

The Village Voice

Issue N°20

Pill, Easton-in-Gordano & Ham Green

August 2022



The Circus Came To Town!

I wanted to write a personal letter of thanks to the vast number of people who helped the Friends of Crockerne put on their first ever Circus.

Wow! ... I'm a little lost for words.

Four years ago, we had an idea to bring the Circus to our fabulous village. A small world crisis which brought delays saw our event finally happen after months of planning on Sunday 3 July. We were nervous, excited, worried at hosting something new, but we had every faith in the support that is here.

We cannot begin to thank you all for giving us the confidence to pull this off by attending our event in the masses that you did. It was truly joyous to hear the sound of laughter from both children and adults alike erupt from outside of the circus tent, shortly followed by numerous smiling, wet faces as they exited their performance. Good, clean, old fashioned family fun full of slapstick and humour.

The day went brilliantly and the feedback we have had has been truly overwhelming. We were also thrilled to hear from residents in the area who complimented us on a well-organised event that didn't disrupt or cause any annoyance. This was something we worked really hard to avoid and I'm so pleased we managed to achieve this.

Our thanks go, of course, to the wonderful National Festival Circus for delivering three laugh-out-loud shows. Pill and Easton-in-Gordano Parish Council, Sustainable Pill & District, and Jason Parkhouse and Lodway Cricket Club for allowing us to use the field and borrow the community equipment. St Katherine's School for the use of their car park, bins and for being a constant support to the Primary School. To Bob Buck and St Georges Flower Bank for keeping the road free from traffic, Elmtree Garden Contractors for the van hire and toilets and, not forgetting our heroes, our Pill Firefighters and the Avon Fire Brigade who arrived with the Fire Truck in all its fabulous glory showing the kids its magic.

The Village Voice

Covering Pill, Easton-in-Gordano & Ham Green

pillandeastoningordano.org

Editor – Jo Smith

T: 01275 374 897

E: josmith0704@gmail.com

Advertising – Jo Smith

T: 01275 374 897

E: villagevoicepill@gmail.com

To be added to our mailing list, please email villagevoicepill@gmail.com, or you can view the paper online at pillandeastoningordano.org and click on the link "Village Voice"

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I'd also like to thank Lara Furmidge and Geeta Verrell (our lovely Headteachers) who are both sadly leaving Crockerne, for trusting us to put on this event and, last but by no means least, my amazing team of volunteers who truly pulled together to make this day the success that it was.

A good leader is only as good as the people who are there to help and support and I simply could not do this without them all. Too many to name but please know I'm forever grateful for your precious time. You work so tirelessly with me, and I'm indebted to you all.

For us, as a small school charity raising money for the children and giving them the best we can is our aim and focus and it's these very gestures that allow us to go the extra mile without spending vital funds. We are sincerely grateful to you all.

As the current Chair of the PTA it's an honour to be able to help make these things happen with the help from such thoughtful people like you in our community. This is one of the best features of this wonderful village. The best bit about my job is that I get to announce the amazing amount that has been raised for our brilliant kids of Crockerne Primary. The grand total is £3300!! We are just waiting to hear if we have managed to secure a further £500 in match funding which would bring our total to £3800!!

Thank you Pill, Easton in Gordano and Ham Green from the bottom of my heart for supporting the Friends of Crockerne charity.

So, from myself, my PTA team and the wonderful children of Crockerne, thank you so very much.

Charlotte Kaszubski
Chair of Friends of Crockerne



A great afternoon at the Circus fundraiser for Crockerne School - Lots of water throwing and then foam! Heidi and Blythe Martineau at the finale.

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Editorial

It's really heart-warming to read about the success of the Circus, expertly organised by Crockerne Primary PTA – and what a huge achievement in the amount raised to boost their funds! Well done to all involved – it was quite an undertaking!

I'm pleased to report, on behalf of the indefatigable Pam Allcock that her BIBIC coffee morning and sale raised almost £1000 in July. Another magnificent achievement in these difficult times so, many thanks to all who supported the event..

You will see an update, as usual, from our Parish Council inside, together with a letter of thanks. I'd like to express my thanks to Paul Kent and Bob Langton for their support with the Village Voice since we started in 2019, as well, of course, for their significant and widespread work on behalf of the village. People rarely appreciate just how much commitment is given by some in these volunteer positions, so to them and to all our Parish Councillors, thank you. Following their resignations, Trevor Wraith and Don Davies are now the Chair and Vice Chair respectively.

