

Rev. Jane Durham tel: 01458 223417 Mobile: 07421 700 242 email: rev.jane.durham@gmail.com

CHURCHWARDENS

Keinton Mandeville with Kingweston
Mrs Rachel Willcox (01458) 224644
Mrs Jane Sedgman (01458) 223237

Lydford on Fosse
Mr Ralph Berry (01963) 240164
Mrs Jennie Cooper (01963) 240236

Barton St David
Mrs Carolyn Browning (01458) 851617
Mrs Wendy Eitzen (01458) 850011

Lay Ministers: Jane Sedgman (01458) 223237 Jan Jones (01458) 851608

Acting Benefice Administrator, Sally Buxton – Email: wheathillbenefice@gmail.com

Web Page : wheathill.org Parish Magazine Editor – Email: wheathillbeneficemagazine@gmail.com

Wheathill Benefice Worship

Date	08:30 am	10:30 am (or as noted)	Other Services
7th May Easter 5 Coronation		09:30 am Holy Communion Keinton Mandeville	
13th May Saturday			3:00 pm Wedding
14th May Easter 6		Benefice Holy Communion Barton St David	
18th May Ascension Day			7:00 pm Holy Communion Lydford on Fosse
21st May Ascension Day	Holy Communion Barton St David	Morning Prayer Keinton Mandeville	
28th May Pentecost		Holy Communion Lydford on Fosse	4:00 pm Faith'n Fun

May 2023
Content Guide

All are welcome to join our
Church Services

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- Lydford Sports Gala Page 1
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- KM Church Openers;
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Glastonbury Food Bank

For the seventh year Keinton Parish Church has collected donations for the Glastonbury Food Bank during January, February and March 2023. It might be of interest to know that we received 670 donations with tinned soup being the most popular followed by porridge. The financial donations amounted to £650.

Thank You To Everyone Who Donated

Please book these dates in your diary
East VS West Cricket Match - Friday, 7th July
Lydford Sports Club Gala
Saturday, 8th July 2023 - 2:15 pm
(Food, Drinks, Stalls, Entertainment, Competitions etc.)
see June Magazine for full details

Entries for the JUNE 2023 magazine – By 09:00 am * FRIDAY * 19th May

Items to the Editor – VIA EMAIL PLEASE: wheathillbeneficemagazine@gmail.com

Friendly legal advice at a difficult time

Has someone close to you died?
Wondering what to do next?

You may need advice with the legal process known as Probate, which is often needed when someone dies

We can help you with expert advice; ring us for a free no obligation consultation (even if another solicitor is holding the Will)

"thank you for your professional service and help sorting out the legal process for my Mum's estate, you made a very difficult time very easy for us"
...Helen, Somerset

Judith Derbyshire

01458 850 146 jd@purelyprobate.co.uk

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Purely Probate Solicitors,
Lower Farm Offices, West Bradley BA6 8LT

Coronation Celebration Events in the Benefice



Saturday 6th May from 10.30am

PLEASE JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS AND TO SHARE THE TV COVERAGE OF THE CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III at THE PARISH HALL

Saturday 6th May

CELEBRATE THE CORONATION WITH LIVE MUSIC FROM 'LOOSE ROCKS' at THE CROSS KEYS from 8.30pm

Sunday 7th May from 12pm

WE'RE OFFERING BURGERS AND A CASH BAR SO JOIN US WITH THE REST OF YOUR PICNIC FOR A CRAFTY CROWN COMPETITION, A CORONATION CAKE COMPETITION, SPORTS RACES AND "THE MONARCH MASH-UP" HUNT at THE SPORTS FIELD

Monday 8th May from 10.30am

COME AND JOIN IN WITH THE BIG HELP OUT AT THE PARISH HALL. JOIN THE FAVOUR EXCHANGE, MAKE A BIRDBOX, BUG HOTEL OR VOLUNTEER FOR AN HOUR

Monday 8th May from 7.15pm

TEST YOUR WITS AND KNOWLEDGE WITH OUR REGAL QUIZ at THE CROSS KEYS

Advanced booking recommended

More details of Lydford events on Page 12 also available on the Parish Website

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Keinton Mandeville Parish Church Openers – May 2023

Should you need to swap, please could you let Emma know as well as the person due to hand the key onto you. Meanwhile, if anyone else would like to help with the locking and unlocking of the church, please call 223344.

Sunday 30 th Apr – Sunday 7 th May	Belinda & Viv Simson	223470
Sunday 7 th May – Sunday 14 th	Jo & Chris Tripp	223684
Sunday 14 th May – Sunday 21 st	Neil Bain	223314
Sunday 21 st May – Sunday 28 th	Sue Baker	223519
Sunday 28 th May – Sunday 4 th June	Judith Sherwood	223834

Churches opening for private prayer

The churches of Barton St David, Keinton Mandeville and Kingweston are now all open daily. Lydford church will open at the weekends as before once local conditions allow.

Church Car Parks

In Keinton, Kingweston and Lydford it is now possible to give when you visit using the QR codes found on noticeboards or at the door. If you use the churchyards or car park please do consider making occasional or regular donations towards their maintenance and their ongoing place in the lives of our communities.

The Henry Livius Trust

The Livius Trust aims to provide items, services or facilities at Keinton Mandeville Primary School to advance religion in accordance with the doctrines of the Church of England. The Trustees are open to any proposals to accord with the Trusts aims.

