

# ISLE OF WEDMORE NEWS



**April 2019**  
No. 472

## Editorial

Welcome to the April Edition, number 472. I think April and May are my two favourite months of the year when the landscape bursts back into colour and the prospect of warm sunny days ahead looms large.

This is also the time of year when the IOW News wishes to make some modest financial grants to a few deserving causes within the Civil Parish of Wedmore. If your organisation would like to make such an application please would you email or write to me by Tuesday 30 April, briefly outlining what you would use the funds for. Ideally yours will be a 'Not for Profit' Organisation probably reliant upon volunteers to remain operational. My contact details are below. Applications will be discussed at the May meeting of the IOW News Management Committee.

Well, as you might expect with Easter upon us, we have a full-on month here in Wedmore with an array of coffee mornings, craft fairs and a diverse range of events taking place. Particular highlights are on Saturday 13 April when the Farmers' Market returns and the Young Farmers present their 85th Annual Show at the George Hotel. There is also an opportunity to go and sing Faure Requiem on Saturday 27 April at St Mary's Church. So hopefully something to suit everyone.

As always, thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition and this time I would like to pay particular tribute to the people who distribute our magazine, which is a difficult and time consuming task, but a hearty thank you to all who take this on.

Lastly, may I wish all our readers a Happy Easter.

Bill

## Deadline for May Edition: 1 April 2019

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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

Daffodils are one of the flowers that provide an early splurge of colour. We dodged the traffic to take this photo of the sign and flowers welcoming visitors to Wedmore.

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# News

## Parish Council Business

There were several apologies for the February meeting so the decision as to who would receive this year's Henry Butt Trophy was deferred so that all Councillors would have an opportunity to vote. Members awarded each village hall a grant of £500 towards their running costs and are considering upgrading the heating in the Council Rooms. Dr Dennis Briaris gave an excellent presentation on 'Building a Passivhaus in Wedmore' which was well received. I hope that many of our readers will have had the opportunity to hear him speak at the Annual Assembly.

*Rod Pring  
Wedmore Parish Council, Grant's Lane, Wedmore Somerset BS284EA  
Telephone 713087, email: wedmoreparishcouncil@gmail.com*

## The New Inn, Wedmore

As many of you are aware, Frank and Debbie will leave the New Inn on Sunday 31 March. I would like to personally thank them for being such good custodians of the pub over the last 10 years and I wish them a long and happy retirement.

The New Inn will be closed from Monday 1 April until Thursday 11 April and will re-open on Friday 12 April at 6pm.

*Alan Wilcox*

## Wedmore Community Bus

We are looking for a few volunteers to come forward to drive the bus and / or act as controllers for the four set destinations we travel to each week. The work is not arduous and provides a valuable service to everyone in the Parish, especially to those who can no longer drive or feel safe to do so. If you can give up some time in support, please contact Mike Bewick on 07794 781975

## The Wedmore Street Fair

The Wedmore Street Fair will again be held in The Borough, Wedmore on Saturday 6 July 2019. The theme for this year's event will be announced in due course. The relevant booking form is available at the back of this edition.

## Wedmore Harvest Home

Date for your diary!! Planning has begun for our 2019 event which this year will take place on Friday 16 August. We look forward to seeing you all there.

*Wedmore Harvest Home Committee*



## The 2019 Wedmore Harvest Home Business Directory

The 2019 Directory is now being prepped! If you would like to advertise your business with us please get in contact with Sarah Weare (07884017560).

All adverts will be printed in FULL colour. 1000 directories will be printed. These will be given out during July into local businesses and on our event day in August. There are four sizes to choose from, with four prices to suit all different businesses. (£25, £50, £100 or £200 per advert.) Contact us today!

## Wedmore Arts Festival – Two Stellar Names Join the Line-Up!

Legendary actor Charles Dance and iconic television reporter Kate Adie will both be talking about their hugely successful careers at two of our popular Lunchtime talks during the Festival. Charles will be at the Village Hall at 12 noon on Saturday 11 May, discussing his amazing body of work with the film director Don Boyd (who entertained us with his own anecdotes at last year's Festival). Kate, who covered a large proportion of the world's most unforgettable events for the BBC for over 30 years, will be talking at The Swan Wedmore on Wednesday 15 May, also at 12 noon. Both events are followed by a lunch at Beggar's Roost.



See our striking brochure for full details of these and all the other events happening during the week:

- James Rippingale (Classical Guitar Recital)
- The Somerset Choral Society with young violinist Poppy McGhee
- Richard Shelton (Sinatra and Me),
- Mike Dilger (The Trials and Tribulations of a Natural History Presenter)
- Jeremy Cole (Organ Recital)
- Anita Harris (With an evening of song, chat and humour)
- Liz Grand (in Where is Mrs Christie?)
- A Literary Evening (three local authors discuss what keeps the creative juices flowing)
- Retired DCI Trevor Bowles (On the art of detective work)
- Henry Blofeld (78 Retired)
- The Dave Hankin Big Band (The Magic of Glenn Miller)

This year we also have a very special event for children which will take place in the Village Hall on Saturday 18 May: Amy Lloyd-Jones, with her magical Tallulah Swirls Puppet Theatre, will bring to life her own version of the Arabian Nights tale The Fisherman and The Genie.

Full details are on the website and in our distinctive Festival brochures which are widely available in and around Wedmore. Tickets are on sale from 3 April from The Village Store or from the website.

*Dorothy Wright*

## Art Exhibition: Wedmore Arts Festival 2019

As part of the Wedmore Arts Festival, 11 – 18 May there will again be an Art Exhibition. Together with Heath House Art Group, ‘>threads’ – a textiles group, Wedmore Paper Art Group, Wedmore Art Group, and Wedmore First School Academy’s Year 4 class, there will be individual artists including a photographer exhibiting their work.

The exhibition organisers would like to invite any further interested local amateur artists to exhibit with them and, if interested, to contact Heath House Art Group (Jackie Hall 01934 712877 or jacquelinhall@tiscali.co.uk).

## Outcome of Questionnaire: St.Mary’s – A Building for the Future?

As promised in an earlier edition of the Wedmore News the church is publishing the results of the recent questionnaire. Of the 900 copies distributed to properties in the Parish there were 89 returned which may not seem many but is significantly higher than many surveys of this nature.

The outcome was most interesting and it has to be said that it was never expected that some of the more contentious options or outcomes such as sport being played in the church would be welcomed.

The Church Parochial Church Council will now be considering which if any of the favoured options will be pursued, and the primary purpose of the church as a place of worship will be pre-eminent.

However, it is clear that one of the main drivers will be improvement to the heating in the church as the present system is very old and costly and ineffective. No-one should underestimate how costly this may be and expert advice will be sought to determine the most cost-effective long-term solution and fund-raising will almost certainly be necessary as the congregation members alone will not be able to provide the necessary investment.

No further comment is appropriate as the results below speak for themselves:

Not everybody responded to each heading and therefore the table below indicates a view under each heading by number responding:

Heading	Number of responses	% in favour of improvement
Lighting	44	86% in favour of improvement
Heating	57	94% in favour of improvement
Removal of pews	71	59% in favour of removal increasing to 79% when those in favour of removal from centre of Nave only were included.
Catering	48	83% in favour of improvement
Organ	33	69% in favour of no change
Choir stalls	31	61% in favour of no change
Projection facilities	54	100% in favour
Candelabra	19	42% want them raised but not removed
Stage	18	61% in favour of temporary enlargement

More detailed drill down shows that 33 regular worshippers responded and of these:

- 6 were in favour of retention of pews; 22 in favour of removal particularly in centre of Nave
- 21 were in favour of enhanced catering facilities
- It is hoped that everyone in the parish will be interested to see the outcome as it is clear from comments made that the church building is highly valued by the community it serves.

*Mike Gelder*

*Keeper of the Fabric, St Mary's Church, Wedmore.*

## **The Wedmore 40 / 30 Cycle Ride**

The Wedmore 40 / 30 returns after a great inaugural event last year. Once again riders can choose from a selection of four routes: 12, 30, 40 and 70 miles.



The 12-mile route is a fun ride, the 30-mile cycle is a short ride across the Somerset Levels and the 40-mile route is a hilly cycle across the Mendips. And for a bigger challenge, cyclists can embark on the 70-mile route which incorporates both the Mendips and the Levels.

As the event is being held on Father's Day, Sunday 16 June, there is a special opportunity this year for any children aged 16 and under to register and cycle for free, as long as they are accompanied by an adult family member.

All routes start from Wedmore Playing Fields.

This year the organisers are pleased to be supported by Tout's Budgens who will be providing the majority of the catering.

The event will raise money for Weston Hospicecare and Friends of St Mary's Church, Wedmore.

To register go to [www.tiny.cc/wedmore4030](http://www.tiny.cc/wedmore4030)

## **Students help in Wedmore's Community Woodlands**



Students from Cannington have been helping maintain the community woodlands on the edge of Wedmore as part of their studies.

A dozen students from Bridgwater and Taunton College's land-based studies centre at Cannington have worked with Green Wedmore in cutting down thorn, restoring an overgrown pond and clearing ditches.

