

# ISLE OF WEDMORE NEWS



June 2016  
No. 438

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# Editorial

Half way through 2016 already and still so much to look forward to.

I was a little ahead of myself in May's editorial, giving expectations of Bristol Old Vic's production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. However, we still have that to look forward to at the beginning of June – and it's not too late to get tickets.

This June sees the Queen's official birthday and the celebrations continue with a Street Party-style lunch, with afternoon tea in Theale for those with space left. Wedmore News brings you a story board of photos from royal celebrations in the village across the years. Thanks to Hazel Hudson for supplying the pictures and accompanying information.

As I write this I have just had the privilege of being one of the 75 who scaled the narrow steps up St Mary's Church Tower, to be rewarded by the fabulous views over Wedmore and surrounding areas, but especially the Saxon Square. Amanda Carver has supplied some roof top photos for those of you who did not manage the ascent. It just makes you realise how much green space we are lucky enough to have around Wedmore and how many lovely gardens there are in Wedmore. Talking of which, June sees Open Gardens in Wedmore and further afield in Stone Allerton, so opportunities to see lovely gardens in more than one setting in the same weekend. All support different charities, so there are winners all round – except our waist lines maybe with all the tea and homemade cakes! Let's hope we are rewarded with weather to match the month.

*Sue James*

## **Deadline for July Edition: 1 June 2016**

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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](http://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

This photo was taken in the Shapwick Moor Nature Reserve by 12 year-old Matthew French from Blackford. Shapwick Moor is home to a wide range of birds and rare breeds of cattle and is one of the many beautiful places to visit in this region.

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# News

## Parish Council Business

The April Council meeting was well attended mainly due to a discussion about the proposal to move the Post Office from its current location to the Village Store. Postmaster Richard Helps and Village Store proprietor Mark Walker both addressed the meeting and a lot of misinformation was clarified, with everyone in agreement that the discussion had been worthwhile and informative. Grants were awarded to Wedmore Arts Festival committee and to the Blackford Play Area committee towards a replacement climbing frame. The Council was informed by County Highways that a proposal to site flashing warning signs near Hugh Sexey Academy at Blackford has been agreed; the project being financially supported by the Parish Council and a private donation.

The Parish Council is concerned to learn that several mature trees growing in the village conservation area adjacent to a well-used footpath were deliberately poisoned and have now had to be felled.

The mature sycamores had been growing alongside the footpath for over 60 years and for someone to deliberately poison them is an act of sheer vandalism, if not illegal.

We hope that those responsible note that residents of this village enjoy the trees and the habitats that they create and support and do not wish to see them destroyed in this way.

Many thanks to those who contributed to the missing speed gun hunt! It has now been located and returned to our safe keeping.

## Footpaths Officer

Karen Dawkins from Theale has stepped down from this important voluntary role and her place has been taken by Polly Costello. If you find any footpaths that are blocked, stiles damaged or posts missing, etc. Polly can be contacted at [wedmorefootpaths756@gmail.com](mailto:wedmorefootpaths756@gmail.com).

*Rod Pring*

*Wedmore Parish Council, Grants Lane, Wedmore, Somerset, BS28 4EA  
Telephone 713087, Email: [wedmoreparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:wedmoreparishcouncil@gmail.com)*

## Bristol Old Vic Theatre School – A Midsummer Night’s Dream

On Friday 3 June, at 7.30pm in Wedmore Village Hall. There are still a few remaining tickets for the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School’s production of ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ brought to you by the Wedmore Theatre Club. This particular play was chosen by the School for its West Country tour as it was considered the most popular. And this event is to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare’s death.



'A Midsummer Night's Dream' was my first Shakespeare play and I shall never forget it even if I was a little too young to understand it all; I was Mustard Seed, a fairy, and my aunt made me a frilly yellow dress with wings!!

Shakespeare put some of his most dazzling dramatic poetry at the service of this teasing, glittering and amazingly inventive play, whose seriousness is only fleetingly glimpsed beneath its dreamlike surface.

The story so far...Hermia loves Lysander and Helena loves Demetrius – but Demetrius is supposed to be marrying Hermia. When the Establishment tries to intervene, the lovers take refuge in the woods and wander into the midst of a dispute between the King and Queen of the Fairies.

Tickets £10 from the Wedmore Village Store and Valerie Godfrey, 713009.

## **I.T. for the Terrified is on the move and needs your help!**

We need to move from our current base in The Old Cowshed in the grounds of Kings of Wessex Academy. We have had a long and successful partnership with Kings of Wessex Academy and have been very grateful for their support in the past. But times change and things move on.



It all began with Angela Vivian's vision of life made easier by using technology. She set up IT4TT in 1999 and brought broadband into Wedmore via satellite before landline access existed.

We have had many volunteers help us with our training, each one giving their own unique perspective on using technology and giving as much or as little time as they are able.

We are a registered charity, and have had well over 2,000 people through the door to learn a huge range of subjects – starting with the original Windows 95, moving through to Windows 10 and onto iPads, tablets, smartphones and Macs. We have helped many people with many aspects of I.T. starting with basics like turning on a new computer and learning how to use a mouse, through to taking and saving photos, doing emailing, surfing and shopping online, tracing family history, using eBay, creating PowerPoint presentations for meetings, creating small, simple websites and keeping contact with relatives abroad, etc.

So in September we will no longer be at The Old Cowshed, but hopefully can arrange alternative accommodation, either at one base or in different locations on different days. However, unless we can find suitable premises at low or nil rent, we will be unable to continue.

Can you help? Do you know of or do you have premises that we can use? It would be with great sadness if we had to stop, as we know how invaluable our customers have found us and how much we will be missed.

If you can help in any way, please ring 741751 or get in touch via email at [itfortheterrified@btconnect.com](mailto:itfortheterrified@btconnect.com), or go through the website, [www.itfortheterrified.co.uk](http://www.itfortheterrified.co.uk) where you can also find out more about us.

## Charity Open Garden in Aid of Childreach International

I am a first year student at Liverpool John Moore's University studying Business Studies. As a part of the Raising and Giving Organisation I have undertaken to raise £3,000 for the charity Childreach International. It is a charity that support the education of children and communities in some of the most deprived parts of the world. Childreach offers sustainable solutions to help a community thrive in countries such as Tanzania, Nepal, India and the United Kingdom.

As a part of the charity fundraising in Liverpool I have been involved in bag packing at supermarkets, selling cakes at events as well as some street collections. However, I wanted to do something in my home village so have been able to persuade my neighbour to let me borrow her wonderful garden with pond and to run an Open Garden with teas and coffees. It will take place at Dragonfly Cottage, 5 Gardiners Orchard, just off the village centre between 10.30am and 4:00pm on Sunday 12 June. Entry will be priced at £5 with tea, coffee and homemade cake! Children are also catered for with free squash and entry. No need to book or pre-order tickets just turn up and enjoy the garden and pond and have tea and cake in the garden in the beautiful sunlight and support a great cause.

All we need is some decent weather!

*Jack Beacom*

## Stone Allerton Open Gardens

Five magical gardens in Stone Allerton will be open for two days this year on Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 June from 2.00 to 5.30pm. These are Badgers' Acre (Lucy Hetherington and Jim Mathers), Greenfield House (Vivien Bull), Myrtle Cottage (Grahame Fry), Old Chapel House (Pat and George Hacker) and Osborne House (Lester and Kate Durston). Please do come and visit these beautiful cherished gardens where you will be warmly welcomed. Enjoy delicious homemade cakes and tea at Greenfield House. Combined admission is £7.00. Children under 16 are free.

**ngs** gardens open  
for charity

If you cannot make it on the open days, the garden at Badgers' Acre is also open by appointment until the end of July.

Last year the NGS donated £2.64 million to charity. Major beneficiaries include Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie Cancer Care, Hospice UK and the Carers Trust. Gardens in Somerset raised a total of £63,000.

For further information or to arrange a private to visit Badgers' Acre, just call Lucy and Jim on 01934 713159, email [lucy.hetherington@ngs.org.uk](mailto:lucy.hetherington@ngs.org.uk) or visit the NGS website [www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk)

*Lucy Hetherington*

## Wedmore Arts Festival

Taking place this year from 7-17 July.

All-singing, all-dancing – and all acting, speaking, laughing and sharing: the programme for this wonderful week in Wedmore is now almost complete.



On 7, 8, and 9 July Wedmore Opera - A Night at the Movies. In a departure from tradition, Wedmore Opera brings you a stunning selection of operatic works combined with all the glamour and glitz of a Hollywood red carpet event.

The evening will feature a number of classic opera choruses and arias sung by professional soloists, supported by members of the Wedmore Opera chorus. The linking theme of the pieces is that they have all been made famous by well-loved films.

Richard Lennox, nationally renowned pianist and organist, will be on the grand piano accompanied by two other professional musicians. Richard is already a favourite with Wedmore audiences; after this year's Night at the Movies, his star quality will be confirmed! Long time Wedmore Opera conductor Carolyn Doorbar continues as Musical Director but is joined by another new star, Director Mairi Coyle. We are delighted to welcome Mairi to Wedmore Opera both as a singer and as Director of this year's performance. Mairi has tremendous experience in the field, having worked with both the Welsh National Opera and English National Opera.

Members of the chorus are already in the swing, with rehearsals well under way. And the glitter ball has been ordered! Priority booking begins on Monday 16 May. Public booking opens Monday 30 May. Find out more on [www.wedmoreopera.com](http://www.wedmoreopera.com)

On 8 July War Horse creator Michael Morpurgo will come to Wedmore to talk about his huge body of work, and the inspiration behind it. The event has excited huge interest, with children from Wedmore First School and Hugh Sexey's Middle School already bagging a large number of seats! Being surrounded by enthusiastic children will be familiar to Michael. Not only has he written countless inspiring and moving children's books, including 'War Horse', 'Private Peaceful', 'When the Whales Came' and 'An Elephant in the Garden', this year marks the 40th anniversary of his charity Farms for City Children. This brilliant initiative was set up in 1976 and continues to welcome urban and underprivileged schoolchildren nationwide to Michael's wonderful farm in Devon.

