

ISLE OF WEDMORE NEWS



May 2024
No. 530

RODERICK THOMAS

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Roderick Thomas



Editorial

My optimism in the last editorial for drier weather in April seemed to be misplaced but let's hope, as we head into the May and Spring Bank Holidays, the weather decides to be kinder. I was recently lucky enough to acquire an allotment but, having entombed a few seed potatoes in the clay mud we enjoy here in Wedmore, I decided to bring on everything else in pots until the ground has drained a little. Fingers crossed for this month!

Events start to come thick and fast on the Isle of Wedmore this month: start the month improving your life by attending events across three venues on Wedmore Wellbeing Day; enjoy spectacular views of the village from the top of St. Mary's Church Tower; attend the wide range of events in the bigger-than-ever Wedmore Festival; and don't forget the annual Parish Assembly later in the month. Further information on all these and more in the following pages.

Cheers, Ian

Front Cover

Dave Powell used a drone to take this photo during a previous St Mary's Tower Tour event. This year's visits to the top of the church tower will take place on Monday 6 May.

Liz Sweeney

Deadline for March Edition: 1 May 2024

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Wedmore News is digital! Each edition will be published on The Isle of Wedmore Website, www.theisleofwedmore.net. If you are a contributor who for copyright reasons does not want your entry included, please make this clear when sending it to the editor.

Key Events This Month

Here is your round-up of the key events this month. **Please see the articles later in this magazine for full details.** More exciting things to do across the Isle of Wedmore are also covered in the regular centrespread 'What's On' listings.

Wedmore Wellbeing Day – 4 May

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This is the third Wedmore Wellbeing Day and runs from 9.30 am to 2.30 pm with over 40 events across three venues in the village. 'Find Out' and 'Try Out' for our Health and Wellbeing at Wedmore Village Hall, Masonic Hall and St. Mary's Church. Free entry. Visit www.whawb.co.uk for more details.

St. Mary's Tower Tours – 6 May

The ever-popular St. Mary's Tower Tours will take place this year on Bank Holiday Monday, 6 May, from 10am.

Cheddar Male Choir Concert – 10 May

Cheddar Male Choir is performing a concert at Draycott Memorial Hall on Friday 10 May, starting at 7.30 pm. See News and Events from Outside the Parish for more details.

Bagley Community Orchard Grand Annual Plant Sale – 11 May

Bagley Community Orchard will be holding their Grand Annual Plant Sale, and much more besides, on Saturday 11 May 2024 from 11.00 am to mid-afternoon.

Wedmore Festival – 11 to 19 May

This year's Wedmore Festival is going to be unlike anything you have ever witnessed before. With so much going on in Wedmore during May, you'll wonder how on earth we managed to pack all this impressive talent into such a small space! Visit www.wedmorefestival.co.uk for more details.

Cheddar Vale Lions Country Music Festival – 18 and 19 May

Cheddar Vale Lions Club are presenting their 3rd Annual Country Music Festival at Petruth Paddocks Campsite in Cheddar.

The Parish Assembly – 24 May

A popular and vibrant community evening, where ideas are discussed, plans made, and people brought together through their shared passion for their homes and village.

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Coming Soon

Below is a selection of events coming up in the Isle of Wedmore later in the year, so get these dates locked in and plan your year around them. We will bring you further details in later issues of the Wedmore News closer to the events.



Wedmore Theatre – Blithe Spirit – 19 to 21 June

Showing at Wedmore Village Hall, Noël Coward's *Blithe Spirit*, subtitled 'an improbable farce', involves a man with two wives, one dead and the other very much alive, and who both lay claim to him, and you clearly have great potential for a farce. Add to that an eccentric clairvoyant who unwittingly summons the ghost of that dead wife, who can then only be seen by her husband, and you have classic comedy. It's 'Ghosts' 1930s style!

Tickets now available from TicketSource on www.wedmoretheatre.com or in the Wedmore Village Store.



wedmore opera

Wedmore Opera – Encore! – 6 July

Following Wedmore Opera's sell-out production of *The Marriage of Figaro* in October, you don't have long to wait for another chance to hear some of those amazing voices raise the roof.

On Saturday 6 July soloists and the chorus of Wedmore Opera will be performing a selection of favourite opera arias in Wedmore Village Hall. The bar will be open from 6pm with Pimms and other summertime treats.



Wedmore Harvest Home – 17 August

The next Wedmore Harvest Home will be held on Saturday 17 August 2024. See later editions of this magazine for further details nearer the time.



Wedmore 40-30 – 1 September

Growing every year, the Wedmore 40-30 cycling event will take place on 1 September this year. Registration **now open** for the 70-, 40-, 30-mile routes and for the family friendly 12-miler.



Wedmore Real Ale Festival – 13 to 15 September

The ever-popular Wedmore Real Ale Festival will take place this year from 13 to 15 September.

News

Parish Council Business

Dear fellow parishioners,

As we tiptoe into spring, it's time for our monthly update from the heart of Wedmore's local governance! So, grab a cuppa, settle in, and let's dive into the latest news from your friendly Parish Council Clerk.

Parish Assembly & Henry Butt Award

First things first, mark your calendars for Wednesday, 22 May. We're throwing our annual Parish Assembly bash at none other than the Recreational Ground, right above the Post and Wicket. It's set to be an evening filled with community spirit, lively discussions, and maybe even a slice or two of Victoria Sponge!

But wait, there's more! We'll also be rolling out the red carpet (figuratively speaking, of course) for the prestigious Henry Butt Award for 2024. Who will be the lucky recipient this year? You'll have to join us to find out! Trust me, it's an event you won't want to miss.

Call to Arms: We Need You, Councillors!

Now, onto some serious business. As your ever-dedicated Parish Council, we're on a mission to recruit more superheroes—ahem, I mean councillors—to join our merry band. Picture this: you, donning your metaphorical cape, swooping in to save the day for your beloved community. Sounds pretty heroic, right?

But really, folks, we're in dire need of fresh faces and eager minds to help steer the ship. Whether you're a seasoned pro or a newbie to the world of local governance, there's a spot for you at the table. And hey, no need to worry about fancy qualifications—we're all about that life experience!

What's in It for You?

Now, you might be wondering, 'Why should I throw my hat into the councillor ring?' Well, let me tell you—it's all about making a difference. Whether you're passionate about potholes, playgrounds, or pensioner picnics, there's a cause here with your name on it.

Plus, being a councillor isn't all meetings and memos. Sure, we've got our monthly pow-wows (maybe I'll start supplying biscuits), but there's also the fun stuff—think village events, firework displays, and the occasional Christmas tree wrangling. It's like being part of an exclusive club, but with more hi-vis vests.

How to Get Involved

So, you're ready to take the plunge? Fantastic! Becoming a councillor is as easy as pie (well, maybe easier, depending on your pastry skills). We can co-opt councillors at any time because we are very low on numbers, so get in touch with me I'll send you over your nomination pack and you're off to the races!

And remember, if you've got questions, quibbles, or just fancy a chat about all things parish-related, we're always here to lend an ear. After all, that's what community is all about—coming together to make our corner of the world a little brighter, one council meeting at a time.

Until next time, stay sunny-side up, Wedmore!

Lindsey Baker, Clerk, Wedmore Parish Council

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Wedmore Wellbeing Day – 4 May

We are delighted that, at the time of writing, we have over 40 exhibitors ready to meet you on our third Wedmore Wellbeing Day on 4 May. They will be exhibiting in three venues across the village from 9.30 am to 2.30 pm - Wedmore Village Hall, the Masonic Hall, and St. Mary's Church. You can find out what a Health Coach does; what the NHS App. does; how our Village Agent could help you; have your blood pressure tested; hear joyful singing in the Church; and listen to the ringing of the bells, while you relax with a drink and delicious cake in St. Mary's Coffee Shop.

For the photographers amongst you, visit the Isle of Wedmore Society stand to find out about their photographic competition. Where can you go on the Community Bus? What do Women in Wedmore get up to? and the Men in their Shed!! This is just a sample of what is on offer to support our health & wellbeing.

The day is supported by Wedmore Parish Council, Cheddar Vale Lions and Axbridge & Wedmore Community Fund. Thanks also to Reverend Richard Neill for the use of St. Mary's Church. For more information and a list of expected exhibitors go to www.whawb.co.uk. If you need transport or company to visit Wedmore Wellbeing Day, Good Neighbours may be able to help, just call 01934 806299.

Isle of Wedmore Society Photography Competition – ‘Wedmore in Focus’

In last month's issue of the Wedmore News, the Society announced its intention of holding a photography competition. We can now announce we will be launching the competition at the Wedmore Wellbeing Day on 4 May!

‘Wedmore in Focus’ is a photography competition for everyone, of all ages, in the Parish of Wedmore. You have all summer to take photos, but you will need to register for the competition before 12 August.

You are invited to get out and about and take photos of either the ‘Historical’ aspects, or the ‘Natural and Green’ aspects of the Parish of Wedmore, with top prizes of £25 for each category! You can enter one, or both, categories and you could start straight away to capture the magnolias, or spring flowers in the Wedmore in Bloom tubs, to promote our beautiful Parish.

Be ready to present your best photographs (max 3 in each class) on 19 or 20 August, for judging by a panel including the esteemed local photographer, Robin Gray. A public display of the photos will then be held in the Guild Chapel of St. Mary's church from 24-26 August.

Registration forms and rules are available from the Post Office and the Village Store or, if you prefer, online at www.bit.ly/iowspphoto

Wedmore Festival 2024

What a Choice!

It starts on Saturday 11 May with a fascinating insight from Hannah Martin, Make-up Artist to the Stars. And it ends on Sunday 19 May with a debut concert by four good friends who also happen to be four good musicians now appearing as The Wedmore Festival Ensemble!



In between these two brilliant events you've got a whole fabulous Festival to enjoy.

- An exhibition showcasing local artistic talent.
- A Violin and Piano Recital by Poppy McGhee and Derek Paravicini.
- A Night at the Musicals with Georgina Sweet.
- A peep behind the artist's canvas with Art Historian Simon Gillespie.
- A nail-biting introduction to 'cosy crime' by Emylia Hall.
- A terrifying encounter with Sherlock Holmes and his GIGANTIC Hound.
- Some inspirational insights from PR Guru Lynne Franks OBE.
- A spellbinding tribute to the music of Kate Bush.
- A chance to listen to our very own correspondent, Festival Patron Kate Adie CBE.
- Musical memories of the Fab Four – Live at the Bluebird Café!
- A tea-time treat with Belle Street and their vintage-style cabaret.
- A right laugh with hilarious, yet bafflingly optimistic, comedian Andy Parsons.
- A traditional celebration of Spring with Darren Royston and the Nonsuch Dance Group.
- And a farewell from the Beach Boyz playing Goodbye-brations (and other numbers!) in their final tribute tour.

