

ISLE OF WEDMORE NEWS



September 2026
No. 558

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Editorial

Firstly, a couple of apologies. I mis-credited last month's poem on 'The Treaty of Wedmore' to Bill Haley, but it was penned by another wonderful local poet, Steve Taylor. I also failed to note that the Health and Wellbeing column last month had been produced by Pauline Heslop and Sue Parsons, and not Cathy Butterworth as usual. Apologies to all, I will give myself a stiff talking to...

The big late-summer bash in Wedmore is, of course, the wonderful Wedmore Real Ale Festival, this year celebrating its 25th anniversary. Get along to the Festival and enjoy well over a hundred ales and ciders; enjoy the entertainment; and raise lots of money for local good causes!

There are plenty of other great events across the Isle of Wedmore, and wider, with the return of the Theale Show; the Crook Peak Music Festival; and the 3C's Harvest Supper. You also have a chance to get rid of unwanted stuff, or find some early Christmas presents(!) at the Green Wedmore Freecycle event.

If you have ever considered fostering a child and are interested in learning a bit more about fostering, then go along to the 'cuppa with a foster carer' event at the Bluebird Café. Those that provide this life-changing service have my complete and utter admiration!

Cheers, Ian

Front Cover

Thank you for all your great photographs which really liven up our publication and thank you in particular this month to Tony Chau who created the montage of previous Theale Show photos which I have used on the cover. Please keep sending the photos in – we can usually only include a maximum of two with each article, so I choose the most interesting for publication.

Mike, Photo Editor

DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER ISSUE: 1 September 2026

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

3C's Harvest Supper – 4 September

Family event with delicious locally sourced food, raffle, bar and dancing.

Theale Show – 5 September

Our traditional friendly festival of baking, flowers, veg growing, craft and more. Come and join us for an afternoon of family fun and entertainment.

Crook Peak Music Festival – 8 to 29 September

Enjoy these wonderful concerts, spread over four Tuesdays during September hosted in four local churches.

Freecycle – Sunday 13 September

Time to empty those sheds and lofts and give stuff away at Wedmore Village Car Park.

Cuppa with a Local Foster Carer – 15 September

Interested in fostering, now or in the future? Learn more by chatting to local foster carers over a coffee and slice of cake.

Wedmore Real Ale Festival – 18 to 20 September

One of the major fundraising and social events of the Wedmore calendar returns for its 25th year!

Celebration of the Re-Ordering of St Mary's – 20 September

A service to celebrate the re-ordering of St Mary's Church and to thank those who have given generously.

Coming Soon

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

Prostate Testing in Wedmore – 10 October

There is a free prostate testing day being organised by Mendip Rotary, Somerset Prostate Support Association, and Wedmore Men's Shed

Lights, Camera... Opera! – 10 October

Wedmore Opera is bringing an evening of great music, feel-good fun, and fundraising to St Mary's Church.

The Big Tidy Up - Sunday 1 November

Come along and help keep the roads and lanes of Wedmore litter free. Hi-Viz and litter pickers provided.

The Turnip Prize – Entry Submission from 1 November

The Turnip Prize is a spoof art award of the lesser-known Turner Prize. Entries should take the least amount of effort possible to create.

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stews and soups - plus a range of all day desserts**Events coming up in September:****Sat 5th Cowsville Hummingbirds****Fri 11th Quiz Night****Sat 12th Ben Jordan****Wed 16th Poetry / Spoken Word****Fri 25th Music Bingo****Sat 26th Sam Evans****Sun 27th Mark Pembrey Trio****2:30pm (doors open 1pm)****Why not reserve a table? It's free to reserve****email: bluebirdcafewedmore@gmail.com 01934 902532**



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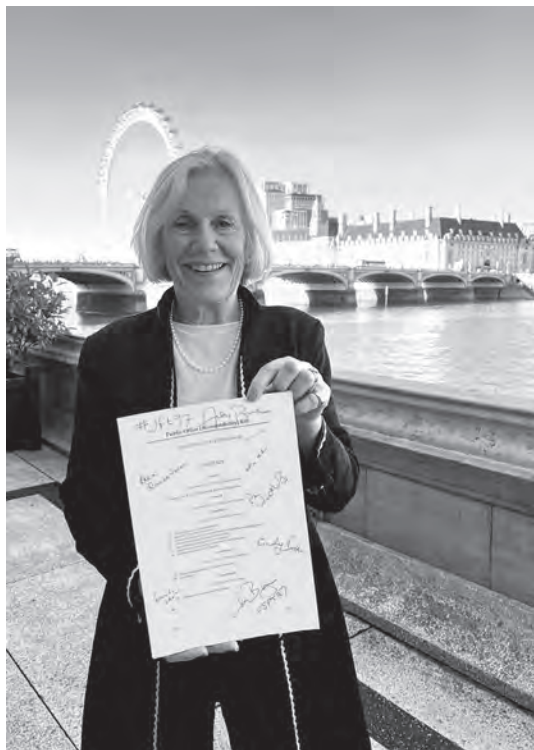
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News

Tessa Munt MP's Update



September sees me back for a new 'term' in Westminster, having had the pleasure of working in Somerset in August. Here's my quick update for July.

What a fab WedFest! Thank you to the team at St Mary's, who worked flat out to offer such a fun and sociable evening. Congratulations on raising funds for Somerset Prostate Support Association and Wedmore Men's Shed.

I hosted a meeting for local Headteachers with James McNeillie, Head of Ofsted South West at The Bishop's Palace in Wells. Feedback reveals that the opportunity to talk to and about Ofsted face-to-face was greatly appreciated. I'd like to thank you everyone who was able to join us and look forward to a follow up event in Spring next year.

As well as attending the original 'National Emergency Briefing'

in London last November, I've been privileged to support community viewings of the 'People's Emergency Briefing' in Cheddar, Easton, Shipham, twice in Wells, Winscombe and Wookey. I'm sorry I missed the events held in Axbridge, Shepton Mallet and Wedmore due to other commitments, and look forward to future viewings in Lympsham and other communities locally. Thank you to all who've watched and sent me their thoughts, this is such an important discussion to have.

In London, it was brilliant to welcome 11 young adults to Westminster for my Parliamentary Insight Day. They toured Parliament, watched a debate and took part in a workshop. Thank you to all those who joined me, and I'm looking forward to my next Insight Day – and do let me know if you're interested in coming!

I was so pleased to be able to join one of our local Vicars at the Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast. It was a packed and joyful event, organised by the Christians in Parliament All-Party Parliamentary Group, with excellent speakers and musicians. I look forward to returning next year.

I was also pleased to see the Hillsborough Bill finally make its way into law in the last 'Westminster' days of July. The Hillsborough families were lied to by public officials again and again and again. That experience isn't unique to families in

Liverpool. People here in Somerset have told me about dishonesty and cover ups by public officials, and the injustice and unfairness drives me wild. It's crazy that we need to pass a law to insist officials to tell the truth, but the families who are victims of scandals like Hillsborough, the Chinook helicopter crash, the Post Office Horizon software, infected blood, Primodos, mesh, undercover policing, Covid-19, grooming gangs, Grenfell, Windrush, the Manchester Arena attack and many more tell us that honesty and transparency would have changed their lives and saved years, sometimes decades, of heartache. I was on the Bill Committee, suggesting improvements, raising objections, and the Minister listened. The Bill isn't perfect, but it's here, well past time, but now it'll be the law.

I called a debate in Parliament on changes to the 'National Planning Policy Framework' (NPPF) and how it currently prioritises building homes over protection from flooding. The High Court's 'Yatton decision' clarified that the NPPF allows building on land, even in Flood Zone 3a, when there is housing need, on the basis that residents will have at least 42 hours' warning to vacate their properties before they flood. I believe this misses the point, that existing homes will become un-mortgageable and uninsurable, therefore unsaleable, and I share the concerns of many local residents. I've questioned Ministers about the decision and explained that it is vital that sections of the NPPF are re-examined to protect property from flooding, as well as people. Following the debate, I spoke to the Housing and Planning Minister and have accepted his invitation to meet him and discuss my concerns in detail. I look forward to sharing further updates with you once I have met the Minister.

My next local surgeries will be on Friday 11 September from 6.00pm to 7.00pm at the Ad Astra Cider Company, Stone Allerton; Saturday 12 September from 9.00am to 10.00am at The Bluebird Café, Wedmore; Thursday 17 September from 4.30pm to 5.30pm at The White Horse, Mark; Friday 18 September from 8.00am to 9.00am at the Edelweiss Café, Cheddar; and Thursday 24 September from 5.00pm to 6.00pm at The Beer Shed, East Huntspill. Please visit my website at www.tessamunt.co.uk/find-a-surgery or call my office for the full list. There's no need to make an appointment - it's first come, first served. If you can't come to see me, I'll come to see you.

You can also get hold of me in a number of other ways, by phone on 01934 440639 (answerphone for out of office hours), by email at tessa.munt.mp@parliament.uk or by post to Tessa Munt, Freepost (you won't need a stamp). To keep updated on my work as your MP, find me on Facebook, Instagram, Bluesky and LinkedIn. You can 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!

It has been another busy summer for Wedmore Parish Council, with councillors and staff working on planning matters, community facilities, financial planning and projects that will help shape the future of our parish.

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Proposed Lascot Hill Development

The Council continues to monitor the proposed Cavanna development at Lascot Hill. Developers are refining their plans following drainage investigations, ecological surveys and technical assessments, with proposals still expected to deliver around 100 homes. Councillors remain focused on representing residents' interests, particularly regarding highway safety, pedestrian and cycle links, open space and protecting the local environment. We will continue to keep parishioners updated as the plans progress.

Supporting Our Community

We're pleased to have agreed, in principle, to offer office space within the Council Rooms to the Benefice Administrator, making good use of an existing community facility while supporting the work of the Benefice. Councillors have also nominated the Tuesday Club for Somerset Council's Chair's Service to the Community Awards, recognising the incredible contribution the group makes to village life. The Council also continues to support the excellent work of the Wedmore Footpaths Group, helping to maintain the network of public rights of way that so many residents and visitors enjoy.

Looking After Our Cemetery

The Cemetery Committee has been reviewing the long-term management of Wedmore Cemetery to ensure it remains a peaceful, well-maintained and environmentally sensitive place. Updated regulations and modest fee changes have been recommended, alongside ongoing improvements including drainage works, repainting of the entrance gates and continued biodiversity projects such as wildflower planting and wildlife habitats.

Managing Your Money

The Finance and General Purposes Committee recently reviewed the Council's finances for the first quarter of the financial year. Between April and June, the Council received £86,122 in income and spent £35,665, with expenditure remaining in line with budget. The Council continues to hold healthy reserves, although the majority of these funds are already committed to projects such as Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) schemes, Section 106 improvements, and the refurbishment of the public toilets. Work has also begun on preparing the 2027/28 budget to ensure future investment reflects parish priorities.

Looking Ahead

Councillors have agreed to revisit the design of the proposed King Alfred village entrance signs, helping create a fitting gateway to Wedmore, while work has also begun on reviewing the Council's longer-term priorities and community projects.

A Note from the Clerk

Firstly, what a fantastic Harvest Home! Thank you to everyone who volunteered, took part or came along to support the event. Weekends like these remind us just how lucky we are to live in such a wonderful community.

Next up is the Wedmore Real Ale Festival, another highlight of the village calendar. I hope to see lots of familiar faces over the weekend, so if you spot one of your parish

councillors, or me, please do come and say hello. We always enjoy hearing your ideas and feedback.

September is also my birthday month and this year I'm celebrating the big 4-0! (happy birthday youngster! – Ed) I promise not to remind everyone quite how quickly that milestone has arrived.

And finally... after what has felt like a very long seven-week summer holiday, I'd like to wish everyone returning to school the very best for the new term. Whether you're starting school for the first time, moving up a year, or simply looking forward to a bit more routine again, I hope September gets off to a brilliant start!

*Lindsey Baker,
Clerk, Wedmore Parish Council*

3Cs Harvest Supper

The annual 3Cs Harvest Supper will be held on Friday 4 September at 7.00pm. Don't miss this wonderful family event, with delicious locally sourced food, a raffle, bar, and dancing. Please contact ccc.the3cs@gmail.com for further information and tickets.

