

Messenger



October 2021

50p



Nether Stowey & Fiddington WI Contact Nos. Terry Binding 01278 732710

tbinding7@gmail.com

Margaret Harris 01278 734613

We meet every second Thursday of the month

2pm – 4pm at the Church Centre,
Nether Stowey

BELINDA PENN'S KNITTED TOYS



A **Big Thank You** to everyone who bought & helped to sell Belinda's knitted toys at Party in the Park, the Nether Stowey Flower Show and especially to Colin & Dianne from the Post Office who have displayed and sold the toys for a number of years.

Also, a thank you to Cannington Walled Gardens and The Thomas Poole Library. All funds are going to Dementia UK, a total of £640.

CLUBS & SOCIETIES IN NETHER STOWEY & OVER STOWEY

Allotment Association

Bruce Roper 732 043

Active Living Group

Call 734 613 or 733 040; 733 151; 732 609

Coleridge Probus Club

Philip Comer (01984) 656 720

Coleridge Cottage

Tel: 732 662

Friends of Coleridge

Eliza Sackett 733 660

Thomas Poole Library, Nether Stowey

Sian Stafford 732 741

Friends of Over Stowey Church

Christopher Stone 732 907

Friends of Quantock

Mary ter Braak (01984) 656 633

Friends of Nether Stowey School

Lisa Rendle 732 508

Nether Stowey Football Club

Chair: Nigel Waterman 732 310
Seniors: Steve Easden 07788 370014
Juniors: Nigel Waterman 732 310

Minis: Richard Marriott 07890 451694

Nether Stowey Playing Fields Committee

Jane Erskine 732 025

Nether Stowey Short Mat Bowls

Cath Roberts 732 789

Nether Stowey Twinning Association

Open to everyone. Ian Pearson 732 228

Nether Stowey Village Hall

Jan Miller 733 436

Nether Stowey & Fiddington Women's

Institute

Margaret Harris 734 613

Terry Binding 732 710

Over Stowey Bellringers

Over Stowey Bowls Club

Wendy Hill 732 194

Over Stowey Cricket Club

Phil Rich 732 675

Over Stowey Rights of Way Group

Richard Ince 733 237

Over Stowey Social Club

Sue Thomas 732 905

Over Stowey Tennis Court

Liz Onions 732 195

Quantock AONB Office, Fyne Court

Tel: (01823) 451 884

Quantock Beekeepers Association

Ken Edwards 671 544

Quantock Players

Wendy Hobbs 733 197

Quantock Quilters

Gill Griffiths 733 709

Quantock Tennis Club

Robin Bendall 732 633

Royal British Legion - N/Stowey & District

Viki Fielder 238 691

Stogursey Forget-Me-Not Cafe

Helen Cuttell 734 818

Stowey Bears (pre-school)

Tina Miller 734 636 Stowey Book Club

Alison Whittingham 732 446

Stowey Gardeners

Juliet Harkness 733 245

Stowey Green Spaces Group

Judith Greig 732 483

Stowey Walking

Lynne Abbott 732 228

Wednesday Club (formerly the Day Centre)

Maggie Harrison 732 532

October 2021

Welcome to October's magazine,

I was really impressed at how many people donated bags of clothes and toiletries for refugees (whether from Afghanistan or elsewhere) following my request for donations in August. In total I received well over 60 bags, including 2 bags of gorgeous freshly knitted scarves and other items from Jayne Smith. THANK YOU EVERYONE. The photo on the front shows only the first 40 bags I received, understandably it was more than 1 trip to Refugee Aid from Taunton that I had to make :-). RAFT are located on Canal Road, near Morrisons, in Taunton if anybody wants to make donations at any time, their Facebook page lists the items they are in need of and opening times.

I am keeping everything crossed that the current near-normal lives we are leading can continue over the Autumn and Winter. If you are affected by Coronavirus, the list of support organisations is still there in the centre pages of the magazine.

I was very disappointed to miss both the Flower Show (and Party in the Park) this summer. I need to plan my holidays better next year! There wasn't room to include all the pictures of the amazing displays, sorry if yours isn't there.

Wishing everyone a happy harvest time and happy Hallowe'en, Ruth.

Your Messenger Team

Please email articles / photos to editor@quantockmessenger.org.uk

Ruth Richardson	Editor	229 682	Annabelle Whitlock	Editor	By email
Sally Dymock	Advertising	732 298	Richard Beer	Printer	732 412
Sally & John Dymock	Collating	732 298	Phil & Kath Peckham - Molly Bradner	Assembly - Distribution	732 288 732 166

Please send adverts to advertising@quantockmessenger.org.uk.

We are always pleased to receive articles in any form (by phone, handwritten, typed or by email). You may leave articles for The Messenger at the Church Centre or at the Parish Council Offices, on the Cross

in Nether Stowey. **Deadline for articles is the 15th of the preceding month.**

Cover Photos (L-R): Bags of donations for Refugee Aid from Taunton; Heather Coates' table at NS Flower Show; Esme and Conrad Pocock taking part in the Thomas Poole Library summer colouring competition and nature trail; Stowey Gardeners' table at NS Flower Show; sunflowers taken at Thurloxton Sunflower Fields by Alfred Ball (10 years old); and Nick & Gerry Wright's table at NS Flower Show;

DIARY DATES 2021

Every Tuesday - Short Mat Bowls - 2-5pm - NSCC

Every Wednesday - Nether Stowey Wednesday Club - 10am-2pm - NSCC

Every Friday - Knit & Natter - 10-11:30 - TPL

Fri 8th Oct - Traditional Harvest Supper - 7pm - OS VH

Mon 11th Oct - Quantock Quilters - 10am-1pm - NSCC

Wed 13th Oct - Book launch of 'The Touch of the Magdalene' with author Diana Barsham - 7.30pm - TPL

Thurs 14th Oct - WI: Marie Antoinette's Guide to Farming - 2pm - NS CC

Sat 16th Oct - Harvest Supper - 6:30pm - NSCC

Sunday 17th Oct - Hamlet Act Six: A Comedy - 2.30pm - Fiddington VH

Mon 25th Oct - Quantock Quilters - 10am-1pm - NSCC

Mon 8th Nov - Quantock Quilters - 10am-1pm - NSCC

Thurs 11th Nov - WI: Christmas Theme Decorations with Jenny Barnham - 2pm - NS CC

Weds 17th Nov - The History of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission - 7.30pm - TPL

Mon 22nd Nov - Quantock Quilters - 10am-1pm - NSCC

Fri 3rd Dec - Bingo Night! - Doors open 7pm, eyes down 7:30pm - OS VH

Thurs 9th December - WI: Christmas Celebration Tea with Jan McNeill - 2pm - NS CC

Sat 11th & Sun 12th December - A Georgian Christmas - Coleridge Cottage

Sat 18th & Sun 19th December - A Georgian Christmas - Coleridge Cottage

NS CC - Nether Stowey Church Centre NS VH - Nether Stowey Village Hall OS VH - Over Stowey Village Hall TPL - Thomas Poole Library, Nether Stowey

WANT TO JOIN OUR TEAM?

