

# THE JOURNAL

LOCAL NEWS, PEOPLE AND EVENTS IN  
WRINGTON, BUTCOMBE, REDHILL AND BURRINGTON

July 2026



Some of the cast of the Vicar of Dibley

See our review on page 32

# Editor's Letter - July 2026 Issue

Another month has rolled by and, before we know it, half the year has gone. By the time you read this, the daylight hours will already have started to shorten. The summer has been a little varied in weather so far, but those longer evenings are still something to be savoured.

This is the last *Journal* before our summer break, with the next issue appearing in September. It is encouraging to see more contributors coming forward, especially those covering local events, businesses and organisations. The range of voices and topics really does strengthen the *Journal* and reflect the life of the village.

Because we print in black and white, photos do not always reproduce as well as we would like. However, every month all photos are also uploaded to the website. Visit

<https://wringtonvillage.com/journal-photos-2026/>

and select the month you want to view. I only began this in May, so I am still refining the layout of these pages, but it is a chance to see all the images in full colour. If you do not have access to the internet, please ask someone who does to show you the photos.

No doubt many of us are intrigued by the disappearance of the School Road dog poo bin. I have been trying to work out why someone would remove it within an hour of it being re-sited. That alone is frustrating, but what followed has been worse: people have been putting dog waste bags into the general litter bins. Yes, technically they are allowed to do this, but it would be far more community-minded to find another dog bin or, better still, take the bag home and dispose of it properly. Yesterday, walking past the spot where the bin used to be, I noticed someone had simply dropped a full bag on the pavement. Not pleasant for anyone.

I have spoken to the Parish Council, who confirmed that the bin will be replaced, although they could not yet give a timescale.

On that note, I wish all our readers a very happy and restful summer. Enjoy the sunshine when it appears, and I look forward to seeing you all again in September.

**Trevor Parnham**

Editorial; send to [journalwrington@gmail.com](mailto:journalwrington@gmail.com). Preferably word document .

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## What is happening in the next few weeks?

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# News from All Saints Church, Wroughton

Dear friends,

The Anglican Church has its share of unusual heroes: Thomas Ken, the C17th Bishop of Bath and Wells who stood up to the Crown; William Temple, whose ideas helped shape the post-war Welfare State; and Desmond Tutu, who resisted apartheid and later worked to unite the new South Africa. Yet few have been lifted from obscurity quite like the woman whose 150th anniversary we celebrate this Summer: Mary Sumner.

Unless you've studied Church of England history, her name may mean little. Yet through her work she founded one of the largest mission organisations Anglicanism has known: the Mothers' Union. Born in 1828 and married to an Anglican priest, Mary felt called in 1876 to support mothers from all backgrounds. After a speech at the 1885 Portsmouth Church Congress, women returned to their parishes inspired to form similar groups. By the end of the century, Mothers' Union had over 169,000 members. These groups became rooted in their communities, supporting one another, giving a voice to disadvantaged women and addressing wider social issues.

Today, Mothers' Union continues to champion family life, influence social policy, combat gender based violence, run contact centres and pray for families. Overseas, its work is remarkable: in Burundi and South Sudan, literacy programmes have reached over 250,000 people in the last decade, while elsewhere women receive start-up loans for small businesses, often transforming their communities.

Our own benefice will mark the anniversary on the first weekend in July: a coffee morning from 10.30–12 noon on Saturday 3rd July in All Saints', Wroughton, followed by "Takeover Sunday" at the 9.30 am service the next day. Do join us.

As we celebrate a major mission organisation, let's also remember how one woman made a lasting difference simply by gathering people and acting locally. Few of us will found global movements, but we can all shape the communities where we live.

Before I sign off, heartfelt thanks to everyone involved in Andrew and Cathi's touching farewell. Your generosity meant so much to them.

Every blessing,

David

Rector of the Wroughton benefice (Burrington, Butcombe, Langford, Redhill)

## **Christ Church Redhill**

May 31<sup>st</sup> saw the congregation of a United Benefice fill Christ Church Redhill for Andrew Hemming's final Communion service. The singing raised the roof and the coming together of so many of Andrew's parishioners and friends was heart-warming. There was a presentation to show appreciation of his 12 years devoted service to Redhill, flowers for his wife Cathi and wine and nibbles to conclude and cheer.

And then, on June 7<sup>th</sup>, there was an opportunity for a vast number of Redhill folk to come together for Andrew's final Family Service followed by a Bring-and-Share lunch in Redhill Club. There was a presentation of a Bristol Blue Glass gift to both Andrew and Cathi, a fantastic cake made by Dee Taylor and a great coming together of all ages to thank Andrew for all he has done for our church in Redhill.

Andrew was such a blessing to Christ Church and the village in so many ways and we can't imagine, at the moment, what the church and village will be like without him.

Needless to say, we, his congregation, are heartbroken to have to say goodbye but we wish him and Cathi much happiness, many adventures and an exciting retirement.

Lindy Wood and Dee Taylor – Chapel Wardens

### **Winscombe District u3a**

**Monday 20th July starting at 2.30 pm**

Main Event Hall, Winscombe Community Centre, Sandford Road, BS25 1JA

**Speaker: Chris Sperring of the Hawk and Owl Trust**

**Talk entitled:** 'Hawks and Owls'

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## NEWS FROM ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, BUTCOMBE

Our annual Teddy Bears Picnic was held on Sunday, 14th June in glorious sunshine. All the children enjoyed watching their teddy bears parachute from the church tower and landing safely. We all enjoyed refreshments and playing together.

On Sunday, 5th July we will celebrate Parish Communion at 11.15am

Dates for your diary -

Sunday, 2nd August - Parish Communion at 11.15am

Sunday, 30th August - St Michaels welcomes everyone to the Joint Benefice Communion Service at 10am

Look out for more details nearer the time on the pew sheet

Liz and Frances



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## United Reformed Church - June 2026

For as long as I can remember, music has been associated in my mind with the Church. As a child I sang with gusto, and even went so far as to sing in a children's choir under the directorship of **Sir Malcolm Sargent** — a name that may still mean something to those of us old enough to remember the black and white pictures on the small screen telly of him conducting the orchestra at the Promenade Concerts in London. I will always remember the love of music that he displayed, a love he learned from playing church organs for congregations as they followed the prophetic words of many of our hymns.

There is much beauty to be found in our church music, and nowhere is this shown more completely than on the internet, browsing some of the great singers of our time, particularly when they sing choral church pieces. I was privileged to hear **Andrea Bocelli** singing *The Lord's Prayer* live in the town square of Locarno in Switzerland. On another occasion, I heard him singing with **Katherine Jenkins** the beautiful song *Heal Me, O Lord*. Such wonderful music in praise of our Lord and Redeemer. Perhaps the beauty of these words will drift into the minds of those who seek to torture and torment their fellow beings, and lead them instead to a place of love for all.

Come and share our prayers at the **Chapel on the Hill**. Join us at the Sunday morning service at **9.30am** for a period of reflection and praise to God. The service lasts for about an hour. Afterwards, share with us a coffee and a chat. There are groups at the service for children and for teenagers.

Generally, on the **second Sunday of every month**, we have a communion service, where we thank God for giving us his love.

If you have pre-school children or babies, you are welcome to come to **Sunbeams** every Wednesday in term time from **10.00 to 11.30am** in the hall alongside the chapel.

**Footprints** (where babies can be weighed) is held on the **first Wednesday of the month**, also from **10.00 to 11.30am**.

