

JULY/AUGUST 2011



**SEMINGTON
VILLAGE**

SUMMER FETE

**SATURDAY 9TH JULY
2PM**

**ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL
FIELD**

Vicar
Rev. Stephen Ball
22 Warren Road
Staverton
Trowbridge BA14 8JZ
Tel. 01225 774903

Churchwardens:
David Wildsmith
Bob Norton
Tel. 01380 871424

sb54rev@googlemail.com



The Canalside Benefice

St. Michael and All Angels, Hilperton with St. Mary the Virgin, Whaddon;
St. George's, Semington;
St. Paul's, Staverton with St. Mary Magdalen, Hilperton Marsh;
near the Kennet and Avon Canal, within the Diocese of Salisbury

Dear Friends

The following is a continuation of my personal reflections on life. I thought you might like to listen in because it tells what I think and believe.

I have just watched an episode of the BBC's documentary 'Inside the Human Body', which begins with a birth and ends with a real death. It was very moving. The sections in between were amazing and fascinating but purely the mechanical aspects of how the body functions. What captured me, though, were the emotions that surrounded both the birth and the death. These were anything but mechanical and are, I believe, what makes us truly human.

As many might expect I believe that we are God's creation; initially as well as God's continuing creation now. For some that would be a leap of faith that they might feel unable to make. For me, however, it is the very opposite. The leap of faith that I simply cannot make is in the notion that we evolved from nothing without the creative intervention of something or someone. I cannot believe that; it stretches my faith too far. Science has given me its explanations as to the mechanical 'how' of the physical construct of the universe but it emphatically has not given me a reason why we are emotional, rational, compassionate, creative, loving, spiritual beings, for that we are.

There are scientists who would have us believe - and that is their prerogative - that our knowledge of what happened in the first six picoseconds of the universe means that we do not need God to explain what happened. This is a deeply flawed argument because it uses a scientific theory to draw a faith conclusion. Richard Dawkins and others claim that love and faith as well as other emotions are just manifestations of 'brain stuff'. But are these not the very qualities that make us human? Why is it that so many crave a 'spiritual dimension' even if they are not adherents to a particular faith?

There are other scientists, such as John Polkinghorne, who see the discoveries of science as a natural springboard to faith and as a means of making sense of what science cannot explain and as a way of understanding God. For them, and they are not fools, only the 'God' explanation makes sense. My experience of my own journey and my experience of humanity as a whole leads me inexorably to the conclusion that once I have accepted all the rational scientific discoveries and, indeed, celebrated them; I am still left with an aching question. How did it begin and where did the laws come from? Given who we are as human beings, quite apart from our physical bodies, God is the only explanation that is plausible for me. It takes a good deal less faith to believe that than it does to believe in nothing.

In the Bible (Romans 1: 19-20) we are told that God is in plain sight in his invisible qualities manifested in humanity and creation. True, we have managed to distort that somewhat but in the goodness of humanity, in the creativity, love and compassion that exists we see the shadow of God in creation and a hope for the mending of brokenness in the world. That, I believe, is certainly God's goal for us; but we have to cooperate.

Every blessing

Stephen (Vicar) 01225 774903 sb54rev@gmail.com

St. George's Church

The church is usually open and available for quiet thought and prayer. You are always welcome to come and sit for a few minutes inside or enjoy the peace on the seats on the south side of the building. If lonely or



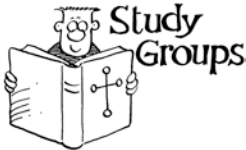
in need of a friendly chat, the folk from the village offer a listening ear. Phone Bev on 870784 or pop into the regular Thursday coffee mornings in the Village Hall.

Church Bookings - to be made through JPCC Secretary, Maureen Norton at 10 Pound Lane or telephone 871424. If you require the heating to be put. please ask at time of booking.

Toddler Praise - 27th July, 2pm in the Church, 20 minutes of songs, prayers & a story, with drinks, biscuits & chat afterwards! All ages welcome. More information, Bev Woodward, 870784

Kids' Klub - July 6th - normal Klub. On 20th we have Margaret Lilley coming from Bristol - she works with Scripture Union, and is coming for our special end of year celebration, which will be followed by games and BBQ. Come and join us if you're in years 3-6, 6-7pm at the school, - and with your family for 20th! We've raised about £20 so far for Nat Jansen to take to Tanzania with 'Light in Africa' and are looking forward to him coming to tell us more about it! More information - Bev Woodward, 870784 or Maureen Norton, 871424.

31 Club - are having a break for the summer...



St George's Church Bible Study Group

The Semington Bible Study Group will not be meeting during July and August. Meetings will resume on 14th September. Have a great summer!

For more information join us in church at a Sunday Service or 'phone Julia 870137

Christians In Semington

This group meets on the first Wednesday of the month.

