

Village News

Issue No. 148
July - August 2024

Monkton Heathfield, West Monkton and Bathpool



Contents:

Useful Numbers/Singles Club/Coffee Mornings - Page 2
SAW Landscape/Brass on the Grass/Monkton Players - Page 3
West Monkton C of E Primary School - Page 4
Taunton Rugby Football Club - Page 5
South Quantock Benefice/100 Club - Page 6 & 7
Parish Council News - Pages 8, 9 & 10
Somerset Birds - Page 11
Evening WI - Page 12
Landscape - Flux and Flow, SAW - Page 13
Tacchi-Morris Arts Centre - Page 14
Hestercombe Gardens/Can you Help?/For Sale - Page 15
IT Tech Tips/Village News Deliveries - Page 16
Regular Events at the Village Halls - Page 23
Round Britain eRIB - Page 24

Henry Besley and the eRIB Project.
See Page 24



Family Learning Project
See Page 4

Publication in the Village News does not imply an endorsement. The Editors cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions.
The information contained within this publication is published in good faith.
Volunteers deliver this publication to homes in West Monkton, Monkton Heathfield, Bathpool, Gotton and Goosenford.

Useful Names and Telephone Numbers

Rector: Rev Jim Cox

Tel: 01823 802790 or 07967 817337

The Vicarage, Kingston St Mary

Email: jimcox11@gmail.com

Churchwardens: Pearl Jeanes - 01823 412804

pearljeanespcc@gmail.com

Sally Hillman - 01823 410814

sallyhillman@hotmail.co.uk

P.C.C Secretary: Sue Cleave - 07468608921

P.C.C Treasurer: David Cooke

Captain of Bell ringers: Pearl Jeanes - 412804

Church Flower Organiser: Angela Dill - 412395

Mothers' Union: Hazel Adams - 01823 443027

Benefice Office: Michele Hardiman - 01823 451257

Benefice website: www.southquantockbenefice.org.uk

Parish Council Clerk: Amy Shepherd 07588571775

clerk@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk

PC Community Clerk: Kate Welsh 07505984006

community@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk

PC Chairman: Stuart Haskins 07824410997

stuarthaskins@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Community Website: www.somersetccc.org.uk

Parish Council Website: www.westmonkton.net

Litter Hotline: 03003048000

West Monkton Primary School Head:

Helen Newstead - 01823 412582

Heathfield Community School Head:

Hannah Jones - 01823 412396

Tacchi-Morris Arts Centre: 01823 414141

Taunton Deane Community Transport:

01823 331266 Mon-Fri. 9 am to 4 pm (Slinky Bus 24hrs notice).

Village Hall:

Telephone, incoming calls only - 01823 412068

Booking Officer: Ian Pitchfork Tel: 01823 412196

ianpitchfork623@gmail.com

Chairman: Ray Tully Tel: 01823 4252368

Vice Chairman: Vacant

BACH (Brittons Ash Community Hall)

Chairman: Barry Gage 07752723311

barrygage125@btinternet.com

Booking Officer: Maggie Little 01823 323662

bachbookings@westmonkton.net

CCS Village Agent: please call this main number, they will then connect you to the correct Village Agent at the time of calling - 01823 331222.

Police Contact numbers:

Non emergency telephone 101

Emergency 999

To keep up to date on what's been happening in our area, you can follow police social media pages:

Twitter: @ASPWestSom @ASPolice

Facebook

If you have any queries, the team can be contacted at:

SomWestNPTTaunton@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Singles Club

A place to meet new people and old friends.

Contact Dianne Besley on the number below for more information.

Next meetings:

- Lunch at The Harvester Restaurant 12:30pm July 9th
- No meeting in August

Everyone very welcome.

Please phone me so I have the right numbers to book the meals.

Dianne 01823 412857



Monkton Players: 'Pete' and 'Dini' dressing in gran's clothes.
See Page 3

West Monkton Village Hall Heathfield Hall

Our **Coffee Mornings** are up and running again. Come and join us on Thursday mornings. We are a friendly group and would welcome newcomers (ladies and gentlemen).

So, if you are sitting at home wondering what to do, please come and join us. If you would like to have more information please ring:

Iris Pigott on 07766127777





Somerset Art Weeks 2024
LANDSCAPE
FLUX AND FLOW

SOMERSET ART WEEKS 21 SEPT – 6 OCT 2024
Calling all local artists, makers and creatives! Be part of the county-wide art event. The church is registered as an Open Venue and offers you the unique opportunity to exhibit your work in the beautiful 13th Century Church of St Augustine's in West Monkton.

The church is open 9-5pm if you would like to visit this stunning historic venue to assess how to showcase your creative artworks.

SOW
somerset
art works
@WEST MONKTON
CHURCH

More venue information on our website
www.westmonktonchurch.co.uk
Enquiries:
cavill663@yahoo.co.uk
07541835069

For more information see Page 13



BRASS **FREE ENTRY**
ON THE
GRASS

SAT 13TH JULY 2.30PM
WEST MONKTON CHURCH

Bring your picnic, deck chair, sit back and listen to Wiveliscombe Town Band.

Pick your spot from 2pm

Full details www.westmonktonchurch.co.uk

The Monkton Players

At the end of April we performed 'Hospital Affairs', which was very well attended by our ever-loyal audience. The play centred around a disused hospital ward, with the band of crazy characters engaging in lots of farce and hilarity. Pete (Adam Hiscock) and Dini (Charlotte Norman) were particularly well received, with Dini frantically dressing Pete in his gran's clothing getting a round of applause each night. Graham Pinney also brought the house down, as his character Bert struggled with maintaining his modesty whilst wearing a hospital gown. (We've all been there!)

On the Friday night we were delighted to have the play author's widower Alan in the audience. He had travelled all the way down from Scotland to watch us perform his late wife's play and was full of praise for our efforts. We had a group photo with him taken, a nice memory for our scrapbooks.

Now is the perfect time to join our group - as we look ahead to our next show at the end of October. We're busy looking at plays and will begin reading through possible choices in the coming weeks - with rehearsals beginning at the start of August.

If you fancy joining our merry band of players, whether on stage or behind the scenes; then please do get in touch via our website or through our Facebook page. No experience is needed and we do not hold auditions; all that's needed is a good sense of humour and the desire to give it a go. We always try to find a place for new members, giving them the chance to ease their way in to the am-dram world. When not rehearsing, we regularly meet in the Merry Monk on a Tuesday at 9pm - so please drop by and have a chat if you would like to learn more about us (or buy us a drink!).

Tim Hiscock - The Monkton Players
MonktonPlayers.co.uk



The group with the author's widower - centre in red jacket



West Monkton Church of England Primary School

I thought it might be nice to hear from one of my staff members, who advocates for our local community and share some information about our Family Learning offer here...

Family Learning at West Monkton Primary

As part of our wider offer to families we run a Family Learning Project where adults are invited into school to learn skills to help their children and often learning alongside their children. Workshops this year have included: art, stay and play, cooking, gardening, volunteering, fun and fitness and forest school to name a few. The project is funded by SS&L and run by teachers at school. These sessions are great at building a positive learning community for both children and adults. Through the project we have two mums who are now volunteering in school, we have built stronger relationships with Kate and the parish council and the community garden. We look forward to building on these links in the future. The most important part of the project is the positive impact it has on the children, they not only love having their adult in school spending quality time with them but also seeing that learning is for everyone - young or old! If you are interested in finding out more or volunteering in school please email family.learning@wm.oak.education

Mrs Lawrence, 'Family Learning Co-ordinator'



Best wishes

Helen Newstead
Headteacher



Class News

Community Gardening!

Year 1 were pleased to be asked to help make some unique signs for the community garden this week! We have delivered them to Mr Brown and the other volunteers so look out for them in the planting beds over the next few weeks!