The Chapel is hoping to run an **Alpha Course** in the autumn. Anyone interested should contact David, our minister, at [davidjewells@aol.com](mailto:davidjewells@aol.com).

Preachers for July

- **July 5:** Dawn Brown
- **July 12:** Alistair Caulfield (with communion)
- **July 19:** Pastor David

**July 26:** Stephen Loader, Port Chaplain at Avonmouth Docks

August

**August 2:** Pastor David

## WRINGTON BENEFICE SERVICES - June 2026

	All Saints' Wrington	St Michael's Butcombe	Holy Trinity Burrington	St Mary's Langford	Christ Church Redhill
<b>5<sup>th</sup> July</b>	8.00am MP 9.30am P C	11.15am PC	8.00am HC (BCP)	9.30am Café	11.00am P&P
<b>12<sup>th</sup> July</b>	8.00am HC (BCP) 9.30am Café	/	11.00am Matins	9.30am PC	11.00am HC
<b>19<sup>th</sup> July</b>	8.00am MP 6.30pm CE	/	11.00am Rock of Ages in Burrington Combe	8.00am HC	/
<b>26<sup>th</sup> July</b>	8.00am HC 9.30am PC	/	11.00am Matins	9.30am MP	11.00am HC

Café = Café worship

CE = Choral Evensong

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

P&P = Praise and Prayer

## REGISTERS

### WEDDING

#### All Saints'

16<sup>th</sup> May

Darren Cox and Joanne Furnidge

30<sup>th</sup> May

Harry Jones and Mary Barrett

### BAPTISM

#### All Saints'

7<sup>th</sup> June

Emma Cable, aged 35

### FUNERALS

#### All Saints'

4<sup>th</sup> June

William Falconer, aged 74

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# On our farms - June 2026

## Harvesting Through the Seasons

When we talk about harvest, it usually conjures up images of combine harvesters trundling up and down fields of swaying corn in sunny weather, with a trail of straw and dust behind them. But if you think about it, farmers *harvest* many different things at many different times of year.

Dairy farmers harvest milk every day. Poultry farmers harvest eggs daily, and those rearing birds for meat harvest on a regular basis too. Sheep farmers have two crops to harvest: the main one is lamb, and the secondary one is wool.

For those out and about, June is the month when you'll see sheep change from being hot and a bit untidy to sleek, cooler, clean animals — almost as though they've been washed. Shearing is a skilled job that takes a lot of practice to perfect. Modern shearing uses powered clippers similar to those used for cutting human hair, though larger and more robust.

There is a strict sequence to shearing a sheep. This ensures the shearer works efficiently and comfortably, the sheep is kept calm and safe, and the whole fleece comes off in one piece. Shearing every year is essential for welfare: farmers don't want their animals overheating or getting straggly fleeces caught on fences or thorny plants.

The harvested wool has many uses. Beyond clothing and carpets, it can be used for insulating houses, improving acoustics and fire safety, mulching and composting in the garden, and even mopping up oil spills. Thankfully for farmers, the price of wool has risen recently; there was a time when the sale value didn't even cover the cost of shearing.

Before powered clippers, shearing was done with hand blades — working on the same principle as scissors, with every clip done manually. Understandably, this method declined with the arrival of electric clippers, but a few people still practise the art. Andrew Wear at Fernhill Farm has represented Great Britain in the World Hand Shearing Championships and has been officially honoured as a Master Blade Shearer by England Shearing.

While Andy competes in the hand shearing section, others compete in the powered clipping classes. These events are often held at agricultural shows and, once competitors are on stage with hundreds of people watching and commentators describing the action, they become genuinely exciting spectacles. It's not just about speed — the sheep must be shorn safely and tidily — but speed certainly plays a part. The world record for shearing one sheep is 37.90 seconds, and the marathon equivalent is 732 sheep in nine hours.

That is a very quick harvest.

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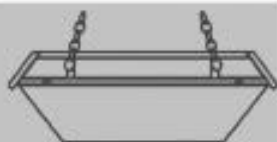
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## Redhill WI

Our June meeting gave us the opportunity to hear a fascinating account from **Sam Walker**, the owner of **Walker and Ling** in Weston-super-Mare, about the long history of the store. He took us back to its early beginnings, with the first shop opening in Bath in the 1850s, before charting the development of the Weston store founded by his great, great, great grandfather.

We enjoyed seeing photographs showing the store's progress through the decades, including the extensive damage caused during the Second World War when a bomber returning to Germany after a sortie over Bristol dropped its remaining load on Weston. The explosion caused serious damage to the store and several neighbouring buildings.

Sam went on to describe how the shop has been carefully re□vamped in recent years, including the installation of new blue mosaic tiles to recreate the original frontage. He also spoke about the much□loved "Bra Bar", which has now been reinstated. While the upstairs still offers more classic clothing, the store now appeals to a younger and more modern clientele, stocking popular ranges such as Seasalt, White Stuff and Joules.

We were particularly amused by Sam's stories about the old fashioned vacuum payment system, which was recently refurbished for them by **Dom Chinea** from *The Repair Shop on the Road*. Although it is no longer in use, we all agreed we would love to have a go!

After refreshments and the raffle, we moved on to the business of the evening and discussed, among other things, our summer outing in August. Suggestions were invited and we are still considering where we might visit. Watch this space.

Our next meeting will be held on **13 July at 7.30pm in Redhill Village Hall**, when our speaker will be **Rob Jones**, a retired Police Officer.

We are always pleased to welcome visitors. We may be a small WI, but we are friendly, active and very welcoming. Several of our members have been with us for over 50 years, which says a great deal about the strength of our group.

**Lindy Wood – Secretary**



## WRINGTON MINIBUS

### Annual Fundraising Lunch

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2026

12:30 for 13:00

Yeomans, Ropers Lane (Memorial Hall if wet)

Last few tickets on sale in Post Office & Spar  
£15 each (if not sold out already!)

## Why Walking to School Matters More Than Ever

For many adults, the walk to school was once a simple, everyday routine — a chance to chat with friends, notice the changing seasons, or enjoy a few quiet minutes before lessons began. Today, busy schedules, traffic, and habit mean many families now rely on the car, even for short distances. Yet walking to school remains one of the most valuable and achievable ways to support children’s health, independence and connection to their community.

The physical benefits are clear. A short daily walk provides gentle, regular exercise that helps build fitness, strengthen muscles and support healthy weight. It also wakes up the body and mind. Teachers often say that children who walk to school arrive more alert, more settled and ready to learn. In a world where many young people spend long hours sitting, these active minutes at the start and end of the day make a real difference.

Walking also encourages independence and confidence. Younger children walking with a parent or carer gain important road safety awareness and time to talk about the world around them. Older children walking with friends develop responsibility, social skills and a sense of ownership over their daily routine. These small freedoms help build resilience and self-reliance — qualities that benefit them far beyond the school gates.

There are strong environmental reasons too. School run traffic is one of the biggest contributors to morning congestion in villages and towns. A single school can generate hundreds of car movements in a short space of time, creating queues, noise and pollution. By choosing to walk, even for part of the journey, families help reduce emissions and improve air quality. Cleaner air is especially important for children, who are more vulnerable to the effects of exhaust fumes. Fewer cars also mean safer roads and calmer crossings for everyone.

Walking to school strengthens community life as well. It brings people onto the streets, encourages neighbourly interaction and helps children feel rooted in the place they live. They notice local landmarks, wildlife, gardens and seasonal changes — the small details that build a sense of belonging.

