

THE JOURNAL

May 2026

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EDITORIAL DEADLINE FOR THE June ISSUE: 14th May 2026

Editor's Letter - May 2026 Issue

It's five years since I last edited the Journal, and it's surprising how much comes back to you when it needs to. One thing is certain: the Journal will continue and grow for as long as I am able to keep it going.

I'm fortunate to have a great team beside me in **Jill, Ian and Laura**, but we cannot do this without the support of the community. We have recently welcomed **Tony and Jess** as regular contributors, and I would like to encourage everyone — especially our clubs and societies — to submit articles. Tell us what you are doing, share your achievements (large or small), and help us reflect the life of the village.

I also have plans underway to make the Journal better and more accessible. One of our long-standing challenges is that printing in black and white limits how well photographs appear, and in addition to the photos in the Journal, space restricts how many we can include. This month, for the first time, we will be posting all photographs **in full colour** on a newly created section of the village community hub (**wringtonvillage.com/journalgallery**). You will be able to view them larger, clearer, and in greater number than the Journal can accommodate. This is the first step in a closer collaboration between the Journal and the website.

But I need your help. I am not getting any younger, and my mission is to secure the future of both the Journal and the website for the generations that follow. I will be forming a **steering group** to guide this work, and I am appealing to anyone in the community who has ideas, interest, or enthusiasm to get in touch. I am not asking for commitment at this stage — simply a willingness to help shape what comes next.

Many long-standing residents will know the huge contribution my brother-in-law, Richard Thorn, made in developing the website over 25 years. I have taken on that responsibility and now want to take it to the next level, creating a true community hub. If you feel you can help in any way, please contact me — with absolutely no obligation — at **trevorparnhamntl@aol.com** or **07969 913835**.

Finally, please continue to support our advertisers and the local businesses featured in the Journal. They play a vital role in keeping this publication going.

Trevor Parnham

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Here for you and your family

Dear friends,

Farewells always feature prominently at this point in the Church's year, with the celebration of the **Ascension** on **14 May**. However, this year another farewell in the benefice also has our attention.

The feast of the Ascension falls on **Thursday 14 May**. It is a day to recall Jesus being taken up to heaven, and more than that, a day of completion – completing the cycle of Jesus' life from birth to death, resurrection, and return to heaven. Because of it, we acknowledge Christ as our King and recognise his sovereignty over earth and heaven. We then spend the following ten days praying for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, just as the first disciples did.

Do join us for the special service on **Thursday 14 May at 7.00pm in All Saints** as we celebrate this important festival – and the following Sunday in all the churches.

The other very human farewell this month is to **Andrew and Cathi**. For more than a decade, **Revd Andrew Hemming** has been Vicar of Redhill and Associate Priest in the benefice. His ministry has focused on Christ Church and the community of Redhill. However, thanks to his tireless commitment, he has also become well known throughout the benefice and beyond. So many of us have reason to be grateful to Andrew for his listening ear and boundless energy. We are equally grateful to Cathi for her understanding and active support, particularly in and around Christ Church.

Now aged 70 (I still want to see written proof of that!), Andrew has decided that the time has come to retire from full-time ministry. The **Benefice Communion service at 10am on Sunday 31 May at Christ Church** will be an opportunity to convey our thanks and good wishes. Please do come along and join us as we bid a fond farewell to Andrew and Cathi.

Every blessing,

David

What is Redhill doing with its church?

So my time with Redhill, and therefore with the other villages of the Benefice, is drawing to an end. My last Benefice Service will be on 31st May in Christ Church, Redhill starting at 10am. This is to be a United Benefice Service with Holy Communion. The last time I will celebrate Communion within this Benefice for the foreseeable future. I am hoping that as many people will be there as possible.

After that I have been given just one more Service and that is to be a Family Service in Redhill Church on Sunday 7th June at 11am. The Family Services at Redhill Church have a particular place in my heart, having grown out of a Mother and Toddler Group called 'Totspot', which started in 2015. I know that Tom Ekin (my predecessor but one) was very concerned that he would see the end of Redhill Church. Thanks to the connections with Redhill families that grew out of Totspot, together with the new families that are joining us today, I can be confident in the future of Redhill Church. Those families have not just reduced our average age, but have brought a youthful exuberance to our worship, they have increased our joy in the Christian faith and reinforced our hope in God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

I understand that this, my last Family Service, will roll into a

Bring and Share Lunch on the playing field, or in the Village Hall if wet. Bring a plate of food and field games.

What happens next? Well, the Redhill Church Trust, comprising David Gent, Dee Taylor and Lindy Wood, have already advertised the post and I am confident that God has someone really special lined up to take the Church in Redhill forward. Please pray for the discernment of the Trustees and the candidates.

It is time for me to hand over the reins to someone new. Redhill needs the fresh impetus and I need a rest, but the same God will travel with us all into an awesome future.

But be assured, you will all be in my, and Cathi's, prayers, always.

May the Lord bless you

Andrew

Rev'd Andrew Hemming,
Priest for Redhill

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NEWS FROM ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, BUTCOMBE

We hope you are enjoying the lovely Spring weather.

Mothering Sunday at St Michaels was enjoyed by all. We made posies with flowers from Wildly Beautiful Flowers in Butcombe. Thank you to Victoria for helping with this. After the Service we enjoyed traditional Mothering Sunday buns.

