

ISLE OF WEDMORE NEWS



October 2025
No. 547

RODERICK THOMAS

ESTATE AGENTS & CHARTERED SURVEYORS



QUESTION: What do all these houses have in common?



ANSWER: All have been sold by Roderick Thomas
All previously for sale with other Agents



If you are having difficulty in selling and you wish to sell quickly,
and for the best price in the market – call us. We'll get the job done!

info@roderickthomas.co.uk
01749 670079

www.roderickthomas.co.uk

Editorial

We are going a bit more cultural in the Isle of Wedmore and surrounds this month, starting with the Wells Cathedral School showcase, followed by La Traviata from Wedmore Opera. Both of these events will be held in St Mary's Church and take advantage of the new seating. Further afield the Wells Festival of Literature features a range of interesting events and presentations by well-known authors.

It's also time for a bit of a 'Back to School' clear up at home and across the village of Wedmore. Take useful things that may just need a bit of repair to the Repair Café or, if it really must go, then the following weekend you can take it down to the Freecycle event at Wedmore car park. Once you've sorted the house out, then please join the Big Tidy Up to get the village looking clean and tidy before we head into the Christmas season.

There are also a few events very early in next month, so please check out the Twinning Association's Bistro Night and, for some early Christmas shopping, the St Mary's Annual Charities Fair.

Cheers, Ian

Front Cover

This month's cover photograph features soloists Anna Fitzgerald as Violetta and Robert Felstead as Alfredo, as well as conductor Roland Melia, in rehearsal for 'La Traviata' at St Mary's Church. See the article in this magazine for details about the opera performance later this month.

Mike

DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER ISSUE: 1 October 2025

Contact the Wedmore News

To Advertise in the Wedmore News	Martin Gregory E: wedmoreads@btinternet.com T: 01934 900051
News Articles, Club or Society Updates and Letters	Ian Anstey E: editorwedmorenews@gmail.com T: 07891 847285
Photos, Front Cover and Features	Mike Rippon E: photoswedmorenews@gmail.com T: 07704 034448
What's On Listings and Contact Details for Clubs	Lindsey Baker E: clerk@wedmore-pc.gov.uk T: 01934 713087
Distribution Enquiries	Hatty & Dave Stone E: hattyhorse00701@gmail.com T: 07816 256243

Address Isle of Wedmore News CIC, The Council Rooms, Grants Lane, Wedmore BS28 4EA

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

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 covered in the regular centrespread of 'What's On' listings.

Wells Cathedral School Soloists Showcase – 2 October

Wedmore Festival will once again be showcasing talented young soloists from the Wells Cathedral School in St Mary's Church

Blackford Village Hall AGM – 2 October

Blackford village Hall AGM will be held at 7.00pm in the village hall

The Children's Society Box Opening – 4 October

The Annual Box Opening for the Children's Society will take place in St Mary's Church, starting at 10.00am.

Repair Café – 4 October

Another opportunity to get things mended, extend their life, and enjoy a convivial cuppa and cake at Wedmore Village Hall from 10.00am.

Opera in the Church – La Traviata – 8, 10 and 11 October

With its gorgeous music and simple storyline, La Traviata (The Fallen Woman) is one of the world's most popular operas and, this October, Wedmore Opera will be performing it in the spectacular setting of St Mary's Church, Wedmore.

Freecycle – 12 October

The next Freecycle will be at Wedmore village car park from 10.00am. The handy, community, way to pass on all your unwanted things to people who want them.

Wells Festival of Literature – 17 to 25 October

An amazing line up of speakers will be attending our local literary festival. Profits fund a year-round programme of literacy projects in local schools.

Cheddar Vale Lions Jumble Sale – 25 October

Come and discover hidden gems, shop sustainably, and support important local initiatives.

The Big Tidy Up – 26 October

Join the Green Wedmore team in the yard of Borough House from 10.00am and help keep the roads and lanes in, and around, the village looking cared for.

BRIDES OF BOHEMIA

WEDMORE

LUXURY BRIDAL
BOUTIQUE & WEDDING
PLANNING SERVICES

BOOK YOUR
APPOINTMENT TODAY

CALL 01934 805888

WWW.BRIDESOFBOHEMIA.CO.UK
@BRIDESOFBOHEMIAWEDDINGS

3 THE BOROUGH MALL, WEDMORE, BS28 4EB



We are groundworks and surfacing specialists based in Somerset providing, tarmac drives, concreting, footings, trenchwork & utilities, drainage, fencing, landscaping, patios, digger works and much more.



Contact Gary on 07792 292710
Email: gary_sheldon@yahoo.com
Web: www.gsheldongroundworks.co.uk

Cheekatrade.com
Where reputation matters



Futura Planning

— YOUR LEGACY. OUR EXPERTISE —



Member of the
Society of Will Writers

Lasting Power of Attorney Fully Managed Service

ONLY
£199
Per LPA

Just as important as making a Will. What are the benefits?

- ✓ Peace of mind
- ✓ Your options explained in plain English
- ✓ Protect your wishes
- ✓ Choose who will manage your decisions
- ✓ In-home appointments
- ✓ Expert guidance from start to finish
- ✓ Local professional service
- ✓ LPAs allow *those you trust* to help you

Call: 01934 442030

Website: futuraPlanning.co.uk

WILLS TRUSTS LPA INHERITANCE TAX PLANNING

Coming Soon

Below is a selection of events coming up in the Isle of Wedmore over the next few months, 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.

Bistro Night – 1 November

Service s'il vous plaît! the Wedmore Twinning French Bistro returns to Wedmore Village Hall.

St Mary's Church Annual Charities' Fair – 1 November

Once again St Mary's PCC is opening the church to various charities to give them an opportunity to sell their Christmas cards, calendars and gifts.

Turnip Prize 2025 Entries Open – 1 November

The Turnip Prize is a spoof art award of the lesser-known Turner Prize. Entries open on 1 November and close on 21 November

Murder Mystery Nights – 22 and 29 November

Wedmore Theatre will be presenting murder and a meal at Wedmore Village Hall.

Wedmore by Lamplight – 10 December

This popular village event will return this year for fun, food, Christmas gifts and stocking fillers, to get you into the Christmas spirit.

News

The Isle of Wedmore News Needs You!

This copy of your Isle of Wedmore News comes to you thanks to a team of local volunteers, who between them deliver 1750 copies of our magazine to almost every house in Wedmore and the surrounding villages and hamlets.

Eventually people move onto other things, and we need quickly to find other volunteers to cover the rounds. In order to do this we keep a reserve list of those people who would be interested in doing so but our list is, once again, depleted and we are now looking at replenishing it.

Distributors receive a payment to cover their expenses, and the amount varies depending on the number of magazines delivered. From £10 to £20 per month for between 50 and 220 magazines, with most distributors receiving £15.

You must be over 14 to have a round, however you are welcome to add your name to the waiting list prior to turning 14, as there could be a wait before anything becomes available.

If you would like to have your name added to our reserve list then please contact David and Hatty Stone by email at hattyhorse00701@gmail.com, or phone on 01934 710393. We will need your name, contact phone number and, if possible, an email address. We will then get back to you with further details. We look forward to hearing from you!

David and Hatty Stone

Tessa Munt MP's Update

I hope you've had a wonderful summer. I've enjoyed meeting so many of you at local events and my surgeries across the patch. Thank you if you came to say hello, share your views and ask questions.

My month started with a wonderful reunion supper hosted by Alan and Theresa, with Mireille and Christian, who were here to mark Wedmore's 50 years of twinning with St Medard. It was lovely to catch up, and at a time when often differences are highlighted, it's great to recognise how shared values enrich our lives and are in themselves a cause for celebration.

Next were Wedmore and Blackford Harvest Homes, celebrating food, farming and our rural way of life, and then Trotterfest with some great bands! Thank you to all the organisers of these special occasions, and it's brilliant to see so many people enjoying themselves.

I hosted my first 'youth' surgeries this summer and it was so interesting to hear from young people about their hopes and concerns. It is likely that today's 12-year-olds and upwards will be able to vote at the next General Election and it's good to know what the next generation really cares about.

In my last update, I shared my concerns about waterway maintenance and future flooding in Somerset. In August, I attended the South West Association of Drainage Authorities (SWADA) emergency meeting about the situation with the Environment Agency and when Parliament returned in early September, I requested Ministerial intervention. I also updated your Parish Council at its August meeting.

It has been great this summer to visit some excellent local charities and organisations, including Prickles Hedgehog Rescue, Somerset Armed Forces Cadets, Somerset Wildlife Trust and others. There is so much going on and it's a real privilege to recognise the efforts of those who volunteer, support and take responsibility for so much activity locally.

That said, I am only too aware of the challenges many face here. For many of us, the closest hospital can be many miles away and big changes are afoot. I attended the committee meeting when community hospital bed closures were discussed and have had further discussions with NHS Leaders, seeking reassurance that patients and carers will receive improved services at the time changes are made, rather than relying on promises that more will come 'soon'.

Outside my 'patch', I met the specialists at the Royal Marsden Hospital working with the latest Radiotherapy machines. Many of you will know I've pressed the Government for many years on the availability of up-to-date machines in the NHS.



*Tessa visiting Somerset Wildlife Trust
at their peat restoration project on
Westhay Moor*

Heritage Roofing

- NEW ROOFS
- FASCIA & GUTTERS
- DRY VERGE SYSTEMS
- FLAT ROOFS
- LEAD WORK
- UPVC CLEANING

CALL US TODAY FOR YOUR FREE QUOTATION

Tel: 07727 685 487

Website: www.heritageroofingSomerset.co.uk

Email: heritageroofing.somerset@gmail.com



Find us on
Facebook

Proud Members of
Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters



THE
Hair
Barn



(370)

14 The Borough Mall
The Borough, Wedmore
Somerset BS28 4EB

OPENING TIMES

Tuesday	9.00am – 6.00pm
Wednesday	9.00am – 6.00pm
Thursday	9.00am – 8.00pm
Friday	9.00am – 6.00pm
Saturday	9.00am – 2.00pm

*For an appointment
telephone*

01934 713513

(004)

N C TUCKER BUILDING CONTRACTOR

**ALL ASPECTS OF
BUILDING WORK
UNDERTAKEN**

**Steel Framed Buildings
Conservatories
Renovations, etc.**

**Tel: 01934 741939
or 07771 562255 (Mobile)**



**Property Care
& Home Improvements**

Anthony
Jones

Carpentry/ Joinery
Kitchens & Bathrooms
Roofing
Plastering • Tiling • Fascias
Replacement Windows &
Doors • Int/Ext Decorating

**M: 07710 176 337 • E: tony290291@yahoo.co.uk
01934 713183 • Wedmore, Somerset**

Wedmore iT

Expert Advice in Plain English

For all your computer related needs.
Home and business calls welcome; no job too large or small.

PC or Mac, tablets and smartphones (Apple or Android), home assistants (e.g. Alexa or Google).
Virtual reality and bespoke PC gaming systems, and all other computer peripherals.

If you are having problems with your broadband or other suppliers, we can help with that too.



For businesses we can help with **all** aspects of IT: procurement, support, project management, security, cost/benefit analysis, improving network performance, data compliance and disaster recovery planning.

For a prompt, reliable and friendly service please call: **Peter Holmes**
on **01934 733361** or **07876 652200** or email: **support@wedmoreit.com**
Or visit our website: **wedmoreit.co.uk**

Proud to have been serving the local community since 2000.

I was also interviewed by Channel 4 News on research into the condition ME, on which I continue to campaign.

Thank you if you've contacted me – I am here to represent you. If you'd like to come and meet me, I hold many 'surgeries' across the area but can be found most locally at the Bluebird Café in Wedmore on Saturday 11 October from 9.00am to 10.00am. No appointment is necessary, and all surgeries operate on a first come, first served, basis.

You can also get hold of me in a number of ways, by phone on 01934 440639 (answerphone for out of office hours), by email at tessa.munt.mp@parliament.uk by text on 07714 599669; or by post to Tessa Munt, Freepost (you won't need a stamp).

You can also contact your Somerset Councillors for Wedmore: Harry Munt on 07896 255176 (text is best) or email harry.munt@somerset.gov.uk and Matt Martin on 07766 382563 or email matthew.martin@somerset.gov.uk

Tessa

Wedmore Parish Clerk Update

Hello Friends. October is one of those in-between months. Summer is behind us, the clocks are about to change, and winter is just around the corner with the start of the darker evenings, a gentle reminder to check your bike lights, wear something reflective, and keep hedges and verges trimmed for road safety. While many of us are digging out coats and lighting fires a little earlier in the evening, your Parish Council has been making sure Wedmore is ready for what the next season may bring.

At our August Full Council meeting, we kept the basics ticking along; approving payments; updating policies; and agreeing to bring in a Locum Responsible Financial Officer so I'm not spread too thin as we head into budget season. Over in Planning, councillors have been weighing up applications, supporting those that made sense for our parish and pushing back where designs felt wrong for our landscape or where agricultural need didn't really add up. These may sound a little dry, but they're the kind of choices that shape Wedmore for years to come.

We also approved five new heritage-style village entry signs as part of the King Alfred Project. These will mark the gateways into the parish with a nod to our history and identity, a small but significant way of celebrating what makes Wedmore special.

The real focus right now, though, is community resilience. Winter floods, power cuts, storms, none of these are new to us, but we're determined to be better prepared. Thanks to a grant from Somerset Prepared, we're buying practical kit: high-capacity water pumps; flood barriers; protective clothing; and Public Access Bleed Control Kits. These will be phased in across the parish, starting near defibrillators and higher-risk areas. In a rural community, many of us work hands-on, on farms, with machinery, or in more isolated places. We all hope these kits are never needed, but it's reassuring to know they're there.

We're also carrying out pre-winter checks on local watercourses. Quotations are being sought for light-touch vegetation clearance, and councillors are compiling a list of other trouble spots. This is where your knowledge is invaluable: if you know of a gully, ditch, or stretch of brook that regularly backs up, please tell us.

Of course, resilience isn't just about kit or inspections, it's about people. We're building a network of volunteers who can lend a hand when needed. That might mean

first aid training, checking drains, or being available with a 4x4 in poor weather. You don't have to commit to anything heavy; just letting us know you're willing makes a difference.

How you can help this month:

- Report any blocked drains or culverts.
- Put your name down as a potential resilience volunteer (no obligation).
- Keep verges and hedges trimmed, visibility matters as the nights draw in!

Your Council is doing the groundwork, but it's our shared effort that makes Wedmore strong. Thank you for offering your time and for helping keep our parish a safe, welcoming place to call home.

See you soon!

*Lindsey Baker, Clerk,
Wedmore Parish Council*

Friends Conquer Three Peaks in 24 hours

In memory of their school friend Adam Stimpson, who died of a Brain Tumour aged 20, eleven friends and former pupils of Kings of Wessex took on an extraordinary challenge to complete the legendary Three Peaks Challenge, scaling Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike, and Snowdon within 24 hours. Their efforts raised an incredible £6,250 for The Brain Tumour Charity, supporting vital research into a disease that has affected so many lives.

The team—Ed Martin, Ted Hacker, Alex Cave Calland, Ben Hemingway-Arnold, Beppe Degregorio, Sam Floyd, Kearn Shah, Louis Norman, Stan Boorman, James Norman, and Robin Bridgman—set off early in the morning and



*Back Row: Ted Hacker, Robin Bridgman,
Ben Hemingway-Arnold, Beppe Degregorio, Louis Norman,
James Norman, Sam Floyd, Stan Boorman*

Front Row: Kearn Shah, Alex Cave Calland, Ed Martin

powered through 1,300 miles of travel, brutal weather, thunderstorms, sickness, sleep deprivation, and sheer exhaustion to complete the challenge with just 15 minutes to spare. After a 500+ mile minibus journey the day before, their climb began at 6.00am at the foot of Ben Nevis. High spirits and determination helped them shave 30 minutes off their predicted time.