Of course, walking isn’t possible for every family every day. Work commitments, distance and weather all play a part. But even small steps help. Parking a little further away and walking the last five minutes, arranging a “walking bus” with other families, or choosing one or two walk-to-school days each week can all make a positive difference.

Encouraging children to walk to school isn’t about nostalgia. It’s about supporting their wellbeing, easing pressure on our roads, and strengthening our community. A simple walk can achieve all of that — and more.

**Trevor Parnham—with the help of AI**

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## Recipe for July 2026

### Strawberry Scones

Hopefully strawberry prices will be reasonable now - this is a great way of using them up if they look a little past their best or the less than tasty supermarket ones.

These scones will spread a bit but that gives a bigger surface area for jam and clotted cream or both - a perfect afternoon tea treat.

Another ancient recipe, sadly not metric.



### Ingredients

6 oz chopped strawberries

1lb SR flour + 2 tsp baking powder

5 oz butter or margarine

2 oz granulated sugar

1 egg

3-4 tbsp. full fat milk - or enough to make a soft dough plus some for brushing on top

### Method:

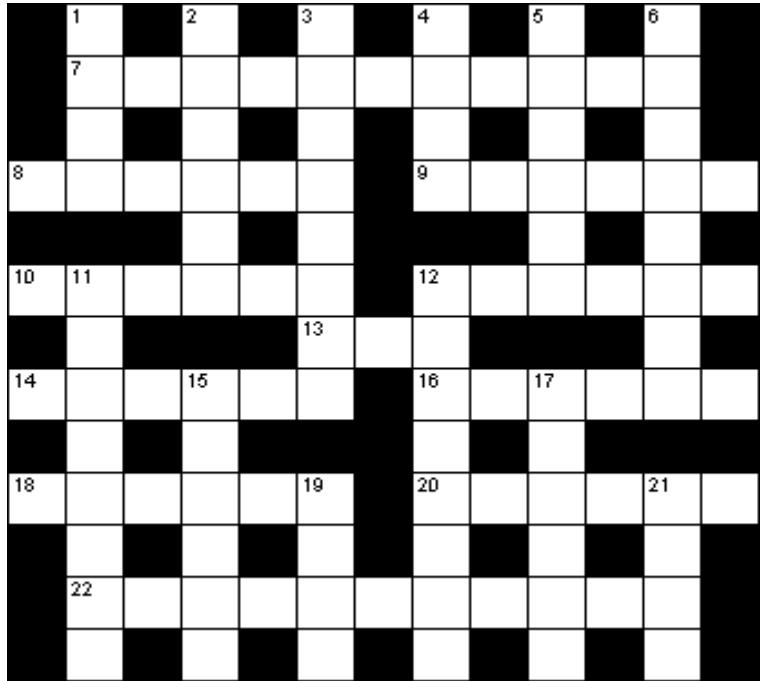
Set oven to 200C fan.

Sift flour and baking powder, rub in butter, add sugar, egg and milk along with the strawberries. The mix will be quite soft. Pat it out and cut into rounds using a 2 inch cutter . You should get about 12, brush on milk and sprinkle over a little sugar

Bake for 15 - 20 minutes or until golden brown .

**Jeanette Wray at Wrington Country Market**

# CROSSWORD



## Across

- 7 Identical (3,4,4)
- 8 Sum of money (6)
- 9 Hate intensely (6)
- 10 Sloping script (6)
- 12 Summary (6)
- 13 Grow older (3)
- 14 Motor fuel (6)
- 16 Bludgeoned (6)
- 18 Fair-haired (6)
- 20 Bequest (6)
- 22 Able to be seen through (11)

## Down

- 1 Stalk (4)
- 2 What follows (6)
- 3 Upright (8)
- 4 Looked at (4)
- 5 Combat (6)
- 6 Sweat (8)
- 11 Three born at the same time (8)
- 12 Odd (8)
- 15 Open-toed shoe (6)
- 17 Seal (6)
- 19 Comfort (4)
- 21 Large town (4)

Solution on page 33

## Local Interest

### Wrighton Gardening Club

# Wrighton Gardening Club Summer Coach Trip Thursday 16 July 2026

Forde Abbey and Gardens, Chard

Leave Wrighton 9.00am

Return 4.30pm /5.00pm

Cost : Gardening Club members :

£35.00

Guests :

£40.00

This includes entry to both the gardens and house

Bookings open from

Thursday 16th April at Gardening club meeting

( priority to members and places confirmed on receipt of payment)



Contact Sally Harden : [sallyhardenuk@aol.com](mailto:sallyhardenuk@aol.com)

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# Wrington Parish Council

## WRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A reminder for the larger Planning Applications that are currently being considered by North Somerset Council for our Parish.

**Bristol Airport Expansion** plans to increase passenger numbers from 12 to 15 million per year and the impact for Felton Common.

<https://n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/planning-building-control/planning-applications/get-involved-planning-applications/comment-planning-application>

Or post your comments to:

Development Management, Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1UJ  
quoting reference 26/P/0686/OU2

### **Deadline 28th June 2026**

#### **Cox's Green**

Land at Cox's Green off Whiting Way, Wrington 80 dwellings.

### **Consultation ended 1st April 2026**

Application No 26/P/0296/OUT awaiting North Somerset Council decision.

<https://planning.n-somerset.gov.uk/online-applications/simpleSearchResults.do?action=firstPage>

#### **Butts Batch**

Land off Butts Batch, Wrington for 49 dwellings.

Application 26/P/0948/OUT **Consultation deadline 26th August 2026**

<https://planning.n-somerset.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=dates&keyVal=TELVZMLPJUZ00>

Or post your comments to:

Development Management, Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1UJ quoting reference 26/P/0948/OUT

Many thanks to all those who have already responded.

# Wrington Parish Council

## WRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

### Meetings in July/August 2026:

**Tuesday 21 July** - Planning Committee meeting at 6.30pm

**Wednesday 15 July** – Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm

**Tuesday 11 August** – 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

---

### **VOLUNTEERING can be FUN and REWARDING**

I have been volunteering at LIFESKILLS FOR LEARNING for over 9 years, teaching Year 6 children safety skills. The work itself consists of taking a group of three or four children around 17 scenarios where they learn the skills they will need in life. During the session the children make mock telephone calls to the Police, Fire and Ambulance which are answered by their teachers. Imagine their surprise when we tell them this! One child however, on being asked for his name during a phone call to the 'Fire Service' replied, 'it's me Mr Williams!' He had recognised his teacher's voice! The children absolutely love the experience. 'Best School Trip ever, Miss,' one boy told me. They are fun, sometimes challenging and eager to learn and boy, are there some characters!

The staff are friendly, welcoming and so appreciative for what we Guides do and to show this twice a year they hold a Street Party for us with fab food and games - yes there is a complete street as one of the sets!

There is no time limit for training to be a Guide. You will shadow a 'trainer' guide until you feel ready to take on one of the scenarios yourself, increasing the number until you feel confident to 'Go Solo!' The job is completely flexible – you just work the shifts that suit you. Expenses are paid for travel whether by car or public transport. My journey is easy - I drive to the Long Ashton Park and Ride and hop on the M2 bus to the Create Centre (less than 5 minutes!).

