

# ISLE OF WEDMORE NEWS

February 2018  
No. 458

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# Editorial

Well it's happened again, the New Year only seems to have been here 10 minutes and already the first month has crept by. So here I am tapping away on the February Edition number 458.

I always enjoy February, the nights are noticeably drawing out with an increasing quality of light and amazing vivid array of colours on display throughout our countryside, which become more evident with every passing day. Indeed the Willows seem to be self-illuminating at certain times.

So welcome to this edition, which contains full details of the usual incredible selection of Isle of Wedmore events being held this month. In brief these include: Green Wedmore's Litter Pick, a New Village Website, the new Sports Pavilion update, a quiz, educational programmes, the Theale Panto, organised walks and an appeal for new friends for St. Mary's Church. Not to mention a compendium of comedy, drama shows and arts lectures available locally. All this with the Wedmore Arts Festival and the summer headline events already on the horizon. Enjoy!

*Bill Sutton*

## Front Cover

Dawn Pallant took this photo of a very wintery landscape from the Cheddar road.

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*The editors also reserve the right to edit or amend any contribution for reasons of space, conformity, legibility or legality.*

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# News

## Parish Council Business

The business at the December meeting is usually kept to a bare minimum so that all of the Council members and I can have an early evening and prepare for Christmas. The main item of business was to approve the budget for the next financial year. This was unanimously agreed and it was also agreed not to increase the Parish precept for the coming year. This will remain at £65k and is the amount paid by the District Council to the Parish Council for the running of the parish.

## Wedmore by Lamplight

Despite the awful weather St Mary's Church was full for the annual crib service and the Parish Council paid for and distributed mince pies following the service. Christmas trees were also distributed to local businesses and the Council paid for street entertainers to entertain the visitors in The Borough.

## Henry Butt Trophy

Nominations are being sought for a worthy winner of this prestigious trophy awarded for service to the local community. Last year it was presented to the 'Tuesday Club' as a reward for the tremendous work the committee do in the village. If you wish to nominate someone, please write to the Parish Clerk with details and the winner will be presented with the trophy at the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 28 March 2018.

*Rod Pring, Wedmore Parish Council, Grant's Lane Wedmore Somerset BS28 4EA  
Telephone 713087, email: wedmoreparishcouncil@gmail.com*

## Irene Weedon

Les Weedon and family would like to thank everyone for their messages of condolence and the so many offers of help following the death of my darling wife Renee. She loved Wedmore and the support we have been given by so many people shows she was right to do so. She was so unassuming that she would be amazed at the love and concern that has been shown following her passing. 64 years of marriage to this lovely lady is a gift I will treasure forever.

## What a mess!

We've all seen it: discarded drink cans, burger boxes and sweet wrappers littering the country roads. You can do something about it: join Green Wedmore's litter pick around our local lanes on Sunday 4 February.

Fortunately the volume of rubbish along our verges is less than when we started our Big Tidy Up a few years ago. But we'd love to have some more help, so why not come along on 4 February?

We meet at 10am in the yard of The Borough House, next to Compton House of Fashion in The Borough. We provide litter grabbers, bags and bright green tabards, but bring suitable gloves and footwear. Call 07774 891992 if you want to find out more.

*Rob Richley, Green Wedmore*



## New Year, New Website...

2018 sees the launch of the new community website. If you haven't already done so, why not start your new year off on the right foot by visiting your online resource for all things Wedmore?

Your web team have redesigned the site from the ground up, simplifying both the navigation and search. You'll now find it much easier to find the content which matters most to you, with quick access to all the latest news and goings on in the village.

This combined with our very popular social network pages (Facebook and Twitter) and our archive of the Isle of Wedmore News, will ensure that you always have your finger on the pulse.

Finally, we'd like to wish you all a very happy New Year and we hope to see you online at [theisleofwedmore.net](http://theisleofwedmore.net).

*James, Rob and Mark*

## Wedmore Neighbourhood Plan

We are currently preparing the draft of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP), so watch this space for further news in the coming months.

A number of people have questioned the benefits of having a Neighbourhood Plan. In essence, they are:



- the community gets to shape the policies that will guide the evolution of Wedmore to at least 2032;
- we have a choice, either we select sites for housing or Sedgemoor will do it for us;
- once we have a Neighbourhood Plan, all planning applications will have to have regard to it as part of the statutory development plan;
- the Parish receives a greater share of Community Infrastructure levy money from developments in the Parish. This can be spent on local priorities. It is your plan ....it is up to you!

*Bob Sellwood, (Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee)*

## Save Our Signposts

Donations recently received have enabled orders to be placed with Somerset Forge for the renovation of two more fingerposts. In fact the fingerposts at the Cheddar Road / Dungeon junction and at the Borough / Wells Road junction have already been removed for renovation. All being well, they should be back in place during January. The missing blade for the Lascot Hill junction has now been manufactured and due to be fixed early January. Fingerposts due for renovation during February (dependent on further donations) are from the following: Heath House Crossroads, West End / Plud Street junction, Blackford Church and Stoughton Crossroads.

The continuing generosity of Wedmore Parishioners should enable us to reach the halfway stage of the project by the end of March 2018.



*Renovated signpost at the bottom of Lascot Hill*

*David Ewens*

## **The Farming Community Network (FCN)**

The FCN can be contacted on 03000 111 999. This helpline is open from 7am until 11pm every day of the year. [FCN.ORG.UK](http://FCN.ORG.UK)

## **Wedmore Sports Pavilion – Funding Update**

Fundraising for the new pavilion has been ongoing for the last 18 months and we have raised £91,000 to date. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped us so far. We are continuing to make grant applications to the main funding bodies and are hopeful that we will have further good news to report in due course.

Planning permission was granted for a building with two storeys. It is likely that any construction will be delivered in two phases, the first phase would see the building shell and ground floor works completed, with the first floor fit-out left until further funds allow.

It has always been our wish to create a building with a fully sustainable future. The key element is the inclusion of a 30KW photovoltaic array on the south roof slope of the building. The PV panels will not only generate sufficient energy to power the building, but the projected surplus will via feed-in tariffs generate additional income to cover not only the maintenance of the PV array but the building itself.

Grants to install PV arrays are not readily available, but we have been very pleased to receive £5,000 from the Wedmore Power Cooperative and £500 from Green Wedmore.



The total cost of the array if it can be funded is a little over £26,000 for 108 PV panels. The cost per panel works out at roughly £250. We would like to invite any community minded individuals or businesses to take part in our ‘Buy a PV Panel’ scheme. In return for your generous donation your name will be permanently engraved on a commemorative plaque displayed within the new pavilion and you will enjoy the warm feeling inside knowing that you have helped create a truly sustainable facility for the village.

If you would like to ‘Buy a PV Panel’ then please contact our treasurer Richard Banwell via e-mail at [richard@banwell.org.uk](mailto:richard@banwell.org.uk) or on 01278 641109 to make payment arrangements. Thank you

*Wedmore Playing Fields Management Committee*

## **RNLI - Local Rescues in December**

Lifeboats were launched on rescue calls eight times; (Minehead – 2, Portishead – 5, Weston - 1). While most of us were enjoying our Christmas and New Year festivities, the boys and girls from three of our local stations were in action; the Weston crew launched at 9.09am on 23 December; the Portishead crew at 9.01pm on Christmas Eve and the Minehead crew at 11.40pm on 28 December.



## **PilogaFit – Every Wednesday**

PilogaFit is a new weekly exercise class running in the Wedmore Village Hall every Wednesday 10.30 to 11.30am, suitable for any age or ability. All are welcome from beginners up. No need to book, pay as you go. Just £5 per session attended. Have fun - keep fit.

For more information: [www.pilogaFit.co.uk](http://www.pilogaFit.co.uk) Contact John Beasley 01749 672482.

## Wedmore Opera Goers

If you enjoy opera, ballet and theatre why not put your name on the Wedmore opera goers list?

In February we plan to see Tosca by the WNO in Cardiff and in April to see Matthew Bourne's 'Cinderella' in Cardiff.

For more details please contact Jan Young on 712055 or Suzanne Metters on 712515 or email [suzannemetters@hotmail.com](mailto:suzannemetters@hotmail.com)



## Weston Hospice Charity Shop

Please come and visit the Weston Hospice Charity Shop in Unit 3 Borough Mews.

## Music In Mind – A New Group for People with Dementia and their Carers

Fortnightly sessions on Mondays in the Masonic Hall, Wedmore (2.15 – 3.30pm) will be held on 5 and 19 February.

Music is unique in its capacity to touch our emotions directly: sometimes stimulating, sometimes calming. There is increasing evidence to show that for people with dementia, music can provide a welcome period of relaxation and enjoyment, and an opportunity to connect with others. Music still seems to reach people, even when hearing is poor, or those in advanced stages of dementia.

### **Don't forget, it provides support for carers too!**

This group is for People living with dementia and their carers. There is no compulsion to join in, or to be 'good at music', indeed you may choose to simply listen, but often the music will stimulate a response, however small. Our relaxed and friendly atmosphere will help people to have the confidence to feel able to choose for themselves how much to participate. What will it cost? Just a small donation, if you can, towards the cost of the Hall and refreshments.

