

An aerial photograph of the village of Wedmore, featuring a prominent church tower, residential buildings, and rolling hills in the background. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent pink color.

ISLE OF WEDMORE NEWS

**WEDMORE
ARTS FESTIVAL
6 - 15 JULY**

**July 2017
No. 451**

Editorial

A warm welcome to the July Edition. Well what an absolutely packed month as we await the arrival of the direct descendants of Captain Jack Black-Wedmore with some trepidation. I wonder how many villages of similar size could boast the amount and sheer diversity of events staged here in Wedmore, and July is the pinnacle of our incredibly busy and varied programme.

This is the seventh Edition I have edited and therefore I can no longer play the 'new boy' card. Whilst I have been delighted to receive many kind comments I have sailed really close to, and possibly even exceeded the maximum number of pages we are allowed, without incurring the wrath of both printers and distributors, which if continued will possibly lead to higher charges. Therefore, and with regret, I will have to apply greater brevity in all cases to remain within this limit. So please don't be offended if the article you submitted is reduced in size, I will always ensure I include all the salient points.

Lastly, I am delighted to announce that the IOW News has been able to award cash donations to five local charitable organisations, details of which are given later. Thank you to everyone who contributed and happy reading.

Bill Sutton

Deadline for August Edition: 1 July 2017

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The Isle of Wedmore News welcomes all contributions and letters. It should be noted however that the views expressed are those of individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors, or represent any particular standpoint on the part of the publication.

Wedmore News is digital! Each edition (without adverts) will be published on The Isle of Wedmore Website, www.theisleofwedmore.net. If you are a contributor who for copyright reasons does not want your entry included, please make this clear when sending it to the editor.

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

Front Cover

A reminder that the upcoming Arts Festival offers us the chance to enjoy a variety of cultural events taking place in many venues in the village.

News

Donations to Local Charitable Causes

The Management Board of the IOW News is pleased to announce that the following local organisations were awarded grants for 2017:

Wedmore in Bloom

Wedmore Arts Festival

Cheddar Gateway Club

The Tuesday Club

Wedmore Twinning Association

Congratulation to each of them and a huge thank you to our advertisers and sponsors for their most valued support. Please note that the next round of awards will take place in February 2018, calls for applications will be made in January.

Bill Sutton

Parish Council Business

The May meeting of the Parish Council is the annual meeting when a Chairman is elected for the ensuing year and most of the routine business such as approving various legal documents, annual accounts and setting up sub-committees is carried out. Cllr Nick Avery was re-elected as Chairman for a further year with Cllr Neil Ellis re-elected as vice-Chair. The Chairman's first duty was to offer congratulations to Cllr David Huxtable on his re-appointment as the Parish representative on Somerset County Council. Details of Parish Council members and the committees they serve on are posted on the various noticeboards around the parish. The annual accounts for the year ended March 2017 have been independently examined and will now be sent to the external auditor for confirmation that they are in order. They are available for public inspection during June at the Council Rooms or on the Council website. Details are on the parish noticeboards.

Local Government Elections

These were held on 4 May and resulted in the re-election of Cllr David Huxtable for the Alfred Ward and as the representative for the Parish on Somerset County Council. The details of the count for Wedmore parish is as follows:

Wedmore Ward - 1824 electors, 575 turn-out = 31.5%

Blackford Ward - 440 electors, 148 turn-out, = 33.6%

Theale Ward - 398 electors, 125 turn-out - 31.4%

The General Election takes place on 8 June and I will send a similar breakdown of votes cast in a future edition of the Wedmore News.

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

Wedmore Community Park

Several members of Wedmore Parish Council and the community have formed a committee to investigate the desire to create a community park in the centre of Wedmore. The land in question lies behind Worthington Close, and runs alongside the Lerburne. It is owned by the Parish Council and for some time councillors have been trying to decide what to do with the land.

We are very fortunate to have the wonderful recreation ground up by Wedmore First School, however the play area there only caters for children of a certain age, and we as a committee would like to create a new park for everyone in the village to benefit from. We hope to include gym equipment for all ages to use, and play equipment for the younger and older children, focusing on the older ones as currently there is nowhere for them to hang out. With its proximity to the centre of the village, it is hoped that this will bring more trade to the shops and pubs too.

We need the community to get involved, to tell us your thoughts, give us your ideas and we welcome any children or adults who would like to get on board with this exciting project.

Some of you will have seen us and some proposed plans at the Wedmore Neighbourhood Plan Consultation on 24 June 24 and will have gained some idea of our proposals.

There will be an open morning on site (entrance by the village car park) on Saturday 8 July between 10 am and 12 noon, where you may come along to see the site for yourselves and get a better visual idea of what can be created.

We look forward to seeing you at both events and if you have any questions in the meantime please call Polly on 713564.

Councillor Polly Costello

Bus Route 67 Wells to Burnham

A request has been received via Rod Pring at Wedmore Parish Council to publish the timetable for the Route 67 Wells to Burnham Bus Route. This is replicated inside the rear cover.

Wedmore Neighbourhood Plan

Thanks to all of you who attended the latest Neighbourhood Plan event in the Village Hall on 24 June.

There was much interest in the results of the questionnaire and how they provide us with some clear ideas of how the community wish to see Wedmore evolve over the next fifteen years. The full analysis of the questionnaire survey can be seen at www.wedmore.online



As expected, the twenty sites put forward by landowners and developers for consideration as potential allocations created a lot of questions and debate. We will now assess the suitability of each site and report back to you all later this year.

Bob Sellwood, Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee

Wedmore Harvest Home

Please can anyone who won a trophy at the procession last year drop it back in to the Wedmore Village Store. We need to make sure they are all back in, engraved and clean ready for this year's entries. Thank you.

Beth Skeen

Theale Flower Show Needs 'Royal' People!

This is another one for the children! Our long-standing tradition is for a Flower Queen / King to open the show and to present the cups to the winners. The Flower Queen or King is accompanied by two princesses or princes. If you live in Theale and would like to be considered for one of these 'royal' roles, please contact Karen Fox by phone on 710230 or email karenfox7@btinternet.com



Wedmore First School PTA

We are so lucky at Wedmore First School to have our own outdoor pool that is loved by the children. The pool is open to all the children of the parish (not just ones who go to Wedmore School) every afternoon during the summer holidays.

So, for a cheap and fun activity with your babies, children or grandchildren over the holidays, come on down to the school pool. It's only £1.50 per child and open from 2pm till 4.30pm every day of the holidays.

Or if you are looking for somewhere to hold a children's party, it is available for hire from 11am-1pm on weekends for £40. (For more info or to book contact Sarah Tipping bleadon71@gmail.com or 07979925547).

The pool is run by volunteers from the school PTA and opening can be weather dependant, it is only suitable for children under the age of 10 and they must be accompanied by an adult.

Amelia

Wedmore Twinning Association

With our 42nd Anniversary looming we are busy planning and looking forward to this year's visit by our friends from St Medard. This year the party will be made up of 29 adults and 20 children and they will be with us during the week of the Harvest Home.

Cameron Swales, Chair WTA, 713342

Wedmore Harvest Home

We are still a little short on helpers for this year's children's tea (Friday 18 August). If you would like to get involved and help we would love to hear from you. It would be nice to have some new faces join our lovely team! Helpers are given responsibility to lay the tables, serve drinks, give out ice lollies and generally make sure the children on your table are smiling! For more information please call Jacqui on 07729296201

Lunch tickets for Wedmore Harvest Home will be on sale at the Street Fair on 1 July! Come and find our stall to get your tickets and take part in our £1 draw!

Wedmore Real Ale Festival 2017

Can you believe the real ale festival will return to Wedmore in less than three months?

Firstly, many thanks to all the great people who are helping us get this year's festival together and help to ensure the continued success of the festival!

Limited Barrel Sponsorship is currently available, so if you would like to support the festival by sponsoring a barrel, then please contact Amanda Carver at amanda.carver@outlook.com.

If you would like to volunteer during the festival, then we still have a few spaces left for helpers so please contact Mike Bewick on 07794 781975. Helping at such a social event really doesn't feel like work at all.

We are also currently appealing for prizes and lots for the Sunday afternoon auction. If you have an item / service / promise that you wish to donate, please contact Chaz Maguire on 07973 810 786.

Festival tops and hoodies are now available to order. The hoodies will only have the logo on the front left breast and will be available in four colours. So, if you want to get your festival top or hoodie in time to wear for the summer season, call or email Mike on 07794 781975 / bewick.mike@gmail.com

To keep up to date with our planning for the festival please join our Facebook group 'The Wedmore Real Ale Appreciation Society', follow us on twitter @WedmoreRealAle or go to our brand-new website www.wedmorerealale.com

See you all in September and enjoy the summer's offerings of real ale!

Alan Page

Wedmore Opera Goers

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

Our plans for the coming year are to visit Stratford to see 'Twelfth Night' for the matinee on Thursday 9 November, coach leaving Wedmore at 9.30 am for the performance at 1 pm and returning to Wedmore by about 6.30 pm.

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

Wedmore & Axbridge Community Health Fund – Synopsis of Trustees Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2017

The Trustees are pleased to report that, throughout the past twelve months, the Wedmore & Axbridge Community Health Fund has met quarterly and has continued to actively provide support for the wellbeing of patients and other residents who live within the catchment area of the Wedmore and Axbridge Medical Practice.

The Fund has been in existence for nearly 30 years with its income derived from the kind donations of grateful patients and bereaved relatives, bequests and a small amount of interest from our invested funds. The Trustees' enthusiasm and dedication



to the aims of the Health Fund continues and it's hoped that their work over the past year will be seen as a successful use of the Charity's funds in reflecting the wishes of our generous benefactors.

Originally, the Health Fund acted as a charity providing medical equipment and services that may not otherwise have been available for the benefit of the registered patients of the Wedmore & Axbridge Medical Practice. Following an amendment to the charity's terms of reference, support can now be provided for approved community projects within the Practice area. At present, these include 'Singing for the Brain', held at Axbridge for the benefit of those suffering from Alzheimer's or Dementia and CRISP (The Carer's Information & Support Programme).

Over the past year, the Trustees have agreed to fund a number of requests emanating from the Medical Practice, the Health Visitor, Weston Hospicecare and the Alzheimer Society. The Fund has also helped a number of deserving patients and residents.

During the year, representatives of various organisations and the Practice, connected with helping those in need locally, addressed the Trustees at their meetings, providing an insight into their work by suggesting ways in which the Fund may be able to assist them. Weston Hospicecare stated that they are caring for 35 patients from within our catchment area.

The full Chairman's Report is available to view at axbridgeandwedmoremedicalpractice.nhs.uk. Any other enquiries should be addressed to Shirley Wederell (Secretary) on 712089 or Alan Benson (Chairman) on 713112

Alan Benson, Chairman

Win a Caravan – Mendip Rotary Club and Bailey of Bristol Team Up to Help Macmillan Cancer Support

Thanks to a very generous donation of a Bailey Pegasus Verona Caravan worth approx. £20,000 the Rotary Club of Mendip has launched the Win a Caravan Draw. The majority of the funds raised are pledged to Macmillan Cancer Support with some funds used to help others in need in the Cheddar Valley.