The two adjoining woodlands off Gooseham Lane were planted by Green Wedmore 10 years ago to provide a public amenity, create wildlife habitats, help reduce climate change and be a sustainable source of fuel.

We rely on volunteers to maintain the woodlands, so having working parties of students from Cannington help us has been brilliant,' says Rob Richley from the

group. 'Their enthusiasm and hard work has been really inspiring and we are very grateful to them for their massive contribution.'

Alan Sinclair, course leader in Agriculture, Food and Land Management at Cannington, added: 'As part of their course, students undertake practical work and learn new skills related to countryside, which includes working with external groups such as Green Wedmore and Somerset Wildlife Trust. The students thoroughly enjoyed assisting with work on the community woodlands, making both a positive environmental impact and a contribution to the local area and its residents.'

The community woodlands are a 15-minute walk from the village centre; starting at the public footpath at the end of The Lerburne, go over the footbridge on the right and follow the round green signs to Terry's Wood.



*Rob Richley, Green Wedmore*

## **Our Health and Wellbeing**

In consultation with Axbridge and Wedmore Medical Practice and in agreement with Wedmore Parish Council, here is this month's topical tip relating to our health and wellbeing. We hope these will inspire us to live life to the full!



### **Are we what we eat?**



There are those who say 'we are what we eat'. Whether this is true or not, we can't fail to be aware of all the advice about healthy eating - eat less sugar and fat, eat more fruit and vegetables and drink less alcohol. And for the younger members of Wedmore parish we want them to grow up healthily and with the correct weight. Whatever age we are, we can have more energy and feel more comfortable in our own skin if we eat a healthy diet and maintain

a good weight. And yet for many of us it's not quite as easy as it seems. If you want more information and a helping hand, go to [www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-weight](http://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-weight), [www.healthysomerset.co.uk](http://www.healthysomerset.co.uk) and [www.nhs.uk/change4life/food-facts](http://www.nhs.uk/change4life/food-facts). Here you will find useful tools and how to find practical help. The Axbridge and Wedmore practice team use these resources so you can be confident the advice is consistent.

*Axbridge and Wedmore Community Health Team*

# Wedmore Young Farmers' Club 85th Annual Show – Saturday 13 April



Wedmore Young Farmers' Club will be holding its 85th Annual Show on Saturday 13 April at the George Hotel in Wedmore. This is a truly unique occasion and Wedmore is the only Somerset Young Farmers' Club to still hold its own livestock show. The George Hotel shares a long history with the club and it is truly a sight to behold to see all of the livestock and craft exhibits in the grounds of the pub. Judging will commence at 10 am and people will be able to see dairy and beef cattle classes as well as sheep,



pigs and poultry. Club members also exhibit a variety of floristry, cooking and crafts. Food and drink are available and the prizes are awarded at around 1pm. The club has a membership that ranges from 10-26 and they support many local events. The members then hold their dinner and dance in the evening at The Oaktree Arena, where they celebrate the previous year and award the prizes.

## **Wedmore Methodist Church Events**

A 'Friendly Coffee & Chat' will be held In the Methodist Schoolroom on Friday 19 April commencing at 10.30am and probably finishing around 12 noon. This will be a monthly event to be held on the third Friday morning of each month.

Everyone is welcome to this very informal gathering; there will be complimentary coffee or tea and biscuits and if you wish to bring along a craft to do whilst chatting, then please feel free to do so. Your 'well behaved' pets are also welcome.

On Saturday 27 April will be have our Annual Coffee Morning/Craft Fair in the Masonic Hall at 10.00 am. There will be the usual Cake and Produce Stall, Bric a brac, 'New to You,' Raffle, Prize every time stall and Crafts. Refreshments will be available. Entry £1.50 to include Tea / Coffee and Biscuit. Everyone will be made very welcome.

## **Blackford Village Hall**

Blackford Village Hall, which has excellent facilities and parking available, has some current capacity for new bookings on Thursday and Friday evenings, and some mornings and early afternoons. Booking enquiries can be made to Mrs Margaret Tinney on 01934 712324.

## **Somerset Choral Society Choral Workshop – 'Come and Sing Faure Requiem'**

The Somerset Choral Society invites all singers in the area (SATB) to join us in our Choral Workshop "Come and Sing Faure Requiem" on Saturday 27 April in St Mary's Church, Wedmore between 10.00am and 3.00pm. Registration will begin at 10.00am and will cost £10 + £3 for score hire if required; the price will include hot and cold drinks and biscuits throughout the day and the workshop will end with an informal performance at 2.30pm. There will be a one-hour lunch break at midday and two rehearsal breaks. The workshop will include several choral pieces from the Requiem including the 'Sanctus'. For more information please contact Sarah at [SomersetChoralSociety@hotmail.com](mailto:SomersetChoralSociety@hotmail.com) or tel: 01934-742134 or view our website [www.somersetsingers.co.uk](http://www.somersetsingers.co.uk)



## **Charity Golf Day in support of The Samaritans – Friday 6 September 2019**

Advance Notice

Although this year's Samaritans' Charity Golf Day at the Isle of Wedmore Golf Club is still some way off, we thought there is no time like the present to give all golfers the date for their diaries now.

As you may be aware Samaritans is a charitable organisation that provides confidential emotional support for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those which may lead to suicide. This event has, on two previous



occasions over the last four years, raised significant sums towards the running of the Weston-super-Mare and N.Somerset Samaritans Branch which is run entirely by unpaid volunteers and without any financial assistance. Our branch has annual costs of circa £30,000 pa, all of which we have to raise. We are so grateful for the generosity of those who support us by taking part in fundraising events and for donations from local groups and charities.

The competition will, as usual, be based on teams of four, playing a 4-ball Bowmaker format with the two best Stableford scores to count on each hole. Team entry fee (same as for 2017) £140 with a £10 pp reduction for members of Wedmore GC.

We do hope that those of you who have supported this event previously will do so again and, of course, we would welcome anyone wanting to participate for the first time. It is a great event for such a worthwhile cause.

For more information and entry forms, please contact any of the following: David & Holly 01934 713392 or email: davidwdcole@gmail.com; Andrew 01934 712642 or email: andymidge1@aol.com ; Shirley 01934 713214 or email: shirlsturner@yahoo.co.uk or Sarah 01934 712003 or email: sarahmathews5@me.com

## Grow a fuchsia for Theale Flower Show!



It's never too early to think about your entries for this year's Theale Flower Show on Saturday 7 September. Why not grow a fuchsia plant and enter Class 83! It's easy, just come along to Theale Village Hall on Saturday 20 April between 10am and 12 noon to collect your FREE fuchsia plug. Pot it up and nurture it and then enter it in to the show. The details on how to enter will be in the August edition of Wedmore News and in the Theale Flower Show schedule, available on and after the Wedmore Street Fair. When you collect your plug on 20 April, you can also buy a cup of coffee as it's Theale Cafe that day too. If you

have any questions contact the Show Secretary, Cathy Butterworth, on 01934 712775.

## Music in Mind – Group for People with Dementia and their Carers

Forthcoming dates are 1 and 29 April and 13 May.

*Stella Moore*

*Registered Music Therapist, HCPC 01934 732282*

## The Farming Community Network (FCN)

It's good to have someone to talk to. Call us on the FCN Helpline; 03000 111 999 7am to 11pm, every day of the year. FCN.ORG.UK



## Wedmore Neighbourhood Plan



The Examiner's Report into the Neighbourhood Plan was received on 26 February. The Report confirms that, with certain modifications, the plan can now proceed to Referendum. This will take place on Thursday 2 May, the same date as the District and Parish Council elections.

The Examiner's report and her recommendation can be seen on the Neighbourhood Plan website ([www.Wedmore.online](http://www.Wedmore.online)).

The Examiner's recommendations are non-negotiable, so they will all be incorporated in the final plan. However, they include:

- The affordable housing threshold will be reduced from 11 units to 6 units.
- She has no objection to an affordable 'local lettings' policy which gives priority to Wedmore residents and workers.
- She increases the capacity of the Westholme Farm site from 11 to 16 homes to reflect the permission granted by Sedgemoor.
- She removes the low carbon/energy efficient proposals where they were to apply to housing. They now apply only to commercial development.
- The individual components of the Wedmore Transport Strategy are moved from Policy WED8 to the supporting text.
- Some design criteria are deleted.

If a majority of those who vote in the Referendum vote in favour of the Plan, it will become a statutory part of the development plan and all planning applications will have regard to its provisions. Please use your vote on 2 May!

*Bob Sellwood  
Chairman of the Neighbourhood, Plan Group*

## **IT for the Terrified**

Are you Terrified of Tablets? Or irritated by iPads? Or Stumped by Samsung? Then why not give us a ring and see if we can help?

IT for the Terrified provides help with using tablets, smartphones, cameras, computers, and similar devices on a one to one basis. Each informal session of two hours costs £10 and is tailored to meet the individual's needs, in a relaxed and friendly way, using their own equipment. Our volunteer trainers can help with most subjects and fully understand that the use of modern technology can be daunting to the newcomer. We can cover android phones, android tablets and iPads, iPhones, Windows and Macs.