And, in an extension to last year's debut event for buskers, we are opening the 'floor' to a broader spread of street performers. Please contact suzannemettters@hotmail.com for further information.

Full details of the Festival can be found in our glossy programme, copies of which will be distributed in and around Wedmore, or visit our website www.wedmorefestival.co.uk

Tickets are now available online and in the Wedmore Village Store.

Dorothy Wright

Bagley Community Orchard Grand Annual Plant Sale

Bagley Community Orchard will be holding their Grand Annual Plant Sale, and much more besides, on Saturday 11 May 2024 from 11.00 am to mid-afternoon.

Visit our beautiful Community Orchard and pick up some lovingly home-grown plants, whilst enjoying the beautiful views across the moors to Glastonbury Tor and the Axe Valley to the Mendips! Also on offer will be local arts & crafts and a variety of 'pre-loved' garden and other tools for sale. (Any unwanted garden and other tools that you would like to donate would be much appreciated).

Other tempting offers include a delicious selection of teas, refreshments, home-made cakes and other goodies, locally made preserves and jams, plus BBQ hot food. Try your luck at winning on the tombola whilst enjoying backing music from our local talents. This will be an 'open mic' event, so please do 'pop' along and showcase your talents!

We look forward to welcoming you on the day in support of our local community charity. Contact Chris on 07770 778034 for details, any donations which will be most welcome or any other enquiries. Find us at Snake Lane, Bagley, BS28 4TE.

Chris Joyce

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St. Mary's Tower Tours



The ever-popular St. Mary's Tower Tours will take place this year on Bank Holiday Monday, 6 May, from 10am. Experience one of the best views in Somerset from the top of the tower of St. Mary's. Please note that the steps are steep, narrow, and dusty, so please come suitably fit and attired.

The cost is £7.00 per person - including tea and cake. Reservations are needed to be assured of a climb (Children must be 8 and over). Contact 07984 924432 or email dahopkins@aol.com for reservations.

Theale Show

It's never too early to think about your entries for this year's Theale Show on Saturday 7 September!

It's certainly time to start thinking about your potatoes if you want to enter the grand 'Ted's Taters in a Tub' competition! This is what you need to do:-

- Potatoes to be grown in a maximum of 25 litres of soil or compost.
- Any variety or number of seed potatoes may be used.
- Changing or replacing the growing medium is not permitted.
- Haulms to be cut.

Then on how Day, on 7 September there will be the Big Dig at 5.00 pm!

Each competitor will be required to turn out the container when asked to do so by the judge.

The judge will weigh the crop of potatoes.

The prize is for the competitor with the heaviest crop of potatoes in the container.

The prize will be £5.00 and a novelty trophy. So don't delay, plan to plant today! There is more information about how to grow potatoes successfully in containers on the world wide web!



Why not grow a geranium plant and enter the geranium Class! It's easy, you can collect your geranium plug for 50p, either from the Theale Show stand at Wedmore Wellbeing Day on 4 May or from Theale Café at Theale Village Hall on Saturday 18 May between 10am and 12 noon, where you can also buy a cup of coffee and maybe a bacon bap.



Pot it up and nurture it and then enter it into the Show. The details on how to enter will be in the August edition of Wedmore News and in the Theale Show schedule, available online from 1 August.

Remember you need to register your entry by 9.00 pm on Thursday 5 September 2024. Go to www.thealeshow.com for details about how to make your entry and about the Show.

If you have any questions contact the Show Secretary, Cathy Butterworth, on 01934 806157, cb@theconsultant.org

Cathy Butterworth

Lent Lunch at the Masonic Hall Wedmore

We would like to thank all those who helped on the day and those who supported the Lent Lunch held on 16 March in aid of a local women's refuge.

The total donations came to over £500, and we couldn't have achieved this without you. All the money is going to support victims of domestic abuse. Thank you so much for your generosity towards such a good cause.

St. Mary's Church

Jurassic Coast 10k Challenge

As the date gets closer Penny, Trish, Virginia, and I are training hard for the above challenge. We are walking to raise money for the Motor-Neurone Disease Association (MND) in memory of my dear husband Peter Small who sadly died of MND. Such a cruel disease for which, at the moment, there is no cure.

Money we raise will go towards funding much needed resources that people living with MND can access through local MND branches and also towards much needed research for a cure.

The walk is a mixture of coastline, beach, countryside and, oh, those hills. The reward for climbing the hills is spectacular views of Dorset's Jurassic Coast. Locally, Crook Peak and Glastonbury Tour make ideal places for us to train.

Please could you help by donating, if you are able and would like to, on the JustGiving page www.justgiving.com/page/matty-small-1709307846133 or scan the QR code. The money goes directly to MND weekly, so we are already making a difference with the donations we have collected so far. Thank you so much!



Matty Small

Wedmore Community Bus Needs New Volunteer Drivers!

The community bus has vacancies for volunteer drivers for Scheduled Services on Mondays to Fridays and/or Private Hire for community and social groups on weekday evenings and at weekends.

We would particularly welcome volunteers connected with community groups as we'd like to expand use of the bus by this sector.



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- is great fun as the bus is a friendly place where there is normally a happy buzz of conversation and plenty of laughs.
- isn't difficult. All drivers are given free training by an approved Somerset CC trainer. This is provided before the volunteer starts driving and is repeated every 4 years.

Volunteers do need to have category D1 on their driving licence, but this should be available on all licences gained before September 2008. They will also need to undergo a DBS check (Disclosure and Barring Service) which we will arrange at no cost to the volunteer.

Interested? If so, please contact us either by email on wedmorebus@gmail.com or telephone Phil Butterworth on 01934 712775.

For further details of the Community Bus and its services go to the Wedmore website at www.theisleofwedmore.net under Local Directory/Wedmore Community Bus or email us on wedmorebus@gmail.com

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This summer's Avalon Camps will take place from Sunday 28 July to Friday 2 August. As always, we need lots of volunteers to help with: setting up camp from Wednesday 24 July; running camp including cooking, washing up, sandwich making, laundry, night security, and toilet cleaning; and closing down the camp from Saturday 3 August.

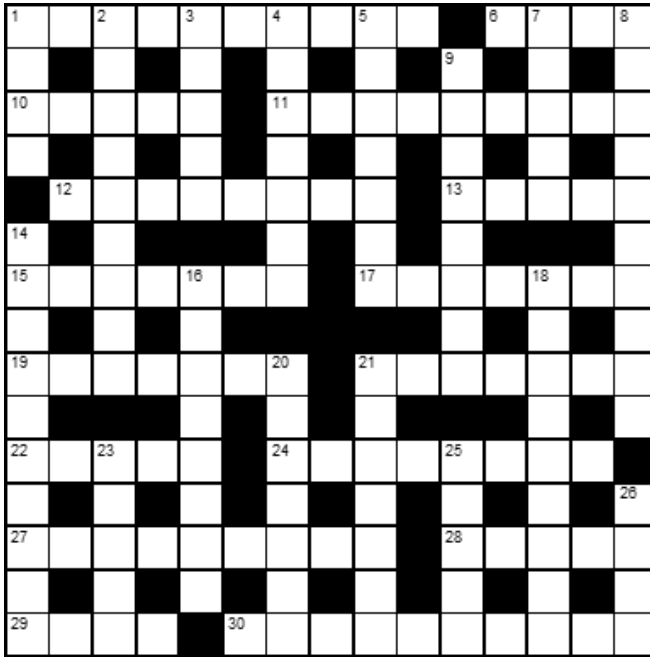
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Regular Features

The Crossword

Number 83

By greendandelion



ACROSS

- 1 It's not still providing you with accommodation? (6,4)
- 6 Stirling place for a swim (4)
- 10 Pastor meekly suppresses outburst (5)
- 11 Ring female celebrity about the latest (9)
- 12 Masterfully laid tory off (8)
- 13 Listlessness exhibited by a persistent garden nuisance (5)
- 15 Shoe not designed for regular use (3,4)
- 17 Corrupt each bud (7)
- 19 Get in touch and learn diplomacy (7)
- 21 Heavenly Welsh girl supporting Cambridge city (7)
- 22 Not here! (5)
- 24 Keep warm in Caribbean Island with endless tea (8)
- 27 In racing they follow the winners (7-2)
- 28 One might try out hobbies as a youngster (5)
- 29 Boss got rid of current cook (4)
- 30 Longest word possible using only the top line of a normal alphabetical keyboard (10)

DOWN

- 1 I leave the damp and become the greatest (4)
- 2 Pulse from secondary highway prohibited use around the east (5-4)
- 3 Only some slim boys dance (5)
- 4 Environment of a bit in Derby say (7)
- 5 Scottish man looked wealthy (7)
- 7 Groan about a politically biased newspaper! (8)
- 8 Together as worker being dealt with (4,2,4)
- 9 Magnolia from very small centre of short street to Cardigan say (5,3)
- 14 Concern about tic that's going around in circles (10)
- 16 Mesomorphic (8)
- 18 Investment requiring detachment and faith (4,5)
- 20 Dry number came about second (7)
- 21 One who should be inside out (7)
- 23 Rodents will eat the last of rotten food (5)
- 25 Reportedly they bought a cowshed (5)
- 26 The God of Scunthorpe (4)

Answers at the rear of this magazine



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Tasty Morsels – Recipes for You

Sea Bream with Lemon Butter Caper Sauce

Ingredients –

Sauce – 30g butter

3 tbsp capers in salt water/brine

Juice of 1 large lemon

Sea Bream – 2 fillets of sea bream

Pinch of salt and pepper

2 tbsp plain flour

1 tbsp olive oil or vegetable oil

Method –

Melt the butter in a small saucepan, then add the capers and lemon juice. When adding the capers do not drain them, just spoon them directly in. Let simmer on medium-low heat as you prepare the fish.