On Thursday 14 July the award-winning travel writer, Frank Barrett, travels around the literary places of Britain in a journey which takes us from Bristol to Shetland, with a number of fascinating stops along the way. Frank's quirky and engaging style makes this pilgrimage both amusing and informative. Many of his destinations are warmly applauded; others get a definite 'thumbs down'. Westminster Abbey? 'Must do better...!'

Shenagh Govan will also perform on Thursday, bringing back to Wedmore her powerful rendition of War Crimes for the Home.

On Friday 15 July, Ballet Central 2016, the touring company from London's Central School of Ballet, will bring their scintillating performance to the Village Hall. Has Wedmore ever played host to such a talented cast of ballet dancers before? Come and see for yourself. This show is guaranteed to appeal as much to newcomers to ballet as it does to aficionados.

Saturday 16 July offers a double bill at the Village Hall. Danny Ward, a rising star in the world of stand-up comedy, brings his hilarious act to Wedmore, followed by a rare local performance from our very own iconic Mr Jagger. Chris Jagger and



his Acoustic Roots can be heard in venues up and down the country. Wedmore Arts Festival is privileged to keep them nearer to home this time!

Please check our website for additions to this already packed week of entertainment. Tickets 01278 641370 or [tickets@wedmoreartsfestival.co.uk](mailto:tickets@wedmoreartsfestival.co.uk) or via [wedmoreartsfestival.co.uk](http://wedmoreartsfestival.co.uk)

*Dorothy Wright*

## **Bridgwater College Countryside Management Students Get Hands On at Westhay Moor NNR**

Students studying Countryside Management in Year 1 and 2 of their BTEC Diploma at Bridgwater College have completed practical work at Westhay Moor National Nature Reserve on the Avalon Marshes as part of an ongoing schedule of works to support Somerset Wildlife Trust's work in that area.



The works have included pollarding willows along the droves, mechanically chipping willow and birch. Course Leader Alan Sinclair said 'Contributing to the wider environment and specific Nature Reserve management is always a very positive experience for the students, especially where it offers opportunities to develop new skills. The ongoing practical sessions are allowing students to use different tools, learn new techniques and see first-hand the input required to manage some elements of Westhay Moor. Some students already volunteer there as part of their work experience modules and were able to share their experiences along with top tips for wildlife spotting with the group'.



Practical management of our nature reserves is essential in order to maintain a mosaic of habitats capable of supporting a diverse range of species. Bridgwater College

has provided valuable assistance with habitat management operations on Westhay Moor National Nature Reserve, one of Somerset Wildlife Trust's flagship sites, which is nationally important for its rare habitats and species. Developing and supporting the next generation of conservation specialists is also extremely important to us in terms of ensuring that the good work that we do now is maintained and built upon in the future, and the wonderful places that we manage remain as wildlife rich as they were in generation gone by.

For more information about Land-based courses at Bridgwater College call 01278 441234 or visit [www.bridgwater.ac.uk](http://www.bridgwater.ac.uk)

For further information about Somerset Wildlife Trust's reserves, education initiatives or practical volunteer opportunities please contact Kirby Everett on 01823 652 413 or email [kirby.everett@somersetwildlife.org](mailto:kirby.everett@somersetwildlife.org)

*Kirby Everett*

## From Conservation to Conversation

What makes the Somerset Levels so special to you?

The Hills to Levels Partnership, wants to know what you think makes the Somerset Levels and Moors a special place, and what would make it even better as a place to live and visit. We have created a short questionnaire so you can tell us what makes the Levels and Moors really special for you.



Hills to Levels Community Outreach Officer, Steve Mewes said 'Our events are going really well with some great presentations and discussion. To add to these we want to ensure everyone has the chance to contribute to the conversation and have developed a short survey which can be accessed at [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LGH5PBG](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LGH5PBG). The survey will take only 5 minutes to complete and will help shape a

positive future for the Levels and Moors. And please come along to our free events, enjoy the presentations and give us your views.’

Check out the Hills to Levels website, facebook and twitter pages for all the latest updates.

If you would like to subscribe to the Hills to Levels email list and receive all the latest news from the team, please contact Steve Mewes at [steve.mewes@rspsb.org.uk](mailto:steve.mewes@rspsb.org.uk).

*Steve Mewes*

## **Wedmore Street Fair – 2 July 2016**

Wedmore Street Fair will take place on Saturday 2 July 2016. By the time you read this all stalls will have been taken. The theme for this year is ‘Party Time’ as suggested by pupils of Wedmore First School Academy. Fancy dress will be welcome and prizes will be awarded for the best dressed. For more information contact Gareth Gosling, Applewood, Mutton Lane, Wedmore BS28 4DS, or [gareth.gosling@btinternet.com](mailto:gareth.gosling@btinternet.com).

*Gareth Gosling*

## **Wedmore Twinning Association**

On behalf of the Wedmore Twinning Association committee I would like to express our thanks for the generous contribution from the Isle of Wedmore News, which provided a significant and very welcome boost to Association funds. Please be assured that we will put the money to good use when we host the next visit from our friends from St. Médard de Guizières in 2017.

*Steve Frost*

## **Gladys Rogers**

Gladys Rogers of Elmsett Hall passed away on 8 April after a short illness. Her family would like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts, cards and messages.

*Andrea West*

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# **Letters**

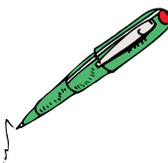
*Dear Editor*

I should like to thank all of those people involved with Wedmore in Bloom for the stunning displays of spring flowers currently very much in evidence around Wedmore.

The tulips, daffodils and polyanthus have all been magnificent for their vibrant colours during the recent chilly weather we have had to endure.

It takes a considerable amount of maintenance to keep the blooms looking their best and certainly enhances our lovely village.

Thank you once again.



*Patricia Butler*

*Dear Editor*

It is with dismay that I learn our Parish Council currently intends to introduce a 'Parish Plan' for planning purposes.

Those who fail to learn from the lessons of history are set to repeat them, and the problem with government plans whether national or local is their sheer inflexibility.

(Whilst admittedly on a different scale to a Parish Plan, the inflexibility principle is identical, and the biggest 'Plan' failures I can recall are Mao Tse-Tung's 'Great Leap Forward' which was introduced in 1957 and because of its rigid inflexibility instead of leaping anywhere caused over 20 million Chinese to starve to death. And I believe similar plans were pursued in communist Russia also with disastrous results.)

We all know the theory of a 'Plan' – to ascertain the infrastructure and services will be there to cope with whatever population growth is envisaged.

Sounds brilliant, but that's only the theory.

The reality is that following the implementation of a 'Plan', decisions are made not with the use of thoughtful intelligence as to the merit of a particular issue or planning application, but on whether or not it complies with the all-important 'Plan'. It is a 'yes' or 'no' rubber stamp. It is Big Brother writ large.

In their wisdom, with their own Plan, Sedgemoor decided that urban societies are 'sustainable', whilst rural societies are not. This is such a reversal of the truth it is worthy of George Orwell's 'Newspeak' at its finest. It is based on the idea that if you can walk to a supermarket or to your job you're not burning fossil fuel and are leading a sustainable lifestyle. The fact that hardly any food is grown in urban areas, but is brought to supermarkets by truck, having probably travelled across the world even to reach the truck, is conveniently ignored. And of course in reality urban dwellers drive to the supermarket anyway, and probably also commute to another town or city for their job.

Whilst here in my village we produce much of our own food, or source it directly or indirectly from local growers and farmers, with also many of us working from our own homes running farms or businesses.

It is rural societies which are sustainable – not urban ones.

My wife and myself have personally suffered from the inflexibility of the Sedgemoor Plan when our application for an eco dwelling, which was to be built to full 'passive house' standards (i.e. producing more energy than it used) and was supported in writing by no less than 38 people, together with our then MP Tessa Munt, the Parish Council, Wedmore Green Group, the County Landowners and Business Association and the NFU, was turned down not because it had no merit, but simply because it did not comply with the 'Sedgemoor Plan' and their loopy ideas about sustainability. And this despite the fact that their own conservation officer was enthusiastic about our proposals, and wished us luck with the application!

Please do not allow our Parish Council to walk blindly into the same nightmare of having their own rigid 'Plan' to rubber stamp future decisions, but instead as democratically elected representatives continue to consider them on individual merit. In fact it is my belief that the whole principle of local plans is a ploy to extend the power of employed bureaucrats at the expense of the democratic process.

*Trevor Hunt*

## Editor's Response

I understand from the Parish Council that so far there has only been an initial meeting with those residents who had expressed an interest in putting together a Neighbourhood Plan. If creating the plan does go ahead the process may well take two years and everyone in the village will be invited to contribute and comment before it is finally submitted.

*Sue James*

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# A Day in the Life – Editor Wedmore News



Being editor of Wedmore News involves receiving all the articles and entries that you the readers submit for publication. I work as part of a team with Liz Sweeney, who produces the 'Business Focus' article, does the first proof read and enters all the photos in the appropriate places and Bill Sutton who produces the 'What's On' diary and does a final proof read before passing the proof to John Morse who enters all the advertisements.

I also work with the Committee of Wedmore News which meets quarterly. Wedmore News is published officially by Wedmore Parish Council. We work to a Constitution to ensure sound governance with management being carried out by an independent committee on behalf of the Parish Council. Currently, Glenys Cousins is our Chair.

We are all volunteers who work to produce and oversee production, delivery and financial probity.

I try to work on the editorial of Wedmore News between the 28th and 5th day of each month. This allows me to achieve all the deadlines that are involved in producing a magazine. The deadline for receiving copy on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month is really crucial so that I can get everything incorporated and edited; it takes a reasonable but not onerous amount of time, but in a fairly short time frame. I also follow up regular contributors where necessary to try to make sure no event is forgotten or omitted.

One of the difficulties of producing a magazine such as Wedmore News is the fact that sometimes we want to provide some up-to-date information about local issues but, because of deadlines, it can be a bit last week's – or last month's - news when it appears in the magazine. I work with my colleagues to make a decision about whether to include or not. A recent example has been the proposed relocation of the Post Office.

