

***Wrington, Butcombe,  
Redhill and Burrington  
Village Journal***



***July / August 2025***

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Rector: Revd David Gent, 01934 862348, 07773 537626, david@rectory.org.uk  
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### **Wrington United Reform Church**

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Secretary: Marshall Clements, 01934 863285, annaclements@btconnect.com

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### **St. Michael & All Angels Church, Butcombe**

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### **Holy Trinity Church, Burrington**

Church Warden: Paul Keel, 01761 462104

### **St. Mary's Church, Lower Langford**

Church Warden: Jeremy Hopkins, 07498 915211, jeremy.hopkins@hotmail.co.uk  
Pete Kirkup, 07792 008710, pete.kirkup@gmail.com

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## **Wrington, Butcombe, Redhill and Burrington Village Journal Deadline Dates from Dec 2024 - Dec 2025**

<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>COPY TO EDITOR (Thursday)</b>	<b>DISTRIBUTION (Friday)</b>
DECEMBER 2024	14/11/2024	29/11/2024
FEBRUARY 2025	09/01/2025	24/01/2025
MARCH 2025	13/02/2025	28/02/2025
APRIL 2025	13/03/2025	28/03/2025
MAY 2025	10/04/2025	25/04/2025
JUNE 2025	08/05/2025	23/05/2025
JULY 2025	12/06/2025	27/06/2025
SEPTEMBER 2025	14/08/2025	29/08/2025
OCTOBER 2025	11/09/2025	26/09/2025
NOVEMBER 2025	09/10/2025	24/10/2025
DECEMBER 2025	13/11/2025	28/11/2025

# Journal - July/August 2025 Issue

Last month we celebrated D-Day's 80th Anniversary. It was particularly poignant for me as my father, Jack, was the Naval Officer Commanding the invasion of Sword Beach, Roger Sector (that which is furthest east and closest to Ouistreham). He, aged 31, and his Commando, consisting of 10 officers and 60 other ranks, landed in the 2nd wave 20 minutes after H-Hour on D-Day, 6th June 1944, the first wave having delivered demolition expert commandos tasked with destroying the anti-ship mined obstructions, part of the Atlantic Wall defences of the German military. The Royal Navy Commandos were responsible for the organisation of the beach-head, erecting signage, directing troops and vehicles and clearing wreckage that would have slowed our invasion efforts. They were under fire constantly until Sword Beach was closed weeks later as it had become redundant once the Mulberry Harbour at Arromanches had become fully operational.

Previously, my father was stationed at Dorlin House on Loch Moidart, on the west coast of Scotland training troops from all allied countries in amphibious landings and warfare. He, and his RN Commando, also played their part in the invasion of Sicily.

My father very rarely talked about this experiences and then only the amusing incidents. He told me much later that he suffered terrible nightmares most nights. He died in 2012 aged 99 and is very much missed.

This is my last editorial, and I will try my very best not to "blow" it at this late stage. My profound thanks to the small team who have supported the Journal and me throughout. And a huge thank you to all those lovely distributors who have delivered your journals every month and have also collected subscriptions to keep us viable. And a particular thank you to all those who have contributed articles, both regular and "one off", and letters. Editing the journal for four years has been an education. I have learned a great deal about our lovely villages and you residents, and I have even learned a little bit about me! I have tried hard not to offend and I can't think of anybody who has offended me. We part on good terms I believe!

I am so pleased you will be in such very good hands with the new editorial team . They have abundant talent, experience and, above all else, youth! Melanie, Inge and Lucy are not short of ideas too. And they understand how important the Journal is, in all its forms. I wish them every success and I am overjoyed to be passing the baton to them.

**A very fond farewell . . . . .**

**Dick D'Arcy**

**Front cover: Wrington's Telephone Box Library**

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Copy Deadline for the September 2025 issue: Thursday 14th August 2025

# Dates for your diary – July/August 2025

## 2025

### JULY

1st& 8th	Drama Club Auditions for Chitty Chitty Bang Bang - Memorial	page 19
7thJul	Pop-Up @ Mother Hen Voluntary Action & Village Agent	page 9
12th Jul	Wrington Garden Trail	see page 11
19th Jul	Old Rectory Garden Party 2:30 - 4:00	see page 20
27th Jul	Rotary - Jazz in the (Thatcher's) Orchard	see page 24
28th Jul	Butcombe History Walk 10:00am	see page 9

### AUGUST

2nd Aug	Minibus Lunch at Yeomans (if wet at Memorial Hall)	see page 25
15th Aug	VJDay RBL Commemoration Service AllSaints churchyard	page 22
18th Aug	Butcombe History Walk 10:00am	see page 9
30th Aug	Wrington Show 2:30pm Memorial Hall	see page 6

### General

All saints Full list of upcoming services –	see page 4
St Michaels Butcombe Full list of events	see page 6
United Reformed Church list of preachers	see page 7
Christ Church Redhill Full list of events	see page 5
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On our farms Column	see page 8
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Forthcoming Minibus Trips and News	see pages 25 & 26
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For a full list of events going forward [wringtonvillage.com/events](http://wringtonvillage.com/events)

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# News from All Saints Church, Wrington

Dear friends,

As I write, we're having one of those summers which you just dream about! The sun is beautifully warm. There's a beautiful breeze ensuring it doesn't get too hot. And gardens everywhere are looking their best. It's a beautiful time of year. But it's worth looking upwards as well as outwards to recognise God as creator.

Perhaps one of the strongest arguments for the existence of God is his gift of creation. While scientists today tell us how creation started with the "Big Bang" (a thesis I wouldn't begin to deny), I simply can't think that the complexity of creation was simply the result of the expansion of the universe and the collision of random gases. Look around at the beauty of creation. Could that really have been caused randomly. I can't believe so. Rather, I believe there must have been some intelligent design behind creation – a supreme power who set up creation in all its glory, the One who many of us call God.

A compelling example of intelligent design in nature is the human eye. Its intricate structure, with components like the cornea, lens, retina, and optic nerve, all working together to enable sight, is often cited as evidence of intelligent design. The complexity and interconnectedness of these parts suggest a level of organization that proponents of intelligent design argue cannot be explained by random chance.

For me, though, I don't need to be convinced by anything as complex. As I walk back up the hill to the Rectory and look down Wrington Vale, I'm more convinced than ever by the concept of God as Creator.

This is something we're particularly celebrating this month in Wrington with the Garden Trail on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July. 14 gardens will be open around the village from 10.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m. (more details further on in the Journal). Do come and have a look – and enjoy God's creation!

David Gent

Rector

## WRINGTON BENEFICE SERVICES - July/August 2025

	All Saints' Wrington	St Michael's Butcombe	Holy Trinity Burrington	St Mary's Langford	Christ Church Redhill
<b>6<sup>th</sup> July</b>	8.00am MP 9.30am PC	11.15am HC	8.00am HC	9.30am Café	11.00am Cel
<b>13<sup>th</sup> July</b>	8.00am HC (BCP) 9.30am Café + HC	4.00pm Animal Thanksgiving service	11.00am Matins	9.30am HC	11.00am HC
<b>20<sup>th</sup> July</b>	8.00am MP 9.30am PC 6.30pm CE	/	10.30am Rock of Ages service in Burrington Combe (in church if wet)	8.00am HC (BCP) 9.30am Praise	11.00am FS
<b>27<sup>th</sup> July</b>	8.00am HC 9.30am PC	/	11.00am Matins	9.30am MP	11.00am HC
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> August</b>	8.00am MP 9.30am	11.15am HC	8.00am HC	9.30am Café	11.00am Cel
<b>10<sup>th</sup> August</b>	8.00am HC (BCP) 9.30am Café		11.00am Matins	9.30am HC	11.00am HC
<b>17<sup>th</sup> August</b>	8.00am MP 9.30am PC 6.30pm CE	/	9.30am FC 4.00pm VJ Commemoration	8.00am HC (BCP) 9.30am Praise	11.00am FS
<b>24<sup>th</sup> August</b>	8.00am HC 9.30am PC	/	11.00am Matins	9.30am MP	11.00am HC
<b>31<sup>st</sup> August</b>	8.00am HC	/	10.00am BS	/	/

BS = Benefice Service  
 Café = Café worship  
 Cel = Celebration Service  
 CE = Choral Evensong  
 FS = Family Service  
 FC = Family Communion  
 HC = Holy Communion  
 HC (BCP) = Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer  
 Matins = BCP Matins  
 MP = Morning Prayer  
 PC = Parish Communion  
 Praise = Praise Service

### REGISTERS

#### WEDDINGS

##### All Saints

10 May Olivia Wyman and Oliver Dove

##### Christ Church

30 May Victoria Alvis and Matthew Green

#### BAPTISM

##### Christ Church

11 May Austen John Meredith, aged nine months



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**We look forward to seeing you!**

## *What is Redhill doing with its church?*

Summer is now in its full bloom. The children are thinking of the long Summer Holiday from school and most families will be planning a time away somewhere over those glorious 6 weeks of freedom. Of course it can be a tough time for working parents, so grand parents often come to the fore. Cathi and I will be having our various grand children coming to stay over the holidays; something I really look forward to.