Lucy Woodford

Theale Show

We're looking forward to seeing you at the 81st Theale Show on 5 September from 2.30pm. As ever, there are a huge range of show classes to enter (best biscuits anyone?), and a lovely family afternoon at the Show.

The dry weather through the summer has been giving our growers a huge challenge, but who knows? By the time of the Show the weather may well have changed, and the fruit season will be upon us. Time to gather pears and enter them! It's very easy to enter, just go to our website to register for all the categories you want to, and Children's classes are all free.

Come for delicious tea and cake in our lovely orchard, enjoy the fantastic companion dog show, which is not too serious, and everybody's pet has got to have a go! Our Green Man licensed Bar will be open throughout the Show, perfect for a great afternoon.

To register your entries, visit our website at www.thealeshow.com. For further information you can also email us at richard.atkin@live.com or leave a message on 01934 806157. We're looking forward to seeing you all there!

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Crook Peak Music Festival

The Crook Peak Music Festival is returning for four Tuesdays in September, with early evening concerts from 6.00pm to 7.00pm across the area. Enjoy a complimentary glass of wine or local Badgworth Brewhouse beer on arrival.

On Tuesday 8 September at St Andrew's, Compton Bishop there will be a solo violin recital. Philippa Mo is an international violinist feted for her 'faultless technique and unfailing insight.' St Andrew's perfect acoustics will resound to the ravishing sounds of her historic instrument.

On Tuesday 15 September at St Congar's, Badgworth we present an organ recital. Robert Anderson will pull out all the stops of the mighty digital organ with a programme of organ show pieces ranging from Henry Purcell to William Walton.

Then on Tuesday 22 September at St Gregory's, Weare there will be a recorder ensemble. Toot Suite is a recorder group playing music spanning the 15th to the 21st centuries. From the tiny bird-like sound of the Soprano to the mellow tones of the enormous Great Bass, these local musicians will delight.

Finally, on Tuesday 29 September at St Mary's, Wedmore, you can enjoy a solo percussion recital, featuring Harriet Riley, virtuoso percussionist, who will astound with an extraordinary array of instruments requiring the larger space of St Mary's. This will be a feast for the eyes as well as the ears!

Tickets are £10.00 on the door for each concert. For further details please contact Debra Anderson on 01934 732537 or 07881 955804 or via email at email debratanderson16@gmail.com

Debra Anderson

Freecycle

Freecycle returns on Sunday 13 September from 9.00am to 11.00am at Wedmore Village Car Park. Time to empty those sheds and lofts and give stuff away.

David Hopkins

Cuppa with a Local Foster Carer

Interested in fostering, now or in the future? Learn more by chatting to local foster carers over a coffee and slice of cake.

Fostering In Somerset are holding a relaxed 'Cuppa with a Foster Carer' event at the Bluebird Café between 6.00pm and 8.00pm on 15 September. This informal session is a fantastic opportunity to gain a realistic insight into the challenges and rewards of the role by talking to Somerset foster carers over a coffee and slice of cake, provided free of charge. The fostering team will also be happy to chat and answer any questions you might have about application and assessment, training, support, and payments.

There is no pressure to take your interest any further, and you're not committing to anything by coming along. This is just a relaxed opportunity to chat and learn more about fostering from those who know the role better than anyone, so you are better equipped to consider whether fostering might be something you'd like to explore in the future. You are also very welcome to bring friends or family members along with you.

Michelle Mitchell, Fostering Lead, Somerset Council

Wedmore Real Ale Festival Silver Ju-Beer-Lee

It's almost time for the best beer festival around! From Friday 18 to Sunday 20 September we will have over 100 real ales and craft beers on offer; there really is a beer for everyone. We also have a range of ciders, wine, and prosecco. Our food and drink vendors will be on site all weekend: the New Beginnings gin bar offers gins and cocktails; Slice One Pizza return offering pizzas and chips; Mexican Burrito; and Twisted Catering for hot drinks, breakfasts and burgers.

We have a full programme of entertainment, with 'No Limits' headlining Saturday night this year, bringing you live covers of the best 90s dance anthems. On Friday night, 'One for the Road' headline, and throughout Saturday you can see Holly Gray, Jenny M, Silverline and Luke Potter.

Sunday brings our renowned charity auction, raffle and of course, the Beer Bucket Challenge! This year we will be kicking off at the slightly earlier time of 1.00pm, so come along with your wallets and generosity to bag some great auction lots! Donations to the Beer Bucket Challenge can be made online via www.wedmorerealale.co.uk/bbc-donations but come along on Sunday 20 September for your chance to pour the buckets of beer!

Our opening times are as follows: Friday 6.00pm to 7.00pm - Sponsor's VIP hour for festival sponsors only; Friday 7.00pm to 12.00 midnight, £15 entry; Saturday 11.00am to 12.00 midnight, free entry before 5.30pm, £15 after 5.30pm; Sunday 11.00am to 4.00pm, free entry. Children and dogs are welcome Saturday until 7.00pm, and all day Sunday.

For any queries, please contact us via our Facebook page www.facebook.com/wedmorerealalefestival or email wraf@wedmorerealale.co.uk You can also view the full details on our website, www.wedmorerealale.co.uk We look forward to welcoming you for another weekend of beer, cheer, and charity!



Sara Hamilton

Celebration of the Re-Ordering of St Mary's

We very much hope that those who have donated or helped in any way with the re-ordering of St Mary's Church will attend the celebration in Church on Sunday 20 September, 10.45am, when the chairs will be dedicated.

The benefits of the changes to the church have been seen at a number of community events in the church over the last year and the Vicar and Church Council are extremely grateful to all those who generously sponsored a chair and also to those who gave donations and helped by working on the project. Please do come along to this relaxed and joyful service!!

Mike Gelder

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Prostate Testing in Wedmore

Mendip Rotary Club with the support of the Wedmore Men's Shed and Five Ways Financial Planning are sponsoring free prostate cancer testing at the Post and Wicket, Wedmore on 10 October from 11.00am to 3.00pm. Please note that there are no 'walk-ins' and it is essential to pre-book an appointment, which only takes a few minutes. Don't delay! Last year our testing in Cheddar identified some men who needed urgent treatment!

Book via the QR Code, or send an enquiry to mendiprotaryenquiries@gmail.com



Mendip Rotary

Wells Cathedral School Soloist Showcase

On Tuesday 6 October at 7.30pm, Wedmore Festival presents six exceptional young musicians from the renowned Wells Cathedral School for an evening of outstanding performance at St Mary's Church.

A licensed bar will be available. Tickets will be released on 1 September and bookable online or by cash or cheque at Wedmore Village Store. Adult tickets are £12 and under-16s are £6. For further information please visit our website at www.wedmorefestival.co.uk

Wedmore Festival

Lights, Camera... Opera!

An evening of great music and glorious voices awaits as Wedmore Opera presents 'Lights, Camera... Opera!' on Saturday 10 October, at St Mary's Church.

Inspired by some of opera's most memorable moments on screen, this special concert features outstanding soloists including Dominic Bowe, who starred as the villainous Count in our production of *The Marriage of Figaro* in 2023, and Freya Jacklin who played Flora in *La Traviata* in 2025. We're also excited to be hearing rising stars soprano Shafali Jalota and tenor Jamie Formoy for the first time. Tony James will be accompanying them on St Mary's grand piano.

With the bar open to welcome you, and a glam dress code, which is optional, but who doesn't love glitz? it's the perfect excuse to enjoy a memorable night out with friends. The seats are unreserved, so please come early to choose yours. Tickets are just £15, or £10 if you are under 25. You can buy them for cash from the lovely team at Wedmore Village Store, or online through TicketSource.

Wedmore Opera is hugely grateful to the Bluebird Cafe and Bar and to Wedmore Community Power whose generous financial support is helping us to create memorable events in our community. Heartfelt thanks from us all on the Wedmore Opera team!



Ellie Oliver

Bagley Community Orchard Quiz Night

It's back by popular request! Can your team win the BOFTA? (Bagley Orchard's Fabulous Trophy Award.). If you would like to try, then come along to our quiz night on Saturday 17 October, 7.30pm, at Theale Village Hall and support our lovely Community Orchard at Bagley.



Teams are a maximum of 6 people, and the entry fee is £5 per person. Snacks provided but bring your own drinks. No team? Don't stay home alone, we'll find a place for you! Booking is not compulsory, but space is limited, so if you want to be sure of a table, please book one by calling Sharon on 01934 713267 or Trish or Richard on 01934 710020

The Big Tidy Up

It's time once again to give Wedmore a bit of a clean ready for winter. The Big Tidy Up will take place on Sunday 1 November, 10.00am. Please gather at Borough House and help keep the roads and lanes of Wedmore litter free. Hi-Viz and litter-pickers provided.

David Hopkins

Wedmore Charities Education Grants

Wedmore Charities have around £300 to allocate to any persons living in the parish of Wedmore, for any form of educational purposes. Pupils under 18 should apply through their parent or guardian, over-18s should apply for themselves. The application should give their details, school or college, and exactly what they intend to do with the grant. Please note that as the number of applications rises some previously successful applicants may be overlooked in favour of new applicants.

Applications should be addressed to The Treasurer, Wedmore Charities, Bockingford House, Westham, Wedmore. BS28 4UX. The closing date for applications is 22 November. Successful applicants will be notified in December.

Wedmore Charities

Chris and Marina's Saharan Challenge for The Samaritans

In November, Chris and Marina will be walking across the Sahara Desert, a week on foot, extreme heat, long distances, and tough terrain, with nights camping out in the desert. It's going to push us but we're doing it to raise money for Samaritans.

Every six seconds, someone in the UK contacts Samaritans, and every call is answered by a volunteer who will listen without judgment. A real person who is just there 24 hours a day. For many people, especially in the middle of the night, Samaritans is the only place there is to turn. They're often called the fourth emergency service. But unlike the other emergency services, Samaritans rely entirely on volunteers and donations to keep the phones answered.





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We're raising money for our local branch, Weston-super-Mare, which is part of that national network, and we're covering our own costs for the trip, so every penny you donate goes straight to Samaritans. If you can spare anything, please donate by visiting www.justgiving.com/page/chris-jonas-4 or access it using the QR code. Also, please share our JustGiving page to family, friends, and colleagues, as this will really help. Thank you.



Marina and Chris

Wedmore Art Group – New Members Welcome!

The Wedmore Art Group will resume its weekly Friday sessions from 2.00pm to 4.00pm at Wedmore Scout Hut, in September, offering a friendly and relaxed space for anyone who enjoys drawing or painting. The group welcomes people of all abilities, from complete beginners to those with years of experience.

Members work on their own projects in a supportive, sociable atmosphere, sharing ideas and enjoying the chance to unwind creatively at the end of the week. Alongside the regular sessions, the group also organises occasional workshops and demonstrations, giving members the chance to explore new techniques and learn from visiting artists.

September is an ideal time to come along, particularly for new members who may be looking to try something different or return to art after a break. For further details please contact Jim Collett on 01934 712663

Jane Allen

Call for Poets!

I went to a Poetry Evening at the Bluebird Café on a cold damp Wednesday evening in February. I came away full of cheer and amazed at the quality of the poetry. Ian Scott, John Ford, and all at Bluebird, have created a cultural haven for Wedmore. The poets came from Bristol. The organiser Isabel of the Bristol HI-Art and Mischief Team told me that Bristol has as many Live Poetry Sessions as London, and that the poets who came to Wedmore in her Group are from the best in Bristol. It's so invigorating to hear a poet recite their own work. I particularly liked the poems by A.C. Bevan who describes the inanities of the Internet life and John Rea who kept to the personal, but with similar themes.

I couldn't wait to go to the next one. Well, it is happening on Wednesday 16 September. at the Bluebird Café. If you like to read a poem, or occasionally write one, then come along and let's see if we can get a few local poets to recite a piece too.

Bill Haley

The Turnip Prize

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 per person is allowed. There



should be no paper or cardboard or photocopied entries. Please include your name or pseudonym, contact phone number and the title of your entry.

Entries will close on 21 November, and judging will take place on 22 November. Then early December (date to be confirmed), at 6.00pm, the winner will be announced at The New Inn. All entries must then be immediately removed from the New Inn.

