



BRENT KNOLL COMMUNITY SHOP

Curified



September's "sausage sizzler" and table-top sale takes place on Saturday 27th September

Join us for sausage & bacon baps, cakes and lots of other goodies.

Also don't forgot on the weekend of the 13^{th} / 14^{th} September, come and meet the shop's scarecrow as part of the Brent Knoll Scarecrow Trail.

Opening hours

Mon 8.30 - 2pm; Tues 8.30 - 4pm; Weds & Thurs 8.30 - 5pm Fri 8.30 - 5pm; Sat 8.30 - 5pm; Sun 8.30 - 12noon



Please mention the **Brent Knoll News** when replying to adverts

The Parish of Three Saints

St Christopher's, Lympsham St Michael's, Brent Knoll St Mary's, East Brent

Contacts

The Parish is currently in vacancy Please contact Church Office

Associate Priest Reverend Neil Biddiscombe Tel 07862 045215

e-mail - associatepriest.tpots@outlook.com

Church Administrator - Mrs Carole Carter

Church Office, Church Road, East Brent, Somerset, TA9 4HZ

Tel **01278 769082**

e-mail office.tpots@gmail.com
Office is open Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10am – 1pm

Churchwardens

St Michael's, Brent Knoll

Mike Smith **01278 760691** mikesmithchurch@gmail.com

Frances James **01278 760287**

Church Treasurer – Contact Church Office 01278 769082 / office.tpots@gmail.com PCC Secretary – Mrs Carole Carter 01278 769082 / office.tpots@gmail.com

Baptisms

To arrange a Baptism, contact the Church Administrator. Please also see Church of England website for more information- www.churchofenglandchristenings.org

Weddings

Weddings can be arranged by contacting our Church Administrator who will discuss, availability of dates and times, also talk with you about the qualifying connection you must have with the Parish and to take your contact details.

You will then be contacted to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet to discuss your commitment and requirements.

Please also see Church of England website for more information- www.yourchurchwedding.org

Funerals

Your chosen Funeral Director will contact our Church Administrator to arrange your requirements.

Visit our website -

www.theparishofthreesaints.org.uk

Facebook: TPOTS Twitter: @TPOTS6

Safeguarding – Contact

Ginnie Soffe 01278 769117 or Church Office 01278 769082 e-mail safeguarding.tpots@gmail.com



September 2025						
7 th	10.00am	Parish Eucharist	St Mary's, East Brent			
14 th	10.00am	Parish Eucharist	St Michael's, Brent Knoll			
21 st	8.30am	Holy Communion BCP	St Christopher's, Lympsham			
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist	St Christopher's, Lympsham			
	4pm	Harvest Thanksgiving	Westcroft Farm Cider Barn, BK			
28 th	10.00am	All Age Eucharist	St Mary's, East Brent			
Night Praye	r every Wednes	sday at 7.30pm - ZOOM -	link from parish website			

For latest information please see www.theparishofthreesaints.org.uk or notices in church porches.

Advertising in the Brent Knoll News

The advertising year for the Brent Knoll News runs from September to July/August, so has just started. We do have some spaces available for new advertisers for 2025/26

If you would like to advertise in the BKN, or know of a local business/organisation that would like to, please contact me on bob@flockman.com and I will forward details of the size and cost of advertising space available.

The BKN is delivered free to every household in Brent Knoll, is on sale at the village shop, parish church and online at http://www.brentknollvillage.co.uk/BKnews/latest.pdf.

Bob

METHODIST CHURCH (www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com)

Minister Revd. Steve Bennett

Firstly, a huge "Thank you!" to everybody who attended our August coffee mornings. At the time of writing, we have held three of these and are looking forward to our final morning next Saturday. We have been absolutely thrilled with the number of Village friends who turned out to support us and thanks to all who attended, four charities will benefit from your amazing generosity.

I will let you know the amount of monies raised in next month's Brent Knoll News because, of course, that will be our final news article as we prepare to close our doors for the final time.

With that in mind, our final service and therefore our closing service, will be held on Sunday 14th September at 3pm. Although this will naturally be a poignant service for all who have worshipped here over the years, we want to go out in the spirit on which Brent Knoll Methodist Church was founded. In song, in praise and in thanksgiving for the life of a Church which has played such a large part in the life of the Village since 1837.

As part of our thanksgiving, this will also be our Harvest Festival, to which ALL are welcome.

We would love for you all to join us and to stay behind after the service to enjoy refreshments and share any memories you may have of our Church.

From all of us here at Brent Knoll Methodist Church, may God continue to bless you and keep you. As you continue to be held tightly in all of our prayers.

Rosemary Krull (on behalf of all of us at Brent Knoll Methodist Church)

Preachers for September 2025 at 10.30am

7th Sept @ 10.30am : Ms Rosemary Krull/Rev Margaret Trapp (Holy Communion) 14th Sept @ 3.00pm : Harvest Festival & Closing Service (Rev Steve Bennett)

Friends of St Michael's Church - r e launch of Friends Membership Scheme

We are very grateful to those who continue to support St Michael's Church through our Friends Membership scheme that was set up in 2014. Whilst we encourage people to attend our church services, we recognise that there are people who support the church and its buildings, and don't wish to contribute directly to Church Life. Annual contributions to the scheme under a Standing Order (STO) raise a substantial sum every year, somewhere approaching £900 to £1,000, which saves us from having to fundraise for this amount. We have recently reviewed our procedures and are relaunching a new Friends Membership scheme.

Initially we designed our application form so that donations could be given to the St Michael's Church Heritage Fund in three ways; by STO, annually through a bank or in cash. The option for an annual payment has proved difficult to administer and we are therefore abandoning this option. The cash option will remain through contributions in the donation box in the church. The other major change in the scheme is that the Parish of Three Saints has outsourced its regular giving arrangements to the Church of England Parish Giving Scheme and donations will need to be set up individually by those who wish to become Friends. Having said that, the Friends scheme is built around the need to involve local people in their local church and we shall need people to supply contact details before setting up their STO. We are intending to launch the scheme at the St Michael's Church Autumn Fair at the Cider Farm on Saturday September 20th, so we hope to see you there.

Ged Keele, Coordinator, Friends of St Michael's



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Notes from the Parish Council June and July meetings

Approval of minutes of the meetings held on the 4th June and 2nd July.

Co-option of Vacancy - Tracey Woods was co-opted on to the Parish Council.

Planning Matters - None

07/25/00017: Conversion of existing outbuilding (former Milking shed) to annexe and home office at Middle Street Farm, Middle Street, Brent Knoll, Highbridge, Somerset, TA9 4BT.

Response: The Parish Council support this application subject to objections raised by the Environment Agency, The Axe Brue drainage board and Environmental health who have submitted objections to the above proposal.

07/25/00018: Erection of 4 agricultural buildings to cover existing feed yards and muck stores at Rookery Farm, Vole Road, Mark, Highbridge, Somerset, TA9 4PE.

Response: The Parish Council support this proposal on the grounds of good environmental considerations, Agricultural practice and reflection of government guidance.

Clerks Report:

- (a) External Audit concluded after some additional questions raised.
- (b) Website changes resulting from Decision Power owners retiring.
- (c) Clerks Forum hosting in Brent Knoll approved unanimously.
- (d) Railway Bridge Signage now in the hands of the Samaritans and Network Rail.

Reports by working groups

These were presented by members where appropriate and the full text of those reports is available on the Website within the full minutes and can be seen on YouTube.

Financial Matters Agreed

Statutory Payments List: Approved by Members for 2025/2026.

Other Key Decisions taken by the Parish Council

- (a) Footpath from Windyridge to reservoir in need of clearance. Landowner to be contacted.
- (b) Footpath works agreed to include Installation of 1 kissing gate and 1 pedestrian gate. Repair and replacement of hand rail, section from church to main path.
- (c) IT Working group convened to identify the key areas where the Council will need to make changes or additions in this financial year

A **full copy** of the minutes is available on the website and can also be obtained by contacting the clerk. You can also view the meetings by following this link <u>Brent Knoll Parish Council meetings - YouTube</u> or entering https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXx-BC7euoE9ha5ptq7HM2Q.

