is going to go from strength to strength.

Having received the Nynehead Appraisal the other week and reading through it all, I was impressed with the easy to read layout and interesting graphs. Hopefully all the liasing between the Parish Council and representatives of Nynehead will bear fruition – after all it is the voice of the community. However, it was with some amusement that when looking at some of the graphs, to see the number of 'no's' to ideas that would certainly benefit the village. Certainly it would be a miracle if we all thought the same, but I cannot perceive why litter bins and dog loos placed strategically would not benefit the residents. With all the recent well published articles on dog excrement in public places why are some people against doggy bins? Surely litter bins are a necessity to help keep the village clean and tidy? Luckily the majority of villagers think so as well! There is so much scope for improvement in Nynehead and the feasibility study for extending the village hall for further activities can only be advantageous for the community.

With regard to the survey on the public transport facility for the village, it was interesting to see that the majority of people were not aware of this service. I certainly have seen no bus stops and would not know where the bus usually stops, mainly because I am lucky enough to have a car and therefore haven't needed to use the village transport. But, I do not take my good health for granted and one day I may need to use this facility and therefore would need good information re timetables and bus stops. It is important that anyone in the village who experiences difficulty with the present transport should have access to bus stops that are well marked and have understandable timetables.

The formation of the new Nynehead Garden Club (not before time) and the Flower Show in August will be an event in which all the village can take part (every forward looking village should have a Flower Show!) A programme of events for the day is being drawn up and anyone who has any query about showing any of their fruit, flowers or veg please do not hesitate to phone Alan Ketley (Chairman – 666249) or Jill Prior (Secretary - 660164).

We look forward to an exciting year for the village with the start of necessary changes taking place and a positive outlook for the future.

Jill Prior

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### **Contacting the Nynehead News:**

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<b>Next Edition</b>	<b>Editorial Deadline</b>	<b>Distribution Date</b>
<b>July 2004</b>	<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June</b>	<b>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July</b>

**Email : [Nynehead.news@ntlworld.com](mailto:Nynehead.news@ntlworld.com)**

## **Nu – Nynehead Understanding**

The last issue of the Nynehead Newsletter - included, inter alia, a form on which people were invited to indicate what subjects they might wish to study. Some 12 people completed and returned these forms out of about 140 who received it.

Which says it all really! Our problem is primarily one of logistics and practicality. In a community with only a small number of residents, an even smaller number of whom wish to study quite a diverse spread of subjects, organizing and/or paying for it is tricky.

There are 2 ways to proceed; self-help or paid help. To deal with the latter, SCAT are willing to provide tutors in almost anything from Sanskrit to d.i.y. brain surgery (extra croutons not included). But there is a minimum cost involved in getting a tutor to come here to Nynehead.

Unless we are able to muster at least 10 people per subject/course, expecting SCAT, the mountain, to come to us, Mahomet, is unrealistic. So for all subjects other than computers and digital photography, Mahomet must go to the mountain. For SCAT Adult Ed. enquiries ring 01823 366355/654/520 They have courses on all the subjects covered by the Newsletter form and more.

The 2 areas of interest that predominate among those who returned their forms are computing and digital photography. Because people's knowledge, ability and equipment is so varied, plus the difficulty of arranging 'formal' tuition at a time which would suit all those interested, it seems best to resuscitate the Nynehead Computer Club in alliance with that already running at Bradford and with a possible link with Oake - see below. Each has advantages and disadvantages; out of the three, hopefully one will suit you.

NYNEHEAD SCHOOL is the proud possessor of about 10 computers with fast internet access which we can use FREE! We can use these computers at any time but obviously only outside school hours. Having 10 computers means that any individual can have hands-on practice and do their own thing. It is slightly less easy to give formal instruction to any number of people. What is proposed to start with is one session a week lasting at least 1 hour during which people may come and go as they please, do whatever they want but can expect to find

at least one person present able to give some measure of assistance. To cover costs (mainly of paper etc) there will be a charge of £2 per session - the price of a pint! If the Nynehead option looks OK for you all we need to know is what times are or are not possible for you! A day and time will then be fixed that suits the greatest number of people - democracy in action!

BRADFORD Computer Club meets every Monday morning from 1000 - 1100 hrs. They meet in the upstairs of Bradford Village Hall and charge £2 per session - but that includes a coffee! Their set-up is different. They have one master computer with a digital projector. This makes formal instruction very simple as everyone can see exactly what is going on. We are all welcome there.

OAKE had a Computer 'drop-in' Club which collapsed from lack of support. I think there are moves afoot to try to revive it but I know nothing definite at present.