As editor, along with the editorial team, I am always trying to introduce new material and contributors. Everyone provides articles and entries free of charge, we are all busy people these days so finding new material and people to write it can be more difficult than we might anticipate. We do rely on local people and readers to help us fill the magazine.

Although mainly desk based, during the time that I have been editing Wedmore News I have had the opportunity to meet a lot of people who live and work in Wedmore and the surrounding villages. This is either because they are regular contributors, part of a voluntary group or organisation or an individual who wants to talk about an entry.

Summing up a Wedmore News Day in just a few words, I would describe it as varied, busy, interesting and a privilege.

*Sue James*

## **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 Sue James, email [editorwedmorenews@gmail.com](mailto:editorwedmorenews@gmail.com) and share your 'Day in the Life'.

*Sue James*

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# **Focus on Businesses**

## **Wedmore – a Centre of Ladies' Fashion**

Have you ever wondered why there are so many ladies' clothes shops in Wedmore? To try to find out, I spoke to Suzanne Metters, who opened The Borough Venture in 1974, a move that would change the face of Wedmore.

Suzanne and her husband Peter moved to Wedmore in 1973 from Warwickshire, where they had run a country hotel for 11 years. The idea was to retire, but with the

difficult economic environment at the time and high income tax rates - particularly on invested income - they decided to look at business opportunities to supplement their income. Suzanne had the idea of selling 'seconds' of well-known clothing brands, which she thought would be appropriate, considering the market at that time. They identified a premises on The Borough, consisting of a small retail area and a tea room.



After being turned down by one manufacturer, Suzanne contacted Munrospun in Scotland - the opposite end of the market! They were most helpful and offered to supply her on a sale or return basis. She purchased the premises and started The Borough Venture in 1974. It began to do well and, in the sweltering summer of 1976, surrounded by mohair and wool, Suzanne decided that it was time to add other, lighter lines. She went to London to visit showrooms and spotted a line of denim with a difference – it didn't crease. She signed a contract to sell the denim and other non-crease garments and then went on to visit Jaeger, eventually becoming one of the largest stockists in the country. The Borough Venture began to build a reputation and customer base, with a large mailing list. The business went from strength to strength, making it necessary to increase the area of both the store and the tea room.

When the Borough Mall opened in the late 1980s, Suzanne opened a separate Jaeger shop and used the premises as the venue for fashion shows, even putting down a red carpet in the Mall! It was about this time that her first competitor arrived: Poppy opened in the newly constructed King Alfred Mews. At first, Suzanne wasn't sure how her business would be affected, but soon realised that the additional choice available in the village and the competition would be a good thing and often mentioned it at her fashion shows, which she held all over the south west, including being a main attraction at the Royal Bath and West Show for several years. In the late 1990s she obtained the lease for premises in Providence House, extending The Borough Venture name to menswear. This store is now owned and run by Wayne Hahn, a former employee.

In October 2000 Suzanne decided to retire and lease the original Borough Venture store and tea room. The store was taken over by an established business from nearby Axbridge and is now Compton House of Fashion.

A few businesses have come and gone over the past years but, with the arrival of two new shops this year, we are lucky to have six ladies' clothing shops in the village, offering a wide range of styles and brands.

## **Do You Have a Story to Tell?**

If you run a business in the Wedmore Parish and would like to feature in a forthcoming issue of the Wedmore News, send an email to [editorwedmorenews@gmail.com](mailto:editorwedmorenews@gmail.com) with a few facts. 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? We will then contact you.

*Liz Sweeney*

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# **Reports and Society Updates**

## **St Mary's Church 100 Club**

Happy to announce that Barbara Moody, holding No.62, won the 1st prize of £20.00 in the May Draw, and Val Hardwick won the £10.00 2nd prize with her No.5. Congratulations!

*Thelma Jenkins-Jones*

## **Wedmore WI Report – April**

To celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday we had Union Flags on the table and sang the National Anthem to open the meeting. Hazel welcomed everyone and we wished Iris and Val a Happy Birthday! Other items of news included several members having a good day out at the roadshow and an invitation to the Big Lunch in Wedmore on Sunday 12 June. Christine showed members a 'fidget apron', made for somebody with dementia. It has little pockets, zips, and all sorts of bits and pieces sewn on to provide something to fidget with. We were asked to make one or provide some bits and pieces to sew on.

Our speaker was Katrina Atkinson, a local artist, who had arrived with a number of large pieces of artwork. She talked to us about collage, her favourite medium, and we were fascinated by how detailed pictures can be produced by using strips of paper torn from magazines. She passed round illustrations of 20th century artists who used collage, including Picasso, and told us about the Cheddar arts scene. She then described how she makes up her portraits using torn paper strips, often with print on, and makes use of the fact that paper torn one way will produce a clean edge and torn at right angles will produce a feathered edge. String, cardboard, thread and anything else that comes to hand are also used. Newspapers give a monochrome effect. Her pictures were fascinating viewed close to, as the detail in the strips became



apparent. We were all in awe as to how she made such accurate portraits without having to be standing back from her work all the time.



*WI members toasting the Queen*

Mary gave a vote of thanks, and the evening was rounded off with canapes and Prosecco, with which we toasted Her Majesty. The competition was won by Hazel.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 16 June when we welcome back Steve Price, a long distance swimmer. The competition is 'an Ode to a Swimmer'. Visitors and guests are very welcome.

*Chris Barker*

## **Isle of Wedmore Society Report – April**

This month our talk was called 'Look – No Hands' by Mike Lake R.N. Rtd and was all about unmanned aircraft. The first unmanned machine to fly did in fact arrive on the scene 168 years ago well before the first manned flight which was 113 years ago. This was one of the many interesting facts which Mike informed us about during his talk. The definition of an UA is an aircraft which is modified NOT to carry a human pilot. Unmanned craft have come in all shapes and sizes from the size of a commercial airline to a DIY kit you can purchase from a model shop. John Stringfellow and Samuel Langley were the first two designers of these types of aircraft who also went on to design manned ones too. Unmanned aircraft over the years have been designed to carry out a wide variety of functions from attacking enemy craft and buildings to high level photo reconnaissance to crop spraying in Japan!

Some of the advantages of these types of aircraft are that they are able to fly in constricted areas, hazardous conditions and for long periods of time. Of course, the modern unmanned machines are drones and although there are regulations surrounding their use they are readily available from a local toy shop and can be

purchased by any unqualified member of the public. America use large military unmanned aircraft for bombing places like Syria and in fact they have two airports for the sole use of these machines. Amazon are experimenting with drones for delivering packages which could be quite an interesting service!

Mike finished his talk by suggesting we are going to hear a lot more about these types of aircraft.

*Chris Edwards,  
Speakers Secretary*

## **Friends of St. Mary's Tea and the Tower**



*Views over Wedmore from the top of the church tower taken by Amanda Carver*





About 75 of us made the trip to the top of the tower (via ringing chamber and the bells), to enjoy the best view in the village!

Many thanks to all who came and all who helped.

Sure to be repeated soon.

*David Hopkins*

## **June Director's Blog – Look Back in Anger**

There have been so many ecstatic descriptions of John Osborne's ground-breaking play since it burst onto the London theatre scene 60 years ago. George Devine, who brought the play to the Royal Court, said it was 'the bomb that would blow a hole in the old theatre and leave a nice-sized gap too big to be patched up'; and Tony Richardson, who directed the first production, said it was 'the best play written since the war'.



After the play opened, the critics latched onto its youthful vigour – Osborne was only 27 and the four leading characters are in their early twenties. Kenneth Tynan, then London's most influential theatre critic, writing in *The Observer*, declared that 'Look Back in Anger' 'presents post war youth as it really is' and that its protagonist, Jimmy Porter, was 'the completest young pup in our literature since Hamlet'. He even said he couldn't love anyone who didn't wish to see the play!

The *Daily Mail* thought that the Royal Court had discovered 'a dramatist of outstanding promise, a man who can write with searing passion', while Derek Granger of *The Financial Times* found the play 'arresting, painful, sometimes astonishing' and 'of extraordinary importance'. 'It is intense, angry, feverish, undisciplined, even crazy' concluded *The Daily Express*. 'But it is young, young, young.'

The play's focus is on the pains and strains of being young in the 'fifties. Jimmy bemoans the fact that, with the war their parents fought now more than a decade over, there are 'no more causes', and 'our youth is slipping away' as they pass the time in their cramped attic bedsit. Osborne, who had recently occupied such premises himself, wanted to show these surroundings to London theatre audiences who had come to expect plays such as those by Noel Coward and Terence Rattigan to be set in upper middle class period drawing rooms. He said 'People are simply unaware that there is a housing shortage. And when you are young and neither the house nor the furniture is your own, there is not a great deal of incentive to improve things. One simply waits to get out'.

The reference to a housing shortage for young people has an extraordinary resonance today!

Wedmore Theatre Club is fortunate to be in a position to celebrate this remarkable play's Diamond Jubilee this year, because we have a quartet of talented young actors who are keen to do it. Those who saw our recent 'The Importance of Being Earnest' will recognise Tristan Elliot Palmer, Daisy Graham-Brown, Greg Tyrrell and Annie Gould from that production – although in dramatically different roles!

You can find out more about 'Look Back in Anger' at [www.wedmoretheatre.com](http://www.wedmoretheatre.com).

Performances are on Wednesday 7 and Thursday 8 September at Wedmore Village Hall.

*Sue Rippon*

## **Mr. Punch's Folk Club has returned to the Panborough**

The Panborough Inn closed last year so we had to find a new home.

The New Inn in Wedmore kindly provided accommodation, we are very grateful for their support.

The Panborough Inn is now open and keen to support community activities in and around Theale. We were therefore invited, with enthusiasm and an excellent wood stove, to return and run our folk club in the main bar area.

Bottled beers and wines are on offer as well as teas and coffee. Access to the building is good and there is plenty of parking.

The Panborough is once again warm and welcoming; we hope you will come along and join us.

We have fine singers, musicians and poets coming now from all around Somerset, Bath and Bristol performing both contemporary and traditional material. New performers are always welcome.