Pizza Making

Pelican Class enjoyed their special trip to Pizza Express. The children got to use the revolving door, learn all about how to make a pizza and make their own to bring back to school to eat. They also enjoyed using the spiral staircase and having a wonderful coach there and back. The children also noticed art work inspired by an artist we have learnt about this year - Van Gogh! Thank you to the team at Pizza Express and to our volunteers who made this possible



Family Learning
Family Learning forest school session was awesome with adults and children making wonderful hanging willow trees!



Taunton Rugby Football Club

In the last edition of the Village News I mentioned that Taunton Rugby Club had just managed to keep their hopes of avoiding relegation from the third tier of English rugby with two very late tries to clinch a win against Darlington with just three games of the season left. They won the next match, a tricky away fixture at Sale leaving them still at the foot of the league table with a home match against relegation threatened Cinderford and a trip to London to face mid table Blackheath. The club pulled out all the stops to ensure a there was a big crowd for the Cinderford game and if my pleas in the last edition for support bore fruit - thanks. I have been watching Taunton for 14 years and in all that time I have never heard such a massive roar to greet the team at the start of the match from the almost 1400 crowd as there was that day. The crowd continued to roar their encouragement throughout the match and despite trailing early on Taunton gained another win to lift themselves off the bottom of the league. The players commented afterwards on the lift they received from the crowd so let's take this forward to next season. The team now needed to win at Blackheath and score at least 4 tries and hope that either Leicester Lions or Bishops Stortford lost difficult away fixtures. Taunton played their part beating Blackheath 47-32 with 19-year-old Louie Sinclair kicking 5 conversions and 4 penalties, not missing any of his kicks at goal. A truly remarkable feat for such a



Louie Sinclair

young man. With Bishops Stortford safe Taunton were relying on Leicester losing and with five minutes left they were 14-13 down. They then scored twice to secure their safety one point ahead of Taunton. So Taunton are relegated to National League 2 South West.

What was disappointing to me and quite frustrating was that the team won only 4 out of their first 22 matches and then won all the last 4 with try bonus points with basically the same players. Relegation will mean less travelling and hopefully Taunton will be amongst those teams striving to win promotion.

The news has not been all bad however. Taunton's under 15 boys team won the Somerset Cup for their age group with a thrilling 21-19 win against Winscombe. The captain of Taunton Warriors, Ollie Wrelton has been selected for the Southwest of England Under 20 team to play Lancashire. Despite being only formed since after COVID the Taunton ladies' team has progressed to such an extent that it provided no less than 6 players to the County team for the end of season inter counties matches. One of the ladies selected, Fiona Mossman played for the County on the same day that her son, Jarryd was selected along with five other Taunton teammates to represent the County in his age group. All in all this shows that Taunton is a club where although the first team had a difficult season there is a thriving succession club at all age levels which bodes well for the future.



Fiona and Jarryd Mossman

An indication of how quickly the rugby season comes upon us is that although at the time I am writing this the current Premiership season has not yet finished but by the time this Village News lands on your doorstep the Taunton players will have already started pre-season training! Taunton rugby club are planning for the 2024/25 season. If you are a business that would like to support this community club on any level contact the club for a sponsorship brochure for the new season. Sponsorship of a local rugby club by local businesses is an ideal way to promote a business. The club also has superb conferencing facilities capable of accommodating large or small meetings. Simply drop the club an email or pick up the phone for further information.

Robert Harris

Letter from Rev. Jim



South Quantock Benefice
office@southquantockbenefice.org.uk
(The parishes of West Monkton, Kingston St Mary,
Broomfield & Cheddon Fitzpaine)

It is said that cynicism is the anaesthetic of choice for those who have been hurt and disappointed. As we emerge from this time of campaigning in the General Election, we will have heard and seen – and possibly felt – a high degree of cynicism. It is a protective layer in the face of pain.

But, like any analgesic, it can become addictive and seep into all areas of life and, as such, it is to be resisted rather than cultivated.

But how to cope with the dark?

The story of Christianity is not one of denial of suffering: quite the opposite. And while it can never act as an epidural, it can act as a midwife, to sit alongside and show love.

It is also a faith that claims important things happen in the dark: in the womb, the earth, the tomb. It is often the place of new life. Which is why hope is such a foundational characteristic of the faith. Hope will expose us to all the rage that betrayal has to offer. That is the price we pay.

But as archbishop Demond Tutu used to say, in the face of the oppressor, “Come over to the winning side. Love has already won the victory.”

Jim Cox

Keeping in Contact

To be added to our weekly news-sheet mailing list contact Michele:

office@southquantockbenefice.org.uk

or see the website for links and up to date information www.southquantockbenefice.org.uk

Ding Dong

Sat 6th
July
10am

Come
and try
your hand
at bell
ringing



Coffee & more

Open ringing chamber
www.westmonktonchurch.co.uk

St Augustine's Church 100 Club Prizewinners

May

The draw was held on Saturday 4th May

First Prize: £102.00 won by Michael Cavill.

Second Prize: £51.00 won by Norman Cavill.

The sum of £357.00 will go towards the church.
The number of £5.00 shares entered in the draw was 102.

June

The draw was held on Thursday 6th June

First Prize: £102.00 was won by Linda Daly

Second Prize: £51.00 was won by Anya Strehle

The sum of £357.00 will go towards the church.
The number of £5.00 shares entered in the draw was 102.

CONGRATULATIONS
to our winners!

If you would like to support West Monkton Church and be in with a chance of winning, please contact:

Kate Ayres (01823 413873)

Services

July

7th 6th Sunday after Trinity

8:30am	BCP Communion	West Monkton
10:00am	Morning Worship	West Monkton
10:00am	Holy Communion	Kingston St M
6:00pm	Rogation Service	Broomfield

14th 7th Sunday after Trinity

8:30am	BCP Communion	Kingston St M
10:00am	Holy Communion	West Monkton
10:00am	Morning Worship	Broomfield

21st 8th Sunday after Trinity

8:30am	BCP Communion	West Monkton
10:00am	Morning Worship	West Monkton
10:00am	Holy Communion	Kingston St M
10:00am	Holy Communion	Cheddon F

21st July

Taunton Deanery United reflective service in St Peter's, Lyngford church.
With Alan Cook & musicians from across the churches

28th 9th Sunday after Trinity

8:30am	BCP Communion	Kingston St M
10:00am	Holy Communion	West Monkton
10:00am	Holy Communion	Broomfield
6:00pm	Choral Evensong	Kingston St M

August

4th 10th Sunday after Trinity

8:30am	BCP Communion	West Monkton
10:00am	Morning Worship	West Monkton
10:00am	Holy Communion	Kingston St M
6:00pm	Lammas Service	Broomfield

11th 11th Sunday after Trinity

8:30am	BCP Communion	Kingston St M
10:00am	Holy Communion	West Monkton
10:00am	Morning Worship	Broomfield

18th 12th Sunday after Trinity

8:30am	BCP Communion	West Monkton
9:30am	Holy Communion	Cheddon F
10:00am	Morning Worship	West Monkton
11:00am	Holy Communion	Broomfield

11:00am Friends of St Mary's service

followed by lunch Kingston St M

25th 13th Sunday after Trinity

8:30am	BCP Communion	Kingston St M
10:00am	Holy Communion	West Monkton
10:00am	Holy Communion	Broomfield
6:00pm	Choral Evensong	Kingston St M



Coffee & more

Sat 6th July - Ringing Chamber -
Come and try your hand at
bellringing.

Sat 3rd Aug - Guest Speaker -
Richard Smith talks about his
early days as a PC in the 50's &
60's in Surrey.