But the real test came at Scafell Pike, where hailstorms, slippery tracks, and freezing temperatures pushed the team to their limits. Despite falling behind schedule, they conquered the peak in just 2 hours and 30 minutes—an effort that ultimately saved the mission. Soaking wet, they embarked on a four-hour drive to Snowdon, where



(345)

THE BOROUGH MALL

Independent Shops and Services for Wedmore

SHOP TO LET

Unit 9, approx. 200sq ft, 5 year Lease with break clause, Service Charges apply

OFFICE TO LET

Unit 12a, First Floor Office, Minimum year term on License or Lease, Service Charges apply

PLEASE CONTACT US BELOW FOR FURTHER INFORMATION



LIVE LOCALLY | SHOP LOCALLY | WORK LOCALLY

boroughmall@btconnect.com

Tel: 01934 713130 (answerphone) 07762 077728

(519)

J Auto Services Ltd

SERVICING
FOR ALL
MAKES
OF CARS



Bodywork
M.O.T.
Valeting Service
Recovery

BROOKSIDE GARAGE • BLACKFORD

Telephone 713249

Mon-Fri 8.30-5.30 Sat 8.30-1.00



(002)

MARK GRIFFITHS PLUMBING AND HEATING



Gas Safe registered
(190721)

All work undertaken

Reliable, friendly service at
reasonable prices

Fully insured,
all work is guaranteed

3 Pilcorn Street, Wedmore

Tel: (01934) 712446

Mobile: 07971 648691

(398)

Special Branch Tree Services

(430)

Jon Wheway NcHort, NcArb

- Felling and Reductions • Hedge Trimming
- 35 years experience in all aspects of tree surgery
- Land Clearance • Stump Grinding
- Surveys • Hazard and amenity assessment
- Fencing and external wood construction • Fully insured

Commissioned
Chainsaw Art



Emergency
Wasp Nest
Control



Tree Surgery - Pest Control - Chainsaw Carving



07971 176208

01934 712545 (WEDMORE PAPERSHOP)

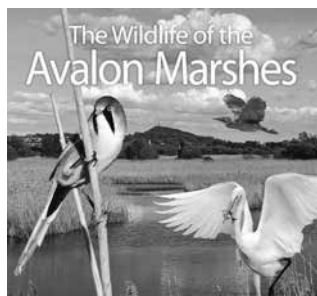
specialbranch@gmail.com

they began their final ascent at 2.30 am, guided only by headlamps and grit. Fuelled by flapjacks, Haribos, and adrenaline, they reached the summit and raced back down, finishing the challenge with a sprained ankle in the group and just minutes to spare.

The boys were supported by a dedicated crew. Colin calmly navigated the minibus across the country and Rebecca handled logistics with precision and grace. At the finish line, Mike and Jackie welcomed the weary climbers with bacon sandwiches and beers, a gesture that perfectly capped off an emotional journey. Thank you to everyone who donated, cheered, and supported this mission, your generosity made this challenge not just possible, but unforgettable. It's still possible to donate at www.justgiving.com/team/adam3peaks From all the boys: 'We did it for Adam. And we couldn't have done it without you.'

Annette Stimpson

New Book on the Wildlife of the Avalon Marshes



This new book, by local RSPB volunteer Alison Uren, is a celebration of the wonderful nature reserves which we are fortunate enough to live nearby. It is a month-by-month account of the birds, mammals, reptiles, flora and insects that have made the Avalon Marshes their home, with over 400 fabulous photos by 19 local photographers. The author Alison Uren is a volunteer at RSPB Ham Wall, which is well-known for amazing Starling murmurations in the winter.

'The Wildlife of the Avalon Marshes' can be ordered at a pre-publication discount price of £19.95 from Pisces Publications at www.naturebureau.co.uk/bookshop Publication will be at the end of October. Profits from the book will be donated to the RSPB.

Alison Uren

Wedmore Festival presents Wells Cathedral School Soloists Showcase

Wedmore Festival are proud to support the Wells Cathedral School Music Department as they present an evening showcase on Thursday, 2 October at 7.30pm when six talented young musicians will be performing on flute, piano, violin and voice in St Mary's Church, Wedmore.

Wells is one of only five specialist music schools in the UK offering specialist education for gifted and talented young performers and supported by the DfE Music and Dance Scheme. All of the performers in this concert are in their upper sixth year and preparing for music conservatoire auditions so will be presenting their audition programme.

Last year's concert in Wedmore was a huge success, and previous performers are now taking up scholarships at conservatoires. This is no ordinary school concert, expect exceptional musicianship and professionalism!



Tickets available on-line or from Wedmore Village Store (cash or cheque only). Adults £12, Under 16's £6, and under 6's free. Proceeds from the ticket sales will be split between Wells Cathedral School Travel Fund Bursaries, and St Mary's Church. Wedmore Festival Friends can book from Monday 1 September, for up to 4 tickets, with no booking fee. Please visit the website to find out more at www.wedmorefestival.co.uk Many thanks to Woodbury Insurance Brokers Limited, Cheddar, for kindly sponsoring this event.

Vicky Parry

Blackford Village Hall AGM

Blackford Village Hall is a fantastic community facility which operates with a committee of volunteers without whom the facility wouldn't function or remain open, so I would like to say a big thank you to them all.

Our next meeting will be the AGM on Thursday 2 October at 7.00 pm in Blackford Village Hall, to be followed immediately by a meeting of the committee.

We do need additional committee members and, specifically, a treasurer. So if you can spare a little time to help please contact me, Iain Lewis, by email at iainlewis@grovecottage.eu or by phone 07770 662778.

Iain Lewis

The Children's Society Box Opening

The Annual Box Opening for the Children's Society will take place in St Mary's Church on 4 October, starting at 10.00 am. All box holders and friends are invited to come along to St Mary's Church to enjoy a cup of coffee whilst your box is opened, and the contents are counted. For those unable to attend, please bring your box to Sue Burton at Combe Cottage, Combe Batch, by Friday 3 October.

If you would like to become a box holder, and new collectors are urgently needed, please contact Sue Burton on 01934 712092. All you have to do as a box holder is to either put in a regular amount or just your loose change from time to time. It is surprising how this soon adds up, even in this cashless society!

Also, although it is warm and sunny as I type, this is just a heads up that Children's Society Christmas cards will be on sale on Saturday 1 November in St Mary's Church as part of the Annual Charity Christmas Card Sale.

*Susanne Burton,
Children's Society Local Co-Ordinator*



(414)

GERALD HELLIER

**ORNAMENTAL
IRONWORK
FOR YOUR HOMES & GARDENS**

**GATES – RAILINGS
CURTAIN POLES
WEATHER VANES
SECURITY GRILLES
FIRE BASKETS**

are only a few of the items made

**WELDING & FABRICATION JOBS
ALSO UNDERTAKEN**

**CHEDDAR NURSERIES
SHARPHAM ROAD, CHEDDAR**

Gerald Mobile: 07970 633859

Landline: 01934 742886

www.helliersironwork.co.uk

Nigel Bean Gardens

- Garden design, planning & makeovers
- Planting schemes
- Wildlife & sustainable gardening
- Hedging & tree planting
- Ponds & water features
- Patio Layouts
- Hard landscaping advice



Contact for free site
visit &
consultation



**07813 187681
nigel.bean@icloud.com
www.nigelbean.uk**

(443)

**OFFERING EXCITING
NEW SPA TREATMENTS**



(685)

Wendy Rider CRM5, MAR, Clinical Reflexologist, Holistic & Beauty Therapist

REFLEXOLOGY AND SPA TREATMENTS IN THE HEART OF WEDMORE

Wendy offers a variety of spa treatments tailored to your individual needs using
Pinks Boutique organic and natural skin care products

Clinical reflexology • Aromatherapy • Swedish and Indonesian massage
Bespoke facials from express to zone face lift

Come in to be pampered and indulged in luxurious and relaxing surroundings

**FOR A FULL LIST OF TREATMENTS AVAILABLE PLEASE VISIT
www.wendyriderreflexology.co.uk**



**Chapel House, Combe Batch, Wedmore BS28 4DU
01934 713213 or 07935 275451 wendyrider1@gmail.com**



PINKS BOUTIQUE
COMPLETE ORGANIC SKINCARE



**A high standard of sincere,
dignified and caring service,
offering advice and support
on all aspects of funeral
arranging.**

**Here to help,
24 Hours a day**

Telephone: 01278 794 304

**Office and Chapel of Rest at:
10 Church Street, Highbridge,
TA9 3AF**

(668)



DT ELECTRICAL SERVICES
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

SERVICES

- ✓ Extensions & Rewires
- ✓ Extra lights & Sockets
- ✓ Fault finding & Testing
- ✓ Fuseboard changes
- ✓ Friendly, local service
- ✓ Free quotations

CONTACT DAN TURNER

✉ d.turnerelectrical@gmail.com

☎ 07940165169



(770)

Repair Café

The Repair Café will be back at Wedmore Village Hall on Saturday 4 October, from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm. Whether you want to take advantage of our ever-popular sharpening service; get that table lamp or toaster working again; or have a simple repair done with needle and cotton or glue, we will be there. This is your opportunity to bring along



all those slightly broken items around the house, that you certainly don't want to throw away, but you haven't got round to mending.

Our brilliant team of experienced repairers will leap into action for you and with luck your treasured item will soon be as good as new. Meanwhile you can enjoy a coffee and scrumptious cake, or just come for the cake! On this occasion the Fixy Van will not be joining us so please do not bring along your old electronics for reuse or recycling. The good news is that you can now take them to the Ad Astra Cider Co or to Wells Town Hall. More details on this at www.donateit.co.uk

Mike Rippon

Wedmore Opera Presents La Traviata

The place is St Mary's, Wedmore with its brand-new seating, the time is 7.15 pm. The date is Wednesday 8 October and it's the opening night of Wedmore Opera's new production of the world's most popular opera, Giuseppe Verdi's *La Traviata*.



wedmore opera

First performed in 1853, Wedmore's new production sets the story in the present day. The main character, Violetta, lives a life of luxury in Paris as mistress to Baron Duphol, but has never experienced love. Then along comes Alfredo and turns her world upside down. The couple escape to the countryside, until Alfredo's disapproving father intervenes and Violetta is forced to make a heartbreaking choice. What happens next? Come and find out.

This is a great first opera, sung in English, and one you can enjoy over and over again. There are performances on 8, 10 and 11 October and there are still tickets available, especially for the opening night. Anyone under 25 can have a ticket for just £10, thanks to a generous donation from The Bluebird. The show stars Anna Fitzgerald as Violetta and Robert Felstead as Alfredo (featured on this month's cover photo) and is directed by Harvey Evans. There are nine soloists, supported by the Wedmore Opera chorus and an orchestra, led by Wedmore's Jo Lewis and conducted by Roland Melia. There are two acts, with a half hour interval and bar, and the evening ends around 9.45 pm. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Tickets are £10 for Under 25s, £20, £25 and £30 from TicketSource/wedmoreopera, scan the QR code below, or call 07540 110057



Wedmore Opera

The Big Tidy Up is Back

There is evidence that good-hearted folk are making a difference in trying to keep the village litter free.

Our grandchildren join us in a litter pick around the Playing Fields car park and the playground from time to time, and this week there was no litter to be found. Is this down to Nick and the Post and Wicket team or the Playing Fields committee or to a few individuals? probably all the above.

Elsewhere, the picture is patchier and at the spring Big Tidy Up mountains of litter was collected from the sides of the main roads and lanes. The next Big Tidy Up is on Sunday 26 October starting at 10.00 am in the yard of Borough House. Can you lend a hand?

David Hopkins

Bistro Night

Service s'il vous plaît! the French Bistro returns to Wedmore Village Hall on 1 November at 7.00 pm, £30 per person.

Following the successful event earlier this year and now 'Le Club' are rested and recovered from the 50th twinning anniversary celebrations with our friends from Saint-Médard-de-Guizières, we are ready to once again open the doors to the Bistro. You and your friends will be welcomed with a drink and will be served a homecooked three-course meal, with menu choices to be published nearer the event. The bar has been re-stocked and is ready to open to ensure you don't go thirsty, and a raffle will be held.

Tables sizes are available from 2 to 6 people and are limited so please get your booking in quick, email the twinning team on wedmoretwinning1@gmail.com or phone Andy on 07801 718202 or Nickey on 07801 847064. *Bon appétit!*

Andy Reeson

St Mary's Church Annual Charities' Fair

Once again St Mary's PCC is opening the church to various charities to give them an opportunity to sell their Christmas cards, calendars and gifts. This year the Annual Charities Fair will be on Saturday 1 November, from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm. Since 2001, the Fair has raised thousands of pounds for a wide range of charitable causes. There are only a few stalls still available, so if you are a registered charity and you wish to have a stall, please contact Sue by phone on 01934 712092.

Coffee and Cakes will be available to refresh you in between making your purchases. This is always a very happy occasion, so do come along and support your favourite charities.

*Sue Burton,
Co-ordinator*

The Turnip Prize 2025

The Turnip Prize is a spoof art award of the lesser-known Turner Prize. We will be accepting entries for this year's competition from Friday 1 November. Entries should take the least amount of effort possible to create.

To enter post or leave your entry at The New Inn, Wedmore. Please note that, due to increased skip hire charges, only one entry is allowed





(237)

DAMAGED YOUR VEHICLE?

CALL

WESSEX
ON 01749 870990

WESSEX BODYWORKS
Unit 9 Lodge Hill Industrial Estate
Westbury-sub-Mendip

For all your Vehicle Body Repairs
Resprays, Restoration and
Welding Specialists

MOT Preparation and Insurance
Repairs Undertaken

(585)

WEDMORE
BED&BREAKFAST

2 LARGE DELUXE
EN-SUITE TWIN /
DOUBLE ROOMS
IN CENTRAL
WEDMORE



TEL: 07557 912468

Mowbarton
ESTATE

Sparkling
...or Still?

Sparkling and Still

www.mowbartonestate.co.uk
07920 700834 / 07919 100455
FREE LOCAL DELIVERY



Mowbarton
ESTATE

Still...or
Sparkling?

Still and Sparkling

www.mowbartonestate.co.uk
07920 700834 / 07919 100455
FREE LOCAL DELIVERY

(592)

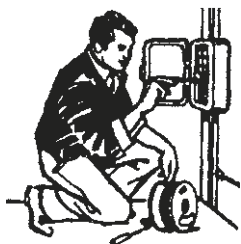
C Parker & Son

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

For all your
Electrical Installations,
Domestic & Industrial

Additional lights, sockets,
complete re-wires, burglar
alarms, fire alarms etc.

07735 067313



(728)

Ian Chapman



CHIMNEY SWEEP

HETAS Registered

- Wood/fuel stoves & open fires
- Sweeping & servicing
- Nest removal
- Clean & professional service

Text or call Ian on

07976 880267

Keep warm - stay safe!

(759)

(351)



www.wedmoregolfclub.com

Isle of Wedmore

Golf Club

Restaurant Open to the Public

7 days a Week

Breakfast - Coffee and Cake - Lunch - Sunday Roast

Contact us for membership enquiries!
office@wedmoregolfclub.com

**Function and Meeting Rooms available to hire for
Funeral Wakes, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Groups,
Christmas Events and More!**

clubhouse@wedmoregolfclub.com 01934 713649

per person. No paper, cardboard, or photocopied entries are allowed. Please include your name or pseudonym, contact phone number and the title of your entry.

Entries open on 1 November and close on 21 November. Judging will take place on 23 November, and the winner will be announced on 2 December at 6.00pm in The New Inn, and all entries must then be removed from the New Inn. For more info visit The New Inn, our Facebook page, or contact Trevor on 07812 848011

Trevor Prideaux

Wedmore Theatre Presents a Murder Mystery Evening

And now for something completely different! Following on from Wedmore Theatre's hugely successful open-air production of *A Midsummer's Night Dream*, our versatile actors are offering you an Evening to Die For. Wedmore Theatre will be presenting this evening of murder, mystery and a mouthwatering meal on two occasions only: Saturday 22 and Saturday 29 November.



This is our first foray into the world of murder mystery evenings, and we have chosen a theme which will bring back a few memories. Based on the popular series 'Allo 'Allo, it has been renamed *Adieu! Adieu!* and features a cast of six of the show's unforgettable characters, who will enact the events surrounding the murder as you dine. The two-course dinner will be prepared for you by a professional chef, and served at your table and there will, of course, be a bar stocked with French wine and beer. René's café will hold just ten tables of eight so get your sleuthing friends together, book your tickets, and be prepared to put on your thinking caps and work out 'who done it?' Will your table be the one to out-sleuth the other tables and be the first to solve the mystery?

Priority booking will open in mid-October, and details will be sent out to our subscribers by newsletter. Tickets will be available to the general public from the beginning of November. If you don't want to miss out on booking your table, go to our website www.wedmoretheatre.com and sign up for the Wedmore Theatre newsletter to be eligible for priority booking.