If you are a beginner getting started or have some experience and need help with something new, please telephone us 01934 741751 as we will need to book an appointment for you. We meet at Cheddar Village Hall next to St Andrew's church, Church Street, Cheddar, BS27 3RF. Appointments are essential and cost £10 for a two-hour session, but please ask if there is more than one of you or you have any other requirements.



*Contact us at I.T. for the Terrified: 01934 741751  
(usually goes to a standard answer phone – please  
leave a message)*

[www.itfortheterrified.co.uk](http://www.itfortheterrified.co.uk)

[itfortheterrified@btconnect.com](mailto:itfortheterrified@btconnect.com)



*Usually using Cheddar Village Hall, Church Street, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3RF  
Registered Charity No. 1130308: Company No. 06779600  
Or if you have any basic skills to share, please get in touch.*

## **2019 Wedmore Farmers' Markets**

The Farmers' Market will recommence on Saturday 13 April and be held thereafter on the second Saturday of each month until and including December.

## **Vintage and Antique Fairs**

These will be held on the first Saturday of every month in The Borough Yard, starting on 6 April.

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# **A Day in the Life**

Are you a local professional or someone involved in running a local organisation in the Isle of Wedmore? Would you like to share some of the things you do or perhaps raise awareness of your organisation? Please contact Liz Sweeney by email, [photoswedmorenews@gmail.com](mailto:photoswedmorenews@gmail.com).

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# **Focus on Businesses**

## **Prowse Interiors and Antiques**

Recently, I spoke to Martin Prowse and Rachel Stark who opened Prowse Interiors and Antiques in the Borough Mews last summer. This is their first retail venture as Martin's career has been in sales and Rachel has specialised in health care administration and management.

Martin spent most of his childhood in Somerset before moving to Plymouth. After leaving school he worked in the traditional indoor market in Plymouth for a delicatessen business. He then occupied various posts in field sales (visiting shops to promote and sell products) and sales management. In July last year he was made redundant and was therefore faced with a decision on his future career.

For many years he had bought and sold antiques as a hobby, but then it became more than a hobby as he started to sell them, realising that he could make it into a small business. He particularly likes ceramics and, in fact, anything that looks nice. Over the years he has built up knowledge about what sells best and so he decided to try his hand at selling antiques for a living. Rachel set up a Facebook group last Easter and they also planned to sell through stalls at local events.

The 2018 Wedmore Street Fair in July was the first event they attended. Martin and Rachel live near Bridgwater but Rachel had come to the Wedmore Street Fair on previous occasions with a colleague who lives in Blackford. The colleague, Sue, suggested that they take a stall at the Street Fair, which they did. Rex Gould, the owner of The Borough Yard and Mews, came up to the stall and asked if they would consider organising an Antiques Fair on a regular basis in the Borough Yard. When they visited the premises, they saw that one of the units was available for rent and expressed their interest. They moved in shortly afterwards.

Although they already had quite a lot of stock in their house, in the early days of the new venture Martin had to make a concerted effort and travel many miles to find

additional items to ensure that the shop offered a wide range of high quality and attractive vintage and antique products. Now, he says, people tend to come to him – mostly local households that are clearing, downsizing or decluttering. He reserves Mondays for visiting houses and doing assessments.



Rachel takes care of the finance, administration and communication for the shop as well as some of the restoration work (such as cleaning the brass and copper!). She is in the shop only on Saturdays because she has a full-time job in Bridgwater. She grew up near Bridgwater and worked part-time in a Medical Centre while studying for her A Levels. She intended to go to Exeter University but had a promotion at the Medical Centre and decided to study for her degree in Health and Social Care through the Open University. Later, she gained a Masters Degree in Strategic Management and HR at Bristol. She has been Practice Manager at the Medical Centre for the past 19 years. She is also active in

medical associations – for example, she is the Chair of the Federation of Local GPs and is a Director of Somerset Primary Healthcare.

Communication through social media is an important part of Martin and Rachel's new business as they use their Facebook page to talk about new items available for sale and customers can buy from the page. Rachel also told me that everyone in Wedmore has been very welcoming. She is happy to 'try to give a little back' by using their Facebook page to promote the village. This can be promoting events, advertising local businesses and even giving information on the car park and how to get into the village. She intends to set up a website and Instagram and maybe even twitter for their business soon. The Facebook group with 600 active members is also the main vehicle for the organisation of the Vintage and Antiques Fairs. They held three Fairs at the end of last year, which were a success for both stallholders and customers. Starting again this month (April), the Fairs will be on the first Saturday of each month, with about 15 stallholders, which should bring a lot of visitors to the village.

*Liz Sweeney*

## Do You Run a Business in the Parish?

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

*Liz Sweeney*

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# Reports and Society Updates

## St Mary's Church 100 Club

Congratulations to the two winners in the February draw, namely Mrs Sue Hayter with ticket no 53 and Mrs Andrea West with ticket no 37.

## Wedmore Harvest Home 100 Club Lottery 2019

Congratulations to the February winners of our 100 club. 1st place Lloyd Hewish and Sarah Howe. 2nd place Claire Willcox. Your cheques are on the way!

## Wedmore Opera Goers Society Outings

Thursday 2 May – ‘As You Like It’ in Stratford, tickets from £33

Thursday 20 June – ‘Hobsons Choice’ [Ballet] at Birmingham Hippodrome, tickets £55

Saturday 22 June - Matthew Bourne's ‘Romeo and Juliet’ in Cardiff, tickets £55 (a completely different take on the story as usual by him).

Tickets are available from on 712515 and the cost will include the coach.

## Club50

This month we have the first of five coach trips to interesting places:

17 April: Bradford-on-Avon

15 May: Brecon Beacons

19 June: Cirencester

18 September: Stratford-upon-Avon

16 October: Royal Mint, Cardiff

All the trips leave Wedmore Car Park on the Cheddar Road at 9.15am. Return 5.30 – 6pm.

The cost per trip is £15 for members and £20 non-members.

Contact Pauline Lunn if you'd like to come on 01934 732517

## RNLI – News and Local Rescues in February

There were five local lifeboat launches in February (Burnham - 1 and W-S-M – 4). On 4 February, Burnham Lifeboat Station received its new Atlantic 85 lifeboat to replace its previous Atlantic 75. The new lifeboat was named ‘Doris Day & Brian’ at a Naming Ceremony and will have a crew of four.



## Wedmore Gardening Club

As I write this at the end of February we are enjoying a wonderful record-breaking spell of warm sunny weather, and it has been wonderful hasn't it! Most of us seem to have taken advantage and spent lots of time in our gardens. If you have been dividing plants please pot up any spares for the plants sale.

We are sorry that the talk booked for the end of February had to be changed as the gentleman due to speak on 'Spirit of the Japanese Garden' sadly passed away just before Christmas. However, Jan managed to arrange an informative talk by Philip Kertin from Pawlett on Sweet Peas giving us lots of tips on how to grow them successfully. On Tuesday 26 March we have a talk by Don Everit on 'Lilies and Summer Flowering Bulbs'.

'Garden Disasters' by Neil Ross is the talk on Tuesday 23 April. I'm sure a subject on which we all have many stories to share! Meetings are held in the Masonic Hall and start at 7.30pm with, of course, tea/coffee and biscuits after. We look forward to welcoming members and, of course, guests are always most welcome.

Dates for your diaries in May. Our annual Plant Sale and Coffee Morning on Saturday 11 May and the monthly meeting will be on Tuesday 28 with a talk by Roger Tanner on 'Lust and Loveliness in the Garden'.



*Jean Windridge*

## Report of February Isle of Wedmore Society Meeting

The society had a talk from Kylie Gallagher from Children's Hospice South West. The charity was established in 1991 by a couple who had two children who died, both of whom had life-limiting conditions. In 1995 the charity established its first hospice in Barnstaple and 12 years later opened its second hospice at Charlton Farm, part of the Tyntesfield Estate, in Wraxall North Somerset. It has now opened its third Hospice near St Austell in Cornwall.

The Charlton Farm site is set in 100 acres with a wide range of animals reflecting its farming origins. The Children's Hospice is not just about providing end of life care for children with life-limiting conditions and bereavement support for families. About 80% of the stays in the 8-bedroom facility are family stays where whole families can stay to provide respite care or holidays for parents and siblings while staff and volunteers look after the affected child. Without this facility many families with children suffering from life-limiting conditions would not be able to have any sort of holiday or break. Charlton Farm has lots of different facilities to keep families entertained such as soft play, messy play, a music room and jacuzzi/hydrotherapy pool. There are communal facilities including a large dining room and large lounge where many families meet and make new friends. There are also quiet areas where individuals can relax, reflect and enjoy the surrounding environment. All of these facilities and stays are provided at no cost to families who use them.

All of these facilities clearly cost a lot of money to run and maintain with Charlton Farm having an annual budget of about £3.5 million. Most of this money is raised by charitable donations, fundraising events and legacies. Only about 14% of its funding is provided by the government.



