

**SEPTEMBER 2023**



**QUANTOCK**  
For Nether Stowey & Over Stowey

**Messenger**

50p



Front cover: The 215th Women's Walk held on 17th June. Libby and Eva Lang are holding the Female Friendly Society banner.

Stowey Green Spaces clearing the stream.

Inside: Nether Stowey Football Club Men's Senior Squad.

Alphabet Quilt composition by Anna Boulton, Chairman of Quantock Quilters - fortnightly sessions resume on 4th September at 10.00am.

Crab Apples growing on the boundary between Jubilee and Platinum Woods, planted 10 -11 years ago. Photo courtesy of Terry Abbiss.

## September 2023

After a short break during the summer, we are back and we hope you enjoy reading this edition of the Quantock Messenger.

Please let us know if you have something to contribute—local history, local walks, recipes, news of what's going on in the villages—anything which may be of interest to others.

Articles should be sent to the editor by the 15th of the preceding month and the email address is [editor@quantockmessenger.org.uk](mailto:editor@quantockmessenger.org.uk).

Best wishes from the QM team.

### Your Quantock Messenger Team

Please email articles/photos to:

**[editor@quantockmessenger.org.uk](mailto:editor@quantockmessenger.org.uk)**

Please email adverts to;

**[advertising@quantockmessenger.org.uk](mailto:advertising@quantockmessenger.org.uk)**

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Sally Dymock	Advertising	732298	Molly Bradner	Assembly/ Distribu- tion	732166
Sally & John Dymock	Collating	732298	Pat & Roger Stacey	Collating	

## CLUBS & SOCIETIES IN NETHER STOWEY & OVER STOWEY

### **Allotment Association**

Bruce Roper 732 043

### **Coleridge Probus Club**

Philip Comer (01984) 656 720

### **Coleridge Cottage**

Tel: 732 662

### **Friends of Coleridge**

Helen Boyles helenmboyles@gmail.com

### **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 Art Group**

Mac Muir 01278 732382

### **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 & 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**

Les Biffin 732963

### **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

### **Over Stowey Village Hall**

Jackie Barrow 07891 720565

### **Quantock AONB Office, Fyne Court**

Tel: (01823) 451 884

### **Quantock Beekeepers Association**

Ken Edwards 671 544

### **Quantock Players**

Wendy Hobbs 733 197

### **Quantock Quilters**

Anna Boulton 652309

### **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**

Lucy Haswell 01278 671289

### **SGSG (Stowey Green Spaces Group)**

Roy Osborne 734604

stoweygreenspaces@stowey.org.uk

### **Stowey Walking**

Lynne Abbott 732 228

### **Thomas Poole Library, Nether Stowey**

Sian Stafford 732 741

### **Wednesday Club**

Maggie Harrison 732 532

## DIARY DATES 2023

Every Monday (except Bank Holidays) - Toddler Storytime - 11am - TPL

2nd & 4th Monday each month - Quantock Quilters - 10am-1pm - NSCC

Every Tuesday—Stowey Singers all welcome 6.45pm-8.15pm at NSCC

Every Tuesday - Walk for Health - Quantock Medical Centre

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

1st and 3rd Tuesday each month - SGSG (Stowey Green Spaces) work groups  
2.30pm - 4.30 pm

2nd Tuesday each month - SGSG meeting 2.30pm

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

Every 1st Wednesday of the month - Play Reading at the Library 2pm - TPL

Every 2nd Wednesday of the month - Evening talk at the Library 7.30pm -  
9pm - TPL

Every Thursday - Chess Time at the Library - 5pm-6.30pm - TPL

1st & 3rd Thursday each month - Art Group - 2-4pm - NSCC

Every 2nd Thursday each month - Nether Stowey & Fiddington WI - 2pm

Every 3rd Thursday – Stowey Gardeners - 7.30pm - NSCC

Every Friday - Knit & Natter - 10:30am -12:00 noon - TPL

3rd Saturday each month - SGSG litter picking 10am

Quiz evening with supper - Saturday 9th September - 7pm - NSCC

Nether Stowey Harvest Lunch - Sunday 8th October - 12.30pm NSCC

Over Stowey Harvest Supper, Friday 13th October, 7.00pm OSVH

Women's Walk Coffee Morning - Monday 16th October - 10.30am –  
11.30am TPL

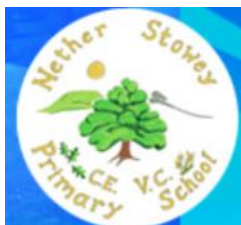
The 216th Women's Walk will be held on Saturday 22 June 2024

NSCC - Nether Stowey Church Centre

OSVH - Over Stowey Village Hall

TPL - Thomas Poole Library

SGSG - Stowey Green Spaces Group



It is with huge pleasure that I write this as Headteacher of Nether Stowey C.E.V.C Primary School. We are celebrating another successful academic year. The foundations are truly in place of a great school! During our OFSTED inspection March 2023 inspectors noted that Nether Stowey is a happy, safe and welcoming school.

