



**BISHOP'S HULL
PARISH
MAGAZINE
JUNE 2026**

**A THRIVING VILLAGE
COMMUNITY IN
THE HEART OF SOMERSET**

EDITOR

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MAGAZINE SUPPORT TEAM

Proof reader - Margaret Coombs

Magazine Cover:

Photographs by
Bob & Penny Coombs & Bob Winn

Articles relating to all aspects of our village and community
are always welcome.

Final date for acceptance: Mid-day on 12th of the month.

Please help to make the magazine interesting by contributing material.

**When reading your free online copy or one of the the hard copies
available in church please remember to support the few remaining
advertisers whenever possible**

*It is emphasised that the views expressed in this magazine are not
necessarily those of the magazine editorial team, unless attributed,
or those sent in by identifiable contributors.*

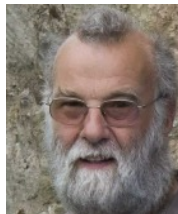


Cafe & Bar

Now serving Coffees,
Hot Drinks & Breakfasts from
8.30am Tues-Sat
Lunches, Dinners & Sunday Roasts
£5.50 Senior Citizen Meals
Tribute Acts and Events
at the Weekends
Ask us about Functions & Wakes
01823 802877

Bell Ringing

We are very proud of our Bell Ringing team and our bells! There are 6 bells in the tower and ringing is done from ground level.



The Bell Tower is accessed on the North Side of the church. Ringing happens for the main service on Sunday (usually ringing starts at 09.15am and rings until the service starts at 10am). Practice night is Wednesday at 7.30pm. Quarter peals (50 minutes) may be attempted up to twice a month at 11.30am, usually on Tuesday or Wednesday. Our Tower Captain is Giles Morley and he can be contacted on 01823 430710

BISHOPS HULL BUTCHERS, POST OFFICE AND STORES

BISHOPS HULL, TAUNTON



**AWARD WINNING
FAMILY RUN BUSINESS**

Shop and Post Office

Open Monday – Friday 6.45am – 6pm

Saturday 8am – 6pm

Sunday 8am – 12pm

Tel – 01823 279168

Butchers

Open Tuesday – Wednesday 8.00am – 3pm

Thursday – Friday 8.00am – 4pm

Saturday 7.00am – 2pm

Sunday and Monday Closed

Tel – 01823 337497

The Frank Bond Centre

84 Mountway Road, Bishop's Hull.

A place for the over 50s to meet new friends

Contact Carolyn 01823 283941 /Nadia 07958 246046

**Come along to FBC Coffee morning on a Friday morning
10:00-12:00 and discover what activities could lie in store
for you.**

The cafe is open to members and non-members.

The centre is centrally heated and open 10:00-16:00

Monday-Friday

Weekly Activities:

Monday - The Painting Group 10:00-12:00,

Whist Club 1:30-4:00

Bridge Club 1.30-4:00

Wednesday – Flexercise & Tai Chi 10:00-12:00

Thursday - Bridge club 10:00-12:00-Beginners

welcome,

Croquet 2:00-4:00

Friday - Pétanque 10:00-12:00,

Friday - The FBC Coffee morning 10:00-12:00

Monthly Activities:

1st Monday in month Family History 2:00-4:00

2nd Tuesday in month Parchment 10:00-3:30

3rd Wednesday in month Games 2.00-4.00

4th Wednesday in month Music Appreciation 2.00-4.00

2nd & 4th Thursday in month Mahjong 2:00-4:00

NO MONTHLY LUNCHES

Annual membership £25 Find us on Facebook (& 'Like' us)

BISHOP'S HULL CAR BOOT SALES 2026

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

Spring Bank Holiday Monday 25th MAY

Sunday 14th JUNE

Sunday 28th JUNE

Sunday 12th JULY

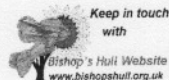
Sunday 26th JULY

Sunday 9th AUGUST

Bank Holiday Monday 31st AUGUST

Sunday 13th SEPTEMBER

Sunday 27th SEPTEMBER



Start Time 7a.m.

Bishop's Hull Playing Field TA1 5EB

///rocket.force.monday

Sellers £7 Buyer Parking £1

Cars Parked at Owners' Risk

The money raised supports the running and maintenance of the playing field facilities for the benefit of users and community

Sellers responsible for removing their own rubbish

Toilets Available

Dogs allowed on a lead

All events subject to cancellation without notice at organisers discretion. All net proceeds to the Bishop's Hull Village Hall and Playing Fields Trust, a non-profit making registered charity.

Prescription Time Frame



To help us provide an efficient, safe and effective service to our patients, we ask that you follow the guidance below:

- Use the table below to work out when your prescription will be ready for collection,

- Order early for bank holidays, or if you are going on holiday,
- Let us know in advance, if you require our prescription delivery service

Due to permanent closures of some pharmacies in the area we are experiencing high volumes of prescriptions. We offer text message and a phone call service to let our patients know when their medications are ready. Please ask a member of staff about details.

We are a small but very busy pharmacy, so be prepared to queue. Please sign the back of your green paper prescription on arrival and tick the exemption box if it applies to you (there are pens available on the counter). Our waiting time for a walk-in prescription is usually up to 20 minutes, but it can reach to one hour depending on how busy we are. We are always extremely busy before bank holidays, so please order your prescriptions earlier and be prepared to queue.

Prescription Ordered	We normally receive	Ready for collection
Monday	Thursday	Monday
Tuesday	Friday	Tuesday
Wednesday	Monday	Wednesday
Thursday	Tuesday	Thursday
Friday	Wednesday	Friday
Weekend	Thursday	Monday

When you enter the pharmacy please turn right in order to join a queue or otherwise feel free to browse the shop. Whilst waiting for your prescription to be prepared please wait in the pharmacy, if you leave at any point, please queue again on arrival and ask the member of staff if your medications are ready. We apologise for any inconvenience and thank you for your understanding.

These are the expected days when your prescription will be ready, however sometimes delays occur due to medication queries, items out of stock and increased workload. Please be aware that this guidance is for regular repeat medication. Please collect your medications after receiving your text message or phone call. Prescriptions that are urgent from the GP surgery can be dispensed when needed.

Opening hours: Monday- Friday: 9:00- Saturday: 9:00-13:00

Sunday: Closed. Bank Holiday: Closed Tel. 01823 256 056

Address: 2 The Comeytrove Centre, Pitts Close, Taunton, TA1 4TN



theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN

Bishop's Hull Belles WI

Bishop's Hull Belles is a group of friendly women with meetings held on the 4th Thursday of the month (except August) at 7.30pm at the Bishop's Hull HUB.

- These monthly meetings have a speaker or other activity together with business items
- Topics for future meetings will be published here each month.
- Lunches and coffee/brunches are organised monthly.
- Additionally there is a walking group arranged fortnightly (except mid winter and August) and a scrabble group meets on a monthly basis.
- A day trip usually takes place in August.
- Why not come along to one of our monthly meetings where you will be warmly welcomed. The cost is £4 per visit (up to 3 meetings) which is then deducted from the annual subscription upon joining.
- Further information can be obtained from Heather Blackmore the group's secretary. Tel:01823-283884 mob 07963834365

Next Meeting

Thursday 28th May at 7.30pm

Speaker - Andy Rowden - (Your Secured Legacy Ltd)

"Simple wills" - threats they do not deal with.

The Parish Magazine - a little bit of history.

Forty years ago, in June 1986, the very first copy of this magazine was published and circulated throughout the village by Dennis and Sue Morrell. The reality at the time was there were no funds available either from the church or from advertising revenue to pay for the production of a magazine. So, undaunted, Dennis and Sue decided to set the wheels in motion. Funded by their own money, and a lot of hard work, together they created the first magazine. It had to be collated, printed (photocopied) and all the pages stapled together. Next (not an easy task) they recruited volunteers to deliver the magazine to all and sundry and finally started to attract a modest income from advertisers. Towards the end of 1998, after 12 years of dedication and hard work, Dennis and Sue decided to 'retire' and to pass on the magazine production, etc. to a new 'editor'. Coincidentally, it just so happened that the vicar had heard that Bob Coombs had just retired from the CSOS Radio Station at Culmhead. Following the vicar's approach he accepted. This is what he wrote in the magazine.

"In the month of October 1998 Rev Colin Randall asked me if I would take over the compilation, editing and production of the Bishop's Hull Parish Magazine? Although I agreed to do the best I could, I unfortunately did not own either a typewriter or a computer to assist me, neither did I have any experience in the production of a magazine of any sort. Undeterred, I took on the challenge and bought an electric typewriter which soon proved not to be versatile enough for the job in hand. Eventually I bought a computer and was provided, by the previous editor, with a set of floppy discs containing Desk Top Publishing (DTP) software. With a dearth of local computer buffs, on whom I might have called for help, I valiantly struggled to come to terms with the new (to me) technology and was soon producing the magazine using Microsoft Word. However, because of my lack of basic knowledge of computers, and DTP, life was quite a struggle each month. I eventually purchased my own DTP software package, downloaded helpful free software from the Internet and set about the task of teaching myself how it all worked. With the speed of development in all spheres of computing it was impossible for an untrained person to keep up with all that was on offer. However, I persevered and eventually mastered enough of the DTP to be able to produce the monthly magazine much more efficiently than when I started in 1998. As the years passed my list of equipment began to grow - printers, scanners, staplers, and the like, most of which had to be upgraded and paid for out of my own pocket."

June 2026. The magazine has finally come full circle, so to speak. Covid 'killed' the commercial production of the 200 magazines a month. There has been no income since Covid from subscribers or from advertising. The treasurer resigned and the bank account was closed. The delivery volunteers faded away. The only souls left of my original 'team' are Margaret and me. With no income, but still some limited expenditure, the magazine lives on via the Internet. However, as from this month, there are no residual funds left in the kitty. We've reached, after 40 years, a Dennis and Sue 'day one' moment.

The Vicar writes.....



