



# **5ALIVE!**

## **September 2025**

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## FROM THE EDITOR

GOOD NEWS, BAD NEWS and a couple of words of warning. The good news is that 5Alive's financial future is now secure. I and everyone who enjoys the magazine are ever so grateful to everyone who has contributed to it – too many names to list so THANK YOU!!! The bad news is included in Hazell's Jottings. I'll leave you to read what she tells us.

And the word of warning? Actually, two words of warning. Avian flu is pretty rampant again and we're also being invaded by Asian hornets. For more information about both of these risks can I refer you to the Buckland Dinham website, [bucklanddinham.org/community/buckland-dinham-20761/avian-flu](http://bucklanddinham.org/community/buckland-dinham-20761/avian-flu) and [bucklanddinham.org/community/buckland-dinham-20761/asian-hornets](http://bucklanddinham.org/community/buckland-dinham-20761/asian-hornets). Hope I got that right!

*Peter*

## JOTTINGS FROM A COUNTRY CHURCHYARD

WELL, HERE WE ARE in September, in the welcome relief that 5Alive has been financially secured. And what a summer it has been – and still is – weatherwise. Floods and drought, depending on where one is, and successive heatwaves. But as we are warned, extremes are now the normal and we must learn to cope.

Some things in gardens have flourished while others have struggled. Fruit trees and bushes of all kinds seem to have excelled themselves. My old plum trees, normally yielding little fruit are bowed down to umbrella shapes with pendulous plums about to ripen. Everyone seems to say the same. Apple trees, too, groaning with fruit but needing rain to swell them. Mine, being so very old, possibly have deep roots to search for water. Soft fruits, too, have abounded also beans, courgettes and cucumbers, presumably all well-watered. Thankfully we have just missed the hosepipe ban. I have been supplied by local friends with constant bowls of strawberries, raspberries, blackcurrants and gooseberries.

Sadly one fruit I really don't like are gooseberries, so I passed them on to a friend who loves them. Maybe the flavour and texture just doesn't appeal or maybe memories of a childhood incident is the reason? They remind me of perhaps when I was four or five years old. My father, at that time, was for some reason not on good terms with my maternal grandmother. One day he was enjoying a gooseberry pudding with his evening meal and my mum, hoping perhaps to heal the breach, remarked that her mother had made the pudding for him. Suddenly my dad pushed the plate away with a sneer, saying that he didn't fancy any more. He was good at sneering was my dad. My mum picked up the pudding in its basin

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**Deadline for OCTOBER 2025 is SEPTEMBER 19th but do check!**

**Printed by Frome Printing Company  
01373 455222**

## CONTACTS

Mells Group of churches is currently in a vacancy.

<b>Church laymen and women Church wardens</b>	<b>Parish council chairs and clerks</b>
Buckland Dinham Jenny Waller, 07887 556936  Chantry Hazel Tovey 836384 Valerie Rawlins 836252  Great Elm Sally Rosa 07833 900947  Mells/ Vobster Hilary Ingram 01373 311073  Whatley Mrs K Gay 836175	John Reckless 01373 461841 Diane Sleight 07907 156735 clerk@bucklanddinham-pc.gov.uk      John Earl 01373 812450 Joy Book 07704 584953  Andrew Bramston 01373 836513 Rachel Nash clerk.whatleyparishcouncil @gmail.com

## Roman Catholic Services

Mells: Sundays at 11.30am      Frome: Saturdays 5.30pm.  
Wednesdays 11.30am              Sundays 10.00am

and aimed it at my dad. She was good at aiming but he was even better at ducking (from long practice).

I still remember the crash as the basin hit the wall, the thunk of it as it hit the ground and the sight of the pudding contents slowly sliding down the wall. I was shooed out of the room on some pretext and when I returned all was restored to normal though cooked gooseberries are sticky and I was picking pips off the wallpaper for years.