On Friday 3 June we are delighted to have back David and Issy Emeney for a feature evening; floor singers also welcome.

On Friday 17 June we have an open mic session; come along and join in.

For more information telephone 712144/710020

*Bernard Coulter*

## **Wedmore in Bloom**

By now the village tubs should be planted with summer bedding plants. It depends slightly on the weather; we wait for Sweet Acre Nursery who supplies our plants to tell us that all the plants are ready for collection. If we get a cool spring then the plants take a little longer to get going.



Once we get the summons, it's all hands on decks to get the plants in quickly. We will have prepared the tubs with fresh compost and feed. The last few years we've had to put vine weevil pesticide into the soil or these pests will quickly eat the roots of plants and so destroy them.

Then it's a case of keeping them all watered, usually every day so we have a rota of people willing to help. Hopefully we'll have our usual fine display which is admired by visitors to the village.

*Andrea West*

## **Wedmore Gardening Club**

On Tuesday 14 June we have a coach outing to Arlington Court and Carriage Museum in North Devon. This is a fine Regency house built in 1820-1823, together with an impressive collection of horse-drawn vehicles set in picturesque gardens run by the National Trust. There are over 5000 items cared for in the house, which is well worth a visit.

Garden Club members and guests are welcome, so if you are interested in participating please contact Margaret Kitson, 712107 or Andrea West on 712161 as soon as possible.

National Trust members only pay for the coach fare which is £13. Please remember to bring your National Trust card. The cost for non NTmembers is £10 entry plus the coach fare of £13.

*Andrea West*

## **Theale Film Club**

So that anyone interested can see what we are planning to show during the rest of 2016, here is a programme for the remainder of the year:

**19 June - Bridge of Spies**

**17 July - The Lady in the van**

**21 August - Shaun the sheep plus another short film to be decided**  
(earlier start – 6.00pm)

**18 September - Brooklyn**

**16 October - To kill a Mocking Bird**

**20 November - Testament of Youth**

**18 December - Jungle Book**



*Lesley Luke*

## **The Rotary Club of Mendip**

**Mendip Rotarians and Inner Wheelers Walk for Charity**



*Mendip Rotarians, Inner Wheelers and friends take the Exmoor Challenge*

Seventeen people representing the Rotary and Inner Wheel Clubs of Mendip, together with family and friends, took part in the Exmoor Challenge recently. They walked a total of 7.5 miles led by District 1200 Governor Bob Acland and Mendip

vice-president Richard Tilley. The team raised £349, including sponsorship, towards an expected total in excess of £1,500. The event was organised by the Rotary Club of Exmoor and the proceeds will go to the Children's Hospice South West. Bob Acland was presented with a trophy as his district had the most walkers and most points scored of all those taking part.

*John Mander*

## **IT for the Terrified**

IT for the Terrified, for all your computer training needs. A skill-sharing, informal, community project. Run by a committee, staffed by volunteers.

We offer 1:1 sessions to help you to use a computer, iPad, tablet, smartphone or Mac in a friendly, relaxed environment.

Thursday afternoons 'Computer drop in' £2.00 per visit. Ideal for a small problem that doesn't need a full 2-hour session. No need to book, just drop in (term time only, 1.30 - 3.30pm).

To contact us telephone 741751, or email [itforheterrified@btconnect.com](mailto:itforheterrified@btconnect.com), or visit our website [www.itforheterrified.co.uk](http://www.itforheterrified.co.uk)



IT for the Terrified, The Old Cowshed, Station Road, Cheddar. BS27 3AG. Next to the War Memorial - not the Market Cross. Opening hours match Kings Academy term times.

Registered Charity No. 1130308. Our normal opening hours are 10.00am-12.00 noon and 1.30pm-3.30pm, Monday-Friday.

## **Cheddar Valley University of the Third Age (U3A)**

Thursday 2 June our speaker is prolific West Country author Jonathon Pinnock who will talk about his latest book, 'Take it Cool', based on the life of Jamaican singer Dennis Pinnock. One review describes the book as 'uplifting and tender' as well as 'laugh-out-loud funny'. Join us at Cheddar Village Hall at 2.15pm, entry £2, visitors welcome.

On Thursday 16 June we hold our monthly Meet and Greet Coffee Morning from 10.30am to 12.00 noon at Cheddar Village Hall. If you are retired or semi-retired we have much to offer, so come along and find out more. Entry is free and all visitors are welcome. Telephone 744241 or visit [www.cheddarvalleyu3a.org.uk](http://www.cheddarvalleyu3a.org.uk) for more details. We also meet every Monday in Cheddar Library from 10.30am to 12.00 noon for an informal coffee morning.

THE THIRD AGE TRUST



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

*Roger Coe*

## **North Somerset Decorative and Fine Arts Society - April**

The April lecture of the NSDFAS was given by Tricia Passes on The Blitz and the Festival of Britain. She briefly touched on the blitz with a series of evocative paintings dating from 1940 to 1941 and then told us of the 1951 Festival of Britain staged from May to September. It was organised by the government to give the British a feeling of

recovery in the aftermath of war and to promote the British contribution to science, technology, industrial design, architecture and the arts.

Although the festival took place all over Britain the centrepiece was held on a 27 acre site on the south bank of the Thames in London. Hugh Casson was appointed Director of Architecture, The main feature was the largest dome in the world at the time which held exhibitions on the theme of discovery. Next to the dome was the Skylon, a futuristic tall, cigar shaped steel tower. There was also the Telekinema, a 400-seat state-of-the-art cinema which became the National Film Theatre when the exhibition closed, the Royal Festival Hall and Battersea Park, which was the fun fair site of the festival, and the ship, the Campania, which toured Britain. The exhibition was not a high art event but contained specially commissioned works by people like Ben Nicholson, Francis Bacon, Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth.

In the five months of the exhibition it attracted 8.5 million visitors. The only surviving building was the Festival Hall, the rest were demolished.

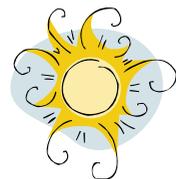
*Rosie Lishman*

## Weather Report for April 2016

<b>RAINFALL</b>	Monthly total	38.9mm	(1.53ins)
	30-year average	53.0mm	(2.09ins)
	Wettest day (22nd)	9.0mm	(0.35ins)
	No of dry days	17	
	Last 3 months (Feb- Apr)	161mm	(6.33ins)
	Year ending 30 Apr 2016	809mm	(31.84ins)
	30-year annual average	797mm	(31.38ins)



## TEMPERATURES



Maximum (20th)	16.0 °C	(60.8 °F)
Minimum (28th)	-2.5 °C	(27.5 °F)
Number of air frosts	6	
Monthly average maximum	13.0 °C	(55.4 °F)
30-year average maximum	14.1 °C	(57.4 °F)
Monthly average minimum	3.15 °C	(37.7 °F)
30-year average minimum	4.4 °C	(39.9 °F)

## COMMENTS

Both drier and colder than usual.

*Denley Brown*

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# Forthcoming Events

## Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' – Friday 3 June

At 7.30pm in Wedmore Village Hall, the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School will present their annual production, 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'.

Tickets £10, available from Wedmore Village Store and Valerie Godfrey, 713009.

## **Mr Punch's Folk Club at The Panborough Inn – Friday 3 and 17 June**

Entrance £1

Friday 3 June, we are delighted to have back to join us David and Issy Emeney for a feature evening; floor singers also welcome.

On Friday 17 June we have an open mic session, come along and join in.

For more information telephone 712144/710020

## **Coffee morning in aid of Christchurch Theale – Saturday 4 June**

From 10.00am to 12.00 noon at West Wing, Old School, Bagley. Stalls include plants and delicious cakes. Come along and enjoy the view. Elizabeth Coulter, telephone 712144



## **St Mary's Fairtrade coffee Shop – Saturday 4 June**

St Mary's Church welcomes everyone to visit our Fairtrade coffee shop from 9.30am to 12.00 noon. There will be a variety of homemade cakes to enjoy with Fairtrade tea and coffee. Pop in for a quick visit or enjoy some relaxation with the daily newspapers. We look forward to seeing you.

## **Craft Fair – Saturday 11 June**

At Wedmore Village Hall from 11.00am -1.00pm

## **Charity Open Garden, 5 Gardiners Orchard – Sunday 12 June**

Open garden with refreshments in aid of Childreach International. It will take place at Dragonfly Cottage, 5 Gardiners Orchard, just off the village centre between 10.30am and 4.00pm. Entry £5 with tea, coffee and homemade cake! Children are also catered for with free squash and entry. No need to book or pre-order tickets just turn up, enjoy the garden, have some tea and cake and support a great cause!

## **Stone Allerton Open Gardens – Saturday 11 to Sunday 12 June**

As part of the national Gardens Scheme the gardens will be open from 2.00pm to 5.30pm, combined admission £7.00, children under 16 free.

**ngs** gardens open  
for charity

For further information or to arrange a private to visit

Badgers' Acre, just call Lucy and Jim on 713159, email [lucy.hetherington@ngs.org.uk](mailto:lucy.hetherington@ngs.org.uk) or visit the NGS website [www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk).

## **The Big Birthday Lunch – Sunday 12 June**

At St Mary's Church from 1.00pm. To commemorate the Queen's 90th birthday with a Street Party style picnic lunch in and around church.

All are welcome to the event in St Mary's. Simply bring the food and drink you need for your own group or family. Sharing is welcome but not compulsory! Children's entertainment and music.

Free to all and you are welcome to turn up on the day. However, to help preparations, it will be helpful if you can pick up a free ticket from Wedmore Village

Store or from St Mary's. There is no dress code but why not come dressed in a 'Red, White and Blue' theme.

Have a look at [www.thebiglunch.com](http://www.thebiglunch.com) or [www.thepatronslunch.com](http://www.thepatronslunch.com)

## **A Right Royal Tea and Songs of Praise – Sunday 12 June**

Tea is at 4.00pm, Songs of Praise at 5.00pm in Christchurch. There is no charge for tea, but so that there is an idea of numbers, please call either 712144 or 713189 to book.