If you would like to know more about Lifeskills for Learning feel free to phone me on 0778 6690884 or you can contact Lifeskills directly on 0117 9224370. Email: [volunteer@lifeskills-bristol.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@lifeskills-bristol.org.uk)

Rebecca Bryce  
Wrington Village

### Wrington Motors Ltd

The garage was originally purchased, as a going concern, in 1923 by Sidney Kingcott in the name of S.O. Kingcott and has been providing a service to the local community ever since. The Kingcott family owned the business and freehold of the site until 1992 when the freehold was transferred to the Burnetts.

Originally the business was operated from premises in the area behind what is now Buglers, the Spar Shop but it subsequently moved to the present site on the corner of School Road and High Street. The current owner and sole Director is Melvyn Freeman who bought the business from the Kingcotts some 34 years ago.

Melvyn gave me an insight into the recent history and current operations and whilst the business continued without serious interruption for 102 years the covid epidemic proved a difficult period when the staff had to be furloughed and a short-term Government loan and small grant helped them to see it through.

Today the business is thriving and provides a helpful and essential service to local community with friendly and knowledgeable staff. They have, for some time, trained their own technicians and the present operations are undertaken by Peter Gifford, Richard Packer, Kyle Glover and Melissa Hunt in various roles.

The main focus of the business is car repairs and MOTs and they aim to include most makes and models of cars including hybrids, fully electric and classic cars which is incredibly comprehensive in this age of computerised engine control systems. They have a large array of equipment and special tools to ensure vehicles are correctly serviced and repaired. They are able to acquire most spare parts and equipment. Melvyn told me that the only frustration is that the Authorities have not increased the cost of an MOT for 14 years.

If necessary, the garage is able to supply a loan vehicle, in case of need, for longer repairs and from time to time they do sell the odd car when they are sure of its history and operational capability.

Overall, this is a valuable, well run and friendly community amenity service which we hope will continue to survive for a further 103 years!

**Tony Morris**



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## Wrington Vale Rotary Club

### On Board the International Space Station A talk by Jo Richardson, FRAS



Members enjoyed a fascinating and highly engaging presentation from **Jo Richardson, FRAS**, a respected space consultant and close friend of astronaut **Tim Peake**. With striking visuals, Jo brought to life the extraordinary realities of living and working aboard the **International Space Station**.

She described the ISS as an environment of “*very close quarters*”, where astronauts must adapt not only to confined space but also to the profound physical challenges of microgravity. Jo explained the “*terrible effects on the human body of zero gravity for even short periods*”, from muscle loss to changes in bone density and balance.

The audience was particularly struck by the sheer intensity of launch: astronauts are “*accelerated from zero to 17.5 On Board the International Space Station A talk by Jo Richardson, FRAS*”



Jo with President Nigel Oakley

Further information about Rotary from Angie Biggs on  
07790 400718

## Wrington Drama Group's Brilliant Production of *The Vicar of Dibley*

*The Vicar of Dibley* is a much-loved favourite across the UK, with Dawn French's iconic portrayal of Geraldine Granger setting an exceptionally high bar for anyone brave enough to step into the role. It's a show filled with unforgettable characters, sharp humour, and genuine warmth — so for the Wrington Drama Group to take on such an ambitious production was no small task.

Under the direction of **Julie Kingcott**, they absolutely rose to the challenge.

**Eleanor Cashman**, playing Geraldine, delivered a performance so strong that at moments it felt as though Dawn French herself had stepped onto the stage. Her facial expressions, timing, and quick-witted comebacks were spot on, capturing the heart of the character beautifully.

Her dynamic with **Becky Rubidge**, who played Alice Tinker (alongside **Sarah Baliki**), was just as believable as the original pairing. Their portrayal of Alice was wonderfully true to the spirit of the show — sweet, funny, and irresistibly charming.

**Tom Probert** brought Hugo to life with real authenticity, capturing the gentle awkwardness that fans of the series know and love.

And not forgetting the rest of the superb cast:

**Michael Berkley** as David Horton,

**Alan Milne** as Owen Newitt,

**Adam Hall** as Frank Pickle,

**James Hancock** as Jim Trott,

and **Julie Plant** as Letitia Cropley.

Every single cast member contributed to a performance that made us laugh, reminisce, and genuinely feel glad we'd come along. They didn't just recreate the show — they honoured it.

Of course, a production like this isn't carried by the cast alone. The back-stage team deserve immense recognition; their hard work allowed the actors to shine.

I attended the matinee performance, which brought its own lovely atmosphere — a gentle, relaxed afternoon filled with laughter and nostalgia.

Was it, quite simply, a brilliant show?

No, no, no, no... **yes!**

**Lisa Llewelin**

## Local Interest

### **Old Rectory Garden Party- Saturday 18 July 2.30-4.30**

Please come and join us at this year's Garden Party at Wrington's Old Rectory (opposite the Golden Lion in Broad Street.) We are raising much needed funds for Weston Hospicecare.

Explore the beautiful gardens, catch up with family and friends, and enjoy delicious homemade cakes and cream teas, live music, plant sales, face painting and a raffle.

Admission is still only £3 and under 16s are free.

Sorry but we can only take cash on the day so please come prepared with lots of real money.

Unfortunately there are no loos at the venue but all being well the public loos opposite will be open.

Keep fingers crossed for good weather.

Hope to see you there.

**Caroline Agar**

### Solution to Crossword on page 24



See more photos and in full colour on our website <https://wrigtonvillage.com>

Click on “Wrigton Village Journal” Then “Journal Gallery” then select the year and then the month.

As I only started adding them in May, there aren't many options. And the layout is being tweaked.

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# Wrington Minibus News

Below are details of the more unusual/new destinations for August. Please turn to the back of the Journal to see the full schedule for July, August and the first week of September. Details of July's destinations were published in the last Journal but are available on email. If you would like to see them, sign up to receive our monthly e-newsletter, or to book tickets, please contact us on [wrington.minibus@gmail.com](mailto:wrington.minibus@gmail.com) or call **07895 418560**.

Where prices are mentioned below, they are entry fees and do not include minibus fares, which are shown on the schedule.

**Please note: Minibus Fundraising Lunch 4<sup>th</sup> July:** tickets for this popular event may well have sold out by the time you read this article, but please do ring to check. If you need a lift to Yeomans (or the Memorial Hall if wet!), please call or email us.

## AUGUST:

**Tue 4<sup>th</sup> – Lyme Regis** a full day trip to this charming seaside resort: have a swim, walk along the Cobb, look for fossils, or simply sit and watch the world go by with an ice cream

**Wed 5<sup>th</sup> – Yeo Valley Canteen Breakfast** start the day with a delicious breakfast (healthy if you must!)

**Thu 6<sup>th</sup> – Clarks Village Outlet Shopping** We haven't been for a while – who is up for it?

**Tue 11<sup>th</sup> – The Pony Garden NGS open day** Created by RHS Chelsea Garden Show designer Jon Wheatley on the gentle slopes of the Chew Valley. Planted with an eye to the often-changing weather patterns that move through the valley, the pub garden offers year-round interest and edible delights to serve the pub. The 'no dig' kitchen garden is in the adjoining field. (Restaurant not open but they will be serving tea, coffee and cakes). (£7.00 entry)

**Sun 16<sup>th</sup> – Andre Rieu Summer Concert: Viva Maastricht! @ Clevedon Curzon**

## Wrington Minibus News –Continued from page 35

Captured live in his beloved hometown, this brand-new cinema event marks two decades of music and unforgettable summer magic from this master showman, violinist and conductor, joined by his world-renowned Johann Strauss Orchestra and an ensemble of artists. (tickets £14.50 concession, £16 adult)

**Wed 19<sup>th</sup> – Clevedon Court (National Trust)** 14<sup>th</sup> C manor house, 18<sup>th</sup> C terraced garden. Unusual collections of 'Eltonware' studio pottery, Nailsea glass and industrial prints

**Fri 21<sup>st</sup> – Titanic Virtual Experience, Bristol** Relive Titanic's unforgettable journey as if you were one of its passengers ... all in immersive VR (£18 concession, £20 adult tickets)

**Tue 25<sup>th</sup> – Abergavenny** an August staple for the minibus. As Wrington Tuesday Lunch Club is taking the annual summer break, we have an opportunity to visit this charming town and explore the weekly Tuesday market. Sure to be popular!