Heat a frying pan over medium-high heat. Add the olive or vegetable oil. Season both sides of the fish with salt and pepper then lightly dust each side with the flour. Place the fish skin side down in the pan and cook for 2 minutes. The skin should be brown and crispy. If not, turn the heat in the pan to high and cook for an additional minute. Turn the fish over and cook skin side up for an additional 1 to 2 minutes depending on the thickness.

To serve, plate the fish crispy skin side up and spoon the sauce around the fish. If you drizzle directly on top, it will make the skin soggy. Best served with carrot and swede mash and some green beans. Enjoy 😊

Jennifer Wright

This Month in The Garden

Wow what a month! With sunrise around 5.00 am and 16 hours of daylight, there's no excuse for excuses! And there's also two Bank Holidays. Lots of little birds are about this month, so supply water and feed to help them (they'll also help you by eating those pesky aphids). Make sure to grow poached egg plants (limnanthes) around any plants with green or blackfly problems – these flower early and attract lots of hoverflies which lay eggs the young of which eat your greenflies! Ants are not really a problem (in the garden) but they do encourage aphids so if you see ants on your plants, look again for aphids.

Remove faded flowers on bulbs and trim back aubretia. There's plenty of seeds still to sow, including the double daisy (bellis) and sweet william. These need plenty of time before flowering in spring 2025. Any spare ground (dry, infertile soil is ideal) can be used to sow some cornfield annuals like red poppies, blue cornflowers, white daisies, and yellow marigolds. These annuals are wonderful for attracting bees and other natural insects. Any single flowered plants will do this, and they don't have to be native to Britain. Last summer I watched my New Zealand flax flowers attracting loads of bees and I'm sure they had not travelled from New Zealand!

Four-inch cuttings can still be taken of geraniums, fuchsias and argyranthemum. They root quickly and fill any spare place in pots and tubs once rooted and planted

out next month. Late flowering border plants (eg. phlox, achilleas, rudbeckia, sedums) could be cut halfway back now (the 'Chelsea Chop') to produce sturdier and more flower stems.

In the vegetable garden continue to sow beetroot, carrots, salad onions, peas and french beans, including the climbing version. I used to grow purple (also yellow) podded beans as they were easier to spot for harvest later in summer. French beans always seemed to start cropping earlier than runner beans and pollination was better. Also suitable for sowing now are courgettes (2 plants should be ample) and pumpkins. Weather can be unpredictable this month so be prepared to cover the early sowings out on the plot. Harden off tomatoes if growing outside. Sow mini cucumbers for the greenhouse - these are far better than the long types, much of which is often wasted, but the minis are more prolific and really delicious.

'No-mow May' is the lawn advice for this month and encourages some early wildflowers to feed the bees etc. Perhaps you could leave a section of lawn to develop as a meadow and leave until September for the next cut? No feed should be needed unless specific areas are getting worn down but, as you know, grass does grow well here in the West Country and rarely needs lawn feed. If you ever need to use weedkillers, try to do this in the evening after the 'goody' bees have gone to bed! If growing lilies, inspect regularly and squish any bright red lily beetles and larvae off the underside of the leaves.

This month is the start of the show season (Malvern and Chelsea) so treat yourself to a visit and gain some new ideas and inspiration. Also well worth a visit is our local Wedmore Village Farm in Plud Street. I went last month, and it really is a wonderful project, very much worth your interest and much needed donations. The Village Farm is very much in the early phase, but already there are lots of raised beds and donated plants (particularly fruit) and donated greenhouses. The site will be used to train children in growing and conservation as well as supplying the village shops in future. As a local priest, this struck me as an early and encouraging demonstration of the 'Kingdom of Heaven'. The site is totally organic and environmentally friendly with all wildlife encouraged and catered for. I cannot thank enough all the volunteers (e.g. Men's Shed) and folk who have had this vision and are working to create such a marvellous resource for the village (lots of information online). Do give this all the help and support that you can. Amen!

Tony Connell

Thought for the Month

Of all the programmes on television, the ones that I enjoy most are those that feature wildlife – especially those narrated by Sir David Attenborough. The sheer beauty of God's creation and the complexity of animals and plants never fails to amaze me. How did it all happen? Genesis, the first book in the bible, contains wonderful symbolic stories about the creation of our world and all life that is on it.

We have come a long way in our understanding of the origin of our world since the 17th century when the Archbishop James Ussher calculated that the earth was created on 23 October, 6028 years ago. We now know that the earth took billions of years to form and for life to begin. The dinosaurs for example existed for 180 million years before becoming extinct 66 million years ago due to a massive asteroid impact.

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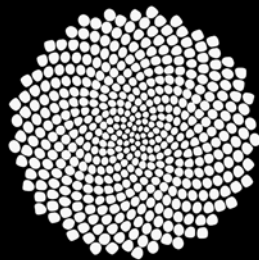
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It was at that time that an existing small nocturnal mammal began to evolve and diversify into creatures one which became the ancestor of our species.

Evolution is God's tool of creation over an unimaginable period of time. As a species we continue to evolve, but our lifespans are so short that it will be tens of thousands of years before differences in our appearance and our nature become apparent. Two thousand years ago God created Jesus Christ to show all of humanity what it could truly be. In evolutionary terms two thousand years is no time at all, human nature remains the same now as it was in the time of Jesus, but one day in the far distant future God's kingdom will come on earth as the bible foretells. What our species and the world will be like, assuming our species survives, only God knows, for God is eternal and transcends time itself.

*Bill Hudson
Cheddar Methodist Church*

Country Lane Walker

Have you been noticing the early morning bird song these last couple of months, especially the blackbirds? How beautiful they sound! Good time to walk, if you can get up that early. But, sadly, how one now only hears the individual birds, instead of the cacophony of the dawn chorus we used to enjoy years ago. This year, for me, noticing how much less song than recent years made me feel sad that we are getting closer to the predictions of Rachel Carson's Silent Spring. We need to relish and listen as much as possible, to hold the memory.



Why is this? Well, pesticides on the land, hedgerows reduced, so few trees now, everything getting too tidy – nature likes it messy, places to hide, live and play in. Add to that more pollution from traffic, oil and gas heating, planes in the sky, and so on. Insect populations way down, birds need insects.

You may remember that last time I talked of the beautiful snowdrop I saw by the roadside whilst walking, and its value as a flower remedy for grief. Well, I purchased a bottle from Suzy Parker, homeopath in Glastonbury, and I have to say it has helped – 4 drops in a small glass of water sipped over a period through part of the day and noticing a gentle improvement in how I feel. The pain of grief softened with more hours of normality. You can contact Suzy on 01458 834236 for remedies and Homeopathic consultations. - A few words from Suzy, 'I have worked as a homeopath for over 30 years, During my 5 years of study I visited Australia and made Bush Flower essences, studied Bach Flower Remedies and Bailey essences. I use these a lot in my practice as they satisfy my deep love of plants and healing'. The beauty of homeopathy and flower remedies that work on a higher vibration, so can easily be used alongside other modes of healing without any clash and side effects.

Each year we see the yellow of celandines, then the daffodils, and dandelions in the verges and hedgerows. How beautiful to see the sun scattered across the land. Good reason for going walking, along with exercise, and we can hum to ourselves as we go, to increase our energy and health. More on humming and breathing next time. An age-old way of healing ourselves.

(The views represented in this article are those of the author. Please always take advice from your health care professional on medical treatments or dietary habits – Ed.)

*Melvyn Firmager
Always be green, never be mean!*

Poetry Corner

May by Vera Banwell

Sometimes I find myself thinking
What are holidays for,
Are they for rest and for sleeping
Or are they a time to explore?
Are they for taking photos
Of places you don't want to forget,
Or for making new friendships
With fellow travellers you've met?
Maybe a cruise ship will take you
To a place you thought you'd never see,
Or perhaps you'll stay in a hotel
Where all the booze is free.
Sometimes the mountains call you
And you long for their quiet and peace,
The choice of holiday is completely yours
And the options never cease

Vera Banwell

Letters to the Editor

Please note that all letters submitted are the views of the contributor and not of the Wedmore News. The Editor reserves the right decline publication of any letter.

Dear Editor,

I was inspired by the 'five ways to wellbeing' cover (April edition of the Isle of Wedmore News) to share something I have found very helpful for my own wellbeing; in the hope it may also inspire others.

For the past two years I have entered the Cheddar Flower Show with some small pieces of artwork, lovingly created in mindful, restorative moments. Not through any genuine hope of winning anything, just for the joy of creating, the healing power of sharing my artwork with others and being part of something bigger than myself and what was going on in my life. I started drawing during lockdown thanks to the Arts Quarter's daily online art challenge and inspired by my children to spend more time doing more of what I love. 'how we spend our days is, of course, how we spend our lives'.



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Events coming up:

Sat 4th May - Nick Girono Maddox

Fri 10th May - Quiz Night

Sat 11th May - Harrison Larner Main

Thurs 16th May - Fab Twins

Sat 18th May - Rodney Branigan

Sat 25th May - Sam Evans

Sun 26th May -Scarlet Stone trio

Fri 31st May -Small Town Jones

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I was completely blown away to receive a trophy for my artwork on both occasions, last year winning Best in Show and, looking after this beast of a trophy - the Batts Combe Cup for the past year, I am looking forward to passing this onto someone else this year. Maybe another entrant from Wedmore? Entering the Cheddar Flower Show was easy and cheap and most of all motivated me to sit down and create in time for a deadline, which was the momentum I needed. I would thoroughly encourage you to have a go too, especially if you're looking for a reason to get back into or try out art. And it's not just flowers and art, there are loads of categories that may appeal to both young and old so why not encourage family or friends to enter with you too.

Sharing your creation can feel nerve-wracking, but also liberating. It really can be a very healing process. It gave me the courage and confidence to take on a big and meaningful commission in the Borough Mews for You Are My Sunshine Homecare company; for anyone who knows our family this sunflower link will be a clear symbol of joy, hope and healing. Good luck to anyone entering Cheddar Flower Show this year!

Dawn Starley, psychologist and local amateur artist!

Please submit any letters by email to editorwedmorenews@gmail.com

Health and Wellbeing

Our Health & Wellbeing

In consultation with Axbridge and Wedmore Medical Practice and with the support of Wedmore Parish Council here is this month's item relating to our health & wellbeing.

Give your wellbeing a boost!

Wedmore Wellbeing Day on Saturday 4 May – don't miss it!!

