



The Phoenix

Ashwick, Oakhill & Binegar News

May 2025

Beacon Woods © Robin Slater



Award-winning food cooked using local, seasonal ingredients

Delicious Sunday roasts • Stonebaked sourdough pizzas

Local guest ales & Oakhill Inn house ale

Excellent wine list • 20+ wines by the glass

Sunny courtyard garden • log fires in Autumn/Winter

5 En suite bedrooms • Large dining room for private events



The Oakhill Inn, Fosse Road, Radstock, BA3 5HU
01749 840442 • info@theoakhill.com
www.theoakhillinn.com

Mon-Tue: 5pm-10pm Food: 6pm-9pm

Wed-Fri: 12pm-3pm & 5pm-10pm Food: 12pm-2pm & 6pm-9pm

Sat: 12pm-11pm Food: 12pm-3pm & 6pm-9pm

Sun: 12pm-9pm Food: 12pm - 6.30pm

Financial advice of true family value

I provide a comprehensive wealth management service, offering specialist face-to-face advice tailored to you. My services include:

- Investment Planning
- Inheritance Tax Planning
- Retirement Planning
- Intergenerational Planning

For further details please contact:



Zac Cambourne

Tel: 01761 202 035

Email: zac.cambourne@sjpp.co.uk

www.zaccambourne.co.uk

H2SJP28802 05/18



A Foreword from the Phoenix

With the 80th anniversary of VE Day on 8th May, we are following up on the Roll of Honour featured recently (see page 20 of the February issue of *The Phoenix*) with brief stories of some of the brave men and boys who gave their lives during World War II. This will be continued with three further stories next month and we are extremely grateful to Lin Thorley for her hard work in making this possible. If anyone has information which they would like us to include, please do get in touch.

You may have noticed our new section on walks and we would recommend you use the Ordnance Survey app or similar when following the walks, as the GPS facility on the app ensures you stick to the correct footpath in places where our instructions may not be as clear as you would wish! Any feedback would be most welcome - would you prefer shorter walks or longer walks? Are you happy to drive up to 30 minutes to the starting point? Any feedback on this or any other issues please to **phoenixmagazine2023@gmail.com**.

For those crossword enthusiasts we have got a new compiler this month and our thanks go to Charlie Lewis for his contributions to date on the crossword front.

The Phoenix is a non-profit magazine run by volunteers who give up their time freely to support the local community. If you enjoy reading *The Phoenix* and wish to support us by making a donation, email **phoenixmagazine2023@gmail.com** or make a bank transfer to the following account:

Phoenix Community Magazine CIC

Account No: 55947867

Sort Code: 60-14-24



Whats On

VILLAGE EVENTS

4th May VE Day Street Party 15.00 - 23.00

Binegar Memorial Hall

16th May Stoke St Michael Yard Sale

11.00 - 15.00

18th May Open Garden, Simbriss Farm,

13.00-17.00

29th May Family Fish & Chips Bingo 18.00

Ashwick & Oakhill Village Hall

BATH & WEST SHOWGROUND

10th May Crossfest UK South Festival

09.00 - 22.00

18th May Toy & Train Collectors Fair

10.30 - 14.30

29th - 31st May Royal Bath & West Show

09.00 - 18.00

SHEPTON MALLET

4th May Runaway Train Trail Race 10.15 - 15.00

5th May Living History Day

11th May Outdoor Cinema 14.00 - 17.00

25th May Sunday Market 10.00-15.00

visit helloshepton.com for details of events

OPEN GARDENS

25th & 26th May Bank Holiday

Crewkerne Open Gardens 13.00 - 17.00

Approx 14 gardens open

visit se.berridge@btinternet.com for details

MELLS

5th May Mells Fete

Talks, stalls, food & drink, bouncy castle & much more

visit mellsfete.com for details

BISHOPS PALACE

3rd & 4th May Civil War Weekend

5th May The Silver Swan Madrigal Concert Bishops Chapel 19.00

10th May Garden & Country Fair 09.30 - 19.00

16th May Spring Flower Watercolour Workshop £55.00 10.30 - 14.30

FROME

4th May & 1st June Independent Market 10.00 - 15.00

4th May Magpie Market 09.00 - 14.00
Cheese & Grain

7th/14th/21st/28th May & 4th June
Collectors & Flea Market 09.00 - 14.00
Cheese & Grain

10th May Skate Jam Victoria Park

10th May Farmers Market 09.00 - 13.00
Boyles Cross

11th May Flea Market & Craft Fair
West Woodland Showground.
09.00 - 15.00

May Services

Sun 4th, 10:30am Ashwick

Sun 11th, 10:30am Oakhill

Sun 18th, 10:30am Ashwick

Sun 25th, 10:30am Binegar

Church Wardens

Ashwick

Caroline Stevens - 01749 840170

Rachel Norris - 07787 131074

Binegar

Patsy Scadden - 01749 841163

David Stone - 01749 840300

Oakhill

Peter Dennis - 01749 840526

It's Sowing Time!

Letter from Michael Beasley, Bishop of Bath and Wells

It's sowing time! My greenhouse is currently full of seedlings pushing their way towards the light. Soon all this new life will be big enough to be planted out into the garden. Peas and courgettes, dahlias and zinnias; all ready to grow, blossom and be fruitful.

It's not only seedlings that grow. Churches do too! Just like all that's happening in my greenhouse, this doesn't happen by accident. Evidence shows that churches are most likely to grow when they plan and prepare for this to happen. Church growth is intentional. This article of Manna contains stories about how churches in our Diocese have planned for growth and of the fruit they're seeing as a result. There's no 'one size fits all' for how this has happened. Just as in our gardens, what grows in one place won't necessarily thrive in another.

Important as planning and preparing may be, these things aren't the vital ingredient for growth. Growth comes when God is alive and at work within us and our churches. In his first letter to church he's helped establish in Corinth, St Paul also uses a gardening metaphor to describe the growth he's seeing. Paul says 'I planted, Apollos [Paul's co-worker] watered, but God gave the growth.' (1 Cor 3:6).

Without God's input, any plans we have to grow our churches will be little more than strategy, our efforts like those of ants running frantically to and fro. This is why our prayer for growth is essential. Prayer invites God to give us wisdom about what to do. It opens our treasure stores to resource the plans we want to put in place. It asks God to go before us to touch the hearts and minds of those we'd like to reach. It invites God to bless and prosper the work we do.

So be inspired! The accounts contained in this edition of Manna show what can happen when we ask God to grow our churches, offering God our prayer, our faith, our effort and our trust.

Let the sowing time begin!



VE DAY – 8th May 1945

80 years ago we celebrated the end of war in Europe. Many local men and boys were killed in the service of their country; many of their names can be seen on the Oakhill War Memorial and a brief outline of some of their stories is given below.

CPL EDGAR ASHWORTH 1915–1942

Royal Corps of Signals, Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regt – Service no 2341364

Edgar was born in 1915 in Holywell, N Wales, to parents Robert and Ellen (née Jolly) Ashworth. His father became Manager of the Oakhill Co-Op Store on the Bath Road and also the Head Air-Raid Warden for the District. Edgar worked in Bristol as Commercial Clerk for the Co-Op Wholesale Society and in October 1939, aged 17, he married Phyllis Melhuish, whose parents lived at 3 Laundry Lane. In spring 1942 the young couple had a son, Colin. Edgar joined the Royal Corps of Signals and was posted to Malaya by the beginning of 1942, before the birth of his son. His unit soon moved to Java, where he faced Japanese action on the 15th February 1942. On 8th March Edgar is recorded by the War Office as having been captured and held by the Japanese. After years of uncertainty, on 13th April 1946 a notice finally confirmed 'Died while Prisoner of War', with the details: 'Casualty, date recorded on or shortly after 19th November 1942'. He had been held somewhere in Java (now in Indonesia). In a cruel twist of fate Edgar's son, Colin, died in early December 1942, aged just 6 months, less than a month after his father. Phyllis remarried in 1949 and moved away; it is not known whether she had any more children.

