

# 5 ALIVE!



**April 2020**

**MELLS SHOP OFFERS  
HELP IN COVID 19 CRISIS PAGE 9**

**WALLED GARDEN  
NURSERY SEEKS VOLUNTEERS**

**PAGE 24**

**News from Buckland Dinham,  
Chantry, Great Elm, Mells with  
Vobster and Whatley**

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## FROM THE EDITOR

DURING MARCH Pete and I attended a training session, for parish magazine editors, at the Old Deanery in Wells. It was run by the diocese and there were editors from places as far apart as Long Ashton and Taunton, from towns and villages. Some were purely church publications, others, like ours, were more community based. Some were delivered to subscribers only; others were paid for by advertising, like 5-Alive. Others had advertising but also required some payment from readers. It was interesting to see the variety, some in colour, some black and white, some professionally printed, others produced in house. Most of us shared the problem of contributors not always meeting the deadline date! But it made us realise that 5Alive is up there with the best of them, so many thanks to all our contributors, distributors, advertisers and readers.

### CORONAVIRUS

AS WE WERE GOING to press, we were waiting for the Government to announce the next step in the fight against the spread of this awful disease so some, if not many or maybe even all, of the events which are mentioned in this issue of 5Alive may have to be cancelled. Do check!

And also see the piece on page 9 of this issue about the fantastic offer from Mells Village Shop. Just proves the strength of the community spirit in our five parishes.

## FROM THE RECTORY



### POWER VS VULNERABILITY

FRIENDS, as we face the spread of the Coronavirus we may be feeling unsettled, uncertain and, for many who are elderly or those have existing health issues, very vulnerable too.

As we approach Holy Week and Easter, Jesus both fully human, fully divine and with his vulnerability may speak to us at this time. His world and ours often

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Buckland Suzanne Westlake Dinham 07817 059651	John Reckless 461841 Pauline Short 472188
Chantry Mrs D Blacker 836668 Mrs H Tovey 836384	See Whatley
Great Elm Judy Duffus 813215	Edmund 812283 Thompson Joy Book 300184
Mells with Vobster Jenny Waller 813852	John Earl 812450 Joy Book 300184
Whatley Mrs K Gay 836175	Mrs J Butcher 837259 Joy Book 300184

### Roman Catholic Services

Mells: Sundays at 11.30am Frome: Sundays at 9.30am and 5.30pm

**County Councillor** Philip Ham 01373 812152

**District Councillors** Buckland Dinham, Great Elm and Mells  
 (Ammerdown Ward) Alison Barkshire, 07432 003382,  
[Cllr.Barkshire@mendip.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.Barkshire@mendip.gov.uk)

Chantry and Whatley (Cranmore, Doultling and Nunney Ward)  
 Francis Hayden, 07970 839532, [Cllr.Hayden@mendip.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.Hayden@mendip.gov.uk)

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seeks to show power with military might, and physical force. How does Good Friday make sense to us and our world?

A man, hanging on a cross. A man, who claimed to be the Son of God, nailed to a tree. Naked, broken, and dying. Forsaken. Passers-by mock Him: 'Save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!' (Matthew 27:40). But with no word of complaint, no attempt to fight back, an innocent man accepts a death penalty.

Is this power? - The world says no. Power is loud, it is ferocious, and it visibly wins. It is often selfish and seeks advantage over those who are weak and helpless. That is what we see when governments and corporations seeking to show their power at the expense of other people.

Is there really power to be found in the broken and bleeding body of a dying man? The world says no.

But Good Friday tells a different story. This broken and bleeding body of a dying man turns any earthly ideas of power upside down and inside out, as salvation and redemption are found in the most unlikely of places. Power is found in sacri-

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## April Services

<b>5 April Palm Sunday</b>	Chantry	<b>0800</b>	Morning Prayers	David Rawlins
	Mells	<b>0800</b> <b>1000</b>	Holy Communion  Group Family Service	Rev Clive Fairclough Rev Clive Fairclough
<b>6 April</b>	Mells	<b>1800-1830</b>	Evening Meditation Stations of the Cross	Rob Waller
<b>7 April</b>	Mells	<b>1800-1830</b>	Evening Meditation Stations of the Cross	Rob Waller
<b>8 April</b>	Mells	<b>1800</b>	Passion radio play live	Rev Clive Fairclough
<b>9 April Maundy Thursday</b>	Chantry	<b>1730</b>	Evening Prayer	Hazell Tovey
	Mells	<b>1900</b>	Holy Communion	Rev Clive Fairclough
<b>10 April Good Friday</b>	Chantry	<b>0800</b>	Morning Prayers	David Rawlins
	Mells	<b>1200-1500</b>  <b>1900</b>	Meditation and Stations of the Cross  Service of Reflection	Rev Clive Fairclough  Jenny Waller
<b>12 April Easter Sunday</b>	Buckland Dinham	<b>1100</b>	Family Communion	Rev Clive Fairclough
	Chantry	<b>1100</b>	Holy Communion	Rev David Clark