Being in close proximity to children that are not directly your own is a huge privilege and joy. By definition this will not be your normal routine and so it provides you with a fresh outlook on life. And that outlook will be very much through the eyes of those children; crises come and go in the blink of an eye, promised treats are expected without delay and the world is a wonder. The world is particularly wonderful for them because they will find themselves looking at it through your eyes. Certainly, at your pace and inspired by your interests.

Such coming together across generational or cultural gaps is a hotbed for learning and growth, for all involved. We find this in our Every Age Services at Redhill Church. The attention span and focus of an 8 year old demand a different type of Service. At a recent Service a young girl asked 'Why do adults always look down when they pray, why do they not look up to God?'. What a good question. At another Service, when discussing what might show that this church has a fresh approach to worship, we moved to the subject of Refreshments Afterwards. Saying that Coffee and Biscuits was a bit predictable, the children suggested 'The biggest cake in the world, with a cream and mango filling and topped with strawberries waffle and meringue'. We will try to get close to this, but what a wonderful imagination. No way will we get away with offering just Ice Cream.

The long slow summer months are refreshing and exciting, for all of us if we seek to look at them through fresh eyes. If you would like to experience a fresh approach to church, then please come along to one of our Every Age Services, on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month at 11am. You will always be welcome.

Wishing you every blessing

*Andrew*

Rev'd Andrew Hemming, Priest for Redhill

07584 124 198



## NEWS FROM ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, BUTCOMBE

Our new pattern of services as a Festive + Church are underway, with Parish Communion on the first Sunday of each month, at 11.15am.

In May we held a Teddy Bears Picnic. This was very well attended by children of all ages (and adults) coming along with their favourite teddies. We made harnesses and parachutes and teddy name badges in the sunny churchyard. A small team climbed the winding steps up the Church tower to launch the teddies up into the air. Thanks to a gentle breeze, the teddies on the whole descended gracefully to their owners! Following the teddy bear parachuting, everyone gathered for a picnic tea at the Village Hall. This is a much-loved Butcombe summer tradition and it was lovely to see so many new faces.

We are now looking forward to our Animal Service on Sunday, 13th July at 4pm. Do come along with your pets.

A reminder, on Sunday 28th September we celebrate our 600th Anniversary of Worship at St Michaels, with Bishop Michael at 11.30am. This service will be followed by a buffet lunch. Look out for a flyer through your door with more details.

For other services, please see the Benefice Diary.

**Frances and Liz** Church Wardens

## WRINGTON SHOW 2025

Don't forget, this year's Wrington Show will be held in the Memorial Hall on Saturday 30 August at 2.30pm.

Only 9 weeks to go!

Look out for Show schedules with entrance forms, available in local shops very soon.

Have you thought about what you are going to bake, sew, knit, paint or photograph this year? How are your vegetables doing? Are your flowers surviving the British weather?

Good luck with your entries, and we look forward to seeing you all on the day.

Wrington Show Committee

## United Reformed Church - July/August 2025

Greetings from the Chapel on the Hill! You will experience physical challenge as well as spiritual when you rise early to attend our church at 9.30 on a Sunday morning! We have beautiful views, but the junction of Chapel Hill and Ropers Lane is not called 'Windy corner' without reason!

Some notice of events coming soon: **June 29<sup>th</sup> Churches Together outdoor service** at 10.30. If you can, please bring a camping chair. Rev Stephen Newell, erstwhile minister at Chapel, will be speaking during the service.

Autumn: **Alpha course** Sundays starting September 21<sup>st</sup>, 5 pm- 7 pm at Sam and Tim's, Tumbling Weir, Havyatt Road, BS40 5PZ . Have you got questions about God, life, meaning? Come and explore those questions in a friendly, informal home setting. You will be made most welcome. Contact David on 07443907454 for more information.

**December 13<sup>th</sup>: Live Nativity.** And anyone who has been before will know that it is very much LIVE! There will be two presentations at 1.30 pm and 3.30 pm. More details to follow nearer Christmas.

### Preachers in July:

July 6<sup>th</sup>: Our Pastor, David

July 13<sup>th</sup>: Karen Murphy, Chaplin at Weston Hospice care...Communion

July 20<sup>th</sup>: Angus Gregson

July 27<sup>th</sup>: Our Pastor, David

Rich blessings, Pastor David

### LETTER TO THE EDITORS

Hello to you three new editors and good luck with the journal.

I am trying to find any information about the Butcombe locality during the English Civil War and particularly Thomas Balme, who appears to have been Rector of Butcombe Church from 1608 - 1660. So far I have found very little about Thomas Balme !

I am wondering if there might be any amateur historians out there who might know something. Is there any chance of putting a small note somewhere in the next Journal asking for any information, with my email and phone details.

Regards, Justin Milward

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E: jagmilward@gmail.com

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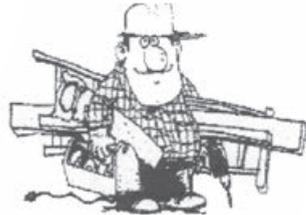
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## On our farms - July/August 2025

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) can mean different things to different people and to some it doesn't mean a thing. If you are an accountant you need to spend a certain amount of time each year keeping up to date with latest practice. If you're involved with Health and Safety you have to go on courses on a regular basis. If you're a farmer, the world is your oyster. As well as the more formal keeping up with things, in farming CPD can include visiting other farms to see how they do things. I have recently completed some CPD training on farms in Herefordshire. A group of us went on a tour. First stop was a 600 cow dairy farm with all the cows milked by robots. As well as robots milking the cows, robots are used to keep the feed close enough to the cows for them to eat it and more robots used to clear the poo away from where the cows stand and into a slurry pit. From there, the slurry is pumped into an anaerobic digester where it is broken down and the methane used to power a combined heat and power engine to produce electricity. This is used to power all the robots. From there we visited two fruit and vegetable growers. We saw more strawberries in one hour than I think I will see in my whole life as well as a host of other soft fruits. We also saw poly tunnels which housed 80% of the undercover asparagus grown in the UK. Both farms were technically almost perfect. One had the edge on the other the way they recruit and manage their staff. They recruit hundreds of foreign pickers each summer to pick their fruit when it is in perfect condition. In previous years they were able to draw on the likes of Polish and Slovakian pickers with a relatively European outlook. With the economic climate in these countries improving, they have had to go to the 'stan' countries for staff. Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan to name but a few. These Central Asian countries have quite a different culture than the UK and to make sure they get the best chance of recruiting and retaining staff they have spent a lot of time in these 'stan' countries trying to understand what would make their stay in the UK good enough for them to want to stay for a whole picking season. They recruit hundreds of pickers each year and by comparison we only recruit a few. But, the principle is the same. What can we do to make an employees' role as fulfilling and conditions acceptable as possible? After the cows, fruit and vegetables we visited a cider mill. Again, plenty of messages to take away about specific things. Through the course of a day and a half, we were exposed to four world class businesses. Each would stand their ground up against any competitor. CPD in this form is never a chore but always a pleasure and farmers are more than happy to share their experience.