For more info visit The New Inn, our Facebook page, or contact Trevor by phone on 07812 848011.

Trevor Prideaux

The Bumblesnouts Saved the World



St Mary's Church was very busy this week with 27 children singing and crafting. The last morning of the course they produced a wonderful performance alongside their spaceship and racing car. Special thanks goes to Green Wedmore for sponsoring this event!

Ad Astra Quiz Evening for Weston Hospicecare

On behalf of Wedmore Friends of Weston Hospicecare and Weston Hospicecare, I wish to acknowledge our very grateful thanks to Paul and Suzanne of Ad Astra for their very generous donation of £385; and Haverslice Pizza for their very kind donation of £50 to the Hospice. A total of £435.

A big thank you to everyone who came to support this charity event it was a great evening of fun and laughter had by everyone who was in it to win it, and the quiz was very professionally run by Paul.

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This donation will be used towards the purchase of bariatric equipment for the forming of a bariatric room within the Hospice enabling an all-round service to be offered to patients.

*Shirley Wederell,
Chair Wedmore Friends of Weston Hospicecare*

How Wedmore Festival Funding Supports Local Young People

Alongside taking authors and poets into schools Wedmore Festival continues to invest in creative and educational opportunities for children across the Parish of Wedmore.

The Resilience Project in Wedmore First School led by Senior Lecturer in Art and Design, Joanna Spicer, where children created airdry clay characters which became cardboard puppets exploring aspects of their identity. The project supported pupils preparing for their transition to Year 5, helping them express themselves through art. The Academy of Barmy Composers (ABC) opera workshops, led by professional baritone Llewelyn Evans, held creative sessions introducing children to great composers and inspiring them to perform in a final production, enabling enrichment activities that broaden pupils' musical horizons. Signed copies of the ABC books were presented to the schools.

Murmuration Projects is a collaboration with festival protegee, ballet dancer Innes Oliver and Jo Spicer, who created fabulous interactive workshops for children in Wedmore First School and Nursery and Mark First and Pre-School CE Academy to explore movement and mark-making in art. You can see the wonderful display on show in Wedmore Village Hall. A collaboration with Hugh Sexeys School Art Club by students of all ages working together then produced a view of a wonderful sunset over Glastonbury Tor with 100s of 3D origami birds capturing the incredible murmuration spectacle.



Lem Sissay presenting signed copies of his Children's Books

The Festival also funded weekly music lessons which were provided for one talented local child, who had one-to-one lessons that allowed this young musician to develop skills that would otherwise have been out of reach.

Author Lemn Sissay signed copies of his children's books, which were given to the First Schools in the Wessex Learning Trust including Wedmore, Mark, Cheddar and Axbridge. A copy of his *Let the Light Pour In* was also presented to Hugh Sexey's Middle School.

These projects demonstrate how festival proceeds directly benefit local children, supporting creativity, confidence, and educational enrichment across our community. Mr Keith Bounois, Chair of Wedmore Local Partnership Board has said 'I want to place on record my thanks for all they do to pay for professional artists who encourage our children to engage in a wide range of art-related activities, many of which they would otherwise rarely experience'.

As we look forward to welcoming soloists from the Wells Cathedral School, it's worth remembering that attending Wedmore Festival events does more than offer a great night out. It helps fund workshops, lessons, and creative experiences that shape the lives of young people in our village.

Wedmore Festival

New digital app launched to support ADHD patients in Somerset

Patients experiencing ADHD symptoms in Somerset are set to benefit from a new digital app designed to provide trusted information and personalised support throughout their care journey.

The CONNECTPlus app, developed in partnership with clinicians from Somerset NHS Foundation Trust's adult ADHD service, and technology partner HCI, is the first of its kind to be implemented by an adult ADHD service in England. The free app is now available to all patients with ADHD symptoms across Somerset. The app has been designed to help people better understand their symptoms, access reliable information, and navigate local care pathways with greater confidence.



Dr Kate Franklin - consultant psychiatrist and Rosie Grenter - clinical lead for the Somerset ADHD service.

Dr Kate Franklin, a consultant psychiatrist at Somerset NHS Foundation Trust, said: 'The app is very much a companion for our patients across all parts of the

John Hodge

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pathway. It provides practical tools and trusted information to support people from the very beginning of their journey.'

ConnectPlus includes a range of features such as appointment tracking, note-taking, and a personalised pathway section, alongside wider support covering self-management, mental health, financial wellbeing, and access to local and national services. It also provides clear information about ADHD, myth-busting content, and guidance on other conditions that may present with similar symptoms.

Rosie Grenter, the trust's clinical lead for the Somerset ADHD service, said the app was developed in response to the growing volume of online information about ADHD. 'There's a huge amount of information available, particularly on social media, which can be helpful but sometimes overwhelming,' she said. 'We wanted to create a trusted, credible resource that helps people understand what ADHD is, what it isn't, and what to expect throughout the process.' A key aim of the app is to support people to make informed decisions and feel more in control of their care. 'This is about giving people the right information so they can make confident choices and have greater autonomy at every stage of the ADHD pathway,' Rosie added.

The app is designed to evolve alongside each individual's journey, with content tailored to different stages. For example, information about medication is only introduced once a diagnosis has been confirmed. Before that, the focus is on self-help, emotional wellbeing, sleep, diet, exercise, and practical day-to-day strategies. Many of these tools are designed to benefit all users, regardless of whether they go on to receive an ADHD diagnosis.

Dr Franklin emphasised that the app also plays an important role in helping people access the right support at the right time. 'We wanted to ensure people are guided towards the most appropriate care as early as possible,' she said. 'By encouraging reflection and providing balanced information, the app helps people have more informed conversations with their GP.' The team hopes the app will improve patient experience, support early intervention where appropriate, and ensure individuals are directed to the care that best meets their needs.

People in Somerset can access the free ConnectPlus app for ADHD by scanning the QR code, or by searching the App Store or Google Play for 'CONNECTPlus'. Create an account and select 'Somerset NHS Foundation Trust.' You will then find the ADHD CONNECTPlus app, ready for you to use.



*Paul Hopkins,
External Communications Lead, NHS Somerset*

Regular Features

This Month in the Garden

Softer light and welcoming breeze can mean autumn is finally here. Lots of vegetables are available now after that heatwave of a summer has turned so gather and pick in the cool of the day. Runner and climbing French beans should be in full production;

beetroot and carrots a decent size at last; and salad crops plentiful. If rain is plentiful, rest fruit of marrows on pieces of slate or tile to prevent rot setting in and continue to regularly harvest courgettes. Keep vacant ground well weeded and consider planting onion sets about 3in apart. If the ground is to be kept vacant over winter, then a cover crop is an excellent way to look after the soil and to provide free humus when dug in early next spring. Ryegrass is the classic crop but there are quite a few alternatives such as hairy vetch or crimson clover or try a green manure mixture from the garden centre.

Keep an eye out for blight disease on potatoes and tomatoes. Dark spots and patches on the leaves are an indication of this problem and early attention will be needed. With the maincrop potatoes cut the haulms down to ground level and remove. Do not lift the roots for at least 3 weeks to allow the disease spores to die off before lifting the tubers, otherwise the spores will affect the tubers, making them soft and putrid. Delaying lifting will mean that the tuber skins will harden underground making them more resistant to any spores of the blight fungus still lurking on the soil surface. With tomatoes, tell-tail dark patches will appear on the outdoor crop on leaves and fruit. If seen, pick the fruit and study the recipe books for tasty ways to cook and preserve, as the fruit will not keep. Fortunately, indoor crops of tomatoes are very rarely affected, but these plants will now need de-leafing towards the end of the month and cut out growing tips as any late flowers will not have time to set and develop fruit.

In the fruit garden it's the ideal time to plant new strawberry plants (12 to 18 inches apart), raspberry canes (18 inches apart) and other soft fruit. With warm soil conditions and reasonable moisture these will all establish well, as will any plants planted at this time of year. Apples and pears should start to be ready for harvesting, depending on variety, with Discovery being my favourite early eating apple. Both apples and pears should be picked carefully, just by lifting the fruit, but pears will need a few weeks indoors to complete the ripening process, indicated by the skin colour turning from green to yellow. Blemished fruit can be left somewhere sheltered for the birds to enjoy.

Lawns will need constant cutting now that the rainy season has returned and fine lawns can be aerated and top-dressed. Fine lawns are going to be increasingly difficult to maintain because of climate change but irrigation in times of drought is best left to the professional greenkeepers who have a business to maintain.

But it's not only the lawn that needs cutting, the hardy geraniums, cat mint and Alchemilla need a hard cutting back in early September, if not done earlier, and this will yield fresh new leaves and even a few repeat flowers in a mild autumn. Lavender also needs a shear trimming but not cutting into the hard wood. It can be propagated easily at this time as can many other shrubs and this is a most rewarding sort of garden job. Although lavender is a perennial, on some soils they do better if renewed every 5 years or so, and this is when propagating them is a really good strategy.

Look out for bumblebees and see how many of the 24 species you can spot. The garden, buff-tailed, red-tailed, white-tailed, heath and tree bumblebee just to mention a few. Not aggressive, they do not die after stinging but are effective pollinators of a wide variety of edible and ornamental crops. Time for me to buzz off now, happy gardening!

Tony Connell



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Now and Then

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Robin Gray

Tasty Morsels – Elderberry Jam

Ingredients –

2.5kg elderberries, stemmed and cleaned
750g granulated sugar
4 lemons
7 tbsp pectin



Method –

In a large bowl, mix together the elderberries and sugar. Cover and leave overnight.

Pour the mixture into a large deep pot, add the juice of the lemons, and bring to a boil for about 15-20 minutes. Add in the pectin and heat to a rolling boil (it still boils while you stir). Boil for 1 minute, then remove from heat. Ladle into clean jam jars or plastic containers if you plan to freeze some. Loosely fit the lids and cool to room temperature. Tightly fit the lids and either refrigerate or freeze. Jars or containers can last up to a month in the refrigerator or a year in the freezer.

Enjoy 😊

Jennifer Wright

Country Lane Walker

I lost count 5 or 6 heat waves this spring and summer, so few insects as is now the norm. Even house flies way down. Walking the lanes would normally be a mass of many species. Having said that what a delight at so many butterflies fluttering around of many varieties. So maybe there is hope for the future. I would still implore folks to stop using pesticides, as there are so many organic ways to balance our environment without being destructive.

Another great pleasure is seeing and hearing so many ‘pigs’ in the sky at the end of July. Raven pigs that is! For many years I couldn’t understand why I kept hearing pig noises above me.



Then about 10 years ago discovered that delightful noise came from Ravens!! I have lived so much of my life in the country yet never got around to that discovery. Yeah, I know it takes all sorts!

Now that the heat has retreated, something to do with hot weather, I am told, I have been able to increase my walking, and for the first time in ages walked to and from the village back to Stoughton Cross. That almost 3 miles and enjoying walking through Lascot Woods. It is such a magical strip of woodland, so narrow yet so much the feeling of being in the middle of nowhere. I always do some Micro Cosmic Orbital Chi Kung with the oak trees at the top of the woods. To remind you that is drawing down chi from the tops of the trees, through one's body and down into the ground and back up through the roots, then up the trunk and so recycling the energy many times. It is well worth trying it, going frequently to recharge your body. Large oak trees abound in this vital force and love to share it with us, and to receive what we have to offer in return.

The symbiotic relationship we have with trees is so vital. So, it is so tragic to see so much fire destruction here, and even more so in France, Spain, and Greece. Then the USA and Canada, and so many parts of the world. Unfortunately with fewer trees there will be even more heat in the future, adding to climate change. So, one can but hope that there will be massive tree planting and encouraging new growth starting this autumn. Otherwise the problems will be even worse in the future.

I have been given a new exercise for me. Stand, with one hand holding the back of a chair, then repeatedly raise one knee to hip height, and switch to the other. Good for lots of things. In my case good for the gut it seems. So, I did 30 lifts each leg, and it felt really good. But, oh heck, the next day I had a job getting about! It took three days to fully recover. So, now doing 5 lifts, and slowly raising the number over time. So, there you go, even with all my walking a new exercise still has to be activated a little at a time. Anybody would think I am getting old! Let me know how you get on doing this, as I would love to know, and you know the rest.