Wedmore Theatre

Wedmore Community Bus – New Volunteer Drivers Needed

Drivers are needed for Scheduled Services on Mondays to Fridays and/or Private Hire for community and social groups on weekday afternoons/evenings and at weekends. We would particularly welcome volunteers connected with community groups as we'd like to expand use of the bus for Private Hire by this sector.



Driving the bus isn't a big commitment and most volunteers only drive once a month. It is very rewarding and provides an important service to many local residents and community groups, with a happy buzz of conversation and laughs on the journeys. All drivers are given free training by a Somerset County Council trainer. Volunteers need to have category D1 on their driving licence, normal on all licences gained before September 2008. A DBS check will also be arranged.

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 please refer to our article at the end of this magazine.

Henry Parkinson

Keen Gardeners Sought by Hospice

We hope you may have managed to visit some of our beautiful gardens that have opened their gates for us this summer. It had been hugely successful season, raising over £27,000 for St Margaret's Hospice. The Hospice has been serving the Somerset Community for 45 years, providing free, compassionate, clinical, and supportive care to people facing life limiting illness and their families in Somerset.

We are already looking ahead to Summer 2026 and we're on the hunt for more glorious gardens to join the line-up! All gardens are welcome big or small. Visitors love to see spaces they can draw inspiration from, so while large country gardens make for a wonderful day out, a beautiful English back garden can be just as inspiring (sometimes even more so!). We welcome all outdoor spaces, including allotments, school or church gardens, woodlands, farms, as we love an eclectic mix to offer our visitors.

If you're worried your garden might be too small, why not ask your neighbours to join in with you, or perhaps hold a small garden party, or plant sale? We would be delighted to hear from you if you would like to take part, have any questions regarding our support for the gardens taking part, or have any ideas of your own please contact Holly, Community Partnerships Fundraiser and Glorious Garden Coordinator, at holly.hackett@st-margarets-hospice.org.uk or by phone on 01935 709493

Holly Hackett

Ethel Pople Deceased Charity

The late Ethel Pople, formerly of The Old Smithy, Cocklake, Wedmore, who died in 1978, left a trust under her Will for the assistance of the elderly and/or infirm of Cocklake, Clewer and Wedmore to be called 'The Ethel Pople Trust' in honour of 'Our Blessed Lady of Wedmore'. Each year the Trustees invite those who consider they may qualify for a benefit from the Trust to apply with a view to distribution of trust income between those applicants. The Trustees of the charity meet each year with a view to deciding how the distributions can be applied for the greater benefit of those entitled.

The Trustees of the Ethel Pople Trust Deceased Charity therefore invite written application from those who qualify under the terms of the Trust with a view to distribution of the trust income in or around December or January. Application letters should state briefly the basis on which the applicant qualifies i.e. whether by reason of age or infirmity and should include any other information relevant to the applicant's circumstances that they feel able to give. All applications will be treated in confidence.

Please note that if you have applied successfully before and wish to apply this year then you will need to apply again to provide written confirmation that your circumstances have not changed.

Adrian Taylor

THE CHEDDAR VALLEY HANDYMAN

**Home improvements & general maintenance
inside & outside, odd jobs, repairs, DIY.**

Free quotations, fully insured.

Call: 07779 676 233

Honest, reliable, local.

Email: cheddarvalleyhandyman@gmail.com

Website: cheddarvalleyhandyman.co.uk

Follow me on Facebook: Cheddar Valley Handyman

Please tell me where you saw my advert!

(721)

Haircuts at Home by Sam Mobile Barber



Days, evenings and weekend
appointments available.

I cover Wedmore, Cheddar, Mark and close
surrounding areas.

Prices from...

Gents cut £18

Skin fades £20

OAP's £14

Clipper cuts £14

Children 4 and under £10

Children age 5-11 £12

Ladies (basic trims only) £18



Call or text to book an appointment

07870 500828

Cash or bank transfer accepted

(734)

(697)

Isle of Wedmore **GOOD NEIGHBOURS**

Lifts - medical appointments
& club meetings

Errands - local shops &
chemist

Dog walking, light household
tasks, company over a cuppa

01934 806299

Leave a message
A volunteer will reply
within 24 hours

(013)



RATCLIFFE BROS

DUNNICKS MEAD

**WEDMORE'S
M.O.T.
STATION**



TEL 01934 712170

(643)



**COPPER BEECH
CLEANING**

Your Local Specialist Cleaning Service

- **CARPETS & UPHOLSTERY**
- **CLASSIC & ORIENTAL RUGS**
- **LEATHER RESTORATION**
- **CURTAINS & BLINDS**
- Professionally and reliably cleaned
- Family safe and Eco friendly products
- All work fully guaranteed and insured
- We take pride in the service we provide
- A local company for local people

Call for a free quote today!

Tel: 01934 235 855

www.copperbeechcleaning.com

FREE VALUATION ON YOUR PROPERTY

**DO YOU HAVE
PROPERTY FOR
SALE OR LET?**

**Properties Required
Urgently**



**LAND REQUIRED
WITH OR WITHOUT
PLANNING**

Residential & Commercial



Please give us a call TODAY

01278 793636

info@propertylinkconsultants.com

www.propertylinkconsultants.com



PROPERTY LINK

(644)

The Trustees of the Charity will consider applications in or around December with a view to distribution of trust income in or around December or January. Applications should be addressed to the Ethel Pople Charity Trustees, John Hodge Solicitors, Unit 16, The Borough Mall, Wedmore BS28 4EB for the attention of Sara Anthony.

Sara Anthony

Cheddar Valley Foodbank - Can you help?

Wedmore has a super record of supporting the foodbank in Cheddar. There are collection bins outside the Pumpkin kitchen door and the porch of St Mary's.

Have a peek at www.cheddarvalley.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/ to see what items they currently particularly need. You can also make money donations using the link www.cheddarvalley.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/ Many thanks everyone.

David Hopkins

Sensory Garden Created at Wedmore First School

A huge thank you to Bluebird Community Café who kindly gifted us £500 in their community awards and to kind donations and expertise from Somerset Gardens Trust, Somerlap, PTA, the Duckett family, Sunlit Solar, BioAqua Farm, Men's Shed and The Body Clinic, to help us create a Sensory Garden at Wedmore First School.

The donations have been well-spent on sturdy fencing, a lovely archway and path edging so the children can start using the garden from September and help it grow over time through planting, decorating and daily care. It will be a calm space for those who need it during playtimes; an outdoor 'classroom' for small group work and interventions; a memorial space; and a reflective area for pupils craving some time alone or in nature.

A huge thanks also to the brilliant team of volunteer parents, pupils and community members who have helped to make this possible, It has been lovely seeing a supportive community working together on a shared project and making fun memories and friends along the way. Long may the Sensory Garden last!



Wedmore First School Peer Support Group

The Wedmore 40/30

This year's Wedmore 40/30 was the biggest and best yet with over 300 riders, and the new 30-mile course. This was organised by a cracking team of volunteers who signed the course; ran registration; controlled the car park; and provided medals and a warm welcome back.



Bravo to Lucie and the Hospice team and Nick at the Post and Wicket. A shout out also to our sponsors: Somerset Larder for the marvellous food; Wedmore Dental Practice and Bluebird Cafe for the medals; and Grand Tor Cycling for bike maintenance.

Last but not least thanks to the riders, aged from 6 to 86 for persevering and returning with smiles on their faces despite the hail! See you next year.

David Hopkins

Wedmore Harvest Home

We are incredibly grateful to all of you that came out and made Wedmore Harvest Home the successful day it was. From lining the streets of Wedmore supporting the procession and those that entered, to a sell-out luncheon and a busy afternoon and evening with the dance floor full of you all celebrating. The committee thank you all.

There are some special mentions and thanks we need to give, so in no particular order here goes: A big thank you to all the helpers, suppliers and sponsors of this year's event. From heading up the road closure, supporting the raffle, ensuring the plates were cleared, serving food and beer, carving meat, moving tables, setting up stages, preparing food, helping on the bar and so much more. Big thanks also to Rev. Richard Neill for inviting us to use the space around the Church and for leading the service at the procession; Ray Rich George and James for cooking breakfast on the morning for all the helpers; Gemma and Liz for their support of the committee; Rich for his table planning skills; Rob for donating milk; the Banwell's for allowing us use of their field once again; Becky and Lindsey for agreeing to speak; Wedmore Village Store for their support in selling tickets; and Lesley and Vicky for heading up the raffle, you did a fantastic job!

Special mentions to: Brandon Wilcox for ensuring the bar ran smoothly and keeping everyone hydrated; Chairman's Jamie and Beau and our Vice Chair Lindsey. The work that goes on behind the scenes is phenomenal and the committee would like to say a big thank you for all you have done again this year; and Jack Baker for being the best helper we have had this year, Jack has helped from set up to take down. He has washed glasses, hung bunting, been a runner for all odd jobs and has helped the committee hugely.

We hope Wedmore Harvest Home has helped you build more memories this year and given you some funny stories to look back on in times to come. Please do share your feedback with us, it's how we know what works and what needs tweaking. Long live Wedmore Harvest Home!!

*Beth Jackson,
Secretary of Wedmore Harvest Home.*

COUNTRY ESTATE IN
SOMERSET JUST OFF J22
BURNHAM ON SEA



Willow Tree Farm

SLEEPING FROM 2 – 30
FARMHOUSE AND
BARN

PET FRIENDLY
CELEBRATION/WEDDINGS
PARTIES/CORPORATE
EVENTS/DAY AND EVENING
HIRE

Sleeping from 2 people up to 30,
beautiful farmhouse and barn
surrounded by open farmland just 10
minutes from Weston Super Mare.

We welcome all parties, big or small.
Perfect for day or evening hire,
Weddings, Christenings, Retreats
and any kind of special gathering.

www.willowtreesomerset.co.uk
Willow Tree Farm, Vole Road, Mark, TA9 4PE
07376 382133



(745)

J.C. BETHELL FENCING SERVICES

DOMESTIC AND STOCK FENCING

Working with Somerlap Timber
products

Shed bases and decking

Hand Rails

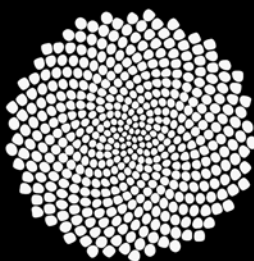
07855 763 506 OR

01934 710 708

jcbethellservices@gmail.com

(482)

Raymond C Watkins
Builder



“Specialist in limework
and period stonework
restoration”

07885384277 : 01934 713103

(635)

Supplying luxury marquees for corporate events, weddings, festivals and parties across the UK



BARNY LEE
MARQUEES

barnyleemarquees.co.uk
01934 713 198
info@barnyleemarquees.co.uk

Bartletts Bridge Stud
Wedmore, Somerset
BA284HH



Seasoned Hardwood Logs

Approx 1 cubic meter

Barn stored

Delivered to your door

Free delivery (5 miles radius of Poplar Farm)

Ring 01934 712087 Maureen Isgar

Nets of wood available at The Outpost



EXTENSIONS
RENOVATIONS
CONVERSIONS
NEW BUILDS

Wedmore • Somerset

07872 591639 • 01934 752127

stevehaighbuilders@hotmail.co.uk

Friends of St Mary's, Wedmore – £100,000 and Counting

14 years ago, Friends of St Mary's was established to make it easier for a wider group to help the active congregation raise money to maintain and enhance St Mary's church. Churchgoer or not, we all love this ancient, gracious building and the continuity and sense of community that it represents. £100,000 later and The Friends' are going strong.



Many of you are members and your annual donations are at the heart of the fundraising. Many more support the Friends' by coming to the money-raising events in your hundreds. Without you the Clash of the Choirs; Wedmore 40/30 charity bike ride; Tower open days; and the Human Fruit Machine would not have evolved into the village institutions that they have become.

The funds that you help raise are focussed on facilities that place St Mary's at the heart of the village community. Whether that be a new sound system; stage lighting; a piano worthy of concerts; renovation and redecoration of the toilets; re-gilding and enamelling the clock face; work to the clock mechanism; improved plumbing and coffee making facilities; purchase of the flags; a new bike rack; the marvellous new heating system; re-ordering the church to make it more event

friendly; or, in the near future, perhaps a solar power system, Friends' money has paid for or helped pay for all of these.

The Friends' also get involved, for example 'Adopt-a-Grave' was a Friends' initiative that helps to keep the churchyard looking cared for, and we were a key part of the group that started Warm in Wedmore.

Please keep supporting our events but, even better, would you like to join the team by becoming a member? Just £30 annual contribution. Call David on 07984 924432 or by email at dahopkins@aol.com

David Hopkins

Wedmore Cemetery Clean-Up

Wedmore Parish Council wishes to thank all who helped at the Cemetery clean up on Saturday 23 August. We all certainly worked hard. The weather was glorious, and we managed to clear brambles, weeds and tidy graves etc with in just over two hours! We had over 16 volunteers, so many hands made light work!!



Many thanks to Ted and his son Jacob who disposed of the huge volume of brambles and greenery we had all cut down.

Wedmore Parish Council.

Articles

Wed-more than a Honeymoon: 50 Years Together

On 16 August, Deirdre and Tony Perry celebrated their wedding anniversary at The George, the same pub where they spent their honeymoon 50 years ago.

The couple, originally from Romford, but now living in Canvey Island, near Southend-on-Sea, returned for a week's stay to celebrate their golden anniversary. The pair first visited The George a few years before their wedding and not only fell in love with the romantic building and atmosphere, but also with Somerset itself. Deirdre recalls that the symbolism of the 'Wed' in Wedmore made it the perfect place to book their honeymoon. 'It's so beautiful,' she says.

This time the pair were joined by Honey, their Golden Retriever, and were placed in the dog-friendly Room 1, by chance the exact room that they stayed in on their honeymoon. However, Room 1 was given to them back in 1975 after a slight mishap, when they were mistakenly placed in a twin room. 'I went downstairs with red cheeks,' Tony explains. They were swiftly moved into Room 1, which had a double bed.

Deirdre and Tony met at their local pub, when Tony's brother and his partner introduced them when they were 17 and 18 years old. They then got married at 21. Deirdre didn't think that Tony was interested after he walked her home that night, until the next day, while she was working as a dental nurse, she received a call from her sister-in-law saying Tony wanted to see her again.

Their five-night honeymoon, with breakfast, at The George in 1975 came to a grand total of £50, just £10 a night! Whilst the romantic echo of wedding bells followed them to The George from St Mary's, the charm quickly wore thin. 'The bells were every 15 minutes!' Tony says. Thankfully, the church bells were much less intrusive during their more recent visit, and the couple spent a lovely week reminiscing on their newlywed memories and re-discovering what Somerset has to offer. The George hopes to welcome them again, but maybe a bit sooner than another 50 years!

Georgia Thurling

Regular Features

Tasty Morsels – Recipes for You

Baked Cheesecake

Ingredients –

Crust – 250g digestive biscuits - crushed

150g butter

3 tbsp granulated sugar

Cheesecake – 900g cream cheese

150g granulated sugar

1 tsp vanilla extract

4 eggs

Fresh berries for serving





CHRIS NORMAN ELECTRICAL

Fusebox Replacements

Faultfinding

Rewires

Extra Sockets & Lights

Inspection & Testing

Solar Panel Installations

Battery Storage Systems

EV Chargers



NAPIT

01934 844701

07717 858598

www.c-n-e.co.uk

Rousell Plant Hire Ltd

Wedmore



All groundworks & sewage treatment plants undertaken.

All machines available with concrete breakers.

**Please call Damien on
07812 134 382**

Crook Peak Upholstery

Soft furnishings & vintage furniture



Lucy Mead

26 Church Lane

Compton Bishop

BS26 2HB

07586 299246

lmead22@outlook.com

R T G PUDDY

**GENERAL BUILDER &
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE**

WEDMORE BASED

07836 550067

01934 713480

Join Wedmore Tennis Club Coaching Programme Today!



Looking to improve your game, meet new friends,
or just enjoy some fun on the court?

Wedmore Tennis Club offers expert coaching for all ages and skill levels!
All sessions are currently run by Head Coach James Mitchell, a LTA accredited+

- Group & Private Lessons
- Fitness Classes
- Fun & Friendly Atmosphere

Sign up now and take your tennis skills to the next level!
Contact us today to book your session.