Future Meetings

The next meetings of the Parish Council will be on **Wednesday 3rd September** at **7pm** in the **Jubilee Room**. The Parish Surgery will be on **Tuesday 2nd September** in the **Jubilee Room** of the Parish Hall from **10am to 12 noon**. Contact the Clerk on any Council matters. Provisional meeting may be on 17th September.

Owen J Cullwick, Tel No. 07917 445 215 clerk@brentknollpc.co.uk

Brent Knoll's Community Shop News

30 shareholders attended the fifth Annual Members' Meeting of Brent Knoll Community Shop Limited

Chairman's Report

David Yates, outlined all the work that went into the delivery of the new shop, including the raising of more than £60,000 to pay for all the costs for which the shop was responsible. He highlighted the contributions of grants secured by Kim Wilcox, the extra sales of shares, sums raised by such events as our monthly "Sausage Sizzler" and the strong trading profits.

He confirmed that the new shop has provided much better working conditions for our volunteers, a much better facility for our customers and stronger trading results.

While recording the special input of various members of the Management Committee, David stressed that the biggest thanks must go to the 40+ volunteers, upon whom the shop – and it's continuing success – is wholly reliant.

Looking ahead, David confirmed a commitment to delivering what our customers want and to providing a social hub for the village. He also provided an update on our long-standing efforts to restore Post Office services and announced that we must now conduct a public consultation to provide the PO with statistical evidence.

Treasurer's Report

Bob Smith presented the latest full-year accounts, ending last January and provided an update on financial results up to date. In both cases, the picture was wholly positive.

Reporting on the full accounts for the year ending 31st January 2025, Bob highlighted that sales and profits were up on previous years, despite such increased costs as legal fees and extra cleaning costs.

Explaining the balance sheet, Bob highlighted the figures for cash, fixed assets and member funds, all of which are in fine fettle. Member funds, for example, have risen from zero, at the time of opening more than five years ago, to more than £82,000.

Trading since the end of the financial year and since moving to the new shop, has seen a strong increase in transactions, turnover and profit for the new shop. Sales for July, for example, were 20% higher than for the same month last year.

Resolutions

Members voted on four resolutions, all of which were passed unanimously. They confirmed the co-option as MC members of Ade Povey and Red Hocken and they accepted the Management Committee's advice not to approve or apply interest on shares at this time, so as to rebuild finances after the expense of the new shop.

Members also passed resolutions to disapply the appointment of an auditor for accounts to 31st January 2026 and to appoint a qualified auditor's report.

Questions

A member asked whether a post-box would be installed at the new shop. Bob Filmer (Chair of the Parish Council) explained the continuing battle between the PC and Royal Mail, who contend that there are already sufficient post boxes in the village to meet current rules.

There was also debate about the need for Post Office services. Some members stressed that they have to use neighbouring Post Offices for pension payments and banking services. It was confirmed that the Community Shop will continue its dialogue with the Post Office, and will conduct a public consultation process to measure potential public demand/support for the restoration of Post Office services in the new shop.

In other news, the next "Sausage Sizzler" and table-top sale will be on Saturday 27th September. Two days later, we'll be hosting our first meeting of the new Somerset Community Shops Group, to share ideas and experience.

Meanwhile, we have been struggling to find a solution to why the door-mat has been bulging and interfering with the doors. For the moment, we've had to remove a strip of the matting which we've marked with warning tape: but it is a slight trip-hazard, so do please take care.

David Sturgess

Adam Popham

Director



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St Michael's Churchwarden's report

I trust that if you've been away for a holiday that you are feeling refreshed and ready to go.

Unfortunately, since I last wrote we 'The Parish'; is still in vacancy and again I would like to thank everyone for their continued support and to Rev. Neil Biddiscombe and visiting clergy who continue to lead our worship in the Parish.

The afternoon concert we held on June 22nd was a great success and our thanks go to the LLH Trio and all who attended.

On June 29th we were kindly able to hold an Open Gardens event at Ball Copse Hall and Dolphin Cottage, many thanks to Tony and Colin. We are indebted to all those who helped behind the scenes at this event and special thanks must go to our waitresses Tanya and her daughters on behalf of the Guides from the village who worked tirelessly throughout the afternoon.

Recently we had a bench donated by Pat Fincher in memory of her husband Michael and in July we were able to install it at the top of the Remembrance Garden with a lovely view of the church and churchyard.

We welcomed the school into Church for the Year 6 leavers service and Bible presentation on 22nd July with a packed church of children and parents, with singing, reading and tears and laughter.

On the 1st August the wedding of Hannah Duffy and Ashley Durston was held and we wish them blessings for a Happy Marriage. This gave us a lovely excuse to tidy up the church yard, special thanks to all those who gardened and cut back the greenery along the wall beside the road by the church, the gates have also had a nice fresh coat of paint. We are very grateful for the help from Ade for all his enthusiasm and time to help us out.

Sadly, we also had a funeral in church on 5th August of Mrs Margaret Bryant.

On 24th August we held the baptism of Lily Mae Wood, so we really were used for hatch, match and dispatch in August.

On 3rd August and 24th August, we held August Teas, special thanks to Rosemary and Ged and their helpers and to those supported this.

On 31st August we held a joint service at St. Bridget's church in Brean, also on August 31st there was a meeting to discuss the 'How to Pray' book we have just read and in the Autumn we expect the two church book clubs will restart. For further information please contact me.

On VJ Day a small act of remembrance was held by the War Memorial in the churchyard by members of the Royal British Legion.

Due to legacy money received we hope to have the church windows cleaned inside and out for the first time in many years.

We have recently set up a Borrow Book bookcase in the church, there are various books on a Christian theme and we welcome you to take one or two away and return when you've finished with them.

As publicised in the magazine on Saturday 20th September we are holding an Autumn Fayre at West croft Cider Farm between 1pm and 4pm, please come along and visit the craft stalls, play some games, enjoy BBQ, cider and tea and cakes.

On Sunday September 21st at 4pm we will be holding another 'Harvest in the Barn service' at West Croft Cider Farm. This is open to anyone to come and celebrate the Harvest in an informal setting with refreshments afterwards.

If you could help we are collecting items for the Foodbank which can be brought to the Autumn Fayre or the Harvest service.

Thank you for reading this and for your continued support and prayers.

Mike Smith, St. Michael's Church warden, 01278 760691, mikesmithchurch@gmail.com



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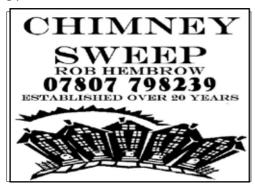
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Record-breaking rescues!

2025 was definitely the year for juvenile Peregrine Falcons. This amazing bird is found all around the world with the Polar regions being the only place where they are not seen. This small bird when hunting flies high and then attacks its quarry by diving which is called a stoop. Speeds of 282 mph/389 km have been recorded with designs on a third eyelid and body functions that allows them to go at these speeds and still be able to breathe. They will usually hunt medium sized birds (especially pigeons) and will take small mammals, reptiles and even insects.

They pair for life and can breed from their first year. Nests are built on high areas and also high man-made structures. 70% of the young die within their first month of life. Their first flights can often be their last due to collisions at high speed. Our rescues certainly reflect this but also show how human monitoring played an important part in giving these animals a second chance in the wild. These all came in during June and July.



The first one was a female seen on the ground by a dedicated nest watcher in a quarry. On admission she was found to have a shoulder injury. After 9 days of rest and pain relief, she was strong enough to return home and took to the skies beautifully.

A young male was found exhausted and grounded, having taken flight from the nest site on the cliffs of Sandpoint. Given food and rest his recovery was speedy and he was released back home. Monitoring meant that we were able to see him flying 10 days later alongside his sibling.

Hinkley Point was where three fledglings were injured in their first flight as they were being attacked by gulls. The amazing staff at

Hinkley respond in any wildlife situation and they were brought into us for rehab. When they had recovered, staff at Hinkley were able to return them to the nest site back with their mother.

Our sixth juvenile Peregrine crash-landed after being mobbed by other birds in Bristol. YTL Construction contacted Secret World and the male was brought in for rehab which was successful. He was eventually released by the workers at the firm's site from the rooftop near to the nest.