Tickets costing £5 will be sold at caravan shows and other events, including Wedmore Street Fair, during 2017 before the draw on 22 October at the National Caravan and Motorhome Show at the NEC Birmingham.

Further information about how to buy tickets is available on the www.winacaravan.org website or by e-mailing info@winacaravan.org. Club members will also be pleased to sell you a ticket!

The Rotary Club will welcome anyone wishing to join or help the Club in this and other charity efforts – please contact Secretary Keith Millard on 743036.

If You're Not Lost, It's Not An Adventure!!

In case you missed this story in the June Edition, this summer Brian and Ben Sutlieff, from Cocklake, will embark on the trip of a lifetime to raise money for charity.

On a journey of over 10,000 miles from England to Mongolia, in a vehicle which cost no more than £250, Brian and his 22 year-old son Ben will take part in the Mongol

Rally, an annual cross-continent event held by coordinators ‘The Adventurists’, who, since they started in 2004, have raised over £2.5 million for some amazing charities.



Following a farewell launch party on 15 July, the duo will set off from the UK in a compact 1.3 litre Suzuki, hopeful that it will take them 55 days to reach Mongolia.

If you would like to sponsor Brian and Ben on their journey –

Just head to [justgiving.com/teamsloweast](https://www.justgiving.com/teamsloweast) to donate to Bloodwise or <https://www.coolearth.org/campaigns/11437/team-slow-east-mongol-rally-2017/> to donate to Cool Earth

You can also follow the team Facebook page on <https://www.facebook.com/TeamSlowEast>

If you'd like to find out more about the Mongol Rally head to: theadventurists.com/mongol-rally

Verilocation vehicle tracking (one of their supporters) have fitted a tracker to the car so you can monitor progress.

Login at <https://valkyrie.verilocation.com/pages/>

Login – teamsloweast@outlook.com

Password – MongolRally1#

Alternatively, there is a ‘Bloodwise’ collection pot on the counter in Hector’s Farm Shop for those who would like to donate without having to use the dreaded Internet.

Stop Press: Update from Brian

I am just dropping you a note as an update from our Mongolian adventure evening in the Wedmore Village Hall on the 20 May.

It was a great night and just over £1040 was raised which has been donated to Bloodwise and Cool Earth (half each).

I wondered if you would print a thank you to all of the 3C’s team and in particular Gemma Sweeting who also had her birthday on the same day but still spent much of day preparing food for everyone.

It is just six and a bit weeks now before we set off and we are busy with the final bits of preparation. I will send you an update when we head off.

Wedmore Arts Festival 6 – 15 July 2017

An exceptional festival in an exceptional village.

In Festival terms Wedmore punches way above its weight. But why?



Last month we asked some well-known names that very question. Lord West, Alex Rotas, Simon Evans, Vey Straker of Magnetic Diaries, Brunel Sinfonia, Richard Lennox, James Kealey, Marie Vassiliou and Nigel Foster; all experts in their chosen field, they are also all delighted to be part of our Festival in this beautiful village.



Marie Vassiliou

This month we decided to ask similar questions of our home-grown talent. What's so special, we asked, about Wedmore? For Barbara Horton, one of the local artists exhibiting in the church, it was simple: 'If I feel low, I walk into the village and soon find someone to have a cheery chat with.' Jan Tomes, Mudgley's best known potter, agrees: 'It's a large picturesque village with a variety of interesting people, flourishing schools and sports facilities, local shops operating happily in the face of huge competition, a wealth of activities involving all ages and an on-going enthusiasm and energy in the community'. For Ed Leaker Wedmore is 'so peaceful, especially after a late gig or a long day travelling.' The Somerset Levellers, being 'an intellectual bunch' cite 878 Guthrum (he was the Viking defeated by Alfred who converted to Christianity after signing 'The Peace of Wedmore' in 878), and for Trevor Prideaux, Turnip Prize founder, it's the community spirit. Peter Wright looked at it from a different angle 'When we lived in London one of our sons had a friend who said he never went abroad because the whole world came to Dulwich. He hadn't been to Wedmore.' Everyone gets asked to choose between Somerset Cider and Cheddar Cheese, but few manage. For Peter it's 'like Romeo without Juliet, Lennon without McCartney, strong without stable - or the coalition of chaos.' But as a Mudgley resident, he says it's 'thanks Roger, mine's a large one!' Barbara veers slightly towards cheese, though 'a glass of Somerset Cider with it would be even better!' Jan is the same: 'they complement each other.' Anne Richards of Wedmore Opera loves both – but with a hunk of fresh bread. So does Trevor: 'Cheddar Cheese with Port, and cider with more cider or pork. You can't beat pork in cider!!' And the Levellers claim that it's an unfair question – 'like asking which of your children you like best - impossible!' For some, Wells Cathedral is a popular local tourist attraction (Jan was married there). Anne likes a walk round Cheddar reservoir, The Somerset Levellers just like 'Cheddar'; Trevor, unsurprisingly, likes the wonderful pubs of Somerset (all of them?) whilst Ed likes a nice quiet walk in the stunning countryside. Peter loves Marjory Fish's garden at Lambrook. She was secretary to the Editor of the Daily Mail 100 years ago, and in 1917 went with the proprietor Lord Northcliffe to persuade the Americans to join the First World War. It worked, we won. When she retired she created one of England's finest cottage gardens

For the Festival committee there's one more event to organise: BBC Radio 4 will be recording Any Questions in St Mary's Church on Friday 21 July. Tickets are free and will be available via the Festival website from 7 July on a first come, first served basis. Please note: tickets can only be obtained via the website and will not be available on the door. Children under 14 will not be permitted into the recording.

Festival tickets available from Wedmore Village Store plus wedmoreartsfestival.co.uk or 807229. Wedmore Opera tickets: wedmoreopera.com / 01934 743593

Cheddar Vale Lions Club

Cheddar Vale Lions Club has a new President: Lion Marion Adcock has taken over the reins from Lion Janet Clark and we wish her well in her term of office.

Cheddar Vale is going from strength to strength and is in the process of buying their second defibrillator which will be installed at Blackford.

We are always looking for new members to help us put something back into the community. If you'd like to know more about us then give Janet Clark a ring on 248114 or visit our website at www.cheddarvalelions.org.uk.



Friends of Weston Hospicecare Big Drop Saturday 20 May

A very big thank you on behalf of the friends of Weston Hospicecare to everyone who so kindly came and donated items for the Hospice. It was a very successful morning.

Shirley Wederell

Children's Society – Early Box Opening



This is a note for the 46 Children's Society collection box holders. As you know, the 'old' £1 coin ceases to be legal tender in October. As a rule, the annual Children's Society Collection Box Opening takes place in late November/early December. As local Secretary for the Society, I contacted the London HQ back in January and was assured that the main banks would accept deposits of the old coins up to December - but to check with my local branch. However, in mid-April a letter arrived reducing the acceptance to 'some banks' and giving local secretaries the option of bringing forward their box openings to September or October. (In the meantime, I had contacted NatWest in Cheddar who referred me to Wells, where I was handed a leaflet which ended 'contact your local branch!')

To get off this merry-go-round and bearing in mind the closure of NatWest, Cheddar, on 11 October, I have opted for an earlier box opening and, with the kind agreement of the Vicar, this will now take place on the morning of Saturday 7 October in St Mary's Church, so please make a note in your diaries.

The Children's Society receives in excess of £2 million nationally each year – a vital contribution to the important work it does with children and older teenagers. Thanks to the generosity of local residents, through Christmas card sales and Christingle Service collections as well as coins in collection boxes, Wedmore branch is one of the highest fundraisers in the whole of the South-West, beaten only by the city of Exeter

and ahead of all the larger conurbations such as Wells and Taunton. Thank you so much everybody, and carry on collecting.

Susanne Burton

Avalon Camps 2017 Update

Avalon Camps, providing country holidays for underprivileged children, have been running for 30 years under the auspices of Mark and (until recently)



Allerton Churches and the Diocese of Bath and Wells. From this year they will be run independently, but still with the support and provision by Mark Church of the facilities that they have enjoyed for so many years.

Avalon Camps, in their 31st year, face an exciting future but, as a charity, a challenging one. Every year we need to raise sufficient funds to meet the running costs. This requires the dedication and commitment of many volunteers of all ages to run the camps and the determination of the community to ensure that the necessary resources are available. We therefore continue to look for new volunteers who can help in any way, from washing up to joining the Committee or suggesting new fundraising initiatives. We would love to hear from anyone who would like to join us or learn more about us.

It is wonderful to be involved in a project which offers the opportunity of a camping holiday to under-privileged children from schools in central Bristol. To see the excitement and enjoyment of the young children, demonstrated so freely, is quite a humbling experience. And it isn't only the children attending the Camps who benefit; it is also the young leaders and volunteers from our local area. It is important that such a well-established tradition, carried through by the communities of Mark, Allerton and the surrounding areas for so many years, continues to thrive.

We have fabulously exciting camps organised for the children again this year, so please do get in touch and come along to get involved.

The dates of this year's camps are:

Camp 1 – Monday 24 July – Saturday 29 July

Camp 2 – Monday 31 July – Saturday 5 August We hope to see you there.

The Committee Members of Avalon Camps 2017: George Osborne, Sue Osborne, Nicky Henning, Nigel Harper, Sally Sims, Jeff Fear, Matthew Gazzard, Emma Hanlon, Kath Hanlon, Lesley Stephenson, Alistair Gordon, Lois Anderson, Pete Morgan.

If you would like to be involved, offer a donation or find out more, please contact us at avaloncamps@gmail.com, Nicky Henning (710077 / nickyhenning@btinternet.com) or any committee member.

New Arts Centre – Causeway Arts and Crafts, Mark

Opened since 5 June, we offer classes in drawing, painting, basic sewing techniques (including how to use your sewing machine) dressmaking, curtain making, needle felting and woven-bead jewellery. There will also be a weekly knitting club (for all abilities) and a monthly book club. In the autumn we also hope to offer sculpture, upholstery, jewellery making, fused glass etc.

We are situated on Mark Causeway (where the hairdressers and previously Soft Options soft furnishing shop were). Come along and learn a new skill, or indulge in an old one.

Please visit us at www.causewayartscrafts.co.uk. or call 01278 641076, helen@causewayartscrafts.co.uk

Telephone Nuisance Calls – Four Ways to Block Them

Register with the Telephone Preference Service (TPS) - it's for people who do not want to receive sales calls and it's free. It is illegal for a company to call you once your name is on this. Of course, companies operating outside the law are not likely to take much notice - but it will cut down the number of calls.

Complain to the Information Commissioner's Office, the number is 0303 123 1113.

Block calls. Some phones offer this feature or you could use a call blocking device that you plug into your phone. These can not only block certain numbers, but also any that are call 'withheld' or 'international' - untraceable numbers often used by cold callers. The problem with this is that calls from people you know who are abroad or those who have blocked their own number may also be stopped. And a number of calls from large organisations that go through switchboards, which could include important calls, will also be blocked.