At the time of writing we're expecting the highest temperature ever recorded here, bringing health warnings, and this has prompted me to include a reminder of locations of defibrillators in and around the village. Please note we have a new one at Cross Lanes Farm now. (Worth cutting out the list and putting it somewhere prominent as a reminder.)

Next paper is October, so please do get in touch by the deadline, which is Friday, 14 September. (For advertising, it's Wednesday 14 September.) As always, I look forward to hearing from you.

Jo Smith, Editor

PS: Thank you to Hilary Gardner for a lovely selection of photos from recent village events, shown throughout the paper.

Pill Food Bank

We all know that the cost of living is rising fast; fuel, and food particularly. For many local families this is a crushing burden. Even if there are two parents working, it can be very hard to put healthy food on the table.

At the Pill Food Bank we give out food bags with enough in them to feed a family of four for three days. The cost to us for supplying each bag is over £20.

Since the pandemic our income has dropped, and we are now appealing for more monetary donations. When we get money rather than food donations we can pack a healthy, balanced food bag in the knowledge that everything is in date and covers breakfast, lunch and an evening meal.

If you could consider donating to us on a one off or a regular basis that would be wonderful. We bank with the Credit Union Bank of West Country Savings. Our account name is Pill Food Bank, our sort code is 60 83 01 and our account number is 20159795. If you prefer to donate cash - please drop it into the Pill Post Office, where there is a collection box on the counter.

Your gift, however large or small, will be put to very good use and be greatly appreciated by families in our community.

Thank you.

Bob Buck – Thank You For Your Support!

A massive THANK YOU to everyone for their generous comments and support in electing me onto Pill and Easton-in-Gordano Parish Council.

I am truly moved and humbled by the response, including many people who I don't actually know by name! Thank you for turning out – or sending postal votes.

My CV is now history so we must look to the future. I'll be working with all the other councillors for the benefit of the whole Parish.

It's unlikely that I'll emulate my Mother, who was a respected councillor for 25 years but I just might try!

Bob Buck
Parish Councillor, Pill and Easton in Gordano
Parish Council

**For details of other news and
events around the parish, visit
pillandeastoningordano.org**

North Somerset Parent Carers Working Together (NSPCWT)



North Somerset Parent Carers Working Together is the local parent/carers forum, there to support parents and carers of children/young people between the ages of 0-25 who have an emerging need, additional need and/or disability.

We offer a safe, supportive environment to talk, arrange regular coffee meet ups, signpost to helpful organisations plus provide free training and host large events.

Please contact us on admin@nspcw.org or tel: 01934 440844 to access support. Find us on all social media platforms or at <https://www.nspcw.org/what-we-do>



Defibrillators - What You Need To Know In An Emergency

Call 999 on all occasions - The operator will tell you where the nearest one is. They also know which ones are working and not already in use by someone else.

For the most accurate information on the location of defibrillators, visit <https://www.visitportishead.net/defibrillator-map.php>.

As a quick reference, however, local defibrillators can be found as follows:

- St George's Church Hall, Priory Road, Easton in Gordano, BS20 0PA, on the right of the front wall, facing you as you enter the car park.
- Crockerne Primary School, Westward Drive, Pill, BS20 0JP, mounted on fence, between car park and pedestrian entrances.
- Pill Central, 5 Pill Street, Pill, BS20 0EL, on the side wall of the office, accessed through the wrought iron gate right next to it.
- Lodway Cricket Club, 46 Ham Green, Pill, BS20 0HB, on the white wall at the bottom of the ramp, access through gate on Macrae Road.
- Cross Lanes Farm - straight in front when you enter the yard.



Jasper enjoyed the Regatta, especially the Jeep and loading the hold with the crane



Penny Brohn Open Day

A huge thank you to all who supported our Open Garden Day event at the end of June. It was a hugely successful day which has so far raised over £3,500 for Penny Brohn UK.

Around 400 people attended the garden and enjoyed tea and cake. It was wonderful to see so many people wandering around the grounds again.

We hope to see you again at our next event.

Many thanks from all of us at Penny Brohn UK.