Several of these birds have been fitted with BTO (British Trust for Ornithology) and coloured monitoring rings, so we hope to follow their progress as they grow and thrive. A huge thank you goes out to

everyone who played a role in these incredible rescues and releases—from power station and construction crews to dedicated city monitors and the caring members of the public who spotted birds in trouble.

Pauline Kidner

Fires !!

One of my biggest fears living at the base of the Knoll is *Fire*. Just recently there have been several bonfires in Brent street.

Please think twice before lighting a fire, the trees, vegetation, wildlife and property could all be in grave danger of being engulfed by flames.

Julia

Front Cover Photo -

Thank you to Jane Gray for the lovely cover photo of the steam train passing Brent Knoll (Sunday 25 May) heading The Royal Dutchy on its way to Par in Cornwall. Also, David Holl for the Sparrow Hawk hiding in his garden, ready to attack (Page 2)! Bob

Meet and Eat

Meet and Eat will be held in the Brent Knoll Parish Hall on Monday Sept 8th at 12.30pm. As we received a generous grant and a donation your meal will only cost £5.

We look forward to seeing our regular diners after the Summer break and will always welcome newcomers. Please email Gill or contact Liz 01278 760810 if you would like to attend by Friday Sept 5th.

Meet and Eat team

Tea & Chat

As we can no longer meet in The Methodist Church school room, we will now be meeting in the Front Vestry at St. Michael's Church at 2.30pm on September 10th.

This group is for all ex WI members. We meet for a chat and tea and usually cake.

For further details please contact me.

Margaret Smith, 01278 760691

Women's Society

We meet again after our Summer break on Thursday 25th September for lunch at 12.30pm at the new look Lympsham Pavillion. This venue is proving popular with locals as a new team is running it.

We hope to arrange a programme for the Winter, any ideas welcome. New ladies always welcome to join us.

Julie



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Brent Knoll House Histories – 100

In the June BKN I discussed some properties owned by William Braddy in 1587, who was then referred to as William Braddy junior. These two pictures are the actual documents (the ones I





showed before were similar examples), both shown the same way up this time. The fact that both are extant does show that the mortgage has been paid off, otherwise the mortgagee would have retained one half of the indenture.

The next information we have about William Braddy is in 1606, but this time he has matured a little and is now referenced as William Braddy the elder, though he does remain a woollen draper. There are two documents involved, both being Leases in Reversion, which highlight a few points of interest. Firstly, a

Lease in Reversion is set to commence at some future date, normally after the expiring of a current lease, which effectively means that the owner does not have a period of uncertainty and lack of rent when a lease expires, as his new tenant is already signed up and raring to go. In this case the first new lease was granted by William Braddy to his daughter, Agnes Braddy. The lease was granted for three lives determinable upon 99 years. That was a normal type of

lease at that time and meant that the lease lasted for a maximum of 99 years or until all three

of the lives were dead, whichever was the shorter.

So, his daughter Agnes, together with Agnes and William Braddy, son and daughter of William Braddy, tanner, were the three lives mentioned. It was quite common to elect an adult or two and make up the lives to three by using one or more children, as obviously the likelihood was that the children would live for a lot longer than the adult(s), all being well. Infants were not included normally, as deaths were more common amongst the very young. However, if one of the named lives did die then they could be replaced, but at a price, of course. This could also happen if the lease did continue for the full 99 years. However, when leases occur within a family the price is often a mere token.

Agnes is obviously unmarried so is using two children of her brother, William, as co-lives; but the second lease is made in favour of her brother William along with her other brother, John, who are both tanners and they both act as lives, so, in this case, only one extra life is necessary and for that the young William is selected once more – it is noted specifically in the deed that this William is the grandson of William the elder.

Notably, both of the leases refer to land in Brent Knoll. Agnes receives a tenement and 21 acres, for which she has to pay a rent of twelve shillings (60p), whilst William and John acquire "a roveless tenement containing an old auster and nine acres of land," for which they pay nine shillings (45p). There are two particular items of interest in that lease, 'roveless' and 'old auster.'

'Roveless' originally meant copyhold tenure of demesne land leased out for a term of years, where demesne land was the land of the lord of the manor, which he initially kept for his own use, but later it referred to any lands retained by an owner for his or her own use.

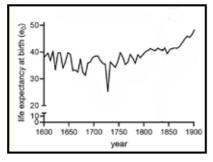
Continued on page 20

Brent Knoll House Histories - Continued

One of the reasons why 'roveless' is so uncommon is that there are a number of other terms which are used with exactly the same meaning, for example, 'bordland,' 'courtdeal,' 'new copyhold,' 'notehold' and 'runningland.' Copyhold, by the way, was land leased by a lord who gave a copy of his record concerning the land to the tenant.

'Old auster' identifies properties which go back to the Saxon period with various obligations to the lord of the manor but also entitled to rights of common, which means they could graze their cattle on the local common ground. Old auster tenements appear to be local to this area of traditional Somerset.

As mentioned above these transactions took place in 1606, however, in 1619 a deed of surrender (terminating a lease), of a completely separate property, mentions that its lease, to



William Braddy, John Braddy and Bartholomew Braddy, commenced in 1584, i.e. 35 years before, which suggests that all three may well be in their fifties or sixties by that time, that is assuming they are still alive (see life expectancy rates in box to right). As the two who surrender the lease are noted as John Braddy junior, and Bartholomew, natural son of William Braddy, junior, (which suggests that he may be an illegitimate son). If Bartholomew was the elder brother he may well be the only child on the 1584

lease, with his father and uncle as the two adults.

Four years later, in 1623, John Braddy junior is not mentioned in a couple of deeds whereby Bartholomew sells the properties involved in both of the 1606 deeds. Bartholomew, noted as a draper, sells 'four closes of pasture called Nyne Acres, late in the possession of William Braddy the elder,' to George Fuller, mercer. Notably, nine acres was the size of the land mentioned in the second of the deeds mentioned in 1606. He also sells to the same George Fuller a set of lands which compares favourably to the 1606 Agnes Braddy properties and to the properties mentioned in the 1587 Final Concord; both adding up to around 20 or 21 acres (land measurement was not always accurate at that time, so there may be slight differences). This time, though, there are two documents, one of which combines the Nine Acres as well, with minor differences in the names of the properties (notes in brackets [] are from the second document) and it is described in rather more detail. There is a messuage (a dwelling house, plus outbuildings and land allocated for its use), garden and orchard, four closes of pasture, plus a 12 acre close of arable land, four acres of pasture [meadow] in Lowsie Meade, one acre each in a close called Sier and one called Aulneherde Field [Aulneshordfield], another called Slade Acre, half an acre in a field called Bowles and a final acre in a field called Furlonges [plus common pasture in Mark Moor alias Thurle Moor]. All of these properties were in the parishes of South Brent and Mark and cost £15.

Next month will see the Brent Knoll and Mark land pass across to the man who established the Axbridge charity and find out more about the land and properties.

John Page

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A winning start for The Pavilion Bar and Kitchen

Nestled in the heart of Lympsham, the Pavilion has long been a cherished hub for our local sports clubs and for community gatherings. Now, thanks to the dedication of new managers Sandra, Terry and Stuart, it has been transformed into a bright, welcoming daytime café and an inviting sports club bar.

Mindful of the huge response to our recent survey, which emphasised just how much Lympsham wanted a vibrant café and bar, the trio have thrown their heart and soul into revitalising the space, undertaking a stylish makeover in record time. The results speak for themselves: the new Pavilion Bar and Kitchen is buzzing with life, drawing in villagers and visitors alike. The volume of custom and glowing feedback so far has surpassed everyone's expectations, cementing the Pavilion's place as the social centre of Lympsham.

A Café for All Tastes

The Pavilion Bar and Kitchen caters to every palate and occasion. The café opens its doors from 9am to 6pm Monday to Saturday, and from 9am to 4pm on Sundays. Early risers can choose from an extensive breakfast menu, whilst lunchtime offers light bites, daily specials and a dedicated kids' menu. Freshly brewed tea and coffee are always on hand, alongside a tempting selection of homemade cakes.

A Bar with a View

From midday until 11pm daily, the bar welcomes guests with a relaxed atmosphere and panoramic views of the sporting action outside. Plenty of refreshment is on hand with a fantastic range of carefully curated and well-kept drinks. The bar menu, available from 12pm to 8pm, features a tempting array of small plates and classic pub fare and Sunday's generous roasts are fast becoming a firm local favourite.