### EARLY SEPTEMBER

**Thur 3<sup>rd</sup> - Cracking Exhibition, Gromit (50 years of Aardman in Bristol)** In Aardman's 50th anniversary year, step behind the scenes and discover how Wallace & Gromit, Shaun, and Morph come to life! Explore rarely seen models, sets, and secrets of Aardman's iconic stop motion magic, perfect for curious minds of all ages (£6 concession, £10 adult)

### Advance Notice: (booking now open)

**Wed 11<sup>th</sup> November – The Illegal Eagles tribute band** (I've seen them and they are brilliant musicians – recommended! I have tickets reserved (£42.50) but will have to confirm and pay for them by 20<sup>th</sup> July so please book ASAP.

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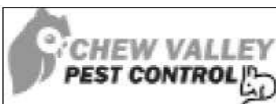
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## Wrighton WI – June /July

We have just enjoyed our June meeting. Our speaker, **Jo Richardson from Space Detectives**, gave us a stunning illustrated presentation about the planet Mars. She posed the question of whether we might ever be able to set up a colony there — the jury is still out on that one, unless your name happens to be Elon Musk.

June is a busy month for us. We are preparing for our **tea and cakes stall at the Village Fete on 27 June**. Please keep your fingers crossed for a fine day.

Our **July meeting** will be held on **Thursday 9 July at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall**, when our speaker will be from **Noah's Ark Farm, Wraxall**.

We also have an **evening History Walk** for members around Wrighton with **Mark Bullen on 23 July**, along with our usual get-togethers in **The Mother Hen, The Plough**, and a **play reading evening**. Plenty to enjoy.

In **August**, we have no formal meeting, but we will be holding our popular **afternoon tea in a member's garden**.

Visitors are always welcome to come along and give us a try — great value at just **£1 including coffee and biscuits**.

See you all at the Fete.

**Yours in Friendship,**  
**Chris**

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## LOCAL INTEREST

### Wrington Table Tennis Club

Looking for a way to ease into the weekend that doesn't involve scrolling your phone or arguing over what to watch? The Wrington Table Tennis Club might just be your answer—and it comes with spin, smiles, and the occasional fish and chip supper.

Founded back in 2016 by Steve Hogg, with a helping hand from Paul McCafferty, the club began life in true village style: a couple of well-loved (some might say “characterful”) tables and a lot of enthusiasm. Fast forward to today, and thanks to the generous support of the Parish Council, the Wrington Beer Festival, the Gardening Club, and other local heroes, we now boast three proper match-quality tables. Not bad for a village club that runs on goodwill and the occasional heroic rally!

We meet every Friday evening from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Wrington Memorial Hall. Bats and balls are provided, so all you need to bring is yourself. Everyone is welcome, but we have one golden rule that we're particularly proud of: kids play for free. It's a great way for younger players to burn off some energy, and maybe even show the adults how it's really done.

The club has always been about more than just table tennis. It's a friendly, welcoming space where newcomers, long-time residents, and players of all abilities can have a laugh and get to know each other. If you've recently moved to the area, there are worse ways to meet people than over a fiercely contested (but good-natured) rally.

As with any good club, there have been a few changes along the way. Founder Steve Hogg has swapped village life for Wells, and Paul, who has since been the main organiser, is also moving on soon. The good news is the club is in safe hands, with Steve Harper, David Veater, and Richard Appshaw stepping up to keep things going strong.

So why not come along and give it a try? Whether you're a seasoned player, a complete beginner, or someone who just enjoys a bit of fun and a chat, you'll be very welcome.

First visit is completely **Free for all**. After that it's just £5:00 per Adult for the full 2 hours.

Email us at [Wringtontabletennis@gmail.com](mailto:Wringtontabletennis@gmail.com)

Scan here to see our Facebook Page and read more about us.



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# Wrington Fair Week 2027

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June**

Yes, it's back. The next Wrington Fair Week may be a year away, but the planning has to start well in advance. It will take place during half-term week so please put Fair Week in your diary to be there! There will be something for everyone.

The Week's programme is still being put together but already we know that some favorites from previous Fair Weeks will return including: **The Wrington Pageant** – tracing the history of our village in an educational but humorous way from well before cars adorned Broad Street! **A treasure hunt** with a twist, music from **The Grey Foxes** banjo band, and **Joyful Spirit Gospel Choir** has kindly agreed to close the week. There'll be **cream teas**, **wine tasting** from three brilliant local vineyards, **guided history tours** of our village and the popular exhibition **Wrington Thru the Lens** will return with a new element.

More events, particularly for young people, are in the early planning stage.

Some events will be free whilst others will be ticketed. We will be inviting people to become Patrons of Fair Week and seeking sponsorship for some events.

Reading this you may realise that a theme running through all events is that they are 'made in North Somerset' and most of them from within the Wrington area. We have such a wealth of local talent and passion.

If you like the sound of all this and would be willing to become involved in making it all happen then it's not too late to join our small team. We would love to hear from you. Fair Week doesn't just appear – it takes a lot of thought and pulling together. For some of our current team this will be their last involvement in a Fair Week so we also need people to learn how a Fair Week is put together in order to have a team for 2032!!

If you would like more information, please contact Jeremy Birkett on [jeremysbirkett@gmail.com](mailto:jeremysbirkett@gmail.com)

Wrington Fair Week is one week every five years.  
There'll be **something local for everyone.**

# WRINGTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

## July Meeting

### Archaeological Secrets of the National Trust - Cat Lodge

Cat Lodge is a Regional Archaeologist for the National Trust, based in the South West.

At our next meeting on Tuesday July 14<sup>th</sup> she will be talking about her role working with property teams to advise on the long-term management of NT sites. Some of the projects she's involved with range from excavations in partnership with the University of Exeter at Killerton and geophysical surveys to uncovering lost histories of places in the care of the National Trust. Also developing ways to embed the historic environment in a positive way to help deliver ambitious targets for nature recovery. Mention will also be made of the upcoming Festival of Archaeology, highlighting some of the local events



Cat is an engaging and entertaining speaker who not so long ago gave us a talk on her previous role as senior archaeologist at North Somerset Council. It was Cat and her team that preserved that triangular piece of land to the north-west corner of the Whiting Way development after discovering its importance as a recreational site in mediaeval times.

Note the meeting is a **week earlier than usual on the 14<sup>th</sup> July**, talk starts at 8pm at the URC Chapel with refreshments beforehand. Non- members £2.50.

## August Meeting

### Wrington and the Great War – Mark Bullen

In 2004 Mark wrote a book of this name and his talk at our meeting on **Tuesday August 18<sup>th</sup>**, will be based on this, examining the impact of the 1914-918 war on the village. We will also be holding the society's AGM.