Beautiful Flowers in Butcombe. Thank you to Victoria for helping with this. After the Service we enjoyed traditional Mothering Sunday buns.

March gave us more happy occasions to celebrate. On 13th March, Freya Clark married Robert Peters and on 21st, Clementine Tyers was christened.

We gathered for the Last Hour on the Cross Service on Good Friday, made exceptionally special with Rachel's cello playing.

Easter Sunday saw a packed Church on a beautiful sunny morning. It was great to catch up with visitors and friends over drinks (and Easter eggs) after the Service.

The Church Yard is looking so beautiful with a lovely display of primroses and Spring flowers. If you are nearby, do pop in and enjoy.

Services in May -

Sunday 1st May Parish Communion 11.15am

Sunday 24th May Pentecost Communion 11.15am

And a date for your diary - The Teddy Bears Picnic will be held at the Church Yard on Sunday 14th June at 3pm (inside if wet). Do come along, even if you don't have a teddy to see parachute down from the Church tower!

Unfortunately Wessex Water are still busy working in Butcombe. If you find the Church locked, please contact a Church Warden if you need access.

Frances & Liz, Church Wardens

NEWS FROM Holy Trinity Church, Burrington

Burrington Church Tea Party

Burrington Church will be hosting a **summer tea party** on **Thursday 4 June**, from **3pm to 5pm**, at **Langford Court** by kind permission of **Sir David and Lady Wills**.

Tickets are **£5 for adults**, and **children attend free**.

All funds raised will support **Katete Hospital in Zambia**, with whom the Church has enjoyed a long and valued partnership over many years.

After the Joy of Easter

Easter may have passed on the calendar, but its message continues to shape everyday life in our village. Over the past weeks we gathered to remember the story at the heart of the Christian faith—loss turned into hope, darkness overcome by light, and new life breaking through when it seemed impossible.

It was a joy to welcome familiar faces and visitors alike to our Easter services. From the quiet reflections of Holy Week to the celebration of Easter morning, there was a strong sense of community and shared purpose. Many commented on the warmth of the welcome and the encouragement found in singing, prayer, and conversation together.

Yet Easter is not only a single Sunday—it is an invitation to live with hope throughout the year. In a world that can sometimes feel uncertain, the Easter message reminds us that renewal is always possible, relationships can be restored, and kindness can make a lasting difference.

As we move into the spring months, our church doors remain open to all. Whether you are curious, searching, or simply looking for friendship and support, you will find a warm welcome among us.

Sunbeams for babies to pre-school children and their carers every Wednesday morning during term time from 10-11.30 in our church hall. Everyone welcome, with an opportunity to get your baby weighed on 6th May.

Preachers during May:

May 3rd Pastor David Jewell

May 10th Elizabeth Swan with Communion

May 17th Pastor David Jewell

May 24 Pastor David Jewell

May 31 Pastor David Jewell

Enquiries about the above please ring Marshall Clements on 01934 863285

Fred Cowgill

WRINGTON BENEFICE SERVICES - May 2026

	All Saints' Wrington	St Michael' s Butcom be	Holy Trin- ity Burring- ton	St Mary's Lang- ford	Christ Church Redhill
3rd May	8.00am MP 9.30am PC	11.15am PC	8.00am HC (BCP)	9.30am Café	11.00am Cel
10th May	8.00am HC (BCP) 9.30am Café	/	11.00am Matins	9.30am PC	11.00am HC
14th May	7.00pm Ascension Day HC				
17th May	8.00am MP 9.30am PC 6.30pm CE	/	9.30am FC	8.00am HC 9.30am Praise	11.00am FS
24th May	8.00am HC 9.30am PC	11.15am Pentecost	11.00am Matins	9.30am MP	11.00am HC
31st May		/	/	/	10.00am BS – An- drew's last 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

FUNERALS

Christ Church

26th March

George Meredith, aged 79

Holy Trinity

1st April

Dorothy Croker, aged 98

BAPTISM

St Michael's

21st March

Clementine Tyers, aged 1

Easter Flowers in All Saints



A selection of flowers in the church, all arranged by volunteer members of the church. A pity it isn't in colour, but you can see them in the gallery on the community Hub

<https://www.wringtonvillage.com/journalgallery>

Easter Flowers in All Saints



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On our farms - May 2026

It's easy to become bogged down in events far beyond our control. The war in the Middle East is a case in point when it comes to farming. Its impact on fuel and fertiliser prices is enormous, yet there is very little we, as individuals, can do to change it.

All food production is affected, and I worry that many producers simply won't be able to see a way to make a profit with input costs so high. Fruit growers, for example, rely heavily on temporary labour to pick strawberries and other soft fruit from now until October. Without a guaranteed price that covers the cost of production, many of these contracts may be cancelled and the fruit left unpicked.

Cereal growers face a different challenge. Much of this year's crop was sown last autumn, before the troubles began, but there is still the option to reduce fertiliser use—though that inevitably reduces yields. This isn't just a UK problem; it's a global one. If every country takes the same approach, we could be looking at a worldwide shortage of cereals.

Closer to home, we have at least enjoyed a kind spring so far. Grass has grown well for all grazing livestock. After a long, wet winter, lambs were turned out into the fields and have enjoyed reasonable weather ever since. With plentiful grass, the ewes produce more milk and the lambs grow faster. It's lovely to see the adolescent lambs gaining independence, racing around in the evenings before settling down to sleep.