CPT MAURICE COOKE-HURLE 1908–1944

RAC, 2nd Northamptonshire Yeomanry – Service no 1059955

Maurice Cooke-Hurle was born in 1908 in Weymouth, to William and Josephine (née Shore) Cooke-Hurle. His father was a Captain in the Navy. Maurice spent much of his childhood in Canada, returning to Britain to attend Cheltenham College. His father died in 1920, thereafter his mother Josephine lived for a period with her brother John, a retired Army Officer. In 1939 Maurice's cousin Reginald Cooke-Hurle bought Ashwick Court and Maurice went to live there with Reginald and his wife. Maurice's mother later moved to The Hut in Oakhill. In 1939 Maurice enlisted as a Trooper with the 2nd Northamptonshire Yeomanry and was soon Troop Sgt Major. At the time of his death he was a Captain in the Royal Armoured Corps, 2nd Northamptonshire Yeomanry, serving as a Technical Adjutant. He took part in the Normandy Landings, with his unit arriving in France on 6th June on Gold Beach, then pushing forwards into France. Maurice was killed by enemy action on 3rd August, 1944. He is buried at the Bayeux War Cemetery, Departement du Calvados, France. He is commemorated at Bayeux and on the War Memorial at Oakhill.

SGT LESLIE JOHN GAIT 1922-1943

10 Sqdn, Bomber Command, RAF Melbourne – Service no 1315144

Leslie Gait was born in April 1922 in Clutton to John and Elsie (née Lawrence) Gait. By 1939 the family had moved to Thrupe Farm, Maesbury, where John was a Dairy Farmer. Leslie was the middle son of three. Later, after she was widowed, his mother moved to Fosse Rd, Oakhill. Leslie joined the RAF and was stationed at RAF Melbourne, Yorkshire, as part of no 10 Squadron, Bomber Command. Flying in Bomber Command was extremely hazardous, with over 44% fatalities. By spring 1943 Leslie was flying as a Mid-Upper Gunner on Halifax Bombers with crews of 7 or 8. During February and March 1943 sorties were flown most nights that the weather was suitable, the targets being major German cities, including Cologne, Stuttgart and Berlin. Sometimes there was opposition, sometimes not. On his last flight, 12th March 1943, Leslie was crew in a Halifax DT778 Mark II with his usual pilot, Sgt Dickenson, the target being Essen. His aircraft failed to return. Leslie is buried in Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Germany and is commemorated at the International Bomber Command Centre (IBCC) in Lincoln.

CAPT JOHN WILLIAM HILLIAR 1893-1942

4th Somerset Battalion, Home Guard – Ashwick Platoon

John Hilliar (known as Jack) was born in 1893 in Midsomer Norton, to parents Arthur and Mary (née Hambleton) Hilliar. Arthur was a Brewer's Yeast Merchant, and Jack followed him in the trade to become a Brewery Clerk, before serving throughout WWI. In 1921 Jack married Elsie Emery, from the well-known Oakhill family of builders. By this time he worked as a Brewery Traveller for the Oakhill Brewery. The couple had two children, Barbara (born 1922), and Edwin (born 1925). The family lived at Oakhill Cottage on Zion Hill. Jack was active in the village in both sporting and social life: he was a very popular man and an excellent sportsman.

At the outbreak of WWII, Jack was working with the Air Raid Precaution (ARP) service. When the Home Guard was initiated he became Captain of the 4th (Frome) Battalion. On the 9th August 1942, he was training his men in the local Quarry. As reported later, while he was giving instruction in the firing of an anti-tank grenade, 'something went wrong, there was a violent explosion and Captain Hilliar fell mortally wounded'. He was moved to Shepton Mallet hospital as quickly as possible where, despite all efforts, he passed away shortly after admission. The Inquest into his death concluded there had been a defect in the grenade. The Coroner recorded a verdict of 'Death by Misadventure'.

Jack's funeral took place at Ashwick St James, attended by 'a huge congregation, which 'filled the church to overflowing'. He is buried in the churchyard there and commemorated on the War Memorial at Oakhill. Jack's wife Elsie continued to live in the village until her death in 1994. She was also active in the community, serving on the Parish Council and on Somerset County Council for many years. Many will remember their grandson Bruce Luffman (Barbara's son), who was born in Fosse Road – he became a farmer at Charterhouse then moved away and is now living in Scotland.



To Follow in June: Pte Rupert George Logan
Sgt John Reeves;
Pte Leslie John Webb

With thanks to Lin Thorley

Hartleys Café Bistro

The wonderful food venue on The Mendips
Beautiful location with lots of free parking
Open Wednesday - Sunday 9am - 4pm

**Breakfast - Brunch - Fully Licensed Lunch -
Luxury Afternoon Tea - Fantastic Sunday Lunch**



Full menus on www.hartleyscafebistrot.co.uk

Hartley's at Rookery Farm, Binegar, BA3 4UL
01749 841 718 | info@hartleyskitchen.com



**GREENS OF MENDIP
PET & COUNTRY**

Your local dog shop!

- Dog food - Raw, Kibble and wet options
- In-house grooming salon
- Natural Dog treats
- Leads, Collars and Harnesses - Plus fitting!
- Cat food, treats and accessories
- Dog Beds
- Dog toys



Open Monday - Saturday
Unit 1 Rookery Farm, Binegar, Radstock, BA3 4UL
01749 841293
www.greensofmendip.co.uk or find us on Facebook

E. EMERY & SONS

1 GLADSTONE VILLA, ASHWICK

LOCAL FAMILY - INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS

TRADITIONAL & NON TRADITIONAL FUNERALS

PRE-PAID FUNERALS CAN BE ARRANGED

PERSONAL TO YOUR REQUIREMENTS

HOME VISITS - 24 HOUR SERVICE - ALL AREAS COVERED

CHAPEL OF REST

CONTACT JONATHAN AND FAMILY ON 01749 840 350

E-MAIL jbemery22@aol.com



Binegar & Gurney Slade News

binegarpc@hotmail.co.uk | www.binegar-pc.org.uk

Next meetings: Tue 6th May at 18:30, Binegar Village Hall

The Parish Council re-forms on 6 May for its Annual Meeting, when the Chair and Vice-chair are elected and other legal requirements are undertaken. Sadly, after over 10 years as a parish councillor, Phill Roberts is moving away from the village which will create a vacancy on the Parish Council. If you are interested in finding out more please speak to Diane (Clerk) or Jon (Chair).

Local Community Networks (LCNs) – Mendip District Council was replaced by a number of LCNs (clusters of parish councils). Binegar is in the 'Wells and Rural' LCN. The Parish Council have attended all the LCNs held to date and attends the 'Flooding' and 'Highways and Traffic Safety' sub-committees. , For various reasons, we have been unable to attend the 'Active Travel' sub-committee – any volunteers?

A37 Safety – The two Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) on the A37 continue to produce vehicle statistics and, we firmly believe, have contributed to a lowering of the average speed of vehicles through Gurney Slade.

Playground – We continue to maintain our popular playground which sees visitors from some distance to enjoy it's facilities. It has probably reached the limit for equipment and we will now work on a programme of replacement as funding permits. It does however occasionally suffer from petty vandalism and the list of routine jobs grows faster than we can keep up with. We would welcome volunteers to help with the weekly inspections and with the maintenance.



Binegar Bottom – The last year has seen considerable storm damage and work has been undertaken to clear the fallen, and fell the dead, ash trees. This work is expensive and time consuming for a small Parish Council, and we need to identify funding to complete the work. The Parish Council would like to thank those parishioners who have helped clear the area, and particularly those who turned out to remove the trees fallen across the road.

Village Clean-ups – We would like to thank those Parishioners who routinely litter-pick to help keep our villages tidy.

Textile Bank – The textile bank at the end of the Village Hall carpark continues to be well used with £196 raised this year being split between the Parish Council and the Village Hall. Please do use it for any re-usable items of clothing rather than just throwing them out.

Flood Mitigation – Last year saw several houses the the end of Binegar Lane, along the A37 and Tape Lane inundated with water. Most originates from the high ground above Binegar Bottom but the situation was exacerbated by water emanating from the quarry behind the Village Hall carpark. After being delayed for nearly a year it is good to see the work nearing completion. The Parish Council thank Morris and Perry for their fantastic support and advice with the project. The area will now become the responsibility of the Village Hall.

Thank you – Of course, much of this only happened due to the time and efforts of our Clerk, Diane..

Your 2024 Councillors – Jon Abbott, John Bridges, Cath Law, Phill Roberts, John Scadding, David Stone and David Wilson.