We are looking for new editors to join the Quantock Messenger team.

The work of editing the magazine is taken in turns, so it is not a monthly commitment. All you need is an eye for detail and the ability to work with MS Publisher.

Please email editor@quantockmessenger.org.uk if you would like more information.

NEWS FROM COLERIDGE COTTAGE

National

Hello! It's been a strange old year here at Coleridge Cottage.

We were able to reopen at the end of May and built up our opening days to 4 days a week in August. Unfortunately we needed to close in mid-August and I have been working at Dunster Castle since then.

We are planning (at time of writing) to be open again in October for four days a week. From Wednesday-Saturday we will be open from 11am to 4pm. We are still using a booking system, so you will need to go to our website https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/coleridge-cottage or call our booking line 0344 249 1895.

The booking system means you will receive a bespoke welcome before you explore our cosy cottage. We will have the fire lit and you can have a go at writing your own poetry with a quill and ink.

We will close in November, when we do some of our essential conservation work. We will then be open again for a Georgian Christmas for the 11th & 12th and 18th and 19th of December. The cottage will be decked out for Christmas, with traditional decorations and garlands. You can have a go at making salt dough gingerbread men decorations, spice bags to fill your home with the scents of winter and Christmas posies, made with greenery from our garden.

A visit to Coleridge Cottage will be just the thing you need to get you in the Christmas spirit. You will also need to book for these dates and can do so from the week before opening.

Bethan Martin



At Fiddington Village Hall
Sun Oct 17th at 2.30pm
Reserve your tickets (£12) from
julietharkness@gmail.com

Hamlet

Act Six

A Comedy



Tickets £12 can also be purchased from www.shakespearelive.com / 07780 9338107

All profits to Charity

NETHER STOWEY FLOWER SHOW

Following the cancellation of last year's show, we were very pleased to run a very different condensed show this year on August 21st. We wanted to provide an opportunity for everyone to display their produce and handiwork after all the lockdowns.

This proved to be a huge success. We had a total of 20 display tables filling the hall from individuals, partners, neighbours and organisations like Stowey Gardeners, Thomas Poole Library, WI, Stowey Green Spaces and the Quantock Quilters.

Items shown included photographs, woodwork, boats, pottery, paintings, needlework, books, plants, vegetables and flowers as well as information from local organisations. The WI sold cakes and Tina Muir ran a toy tombola with Belinda Penn's knitted toys, raising funds for Dementia Care.

The fantastic displays proved what a talented community of people the village has! It was a hard decision to choose one overall winner, but eventually after narrowing it down to four displays the Stowey Gardeners won the cup for the 'Most Aesthetically Pleasing Display'

We would like to thank all those that exhibited and visitors for helping us to be covid compliant in line with the Village Hall requirements - using hand gel, wearing masks and signing in.

Here's hoping for a normal show next year!!

Jackie Hellier



NETHER STOWEY JUNIOR FOOTBALL

September saw a return to action for junior football and oh how it's been missed. It was great to see so many kids back out on the parks taking part in matches. There were some stellar performances from the youngsters across the age groups and it was great to see so many parents/ supporters cheering them

on. With a return to league formats, games can be seen at the playing fields most weekends so if you happen to be passing please stop by and help cheer Stowey on. Fingers crossed this season plays out as planned and COVID keeps its distance! Thanks to everyone involved for organising matches and helping on training and game days - none of it would be possible without you.

Simon Richardson

Christmas Wreath Workshop
With Katherine Taylor

At Nether Stowey Village Hall
On Thursday December 2nd
From 6.30 pm
Coffee and Mince Pies
Cost £30

Contact Janice on 733 436 to book your place

St Mary's Church, Nether Stowey invite you to their

Harvest Supper

on Saturday 16th October at 6.30pm for 7pm in the Church Centre Everyone Welcome

Please call Benefice Office 732 855 / 734 588 / 732768 to make sure that we don't run out!

NETHER STOWEY RECREATION GROUND MUGA COURTS

We are pleased to inform you there is no charge for using the MUGA courts weekdays 9am-5pm on an ad-hoc basis. (Formal groups or those wishing to ensure a specific time should still book & pay £15 for 3G court & £10 for the hard court per hour. These hirers have priority).

To obtain the padlock code please text or phone Sharon on 07748 071 147.

The courts will remain locked to prevent vandalism. They are very costly to repair & should not be used for bicycles, scooters or e-scooters.

The Playing Field Committee, www.stowey.org.uk



THANK YOU to everyone who attended and helped at Party in The Park this year. We couldn't have done it without you and we hope you enjoyed it.

In terms of fundraising, it was our most

successful event for many years, with over £1,500 raised for our charity. Thank you if you supported our Bar and BBQ also to Mervyn Todd of Books for Life, for the kind donation of £70 and to ASDA who gave us a grant of £430 to help us bring the community back together.

Jo Scoins, Ron Scales & the Playing Field Committee

One of our other forms of fundraising is the monthly PFR Draw (50:50 Lottery) run by Jane Erskine 732 025 and Sharon Mayell 732 311. If you would like to know more just give us a ring or visit the new website www.stowey.org.uk.

Congratulations to the winners for September:

1 st	£34.87	425	M Scourfield
2 nd	£17.44	52	G Neal
3rd	£10.47	220	N Frood
4 th	£6.97	44	R Betts

THANK YOU

My uncle, Gilbert Toms, who lived at Hack Lane for 84years passed away in June. £300 was donated in his memory to Over Stowey Social Club. Thank you for all donations.