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY can mostly be covered with the help of a computer. Some of it will inevitably be covered in general Nynehead PC Club (and possibly at Bradford and/or Oake) but David Manners has foolishly offered to give advice and instruction. So again, all we need to know is what times are or are not possible for you and a day and time will then be fixed that suits the greatest number of people - and David Manners.

Meanwhile we have a problem. Basically all the passwords and so on need to be re-established for us to be able to use the school's computers. The acting head there is willing, as is the county IT bloke whose responsibility ultimately it all is. Both have been contacted and asked to help get things going and both have agreed to do so. So far (during the last month) nothing has happened. I have recently (within the last week) emailed the county IT bloke asking what, if anything is happening to facilitate our use of the school's computers but have heard nothing back.

So there you have it. But, rather than beat your brains out over computers and digital stuff, what about something that is cheap, easy to learn and on which there are plenty of books in the library?

Any one for crochet?

Duncan Linklater

## The birds of our parish!

This is written with the threat of late Winter snow on television weather forecasts but in reality Spring is close by and will be officially in place when these words drop on the doormat.

Nevertheless, our winter visiting thrushes, the redwings and fieldfares are still in evidence on the fields in very good numbers so the weather in their northern homeland must clearly be somewhat unattractive to them. I wonder how they actually know?

Given that Spring is with us my thoughts turn to the arrival of the various migrant birds which give many people pleasure during the warmer months. For the ornithologist it is particularly interesting to know whether certain species are on the increase or seem to be on the wane. Given that, it has been extremely interesting to me to note the spectacular increase in numbers of the little egret in southern Britain since it first established as a breeding species in the mid 1990s. It breeds in Somerset now in tiny numbers. Throughout the winter Nynhead has been the haunt of 2 individuals and one featured in the Wellington Weekly News. It would be terrific if these 2 were indeed a pair and if they could establish themselves in Nynhead.

The little egret resembles a half-size heron but is totally white, so white in fact, that it puts a swan to shame! They have fed on Robin Darby's fields during wet weather, but have also been seen along the Tone. It is tiny brooks that they like most but this leaves them rather difficult to see of course. David Manners and I would be delighted to know if villagers see an egret and if so where. Please tell us!

Finally, back to those migrants. According to my records the Nynhead cuckoo [annually one of the earliest in the county \*] was first heard on April 18<sup>th</sup> in 2003, 2 days later than the preceding 6 years. We should not have long to wait for its arrival. Bear in mind that it is becoming a scarce bird now – certainly one of those that is on the wane, so do make sure it really is a cuckoo. Every year all over the country claims are made for hearing the first cuckoo.....but these usually turn out to be the result of hearing a collared dove!

For me.....it's the pleasure of the first swallows that I will cherish most, probably around the middle of April. After them, there will be swifts, then the warblers and the

flycatchers and so it continues. I do hope that some of you enjoy these free gifts!

\*ref: Somerset Ornithological Society annual handbook

Alastair Riley – birdwatcher.

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## Police News.

At the beginning of February a meeting was held in Nynhead to start a Parish-wide Neighbourhood Watch. The meeting was well attended, due to the hard efforts of the organisers.

At present, a number of people have shown an interest in running various watches around the area. As time goes by it is hoped to extend the scheme

The beginning of the year has, on the whole, been fairly quiet; however there have been a number of small incidents reported to the police although no specific crime trend has been highlighted.

In some of the surrounding areas we have had a number of trailer and quad bike thefts, along with outbuildings and sheds being attacked. I would urge you all just to make a check of the security of these buildings, if you do see anything or anyone acting suspiciously then phone the police.

I can be contacted at Wellington police station on 01823 363262 or for less urgent calls 0771 770 0659 and also through the community policing unit.

On an upbeat note this April will see the return of PC Jo Jeffrey from maternity leave and will be working alongside me again.

PC 733 Mark Jones.

### ***Please note:***

***Mark has asked me to request that anyone having any information regarding a blue Vauxhall Cavalier –  
Registration F811 KGF  
To contact Wellington Police Station.***

*Mike*

## Nynehead Garden Club

Nynehead's latest Club got off to a flying start in March with a talk from Lady Rosemary Fitzgerald of Beggars Roost Nursery. Thirty people attended for this inaugural meeting and we hope to keep the same high standard for the rest of the year.

The Garden Club will be meeting on the second Monday of each month except where this clashes with Council business when we will move to the Tuesday. An exciting programme of talks, and visits is being devised culminating in a Flower and Produce Show on August 21<sup>st</sup>. A Show schedule is currently being devised so start sowing those seeds as soon as possible! In the meantime the Club will be holding its first Plant Sale and Coffee Morning on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Look out for further announcements!