Please see the article in the News section of this magazine for information about this exciting day across the village! For more information and a list of the expected 40+ exhibitors go to www.whawb.co.uk.

5 Ways to Wellbeing



KEEP MOVING



INVEST IN RELATIONSHIPS



NEVER STOP LEARNING



GIVE TO OTHERS



SAVOUR THE MOMENT

If you need transport or company to visit Wedmore Wellbeing Day, Good Neighbours may be able to help, just call 01934 806299.

Summer is on the way!

We all look forward to the summer for some warmth and the longer days. For some this means sniffles and sneezes, if you one of the people who has hay fever then you will have mixed feelings about the approach of summer. It seems there is no easy answer to the tiresome symptoms of sneezing, coughing, runny nose etc, however there is some helpful advice on the NHS website in their section on hay fever. Also, Allergy UK has some tips on their website, for example:-



Monitor pollen forecasts daily and stay indoors wherever possible when the count is high (generally on warmer, dry days). Rain washes pollen from the air so counts should be lower on cooler, wet days.

On high pollen days, shower and wash your hair after arriving home and change your clothing.

Avoid drying washing on a clothes-line outside when pollen counts are high. ·

Apply an effective allergen barrier balm around the edge of each nostril to trap or block pollens, and other allergens, to help prevent a reaction.

The Met Office can keep you informed about what the pollen count is, so you can plan your day accordingly – go to their website or download the app. So, we hope our start to summer will be a pleasure for everyone!

Wedmore Carers Group

Do you care for or support a person with dementia? Then this friendly informative group is for you! Come along on the first Friday of the month to The Swan Hotel, Wedmore between 10.00am and 12.00 noon. The next meeting is on Friday 3 May. If you want to find out more, phone HeadsUp on 01749 670667 or email info@headsupsomersetorg.uk For easy links to all the websites referenced please go to www.whawb.co.uk and go to the Wedmore News item for May 2024.



Cathy Butterworth

*Wedmore Health & Wellbeing Project
01934 806266 cb@theconsultant.org*

Wedmore Good Neighbours

Need help shrugging off the wintertime blues?

All of us can feel on our own from time to time – especially over the horribly wet winter we’ve all had to endure! If this feeling persists, and we struggle to raise our spirits even as the weather brightens up, this can have a serious effect on our wellbeing. However, admitting that we’re feeling this way, and asking for help, is not easy. If you’re struggling with this yourself, or are aware of a friend, relative or neighbour who would welcome some occasional company, then the Wedmore Good Neighbours Group can assist – volunteers are willing to pop around for a cuppa and a chat if that would be welcome.



Most requests we receive are from people needing transport for a medical appointment - taxis are expensive and impersonal! We also provide lifts to local club

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and society meetings. Having said that, it's hard for us to give someone a regular lift to something like a weekly class – we totally rely on volunteers and unfortunately can't guarantee that one will offer this kind of continuous and frequent support.

Other ways we can help include doing light chores around the house or garden, walking your dog if you're incapacitated and running errands to the chemist or post office. Volunteers can also help with writing letters and filling forms, including assisting with simple tasks that need completing online. The group can handle a wide variety of requests – but occasionally has to decline simply because the insurance policy does not cover every circumstance.

Wedmore Good Neighbours is operated by volunteers and has received some funding from various charities. It's free to use but the group does have running costs – insurance, petrol expenses, as well as vetting and training of volunteers (all volunteers are DBS checked and many have received first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation training). So, if you do use the service and want to make a donation, this is always very welcome! On the other hand, if you'd like to become a volunteer that would be very welcome also – call the number above and we'll be in touch.

Whatever your request please call 01934 806299 and leave a message - a volunteer will reply within 24 hours. Please note that we're not part of social services, or an emergency service...we're just good neighbours!

If you'd like more detailed information about the group and how it operates visit the Wedmore Health and Wellbeing website – www.whawb.co.uk/gns/

Jim O'Connor

Club Reports and Society Updates

Isle of Wedmore Society

Report of 28 March Meeting

A most interesting talk by Jennifer Moorcroft, a dentist at our Surgery here in Wedmore and where she has looked after our teeth for the last 5 years. Her subject was 'Dentistry: what your check-up reveals about you.' She told us how examining one's teeth can give clues to one's lifestyle and illustrated her talk with a series of (rather gruesome) photos of various patient's teeth that were, to say the least, no longer in perfect condition. This even included those of a four-year-old child!

She explained how teeth examination gave various clues that could reveal one's life. One was under the heading of General Health and that included an alarming list of problem causes (gum disease, burning mouth, thrush, ulceration, pigmentation, blisters, dry mouth, bruxism, cognitive decline). Clues could also be revealed about a patient's past and present medication, as well as general health problems.

There was also an 'Ask the Audience' session, where we were shown pictures of various unhealthy teeth problems and invited to suggest the causes. There were some pretty wide-and-wild guesses.



Jennifer concluded by showing us a rather ancient skull (not that of Richard III!), perhaps 100 years old, and illustrated how the remaining skull's teeth could reveal that person's life style. Worn down jagged teeth probably not helped in food 'in days of old' being probably contaminated by sand, grit and dirt. Quite unlike the 'pure refined' food of today.

Next Meeting – Thursday 23 May

A talk by Philip Butterworth: 'A home through time.' Philip will give an account of his home, from the first fire in the grate around 1750, to the present day. He will link its story to local and national history, which may have affected it during its lifetime.

As usual, the meeting will be in the Wedmore Masonic Hall at 7.30 pm. Society members free, visitors £5 with free tea/coffee afterwards.

Ian Tomes

Secretary Isle of Wedmore Society. Tel: 01934 710390

Wedmore in Bloom

The tulips and their supporting cast have given us a beautiful show, long awaited and much appreciated. The summer planting has been planned and will very soon be under way.

Wedmore in Bloom are very grateful to the Blue Cedar Homes Community Fund for their kind donation of £500. This is a fund that has been set up by the developers of Holden Gardens Wedmore, to contribute to local charities and good causes. Many thanks go to them.

Wedmore in Bloom are planning to hold their cream tea event on Saturday 29 June. Porch House and Blandings will again be the venue, and our thanks go to Jan, Keith, Helen and Rob for opening their gardens to us all.

As a thank-you to our volunteers and sponsors, 'Bloomers' plan to hold a summer lunch on 12 July. Watch this space for further details.

Kay Adams

Green Wedmore

Green Wedmore Meetings-

The last Thursday of every month at 7.30 pm. Come along to the next meeting on Thursday 30 May at our new venue, Wedmore Village Farm. This is located off Plud Street, What3Words location relishes – budgeted – ropes. There is limited parking, so please walk or cycle if you can. Everyone is welcome, and it is always great seeing new faces.

We have been busy as always ...



Youth Bursary Awards

Following our announcement last month of the three successful bursary award winners, we are delighted to share this picture of Wedmore Scout Group. The beavers, cubs and scouts will be using the funds to buy equipment for their new allotment plot and learn all about growing food.



What's On in the Parish

KEY EVENTS THIS MONTH

Sat 4	Wedmore Wellbeing Day	9.30 am - 2.30 pm	Various Locations
Mon 6	Tower Tours	10.00 am	St Mary's Church
Wed 8	Women of Wedmore - AGM and Social	7.00 pm	The Post and Wicket
Sat 11	Bagley Community Orchard Annual Plant Sale	11.00 am	Bagley Community Orchard
	Wedmore Festival	check schedule	Various Locations
Sun 12	Wedmore Festival	check schedule	Various Locations
Mon 13	Wedmore Festival	check schedule	Various Locations
Tue 14	Wedmore Festival	check schedule	Various Locations
Wed 15	Wedmore Festival	check schedule	Various Locations
	Club 50 - Coach Trip 'Visit to Swanage'	9.00 am - 6.00 pm	Cheddar Road Carpark
Thu 16	Wedmore Festival	check schedule	Various Locations
Fri 17	Wedmore Festival	check schedule	Various Locations
Sat 18	Wedmore Festival	check schedule	Various Locations
	Wedmore Gardening Club - Plant Sale and Coffee Morning	9.30 am - 12.00	Masonic Hall
	Messy Church	3.00 pm - 5.00 pm	St Mary's Church
Sun 19	Wedmore Festival	check schedule	Various Locations
Wed 22	Parish Assembly	7.00 pm - 9.00 pm	Club Room - The Recreational Ground
Thu 23	Isle of Wedmore Society - A Talk by Philip Butterworth: 'A home through time.'	7.30 pm	Masonic Hall
Tue 28	Wedmore Gardening Club - A Talk by Brian Jaques 'Amusing and Educational Plant Names'	7.30 pm	Masonic Hall

REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS

MONDAY

Enhanced Community Bus Service - Cribbs Causeway	Every 3rd Monday
Music in Mind	The Masonic Hall, Wedmore Alternate Monday's

WEDNESDAY

Coffee and Chat	10.00 am - 12.00	The Bluebird Café	Every 1st Wednesday
Blackford Café	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm	Blackford Village Hall	Every 2nd Wednesday
Probus	10.15 am	Isle of Wedmore Golf Club	2nd & 4th Wednesday every month
Wedmore Parish Council Meeting	7.30 pm	The Council Rooms	Every 3rd Wednesday

THURSDAY

Green Wedmore Meeting	7.30 pm	Wedmore Village Farm, Plud Street	Last Thursday of each month
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FRIDAY

Wedmore Carers Group	10.00 am - 12.00 pm	The Swan, Wedmore	1st Friday of Every Month
Mr Punch's Folk Club - Singers, Musicians, Poets and Storytellers all welcome	8.00 pm	Theale Village Hall	1st, 3rd & 5th Friday each Month

SATURDAY

Theale Community Café	10.00 am - 12.00 pm	Theale Village Hall	3rd Saturday of each Month
Wedmore In Bloom Work Party	9.30 am	Outside The George Inn	2nd Saturday of each Month

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAY

Beavers	5.45 - 6.45 pm	+ Scout Hut	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438
Pilates with Anna MacGregor	6.00 pm	Blackford VH	Anna MacGregor	07587 703883
Yoga with Anna MacGregor	7.00 pm	Blackford VH	Anna MacGregor	07587 703883
Bridge Club	7.00 pm	Masonic Hall	Steve Pedrick	01934 712852
Scouts	7.15 - 8.45 pm	+ Scout Hut	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438