All are welcome, as we pray for the needs of people in our village and community. For further information ring Julia Wade, tel. 870137 or Bev or Jack Woodward on 870784



Cleeve Cats
Boarding Cattery
...Seend Cleeve

01380 828025

We only board cats



www.cleevecats.co.uk

HALL
FOR HIRE

Semington Village

Capacity 100

Phone

Pete 01380 870665

or

Gerald 01380

870530



Simply Gardens

'Creating great gardens for you'

Regardless of project size,
we can provide quality affordable
solutions, style, and professional
design to meet your individual
requirements

**Garden Design, Landscaping,
Management, Restoration &
Preservation**

Tel: 01380 870022

**Church Farm, Church Street
Semington, Wiltshire BA14 6JS**

HANDYMAN SERVICES

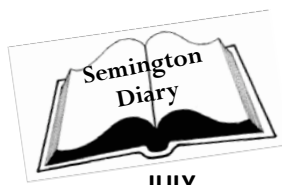
Kitchen and bathroom
refurbishment, carpentry, bespoke
items, painting and decorating
General Building Maintenance
"Top to Bottom - Inside and Out"

Austin Turner - 01380 871866
mobile - 07510 547893

**Why not visit my website for
further information**
www.athandyman.co.uk

Please call to discuss your
requirements or to arrange a
meeting.

**"All your handyman needs
covered"**



July/August 2011

JULY

5	Just Jhoom	6 - 7 pm	Village Hall
6	Kids Club	6 - 7 pm	St. George's School
8	Library Van	9.50 am	Village Hall
12	Just Jhoom	6 - 7 pm	Village Hall
13	Semington Parish Council Meeting	8 pm	Village Hall
14	WI Meeting	7.30 pm	Village Hall
17	Special Evening Service & BBQ	5.00 pm	26 Church Street
	Quiz Night	7.30 pm	Village Hall
19	Just Jhoom	6 - 7 pm	Village Hall
20	Kids Club	6 - 7 pm	St. George's School
22	Library Van	9.50 am	Village Hall
23	Flanders & Swan Concert	8 pm	Village Hall
26	Just Jhoom	6 - 7 pm	Village Hall
27	Toddler Praise	2 pm	St. George's Church
30	Food Night	8 pm	Village Hall

AUGUST

Christians in Semington will meet 3rd August, 10 Pound Lane, 7.45 pm. Library Van 5th and 19th August. 9.50 am, Village Hall All regular clubs and village hall classes will continue to meet as usual but all other activities will resume in September.

POST OFFICE IN THE VILLAGE HALL
 Monday and Thursday
 9.30 - 12.30

EVERY WEEK IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Monday	Bingo	7.30 pm
Tuesday	Bridge Club	9.30-1
Thursday	Coffee Morning	10-12 Noon
Friday	Bridge Club	10 am - 1 pm

See Page 21 for Summer Skittles Matches

MAGAZINE DEADLINES

Details of village events and any subsequent changes by the 13th of the preceding month to Carole Kemp-Potter, The Old Manor House, High Street. Tel. 871728; or email kemp Potter@btinternet.com. Information will also go to Village website. Next **deadline is 15th August for September** issue.

Every Thursday



10 til 12

Village Hall

Come and join us for a chat

Ashton Mill Services Ltd

Tel: 01380 871118 Mobiles: 07769653830 or 07730536115

The Property Clearance Professionals

- Local to you
- Licenced and insured
- Discretion guaranteed
- Established family firm
- 35 years experience in probate and estates
- Individual item valuations
- Initial advice and assessment free and without obligation
- Full or part clearances
- Helping families make the right choices since 2002
- Traditional values with a modern service

Web: www.ashtonmill.co.uk Email: info@ashtonmill.co.uk



Donna
WILLIAMS

ADI 318571

Registered Approved Driving Instructor

STRUCTURED TRAINING

PATIENT FRIENDLY INSTRUCTOR

COMPETITIVE RATES

ASK ABOUT DISCOUNTS

Tel: 01380 870767
Mob: 07855 708045

WILLIAMS
HOME TECH

Computer ground to a halt? We can help. Anything to do with home computers, laptops or entertainment equipment?... **user friendly help not hype**.... keeping it simple... understand what it all means.

Broadband explained... why you can't get the advertised speeds... **optimise your broadband**.

Wireless networking... internet security... **download digital images**, how to use software and much more.

01380 870767 or 07799 337807
e-mail: help@williamshometech.com
www.williamshometech.com

CATHOLIC NEWS

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST TROWBRIDGE & ST BERNADETTE'S WESTBURY

including VILLAGES *St John's Sunday Masses* :

St John's Sunday Masses :

Saturday (Vigil) 6pm; Sunday 10.30am & 6pm

Weekday Masses:

Mon: 9am; Tues: 6pm; Wed: 8.30am; Fri 6pm
Sat: 10am; 6pm (Vigil)

Rosary: Weekdays before Mass. SVP Fri

6.45pm **Confessions:** Sat: 10.30-11.15am and 5-5.45pm

PARISH VISITING

The plan is to visit every home in the parish has begun. The visitors go out in pairs and the work will be very gentle, a matter of saying 'hello' and offering a newsletter. Volunteers are urgently needed. Contact Canon Liam 01225 752152.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Bishop Declan will lead the Pilgrimage which begins on Friday 19th August to Friday 26th

SHARING OUR FAITH

This group meets on Wednesdays at 8pm in the Parish Centre for those interested to learn more about the Catholic Church & Faith. Everybody welcome, contact Canon Liam for more details 01225 752152.