The Club is aiming to provide a programme of talks and visits which are both entertaining and informative covering all aspects of gardening including many environmental concerns as well. If you have any ideas which you would like to see included please feel free to contact us. The programme is still being organised so there is plenty of time to get your ideas included.

Membership has been set at £5 for the first year with a reduced rate for anyone under 16 of £2.50. This will cover entry to the year's programme and of course, refreshments at the talks each month. We will also be conducting a fund raising raffle at each meeting so if you can provide a suitable prize don't hesitate to bring it along.

The following people are all on the Committee and would welcome your ideas and comments:-

Alan Ketley - Chairman (Tel. 666249)

Jill Prior - Secretary (Tel. 660164)

Jan Fox - Treasurer

Keith and Louise Haslam

David Manners

Mervyn Hooper

Paul Eaton

Julia Mirylees

**STOP PRESS!** Meeting April 13<sup>th</sup> – 7.30pm

Speaker: **PAUL HENDING**

Subject – **ORGANIC GARDENING**

All welcome – visitors £1.00

## Nynehead Under 5's Pre-School

The pre-school group will hopefully be running during the summer term of 2004 at the Village Hall. We are planning to open three days a week at the beginning.

Could anyone wishing further information, considering a place for their child, or even wishing for employment in the group, please contact Dawn on 666895

The 'toddler group' will still be running on Wednesdays between 9.30 am and 12 noon, all welcome.

Dawn Netley

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## Rural youth Project

Nynehead now has the Rural Youth Project operating in the village and the group meet once a week for activities.

So far the group have taken children to Hollywood Bowl and Sedgemoor Splash. The next activity is a trip to the cinema and McDonalds.

The age of the group can be from eight years of age to late teens and the children choose the activities. They meet at the Village Hall car park and are dropped off after the activity, by mini-bus, at their individual homes.

For further information contact Dawn on 666895

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## Great Easter Egg Hunt

Come & help us find Humpty Dumpty,  
Jack & Jill and all their friends.

Join us for cream teas, stalls and games.

Bank Holiday Monday (12<sup>th</sup> April)  
at Nynehead Village Hall  
starting 2.30 p.m.

## Nynehead and District Local History Society.

We are now approaching the end of our 32<sup>nd</sup> winter programme. Since the last issue of the newsletter we have held our traditional New Year party in January, been on an architectural tour of Europe (in the comfort of the Memorial Hall) in February and learnt about sources for family history (March). After what should be an informative talk in April on the impact on local communities of the Grand Junction Canal we end our season on 14 May with Simon Ratsey of Wellington giving a historical perspective to Weather in West Somerset. Mr. Ratsey writes regular weather reports for the Wellington Weekly News and has been recording the weather in this area for over forty years. What he has to say about our local weather is very interesting and thought-provoking, especially in the context of current concerns about climate change. The May meeting is also our AGM, although that part of the evening rarely dominates the proceedings!

From May to August we propose to hold a number of evening visits to places of interest onwards visit places of interest in the surrounding area. These could include a walk on the beach at Charmouth looking at geology and fossils, a guided tour of Axbridge, a visit to a local church and, as part of National Archaeology Fortnight (17 July – 1 August), a look at the landscape history of East Nynehead. Come to our May meeting to find out more.

We are an Associated Society of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society (SANHS) which organises a wide range of activities in the Taunton area and elsewhere in the county. A number of events are planned by the SANHS Local History Committee which might be of interest. Four lectures on the history of Taunton are being held as part of the Taunton 1100 celebrations while on 26 June there is the annual Local History Symposium at St. James Church Hall in Taunton on the subject of Somerset's landed families and their influence on life in the county. Nynehead is sure to get a mention at least! Closer to home on 18 September Nynehead Church will be the venue for a meeting to mark the three-hundredth anniversary of the death of the philosopher John Locke who had close connections with Chipley House.

Contact me for more information.

David Rabson

## Nynehead WI

2004 has seen the WI go from hot to cold with its first two speakers of the year. Alan Ketley showed us slides of the island of St. John in the Caribbean where he worked for a time and the sight of the sun warmed a dull January day. His audience was particularly well behaved as he used a machete to point out features on the slides!

A sharp contrast was made by the February speaker, Judy Craig, as she took us 'South with Endurance'. She works for the Hydrographic Office and her work took her to South Georgia, the Falkland Islands and the British Antarctic Survey base. Amazing slides of icebergs and snowstorms made us all shiver and we all got quite adept at differentiating between the different species of penguin.

Homegrown entertainment was the focus of the March meeting. Much laughter occurred during a 'Guess Who' style quiz – this may have been the result of the wine drunk to celebrate our birthday.