Charlton Farm has regular open days where individuals and groups can see the facilities, services and gardens provided for the benefit of families that desperately need them. More information on open days and fundraising can be found on the charities website at [www.chsw.org.uk](http://www.chsw.org.uk)

*Martin Fulford*

## **Green Wedmore News and Updates**

### **Big Tidy Up**

This event was a great success back in February. Thank you to everyone who turned out to help, including the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts who did an amazing job. It was fantastic to see local businesses join in too - special thanks to Rachel and Martin from Prowse Interiors and The Swan for offering volunteers free refreshments afterwards.

A huge amount of litter was collected and sorted for recycling and we hope you notice the difference when out and about. This event has now been running for seven years and we had a record amount of volunteers this time so thank you each and every one of you. Please look out for our next litter pick and come along.



### **Next Meeting**

Monday 1 April, 8pm at The George Public House.

Come along and find out what Green Wedmore are doing in the community. Usual business 8 – 8.30pm everyone welcome. Followed at 8.30pm by a talk about honeybees and solitary bees, looking at honeybees as insects rather than industrial producers for human consumption. Come and find out more about the vital pollination role these creatures perform, and how we can help protect them.

### **Wedmore WI**

Jill, our President, welcomed two new members to the February meeting.

We were reminded of our coffee making duties at the Cheddar Country Market in April and also of the Road Show at Draycott on 9 April.



Business over, Jill welcomed our speaker, Ann-Marie Wilkinson and her husband. Her subject was The Other Phillips Photographic Collection. Thomas William Phillips lived between 1841 and 1914 and lived on the corner of Wells Market Place near the Town hall.

As a young man he was apprenticed to a cabinet maker and also worked as a photographer. Photography became his hobby which he then developed into a business at his home address. On his death, all his photographic plates were donated to Wells Museum. He took hundreds of photographic plates of Wells and the surrounding area and built up the business doing studio photos of weddings, babies and local individuals. The Museum didn't keep all the plates and those of the local people were not of interest to them and went into the Cathedral Archive. We enjoyed seeing some of the many locals in the early 1900s and admiring the fashions of the day and the tiny corseted waists. Thomas married and had seven children born alive and his son Herbert followed him into the business. His range of photographs gives a fascinating view of the life in Wells in the early 1900s.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 18 April in the Masonic Hall at 7.30 pm when our speaker will be Margaret Farnie on 'Japan'. The competition is 'An Easter Card.'

*Diana Rocky*



## **Isle of Wedmore Probus Club**

Our local independent Probus club is a gathering of like-minded men who meet very informally on the second and fourth Wednesday mornings of each month at the Wedmore Golf Club. We have coffee and a chat before listening to visiting speakers covering a wide variety of topics. After this many of us join together for a convivial lunch when anything is on the agenda. We also have visits, some of which are to places not normally open to the public.

We are non-political, non-sectarian and have no fund-raising or charitable activities. It is not compulsory to be retired, just to have an open mind. Membership is a modest £25 per year and we have no attendance commitment.

If you are interested in joining us please contact our Honorary Secretary, Ross Young ([randjyoung@btopenworld.com](mailto:randjyoung@btopenworld.com)) who will be happy to tell you more and to arrange for you to join us at one of our meetings.

## **Cheddar Valley Lions Club**

Cheddar Vale Lions Club would like to thank all those who supported their Jumble Sale. April is the start of a busy time for us – there are 28 Giant Easter Eggs being raffled in local pubs and businesses in the area to raise money for our community work. The Senior Citizens Tea Party is on Saturday 13 April in Shipham Village Hall, from 2 – 4.30 pm. If there are any senior citizens who would like to attend please contact Lion Lyn on 01934 843620. There is no charge and the afternoon includes tea, entertainment and a raffle.

Saturday 27 April is our Spring Craft Fair in Cheddar Village Hall from 10am – 2pm. Do come along as we have an eclectic range of stalls and, if you are a crafter, we have a couple of vacant tables so contact us at [info@cheddarvalelions.org.uk](mailto:info@cheddarvalelions.org.uk).

We are now taking bookings from fetes etc. for our coconut shy, pig racing and candy floss machine; again contact us via [info@cheddarvalelions.org.uk](mailto:info@cheddarvalelions.org.uk).



## Winners of Mendip Rotary's 'The Big Pitch'

'Fancy Fudge', a team of year 9 students from Kings of Wessex Academy won the annual entrepreneur competition, 'The Big Pitch', run by the Rotary Club of Mendip. Scarlet and Florence, from Wedmore revealed that they had made a net profit of nearly £200. Mendip Rotarians judged the competition on five criteria: concept, image, sustainability, profitability and teamwork.



The project started last autumn when a team of Rotarians led by Patrick Simpson worked with staff at the school to put on an Enterprise Challenge Day to stimulate interest in business management. Groups of interested students then set up teams which were mentored for three months by a team of Rotarians with commercial and business experience. A total of nineteen teams entered the competition, and four



*Mendip Rotary president Adam Travis, with Scarlet and Florence from 'Fancy Fudge', and Mike Webb from chartered accountants Webb & Co.*

of them made it through to the finals from which Mendip Rotarians voted for the winners. The young people had designed their products and packaging, organised the manufacture and marketing, and sold them at various events including school Christmas fairs, farmers' markets and during Cheddar Festive Night. At the event finals, each team presented their report and accounts to the assembled Rotarians. The runners-up were team 'Nömm-on' who made biscuits using a traditional German recipe, 'Happy Chappy' who made dog treats, and 'Sweet Creations' who made Christmas-themed sweets.

The event was sponsored by Webb and Co, accountants in Wells. Senior partner Mike Webb congratulated all the teams who had entered. He said, 'Rotary has given these young people a chance to experience the challenges and rewards of business life. I hope that their career paths will lead them to manage enterprises of their own in the future.'

The organiser of 'The Big Pitch', Rotarian Patrick Simpson, said, 'The standard of all the entries was the highest ever this year, and the Business Studies department staff of Kings of Wessex, led by Jo Wilson, are to be congratulated'.

## West Mendip Walkers

West Mendip Walkers is a serious walking group associated with Mendip Ramblers. From small beginnings, seven years ago, the group has grown in size thanks to the help and support of the Wedmore News. We have had an overwhelming response from new members over the last 12/18 months which has proved both challenging for walk leaders, and difficult to manage especially when numbers exceed 20. We are a group that prides itself in walking at a reasonable pace of between 2.5 to 3.00mph depending upon the terrain, and the bigger the group the slower we walk.

We would like to thank the Wedmore News for including our walk programmes in their monthly newsletter, but from April onwards the programme will not feature in the publication.



## Weather Report for February 2019

### RAINFALL



Monthly total	45.0mm	(1.77ins)
30-year average	54.3mm	(2.14ins)
Wettest day (3rd)	19.8mm	(0.78ins)
No of dry days	22	
Last 3 months (Dec - Feb)	174mm	(6.86ins)
Year ending 28 Feb 19	687mm	(27.05ins)
30-year annual average	804mm	(31.67ins)

### TEMPERATURES



Maximum (26th)	16.5 °C	(61.7 °F)
Minimum (3rd)	-6 °C	(-21.2 °F)
Number of air frosts	10	
Monthly average maximum	10.9 °C	(51.6 °F)
30-year average maximum	8.7 °C	(47.7 °F)
Monthly average minimum	2.1 °C	(35.8 °F)
30-year average minimum	1.9 °C	(35.4 °F)

### COMMENTS

Rainfall below average with long dry spell of 18 days (10<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>). Daytime temperatures well above average.

*Denley Brown*

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## Forthcoming Events

### Green Wedmore Meeting – Monday 1 April

At the George. New members are always welcome.

### Spring Fashion Show by Lime of Wedmore – Thursday 4 April

Presented by Claire Bidwell, 7pm at the Wedmore Village Hall. Tickets £20 to include 2 course supper and a glass of wine. Raffle. Tickets available at Lime of Wedmore and the Frock Shop 01278 760800 or contact [admin@helpthechild.org](mailto:admin@helpthechild.org) All proceeds in aid of Help the Child (Charity No 297790).

## **Mr Punch's Folk Club at The Panborough – Friday 5 April**

8pm Open Mic singers musicians and poets all welcome, £2 raffle.

## **St Mary's Fairtrade Coffee Shop – Saturday 6 April**

9.30am to 12 noon. All the usual stalls, Fair Trade Coffee shop.

## **Wedmore Vintage and Antiques Fairs – Saturday 6 April**

In the Borough Yard, 9.30 until 4 pm.

## **Wedmore in Bloom – Saturday 13 April**

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

## **Freecycle Event – Sunday 14 April**

From 10am to 12 noon at the village car park. Come along and give your unwanted items to local members of the community. Think 'Car Boot' but where no money changes hands! A great way to recycle your unwanted items and find them a new home. 'Givers' please arrive at the car park and follow instructions from the volunteers for where to set up. All unclaimed items must be taken away by the owners afterwards.

## **Theale Film Club – Sunday 14 April**

6.30 for 7pm. Members' Choice, West Side Story. Tel 713176 / 712144



## **Club 50 Trip to Bradford-on-Avon – Wednesday 17 April**

Departs Cheddar Road at 9.15 am, return 5.30 – 6 pm.

The cost per trip is £15 for members and £20 non-members.

