

# BABCARY NEWS AND VIEWS

Congratulations to all the Babcary runners who took part in the Road Race at the end of February (too late for the last Newsletter). There were fifteen villagers plus two who grew up here. Many thanks to all the marshals, the refreshment team, and Avalon Sciences for sponsoring the event.

Well done to the team of litter-pickers and to Lucy and Cordelia for organising it all. Judging by the amount of rubbish sacks outside the Hut on Saturday, it was a very necessary job.

April is the month of AGMs. The Community Committee is on the Friday 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Hut, the Playing Field Committee is on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Hut, and the PCC on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Church. Any public support would be most welcome.

**Advance warning: On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May the Community Committee and the Playing Field Committee will be organising Afternoon Tea and Fun and Games to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III.**

Contributions for the May edition: 24<sup>th</sup> April.

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## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### PARISH COUNCIL

#### **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023 Parish Council Draft Minutes 8pm at The Hut**

**Present:** Mr Simon Hoar, Mrs Melinda Terleske, Mr Phil Sketchley, Mr Steve Street, Mr Graham Hughes, Mr Kevin Messenger (SSDC) & Mrs Jasmine Tucker (Parish Clerk).

**Apologies:** Damien Pick, Mike Lewis (SC)

Minutes of the Previous Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 signed.

#### **1) Matters Arising**

- i) Static property in Dilkes Lane. Enforcement officers interviewed the occupier on the 6<sup>th</sup> Feb, and action is being taken, NO FURTHER UPDATE.

- ii) Ongoing enquiry re anonymous Riverside Farm planning complaint. The complainant requested an update, but none yet received by South Somerset District, NO FURTHER UPDATE.

## 2) Finance

Capital Reserve Account stands at £11,997.28. Current Account Balance is £50

## 3) Planning Consultation

- i) **Notification of Appeal APP/R3325/W/22/3309133 21/01051/FUL The Red Lion Inn, Main Street Bab Cary**  
The Parish Council resolved to submit a response to the grounds for appeal by the deadline of 29<sup>th</sup> March.

## 3) Correspondence

- i) At the meeting of Frome Town Council on Wednesday, 22 Feb 2023, Cllrs unanimously approved the following recommendations.
  1. *That Frome Town Council considers that the lack of proper MP representation has existed for far too long, it has no confidence in our MP David Warburton and accordingly it requests that he resigns to allow a By Election to take place.*
  2. *That this report be forwarded to all other parishes in the constituency for their information***Bab Cary Parish Council agreed the motion of no confidence in David Warburton.**
- ii) New specialist Free School for Somerset children gets green light. Children in Somerset will benefit from a new free specialist school in Wells which will provide places for pupils with social, emotional and mental health needs. Somerset County Council.
- iii) Somerset Food Waste Week 6-12 March, Analysis in 2018 found 26% of the contents (by weight) of the average Somerset refuse bin was waste food - of that more than a third was thrown away still in its packaging. All houses in Bab Cary received pamphlet re recycling.
- iv) SPECIAL REASONS FOR SOMERSET TO CELEBRATE IN MAY 2023  
Somerset Day on the second Saturday in May (13<sup>th</sup>), Parish Council agreed to purchase Somerset Flag to fly (SH).
- v) The King's Coronation on 6th May, Bab Cary Community planning Cream Tea on the Playing Field, large screen to view the Coronation as a community has also been suggested for consideration (still awaiting Coronation timings).
- vi) Diane Redfern of Manor Farm informed the Parish Council of the progress made with the wildflower initiative. So far 18 households have requested seeds. Several of the participants that have large visible verges, agreed to have the digger remove grass to ensure maximum benefit for everyone. In total seven larger sites have been prepared, with donations (not to full cost) made by 5 of them. In addition, several others have also expressed their interest in participating in phase 2. The initiative is looking to provide a public good (for the village and those passing through), and also contribute in a small way to biodiversity. She requested that the Parish Council make a donation towards the seeding of the public spaces. Parish Council agreed a £50 contribution to the appeal.

#### 4) Any Other Business

- i) The Chairman is investigating the Valuation List for Babcary in order to verify that all dwellings are properly assessed for Council Tax given the surprising fall in the tax base last year.
- ii) Mr Kevin Messenger (SSDC) attended his last meeting with BPC, his help and advice will be missed, BPC wishes him well in his future escapades.

#### 5) Date & Time of Next Meeting: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> of April

NB. NOT the second Monday in the month (due to Easter)

## PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

### PCC AGM

The annual meeting of the PCC will be held in the church on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April. This is a public meeting and everyone is welcome, particularly if you could help look after our beautiful little church in any way – as so very many people do; the mowers, the cleaners, the flower arrangers, the ringers, the coffeemakers, our auditor and our organist.