All women are welcome to come and try a meeting. The charge for an evening is £2, which includes supper. Why not give us a try. Meetings coming up are:

19 April – Wimbledon flowers and personalities (see separate notice)

17 May – Resolution discussions.

21 June – The work of 'Save the Children'.

19 July – Miniature painting.

Sheila Rabson

### OPEN MEETING 19 APRIL 7.30 P.M.

Nynehead WI has invited Robin Furlonger to give a talk on 'Wimbledon flowers and personalities'. Robin is responsible for all the flowers at the Wimbledon Tennis Tournament and has met many of the players over the years. We think this will be an exciting talk and would like to invite anyone interested, male or female, to come to the evening.

To assist us with the catering we would ask you to telephone the Secretary Thelma Helps on 01823 664142 by 17 April to book your place.

## 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 everyone to attend.

On all other Sundays the service is held in church and 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 10-15 am on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. For further details please contact Muriel Kodritsch tel. 661609.

**Church maintenance:** Since the last issue of the Village Newsletter some progress has been made towards opening up the original doorway to the ringing chamber. The statue of Elijah that was carved by William Giles of Wellington in the late 19th century has been moved to a temporary position and the rubble that filled the base of the entrance has been removed. We now await a visit from the Diocesan Board before we can make any further progress with the work.

**Church Funding:** In the annual report of the Parish Church it was reported that last year it cost £7,600 to run the church and this was without the cost of any major building work. This means that we have to raise almost £150 per week. If anyone would like to make a donation to the church either regularly or occasionally please contact Cynthia Lock tel. 461214.

### Memories of the church by a past

**resident:** Recently as a result of the Book of Nynehead I received a letter from Douglas Lentell who lived in the village in the 1930's. As a boy Douglas lived next door to Ben Hodge who was the father of Eva Edwards. Ben lived in the thatched cottage next to the school. Ben Hodge was the church sexton, bellringer and general handyman. Douglas remembers spending many hours helping or hindering Ben

with the grass cutting, weeding, grave digging, boiler stoking and bell ringing. Ben was also employed by the vicar as a gardener and handyman. At that time the vicarage was the large house at the top of the Hollow and the grounds were large and were mostly given to lawns. The vicar had a pony and this was used to pull the mowing machine. The pony's pasture was the church field which is at present the ground used by the school as a football pitch. Apart from some annual thistle cutting, the pony kept the grass in fair condition. Early in the war the pony was replaced and sheep from Hornsay Farm grazed the field in order to keep it in reasonable condition. Douglas remembers Ben Hodge saying that at some time in the future the field would need to be consecrated as an extension to the churchyard.

### From the Parish Register:

February 29<sup>th</sup> Baptism of Emily Jane Raybould

### Church contacts:

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

A.J. Lock - Churchwarden  
Tel 461214

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## Nynehead School

The spring term has been a very busy one for us all. We had a whole school trip to @ Bristol backing up topics on Space and materials. The juniors also went on a river study trip to Holford on the Quantocks. Staff and children have worked very hard to put together Jerusalem Joy for our Easter service which will be held in the church on Tuesday March 30<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm, all are very welcome to join us.

As I write this we have literally just completed our Ofsted inspection, which seems to have gone very well. We are now as you can imagine looking forward to Easter and plan to finish off the term with a decorated egg competition and a few other seasonal activities.

We wish you all a peaceful Easter time.

Angela Lewis

## NYNEHEAD AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

We have done it again and I am writing this on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> after the event! I hope all who came enjoyed the evening as much as the cast and crew enjoyed doing Sleeping Beauty. The stage was set and the lights went on. Everyone said "Well here we go, we must be mad"! On came Nurse Nora and that was it - the laughter started and didn't stop. But what about Fairy Dishonest, hissing, booing and on some nights small children crying – that said it all, we had got the balance right. Ernie the milkman in his 'van' caused a small eruption every night. All the children were magic and did all that was expected of them, and more. We played to a full house each night and the smiling faces of people leaving were wonderful.

We may only be a small group at the moment but please come and join us, can you paint, do makeup, dress make, anything? I know we can't all go on stage, I can't, but we need help.

Photographs were taken of the performance, please contact the editor for information, hopefully some pictures will be on the website ([nynehead.com](http://nynehead.com)).

Thank you all for supporting NADS, we hope to do something in the Summer but more about that later.

