

About This Book

As a member of the Millennium committee I pushed forward the idea of a Millennium book. It was an idea my husband Dave Turner had but as he was too busy to get involved I agreed to do it. We gave each villager a piece of paper with these instructions:

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP - MILLENNIUM NEWS

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DOOMSDAY BOOK

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As part of the Millennium activities in the village we are compiling a 'Doomsday Book' to show future generations what Leigh-on-Mendip was like at the turn of the millennium.

We would like people to tell us anything they wish about themselves or what they are doing on September 1st.

It could be what hobbies you have, what work you do, where you go to school, any special things you think of, or just what the weather is like. Really we are interested in anything that any of you in your household would like to contribute, including drawings or photos.

We had a reasonable response. However when they were placed altogether the pages looked very plain because not many people had included pictures or photographs. In retrospect I should have asked everyone for a photograph of themselves and their family.

The committee were keen that the pieces of work should be left as they were and not retyped into a proper book. I felt it needed lots of photographs so I went round the village in 2001 and took photographs of the houses in the village.

My thanks to Caroline Peat who helped me with the book

Barbara Turner

Barbara Turner



WORK ON THE
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
SYMBOL



Stone Bench

A lump of Doultling stone was purchased on the 1st December 1999 and placed under a tarpaulin next to the Bell Inn. Local stone carver Tony ("Pru") Comer agreed to carve the seat in his spare time with local people trying their hands with mallet and chisel. Everyone has enjoyed watching progress over the months.

Local organisations have provided ideas for the decoration and embellishments. Symbols representing the Women's Institute, "Evergreens" (over 60's group), School, Church and The Bell Inn have been engraved.





'THE BELL INN'

'EVERGREENS'



Inaugural Meeting : 10th November 1998

A meeting was held after the memorial Hall AGM, chaired by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Dave Pattison.

Assembled parishioners were told that the Parish Council had booked the Memorial Hall for the 31st December 1999 to enable it to be used for a village celebration. The Parish Council had called the inaugural meeting aiming to set up a committee to bring together ideas for the celebration and co-ordinate their implementation.

The Committee

Alan Vaughan - Chairman (resigned July 1999)

Paul Moore - Parish Council & Chairman (from July 1999)

Andy Jackson - Vice Chairman

Phil Chipperfield - Treasurer (resigned September 1999)

June Featherstone - Secretary

Caroline Peat - FOLS & Treasurer (from September 1999)

Matthew Garner - Under Fives

Gill Baker - Memorial Hall

Barbara Turner - Women's Institute

Ann Robson - Recreation Field

Kath Griffin - The Evergreens

Paul Longley - PCC

Vicki Taylor

The first meeting was held on Tuesday 1st December 1998 at 8 p.m. in the Bell Inn when the committee was formed. The W.I. offered to donate proceeds from a Jazz Concert to be held in January 1999 and other groups were also approached to hold an event.

We are very grateful for the following donations:-

W.I. from Jazz Evening	£221.94
Under Fives Group from Race Night	£71.50
Evergreens from Bingo	£144.20
Village Fair	£650.00
From Farmers Teas	£247.17
Recreation Field Committee from Car Boot	£32.89
FOLS from Beetle Drive	£28.86
Personal donation	£20.00

The Millennium Committee organised a Halloween Auction, which made a grand profit of £1550.34, so in total the Committee had nearly £3000 to spend on village projects.

All parishioners were sent a questionnaire with several suggestions of projects and asked for comments.

- a) Electric winder for church clock
- b) Planting 2000 bulbs
- c) Planting trees in several designated places
- d) Commemorative gift for children of the village
- e) Twinning with a continental village
- f) Changing 'Leigh on Mendip' to the old name of 'Lye-upon-Mendip'
- g) 'The History of Leigh on Mendip' - a book
- h) A carved stone bench

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP - MILLENNIUM NEWS

We promised to keep you informed of the activities of the Millennium Group throughout the year, so here is the latest news from us :

SNOWDROPS

Many thanks are due to Gill Baker and Anne Robson for organising the planting of 2,500 snowdrop plants. The plants are a mixture of single and double snowdrops and are sited in grassy areas, mainly around the entrances to the village.

The plants should flower early spring next year and provide a fine display to welcome people to our village.

The work of planting the snowdrop plants was completed over two weekends recently,- thanks to Vicky, Caroline, Patricia, Roger and Anne, Joan, Margaret, Sue, Diane and Emma, Shelagh and Roy, and another Vicky.

This project is the first one to be completed during the Millennium year, and although we will not see the results of the project until next spring it is good to feel that we are achieving something of lasting benefit to the village.

Group members are listed below. Anyone interested in joining us would be very welcome.

Contacts:-	Paul Moore	812392	Andy Jackson	812316
	June Featherstone	812672	Caroline Peat	812889
	Matthew Garner		Gill Baker	
	Ann Robson	812879	Paul Longley	812050
	Barbara Turner	812934	Kath Griffin	812462

PLEASE CONTACT ANY OF US IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS, OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ASSIST IN ANY WAY.

Leigh on Mendip

Millennium News Millennium News

Issue two – September 1999

100 Days to the millennium at the time of writing!

The real point of this month's newsletter?

The Millennium Auction Saturday 30th October 7:30pm Memorial Hall

We are finalising the arrangements for the fund-raising auction and would like to add to the goods & promises already pledged. The more there is to auction the more money is raised and the more fun people will have on the night.

To that end a committee member will be calling on every household in the village towards the end of the month 'pledge gathering'.

Just so you all have time to think of something, here are a few ideas.....

- Babysitting
- Car washing
- Gardening/DIY
- Shoe cleaning
- Housework
- Food & drink
- The benefit of an individuals particular skill/ability for a while

- Horse riding
- Taxi rides (chauffeur if you clean the car first!)
- Dog walking
- Hay
- A haircut
- Word processing
- Computer tuition/help
- A slave for the day (!)

In fact anything (legal & within the boundaries of reasonably good taste). It need not be expensive, time consuming or hard work.

Please – let us have something to auction!

If you are unsure, or want some more ideas, talk to one of the committee. If you want to pledge a 'lot' prior to the door knocking, again grab a committee member.

Reminder – Tickets for the evening will cost £4.00 for adults, £2.00 for children. Ploughman's supper will be provided. Bar open all night. Auctioneer confirmed as Adrian Dando – thoroughly entertaining.

Next meeting 30th September 8pm @
The Bell – don't be shy come along!

LEIGH ON MENDIP MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE

HALLOWEEN



AUCTION & SUPPER

Saturday 30th October

7.30 p.m.

Leigh on Mendip Memorial Hall

Tickets £4/£2 from 812889

Leigh on Mendip
Millennium
Committee



Halloween Supper and Auction

Saturday 30th
October 1999



Auctioneer
Adrian Dando
Towncrier for
Midsomer-Norton
and Radstock



Halloween Auction and Supper

A Halloween Auction and Supper was held on Saturday October 30th 1999. Over 40 local businesses and attractions were approached as well as neighbours, friends and villagers resulting in 89 varied lots for the Auction. The Committee also had practical help from villagers with the food and organising the event. Special thanks to Mary Mears.



The hall was decorated to an orange and black theme, including lit pumpkin lanterns on each table. Guests were offered a substantial Ploughman's Supper during the interval.

Adrian Dando, the towncrier for Midsomer Norton and Radstock, kindly conducted the Auction and bids ranged from £3 for photocopying to £110 for designer wallpaper. This was a very enjoyable evening and the Committee was very pleased with the amount of money raised.



JUNE FEATHERSTONE,
CAROLINE PEAT,
KATH GRIFFIN
ANNE ROBSON



KATH GRIFFIN

2000 2000 New Year's Eve Party 2000 2000



EDWARD PEAT, SHELAGH HAYWOOD

The most important event of 1999 was to see in the New Year. All over the country large events were being organised. Unfortunately some had to be cancelled because they were charging too much money.

In Leigh-on-Mendip we wanted to have a family village party to include people of all ages. They were invited to dress up in "a Forgotten Wardrobe" The event wasn't to raise money

The hall was decorated with banners and balloons with a Millennium theme. People arrived in costume, which set the right atmosphere. It was quite noisy with children running about but we soon got them playing pass the parcel musical chairs and statues. Children and adults got into the spirit of the evening. There was lots of laughter especially when we passed matchboxes on the end of noses.

At midnight we stood in a circle with either a Millennium candle provided by the Church or a lighted taper. Geoff Peat then read the Millennium prayer. Afterwards party poppers went off and champagne and cake were served. Some people with young children had to go home but others danced the night away, to music from various decades.



MATTHEW GARNER



TOM TURNER



BARBARA TURNER, ANNE ROBSON

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR



MONICA & KATHRYN ORLEDGE,
DAVE PATTISON



DAVE & JOAN PATTISON, MARGARET LOTEN



BRIAN LOTEN, GEOFF PEAT, ROY HAYWOOD



SHELAGH HAYWOOD



ROY HAYWOOD, MARY NEARS



ANNE & JAN ROBSON

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR



SPARKS & JOHN BEATTIE



GARNER GUESTS



DAVE PATTISON & DAVE HEARS



MARGARET & BRIAN LOTEN



MARY HEARS,
CAROLINE PEAT,
JAN ROBSON,
GEOFF PEAT

NewStart

millennium candle

Light a candle for the millennium moment...



31st December 1999

This candle is a gift from local Christian churches to mark the 2000th anniversary of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Please have your candle with you wherever you are on millennium eve.



Shortly before midnight...

Light your millennium candle.

Keep a moment of silence and reflection together.

Say the Millennium Resolution with those around you.

The Millennium Resolution

Let there be respect for the earth, peace for its people, love in our lives, delight in the good, forgiveness for past wrongs and from now on a new start.

Millennium Candle - Safety Advice

We hope that your millennium celebrations will be happy and memorable. However, before lighting your millennium candle, we ask you to spend a moment to read these safety instructions;

- As an extra safety precaution, the candle holder has been designed to allow you to add a small amount of water. It is recommended that you should add water to cover the lower frosted section of the holder. Never leave lighted candles unattended. Use the candle only in the holder supplied. Keep away from children, vulnerable adults and pets. Keep lighted candles away from hair, clothing and curtains. After use - make sure this candle is fully extinguished.

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR



GARNER GUESTS,
ROBSON GUESTS

ROBSON GUESTS,
MICHELLE GARNER,
MATTHEW GARNER,
KATE GARNER,
TRISH MARABLE,
BOB MARABLE



KATHRYN ORLEDGE,
RICHARD ORLEDGE,
MONICA ORLEDGE,
CAROLINE PEAT,
PATRICIA SIMPSON,
SAMUEL PEAT,
PAMELA BROSTER



JOHN BEATTIE,
TOM BEATTIE,
SPARKS BEATTIE,
GEOFF PEAT,
GARNER GUESTS



ST GILES'S DAY – 1 SEPTEMBER 2000



BARBARA & DAVE TURNER

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR



SAM PEAT,
PAMELA BROSTER,
SHELAGH HAYWOOD,
SARA STACEY,
KUROSH

TRISH MARABLE,
BOB MARABLE,
COLETTE MEARS,
MARY MEARS,
DAVE MEARS,
TOM TURNER



ADAM MARABLE,
EDWARD PEAT,
LEE MARABLE,
ANNE ROBSON,
ANNA BEATTIE,
JOHN BEATTIE,
TOM BEATTIE,
SPARKS BEATTIE

TOM TURNER,
JOAN PATTISON,
DAVE PATTISON,
BARBARA TURNER





DAVE PATTISON , CAROLINE PEAT

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR



MARGARET LOTEN,
BRIAN LOTEN,
JAN ROBSON

TAYLOR GUESTS,
MICHELLE TAYLOR,
SAMANTHA TAYLOR,
MIKE TAYLOR,
JACK TAYLOR,
CHARLOTTE PEAT,
KATHRYN ORLEDGE



LEE MARABLE,
ANNE ROBSON,
ANNA BEATTIE,
JOHN BEATTIE,
TOM BEATTIE,
SPARKS BEATTIE,
GEOFF PEAT,
GARNER GUESTS,
ROBSON GUESTS.

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP - MILLENNIUM NEWS

MIDSUMMER STREET PARTY

We are arranging a Street Party for all village residents who wish to attend on Saturday 24th June in the Bellfield area. We have also booked the Memorial Hall in case of rain.

The Party will be from 4 o'clock in the afternoon until 6:30 p.m.

Entertainment will be provided in the form of games, races, a treasure hunt, comedian/juggler, music, face painting etc. Final arrangements are still being confirmed.

Teas will be provided, sandwiches, jellies, cakes, sausage rolls etc.

And now the important bit - HOW MUCH WILL THIS COST?

We expect to charge a fee of £1.00 per family however many attend.

Children and Evergreens will not be asked to pay.

Please no unaccompanied children.

If you would like to attend please fill out the form below and hand it to any of the Millennium Group contacts, or the Village shop or the Bell Inn.

+++++

I would like to attend the Millennium Street Party on 24th June.

Family name:-

Number of Adults:-.....

Number of children:-

Midsummer Madness Street Party

Saturday 24th June 2000 from 4.00 to 6.30 p.m.

D Bendale

Tosh Marale
Bob Marale

Clive Gill
Amanda Phoenix
Alwen Bick

All villagers were personally invited and there was a superb turnout of over 130 adults and children. Transport was arranged for some of our older guests. The party was based in and around the Memorial Hall, which was decorated with bunting.

The weather was threatening but stayed fine and cold. Guests enjoyed music, quizzes, games, face painting and socialising. Everyone present was asked to sign their name in a book.

Tea, which consisted of a wide variety of sandwiches and cakes, was served from three gazebos outside and laden tables inside. The children were amazed to be offered free drinks and ice-cream cones. Several plates of tea were taken to elderly residents who were unable to come. After tea Mr. Marvo - a local young magician, entertained everyone.

Again, many thanks to all villagers who helped - from sandwich making to gazebo erecting to organising games.

P. Wells
Sir Wells

Roy Haywood
Shelagh Haywood

R. Bull
Nargaret Kotan
Benjamin Kelly

Sue Redford

~~June Featherstone~~
~~June Westholme~~

Lindsay Greening

Victoria Grigg

Oscar Goenning.

E. Lance

E. Robson

W. King

M. Elliott

~~John - S~~

Mavis Knowles

Brenda Lowe

P. Beadle

R. Knight

Sheppard

Jason
Crowle

Jon Redford

Paul Longly

Richard Blunden

Rachel Cabon

Charlotte Featherstone

Adam Marable

Deborah Robinson

GILLIAN CASEY

GEOFF CASEY

Michelle Taylor

MICHAEL TAYLOR

Sam Tattor

Jack Taylor

Ahsen Cimpri

Jacqueline Witt

Sophie Longley

Matthew Housley
~~Leese~~
 Fev



THE MEMORIAL HALL

P Bloxham
 R Beauchamp
 R Beauchamp
 W Knowles
 F Stranks
 V ictoria Housley
 M M Housley

Vicky Hyslop
 Charlotte E. Peat
 Edward Peat
 Sam Peat
 Geoffrey Peat



THE FOOD

GERARD JONES AND FAMILY
 JAMES BIRD AND FAMILY
 Jessie Burton
 Kath Lambert

Vera Cary
 Evlene Moore
 Grita Stocombe
 Doran Bartlett
 Gray Britten
 M. Lewis



KATH GRIFFIN, BRENDA LOWE, GILL BAKER, TRISH MARABLE,
 PATRICIA SIMPSON

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR



GUESTS OUTSIDE

Colin Horn
 Margaret Cockcroft
 Keith Colver

Alison Wright

Lynne Simpson



MARGARET LOTEN , BARBARA TURNER , GILL BAKER

ST GILES'S DAY - 1 SEPTEMBER 2000



GUESTS INSIDE

[Handwritten signature]
 Mandy J ✓
 Chris Coles
[Handwritten signature]
 David Coles
 Jason Coles
[Handwritten signature]



CHOOSING FOOD

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

Linda n. Burleson
 David " " [unclear]
 Puz Jackson
 Andy Jackson

[unclear] [unclear]



MR MARVO (THE MAGICIAN)

Grant Aven
 Ryan Aven

Hannah Bristow
 Barrie Cobby
 Michael Cobby
 Samuel Cobby

Mary Mears

Shirley Perry
 Caroline Haddmott
 Hedley Haddmott
 Beverley Haddmott
 Joy Corp

Kathryn Orledge
 Monica Orledge
 G.H. Plummer
 N.G. Plummer
 D.G. Plummer
 M. BAKER
 ICAKE BAKER
 DAMIAN SABO
 S. [unclear]
 O. B. Family

Jill Taylor
Alicia Taylor
Toby Crisp
Maddie Crisp

Graham

Bassia J.

Paul Winks.

Vicki Winks.

Andy Skinget.

Stacey

H. Park.

U N V



MR MARVO & AUDIENCE

Caroline J. Peat

Bethany
perry

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

Contribution by Mike & Sue Adams of 4 Stanley Williams House an excerpt from a letter written on 1st September 2000

Ducks Pool in the Forest of Dartmoor now the Dartmoor National Park

I visited Ducks Pool, fifty years ago, early on the morning of the 26th November 1950, during a night/day march with the Beaver Patrol of the 14th Devonport Scouts. We walked from Burrator to Princetown across a lightly snow covered Moor. This was one of my first adventures and I have been indebted ever since to Scouting for the knowledge and experience I gained in those formative years.

On Monday 28th August 2000 we made an eight mile circular walk from the Whiteworks old tin mine near to Princetown. Having parked in a small quarry we kitted ourselves for the days walk – boots, waterproofs, warm clothing, food and drink and a thermal bag a piece (just in case!). Of course we were equipped with the 25000 map and a silver compass.

Looking across the wide valley bottom of Foxtor Mires we had a splendid view of a Dartmoor scape at its wildest most beautiful. There were no great tors in sight in any direction. Here you have to read the contours, spot the river courses, and trust your compass.

As we set off we were treated to a close-up of a beautiful creamy buff coloured wheatear which we believe was the Black Eared Wheatear. The spotting of this rare bird, sitting on a stone wall so near to us, added to our pleasure.

The clouds were moving from Southwest to Northeast, coloured all hues of brown, black and white, they occasionally allowed a glimpse of a pale blue sky behind them.

Among the granite walled field enclosures of the long gone tin mine we looked for the track to lead us on to Foxtor Mires. At first we strode out boldly on a wide green lane which passed through a gap in the granite walls onto the rougher terrain of the Mires. A bridle path is shown on the OS map. The topography around us was easy to relate to the map but where oh where was that path? We tried this way and then that way but we either went too far in one direction or the Mires were too difficult.

I selected a point of reference on the round feature of Foxtor, its low rocky outcrop was not in sight, and set my compass as for a night march, the only sure way to keep heading in the right direction whilst we jumped from grass tuft to grass tuft or squelched from quivering marshy vegetation to quaking bog hoping not to sink too deeply below our boots depth. We crossed a concrete slab bridge over the upper reach of the Swincombe river, and still the boggy texture under foot continued. Slowly we climbed out of the valley bottom springing from dry ground to grassy mound keeping to our compass bearing as well as we could. We passed a Celtic cross on our path upwards and eventually reached a 4 ft high stone wall which stretches around the valley at varying distances above the Mire. We clambered up and over the wall on a fixed vertical ladder. As we continued on up the slopes of Foxtor a heavy rain storm broke over us and the only shelter we could take was a cutting in the peat where we lay down until the storm passed. With a fresher wind now blowing and with only rare patches of blue sky in the rolling clouds we headed up to our first checkpoint, Black Lane. This is an old peat cutters track which nowadays resembles a weedy, boggy overgrown river bed.

A large expansive area to the East and below us was covered in a myriad of granite blocks from another old tin mining activity around the insignificant natural rocky outcrop of Foxtor itself.

Back bearings from North Hessary Tor, with its overbearing high TV mast, and Foxtor confirmed our position.

We now followed a southerly direction over a flatter area of knee high reeds and grass, the going becoming a little easier. We worked away across to the head of the River Erme and followed its course downwards, still from time to time finding ourselves waist deep in gullies or knee deep in water or bogs. Sue spotted a marker post in the distance where we would change direction due West to Ducks Pool. Coming level with this marker I set a course for Ducks Pool and we scrambled and tumbled and strode through more granite debris of tin mine workings towards our destination, a large boulder adorned with a plaque to the memory of William Crossing a famous author of Dartmoor Walks from more than a century ago.