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we step into June, the long, warm days of midsummer bring a natural sense of gratitude. The parish is bursting with life, and our church calendar is equally vibrant. June always feels like a bridge—a time to look back on spring's blessings and look forward to the bright possibilities of summer.

*The month begins with important diocesan duties, as our ministry team attends the **Clergy Day** on Monday 8 June, followed closely by the **Archdeacon's Visitation** on Tuesday 9 June. Please keep us in your prayers during these times of fellowship and oversight.*

*Back at home, we are excited to nurture our faith with a **new Home Group** starting on Tuesday 16 June at 7:30 PM. It is a wonderful opportunity for study and community, and all are welcome.*

*Love is also in the air. Over the coming weeks, we will be reading the **Banns of Marriage** for a lovely couple marrying in July. It is always a joy to hear these names read out, and I invite you to pray for them as they prepare for their sacred vows.*

*The final weekend of June promises to be exceptionally holy and celebratory. On Saturday 27 June, we begin with fellowship at our **Coffee Morning** at 10:00 AM in the church hall—a perfect chance to catch up over cake. Later at 2:00 PM, our diocesan family gathers for the **Ordinations** at The Minster, Taunton. Please pray for all those being called to serve in this way.*

*Finally, on Sunday 28 June, we will hold a special **Evensong** service to celebrate **St Peter and St Paul Day**. To mark this great festival, we are delighted to welcome a guest choir to lead our worship, followed by refreshments. All are welcome!*

Come and join us; let us fill this beautiful month with prayer, music, and fellowship. More details on the notice boards...

*God bless, and hopefully see you soon.
Rev Phil Hughes, Vicar and Chaplain*

St Peter's & St Paul's Church

Bridge Coffee Mornings

The **Bridge** is what we have called the Welcome Area.

The Church has opened **the Bridge** for the return of the Monthly Coffee Mornings to be held on the last Saturday of each month and the next one is in May 2026. We would like to extend a warm

welcome to all at the next coffee morning on **Saturday 27 June 2026**

From 10am till 12noon.

Come along to have a Coffee/Tea and cakes, with a friendly chat **and SWAP** a book.

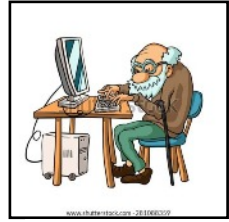
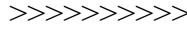
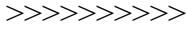


THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Older people often go to another room to get something, and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for.

This is not a memory problem.

It is God's way of helping older people get more exercise.



Editor Bob

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I know how expensive it is to send a letter so I would be happy to receive an email instead.

Editor Bob.



PARISH MAGAZINE

Bishop's Hull Parish Council News

Summary of the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd April 2026:

Kinglake - The Clerk advised that the transfer is imminent, the PC solicitor is just waiting final confirmation from Persimmon and then the transfer documents can be signed and the demand notice served to Persimmon for £352,000 to cover future maintenance.

Members will decide how to invest the funds to get the best return for the Council, at minimal risk. The Clerk advised each bank account is covered under the FSCS for up to £120,000.00

Play Park - The Clerk advised SC solicitor has advised copies of the deed of release documents have been sent to the Trust solicitor awaiting action. No further actions required from,PC at present.

Bishop's Mead - illegal encampment measures were reviewed and it was agreed no further action required

Finance - The statement of internal controls was approved and signed by the Chair and Clerk

Governance - The Clerk has reviewed all the PC policies' and these were approved by Members. The new IT policy and Data audit were deferred until May.

Councillor areas of responsibility:

The following were agreed:

Footpaths: Gordon Everett as PPLO, Tony Taylor, Bev Fernandes

Community News proof readers: Nick Fernandes and Jacqui Wilson (Helen McGladdery - Editor)

Internal Controls: Nick Fernandes

Allotments: Mandi Trout (onsite) Helen McGladdery - admin

Defibrillator: Tony Taylor (bi-monthly checks)

SID - Tony Taylor, Rachel Reed, Nick Fernandes

Open spaces - Hilary Harper

Play parks - Rota between Mandi, Bev, Tony, Rachel and Nick

Facebook admins: Helen McGladdery and John Hunt

LCN: Tony Taylor

Representatives:

BHPF Trust: John Hunt

BH HUB: Tony Taylor

Netherclay Woodland: Mandi Trout

Youth Club Liaison: Rachel Reed

A38 Speed reductions - Kate Brown SC has advised she is finalising the design for the 30mph extension scheme. New orders cannot be issued until beginning of April. Once she has a programme date she will advise the PC.

Next Parish Council meeting date: It was agreed that the Annual Parish meeting followed by The Annual Parish Council meeting will be held on 7th May 2026, 7.15pm at the HUB.

The Annual meeting is an opportunity for all residents to attend to hear presentations from Local groups about activities over the last year. This will then be followed by the Annual Parish Council meeting where the Chair and Vice Chair are elected. It would be really nice to see lots of residents attend.

Bishop's Hull HUB dates were agreed for 16th May - Youth Club - 7.15- 9.15pm

18th June - HUB Bikes Café - 10.00 - 12 noon

Bishop's Hull Belles WI

Next meeting at The HUB - Thursday 28th May at 7.30pm
Guest Speaker - Andy Rowden (Your Secured Legacy Ltd)
"Simple wills"

Kidney Patients Association



At a recent Hub café, I met up with local resident Richard Holland. There was nothing unusual about that, as I'm sure you'll remember it was Richard who gave up so much of his time drawing up the plans and sourcing the grant funding needed to enable the building of our amazing community facility.

On this occasion, however, he was at the Bishop's Hull Hub as a representative of the Exeter and District Kidney Patients' Association, providing peer support and information on kidney disease, and explaining the work of the KPA in supporting all kidney patients across Somerset and Devon.

In their own words, this is what the Exeter & District Kidney Patients' Association do:

- ~ Provide emergency financial help; very often related to the loss of employment and a need for financial assistance until benefits kick in.*
- ~ Provide access to a dedicated specialist member of staff at the Exeter Citizens Advice Bureau, who can advise on all benefits available to dialysis patients and help with form filling.*
- ~ Provide funding for emergency transport fares to allow patients in need of transport, to attend essential non-routine hospital appointments.*
- ~ Helpline - we operate a confidential helpline for patients with queries, concerns and needs.*
- ~ Peer Support — is offered by a handful of patients sharing both understanding and moral support*
- ~ Enable patients to socialise through WhatsApp groups and supporting events related to kidney patients, such as the Transplant Games.*
- ~ Purchase numerous TV sets and remote controls for inpatients of hospital wards and satellite dialysis units.*
- ~ Provide funding for the installation of home drainage systems for peritoneal dialysis patients, to avoid the need to dispose of heavy overnight waste drainage bags.*
- ~ Provide various supplies for patients which can no longer be funded by the NHS, e.g. blood pressure monitors, trolleys for PD machines, bunkers for medical supplies*
- ~ They even supply biscuits with the tea rounds for regular dialysis in patients!*

*For further information contact: The Secretary EDKPA, Joanne Robbins.
Tel 07715 601531 or Email admin@edkpa.org.uk*

*Take Care
John Hunt*

Christian Giving

Stewardship's recent Generosity Report explored 'Christian giving in the UK' and is based on 6,000 churchgoers, 1,700 of whom attend church weekly, 1,200 who go monthly and 3,100 who attend less frequently.

On average, these Christians gave £124 a month to different charitable causes, made up of £98 to their church and £26 to other charities.

The more committed Christians, who attend their church and reading the Bible at least weekly, tend to give more than others. They give to Christian charities, then secular charities and finally individual Christian workers.

Why give? "Gratitude for the blessings God has given me (home, finance, family etc.)" is the reason about a third of them give. This is followed by "gratitude for what Jesus did for me on the Cross" (30%) and being "part of something that can make a difference" (29%).

How do Christians feel about their giving? The answer: "Responsibility and joy," is closely followed by "gratitude." Mostly, Christians keep quiet about their giving, not even discussing it with friends.

Supporting those in need was a prime reason for giving (say sponsoring running a marathon), whether to family or friends or homeless strangers on the streets. The faith affiliation of charities was less important – it was what they were doing which counted.

Committed Christians usually support two charities.

Our potholes are killing us

The number of people injured or even killed by falling into potholes has increased by almost 50 per cent in just the last five years. Motorists, passengers and pedestrians are all at risk.

From 270 incidents in 2020, it now stands at 393 in 2024, the last year for which figures are available.

In 2024, six people died, 128 were seriously injured and 259 suffered minor injuries. In contrast, back in 2020, five people died, 80 were seriously injured and 185 suffered minor injuries.

The stories range from pensioners on foot falling into potholes and dying, to cyclists having their faces smashed to pieces, or getting their wheels jammed in narrow potholes and dying, to motorcyclists being thrown in front of cars and dying. Never mind the thousands of car tyres that have been torn to pieces in potholes.

Meanwhile the Asphalt Industry Alliance (AIA) has recently reported that the cost of fixing every pothole in Britain could reach £18.6bn and take 12 years to complete. It calls the situation "a national crisis and a total disgrace".

The Transport Secretary, Heidi Alexander, recently experienced the crisis for herself when a "moon crater-sized" pothole took her Mini Cooper off the road by bursting two tyres in Oxfordshire.

Edmund King, president of the AA, says Britain is in a "pothole plague". So far this year, the AA has attended an average of 64,330 pothole callouts per month.

BISHOPS HULL NEIGHBOURHOOD BEAT TEAM (from village WEB site)

PCSO Tony Wearmouth 8413 - 07889 655312
tony.wearmouth@avonandsomerset.police.uk

PCSO Catharine Richards - 07710 026191
catherine.richards@avonandsomerset.police.uk
PCSO Catharine Richards - 07710 026191

Images of a number of pieces of Jewellery which are believed to have been stolen in burglaries across the South West are being released in a bid to reunite them with their owners.