Whether you're celebrating a win, meeting up with friends and family, or simply soaking up Lympsham's lovely ambiance, the Pavilion bar is the ideal spot to unwind.

Community at its Core



Terry, Stuart, and Sandra have wasted no time in making the Pavilion a true community hub. Local groups and sports teams are enjoying gathering here and their pizza ovens and themed food nights are already proving a runaway success. Looking ahead, the team is planning a calendar of community-focused charity events and food nights, ensuring there's always something to look forward to.

The Pavilion Bar and Kitchen also offers bespoke catering for sports teams, parties, school events and family celebrations, making it the perfect venue for any occasion.

With its welcoming atmosphere, delicious food and drink and commitment to helping nurture Lympsham's great community spirit, the refurbished Pavilion Bar and Kitchen is set to remain at the heart of village life for years to come.

Sally Ferguson

Brent Knoll Take-Away

Dates for your diary:

4th September 5-7pm - Fish & Chips 18th September 5-7pm - Fish & Chips

Bishop's letter - Generosity begets generosity

In August I was privileged to dedicate the restored clock in the tower of Montacute church. It's not just any old clock. In fact, Montacute's is amongst the oldest in the country. Built in the village in around 1400, the clock is so old that it is held in place by iron wedges. At the time of its construction, the nut and the bolt wouldn't be invented for another hundred years!



The Montacute clock is an artefact that seems to generate generosity. In the 1980s the clock was restored by Humphrey Hamlin, for whom it is now named. Humphrey poured time and energy into its mechanism, preventing it from being scrapped. During the last two years, heroic efforts by the people of Montacute have led to its further restoration. All this was marked last month by a whole village gathering. The community choir sang, Morris men danced, the local pub provided a hog roast, cake was dispended in huge quantities.

Montacute is a beautiful example of how generosity begets generosity. Like a chain reaction, one act of generosity, the restoration of the clock, led to another, another and another. As a result, a whole community was brought together in celebration and joy.

In his second letter to the Church in Corinth, Paul writes of the church in Macedonia that 'their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity' (2 Cor 8:2). Having nothing, the Macedonians discovered that they could still give. In turn, their generosity enabled Paul to challenge and encourage the church in Corinth to do the same. All to help the struggling Church in Jerusalem.

As I travel around our diocese, I see this pattern of generosity begetting generosity happening in so many places. One person starts, another adds their contribution, more join in and soon we learn that together we are so much more than the sum of our parts. This is the economy of God. It's an economy that all of us are invited to join.

Bishop Michael

Fun in Fundraising

At the end of June we had two events, a delightful concert by the LLH trio in St. Michael's with tea and cake followed the next Sunday by Open Gardens of both Ball Copse Hall and Dolphin Cottage by kind permission of Tony and Colin. The weather was good, the tea delicious and the surroundings wonderful. Now our team have had a well-deserved break we are busy organising our next events.

On September 20th from 1pm to 4pm ,we will have an Autumn Fayre at West Croft Cider with visiting craft stalls, BBQ, cider, family games and teas and cakes.

Further ahead we have a Spud and Pud lunch on November 1st in the Parish Hall.

We look forward to the Christmas Tree Festival in the church from December 12th to 14th We will be sending forms for exhibits to local businesses, groups and individuals in October. If you would like to exhibit a tree and haven't done so previously please contact us.

Mike and Margaret Smith, 01278 760691; mikesmithchurch@gmail.com, on behalf of the Fun in Fundraising Team, St. Michael's Church

Brent Knoll Parish Hall Booking

Look online to see the availability of the Parish Hall rooms, you can book them online as well. Go to https://v2.hallmaster.co.uk/Diary/ViewWeeklyDiary/10215 to view the weekly diary and click the "+" sign to take you to the booking pages to make your booking. The Booking Secretary will confirm your booking, it's that simple!!

The Parish Hall is well used, so it's always worth booking well in advance.

For info. about the Parish Hall and/or bookings, visit http://brentknollparishhall.co.uk/, or contact Jenny via email administrator@brentknollparishhall.co.uk, or by phone or text to 07748 781593, or leave a message on my home phone 01278 760477

Jenny



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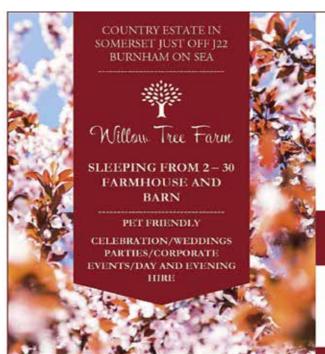
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Burton Row Community Speed Watch update

Location B3140 Burton Row Speed Limit 30mph

Official Speed Watch Sites: Brent Knoll - 8. East Brent - 1

Reporting period 1st June to 30th June

Vehicle speeds recorded Exceeding Burton Row (B3140) Highway Legal (30MPH)

Limits (Shown as % in ascending order) as follows:

(1) 13 Jun: 15% (4) 30 Jun: 18% (7) 04 Jun: 28% (2) 02 Jun: 17% (5) 16 Jun: 18% (8) 09 Jun: 31%

(3) 23 Jun: 17% (6) 19 Jun: 26%

Reporting period 1st July to 31st July

Vehicle speeds recorded Exceeding Burton Row (B3140) Highway Legal (30MPH) Limits (Shown as % in ascending order) as follows:

(1) 14 July: 15% (2) 10 July: 19% (3) 21 July: 23% (4) 28 July: 23%

There were **73 letters issued by the police** for those speeding during the above reporting periods. This includes the ANPR locations across Brent Street, Burton Row and Ham Road.

Burton Row Speed Watch Group

In the News

1936 January Captain Fred WJ Hunter of 'The Hays' died aged 50. He was

Captain of Burnham Golf Club.

Margaret Carey, daughter of RJ Carey of Wick Farm married

Arthur H Jones of Barry.

March F Woodward of Brent House died aged 69, a noted early

campaigner for Somerset Farmer's Union. Father of Frank and

the Mrs Cecil Ward and S Barnstable.

June Presentation to Major HGF Royle, resident of Lympsham since

1913.

J Atwell of Brent Knoll, Died aged 79. George Brown

Children's Book Sale

Recently the Brent Knoll Parish Hall have been given a large number of nearly new children's books, for which we are really grateful. We are aiming to have the majority of them on sale in early December at the Parish Hall - the date of which will be announced in next month's Brent Knoll News – just ready for some excellent Christmas presents.

However, we are also having some of them on sale at our Bazaar in September, which will be from 10am to 12 noon in the Parish Hall on Saturday 13th. That also happens to be the annual Scarecrow weekend and the Guides have very kindly offered us a stall, at their centre in the school grounds, for the remainder of Saturday and all day Sunday. Do come along and have a look, there are some really special books on sale at a very reasonable price.

John Page



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PARISH HALL COMMITTEE

FORTHCOMING EVENTS for your DIARY

2nd Saturday Bazaar, Farmers' Market and Parish Café 10am-12 noon

18th October Harvest Supper 15th November Ceilidh (Kay-Lee)

Live Band (Lipinski Bros) (eve) Live Band (New Brewery Band) (eve)

Next meetings - Monday 8th September, 7.30pm in the "Jubilee Room".

Sandra Few

HARVEST SUPPER

The Parish Hall Committee are holding their annual Harvest Supper in the Parish Hall on Saturday 18th October.

For those who have not attended this function before it's a fun evening with a two-course meal. On arrival there is a free glass of cider or orange juice. The meal consists of a selection of meats with salad, potatoes, coleslaw, pickles, bread and cheese, which is followed by a desert.

The tickets cost £15 and are for sale from the Village Shop or from Eddie Fuller 01278 760308.

There will be a vegetarian option, so when you buy a ticket, please alert the shop or Eddie if you need a vegetarian meal.

The Lipinski Brothers have been booked to play during part of the meal and afterwards for dancing. During the meal they play traditional music and when it comes time to dance their set includes music from the sixties, seventies, and eighties.

The music during the meal will be low key, so it will not impede conversations and the music for dancing will be louder, but not too loud.