Hidden nearby was a metal box containing the visitors book and rubber stamps. Here post cards are left by walkers to be forwarded to them by the next intrepid travellers who call in. We completed the visitors book leaving a Millennium greeting from Leigh on Mendip. Another storm broke whilst we were taking our lunch in the lee of the William Crossing Memorial stone. Rested, we headed south west over reasonable ground(?) to meet the Abbots Way (an ancient track from Buckfast to Tavistock), skirting below Great Gnats Head. Now heading north west and cresting the shoulder of the hill we found a wonderful panoramic view of rugged tors, vast Moorland, ponies, sheep, cattle scattered everywhere, the English Channel, Mount Edgcombe and the River Tamar glinting beyond Devon's rolling hills. We crossed the nascent River Plym at Plym Ford. Our route although still calling for a good work rate was now plain sailing but a compass bearing was still the surest way as whatever tracks there were went this way then that way. It was obvious that the owners of the animals these days use cross country buggies to come out to them here as the wheel tracks in the rough tufted grass showed. Albeit these buggies would not have been able to follow all of the route that we had walked so far and we hope that their use is forever restricted to Moorland Rangers and their like. Up one last slope across the top, another cross (metal and stone) then down to Nuns Cross Ford and Drakes Leat. We followed the Leat around the hill side, on a contour back, to the car.

We enjoyed our last views of the great expanse of the quaking Foxtor Mires, penned in by the hills painted with greens, yellows and browns. The treacherous bog all the time being maintained by the constant flow of water from the slopes. As the weather on our walk had reminded us the annual rain fall on Dartmoor is several times the norm and thus its numerous rivers which flow off in all directions from these high lands sustain and beautify the wonderful countryside of South Devon. With a beautiful evening ahead of us but still with a shower or two we headed home for Leigh going round the North Moor via Tavistock and Okehampton. The drive was pleasant, spectacular and a smashing finale to a great adventure.

Ducks Pool, Dartmoor, 28th August 2000
The "Beans" Patrol



**STEVE AND JOSIE ANDERSON****TWO GATES, WHITEHOLE HILL**

We moved to this bungalow from Saltford in May 1999. We have spent over a year renovating the property and included a "granny flat" for my mother, Phyllis Unwin, who joined us in July this year. We have lovely views across the valley towards Coleford to the front, and to the back can watch the deer, hares, foxes and 25 different species of birds.

It is believed that the land was a parcel included in a package purchased by the Gilson family from the Horner family for the purpose of building a dwelling for the quarry manager, around 1930. The building originally had four rooms together with a toilet, scullery and large porch. The scullery had been changed to a bathroom (although the original Belfast sink and larder with a large marble shelf remained) when the bungalow was extended with a new kitchen and large living room in the mid 60's. The garden also appears to have been extended to double its size at about the same time.

Other residents include two cats, three chickens and about 20 fish and a few friendly pheasants.

On the 1st September this year we attended the Bath and West Showground for the Amateur Gardening Show. The show covers a vast area and there was a lot to see. The students' gardens were quite interesting and obviously the Mediterranean theme is very fashionable at the moment. The bright colours of some of the gardens certainly contrasted with the dark clouds and a few bouts of torrential rain.

We spent about five hours at the show, visiting most of the stands and made a few purchases. There was a downpour at about lunchtime so we took shelter in one of the covered areas and ate a very good seafood sandwich each. We managed to dodge the showers for the rest of the day by visiting the various stands under cover. A most enjoyable day for us.



GILL & CLIVE BAKER'S HOLIDAY



Treyarnon
18 Bellfield
Leigh on Mendip
BATH SA3 5QH.

Friday 1st September.

The Cycle of Life.

Tomorrow can't come fast enough, the washing, ironing and cleaning will be done, sister Rachel's birthday card written and posted, and I must find time to remove the flowers from the church which, with others, brought such beauty to the Flower Festival last weekend. After all these things are done and the cases packed, tomorrow morning Elive and I will head into the distance towards Treyarnon in Cornwall for a much deserved holiday, the first in 3 years. We will be renewing our love affair with this spectacular Cornish Bay.

It is no coincidence our holiday destination has the same name as our house. Almost 4 years ago we moved here to Leigh on Mendip and dreamed of a new life at a slower pace amongst the green fields and so I started by naming our house Treyarnon. The word is a balm to me and my family.



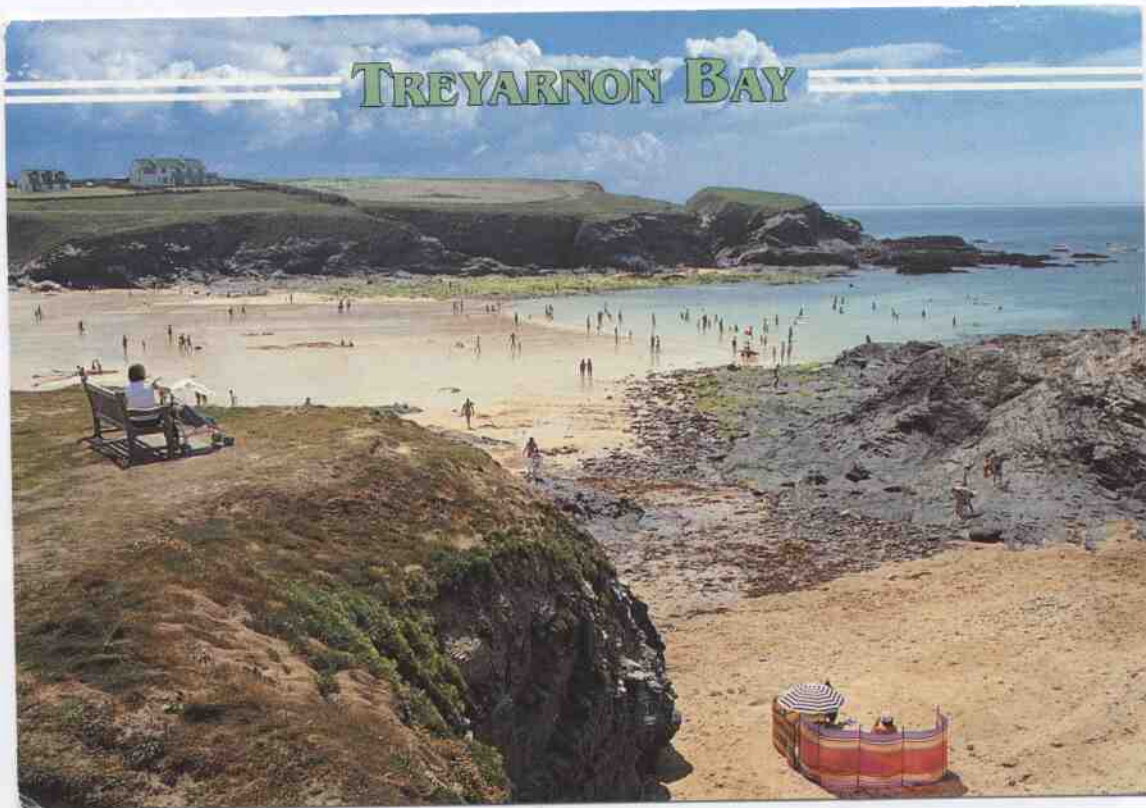
GILL & CLIVE BAKER'S HOLIDAY

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

having spent many happy holidays at this wild and rugged place.

We will be joining our daughter Hele, Ian her farmer husband - in great need of a rest after another trying year in farming, Greg - the chert-erbox, Haydn - The nip and dear little Morgen, just three of our five beautiful grandchildren.

The skills Ceive and I developed 30 something years ago to amuse our 2 daughters will now come in very handy to amuse the grandchildren, building super sandcastles and damming the many streams which flow down the beach to the sea. These simple pastimes will continue for hours. The in coming tide will put an end to play for the day and all will dawdle home tired but happy.



MR. D. BAKER.

10 PARK HAYES
LEIGH - ON - MENDIP

1ST SEPTEMBER 2000

TIME 21.00 HRS.

SEPTEMBER 1ST 2000 WAS GREETED BY CONTINUAL HEAVY SHOWERS, WHICH HAS BEEN A FEATURE OF THE 2000 SUMMER.

MYSELF AND WIFE MARGARET HAVE LIVED HERE 11 YEARS, I ORIGINATED FROM YORKSHIRE, WAS EVACUATED DURING THE 1939-45 WAR AND FROM THEN ON UNTILL MOVING TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS IN 1989 HAVE LIVED FAR AND WIDE OVER THE BRITISH ISLES, SO THIS VILLAGE WITH ITS ONE HIGH ST COULD BE IN CUMBRIA, NOTTINGHAM, SUFFOLK OR KENT, ENGLISH VILLAGES ARE SO STEREOTYPE.

MY WIFE AND MYSELF'S MAIN CONCERN ON THIS DAY IS THE SAME AS IT HAS BEEN FOR THE PAST 6 MONTHS, WHICH IS THE WORRY OUR CROSSBRED DOG "ALICE" (BITCH) WHO HAS A TUMOR ON THE LIVER WHICH WOULD PROVE FATAL TO REMOVE, SO IS ON DAILY DOSEAGE'S OF HIGH ANA-BOLIC STEROIDS, WHICH KEEPS HER ALIVE, ALTHOUGH IN-ACTIVE FREE FROM PAIN, THE LOOK IN HER EYES KNOWING SHE CANNOT DO WHAT SHE USED TO IS PITIFULL; IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE SHE SLEEPS ON. AT SEVEN AND A HALF YEARS THAT IS A TRAGEDY TO US, OUR SON PAUL 19 YEARS LIVES IN BATH, AND OUR MARRIED DAUGHTER KAREN 22 RESIDES IN THE BOURNMOUTH AREA. I WOULD LIKE TO END ON A MORE HAPPIER NOTE BUT I HAVE JUST PEELED A BANANA AND IT WAS EMPTY!! MUST KEEP TAKING THE TABLETS! D Baker

ST GILES'S DAY - 1 SEPTEMBER 2000



VIEW DOWN LEIGH STREET

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

Friday, September 1st, 2000. I was tired all day, having lain awake half the night worrying about Liza's passport, which we had realized was missing the day before. Every conceivable place had been searched in vain, and she was due to fly to California on Tuesday. So the first job of the day was to phone the Passport Office to see if a new one could be obtained in time. An appointment was made for Monday cutting it a bit fine!

I'm Venice Baron, and I live at Treetops, also known as The Old Co-op, opposite the Bell Inn with my husband Glenn, my daughter Liza and my son Nick, not to mention two dogs, two cats and a parrot.

Liza turned eighteen three days ago, and has worked hard this summer to pay for her trip to California before starting University later this month. How terrible if the missing passport prevented her from travelling! To our immense relief, a final search unearthed it in a forgotten corner of my desk. Crisis over, Liza spent the day in Frome, organising travellers cheques etc., before a night out in Bath saying goodbye to various friends who are also dispersing to various universities, jobs and gap years.

Glenn spent the day working in Chippenham. He does contract work as a software consultant and, although Chippenham is not really convenient or quick to get to, at least he can live at home during the week for a few months.

Nick, who is 16, has just completed his GCSE's and is about to start A Level work at Frome College. He spent the day at home, probably listening to and playing music and doing whatever he does on the PC. Buses from Leigh to Frome are few and there are none in the evenings, so it is difficult and expensive for teenagers to meet up with their schoolfriends during the holidays.

Having found the passport, I nearly collapsed with relief, and spent the rest of the morning tidying up the mess we had made while searching for it. I met up with a colleague for lunch at the Waggon and Horses pub, both of us bemoaning the fact that it was the last day of the school holidays. I teach English at All Hallows Prep School in Cranmore and at City of Bath College. There is little time to socialize during term time, so going out to lunch is a rare treat.. From there I went to the Rocky Mountain Nursery, on the way to Wells, to buy a birthday present for a friend. I couldn't understand why it took me so long to cross the junction with the A 37. It later transpired that a major accident on the Avonmouth Bridge had caused traffic chaos throughout the area, with the M5 closed, Bristol gridlocked and all major routes very heavy going. What with traffic problems, heavy downpours, and bits (mirror, tax disc, glove compartment...) falling off my car, as soon as I arrived home I had to set off for Frome to collect Liza.

Home again, by the time I had walked the dogs I was dead beat. Dog-walking in Leigh is a real pleasure on a sunny day if one's not in a hurry, there are no cows to avoid in the fields, and there are other doggy friends around for them to romp with. But on such a wet day, it's a necessary chore.

Liza had less than an hour to get showered and changed and catch the last bus to Frome, to start her night out. Glenn, Nick and I were also having a night out to celebrate our friend's 50th birthday. The party was great - we had a giant Indian take-away, followed by a Sian-special chocolate cake. We were then cajoled into playing party games - until exhaustion really set in and I was glad I had only a few yards to walk home.

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

That was September 1st - not a typical working day for me, but a busy one nonetheless.

Leigh on Mendip is an excellent place to live if, like me, you hate big cities, traffic noise and crowds. Admittedly, winter can be a bit bleak, but one definitely feels that one is part of a community here, and we are so lucky to have a great village shop, a busy pub and a school. For our family, transport is, perhaps, the biggest problem. Our children don't yet drive, and after a tiring day at work and with preparation and marking to do in the evenings, I simply cannot face going out late at night to fetch them from wherever. Another complication is that Nick plays the drums, and you really can't take a drumkit on the Badgerline bus. Then there are the occasional days when it snows and they don't grit the roads in time for people to go to work. A real problem if you have the sort of job where you are only paid if you actually go in! Still, I can't imagine moving away from the village, so I just hope that there are more retirement homes available here by the time we need one.

FRIDAY, 1st SEPTEMBER, 2000

After several days of pleasant, fine summer weather, today is cloudy with a fresh westerly breeze and at about 1310, Radio Bristol has issued a Severe Weather Warning suggesting that there will be heavy rain storms this afternoon. Radio Bristol is also busy reporting a serious traffic accident on the M5 bridge over the River Avon, necessitating closure of a substantial length of the M5 on a Friday at the end of the summer holiday season. Traffic chaos is developing in Bristol. In the accident, two people have been killed, several injured. (Later entry): The traffic chaos eventually extended to Bath and parts of Somerset including the A303.

The final Test Match, against the West Indies, is under way at The Oval. England, put in to bat yesterday, are 256 for 8

I have spent the morning working at home with a quick trip to the village shop to buy a pie for lunch and to grab a copy of the local free newspaper, the FosseWay Magazine.

This evening I expect to attend bell ringing practice at Whatley. (Later entry): I did

I am writing this on a Pentium computer, using Windows 95 and Word 97.

StGilesDay.00



THE VILLAGE STORES

Mr & Mrs R Beaumont
6 Park Hayes
Leigh-on-Mendip

We spent the day quietly making plans for
our 54th Wedding Anniversary on Sept 7th

We spend a lot of time for the Evergreen Club
organising outings Bengoi etc. Also spend a lot
of time in the garden

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

Michael Bloxham
15, Park Hayes
Aged 60

Morning: Light breakfast consisting of cereal, yoghurt and a cup of tea. Work started at 8.45 am. This mainly consisted of paper work and packing and despatching 2000 brochures to Sweden. Three boxes, one for each different language, cost £138.90 in postage.

Afternoon: Competed in a charity 'Pro-Am' Golf Tournament at Tall Pines golf club near Bristol Airport. This was in aid of the Macmillan Nurses at Frenchay Hospital in Bristol.

Unfortunately, due to a major road accident on the M5 bridge which killed a number of people and blocked all lanes in both directions, several of the competitors failed to arrive. More were very delayed and were sent out to play with whoever was available.

Another factor that contributed to the disruption was torrential rain which flooded five holes, reducing play to just thirteen.

In spite of the concern that people naturally had for those affected by the accident, and the appalling weather, a massive £8,500 was raised on the day, which delighted the organisers.

Macmillan *cancer relief* TALL PINES CHARITY GOLF DAY

GRAND DRAW

in aid of the Bristol Macmillan Cancer Relief Appeal

Prizes include :



∞ A long weekend in Cornwall

∞ Ambassadors Club

Temporary membership of the Club for three weekends

∞ A Television



Draw to take place on Friday 1st. September 2000 at the Tall Pines Golf Club, Bristol

Macmillan Cancer Relief Reg. Charity No 261017 Promoter : Sir William Mahon Bt, 6 Regent's Court, South Way, Andover, Hampshire SP10 5NX Registered with Test Valley B.C. (No 017) under the Lotteries & Amusements Act 1976.

Carousel Enterprises (Printers) Tel. 01934 812730

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'ST. GILES' ROW' THEN 'THE HEDGEROW'

Friday 1 September 2000

Today I have a day off from my usual job in retail and a chance to go out with my daughter and her partner. They both have time off from work today.

We are going to IKEA in Bristol. The traffic is extra heavy in Bristol because of a bad accident on the motorway causing it to be closed in both directions. This in turn leads to a lot of problems throughout this part of the West Country.

Our shopping trip is not totally successful but we both came home with bargains and we had an enjoyable day.

When home I cooked a meal for my husband and son and the evening was spent relaxing.

Friday 1 September, eight months of the year have gone but hopefully there is still some summer to come. It is the last working day of the week but this time I am not looking forward to the weekend. Tomorrow I must visit the dentist to have two teeth removed!

It was another day at the office for one of my two jobs. I manage the business of 2 doctors' surgeries and I go to each one on alternate days, today it will be Chew Magna.

I have been doing two jobs for almost a year. It was a career change nearly 4 years ago that brought us to Leigh in May 1997 when I was appointed to manage the surgery at Paulton.

We both remember Leigh from the early 1970s when we lived in Frome. My banking career took us away in 1975 to Salisbury and to Devon in 1980 where we stayed for 16 years. We have moved house 6 times but the move to Leigh was unusual; it was the first time we moved without having to think about the children, schools and their social life, and it was the first time we knew we would not have to move on in a few years because the bank was moving me to another office. So we hope to be here for the rest of my working days and, we hope, into retirement.

As I am approaching my 84th Birthday I shall be doing very little on Friday 1st September, Having spent most of my life here, most of the time farming. I now sit back and watch the world go by.

I watch the children go to school, I hear the bells peal in the church tower, etc.

But nothing is really the same, Everyone is in such a hurry. Cars fill the Bell Inn car park where people used to have a leisurely drink and chat.

I really enjoy my outings with the Evergreen Club. I look forward to meeting some of my friends, Otherwise Friday 1st September will be just another day for me and just looking forward to seeing my kind friends who come to visit me.



THE BELL INN CAR PARK

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR



HELLO, MY NAME IS DAVID BURLISON. I AM SEVEN YEARS OLD AND LIVE WITH MY MUM, DAD, AND SISTER. THAT'S ME IN THE PHOTOGRAPH WITH MY SISTER, SOPHIA. SHE IS TWO YEARS OLD. I WAS GOING TO INCLUDE A PHOTO OF MY MUM AND DAD, BUT DECIDED IT MIGHT BE TOO SCARY FOR ANYONE READING THIS IN THE FUTURE.

WE ONLY MOVED TO THE VILLAGE LAST YEAR ON THE 3RD OF NOVEMBER. MY FAMILY

AND I WERE ALL BORN IN YORKSHIRE AND USED TO LIVE IN BRIGHOUSE BEFORE HERE. I DIDN'T WANT TO MOVE, BUT I'M GLAD THAT I DID. IT IS MUCH NICER LIVING HERE, I'VE MADE LOTS OF NEW FRIENDS AND EVERYBODY IS KIND AND FRIENDLY.

WELL TODAY IS THE 1ST OF SEPTEMBER. THAT'S GOOD BECAUSE IT'S THE SUMMER HOLS SO THERE ISN'T ANY SCHOOL TODAY, BUT BAD BECAUSE IT MEANS THAT THE HOLIDAYS ARE NEARLY OVER WITH JUST A FEW MORE DAYS LEFT.

I'VE BEEN AWAKE FOR AGES NOW SO IT MUST BE TIME TO GET UP, EVEN THOUGH DAD IS STILL INSISTING IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT AND TELLING ME TO GO BACK TO SLEEP. IT'S JUST ME, DAD AND SOPHIA FOR BREAKFAST AS MUM WANT TO WORK HOURS AGO. SHE KISSED ME ON THE CHEEK BEFORE SHE LEFT.

WE HAVE THE USUAL BREAKFAST, WEETOS FOLLOWED BY PANCAKES. THE WEETOS ARE ALRIGHT BUT WE HAVE TO HAVE THE PANCAKES BECAUSE DAD LIKES THEM, MUM WOULDN'T BUY THEM IF SHE KNEW THEY WERE REALLY JUST FOR HIM.

DAD HAS DECIDED TO TAKE US TO THE INDUSTRIAL MUSEUM IN BRISTOL. HE'S TOLD US THAT WE CAN RIDE ON THE HARBOUR STEAM RAILWAY AND GO ON A BOAT TRIP SO I'LL HAVE TO GO NOW. PERHAPS I CAN TELL YOU ABOUT IT LATER.