Email: Wedmoretenniscoaching@gmail.com

Call: 07580 064051

Website: clubspark.lta.org.uk/WedmoreTennisCoaching

Let's serve up some fun at Wedmore Tennis Club

(768)

AJ Aspects

(612)

All aspects of wood floor renovation

- Floor laying, herringbone, plank, borders
- Sanding, wood stains, hard wax oils and laquers
- Dust free sanding



**CITY & GUILDS QUALIFIED
CARPENTER & JOINER**

MOBILE 07568 545553

HOME 01278 652004

EMAIL: anthonylid7@gmail.com
michellelid@icloud.com



Leafy Dave
Garden & Home Services

Regular & one-off services for your garden & home

- Garden & Grounds maintenance
- Lawn care & mowing
- Hedge trimming
- Soft landscaping
- Pond building & maintenance
- Pressure washing
- Weed control
- Planting
- Sheds & garden buildings
- Gutter clearing

Please get in touch to discuss your requirements,
book in, or request a free estimate

07501 120247

leafydave@outlook.com

www.leafydave.co.uk



(766)

Method –

Preheat the oven to 160C. Pulse the biscuits in a food processor until crumbed, then add in the 3 tbsp sugar and melted butter. Combine well. If you do not have a food processor, put the biscuits in a plastic food bag and crush using a rolling pin, then combine with the butter and sugar. Press the mixture into the bottom of a 25cm springform pan. Use the back of a spoon to press down and ensure the crust is an even layer. Set aside.

In a large bowl, beat the cream cheese, sugar, and vanilla with an electric mixer until blended. Add the eggs, one at a time, on low speed until blended. Pour over the digestive crust.

Bake for 55 minutes or until the centre is about set. Cool to room temperature, then refrigerate at least 4 hours before serving. Run a knife along the edges of pan, then unlock the springform to remove and serve with fresh berries. Enjoy 😊

Jennifer Wright

This Month in the Garden

As I am writing this, the most welcome, and torrential, rain is descending from dark grey clouds, so I hope that when you are reading this, we are not being flooded by the latest version of climate change. The lawns have changed colour now back to green and in dry spells will need mowing, perhaps raising the cutting height to help them recover from that momentous drought of June, July and August. The finest lawns will probably need raking to tease out moss, but lawn experts will apply a moss killer first otherwise you will just be propagating the moss. Moss is just a symptom of poor nutrition and poor surface drainage so there's another job for the real lawn lover.

Light levels are now superb for photographs, and the autumn colour from trees and shrubs is superb, if a little earlier this year because of that summer drought. Visit Westonbirt Arboretum near Tetbury, Gloucestershire if you can and be amazed at the autumn colour on show particularly from the Japanese maples (Acer). We always used to take the horticulture students from Cannington on a trip there every October and Jean and I would usually fit in an additional visit, returning with one or two, or more, young trees from the sales area. Wonderful times.

Down on the allotment, there should be lots to harvest with courgettes lettuce, beans, onions, beetroot, carrots and potatoes all ready to gather. Celeriac can be left for another month or two and parsnips also as they will sweeten with any frost. Cut pumpkins with a long stalk and finish ripening under cover. We harvested 35 to 40 Butternut fruits when we lived in Devon, and Jean used to make the most delicious soup well into February and March.

This is probably the very best month for planting new trees. For small gardens don't forget the fastigate (narrow) varieties including Malus 'Laura' AGM. Actually, most of the crab apples would be an excellent choice, prolific in flower and fruit ('M. John Downie' the best) and most efficient at pollinating local apple trees. In the Prunus (flowering cherry tree) genus P. amanogawa is a natural choice with prolific scented pink flowers and good autumn leaf colour. Prunus 'Kanzan' would be my choice for a traditional (but broad) variety but there are many more available.

It is also bulb time of course, so firstly lift and store gladioli and begonia tubers. Dahlias will need some attention now. Traditional treatment would be to lift them after cutting down the stems to a few inches. Wash off all the soil from the tubers and then turn them upside down and leave to dry out completely. Once this is done, they can be stored frost-free wrapped in newspaper or in trays or pots of dry compost until next spring. Recent trends, particularly on well drained soils, is to leave the tubers in the ground but mulched with a thick layer of coarse bark or compost. That sounds an easier strategy these days but if we get heavy frosts on heavy clay soils, we will probably lose the tubers. It's also time to buy and plant spring bulbs, especially daffodils, as soon as possible now. Most other bulbs can be planted but leave tulips until November. Spare tubs can be planted now in layers with the top decorated with a conifer or other evergreen plant - a good reason for another visit to the nursery / garden centre.

Plant some hyacinth bulbs in bowls but keep in the dark for a few weeks until green shoots appear then bring out to flower for Christmas. Outside, empty the compost bins to top-dress borders and then they'll be ready to be refilled with the autumn cut down stems and late cut grass. As winter starts to arrive, we start to notice the yew trees and need reminding that, although the leaves are used in anti-cancer drugs, the fruits are highly poisonous to humans and not seen in grazing fields as they are also toxic to animals. Perhaps best left to churchyards, but the wood makes excellent longbows, gates, and flooring. Happy Gardening!

Tony Connell

Thought for the Month

When I was a child, a Sunday School teacher in the old tin chapel at Bagley, Mrs Libby Tinknell, asked me to learn and recite Isaiah chapter 55 for the Sunday School Anniversary. I have since encouraged children at today's Bagley Church to do the same, as that particular chapter has been a blessing to me over the years.

Isaiah 55 verse 6 and 7 – *'Seek the Lord while he may be found, call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the Lord and he will have mercy on him and to our God for he will freely pardon.'*

Freely Pardon? What about justice? Even in our justice system if someone pleads guilty, they still go to prison.

But God has an answer, verses 8 and 9 – *'For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.'*

God's answer was to take the sentence upon himself such that Isaiah could add verse 12 and 13 – *'You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace. Instead of the thornbush will grow the pine tree and instead of briars the myrtle will grow'.*

What is the significance of myrtle? Myrtle flowers adorn the head of a Jewish bride on her wedding day. My thought for the month is that Jesus wore a crown of thorns so that we his bride could wear a crown of beautiful white flowers. What an exchange! *'Though our sins be as scarlet they shall be as white as snow'* – Isaiah 1.18.

Bob Drew,
Bagley Baptist Church.

TO LET: Commercial Units

Fowler Fortescue
RURAL ASSET MANAGEMENT

Near Blackford

Units from 733 sq. ft. up to 3,500 sq. ft.
4,400 sq. ft. Secure Yard

Former Farm buildings suitable for a range of uses:

Storage, lock ups, firewood, caravans, boats, etc.

- Secure site with good access.
- Alterations to units by agreement.
- Available immediately on flexible terms.

Call Us 01747 356092

e: enquiries@fowlerfortescue.co.uk

w. fowlerfortescue.co.uk

(774)

Wedmore Self Storage

Moving Home or Business, or just need
some extra space?
We offer completely flexible terms.



Storage available from 2m2 upto 120m2
Solutions suitable for any item, including vehicles.



Please contact us for your storage requirement.

email: store@wedmore-selfstorage.com

or call [07771332072](tel:07771332072) www.wedmore-selfstorage.com

Wedmore, Somerset BS28 4JS

(748)

GARDEN
END
DAIRY



FRESH MILK DIRECT FROM OUR FARM



GARDEN END FARM
PANBOROUGH
WELLS
BA5 1PN

MILK
VENDING MACHINE
OPEN 24/7

TO FIND
OUT MORE



(744)

LONSDALE

Wealth Management

Achieve your financial goals

- Pensions & SIPP's
- ISAs
- Care Fee Plans
- Investing: Income or Growth
- Inheritance Tax Planning
- Trust Investments
- Mortgaging & Remortgaging



(718)

Call Mark on 07508 706770 for local independent financial advice

Mark Somerset TA9 4NG • Chippenham Wiltshire SN14 6LH

T 01249 651 212 **E** mwhite@lonsdaleservices.co.uk **W** lonsdaleservices.co.uk

Lonsdale Services Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.
The Financial Conduct Authority does not regulate Tax and Estate Planning.

Country Lane Walker

Ok, so the equinox has just passed, we are now in the negative phase of the year. The leaves are falling it's getting damperer and some misty mornings. Yet it is still good for walking as is all year. But many of us struggle to rise with joint and limb aches and pain. Yes, Mr Arthur Itis, is knocking on the door especially in the autumn, and so you reach for that cup of morning coffee to give you a lift. Then you want another and so on. Wrong, wrong, wrong! It's the worst thing you can do, as coffee creates an acid state in your body, extreme yin. So, more body pain. More stiffness. And avoid Mr. Tom too, he and his buddies are just as bad as the coffee. If I eat a tomato the pain and stiffness returns in my fingers by the next day.



Now, a while back I succumbed to buying a bottle of Mr Organic Italian Tomato Ketchup. Why? It is so damn wonderbuggishly yummy - we used to have it for our B+B guests years ago. Of course, I regretted it very quickly and stopped using it. Then I saw the bottle in the fridge and thought I had better use it up before it goes off. Such a treat to be slurped. Well, the very next day pain in one of my fingers. Then a big pain in my big toe. Oh crumbs, bleedin' iriot I be. As I play the pedal steel guitar needing all my arms, legs and all 10 fingers to play, it's the last thing I should do, and I know it. So, I understand when I say to folk about coffee and tomatoes and get the response, 'but I like it', 'I will get some allopathic remedy (drugs)'. The trouble is those drugs could cause the problem in the first place. So, definitely no more ketchup for me. Not even until the 'next time'!

So, to do instead, have a really hot shower, getting your body really warm, then turn the shower to cool for 2 seconds, then cold for 2 seconds, then bleedin' cold, then 'cringing' cold for a minute or two, dropping your shoulders and smile. Always smile. And never actually cringe. Yes, I know I have said it before, but either you have forgotten or you weren't listening. Having gone through this ritual you will now glow with inner heat rising up and filling your body, lasting for about 2 hours. But don't take my word for it, prove it for yourselves.

Then, do some chi kung especially 'knocking on the door of life', and tapping down the insides of your arms and then tapping up the outsides. You will then be set up for that walk down the lane. And you did it all without any coffee, and no cost!

And on and off doing some low frequency humming. Ah, latest on the humming front: my normal number plate recognition has been 49 meters. (20 meters being the legal minimum distance). Then a few weeks ago it went up to 55 meters, then 69. Now settled on 80 meters!! Oh, why didn't I hum so many years ago?

In early September I walked in the dark for the first time this season and gloried in the full moon on the way back. Always good to connect with the moon drawing down that vibration to feel so good. Keep on walking, and maybe the odd skip!! And visualise doing an extra 100 meters, then next time walk that extra bit.

As always, you can contact me on 01934 712404, 07976 288535, WhatsApp or at melvyn@gmx.co.uk Talk with me, you do it when we meet, do it here too!

(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.)

October 2025

*Melvyn Firmager
Always be green, never be mean*

What's On in the Parish

KEY EVENTS THIS MONTH

Thu	2	Blackford Village Hall AGM	7.00 pm	Blackford Village Hall
		Wells Cathedral School Soloists Showcase	7.30 pm	St Mary's Church
Sat	4	The Children's Society Box Opening	9.30 am-12.00 pm	St Mary's Church
		Repair Café	10.00 am-1.00 pm	Wedmore Village Hall
Wed	8	Probus Club	10.30 am	Wedmore Golf Club
		Women of Wedmore WI Meeting – Furniture Restoration Talk	7.00 pm	Post and Wicket
		Wedmore Opera La Traviata	7.15 pm	St Mary's Church
Fri	10	Wedmore Opera La Traviata	7.15 pm	St Mary's Church
Sat	11	Wedmore Opera La Traviata	7.15 pm	St Mary's Church
Sun	12	Freecycle	10.00	Wedmore Car Park
Sat	18	Theale Community Café	10.00 am-12.00 pm	Theale Village Hall
		Bagley Community Orchard Quiz Night	7.30 pm	Theale Village Hall
Sun	19	Theale Community Film Club	7.00 pm	Theale Village Hall
Wed	22	Probus Club – Mike Rendell: Petticoat Pioneers	10.30 am	Wedmore Golf Club
Thu	23	Isle of Wedmore Society Talk – The Railways of Wells	7.30 pm	Masonic Hall
Sun	26	The Big Tidy Up	10.00 am	Borough House Yard

REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS

Every 3rd Monday	Enhanced Community Bus Service – Cribbs Causeway		
Alternate Mondays	Music in Mind		Masonic Hall
Every 2nd Tuesday	Wedmore Harvest Home Committee Meeting	8.00 pm	The Post and Wicket
4th Tuesday each month	Gardening Club	7.30 pm	Masonic Hall
Every 1st Wednesday	Coffee and Chat	10.00 am-12.00 pm	The Bluebird Café
Every 2nd Wednesday	Blackford Café	2.00 pm-4.00 pm	Blackford Village Hall
2nd & 4th Wednesday every month	Probus – Julian Schlosser: Wessex Water Strategy	10.15 am	Isle of Wedmore Golf Club
Every 3rd Wednesday	Wedmore Parish Council Meeting	7.00 pm	The Council Rooms
2nd & 4th Thursday each month	Mendip Rotary Club	7.00 pm	The George Inn
4th Thursday of each month (EXCEPT JUNE, JULY and AUGUST)	Isle of Wedmore Society Meeting	7.30 pm	The Masonic Hall, Wedmore
Second Thursday of each month (EXCEPT AUGUST)	Green Wedmore Meeting	7.30 pm	Wedmore Village Farm
1st Friday of Every Month	Wedmore Carers Group	10.00 am-12.00 pm	The Swan, Wedmore
1st, 3rd & 5th Friday each Month	Mr Punch's Folk Club – Singers, Musicians, Poets and Storytellers all welcome	8.00 pm	Theale Village Hall
1st Saturday of each Month	St Mary's Coffee Shop	9.30 am-12.00 pm	St Mary's Church
3rd Saturday of each Month	Theale Community Café	10.00 am-12.00 pm	Theale Village Hall
2nd Saturday of each Month	Wedmore In Bloom Work Party	9.30 am	Outside The George Inn

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAY

Ladies Badminton	10.00 am-12.00 pm	Wedmore VH	Jean Windridge	01934 712046
Mah Jong	2.00 pm-4.00 pm	Scout Hut	Sue Kirley	07814 549040
Beavers	5.45 pm-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 pm-8.45 pm	Scout Hut	Jacqui Redman	Jax.redman@outlook.com

TUESDAY

Little Lambs	9.15 am-11.15 am	Little Lambs	Heather Hector	01934 712478
Wedmore Men's Shed	9.30 am-12.00	Wedmore Village Farm	David Kirley	07535 441656
Chair Yoga	9.45 am	Masonic Hall	Jo Willis	07552 711101
Yoga for the body, breath and mind	10.00 am-11.15 am	Scout Hut	Kay Wensley	07584 374515
Tuesday Club	10.30 am	Wedmore VH	Lesley Nichols	01934 712045
Music Matters	2.30 pm	via Zoom	mhc.dance4change@hotmail.co.uk	
Squirrels	5.15 pm-6.00 pm	Scout Hut	Becca Newman	group-leader@wedmorescoutgroup.org.uk
Cubs	6.30 pm-7.45 pm	Scout Hut	Jacqui Redman	Jax.redman@outlook.com
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 am-10.15 am	Blackford VH	Lucy	07813 913309
Piloga Fit	9.30 am-10.30 am	Wedmore VH	John Beasley	01749 672482
Pilates	10.30 am-11.30 am	Blackford VH	Lucy	07813 913309
Coffee with a View	10.30 am-12.00 pm	Bagley Baptist Church		
Health Tai Chi	11.00 am-12.00 pm	Wedmore VH	John Beasley	01749 672482
Rainbows	4.30 pm	Wedmore VH	Elaine Tilling	01934 713650
Brownies	6.15 pm	Wedmore VH	Karen Corfield	07899 730539 wedmore.brownies@gmail.com
Guides	7.00 pm	Wedmore VH	Elaine Tilling	01934 713650

THURSDAY

Wedmore Dance Group	10.30 am-12.00 pm	Wedmore VH	Nikki Pryn	07519 630365
Wedmore Golf Club Bridge Club Section	2.00 pm	Wedmore Golf Club	Colin Pinks	01934 712499
Wedmore Men's Shed	2.30 pm-4.30 pm	Wedmore Village Farm	David Kirley	07535 441656
Cubs	6.30 pm	Scout Hut	Jacqui Redman	Jax.redman@outlook.com
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	Wedmore Scout Hut	Jim Collett	01934 712663
Tots and Tinies	9.15 am	Wedmore First School	Penny Wallace	07833 105418
Wedmore Art Group	2.00 pm	Wedmore Scout Hut	Jim Collett	01934 712663

Poetry Corner

We are always looking for more, original, short, poems by local poets. If you have one you would like to share, then please email me at editorwedmorenews@gmail.com

Cider Worship

it's always a miracle
cider
you are a doubter every autumn
when your back hurts
the harvest seems a landslide
and the trailer's broken
then you obey the ancients
and pulp is juice
-and juice is nectar
you close the lids
and pray
the winter passes
through strange mouldy
mysteries
then
yarlingtons
stubbards
tremletts
chisel jerseys
show their
illustrious
histories
the opened vessel
gives the scent of gods
the marbling of mythology
the barn is now
a shrine
we drink
a revelation
and join our ancestors

Stuart Tunstall

Introducing Paul Johnston, your local Independent Financial Adviser.

