

Winterbourne & Frampton *Matters*



April/May 2025

Telephone 01454 300 900








*Sweet April showers do
spring May flowers.* Thomas Tusser

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Friday 16th May from 7.30pm

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Dear Residents,

We write this on the hottest day of 2025 to date!

Doesn't a bit of sunshine and spring colour make all of the difference? We bring you news of the many local events taking place over this joyful season.

Winterbourne Medieval Barn has a whole host of activities planned, including Easter arts and crafts for the family. Winterbourne library has free activities to help keep little-ones occupied too and don't miss out on the Family Easter Eggstravaganza at Beesmoor. We bring you details of seasonal church services and wish you all a happy Easter however you spend it.

Looking ahead to May, Winterbourne Down Village Carnival never fails to deliver on family fun. Don't miss Winterbourne's Musical Theatre's production of Shrek the musical and Frampton Parish Council is currently preparing special VE Day celebrations that will take place in the Centenary Field, on the evening of 8th May.

****READER COMPETITION**** **Good Times Live** has several shows taking place at the Ridings in Chipping Sodbury in May (see page 8 for full listing).

We have a pair of tickets to a show of your choice – simply answer – which artist appearing at the **Good Times Live** initially found fame in a popular soap in the 1990s? Email answers to community@mattersmagazines.co.uk by 30th April, winners drawn first week in May. Good luck!

If you are a business looking to promote your services across the local area in 2025, do get in touch with us and we will be happy to help. Deadline for the next edition is 9 May 2025.

When you make contact with our advertisers, please do mention the magazine, thank you.

DON'T FORGET YOU CAN KEEP UP WITH EACH EDITION OF YOUR FAVOURITE COMMUNITY MAGAZINE VIA www.mattermagazines.co.uk

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From left: Emma, Geoff, Georgia and Maggie
Front: Tina and Mary. The Sales Team at Bundy and Bond

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News from Elm Park School



We are delighted to share some exciting updates from Elm Park Primary School. Our recent Ofsted inspection took place on 4th February 2025 and was a resounding success, as we continue to be 'Good'. We are incredibly proud of the report, which

recognises the ongoing kindness, dedication, passion, and hard work of our staff, pupils, and wider school community. The report highlights the nurturing and ambitious environment we have created, ensuring that every child is supported to thrive both academically and personally.

As we continue our journey, we are focused on further enriching our Connected Curriculum, providing even more opportunities for our children to explore, learn, and grow. As part of our Connected Curriculum, we are excited to celebrate STEM Week offering engaging activities that foster curiosity, creativity, and a love for learning across all subjects.

During our annual World Book Day celebrations, our children (and staff) took the opportunity to dress up as their favourite book characters. The costumes ranged from, Where's Wally to the Mad Hatter. Thing one and Thing two made a guest appearance alongside the Cat in the Hat and Mary Poppins was seen flying into the school with her umbrella! It was wonderful to see so many different books represented throughout the school and to continue to celebrate a passion for reading.

To enhance our day, we had a visit from the author Tom Allen who joined us to share his journey of becoming an author and talk about his books, 'The Life of Riley – Unbreakable' and 'The Life of Riley – Back from the Brink'. Our children had a wonderful time and went home with autographed copies of his books!



www.elmparkprimary.com

Looking ahead, we have several exciting events planned, including a variety of activities to enhance our curriculum. See our website for more details. Additionally, we are thrilled to announce the **Frome Valley 10k and Colour Run**, taking place on **Saturday 26th April**. Tickets can be found on Eventbrite—don't miss out on this fantastic community event! Please keep an eye on our school website and newsletters for further details.

Mrs Carol Bond, Head Teacher

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THE
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Easter Sunday Roast

Sunday 20th April 12.30pm - 2.30pm

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£25 per person | £12.50 per child

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Wellbeing Matters!

Moving from Winter into Spring

As the morning breaks, I'm noticing the light breaking through the curtains. It feels like we're beginning to emerge from winter into spring. It's not easy is it, when met with grey and rainy days, to believe that brighter days are ahead, but I think they are!

As the length of the day stretches out and we wake to these brighter mornings, I've begun to look out of the kitchen window, waiting for the morning kettle, and noticed the old crocus in the garden, the wild primrose growing under the bench, the buds beginning to swell on the gnarly hazel tree outside the window. The world is coming back to life. As you emerge from your winter, the grey, gloomy days begin to pass, what new life can you feel emerging as you begin to enter a brighter, more hopeful time of year?

I love the spring. I love those new early signs of life. I love the first glimpses of colour in the garden, on paths and in hedgerows around us. As we enjoy our wellbeing walks or our adventure walks through the nearby woodlands, it's glorious to feel the sunshine on our faces and see new life bursting around us.

How does spring make you feel? Are you waking in the mornings embracing the lengthening days? Are you feeling more determined in your intentions than you were at New Year? Do you find it easier to do what you say you're going to do when you've literally got 'spring' in your step?!

It's well documented spending time outside helps us to top up our vitamin D levels. Vitamin D is important for strong bones, a healthy respiratory system and good mood and energy levels amongst other things. Just 20 minutes in the daylight, not even strong sunshine, is enough to help our bodies produce the necessary amounts of vitamin D. This in turn, along with the endorphins produced to help us feel good after moving our body, is at the heart of the green wellbeing I believe in so much. Spending time outside is



scientifically proven to improve mental health and the quality of our sleep, both of which have significant impacts on our personal wellbeing.

As the days lengthen, perhaps we also re-engage with our social circles. Whilst some of us enjoy winter nights tucked up in our houses with family and friends, this isn't the case for everyone, and winter can be a long and lonely season. Perhaps spring is a time to reconnect with the world outside. How much more likely are you to get out and about with people as the weather improves, the days get longer and life takes on a sunnier, brighter feel?

Now I do appreciate we live in the UK. There is absolutely no guarantee that spring is a permanently bright and sunny time! Let's face it we do live in the land of April showers! However, even the slightest moments of the sunshine peeping through, the snowdrops, the crocuses, even the bobbing heads of bursting daffodils cannot fail to bring a smile to most faces.

So as spring bursts I encourage you to look outside, get outside if you're able, and begin to feel the sunshine on your face.

For opportunities to find wellbeing support in your community, don't forget to click on our link and find out how you can get involved.

Becca



Our contact links can be found at
www.linktr.ee/tipthebalance
or call 07721 907780

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Good Times at The Ridings, Chipping Sodbury!

Wed 21st May

Jools Holland
and his Rhythm & Blues Orchestra
+ Guests Ruby Turner and Chris Difford



Thu 22nd May

Billy Ocean
Sister Sledge



Fri 23rd May

SKUNK ANANSIE
Republica



Sat 24th May - Afternoon

Gabrielle
Scouting for Girls



Sat 24th May - Evening

Craig David
Dougie Poynter DJ set



Sun 25th May

Will Young
Natalie Imbruglia



Bank Holiday Monday 26th May

Daytime Show
Andy & The OddSocks
+ mini rave
+ free inflatables
+ fairground rides

Evening Show
Comedy Gala



GoodTimesLive.co.uk

Frome Valley Growing Project

Mazzy Fautley and Kate Macdonald

Our community gardening group is dedicated to sustainable food growing, soil health, biodiversity and letting people enjoy growing and the natural world. At our site just off Swan Lane in Winterbourne we welcome volunteers and new members to join us in a range of activities.

Last month we held two successful community tree-planting events on the warmest weekend of the year so far. We were delighted to have so many volunteers and members along to help with this. Together we planted over a hundred tiny trees, which were given to us by The Woodland Trust, and also carried out some maintenance and mulching on the hedgerow that we began establishing a few years ago. We hope that in the years to come the new trees will grow to provide shade, wildlife habitat and food for humans and other animals to forage for.

We are pleased to be resuming our Open Days on the first Sunday of the month. These will be taking place on 6 April, 4 May and 1 June from 11.30 am – 2.30pm.

Anyone is welcome to join us for these to come and see our site and find out what we do. We always have a range of different activities available for anyone who would like to get stuck in and help out. These might include seed-sowing, barrowing mulch, planting out vegetables or turning our compost heaps. There's plenty of choice, depending upon your interests and abilities.

Our regular Wednesday volunteer sessions continue to run throughout the year 10.30 am – 2.30 pm. If you would like to stay up to date with these and other events please follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/FromeValleyGrowingProject

On Wednesday 16th April from 10.30am – 12.30pm we will be hosting a spring family Stay and Play as well as a volunteer session. The event will be £10 per family, half price for members, but if you can't afford this you can pay less, no questions asked. Come and join us as we hear stories about Ostara, make pots and sow sunflowers and do an Easter Treasure Hunt. Aimed at children aged 4-11 years but all welcome. Please visit our Facebook page to find out how to book a space.

If you would like to know more about what we do then please take a look at our webpage, which has details of where to find us and how to access our site: winterbourne-environmental.uk/frome-valley-growing-project/.

You can email thegrowingproject123@gmail.com, contact us on Facebook or come along and chat to us in person at one of open days or volunteer sessions. Here's to another season of growing together!



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Willow Brook Tenant Talks:

Ben Matthews, WB Operations Manager chats with this edition's selected tenant Alan Harmer, Manager of the Giant Cycle Shop

At Willow Brook are proud to home many prestigious tenants and one of them is certainly the "Giant" cycle store.