10am
West
Monkton
Church.



www.westmonktonchurch.co.uk

From West Monkton Registers:

Ashes in Churchyard

29.04.24	Kenneth Knight
02.06.24	Anthony 'Tony' Stone

Baptism:

14.04.24	Robert Spencer
05.05.24	Eloise Lewis

Men's Group Meetings:

Wednesday 10th July

Agricultural Museum at Llangaller & Teas
2:30pm

Tuesday 13th August

Walk: Somerset Wood 5pm.
Drinks at the Merry Monk 7pm

Anyone welcome to come along to the group –
contact Jim for more information and costs of
each event : jimcox11@gmail.com
07967 817337 or 01823 802790

TAUNTON DEANERY EVENING SERVICE:

**Reflection in Word and
Song**

6pm - Sunday 21st July
at St Peter's Church,
Lyngford, Taunton



Parish Council News



Parish Council Meetings

The Parish Council continues to meet twice a month; on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7pm at the BACH. The agenda for the meetings will be posted on the website and noticeboards.

If you aren't sure of the calendar of meetings, please check with the Clerk

(clerk@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk) or Assistant Clerk – Community

(community@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Poppy of Honour National Memorial at Maidenbrook Country Park - Fundraising Underway



The Somerset Wood Joint Committee, made up of members of Cheddon Fitzpaine Parish Council and West Monkton Parish Council, are fundraising to install a pavilion to permanently house the Poppy of Honour National Memorial.

The Poppy of Honour, created in 2018, is a National Memorial that honours British and Commonwealth Servicemen and Servicewomen listed as killed or missing in World War 1. It incorporates 1,117,635 individual remembrance handwritten poppies inside its encasement – one for each British and Commonwealth Servicemen and Servicewomen listed by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission as 'Killed in Action' or 'Missing in Action' together with those 'Shot at Dawn' then later pardoned and those who died from their wounds after the Armistice of the Great War.

Planning permission has been obtained to install the Memorial at the Somerset Wood within Maidenbrook Country Park for the people to view free of charge but to be able to install it £100,000 is needed.

It is a great honour and privilege that the Poppy of Honour will be located in Maidenbrook Country



Park, if you are able to contribute please use the QR code to donate:

If you have any queries or would like any further information please contact Amy Shepherd
clerk@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Annual Audit

The Parish Council's financial affairs are audited every year, by an internal auditor, and then reports are submitted to an external auditor appointed by the Audit Commission. The internal audit for the financial year 2023/2024 has been completed and the reports will be submitted to the external auditors in the next few weeks. The reports will be available to view on the West Monkton website.



Our community website; Monkton Matters is growing in popularity www.monktonmatters.co.uk.

Monkton Matters is an online space giving news, information and details of events in the Parish of West Monkton (incorporating Monkton Heathfield, West Monkton and Bathpool). Monkton Matters is for the community and its contents are developed and posted by the community. All local residents are encouraged to contribute relevant articles or submit details of local events. The website is as good as we make it and the vision for the site is that it is a one-stop shop; the go-to place for all community matters.

Various local institutions, from schools to the police, from churches to the council, are represented on the site, posting updates. It is possible to find local businesses and services as well as hear about community groups, clubs and sports teams running in the local area. It has helpful information to aid exploration of the parish and its history as well and plenty more besides. If you would like to submit an article or an event for inclusion on the website, please visit the website and complete the form.

Alongside news and events, businesses that are based or operate in the Parish can also add their details to the directory. If you would like to add your business details, please visit the website and complete the form.

If you have any queries or would prefer to submit items for inclusion on the website via email please contact editor@monktonmatters.co.uk

Brittons Ash Community Hall (BACH)

The BACH is open for bookings aside from these times. The BACH has facilities to host virtual meetings, hybrid meetings, as well as meetings in

person and we have also recently installed a hearing loop in the committee room. Further information is available on the website. If you are interested in booking the BACH please contact our Bookings Officer, Maggie bachbooking@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk

The **Crochet and Knit Group** meet at the Community Café on a Wednesday from 2pm until 4pm, please get in touch with Kate on 07505 984006 or email community@westmonkton.net if you are interested in getting involved.

We have also been running our **Loss and**

Bereavement Group on the 1st Wednesday of every month to offer support and a safe space to talk and share the difficulties and challenges of losing someone you love.

The Stay and Play Group runs at the BACH every week from 12.30pm until 2pm on a Wednesday and on a Thursday from 10.30am to 12noon. There is no charge for the group, however some families have kindly offered donations of biscuits or tea/coffee which of course help and are gratefully received. We also accept donations via our QR code for the groups and events we run.

Litter Picking Volunteers

We have a wonderful team of litter picking volunteers who go out and about in their own time trying to keep on top of the litter around the parish. We offer free litter pickers and hoops for anyone interest in getting involved.

Community Fridge

We have been fortunate to receive some funding grants from Sainsbury's Helping Everyone Eat Better Community Grant Fund, Magic Little Grants and Somerset Community Foundation to help us expand Our Community Fridge and enable us to store more food including frozen foods. The foundations for the shed are in and very soon the shed will be erected. We were lucky enough to have Stars and Stripes create our logo and

Bathpool Flooring also gifted and fitted the flooring. Any local organisations who would like to help again with our new shed please get in touch with Kate on 07505984006 or email

community@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk

We have also linked in with the Somerset West Lottery and should you wish to sign up to the lottery they run, you can choose us as your local cause to support and we will receive regular money to help us keep 'Our Community Fridge' going with day to day costs.

We are always looking for more regular volunteers so please contact community@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk if you would like to help.

**MONKTON
COMMUNITY PLAN**

**SHAPING OUR
COMMUNITY
TOGETHER**



How do you want our community to look in the future?

We* are working to develop a plan for the future inspired by the views and aspirations of all members of our West Monkton Parish community**.

Everyone's voice is important; make sure you keep an eye out for posters, leaflets and information over the coming months that will highlight the opportunity for you to complete a survey and put forward your views.

Visit:
www.westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk/community/community-review-project or scan the QR code
www.facebook.com/groups/1175345466760460

Contact: clerk@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk



Made up of members of the Parish Council, West Monkton Primary School, St Augustine's Church, Monkton Wood Academy and West Monkton Village Hall.
** Bathpool, Monkton Heathfield and West Monkton and small villages and hamlets in between including Gotton, Goosenford, parts of Combe and Overton.



Community Matters

The **Community Café** has been quieter than normal, most likely due to the better weather, however we still see the pupils in the café after school for their hot chocolate and biscuits! Remember this is a free café so please come along and see us.

Our **Repair Café** runs once a month alongside the café from 2pm until 4pm, the next Repair Cafés will be on 17th July and again on the 21st August. Please come along, we have a few handy volunteers who are up for a challenge! Old electrical items that can be repaired and reused or perhaps alterations to some clothing? We also offer support to people with any IT issues who maybe struggling with online forms or websites, please pop in on these days for some support.

Community Garden

Every Wednesday the garden is open for the community to come along and help us at the garden, we often need an extra pair of hands for weeding, harvesting and watering. If you have some spare time, come and join us.

The SALC Health and Wellbeing Grant has been spent on the garden and it does look amazing! A big thank you to the volunteers for their hard work. We have also purchased some benches and seating so have a lovely space if anyone wants to have a picnic and see what is happening at the garden. If anyone would like to donate any wellbeing items for a wellbeing area or any old tools please get in touch with Kate on 07505 984006 or email community@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk to discuss this in further detail. We are also looking for regular volunteers to help the team.