## **Isle of Wedmore Gardening Club – Tuesday 14 June**



Coach outing to Arlington Court and Carriage Museum in North Devon

Garden Club members and guests are welcome. Telephone Margaret Kitson, 712107 or Andrea West, 712161 as soon as possible to secure a place.

National Trust members only pay for the coach, £13. Please remember your National Trust card. Non NT members entry is £10, plus coach fare £13.

## **Club 50 Outing – Wednesday 15 June**

The outing will be to Oxford.

Transport will depart the Cheddar Road Car Park at 9.15am, returning approximately 6.00pm.

Non-members are welcome, cost £15pp. To book please call either Pauline on 732517, or Val on 710059.

## **Isle of Wedmore Community Bus AGM – Wednesday 15 June**

At 7.00pm in The Swan function room.

Nominations for Chair, Vice Chair, Bus Cashier, together with any points to raise should be sent to [bewick.mike@gmail.com](mailto:bewick.mike@gmail.com).

## **Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday 15 June**

At 7.30pm in the Council Rooms, Grants Lane. Parishioners are welcome to attend.



## **Wedmore WI Meeting – Thursday 16 June**

At 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall. Our speaker is Steve Price, a long distance swimmer, who entertained us mightily a couple of years ago, and is back to talk about his latest long distance swimming exploits. Visitors and guests are very welcome. For more information contact Chris Barker, 2 Dunns Close Wedmore BS28 4BL, telephone 712182, email [chris@cjbarker.plus.com](mailto:chris@cjbarker.plus.com)

## **Theale Film Club – Sunday 19 June**

The film is 'Bridge of Spies' with Mark Rylance winning the Oscar for Best Supporting Actor.

Doors open at 6.30pm for 7.00pm prompt start at Theale Village Hall. For more information please contact Lesley Luke on 713176, [lesleyluke@live.co.uk](mailto:lesleyluke@live.co.uk), Bernard Coulter on 712144, [bcoulter@talktalk.net](mailto:bcoulter@talktalk.net), or Pam Meadows on 712143.

## **Wedmore Guides Jumble Sale – Saturday 25 June**

From 10.00am to 12.00 noon at Wedmore Village Hall. Come and join us for a rummage and some tea and cake!

Any donations may be left with Elaine Tilling, at The Copper Kettle, Heath House, telephone 713650. If you would like us to collect your donations please call or leave a message and we will arrange to do this.

## **NANTWICH (Now ANOther That's What I Call Hymns) – Saturday 25 June**

At 6.00pm. A predictably beautiful mid-summer evening. To celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday there will be hymns, songs, poems and readings to reflect the key moments in the Queen's reign, enlivened by wine, the Bridgwater Salvation Army Band and the Wedmore First School Academy choir. Watch out for ticket details as this will be a full house

For information contact David Hopkins, dahopkins@aol.com, telephone 710149.

## **Allerton Players - Saturday 25 June**

Allerton Players presents 'Dear Diary' at Lime Kiln Farm, West Stoughton.

In a series of sketches, readings and songs some of the country's most famous diarists, including Samuel Pepys and Queen Victoria, alongside hilarious diary entries from two early 19th century Somerset clergy and the fictional diaries of Adrian Mole and Bridget Jones.

There's a bar and a pig roast with the traditionally mouth-watering Allerton Players' salads and pudding. The event begins at 7.00pm (supper will be served at 7.30pm). Profits will go to local charities. Tickets are £12 and are available from Carol Kilburn, 713158 or Imogen Drakeford, 712685.

## **Wedmore Opera, A Night at the Movies – Thursday 7 to Saturday 9 July**

As part of Wedmore Arts Festival, the evening will feature a number of classic opera choruses and arias sung by professional soloists, supported by members of the Wedmore Opera chorus. The linking theme of the pieces is that they have all been made famous by well-loved films. For more information please visit the festival website [wedmoreartsfestival.co.uk](http://wedmoreartsfestival.co.uk) or the Wedmore Opera website.



## **Wedmore Arts Festival – Thursday 8 to Sunday 17 July**

A festival of opera, drama, literature, comedy and music. For further details visit the website [wedmoreartsfestival.co.uk](http://wedmoreartsfestival.co.uk).

## **Wedmore Methodist Church Flower Festival – Friday 15 to Sunday 17 July**

This will be our third Flower Festival and the theme chosen for 2016 is 'Wedding Anniversaries'. The Flower Festival will be open in The Methodist Church, entrance is free. Friday and Saturday opening will be 10.00am – 5.00 pm with coffee and cake in the morning, soup and roll at lunch time and cream teas in the afternoon.

On Sunday morning there will be a Café Service in the Methodist Schoolroom commencing at 10.30am and the Preacher will be Lois Emm from Cheddar. Everyone welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you again this year at our Flower Festival, further details available from all Methodist Church Members.

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## Events Taking Place Outside the Parish

### **North Somerset Decorative and Fine Arts Society, Stories in Stained Glass – Wednesday 1 June**

At 7.00pm, at the 37 Club, between Woolavington and Puriton,

Suzie Harries will talk about stained glass telling stories. It is not just about saints; it has been used to play politics, bribe bishops, recruit soldiers and tell jokes. The most remarkable subjects appear in its panes, from Moses to Mandela, tanks to Tiffany, Burne Jones' water closet to Churchill's cigar. The talk will include stories in our area.

### **The Avalon Marshes 'Landscape, Heritage and Wildlife' – Saturday 4 June**

Strode Theatre in Street will be hosting this celebration of the Avalon Marshes. A day of talks, films and presentations by experts including local wildlife writer and broadcaster Stephen Moss, wetland archaeologist Dr Richard Brunning, archaeologist to Glastonbury Abbey John Allan, and wildlife expert and broadcaster Chris Sperring MBE.



**AVALON  
MARSHES**

The event will include the screening of the BBC film of Sir John Betjeman travelling through the Avalon Marshes on the much loved Somerset & Dorset Railway in the 1960s.

Tickets are now on sale and should be purchased from Strode Theatre at [www.strodetheatre.org.uk](http://www.strodetheatre.org.uk).

### **Avalon Marshes Open Day – Sunday 5 June**

At the Avalon Marshes Centre and adjoining nature reserves.

A range of wildlife and heritage activities for the whole family. It will be the first opportunity to see the new replica Romano British building and Saxon Long Hall which are under construction. Meet staff and volunteers from the Avalon Marshes partners and learn more about the work we do to look after the wildlife and heritage of this amazing area.

The Somerset & Dorset Railway Trust's travelling exhibition, commemorating the railway 50 years after its closure, will also be on display.

To find out more go to the events page at [www.avalonmarshes.org](http://www.avalonmarshes.org).

### **Cheddar Arts @ Kings Theatre – Monday 13 June**

'Dad's Army', starring Catherine Zeta-Jones, Toby Jones and Bill Nighy.

Tickets are available online at [www.thelittleboxoffice.com/cheddararts](http://www.thelittleboxoffice.com/cheddararts). For help call 744939 extension 2 or visit Kings Fitness & Leisure in person. Payment for the

new booking system is by credit/debit card only and cash will only be accepted for tickets sold on the door.

## The Hills to Levels Partnership – Monday 20 June

Exploring Langport's Floodplains Meadows. A walk and talk with Catherine Mowat, Floodplains Ambassador with the Open University and professional ecologist, starting at 6.00pm. Meet in Bagehot Gardens (behind Langport Town Hall TA10 9PR). Free to participate.

## Axbridge Archaeological and Local History Society – Saturday 2 July

There will be a tour of the ground of the Battle of Sedgemoor during the Monmouth Rebellion. Numbers are limited so please contact Fiona Torrens-Spence if you would like to come, 712895. The tour will start at 2pm at St Mary's Church, Bridgwater.



## Brent Knoll Music on the Green – Saturday 16 July

This year's Annual Music on the Green will be held on Brent Knoll Village Green.

Featuring 'Kick the Cat' the Bristol based Blues Brothers, Soul, Motown and Funk Revue band, with a repertoire of music from across the years!

There will be a bar, BBQ and raffle. Tickets are £10 each, with entrance for accompanied children under 14 free. Tickets are available from Brent Knoll Village Shop or telephone 01278 760308 / 760986.

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# Royal Celebrations throughout the Years

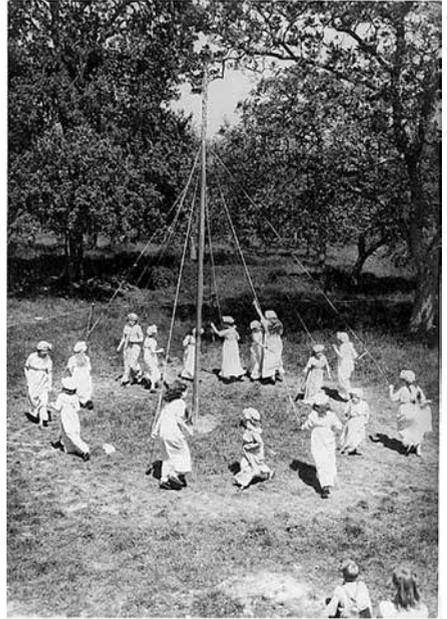
The photos below are from royal celebrations in the village across the years. Thanks to Hazel Hudson for supplying the pictures and accompanying information.



*1902 Coronation arch, Theale*



*1902 Coronation bonfire*



*1953 Children dancing round the maypole at Cocklake*



*1911 Church Street and Wedmore Band. Hazel's grandfather is playing the trombone!*



*1937 Brownies and scouts ready to process to the church for a Coronation service*



1953 Wedmore Coronation Fayre, (left to right) John Duckett, schoolmaster Bill Tucker, judge Alan Vickery, Mayor Cecil Puddy, policeman Kenneth Banwell.



1953 Wedmore Coronation Fayre programme of events



1977 Silver Jubilee, Bempstone Hundred, winner of best house decoration, with Ruth Hudson

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# Polly's Kitchen



Spring and summer offer up such delicious treats, new vegetables bursting from the ground, a very exciting time for cooking. This month's recipe includes two of my favourite treats that are a marriage made in heaven, crab and asparagus. Combined here together in a tart to serve either as a starter or for a lovely lunchtime treat. Serve with some tender young salad leaves and sliced, nose twitching spicy radishes and a glass or two of chilled white wine....need I say more?