Keep an eye out when ordering goods to make sure you tick the box that says you do not wish to receive information about products from organisations. And be careful, as some of these boxes say tick if you DO wish to hear from other companies. So ticking it without reading it could be the wrong call.

Dawn Pallant

Letters to the Editor

Wedmore Arts Festival

The Wedmore Arts Festival Committee has been pleased to receive financial support for this year's Arts Festival with a donation of £300 from the Wedmore News. Chairman Suzanne Metters commented 'the committee are delighted to accept this generous contribution and we are all looking forward to another successful Festival, bringing a broad range of top-quality events to our community.'

Tickets are available online; box office 01934 807229 and through Wedmore Village Store.



Wedmore News Editor Bill Sutton presenting the cheque for the Wedmore Arts Festival to Suzanne Metters and Hon Treasurer Phil Jeans

Phil Jeans, Hon Treasurer – Wedmore Arts Festival

Neddie the Swift

About thirty years ago I found by the roadside a newly hatched swift. It could not have been more than a day or so old and had fallen from its nest in the eaves of 'Bridgewood' the house at the top of the Borough. A passer-by said that it was doomed and the kindest thing would be to kill it immediately. I decided that I would attempt to keep it alive and if possible rear it with the intention of returning it to the wild.

The immediate task was to provide it with warmth and liquid. I fashioned a nest from polystyrene packing chips in a cardboard box and by gently opening its beak gave it a few drops of water using an ear drop pipette. My wife said it was so small it would need attention ever few hours and as I had started something I would be the one to get up in the night as it was now my baby! I realised that it would need some kind of nourishment every two hours for the first few days and nights, fortunately I was on leave from work, I fed it using the pipette with much diluted honey, to my surprise it survived and I was now committed.

My problem was that a diet of watered down honey would not sustain it for long as swifts eat flying insects. There was no way I could catch enough flies and midges to satisfy it and how was I going to feed it anyway? I solved the problem by opening its beak and placed tiny pieces of minced beef at the back its throat with small forceps. By closing its beak and gently rubbing its throat I encouraged it to swallow. After a week or so on a diet of minced beef and water this tiny creature began to grow rapidly.

The next problem was that my leave was over and I had to return to work and Neddie as I called him (I was never sure of the gender) needed feeding every few hours. Fortunately I had my own office so each morning Neddie would travel to work in my car. My colleagues were highly amused especially as Neddie grew and began to fledge. His cage was on my desk and he would chirp every time the telephone rang.

After a while I decided that that the time had come for Neddie to try his wings as he was rapidly outgrowing his cage and nest of polystyrene chips. I started by placing him on my open hand a few inches above my lawn and let him flap his wings and fly a couple of yards before landing on the grass. Giving him 'his flying lessons' was what my wife called it. These 'lessons' progressed each day gradually increasing in height and distance until one day to my amazement he flew around the lawn and landed back on my open hand.

I had booked the hire of a canal boat for our family holiday on the Llangollen Canal and the start date was imminent, but Neddie showed no inclination to leave home. We had to declare what pets we would bring on board and you can imagine the reaction when we said one juvenile swift that still needed feeding by hand with minced beef!

About a week later we were moored up enjoying the sunshine in the heart of the countryside with Neddie sitting on my open hand when suddenly he took flight. The last I saw of him was that he was flying at great speed over a field of corn towards the Shropshire border, he had come a long way from the Wedmore Borough.

Bill Hudson, Combe Batch

Wedmore in Bloom

Dear Bill

On behalf of Wedmore in Bloom I would like to thank the Wedmore News very much for the most generous donation. This will be put to good use to maintain the



Andrea West and Barbara Horton receive the cheque on behalf of Wedmore in Bloom

high standards that we have set. We hope you will enjoy all the floral displays around the village. All this is made possible by the continued support of our sponsors, as well as the dedicated work of our group of hard-working volunteers. We are very grateful for your support.

*Yours sincerely,
Janet Smith, Funding Secretary*

Wedmore Twinning Association

Dear Bill

I write on behalf of all the Twinning Association Committee to thank you for the very generous donation from the Isle of Wedmore News.

We find it increasingly difficult to raise funds by our traditional methods, so this contribution is particularly welcome. This year we are hosting a visit 49 adults and children from St. Medard, for which we have compiled a programme of events and visits over four days. Your gift will go towards the cost of a day out in Bristol for our visitors. Thank you again, and best wishes for the continued success of the Isle of Wedmore News.

Steve Frost, Treasurer, WTA

A Day in the Life of

Wedmore News Would Like to Hear from You

Are you involved in running a local organisation in the Isle of Wedmore? Would you like to share some of the things that you do and raise awareness of your organisation by sharing your 'Day in the Life'? Please contact the editor Bill Sutton email editorwedmorenews@gmail.com, and share your day.

Bill Sutton

Focus on Businesses

Wedmore DIY – Bringing DIY Products to the Centre of the Village



A big advantage of Wedmore is that we have many shops and businesses in the village and in the May edition of Wedmore News I mentioned the new shops that have just opened in The Borough Mews. Recently, I talked to Peter Underwood, the owner of Wedmore DIY - one of these new businesses.

Peter grew up in Bleadney and attended the Cathedral School in Wells, before studying Law in Nottingham. When he was a student he worked part-time in a supermarket, leading a team. After graduation, his father, who owns a local building company, asked him join the company, managing staff and paperwork. He told me that his work experience at the supermarket helped him ease into this job and, when he took over the purchasing for the company, he drew on the negotiating skills that he had learnt as part of his legal training. He

remained in the job for three years, building up a good relationship with suppliers.

In October last year he and his father were looking for new offices for Underwood Builders. When they started negotiating for one of the upstairs units in the new Borough Mews, Peter saw that there were some downstairs units available and the idea of opening his own business began to take shape. He spent six months choosing the products to stock and planning the displays.

The shop opened at the beginning of March. At that time, Peter had 1000 different products, which he has now increased to 1250, adjusting his stock based on demand. He has a variety of good quality products useful for household maintenance and improvement, from light bulbs to paint, to garden tools, including many well-known brands. Originally he tried to avoid selling any products that were available from other stores in the village, but found that customers expected him to stock things like dustpans and brushes and mops. Another thing that he has learnt since he opened in Wedmore is that the weather has a big impact on business. People don't like to shop when it is cold and wet.

I asked him what he considered his advantages were compared with the DIY chain stores. Obviously, the convenience of being right in the village is one of those advantages, but what about price? Although he can't bulk buy in the same way as the chains, he said that he tries to remain competitive and, in fact, customers are surprised that some lines are cheaper than in the chain stores. He can offer a more personalised service, giving advice based on his knowledge of the products and, thanks to his good relationship with suppliers, customers can have access to a range of around 30,000

products, delivered within a week or, for many lines, the next day. In some cases he has also been able to arrange delivery from suppliers direct to customers. In a nutshell, he sees his advantages as service, good value and flexibility.

Liz Sweeney

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 or photoswedmorenews@gmail.com and I will contact you for a short interview.

Liz Sweeney

Reports and Society Updates

Wedmore Tuesday Club

Firstly, we would like to thank The Isle of Wedmore News for their generous donation of £600 to the Wedmore Tuesday Club. All donations are extremely welcome as government funding gets less every year. You can be assured that the donation will be put to good use.

The Club meets on a Tuesday at Wedmore Village Hall from 10.30am until 2.30pm for morning coffee and a freshly cooked two-course lunch. We also try to provide entertainment and occasionally guest speakers, but on some weeks we may have to cancel the meeting due the lack of helpers or drivers. On these occasions we try to arrange a luncheon trip out for the members.

Following the closure of the Day Centre in Cheddar we have taken on a few of their guests and could welcome more, provided we have additional volunteers to help.

Anyone wishing to help in any way, either serving, driving or entertaining, should contact Angela Mills on 07957 834250.

Once again thank you for your generous donation.

Wedmore Gardening Club

On Tuesday 25 July we have a really interesting talk with slides on 'Autumn - The Forgotten Season' By Don Everitt. Don has been to the gardening club before, speaking on various subjects and is always knowledgeable. In July he will speak about autumn, which may seem a little early, but it will give us time to be prepared for that wonderful season of amazing colours. I have to say that autumn has a wonder all of its own. The meeting will start at 7.30 pm and is in the Masonic Hall. Guests and members are all welcome.



There is no meeting in August. On Tuesday 26 September we welcome John Addison for a talk on 'Arts and Crafts Garden'.

St Mary's Church 100 Club

Happy to announce that the winners of the June draw were, 1st prize of £20 for No. 30, Joyce and Martin Banner; and 2nd prize of £10 for No. 58, Pauline and Christopher Last. Congratulations to them.

Wedmore Harvest Home 100 Club Lottery 2017

May 100 Club Winners:

1st prize winning £100 Emma Pither

2nd prize winning £50 Elizabeth Green

Congratulations to you both!

Beth Skeen

Wedmore WI Report May 2017

The May meeting is always rather bitty, and this year was no exception. Members and a visitor were welcomed by Diana, our president Jill being in Portugal. Jane C and Mary C were wished a 'happy birthday'; this last was to prove significant.

During the business meeting it emerged that the skittles team, playing Trull WI in the semi-final, had had an exciting and enjoyable evening, but sadly lost by one pin. There are gardens open we could visit locally, summer walks and a quiz. Five members went on a 'Women Walk the World' walk around Cheddar Reservoir for ACCW. Usually it is just the walkers who donate, but this time we felt that non-walkers should be given the option too, so Chris made a poster encouraging contributions, and this year we have raised £40.

The next part of the evening was about the resolutions to go forward at the National AGM. There were two to vote on, Jane put forward one about loneliness and how it could be tackled, with local WIs playing a part, and Margaret S spoke on the subject of the other resolution, plastic soup. This was an unfamiliar subject for most of us, we had not known that microplastic fibres from synthetic fabrics are shed during washing, and end up in the oceans and thus the food chain. The vote on this one was unanimous.

Next came the AGM, with no changes to the committee, an expression of concern from the Treasurer about the reduced membership impacting on the finances, and a report from the Secretary detailing the interesting and varied activities of Wedmore WI and individual members. The outing to Bristol Blue Glass and Berkeley Castle, visits to Denman College, making puppets and beany hats, our 65th birthday lunch at the White Horse in Mark, skittle competition, walk for ACWW and a quiz were among them, as well as the interesting and varied speakers we have heard through the year. Carol gave a vote of thanks to the committee.

After the AGM we could relax, as Sue was introduced to show us some of the cards she had made during a visit to Denman College. We then had the opportunity to make our own card, Sue having prepared kits for all of us, with a bird template,



card, and envelope, and after much cutting, glueing and choosing decorations, we all made pretty cards to take home. Chris gave a vote of thanks to Sue, for what had been a very enjoyable session, and then we discovered that Mary had brought a cake that hadn't been eaten over her birthday, so instead of biscuits we feasted on chocolate cake. Margaret S won the competition, for a photo of a bird. In July, we will learn about Roman Life from John Smith, and the competition is for an old coin.

Guests and visitors are always welcome.