## Village Fete

Wrington fete is taking place on Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup> in the Court House paddock off Wiltons, so please come and say hello to us at our stand. We will have a variety of interesting items on display around the 1895 Estate sale, some vintage cameras and we will also have our new book, Military Tales from Wrington Churchyard by Mark Bullen, on sale priced £5, cash preferred.

Steve Osman (Secretary)  
[osmansteve@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:osmansteve@yahoo.co.uk)

## Wrington Patient Helpline update

In the last 12 months across North Somerset, staggeringly, volunteer driver schemes have taken patients to 10,500 medical and health-related appointments! All these schemes focus on those who don't have their own transport, family/friends who can help, or where taxis/buses are impractical. Our own Wrington Patient Helpline is one such scheme and has been operating for many years. Currently we have 5 coordinators who man our phone (07783 046437) on a rota basis, as well as a treasurer who keeps the finances in the black. When a call comes in, the duty coordinator will find a volunteer driver from our list who is willing to use their own car to take the patient to the appointment. We try to ensure that drivers only drive once per month, but at busy times it might be more. We also provide transport to visit close relatives in care homes and can even arrange a lift to pick up supplies from the Clevedon Foodbank.

We ask for a donation to cover our driver's costs based on the standard Government approved mileage rate, along with a small extra sum to help cover our overheads, according to people's means. You may be aware that the Government mileage rate was increased at the beginning of this tax year, from 45p per mile to 55p per mile, so from July 1<sup>st</sup>, we are also increasing our suggested donation figures.

As an example, the suggested donation for a round trip into the central Bristol hospitals will now be around £15, Southmead £18, Weston Hospital £14, Nailsea £9, Yatton GP, optician or dentist £5, and Pudding Pie Lane Surgery £4. The Co-ordinators have a list of most popular destinations and can confirm the suggested amount when the appointment is booked.

Should there be an unavoidable car park fee, we ask that patients pay that too, although most of our drivers are adept at finding free parking nearby and coming back to pick up the patient when called!

We are always keen to hear from new volunteers, so if you would like to get involved, either as a driver or as a coordinator, we would love to hear from you. **Please call 07783 046437** to find out more.

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### Please take a look our Blog

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## Directory of Clubs & Societies - June 2026

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 (Wrighton)	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>
Wrighton Badminton Club	Lynda Bullen	01934 863450	<a href="mailto:lynda6yeomans@gmail.com">lynda6yeomans@gmail.com</a>
Wrighton Bowling Club	Fred Cowgill	01934 861221	
Wrighton Cricket Club <i>Saturday Team</i>	Mike Clements	07831 567202 01749 678362	<a href="mailto:mike.clements6@gmail.com">mike.clements6@gmail.com</a>
Wrighton Cricket Club <i>Wednesday Friendly</i>	Peter Rudge	07947 254897	<a href="mailto:peterudge86@gmail.com">peterudge86@gmail.com</a>
Wrighton Cricket Club <i>Juniors</i>	Ali Ledbury	07773 890350	<a href="mailto:aliledbury@hotmail.co.uk">aliledbury@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Wrighton Drama Club	Julie Plant	07535 582694	<a href="mailto:wdtickets@gmail.com">wdtickets@gmail.com</a>
Wrighton Gardening Club	Sue Lamburne	07753 636932	<a href="mailto:s.lamburne321@btinternet.com">s.lamburne321@btinternet.com</a>
Wrighton Local History Society	Steve Osman	07852 366004	<a href="mailto:osmansteve@yahoo.co.uk">osmansteve@yahoo.co.uk</a>
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	<a href="mailto:therecbarwrighton@gmail.com">therecbarwrighton@gmail.com</a>
Wrighton Table Tennis Club	Steve Harper	07850 252797	<a href="mailto:dogtrainingbristol@gmail.com">dogtrainingbristol@gmail.com</a>
Wrighton Tennis Club	Guy Winterbourne	07970 901273	<a href="mailto:guy@guywinterbourne.co.uk">guy@guywinterbourne.co.uk</a>
Wrighton Womens Institute (WI)	Christine Parnham	01934 862832	<a href="mailto:christineparnham@aol.com">christineparnham@aol.com</a>
Wrighton Youth Drama Club	Julie Kingcott	07515 834200	<a href="mailto:julie@juliekingcott.com">julie@juliekingcott.com</a>

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### **RNLI MENDIP BRANCH MAYDAY PLANT & GARDEN SALE - RESULTS**

As part of the RNLI Nationwide “Mayday Events”, RNLI Mendip Branch held its Annual Plant & Garden Sale on Saturday 9th May at 10:00am outside Winscombe Community Centre. Stalls included Greenhouse plants; Runner and French beans, Courgettes; Bedding plants, Garden Fillers; Garden Leisure items; Garden & Domestic tools; a Guest Plant stall, a Fruit & Vegetable stall, Bric-a-Brac and a Grand Raffle. Refreshments were also available.

The weather was fine and sunny which guaranteed a good turnout and a strong steady footfall so that most of the plant stock was sold by midday. Financial results will be published in the July edition.

### **FINANCE RESULTS FOR 2026 to DATE**

The weekly Winscombe Thursday Market table brings in a steady income - £49.56 so far while “Betty’s Pots” continue to produce income, the latest being £50 from the Post Office at Congresbury. This brings the fundraising total for this year to £6,520 by 14th May.

### **ANNUAL REVIEW OF 2025**

RNLI Mendip held its Annual Review on Thursday 14th May. The Annual Review has re-placed the AGM for assessing the events of the Branch for the last year (2025). The meeting was less formal and focused on fundraising targets, future fundraising events and succession planning for 2026. The Treasurer circulated the End of Year Summary which showed that we raised £16,881 in 2025 from 15 events.

### **RNLI SUPERMARKET COLLECTION AT TESCO WELLS**

Mendip Branch conducted a second collection on Saturday 27th June 2026 at TESCO WELLS. Once again, the team was 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 in conversation with anybody and everybody, talking about the RNLI in general, local lifeboat stations and our Branch role in supporting “Saving Lives at Sea”. Results will be reported in the August edition.

### **RNLI LIFEGUARDS ON BEACHES – SILVER ANNIVERSARY 31 JULY**

This year is the RNLI Lifeguards Silver Anniversary and a special anniversary campaign launched on Saturday 4th April. RNLI Lifeguards patrol more than 245 beaches in the UK and Channel Islands every summer and will return to Bream & Burnham beaches on 4th July and will be present until 7th September so you will have the chance to see them in action, examine their equipment and talk to them about what they do. Since the first patrols in 2001, RNLI lifeguards have saved more than 2,000 lives and kept people safe more than 48 Million times. In particular, 31st July is the International Lifeguards Appreciation Day and this is likely to be the centrepiece of the RNLI Lifeguards celebration.

## Local Interest

### **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 approaching Waitrose in Wells to request having a collection box in the store for Waitrose tokens. In addition, our Secretary is negotiating to have a Bucket Collection in a local Supermarket as our contribution to RNLI Lifeboat Saturday.

### **RNLI MENDIP FOLK NIGHT – SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER**

James Barattini has booked a new group “Harbottle and Jonas” for a RNLI Folk Night at St. James Church Hall. Please put this date in your diaries and await more details.