SICK AND/OR HOUSEBOUND

Any catholic who is sick, housebound or in hospital should let Canon Liam (01225 752152) know as he would be pleased to arrange a visit and bring Holy Communion, if desired.

St Bernadette's Sunday Mass - 9am

Weekday Mass -Thursday 11 am

Confessions/Reconciliation before Mass and any time on request

MASS TIMES at NEARBY CATHOLIC CHURCHES

St Joseph's, West Lavington (01380 723572)

Mass on Sunday at 9.00am

Immaculate Conception, Devizes (01380

723572) Mass on Saturday 6.00pm and Sunday 10.30am and 5.00pm

St Anthony Melksham (01225 702128) Mass

on Saturday 5.30pm and Sunday 9.30am

LIVING YOUR FAITH

Young persons Summer Camps will be held at Our Lady's Homestead, Nympsfield, Glos., for children 7-11 years of age from 8th to 12th August and for 12-16 yr olds from 15th to 19th August. 07841 915433 or email allinsonsiobhan@hotmail.com

THE NEW 300 CLUB 2011

Subscriptions: £50annually - £13quarterly - £4.33 monthly. New members are most welcome to join at any time. Prizes are: £200-£70-£50-£10 -£5 monthly. For information and application form contact Frank Geraghty 01380 871083 email: f.geraghty303@btinternet.com



The Filling Station, or TFS, offers a relaxed and informal place where many can be refreshed by the Spirit of God, receive helpful Biblical teaching and worship to live music. There is a different guest speaker at each meeting, a worship band and prayer ministry.

The cafe style meetings are held in Box Methodist Church on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month, 7:30pm - 9:30pm. The informal evenings are open to everyone, including those new in their

faith. You can stay for as long or as little of the meeting time as you wish. Fresh coffee and muffins are available to everyone throughout the evening.

12th July

David Parr

Meetings will resume in September after the summer break.



Chris Walker

*Plumbing services &
Home Improvements*

For a Friendly; reliable & local
service

Bathroom & Kitchen Installations •
Showers • Toilet repairs • Tiling •
Radiators • Burst Pipes • Leaking Taps
& Ball Valves • Cold water tanks
replacement • Fascias & Guttering.

For a free quotation please call Chris
on: 07837 589919 or 01380 870537.

Based in Semington, Near Trowbridge



- Rewiring
- Security Lighting
- Storage Heating
- Water Features
- 24 hour call out
- Free quotes

Highly experienced domestic & industrial

ELECTRICIAN

contact Mark Dodds

07971 340653

email: gain.control@tinyworld.co.uk

Call NOW!



KAVANAGHS

There has never been a more important time to seek professional advice on property matters. Kavanaghs have a wealth of experience in residential sales and lettings, commercial property, development and planning advice. Our Chartered Surveyors can also help with formal valuations.

Whatever your property needs:

RESIDENTIAL SALES
RESIDENTIAL LETTINGS
COMMERCIAL SALES & MANAGEMENT
LAND

Call Kavanaghs
13 High Street, Melksham, Wilts. SN12 6JY
Tel. 01225 706860, Email info@kavanaghs.co.uk
or find us on rightmove.co.uk

J, D. PRICE BUILDING SERVICES EST. 1987

- Extensions
- Garages
- Renovations
- Patios, Drives, etc.
- General Building

**Phone for expert advice
and a free quotation**

Tel. **01225 344624**
Mobile **07970 737321**

City & Guilds Accredited

Calling All Knitters!

Please knit some little hats for Age UK's Big Knit. They send the hats to the innocent drinks company, who put them on the top of their innocent smoothie bottles in November. For each be-hatted smoothie sold, Age UK receives 25p. Last year Age UK Wiltshire collected in over 21,000 hats and raised over £6000 to help make winter warmer for older people in Wiltshire.

The hats are very simple to knit, using double knit wool and 4mm needles cast on 28 stitches, knit 14 rows then knit 2 together for the next 2 rows and cast off. Sew up the sides to make a hat. Add a bobble if you wish.

You can post or drop off the hats at Age UK Wiltshire's Devizes office at 13 Market Place, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 1HT or at one of the 6 Age UK charity shops in Wiltshire or Swindon.

The final deadline for hats is **7th October 2011**. If you have any questions please ring Emily Cole on 01380 710411 or refer to www.ageukwiltshire.org.uk

Happy Knitting



(This could be one way of keeping your children occupied if we have a wet and cold summer. Editor)



the
somerset
arms

somersetarms@btinternet.com

freehouse

4 great real ales for the discerning beer drinker



High Street, Semington Reservations: 01380 870 067

Can't tune in your new TV?

P.F.Harris & Son

T.V. Video & Audio Services

Repairs, Sales & Tuneins

Call 01225 752197

mobile 079 254 74711

www.tvrepairstrowbridge.co.uk

unit 24 Meadows Works, Court St.,

Trowbridge, BA14 8BR.