Chris Barker

Wedmore in Bloom

By now the many tubs and planters around the village will be in full bloom. Our group of volunteers planted them up on 20 May – a week or two earlier this year, but it depends when Sweetacre Nursery tell us the plants are ready for collection.



We planted 864 plants which cost us almost £900, plus extra for grasses, standard fuchsias, compost and feed. So you can see how grateful we are for the generous donations we receive from traders, organisations (e.g. Wedmore News, Real Ale Festival) and individuals.

We've used some different plants this year as an experiment– euphorbia, salvias and zinnias at the Chemist. Begonias at the New Inn, nemesias at Compton House and grasses with verbena at the church entrance.

Our next Work Party is on Saturday 8 July, 9.30am at the George. Come and join us.

Andrea West

Report of the Isle of Wedmore Society Meeting – May 2017

Stephen Moss, the local award winning naturalist, came to a packed Masonic Hall to give us a talk entitled 'People, Places and Wildlife'.

Stephen, who lived in London for most of his life and worked for the BBC for 29 years, then moved to Somerset about 11 years ago and it became quite obvious that he is passionate about and speaks fondly of nature and wildlife in the country being very important.

The first book he wrote is called 'This Birding Life' and he told us about jackdaws and swifts, the decline in numbers of cuckoos and barn owls and the increase in other birds such as buzzards.

The cause of the decline is not farmers but farming and the increased pressure they are under to make a profit by increasing yields by the use of insecticides. But all is not bad news and there has been a wonderful example on the Marlborough Downs of farmers getting together to successfully bring back wildlife to a particular area.

There are new birds appearing in our area such as egrets and bitterns and he encouraged us to get out and about on the Somerset levels and Avalon Marshes.

Stephen bought along and read from some of his books including This Birding Life, 'A Sky Full of Starlings' and 'Planet Earth'.

The Society was extremely grateful that Stephen was able to come to Wedmore following busy trips abroad to give us an insight into his world of wildlife.

Chris Edwards

Mendip Rotarians Forge New International Links



A group of eight Rotarians from the Mendip Club recently made a friendship visit to Rotarians in Hungary. During their four-day visit they attended meetings at two clubs in Budapest, and at one of these, they met another visiting Rotarian from Texas. Included in the trip was a visit to the town of Szentendre.

Phil Hunt, Mendip's President, said, 'We try to make an international visit every year, reflecting the common interest of peace and goodwill shared by Rotarians around the world. Some very strong friendships have been formed over the years, and these occasionally lead to opportunities to fund-raise and sponsor joint projects in communities in developing countries. The Rotary Club of Mendip is currently engaged in raising money for a project in Uganda.'

Anyone wishing to find out more about Rotary in the Cheddar Valley, should visit the Mendip Club's web or Facebook page.

John Mander

IT for the Terrified

I.T. for the Terrified – for all your computer training needs. A skill-sharing, informal, community project. Run by a Committee – Staffed by Volunteers.

I.T. for the Terrified is now using Cheddar Village Hall for our computer training sessions, with an ethos of friendly, informal, relaxed and individual help to use your computer, tablet or smartphone. We can

cover Windows, Macs, android phones, android tablets and iPads. If you need the use of one of our machines, please let us know as this can be arranged.

Anyone of any age or ability can learn how to order prescriptions or library books, do your shopping, share photos, email or chat to friends and family online, etc.

Our opening hours are flexible, because we have different trainers with different skills on different levels on different days, and need to work round when the hall is available, but we will arrange an appointment to suit both parties as quickly as we can.

Appointments are essential and cost £20 for a two-hour session.

Contact us at I.T. for the Terrified: 741751 (usually goes to answerphone)

www.itfortheterrified.co.uk itfortheterrified@btconnect.com

Using Cheddar Village Hall, Church Street, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3RF

(next to Cheddar Church). Registered Charity No. 1130308: Company No. 06779600



Walk Programme – West Mendip Walkers



Thursday 6 July

Moderate circular walk of 13.3 miles from Parracombe Village car park. OS Map ExOL9 SS671451. Start 10.00 am. Contact Carol Jackson Tel: 733568/07979 354530 or Caj7599@btinternet.com

Thursday 13 July

Leisurely circular walk of 6.0 miles from Ditcheat. OS Map Ex142 ST626364. Start 1.30 pm. Park on roadside near church. Contact Tony Strange Tel: 733783/07976 902706 or anthonyestrangle@gmail.com

Thursday 20 July

Strenuous circular walk of 10.9 miles from Easton. OS Map Ex141 ST514476. Start 10.00 am. Park on roadside near church. Contact Tony Strange Tel: 733783/07976 902706 or anthonyestrangle@gmail.com

Thursday 27 July

Moderate circular walk of 5.6 miles from Ebbor Gorge. OS Map Ex141 ST520484. Start 1.30 pm. Park NT car park. Contact Jill Ollis Tel: 713068/ 07709 767907 or jill.m.ollis@gmail.com

Tony Strange

Wedmore Theatre July Report

July is a huge month for Wedmore Theatre!

First, we shall be holding open auditions for our Great Big Village Pantomime (for its actual name, look out for next month's report!), from 5pm to 7.30 pm in Wedmore Village Hall on Sunday 23 July.

Everyone in the village is warmly invited to join in with the fun! Our last pantomime – 'The Scottish Panto', based on the story of 'Macbeth' – had a cast of 25, with a total of 65 people helping backstage. The one before that – 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs' – had a cast of 34 and a backstage team of 44, with the age range of the entire ensemble going from 8 years old to 80. So, we are once again going to need a lot of people of all shapes, sizes and talents.

The panto will be performed four times in the Village Hall between Thursday 30 November and Saturday 2 December. Rehearsals begin in September. If you're interested to find out more, come along to the meeting on 23 July and see if you'd like to get involved – either onstage or backstage. The show is open to everyone, young and old. You do not need to have any previous experience. Neither do you need to be a member of Wedmore Theatre. And refreshments will be served!

For more information about the 2017 Wedmore Village Panto, visit www.wedmoretheatre.com.

Next, as Wedmore's oldest arts organisation, it's appropriate that we should play a full role in Wedmore Arts Festival. We shall be celebrating our fortieth anniversary with our first ever major exhibition of work: 'Wedmore Theatre – 40 Years of Community Theatre'. This fascinating and fun display of artefacts and interactive exhibits will be in Wedmore Village Hall from Monday 10 to Wednesday 12 July, open between 12.00



noon and 6.00 pm daily. Visitors can view video clips and photomontages of some of our best-loved productions, and see iconic props and costumes of recent years – including the specially designed frock Alan Philps wore in his role as Lady Bracknell in ‘The Importance of Being Earnest’. There is also a working model of the Village Hall stage, complete with lights which visitors can programme ‘hands-on’ to achieve a variety of live effects. Entrance is free.

Also, Wedmore Theatre is sponsoring two of the best shows of the Arts Festival. On Sunday 9 July there is a rare opportunity to attend a concert in St Mary’s by one of Bristol’s premier orchestras: The Brunel Sinfonia. As well as pieces by Haydn and Beethoven, the concert will include a virtuoso performance of a Mozart sinfonia concertante for violin and viola, featuring solo performances by two of this country’s brightest young string players. And on Friday 14 July, one of Britain’s funniest and best-loved stand-up comedians, Simon Evans, will be performing in the Village Hall. The Guardian described his latest DVD as ‘sizzingly entertaining...devastatingly funny gags’. Tickets for both shows are available from www.wedmoreartsfestival.co.uk

And, finally, on 17 July, representatives of Wedmore Theatre will attend a dinner as guests of Wells Rotary, at which we shall present them with a cheque for £450 from the proceeds of our May sell-out run of Alan Bennett’s ‘Talking Heads’, to support their work with local adult mental health charity Heads Up Somerset (www.headsupsomerset.org).

For details of all of the above, visit www.wedmoretheatre.com

Weather Report for May 2017

	RAINFALL	Monthly total	85.6mm	(3.37ins)
		30-year average	52.9mm	(2.08ins)
		Wettest day (29th)	17.2mm	(0.68ins)
		No of dry days	20	
		Last 3 months (Mar - May)	151mm	(5.95ins)
		*Year ending 31 May 17	689mm	(27.11ins)
		30-year annual average	796mm	(31.3ins)
	TEMPERATURES	Maximum (26 th)	25.5 °C	(77.9 °F)
		Minimum (10 th)	1.0 °C	(33.8 °F)
		Number of air frosts	Nil	
		Monthly average maximum	18.2 °C	(64.8 °F)
		30-year average maximum	17.7 °C	(63.9 °F)
		Monthly average minimum	8 °C	(46.4 °F)
	30-year average minimum	7.4 °C	(45.3 °F)	

COMMENTS

Rainfall, heavy at times, totalling 62% above long term average. Temperatures slightly warmer than usual.

Denley Brown

Vera's Verse for July

Garden Friends

Daily on a warm day I sit on Simon's well
To enjoy the garden and enjoy the roses' smell.

The butterfly and the bee

Are my favourite company

Tortoiseshell and Painted Lady

Come to visit daily.

They settle on my puzzle book

Just to have a look.

Red Admiral and Peacock butterfly

Are very pleasing to my eye.

Enormous beautiful bumblebees

Find the nearest herb to please.

Lucky me!

Vera Banwell

Forthcoming Events

The Annual Wedmore Street Fair – Saturday 1 July

The Pirates are coming to the village to help celebrate Wedmore Street Fair this year. As everyone knows, Wedmore has a long and illustrious pirating heritage ever since Captain Jack Black-Wedmore sailed off from the Lerburne jetty in 1717. The 'Scourge of the Levels' he was called; no keg of cider, cow or chicken was safe from his marauding ways on the Rivers Axe and Brue. Many say it was thanks to Captain Jack that all pirates to this day have an outrageous Somerset accent. Apparently on quiet misty evenings on the moor if you carry a bottle of rum scrumpy and listen really carefully you can hear a distant Somerset river shanty.

Help celebrate this 300-year anniversary at what will be another amazing village event; over 70 stalls, kid zone, craft section, plank walking, the fair has it all. As always, best to come early, walk if you can or please follow the parking marshals and signs to the parking field.

Steve Mewes

Wedmore Harvest Home Lunch Ticket Sales – Saturday 1 July

Tickets for this year's lunch will be available at the Wedmore Street Fair on 1 July and collectors will be calling to every house in the village leading up to the Harvest Home on 18 August. Ticket prices are £18, which includes three courses, beer, farmhouse cider and soft drinks - great value! If you wish to reserve seats for eight or more people, please ring Arthur on 713063 for more information.

Arthur Gadd

Greenpeace Stall at Wedmore Street Fair – Saturday 1 July



Jean and Liz would be pleased to receive any good condition bric-a-brac or books that you may like to donate for our stall at the Street Fair this year, towards raising funds for the work of Greenpeace.

Please 'phone Jean Winter on 710322 if you have any items to donate or bring them along on the day (early if possible please!)

We look forward to meeting you all again this year and let's hope for perfect weather!

Liz Merryfield and Jean Winter

Wedmore Methodist Church – Sunday 2 July

Wedmore Methodist Church is celebrating the 200th anniversary of the building of the chapel in Sand Road.