They live by the school's ethos of 'We are caring, we are active, we are our best.' Pupils behave well in class and at social times. ...they are inquisitive and engaged. Leaders are ambitious for the school. Leaders have established a well-sequenced curriculum.

I would like to share with you some of our academic success this year. This data will be published in the autumn term so far from published results. Our year 1 phonic screen above national average. Our KS1 attainment data for children achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and maths is above national average. The year 4 multiplication check above the national average.

We have achieved great sporting success. We are the district swim champions, our football team made it to the county finals and Nether Stowey Athletics Team, were crowned Sedgemoor champions. We have an amazing choir that have carried out several performance including 'The women's' walk. The children have sung and raised funds for their own choir t-shirts.

Nether Stowey is a community school and I would like to say a huge congratulations to FONNS who raised a staggering £3138 pounds during the school summer fair held at Nether Stowey Park. This money will go towards, all children having a pantomime visit, equipment for the playground and art and DT equipment including equipment for forest school.

The phrase "it takes a village to raise a child" originates from an African proverb and conveys the message that it takes many people ("the village") to provide a safe, healthy environment for children,

where children are given the security they need to develop and flourish, and to be able to realize their hopes and dreams.

Nether Stowey School would like to confirm that, although, popular, we are definitely not oversubscribed and will welcome applications in all year groups, and in particular September 2023 starters. If your child will be aged 4 by September 2024 you need to apply for a school place. You can apply on line at:- [www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions) We are proud of the school and especially the children, we welcome visits.

I look forward to meeting you.

Mrs Chloe Holt

Head teacher

## How secure is your information?

Here is a simple checklist to help you keep your data safe when you are online.



Update software

Use strong passwords

Use approved software



Check your virus protection

Switch on your firewall

Back up data



Create a separate work account on your device

Protect your Wi-Fi

Watch out for Phishing

Get some training

If you would like more information please contact Nether Stowey CofE V.C Primary School and the Digital Leaders will get back to you.



## **Nether Stowey and Fiddington WI**



The Speaker for our 13th July meeting was unfortunately unable to come due to illness. Instead, at short notice, we had a visit from Jaci Elliott, who is the Area Coordinator for Project Linus UK. Project Linus make and supply quilts and blankets to youngsters from new-born babies to teenagers either in hospitals, hospices, foster-care, refuges or anywhere where a comforting "hug" is needed.

This 100% volunteer non-profit Community Interest initiative was started in America in 1995 when Karen Loucks saw a newspaper article saying how much a comfort blanket had helped a child cancer victim. She started by organising blankets and quilts for her local children's cancer unit, and since then millions have been delivered worldwide. Project Linus UK began in March 2000 when a group of Birmingham quilters wanted to put their skills to helping children in need. There are guide-lines as to what the article should be made of, for example, machine-washable material, what sizes and not have any buttons or ribbons which could be caught by tiny fingers or swallowed. The Project also makes "memory bags" to go with the premature babies' blanket for the parents to keep. The sick child gets to keep the comfort blanket or quilt. Project Linus always welcomes people who can quilt, knit or crochet and they supply patterns for the blankets, quilts and memory bags. If you are interested in their work or want to help, you can visit their website, at [WWW.projectlinusuk.org.uk](http://WWW.projectlinusuk.org.uk) for further information.

At our meeting on 14th September we will be visited by our Regional County WI Advisor, Margaret Lomax, who will talk about her meeting with Bradley Walsh



The "SOUP'N'PUD" lunch has been changed to Saturday 21st October from 12.00 to 14.30.

You will be most welcome at both the above dates.

AB

**Women's Walk Coffee Morning**  
**Monday 16 October - 10.30am – 11.30am**

The original Women's Walk was initiated to celebrate Thomas Poole's pioneering Nether Stowey Female Friendly Society. The current committee of the Women's Walk wants to continue a similar emphasis of women helping women in our village to this day.

We are therefore holding a Coffee Morning on Monday 16 October at the Thomas Poole Library in Castle Street, from 10.30 – 11.30am. Everybody welcome.

There will be a story time for the children at 11am. There is no cost, although donations will be welcomed.

This year's Women's Walk was a great success. I hope you enjoy looking at the couple of photographs in this Messenger and also a video of the Women Walking on the library Facebook page: - Facebook/ThomasPooleLibrary

Please get the date for the 216<sup>th</sup> Women's Walk in your diary. It will be held on Saturday 22nd June 2024.