*Stella Moore*

*Registered Music Therapist HCPC 01934 732282*

## Wedmore's Hidden Gardens

About ten gardens which are hidden away behind walls and gates will be throwing open those gates in June to show off the treasures behind them. Much preparation is taking place right now to make sure there will be wonderful displays for all to see.

The gardeners have now met but there is a great deal to do to make sure this is a big success as it is to raise much needed funds for our beautiful church, St Mary's, in Wedmore. If you can offer help in any way it will be greatly appreciated. We will need help with the catering as we will be serving coffees and teas with cakes as well as lunches in a couple of venues. Publicity is important, printing of programmes, posters, tickets, etc.

For more information or to offer help in any form, please contact Heather Hector, [heather@the-hectors.co.uk](mailto:heather@the-hectors.co.uk), 01934 712478 or Anne Blandford, [anne@blandford.me.uk](mailto:anne@blandford.me.uk), 01934 713045.

## Thank You to the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service

The purpose of this article is to say a huge thank you to the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service who came out to assist in a most professional manner when a local dog disappeared underneath one of the three large oak trees in the field adjacent to the Old Kennel Lane above Lascot Woods, shortly before Christmas. The dog, who will be nameless, remained missing for three hours whilst firstly the owner, then the firefighters, struggled frantically to reach him, the latter even using a state of the art camera. Eventually the dog emerged from under the tree, had a tremendous cuddle with the firefighters, posed for a picture (below) then went home for a belated breakfast, unaware that anything was amiss. It is rumoured that his owner who was totally mortified by what he described as 'Premier League Embarrassment,' may start speaking to him sometime in the New Year. The fact that the owner now refers to the tree as Barley's Oak is entirely coincidental. Thank you also to a local resident called Joe who kindly lent tools and came to assist.



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## Focus on Businesses

### Do You Run a Business in the Parish?

Then how about telling our readers more about yourself? Who are you? What is your business? Are you from the Wedmore area? If not, where did you come from? What motivated you to start, take over or carry on the business? If you would like to share your story, send an email to [editorwedmorenews@gmail.com](mailto:editorwedmorenews@gmail.com) or [photoswedmorenews@gmail.com](mailto:photoswedmorenews@gmail.com) and I will contact you for a short interview.

*Liz Sweeney*



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# Reports and Society Updates

## Elijah at St Mary's Wedmore on 9 December 2017

A large audience enjoyed the Somerset Singers' production of Elijah on Saturday 9 December and went home with the music in their ears and full of praise for the overall performance. Alison Blundell in her first appearance as Guest Conductor brought out the best from the chorus and orchestra and enabled the five soloists to sing their solos in their own styles. She also had the pleasure of conducting her husband who sang in the bass chorus and her son George who sang the part of the Youth. Edward Grint as Elijah led from the front with his powerful bass voice and was ably supported by Richard Rowntree (Tenor) who returned to the Somerset Singers' Concert to sing the part of Obadiah. In the first half, the Quartet of Emma Brain-Gabbott (Soprano), Louise Mott (Mezzo), Edward and Richard delivered a sublime version of 'Cast thy burden upon the Lord' while in the second half, the trio of Emma, Louise and Lucy Balderson (Soprano) gave a wonderful unaccompanied rendition of "Lift Thine eyes". Once again, Catherine Black led the Lochrian Ensemble from 1st violin to provide weight, sensitivity and power to the overture and major choruses, while the 52 members of the Somerset Singers' Chorus matched them with powerful, rich enthusiastic voices. The vocal fire definitely 'descended from heaven' and in the earthquake the voices certainly 'shook the earth' but, in still small voices, 'Onward came the Lord!' The concert ended with the mighty 'And then shall your light break forth' with the whole ensemble giving their all for the final 'Amen'; in summary it was a powerful and memorable concert.



*Paul Ashmore*

## Wedmore Twinning Association

We will be having a Quiz Night in the Masonic Hall on Saturday 3 February at 7 pm. Tickets £7.50 to include a light supper - available from me or other committee members. There will be a bar. We hope to see as many of you all as possible.

Also, we have been invited by our friends in St Medard to visit them this year in the week of 20 to 25 August, ie the week after the Harvest Home.



If you are not already a participating member and would be interested in joining us please telephone me for further information.

*Cameron Swales, Chair, Wedmore Twinning Association*

## **Somerset Choral Society Begin Rehearsals for Summer Concert – Saturday 16 June**

Somerset Choral Society aka ‘Somerset Singers’ have now begun rehearsing for their Summer Concert of Rossini’s ‘Petite Messe Solenne’ to be held at St Mary’s Church, Wedmore on Saturday 16 June. New or returning Singers for all voices (SATB) are welcome to join us on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm (which commenced 17 Jan) in the Concert Hall at Sidcot School; scores are provided and there are no auditions. Rehearsals run from 7.30pm to 9.30pm with an interval for refreshments; the Society requests all Singers to attend at least 70% of all rehearsals.



Further information may be found on line at [www.somersetsingers.co.uk](http://www.somersetsingers.co.uk)

## **Theale Flower Show will be Celebrating its 75th Birthday in 2018**

This traditional show is held in the hamlet of Theale on the first Saturday of September and includes a fun dog show, children’s events and games and vintage vehicle display. With music (and hopefully sunshine) to complement homemade tea and cakes, BBQ and bar, there is something for the whole family.



Theale Flower Show classes include free entry to the children’s classes, arts and crafts, brewing in all its guises, vegetables, fruit and flowers and is sponsored by local businesses from the surrounding area, especially Wedmore. Businesses outside of the Parish of Wedmore include Ballihoo in Cheddar, Somerlap at Mark, Sweets Peat at Blakeway.

Looking to the future The Flower Show committee would like to invite any interested individuals or organisations to become friends or join the committee and propose new ideas. We are open to suggestions about all aspects of what we currently do, what we might do better and what we don’t currently do, but should!

We do try to connect beyond our Parish boundaries so why not connect with us and bring your ideas, aspirations, interests and business to Theale Flower Show for its 75th anniversary in 2018. If you are interested in helping to make our 75th anniversary in 2018 special or for more information please contact our Chairman Mr Phil Butterworth. Tel. 712775 or E-mail [pb@theconsultant.org](mailto:pb@theconsultant.org)

## **St Mary’s Church 100 Club**

Another year has got off to a good start, and Liz and Robert Hector are the lucky winners of the 1st prize with their No.57, and Diana and John Allison have taken 2nd prize with No. 71. Congratulations. There are a couple of spare numbers left, so if anyone is wanting to join please contact either Barbara Moody (712975) or Thelma Jenkin-Jones (710467).

## Friends of St. Mary's Wedmore Presents the 'I'm Not a Churchgoer' Quiz

Just tick the boxes - Do you sometimes ....?

- Come to St. Mary's for the Clash of the Choirs, Wedmore Arts Week or the Somerset Singers
- Attend the service of remembrance
- Take part in the election hustings
- Go to a friend's wedding
- Come to the First School carol services
- Go to the carols, Midnight Mass or the morning service on Christmas Day
- Enjoy the monthly 'coffee shop'
- Accept an invitation to a christening
- Play a part in the great post office debate
- Come to the spring and Christmas fairs
- Start Wedmore by Lamplight at the Crib Service
- Attend a family member's or friend's funeral
- Climb the tower on the open days
- Find a spot for a moment of quiet contemplation

If you have ticked even one box... or if you glance at the church clock to check the time, or enjoy the sound of the bell ringers or simply love this ancient building as the backdrop to your village lives ...then you are a churchgoer!

At present, the cost of keeping this all village community space in good shape for us all to use falls just upon the shoulders of the regular congregation. We need to give them a hand!

The Friends of St. Mary's has around 100 members but we need your help as well. Please join us and help look after this lovely building.

For a membership form or a chat please call David 01934 710149 or email [dahopkins@aol.com](mailto:dahopkins@aol.com)

## Wedmore Harvest Home 100 Club Lottery 2017

Help us raise some important funds for the Harvest Home, and be in with a chance of winning money every month for a year! All for only £30! If you are interested please contact Beth on [bethskeen\\_16@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bethskeen_16@hotmail.co.uk). Your number will be drawn every month and the prizes are: first prize £100, second prize £50.

## Wedmore and Cheddar Beekeepers

We will be holding a 7-week beginners course in beekeeping starting on Thursday 15 February 2018 (7.30pm – 9.30pm). Cost will be £20. Venue: the Old Schoolroom, Stone Allerton BS26 2NJ.

If you are interested in joining then please contact Jonathan Friend ASAP as numbers are limited. Tel. 712971 or email [jpdfriend@gmail.com](mailto:jpdfriend@gmail.com)



## Thank You from The Children's Society

Over the past 12 months the Wedmore Civil Parish has raised £1,924.15. This is way up on last year's total and is a very worthwhile sum from a population of just over 3,000 in the three villages:



<b>Boxes and donations</b>	£984.17
<b>Christingle at St Mary's</b>	£525.30
<b>Sale of Christmas cards</b>	£411.68

In addition, there will be a further cheque going to The Children's Society from Christ Church, Theale following their Christingle Service.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed so generously over the past year.

*Sue Burton, Hon. Local Secretary, The Children's Society*

## Wedmore Gardening Club

The February Gardening Club meeting will be on Tuesday 27 February when Michael Smith will be giving a talk on pruning. Pruning is a very important part of gardening especially if, like us, you're wanting to keep some semblance of order, although, in our case, not always successfully!