### CHURCH ROTAS

#### Services

<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Babcary</b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>Meet at Hut</b>
Maundy Thursday	6 <sup>th</sup> April	6.30pm	Lovington	Said communion	
Good Friday	7 <sup>th</sup> April	10.30	Hornblotton	Way of the Cross	<b>Hot cross buns after</b>
Easter Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup> April	10.30	Alford	Communion	
Sunday	16 <sup>th</sup> April	10.30	N.Barrow	Matins	
Sunday	23 <sup>rd</sup> April	10.30	Lovington	Communion	St Georges Day
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>2.30pm</b>	<b>Babcary</b>	<b>wedding</b>	
Sunday	30 <sup>th</sup> April	10.30	S.Barrow	communion	

#### Cleaning

#### Flowers

#### Coffee

#### Sidesmen

2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Simon and Shirley	Lent – no flowers	Elisabeth & Lucy	Rory and Mel
9 <sup>th</sup> April	Janet and Lucy	Easter – all hands		
16 <sup>th</sup> April	Sarah and Sarah	Mary		
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Elisabeth & Mary	Elisabeth		
29 <sup>th</sup> April	Wedding			
30 <sup>th</sup> April	Judy and Sally	Judy H		
7 <sup>th</sup> May	Tom and Bridget	Su	Mary and Sally	

**Palm Sunday, family service, Babcary 2<sup>nd</sup> April** – meet at the hut at 10.30 and process, led by a donkey, around to the church.

**Good Friday, Hornblotton 7<sup>th</sup> April** – meet at the end of the lane up to the church and proceed with the cross in the re-telling of the crucifixion

**Wedding, 2.30pm Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April** – Sarah Duck and Kurt White from South Barrow will be getting married here at Babcary. If any village children would like to gather outside the church gate at about 3pm and extort money from the groom as they try to leave they would be most welcome!

### **Churchyard Clear up**

Thanks, in anticipation, to everyone who helped give the churchyard a spring clean on 1<sup>st</sup> April.

## **PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE**

The Playing field AGM is at 7pm on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April in the Hut. Please come along if you think you could help out with Sports Day, Bonfire Night, cricket or the Road Race or could lend a hand with the DIY tasks on the Hut and equipment.

### **Babcary Road Race**

#### **Local Results**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Age graded position</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lee McMeekin	44.26	2 <sup>nd</sup>
In absentia	Will Sparkes	47.00	n/a
8 <sup>th</sup>	James Hoar	47.59	33
10 <sup>th</sup>	Damien Pick	48.44	10 <sup>th</sup>
22	John Teesdale	54.08	15
48	Simon Hoar	58.43	27
In absentia	Richard Canterbury	61.07	n/a
60	Steve Wildman	63.41	57
63	Mark Billige	64.48	92
66	Lucy Hague	65.38	47
71	Lizzie Gilbert	67.22	94
81	Peter Sparkes	70.16	88
82	Karen Sparkes	70.16	65
86	Martin Quartermain	71.24	96
92	Will Pitt	73.42	109

93	James Ellis	74.58	104
107	James Rawlings	79.54	118
112	Daisy Ellis	85.21	114
117	Sarah Pick	86.16	103

A fantastic turnout from the village and an awesome result, second overall, for Lee McMeekin. Will Sparkes and Richard Canterbury sadly both missed the race due to being (respectively) “at sea” and “in California” on the race day but recorded unofficial times over the distance.

The results of the children’s races were:

11-16	only one runner, Sacha Canterbury
6-10	Boys 1 <sup>st</sup> Charlie Spencer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ali Canterbury (First Babcary boy) Girls 1 <sup>st</sup> Poppy Spencer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lily Nicolls
5 and under	Boys 1 <sup>st</sup> Jack Norman (first Babcary Boy) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Frankie Norman Girls 1 <sup>st</sup> Holly Gillespie (first Babcary girl) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Georgia Lyle 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sienna Lyle

#### **Babcary Road Race - a brief history.**

The race was started in the 1980s by Ian Teesdale and ran three times. It then had a bit of a holiday but was resurrected in 1998 by Ian, Brian Hartnell and Gary Tubridy and has been running ever since. 2021 was a bad year for everyone and our race was stopped for the third covid lockdown. The race has always had a quirky prize list based on the age graded results, a bit like a handicap race but based on the runner’ age. For this to work we need the results to be computerised.

Unfortunately our computer let us down in 2022 and so for that year only the prizes were given to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> men and women. The older runners made it known that they really liked the age grading system and so, with the help of a new computer, it was re-instated this year. There are also prizes for the first Babcary male and female runners and also first the Avalon Sciences employee.