The jewellery was recovered by detectives as part of investigations into burglaries across the Avon and Somerset and Devon and Cornwall policing areas.

Some of the pieces, which include bracelets, necklaces, and pendants, were found with significant fire damage, but we are keen to try to trace the rightful owners of the various pieces.

If you think any of the items pictured are yours, please call 101 and give the call handler the reference number 5226014936.

recovered-jewellery.pdf

A home on Hamber Lea, Bishops Lydeard, was burgled during the night of Wednesday 8 April. The offender(s) have removed the front door of the property to gain entry, leaving the door on the floor. Some car keys were taken from a kitchen worktop, which were then used to steal a grey, 17-plate Volkswagen Golf.

If you have any information about this incident, especially CCTV images, please call us on 101, giving

the reference number 5226096568 and ask that the call is tagged as Neighbourhood Watch.

Alternatively, you can call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

car-key-burglary.pdf

Attached is the Taunton (NPT) Newsletter for April.

taunton-policing-newsletter-april-2026.pdf

Rural thefts and burglaries.

Over the last month we have seen a spate in burglaries of homes and businesses, as well as theft of vehicles in the rural areas of west Somerset.

In response our local teams as well as our Rural Crime Team are carrying out high visibility patrols, whilst working with affected communities to try and detect, deter and prevent further crime.

We are also advising residents to check that their home and outbuildings (such as sheds or garages) are secure, by taking simple precautions. These include locking windows and doors when you go out, even if just stepping next door or out in the garden.

Investigations into these burglaries are ongoing, but we would like to remind the public that if you have

witnessed anything or have information that you think could be of help, please make sure you call us on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111, or alternatively if you have been a victim or witness of a rural crime you can report it via our new Report a rural crime reporting form on our website.

Anti-social behaviour

Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) can have a devastating impact on individuals as well as our local community, and everyone has the right to feel safe where they live, and we all have a part to play in this. We always encourage our communities to report persistent Anti Social Behaviour in your areas, either by calling us on 101, using our website to report things online, or by calling Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Our local neighbourhood teams work alongside our constabulary's specialist anti-social behaviour team, as well as other local authority services and charities, to work with those involved in low level offending. This ranges from warning letters to education and support. We also work with those involved in more persistent offending with higher end interventions, such as Community Protection Notices and Community Behavioural Orders that can include arrestable conditions. High visibility patrols are conducted by our local teams at every opportunity to provide reassurance to both the wider community and also to detect and deter anti-social behaviour in your area.

In response to recent reports regarding youth related anti-social behaviour in the local area, including;

- King George V Playing Field, Trull.
- Bindon Road, Staplegrove.
- The Norton Fitzwarren Playing Fields.

Our neighbourhood team will be conducting targeted high visibility patrols to disrupt and deter further issues whilst enquiries are ongoing.

We encourage parents to be aware of where their children are during the school holidays and what activities they are engaging in.

Meet Your Local Policing Team

The Taunton West Neighbourhood Policing Team will be present at the Hive café in the Trull Church Community Centre for a 'Talk To Us' session. Please come and meet your local beat team, and have a talk with us about any issues you are facing in your area, or to just have a friendly chat.

When:

Saturday
20th June
2026,
10:00 to
11:00



This event is held every 4 weeks on Saturday.

Where:

Trull Church Community Centre
Church Road
Taunton
TA3 7JZ

BISHOP'S HULL IN TIMES PAST



100 years ago

Mrs C Leslie Fox presided over the eleventh annual meeting of the Bishop's Hull Nursing Association held in the Parish-room, when there were also present Mrs Balman (vice-president), Mrs Williams, Mrs Mossman (Staplegrove), Mrs Farrant, Mrs Thicknesses, Mrs Mallalieu, Miss E Lythall, Mrs Lewis and Mrs Wilkins (members of the committee) and Mrs Peters (hon secretary). The committee was supported by Mrs Spurway, Mrs Warren, Mrs Connett, Mrs Clarke, Mrs Muggridge, Mrs Crocker, Mrs

Coles and others - friends and members of the association. The president read a letter received from Mrs Rabin, from which it was pleasing to note that, although no longer able to attend meetings, the writer was always interested in hearing from others how the work of the association was going on. The nursing report and balance sheet were presented and, on the motion of the chairman and seconded by Mrs Thicknesse, were adopted. There had been fewer births so consequently fewer fees to collect, but Nurse Smith had put in 316 more nursing visits, 55 of which were urgently needed by sick neighbours in Trull and Norton. Mrs Spurway proposed and Mrs Lewis seconded the re-election of the following officers: president, Mrs C Leslie Fox; vice-president, Mrs Balman; hon treasurer, Mr CH Bastard; hon secretary, Mrs Peters. Mrs Clarke proposed the thanks of the Association be accorded the committee and that the retiring member, Mrs Wilkins, be re-elected. This was seconded by the vice-president and adopted. At the instance of the chairman, seconded by Mrs Mallalieu, thanks were accorded the vicar for the use of the room; Miss E Lythall for assisting the hon secretary; the hon treasurer and hon secretary, the collectors (whose tedious yet very necessary work was faithfully rendered, Nurse Smith (who was always a pleasure to meet on the road and who, however tired, was an example of how to keep smiling), and to Mrs Scobell, who kept the nurse's cottage so beautifully clean, and who was backed up by

Mr Scobell who made the little garden patch bright with flowers.

With a further hearty vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed by Mrs Lewis and seconded by Mrs Wilkins, the meeting concluded.

50 years ago

The annual meeting of the Bishops Hull Flower Show was held at the schoolroom, with the chairman, Mr CH Smith, presiding. Although the previous year's event incurred a loss financially, it was agreed to go ahead with this year's show. Accordingly, arrangements and plans were made. Mr Day offered to organise a coffee evening to raise funds to offset the higher costs in staging a show. In concluding the meeting, the chairman appealed to anyone interested in helping to contact him or the secretary, Mr R Baker.

The funeral of Mr Charles Western of Smithy Cottages was held at Taunton Deane Crematorium. The service in the chapel was conducted by the Rev EG Mullins, vicar of Bishops Hull, and the cremated remains were later buried in the family grave at St Mary's cemetery. The Co-operative Funeral Service made the arrangements.

The Conservative Women's branch held its monthly meeting at Meryan House Hotel and Mrs Luckes and Mrs Eills (sic) presided. The agent, Mr N Cheeseman, spoke on 'The failures of the Labour Government' and emphasised the alterations to legislation which the Conservatives had achieved. Mr Cheeseman warned the branch to be ready for a General Election at any time. He was thanked by Mrs Luckes for his talk. An interesting talk was given by Police Sergeant Barron on the work of a police officer. He was thanked by the chairman.

At a recent meeting of the Parish Council, it was agreed to enter the best kept village competition following an offer of assistance from the Women's Institute. Members of the council expressed the hope that all parishioners would enter into the spirit of the competition and do their best to keep the village clean and tidy during the coming months.

Somerset Council This Earth Day, lets cut food waste
Earth day 2026

Earth Day was celebrated last month on 22 April and was a good reminder that we don't have to think big when it comes to making changes for the planet.

One of the easiest ways to help is by wasting less food, and we don't have to wait for Earth Day to change our habits.

When food is thrown away, it's not just the food itself that's wasted. All the energy, fuel and resources used to grow, produce, package and transport it are thrown away too. This adds to climate change and puts unnecessary pressure on the environment.

The good news is that there are simple things we can all do to cut food waste here in Somerset.

You can help by:

- planning meals and shopping with a list
- buying only what you know you'll use
- using up leftovers or freezing extra portions
- storing food properly so it lasts longer

Some food waste is unavoidable, such as peelings, bones, tea bags and eggshells. These shouldn't go in your rubbish bin. Instead, put them in your food waste recycling container. Food waste collected in Somerset is collected weekly, so no smelly bins, its turned into energy and fertiliser, helping to cut general waste and reducing emissions.

By wasting less food and recycling what you can't avoid, you're helping Somerset – and the wider planet – take a step in the right direction.



What do they teach them in school these days?!

- *The following excerpts are 10- and 11-year-old answers to history tests and Sunday school quizzes. They were collected over a period of three years by two teachers. Read carefully and enjoy the grammar, misplaced modifiers, and of course, spelling!*
- Ancient Egypt was old. It was inhabited by gypsies and mummies who all wrote in hydraulics. They lived in the Sarah Dessert. The climate of the Sarah is such that all the inhabitants have to live elsewhere.
- Moses led the Hebrew slaves to the Red Sea where they made unleavened bread, which is bread made without any ingredients. Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the ten commandos. He died before he ever reached Canada but the commandos made it.
- Solomon had three hundred wives and seven hundred porcupines. He was an actual hysterical figure as well as being in the bible. It sounds like he was sort of busy too.
- The Greeks were a highly sculptured people, and without them we wouldn't have history. The Greeks also had myths. A myth is a young female moth.
- Socrates was a famous old Greek teacher who went around giving people advice. They killed him. He later died from an overdose of wedlock which is apparently poisonous. After his death, his career suffered a Dramatic decline.
- In the first Olympic games, Greeks ran races, jumped, hurled biscuits, and threw the java. The games were messier then than they show on TV now.
- Julius Caesar extinguished himself on the battlefields of Gaul. The Ides of March murdered him because they thought he was going to be made king. Dying, he gasped out "Same to you, Brutus."
- Joan of Arc was burnt to a steak and was canonized by Bernard Shaw for reasons I don't really understand. The English and French still have problems.
- It was an age of great inventions and discoveries. Gutenberg invented removable type and the Bible. Another important invention was the circulation of blood.
- Sir Walter Raleigh is a historical figure because he invented cigarettes and started smoking.
- Sir Francis Drake circumcised the world with a 100-foot clipper which was very dangerous to all his men.