Sue Hockey



Stogursey Forget-Me-Not Café is held
in the Church Rooms, Castle Street, Stogursey TA5 1TB
every other Wednesday from 10.30 – 12.00
Helen and Rose are looking forward to welcoming you for a cuppa
and a chat

Autumn/Winter Dates: October 13th and 27th, November 10th and 24th, December 8th and 22nd, January 5th

Forget-Me-Not Cafés provide support, companionship and a warm welcome to those who are recognising issues with their memory, as well as their carers, family and friends. There are a variety of activities including music, singing, arts and crafts, quizzes, or just a chat.

Volunteers and Guests can be reassured that everything is being done to stay Covid Secure.

Please contact

Helen: 01278 734818 - cuttellhelen@gmail.com

Rose: 07507 374234

NOTES FROM NETHER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Office is now open to the public every day except Thursday. Our office hours remain the same: 10am until 1pm.

First, a big thank you to those of you who co-operated with the road works in Lime Street, St Mary Street and Castle Street. Shame about the one car left near The George. This is going to cause a big puddle for years to come, I fear.

The Parish Council would like to ask everyone to be considerate about disabled spaces in the village. They are given only to those who really need them after stringent checks.

The Parish Council is offering a "re-opening refreshment kit" for groups who are re-starting meetings and activities. So far we have provided tea, coffee, biscuits etc to five groups. If you run a group, club or activity and would like a similar contribution please contact Caro (details below). **Offer ends 31 October!**

At the Parish Council meeting on 13 September, grants were awarded to Stowey Shuttle and Stowey Green Spaces to help with their running costs: two organisations who do a great deal for Nether Stowey.

The Parish Council are (still) looking for someone to help with minor work and odd-jobs to help tidy up around the village. Tasks would involve work such as sweeping, strimming etc, depending on what you can do. Please contact Caro if you can help or would like to know more details.

The Parish Council will be arranging further work at the car park in NOVEMBER, including the felling of a few trees. It will be <u>essential to empty</u> <u>and close the car park</u> for a few days for safety reasons. We know that this is inconvenient, but any cars left in the car park may be damaged, for which the owner will be responsible, and insurance may not cover it. The exact date has still to be confirmed – please look out for notices with more information. We would also like to remind you that the car park is intended for short-term stays only, not for long-term storage of vehicles.

Please start thinking about winter. Fallen leaves and hidden debris in drains can block the drain and cause flooding. You might say it's not your job, but if you can take five minutes to do it, it will help prevent you or your neighbours being flooded. And if you have trees in your garden, you're contributing to the problem, so please contribute to the solution. You can report blocked drains to Highways on 0300 123 2224 or send an e-mail to countyroads-

sedgmoor@somerset.gov.uk.

If you live near the brook, please also ensure that the flow is not obstructed by weeds, litter etc. Last year a small food waste was trapped and nearly caused a flood in the centre of the village.

Please also take time to check the outside of your hedges. They should be cut back to your boundary/fence line and not overhanging or bulging out on to the pavement. This is very important for people who don't see so well, or at all, especially as the nights are drawing in.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 11 October at the Church Centre. Restrictions may apply depending on Government guidance at that time.

Caro Slaymaker, Clerk to the Parish Council Tel: 01278 733779

e-mail: clerk@netherstowey-pc.gov.uk website : www.netherstowey-pc.gov.uk

NEWS FROM THE CRICKET CLUB

Well the curtain has come down on yet another season and so it's time to pack the kit away, prepare the ground for the winter and reflect on what has been another successful year both on and off the pitch.

Despite losing some key players from the previous season both the 1st XI and 2nd XI have ended their campaigns with heads held high and for those of you that enjoy statistics, I have summarised the detail at the end of this article.

On Sunday 12th September the club held its traditional youth versus Dads game, followed by a presentation of awards to the youth players. This was followed by the annual Chairman XI versus Presidents XI game played in honour of Neil Sortwell an ex-player who was sadly taken from us. This year the Chairmans XI proved worthy winners and their captain, Mark Sortwell, fittingly received the trophy on behalf of his team.

On behalf of the cricket club, can I thank all those who have given up time to coach, prepare the ground, transport teams to away fixtures and of course the loyal supporters who come to games, without you all we simply could not operate as a club.

The Club will be holding their annual Dinner and Awards evening on Saturday 9th October and the AGM is on Sunday 17th October, both events are at Over Stowey Village Hall.

The Detail:

1st XI P18 W9 L5 C/T 4 PTS 352 Pos:3RD

2ndXI P14 W6 L7 C/T 1 PTS 220 Pos:5th

The Youth team played in the Taunton and District Youth League under 11 West B, which had 10 teams:

P 11 W5 L3 C/T3 PTS18 Pos 4th

Until next time Over and Out,

Simon Pickard



NETHER STOWEY & FIDDINGTON WI

We had a very interesting and informative talk at our meeting on 9th September by Emma Duke. Emma retired from business and set up as an artist with a studio on the Quantocks. She is an artist and photographer as well as

doing wood sculptures. Emma does several talks, but this one was about using driftwood washed down from the Quantocks onto our beaches in North Somerset and then into the Bristol Channel, where people can gather it up. Generally you are free to collect wood from land and beaches, but obviously only with the owner's permission if the land or beach is private. When you see a piece of wood or a branch lying around on the ground, you never think about the journey it's been on. All the pieces of wood Emma brought with her looked as though they'd been stripped of bark and sanded or polished. In fact, Emma explained that the wood had been stripped by natural forces whilst being buffeted around through water and across rocks and stones for years. When she gathers a piece of wood that takes her fancy it could be decades old, or even longer. I thought that wood was just wood, but when you look closer you can see an amazing range of colours, and interesting patterns in the wood, and the shape of a piece of wood inspires your creativity. She brought various lengths and shapes of wood with her, along with limpet shells, also scavenged from the beach, and string to demonstrate how to make a mobile decoration.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 14th October at 2.00 pm in the Church Centre.