2025

NEW YEAR, NEW YOU??

**WANT TO KICKSTART YOUR HEALTH
REGIME BUT UNSURE WHERE TO BEGIN?**

OAKHILL FITNESS CLASS

Start your fitness journey today and begin an active and HAPPIER lifestyle!

Benefits from these sessions:

- Weightloss & Fitness Improvement
- Enhancing Overall Bodily Strength
- Improving Core Strength & Stability
- Full use of Kettlebells, Resistance bands and various elite equipment
- Gain a new found love for Exercise



REGISTER NOW

JOEY LEDBURY

07833334026

OR

josephledburypt@gmail.com

**Every Sunday - Oakhill & Ashwick Village Hall -
BA3 5AN (9:15 - 10:00am)**

GET STARTED TODAY!



Ashwick Parish News

David Barlow & Kate Egan | clerk@ashwickparish.org

Next meeting: Wed 28th May at 19:30 - Ashwick & Oakhill Village Hall

PLANNING

2025/0387/FUL Change of use of part of the dwelling house and land within its curtilage to a mixed-use as a dwelling and a wedding venue (temporary change for 3 years and limited to 5 events per year, capacity of 60 people). Oakhill Manor, Zion Hill, Oakhill.

NOTE: This application was withdrawn prior to the meeting.

2025/0608/VRC Variation of condition 2 (Plans List) to consent 2024/0542/FUL (Erection of detached dwelling with associated access and parking). 11 The Old Maltings, Oakhill.

Recommendation: To approve the application.

2025/0628/HSE Erection of a double garage. Craigwell, Heckley Lane, Ashwick.

Recommendation: To approve the application.

HIGHWAYS

Somerset Council has issued the programme for resurfacing, surface dressing and footways, and drainage works. The High Street in Ashwick will have some drainage work carried out; this is scheduled for the first quarter of the year.

Correspondence was received from Somerset Council requesting photographs and locations for areas within the village where white lining road markings were faded or worn. Information was received from Councillors and will be forwarded to the Highways Department.

The Chair met with Anna Sabine MP. Wednesday 9th April at the village Cafe, and raised the question of our concerns about the Beacon Crossroad. Our concerns were noted and added to other Highway issues in her constituency! The Council continues to explore the installation of Speed Indicator Devices and is initially in correspondence with Somerset to agree on possible locations.

GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Council approved a grant application from the Village Hall to cover the cost of grass cutting, emptying the dog bins and hedge-cutting.

NOTE - Ashwick Parish Council wishes to support activities and causes which benefit the parish of Ashwick, and welcomes applications from charities, voluntary and community organisations. Grant awards will be capped at £1000. Contact Kate Egan, clerk@ashwickparish.org.

A grant is any payment made by the Parish Council for the specific purpose for which it is claimed and for the well-being of the community. Any grant made by the Parish Council must directly benefit some or all of the residents of the parish of Ashwick. Applicants must set out how the community of Ashwick will benefit from the grant. The group must be formally constituted and have a management committee made up of volunteers. Individuals, businesses, or political parties are not eligible for grant funding.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 28th May 2025 at Ashwick and Oakhill Village Hall starting at 8.00pm, following the Annual Council Meeting starting at 7.30pm.

Your councillors: Jackie Bally, David Barlow (Chair), Philip Blatchford, Phil Briscoe, Stephanie Dowley, Sarah Emery, David Hine, David Simons and David Thorley.



Clubs & Societies

If you would like to promote a local club or society
please email phoenixmagazine2023@gmail.com

East Mendip Gardening Club

On Tuesday 27th May the East Mendip Gardening Club will meet in the Ashwick & Oakhill Village Hall when Sally Morgan, co-author of 'The Climate Change Garden' will give down to earth advice for growing a resilient garden. We meet at 7.30pm. Annual subscriptions are: £15 Individual, £25 Household, Visitors £4 per meeting. For details please contact our

Chair Mark Manley, markamanley81@goolemail.com or see
<https://www.ashwickparish.org/clubs-and-societies/east-mendip-gardening-club>

Beetlecrushers

Clog and step dance - Wednesdays at 7.30pm, Gurney Slade & Binegar Memorial Hall. email beetlecrushers@hotmail.com or phone 01373 812227. Weekly practise and tuition sessions are held each Wednesday evening and new (adult) beginners are welcome to come for instruction, which is free. Clogs are available on loan. Musicians also welcome.

Ashwick & Oakhill Short Mat Bowls

We are looking for new members for our friendly small group. You do not need to be able to play bowls as we are there to help, also to provide bowls for you to try. Come along and give it a go, and join us for tea and biscuits at half time! If you are interested, please come along on Tuesdays 2pm-4pm at Ashwick and Oakhill Village Hall. Please call Kate on 01749 343589 for more information.

Knit and Natter or Crochet and Chat

2nd Wednesday of the month, 10:30am-12:00 at Gurney Slade & Binegar Memorial Hall. Whether you're a total beginner, a knitting expert, or just want to come along for a chat, you'll receive a warm welcome. We have a group of ladies of all ages, some of us knit, some crochet and all of us chat! Please call Carole on 07980 979365 for more info.

OPUS III

Thursday evenings, 7:30-9pm, Downside. The ability to read music is not essential as we spend plenty of time to learn things thoroughly and at a steady pace. Our choice of music can vary from modern, pop, folk, ballads, to classical etc. For further details, email annstilton@btinternet.com or call 07803 038287.

The Beacon Photography Group

Meetings are held every Wednesday evening at 7.30pm via Zoom. If you are interested in joining us or have any questions about the group, please contact either John Law (johnplaw@btinternet.com) or Jon Durrant (durrantjon5@gmail.com).

CAM VALLEY MORRIS MEN

Cam Valley Morris Men were formed in 1981 by dancers who had already gained experience with other dance sides. Their aim was to dance Cotswold Morris in its traditional form for the enjoyment of both themselves and the public. Cam Valley kit is based on that of traditional Cotswold teams from whom our dances are collected. The green of our crossed baldricks and rosettes represent the Valley and the blue the waters of the Cam in Somerset. The style of dancing is vigorous and in particular enjoys enthusiastic sticking - a habit which results in an abundance of firewood!

Most of the dances performed by Cam Valley come from the Cotswolds where they have survived untouched by the changes brought about by the Industrial Revolution. They were discovered by Cecil Sharp on Boxing Day morning 1899 in the village of Headington near Oxford. He noted down the steps and the music and published them so that future generations could benefit from seeing the traditional dances of England. Each village had their own specific style and the dances of today are named after these villages. To the man in the street (or pub!) they probably look alike but there are differences, sometimes subtle, which reflect on the village from which the dance originated.

Today we dance the Morris not just to pass on the tradition but for enjoyment, which has probably been the case throughout history. Morris Dancing and the characters associated with it, namely the Fool, the Hobby Horse, the Green Man, and the Man/Woman often referred to as the Betty, probably originate from customs which were around in pre-Christian times; many aspects of the Morris have pagan origins.



Cam Valley Morris Men in Wells Cathedral on New Years Day 2025

We are an energetic and sociable Cotswold morris dance side always seeking both dancers and musicians. Practice night is generally every Tuesday at the Hunters Lodge, Priddy starting at 1930h and newcomers are always welcome. Please see our website (<https://camvalleymorris.org.uk>) or contact the Squire, Trevor Hughes on 07852 354046 or hughes.trevor.g@btinternet.com.

3 Solutions⁽²⁰¹¹⁾ Ltd

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE SERVICES

ELECTRICAL | PLUMBING | CARPENTRY | SOLAR | UPVC WINDOWS & DOORS



Our Services

Plumbing & Heating

Gas & oil boiler servicing
Boiler repairs & replacements
Plumbing repairs

Electrical

Electrical testing
General repairs & new installations
Solar PV & electric vehicle charging

Property Maintenance

Painting & decorating
General repairs & maintenance
Bathroom & kitchen installations

UPVC Windows & Doors



UPVC & composite door installations
UPVC window replacements
Window & door repairs



Why Choose Us?

Based in Shepton Mallet and covering the Somerset and Wiltshire areas, 3 Solutions Ltd have over a decade of trusted residential and commercial property maintenance experience, covering all aspects from gutter clearing to complete property renovation. No job is too big or small. Call today for a free quotation.