There are also the junior races for those not old enough to run the main event. Twice around the pub for the 11 to 15 year olds, once around the playing field for the 6 to 10 year olds and a 100m toddle for the fives and under. Gold silver and bronze medals for the first three girls and boys in each race and chocolate for all the runners, that always goes down well.

The tea and cakes have always been a huge draw and, having re-instated it this year after a two year gap, the race reached its 150 runner capacity well before race day, says it all.

The race is always the last Sunday in February so for 2024 it will be the Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February and that will be on us in a blink of an eye. The course record, set in 2001 by Charlie Lowe is just 39.02 minutes!

Gary (assisted by Sarah) has been running (but not running!) the Road Race for now for 25 years and Avalon Sciences Ltd have been sponsoring it throughout; such that it is now a major contributor to Playing Field funds and something of a village institution. A huge vote of thanks to both! Gary hopes

to be able to run in the race himself in the future so we're hoping someone will step forward and take on running the event.

Thanks also go to the refreshments team (who produced tables groaning under the weight of all the cakes), to the marshals who lined the course at strategic points, the lead car driver and to the water station.

## COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

AGM meeting takes place at 7pm in the Hut.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

### Shop Rota

1 <sup>st</sup> April	Rita and Carole	6 <sup>th</sup> May	NO SHOP - CORONATION
8 <sup>th</sup> April	NO SHOP – EASTER	13 <sup>th</sup> May	Gilli and Shirley
15 <sup>th</sup> April	Judy and Jane	20 <sup>th</sup> May	Sally and Vee
22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Jan and Karen	27 <sup>th</sup> May	Cordelia and Jules
29 <sup>th</sup> April	Lucy and Jenny	3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Helen and Teresa

## CONCERT: SUNDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> APRIL

### 3 p.m. Holy Cross, Babcary

Please come along to our afternoon tea concert at 3 p.m. on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April raising money for Keinton Mandeville School PSA.

We are so delighted to welcome back some of our wonderful Babcary musicians who began their musical journey as 'entertainers' at Harvest suppers and other village events!

#### Programme includes:

- Songs from the fabulous Chloe Paull! Chloe studied song writing at university and continues to enjoy her music alongside her marketing role in Bristol.
- A programme of songs by Esme Ellis who is now studying Music & Politics and is a choral scholar at Royal Holloway, University of London. She's also just played the role of Cupid in *Venus & Adonis*!
- Performances by students of local music teachers, Amie Pendarves and Nikki Hewson.
- 'Pop Up' Children's Choir - pupils from Keinton Mandeville Primary school
- Performances by children from Keinton Mandeville Primary school

And.... it's not too late to get involved. If anyone has a 'number' they are itching to perform, please get in touch with Nikki: 01458 224044 mob: 07812 441143. If we get enough interest, these 'Pop Up' music events could become a regular thing.

Raffle

Refreshments

**Donations in aid of Keinton Mandeville P.S.A.**

## **Garden Open**

Bush Farm, Babcary, TA11 7DS

Sunday May 14th

12.00 – 16.00

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Garden, Water Garden, Potager, Tree Garden, Wild Flower Meadow, Woodland – Plant Sale – Garden Sculptures by local artist on display and sale

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Light Lunches and Teas

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Entry £5

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All proceeds raised for **help for HOMELESS**  
Charity No 1189539

### **Mobile Library**

Calls at the bus shelter from 1.10 – 1.35pm on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April

## BABCARY LITTER PICK

SATURDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023 . A big thank you to “Lucy & the Litter Pickers”\* for clearing our hedgerows of a year’s worth of rubbish. Less Blossom Hill bottles than hitherto but replaced by cans of Lamcello. Bags of dog poo are also a new and dispiriting feature – why bag it if you are not taking it away?!

\*a little known 1970’s folk rock band?

## NEWS VIEWS AND COMMENTS

We welcome Mark and Andi Billige and their sons Danny & Will to Baker Street. They’ve come from London and Mark has already “made his mark” by running a good time in the Road Race.

### WEATHER REPORT

Dry weather from the second half of January continued into February with just 7.6mm of rainfall during the month. This makes it the driest February since 1993 . The whole month was predominantly dry with most days receiving less than 1mm of rain and no day receiving more than 3mm.

Steve Street

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Palm Sunday Service	10.30 Hut to Babcary church
Friday 14th April	Community Committee AGM	7pm Hut
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	PC Meeting	8pm Hut
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Playing Field AGM	7pm Hut
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Concert	3pm Babcary church
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	PCC AGM	7pm Babcary church
Thursday 27th April	Mobile Library	1.10 -1.35 Bus shelter
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Wedding	2.30 Babcary church
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Coronation Cream Tea	4pm Playing Field
Every Tuesday	Bell Ringing	6pm in the church
Every Saturday	Community Shop	9.30 – 11am in the hut