## **Crab and Asparagus Soufflé Tart (Serves 6)**

### **Ingredients**

300g shortcrust pastry, home made or shop bought.  
25g butter  
25g plain flour  
300ml milk  
Freshly grated nutmeg  
2 good pinches of cayenne pepper  
200g fresh white crab meat (available at your local fishmonger!)  
140g fresh asparagus tips  
3 eggs, separated  
3 tablespoons of freshly grated parmesan cheese

### **Method**

Heat the oven to 200°C/180° fan/gas 6.

Roll out pastry and line a 25cm tart tin. Line with greaseproof paper and baking beans and bake blind for 15 minutes, then remove paper and beans and pop in for another 5 minutes. Remove from oven and leave to cool.

Reduce oven temperature to 190°C/170° fan/ gas 5.

Melt the butter in a non-stick pan, add the flour, stir and cook for one minute, grate in some nutmeg and add the cayenne pepper. Gradually add the milk, stirring continuously until the sauce is smooth. Leave to cool slightly.

Flake up the crab meat and add to the sauce. Blanch the asparagus tips for 3 minutes, drain and run under cold water, dry on a clean tea towel and then pop into the pastry case.

Stir the egg yolks into the sauce, whip the whites until stiff, then gently fold into the sauce mix. Pour on top of the asparagus, scatter over the grated parmesan and then bake for 30-35 minutes, until golden and fluffy.

*Polly Costello*

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# The Garden in June

At the time of writing, slightly earlier than usual (April 22), because I am going on holiday, the weather is cold and wet; so far we have had a late spring, although recently we have had some pleasant weather, but it has tended to fluctuate.



I hope that by the time you read this, as mid-summer approaches, it will have warmed up considerably and that we are experiencing a pleasant, warm summer. I have not seen any long term predictions so far, but they are frequently wrong, so no matter.

June is the month in which roses are at their peak flowering, but of course, exactly how well they perform can depend on pests and diseases, and they in turn on the weather. In dry conditions, powdery mildew can be one of the most common foliar diseases of roses; the conspicuous white growth can affect all aerial parts of the plant, producing microscopic spores that spread the disease. High humidity is favourable for infection, as is dryness at the roots; also poor air movement can assist severe infection. You can treat the problem with a fungicide (incorporated in a product such as Roseclear) but this may not work well if conditions still favour the disease. There is probably little you can do to affect humidity, but good watering and choosing a planting position where there is good air circulation can be important. Black spot is the most debilitating disease of roses. Affected foliage develops black or dark purple spots which spread rapidly, leaf tissue around the spots turns yellow and the leaves drop prematurely. Re-infection is by rain-splash from these fallen leaves, so clear them away where possible. The fungus is genetically very diverse and new strains arise frequently, meaning that resistant rose varieties may lose this resistance in a short time. Chemical control is possible, with broad-spectrum materials as mentioned above, but again, these may not persist if weather conditions favour the disease (warm and damp).

Rose aphids can often build up rapidly in warm weather and, again, can be controlled by spraying. There are, of course, beneficial insects, such as ladybirds (particularly their larvae) which gobble up aphids, but these can be adversely affected by insecticides.

If apple trees are carrying a lot of fruitlets (it is too early at the time of writing to see what quantity of blossom there is), there is a natural thinning process known as June-drop, so do not be alarmed if a lot of small apples fall from trees.

Keep an eye open for potato blight on potatoes and tomatoes; if weather conditions favour it, a period of 48 hours during which the relative humidity is greater than 75% and the temperature above 10°C, it will spread rapidly, starting as small black lesions on the leaves and rapidly destroying all of the leaf area and there is little you can do once it is present. You can spray (prophylactically) with Bordeaux mixture, even organic growers are allowed to do this.

Elsewhere in the vegetable garden, continue sowing seeds to give a succession of fresh salad crops well into the autumn.

In the flower garden, keep an eye open for Lily beetles, they are bright red and about 12mm in length. Their larvae are black and slimy, due to being coated with their own excrement, they will rapidly strip lilies of their foliage. You can physically remove

both adults and larvae and squash them or spray them with a contact insecticide, but not when bees are working.

It should be perfectly safe to put all tender plants outside by the beginning of June, as the danger of night frost should have passed. If you have plants that are in an unheated greenhouse, bear in mind that there can be huge fluctuations in temperature under glass. Daytime temperatures can rapidly shoot up to well over 30°C when the sun is on the glass, so attend to efficient ventilation and adequate watering.

It is hard to believe that by the time you read my next piece, the days will be shortening again, but let us not dwell on that thought for now and hope that we have a good gardening season.

*Adrian Hutchison*

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## A 'Wild' Walk in Somerset

It was 6.15am and we were standing outside the house waiting for our lift. There had already been a brief hail storm as we got dressed.

We were off to redeem our purchase at the Auction of Promises last year in aid of the church, of a Wildlife Walk with Naturalist, Author and TV Producer, Stephen Moss ([stephenmoss@live.com](mailto:stephenmoss@live.com)).

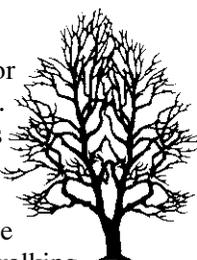
This was something we'd been looking forward to as we love visiting the wonderful nature reserves around us, bird spotting, walking and cycling. We drove to Ashcott Corner car park and met Lucy & Jon.

Stephen told us that the best place to hear birds is often the car park, so we spent some time listening to and identifying some of the calls, then looking for the birds. The dawn chorus was wonderful, charged with birdsong from dozens of birds, the farmland and deciduous woods dictating what we saw and heard.

As we walked into the RSPB reserve, over the bridge, the songs and the sights changed. Immediately we saw a bittern in flight (like an old man's coat thrown into the air) and we heard a cuckoo. Stephen stopped us every two or three paces to identify another song, or to point out a bird in front on the path, in a tree or on the water. He explained that, in order to remember birdsong, it was helpful to create your own mnemonic, for example, Jon said that one bird song was 'like you would expect a squirrel to sound'!

We chatted about all manner of things – the origin of bird names, social history, the founding of the RSPB and the great crested grebe's part in it and much more. Our hands and toes were getting cold but there was plenty to distract us.

We had a long and wonderful view of a whitethroat singing in a tree just beside us; we saw a cetti's warbler, marsh harriers dive-bombing something plainly disturbing their nest, two great white egrets, a heron chick on a nest in the lake (unusual as they normally nest in trees), ducks (pochard, tufted, mallard, gadwall), swallows, sand martins and swifts, oh and much more. We tried out the new hide, with a fabulous view over the reeds, lovely glass windows and a 180 degree panorama. We timed



this visit well as the heavens opened and produced a vigorous hail storm just as we entered the building.

The skies throughout our visit were dramatic, the sun sometimes casting shadows from behind the clouds; beautiful blue sky and careless white fluffy clouds alternating with some big black clouds looming ominously just as we turned for the carpark.

We adjourned to The Swan for a big breakfast. We would love to do this again! Stephen says there is something all year round to see and hear.

Many, many thanks to Stephen for such a wonderful, energising start to the day.

*Venetia Hopkins*

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## Thought for the month

### Therefore, Choose Life

Some of the key characteristics of living things are metabolism, responsiveness, growth and reproduction. A cabbage is alive and fulfils all the characteristics listed above. But a cabbage does not respond to a ball of string; it is dead to playfulness. A kitten however, fulfils all the characteristics of life listed above and is alive to playfulness. But a kitten does not respond to Shakespeare; it is dead to the arts. Humans fulfil all the characteristics of life listed above and are alive to the arts. But we are not always alive to spiritual matters.



As Christians, we believe that we can fulfil all the characteristics of life and we can become alive to a new dimension of life Jesus described as being born again. We can learn to breathe in God's presence, to become responsive to His Word, to grow in faith and to lead meaningful, fruitful lives. C. H. Spurgeon put it like this, 'We have been raised from the dull sphere of mere mind and matter into the heavenly radiance of the spirit-world.'

In truth, we live in both the world of mind and matter and the spirit-world. We are presented with a choice; not a once in a lifetime choice but a daily, moment by moment choice. We can choose to be responsive to only mind and matter or to be responsive to things of God. The writer of Deuteronomy urges us to, 'Therefore, choose life'.

As we enjoy the season of spring around us, with new life and new growth breaking forth all around us, may we pause to consider the new life available to us all. That the God of all creation reaches towards us and offers to make us a new creation, to offer us life in all its fullness, to gift us an imperishable life. Therefore, choose life.

*Paul Jacobs*

*Bagley Baptist Church*

# Sport Reports



## Isle of Wedmore Golf Club

April is very much a transitional month at the Golf Club with play moving off the winter tees, the winter competitions finishing and the weather not quite sure which of the four seasons it's supposed to be. This was amply demonstrated mid-month when the Seniors' competition was wiped out by rain on the Monday and then bright sunshine arrived for the Ladies Spring Meeting on Thursday. This comprises two competitions, an individual Stableford in the morning followed by a team Bowmaker in the afternoon. The lower handicappers play for the Midgley Cup and produced the best scores of the day. Ronnie Follenfant scored 34 to secure fourth place. Shirley Turner just beat Carole Lewis, who had the only two of the day, on countback for second and third place. The clear winner though and the only player to beat par on the day, was Jane Hewitt coming in with 37 points to take the trophy.

There was a very close finish in the bronze division with three players all coming in with 33 points. Just behind these was Wendy Lucas, taking fourth place on 32. Countback over the back 9, or in this case, back 6, was needed to sort out the top three with Linda Roberts in third, Audrey Cowlin runner-up and Gill Jones taking the Fry Trophy. Those still feeling fit enough then played the afternoon Bowmaker. Fittest of all was the team of Saybria Sims, Hazel Gough and Vera Ireland, scoring 34 points to beat runners-up Trish Phelps, Carole Lewis and Sue McDonald by a single point.