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

MRS JUNE CAPEWELL
24, PARK HAYES
LEIGH ON MENDIP.

5.30 pm.

1st, SEPTEMBER 2000

LAST NOVEMBER, I RETIRED, FROM MY WORK, AS
A CARE ASSISTANT, AT FONDSMEAD NURSING HOME
IN OAK HILL. MY AGE NOW 61 YEARS. I LIVE IN
A BEAUTIFUL BUNGALOW, OVER LOOKING FIELDS,
OF WHICH ARE LOVELY HORSES GRAZING, BEYOND
THE LOWER FIELDS I WATCH THE FARMER WORKERS
PLOWING AND PLANTING NEW CROPS. ITS SO
RELAXING. BUT I CAN ALWAYS FIND PLENTY TO
DO BAKING, GARDENING I LOVE I TENDER THE
FLOWERS & PLANTS MY HUSBAND WHO IS
DISSABLED FOR THERAPHY DOES A SMALL AMOUNT
ON THE VEGETABLE SIDE. WE ALSO HAVE 3 CATS
ONE WE CALL THE LODGER AS HE POPS IN
FOR HIS DAILY RATION OF ASSORTED FOODS,
1 BIRD A ROSELLA, SHE IS 21 YEARS OLD NOW.
TOBY, IS A LABRADOR, (HE'S 14 YEARS OLD NOW) FERN IS A GREYHOUND
(SHE IS 2 YEARS OLD)
WE HAVE RESCUED A SORTS OF ANIMALS
THROUGHOUT OUR LIVES. MYSELF, I LOVE
ALL SORTS OF CRAFTS, MY HUSBAND LOVES
HIS FISHING THESE DAYS, MY WORK THROUGH
THE YEARS IS UP TO 61. SHOP WORK, CAR PLANT
WORK BRINGING UP OUR FAMILY, MY HUSBAND
BLACKSMITH/WHEELRIGHT FARM WORKER, STAINLESS
STEEL TUBES WORKER. THANKS JIM & JUNE

ST GILES'S DAY - 1 SEPTEMBER 2000



PITTEN HOUSE

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

Pitten House

We moved into Pitten House in March 1999, that is my husband Geoff, my mother Rita and our dogs Honey, a Bernese Mountain dog and Scooby, a 'Heinz 57' and myself. At the same time Tony Gould, who owned the adjacent farm, was planning on retiring and asked if we would like to buy half of the adjoining field which we did with no hesitation and have enjoyed ever since.

Initially we had Tony's cows in the field to help keep the grass down, and many a summers evening we sat on our terrace with a 'Gin & Tonic' talking to cows with 'Harry', 'Elton' and 'Dennis' inscribed on their ear tags. Scooby loved the cows and if she was not in the field being licked by them we knew she was up running around with Tony's dog Barney in the farmyard. We were very upset when Tony finally retired and moved out earlier this year, although we still regularly see him pottering about in his workshop.

Chris a professional balloonist and his wife Sarah moved into 'Oak Cottage', Tony's old house, and soon everything settled down except for the odd scrape between Scooby and their dog Pepper. One night Chris came down and told us of his 'One Man Balloon' invention and that a TV company had approached him hoping to make a documentary, but he needed somewhere to inflate his balloon. Early next morning mum and I ate breakfast watching our new neighbour sitting on a chair in the middle of the field with canisters on his back going up and down dangling from a large red balloon while being photographed, the photo's later appeared as a full page spread in the Bristol Evening Post.

On September 1st my brother Jeff and his wife Debbie came over from Swindon to take my mother to the Bath and West Flower Show. They had brought with them as usual a basket full of racing pigeons to release in the field for their friend Bob, purely to give the birds a bit of exercise. It can take the birds 50 minutes to one day to get back to Swindon. Bob reckons it's all according if they go via Birmingham!!!

Earlier in the year we planted 2000 trees in the field, it is something we have always wanted to do and it just happened to be the millennium year something to mark the occasion. Frequent walkers often pass comment on how well the trees are progressing, it might have something to do with all the rain we have been receiving?.





Keith and Marguerite Cockroft
Townsend Cottage

1st September 2000

On this day we were on vacation in Alaska. We had commenced our two week break with a coach tour of the Canadian Rockies and were now aboard the P&O cruise ship "Regal Princess". Today we anchored out from the town of Sitka and were ferried in by tender to look around this small township. Sitka is located on the west side of Baranof Island in Sitka Sound and the township lies at the foot of Harbor Mountain. Sitka can only be reached by air or sea. It is very Russian in appearance and culture. We visited the Russian cathedral of St. Michael which house a great number of very precious icons. Our stay was short and we had little time to see and do much more before leaving to commence our return to Vancouver.

The picture is of Townsend Cottage and was taken during the summer of 2000



THE BELL INN

Friday September 1st

We are the Crispin family Alison, Mick, and Maddie (who is 13). We have got a dog called Jessy, two cats called Fluffy and sooty, a rabbit called Eve, and lots of fish, one is called Boots, and the other is called Sheaky

At the end of the holiday, on Friday 1st September we travelled to Suffolk for a wedding on the 2nd September. We left at 11 am to get to Ipswich, which normally takes three and a half-hours. When we were on the M3 there was a horse box accident and we had to wait for ages in a traffic jam.

We were staying in a village called Somersham with Nana and Papa. A family evening meal had been planned in Snape. I stayed with Nana and Papa while Mum and Dad went out.

The journey back from Snape in the evening took longer than it should have, because Mum and Dad got lost in all the country lanes!

Tadhil Farm



TADHIL FARM

The house is a very nice, comfortable one and is very well kept. It is a very nice house and is very well kept. It is a very nice house and is very well kept.

It is a very nice house and is very well kept. It is a very nice house and is very well kept.

The house is a very nice, comfortable one and is very well kept. It is a very nice house and is very well kept.

It is a very nice house and is very well kept. It is a very nice house and is very well kept.

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

Tadhill Farm

- 5 20am Alarm goes off. Johns turn to milk our 80 cows
- 7 15am I (Jackie) get up
- 7 30am Neil Dully phoned to say he'd seen two of our heifers in the wrong field while out walking his dogs. Very grateful. John, Lucy and I (Laura stayed in bed) went to get them back before their friends followed them. Took opportunity to sort out group due to calve soon.
- 8 30am Breakfast
- 9 15am John working on extra cubicle beds for cows. I tidied house then went into office to tackle paper work. Post contained details of 2 more farm sales- that's 2 more farmers who've had enough of the current farming crisis and can probably no longer afford to continue farming. We cannot help but wonder how the exodus from farming will alter the appearance of our "green and pleasant land"
- 10 30am Drove to Frome with girls to collect their 2 friends visiting for the day
- 11 30am Continued in the office. 1st of the month so VAT returns to complete, monthly cash flow and forward budgeting to work on. Discussed with John over coffee
- 1pm Lunch-sandwiches & fruit
- 2pm Listened to the Archers
- 2 15pm Damp outdoors so John & I put our heads together in the office to gather information for monthly "Milkminster" reports. Useful to keep tabs on our physical performance (& of course that of the cows!) on a monthly basis & compare with predictions.



PATRICIA SIMPSON , SHELAGH HAYWOOD, KATH GRIFFIN

FARMERS TEAS AT TADHILL FARM



PATRICIA SIMPSON , KATH GRIFFIN, BARBARA TURNER,
SHELAGH HAYWOOD

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

- 3 15pm Helped John, Lucy & Amelia to fetch cows in for a light meal of maize silage before milking
- 3 45pm Went on the Internet to send Milkminster figures in.
- 4 15pm Amelia's dad and Jyons mum came to collect their offspring. Good to have a chat.-This can be a pretty lonely lifestyle at times. John milking-my turn tomorrow.
- 5pm Thinking about a meal-lots of runner beans, courgettes & carrots in the garden and have produced lamb in the freezer.
- 6 30pm Tea
- 7pm Looked at Milkminster results with John. Our cows are now averaging 7300L per cow of which 5462L is calculated to come from home produced forage which is pretty good-very satisfying.
- 8pm Took drinks out to the summer house & we kept an eye on a cow calving in the field. Although farming is going through a very difficult time John and I enjoy working together & the challenges we face and living in such a lovely part of the country. We talked about our daughters Lucy & Laura & their New Year at school. The farm may sometimes seem to occupy our every waking moment but being mum & dad is still the most important sometimes difficult but definitely most enjoyable part of our lives.



LUCY & LAURA DAVIS

My name is Lucy Davis and I live at Tadhill Farm

I go to school at Frome College and when I go back I will be in year 10 and starting GCSE's I am doing my best subjects Maths, Geography, German, Statistics, Triple Science,- Chemistry, Physics, and Biology, plus Music, DT graphic products and two English's-language and literature.

On the 1st, I had my friend Amelia over, and we did some Cooking. We made a chocolate marble cake, read my magazine and played table tennis, amongst other things.

As a hobby I record the weather twice daily and put it onto graphs. In August we had a total of 129mm of rain, a maximum temperature of 23c and a minimum of 11c.

I have got a guinea pig called Rupert and a cow called Hannah and three heifers Primrose, Ziggy and Pine. We also have a dog called Tessa.

My name is Laura Davis and I'm 11 years old. I live at Tadhill

Farm, which is a working dairy Farm just over the hill from Leigh-on-Mendip. I live with my Mum (Jackie) Dad (John) and my 14-year-old sister Lucy.

I've got a number of pets. 3 Bantams which are called Daisy Emerald and Charlie (Charlie's the cockerel). They are normally kept in their run in the back garden. Also I have a Guinea pig called Benny, he's a ginger colour. I've also got a goldfish called Ella who lives in a bowl in my bedroom.

I go to school at Oakfield, which is in Frome, so I have to get the school bus. My favourite lessons are Design Technology and P.E. In D.T. at the moment we are doing a project called Mr. Cookie, we have to design a cookie then make the packaging and finally make an advert. On September 1st 2000 I had a friend called Jyon around. We picked her up from her house in Frome and then we drove back to our house. We did various things including playing Table Tennis and cooking.

My home is Lucy Davis and I live at Tadhill Farm
 I go to school at Friar's College and when I go back I will be in
 year 10 and starting GCSE's I am doing my best subjects
 Maths, Geography, German, Statistics, Triple Science,
 Chemistry, Physics and Biology and Music. I speak
 French and two English languages and literature.
 On the 7th I had my friend Amelia over and we did some
 cooking. We made a chocolate marble cake, read my magazine
 and played table tennis amongst other things.
 As a hobby I record the weather twice daily and put it onto
 graphs. In August we had a total of 152mm of rain a maximum
 temperature of 23c and a minimum of 12c.



TADHILL FARMHOUSE

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR TADHILL HOUSE FARM

As the year turns gradually to autumn, we look back to what has been a pretty disappointing summer, wet with a lot of rain, meagre with sunshine and often bitterly cold. We lit many log fires in the evenings of August. As humans seemed highly dissatisfied with the season, we cast our minds on to animal life and found the year had been more rewarding than usual. On the first of September, the Swallows, having produced two broods are flying around in greater numbers than for some years. The conversion of the shippens and cowsheds up at Tadhill House Farm into dwelling-houses had lessened suitable nesting sites and numbers had fallen dramatically. However, now there are over 25 on the telegraph lines and swooping around and often into the house. During the day, they disappear, probably on long flights for feeding or for orientating before migration.

Garden birds have been much the same as usual. The Spotted Flycatchers which were driven off their nests years ago by Magpies are back again with many old faithfuls like Nuthatches, Greenfinches, Woodpeckers and the rest of the Tits, finches and warblers. No doubt unwelcome to the birds, there are mingled birds of prey, like Sparrowhawks, Kestrels and Buzzards. The latter nest in Cranmore Forest and our many deer visitors also come from there. They wander through the garden most nights and chew the bark off the trees. However, they do less damage than the squirrels which are very hungry in the summer and will eat almost anything including unripe hazel nuts.

Butterflies have been more varied and impressive. As well as the common Tortoiseshell (7 all together on one piece of wood was a great sight) we have seen the usual Peacocks, Red Admirals, Ringlets etc. but have also welcomed Painted Ladies, Commas and Clouded Yellows. Perhaps butterflies are recovering from land pollution and pesticides. We hope so.

One feature caused by the rain is the trekking of the amphibians from our pond (this was originally an ochre-pit). Frogs, Toads and Newts are everywhere and often come into the house. We once removed 9 baby Toads (1 inch long) from the sitting-room! Perhaps they and the Newts were escaping the attention of the waterfowl on the pond. This year, there has been a family of ducks, a mallard and 8 ducklings and a more permanent family of Moorhens with 5 chicks.



THE EBENEZER CHAPEL

THE OLD WESLEYAN SCHOOL

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

Our names are June & Brian Dover we live at the old Wesleyan School which was converted into a dwelling approx 8-10 years ago. We have 3 daughters all of whom have left home and have children of their own, giving us 6 grandchildren. We also have 1 dog (Fred) 2 cats (Herbert & Archie)

Brian is a carpenter and joiner and was self employed for many years but now is employed doing many different things other than carpentry & joinery. This week he has been working in Manchester and has arrived back today exhausted after having numerous traffic jams.

I work in a nursing/residential home in Bath and have done so for the last 8 years. At present my work is looking after elderly people in Daycare, they come in to give their carers a rest, some have a bath and all stay for lunch and afternoon tea. I enjoy my job very much but wish I lived nearer to work.

We both enjoy living in Leigh on Mendip. Today 1st September 2000. usual things have happened. like shopping, walking dogs and visiting daughters who live in France



THE BELL INN

19, Park Hayes

My name is Cath Dredge. I have twin girls Kim and Shannon aged two and a half. We have lived in the village for about 2 years.

The twins keep us busy, so today we have done the washing and hung it out, cleaned and fed all the animals, 4 dogs, 2 rabbits, 2 guinea pigs Zebra finches, and fish.

We will be walking down to the village shop to get some bread and milk shortly.

My partner Paul is at work. He has three jobs but his main job is for the Council and is based at Keynsham, so he does a lot of travelling everyday and leaves at 5 30am.

We will be doing our weekly big shop when he gets home. I only work part-time at the moment because of the twins but when at work I make thatching spars out of hazel wood for thatched roofs.

We enjoy living in this village, the pub is good, the people are friendly and we're hoping the kids will go to the village school.

11, Park Street



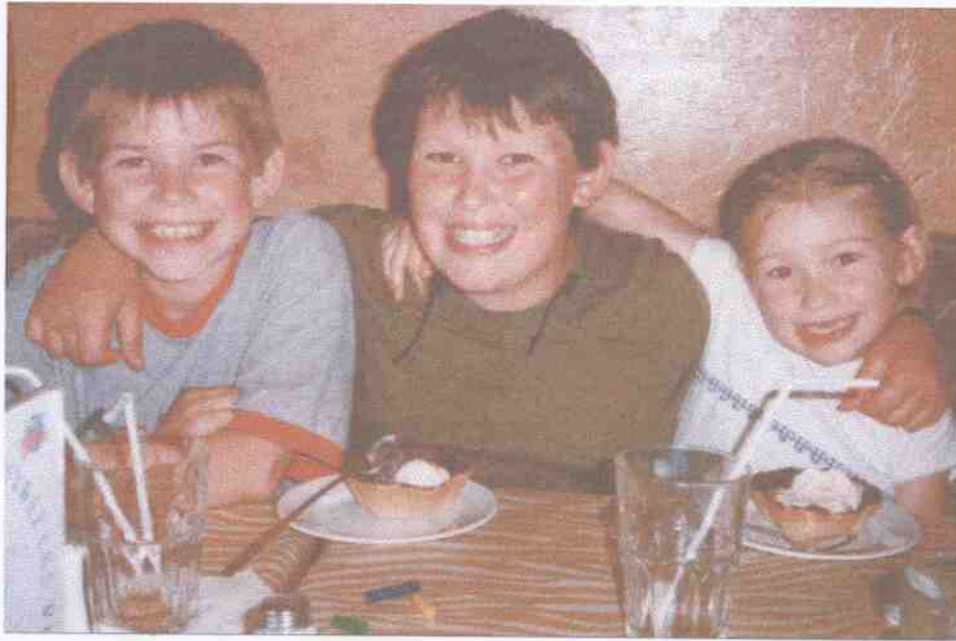
MAYFIELD

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

The Dalley Family
 Neil (45), Lynsday (38)
 Oliver (11), Freddie (9) & Victoria (6)
 Living at: Mayfield, Townsend, Leigh-on-Mendip

We moved to the village in May 1994 looking for a quieter, healthier environment in which to bring up our young children. Neil was made unexpectedly redundant on reaching age 40 in 1994 just after Victoria was born. To secure employment he took a job in Crickelewood, North London but from our home in Lightwater, Surrey the journey was fraught and took 1½ hours to travel 30 miles, Surrey was money motivated and polluted, 'there has to be more to life than this' we thought, so we headed for Somerset and haven't looked back since. Neil now works for a small family owned business in Chilcompton, the journey takes 10 mins and we have the relaxed lifestyle we wanted.

On the morning of 1 September 2000 Neil took the dogs (2 Labradors, 1 Yorkshire Terrier) for a walk as usual about 7.30am he came back sometime later declaring that there were 2 cows that had escaped from their field. He telephoned The Davis family who own most of the land in that area. Yes, they were their cows, apparently it is always at this time of year that they attempt to escape and there it is, usually the same cow that leads the others! Neil went off to work at 8.45am & I was



FREDDIE , OLIVER & VICTORIA DULLEY

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

was left with the children for the day.

This day is the last day in the week before the last week of the summer holidays.

The children have had a lovely summer. We have had plenty of sunshine and we have been out and about, seeing friends and visiting places such as Bristol Zoo. We also spent a week at Disneyland Paris, staying at Davey Crochets Ranch and did some sight seeing in Paris itself. We travelled by car and by Ferry from Dover to Calais. The whole journey takes about 8 hrs.

In the week previous to 1st September my mother and step father came to stay for a few days. During this time we went to Bath for the day. The others had a sight seeing trip on a open topped bus - I visited Madame Spencers for some items of uniform still needed. For early birthday presents the children were bought: Freddie - a lightweight, foldable scooter - very much the craze for children at the moment. Oliver - a pair of roller blades, Victoria - a Cindy doll who's look alike is a singer in a popular music group called "Steps".

By September 1st the children are ready to return to school, they need more to occupy their minds and more children to mix with. The day is changeable weather wise. One minute we



OLIVER , FREDDIE & VICTORIA DWLLEY

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

have heavy downpours of rain and the next the sun comes out. I decide to chance it and suggest to the children we go to Victoria Park in frome where they can play on their scooter and rollerblades. We also put Victoria's bike in the back of the car.

Despite an early shower the children did enjoy their time at the park they also played on the roundabout and seesaw.

We returned home for lunch - egg sandwiches and spent the rest of the afternoon inside as the weather deteriorated. I started sewing on name tapes in the children's school uniforms ready for the start of term on Tuesday. The children painted Warhammers and played and then watched children's television.

('chucke vision', 'SmartHart', 'Steps to the stars', 'Newsround' and 'You've been framed Again'. The children had their tea at 5pm. Neil came home at 5.15pm. The children had their baths at 6pm and we all settled down in front of the television at 7.30pm to watch 'Top of the Pops' the children enjoy this, as it is the end of the week they are allowed crisps and a drink of Coke a cola'. The children go upstairs at 8pm and slowly settle to bed reappearing a few times for, in their eyes, vital conversations which cant wait until morning'. Neil and I watch 'Gardeners World'



OLIVER, VICTORIA, FREDDIE & LYNN SAY DULLEY

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

after dinner and it inspires me to make a visit to the Gardening Show being held at the showground Shepton Mallet the following day. I went to bed worn out by those children at 9.30pm Neil staying up doing paper work and watching "Badger" until 10.30pm.

This time of year always holds a sense of 'Newbeginning' for me as the children start the first term in a new academic year. Oliver is starting at The Blue School in Wells and Freddie and Victoria are going to Oakhill Primary School. I am looking forward to a bit of peace and quiet with everyone out of the house during the day.

In the news this week we have the French Fishermen blockading the ports in protest over high fuel prices, and a tragic accident on the M5 motorway which leaves tens of thousands of motorists trapped in chaos which affected virtually every town and village over an area of 1,500 square miles.

At this time of year I also think of Diana, Princess of Wales killed in a road accident in France at the end of August. 3 years ago. Like many people in this country the sense of unnecessary loss still makes me sad, even though I would never have known her personally being born in 1961 the same year as her it was tragic that a life should end so prematurely.

Neil, the children and I are very happy together we are enjoying a good life, we have a lot to be thankful for.



HIGHLANDS

Brian F Dyer.

"Highlands"
Tadhill,
Leigh-on-Mendip.

