

BUCKLAND NEWTON YOUTH CLUB

THE VILLAGE HALL, BUCKLAND NEWTON, DORCHESTER, DORSET

Dear Parish Councillors

It can be hard to remember all the amazing things that Buckland Newton Youth Club members have done since September 2023 – the start of our year, so I thought I would try and capture some of our activities in the photo report attached.

Buckland Newton Youth Club now has 40 young people registered as members. They come from as far as Sherborne in the north and Charminster in the south, although the main cohort are from Buckland Newton, Pulham, Mappowder, Kings Stag and Glanvilles Wootton. Not every young person comes every week, but the Youth Club is averaging approx. 25 young people each week, and in September 2024 plans to start to split the group to provide additional time just for the Yr 8+

Since Covid rules relaxed the Youth Club has continued to build its partnership with Buckland Newton School and this year is supporting all the Yrs 1 – 5 to do a Discover Arts Award, the Yr 6s an Explore Arts Award and older Youth Club members to do a Bronze Arts Award. This has included financing the cost of a trip to Dorset County Museum and taking part in an afternoon's mask making workshop with Darrell Wakelam for all the Yr 6s and any Youth Club members who wished to attend.

The success of the Youth Club increases the number of young people who want to attend which in turn enables us to apply for additional money. In the last 9 months BNYC has received funding from BN United Charities, the North Dorset LAG, the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner and Dorset Council's Culture & Community Fund.

This has allowed us to develop an exciting programme of activities which the young people have asked for, this includes:

Autumn

Indoor Climbing	A Martial Arts Workshop	Apple collecting and pressing
Halloween Games	A Christmas Party	Ringing
Drama Workshops		

Spring

Pantomime in a Day	Art Workshops	London Residential
Night walk	Dodgeball and Skipping	Cooking

Summer

Evening at the Beach Rounders		Solstice walk to Cerne Abbas
Sleepout	Kayaking	Trips - Splashdown & Dorset Water Park

In May 2024 the Youth Club took on an allotment which it is currently working to clear in order that members can grow and learn how to cook their own vegetables, and that once it is

usable, other members of the community from the school and the toddler group can also use.

In September 2024 the Youth Club will hold the first BN Hobby Horse Trials, which will see the young people make their own hobby horses to compete over Mini Jumps and funding applications are being made so that members will once again be able to take part in a London residential. We also hope to provide a series of music workshops in October, that will see the young people make their own music video!

None of this would be possible without the amazing support of a dedicated group of volunteers and parents. The Youth Club is run entirely on a voluntary basis and would not be possible without the following who give up their time every week and some weekends to help:

Mark Chappell
Hope Nelson
Jan Weir
Laurence Booth

Plus of course numerous parents – all of whom seem to enjoy the activities as much as the young people!

In order to support the volunteers the Youth Club paid for Hope and Mark to undertake their Level 3 Mental Health First Aid Certificate this year and is supporting Hope and Laurence to start their Level 2 in Youth Work in September 2024.

It is my hope that BN Youth Club now has a wide ranging and exciting programme of activities to offer young people over the course of the year and that this programme not only provides lots of positive opportunities for the young people in the community, but helps to create lots of lovely memories in order to inspire some of them to become youth workers too!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Kate Parish', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kate Parish
Buckland Newton Youth Club

Buckland Newton Village Hall – Report for Parish Council

In March 2024 the village hall had it confirmed that it had been accepted by Dorset Council to become a Rural Family Hub. This means that the Hall will be used on a Wednesday throughout the year in order to provide a range of early help and targeted support for children, young people and families in Buckland Newton and the surrounding areas. This includes the existing Toddler Group, which is now able to use the Hall on a Wednesday free of charge, as its use is covered by the Hub.

Becoming a Family Hub has secured funding from Dorset Council which has covered the cost of hiring the Hall on a Wednesday for 50 x weeks a year in 2024 – 25 and in 2025 – 26.