Lu Hawkins (Producer)



*King (Jerzy Bilski) Princess Rosebud, Queen (Kathy Boyd) Prince Florizel (Gill Salter) and the Royal Guard – Oliver Bassett, Joel Netley, and Michael Perks*



*Fairy Mary (Jane Leavy and Fairy May (Rose Adderley)*



*Agatha – seated (Rosemary Lea) and Princess Rosebud (Becky Perks)*



## Nynehead Court

The Stepping Stone Group had an excellent start to 2004 with its acquisition of Nynehead Court, widely regarded as the finest residential home in the West of England. No doubt many villagers will want to know a little more about who we are! Nynehead Court is owned and managed by Nynehead Care Limited, a private limited company and a subsidiary of The Stepping Stone Group (Care Homes) Ltd., which was formed as part of the Group in 1998 to acquire and manage selected individual care homes in order to extend the facilities and improve the quality of care. Plans are currently being considered for the conversion of outhouses at Nynehead Court in order to extend the provision of care to superior letting rooms and leasehold close care properties.

Our Managing Director is John Lewin and our other Director is John Bailey. The Registered Manager is Diana Hathaway, who brings with her a wealth of experience in managing homes in Gloucestershire and "hands on" knowledge of the provision of care, and the Administrator is Linda Matthews who managed a luxury apartment building in Chelsea for many years. With our combined experience, and the loyal, professional and caring team of staff here in the Court, we aim to be the best.

With that aim we are fortunate indeed to have such an active Support Group who help us in so many ways and we value an open approach and involvement with the local community. The Residents very much enjoy contact with the outside world; they love to see the school children studying our famous trees in the beautiful grounds and like to meet locals at coffee mornings and other events. We were delighted that so many people were able to come for drinks and supper not long after our takeover and we appreciate the warm welcome that we have received.

Whilst we would love to reinstate the Summer Fete it will not be possible for this year but we hope to do so in 2005 and make it a real village event. In the meantime a date for your diary:

**Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> April:**

**Cream Tea in aid of St. Margaret's  
Somerset Hospice**

**2.30 – 4.30 p.m. Entrance £2.50**

## Nynehead Appraisal Group

The finalised Parish Plan has now been distributed to every household in the Parish with additional copies being delivered to individuals and public bodies that have been mentioned or have otherwise been involved.

The draft Parish Plan was presented to your Parish Councillors in January and discussed during the Parish Council meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

The Parish Council formally adopted the proposals of the action plan and a further meeting has been arranged to agree priorities, estimate costings and set schedules for completion.

This has been a lengthy project but one that establishes the concerns of the community and prioritises future requirements.

We would like to thank all who completed last year's questionnaire and attended the associated public meetings. The excellent response from over 70% of households means that the analysis and resulting Parish Plan really does reflect the majority view.

Whilst the initial objective of the Vital Villages Plan has now been completed the Appraisal Group will continue to liaise with the Parish Council and other interested parties to monitor progress.

Mike Briginshaw



## Nynehead Cricket Club

The cricket club held its AGM in the Club about a month ago. Spirits are high among the small membership, given the huge progress so far with the brick pavilion project. It was therefore no surprise that the 2003 membership were willing to re-stand and were re-elected en bloc. At a subsequent committee meeting the Chairman, Keith Haslam, was delighted to report that the cricket club were to be sponsored for the first time over an entire season. This is to be the case this year thanks to a really fantastic financial gesture from **Bruford & Vallance**. There will be a banner at the cricket field for the first time and the fixture cards will be sponsored too.

The 2004 season will soon be upon the players, particularly since a fixture has been obtained against Tiverton for the first time on the remarkably early date of April 18<sup>th</sup>! New players are always made very welcome and it is good to have so many actual Nynehead based folk among the membership. Early season fixtures are as follows:-

<b>April 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Home to Tiverton.</b>
<b>April 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Home to Sampford Arundel</b>
<b>May 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Home to Hemyock</b>
<b>May 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Home to Wombat CC.</b>
<b>May 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Away at Bishops Hull.</b>
<b>May 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Home to East Huntspill.</b>
<b>May 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Home to Bickleigh.</b>

It would be great to see any parishioners at our home games, we will gladly brew you some tea!

### **NYNEHEAD CC DATES FOR EVERYONE!**

**April 16<sup>th</sup> at Nynehead Club - A Quiz Night! £10 per team of four incl. Supper.**

**May 28<sup>th</sup> A Race Night at Wellington Rugby Club.**

**ANNUAL B.B.Q AT OUR CRICKET FIELD  
\*\*\* June 26<sup>th</sup> ! \*\*\***

**We will also be involved with the "Duck Race" this year.**

**A.Riley [Hon Sec.] & K.Haslam [Ch]**

## WIVEY LINK

As you may be aware, from March 1<sup>st</sup> the management of this service has been transferred to Wivey Link Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Wiveliscombe Area Partnership, which amongst other things runs the Area Community Office.