EAT WELL FOR LESS DURING JUNE

ONION SOUP

(Bearnaise)



1 lb. Onions
Grated gruyere cheese
A little beef dripping
Bread, water

Slice the onion and fry thoroughly in the dripping; then put the onion and the remains of the dripping into two pints of boiling water. Simmer gently for half an hour, then pour off liquid into a fireproof casserole, and cover the top with three or four slices of very thin bread, and then with the cheese. Cook in oven until top is brown—about 20 minutes. Serve in casserole.

BEEF STEAK PUDDING



1 lb. of steak
1/2 lb. of kidney
1/2 lb. of flour (half plain and half self-raising)
1/4 lb. of chopped suet
A few small mushrooms

Cut up beef and kidney and mushrooms, dredge well with flour, and season with pepper and salt. Make a suet crust and line a bowl with it. Then fill with the steak, etc., and add stock till the meat is just covered. Cover with paste and tie down with grease-proof paper and cloth. Steam for 4 hours.

PORK CAKES WITH APPLE SAUCE



2 cups cold minced pork
2 tablespoons flour
1 tablespoon chopped parsley
1 dessertspoon chopped sage
2 chopped shallots (or 1 small onion)
2 cups breadcrumbs
Salt and pepper
1 egg beaten
A little thyme A little milk

Mix all the dry ingredients, stir in the egg, adding a little milk to give the mixture the consistency of thick soft paste. Shape into four cakes, roll in fine browned crumbs and fry lightly.

(If you have prepared baked beans, place the pork cakes on top of the beans in the casserole and put back into the oven for 20 minutes before serving)

Mix 1 1/2 cups of stewed beaten apples with 1 cup pork gravy, salt and pepper, and bring to boiling point. Serve separately.

LEMON PIE

- 1 cupful of sugar
- 2 tablespoonfuls of flour
- 1 tablespoonful of butter
- 1 cup of milk
- 2 eggs
- 1 lemon



Blend together the sugar and butter. Stir in the egg yolks, milk, flour, grated rind and juice of the lemon. Fold in the stiffly-beaten egg whites. Pour into an unbaked pie crust and bake until firm, having the oven hot for the first 10 minutes, and then reducing to moderate. Cook from 10 to 20 minutes.

BAKED PEACH PUDDING



6 halved tinned peaches
1 cupful of caster sugar
3 cups of stale breadcrumbs
2 tablespoonfuls of butter and custard

Butter a pie-dish, and put a layer of sliced peaches in first. Sprinkle with sugar, and then put on a layer of breadcrumbs and dab with butter. Repeat layers, having breadcrumbs on top. Pour over all a little of the juice from the peaches and bake in a moderate oven till done. Serve with custard.

OLD-FASHIONED APPLE CAKE



- 1½ cupfuls of flour
- ¼ teacupful of milk
- 4 or 5 apples
- 2 tablespoonfuls of butter
- 3 teaspoonfuls of baking powder
- ½ cupful of sugar
- 1 teaspoonful of ground cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoonful of salt

Sift flour, baking powder and salt, and rub in butter very lightly. Make into a dough with milk, and roll out to half an inch thick, and put into a shallow greased tin. Put the apples, pared, cored and cut in sections on top of the pastry, sprinkle with sugar, dust with cinnamon, and bake in a moderate oven for half an hour or until the apples are tender and brown. Serve hot with cream.

CHOCOLATE JUNKET

Grate some sweetened chocolate (about 2 tablespoonfuls to the pint), and melt it in a little of the milk, cooking until it becomes a smooth paste. This will probably make the milk sufficiently warm; if not, heat a little more, but it should only be blood heat. Add half a teaspoonful of rennet to a pint of milk. Pour at once into the dish in which it is to be served. Whipped cream served with it is an improvement.

Gardening in June

Summer arrives

June 21 is the longest day of the year, and the extra light and warmth encourages the garden to put on an exuberant burst of growth. This brings some of the first harvests from the vegetable garden, including tasty new potatoes and salads. As the conditions become drier, keep an eye on containers and if you haven't got one, it's never a bad time to install a water butt.

Top gardening jobs this month

1. Plant up summer hanging baskets and containers.

Choose vibrant bedding plants for a summer show or herbs, shrubs and evergreens for a long-lasting display. Plant a hanging basket.

2. Use water wisely to keep your plants thriving.

Watering is key to growing plants well, so here we look at how to get it just right. If you haven't already got a water butt, installing one is a great way to help the environment.

Water plants.

3. Pinch out sideshoots on tomatoes. Removing the sideshoots is simple – every time you water, check the plant for any shoots in the joint between the leaf and the stem.

More jobs for this month

4. Harvest lettuce, radish, other salads and early potatoes

5. Hoe borders regularly to keep down weeds

6. Mow lawns once a week if needed – but consider leaving some areas uncut for wildlife

7. Plant out summer bedding

8. Stake tall or floppy plants

9. Prune many spring-flowering shrubs

10. Shade greenhouses to keep them cool and prevent scorch

Fruit and vegetables

- Plant out sweetcorn after hardening off, arranging plants in blocks to aid pollination
- Cover developing and ripening fruits with netting or fleece to protect them from birds
- Enjoy the last harvests of asparagus this month, then leave the ferny top-growth to grow up over the summer
- Spread mulch around thirsty crops such as beans and courgettes to hold in moisture around their roots
- Check for woolly aphids on fruit trees, and treat infestations with soap-based spray
- Water vegetables and fruit in containers regularly, especially during dry sunny weather
- Go on regular snail hunts, especially on damp evenings, to reduce populations
- Tie in new shoots of blackberries, raspberries, loganberries and other cane fruits
- Apply tomato feed regularly to fruiting veg crops, including tomatoes, courgettes, pumpkins and chillies
- Plant up an edible hanging basket with trailing tomatoes and herbs, and keep it well watered all summer

- Rejuvenate chives by cutting the clump down to the base, for a fresh crop of new leaves in just a few weeks. Water beans and peas as they start to flower
- Pull out any raspberry canes sprouting up out of their dedicated area
- Take softwood cuttings of herbs such as marjoram and sage, plant in gritty compost and place on a sunny windowsill

Flowers

- Lift and store tulip bulbs after flowering
- Give wisteria its summer prune, cutting all the long sideshoots back to 20cm, to promote flowering next spring
- Plant up a new tropical display with tender exotics, including bananas, ricinus, coleus, cannas and amaranthus
- Support tall-growing perennials, including hollyhocks and delphiniums, with a sturdy cane
- Continue planting summer bedding in pots and borders, and water regularly to help plants establish quickly
- Cut back spring-flowering perennials, such as pulmonaria, to encourage a fresh flush of foliage
- Tie in new stems of climbing and rambling roses horizontally to supports, to encourage more flowers
- Take cuttings from pinks and carnations, selecting non-flowering shoots, which should root readily
- Pinch out the tips of fuchsias and bedding plants to encourage bushier growth

- Give container displays and hanging baskets a liquid feed every few weeks to encourage flowering
- Fill any gaps in borders with pots of tall bulbs, such as fragrant lilies, to add instant colour
- Prune late-spring or early-summer shrubs after flowering, such as weigela and philadelphus, thinning out the older stems
- Add marginal plants, such as arum lilies and marsh marigolds, around the edges of your pond.

Garden maintenance

- Empty, mix and refill compost bins to speed up decomposition
- Spray roses showing signs of disease, such as black spot, powdery mildew or rust
- Continue watering any new plantings until they're well established
- Water newly laid turf several times a week, for at least the first month
- Trim fast-growing hedges, such as privet, every six weeks over the summer
- Put stakes in to support tall, large-flowered dahlias and tie in stems as they grow
- Check hedges and shrubs for nesting birds before you start any trimming or pruning, so you don't disturb them
- Remove any all-green shoots on variegated shrubs, cutting right back to their base
- Dig out perennial weeds, such as couch grass and bindweed, as soon as you spot them.
- Feed lawns with a liquid or granular lawn fertiliser.

21st June - Fathers' Day, a time to celebrate male role models

In the UK, USA and Canada, the third Sunday in June is Fathers' Day. It's usually a good time for sons and daughters to take their father to his favourite restaurant, or to watch a favoured sport, or whatever else he enjoys doing.

How will you celebrate it this year? If your own father cannot be with you, how about a Zoom meeting?

How do these special days ever get started, anyway? Well, Father's Day began because way back in 1909 there was a woman in Spokane, Washington, named Sonora Louise Smart Dodd. That year she heard a church sermon about the merits of setting aside a day to honour one's mother. Mother's Day was just beginning to gather widespread attention in the United States at this time. But Sonora Louise Smart Dodd knew that it was her father who had selflessly raised herself and her five siblings by himself after their mother had died in childbirth. So the sermon on mothers gave Sonora Louise the idea to petition for a day to honour fathers, and in particular, her own father, William Jackson Smart.

Sonora Louise soon set about planning the first Fathers' Day celebration in Spokane in 1910. With support from the Spokane Ministerial Association and the YMCA, her efforts paid off, and a 'Father's Day' was appointed. Sonora Louise had wanted Father's Day to be on the first Sunday in June (since that was her father's birthday), but the city council didn't have time to approve it until later in the month. And so on 19th June, 1910, the first Father's Day was celebrated in Spokane.

Gradually, other people in other cities caught on and started celebrating their fathers, too. The rose was selected as the official Fathers' Day flower. Some people began to wear a white rose to honour a father who was dead, and a red one to honour a father who was living. Finally, in 1972, President Richard Nixon signed a presidential proclamation declaring the third Sunday of June as Fathers' Day - a permanent, national holiday.

21st June - Summer Solstice, longest day of the year

June, of course is the month of the summer solstice, the month of the Sun. Sol + stice come from two Latin words meaning 'sun' and 'to stand still'. As the days lengthen, the sun rises higher and higher until it seems to stand still in the sky. The Summer Solstice results in the longest day and the shortest night of the year. The Northern Hemisphere celebrates in June, and the Southern Hemisphere celebrates in December.



11th June - Barnabas, Paul's first missionary companion

Would you have liked to go to Cyprus on holiday this year? If so, spare a thought for the Cypriot who played such a key role in the New Testament.