Invest Southwest is an established and experienced team of Independent Financial Advisers. Our head office is in Taunton and we have advisers based across the South West.

Our services include:

- Pensions • Savings & Investments • Equity Release
- Mortgages • Personal Protection • Long-Term Care
- Estate & IHT Planning • Will Management



Advice *for real people*

Award winning financial advisers providing a comprehensive service for the real world.



Call: 07887 473 711

E paul@investsouthwest.co.uk

www.investsouthwest.co.uk



INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISERS

(637)



Learn To Play Bridge

LESSONS STARTING IN YOUR AREA



**Winscombe & District
Bridge Club**



We will be running two courses this year.

Year One – Beginners, Monday 10.00 am – 12:30pm
No experience of Bridge or even playing cards is expected.

Year Two – Improvers, Monday 1.00pm – 3:30pm
Continuing on from Year One

Run by our English Bridge Union (EBU) affiliated teacher,
following the EBU 'Learning to Play' Programme.

The cost is £70.00 per term (10 x 2½ hour lessons).
Tea, coffee and biscuits included.

Starting Monday 27th October 2025

Venue: Winscombe Community Centre

Contact: Jane – 07811197850

or

Contact: Janet at winbridgeclubjo@gmail.com

(700)



DISCOUNTED PACKAGES FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS OF WEDMORE

Support Green Wedmore to
achieve their zero-carbon goal



Contact us to
discover the earning
potential of your roof.



info@sunlit-solar.co.uk



www.sunlit-solar.co.uk

**SAVE
10%**

**£50
DONATION TO
GREEN WEDMORE
FOR EVERY
INSTALLATION**

**20
YEARS
EXPERIENCE**

(642)

WELLS Festival of Literature



17 - 25 October 2025
www.wellsfestivalofliterature.org.uk



(702)

HECTOR'S FAMILY BUTCHERS

FOR QUALITY MEATS, GAME, POULTRY & MORE

Beef
 Pork
 Lamb
 Poultry
 Bacon & Gammon
 Free Range Eggs
Hectors Hand Made:
 Burgers
 Faggots
 Pies
 Pastries
 Sausage Rolls
 Ham
 Salt Beef
 Roast Beef
 Turkey



Mon - Fri : 08:00 - 17:00
 Sat : 08:00 - 13:00 Sun : Closed
 Local Delivery

Carefully Chosen
Selection Of:
 Bakery
 Dairy
 Grocery produce
 Cereal
 Flours & Grains
 Chutneys
 Sauces
 Preserves & Dressings
 Bread & Rolls
 Cakes
 Pies
 Miles Tea
 Organic Milk
 Cheese & Cream
 Ice Cream

AWARD WINNING PRODUCE
 FAMILY RUN FOR NEARLY TWENTY YEARS

(029)

www.ectorsfarmshop.co.uk

butchers@hectorshop.co.uk

01934 712384

Wedmore BS28 4EB

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Could you please pass on my thanks to the people who put the V.E. on the Wedmore Village Hall wall. Visiting a very old friend, she told me how well she remembers the Day, jumping up and down shouting 'my daddy is coming home!'

Mary Bennett

Dear Editor,

I was very interested in the article on 'A Wartime Haven in Wedmore' and it added a little more to our village history. However, the German plane did not crash in woods near Hove College, Elmsett Hall.

In July 1995 I wrote the following article in the Isle of Wedmore News on Wedmore in Wartime, 1939-1945. The account of the crash was given to me by several villagers who had witnessed it and even captured the escaping Germans who had survived.

'On 27 March 1944 a German bomber, a Junkers Ju88A-4, crashed in Tadham Moor. The plane was reportedly shot down by anti-aircraft fire from Weston-super-Mare. As it flew, in trouble, over the village the crew ditched some items to try and keep it flying. It was said that canisters, bomb doors and other things were dropped but no bombs. Some of the bits landed in the grounds of The Hall, in Sand Road, and one piece was said to have been the gun turret. Before the plane ditched, the four crew members bailed out. The parachute of the wireless operator Heinrich Schink failed to open, and he was found dead in the moor the next day. He was buried in Ashcombe Road Cemetery, Weston-super-Mare. The remaining crew members were captured making their various ways to the coast.'

The Sweet family dug out pieces of the plane in Tadham Moor, but the engines were buried too deep and are still there. Some of the remains of the plane can be seen at Sweets Tea Shop and Museum. The full account of the crash is in my book, The New Wedmore Chronicles, available in Wedmore Village Store or from me.

Hazel Hudson

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

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

Health and Wellbeing

Our Health and 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 and wellbeing. Firstly, thank you to Pauline Helsop, Eileen Gillibrand and Eileen Wotton for writing the Health and Wellbeing items for August and September. They were both excellent articles!

Reliable, relevant, accurate and easy to read information on the internet – is there such a thing?

Yes, there is, but it is not always easy to find! Some sources look legitimate but may not be. The NHS App and website are key sources of information you can trust about health and wellbeing. For locally produced information, try this website which has been developed by NHS Dietitians in Somerset. There are webinars providing information on some health conditions, mainly related to nutrition at www.patientwebinars.co.uk



Also I have recently found this source of reliable information – Patient.info. It is also available in an App – Patient Access. If you use the NHS App and have a login, you can link the two Apps. Patient Access states that it has ‘Health information you can trust. Our clinical information meets NHS England’s Information Standard’. For example, you can check whether you are eligible for a Flu and/or COVID vaccination this Autumn and then book with your GP Practice (if your Practice is linked), all on the same App – very easy!

The range of information is infinite, from menopause to meningitis, pleurisy to pacemakers. It is written in an easy-to-read accessible format. One of the benefits of this App and website is that it is up to date and provides the latest health news, for example, tips on how to increase your Vitamin D intake during the winter months when the sun is illusive, see www.patient.info/news-and-features/how-to-boost-your-vitamin-d-levels-this-winter Also it recently reported about the change in NICE Guidance for treating Type 2 Diabetes. www.patient.info/news-and-features/changes-in-type-2-diabetes-care-what-it-means-for-you The change in approach is moving beyond simply managing blood sugar to taking a holistic view of a person’s health, particularly their cardiovascular and kidney health.

The NHS app and website at www.patient.info also have a number of trusted tools and calculators to help you assess your health status, for example, a symptom checker and the Epworth sleepiness scale. These tools are designed to support your health journey.

According to Patient Access ‘Exercise should form part of our day-to-day lives’. This is not a new message! There is also good evidence to show that making a change in your regular exercise type can be beneficial, see www.patient.info/news-and-features/the-benefits-of-switching-up-your-exercise. Maybe you take your exercise alone, but how about taking part in a group and socialise with like-minded people for an added dimension? For example, there is the Sharpham Road Playing Fields Park Run every Saturday at 9am. For more information go to www.parkrun.org.uk/sharphamroadplayingfields This is a free, fun, and friendly weekly 5k community event. Walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate – it’s up to you! The report of the August Bank Holiday run talked of participants ‘kicking up dust’. As we go into the Autumn, with cooler and wetter weather, I guess there may be mud to be ‘kicked up’, but I’m sure the sense of achievement will still be as great at the end of 5K, the benefit of the exercise will still be felt, and you may have made some new friends!

Support for people with dementia and their carers in Wedmore

Do you care for or support a person living 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 10.00 am and 12.00 noon, next meeting on 3 October. If you want to find out more about the Memories Workshops and Carers' Group, phone HeadsUp on 01749 670667 or email wedmorecarers@yahoo.com If you need help with funding, just ask as help may be available.



Coffee and a chat

For general support with mental wellbeing Somewhere House, a charity based in Burnham, visits The Bluebird Café in Wedmore on the first Wednesday of the month from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon. They offer an opportunity to meet and chat. For more information contact them on 01278 780769

For easy links to all the websites and documents referenced, or to find out how to sign up to take part in the research programmes, please go to www.whawb.co.uk and go to the Wedmore News item for October 2025. You can also contact Cathy Butterworth on 01934 806266 or by email at cb@theconsultant.org

Cathy Butterworth

Wedmore Good Neighbours

After an unusually hot and dry summer it's anybody's guess what kind of winter we're likely to get. One thing is sure, however – there will be people in our local community who could probably use some friendly support. If you, or someone you know, finds themselves in this situation, then Wedmore Good Neighbours is here to help.

There are many people in the local community who, for a variety of reasons, need a little bit of help from time to time. Wedmore Good Neighbours is a team of volunteers that offers support to those in the local community that request it. Most requests are for a lift to and from medical appointments, but volunteers are also visiting a small number of people in their own homes to provide weekly assistance and company, and the group can also provide lifts to attend local clubs and events. We can also help with dog walking; garden watering; collecting prescriptions; taking items to the recycling centre; or just popping in for a cuppa and a chat.

These services are available to those living on and around the Isle of Wedmore. Wedmore Good Neighbours is operated by volunteers and is free to use. However, the group does have running costs such as insurance; petrol expenses; and the vetting and training of volunteers. So, if you do use the service, a donation is always very welcome, just talk to your volunteer about this. Demand for the group's services has been steadily increasing so if you'd like to become a volunteer please get 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! Visit the Wedmore Health and Wellbeing website at www.whawb.co.uk/gns/ for more information.

Jim O'Connor

(026)

Nethercott Nurseries

CHEDDAR ROAD, CLEWER

Fresh Vegetables, Fruit & Flowers

Garden Composts

Flower Arrangements &

Bouquets made to order

Spring flowering bulbs &

Winter flowering Pansies, Violas

Cyclamen & Polyanthus

Local Delivery available on all goods

Ring or email

01934 742881

nethercottclewer@gmail.com

New Opening Times

Monday to Friday 9:00 - 17:00

Saturday 9:00 - 13:00

HOOD'S TREE SERVICES



National Proficiency Test Certification
and public liability insurance cover.

*** Pruning * Felling * Tree removal/**

*** Dismantling * Stump Grinding ***

*** Crown Lifting/ Reductions ***

For a free, no obligation quote contact
Chris Hood NPTC Cert ND Arb

Tel: 07738 678874

Email: chris@tree-surgery-somerset.com

www.tree-surgery-somerset.com

(584)



"Traditionally made, direct to your door"

BOX 3 £ 30.00

1 lb Pork Sausages

1 lb Back Bacon

1 lb Minced Beef

4 Belly Slices

4 Chicken Fillets

Box 4 £50.00

1 lb Pork Sausages

1 lb Pork & Cider Sausages

1 lb Back Bacon

4 lb Chicken

2 lb Minced Beef

4 Pork Chops

4 Chicken Fillets

All available for local delivery or collection.

Please phone to place your order and we will arrange delivery or collection

Tel 01934 712311

(221)

Club Reports and Society Updates

Women of Wedmore WI

Women of Wedmore's tombola stall was very popular at the well-attended traditional English Fete in August at St Mary's Church. The event was organised by the Wedmore Twinning Association as part of its 50th anniversary celebrations. French guests joined in the fun, attended a church service and re-signed the Twinning Charter.

Women of Wedmore's stall was overflowing with great prizes. Thank you to the tombola team for making it happen, to members who donated prizes and to the volunteers who ran the stall during the afternoon. The proceeds have been donated to Age UK (Somerset) and Weston Hospice Care, WoW's chosen charities for 2025.

The next Women of Wedmore WI meeting is on Wednesday 8 October at the Post and Wicket at 7.00pm for a talk on furniture restoration. For more details, please email WoW on wedmorewi@outlook.com

Linda Morecroft

Wedmore Men's Shed

What's been happening? The warm and dry summer continued through August, and it was a full-time job to keep the Men's Shed allotment growing with regular watering. However, we managed to produce decent produce for members and friends.

Making the best of the weather, we had another BBQ at the shed, got together for a table at the Harvest Home, and even built a set of stocks for the Twinning Fair, which were put to good use by Vicar Richard. Good progress with bench refurbishment, you may have noticed the newly repaired one in Blackford or outside the old Methodist Church in Wedmore?

We are starting a new initiative in the village over the autumn and winter for those who need help with digital and online skills. It is aimed at those who may have a Smartphone, Tablet or Computer and need support to get online, stay in touch, get involved and be independent. No matter what your level, even complete beginners, we will try to help you. Look out for leaflets and posters in the village over the coming weeks.



Men's Shed BBQ in August



Vicar Richard Neill in the stocks, built by the Men's Shed, at the Twinning Fair

October is a great time to join the Wedmore Men's Shed, as we start our monthly Men's Shed Mondays. These talks, on the first Monday evening of each month, are held as a private event at the Bluebird Cafe. We have interesting speakers lined up each month. We will also have a number of activities and events, as well as the usual projects to progress. If you are interested in joining, see below.

Interested in getting involved? We are 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 us at wedmoremensshed@outlook.com or please come along, and find out what we are all about, on 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, you are more than welcome.

Wedmore Men's Shed

Theale Community Film Club

Theale community Film club's next meeting will be on Sunday 19 October at 7.00 pm at Theale Village Hall. New members are always welcome and temporary membership is available, please phone for further details on 07855 297861.

Bernard Coulter

Green Wedmore

Upcoming events include a Repair Café on Saturday 4 October from 10.00 am; Freecycle on Sunday 12 October from 10.00 am; and The Big Tidy Up on Sunday 26 October also from 10.00 am

Please contact us at hello@greenwedmore.co.uk



Ben Jacobs

Wedmore in Bloom

The WIB Harvest Home arch was constructed on one of the hottest days of the year. The crab apples, apples, straw flowers and statice gave an autumnal feel and we would like to thank all those who donated from their gardens. The day went beautifully, and the arch was admired by many, so thank you again to all who helped.



Special thanks to Mischa from the Community Farm for supplying the straw flowers and statice, and a big 'shout out' to Isabelle for her wonderful sunflowers. We predict a budding WIB member!

Note that our regular monthly event takes place on the second Saturday of each month, 9.30 am outside The George Inn. Please contact wedmoreinbloom@gmail.com for further information.

Kay Adams



Cheddar and Wedmore Bridge Club

Notable scores of 65% or more were achieved in July club sessions by Jane Hall and Peter Dawes (69.6%), Chris Bryant and Mike Smith (67.5%), Brian Crosby and Mike Smith (66.3% and 66%), Barbara Biggin and Mike Smith (65.5%), Maria Constantinidou and Derek Essen (65%) and Janice Young and Ronnie Follenfant (65%).

Steve Pedrick contributed this month's hand (prior to his hip operation which we hear has gone well). It is an unusual hand in that a small slam was bid and made at every table, but Esme and Steve scored a complete top thanks to Esme's decision to play in 6 no trumps rather than the 6 hearts contract played at every other table.

♠ AK964

♥ KJ53

♦ K5

♣ Q5

♠ T3

♥ Q96

♦ QT96

♣ J832

♠ J75

♥ 4

♦ 7432

♣ T9764

♠ Q82

♥ AT872

♦ AJ8

♣ AK

With North the dealer the bidding went 1S – 2H – 4H – 4NT (Blackwood) – 5D (1 ace). Esme then bid 6NT not 6H and the extra 10 points alone ensured a top since all the other tables played in 6H making 12 tricks when the Queen of hearts did not drop. Esme finessed against the Queen, however, and made all 13 tricks!