A programme is now being developed in partnership with the community and Dorset Council to provide a range of activities from the Hall to be delivered as part of the Hub, this includes a holiday programme with funding from the HAF (Holiday Activities and Food programme).

The funding for the Family Hub has secured the Hall's finances for the next two years and it is hoped will also attract new users to the Hall. The Hall Committee have therefore agreed to undertake the work to replace the roof at the front of the Hall, and plans to improve the storage facilities within the Hall for its existing regular users. This will require the Hall to have a clear-out in June, in order to ascertain what is of value/use to the community and should be kept and what can be disposed of. If the Parish Council believes there are any items that belongs to it in the Hall, please let the Committee know ASAP so that arrangements can be made to either continue storing them, dispose of them or have them moved to another area for safe keeping.

In 2025 the Hall Committee would also like to improve the area to the rear of the Hall to make it more accessible to users and encourage environmental and forest school groups to use the space.

In general, the Hall Committee is now working to increase the number of users of the Hall at the weekends and to continue to encourage the regular use of the Hall by various groups during the week.

The United Charities of Buckland Newton

This registered charity, actually made up of six individual bequests, dates back as far as 1424 and was originally called Bishop Bubwith's Charity. In 1686 the Charity of John Barnes (a relative of the Dorset poet) was added, plus in 1806 and 1824 Charities in memory of Elizabeth Maria Foy, whose memorial is on an interior wall of Buckland Newton Church. Finally in 1854 the Charity known as the Allotment for the Labouring Poor provided a piece of land. The exact location of these allotments, known as the Buckland Newton Allotments and Cosmore Allotment, seems to be lost in the mists of time, but they were sold in 1972 and the proceeds invested with the Official Custodian of Charities.

The aims of the charity, known in 1972 as The Buckland Newton Relief in Need Charity, were to 'relieve either generally or individually persons resident in the area of the Ancient parish of Buckland Newton who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress'. It is interesting to note that the Ancient Parish includes Plush, as the church in Plush was at that time part of Buckland Newton parish and there is still a Trustee member from Plush. Over time, the definition of 'need' became somewhat loosely interpreted and grants were made for more general community projects. In 2017, an application was therefore made to the Charity Commission to amend the registered aims of the United Charities to reflect current needs and ensure conformity with Charity Commission regulations. The Charity Commission permitted the application and the Trust Deed was amended accordingly to cover such grants.

Historically, grants have been made, among others, towards erection of the Bus Shelter, repairs to the old Village Hall, a mower for the Cricket Club, a defibrillator in Plush, the Playgroup and the Drama Club. Recent grants have helped provide a new cooker for the Lunch Club, funding towards refurbishment of the Parish Pavilion and provision of footpath gates and funding for the Youth Club. There have also been numerous smaller donations to individuals for needs ranging from everyday essentials to books for university courses.

Generally, but not exceptionally, grants are relatively small and must be of benefit to the parishioners or organisations of either Buckland Newton or Plush. The Trustees, who are all local residents, are always willing to consider requests. Applications should be made through the Clerk to the Trustees and will be treated in the strictest confidence. Grants to local groups or organisations will only be publicised with the agreement of the recipients. Grants to individuals will never be publicised.

Jeremy Collins, Clerk to Trustees

Buckland Newton Environment Group

Report for Annual Meeting of the Parish Council – 4 June 2024

Background information (as this is our first report)

The environment group was established in May 2023. It was formed by a group of ten interested individuals who responded to an invitation from the Parish Council to set up a group. Through discussions with the Parish Council, it was agreed that the group would be independent but would link with the PC in relation to environmental developments.

The agreed purposes of the group are:

- To increase awareness, understanding, engagement and appreciation of our local natural environment
- To work to preserve, protect and enhance our local natural environment
- To work to prevent any degradation of our local natural environment.

The group meets monthly, alternating between:

- Meetings of the core group to co-ordinate and plan the group's work
- Field activities in the local area, which are open to everyone who is interested in coming along.