CONTACT US

 www.3solutionsltd.co.uk
 enquiries@3solutionsltd.co.uk



Letter from Stephanie Dowley, Head Teacher

We ended the Spring term and started the Easter holidays with a beautiful service of thankfulness and gratitude. The children wrote some very thoughtful poems on the theme of thankfulness and how they were thankful to live and learn in such a lovely safe environment.

Our *year 1 and 2* children wrote a wonderful class song on the same theme - we all loved it so much they are going to expand it into a school song! Our *year 3 & 4* children read their poems and our youngest children showed their super drawings and paintings of the people that they are thankful for. We ended the worship by listening to *year 6* performing on piano, drums, guitars and xylophones. The children had chosen to practise in their lunch time and the school has been filled with lots of lovely music.

The service then continued outside on the hill with prayers. We are so fortunate to have such beautiful grounds and friendly neighbours that allow us to venture a bit further afield.

We started the weekend with an Easter Egg hunt. This was very popular and we were also blessed with a sunny day! Smiles all round!

You may have noticed some scaffolding round the school building. We are having our wet walls dried out! 150 years of Somerset rain has caused some damage and this is now being repaired. We are open as usual after the Easter break. We are thankful for the support of the BWMAT in keeping our school dry!

The school council have been working on a garden plan for the playground. We have pieces of ground surrounding the playground where the children would like to create a path of shells, stones and sea glass and have some planters with herbs etc. If anyone out there is an avid garden designer or knows of one, we would really appreciate an expert opinion as to what is possible!

As we move into the Summer term it is a time of sports days, summer fairs and transition for our oldest and youngest children - as they move into their new schools. From nursery to reception and from year 6 to Secondary school - we are reminding them that the school values of Love, Joy, Trust and Determination will be with them throughout their new journey.

We are thankful that we can support our children with these values in a place of peace and love.

Dorothy House Hospice



OPEN GARDEN

at Simbriss Farm, Ashwick, BA3 5BA

Sunday 18th May, 1pm-5pm

Entry £4, children free

Dogs on leads welcome

CRAFT & BOOK
STALL

REFRESHMENTS

RAFFLE



BINGO:
£5 adult
£2 child

1 80

RAFFLE:
plenty of
prizes

Ashwick & Oakhill Village Hall

FAMILY Fish & Chips BINGO

THURSDAY 29th MAY

BAR OPEN 5.30PM - EYES DOWN 6.00PM

We will break at half time for Fish & Chips.
Food must be pre-ordered and paid for
separately to the entry fee using this QR Code



The £5 (£2 child) adult entry fee will provide you with a book
of 10 Bingo games. Any problems using the QR code
please email Aandvhc.events@gmail.com
or call/text 07717 155958

Ashwick & Oakhill Village Hall
Zion Hill, Oakhill,
BA3 5AN



**GURNEY SLADE & BINEGAR
MEMORIAL HALL**

**VE DAY 80TH CELEBRATIONS
STREET PARTY**



**Join us to celebrate on
Sunday 4th May 2025
from 3pm till 11pm**

FREE EVENT - but booking is ESSENTIAL.
Contact: Steve - Email: sdrawings@mbzonline.net
Mobile: 07528-169533



Bring your own:
Picnic and
Refreshments

Featuring music from the
era.

40'S Fancy dress
(Optional)

FAMOUS HORSES

BALIUS AND XANTHUS

Joan Oakley

Balius and Xanthus are two famous horses from Greek mythology. Born of the west wind Zephyros they were immortal, swift and fearless. Balius was a dappled bay and Xanthus blonde and were quite a handful. They belonged to Poseidon, Lord of the Ocean, being the Master and creator of horses in general, who broke them in and gave them as a wedding present to Peleus when he married an Ocean goddess. When Peleus' son Achilles, the renowned warrior of the Trojan War, needed some horses to pull his chariot in battle, his father gave him the immortal horses.



Picture by Henry Regnault 1868

Now Achilles had a comrade in arms, Patroclus a charioteer, who loved the horses and used to feed and groom them with the utmost kindness and care. He was the only person who could fully control these beasts of the wind, harnessing and placing the bits in their mouths. One day Patroclus yoked them up to the chariot and galloped into battle but he was struck by a deadly spear and fell to the ground. The wild horses stopped in their tracks, motionless, and hung their heads and wept copious tears.

Achilles grieved for his comrade and in his anger rebuked the horses for not protecting his friend. Xanthos, who was temporarily given the power of speech, tossed his thick mane and reproved Achilles by saying they weren't to blame but that it was the will of the Gods and that Achilles would soon join Patroclus in death. After thus prophesying, the horse was struck dumb again.

Achilles took their reins in a battle-rage, ready for revenge upon Patroclus' killer. He rode in a glorious charge toward Troy, his armour shining like the sun, the two immortal horses' hooves gleaming as they raced through the battalions with the speed of the West Wind, creating havoc wherever he went. He was killed near the end of the Trojan War by Paris, who shot him in the heel with an arrow. and Balius's new master was the mighty-hearted Neoptolemos, Achilles' son, after which they retired to graze the lush grass by the sea in Epirus where they still are today!

News from the Ashwick & Oakhill Village Hall Committee

Thank you to everyone who attended our Easter Eggstravaganza – the weather held off for us and there was lots of fun with nearly 100 children enjoying the fun and games on offer, and joining in the Easter Egg Trail. Huge thanks to committee member Jackie Bally and her team of incredible helpers for organising such a wonderful event. Combined with a really busy day at the Oakleaf Cafe and Tim's plant sales, it was a fantastic day for the village hall – we are really grateful to all who helped, or attended to support this - we hope you enjoyed it. As always, every penny raised will be fed back in to the upkeep and improvements of the facilities in the hall and outside in the rec.

This month we have been busy with some essential work at the village hall. This started with our spring-clean morning at the beginning of April - huge thanks to the kind volunteers who turned up to help.



We focused on the childrens' playground and the entrance to the car park, which looks much improved after the spruce up. This month we have also made necessary repairs to the drainage at the rear to the hall, and hired a road-sweeper to clean the car park of leaves and other debris. In addition, you may have noticed that we have removed the Cricket wicket, which unfortunately was very old and had fallen into disrepair, making it lumpy and potentially unsafe. The removal of this has opened up that area of the playing field for the increasing requirement for children's and grassroots football training and other activities, once the grass seed has taken. We would like to thank local firm Pennys for their support and partial sponsorship of this activity, without which it would not have been possible. A busy month keeping everything looking and working as it should!

BINGO!! Join us on Thursday 29th May for our popular family friendly Bingo and Fish & Chips evening. Bar open at 5.30, eyes down 6.00pm. We will break at half time for Fish and Chips. If you fancy joining us, contact us on aandovhc.events@gmail.com or 07717 155958 to reserve your space. The cost for Bingo is £5 per adult / £2 per child (pre-order and payment for food is necessary separately to the entry fee). This is usually a very popular event, and we recommend booking your space early – it's half term, so a great event for the whole family.



Ashwick & Oakhill Village Hall



The **Village Hall** on Zion Hill (BA3 5AN) is a great local venue for parties, wedding and christening celebrations, clubs, societies, meetings and fundraisers. The main hall has a capacity of 125 (70 seated). Hire includes use of a kitchen, tables and chairs, and piano.

Other Facilities for hire include a football pitch & various sound/lighting equipment.

Oakleaf Community Café
Outdoor Gym



Amenities include large car park, recreational field, toddler playground, BMX track, Truespeed Ultra wifi and a projector screen in the hall.

Availability and Booking Information:

www.ashwickparish.org (Amenities > Village Hall)
or **Email:** aandovillagehall@gmail.com
or **Phone:** 01749 841 688

Oakleaf
Community Café



Everyone welcome,
including well behaved dogs!