Easton In Gordano WI

Things are getting back to normal and we can finally enjoy our monthly meetings together. On 3 August our speaker will be Jennifer Stirrant, who will give us a talk on 'Life as a Blind Lady'. On 17 August we will enjoy a cream tea at Brackenwood Garden Centre. Craft Group dates are 9 and 23 August, where non-members are welcome to join us from 10am to 12 noon. Our meetings are in the Church Hall, Easton in Gordano on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm, when we would love to welcome new members and guests.

House Of Grace

The House of Grace coffee/tea party at the Methodist Church in June raised in excess of £2,000 and is still rising. What an amazingly good response!

Huge thanks must go to Doug and Angela Sayce for their continued hard work and commitment to this charity.

Summer Reading Challenge At Pill Library – Gadgeteers!

We're delighted to say that the annual Summer Reading Challenge is back at Pill Library this summer for children aged 4-11! It's totally free to take part and you just need to pop into the library to register.

From Saturday 9 July, children can visit the library to meet the Gadgeteers and to get involved in a science and innovation themed Summer Reading Challenge. If they read any

six library books of their choice, they will collect a reward per book; if they complete the challenge by Saturday 10 September, they will receive a certificate and medal (while stocks last).

The Gadgeteers will help to spark children's curiosity about the world around them, and encourage them to feed their imagination, and learn more about science. So, get ready to join in at North Somerset Libraries this summer; Pill Library is looking forward to welcoming you!

For more information see www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

Charlie Exley

We would like to send thanks for the cards, flowers and messages following the sudden and unexpected death of Charlie in May. The kindness and support we have received are much appreciated.

Fred, Matthew and Michelle.

Edward Jacobs Returns

If you enjoyed the concert which took place at Penny Brohn Centre in May, then you'll be pleased to hear Edward Jacobs is performing in the village again on Saturday 24 September.

If you missed Edward's previous Concert, then you have an opportunity of hearing this wonderful pianist at 2.30pm in Pill Methodist/Baptist Church. Tickets are on sale in Pill Post Office and the Resource Centre at £10 each, to include a cream tea.

Donald Davies, Pill Ward Councillor, North Somerset Council

As I write this the temperature is approaching 30°C, so I do hope you too are all enjoying good summer weather and the various holiday activities we have in the village, not least for our young people through the Children's Partnership's summer programme. In any case, please feel free to contact me with any concerns you have. My phone number is 07900 097671 and my e-mail donald.davies@n-somerset.gov.uk. As Covid rates remain very high I shan't yet hold face-to-face surgeries.

A Thank You To The RAG Committee

As ever a successful Rag Day over the Queen's Jubilee weekend and so lovely to have it back! A big thank you to the Committee, who put so much into making sure it happens.

Elizabeth Flanagan

Short Mat Bowls

We are a small group of people who meet at the Community Centre on Wednesdays to play the game we love. The sessions are from 2.30-4.30pm and we start our new season on Wednesday 14 September.

We are not a club, so there are no joining or annual members' fees; we just share the cost of room hire, which is £18 per session, so the more players, the less we pay, but the most you need to pay at any session is £3 whenever six or fewer players turn up.

Tuition is given if required, all equipment is supplied but please wear flat-soled footwear.

Entrance is via the side door on the left of the building, and we are on the first floor, in the Somerset Room.

It would be lovely to welcome new faces or previous players making a comeback.

Ivor King (Organiser) 375871

Jubilee Celebrations At Lunch Club

On 2 June (the first day of the Jubilee weekend) Moira Worgan and her team of dedicated helpers at the weekly Lunch Club gave all us 'old codgers and biddies' a

wonderful surprise indoor street party. The table layout and decorations were superb, and the various sandwiches, cakes and other eatable accessories were equally so.

The logistics, management and organisation that was necessary to achieve the success that it was, was outstanding. So, on behalf of all diners at the Lunch Club, thank you so much, Moira and the team.

Ivor King

Pill In Bloom

Huge thanks to Jon Nettleton and Alliance homes for their support installing the final items purchased by the Parish Council with the 'Welcome Back Fund' There's now an additional wheelchair-accessible picnic bench on the green, new benches on the precinct and all the Pill in Bloom planters have been upgraded, so are much easier to keep watered.

Thanks to all who help with watering, especially during the heatwave we're having as I write! To make it more fun for families to get involved we'll be purchasing a couple of children's watering cans for anyone to borrow from the Resource Centre and fill at the spout.

Each new hexagonal planter is looked after by one or two Pill in Bloom volunteers and we're grateful to all local residents who help with watering in hot weather.