*Prize winners at the Ladies Spring Meeting*

Appropriately wintry weather returned for the finals of the club winter knock-outs. In the Singles, Tom Smith led by 5 holes against Jim Dobbs with only 5 to play but saw this lead whittled away before finally closing the match out 2 & 1.

The pairs was a close affair with Darryl Cornelius and John Wormald just getting home against Liam Cann and Dale Worthington at the final hole. The Seniors also

held the finals of their winter knock-outs, both in wet and windy weather. The singles saw Ian Robson take on Terry Simpson. Terry got off to a bad start from which he never recovered with Ian running out a comfortable winner. Terry Simpson was back in the pairs playing with Tony Hoskings against Calvon Poulton-Sadler and Roy Tomlins. This was a closer game but, with Tony struggling with an arm injury, Roy and Calvon won 2&1.



*Jim Dobbs and Tom Smith with referee Mike Garbutt prior to the Club Winter Singles Final*

The Club Stableford moved to white tees which, with wind and rain, restricted scoring. Nigel Jones still recorded gross 73 to win division 1 with 38 points, one better than both Tony Glover and Simon Moore. An even closer finish in division 2 saw Mike Garbutt, Ian Robson and Alan Chambers all finish on 37 points with countback determining the places in that order. It was almost as close in division 3 with Ian Williams on 36 just one point ahead of both Marcello di Mascio and Frank Denniston. Amongst the Ladies, Sue Chambers won on 33 with Dawn Chadwick second on 32.

The Monthly Medal attracted only a relatively small field and without any brilliant scoring despite good course conditions. Best scores, as well as the closest finish, came in division 3 with three players all on nett 68. Countback put Don Sarjant in third despite a birdie on the last with Terry Simpson again in the places, this time second behind winner Keith Thomas. 68 was also the winning score in division 1, this time from Tom Smith finishing 2 shots ahead of, and one letter different from, runner-up Dom Smith. John Russell was third on 72. Dom Channon's 73 was good enough to win division 2 ahead of Charles Woodard on 75 and Bobby Jones on 76. Pam Berry had the best score of the day amongst the Ladies.

No white tees for the Seniors Medal and some exceptional scores despite the rain. Leading the way in division 1 was Chris Norris on a nett 63 with Martin Peakman second on 66 and Peter Searle on 67, edging out a group of 3 others on count back. Derek Meades matched the nett score of 63 to win division 3 by 7 shots from Philip MacMahon with David Adams third on 71. There was a closer finish in division 2 with George Smith winning on 66, closely followed by John Cutter on 67 and Tony Hoskings on 68.

There was a very clear winner in the Ladies Medal with Joan Peck winning on 72 in very difficult windy conditions. This put her 6 shots ahead of second placed Sue McDonald with Sue Tarry then beating Deidre Wheadon on countback after both scored 79 and Sue Spink taking the final prize on 80.

Seniors Captain Mike Tanswell and Professional Nick Pope took on all-comers in the Captain/Pro Challenge during the month. They came in with a respectable 33 points which still left them a good way behind the leaders. There was a close race for second place with 3 pairs all scoring 41 points. Countback over the back nine saw Jim Crick and Derek Moody in fourth place behind Bob Cotgrove and Martin Blackmore with David Russell and Philip Horn taking the runners-up spot. Clear leaders by 2 points, however, were Tony Roe and Tony Biggs with 43 points, including a burst of 20 points on the first seven holes.

April saw the season end for the Tuesday Ladies Group led, as always, by June James with support from Gill Jones and Diane Miller and designed, in part, to encourage some newer golfers. The season finale, a Texas Scramble, saw a win for Ronnie Follenfant, Sue Griffiths, Joan Joy and Shirley Restorick. The season's prize for the best three rounds went to Sue Edwards with 60 points, closely followed by Sue McDonald and Mary-Lou Denny.

*Tony Biggs*

## **Wedmore Tennis Club**

### **Summer League**

A number of new and junior players have joined the summer league teams this year.

The men's A team of John Cooksley, Craig Phillips and Ben Wylie were joined by assistant coach James Mitchell to win their opening match against Woodland A.

The B and C teams in division 2 were drawn against each other for their first match. Newcomer, Ken Thie, played with the more experienced Rob Sweet and new member James Knight, with Matt Drew against Baz Attiwell, Steve Randall and Henry Neville. Tenacious play by C team members Baz and Steve gave them 2 points in their 9.2 loss.

Experienced men's D team captain, David Evans, led his youthful team members, Nick Jamieson, Callum Scott and Kieran Davies, into their debut match for a comfortable home win, 10.0, against Weston C.

In the ladies' matches, the A team were drawn against the newly promoted B team and mercilessly defeated them 10.0, while the C team defeated Cheddar C 10.0.

The ladies D team played a long first match in difficult conditions against Clevedon C – Sue and Lucy were still playing their first rubber after the other Wedmore home teams had finished their matches. Matty and Vicky looked like they were going to win their match against Clevedon's first couple, having taken the second set 6-0, but lost the third set 6-3. However, they recovered to win their second match in straight sets. Sue and Lucy lost their first match in a very close third set tie break, 8-6, then lost in straight sets to the first pair.



The newly promoted E team left court earlier than expected following an injury to one of their opponents and won 7.5 away at Wrington, while the newly formed F team made their debut against Lymphsham B. Sarah Tipping and Dae Sasitorn started off very nervously against the A pair and lost in straight sets, but after the break managed to win their second match in three sets. Kimberley Myers and Faith Guest lost their first set (Kimberley having tried to start the match without a racquet!), but recovered to win the next two sets easily. In their second match they lost the first set 0-6, but came back strongly in the second, 4-6. A great start on court for them – two rubbers and 4 points on the scoreboard – was followed by much merriment in the clubhouse.



*Ladies F team*

## Grade 5 Tournament



*Wills House*

The Club hosted its first grade 5 tournament on the new courts in excellent, sunny playing conditions on Sunday 17 April.

During the morning 23 youngsters, of whom eight were from Wedmore, took part in mini red, mini orange girls and mini green competitions.

All 'mini' competitors played very well. The mini red, played as a round robin event, was won, after seven matches, by Wills House from Wedmore.

The mini orange was also played as a round robin which allowed the girls to play five matches each and the mini green competition was based on a compass draw with players offered two additional ratings matches. The orange event was won by Evie Norris-Bishop

from Devon and the green by Avon's Joseph Brazier, with Matthew Jackson, also from Avon, runner up.

A ladies doubles event was held during the afternoon. Four pairs from Wedmore, together with pairs from Sherborne, Exmouth, Brent Knoll and Burnham/Cheddar competed to an impressive level with players' ratings as high as 5.2. Each pair played three matches with the final being won 6-2, 6-2 by Ines Beeson and Annabel Richardson. Following some entertaining rallies they defeated Cheddar's Amy Rossiter and Burnham's Megan Rundle, the highest rated and, aged 12, the youngest competitor. Do look out on the website for upcoming competitions which may be entered via the LTA website.

### **Ladies Round Robin**

The Ladies Winter Round Robin tournament has been completed. Unfortunately, due to injury, the final between Kimberley Myers with Charlotte Wright and Jane Higginbottom with Kate Knight could not be played, so a walkover was awarded to Kimberley and Charlotte. Congratulations to all four for winning their boxes to reach the final.

### **Tony's Tea and Tennis**

Tony and Diana Pearman, assisted by Jane Pottow, organised the first of the tea and tennis afternoons on the bank holiday weekend Saturday. Playing and non-playing members, together with playing guests, enjoyed a mainly sunny afternoon of tennis and home baked cakes.



*Tony, Diana and Jane serving cakes*

*Sarah Cunningham*

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# Church News

## Weddings and Christenings

The church has been the venue for celebrating many of the great events in people's lives over the centuries and still today people choose to celebrate life's happy occasions in church. It helps root our own lives in a wider sphere of being.

Anyone who lives within the villages served by Christchurch Theale, St Mary's Wedmore, Allerton Church and Holy Trinity Blackford, or who used to live here or who have parents living here are entitled to be married in one of these churches whether you come regularly to church or not and whether you have been christened yourself or not. It is also possible for those who have been divorced to be married again in church, although some discussion is needed beforehand in these cases.

Anyone bringing their children for christening will be most welcome, whether or not they themselves attend church.

If you are thinking about getting married, or want to find out more about a christening, the Revd Richard Neill would be happy to talk with you and explain a bit more. Or have a look at either [www.yourchurchwedding.org](http://www.yourchurchwedding.org) or [www.churchofenglandchristening.org](http://www.churchofenglandchristening.org)

## 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 5 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 Thursday 16 June at 7.30pm. Confirmation classes will begin in September.

## The Big Birthday Lunch

Free Tickets are available now for The Big Birthday Lunch at St Mary's church on Sunday 12 June. It's to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday on her official birthday weekend with a Street Party style picnic lunch in and around church.

All are welcome to the event in St Mary's. Tables and chairs will be set up both inside and around church (so we can cope with good and bad weather), with space for those who just want to bring a blanket. Simply bring the food and drink you need for your own group or family. Sharing is welcome but not compulsory! We will supply the venue, the tables and chairs, the decorations, squash and water. There will be appropriately themed craft tables for children, a bouncy castle and hopefully some live music.

There is no charge and you are welcome just to turn up on the day; but so that we know roughly how many to expect, it will be helpful if you can pick up a ticket from Wedmore Village Stores or from St Mary's. There is no Dress Code but why not come dressed in a 'Red, White and Blue' theme.

Have a look at <http://www.thebiglunch.com/> or <http://www.thepatronsunch.com/> for information about the national celebrations of which ours in Wedmore is a part.

## A Right Royal Tea and Songs of Praise

All are welcome to Theale Village Hall on Sunday 12 June for afternoon tea to mark the Queen's Official Birthday. This will be followed by a special Songs of Praise, featuring hymns from different decades of the Queen's life plus some congregational favourites. Tea is at 4.00pm with Songs of Praise at 5.00pm in Christchurch. There is no charge for tea but, so that there is an idea of numbers, please call either 712144 or 713189 to book.