Located at Ashwick & Oakhill Village Hall

Open every Wednesday & Saturday
9:30am-3:30pm

**Delicious hot bacon, sausage
or vegan baps, homemade
soups, quiches, toasties,
cakes & bakes, barista
coffees, teas, juices, cold
drinks, lollies and ice creams.**

(Gluten free options available)



Follow us:

Join the café volunteers! Training
provided, no experience necessary:
Email: oakleafcomcafe@gmail.com



**CHIMNEY SWEEPS
SOMERSET**

 **07891 105529**
info@chimneysweepssomerset.co.uk

 **DRAINFAST**
 30 years experience.
**DRAIN
CLEARANCE**
 Unblock sinks, baths,
 showers, toilets
 and more.
CCTV SURVEYS
 Contact Steve on:
07495 508489
01761 752204

**ALEX
BOWN**
Hedgelaying



Hedgelaying
 Coppicing
 Scrub Clearing

Tel: 01749 840598
 Mob: 07813 006 919



07739 189180 | sunlightcleaning.co.uk

COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL CLEANING

- Windows Inside and Out
- Conservatories
- Gutters
- Fascias and Soffits
- Driveways and Patios
- Cladding and Signage
- Solar Panels
- Glass Roofs
- and so much more ...

**SPRING CLEAN SEASON
IS ALL YEAR AROUND**

Contact us for an obligation free quote!

BAKED GILTHEAD BREAM

Zac Cambourne

If you use fillets instead of a whole fish then add all ingredients to the pan at the same time as the fish and reduce cooking time. Also works in a tray if you don't have an oven proof frying pan.



Ingredients

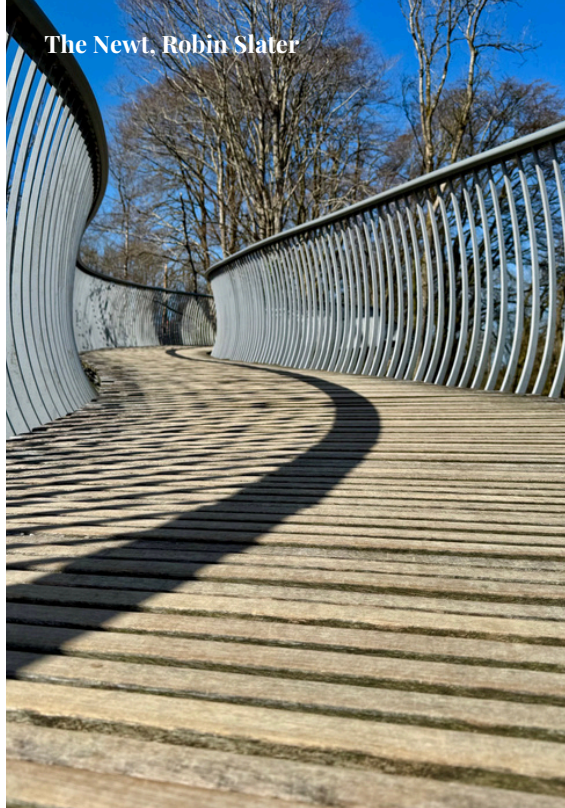
- One bream
- 3 medium sized potatoes
- ½ white onion or 2 shallots
- Chicken or veg stock, 350-400ml
- 100ml white wine
- Baby tomatoes
- Sliced peppers
- Black olives
- 2 garlic cloves
- 2 lemons
- ½ mango
- 1 avocado
- ½ fresh chilli
- 1 lime
- Fresh parsley

Directions

- 1 Start by thinly slicing (on a mandolin if you have one) the potatoes and wash them. Slice and gently cook the onions or shallots in a deep oven-safe frying pan. Once softened, add the potatoes and the wine and reduce. Then add a ladle of stock, cook on a medium to low heat, adding stock each time it reduces down until you have it all in the pan, around 10 to 15 minutes.
- 2 While the potatoes are cooking take your fish (I got this lovely gilthead bream from Harts) and season well, all over then score some slashes down the side, push thin slices of garlic into the slashes and slices of lemon in the body cavity and on top.
- 3 Once the potatoes have gone soft and will break if pressed with the side of a spoon, place the fish on top and everything into an oven at 190 degrees C. After 10 minutes take it out and scatter the tomatoes, olives and peppers around the outside. Back into the oven for another 10-15 minutes.
- 4 While the fish is cooking, dice your mango, avocado and half a red chilli. Place all in a bowl with some salt and pepper and half the juice of the lime. Mix and taste adding more salt, lime or chilli as you see fit. Finally, chop and stir in some fresh parsley.
- 5 Take the fish out of the oven check it is cooked through by cutting into the centre and serve in the middle of the table to share alongside the mango salsa with a cold glass of dry white wine.



Denise Bailey



The Newt, Robin Slater



Glossy Ibis, TonySmall



Wells Cathedral, John Durrant



Magnolia, Ian Donnelly



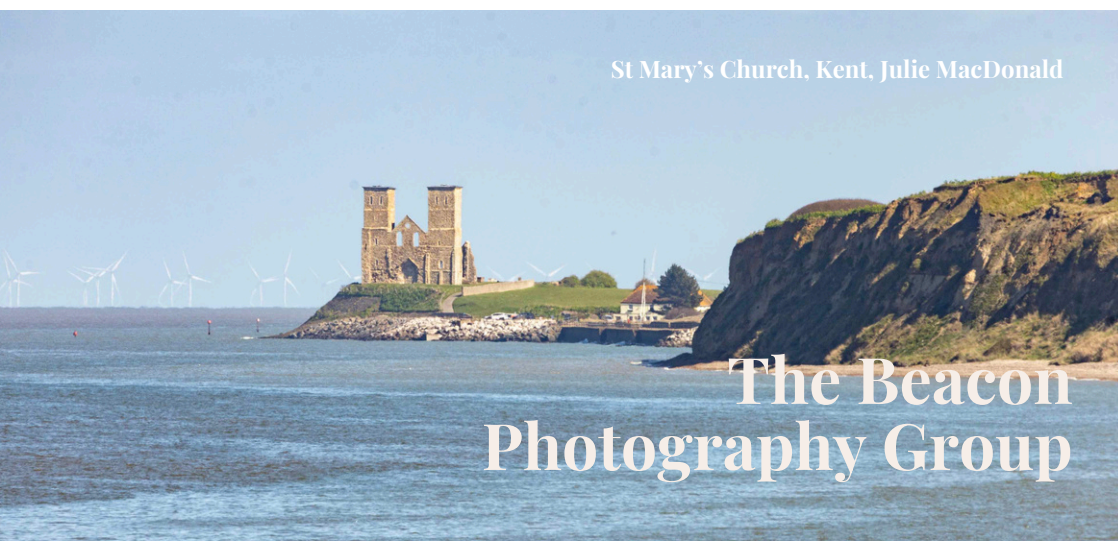
Richard Wynn-Jones



Egret, Tony Small



Crocus, Barbara Voules



St Mary's Church, Kent, Julie MacDonald

The Beacon
Photography Group



The Local Property Professionals

We can assist with all your property needs

Residential Property Sales | Country House & Farms Agency

Fine Art Auction Rooms | Residential Lettings

Equestrian Property | Commercial Property

Valuations | Compulsory Purchase

Estate Management | Planning & Development

t. 01749 671172 e. wells@killens.org.uk

5 Sadler Street, Wells, Somerset BA5 2SE

Offices also in Chew Magna, Somerton, Ston Easton, Park Lane
& at the Mendip Auction Rooms

killens.org.uk



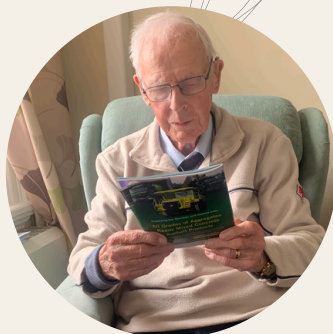
Congratulations!

Many congratulations to Percy Lambert on his 100th birthday, which he celebrates on 3rd May at The Glen, Evercreech.

Percy is known to many in Ashwick, where he was Church Warden at St James's Church, Ashwick, for many years and those who worked with him remain extremely grateful for all his help and support. He also supplied the church with beautiful home grown chrysanthemums.

A keen historian, he has published books on the parish and its surrounding villages.

A fine golfer, playing 18 holes twice a week until relatively recently, as well as growing flowers, fruit and veg!