Shop Local

let us help you with your TV requirements



Oftec
Reg. No.
C10107

Tom Steel

Oil Boiler Engineer

COMMISSIONING, SERVICE

&

MAINTENANCE

*Any problems, give me a ring on
01380 727603/07746 063 147*

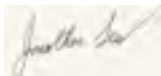
8 Roundway Park, Deizes, Wilts. SN10 2ED

WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR NEWS FROM JONATHON SEED

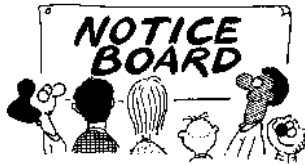
There are times when I struggle to find good news for the community but this is not one of them. As I write this in mid June our community has some very good news to take in the village and in the wider community area.

Four years ago a new Travellers site appeared next to the Crematorium and in 2008 the occupants were granted a temporary planning permission to occupy the site by the former West Wilts District Council. I was not involved in that decision but have received detailed reports of the planning discussions, the involvement of your former District Councillor and the handling of the case by the former West Wilts District Council. Things have changed and we now have a new Council, a new Councillor and a new Planning Committee. In April the Travellers applied for permanent permission to occupy their site as their temporary permission expires on 31 July 2011. The personal circumstances of the Travellers, especially after three years of residence on their own site, do attract sympathy but this is a planning issue and has to be determined on planning grounds. Semington Parish Council objected to the Travellers application and prepared an excellent case to support their position based on strong planning objections. On Wednesday 15th June the case came before the Western Area Planning Committee with a recommendation for approval of the Travellers application by planning officers. Representatives of the Parish Council prepared and argued the case for refusal brilliantly at the Committee. There were no speakers in favour of the application. I did my bit as your Local Member and as a Member of the Planning Committee making a strong case against the permanent occupation of the site. That position was supported overwhelmingly by the Planning Committee which refused the application by the Travellers. We now expect the matter to be the subject of a Planning Appeal.

Another piece of Wiltshire Council good news for Semington is that the new Melksham Community Campus will be built on a single site in the centre of Melksham. As a result of the position taken by the Area Board, which I Chair, to go ahead with a single site campus, and seek sites other than Woolmore Farm, Cooper Tires came forward and have agreed terms with the Council for the transfer of ownership of the Melksham House site. So Melksham will get its new service campus next to Melksham House in the town centre and I also hope to see all of the current Melksham House activities continue in Melksham for the foreseeable future.



Jonathon Seed



Village Fete on 9th July, 2pm at St. George's School

The entrance this year will be the side gate that the children usually use from the path between Pound Lane and Highfield Close. This means we will not be queuing in the road.

The new attractions were in last month's magazine but to remind everyone:-

Beat the goalie (football)

Majorettes

Wessex Contraband

Bouncy castle – for under 11 year olds

Face painting

Model railway.

There are now just a few stalls that need help – this could be your chance for a really fun involvement with this great community event:- Skittles (demonstrate your skills) Ring Bob - 871724 if you can help.



Sunday 17th July - the evening service will be at Val & David Stiles' home, 26 Church Street, at 5pm, followed by a BBQ. We hope for good weather so that we can be outside, but last time the garage was a good venue in the rain! Please let Bev (870784) or Maureen (871424) know if you can come so that they can provide enough food! No charge, but donations to cover costs.



For your diaries - Harvest weekend will be 17th/18th September - more details in the September magazine!



We were due to hold our Community Arts Day on May 21st but unfortunately had to cancel it. It was not an option we considered lightly, but the delay in the building works caused an issue with both public safety and vehicular access. We apologise if we caused anyone any inconvenience. Thank you to all the villagers who have supported the school this year and we look forward to your continued support in the next school year.
Friends of St. George's School



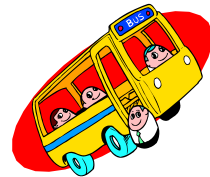
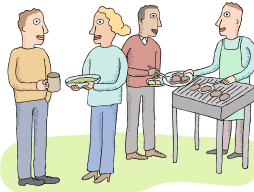
SEMINGTON VILLAGE FETE

Live Music From
Wessex Contraband

Saturday, 9th July
2 pm



St. George's Field
(Use the side entrance, please)



Entrance Fee
£1
Under 18's Go Free

Trowbridge Majorettes



West Wilts
Model Trains



Need to get to the RUH? Live in west Wiltshire?



**Book Connect2 for work,
appointments or visiting.**

To book call **08456 525255** option **2**

For information **01380 860100**

To contact us from the hospital dial **1444**
from any hospital extension.

Connect2 RUH – a door-to-door service.



formed by

Wiltshire Council

Where ever good matters



Vehicle leasing solutions
agencies
and components of transport

**FULL MOT FACILITIES
SERVICING & REPAIRS
TO ALL MAKES OF VEHICLE
ENGINE DIAGNOSTICS
ELECTRICAL REPAIRS**

TELEPHONE: 01380 870999

GEOFF CAN DO IT!

Property Maintenance

Have you a job you need to do
But the time is never right for
you?

Then let me help - give me a call.

Inside or out, I do it all!