He was Joseph, a Jewish Cypriot and a Levite, who is first mentioned in Acts 4:36, when the Early Church was sharing a communal lifestyle. Joseph sold a field and gave the money to the apostles. His support so touched them that they gave him the nickname of Barnabas, 'Son of Encouragement'.

Barnabas has two great claims to fame. Firstly, it was Barnabas who made the journey to go and fetch the converted Paul out of Tarsus, and persuade him to go with him to Antioch, where there were many new believers with no one to help them. For a year the two men ministered there, establishing a church. It was here that the believers were first called Christians.

It was also in Antioch (Acts 13) that the Holy Spirit led the church to 'set aside' Barnabas and Paul, and to send them out on the church's first ever 'missionary journey'. The Bible tells us that they went to Cyprus, and then travelled throughout the island. It was at Lystra that the locals mistook Barnabas for Zeus and Paul for Hermes, much to their dismay.

Much later, back in Jerusalem, Barnabas and Paul decided to part company. While Paul travelled on to Syria, Barnabas did what he could do best: return to Cyprus and continue to evangelise it. So, if you go to Cyprus and see churches, remember that Christianity on that beautiful island goes right back to Acts 13, when Barnabas and Paul first arrived.

In England there are 13 ancient church dedications and not a few modern ones. Barnabas the generous, the encourager, the apostle who loved his own people – no wonder he should be remembered with love.



G M TREVELYAN's - English Social History -
A SURVEY OF SIX CENTURIES Chaucer to Queen Victoria

In Tudor times, to strengthen the Royal Prerogative and meet the real needs of that age, there had been a great increase in the number and the power of independent courts each administering its own legal system with little regard to the procedure and principles of the Common Law. But the Parliaments that opposed James and Charles I, instructed by Edward Coke, the greatest of English lawyers, endeavoured to uphold the supremacy of the Common Law, and in 1641 were able to enforce it by legislation; the Star Chamber, the Ecclesiastical Court of High Commission, and the jurisdiction of the Councils of Wales and of the North were then abolished. The Admiralty Court had already been compelled to accept the control of the Common Law in the development of the important commercial law of England.

Thus the English judicial system escaped the fate of being broken into fragments. The only dualism left was the independence of the Court of Chancery; but even that ceased to be a weapon of Royal Prerogative, and became a complementary system of judge-made law, ingeniously dovetailed into the principles enforced in the ordinary courts.

The victory of the Common Law involved the abolition of torture in England long before other countries, and paved the way for a fairer treatment of political enemies of government when brought to trial. Above all, the victory of the Common Law over the Prerogative Courts preserved the medieval conception of the supremacy of law, as a thing that could not be brushed aside for the convenience of government, and could only be altered in full Parliament, not by the King alone. This great principle, that law is above the executive, was indeed violated during the revolutionary period of the Commonwealth and Protectorate. But it re-emerged at the Restoration, and was confirmed at the Revolution of 1688, which was effected against James II precisely to establish the principle that law was above the King. That medieval idea of the supremacy of law as something separate from and independent of the will of the executive, disappeared in Continental countries. But in England it became the palladium of our liberties and had a profound effect on English society and habits of thought. Under the Commonwealth and Protectorate, constitutional law was trodden underfoot in the exigencies of revolution, but even during that period the Common Law and the lawyers were very strong, strong enough unfortunately to prevent the fulfilment of a loud popular demand for law reform, a crying social need which Cromwell vainly endeavoured to supply. The lawyers were too many for him. Even he was not wholly a dictator: the soldiers on one side, the lawyers on the other, at once supported him and held him in check. When at the Restoration the army was disbanded, the lawyers were left victorious.

It may well be imagined that there was scant building of manor-houses between 1640 and 1660. But the peaceful generation that preceded the Civil

War had been, on the whole, a prosperous period for the gentry, great and small, who had continued the work of the Elizabethan age in filling the English countryside with more and yet more lovely and commodious dwellings. Certain changes were taking place in the structure of the houses newly built. The lofty, raftered hall, the essential feature of the country house from Saxon to Elizabethan times, went out of fashion. 'Dining-rooms' and 'drawing-rooms' were now built of one storey's height, as the various purposes of the old 'hall' were divided up among a number of different chambers of ordinary size. The courtyard in the centre of the older type of manor-house, where so much of the life of the establishment used to go on, also shrank or disappeared in the plans of the Jacobean mansion; the yard was placed no longer in the middle of the house but behind it.

Cornices and pilasters decorated the exterior in classical style. Inside, the staircase and its landings were broad and the baluster elaborately carved. On the walls, Jacobean panelling more and more displaced tapestry, hangings, and wall paintings, for common use, though much fine tapestry was still manufactured and highly valued. Framed pictures and marble sculpture were becoming common, after the example set by the art-loving Charles I and his great subject the Earl of Arundel. Rubens, Van Dyck, and the homelier Dutch painters did much work for English patrons.

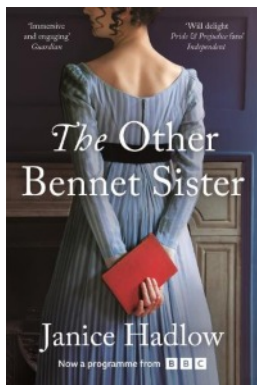
The plasterwork of the ceilings was elaborately decorative. On the floors, rushes were giving place to carpets and matting; that meant fewer fleas and diminished the chance of the flea-borne plague. Good carpets were now made in England, or imported from Turkey and from Persia. But in 1645 the Verneys at Claydon had 'leather carpets for dining and drawing rooms', 'greene wrought velvet furniture' and 'stooles with "nailes guilt': most of the company still sat on stools, chairs being reserved for the elder or more honourable. The trestle table was giving place to solid tables with ornamental legs. Many magnificently carved beds and cupboards of the period still survive in their grandeur of polished and time-blackened oak.

Out-of-doors, it was a great age for gardens in England, as indeed it has been ever since. Bacon, after saying that 'God Almighty first planted a garden', declared that without one 'building and palace are but gross handiworks'. The period of late Elizabeth and the early Stuarts saw the development of the flower garden as distinct from the garden of useful vegetables (to which the potato from America had now been added). Then, too, there was the well-loved orchard with its green walks, and the 'pleached bower' into which Beatrice stole

*Where honeysuckle ripened by the sun
Forbids the sun to enter.*

The flower garden proper was arranged in rectangles and squares, divided by broad walks, set in full view of the house. Box and lavender were trimmed into hedges and ornamental shapes.

BOOK REVIEWS



The Other Bennet Sister

The Perfect Regency Novel for Fans of Bridgerton and Jane Austen by Janice Hadlow

The Other Bennet Sister: A captivating tale of love and self-discovery

A wonderfully warm homage to Jane Austen and a delightful new story in its own right, Janice Hadlow's *The Other Bennet Sister* is a life-affirming tale of a young woman finding her place in the world. This is Mary Bennet's story . . .

In Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, Mary is the middle of the five Bennet girls and the plainest of them all, so what hope does she have? Prim and pious, with no redeeming features, she is unloved and seemingly unlovable.

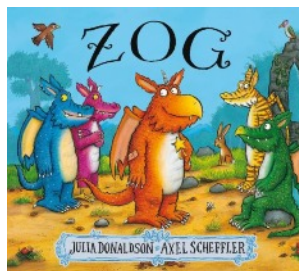
The Other Bennet Sister, though, shows another side to Mary. An introvert in a family of extroverts; a constant disappointment to her mother who values beauty above all else; fearful of her father's sharp tongue; with little in common with her siblings – is it any wonder she turns to books for both company and guidance? And, if she finds her life lonely or lacking, that she determines to try harder at the one thing she can be right.

One by one, her sisters marry – Jane and Lizzy for love; Lydia for some semblance of respectability – but Mary, it seems, is destined to remain single and live out her life at Longbourn, at least until her father dies and the house is bequeathed to the reviled Mr Collins. But when that fateful day finally comes, she slowly discovers that perhaps there is hope for her, after all.

Zog

Julia Donaldson(Author) Axel Scheffler(Author)

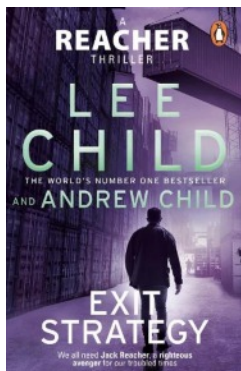
The magical and exciting picture book from the number one bestselling



author and illustrator of *The Gruffalo*, *Zog* and *Stick Man*. 'Madam Dragon ran a school, many moons ago. She taught young dragons all the things that dragons need to know. Zog, the biggest dragon, was the keenest one by far. He tried his hardest every day to win a golden star.' Zog is the keenest dragon in school. He's also the most accident-prone, flying into trees and even setting his own wing on fire. Luckily, a mysterious little girl always comes by and patches up his bumps and bruises. But will she be able to help him with his toughest test: capturing a princess?

Exit Strategy

Jack Reacher
Lee Child (Author) Andrew
Child(Author)



Jack Reacher will make three stops today. Not all of them were planned for. The 'gripping must-read' new Jack Reacher thriller featuring 'the best villain yet'

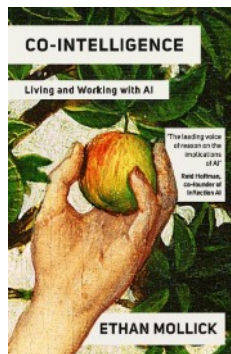
First – a Baltimore coffee shop. A seat in the corner, facing the door. Black coffee, two refills, no messing about. A minor interruption from two of the customers, but nothing he can't deal with swiftly. As he leaves, a young guy brushes against him in the doorway. Instinctively Reacher checks the pocket holding his cash and passport. There's no problem. Nothing is missing.

Second – a store to buy a coat. Nothing fancy. Something he can ditch when he heads to warmer climes. Large enough to fit a man the size of a bank vault. As he pulls out his cash, he finds something new in his pocket. A handwritten note. A desperate plea for help.