During the interval, between the end of the meal and the dancing, there is an auction of surplus food which usually comprises of cooked meats, bread, cheese, and deserts.

I hope this has given you an insight into an evening which gives you traditional Harvest Supper food and a chance to let your hair down and dance the night away.

If you are new to the village, it's a great way to meet new friends. Sandra Few

Music on the Green

What an amazing night this is!

A cracking evening where everyone is welcome to bring picnics and or sample a burger or two, whilst relaxing in a great atmosphere, on our beautiful village green.

This year, we were treated to music by the awesome 'Kick the Cat', who ensured there was plenty to dance to. A very small rain shower did not dampen the spirits, as it was a lovely warm evening.

Well done to the organisers, who yet again produced a superb event. Music on the Green, is a great opportunity to get together, as a community, as individuals, or with friends and family. Young and old, it is a great fun event where you can simply sit and enjoy the music, or 'dance like nobody is watching'.

Amanda

See you next year!

A Challenge awaits You

Do you want to do something different or maybe you haven't done something for years but have enjoyed it in the past? Do you want to build new friendships, would like a challenge and have fun?

Why not give the All-Sorts Choir a try. We meet at the East Brent Hall from 19.30 - 21.15 on Thursday evenings.

Enjoy the challenge, the experience, build your confidence and have a sense of achievement. Just let me know if you would like to come.

If you are unsure, why not come and support us when we celebrate our 10th Anniversary on Saturday 27th September at 19.00. We will be raising money for Weston Hospice at the Uphill Village Victory Hall. Tickets £5 with donations for the refreshments.

Contact: sue.toon@btinternet.com or 01278 760753.

Sue Toon

Knit for your neighbour

As reported in March BKN I am happy to collect items for this scheme and deliver them to the Talking Cafe in Burnham, from where they are distributed to those in need.

We have already delivered a large bag of scarves and a lap blanket.

But as the weather chills we must think of those struggling to keep warm.

Can you knit or crochet hats, gloves, scarves or blankets! All will be well received.

I also have some small blanket squares which have been donated and if anyone is able to help sew them into blankets or scarves, please let me know.

Margaret Smith, 01278 760691

BRENT KNOLL BAZAAR

FARMERS' MARKET & PARISH CAFÉ SATURDAY 13th September

at Brent Knoll Parish Hall (TA9 4EH) - 10am to 12 noon

Locally produced fresh Pork & Beef, Goat's milk, cheese and meat, Eggs, Pickles and Preserves, Seasonal Vegetables, Westcroft Cider, Cakes, Handmade Cards, Handbags, Scarves, Silver & Beaded Jewellery, Children's Games and Toys, Local Crafts, Dog Treats, Textiles, etc., CDs, DVDs, Books and Bric-a-Brac.

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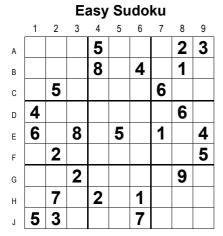
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September Sudokus



maru but not too much									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Α					6		1		
В	7			4			2	5	
С		1				3			4
D					2				7
Е			2				9		
F	4				8				
G	5			1				7	
Н		3	9			6			5
J			1		3				

Hard but not too much

Can I again thank Klaus Brenner for sending me a number of Sudokus so we can continue to have them in the BKN each month and to continue David's tradition. Bob

Jigsaw Puzzles

Are you a fan of Jigsaw Puzzles? If so why don't we set up an Exchange System - even better if you are into Wasgij's. If interested contact Allan on 07833 921 334.**Allan Rayner**

2025 "200+ Club" August Draw

The July and August draws were made at the Parish Hall Committee meetings in July and August. The winning numbers were:-

July	No.	Prize	Name		
First Prize	30	£ 20	Mrs J.M. Freestone	Brent Street	Brent Knoll
Second Prize	121	£ 20	Mrs J. Warren	Brent Street	Brent Knoll
Third Prize	13	£ 16	Mrs S. Harvey	Church Lane	Brent Knoll
Fourth Prize	212	£ 12	Mrs L. White	Manor Ride	Brent Knoll
Fifth Prize	266	£ 12	Mrs A. Ndow	Elton Road	Clevedon
Sixth Prize	164	£ 10	Mr B.F. Wharmby	Manor Ride	Brent Knoll
Seventh Prize	79	£ 8	Mr & Mrs R.A. Few	Brent Road	East Brent
Eighth Prize	14	£ 6	Mrs A.L. Lightfoot	Harp Road	Brent Knoll
August	No.	Prize	Name		
First Prize	265	£ 20	Mrs A. Ndow	Elton Road	Clevedon
Second Prize	316	£ 20	Mrs R. Burridge	Church Lane	Brent Knoll
Third Prize	294	£ 16	Mrs K.B. Wilcox	Brent Street	Brent Knoll
Fourth Prize	65	£ 12	Mr E.W. Davies	Brent Street	Brent Knoll
Fifth Prize	343	£ 12	Kath Roberts	The Willows	Brent Knoll
Sixth Prize	224	£ 10	Mrs J. Warren	Brent Street	Brent Knoll
Seventh Prize	319	£ 8	Mrs C.J. Trivett-Bill	Brent Street	Brent Knoll
Eighth Prize	117	£ 6	Mr N.A. Nussey	Brent Street	Brent Knoll

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Parish Hall by joining the 200+ Club, we have over **350** numbers. This will help make sure that our Parish Hall continues to meet the needs of our local community and remains at its heart.

Bob Filmer, 200+ Club Co-ordinator

VJ Day 2025 15th August

Below are the words spoken at the VJ Day remembrance at the War Memorial at St Michael's Church.

"We gather here today on the 80th anniversary of the ending of WWII with the surrender of Japan and to mark the day with the laying of a wreath.

I would just like to take you through



the events leading up to Japan's surrender: **26th July 1945**. The Allies demanded Japan's unconditional surrender, warning of "prompt and utter destruction" if they refused.

- Atomic Bombings:
 - o Hiroshima was bombed on 6th August 1945.
 - o Nagasaki followed on 9th August 1945.
- **Soviet Declaration of War**: On 8th **August 1945**, the Soviet Union declared war on Japan and invaded Japanese-held territories in Manchuria.

The Announcement:

• On **15**th **August 1945**, Emperor Hirohito addressed the Japanese people via radio, announcing Japan's surrender.

Japan signed the official Instrument of Surrender on **September 2nd**, **1945**, at **9:04am** local time aboard the USS *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay

The entire ceremony lasted just **23 minutes**, but it marked the end of one of the most devastating conflicts in human history. It was broadcast worldwide and remains one of the most iconic moments of the 20th century. The cost of WWII

- Military deaths: Approximately 25 million
- Civilian deaths: Estimated at 50 million

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them.

Silence

When you go home tell them of us and say, "for your tomorrow we gave our today "

Let us Pray

We remember with gratitude those whose courage brought peace in the Pacific.

We hold before you the suffering endured by so many, and the lives forever changed.

Strengthen our resolve to pursue peace,

Give us wisdom to learn from the bitter memories of war,

and hearts that long for the unity of all nations.

And to build a future rooted in justice, compassion, and hope.

We ask all this in the name of Jesus,

in whom there is no east or west, no north or south,

but one fellowship of love across the whole earth.

Amen." Steve Russell

SEPTEMBER





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Nature Diary September -Bird Identification using Merlin

Many people have been using Merlin from Cornell University in the USA to identify birds from their song for some time. I downloaded it in April to see if it would help me identify birds in my annual 100 birds in May count. It takes a bit of working out how to use it to best advantage and I'll start with how it works. First, you download it for free from Google Play. Once installed it is fairly intuitive to use. It offers ID by sound and photo but I have only used the sound, and you simply tap the Sound ID icon and it starts recording. As soon as it hears a bird a blue spot appears on the screen, and after about 10 to 20 seconds it starts listing the birds that it has heard. When it is actively hearing a bird's song the record is highlighted so that you can listen to the sound yourself and learn the song of that particular bird. When you have been recording for 10 minutes it asks you whether you want to continue recording. You can look up the list of birds heard in that session at a later date. Two points are worth making. First, don't forget to turn off your listening process because, if you have continued after 10 minutes, Merlin uses a lot of battery power. Second, it is worth deleting your records after a period because these records take up a lot of memory.