Plumbing, Electrical,
Painting & Decorating, Carpentry,
Tiling, Gardening, Fencing

Geoff Eynon

Tel: 01225 752868

Mob: 07879 880532



Not to be missed - Saturday 23rd July, 8pm in the Village Hall - our own Flanders & Swann (otherwise known as Stephen Ball & Jim Banks...)

Lots of songs, fun and laughter, to include 'Mud, Mud, Glorious Mud' and many more well known songs to join in with. Tickets £5 with all proceeds going to the Village Hall. Bev Woodward - 870784 or Pete Vooght - 870665.

Melksham Community Area Network (CAN)

Funding for Arts Projects in Wiltshire

Voluntary and community organisations (not individuals) can apply for up to £1,000 towards arts projects in Wiltshire. In addition to arts organisations, this fund may be appropriate for groups that artists are working with. Arts projects can cover a wide range of creative opportunities, including visual arts, crafts, media and digital forms, literature and performing arts. The deadline for the second round of applications is at midnight on 30 September 2011 for projects taking place between November 2011 and October 2012. More details at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/arts

Women only Lunch – invitation from West Wilts Interfaith Group

The West Wilts Interfaith Group run English lessons every Wednesday from 10.15am. Once a month the invitation is extended to women from our network to share in lunch with other ladies. Sharing of lunch, informal discussion and interaction help build confidence of the students. It is also our opportunity to meet women from diverse faith and cultural backgrounds. Wed 15th 2011 from 12 noon to 1pm Venue: Trowbridge Guide Head Quarters, Park Road, Trowbridge, Wilts. Please bring a vegetarian lunch to share.

London 2012 – Olympic Flame – nominate a torchbearer

A year today, the Olympic Flame will arrive in the UK from Greece and the 70 day Olympic Torch Relay which is presented by Coca-Cola, Lloyds TSB and Samsung will start at Land's End, Cornwall on the morning of 19 May 2012. On leaving Land's End, the Olympic Flame is expected to travel an estimated 8,000 miles around the UK giving thousands of communities and individuals their moment to shine as the Olympic Flame comes to a place near them. The Olympic Flame will arrive at the Olympic Stadium on 27 July 2012 for the lighting of the cauldron at the Opening Ceremony, signifying the start of the London 2012 Olympic Games.

The Olympic Flame will be carried across the UK by 8,000 inspirational Torchbearers and once the detailed route is confirmed later this year, it is estimated that 95% of the population will be within a one hour journey time of the London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay.

You can nominate someone you know to be a torchbearer. For more information please see the link: <http://www.london2012.com/olympic-torch-relay>

Fuelcare

YOUR NEW LOCAL SUPPLIER OF
**HOME HEATING OIL,
COMMERCIAL &
FARM FUELS**



TOP UP SCHEME & BUDGET PAYMENT
AVAILABLE

Melksham Depot.
01225 704455

LAWN HOUSE CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC

Lawn House, 29 High Street
Steeple Ashton, Wiltshire BA14 6BU
Tel.01380 871555

*Treatment of Back & Neck Pain,
Shoulder, Arm, Hand, Hip, Leg & Foot
Pain, Arthritis, Spondylitis, Tennis Elbow,
Slipped Disc, Pins & Needles,
Headache & Migraine, Sports Injuries.
Children Treated*

S.J. PRIOR, B.Sc., D.C.
DOCTOR OF CHIROPRACTIC
Registered Member of the
British Chiropractic Association

T.A.P SERVICES

**CORGI & OFTEC
Registered Agents**

Tel/Fax: 01373 463106
www.tapservices.co.uk

**RANGE COOKER
SERVICING**
Stanley Service Agents

JKL PCs

"No fix - no fee"



Require IT, computer or software
training?

Computer or internet problem?

- Group or individual training
- Training on your premises or mine
- Assessment repair callouts free
- Fixed price repair work
- Annual maintenance contracts

Local man with extensive IT experience

01380 870708 / 07775 677761

Semington, Wiltshire

Email: leon@jkpcos.co.uk www.jkpcos.co.uk



The Somerset Arms

July 2009, The Somerset Arms came back to life. In the first two years so much has happened, so much learnt, and so much more to do!

The first year was definitely about learning how to operate the business and build our reputation for great food, beer and entertainment. A pub in the heart of a village is an important ingredient across the country.

Our dreams were to build a pub and restaurant at the centre of the brilliant village and community of Semington. We have loved watching the pub again become the hub, the location for meetings, clubs, get-togethers, parties, football and cricket events.

The last year has been even busier than year one. We started with our birthday party in the garden which brought together so many from the village. The August beer festival demonstrated again James and Darren's burgeoning confidence and abilities to find, prepare and serve ales from the many local micro breweries. The award we received from CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale, for community pub of the year was a great achievement and acknowledgement of our efforts. We finished 2010 with New Year's Eve, an amazing event with everyone putting in star performances in costumes beginning with 'O'. Give some thought to this year's letter 'M'!

The month of April was wonderful. The weather brought everyone out, starting with Mothers Day, then Easter Weekend we partied at the second Semington Football's Coming Home, followed by The Royal Wedding Day with live music, racing bobsleighs, celebration ales late into the night. Probably our top event has become the May Weekend of 1000 Pints, this year with more live music, more ales and definitely more ciders! Our thanks to you residents who are closest to us for accepting the higher noise level!