Osborne Tree Services

*All aspects of
tree surgery*

Jody Osborne
07896 813 934

osbornetreeservices@hotmail.co.uk



MENDIP RURAL SERVICES

FOR ALL YOUR GARDEN MACHINERY NEEDS



07974 259 766 - 01749 674 077

www.mendipruralservices.co.uk
mendipruralservices@outlook.com



- ARTEX REMOVAL
- SKIMMING
- BOARDING
- PATCH REPAIR
- LIME PLASTERING
- CEILING REBUILDS

*Call Dylan for free
quotation 07727068891*

Plastering Bath and We
5.0 ★★★★★ (92) - Plasterer



J WILLIAMS PLUMBING & HEATING
S O M E R S E T

07915302258

OIL - GAS - RENEWABLE - HEATING - BATHROOMS

MJW ELECTRICAL



**Industrial & Domestic
Installations & Repairs**



Contact Michael on:

07887 724 409

mjw.electrical@hotmail.co.uk

MJW Electrical is a well established electrical contract company that has built up an enviable reputation over the last 35 years. We pride ourselves on our commitment to always provide a professional and speedy service, whilst maintaining the highest quality of work.

Self storage isn't just about moving house!

clearspaceselfstorage.com

Whatever the season, whatever the reason
we have the Solution from just £5 per week.

Starting a small business

Wholesale

Air BnB

Archiving

Retail stock

House renovations

Charity / not for profit

Professional services

Seasonal Storage

Camping/Sports equipment

Why not contact our friendly team today on
01749 715 000

or email info@clearspaceselfstorage.com



CLEAR  SPACE
SELF STORAGE

SPACE FOR LIFE

1 Mendip Avenue - Shepton Mallet
Somerset BA44PE



Poetry Corner

with thanks to Jill Townend

VE DAY

by Angela Wybrow

It was really the most brilliant day;
It was 1945; it was the 8th of May;
It is a date, forever remembered,
As the day when Germany finally surrendered.

The war across Europe had come to an end;
A war in which many had lost family or friend;
It was a day of much celebration
In towns and cities across many a nation.

Very soon after they had heard the great news,
Communities came together and really let loose;
Folk, they rejoiced: there was a great atmosphere,
With many a pub running right out of beer.

Raucous revellers filled Trafalgar Square,
Where hugs and kisses, with strangers, were shared.
As, on the Palace balcony, King George appeared,
The massed crowds below him chanted and cheered.

Soldiers and sailors were dancing the Conga:
The line, which they formed, growing longer and longer;
People danced in the streets and danced in the parks –
They danced and they danced until way after dark.

From out of folks' windows, lights dared to glow,
And many a gallon of cheap champagne flowed.
A kaleidoscope of colour lit up the night –
As did blazing bonfires, which were burning so bright.



People held parties right there in the street,
With sweet and savoury dishes laid out to eat;
There was Homity pie, and Corned Beef Hash,
Bread with Beef Dripping and Faggots with mash.

There were glory buns, welsh cakes and bread,
spread with jam, apple brown betty,
plum Charlotte, and even prune flan;
There were scones, carrot cookies, and eggless Fruit cake,
Rock buns, jam tarts – all hastily baked.

The war had raged on for almost six years,
And, during that time, it had caused terror and tears;
It was a day of thanksgiving; a day of relief,
But, for some, just another day of deep rooted grief.

The people of Europe are finally free,
And many a face was shining with glee;
At the Western Front, the fighting had ceased,
And, all throughout Europe, there was now, much welcome, peace.

Della Valle architects

RIBA



Chartered Practice



We are a Chartered Architects Practice offering professional services including extensions, one-off houses, developer housing, office / commercial space planning, planning applications and building regulations throughout the South-West of England.

Private residence, Somerset.

Lake View | The Maltings | Charlton Estate | Shepton Mallet | BA4 5QE
mail@dellavallearchitects.co.uk

www.dellavallearchitects.co.uk Tel: 01749 330672



Computer Help

Expert Advice in Plain English

Home and business calls welcome.

PC or Mac, tablets and smartphones (Apple or Android).

Virtual reality and bespoke PC gaming systems, and all other computer peripherals.

If you are having problems with your broadband or other suppliers, we can help with that too.



For businesses we can help with **all** aspects of IT: procurement, support, project management, security, cost/benefit analysis, data compliance and disaster recovery planning.

For a prompt, reliable and friendly services please call: **Peter Holmes**
on **07876 652 200** or email: support@wedmoreit.com
or visit our website: wedmoreit.co.uk

Coleford Old Canal, Edford, Holcombe



Start: British Legion Car Park, Coleford

Length: 5.3 miles

Time: 2hr 45 mins

- Turn L out of car park, then take road R towards Leigh on Mendip. As houses end on the left, turn R onto footpath and enter field. Turn L and go downhill into second field, aim for bottom right hand corner.
- Go L through gateway onto clear footpath, which passes under brick arch, and leads out onto the road. Turn R uphill, then L through a gate onto marked footpath. Continue through kissing gate into a field and turn R, paralleling the right hedge.
- Enter woodland and follow the old towpath through the wood. Continue in the same direction, crossing several stiles, until the path brings you onto a lane. Cross the lane onto the marked footpath.
- Ignore any side paths and continue in the same direction until the path leads you around a house and garden onto the road at Edford, just above the Holcombe Farmshop & Kitchen.
- Cross the stile opposite, bear L through field to a farm track, turn R and climb past woodland to a stile into a field on R. After a short distance, turn R over a stile and continue past pond into second field. At centre of field turn L to hilltop. Continue to top of hill, then follow hedge through three fields to lane and the Holcombe Inn
- Follow lane past the inn, then turn R through stile hidden in hedge. Head for top left corner, climb stile ahead and follow L hedge for a few yards, then turn L over stile. Follow footpath past cottage and down to a lane. Cross lane, straight across two fields onto metalled lane which leads down to Holcombe Old Church.
- Return up lane, past farm (ignore right turn) and reach main road. Turn R and, at bend, cross stile on the left by a playground sign. Continue in the same direction and cross stile by a gate near a house. Turn R on main road.
- Turn L down drive to Hill House then follow marked path L through a gate, continue downhill eventually bearing L to trees at the bottom.
- Cross stream at the bottom by footbridge and head up the field. At the top, go ahead over stile then bear R across the field. Go into next field and follow L hedge. About half way along go L through kissing gate into woodland. Take R fork and continue through houses at edge of Coleford. By garages, go straight out and left on access road, and at main road turn R to British Legion car park.





FISHMONGERS AT WEEKLY MARKETS
 TUE: GLASTONBURY & CASTLE CARY
 WED: FROME & WELLS
 THURS: BRADFORD ON AVON
 FRI: SHEPTON MALLET & WARMINSTER
 SAT: FROME & WELLS

WWW.HARTSNATURALSEAFOODS.COM



Wills, Probate, Power of Attorney

your local solicitor: 01458 850 146

jd@purelyprobate.co.uk

Purely Probate
 SOLICITORS

Purely Probate Solicitors, Lower Farm Offices, West Bradley BA6 8LT

Serving the communities of Ashwick, Binegar, Oakhill and surrounds

The Most Thorough Cleaning You've Ever Seen Or Its Free!!

Carpets Advanced Low Moisture System. Superb results and **dry in as little as 30mins!** Your neighbours will think you've got new.

Upholstery Fabric and leather upholstery can look like new and smell fresh again.

Oriental & Area Rugs Off site cleaning facility for superior results. **Free Collection & Delivery.**

Hard Flooring Restorative cleaning and sealing of Natural Stone, Ceramic & Porcelain Tiles & Grout, Wood & Laminates Vinyl, Karndean & Amtico etc.

Re-polishing of limestone, travertine and marble flooring and worktops.



www.tlcbath.co.uk

What We Give Others Can't

- * **Phone answered live** - 9 to 5 Mon - Fri.
- * **Value For Money** — You get what you pay for. We may not be cheapest, (**we won't use the tricks necessary to be so!**)
- * **Accurate Appointment Times**
No more waiting around! If we are going to be 10 or more mins late, we ring ahead, keeping you informed
- * **100% Money Back Guarantee** We are not perfect! If a spot re-appears or you're unhappy, we'll return and re-clean free of charge. If you are still unhappy, your payment will not be accepted.