Contact Pauline Lunn if you'd like to come on 01934 732517

## **Wedmore WI Meeting – Thursday 18 April**

In the Masonic Hall, Guest Speaker, Margaret Farnie on Japan.

## **Wedmore Methodists Coffee and Chat – Friday 19 April**

In the Methodist Schoolroom at 10.30 until 12 noon.



## **Mr Punch's Folk Club at The Panborough – Friday 19 April**

8 pm, Open Mic, singers, musicians and poets all welcome, £2 raffle.

## **Theale Community Café – Saturday 20 April**

At Theale Village Hall from 10 am to 12 noon. You can also collect your free fuchsia plug from the Village Hall to grow for the Theale Flower Show.

## **Wedmore Gardening Club – Tuesday 23 April**

Commencing at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall, a talk by Neil Ross on 'Garden Disasters'.

## **Isle of Wedmore Society – Thursday 25 April**

The April monthly meeting will take place in the Wedmore Masonic Hall, at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Kirsten Rushby and her talk will be titled 'The Role of the Village Agent,' Members free. Visitors £3, with free tea/coffee and biscuits afterwards. Contact: Ian Tomes, 01934 710390.



## **Somerset Choral Society Choral Workshop – Saturday 27 April**

At St Mary's Church from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm.

## Wedmore Methodist Church Annual Coffee Morning / Craft Fair – Saturday 27 April

In the Masonic Hall at 10.00 am.

## Wedmore Vintage and Antiques Fairs – Saturday 4 May

In the Borough Yard, 9.30 am until 4 pm.

## Wedmore Arts Festival – 10 to 18 May



## Wedmore in Bloom Coffee Morning – Saturday 18 May

To be held in the Masonic Hall. Any offers of plants or cakes would be gratefully received. Please contact either Marion Warren-Smith on Tel 712904 or Liz Henderson on Tel 713196.

## Mendip Rotary Club Beer and Curry Evening – Thursday 23 May



7.00 pm at the Wedmore Village Hall. Mendip Rotary Club is pleased to host a Beer and Curry Evening with Tom Dunn of Bath Rugby. Come and hear Tom talk about life as a Professional Rugby Player and the aspirations of Bath Rugby.

Tickets £20 / Person Rugby raffle / auction in aid of Cancer Research UK. Tickets from: Chris Steel 07778672700 or [chris@mhpuk.co.uk](mailto:chris@mhpuk.co.uk)

Jim Mathers 07786 913507 or [jim.mathers@btopenworld.com](mailto:jim.mathers@btopenworld.com)

Mike Gelder 01934 710573 or [mikegelder1000@gmail.com](mailto:mikegelder1000@gmail.com)

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# Vera's Verse for April

## The Somerset Levels

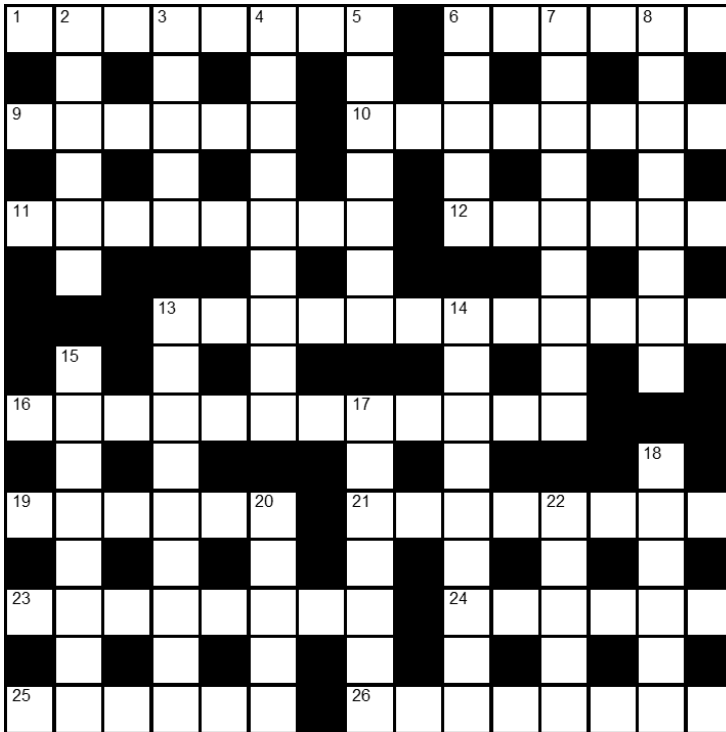
The Somerset Levels hold wildlife treasures  
And are free for everyone to share  
Take your glasses and bird and flower books  
And go and see what's there.  
Try a little bounce or two  
And see how the land floats  
Before the drainage scheme was made  
They travelled in flat bottomed boats.  
The season brings so many birds  
For you to identify  
The skylark is my favourite  
As he sings and flies higher and higher in the sky.  
So many wild flowers and grasses flourish  
The early marigolds and irises give us pleasure  
And a rare orchid to view and cherish  
A memory that we can treasure.

*Vera Banwell*

# The Crossword:

Number 24

By greendandelion



ACROSS:

- 1 After workout Jemima takes a test on horseback (8)
- 6 Female should have battled on (6)
- 9 Firm and present hang together (6)
- 10 Big wins from sailor's saucepans (8)
- 11 Put scheme into action (8)
- 12 Decapod begins swimming, here, right in my pond! (6)
- 13 No optics here, perversely, all round sound is (12)
- 16 Boxing's centre force (12)
- 19 Was Picasso brutally disingenuous holding back such power? (6)
- 21 Delights of happy hideaways (8)
- 23 Soldier very loud in candle constituent (8)
- 24 Going on foot too (2,4)
- 25 Sell from a slot machine or shopkeeper (6)
- 26 Kentucky drives changes making this man take the plunge (8)

DOWN:

- 2 The old sign of freeholders (6)
- 3 Take action before receiving accolade (5)
- 4 Are decently dressed for a gas once the doctor has left (9)
- 5 Notice! Assessor will determine (7)
- 6 Concentrate on the point of convergence (5)
- 7 Superior amphetamine over nearly everyone (9)
- 8 By the sound of it you don't like the chap you send this to (4,4)
- 13 Join ship from port and provide protection for the service (9)
- 14 Display maturity in the larder (9)
- 15 Encourage to lose the second copy (8)
- 17 Bridge player seeing different drivers (7)
- 18 Non-specific person for tennis? (6)
- 20 Refasten, remove number and return with less of a danger (5)
- 22 Name capital Emirate? (5)

Answers at the rear of publication.

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# Events Taking Place Outside the Parish

## Cheddar Baby Book Club – Mondays

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

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

## Cheddar Valley U3A – Monday Mornings

Retired or semi-retired? If you are in Cheddar on a Monday morning between 10.30 am and 12.00 noon come and chat with us over a cup of coffee in the Library. For more details search on line, search for Cheddar U3A or ring 01934 744241.



## Craft and Sewing at Cheddar Library – 1st and 3rd Fridays

Try a variety of crafts, meet new friends, and share ideas and company with the Craft and Sewing Group at Cheddar Library, at 2.00 pm on the first and third Fridays of each month.

At any session you can join in the activities or bring your own craft to do, as you wish. We are a friendly group and new members would be very welcome.

For more details contact Cheddar Library.

## Axbridge & District Museum Opens on 1 April

The museum, located in the National Trust-owned King John's Hunting Lodge in medieval Axbridge Square, opens on 1 April for the 2019 season. The 'District' of the museum's title refers to the old Rural District of Axbridge of 14 villages, including Wedmore.

There's something of interest here for everyone, locals, visitors, young and not so young. Open daily 1.00-4.00 pm, and from 11.00 am -4.00pm on the first Saturday of each month, to coincide with the local Farmers' Market. Entrance is £2.50, and your ticket is valid throughout the season. National Trust members and under-16s visit free of charge. [www.kingjohnshuntinglodge.co.uk](http://www.kingjohnshuntinglodge.co.uk)



## Cheddar Valley Lions Club Senior Citizens' Tea Party – Saturday 13 April

In Shipham Village Hall from 2–4 pm.



## The Burnham and Highbridge Band Presents a Titanic Event – Sunday 14 April

7.00 pm at the Princess Theatre Burnham. Doors open 6.30 pm. Bar and Raffle. Tickets available at the Box Office 01278 784464 [www.princesstheatreburnhamtickets.co.uk](http://www.princesstheatreburnhamtickets.co.uk)

## Axbridge Archaeological & Local History Society – 17 April

Our next meeting will be on 17 April when, following our AGM, Chris Webster will be talking about ‘The Defence of the Bristol Channel in WW2’.

Venue: Cross Memorial Hall BS26 2EL Time: 7.30pm.

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

Full details of this and the full programme are on the website  
[www.aalhs.co.uk](http://www.aalhs.co.uk)



The Axbridge Archaeological and Local History Society will also be putting on an exhibition at the King John's Hunting Lodge in Axbridge on the subject of geophysical surveying and their recent excavation at Poolhayes in Chapel Allerton. The Museum opens at Easter so do come along and see it.