The meeting will be at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall. Members and guests as always are very welcome.

The next few meetings, which are on Tuesdays at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall, are:

<b>27 March</b>	Sally Gregson	A Cottage Garden History
<b>24 April</b>	Sally Nex	Behind the Scenes at Chelsea
<b>22 May</b>	Robert Parkin	Wildlife and Art in the Garden
<b>June</b>	Outing	

## Calling All 'Embryo' Artists

Wedmore Art Group is opening its (newly decorated) doors and hall to non-members to attend its three tutored workshops at the start of 2018. They will take place on 16 and 23 February (monoprinting) and 23 March (drawn landscapes). Although free to members of the group a nominal charge of £7.50 per session, to include tea, will be levied to non-members to defray costs. The workshops start at 2.00pm in the Masonic Hall, Wedmore. Please ring Jim Collett on 712663 for further information. Don't be scared, give it a go!

## Wedmore Arts Festival 2018 – It's Sooner Than You Think...

If you have been looking forward to the next Wedmore Arts Festival, look even closer! This year the Festival will take place in May and promises to be as action-packed as ever.

The final programme will be revealed in the next few weeks, but we can guarantee a wonderful mix of art, drama, music, literature and comedy as well as some fascinating speakers in our popular lunchtime slots at The Swan.



The Festival will get off to a resounding start with a much anticipated concert by the hugely successful Glastonbury Male Voice Choir. This will be in St Mary's Church on Friday 11 May, starting at 8pm. Proceeds from this concert will be shared with Avalon Camps, a cause the Festival is delighted to support. Avalon Camps, established in 1987, provides short holidays for inner city children from Bristol, introducing them to the delights of the peaceful Somerset countryside and giving them a much-needed break from their often difficult home lives. It also offers them the chance to taste the excitement of a few nights under canvas and discover new skills and activities. For more information on the Camps, please contact them on [contact@avaloncamps.org.uk](mailto:contact@avaloncamps.org.uk) or via [facebook.com/avaloncamps/](https://www.facebook.com/avaloncamps/)

Other highlights of Festival week will include Wedmore's favourite keyboard maestro Richard Lennox, jazz performer Clare Teal (a sell-out at our 2015 festival) and wildlife supremo Simon King – to mention but a few!

Keep an eye on our website for more details; and make a note of the dates: 11 – 19 May 2018, [wedmoreartsfestival.co.uk](http://wedmoreartsfestival.co.uk)

## Wedmore WI Report December 2017

Jill welcomed everyone to our Christmas meeting; the Masonic Hall had a Christmassy feel with decorations round the walls and tea lights on the tables.

We were reminded that subs are due in January, and to look at the five resolutions set out in the current WI Life magazine. We will decide in January which one should go forward. We had a Christmas card from Jane G, who has moved to Nottingham, and a gift was given to Christine, who is leaving after moving to Cheddar. In February, Sue will hold a craft session titled 'Feel the Love', involving green hearts among other things.

Our speaker needed no introduction, Pete Tinney is well known to all of us, and he proceeded to keep us entertained with his childhood memories. His father was called Ned, his given name being Edgar, and his mother was Winifred, who after her marriage became 'Winnie Tinney'. Pete described the neighbours at Holly Tree Farm, where he was born, including Granny Page who lived next door, a lovely lady, who wore a wrap-around apron, tied in the middle with white tape, which owing to her 'comely' figure never had anything left at the ends. This lady worked for everybody, walking dogs and feeding rabbits for other people, picking blackberries, laying out the dead, and was also the village midwife. She assisted at Pete's birth, telling his father that he had time to go and milk the cows after boiling up kettles of water. When father returned after a couple of hours, Granny Page met him at the door carrying a bundle, saying 'Here Ned, this belongs to you.' The reply was 'What is it?' All farmers wanted sons, and Ned already had two daughters. 'You've got a boy' brought the response 'I'm going to feed the pigs'. 'Not until you've seen Winnie, and take your boots off'. Ned went upstairs to see his wife, who was very pale, not surprising after delivering an 11lb baby.

Pete remembered walking the mile to school through huge snowdrifts in 1947, with his two sisters, and warming up in the schoolhouse with its tortoise stove. All the village children were taught in one class by the teacher Mrs Rogers, who had false



teeth, a passion for dried figs, and a large cat called Thomas. The figs used to emerge out of a large handbag, Mrs Rogers trying to eat them surreptitiously during class, but having to take her teeth out to remove the seeds. The cat had long fur, lemon-green eyes, and came to school carried on Mrs Rogers' arm.

Other stories about his school friends, bus journeys and secondary school in Cheddar had us in fits of laughter, and a good time was had by all. We rounded off the evening with mince pies and mulled wine, a fitting end to the year. 2018 will see more in-house speakers, and on 15 February Sue will be holding a craft session, the competition will be 'My favourite necklace'.

Chris Barker

## Walk Programme – West Mendip Walkers

### Thursday 1 February

Moderate circular walk 11mi from Holford Bowling Club. OS Map Ex140 ST152412. Start 10.00a.m. Park in Bowling Club CP. Contact Andrew Smallbone Tel: 01761 462370 or [andrewsmallbone@hotmail.com](mailto:andrewsmallbone@hotmail.com)

### Thursday 8 February

Moderate circular walk 6mi from Bath Road, East Wells (BA5 3JH). OS Map Ex141 ST558462. Start 12.30p.m. Park in residential roads nearby. Contact Ken Masters Tel: 01749 670349/07784 941439 or [kenmasters265@gmail.com](mailto:kenmasters265@gmail.com)



### Thursday 15 February

Moderate circular walk 10mi from Bishops Lydeard village. OS Map 140 ST173295. Start 10.00a.m. Park roadside in Quantock View. Contact Tony Strange Tel: 01934733783/07415517355 or [anthonyestrangle@gmail.com](mailto:anthonyestrangle@gmail.com)

### Thursday 22 February

Moderate circular walk 6.5mi from Swan Inn, Rowberrow. OS Map Ex141 ST451583. Start 12.30p.m. Park in CP opposite pub. Contact Carol Jackson Tel: 01934733568/07979354530 or [caj7599@btinternet.com](mailto:caj7599@btinternet.com)

*The picture (left) depicts the West Mendip Walkers taking a well-earned break during their 10-mile walk from Clewer on Thursday 21 December. A very good turnout despite overcast skies and muddy conditions underfoot.*

Tony Strange



## 1st Cheddar Guides Peace Poster Presentation

Cheddar Vale Lions Club was delighted to sponsor 1st Cheddar Guides for the Lions International Peace Poster Contest 2017-18. The Guides' winner of this year's contest 'The Future of Peace' was Willow Norman. Willow was presented with a certificate and prize by Lion President Marion Adcock at the Guides meeting on Monday 4 December. Runners-up, Georgia Hemmings and Daisy Thompson, also received prizes from Cheddar Vale Lions. The Club wish to thank the 1st Cheddar Guides for their participation and Guide Leader Bev Davies (MJF) for her on-going support of Lions projects. Willow's poster has been sent to the District Governor to be judged in the District level of the contest.



*Willow Norman receiving her prize*

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## Forthcoming Events

### **Correction – Wedmore Farmers' Market**

The January Edition of the IOW News stated that there would be a Farmers' Market on Saturday 10 February. This is incorrect, the next Farmers' Market will take place in the Borough Yard on Saturday 10 March, 9.30am to 1.30pm. Any enquiries please contact Mrs Judith Gould on 07813340086.

### **The Oddments Theatre Company presents 'The Hiding Place', Bagley Parish church – Thursday 1 February**

The Ten Boom family were Dutch watchmakers who, during the Second World War, made their home a refuge for fugitives and those hunted by the Nazis. This non-violent resistance was the Ten Boom's way of living out their Christian faith. 'The Hiding Place'

recounts their incredible rescue mission, their betrayal in 1944 and subsequent time in a concentration camp. Come and watch this powerful and inspirational tale, well told by Oddments Theatre Company, but please note, it's not suitable for under 15s.

Entry is free, donations on the night welcome, but not required. Running time 2hrs 15mins, incl. interval. [www.oddments-theatre.co.uk](http://www.oddments-theatre.co.uk) [www.corrietenboom.com](http://www.corrietenboom.com)

### **Wedmore Twinning Association Quiz Night – Saturday 3 February**

In the Masonic Hall commencing at 7.00pm.

### **Green Wedmore Litter Pick – Sunday 4 February**

Meet at 10.00am in the yard of The Borough House, next to Compton House of Fashion in The Borough.

### **Green Wedmore – Monday 5 February**

At The George at 8.00am.



### **Theale Village Panto, 'Robin Hood' – 8, 9, 10 February**

Theale Village Hall at 7.30pm. Tickets £7 adults, £3 school-age children. Tel. 712758.

### **Mr Punch's Folk Club – Friday 9 Feb**

Open Mic 8.00pm at The Panborough Inn.

### **Wedmore in Bloom – Saturday 10 February**

Meet outside The George Inn at 9.30am, all welcome.

### **Wedmore WI Meeting – Thursday 15 February**

The Masonic Hall at 7.30pm. We have our own multi-crafting Sue to involve us in making things. Clues might be in the title, 'Feel the Love'. Green hearts are on the agenda, as will be coffee and biscuits at the end of the meeting. The competition is 'My favourite necklace', and friends, visitors and new members are all welcome.