Wild strawberries which grow like weeds – well, I suppose they are weeds – all over my shady garden flourished abundantly this year, ripening just before a heatwave. I picked half a cupful daily along my paths and among the stable yard cobble. Some were hugs, probably crossed with the Alpine ones which Ron grew years ago and have still seeded everywhere. Now, please forgive me if I take this opportunity to share with you something I have already told many of my dear friends but in case I have omitted anyone who might be concerned it's just this. I have just been diagnosed with lung cancer – both lungs plus lymph nodes so no half measures, a proper job. No treatment possible as I had the maximum radiotherapy (25 days) for my endometrial cancer three years ago. Totally unexpected and so annoying. I've only just got over my 93rd birthday pneumonia and I can't afford to waste any more time being ill and letting people down. So I am just ignoring this beastly thing till it becomes a real nuisance which it isn't at the moment apart from sudden spells of extreme exhaustion. In between these I'm fine, sitting down jobs are especially good so I plan to go on "jotting" as long as I can – unless everyone is fed up with my nonsense.



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So, see you in October. Oh! One more thing. Everyone is welcome to join our Chantry Harvest service at 6.00pm on September 21st, followed by the usual "bring and share supper" here at Bird Shadows. If you haven't been before do come as a guest – never mind "bring a plate", there is always plenty to share. Perhaps just ring me (01373 836384) so we get a rough idea of numbers. Thank you!

And one more thing. Do remember my mini-garage sale here at Saturday, October 4th, between 10.00am and 4.00pm. I just hope I have the energy to assemble it all otherwise it might be just a load of old jam jars. Proceeds shared with Chantry Church and Dogs Trust. Do come and see, anyway.

Now I really am off. See you soon, I hope. God bless.

*Hazell*

**BARGAINS GALORE AT HAZELL'S MINI-GARAGE SALE ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH, 10.00am TO 4.00pm. TEA, COFFEE AND BISCUITS, TOO!  
PROCEEDS TO CHANTRY CHURCH AND THE DOGS TRUST. BIRDSHADOWS, CHANTRY.**

#### **NORTON ST PHILIP CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

This year's Christmas Fayre will be held at Norton St Philip church on Saturday, November 29th from 10.00 till 12 noon.

If you are interested in booking a stall for your crafts please either ring 01373 834226 or email [glenysbrown1711@gmail.com](mailto:glenysbrown1711@gmail.com)

## **ROUND AND ABOUT**

#### **LEARN TO PLAY BRIDGE?**

If you've ever thought about learning how to play Bridge or returning to the game after years away from it, Frome Bridge Club's forthcoming teaching programme could be what you're looking for.

Friendly lessons for beginners, improvers and intermediate level bridge players will get underway at the club's Frome HQ in the first week of October, at a cost of just £3 per week. The weekly sessions on Thursday mornings or Tuesday evenings, are aimed at all ages and levels and provide a comprehensive introduction to the game for those who've never played it before, as well as top-up lessons for those with some previous knowledge. No card game experience is required and the lessons – including play practice – are an opportunity to meet new people whilst acquiring a skill that provides a good workout for the brain.

Frome Bridge Club is affiliated to the English Bridge Union and those delivering the lessons are all experienced bridge players. Each week, some 50+ beginners and more experienced players travel from 20-plus miles around Frome to join the lessons for what is a very social, as well as educational, occasion. Coffee, tea and biscuits are provided.

The lessons take place in the Wesley Methodist Church, Wesley Slope, Frome, BA11 1HA.  
For more information, please contact: John Perry on 01373 467508 /  
jp007g9418@blueyonder.co.uk or Elaine Rutland on 07809 163705 and/or visit:  
[www.bridgewebs.com/frome](http://www.bridgewebs.com/frome)

## BUCKLAND DINHAM

### CHURCH NEWS

The services at St. Michael's will be as per rota, with our Harvest Festival at 6.00 p.m. on September 28th, but please check, either online or on the notice board, in case there are any changes since going to print.

**COFFEE MORNING** The August coffee morning was such a happy event with a great selection of homemade cakes, and a good crowd of people to enjoy them. We look forward to seeing you all again on September 20th and if you are reading this and haven't been to one of our coffee mornings do come, you will be sure of a welcome.

**VILLAGE NEWS** The August meeting of the Buckland Buddies was enjoyed by all who played skittles at The Bell Leigh on Mendip. The next meeting will be at 7.30 in the Village Hall on September 2nd at 7.30 all welcome.