In 1795 a chapel was built and granted a licence 'for the worship of God by a congregation of dissenters of the Methodist Denomination'. Services had previously been held in houses. This chapel stood where the village hall is today. By 1801 there were over 300 members, so money was raised to build our present church on land given to them on the Sand Road. It opened in 1817.

This year we are holding several events to mark this 'special' occasion. An Anniversary Service is being held on Sunday 2 July at 3pm. The preacher will be the Revd. Jonathan Pye, Chairman of the Bristol District. A tea will follow the service. Please come along and help us celebrate this special occasion.

Wedmore Junior Football Club, Signing On Evening – Sunday 2 July

At the Rec. There will be a bar, refreshments, BBQ and games. The Club caters for boys and girls aged 6-16, so to secure your place come along between 5.00 pm and 7.00 pm.

Green Wedmore – Monday 3 July

At The George at 8.00pm.

Theale Flower Arranging Masterclass – Monday 3 July

We want your flower arrangements for this year's Theale Flower Show, so the church blooms! Valerie Kennedy will be leading a Masterclass to help you prepare your entries for two classes at this year's Theale Flower Show on 2 September. Her Masterclass will be on Monday 3 July at 10.45am at Theale Village Hall. For a charge of £6.00 per person, we will provide the essential equipment and greenery to make your own

arrangements, and coffee and cake. Please bring your own flowers. Come and learn how it's done by an expert!

To book your place for this event contact Cathy Butterworth, Show Secretary, by email on cb@theconsultant.org or Sheila Badman by phone on 712414.

Wedmore Arts Festival 6 – 15 July

Date	Event	Venue	Time
6 – 8 Jul	Wedmore Opera - <i>Pirates of Penzance</i>	Village Hall	7.30pm
7 Jul	An Artist's War: <i>talk by Phillipa Shaw</i>	The Swan Inn	5pm
8 Jul	Sparkling Summer Concert – <i>Maria Vassiliou and Nigel Foster</i>	St Mary's Church	4.45pm
9 Jul	Brunel Sinfonia Orchestra – <i>Rehearsal free to Young Musicians 13 – 18</i>	St Mary's Church	7.30pm
10 Jul	Richard Lennox Lunchtime Concert	St Mary's Church	12noon
11 Jul	James Kealey Lunchtime Organ Recital	St Mary's Church	12noon
11 Jul	Edward Leakers Blaze Ensemble – <i>Saxophone and Strings</i>	St Mary's Church	7.30pm
12 Jul	Admiral Lord West of Spithead – <i>My time in the Navy and where it is today</i>	The Swan Inn	12noon
12 Jul	Jeremy de Quidt - <i>Magic Realism</i>	Wedmore Village Hall	7pm
13 Jul	Dr Alexandra Rotas – <i>Growing Old Competitively</i>	The Swan	12noon
13 Jul	The Magnetic Diaries – <i>a poetry play by Sarah James</i>	Wedmore Village Hall	7.30pm
14 Jul	Simon Evans – <i>an evening of stand-up Comedy</i>	Wedmore Village Hall	7.30pm
15 Jul	Peter Wright – <i>How you pay for the fake news that got Trump elected</i>	The Swan	12noon
15 Jul	The Somerset Levellers – <i>Ceilidh</i>	Wedmore Village Hall	8pm

Free Entry to Exhibitions (*opening times on website*)

Landscapes by Jane Percival ARCA <i>a private collection</i>	Barn, Lerburne House
Wedmore Theatre – <i>40 Years of Community Theatre</i>	Wedmore VH
Turnip Prize – <i>A Retrospective</i>	Wedmore VH
Jan Tomes – <i>Potter made in Mudgley</i>	Wedmore VH
Local Artists – <i>A selection of recent work</i>	St Mary's Church

Tickets available from the Village Store plus:

Wedmoreartsfestival.co.uk / 01934 807229

WO tickets: wedmoreopera.com / 01934 743593

Golf Competition at Wedmore Golf Club – Saturday 8 July

In aid of Wedmore Playing Fields and Junior Football Club and a small donation to the Wedmore Farmers Preserving Club. Teams of four, 18 holes, £25 per player (£100 per team). A meal afterwards is included. Come and join us for a great day of golf! To take part and register your team please contact Peter Bird 07973 931675 peterbird@thedrurypartnership.com.



Wedmore in Bloom Working Party – Saturday 8 July

Meet at 9.30am at The George. Bring trowels, dustpan and brushes. All welcome.

Wedmore Farmers' Market – Saturday 8 July

At the Borough Mews. There will be a range of produce - vegetables, cheese, bread, honey, etc, and it is also intended to have some craft stalls. Any potential stallholders wishing to participate are cordially invited to contact Mrs Judith Gould on 743432.

Blackford Village Hall Café – Wednesday 12 July

In the Blackford Village Hall, 2.00pm – 4.00pm.

Club 50 – Programme for 2017

Date	Event	Venue / Destination
19 Jul	Tea Party	Heather Banwell's Garden (Members Only)
20 Sept	Tour	Torquay
18 Oct	Tour	Dunster, Lynton, Lynmouth and Simonsbath
15 Nov	Meeting	Masonic Hall - Speaker tbd
20 Dec	Christmas Lunch	Masonic Hall

Pauline Lund, 732517

Tai Chi For Health and Vitality – Wednesday 19 July

Classes running in the village hall every Wednesday 12.15pm to 1.15pm. Starts 19 July 2017 and continues through the summer. Suitable for any age or ability. All welcome from beginners up. Pay as you go. No need to book. Just £5 per session attended.

Have fun - keep fit. For more information www.taichi24.co.uk Contact John Beasley 01749672482

Wedmore WI Meeting – Thursday 20 July

At 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall. We have John Smith coming to tell us about Roman Life, and the competition is for an old coin. We always welcome guests and visitors, and finish our meetings with a cup of tea or coffee.

Theale Flower Show – Make a pot with Jan Tomes – Saturday 22 July

This is one for the children! If you are between the ages of 3 and 16, get ahead with an entry at this year's Theale Flower Show. Come and



make a pot with our local potter, Jan Tomes, on Saturday 22 July at Theale Village Hall at 2.00pm. Jan will guide you on how to make your clay pot. When it is dry you can decorate it in your own time according to your choice, ready to enter the Show in September. To book your place for this fun event contact Cathy Butterworth, Show Secretary, by phone on 01934 712775 or email cb@theconsultant.org Children, remember to bring your grown-ups, eg parents or grandparents! And don't forget to bring an apron or wear play clothes.

A charge of £3.00 per child will be made to cover the cost of materials but accompanying adults get free tea and biscuits!

We are extremely grateful to Jan Tomes for supporting Theale Flower Show with this event.

Wedmore Theatre Open Auditions for the Autumn Pantomime – 23 July



Open auditions for our Great Big Village Pantomime (performances in late November) from 5.00 pm to 7.30 pm in Wedmore Village Hall on Sunday 23 July. Open to villagers of all ages, whether interested in performing or helping backstage. We shall simply be reading through the script, so no pressure – and refreshments will be served.

www.wedmoretheatre.com

Wedmore Gardening Club – Tuesday 25 July

A talk by Don Everitt: 'Autumn - the Forgotten Season' at 7.30 pm in the Masonic Hall.

Flower Festival Wedmore Methodist Church – 28 and 29 July

The theme for this year's Flower Festival is '200 years of History' to coincide with the Bicentenary Celebration of Wedmore Methodist Church. The Festival will run over two days, Friday and Saturday 28 and 29 July from 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm. There is no charge to the Flower Festival but donations can be given for the upkeep of the church. There will also be arts and crafts stalls in the schoolroom.

Coffee and cakes will be served in the morning, soup and roll at lunch time and cream teas in the afternoon. Everyone welcome and we look forward to seeing you at this yearly event.



Blackford Harvest Home – Saturday 5 August

At Parsons Close Farm, Blackford. Tickets are £8 for children and £16 for adults. To get tickets call Steve on 01934 440015

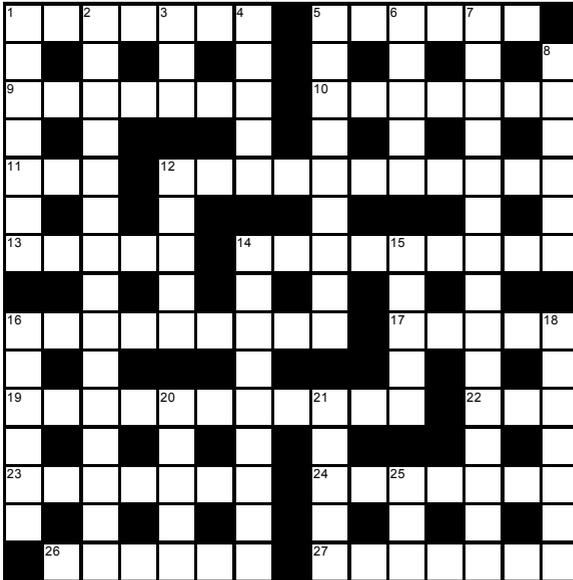


Wedmore Harvest Home – Car Treasure Hunt Sunday 30 August

Come and join us for a family fun fundraiser! Sunday 13 August, Wedmore Harvest Home are going to be holding a car treasure hunt and BBQ! Only £5 per car! Look forward to seeing you all there!

The Crossword:

Number 3



ACROSS:

- 1. Paciest novel is sterile (7)
- 5. Tom's friend was a Finn (6)
- 9. Country supplies frozen food
- 10. Seperate split (7)
- 11. Consume (3)
- 12. To cap hearts could lead to a tragedy (11)
- 13. A way of believing in one (5)
- 14. Colourless meeting place for civil servants (9)
- 16. Underwrite a donation (9)
- 17. Quickly get out of a saloon from the east (5)
- 19. Liz Taylor angled daily for this part (7,4)
- 22. Wise we hear (3)
- 23. A hawk warden may feel uncomfortable indoors (7)
- 24. Pain in the auditory receptor (7)
- 26. Resolute cunning about support (6)
- 27. Has a go? (7)

DOWN:

- 1. Liquorice as a need, is added (7)
- 2. Dynamic, overnight cover (8,7)
- 3. Side, a thousand short for rosie (3)
- 4. Trainee acted strangely (5)
- 5. Indirect passing remark (9)
- 6. Irresolute gesticulator (5)
- 7. Continental municipal authority (8,7)
- 8. Church before kosher breakfast (6)
- 12. Funny firm meets tailless rodents (5)
- 14. Rather than spin, mangles the wagon (6,3)
- 15. Annually loses unknown before time (5)
- 16. A fruit's husband rules (6)
- 18. Put on openers for workhorses (7)
- 20. Picture of game I played (5)
- 21. A nice salesman (5)
- 25. Back my fabulous bird (3)

Events Taking Place Outside the Parish

Concert by Cheddar Male Choir, Burnham Coastline Singers and the U3A Ukulele Band – Saturday 1 July

To raise funds for Burnham RNLI Lifeboats. Cheddar Male Choir, Burnham Coastline Singers and the U3A Ukulele band will be performing at the Princess

Theatre, Burnham on Sea on Saturday 1 July. . Doors Open at 7pm for a 7:30pm start. Tickets are available from Burnham's Lifeboat Shop or the Princess Theatre and Arts Centre at £10 each. This will be a great concert with many popular songs and music. You will thoroughly enjoy the entertainment as there's something for everyone. We look forward to seeing you there.