As with most successful businesses, they are only as good as those who operate within, and in this case, store manager Alan Harmer and his resolute team.

Alan has been managing the Giant Bristol store since it opened its doors in August 2009 and is one of a few tenants that have traded at Willow Brook since the early years. Very few have intricately witnessed Willow Brook's journey from conception to present. Alan is one of those people.

A stalwart Manager for Giant, Alan's presence during my tenure over the last 8 years has earned him the reputation of being a constant. Highs and lows, Alan has witnessed it all at Willow Brook, if the walls could talk, I can only imagine they would have Alan's voice.

I first met Alan in March 2017, he was very established within his role at that point as I was just beginning my Willow Brook journey. What struck me first was the store - organised, clean, and staff greeting you upon entry - it was evident that the unit was well managed. Over the years I have got to know Alan his passion and care for leading really stood out for me.

At the start of February, I sat down with Alan and discussed all things Giant and Willow Brook. He told me about the ventures that led to him



managing the store. With no experience within the cycle industry, Alan's background was retail management, more specifically furniture. Alan was approached by Giant for his retail management expertise and jumped at an exciting new opportunity. Alan said, *"It was a challenging initially with no prior extensive knowledge of bikes but that ultimately, when you put the differences aside it was my people management skills that eased the transition."*

A skillset for which I can vouch.

When asked about the challenges the store faces in today's retail climate, Alan proudly told me that *"Giant are competitive, with a range of cycles to suit all needs. The real challenge is competing with the online businesses who can operate with next to no overheads."*

Another challenge faced is that the store is located on the lower footfall side of the centre, we spoke on how the centre has been collaborating with Giant and our other tenants to entice customers their way. Through initiatives

that have helped increase dwell time, we have helped raise the awareness for customers who otherwise may not have ventured Giant's way. I asked about the main source of income for the shop. To my surprise, the workshop which conducts services and maintenance tends to be the far busier of the two services. Alan informed me that around 50% of the bikes they work on are not Giant or Liv branded, the exception being electric bikes where they only maintain Giant for software reasons.

Regarding electric bikes, I asked about the demand for them in the area. I was aware that Giant were front runners in their use and application of them, so I was keen to hear Alan's views. He informed me that they were first introduced to the shop as early as 2010, at which point they accounted for 6 – 8% of their total business. Present day it accounts for approximately 35-40%, and purchased for a variety of reasons. More customers are purchasing them for the 'fun factor'. We then spoke about the uses of Giant bikes in general, I asked if bikes were primarily purchased for domestic use, Alan told me that I would be surprised how many are used for racing, trails, and downhill courses. I asked Alan if he had dabbled in any of these purposes to which he laughed and said no. As I already knew, Alan is an avid golf fan and to be fair there are probably a few things to try between the two.

We then spoke about Willow Brook in general and the changes he would have seen over the years. We agree that the additions to the centre over the last couple of years have been instrumental in attracting new customers to the centre. With more asset, marketing and

operational initiatives on the horizon, Alan was keen to see what is in store for Willow Brook over the next year or two.

As the conversation wound down, I asked Alan a series of quick-fire questions.

What do you do to relax? I took up Golf around 10 years ago. Prior to that I always enjoyed squash and cricket.

What is your favorite book or movie? Jimmy Greaves autobiography, film would be the Jungle book. I associate it with watching with my daughter. Another would be Escape to victory.

Favorite holiday destination? I have always visited Lanzarote and Spain, more recently I have had trips to Australia to visit friends.

First job? Woolworths as a trainee manager. They would not let me have Saturdays off to play football, so it did not work out.

Who inspires you? My Wife (this is the only right answer for the record!).

Photo above shows Alan (left) and Ben (right)

GENEALOGY RESEARCH

WEST COUNTRY AND WEST MIDLANDS are of particular interest to me and I would love to research your family history, skeletons and all!

I charge £30.00 per hour, plus cost of certificates and postage as required. I have more than 25 experience of genealogy and have extensive knowledge of sources.

Initial enquiry to Alan Haynes at
formidablegenealogy@gmail.com

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Family Easter Eggstravaganza



at Beesmoor, Frampton Cotterell

The volunteers at Beesmoor are organising a family event on

Saturday 5th April, 1.30pm

Come along for an Easter Egg Hunt, children's crafts and games including egg and spoon race! Refreshments to raise funds will be available. Look forward to seeing you there!



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Please refer to your local study centre. Subject to availability.
For research findings on Kumon study, please visit kumon.co.uk

News from Winterbourne Evening WI

Our March meeting opened with a welcome from our President, Di Woodman and the singing of Jerusalem. Information was given about the NFWI Resolutions and "Bystanders can be life savers" is currently in first place.

The AFWI speaker at the Summer lunch will be Andrew Stocker from The Bristol Old Vic Theatre.

It has been suggested that the WI recognise VE Day on May 8th, using bunting and clothes to reflect the 1940s.

After the raffle, Carol Shields introduced our speaker, David Hardill, Community Heritage Officer at Yate District Heritage Centre. He was able to tell us about the Berkeley and Poyntz families who were the two major landowners during Tudor times.

Yate dates back to the 8th century and during the Tudor period, the landscape was of enclosures, commons for grazing, deer parks and large fields. Cloth and wool contributed to the economy.

Within the Yate area, the Berkeley family owned Yate Court and were known for their great feasts. Dishes included game, venison, lamb and larks tongues! The Poyntz family owned Acton Court. Religion played a major part in the influence that both families had at Court. As the English Reformation brought changes from Catholicism to Protestantism, the Monarchs reflected these changes. The Berkeley family were Catholic and enjoyed more prominence during Mary's reign, whereas the Poyntz family were Protestant and their influence grew during the reigns of Edward 6th and Elizabeth 1st. Nicholas Poyntz the Elder, a friend of Thomas Cromwell, acquired Kingswood Abbey during the Dissolution of the Monasteries and was made High Sheriff of Gloucestershire.

Carol Shields thanked David for an interesting talk which highlighted the development of Yate and the surrounding area during the Tudor period. It's historical importance is still evident today at both Acton Court and Horton Court.

Join us!

We meet on the second Thursday each month, at 7.30pm. **Our next meeting will be on April 10th** at St Michael's School, Linden Close, Winterbourne, when we will enjoy an Easter Dance. New members or visitors are welcome.

News from Coalpit Heath WI



We had an absolutely fascinating March meeting on local history, led by Ian Haddrell. Many of the photos he shared elicited memories from our members, of the people and places they recognised and anecdotes were shared. Whilst

for others it was interesting to hear about parts of local history that weren't so familiar to us – the cycle speedway track on land behind the church where the Earthcott Eagles raced, the tennis club on Manor field and the council school boy who scored the opening goal in an FA cup match for Walsall beating Arsenal! We are looking forward to part two!

Sadly, our skittles team weren't able to progress to the next round of the knockout competition but the team captain, Marcia was full of praise for all who took part after coming up against some tough competition. We hope to organise some informal matches before the start of next year's draw.

We will be having an Easter raffle at our April meeting, and have started planning our next themes for the Badminton Road fence. Members were reminded that subs are due next month – still good value equating to just over £4 a meeting for a wide variety of talks and activities over the year.

Join us!

If our meetings sound like something you would enjoy, why not come along and meet us, you would be most welcome. **We meet on the first Wednesday of each month in St Saviour's Church Hall, at 7.45pm. £5 for visitors.**

April 2nd – Tony Griffith – Inner Magic Circle
May 7th – F A Burroughs – Victorian Gardener
June 5th – Naomi Johns – Birds of Prey
July 2nd – Ed Sams – Ardman Modelling

Updates on Facebook: [@WICoalpitHeath](#)
 and Instagram: [@coalpitheathwi](#)

Fancy winning a week in France?

Local holistic therapist Dawn Clode, is offering an opportunity for readers to win a fabulous holiday to France! We asked Dawn to tell us more.

Why are you offering these holidays as prizes? I currently teach healing courses in my Garden Clinic of Holistic Health here in Little Stoke, soon I will be offering Holistic Learning Retreats in France as well. I am close to finishing the French location but some final funds need raising, so this spring I will be launching a crowd funding raffle.

Please tell us more about France? I have a lovely old rustic house, which is over 200 years old, in Charente, France, set in the beautiful village of Suris, a ten minute drive from stunning lakes with their beaches and the Vienne river. See more at – holistic-retreats-france.com

When does your crowdfunder launch and what is the full list of prizes?

The crowdfunder will launch at the end of March and be active for five weeks, so do keep an eye on my website and socials for links to the raffle.

There are three first prizes of one week, all inclusive, for two people at the finished house in summer 2026 (worth over £1,900). The prize includes buffet style breakfast, lunch at the house or picnic to go out with and dinner (beer and wine with lunch and dinner). Also included are towels, bathrobe and bed linen and a holistic treatment of your choice.

There are five second prizes of a holistic course of your choice, (worth over £120) in Little Stoke. And finally there are **ten runner up prizes of a Reiki or Reflexology treatment** (worth £60). Please do support me and give yourself a chance of winning some fantastic prizes!

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Support Dawn's crowdfunder and be in with a chance of winning a holiday in picturesque East Charente, France



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What's on at Winterbourne library



Normal staffed opening hours – Tuesday, 10am–3pm, Wednesday and Friday, 10am–5pm, Saturday, 9.30am–12.30pm.

Easter Opening Hours – The Library will be closed Friday 18th April – Monday 21st April (re-opens Tuesday 22nd April).