Rev. Jane Durham (01458) 223417

Deborah Whittingham (01458) 224057

Belinda Simson (01458) 223470

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Coronation Celebration Events in the Benefice



Join us to Celebrate

Keinton Mandeville Coronation Celebration

Sunday 7th May 2023

**At Keinton Mandeville Village Hall, TA11 6ES
Between 12.30pm - 8pm**

**Family fun throughout the afternoon
followed by a family Disco from 5pm -8pm**

**Toast to the King Picnic Lunch Coconut Shy
Treasure hunt Disco Games Entertainment
Children's King/Queen parade Quiz Bouncy castle
Candy Floss BBQ Strawberries and cream
Bake off competition Tea/Coffee Pims Thai
Tug of war Bar and more...**

This is a FREE to enter event

'The Great Keinton Coronation Bake Off'



All entries should be brought to the refreshments area by 1:00pm; judging will take place between 1:30 - 2:00pm. All cake entries will be sold in slices during the afternoon tea of the Keinton Mandeville Coronation Party. All Cakes entered will require an allergens form to be filled out. There will be two groups for judging, children up to the age of 16 and adults. There will be a prize to keep for the winner of each group. The Competition is Free to enter.

Keinton Mandeville Knit and Natter Group

Knit and Natter meets on Monday afternoons from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. New members, irrespective of ability are always welcome or even those who have never knitted before. *For further information please phone (01458) 223344.*

Plotgate Community Farm

Plotgate Community Farm is co-operatively run by its members.

The growers and volunteers produce seasonal vegetables on a 9-acre site in Barton St David. Members can collect, or have delivered, a weekly or fortnightly share of the produce, each box containing at least 8 different types of vegetable.

There are events, activities and opportunities as well as fresh food all through the year. Find out more at the Barton Inn on Friday evening, 4 - 6:30 pm when we're there with the veg boxes. For a share of the harvest: *(we also deliver on Monday evenings and Saturday mornings)* call 07817 608283 or email: info@plotgatecommunityfarm.org Collection points in Glastonbury on Mondays and Langport on Saturdays. www.plotgatecommunityfarm.org and on Facebook.

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*In the years to come I wonder what stories we will tell
 of the King's coronation on 7th May.*

I grew up on the stories of the rain, my father standing in the Mall in his army uniform and my mother on the seating outside Westminster Abbey. What stories will we tell our children and grandchildren in the years to come?

- Of how our villages gathered together to celebrate (details of each village elsewhere in the magazine)
- Of the bake offs and crowns, street parties and beacons
- Of the year that May had three Bank Holidays and we got confused as to what was happening!
- Maybe something about the weather too?!

Or maybe you're taking advantage of the coronation to have a holiday and time away, not sure that it has any relevance to our lives today? Whatever the stories we tell in the future it is pivotal and formalises the change that occurred when Her Majesty died.

The coronation is a traditional service with trappings of state, but at its heart it is also a service of dedication to God, the Nation and the Commonwealth. As we gather across the nation and the world we are invited to pray for King Charles III and Queen Camila in their responsibilities and roles. We can remember too their family, living lives in the spotlight with all the challenges that presents them.

Their lives are very different to ours, but as they dedicate themselves, and we gather in our villages and communities maybe we too can ask ourselves what we can do in those communities to serve one another, to live well together and to find ways to work for the common good.

For some of us that is a way of expressing our Christian faith. For others it is a way to live out a calling to care for one another. Whatever the motivation maybe this Coronation month can encourage us to keep building up our communities and care for one another. If you wonder what part faith might have in that, then why not ask Jane or Collin Moore at the Methodist Chapel or any of the members of local churches who live in our villages.

With best wishes, **Jane**

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 Abbie 07808 721145**
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'Save the date'

We are again planning to hold a holiday club from Tuesday, 29th August to Thursday, 31st August, 10:00am – 12:00pm for primary school age children (4-11).



If your child has just left Primary School they're welcome to come. If they are about to go they are also welcome, but will need to have an adult they know at the holiday club. Further details will follow, but *please contact Jane Durham* for further information or with your questions.

From the Registers

We offer our congratulations to:

Lorraine HUNT and Mark LUCKETT on the occasion of their wedding at St Mary Magdalene Church, Keinton Mandeville, on Saturday, 1st April 2023.

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of:

John Maxwell LIGHT of Keinton Mandeville, who died at Yeovil District Hospital on Monday, 6th March 2023, aged 68 years. A funeral service was held at Keinton Mandeville Village Hall on Wednesday, 29th March 2023, preceded by cremation at Mendip Crematorium.

Margaret Elizabeth Susan MAUNDER of Kingweston, who died at Yeovil District Hospital on Wednesday, 1st March, aged 92 years. A funeral service took place at All Saints Parish Church, Kingweston, on Thursday 6 April 2023, followed by committal in the Churchyard.

Frederick George WHITMORE, who died at Yeovil District Hospital, on 17th March 2023, aged 84 years. His ashes were interred at All Saints Parish Churchyard, Kingweston, on Wednesday, 5th April 2023 following a funeral service at Mendip Crematorium on Monday, 3rd April 2023.

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Wheathill Golf Club celebrates 30 years this May

It has been a fabulous benefit to the local community, members and patrons since the start, raising funds for many varied charities such as British Heart Foundation, The Air Ambulance and Guide Dogs for the Blind.

'Wheaty' the black Labrador was sponsored to train from a puppy and has found a lovely home! Over the years Wheathill Golf Club has raised the best part of £500,000 for charity.

As well as hosting countless golf competitions for members and visitors, Wheathill also facilitate rambler groups, car enthusiasts, local sporting clubs and friends, who enjoy food and beverages in the popular Clubhouse (open to all).

The main 18 holes is a beautiful landscape of Somerset countryside and a haven for wildlife, including deer, hares, buzzards, owls, frogs and ducks to name a few. The 5 acre practice ground is fantastic to hone your skills along with the 8 hole Academy Course.

The Club boasts 3 PGA Professionals, of which *Mark Singleton is this year's Gloucester and Somerset PGA Captain*. He is organising a very special day for members at Wheathill on the 1st May as the course opened on that day in 1993!