For Free, Friendly Advice

Call 01761 235600

TLC (Bath) Ltd,
 Unit 33, Old Mills Ind Est,
 Paulton BS39 7SU

info@tlcbath.co.uk

Combe Garden Maintenance

Tree surgery, Chipping & log splitting

Large or small lawns mowed

Fencing contracting – all types

Groundworks & drainage

11/2 tonne digger & driver

Call Rick for a free quote:

07795 428242

Fully qualified & insured

30 years experience



Tai Chi for better health

Every *Monday* from 2-3pm for 1 hour

Ashwick & Oakhill Village Hall

£5 per session

for bookings please contact Jo on

07730 397396

jo.webb@mbzonline.net

"Tai Chi is an easy exercise and the best exercise you can do to improve your health and wellbeing."

Jo Webb is a qualified

Volunteer Tai Chi Instructor

Limited numbers – booking essential



Shibashi Qigong

Rob Maher

Painter & Decorator

City & Guilds Qualified

Extensive Experience – Interior & Exterior **For a**

FREE estimate call:-

Mobile: 07745 599522 • Evenings: 01749 671853



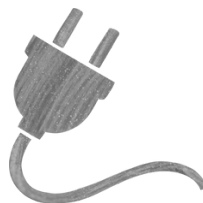
LOCAL ELECTRICIAN - PHIL BRIDGES ELECTRICAL

*Reliable local electrician for all domestic,
commercial and industrial installations*

Tel: 01749 840 821 Mob: 07527 843 550

Email: phil.bridgesElectrical@hotmail.co.uk

For future reference cut out and keep by phone





Pub Quiz

On the last Monday of each month, the Oakhill Inn holds a pub quiz. Here is a selection of questions from a previous month's quiz. How would you have fared?

Congratulations to BARSTOOLS – the winner of the March Pub Quiz

1. Which planet in our solar system has the most gravity?
2. What is the highest-grossing Broadway show of all time?
3. What is the UK's most common garden bird?
4. Who have been selling "Chocolate Heaven since 1911"?
5. Fat Charlie was the mascot of which, now closed, restaurant chain?
6. What popular drink is made from the Camellia Sinensis plant?
7. Who is scheduled every weekday at midday on Radio 2?
8. What song contains the lyrics "Number 47 said Number 3, you're the cutest"?
9. In cockney rhyming slang, how much would 8 Ponies be?
10. Name two of the three resorts known collectively as Torbay.
11. Name two of the three Musketeers.
12. Name two of the three countries beginning with J.
13. Which of the five basic tastes is not detectable by a cat?
14. What is the more common name of the Aurora Australis?
15. Where in the human body would you find the smallest muscle?

answers on page 38...

Next Pub Quiz - Monday 26th May 2025
Oakhill Inn - Bookings Essential



All Mechanical Work
Motorbike MOT's
MOT Testing
Timing Belts
Diagnostics
All Repairs
Servicing
Exhausts
Batteries
Tyres

01749 840330

We are an honest family
run business with the
most friendly and
knowledgeable
team. Drew's
are proud
of providing
the best
customer
service



DREW'S GARAGE (BATH) LTD

OAKHILL GARAGE, BATH ROAD, OAKHILL, RADSTOCK, BA3 5AF
DEWES_GARAGE@HOTMAIL.COM

Vinyl Records Wanted
Cash Paid



Ring Rob 07745 599522

Microsoft Excel

Home and Business

Training –Beginner to Advanced
Bespoke development Data
analysis



Andy Scott

01749 841 688
andy@oakgrid.co.uk



www.oakgrid.co.uk

Kevin Grubb

Carpenter and Joiner

Building and property
maintenance

kwgjoinery.co.uk

kevin.grubb87@gmail.com

Tel: 07821005519

Insta: kevingrubbjoinery



**YOUR
AD
HERE**

*for more information please email:
phoenixmagazine2023@gmail.com*

S M BRINE LTD

BUILDING CONTRACTOR

New Builds - Conversions - Extensions - Renovations
General Building - Damp Proof & Timber Treatment



Winner: Best Local Builder & Traditional Craftsman - Best Conversion Built in Quality Awards - Best Extension/Alteration - Best Commercial up to 1m



Woodlands Farm, Glastonbury, Somerset BA4 8LJ

Tel: 07971 185 133

Email: Steve.brine@btinternet.com

QUALITY INSURANCE THAT'S ON YOUR DOORSTEP

Call your local office in
Bath on 01761 239382



The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance
Society Limited (No. 111982).



Ashwick Church Rooms

Room Hire - £10/hr
Discount for regular bookings

Parties, receptions,
Business meetings,
One off or regular bookings

Truespeed ultra fast broadband,
Kitchen Facilities & 50 Chairs

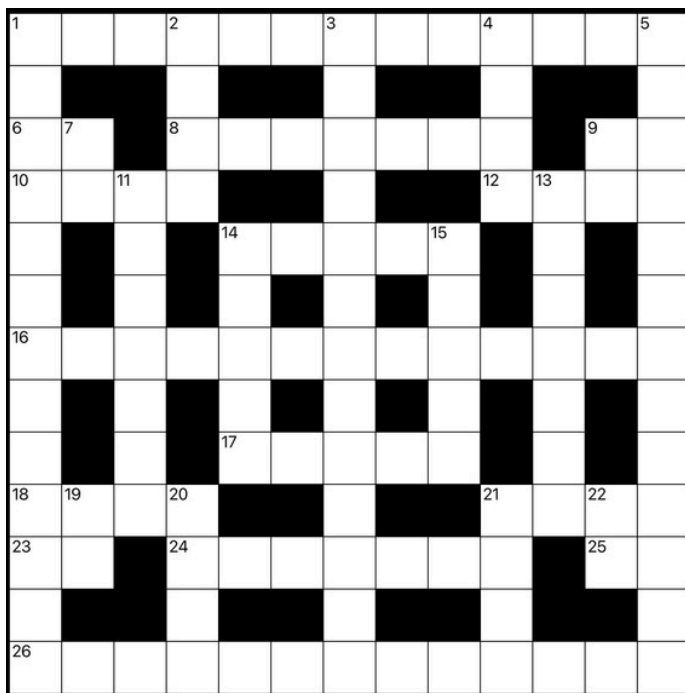
BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

caroline.stevens@beacontrinity.church

01749 840 170

Crossword Conundrum

Win a drink and delicious cake courtesy of the Oakleaf Café. To enter send your completed crossword to phoenixmagazine2023@gmail.com by the 20th.



Across

1. I agree (5, 4, 2, 2)
6. Biblical injunction to notice something (2)
8. Reservoir of electricity (7)
9. Rank between Detective Constable and Detective Inspector, abb (2)
10. Objectives or terminals (4)
12. Groove (4)
14. Style of pullover (1, 4)
16. Somewhere to walk? (2, 3, 4, 4)
17. Basins; submerges (5)
18. Prisoners; falls behind (4)
21. Coleridge's fictional river and its real namesake in Antarctica (4)
23. Spielberg's alien (2)
24. One may drink after the sun's over this (7)
25. Symbol for the element with atomic number 44 (2)
26. May be a dealbreaker (8, 5)

DOWN

1. Used by a paparazzo (9, 4)
2. Big garden planters (4)
3. Where's Daniel? (2, 3, 5, 3)
4. Purchases (4)
5. Spring tradition for children (6,3,4)
7. Working (2)
9. Hairstyle or party (2)
11. One way to lose weight (7)
13. Artistic and beautiful expression of emotion (7)
14. Opinions or prospects (5)
15. Praise or honour for an achievement (5)
19. Where it is (2)
20. Coordinate (4)
21. Slang for expendable munitions (4)
22. The business of encouraging a favourable view of its clients abb (2)

The solution and winner of last month's Crossword Conundrum is on page 38

LODESTONE

Property Sales, Lettings & Advice

lodestoneproperty.co.uk



EVERY HOME HAS A STORY. WE'RE HERE TO TELL YOURS.

Discover the difference of bespoke property marketing.

Our properties aren't just listed - they're seen.
Our creative marketing, expert local knowledge and personal touch ensures your home gets the attention it deserves.

Contact our Wells team and let us show you the true value of working with a modern local Estate Agent who do things differently.



Wells 01749 605088 wells@lodestoneproperty.co.uk
Bruton 01749 605099 bruton@lodestoneproperty.co.uk
Lettings 01749 605002 lettings@lodestoneproperty.co.uk

IN NEED OF MORE STORAGE SPACE?

Make use of your loft and create more space in your home.