See www.southglos.gov.uk/find-a-library

FREE Children's activities

Rhymetime – most suitable for 0–18 months, every Wednesday, 10am–10.30am (term time only).

Story time – most suitable for 18 months–4 years. Fridays, 10am–10.30am (term time only).

Lego club – Story and a themed build, children must be accompanied by an adult. Suitable for 4+ years. Next sessions – Saturday 26th April and 24th May, 10–11am.

Easter Holiday Activity – Marvellous Mini Beasts – Join us on Friday 11th April, from 10.30am for our children's free crafts, or collect your craft bag to make at home. Suitable for 4–11 years.

Adult activities

Adult craft group – Every other week on Saturday, 10am–12pm. Join our friendly group to do your own craft. Refreshments are available by donation. Next sessions – 12th April, 3rd and 17th May.

Coffee Morning – Every Wednesday, 11am–12pm. Join us for coffee, chat, friendship and bring a craft too.

Winterbourne Down Art Group

This creative group meet weekly on a Thursday at All Saints Church Hall, 2–4pm. After the Easter break, meetings start again on 1st May.

Pictured below, is a fine example of work done by one of our members, Sue Blake – but we are not all as talented as Sue. It is amazing what even a beginner can achieve with a little guidance.



New members are very welcome. For more information **contact Alison Sansum on 01454 775133.**

It is a good idea to check meeting dates if you would like to come along as occasionally we have a 'day out' once the weather starts to get better.

Adult Games Club – Fortnightly on Wednesday, 2–4pm with refreshments by donation. Next dates 9th and 23rd April. Come along on your own or with a friend to play a variety of board games and make new friends.

Computer Classes – Thursday (term time only) enrolment required with SGS College. For further information please contact Cindy on: 0117 909 2296 or email: cindy.corbett@sgscol.ac.uk.


Digital Champion – Do you need help getting online? Or stuck using your iPad or phone? Book your slot with our friendly volunteer who runs a one-to-one hourly session on a Friday morning. See staff for further details.

Open Access – This is our system that lets you into the library when we are not open with staff, between 8am–7.30pm, 7 days a week using your library card. Library members complete a quick induction held at Winterbourne library, 3pm Wednesday and 10am Saturday, to register to use Open Access. You then can use our WiFi, Computers, printing, collect reservations, issue and return books.

Email: winterbourne.library@southglos.gov.uk

Telephone: 01454 868006

www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries

 South Gloucestershire Libraries
 [southgloslibs](https://twitter.com/southgloslibs)

Digital Voice is coming to your town

BT are switching off the landline's in this district soon.

In preparation, there is a drop in session at Winterbourne Library, Flaxpits Lane, BS36 1LA. 6th May, 10 am – 1 pm



Registered Charity No. 1003314

Zenia's Family Story

Zenia was born in 2019 with serious health challenges. After an emergency C-section, she spent two weeks in the NICU and was diagnosed with a heart murmur. At 4 weeks old, she underwent an 8-hour surgery for a severe heart condition, with only a 50/50 chance of survival.

Though she recovered, more surgery was needed due to fluid in her heart. Later, Zenia was diagnosed with Mowat-Wilson Syndrome, a rare genetic condition, and epilepsy.

Zenia is described as a happy, social child with a strong sense of empathy. She loves interacting with others and is known for giving hugs and blowing kisses. Her family, living in Bristol, continued caring for her at home, but without sufficient support, they began to struggle.

After a referral, the family first visited Children's Hospice South West (CHSW)'s Charlton Farm in Wraxall; Dana, Zenia's mother, said it was as if they had been "scooped up and looked after".

Charlton Farm provided essential respite care, offering the family time to rest and recharge. The staff understood their struggles and helped organise a care package, offering support for the entire family.

Kirianna, Zenia's 11-year-old sister, has also become an active fundraiser for CHSW, organising cake sales, a neighbourhood Easter trail, and a charity netball tournament at her school. She finds comfort in meeting other siblings of children with similar health challenges, creating a shared understanding.

Dana reflects on how the support from CHSW has transformed their lives: "It's been transformational. We feel we have someone in our corner at all times."

The care and support at Charlton Farm have given the family the ability to breathe again and manage their challenges more easily. "Charlton Farm has been a real turning point for us," Dana says.

If you are involved in a community group and are interested in fundraising for a local charity, please reach out to Amanda Leonard at amanda.leonard@chsw.org.uk who would be happy to give a talk on the work CHSW does.

Zenia with her dad at CHSW



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Spring at Winterbourne Medieval Barn



Winterbourne Medieval Barn has a wide range of community events and activities taking place this spring – hopefully, something for everyone to enjoy!

Music and Drama

Sisters of Swing – Friday 4th April, 7.30pm

We are delighted to welcome back Sisters of Swing (pictured top right) to the Barn for another fantastic evening of live music with their 20+ piece all-female swing band! Their varied up-tempo repertoire includes vocal and instrumental big band and swing classics with a sprinkling of more modern songs and tunes. Bar from 7pm. Seating is unreserved. Free parking at the Barn.

Madame Butterfly – Friday 9th May, 7pm

Tessitura presents this emotional show with beautiful music by Puccini, in the atmospheric Barn, proving that opera is for everybody, and not an elite art form! Free parking at the Barn.

Talk

Architecture of Houses in South Glos, Medieval to 1600s – Monday 7th April, 7pm

Architectural Historian Linda Hall looks at the building styles and materials of old houses (and a barn!) in the local area, from medieval times to the 17th century, in both town and country.

Food and Drink Workshops

Foraging Walk with Steve England, 10am – 2.30pm (for age 18+)



Walk in a small group and be guided by Steve's expertise on what to pick.. and what not to pick! Back at the Barn you will turn your pickings into a sociable snack to enjoy together.

Wine Tasting – Saturday 10th May, 7pm (for age 18+)

An enjoyable, informative, and sociable evening trying out wines from Argentina and Chile.

Craft Workshops for All Ages

Craft and Cuppa – Saturday 5th April, 1 – 3pm

Spend a couple of relaxing hours making a set of four decoupage ceramic coasters. For adults or teens (ages 12+).

Easter Family Crafts – Tuesday 8th April, 10am – 12pm

A relaxed and inclusive session of family-friendly Spring and Easter inspired crafts and fun, including an Easter Trail with a treat on completion! Aimed at 5–11 yr olds (with an adult).

Easter Mug Painting – Tuesday 8th April, 10am – 12pm

For ages 10+. Paint a ceramic mug and coaster in an Easter or Spring theme.



Glass Mosaics Workshops – Tuesday 15th April, 10am or 11.30am

For ages 8+. A one hour workshops to create a mosaic style fused glass square or Easter egg shaped sun-catcher, with brilliant colours that will last forever!

Spring Open Afternoon

Sunday 27th April, 1 – 4pm

Have a look inside the Barn for free and learn about the amazing history of this building!

www.winterbournebarn.org.uk

Facebook @winterbournemedievalbarn

Winterbourne Medieval Barn, Church Lane, Winterbourne, BS36 1SE

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News from the Floral Friends of Frampton



Well, we didn't expect all that sunshine did we? Wasn't it wonderful? Our volunteers wasted no time in tidying up the Beesmoor flower border and we hope that you can see the results of

their hard work – cutting back last year's dead wood and reducing the weeds. Just to be out in the sunshine with our friends lifted our spirits and hopefully you've been able to enjoy the blue sky and spring flowers too, both around the village, in the planters and of course at home. We hope to add more spring bulbs in the autumn so if you have any ideas as to where you'd like to see some daffodils and perhaps bluebells, please let us know via our email address below.

We always try to fundraise where we can and we would like to thank all local residents who donated £1 each and coloured in one of the 60 squares on our 'hypnodoodle' picture. Ages ranged from 3yrs to 86yrs and we are delighted with the result (pictured above). We would also like to acknowledge the artist



Barbara Strong (FB: BeStrongArtWork) who created the doodle and was generous with her support for our fundraising idea. The work is now on display in the entrance hall at the Brokeridge Centre.

If you can support Floral Friends in any way we'd love to hear from you!

If you would like to join us, you would be warmly welcomed – you do not need any previous gardening skills – just enthusiasm and a willingness to take part. If you can donate time, money or plants please get in touch, thank you.

Email: floralfriendsofframpton@gmail.com.

http://fframpton.wixsite.com/frampton-cotterell

Facebook: @FloralFrampton.

What does Volunteering for Green Community Travel Look Like?



Green Community Travel needs your help to be able to offer local transport for residents across Coalpit Heath, Frampton Cotterell, Winterbourne, Yate



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If you think you could help call

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Why Should You Choose a Personal Estate Agent?

Local Bradley Stoke property expert Nathan Littleboy is proud to be doing things differently in the property market, offering a one-to-one, personalised estate agency experience for those looking to sell their property and seeking to find their perfect new home.

With over 25 years experience in the estate agency business, Nathan is delighted to have established himself as an independent personal estate agent with a 'customer first' philosophy, no shareholders to satisfy or profits prioritised over service. In choosing to work with Nathan, you are assured a tailor-made, single point of contact from start to finish - a hotline to the manager including evenings and Sundays!

In addition to the traditional marketing methods adopted by high street estate agents, Nathan also draws upon the benefits of working with local publications and social media including Facebook, Instagram, threads, TikTok and next door to go the extra mile in reaching all prospective purchasers for your property. You can also expect professional photography including aerial/drone images, expertly drawn floorplans, For sale boards, plus marketing via all the major websites.