Our aim is to radically improve the service. The new brochure is enclosed herewith and you will see that there are some significant differences not least that the service is **available to all residents of the area!** In addition, we will be able to take the frail, elderly and disabled into Musgrove and you should be aware that here, disabled refers to a condition whether temporary or permanent.

Our staff in Wiveliscombe House will be happy to answer any questions you may have and we would like to hear from you at any time if you have ideas that might further improve our service.

You should be aware of another change which is that **all** normal day drivers will be volunteers who are giving up time to the service of the community; this is the only way this type of service can be viable in the long term and it will be important that the community as a whole support us by using it as much as possible.

The fares have changed to accommodate the restructuring but we understand that concessionary fares may soon be introduced which will help with any increase for many users.

Lastly, as Managers, we have got to get to grips with a new project and the system which supports it and this will take us a while, so please be patient- help us to help you and that way we believe Wivey Link can grow to be a permanent and beneficial service for our community.

John Harris

A leaflet giving further information about this valuable service is enclosed with this copy of your Nynehead News. Please retain it for future reference.

## **Footpath Liaison Officer**

### **Vital Village Plan**

The Vital Village Plan produced by the Nynehead Appraisal Group (NAG) contains several references to footpaths. There are three footpath related items in the concluding Action Plan, all of which require action by the Parish Council and the Footpath Liaison Officer.

1. *Update survey of all footpaths and actively support enforcement of findings.*
2. *Instigate the purchase & display of maps and guides of the footpath network.*
3. *Investigate disabled access requirements for footpaths and prepare action plan to ensure required standards are achieved.*

How these items for action progress will be reported via the Nynehead News.

Items 1 and 3 require some predefined criteria regarding expectations. There are, of course, legal requirements placed upon those who own the land crossed by rights-of-way. And there is an increasing insistence on having facilities and access available for all, for the able-bodied and those less so.

But these requirements must be tempered by the needs of a working countryside, the costs of implementation and indeed the purpose of each right-of-way.

A working countryside requires farmers to have stock-proof fences and gateways. Rights-of-way users need to pass through these fences; hence the use of stiles and kissing gates, neither of which is particularly user-friendly to the less abled, but other types of opening can be left open by careless users and represent a risk for the farmer. So what is the solution? What level of access can we sensibly provide?

The significance of a right-of-way's purpose is well illustrated by the footpath westwards from opposite Wharf Cottage. As far as the canal lift it has been brought up to a high standard of access. This well-maintained path enhances the opportunity for all to visit a fine piece of industrial archaeology. But beyond the canal lift the path winds its narrow way between trees and over prominent tree roots as far as Stedham's Copse. This part of the path doesn't exactly conform to any current legal requirements, but is an interesting and pleasant part of Nynehead's environment. Is there any general benefit in changing that character by

making it meet the letter of current and future legislation?

There are, then, important decisions to be made on what constitutes an improvement to the footpath friendly nature of Nynehead. Those decisions need input from all interested parties. As Nearly 60% of respondents to the NAG questionnaire said they used the footpaths at least once a month that's a lot of interested people.

Colin Spackman

### ***NAG Note:***

*The Appraisal Group have been able to fund the provision of laminated maps showing all footpaths in the Parish and these are now on display on the public notice boards. Our thanks to Chris Watson for his considerable effort in colouring-in the maps and getting them laminated.*

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## **Nynehead Club**

### **"Your Club"**

*The Club continues to enjoy its role in the village and the long awaited lease is now ready to be signed. The Skittle Team continues to be the strongest in the league with all the rest above it. However, there are plenty of young faces and no lack of enthusiasm. The building work is drawing to a close and hopefully the whole club will be redecorated in the not too distant future.*

There will be a party on Easter Saturday and all are welcome. This year the 'duck race' has been adopted by the club and cricket team and will take place on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July, followed by the club bar-b-cue in the evening. Any other events will be well publicised and details put on the board outside.

It is nice to see a few new faces and the Saturday night crowds are a welcome upturn for the club. In addition, darts has suddenly become fashionable again and is now playing an important role in our activities.

I hope to see many of you in the future and would like to thank all hardworking volunteers.

Mervyn Hooper  
Chairman

## **Memorial Hall Committee**

The AGM of the Memorial Hall will be held in the hall on Monday 26 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 your behalf and to discuss ideas and plans for the future.