One of our herds of cows went out to pasture in early February, with the other following in early March. Both have responded well to the good-quality grass and are producing plenty of milk. One herd is organic, and under organic rules we cannot apply man-made fertiliser. On that farm we rely entirely on cow slurry to provide the nutrients needed for grass growth. President Trump's actions won't affect grass growth there—but on the other farm, which does use a small amount of manufactured fertiliser, there is potential for disruption.

It would be easy to say we simply won't apply any more fertiliser this year. We don't use much anyway, as we make full use of cow manure, but we do rely on a little extra to boost grass yields. With prices so high, we may decide not to use any more at all. The consequence could be a shortage of silage for next winter, forcing us to reduce cow numbers.

Everything feels up in the air at the moment, but within the next month or so we will have to make some decisions. Perhaps nature will step in and give us the best grass-growing year we've ever had. We can only wait and see.

Nick Green MBA N.Sch P.Agric FRAgS FIAgM C.Env FRASE
Farm Operations Director

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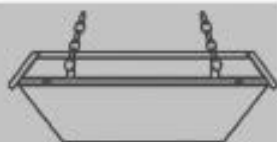
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Clubs and Societies

Redhill WI

With the Secretary having been absent in Australia for 2 months, our regular reports to the journal have fallen by the wayside. However, I'm pleased to report that, although she has somewhat reluctantly returned from an Aussie summer, normal services can now be resumed!

Over the last 3 months we have exercised our physical health with Lesley McManus, listened to a talk about the Bristol floods of 1968 and had a visit and talk with slides from The Secret Florist, Kate Booth-Davey, when we were able to purchase lovely little baubles she had made filled with dried flowers. We were also delighted to have been invited to an open meeting at Wrington WI in March at which the speaker was Chris Yeo from Clevedon Auction Rooms and The Antiques Roadshow. His talk was most interesting and entertaining.

As this journal has to go to publication before our April meeting, it would seem appropriate to announce some of the details for the meeting on April 14th when we are going to have a talk from the Macular Society. Our May meeting will be the usual discussion and voting on this year's Resolutions which will be put to the WI Annual Meeting the following month. In June we have a visit from Mr Sam Walker of Walker and Ling, Weston-super-Mare, and in July we have a talk by Rob Jones, based on his past service in the Police Force and personal life anecdotes.

Visitors are always welcome to any of our meetings.

We continue to enjoy meeting in the newly renovated Redhill Hall, as usual on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm and, of course, we are thoroughly enjoying the lighter summer evenings and the welcome sunshine (at the point of the submission of this report at least!)

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Recipe for May 2026

Almond and Orange Cake

This is a simple to make cake and joyfully dairy free ! Serve as a cake or pudding.



Ingredients:

200g caster sugar

200ml light olive oil

4 large eggs

150g SR flour

1 tsp baking powder

100g ground almonds

Zest of 2 oranges, juice of 1

Syrup:

Juice of 1 orange mixed with 75g
caster sugar

Method:

Line a 23 cm cake tin.

Whisk eggs with sugar and oil for about 5 minutes till light and fluffy.

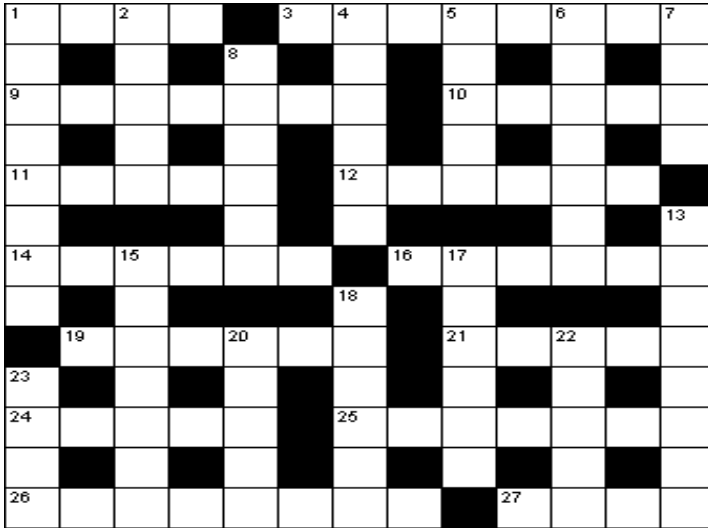
Sift flour, almonds and baking powder and fold it into egg mix with the zest and orange juice.

Bake at 160C for about 1 hour till golden and cooked through.

Pour over the syrup juice and allow to cool.

I like to add a few flaked almonds to the top of the cake mix before putting in the oven and it's also very nice using Sicilian blood oranges when in season.

CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 Plant from which linen is made (4)
- 3 Matrimony (8)
- 9 Non-professional (7)
- 10 Ski slope (5)
- 11 In that place (5)
- 12 Slumbering (6)
- 14 Maxim (6)
- 16 Gentle wind (6)
- 19 Fully developed (6)
- 21 Venomous snake (5)
- 24 Preliminary period (3-2)
- 25 Alleviate (7)
- 26 Stubbornly persistent (8)
- 27 Small island (4)

Down

- 1 Flute player (8)
- 2 Stop sleeping (5)
- 4 Aviator (6)
- 5 Drive back (5)
- 6 Severely simple (7)
- 7 Always (4)
- 8 Sea between Greece and Turkey (6)
- 13 Bring back (8)
- 15 Pined (7)
- 17 Actually (6)
- 18 Rue (6)
- 20 Higher (5)
- 22 Sediment (5)
- 23 Jason's ship (4)

Solution on page 36



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Wrington Parish Council

Bristol airport expansion

Bristol Airport has submitted a planning application to North Somerset Council to increase passenger numbers from 12 to 15 million per year (alongside runway and site boundary extensions and related development). By the time you read this, the application should be out for consultation. In the meantime, you can find out more about the Airport's plans on North Somerset Council's website.