So, does it work? Well yes, but you need to learn the quirks as you go along. The first time I used it around Brent Knoll I was amazed at the number of suggestions that it threw up. I couldn't hear many of them and I suspected that it was far too sensitive. However, some readers will remember that I am rather deaf and had difficulties with using hearing aids when I first tried in late 2018. I wrote a piece in the Diary describing my problems with hearing extraneous sound in Jan 2019. In early May this year I had a fresh appointment for my hearing and I was persuaded to try them again. It was a revelation. I could hear bird song again! What I have to recognise is that one has to put up with the extraneous sounds. So, Merlin was 'telling the truth'. Well, not quite, as I found out. Most of the birds that it was recording I could hear, but there were a number of records that I simply couldn't hear, and some of these appeared to be simply wrong suggestions. For example, one day a stonechat was mentioned as I walked by the church, but this a bird that I have never seen in Brent Knoll. Nor have I seen a **Dartford warbler**, which also appeared on the list. However, I know that they can both be seen and do breed on Crook Peak, which is "local". conclusion is that Merlin's 'hearing' is very sensitive, but sometimes it appears to make outlandish suggestions.

How did it help positively with identifying my 100 birds?. Again, readers may recall my concerns over hearing and seeing **goldcrests** locally. One problem has clearly been my difficulty with hearing, but would Merlin help me? One evening Rosemary and I were walking by the church and Merlin flagged up a goldcrest. Rosemary said it was in the yew by the lychgate, so we looked carefully. Sure enough it was there but it took me nearly five minutes to spot it and see its gold crest. So far so good, but later in the month we visited Nags Head nature reserve in the Forest of Dean and we were told that there were **firecrests** about. One popped up on Merlin and we spent some time looking for it, but couldn't see it. So, we didn't count it. Having taken that stance, I took a different view when Merlin flagged up a garden warbler nearby. Seasoned bird watchers will be familiar with the difficulty of distinguishing **blackcaps** from **garden warblers**. But on this occasion, we clearly heard only one bird singing and Merlin identified it as a garden warbler.

We tried to see it but couldn't because the foliage was too thick, so I counted it in my 100 total. Was that reasonable? I think so because some birds are difficult to see but, like a cuckoo, have an unmistakable song.

So, what are the limitations of Merlin? Put simply it only lists birds that make sounds. I have seen birds flying close by and been able to identify them by sight, but Merlin doesn't flag them up. Cornell University developers might say that you could use a photo for identification, but this is practically difficult because you need to take a photo in the first place. I have not tried using photos, but I suspect you would require a good quality image from a high powered camera for it to work.

Continued on Page 43

Brent Knoll Feature – 56

Would you believe it? 1825 was a hot dry Summer. In fact, July of that year recorded one of the ten lowest rainfalls ever and the lowest for July in the England and Wales Precipitation (EWP) record. It was also a very hot Summer, although actual figures for Somerset are not recorded. It was also a year in which many places throughout the country held training sessions for the local militia.

Ten years after the end of the Napoleonic War there was less requirement for civilian volunteers to back up the army and although there had been training sessions for the militia in 1820 and 1821, no other training had taken place until 1825. In that year regiments throughout the country advertised in local papers that they were to hold training sessions at specific venues, which would last for twenty eight days in most cases. They also noted that those who did not attend would be treated as deserters. Locally it was the Second Somerset Militia which organised training on the 1st June at Wells. Included amongst those who had volunteered was James Harding, who had been born in East Brent but by that time was living in South Brent, although it is possible that other local men were also volunteers. The reason why we know that James was a volunteer is that his name appears in a list of deserters which was published in the Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette on the 7th, 15th and 22nd of September that year.

DESERTERS from the Training of the SECOND SOMERSET MILITIA at Wells, 1st June, 1825.

James is number 33, but out of a list of 140 deserters! There were also deserters listed for East Brent, Burnham, Berrow and Lympsham amongst many others. Long lists also appeared in quite a few other locations around the country. It is interesting to note that here the only details mentioned were: name, principal or substitute (principals were the primary reserve, but they could arrange for a substitute to take their place), the parish for which they were

enrolled and the date of their enrolment (they were normally expected to serve for 5 years), their age, their height (minimum 5ft 4in – note that there is one here who is only 5ft 4¼in and some listed later are exactly 5ft 4in), their place of abode, their trade (note how many labourers there were) and any remarks (in this case, where they were sworn). Other county regiments included quite a lot more detail, including: who substitutes were serving for, where they were born, the colour of their eyes (hazel, grey and dark common, blue uncommon) and hair (brown, light brown, dark and even red), what type of head they had (e.g. large, long, round, small, oval, common), what type of person they were (common, slender, stout, proper – not sure exactly what that meant!) and face or complexion (fresh, ruddy, dark, sallow, fair).

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Nature Diary September - Continued

So, in summary, Merlin provides a useful aid to bird identification. But the question arises, can it be used in formal bird surveys? I have discussed this with an expert who takes part in official British Trust for Ornithology surveys and I am told that their rule is that it can only be used to back up the process of identification, not as the primary source of that identification. We need to think this issue through carefully because there is much to learn from analysing data obtained by listening to birds 'remotely'. This is now being done in various projects around the country. One of these is to survey lesser spotted woodpeckers, a shy bird that stops singing if people are around. So, there is an obvious advantage in setting up a remote listening point rather than a human survey. It will be interesting to see how this type of issue fits into the broader scheme of observational studies like the BTO long term monitoring projects.

Harvest in the Barn

An informal service of Thanksgiving

WEST CROFT CIDER FARM BRENT KNOLL

Sunday September 21st

4pm

Donations of tinned and packet food for Foodbank and money to Farming Community Network will be welcome

Please bring your own chair if you are able

Refreshments will be provided afterwards





BRENT KNOLL PARISH SURGERY

with our Parish Clerk

Owen Cullwick and a Parish Councillor

will be holding a Parish Surgery on

Tuesday, September 2nd, 2025

10am to 12 noon

Jubilee Room, Brent Knoll Parish Hall

Please use this opportunity to meet your Parish Clerk and councillors to discuss any issues



Update from Tessa Munt, MP for Brent Knoll

Hello everyone,

I've had a busy August here in Somerset and I'd like to thank all of you who've written, called and met me in my 'surgeries' to tell me what you care about, be that of local, national or international interest.

One of the most pressing issues for this part of Somerset is the Environment Agency's inability to carry out maintenance on our main rivers, confirmed by letter to riparian landowners. funding has been cut dramatically in recent years and the

Agency's withdrawal has huge implications for this area. Maps show the area is a man-made landscape with a complex network of streams and rhynes which lead into the main rivers. These waterways require ongoing maintenance to ensure that when it rains, water can get away to the sea - a process often reliant on pumps, and clear waterways so water can reach those pumps. Our climate is changing and rain falls in shorter and harder bursts which can cause catastrophic local flooding in a very short time, so solutions to regular maintenance of our waterways have to be found and swiftly. I've raised this situation with the Chief Executive of Somerset Drainage Boards Consortium and with the Flooding Minister, showing her a large scale map which demonstrates clearly how this part of Somerset is different from elsewhere - the majority of our waterways are straight lines on the map, as the rhynes were dug to drain the area hundreds of years ago. I'll keep you updated as discussions progress.

Over the next four months, the Government has indicated that MPs are likely to consider the following:

Mental Health Bill

- Bus Services Bill
- Sustainable Aviation Fuel Bill
- Victims and Courts Bill Pension Schemes Bill
- Elections Bill
- English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill
- Diego Garcia Military Base and British Indian Ocean Territory Bill

It's possible the Government will also introduce Bills covering the following areas:

A Rail Bill

- A Hillsborough Bill
- A Sentencing Bill
- A Cyber Security and Resilience Bill

I'm running 'surgeries' across the area, so if you'd like to tell me what matters to you, please come along. A full list is available if you call or email me, but these are the most local:

Friday 5th September

from 12:00 to 13:00 at The Brent Knoll Inn, East Brent

Saturday 6th September from 11:00 to 12:00 at The Lamb Inn, Axbridge **Tuesday 30th September** from 09:30 to 10:30 at The Pavillion Bar, Lympsham

No appointment is necessary - it's first come, first served. If you can't come to meet me, I'll come to see you.