Third – wherever this bend in the road takes him. Impressed by the guy's technique and intrigued by the message, Reacher makes it his mission to find out more .

Co-Intelligence

Living and Working with AI
Ethan Mollick



The urgent and definitive guide to working, learning, and living in the new age of artificial intelligence from the acclaimed Wharton

Professor of Management

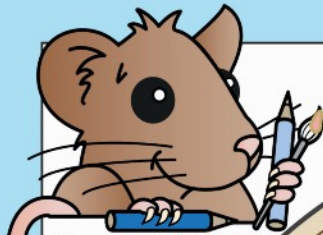
'The very best book I know about the ins, outs, and ethics of generative AI. Drop everything and read it cover to cover NOW'

'If you are interested in how to make the most of the transformative potential of artificial intelligence then you must read this book' Financial Times.

Consumer AI has arrived. And with it, inescapable upheaval as we grapple with what it means for our jobs, lives and the future of humanity.

Cutting through the noise of AI evangelists and AI doom-mongers, Wharton professor Ethan Mollick has become one of the most prominent and provocative explainers of AI, focusing on the practical aspects of how these new tools for thought can transform our world.

In Co-Intelligence, he urges us to engage with AI as co-worker, co-teacher and coach.



Mouse Makes



"May the grace of the Lord
JESUS CHRIST and the
love of **GOD** and the
fellowship of the
HOLY SPIRIT be
with you all."

2 Corinthians
13:14



V	O	V
HIW	ISD	UDE
VENLR	JYIAM	TRUTH
SLAEP LG	ACGODJM	THAHSRI
HALDOOR	LROCKUA	OSPOWER
EMEWORD	MELORDJ	ULFLIFE
PBREADW	IABBAGE	POWYNDR
HLALPHA	GTDEBES	AWISDOM
EEMCGJY	HOYRFET	DBEPBVC
RMEHOEK	TRAHATY	VWTIREO
DMIRSST	YGHOIEF	OIEREFM
SAVIOUR	VSWLARA	CTRIAIF
PNESNSU	OHEYENT	ANNTTRO
OUNTLOT	JEHOVAH	TEACHER
MESSIAH	IKINGLE	ESLGIFT
RLGBFIS	SHIELDR	DSGUIDE
KEOMEGA	SAVIOUR	THELPER

JESUS • CHRIST
SON • SAVIOUR • LORD
EMMANUEL • MESSIAH
SHEPHERD • LAMB • WAY
TRUTH • LIFE • DOOR
BREAD • WORD • HEALER
VINE • ALPHA • OMEGA

GOD • FATHER
ABBA • LORD • JEHOVAH
YAHWEH • ALMIGHTY
HOLY ONE • SAVIOUR
ETERNAL • CREATOR
KING • MAJESTY • JUDGE
SHIELD • ROCK • I AM

HOLY SPIRIT
GIFT • HELPER • WITNESS
COMFORTER • GUIDE
ADVOCATE • WISDOM
POWER • TRUTH • BREATH
LIFE • ETERNAL • DOVE
WIND • FIRE • TEACHER





Transforming our communities through the love of Christ

By Fiona Gibson, Bishop of Taunton

In the early days of the Ukraine war, the Diocese of Hereford, where I was then serving, was approached by Herefordshire Council. They had been so impressed by the work of church members during the pandemic, who stepped up to support their communities in practical ways, that they asked if the diocese could take on organising homes for Ukrainians fleeing the war. Yes, of course, we said. And so began an ongoing partnership, where hundreds of Ukrainian guests have found homes in the Welsh Marches, and hundreds of tonnes of aid has gone across to Ukraine.

That's just what we do as the church, isn't it? We see a need in our communities and, motivated by Christ's love and teaching, we try to meet it. And we do it out of love, not seeking any reward. We are volunteers.

The word 'volunteer' comes from words meaning, 'of a person's free will.' Volunteers serve willingly. Freely. Out of love. So many in across our diocese serve our communities willingly, freely, out of love. We are deeply grateful. There are Foodbanks, lunch clubs, debt counselling services, mental health first aiders, bereavement cafes, after-school clubs, and youth drop-ins. That barely scratches the surface. All of this is done in the name of Jesus Christ, the one who came and gave himself for us willingly; freely; out of love. And it's transformational.

One of the areas of our common diocesan life which I'll be involved with is our work around Transforming Communities. There will be a lot more to be said in the coming months, but for now, I simply want to thank all our volunteers who serve willingly, freely, and out of love and say how much I'm looking forward to celebrating what we have, and building on it together, transforming our communities through the love of Christ.

Feed the birds – but thoughtfully



If you enjoy feeding the birds, you are not alone. Up to 60% of all households in the UK regularly feed their wild birds, according to surveys from UK Pet Food. It all adds up to an estimated £250 million in sales annually, with roughly 150,000 tonnes of seed being sold. When feeding wild birds, here are five mistakes to avoid:

Not keeping the feeders clean.

This can spread disease. The RSPB advises cleaning bird feeders once a week with a mild soap such as washing-up liquid. Do it outside, using brushes that you keep for this job alone.

Leaving too much food out. It attracts rodents. Instead, the RSPB advises that little and often is best. But keep an eye on those feeders and keep them topped up. When birds are nest-building and raising broods, they need a lot of energy. Feed peanuts in a rigid mesh feeder, so that large piece of nut cannot choke baby birds. Avoid putting out fat in hot weather – it can go rancid.

Feeding bread. This can lead to malnutrition. Bread is high in carbohydrates, while garden birds require a protein-rich and high-calorie diet. A chick with a stomach full of bread can freeze to death

overnight. Ideally, feed a combination of mealworms, seeds, sunflower hearts, dried fruit, peanuts and fat.

Forgetting to provide water.

Birds need to drink and bathe daily, especially in hot weather. Change the water every day and keep the basin clean.

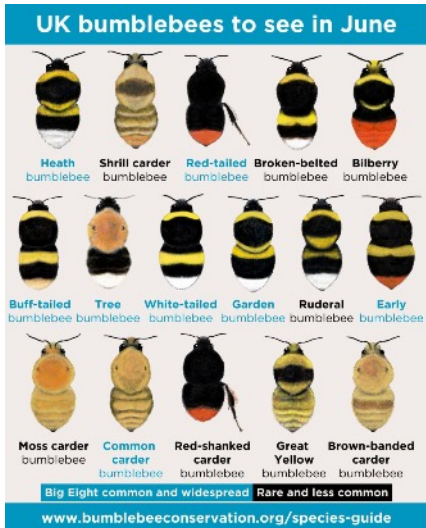
Putting feeders in the wrong place.

Place your feeders near to shrubs, trees and bushes, to provide cover. Blackbirds and robins are ground feeders, whereas tits and sparrows prefer to feed from hanging stations. Using an array of feeders will attract a wide range of birds.

**

Our British bumblebees

Did you know we have about 270 kinds of bee in the UK, including 24 types of bumblebees? Here are just six of them:



Early Bumblebee: - Found throughout the UK. Rather small, with distinctive lemon-yellow bands on thorax and abdomen, and an

orange tail. An important pollinator of our soft fruit.

Common Carder Bee: - One of our most common bees, and often still feeding in November. Fluffy, brown and orange, with sometimes darker bands on the abdomen.

Tree Bumblebee: - Found in England and Wales, and recently Southern Scotland. A fuzzy bee, with brown-orange hairs on its thorax, a black abdomen, and a white tail.

Red-tailed Bumblebee: - The female is very large, with a big red 'tail', while males are smaller.

Garden Bumblebee: - A scruffy-looking large bee, with a long tongue and face. It has yellow bands at the collar, rear of the thorax and at the first segment of the abdomen, and the tip of the tail is white.

Buff-tailed bumblebee: - The biggest of our bumblebees, with a yellow collar near the head and another on the abdomen. The queen has a buff-coloured 'tail', while the workers have white 'tails' and black hair on their faces.

Be kind to our bees. They are in steady decline across the UK.

**

Need total darkness to sleep?

According to followers of 'The Dutch Method', it is good to sleep with your curtains open.

That way, in the morning your bedroom slowly floods with natural light, which coincides with your circadian rhythm, the internal body clock that regulates your sleep cycle. Natural light also stops the production of melatonin (your sleep hormone) and triggers a natural rise in cortisol. That lets you know that



the new day has begun. It is considered a gentle way to wake up. Nevertheless, others of us prefer the curtains to be shut, and need pitch black to sleep.

Whichever you prefer, here are some tips on sleep and waking up.

~ Natural light in the morning is good for you. It is better to go for a walk at the start of each day, rather than to head straight for your phone and computer.

~ Melatonin levels decline as we get older, which makes it harder to fall and stay asleep.

~ Our body clock can shift to earlier, leaving us sleepier at night, but more awake earlier in the morning.

~ As we age, we become more sensitive to disruption during the night, and things like stress, life changes, noise or light can have a bigger impact.

~ A good routine before sleep is essential. Aim for bed at the same time, empty your head with a to-do list for tomorrow, clear your thoughts, and relax.

**

Best and worst breakfasts for your cholesterol

Numerous studies suggest that if you miss breakfast, you can risk elevated cholesterol levels. On the

other hand, eating breakfast each morning can help improve your cardiovascular health.

But what is the best sort of thing to eat at breakfast? Healthy fat and fibre will help you avoid excessive peaks and dips in glucose, and they can also set up your metabolism for the rest of the day.



So –

Cereal: Avoid sugary cereals, as highly refined cereals contain little fibre, and high sugar content can cause insulin resistance, and promote an unhealthy lipid profile. Choose porridge instead.

Toast toppings: Avoid bacon, which is high in saturated fat and sodium. Choose smoked salmon or smashed avocado.

Eggs: Avoid the Full English, which is high in saturated fats. Choose an omelette with healthy fillings such as mushrooms and tomatoes.

Bread: Avoid the refined flour in white bread, croissants and pastries. Choose higher fibre varieties of bread.