TUESDAY

Little Lambs	9.15 am - 11.15 am	+ Little Lambs	Heather Hector	01934 712216
Wedmore Men's Shed	9.30 am - 12:00			
Chair Yoga	9.45 am	Masonic Hall	Jo Willis	07552 711101
Yoga for the body, breath and mind	10.00 - 11.15 am	Scout Hut	Kay Wensley	07584 374515
Tuesday Club	10.30 am	Wedmore VH	Lesley Nichols	01934 712045
Wedmore Men's Shed	9.30 am - 11:30	Wedmore Village Farm or Bluebird Café	Andy Daintree	01934 712617
Music Matters	2.30 pm	via Zoom	mhc.dance4change@hotmail.co.uk	
Cubs	6.30 - 7.45 pm	+ Scout Hut	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438
Pilates with Anna MacGregor - beginner / general class	6.10 pm	Wedmore VH	Anna MacGregor	07587 703883
Yoga with Anna MacGregor	7.20 pm	Wedmore VH	Anna MacGregor	07587 703883

WEDNESDAY

Pilates	9.15 - 10.15 am	Blackford VH	Lucy	07813 913309
Piloga Fit	9.30 - 10.30 am	Wedmore VH	John Beasley	01749 672482
Warm in Wedmore	10.00 am - 2.00 pm	Masonic Hall	Various	01934 806299
Pilates	10.30 - 11.30 am	Blackford VH	Lucy	07813 913309
Coffee with a View	10:30 - 12:00	Bagley Baptist Church		
Rainbows	4.30 pm	+ Wedmore VH	Gail Millard	01934 713922
Brownies	6.15 pm	+ Wedmore VH	Sue Moreman	01934 710278
Guides	7.00 pm	+ Wedmore VH	Elaine Tilling	01934 713650
Health Tai Chi	11.00 - 12.00	Wedmore VH	John Beasley	01749 672482

THURSDAY

Warm in Wedmore	10.00 am - 2.00 pm	Masonic Hall	Various	01934 806299
Wedmore Dance Group	10.30 am	Wedmore VH	Nikki Pryn	07519 630365
Cubs	6.30 pm	+ Scout Hut	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438
Table Tennis at Theale	6.30 pm - 8.00 pm	Theale VH	Dave Whitmarsh	01934 712620

FRIDAY

Tots and Tinies	9.15 am	+ Wedmore First School	Penny Wallace	07833 105418
Wedmore Art Group	2.00 pm	+ Masonic Hall	Jim Collett	01934 712663

Wedmore Wellbeing Day

Come along and meet the Green Wedmore team who will be sharing a stand with Wedmore Village Farm at Wedmore Wellbeing Day on 4 May. Pop along for a chat, find out more about our projects and how you can get involved.

Drinks Can Recycling

Thank you everyone who drops off aluminium cans for us to recycle. We are able to raise some additional funds this way, so please do drop your squashed drink cans (note - no food cans, tin cans or pouches etc) to the large builder's sack in the open barn, Borough House, The Borough.

Freecycle

Thank you everyone who joined in with Freecycle last month. Lots of useful items were afforded a second chance and found new homes, keeping them out of landfill.

Wedmore Festival

Make sure you come along to the free art exhibition at St. Mary's organised by Wedmore Festival 11 to 19 May. One of our members, Kate Spooner, has been working hard to produce a 'community quilt'. A team of talented quilters have each produced beautiful squares to come together as the 'Climate & Nature Quilt - small changes make a big difference'. The aim is to loan out the quilt to inspire community groups - see it here first!

We are working on our plans for the coming year and have some very exciting community projects in the pipeline. One of these will be the launch of a new Wedmore Tool Library where residents can borrow items for household tasks, much more sustainable and affordable than buying new...watch this space!

Please keep in touch. We need your help to achieve positive, local, achievable, green focused village projects. Visit www.greenwedmore.co.uk and sign up to receive regular information. Please see, like and follow our Facebook page. Email hello@greenwedmore.co.uk to contact us.

Liz Burton

Women of Wedmore WI

A Magistrate to the Rescue!

When March's guest speaker was unable to join us due to unavoidable circumstances, the evening was saved at short notice by Magistrate Marilyn Darg. Marilyn has been a Justice of the Peace for 26 years and gave us a very informative talk about the criminal justice system and about Life on the Bench. Marilyn had been due to speak to us later in the year.

Marilyn sits on the County Court's Bench at St. Georges, Worle, Weston-super-Mare. Magistrates are selected from the local community. Magistrates must not have a criminal record, must be good readers and listeners, and must be sensible! All magistrates have extensive initial training and continuing training. Three magistrates complete a bench, meaning a majority decision can always be achieved.

There are different categories of courts: Adult (for ages 18+); Youth (ages 10 to 18); and Family Courts (dealing in Public Law and Private Law). All cases begin in



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a Magistrates Court. After an initial hearing in the Magistrates Court, serious cases, such as murder, are immediately passed on to a Crown Court.

When someone is arrested, they are taken to a police station, an investigation takes place, and the person is bailed or kept in custody. The Crown Prosecution Service decides on a charge; if charged, the person can be bailed to come to court. Failure to attend court is an additional charge. The trial is to establish the facts; CCTV technology, with its clear images, often helps determine the sequence of events and who was involved.

Magistrates when sentencing people must follow the National Sentencing Guidelines. A person can be given an absolute discharge; a conditional discharge (no action taken now, but action will be taken for both offences if you break the law again); or a fine. Fines must consider a person's income and are based on three bands. If you do not pay the fine, bailiffs can confiscate property and the court can get access to all your financial affairs.

The Magistrates Court coordinates with the Probation Service on rehabilitation in the local community. Magistrates are volunteers and are required to attend 26 half-day sittings each year, although Marilyn often attends more. Volunteers can be appointed from age 18 and volunteers from all sections of the local community are encouraged to apply. Do consider volunteering; it is easy to apply online via the Government website.

On a lighter note, one man's partner shouted, 'Who's going to take me shopping, who's going to take me to have my hair done?', when he lost his driving licence for a year after being convicted of drink driving. Marilyn said the Bench felt sorry for him, as a worse punishment probably awaited him at home!

The next Women of Wedmore WI meeting is on Wednesday 8 May at the Post and Wicket, Wedmore Recreational Ground, 7pm for our AGM and social. For more details, please email WoW on wedmorewi@outlook.com

Linda Morecroft

Wedmore Men's Shed

What's been happening?

As the number of drier days increased during March, Wedmore Men's Shed members managed to make good progress on the Wedmore Village Farm. This included moving a greenhouse that was kindly donated; helping create the car park space together with David Banwell; and continuing to build the new shared community space and workshop.

Members also enjoyed visits to Hinkley Point C to see the massive construction site, as well as 'Big Carl', the largest crane in the world! By the time you read this, members should have also visited Bristol Aerospace to see the history of aircraft manufacturing, including Concorde.



Men's Shed members moving a greenhouse that was kindly donated (who's that handsome chap in the high-vis jacket? – Ed.).



Members helping to lay the new car park.



Inside the new community space taking shape.

Interested in getting involved?

Wedmore Men’s Shed is a friendly, welcoming, place where men can get involved in a number of activities, including projects that help the local community, as well as socialising and enjoying many interesting visits. If you are interested in joining either email wedmoremensshed@outlook.com or come and meet us Tuesdays from 9.30 am to 11.30 am or Thursdays 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm at the Wedmore Village Community Farm off Plud Street. If you are interested, please come along and find out what we are all about.

John Ford

Wedmore Probus Club

May -Speakers:

Wednesday 8 May – The Past, Present and Future of Bristol Airport by Jacqui Mills

Wednesday 22 May – The Rough Road to Llasa by Lester Durston

David Ewens (Past Chairman)

Wedmore Theatre

Noël Coward subtitled *Blithe Spirit* ‘an improbable farce’. Take a man with two wives, one dead and the other very much alive, who both lay claim to him, and you clearly have great potential for a farce. Add to that an eccentric clairvoyant who unwittingly summons the ghost of that dead wife, who can then only be seen by her husband, and you have classic comedy. It’s ‘Ghosts’ 1930s style!

Wedmore Theatre is fortunate to have found an excellent cast, and an inspired director, to bring you this popular comedy. Plans to transform the Village Hall stage into a 1930s drawing room have been set in motion and generous members of the surrounding villages have been kind enough to lend us their vintage items to add authenticity to the set. Getting busy people together to commit to two rehearsals a week for months on end is always going to be a challenge, but our actors and production team are determined to bring you a polished performance and an evening to enjoy. Posters are popping up everywhere reminding you that tickets are now available from TicketSource on www.wedmoretheatre.com or in the Wedmore Village Store,



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so put the dates of Wednesday 19, Thursday 20 and Friday 21 June (no Saturday performance) in your diaries.

In 1954 T.S. Eliot wrote 'There are things you can learn from Noël Coward that you won't learn from Shakespeare', so why not give our production of *Blithe Spirit* a go!

Judy Phillpotts

Wedmore Opera Goers

The next outing will be to see *Il Trittico* in Cardiff for the matinee performance on 22 June. Seats are still available in the raised stalls, £57 to include the coach and theatre.

Our next confirmed trip will then be 8 February 2025 to see *Marriage of Figaro* in Cardiff. The seats for this will be £46, to include the coach and the theatre, in our usual good seats in the raised stalls.

Although maybe the name Wedmore Opera Goers sounds like a select group, nothing is further from the truth, and we would love you to join us. We usually go to Cardiff as the Welsh National Opera is such a beautiful theatre and there are so many different types of restaurants, all within easy walking distance of the theatre. Anybody travelling on their own is made most welcome and need not be on their own for lunch!

If you are interested in booking seats for the upcoming trips then please call Suzanne on 01934 712515 or 07749 810809, or email to suzannemetters@hotmail.com

Suzanne Metters

Wedmore Gardening Club

Our talk back on 26 March was quite different from the usual format. Ian Anderson had taken lots of beautiful garden photos and set them to music to produce a lovely slide show. After this Ian played the harmonica, a surprise which was very enjoyable. A fun evening all round. Hopefully, you also enjoyed our meeting on 23 April, when Katherine Crouch spoke on 'New Tricks for Old Gardeners', it's always good to learn new tricks to improve our gardens!