**Nick Green MBA N.Sch P.Agric FRAGS FIAgM C.Env FRASE**

**Farm Operations Director**

## Local Interest

### **Butcombe History Walk July 28 2025 10am by the postbox**

Carole Venner will lead a walk round some of the interesting sites in lower Butcombe. This year St.Michael's and All Angels will be 600 years old so we will be told some of the fascinating things that can be seen inside and out of the building. We will see where the children went to school and where they had to walk to get a drink of water. We will then walk up the hill and across a field to be shown in the distance the site of Fairy Toot a scheduled Ancient Monument. Other things we will see is where Dad's Army had a reading room, where a robbery took place, where a chapel was built but now is used as a house, where the water mill mentioned in the Domesday Book was, where Derek Bourgeoise lived and where there was a postoffice where the post mistress was able to rock the baby upstairs in its cradle while she served customers downstairs! Everyone is welcome but no dogs please and everyone takes responsibility for their own safety.

### **Butcombe History Walk August 18 2025 10am by the postbox**

Carole Venner will lead a second history walk round upper Butcombe. We will walk quite close to Butcombe Farm where Judge Jefferies held a court and is why there is an area called Hanging Wood. We will see where Butcombe Bitter was created, we will pass where the first Channel 4 film was filmed and close by where 2 murders and a suicide took place in 1928. The walk takes us near to Butcombe Court which it is believed to stand on the site of a farmhouse given to the Cistercian Abbey of Thame, Oxfordshire. It is said Queen Anne and George IV visited Butcombe Court. We will hear about the gold sarcophagus said to be buried in a secret passage between Butcombe Court and Regilbury Court and the very first Australian novel Quintus Servinton written by the convict Henry Savery born at Butcombe Court in 1791. We make our way to the site of the corn mill mentioned in the Domesday book. We then return home passed Cleeves Well. It is here that in 1921 farmers queued up to 24 hours per day to dip out water into water carts. Water reached the village in 1932.

Everyone is welcome on the walk but no dogs please and everyone takes responsibility for their own safety.

### **Pop Up at Mother Hen on the Broad Street.**

Join Tracy from Voluntary Action North Somerset and Maxine your Village Agent.

We will be at Mother Hen from 1.30pm to 3pm on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July.

Come in, say hello and have a chat.



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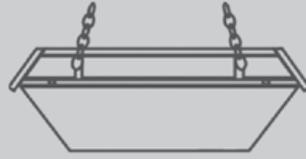
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Contact Scott Arrowsmith

**Tel: 01934 862847 or 07909970218**

## Parish Council

### **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

We know many of our residents are keen to support our local environment and wildlife.

Our parish is under many pressures, and we would like your help to monitor the current position, recording what you see and hear so that we have a clear picture of wildlife in our local area and what actions might be taken to improve it.

We are looking to encourage you, if you are not already registered, to register with Bristol Regional Environmental Records Centre and record all wildlife sightings on a regular basis. You can do this at <https://recording.brerc.org.uk/>

You may find the app <https://merlin.allaboutbirds.org/> helpful and interesting in identifying birds.

Also, North Somerset Council are currently promoting a special survey to monitor the bat population of North Somerset. Again, something very important for us as we are very close to special sites for bats. If you are interested in getting involved, details and information can be found on the North Somerset Council website <https://northsomersetlife.co.uk/news/may25-08>

To learn more about the survey and how you can help go to <https://www.batconservationresearchlab.co.uk/north-somerset-bat-survey>

Please do what you can to support and encourage others to do the same.

Your support will improve the quality of the information available when decisions are made and help protect our environment for the future.

Thank you.

### **Vacancies on the Council**

We currently have vacancies on the Council – if you would like to make a difference to where you live and want to know more about joining the Council then please contact the Clerk in the first instance, details below.

### **Meetings in July/August 2025:**

**Tuesday 15 July** - [Planning Committee meeting at 6.30pm](#)

**Wednesday 16 July** – Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm

**Tuesday 5 August** – Planning Committee meeting at 6.30pm

**Wednesday 27 or Thursday 28 August (tbc)** – Planning Committee meeting at 6.30pm

All meetings take place in the John Locke Room and members of the public are welcome to attend any of the Council meetings – it would be helpful, but not essential, if you could let us know beforehand.

The John Locke Room is open to the public on Tuesday and Thursday mornings between 10am and midday. You can also contact the Council by phone, email or letter, details below:

### **Wrighton Parish Council**

**The John Locke Room, Silver Street, Wrighton, BS40 5QE**

**Tel 01934 863984**

**clerk\_wrighton@hotmail.com**

**[www.wrightonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.wrightonparishcouncil.gov.uk)**

## Letter to the Editor / Wrington Garden Trail

I read Veronica's memories of VE day with great interest. We are great friends and there is only 1 day's difference in age between us. However, our memories of VE day were very different. I was living in Ealing in 1945. My father was Musical Director of Ealing Film Studios and he only had to cross the road to go to work!

I moved to Wrington in the early 1970's to work at the Further Education Staff College which was then at Coombe Lodge, Blagdon.

For 12 years I lived in the flat at Webbsbrook House when it was owned by Commander and Mrs Leggett.

When my mother died in 1985 I sold the home in Hampstead and bought where I live now. Far from putting incomers down the residents embraced my ideas.

First, I started the Garden Trail with Mr David Parkes, then I wrote the first of 6 pantomimes, 'Dick Whittington Sub Mendip'. The cast included Michael Clark (the dame), Chris Clark, Dr Norman Tricks, Andrew Densham and the then Rector, Derek Hooper who was King Rat. The club is still going strong 40 odd years on.

Then I wrote a Historical Pageant to finish off the fairs week which had been revived. I also became the first female Chair of the Parish Council.

On VE day, Father, Mother and I took the underground to Trafalgar Square. We walked up the Mall to Buckingham Palace, along with many others. We saw the King and Queen, the Princesses and Winston Churchill several times on the Balcony. The Princesses also came right down to the Palace gates! Someone had managed to get a few streetlights on which amazed me.

One memory Veronica and I share – open windows, curtains pulled back and the lights on!

We were battered and broke but not broken. We had not been invaded and, with the help of the Americans, we had won!

Yours Sincerely

Echo Irving

### Wrington Garden Trail

The Wrington Garden Trail will be on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July, when we hope to have around twelve gardens open to visitors throughout the village.

A list of gardens is currently being compiled, so please get in touch if you would be willing to have your garden included – it doesn't have to be large (or perfect!) – a variety of sizes and types is best.

Please contact: Gabrielle Wilson 01934 862303

email: [gwaw@agwilson4.plus.com](mailto:gwaw@agwilson4.plus.com)

Look forward to hearing from you

**Gabrielle Wilson**

# Recipe for June 2025

## ORANGE AND ALMOND CAKE

### EQUIPMENT

This will need a 23 cm loose based tin, greased and floured.



### INGREDIENTS CAKE

200g caster sugar  
200ml light Olive oil  
4 large eggs  
150g SR flour plus 1 tsp baking powder  
100g ground almonds  
Zest of 2 oranges

### INGREDIENTS TOPPING:

75ml orange juice  
50g caster sugar  
100g flaked almonds optional

### METHOD:

Oven temp 140 C fan

Whisk the eggs, sugar and oil in a bowl for 5 minutes till the mixture is light and fluffy.

Sift flour, ground almonds and baking powder, add a pinch salt then gently fold into egg mix along with orange zest and put into prepared cake tin and bake for 1 hour, cover if browning too much.

If using flaked almonds, scatter over top about 10 minutes before cake is ready.

While cake is baking heat the orange juice and sugar in a pan ready to drizzle over baked cake. Release cake from tin when cool.

**Jeanette Wray      Wrington Country Market**

## Cooks wanted!

Can you cook! Can you cook a cake or two, or biscuits? Do you enjoy cooking? Wrington Vale Country Market is appealing for new cooks! Come and talk to Sue and Margaret on Friday mornings.