### **Theale Film Club, 'Dunkirk' – Sunday 18 February**

6.30pm for 7.00pm. For more info please tel 713176

### **Isle of Wedmore Society – Thursday 22 February**

The next monthly meeting will take place in the Masonic Hall, at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Pauline Kidner, who is the charity founder of the wildlife rescue centre in East Huntspill, Highbridge, that aims to 'rescue, rehabilitate, release.' Her talk will be simply entitled 'Secret World.' Members free. Visitors £3, with free tea/coffee and biscuits after the talk. Contact: Ian Tomes, 710390

### **Mr Punch's Folk Club - Friday 23 February**

Open Mic 8pm at The Panborough Inn.

### **Wedmore Gardening Club Meeting – Tuesday 27 February**

At 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall, a talk by Michael Smith on pruning.



## Women's World Day of Prayer – Friday 2 March

At 7.00pm\* In Christ Church Theale. The theme of this year's service, prepared by the women of Suriname, is 'All God's Creation Is Very Good'.

This service is always a joyous ecumenical gathering which welcomes all people, so do come and join us. \*Please note the earlier start time this year.

## Brainteaser Quiz and Supper – Saturday 10 March

Brain Tumour Research is a charity which aims to raise awareness of the rising incidence of brain tumours and the lack of research resources. Come along to Wedmore Village Hall on 10 March for a fun quiz, supper and a chance to raise money for a good cause. Teams of four, tickets £10 to include supper, available from Wedmore Village Store or Sue Burton (712092). Don't worry if you can't make up a team of four, we can mix and match.



## Wedmore Farmers' Market – Saturday 10 March

In the Borough Yard on Saturday 10 March, 9.30am to 1.30pm.

## Wedmore Arts Festival 11 – 19 May

wedmoreartsfestival.co.uk

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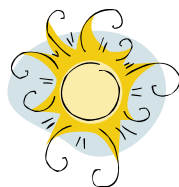
# Weather Report for December 2017

### RAINFALL



Monthly total	112.4mm	(4.43ins)
30-year average	76.1mm	(3.00ins)
Wettest day	N / R	
No of dry days	11	
Last 3 months (Oct - Dec)	225mm	(8.87ins)
*Year ending 31 Dec 17	785mm	(30.9ins)
30-year annual average	796mm	(31.3ins)

### TEMPERATURES



Maximum (22nd)	13 °C	(55.4 °F)
Minimum (12th)	-4 °C	(28.4 °F)
Number of air frosts	13	
Monthly average maximum	8.4 °C	(47.1 °F)
30-year average maximum	8.2 °C	(46.8 °F)
Monthly average minimum	2.3 °C	(36.1 °F)
30-year average minimum	2.7 °C	(36.9 °F)

### COMMENTS

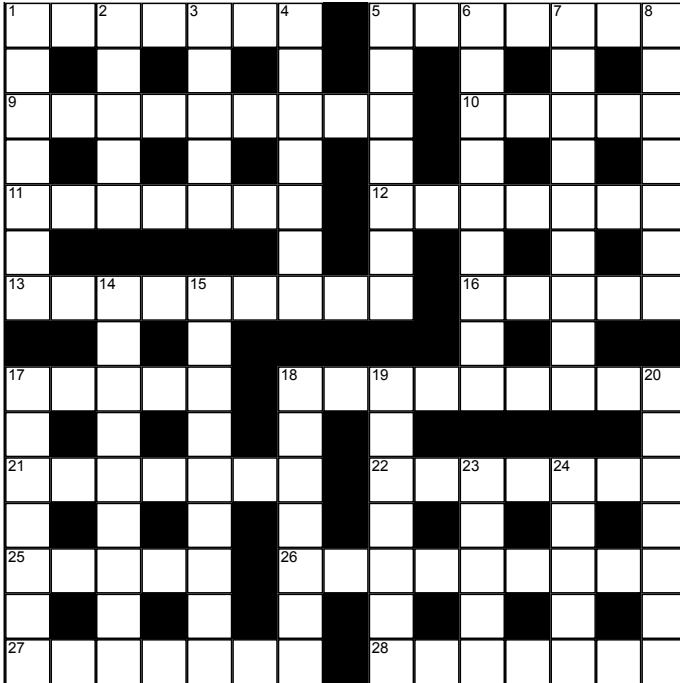
Heavy rainfall, 48% above average. Temperatures close to normal.

*Denley Brown*

# The Crossword:

Number 10

By greendandelion



**ACROSS:**

1. Derisive miaow (7)
5. Consul loses time collecting award (7)
9. Regency and me resolved the crisis (9)
10. Considered a different trade (5)
11. Paunch has radius to lubricate unrest (7)
12. In Israel it is mostly feeling superior (7)
13. Boisterous fun under the influence (4,5)
16. Bold enthusiast has aged a little (5)
17. Romeo deserted his mate for the devil (5)
18. Payphones lead to a contented nation (5,4)
21. Thistle and ericaceous plants contain the makings of a hero (7)
22. Uniform for action (7)
25. Vegetable took a view without work (5)
26. Tailor not in better shape (9)
27. Trembling heart laying off gain turns human (7)
28. Portioned, energy included and got fleeced (7)

**DOWN:**

1. Sounds as if this cat could be caught by an invigilator (7)
2. The tax belongs to them (5)
3. Ragtag group welcome difficulties (5)
4. All in, no condition, emollient (7)
5. A measure of wine (7)
6. Average simple man with unknown closeness (9)
7. Not in the frame and not in clear study (9)
8. Brigade's divisional officer has the last word about corporation (7)
14. Soldier, bird or fish (9)
15. Dame hides jocund so missed capricious actress (4,5)
17. To trick a few sounds overdone (7)
18. Accord hurt only a pound short (7)
19. Plates I exercise (7)
20. Stitched up! (7)
23. What Dickens did sounds OK (5)
24. Complete say (5)

*Answers at the rear of publication.*

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# Vera's Verse for February

## Poems in my Head

Is this habit good or bad?  
I sometimes ask myself,  
Has it always been there,  
Or has it crept up on me with stealth,  
It must annoy some people,  
That I set down my thoughts in rhyme,  
'Don't blame me I'm only human,' (sorry Bill)  
My brain does it all the time.

*Vera Banwell*

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## Events Taking Place Outside the Parish

### Wellbeing 'Drop In' Support Café

From 30 October, youth support staff and 'one-2-one' counselling advisers, for people aged 13 – 18 Mondays 3.30pm to 5.30pm. Methodist Hall, Cliff Street Cheddar BS27 3PL. Free pizza.

[www.SRYP.org.uk](http://www.SRYP.org.uk) Inspiring Involvement, creating opportunities.



### Cheddar's First Baby Book Club – Mondays

At the Cheddar Library from 10.45am to 11.15 am, for babies to pre-school children. Spaces will be limited so book your free place before the rush!

Bookings can be made in person at Cheddar Library or call 0300 123 2224 or email [chelib@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:chelib@somerset.gov.uk)

### Cheddar Valley U3A - Monday Mornings

If you are in Cheddar on a Monday morning between 10.30am and 12.00 noon come and chat with us over a cup of coffee in the Library.



### Line Dancing Classes – Tuesdays

Come and try this new popular Line Dancing class, listen to a wide range of music, learn the low impact moves in a safe, friendly environment. If you or someone you know would like to come along, you won't regret it, no previous experience necessary, moves are easy to follow (you can always just watch and enjoy the music)!

Classes are held at Highbridge Community Hall, Tuesdays at 2.30pm and cost just £4.00. Don't put off any longer, make life healthier and happier. For further information phone 01823 345626 or email [agejwell@ageuksomerset.org.uk](mailto:agejwell@ageuksomerset.org.uk).

## **Craft and Family Fun at Cheddar Library**

Try a variety of crafts, meet new friends, and share ideas and company with the Craft and Sewing Group at Cheddar Library, at 2.30pm on the first and third Fridays of each month.



## **Cheddar Valley U3A, an Organisation for the Active Retired – Thursday 1 February**

From 2.00pm for a 2.30pm start at cheddar Village Hall. Our talk this month is entitled ‘The Cradle Mountain Trek and Other Far-Flung Places’. This is a return visit from Ian Williamson. He will be talking about his visit to Australia, including visits to Melbourne, Sydney, The Cradle Mountain Trek in Tasmania and finally Hong Kong. His travels are to raise money for St Margaret’s Hospice, ‘as something to do in retirement!’

For more information search online for Cheddar Valley U3A

## **Mark W.I. Meeting – Thursday 1 February**

At the Church Hall, Vicarage Lane, Mark at 7.30pm. There will be a talk on the History of Glastonbury Abbey. Our friendly group welcomes new members and guests of all ages. Non-members entry £5 on the door.

## **Bring Your Own Craft and Chat Session – Friday 2 February**

At Cheddar Library

## **Mark Moor Gardening Club, Open Meeting – Monday 5 February**

Chris Sperring MBE has kindly agreed to come and give a talk on British Owls at Mark Church Hall, Vicarage Lane at 7.30pm. Chris is a professional wildlife conservationist working for the Hawk and Owl Trust, he also presents and broadcasts on TV and Radio and lectures on a wide range of subjects. He is a wildlife photographer and journalist who, in his spare time, studies and conserves even more wildlife. Chris will be bringing an owl or two to enable us to see these beautiful birds close to hand. Tickets will be available in advance from Olive, 01278 641733, Joan, 01278 641625 and myself 01278 641288, priced at £3 for members and £5 for visitors, to include light refreshments. Please come along as you will be very welcome.