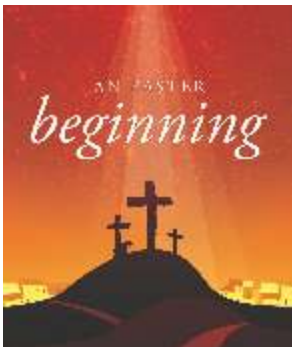
	Great Elm	<b>0930</b>	Holy Communion	Rev Andrew Saunders
	Mells	<b>0550</b>	Sunrise Service	Rev Clive Fairclough
		<b>0700</b>	Breakfast in the Barn	
		<b>0930</b>	Easter Service	Rev Clive Fairclough
	Whatley	<b>0930</b>	Holy Communion	Rev David Clark
<b>19 April</b>	Chantry	<b>1100</b>	Matins	David Rawlins
	Great Elm	<b>0930</b>	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Hare
	Mells	<b>0930</b>	Informal Service	Jenny Waller
	Whatley	<b>0800</b>	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Hare
<b>26 April</b>	Chantry	<b>1100</b>	Holy Communion	Rev Clive Fairclough
	Great Elm	<b>0930</b>	Matins	Hilary Daniel
	Mells	<b>0930</b>	Holy Communion	Rev Clive Fairclough
	Whatley	<b>0930</b>	Matins	Val Rawlins
<b>3 May</b>	Chantry	<b>1000</b>	Group Holy Communion	Rev Clive Fairclough

fice, humility, and death. Power is found in a man, hanging on a cross. Naked, broken, and dying. Forsaken. Power is found there, at Calvary.

Today, we express Christ crucified, 'a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Gentiles' (1 Corinthians 1:23). The power of the Cross can certainly

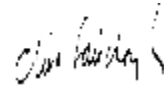
make little sense to us and our world, so set in our ways. The Cross comes in direct contradiction to everything we hear and see about power on a daily basis. It speaks not of explosives, military might, and physical force, but of love, forgiveness, and the laying down of one's life. A stumbling block and foolishness perhaps, but also a better way to live.

May we seek to show something of Christ's subversive power and vulnerability in our words, lives, and actions, this Good Friday and beyond.



Friends, as I write this piece, our vulnerability will be tested as we continue to journey on with the Corona virus. We pray for all those affected and infected by the consequences.

As we awake on Easter Morning, may we experience the Joy & Hope of the Risen Christ in our lives. Let us identify that we are both Good Friday and Easter Sunday people in our lives. We share Christ's humanity and his divinity through the Holy Spirit.



## **JOTTINGS FROM A COUNTRY CHURCHYARD**

I SAID LAST MONTH that I wouldn't mention the dreary wet weather as surely everyone was tired of hearing and thinking about it. Nothing much has changed so far so I won't mention it now either.

In spite of it all signs of spring are bravely appearing to cheer us. Blackthorn blossom is lighting up the hedges and spring flowers are everywhere. Abundant daffodils have taken a buffeting from the high winds but primroses seem to be

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flourishing. The primroses in the churchyard have proliferated to form if not a carpet at least a close network of blossom where previously were quite isolated clumps which the mower would kindly leave until flowering finished. Now he would find them difficult to avoid. They are especially abundant under the canopy of the big cedar where the grass, inhibited by shade and a carpet of dropped needles, has been too sparse to need mowing.

Talking of mowing, we are considering "wilding" at least one area of Chantry churchyard for the benefit of butterflies, birds and other wildlife. A couple of people to whom I have mentioned this idea say that it will look untidy. So? Is tidiness always a virtue?

We would, of course, mow the paths and around graves for ease of tending. We are constantly being encouraged to help our dwindling wildlife by leaving areas for their benefit. So many species are suffering from our modern lifestyle.