Not having anything of worthwhile interest to record on the day chosen, I have decided to write on the subject of my continuing obsession, that of Military History, which has interested me since my youth during the 1940s with a special interest in the military operations of the Great War.

My father Bombardier Lewis Frank Dyer (who incidentally worked as a wood turner at Ashman's timber mill Leigh on Mendip 1942-55 approx) served in a 4.5" Field Howitzer Artillery Battery 1915-19. He was one of the lucky ones, apart from a severe kick by an obstinate mule and a degree of deafness probably the consequence of gunfire on unprotected ears, he survived the ordeal of the Western Front unscathed. Like many of the servicemen of that terrible war he flatly refused to talk of his experiences, 'its all in the past and best forgotten' was his usual abrupt reply to my questioning. My determination to succeed however paid off when in his late 80s and very deaf he began to talk, and with encouragement began to recall the memories which had for so long remained in his subconscious. He spoke with some affection of the little town of Laventie near Armentiers. Of the misery of the cold, the rain, mud and dreadful sights experienced on the Somme in the area around Moquet Farm near Poziers, during the awful autumn and winter of 1916. He recalled similar dreadful conditions in the vicinity of the Belgian town of Ypres during the Paschendaele offensive which commenced on July 31st 1917 when unseasonable wet weather set in and turned the battlefield into a vast morass of water filled shell craters. Of the Battle of Cambrai November 19th-December 3rd 1917 when his battery was in action in Havrincourt and Orival Woods and of Flesquies and Trescault and of the lumbering tanks he witnessed in large numbers for the first time in support of the infantry. Lastly of the utter exhaustion experienced during the ten day, forty mile retreat by the Fifth Army March 21st April 5th 1918 when the enemy attacked the Third and Fifth Armies in overwhelming force in Picardy.

It was in 1979 that I decided I must make a visit to some of the places of which he had memories, promising I would take photographs but by the time I had done so he was gone. Since that first visit, which I shall never forget, I have made numerous other visits to the battlefields areas of Flanders and the Somme and to many of the multitude of beautifully maintained military cemeteries which contain so many of those brave boys cut down in their youth. And so I say as we pass into the 21st Century we

must continue to remember those who paid the Price of Freedom in the wars of the 20th Century. In consequence I have in recent years compiled from various sources a computerised data-base containing biographical, military, historical and photographic information to a greater or lesser degree on every lost serviceman from the two World Wars from the Frome, Norton/Radstock. and Shepton Mallet area including the many villages and hamlets that surround those towns The result is staggering and it is hoped that it will serve to emphasise the scale of the tragedy and the consequential despair suffered by so many who lost sons, husbands and brothers during those two periods in our history when life was cheap. This is a much neglected aspect of our national and local heritage

Remember the following

Albert Ashman, Corporal, Royal Engineers who lived at "Rose Cottage" a former organist at the Primitive Wesleyan Chapel and very popular village lad who was shot by a sniper while clearing front line trenches of mud and water on December 6th 1915.

Harold and Horace Huntley formerly of Tadhill who had recently emigrated to Canada and who immediately abandoned the farms they were developing and joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force to die one in France the other in Flanders in 1917. Both highly commended for bravery and high moral character by their Commanding officers.

Edward Lambert Private 0 Royal Marine Battalion 63rd Royal Naval Division Killed in action on Monday 13th November during the Battle of the Ancre. Aged 20.

Herbert Lambert Private 1st Battalion Devonshire Regiment Killed in action during the battle of the Lys 15th April 1918 Aged 18.

Reginald Rabbitts Private 12th (Service) Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment Killed in action during the Battle of Broodseinde Ridge during the Third Ypres (Paschendaele) offensive 4th October 1917

Ernest Willcox Signaller 113th Siege Battery Royal Garrison Artillery. Born Buckland Dinham he lived at The Shop Leigh on Mendip Died of wounds on Friday, 19^h October 1917 during the Third Battle of Ypres better known as Paschendaele.

Paul Wheeldon and the entire crew of seven of Lancaster M2538 shot down over Holland following a raid on Liepzig on the night of the 20th /21st February 1944,

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

John Ashman who died when his ship the Cruiser H.M.S "Charybdis" was sunk by German torpedo boats in the English Channel in October 1943,

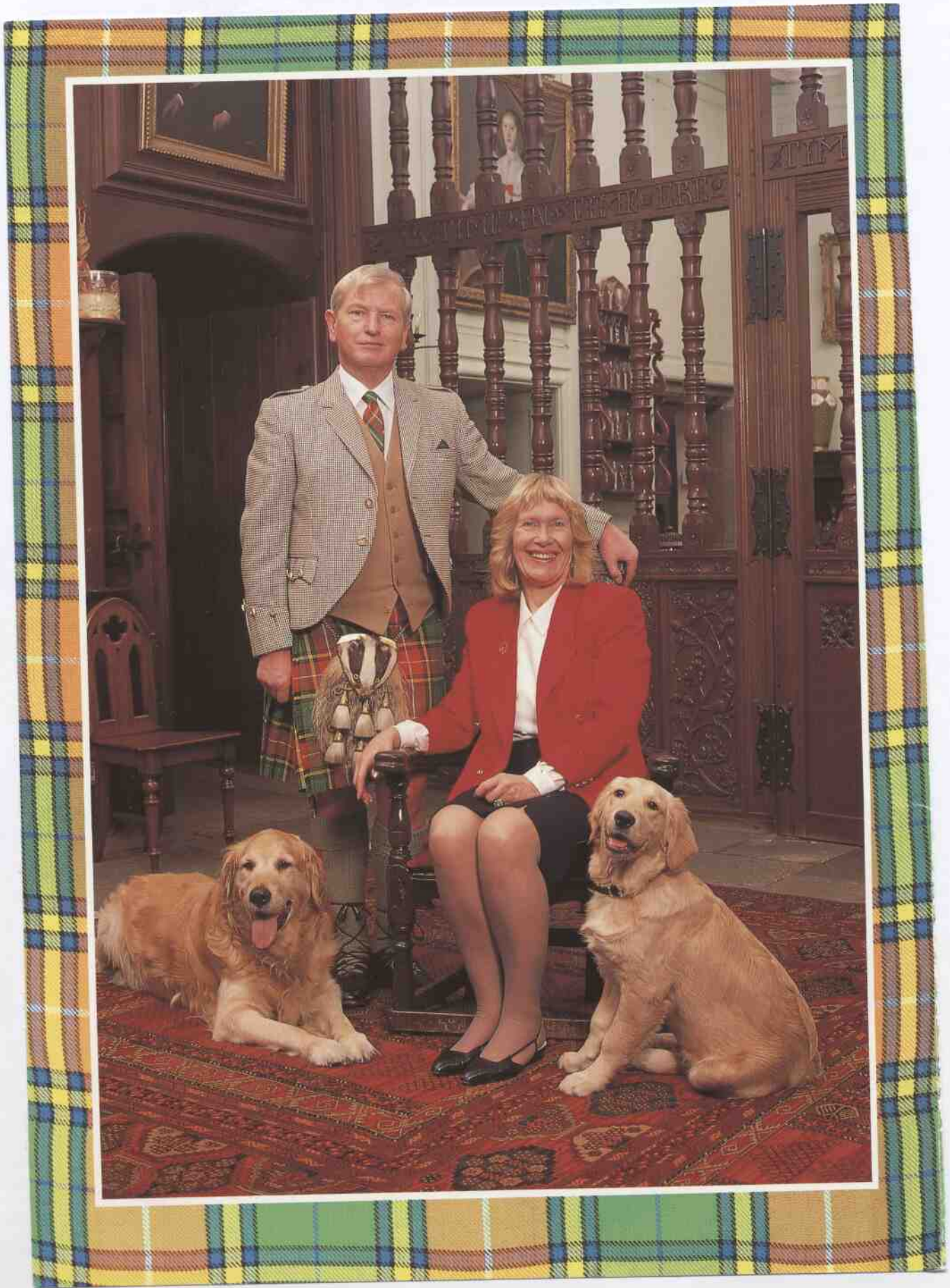
Phillip Marsh Royal Artillery who rests in the El Alamein War Cemetery

Harry Day who died whilst on duty with the Home Guard on the 24f September 1942.

Of the many who rank among the Missing throughout the area

And many more too numerous to mention here

Their sacrifice must not be forgotten.



THE BARON & BARONESS OF EARLSHALL

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

LEIGH HOUSE (formerly The Old Vicarage) built 1598

OWNERS: THE BARON & BARONESS OF EARLSHALL since May 1994

During the past 3 years, the gardens have been completely re-modelled under the auspices of the Baroness, a keen gardener.

The original extremely steep slope to the south of the house (about 30°) from the newly constructed 8' high stone wall (based on the foundations of an old, but long disappeared wall) has been excavated with hundreds of tons of earth & rock removed. Terraces, portenes, steps, walkways with low stone walls and a lovely cobble stone roundel have been constructed, and heavy plantings introduced. A number of old apple trees were dug out & several fully transplanted to the upper paddock at the north end.

Sadly, many of the original internal features of the house had been removed by "philistine" "improvements" over recent years, including many interior beams, & original oak panelling in the present dining room & kitchen, also the original stone wheel stair has been replaced by a modern staircase. To balance these depredations, the study (to the left of the main door as one enters) has been lined in oak panelling with the Baron's crest carved above the fireplace. The original pediment above the fireplace in the Drawing Room (to the right of the main door as one enters) had been cut off & has been restored in local stone. The main door, the door to the dining room, & the door to the library, with their Tudor stone archways, have been filled with solid oak, in studded doors.

Our family is an old Scottish one, with its own tartan & we come here from our family home, Earls Hall Bockle, Leuchars, Fifeshire 1995. A guide book to the Bockle is attached. We have 3 children - Alexander, a Wing Commander in the R.A.F (two sons of 15 & a daughter 12), Sarah who lives in America with her husband & 2 sons (20 & 16) & Becky who lives with us & her son; Angus Lindsay (7) goes to the village school.

The Baroness is a keen student of medieval history & has a fine private library on the subject. The Baron is a ^{recognized international} ~~well known~~ authority on antique arms & armour & has published numerous articles & two books on the subject; he is currently working on a third on the history of "The Scottish Boker Hillied Sword". He retired from the Army in the rank of Major in 1969, after 16 years service, during which he saw active service. Recently he combined both fine art & antiques with management consultancy work. Both he & the Baroness are very interested in historic buildings & are keen on preserving the countryside and the traditional way of life. Both September 1st was a quiet day for us, spent at home, apart from a drive into Frome to visit the bank.

Earls Hall
4th Sept 2000

ST GILES'S DAY - 1 SEPTEMBER 2000



CHURCH WALK



JUNE FEATHERSTONE

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

The 1st September 2000, dawned dull with the last test match against the West Indies starting at the Oval, London.

I am banished to the garden with my thoughts; of how technology has changed our world, especially during the last century. Many great new discoveries, man landing on the Moon, television and computers came into being. I remember computers being installed in the Bank where I worked some 30+ years ago, taking up rooms massive cumbersome objects, to-day we have Laptops, not forgetting the Internet. Learning how to use this new technology can be unsettling as one gets older.

From being a teenager in the swanning 1960's in London to a housewife and mother of two living in the country, I often wonder how future generations of my family will evolve. I enjoy living in Leigh, being involved with the Women's Institute and many other organisations, and community events. Being able to make a comfortable home for the family my daughter Charlotte, at present, studying at Sheffield Hallam University, my son Martin working at Centre Parc Longleat, and my husband, Clive, working for the M.O.D. Foxhill, Bath.

Monday 4 September - England won the cricket, being the first time in 31 years we have won a series against the West Indies. The rich tapestry of history and life unfolds on a daily basis.

June C. Jeatherstone
3 Church Walk.



LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

This Millennium year has not been very good for me owing to ill health. My pleasures like going to local Shows exhibiting my craft which I love doing seem to be finished. I love dressing dolls/ flowers arranging/ crossstich/ Knitting Toys/ Cooking and many other things. one thing I hope to look forward to in 2001 is the birth of 2 great grandchildren and better health I hope, so that I can start again. I love living in Leigh on Mendip. My Bungalow overlooks green fields and I love the cows and horses I see from my window. no houses to spoil the view in Park Hayes.

Jean Fedkowycz.
Park Hayes.

VIEW FROM PARK HAYES

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

Emma Cleverley. I am 11 years old. I have lived at Leigh on Mendip for 6 years. I have done mangretts at Coldford British Legion, we were called Stardust. I had an concert at Leigh on mendip fais in 1999. I gave it up last winter.
 from emma cleverley.

Diana Foster.
 I am taking part in most events at Leigh on mendip. I enjoy Bingo in Village hall, Every week. I like to help people espically people who need help, and I clean for most people in the Village. I enjoy this very much. I also do lots of ironing for quite an lot of people. I have 2 children who's names are Emma and Duke cleverley,
 from

Diane Foster



LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

ME & MY VILLAGE.

Name: Samantha Louise Gill.

Age: 14 years

Address: Bramble Hedge
Leigh street
Leigh upon Mendip
Nr Bath
Somerset
BA3 5QP



Description: Long blonde hair, Blue eyes, fairly short and fairly skinny.

Hobbies: Riding my pony, writing to pen pals and looking after my pets.

Job(s): Helping around the house and looking after other people's pets in the village.

School: Midsomer Norton Secondary school which is about 15 minutes away by car.

Friends & Family in the village: Victoria Grigg is one of my best friends who lives in Monmouth cottage.

I have a mum called Julie Gill who used to live in Holcombe as a child, My Dad is called Kevin Gill and I have 1 older sister called Rebecca Gill.

Pets: I love animals and have many different pets. I have 1 dog called Sebastian, 1 cat called Jazz, 1 hamster called peaches who is famous in the village for escaping and being taken to the golf course and 2 south African land snails!! I also have 2 beautiful ponies who live in the village.

The Village now: Leigh on Mendip is a very small village full of many friendly people. There are 3 main blocks, 'The Hedge row', 'Park Haze' and 'Bell Field'.

The village has a lovely pub called the Bell Inn, a little shop and post office, a church, a town hall and a playing field.

The Future: In the future I imagine the village to be very different. I think it will be made alot bigger. I think alot of things will be changed or even be taken away. It would be really nice to see our village in the future. It would be interesting to see the Doomsday book again in 100 years time and see the changes in our village.

Date: 01/09/00

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

VIVIAN & ANN GREENMAN

PARK HOUSE, PARK HAYES

WE ARE A RETIRED COUPLE WITH TWO MARRIED DAUGHTERS AND FOUR GRANDCHILDREN, TWO GRANDDAUGHTERS 6 & 4 TWO GRANDSONS 3 & 5 YEARS OLD

OUR HOUSE IS ABOUT 5 YEARS OLD, HAS 3 BEDROOMS (ONE USED AS AN OFFICE) AND A VERY LARGE COMPLETELY UNRESTRICTED LOFT. MY WIFE'S MAIN HOBBY IS FAMILY HISTORY WHICH INVOLVES COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH USING RECORD OFFICES PARISH REGISTERS, GRAVEYARDS. INTERNET CONTACTS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

MY HOBBY IS MODELMAKING AND I'M CURRENTLY ENGAGED ON BUILDING A MODEL RAILWAY WHICH WILL PROBABLY TAKE 5 YEARS TO COMPLETE.

WE BREAKFASTED ON TOAST & CORNFLSKES AND OUR MAIN MEAL WAS A CURRY WITH RICE FOLLOWED BY YOGURT.

MY WIFE VISITED HER FATHER WHO IS LIVING AT PONDSMEAD NURSING HOME IN OAKHILL. HE IS IN HIS 91ST YEAR, LATER IN THE DAY SHE SPENT TIME ON FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH. WE HAD A TELEPHONE CALL FROM 4 YEAR OLD GRANDDAUGHTER, BETHAN, WHO LIKES TO SPEAK TO US ALTHOUGH WE SEE OUR GRANDCHILDREN REGULARLY.

IN THE AFTERNOON I HAD A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH A FRIEND OVER A BUSINESS MATTER IN WHICH WE ARE INVOLVED AND WHICH IS TAKING A LONG TIME TO RESOLVE. FOR MOST OF THE DAY I WORKED AT MODELMAKING AND LISTENED TO TEST MATCH DISCUSION ON THE RADIO



ANN & HER FATHER ALFRED RIME
JAMES, DANIEL, ALICE, BETHAN
OUR GRANDCHILDREN



VIVIAN & DANIEL



12 PARK HAYES

I was born at Vobster in 1922, then lived at Mells until I moved to Leigh-on-Mendip in 1948 when I was married, and have lived in this house for 52 years, where I look on to green fields and trees. I have lived on my own since 1989 when my husband died. I do my own gardening and I enjoy walking. I am involved in many village organisations including the Evergreen Club and the W.I. I am a regular Church goer and today I have been helping the ladies who have been arranging the flowers for St Giles Festival. I was a tidy upper.

On August 31st parents of an Italian friends came to stay for bed and breakfast for three nights. Although they didn't speak English they enjoyed their stay and it didn't turn out to be as difficult and traumatic as I thought it was going to be. They certainly enjoyed their full English breakfast.

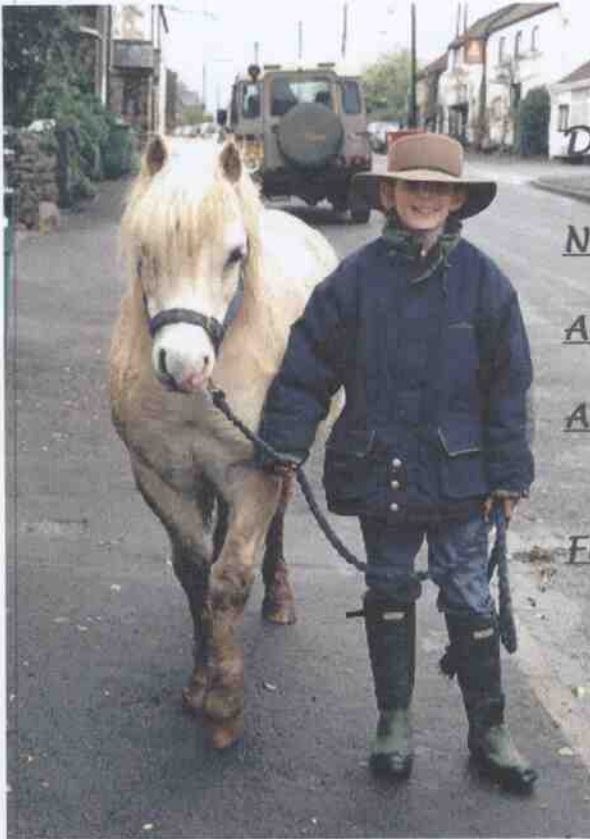
I regularly look after friend's dogs and I'm sure that taking them for walks helps me to keep fit and active.

I have lived all my life in the county overlooking the fields for which I feel very privileged. My children are all married and live within reasonable travelling distance to me. I have had a good life with good health, and with luck my remaining years will be the same.

K. J. Griffin



MONMOUTH COTTAGE



Date 1st September 2000

Name Victoria Grigg Gueuning

Age 10 years

Address Monmouth Cottage
Leigh upon Mendip

Friends in the village Sam Gill

Family I live at Monmouth Cottage with my mother, Lindsey, step father, Frank and my little brother, Oscar who is a year old. My mother is a practice nurse and my step father is a hotelier. My granny, June Wolstenholme lives next door in Haywards Cottage.

I was born in Bath and christened at St Giles Church by Rev Paul Winks. So was my brother Oscar. Then I lived in Melbourne Australia. I am half Australian. I have lived here now for five years and go to school at All Hallows in Cranmore.

My Pets I have a dog called Sophie who loves going for walks in all the fields, especially the quarry. I also have a hamster called Hally and a Welsh Mountain pony called Sparky. I get lettuce and carrots out of Neville and Hazel's rubbish bin at the village shop to feed them treats. I keep Sparky in a field off Park Hayes.

What I like about Leigh upon Mendip I like living here because I love being in the country and being able to have a pony. I like feeling free to walk my dog and ride around the bridlepaths and lanes. . Also I like to visit my friend, Sam who lives in the Hedgerows.



FLOWER FESTIVAL, ST. GILES' CHURCH



1-9-2000.

I have lived in Leigh-on-mendips, for most of my life, spent most of my early years, working on Farms, as this is a Farming and Quarry work District, I can now look from my window, and see cows in the field, and Farmer working on the land. I am 77 yrs old, but still do a bit in my garden

Its all so Different from when I was a child it was all done by horses now its tractors doing the hard work, and when you read this, it will be different again.

our church is ~~is~~ so old but a lovely Place, there are 6 Bells, which are often rang, a lovely sound. and a nice Village School, which I went to till age of 14 yr.