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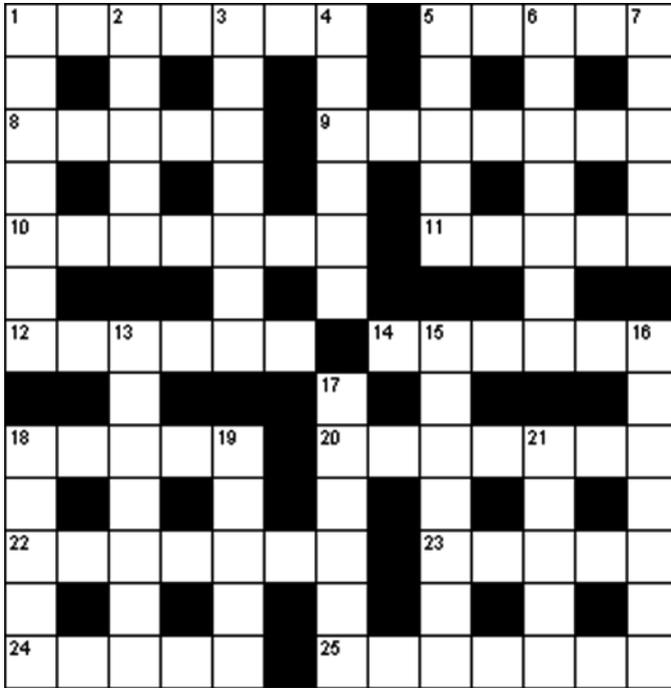
Air conditioning servicing, repairs, system clean and deodorise including new 1234yf gas type

Loan cars and loan van, local pick up and run home service available

Free reminder service via E-Mail or text

# CROSSWORD

Crossword Solution on Page 23



## Across

- 1 Insult (7)
- 5 Book of maps (5)
- 8 Footwear for hikers (5)
- 9 Performer (7)
- 10 Closest (7)
- 11 Religious observances (5)
- 12 Home of St Francis (6)
- 14 Rectangle (6)
- 18 Troublesome little insect (5)
- 20 Tense, repressed (7)
- 22 Rebuke (4,3)
- 23 Run away to be wed (5)
- 24 Coercion (5)
- 25 Victors (7)

## Down

- 1 Balkan country (7)
- 2 Plants of a particular region (5)
- 3 Edible shellfish (7)
- 4 Characteristics (6)
- 5 Modify (5)
- 6 African country, formerly Basutoland (7)
- 7 Paces (5)
- 13 Rescued (anag.) (7)
- 15 Booming bird (7)
- 16 Chicken-livered (7)
- 17 Boisterous laugh (6)
- 18 Recurring theme (5)
- 19 Wear away (5)
- 21 Terrestrial sphere (5)

## Wrington Doctors - Henry William Collins

Henry William Collins was born on 21 March 1847 in Geelong, Victoria, Australia, where his father Ebenezer was vicar Of Christ Church in the town. He was educated at Godolphin Grammar School in Hammersmith.

The *Bath Chronicle* of 31 March 1870 reported that Collins, of Wrington, and Guy's Hospital, had passed his examination at Apothecaries' Hall in the science and practice of medicine, thus becoming a Licentiate and entitling him to put the letters L.S.A after his name. The following year he became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons. The 1871 Census showed that he was a medical student lodging in Southwark with a Mr. and Mrs. Hurd.

On leaving Guy's, he joined Dr. D'eath (what an unfortunate name for a doctor!) in Buckingham and in 1872 he came back to Wrington, taking up the practice relinquished by George Barnes, and eventually becoming a partner to Peter Chadwick. He is listed as such in the 1875 edition of Kelly's Directory. He also became assistant surgeon to the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Prince Albert Light Infantry and Medical Officer to the Wrington male and female Friendly Societies and the West Mendip Society.

On 20 August 1876, at All Saints' Church in Wrington, he married 32-year-old Harriet Broadley Hesse, the youngest of four daughters of Frederick Legrew Hesse, rector of nearby Rowberrow.

William and Harriet stayed in the village until 1902, by which time they were living at *Blanche House* (now *Webbsbrook House*) in Silver Street, confirmed by a small ad placed by Harriet in the *Weston Gazette* of 12 January 1900: "*House and parlourmaid wanted for small family. Churchwoman – Mrs. Collins, Blanche House, Wrington, Somerset.*"

William died on 9 January 1906 in Hove, although he is buried in All Saints' churchyard in Wrington alongside Harriet, who lived another thirty-two years, dying at the great age of ninety-four. The February issue of the *Wrington Parish Magazine* carried a tribute to his life and work:

*"With mingled feelings of regret and thankfulness, on Sat 13<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1906 we laid to rest the mortal remains of Henry William Collins, whose long and painful illness we had all followed with ever-increasing sympathy. Of his great kindness and courtesy it is needless to write, for each and all will be able to treasure up the remembrance of these distinguished traits of his character. He was a devout Churchman and held the office of Rector's Sidesman, until he left the parish in October 1902, at which date he also retired from practice. All hoped he would have many happy quiet years to spend in our neighbourhood, but it was not to be. Soon his health began to fail under the attacks of that fell disease which at last overcame him. He passed away on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>. January 1906.*

Mark Bullen

In September's issue - Alfred Hugh Benson

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## RESULTS UPDATE

As reported in the June edition, a full crew of Winscombe Branch members and supporters turned the Diamond Jubilee "Mayday!" Plant Sale on Saturday 10th May into a major success; the final result is a fantastic total of £3,104 that includes £1,500 from the Pre-Sales. The Branch thanks our main grower Christa Loughrey for providing all the plants over a three month period and managing the Pre-Sale on Mike's Stall in Axbridge. The weather was brilliant on the day (See photo).



Betty's Pots continue to do well in both Winscombe & Wrington; Farron's Estate Agents co-ordinate the pots in Winscombe on behalf of the Branch and banked £100 in the last two months while John Calder coordinates the pots in Wrington and handed over £99 this afternoon. Also, RNLI Collection boxes are stationed in pubs and shops across the area and £145 has been banked this year.

By the end of May the Branch income from all sources is £7,247.

## SECOND RNLI COLLECTION OF 2025 AT TESCO NAILSEA

Once again, Branch Members will conduct a "Bucket Collection" on Saturday 5th July at TESCO Nailsea dressed in yellow tabards with "Rescue Buckets" deployed "moored" at the entrance to the Supermarket between 9:30am and 4:30pm. This collection was requested by the Nailsea Branch itself following a very successful collection in February; members look forward to greeting and chatting with their customers. Full results will be reported in the August magazine.

## RETURN OF RNLI LIFEGUARDS TO BEACHES IN THE SOUTH WEST

A reminder that the RNLI Lifeguard Team will return to patrol the beaches at Burnham-on-Sea and Breaan this summer from Saturday 5 July to Saturday 7 September inclusive; beach patrol times will be from 10:00am to 6:00pm. However, this will be but one team patrolling 100 beaches across the whole of the South West Peninsula covering the most popular beaches in Devon, Cornwall, Dorset & Hampshire. To find which beaches are patrolled, go to the RNLI website <https://rnli.org/find-my-nearest?type=Beach&lat=50.7469979520735&lon=-4.529389500000007&radius=392>. The lifeguards will direct you to the patrolled bathing area that will be marked clearly by flags with lifeguards in attendance; the lifeguards do not just "Save Lives" but aid the beach users, find lost children and offer sound safety advice!

## MAY SHOUTS - A WESTON-SUPER-MARE CALLOUT & ONE AT BURNHAM-ON-SEA

In May there were thirteen "Shouts" between our four Lifeboat Stations (Burnham-on-Sea – 5, Minehead – 3, Portishead – 2, Weston-super-Mare - 3).

Continued on next page

## Local Interest

### Continued from previous page

The Weston-super-Mare D Class lifeboat was launched on Friday 16th May 2025 at 10:45 pm after being paged at 10:36 pm to support local emergency services. Crew members including a GP and Junior Doctor were able to provide casualty care until an ambulance arrived and took over.

The lifeboat returned to the station at 11:35 pm, where it was washed down and returned to service.

Just a few minutes after 7PM on the evening of Saturday 15th May, Burnham Lifeboat crews were urgently tasked to reports of a vessel that had capsized whilst towing a water skier in the area of Combwich.

With the nature of this emergency and unknown severity, Lifeboat Operations Manager and Duty LA Matt Davies authorised both Atlantic 85 and D-Class Lifeboats for immediate launch.