*Maggie Borham, Secretary*

## **The Arts Society Sedgemoor – Wednesday 7 February**

Angela Smith will be giving a talk on ‘The First World War Through The Eyes Of German Artists’. Lectures are held at the 37 Club, between Woolavington and Puriton, on the first Wednesday of the month. Meetings are at 2.15pm in the winter and 7pm from May to September

## **Cheddar Arts @ Kings Theatre, ‘Victoria and Abdul’ – Thursday 8 February**

The film ‘Victoria and Abdul’ is a biographical comedy drama starring Judi Dench and Ali Fazal. It tells the story of Queen Victoria’s friendship with her Muslim servant.

Doors open at 6.45pm and the performance begins at 7.30pm. Tickets for all events are available online at [www.thelittleboxoffice.com/cheddararts](http://www.thelittleboxoffice.com/cheddararts)

## **A Quizzical Evening with Celebrity Broadcaster John Inverdale — Friday 9 February**

At Mark Village Hall. The bar opens at 7.00pm, quiz commences at 7.45pm, tables of four to six people. Tickets £20pp to include hot supper available from Jendy Weekes on 01278 641370, or from Mark Village Stores.

## **Cheddar Valley U3A Coffee Morning – Thursday 15 February**

At Cheddar Village Hall, from 10.30am until 12.00 noon.

## **Spring Crafts Special Family Session for Children, Cheddar Library – Friday 16 February**

In the half-term holiday. (Please book in children at the library counter in advance. 50p charge for materials)

## **Somerset Wildlife Trust, Westhay Moor National Nature Reserve – Saturday 17 February**

The bird list at Westhay continues to increase, and late winter is a good time to see many of the over-wintering birds, including some rarities. Mick Ridgard will take us round this key SWT Reserve to see what’s about from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Westhay NNR car park. £2.50/ Children and students £1



## **Axbridge Archaeological & Local History Society – Wednesday 21 February**

Our talk will be given by Frances Neale. The title is ‘John Bunn of Wedmore, 1798; a voyage through the local and national archives’

Venue: Cross Memorial Hall (BS26 2EL) at 7.30pm.

Non-members are always welcome but a donation of £3 is requested.

And do check out our website [www.aalhs.co.uk](http://www.aalhs.co.uk) for details of all the 2018 talks and visits.



## **Avalon Camps Present a Charity Ball at Rookery Manor – Friday 23 February**

Details: 7.00pm – 7.30pm arrival drink, carriages from 12.30am. Dress code: Black tie and party dresses.

On the evening: welcome drinks, 3-course meal, raffle, charity auction, live music and a disco.

Individual ticket sales are available from the Mark Village Store, priced at £40 per person.

## **Cheddar Arts @ Kings Theatre, Comedy with Richard Herring – Wednesday 28 February**

Comedian Richard Herring returns to the village with his latest stand-up show, 'Oh Frig, I'm 50.' Now married with two children it has dawned on Richard that he is actually 50....

Doors open at 6.45pm and the performance begins at 7.30pm. Tickets for all events are available online at [www.thelittleboxoffice.com/cheddararts](http://www.thelittleboxoffice.com/cheddararts)

## **Somerset Wildlife Trust, Climate Change in Somerset – Wednesday 7 March**

Come and hear the latest thinking on climate change, how it is affecting Somerset, its nature and what is being done about it locally with Steve Mewes, SWT Policy and Campaigns Manager, 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Plenty of time after the talk for lively Q&A and discussion. Shapwick Village Hall, Station Road, Shapwick TA79NJ. Members £2.50 / Non-members £3 / Children & Students £1.



## **The Arts Society Sedgemoor – Wednesday 7 March**

Tasha Marks on 'Food, Art, History'. Bridging the worlds of food, art and history Tasha's work ranges from museum-style exhibitions and sculptural installations to limited-edition confectionery. As well as a strong emphasis on storytelling and history, the talk will comment on how to introduce the senses into the museum space, the rituals of eating, and why sugar was one of the original artistic mediums.

Lectures are held at the 37 Club, between Woolavington and Puriton, on the first Wednesday of the month. Meetings are at 2.15pm in the winter and 7pm from May to September

## **The West Mendip Orchestra Spring Concert – Friday 16 March**

At Christchurch, Chapel Hill Clevedon starting at 7.45 pm.

We shall be playing an attractive programme of music by English composers, starting with the 'Overture to The Gondoliers' by Sullivan and ending with Walton's dramatic 'Spitfire' prelude and fugue.

The concert also includes music by Butterworth, Holst, Arnold and Coates as well as Delius's evergreen 'A walk to the Paradise Garden' and 'Nimrod' from the Enigma variations by Elgar.



## **Cheddar Arts @ Kings Theatre, 'Where is Mrs Christie?' – Saturday 17 March**

The spring programme closes with the live event, 'Where is Mrs Christie? Agatha Christie is still one of the greatest thriller writers and this one woman play, starring Liz Grand, explores the author's personal mystery – her own disappearance for 11 days.

The doors of the Kings Theatre at the Kings of Wessex School open at 6.45pm and the performance begins at 7.30pm.

Tickets for all events are available online at [www.thelittleboxoffice.com/cheddararts](http://www.thelittleboxoffice.com/cheddararts)

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# Tasty Morsels – Recipes for You

## Chinese Crispy Turkey (*as opposed to Crispy Duck*)

If you're anything like me, this is the month where you open the freezer to find you still have a load of leftover turkey leg meat that really needs using. This is a good way to finish it up.



### Ingredients

Strips of leftover turkey leg meat, separated from the bones with your fingers

Vegetable oil for frying

Chinese five spice powder

Chinese pancakes (Dean at 'Pisces' in the village sells these frozen)

Hoisin sauce

Spring onions

Cucumber

### Method

Cut strips of spring onion and cucumber and set aside. Heat a fair quantity of oil in a wok or frying pan and add the turkey. Cook over a high heat, effectively deep frying it. As it starts to crisp around the edges, add a pinch or two of five spice powder, depending on the quantity of turkey. Cook for a minute or two more. Pull it to the side of the wok to drain off the excess oil and transfer to a warm serving dish. Pull any larger pieces of turkey apart with two forks. The Chinese pancakes come in cellophane packs of six which can be microwaved from frozen until the packs puff up with steam.

Put everything in the middle of the table where everyone can help themselves to a pancake, a smear of hoisin sauce, a portion of meat and a few pieces of onion and cucumber. Roll up and enjoy.

*Stuart Fisher*

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# The Garden in February

Well, at the time of writing (2 January) my garden is much wetter than it was when I wrote my January contribution a month ago and would be hard to work on at the moment. So far this winter we have had relatively little frost and snow and when it has been cold, temperatures have not been excessively low.



However, I had better get on with the February garden. Now is a good time to apply organic fertilizers such as well rotted dung to your beds and borders. Such manures release their nutrients more slowly than manufactured fertilizers, so they should be available to plants as they start into growth when temperatures rise and the days become longer. In addition to dung, bone meal, pelleted chicken manure and seaweed products should also go on early. Whatever you are using, make sure you follow the maker's instructions (except for the dung).

Garden centres which, a few weeks ago, resembled Father Christmas's Grotto, will now be filling up with all your spring requirements. If you use a lot of bought potting composts, it is as well to use any remaining from last year as a mulch, spread around your borders and buy fresh, as the fertilizers in most of them will have degraded. Coir-based composts and other peat substitute products are becoming more popular and probably justifiably so, but many of them have different characteristics from the peat-based ones we have been used to for sixty years or so, so make sure again that you read the instructions. Also, of course, loam-based composts, which many people would like to see a return to, are much heavier than peat or for that matter coir, wood fibres etc. and their use would lead to much higher transport costs in the nursery industry, especially on the thousands of plants imported from Holland and elsewhere. Whilst on that topic, I am reminded of an article by Monty Don that I read the other day; in it he was saying that he is resolved to stop using plastics in the garden because of the associated pollution problems. As far as gardeners are concerned this again would lead to huge weight increases and therefore costs in the nursery trade and a return to clay pots would lead to totally different watering requirements. I certainly think we should do away with throw-away plastic pots, but those that can be re-used or recycled are a different issue. I have plastic pots that are over forty years old and still in use with regular washing. There are also alternative materials for pots available such as coir, miscanthus etc. which are planted in the ground with their contents and then rot away as the roots grow through them.

Bare rooted trees and shrubs, including roses, can be planted at any time during the dormant season, but February is probably the ideal time; many plants are bought in containers these days of course and these can be planted later (bear in mind what I have just written). If you want to move deciduous shrubs this should also be done now.

Birds will soon be looking for nest sites, so get all your hedge trimming and pruning done as soon as possible to avoid disturbing them later. You can probably start on roses here in the South-West, but bear in mind that they will respond to pruning by sending out new shoots and these may be damaged by late frost if you are too premature. Fruit tree pruning (except for cherries and plums, which should not be pruned in the winter because of the risk of infection with the airborne spores of the Silver-Leaf fungus), should be completed as soon as possible, because buds will start to burst by the end of the month. If you have winter-flowering heathers in your garden, take the shears to them as they finish flowering. Many plants will respond to feeding with a granular fertilizer after pruning.