- ✓ Loft Ladders
- ✓ Raised Loft Storage
- ✓ Loft Lighting
- ✓ Insulation

Loft storage solutions for period and new build homes that don't void your warranty.

01373 813 438

loftboardingsouthwest.co.uk



Checkatrade



LOFTZONE
RAISED LOFT FLOOR
AUTHORISED INSTALLER



Quiz & Crossword Answers

Find out how you got on with the pub quiz questions
and last month's Crossword Conundrum



Pub Quiz Answers

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Jupiter | 8. Jailhouse Rock |
| 2. The Lion King | 9. £200 |
| 3. House sparrow | 10. Torquay, Paignton, Brixham |
| 4. Thorntons | 11. Athos, Porthos, Aramis |
| 5. Little Chef | 12. Japan, Jamaica, Jordan |
| 6. Tea | 13. Sweetness |
| 7. Jeremy Vine | 14. Southern Lights |
| | 15. Ear |

Last Month's Crossword Conundrum

Congratulations to Geraint Richards, who has won a free coffee and cake at the Oakleaf Café for successfully completing last month's Crossword

H				T				T				Y	
O	R	K	N	E	Y			H	O	G	L	E	T
R				E				R		O		W	
S	Y	C	A	M	O	R	E			U			T
E		E		I				W	I	L	L	O	W
C	A	D	E	N	C	E				A			I
H		A		G				K		S	T	A	R
E	A	R	S			B	I	R	C	H			L
S				T		O		I					I
T			B	R	U	N	E	L			W		N
N				A		N			L	I	K	I	N
U				Y		E						F	
T	A	P			S	T	E	R	I	L	I	S	E



PRICES
FROM
ONLY
£1499

WELLS FUNERAL SERVICES

Professional Focused - Service Driven



**MAKING FUNERALS
LESS OF AN UNDERTAKING**

Offices in Wells and Chilcompton

WELLS 01749 670100

CHILCOMPTON 01761 233555

EMAIL Rod@wfs.me.uk

WWW.WELLSFUNERALSERVICES.CO.UK



This Month in your Garden

May has arrived and the days are getting warmer and longer. Summer is on its way and it's time to tidy up spring plants, plant out summer flowers and get planning for autumn!

Start larkspur (*Consolida ajacis*) off in pots. This annual has similar flowers to delphinium, but is much easier to grow.

Plant up certain varieties of climbing perennials, like Passion Flowers, in a sheltered, warm spot - such as a conservatory or greenhouse, or at the foot of a south-facing wall.

Direct sow poppy seeds, cornflowers and scabious to attract bees and butterflies into your garden.

Sow runner beans and french beans undercover, sowing individually into module trays for planting out after the risk of frost has passed.

Start brassica and leafy green seeds under cover now — yes, it really is time to think ahead to winter cropping! Sow heliopsis indoors — they make excellent dried flowers.

Try sowing comfrey seeds in a neglected corner of the garden — it can be used to make fertiliser or for mulching, and is a rich source of nutrients. Direct sow or sow into seed trays indoors.

Grow your own watercress in containers, making sure the container is sitting in 2-3 inches of water at all times.

Sow peas directly into the ground, or start them off in modules if mice are a problem.

Sow beetroot, carrot, chard and parsnip seeds thinly, directly into the ground.

Try Swiss chard sown outdoors for a colourful crop — it even looks great in flower beds!

Look after your finished spring bulbs for next year. Once they've gone over, resist the temptation to cut back the foliage. Instead, let it die and break down on its own and add liquid fertiliser all around the clumps. This will give you an even better display next spring.

Divide established clumps of hostas as they come into growth.

Trim back spreading plants such as aubrieta, alyssum and candytuft (*Iberis* sp.) after they've flowered, to encourage fresh new growth and more blooms.

Prune penstemons now — cut all the old shoots back to the base, providing there is new growth at the bottom of the plant. If there are no new shoots at the base, cut just above the lowest set of leaves.

Harden off outdoor tomatoes, courgettes and pumpkins for planting early next month.

Pinch out the growing points of broad beans as soon as beans start to appear at the base of the plant to reduce the risk of blackfly attack.

Keep young fruit trees well watered while they are putting on rapid growth.

Remove blossom and fruits from newly planted trees to help them establish properly during their first year.

Taken from www.thompson-morgan.com/what-to-sow-and-grow-in-may



07547 482531

All Types Of Ovens
Hobs
Extractors
AGAs

Local Friendly And Reliable

Info@cleanasawhistleovens.co.uk
www.cleanasawhistleovens.co.uk

REGISTERED OSTEOPATH TREVENEN PASCOE

BSc (Hons) Ost. Med. ND.

42 High Street,
Shepton Mallet, BA4 5AS
Tel: (01749) 342594

Philippa Spearing Flowers

Weddings &
Special Events
Locally based
Seasonal Flowers
where possible

01749 840 202
07768 738 850

Email: bpspearing@gmail.com



Now selling and letting properties in your area

If you are looking to sell or let your property,
contact Jordan and Bath Stone Property now!



01761 360144

jordan@bathstoneproperty.com

Gladys House, 1 South Road,
Midsomer Norton BA3 2EZ

**bath
stone**
property

 www.bathstoneproperty.com
    #wedopropertybetter

Customer Reviews





Cosmic Cocktails

TAURUS

20th April - 20th May

As a sun sign Taurus, you are patient and you enjoy the finer things in life. This means that you won't mind waiting a little longer - or working a little harder - for the best tasting cocktail. It takes a while for you to make your mind up about something new but once you do, you're all in - and you stand firm by your favourites. However, don't be afraid to try new things - today's new experience could become tomorrow's daily routine.

Ramos Gin Fizz

This recipe is perfect for sensual Taurus suns. It takes a lot of shaking, but results in a striking white, frothy cocktail that's equal parts creamy lightness, citrus zing and botanical gin.

EQUIPMENT

- ♦ Cocktail shaker, filled with ice
- ♦ Strainer
- ♦ Old-fashioned glass

INGREDIENTS

- ♦ 50 ml (1½ fl oz) gin
- ♦ 30 ml (1 fl oz) lemon juice
- ♦ 30 ml (1 fl oz) lime juice
- ♦ Dash of simple syrup
- ♦ Dash of single cream
- ♦ ¼ egg white
- ♦ 3 dashes orange blossom water
- ♦ Soda to top

METHOD

Shake all the ingredients but the soda in the cocktail shaker until cocktail is very frothy.

Strain into old-fashioned glass.

Top with soda and enjoy.



With thanks to Lydia Levine's
Cosmic Cocktails, £7.99,
Summersdale Publishers

Hellebore Gardens

Garden Design, Maintenance
and Advice

Mendip and North Somerset

Matthew Dunn

Horticulturalist

RHS qualifications

helleboregardens@gmail.com

07878663290



Yenstone Walling Ltd



Patrick Houchen
DSWA member

Dry Stone Walling and Landscaping
All types of stone walling undertaken

01963 371 123

07791 588 141

www.yenstonewalling.co.uk



RED ROOM PRE-SCHOOL

School House, High Street,
Chewton Mendip BA3 4LL
Ofsted EY313518. Reg. Charity No: 1053784

Children aged 2-5 years

**Come and learn through play and having 'fun'
at our Outstanding pre-school**

Open 7.45am - 4pm every weekday during school time.
Funded places for 2yr olds and up to 30 hours for 3yr olds.
Contact Elaine Blackmore: 01761 240 700



www.masseywilcox.com

e-mail: enquiries@masseywilcox.com

Phone: 01761 232 983

Fax: 01761 233 184





Supplying the Mendips and beyond with:

All Grades of Aggregates Ready Mixed Concrete Asphalt Products

Delivered or ex-works for a prompt and competitive service,
from a local family owned company.

Phone (01749) 840441

Fax (01749) 840361

MORRIS & PERRY LTD

GURNEY SLADE QUARRY

Gurney Slade, Radstock. Somerset. BA3 4TE Email sales@morrisandperry.co.uk www.morrisandperry.co.uk

The Phoenix is a non-profit community magazine sponsored by Ashwick Parish Council, Binegar Parish Council, Massey Wilcox, Morris & Perry, and LKAB Minerals.
Many thanks to all the volunteers and contributors who make it possible.