Activities during the past year

- Mapping of local ancient/notable trees and entering these onto the national Ancient Tree Inventory.
- Learning about our local meadows and contributing to their management eg grass clearing in late summer and planting native species in the Lydden Meadow
- Learning about our local woodlands and contributing to their management eg coppicing
- Undertaking training with Dorset Wildlife Trust in order to carry out river fly testing of the Lydden and tributaries (a way of monitoring the health of rivers)
- Contributing to the litter picking activity organised by the Parish Council
- Contributing to native species planting in the Parish Paddock, under the oversight of FWAG
- Linking with the Dorset National Landscape (AONB) officer, the FWAG project lead, the school and the Parish Council.

Plans for the coming year

The group will continue to contribute to a range of local environmental initiatives, including:

- Carrying out regular river fly testing of the Lydden and tributaries and reporting on our findings
- Surveying local meadows and contributing to their management. This includes the Lydden Meadow (in partnership with the Lydden Meadow Trust)
- Linking with the Dorset Hedge project to survey local hedges
- Producing wildlife information boards/sheet for the burial ground
- Carrying out a range of field activities and publicising these to the local community, so that others can join us
- Continuing to work together with the key partners listed above.

Buckland Newton Community Car Scheme report for Annual Parish Meeting 4th June 2024

Covers period 1st June 2023 to 27th May 2024.

The village community car scheme has covered 71 lifts this year. Another 15 were requested by clients and then cancelled and there were 3 lifts we were unable to cover due to lack of drivers.

13 clients used the service and lifts covered trips to:

- doctors surgeries at Cerne Abbas, Sturminster and Puddletown
- Hospital visits to Dorchester, Shaftesbury and Shepton Mallet
- dentists in Sherborne and Sturminster
- chiropractice
- shopping in Dorchester and Sherborne
- opticians
- trips to railway stations – Dorchester and Yeovil. We regularly take one client's live-in carer back when they finish their shifts
- Joseph Weld hospice
- a wedding reception when a taxi service couldn't provide cover

9 drivers covered the lifts and one of our long term drivers has decided they can no longer drive for the scheme.

The scheme has been unable to cover the annual running costs, with the insurance and mobile phone costs increasing this year. Members of the scheme helped run stalls at the village fete and we were granted some funding from the fete committee as well as some from United Charities of Buckland Newton. The scheme introduced an annual £10 registration fee per client this year to try to reduce our dependence on grants.

Sheila Crouch

Buckland Newton Community Car Scheme Co-ordinator.

27th May 2024

KNIT AND NATTER GROUP

The Knit and Natter group, which started in October 2022, is still going strong.

We meet fortnightly at the Gaggle of Geese. We welcome all crafts and we often get people knitting, crocheting, patch-working, felting, rug-making, embroidery, tapestry and recently wire sculpture making.

We usually get at least 15 people coming along and sometimes up to 20. We are a very informal group who get together and it is a good opportunity to share ideas and skills, and to learn new techniques, as well as to "show and tell". Obviously, lots of nattering happens too and we always have cake (and sometimes even lunch).

Everyone seems very keen to "Carry On and Keep Crafting"

Lyn Cox and Jane Willis

Buckland Newton Allotments Association
Report to the Annual Parish Meeting
4th June 2024

The allotments continue to thrive and we had a good growing season in 2023 although later, during the winter, gales caused some damage to sheds and greenhouses. For a brief period we had full occupancy but now have one plot available due to a member moving out of the village.

Sadly, several sheds were broken into during the winter with some hand tools stolen and a small amount of damage to locks and doors occurring.

The site is generally in good condition but the boundary fence between us and Court Farm will need some attention quite soon as it is currently being propped up in several places. We also intend to hire machinery this year to clear and improve the drainage in some overgrown and very wet areas. We are grateful that the roadside hedges were cut for us in the early spring.

We are delighted that the Village Youth Club has recently taken on a plot which they are quickly knocking into shape and have planted their first crops.

