



View from The Chair

NEW CFPC website! After much work – mostly by Parish Clerk, Jo – our new website is now live at the streamlined address of: www.cfpc.co.uk While we've carried the old layout over to avoid confusion, the more user-friendly nature of the new site gives us more scope for enhancement and additional features in the future. Please note the following new e-mail addresses for Parish Councillors and Clerk:

lee.baker@cfpc.co.uk

mike.batsch@cfpc.co.uk

rob.isaacs@cfpc.co.uk

denise.webber@cfpc.co.uk

alan.west@cfpc.co.uk

jason.woollacott@cfpc.co.uk

clerk@cfpc.co.uk

The switch was been made a few days before this newsletter went to print and the old website will not be shut down to give a short overlap period until we are sure that the new one is fully bedded down.

New Map of Play Areas and Open Spaces The idea came from last year's Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Questionnaire, when a number of residents asked for an overview of these areas and where they fit in to the network of foot/cycle-paths in our area. A fold-up A1 map has duly been produced and will soon be posted to every household in Cheddon Fitzpaine and West Monkton Parishes.

NP Review There is a statutory requirement for regular, formal reviews of NPs and we have a NP Working Party that keeps current policies under constant scrutiny in the light of changing circumstances. A formal review is now in progress and our revised policies can be seen online at www.cfpc.co.uk, where the changes are shown separately as well as incorporated into a re-draft of the whole NP document (please contact your Parish Clerk if you have any comments). As part of the public consultation process, a letter giving full details will be included with the NP Map mail-shot mentioned above. We do not yet know whether a referendum will be needed to implement the review. If required, such a referendum will be held during the local government election window next May so that the parish will not incur any additional cost.

Mental Health and emotional well-being are becoming bigger issues for all of us as the covid-19 regime takes its toll. If you feel you are going through the wringer at present, you are certainly not alone! Both Somerset West & Taunton and Somerset County Councils are continuing to publish details of those who can help us – together with other useful covid-related information – on their respective websites at:

<https://www.somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-and-information/>

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/coronavirus/covid-19-latest-advice/>

We urge all those who are able to take regular physical exercise not to under-estimate the overall wellness benefit of, say, a walk around the perimeter of the Maidenbrook Country Park land (see below).



40 Commando unveil their Dedication Stone in our Somerset Wood this November 2nd. L-R: RSM Lee Drinkwater; WMP Cllr Alan Hall; SCC Cllr Rod Williams; Lt Col Simon Rogers; SWT and WMP Cllr Norman Cavill; CFPC Clerk, Jo Pearson.

***With Best Wishes for a
Happy & Joyous Festive Season
and a Prosperous New Year!***

Denise Webber, Chairman, Cheddon Fitzpaine PC
Tel: 01823 451720; Mobile: 07788 522266

***Contributions for the February 2021
newsletter to the Parish Clerk by
16th January please!***

Church Window

Cheddon Fitzpaine Parish Newsletter – December 2020

Cheddon Fitzpaine Church is part of the South Quantock Benefice together with West Monkton, Kingston St. Mary & Broomfield. The Benefice Office is open every week-day (except Thursdays) from 9:00am to 2:00pm. For enquiries about marriages and baptisms, please contact our Administrator, Michele Hardiman, tel. 01823 451257.

Please Note New Email Address:

office@southquantockbenefice.org.uk



Rev Tracey's ordination in Wells Cathedral on 29th September 2020. L-R: Rev Mary, Bishop Ruth, Rev Tracey, Rev Jim.

CHURCH CONTACTS:

RECTOR: Rev. Mary Styles

Tel. 01823 451189; e-mail revmarye@gmail.com

Rev Jim Cox

Tel. 097967 817337; e-mail: jimcox11@gmail.com

Rev Tracey Hallett, Church in Community Pioneer

Tel. 07854 489753; e-mail: tracey.hallett@icloud.com

Covid-19 regulations are constantly changing so please contact us or visit the benefice website for up-to-date information on Church Services.

Cheddon Fitzpaine Parish Church '100 Club'

The '100 Club' raises funds to help maintain the Parish Church. The number of tickets sold has risen so it is now possible to offer better prizes as follows:

Winners of the latest draws are:

October: £60 Hilary Shaw £15 Gerry Guerrier

November: £60 Mary Gunning £15 Hilary Shaw

If you would like to join the 100 Club, please contact Pauline Stone (details below).

Cheddon Fitzpaine Churchyard Working Party

The members of this working party are mostly not regular churchgoers but those who have a love for the Church Building and in particular for keeping the churchyard looking nice, welcoming and maintained. This working party is open to everyone and you do not have to attend every time but at your convenience. All are very welcome.

We have been meeting monthly during the period from April to October for nearly ten years, apart from this year, when due to Lockdown we have only met July to October. Members have varied over this time but the common theme is always that everyone is happy and friendly and so enjoying our shared tasks that keep the churchyard loved and maintained. The highlight is always our break together for tea/coffee and cakes.



We bring our own tools and between us we usually have all the tools for whatever job we tackle. No job is too big or small, we somehow seem to manage most things.

There are always many visitors to the churchyard to either tend graves or to just sit and enjoy the peaceful setting. This year has seen a huge increase in footfall as there is a footpath running through the churchyard and so many more people out walking and running during Covid restrictions and Lockdown.

The photo above shows a working party from this year's October meeting with a socially distanced tea break. They seem to capture the spirit of churchyard working parties perfectly.

If you would like to join us next year, please phone or email me.