<https://n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/planning-building-control/planning-applications/bristol-airport-proposals>

Potential development at Cox's Green



Residents might be interested in an outline planning application for up to 80 dwellings at Cox's Green. More information about the potential development can be found on North Somerset Council's website under Planning, application number: **26/P/0296/OUT**. North Somerset Council aim to make a decision on this by 26th May. Residents are also welcome to come into the Parish office during opening times to view the application.

Wrighton Parish Council

Multi-use-games/sports area on the Recreation Field

Following consultation some time ago, this is still going ahead; the project stalled for a while for various reasons unfortunately. A specification and tender document has now been written, the plan is to have a hard-standing multi-use sports area with sports markings, hoops and goals for general use, as well as potentially for some sports training. Some other new items of interactive equipment and safety surfaces will be installed adjacent to it, along with the removal of some of the older pieces of equipment.

Meetings in April 2026

Tuesday 19th May 2026 - Planning Committee meeting at 6.30pm

Wednesday 20th May 2026 - Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm

Wednesday 29th April – Annual Parish meeting at 7pm in the Memorial Hall, refreshments served from 6.30pm

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

Email: clerk@wrightonparishcouncil.gov.uk
www.wrightonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Yatton Local History Society

Tuesday May 5th

talk by Katherine Groves on Commonwealth War Graves

7 30pm Yatton Methodist Church BS49 4DW.

Contact yattonlocalhistorysoc@gmail.com

Local Enterprises - Wrington Beer Festival

The festival was the brainchild of Simon Gait (of Twisted Oak Brewery) with his friend, James Beyer, the first event having taken place some 7 years ago. Since then, the annual event has flourished and evolved with substantial funds having been raised for local charities.

This year's event took place in the Memorial Hall at the end of March and was a huge success and I can personally vouch for the welcoming environment and the sociability of those attending. Indeed, it became more sociable as time went on! Festival goers were not limited to locals and some travelled from far and wide to attend.

Some 19 beers and 5 ciders were available for tasting with a wide range of flavours and strengths, the beers ranging from porters and mild to fruity IPAs. The barrels are acquired and set up by Twisted Oak Brewery on the Thursday before the event then tapped the following day. Each barrel was donated by a specific sponsor which means that, with the small entrance fee, a useful profit is made. After expenses this profit is distributed amongst local charities and, over the years, almost £25,000 has been raised.

This year some 250 people attended during the afternoon and evening session and £3000 was raised to support local charities. The recipients were - The Scout and Guide Group, Wrington Youth Drama Group, Wrington and Redhill Youth Football Teams, Wrington Lunch Club and Wrington Lantern Parade.

The organisers owe a debt of thanks to the jolly volunteers behind the bar and behind the scenes and to the local Scouts, Guides and Explorers For providing the food and to Twisted Oak Brewery for ordering the beer, cider and glasses and collecting and delivering the beer. They request your support by buying their beer.

The programme states that the event is run purely so the organisers can have a beer festival that they can stagger home from but, in truth, this a great community event and long may it continue.

Tony Morris



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Wrighton Vale Rotary Club

March Breakfast Meeting



At our March Breakfast Meeting, retired geochemist **Tony Morby** delivered a compelling insight into the world of critical minerals and their growing importance to global economies. He explained that nineteen key elements underpin modern technologies, with China currently dominating global processing — handling more than half of the world’s lithium, two-thirds of its cobalt, and almost all rare earth elements.

Tony highlighted emerging alternatives, including **Greenland’s significant Tanbreez rare earth deposit, expected to be fully operational by 2029, alongside other promising sites. He also noted Cornwall’s renewed prospects, where lithium, tungsten and tin could once again be extracted at South Crofty.**

His talk ranged from the chemistry inside our smartphones to environmental case studies, and the lively questions that followed showed just how fascinated everyone was.

Our next Breakfast Meeting is on Wednesday 6th May at the Mendip Activity Centre BS25 5BQ at 0800, finish at 0900 sharp. No booking required.

The speaker will be our own **Nigel Oakley Making AI work for you** as you will see below:



Come a bit earlier, have chat and a bacon bap. No need to book! Further information from Angie Biggs 07790 400718

Save the date!

Wrington Fair Week 2027 ***Saturday 29th May to Sunday 6th June*** ***2027***

It only happens once every five
years

Minack Theatre, near Land's End. The subject of this month's Wrington WI speaker, **Sandra Bateman.** See page 43



LOCAL INTEREST

DOES ALL SAINTS CHURCHYARD LOOK GOOD?

FRIENDS OF WRINGTON CHURCHYARD

Registered Charity no. 1093436

Notice of the Annual General Meeting 2026

The trustees of the charity *Friends of Wrington Churchyard* will be holding their Annual General Meeting in The Reading Room, The Triangle, Wrington on Tuesday 2nd June 2026 starting at 8.00pm.