This promises to be a brilliant year for the Club which welcomes new golfers right through schools such as King's Bruton Golf Academy to more senior players. It really is a great place to play golf, meet friends and enjoy a truly healthy past time!! Tel: 01963 240667 www.wheathillgolf.co.uk

Benefice Choir



By the time you read this, the Benefice Choir will have sung for the Easter services, including on Maundy Thursday and then the joyful Easter Sunday service at Lydford.

The small choir was also privileged to sing at the funeral for Margaret Maunder, on a sunny spring day in a packed Kingweston church.

A new date for the choir is to *sing for the monthly Somerset Carers Meet Up on the first Wednesday of the month in Keinton Village Hall*, with the reward of coffee and cake afterwards. It's lovely to be able to make music with and for those who possibly don't get many opportunities for a singalong. Music of all sorts has the ability to enhance and brighten our lives, so if you would like to join the choir - and new voices are always very welcome - please don't hesitate to get in touch with Lynne Kirkman on 01458 224158.



Wheathill Priory Community Transport – WPCT

The scheme offers a volunteer driving service by and for the residents of Keinton Mandeville, Kingweston, Lydford and Barton St David.

If you reside in any of these villages, do not drive or have your own transport and have difficulty with public transport you may be eligible to use the scheme.

It can be used for, but not necessarily restricted to:

- Journeys to the doctor, hospital (if free transport is not available), postoffice, shopping.
- Visits to friends or relatives (including when in hospital)
- journeys to bus stops, bus stations, railway stations for onward journeys.

Should you find yourself in need of a lift please give us a call - preferably 48hrs in advance - and we will do what we can to help - **contact number is: 07799 487 719**

For further information visit the village web site or, alternatively, brochures are available from the coordinator. **4th Covid Jabs** - If you are a resident of Keinton Mandeville, Lydford-on-Fosse, Barton St David or Kingweston, your local Community Transport is able to provide FREE transport to Local Vaccination Centres. Interested? Please call 07799 487 719.

Transport to Church

An understanding has been reached with (WPCT) **Wheathill Priory Community Transport** for those people who need lifts to Church Services.

WPCT will try to assist on Sunday mornings, so if this applies to you or someone you know, **please ring 07799 487 719**, preferably 48 hours in advance.

Thank you WPCT!



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For more information

Call Amanda Floyd on 0777 840 3674

Keinton Mandeville Parish Council

kmpcclerk@gmail.com

www.keintonmandevillepc.org.uk

Privacy Notice: <http://www.keintonvh.co.uk/village/PCArchive/KMPCPN.pdf>

Next Parish Council Meetings

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Tuesday 2nd May at 7:30pm in the village hall. Public session will take place at 7:30pm immediately before the formal meeting. All are welcome to attend.

Annual Parish Meeting

This will take place on Tuesday 2nd May at 7:00pm in the Village Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Pavement outside the Shop

There has been a temporary repair but we will continue to press Somerset County Council to ensure a more permanent repair is carried out.

Traffic Survey Commissioned

More information to follow soon as completion of the Report is expected in May/June.

Book Library in the Telephone Kiosk

Thank you to the kind person who tidied up the books in the kiosk as it now looks much more inviting.

Kaye Elston

Keinton Environment Group (KEG)

Keinton Environment Day, 25th March

Many thanks are due to everyone who attended our event; we think it was a successful and enjoyable day with plenty of activities and excellent visiting speakers. The entire KEG team were kept busy all day, but special thanks go to Paul and Julia for their tireless efforts on the pizza oven and to Adam Hunt for agreeing to declare the Community Cope officially open and presenting Pat and Paul Teague with our award for Keinton's best wildlife garden. We will definitely be repeating this event annually.

Open Wildlife Gardens

KEG's next event will be an open gardens day for us to showcase some of the village's best wildlife gardens; We have set this provisionally for Sunday, 9th July so watch out for more detail in the next magazine and on our Facebook page.

Traffic issues

We'd like to add our environmental voice to the growing concern about traffic in the village; if you have any reports of traffic incidents please let us know (contact details below) but more importantly send details to the Parish Council and/or directly to Somerset County Highways (*Report a problem on the road*) (somerset.gov.uk)

K.E.G. Next Meeting

This is on Wednesday 10th May at 7.30 in the Quarry Inn.

Facebook: (5) Keinton Environment Group (KEG) Facebook

Email: info@keintonenvironmentgroup.org.uk

Keinton Mandeville Table Top Games Group

Do you like playing table top games like Scrabble, Rummikub, Boggle, Cards, Chess and many more? If so, why not come along to the next session being held in Keinton Mandeville Village Hall **on Wednesday, May 17th** between 10:00am and 12 noon. It is absolutely free as it is funded by KM Parish Council.

We play games, chat and drink tea and coffee in a lovely warm space. If you felt able to come we would love to see you. There is no need to book and if you have a game you would like to play then bring it along. *The group is open to anyone who would like to come... you don't just need to live in Keinton Mandeville.*

Diary Dates

We have also booked the following dates for you to put in your diaries.

Wednesdays on June 14th, July 12th and August 9th.

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Barton St David Scout Group

After a successful 2022-23 year we are looking forward to the summer. Whatever the weather we have an action-packed term ahead of us. **The Explorer unit** (14-18 years old) has much planned, starting with the famous *London Monopoly Run* where the actual game is played over real locations. Our first year at this challenge was last year and this year we aim to do even better. Cat, our leader, actually came on the Leader Board at her first attempt last year.