Community Events

Our **Community Quiz** nights at the Tacchi Morris are extremely popular and always fully booked. Andy Derry our quizmaster prepares the monthly quiz with a range of rounds from Geography, Music to food and drink and TV. The quiz is free but you will need to book through the Tacchi Morris box office, you will need to contact them early to get a table! We do ask for a small donation on the night for the second team's cash prize. The team in 1st place will get tickets to see one of the latest shows at the Tacchi Morris.

Community Quiz Dates:

Wednesday 26th June at 7:30pm

Wednesday 24th July at 7:30pm

Community Events:

1st September – St Giles Fun Dog Show and Fun Day

If you are interested in having some input or would like to join the volunteers to help us organise these events then please get in touch with Kate on 07505984006 or email

community@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Volunteering Opportunities

If you have some spare time on your hands and want to meet new people and get involved in our thriving community, there are a number of volunteer opportunities open to you. We are specifically looking for more gardeners for the Community Garden and we would also like to take on some Companion Volunteers to support those in the community who are isolated and without transport.

If either of these roles appeal to you please get in touch, volunteering is good for not only our community but also for personal well-being. Contact Kate Welsh, Assistant Clerk for Community at

community@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk or call on 07505984006 for more information.

West Monkton Council
DOG SHOW & FETE
Maidenbrook Country Park, 10am - 4pm
Sunday 1st September

Craft stalls
Dog Show
Dog scurry
Agility course
Refreshments
Inflatables
Live Performances
Fun for all the family!

Best Pup - (up to 12 months)
Fabulous Fella
Best Golden Oldie - (7+ Years)
Waggiest Tail
Loveliest Lady
Best Rescue
Best Trick
Loveliest Large
Loveliest Little
Best in Show
Reserve Best in Show

Dog Show sponsored by **ANIMAL WELFARE**

Somerset Birds

The collective name for a flock of Goldfinches is a 'charm' and never has a title been more appropriate, for these are, indeed, charming little finches. This is one species that has greatly increased in number due in no small part to garden feeding stations. A favourite food is sunflower hearts. They will take the unshelled seeds too, but more reluctantly, and once a flock of Goldfinches has found a reliable set of feeders, you can be assured of a constant stream of visitors.



Adult Goldfinch

They are one of our smaller finches and are creamy buff in colour with black, white and red markings on the head. The gold stripe on the wings gives the bird its name, and this is visible on young birds too, although these lack the head markings until their first winter. The pale, sharply pointed beak acts as a specialist tool for extracting the seeds of thistles, their main natural food in late summer and autumn, but it can also deal effectively with sunflower hearts.

The song is a most pleasing jangle of high pitched notes, sounding to some ears like distant hand bells. This, and the bird's attractive appearance, made it very popular with bird trappers in Victorian times. Snared birds were sold at markets in tiny cages but even this cruel imprisonment did nothing to stop Goldfinches singing,

hence they were very popular as avian pets. Thankfully various protection acts outlawed both the trapping and keeping of wild birds, and the population of Goldfinches, badly affected by these practices, quickly recovered.

Goldfinches can be seen all the year round. Some are resident but there are local movements, and some move south into France and Spain for the winter, although with bird feeders widespread there is probably less incentive now to do so. Usually seen singly or in pairs in spring and summer, quite large flocks, often with mainly juvenile birds, can be seen feeding on the clumps of thistles late in the year.

Goldfinches begin nesting in late May, and with two or, sometimes three broods, the season can last into early August. The nest is a neat, rather beautiful construction, usually on the outermost fork of a tree and



A clutch of Goldfinch eggs



Fluffy Goldfinch chicks

generally well hidden by the surrounding foliage. Built of moss and spider webs woven together, it is lined with down, wool or animal hair. In my experience nests are often in fruit trees and many householders will be unaware they have one in the garden.

Four to five pale delicately spotted eggs are laid and these hatch within a fortnight. The chicks are fed by both adults on a regurgitated mixture of partly digested small seeds and insects. Like most members of the finch family there is no attempt at nest hygiene and, in the late stages, the rim of the nest is festooned with droppings. This matters little to the birds as a new nest is built for subsequent broods, and may even, it has been suggested, though with little evidence, act as a deterrent to predators.

Goldfinches seem to have been little affected by the disease trichomoniasis which has severely impacted the populations of Greenfinches and, to a lesser extent, Chaffinches. This distressing

ailment is spread by communal feeding at bird tables and regular cleaning of feeders is essential to reduce the risk of infection. In the case of Goldfinches at least, regular feeding has greatly increased survival in hard winters and is undoubtedly a benefit rather than a risk.

Goldfinches are certainly a common bird in and around West Monkton, and can even be found in the leafier parts of central Taunton where, sadly, the sound of their lovely song is often lost in the sound of traffic. Should you be in a quieter spot and hear their song, quite distinctive when recognised, do take a moment to stop and listen.

Brian Hill

Somerset Ornithological Society welcomes people whatever their level of interest in birds. Please contact me at alnitak.hill82@gmail.com for further details.



Monkton Evening Women's Institute

Hi everyone

Hopefully by the time this article goes to print, we WILL be having some nice warm weather!

Unfortunately our speaker for March was ill and could not attend our meeting – he has, however, rebooked for next January. Thankfully one of our members, Kate Ayres came to the rescue. Many of you would have visited the exhibition of wedding dresses in the church which was organised by Kate and her band of helpers. She needed some more hand-made paper flowers for the exhibition so she put together a workshop and a lovely evening was spent making flowers out of old books – very effective – thank you Kate.

In April Emma Duke came along and talked about all the driftwood which can be found on the shores of the Bristol Channel. Previously an artist, Emma became fascinated with the different woods which can be found on the shores around Kilve down to Porlock and Lynton and Lynmouth. She brought along an array of samples she had found and she was able to identify what types of wood they were, where they came from and their age – you would never believe how mother nature has reformed them into different shapes over the years and after hearing her talk we will never look at wood quite the same. She told us some sad and humorous shipwreck tales. Emma has several more talks she does, so hopefully we will re-book her again in the future.

Walking Group: In April a group of six plus three pooches enjoyed a lovely walk from the boat yard at North Newton ending with a hot chocolate in the Lock Inn and in May another walk took seven of us from the Park and Ride into Longrun Meadow.

Book Club: Going very well ... a small group meet up once a month at Monkton Elm to discuss the book that they have read.

Annual General Meeting

We held our Annual General Meeting in May, after which we enjoyed the company of Paul Youd who had us in awe hearing about how to keep healthy at 80+

years. Paul became a vegan to help with his arthritis, this helped him immensely. About four years ago he knew that he needed to start doing exercise. He trolled the internet about things he could do at home and started doing press-ups (something he had always hated). He started slowly but has built up to doing 3 x 1000 sets of press-ups EACH WEEK! Doing this he has raised money for the YMCA and Taunton Association for the Homeless – currently he is raising money for an animal charity. As well as this he takes part in ultra-marathons, all very impressive for a man who is now 86 – keep going Paul.

Date for your diary: The date of the Quiz has been changed to 12th October (further details to follow)

If you would like to come along to one of our meetings for a taster session, you will find us a friendly 'bunch' and you would be made very welcome. We have some very interesting speakers lined up for 2024/2025, and the cost for joining from 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025 is £48 which includes tea/coffee and biscuits

For more information just ring me, Shirley Hector, on 01823 619084 and I would be pleased to help with any questions. We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month (other than July when we hold our annual summer outing and August) at 7:30pm in the Heathfield Hall, West Monkton Village Hall.