As always, you can contact me on 01934 712404, 07976 288535, WhatsApp or at melvyn@gmx.co.uk Love to hear from you. Keep on walking!

Melvyn Firmager

(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.)

Letters to the Editor

No letters this month 😞

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.

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Health, Wellbeing, and Support

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 Heslop and Sue Parsons for their Health and Wellbeing article in the August edition – very useful, and interesting! (once again, my apologies for not correctly attributing last month's article – Ed.)

Preparing for post summer!

We have 'enjoyed' a very warm summer, but we know this heat will not last and we will need to prepare ourselves for the cold and wet of autumn and winter! And with the change of weather comes the onset of different health challenges, one of them being seasonal flu. According to Patient.info 'Getting the flu vaccine (also called the flu jab or flu shot) is a safe and effective way to protect against becoming seriously ill with flu'. To find out more go to the Patient.info website.

The flu vaccine protects you from severe illness and reduces the spread of the virus to vulnerable individuals, thereby easing the pressure on health care services during the busy winter months; It covers the flu strains most likely to circulate in the coming winter; comes as an injection or a nasal spray for children; and side effects are usually mild, such as soreness at the injection site or a mild temperature.

The NHS provides the flu jab for free to individuals most at risk of developing severe illness. Eligible groups include people aged 65 and over; pregnant women; individuals aged 6 months to 64 years with certain underlying health conditions such as respiratory disease, diabetes, heart conditions, and weakened immune systems; frontline health and social care workers; people living in long-stay residential care; carers and those who live with vulnerable individuals; people aged 16 and over experiencing homelessness; and children aged 2 and 3.

The NHS flu vaccination programme for the 2026/27 season begins on 1 September for children and pregnant women. All other eligible adult cohorts can receive their vaccines starting 1 October. The campaign will run until 31 March 2027, with the primary goal of completing vaccinations before winter. School-aged children from reception to year 11 will be immunised at school.

Axbridge and Wedmore Medical Practice will be inviting eligible patients to book, via text message, in August with clinic dates commencing Thursday 1 and Tuesday 6 October.

Less serious snippets!

While we still have some sun and we may still be exposing our skin, here are a couple of interesting topics. Many of you will have seen 'micellar water' for sale in the Beauty aisles and perhaps like me have wondered why we need special water to clean our faces? It seems that there is some evidence of its beneficial effects. According to Patient.info, Dr Aneesha Ahmad, GP, dermatologist and medical director of Skyn Doctor, Huddersfield, Leeds, explains that 'micellar water is made up of very small balls of cleansing oil molecules (micelles) suspended in soft purified water which

What's On in the Parish

KEY EVENTS THIS MONTH

Fri	4	3C's Harvest Supper	7.00pm	See Article in News
Sat	5	Theale Show	2.30pm	Theale Village Hall and Showground
Tues	8 to 29	Crook Peak Music Festival	6.00pm to 7.00pm	Various - See article in News
Wed	9	Women of Wedmore (WI) welcome the Mendip Morris	7.00pm	The Post and Wicket
Sun	13	Freecycle	9.00am to 11.00am	Wedmore Village Car Park
Tue	15	Cuppa with a Foster Carer	6.00pm to 8.00pm	The Bluebird Café
Fri	18	Save the Children Lunch	12.30pm	Shipham Village Hall
Fri - Sun	18 to 20	Wedmore Real Ale Festival	See Article in News	Manor Lane, Wedmore
Sun	20	Celebration of the Re-Ordering of St Mary's	10.45am	St Mary's Church
Sun	20	Theale Community Film Club	7.00pm	Theale Village Hall
Fri	25	MADBand play Henton Church	7.00pm	Henton Church

REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS

Alternate Mondays (see listing)	Music in Mind	2.30pm to 3.30pm	Masonic Hall
2nd Tuesday	Wedmore Harvest Home Committee Meeting	8.00pm	The Post and Wicket
4th Tuesday	Wedmore Gardening Club	7.30pm	Masonic Hall
1st Wednesday	Somewhere House Coffee and Chat	10.00am to 12.00 noon	The Bluebird Café
2nd Wednesday	Blackford Café	2.00pm to 4.00pm	Blackford Village Hall
2nd Wednesday	Green Wedmore Meeting	7.30pm	The George Inn
2nd and 4th Wednesday	Wedmore Probus	10.15am	Isle of Wedmore Golf Club
3rd Wednesday	Wedmore Parish Council Meeting	7.00pm	Parish Council Rooms
3rd Wednesday	Club50	2.30pm	Masonic Hall
3rd Wednesday	Henton and District Garden Club	7.00pm	Henton Village Hall
2nd and 4th Thursday	Mendip Rotary Club	7.00pm	The George Inn
3rd Thursday	Cheddar Valley U3A	10.00am to 11.30am	Cheddar Village Hall
4th Thursday	Isle of Wedmore Society Meeting	7.30pm	Masonic Hall
1st Friday	HeadsUp Carer's Support Group	10.00am to 12.00 noon	The Swan
1st and 3rd Fridays	Mr Punch's Folk Club	8.00pm	Theale Village Hall
1st Saturday	St Mary's Coffee Shop	9.30am to 12.00 noon	St Mary's Church
2nd Saturday	Wedmore In Bloom Work Party	9.30am	Outside The George Inn
4th Saturday	Theale Community Café	10.00am to 12.00 noon	Theale Village Hall

September 2026

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAY

Ladies Badminton	10.00am to 12.00pm	Wedmore Village Hall	Jean Windridge	01934 712046
Mah Jong	2.00pm to 4.00pm	Wedmore Scout Hut	Sue Kirley	07814 549040
Beavers	5.45pm to 6.45pm	Wedmore Scout Hut	Bill Belshaw	01934 712438
Pilates with Anna MacGregor	6.00pm	Blackford Village Hall	Anna MacGregor	07587 703883
Yoga with Anna MacGregor	7.00pm	Blackford Village Hall	Anna MacGregor	07587 703883
Bridge Club	7.00pm	Masonic Hall	Steve Pedrick	01934 712852
Scouts	7.15pm to 8.45pm	Wedmore Scout Hut	Jacqui Redman	Jax.redman@outlook.com

TUESDAY

Little Lambs	9.15am to 11.15am	St Mary's Church	Heather Hector	01934 712478
Wedmore Men's Shed	9.30am to 12.00	Wedmore Village Farm	David Kirley	07535 441656
Chair Yoga	9.45am	Masonic Hall	Jo Willis	07552 711101
Yoga for the body, breath and mind	10.00am to 11.15am	Wedmore Scout Hut	Kay Wensley	07584 374515
Tuesday Club	10.30am	Wedmore Village Hall	Lesley Nichols	01934 712045
Music Matters	2.30pm	via Zoom	mhc.dance4change@hotmail.co.uk	
Squirrels	5.15pm to 6.00pm	Wedmore Scout Hut	Becca Newman	group-leader@wedmorescoutgroup.org.uk
Cubs	6.30pm to 7.45pm	Wedmore Scout Hut	Jacqui Redman	Jax.redman@outlook.com
Pilates with Anna MacGregor - beginner / general class	6.10pm	Wedmore Village Hall	Anna MacGregor	07587 703883
Yoga with Anna MacGregor	7.20pm	Wedmore Village Hall	Anna MacGregor	07587 703883

WEDNESDAY

Pilates	9.15am to 10.15am	Blackford Village Hall	Lucy	07813 913309
Piloga Fit	9.30am to 10.30am	Wedmore Village Hall	John Beasley	01749 672482
Pilates	10.30am to 11.30am	Blackford Village Hall	Lucy	07813 913309
Coffee with a View	10.30am to 12.00pm	Bagley Baptist Church		
Health Tai Chi	11.00am to 12.00pm	Wedmore Village Hall	John Beasley	01749 672482
Rainbows	4.30pm	Wedmore Village Hall	Elaine Tilling	01934 713650
Brownies	6.15pm	Wedmore Village Hall	Karen Corfield	07899 730539
Guides	7.00pm	Wedmore Village Hall	Elaine Tilling	01934 713650

THURSDAY

Wedmore Dance Group (during term time)	10.30am to 11.45pm	Wedmore Village Hall	Nikki Pryn	07519 630365
Wedmore Golf Club Bridge Club Section	2.00pm	Wedmore Golf Club	Colin Pinks	01934 712499
Wedmore Men's Shed	2.30pm to 4.30pm	Wedmore Village Farm	David Kirley	07535 441656
Cubs	6.30pm	Wedmore Scout Hut	Jacqui Redman	Jax.redman@outlook.com
Table Tennis at Theale	6.30pm to 8.00pm	Theale Village Hall	Dave Whitmarsh	01934 712620

FRIDAY

Tots and Tinies	9.00am	Wedmore First School	Sara Vincent	07986 244050
Wedmore Art Group	2.00pm	Wedmore Scout Hut	Jim Collett	01934 712663

removes impurities from your skin'. It seems that it is an effective cleanser, even removing make up and eye makeup. It is reported to be gentle and suitable for all skin types, being free from known irritants. It is also good for your hair! To find out more go to the Patient.info website.

However, not even the beneficial properties of micellar water can restore colour to grey hair! On Patient.info, Dr Mohamed, a hair loss and restoration surgeon and founder of City Clinics, UK, explains that pigment is produced by specialised cells called melanocytes, located in the hair bulb. 'These cells manufacture melanin and transfer it into the growing hair shaft during the active growth phase. Over time, we see a gradual decline in both the number and function of these cells. This is a natural and inevitable process as we age, but is also affected by oxidative stress, when free radicals outnumber antioxidants. This oxidative stress can be increased by a number of factors including smoking; a poor diet; and long-term stress and is part of becoming older and wiser(!). To find out more go to the Patient.info website.

www.patient.info is a website and accompanying app, which states that 'Our clinical information meets NHS England's Information Standard.' 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 September 2026. You can reach them all with just one click and find out more interesting facts, figures and insights. You can also contact Cathy Butterworth on 01934 806266 or by email at cb@theconsultant.org

Cathy Butterworth

HeadsUp Support Group

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 10.00am and 12.00 noon. The next meeting will be on Friday 4 September. 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.



HeadsUp

Somewhere House Coffee and a Chat

For general support with mental wellbeing, Somewhere House visits The Bluebird Café in Wedmore on the first Wednesday of the month from 10.00am to 12.00 noon. They offer an opportunity to meet and chat. For more information contact them on 01278 780769 or visit their website at www.somewherehousesomerset.org

Somewhere House



Music in Mind

Music in Mind takes place at Wedmore Masonic Hall on Monday afternoons, usually fortnightly, from 2.15pm to 3.30pm.

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(748)

If you are caring for someone who can no longer use words to communicate, sharing music together can be very rewarding for both of you. It's great to see someone involved, feeling part of a group and celebrating what is possible, not what has become too difficult and therefore frustrating. We sing plenty of songs, but we also work with sounds, and there is no right or wrong! So we use small percussion instruments and listen to the sounds we can make. There is always a choice as to whether to join in or not. It's good to give people the time to hear others play and helps people feel valued.

Also, if you are a musician and can contribute by occasionally playing live music for the group, then please get in touch!

There is no charge for the sessions. For more information please contact Stella by phone on 07896 509754 or 01934 732282 or by email at davestellamoore@btinternet.com

Stella Moore

Wedmore Good Neighbours

What is Wedmore Good Neighbours? It's a team of local volunteers who are happy to give up a little bit of their time and effort to help any neighbour that may need some support.

Who can ask the team for 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. The group operates alongside Wedmore Health and Wellbeing to offer 'neighbourly' support to those in the local community that request it.

What kind of help do we provide? Most requests are for a lift to and from medical appointments, such as visits to the doctor's surgery, a hospital or for vaccinations. As taxis can be very expensive and impersonal this is proving to be a very worthwhile and welcome service. Volunteers are also visiting a small number of people in their own homes to provide weekly assistance and company. The group is also keen to provide lifts for those that want to attend local clubs and events.

What other things can we help with? Maybe you are unwell and need your dog walking or garden watering? Got a prescription you'd like collecting from the chemist? Have some items that need taking to the recycling centre? Or you'd just like someone to pop in for a cuppa and a chat from time to time?