Somerset Wildlife Trust National Meadows Day – Saturday 1 July

Guided Walk

Join Somerset Wildlife Trust's Magnificent Meadows team from 10 am to 12 noon for a guided walk through the meadows at Chancellors Farm. They'll be on hand to describe the wildflowers, bumblebees and butterflies that we see in the beautiful meadows at the farm, which is not usually open to the public. Meet at Chancellors Farm, Cheddar, BA5 3DD, ST525526. For more information and to book contact events@somersetwildlife.org.uk. Free event, donations welcome.



Arty Afternoon

Join the Magnificent Meadows team and a watercolour tutor for an arty afternoon from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm. Bring your sketchbook or paints and see if you can capture the flowers, colours, wildlife and breathtaking views across the meadows. Meet at Chancellors Farm, Cheddar, BA5 3DD, ST525526. For more information and to book contact events@somersetwildlife.org.uk. Free event, donations welcome.

Dragonfly Day at Catcott – Saturday 8 July

Come and meet the dragonflies that call Catcott Nature Reserve home, including a guided walk and pond dipping for the kids. Find out what makes these aerial invertebrates masters of the sky. Meet at 10.30 am Catcott Nature Reserve, West Drove, Near Burtle, (also close to Catcott), TA7 8NQ, ST400415. For more information please contact email poldenbruss@outlook.com or 01278 722734. Cost Adults £2.50, under 16s Free.

Axbridge Archaeological & Local History Society, Visit To Banwell Bone Cave – Sunday 9 July



At 2.00pm, cost £7.00 for a guided tour introduced by a short film. Visit the Bone Cave with its Ice Age bones, walk through the woods, see the 19th century follies and ascend Banwell Tower. Meet at 'The Caves' on the West end of Banwell Hill. Take Well Lane off the A371 at Knightcott, follow the lane to 'The Caves' at the top of the hill. NGR 382588.

There is a separate charge of £5.00 for tea and cake at the end of the day if required. Numbers limited so booking is essential. Please contact Liz Friend (Hon. Secretary) 01934 712971 or email; friend.elizabeth@gmail.com. BEFORE Sunday 2nd July.

Please pay tour charge and tea money to Liz on arrival.

West Mendip Orchestra Concert, Sidcot – Friday 14 July

Following our recent sell-out concert with our young violin soloist in May, West Mendip Orchestra would like to welcome you to the final concert of the season.

It is on Friday 14 July, 7.45pm at The Friends Meeting House, Sidcot, BS25 1LT and we shall be playing:

- Rossini: Barber of Seville Overture
- Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake Suite
- Beethoven: Symphony No 5

Tickets (available at the door) are £10. (£8 concession, £2 children)

Music on the Green, Brent Knoll Village Green – Saturday 15 July

We are thrilled to welcome as this year's performers 'Lipinski Band': they thoroughly entertained the village at last year's Harvest Supper, with a wide repertoire of music from across the years. Starts at 7.30 pm.

Tickets are just £10 each, with entrance for accompanied children under 14 free, available from Brent Knoll Village Shop or 01278 760308 or 760986. Bar, BBQ and Raffle available.

Tea and Craft at the Cheddar Church House – Saturday 22 July

Cheddar Flower Power presents Tea and Craft at the Cheddar Church House Village Hall, 2.00pm – 4.30pm. Entry 50p, tea and cake £2.00. Refreshments, stalls, raffle. All proceeds to the Cheddar Village Hall.



North Somerset Decorative and Fine Arts Society – Wednesday 6 September

Lectures are held at the 37 Club, between Woolavington and Puriton, on the first Wednesday of the month. Meetings are at 2.15 pm. in the winter and 7.00 pm from May to September. Our next lecture is 6 September, 7.00pm – Christopher Chanter 'Dr Susan Weber Furniture Gallery at the V&A'

Weston Hospicecare – June to September

The Hospice has opened its 2017 calendar of events, which offer participants an opportunity to have fun whilst raising much-needed funds for the hospice.

The remaining main events include:

- The brand new Bubble Rush (which will take place on 5 August)
- The Midnight Beach Walk (which will take place on 30 September).

For further information about our work or about other ways you can support us, visit www.westonhospicecare.org.uk.

Tasty Morsels – Recipes for You

We're hoping that by now Somerset is having hot and sunny weather with those long balmy evenings that are so good for BBQs – we can but hope! Our recipe this month is a tasty one using monkfish. You might not want to use it when you've invited the whole street around for a BBQ as monkfish tends to be quite pricey but because it is such a meaty fish it is ideal for putting on a skewer over the Barbie. So when it's just two or four of you, try this recipe, we think you'll enjoy it.

Curried Monkfish With Prawns En Brochette

Ingredients *(for 4 servings)*

500g monkfish (boned and skinned)

8 jumbo prawns

4 tbsps vegetable oil

1 tbslp lemon juice

2 tbslp curry paste

1 green pepper

1 red pepper

1 large onion

Bay leaves



Method

1. Cut monkfish into 2.5cm cubes and place in a shallow, non-metal bowl with the prawns
2. Mix vegetable oil, lemon juice and curry paste together and add to monkfish and prawns, making sure they are well coated. Leave to marinate for at least two hours
3. Meanwhile, remove the core and seeds from the peppers and cut the flesh into 2.5cm squares. Peel the onion and separate the layers and cut into 1.5cm squares.
4. Bring a saucepan of water to the boil, add the peppers and onion squares and cook for just three minutes, then drain and immediately refresh under cold water. Drain well
5. Skewer the pieces of fish, and prawns interspersing with the bay leaves, onion and pieces of pepper. Brush with any remaining marinade and cook over hot coals for 10 – 15 minutes, turning frequently until golden brown.
6. Serve with warm naan breads or poppadoms, and a cold lager

Norma Teakle and Derek Logan

The Garden in July

At last, after a dry spring with some cool nights and warm days, we seem to be getting the sort of weather we should have at this time of year (2 June).



By the time you read this, it should be high summer, a very rewarding time for the gardener, but also very busy. With warm weather, pests and diseases can multiply rapidly, especially greenfly and blackfly. At one time we would simply have said ‘spray them with an insecticide’ but safe products available to amateur gardeners are few and far between these days, also many people are reluctant to use those that are. If you can build up a great diversity of planting in your garden, you can attract beneficial insects and other wildlife and this can help to maintain a healthy balance between pests and predators, but you may have to accept that a number of pests will not be totally controlled. It would not be in the interest of a naturally occurring predator to wipe out its prey species. With diseases, it is a different matter and all you can do is try to maintain conditions that are conducive to healthy growth and perhaps grow resistant varieties of crops wherever possible, but you will always be at the mercy of prevailing conditions. Diseases can also mutate rapidly and a fungicide that controls them this year may encounter resistance next; this is why the ingredients of products like ‘Rose-clear’ change frequently.

Hedges and lawns may now need regular cutting. As the day length starts to shorten, grasses will tend to send up seed heads rather than produce so much leaf, but will still need cutting to keep them tidy; be careful with hedges that you are not cutting into growth where birds may still be nesting.

There will also be lots of weeding and hopefully, watering to do. With the exception of lilies and gladioli, most bulbous plants will have finished flowering by now and if you wish, those that require summer baking, like tulips, can be lifted and dried off, but you can simulate the warm dry conditions most of them like by placing a piece of glass or a cloche over them if there is room and it’s not too unsightly. Agapanthus which are often sold as bulbs, but aren’t, should be coming into flower now from mid-July onwards; remember to feed them with a tomato or rose fertilizer as this will not only give you better flowers now, but enable them to initiate good flower buds for next year.

In the greenhouse, if you are growing cucumbers, shade them from hot sun and if you grow melons, support them with nests or suchlike, as they will bulk up rapidly from now on. Tomatoes, which in recent years have suffered from potato blight, can be sprayed to prevent it and even organic growers are permitted to do this (with Bordeaux mixture), but I am told that this may be taken off the market; whether you do this or not remember to regularly remove side shoots from those varieties that require it; try to avoid skinning the sides of the main stem as you do it, as this can encourage infection by botrytis (grey mould) if there is dull warm weather; also remove the cut off shoots from the greenhouse for the same reason.

Rapid growth of plants under glass means they require watering and feeding regularly; this applies to all greenhouse plants, but tomatoes particularly, as they are susceptible to “blossom end rot”, which appears as sunken brown patches on the end of the fruit furthest from the flower stalk and is caused by calcium deficiency,

in turn, caused by lack of water, even if only for a short time. Our Mendip tap water contains more than enough calcium to solve the problem, provided you do not allow the plants to wilt.

White fly, often imported on bought-in plants, can rapidly build up under glass and you can catch them on sticky yellow strips rather like a fly-paper, which you can buy, or a predator which eats them and can be bought in garden centres or from specialist suppliers on the internet. Other predators are available to deal with spider-mites. (Plenty of information on predators is available on the RHS website.)

If you grow runner beans, they require copious watering and also light spraying of the flowers occasionally, with the hose to help pollination. If you are on acid soil, the addition of lime along the base of the row can also aid fruit set.

Well, as usual I have run out of space. By the next time I write we shall be starting to think of harvest time and early autumn flower shows, but let's not wish the summer away, it has hardly started yet!

Adrian Hutchinson

Sport Reports

Wedmore Tennis Club News



Junior News



Georgina Sweet

Georgina Sweet, one of Wedmore Tennis Club's rising stars, recently gained her first selection for Somerset under 10 county squad. Georgina represented the county in a prestigious County Cup competition at Ivybridge Devon. Competitors from Avon, Somerset, Dorset, Devon and Cornwall were competing v South Devon and the team also included Charlie Beeson from Wedmore. They acquitted themselves well, beating Cornwall and then narrowly losing to Devon.

All the Somerset girls played well and thoroughly enjoyed the day and the experience. Well done to Georgina and congratulations from Craig Phillips and the Wedmore Tennis Club.

League News

Wedmore A team scraped a win vs Clevedon A. The match was very close with many games going to deuce. Wedmore eventually won on games. Wedmore D played Lymsham B; there were some great games but Wedmore won overall 10-1 followed by a celebration with gin and tonic.

Joanna Cooper

Isle of Wedmore Bowls Club

The club held a family open day on a Sunday morning early in May. Visitors of all ages were able to try bowling with coaches on hand to help. Refreshments were also provided.



Family open day (photos courtesy of Steve Wilkinson)

This season Wedmore men have entered three teams in the County League. The A team will play in Premier Division 2, the B in Northern Division 2 and a new C team in Northern Division 3. The A team got off to a very good start winning their first match at home to Bridgwater A by 74 shots to 41. All three rinks had a comfortable win with T Brown, I Gallop, R Newell & R Hughes scoring 29-14.