We currently have one planter by the creek on Waterloo Wharf, in need of volunteers to 'adopt' it - planting it up and keeping an eye on it, removing weeds and sprucing it up a few times a year, as needed. We encourage our volunteers to use their own creative skills using as many low maintenance perennials

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as possible (for which we have a budget). This reduces the need for frequent watering and feeding. It also means less plastic waste is created from trays of bedding twice a year. Contact Lucy on 07929 655141 if you'd like to plant up and look after or water this planter.

Our next working parties are 5 August and 14 September, meet at 2pm on the Green.

Welcome Back Fund Resources To Borrow

If you are a local group or charity or market trader wishing to have a stall in the precinct or elsewhere on Parish land you can borrow 2 x large gazebos, 4 x table and chairs 'bistro sets', 2 x chalk sandwich boards, a heavy duty trolley, a sound system, and other items such as high viz vests and litter pickers for FREE from the Resource Centre. Call 01275 375670 or pop in when open to book. All items must be returned in good condition by the agreed dates.

The Not-So-Secret Garden

I'm Sam, and I'm back, bringing you updates on everything garden! What to plant each month, wildlife you may see, things you can create, and recipes to suit the things that will be ready to harvest from your garden.

What to Sow and Grow in August

Now is a great time to start preparing for spring 2023. With much of your 2022 crop ready to harvest, let's look at what you should be planting for an early jump on next year.

Planting Outdoors: Kale and hardy cauliflower can be planted out now for an early 2023 crop. Winter hardy spring onions such as 'White Lisbon' can now be direct sown for early showings next year. Swiss Chard can be direct sown now for baby leaves, or over-wintered for a summer crop. Don't forget to sow more salad leaves to keep your crop going!

Pre Order now: Now isn't really the time for indoor sowing so, instead, a little note to say, now is a great time to order Candula, Cornflowers, and annual poppies. They'll be waiting, ready to be sown in September.

What to Harvest and How to Cook it

August is pretty much harvesting season, so you'll find that a lot of your home-grown fruits and veg are ready to go. If you're like me, you'll have a surplus of tomatoes. Why not try this delicious home-grown tomato recipe? There are so many ways you can tweak this to your fancy. Skin on, skin off. Added herbs of your choice. Parmesan for tangy taste. Vegan milk or cream alternative to make it creamier. The choice is yours.

Homegrown Tomato Soup

- 1.3kg tomatoes. Plum varieties do work best.
- 8 cloves of garlic
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- 240 – 450ml vegetable broth (depending on how thick you would like the soup)



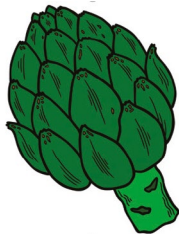
1. Preheat oven to 200 degrees C. Line a large baking tray with parchment paper. Add halved tomatoes, garlic, olive oil, and a generous twist of salt and pepper.
2. Roast in the oven for 40-45 minutes.
3. Once done, remove from the oven, and leave to rest for 10 minutes. Add to a food processor or blender, and blend until smooth. At this point, if you would like to add caramelised onions, or basil, then pop them in with the roasted tomatoes and garlic.
4. Transfer into a pot, and pop on the hob. Add vegetable stock to achieve the consistency that you wish your soup to be.
5. Add any additional ingredients that you fancy.
6. Let simmer for 10 minutes and serve straight away. You can garnish with parmesan cheese, and serve with home-made bread rolls if you wish to.

This recipe is so versatile and can be added to or adapted to suit your own tastes and dietary requirements.

Enjoy!

How to cook, serve, and eat an artichoke

Artichokes are an absolutely delicious flower to eat. Whether you've tried some pickled hearts, or are a complete novice, here's the basic way to cook, serve, and eat an artichoke.



1. First, cut off the tips of the leaves. Some artichokes have little thorns on the ends. This step is entirely aesthetic, as thorns will soften during cooking.
2. Slice off about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the top of the artichoke. A bread knife will work best for this.
3. Remove small leaves from the base and the stem.
4. Cut off excess stem, leaving about an inch on the artichoke. Some people do choose to eat these, but they can be rather bitter.
5. Rinse the artichoke in cold running water. Pull the leaves apart, making sure that the water gets right inside.
6. Put a couple of inches of water in the bottom of a steam pot. Add some aromatics, garlic, lemon, and a bay leaf.
7. Add the steam basket with the artichokes in, lid on, and cook for 25-35 minutes (or longer) on a simmer, until outer leaves pull off easily. Keep an eye, more water may be needed in the bottom pan if it dries out.