Scouts (10-14 years) have an activity camp planned in the summer which is always amazing, it offers one activity after another for two complete days. Caving, kayaking, dragon boating, abseiling, climbing and more, all while making friends with other Scouts across Somerset. Extraordinary value too compared to those adventure centres (*although we do have two leaders who lead activities at the famous one near Longleat!*). Scout weekly activities are amazing and varied too. Never a dull moment

Cubs will be attending a camp in addition to their weekly activities which have recently included kayaking, caving, first aid, hikes, escape room, entertainer badge and more. Our Leaders are never short of devising exciting activities for our 8-10.5 year olds

Beavers are our foundation and we love them as they have so much enthusiasm and try so much. Last term they had a visit from the RSPCA, learnt about the Chinese New Year and Fair Trade, learnt practical skills including knots, phonetic alphabet, pancake making and air activities and also conducted a space mission! Some local groups are starting *Squirrels for 4-6 year olds* so if there is anyone out there that feels like they'd consider spending some time volunteering with this age group, please let us know.

Are you wondering whether your child could join the fun? Perhaps you would like them to develop leadership skills by leading small teams when carrying out scenario based challenges Or learn how to be a cooperative team member when doing problem solving activities? What about the more intangible benefits of growing in confidence, learning to win or lose with grace, pushing back personal comfort zones or simply understand what *'doing your best'* means? The Scouting Programme ensures that they start learning these skills at 6 years old and build on the same skills again and again as they progress through the sections. We call it building *'skills for life'*. We also bring youngsters from local communities together. They may go to different schools but we help them to mix with others and, as they grow older, to mix with Scouts from other groups in Somerset and beyond. We have Explorers going to Kenya this year with other Somerset Scouts.

Our sessions are done at the extraordinary value of less than £3 per session. That barely pays the cost of the insurance and hall hire but we feel strongly that no one in our community should feel excluded from accessing the benefits of Scouting. We have had a huge fundraising effort in the past year so that we can buy all the tents and camping equipment that our children deserve without asking parents to pay more. We are proud of that monetary value compared to other youth activities in nearby towns but what makes us truly proud is helping the young people in our local community do their best. That's priceless.

Some sections are full with a waiting list (*which moves fairly quickly as children move up to the next section*). Others have some capacity and we can take someone very quickly. There is also a growing waiting list for under 6's to ensure their place once they become 6 years old. Contact Vega Sturgess, Group Scout Leader on gslbarton@yahoo.com. If you are interested in the group please contact us and we can arrange a visit so that you can find out more.

Women's Institute – Keinton Mandeville and surrounding villages

The WI meets in Barton St. David Village Hall at 7:15 pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month. We have a wide and varied programme of speakers and activities, which are both fun and informative. We are a friendly and supportive group and look forward to welcoming any new members to our relaxed and enjoyable meetings. **Meetings: Thursday 18th May; and Thursday 15th June (7:15 pm)**

Note: there will be a stall at the Barton St. David Carnival, on Saturday, 15th July, on the village playing field. Do stop by and say 'Hello'.

For more information email: secretarykmwi@gmail.com

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Barton St David Church Plant Sale

There will be a fund-raising plant sale in aid of Barton St David Church in the Village Hall on **Saturday, 13th May 2023 from 10:00 am to 12 midday**. *In addition to plants there will be Bric-a-Brac, Books, Jigsaws and cake stalls along with refreshments. Donations, especially plants are needed!* Please deliver donations to the Village Hall on Friday, 12th from 7:00 – 8:30pm or on the Saturday morning from 09:00 am. Alternatively please deliver donations before 5:00 pm on the Friday to either Churchbrook House or Rosedale in Church Street.

We need volunteers both to set up the stalls at 7:00 pm on the Friday and to man the stalls and clear up on the 13th. Would volunteers please contact Carolyn Browning (851617) or Wendy Eitzen (850011).

Diamond Jubilee Wood

Our lovely Diamond Jubilee Wood was planted nearly 10 years ago (Nov 2013) with 800 native trees and shrubs provided by the Woodland Trust; it is now flourishing. It was decided earlier in the year to 'upgrade' the top hedge which was mainly bramble and 80 metres of native hedge has now been planted with spiral guards and mulched to suppress weed growth.

We had an expert from *Reimagining the Levels* (Somerset Tree planting Group) to have a look and make suggestions. He suggested in order to encourage more biodiversity in the main body of woodland, we needed to plant a range of different native shrubs. Hitherto, the shrubs were limited to hawthorn, hazel, dogwood and dog-rose. Eighty shrubs have now been planted either side of the main tree plantings and these are a selection of spindle, wayfaring, alder buckthorn, common buckthorn, guelder rose, honeysuckle, holly and elder.

With the recent rains, we are hoping these will establish well and encourage the biodiversity that the countryside desperately needs. A big 'thank you' must go to the Reimagining the Levels team and a group of volunteers from the village who planted the shrubs earlier in March. *If anyone has some land and would like to plant some trees or hedgerow, please contact Kate at kate.towers.rtl@gmail.com*

Diamond Jubilee Wood Committee

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Want Barton to Have Real Legal Weight In Planning Applications? Then We Need a Neighbourhood Plan

Currently, the Parish Council is consulted on planning applications – we are asked for our views. But these are seen as views only – not decisions – and our views can be ignored by the Planning Authorities and property developers. The “rules” are set by the Government at national level and the District Council at the South Somerset level.

But a **Neighbourhood Plan** would give Barton St David **statutory powers to shape how our community develops** – giving us a greater say. It is a statutory document which means that it has to be taken into account by property developers and the local authority planning officers – it carries **real, legal weight**. The Plan would set out our planning policies for Barton:

- Protecting and enhancing what we've got.
- Protecting the village facilities and areas of land that we value most such as the Village Hall, the playing fields and our green spaces.
- Protecting areas of land for conservation, biodiversity and landscape value.
- Propose transport solutions and regeneration projects.
- Identify areas for housing/employment.
- Influence the type, location and design of development.
- Help to secure funding for infrastructure and other projects.