Our next event is the Coffee Morning and Plant Sale on Saturday 18 May in the Masonic Hall, from 9.30 - 12.00. There are always lots of bargains to be had along with good coffee, biscuits/cake and, of course, excellent company. If it ever stops raining and you're splitting plants, sowing seeds or have any spare vegetable or flower plants please bring them along on Saturday morning or let a member of the committee know and we'll collect.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 28 May when Brian Jaques's subject is 'Amusing and Educational Plant Names'. There's always something to keep our brains ticking over!

Meetings are held in the Masonic Hall for a 7.30 start followed by refreshments. Guest fee is £5 and as always are very welcome.

Jean Windridge

Wedmore Twinning Association

This year a group of us will be visiting our friends in St. Medard from Thursday 1 August to Sunday 4 August. We would love to hear from anyone who may be interested in joining us. We have new families in France eager to host this year.

Our twinning visits are always great fun, with lots of activities planned for us, and a warm welcome from our hosts. It's a great way to learn about the French culture, and you absolutely don't have to be a French speaker to get involved!

If you would like to know more, please contact Nickey Hann, Wedmore Twinning Secretary, on 07801 847064.

Nickey Hann

St. Mary's Church, Wedmore, 100 Club

The latest draw brings a win for Ann Hughes as well as Tom and Jane Wright. Congratulations!

Lis Bull

Club 50

Our May coach trip is to the Dorset seaside town of Swanage. Once a busy Victorian fishing port it is now a bustling holiday destination. The town is situated on the Eastern end of the Jurassic coast.

We leave the Cheddar Road Carpark at 9.00 am on Wednesday 15 May and return at 6.00 pm. Ring Andrea on 01934 712161 or email wedmore.west@gmail.com if you wish to come. Non-members welcome. £25 members, £28 guests.

We'll send a communal prayer to the weather gods for some sunshine!

Andrea West

News and Events from Outside the Parish

Cheddar Male Choir

Cheddar Male Choir is performing a concert on Friday, 10 May, starting at 7.30 pm sharp. Doors open at 7.00 pm at Draycott Memorial Hall (BS27 3UE).

This event isn't just about music – it's about making a difference. Join us in supporting the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance, a vital lifeline that depends on your generosity to maintain its life-saving missions. With annual operational costs exceeding £5 million, every contribution counts.

Prepare for an unforgettable evening filled with show-stopping performances spanning musicals, chart-toppers, and timeless male voice classics. Tickets are a steal at £10 and can be obtained from Deane's of Cheddar, any choir member, or purchased on the door on concert night.

Let's make a difference together so don't miss out on this opportunity to support a crucial cause while enjoying an evening of incredible music. For further details, inquiries, or to express your support, email contactcheddarmalechoir@gmail.com

Cheddar Flower Show

Ready, Steady, Grow for the Show

Start planning your entries for Cheddar Flower Show, which will be held on Saturday 17 August 2024 at Cheddar Village Hall.

From vegetables and flowers to cakes and jam, alongside art, craft and photography, there are classes for everyone and all ages. This is an Open Show, so entrants from outside Cheddar Parish are also welcome.

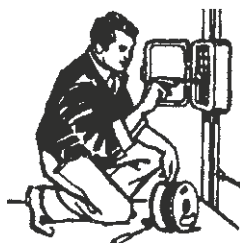
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Printed copies of the Cheddar Flower Show Schedule, which lists all the classes, are now available from Cheddar Library, Katie Boo, Woodbury Insurance, Time Out, Hansford's Deli and W.C. Maunders Ltd. To receive a pdf copy of the schedule email cheddar.flowershow@yahoo.com or go to Cheddar Flower Show Facebook page and send a message.

Susan Bathe

Cheddar Vale Lions Club 3rd Annual Country Music Festival

This month Cheddar Vale Lions Club are presenting their 3rd Annual Country Music Festival on 18 and 19 May at Petruth Paddocks Campsite in Cheddar.

We have some amazing acts on stage. You can dance; watch the Westerners Show team give Shootout Displays; visit our food and drink outlets; shop with our specialist traders; or just relax and listen to the music. Thanks must go to our sponsors – Cheddar Spirit, Petruth Paddocks and to Gregory's for supplying the stage.

You can come and camp for the weekend (Friday to Sunday) or just come for a day. This year we have a limited number of half price day tickets for locals at £6 a head and £3 for 10 – 16year olds (under 10s are free). For full details visit our website – www.cheddarvalelions.org.uk or email country@cheddarvalelions.org.uk for more information.

Cheddar Valley u3a

On Friday 23 February a team from Cheddar Valley u3a joined Simon Parkin on Radio Somerset, to take part in his mid-morning quiz.



The five strong team of Richard (Chairman), Mary (Membership Secretary), Lesley (Treasurer), Lynne (Group Liaison Officer), and Frances (Publicity Officer) acquitted themselves very well, achieving third place on the leader board, just two points off the lead. They thoroughly enjoyed the fun experience, which came across loud and clear on the airwaves! Next up is the 'Champions' round where they aim to improve their score, while continuing to

promote Cheddar Valley u3a, showing what a great, friendly, organisation it is, in which to learn, laugh and live!

Our AGM takes place at 1.30pm on 30 May at Sharpham Road Pavilion and is your chance to 'Have Your Say'. You could also join the Committee (just 6 meetings a year) and help shape our u3a's future. Come along, you're guaranteed a warm welcome. As usual full details of all events can be found on the website <https://u3asites.org.uk/cheddar-valley>

Cheddar Arts @ Kings Theatre

Cheddar Arts' summer cinema season continues on Friday 7 June with One Life starring Helena Bonham Carter, Johnny Flynn and Antony Hopkins.

The extraordinary true story of British stockbroker Nicholas Winton (Anthony Hopkins), whose visit to Czechoslovakia in the 1930s and plan for the rescue of

Jewish children before World War II, came to be known as the Kindertransport. ‘A beautiful tribute.’

Tickets are available online at www.thelittleboxoffice.com/cheddararts The doors of Kings Theatre at the Kings of Wessex School open at 6.45 pm and performances begin at 7.30 pm. For queries and help, email cheddararts@gmail.com

The Warm Spot, Axbridge

‘The Warm Spot’ takes place every Monday from 10.30 am to 2.00 pm in Axbridge Church Rooms. Come along for coffee, tea, cake, and chat. Soup lunches during winter too! For more details contact Yvonne Brown on 01934 249538.

Save the Children Lunches, Shipham

Lunches will be served at 12.30 pm in the Shipham Village Hall on Fridays 10 and 24 May, 7 and 21 June. Do come and join us for bream cheese, pickle, homemade biscuits tea/coffee for £5.50 per person, pay at the door. All profits will go to the charity.

Royal Air Forces Association Mid-Somerset Branch

On Monday 8 April the Branch held a Branch Meeting in Wells Golf Club. The Meeting included a Presentation by the new

Chairman entitled ‘They Bend Them, We Mend Them’ cataloguing some of his experiences as an Engineering Officer at a range of RAF stations over a twenty-year

period. During the formal part of the meeting, members planned how the Branch would provide a display and presence at a number of exhibition events during the early summer. The aim will be to raise funds for the RAFA Wings Appeal and to recruit new members. Members also discussed how the Branch should be represented at the 2024 RAFA Regional & National Conferences. The Meeting concluded, as usual, with drinks from the Golf Club bar followed by pre-ordered Pub Lunches from the Golf Club Menu.



The next event will be on Monday 13 May at 11.00 am in Wells Golf Club, Blackheath Lane, Wells, BA5 3DS. This will be a Branch Meeting including a Presentation by a Guest Speaker – Subject TBA.

The Branch Visit to the Fleet Air Arm Museum at Yeovilton, originally planned for April, had to be postponed. This will be re-programmed for a Saturday in May with date TBA; contact the Secretary for final details.

The Branch will be attending its first exhibition event which will be the WarAg Festival at Westonzoyland Airfield on 25 & 26 May from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm and will mount a display of our Branch activities and what the RAFA Charity does.

The June event will be on Monday 3 June at 11.00 am in Wells Golf Club, Blackheath Lane, Wells, BA5 3DS. This will be a Branch Meeting including a Presentation by Robbert Turner entitled ‘The Westonzoyland Air Museum’.

The Branch covers BS25, BS26, BS27, BS28, BA4, BA5, BA16, TA10 & TA11 postal areas. These events are open to Members from any RAFA Branch, Current and Ex-RAF Personnel and Reserves, Current and Ex-Commonwealth Air Forces Personnel, Members of the RAF Family and Members of the public that support the

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aims and purpose of RAFA. Please contact the Branch via e-mail rafa.midsomerset@gmail.com or telephone the Secretary on 01458 224057, for further information.

Paul Ashmore

RNLI Winscombe and District Branch

Results Update

March was a quiet month with no special fund-raising events, but Tina's e-bay and auction sales have continued. Items on sale are displayed on the RNLI Noticeboard at Brown's Corner, Winscombe while Chris's Table continues at every Winscombe Thursday Market. Meanwhile in Axbridge, Mike's Table outside April Cottage on Jubilee Road is selling early garden plants for RNLI Winscombe, including Broad Beans and Peas.



Collection At Tesco Clevedon

On Saturday 13 April, the Branch launched to Tesco Clevedon at 8.30 am and eight of our crew were on station from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm rescuing funds from the Saturday shoppers. This was our first 'Shout' at this location.

April Events By Local Organisations Supporting RNLI Bicentennial Year

Tina Blunsden, of Tina's Cakes, organised a car boot sale outside Winscombe Community Centre for the RNLI Winscombe Branch, in conjunction with their monthly Saturday Market on 20 April. All stall fees went to the RNLI.

Mendip Inner Wheel presented a Concert of Popular Music by the Cameo Orchestra Bristol at 7.30 pm on Saturday 27 April in St Andrew's Church, Cheddar, in aid of the RNLI and Cheddar Village Hall. The concert included local soloists Jenny Jefferies, Alan Philps, and Hannah Biddlecombe. This was a good concert of popular light orchestral and show music with great solo contributions.

May Events Supporting RNLI Bicentennial Year

Winscombe Folk Club is staging a rock concert and dance by "Vintage Cheddar" at 8.00 pm (Doors open 7.30 pm) on Saturday 18 May in the Church Centre, Winscombe, BS25 1BA. Yes, a leap into the unknown but all in aid of the RNLI, which is celebrating 200 years of saving lives! The 'Vintage Cheddar' rock band will perform songs from Chuck Berry, Soul, The Beatles, ABBA, Jerry Lee Lewis, Roy Orbison & many, many, more! Tickets are priced at £8 plus a 38p fee per ticket online from www.universe.com/winscombe or text 07551 197685. There will be a bar available, run by the RNLI, with all proceeds to the RNLI Winscombe & District Branch. This promises to be a roaring evening of pedigree 'Rock' from the 1960's onwards.