Janet Phillips *on behalf of the Nether Stowey  
Female Friendly Society*



## **The Marion Evered Trust**

Unfortunately due to bad weather at the time The Big Bash weekend at Over Stowey Cricket ground had to be cancelled, we apologise to all those that were planning on attending.

200 club draw winners:

June - £20 85 Madeline Davey £10 88 Karen Ayre £5 39  
Gus Popham

July - £20 72 Richard Holt £10 104 Sian Stafford £5 63  
Alison Roberts

## **STOWEY PREPARE FOR NEW SEASON**

Nether Stowey FC have been established for over 100 years and this season promises to be the busiest in living memory! This season, the club will run the following teams and age groups:



Saturday Men's First Team

Saturday Men's Reserve Team

Sunday Men's Team

Women's Team

Under 15 / U14 / U13 / U10 / U8

This is a fantastic effort for a village club and we look forward to some great matches played in a competitive but fair spirit.

We are always on the look out for new players, especially in the Women's section where we play friendly matches and train weekly. No previous experience necessary!

Any individuals or sponsors who would like to get more involved in the club are most welcome and encouraged! For all the latest infor-

mation and fixture / results, please follow Nether Stowey Football Club on our Facebook page which is updated regularly.

Finally a big thank you to all existing Sponsors which are currently in place or being finalised for the new season. A full list will be published in due course on Facebook and appear in a future QM publication, your support is very much appreciated.

For more information, please contact Chair Nigel Waterman (07966430361) or Head Coach Steve Easden (07789058564).  
#upthestowey

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Have you ever thought about volunteering in the local community by becoming a volunteer, with the Wednesday Club. We are looking for a couple of people to volunteer once a month to help in the kitchen at the Church Centre, serving and clearing away lunch for our members, we'd also like to identify someone who could help by becoming a volunteer driver with the Club, this involves fetching members from their homes each Wednesday during term time and delivering them home again at 2pm when the Club finishes for the day.

If you are interested in either of these roles, please phone, either Maggie Harrison 732532 or Ann White 733027 for more information. Many thanks.



**NETHER  
STOWEY**  
VILLAGE HALL & RECREATION GROUND

Update on **New Stowey Centre planning application** 36/21/00030 - We are STILL awaiting a final report to enable Somerset Council's Ecology Team

to write the Habitation Regulation Assessment demonstrating we are protecting the ecology of the site which will allow permission to be granted.

**Old Village Hall revised planning application** 36/23/00008 for 4 dwellings is still under consideration. This application has been submitted to maximise the value of the land for when it is eventually put up for sale.

**Thank you** to all those who are supporting the New Stowey Centre Project through subscribing to our 50:50 Lottery. Details can be found on our website [www.stowey.org.uk](http://www.stowey.org.uk).

The winners for the last few months are as follows:

## June 2023 draw

1st Prize	<b>£32.25</b>	Ticket No: 27	M Thomas
2nd Prize	<b>£16.12</b>	Ticket No: 31	M Carpenter
3rd Prize	<b>£9.68</b>	Ticket No: 242	R Palmer
4th Prize	<b>£6.45</b>	Ticket No: 250	H Bramhall

## July 2023 draw

1st Prize	<b>£32.25</b>	Ticket No: 77	A Ricketts
2nd Prize	<b>£16.12</b>	Ticket No: 25	B Carter
3rd Prize	<b>£9.68</b>	Ticket No: 66	L Humphrey
4th Prize	<b>£6.45</b>	Ticket No: 203	S Pickard

## August 2023 draw

1st Prize	<b>£32.25</b>	Ticket No: 22	I Miller
2nd Prize	<b>£16.12</b>	Ticket No: 32	I Ham
3rd Prize	<b>£9.68</b>	Ticket No: 172	J Payne
4th Prize	<b>£6.45</b>	Ticket No: 156	C Penny

# Village Hall Quiz evening with Supper

At Nether Stowey Church Centre

On Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> September

Doors open 7pm quiz starts 7.30pm

Teams of up to six-

£10 per person

Prize for the winning team

Raffle

To book your place

Tickets available from

The Post Office

Or contact

Jan 733436

Information also available on

[www.netherstoweyvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.netherstoweyvillagehall.co.uk)

bring your own bottle(s)

(Plates, Cutlery and glasses provided)

All proceeds to go to hall funds

# **Nether Stowey Wednesday Club**

**Every Wednesday in Term Time**

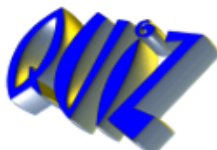
**St Mary's Church Centre**

**10am-2pm**

**Refreshments on Arrival**

**Variety of Activities**

**Hot Lunch 12 noon**



**Raffle**



**We welcome all over 70's**

**For further information and to arrange  
to pop in for a friendly chat**

**to meet members**

**contact Maggie or Barbara**

**Autumn Session Starts 6<sup>th</sup> September**

**Maggie 01278 732532: Barbara 01278 732412**

## **COFFEE AND CAKE**

Everyone is very welcome to the monthly Coffee & Cake morning at the Church Centre . The next one will be on Saturday September 9th 10.30-12.00.