## 'On a Wheel and a Prayer'

On Wednesday 15 June, 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.



Timings of the route are as follows:

<b>10.30 am</b>	Cocklake	Lane End Farm
<b>10.40 am</b>	Crickham	Crickham Baptist Chapel
<b>10.50 am</b>	Clewer	Clive Weare House
<b>11.20 am</b>	Stone Allerton	Stone Cross
<b>11.30 am</b>	Chapel Allerton	Allerton Church
<b>11.40 am</b>	Ashton	On the corner next to Hill View Farm
<b>11.50 am</b>	West Stoughton	T Junction with the road to Allerton
<b>12.00 noon</b>	Blackford	Holy Trinity
<b>12.15 pm</b>	Westham	On the corner next to Bockingford House
<b>12.25 pm</b>	Heath House	Ash Tree Farm
<b>12.35 pm</b>	Sand	Upper Sand Farm
<b>12.50 pm</b>	Mudgley	Court Farm Cottages
<b>1.00 pm</b>	Bagley	Bagley Baptist Church
<b>1.10 pm</b>	Theale	Christchurch
<b>1.25 pm</b>	Wedmore	St Mary's

## Parish Registers

### Baptisms

Welcome to the following baptised into God's church recently

Millicent Taylor, daughter of Gareth and Lara, baptised at St Mary's, Wedmore on Sunday 17 April 2016.

Dotty Hole, daughter of James and Alice, baptised at St Mary's, Wedmore on Sunday 17 April 2016.

Corey Devitt, son of John and Karen, baptised at Allerton on Sunday 24 April 2016

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# Church Services

## St Mary's Church, Wedmore

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

Sunday	5	Trinity 2	10.30 am	Parish Communion
			6.00 pm	Start the Week
Sunday	12	Trinity 3	10.30 am	Parish Communion
			6.00 pm	Start the Week
Sunday	19	Trinity 4	8.00 am	BCP Holy Communion
			10.30 am	Family Service
			6.00 pm	Start the Week
Sunday	26	Trinity 5	10.30 am	Parish Communion
			6.00 pm	Start the Week

*Junior Church welcomes children aged 4-11 on the fourth Sunday of each month, while a supervised crèche for pre-school children runs on special occasions.*

## Holy Trinity Church

Sunday	5	Trinity 2	9.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	12	Trinity 3	9.00 am	Sunday Breakfast at the Village Hall
Sunday	19	Trinity 4	6.00 pm	Holy Communion / Prayers for Healing
Sunday	26	Trinity 5	9.00 am	Parish Communion

## Christchurch, Theale

Sunday	5	Trinity 2	11.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	12	Trinity 3	5.00 pm	Songs of Praise
Sunday	19	Trinity 4	11.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	26	Trinity 5	11.00 am	Parish Communion

## Allerton Church

Sunday	5	Trinity 2	9.00 am	Family Service
Sunday	12	Trinity 3	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday	19	Trinity 4	9.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	26	Trinity 5	9.00 am	Youth Communion

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

## Bagley Baptist Church

A group of ordinary people with an extraordinary God.

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

Every Wednesday 10.00am-12.00 noon '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!

NB There is no Fathers' Day event at Kings of Wessex School this year.

*For details, please telephone 710779 / 712812 / 713267, email [contactus@bagleybaptist.co.uk](mailto:contactus@bagleybaptist.co.uk), or come and see us at [www.bagleybaptist.co.uk](http://www.bagleybaptist.co.uk)*

### **Wedmore Methodist Church**

Sunday	5	10.30am	Lois Emm
Sunday	12	10.30am	Local arrangement
Sunday	19	10.30am	Revd Carol Chaplin Family Service, Holy Communion
Sunday	26	10.30am	Rob Haskins

### **Crickham Baptist Church**

Every Sunday	10.30 am	Sunday School
	6.30 pm	Evening Service

*Contact Dulcie Hooper on 712187.*

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

Thursday	10.00 am	Mass
Friday and Saturday	9.30 am	Mass
Saturday	10.00 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation
Sundays	9.00 am	Mass

*Contact Father Philip Thomas on 742564.*

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# **Axbridge and Wedmore GP Practice**

## **Surgery Opening Times**

### **Wedmore Surgery**

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

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

Telephone 712774

### **Axbridge Surgery**

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

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

## Extended Surgery Hours

The practice offers an extended opening hours service. This extra service is being offered in response to the wishes of patients expressed in the Patient Surveys. During the 'Extended Hours' a GP will be available for routine appointments outside normal surgery times.

These appointments are not for emergencies or to see a nurse, they are dedicated to those patients who find it difficult to attend during normal surgery hours.

Extended hours surgeries are held:

### Axbridge Surgery

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

### Wedmore Surgery

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

Saturday . . . . . Alternate weeks 8.00am to 9.30am

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

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

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# Wedmore Community Bus

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

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

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



Controller Taunton	Angeline Duckett	712631
Controller Bridgwater	Angeline Duckett	712631
Controller Weston super Mare	Pam Meadows	712143
Controller Street	Rosy Brooks	713697

The bus is also available for private hire. It can be booked by contacting Rachel Bennett, telephone 07807 156069 or email rachbennett1@hotmail.co.uk

# What's On in the Parish

# June 2016

1 - Wed	Camelot Quilters'	10.00am	Wedmore VH
3 - Fri	Mr Punch's Folk Club with Guests David and Issy Emeney	8.00pm	The Panborough Inn
4 - Sat	Fairtrade Coffee Shop Coffee Morning in Aid of Christchurch Theale	9.30 – 12.00 10.30 – 12.00	St Mary's Church Old School Bagley
6 - Mon	Green Wedmore	8.00pm	The Swan
7 - Tue	Wedmore Young Farmers	7.30pm	The George
8 - Wed	Probus Blackford Cafe Wedmore Arts Festival (Until Sun 17 Jun)	10.00am 2.00pm	Wedmore Golf Club Blackford VH
10 - Fri	Mr Punch's Folk Club Open Mic	8.00pm	The New Inn
11 - Sat	Wedmore in Bloom Work Party Chapel Allerton Flower Festival Craft Fair Stone Allerton Open Gardens A Right Royal Rave Up	9.30am 10 – 5.00pm 11 – 1.00 2 – 5.30pm 7.30pm	The George Allerton Church Wedmore VH Stone Allerton Chapel Allerton Church
12 - Sun	Holy Trinity Breakfast Chapel Allerton Flower Festival Charity Open Garden The Big Birthday Lunch Stone Allerton Open Gardens A Right Royal Tea and Songs of Praise	8.30am 10 – 5.00pm 10.30am From 1pm 2 – 5.30pm 4.00pm	Blackford VH Allerton Church 5 Gardiners Orchard St Mary's Church Stone Allerton Christchurch Theale
14 - Tue	IOW Gardening Club North Devon Outing	9.15am	Cheddar Road Car Park
15 - Wed	Club 50 Outing to Oxford Camelot Quilters' Parish Council Meeting Blackford Village Hall Meeting IOW Community Bus AGM	9.15am 10.00am 7.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	Dept Cheddar Rd Car Park Wedmore VH Council Rooms Grant's Lane Blackford VH The Swan
16 - Thu	WI Meeting, Guest Speaker Steve Price	7.30pm	Masonic Hall
17 - Fri	Mr Punch's Folk Club Open Mic	8.00pm	The Panborough Inn
18 - Sat	Theale Community Cafe	10.00am	Theale VH
19 - Sun	Theale Film Club – Bridge of Spies	6.30pm	Theale VH
21 - Tue	Wedmore Young Farmers	7.30pm	The George
25 - Sat	IOW Wedmore Guides Jumble Sale + Tea and Cake NANTWICH (Now ANOther That's What I Call Hymns) Allerton Players' Annual Summer Entertainment	10.00am 6.00pm 7.00pm	Wedmore VH St Mary's Church Lime Kiln Farm West Stoughton

## Regular Weekly Events

### MONDAY

Modern Dance	4.00pm	Blackford VH +	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438
Beavers	5.30pm	Scout Hut +	Thelma Jenkin-Jones	01934 710467
Bridge Club	7.00pm	Masonic Hall	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438
Scouts	7.15pm	Scout Hut +	Sue Freeman	01934 741861

### TUESDAY

Tuesday Club	10.30am	Masonic Hall	Bristol Ballet Centre	0117 960 5844
Ballet Classes	3.45pm	Blackford VH +	Lou Merryfield	07973 429947
Acting Up Drama Club	3.45pm	Wedmore VH +	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438
Cubs	6.30pm	Scout Hut +	Nigel	07775 682231
Circuit Training	7.30pm	Blackford VH	Kaye Morgan Anstee	07799 814204
Cardiodance	7.30pm	Wedmore First School	Gail Millard	01934 713922

### WEDNESDAY

Rainbows	4.30pm	Wedmore VH +	Lisa Hall	01934 713566
Brownies	6.00pm	Wedmore VH +	Elaine Tilling	01934 713650
Guides	7.00pm	Wedmore VH +		01934 712686
Yoga	8.00pm	Blackford VH +	Sandra Mailey / Gareth Smith	01934 710471

### THURSDAY

Wedmore & Blackford Toddlers	9.30am	Blackford VH +	Shane Allen	01275 790175
Yoga +	10.30am	Masonic Hall	Lily Sawtell	
Life Drawing Class	10.00am	The Swan	Pat Taylor	01934 713430
Over 50s Dance Group	10.30am	Wedmore VH	Shane Allen	01275 790175
Yoga	11.30am	Masonic Hall	Bristol Ballet Centre	0117 960 5844
Ballet Classes	3.45pm	Blackford VH +	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438
Cubs	6.30pm	Scout Hut +	Chris Steel	07799 068669
Mendip Rotary Club	7.15pm	IOW Golf Club	Jo Page	01934 710431

### FRIDAY

Tots and Tinies	9.15am	Wedmore First School +	Eileen Sanders	01934 710353
Wedmore Art Group	2.00pm	Masonic Hall	Kayleigh Branston	07748 916695
Karate	5.00pm	Blackford VH		

+ Not taking place during school holidays