Fruit: Avoid juice, which has very little fibre and a lot of fructose. Choose instead whole fruit.

**

Hardship in childhood can lead to frailty in later life

A childhood full of adversity will leave its mark on a person. It can even lead to their physical decline later in life, making them old before their time.

Such is the finding of recent research at Kings College London. It also found that adversity as a child and then again as an adult will lead to an even greater frailty.

The adversity and traumatic events might include emotional neglect, physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse and economic hardship. As one doctor explained: “Frailty is not simply about getting older. It reflects the accumulation of health deficits and a marked decline in physiological resilience.”

However, there is good news for those who have had to endure adversity. Leading a healthy lifestyle now can go a long way towards mitigating the effects of your past.

As one doctor explained: “Regular light exercise, good nutrition and strong social connections have all been shown to be effective interventions for frailty, providing clinicians and policymakers with a clear means of prevention and management.”

The study was published in the journal BMC Medicine.

*

Parents blamed for children's bad behaviour in class

A government schools tsar has said that weak-willed parents are to blame for the increasingly bad behaviour of many children in the classroom.

In the autumn term of 2024-25 alone, 16,000 pupils were suspended for violence against an adult. Some teachers are now forced to wear bite sleeves, to protect themselves from their pupils' teeth. Other teachers keep an emergency radio on hand, so they can call for back-up in the event of their pupils mounting a physical attack on them in the classroom. Tom Bennett, the Department of Education's ambassador for attendance and behaviour, says there is a growing dispute between parents and teachers as to who is responsible for such disruptive pupils. Bennett claims that unruly children think "they can do what they want and that they're the most important person in the room and that their feelings are the only feelings that matter". The schools think otherwise.

Farmers, TikTok, and people kissing cows



Here is a story that you couldn't make up. There is a craze on TikTok of influencers interacting with cute cows, and they have attracted thousands of followers. So now people are wandering onto farms in search of cute cows, to cuddle and kiss for the camera. Highland type cattle, with their 'floofy' adorable thick fringes and shaggy coats are especially targeted.

Except that the cows, however cute, do not know about TikTok. So, they do not welcome complete strangers who want to wrap their arms around their necks, or pull their tails about, to get "good online content".

One Yoga teacher entered a field and did handstands among bewildered cows, to create an interesting backdrop to a video.

A father slung his son up on top of a cow's back, and was surprised when the cow ran off with his son still on board.

30 people cornered one herd at sunset and used flashing cameras to take pictures and videos of the frightened animals.

The farmers are worried. As one said: "these people risk being trampled, charged or attacked. Cows are not domesticated animals. They are highly unpredictable creatures. They can kick hard. If you upset one, you will regret it – and you will never out-run it."

Country roads can be beautiful – but deadly. Beware.

Be careful on rural roads. In the ten years to the end of 2024, nearly 10,000 people died on Britain's rural roads. And so NFU Mutual launched an on-going campaign in 2020, to warn people of the dangers. The website offers some excellent, practical tips to staying safe. Visit:

Ruralroadsafety@nfumuutal.co.uk
Above, don't speed, because anything might be waiting for you in the road just around the next bend: bales of hay, cows, sheep or even a tractor!

AWFUL SHAGGY DOG STORIES

Deep in the darkest jungles of old time Africa there were two tribes and they hated each other. One tribe lived at the foot of a massive mountain and they panned for gold in the river and mined for gold in the mountain. They were RICH!

The other tribe lived in a swamp area and lived on crocodiles and fish and they were POOR! They never visited each other except to raid each others grass huts and plunder them. Of course there were pretty poor pickings when the RICH tribe raided the POOR tribe, but it had become a time honoured tradition and each tribe kept the tradition alive.

One day the chief of the RICH tribe had a visit from his resident snitch who said, "Hey Chief! The POOR people have heard about your solid gold throne and they are planning to come over tomorrow and steal it from you!" The RICH Chief was beside himself, he loved that gold throne and so he called in his resident Wise Man and asked him what he should do.

The Resident Wise Man said, "Chief you have got to make the Gold Throne disappear! I suggest that you get your men to stick long wood poles into the roof of your Grass palace and using pulleys and your strongest men stick the throne up in the roof of your Grass Palace. The POOR people will never think to look up there!" The Chief immediately ordered this to be done.

The very next day the POOR tribe attacked and swept through the village searching everywhere. They found NOTHING! The RICH tribe were hiding in the mines in the

mountains and when the POOR tribe left the RICH tribe came out and went back down to their village and began a great celebration.

The Chief stood in the centre of his Grass Palace and looking up at the roof started to crow..... "Those POOR tribesmen have no brains! Right over their heads and they missed it!" Suddenly there were several tremendous large bangs and the wooden poles supporting the Gold Throne snapped and down came two ton of Gold Throne on top of the RICH Tribes Chief and killed him stone dead.

The Moral of this story is.....

People who live in Grass Houses shouldn't stow thrones!

A tourist is lost in the middle of a Thirsty Desert and after crawling around for several days, comes across a veiled Bedouin walking towards him. "Water, water!" the tourist asks, only for the Bedouin to respond with, "I'm terribly sorry sir, I do not have water to spare, would you like to keep this beautiful tie instead? I have a spare."

Thinking the Bedouin is out of his mind, the tourist dismisses the tie and keeps on crawling until a distance ahead, he comes across another Bedouin, this time on a camel. "Water, water!" the tourist begs, but once more, the Bedouin on a camel replied, "Sorry sir, I'm afraid I don't have enough water to spare, but you can have this beautiful tie instead." So the tourist turns him down and keeps moving, and a distance ahead, comes a caravan. Again, when the tourist asks, "Water, water!" the caravan's owner responds

with, "I don't have extra water, but there is a surplus of extra ties in our cart, we can give you a few for free." After a while, the tourist then comes across a Five-Star Hotel / Restaurant in the middle of the desert, with a sign proudly proclaiming, "FREE WATER". But upon making his way in, the tourist is blocked by the doorman.

"Sorry sir, but according to our dress code, we reserve the rights to deny entry to customers without a tie."

An Indian chief had three wives (or Squaws, in the language of the time). He was a vigorous and virile man, and soon all three of the squaws were pregnant. As the time of their confinement neared, the chief ordered that comfortable beds be prepared for each of them. The two junior squaws received beds made from the soft, prepared hides of wolves, while the third - favourite - squaw had a bed made from the very rare, imported hide of a hippopotamus.

In due time all three squaws went into labour and delivered their children: the two women who slept on the beds made of wolf hides each had a single child - one a boy and the other a girl. The third squaw, however - the favoured lady who slept on the bed made of the hippopotamus skin - bore twins, a boy and a girl. When the chief was notified of this, he thought for a while and then nodded sagely. "Makes sense," he opined. **"The squaw of the hippopotamus hide is always equal to the sum of the squaws of the other two hides."** ##

It's the 1930's and a member of the New York explorers club is hunting for rare animals in darkest Africa.

He comes across the strangest looking beast he has ever seen. It's a quarter part elephant, a quarter monkey, a quarter hippo and a quarter tiger and with a very sweet disposition.

They cage it and ship it to New York to the explorers club where he exhibits the creature that he calls a "Rarey" and gives a talk on it before the members.

Over a short period of time he notices that the Rarey is growing extremely fast and is soon too large to keep in a cage. He decides to return it to its home in Africa even though there is not enough food around to keep it alive. They reach the edge of a tall cliff and they both look over knowing that the Rarey, unable to survive, must go over the edge to his death.

The explorer says "Good bye old friend I will miss you". To his surprise the Rarey speaks for the first time. It looks down over the steep cliff and sings,

"It's a long way to Tipperary".



Letter from St James the Least of All

Happily, the Church of England still retains some singular parish clergy. Take the parish of St James-the-Least-of-All, for example. Here the elderly Anglo-Catholic vicar, Eustace, continues his correspondence to Darren, his nephew, a low-church curate recently ordained... by the *Revd Gary Bowness*.

On the struggle for life in a rectory

*The Rectory
St James the Least of All*

My dear Nephew Darren

Ah, the joys of June! At last, I can return to the Rectory without putting on my overcoat before going inside. For the next four months, all windows and doors are left open, in order to let the heat in. If anyone else tells me how lucky I am to live in an 10-bedroom Queen Anne house, I shall have them excommunicated.

You will soon stop complaining about your one-bedroom flat should you ever have to live in a rural rectory; the days of wandering about your home in shirtsleeves will become a distant memory. In my first winter here, I had the central heating on full blast 24 hours a day. The house was almost warm, even if the boilers sounded like the Queen Mary coming into port. But that quarter's gas bill needed a substantial grant from the International Monetary Fund to cover it, so ever since, for six months of the year, I live in the kitchen. Parishioners find it either touching or sad that I sleep with my Labrador. It never occurs to them that I need her for extra heat.

It does mean that evening meetings at the rectory on winter evenings can be un-Christianly satisfying. Watching committee members fighting – with infinite politeness - to get nearest to the one-bar electric fire is highly entertaining. They hold on to their coffee cups less for refreshment, more for a little extra warmth. At least it means that meetings are short.

My predecessor was a model railway enthusiast and so several bedrooms were taken up with a system of such complexity that it made Crewe Junction seem trivial. He also found it helpful to put his teenage son in the turret bedroom, where he could play his drums without anyone else in the house being able to hear a thing.

Nowadays, all these extra rooms are filled with cribs and nativity play costumes, Easter gardens and spare choir cassocks. It is remarkable how all these things used to be stored quite satisfactorily in the church vestry until the parish acquired a single priest; now the empty rooms in the rectory have become vital storage space. I so hope my successor has a plethora of children, so that the parishioners have to find alternative accommodation for all the detritus vital to church life.