If you decide to try your hand at hedge-laying, make sure that the branches you lay down slope up hill, as plants exhibit something known as "apical dominance" which concentrates their natural growth hormones at the highest point, so if they slope downhill, they will grow from the base.

Late-flowering shrubs such as buddleja, which flower on new wood, should be pruned by the end of the month and so can hydrangea paniculata varieties which also flower on young growth, but this may cause them to produce very large flower-heads, which need supporting in wet weather (but we won't get any of that next year will we?) Whatever you do, don't cut down macrophylla and serrata hydrangeas, as you won't then get any flowers at all until the following year.



The seed-sowing season can now get off to a start and exactly what you sow and when depends on where you have a place to keep developing seedlings before planting out. Garden centres often have tender plantlets too early and these end up getting killed or checked by cold weather, so don't be over eager. However, do follow the seed producer's instructions and don't be afraid to try some seed a little bit early if the weather seems suitable.

If you have a suitable, frost-free place, try chitting seed potatoes now so that they have good strong shoots by planting time. Peas and broad beans can also be sown now.

Again, I seem to have used up my allotted space before saying everything I should have, but I'll try to be less verbose in March. (Perhaps I should have made that my New Year's Resolution.)

*Adrian Hutchison*

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## Thought for the Month

I was talking to a friend I have known since my school days. I asked him if he had seen the BBC Blue Planet 2 series. He had not. I explained how awed I was by the variety and beauty of the life in the oceans even at depths of five miles down where, until recently, it was thought that due to the extreme pressures no life could exist. There too we saw unimagined life and beauty. Our planet is truly wonderful.



My friend explained that he believed that there were four levels to creation.

Level one are the rocks and elements.

Level two are the plants and trees. These have life in themselves and are able to reproduce.

Level three are the animals. These too can reproduce themselves but also have the ability to move and possess the senses of touch, smell, sight, hearing and taste.

Level four are humans. Similar in many respects to the animals – reproduction, movement and senses but capable of creative thought, design and application.

Between each of these levels there is a huge leap of advancement but, he believed, there were only the four levels.

Coming from a Christian perspective I would add an extra level – again a huge leap beyond level four.

Level five I believe is the level of the Spirit. God is spirit and those who worship Him worship in Spirit and Truth.

The first four levels we experience in the physical whereas level five can usually only be experienced beyond the physical which makes it, for the human race, the greatest leap of all – often called a leap of faith.

Having made us in His own image, God wanted to have a relationship with us all, so much so that he sent His only son Jesus. Jesus in His three years of ministry introduced us to God, who is Spirit, as our loving Heavenly Father to help us make that leap of faith.

I don't think my friend would agree with me, but he remains a valued friend – a man of integrity.

Maybe you don't agree with me either. Yet God has said that 'You will find me if you seek me with all your heart'.

I hope it is not too late for me to wish you joy in 2018, at all levels.

*Bob Drew - Bagley Baptist Church.*

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# Sport Reports

## Wedmore Tennis Club News

The Wedmore tennis club Junior Christmas party was held in the clubhouse on 15 December and was a great success with over 30 Juniors attending for tennis, games, food and drink. The clubhouse was looking very festive.

Great thanks to the many helpers who made this such a successful evening.

Individual and group lessons for tots to teens are held throughout the week.



Christmas mixed doubles end-of-year competition was held on Saturday 30 January. This is an annual friendly competition organised by Jane and David Pottow. A few hours of fun followed by a certain amount of skill resulted in a win for Henry Nevill partnered by Laura Myers; runners up were veteran members Jane Pottow and Tony Pearman.

A wonderful spread of snacks, sandwiches, dips and mulled wine went down very well, kindly provided by Jane and David Pottow. A vote of thanks to Jane and David for organising this event again.

A reminder that Rusty Rackets for adults is beginning again in January on Wednesday mornings 10.00am -11.00am for either beginners or rusty returners.

Keep fit cardio tennis for adults is on Saturdays from 1.30pm-2.30pm.

*Joanna Cooper*

## **Isle of Wedmore Golf Club**

The weather made for some particularly wet and testing conditions in the run up to Christmas but by and large competitions went ahead. The weather certainly had no effect on the Club AGM which took place early in the month with Jim Gray taking over as Captain from Steve Smith who was able to close out his year by passing over a cheque for £6,000 to the Beacon Centre at Musgrove Park Hospital.



*The three new captains: Jim Gray, Shirley Gooding and David Taylor*

The three captains are raising money for three different charities in 2018 and the Club Captain's choice is In Charley's Memory, a charity in memory of Charley Marks, who took his own life in 2014, that sets out to prevent such tragedies occurring again.

The Captain also introduced members to Claire Hobbs, the new Club Assistant Professional who comes to Wedmore from Chippenham and will strengthen the Pro Shop team. There are always a few prizes to distribute as well. James Vowles took the John Viney Trophy as winner of the season long order of merit, a reward for consistent performance throughout the year. Abi Moore won the Most Improved Junior of the Year and looks set to follow in the increasingly long line of successful young female golfers at the Club. There was also a competition preceding the AGM and this was won by Ashley and Toni Ribí playing with Sean Gray with a score of 41 points.

Both the Club winter leagues progressed to the halfway stage. The Seniors played their second round with some excellent scores. Peter Bennett scored 44 which won division 1 and jumped him to the top of the overall league. Bradley Speller took second place on 41 with Graham Clifford third on 40 which was enough to put him second in the cumulative league. He is joined in that position by Mike Peacock who won division 2 with 42 points. Chris McGowan took second place in the division on 39, one point better than third placed Barry Royal. There was a very close finish in division 3 with Keith Bellingham just winning on countback from Mike Nicholls after both scored 41. Gary Cutter was third on 40.



*Shirley Gooding meeting with Father Christmas before the Ladies' Christmas party*

Best scores in the Club league came in division 1 with Dale Worthington setting the pace with 41 points. He was closely followed by John Wormald on 40 points. This was his second 40 of the series and moved him to the top of the cumulative leader board at the halfway stage. Dom Channon took third spot on 39. Bobby Jones led the way in division 2 with 40 points which gave him a three point advantage over Tom Bennett. However, added to his 42 in the first round, this gave Bennett an excellent total of 79 which puts him just one behind Wormald. John Vowles took third place in the division on 35. Scores were not quite as good in division 3, won by Gary Cutter with a commendable 37 which was 2 better than both Chris McKinley and Michael Sinclair who were second and third respectively.

Neither rain nor his heavy work load at this time of the year was enough to stop a visit from Father Christmas to the Ladies at Wedmore. He was there to see them off on the Bowmaker that preceded their Christmas party and the rain had little effect on the scoring either. This was particularly true for the winning team of Annya Patten,

Linda Roberts and Ashley Ribb who amassed a wonderful 46 points which put them 3 clear of the next three teams. This log jam was cleared as usual by countback which gave runners-up place to Claire Biggs, Val Rosser and Jan Simmons ahead of Marlyn Jackson, Jenny Thomas and Jill Cornelius with Rachel Lockley, Marion Warren-Smith and Marie Mackle pushed down into fourth. Christmas was a recurring theme for the Ladies as Christmas puddings were the prizes in their Greensomes competition. Taking home the biggest puddings were Sue McDonald and Ann Dixon. Their score of 33 points was matched by runners-up Annya Patten and Eunice Bond who lost out on countback. Mary-Lou Denny and Sue Edwards were just a point behind in third place.

Best golf of the month came from Stuart Bishop in the Club Stableford, with a one under par gross 69, winning division 1 on 42, 2 better than Dave King who in turn was 2 better than third placed John Wormald. Best points score of the day though was 43 points from Jay James, winning division 2 by 4 points from Brian Webber with Brian Fry third on countback. A tight finish to division 3 saw Michael Sinclair beat Richard Taylor on countback with both scoring 41, one better than third placed Pete Beavan. Claire Biggs was the clear winner of the Ladies in a restricted field.

The Seniors also played a Stableford, but with a complicated multiplier to the scoring system to test players' maths. There was still a close finish to division 1 with Terry Clark on 154 just one better than Nick Parker who in turn was one better than Martin Olive. Best score of the day though, however you did the maths, came from Ken Brice in division 2 with a staggering 173, 19 ahead of second placed John Hogan with Philip Horn third on 142. Division 3 was won by John Sim on 144, just a point better than Ron Barrett with Bob Jackson in third place.

*Tony Biggs*

## **Isle of Wedmore Bowls Club**

In December, both the ladies' and men's teams at Wedmore were defeated in National Competitions by bigger, stronger clubs. In the Denny Plate, the men played Westleton (Swindon). At home, Alan Birch, John Runciman, Geoff Coombe and Colin Moss managed a 17-17 tie but the other home rink lost by 13-25. The two away rinks lost by 13-26 and 11-25. In the Yetton Plate the ladies were drawn against Dorchester. Maureen Hordle's rink won at home but the other three rinks lost, including a very heavy defeat away.