How to eat an artichoke

Artichokes can be eaten cold or hot - it's entirely up to your own preference. Serve your artichokes with a dipping sauce.

- Pull off leaves from the outside, one at a time. Dip the white base end into a sauce, butter, or vinegar of your choosing.
- Place dip side into your mouth, and pull it out, scraping along your teeth. This will remove the soft delicious petal inside straight into your mouth.
- Discard the remaining petal left once you've scraped.

The Heart

- When you get to the inner petals with the purple tips, these can all be removed in one go. Dip into the sauce as you did with

the larger petals, and follow the instructions above.

- When you reach the 'fuzzy' part, remove with a spoon or knife. The piece underneath is the artichoke heart.
- Cut the heart into pieces, and dip into a melted butter, sauce, or vinaigrette of your choice.

And that's the way to cook and eat an artichoke!

The Not-So-Secret Garden Kids' Corner

Potion/Perfume Making



I love this activity as it is so versatile. You can use anything you find in your garden (especially for potion making), and if you're like me, you can get your minis to do the weeding for you when they're picking their potion ingredients!

1. Collect ingredients for your potion/perfume from around your garden. Leaves, dead flower heads, blooming flowers, soil, stones, sticks, anything
2. Get yourself a bowl or bucket of water.
3. Add ingredients and stir with a wooden spoon, ladle, stick, or wand.
4. Add any additional ingredients, food colouring, glitter, sparkles.
5. Pour your potions into used plastic bottles using a funnel.
6. Put a label on them, so you don't forget what your potion is for.

Rock Balancing

This one requires a steady hand, and some care. Parents' supervision strongly advised.

How tall a tower can you build?



- First of all, go around your garden, and find all the stones and rocks that you can.
- Place them on top of each other in a stack.

How many can you place before it topples over?

- Have a friend visiting? Take it in turns to place a rock. The winner is the person who doesn't knock over the stack.
- Be careful of fingers, toes, and all of your limbs!
- Why not take yourself down to Portishead or Clevedon beach and give it a go with the pebbles?

If you have any comments, suggestions, or would like to contact me for any reason, you can find me at sam.grows@mail.com.

John Rich

On behalf of Hetty Rich and her daughters Susan Winter and Sally Milton, we are saddened to report that John Rich passed away on 8 July.

John was born in the village of Pill in 1933. On leaving Pill School he attended Bristol Cathedral School. Apart from his years at sea, he lived most of his life in the village.

At age 16 he started a 5-year apprenticeship with The Bristol Pilots Steam Cutter Co. Ltd and started on his voyage to become a Bristol Channel Pilot. He then joined the Merchant Navy to gain the required qualifications and experience, completing the process in 1959 and at the age of 25, at that time, was the youngest ever licenced pilot. John's retirement from piloting in 1988 marked the end of a long history of pilots and seafarers in the family, beginning in 1783 with John Dickens and ending with John Rich; seven generations of pilots.

John heard that Pill Junior School needed help raising funds to build a teaching swimming pool. He did some research and designed the pool with a roof and with the help of a committee they successfully raised the funds. The committee had lots of fun raising the money, with a variety of events. Happy Pig Week was a successful campaign that we are sure will be remembered by many.

John was Secretary of the local RNLI station but after four years the station was closed, in 1975, and moved to Portishead.

One of John's passions was local history and in 1979 he was the founder member of the Crockerne Pill and District History Society,

serving first as Chairperson and later becoming Secretary. John was happy to assist many people in researching their family history and often helped with school history projects.

In John's retirement he continued to enjoy travelling and writing books about Pill and Bristol Pilots.

John was a kind gentleman, proud of his maritime and village connections. He will be sadly missed and remembered by many.

Children's Nature Corner Word Search

Can you find the words below in the box?

P	O	N	D	J	T	C
U	T	B	R	E	E	L
D	V	L	A	M	B	U
D	U	C	K	Y	X	E
L	R	S	E	W	L	N
E	Z	S	V	P	J	O
S	T	E	P	I	G	K
X	W	A	T	E	R	S

POND

CLUE

PUDDLES

SEA

LAMB

EEL

DRAKE

DUCK

WATER

PIG

PIE

The Storymongers Present

The StoryMongers present a selection of Shakespeare sonnets. Eddy Martin will narrate the sonnets, while Phil Gibbs adds atmospheric guitar music. Each sonnet will be followed by Eddy's contemporary interpretation.