2024/2025 Programme:

July 25th:	Outing : Walking the Heritage Trail & Supper at Mr Miles
August:	No meeting
September 26th:	'Falling with Style'
October 24th:	'Christmas Sparkle'
November 28th:	Craft Evening
December:	Christmas Meal
January:	Nursery Rhyme origins
February:	'Plastic for change'
March:	'Your truncheon is bigger than mine'

Shirley Hector
Monkton Evening WI



School News

We were delighted to have a special performance from our KS2 choir in a recognition collective workshop. They sang songs they had performed as part of The Oak Partnership 'An Awfully Big Adventure' choir performance at the Tacchi-Morris Art Centre. We would like to thank the children, Mrs Heap, Mr Holman and Mrs Webber for all time and effort put into rehearsals and for the wonderful performances! Thank you also to Julian Breeze who composed all the music.



AT WEST MONKTON CHURCH

SOMERSET ART WEEKS 21st SEPTEMBER – 6th OCTOBER 2024

Calling all local artists, makers and creatives! Be part of the county-wide art event. The church is registered as an Open Venue and offers you the unique opportunity to exhibit your work in the beautiful 13th Century Church of St Augustine's in West Monkton.

You are warmly invited to enter your exhibits for display and sale.

In light of the inescapable ever growing urgency of the climate crisis, changes to our local landscapes, and a developing intimacy with nature and our local environments, this year the theme is:

“Landscape – Flux and Flow”

As we move through this time of transition, we ask you to curiously examine your relationship with the land, sea, environment and landscape.

The venue at West Monkton Church is a notable feature of our local landscape and has withstood the flux and flow of our environment since the earliest foundations of the building in the 13th Century.

Adults and children's sections (children under 16 years). Mixed media, ceramics, pottery, sculpture, painting. A variety of styles from amateur and professional artists. Cash or card payments. Refreshments. Free parking. Prizes for best in show.

- The small print:
Entry per adult exhibit £5
Entry per children's (children under 16 years) exhibit £2
Commission on sales 20% to St Augustine's re-ordering project.
- Entries received at the church:
10 – 17th September between 2:00pm and 4:00pm,
17 – 19th September between 6:00pm and 8:00pm.
- Exhibition will be curated on 20th September.

Somerset Art Weeks is an annual celebration of contemporary visual art and craft in Somerset, United Kingdom. Organized by **Somerset Art Works (SAW)**, this event showcases the work of local artists and makers across the county. During SAW the church will be open daily, and stewarded, and locked at night.

Enquiries: cavill663@yahoo.co.uk, 07541835069

If you are interested in bursary opportunities for artists to engage communities to spark conversations around environmental responsibility, the intersections between nature and wellbeing and health of the land in a new and engaging way, please contact SAW <https://somerstartworks.org.uk/contact-us/>

**Tacchi-Morris
Arts Centre -
Our local theatre and
arts hub**



**For the full programme:
www.tacchi-morris.com
Info@tacchi-morris**

01823414141

**Stagestruck Theatre School
Sat 6th July, 6:30pm**

This hugely popular family friendly show returns with its energetic performances and colourful costumes. Full of songs, dance and acting from Disney, musicals and popular pop songs!

Standard £10, Child (under 16) £8.50

Nicky Jenks School of Dance presents... Around the World in 80 Minutes

Sat 13th July, 1pm & 4:30pm

The Nicky Jenks School of Dance are bringing their fantastic summer show, Around the World in 80 Minutes, to the Tacchi-Morris stage this July. There'll be no passports needed when students of the dance school transport you around the globe in this spectacular display of movement and dance.

Standard £10 | Child (Under 16) £8

Somerset Comedy Festival: Lou Conran & Susie McCabe + MC Eddy Brimson

Wed 17th July, 7pm

Two fantastic comedy acts plus the brilliant MC Eddy Brimson. This incredible value for money evening will feature a full set from fantastic comedian Lou Conran, and another from the wonderful Susie McCabe.

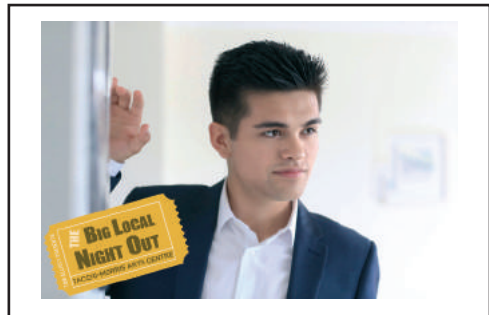
All tickets £10 Age Guidance 16+



The Big Local Night Out featuring Charlie Green

Fri 19th July, 7:30pm

The Big Local Night Out brings you the best of variety talent! Hosted by Comedy Magician, Tom Elliott, this unique series of events welcomes top guest performers alongside the best of our local talent for an electrifying variety style event. Comedy,



magic, music, dance – all packed in to this delightful, family friendly show. Amongst the acts joining

Tom here in Taunton on 19th July is singer, actor and talented musician, Charlie Green. Charlie Green was catapulted into the limelight at just ten year's old, when he wowed the Britain's Got Talent judges with his rendition of the Sinatra classic, Summer Wind in 2008. Since then Charlie has toured in numerous countries, including Italy, China, Japan, The Philippines and Canada.

All Tickets £16 | Family Group of 4 £60

Chris Grabham's Pop Orchestra presents... Summer Vibes

Sat 20th July, 7:30pm

Chris Grabham's Pop Orchestra return with 'Summer Vibes'.

Expect tunes from some of pop's biggest names in an evening of feel-good music.

Adults £22 | Children (Under 18) £20



Somerset Comedy Festival: Stephanie Laing & David Arnold

Tue 23rd July, 7pm

Two fantastic comedy acts. This incredible value for money evening will feature a full set from fantastic comedian Stephanie Laing, and another from the brilliant David Arnold.

All tickets £10 Age Guidance 16+

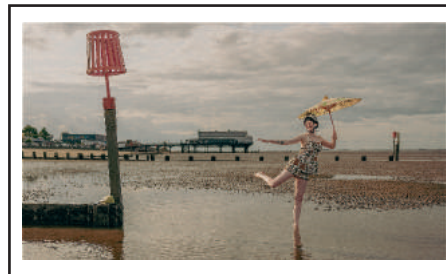
Summer Musical Theatre School

Mon 29th July - Fri 1st Aug, Mon - Thu 9am-3pm, Fri 9am - 2pm + 6pm performance

Do you have a child that is passionate about musical theatre? Or perhaps they just want to try something new this summer? Our Summer Musical theatre school could be just the ticket! Spend a fun-filled week creating and rehearsing a musical theatre show, and then perform on the Tacchi-Morris stage in a spectacular live show. There will be singing and dancing, and classic musical tunes – everything you've come to love about this fabulous art form.

For Ages 6 - 11

Standard £105 course | Concession £95 course | £190 for 2 siblings | Price includes a summer school t-shirt



Hestercombe Gardens

There is lots of fun to be had at Hestercombe this summer! For more information go to www.hestercombe.com 01823 413923

Shaun the Sheep: Fun with the Flock AR Trail (20th July - 8th September)

From 20th July to 8th September, pick up a trail sheet and join Shaun in a brand new augmented reality trail experience around our beautiful gardens. Can 'ewe' find all 9 markers hidden around our gardens? Scan the markers on the trail with your phone to see Shaun and the Flock appear before your eyes in 3D.

You'll be able to help Bitzer find the Flock, play musical stat-ewes, take fun photos and videos to share with friends and family and try and complete Bitzer's checklist!

All you need to do is download the app on your phone via the App Store or Google Play and add our location



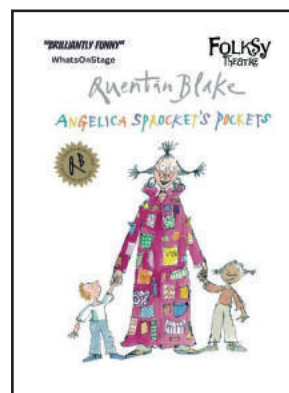
code '2828' to enjoy the AR trail at Hestercombe. You can do this at home before your visit or at the Ticket Office on arrival.