This is an important year for the hall as, although it is a much-appreciated facility in the village, it is in need of upgrading to ensure that it is fit for the future. In the past year we have installed a loop system and a ramp has been ordered for the rear fire exit while the drama group has redecorated the interior. We have a long 'shopping list' of further improvements ranging from the small, easily achievable, to the large which will need greater effort:

- i. Meeting the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act.
- ii. Replacement/improved toilets with separate access from the main hall, the club and any new meeting room.
- iii. A possible new room for small meetings for up to 20 people.
- iv. Good noise insulation between the various rooms and between the hall and the club.
- v. Better storage including cupboards for individual organisations.
- vi. All entrances/exits to comply with DDA requirements. The main access to include the main disabled access.
- vii. Main access for all purposes to be at the front of the building for safety reasons.
- viii. Better notice boards inside and outside.
- ix. A stage to be retained but could be portable.
- x. Lighting of the car park front and rear.
- xi. A new hall sign.
- xii. A new retractable projector screen.
- xiii. Blackout curtains.
- xiv. Kitchen facilities of a high standard.

We have commissioned sketch proposals for providing new toilets, entrance and kitchen. Before these are pursued any further everyone in the village should have an opportunity to comment so they will be on display in the hall before the AGM.

During the last two years we have been working on a new lease to the Club and have just heard that the Charity Commission has amended our constitution to enable us to agree the lease formally. We hope this will be done

shortly which will provide a good and detailed basis for the hall committee and the club to work together for the benefit of the village.

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 consists of people appointed by organisations in the village and five members elected at the AGM. In addition the committee can co-opt up to three members. All committee members have to live or have a business in the Parish of Nynehead. The committee elects its own officers (chairman, secretary, treasurer etc.)

Maintaining and improving the hall requires many varied skills. If you think you can and would like to help please come to the AGM and offer your support. In the meantime don't forget the Yetties concert on 16 April in aid of hall funds.

David Rabson.

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## **Nynehead Jubilee Playing Fields**

Just a quick update, to keep everyone informed with developments on the playing field.

The new play equipment for the Under 5's has now been ordered and should be installed by the summer at the latest. The equipment consists of two new cradle swings and a sit on train and carriage. We have been able to purchase this new equipment, from money raised, with the help of everyone who bought a Duck in our Duck Race last year and a grant from Taunton Deane Borough Council.

Once the new equipment has been installed, the old swings will be having a make over, which will involve having new seats fitted. For safety reasons we can no longer have a cradle swing next to a seat swing, so there will be two new seat swings fitted instead.

Louise Hobbs  
Social Secretary

## **Parish Council Report**

Over the winter the council's business has been dominated as usual by highway problems which we know are of great concern to Nynehead people. We had a useful meeting with Somerset Highways about the difficulties caused by mud on roads and in particular recently the spate of heavy lorries coming through the village. Unfortunately there is no magic wand available to either the parish council or the highway authority but we will continue to press for action wherever possible.

The question of speed limits for the village has been postponed for the time being. The council had agreed a scheme with Somerset Highways that could be formally advertised for public comment. However because of county-wide criticism of the application of speed limits the County Council has reviewed its policy and all unimplemented requests, such as ours, will have to be re-assessed.

In January the council fixed its budget and precept (i.e. its part of the council tax) for the coming year and was able to keep the latter at £2000, the same as last year.

The Annual Parish Meeting, open to all electors in the parish, will be held in the Memorial Hall on Thursday 13 May at 7.30 p.m. This is another opportunity to hear about what has been going on in the village and what is planned for the future. All village organisations will shortly be invited as in previous years to make a report to the meeting.

The parish council would like to get the views of the village on two matters in particular:

### **Village of the Year 2003**

Nynehead's success in becoming Somerset Small Village of the Year and the overall county winner and in receiving the regional 'community life' award was accompanied by total prize money of £750 to be spent for the benefit of the village. This is a significant sum for a small parish and we would welcome ideas, suggestions and proposals on how it could be used. The Annual Parish Meeting would be a good opportunity for this to be discussed.

### **Vital Villages Parish Plan**

All households should have received copies of the plan. The council is considering how to respond to the recommendations in the plan for parish council action, looking at priorities, costs

and timing and would welcome the village's views at the meeting on 13 May.

Finally a reminder that parish council meetings are open to the public and we do have a ten minute public question time before each meeting. Draft minutes are displayed on the parish notice boards and reports of council meetings published in the Wellington Weekly News and the County Gazette.

David Rabson  
Clerk to the Parish Council.

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## **A Message from our District Councillor, Clifford C. W. Bishop**

I was pleased to have been provided with a copy of the Vital Villages Plan for Nynehead and I would like to congratulate the members of the Steering Group on the contents and the quality of the document, and I look forward to hearing the reaction of the public attending the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

At the last meeting of the Parish Council, the minutes show that the provision of new Playing Field equipment was discussed. Taunton Deane Borough Council has recently decided to provide additional funds in the budget for the financial year 2004/05 to provide grants but in succeeding years the percentage of the grant provided by the Borough Council will be reduced to 33 % and it is hoped that this will enable more projects to be pump-primed to enable charitable organisations to apply to the Lottery and other funding bodies.