What area do we cover? These services are available to those living on and around the Isle of Wedmore. If you need a lift for a medical appointment there's usually a volunteer who is happy to drive as far as Musgrove Hospital in Taunton or to the Bristol hospitals.

Is there a charge to use the service? Wedmore Good Neighbours is operated by volunteers and is free to use. However, the group does have running costs – insurance, petrol expenses, as well as the vetting and training of volunteers. So, if you do use the service and want to make a donation, this is always very welcome - just talk to your volunteer about this.

How can I find out more about the scheme? Visit the Wedmore Health and Wellbeing website at www.whawb.co.uk/gns/ How can you contact us? Simply 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!

Would you like to become a volunteer? Demand for the group's services has been steadily increasing so if you'd like to become a volunteer, you'd be most welcome! Call 01934 806299 and leave a message and we'll be in touch.

Jim O'Connor



Club Reports and Society Updates

Green Wedmore

Please see other articles in the News section about Freecycle; The Big Tidy Up; and a report on the excellent Bumblesnouts children's holiday activity at St Mary's.

Please note that our next meeting is on 9 September at 7.30pm at The George.



Liz Burton

Wedmore Footpaths Group

Do you enjoy walking around the parish of Wedmore? Do you have a favourite route which is in need of some TLC? Maybe you have noticed issues such as missing signs, broken stiles or overgrown paths?

Wedmore Footpaths Group is looking for volunteers in the smaller communities in the parish to map and write a description of walks which they enjoy and to log faults. So if you would like to help us improve the access to footpaths in your area, please get in touch. We are looking for volunteers in Theale, Blackford, Bagley, Chapel Allerton, Clewer, Cocklake, Heath House, Latcham, Mudgley, Panborough, Stone Allerton and West Stoughton.

If you are out and about, please remember to take some secateurs with you to cut back on vegetation which has grown rapidly recently and can hamper access.



Wedmore Footpaths Group, with support from the Men's Shed, the Parish Council and local landowners, continues to maintain and improve paths in the area, as you can see from the plank bridge and double gate, parallel to Mudgley Road, before and after the brambles were cut back.

Please visit www.theisleofwedmore.net for a list of walks around Wedmore. These will be updated over time as improvements are carried out. If you come across any problems on footpaths, or would like to help, please email us on wedmorefootpaths@outlook.com

Wedmore Footpaths Group

Wedmore in Bloom

The dry weather during the summer has meant a challenging time for our tubs, beds and troughs. Very many thanks to the watering team who worked hard throughout the summer 'drought'.



A bring-and-share lunch was held at Radford Barn in July. The weather was perfect and a delicious lunch was enjoyed by those who actively give their time to support WIB and also those who support financially. Many thanks to you all, and especially to Shona and Rod for hosting.

Kay Adams



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(780)

Wedmore Gardening Club

At our July meeting we had an interesting talk on 'Square Metre Gardening' by Claire Hart. As the name suggests it's a method of growing vegetables in small plots. Perhaps a raised bed which can then be sub-divided by strips of wood or other material. Individual plants are placed in each small square.

The idea is to plant as many varieties of vegetables into as small a space as possible. However, Claire did warn against planting the same group of veg in the same plot in consecutive years due to pests and diseases being carried in the soil. This is the generally accepted good practice for all vegetable growing and indeed for many flowers and shrubs.

On Tuesday 22 September Hilary Little will give a talk 'Northern Patagonia: Violas and Volcanoes'. An interesting combination and one I'm sure will be very entertaining. Northern Patagonia is a new area to the Club, so lots of information to be gained.

Following on from the success of our last 'Panel of Members' evening, we will be holding another question-and-answer meeting on Tuesday 27 October. If you have any questions you'd like to ask the Panel, please submit them to Andrea West at wedmore.west@gmail.com or Carol Gibson at carolheathergibson@gmail.com by 30 September. Those who attended the last of these events will know that a fun evening is in store!

Meetings are held in the Masonic Hall and begin at 7.30pm with refreshments served after the talk. If you are new to the village or been here a while but haven't been to a meeting, please come along and you'll be made very welcome by our very friendly club members and possibly pick up some useful tips along the way. Hope to see you soon.

Jean Windridge

Women of Wedmore – Music to Your Ears



July was music month for Women of Wedmore WI. One of Wedmore's talented musicians, John Peters, entertained members at their summer party held at the Post and Wicket on a warm summer's evening. The outlook over the beautiful playing fields towards the setting sun added to the occasion's ambience.

John played some enduring classic renditions on his guitar including Don't Stop by Fleetwood Mac, Galveston by Glen Campbell, Unchained Melody by The Righteous Brothers, Angels by Robbie Williams and A Hard Day's Night by The Beatles. In addition, members enjoyed a delicious 'Bring and Share' buffet supper. A truly memorable summer evening!

Members were able to look at some of the Wedmore WI's carefully compiled scrapbooks from the 1970s and 1980s. One current member recognised her mother in one of the photographs! We have additional scrapbooks dating back to 1960. Members will be able to see some of Wedmore's history at future meetings; the newspaper clippings and photographs are a fascinating insight into past village life.

WoW's second foray into music was supporting WedFest organised by the Men's Shed. WoW ran a Prosecco and Nosecco bar during the evening.

The bar, next to the musicians' stage inside St Mary's Church, was a great success with all proceeds raised by us going to WoW's two 2026 charities, Weston Hospiccare and the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance.

Women of Wedmore WI's next meeting is on Wednesday 9 September, 7.00pm, at the Post and Wicket, with a visit from Mendip Morris. For more details, please email WoW on wedmorewi@outlook.com



Linda Morecroft

Isle of Wedmore Society

A big thank you to all who came to the splendid exhibition of the photos for the Wedmore in Focus competition which took place over the August Bank Holiday. And another big thank you to all of you who took the time and trouble to submit a photo or photos. I shall be reporting on the competition with a full account of the entries and prize winners in next month's issue of the Isle of Wedmore News.



Our first talk after our summer break on Thursday 24 September has changed. Fiona Torrence-Spence, who was going to tell us all about the Ashton Windmill, unfortunately has had to cancel. Instead, we welcome Michael Blandford with his talk on 'The Man Who Built Wells Cathedral'. This is a subject close to Michael's heart as there is very little acknowledgement of this person and his achievement. We need to redress the balance! Michael's well illustrated talk is summarised as follows;

The illegitimate son of a bishop who became Bishop of Bath and founded Wells Cathedral was a man who walked with Kings, Popes, and Archbishops. He was closely involved in the negotiations on behalf of both Henry II and Thomas Becket during their great trial of strength that led to Becket's murder and its aftermath. He left institutions in both Bath and Wells that survive to this day.



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We have rescheduled Fiona for next March, so all is not lost for the windmill. And Fiona informs me that her talk will be all the better by then as progress should have been made on repairs and arrangements to the Mill thus enabling her to give a more positive account.

The Society looks forward to seeing members and visitors at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall on 24 September for Michael's talk. £5 for visitors which includes tea, coffee, and biscuits.

Jean Gregory

Mr Punch's Folk Club

Theale Village Hall Fridays 4 and 18 September at 8.00pm. These will be open sessions, all welcome! Cost is £3 and please bring your own refreshments.

Bernard Coulter

Theale Community Film Club

Theale Community Film Club's next meeting will be at Theale Village Hall on Sunday 20 September, doors open at 6.30pm and the film will start at 7.00pm. New members are always welcome and temporary membership is available, please phone for further details on 07855 297861.

Bernard Coulter

Cheddar and Wedmore Bridge Club

Notable scores of 65% or more were achieved in our July club sessions by Chris Bryant and Peter Colton 73.1%, Gillian Toogood and Geoff Davies 69.5%, Brian Ladd and Chris Loughlin 65% and David Birch and Mike Smith 65%. It's been a hot month for playing bridge. Thanks to everyone who has brought fans to keep us cool on afternoons at Cheddar!

I suffered a 'senior moment' on this month's hand when, playing South, I passed after North opened with a bid of 3H. I negatively thought that partner probably had at least one loser in hearts and possibly two, so we were unlikely to make 10 tricks. With 4H bid and made at the other tables this was not a great success. My Ace of diamonds promotes my partner's King, and I can also ruff a diamond if they don't lead trumps.

After East passes, I would bid 4H with a weak hand and 3 card support to 'bid to the level of fit' to make it as difficult as possible for West to enter the auction. With this hand, however, I should be bidding 4H hoping to make it.

When responding to a 3 level pre-empt, Queens and Jacks outside the trump suit are not much use. You should count Aces and Kings only. Robson calls these Useful Points (UPs) and suggests with 2+ card support and 12 UPs you should raise to 4 of a major, 15 raise to 5 of a minor and 18 raise to 6.

Alternatively, he suggests counting 2 points for an Ace or the King of trumps and 1 point

North (D)

♠ Q9
♥ KT87654
♦ K53
♣ 3

West (V)

♠ JT53
♥ QJ
♦ QJT
♣ Q762

East (V)

♠ K76
♥ A9
♦ 98764
♣ KJ9

South

♠ A842
♥ 32
♦ A2
♣ AT854

for an outside King or the Queen of trumps. With 6 points you should raise to 4 of a major.

You have more bidding space after a weak two opening, however. If you are strong and considering a game or a slam you have space to find out more about your partner's hand. I use the Ogust 2NT strength enquiry which asks partner to describe their hand in terms of strength (points) and trump honours (suit). Partner's response of 3C shows poor points, poor suit, 3D shows poor points, good suit, 3H shows good points, poor suit, 3S shows good points, good suit and 3NT shows AKQxxx trump suit. Poor points means the bottom half of your range and good means the top. (Mnemonic Minors = Minimum) A good suit is two of the top three honours or three of the top five. Responding 3 of partner's suit is a sign off.

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. (Use the 'Contact Us' entry under 'Information' on our website.) If you have any bridge-related questions you can contact me through my Bridge Nerd blog at www.profdavies.co.uk

Geoff Davies

Wedmore Opera Goers

On Sunday 20 September, at 4.00pm, we will be attending a matinee performance of Bartok's 'Bluebeards Castle' followed by Stravinsky's 'Oedipus Rex' at the Millenium Theatre in Cardiff. The cost will be £56 each for the theatre and the coach.

On the following Sunday, 27 September, again at 4.00pm in the Millennium Theatre, Cardiff, we will attend a production of La Boheme by Puccini. The cost will be £56 each for the theatre and the coach.

Next year on 18 March we will be visiting Cardiff again for Matthew Bourne's performance of Cinderella, this time at 3.00pm. The cost is yet to be confirmed but will be about the same as the above.

Please email suzannemetters@hotmail.com if you are interested in any of our events.

Suzanne Metters

Wedmore Men's Shed

It's been a busy summer at the Wedmore Men's Shed! A very successful WedFest was held at St Mary's Church with four great acts. Thanks to everyone who attended or helped, we hope you all had a great time. We raised over £6,000, which will be split between the Men's Shed and Somerset Prostate Support Association, to help them with running their next test session which is scheduled for Saturday 10 October at Wedmore Playing Fields (see separate article in News).

A number of members visited six Bristol Historic Pubs. We learnt about the history of the area where there had previously been 200. Six was certainly enough for us, a good night was had by all. With all the hot weather we also had another of our popular BBQs with over 40 members, family and friends present.



Back at the Shed we are in the process of reconfiguring the workshop. We have much more space since we launched the boat earlier this summer, so it's time to put the workshop to good use with better positioning of equipment and improved lighting. This work is being done with thanks to the Bluebird Café, who recently provided us with funding via their Community Awards.

We have been helping in the local community again. This time at Avalon Camps in Mark. A team was there on both set up and clear down days. Set up was managed in half the time it normally takes, due to so many helpful hands. Avalon Camps is a great charity that provides summer camps for groups of young people from Bristol, many of whom have not ventured outside the city.

Interested in getting involved? We have a growing membership, with a 25% increase since the beginning of the year, so come along and see what you are missing out on. Wedmore Men's Shed is a friendly, welcoming place where men can get involved in several activities, including projects that help the local community, as well as socialising and enjoying many interesting visits. Email us at wedmoremensshed@outlook.com or come and meet us on Tuesdays from 9.30am to 12.00 noon, or Thursdays from 2.00pm to 4.30pm at the Wedmore Village Community Farm off Plud Street. Please come along and find out what we are all about, you are more than welcome.