This is an open meeting so please do come along to hear about what this charity does for the benefit of our community. You will be most welcome.

Jeremy Birkett (*Hon. Secretary*) – 07710 878292

Solution to Crossword on page 26

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✉ judyclarke@gmail.com

Wroughton Minibus News

Our trips are open to everyone in the community. To reserve your seat, contact Gill on the Minibus Booking Line: 07895 418560 or email wroughton.minibus@gmail.com. Below are details of the more unusual and new destinations. Please check the full schedule at the back of the journal to see the full list of trips, including a wide range of shopping outings. Where prices are mentioned below, they are entry fees and do not include minibus fares, which are shown on the schedule. There are more trips to paid destinations than usual in June, but there are so many exciting things happening, we couldn't resist including them!

MAY

Wed 6th: Mystery Tour through the Wye Valley with lunch stop and views

Thur 7th: Rocky Mountain Nursery – stock up your bedding plants and your fruit and veg drawer.

Mon 11th: Swindon Designer Outlet Centre, next to **Steam Railway Museum** (park the partner and shop!)

Wed 13th: NEW! The Devil Wears Prada 2 @ the Curzon (evening performance)

Fri 15th: NT Dyrham Park and (optional) exhibition: 'William Blathwayt and the birth of modern Britain'.

Discover the fast-changing world of the late 17th century when leading civil servant Blathwayt started rebuilding Dyrham Park.

Mon 18th: Cheddar Caves, starring Wallace and Gromit Cracking news – 50 years of Aardman magic represented by an illuminated trail using figures from Longleat Festival of Light. Discounted entry, just under £20

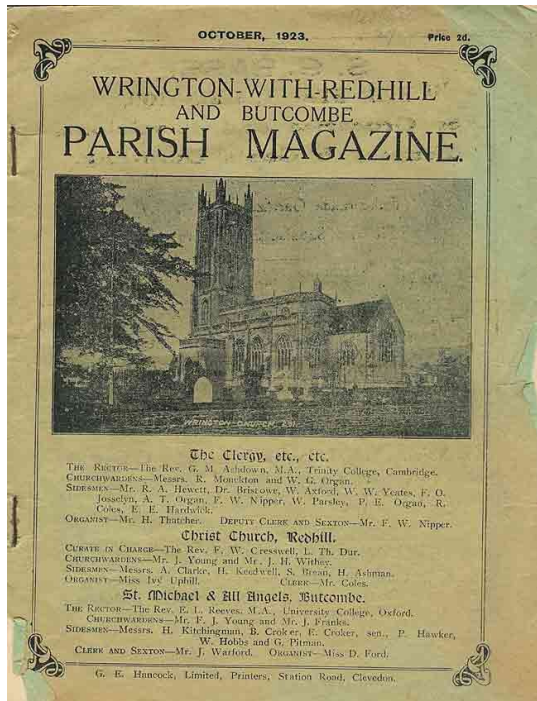
Wrighton Minibus News

Wed 27th: Imperial Retail Park : M&S Food, Next, the Range, TK Maxx, Argos, B&M, B&Q, Pets at Home ... this is a recommendation from a regular passenger.

Thur 28th: National Theatre Live @Curzon, Playboy of the Western World (evening performance)
“darkly funny tale full to the brim with secrets” (£14.50/£16.00 tickets)

A taste of things to come - the first Parish Magazine

October 1923



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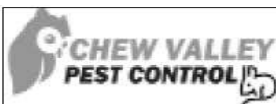
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Wrington WI – April 2026

We enjoyed a **successful and very interesting meeting** for our April get-together. Members and visitors heard an informative and engaging talk, “**The Magic of Minack**”, presented by **Sandra Bateman**. She shared the fascinating history of the Minack Theatre, perched dramatically on the cliffs near Land’s End in Cornwall, and brought along a wonderful display of programmes and photographs for us to enjoy.

A small group of members also had a night out at **Weston Playhouse** to see *42nd Street*. It was a **stunning, fast-moving and colourful show**, thoroughly enjoyed by all who went.

Throughout April we continued our usual social gatherings at **Mother Hen** and **The Plough**, and the **Play Reading Group** is about to begin reading *The History Boys*.

Our **May meeting** will take place in the **Memorial Hall** on **Thursday 14 May at 7.30pm**. We will spend a sociable evening discussing the **National Federation Resolutions**. The winning resolution will then be supported by the WI. This year’s topics are:

- The provision of **more public toilets**
- **Homelessness among women** Both are important and timely issues.

We also have several events in the pipeline:

- A **History Walk** around **Wrington** with Mark Bullen in July
- A possible **Skittles evening**
- A **walk on the Levels**

Our **Charity Fundraiser** will be held on **Saturday 26 September** — a date for your diary.

We also have an **open meeting in June**, titled “*Mars for a Future Generation*”. Look out for the posters.

Visitors and prospective members are **always welcome** — do come along and give us a try.

Yours in Friendship Chris P

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Cantiamo Spring Concert

Cantiamo will be presenting their **Spring Concert** on **Sunday 10 May** at **6pm** in **All Saints Parish Church, Wrington**.

The programme follows the **Genesis story of Creation**, featuring **Aaron Copland's *In The Beginning*** alongside beautiful works by **Ēriks Ešenvalds, Stanford, Whitacre, Bainton**, and others.

