



AUTUMN 2020

Your Newsletter

For residents of Braysdown, Carlingcott, Peasedown St John and Woodborough

Published by Peasedown St John Parish Council

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Update on Braysdown Allotments

The Parish Council project to install some accessible plots is now nearly complete and we are delighted with the end result, which will give residents with restricted mobility the opportunity to do some gardening. The accessible plots are surrounded by grass matting to give a secure surface underfoot and will have a communal shed for all the accessible plot-holders to use. We have enough space for up to six plot-holders to have higher raised beds (each consisting of half of the C-shaped structure in the picture) and two lower beds at the correct height for wheelchair users.

Please e-mail or phone if you are interested or know someone who might be.

If you would like to find out more about our other plots or would like to have your name added to the waiting list, please contact us to let us know.



CropDrop!

The CropDrop project is a very live and new initiative in which Peasedown St John allotment holders are taking an active part. Supported by B&NES Council, the Sustainable Food Partnership and Transition Bath, this voluntary effort is coordinating the re-distribution of fruit and vegetables from allotments via volunteer drivers to charity projects that provide food.

The aim is to link allotments and food projects within the same area to help strengthen communities and minimise the 'food miles' of the allotment produce.

The project covers the B&NES area and already a number of allotments in Bath and Somer Valley have begun donating to food projects. In Peasedown, allotment holders have donated a wonderful range of produce to the Peasedown Food Bank including cabbages, courgettes, lettuces, runner beans, carrots and a fantastic array of squashes. The produce has been very well received by the Food Bank which opens its doors every Friday from noon until 2pm at the Methodist Church.



The CropDrop volunteers are keen to hear of anyone else who has produce they would like to share with local food projects or from any food sharing projects that could be supported. Please contact: transition.surpluscrops@gmail.com. You can also follow CropDrop on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Photo shows from left to right: Deborah Griffin (Crop Drop), Barbara Bailey (Somer Valley Food Bank and Parish Councillor) and Andrew Fraser (allotment holder and volunteer driver).

Thoughts from the Chair



2020 will be forever remembered as the year of the great pandemic, but we must not forget it also marks 75 years since the end of hostilities following the Second World War. Commemorations of VE Day and VJ Day were impacted and now we are thinking of Remembrance Sunday. There will be no parade along Bath Road, and attendance at church services will be restricted by the requirement for social distancing. Not all the uniformed groups will be attending the service at St John's Church, but the Union and other flags will be lowered, wreaths laid, and the 11.00am silence will be observed. Some parish and the ward councillors will represent you.

We realise that for some of you it will be painful not being able to attend a church service, but if all goes well there will be a YouTube video embedded on the Parish Council Facebook page. As we move into winter and learn to live with the virus, I count myself very fortunate that I live in a place which has been spared the extreme restrictions imposed in other parts of our country, and hope that will continue. Last but not least, a big thank you to all of you who have worked throughout this year maintaining essential services. Take care and continue to look after each other, Kathy.

Update on Beacon Hall

We have been working hard to get Beacon Hall ready to re-open for regular hirers and classes so that residents can continue to enjoy fitness classes and other community groups safely, despite the on-going pandemic. We have complied with the government's guidance on managing the risk of COVID-19 by carrying out a risk assessment, putting cleaning, handwashing and hygiene procedures in place in line with guidance and social distancing measures in place for our hirers. The Hall is not currently available for general access, but for regular hirers only.



Parish Councillor Surgeries

These will continue to be held at Beacon Hall.

Forthcoming dates are:

Friday 23rd October, 5.30pm to 7.00pm,
then

20th November and 18th December.

Due to coronavirus restrictions you will need to **book a 15-minute appointment in advance** (see contact details overleaf) and a maximum of two people may attend an appointment.

Christmas Tea for Older Residents

Sadly, due to COVID-19, we are not able to hold our usual Christmas Tea Party this year.

So that our older residents know that they are still in our thoughts, Peasedown St John Parish Council is putting together some small hampers of Christmas treats for them to enjoy safely at home.

**If you would like to request a hamper, please telephone us on:
(01761) 433686, no later than Friday 6th November 2020.**