Barn owls are down by 80%, much of the decline attributed to the trend to convert barns to houses, depriving the owls of their nesting areas.

Hedgehogs I read recently have declined by 79% in the last 30 years and many species of butterflies, grasshoppers and other insects are declining to the point of extinction. I can foresee at time (probably not in my lifetime) when, ecologically viewed, a tidy, manicured lawn and garden becomes as socially unacceptable as smoking.

Granted we all need a small tame and tended area to relax in but surely it would be more restful to sit and study the wildlife around than to be constantly weeding and mowing? Perhaps I am just a basically lazy gardener. What does anyone else feel about this? Do let me know.

Another churchyard mystery to solve. A few weeks ago on the path just inside the side entrance I came upon a pile of feathers from a hen pheasant. Just feathers, no other signs of a kill. What would kill a pheasant and stay and pluck and eat it on open ground? A fox would drag away the whole bird, feathers and all. A badger wouldn't stop to pluck it. Only a bird of prey would pluck it surely? But a bird larger than the pheasant – buzzard? Raven? It would surely fly up into the cedar with it? And then the feathers would float down and scatter

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whereas they were all close together. Might an owl or a smaller raptor have swooped and killed and finding its prey too heavy to lift stayed to pluck and eat it on the spot? Any suggestions please?

Inside the church, so bare and flowerless during Lent, we have been presented with the generous gift of a very splendid keyboard. This replaces our rather unreliable little organ which has been in use for many years (and was itself a kind gift) since our lovely old original organ has needed expensive restoration and so is unplayable. We now have a super keyboard which not only sounds wonderful but has the appearance of a small, elegant grand piano. We are extremely fortunate to have such a generous supporter in our small congregation.

The same generous couple have offered to continue the coffee and cake mornings on the first Saturday of the month in Chantry Church. The three of us who organised it for two years have "hung up our tea towels" (well, our combined ages totalled nearly 250 years) in favour of youth and enthusiasm who have kindly offered to take over. We do hope they will be generously assisted and supported.

Also Jan is organising an Easter Egg Hunt in Chantry churchyard after the Easter Sunday service followed by our usual coffee and biscuits. It would be good if those taking part in the hunt would join us for the service beforehand. Do come and hear our new keyboard and see the Easter church flowers.

Whoops! I am danger of exceeding my allotted space so I had better sign off, wishing a happy Easter to all.

See you in May

*Hazell*



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## ROUND AND ABOUT

*Here is an amazing offer from Mells shop for us all in these difficult times - Lin*  
**CORONA VIRUS UPDATE**

Mells Village Shop has made contingency plans in the event of Covid 19 becoming a problem that could affect us all. For the elderly, for returning travellers or anyone else who needs to self isolate we are here to help. Our volunteers are prepared to deliver direct to anyone in our five parishes, we are only a phone call away (01373 812251). Temporary accounts can be set up at the shop to be settled when life gets back to normal. Stay safe and keep singing "Happy birthday" twice!

### CHURCH ROOF LEAD THEFTS – BE ON THE LOOK OUT

*This is information from the diocese about lead thefts from church roofs. Although we haven't experienced this in the 5Alive group it is becoming more common across the county. There have now been 10 churches affected this year- Lin*

Four lead thefts in one week in the diocese. The targeted churches include Meare, The Blessed Virgin Mary & All Saints; St Martin's church, Kingsbury Episcopi; Holy Cross church, Middlezoy and St Mary's church, Barrington.



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In Meare, the theft happened the night before a funeral was due to be held in the church, which meant the service had to be moved elsewhere, causing further distress to relatives. The thieves have been targeting churches on nights when the weather conditions were at their worst, ensuring fewer people were out and about and that any noise caused by the thieves wasn't heard.

Barbara Moore, churchwarden in Kingsbury Episcopi, said that in her 20 years as a warden the theft is "probably one of the most disappointing episodes" she's experienced.

"The whole community has been upset by this attack, carried out on one of the most historic and significant buildings in the parish," she said.

The diocese's Church Buildings Adviser, Emma Brown, said: "These thefts have far reaching consequences beyond the financial pressures to repair the damage caused. The thefts are not one-offs, they are carried out by organised criminals, so it's very important to be aware of your roofs, which are at risk.