Contractually Nathan offers zero week contracts with no notice required to terminate.

If you are looking to sell your home or looking for your next home in South Gloucestershire or Bristol you can reach Nathan Littleboy Property Ltd on 07880496470 / nathan.littleboy@exp.uk.com

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I cannot express how much Nathan has helped me during the sale and even the purchase of my new property. He helped in every way possible night and day. Always contactable even out of hours. I've never known an estate agent put as much effort into selling a property as Nathan has. I could not recommend him enough.
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Bristol-based The Window Hub progresses on green goals



The Window Hub, is aiming to plant 3,000 trees over the next three years as part of its commitment to being a climate conscious business.

The trees will be planted at Boyd Valley Lake, which is located in Bitton. This is in addition to continuing its policy of recycling all old frames so they don't end up in landfill.

The window installation company was launched during lockdown in 2020 by seasoned industry professional Danny, who wanted to create a business that was "built on quality rather than greed". From humble beginnings, The Window Hub now operates from a head office and showroom in Staple Hill (BS16 5HN) in Bristol with offices, showrooms and installation depots across the South West.

In fact, a new showroom is scheduled to open this month. Danny launched The Window Hub because he wanted to be much more than just a double glazing company. "We know that choosing new windows and inviting someone into your home can be stressful, so we have introduced as many initiatives as possible to be fair and reasonable in our approach to give our customers the best experience possible," he said. "Sales begin and end with treating customers properly. And you know what? It is so easy to be amazing if you don't cut corners."

And the Window Hub has the customer reviews to prove it – 90% of reviews for The Window Hub on Trustpilot are for five stars, with customers celebrating the company's professionalism, friendliness, tidiness, and attention to detail.

The hard work of Danny and his company was also recently recognised and commended, with The Window Hub being named the 'Best in the South West' at the G24 Awards last year.

In 2025, The Window Hub will grow to cover domestic homes between Cheltenham in Gloucestershire and Lands End in Cornwall.

For more information, please visit

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FCMVC Ask “Are You Related to Oliver Dutfield?”

The centenary preparations by members of the Frampton Cotterell Male Voice Choir have unearthed a surprising link to the past. The nascent choir's very first musical conductor in 1921 was Mark Dutfield. One of the choir's baritones, Mel Everleigh had a grandfather called Edwin Dutfield. The assumption was that they may be somehow related to each other, but a search through family history has not been able to establish a link. It is known however that Mark Dutfield had a son, Oliver who lived in Frampton Cotterell and there may be a descendant still living in the local area. Any relatives of Oliver Dutfield would be most welcome to attend the **Centenary Concert at the St Michael's Centre auditorium in Stoke Gifford, on 26 April, 7pm**, as guests of the choir.

The choir is delighted to announce that the master of ceremonies for the centenary concert will be Ali Vowles. Ali, who you may know from her time presenting the BBC Points West programme, is now a freelance journalist, presenter and facilitator. Her ready charm and wit will enhance what is already set to be a fabulous and memorable evening.

The development of the concert's souvenir programme is gaining momentum with articles being written and layouts formatted. Several local businesses have kindly sponsored advertising within the programme which will ensure it is a brochure of the highest quality. The choir is deep into rehearsals, the concert administration is in hand and excitement is mounting towards what will be a spectacular and unique event in the history of the choir. Tickets available via our website – www.fcmvc.com



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Pinewood Roofing and Building are locally based and proud to serve the Bristol area. We offer a fast and responsive roof repair service including emergency roof repairs. Our services extend into chimney repair and replacement, as well as the installation of gutters and fascias.

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With thoughts turning to summer, it's the ideal time to get your garden project underway. Our landscaping arm of the business offers the professional installation of new driveways, patios, fencing, decking, raised beds, real and artificial lawns and low maintenance garden design and installation.

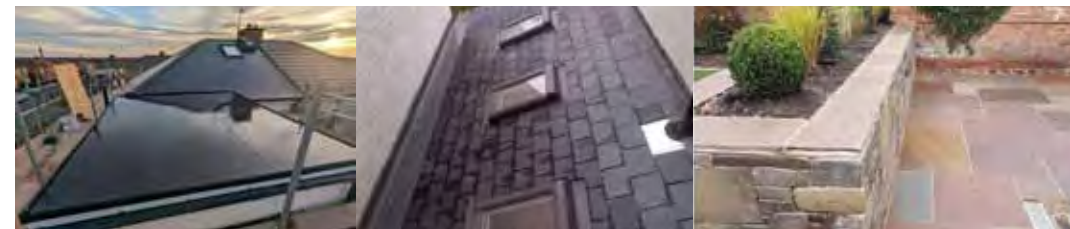
For more information on any of the above or to book a free quote, please get in touch via the contact details below.



Jimmy and his team did a great job on our old leaky roof, taking on additional work at the same time that was a necessity following inspection.

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*D. Chiddy
November 2024*



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Winterbourne Down Village Carnival: A Day of Fun, Nostalgia, and Community Spirit

Get ready for a day of excitement, entertainment and heartwarming moments as the **Winterbourne Down Village Carnival returns on Monday, 5th May!**

This much-loved annual event promises something for everyone, from dazzling costumes to live performances, delicious treats and even a brand-new attraction for four-legged friends!

The festivities kick off at 10 am with the spectacular carnival procession, setting off from Bradley Avenue shops. This year's theme, 'Storybook Nostalgia' invites participants to dress as their favourite childhood book characters, bringing classic tales to life. Leading the way will be the Bristol Pipers, setting the perfect celebratory tone. A particularly special moment will be the presence of a family recently supported by, Young Lives vs Cancer charity, highlighting the carnival's commitment to giving back and raising awareness.

Once the procession reaches the lawn of the Methodist Church, the fun continues with an action-packed day featuring:

- Live music from local bands and performers
- Food stalls offering a variety of delicious treats
- Fairground rides to thrill the young and young-at-heart
- Market stalls showcasing handmade crafts, gifts, and local goods
- Raffle and auction with exciting prizes

This year's carnival introduces a brand-new attraction—the **Winterbourne Down Dog Show!** Whether your pooch is the cutest, best-behaved, or most talented, there's a category for every canine competitor. A great way to celebrate the village's furry friends, this addition is sure to be a crowd favourite.



The celebrations aren't limited to Monday! **On Sunday, 4th May, families can join the ever-popular treasure hunt**, starting at 2pm from the Methodist Church Hall. Later, at 6pm, the community will gather for **Songs of Celebration**, an uplifting event to set the tone for the main carnival day.

And of course no village carnival would be complete without cream teas, available throughout the event for those who want to relax and enjoy a classic British treat.

The Winterbourne Down Village Carnival is more than just a day of fun – it's a time for the community to come together, celebrate local talent, support Young Lives vs Cancer and create wonderful memories. Whether you're a longtime resident or visiting for the first time, don't miss this fantastic day out!

Mark your calendars, dust off your favourite storybook-inspired costume, and get ready for a magical day of nostalgia, joy, and community spirit. See you there!

Kathryn Hopes, Publicity Officer

Follow us on Facebook, browse our site www.winterbournedowncarnival.co.uk



Photo thanks to Gary Woodruff ©

News from Winterbourne Musical Theatre

Winterbourne Musical Theatre is putting on the wonderful comedy Shrek the Musical this May, based on the Dreamworks Animation Motion Picture and the book by William Steig.

"Once upon a time, there was a little ogre named Shrek..." Thus begins the tale of an unlikely hero who finds himself on a life-changing journey alongside a wise-cracking donkey and a feisty princess who resists her own rescue. Throw in a dictatorial baddie, a gingerbread man with attitude, and other fairy tale misfits, and you've got the kind of mess that calls for a real hero. Luckily there's one on hand... and his name is Shrek.

The show has all the humour of the original film,

with Shrek and Donkey sent by Lord Farquaad to rescue Princess Fiona from her dragon-guarded tower, with a little help from a 40-strong all-age cast of fairytale characters! Plus a large crew of backstage and front-of-house volunteers – quite the community production!

Shrek the Musical runs from Wednesday 14 May to Sunday 18 May, at WADCA Community Centre, Watleys End Road, BS36 1QG. Tickets £15 are available from Ticketsource (booking fees apply), either online or by ringing 0333 666 3366.

More about Winterbourne Musical Theatre can be found at www.winterbournemusical.co.uk or **Facebook: Winterbourne Musical Theatre**



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Family Wins Battle to Secure the Right School for their Son

UK parents recently received their local authority's decision on school placements. While many are satisfied, some families now face the difficult decision of whether to challenge their child's allocation. One family's experience highlights how expert legal support can help secure the right educational setting for a child with special needs.

Their son, who has autism, was placed in a maintained special secondary school. However, his parents knew this wasn't the right fit, as he had previously struggled in a larger primary setting. His EHCP required crucial Speech and Language Therapy, which he wasn't receiving. Despite their concerns, the local authority insisted their chosen school could meet his needs, citing a £70,000 annual cost difference with the parents' preferred specialist ASD School.

With the help of specialist Education Lawyers here at HCB Solicitors, the family challenged the decision at the First-tier Tribunal. Independent reports confirmed the child needed a setting with class sizes no larger than five or six, on-site therapy, and a peer group with similar needs. Further investigation uncovered critical shortcomings in the local authority's school, leading them to concede before the hearing.