Our speaker, Sarah Harris, will be giving a talk called "The Marie Antoinette's Guide To Farming". She will be talking about her experience of being a novice farmer and the trials and tribulations this involves. The rather tongue-in-cheek reference to Marie Antoinette is due to the fact that this unfortunate lady had set up a model working farm with horses, sheep, pigs and poultry, (although she did not actually work on the farm!) which functioned until the French Revolution. This promises to be entertaining afternoon. The competition is to write a six-line limerick or poem.

AΒ

NETHER STOWEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

We are very pleased to welcome children back to school. It is fantastic to have all the children back and in their new classes. A big warm welcome to new families joining us. All the children have settled in well to the new term and are off to a great start with their learning. I am incredibly proud to stand as the Headteacher of Nether Stowey School and even more proud of the children's achievements.

Our school value this term is Thankfulness, the children have had the opportunities to think about what they are thankful for and to learn stories from the bible. Next term we will think about Fellowship linking this to friendship and the community we live in. In class the children have made a great start with their learning and topics.

I would like to share with you our new term prayer

Lord God,

At the beginning of this new term teach us to be your hands and feet.

At the beginning of this new term teach us to love others as you love us.

At the beginning of this new term, teach us to pray for those in need.

Help us to work hard, do our best and show kindness and compassion to all.

Amen.

Chloe Holt

COP 26

For two weeks in November, Glasgow will truly be in the eyes of the world, but why? At the 1992 United Nations environmental conference in Rio de Janeiro, 154 governments signed up to the Convention on Climate Change.

The resulting Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) began work in 1994 and now all 195 world sovereign nations are signatories to the Convention. Annual Reviews of progress are known as Conference of the Parties (COP) and the 26th such review should have happened in 2020 but was postponed to 2021. Consequently COP 26 will now be running in Glasgow from November 1st to 11th.

The 2005 meeting in Kyoto set initial world environmental targets, with revised agreements and targets being made every five years, the last being in Paris in 2015. This makes COP 26, under British Presidency, exceptionally important given the apocalyptic warning from the latest IPCC Report that "Humanity's damage to the planet is a Statement of Fact". The U.N. Secretary General, Antonio Guterres, said "Today's IPCC Working Group One Report is a CODE RED for Humanity....."

These are very dramatic and unequivocal statements, but environmental measurements made over the years leave little or no room for doubt, the last five years being the hottest recorded since 1850.

- Atmospheric carbon dioxide level is at its highest in two million years
- Methane and nitrous oxide are at their highest levels in 800,000 years [above are Greenhouse Gases]
- The global surface temperature was 1.09°C higher between 2011-2020 than in 1850 to 1900. [To give perspective, in ice ages the world is about 4°C cooler than now].
- The last 10 years are most likely the hottest period in the last 125,000 years
- Sea levels have risen almost three times as much in recent years, when compared with 1901-1971 and by 2100, levels could possibly have risen by as much as 2 metres.

Extreme heat and flood events have become more frequent since the 1950s as shown by Australian, N. American and Siberian forest fires and German floods.

To solve these problems will require difficult and unpopular decisions from all governments and understanding and support by everyone as to why such decisions may be made will help governments in what is going to be a prolonged and difficult time.

Terry Abbiss



HETHER STONEL

World Porridge Day and Mary's Meals – Sock Sales and Porridge Parties and numerous other fundraising activities by Mary's Meals supporters, resulted in a wonderful piece of news in September. The number of hungry children receiving a free school meal in some of the poorest communities in the world, has now reached 2,000,000. It costs just £15.90 (8p a

day) to feed a child for a whole school year, but as Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow, the founder of Mary's Meals says 'for the child that is promised that daily meal, our little acts of love are not little at all.'

World Porridge Day is on 10th October with a world porridge making competition in Scotland (where else?) and the winner being awarded a 'golden spurtle'. More seriously, it highlights the importance of porridge (phala) in the Mary's Meals school feeding programme especially in Africa, where phala is a staple food.

In normal times, I would be holding a 'Porridge Party' at my house in order to raise money for Mary's Meals to help feed hungry children and give them the energy to learn and the hope of a better life. Sadly, due to Covid I can't do that this year but I look forward to holding this fun event in 2022

Ann White

NETHER STOWEY SENIOR FOOTBALL

Senior Football: The 2021-22 football season is now up and running. Exciting, exhilarating and edge-of-your-seat stuff would quite easily describe the start of the season.

Saturday 1st Team - 14 goals in three league games, two league wins and a penalty shootout victory in the cup; what a breath-taking start to the season for the 1st team.

Stowey are in a healthy 4th place in Division Two of the Taunton and District Saturday Football League with victories over Watchet Reserves and Middlezoy, with a narrow 4-3 defeat against leaders Bridgwater and Albion tainting the start to an encouraging season.

Saturday Reserves - A victory in their first outing for this newly created young reserves side was the start the youngsters could only dream about when the club decided to have two senior teams on a Saturday. Two narrow defeats followed, however the enthusiasm within the squad speaks volumes and I

have no doubt they will have a great debut season in Division Three of the league.

Sunday Team - A mixed bag for the Sunday side, one win, one draw and one defeat in their first three outings. They find themselves mid table, with plenty of potential ahead of them,

The club would like to thank all those who have helped on match days, the passionate support of those who have come down to the Rec and The Ancient Mariner for supplying some food after the game.

Mark Sells



WWW.THOMASPOOLELIBRARY.CO.UK

The Summer Reading Challenge, which ended in early September, was a great success and we were delighted with how many children signed up for it. Congratulations to all who completed the challenge and received their medal and certificate!

We also had lots of fantastic entries for the Summer Colouring Competition, so congratulations to the

winners of the different age groups!

The Wild World Hero Nature Trail was a lot of fun to organise, we hope you enjoyed taking part. There will be an October half term activity so keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for more details.

Our General Meeting, which had been postponed since April 2020, finally happened mid-September in front of real people, and served its purpose in a truncated form.

** WHAT'S ON **

* **KNIT AND NATTER:** Every Friday, 10am to 11.30am. All ages and abilities are welcome! Just bring your own project which could be knitting, sewing, crochet, embroidery etc. or just come for a natter and see what others are working on. It's a great way to get inspired, pick up new tips and make new friends

* MONTHLY TALKS:

Join us for our monthly talks in the library. Start time is 7.30pm and entrance fees are £3.50 for members and £4.50 non-members. Coming soon:

 Wednesday 13th October – A book launch of 'The Touch of the Magdalene' with author Diana Barsham

- Wednesday 17th November The History of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (NB, this will be on the 3rd Wednesday of the month)
- ♦ Wednesday 8th December A festive evening with readings of your favourite Poetry and Prose



Are you interested in finding out more about your family history? We have two computers installed with Windows 10 that are available

for you to use during Library opening hours. As a library member, you have free access to Ancestry.co.uk which unlocks one billion searchable UK family history records, so if you fancy delving into your family history, then come along and explore.