## Cheddar Valley Lions Club Spring Craft Fair – Saturday 27 April

Cheddar Village Hall 10am – 2pm

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# Tasty Morsels – Recipes for You



## Chicken Fajitas

I tried various ways to recreate the oozy cheese you get in fajitas in a Mexican restaurant and found that the best way is to use a mixture of mozzarella and mature cheddar. I periodically make up a Mexican spice mix – the quantity below fits in a typical supermarket spice jar and is also good for chilli con carne and as a rub for barbecued meat.

### Ingredients

For the spice mixture:

6 tsps chilli powder

6 tsps dried oregano

3 tsps ground cumin

1½ tsps ground ginger

1½ tsps ground nutmeg

1½ tsps ground cinnamon

For the fajitas:

A small onion

A small red or green pepper or a mixture of the two

A large chicken breast

2 tsps spice mixture

A 125g ball of mozzarella, drained

About the same quantity of mature cheddar

2 or 3 tortillas



## Method

Slice the onion and pepper and fry in a little oil. Take out of the pan and set aside. Cut the chicken into strips, add some more oil to the pan and fry until almost cooked, then sprinkle over the spice mix. Fry for a minute or two more to cook the spices.

Arrange slices of mozzarella and cheddar in the middle of the tortillas, then add the onion, pepper and chicken on top. Roll or fold the tortillas and arrange in a small baking tray such that the loose ends are underneath and the cheese is on top so it will melt down through the rest of the filling. Cover with foil or another baking tray to keep the steam in so the tortillas remain soft. Bake at 190°C for around 20 minutes. Alternatively, make them more like chimichangas by frying in a mixture of oil and butter.

Serve drizzled with chilli sauce alongside dressed salad, refried beans, guacamole and rice.

*Stuart Fisher*

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# The Garden in April

When I am writing these pieces, I usually look back at what I have said at the same time in a few previous years.

In 2010 I said, as I often have, that March is really daffodil month but that in that year they had only appeared in numbers later in the month. Well, this year they appeared quite early, in February and due to the high temperatures of that month, went over pretty quickly. It will be interesting to see what happens to the later ones which normally flower in April and even into early May.

I have a magnolia called ‘Merrill’ in my garden which normally flowers at the end of March or early April but is already in flower at the time of writing (2 March), so the season is definitely awry.

I have however to assume, for the purposes of writing this contribution, that things will be reasonably normal from now on otherwise it is difficult know what to write about.

I am sure that most of you will have cut your lawns a few times by now; if you have clumps of coarse, undesirable grasses in your sward, they are difficult to remove simply by mowing (lawn grass varieties are usually those that have been bred to survive regular cutting) because they may lie flat as the mower passes over them. If they do this, you can rake them with a wire lawn-rake and mow them again. This also applies to prostrate broad-leafed weeds such as plantains and dandelions; these can be controlled by lawn-weedkillers, but if you don't want to use these, treat them as for coarse grasses.

Now is a good time to apply law fertiliser, but use a slow release one otherwise nutrients may rapidly be leached out by heavy rain and end up polluting watercourses and leading to problems with algal growth, which in turn leads to problems for fish and other aquatic life.

I have said on numerous occasions that my father thought of Easter as the real beginning of the gardening season, especially for vegetable seed sowing. However, Easter this year is about as late as it can be (Easter Sunday is the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Vernal equinox, 22 March) who decided that I am not sure; probably not a gardener.

If you do start your seed sowing at Easter, because it is late, there is less risk of seeds ‘bolting’ because of late frost after they have germinated, but be wary nevertheless. Stagger your planting, which not only lessens the risk of losing your crop altogether, but gives you a succession of crop at harvest time.

We are coming to the end of the time at which you should plant lilies, gladioli and dahlias; if you leave them too late it will be autumn before they flower.

Plums can be pruned from now on as the danger from ‘Silver-leaf’ disease is past. There may of course be pollinated flowers showing little fruit by now, but you may have to cut off some of these if you want to prune the tree.

New lawns can be laid now either by seeding or using turf. Be prepared to water them in the event of dry weather, especially newly germinated seed.

Rose pruning should have been completed by the end of March and manuring and mulching done immediately afterwards to avoid breaking off new shoots that develop as a response to pruning.

This is an ideal time to plant containerised shrubs and climbers, as soil temperatures are rising and leading to more root activity. Try mixing composted bark with the soil taken out of the planting hole before putting it back and treading down. Evergreen trees and shrubs can be planted later than deciduous ones, but still require watering until established.

I could probably go on indefinitely about things to do in the garden in April, but it is better that I let you get on with your gardening rather than reading about it.

*Adrian Hutchison*

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## Thought for the Month

Dear Friends,

Well, I hesitate to use the ‘B’ word but, unless something unexpected has happened (and I’m writing this at the very beginning of March), by the time you read this the UK will no longer be a member of the EU. Some of you will be cheering and others weeping (of course I have my own view, but this is not the forum to express that). Whatever your reaction we can all agree that these have been momentous times which have shone a light on some deep divisions within our society, communities and sometimes within families.

It seems to me that we have become so fixated on either pushing forward the result of the 2016 Referendum or seeking to frustrate it that we have forgotten to try and heal the wounds that it exposed or forgotten to try and empathise with the other. There has been little attempt to move forward together.

At a recent address to an important Church gathering, the General Synod, the Archbishop of Canterbury said this:

‘I urge you to consider giving up cynicism and renewing love for those with whom you and I differ. It is not easy. Some of them have views we find so obnoxious that we wish they were not in the church. We even convince ourselves that really, in God’s mind, because he agrees with us, they are not with us in the church. Yet they and we are equally loved by God in Christ, equally sinners needing to repent, equally part of the body of Christ.’



You can substitute 'society' for 'church' and 'body politic' for 'body of Christ' and his words remain wise and ones that we need to hear as we all seek to listen to each other, try and understand and begin to tackle those disagreements that blight the capacity we have to live together in family, in community, or as a nation.

The opposite of cynicism is hope, a way of life that sees potential in situations and in people. In a few weeks' time it will be Easter, a season of hope. The church is full of optimists and pessimists but we are all people of hope, Easter people. Easter is the most special day in the whole Christian year, more special even than Christmas; because, through the resurrection of Jesus, God shows us that his new creation is dawning. Christians live their lives believing that they are part of that new creation, live lives, in other words, filled with hope.

So, as spring and new life breaks out all around us I pray that we can leave behind that cynicism that blights so much of what we say and do and become Easter people together.

*Your vicar, Richard Neill*

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## Sport Reports

### Wedmore Tennis Club

The Wedmore Tennis Club AGM took place on Thursday 28 March at the Tennis club together with a presentation to David Pottow for his Lifetime Achievement Award by Andy Fay of Somerset LTA.



### Junior Easter Camp

Looking to meet new tennis friends, learn new skills and have fun this Easter? At Wedmore tennis club we design our holiday camps around a blend of tennis and fun filled games run by a fully licensed LTA coach.

Craig Phillips will be running Easter Camp for minis and juniors with children aged 5 years to 15 years from 8 -10 April and also 15 -17 April. 15% discount available if three' sessions are booked in advance. Open to members and non-members.

Please contact Craig Phillips to book sessions at Wedmore Tennis Club. Mobile 07546230727 or e mail [tennis-phillips@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tennis-phillips@hotmail.co.uk)

Rackets are available for new juniors to borrow.

Adults' classes and coaching: please contact Craig for details at the above address.

*Joanna Cooper*

### Isle of Wedmore Golf Club

February may be the shortest month of the year but it managed to pack in several seasons this year, starting in ice and snow and finishing in what would pass for summer. The golfers knew winter had finished because all the Winter Stableford Leagues came to exciting finishes with nobody who started the day in the lead actually winning. These leagues are played over four monthly rounds with the best three scores counting in the season's competition. The Seniors were first to play with Toni Ribi scoring a win



in division 1 on the day, his 39 just edging out both Tim Harris and Steve Lawrence by a single point. Best score of the day was a massive 44 from Trevor Stone in division 3, 6 better than a group of three players with Phillip Springfield and Chris Pearson taking second and third places on countback. Another close finish in division 2 saw Gary Cutter on 38 beat Brian Kidd on countback with Tony Hoskings a shot back in third. In the cumulative scoring John Stent and Martin Olive started in front but failed to improve their total of 111 finishing third alongside Terry Clark. John Russell improved his score by 7 points to claim second place but Steve Lawrence's score of 38 jumped him up 10 points to claim the overall prize on 114.

In the Club League, best score of the day came from Ian Williams in division 3. His 41 points allowed his three round total to leap up by a massive 16 points to 119 to secure the overall prize from Richard Macarthur who failed to move up from 117. Stuart Bishop only completed three rounds but his score of 36 moved him up to third overall with 114, a score matched by Rich Vowles. Dave King won division 1 on the day, his score of 40 was one better than Tim Harris and Rich Vowles. Toni Ribi completed a successful week by winning division 2 on countback from David Poyner and Martin Olive. Paul Stevenson and Chris Monks pressed Ian Williams in division 3, taking second and third place with 39 points. In the Ladies, Debbie Monks finished third on the day with 35, 1 behind winner Shirley Gooding and Abi Moore but enough for her to win overall, moving ahead of second-placed Cathy Olive with Saybria Sims third.