Friday 14 October at Abbots Leigh Village Hall. Doors open 7.45pm for performance at 8pm.

Further details contact Eddy 07794944572



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SJP07106-01 (03/22)

When you live in volatile and uncertain times, should you put your long-term plans on hold?



ALTON WEALTH
MANAGEMENT

Read or watch the news, and you will encounter a world that's volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous. Glance at a stock market's performance over the course of a few weeks, and what stands out is probably not the general direction of travel, but the short-term seesawing of prices – especially during a volatile period.

Those characteristics can make the task of planning for you and your family's future feel all the more daunting.

As investors, it can be all too tempting to try to predict the future, or react to events as they happen. However, on the one hand, even long-term investors can all too easily respond emotionally to short-term volatility; and make bad decisions as a result. On the other, events are unpredictable at the best of times, and perhaps especially just now. On top of all this, it's not always easy to sort the facts from the fake news.

The wide range of current challenges make the world highly unpredictable. In the context of saving and investing, the products and services we need to help us are similarly numerous and complex. Do you take the DIY approach to investing, seek guidance, or look for professional financial advice?

Do you know your ISAs from your pensions and unit trusts – and how do you choose? Where should you invest? In public or private markets? In equities, bonds, or property? And should you seek out active managers or passive funds?

The weight, number and nuance of such questions can make us yearn for simpler times – and bury our heads in the sand. Yet that will not help you secure a brighter future for you and your family. In times like these, it's important to take action and speak with someone you trust.

A professional financial adviser can help guide you through the wealth of options available, to keep your eyes focused on the horizon, and to help you to achieve your long-term financial goals.

To receive a complimentary guide covering wealth management, retirement planning or Inheritance Tax planning, contact Alton Wealth Management on 07879773282 or email alex.alton@sjpp.co.uk.

A Letter Of Thanks

We are writing to thank you for your support during our time as Chair and Vice Chair of The Parish Council. It has been difficult at times to maintain personal contact during the pandemic but we have been grateful for your continued interest in parish matters.

We both stepped down from the roles of Chair and Vice Chair in May 2022 but will be staying on as councillors until the election in 2023.

We have been greatly encouraged by the wide-ranging involvement of younger villagers in many activities and believe that we are now well placed for the future. We also hope that there will be strong interest in the full council election in 2023.

With thanks for your support and best wishes,
Paul Kent and Bob Langton

Lunch At Penny Brohn

Penny Brohn is now serving delicious lunches again on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12.30-2pm.

Please phone 0303 3000118 to book a table.

The Christmas Lights Draw

The Christmas lights volunteer group draw took place on 4 June. Congratulations go to Jackie and Jim McGurk, winning first prize of £75 and to Sandra and Taff Evans, winning second prize of £25. The July draw was held in St Peter's Hospice shop. Congratulations to Josh Headford, winning first prize and to Carol Sexton, winning second prize.

If you wish to join the club you can register electronically by emailing pillchristmaslights@gmail.com, and you will be provided with all the necessary information to do this. Alternatively, please see the poster in the window of the Resource Centre, with joining details (cheques payable to Pill Christmas Lights). It's a one-off payment of £24 for a calendar year. Your name is entered into a monthly draw with the chance of winning first prize of £75 or second prize of £25. The December draw will be first prize of £500 and second prize of £100.

Parish Council News

The Parish Council has some matters which are still in progress and you might find it interesting to know where we are with them.

The budget for 2022/23 has been agreed and includes money to be allocated to projects which we hope will be completed by Christmas.

Work on the 20 mph restriction measures in the village should start after the consultation period is over and any necessary changes are made. As you know the PC has been strongly in favour of these measures and we have spent considerable time with the traffic specialists of North Somerset who have extensive experience about similar schemes across the district. Villagers will also have had the chance to make their views known to these traffic specialists on 21 July as well as receiving the details of the scheme in the post. The NS website contains the updated information for your information.

By contrast, work on the Metro West scheme has slowed and you may have read that there is now rising concern about the financial implications of the project.

The beautification of the Precinct has been completed and has received many positive comments. Certainly, it is a transformational project in which many villagers were involved and we are all indebted to the tireless leadership of Lucy Byrne who has enthused everyone.