Other events and are in plan as well as the re-decorating and refurbishing of the front and rear gardens.

We have worked to make sure the Somerset Arms is a great place for everyone and thank you for your support.

Sally & Simon Tyler



Thanks to the Infamous Five Team for setting the quiz in June and to Sue, David and Bob for running it. Although there wasn't a big turnout everyone agreed it was a very good quiz, with something for most people.

There were 6 rounds, as usual, plus the Marathon, which was a matter of matching up names with photos of people with a royal theme, ranging from Martin Luther King Jr to King Peter from the Narnia films. This was won by the Secret Seven team (Philip, Colin, Nikki, Helen and Julia – yes, that's 5 people) with 48 out of 50 but the lowest score was 43, so it was a high-scoring Marathon.

The main quiz was very close – at the half way stage there was just half a point between the top 2 teams and on'y 10½ points between all 4 teams. The round that made the difference to the competition was on the Royal Wedding – so, who is 5th in line to the throne? When Kate Middleton becomes Queen will she be the 4th, 5th or 6th Queen C/Katherine? The Washouts team did very well in that round, bringing themselves up to second place with 68½ points but the Secret Seven team won with 70½ points.

The next Quiz will be on Sunday 17 July at 7.30p.m. There will not be a quiz in August but it will return in September. Don't forget the Somerset Arms Quiz Night every Monday, 8 pm.

Anthony Lovatt
Furniture
Restoration

Tables, chairs, bureaux
Chests, long case clocks
Mirrors, etc
Veneer repair
Polishing and Waxing

Tel 01225 865361
Mob 07709687137
**Collection &
delivery service**

**GOOD
QUALITY**

**HARDWOOD
LOGS**

FOR SALE

**CALL BILL
ON
01380 870237**

Owen Burton
**Computer
Services**

I offer a friendly, local service.
For all computer repairs, and servicing

I will speed up your machine, remove any
virus, build you a new one or repair your
existing one

In fact whatever you want and all clearly
explained.

Business quality laptops always available
from £250 — all with the Windows 7 and MS
Office 2007

07765 774908

wigglybus@yahoo.co.uk
Seend, Wilts



Beautiful, stylish flowers



Hand-tied
bouquets
Arrangements
Wedding flowers
Funeral tributes

To order by phone or to arrange to
visit the Stems studio in Semington,
please contact Emma Payne on
01225 700020

Or buy online
www.stemsfloristwiltshire.co.uk

Local delivery available
Bridge House, Semington,
Trowbridge, Wiltshire



St. George's School: a place of learning, caring and sharing

The work on the new build started way back last summer but the end is now in sight. Over the Easter holidays the two new classrooms were prepared for the children to move into when they returned after the break. In the week beginning the 16th May, the new hall was finally ready to be used and within the first week of its opening a variety of lessons took place ranging from Samba drumming workshops to gymnastics and assemblies. It was also lovely for the children to be able to eat their lunches in a spacious and airy environment, after being cramped for so long. Over the Whitsun holiday, the playground was tarmacked and is a much larger space for the children to play on. The finishing touches are now being made including edging and weeding! Last but not least the staff car park was ready to be used this week!



Mrs James

To celebrate the 'Grand Opening' of our new hall and classrooms, the children have created a giant mosaic. The school will be open to visitors on Wednesday 6th July from 6pm. Everyone is welcome.



Jupiter & Saturn class are visiting Portsmouth to view artifacts from the Mary Rose as part of their topic on the Tudors. This will round off a very successful topic which has included creating Tudor portraits and frames and finding out about Henry VIII and his wives.

Neptune class have been busy building a wigwam and sea creatures after being inspired by their visit to the Sealife Centre at Weymouth.

We are looking forward to Sports Day and our performance of.... Sh! Year 6 will not let us tell anyone yet! They have been busy writing the script, designing the backdrop, choosing character costumes and songs. Rehearsals start very soon.



The term will end with our annual Leaver's service. We are looking forward to all these events before a well deserved rest. Laura Hilliard, Headteacher



Semington WI June Meeting

WI member, Ann Waldron welcomed a number of ladies and friends of Semington WI, into her beautiful garden where we enjoyed our annual coffee morning. Although rain threatened, the day was dry. Thanks to Ann, and Peter who helped drag chairs and tables around the garden, then wisely retired indoors until clearing

up time.

Our meeting this month featured Emma Payne from Stems Florist, who gave us a demonstration of flower arranging, producing two arrangements using fairly easy to obtain materials including some which we might be growing in our own gardens. The competition this month was 'a perfect bloom' which was won by Muriel Woolmington. At our next meeting on July 14th we will be entertained by Mike Pope, who will share stories from the TV series Larkrise to Candleford. As usual visitors are most welcome.

A trip to Hestercombe Gardens is planned for August 11th to which friends of WI may like to come, details will be posted at the village hall shortly.

Carole Ball president.