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## Mells Group of Churches

September 2025

	7th September	14th September	21st September	28th September	5th October
Chantry		11.0am Matins	6.0pm Harvest Evensong	11.0am Matins	10.0am Group Service Holy Communion
Great Elm			9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Informal service	
Mells		9.30am Holy Communion		10.0am Harvest Service	
Whitley	10.0am Group Service Holy Communion Rev. Martin Weymont	9.30am Morning Prayer			

**Mells** Every Wednesday at 09.30, Matins/Morning Prayer, in St. Andrew's, Mells

**Online** Every Wednesday at 18.00, a contemplative service of music, poetry, silence and prayer.  
log on to Zoom at <http://tinyurl.com/dvs24luz>



## Hardington Vale Church Services September 2025

DATE	TIME	SERVICE
<b>Sunday 7 Sept</b>	9.00 am 10.30 am 11.00 am 5.00 pm	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Informal breakfast <b>Rode</b> , Holy Communion <b>Laverton</b> , Holy Communion <b>Rode Chapel</b> , Meeting Place
<b>Monday 8 Sept</b>	9.00 am	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Morning Prayer
<b>Tuesday 9 Sept</b>	11.00 am	<b>Rode Chapel</b> , Ecumenical Holy Communion
<b>Wednesday 10 Sept</b>	6.00 pm 5.00 pm 6.00 pm	<b>Hemington</b> , Morning Prayer <b>Rode Chapel</b> , Informal Prayer <b>Tellisford</b> , Evening Prayer
<b>Thursday 11 Sept</b>	6.00 pm	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Silent Prayer
<b>Sunday 14 Sept</b>	9.00 am 10.30 am 11.00 am 11.00 am	<b>Rode</b> , Informal Breakfast <b>Norton St Philip</b> , Holy Communion <b>Laverton</b> , Matins <b>Buckland Dinham</b> , Iona/Taizé Service
<b>Monday 15 Sept</b>	9.00 am	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Morning Prayer
<b>Wednesday 17 Sept</b>	8.30 am 11.00 am 5.00 pm	<b>Hemington</b> , Morning Prayer <b>Tellisford</b> , Holy Communion <b>Rode Chapel</b> , Informal Prayer
<b>Thursday 18 Sept</b>	5.00 pm	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Silent Prayer
<b>Sunday 21 Sept</b>	9.00 am 10.30 am 10.30 am 11.00 am 11.00 am	<b>Farleigh Hungerford</b> , Morning worship <b>Norton St Philip</b> , Informal worship <b>Rode</b> , Holy Communion <b>Laverton</b> , Matins <b>Buckland Dinham</b> , Holy Communion
<b>Monday 22 Sept</b>	9.00 am	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Morning Prayer
<b>Wednesday 24 Sept</b>	8.30 am 5.00 pm 5.00 pm	<b>Hemington</b> , Morning Prayer <b>Rode Chapel</b> , Informal Prayer <b>Tellisford</b> , Evening prayer
<b>Thursday 25 Sept</b>	5.00 pm	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Silent Prayer
<b>Sunday 28 Sept</b>	9.00 am 10.30 am 11.00 am 5.00 pm	<b>Rode</b> , Contemplation and coffee <b>Norton St Philip</b> , Holy Communion <b>Laverton</b> , Matins <b>Buckland Dinham</b> , HARVEST
<b>Monday 29 Sept</b>	6.00 pm	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Morning Prayer

## ANTHONY JAMES (AJ) CHARLTON

October 15th 1929 – June 30th 2025

On Friday August 8th 2025, St Michael's church was full of the family and friends of AJ Charlton who had gathered together for a memorial service to celebrate his life.

The service was conducted by the Reverend Pauline Reid with Jenny Waller at the organ.