Pauline Stone, PCC Member

Tel. 01823 277637; Mob. 07984 055574

E-mail pauline.stone@live.co.uk

Somerset Wood update

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Acts of Remembrance were once again observed across the nation on Sunday the 8th of November – albeit on a much more intimate scale. Somerset Wood volunteers were moved to find an unexpected addition to the WW1 dedication site within the Maidenbrook Country Park. We are indebted to the local family, who so kindly and thoughtfully placed the silhouette there (see below), and we very much hope to make this outline of a soldier from the Great War into a permanent fixture.



As it happens, we already have a name for the soldier keeping solemn watch over the Somerset Wood dedication stone: William Palliser Bruford, late of this parish. It was decided at an early stage in the project that it would be fitting to find a face that would bring our Somerset Wood to life, so to speak, by giving it specific local relevance. A spot of research uncovered the fact that (thankfully) William's was the only life lost to the tiny rural parish of Cheddon Fitzpaine during the Great War. Furthermore, we discovered that he actually grew up on Nerrols Farm and must therefore have walked the very ground upon which the commemorative wood is now taking shape.

So, we are now initiating a search to put a face to the name. We are sure that William's descendants would be pleased and proud to learn about what's being done in their ancestor's name and we shall do everything we can to trace and contact them. We are also planning to launch a local media appeal for information in the near future.

As for the progress of the wood itself, a further 1500 stakes are already in the ground awaiting their saplings, which are also ready to be brought in. The plan is to resume planting this December as soon as the current lockdown restrictions have been eased.

Information will be placed on local Facebook pages and sent to all those on the volunteer list.

Canal & River Trust

Canal-side residents and regular visitors cannot have failed to notice the impressive dredging project under way on the Bathpool section. For those of you, who have asked – or simply wondered – about the sudden appearance of a 'brown lagoon' inside an earthen-dyke-style enclosure in the field adjacent to Maidenbrook, here is the official explanation:

"The dredgings are currently being placed in the lagoon as a temporary measure because, following the recent heavy rain, the ground conditions made it impractical to continue spreading the silt at this time. The sediments will be spread to the field and the area where the lagoon is will also be restored to the original level, once the conditions are suitable, though that may not be until early spring. We anticipate that we will be placing sediments in the lagoon for a further week (i.e. finishing by 20th November). Then the plant will be removed from site and the fencing along the field boundary will be repaired."

Cheddon Fitzpaine Memorial Hall

As I reported last time, we have been striving to stay one step ahead of the ever-changing covid-19 restrictions while keeping operating costs below our drastically reduced income. Just as Trustees were considering closing the hall completely for the next few months, the current lock-down effectively made the decision for us! At the moment, the hall can be opened for educational use only and we will review the situation in the light of circumstances when the current lock-down ends on December 2nd.

In addition to implementing the extra-ordinary measures arising from the pandemic, we shall be working towards compliance with a new set of 'safe working' regulations that have appeared over the horizon. We don't have full details as yet, but it appears that village-hall management and employees will be required to adopt some of the safeguarding measures already in place for individuals and organisations responsible for the direct care of children and other vulnerable members of society.

Malcolm Lown, Chairman, Cheddon Fitzpaine Memorial Hall Trustees Tel. 01823 412750
Email: info@cheddonfitzpainevillagehall.co.uk

Bill Rigby, Booking Secretary

Tel. 01823 413925 (*messages answered within 24 hours*)
Mobile: 07586 413290;
e-mail: memorialhall@hotmail.co.uk

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Area updates



There's not much to report in this issue – which is good, as we're tight for space. However, we will draw your attention to the shiny new bin now installed adjacent to the A3259 by the entrance to the country-park land. Would dog-walkers please note that, like other general litter bins, this can also be used for dog-poo bags. The problem of dog fouling around the parish is a disgrace and we certainly don't want it blighting our country park. In desperation, we have decided to introduce a touch of humour, and you will soon see a series of posters appearing around the parish. Here's an example:



We fully appreciate that the responsible majority of dog owners correctly bag and dispose of their canine waste, and we do hope they will indulge us as we rant against the rest. As always, it's the careless minority who are spoiling things for everybody else.

CHEDDON & WEST MONKTON FILM CLUB

Our thanks go to all who responded positively to the recent mailing about resuming Film Club screenings under strict rules to keep covid-19 at bay. At the same time, we fully appreciate those who feel that it

still is not the right time to take risks especially if one has been rated as 'vulnerable'. As things currently stand, the second lockdown has made the decision for us and our bookings for November have been cancelled. Neither Moviola nor Cheddon Memorial Hall have applied cancellation charges, for which we are grateful. The booking for December 18th still stands at present and we will review the situation on December 2nd, when the lockdown is due to finish, but don't hold your breath! We have been looking at possible alternatives such as an on-line screening but, so far, we have not been able to surmount the hurdles of Screening Licences and Performing Rights. We have not given up yet but whatever we do must be by legal agreement. Do we have any legal eagles among us who can advise?

Chris Dalton Tel. 01823 412278

cwmfilmclub@cheddonmovies.com

Parish Council Meetings – 2020

Held on Mondays at 7pm, these virtual meetings are open to everyone. Members of the public wishing to take part by dialling-in should contact our Parish Clerk well in advance so that the necessary arrangements can be made. Follow the link:

<https://mrs-ofb.my.webex.com/meet/cheddon>

2020: 14th December

2021: 11th January, 8th February, 8th March, 12th April, 10th May, 14th June, 11th July, 9th August, 12th September, 11th October, 9th November, 13th December.

CHEDDON FITZPAINE PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cheddon, Rowford & Upper Cheddon

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