WedFest at St Mary's



Avalon Camp set up

Wedmore Men's Shed

Wedmore Probus Club

Each year the Club goes on a Chairman's outing and this year we went to the Helicopter Museum at Weston-super-Mare. The museum is the largest dedicated helicopter collection in the world, with the over 80 exhibits on display, mostly in two hangars. The collection covers civilian and military helicopters and highlights the many technological developments over the years, showing the range of helicopters in use. There are also several autogyros, an engine bay, video displays, and other related exhibits illustrating the many uses helicopters play in our everyday lives. At the end of an interesting tour we enjoyed lunch in the museum's Belvedere Café.

The Isle of Wedmore Probus club normally meets at the Wedmore Golf Club in the morning on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. We usually arrive at about 10.30am and enjoy a friendly chat over a cup of coffee before an invited

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speaker provides an interesting, stimulating and informative talk starting at about 11.00am. After the talk, many stay on for lunch and enjoying an informal drink and chat with other convivial members. So if you are a retired man living in Wedmore or the surrounding area, you should come and try our meetings, which you will probably enjoy. If you then want to join Probus there is no attendance commitment and the cost of membership is low at £30 per annum. So if you are interested in attending, please call Denis on 07572 569870 for further details.

*Denis Jones,
Secretary*

Wedmore Tuesday Club



Pam Johnson, cake by Christine Raphael



*Pauline Redman, 80th birthday cake by
Christine Raphael*

Full attendance at Tuesday Club is now being achieved each week, plus we do a few take-out lunches to people who are unable to attend. We celebrated two birthdays this month, Pam Johnson, and Pauline Redman. Pauline was celebrating her 80th birthday. Keeping up with Tuesday Club tradition they brought in a bottle of sherry and a bottle of a soft drink. Once their two-course roast lunch has been served and the dishes cleared away we presented them with their cards and birthday cakes.

My 13-year-old grandson Albie asked me if he would be able to help out during the summer holiday, and he really enjoyed doing his bit for the community. He helped me set up the tables and chairs and then set the tables. He assisted a couple of our members with some mobile phone issues, then helped out in the kitchen and with the raffle and quiz. It is lovely to see a young man volunteering to do this, he just really likes helping people and I was very proud of him.

Next on the agenda is to fix a date and venue for our next trip out. Occasionally, we could do with extra help, so if you think this may be something you would like to do then please pop in one Tuesday and see what you think, we are a friendly easy-going group of people. If you are interested, please contact Sue Worrall on 07748 131413, Yvonne Hutchison on 07933 135982, or Graham Whitcombe on 07580 500545.



The Cooks celebrate the installation of the new range cooker at Wedmore Village Hall

Graham Whitcombe

Mendip Rotary

A reminder of the free prostate testing day in conjunction with Somerset Prostate Support Association and Wedmore Men's Shed, for men over 40, on Saturday 10 October in Wedmore. Please see the article in the News section for full details and how to book your appointment.

If you'd like to get involved with these sorts of events and more or would appreciate the social contact, please do get in touch with us as we are now seeking new members. Either send an email to bobacland1@outlook.com or ring Bob on 07870 977854.

John Mander, Secretary

Wedmore Village Farm

The frenzy of midsummer is ripe and rearing, both in the productivity at the farm and in nature itself. It seems that, the second our back turns, another cucumber bursts into full size; another thistle has emerged; or a tomato we meant to eat yesterday has slightly sagged in its skin. The heat and light of this season has speeded everything up, and the progression of our projects at Wedmore Village Farm is no exception.

The pick-your-own flowers have become increasingly popular, with people coming from Axbridge, Glastonbury, and beyond to visit our beautiful flower farm to pick and create their own bouquets. Our vegetables have all come at once, and we have a surplus of delicious waxy potatoes, although we aren't sure of their variety, their

papery skins, waxy texture, and sweet, nutty flavour is akin to a Cornish Early. We have donated these to the Glastonbury Community Fridge.

Speaking of communities, our volunteer groups are expanding week-by-week. During a period of significant change, we have prioritised supporting our existing dedicated volunteers and recruiting new ones. We have been delighted to welcome people from Wedmore, and further afield, to become part of something tangible, connective, and of great benefit to the land and its habitats. I could go on about the benefits of being part of a group, and spending time in nature, but the statistics need not be drawn upon. The proof is in the grounded grin that people wear when they leave the farm; the honking laughter over a shared lunch; and the peace that seems to cloak those who walk mindfully amongst the flowerbeds, admiring the spectrum of shapes and colour.

In addition to volunteers, July is the month we finally re-launched the wood-fired sauna and our popular campsite. Ever the work-in-progress, we have had much support from our trustees, volunteers, and the Men's Shed, which have made these ventures possible.

Our sauna is a wonderful extension of the charity's aim to provide a natural space that supports and promotes wellbeing. To one side there are stunning views across the Mendip Hills and to the other, a boundary of watchful poplar trees that provide a soothing hush in the wind. We are biased, but we have yet to visit a more beautiful sauna location in Somerset. You can find out more and book through our website at www.wedmorevillagefarm.co.uk/sauna

Georgia Cadoret

Club50

We resume our summer season of coach trips this month. On Wednesday 16 September we have an outing to Barnstaple and Bideford, leaving Wedmore Village Car Park at 9.00am as usual and returning at about 6.00pm. The cost is £25 for members and £28 for guests. If you could please pay as early as possible to Carole Andrews, with cheques payable to 'Club50'. Anyone is welcome to join us.

Membership starts in January, but guests are always welcome to come and try it out. The annual subscription of £5 and refreshments are £3 per meeting. We are a friendly group and welcome new members. For further details on membership, or this month's coach trip, please ring Andrea on 01934 712161

Andrea West

Wedmore Dance Group

Do you love to dance? Perhaps it's something you haven't done for a long time. We would like to welcome you to our joyful class, having fun moving to music in good company, in Wedmore. There's no need to book ahead, just come along to Wedmore Village Hall on a Thursday during term time. Our next class is on Thursday 24 September from 10.30am to 11.45am. Please don't worry if you can't make it that day - join us when you can!



We have enjoyed many genres of dance over the years, including Hollywood musicals, salsa, disco, and Bollywood, and we're all looking forward to starting our

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Wedmore Dance Group

St Mary's Church 100 Club

Congratulations to our August winners of the 100 Club. First prize goes to David and Venetia Hopkins and second prize to Liz Anderson.

Liz Henderson

Sports Club Reports

Wedmore Football Club

2026/2027 season has started, preseason has now finished, the bleep test been and gone. The First Team's season is well on the way in Division 1 of the Somerset County League. The fixtures were released in July, and we started with an away trip to Minehead on the 8 August.

The First Team has achieved 4 back-to-back promotions, there is no doubt this season will prove to be the toughest season so far and would appreciate any support from the village, support on match days, sponsorship, volunteer at the ground on match days. This division includes some big teams with a large catchment area for players including Minehead, Glastonbury, and Burnham. Both the Reserves and Colts teams have had a successful preseason in friendlies.

There has been a reshuffle at the club, which has meant Nick Beason is now President of the club and Paul Baker comes in as Chairman. Nick has spent over a decade as chairman and has had a significant impact in propelling the reputation of the club. This includes improved facilities, access to girls' football, all ages within the youth setup. Wedmore football club is well respected and thought of within the Somerset County FA and beyond.

September Fixtures, games commence at 3.00pm: First team: 5 September at home to Clutton; 12 September away at Winscombe; and 26 September away at Wrington Redhill. The Reserves and Colts season is due to start in September, and we are still awaiting the fixtures.

The club is always looking for new players, volunteers, so if you are interested in helping the local club, please do make contact by email at iowfootballclub@gmail.com or phone Paul Baker on 07967 179118.

Ben Warren

Wedmore Tennis Club

Summer League Round-Up

Another Summer League season comes to an end, with mixed results across the teams. Unfortunately, this has been a particularly difficult season for our ladies' teams. As mentioned in previous newsletters, injuries have had a significant impact, making it challenging to field full-strength teams week after week. Despite everyone's determination and



willingness to step in when needed, the results have reflected these difficulties. As a result, all of our ladies' teams, with one notable exception, will be moving down a division next season. There is, however, some fantastic news to celebrate. Our Ladies A Team produced an excellent season and have earned promotion back to Division One. Congratulations to the Ladies A Team – a brilliant effort and well deserved! A special shout out to our ladies Captain, Elaine Steckler, who managed to make all the ladies feel part of one big squad, all pulling together to do the best they could, under such difficult circumstances. She fully deserved the gifts presented to her at the end of season league party!



Elaine Steckler, Ladies Captain, with Gifts

The men's teams have had an outstanding Summer League campaign, with the A, B and C Teams achieving promotion, while the D Team, having come 3rd, remains in Division 8. This is a fantastic accomplishment and reflects the strength and depth of tennis at Wedmore. Congratulations to all of our men's players for their excellent results throughout the season.



Members Enjoying the End of Summer Season Party

The season was rounded off with our End of League Party. Members enjoyed an evening of friendly tennis, followed by snacks and a well-earned drink together.

Club Knockout Competitions

With the league season complete, attention now turns to the Club Knockout Competitions, which are well underway. We wish all those still competing the very best of luck as they battle it out for this year's titles. This will be the first year we also have a padel knockout competition, which will all add to the fun of

Finals Day on Saturday 12 September. Whether you're playing or not, we'd love to see as many members as possible come along to support the finalists, enjoy the atmosphere and cheer on your fellow club members. Your support makes a real difference and helps make Finals Day one of the highlights of the club calendar.

Padel Continues to Grow

Our padel courts continue to go from strength to strength, with the sport becoming increasingly popular among both members and visitors. Since opening court bookings to non-members, we've seen a significant increase in court usage, introducing many new people to the game and creating a great atmosphere around the club. It's fantastic to see so many players discovering just how enjoyable and sociable padel is. If you haven't given it a try yet, why not book a court and see what all the excitement is about? It's a fun, fast-paced game that's suitable for players of all ages and abilities.

Shirley Turner

Wedmore Golf Club

July was the month the Club opened and, hence, the month for Open Week! Six days of competition open to golfers from all clubs, and this week six days of glorious sunshine. It started on Monday with a Shambles, a format rather than a criticism. There was no criticism from the winning team of Martin Peakman, Lucas Kirk, Mike Cowie and David Taylor who won with a massive 152 points, six better than the runners-up. Tuesday was a four ball better ball with Steve Major going one place better this time, winning on countback with Ronnie Follenfant on 49.

Wednesday moved on to a bowmaker and another large winning margin this time from Ian Williams, Jon Turner, Garry Stimpson and Chris Mckinley whose score of 131 points was 9 better than second place. Thursday was the only individual competition of the week with the best scores coming from the Ladies with Janet Robson winning with 42 points. Moly McMillan was top score for the men, winning Division 1 on countback with 40 points with Bradley Coles. Phillip Carman top scored in Division 2 with 37.

Friday was the ever-popular Texas Scramble with Sam Adlam, Paul Goodbrand, Paul Haslett and Dave Hudson winning with a net 53. Saturday was the last day of competition, but Sally and Paul Stephens still had the energy to score 46 in the better ball. Congratulations also to the greenkeepers who kept the course in excellent shape though the week.

The month started with the annual competition for the Friendly Bowl, between the Ladies and Seniors and this year, against the run of recent competitions, the Ladies came through with a convincing victory. The Ladies were back for their own competition on Thursday playing another stableford competing for the Grannies Cup. There was an outstanding round from Sarah Mathews who won Division 3 with 44 points, this was 7 points more than any other player and won Division 3 by 9 shots; Claire Walker won Division 1 with 38 points; and Karen Barnett was the clear winner of Division 2 her 36 points.

Then came the Seniors Championship, spread over two days with the first day also incorporating the Monthly Medal. Six players beat their handicap, with only 2 of these committed to playing in the second round of the Championship. Graham Jones had a 62 and Tony Ireland a 65 in Division 3 and in the lower handicap Divisions Martin Olive had a 66 and David Glendenning a 68. Of those moving on to round 2 of the Championship Tony Ribí had an outstanding net 62 which put him amongst the leaders in the Gross Championship with a gross 77.