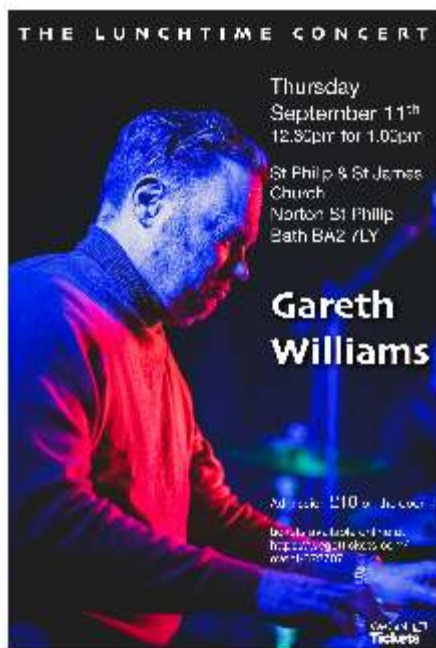
The service began with a recording of Nana Mouskouri's *I have a dream* and ended with Jim Reeves' *I'll fly away*. Hymns were *Praise my soul the King of Heaven*, *Lord of all Hopefulness*, and *Abide with Me*.

Through the memories of his children and grandchildren, a picture emerged of AJ's remarkable life. Growing up in the war years, life was hard with no electricity or mains water. AJ was too young to fight, but he left school at 14, taking the shire horses to Mells for shoeing and making pit props. He would collect all the timber that could be made use of to fire the ovens for cakes and breads.

AJ settled in Hemington working 14-hour days, looking after his own herd of cattle before and after work. After the death of his father, AJ took over the Charlton sawmill and over the years grew and expanded the business, bringing in family members.

As a businessman, AJ was legendary as a hard negotiator, always looking for the best price. He also loved to socialise, serving on Buckland Dinham Parish Council for many years. AJ was a staunch loyalist and was delighted to meet Prince Charles when he received the Royal Warrant for gates for the royal estates.

In his final days AJ moved to a care home where he died peacefully with all his affairs on order, a businessman to the last.



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AJ will be remembered as a charming man with a great sense of humour who always had a twinkle in his eye. He was a “character” and a gentleman, a strong and sociable man, and he will be much missed.

In her address, Pauline acknowledged the pain of losing someone we love. There are no easy answers about what death means, but we do have the promise of Jesus that there will be a place for all of us where there is no more suffering and pain. Meanwhile AJ’s life and character live on in the memories of those who loved him.

Finally, we should mention AJ’s beloved dog, Daisy who behaved impeccably throughout the service.

Donations were divided between Dorothy House and St Michael’s church.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Charlton family as they mourn the passing of a remarkable man.

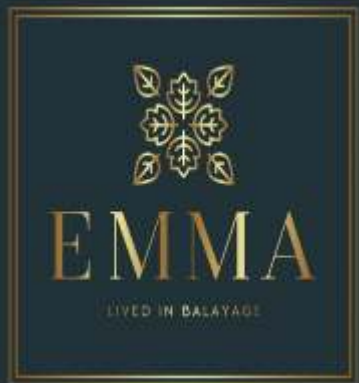
*Jenny Waller, Churchwarden*

### **BAPTISM OF JACOB ROSSITER**

On Sunday August 3rd 2025, St Michael’s church was alive with families and young children, who had gathered together to celebrate the baptism of five month-old Jacob Rossiter, son of Jenna and Andy and brother of Isaac.

The service was conducted by the Reverend Pauline Reid. It should be said that throughout the service Jacob kept smiling and alert, happily taking each new experience in his stride!

Hymns were *Morning has Broken*, *All Things Bright and Beautiful* and *Give me Joy in my Heart*. The service began with a reading of Jim Roswell’s poem “Follow your dreams”, and was followed by Pauline’s address, which took Mark 3.13-17 as its text and looked at the symbolism of water, the cross and the candle in the context of the service.



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Water is a symbol of life and also of cleansing. Pauline reflected that all children do things to make their parents cross, including in her case eating forbidden raspberries. But the water symbolises forgiveness – it washes us clean so that we can begin again.

The cross traced on Jacob's forehead is also symbolic in that it's made of oil blessed by the bishop. Oil is difficult to remove, symbolising that God's presence is there for life.

Finally, Jacob was given a baptismal candle lit from the Easter candle. This is a symbol of resurrection and of love, which he can keep for the rest of his life.