The **Neighbourhood Plan** has to align with and be consistent with national and county planning policies – but in effect it fills in the gaps of these policies as we would wish them to be filled. The **Neighbourhood Plan** would be **written by the village for the village**. It is NOT a Parish Council plan but **Our Community Plan**.

There are 3 stages:

- *Stage 1:* forming a steering group and creating the plan to develop our Neighbourhood Plan.
- *Stage 2:* develop the Plan – identify our issues, consulting the whole village, drafting our policies.
- *Stage 3:* independent assessment of our Plan, a village-wide referendum – and then the Plan is adopted.

Expert help, guidance, advice and funding is available to help us. It would take about 2 years from start to finish. So: **would you like to get involved and be part of a team to develop our Neighbourhood Plan? Do you have a particular interest area? Or just want to find out more?** Contact Caron Potts: clerkbsd@outlook.com

Barton St David Friday Afternoon Table Tennis

Our 2:00pm until 4:00pm sessions begin again on Friday, 21st April and will continue until Friday, 23rd June when there will be a break for the summer holidays. Everyone welcomed whatever their skill. Just come and have a go! No membership fees but a charge of £2 per person per session. Bats, Ball and refreshments provided. Contact details: Elaine Balcombe: 01458 850465 or esbalcombe@googlemail.com

Barton St David History Club

After three very different and very entertaining presentations on the history of Cider and Wassail, Hi-tech Dairy Farming and the Rivers and Canals of Somerset our varied Spring programme continues with the following events all in the Barton Village Hall:

May 2023 – Thursday, 4th May at 7:30pm Andrew Pickering “*Fact or Fiction?* Somerset and it’s legendary kings : Arthur and Alfred”. Free admission for members, non-members £2 cash on the door please. All are welcome.

9

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Lydford and District Gardening Club



Things were looking grim. Possibly Grim with a capital 'G'. The doom and gloom brigade were out in force suggesting that such a perfect storm of negative events would have to result in a minimal or even negative (?) turnout. Perhaps only the tempting prospect of a few free biscuits, thereby ruling out the need to cook an evening meal, would entice anyone to even try to get to Brimsmore by 18.00hrs. The garden centre would resemble the 'Mary Celeste' as lonely staff, looking forward to overtime and considerate customers, desperately searched the aisles looking for someone, indeed anyone, to come and take advantage of the discount that was on offer in the store. Would the coffee go cold in the cups? Would the biscuits, only commercial digestives admittedly, but still just about biscuits, be left for the grateful mice as they enjoyed their nocturnal free-run of this busy emporium? The prospect for the evening was not positive.

The weather was worse than unseasonable. Strong winds had caused havoc in Lydford and the surrounding villages. Green bins had developed the power of independent movement. Black boxes were strewn across the roads like so many over-sized rodent traps and daffodils, especially the fancy 'doubles', were lying prostrate, appearing as so many Glastonbury revellers after a hard night on the cider. Then there was the rain! It was no surprise that there had been a run on the B & Q's 'Build your own Ark' kits and farmers had been espied planting rice rather than corn. And then, as the icing on this rather unpleasant cake, a vehicle had struck the railway bridge on the A 37 in-between the Cross Keys and Babcary. The road was closed but because of the wind, the barriers blocking access to this section had blown down tempting some drivers to 'give it a go'.

Traffic from Lydford and the north had to get around the obstruction in order to head for Yeovil. Foddington had never seen so many vehicles. Big lorries were re-inventing the size of the country lanes and causing hedges to fear for their lives. The sensible option appeared to be through Keinton but the parked cars, which are normally such an effective speed inhibitor, increased their effectiveness to the extent that not much was moving at all. Gridlock is an ugly word but sometimes it is totally appropriate. A journey which would normally occupy a bare quarter of an hour was looking to take on the proportion of Scott's Antarctic trek. The clever money was on people giving up, turning round and going home to watch the recorded, last ever, episode of Endeavour in the dry and calm of a sitting room.

Despite all of this, the turn out at Brimsmore was brilliant. Over 30 hardy souls arrived at the Garden Centre, admittedly some just a little late, and enjoyed a productive, entertaining and financially worthwhile experience. When the going gets tough, tough gardeners get going!

It is to be hoped that *Tuesday, 9th May* will prove to be less of a challenge. The weather should be much better and *as the meeting is in the Parish Hall*, all the railway bridges in the area could be obliterated and the roads to Lydford should still be accessible. Admittedly the size of some of the potholes to be found, especially on Wraxall Hill, could be an issue but that is a different matter altogether. The speaker will be talking about soil. This is a fairly important issue in horticultural terms and Dave Usher should have good things to say on the matter.

May is a vital month for gardening success and here are a few jobs which could be on your list:- Gradually harden off greenhouse raised plants. If frost does threaten use fleece, cloches, cardboard or even newspaper to lay over and protect the outdoor plants. If the month is dry (not like March!) keep on top of watering seeds and seedlings. Weed as if your life depends upon it! Hoe on dry days but make sure you are attacking weeds not newly emerging and valued seedlings. Earth-up potatoes and stake and support peas and beans. Enjoy the first al-fresco evening cocktail of the year!

Lydford on Fosse Parish Council

The council meet on the second Wednesday of the month, 6:30pm in the Parish Hall close to St. Peter's church, West Lydford. Details are published in the Agendas and Minutes posted on the village noticeboards in each settlement.

lydfordonfosse.co.uk

St Peter's Church, Lydford on Fosse

Thank you to all who assisted with planting the Easter Garden. It was an enjoyable morning with children helping to plant and then taking home their own potted pansy. Megan arranged the Egg Hunt and this was a great success with the children looking for numerous carefully hidden eggs. The morning ended with drinks and cakes before they went home.