Within 10 minutes of the pagers sounding, the D-Class and crew were on the water making best speed to the reported area of the casualty, in what was otherwise a warm, calm sunny evening in Burnham. As the Atlantic 85 and crew were within seconds of touching the water to launch, good news came over the radio that the casualty vessel had been self recovered and all persons were accounted for. The D Class Helmsman Nick added "We were glad for a good outcome here."

**Paul Ashmore 01934 843388**

### Do you have a spare hour?

#### Ever thought of supporting someone over 65?

Voluntary Action North Somerset (VANS) is about to launch the Good Neighbour Scheme in villages across North Somerset like Congresbury, Cleeve and Wrington. We need someone like you to volunteer with us!

It's your chance to share your skills and take on a task that would support someone over 65 living independently in their homes.

You decide what you can take on and we pair you up with someone over 65 who needs support with a specific task.

If this has sparked your interest and you are over 18 years? Give me call or send me an email.

Call: Tracy Edwards-Brown on 07458073262 or  
email: [tracy.edwardsbrown@vansmail.org.uk](mailto:tracy.edwardsbrown@vansmail.org.uk)

Looking forward to hearing from you.



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## Wrighton Village Website

We are incredibly fortunate to have a wealth of information on our village website, including archived files, videos and photographs that require updating. If we allow this to be lost future Wrightonians won't forgive us! If you can help by making a financial donation to this restoration project please contact:

**Trevor Parnham**

Mobile: 07969 913835 or Email: [trevorparnhamntl@aol.com](mailto:trevorparnhamntl@aol.com)



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Email: [info@davidbrownstonemason.co.uk](mailto:info@davidbrownstonemason.co.uk)

## BELLA SILVER

A new Artisan Quarter has opened in Wrington with silversmith, enamellist and potter taking up residence in studios amongst beautiful plants, coffee shop and landscaping at Middlecombe Nursery.



*The Journal* meets Michelle Gibbs of *Bella Silver – Reclaimed, Reformed and Reloved* – unique jewellery which breathes new creative life into antique solid silver.

SMOOTH sea glass set in a silver ring made of Victorian sugar tongs, a grandmother's wedding ring remodelled for her granddaughter's marriage, a christening bracelet turned into beautiful earrings.

These are just a few of the once solid silver treasures that silversmith, Michelle Gibbs, transforms into desirable new heirlooms.

Michelle, aged 40, of High Street, Wrington, said: "I always buy antique solid silver because it's such quality precious metal.

"I have a tin of antique cutlery and old precious gifts that I recreate into something new because I love the feel and history they still hold.

"I try and keep original silversmith marks

and might incorporate other pieces for texture like brass from an old drinking mug in The Plough that becomes a sliver of additional colour."

Silver was formed billions of years ago. Scientist believe it was fashioned out of the cataclysmic supernova explosions of collapsing stars which dispersed silver into space and to earth.

Here, hot mineral waters carried and deposited silver underground and has been mined by humans for more than 5000 years, as precious, light-reflecting jewellery, religious objects and coins.

It also has practical uses for dental fillings, photography, water disinfection, and electronic equipment.

For commissions, please contact [mrsmgibbs@icloud.com](mailto:mrsmgibbs@icloud.com) Instagram: bellasilver\_wrington or Facebook: Bella Silver





It's estimated there is just 20 years of undiscovered, mineable silver left world-wide, so recycling is vital.

Michelle transforms antique silver by carefully dismantling original pieces, liquifying metal, removing impurities, then casting, reshaping, refining and polishing into a new design.

The work can be dirty and noisy, with soldering, sawing, grinding and chemical pickling baths but the finished product is worth all the effort.

Michelle said: "I've had lovely commissions, especially the sea glass found by children for their mum who brought in an old ring of their grandmother and I created something which connects three generations."

The mum-of-three, moved to Wrington with Dyf, a pilot, she met in Austria on his birthday, when she was a childrens' holiday rep.

The pair travelled to Africa, India and the Canary Islands, then mar-

ried in Australia before returning to Wales where Dyf's family lived before moving to Wrington.

"I love the village," she said: "and once we settled here, I trained to be silversmith which is what I've always wanted to do and now I have this brilliant studio."

*Bella Silver- Reclaimed, Reformed, Reloved* is open at the Artisans Quarter, Middlecombe Nursery on: Tues 11am 4 pm, Thurs, 1 – 3, Fridays 10 – 3, Saturdays and Sundays 11- 4.

### **Silver Folklore:**

\*Silver has been used for sacred communion chalices and has ceremonial connections. Thirty pieces of silver were enough to pay for Judas Iscariot's betrayal.

\*Artemis – the Greek Goddess of the hunt and moon is depicted laden with silver. It's been used in amulets and talismans to ward off evil spirits and linked to the silvery moon for protective powers.

\*Silver has been long deemed as a metal symbol of purity and harmony. Legend has it that silver bullets could kill vampires.

## DRAMA CLUB - Postscript

### ...Presents 3 One-Act Plays

"Interior Designs" by Jimmie Chinn

"Coffee Break" by David Tristram

"Mother Figure" by Alan Ayckbourn

Directed by Mark Bullen

Apologies for having to postpone this performance. Sometimes circumstances can interfere with plans, so we thank you all for your understanding and we hope that this didn't cause too much inconvenience.

The new dates will be September 17th, 19th, 20th.

Tickets are available online at:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/wringtondramaclub>

### Chitty Chitty Bang Bang!!

Ian Fleming's non-spy related fantasmagorical story centered on a restored racing car is coming to Wrington! Performances will be from 3rd - 7th February 2026.

Auditions will take place at the Memorial hall on Tuesday 1st and Tuesday 8th July from 7pm.

For more information about the auditions contact [wdctickets@gmail.com](mailto:wdctickets@gmail.com), or complete the registration forms:

Adult(18+): <https://tinyurl.com/wdc-ccbb-adult>

Child (8-17): <https://tinyurl.com/wdc-ccbb-child>

### AGM

The Wrington Drama Club Annual General Meeting is nearly upon us. At the moment we are planning to hold this on 13th August in the Reading Room. All welcome!

### Membership

Membership helps us to continue as a community club, to cover our costs and to make sure we are there to offer opportunities to everyone and put on great shows for you.

If you are not a member, but would like to offer support then it is easy to join online:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/wringtondramaclub/store>

Contact us by emailing

[Wdctickets@gmail.com](mailto:Wdctickets@gmail.com)

Or call Julie P 07535582694

<https://wringtondrama.club/wp/> | Wrington Drama Club – We won't make a crisis out of a drama

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[twitter.com/WringtonDrama](https://twitter.com/WringtonDrama)

## Local Interest

### **The Old Rectory Garden Party Saturday, 19 July 2:30 - 4:30pm**

Don't miss this opportunity to see these magical gardens, bursting with charm, colour and community spirit all in support of Weston Hospicecare, a cause close to many hearts.

Wander through the beautiful grounds while enjoying live music to set the perfect garden mood, cream teas and homemade cakes served with a smile, face painting for the little ones (and the young at heart!) kids' games to keep everyone entertained and a plant sale full of garden treasures to take home.

There will also be a raffle with enticing prizes.

Entry is just £3 (under 16s go free) - Cash only please.

Sorry no dogs allowed unless assistance dogs by prior arrangement.

Please be aware there are no loos available at the garden.

If the weather is hideous you are still welcome to enjoy the garden but everything else will be in the Memorial Hall.

Mark your calendar, bring your family and friends and come and enjoy a fun afternoon supporting a wonderful cause.

**Caroline Agar**

### **Wroughton (Patient) Helpline Drivers Urgent Appeal – AGAIN!**

Another reminder that we urgently need more drivers to help us deliver this invaluable service for local residents who are unable to get to medical appointments, visit close family and friends in hospitals/care homes in the local area, and more recently even take people to the Food Bank.

Drivers use their own cars (expenses paid). Drivers can specify any days/dates/times when they are unavailable and are under no obligation to accept when asked to drive (we understand that we're all busy people!). Typically, you'd only drive once or twice per month.