The choir will be joined by soprano **Josephine Goddard** for the Copland. Josephine grew up in **Churchill** before studying at the **Royal College of Music Opera School**. Her return to the area offers a special reunion with **Sarah Joskey**, Head of Wrington Primary School and a member of Cantiamo, who taught Josephine during her time at Churchill Primary.

The concert is **free to attend**, and **donations** towards the **All Saints Church vestry refurbishment fund** will be warmly appreciated.



Winscombe District u3a

Monday, 18th May 2026 starting at
2:30 pm Main Event Hall, Winscombe
Community Centre, Sanford Road
BS25 1JA

Speaker: Paul Ralph of Ad Astra Cider Ltd

With a talk entitled: "From the Air Force to Apples". Visitors welcome £3

Refreshments from 2pm.

HISTORY- WRINGTON DOCTORS

By Mark Bullen

Ernest George Douglas Pineo

Although strictly speaking Ernest Pineo was a Langford doctor, between 1910 and 1935 he worked in partnership with Wrington doctors Bristowe, Wood, Arthur Rowley and Herbert Maxwell.

He was born on 20 April 1872 and by 1881 he was living in Midhurst, Sussex with his parents. His father, Francis Baring Pineo, was an Admiralty clerk.

Twenty years later he was living in Blagdon with his parents, sister and one servant.

The 1900 edition of the Medical Directory showed Pineo listed as a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons employed as the Resident Medical Officer at the National Sanatorium in Bournemouth. The Burrington marriage records show that in April 1902 he married Emma Elizabeth Mary Moore of Bournemouth, whom he presumably met during his time working at that town's sanatorium.

Ten years later the directory showed him living at *Mendip View* in Langford, with a considerable list of achievements: M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P (Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians) Lond. 1896 (Univ. Coll. Lond). Hon. Med. Off. Cripples' Convalescent Home, Churchill; Med.Off. Churchill District. Axbridge Union; Med. Off. G.W.R; Med.Off. Post.Off; Mem. Brit.Med.Assoc; late House Surg. Boscombe Hosp, and Res.Med.Off Weston-super-Mare Hospital and Dist. and Nat. Sanat for Consump. Bournemouth.

The *Bath Chronicle* of 12 March 1903 reported that Pineo's wife Elsie had given birth to a son (Norman) at their home, *Mendip View* in Langford. Dudley Pineo was born 4 years later and Rosemary Hellen 5 years after that.

By the time of the 1911 census, he and his family had moved to *Richmond House* in Langford, where he spent the rest of his career as a G.P. The Pineos also employed three servants.

By 1910, he was listed as the single doctor in the Kelly's directory for Wrington (Branch, the principal surgery being in Langford).

Like many other medical men caught up in the First World War, including four of the other Wrington doctors, Ernest Pineo served in the R.A.M.C. (as a Captain) and, like all of the others except Alfred Benson, survived to continue his career as a rural physician.

We have to wait until 1925 before we find another newspaper article, dated 16 September, that mentions Dr. Pineo. Tragically, it involved the death of his son after crashing his motor cycle near Minehead.

LANGFORD YOUTH'S END. STORY OF FATAL SMASH NEAR MINEHEAD

Car Driver Censored by Jury.

The story of how a Langford lad met his end was told at an inquest held at Minehead yesterday. The deceased, Norman Douglas Pineo, of Richmond House, Langford, was killed in a collision between the motor-cycle which he was driving, and a 14h.p. Bentley motor-car, driven by Mr. F.W.G. Warren, a bacon curer, of Bilston, Staffordshire. Twenty-two-year-old Norman had been studying to be a chartered accountant.

Wrington solicitor Dubric Wood, son of Frederic Wood and ex-WW1 motor-cyclist despatch rider, acted for Dr. Pineo.

To be continued.....



Tales from the Rostrum – Andy Stowe

Antique programmes are hard to escape on television these days but interest in auctions and all things retro seems to be as popular as ever. We have a number of well-respected auction houses in our area and one of the established ones is Auctioneum (formerly East Bristol Auctions) in Hanham. Andy Stowe, who can be regularly seen on shows like Bargain Hunt, is a director, senior valuer and auctioneer there, and is our speaker here on Tuesday 19th May at 8pm.

Andy's talk, 'Highlight & Stories - Tales From The Rostrum' is a fun look at some of the most interesting items they've sold over the last decade, and the stories behind them. He also looks at the history of auctioneering and how an auction house works.

Further ahead in June, we are holding our meeting at Barley Wood House again following our enjoyable evening there last year. Our speaker will be the popular Professor Ronald Hutton talking about the Traditional Festivals of Britain. More details next month.

All WLHS meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday at the URC Chapel, talks starting at 8pm with refreshments served beforehand. All are very welcome, members £1, non-members £2.50. We also very much welcome new members at any time. Hope to see you.