APCM on Sunday, 30th April at 12 noon in the Church

Your Church needs extra help from the villagers – please come along and offer whatever you can whether a short or long time. The Churchwardens Ralph, 01963 240164 or Jennie, 01963 240236 can let you know what is needed to keep the Church functioning.

The next event in the Churchyard will be the *Patronal Barbecue on Sunday, 2nd July at 12 noon*. More details will be given in the June Magazine.

The Walters and Pope Trust Fund (Lydford-on-Fosse)

- ❖ **HELP!** Do you know anyone in Lydford who needs help and/or support?
- ❖ It may be help with buying books for university.
- ❖ It may be help with buying tools or equipment for a new job.
- ❖ It may be support for someone who is ill, or who is caring for someone.

The Walters and Pope Trust Fund has a small annual income – the Trustees would like to spend this money, fairly and discreetly, for the benefit of anyone who lives in Lydford. If there is anyone who would like assistance, please contact the Trust in confidence: *Secretary, Caroline Seehra tel: (01963) 240735 or The Treasurer, Ann Parkhouse tel: 01963 240268.*

Welcome & POPin Cafe

There will be **NO** POPin Cafe in May, as we will be providing Coffee and Biscuits on Saturday, 6th May at Lydford Coronation Celebration morning! The next Cafe will be as usual in June, details in next month's newsletter.

Lydford Moviola

The next Moviola screening at Lydford Parish Hall is on Wednesday, 24th May. The doors open at 7:00pm and there is a bar available until 7.30 when the film will be screened. The film being shown is **Empire of Light a Drama/Romance (2022, 15) directed by Sam Mendes, starring Olivia Coleman, Michael Ward, Colin Firth and Toby Jones.**

Empire of Light is a sweet, heartfelt, humane movie which doesn't shy away from the brutality and racism that is happening in the streets outside the cinema during the 1980's in Margate. A time when Margaret Thatchers Britain has been plunged into recession by widespread unemployment and a rising wave of extremism. Can the celluloid-scented power of the cinema pave the way for meaningful human connection, is there still hope for the once majestic movie theatre? Reserve tickets/for more details call Linda Foote on (01963) 240336

Lydford Ladies Third Tuesday Group

In *March* we held a social evening in the village hall, with a fun (but highly competitive) Beetle Drive! Congratulations to one of our newest members, Theresa, for winning the "no expense spared" chocolate bunny prize!

Next Meeting - May 16th 7:30pm: "Falling with Style" – A talk by Lottie Dale. Lottie is a skydiver who has completed more than 1200 parachute jumps. She will share anecdotes from some of her record-breaking jumps and numerous displays at air shows. This is an "Open Meeting" so everyone is welcome to attend – men, women and children! (£3 per visitor).

Future Meetings – June 20th: Summer Garden Party in Lydford Sports field.
July 23rd - Outdoor theatre: "Romeo & Juliet" at Bishop's Palace.

Women Visitors welcome to all our events held at 7:30 pm on the third Tuesday of most months in the Parish Hall, West Lydford. Please call Sarah Gooder on (01963) 240698 or Lesley Ridgley on (01963) 240837 if you wish more information or you would like to come along with someone.

<https://thirdtuesday.wixsite.com/thirdtuesday>.

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LYDFORD CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

We will be celebrating the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III throughout the weekend focusing on fun and community.

Saturday morning, from 10:30 am, screening of live TV coverage of the lead-up to the Coronation and the ceremony itself on a big screen in Lydford Parish Hall – coffee and biscuits provided by the POPin Cafe team. Village groups and clubs will be publicising their activities, including *Scrapbags*, the sewing group, who will very kindly be offering their help with sewing repairs, in keeping with the Coronation weekend's theme of community and support. **Saturday evening**, the *Cross Keys* will continue local Coronation celebrations with a *live band*, *Loose Rocks*, playing your favourite rock hits from the last 5 decades from 8:30pm onwards.

Sunday Lunchtime

We'll join in the national '**Coronation Big Lunch**' with a community picnic, races and competitions on the Sports Field. There will be a BBQ offering meat and veggie burgers (*no cost, though donations welcomed*), cash bar, teas and coffees. Please bring anything else that you'd like to make it a great picnic. There will be a "*Monster Mash-Up*" (history hunt with a royal theme) with Coronation mementos for all who take part. Competitions for *best hand-crafted crown* and the *best Coronation cake*, big or small. And of course, you'll have the opportunity to prove your prowess, enjoy just taking part, or cheering on friends and loved ones in some fun races too.

Bank Holiday Monday

We are offering plenty of opportunities to be involved in '*the Big Help Out*', using the power of volunteering. Focus will be helping the local community and wildlife in our area. *All you need to do is to come to the Parish Hall from 10:30am*. We will have kits available to build birdhouses and insect hotels that can be completed and taken away to use in your own gardens (*really aimed at younger participants*), the opportunity to join a village litter pick, and a Favour Exchange where help can be sought and provided.

In the run-up to the Coronation weekend

We will be asking people to identify any help they need (*help to do the shopping or to get to hospital, or with the ironing, or maybe just wanting a bit of company*), with a particular focus on helping those who may be a little more vulnerable or isolated in the Parish.

At the same time, we'll be asking those who can help to offer '*favours*'; that is to identify the sort of help that they would be comfortable giving. Our aim is to match up volunteers with those who would like a little help.

We will be looking for inputs in advance

(*And help offered need not be confined to the Bank Holiday itself*), we will have display boards up in the Parish Hall so that, if you wish, you can add your own request or offer, while you're at the Hall on Saturday or Monday. There will also be a display advertising all the *Parish's groups and Clubs* and an opportunity to learn a bit more about some of them first hand- *e.g. Ralph will be opening up the ringing chamber in St Peters so that any prospective future campanologists can have a look and a chat*. Again there will be refreshments available throughout (*kindly provided by the Walters & Pope/Welcome and POPin team*).