Three months after lodging the appeal, the family secured a placement at a small independent special school. The difference has been life-changing. Their son now has a one-to-one support worker, tailored teaching, and access to therapy. His progress has been remarkable—advancing in phonics and maths, thriving in a smaller classroom, and growing in confidence.

The family is overjoyed, describing the school's support as exceptional. They urge other parents facing similar battles to seek expert legal guidance, as specialist support can make all the difference in securing the right educational placement.

If you find yourself in a similar position, please do not hesitate to get in touch with one of our Education Law experts today. Every child deserves the opportunity to fulfil their potential and we will provide the expert guidance needed to ensure this is the case.

Samantha Hale, Director,
Education Law Department
(Bristol)



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News from Frampton Cotterell WI

Our talk at the end of February was fascinating to say the least and very well attended. Neil Smart from Medical Detection Dogs came along with his specially trained dog to tell us about the charity's work. The ability of these dogs is simply amazing – they have been shown in trials to recognise many illnesses, ranging from Cancer to Parkinson's Disease, also Malaria, Covid, bacterial and urinary tract infections and more. Many people have benefitted from being able to adopt Medical Detection dogs into their lives. The Queen Consort Camilla is a patron of the charity.

Up-coming events and talks include:

22nd April – Bristol Hippodrome with Katie Bell

27th May – Resolutions meeting and quiz

24th June – Victorian Surgery with Geoff King

We have many other events/socials lined up for the year ahead, including visits to the theatre (including Moulin Rouge at the Bristol Hippodrome in July), and various other trips or meals out, garden/historic visits, etc. We also have a monthly 'lunch club', open to all members and held at a different local venue each time.

Watch this space and our Facebook page for confirmation of future event dates and more details.

Visitors and new members are welcome to our monthly meetings at St Peter's Hall, on School Road, at 7.45pm, on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

There is a charge of £4.00 for the evening and any new members can also join by paying a membership fee.

Special interest groups that meet separately include a book club, craft group, gardening group and our skittles and darts events.

If you would like to join us or to find out more, please search **FramptonCottWI** on **Facebook**, leave us a message and like our page.



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Handmade Gonks for Charity Appeal

After a long wait, Paul's Place, a local charity for physically disabled adults is finally moving from where it rents at Coalpit Heath Cricket Club. The charity will move into its very own premises where it can support more physically disabled people with improved facilities and a wider range of services and activities. They will enjoy the opportunities that the rest of us often take for granted. The former Shire Way Community Centre will become Paul's Place Hub. This is a massive undertaking only made possible with legacy donations and successful grant applications. But Paul's Place needs your support to get them through the door by this summer 2025.

Last summer, thieves stole lead from our roof at Shire Way, the only part of the building that didn't need any work. Paul's Place member (service user), Georghie, tirelessly made and sold handmade Gonks to support the cost of repairing the roof. So far she has made over one hundred Gonks, selling each Gok for £2, raising an impressive £335 towards her £500 target. It's a delicate craft where Georghie can only use her one hand to thread wool to create a small and woolly gnome figure. A huge achievement, despite having a physical disability, which affects her hearing, sight, legs and arms.

It all started during the Covid lockdown years. Support worker, Maria introduced making Gonks at Paul's Place. Since then Georghie has continued making Gonks for members and staff at Paul's Place, for carers, family members and friends of friends. They cheered up those who became unwell during our cold and dark winter months. And care workers requested Georghie's handmade Gonks after showing their other clients.

The Gonks covered every occasion, from Christmas, Easter, Mother's Day to Valentine's Day. She even made twenty-five Gonks for a junior football team in their blue and yellow colours.



If Georghie doesn't have a particular colour, she will wait until her next bulk buy of wool to keep the cost down. Georghie says, "My favourite Gonks were the Christmas Gonks, because they had glitter, and the first eight I made, as they came out fluffier than I expected. I get asked, 'how do I make them with one hand?' I reply, you find a way'. I love making Gonks. The end product is so satisfying and it's a project I can do myself."

After Georghie hits her £500 target for Paul's Place, she'll continue making Gonks to raise money for Cancer Research. For Disability Pride, which takes place in July every year, Georghie plans on making Gonks with multicolour hair, so watch this space.

If you're inspired to fundraise for Paul's Place to support its appeal to get them into Paul's Place Hub by this summer 2025, please visit its web page at:

www.paulsplace.org.uk/hub

The hub will transform life for physically disabled people across the Southwest region. Paul's Place is working hard to fund this transformative project. Every room needs equipment to give physically disabled adults the opportunities and connections they need for living life to the full.



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Frampton Cotterell Computer Group



Frampton Cotterell Computer Group are continuing to meet at the Brokeridge Centre in Frampton Cotterell offering

help and advice on the use of PCs, laptops and tablets. The group meets on Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9.30 to 11.30am and new members are always welcome to join on whichever day they prefer.

Although younger people have grown up with computers, many older people have had limited experience of them in either their working or personal life. FCCG aims to help people to improve their knowledge, confidence and understanding, either through structured exercises which they can work through at their own pace or by answering specific questions which are raised. Because of the informal nature of the group people can also learn from each other as they try different things.

The group would also welcome new volunteers who have some experience of using computers or tablets. You don't need to be an IT expert, as a basic knowledge, an enquiring mind, and a willingness to share, are sufficient to deal with most issues. For more complex questions, experienced people are at hand to offer support to other volunteers.

For the latest information contact the Brokeridge Centre, Tel 01454 864442 or Email: over50it_1@hotmail.co.uk

Frampton Cotterell Computer Group

If you would like to learn how to use your computer or brush up on old skills, we are here to help you with one to one and group sessions. We meet at The Brokeridge Centre, Woodend Road Frampton Cotterell.



To enquire about future sessions

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We also have plenty of trips to various places of interest, including pub lunches, garden centres and shopping trips further afield.

There's something for everyone!

Our vehicles can be hired by community groups and we can also provide MIDAS training inhouse.

Due to demand we need more help from volunteer social car drivers / office admin. Please give us a call for details.



Crossbow House, 58 School Road, Frampton Cotterell, Bristol, BS36 2DA

An update from Clare Moody -

Police & Crime Commissioner

I recently welcomed the latest report by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services into the effectiveness and efficiency of Avon and Somerset Police, published in February.

One of my main responsibilities as your Police and Crime Commissioner is the scrutiny and governance of the police service, which means monitoring and challenging the Chief Constable to ensure that Avon and Somerset Police is delivering an effective and efficient service to you and our communities.

The Police Efficiency Effectiveness and Legitimacy Inspection, or PEEL as it is known, provides important additional evidence to support me in my scrutiny role and guide the focus of that scrutiny alongside the main oversight delivered through my Police and Crime Plan.

I'm pleased that the report noted that Avon and Somerset Police were found to be Good in two areas: preventing crime and police powers and public treatment.

However, the report highlighted that Avon and Somerset Police is only Adequate at developing a positive workplace and that their service Requires Improvement in five areas: responding to the public; investigating crime; protecting vulnerable people; managing offenders and leadership and force management. These are all key areas I have already identified for Avon and Somerset to focus on, and they are also within the five priorities of my Police and Crime Plan, which gives me confidence that my plan is focusing on the right things to deliver a more effective and efficient service for you.

I will continue to monitor closely the progress Avon and Somerset Police is making against all the Areas For Improvement (AFIs) within this report, paying particular attention to the observation regarding the same areas that still require improvement since the last HMICFRS PEEL inspection.

I asked the Chief Constable questions around the report in a recent Police Question Time session, which was live streamed through Facebook, LinkedIn and added to YouTube. You can find out more and watch the session back on my website – search 'PQT' www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk

Please feel free to reach out to me and my office with any questions, concerns, or suggestions you may have at:

www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/contact

ARTS APPRECIATION GROUP

Thursday 17th April – Justine Hopkins on 'Maggi Hambling – a remarkable artist'

Thursday 15th May – Roslyn Mayne-Caudwell on 'My Love of Pottery'

Thursday 19th June – Richard Box on 'Impressionism and Beyond'

Please join us! Meetings take place at 2pm at, The Greenfield Centre, Winterbourne, BS36 1NJ

More details from Sally on 07946 508316



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01454 281144

April

Tues 1st – Crotchet & Knit Club, Bockeridge Centre, 11am–1pm. Any ability. For more info, call: 01454 864442 or email: office@framptoncoterrell-pc.gov.uk

Weds 2nd – Coffee Morning, Salem church, Watleys End, 10–11.30am. All welcome. www.salemchurch.org.uk

Weds 2nd – Coffee Morning, Henfield Hall, Ram Hill, 10am–12pm, email: henfieldhall@yahoo.com

Weds 2nd – Wellbeing Friends, WADCA 1.45–3.45pm. £3. For people with dementia and their carers. Varied activities, games, cuppa, chat. For info call Edna on 07789 662694

Weds 2nd – Singalong with The Jays and Joy, Crossbow, School Rd, 2–3.30pm. £5 incl refreshments. Carers free. Live music (40s, 50s 60s 70s 80s, films, musicals, country etc). Songbooks provided. Everyone welcome, call Hilary on 07515 351813

Weds 2nd – Table Tennis at Henfield Hall, Ram Hill, 2–4.30pm. £2. Equipment provided. Refreshments available. For information email: henfieldhall@yahoo.com

Weds 2nd – Coalpit Heath WI, St Saviours Church Hall, 7.45pm. Tel: 07935 071291 or email: carolinemjohnston@hotmail.com or Facebook

Thurs 3rd – Men's Chat Afternoon, Bockeridge Centre, 1–3pm. Free for men of any age. Informal drop-in sessions. Socialise, make new friends, share thoughts, ideas, concerns, or simply find a warm place with a cup of tea!