The ladies had a particularly hard time with the weather, facing snow. Storm Erik and finally fog all in the course of the month. They still managed to fit in a Bowmaker, won by Carol Horsley, Eunice Bond and Ronnie Follenfant; another Bowmaker, won by Sue McDonald, Sue Chambers and Debbie Monks; a Greensomes won by Karen Clark and Liz Sweeney; and finished with a medley of all the formats with both nine and eighteen hole competitions, Liz Hill and Wendy Lucas winning the former and Liz Sims and Eunice Bond the latter.

The Seniors generally got the best of the weather. Their Monthly Stableford ended in the closest possible finish in division 1 with three players all scoring 40 points. Twenty one points over the more difficult back nine was enough to give first place to Dom Smith on countback with Steve Lawrence taking second place and Mike Garbutt in third spot. Best scores of the day were in division 2 which was won by Derek Meades with 42 points, just one better than runner-up John Rogers with Tony Hoskings third on 38. Another close finish in division 3 saw Chris Loughlin with 37 win by a single point from Peter Rutter and John Sim who both scored 36.

They followed this with another 'fun' competition which, for once, was a straightforward Bowmaker with no strange rules designed to confuse elderly brains. This was clearly a big help to Frank Denniston, Terry Simpson and Chris Monks who freed from the stresses of calculating their score amassed 90 points between them to win by a comfortable 3-point margin. It was much closer after that with Geoff Fisher, Nick Smith and Eddie Parlour taking second place with 87 points just a single point better than the third and fourth placed teams. Countback awarded third place to Bill Lander, Derek Meades and Clive Williams with Brian Webber, Chris Donald and Bernard Abbott in fourth.

They finished with yet another variation of the Bowmaker, with all three of the

scores to count over the last six holes. The result was a stressful end to the round particularly as the scores were close. Mike Smith, Keith Thomas and Brian Fell coped with the pressure well to win by 2 points with a score of 83. This put them two clear of the rest of the field and more particularly the next three teams, all of whom finished on 81. Countback was required to sort out the places with Mike Garbutt, Peter Spinks and Tony Biggs taking second place, Frank Denniston, Peter Roberts and Nick Smith in third and Geoff Fisher, Tony Roe and Graham Jones relegated to fourth.



*Winner of the Seniors Winter Stableford League Steve Lawrence on the right of runner-up John Russell.*

*Tony Biggs*

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## Church News

### **‘On a Wheel and a Prayer’**

On Wednesday 24 April, the vicar will be conducting the next ‘cycle prayer pilgrimage’, cycling around the different villages and hamlets that make up the Benefice of the Isle of Wedmore that our churches serve, stopping at various points and praying for the particular communities. Details of timings can be found in the churches and you are welcome to join him at any of the stops.



### **Parish Registers**

#### **Baptisms**

Welcome to the following baptised into God’s church recently:

Elsie Ingram daughter of Shane Ingram and Chalotte Welburn of Shepton Mallet (Charlotte formerly of Wedmore) who was baptised on Sunday 24 February 2019 at St Mary’s.

#### **Funerals**

Our condolences go to the family and friends of:

Christine Bunn aged 79 of High Street Blackford who died on 24 January 2019 and whose funeral was in Holy Trinity Church on 11 February 2019

### **Holy Week and Easter Services**

Easter falls on Sunday 21 April. Here is a list of the special church services we will be holding in the week leading up to Easter (known as Holy Week).

## **Sunday 14 April**

(Palm Sunday; when we remember Jesus entering Jerusalem to the acclaim of the crowds). Procession starts from Wedmore First School at 10.00 am with a special Communion Service at 10.30 am.

## **Monday 15 April**

We join together with others from across the Cheddar Valley for a special service in Cheddar Roman Catholic Church at 7.00 pm. Ministers from different churches and different church traditions each lead a short reflection on one of the Stations of the Cross (an imaginative and reflective way of entering into Jesus' suffering and death).

## **Tuesday 16 and Wednesday 17 April**

Night Prayer at St Mary's at 8.00 pm. A short reflective service with a sermon to end the day.

## **Thursday 18 April**

Bring and Share Supper and informal Communion at Blackford Village Hall Trinity at 6.00 pm. Suitable for all ages this is an opportunity to remember the Last Supper of Jesus and his Disciples.

## **Friday 19 April**

(Good Friday when we remember Jesus' death on the cross). Stations of the Cross for children at St Mary's at 10.00 am. An interactive journey around St Mary's tracing events of the trial and crucifixion of Jesus. This will be followed by making Easter biscuits and creating an Easter garden. At 10.00 am some members of Christchurch walk up the hill to Bagley Baptist Church for a service there at 10.30 am remembering Jesus' death. An Hour of the Cross at Allerton at 2.00 pm. Readings, hymns and reflections to mark the last hour of Jesus' life.

## **Saturday 20 April**

(Holy Saturday when we remember Jesus lying in the tomb and prepare ourselves for the joy of Easter Sunday). Easter Vigil at St Mary's Wedmore at 8.30 pm. We listen to important bible readings, sit in silence and wait before lighting lots of candles and proclaiming with joy Jesus' resurrection.

## **Sunday 21 April**

(Easter Sunday, the most important day in the church's year when we give thanks for Jesus' resurrection). The day begins with a sunrise service at Bagley Community Orchard. We begin at 6.00 am let off party poppers, helium balloons and sing joyful hymns. Bacon rolls and coffee are then served at Bagley Baptist Church.

8.00 am Holy Communion at St Mary's

Special Easter Sunday Communion Services at all our churches which will be full of joy and colour. Easter egg hunts for the children follow these.

9.00 am at Allerton Church and Holy Trinity Blackford

10.30 am at St Mary's Wedmore

11.00 am at Christchurch. Theale

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# Church Services

## St Mary's Church, Wedmore

*Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday - Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel at 8.45 am  
Holy Communion is celebrated most weeks on Wednesday morning at 9.45 am*

Sunday	7	Lent 5	10.30 am	Café Church
			6.00 pm	Start the Week
Sunday	14	Palm Sunday	10.00 am	Palm Sunday Procession
			10.30 am	Benefice Communion
Tuesday	16		8.00 pm	Compline & Address
Wednesday	17		8.00 pm	Compline & Address
Friday	19	Good Friday	10.00 am	Stations of the Cross for Children
Saturday	20	Holy Saturday	8.30 pm	Easter Vigil
Sunday	21	Easter Sunday	8.00 am	BCP Holy Communion
			10.30 am	Festival Communion
Sunday	28	Easter 2	10.30 am	Family Service and Baptism

## Holy Trinity Church

Sunday	7	Lent 5	9.00 am	Festival Communion
Sunday	14	Palm Sunday		No Service
Thursday	18	Maundy Thursday	6.00 pm	Bring & Share Supper & Communion
Sunday	21	Easter Sunday	9.00 am	Festival Communion
Sunday	28	Easter 2	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer

## Christchurch, Theale

Sunday	1	Easter Sunday	11.00 am	Festival Communion
Sunday	8	Easter 2	11.00 am	Come & See
Sunday	15	Easter 3	11.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	22	Easter 4	11.00 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday	29	Easter 5	11.00 am	No Service

## Allerton Church

Sunday	7	Lent 5	9.00 am	Family Service
Sunday	14	Palm Sunday		No Service
Friday	19	Good Friday	2.00 pm	An Hour at the Cross
Sunday	21	Easter Sunday	9.00 am	Festival Communion
Sunday	28	Easter 2	9.00 am	Parish Communion

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

## Bagley Baptist Church

Every Sunday 10.30am - Morning service. We have groups for tots to teens, and a lovely playroom for restless little ones. Communion 7 & 19 April.

Every Wednesday 10am - 12noon 'Coffee with a View.' Come for coffee / tea and home-made cakes, our wonderful view and a warm welcome. All free of charge.

We have good parking and wheelchair access.

Every Wednesday (in term time) 7.30 - 9.15pm. We run two youth groups for school years 6 - 8 BBC1 and years 9+ BBC2.

4 April 7.30pm - Prayer Meeting.

14 April 6pm - Ladies Meeting.

19 April 10.30am - Good Friday Service with Communion.

21 April Easter Fun Family Service at 10.30am

For further details, please ring (01934) 710779 / 712812, email [contactus@bagleybaptist.co.uk](mailto:contactus@bagleybaptist.co.uk)

## Wedmore Methodist Church

*Services for April*

Sunday	7	10.30 am	Rev. Tina Swire Holy Communion
Sunday	14	10.30 am	Barry Speddings
Sunday	21	10.30 am	Janet Day Family Service
Sunday	28	10.30 am	Andrew Pugh

*A 'Friendly Coffee & Chat' will be held In the Methodist Schoolroom on Friday 19 April commencing at 10.30am and probably finishing around 12 noon. This will be a monthly event to be held on the third Friday morning of each month.*

## Crickham Baptist Church

Sunday Services: 6.30 pm

Sunday School: 10.30 am

Contact Dulcie Hooper 712187.

## Our Lady Queen of Apostles Catholic Church, Cheddar

Contact Father Philip Thomas - telephone 709244.