The second match, away to Williton, was tighter with Wedmore winning two of the three rinks and taking the game 58-50. D Collins, C Moss, R Barron & D Nicholls

started slowly and were 7-13 down after 12 ends but they went on to win 8 of the remaining 9 ends to finish 23-14.

Wedmore B played their first match at home to Nailsea B. After 18 ends the scores were tied then Nailsea eased ahead taking 8 shots to Wedmore's 3 in the last three ends. Wedmore won one rink from three but lost the match by 54-57. Winning rink: V Matthews, P Tinknell J Runciman & D Stansfield, 20-18. In their second match, at home against Wrington, Wedmore B won two rinks and tied the third resulting in a comfortable win by 68-44. Top rink: V Matthews, T Bullock, C Panchaud & K Burt, 23-16.

The new league team, Wedmore C, played their first match away against Portishead B. In a close game, M Batchelor, D Skelton, B Back and T Simpson took the lead 10-8 at the ninth end and kept in front to win 23-19. Wedmore lost on the other two rinks leaving Portishead to win the match 44-66. In their second match Wedmore C were at home to Yatton B. D Luke, T Collingwood, D Barnett and B Cottrell were tied 9-9 after 10 ends but won 7 of the remaining 11 to win the game 20-15. J White's rink were 16-8 up after 19 ends but dropped 5 shots on the twentieth end and finished 17-13. Despite winning two rinks from three, Wedmore lost the match 49-51.

Last season in the Clevedon & District over 60s league, Wedmore men were undefeated in all league games and in two cup competitions. They started their defence of the league title away at Nailsea but never came to terms with a heavy, difficult green and won just two rinks from six, losing the match 102-122.

Winning rinks: J White, D Collins & C Moss, 21-14. R Bull, D Trow and R Hughes, 21-19. In their second match the men performed much better at home against Clevedon Prom, winning four rinks from six to take the game by 113-85. J Runciman, I Gallop and K Pettit had the best shot difference, winning 14 ends from 18 and finishing 29-6. V Matthews, D Collins & C Moss won 23-12 with R Barron's rink winning by 2 shots and D Nicholls by 1 shot. The third game in the C & D league was played away against a very strong Portishead RBL team who had previously played three games without dropping a rink. For Wedmore, D Skelton, D Stansfield and R Barron were always in front and won 24-11. R Bull, K Burt and R Hughes were comfortably up 20-7 after 14 ends but dropped 9 shots in the last 4 ends to win 20-16. The remaining four Wedmore rinks lost with the match score finishing 92-105.

Wedmore also have a team in the Weston & District over 60s league. They struggled last season and were relegated to division 2 but have made a strong start. Their first match was away to Ashcombe Templars, who were short of players and could only field five triples instead of six. Wedmore won two of the five rinks played and also received 2 points and 10 shots from the defaulting Ashcombe triple. R Bull, B Cottrell and K Pettit were 3-11 down after 9 ends but came back strongly winning 6 of the remaining 9 ends and scoring 25 shots. Wedmore's second game in the W&D league was against Ashcombe Knights at home. This resulted in a more conventional win for Wedmore who took four of the six rinks. V Matthews, D

Stansfield and R Hughes won 12 from 18 ends including scoring 6 on the sixteenth end to win by 27-7. C Panchaud's rink also scored a 6 to win by 24-13.

The men's section has also played away at Clarence in the first round of the Top Club which is a national competition played across five separate disciplines. Both singles matches were very close with Wedmore recording two wins:

2 Wood Singles: A Birch, 17-13. 4 Wood Singles: R Hughes, 21-17. In the Triples, D Collins, C Moss and D Nicholls were always in front, winning 12 from 18 ends and taking the game 20-12. The remaining two disciplines were not completed as the match was already won. K Pettit and R Barron were leading 15-13 in the pairs with the fours team trailing 10-25. Wedmore play Portishead RBL in the next round.

The ladies' section are also playing in three different leagues. The Wessex League was the first to start with three matches in May. The first, away at North Petherton, was a close game. Both clubs won one rink with the third being tied. Maureen Hordle, Lynda Deardon, Joan Hunt and Trish Newell were always in front and won 25-13. Gil Harvey's rink played a very close game and scored 2 shots on the last end to tie 16-16. Unfortunately, the third rink never recovered from a very poor start and lost 12-30. Wedmore lost the overall game by 6 shots. In the second match in the Wessex League, Wedmore were at home to Clevedon Prom. Doreen Gallop, Ann-Marie Wilkinson, Pam Beard and Marie Trow won 14 ends from 21 to give them a convincing win 29-8. This was backed up by Gil Harvey's rink winning 24-14. The third rink were unlucky to lose by 1 shot. The final score was a 73-43 win for Wedmore. The winning run continued against Wessex ladies at home. Again Wedmore won two from three rinks taking the match 62-50. Top rink: Barbara Clark, Fiona Duggan Rees, Mo Perry and Trish Newell, 31-7.

Wedmore ladies had more success in their first Mendip League triples match against Victoria Blue. Maureen Hordle, Lynda Deardon and Joan Hunt won 29-17 which included scoring 7 shots at the last end. Julie Collins, Doreen Gallop and Marie Trow made an excellent start being 14-0 up after 7 ends and finished with a 21-11 win. Liz Hamblin's rink managed to score 5 shots in the last two ends to earn a 13-13 tie. The final match score was 63-41 to Wedmore.

The ladies' first match in the Weston & District Triples League, at home to Burnham on Sea, saw a close defeat by 41 shots to 47. Maureen Hordle, Jenny Collingwood and Carole Pettit managed a 12-9 win but the other two rinks lost.

Friendly matches have continued to be played including the first of two games played each season against Mark Moor. Wedmore recorded a big win at home winning five of the rinks played and losing the sixth by just 1 shot. The final match score was 139-82 to Wedmore. Top Rink: Ann Hughes, Audrey Birch, I Gallop and R Barron, 26-7.

If you missed the open day and would like to try bowling, taster sessions are arranged for Sunday mornings on 23 and 30 July

Sandra Moss

Isle of Wedmore Cricket Club

July fixtures are as follows:



Wedmore Cricket Club

1st Team

01-Jul-17	H	Burnham 2
08-Jul-17	A	Temple Cloud 2
15-Jul-17	H	Cheddar 2
22-Jul-17	A	Winscombe 2
29-Jul-17	H	Glastonbury 2

2nd Team

03-Jun-17	A	Cranmore 2
08-Jul-17	H	Lymphsham & Belvedere 2
15-Jul-17	A	Churchill 2
22-Jul-17	H	Purnells 2
29-Jul-17	A	Purnells 2

The Club runs four youth sides from under 9s to under 15s, two senior sides and a mid-week T20 side.

The Club is always looking for new players and welcomes players of all standards or those who just want to have a drink at the bar. We run nets throughout the summer. Please contact us via Facebook if you are interested in playing. Lastly, a 6-aside tournament will be run in July.

Isle of Wedmore Golf Club

May saw the golf season burst into full blossom at Wedmore and the longed for rain came towards the end of the month to take some of the fire out of the course. There was a very good turn-out for the Queen Elizabeth and King Alfred Cups, Medals with players all competing off scratch. Heavy showers kept the course refreshed and pushed scores up. There was a close competition for the places amongst the men with Rich Vowles taking sixth on 79, one behind John Russell , in turn one behind a group of three players on 77. Countback gave fourth place to Daryl Cornelius with Ben Barwell in third and Stuart Bishop taking the runners-up spot. There was a very clear winner though with the ever-green Tim Harris winning by 3 shots after an excellent 70. There were nett prizes, with Chris Norris leading the way on 67, 2 better than Lee Parsons who beat Richard Ham on countback.



Catherine Nicholson and Tim Harris receiving the Queen Elizabeth and King Alfred Cups from Jim Gray with Ladies Captain Saybria Sims

There was an even more emphatic winner in the Ladies with Catherine Nicholson going round in 78 to win by a street from Dawn Chadwick on 89 with Cathy Olive third on 93. The nett prize went to Joan Peck who edged out Ange Webber by a single shot.

Whilst this is a fairly serious competition there were some more relaxed events. There was an excellent turn-out for the first event of the month, the Martin Bull Trophy, a Texas

Scramble named after Wedmore's first Captain. The scores were as good as ever with Stuart Bishop, David Bedford, Don Sarjant and Mark Cornish leading the way with a seven under par gross score of 63 giving a nett 57.2. This was 2.4 ahead of Jan Jenkins, Janet and Ian Robson and John Russell who repeated their second place of the previous year. Less than a shot back on nett 60 were third placed Andy Ratcliffe, Paul Dickie, Mike Garbutt and Club Captain Steve Smith.



The prizewinners from the Ladies Open Bowmaker with Professional Tom Hiscock and Ladies' Captain Saybria Sims

The Ladies held a couple of fun competitions, although the Open Bowmaker is perhaps stretching this description, attracting over 100 competitors from across the County. The event generated both good scores and a tight finish. Wedmore players claimed the top four prizes with Jenny Brown, Sue Painter and Ann Dixon taking top spot with 87 points which gave them a 2-point advantage over the next three teams. Countback over the back nine determined the places with Aileen Robertson, Linda Roberts and Marion Warren-Smith just winning out ahead of Rachel Lockley, Jenny Thomas and Eunice Bond in third and Hazel Gough, Louise Allen and Ann Adams taking fourth. Best visitors' team was Juliet Hagley, Elaine Morgan and Lesley Wicking on 80.

The Seniors also held an Open in the same week, this being an individual Stableford with another 100 players taking part. Home members took the majority of the prizes but visitors were well also well represented, in particular Howard Jones from Clevedon who took the Butcombe Trophy for the best overall score with 44 points. His closest pursuer was Frank Denniston who took the over seventies prize with his 42 points. A close finish to division 1 saw three players all on 38 with Chris Norris winning on countback from Michael Harmer (Brecon) and Calvon Poulton-Sadler. Keith Rabbitts scored 39 to win division 2 ahead of William Grey from Filton with Chris Monks third. Local players had a whitewash in division 3 with Alasdair McDonald on 38 winning ahead of Eddie Parlour and Clive Warren-Smith. Peter Galliers from Henbury won the best visitors prize on 38.

The Friendly Bowl, the annual match between Ladies and Seniors, certainly falls into the category of 'fun' although there is always an element of competition. This year the honours went to the Seniors, winning by 486 points to 467. The best score of the day came from one of the ladies pairs, Marion Warren-Smith and Maggie Tolchard scoring 47 points. Keeping it in the family, Clive Warren Smith paired with Roger Harding had the best score for the Seniors, 45 points. The Ladies' own competition

in the same week saw Captain Saybria Sims and Professional Tom Hiscock take on the field. Their 34 points was only beaten by two pairs. Winners were Liz Hill and Annya Patten on 37 with Shirley Gooding and Dawn Chadwick taking second place on 35. Wendy Lucas and Karen Barnett matched the Captain/Professional to take third place on 34.

In the monthly Stableford the best scores were in division 3, won by Bradley Speller with 42 points, 2 better than Evan Newman in second with David Horsley another shot back in third. Sean Gray took the honours in division 1, his 39 being a point better than Dom Channon in second with Richard Macarthur third on 37. Jonathan Raeside was the only player to beat par in division 2, his 37 was two better than runner-up Max Grant with David Poynor taking third place.