Our opening hours are Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10am – 1pm,

Friday 2pm – 5pm and Saturday 10am -12pm.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!



FARMING IN PROTECTED LANDSCAPES

Protected Landscapes - our National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty - are special

and unique places. They are living, working landscapes that also support a huge range of habitats and species, and they are enjoyed by millions of people every year. By supporting the farmers, land managers and people who live and work in these areas, we can help protect these exceptional places and support local communities.

The Farming in Protected Landscapes programme has now been launched and is open for applications in the Quantocks Hills AONB.

Through the programme, farmers and land managers can be supported to carry out projects that support nature recovery, mitigate the impacts of climate change, provide opportunities for people to discover, enjoy and understand the landscape and cultural heritage, or support nature-friendly, sustainable farm businesses. This is a programme of funding for one-off projects covering these areas of work, not an agri-environment scheme.

The programme supports activity on any land within the Quantocks Hills AONB. It can also support activity on other land where projects can demonstrate benefit to the Quantocks Hills AONB, or the AONB's objectives.

The application window for the first year of funding closes in January 2022, but applications will be assessed on an on-going basis throughout the application period, so we're advising applicants to apply as soon as possible for the best chance of success. Applications for £5,000 or more will need to be approved by our Local Assessment Panel, which meets periodically.

For more information about Farming in Protected Landscapes, or to discuss your project, please contact Katie Read, Landscape Project Officer: email: czread@somerset.gov.uk or tel: 07977 412249. More information can also be found on the Quantock Hills AONB website, www.quantockhills.com



After the summer break for meetings, the Parish Council met again on Wednesday 15th September 2021. It was a full agenda, details of which will be

published on the notice board and website, once the minutes have been produced. Items discussed included the following issues:

A number of complaints had been received about the fireworks at Quantock Lakes and lack of notice from the venue regarding dates and time. Over Stowey Parish Council have contacted the venue and are now on the mailing list. This information will be on the Parish Council website and communicated to various people within the area to spread the word and keep people informed so they are able to take the appropriate action to protect their livestock and pets.

Work at the cemetery will take place in October, so please take care if you are planning to visit there over the next few weeks. The sycamore tree will be removed in the autumn – with work taking place on **October 6th and 7th.** At a later date (tbc), the ground will be re-levelled to ensure it is easier for people to walk on. Due to the nature of the terrain, it will always be un-even in some areas, but the Parish Council are hoping this will make a difference to visitors to the cemetery. Notices for both works will be put up to communicate this.

A meeting has taken place with a representative from the Highways department and a report from them is due soon. They suggested a number of possible actions, some short term and others longer term to improve road safety for all road users. Further details will be made available once the Highways department collate the information from the meeting and share this with the Parish Council.

The issue with the culvert on Adscombe Lane, where there is a hole in the road over the stream, has been reported and investigations are taking place. We have been told that the repairs may take some time and again when

further information is made available to the Parish Council, this will be communicated.

The drainage issues continue in Friarn, Aley and Bincombe – the Highways Department have been notified a number of times and the Clerk is again following these up with them and landowners with a view to action being taken as soon as possible.

Other Highways issues include the ongoing problems with verge cuts and hedge cutting. The verge cuts by Somerset County Council (SCC) vary in effectiveness and the Clerk will be contacting County Councillor Caswell for this to be discussed again with SCC. The hedge cutting by landowners is also an ongoing issue in many areas of the parish and the Parish Council request that all landowners with a boundary adjacent to the highway undertake their responsibilities to maintain them, as soon as possible.

With regards to the ongoing COVID-19 situation, despite the lifting of most of the restrictions, caution is still advised and if anyone does need any help or support from the Parish Council, please contact the Clerk.

Alternatively, if you require more specific information or advice, the Clerk can signpost you to the relevant group or agency, to ensure you get the correct and appropriate response.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th October 2021.

Website: https://www.overstoweyparishcouncil.co.uk/

Email: clerk@overstoweyparishcouncil.co.uk

Phone: 07391 313740 (please leave a message if there is no reply)

If you could leave your contact details, we can then ensure any concerns raised are on

the agenda for the next meeting.

Amanda McMurren, Clerk to the Parish Council

STOWEY GREEN SPACES GROUP

STOWEY WOOD

Quantock Messenger readers who walk through Stowey Wood will want to know that Stowey Green Spaces Group (SGSG) will be carrying out management work in the wood during the first two weeks of October. The work is scheduled for Mondays to Thursdays: 4-7 October and 11-14 October. We have marked up just over 50 sitka pine trees to be felled and removed from the wood. The objective is to create glades, create "halos" to enable healthy trees to flourish, replace more of the sitka with native species and encourage wildlife and biodiversity. Some of the felled wood will be used to

create habitat piles. To minimize damage, we have engaged a "horse-logger" to extract the felled timber from the wood; horses are able to work in areas which would be difficult for machinery to access.

There will inevitably be disruption to the footpath through the wood. Regular walkers will know that an alternative path (which will be signposted) can be used on those occasions when the main track is impassable. Depending on the weather, the track through the wood is likely to become churned up and muddy.

To make room for the horses to extract the felled timber, the pedestrian footbridge along the main track has had to be removed. This will be reinstated when work is completed by mid-October. Stowey Green Spaces apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Walkers through Stowey Wood should take care to avoid areas where work is taking place, especially when trees are being felled. Members of the community will be welcome to see the horses at work, but this will need to be organised rather than ad hoc. Children from Nether Stowey Primary School are expected to visit the wood and see the horses at work. I should be grateful if anyone else interested in doing the same could let me know.