Thank you. Tessa

You can contact me:

Call: 01934 440639 (answerphone out of office hours)

Email: tessa.munt.mp@parliament.uk

Post: Tessa Munt Freepost (you won't need a stamp!)

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Brent Knoll Weather Report – June/July 2025

After a run of months with the weather dominated by high pressure, June began with a succession of Atlantic lows and some traditional early summer conditions sunshine and showers, westerly breezes and daytime temperatures in the high teens. The only unusual feature was an occasional yellow tinge to the sky, caused by smoke from Canadian forest fires being brought across the Atlantic on the jet stream. These fires are not unusual in Canada, but in recent years they have been starting a month or two earlier than they used to.

The fete on the 14th suffered a badly-timed deluge which caught me by surprise — I expected it to stay dry. Sea breezes from the north and south coasts of Devon and Cornwall met in the middle of the south-west peninsula, generating a line of convective showers which then moved north-east across Somerset and beyond. Convective rain is notoriously difficult to forecast in detail (that's my excuse and I'm sticking to it) but it could have been worse — around this time the east of England suffered prolonged torrential rain and flooding.

The second half of June saw the return of high pressure and sunshine – not as persistent as in May, but the days are longer and the sun is stronger in June. High pressure covered the whole of the UK on the 16th bringing pleasantly warm weather, but on the 20th the high moved east a little, allowing a low to our west to draw very warm and humid air from the south. Cloud increased, but the temperature rose to a maximum of 32.1C for the Solstice on the 21st.

There followed a few cooler days before the heat returned at the end of the month. On the night of the 27th/28th the temperature did not drop below 20C (known as a "Tropical Night"), and the hottest day of June was the 30th, despite fog during the morning, with a maximum of 32.7C – just below the 32.8C which I recorded back in June 2017.

Rainfall for June was well below average at 30.4mm and 90% of it fell in the first half of the month. The average temperature was 17.7C, making this the second-warmest June I have recorded (2023 was warmer). Overall, it was a sunny month, with a persistent and fresh westerly airflow.

Early July saw temperatures return to normal, occasionally even chilly – in the small hours of the 3rd the thermometer dropped to 7.7C under a clear sky. Rain remained scarce despite north-westerly breezes and a few showers on the 5th and 7th did little to help the grass grow. By now the fields were turning brown, with little growth since haymaking in mid-June; this was compounded when high pressure moved in on the 8th and the heat returned once more, this time boosted by warm continental air. Temperatures exceeded 30C each day from the 10th to the 13th, with a maximum of 33.3C on the 12th - the second-highest July figure I have recorded (we reached 35.1C in 2022).

The second half of July saw a return to Atlantic breezes so it was cooler with more cloud, but rain was still in short supply. The wettest day of the month was the 20th with 7.2mm, but for much of July the Azores high pushed Atlantic lows to the north of the UK so Scotland and the north of England got the rain. By the end of the month, we had recorded 22.0mm, less than half the normal total for July and the sixth below-average month in a row – the only wet month so far this year was January (I'm writing this in early August, and I apologise now if the rest of Summer turns out to be wet, but we do need the rain!).

The average temperature for July was 19.3C, equal-warmest with 2018 in my records and about 2C above normal. It was a breezy month, overwhelmingly north-westerlies but with a brief spell of southerlies during the hot spell in the middle of the month, and it was unusually sunny even for July.

Stephen Baggs; www.knollweather.co.uk

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Warden Emeritus		Miss Frances James		760287
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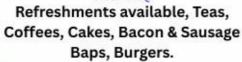


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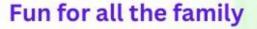
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A million reasons to recycle your food waste

Somerset Council has revealed that around a million pounds could be saved if residents recycled every scrap of food waste instead of binning it.



Currently, too much unwanted food is finding its way into general waste and that costs money to deal with effectively.



The announcement comes as the authority teams up with its collections contractor, SUEZ recycling and recovery UK (SUEZ) to encourage every household to make the most of their food waste recycling service.

Recycling food waste is a much cheaper and greener way to dispose of food waste as it avoids the costly fees associated with sending it to Energy from Waste – the process used to recover the energy from what's thrown out in general waste bins.

Their research shows that 7 out of 10 households in Somerset regularly put their food waste out for recycling. But 16,000 tonnes a year is still going into the rubbish bin, that's three meals a week per household.

What's even more shocking is that 7,200 tonnes of this food waste has been discarded in its packaging so Somerset Council and SUEZ are asking everyone to rethink their actions.

Councillor Richard Wilkins, Executive Member for Transport and Waste Services said: "Recycling food waste, is cleaner, greener and more convenient.

You may think that you're a recycler, but the average household throws about 56kg of food waste in their general rubbish bin every year. That's the same as one kitchen caddy full every week.

"Small actions can make a difference. Just six recycled teabags can create enough energy to boil the kettle for another cuppa. Even if you have just a small amount of food waste, it's still worth recycling – and doing so you can help us to save more than a million pounds."

Matt Canning, Contract Director for SUEZ said: "None of us likes to waste food that we have worked hard to provide for our families; but if we do have to throw it away, we want to encourage a more circular economy where we think of what we throw away as a commodity

In Somerset, food waste that's collected at the kerbside is recycled by anaerobic digestion in the county. The anaerobic digestion facility turns food waste into renewable energy and fertiliser."

Residents that need a new or replacement kitchen caddy or food waste bin can do so online at: www.somerset.gov.uk/order-bins.

Campanology

On Thursday 31st July at St Michael's Brent Knoll, we rang a Quarter peal of 1260 changes of Grandsire Doubles to congratulate Emily Frost and David Knott on their recent engagement. Emily was able to be one of the band along with her sister, Annabelle.

The following day we rang for the wedding of Hannah Clare Duffy and Ashley James Durston. Hannah had attended Brent Knoll School with Annabelle and Emily Frost and Clare Polly. She had special memories of their time there.

David Wilford

Lympsham & Belvedere Cricket Club – Season Update Senior Cricket

At the time of writing all of our senior teams are heading into the final 4 fixtures of the league season. It has been a historic year for the club, as for the first time they have fielded 3 Senior Men's Teams alongside 2 Women's Teams in the Somerset Cricket Leagues.

The First XI have been working hard all season to regain their position in the Premier Division targeting a top 2 finish in Division 1. Some strong performances have seen them win 9 matches, which currently has them involved in a 3-way battle for 2nd place; they will be looking to finish strongly to achieve their aim of promotion back into the top flight. There have been some excellent individual performances with Jack Luff and Jamie Howson both scoring hundreds whilst Matt Davis is leading wicket taker with 22 dismissals so far.

The 2nd XI currently sit 4th in Division 6 after some excellent performances. The highlight of which was a club and ground record score of 420 for 7 at home against Shapwick & Polden which saw both Nathan Hancock and Jason Parsons score big hundreds. Nathan has added another hundred to this and Eddie H was unlucky not to score his maiden hundred, falling just short with 98. Jon Lodge is currently the leading wicket taker, with Jack Neville pressing hard on his heels.

The Lympsham Allsorts have continued in their own inimitable style in the Midweek League this year and have just won the Stephenson Cup, beating Winscombe in the final by 6 wickets. They currently sit 2^{nd} in the league with 2 matches remaining and will be pushing hard to retain their league crown.

Our women's section continues to flourish with 23 players regularly playing matches in the Pairs division and for the first time, in the T20 division this Summer. In only our 2nd season together the group continues to improve and importantly, have fun. While results have not always been in our favour, the highlight of the season, so far, is the final over cup match victory at Claverham where both Heather Hockey and Claire Hancock made half centuries.

The 3rd XI is fulfilling their remit of introducing some of our youngsters into Senior Cricket with the help of some more experience players. The combination has proven to be a success (and really good fun) with some excellent performances including 3 exciting wins. The youngsters have responded to the challenge well with Tom H scoring a brilliant 93 whilst Henry P's 61 against Churchill helped set up a nail-biting away win. Will B has been excellent with the ball all season impressing both in the 3rds and more often the 2nd XI; whilst Luke T and Finley S have also taken their share of wickets. Our young trio of Alfie S, Freddie F and Cameron C from the U13s have been fantastic all season, impressing everyone with their skill and enthusiasm for the game.