If you'd like to find out more, please call Gill on 07875 400090. We're particularly interested in hearing from anyone who is able to take patients to and from Bristol hospitals.

# Wrington Vale Rotary Club



**Jazz in the Orchard on the 27<sup>th</sup> July**  
(see poster on page 23)

**Wrington Vale Rotary welcomes you! Gather your friends and soak in the lively atmosphere at an unforgettable afternoon of music and fun!**

**The Black Velvet Band caters for all tastes—jazz, swing, and even a good old-fashioned hoe-down—there's something for everyone to enjoy.**

**Indulge in a delicious pig roast from Angus Murray and Co, famous for serving up the best crackling in Somerset. And, of course, a pay bar will be stocked with Thatchers cider and a selection of other refreshing beverages to keep the good times flowing.**

**Don't miss out—come for the music, stay for the memories!**

Follow the signs on the A371 from Winscombe railway bridge to Banwell.

Find it on What three words **bland.amused.pacemaker**

To beat the rush buy your tickets online or at the gate. Just scan the QR code.

**Breakfast meeting.** Don't forget our next meeting on the first Wednesday 2nd July.

Always interesting! Everyone welcome at 0800 hrs. Finish by 9 AM

At Mendip Outdoor Activity Centre, Lyncombe Drive, Churchill, BS25 5PQ

You will find us on the top floor of the main reception lodge. There is a lift.

Breakfast, (e.g. bacon butty) is optional. All casual, no fees.

More information from Angie Biggs 07790 400718

## Wrington Gardening Club

The next meeting on Thursday 17 July is our summer coach trip to Gloucestershire to visit Hidcote (National Trust) and Kiftsgate Court Gardens leaving Broad Street at 9:00 am and returning at 6:30 pm subject to traffic conditions.

There are still a few spaces left so anyone who wishes to go should contact Sally Harden on 07747 653030 or [Sallyhardenuk@aol.com](mailto:Sallyhardenuk@aol.com) as soon as possible.

Prices are as follows:

	Garden club member	Not Garden Club member
National Trust member	£27	£32
Not National Trust member	£45	£50

Please will anyone who has not yet paid post payment to Sally Harden at Mathlin Cottage, School Road, Wrington.

There is no meeting in August.

**Felicity Hopkins 863857**

## Local Interest

### WRINGTON W I

Our June meeting was held in the Memorial Hall on Thursday June 12<sup>th</sup>. It was our annual Charity Evening this year for the Children's Hospice Southwest. Anne Cross from the Nailsea shop gave us a short talk on the work of the Hospice and the members and visitors had the chance to view and purchase items donated for the evening. There was a big display of super items, and a glass of fizz helped to make it an enjoyable event. There were so many bargains we were spoilt for choice. At the end of the evening Anne took all the remaining items to sell in the Nailsea shop.

Our next meeting will be held in the Memorial Hall on Thursday July 10<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm with coffee and tea provided before the start of the meeting. The speaker is Nick who will tell us about the Goats of the Gorge. Having had some experience keeping goats in a previous life I can say they are the most fascinating and naughty animals!

In August we don't have a formal meeting just a social afternoon with tea and cake in a members garden weather permitting of course. We have several outings planned over the summer so do come to our next meeting and have a look what's on offer. Visitors are always welcome so why not give us a try

Looking forward to seeing you

Yours in Friendship

**Chris Parnham**

### V J Day

V.J. Day falls on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> August and there will be a short commemoration service at the War Memorial in All Saints' churchyard at 11.30am.

All are welcome to attend to mark this occasion.

The service that was held to commemorate V.E. Day in May was very well attended, which was much appreciated. A total of £66.60 was collected for the Poppy Appeal on the day. Thank you to all who contributed.

John Gallop

Secretary, Royal British Legion, Wrington Branch



## LOCAL INTEREST

### Wrighton Garden Trail Saturday 12th July

Fourteen gardens throughout the village will be open to view 10.30 – 4.30, with several new ones included.

Programmes (which give entry to all gardens) £5 per adult, children free.

Dogs admitted at the discretion of the garden owners.

Programmes will be available from the beginning of July from the Church Office in the Reading Room (Tuesday - Thursday 9.00 am - 1.00 pm) and from the usual traders in the village, also from gardens on the day.

Refreshments will be available in All Saints' Church throughout the day, and teas at Piltdown in Church Walk in the afternoon.

All proceeds to the charities supported by All Saints' Church.

### Solution to Crossword on page 13

1	A	F	2	F	R	3	O	N	4	T		5	A	T	6	L	A	7	S
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24	F	O	R	C	E					25	W	I	N	N	E	R	S		

## Local Interest

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# Wrington Minibus News - July/August 2025

## New Minibus!

By the time you read this, our new minibus should have arrived, and Fiona and Andrew Densham may have cut the ribbon at the village fete, officially welcoming it into service at the Village Fete. Both Andrew and Fiona's families have been involved with the minibus ever since launch some 50 years ago, so we are delighted that they are able to do the honours.

We'd also like to express our huge thanks to local organisations who have so generously sponsored the minibus or provided grants:

Alvis Brothers Ltd.  
Bristol Airport  
Wrington Parish Council  
Laura Joyce Wealth Management  
Spar (Buglers) Store  
Bennetts Solicitors  
Twisted Oak Brewery  
Warm Glass UK  
Wrington Pharmacy  
Computer Problem Solutions Ltd  
Harry Clewlow Tree Services (HTC)

Special mention also goes to Foremost Signs who will be 'wrapping' the vehicle, hopefully in panoramic views of the Wrington Vale as supplied by Gary Clements (thank you Gary). We hope to have more information on this at the Village Fete

## Annual Minibus Lunch in Yeoman's Garden Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August

As we said last month, this is our main fundraising event of the year, and always very popular. Tickets available from local shops from 1<sup>st</sup> July – buy your tickets ASAP as they always sell out quickly, and there's a surprise planned this year to celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Don't forget your tickets for our Grand Prize Draw, to be drawn at the same event. Lots of excellent prizes, including a balloon ride for two with Bristol Balloons, Wookey Hole tickets, vineyard tours and other days out, cash prizes, cases of wine, and much, much more.

(Please note, if wet, we'll transfer to the Memorial Hall).



Continued on next page

## Local Interest

Continued from previous page

### Our new Monthly Newsletter

Last month, we launched our monthly newsletter which includes the next month's trips and further information about some of the more unusual destinations. To join our mailing list, just drop an email to [wrington.minibus@gmail.com](mailto:wrington.minibus@gmail.com).

### Where are we off to in August?

You can find our schedule for July and August at the back of this Journal, as well as on Wrington Matters, posters around the village and now via email (see above).

We featured our July trips in last month's Journal. Below is a selection of some of the more unusual August destinations.

**Sat Aug 9th: Bristol Balloon Fiesta**, leaving Wrington at 2:00 p.m. (slightly later than originally advertised). This trip will include an opportunity to get up close and personal to a balloon and talk to one of the most experienced pilots in the area, plus mass balloon ascent, scheduled for 6:00 p.m. (weather permitting), and, if passengers agree between them to stay on, the night glow at 9:00 p.m.

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>: Abergavenny** our once per year trip, always popular. Abergavenny is a vibrant and historic town, with busy indoor and outdoor markets and a range of independent shops, cafes and restaurants.

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup>: Afternoon Tea at New Manor Farm Café** right next to the popular farm shop. Fabulous home-made scones and cakes, ice cream and the rest!

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>: Weston Seafront and lunch at the new Salt&Malt café** near the pier. Take a stroll along the prom, prom, prom (tiddly om pom pom), wander up the pier or just sit and enjoy a spot of people watching before heading to the café for lunch.

Advance Notice: **Fri 19th Sept: Bristol Packet cruise to Beese Tea Rooms.**

***Please note that with immediate effect, all bookings (including 'events' must be made either by the Minibus booking line on 07895 418560 or email [wrington.minibus@gmail.com](mailto:wrington.minibus@gmail.com), with the subject heading: Minibus Booking.***

Janet Walters and Gill Key on behalf of the Minibus Committee.