Of particular value has been the involvement of many young people, who have helped in the painting, the planting and the tidying. The PC provided £500 to the project as the remaining £20,000 came from our successful bid to North Somerset. The benefit and impact has been felt throughout the village and it was great to see how some residents of Sambourne Lane used their initiative to beautify their own area and create an oasis of colour instead of a neglected and litter strewn verge.

The PC also hopes to benefit from a matched funding bid - led by Ellie Blaney - for an upgrade to some of the play equipment in the recreational areas in the village. Look out for new arrivals in Hardwick Road!

The PC also recognises the efforts of the teams of villagers who help with litter clearance, footpath control, tree planting, mowing and

strimming, and appreciates that this is tough work in hot weather.

We are also delighted to welcome to Bob Buck who was elected to the vacancy following the death of Peter Stanley.

Finally, if you are interested in becoming involved with the Parish Council please give it some thought over the summer. Council elections take place in May 2023 so if you would like to learn more please contact any councillor or our clerk, Julie Smart.

Trevor Wraith
On behalf of the Parish Council

Pill Rag 2022

On behalf of The Pill Rag Committee May I take this opportunity to thank all of those wonderful people that helped to make Rag Day the success that it was. As always there are far too many to mention by name and I would hate to miss anyone, so I'm doing it this way so that I don't forget anyone!! Without this band of wonderful people, we would struggle to have a Rag Day.

It was so good to be back after having to cancel the last two due to the dreaded Covid! Here's to many more Rags in the future.

Love and best wishes to you all.

Pauline McDade
Pill Rag Chairman

Charles "Charlie" Marshall

Charlie sadly passed away on Monday 16 May.

On behalf of his wife Audrey and his family we would like to thank you all for your love, kindness and support shown during this very sad time.

With much love, and God Bless you all.

Pauline

Chilie's Community Allotment

Chilie's community allotment is recruiting new members. For those who may not know, Chilie Davies was a much-loved member of our community, who left her allotment to Sustainable Pill and District (SPAD). In her memory we set up Chilie's community

allotment, to share the love of growing your own organic vegetables with others in our community.

We meet on Tuesday mornings and have a group working party on the first Saturday of the month. Volunteers also pop along most Saturdays and Sundays in hot weather to water and potter. It's a great way to learn about growing your own, to meet new people and is less of a time commitment than a plot all to yourself. We share the work and share the produce, learning as we go and putting the world to rights. Find us at Plot 20A Cross Lanes allotment, contact Lucy 07929 655141 to join our group.



The 'Frying Pan' Hardwick Road Jubilee party on Sunday 5 June. Despite the rain everyone from the cul de sac came.





Do Something Amazing!

Did you know that you can now donate blood at Leigh Court? There are regular sessions there, very efficiently run with plenty of parking. What could be easier?

NHS Blood and Transplant are appealing for more donors and need:

- Nearly 400 new donors a day to meet demand
- Around 135,000 new donors a year to replace those who can no longer donate
- 40,000 more black donors to meet growing demand for better-matched blood
- 30,000 new donors with priority blood types such as O negative every year
- More young people to start giving blood so we can make sure we have enough blood in the future

If you are a lapsed donor, please consider returning. If you've never given and are willing to start, you can find more details of eligibility and information about the countless ways in which your blood could be used at www.blood.co.uk, or call 0300 123 23 23.

Oh, and did I mention, you could save someone's life by giving up an hour of your time?

**Go on – do
something amazing!**



**Give blood
blood.co.uk**

Community Minded?

Do you have general maintenance skills, decorating, electrical etc? Perhaps you have IT knowledge you could offer? If so, we would really appreciate the odd hour of your time every once in a while to help at the Community Centre. As with all old buildings, there is upkeep involved but as with many similar community assets we don't have an evergreen money tree so we are appealing for local community minded people who might be willing to give a little towards keeping this valuable local resource functioning and appealing for the many activities which take place there.

If the idea of dreary meetings puts you off, don't worry, we don't need people to join our Committee (though you would be very welcome, and they're never dreary!) but we'd really appreciate a group of skilled people we might call on occasionally to help. If you can, please contact Jo Smith on 07866047463, or email info.pillcommunitycentre@gmail.com



For details of other news and events around the parish, visit pillandeastoningordano.org



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overflow to areas prone to drying
out. Your garden will love you for
the natural rainwater!**



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