It was a real privilege to be part of this joyful service. We wish Jacob and his family all the best as they grow together.

*Jenny Waller, Churchwarden*

### **MRS ROSEMARY WILLIAMS , 1937-2025**

On Friday July 18th, 2025, a burial service took place in St Michael's Church to celebrate the life of Mrs Rosemary Williams.

The service was conducted by the Reverend Martin Weymont with Paul Eyre at the organ. Rosemary's coffin was draped in the flag of the Royal Navy and decorated with white carnations and lilies. Hymns were *Love Divine, all Loves Excelling, Eternal Father, Strong to Save, How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds* and *God be in my Head*.

Martin began the service by welcoming Rosemary's friends and family both from the village and further afield, including representatives from the Royal Navy Association. He observed that although this was a sad occasion it was also an opportunity to celebrate Rosemary's wonderful life, reflected through tributes from her family in Australia, a representative from the RNA, and friends Anthea Kemp and Sam Nash.





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Highlights of Rosemary's story included her happy childhood with holidays in Wales where she went sailing, and her time as a WREN which resulted in her patriotic and passionate life-long support for the RNA. It was in the Navy that she met Ian who she married in 1959 and with whom she shared 40 happy years.

After Ian left the Navy, his work took him all round the country, with the couple finally settling in Buckland Dinham. Among their many interests, which included touring in their Morgan car, their support for St Martin's church stood out: Rosemary gave willingly of her time in fundraising, hosting prayer groups, and acting as secretary to the PCC and as church warden. Martin particularly remembered her Christmas lunches, where the wine flowed freely!

After Ian's death Rosemary's health deteriorated and she made the move to Frome, spending her last days in the Belmont Villa care home where she continued to practise her faith as a committed communicant. Rosemary always kept a positive attitude, secure in her faith that the kingdom of heaven awaited her.

Martin reminded us of the church's teaching about the resurrection of the dead which means we can see death not as a final state, but a step on the way to being reunited with those we love.

Rosemary was buried in the same grave as Ian.

Thanks to Sam Nash for all her work in organising this moving service.

*Jenny Waller, Churchwarden*

## **LATEST ADDITIONS TO THE WEBSITE [WWW.BUCKLANDDINHAM.ORG](http://WWW.BUCKLANDDINHAM.ORG)**

Weather bar

Search bar

Boxes on the home page for quick access

Regular village activities added to the calendar

Church services added to the calendar

Try signing up for occasional alerts!

### **Events in September**

Mondays – Pilates for Cyclists 6pm    Tuesdays – Chair Yoga 10am

Wednesdays - Pilates 9.30am    2nd – Buckland Buddies 7.30pm

6th – Bucks Quiz 7pm    9th – Lunch Club 10am

9th – Wine and Pizza Housing Needs 7pm 16th - Amenities Group 7.30pm

20th – Coffee Morning 10am 21st – Needle Felting 10am

24th – Meditation 6pm

See Website for details: [www.bucklanddinham.org](http://www.bucklanddinham.org).

## **CHANTRY**

### **CHANTRY CHURCH**

The Harvest Festival Service will be held on Sunday September 21st at 6.00pm.

As usual we will be collecting dried and tinned goods for the Frome Food Bank.

We have always been amazed at the amount of goods generously donated by everyone and hope that this year will be just as good. Last year the young lad who arrived to collect our

donations was staggered by the amount. He turned up with a car but said that he wished he had brought a bigger van. We will be decorating the church on Saturday 20th from 2.00pm onwards. If you wish to donate, please bring your gifts along or leave them in the porch or church. The service will be followed by a bring and share supper at Birdshadows, courtesy of Hazel, all welcome.

**MAINTENANCE**

Date	Flowers	Cleaning
07-09-25	Hazel	Clare
14-09-25	Hazel	
21-09-25	Laureen	Sonia
28-09-25	Val	Dolly & Val

If anyone wishes to join the cleaning rota please ring Hazel or Val, thank you

**CHANTRY: CHAPTERS IN THE STORY OF A MENDIP VILLAGE. SEPTEMBER 24TH 7:00PM A FREE EVENT.**

Robin Thorne who lived here for over 30 years, returns to talk to us about our much-loved village, including Dead Women’s bottom, riots and pub lore, farm fires and larger than life characters who have lived here. Something for everyone. Don’t miss the chance to learn more about what has shaped the village or the house where you live, or perhaps once lived and still live nearby. A glass of wine will be offered.