Note how close these hands are to making a grand slam. Playing Roman Key Card Blackwood, North would bid 5H to show two key cards missing the Queen and 5NT would get 6H response showing 2 kings, so you know you have all the aces and kings but not the Queen of hearts. Partner's 1S - 4H bids suggests about 16 points, so they have

more high cards than they have shown.

Everything is suggesting that a grand slam depends upon not losing to the queen of hearts, but you don't know if partner has three or four hearts and whether or not they have the Jack so it's difficult to estimate your probability of success. Even if you knew for certain that it was a 50% probability, however, should you bid the grand? I'm afraid that at club level you should not since it is extremely rare to find everyone bidding at least a small slam. There will usually be some people only playing in game so bidding and making a small slam will score more than 50%. There were 6 tables on the night in question. Suppose one table made 4H +2 for a bottom when 5 tables bid and made 6H. They would all score 60%. By bidding the grand you are risking losing 60% for the chance of gaining 40%. If two tables failed to bid the small slam, then you would risk losing 70% for the chance of gaining 30%. You can see that you need much better than a 50% chance to gain in the long run.

The club welcomes new players and visitors. See www.bridgewebs.com/cheddarandwedmore for details of our session times and places. If you are a rubber bridge player, and would like an introduction to duplicate bridge, we can come to your rubber bridge group and show you how it all works. If you have any bridge-related questions, I'd love to hear from you. Contact me through my Bridge Nerd blog at www.profdavies.co.uk

Geoff Davies

(599)

T T Garden Machinery Service & Repairs



Your Local & Friendly Service

FREE COLLECT & RETURN

Mowers(Ride on
or Pedestrians)
Hedgecutters,
Rotovators,
Chainsaws,
Strimmers,
Shredders etc

Badgworth
01934 733382
or
07724 986960

(771)



M J SHEPPARD

Independent Family
Funeral Directors &
Monumental Masons

Private Chapel of Rest
24 Hour Personal Service
A friendly professional service

Mark Sheppard BA(Hons) Dip.FD LMBIFD
Funeral Director



Cheddar

01934 742885

Cornerways, Church Street,
Cheddar, BS27 3RF
www.mjsheppardfunerals.co.uk

DAVID FORD AERIALS

- All types of TV aerials plus extra points
- Freesat, Sky and European/ Motorised dishes
- Discreet and careful installations
- FREE call out and quotations
- Quality installations for over 21 years

Please contact DAVID FORD
on either

MOBILE: 07740 946385

EMAIL:

davidandrewford@outlook.com

freesat



(543)



JHS—Handyman Service

**No time for home and
garden maintenance?**

All aspects of interior and exterior
home maintenance undertaken
including painting, decorating
and repairs.

No job too small

Affordable, friendly and reliable

Call : 07842 093426



(605)

Wedmore Ladies Badminton Club

After a summer break - holidays, grandchildren duties, etc - we started back in September and will continue until Christmas when we will have a break for a couple of weeks over the festivities.

We meet on Mondays in the Village Hall 10.00 - 12.00 when, depending on numbers, we have three or four games of doubles with, of course, a coffee break in between. If you would like to give badminton a try, please come along and feel good at having done some exercise to start the week. We are a fun club, and standards vary from beginners to social players. We hope to see you soon, for more information please contact Jean on 01934 712046.

Jean Windridge

Wedmore Footpaths Group – Walking with Secateurs

Walking the footpaths around Wedmore is a brilliant way to really appreciate the beautiful place in which we live, but it can sometimes present some unexpected obstacles. Not least, those dreaded brambles! Growing amazingly fast, they must surely have been one of the key obstacles to Prince Charming ever reaching the Sleeping Beauty and their spiky stems can quickly block routes, snag clothing and make access difficult.

So a top-tip to all, in addition to abiding by the Countryside Code, is to always carry a pair of secateurs with you to help keep footpaths, gateways, and hedgerows clear. Overhanging brambles can make a walk unpleasant or even hazardous and a quick snip here and there can make a lot of difference and make the path easier for the next walker, cyclist or rider. Cutting back brambles gives light and space to other wildflowers and shrubs and will encourage plant diversity



You will need a sharp, sturdy, pair of secateurs to make clean cuts and reduce strain; a pair of strong gardening gloves, essential for protection against thorns; sturdy footwear for walking on uneven ground; and, optionally, a bag to carry off any longer trimmings if they fall directly onto the path.

How to do it safely. Focus on the path and only cut back what is blocking access. Leave the main bramble clumps intact, as they provide food and shelter for wildlife; cut at the base of new shoots, snip the canes close to the ground or back to the hedge line to slow regrowth; clear as you go by moving cut stems to the side of the path where they won't trip anyone

or block gateways; avoid over-clearing as brambles are valuable for birds, insects and mammals. Trim lightly rather than stripping whole areas; finally, stay mindful of land ownership, stick to public rights of way, and avoid heavy cutting on private property unless you have permission.

Best times to trim. Spring to early summer, when new shoots start crossing paths; and late summer to autumn, after the berries are finished, to keep paths clear through winter.

The result is that, by the end of a walk with secateurs, the paths are clearer, safer, and more visible. It's a small action that combines exercise, care for the countryside and help for fellow walkers, making a big contribution to maintaining open, safe, and welcoming paths for all.

Wedmore Footpaths Group

Wedmore Tuesday Club

Been a lot going on at Tuesday Club during August. First of all was a stall we had at the Twinning Fete at St Mary's Church for our French visitors where we sold Cream Teas, as this is so very English Garden Party. The Cream Teas were very popular, and we sold all 50 well before the fete finished. This managed to raise £175 to go into the Tuesday Club funds which help us organise day trips for our members. A huge thanks to Yvonne Hutchison, Christine Raphael and Jenny George for baking the scones; and Yvonne and Christine for putting jam and cream in small pots which made the whole selling process very easy. Big thanks to Yvonne, Christine and Carolyn for manning the stall, I also got stuck in. Thanks also to Mike Thorne for doing the artistic signage. Biggest thanks to the people who bought and enjoyed our cream teas. In the photo is Yvonne Hutchison, Christine Raphael and Mike Thorne with his two Red Setters.



We also had a coach journey to visit the Little Harp in Clevedon. On arriving, we helped our members through to the conservatory to enjoy the lovely views across to South Wales. We served up teas and coffees for our members, then lunch was fish and chips, followed by desserts. Most of us then took a walk along the promenade to sit and admire the view and put the world to rights. This could not have happened without Sue Worrall for booking the trip, and Yvonne Hutchison for taking each member's orders and making up colour-coded tabs with our names and what we had ordered on them to help the Little Harp staff. Big thanks also to Alan, our coach driver, for getting us there and back safely.

Graham Whitcombe

Wedmore Gardening Club

Another successful summer trip took place on a lovely sunny day in August with the Club outing to The Newt, which included a tour of the Roman Villa. The Villa is worth a trip in its own right but, added to the lovely gardens and the vast variety of apple trees, all added up to a very special day. Ideas are now welcome for next year's trips!

We started our winter programme in September with a talk 'Insectivorous Plants' from Roy Cheek. On Tuesday 28 October, Caradoc Day's subject is 'Plants Behaving Badly', which should be an interesting one for sure. Looking further forward on Tuesday 25 November Arthur Cole's talk is entitled 'The Newt: A Journey Spanning Three Centuries'. I have been to one of Arthur's talks and it's definitely one I highly recommend as he is such an interesting and amusing speaker. I'm really looking forward to it.

The meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month in the Masonic Hall and begin at 7.30pm with refreshments served after the talk. Members and friends as always will be made most welcome. Members are free and for guests it's £5.

Jean Windridge

Isle of Wedmore Society

Our next talk will be on Thursday 23 October at 7.30pm, in the Masonic Hall. It will be given by Colin Price and is entitled 'The Railways of Wells'. I think most of you will be much more familiar with this but, as a newcomer to Somerset, I am looking forward to this intriguing subject.

Visitors are welcome for the small price of £5 and the talk is followed by tea, coffee and biscuits. A quick reminder that the November meeting will be led by Jacky Farley and Lindsey Baker giving us a valuable up-date on the work of the Parish Council. And will conclude with wine and mince pies. For further information please contact the secretary, Jean Gregory, by email at secretaryiows@btinternet.com

Jean Gregory

Mr Punch's Folk Club

The next Folk Club meetings will be on 3, 17 and 31 October, 8.00pm at Theale Village Hall. This offers a chance to play, sing, recite or listen to traditional and contemporary folk. All are welcome for the small cost of £3. Please bring your own refreshments.

Bernard Coulter

Wedmore Dance Group

Wedmore Dance Group has been running for many years, but those of you who are new to the area might not realise there is a chance to dance with others right here in Wedmore. Wedmore Dance Group meets on Thursday mornings during term time from 10.30am to 11.45 am in Wedmore Village Hall.



Our autumn term runs from 25 September to 11 December. This friendly, lively, class is open to all, and we would like to offer you a free taster session, just pop along! After your free taster the fee is £7 for each session that you attend – no need to book in advance. We charge a termly membership fee of £10. For more information, please contact Nikki at nikkipryn@gmail.com

Wedmore Dance Group

Wedmore Opera Goers

We are now being asked to pay for the seats for The Flying Dutchman even though it is not until 19 April 2026, so we need to know very soon if you would like to come. The cost at the moment is £65 for the theatre and the coach, but this will rise considerably nearer the time because the theatres prices rise. We leave Wedmore at 11.30 am in time to have lunch in Cardiff somewhere around the bay before the performance at 4.00 pm, and on the return journey light refreshments are distributed so we hope this makes a special day out.

Matthew Bournes ballet for next Spring will be his exciting version of Red Shoes on 5 March 2026. The cost for this, at the moment, is £54 for the coach and the theatre.

All the prices above are per person including tickets and coach transport. Please email suzannemetters@hotmail.com if you are interested in any of our events.

Suzanne Metters

Wedmore Probus Club

The Club's September meetings will be on Wednesday 8 October, when Julian Schlosser of Wessex Water will present on the company's strategy; and on Wednesday 22 October when Mike Rendell will talk on 'Petticoat Pioneers', to which meeting ladies are invited. Both meetings in the Wedmore Suite at the Wedmore Golf Club meeting at 10.30am followed by a convivial lunch in the club restaurant.

Probus is open to all gentlemen who are retired, and semi-retired, from their professions and business. For further details, please contact the Club's Secretary, Richard Hall, on 01934 712877.

Richard Hall

Club 50

We are off to Cardiff on Wednesday 15 October, leaving Wedmore Car Park at 9.00am. This will cost £25 for members and £28 for guests. Everyone welcome, if you would like more details, please contact Andrea by phone on 01934 712161.

Andrea West

St Mary's Church 100 Club

The winners of the 100 Club draw for September are Jill and John Morse and Jackie Hall. Many congratulations!

Liz Henderson

News and Events from Outside the Parish

Cheddar Arts @ King's Theatre

Cheddar Arts autumn season of films continues on Friday 10 October with 'A Complete Unknown', starring Timothy Chalamet, Elle Fanning and Edward Norton.

Set in the influential New York music scene of the early 60s, the film follows 19-year-old Minnesota musician Bob Dylan's rise as a folk singer to the top of the charts – culminating in his electric rock and roll performance at the 1965 Newport Folk Festival. 'An electric revelation.'

No online bookings, tickets are available on the door and are cash payment only. The doors of Kings Theatre at the Kings of Wessex School open at 6.45 pm and performances begin at 7.30 pm.

Jan Rance

Henton and District Gardening Club

On Wednesday 15 October, Colin Varndell shares his award-winning wildlife photographs in a talk entitled 'Close Encounters'. The talk will be held in Henton Village Hall, with doors opening at 7.00 pm for refreshments and the talk starting at 7.30 pm.

Colin is an award-winning natural history photographer based in Dorset. He is best known for his evocative images of animals, birds, insects, wildflowers and landscapes. His illustrated presentation will cover a wide range of nature subjects most of which can be found in our gardens. He will share his beautiful photographs, as well as insights into how he achieves such fantastic results. It promises to be a feast for the eyes! Visitors welcome £5. For more information, please visit www.hentongardenclub.weebly.com.

Susie Spragg

A Musical Milestone – Cheddar Male Choir Turns 30

On Saturday 18 October, Shipham Village Hall will come alive with the sounds of not one, but two exceptional choirs. Doors open at 7.00 pm, concert starts at 7.30 pm. In celebration of their 30th anniversary, the renowned Cheddar Male Choir joins forces with the vibrant voices of Bois Goetre-Hen Male Choir from Bridgend, South Wales, for a musical evening in support of The Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance, helping to keep this critical service in flight.

Expect a rich and exhilarating programme of hits from the musicals, uplifting spirituals, pop favourites, and the glorious depth of traditional male voice harmonies. With two accomplished choirs sharing one stage, this promises to be an evening of musical magic and a fantastic celebration.

Tickets are £10 per person and are available via Eventbrite; Deane's of Cheddar; through choir members; or at the door on the night. There's also a Bar and Raffle available throughout the evening. Whether you're a seasoned choir supporter or simply in search of an unforgettable night out, mark your calendar and join us in song, spirit, and celebration. For more information email us at contactcheddarmalechoir@gmail.com

Cheddar Male Choir

John Hodge
SOLICITORS

*"A name you can trust for
specialist legal services"*

- Accident Claims
- Attorneyships & Ct. of Protection
- Commercial Property
- Commercial Litigation
- Disputes & Debt Recovery
- Divorce and Family
- Employment Advice
- Moving Home, Conveyancing
- Probate & Estate Services
- Wills, Trusts & Tax planning

Visit our local offices at Cheddar Road, Wedmore

www.johnhodge.co.uk | **01934 713030** | mailbox@johnhodge.co.uk



WESTON-SUPER-MARE | BRISTOL | CLEVEDON | YATTON | WEDMORE

(431)

**John
Adams**



Plumbing and
Heating
Engineer

07976 838673

**INSTALLATION
SERVICING
MAINTENANCE
REPAIRS**

(388)

(667)

Redwood Joinery



- Windows • Doors • Bi-Fold Doors
- General Bespoke Joinery

01278 685010

sales@redwoodjoinery.co.uk

www.redwoodjoinery.co.uk

26A Vicarage Road, Woolavington, TA7 8DX

Wells Festival of Literature

Comedian Rachel Parris, best known for her TV appearances on 'The Mash Report' and 'Late Night Mash', brings a touch of humour to the Festival with a witty sequel to Jane Austen's famous novel 'Pride and Prejudice'.

Introducing Mrs Collins takes up the story of Charlotte Lucas who married the pompous Mr Collins, choosing stability over romance. Her friend, the 'hopeless romantic' Elizabeth Bennet, had turned him down, and is appalled that Charlotte would marry for a comfortable home and not for love. But Charlotte builds a quiet, dutiful life in Kent until one day an unexpected visitor arrives at Rosings Park. A spark is lit, and she is torn between what she must do and what she truly desires.

As a Jane Austen fan and the founding member of improv comedy group Austentatious, Rachel captures both Austen's sharp wit and the characters' speech in this story of love, loss and second chances. But what happens next? Go along to the Festival on Saturday 25 October to snap up an early copy and find out. 'Introducing Mrs Collins' is due to be published in November, timed to coincide with Jane Austen's 250th birthday.

Wells Festival of Literature runs from 17 to 25 October. Visit the website on www.wellsfestivalofliterature.org.uk for full details of the festival or pick up a brochure from numerous local venues.

Jackie Chappell



The Future of Nato: Renewing the Alliance in a Changing World

In this 75th anniversary year, NATO faces unprecedented challenges, from emerging, competing powers to threats in cyberspace. Ghislain Taschini, a Partner with Operational Excellence Consultancy Bourton Group and with 25 years' experience in defence and related sectors, will examine its evolving role and relevance in contemporary global security and the difficulties of internal cohesion within the organisation.

The talk will be given at Christ Church Henton on Thursday, 30 October, doors open 7.00pm and the talk will start at 7.30pm. There will be a cash or card bar and tickets at £12.50 are available from Jenny at jennycrossley@mbzonline.net or by phone on 07753 958836

Ian Tinsley

Cheddar Vale Lions

The Cheddar Vale Lions Club is thrilled to announce the success of the 2025 Duck Race that returned to the stunning Cheddar Gorge on August Bank Holiday Monday. It was a huge family gathering cheering on the ducks. Following the sell-out success of last year's race, where 2,000 ducks raced down the river to the delight of hundreds of spectators, this year's event was again sold out and there was even more fun, laughter, and community spirit.