Tony Biggs

Church News

'On a Wheel and a Prayer'

On Tuesday 25th July 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.



Confirmation Service

Confirmation is a sacrament in which adults and teenagers affirm the promises on their behalf at their baptisms, promise to follow Jesus, take their places as adult members of the church family and are blessed with the Holy Spirit through the bishop. It is often the moment when people formally come of age in their faith.

This year's confirmation service will be in Wells Cathedral on Saturday 4 November in the afternoon. If you are interested in finding out more, then please let the vicar know and come to a preliminary meeting at The Vicarage on Wednesday 5 July at 7.30 pm. Confirmation classes will begin in September.

Wedmore Tower Bells

Barrie Hendry has been looking after the St Mary's Tower Bells in his capacity as Bell Captain for 27 years. Barrie has recently stood down from that role but continues to be part of the group who ring regularly for Sunday services, weddings and other services. Thank you Barrie for all that you have contributed over that time.

St Mary's Wedmore Bellringers

At our AGM, our Chairman, Rev. Richard Neill, gave a special vote of thanks to Barrie Hendry who has retired as towerkeeper and captain after 27 years' service to the tower. Barrie is a passionate and very experienced bellringer who has contributed much to the tower, including training 27 recruits. Stephen George has taken over as captain.

We are always looking for people to ring with us and to welcome the congregation to church each Sunday. As the present team are getting older, we need some young blood to join us. We ring almost every Sunday at 9.45am for the 10.30am service. Why don't you join us all in the tower one Sunday and come and see what we do? We are a very sociable team and would love to see you.

If you would like to find out more give Steve a ring on 01934712115

Parish Registers

Funerals

Our condolences go to the family and friends of:

Carole Morrison, formerly of Wedmore, who died on 14 April 2017 aged 73, whose funeral took place at St Mary's on 13 May 2017.

Lisa Hounsell of Weston-super-Mare, who died on 10 May 2017 aged 44, whose funeral took place at St Mary's on 25 May 2017.

Stephen Paul Downer, known as Paul, of Wedmore, who died on 16 May 2017 aged 78, whose Memorial Service was held at St Mary's on 19 June 2017.

Weddings

Congratulations to Hugo and Emily (nee Bevan) Lemanski who were married in Allerton Church on Saturday 3 June.

Church Services

St Mary's Church, Wedmore

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

Communion is celebrated most Wednesdays at 9.45 am

Sunday	2	Trinity 3	10.30 am	Parish Communion
			6.30 pm	Movement Youth Worship
Sunday	9	Trinity 4	10.30 am	Parish Communion
			6.00 pm	Start the Week
Saturday	15		3.00 pm	Messy Church
Sunday	16	Trinity 5	8.00 am	BCP Holy Communion
			10.30 am	Family Service
Sunday	23	Trinity 6	10.30 am	Patronal Communion /Mary Magdalene
Sunday	30	Trinity 7	10.30 am	Morning Prayer

Holy Trinity Church

Sunday	2	Trinity 3	9.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	9	Trinity 4	9.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	16	Trinity 5	6.00 pm	Celtic Communion
Sunday	23	Trinity 6	9.00 am	No Service /Mary Magdalene
Sunday	30	Trinity 7	9.00 am	Parish Communion

Christchurch, Theale

Sunday	2	Trinity 3	11.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	9	Trinity 4	11.00 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday	16	Trinity 5	11.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	23	Trinity 6	11.00 am	No Service / Mary Magdalene
Sunday	30	Trinity 7	11.00 am	Come & See

Allerton Church

Sunday	2	Trinity 3	9.00 am	Family Service
Sunday	9	Trinity 4	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday	16	Trinity 5	9.00 am	No Service
Sunday	23	Trinity		/Mary Magdalene
Sunday	30	Trinity 7	9.00 am	Songs of Praise

Revd Richard Neill, Vicar of the Benefice of the Isle of Wedmore, can be contacted on 713566.

Bagley Baptist Church

Every Sunday 10.30am Morning service. (Groups for 3-15s.) Every Wednesday 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.

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 / 713267

Email us on contactus@bagleybaptist.co.uk or

come and see us at www.bagleybaptist.co.uk

Wedmore Methodist Church

Preachers for July (being chased)

Sunda	2	3.00 pm	Revd Jonathan Pye	200th Anniversary Service
Sunday	9	10.30am	Ken Hill	
Sunday	16	10.30 am	Barry Speddings	
Sunday	23	10.30 am	Revd Roly Sims	Holy Communion
Sunday	30	10.30 am	Revd Robert Channon	

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.

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, 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.

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:

Controller Taunton	Angeline Duckett	712631
Controller Bridgwater	Angeline Duckett	712631
Controller Weston super Mare	Thelma Jenkins Jones	710467
Controller Street	Rosy Brooks	713697

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			

c Guaranteed connection

Highlighted section = trip operated by Crosville Motor Services

Crossword 3 Answers

Across 1. Aseptic 5. Sawyer 9. Iceland 10. Divorce 11. Eat 12. Catastrophe 13. Deism 14. Whitehall 16. Subscribe 17. Raced 19. Leading lady 22. Urn 23. Awkward 24. Earache 26. Steely 27. Tackles

Down 1. Aniseed 2. Electric blanket 3. Tea 4. Cadet 5. Sideswipe 6. Waver 7. European council 8. Cereal 12. Comic 14. Wrings dry 15. Early 16. Sultan 18. Donkeys 20. Image 21. Agent 25. Roc

What's On in the Parish

July 2017

1 - Sat	Annual Wedmore Street Fair		Wedmore
2 - Sun	Wedmore Methodist Church Chapel 200th anniversary	3.00pm	Methodist Chapel
3 - Mon	Wedmore Knitting and Quilting Group	9.30am	The Scout Hut
	Theale Flower Arranging Masterclass	10.45am	Theale VH
	Green Wedmore	8.00pm	The George Inn
	Blackford Village Hall Committee Meeting	8.00pm	Blackford VH
4 - Tues	Wedmore Tuesday Club	11.00am	Wedmore VH
	Wedmore Young Farmers	7.30pm	The George Inn
5 - Wed	Camelot Quilters	10.00am	Wedmore VH
6 - Thu	Wedmore Arts Festival 6th -15th July see Forthcoming events		various venues
7 - Fri	Theale Frolics	8.00pm	Theale VH
8 - Sat	Wedmore in Bloom Work Party	9.30am	The George Inn
	Wedmore Farmers' Market	9.30pm	Borough Mews
9 - Sun	Holy Trinity Church Breakfast	8.30am	Holy Trinity Church
10 - Mon	Wedmore Knitting and Quilting Group	9.30am	The Scout Hut
11 - Tues	Wedmore Tuesday Club	11.00am	Wedmore VH
12 - Wed	Probus	10.15am	Golf Club
	Blackford Village Hall Cafe	2 - 4pm	Blackford VH
14 - Fri	Mr Punch's Folk Club - Open Mic	8.00pm	The Panborough Inn
15 - Sat	Theale Community Cafe	10.00am	Theale VH
16 - Sun	Theale Film Club - Sully	6.30pm	Theale VH
17 - Mon	Wedmore Knitting and Quilting Group	9.30am	The Scout Hut
18 - Tues	Wedmore Tuesday Club	11.00am	Wedmore VH
	Wedmore Young Farmers	7.30pm	The George Inn
19 - Wed	Camelot Quilters	10.00am	Wedmore VH
	Parish Council Meeting	7.30pm	Council Rooms Grants Lane
	Club 50 members tea party		Heather Banwell's garden
20 - Thu	IOW WI meeting -guest speaker John Smith on Roman Life	7.30pm	Masonic Hall
21 - Fri	BBC Radio 4 Any Questions programme recording	6.30pm	St Mary's Church
23 - Sun	Open auditions for Wedmore village pantomime	5-7.30pm	Wedmore VH
24 - Mon	Wedmore Knitting and Quilting Group	9.30am	The Scout Hut
25 - Tues	Wedmore Tuesday Club	11.00am	Wedmore VH
	Wedmore Young Farmers	7.30pm	The George Inn
	IOW Gardening Club - a talk by Don Everitt on Autumn	7.30pm	Masonic Hall
26 - Wed	Probus	10.15am	Golf Club
	Wedmore Harvest Home Committee Meeting	8.00pm	The Recreation Social Club
28 - Fri	Limelight Night - Open Mic at the Swan	8.00pm	The Swan
	Mr Punch's Folk Club - Open Mic	8.00pm	The Panborough Inn
	Flower Festival 28th and 29th July	10 - 5pm	Wedmore Methodist Church
31 - Mon	Wedmore Knitting and Quilting Group	9.30am	The Scout Hut

MONDAY				
Fitness2Unique	9.15am	Blackford VH	Rane Lisa	07977 414799 07801 272255
Pilates	11.00am	The George	Georgie	07976 254887
Art Group	2 - 4.00pm	Wedmore VH	Chris Midford	01749 712522
Modern Dance	4.00pm	Blackford VH +	Kaye Morgan Anstee	01278 641194
Beavers	5.30pm	Scout Hut +	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438
Bridge Club	7.00pm	Masonic Hall	Steve Pedrick	01934 712852
Scouts	7.15pm	Scout Hut +	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438

TUESDAY				
Fitness2Unique	9.15am	Blackford VH	Rane / Lisa	As above
Chair Yoga	10.00am	The Swan Inn +	Jo Willis	07552 711101
Tuesday Club	10.30am	Masonic Hall	Sue Freeman	01934 741861
Ballet Classes	4.00pm	Bristol Ballet Centre +	Bristol Ballet Centre ashermann99@hotmail.com	
Acting Up Drama Club	3.45pm	Wedmore VH +	Lou Merryfield	07973 429947
Cubs	6.30pm	Scout Hut +	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438
Circuit Training	7.30pm	Blackford VH	Nigel	07776 82231
Cardiodance	7.30pm	Wedmore First School	Kaye Morgan Anstee	07799 814204

WEDNESDAY				
Fitness2Unique	9.15am	Blackford VH	Rane / Lisa	As above
Rainbows	4.30pm	Wedmore VH +	Gail Millard	01934 713922
Brownies	6.00pm	Wedmore VH +	Lisa Hall	01934 713566
Guides	7.00pm	Wedmore VH +	Elaine Tilling	01934 713650
Yoga	8.00pm	Blackford VH	Sandra Mailey	01934 712686

THURSDAY				
Wedmore & Blackford Toddlers	9.30am	Blackford VH +	Abbe Smith	07753 941341
Yoga	10.30am	Masonic Hall	Shane Allen	01275 790175
Over 50s Dance Group	10.30am	Wedmore VH	Pat Taylor	01934 713430
Yoga	11.30am	Masonic Hall	Shane Allen	01275 790175
Ballet Classes	3.45pm	Bristol Ballet Centre +	Bristol Ballet Centre ashermann99@hotmail.com	
Cubs	6.30pm	Scout Hut +	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438

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

+ Not taking place during school holidays