Stowey Green Spaces Group has had a busy summer improving footpaths and keeping plant growth under control with an average of 9 volunteers turning out for each task from a pool of about 15, first in the blazing heat and then in the chilly wet. Work had started in June on making the circular footpath in Millennium

Wood passable for mobility scooters and this was completed in July and a successful test drive carried out. It must be emphasised, though, that it would always be best to be accompanied or to carry a mobile when on this route as it does need care.

Also in June a lot of bramble and gorse had been cleared from the actual Mount of Castle Mount and this work was continued in July by a party from Taunton Midweek Conservation Volunteers plus some Green Spaces workers, and the bracken more or less cleared from the Mount and reasonably under control in the rest of the site. Unfortunately this is not so true for gorse which is coming back quite strongly in places, and advice is needed on how best to control it.

At this time of the year, as gardeners know only too well, plants grow wild filling gardens with weeds and making footpaths difficult and sometimes painful to walk through. A work party did a good job clearing the upper path in Stowey Wood, and the exit path from the wood and in the fields leading towards New Stowey farm. This is a popular circular walk and the group does try to keep it accessible but nature can be very determined! The final task at time of writing, was to clear along Stowey Brook from outside the Fire Station through to where the conduit goes under the A39. Some of this work had been done last year but had to stop because of the angry occupants of a wasp's nest. Fortunately there were no wasps this year and the stream was cleared and the hedge cut to be clear of the water and to allow safe walking along the pavement (see photo).

Litter picking continues every 3rd. Saturday of the month and is a popular activity with some 20 people walking the streets and paths with their blue bags and litter picker sticks.



## **STOWEY WOOD: BRAMBLE CLEARANCE INVITATION**

Each autumn Stowey Green Spaces volunteers need to control bramble to prevent it from choking the young saplings planted in Stowey Wood. This year we plan a community day from 10.30 – 15.30 on Sunday 17 September. We would be delighted if you could join us. Just come along at whatever time suits you and spend as much or as little time with us as you can spare. You'll need long trousers, sturdy boots (or wellies), gloves, secateurs and or loppers. The more of us the merrier - and the shorter the time it will take to do the job. The good news is that this should be the last year for bramble clearance. Most of the trees are doing well. By the next growing season they should be sufficiently established to fend for themselves and hopefully start to shade out the bramble. If you have questions or would like more information please contact Roy Osborne on 01278 734604.



The Summer Reading Challenge 2023 has nearly finished and we've had a fun six weeks encouraging children to read and making crafts related to the Challenge - the paper plate frisbee was a popular one! Well done to everyone who participated and congratulations to those who completed the Challenge!

### **PCs and free WiFi at the Library!**

Just a reminder that we have 2 PCs in the Library for you to use with free access to WiFi. You can book one by phoning 01278 732741 or just drop in. Or you can bring in your own ipad, tablet or smartphone to use our WiFi for free. All you need is your Library Membership No. and PIN. If you aren't already a member you can join at the Library or online:

<https://lwc.ent.sirsiidynix.net.uk/custom/web/registration/>

## **\*\* WHAT'S ON \*\***

**STORYTIME** - Mondays (except bank holidays), 11am to 11.30am. Aimed at babies and toddlers, join us for a fun half hour of stories and nursery rhymes.

**CHESS TIME** - Thursdays 5pm to 6.30pm. Learn the basics, discover new moves and have fun!

**KNIT AND NATTER** - Fridays, 10.30am to 12 noon. 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 terrific way to get inspired, pick-up new tips and make new friends

### **MONTHLY TALKS**

Our library monthly talks will resume in September. Start time is 7.30pm and bookings will be required. Entrance fees are £3.50 for members and £4.50 non-members.

**Wednesday 13th September** – Stowey Green Spaces Group: Who we are, what we do and hopes for the future. A talk by Roy Osborne.