RNLI Winscombe & District Branch will hold its RNLI Bicentennial Plant & Garden Equipment Sale on Saturday 25 May starting at 10.00 am at the Winscombe Community Centre, BS25 1HP. Stalls will include a full range of greenhouse plants; runner and french beans and courgettes; bedding plants and garden fillers; acers and shrubs; garden jumble including patio items and tubs; garden & domestic tools; and guest stalls plus a few new ideas all at 'give-away' prices. This year once again there will be beverages and hot dogs available. Contact Allan Cooper – e-mail allan.coop@

tiscali.co.uk or phone 01934 842954, or Tina Joyce – e-mail meejlh@gmail.com or phone 01934 842304, for more details.

March Shouts

In March there were 11 ‘Shouts’ between our four Lifeboat Stations (Burnham-on-Sea – 1, Minehead – 1, Portishead – 5, Weston-super-Mare – 4).

On the evening of Monday 16 March, Milford Haven Coastguard tasked Weston-super-Mare lifeboat to launch, to reports of a fisherman in the water near Birnbeck pier.

On approaching the site an update was received that the casualty was clinging to rocks just above the water. Weston-Super-Mare Coastguard Rescue Team were able to use torches to highlight the exact location of the casualty and two boat crew were put ashore where they were able to get to the casualty and move him to the lifeboat. At this point the male lost consciousness and was given emergency first aid in the boat as it returned to the slipway at speed.

Due to a high-water tide, the Helm was able to bring the boat to the top of the slipway where the casualty was attended to by the RNLi doctor before the ambulance and paramedics arrived and took over. The casualty regained consciousness and was transferred to hospital, from where he has since made a full recovery. A successful rescue involving multi agencies and some great teamwork.

Paul Ashmore

Sports Reports

Wedmore Farmers Preserving Club Skittle League

Here is the final league table and cup winners for the Wedmore Farmers Preserving Club Skittle League for 2023-24

	Played	Points	Pins
New Inn	18	28	531
Nyland	18	26	182
Tilham	18	23	263
Westend	18	22	45
Sand	18	20	75
Crickham	18	17	-107
Cocklake	18	16	-125
Blackford	18	12	-142
Theale	18	10	-183
Wedmore	18	4	-539

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Cup Winners

Grundy Cup	New Inn
YFC Cup.....	New Inn
YFC Individual Cup	Francis Rabbits 38 (3 hands)
Ashby Shield.....	Crickham

Highest Average Score on an away alley with 6 score - Jack Tonkin, New Inn 54.5

Highest Score on an away Alley - Dave Tucker, Cocklake 77

Isle of Wedmore Bowls Club

March is always a huge month in the calendar at the IOW Bowls Club, as the various daily leagues that have been keenly contested since September reach their final fixtures. Some leagues have clear winners already, but several are going 'down to the wire'. Trophies were presented at the Indoor section AGM on 11 April.



Men's singles winner Ray Newell and runner up Chris Coles

Additionally, the hugely anticipated Finals Weekend took place over 16 and 17 March. The Finals were the culmination of numerous early knock-out round matches that started prior to Christmas. Yet again spectators flocked to witness a festival of high-quality bowls. There were too many great matches to mention individually but perhaps the pick of the nine finals was the blue riband event, the Men's Singles (4 woods) featuring highly experienced serial winner Ray Newell against 2022 champion Chris Coles. It is no exaggeration to say that this match was an absolute epic. The winner is the first to 21 shots. After 29 ends and two and a half hours the score had reached 20-20 but Ray clinched the 30th and final end to win 21-20 – a stunning game! Congratulations to both Ray and Chris, but in particular to Ray who made it six wins in seven years in this event.

Other winners were: Australian Pairs: Greg Keenan and Dave Brown; Open Pairs: Kate Langham and Mark Wilson; Ladies Pairs: Judie Godfrey and Ann Hughes; Men's Pairs: Ray Newell and Dave Poole; Family Pairs: Juliet and Dean Arnison; Mixed Triples: Rob Jewell, Janet Willcox and Jim White; New Winner: Trev Gray; Ladies Singles (4 woods): Maureen Hordle.

Following the last final an excellent cream tea was enjoyed by participants and spectators, as Club President Roger Hughes presented the trophies to the winning finalists and mementos to the runners-up. The weekend was considered a spectacular



Family pairs winners Juliet and Dean Arnison.



Ladies pairs winners Ann Hughes and Judie Godfrey.

success. Congratulations are due to Steve Young and the Indoor Committee and to all who took part, or showed their support, over the weekend.

Meanwhile, with the indoor season approaching its finale, the club continued with friendly matches against Shepton Mallet, winning 68-15, and against St. Andrews, winning 45-43. In the Somerset County Indoor Bowls North league, the club beat Nailsea in the final game, ensuring a semi-final place. The semi-final was played against a powerful Taunton Deane team and, although the game was lost 100-68, our club progressed further than in any previous year in its history. Well done to all who played their part - a great credit to the club!

Off the rinks, the social team at the club has been working hard! Following the antics at the Mexican Evening in February, over 40 members and partners enjoyed a Cards and Board games night - including cribbage, whist, chess, and numerous board games such as Scrabble and Downfall. A fabulous buffet was provided at the halfway stage. Our thanks to the Social team for such a terrific evening. In early April, we've already had eyes-down for a Bingo night.

If you would like to be part of this great community club, please check out our website: www.isleofwedmorebowlsclub.org or simply scan the QR code for a link. Although indoor bowls continues throughout the summer, many of us are looking forward to outdoor bowls on our county-standard green. We are hosting an Open Day on Sunday 5 May. Why not pop along to meet some of the team, look at the excellent facilities, and have a go? We would love to meet you!



Peter Gower

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Wedmore Golf Club

You will all have noticed that the weather does not get any better... Three months ago, the Seniors at Wedmore were looking forward to playing their annual Turkey Trot, a fun three ball bowmaker, with prizes aimed at getting players in the right mood for Christmas (!). At the end of March, three months later, they actually got to play, so at least some were well set up for Easter! Competition was fierce though, and Nick Parker, David Crew, and Quinton Thorne set a tough target of 88 points, which no one else got near. It was all very close after the top trio, with John Russell, Trevor Marshall and Graham Hayes taking the runners-up spot with 84 points. Stewart Bradley, Eddie Parlour and Jeff Griffiths took third place, but only on countback from Chris Loughlin, Ian Hollands and Mike Garbutt, after both groups scored 80 points.



At one stage it seemed as if Spring was beginning to appear but with the Seniors playing a stableford, rather than the more testing medal they were due to play. Results seemed to justify this, although David Sellars finished with a very respectable 40 points, good enough to win Division 1 by two shots from Steve Plant with Charles Woodard another two shots back in third. Tony King was winner of Division 2 with 37 just one shot better than Trevor Guy who has had a fantastic record over the winter. Roy Tomlins was just another shot back in third. Closest finish came in Division 3 with John Sims winning on countback from Chris Donald after both scored 37 points. John Harding took third place on 36.

The Ladies played a waltz bowmaker, but early scores seemed to prove the course was still not playing easily. Scores built up as the day went on though and it was the final group of the day who took top prize. Sue Griffiths, Heather Abraham and Sue Edwards came in with 71 to snatch first place from the penultimate group of Trish Phelps, Fran McMillan and Ruth Rogers, by a single point. Ronnie Follenfant, Ali Mantell and Beverley Broad came in third on 65.

The following week it was the Seniors' turn to miss out, but at least two of the competitions survived the weather. The Ladies played a greensomes on Thursday and clearly struggled in the heavy going. Not quite everyone though, as Mary-Lou Denny and Liz Hill cruised through the heavy going to record 36 points which was enough to put them 4 points clear of the rest of the field. Pam Berry and Ronnie Follenfant were their closest challengers, followed by a group of three pairs all on 30 points. Countback sorted out the places, with Beverley Broad and Annie Patten taking third place ahead of Ali Mantell and Eileen Parnell, with Janet Cornish and Joan Peck the unlucky couple in fifth place.

It was almost spring like for the Captain-Pro Challenge, although the gale force winds and hail rather spoilt the day. The object of the day was to finish with a better stableford score than the pairing of Club Professional Liam Harper and Captain Dave Bedford. They came in with a more than respectable 40 points but knew they were in for a hard day as their playing partners, Jay James and Jeff Griffiths came in with 41 points. In fact, this was itself only good enough for fourth place with the best score of the day, 43 points, coming from habitual winners Ian Williams and Chris McKinley. This was one better than Gary Cutter and Peter Sismanovic, with Graham Sugg and John Steele taking third place on countback with 41 points.

The month ended with yet another week disrupted by rain. The Ladies lost their competition altogether and the weekend stableford was reduced to 13 holes to protect the wetter parts of the course. With the reduced number of holes, the scores themselves looked pretty good! Pete Brown won Division 1 with 31, three better than Steve Dowden who beat Mike Garbutt on countback. There was a close finish in Division 2 with Tony Bird winning on 30, just a point better than Steve Major with Derek Moody third on countback. Best score of the day came in Division 3 from Jon Raeside, scoring 32 to win by two shots from Paul Dickie with Chris Manville third on 27. Karen Clark was best of the Ladies scoring a very respectable 26, with Ronnie Follenfant second, and Sally Stephens third.

By contrast, the Seniors had a busy week fitting in two friendly matches, an honourable draw at Bristol & Clifton before beating Shirehampton at home. There was also a stableford for those not involved in the matches. David Crew was top scorer of the day, winning Division 1 on 41, a clear five points ahead of Dave Bedford, who beat Graham Sugg on count back. Brad Speller won Division 2 on 37, three ahead of Phil McMahan and Chris Monks. A very tight finish to Division 3 saw Nigel Day beat John Sims on countback, after both scored 36, with Paul Dickie just a point behind in third. Chris Loughlin had the second best score of the day, 39, to win Division 4 by two points from Keith Bellingham, with Tony Ireland third.