I recognise that this decision has received a great deal of discussion but as the demand for grants is well in excess of the funds available it will provide a fairer distribution throughout the Deane.

Taunton Deane B C will soon be making its views known about the Issues and Options paper setting out the key areas upon which the Structure Plan alteration will focus. The National Park Authority and the County Council will be arranging for the plan to be placed on deposit in June and members of the public and the Parish Council will be able to make their views known on the contents of the document.

Cliff Bishop

**Nynehead Memorial Hall**

**Annual General Meeting**

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April**

**at 7.30 pm**

**In the Hall**

**Nynehead Annual Parish Meeting**

**Open to all electors of the Parish**

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May**

**at 7.30 p.m.**

**In the Memorial Hall**

## 'The Yetties in Concert'

**Nynehead Memorial Hall  
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April  
Tickets £6 from Hilary Hooper  
Tel: 461518**

**In aid of the Hall Improvement Fund**

**White Mischief (Wellington) Ltd**

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during the week and are unable to visit Winston until  
Saturday - thank you

## **Buttercup Balloons**



## LOCAL CONTACTS

### Parish Council:

Mervyn Hooper - Chairman	461518
David Rabson (Clerk)	666609
Mike Briginshaw - Vice Chairman	461627
Phil Bassett	665766
Alan Ketley	666249
Gary Sparks	663745

### Nynehead School

Angela Lewis - (Head Teacher)	662021
Carole Darby - (Chair of Govenors)	663166

### Friends of Nynehead School

Alison Bashford	662243
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### Pre-school and Toddler group

Dawn Netley	666895
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### Rural Youth Project

Dawn Netley	666895
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### Jubilee Playing Fields

Mervyn Hooper	461518
Alan Ketley	666249

### Nynehead History Society

David Rabson	666609
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### Nynehead Memorial Hall

Nick Hollingsworth (Chairman)	666058
Louise Hobbs (Treasurer)	669828
David Rabson (Secretary)	666609

### Nynehead Club

Mervyn Hooper (Chairman)	461518
David Raybould (Secretary)	669727
Sarah Hooper(Social Secretary)	461518

### All Saints Church

Tony Lock	461214
Alan Howe	666995

### Nynehead Women's Institute

Sheila Rabson	666609
Thelma Helps	664142

### Grand Western Canal Trust

Denis & Jenny Dodd	661653
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### Nynehead Cricket Club

Keith Haslam	461667
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### Nynehead Garden Club

Alan Ketley	666249
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### NU (Nynehead Understanding)

Jeff Northam	667588
Duncan Linklater	461637
Mike Briginshaw	461627

### 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
PC Mark Jones - Email	markj.jones@avonandsomerset.police.uk

### CRIMESTOPPERS

To give anonymous information	0800 555 111
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## Diary - 10th April 2004 to 19th July 2004

12-Apr	Great Easter Egg Hunt - Village Hall - 2.30 pm
13-Apr	Garden Club meeting - Village Hall - 7.30 pm
16-Apr	The Yetties in Concert' - 8 pm in the Hall
16-Apr	Nynehead Cricket Club Quiz - at Nynehead Club
19-Apr	WI - OPEN MEETING - Wimbledon flowers & personalities 7.30 pm at the Village Hall
26-Apr	Nynehead Memorial Hall AGM - 7.30 pm in the hall.
8-May	Garden Club Plant Sale - Nynehead Club - time to be announced
10-May	Parish Council Annual Meeting - Village Hall - 7.30 pm
11-May	Garden Club meeting - Village Hall - 7.30 pm
13-May	Nynehead Annual Parish Meeting - 7.30 pm in the Hall
14-May	History Society AGM - plus 'Weather & Climate in West Somerset' - historical perspective.
17-May	WI - Resolution Discussions
28-May	Nynehead Cricket Club - 'A Race Night' at Wellington Rugby Club
7-Jun	Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall - 7.30 pm
14-Jun	Garden Club meeting - Village Hall - 7.30 pm
21-Jun	WI - The work of 'Save the Children'
<b>21-Jun</b>	<b>Copy Deadline for July Edition of Nynehead News</b>
26-Jun	Nynehead Cricket Club - Annual BBQ at the Cricket Field
5-Jul	Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall - 7.30 pm
12-Jul	Garden Club meeting - Village Hall - 7.30 pm
19-Jul	WI - Miniature painting