**Wednesday 11th October** – The Caves of the Cheddar: The Rushing Water and the Frozen Deep. A talk by Peter Glanvill.

### **Opening Hours**

Monday and Wednesday 10am to 1pm, Thursday 4pm to 7pm, Friday 10am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm, Saturday 10am -1pm

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!**

[WWW.THOMASPOOLELIBRARY.CO.UK](http://WWW.THOMASPOOLELIBRARY.CO.UK)

Tel: 01278 732741

## Mac 732382

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## **Notes from the Quantock Medical Centre**

WOW – we came 1st in the Somerset Patient Survey 2023 and 10th in the country so we would like to thank all our patients that completed and returned those questionnaires they received.

Of course there are no real prizes for this kind of thing – but it was very heartening for the Practice team to receive this feedback and know that we are doing the right things, and that we are appreciated.

99% Patients said their overall experience of the surgery is good

97% said their GP treated them with care and concern

95% said their GP listened to them

96 % were satisfied with their appointment days and times offered

97% felt they had a good experience the last time they made an appointment

97% think the receptionist are helpful

Thank you for your kind comments we really do appreciate them.

I would also like to remind patients to support their Practice by booking their Flu immunization with their GP Practice rather than anywhere else.

Each year Practices have to order their Flu Immunizations a whole year in advance. Whilst we hope we can predict numbers, we can never predict what changes the NHS are going to make to the Flu Campaign until the last minute!. This year they have moved the goal posts by not allowing healthy 50 – 65 year olds to book in for an NHS Flu jab (as was allowed in previous years), and also insisting that Flu and Covid should be administered at the same time, whilst not allowing individual rural practices to participate in

this scheme unless they join a Hub and administer both vaccines together (from for example Bridgwater). So whilst this has all been a bit frustrating and confusing for us let alone the patients please do come and support your local practice and book in for a Flu immunization at your Surgery.

Helen Stacey, Practice Manager



## **Quantock Medical Centre** **Flu Clinics 2023**

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL GP PRACTICE and**  
**Book in for your FLU Immunisation on:**

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October,  
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October, Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October**

**BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT NOW with**  
**Reception **01278 732696****

### **WHO CAN HAVE THE SEASONAL FLU VACCINATION**

Eligible groups for the 2023 to 2024 season:

- aged 2 and 3 years on 31 August 2023
- eligible school aged children (Reception to Year 11 to be done in schools))
- those aged 6 months to under 65 years in clinical risk groups (Diseases of the Heart, Lung, Kidney, Liver, Blood, Asthma, COPD, Diabetes, Kidney, Weakened immune system, Stroke, with a BMI of 40 or higher.
- pregnant women
- all those aged 65 years and over
- carers, those in receipt of carer's allowance or main carer of an older or disabled person
- household contacts of immunocompromised individuals
- frontline health and social care staff

## **Over Stowey Parish Council**



It has been a relatively quiet summer for the Parish Council, unfortunately the highways issues within the parish are still ongoing and are likely to be for the foreseeable future. Any actions undertaken will be communicated in the usual ways. Any problems on the roads can be reported online at the Somerset Council web page Report A Problem on the Road or at Fix My Street

As we are now into September and the bird nesting season has ended, the Parish Council would like to request that all landowners in the parish that have a boundary that abuts the highway, cut back hedging and trees as soon as possible to ensure the roads are safe for all road users. If you have any queries, please contact the Clerk.

Other items considered at the July 2023 meeting included a request for a handrail at the cemetery to help people with the steps from the porch. This was agreed unanimously and quotes are being requested for the work. It was also agreed that a commemorative plaque for the Coronation of King Charles III should be commissioned for Bincombe Green, the Clerk will action this.

The September meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th September 2023. Please check the website and notice board for details.

If you have any concerns or issues you would like to bring to the attention of the Parish Council, please contact the Clerk in the usual ways:

Website: <https://www.overstoweparishcouncil.co.uk/>

Email: [clerk@overstoweparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@overstoweparishcouncil.gov.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.



## **Nick's Gardening Notes**

**September 2023**

Looking back on previous September articles I have often commented upon the garden in the summer months and the word 'challenging' regularly occurs! This year a dry June followed by a wet July with some strong winds and an August of rather mixed weather can certainly be described as a challenge for gardeners to contend with. With warm soil and moisture the garden and allotment has grown well but so have the weeds! Many have made very fast growth and run up to flower and setting seed. One seasons seed, seven years weeds may be true and keeping on top of weeds is so important as they compete for nutrients, water and light resulting in poorer quality and quantity of flowers, fruit and vegetables.

Vegetables: Spring cabbage should be planted out and sowings of a winter variety of lettuce such as Winter Density can be sown and covered with a cloche. Autumn onion sets can be planted towards the end of the month such as Radar and Swift. Green outdoor tomatoes can be encouraged to ripen by untying from the cane, stripping off most of the foliage and laying down on straw or polythene and placing a cloche over them. Continue to protect cabbages, kales and sprouts from cabbage white caterpillars with fine mesh netting held above the plants. The finer the netting the better as it will help keep



off white fly from the underside of the leaves. Look out for blight on tomato and potato foliage which should be removed and burnt.