Steve Osman (Secretary)
osmansteve@yahoo.co.uk

Wrighton Community Minibus

Wrighton Community Minibus May-June 2026

To book or sign up for our monthly e-newsletter,
call us on 07895 418560 or email

wrighton.minibus@gmail.com



MAY

Fri	1	10:00	£5.00	*	Clifton Village
Wed	6	09:30	£15.00	**	Wye Valley Tour with lunch stop
Thur	7	10:00	£5.00		Rocky Mountain nursery & fruit/veg shop
Fri	8	10:00	FREE		Nailsea Shops
Mon	11	09:30	£15.00	**	Swindon Outlet Centre/Steam Museum
Wed	13	10:00	£5.00	*	Wells for lunch
Wed	13	18:30	£2.00		NEW! The Devil Wears Prada 2 @Curzon
Fri	15	09:30	£5.00	*	Dyrham Park (National Trust) & Exhibition
Mon	18	10:00	£5.00	*	Cheddar Caves & Wallace & Gromit
Wed	27	10:00	FREE		Imperial Park Shops (Bristol)
Thur	28	18:00	£2.00		Curzon, NT Live: Playboy of the Western World
Fri	29	11:30	£5.00	L	Pub Lunch - Failand Inn

JUNE

Wed	3	09:30	£5:00		Wells
Thur	4	10:00	£5.00	*	The Mall @ Cribbs Causeway
Fri	5	14:30	£5.00	**	SS Great Britain and photography exhibition
Wed	10	08:50	£5.00	*	Waverley cruise - Clevedon around Holm Islands
Fri	12	10:00	£5.00		Queensway/Flowerdown Shops
Sat	13	10:00	£5.00	*	Dig for Victory Show at NS Showground
Mon	15	10:00	£5.00	*	Gloucester Quays Shopping
Wed	17	09:00	£15.00	**	Bridport (option intro/tour by ex-Wrighton resident)
Fri	19	10:00	£5.00	*	Coates English Willow Centre (optional tour)
Wed	24	10:00	£5.00	*	Wells for Lunch
Thur	25	08:30	£10.00	**	W. Somerset Railway to Dunster Castle/Village
Fri	26	11:30	£5.00	L	Pub Lunch: Riverside Inn, Cheddar



SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday 4th July 2026

WRINGTON MINIBUS

Annual Fundraising Lunch

12:30 for 13:00

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Directory of Clubs & Societies - May 2025

Name	Contact	Telephone	Email
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Joyful Spirit Gospel Choir	Marshall Clements	01934 863285	mtclements@btconnect.com
Royal British Legion	John Gallop	01934 862621	
Sing for Fun (Wrighton)	Jan Murray	01934 853518	info@churchillmusic.org.uk
Winscombe District u3a			www.u3asites.org.uk/Winscombe/
Wrighton Badminton Club	Lynda Bullen	01934 863450	lynda6yeomans@gmail.com
Wrighton Bowling Club	Fred Cowgill	01934 861221	
Wrighton Cricket Club <i>Saturday Team</i>	Mike Clements	07831 567202 01749 678362	mike.clements6@gmail.com
Wrighton Cricket Club <i>Wednesday Friendly</i>	Peter Rudge	07947 254897	peterudge86@gmail.com
Wrighton Cricket Club <i>Juniors</i>	Ali Ledbury	07773 890350	aliledbury@hotmail.co.uk
Wrighton Drama Club	Julie Plant	07535 582694	wdtickets@gmail.com
Wrighton Gardening Club	Jill Cowgill	01934861221	jill.cowgill@gmail.com
Wrighton Local History Society	Steve Osman	07852 366004	osmansteve@yahoo.co.uk
Wrighton Minibus Society	Adrian Hopkins	01934 863857	
	Bookings	07895 418560	
Wrighton Redhill Football Club	Chris Holland	07792 937920	
Wrighton Skittles Club	John Gallop	01934 862621	
Wrighton Sports and Social Club	Rob Field	07795 031934	therecbarwrighton@gmail.com
Wrighton Table Tennis Club	Paul Mcafferty	01934 862652	
Wrighton Tennis Club	Guy Winterbourne	07970 901273	guy@guywinterbourne.co.uk
Wrighton Womens Institute (WI)	Christine Parnham	01934 862832	christineparnham@aol.com
Wrighton Youth Drama Club	Julie Kingcott	07515 834200	julie@juliekingcott.com

Local Interest

Trinity Singers' next concert will be '**Lazing on a Sunday afternoon**' and will contain a variety of gentle music from composers old and new. It will take you on a journey from sacred music, through the countryside, and you'll hear of love and loss, and revel in the wonders of warm, starry summer nights.

The programme includes the theme music from the Vicar of Dibley, an arrangement of Scarborough Fair, and music by Lauridson, Byrd and Tallis among others.

This concert will be rehearsed, and conducted, by their Guest Conductor Alison Blundell.

Join them on Sunday June 7th, 2026 at St. Mary's Church, Yatton at 3:30 pm.

This will be a shorter programme of about an hour, followed by tea/coffee and cakes - just perfect for a (hopefully) sunny Sunday afternoon!

Tickets are available from their website www.trinitysingers.co.uk or from members of the choir.

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RNLI MENDIP COLLECTION COORDINATOR

For the last three years (2023 – 2025) our Branch Secretary Mary Wallace has also acted as the Coordinator and Manager of all our large Bucket Collections (Supermarkets & Garden Centres). Over that period Mary has organised collections at 17 venues (mostly Tesco's) that have raised £14,431, a brilliant effort and result. Mary is continuing as Branch Secretary but the Committee thanks her for her fund raising success over those three years

COLLECTION AT WELLS TESCO – SATURDAY 25 APRIL

Caroline Bullen and Julie Barber have taken over now as the Branch's "Collection Coordinators" and made a successful start at TESCO, WELLS with a RNLI Bucket Collection from 9:30am to 5:00pm on Saturday 25th April. The team made "Best Sped" to Wells and anchored at the Store entrance wearing yellow tabards and deployed their "Rescue Buckets" and "Card Reader" among the Saturday Shoppers. The team smiled sweetly and engaged with anybody and everybody, talking about the RNLI in general, local lifeboat stations, and our Branch role in supporting "Saving Lives at Sea". Results and photographs will appear in the June magazine.