Wedmore men have also played their second match in division 1 of the Somerset County Indoor League. At home to Minehead, Alan Birch, John Runciman, Ray Newell and Colin Moss won 15 of the 21 ends finishing with an impressive 39-11 win. Dave Collins, Dave Brown, John Fear and Dennis Stansfield, also at home, were never behind and ran out 25 -15 winners. Away, Keith Hall, Jim White, Keith Burt and Eddie Payne had a comfortable 25-19 win. The other away rink lost but kept the score close finishing 18-24 to give Wedmore an excellent 107-69 win.

After two games, Wedmore are currently third in the league but they still have four more teams to play.

*Sandra Moss*

## Wedmore Farmers Preserving Club League

### YFC Cup Results

Tilham	208	Right Alley
Sand	201	Left Alley
Blackford	200	Right Alley
Theale	195	Right Alley
New Inn	191	Right Alley
Cocklake	188	Left Alley
West End	188	Right Alley
Crickham	187	Left Alley
Nyland	178	Right Alley
Wedmore	173	Left Alley
YFC	161	Left Alley
Ladies	146	Left Alley

Andrew Parsons won the individual with 35 pins.

### Halfway Table

Team	Points	Pin Difference
New Inn	16	246
Cocklake	14	118
Tilham	12	87
Nyland	10	54
Westend	10	- 43
Blackford	9	63
Wedmore	6	- 99
Sand	6	- 131
Crickham	4	- 174
Theale	3	- 121

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## Church News

### St Mary's Church, Wedmore

*Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday - Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel at 8.45am*

*Holy Communion is celebrated most weeks on Wednesday morning at 9.45am*

Sunday	4	2 Before Lent	10.30 am	Family Service
			6.00 pm	Start the Week
Sunday	11	1 Before Lent	10.30 am	Parish Communion
			6.00 pm	Start the Week
Wednesday	14	Ash Wednesday	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	18	Lent 1	8.00 am	BCP Holy Communion
			10.30 am	Parish Communion

Sunday	25	Lent 2	10.30 am	Parish Communion
			6.00 pm	Start the Week

## Holy Trinity Church

Sunday	4	2 Before Lent	9.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	11	1 Before Lent	9.00 am	Sunday Breakfast
Sunday	18	Lent 1	6.00 pm	BCP Evensong
Sunday	25	Lent 2	9.00 am	Parish Communion

## Christchurch, Theale

Sunday	4	2 Before Lent	11.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	11	1 Before Lent	11.00 am	Come & See
Sunday	18	Lent 1	11.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	25	Lent 2	11.00 am	Morning Prayer

## Allerton Church

Sunday	4	2 Before Lent	9.00 am	Family Service
Sunday	11	1 Before Lent	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday	14	Ash Wednesday	7.00 pm	Benefice Communion
Sunday	18	Lent 1	9.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	25	Lent 2	9.00 am	Parish Communion

*Rev'd Richard Neill, Vicar of the Benefice of the Isle of Wedmore can be contacted on 713566.*

## 'On a Wheel and a Prayer'

On Tuesday 20 February, the vicar will be conducting the next 'cycle prayer pilgrimage', cycling around the different villages and hamlets that make up the Benefice of the Isle of Wedmore that our churches serve, stopping at various points and praying for the particular communities.

Details of timings can be found in the churches and you are welcome to join him at any of the stops.



## Parish Registers

### Weddings

Congratulations go to:

Kai and Roberta (nee Taylor) Adair of Portishead (Roberta a teacher at Hugh Sexey Middle School) whose marriage was blessed at Holy Trinity Blackford on Wednesday 27 December 2017

### Baptisms

Welcome to the following baptized into God's church recently:

Lilias and Tygris Adair, daughters of Kai and Roberta Adair of Portishead (Roberta a teacher at Hugh Sexey Middle School) baptised in Holy Trinity Blackford on Wednesday 27 December 2017.

### **Funerals**

Our condolences go to the family and friends of:

Dorothy Mabel Roper of Wedmore who died on 30 November aged 92 and whose funeral took place at St Mary's on Tuesday 19 December 2017.

Alfred Bracher of Wedmore who died on 10 December aged 91 and whose funeral took place at St Mary's on Friday December 2017.

Irene Phyllis Weedon (known as Renee) of Wedmore who died on 15 December aged 88 and whose funeral took place at St Mary's on Thursday 4 January 2018.

### **Ash Wednesday**

The season of Lent is traditionally a time of penitence, fasting and self-examination (that's why many people give something up for Lent). In the early church it would be kept by those preparing for baptism at Easter, but as time went on, it seemed a good idea for everyone to set aside time for this in the weeks leading up to the most holy time in the church's calendar.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday when ash is smeared on our foreheads as a sign that one day we will die and thus of the need to get our lives right.

This year Ash Wednesday falls on Wednesday 14 February, and in the benefice we will be marking this important day with a said communion at St. Mary's at 10.00 am and a sung benefice communion at 7.00 pm at Allerton. The imposition of ashes will be offered at each service.

### **Movement Youth Worship**

On Sunday 4 March at 6.00 pm St Mary's will be delighted to be playing host again to another Youth Worship event together with the organisation Movement. This is an opportunity aimed at young people aged 15 to 24 to join together from churches across the area to worship and have some teaching about the Christian faith.

With a very good band and speaker, lights, big screens and free cakes and Pepsi it continues to prove a popular venue for young people to meet. Look at [www.waremovement.net](http://www.waremovement.net) for further details.

### **Bagley Baptist Church**

#### **Sundays 10.30am Morning service. (Groups for 3-15s.)**

Please check the website for any last minute changes to normal service times and dates, particularly during the winter weather.

#### **Wednesdays 10am-12noon 'Coffee with a View.'**

Come for free coffee and home-made cakes, our wonderful view and a warm welcome. Bring a friend, or come and make some new ones here. We have good parking and wheelchair access.



**Thursday 1 February - 7.30pm. Oddments Theatre Company presents 'The Hiding Place',**  
An inspirational story of non-violent resistance against Nazi oppression. See our website or inside this magazine for more details.

Entry free. Not suitable for under 15s.

We have various Bible studies and youth groups which we'd love to tell you about!  
For details, please ring us on (01934) 710779 / 712812

Email us on [contactus@bagleybaptist.co.uk](mailto:contactus@bagleybaptist.co.uk) or come and see us at  
[www.bagleybaptist.co.uk](http://www.bagleybaptist.co.uk)

## **Wedmore Methodist Church**

*Preachers for February 2018*

Sunday 4 Mrs Pam White  
Sunday 11 Mrs Jacqueline Cobb Sunday before Lent  
Sunday 18 Mrs Janet Day Family Service 1st Sunday in Lent  
Sunday 25 Rev Robert Channon Holy Communion 2nd Sunday in Lent

## **Crickham Baptist Church**

Sunday Services: 6.30pm

Sunday School: 10.30am

*Contact Dulcie Hooper 712187.*

## **Our Lady Queen of Apostles Catholic Church, Cheddar**

*Contact Father Philip Thomas - telephone 709244.*

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# **Axbridge and Wedmore GP Practice**

## **Surgery Opening Times**

### **Wedmore Surgery**

Mondays and Fridays . . . . . 8.30am to 6.00pm

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays . . . . . 8.30am to 1.00pm

Telephone 712774

### **Axbridge Surgery**

Monday to Fridays . . . . . 8.30am to 6.00pm

Telephone 732464 - Please note the surgeries are closed on Bank Holidays.

## Extended Surgery Hours

The practice offers an extended opening hours service. This extra service is being offered in response to the wishes of patients expressed in the Patient Surveys. During the 'Extended Hours' a GP will be available for routine appointments outside normal surgery times. These appointments are not for emergencies or to see a nurse, they are dedicated to those patients who find it difficult to attend during normal surgery hours.

Extended hours surgeries are held:

### Axbridge Surgery

Wednesday and Thursday . . . . . Alternate weeks 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm

### Wedmore Surgery

Wednesday and Thursday . . . . . Once a month 7.00 am to 8.00 am

Please note, these hours may be subject to change depending on the availability of doctors.

Please visit the website at [www.axbridgeandwedmoremedicalpractice.nhs.uk](http://www.axbridgeandwedmoremedicalpractice.nhs.uk), or visit / telephone the practice 732464 or 712774 for changes to opening hours.

You can also obtain 24-hour general medical advice by telephoning NHS 111, or visit the NHS 111 website.

*During extended hours the front door will be locked. Please ring the video doorbell for access. Access will only be granted to patients with pre-booked appointments. Surgery telephones are not manned during extended hours.*

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# Wedmore Community Bus

The Wedmore Community Bus is available for everyone, travelling to Taunton (Tuesdays), Bridgwater (Wednesdays), Weston-super-Mare (Thursdays) and Street (Fridays).

The service acts less like a bus and more like a personal taxi service. You get on and off wherever you tell us is the most convenient place - usually outside your own house. Travel is free if you have a current bus pass. If you have to pay, then fares compare very favourably with alternative forms of transport, saving money on fuel and parking. For example, the 50-mile round trip to Taunton is only £4.80.