**Ornamentals:** This month is when the flower border often starts to appear jaded. How can we extend the colour well into the autumn until the first frosts? There are some excellent old faithfuls such as Michaelmas daisies, goldenrod and sedums however there are many others which can not only contribute colour but also texture and form into the border. Consider *Liriope muscari* (Lilyturf), *Actaea matsumurae* previously known as *cimicifuga* (Bugbane), *Liatris spionosa* (Gayfeather) and some of the late flowering red hot pokers which are not always red and can be very graceful within the border. It is the month when many of the grasses come into their own such as *Miscanthus sinensis*, *Stipa tenuissima* and *Pennisetum villosum*. Against the wall *Clematis tangutica* and *Clematis* 'Bill MacKenzie' will give a glorious display of yellow lantern like flowers followed by big fluffy seed heads. Towards the end of the month plant bulbs such as daffodils, *Scilla*, crocus and hyacinths in borders and containers ready for spring colour.

**Fruit:** Apples will start to be picked this month and should be handled with care to minimise bruising of any sort. Ensure that the stalk comes away cleanly from the tree and does not include the small piece of growth it is attached to which will have next years fruit bud attached to it! Fruit that is to be stored should be handled gently and individual fruits wrapped in paper to avoid them touching each other. They can then be stored in cool conditions in the dark. Alternatively storing small quantities in polythene bags with a few holes made in them can be successful. Strawberries can be cleaned up cutting back the old foliage and unwanted runners and removing old straw which can harbour pests and diseases. The old canes of summer raspberries, tay berries and loganberries can be cut out.

**Propagation:** cuttings of tender perennials should be taken in case plants do not survive the increasingly wet winters. Subjects such as

Penstemons, Salvias, Pelargonium, Osteospermums and Fuchsias can all be readily propagated. To aid rooting avoid flowering shoots or if difficult to find pinch the flower bud out.

Other jobs: Evergreen shrubs can be lifted and moved whilst the soil is warm and it is an ideal month for establishing grass from seed.



### **Conveyancing Conundrums**

Welcome to our new monthly column where I will answer reader questions on all manner of conveyancing matters! Some of you may remember that I edited the Quantock Messenger for a few years, before leaving to join Amicus Law in Residential Conveyancing ... clearly the pull of the Messenger was too strong for me to stay away from it for too long.

**What is conveyancing?** Conveyancing is the legal transfer of property or land from one owner to another.

**What is a conveyancer?** A Conveyancer is someone who can help you through the process of selling, buying or mortgaging a property.

**Who needs a conveyancer?** It is recommended that sellers and purchasers appoint a conveyancer to deal with their matter, they can provide expert legal advice regarding a range of property related services.

If you have a question about a property sale or purchase, please email it through to [ruth.richardson@amicuslaw.co.uk](mailto:ruth.richardson@amicuslaw.co.uk) and one question will be chosen each month to respond to in the magazine. This column is, of course, no substitute for obtaining legal advice and can only give generic advice that may be of use and interest to a number of readers.

Starting us off this month: **What does “registered land” and “unregistered land” mean?**

HM Land Registry was set up in 1862 to record the ownership of land and any interests affecting the land (such as a mortgage). Until then, buyers and sellers had to rely on physical title deeds and mortgage deeds to prove that the person selling a piece of land had the right

to do so and this, of course, could lead to all sorts of complications if deeds were lost or not disclosed.

Registration was initially voluntary, but by 1990 it was made compulsory for any piece of land sold (or mortgaged) in England or Wales to be registered with HMLR. Currently around 88% of the land mass of England and Wales is registered with HMLR, so there are still a significant number of properties that are unregistered. Within our local villages there are a lot of unregistered properties, as many houses have been owned by the same individuals for decades.

If you own a property that is unregistered, it is worth considering getting it registered now as the process can take up to 1 year to complete. If you then decide that you want to sell, it will make the sale process much quicker if it is already registered. Also, for those who will inherit the property, it will make the process much easier for them if they don't need to hunt for title deeds as part of a probate sale. You can check on gov.uk to see if your property is registered or not.