No, dear boy, cherish your centrally heated, dry, draft proof, mice-free, bat-less, modern-plumbed accommodation. It will not be ever thus.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

Regular weekly events

MONDAYS

10.00-11am Nia (Dance fitness) HUB
10.00-12noon Painting Group FBC
1.30-4.00pm Whist Club FBC
2.00-4.00pm Bridge (except 1st
Monday) FBC
6.15-7.15pm Zumba HUB
7.30pm Tone Big Band (1st & 3rd
Mon) HUB

TUESDAYS

6.15-7.00am Group Fitness Training
HUB
10.30-11.30am Qigong HUB
1.30-2.30pm Tai Chi HUB
10.00-4.00pm Board Games FBC
7.00-8.00pm Yoga HUB

WEDNESDAYS

10.00-11.00am Pilates for Everyone
HUB
10.00- 11.00am Flexercise FBC
11.00-12noon Mum and Baby Pilates
HUB
2.00- 4.30pm Short Mat Bowls HUB
6.00- 7.00pm Tae Kwon Do HUB

THURS DAYS

6.15-7.00am Group Fitness Training
HUB
10.00-12noon Baby Badgers HUB
10.00-12noon Bridge Club FBC
2.00-4.00pm Croquet FBC

FRIDAYS

8.30-1.00 pm Star Bubs HUB
10.00-12noon Pétanque FBC
10.00-12noon Frank's Café FBC
4.45-8.15pm Martial Arts HUB

SATURDAYS

6.30-7.15am Group Fitness Training
HUB
9.30-11.30am Hub Gardening Club
HUB
9.00pm Bingo Con Club

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

YOUR SOMERSET COUNCIL COUNCILLORS

John Hunt (Independent)
07880 794554
john.hunt@somerset.gov.uk
Cllr Caroline Ellis 07473 119425
cjellis1968@googlemail.com

Your Member of Parliament

Gideon John Amos Lib/Dem

SUPPORT AVAILABLE FOR RESIDENTS

Taunton Citizens advice - 0808 278
7842

Village Agent - 01823 331 222

Mindline, a 24/7 phoneline available
to support people of all ages offering
a listening and advice service for
wellbeing. You can call Mindline on
01823 27689. Information about
childcare [http://www.
childcarechoices.gov.uk/](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/)

Taunton Foodbank
[https://taunton.foodbank.org.uk/get-
help/](https://taunton.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/)

Free support and advice about:
Money, food, home, health and
wellbeing, domestic abuse, problems
with drugs and alcohol and
parenting visit:

[www.connectsomerset.org.uk/help4
all](http://www.connectsomerset.org.uk/help4all)

BISHOP'S HULL FACILITIES

BH Parish Council - Helen
McGladdery 07518144614
clerk@bishophullparishcouncil.go
v.uk

BH Pre School - 07928 950230
BH Primary School - 331624
Castle School - 274073
Spring Nursery - 793506

Community Room & School Hall
Rick Moon 354908

Frank Bond Centre - Nadia 07958
246046

Neighbourhood Beat Team

PCSO Lyndsay Smith & PCSO
Marshall Bernhardt
Call 101 or 999 in emergency
lyndsay.smith@avonandsomerset.police.uk
marshall.bernhardt@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Robin Close Hall - 356389

St Peter & St Paul Parish Church
Rev. Phil Hughes 336102

BISHOP'S HULL ORGANISATIONS

BH Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Show
- Amanda Gallacher 337720

Bishop's Hull HUB -
booking: bhhubbookings@gmail.com
General enquiries and events:
bishopshullhub@gmail.com
Bishops Hull Hub cafe -
bishopshullhubcafe@gmail.com

BH Short Mat Bowls - Alan Chapman
01823 630641
bhsmbc@yahoo.com

BHVH & Playing Fields Trust -
Paul Bulbeck 283941

BH WI — Sue Hazelwood 01823
323986

British Martial Arts and Boxing
Association Tae Kwon Do
alecmhay@aol.com

Brownies - Sheena Grinter 331184

Community Woodland Volunteer -
David 272415

Nia (Dance Fitness) - Jackie
07949735139

FBC Activities - Carolyn 283941

Infinity Martial Academy - Jon 07736
714370

jonakkc@hotmail.co.uk
Pilates - Larissa
lapilates7@gmail.com / larissa@lapilates.com

Somerset Hills Chorus - Brenda
Palfrey 07857 244272

Tae Kwon Do - Sebastian Morey-
Weale 07900 517767

Tai Chi - Bev Fernandes 07880
555984

Zumba - Felicity 07939 580327

REFUSE / RECYCLING
/GARDEN COLLECTIONS

Dates below taken from Somerset
Council Website.

Please note new day for recycling and
refuse collections.

**Recycling: Every Thursday - all
areas**

BISHOP'S HULL, SHUTEWATER,
UPCOTT & BARR

Refuse: Thursday

Garden: Monday

RUMWELL

Refuse: Thursday

Garden: Wednesday

STONEGALLOWS

Refuse: Thursday

Garden: Monday

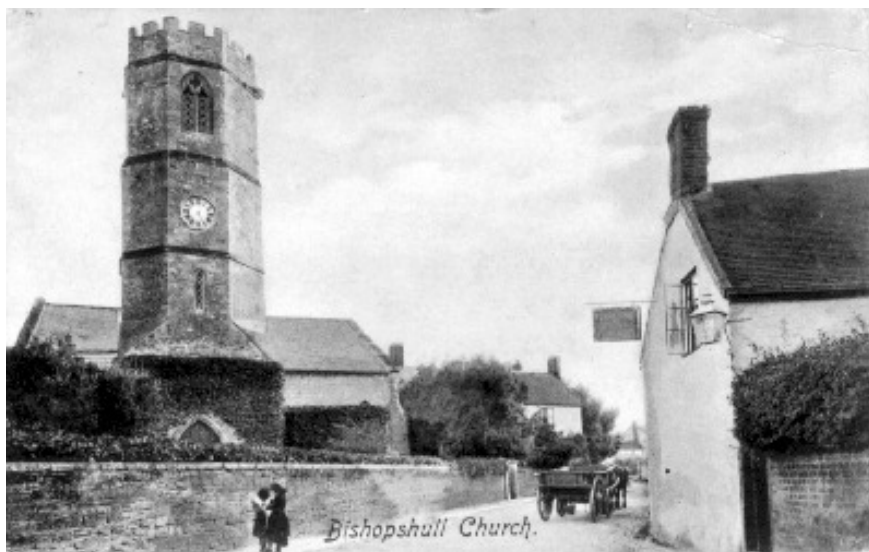
BH COUNCIL PRIVACY
STATEMENT AND POLICY

[http://www.bishopshull.org.uk/
Parish/BHPCprivacyNotice.pdf](http://www.bishopshull.org.uk/Parish/BHPCprivacyNotice.pdf)

[http://www.bishopshull.org.uk/
parish/BHPCprivacyPolicy.pdf](http://www.bishopshull.org.uk/parish/BHPCprivacyPolicy.pdf)

SERVICES AT ST PETER & ST PAUL JUNE 2026

Wednesday 3 June	Holy Communion	10.00 a.m		
Sunday 7 June Trinity 1	Holy Communion Holy Communion	8:00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	Paul Curry	Romans 4:13-25 (1131); Matthew 9:9- 13, 18-26 (973)
Wednesday 10 June	Holy Communion	10.00 a.m.		
Sunday 14 June Trinity 2	Holy Communion Holy Communion	8:00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	Bob Coombs	Romans 5:1-8 (1132); Matthew 9:35- 10:8 (974)
Wednesday 17 June	Holy Communion	10.00 a.m		
Sunday 21 June Trinity 3	Holy Communion Holy Communion	8:00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	Elaine Bowyer	Romans 6:1b-11 (1132); Matthew 10:24-39 (975)
Wednesday 24 June	Holy Communion	10.00 a.m		
Sunday 28 June Trinity 4 SS Peter & Paul	Holy Communion Holy Communion	8:00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	Jan Knight	Romans 6:12-23 (1133); Matthew 10:40-42 (976)



CHURCH DIRECTORY (01823)

Church web site: www.stpeterandstpaul.org.uk

Vicar:

Rev. Philip Hughes

336102

(Usual day off - Friday)

phil2overflowing@gmail.com



Rev Philip Hughes

Church Wardens: Tim Venn John Perry

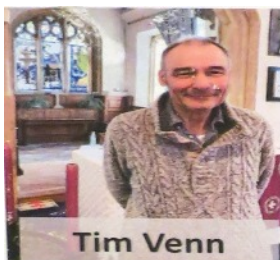
Treasurer Rachel Horder

Electoral Roll Officer Hilary Harper

Safeguarding Officer: Beverley Keitch

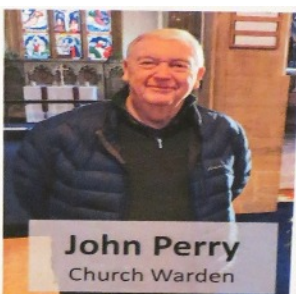
Other PCC Members - Rachel Horder. Mark Dakin

Sue Martin Hilary Harper . Lillian Priest



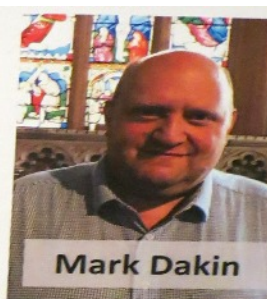
Tim Venn

Church Warden



John Perry

Church Warden



Mark Dakin

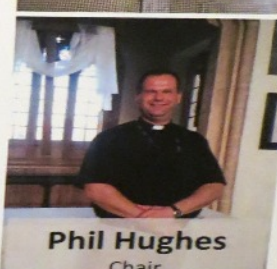


Sue Martin



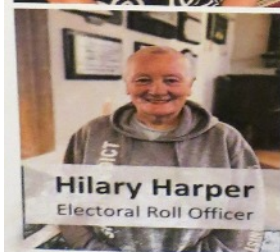
Rachel Horder

PCC Treasurer



Phil Hughes

Chair



Hilary Harper

Electoral Roll Officer



Beverley Keitch

Parish Safeguarding
Officer



Lillian Priest