### **TRAFALGAR NIGHT DINNER & DANCE – SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER**

The second RNLI Mendip Branch Trafalgar Night Celebration will be on Saturday 24th October at the Batch Country House, Lympsham, BS24 0EX. The evening will begin at 6:00pm, Three-Course Dinner at 7:15pm, Dancing after Dinner, and end with Carriages at midnight; tickets costing £55 will be available in advance. The Guest Speaker will be Vice Admiral Sir Adrian Johns former Second Sea Lord and Governor of Gibraltar (See Photos below). A further Planning Meeting was held on 29th May; Peter Sparkes RNLI CEO will be invited and all local RN. RNLI and Sea-based organisations will be contacted. More details will be added as they become available.

### **MAY SHOUTS**

In May, there were 11 “Shouts” between our four Somerset Lifeboat Stations (Burnham-on-Sea – 2, Minehead – 2, Portishead – 3, Weston-super-Mare – 4).

Milford Haven Coastguard control paged Burnham-on-Sea lifeboat volunteers, at 5.43 pm, Thursday 14 May, after a yacht reported engine difficulties in the Bristol Channel. The dis-tressed vessel was en route from Burnham-on-Sea to Watchet, when the engine over-heated. Burnham’s Atlantic 85 Lifeboat “Doris Day and Brian” was quickly launched so that the volunteers could do a welfare check of the casualty.

Duty Launch Authority Lyndon Baker explains; “We located the casualty without difficulty and our crew escorted the yacht back to the safety of the Burnham-on-Sea Sailing Club pontoons. (This she did under her own sail and engine power).” The Atlantic 85 was stood down, and returned to Burnham slipway for recovery and wash-down by the volunteer shore crew.

Portishead lifeboat station launched twice to the same incident on 21st May. The first launch was at 12.35 pm. It was believed that a person was in the water near to the Clifton Suspension Bridge. A thorough search was carried out along side Portishead Coastguard Rescue Team, the Coastguard Rescue Helicopter crew from St Athan, Avon and Somerset Police, Avon Fire & Rescue Service and the Ambulance Service.

As the search was carried out the Coastguard Helicopter crew from St Athan conducted a low level search demonstrating incredible skill (See photo where RNLI volunteers look on from the Atlantic 85 class lifeboat whilst the Coastguard Helicopter flies underneath the Clifton Suspension Bridge during the search.) Sadly, even after re-launching at 8.22 pm, to continue the search, nothing was found.



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## Wrington Helpline

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## A Look Back at Wrington From Past Journals

### July 1976

This month we go back 50 years to the time of that exceptionally hot summer.

#### Wrington Village Market

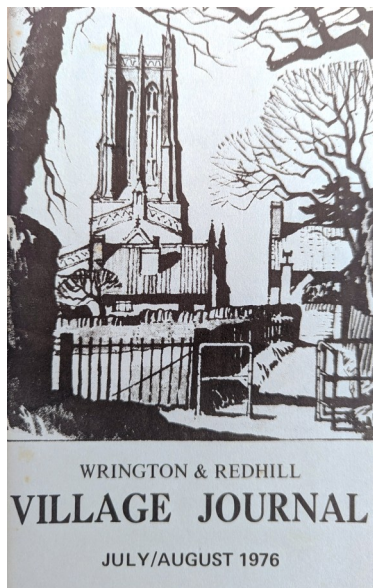
On 10<sup>th</sup> July, 1976, it was agreed to hold a trial village street market in Broad St and The Triangle from 2pm to 5pm on a Saturday afternoon. In the days when parking was in the centre of the road, thirty stalls lined the south side of Broad St, these included books, games, local food produce, clothing, old bottles and an antique stall in The Triangle to raise funds for the mini-bus fund. There would be attractions such as a steam organ, Punch and Judy, a roundabout, pony-trap rides and a fancy-dress parade to open the market.

In view of the American Bicentenary it was decided to run a theme of "American People". Teas were served at the Lankesters in Gatesgarth, High St with soft drinks available in the Reading Room. The Memorial Hall was reserved in case of bad weather but as we know that was not needed in 1976.

By popular acclaim the market, which it was hoped would be the first of many, was voted a great success in excellent weather by both participants and the large crowds attending. The stalls mainly raised funds for local organisations and societies with the total profit ending up at around £1000 (roughly £7,000 today) and which also helped to highlight the diversity of village interests.

Sadly, this was to be a one-off. In 1977 the village celebrated the Queen's Silver Jubilee instead and then in 1978 having decided to hold a bigger and better second event on the 29<sup>th</sup> July, Avon and Somerset Police, although happy in 1976, refused permission on the grounds of "safety to the population of Wrington". A much scaled down mini-market was however allowed in The Triangle in 1978 and 1979 although this does not appear to have continued in later years.

### Steve Osman





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## Wrighton Vale

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Vegetables ♦ Fruit ♦ Eggs ♦ House & Garden Plants  
♦ Flowers ♦ Crafts ♦ Bread

Orders Taken: Jeanette Wray 01934 862427

**All are Welcome Free Admission**

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

## HISTORY -WRINGTON DOCTORS—by Mark Bullen

Arthur Rowley was born on 4 December 1894, to 49-year-old Arthur (a local clergyman) and 28-year-old Agnes, in the village of Wallsall Wood, Staffordshire. The 1901 census records him living at Clarborough vicarage with his parents, younger brother Herbert, and one servant.

Ten years later they had moved to the vicarage at Kneeton in Nottinghamshire, still with the same brother and a cook.

The 1930 Medical Directory lists Rowley as M.R.D.C. and L.R.C.P. Lond. 1925 (University College and Bristol), Med. Off. & Vacc.No.6 Dist. Axbridge R.D.C Med. Off. P.O.; Capt. T.F., Res. (Territorial Force Reserves). Mem. B.M.A. and Bristol M – C. Sec. The directory indicates he was in partnership with Ernest Pineo in Wrington.

By 1935 he had moved to 13 Walliscote Road, Weston-super-Mare, by this time married to a different woman - Hilda, just three years younger than her husband. Intriguingly, in the 1939 England and Wales Register, Hilda lists her “profession” as “Unpaid domestic duties!”

Arthur Rowley, and his wife, were obviously amateur thespians, as reported in November 1929 when both appeared at the Elton Memorial Hall in Clevedon in a play organised by the Wraxall W.I. In August 1931 Rowley gave a talk about the work of a District Nurse to the Wrington W.I.

In August 1931 Dr. Rowley was called to a tragic accident in Wrington involving Mrs. Ellen Brunker, whose husband George was the Memorial Hall caretaker.

Mrs. Brunker had been attending a service at the Salvation Army Hall in the village when, on leaving, she fell down some stairs and broke her neck. Dr. Rowley was immediately called but could not help as Mrs. Brunker had died from her injury almost immediately. She left a husband and two daughters.

Just as in the 1870s Horace Swete had moved from Weston-super-Mare to the Midlands to take on the bigger challenge of running a hospital, so Dr. Rowley was able to use his knowledge and skills at the Queen Alexandra Memorial Hospital, which had opened on *The Boulevard* only a few years earlier. Although we have no details of Rowley’s work there, we do know that in March 1937 he was appointed as honorary assistant physician. It is likely that hospital duties began to take up a greater proportion of his time, particularly as a town the size of Weston would presumably already have had sufficient G.P.’s to service the population.

Within sixteen months the hospital’s Board had agreed to the appointment of a full-time laboratory assistant and appointed Rowley as honorary pathologist and bacteriologist, a post in which his many years of carrying out post-mortems as part of his day-to-day G.P. activities would have stood him in good stead.