This gross score was matched by Jim Vearncombe with Julian Clarke just a shot behind. Over the front nine Vearncombe increased his lead over Clarke, but all changed on hole twelve with an eagle from Clarke and a bogey from Vearncombe bringing the scores level. This was as close as it got though and Vearncombe pulled out a strong finish to move two ahead and win his fourth championship in five years with a total of 150 for the two rounds. In the net competition Mike Smith had a cracking round of net 62 to give a total net score of 135. All was not lost for Tony Ribí who took second place net with a total of 136. Prizes for day 2 went to John Wormald for best gross with Brian Webber best net with an excellent round of 65.

The final week was another busy one, particularly for Ladies who played two major competitions. These started with the Senior Ladies Championship with a multitude of

net, gross and age-related prizes. Players with the best net scores were vying for the Vera Ireland Trophy, which this year went to Lesley Burchill with a 5 under par nett 67. This is basically a gross competition though and there was strong competition for the Ann Adams Claret Jug. This produced another close finish with several contenders going well on the front nine. Bev Broad then pushed ahead, playing the three par 5's in level par and going on to win with a gross 84 despite a blip on the final hole.

Just two days later the Ladies were out again playing another medal for the Summer Bowl. Again the scoring was excellent with none better than Jane Hewitt who scored a second gross 86 in the week to take the trophy and first place in Division 1 with a nett 68. Jenny Brown was the winner of Division 2 by 2 shots with another 68. Debbie Monks was another player to score 68, which this time won Division 3 by 2 shots.



Ronnie Follenfant and Steve Major with the trophy and other prize-winners following the Four-Ball Better-Ball



Janet Robson and Moly McMillan with trophies for the Singles competition.

Tony Biggs

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Isle of Wedmore Bowls Club



Janet Wilcox, Terry Simpson and Brian Ladd, our Mixed Triples winners



Andy Tiffin and Ian Gallop, Australian Pairs winners

Apart from the high quality of bowls played by club members in all the various leagues, July was most notable for the almost complete lack of rain. It never ceases to amaze how conditions on the green can change from game to game, sometimes even within a game, and how other clubs' greens can vary so much. However, some maintain that unpredictability is the true beauty of outdoor bowls!

In the County league our Men's A team followed up their great win over Purnells at the end of June with a disappointing loss at St Andrews (34-55) but then a narrow win over West Backwell (52-49) but securing maximum league points. Against St Anne's Park we won two of the three rinks but were edged out overall by 2 shots. The B team enjoyed a brilliant 65-32 win over Congresbury B and then agonisingly lost narrowly against Nailsea (42-48) and Portishead RBL (49-52).

In the Clevedon and District League our men continued their great run of wins with victories over Nailsea, Chew Stoke, Clevedon Prom and finally Congresbury. But in the league knockout cup, as current holders, we were beaten in a very close encounter with Clevedon 97-105. Our team in the Weston and District league remains unbeaten with July wins over Portishead, Winscombe and Clarence. However our run in the league knockout cup came to an end with defeat at Winscombe 90-101.

Having lost against high-flying Street in the Turnbull Cup, our match in the Wedmore Plate, for first round losers, produced a good win over City of Wells 76-57. This was then followed by a great away win at Westlands BC of Yeovil, and we now progress to the quarterfinals.

Our Women's team enjoyed a nice win in a friendly against Winscombe (67-36). In the County league a great win over Mark Moor was followed by a loss against Victoria (49-59). In the Wessex Ladies league there was a loss against Congresbury

(44-52), a win over Ashcombe (57-27), and a loss against Clevedon (41-55). In the South and West Somerset league a really close encounter with the powerful Ilminster team resulted in a win in the away tie, but a loss at home, and so a narrow defeat by 25-31. Finally in the Victoria Ladies league there was another agonisingly close match against Ashcombe, just losing 41-44.

Having won the first leg at home of the mixed Mark Moor Shield against Mark Moor BC by a massive 61 shots, our team followed up with a win in the away leg by 99-72, to win overall by 88 shots and so retain the Shield.

In the background to club competitions our internal competitions continue to run on schedule leading up to Finals Weekend on 5 and 6 September and culminating with the ever-popular Hog Roast. The club Mixed Triples Day is always a real favourite and this year popular winners were Janet Wilcox, Terry Simpson and Brian Ladd. Another big date in the club calendar is Australian Pairs Day. This is a mixed event with all teams playing 4 shortened games of 6 ends each. The final this year was won by favoured pair, Andy Tiffin and Ian Gallop, defeating plucky Fran Wilford and Rob Jewell in a great game. Well done to everyone who played. Our new Men's competition, the Wedmore3 had its Final on 22 July. In a round robin of 3 finalists Rob Jewell won the bottle of Single Malt Whisky over co-finalists Mark Wilson and Peter Gower who won nothing!

If you would like to become part of this great club which is located by Wedmore First School and the Post and Wicket, to make lots of new friends and stay active then take a look at our website: www.isleofwedmorebowlsclub.org see what we have to offer and contact Stuart on 01934 310034 or millhaven44@icloud.com It's a perfect time to do so in readiness for the start of our indoor season at the end of September. We would love to meet you.



Peter Gower

News and Events from Outside the Parish

Come and enjoy the MADBand at Henton Church

Following great success at Wookey Village Hall and Wells Little Theatre, MADBand (five local Middle-Aged Dads, Andy Healey-Childs, John Carroll, Steve French, Steve Collinson and Graham Blunt) will perform your favourite boy band songs at Henton Church on Friday 25 September, at 7.00pm. They will be supported by Lyn Hynde and Polly Carroll singing popular hits. A fabulous evening is in store, tickets are available at £15, from vivianchalk@icloud.com or sharonjgillard@yahoo.co.uk and all proceeds will go to the church revitalisation fund and a dementia charity. There will be a cash or card bar.

Ian Tinsley

Wells Festival of Literature

MasterChef winner Ping Coombes is to host the popular Saturday morning cooking slot at this year's Wells Festival of Literature. Ping grew up in Malaysia where she was inspired by the rice dishes that are at the heart of Southeast Asian meals. Her latest book *Rice* is a homage to the grain, in which she offers advice and timeless recipes, with whole chapters on fried rice and one-pot rice, along with tips on the different ways to cook it perfectly.

She first won the MasterChef competition in 2014 and then again in 2022 when she won the MasterChef Champion of Champions. Now living in the UK, Ping regularly hosts supper clubs and events in Bath and across the UK. She will appear at the festival on Saturday 24 October at 10.30am. For full details of all events visit www.wellsfestivalofliterature.org.uk



*Ping Coombes - photo
copyright Sam Folan*

Wells Festival of Literature

Cheddar Lions at Cheddar Valley Music Club

Members of Cheddar Vale Lions Club attended Cheddar Valley Music Club's Summer Concert in St Andrew's Church, Cheddar in July and enjoyed a fabulous range of music from the brass ensembles of the senior and training bands. 'The Clementines' choir from Kings School enhanced the evening with their excellent renditions of modern and classic songs.

Cheddar Vale Lions Club has enjoyed a long association with Cheddar Valley Music Club. Many of the musicians have achieved Lions Young Leaders in Service awards. Members of the Music Club have always made time to play at the Lion's Tree of Light Service, becoming an important part of this event.



The Lions have been pleased to support the band by providing funds for music, music stands and instruments over the years. At the beginning and the heart of Cheddar Valley Music Club was a very special teacher and talented musician, Anne Higgs. Sadly, Anne passed away in 2025, but the band were determined to carry on and still remain strong, now under the leadership of Jon Hopes.

Cheddar Vale Lions wanted to honour Anne's memory with a new trophy for the Cheddar Valley Music Club. 'The Anne Higgs Trophy' is for the Players' Player of the year. Lion President Marcus Chaplin was delighted to present this inaugural award to Oliver Thomas, a talented trumpet player who hopes to continue a musical career at Cardiff University. Congratulations, Oliver, and thanks to everyone who gave us a wonderful evening of music.

Sylvia Cook

Save the Children Lunches

Save the Children lunches are back after the summer break. Our first lunch will be on Friday 18 September, 12.30pm, in Shipham Village Hall. £5.50 for soup, locally baked bread, cheese, pickle, homemade biscuits and tea or coffee. All profits go to Save the Children Charity. Please come and join us! Bring a friend! After this our next lunch will be on Friday 2 October

Ian Firth

Henton and District Garden Club

The new calendar of meetings of the Henton Garden Club kicks off on Wednesday 16 September with a cracker of a talk by Dr Paul Bygrave, Nursery Manager at Forde Abbey Gardens, who will tell us about the History of Forde Abbey and Gardens.

Standing on the site for more than 900 years, the land has undergone many changes during that time, until it stands now as one of the outstanding gardens in the South West. Paul will be talking about its fascinating history and also the plants surrounding the house and will include horticulture tips and anecdotes.

Henton Garden Club is a very friendly crowd of people. We meet on the third Wednesday of the month in Henton Village Hall from 7.00pm for refreshments and talks start at 7.30pm, except for June, August and December when we have our summer trip, garden party and Christmas celebration. Annual membership is still just £15 . Non-members are guaranteed a very warm welcome, with a charge of £5 per meeting . For more information either call Sue Thorne on 01749 674767 or visit our website at www.hentongardenclub.weebly.com

Susie Spragg

The Warm Spot, Axbridge

'The Warm Spot' takes place every Monday from 10.30am 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

Cheddar Valley U3A

Look forward to an abundant autumn ahead in Cheddar Valley with the u3a's programme for the upcoming months. We meet on the third Thursday of each month, beginning on 17 September, 10.00am to 11.30am, with our super social Coffee Morning in Cheddar Village Hall. This is the ideal opportunity to discover the many varied special interest groups available, as full information is on display throughout the morning.

New members and visitors are always welcome so come and join in with the friendly chat, whilst enjoying coffee or tea and biscuits at the nominal entry cost of £1, to help towards the expense of hall hire and refreshments. Then find out more about us and perhaps help with running this happy, growing organisation. We'd love to see you there! You can find out more about Cheddar Valley U3A on our website at www.cheddar-valley.u3asite.uk

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Royal Air Forces Association Mid-Somerset Branch

The Branch held a Barbecue on Sunday 2 August in the Cider Barn at Ad Astra Cider Farm, Stone Allerton, courtesy of Paul and Suzanne Rolfe. Sixteen members and guests gathered for greetings. A couple of members played a quick game of pétanque while Brian taught us the card game called 'Golf'.

The Branch Autumn Programme will start with a Charity Quiz and Pizza Night for the RAFA 2026 Wings Appeal on Thursday 3 September, once again at Ad Astra Cider Farm. This is open to members of the public, doors open 6.00pm, with the quiz getting underway at 7.00pm).

The quiz is for teams of up to six persons at £5 per head; all quiz fees will be donated to the Appeal. As this is the run-up to the 86th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain, the evening will have a strong RAF flavour and information on what the RAFA Charity does. There will be a full bar throughout the evening, and pizzas will be available for purchase. For more information please contact Ad Astra Cider Farm by email at paul.rolfe@adastracider.com or by phone on 07897 348119.

The Branch Battle of Britain Service will be on Sunday 13 September at 10.30am in Street Methodist Church and will be led by the Branch Chaplain the Reverend Collin Moore, who is the Minister at this Church. The service is open to all members of the public, will be attended by local dignitaries and followed by a wreath laying ceremony at the War Memorial, Merriman Gardens Park, Street.

During the Battle of Britain period, the Branch will be running collections, in support of the Wings Appeal, at Morrison's in Wells, on Saturday 5 September; at Sainsbury's in Cheddar, on Saturday 12 September; and Morrison's in Glastonbury on Saturday 19 September. Look out for our display board and Branch members with collection buckets!

The October Branch meeting will be on Monday 5 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.

For information about any of these events, please contact the Branch via email at rafa.midsomerset@gmail.com or phone the Secretary on 07881 822140.

Paul Ashmore

RNLI Mendip Branch

Fund Raising

The collection on Saturday 27 June 2026 at Tesco, Wells raised £678 while the 'Brew for the Crew' event in Wrington on Wednesday 1 July, organised by Gill Keys, raised £265 on the day. Gill also received pre-event and post-event donations of £280 from ladies that could not attend making a grand total of £545, a brilliant result!