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# Axbridge and Wedmore GP Practice

## Surgery Opening Times

### Wedmore Surgery

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

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

Telephone 01934 712774



## Axbridge Surgery

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

Telephone 01934 732464 - Please note the surgeries are closed on Bank Holidays.

### Contact our Clinical Team through our Website

We can also be contacted, in your own time, through our website, with a member of our clinical team replying to you by the end of the next working day. You will be asked to complete an online form. This is useful for non-urgent conditions. We will then contact you and let you know the best action to take.

[www.axbridgeandwedmoremedicalpractice.nhs.uk](http://www.axbridgeandwedmoremedicalpractice.nhs.uk)

### Improved Access Appointments

#### Axbridge Surgery

Tuesdays . . . . . 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm

During these a Nurse/HCA/Phlebotomist will be available for routine appointments outside normal surgery times. These appointments are provided, but not exclusively, for those patients who find it difficult to attend during normal surgery hours.

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

Please visit our website or visit/ telephone the practice 732464 or 712774 for changes to opening hours.

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

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

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# Wedmore Community Bus

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

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

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

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

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



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# Wedmore Street Fair – 2019 Booking Form

C/O Gareth Gosling, Applewood, Mutton Lane, Wedmore BS28 4DS  
or [gareth.gosling@btinternet.com](mailto:gareth.gosling@btinternet.com).

I/we would like to book a stall at Wedmore Street Fair on Saturday 6 July 2019.  
Charities £17, local groups & societies £22 , commercial stalls £40.

I do/ do not require a table at an additional £3.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation / or type of stall:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tel no: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (obligatory):

\_\_\_\_\_

*for receipt & stall details:*

\_\_\_\_\_

I enclose a cheque for: £ \_\_\_\_\_

made payable to Wedmore Street Fair or BACS to WSF account:

Sort code 30 91 84 Account Number 24297168.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Crossword 24 Answers

**Across:** 1. Gymkhana 6. Fought 9. Cohere 10. Jackpots 11. Deployed  
12. Shrimp 13. Stereophonic 16. Middleweight 19. Turbos 21. Gladdens  
23. Paraffin 24. To boot 25. Vendor 26. Skydiver

**Down:** 2. Yeomen 3. Kneel 4. Acetylene 5. Adjudge 6. Focus 7. Uppermost  
8. Hate mail 13. Sideboard 14. Pageantry 15. Simulate 17. Engines 18. Anyone  
20. Safer 22. Dubai

# What's On in the Parish

# April 2019

1 - Mon	<b>Wedmore Knitting and Quilting Group</b> <b>Green Wedmore</b> <b>Wedmore Bridge Club</b>	9.30am 8.00pm 6.45pm	The Scout Hut The George Masonic Hall
2 - Tues	<b>Wedmore Tuesday Club</b> <b>Wedmore Young Farmers</b>	10.30 - 2.30pm 7.30pm	Wedmore VH The George
3 - Wed	<b>Camelot Quilters</b>	10.00am	Wedmore VH
5 - Fri	<b>Mr Punch's Folk Club Open Mic</b>	8.00pm	The Panborough Inn
6 - Sat	<b>St Mary's Fairtrade Cafe</b> <b>Wedmore Vintage and Antiques Fair</b>	9.30am - 12noon 9.30am - 4pm	St Mary's Church The Borough Yard
8 - Mon	<b>Wedmore Knitting and Quilting Group</b> <b>Wedmore Bridge Club</b>	9.30am 6.45pm	The Scout Hut Masonic Hall
9 - Tues	<b>Wedmore Tuesday Club</b>	10.30 - 2.30pm	Wedmore VH
10 - Wed	<b>Probus</b> <b>Blackford Cafe</b>	10.15am 2.00 - 4.00pm	Wedmore Golf Club Blackford VH
13 - Sat	<b>WIB work party</b> <b>Farmers Market</b> <b>Young Farmers Annual Show</b>	9.30am 9.30am - 1pm 10.00 - 1pm	The George The Borough Yard The George
14 - Sun	<b>Freecycle</b> <b>Theale Film Club - members' choice West Side Story</b> <b>Holy Trinity Church Breakfast</b>	10am - 12 noon 6.30pm 8.30am	Village car park Theale VH Blackford VH
15 - Mon	<b>Wedmore Knitting and Quilting Group</b> <b>Wedmore Bridge Club</b>	9.30am 6.45pm	The Scout Hut Masonic Hall
16 - Tues	<b>Wedmore Tuesday Club</b> <b>Wedmore Young Farmers</b>	10.30 - 2.30pm 7.30pm	Wedmore VH The George
17 - Wed	<b>Club 50 coach trip to Bradford on Avon</b> <b>Camelot Quilters</b> <b>Parish Council Meeting</b>	9.15am 10.00am 7.30pm	Wedmore car park Wedmore VH
18 - Thurs	<b>Wedmore WI talk on Japan by Margaret Farnie</b>	7.30pm	Masonic Hall
19 - Fri	<b>Coffee and Chat</b> <b>Mr Punch's Folk Club Open Mic</b>	10.30am - 12noon 8.00pm	Methodist Church The Panborough Inn
20 - Sat	<b>Theale Community Cafe</b>	10am - 12noon	Theale VH
22 - Mon	<b>Wedmore Knitting and Quilting Group</b> <b>Wedmore Bridge Club</b>	9.30am 6.45pm	The Scout Hut Masonic Hall
23 - Tues	<b>Wedmore Tuesday Club</b> <b>Wedmore Gardening Club talk - "Gardening disasters"</b> <b>Wedmore Young Farmers</b>	10.30 - 2.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	Wedmore VH Masonic Hall The George
24 - Wed	<b>Probus</b> <b>Wedmore Harvest Home</b>	10.15am 8.00pm	Wedmore Golf Club The George
25 - Thurs	<b>Isle of Wedmore Society talk "Role of the Village Agent"</b>	7.30pm	Masonic Hall

27 - Sat	<b>Somerset Choral Society -choral workshop</b> <b>Wedmore Methodist Church annual coffee morning/craft fair</b>	10am - 3pm 10.00am	St Mary's Church Masonic Hall
29 - Mon	<b>Wedmore Knitting and Quilting Group</b> <b>Wedmore Bridge Club</b>	9.30am 6.45pm	The Scout Hut Masonic Hall
30 - Tues	<b>Wedmore Tuesday Club</b>	10.30 - 2.30pm	Wedmore VH

## REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

### MONDAY

<b>Fitness2Unique (2 Classes)</b>	9.15am + 8.00pm	Blackford VH	Lisa	07977 415799
<b>Pilates</b>	11.00am	The George	Georgie	07976 254887
<b>Art Group</b>	2 - 4pm	Wedmore VH	Chris Midford	01749 712522
<b>Beavers</b>	5.30pm	Scout Hut +	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438
<b>Bridge Club</b>	7.00pm	Masonic Hall	Steve Pedrick	01934 712852
<b>Scouts</b>	7.15pm	Scout Hut +	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438

### TUESDAY

<b>Fitness2Unique</b>	9.15am + 8.00pm	Blackford VH	Lisa As above	
<b>Chair Yoga</b>	10.00am	The Swan Inn +	Jo Willis	07552 711101
<b>Tuesday Club</b>	10.30am	Wedmore VH	Angela Mills	01934 712607
<b>50+ Dance Class</b>	10.00am	Wedmore VH	Rhian Weston	07854 594268
<b>Ballet Classes</b>	4.00pm	Bristol Ballet Centre +	ashermann99@hotmail.com	
<b>Acting Up Drama Club</b>	3.45pm	Wedmore VH +	Lou Merryfield	07973 429947
<b>Cubs</b>	6.30pm	Scout Hut +	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438
<b>Circuit Training</b>	7.30pm	Blackford VH	Nigel	07775 682231

### WEDNESDAY

<b>Fitness2Unique</b>	9.15am	Blackford VH	Lisa	As above
<b>Rainbows</b>	4.30pm	Wedmore VH +	Gail Millard	01934 713922
<b>Brownies</b>	6.00pm	Wedmore VH +	Gail Millard	01934 713922
<b>Guides</b>	7.00pm	Wedmore VH +	Elaine Tilling	01934 713650
<b>Yoga</b>	8.00pm	Blackford VH	Sandra Mailey	01934 712686
<b>PilogaFit</b>	10.30-11.30am	Wedmore VH	John Beasley	01749 672482
<b>Tai Chi</b>	12.15-1.15pm	Wedmore VH	John Beasley	01749 672482

### THURSDAY

<b>Yoga</b>	10.00am	Scout Hut	Shane Allen	01275 790175
<b>Maturity Gang</b>	10.30am	Wedmore VH	Pat Taylor	01934 713430
<b>Ballet Classes</b>	3.45pm	Bristol Ballet Centre +	ashermann99@hotmail.com	
<b>Cubs</b>	6.30pm	Scout Hut +	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438

### FRIDAY

<b>Fitness2Unique (2 Classes)</b>	9.15am	Blackford VH	Lisa As above	
<b>Tots and Tinies</b>	9.15am	Wedmore First School +	Jo Page	01934 710431
<b>Wedmore Art Group</b>	2.00pm	Masonic Hall +	Jim Collett	01934 712663

+ Not taking place during school holidays