The weather is stormy and a little Sun today

P. R. Gulliford



PAUL & NICK HADFIELD & FRIEND



Paul and Nick Hadfield, The Flying Teapot, Leigh Street. (For future reference the semidetached cottage opposite Spark's Field with $\frac{H}{TA}$ on the front.)
1754

On 1st September 2000 Paul and I were relaxing in Chamonix with our friend and climbing partner Kev Hissey. We had just completed an ascent of The South West flank of The Eiger. The weather had been good but conditions poor due to the amount of snow in The Alps, far greater than normal for that time of year.

We caught the train from Grindelwald to Kleine Scheidegg and then walked to Eigerletscher where we pitched and shared our two-man tent. We got very little sleep due to the constant stream of avalanches piling off the Jungfrau opposite.

We rose at 4am, ate some filling stodge and set off in the dark. At first there were fixed ropes which were great for confidence and route finding. These soon petered out and as the sun rose we were left with sharp, loose, fractured, unforgiving rock. We soon developed a new climbing technique which involved never pulling anything, as it always came away in your hand. We donned ice axes and crampons for a near vertical ice/snow field and then returned to the loose rock.

Route finding was hard as we kept having to change direction to avoid slippery verglas. By 1pm we had reached an impasse, melting verglas in every upwards direction. Too slippery to climb over too loose to use crampons on. We decided to turn back 300 vertical metres from the top. The loose flying rock on the descent made us appreciate the wisdom of our decision. We lived to climb another day!

My name is Jack Harrington and I am 12 years old, today the 1st September I slept until mid-day as yesterday I flew into Gatwick Airport from Boston U.S.A. where I had been for the last fortnight. I went over to Boston on a football tour with a team from Frome called 'Sporthouse'.

When I left America it was lovely and hot today I have woken up to a grey wet day.

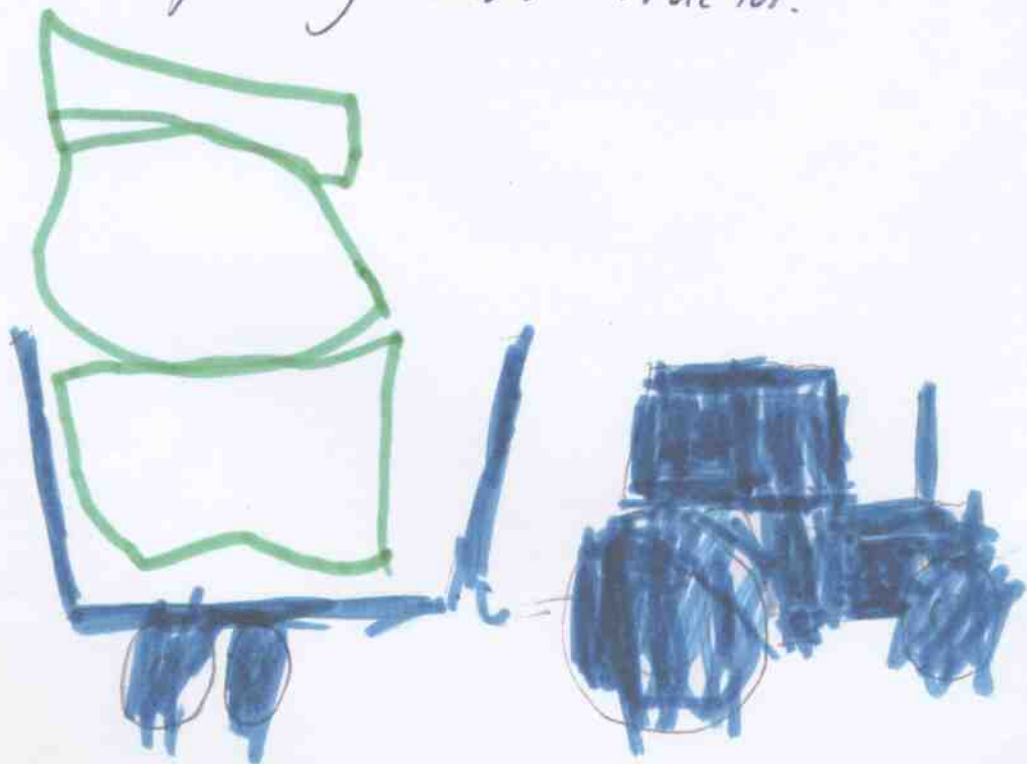
My name is Angela and I moved to Somerset approximately five years ago from Gloucestershire.

This morning I drove to work in Frome which is about five miles east of Leigh upon Mendip, it's a pretty drive and I usually go through the village of Melles.

I work part time for a company who are in the leisure industry and it's specialised in inflatable equipment for all ages to have fun on. The most popular piece of equipment is the Suncy castle.

The weather hasn't been very pleasant today quite wet and one of the company's drivers had a car accident whilst out delivering some equipment for a party in Glastonbury this evening luckily he wasn't hurt and I managed to arrange alternative transport so no one disappointed. Lets hope the sun shined tomorrow.

My name is Joshua Hiscox. I live at No 2 Spring Cottages, Tadhill, Leigh-on-Mendip. I am nearly 5 years old. My Dad is a Dairy Farmer and my Mum is a childrens day Nursery manager. I have a sister called India, she is 2 years old. Today was my last day at Tree House Day Nursery in Wells. I shall be starting school on 6th September. I am going to Stoke-St-Michael school which is where my cousins attend. I like colouring pictures so I have done one of my Dads tractor.



SEPTEMBER 2000

BEING A RELATIVELY "NEW" RESIDENT OF LEIGH-ON-MENDIP, HAVING MOVED FROM WEST SUSSEX (3 YRS) BEFORE THAT CORNWALL (4 YEARS) AND PRIOR TO THAT DEVON (40 ODD YEARS) ALL BEING THE CENTRE OF "HUB BUB" AND NOISE, I, AND MY WIFE DORIS RELISH THE PEACE AND TRANQUILITY OF THIS BEAUTIFUL SOMERSET VILLAGE.

HAVING JUST HAD OUR CONSERVATORY BUILT, ON THIS DAY IN SEPTEMBER 2000, WE BOTH ENJOYED "THE NOISE OF SILENCE AND QUIET" OF THE LIGHT BREEZE AND THE CHORAL SOUND OF THE BIRDS. A NOISE I CAN LIVE WITH.

LONG MAY IT CONTINUE INTO
THE NEXT MILLENNIUM

DORIS & ROGER HOBBS
"HEDGE-END"



FLOWER FESTIVAL , ST. GILES' CHURCH



JAN AND COLIN HORN

On the first of September 2000 we visited friends in Kent having left 90% of our roots there just less than 2years ago! The closer to Kent one gets the more congested the roads until it's just one continuous stream. What a relief on the return journey when branching right at Stonehenge the traffic disappears and the last 30 miles or so are as driving should be!

Odd...no matter what time of day we go past Stonehenge there are always people circling the stones...they look like a sort of moving Stonehenge themselves. Where do they all come from?

Sad and angry thoughts still prevail over the sinking of the Russian submarine the KURSK with the loss of all 118 lives when at least some might have been saved if only international help had been asked for earlier.

Things we do.....Firstly, we are both Christians and this permeates all that we do but specifically.....

We both love reading and gardening as well as the theatre and classical music, but at the moment a lot of time goes in being involved with our grandchildren, both here and in Italy.

Jan likes [or should we say does!] Crosstich and loves opera. She is also about to become a 'Befriender' for Age Concern which involves visiting Senior Citizens for all sort of reasons.

Colin is a clergyman[or should that be 'person'?]and besides helping out with local churches also co-ordinates a team of consultants for the Diocese who work with parishes helping them set up team ministries. When time allows he also likes to play golf...badly!

The Hazels
Leigh Street
Leigh-on-Mendip

1st September 2000

We are newcomers to "Lie". It is only a year ago since we drove through the village looking for a house to buy, having sold our house in Gloucestershire. We liked the idea of a village with a church, pub, shop, village hall and a school, and even a cricket pitch which evoked the usual memories of the 'thwack of leather on willow'. It was the sort of village we had both grown up in.

It's been a memorable year. We moved into our new house in September 1999. With no carpets, draughts whistling around, the gas boiler giving up every time the temperature dropped more than usual, our year old washing machine breaking down, trying to find a home for all the things we had brought with us from a large house to a smaller one, and the endless rain which made the back garden a mudbath, made us wonder when things would improve. The list was endless, but there was much consolation and laughter with our new neighbours who were all in the same predicament! We also got to know people in the village and attend some of the numerous activities and events which are held throughout the year.

Leigh-on-Mendip, being a linear village, has houses either side of its one main street. Therefore, our house, like most others in the village, has spectacular views across fields to Leigh Woods at the rear, and the front looks southwards towards Tad Hill and Downhead. It feels as if we live on top of the world, which is true, as, of course, the name suggests, we are on top of the Mendips! A lot of people are to be found walking their dogs across the fields and up and down the lanes which surround the village, an activity which is repeated everywhere in Somerset, and taken up fairly enthusiastically by us. We also enjoy walking around the edge of the working quarry at the end of the village, where there is varied flora and fauna to be seen, as well as young trees planted by the quarry owners.

We especially note the beautiful trees in Somerset and surrounding the village, which are the old-fashioned oak, ash, holly, birch, etc., being very different from the acres of Forestry Commission fir trees planted in and around the Forest of Dean in Gloucestershire, to which we had become accustomed.

The people in Leigh-on-Mendip are very friendly. There are lots of things going on in the village, and we have been greeted with friendliness and welcome everywhere we have been. Our first event was an 'Auction of Promises' in the Village Hall – a very enjoyable and amusing evening with items from baby-sitting to a delivered load of manure being auctioned, followed by a Quiz Night in the Recreation/Cricket Club 'Hut' which taxed our brains amid much hilarity! Bonfire Night, on the 5th November, was held in Sparks Farm Field, complete with Marquee, Hog Roast and lots of ale! The fireworks were spectacular too and could be seen from miles around. All through the year there are Church Fetes, Craft Fayres, Coffee Mornings and many other special events, which most people participate in. The Recreation Field, including the Cricket Pitch, is well used throughout the year, with cricket and football being played during their respective seasons.

Now on this day in the year 2000, the morning started off promisingly. One of the new chairs we had bought for the conservatory was found to be defective so we were expecting the upholsterer to arrive. We received a call from his mobile phone advising us that he was driving from Wales via the M4 and had been held up in Bristol due to an accident on the M5 at Avonmouth. The accident was later reported on the local television news. As he was not familiar with our area we guided him down the A37 to Oakhill and through to Leigh-on-Mendip. (We now know the advantage of Mobile Phones.) However, while he was repairing the chair, we hadn't noticed that the front gate had been left open, and our Miniature Schnauzer, Gemma, had quietly escaped. A few minutes later, our neighbour across the road arrived with our little black bundle, knowing she shouldn't have been wandering down the road on her own!

After lunch we enjoyed our garden, tidying and dead-heading the flowers, and had a friendly chat with our neighbour over the fence. Later, we had a phone call from the Miniature Schnauzer breeder in Stoke St. Michael, to tell us that the litter of Salt and Pepper puppies, which had been born on 30th July, were all doing well and were we still interested in having one of them? There were seven of them and we immediately put our name down for one of the four bitches. We spent some time thinking up names and decided on "Misty".

This evening a couple of our friends visited and we enjoyed wine, snacks and lively chat, at the end of another delightful day in Leigh-on-Mendip.

Drew and Rosine Houston
The Hazels
Leigh-on-Mendip

1st September 2000

The photograph of the front of The Hazels was taken June 2000.



LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF DAMON JOHNSON

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER THE FIRST, TWO THOUSAND.

The day started well, the wife went to work. I, unfortunately had made the rash promise of helping prepare the school for the start of term, and so had to get out of bed. I was busy carting stuff here and there, when I came across a tin of creosote. Remembering that some outside stairways needed doing I popped the lid of and got cracking. On the dot, halfway through the job it started raining by the bucketload. I bravely ran inside and waited for it to stop. It did. I went back outside to continue, Oh boy! The watery creosote stuff was washed off and I was back to Square one. I started again, and halfway through, so did the rain. Does God have a sense of humour? Maybe he's Jewish, they seem to have the best comics. I now have a dilemma. Not much creosote left, and its still raining, I now have to preserve remaining stocks by running the brush underneath each horizontal plank and re-applying at the top to stop it dripping and going to waste. I am drenched. The headmistress, Gill Harry keeps looking at me out of the window, probably wondering if someone that dext is safe to have on school premises. The last job before leaving is to tidy a big shed, the old toilet block. I tidied it and for some time raise a lot of dust, especially when I am sweeping. All the dust sticks, because I am evoking. I emerge, coughing and looking like a particularly unhealthy corpse. Nice.



ST. GILLES' CHURCH

I have lived in Leigh-on-Mendip for a number of years now. I am 87 years old and find in the Millennium year that I need some help to live an independent life. I am unable to walk for now so don't go out very much. I like to keep up with current events so read the newspaper every day, and usually do the crossword in the paper. I like watching television, travel and nature programmes being my favourites. I go to an "Over 60" Club held in the village hall once a fortnight which gives me a chance to see friends and play cards. I am able to get my own meals but have to have help with cleaning. I retire to bed about 9 30pm and get up at 7 30am. My life is rather uneventful these days I would say.



HERBERT DUNN HOUSE

MAVIS & PETER KNOWLES**20 Park Hayes**

We first lived in this village from November 1985 to January 1992 at 9 Church Walk. During that period Mavis worked for two years as a receptionist for Wimpey Hobbs (now Tarmac) and then as the Administration Secretary for our own business. I was until 1988 the Training Director for an Anglo-American company based in Bath, but in 1988 we set up our own business and worked from home.

In 1992 we left for the frozen north, Derbyshire, but on retiring, the lure of Leigh on Mendip proved too much and we returned in February 2000.

The 'lure' of Leigh on Mendip is easy to explain. It was our first home together; we got married in 'the church'; had our reception in 'the pub' (their first, by the way!); and made many, many, firm friends. Indeed, because of our visits to the village once or twice every year, some 'locals' probably never realised that we had even left.

September 1st What were we doing? Reinventing a house that was just the thing for us when we first saw it! (The usual process that all new house-owners go through, I suspect.) Today saw us in the midst of tiling the kitchen worktops.

We also have our daughter Jayne with us until Wednesday the 6th September when she returns to the Caribbean island of St Thomas where she and her husband (Aitch) have a diving business. (Anyone requiring diving lessons or a very good holiday, contact us!) Many of you may remember Aitch from the Village Fete days. He was the big sunburnt chap wearing shorts who seemed to be everywhere at the same time.

Jayne will be returning to Leigh-on-Mendip in October/November to have their first child. So the bond with Leigh-on-Mendip goes on?

So what is the attraction of Leigh-on-Mendip? Having lived in villages of varying sizes over the years, we think this village has the complete package. A good village pub; a lovely little church with a Vicar who talks sense; a village shop and Post Office; a village hall; a good school for the young ones; etc, etc. When people talk about the good old days, they should visit Leigh-on-Mendip. The 'good old days' are still here!



STONELEIGH

***Susan Emily Lock (nee Wilcox) – 16.11.58, Stoneleigh,
Tadhill Leigh on Mendip***

My family dates back in Leigh on Mendip to the 15th century, as far as Church records record.

I was born to Clifford Hugh Wilcox (known as Ben) (1930-1963) and Patricia Duffey (of Warminster). I went to school in the village. I was married in 1978 and moved to Warminster. I have two children Sarah-Jayne (29.07.82) & Richard James (24.07.85) Woodham. Both of the children were baptised in St Giles.

I came back to the village in 1997 moving into my great aunt's bungalow (Maisie Evelyn Ashman (nee Wilcox) (1897-1992)). Both my husband (Paul Richard Lock) and myself have spent the past two years modernising. My husband does the DIY and myself the garden.

Fortunately we both enjoy doing this!

I work as a secretary for Wiltshire County Council in County Hall, Trowbridge, working for the Principal Education Welfare Manager. The post is very interesting as I have a lot of contact with parents and their child's schooling problems.

My hobbies are varied I enjoy gardening, computers and cross-stitch and particularly like watching gardening shows (Ground Force) or reading gardening books.

We have lots of pets, four dogs (Max, Zak and Daisy – springer spaniels, Paddington- Cavalier King Charles (my baby) – a white Persian cat (Dazz) and five ferrets. along with lots of Koi Carp in our fishpond.



ISLAND COTTAGE

1st September 2000

My day started as normal by getting up, having breakfast, taking the dog for a walk and getting ready to go to work. I went to work as normal and carried out my secretarial duties but, at the end of the day my normal routine changed considerably as my husband was in hospital with unstable angina. After work I went to visit him at Bath Royal United Hospital where he was waiting to go to Bristol Royal Infirmary to have an angiogram.

We are both looking forward to when this has been carried out and he is back home, and hopefully not too long after that our lives will get back to a fairly 'normal' routine again.

Brenda Lowe
The Quillet, Park Hayes.



David & Betty Male, Tadhil, Leigh on Mendip

Our hobbies are mainly confined to motorcycling in all its forms, currently to the restoration of old British machines. A 500cc BSA twin from 1956 has just been completed and work is now in progress on a 1957 Triumph Tiger Cub 200cc. Betty helps with the organisation of rallies for this class of 'bike'.

Next year we will be entering the so called 'Windmill Rally' in Holland. We are both members of the Vintage MCC dedicated to the preservation of Britain's motorcycle heritage.

Sunday 3 September 2000 will see the annual 'Circuito del Mendip' starting and finishing at Nunny Catch Transport Café. An entry of about 180 machines, solo and sidecar, is expected. The route will cover 100 miles with a midway break at the picnic area of the Chew Valley reservoir. We shall be passing through the Leigh on Mendip – Stoke St Michael area at approximately 11.00 – 11.30 am. This event was inaugurated by the Westlake Brothers of Frome who were aficionados of Italian motorcycles, therefore 'Circuito del Mendip'.



PRESCOTT



VIEW DOWN LEIGH STREET

Sue and Dave Mattick of Fieldview

Fieldview was converted from three cottages in the mid-1950s; the cottages themselves were known to be over 200 years old at that time.

Sue works as an Occupational therapist at Chantry House in Frome where the main business is care of people with Alzheimer's disease.

Dave works as a Marine Engineer with Rolls-Royce at the Bristol Business Park, Filton where he manages Power Electrical technology projects.

The other occupants of Fieldview are Bounty, a two-year-old Golden Retriever and two elderly black and white cats.

1 September 2000 was a normal day with Dave leaving for work at Rolls-Royce at 0645 in his green Vauxhall Vectra company car and attending meetings at BAE Systems and MoD Foxhill before returning home early at 1700.

After getting up at 0700, breakfasting, feeding the animals and then walking the dog, Sue left for work at 0900 in her green Peugeot 306. She returned in time for a late lunch and managed to varnish the kitchen woodwork before visiting the hairdresser in Paulton. The kitchen has recently been redecorated as a solid fuelled Aga cooker was replaced by an oil fired version.

The weather was overcast and cool for the time of year with showers throughout the day, some of which were heavy. As a result Sue was unable to spend any time in the garden other than to collect tomatoes from the greenhouse and pick some runner beans. Sue is a great gardener with an extensive vegetable and flower garden, a good-sized lawn and a shrubbery.

Both Sue and Dave spent a thankfully quiet evening at home enjoying a gin and tonic, supper, catching up on the news, watching some television and preparing for the visit of Karen, the elder of two daughters, who is coming with her boyfriend Graham tomorrow. It was Karen's birthday recently and she is coming to pick up her present - a bread maker - and a celebratory dinner.

Karen is a microbiologist with the Public Health Laboratory Service in Exeter where she is doing some research for NABISCO, which will lead to the award of a Doctorate next year. She and Graham live in Silverton, Devon.

The other daughter, Teresa, is employed as a Planning Officer with a small private partnership and lives with her boyfriend, Barry, near Huntingdon in Cambridgeshire; they moved into their new house last weekend and are about to take a break in Prague.

The son, Paul, is at Hertford College, Oxford doing research on behalf of the British Heart Foundation, which will lead to the award of his Doctorate in 2002. Dave spoke to him on the telephone this evening to arrange for him to participate in a sailing race in France next weekend and to e-mail him the necessary medical certificate to convince the French naval authorities that he is fit to take part.

All in all, Friday 1 September 2000 was a normal day in the lives of the Mattick's of Fieldview.