James Barratini has booked a new group 'Harbottle and Jonas' for a RNLI Folk Night at St James Church Centre on Saturday 10 October to coincide with the National Lifeboat Day. Harbottle and Jonas are a dynamic Devon-based folk duo who are partners in life and in music. Dave and Freya have developed a distinct and compelling



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signature sound, blending concertina, harmonium, banjo, stomp box, acoustic guitar and cittern with their beautiful and closely intertwined vocal harmonies.

RNLI Lifeguards on Brean and Burnham Beaches

The RNLI celebrated 25 years of Lifeguards on UK and Irish Beaches on 31 July which was the International Lifeguards Appreciation Day. Lifeguards returned to Brean and Burnham beaches on 4 July and will be present until 7 September. During a busy and varied summer last year, Somerset RNLI lifeguards responded to



74 incidents. This included 38 rescues and assists, 31 first aid treatments, and a total of 108 people aided, highlighting the important role RNLI lifeguards play in keeping beachgoers safe. At Brean last season they assisted five people who had been cut off by the rapidly incoming tide. On Burnham-on-Sea's estuary bar, six individuals were helped back to safety after becoming stranded at low tide in an area known for its shifting sands and strong currents. Teams also rescued a young child who became stuck in mud on Burnham's main beach.

In July the RNLI lifeguard supervisor, Brett Schofield said: 'Our lifeguards have been preparing over recent weeks with refresher training and inductions to ensure they're fully ready for the season ahead. They're looking forward to returning to the beaches and getting back to what they do best — keeping people safe, offering advice and providing a professional lifesaving service. We're grateful to Somerset Council for their continued support in making this service possible during the peak summer period, working alongside beach wardens to help protect everyone enjoying the coast.'

Events

The RNLI Nationwide Lifeboat Day is on Saturday 10 October and Mendip Branch is approaching Waitrose in Wells to have a collection box in the store for Waitrose tokens, as our contribution to RNLI Lifeboat Saturday. Nearer the date the Branch may organise some other activity.

The second RNLI Mendip Branch Trafalgar Night celebration will take place on Saturday 24 October at the Batch Country House, Lymphsham. The evening will begin at 6.00pm and include a three-course dinner, dancing, and end with carriages at 12.00 midnight. The guest speaker will be Vice Admiral Sir Adrian Johns former Second Sea Lord and Governor of Gibraltar. Tickets cost £55.

July Shouts

In July, there were 30 'Shouts' between our four Somerset Lifeboat Stations (Burnham-on-Sea – 3, Minehead – 5, Portishead – 9, Weston-super-Mare – 13).

On Saturday 11 July at 1.50pm during the Weston-super-Mare Lifeboat Open Day, a member of the public alerted the crew that a person had entered the water near Knightstone Island and not returned. HM Coastguard, on site for the event,

quickly established it was a young child who'd become separated from their mother. Both lifeboats launched immediately. Ten minutes later, the D Class crew spotted the child half a mile from where they'd entered the water, neck deep, with a fast-incoming tide. Crew member Chris Cox went into the water to reassure them and bring them safely aboard. The child was brought back to Knightstone slipway and reunited with their mother, before being checked over by our Lifeboat Medical Advisor and HM Coastguard rescue officers. They were later confirmed safe and well. A very special rescue!

Paul Ashmore

Church News

Parish Registers and Notices

Christenings

Welcome to the following baptized into God's church recently:

Holly Ash, daughter of Edward and Elise from The Netherlands (Edward originally from Allerton) who was baptised on 19 July at Allerton Church.

Weddings

Congratulations to Charlie and Libby (née Hann) Cressy of Cheddar who were married in St Mary's on Saturday 18 July.

Funerals

Our condolences go to the family and friends of: -

Ron Barrett of Wedmore who died on 7 June, aged 86, and whose funeral took place at St Mary's on Thursday 16 July.

Messy Church

The next Messy Church will be held on Saturday 26 September, 3.00pm to 5.00pm at St Mary's. Messy Church is a way of being 'Church for families' involving fun; for adults and children to enjoy together; uses hands-on activities to explore Bible stories, to reflect a God of creativity, and to give people a chance to play together; and about hospitality, expressed most evidently by eating together.



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

Harvest Festival

One of the high points in the church's year, particularly in a rural area, is when we come together to give thanks for another year's harvest. The churches are always abundantly decorated; the favourite old harvest hymns are sung; produce is brought

to church, offered, and then given away to charity as a symbol of our response to God’s generosity; we remember those in parts of the world where the harvest is poor; and then often food is shared at a lunch or a supper. So whether you are a farmer, an allotment holder, a gardener or simply someone who wants to give thanks for the harvest do come along to one of our churches. Each celebrates harvest in its own special way and on a separate date, so there are plenty of opportunities to join in.

20 September 9.15am Holy Cross Mark

Harvest Festival service with lunch in church at 12.00 noon. Please contact Karen Moncrieff to book your tickets on 01278 641623 or 07788 478429.

26 September, 3.00pm

Messy Church Harvest in St Mary’s

27 September 11.00am Christ Church, Theale

Harvest Festival Service followed by lunch. All are welcome but please call Elizabeth Coulter on 07761 833449 if you would like to come to the lunch.

27 September 5.00pm Holy Trinity, Blackford

Harvest Evensong followed by Harvest Supper in Blackford Village Hall at 6.15pm for 6.30pm. All are welcome to please call Sue Painter on 01934 712528 if you would like to come to the supper.

4 October 9.15am Allerton Church

Family Service and Harvest Festival

4 October 10.45am St Mary’s Wedmore

Harvest Festival followed by lunch. All are welcome to lunch but please call Heather Banwell on 01934 712216 or Heather Hector on 01934 712478 if you would like a ticket.

Revd. Richard Neill

Church Services

St Mary’s Church, Wedmore

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

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

Sunday	6	Trinity 14	10.45am 6.00pm	Café Church, Creche and Seekers Start the Week
Sunday	13	Holy Cross Day	8.00am 6.00pm	BCP Holy Communion Start the Week
Sunday	20	Trinity 16	10.45am 6.00pm	Reordering Celebration Communion Start the Week
Sunday	27	Trinity 17	10.45am	Morning Praise



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Holy Trinity Church, Blackford

Sunday	6	Trinity 14	9.15am	Parish Communion
Sunday	13	Holy Cross Day	No Service	Festival communion at Holy Cross 9.15am
Sunday	20	Trinity 16	9.15am	Sunday Breakfast
Sunday	27	Trinity 17	5.00pm	Harvest Evensong

Christ Church, Theale

Sunday	6	Trinity 14	11.00am	Parish Communion
Sunday	13	Holy Cross Day	No Service	Festival communion at Holy Cross 9.15am
Sunday	20	Trinity 16	11.00am	Morning Worship
Sunday	27	Trinity 17	11.00am	Harvest Festival Communion

Allerton Church

Sunday	6	Trinity 14	9.15am	Family Service
Sunday	13	Holy Cross Day	No service	Festival communion at Holy Cross 9.15am
Sunday	20	Trinity 16	9.15am	Parish Communion
Sunday	27	Trinity 17	9.15am	Morning Worship

Holy Cross Church, Mark

Sunday	6	Trinity 14	9.15am	Morning Worship
Sunday	13	Holy Cross Day	9.15am	Patronal Festival Communion
Sunday	20	Trinity 16	9.15am	Harvest Festival
Sunday	27	Trinity 17	9.15am	Parish Communion

Bagley Baptist Church

We'd love to welcome you to Bagley Baptist Church. Whether you're exploring faith, looking for a church home, or simply hoping to meet new people, you'll find a warm welcome here.

Sunday Worship takes place every week at 10.30am. Children and young people have their own age-appropriate groups during the service, and on the second Sunday of each month we enjoy an All-In Family Service. Our popular Wednesday coffee morning runs from 10.30am to 12.00 noon, with free tea, coffee, homemade cakes, friendly conversation, and beautiful views. Come along with a friend or simply drop in and meet new people. Our Youth Group meets every Wednesday during term time at 7.30pm for young people aged 10 to 17, offering games, activities, friendship, and opportunities to explore faith together. We also run Home Groups, prayer gatherings, and other opportunities for friendship, support, and fellowship throughout the year.

The church has good parking and wheelchair access. For more information, please call 01934 710779, email contactus@bagleybaptist.co.uk or visit www.bagleybaptist.co.uk Everyone is welcome. We'd love to meet you.

Sam Harvey, Secretary

Crickham Baptist Chapel

Everyone is welcome to a traditional harvest festival service at Crickham Baptist church. On Sunday 13 September at 6.30pm . Come and give thanks for the harvest safely gathered in. Then stay for tea, coffee, cake and a chat after. You will be sure of a warm Christian welcome.

Sunday services at Crickham Baptist chapel are to be held at 6.30pm during the summer months, everyone is welcome, we have a short service followed by fellowship with tea, coffee and cake. You are sure of a warm Christian welcome.

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

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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, Cribbs Causeway and Wells. The bus is also available for private hire, principally for the use of local community groups.

The bus is a friendly place and open to everyone. Our drivers want to help you enjoy your time on the bus as much as possible. Except for the Bath service, whenever possible we try to pick-up and drop-off at a location that is convenient to you, including your home if you need this. We are also flexible about drop-offs en-route. We are happy to provide help in getting on and off the bus for those who need it.

Fares are kept low, as the bus is financed by Somerset Council and all our drivers are volunteers. The service is free for everyone with a concessionary Bus Pass, except for the Bath and Cribbs Causeway services which are £2 for concessions. All services are free for children under 5 years old.

Summer Excursions

Our final excursion of the summer leaves Wedmore Village Car Park on September 14 at 9.30am, with additional pick-ups on route by arrangement. We will be visiting Hilliers Garden Centre and should arrive around 9.50am, depart at 12.00 noon, and arrive back in Wedmore around 12.20pm

Fares are £5.00 and £2.00 for concessions. Call Angeline Duckett for full details and bookings on 01934 712631, as early as possible please.

Timetable and Booking Details

All services depart Wedmore Village Car Park at 9.30am. 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.

Please note changes to organiser contact details for Bridgwater and Weston-super-Mare.

Monday - Bath (monthly) – This month's visit to Bath will be on Monday 7 September – Departs Bath at 2.00pm, back about 3.30pm. Call Angeline Duckett on 01934 712631 as early as possible please!

Monday - Cribbs Causeway (monthly) – This month's service will be on 21 September – Departs Cribbs Causeway at 2.00pm, back about 3.30pm. Call Angeline Duckett on 01934 712631 as early as possible please!

Tuesday - Taunton – Departs Taunton 2.00pm, back around 2.45pm. Call Angeline Duckett on 01934 712631 between 6.00pm and 6.30pm on the previous evening.

Wednesday - Bridgwater – Departs Bridgwater 1.00pm, back around 2.00pm. Call Jo Blythe on 01934 713001 between 6.00pm and 6.30pm on the previous evening.

Thursday - Weston-super-Mare – Departs Weston 1.45pm, back around 2.45pm. Call Helen Flooks on 01934 611006 between 6.00pm and 6.30pm on the previous evening.

Friday - Street and Glastonbury – Departs Street 1.00pm, back around 1.30pm. Call Ann Hughes on 01934 712832 between 6.00pm and 6.30pm on the previous evening.

Saturday - Wells (monthly) – This month's service will be on 12 September – Departs Wells Bus Station 12.15pm and Wells Market Place 12.20pm, back around 1.00pm. Call Angeline Duckett on 01934 712631 as early as possible please!

Except for the Bath service, passenger pick-ups and drop-offs are normally available in Wedmore, Sand, Heath House, Mudgley, Latcham, and Cocklake, with additional pick-ups and drop-offs in other villages en route to each destination if requested. Please request a pick-up location when you book, and we will try to accommodate. Note that the Bath Service only picks up at Wedmore Village Car Park and Theale.

Private Hire

When it is not committed to the above scheduled services, the Community Bus is available for private hire for day trips and evenings.

Our drivers are fully trained, and they volunteer to provide this local service. 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 £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. To book our comfortable Community Bus for your event or outing, please email us at iowrtabookings@gmail.com

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



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