I look forward to reading your property-related questions,

*Ruth Richardson*



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PC Claire Allen, PCSO Jason Wyatt, PCSO Jeremy Pidgeon  
Jake Dade (Hinkley issues only) [@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

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Antisocial behaviour call **0800 298 2009**

Vandalism on the Quantock Hills call **101**

Household noise problems (Environmental Health) call **0845 408 2540**

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### Somerset Councillor:

**Michael Caswell** 01278 652 043

[mike.caswell@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:mike.caswell@somerset.gov.uk)

**Brian Bolt** 07970 855990

[brian.bolt@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:brian.bolt@somerset.gov.uk)

### **Nether Stowey Parish Council / Over Stowey Parish Council**

Clerk: **Caro Slaymaker**

Clerk: **Amanda McMurren**

01278 733 779

01278 734 689

[clerk@netherstowey-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@netherstowey-pc.gov.uk)

[clerk@overstoweyparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@overstoweyparishcouncil.co.uk)

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### **Bookings secretaries**

N/Stowey Church Centre

**Pat Stacey** 01278 732 518 (9am—9pm)

O/Stowey Village Hall

**Jackie Barrow** 07891720565

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

Reception 01278 732 696 8am - 6:30pm (Mon-Fri)

Dispensary 01278 733 385 10am - 12pm & 4 - 5pm (Mon-Fri)

Dispensary Collection 10am - 12pm & 4 - 6pm (Mon-Fri)

[quantock.mc@nhs.net](mailto: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

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### **Other Community Facilities**

**Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline** 03454 040 506

**Thomas Poole Library** 732 741 (Mon & Wed 10-1, Thurs 4-7, Fri 10-1 & 2-5 / Sat 10am-1)

**Quantock Hills AONB**, Amanda Sampson - 01823 451 884,  
[quantockhills@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:quantockhills@somerset.gov.uk)

**Community Car Scheme** Stowey Shuttle - 07943 923 742

**Village Agent:** Sarah Bennet, 07985 680269,  
Email: [sarahb@somersetcc.org.uk](mailto:sarahb@somersetcc.org.uk)

## **CHURCH SERVICES – SEPTEMBER 2023**

	<b>NETHER STOWEY</b>	<b>OVER STOWEY</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> <b>September</b> 13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	11.00am Peter and Freda's Leaving Service At Nether Stowey Church	
<b>10<sup>th</sup></b> <b>September</b> 14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	11.00am Morning Worship (Church Centre)	9.30am Holy Communion
<b>17<sup>th</sup></b> <b>September</b> 15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	11.00am Morning Worship (Church Centre)	9.30am Family/Morning Worship
<b>24<sup>th</sup></b> <b>September</b> 16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	11.00am Holy Communion (Church)	9.30am Holy Communion

### **September – Time to say thank you**

Autumn days, when the grass is jewelled  
 And the silk inside a chestnut shell  
 Jet planes meeting in the air to be refuelled  
 All these things I love so well  
 So I mustn't forget  
 No, I mustn't forget  
 To say a great big thank you  
 I mustn't forget.

Author: Estelle White 1925 - 2011 ©McCrimmon Publishing Ltd

I'm sorry to all those who now have that well-known assembly bang-  
 er, as Jason Mansford would say, sitting as an ear worm in their head.  
 Well, I am and I'm not because it seems somewhat appropriate for  
 this time of year and not just because of the mention of autumn  
 which will soon be upon us.

Living in a rural area we know that this time of year is a busy one for farmers as they go about their daily duties of supply of the raw ingredients to sustain us. Many of the crops being grown have been or are now ready for harvesting – the culmination of seasons of preparing soil, planting, tending and care. And so, Autumn becomes a good time to pause and say thank you.

In our churches we celebrate and give thanks for the harvest with Services and Harvest meals. Details of these can be found in your magazine, on posters in your villages and hopefully on social media.

Do join us as we say thank you for all that is produced for us.

But we do not need to confine our thanksgiving to one service in the autumn. In his letter to the Ephesians St. Paul encourages us all to live our lives in an attitude of thankfulness. It is hard and takes a lot of discipline and requires effort, but is an uplifting mindful behaviour to cultivate.

A clergy colleague of mine has for more than two and a half years been practising a discipline of gratitude by listing three things from each day for which she is thankful. If you are so minded, you can find and follow her on Facebook – Three Little Thankyous. Some days the things are big – like a new job, a trip to the theatre or a gift from a friend. Some days they are small like a well-cooked meal or the song of a bird.

I haven't been going as long as my colleague, but I have begun to try and find my own three thankyous each day and have found that I notice things so much more. It may not be jet planes or chestnuts shells, but I am thankful for sunny days, the antics of our puppy and fruit appearing on blackberry bushes.

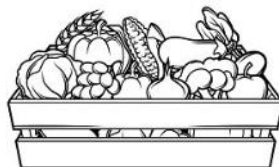
I wonder what things you are thankful for?