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

In painting the side door - Brunswick Green. We spent most of the morning sanding off the varnish and then there were intermittent showers blowing from the west. In the end I took off the door so the bare wood would not get wet before sealing. I'd like to be in the garden but I'm also enjoying this - one of the last finishing touches to the house. I moved here just over three years ago from London with my partner Darren Tune. We'd been looking for two years and were delighted to find Fairleigh House. When we bought it it was very neglected and had the feel of a place unloved for a long time. We knew though that the fabric of the house was sound and we liked the village. The puddock was the icing on the cake. On the day we bought the house we opened all the windows to let the house breathe and we knew that the atmosphere of distress would be removed with the peeling paint. We had the builders in for two years and it's now restored and revived - a happy peaceful place that we both love.

I work as a psychotherapist and supervisor and I also teach psychotherapy in London. I drive to London early on Wed and return late on Thursday night. This is where I see most of my patients. On Tuesdays and Fridays I work at home and once a month I teach in London for a weekend. At first I did this out of necessity but now it's largely by choice. I keep good connections with friends and colleagues this way. We also decided not to work with very disturbed patients at home so I can work with a greater range of presenting issues this way. It's nice to leave it behind on Thursday night even though I love my work. The drive home is a sort of transitional space - I start it reviewing treatment options and gradually begin to think about what's happening at home - and the garden.

We have created a beautiful garden and it's now starting to mature. I'd started growing stuff in tubs when we



FAIRBIGH HOUSE

decided to leave London so much of the planting is very established considering it's only three years since we started.

Gardening is one of my passions and today we have reviewed what to change over the Autumn. It's been an odd season - not much of a summer. The last of the late climats are still looking good and the eleomers are just coming into their own. It's the show next week so it's been seeing what will be ready. The roses are a bit iffy and prone to baling because of the wet season. The rudolmas daisies are late so they won't be ready. All in all though the garden is still full of colour and there's a good underlying architectural structure. I'm pleased with it. The veggie garden is at the top of the paddock and it's great to be getting back to regular supplies of home grown organic produce. Peas and beans have been particularly good this year though this is the second year that tomatoes have succumbed to blight. I shall build a lean-to greenhouse at the far end of the big barn to grow tomatoes and some more tender stuff.

We've borrowed two ponies this year to graze the paddock - it's brilliant getting the grass cut without effort. That was very hard work with an Allen scythe the last 2 years. The middle section of the paddock is planted with native trees and fruit trees at the bottom. The animals' grazing should also reduce the fertility of the soil as we're taking off the manure. Eventually we will manage it as a wild flower meadow but that will be a slow process but we got the rest of my life. I plan to stay!

Andy McKeown. Fairleigh House. September 1st 2000.

BROOKFIELD
THE OLD SAWMILLS
LEIGH-UPON-MENDIP
SOMERSET
BA3 5QQ
TEL: 0373 812415



A Day in the life of the Mews Family, from Brookfield, 3 The Old Sawmills,
Leigh-on-Mendip

Mary - Age 40 - I am a 'housewife' while I have a child at home and am involved in many aspects of village life. I am involved with Leigh on Mendip School - helping in the office, a Parent Governor and Treasurer of FOLS (the Parent Teacher Association). I am also on the

WI committee and help with several other regular events in the village. I am the Cemetery Clerk for the 'new' civil cemetery behind the churchyard and do the administration when required for the Parish Council. Today the children are both at home as it is school

holidays. I have two visitors staying - my sister and her colleague from North Devon who are taking a break from their families and enjoying a shopping trip to Bath. Today I will shop in Sainsbury's mainly to buy a special meal for us for tonight" My daughter is starting school next week and I am looking forward to some free time alone. I have lots of plans including decorating her bedroom and tackling the garden. Later I will look for a part-time job to fit in with school hours.

Dave - Age 43 - had to go to work today from 6am to 6pm. I am a printer for a company in

Midsomer Norton who produce various printed food packaging. I work on shifts and do 3 x 12 hours per week on a four week rolling pattern. This allows me plenty of daylight hours at home to indulge in my hobby of motor cars. As well as mending, maintaining and restoring

various cars, I race a saloon car a Peugeot 205GTi in a series at Castle Combe Race Circuit near Chippenham. I am currently joint 3rd. in the championship for my size car. On a workday like today I will return from work about 6.20pm, shower, eat and flop in front of the television for the evening. I am looking forward to the Dorset Steam fair tomorrow, which I am taking Daniel to and hoping to buy some spare parts for my workshop equipment.

Daniel - Age 6 - It's the school holidays and we are at home today. Aunty Teresa and Her friend are staying which is great fun. My best friend Charlotte came to play this afternoon and was allowed to stay for tea too. It rained a lot and we couldn't play in the garden.

Colette - Age 4 - I am looking forward to starting school next week. I will only go mornings

for a few weeks. I have lots of new friends at school and am going to be in Daniel and Charlotte's class with our new teacher Miss Jones. I can write and love drawing pictures.



RGHRCSA

Eirene Moore. (nee Griffin)

Born in village 1919, youngest of nine children
Currently living next door to original home,
a bungalow built on land belonging to
first house. Christened and married in St. Giles Church
Mother of two daughters, grandmother of
three grandsons and two grand-daughters
Husband, Reginald Moore, died 1973.

Health and mobility generally good
- had to give up driving in 1998 due
to poor eyesight following an unsuccessful
operation.

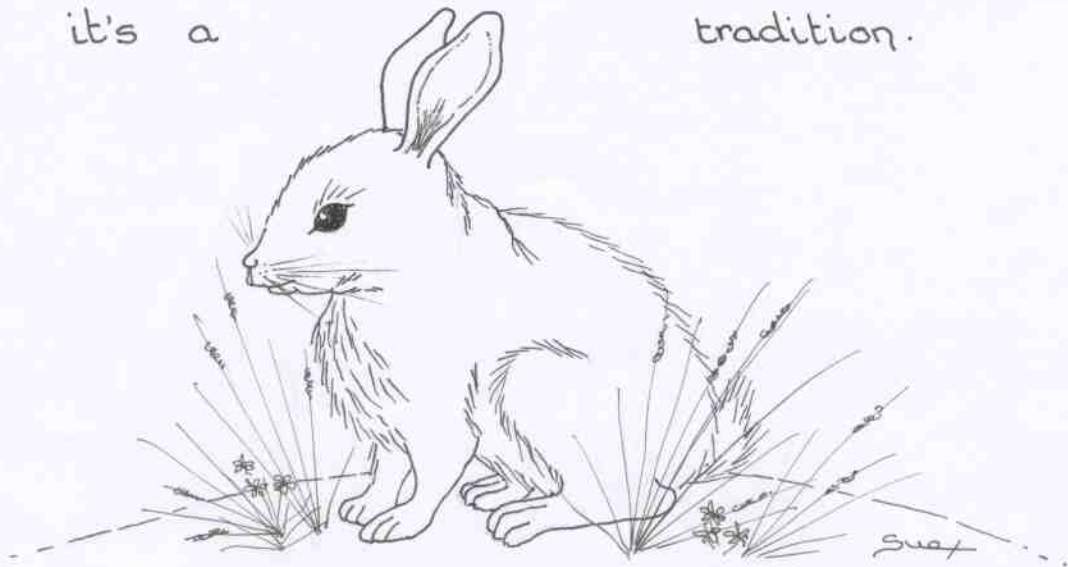
Daughter visits weekly to go shopping
or pleasure expeditions.

Maintains own garden without assistance
Regularly walks to cemetery to maintain grave
or lay flowers.

1st September - gardening
entertaining friend to tea.

September 1st 2000.

First thing in the morning I woke and I said
 "White Rabbits" as I do, and always have done on
 the first day of every new month - for good luck.-
 it's a tradition.



ST. GILES DAY 2000

Today I got up at 6:00 a.m. to go to Bristol
 where I work for a bank.

Although I have lived in the village for 24 years
 I have worked in Bristol for the last 15 years.
 Commuting is sometimes a nuisance because of the
 traffic, but it is nice to live in such a
 charming village.

When I got home in the evening my wife Sue & I
 went to the Bell Inn to meet friends.

Paul Moore. (age 45 $\frac{3}{4}$)

My name is Kathryn Orledge and I live at Cambridge House in Leigh On Mendip with my Mummy and Daddy. I am 5 years old and go to the village school where I have lots of friends.

My Daddy's name is Richard and his occupation is an Artificial Inseminator for Somerset Cattle Breeders. Mummy's name is Monica and she works part time in an office and also helps run our after school club.

On 1st September, it was the last day of our holiday staying in my Grandma and Grandad's caravan near West Bay in Dorset. After breakfast, Mummy and Daddy took me to have a pony ride and train ride. Then we spent the rest of the morning packing our things up ready to go home. We got home just after lunch and then I had to quickly get ready to go to my friend Tom's birthday party. He was 6 years old and had invited lots of children from school to his party. We all enjoyed ourselves and had lots of fun.

My Mummy collected me from the party and when I got home I was really tired, so I went to bed early.



KATHRYN ORLEDGE



ROGER & ANN ORPWOOD



MILLENNIUM YEAR The 1st of September 2000.

Roger and Ann Orpwood, aged 53 and 51 years, respectively, living at Rose Cottage (the one at the Townsend side of the village).

Today was the last day of our week's holiday on the Isle of Lewis, Outer Hebrides, Scotland. This morning we went into Stornoway, including a visit to the art gallery in the Town Hall. We then drove north along the east side of the island to a sandy beach beyond the township of Tolstadh. We donned our walking boots and rucksacks and set off on the coastal footpath north (The Heritage Trail) for a few miles, reaching Dun Othail, most probably the site of an iron-age hill fort, before retracing our steps to the car-park by the beach.

We returned south towards Stornoway, calling at the Col pottery for a cup of tea. We bought a milk jug for our own use, and to remind us of our holiday. We also bought two T-towels depicting the Western Isles: one for our son Steven (aged 26) and the other for our daughter Jane (aged 24). They both live in Bath, and neither of them has a dish-washer!

We've had a week of sunny weather and have enjoyed some walking as well as visiting various sites of interest on Lewis and Harris. This evening the wind has gathered force, so we may be in for a choppy crossing to Skye tomorrow. We will then drive south to Carlisle to stay with my parents overnight before returning to Leigh on Sunday with our dog Bonnie, who has been staying with them this week.

We will both return to work on Monday (4th). Roger works at the Institute of Medical Engineering, based at the Royal United Hospital in Bath and I work at St. Nicholas Pre-school in Radstock.

We moved into the village 2 years ago, having lived in Radstock for the previous 18 years, whilst our children were growing up. Roger is a member of the Village Hall Committee, and I am a member of Leigh W.I. We are by now feeling quite settled in the village and are both happy living at Rose Cottage.



ROSE COTTAGE

**PATTISON FAMILY
YEW TREE COTTAGE, TADHILL**

We moved from Gosport in Hampshire in January 1986 to live in Leigh on Mendip. My husband, Denis, works for the MOD in Bath. When we moved our daughter Fiona was just over 6 months old. Her younger sister, Jenny, was born at Royal United Hospital in Bath in May 1988.

The first photo of our cottage was given to us after we moved here – I am not sure when it was taken but it could be early 1950's. The cottage then was just 2 rooms down and 2 rooms up with the front door in the middle of the front of the cottage.



? 1950's ?



1990's

Some time later an extension was built on the north side of the house, creating a new big bedroom upstairs and downstairs a kitchen and bathroom. In 1979 the cottage was extended again with a utility room at the back and a new bathroom upstairs with the bedroom over the kitchen divided into two smaller ones. A new staircase was built with access to the cottage on the north side of the house and the old front door and window above blocked in. The two downstairs rooms in the old cottage were partly made into one room with the dividing wall kept at half height. The kitchen and bathroom were knocked into one and we still have a very large kitchen. In 1988 we built a porch, giving better access to the house. Then in 1995 we had a much larger extension built, creating a large lounge out to the back of the property, a further bedroom upstairs and an en suite to the main bedroom in the old part of the cottage. Downstairs the original two rooms were re-created giving us a large family home and still keeping a fair size garden.

No doubt the cottage will see further changes over the years as people's life styles change.

On 1 September 2000 I went to visit 2 school friends. They still live in Surrey and we had decided to meet at Silvermere (close to Cobham in Surrey). It is about 100 miles from here and I had reckoned on about 2 hours for the journey. My route was from here to Frome, the Warminster by-pass out to Stonehenge and then the A303 (dual carriageway), M3, M25, turn off on June 10. In the first hour I travelled 60 miles. Then because of an accident on the M3 I got caught in a traffic hold-up. In the next hour I travelled just 6 miles! The next half an hour only another 4 miles and then I was clear of the accident. I arrived at the Silvermere at 2.00 pm – a total journey time of 3½ hours! Thank goodness for my mobile phone! Although mobile phones have become very popular in the last 3 – 4 years I have had mine for only a year. I was very pleased as it meant I could ring my friends and they waited all that time for me to arrive so we could all eat together! I wonder in the next 50 years how people will travel and how they will communicate with each other! Fortunately, I was staying overnight with one of my friends who lives in Guildford and came home the next day.

Jan Pattison

My name is Charlotte Peat.
I live at The Dovecot. I have
got two brothers one that is 13
and is called Samuel and I have
another one that is 10 and is called
Edward. I am 6 now but I'm
nearly 7 because my birthday is in
3 weeks and a half. I have got lots
of friends but my best one is a boy
called Daniel. Another friend that I
like is a girl called Sophie. My hobbie
is to write and to read and to work
at school. I like working at school
because at home I'm bored but at
school I've always got something to
do. At school play time I used be in
this club with a chitche but it shut-
down. There was a friend of mine with
is Sophie in the club as well. Now Sophie
and me are ^{doing our} own club with the peiras
we made from the other club.

These are my friends
Sophie and Daniel.



Charlotte
me. Age 6.



Daniel
age 6.



Sophie
age 6.

My own family



Me. age
6.



Edward
age 10.



Samuel
age 13.



Dad
age 42.



Mum
age 43.

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

September 1st 2000

I went to work this morning in the rain. I work as a hardresser at Pondsmead nursing home at OAKHILL. I love my job + I've become quite attached to the residents. I finished at lunch time to do some shopping + have a quick hair-cut, at Shepton Mallet. That took me up until 6 o'clock when I returned home to find a cup of tea waiting for me. My husband Chris works as a Tar plank operator at Foster Yeomans near Shepton Mallet, he arrived home at 5.20pm hence the lovely cup of tea waiting for me.

My Son Ian works at Hansons Quarry as a plant maintenance operative, Ian + his girlfriend Sherree returned home in March after spending 1 year in Austratia, back packing + working, their way around the country.

My daughter Connie moved to Frome in April after living in Leigh-on-Mendip for 18 years, she rings us 2 or 3 times a week to hear any news from us + the village.

We all enjoy living here, its quiet but we like quiet.

after work I usually take our dogs for a run, we have 3, plus 3 cats + ducks + geese in the back garden, then maybe Chris + I have a Bar-B-Q weather permitting, we watch T.V. for an hour or so + then bed.

Every other weekend we'll go for a meal or to a dance.

Anne Perkins.

ST GILES'S DAY - 1 SEPTEMBER 2000



6 THE OLD SAWMILLS

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

Having been born in the village in the year 1927, I feel so privileged to reach the year 2000 which we call the millennium. Thinking back + remembering, how hard our families had to work, + thinking how easy the everyday chores we have to do daily, is so much easier now. We can get up in the morning's, switch on the kettle, toaster etc, then get to work, with all the easy equipment now provided. I am wondering, what other things will be introduced during this special year + into the next decade.

We have much more leisure time now. It is so lovely to look out of my window + see the green fields, where we used to play as children. We can watch the horses, cows, + sheep + see the farmers cutting + ploughing etc.

In the village we have the hall, which holds various activities which we can attend, + our lovely old Church St Giles has just celebrated the flower festival, which was really beautiful. The church where I was christened, confirmed, + married.

I hope that whoever reads this can visualise how we love + live, so happily + I sincerely hope that you are able to enjoy yourselves as much, + more

Good luck to all!

Mrs Hilda M. Pike



VIEW UP LEIGH STREET



My Family and myself
in Leigh-on-Mendip all
was born here in 1935,

My family and myself have lived in Leigh-on-Mendip all our lives. I was born here in 1935. Our sons Nigel and Daren were also born here and our granddaughter Lauren was born here six years ago.

My husband Graham was born in Coleford, but has lived here since we married in 1956.

We love it here and wouldn't want to live anywhere else.

Many years ago there were about three shops and a post office but now there is only one.

We like watching football especially Manchester United, Chelsea and Liverpool.

Graham likes to potter about in the garden in his retirement.

We didn't do much on September 1st as the weather wasn't too special. We went to Wells and did some shopping.

Now there is only
we like watching
Manchester United,
Graham likes to
garden in his re
we didn't do
as the weather was
except we went
did some shopping

Hazel and Graham Plummer.

Hazel & Graham Plummer.

On the 1st September

As we were on holiday for a week
we went to Weston-super-Mare for
the day on 1st September.

Our daughter Lauren had a great
time on the pier and the amusements.

We live in a cottage in the
village which we renovated (it had
taken many years).

I work at Mendip Masons in the
village.

Job starting on 18th September is
window surrounds for four houses in
Goulds Farm.

Ellery Cottage

Darren Andrea & Lauren



September 2000

HIGH HAT COTTAGE

The doorbell rang - my visitors had arrived. Lovely blond Sara, Ilene, her grandmother and little Katie, Sara's five year old daughter, were smiling at me - hoping I had not forgotten my invitation to them. I first met Ilene at the Floral Festival in the Church the previous Saturday. I found her to be a charming lady of some 82 years and I suggested they might like to come to tea the following Wednesday. Ilene had come down for a week's holiday and the family had persuaded her to stay some four weeks, (indicating how well loved a grandmother and great-grandmother she is.)

I remember 'Afternoon Tea' to be so enjoyable, and now somehow a much neglected occasion in the rush of today's life. The time of day, after all, suits both young and old alike and is good for discussion or idle chatter. The atmosphere being cosy in wintertime or relaxed in the garden perhaps, on fine summer days and leaving the evening free.

I had prepared the required tiny, triangular sandwiches, plump with fillings such as salmon and cucumber, egg mayonnaise and succulent ham. I also tempted my guests with strawberry jam on finely buttered bread, fairy cakes and of course, a triumphant sponge, glistening with a fine dusting of sugar. Sara, not realising I had prepared such a substantial tea declared at first that she was not terribly hungry, whereas a small voice beside assured me that Katie definitely was.

The chatter between the four generations at the table was amusing and interesting. It was interspersed with Ilene's gems of information, such as her great, great grandfather's first soft leather baby booties were now on permanent loan to a museum in her area. No less than seven generations in the family had worn them.

Sara remarked how good it was to sit and talk, especially with the food prepared by another - a real treat for a busy mother. Katie is a delight, and having politely thanked me for her tea, solemnly asked to inspect the garden.

We all wandered down the little winding path, brushing against the heavy flowers of the late summer borders, spending some time peering into the pond for the newts that have their home there. We inherited the pond from the previous owner and every year watch for the little frogs and the newts to return.

We sat for some time in the garden enjoying the late afternoon sun. The garden is a peaceful place with views of fields and trees to the horizon. I often sit with Derek, my husband, in our little summerhouse enjoying dinner, and listening to music until the chimneys of the adjoining cottages turn black against the dusky sky. Sometimes the heavy drone of three Hercules aircraft returning to base break the stillness of the evening, a sight I especially love as they bank low over us in the fading light.

I once made the remark when we first came to the village that part of the beauty here is the wide expanse of stunning blue skies, with breathtaking sunsets, broken only by the tree-lined horizon. As I termed it at the time 'a lot of sky'.

I hope the same hand of happiness touches all who come here after us.

Elizabeth Robinson



JAN & ANNE ROBSON



My name is Jan Robson, I am 54 years old and am an architect working from home in Leigh-on-Mendip.

1st September is a fairly typical working day in my office, a bedroom above the kitchen.

My present workload comprises providing construction drawings for home owners who require extensions and refurbishments to their houses. I am also involved with upgrade works to a large hospital site in Gloucestershire.

The day is split between answering the telephone to general contractors and clients, writing letters and schedules on the computer and producing drawings on a drawing board using pens and scale rules. I have not converted to computer aided design!

My wife, Anne, is in France with her part time job, so our two dogs, Toffee & Tanzi, spend their time in my office with me or downstairs asleep on their bags.

The weather is a bit dreary so I have closed the outside doors knowing that the dogs will not want to go out. Tanzi is a sun worshipper and at 10 years old knows all there is to know about sun bathing! Both dogs are Border Collie cross type mongrels, Tanzi is quite blind now.

About midday I take the car to Stoke St. Michael to buy some meat from the butcher, Michael Wright. I also buy two lottery tickets from the general store across the road.