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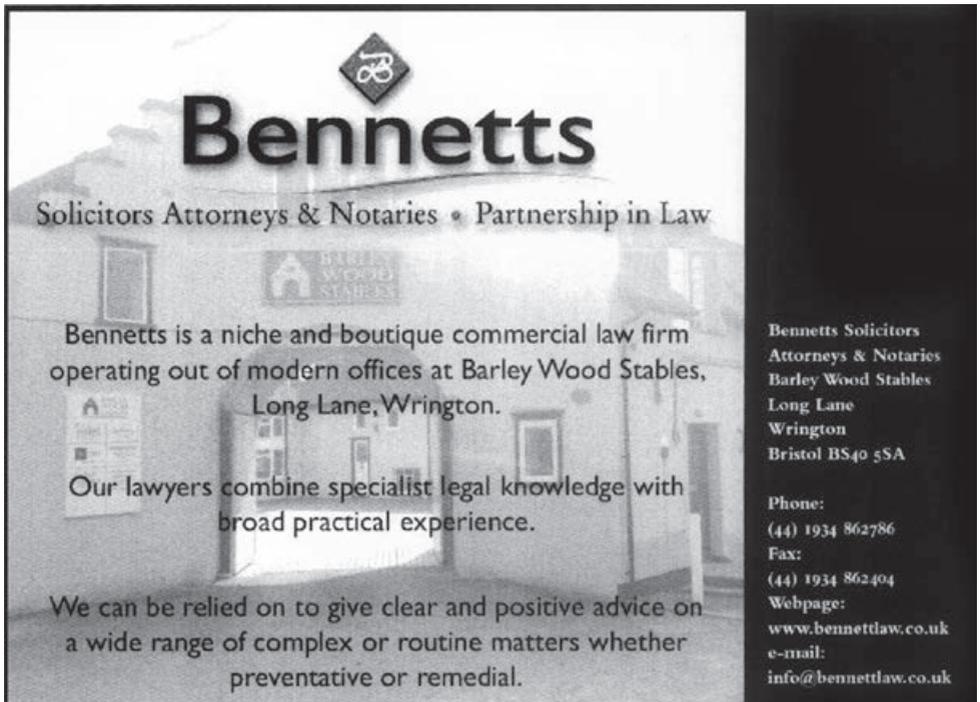
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## LOCAL INTEREST

### Redhill WI go Potty

Our June meeting was slightly out of the ordinary this month in that, after our traditional singing of Jerusalem, we welcomed our speaker and went straight into action! We had invited Mandy from Hobby DayZ in Highbridge to come and show us how to paint our own pottery and, as this involved us throwing ourselves into creating our own individual artworks, the business was somewhat curtailed as we were all keen to finish what we had started.

Mandy had provided everything we needed to embellish our chosen pottery item (including her mother! who was on hand to give advice and wash all our palettes and paintbrushes at the end.) Thank you for that!

We were able to choose from a selection of pottery items – animals, mugs, pots or jugs - all of which we then had to decorate from a wonderful array of paints. After we had paid for our selected item, Mandy then took them all away to fire and glaze. Our artworks should be ready in about a week's time.

I think it's fair to say that there were some really talented and artistic members whose efforts were really beautiful. Others of us made a stab at creating something memorable and hoped that the firing and glazing might weave its magic and produce a passable finished article!

Great fun was had by all and we finished with a welcome cup of tea and some delicious home- made biscuits.

Our next meeting is on July 8<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 in Redhill Village Hall. Visitors are always welcome, of course, as are new members.

Lindy Wood

### Redhill Village Hall/Club Events 2025

Church Road, Redhill, North Somerset BS40 5SG. Tel: 01934 862619.

Follow us on Facebook. [Redhillvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:Redhillvillagehall@gmail.com)

#### CLASSIC CAR MEETS:

Thursday 24h July 6.30 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Thursday 21st August 6.30 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Sunday 21st September 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday 19th October 9 a.m. - 12 noon

**BINGO NIGHT:** Will be back on Friday 26th September. Eyes down at 8p.m.

£6 for a book of 6

**CHRISTMAS FAIR:** If you would like a stall, please contact Vonnie on: 07766114517 for a table

#### Coffee Room (Opening days & times)

Wednesdays: 10am – 1pm and every other Sunday: 2-4pm

## Wrington's Telephone Box Library

Anyone who's ever popped into Mother Hen on Wrington's Broad Street for a cup of coffee can't fail to have noticed the red BT phone box just outside, now a small but perfectly formed mini library crammed full of everything from picture books to blockbuster novels, biographies to thrillers.

But how did the village come to have one of these? And how does it all work? In the interests of journalism I popped in one Monday evening to try it all out.

The very first telephone box-cum-library was set up not far from Wrington, in the village of Westbury-sub-Mendip. Here the local parish council took advantage of BT's 2008 "adopt a kiosk" programme to buy one for just £1 and when funding for the village's mobile library was subsequently cut, the idea of a mini phone box library was born.

Thousands more towns and villages followed suit, with Wrington gaining its phone box library in 2016.

A dedicated team of just two volunteers, Helen Ward and Pam Milman keep the library tidy and periodically do a charity shop run with some of the older books to help keep things fresh. Wringtonians can bring their own unwanted books to the library with fiction, children's books and broad interest non-fiction books preferred.

When I visited there was a sizeable collection of thrillers by crime writers Dan Brown, Patricia Cornwell and Lee Child, plus a couple of unusual factual books including "All you need to know about the music business" and "Buying antique pottery and porcelain". The bottom shelf held a host of children's books including a well-thumbed copy of David Walliams "Gangsta Granny" and a hardback copy of "The Hungry Caterpillar".

There were no first editions in our library (I looked!) But I did find plenty of romance (Danielle Steel, Joanna Trollope), biographies of both Madonna and Michael Schumacher, a copy of the Good News Bible and - for balance - a paperback edition of The Exorcist. Intriguingly there were also a couple of books that had started their lives in local, and not so local, libraries.

I chose three books to take home with me.

The first - "In Gratitude" by Jenny Diski - is a memoir on the late writer's life and her relationship with fellow writer Doris Lessing, who unofficially adopted her. I learnt a lot about the 60s. But also about the power of one person to change the life of another.

My second choice was The Oxford Book of Ballads. I've always loved folk music and this book contains the origins of many ballads that have subsequently been woven into modern day folk song - including my favourite "Lady Maisry."

For my final choice I was torn between Ben Fogle's "Labrador - the story of the world's favourite dog" and the "Nigella Express" cookbook - but hastily chose the latter because on this particular Monday evening I was more in need of a quick recipe than a long read. This book has some really speedy eats - perfect for someone who's spent too long in a phone box library browsing books instead of getting the dinner on. I settled on Nigella's Curry in a Hurry - and it was on the table with the minimum of fuss within 30 minutes.

Perfect

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## Friday Drop-in—all welcome!

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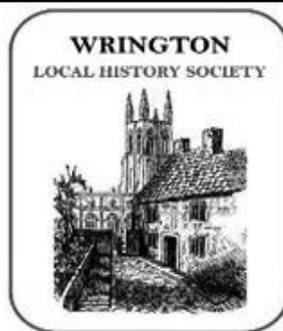
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## WRINGTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

### Hannah More Film Evening at Barley Wood

2025 marks two anniversaries related to Wrington's "most famous" resident, Hannah More.

Hannah was born in Fishponds, Bristol in February in 1745 and, after some time in London, returned to the West Country, having a cottage built at Cowslip Green, where she moved 240 years ago in 1785. Finding the property a little small for her and her many influential visitors she bought a piece of land to the north-east of the village and built Barley Wood where she resided from 1802 to 1828.



A few years back a Bristol-based media company produced a low-budget feature film about the life and work of Hannah. We have acquired a copy and are pleased to be showing the film at our July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting and are further excited that we have arranged with the owners of Barley Wood to present this in the house, so associated with the lady.

The film presentation will commence at 7pm with an introduction from Dr Joanne Edwards, a trustee of the Hannah More Trust who, many may remember, gave WLHS a highly entertaining and informative talk of Hannah's work a few years back. Prior to that Barley Wood are kindly allowing us to have a look around the house and grounds from 6pm. The history society will have a display of photos of Barley Wood and other items of interest and we are also pleased to have the support of the Wrington Drama Club.