Seniors Captain Peter Roberts presenting prizes to the winning team in the much-delayed Turkey Trot: David Crew, Quinton Thorne and Nick Parker.

Tony Biggs

(013)



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Church News

Parish Registers

Funerals

Our condolences go to the family and friends of: -

Doris May Puddy of Coombe Batch, Wedmore, who died on 20 February aged 90 and whose funeral took place at St. Mary's, Wedmore on 14 March 2024.

Thy Kingdom Come Prayer Initiative

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York, together with leaders of many other churches in our country, are calling on churches to spend time praying for their communities and for our nation during May. As part of this, church leaders across the Cheddar Valley will be meeting daily to pray for our local area between Thursday 9 and Saturday 18 May.

Following a successful walking pilgrimage to Wells from Cheddar last year we will be repeating this on Saturday 18 May. The day begins at 8.30 am with a short service at Cheddar Baptist Church for members of churches from across the Cheddar Valley, There will then be a walk up to Priddy, with anyone who wants to join us, for a short service and picnic. We will then continue down through Ebbor Gorge to the Bishop's Palace, where we will finish with a short act of worship around the famous wells. It will be an opportunity for people to walk together, talk together, and be pilgrims together. All are welcome, dogs as well, so look out for further information in our churches. Please speak to the vicar if you want to know more.

Thursday 9 May is when Christians remember Jesus ascending to God the Father after his resurrection (Ascension Day), and Sunday 19 May this year is Pentecost when Jesus' Disciples experienced God's spirit in a special way; so the time in between is often thought of as a waiting time and so is an appropriate time to spend in special prayer.

If you want to find out more visit - <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

On a Wheel and a Prayer

On Tuesday 21 May 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 Richard at any of the stops.



Messy Church

Messy Church is returning to the Isle of Wedmore on Saturday 18 May, 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm, in St. Mary's Church.

Messy Church is a fun family church for adults and children to enjoy together. It uses hands-on activities to explore Bible stories, reflect a God of creativity, and to give people a chance to play together. It is also about hospitality, expressed most evidently by eating together.



The two hours of Messy Church will feature a number of craft tables based around a particular Bible story, time for worship, and a shared tea. It is for all the family, whether or not you normally come to Church. Look out for flyers, posters, and invitations later in the month. Speak to the vicar Revd Richard Neill if you want to know more, or look at www.messychurch.org.uk/

Revd Richard Neill

Church Services

Isle of Wedmore Benefice

Our worship continues to be available online on an occasional basis. When one of our Sunday services is recorded you can join in via the St. Mary's YouTube channel. Links for all the above and details of services both online and in churches can be found <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/10871/> Every week on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday there is Morning Prayer online at 9am on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/St-Marys-Wedmore-384215139101196/>

St. Mary's Church, Wedmore

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

Sunday	5	Easter 6/Rogation	10.30am 6.00pm	Café Church followed by Church Annual Meeting Start the Week
Thursday	9	Ascension Day	8.00pm	Benefice Communion
Sunday	12	Easter 7	10.30am 6.00pm	Parish Communion Start the Week
Sunday	19	Pentecost	10.30am 6.00pm	Morning Praise Start the Week
Sunday	26	Trinity Sunday	10.30am 6.00pm	No Service – See Holy Trinity Zoom Online

Holy Trinity Church

Sunday	5	Easter 6/Rogation	9.00am	Parish Communion
Sunday	12	Easter 7	9.00am	Sunday Breakfast
Sunday	19	Pentecost	9.00am	Parish Communion
Sunday	26	Trinity Sunday	9.00am	Patronal Communion



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Sunday	5	Easter 6/Rogation	11.00am	Parish Communion
Sunday	12	Easter 7	11.00am	Morning Praise
Sunday	19	Pentecost	11.00am	Parish Communion
Sunday	26	Trinity Sunday	11.00am	No Service – See Holy Trinity

Allerton Church

Sunday	5	Easter 6/Rogation	9.00am	Family Service
Sunday	12	Easter 7	9.00am	Parish Communion
Sunday	19	Pentecost	9.00am	Morning Praise
Sunday	26	Trinity Sunday	9.00am	No Service – See Holy Trinity

Bagley Baptist Church

Sunday service at 10.30 am. Come in person, or view live via our Bagley Baptist You Tube channel. Teaching groups for children & young people starting around 11.00 am.

Every Wednesday 10.30 am to 12.00 noon is our popular ‘Coffee with a View.’ Come for coffee/tea, home-made cakes, our wonderful view, and a warm welcome. All free of charge. Bring a friend or come and make some new ones here. We have good parking and wheelchair access.

Other fellowship groups are available - youth group, young adults’ group, home groups, gatherings, prayer meetings, and more. For further details phone 01934 710779 or email contactus@bagleybaptist.co.uk, website www.bagleybaptist.co.uk

Crickham Baptist Chapel

There is an evening service held at the Chapel Sunday Evenings at 6.30 pm, We welcome everyone, we have a short service, followed with tea, coffee, cake, and fellowship together. You are sure of a warm Christian welcome.

Sunday School is held Sunday mornings at 10.30am. All ages are welcome, and we have a fun time with crafts, cooking, stories, and quizzes. Phone Ruth for more details 01278 783935.

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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.

Wedmore Community Bus



The Wedmore Community Bus is a not-for-profit bus service run by volunteers for the benefit of the local community. It provides regular scheduled services to 5 locations. The bus is also available for private hire, principally for the use of local community groups. There will soon also be regular excursions to other places - watch this space in future issues of the Wedmore News.

Scheduled Services

There are five Scheduled Services a week. These are:

- Cribbs Causeway – some Mondays
- Taunton – Tuesday
- Bridgwater – Wednesday
- Weston-super-Mare – Thursday
- Street & Glastonbury – Friday

The bus departs from Wedmore Car Park at The Lerburne at around 9.30 am to start picking up passengers. It returns to Wedmore between 1.30 pm and 3.30 pm depending on the destination. See below for more details.

The bus is a friendly place where there is normally a happy buzz of conversation. Our passengers often meet for a coffee whilst at the destination.

Anyone is welcome to come on the bus and a place can easily be booked by phone.

We try to pick up and drop off at the homes of all users who need this. For other passengers this will be at a location that is convenient for them. We are also flexible about drop offs on route.

We are happy to provide help in getting on and off the bus for those who need it.

Drivers are all volunteers who want to help passengers to enjoy their time on the bus as much as possible.

The service is free for everyone with a Concessionary Bus Pass and for children under 5 years old on all services except Cribbs Causeway. Cribbs Causeway is £2 for Concessions and free for children under 5. For other passengers, fares are low as the bus is financed by Somerset Council and drivers are volunteers.

Timetable and Booking Details

All services

Depart Wedmore Car Park at The Lerburne at around 9.30 am to start picking up passengers.

Some Mondays - Cribbs Causeway

Departs Cribbs Causeway 2.00 pm. Back around 3.30 pm. There is only one trip scheduled for this month and this will be on Mon 13 May. For further information call Angeline Duckett on 01934 712631.

Tuesday - Taunton

Departs Taunton 2.00 pm. Back around 2.45 pm.

Wednesday - Bridgwater

Departs Bridgwater 1.00 pm. Back around 2.00 pm.

Thursday - Weston-super-Mare

Departs Weston 1.45 pm. Back around 2.45 pm.

Friday - Street and Glastonbury

Departs Street 1.00 pm. Back around 1.30 pm.

Passenger pickups/drop-offs for all five services are normally available in Wedmore, Sand, Heath House, Mudgley, Latcham and Cocklake.

Additional pickups/drop-offs are normally available in other villages on route to each destination.

Cribbs Causeway – this is at Mark.

Taunton & Bridgwater - these are at Mark, Bason Bridge and East Huntspill

Weston-super-Mare - these are at Stoughton, Allerton and Mark

Street - these are at Theale and Godney

To be sure of a seat, just call the number indicated below against the relevant destination at the time shown and we'll agree a convenient pick-up location and time.

Alternatively, just come to the Lerburne car park before 9.30 am. Except on the Cribbs Causeway service we will normally be able to fit you in, although this isn't guaranteed.

Some Mondays to Cribbs Causeway –

Angeline Duckett on 01934 712631

as early as possible

Tuesday to Taunton -

Angeline Duckett on 01934 712631

between 6.00 pm & 6.30 pm on the previous evening.

Wednesday to Bridgwater -

Helen Flooks on 01934 611006

between 6.00 pm & 6.30 pm on the previous evening.

Thursday to Weston-super-Mare -

Carol Ayliffe on 01934 713471

between 6.00 pm & 6.30 pm on the previous evening.

Friday to Street & Glastonbury -

Ann Hughes on 01934 712832

between 6.00 pm & 6.30 pm on the previous evening.

Relief Booking Controller -

Lesley 01934 900571

Private Hire

The community bus is available for private hire at these times:

- Weekends (all day and evening)
- Some Mondays (all day and evening)
- Tuesday to Friday (15.30 onwards)

Our drivers are fully trained and they volunteer to provide this local service.

Each enquiry will be provided with a list of drivers to contact. If you are a community group and wish to make regular use of the service, then we can train one of your members, so you always have a driver available.

The bus safely seats 16 people, and will cost a blanket charge of £2 per mile (plus a discretionary tip for the volunteer driver!). There is a discounted rate of £1 per mile for youth's and children's community groups and adult's community groups who have their own driver approved by Somerset Council.

To book our comfortable community bus for your event or outing, please email Wayne at iowrtabookings@gmail.com

For further information about anything relating to the Community Bus please email us on wedmorebus@gmail.com

Crossword Answers

Across: 1. Mobile home 6. Loch 10. Storm 11. Bandwagon 12. Adroitly 13. Ennu 15. One shot 17. Debauch 19. Contact 21. Elysian 22. Nimby 24. Incubate 27. Runners-up 28. Youth 29. Chef 30. Typewriter

Down: 1. Most 2. Broad bean 3. Limbo 4. Habit 5. Moneyed 7. Organ 8. Hand-in-hand 9. Sweet bay 14. Concentric 16. Heavyset 18. Unit trust 20. Thirsty 21. Escapee 23. Mince 25. Buyer 26. Thor

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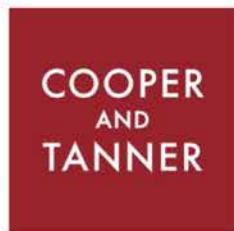


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