Roy Osborne, Stowey Green Spaces Group

Tel: 01278 734604

A NOTE FROM MARIE CURIE ON BEREAVEMENT

When someone close to you dies it is, and has always been, terribly difficult. And sadly, we know that the coronavirus pandemic has made it even harder for many. We have a dedicated team of Marie Curie Companions in Somerset who are on hand to offer comfort, a friendly voice and a listening ear for anyone experiencing grief, whatever stage they may be at.

Whether you want to share fond memories or discuss a particularly tough day, our team offer a safe space to talk. We understand the wide variety of emotions and feelings that grief can evoke and will listen without question or judgement. We would like people to know, including professionals and young people, that we are here for you if you have experienced a loss during these very difficult times.

If you or someone you know is affected by grief or bereavement, please don't be afraid to reach out for help, so often talking to someone can make a huge

difference. You can call the Somerset Bereavement Support Service provided by Marie Curie and Mind in Somerset on 0800 3047 412 (Monday to Saturday, 9am to 5pm) for free and confidential support.

Charlotte Holland, Marie Curie Clinical Nurse Manager Somerset

Obituary: Chris Paul, 3 February 1945 – 13 August 2021

Perhaps you sent a lovely card,
Or sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent a funeral spray,
If so, we saw it there.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words,
As any friend could say.
Perhaps you were not there at all,
Just thought of us that day.
Whatever you did to console our hearts,
We thank you so very much whatever the part.

Janet, Tracey, Phil, Liz and Cathy would like to thank the staff at St. Margaret's Hospice, the district nurses and carers from Butterfields. Without their help, we would not have been able to nurse Chris at home, as was his wish.

Janet Jackson

GARDENING WITH NICK



As the month progresses, it is good to reflect on the 2021 season and identify your successes and failures whether it is the garden or allotment. Generally, it has been a good growing season for flowers, vegetables and fruit. Some plants

may have outgrown their position and it is an opportunity to replace with a choice plant. It is also a chance to evaluate the garden as a whole and perhaps consider changing the planting to reduce the maintenance or even rethink/expand the vegetable plot. I am now in my second year of no-dig on the allotment and very impressed with the results.

Vegetables – again this season cabbage white butterflies have done a lot of damage to unprotected brassicas. Fine netting is essential but remember it should be arranged so as not to be resting on foliage otherwise they will lay their eggs through the netting. Cold nights and autumnal weather can soon cause damage to late sown salad and root crops such as carrots but covering with fleece or a cloche can provide protection and help maintain quality and extend the season. Overwintering onion sets, such as Radar can still be planted this month and Jermor is a good shallot variety. Garlic, Provence Wight or similar, can be planted now and into November but as with the onion sets fertiliser application is best left until the spring when a balanced dressing should be applied as new growth commences. Planting of spring cabbage should be completed. Old yellowing leaves on brassicas should be removed and composted. Very tall brassicas may benefit from a cane to give winter support. Towards the end of the month autumn sown broad beans can be sown such as Aquadulce and The Sutton. The latter is a shorter variety good for exposed sites.

Fruit – it has been a good year for both tree fruit and soft fruit with autumn raspberries still cropping well at the time of writing. Late varieties of apples and pears should be harvested and stored. Old and weak canes of blackberries, loganberries, tayberries and the old fruiting canes of main season raspberries should be pruned and new canes tied in.

Flowers - remove summer bedding and replace with winter/spring bedding plants such as violas, wallflowers, primroses/polyanthus, and forget-me-nots. Continue dead heading late season perennials. This is the month for planting bulbs such as daffodils, hyacinth and crocus whether in containers or in the border. Lift tender plants such as dahlias to store dry over the winter. In well drained situations dahlia tubers can be left in the ground but protect with a good layer of compost.

Shrubs and trees – while the soil is still warm it is an excellent month for planting hardy trees and shrubs and in particular evergreens. Climbing roses can be pruned by removing dead, damaged and unhealthy looking stems and then tie in shoots that can extend the framework and prune others back to two or three buds. Check that the plant support is in good order for the winter. At the end of the month reduce the height of rose bushes and taller shrubs such as Buddleja and Lavatera that are prone to windrock and complete pruning in the late winter. It is a good month for taking hardwood cuttings of roses.

Nick Rigden

QLPS PHOTO COMPETITION



Rather than the traditional landscape photos of views from and of the hills, we want to look a little deeper and differently at the communities present in the AONB and Landscape Partnership Scheme Area.

We are looking for photos which fit the categories village life; people of the Quantocks and Quantock working.

The competition will run until the 31st March 2022, with photographs judged in April and winners being announced in May 2022.

Find out more at www.qlps.org/qlps-photo-competition/



Annual Garden Fete Bicknoller, 28th August

A very big thank you to all who supported our annual garden fete this year. To those who came, to those who helped on the day, to those who helped set up and clear away – so much time and effort given by so many people

Thanks also to all those who provided cakes and produce, raffle prizes, bottles for the bottle stall and items sold on Granny's Attic and other stalls.

To those who gave donations in lieu of attendance our sincere thanks.

You all helped us beat our record – yes, this year we raised

£4,325

Next year, due to a family wedding at Nottingham, the fete is being put back one week, so please join us on Saturday, 3rd September 2022.

Thank you

Maggie Pumphrey and members of
The Coleridge Committee

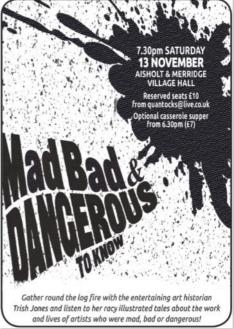
QUANTOCK STORES – Castle Street, Nether Stowey

Now in stock: Calendars – a wide range including RSPB, RSPCA, PDSA, NT, Emma Bridgewater, Sarah Raven as well as Somerset Scenes, Quantock Hills, Tractors, Horses, Chickens, Trains, Cycling and Humorous.

We also have Christmas Cards: Nether Stowey, Family and Friends as well as packs/boxes of cards and charity cards. Additionally, we have Jigsaws, Mugs, Chocolates and Biscuits - all displayed in the old Tea Room.

We look forward to seeing you.





Hinkley Point C Recruitment Event- Find out about the latest opportunities on the Hinkley Point Project and talk to the team:

> Wednesday 6 October 2021 17:00-20:00

Somerset County Cricket Club, The Cooper Associates County Ground Taunton, TA1 1JT

Scan the QR code to sign up



Get in touch

Website: edfenergy.com/hpc Email: hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com Telephone: 0333 009 7070

Job Opportunity:

Benefice Administrator based in Nether Stowey



The Quantock Villages Benefice which includes Spaxton, Enmore, Goathurst, Over and Nether Stowey and Aisholt, has a vacancy for a Benefice Administrator.