"We strongly urge parishes to seek grants towards the cost of a roof alarm. Without an alarm to assist the protection of lead in some cases the insurance may not cover the full cost of its replacement."

So, what do you do if you think your local church is being robbed? Obviously call the police on 999 if it's actually happening there and then. DON'T challenge

The advertisement features three children in black t-shirts and pants standing against a dark background. One child is pointing upwards towards a large, stylized text graphic that says "AND I WANT TO STAND OUT!". To the left, a speech bubble contains the text "I used to want to FIT IN...". In the top right corner, there is a circular logo with "OFSTED REGISTERED" inside. The right side of the advertisement has a red-to-orange gradient background with the following text:

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the thieves, they could well be part of an organised crime hang and could be violent. Take a note of the registration details of any vehicle you suspect may be involved, together with its make and model if you can, its colour, whether it's a car or a van, any little detail. The police will have collated a load of information and, just like a jigsaw puzzle, it only takes one tiny bit to complete the picture. And of course, if you have any CCTV, dashcam or other images, let the police have them.

## FROME COMMUNITY CARS – REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

Frome Community Cars is a volunteer service that provides transport for people who have difficulty accessing local bus services or are unable to drive. We take passengers to medical appointments, social groups, hairdressers, shopping, exercise classes and more. The cost is £2 plus 30p a mile for those with a bus pass or 60p a mile without. If you are unable to get out and about because of lack of



She's just got a call from Frome Community Cars to let her know that a volunteer driver will drive her to her medical appointment next week. She gets 50% discount with her bus pass. To request your journey, call 07596 591 391.



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We are also looking for more volunteer drivers from the surrounding villages around Frome and, in particular, Mells. This is an essential service, providing mobility to a wide section of our community. There are currently 300 passengers on the Frome Community Cars books but only 14 regular drivers who are all based in Frome. We would welcome any new volunteers from Mells and beyond. Anyone who holds a valid driving licence and is fit and well, has the potential to become a car scheme voluntary driver. The vehicle they plan to use must have a valid MOT and car insurance.

Drivers are reimbursed for the fuel they use.

From as little as an hour a month, our drivers support people who can't access the things they need. Anyone interested in volunteering or enquiring about using the service can call Morag on 07596 591 391 or email [fromecommunitycars@gmail.com](mailto:fromecommunitycars@gmail.com)

## BUCKLAND DINHAM

### BUCKLAND DINHAM WI

At the March meeting of Buckland Dinham W.I. names and drivers were arranged for the Group Meeting at Kilmersdon on March 26th, the summer social at Swiss Cottage and for the summer outing. In the absence of our speaker a fun quiz was enjoyed by all.

The speaker on April 7th will be Lucy McMahon from the charity "We hear You"



APOLOGIES to everyone involved with the craft days, the cost has not doubled!! Senior moment I'm afraid. It remains the same at £5 all day £2.50 half a day on the last Saturday of the month. Details Sandy Carter 01373 455046  
Any more information about W.I contact Jill Wright, 01373 813641, President or Chris Dyer 03330 112682, Secretary  
*Jenny Holmes*

## **CHURCH NEWS**

The Festival Service on Easter Sunday April 12th will be a special Family Communion at 11.00 a.m. We hope many children will come to join in the service and the Easter Egg Hunt. Coffee and biscuits will be served following the service. Coffee Morning. April 18th 10.00 to 12.00 Hopefully this will be a lovely Spring morning for you to all enjoy together.

### **Dates for your diary**

May 16th Coffee Morning 10.00 to 12.00 We are always pleased to see so many of you at our Coffee Mornings, but this month we are asking for help. Would any of you be willing to bring a bag to collect some rubbish from the churchyard? A few people could quickly make a big difference and you will not only improve the appearance of the ground, help the environment and be rewarded with free coffee and cake!

May 17th Rogation Service 6.00 p.m. More information in the 5Alive May edition but at the moment the idea is that we follow the service with a bring and share plate of food.

May 19th Annual General Meeting of the Parochial Church Council.

*Maintenance* April Sue Roles

*Flowers* for Easter. Please contact Peggy Harris on 465388 with offers of help.

*Sidesperson.* April 12th Easter Sunday. Sue Simenton

## **PARISH COUNCIL**

At the time of writing the next two meetings of the Parish Council are scheduled as the April meeting at 7.30 on Thursday April 2nd and then the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Council on May 14th. However the current situation with the Coronavirus could possibly change all that, so watch out for possible further announcements!