Cheddar Lions Duck Race Success!

As in previous years, the majority proceeds will go to Children's Hospice South West, and donations supporting the Lions' ongoing community work, plus a contribution to the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance, who supported the event on the day giving CPR demonstrations and providing first aid.

The enthusiasm from our community, visitors, and volunteers was incredible, and we can't wait to bring the ducks back for another unforgettable day in the Gorge. The event remains a highlight in Cheddar's summer calendar. Whether you're local or visiting, don't miss this splash of summer fun in support of truly meaningful causes.

Meetings

The monthly Memory Café will meet at the Pallotti Room in the Catholic Church in Towntown on the following Mondays from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon on 27 October, 24 November, and 22 December (for the Christmas Party!).

The Cheddar Vale Lions Club meets on the second Thursday of each month at the Catholic Church Meeting Room, Towntown. Lion Clubs identify needs within the community and work together to fulfil those needs. For more information on these items, or to get involved with the Cheddar Vale Lions Club, please contact Lion Secretary Sylvia Cook via phone on 03458 337402, email information@cheddarvalelions.org.uk or via our website at www.cheddarvalelions.org.uk

Theresa Warrell

Interested in Scottish Country Dance?

The U3A organises a Scottish Country Dance Group at Axbridge Town Hall on Wednesdays from 9.30 am to 11.30 am. For further details please contact Marion Warren-Smith on 01934 712904 or via email at cdws@me.com

Marion Warren-Smith

40th Anniversary Show is a Blooming Success

The 40th Anniversary Cheddar Flower Show took place on Saturday 16 August and was enjoyed by exhibitors and visitors alike. There was a record number of exhibitors, including many entering for the first time, and an encouraging number of youngsters. Thank you to all who took part, and to the many individuals and traders who support the Flower Show.

The vegetables, fruit and flowers were of good quality, despite the challenging weather this year. There was a delicious array of cakes and some superb entries in the art, photography and craft sections. The children's entries were creative and delightful as always.

The prize giving concluded with a presentation of a bouquet to the current Chairman of the Show, Chris Sims, who has been on the committee for the entire 40 years that Cheddar Flower Show has run, to thank her for her dedication. In response Chris thanked the present committee and all the many committee members and supporters of the Show over the years. It has been an important community event in our village and the local area and, although the present committee is retiring, Chris is confident that a new committee will be formed, and the Show will continue in 2026 and beyond with new ideas. Several exhibitors have expressed an interest already.

Sue Bathe

Save the Children Lunches

You can help children in distress around the world!



Save the Children

Join us for our next lunch on Fridays 3, 17, and 31 October at 12.30pm in Shipham Village Hall. Just £5.50 for lunch of soup, locally baked bread, cheddar cheese, pickle, homemade biscuits, tea or coffee. Children under 5 will be given a free lunch. All profits go to the Save the Children charity

Ian Firth

Whist Drive in Draycott

A whist drive is held every Monday at the Draycott Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. New members are welcome. Please contact Lance on 01934 782711 for more information.

Lance Binning

The Warm Spot, Axbridge

'The Warm Spot' takes place every Monday from 10.30 am to 2.00pm 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.

Yvonne Brown



Cafe, Bar, Pizzeria, Music venue

"Community at our Heart"

Open Tues to Thurs: 9am - 10.30pm

Fri / Sat: 9am - 11.30pm,

Sun: 2pm - 10.00pm

Pizzas - eat-in or takeaway from 3pm

Hot and cold drinks, alcohol, cake.

Breakfast up to 11am

Lunches include sandwiches, toasties,
lasagna, jacket potatoes, stews and soups

**Come and try
our new menu**

Events coming up in October:

Sat 4th Oct. - Ben Nicholls

Fri 10th Oct. - Quiz Night

Sat 11th Oct. - Emma Harris & Anders

Fri 17th Oct. - Comedy Night

Sat 18th Oct. - Sarah Yeo

Fri 24th Oct. - Music Bingo

Sat 25th Oct. - Sam Evans

Sun 26th Oct - Emma Harris (2:30pm)

Why not reserve a table? It's free to reserve

email: bluebirdcafewedmore@gmail.com 01934 902532

(729)



Barbara Francois BABTAC

01934 712010

www.boroughbeautystudio.co.uk

Open Tuesday - Saturday

7 Borough Mall, Wedmore. BS28 4EB

(007)

(661)



PREMIER FABRICATION LTD

OFFERING:

- Wrought iron decorative and ornate gates (*both electrical and manual*)
- Bespoke handrails
- Ornamental railings
- Custom-made staircase

Tel: 01934 756633

**Unit 8, Labourham Business Park,
Draycott Road, Cheddar,
Somerset BS27 3RP**

Cheddar Valley u3a

The Cheddar Valley U3A Industrial History Group has almost completed its summer series of visits to museums and preserved industrial heritage sites far and wide.



Our most recent visits have included a tour of Salford Brass Mill museum where its enthusiastic team of volunteers gave us an insight into the workings of this important export industry which lasted into the early 20th century. With a working original water wheel and reconstructed industrial hammers we were able to imagine the noise, heat and huge dangers involved in this work. As winter approaches, we're now planning a series of talks to keep up our interest when an outdoor visit is less appealing.



If you find yourself looking for something to occupy a little spare time, in the company of friendly like-minded people, we're here for you. Our dedicated website will give you plenty of information about us or you can pop into one of our regular Coffee Mornings, held on the 3rd Thursday each month between 10.00 am and 11.30 am, in Cheddar Village Hall. Visitors are always welcome, and you can meet lots of us and see the interest groups available. Go on treat yourself!

All leaders are volunteers, giving their time free of charge. This makes it very economical to take part, with only the cost of materials and venue hire to be shared amongst the group members. With u3a membership only costing around 23p per week, what's not to like? Please email us at U3ACVGroupliaison@outlook.com or visit our website at www.cheddar-valley.u3asite.uk for more information.

u3a

Royal Air Forces Association Mid-Somerset Branch

At the September Branch meeting Dave Rogers, an Observer Lieutenant based in Yeovil, supported by his wife Julia, gave a presentation 'The History of the Royal Observer Corps'. The presentation covered the role of the police in WW1 as aircraft observers that led to the introduction of 'The Raid Reporting System' in 1925, the formation of the Observer Corps that became an integral part of the 'Dowding Air Defence System' in WW2 and in 1941 became the 'Royal Observer Corps' (ROC). The ROC continued in its primary role of aircraft recognition and reporting until 1955 when it was allocated the additional task of detecting and reporting nuclear explosions and associated fall-out. In 1965, the ROC lost its role in Air Defence and assumed the role of field force for the United Kingdom Warning and Monitoring Organisation (UKWMO) related to its nuclear reporting role. This continued until the ROC was stood down in March 1996, at the end of the Cold War. Dave Rogers was an Observer Lieutenant based in Yeovil



**ROYAL
AIR FORCES
Association**
The charity that supports the RAF family

On 14 September the Branch commemorated the 85th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain with a Multi-Denomination Battle of Britain Service that remembered the activity, personnel and service of the RAF during WW2 and subsequent conflicts. The Service was attended by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Somerset, Mayors and local dignitaries, representatives from RAFA Yeovil Branch and Air Cadets from Shepton Mallet and Wells Squadrons; Wreaths were then laid at the Shepton Mallet Cenotaph.

The Branch will meet on Monday 6 October, 11.00am, at the Bell Inn, Evercreech, for an Informal Fun Games Day with skittles, darts and pool plus cards and board games; there will be no formal Branch Business at this event.

There will be a Branch General Meeting on Monday 3 November at 11.00am at Wells Golf Club for a presentation by a guest speaker followed by a general meeting to discuss 'Continuity Planning' for the Branch and an outline programme for 2026.

Paul Ashmore

RNLI Mendip Branch

We have a new name! The RNLI has agreed that the Branch should change its name to reflect better the wider area that the Branch covers, so from 1 October the Branch will become the 'RNLI Mendip Branch'. The Branch includes the area of Mendip from Nailsea in the north, south through Winscombe to Wedmore and east from Winscombe along Mendip and Cheddar Valley through Cheddar, Priddy, Wells, to Shepton Mallet. The southern edge runs from Wedmore east to embrace Glastonbury and Street. Hence, the new name is a better definition of where we cover.



The next Winscombe Folk Night will be on Saturday 11th October at the St James Church Centre. Doors open at 7.15pm and the music starts at 8.00pm and will feature Jon Wilks who is an English writer, folk singer, and guitarist, known for his work in the traditional folk music scene. He has gained recognition for his authentic interpretations of traditional English folk songs, as well as his own original compositions, see www.jonwilks.online/about for more information. The event will have the usual cash bar for beers, ciders, wines and soft drinks. Tickets priced at £15 may be obtained from winscombe.folk@gmail.com or telephone 07703 538861 with all proceeds going to RNLI Mendip Branch.

The Branch will celebrate a brand-new event for Trafalgar Night on Tuesday 21 October at Mendip Spring Golf and Country Club, Congresbury. The evening will start at 6.30pm with a reception, followed by a 3-Course Dinner. The Guest Speaker will be Mark Dowie CBE the former CEO of the RNLI. Carriages will be from 10.30pm. Tickets will cost £42.50 per head and may be obtained from either Tim Moran at tim@moransonline.com or by phone on 07801 678432 or from Mendip Spring Golf Club at clubhouse@mendipspringgolfclub.com All proceeds going to RNLI Mendip Branch.

August Shouts

In August there were 19 'Shouts' between our four Somerset Lifeboat Stations (Burnham-on-Sea – 1, Minehead – 9, Portishead – 5, Weston-super-Mare – 4). Portishead Lifeboat launched on service on 20 Aug to assist a yacht which had been

at sea for many hours and was suffering engine issues. Knowing that they would have trouble entering Portishead Marina, the yacht crew asked for assistance, so the RNLI crew launched at 4.00pm. The five crew on board the vessel were well equipped, wearing lifejackets and experienced but appeared to be very tired after their long journey from Cornwall. After sailing all the way to Portishead Pier, they were taken under tow by the lifeboat crew and were pleased to be supported back to the safe haven of Portishead Marina.

Paul Ashmore

Sports Club Reports

Wedmore Golf Club

August at the Golf Club will be remembered as the month that the weather was so dry that the precipitous 12th hole had to be taken out of play. With a bit of rain by the end of month it was back in play for Captains Weekend at the end of the month. It started on Friday with a fun competition over nine holes with players having to choose just three clubs and a putter to play with, which obviously suited the Ladies as they took the top five places. Not only that but they all scored better than their handicaps. Claire Biggs and Janet Robson were the two front runners both scoring 21 points but with Claire taking first place on countback. Debbie Monks took third place with 20 points.

Saturday's competition is a bit more serious with men and women playing for the Captains Cups. Three divisions of men and two for the Ladies playing for trophies donated by previous Captains. There was a quite remarkable result in the Ladies Divisions, with six of the top players all scoring 33 points. In Division 1 Nicola Stevenson was the unlucky player to slip into fourth place with Mandy Vearncombe taking the Dodkin Cup ahead of runner -up Beverley Broad and third placed Fran McMillan, Division 2 went to Sally Stephens again scoring 33 points, beating Vera Ireland on countback. Wendy Lucas was a whole point behind in third place.

The best scores in the Men's divisions came in division 3. Andy Humphries had the best score of the day to win the Garbutt Cup with 41 points, just one better than Derek Moody with Stan Dinotoro third with 38 points. David Poyner had 37 points to win division 1 and the Dodkin Trophy by a single point from Steve Plant with Jay James third on 32. There was another close finish in division 2 for the Donald Cup which went to Terry Williams with 34 points just one better than Jon Raeside with Paul Russell another shot further back on third place.

The Ladies played for at least 5 trophies in the month starting with the James Jug for the higher handicap ladies. It was hotly contested with Ange Tanner emerging successful with a nett 68, 4 under par, which gave her a margin of just one shot over Joules Lowe thanks to a par on the sixteenth. Ann Search took third place. In the higher divisions Lyn Bird won division 1 with a 3 under par 69 which put her 5 ahead of runner-up Mandy Vearncombe with Shirley Turner another shot back in third. Best



Wastewater
Maintenance Engineers
*Covering all of the
South West*

DO YOU HAVE A SEPTIC TANK?

Are you aware of the new Environment Agency Binding Rules in January 2020?

Septic Tank, Sewage Plant, Pumping Station, Drain Jetting,
Tank Emptying, Rainwater Harvesting System. Service and Repairs
Tank Supply, Tank Installation, Tank Emptying, Tank Inspection.

All work is carried out by a **British Water Accredited Engineer**



FEEL FREE TO CALL FOR MORE INFO!

M: 07749 118 500 | E: matt@alphawastewater.co.uk | W: www.alphawastewater.co.uk



4 PAWS 4 WARDS
DOG WALKER

Now taking bookings for

Group walks (up to six dogs per group)
Solo walks
Household walks
Pet visits

Contact Sally on 07850477863
DBS checked, First aid trained,
Fully Insured

(776)

C.V. Gower & Son

INDEPENDENT FAMILY
FUNERAL DIRECTORS



- † All localities covered
- † 24 hr. Service every day
- † Distance and Overseas Funerals
- † Pre-paid Funeral Plans
- † Private Chapel of Rest
- † Green Funerals arranged

*For FREE advice on all matters
relating to Funerals*

contact

Lindsay Lawrence on 842945

score of the day though came in division 2 with Eileen Parnell winning on 66, 2 ahead of Janis Lawrence with Susan Brearley another 2 shots back in third.

The following week there was another trophy on offer, this time the Team Trophy, a bowmaker in teams of 3. It produced a very close finish with the team of Janet Robson, Linda Wright and Jane Hewitt winning due to a strong back nine of 38 points which took them to a total of 81. This was just one better than the team of Ali Dodkin, Mandy Vearncombe and Shirley Turner who were leading until faltering on the last couple of holes to finish with 80 points. Best back nine of all came from the third placed team of Jill Cornelius, Ashley Ribi and Jennifer Fell who had matching halves of 39 to finish 3 back on 78 points.



Winners from the Captains Cup.

Another week and another trophy with just 17 holes in play. The scores were generally still excellent with June Smith winning the Gooding Cup for best score of the day with 39 points which also put her first in division 1. Cathy Olive was second in the division on 36, one better than third placed Claire Walker. Sue Brearley was the winner of division 2 with 38 points, 2 better than Eileen Parnell who beat Karen Clark on countback. Linda Wright also scored 38 to win Division 3 by a single point from Jill Cornelius with Jenny Thomas in third place on 35.

The following week things got really busy with a Ladies Open, which was a bowmaker won by Susan Solomon, June England, Elaine Cullen and Fiona Hodge. Then the Queen Elizabeth Cup, a gross contest won by Lyn Bird with 85, 2 better

than Bev Broad who beat Nicola Stevenson on countback. The Men's equivalent, the King Alfred Cup, went to Nigel Beer on 72 with Larie Olive a shot behind, and Josh Barwell just one shot further back. This just left time for the Absent Friends on Bank Holiday Monday won by Daniel McQueen, Steve Alden and Chris Rogers with a score of 94 points.



Claire Biggs, Janet Robson and Debbie Monks, first three in the Captains Weekend '3 Clubs and a putter' competition.

Tony Biggs

Isle of Wedmore Bowls Club

The long hot summer continues as I write this report, with the lack of rain manifesting in a very brown, challenging, but overall good bowling green at the Wedmore Recreation Ground.

The Men's A team strung together some hard-earned victories in the County league against Congresbury (57-48), Bristol (64-50), Portishead RBL (48-46) with only a sobering loss to report against Watchet (56-79). Meanwhile the B team lost to Winscombe (48-71) but beat Victoria comprehensively (53-21).

Our Clevedon and District league team extended its unbeaten run with some outstanding wins against Nailsea, Congresbury, Portishead, Long Ashton and Portishead RBL and another tense one in the knockout cup semifinal against Congresbury by 104-99. We now face Clevedon Prom in the final to be played in September at Long Ashton BC. Slightly more difficult results are being experienced by the Weston and District league team. August produced tough losses against Ashcombe Crusaders and Victoria Saxons but then victories against Nailsea (114-104) and then St Andrews (110-72) provided some hope that relegation may be averted.