This is a part-time role consisting of 12 hours per week, ideally spread over five days.

Initially, this role will pay £10 per hour.

The successful candidate will be a good communicator, reliable and self-motivated.

Closing date for applications is 12th October 2021. Interviews will take place during early November.

Full details and application process can be found on the Quantock Villages Benefice Website: https:// quantockvillagesbenefice.org.uk/

For an informal conversation about the role, please contact Rev'd Eleanor King on 01278 734 777.

CHURCH SERVICES - OCTOBER 2021

	3 rd October	10 th October	17 th October	24 th October	31st October
	18 th Sunday after Trinity	19 th Sunday after Trinity	20 th Sunday after Trinity	Last Sunday after Trinity	All Saints
Nether Stowey	11:00am Morning Worship (C/Centre)	11:00am Harvest Holy Communion (Church)	11:00am Morning Worship (C/Centre)	11:00am Holy Communion (Church)	·
Over Stowey	6:30pm Harvest Evening Worship	9:30am Holy Communion (BCP)	9:30am Holy Communion	9:30am Morning Worship	11/00am Holy Communion
Aisholt	11:00am Harvest Matins	3:30pm Evensong (BCP)	11:00am Holy Communion (BCP)	11:00am Matins	3.30pm Evensong for All Saints
Enmore	11:00am Holy Communion	11:00am Harvest Family Worship	6:30pm Evening Prayer	11:00am Holy Communion	11:00am Holy Communion
Goathurst	9:30am Morning worship	9:30am Holy Communion	9:30am Family Worship	6:30pm Holy Communion (BCP)	-
Spaxton	9:30am Holy Communion	11:00am Harvest Morning Worship	11:00am Holy Communion	9:30am Morning Worship	-

Church is more than a building!

A couple of weeks ago I attended a meeting on the subject of Chaplaincy, specifically Court Chaplaincy. A small group of us heard about this particular venture and what it involved. Most of us had some idea of what chaplaincy is about but it didn't hurt to think again about this aspect of "being church" to our wider communities.

Many people will think of church as a place where people go on a Sunday, sing hymns, say prayers and hear a sermon. Most people will think of the building, but church has a much broader meaning. Church is a collection of people and in a Christian context these people worship God and try to live their lives in accordance with God's desires for human beings. It is believed that God's greatest wish and gift is that of love – Jesus encouraged his hearers to love God and love one's neighbour as oneself.

Our neighbours are not always "lovable", often being the marginalised of society and it is to these people that chaplains are often called to bring God's love. There are all sorts of situations where chaplains work – schools, seafarers, prisons, hospitals, travellers, courts and even Hinkley Point which is the largest commercial organisation to employ a chaplain.

At our meeting we heard that our job as a court chaplain would be one of "being with" anyone who needed someone to listen, without judging, and to be a supportive presence. This could be to a member of staff, a witness, plaintiff or defendant – anyone looking for compassion and kindness.

As members of a church we profess a faith, but for that faith to be real rather than just words, it needs to be seen in action – we can all be chaplains in our communities if we are prepared to show love to those around us.

(If you would like to know more about chaplaincy, please contact Mike Haslam at the Diocese of Bath & Wells: Mike.Haslam@bathwells.anglican.)

Revd Kate Sax

CHURCH CONTACT POINTS

ST. MARY'S, Nether Stowey with ST. PETER & ST. PAUL, Over Stowey

Rector Revd. Eleanor King Tel: 734 777

The Rectory, 25 St Mary St, Nether Stowey TA5 1LJ

eleanor.king@hotmail.com

Associate Priest Revd. Kate Sax Tel. 671 168

The Vicarage, Church Road, Spaxton TA5 1DA

kate.kinkiizi@gmail.com Working davs: Sun. Tues. Wed

Curate Revd. Nicki Bradford Tel. 327 681

nicki.bradford@hotmail.com

Readers Mrs Viv Chesterton, B.A. Tel: 733 568

3 Bishop Road, Nether Stowey TA5 1NP

Mrs Maggie Harrison Tel: 732 532

32 Old Farm Road, Nether Stowey, TA5 1PE

Mrs Alison Hoare Tel: 732 350

2 Park Cottages, Over Stowey

Mrs Jeanette Bole Tel: 741 297

Putsham Mead, Kilve TA5 1DZ

Church Wardens - Nether Stowey

Mr. Alan Simson Tel: (01984) 632 773

Weacombe Gate, West Quantoxhead, TA4 4EB

Mrs. Gerry Wright Tel: 734 584

1 Mount Road, Nether Stowey, TA5 1LU

Church Warden - Over Stowey

Mr. Peter Higginson Tel: 732 102

Bincombe Tops, Over Stowey

Church Centre Contact:

Mrs. Barbara Beer Tel: 732 412

Church Centre Bookings:

Mrs. Pat Stacey Tel: 732 518

Benefice Office:

Church Centre, 27 St. Mary Street, Nether Stowey TA5 1LJ

Office hours Mon. Tue. Wed. Thu. 9am - 11am

Otherwise phone & leave a message or email Tel: 732 855

Email: qv.benefice@gmail.com

CORONAVIRUS SUPPORT

If you are self-isolating or need extra support, contact:

Somerset Local Authorities' Coronavirus Support Line - 0300 790 6275 - 8am-6pm 7 days a week (they can put you in touch with local groups who can help with fetching shopping, medication and other essentials supplies, as well as other aid).

Somerset Bereavement Support Service - 0800 3047 412 - Monday to Saturday, 9am-5pm

Somerset Mindline - 01823 276 892 - is open 24 hours a day for mental health and emotional wellbeing support.

Samaritans - 116 123 - 24 hour support line.

Papyrus - 0800 068 4141 - If you are concerned about a young person who may have suicidal thoughts.

Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM) - 0800 58 58 58 - Offer support to males of any age.

Educational Psychology Service - EPSHelpline@somerset.gov.uk (email best method of contact) or 01823 357 000

Listening Chaplaincy Phoneline for people of all faiths - 0330 229 1700 - 8am-11pm 7 days a week.