Continued on page 61

The *Western Daily Press* confirmed this in an article from September 1938 under the heading: **Experienced Pathologist to Take Charge.**

At their monthly meeting, the hospital's Management Board reported that their new laboratory was nearly finished and when it was, "it would be a big thing for the institution". The hospital had suffered a great setback (although perhaps not such a great surprise) when the County Council pathologists moved to Taunton, and the decision was taken that rather than be dependent on Taunton, or even London, they would set up their own laboratory. Rowley would take charge and in Mr. S.V. Foote (formerly laboratory assistant to Dr. Gray at Bristol University), he would have a very able second-in-command.

A November edition of the same paper continued the story of the hospital's new facility. Since it first opened its doors ten years earlier, it had gradually been adding new departments, including a dental clinic, a training school for nurses and ophthalmic and skin departments. Dr. Rowley's new laboratory would be housed in the old isolation and maternity block. The article described Rowley as "a keen enthusiast in the work" who, of his own volition, had declined the position of honorary senior physician so that he could devote himself to the science of pathology.

Arthur Rowley lived until 17 February 1980, when he passed away at 10B Hemnall Street, Epping at the age of 85, with an estate valued at nearly £18,000.

### **WRINGTON SHOW 2026**

It's only 8 weeks or so till this year's Show on 5 September.

Have you been feeding your tomatoes, protecting your flowers from unseasonal rain, bottling your produce and checking through recipes? Will your knitting be ready?

Schedules are in local shops and it's not too late to decide what classes you're going to enter this year. As a reminder, these are the subjects for this year's Art and Photography Classes:

#### **Class F - Photographic classes (Adult):**

Something of interest  
My favourite view of Wrington

#### **Class L - Photographic classes (Children)**

My favourite place in the village  
Something of interest to you

#### **Class H - Adult Craft Classes (Art)**

A country lane  
View from a window  
Wild or garden flowers (**miniature – postcard size**)

#### **Class J – Children's classes (Art)**

Butterfly

**Good luck everybody!**

**Wrington Show committee**

# Minibus Schedule



## Wrington Community Minibus: July-August 2026

To book or sign up for our monthly e-newsletter, call us on 07895 418560 or email [wrington.minibus@gmail.com](mailto:wrington.minibus@gmail.com)

**Key:** Morning trips return around lunchtime, \* = Back before 3:00p.m.,  
\*\* = Back later p.m., L = Lunchtime trips usually back by 3:00 p.m.

### JULY

Day	Date	Time	Fare		Destination
Wed	1	10:00	£5.00	*	Sanders Garden Centre
Thur	2	10:00	FREE		Clevedon Shops and Market
Sat	4	12:30			Minibus Annual Fundraising Lunch
Mon	6	09:30	£5.00		Purl and Seam @ Curzon (Steel Magnolias)
Wed	8	09:30	£5.00		Wells
Thu	9	09:00	£15.00	**	Bourton on the Water
Fri	10	10:00	FREE		Worle Shops (Queensway/Flowerdown)
Wed	15	10:00	£5.00	*	Cabot Circus
Fri	17	09:30	£10.00	*	Duchess of Cocklemoor trip on the R. Parrett (FULL)
Sat	18	09:30	FREE		Nailsea Farmers' Market
Thur	23	01:30	£5.00	**	Weston Museum Archaeology talk
Sun	26	18:15	£5.00		Rhythm of the Dance at Weston Playhouse
Tue	28	10:00	£10.00	**	Barrington Court (NT)
Wed	29	10:00	£5.00	L	Wells for Lunch
Fri	31	11:30	£5.00	L	Pub Lunch @ Railway Inn

### AUGUST

Tue	4	09:30	£15.00	**	Lyme Regis
Wed	5	09:00	£2.00		Yeo Valley Canteen Breakfast
Thu	6	10:00	£5.00	*	Clarks Village
Tue	11	10:00	£5.00		The Pony NGS open garden (Chew Valley)
Wed	12	10:00	£5.00	L	Wells for Lunch
Fri	14	10:00	Free		Worle Shops (Queensway/ Flowerdown)
Sun	16	18:00	£2.00		Andre Rieu Summer Concert (Curzon)
Wed	19	10:00	£2.00		Clevedon Court (National Trust)
Fri	21	10:30	£5.00		Titanic 'Virtual Experience' Bristol
Tue	25	09:30	£15.00	**	Abergavenny
Thu	27	10:00	Free		Clevedon and Market
Fri	28	11:30	£5.00	L	Pub Lunch @ Druid's Arms, Stanton Drew

### EARLY SEPTEMBER

Thu	3	14:00	£5.00		Cracking Exhibition, Gromit @ M Shed
Fri	4	10:00	Free		Worle Shops (Queensway/ Flowerdown)

### ADVANCE NOTICE: NOVEMBER (BOOKING NOW OPEN)

Wed	11	18:00	The Illegal Eagles @ Weston Playhouse (£42.50)		
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## GENERAL INFORMATION

Emergency Services	Police/Ambulance/Fire	999
Police	Non-emergency enquiries	101
Crime Stoppers		0800 555 111
Doctor's Surgery	Mendip Vale Langford	01934 839 820
Wrington Dental		01934 863 363
NHS Out of Hours		111
Wrington Pharmacy		01934 862 369
Vets	Langford	01173 940 513
Vets	Golden Valley	01275 852 552
Emergency Electrical	National Grid	105
Emergency Gas	National Gas	0800 111 999
Bristol Water		0345 702 3797
Samaritans		116 123
Qualified First Aider	Sue Lamburne	07753 636 932
Wrington Helpline		07783 046 437
Memorial Hall	Caretaker	01934 862 898
Village Agent	Maxine Gillman	07967 344 766
Parish Council	Fiona Burke	01934 863 984
Post Office	Wrington	01934 862 211
Wrington Councillor	Tom Daw	thomas.daw@n-somerset.gov.uk

## DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

### All Saints, Wrington

Rector	Revd. David Gent	07773 537 626
Church Office	The Triangle, Wrington	01934 861 294
Church Warden	Gabrielle Wilson	01934 862 303
Church Warden	Andrew Whiting	01934 862 039

### Wrington United Reform Church

Pastor	Revd. David Jewell	07443 907 454
Secretary	Marshall Clements	01934 863 285

### Christ Church, Redhill

Priest	Revd Andrew Hemming	07584 124198
Church Warden	Linda Wood	07767 014 125
Church Warden	Dierdre Taylor	01934 862 080

### St Michael & All Angels, Butcombe

Lay Reader	Angela Smythe	01761 462601
Church Warden	Liz Davis	01761 463 159
Church Warden	Francis Worle	01761 462 812

### Holy Trinity, Burrington

Lay Reader	Francis Montagu	01934 862 626
Church Warden	Paul Keel,	01761 462104

### St Mary's Church, Lower Langford

Church Warden	Sarah Pearson	01934 852 399
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**BOOKING ADVISED**

## OPENING HOURS

- ✓ Monday - Saturday  
11am - 11pm
- ✓ Kitchen - Monday -  
Saturday 12pm - 9pm
- ✓ Sunday's 11am - 9pm  
Kitchen 12pm - 6pm

[01934 313011](tel:01934313011)

High Street, Wrington.

[theploughatwrington.co.uk](http://theploughatwrington.co.uk)