There is some good news as well though! At the meeting in February, the council team were delighted to appoint Elisita Kemp to join them as a new councillor.

Thank you Elisita for volunteering to take on the role and a big welcome from us all!

### **VISITING BUCKLAND DINHAM PLAY AREA AND FIELD**

As you may know our committee is very small. We know that most people are busy and are unable to take on the treasurer's job or come to meetings four times a year, so we were wondering if you could offer practical help by pulling ivy off the wooden fence and/or wall, or pulling weeds from between the paving slabs when you are in the park with your children or grandchildren or when you are on your own and need some repetitive mindful occupation for half an hour!

Tidying of any kind would be much appreciated because as a committee we are finding it hard to keep up.

We also have some places on the mowing rota to fill, if you would like to put your name down for this please contact Susie Hicks [fshicks@btinternet.com](mailto:fshicks@btinternet.com) 01373 464 156

*You will get two or three goes on the sit on mower per season, or more if you really like it :)!  
BDPFA*

### **BUCKLAND DINHAM VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Thursday April 16th at 7.45pm. This is open to anyone and is your opportunity to meet the present committee and give your suggestions on how the hall is run, so please join us for a glass of wine.

Nominations for new committee to be received by Monday April 13th April.

Contact: David - [fshicks@btinternet.com](mailto:fshicks@btinternet.com) /01373 464156. or

Linda - [paul-preece@sky.com](mailto:paul-preece@sky.com) /01373 461997.

### **BUCKLAND HISTORY GROUP**

Sadly we've decided to postpone our April and May meetings until the autumn because of the uncertainty surrounding the Coronavirus crisis. Watch this space and the village website for the new dates.

Meanwhile, very many thanks to Sue Simpson from Frome Family History Group for her very useful advice on how to go about putting together a family tree and exploring ways of finding out more about our ancestors.

Many of us had already started researching but for those of us who haven't (including editor Peter!) it gave us the prod we needed.



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## CHANTRY

### EASTER EGG HUNT



For the Easter egg hunt around the churchyard this year we are hoping to attract even our youngest residents! Accompanied by Mums and Dads come and search into nooks and crannies, even the moss behind the tombstones. This will follow the Easter service April 12th (it's not obligatory to attend!) at 12:00pm .

Coffee and more Easter eggs served in the church. If anyone has decorated eggs or made pace eggs do bring one along to show.

### CHANTRY CHURCH

The Easter Sunday Service on April 12th will be led by Rev. David Clark. We look forward to seeing you all. The church will be decorated on Saturday April 11th from 2.00pm onwards, greenery, daffodils and especially help would be greatly appreciated.

### PLANTS FOR SALE THIS SPRING

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The coffee mornings will start again on Saturday April 4th. Jan has volunteered to organize these but your support and help will be needed if we are to make a success of these events.

Thanks to all who responded to the recent survey concerning the future use of the church especially those who have offered help either physically or financially, both are equally important.

On a personal note I would like to thank all of my kind friends who have done so much for me following my nasty fall in January, I am well on the way to recovery now. *Dolly*

#### COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNINGS

For two years there have been coffee mornings held in the church on the first Saturday of the month. Our beloved church wardens made cakes and provided hot and cold drinks. It is time for them to now pass on to someone else.

The first one this year will be April 4th. It would be fun to extend this to a small pop up shop each month for not just cakes and biscuits but local produce like eggs, honey, craft work and any budding artists to bring their work along.

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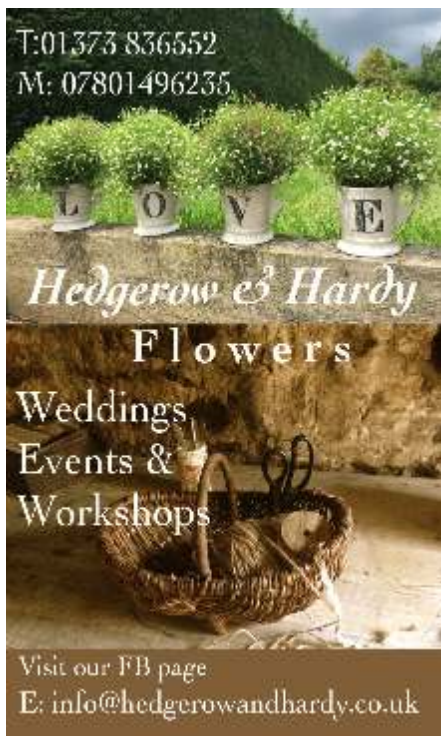
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Children have some toys here to entertain them and are welcome. Older children could help run a stall. (Targets for school?) The more people interested in helping, would ensure a rota could be set up to so no- one finds it too much work. Any feed back? Contact Jan Bramston 07938 983409 janicebramston@hotmail.com