At about 6.00pm I take the dogs for a walk in Banns Close quarry (redundant), filled with Buddleia and birch. Both dogs and I enjoy this interlude.

As Anne has said, our evening is devastated by having to strip out the kitchen for its upgrade but we did watch "Frazier" on channel 4 @ 10.00pm.
we retired to bed @ 11.00pm

Jan Robson
White House.



NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

LEE MARABLE,
ANNE ROBSON



BOB MARABLE, BARBARA TURNER,
TRISH MARABLE, GILL BAKER,
ANNE ROBSON, JAKE GARNER



JAN ROBSON



LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

1st September and it's a grey morning with an autumnal feel and drizzle in the air. Our dogs Tanzi and Toffee are curled up tight on their beanbags.

My name is Anne Robson and I have lived in White House, Leigh on Mendip (with my husband Jan) for 10 years. We have two lovely neighbours Marjorie Lewis and Eirene Moore (who was actually born in our house) and views across the fields where John Davies's dairy herd graze. I love living in the Village, but have always found it cold here – its usually much warmer in Frome which is only 4 miles away.

Today I worked at Frome Tourist Information Centre, where I have a part time job, and dealt with all kinds of questions from tourists and locals. We are selling Saver tickets for two big events held this weekend, The National Amateur Garden Show at Shepton Mallet and The Great Dorset Steam Fair near Blandford Forum, so it was a busy day.

Home at about 6.30pm to a meal with vegetables from our garden – marrow, tomatoes and runner beans. It is the Produce Show next weekend and we are trying to grow the longest bean!

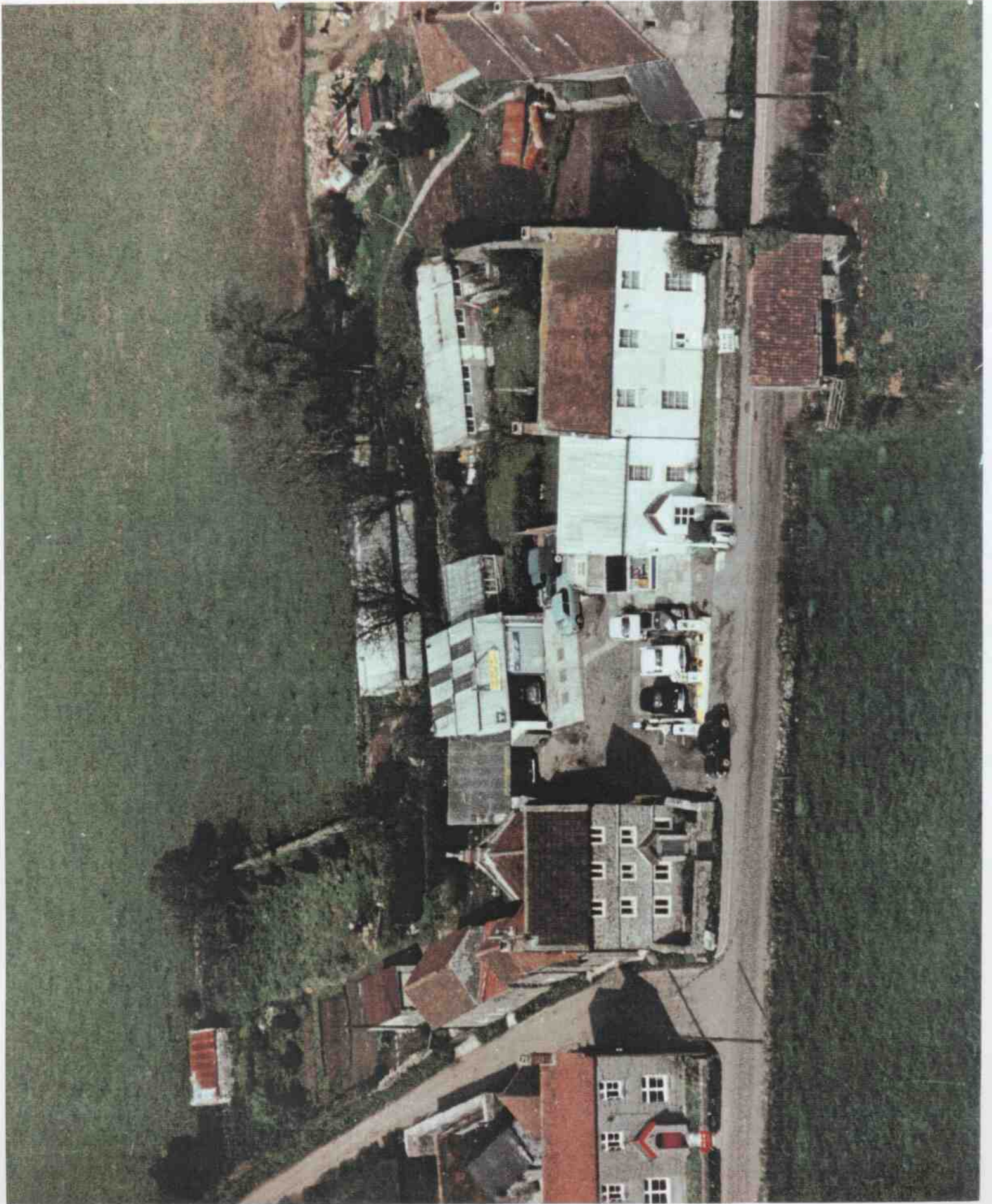
Jan and I are Chairman and Secretary of the Leigh on Mendip Recreation Field Management Committee. One of our tasks is to organise a fund raising Bonus Club Draw, so we both had to ring round to chase up contributions as we need 49 people to take part. There are 42 at the moment and the first draw is tomorrow!

Then I would have liked to relax and watch Television, but this was not to be until later on, as we had to clear out our kitchen. Tomorrow we are having a new sink and tiles – getting rid of the 1970's brown tiles and replacing with white for year 2000. Its Marjorie next door's grandson who is putting them in for us.

That's what I like about Leigh. Someone always knows someone who can lend a hand. I was even persuaded to do an arrangement for the St Giles Flower Festival last weekend and was really pleased I did. Everyone was so friendly and helpful.

Off to bed now and thank goodness the weather forecast is better for tomorrow!

TOWNSEND GARAGE
1960'S



Friday the 1st September was not a normal day for us. Usually we would both be working. Paul, who owns the business "Townsend Garage" would be repairing cars etc. and I would be working for the NatWest Bank at Radstock. We have both been following a similar path since we moved to Leigh-on-Mendip 23 years ago.

However, on this occasion we were travelling to London by car, as it was the beginning of our annual Summer Holiday. The journey was most frustrating, and should have taken about 3 hours, at the most. We were held up, for some reason on the M3 and eventually arrived after 4½ hours. We stayed the night with my Sister, left our car at her residence and the following morning continued on the 2nd leg of our journey to the South of France on Eurostar from Waterloo to Paris.

ANN + PAUL ROOKE



LAVENDER COTTAGE



CAROLINE PEAT, PAMELA BROSTER

1st. September 2000

To-day we have been clearing the church after the Flower Festival 2000 to celebrate St. Giles Day and the millennium, which took place on 26th, 27th & 28th August. It was a great success and arrangements were done depicting "The Nativity", "Parable of the Sower", miracle of water into wine, "The Lost Sheep", "Feeding of the five thousand", "The Last Supper", "The Crucifixion", "The Resurrection", "Stephen - the first martyr", "The Building of St. Giles", William Tyndale prints the new testament into English, Authorised version of King James Bible, "Pilgrim Fathers", "Charles Wesley's", "Christ whose glory fills the skies", "Jerusalem", Mother Teresa and "The riggers of the world".

notice that the swallows are gathering to fly away from us. There is an autumnal feel to the air. My robin has been up to the hay looking for his oats.



SPARKS FARM OPPOSITE FLAVENDER COTTAGE

ST GILES'S DAY - 1 SEPTEMBER 2000



THE RECREATION FIELD



DUNCAN MEADOW

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR



HERBERT DUNN HOUSE

VIEW FROM HERBERT DUNN HOUSE



THESE PHOTOS TAKEN BY FRED & GRETA SLOCOMBE

ST GILES'S DAY - 1 SEPTEMBER 2000

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

A very Rainy Day. I'm working late today so first into the shopping to do at Tesco's and pay Bills then to get lunch then off to work where I look after mentally disabled people quite stressful at times but very nice I enjoy it. At home I'm my husband who isn't in good health and our 15 year old son. the other three are older and have all left home.

Christina Sunders.

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

My Name is Marsella Talbot. I live in No 2 Park Hayes with my husband Ian and three young children Jenna aged 11, Jessica aged 9, and Jordan aged 7.

My name is Marsella Talbot. I live in No 2 Park Hayes with my husband Ian and three young children Jenna aged 11, Jessica aged 9, and Jordan aged 7.

We have lived in Leigh for approximately seven and a half years after moving from Frome.

I work, as a Nursery Supervisor at Mells first school while my husband is a delivery driver. This takes him all around the Country. The firm he works for is called Pinetum and is based in Warminster.

My eldest daughter Jenna has been attending Oakfield Middle school for two years. She enjoys listening to CD's and her favourite singer is Britiney Spears.

Jessica has just left Leigh-on-Mendip first school and will be attending Oakfield as from September 5th 2000. Jessica enjoys swimming and riding her bike.

Jordan is about to start year 3 at Leigh school. He shares the same interests as his dad, playing football. They both support Leeds United Our family have enjoyed living in Leigh, looking out over the

*to start year 3 at Leigh School
he interests as his dad,
both support Leeds United
we enjoyed living in Leigh
the countryside throughout the
years to for many more years, I
hope this is enjoying the same
pleasures we have.*

Countryside throughout the years and hope to for many more years. I hope whoever reads this is enjoying the same pleasures as we have.

Mrs. M.B. Talbot

Mrs M.B. Talbot

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

St Giles day dawned for me just before 6am, when torrential rain wakened me. An instant or two of thought and I reset the alarm from 6am to 6.30am. I'd rather be late than walk Beth my dog in the rain.

6-45am Beth and I are across the fields and the rain has ceased.

I have recently moved to Leigh and the feeling of happiness from walking Beth through the surrounding fields, woods and quarry may just keep me here forever.

I'm late now, so take off for work in Taunton only to get halfway out of the village and realise I have no glasses with me and I haven't put in my contact lenses! More haste less speed, I return home and start again.

Home ward bound Friday pm, what could be better? But no, a crash on the M5 means the traffic is at a virtual standstill across Somerset. A journey that normally takes me 1 hour takes $2\frac{3}{4}$ hrs.

In the Bell that night the talk was all the same, the effect of the crash on the people of Leigh.

The blessing of course is that we weren't the ones involved.

It's a short walk down through the



3 PERRYS COTTAGE

Village to the Bell, which I thoroughly enjoy the village is quiet and looking out across the fields there is often a wonderful sunset.

As a single woman the Bell offers me a place I can socialise and meet people in the village many of whom I would now class as my friends. My day ended in the good company of my friends Vicky & Frank who live at Fox Hollow, who after a 'couple' of drinks invited me back to their place for supper.

The village offers so much that I enjoy in life, peace, countryside, good company and the important facilities of the shop/post office, village hall Church, recreation ground and hut and of course the pub! I feel honoured to live here.

Vicki Taylor & Beth
3 Perrys Cottage.



CHILDREN'S GAMES AT THE NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY



LEIGH ON MENDIP FIRST SCHOOL





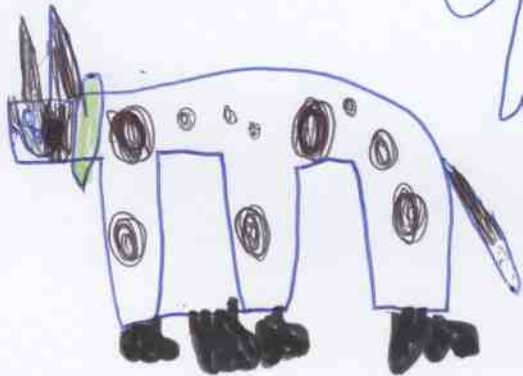
Rosie the Pony



Maisie the kitten



Millie the cat



Scottie the dog



Megan the dog

my pets
we live at crossways

ages 5 By Samantha Taylor Townsend



CROSSWAYS , TOWNSEND





PARK HAYES

My Husband & I moved from Halcombe to
 High six years ago. We live in a nice
 Bungalow at Park Hayes got a lovely
 view across the fields and can sit
 at the table by the window and
 watch the children playing on the
 big green across from the bungalow
 today I picked lots of tomatoes from
 our green house and runner beans from
 the garden. Went for a walk with
 my little dog lady. We had a B.B.O
 at tea time

Mom & Mary
 Hoare.

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

My name is Darre, and I have lived in Leigh-on-Mendip for 3½ years. I live with Anely, my partner for 13½ years, 3 Siamese cats - named Bellaciao, Leah and Boris, - and five Molebury Ducks. I work for 5 days a week in Bristol as a computer Network Officer, for the Bristol City Council's Education Department.

Usually my day starts at 6am but on Fridays I allow myself a lie-in until 6.30am. I pick up Paul Moore, one of the villagers, at Farn and drive into Bristol. We arrived at work around 7.45am.

My work comprises of reading my e-mails, diagnosing and fixing faults on the network, adding, deleting and sorting out problems with users e-mail and network accounts, managing network security plus supporting Bristol's Schools Networks.

My first call to another building putting in a new network hub. Then I went to a school. The journey was awful instead of a 15 minute journey it took 45 minutes. This was due to an accident on the M5 motorway and all traffic was diverted through Bristol - Bristol was like a car park!

The school were implementing a new network and they were having problems with importing user names and password plus network printing. I sorted out the importing of the user very quickly but I tried for 4½ hours to get their network printing working. I realise that the problem was related to their print server box. I took the equipment away to work on it and to get help from the manufacturer.

I returned to my office, a 2km journey to 45 minutes. I concentrated on checking that our e-mail directory was correct and consistent - 700 e-mail accounts. Most were correct but I had to amend some telephone numbers and user names. - it was tedious. I left work early, 3pm, because of the traffic.

I pick Paul up and started driving home but because of the crash it meant that the journey took nearly 2 hours. Most people I talk to during the day were concerned with the traffic chaos but I felt more for the 2 people who died.

In the evening Anely and I went to the theatre in Bath to see Entertaining Mr Sloane which was not a patch on other productions of it I had seen. Mr Sloane was not sexy enough and the brother and sister were not sleazy enough. The set itself was wonderful. It was a mixture of tasteless 50's kitsch with a gas work as a backdrop. The backdrop itself was full of collage images of incidents from Joe Cernans life - including his horrific death.

A
 Andy and I moved from London, via Bristol, about 4 years ago. We wanted more space especially a larger garden. We could not afford a place in London so we looked outside it. A lot of our friends had already migrated from London towards the west. We concentrated looking around the Bath and Bristol area as I thought that I would find it easier to get work.

When we moved into Leigh I immediately felt that the village was friendly and not judgemental and that the people were accepting and approachable. Villagers knew about 6 months before we moved in that we were a couple, and when we went for walks after looking at the house we were greeted as new villagers.

One of my loves is food - both cooking and eating. I love cooking good food for Andy and friends - one of my favourites is monk fish kebabs with a spicy peanut sauce. My pleasure increases when I see the look on guest faces at the food I produce.

Darren Tume, Farleigh Herse
 1/9/00

Denman College



Barbara Turner Tadhil House Leigh-on-Mendip

I woke up on September 1st 2000 at Denman College, the Women's Institutes own educational centre in Marcham Oxfordshire. I was on a three-day residential course. It is an elegant Georgian house set in 17 acres of landscaped gardens. It provides a friendly comfortable learning environment in which to enjoy any of the over 500 courses on offer. Approximately 600 students attend each year and are accommodated in the main house or contemporary buildings in the grounds.

This is my fourth visit and I was thrilled to be allocated a bedroom in the main house. I felt very grand walking down the large wide staircase for breakfast. It is not the place to go to if you are on a diet as there is so much food on offer.

I was here because the course had been arranged for all Somerset W.I. members. It was a taster of three courses T'ai-Chi, Cooking, and the Magic of the Musicals. Friday morning was the last two sessions of the music course. This proved to be more interesting than I thought. We learnt about the history, listened to music and watched a video. I was then panic-struck! We had to sing and this is not my best asset so I stood at the back and hoped I didn't put anybody off. Following this it was time to audition for the characters in "My Fair Lady" and finished the course with a short sketch. This was great fun. Unfortunately after lunch it was time to go home.

Looking back on the last three days has been great. We were able to do T'ai-Chi outside on the lawn. It was a wonderful experience to kick our shoes off and feel the grass underfoot while we learnt simple and beneficial Chinese exercises. We finished by learning how to do simple massage.

I felt very sleepy for the next course, which was a cookery demonstration. We watched delicious sweets and puddings being made and had a taster of them all. My poor waist-line! Then it was our turn to make marzipan fruits. It looked so easy when demonstrated but trying to mould bananas strawberries and lemons wasn't as easy as it looked. However all finished I was pleased to be taking a present back for hubby at home.

Finally on the Magic of the Musicals on the two sessions before today James Mitchel our tutor dressed up and performed a cabaret. It was very relaxing hearing him sing songs from the various musicals. I bought his CD and finished my day on September 1st listening to the music. Now it is just a lovely memory

Dreams

It started 15 years ago with the Leigh-on-Mendip bell ringers first narrow-boating holiday.

Ten years before we had been invited to join another couple on a narrow boat holiday but it did not seem right for us with young children. Also I had not "been there, done it, and got the T-shirt!". But after caving (France: 3 miles in and $\frac{3}{4}$ mile down), ballooning (over the alps: 40 miles along and 11,000 ft up) and diving (Read Sea: 40 metres down) the idea of "stopping the world and getting off" became much more appealing (yes – bell ringing had also been added to the 'done' list).



The dream

After three days on the boat, with no one falling out in either sense, I was reluctant to leave. Four more canal holidays and five years on the dream became much more intense – to have our own floating cottage and 'sail off into the sunset'.

Another ten years passed before the dream started to become reality and on St Giles Day 1999 'the boat' – 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons of steel 60 ft long – arrived on a lorry and was installed in our garden.

Having read that it takes about 300 man days to fit out a boat and that's with the windows and engine fitted (neither of which we had in our 'shell'). I thought with a bit of optimism and help the dream could become reality in a year, quickly changed to eighteen months. Well a year has quickly passed, St Giles Day 2000 has come and gone and the boat is still in the garden.

When will the dream become reality – who knows? – one day I will wake and find myself really "sailing, or rather, motoring into the sunset", but until then its still only a dream.

Dave Turner



Reality



Paul & Helen Turner
Wedding Day Saturday May 10th 1997

Paul & Helen Turner

Having been brought up in Holcombe from the age of 6 months, my parents decided it was time to move. I was now 10 years old and we moved to Tadhil House, Tadhil. At the age of 18 years old I went to the Polytechnic of Wales, where I completed a three-year sandwich course in information technology. During this time it made me realise how much I liked the Mendip area.

Being an active member of Coleford Gospel hall I got to know a Helen Jones from Page House Farm, Old Newbury. After going out for a while I asked her to marry me. She said "yes" and a year later we were married. Before we were married, we spent lots of time looking for a house. There seemed to be nothing in the area at the right price. Then one day we noticed that 1 Church Walk, Leigh on Mendip was for sale, so we arranged a viewing straight away. My immediate thought was that Helen would not like it, so I came away feeling despondent. After discussing it, she was quite happy, so we made an offer and a price was soon agreed. There seemed to be quite a lot of interest in the property, but I think people were put off by the fact that to get to the second bedroom, you had to walk through the first.