Semington Bridge Club

While the building work is going on in the Village Hall, the Bridge Club will meet

Tuesdays - Steeple Ashton Village Hall

9.15 am Bridge Lesson

10 am - Play commences

Fridays - Keevil Village Hall

9.30 - Bridge Lesson

10 am - Play commences

Please check the Bridge Club website: www.bridgewebs.com/semingtonvillage/ for a progress report.

NATURE NOTES

Although I have lived in the village for almost 25 years, it was only last month that I really noticed our sycamores. These are the larger cousins of the field maples that surround the village, and have the disadvantage that they are not considered "native", having come to England only after the last ice age. Because of this we are encouraged to look down on them, to assume that they are not as good for wildlife as the field maple, and hence to view them differently – as outsiders – and so we do. But next May, find the sycamores at the ends of the old road and look at their flowers: long, pale, green cascades, all dangling and delicate, and marvel. Do this before they change into the keys we're familiar with, and before the trees cast their dense shadows. For theirs is the reverse ugly duckling story where something rather wonderful becomes dull and mundane.

Wordsworth knew well the intensity the sycamore brings. Here's a brief extract from his *Lines composed a few miles above Tintern Abbey*:

The day is come when I again repose
Here, under this dark sycamore, and view
These plots of cottage-ground, these orchard-tufts,
Which at this season, with their unripe fruits,
Are clad in one green hue, and lose themselves



Semington Cricket 2011



May has been a tough month, two defeats, one win and an exciting tie against local rivals Melksham. Obviously not going to mention the defeats, so focusing on the glory our win was against Sutton Benger and emphatically too.

Batting first our openers Matt Chappell and Andy Hallett both scored fifty (at which point you have to retire in this league), this perfect foundation allowed

Colin Norvill to thrash 20 odd more to leave us on a dominant 167 after our 20 overs. Benger started well but were soon pegged back by excellent bowling from Liam Snook (3-16 off his 4 overs) and Kelvin Lockwood (3-18 off 3 overs). An impressive 62 run win was in the bag.

The previous week had seen Semington break its losing streak in a dramatic tied game with Melksham. Batting first we posted 135 (Andy Hallett again in the runs with 30). Melksham had the game easily won with 5 overs to go, but for excellent bowling at the death by Gary Hargreaves and Si Emmett. The most entertaining moment was the last ball, with Melksham needing 4 to win, a strike to the boundary looked like being a single (and a win for us), but for several comedy fielding errors, Melksham scrambled 3 - a tie it was to be!

Two games so far in June have ended in frustratingly close defeats, losing to Westinghouse and Spye Park . The half way point in the season is Wednesday 15th, better performances lie ahead we are sure.

Simon Tyler

July Skittles Matches

7	8.15 pm	Home v. Exiles
18	8.15	KO Skittles
19		Skittles
20		Skittles
21		Away v. Gadabout22
22		Skittles
25		Skittles
26		Skittles
27		Skittles
28		Home V. Corsham
29		Skittles

32 Teams (hopefully), 6-a-side comp.

Entry Fee £10 per team starts Monday 18th July

Ends 25th August

Prize Money £400 plus for teams and players

In its 7th Year

Draft Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 18 May 2011 at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall

Neighbourhood Policing - Cllr. Robinson reported that the problem of car sales at the roundabout had been resolved, although there was now evidence of car sales taking place at the entrance to The Turnpike.

Planning - The Clerk stated that an appeal has been lodged in respect of planning applications W/10/02972/FUL and W/10/02973/LBC – both relating to developments at The Somerset Arms. The Council **resolved** that the Clerk writes to the Planning Inspectorate along the same lines as previously outlining the objections of the Parish Council to this proposed development. Councillors also observed that comment should also be made in respect of the applicant implying that he had ownership of a greater area of the proposed development land than was the case. Cllr. Smyth agreed to provide the Clerk with the appropriate additional wording.

Highways - Cllr. Oglesby commented that there were nettles overgrowing the pavement between the Canal Bridge and the Semington Brook Bridge. It was agreed that this matter should be reported to the Parish Steward.

Sports/Recreation Field - Cllr. Lockwood reported that quotations for the installation of a cess-pit are being obtained and that netting – to prevent the footballs being kicked into the road - has become available at the (old) George Ward School. He added that electricity is presently being connected to the site.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebration 2012 - The Parish Council asked the Clerk to write to the Headteacher, St. George's School inviting the pupils to propose a design for a mug to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. The Council **agreed** that once a suitable or winning design had been chosen, the Parish Council would arrange for mugs containing the design to be made and for each child in the village and school to receive one. The Clerk was asked to place a notice in the Village Newsletter inviting parishioners to suggest ideas for celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Date of the next meeting - Ordinary Parish Council Meeting: Wednesday 15 June 2011 at 8.00pm.

Draft Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 18 May 2010 at 8 pm in the Village Hall

Election of Chair - Cllr. Bowyer proposed that Cllr. Oglesby be elected as Chairman. There were no other nominations. Cllr. Oglesby was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Parish Council for the forthcoming year. Cllr. Oglesby signed the Declaration Form, as Chairman, and this was countersigned by the Clerk.