Junior Cricket

It all starts with the All Stars programme, which has once again proved hugely popular this Summer with 30 children signing up to take part in fun Cricket based activities on Saturday mornings. The coaches (Neil, Andy, Danny & Jim) were super impressed with the attitude and talent on show as our 4-8 year olds showcased their skills. The season culminated with the presentation of medals and certificates which were kindly sponsored by Lympsham Allsorts. Well done to everyone who took part this year and we look forward to seeing you again next season.

Lympsham & Belvedere Cricket Club - Continued

U11 Softball is our stepping stone between All Stars and hardball cricket where we work hard on improving skills and learning how to play the game. This year we have had a dozen girls and boys having fun under the watchful eyes of coaches (Lisa & Jim) on a Thursday evening. They have made massive improvements in their key skills as well as their understanding of the game. They enjoyed a very successful tournament over at North Petherton where they played 3 matches against other local youngsters. We don't put too much emphasis on winning and losing at this stage but, between you and me, they won! We have had 3 of our number 'graduate' to hardball cricket with Will S, Rosie T and Toby R all playing league matches for the U11s at the end of the season, with a few more ready to start next year.

For almost all of the youngsters in the U11 hardball team, this was their first season of competitive league Cricket. Under the guidance of coaches (Jayson, Jack and Neil) they performed superbly, showing maturity and togetherness beyond their years. In total the team played 12 competitive fixtures, winning 7 and losing 5 against older, more experienced cricketers. The team were extremely well led by captain Freddie McIlveen who is moving onto the U13s, but all the remaining players will be part of the squad for next year. The bowling, batting and fielding improved so much throughout the year but the biggest positive has been how supportive and encouraging the team were towards each other. Well done to Freddie M, Rosie T, Imogen C, Max T, Joey S, Owen M, Harry G, Toby R, Will S, Cole L, Haze P, Alfred U, Josh K-W who all played in the team this year, the future is bright for this talented group of cricketers.

The U13s had a tremendous season finishing as runners-up in the East Division of the Taunton and District Youth Cricket League. In total the team played 12 league games winning 9 and losing 3, the team put together an excellent 8 game winning streak as they moved up the table. There is a lot of all-round talent is the squad with four of the squad; Freddie F, Billy R, Joseph S and Alfie S representing Somerset in the pathway system. Towards the end of the season the team put in some superb performances with strong wins against Glastonbury, Cheddar and Wembdon. We wish Oskar W, Oscar L and Lorenzo A all the best as they move into the U15s squad next year, continuing their cricketing journey at the club. The talent within the team is growing and the coaches (Will, Rich and Neil) look forward to seeing lots of this group go onto play Senior Cricket at the club over the next few years. Well done to Billy R, Oskar W, Oscar L, Lorenzo A, Stanley S, Arthur W, Freddie F, Joseph S, Cameron C and Alfie S on a superb season.

The U15s have had another very competitive season playing in their usual entertaining and very sporting manner. They finished 5th in their League and have been unlucky not to win more of their matches. They have had some amazing performances along the way; fifties for Henry P and Aaron H-N and almost fifties for Luke T and Finley S have been highlights, topped only by and incredible 93 not out by Will B. Six of the team have also been playing regularly for the 3rd XI showing massive improvement week by week which has been great to watch for the coaches (Jim & Simon). Well done to Will B, Aaron H-N, Finley S, Felix K, Oscar C, James S, Henry P, Jude R-O and Luke T for all your achievements this year.

In all we have had 14 juniors (girls and boys) playing senior cricket this season across all 6 senior sides, the future is bright. If you want to be part of that future, either at junior or senior level then please get in contact with the club at team@lympshambelvedere.co.uk or myself (jimbishop1968@gmail.com). Cricket at L&BCC is no longer just a Summer sport and continues over the Winter months with indoor softball twice a week starting in September, so don't delay contact us today.

Jim Bishop

Bellringing to Commemorate VJ day

St Michael's Brent Knoll in 48 minutes, 1280 changes of Grandsire Doubles.

Treble, David Wilford, 2nd Leanna Elton, 3rd David Polly, 4th Susan Body, 5th Melvyn Freeman, Tenor Greg Venn. Conducted by Melvyn Freeman.

David Wilford.

Diary for September			Page
1st SORT IT+ Recycling	Your House	Early!!	Ü
1st Short Mat Bowls Club [Mondays]	Harris Room, Parish Hall	2.00-4.00pm	
1 st Pilates [Mondays]	Nuttall Room, Parish Hall	6.15pm	
2 nd Burnham/Cheddar Bus [Tuesdays]	Brent Street/Burton Row	9.30-2.30pm	
2 nd "Chatty Café" [Tuesdays]	Lympsham Pavilion	10.00-1pm'ish	14
2 nd Parish Surgery	Jubilee Room, Parish Hall	10.00-12noon	7,43
3 rd Green Waste Collection	Your House	Early!!	.,
3 rd Pilates [Wednesdays]	Nuttall Room, Parish Hall	8.30am	
3 rd Parish Council – Public Session	Jubilee Room, Parish Hall	7.00pm	7
Parish Council Meeting	to follow immediately		7
4 th Fish & Chips	Village Green Car Park	5.00-7.00pm	23
4 th B&H Choral Society [Thursdays]	Methodist Hall, BoS	7.30pm	
4 th All-Sorts Choir [Thursdays]	East Brent Village Hall	7.30-9.15pm	9,32
5 th Burnham/Cheddar Bus [Fridays]	Brent Street/Burton Row	9.30-2.30pm	-,
5 th Short Mat Bowls Club [Fridays]	Harris Room, Parish Hall	2.00-4.00pm	
6th Hand Bell Ringing Group [Saturdays] N			
6th Deadline for October Brent Knoll News		12.00 noon	54
7 th Sunday Funday & Open Day	Brent Knoll Animal Centre	11.00-4.00pm	27
8 th Recycling & Rubbish	Your House	Early!!	
8 th Meet & Eat	Nuttall Room, Parish Hall	12.30pm	16
8 th Parish Hall Committee meeting	Jubilee Room, Parish Hall	7.30pm	31
	Vestry, St Michael's Church	2.30pm	16
13th Bazaar, Farmers' Market & Parish Cafe	éParish Hall	10.00-12noon	31,32
13/14 th Children's Book Sale	Parish Hall & BK School	10.00-4.00pm	28
13/14 th Scarecrow Weekend	Brent Knoll School	10.00-4.00pm	50
14th Harvest Festival & Closing Service	Methodist Church	3.00pm	4
15th SORT IT+ Recycling	Your House	Early!!	
17 th Green Waste Collection	Your House	Early!!	
17 th Brent Knoll Companions:	Harris Room, Parish Hall	2.30pm	
17 th Provisional Parish Council Meeting	Jubilee Room	7.00pm	7
18th Fish & Chips	Village Green Car Park	5.00-7.00pm	23
19 th Mobile Library [Friday]	Old Post Office	9.15-9.45am	
20 th Autumn Fayre	Westcroft Farm	1.00-4.00pm1	2,16,24
21st Harvest in the Barn	Westcroft Farm	4.00pm 3	,12,43
22 nd Autumn Equinox			
22 nd SORT IT+ Recycling	Your House	Early!!	
25 th Women's Society	Lympsham Pavillion	12.30pm	16
27 th 'Sausage Sizzler' + 'Table Top' sale	Nuttall Room, Parish Hall	10.00-12 noon	2,8
29 th Recycling & Rubbish	Your House	Early!!	

Why not contribute to **YOUR** Village Magazine!!

Do you have a pastime or hobby that you think others would find interesting? Then why not share it with the village? We publish most items and others may find it interesting.

Deadline for the October 2025 Issue –

All contributions to be received by noon on **Saturday 6th September**, to:-bob@flockman.com.

The Brent Knoll News welcomes all contributions. Views expressed are those of individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the view of the editor or the standpoint of the Brent Knoll News. The Brent Knoll News does not endorse or recommend businesses that advertise in this publication. The Editor reserves the right to edit or amend any contribution.

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