Monday

We plan to finish the weekend on **Monday evening** with a *royal-themed, 8-round quiz at the Cross Keys*. Teams of up to 6 are welcome (£1 per head) and winners will receive some official Coronation mementos.

Questions start at 7:30pm sharp, so we recommend arriving early so that you can get a drink, a table and decide a witty and appropriately kingly team name!

We hope that you will join us over the weekend and take away some happy memories of a historic occasion !!



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Report Online www.avonandsomerset.police.uk

Street Contacts

A37 – Jeremy Spencer 07517 771852

Lydford on Fosse - Cary Road – Lali Seehra 07530 121515

East Lydford - Church Lane (A37 side) – Ian Poynter 01963 240424

Church Lane (Castle Cary side) Lynne Mitchell 07773 345092

West Lydford

South of the Brue – Anne Parkhouse 01963 240268/Mike Pauley 01963 240469

North of the Brue – Linda Foote 01963 240336

B3153 from Lydford traffic lights to boundary with Keinton Mandeville including

King o’ Mill – Maggi Hollands 07816 445597

Village Contact – Lynne Mitchell 07773 345092 lydfordnhw@gmail.com

SCAMS

Recently, I have received reports of telephone scams regarding bank accounts. The information below is a shortened version information published by Which? late last year. *‘Calls and texts from your bank.*

Don't be fooled by calls and text messages claiming to be from your bank or credit card company. In some cases they spoof the caller ID, so that it appears to match the bank's genuine telephone number. Others make 'robocalls' that deliver pre-recorded messages inviting you to press a number on the keypad to speak to them about a spurious problem, such as a suspicious payment on your account. Scammers will often have some personal details about you already, to make them even more convincing. Also, fake bank texts that try to get you to follow link to a fake website or phone a fake helpline that puts you straight though to the fraudsters.

The end game is to convince you to hand over sensitive data, move money to a supposedly 'safe account' that the fraudster controls or gain access to your device using remote access or screen sharing software.

Stay safe – ignore any links included in texts and never trust Caller ID. If you have any doubts about the authenticity of a message, contact your bank or card issuer using a trusted method such as their mobile app or official telephone number on your bank statement or on the back of your card.'

Criminals are experts at impersonating people, organisations and the police. They spend hours researching you for their scams, hoping you'll let your guard down for just a moment. Stop and think. It could protect you and your money!

In the region of 40% of all reported crime is cyber crime – there's a lot of it about! If you think you may have been a victim of a scam contact your bank immediately and report it online to Action Fraud

ALL STARS CRICKET at Butleigh Cricket Club

All Stars Cricket provides a fantastic first experience for all children aged 5-8 years old with 8 weeks of jam-packed fun, activity and skills development. The programme is designed to introduce children to the sport, teaching them new skills, helping them make new friends and have a great time doing so. *The cost is £40.00 for the 8 weeks.*

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Rev Collin Moore

Look out for other services on the Noticeboard outside Chapel

The Methodist Chapel

The future of our Chapel is becoming very uncertain, due to ever rising energy costs, financial overheads and a decreasing congregation.

PLEASE come for a look around this nearly 200 year old building in Queen Street for coffee and a chat on Sunday 30th April from 10:30am.

The Chapel was built voluntarily by men of the village, in their own time...

We are very fond and proud of our Chapel and would love to share it with more of you ...

Lydford Forest Gardens Celebrates 25 years

I find it hard to believe that it is 25 years since Lydford Forest Garden was first planted. For those new to the area you may have visited the forest garden, across the churchyard footbridge in West Lydford.

On 16/05/97, villagers met in the Parish Hall to discuss ways to mark the new Millennium. Many ideas were raised but a local villager suggested a *community garden – a forest garden*, the idea took off.

A committee was formed; land donated; grants awarded then the first trees were planted in November 1998, by villagers, some of whom are still here today. The legal stuff took longer. A charity had to be set up, the land had to be surveyed and then transferred. Even setting up a bank account was no mean achievement.

Over the years the forest garden has become a beautiful productive place, visited and enjoyed by lots of people including children and families to picnic or pick fruit or just to enjoy a bit of peace and quiet. In some cases, visitors from other villages have been inspired to set up their own community forest gardens.

'Friends of Lydford Forest Gardens' have taken a particular interest in this charity. This is a small group of people and they help financially. Money is needed for *our public liability insurance, for running the website, for replacing fencing and for making any other improvements.* A subset of this group provides practical help to cut grass several times each season, to weed the fruit bushes and prune the trees and to maintain the benches plus carry out larger jobs such as hedge laying and fencing.

Many of the original **'Friends of Lydford Forest Gardens'** have moved on to pastures new and this very special charity needs new **'Friends'** and also Trustees to ensure this lovely forest garden continues to thrive into the future.

Many gardens have charitable status such as quiet gardens; memorial gardens, commemorative gardens, gardens part of huge organizations such as the National Trust or the Royal Horticultural Society, *but our forest garden is unique.* It is the only place in the country with Trust status that is a forest garden, totally independent, organic, free and with unlimited access.

Some of us will be involved in some practical tasks on May 8th *'The Big Help Out'* on Bank Holiday Monday (10am to 12 noon). If you are interested in finding out more or *you would like to become a 'Friend'* please visit us on May 8th or visit our website: www.lydford-forest-gardens.com

Thank you!