After completing the trail, take part in some fun Shaun the Sheep inspired crafts and activities inside Hestercombe House (Monday to Friday during the summer holidays only).

Angelica Sprocket's Pockets with Folksy Theatre (26th July 4:30pm)

Angelica Sprocket lives next door. Her overcoat has pockets galore! And you'll never guess what's in them...Prepare to be surprised, thrilled and tickled pink by Angelica Sprocket's never-ending pockets,

and the marvellous things she keeps in them. Filled with Folksy's touch of live music, puppetry, audience interaction and madness, this fun-filled show is the perfect treat for the whole family!



As You Like It with Folksy Theatre (11th August 5:00pm-7:30pm)

Rosalind, the daughter of a banished duke, falls in love with Orlando. When she is then banished from the court by her usurping uncle, Rosalind takes on the appearance of a boy, calling herself Ganymede.

She, her cousin Celia and jester Touchstone, travel to the Forest of Arden, where her father and his friends live in exile. When she meets Orlando again in the forest, she devises an elaborate scheme to find out the verity of his supposed passion for her, and to further capture his heart, through the witty and mischievous façade of Ganymede.

This wonderful Shakespearian comedy about life, love, betrayal, faith and death is filled with Folksy's touch of live music, bold characters, audience interaction and plenty of laughs. Bring along your picnics and friends and family to enjoy this fun-filled production!



Can You Help the Village News?

We are always looking for people to help us with the Village News. At the moment we would love to find someone to help with renewing advertising every March/April and getting new advertisers during the year.

We can always use help with doing deliveries as well.

Please email me if you are interested:
dawnwattsdk@yahoo.co.uk

FREE ITEMS/ITEMS FOR SALE/WANTED

Items up to £100 in value are included. We do not make any charge for the service and take no responsibility for the quality or safety of the items advertised.

- Kitchen craft stainless 8 Litre Steel Jam making pan with Kitchen craft Jam thermometer £20
Tel 07443439866 (leave message).

If you would like to include something in this section please contact Dawn Watts on dawnwattsdk@yahoo.co.uk or on 01823412201

Silver Circuits



A Strength and Balance Circuits type Class

Tuesday mornings: 9:30am to 10:30am

at West Monkton Village Hall

£6 per class PAYG

Michelle Purnell BSc

Exercise Rehabilitation and

Falls Prevention Instructor

07754144844 or carefallexercise@gmail.com

Village News Deliveries - please can you help us?

We are looking for some volunteers to go on our deliverers' list.

We have a large team of wonderful people who deliver the Village News to your door each time a new edition comes out. So, that is 6 times a year.

The area we need covered at the moment is: the around the Merry Monk, Sylvan Way and Milton Hill. For many years covered by Jean Cossey who we would like to say a big 'Thank You' to! So, we are looking for one or more people to join the team – if you are interested please contact:

barryage125@btinternet.com

Or

Thelocalvillagenews@live.co.uk



ASPECT
PROPERTY
MAINTENANCE

**Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing,
Heating & General Property Maintenance**

Aspectpropertymaintenance.co.uk

Info@Aspectpropertymaintenance.co.uk

Emergency Call Out 07741439022



Tim's Tech Tips

Cookies. Do you consent-o-matic? I do!

There is no doubting the usefulness the Internet - to look things up, order the shopping & sort out your bank account etc. But there are two very annoying bugbears that we all face these days in using it. Adverts and Cookie Consent boxes.

As soon as you dial up a website, the first thing you have to do is agree or disagree to cookies. Some years back now the EU agreed to the General Data Protection Regulations, which ostensibly are there to protect citizens' data rights.

After we left the EU we kept that law, so it still applies in the UK today. Part of those GDPR rules is the requirement for websites to request consent to storing cookies on your computer/iPad or phone. The only problem was, the law didn't dictate that websites must offer a straight Accept or Decline option. Instead it became 'the wild west' online:

You can always 'accept' easily but - at least many sites -



make you go through multiple clicks in order to 'decline'. (Some websites have started to give decline options front and centre, but it is certainly not common).

Cookies are not bad - insofar they are just tiny packets of inert data.

But it is how they can be used, mainly by advertisers, to track you and thus target you with adverts, and build up profiles on your on-line habits. The hassle to constantly decline every website you visit is utterly tedious. Enter *Consent-o-matic*.

Consent-o-matic is one of the most useful 'extensions' for Chrome, Edge, Firefox and Safari browsers. An extension is a tiny computer program that adds functions or abilities to other programs. You can install Consent-o-matic in your browser (Chrome/Edge etc) to add, what in my opinion, is the most useful new feature to your online experience. Every time you visit a website, it *automatically* fills in the 'Cookies: do you agree / disagree' boxes that come up. Genius! In particular, if you prefer to to disagree to cookies - the process that takes ages to manually do - it will *very quickly* do all the clicking for you. It even hides the consent box so you can get on and use the website. Its utterly brilliant. Now it doesn't work on every website but it does work on the vast majority, enough to make it well worth installing. For example, in Chrome on your laptop you click on the 3 vertical dots, then Extensions, then Visit Chrome Web Store. Type in Consent-o-matic and when it comes up, install it. And whilst you are there, also install Adblock (white hand, red octagon logo). This extension, where it legitimately can, will block adverts from displaying all over your web page. Double genius!

So, next time you are asked for your consent, remember, you need to consent-o-matic it!



Tims Tech Tips By Tim Finch

07514 059313, www.Taunton.IT

Taunton Deane's Tech Tips Column



 **MONKTON
ELM**
Garden Centre and Restaurant

Taunton's Premium Garden Centre

**ADD COLOUR
TO YOUR GARDEN
THIS SEASON**

Monkton Heathfield,
Taunton, Somerset,
TA2 8QN
01823 412381
info@monkton-
elm.co.uk
www.monktonelm.com

Benjamin Henry
Building - Joinery - Electrics

We offer contemporary & traditional styles of building, joinery & electrics including:

- Bespoke building inc new builds, conversions, extensions & renovations
- Traditional oak framed buildings & log cabins
- All aspects of joinery including windows, doors, kitchens, staircases & built-in furniture
- Our own electrical department for all your residential & commercial needs including renewable energy

Please contact us for a free no obligation quote

 01823 412701
 www.benjaminhenry.co.uk
 admin@benjaminhenry.co.uk



MEDINEEDS
 HEALTH & WELLNESS

For The Small Things That Matter
 At Medineeds Health & Wellness, our specialists offer expert advice and treatment for all the small things that matter, with an equal focus on health as well as wellbeing.

Services Available

- ♥ RAMI Cosmetic & Medical Aesthetics
- ♥ Podiatry (Chiropody)
- ♥ Ear Wax Removal
- ♥ Orthotics
- ♥ MEDiVein Clinic (Varicose Veins)
- ♥ Diabetes Care
- ♥ Minor Skin Surgery
- ♥ Rehabilitation Physiotherapy
- ♥ Pilates Classes & 1:1 Sessions
- ♥ Yoga and Meditation Classes
- ♥ Personal Training
- ♥ Medical Support Stockings & Devices

01823 277755
 www.medineeds.co.uk
 enquiries@medineeds.co.uk

ASHCULME **NPTC**
 Part of the City & South Group
 QUALIFIED WORKFORCE

TREE WORK | LANDSCAPING | FENCING | PAVING | MAINTENANCE

TREE WORK - ALL ASPECTS OF TREE WORK INCLUDING: REMOVAL, CROWNING & LIFTING
STUMP GRINDING - TOTAL REMOVAL OF ANY SIZED TREE STUMP
LANDSCAPING - ALL PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN
FENCING - NEW INSTALLATIONS OR REPAIRS TO EXISTING FENCES
TURFING - PREPARATION & LAYING OF YOUR NEW LAWN
PAVING - REPAIRS TO EXISTING PAVING OR COMPLETELY NEW INSTALLATIONS
GARDEN MAINTENANCE - HEDGE & SHRUB TRIMMING, FRUIT TREE PRUNING & MORE

EMERGENCY 24/7- **07815 146343**
 www.ashculmetreesurgons.co.uk
 info@ashculmetreesurgons.co.uk

FOR A FREE QUOTE FROM YOUR FRIENDLY, RELIABLE & ESTABLISHED LOCAL FIRM:
CONTACT PAUL DURMAN 01823 353302

Computer & Tablet Tuition

Call Tim or Barbara Finch Experienced IT Professional
 on 530280 or 07514 059313 with Computer B.Sc. Degree
 www.timfinch.co.uk "Tim is a brilliant teacher."