Rev'd Nicki Bradford

## **Nether Stowey Harvest Lunch**

**Sunday 8th October**

**12.30pm at Church Centre**





## CHURCH CONTACT POINTS

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

<b>Rector</b>	<u>Rev. Eleanor King</u> The Rectory, 25 St Mary St, Nether Stowey TA5 1LJ eleanor.king@hotmail.com	Tel: 734 777
<b>Associate Priest</b>	<u>Rev. Kate Sax</u> The Vicarage, Church Road, Spaxton TA5 1DA kate.kinkiizi@gmail.com Working days: Sun, Tues, Wed	Tel. 671 168
<b>Curate</b>	<u>Rev. Nicki Bradford</u> nicki.bradford@hotmail.com	Tel. 733 360
<b>Readers</b>	<u>Mrs Viv Chesterton, B.A.</u> 3 Bishop Road, Nether Stowey TA5 1NP <u>Mrs Maggie Harrison</u> 32 Old Farm Road, Nether Stowey, TA5 1PE <u>Mrs Alison Hoare</u> 2 Park Cottages, Over Stowey <u>Mrs Jeanette Bole</u> Putsham Mead, Kilve TA5 1DZ	Tel: 733 568 Tel: 732 532 Tel: 732 350 Tel: 741 297
<b>Church Wardens - Nether Stowey</b>	<u>Mr. Alan Simson</u> Weacombe Gate, West Quantoxhead, TA4 4EB <u>Mrs. Gerry Wright</u> 1 Mount Road, Nether Stowey, TA5 1LU	Tel: (01984) 632 773 Tel: 734 584
<b>Church Warden - Over Stowey</b>	<u>Mr. Peter Higginson</u> Bincombe Tops, Over Stowey	Tel: 732 102
<b>Church Centre Contact:</b>	Mrs. Barbara Beer	Tel: 732 412
<b>Church Centre Bookings:</b>	Mrs. Pat Stacey	Tel: 732 518
<b>Benefice Office:</b>	<u>Mrs Alison Hoare</u> Church Centre, 27 St. Mary Street, Nether Stowey TA5 1LJ Office hours Monday—Friday 9am - 11am Otherwise phone & leave a message or email Email: qv.benefice@gmail.com	Tel: 732 855



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We enjoy all sorts of activities including music, bingo, singing, puzzles, games, art and craft, in a friendly environment.

We also offer a friendly and confidential chat if you need it.

*Please note that our guests with memory issues must be accompanied by a family member, friend or carer.*

*We all enjoyed our trip to Blackdown Garden Centre at Wellington this summer and Somerset Passenger Solutions provided us with a coach as always. Nick and Jim looked after us all very well.*

All are welcome to come along for coffee and a chat. Helen and Rose look forward to seeing you soon.

Upcoming Café Dates:

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Spetember

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November



**For more information please contact:**

Helen: 01278 733451 [cuttellhelen@gmail.com](mailto:cuttellhelen@gmail.com)

Rose: 07507 374234 [rosechalk@icloud.com](mailto:rosechalk@icloud.com)

*We are on Facebook and Instagram*

## **Alan Graham 1939 – 2023**

It is with great sadness that we write to inform you of the death of Alan Graham, who passed away peacefully in Torbay Hospital on Monday 7th August, at the age of 83 years. Alan moved to Nether Stowey in 2004 and lived in the Stables ground floor front flat in St. Mary's Street. He loved his garden and grew delicious fruit and vegetables. Last year he moved to Dartmouth to be near his daughter. Apart from his daughter, Alan leaves behind a son who lives in Denmark and two grandsons. He loved being in the company of his family.

When he first came to the village he volunteered to help with the village hall saying he'd like to be involved but didn't want to be on the committee, as the secretary Wendy Hobbs recalls: 'Any problem Alan was on hand. In January 2013, when we had stranded motorists because of snow, the police phoned me to ask if I had a key and if so they'd come to me and collect it. I phoned Alan and he didn't hesitate to go up to the hall in the middle of the night to see what was happening and if he could be of help.'

Robin Brierley, secretary of The Flower Show, commented: 'He was such a helpful man- really a can do sort of person! He was incredibly helpful at the annual flower show. Setting up the stage, tables etc. Always cheerful, and happy to just get on with the task at hand. Even after his stroke, he volunteered as a shuttle driver, only giving it up when he felt he couldn't carry on.'

Alan was also a keen golfer and a member of Enmore Park Golf Club until his death.

He will be remembered by those who knew him as an absolute gentleman, really friendly, very helpful to all as well as having a great sense of humour and extremely well liked.

We extend our sympathies and condolences to his family and friends.

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## **Over Stowey Village Hall**

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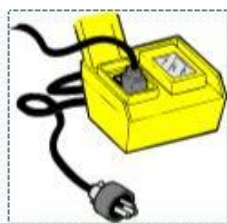
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