The spring has been very wet and it's been difficult to get on to the soil so early planting has gone by the wayside but recent improvements in the weather has enabled most plot holders to catch up. As ever, allotmenters are full of hope and plans for a satisfying year.

Andy Waring
Chairman/Treasurer

Buckland Newton Bellringers 2023/2024

Over the last year the Buckland Newton Bellringers have continued to hold weekly practices on a Wednesday evening at Buckland Newton and Mappowder and following the practices we have continued to retire to the Gaggle of Geese. We have also rung for Sunday services in the two churches.

The team comprises six ringers from Buckland Newton, five from Hazelbury Bryan and two from Pulham.

In May 2023 we rang the bells to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles and Queen Camilla. We were ringing as part of the national celebration at the same time as churches across the country.

In July we rang a Quarter Peal to celebrate Jane Willis' impressive milestone of 60 years of bellringing.

In October we rang a quarter peal to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Dorset County Association of Church Bellringers. This was part of an effort to ring a quarter peal in every tower in Dorset during the year.

We ended 2023 by ringing the bells at midnight and toasting the new year with a glass of bubbly.

In February we were invited to the vicarage in Cerne Abbas for a glass of wine with the Cerne ringers. Thank you to Jonathan and Jane Still for hosting us.

We rang another quarter peal in February to celebrate the 60th and 25th anniversaries of Jane and Nick's first quarter peals respectively.

In April we hosted the Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers, Dorchester Branch striking competition. Following the competition we retired to the village hall for a traditional bellringers tea. The results were announced and the Buckland Newton team were the winners. We are proudly displaying the trophy in the bell tower and will defend our title next year.

We always welcome new recruits and all the necessary training provided. Ringers can be of any faith or no faith at all and there is no obligation to attend church services. If you would like to have a go please come and join us on a Wednesday evening at 7.30.

Preaching to the converted!

Church of the Holy Rood Buckland Newton

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) The committee of elected names who manage the church activities - particularly on keeping the church in good repair and financially viable.

Holy Rood was listed in the Parish Plan as a Village Asset and the PCC is doing our best to keep it an important part of life at Buckland Newton.

At present the yearly income to keep the church open is supplemented by the Dibben Bequest – it is drawn upon on a monthly basis to supplement our expenditure - ~~for example~~

No Government Support

In 2023 the income from church giving and events held was £15,082 including Gift Aid. The expenditure was £21,176. – a shortfall of £7,000.

You will have heard that repairs are now required to the Chancel Roof, where a rafter in the east bay has slipped at the junction with the ridge and needs a complicated support system. During inspection some rot was also found in some major timbers. We are currently awaiting costs to carry out this work but it expected to be in excess of £50,000.

With this in mind the PCC has called upon the expertise of Anna Hardy, The Giving Advisor for Salisbury Diocese. Anna has agreed to help us raise funds via church grant funding

In addition to normal “giving” to raise funds to repair the roof we will also hold dedicated events at the church

In summary – as church warden I am pleased to tell you the PCC is dedicated to keeping Holy Rood as a important part of life at Buckland Newton - not just for weekly services, but also for weddings, funerals and baptisms and fundamentally to be a place of friendship, sanctuary and love - Thank you

FYI – the first dedicated event targeted to raise many to be paid towards the roof repair will be held 21 September – Dorset Wrecks group Sea Chanty Group

Lydden Vale News 2003/2004

	£
Balance as at 1st April 2003	2977.24
Advertising Revenue	3056.48
Fete funding	650.00
Printing Costs	-3948.00
Distribution Costs	-75.60
Balance as at 31st March 2004	<u>2660.12</u>

Factors

Printing cost Increases

Lost some advertising Revenue

Actions Taken

Reduced magazine by 4 colour pages saving £1,296 per annum in print costs

Applied for Fete funding as a one off

Increased advertising charges by approximately 10% from April 2024 (Unchanged since April 2018)

Gained a couple of new advertisers

Brian Oldroyd has decided to stand down as Distribution manager after many years service.