Confidently manage email & photos. Resolve IT Issues.
 Enjoy better computer skills. Business IT support.
 Get things done. Taunton-based qualified PC/Mac expert.
Resolve your IT issues & learn how to get things done.

Laptops Tablets Phones PCs

Oven Wizards
 We clean your oven...so you don't have to

We clean your oven...so you don't have to.

Call today to have your oven, hob, extractor or Aga professionally cleaned.

Tim Hill contact details:
 Tel mob: 07931382899
 Email: timhill@ovenwizards.com
 www.ovenwizards.com

Chartered Financial Planners and Investment Brokers

Quantock
 analytical
 invest • save tax • relax

Local (Taunton, Bath and West)
 Long-standing (getting old!)
 Ethical (no nonsense e.g. our fees are clear and on our website)
 For **Real Expertise** around:

- Tax-Efficient Investments
- Pension Options for the Seriously ill
- Pensions at Retirement

www.quantockanalytical.co.uk
 Tel: 01823 254183
hello@qtok.co.uk
 Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Fitness, Health & Wellbeing



West Monkton Village Hall.
Wednesdays 6pm -7pm. (term time only) £7.00
Aerobic based exercise for all abilities and levels of fitness.
Come and have fun getting fit.
For more details contact Heather
Tel: 07561498365
Email: fitness4fun@hotmail.co.uk
or
www.fitness4fun.wix.com/heather



*Traditional Gentleman's
Outfitters
With personal instore service*

*Celebrating 100 years
1924 - 2024*

Tel: 01823 333169
E-mail: post@gurds.co.uk
Website: www.gurds.co.uk



Mobile Foot Care

Professional foot
treatment & advice in
your own home

Ingrowing Toenails
General Foot Care
Cracked Heels
Nail Trimming
Callouses
Corns

Phone: 079699120
Email:
rachaelsalter1234@gmail.com



Household Cleaning Undertaken

Caring person who is willing to
do all household tasks. Will
also help with shopping,
collecting prescriptions,
accompanying to
appointments etc.

References can be supplied.
Reasonable
charges.

Phone Angie on
07807892128



Foot Health Care Home Visits



- Nail cutting
- Hardened nails
- General foot care
- Callus and fungal advice

Lynne Newton
Mobile Foot Care

lynnenewton@hotmail.co.uk

07850437994 or
01823 259808

Pilates

West Monkton Village Hall:
Tuesday 9:30am
Brittons Ash Community Hall
Wednesday 9:30am
also Chair Based Pilates at
10:45am

For bookings and
enquiries contact:

Dianne
Mobile:
07850473428
Email:
funfit.dianne@btinternet.com



Neil Robertson
Plumbing & Heating Ltd

Plumbing - Heating -
Renewables

PLUMBING
- We cover all issues. Big or Small -
HEATING
- From a Boiler Service to Full
installation -
RENEWABLES
- Energy & Cost Efficient Living -

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8am - 5pm
T: 01823 413999
Emergency mobile: 07799614977
email: info@neilrobertsonplumbing.co.uk





**AUTO SERVICE CENTRE
TAUNTON & BRIDGWATER**



**For all your vehicle
servicing needs**
Located just 5 minutes from the
town centre in both Taunton and
Bridgwater

**FRIENDLY, HONEST
SERVICE**

www.hickleysautocentre.com
Taunton - Castle Street, Taunton, TA1 4AU
01823 328600
Bridgwater - East Quay, Bridgwater, TA6 4DB
01278 451570



Taunton Solicitors
Legal Services and Advice

WILLS, ESTATE ADMINISTRATION, PROBATE & TRUSTS

LASTING POWERS OF ATTORNEY

BUSINESS SALES & COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

BUYING & SELLING HOUSES & FLATS

FAMILY LAW & DIVORCE

FARMS, LAND & AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY

Visit our website for discounts and costs:
www.tauntonsolicitors.com

2 hours free client car parking, ground floor office, disabled parking and facilities and private meeting rooms.

2 Tangier Central Taunton TA1 4AP
Call our office for more details
01823 351122
e-mail: info@tauntonsolicitors.com



National Blood Donor Service

For further details ring 0845 7711711 or go online at www.blood.co.uk



Do something amazing
Give blood




Dog Training

- Reward based methods**
- Accredited Trainer**
- 121 Sessions**
- Group Classes**

allforwoofs.co.uk
allforwoofs@gmail.com
07749 261 772

Thank You
 Thank you to all our advertisers,
you keep our magazine
 going and we
 hope you get lots of business
 from our readers.

**BIOCENTRIC
PLANTS & DESIGN**



- ❖ **Garden design**
- ❖ **Planting plans**
- ❖ **Consultancy and coaching**
- ❖ **Plants for a changing climate**
- ❖ **Local service**

Tom Nielsen 07909 603 031
tom@biocentric.org.uk
www.biocentric.org.uk

westernfuel
 "your local independent distributor"

- **Heating Oils**
- **Lubricants**
- **Boiler Servicing**
- **Fuel Cards**
- **Automatic Top-Ups**
- **Tank Replacements**

T: 01823 337186
W: westernfuel.co.uk

RICKI SYMONS

**PROPERTY
MAINTENANCE**

Carpentry, Painting & Decorating



01823 252094
07795180509



MOT

**WHILE YOU WAIT
CROFT GARAGE LTD
Monkton Heathfield
01823 412393**

**Repairs & Servicing
Free Collection & Delivery**

Paul Prettejohn
 Garden Machinery & Groundcare
paul.prettejohn@btopenworld.com
www.paulprettejohn.co.uk



Honiton: 01404 890257
Wellington: 01823 662656

Fun & Friendly Exercise Class

Thursdays 9:30 – 10:30am
West Monkton Village Hall
£6.50 per class.....pay-as-you-go.
No need to book.

General fitness class including warm up, stretching, toning, optional floor work, easy dances and a cooldown.
 Please bring a mat
 (I bring spares if you don't have one).
 If you are unable to do floorwork, it's absolutely fine to do the exercises on a chair.

Call/text Charlotte
on 07764 301304
if you have any questions.



R A Wicks Ltd 
 Fireplaces, Stoves & Flues

Fireplace Showroom
Chimneys Relined & New Build
HETAS registered Installers

Tel: 01460 74612
 Fireplace Showroom,
 Tail Mill Lane,
 Merriott TA16 5PF
www.wicksheating.co.uk

Care At Home

Registered Qualified Micro Provider
 DBS Checked and Fully Insured
 Offering Help and Support
 In Your Home

Personal Care
Housework
Shopping, Trips Out, Appointments
The List is Endless...
Nothing Is Too Much Trouble
 For a friendly chat, I'd love to help
 call Rachael on
01823 451187 or 07969944520
rachaelharvey589@yahoo.co.uk

**A huge thank you to all our advertisers
 in this difficult time.**

Please support local businesses and please mention the Village News when you contact them.