EARLY BIRD GARDEN SALES AT MIKE'S TABLE IN AXBRIDGE

Our chief Grower Christa Loughrey has already supplied early year plants and seedlings on "Mike's Table" outside April Cottage in Jubilee Road, Axbridge where business is great as stock is selling at a rapid rate and she has already raised several hundred pounds. If you want to be ahead of the Mayday RNLI Plant Sale, why not pop down to Axbridge and take a look!

MAYDAY! MAYDAY! MAYDAY! – FINAL CALL FOR RNLI MENDIP BRANCH PLANT & GARDEN SALE SATURDAY 9 MAY

RNLI Mendip Branch will hold the Annual "Mayday!" Plant & Garden Sale on Saturday 9th May at 10:00am at Winscombe Community Centre, Sandford Road, Winscombe, BS25 1HP. Stalls will include Greenhouse plants; Runner and French beans, Courgettes; Bedding plants, Garden Fillers; shrubs; garden items; garden & domestic tools; and guest stalls plus new ideas all at "Give-Away" prices. There will be refreshments and drinks available. Come and join us for some great value Garden & Greenhouse items! Contact Tina Joyce by e-mail mee-jlffh@gmail.com or tel 01934 842304 or Mary Wallace by e-mail mary.wallace@hotmail.co.uk or tel 01934 842075 for more details.

RNLI LIFEGUARDS ON BEACHES – SILVER ANNIVERSARY

RNLI Lifeguards were introduced on UK & Irish beaches in 2001 so this year is the RNLI Lifeguards Silver Anniversary. The special anniversary campaign launched on Saturday 4th April ahead of the “Lifeguard Summer Season” and will encompass “World Drowning Prevention Day” on 25th July and culminate in “Lifeguard Appreciation Day on 31st July. In 2024, they carried out over 2M (2,349,150) preventative actions. In addition, they attended 13,135 incidents, helped 17,068 people, and saved 85 lives. More information about special events will be provided in future editions. Lifeguards will return to Brean & Burnham beaches from 4th July to 7th September

TRAFALGAR NIGHT DINNER 2026

Preparations are well under way for the second RNLI Mendip Branch Trafalgar Night Celebration that will be on Saturday 24th October at the Batch Country House; Lympsham, BS24 0EX, The Planning Team has met with the Batch management and agreed the evening will begin at 6:00pm, Dinner at 7:15pm, Dancing after Dinner, and end with Carriages at midnight. There will be a Guest Speaker and the customary Trafalgar Toasts plus some extra highlights. Further details will be available for the June magazine.

RNLI LIFEBOAT DAY – SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER

This year the RNLI is planning to hold a nationwide Lifeboat Day on Saturday 10th October and Mendip Branch will be organising a collection at one of our usual collection venues

MARCH SHOUTS

In March, there were 8 “Shouts” between our four Somerset Lifeboat Stations (Burnham – 3, Minehead – 1, Portishead – 2, Weston-super-Mare – 2).

Weston Lifeboat crew were paged at 4pm on Mother’s Day (15th March) by the HM Coastguard to assist with an incident at Sand Bay. Both lifeboats sat back off the beach on standby whilst emergency services supported the casualty on the beach.

Despite it being Mother’s Day, Mum and boat crew Laura dropped everything and headed straight to the station when the page came in. Consequently, Laura went out as support crew on the D Class Lifeboat.



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From Magpie to Maker

Some passions begin with a birthday gift. For local silversmith and Wrington resident Michelle Gibbs, founder of Bella Silver Jewellery, a little birthday money and a life-long love of anything silver set her on a path that would eventually lead to one of the most rewarding small businesses in the area.

“I’ve always been a magpie,” she says — drawn instinctively to the gleam of silver, the intricacy of its patterns, and the stories held within old and vintage pieces. When she enrolled on a silversmithing course, she arrived with a clear vision: to work with antique silver, breathing new life into heirlooms that had spent too long locked away in cupboards. Her tutor, however, was less than encouraging. Told it was “far too time-consuming and difficult” to ever make a living, she did what any determined maker would do — she took it as a challenge. “It was the right thing to say to me,” she laughs. “Like a red flag to a bull.”

Her first break came in 2019, when Julie Kingcott offered her space in her art gallery here in Wrington. That early support gave Michelle the confidence to keep going, and her reputation for beautiful, thoughtful work began to grow.

Last May, she made the move to Middlecombe Nursery, where owners Nigel and Izzy have created something rather special — an arts and artisans courtyard where local makers can work and sell side by side. It’s proved to be a wonderful fit. Visitors love not just browsing the finished pieces, but watching them being made, a reminder that craft is as much about the process as the product.

The commissions Michelle treasures most are deeply personal ones: families bringing in sets of old cutlery, silverware passed down through generations, and asking for rings, pendants, and bracelets to be made from them. The silver stays in the family, but in a form that can finally be worn and loved again.

If you’d like to commission a bespoke piece, or simply pay a visit, you’ll find Michelle and six fellow makers at Middlecombe Nursery, Congresbury, BS49 5AN. It’s well worth the trip.

Thanks, Jess





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