Fri 4th – Lent Soup Lunches, Zion church, 12–1pm. All welcome

Fri 4th – Sisters of Swing, Winterbourne Medieval Barn, 7.30pm. Big band and swing tunes and up tempo modern songs. Bar from 7pm. Book via www.winterbournebarn.org.uk

Fri 4th – Quiz, Crossbow, 8pm. £1.50 ppn. Tel: 01454 772947 or email: crossbowhouse@gmail.com

Sat 5th – Easter Family Eggstravaganza, Beesmoor Road Playing Field, 1.30pm

Sat 5th – Craft and Cuppa, Winterbourne Medieval Barn, 1pm. For adults or teens (12+). Decoupage ceramic coasters. Book online: www.winterbournebarn.org.uk

Sat 5th – Music and dancing, Royal British Legion club, Ryecroft Road, from 8.30pm. £6. With Rocking Gerry. New visitors very welcome. Tel: 01454 772769

Sun 6th – Frome Valley Growing Project Open Day, Swan Lane Winterbourne, 11am–2.30pm (weather dependent). More info, email: thegrowingproject123@gmail.com

Mon 7th – Gardening and Social Club, Manor Hall, Jubilee Room, 2–3.30pm. All welcome. £2.50 incl refreshments. Tel: 01454 774279

Mon 7th – Talk: Architecture of Houses in South Glos, Medieval to 1600s, Winterbourne Medieval Barn, 7pm. £7.50. Also on Zoom. Info: www.winterbournebarn.org.uk

Tues 8th – Coffee and cake, Bockeridge Centre, 11am–1pm

Tues 8th – Easter Craft Sessions for Children, Winterbourne Medieval Barn, 10am. Ceramic mug painting for ages 10+. Paper crafts and Easter Trail for ages 5–11. Book online: www.winterbournebarn.org.uk

Tues 8th – Film Afternoon, Salem, Watleys End, 2pm. Free parking, free admission, warm welcome for everyone. www.salemchurch.org.uk

Thurs 10th – Vale of Frome Men's Probus, The Miners, 10am–12pm. Variety of speakers. Free tea, coffee, biscuits, parking. Sec: Terry 0117 956 4259 or 07521 613154

Thurs 10th – Men's Chat Afternoon, Bockeridge Centre, 1–3pm. Free for men of any age. Informal drop-in sessions. Socialise, make new friends, share thoughts, ideas, concerns, or simply find a warm place with a cup of tea!

Fri 11th – Folk Club, Main Hall, Crossbow, School Road, 8–11pm. Acoustic music. Play, sing, listen. Info, tel: 07974 151437 or Facebook: [folkatframptoncoterrell](https://www.facebook.com/folkatframptoncoterrell)

Sat 12th – Repair Cafe, All Saints hall, Winterbourne Down, 10.30am–12pm. Frome Valley Environmental Group will try to repair your bikes, electricals, jewellery, clothing, wooden items, etc. Email: winterbourneenvironmental@gmail.com

Sat 12th – Music & Dancing, Royal British Legion club, Ryecroft Road, from 8.30pm. £6. Bingo from 8pm, Band starts 8.30pm. Tel: 01454 772769

Sun 13th – Foraging Walk with Steve England, Winterbourne Medieval Barn, 10am–2.30pm. Learn from an expert what is safe to pick to eat and what's not! Over 18s only. Booking essential. www.winterbournebarn.org.uk

Mon 14th – Winterbourne Flower Club, WADCA, 2–4pm. Theme tbc. More info call Celia on 01454 776753 or text 07947 487155

Tues 15th – Glass Mosaics for Children, Winterbourne Medieval Barn, 10am or 11.30am. One hour workshops. Age 8+. Booking essential. www.winterbournebarn.org.uk

Tues 15th – Crotchet & Knit Club, Bockeridge Centre, 11am–1pm. Any ability. For more info tel: 01454 864442 or email office@framptoncoterrell-pc.gov.uk

Weds 16th – St Saviour's Church open 1–3.30pm for tea, coffee, prayer or quiet space

Wed 16th – Table Tennis at Henfield Hall, Ram Hill, 2–4.30pm. £2. Equipment provided. Refreshments available. For information email: henfieldhall@yahoo.com

Weds 16th – FC & District Local History Society, Zion hall, 7.30pm. £5. Members free (£20pa). Email: secretary_fcdlhs@yahoo.com

Thurs 17th – Coeliac UK Local Café Meet Up, Iron Acton Garden Centre cafe 10–11.30am. Share experiences of living gluten free. Info, email: volunteering@coeliac.org.uk

Thurs 17th – Wellbeing Friends, WADCA 1.45–3.45pm. £3. For people with dementia and their carers. Varied activities, games, cuppa, chat. For info call Edna on 07789 662694

Thurs 17th – Arts Appreciation Group, Greenfield Centre, Winterbourne BS36 1NJ, 2pm. Illustrated talk on Maggi Hambling – a remarkable artist. Tel: 07946 508316

Fri 18th – Soup Lunches, St Saviours Church Hall, 12pm.

Fri 18th – Bingo, Crossbow Community Centre, School Road, 8pm. Tel: 01454 772947

Sat 19th – Bacon Butties/Toasted Teacake Coffee Morning, Salem, Watleys End, 10 am All welcome. www.salemchurch.org.uk

Sat 19th – Repair Surgery, All Saints hall, Winterbourne Down, 10.30am–12pm. Frome Valley Environmental Group will try to repair your bikes, electricals, jewellery, clothing, wooden items, etc. Email: winterbourneenvironmental@gmail.com

Sat 19th – Messy Church, St Saviours Church Hall, 3.30–5.15pm

Sat 19th – Bingo, Royal British Legion club, Ryecroft Road, £6. Bingo at 8pm. Dancing to live band City Limits from 8.30pm. New members and visitors very welcome

Tues 22nd – Coffee & Cakes, Bockeridge Centre, 11am–1pm. Open to everyone

Tues 22nd – Women's fellowship, Salem church, Watleys End, 2.30pm. www.salemchurch.org.uk

Tues 22nd – Mothers Union evening group, St Saviours Church, 7.30pm. Short service, tea, cake, craft, various speakers. Led by Sarah Blake. Call Mary Head on 01454 887870

Tues 22nd – Frampton WI, St Peters Hall, 7.45pm. Non-members £4. Tel: 01454 773426 or see Facebook page

Weds 23rd – Litter Busters, meet at British Legion, Ryecroft Rd, 10am. A Voluntary group who help to keep our village tidy, once a month. Do join in. Wear gloves. Email: framcottva@hotmail.co.uk

Weds 23rd – Volunteer Day at Frome Valley Growing Project, Swan Lane Winterbourne 10am–2pm (weather dependent). Email: thegrowingproject123@gmail.com

Weds 23rd – Ladies Circle, Zion, 7.30pm. Varied speakers. Small charge on the door. More info, email: jeanbradbeer@gmail.com or call Gill on 01454 850684

Thurs 24th – Fromeside Food Hub, Zion, 12–2pm. Free/ 'Pay as you feel'

Thurs 24th – Memory cafe, Greenfield Centre, 2–3.30pm. Chat and cuppa, socialising, advice, varied speakers. Free. More info from Alzheimers Society

Thurs 24th – The Filling Station, Manor Hall, 7.30pm. Monthly Christian gathering. Open to all. Speaker: Rev Sally Wheeler. www.thefillingstation.org.uk/station/south-glos

Fri 25th – Laughter Club – Coffee, Cake, Chat, St Peters Church, drop in, 10am–12pm. Tel: 01454 776518

Sat 26th – FC Male Voice Choir 100th Anniversary concert, St Michaels Centre, Stoke Gifford, 7pm. Tickets on Ticketsource. www.fcmvco.co.uk

Sat 26th – Music at the Royal British Legion club, Ryecroft Road, £6. Bingo at 8pm. Music and dancing from 8.30pm. New members and visitors very welcome

Sun 27th – Spring Open Day, Winterbourne Medieval Barn, 1–4pm. Free

Mon 28th – Police Drop-in, Bockeridge Centre, 10.30am–12.30pm. Everyone welcome

Tues 29th – Coffee & Cakes, Bockeridge Centre, 11am–1pm. All welcome

Weds 30th – Litter Busters, meet at British Legion, Ryecroft Road, 10am. A voluntary group who help to keep our village tidy, once a month. Do join in. Wear gloves. See Village Action on facebook or website or email: framcottva@hotmail.co.uk

Weds 30th – St Saviour's church open 1– 3.30pm for tea, coffee, prayer or quiet space

May

Thurs 1st – Fromeside Food Hub, Zion, 12–2pm. Open to all. Free or 'pay as you feel'

Thurs 1st – Men's Chat Afternoon, Bockeridge Centre, 1–3pm. Free for men of any age. Informal drop-in sessions. Socialise, make new friends, share thoughts, ideas, concerns, or simply find a warm place with a cup of tea!