Ladies Triples Champions Barbara Parnell, Pam Beard and Christine Simpson

Our Ladies teams are enduring mixed results this summer having entered two more leagues than last year. In the County league a splendid win against St Andrews by 52-47 was accompanied by two losses against Victoria and Ashcombe. In the Wessex Ladies league there was a knife-edge win over Winscombe and then a more comprehensive win in the return fixture by 59-38, although in the Victoria Ladies league we struggled

on a difficult green and lost 36-55. In the Weston and District Ladies league a nice win against Victoria (53-39) was followed by a loss against Portishead (28-56). In the South and West Somerset Ladies league we were defeated by Crewkerne by an agonising one-shot margin (32-33). Our interest in the Fear Plate fell at the semi-final stage with a loss against a powerful Somerton team.



Men's Triples Champions Jeff White, Trev Gray and Graham Dormer. Presented by Men's Captain Poul Janaway.

In other matches, the Wedmore mixed team retained the Friendship Cup, played annually against City of Wells by a narrow three shot margin. Teams from all over the county descended on Wedmore for our Open Mixed Triples event. It was a great day, not too hot for once, and won by a threesome from Glastonbury Wyrall Park

(611)



ASHTON

PROFESSIONAL DECORATORS

Interior Painting
 Exterior Painting
 Wallpaper Hanging
 On-site Spraying
 Wall & Floor Tiling
 Restoration & Refurbishment
 Commercial Projects



www.ashtondecorators.co.uk
robbie@ashtondecorators.co.uk
 m: 07860 884117

M. & P. CONTRACTING SERVICES

OFFICE & HOUSE CLEANING SERVICES

GRASS MOWING

GARDENING and MAINTENANCE

EXCAVATOR and FORK LIFT DRIVING

***PHONE MALCOLM OR PATSY
FOR DETAILS.***

07792 160760 / 07779 287144

OR

01458 860001

TO LEAVE A MESSAGE.

(742)



N Duckett Tree Surgery

www.nduckett-treesurgery.co.uk

- All aspects of tree work
- NPTC qualified
- Hedge Cutting
- Fully Insured
- Stump Grinding
- Garden Clearance

07792042388

nick@nduckett-treesurgery.co.uk

sales@nduckett-treesurgery.co.uk

(535)

BC. We also hold our own in-house club triples events of course. First was the Ladies Triples won by Pam Beard, Barbara Parnell and Christine Simpson. Then followed the Men's Triples won by Trev Gray, Rob Salway and Jeff White. Well done to all involved in both great club days.

Our club prides itself on its excellent social calendar too. In August 50 people attended a Kubb and Lasagne night. Never heard of Kubb? nor had most of us! and frankly we need more practice. We might be fair at bowls but Kubb, apparently a cross between bowls and skittles, of Viking origin, is another matter. The Lasagne was excellent though, our thanks to Teresa and Val, TV Dinners! With Finals weekend looming and a celebratory Hog Roast to follow and then the Awards Luncheon at Batch Country House there's plenty in the diary to look forward to.

If you would like to try your hand at bowls, from 1 October we move to our indoor rinks, please check out our website www.isleofwedmorebowlsclub.org for more details. Contact us about a guided tour of our excellent facilities. We would love to meet you, and you'll get free coaching tuition from our in-house team. Bowls helps keep you active and is great for personal wellbeing. See you soon!



Peter Gower

Wedmore Tennis Club

We've all enjoyed a fantastic summer of tennis with seemingly wall-to-wall sunshine every day. After the end of the league season and the knockouts, members have continued to enjoy the social sessions, and the courts have been busy and full of energy. We are now gearing up for the Autumn season with preparation and team selection for the Winter Mixed Doubles League and the Vet's League which start in a few weeks. Our wonderful coach, James, has started up his coaching sessions again after a well-earned break, so keep an eye out for what he is offering.

To finish off the summer season, there is a 'Winner Takes All' tournament day on 20 September. So if you fancy some fun, competitive tennis, come along and join in!

Wedmore Tennis Club



Church News

Parish Registers and Notices

Funerals

Our condolences go to the family and friends of:

William Agnew, who died on 2 August aged 93 and whose funeral took place at St Mary's on Thursday 21 August.

John Buttler who died on 7 August aged 75 and whose funeral took place at Sedgemoor Crematorium on Thursday 28 August.

‘On a Wheel and a Prayer’

On Tuesday 21 October 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 local communities. Details of timings can be found in the churches, and you are welcome to join Richard at any of the stops.

All Souls Service

Traditionally the church sets aside All Souls Day to remember those countless ordinary people who have gone before us and whose memory we cherish. This comes the day after All Saints Day when the church remembers those many extraordinary men and women whom we think of as saints. This year, All Souls Day falls on Sunday 2 November and, at 3.00pm at St Mary’s church, we will hold our annual service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving for those whose funerals we have taken over the past year or so. This is an important part of what we do, lighting a candle for those that we have loved, but see no longer, is something that continues to have great resonance. Relatives of those whose funerals we have taken during the year will be invited but the service is open to anyone. If you are hoping to come along or if there is anyone whose name you wish to be remembered at the service, please let the vicar know in writing. We will offer a cup of tea and a slice of cake afterwards.

The service will be a chance to remember those dear to you who have recently died (whose names will be read out at the service), to meet with others who are also bereaved and to express our Christian faith in resurrection and the hope of God’s kingdom.

There will be a separate service for the village of Allerton also on Sunday 2 November at 3.00pm

Finishing Well

Addressing questions around the end of life and funerals is often seen as a taboo topic but actually knowing what happens when we die, or how to organise a funeral, can greatly relieve anxiety.

Last year, Churches Together in the Cheddar Valley organised a morning all about ‘finishing well’. Lots of people asked if we could do so again. So we invite you to a morning all about ‘Finishing Well’ on Saturday 25 October in Cheddar Methodist Church Hall, Cliff Street. We’ll hear from a GP, a hospice nurse, funeral director and local church ministers with several sessions on matters such as what does a good death look like, what must be done after a death, how to arrange a funeral and where do we go when we die. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and share any anxieties and experiences. Coffee and cake from 9.15am and the session goes from 9.40am to 12.30pm. All are welcome and speak to the vicar if you would like to find out more.

Animal Blessing Service

Christchurch Theale is holding a special service where the special bond between us and the animals we care about will be celebrated. There will be an opportunity for pets, and the animals we share our lives with, to be blessed. So come along on Sunday

12 October at 11.00 am, bring your dog, cat, guinea pig, snake, hamster, horse or whoever and give thanks for the value they add to our lives and that they are valued by God in and of themselves.

Allerton Church Dedication Festival

On Sunday 26 October at 5.00 pm Choral the annual Allerton Church Dedication Service will take the form of a Choral Evensong, led by the magnificent Wells Cathedral Chamber Choir with organist our very own Jeremy Martin. Refreshments will be available afterwards.

Revd Richard Neill

Church Services

St Mary’s Church, Wedmore

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 www.achurchnearyou.com/church/10871/

Every week on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday there is Morning Prayer online at 9.00 am on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/St-Marys-Wedmore-384215139101196/

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

Sunday	5	Trinity 16	10.30 am	Café Church
			6.00 pm	Start the Week
Sunday	12	Trinity 17	10.30 am	Parish Communion
			6.00 pm	Start the Week
Sunday	19	Trinity 18	10.30 am	Morning Praise
			6.00 pm	Start the Week
Sunday	26	Allerton Dedication	8.00 am	BCP Holy Communion

Holy Trinity Church, Blackford

Sunday	5	Trinity 16	9.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	12	Trinity 17	9.00 am	Sunday Breakfast
Sunday	19	Trinity 18	9.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	26	Allerton Dedication		No Service

Christ Church, Theale

Sunday	5	Trinity 16	11.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	12	Trinity 17	11.00 am	Pet Service
Sunday	19	Trinity 18	11.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	26	Allerton Dedication		No Service

Allerton Church

Sunday	5	Harvest	10.30 am	Harvest Festival
Sunday	12	Trinity 17	9.00 am	Parish Communion
Sunday	19	Trinity 18	9.00 am	Morning Praise
Sunday	26	Dedication Festival	5.00 pm	Choral Evensong

Bagley Baptist Church

Everyone's welcome and it's all free. We have good parking and wheelchair access.

Our Sunday services start at 10.30 am with children and youth groups starting around 11.00 am. We have an All-In Family Service on the second Sunday of each month. On Wednesday we host a coffee morning from 10.30 am to 12.00 noon with free refreshments and a welcoming atmosphere. Youth Groups for ages 10 to 17 are held every Wednesday during term time from 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm. We also hold fellowship groups including home groups, prayer gatherings, and social events.

For further details, call us on 01934 710779, email us at contactus@bagleybaptist.co.uk or visit our website www.bagleybaptist.co.uk

Sam Harvey, Secretary

Crickham Baptist Chapel

There is an evening service held at the Chapel on Sundays 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 10.30 am. All ages are welcome, and we have a fun time with crafts, cooking, stories, and quizzes. Phone Ruth for more details 01278 783935.

Ruth Smith

Axbridge and Wedmore GP Practice

Surgery Opening Times

Wedmore Surgery

Monday 8.30 am to 6.00 pm

Tuesday to Friday 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.

Improved Access Appointments

Axbridge Surgery, Tuesdays

6.30 pm to 8.00 pm

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.

Improved Access Appointments

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 www.axbridgeandwedmoremedicalpractice.nhs.uk visit or telephone the practice on 01934 732464 or 01934 712774 for changes to opening hours. You can also obtain 24-hour general medical advice by telephoning NHS on 111 or visit the NHS 111 website www.111.nhs.uk

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 Community bus is a not-for-profit bus service run by volunteers for the benefit of the local community. It currently provides regular weekly scheduled services to four locations and monthly services to Bath and Cribbs Causeway. The bus is also available for Private Hire, principally for the use of local community groups.



Scheduled Services

There are four Scheduled Services a week. These are:

Taunton – Tuesday

Bridgwater – Wednesday

Weston-super-Mare – Thursday

Street and Glastonbury – Friday

In addition, there are the following monthly services:

Bath – first Monday of every month (except Bank Holidays)

Cribbs Causeway – some Mondays

The bus departs from Wedmore Car Park at The Lerburne at around 9.30am to start picking up passengers. It returns to Wedmore between 1.30pm and 3.30pm 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 telephone.

Except for the Bath service, 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.

Except for the Bath and Cribbs Causeway services, the service is free for everyone with a Concessionary Bus Pass. All services are free for children under 5 years old. For other passengers fares are low, as the bus is financed by Somerset Council and drivers are volunteers.

Bath and Cribbs Causeway services are £2 for Concessions.

Timetable and Booking Details

All services – Depart Wedmore Car Park at The Lerburne at around 9.30am to start picking up passengers. Note that the new Bath Service will only pick up at Wedmore Car Park and Theale.

Tuesday - Taunton – Departs Taunton 2.00pm, back around 2.45pm.

Wednesday - Bridgwater – Departs Bridgwater 1.00pm, back around 2.00pm.

Thursday - Weston-super-Mare – Departs Weston 1.45pm, back around 2.45pm.

Friday - Street and Glastonbury – Departs Street 1.00pm, back around 1.30pm.

Bath – This month's visit to Bath will be on Monday 6 October. Passengers must pre-book and not just turn up in the car park for this service. Please note that this service does not offer pick-ups around Wedmore, but there will be a pick-up in Theale. All passengers must arrive at the Lerburne car park in time for a prompt departure at 9.30am. You will then be taken to the Park and Ride in Bath where the driver will go with you on the Park and Ride shuttle bus to the drop off point at the Shopping Centre. The driver will meet you back at the drop-off point promptly at 2.00pm and return with you back to the Park and Ride, where the Wedmore Community Bus will return you to Wedmore. Please make sure you have your Bus Pass with you for the Park and Ride otherwise it will cost £3.70 for that part of the journey. Please book early to avoid disappointment! For further information call Angeline Duckett on 01934 712631.

Cribbs Causeway – This month's visit to Cribbs will be on Monday 20 October. This service departs Cribbs Causeway 2.00pm. Back around 3.30pm. Passengers must pre-book and not just turn up in the car park for this service. Book early to avoid disappointment! For further information call Angeline Duckett on 01934 712631.

Except for the Bath service, passenger pickups/drop-offs are normally available in Wedmore, Sand, Heath House, Mudgley, Latcham and Cocklake, with additional pickups/drop-offs in other villages on route to each destination. Please request a location when you book, and we will try to accommodate.

Bath – this is at Theale.

Cribbs Causeway – this is at Mark.

Taunton and 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, except for the Bath and Cribbs Causeway services which must be pre-booked, just come to the Lerburne car park before 9.30am and we will normally be able to fit you in, although this isn't guaranteed.

First Monday of the Month - Bath – Angeline Duckett on 01934 712631 as early as possible please!

Some Mondays to Cribbs Causeway – Angeline Duckett on 01934 712631 as early as possible please!

Tuesday to Taunton – Angeline Duckett on 01934 712631 between 6pm and 6.30pm on the previous evening.

Wednesday to Bridgwater – Helen Flooks on 01934 611006 between 6pm and 6.30pm on the previous evening.

Thursday to Weston-super-Mare – Carol Ayliffe on 01934 713471 between 6pm and 6.30pm on the previous evening.

Friday to Street and Glastonbury – Ann Hughes on 01934 712832 between 6pm and 6.30pm 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 (3.30pm onwards, due to scheduled services)

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 and children's community groups, and adult 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

R.G. ELECTRICAL

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

**DOMESTIC, COMMERCIAL,
NEW BUILDS, REWIRES,
EXTRA SOCKETS, LIGHTS,
FAULT REPAIR, ETC.
INTRUDER ALARMS,
FIRE ALARMS**



**Tel: 01278 780966
Mobile: 07710 692277**

(122)

MIKE DEAN

-THE HANDYMAN-

BASED IN MARK, SOMERSET



**- BUILDING WORKS - HOME IMPROVEMENTS -
- ALL ROUND MAINTENANCE -
- SPECIALISES IN LIME POINTING -
- OVER 40 YEARS EXPERIENCE -**

CONTACT NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE

MDEAN.MIKE@GMAIL.COM

07939 662213

(737)



debbie fortune

ESTATE AGENTS

www.debbiefortune.co.uk

Debbie Fortune Estate Agents are more than just estate agents — we're your neighbours, your advocates, and your trusted guide through every step of your property journey. Independent, experienced, and rooted in the community.

Every home we represent is treated with the care and attention it deserves — no generic templates, no faceless call centres, just real people offering real advice. We believe estate agency should be built on trust, not targets. Whether you're selling, letting, buying or renting, we're here to guide you with honesty, warmth and sharp local insight — from the first call to our final handshake.

We do things differently — not louder, not faster, just better. We're a proudly independent, family-run agency, with offices in Wedmore and Congresbury, covering a wide area over the Somerset and North Somerset counties, including the Wrington Vale, the Yeo Valley, Chew Valley as well as The Mendips.

Our 18-strong team blends decades of local knowledge, with a tailored, personal service you simply won't find with the corporates or online non-High Street agencies.

Call in to our Wedmore office to see Scott Higgins and Jo Anderson, where you can be guaranteed a great cup of coffee and a very warm welcome, always with a smile!

Residential Sales
Residential Lettings
Property Management
Land and New Homes



scotthiggins@debbiefortune.co.uk / joanne@debbiefortune.co.uk

Unit 8, The Borough Mall, Wedmore BS28 4EB
Bridge House, High Street, Congresbury BS49 5JA
Main number for both offices 01934 862370

**COOPER
AND
TANNER**

**Supporting local residents
and the rural community
at every stage**



- Valuations
- Residential and land sales
- Residential lettings
- Basic payment and agri environmental schemes
- Planning and development
- Land management
- Compensation and compulsory purchase
- Renewables



This autumn, as the evenings draw in and the days get colder, there is always a warm welcome in our Wedmore office. Our friendly, professional and knowledgeable Wedmore team are here to help you with all your property buying and selling needs.

Cooper and Tanner offer a wealth of expertise not only in residential sales but also in agricultural and commercial property and we have expert help for all your antique, livestock and property valuations and auctions.



WEDMORE OFFICE

Carol Tratt
Telephone 01934 713296
Providence House, The Borough, Wedmore, BS28 4EG
carol.tratt@cooperandtanner.co.uk



**COOPER
AND
TANNER**