Daily Hope free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers - 0800 804 8044 - 24 hours a day

Over Stowey Neighbourhood Watch - Tam Weeks - Mobile: 07841 866 596 (between 8am-8pm only please) - Email: tam.weeks@yahoo.co.uk

If you want to contact outside of 8am-8pm, please contact using text message, Facebook Messenger, Nextdoor or WhatsApp.

See Community Directory (p.32) for Parish Council and Medical Centre contact details.

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

Police (emergency: 999 or non-emergency: 101)

Email somwestnptsedgemoor@avonandsomerset.pnn.police.uk PC Claire Allen, PCSO Jason Wyatt, PCSO Jeremy Pidgeon Jake Dade (Hinkley issues only). @avonandsomerset.police.uk

Antisocial behaviour 0800 298 2009
Vandalism on the Quantock Hills use 101
Household noise problems (Environmental Health) 0845 408 2540

County Councillor: Michael Caswell 01278 652 043

MCaswell@somerset.gov.uk

District Councillors Michael Caswell 01278 652 043

michael.caswell@sedgemoor.gov.uk **Julie Pay** 01278 732 956

julie.pay@sedgemoor.gov.uk

Nether Stowey Parish Council

Clerk: Caro Slaymaker

01278 733 779

clerk@netherstowey-pc.gov.uk

Over Stowey Parish Council

Clerk: Amanda McMurren

01278 734 689

clerk@overstoweyparishcouncil.co.uk

Bookings secretaries

N/Stowey Church Centre Pat Stacey 01278 732 518 (9am—9pm)

N/S Village Hall

O/Stowey Village Hall

Jan Miller

01278 733 436

Wendy Hill

01278 732 194

Quantock Medical Centre (if closed call the NHS on 111)

Reception 01278 732 696 Dispensary 01278 733 385

Centre open 8am - 6:30pm (Mon-Fri)

Dispensary phone line open 10am - 12pm & 4 - 5pm (Mon-Fri) Pick up from Dispensary 10am - 12pm and 4 - 6pm (Mon-Fri)

quantock.mc@nhs.net https://quantockmedicalcentre.gpsurgery.net/

Cannington Health Centre (if closed call NHS on 111)

Reception 01278 652 335 Prescription line 01278 651 311

Other Community Facilities

Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline 03454 040 506

Thomas Poole Library 732 741 (Mon, Wed, Fri 10am-1pm / Fri 2-5pm / Sat 10am-12)

Quantock Hills AONB, Amanda Sampson - 01823 451 884, quantockhills@somerset.gov.uk

Community Car Scheme Stowey Shuttle - 07943 923 742 (48 hours in advance)
Nether Stowey Post Office 732 235 (9am-1pm & 2-5pm Mon-Fri, 9am-12:30 Sat,

closed Sun)

HAVE YOU HEARD OF STOWEY GREEN SPACES?

A group of local people give their time, their ideas, & their energy, to make this beautiful area we live in a more environmentally & welcome place for us and for the animals, birds and insects who also live here.

Over the last months (and years) rough bramble areas have been cleared, many trees have been planted, and litter is regularly removed from our streets, all to make Stowey and its green spaces an even more lovely place.

If you value your local area & would like to keep it beautiful perhaps you might be willing to help?

Do contact Judith Grieg our local co-ordinator on 01278 732 483 or stowey.greenspaces@stowey.org.uk.

STOWEY SHUTTLE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Could you be a driver with Stowey Shuttle? Stowey Shuttle is a local community car scheme, one of a number of similar schemes in West Somerset, which provides car journeys at cost to its registered members. It is run entirely by volunteers who manage the scheme, receive and allocate requests for travel, and drive our passengers using their own cars.

Our drivers receive a mileage allowance for each journey, and we are supported by Somerset County Council and the scheme is linked to the bus pass scheme.

We always welcome more volunteers and at present would like to increase the number of our drivers. If you can offer yourself and your car or would just like to know more about what is involved, please ring Dave, our driver representative, on <u>01278 732466</u>.

<u>Quantock Eco</u> invites you to see the eye-opening film "**Seaspiracy**" and participate in the debate about its implications afterwards – see poster below for details.

Long standing QE supporter, Sir Angus Stirling, member of the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers writes, "This film sets out to reveal the devastating harm being done to the world's oceans and the wildlife that depend on them. It is not without fault. Some inaccuracy and "broad brush" approach has led to vested interests trying to demolish it. Please do

not be put off. The imminent risks to the food chain, the wholesale slaughter of fish by factory ships employing slave labour, and the appalling consequences of waste cast into our oceans is graphically shown. It is of deep concern to humankind."

Please join us for an evening of good entertainment and good debate.



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Crowcombe Cinema

invites you to this eye-opening film and debate about

the impact of fishing on Marine Wildlife



Friday 22nd October - Crowcombe Village Hall Doors open at 6:30 for 7:00 pm start Members & students free, non-members £6

Traditional Harvest Supper at Over Stowey Village Hall Friday 8thth October 2021 7.00 for 7.30 pm.

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Tickets £8.00 from 733844 or 671831

Numbers may be limited

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Welcomes new members

New members are invited to join our weekly meetings via Zoom - enjoy a month's free trial.

Tuesdays at 7:30pm for a 7:45 start.

Normal live meetings will recommence as soon as possible at Sydenham Community Centre, Parkway, Bridgwater.

Email info@bwps.org.uk for further information.

Meetings include: Professional guest speakers every month.

Monthly competitions (Prints and Digital)
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software.

We plan to review the Covid situation on a monthly basis and will return to physical meetings as soon as it is safe to do so.

Further information available from our website: www.bwps.org.uk

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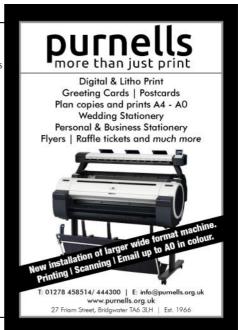
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*subject to eligibility

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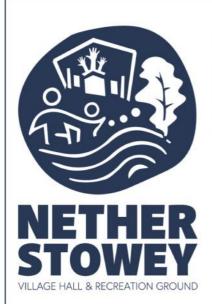
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