Fri 2nd – Laughter Club: Coffee, Cake, Chat, St Peters church, drop in 10am–12pm

Fri 2nd – Quiz, Crossbow, 8pm. £1.50 ppn. Tel: 01454 772947 or email: crossbowhouse@gmail.com

Sat 3rd – St Saviours Church open to visitors, 10am–12pm. Tea/ coffee etc available

Sat 3rd – Music at the Royal British Legion club, Ryecroft Rd, £6. Bingo at 8pm. Music and dancing from 8.30pm. New members and visitors very welcome

Sun 4th – Frome Valley Growing Project Open, Swan Lane Winterbourne, 11am–2.30pm (weather dependent). More info: thegrowingproject123@gmail.com

Tues 6th – Crotchet & Knit Club, Bockeridge Centre, 11am–1pm. Any ability

Weds 7th – Coffee Morning, Salem church, Watleys End, 10–11.30am. All welcome

Weds 7th – Coffee Morning, Henfield Hall, Ram Hill, 10am–12pm. Email: henfieldhall@yahoo.com

Weds 7th – Wellbeing Friends, WADCA 1.45–3.45pm. £3. For people with dementia and their carers. Varied activities, games, cuppa, chat. Info, call Edna on 07789 662694

Weds 7th – Singalong with The Jays and Joy, Crossbow, School Rd, 2–3.30pm. £5 includes refreshments. Carers free. Live music (40s, 50s 60s 70s 80s, films, musicals, country etc). Songbooks provided. Everyone welcome, for info call Hilary on 07515 351813

Weds 7th – Table Tennis at Henfield Hall, Ram Hill, 2–4.30pm. £2. Equipment provided. Refreshments available. For info, email: henfieldhall@yahoo.com

Weds 7th – Coalpit Heath WI, St Saviours Church Hall, 7.45pm. Victorian Gardener – F A Burroughs. Visitors £4. Email: carolinemjohnston@hotmail.com or tel: 07935 071291

Thurs 8th – Vale of Frome Men's Probus, The Miners, 10am–12pm. Variety of speakers. Free tea, coffee, biscuits, parking. Sec: Terry 0117 956 4259 or 07521 613154

Thurs 8th – Men's Chat Afternoon, Bockeridge Centre, 1–3pm. Free for men of any age. Informal drop-in sessions. Socialise, make new friends, share thoughts, ideas, concerns, or simply find a warm place with a cup of tea!

Thurs 8th – VE Day Celebrations, Centenary Field, 7.30pm. Includes beacon lighting

Fri 9th – Madame Butterfly, Winterbourne Medieval Barn, 7pm. Tessitura presents this emotional show by Puccini, bringing accessible opera to local people. Sung in English with a chamber orchestra. Book online: www.winterbournebarn.org.uk

Fri 9th – Folk club, Crossbow, School Road, 8–10.30pm. £3. Acoustic music. Play, sing, listen. Info, Tel: 07974 151437 or Facebook: [folkatframptoncoterrell](https://www.facebook.com/folkatframptoncoterrell)

Sat 10th – Wine Tasting, Winterbourne Medieval Barn, 7pm. Learn about Argentinian and Chilean wines in a fun and informative evening. www.winterbournebarn.org.uk

Mon 12th – Winterbourne Flower Club, WADCA, 2–4pm. Tel: 01454 776753 or text: 07947 487155

Mon 12th – Gardening and Social Club, Manor Hall, Jubilee Room, 2–3.30pm. All welcome. £2.50 incl refreshments. Info, tel: 01454 774279

Tues 13th – Coffee & Cakes, Bockeridge Centre, 11am–1pm. Open to everyone

Tues 13th – Film Afternoon, Salem, Watleys End, 2pm. Free parking, free admission, warm welcome for everyone. www.salemchurch.org.uk

Weds 14th – Sun 18th – Shrek the Musical, WADCA, 7.30pm (& 2.30pm on Sat). Book on ticketsource.co.uk | Tel.0333 666 3366. See Facebook: Winterbourne Musical Comedy

Thurs 15th – Coeliac UK Local Meet Up, Iron Acton Garden Centre cafe, 10–11.30am. Share experiences of living gluten free. Info: volunteering@coeliac.org.uk

Thurs 15th – Wellbeing Friends, WADCA 1.45–3.45pm. £3. For people with dementia and their carers. Varied activities, games, cuppa, chat. Info, call Edna, Tel: 07789 662694

Thurs 15th – Arts Appreciation Group, Greenfield Centre, BS36 1NJ, 2pm. Roslyn Mayne-Caudwell on 'My Love of Pottery'. Tel: 07946 508316

Fri 16th – Bingo, Crossbow Community Centre, School Road, 8pm. Tel: 01454 772947

Sat 17th – Bacon Butties/Toasted Teacake Coffee Morning, Salem, Watleys End, 10am

Sat 17th – Repair Cafe, All Saints hall, Winterbourne Down, 10.30am–12pm. Frome Valley Environmental Group will try to repair your bikes, electricals, jewellery, clothing, wooden items, etc.

Sat 17th – Messy Church, St Saviours church hall, 3.30–5.15pm. All welcome

Tues 20th – Crotchet & Knit Club, Bockeridge Centre, 11am–1pm. Any ability

Weds 21st – Table Tennis at Henfield Hall, Ram Hill, 2–4.30pm. £2. Equipment provided

Weds 21st – FC & District Local History Society, Zion hall, 7.30pm. £5. Members free

Thurs 22nd – Fromeside Food Hub, Zion, 12–2pm. Open to all. Free or 'pay as you feel'

Thurs 22nd – Memory cafe, Greenfield Centre, 2–3.30pm. Chat and cuppa, socialising, advice, varied speakers. Free. More info from The Alzheimers Society

Thurs 22nd – The Filling Station, Manor Hall, 7.30pm. Monthly Christian gathering. Open to all. Speaker: David Hull

Fri 23rd – Soup Lunches, St Saviours church hall, 12pm

Sat 24th – Bingo, Royal British Legion club, Ryecroft Road, £6. Bingo at 8pm. Dancing to live band from 8.30pm. New members and visitors very welcome

Tues 27th – Coffee & Cakes, Bockeridge Centre, 11am–1pm. Open to everyone

Tues 27th – Women's fellowship, Salem Church, 2.30pm

Tues 27th – Mothers Union evening group, St Saviours Church, 7.30pm. Short service, tea, cake, craft, various speakers. Led by Sarah Blake. Tel. Mary Head, 01454 887870

Tues 27th – Frampton WI, St Peters Hall 7.45pm. Visitors £4. Resolutions meeting & Quiz. Tel: 01454 773426, Fowisecretary@outlook.com or Facebook: FramptonCottWI

Weds 28th – Litter Busters, meet at British Legion, Ryecroft Rd, 10am. A Voluntary group who help to keep our village tidy, once a month. Do join in. Wear gloves. See Village Action on Facebook or website or email: framcottva@hotmail.co.uk

Weds 28th – Volunteer Day at Frome Valley Growing Project, Swan Lane, Winterbourne, 10am–2pm. Email: thegrowingproject123@gmail.com

Weds 28th – St Saviour's church open 1–3.30pm for tea, coffee, prayer or quiet space

Weds 28th – Ladies Circle, Zion, 7.30pm. Varied speakers. Small charge on the door

Thurs 29th – Men's Chat Afternoon, Bockeridge Centre, 1–3pm. Free for men of any age. Informal drop-in sessions. Socialise, make new friends, share thoughts, ideas, concerns, or simply find a warm place with a cup of tea!

Fri 30th – Laughter Club: Coffee, Cake, Chat, St Peters church, drop in 10am–12pm

Sat 31st – Music at the Royal British Legion club, Ryecroft Rd, £6. Bingo at 8pm. Music and dancing from 8.30pm. New members and visitors very welcome

Monthly listings at www.villageaction.org.uk

Stop be still and think in a quiet space

We live in what can sometimes feel like a very frenetic world. Despite so many new breakthroughs in technology and inventions that make life both at home and in the work place easier, we still seem to spend a lot of time rushing from place to place, or task to task – often causing us to feel tired, stressed and generally burnt out. I know I am my own worst enemy, often finding it difficult to time manage or even sometimes say 'no' to a request, mainly because we can often feel we need to justify our existence by how much we 'do'. It's almost as if we are saying that the more we do the more accepted in society we are.

For sometime I have had the privilege of facilitating 'prayer' or 'thought spaces' in some of our local schools. This involves providing a number of activities for the children to take part in that provide time to think through various issues in a quiet, reflective space. For example, one of the activities called 'Overcoming Hurdles', invites them to think about any hurdles or challenges they may be facing in their lives and then, if they wish to, write a thought or prayer about issue and hang it onto a hurdle.

At the end of each session I ask the young people how the thought space felt. The one recurring theme that the children identify is how helpful it is to be given time to stop, be still and think in a quiet space. They often say this makes them feel relaxed and peaceful and often ask if this can be provided more often!

We all need time to step back from our frenetic pace of life and just 'be'. Time to reflect on our lives, and, as a Christian, I believe time to receive God's love and peace that is His gift to everyone.

I am writing this whilst holidaying in a remote part of Somerset. I am surrounded by beautiful landscapes, many signs of spring including snowdrops, daffodils and lambs in the fields. It is so life restoring to have the time to be able to take in the beauty of creation and receive that inner peace which I believe is a gift from God. It feels almost like being given an MOT. Our cars like ourselves get worn and tired and the MOT provides all that is needed to get them back on the road. Times away from our everyday life provide us with an opportunity to be refilled with all we need for our everyday lives, return to them

energised, with our priorities prioritised and a sense of deep peace.