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Tickets on sale through Eventbrite, Jan Bramston 07938 9834089 and a limited number on the door.

James will bring to life a host of wonderful characters including Magwitch, The Gargerys, Uncle Pumblechook, Estella, Herbert Pocket, Miss Havisham and of course Pip. All presented in the 'inimitable' style of Dickens' own legendary public readings.

This is suitable for adults and children 10years and up, so if you know any eligible young ones, please bring them along!!

There will be a bar and an intermission of 20 minutes. This is not just for Chantry folk - we welcome visitors from far and wide. Please invite your friends and enjoy this unique and highly entertaining evening.

## **GREAT ELM**

### **CHURCH NEWS**

Some of the repairs to the church should be finished during September.

The last parts of the ceiling plasterwork are being added with the moulding and leaf decoration being added back to complete the repairs needed following the collapse of the ceiling in April last year.

The North Transept window has been repaired in August after a broken lead and several surrounding panes were damaged by a stone thrown up against the window.

The guttering and down pipes are being repainted.

### **DIARY DATES FOR THE AUTUMN**

September 27th, 10.00am Decoration of the church in anticipation of Harvest Service.

September 28th, 9.30am HARVEST SERVICE led by Richard King. Inside the church there will be a box to receive donations of dried and tinned goods during the weekend for Fair Frome Foodbank.

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4th October 4th, 7.00pm HARVEST SUPPER in the Village Hall. Please contact the organisers, Judy Duffus and Gemma Brooking for tickets and more information. Gemma has put a beautiful invitation in the magazine. Please have a look, mark your diaries and get your tickets.

## MELLS WITH VOBSTER

### DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES!

This year's Harvest Festival service will be held on Sunday September 28th, at 10.00am, at St. Andrew's.

There will be a collection box in the church for any harvest goods which you may be able to donate. These will be taken to Frome Food Bank on the Monday after the service. The Food Bank are appealing for the following items and would be so grateful for our help:

#### **Urgently needed items:**

Cooking oil, sauces for rice, savoury cracker biscuits, tinned hot meat, cereal bars, free-from cakes and biscuits.

#### **Items of which they are running a bit low:**

Tinned cold meat, free-from products, sugar, washing up liquid, and Cup a Soups

Looking forward to seeing you there!

### ST ANDREW'S CHURCHYARD

Our twice a year churchyard clear up has been a great success, so we are once again inviting all Mells residents, or anyone with a family connection to or love of the church, to come together to help tidy up the churchyard, on Saturday September 27th, 10.00am-12.00. The hard work from our volunteers is noted and appreciated by all those who visit the churchyard. If you would like to help to keep our wonderful churchyard looking its best, do join us (please bring your own gloves/tools/strimmers etc). All welcome, tea, coffee and cake will be provided.

### NOTES OF MELLS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON TUESDAY AUGUST 12TH 2025

(Full minutes can be found on the council's website – [mells-pc.gov.uk](http://mells-pc.gov.uk))

### SOMERSET COUNCIL - COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

**Emergency Planning Measures:** Somerset Council has suspended normal planning services for at least 12 weeks. During this period, new and straightforward applications will be prioritised. Older or more complex cases will likely face further delays, and planning enforcement will be deprioritised.

**£190 million Transformation Plan:** Somerset Council has approved its delayed "Inspiring Innovation" Transformation Plan, which outlines how the authority aims to save £190 million over five years. A strategic transformation partner will be sought to help develop detailed business cases and support delivery.

**Pay Review Costs:** Somerset Council has confirmed that its pay and grading review could add up to £8 million to the annual payroll bill by 2026/27, in addition to £3 million already

allocated to deliver the review itself using an outsourced partner. At Full Council, councillors questioned the cost and timing of the review given the Council's current financial emergency.