The bus departs from Wedmore at 9.30 am and is back by early afternoon - leaving plenty of time for those needing to collect children from school. To book a seat, ring the friendly controller between 6.00 pm and 6.30 pm on the evening before your journey:



<b>Controller Taunton</b>	Angeline Duckett	712631
<b>Controller Bridgwater</b>	Angeline Duckett	712631
<b>Controller Weston super Mare</b>	Carol Ayliffe	713471
<b>Controller Street</b>	Thelma Jenkins Jones	710467

The bus is also available for private hire. It can be booked by contacting Jo Keen, 710759

# Bus Route 67 Wells to Burnham

Burnham-on-Sea - Highbridge - Wedmore - Wookey - Wells - Wookey Hole						Mendip Community Transport		
Mondays to Fridays from 6 March 2017 - No service on Saturday/Sunday/Public Holidays								67
Ben Travers Way, Tesco				1045		1305		
Burnham-on-Sea, Old pier Tavern	0922			1050		1310		
Highbridge George Hotel	0930			1058		1318		
East Huntspill, School	0937			1105		1325		
Mark, The Packhorse Inn	0945			1113		1333		
Wedmore, The Borough arr		0953	c	1121	c	1341	c	
Wedmore, The Borough dep	0742		0955		1125		1345	
Henton, Post Office	0752		1005		1135		1355	
Wookey Holmlea	0756		1009		1139		1359	
Wells, Coronation Road	0802		1015		1145		1405	
Wells Bus Station	0809		1022		1152	1252	1412	1500 1715
Wells, The Blue School	0817							
St.Cuthbert's Avenue			1028		1158	1258	1418	1506 1721
Wookey Hole	0824		1033		1203	1303	1423	1511 1726

Wookey Hole	0825	0912		1035		1205	1305		1425	1515		1730
St.Cuthbert's Avenue	0830	0917		1040		1210	1310		1430	1520		1735
Wells, The Blue School												1535
Wells Bus Station	0836	0923		1046		1216	1316		1436	1526		1543 1741
Wells, Coronation Road		0930		1053			1323					1550 1747
Wookey Holmlea		0936		1059			1329					1556 1753
Henton, Post Office		0940		1104			1333					1600 1757
Wedmore, The Borough arr		0950	c	1114	c		1343	c				1610 1807
Wedmore, The Borough dep			1000		1125			1350				
Mark, The Packhorse Inn			1010		1135			1400				
East Huntspill School			1019		1144			1409				
Highbridge George Hotel			1026		1151			1416				
Burnham-on-Sea, Old Pier Tavern			1036		1201			1426				
Ben Travers Way, Tesco			1041		1206			1431				

## Crossword 10 Answers

**Across:** 1.catcall 5.diploma 9.emergency 10.rated 11.turmoil 12.elitism  
 13.high jinks 16.olden 17.fiend 18.happy ones 21.Leander 22.lawsuit  
 25.onion 26.outfitter 27.earthly 28.sheared

**Down:** 1.cheetah 2.their 3.aggro 4.lanolin 5.dryness 6.parsimony  
 7.outridden 8.abdomen 14.grenadier 15.Judi Dench 17.fulsome 18.harmony  
 19.pilates 20.sutured 23.write 24.utter

# What's On in the Parish

1 - Thu	Oddments Theatre Company present "The Hiding Place"		Bagley Parish Church
3 - Sat	Wedmore Twinning Association Quiz Night	7.00pm	Masonic Hall
4 - Sun	Green Wedmore Big Tidy Up	10.00am	The Borough House
5 - Mon	Wedmore Knitting and Quilting Group	9.30am	The Scout Hut
	Music in Mind	2.15-3.30pm	Masonic Hall
	Green Wedmore	8.00pm	The George Inn
6 - Tues	Wedmore Tuesday Club	10.30-2.30	Wedmore VH
	Wedmore Young Farmers	7.30pm	The George Inn
8 - Thu	Theale Panto - Robin Hood	7.30pm	Theale VH
9 - Fri	Mr Punch's Folk Club - Open Mic	8.00pm	The Panborough Inn
	Blackford Harvest Home - Winter Warmer	7.30pm	Blackford VH
	Theale Panto - Robin Hood	7.30pm	Theale VH
10 - Sat	Wedmore in Bloom Work Party	9.30am	The George Inn
	Theale Panto - Robin Hood	7.30pm	Theale VH
11 - Sun	Holy Trinity Church Breakfast	8.30am	Holy Trinity Church
12 - Mon	Wedmore Knitting and Quilting Group	9.30am	The Scout Hut
13 - Tues	Wedmore Tuesday Club	10.30-2.30	Wedmore VH
14 - Wed	Probus	10.15am	Golf Club
	Camelot Quilters	10.00am	Wedmore VH
	Blackford Cafe	2.00-4.00pm	Blackford VH
15 - Thu	Wedmore WI Craft session with Sue	7.30pm	Masonic Hall
	Blackford Village Hall Committee Meeting	8.00pm	Blackford VH
16 - Fri	Wedmore Arts Group - tutored session, monoprinting	2.00pm	Masonic Hall
18 - Sun	Theale Film Club - Dunkirk	6.30pm	Theale VH
19 - Mon	Wedmore Knitting and Quilting Group	9.30am	The Scout Hut
	Music in Mind	2.15-3.30pm	Masonic Hall
20 - Tues	Wedmore Tuesday Club	10.30-2.30	Wedmore VH
	Wedmore Young Farmers	7.30pm	The George Inn
21 - Wed	Parish Council Meeting	7.30pm	Council Rooms Grants Lane
22 - Thu	Isle of Wedmore Society -speaker Pauline Kidner	7.30pm	Masonic Hall
23 - Fri	Wedmore Arts Group - tutored session, monoprinting	2.00pm	Masonic Hall
	Mr Punch's Folk Club - Open Mic	8.00pm	The Panborough Inn
	Limelight Night - Open Mic at the Swan	8.00pm	The Swan
26 - Mon	Wedmore Knitting and Quilting Group	9.30am	The Scout Hut
27 - Tues	Wedmore Tuesday Club	10.30-2.30	Wedmore VH
	Wedmore Young Farmers	7.30pm	The George Inn
	Wedmore Gardening Club - pruning by Michael Smith	7.30pm	Masonic Hall
28 - Wed	Camelot Quilters	10.00am	Wedmore VH
	Probus	10.15am	Golf Club

# February 2018

## REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

### MONDAY

<b>Fitness2Unique</b>	9.15am	Blackford VH	Rane Lisa	07977 414799 07801 272255
<b>Pilates</b>	11.00am	The George	Georgie	07976 254887
<b>Art Group</b>	2.00 - 4.00pm	Wedmore VH	Chris Midford	01749 712522
<b>Modern Dance</b>	4.00pm	Blackford VH +	Kaye Morgan Anstee	01278 641194
<b>Beavers</b>	5.30pm	Scout Hut +	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438
<b>Bridge Club</b>	7.00pm	Masonic Hall	Steve Pedrick	01934 712852
<b>Scouts</b>	7.15pm	Scout Hut +	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438

### TUESDAY

<b>Fitness2Unique</b>	9.15am	Blackford VH	Rane / Lisa	As above
<b>Chair Yoga</b>	10.00am	The Swan Inn +	Jo Willis	07552 711101
<b>Tuesday Club</b>	10.30am	Wedmore VH	Angela Mills	01934 712607
<b>Ballet Classes</b>	4.00pm	Bristol Ballet Centre +	Bristol Ballet Centre ashermann99@hotmail.com	
<b>Acting Up Drama Club</b>	3.45pm	Wedmore VH +	Lou Merryfield	07973 429947
<b>Cubs</b>	6.30pm	Scout Hut +	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438
<b>Circuit Training</b>	7.30pm	Blackford VH	Nigel	07776 82231
<b>Cardiodance</b>	7.30pm	Wedmore First School	Kaye Morgan Anstee	07799 814204

### WEDNESDAY

<b>Fitness2Unique</b>	9.15am	Blackford VH	Rane / Lisa	As above
<b>Rainbows</b>	4.30pm	Wedmore VH +	Gail Millard	01934 713922
<b>Brownies</b>	6.00pm	Wedmore VH +	Lisa Hall	01934 713566
<b>Guides</b>	7.00pm	Wedmore VH +	Elaine Tilling	01934 713650
<b>Yoga</b>	8.00pm	Blackford VH	Sandra Mailey	01934 712686
<b>PilogaFit</b>	10.30am	Wedmore VH	John Beasley	01749 672482
<b>Tai Chi</b>	12.15 - 1.15pm	Wedmore VH	John Beasley	01749 672482

### THURSDAY

<b>Wedmore &amp; Blackford Toddlers</b>	9.30am	Blackford VH +	Abbe Smith	07753 941341
<b>Yoga</b>	10.30am	Scout Hut	Shane Allen	01275 790175
<b>Maturity Gang</b>	10.30am	Wedmore VH	Pat Taylor	01934 713430
<b>Yoga</b>	11.30am	Masonic Hall	Shane Allen	01275 790175
<b>Bridge</b>	2.00pm	IOW Golf Club	Brian Moreton brianjillmoreton@btinternet.com	01934 713854
<b>Ballet Classes</b>	3.45pm	Bristol Ballet Centre +	Bristol Ballet Centre ashermann99@hotmail.com	
<b>Cubs</b>	6.30pm	Scout Hut +	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438

### FRIDAY

<b>Fitness2Unique (2 Classes)</b>	9.15am	Blackford VH	Rane / Lisa	As above
<b>Tots and Tinies</b>	9.15am	Wedmore First School +	Jo Page	01934 710431
<b>Wedmore Art Group</b>	2.00pm	Masonic Hall +	Eileen Sanders	01934 710353

+ Not taking place during school holidays