One of my favourite bible quotes is from Matthew's gospel where Jesus says '**Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest**'.

Whether you are someone of faith or no faith we all deserve and need that time to step away from our everyday lives, receive our 'MOT' and be restored to full life and strength for all that life calls us to.

Jo Strange

LLM Fromside Benefice of Churches



St Michael's pupils enjoyed the 'thought space'

Easter Services



13th April 2025 – Palm Sunday

8am, St Saviours – Holy Communion
9.15am, All Saints – Parish Communion
10am, St James – All Age Service
10.30 am, Zion – All Age Worship
10.30am, Salem – Palm Sunday Songs of Praise
10.30am, St Michaels – Parish Communion
10.30am, St Peters – Parish Communion
10.30am, St Saviours – Parish Communion
4.30pm, St Michaels – Pause for Thought

Holy Week

8pm, 14th April, All Saints – Stations of the cross
8pm, 15th April, St Peters – Compline
8pm, 16th April, St Michaels – Tenebrae

17th April – Maundy Thursday

8pm, St Saviours – Agape meal & Watch till midnight
7.30pm, Salem – Communion meal

18th April – Good Friday

9.30am, All Saints – Communion of The Cross
9.30am, St Saviours – Communion of The Cross
9.30am, St Peters – Communion of The Cross
10am, St James – Stations of the Cross
10.30am, Zion – Good Friday Service
2pm, St Michaels – Cross of Christ

19th April – Easter Saturday

3.30pm, St Saviours – Messy Easter, a service for all the family
8pm, St Peters – Easter Vigil

20th April – Easter day

8am, St Michaels – Holy Communion
9.15am, All Saints – Parish Communion
9.15am, St James – Family Communion
10.30am, Zion – Communion
10.30am, Salem – Easter Communion with Cross of Flowers
10.30am, St Michaels Community Centre – Celtic family Communion
10.30am, St Peters – Parish Communion
10.30am, St Saviours – Parish Communion
6.00pm – St Saviours – Easter Praise

All Saints, Down Road, Winterbourne Down, BS36 1BW

St James, High Street, Iron Acton, BS37 9UH

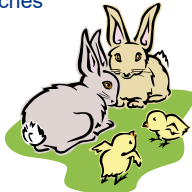
St Saviour's, Beesmoor Road, Coalpit Heath, BS36 2RP

St Peter's, Bristol, BS36 2AB

Salem, 53 Factory Road, BS36 1QL

St Michael's, Church Lane, Winterbourne, BS36 1SE

Zion, 2, Upper Chapel Lane, BS36 2HY



News from St Michael's School

What a fantastic month we've had at St Michael's! Our little ones have been busy learning, exploring, and most importantly, having fun!

Year 1 had an exciting adventure when they visited the SS Great Britain. The children were absolutely enchanted by the ship, learning about its history and how it was once the epitome of modern engineering. We're hopeful that they will take these experiences and weave them into their understanding of maritime history.

Meanwhile, Year 2 took to the stars with their after-school space camp! They dived into the incredible stories of astronauts and planets in preparation for their upcoming lessons on the legendary Neil Armstrong. The enthusiasm for space was palpable, and we can't wait to see the projects they produce.

A highlight of the month was certainly Pancake Day. All classes enjoyed delightful pancake races on the

playground, with plenty of laughter and cheering. The spirit of friendly competition brought everyone closer together, and it was heartwarming to see the encouragement between classes.

And of course World Book Day was a real treat! Our talented students shared their favourite books and engaged in a range of fun book-related activities that sparked their imaginations.

As always, thank you for your continued support. Here's to another exciting month ahead at St Michael's!

News from Frampton Cotterell Parish Council

Frampton Cotterell Window Trail Winners

This February half term, Frampton Cotterell Parish Council hosted our first (hopefully of many!) Community Window Art Trail event.

With thirteen fantastic displays put up across the village, local residents had a brilliant art trail to follow during the bright (if chilly) half term. Hundreds of people viewed our digital trail map, and more still picked up a free paper trail map from the Bickeridge Centre. The parish council and its staff are all so happy that the village enjoyed the art trail so much.

From snowy scenes to starry skies, soaring birds to sneaking foxes, every display in this art trail captured a different facet of this year's theme, 'Nature in Winter'. Please join us in celebrating and thanking all of these clever display creators!

During the trail week, people were encouraged to vote for their favourite display in the art trail. We are pleased to announce this year's 1st and 2nd place winners in the Frampton Cotterell Window Art Trail, as voted for by you.

1st Place went to Alison, for her work titled 'Starlings', displayed at 137 Park Lane.

2nd Place went to Debbie and Lianne, for their work titled 'Woodland Deer', displayed at 18 Beaufort Road.

Our winners were presented with their personalised certificates and a prize each at the beginning of March. Congratulations!

Thank you to all who took part in this year's Window Trail, as an entrant or as a viewer. To see more photographs of this year's trail, visit our website, at www.framptoncotterell-pc.gov.uk/window-trail-winners-2025.

V.E. Day Celebrations in Frampton Cotterell

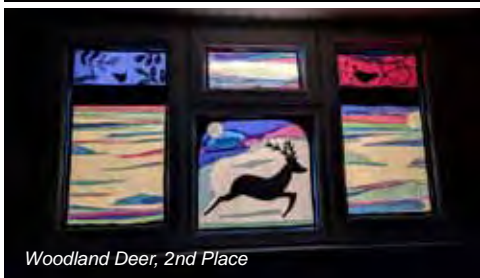
The 8th of May, 2025, will mark 80 years since the end of World War II in Europe – V.E. Day.

To commemorate this historic anniversary, Frampton Cotterell Parish Council will be hosting a community celebration at Centenary Field – a similar event to our hugely successful and well-attended 80th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings, hosted by the parish council on June 6th of last year (pictured).

Local people are invited to join us at Centenary Field from 8pm for the celebrations, culminating in the lighting of the Centenary Field Beacon at 9.30pm.



Starlings, 1st Place



Woodland Deer, 2nd Place

Get Involved – Could you help us bring the village together in commemorating this historic anniversary? The parish council would love to get more people directly involved.

We would particularly like to hear from any groups or individuals who could run an activity or stall, or who could share relevant skills and/or knowledge with the community at this V.E. Day event. As always, we would also be very grateful for any volunteers to assist with usual event support such as managing refreshments, helping with set up, etc.

We also welcome suggestions and ideas for this event – what would you like to see or do? Tell us! If you'd like to get involved with our V.E. Day event, share feedback on our plans or simply learn more, please get in touch via the contact details opposite.



Marathon man Steve Bassett

Marathon-Man Steve's Fundraiser Event for Local Charity

Frampton Cotterell Parish Council's Estates & Amenities officer, Steve Bassett, will be running his

first London marathon at the end of the month to raise funds for the, Ben Saunders Foundation – a local charity which provides holidays for children diagnosed with cancer, and their families.

The parish council is proud to support Steve in this effort. To this end, we will be holding a fundraiser event at the Bickeridge Centre – and you're all invited!

Join Frampton Cotterell Parish Council from 10am – 1pm, on Saturday 5th April for a fun and friendly community fundraiser. We'll have a tombola, coffee & cake (and other refreshments), and a craft sale from the members of our Crochet & Knit Club!

We hope that you can join us for a fun-filled morning in aid of a truly worthy cause.

If you are unable to attend but would still like to support this fundraising effort for the Ben Saunders Foundation, you can donate via Steve's Just Giving page at: www.justgiving.com/page/stephen-bassett-2. You can also donate in person at the Bickeridge Centre reception at any time during our opening hours or during our weekly Coffee & Cake mornings (every Tuesday, 11am – 1pm).

Hedgehog Watch Week

The Hedgehog Heroes Here group, in collaboration with Frampton Cotterell and Westerleigh Parish Councils, invites you to join in with our new wildlife initiative: Hedgehog Watch Week!

Our local Hedgehog Watch Week will be taking place from the 5th to the 11th of May. This coincides with the national 'Hedgehog Awareness Week' which aims to raise awareness of the plight of hedgehogs and what we can all do to help them.

Our Watch Week also takes place during “**No Mow May**”, an awareness month where garden-owners are encouraged to let their lawns grow wild to help local flora and fauna. More flowers = more insects = more snacks for hedgehogs!

For extra-keen 'hog-spotters', wildlife cameras are available to borrow for free from Frampton Cotterell Parish Council. Get in touch with us to borrow a camera and set it up in your garden to find out whether you have hedgehogs visiting you at night.

To get involved, all you need to do is be on the look out for hedgehogs and let us know what you find! Specifically...

- The location of the hedgehog
- The date you saw the hedgehog
- Whether the hedgehog was alive – and if not, whether it was roadkill
- Any other information you think might be useful to share!

Jot down your findings, then email them across to our Community Nature Officer, David at: wildlife@framptoncotterell-pc.gov.uk.

By taking part in our Hedgehog Watch Week, you can help the Hedgehog Heroes collect important data on local 'hogs'. In turn, this data can be used by the parish council to create locally-informed targets and action plans to better protect our hedgehogs.

The Bickeridge Centre, Woodend Road Frampton Cotterell, BS36 2LQ.

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