**New Waste Calendars and Food Recycling Push:** Somerset residents are receiving updated recycling and rubbish collection calendars which sets out collection days for the next 18 months. 45% of food in household rubbish is still discarded in its packaging. The Council and contractor SUEZ will run a year-long campaign to encourage better food waste separation and promote the environmental and cost benefits of using food caddies. Residents can order free kitchen caddies and food waste bins online.

**Transport Plan Consultation Opens:** Somerset Council has launched a public consultation on its draft Local Transport Plan. The plan outlines goals to promote walking, cycling, and public transport, support the transition to electric vehicles, and improve infrastructure and road safety for the next 20 years. It also aims to tailor policies to the needs of different community types, from small villages to large towns. You can respond to the consultation by September 7th here

<https://somersetcouncil.citizenspace.com/active-travel/copy-of-local-transport-plan-2025>

## MATTERS ARISING

**Fallen tree across path:** It is believed that the tree in question has now been removed but a few more have come down since. Anyone finding a tree down, can report it to the Clerk who will find out who is responsible for its removal.

**Possible increase to the precept:** To be re-visited when the budget is considered later in the year.

**Future of 5 Alive:** Mells PC has put a proposal to the local parishes regarding funding for the magazine to bridge the gap of approximately £1,000/annum. Mells PC has agreed to donate £500, Whatley PC - £150 and Great Elm - £100.

**Litter bin by bus shelter:** There is limited room to place a bin directly outside the shelter so an alternative nearby location is being looked at.

## HIGHWAY AND FOOTPATH ISSUES:

**Improvements to signage – Park Corner:** The rumble bars have not been installed yet

**Layby by Vobster bus shelter:** Around 15 large containers were dumped in the layby this week. Clerk to report. Cllr West is putting together a plan for the infill of the layby which will then be submitted to Highways for approval.

## PLANNING

**2025/1019/HSE:** Erection of single storey rear extension - Riverside Holes Lane to Top Lane Mells Frome Somerset. No objections

**2025/1422/HSE:** Proposed two storey side extension – The Old Police House, Longfield. No objections.

## CORRESPONDENCE:

**Email from resident regarding footpath that leads to Mells River and safety of people walking down Lime Kiln Hill:** Pedestrians are at risk from the speeding traffic coming down the hill and parking on the junction causes visibility issues for those pulling out.



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The parish council will monitor the situation as all previous suggestions to highways to improve the situation have been rejected.

## ITEMS TO REPORT

**Frome Missing Link (cycle path):** John Reckless, Buckland Dinham PC, has put together an application for a grant of up to £10k from SALC. He is seeking support from Mells PC to be co-applicants. All present were very supportive of the project and application.

**Traffic in the war memorial area:** This can be heavy during weekends/holiday periods. The passing places generally work well and the parked cars, to some degree, act as a calming measure. With the amount of traffic passing through the area, there is not much more that can be done to alleviate the situation.

**Litter bin emptying:** Somerset Council has now stopped emptying the bins and the new local contractor has taken over. Any overflowing should be reported to the Clerk or a Councillor.

**White bridge – netting:** Some areas have become damaged and have protruding sharp edges. Contractor will fix.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday September 9th 2025 at 7.15pm in the Barn.

Joy Book, Clerk , Tel: 07704 584953 , email: clerk@mells-pc.gov.uk

## WHATLEY

### COME AND JOIN OUR REGULAR SOCIAL EVENTS

at St George's Church, Whatley

Our social events are proving to be well attended and very enjoyable.

ALL WELCOME at these happy occasions and we are looking forward to hosting our next round of social events in the beautiful church.

#### Social evenings

Every first Friday of the month 6.00pm-11.00pm with food and every third Saturday of the month 6.00pm-11.00pm just drinks.

Coffee mornings every second Saturday of each month 10.00am-12.00 noon.

FOW monthly meeting every third Tuesday of the month 6.15pm-7.45pm.

### September DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### SOCIAL EVENING with FOOD, DRINKS and CONVERSATION

Friday 5th September 5th, 6.00pm-11pm

Drinks: Real Ale, Pale Ale, Lager and Cider at great prices

Food: pre order food to be served at the church through d.kenwood@hotmail.com by

**Wednesday September 3rd.** This month we are using **Paul's Plaice**; fish and chips £10.95; steak and kidney pie, chips, mushy peas and gravy £7.50; chicken and mushroom pie, chips,

mushy peas and gravy £7.50; two battered sausages and chips £7.00; two faggots, chips, mushy peas and gravy £7.50; large chips £4.50.