WACCA – Whatley and Chantry Community Association  
Please see under Whatley

## **GREAT ELM**

### CHURCH YARD CLEANUP

Every spring we usually have a cleanup before Easter and at the moment, Saturday April 4th would appear a convenient date. Bring your garden tools at 10.00am, work until noon, and Jim will supply refreshments, coffee, and biscuits, at half time.

Updates on Facebook "Friends of Great Elm".

### GREAT ELM PCC

We meet at 7.00pm, Thursday April 2nd, in the church to discuss details of special service dates and "housekeeping" matters.

Friends of Great Elm are invited to join us at 7.30pm when we hope that Emma Brown, Diocesan Buildings Advisor, will be available to talk about ideas for possible improvements to the building.

There is a joint PCC meeting planned for later in April.

### GREAT ELM TALK SUCCESS

Our church conservation architect, George Chedburn RIBA, provided a masterly illustrated talk on his work restoring and conserving ancient buildings. Around 250 churches in Somerset alone have gained new life and increased purpose through his expertise. His talk gave an overview of some of these and centred on the history of St Mary Magdalene Church and its potential for thriving through the provision of new facilities and an expansion of its important role as a community resource.

Ros and Lynn in particular thank George for freely devoting his time, Anand for baking fresh rolls and the sixty people who shared in the event. Cash donations of over £319 were raised in support of the church.

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## MELLS WITH VOBSTER

### MELLS SHOP AND CHURCH CELEBRATE TWIN SUCCESSES AT JOINT VOLUNTEERS' PARTY

In the spirit of community co-operation which has always been part of the Mells Village Shop brief, MVS staff and volunteers from both St Andrew's Church and Mells Shop & Café gathered at Mells Manor to be thanked for their invaluable contributions over the past year. The Mells Group of Parishes has recently been declared the national winner of British Food Fortnight's Love British Food 2019 Award and its rector, Fr. Clive Fairclough, proudly brought the winners' carved wooden plaque along to the party. Fr Clive had arranged for the Harvest Torch to come to Somerset, where it was taken to events around the county by the Young Farmers culminating in the Harvest Service at Wells Cathedral.

In conjunction, money and awareness for the Farming Community Network has been raised by a Flower Festival organised by the five parishes of Buckland Dinham, Chantry Great Elm, Mells with Vobster, and Whatley.

Mells Village Shop, which serves all these villages, added its support with its



own British Food display. Rob Waller, MVS Chairman, also brought along the Chairman of Somerset County Council's Award for Service to the Community, which has been framed along with pictures of its presentation by the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester to mark Mells Village Shop's first ten years of successful trading. Both Fr Clive and Rob Waller stressed the importance of volunteers to their communities and many of those present were volunteers in both capacities. "But above all," stressed Fr Clive, "it was important to remember the fun to be had as a volunteer and a true member of the community."

**Picture:** Rob Waller and Fr Clive Fairclough show off their awards .



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## **A PASSION PLAY IN MELLS**

Join the audience on Wednesday April 8th at 7.00pm in St Andrew's Church for a radio recording of the Mells Passion Play, supported by the Mells choir, followed by a shared Easter meal. Passion Plays tell the Easter story and are traditionally performed by people from the local community. Local actor Lloyd Notice is directing it, and it's already attracted the attention of BBC Radio Bristol who recently interviewed him and Father Clive. Tickets will be available on the door for £10 (£5 for children), including the meal.

Lloyd has toured with the RSC, starred as Mustafa in the Lion King in the West End, and had TV roles. He is also directing the Passion Play in Bath. You may remember him from the talent contest he judged last Daffodil Day.

Please check on the church website beforehand ([mellsgroup.church](http://mellsgroup.church)), in case it becomes necessary to cancel because of coronavirus prevention.