### Attendance

All are welcome but there is a limit on space and we will need to manage numbers. We will not be issuing tickets as such but you will need to let us know if you wish to attend and your name(s) will be added to our entry list. If a name is not on the list on the evening we cannot guarantee entry. To add your name(s) please email me on the address below.

The show is taking place in the large 1st floor room accessed by stairs but we regret that unfortunately there is no facility for wheelchair user access.

If arriving by car please use the first entrance nearest to Wrington.

We are not charging for the event above our normal WLHS meeting charges which are WLHS members £1, non-members £2.50.

### Village Fete

Wrington village fete is taking place on Saturday June 28<sup>th</sup> in the Court House paddock so please come and say hello to us at our stand. With the recent VE anniversary, our theme will be Wrington in WW2 and we will have photos and items relating to the 1939-45 conflict.

### August Meeting

We will be holding our AGM at the meeting on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>, starting at 7.45pm. Following this, John Gowar will talk about the ownership of the Manor of Wrington Estate and the disputes which existed for much of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, following its purchase in 1726 by William Pulteney. He will also look at the Wrington Enclosure Act of 1810 that transformed the landscape around Wrington Hill and Broadfield Down.

**Steve Osman (Secretary)**

**osmansteve@yahoo.co.uk**

## Wrington Community Minibus - July/August 2025

The Wrington Community Minibus is run by a Local Charity.  
It is available to be used by **ALL** in the Local Community#

**Please note: with immediate effect, all bookings must be made by either calling the Booking Line on 07895 418560 or emailing [wrington.minibus@gmail.com](mailto:wrington.minibus@gmail.com) (subject line: Minibus Booking).**

Day	Date	Time	Notes	Destination	Fare
Thu	3	10:00		Farrington's Farm (shop, café)	Free
Fri	11	09:30		Keynsham town centre	£5
Wed	16	09:30		Wells	£5
Mon	21	09:00		Coates English Willow Centre	£10
Thu	24	10:00		Queensway, Worle	Free
Fri	25	11:30	L	Pub Lunch @ Hobbs Boat, Lympsham	£5
Wed	30	09:30		Designer Outlet & Steam, Swindon	£10
<b>AUG</b>					
Sat	2	12:30	A	Minibus Annual Garden Lunch	Free
Tue	5	10.00	L	Nailsea	Free
Sat	9	14:00	A	Balloon Fiesta (meet pilot and launch)*	£5
Tue	12	13:30	A	Abergavenny	£15
Fri	15	14:00	A	Afternoon Tea at New Manor Farm	Free
Tue	19	10:00	L	Weston Seafront and Salt&Malt Lunch	Free
Wed	20	09:30		Wells	£5
Thu	21	09:30		Clevedon	Free
Thu	28	10:00		Queensway	Free
Fri	29	11:30	L	Pub Lunch, the Lamb at Weare	£5

### Advance Notice:

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September Bristol Packet to Beese Tea Rooms (Book ASAP)

### Notes:

Morning trips return around Lunch Time, in time for the "School Run". Afternoon trips return late afternoon. Lunchtime trips (L) are usually back in the village by 3pm. Those marked with an asterisk (\*) depart in the morning and return to Wrington later in the afternoon. There is additional information about the trips marked (A) in our article in this Journal.

---

**TICKETS ON SALE 1<sup>ST</sup> JULY for ANNUAL MINIBUS LUNCH August 2<sup>nd</sup> at YEOMANS or Memorial Hall if wet. Arrive 12:30 for 1:00. Transport available, call booking line above**

---

### PRIVATE BOOKINGS

For any private events please ring 07895 418560 or email [wringtonminibus@gmail.com](mailto:wringtonminibus@gmail.com) for information on what is required to book the minibus for a private function. Please bear in mind that to use the minibus you will need to obtain a volunteer driver from the Minibus Society's list of approved drivers.

### DRIVERS

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## Directory of Clubs & Societies - May 2025

Name	Contact	Telephone	Email
Evergreen Chorus	Katie Williams	07969 450006	<a href="mailto:evergreenchorus@icloud.com">evergreenchorus@icloud.com</a>
Joyful Spirit Gospel Choir	Marshall Clements	01934 863285	<a href="mailto:mtclements@btconnect.com">mtclements@btconnect.com</a>
Royal British Legion	John Gallop	01934 862621	
Sing for Fun (Wrington)	Jan Murray	01934 853518	<a href="mailto:info@churchillmusic.org.uk">info@churchillmusic.org.uk</a>
Winscombe District u3a			<a href="http://www.u3asites.org.uk/Winscombe/">www.u3asites.org.uk/Winscombe/</a>
Wrington Badminton Club	Lynda Bullen	01934 863450	<a href="mailto:lynda6yeomans@gmail.com">lynda6yeomans@gmail.com</a>
Wrington Bowling Club	Fred Cowgill	01934 861221	
Wrington Cricket Club <i>Saturday Team</i>	Mike Clements	07831 567202 01749 678362	<a href="mailto:mike.clements6@gmail.com">mike.clements6@gmail.com</a>
Wrington Cricket Club <i>Wednesday Friendly</i>	Peter Rudge	07947 254897	<a href="mailto:peterrudge86@gmail.com">peterrudge86@gmail.com</a>
Wrington Cricket Club <i>Juniors</i>	Ali Ledbury	07773 890350	<a href="mailto:aliledbury@hotmail.co.uk">aliledbury@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Wrington Drama Club	Julie Plant	07535 582694	<a href="mailto:wdctickets@gmail.com">wdctickets@gmail.com</a>
Wrington Gardening Club	Jill Cowgill	01934861221	<a href="mailto:jill.cowgill@gmail.com">jill.cowgill@gmail.com</a>
Wrington Local History Society	Steve Osman	07852 366004	<a href="mailto:osmansteve@yahoo.co.uk">osmansteve@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Wrington Minibus Society	Adrian Hopkins	01934 863857	
	Bookings	07895 418560	
Wrington Redhill Football Club	Chris Holland	07792 937920	
Wrington Skittles Club	John Gallop	01934 862621	
Wrington Sports and Social Club	Rob Field	07795 031934	<a href="mailto:therecbarwrington@gmail.com">therecbarwrington@gmail.com</a>
Wrington Table Tennis Club	Paul Mcafferty	01934 862652	
Wrington Tennis Club	Guy Winterbourne	07970 901273	<a href="mailto:guywinterbourne@aol.com">guywinterbourne@aol.com</a>
Wrington Womens Institute (WI)	Gabrielle Wilson	01934 862838	<a href="mailto:gwaw@agwilson4.plus.com">gwaw@agwilson4.plus.com</a>
Wrington Youth Drama Club	Julie Kingcott	07515 834200	<a href="mailto:julie@juliekingcott.com">julie@juliekingcott.com</a>



# wrington pharmacy

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Police:	General	101
Crime Stoppers		0800 555111
District Councillor (Wrington)	Tom Daw <a href="mailto:thomas.daw@n-somerset.gov.uk">thomas.daw@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>	
District Councillor (Blagdon & Churchill)	Patrick Keating	07584 674740
Doctor's Surgery (Langford)	Mendip Vale Medical Practice	01934 839820
<b>Emergency</b> (out of hours)		111
Dispensing Chemist (Wrington)		01934 862369
Dental Surgery (Wrington)		01934 863363
<b>Emergency Electrical</b>	National Grid	105
<b>Emergency Gas</b>	National Gas	0800 111 999
Bristol Water		0345 702 3797
National Marriage & Family Guidance Council (Relate) W-S-M		01934 627206
Caretaker Memorial Hall (Wrington)		01934 862898
Helpline Co-ordinator (Wrington)		07783 046437
Samaritans		116123
Post Office Counter (Wrington)		01934 862211
Village Agent (Maxine Gillman)	<a href="mailto:maxine@wern.org.uk">maxine@wern.org.uk</a>	07967 344766
Wrington Website	<a href="http://www.wrington.org.uk">www.wrington.org.uk</a>	
Vets	Golden Valley	01275 852552
	Langford	0117 3940513
Parish Clerk (Fiona Burke)	John Locke Room	01934 863984
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