AND

**SECOND SOCIAL EVENING, DRINKS and MUSIC NIGHT with local musicians**

**Saturday September 20th, 6.00pm-11pm**

We welcome everyone to an acoustic night of music, covers and original material. An informal evening, of music alongside the bar and conversation.

**CALLING ALL LOCAL MUSICIANS!**

Any musicians who would like to play contact FOW secretary [Alice.kettle@gmail.com](mailto:Alice.kettle@gmail.com)

We will pass you to Vince, who will be happy to provide more information

**COFFEE MORNING with Veg Swap**

**Saturday September 13th, 10.00am – 12noon.**

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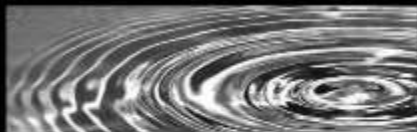
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### **FRIENDS of WHATLEY monthly meeting**

Tuesday September 9th 6.15pm -7.45pm

### **ALL WELCOME**

### **COMING UP in the autumn**

Skittles nights

Harvest service 5.00pm and Harvest Supper 6.00pm, Sunday October 12th

Music night with the Meltones.

Local history exchange: bring your local historic photos to share.

### **DO COME AND SUPPORT YOUR FRIENDLY COMMUNITY HUB**

Any donations to FOW are very welcome. If anyone needs a lift to any events, Contact FOW secretary Alice.kettle@gmail.com.

### **LOCAL RESIDENTS BEAT THE HEAT TO COMPLETE WHATLEY LOOP CHALLENGE**

On the hottest weekend of the year so far, over 100 local residents, Heidelberg Materials UK employees and their families joined together for the annual Whatley quarry loop challenge.

The loop challenge is a 4.5-mile circular walk around Whatley quarry in Frome, Somerset, organised by community group, Friends of Whatley and Chantry and supported by Heidelberg Materials.

Despite soaring temperatures, walkers of all ages took part, with some setting off as early as 5am to beat the heat. Along the route, participants enjoyed rest stops in the shade with picnic tables and refreshments provided by the quarry team.



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Many also took the opportunity to visit the newly installed viewing platform at the western end of the quarry, near Finger Farm, which provides far-reaching views across the site.

Heidelberg Materials donated £1,000 to be split evenly between Whatley and Chantry and will support local projects in the villages.

Richard Evans, Parish Councillor for Whatley and Chantry, said: "This year's loop challenge has been another great success, and we're very pleased with the turnout – especially in the hot weather. A huge thank you to everyone who took part and to the team at Whatley quarry for their continued support."

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Vincent Pitt, Area Manager at Heidelberg Materials UK, said: "We're delighted to support the loop challenge again this year. It is great to support local initiatives that involve the wider community."

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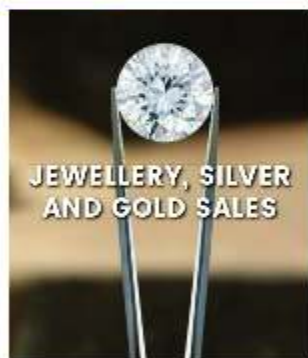
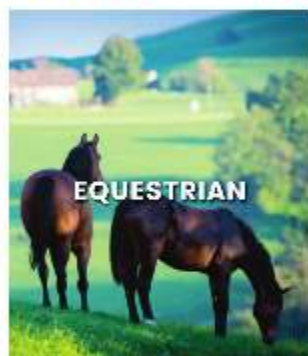
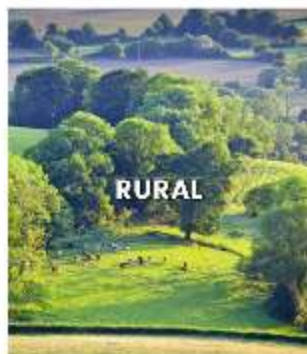
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