## **MELLS PARISH COUNCIL – ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**Mells Parish Council is holding its Annual Parish Meeting on**

**Tuesday April 14th at 7.00pm in The Barn.**

**All are very welcome to attend to find out what the Parish Council has been doing during the last year.**

**Joy Book, Clerk**

**Tel: 07704 854953 Email: [parishcouncils.frome@gmail.com](mailto:parishcouncils.frome@gmail.com)**

## **EGG ROLLING**

Easter Sunday 11.00am, judging to take place on wall at entrance to Mells playing field, last year we had some amazing entries.

Age groups are

0-4; 5-8; 9-11; 12-15; 16-Adult.

Eggs will be judged then rolled.

## **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE FUTURE OF YOUR BARN?**

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**Tuesday 5th May at 7.00pm**

**Mells Barn AGM**

**The Management Committee wants to hear your views.**

**The 2019 Report and Accounts will be available on the night or ring John Earl on 01373 812450 for an advance copy.**

## GARDEN NURSERY SEEKS YOUR SUPPORT

The Walled Garden Nursery is a social enterprise growing and selling perennial plants and herbs to fund gardening programmes within the Walled Garden at Mells and in surrounding local communities. The aim is to help people engage with the natural environment and contribute to long-term resilience in the community.

We are making the well-loved garden accessible to diverse local community groups. We want to encourage active and social participation through workshops, programmes, training, volunteering and social gatherings for all generations. Our work is very much grounded in principles of therapeutic horticulture that uses plants and gardens to improve physical and mental health. Research shows that crude rates of disease, disability and mortality are higher in rural than urban areas and social isolation has a large part to play in that. We officially launched in October and hardy students from Critchill School and Frome College have been working over the winter months potting up over 2500 plants ready to bloom for the upcoming season. A number of groups are set to join us when the weather warms up and we have a regular volunteer morning on a Wednesday from 10.00 to 12.00.

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**Contact us now!**

There are all sorts of ways you can get involved if you would like to support us. If you are visiting the garden you can 'pay forward' a coffee or a plant that goes towards supporting our participants. You can volunteer, perhaps run a Children's Sunday Gardening Club or a monthly Grow Social event. You may know businesses that are looking for the perfect volunteer day for their teams and can put in a word for us to help us with some of the larger infrastructure projects.

Please don't hesitate to contact Sam at [thewalledgardenatmells@gmail.com](mailto:thewalledgardenatmells@gmail.com) if you have ideas. The Walled Garden opens again to the public at the beginning of April and we are looking forward to seeing you again.

## WHATLEY

### ST GEORGE'S CHURCH CLEANING AND FLOWERS

April 4th, \* J Uhrmacher; 11th, J Butcher; 18th, M Scott; 25th, K Gay

\*no flowers required

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The collection at the group service held on March 1st 2020 at St George's raised £121.50 for the Bath & Wells Zambia Link Fund including Gift Aid tax to be reclaimed.

**CHURCHYARD CLEAN-UP** – 10.00am on Saturday April 4th. Please come along with your gardening tools and help tidy up the churchyard – it's more fun than it sounds.

**WACCA – Whatley and Chantry Community Association**

Friday April 24th, 7.30 pm. Meet up at The George, Nunney, for supper - £12.00 per head, choice of fish and chips or vegetable risotto. When we arranged a gathering at The Bell at Leigh-on-Mendip in January, 30 people came along for pie and a pint, which made it a really fun evening. Please confirm with Jane Butcher, jane.thorne@zen.co.uk 01373 837259 by Monday April 20th – thanks. We will confirm by email and village FB nearer the time that this is going ahead. Please email Jane to be put on the mailing list if you are not already on it. Thanks.



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Veterinary Group



### Laser therapy

Laser therapy is a non-invasive treatment using specific wavelengths of light (red and near-infrared) to create therapeutic effects which can improve wound healing time, pain reduction, increased circulation and decreased swelling.

We are offering **10% off** Laser Therapy treatments during March & April.

Laser Therapy Treatment sessions are held at our Warminster and Trowbridge surgeries. Please contact your usual surgery to make arrangements.

Frome	Melksham	Trowbridge	Warminster	Westbury
01373 452225	01225 617779	01225 754021	01985 213350	01373 301448



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





We can offer advice on:

- Residential sales and lettings
- Rural matters
- Country property, farms and land
- Commercial
- Development
- Auctions
- Antiques, collectables and household effects
- Surveys and valuations
- Equestrian

#### OUR OFFICES

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