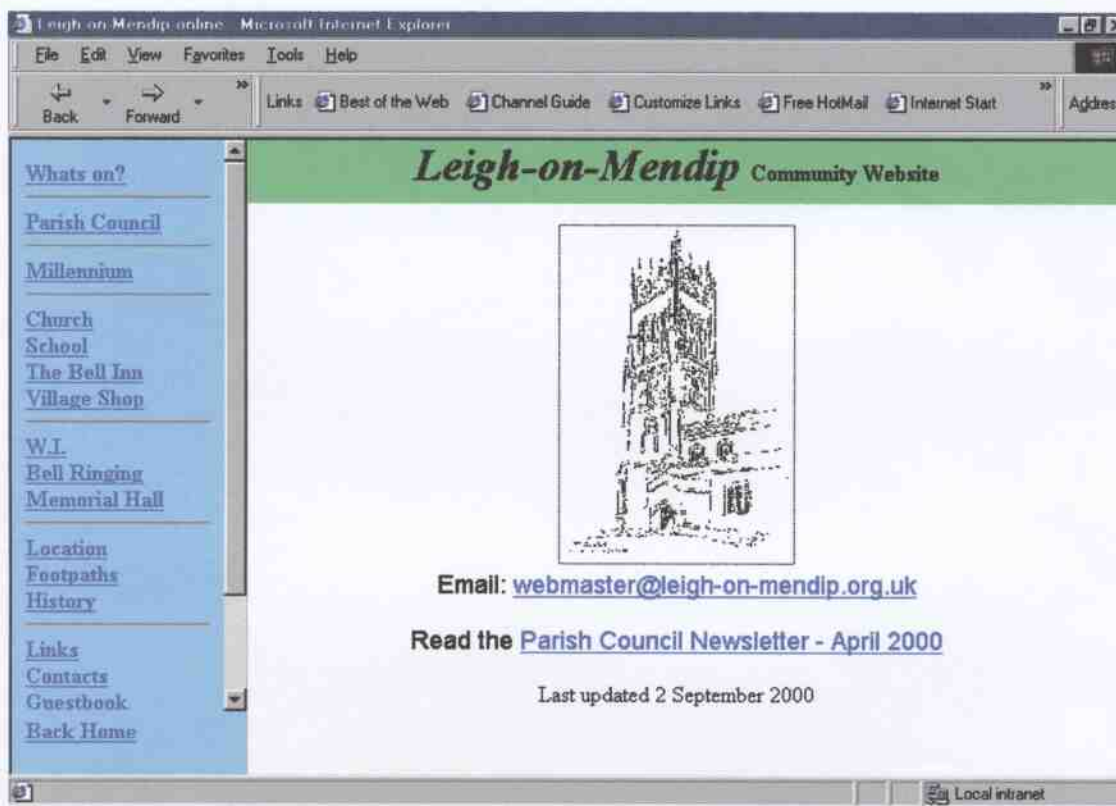
After living at 1 Church Walk for two and a half years we were getting ready to go to Australia to visit Helen's parents who emigrated there 6 months after we were married. (Helens parents used to own fields in Leigh) I had been sent to the shop to buy some peas, and on the way back my next door neighbour told me that they were moving, and that a for sale board was to go up the next day. We had tea then after praying we approached next door regarding buying the property, as we were finding that 1 Church Walk was just a bit too small. So in November 1999 we were the owners of 1&2 Church Walk. However having an old house you have so much to do and I hate DIY.



TADHILL HOUSE

<http://www.leigh-on-mendip.org.uk>

The Leigh-on-Mendip web-site has been going about 18 months now. The domain name is owned by the parish council and run by me. The web-site took me about a week to do with help from my father. The web-site is slowly getting more hits as it is being advertised a bit more and people have got increasingly more access to the Internet. I have even had visitors email me from abroad about it. Hopefully people will start giving more information to the P.C or me to put on the web-site, as it is free. Below is a screen-shot of what the current web-site looks like.



Thomas Turner
tom@leigh-on-mendip.org.uk

Tadhill House

My name is Sue Vaughan and I live at Townsend House on the western edge of the village. I do part time admin work from home and on the morning of Friday 1st Sept. 2000 was busy at my computer. However in the afternoon I decided to play hooky for a couple of hours and go to Bath for some shopping with my daughter Emma. Amongst other things I was going to buy some socks to wear with my walking boots on my holiday in Morocco in October.

Before coming home we went and did our normal Friday Sainsbury's shopping in the Bath store instead of our usual one in Frome. We got back in the car to begin our journey home, which we expected to take us about half an hour. Unknown to us a fatal accident that morning on the Avonmouth Bridge had closed the M5 and by the time we attempted to start our journey at 5.45pm the jams in a wide radius from Bristol were horrendous! We sat in the car park, occasionally edging forward and eventually joined the traffic on the road proper at about 6.30pm. Things were not much better there than in the car park and we had to turn round and find a slightly clearer route. Eventually we got home at about 8pm. The only consolations were that we hadn't run out of petrol and that my baby grandson Joe had slept all the way.

Friday is my night out at the pub, so half an hour or so later I was sinking my first half pint of 6x bitter and swapping notes about the jam with all the others who had been held up, some for even longer than me. Leigh is a quiet village, any dramas usually being very personal ones, so it was a strange co-incidence that the day chosen to record should turn out to be affected so much by the outside world for once.



LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

On the 1st September 2000 my wife and I were returning from Minehead after a 5 days holiday.

The weather was as usual very wet as we approached Leigh on Mendip, but the fields across from our lounge windows look as lovely as ever.

We have lived here for 10 years and enjoy every day wet or fine. As I write a hot air balloon is crossing the hills 200 metres away.

There are two horses stabled 50 metres from our flat. The young one is playing with a plastic tub, probably training for a circus!

Swallows seem to be ready for migration, many are swooping overhead.

No Blue Tits this year, we miss them.

The Village cricket team have lost a match this week, which is quite an exception.

Les Wells.



FLOWER FESTIVAL , ST GILES' CHURCH



LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

In 1983 we moved into Hillcrest at Tadhill, a stone cottage needing renovation. We were looking for a thriving rural community in which we could participate. One of the first things we discovered was St. Giles Church, described by some as the "Jewel of the Mendips". Now, in 2000, Alastair is a bellringer, while Jane is President of the village Women's Institute.



A favourite annual event, held every September, is the Harvest Festival. On Saturday a dedicated band of flower arrangers decorate the Church. Sunday afternoon is for the Harvest Service, after which the flowers and produce are carried to the village Memorial Hall. In the evening, to the sound of a quarter-peal ring on the church bells, all ages gather to partake of a delicious home made buffet, and Michel the auctioneer persuades us to bid for the produce. It is always a thoroughly enjoyable evening reflecting the strong agricultural heritage and sense of belonging that we so much appreciate here.



Alastair Weston

Jane Weston

I am a widow of 91 yrs of age
 and although I was not born in Leigh-on-Mendip
 I consider myself a Resident, as I have
 lived in the Village since I was 14 yrs of age
 I was born in London, (Walthamstow) then went
 to Wales as my father was out of work, but he
 didn't get work there, so we came back to
 Somerset and have been here ever since
 I am as my Mother was a ^{Journal} ^{woman} and my
 mother had twin boys. I have had quite
 a Pleasant life and count my
 Blessings every day
 I am

Yours Truly
 H. Wickham
 30 Park. Hayes



VIEW UP LEIGH STREET

I have lived in Leigh-on-Mendip all my life, being born in a small thatched cottage next to the recreational field (the Rec.) My husband was also born in the village at "Witts End" attended the village school and we married in St Giles Church on December 17th 1955. When we first married we lived at Tadhill in a row of small stone built cottages that have since been demolished. We moved back to Leigh Street in 1965 and have lived in the same house since.

On September 1st 2000 I awoke drew back the curtains to a beautiful view of green fields with horses grazing and birds could be heard singing their joyful tunes. After breakfast I went to the village shop to collect the daily paper and magazines. I also purchased some groceries and collected medicines for a friend. Then I had a lift to Tadhill where I visited a friend. After doing a few jobs around the house for her we sat, had a coffee and a chat. During my walk back down the hill I passed a couple of people riding their horses. Next it was time to make a snack for lunch. In the afternoon I did some baking and prepared the evening meal. After dinner it was time to sit and relax, read the newspaper and watch T.V.

My husband woke early as usual to feed and clean out the racing pigeons and took the working dogs for a run. After breakfast it was to work (gardening). I arrived home at lunch-time, had a snack to eat, then it was back down the garden to catch some pigeons, and put them into baskets and took them to the clubhouse where all the pigeons that were racing that weekend are "marked" i.e. registered for the race. They were put into a transporter and taken to France for the long fly home on Sunday. After a chat with other fanciers (that's what they are called) it's time to go home to bed.



EXHIBITS AT THE PRODUCE SHOW

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

MY NAME IS MRS. MARGURITA WILLIAMS
 and I live at Flat 1 Stanley House
 Leigh on Mendip I came over to England
 when I was eighteen years old and worked
 at Downside College until I got married
 I am now 77 years of age. worked hard
 all my life mostly at Downside College.
 my Doctor right ^{now} is Dr. Jenkins he was
 one of the Boys in my Dormitory also my
 Dad, Edmond, O'Regan. came to England.
 many years ago and he was very proud.
 of what he done he Drove a Hugh
 Bulldozer. and he cut solid Rock for 5½
 years the Foundations of Blaghton Lake.
 altogether he was working on the lake over
 Ten years he always talked of what he
 achieved he ~~was~~ called it his Baby he
 lived until he was 98 years old and my 15 sons
 and myself had to promise to have him
 Cremated and his ashes had to be Buried
 beside the lake that he laied so much.
 and I am very proud to be able to tell you
 this information he called it his Baby



THE VICARAGE

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

Leaden skies, stiff wind, torrential rain. Is the date at the foot of the page wrong? Surely this must be a description of November or February? No, September 1st it is ~ a late summer's day in England and today's weather is not dissimilar to many we have experienced during May, June, July & August. Yet the newspapers are telling us that "Britain has had one of the best summers of the past 100 years. It was the driest, sunniest August for 5 years," according to PA Weather Centre. Really? Well, not here in Leigh-on-Mendip, that's for sure. Perhaps in High Wycombe, where my mother lives, or Kent, where my sister lives and who is constantly complaining of lack of water for the garden. But this is slug and snail paradise.

I thought I ought to start with a grumble about the weather; it wouldn't be natural to talk of anything else first in our country ~ a country where it was difficult to differentiate between the great eclipse of August 1999 and any other gloomy summer's day.

Now, come along woman, find something cheerful to say. Well, today is the second day of the 5th Test Match at The Oval between England and the West Indies ~ and England are ahead 2-1 in the series. They've only got to draw or win this last match and finally, after 31 years, they'll have beaten the West Indies and regained the Wisden Trophy. And the boys are doing well (so far!). A record opening stand of 159 for the first wicket by Michael Atherton & Marcus Trescothick (a Somerset player) put the team in a strong position. But after that, the two next best scores were 40 by Graham Thorpe and 30 from Extras. That chap Extras seems to play a lot! So will the next 3 days bring victory at last to England or will those two heroes Curtly Ambrose & Courtney Walsh shatter their dreams? As long as it's a good match, that's what's important.

VICKI WINKS. THE VICARAGE.

FAMILY DETAILS: PAUL, age 55, Vicar for Leigh, Stoke & Downhead.
 VICKI, age 53, former teacher of Classics & English, now Civil Servant.
 ROBIN, age 27, Civil Servant working in Bath.
 KATHARINE, age 22, Primary School Teacher in Epsom, Surrey, who is also an England cricketer.



CHURCH WALK



VIRGINIA COTTAGE

September 1st 2000

June Wolstenholme, Haywards Cottage, Leigh-on-Mendip

I came to live in Haywards Cottage in June 1981. This building was in need of modernisation (originally built in 1680) so I employed a builder to make it into a comfortable abode with new bathroom, kitchen and beams.

From then on I entered into the spirit of village living-joining the Women's Institute and then helping with the annual village Fete, always successful and still going strong. Our vicar Paul Winks, came to St Giles Church soon after my move here and he resides at the Vicarage today.

When I first moved here I worked as an estate agent helping to sell houses - now I am retired and still busy with village organisations -

Next week we have our Produce Show when residents will bring along a wonderful display of vegetables flowers and crafts.

This year there will be a new large display of art as with the Art Classes there are now residents with lots of talent.

My hobby is gardening. I only have a small rear sunny south facing plot mostly full of flowers in containers, ceramic terracotta and wood full of Summer flowers now, bulbs (daffodils and tulips) in Spring and evergreens in Winter.

The village is a great place to live, especially on ones own, full of kind and friendly residents, always helpful in times of trouble and stress. The Bishop of Bath & Wells, Jim Thomson visited here once and told me Haywards Cottage had a happy atmosphere so what more can I want.



GREEN SHUTTERS



SCHO COTTAGE

Soho Cottage,
Leigh on Mendip

The Worleys
Des & Wendy
Matthew (18)
Sarah (15)

We've lived in Leigh for 12 years and feel very settled here. However, on 1st September we were a long way from home.

We were staying on a floating lodge on a fjord on the coast of British Columbia. This was the last morning of our 4 day stay at Knight Inlet - the finale of our holiday in Canada - likely to be our last family holiday as Matthew and Sarah become more independent. Des and Matthew had not been keen to join in the early morning activities on previous days; but this being our last day, the whole Worley family went out in the kayaks with our guide, Shannon.

It was very peaceful out on the water with eagles flying and calling; harbour seals and a loon surfaced around us. All too soon we had to head back and bid our farewells to guests and guides with whom we'd made friends. We climbed aboard the float plane, which took off noisily. The plane climbed up over the river and bear-watching stands, where the previous day we'd watched grizzly bears fishing for salmon; over the mountains, across Johnstone Strait, where we'd watched the orcas cruising by, to Vancouver Island, as we began our long journey back home to Leigh.

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP MILLENNIUM YEAR

Record of one day - 1st September 2000

John and Alison Wright at The Post House

We both retired to Leigh On Mendip from Buckinghamshire in 1993, We have three children Ian, a consultant paediatrician, who has two girls and lives in Australia, Keith an engineer, and Susie who works in the media.

The house origins are probably 17th century, much added to and altered over the intervening years



Having retired from work some eight years ago, our day started the same, with breakfast, and a review of the news on the television and the newspaper

The mail was read and put aside to deal with at another time

The weekend shopping was done in the Shepton Mallet street market and one of the supermarkets in Shepton

In the afternoon Alison worked on her paintings, and I did some desultory gardening and house maintenance, and occasionally reading

Late afternoon our dog, a Cavalier spaniel named Jasper was taken to the veterinary to have an annual inoculation, and a check on the cataract in his right eye

The Parish Clerk arrived with various correspondence, and long exhortations from Central Government. It appears that there is a policy of presenting government as as all things to all men, which removes the necessity of actually doing anything, for fear of upsetting someone.

In the evening we went to the village inn for a meal, a drink or two and the company of various people.

Returned home and I read an historical novel until the end of the day. John Wright.



SAWMILL COTTAGE



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A Life in the day of Lynne Yelland
(With apologies to the Sunday Times)

The alarm beeps at 6:00am, rudely awakening me to the world. Today is the first day of a new term so I have to acknowledge it and at least exhibit some signs of life. I come to terms with the ending of the five week break which has flown past so quickly!!! Where has it gone? Anyway, to the business – I prepare breakfast and think about the day ahead to the dulcet tones of Sue McGregor and John Humphreys.

At 8:15am I load the car with teacher paraphernalia – the agenda for the day, new class lists, books, planning - things I have spent time during the holiday digesting. I am still on autopilot as I drive the windy lanes from Leigh to Radstock, the journey the car knows so well. Usually my trip takes in Shepton Mallet and Wells, but thankfully the girl's aren't back to school for another four days and so I can leave them sleeping in their beds – will they tidy their rooms today? Will some of the never-ending coursework get done? I suspect not, but I can but hope!

The Children are not in – induction of two new members of staff and meetings about Maths, English and an Art competition, as well as a general staff meeting will be the focus for the morning. The afternoon will be taken up with planning the beginning of the last year of primary education for 51 year six children. In addition the Head and I will spend at least an hour setting the whole school focus for the next half term, Management and responsibility for a new class of 28 is a juggling act for a Deputy Head in a busy primary school. There aren't enough minutes in the day and I need to be fully briefed in case the phone rings one morning and I have to run the school for some reason.

In recent years much has been expected of Primary teachers and this year is no different. Literacy and Numeracy hour and now curriculum 2000 have all meant changes to classroom practice, which has required much from teachers, busy trying to make children's learning exciting, interesting and relevant to their world.

In the general staff meeting our designated first aider reminds us of Monday's procedure with regards to medicines. So many of our children rely on the asthma bag located in each classroom that we must ensure that the children have their medication. The numbers seem to rise annually, as well as children with serious allergies, which also require life saving medication.

Lunch is spent enjoying a ¾ hour break with colleagues. Often time is spent talking about children causing concern or discussing a way of tackling a particular problem or teaching focus. It seems we're never off duty! When the children are in school I also spend much time with children at dinner and supporting the dinner ladies whose thankless task enables me to eat a sandwich and drink a cup of tea on most days. The head and I share the lunchtimes on most days so that both of us at least have a few minutes with the staff in the staffroom.

The afternoon progresses well and my colleague and I are both clear about the next two weeks. We have worked together for a long while and he and I are able to use short amounts of time very effectively and productively.

Planning complete, I make sure my classroom is ready for the following Monday - the builders have been using my room as a base during the week and there is much to make tidy. The fabric of the building is so poor and it has been left for so long, that the work required is extensive – thank heaven the children weren't in today! We'll still have to cone an area off next week though, as the carpenter still has to replace handrails and refurbish a toilet.

The meeting with the head comes at the end of a long and busy day. We're both very clear about the way forward and we set an agenda for the staff meeting next Tuesday – another English session! The school was awarded Investors in People status at the beginning of July and as well as maintaining that we want to set an action plan to enable for us to apply for the Basic Skills Quality Mark and focus on talented children. Both areas in which I will have a large input.

At 5:45, early for once, both of us feel we need to go home to spend some time with our families. Anna needs to be taken to work and Hayley is getting ready for an early start tomorrow as she's going to a Radiohead Concert. There's also a meal to prepare and the ironing to do! One I love – the other, well! I need to think about Saturday – I'm going out to dinner in the evening so I want to go to the olive stall on Wells market as I know my hostess would love some olives. The day ends like most days, feeding Tilly the Cat, having a quiet drink and listening to the late book on the Radio. Thank heaven there was no marking to do before I can have a go at the crossword, Finally I close my eyes and very soon am sleeping - before the alarm beeps...

L Yelland



The Bell Inn Leigh On Mendip



CHRISTMAS PARTY MENU DECEMBER 2000

Home-made Leek & Potato Soup served with a Hot Roll & Butter

OR

Home-made Duck & Orange Terrine served with Toast & a Salad Garnish

OR

Crispy Potatoes Cakes filled with Poached & Smoked Salmon in Sour Cream with a Salad Garnish

OR

Pan-fried Mushrooms in a Cream, White Wine & Garlic Sauce with a Stilton Crust

Traditional Roast Turkey with Bacon Rolls, Chestnut Stuffing & a Rich Tasty Gravy

OR

8oz Rump Steak cooked to your choice served with a Rich Port & Shallot Sauce

OR

Pouched Breast of Chicken served with a White Wine, Cream & Asparagus Sauce

OR

Pan-Fried Salmon with a Creamy Dijon Mustard & Dill Sauce

OR

Puff Pastry basket filled with Roasted Vegetables & Mozzarella in a Spicy Tomato Sauce on a bed of Salad

All served with Seasonal Vegetables & Chips

Traditional Home-made Christmas Pudding served with Brandy Butter & Custard

OR

Home-made Lemon Curd Ice Cream with a Raspberry Sauce & Shortbread Biscuit

OR

Home-made Pineapple Upside Down Pudding served with Custard

OR

Squidgy Chocolate Mousse Cake with an Orange & Grand Marnier Sauce

Coffee & Mints £16.50 per head

Parties Up to 60 Catered for.

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The Bell Inn,
Leigh On Mendip,
Nr Bath, Somerset, BA3 5QQ





Village party fun

HOOKING a duck at the Leigh-on-Mendip village party were Nicola Taylor and her mother, Jill.

They were among many people who attended the party on Saturday which was held in the Bell Inn and the village hall.

PICTURE: Jean Lowe
M529444



Leigh-on-Mendip School m54868/8

Thursday October 5, 2000

Residents' decision on how to spend cash raised to mark the new millennium

Village events for 2000

By Andrew Law

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP'S millennium group met to discuss a number of projects to be put into place to celebrate 2000. So far the group has received £2,350 from its fund-raising activities and has sent out a questionnaire to all villagers to see how they should spend the money.

As a result of the feedback, the committee has decided to go ahead with a number of projects. During the next three weekends, the group will be planting 2,000 snowdrop bulbs around the village.

Enthusiastic volunteers are needed to help with the planting which will be focused on the public areas of Leigh-on-Mendip. The showpiece of the village's millennium celebration will be a carved stone bench put outside the village hall.

The bench will be carved from local Doubling stone to a design by villagers Andrew Jackson and Matthew Garner. Clutton stonemason Tony Comer will supervise the work but will give villagers a unique opportunity to join him and try their hand at carving.

A street party has been planned for June 24, centred on the Bellfield area. This is hoped to be a free event with entertainment for young and old.

The final idea discussed at the meeting was the compilation of a *Monday Book* to reflect the life of the village in 2000. The group will be meeting again on March 21 in the Bell Inn at 8pm.

Paul Moore urged anyone who is interested in helping with the projects to telephone him on 01373 812392 or to attend the meeting.

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