Naomi Pauley

on Behalf of the Trustees of Lydford Forest Gardens

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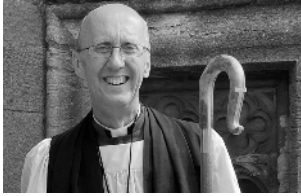
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May 2023
Michael Beasley,
Bishop of Bath and Wells



Remember Jesus too

Writing about the celebration of Holy Communion almost eighty years ago, Gregory Dix posed the question 'Was ever another command so obeyed?' It's well worth searching online for his whole answer. An edited quote of his response reads:

'For century after century, spreading slowly to every continent and country and among every race on earth, this action has been done, in every conceivable human circumstance, for every conceivable human need. Men have found no better thing than this to do for kings at their crowning and for criminals going to the scaffold; for armies in triumph or for a bride and bridegroom in a little country church; for the wisdom of the Parliament of a mighty nation or for a sick old woman afraid to die; while the lions roared in the nearby amphitheatre; on the beach at Dunkirk. And best of all, week by week and month by month, on a hundred thousand successive Sundays, faithfully, unflinching, across all the parishes of Christendom, the pastors have done this just to make the plebs sancta Dei—the holy common people of God.'

The first of Dix's scenarios will be played out before us at the coronation of King Charles III. At the heart of the ceremony, amidst all the pomp and circumstance, the oaths and declarations, the regalia and crowning, will be the celebration of Holy Communion. The words used will be just the same as those spoken in our parish churches Sunday by Sunday. From Communion, the King and Queen will be sent out from Westminster Abbey to live like us the prayer we say at the end of many of our services. They will offer 'their souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice, sent out in the power of [God's] Spirit to live and work to [God's] praise and glory.'

The command that the King, Queen and all of us obey is Jesus's direction to 'Do this in remembrance of me.' So, as you watch the Coronation please remember Jesus too. For he is the one who comes to us as a servant; the king of Kings.

Bishop Michael

Wild Roots Growing for Wellbeing Group

Mondays 10:30 am - 1pm at Catsham Nr Baltonsborough.

The Wild Roots Growing for Wellbeing Project welcomes people who are keen to get outdoors, learn new skills, share their skills or just have the opportunity to spend some time in a peaceful environment.

Our main emphasis is on horticulture and rural craft activities which take place in our large vegetable, fruit and flower growing area. Maybe you need an excuse to get out of the house or you just want to dip your toe into being around other people again.

Whatever it is you're looking for we can always find gardening related activities to suit your mood and energy levels on the day. We are a Covid secure site and we will be working outdoors in a socially distanced way. With two covered open sided sheltered areas and a large poly-tunnel we can cater for whatever the British weather throws at us!

If you want to find out more please contact Ursula Casey at:

ursula@wilderwoods.org

Booking is essential and spaces will be limited to keep the group small.

Central Somerset Outdoor Learning Partnership

Registered Charity Number 1151284

<https://www.facebook.com/wilderwoods.org> ;

www.wilderwoods.org or landline and press option 4, then option



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The £2 Bus Fare Extended Until The End Of June

The Somerset Bus Partnership has welcomed the Government's decision to provide an additional £75 million. This will enable bus operators to continue to cap their single adult bus fares at £2. The £2 flat fare introduced in January is now set to continue through to the end of June. Bus users in Somerset will be able to continue to travel on most bus routes in the county and beyond for just £2.

It's worth remembering that this initiative applies to cross-boundary services, which means you can travel for example from Yeovil to Taunton or Chard to Taunton for just £2. It's hoped this will persuade even more people to travel by bus, whether that's for work, education, shopping or medical treatments. Millions of people across England will be saving money just at a time when many households are suffering from the rising cost of living.

The 13 operators involved in the scheme are: ATWEST, Bakers Dolphin, Community Transport (South West) Ltd, Dartline, Faresaver Buses, First South West (Buses of Somerset), First West of England, Hatch Green Coaches, FromeBus, Libra Travel, Mendip Community Transport, Somerset County Council and South West Coaches. For more information on this scheme: <https://www.travelsomerset.co.uk/busit>.

Somerset County Council and the Somerset Bus Partnership have launched the 'BUS IT' campaign to promote bus travel. Somerset Bus Partnership's Co-Chair, Peter Travis, said, "Bus usage had declined in Somerset during the previous decade, and even more so during the pandemic. So initiatives like the £2 flat fare are needed to boost passenger levels. Encouraging people to choose buses over cars is really important because it also helps reduce our carbon emissions. Transport accounts for nearly half of our carbon emissions in Somerset. Somerset Bus Partnership will therefore be continuing to work with Somerset County Council to encourage greater bus usage."

Help Needed – Somerset Bus Partnership is a voluntary organisation formed some 2 years ago. It now has 150 bus champions and works with 125 Parish Councils across Somerset. It ensures the views of bus users are heard on what they need from bus services in our County ... which means people can get to where they want to ... when they want to ... and the journey is reliable, comfortable and affordable. Key to the journey experience is easy access to bus information, improved bus stops and bus stations, and bus services that integrate with rail.

We are looking to expand the work of Somerset Bus Partnership over the next 12 months. However, we need more resource to help us do this. Can you spare an hour a month to help? We could do with some assistance with our membership and administration. Or do you have a background in Planning, Traffic Management or Public Transport? Or have fundraising experience and could help with submitting fundraising plans?

If you can help please get in contact: somersetbuspartnership@gmail.com

<http://www.somersetbuspartnership.co.uk>

<https://www.facebook.com/Somerset-Bus-Partnership-105704811629827>

Peter Travis, Co-Chair Somerset bus Partnership



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We are continuing to deliver a free copy to every house in the villages of Barton St David, Keinton Mandeville, Kingweston, Lydford on Fosse and Wheathill by our much valued volunteers.

Please tell any business you may use from adverts shown on pages 2 - 16 that you saw their advert in the Wheathill Benefice Parish Magazine