Election of Vice-Chairman - Cllr. Dobbyn proposed that Cllr. Bowyer be elected as Vice-Chairman. There were no other nominations. Cllr. Bowyer was unanimously elected as Vice-Chairman.

Election of other Officers - The following appointments were made, following a unanimous vote in each case: Public Transport Representative - Cllr. Robinson; Environment Representative - Cllr. Smyth; Village Hall Management Committee Representatives (2) - Cllrs. Robinson and Rimmer were appointed as the Parish Council representatives. Cllr. Vooght already holds the position as a member of the Village Hall Management Committee. Community Area/Area Board - All Parish Councillors, recognising that the attendance at the Community Area Board meetings will depend on the availability of councillors. Wilts & Berks Canal Working Party – Cllrs. Smyth and Robinson.

Draft Minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2011 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Neighbourhood Policing - PC Thomas stated that there was little to report and her only comment was that a couple of recycling boxes had been stolen. She reported that there had been thefts of lead from church roofs, including one at Steeple Ashton. She enquired whether the problem of car sales at The Turnpike had been resolved and Cllr. Robinson answered in the affirmative, although he added that the situation did need to be monitored. PC Thomas stated that she would highlight the abuse of the No Through Road sign on the road through the village as a priority and would commence patrols in the area.

Highways - Cllr. Oglesby reported that there were nettles overgrowing the pavement between the Canal Bridge and the Semington Brook Bridge and that the contact for the Parish Steward needed to be informed.

Sports/Recreation Field - Cllr. Lockwood reported that development of the Playing Field is continuing well and that netting has now been obtained from the (old) George Ward School to be used behind the goal post on the Playing Field. He added that some more netting is available that it is hoped will also be used for the same purpose.

Village Hall Improvement - The Council was informed that the repair work on the wall will commence in the next two or three weeks. Cllr. Rimmer stated that the possibility of attracting grant aid to help with the funding of the repair will be discussed at the Village Hall Management Committee meeting to be held on 16 June.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebration 2012 - The Clerk confirmed that he had written to the Headteacher, St. George's School giving details of the proposal to buy mugs for each child in the school and village. He added that the letter also invited the pupils to propose a design for a mug to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee.

Cllr. Rimmer promoted the idea of creating a 'Jubilee Wood' locally and following suggestions by councillors as to a possible location for it, the Clerk was asked to write to Wiltshire Council enquiring whether there existed any suitable tracts of land at Semington for such a wood. Cllr. Smyth suggested that some of the land between the bypass and the edge of the village may be suitable. Cllr. Lockwood suggested that land at Littlemarsh may be suitable in the area of the promised bund. Land at the crematorium site was also mooted as a possibility. Cllr. Oglesby suggested that a 'Duck Race' takes place and that such an event would provide funding for other celebration activities in the village. Cllr. Lockwood cautioned against the Parish Council 'going it alone' because the Village Hall and The Somerset Arms and, possibly, the school might wish to put on an event or events and some coordination would be essential. Cllr. Lockwood stated that he would make enquiries of The Somerset Arms.

Wilts & Berks Canal Trust Working Group - Cllr. Smyth reported that the planning process for the canal is progressing steadily. He added that there is an Environmental Report to be produced as part of the planning process. He commented that the proposed Marina is to be privately funded and is not dependent on grant aid.

Queen Elizabeth 2 – Playing Field Challenge. Details were handed to Cllr. Lockwood.

Parish Plan - The Clerk stated that he had obtained a CD copy of the Atworth Parish Council Parish Plan that may act as a template for a Semington Parish Plan and passed it to Cllr. Smyth for him to study.

Date of the next meeting - Ordinary Parish Council Meeting:

Wednesday 13 July 2011 at 8.00pm.

St. Michael's Hilperton with St. Mary's Whaddon:
St. Geprge's, Semington;
St. Mary Magdalen, Hilperton Marsh;
near the Kennet and Avon Canal, within the diocese of Salisbury

YOU ARE MOST WELCOME TO JOIN ANY OF THE SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE
 There are pew sheets in the churches which give details of all events in the Benefice

Church Services July 2011	St. George's Semington	St Michael's Hilperton	St. Mary Magdalen's Horse Road Hilperton Marsh	St. Mary the Virgin Whaddon
Sunday 3rd July 2nd after Trinity	9.15 All Age Worship	8 am Holy Communion 11 am All Age	11 am Holy Communion	
Sunday 10th July 3rd after Trinity	9.15 Methodist Service	9.15 am Parish Communion 11 am Methodist		8 am Holy Communion (Trad)
Sunday 17th July 4th after Trinity	5 pm Service and BBQ 26 Church St.	9.15 am All Age Communion	11 am Patronal Festival Communion	
Sunday 24th July 5th after Trinity			10 am Benefice Communion Archdeacon visiting and preaching	
AUGUST SERVICES ST. GEORGE'S Semington Only	7th August 9.15 am All Age Worship	14th August 9.15 am Morning Worship	21st August 6.15 pm Evening Worship	28th August 9.15 am Parish Communion

Rest of Benefice - Please ask the churchwardens or one of the ministers.