ARBORTECH

PROFESSIONAL TREE SERVICES

- Tree surgery
- Surveying
- Planting
- Hedge maintenance
- Woodland and vegetation management

Email: info@arbortech.org.uk
 Tel: 07946179722
 Web: www.arbortech.org.uk

CHAS City & NPTC
 Guilds qualified



My Personal Organiser

Professional and Confidential Decluttering Service

- Re-vamp living areas
- Re-organise cupboards
- Create new storage areas
- Declutter garage or sheds
- Organise Paperwork

Contact Sarah for a free consultation -
 ☎ : 07967518712
 ✉ : mypersonalorganiser1@gmail.com

- Fully Insured
- DBS checked
- Somerset Micro Provider



UNITED

PLUMBING & HEATING

Mobile: 07966 630 133
 Email: unitedheating@icloud.com

Plumbing & Heating
 Gas Services
 Kitchens
 Bathrooms
 Underfloor Heating
 Powerflushing

iphe

Quantock services; Grounds & Garden maintenance

- Specialising in hedge cutting, lawn care and pressure washing.
- Creech St Michael based firm offering a quality personal service.

Email:
quantockservices.somerset@gmail.com
 Phone: 07921217780

Please make contact
 for a conversation about your requirements.



eat the food you love
 and still lose weight!

yes you can

with
 Slimming
 World

FREE membership
 when you commit to a 6 or 12 week Countdown course!

Contact your local Slimming World Consultant and join a friendly and super-supportive group today!

Monday
 Creech St Michael Baptist Church
 9.30am & 6.30pm
 Anya 07950 297240

Thursday 9.30am & 6pm
Fridays 7.30am & 9am
 St James Church Hall
 Dawn 07779 404038

Wednesday
 Lisieux Way Methodist Church
 4pm, 5.30pm & 7.15pm
 Anya 07950 297240

Saturdays
 Silver St Baptist Church
 7.00am & 8.30am
 Dawn 07779 404038

read Joe, Sapphire and Abby's stories here
slimmingworld.co.uk

slimming
 WORLD
 touching hearts, changing lives

WRAS fsb Vaillant VIE MANN

A Plus Heating

Honest. Professional.

- Central Heating
- Bathroom replacements
- Boilers replacements
- Disable shower rooms
- Gas Safety Certificate
- Tiling
- Shower wall panels

T: 01823 288 040
M: 07977 697 852
E: info@aplusheating.co.uk
www.aplusheating.co.uk

Helping to transform your house,
 into a home.

**OVER 40 YEARS
 EXPERIENCE**



BURROW

Septic Tank Owners: register your interest in a fully-funded upgrade to a treatment plant.

Due to the Phosphate pollution in your local river catchment we are operating a septic tank replacement scheme using private funding.

We install wastewater treatment plants that remove almost all pollutants, with funding secured from planning applicants who need to create a positive impact on the environment.

Register on our website today.

burrow-environmental.com 01935 507 508





A. STEWART Plumbing & Heating

- Natural Gas & LPG
- Oil Installations & Servicing
- Boiler Installations & Servicing
- Central Heating Systems
- Power Flushing
- Bath Rooms/Shower Rooms
- Cloakrooms/Kitchens
- Residential Park Homes & Caravans
- Cookers/Fires/Water Heaters/Space Heaters
- Vented/Unvented Water Systems
- Energy Efficiency Qualified Technician
- General Plumbing & Heating Maintenance
- Call Outs and & Emergencies Welcome

Call Ashley on: 07590729084 / 01823 412263
Email: info@astewartplumbingandheating.co.uk
www.astewartplumbingandheating.co.uk



Gareth Davies Painting & Decorating

Mob: 07775835314
Email: garethdavies259@hotmail.co.uk
Facebook:
Gareth Davies:Painting & Decorating
Instagram:
[gareth_davies_decorating_](https://www.instagram.com/gareth_davies_decorating_)
30 Years Experience

DARREN GRAY ELECTRICAL & BUILDING SERVICES

ALL TYPES OF DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL AND
BUILDING WORKS CARRIED OUT

BATHROOMS, KITCHENS, TILING, PATIOS,
FENCING, DECKING AND ALL YOUR ELECTRICAL
NEEDS TO 18TH EDITION REGULATIONS



CONTACT:
07764996937





Tree Surgery,
Stump Grinding
&
Hedging

Contact Tom Albrow
07926 878557

tom@arbresolutions.co.uk
www.arbresolutions.co.uk
Fully Qualified and Insured



LES MARSH CARPETS

Family run business transforming homes across Somerset since 1980

- Carpets • Vinyl • Natural Flooring • Karndean
- Large showroom with a wide variety of products and remnants •
- Free measuring and estimating service •
- Fitted by our own expert floorlayers •
- Friendly knowledgeable staff, providing excellent customer service •



Open: Monday - Friday 9am-5pm | Saturday - 9am-2pm
Tel: 01823 335952 | www.lesmarshcarpets.co.uk
Cook Way, Bindon Road, Taunton, TA2 6BJ





Brittons Ash Community Hall (BACH)

Regular Bookings at the BACH

Mondays

1:15pm to 3:15pm	Art Group
3:30pm to 5:30pm	Primary Maths and English
5:45pm to 7:00pm	Yoga

Tuesdays

10:15am to 1pm	Age UK Group
5:15pm to 6:45pm	Yoga

Wednesdays

9:15am to 11:45	Pilates/Chair Pilates
12:30pm to 2pm	Stay and Play Group
2pm to 4pm	Community Café
6pm to 7:30pm	Fitness Training
8pm to 10pm	Bathpool Buskers (only 2nd week of month)

Thursdays

9:15am to 10:00am	Fitness Class
10am to 12noon	Sewing Group
10:30am to 12 noon	Stay and Play Group
6:55pm to 8:15pm	Table Tennis

Fridays

9:30am to 10:45am	Yoga
11:15am to 12:15pm	Healthy Hearts
6:30pm to 11:00pm	Taunton Bridge Club

Saturdays

8:45am to 11:45am	Mini Dribblers
-------------------	----------------

Booking Officer:

Maggie Little

Tel: 01823 323662

Email:

bachbookings@westmonkton.net

Village News:

Please forward information for the next edition to the

Editor: Dawn Watts,

Tel. 01823 412201 dawnwattsdk@yahoo.co.uk

Village News Treasurer Ken Jones

Distribution of the Village News is organised by: Barry Gage, Maggie & Gordon Little.

Submissions to Village News may be made by e-mail or by hard copy. Please ask for a receipt to your e-mail to ensure that it arrives. Items submitted will be subjected to editing if necessary.

The deadline for submissions for the Jseptember/October 2024 Village News is 1st August 2024

West Monkton Village Hall Monkton Heathfield, TA2 8NE

Regular Bookings

Jittabugs (Main Hall)

Mondays	13:45 – 14:45; 16:00 – 16:30; 16:30 – 17:30; and 17:45 – 18:45
---------	---

Phoenix Camera Club (Heathfield Hall)

Mondays	19:00 - 21:00
---------	---------------

Pilates (Main Hall)

Mondays	19:30 - 20:30
---------	---------------

Badminton (Main Hall)

Ladies - Tuesdays	14:00 - 15:00
Mixed - Wednesday	20:00 - 21:00

Pilates

Tuesday	9:30 - 10:30
---------	--------------

Brownies (Main Hall)

Tuesdays (except school holidays)	18:00 - 19:30
-----------------------------------	---------------

Taunton Table Tennis Club (Heathfield Hall)

Adults Tuesdays	19:30 - 21:00
Children Friday	18:00 - 19:30
Saturday	10:00 - 11:30

Monkton Players (Main Hall)

Tuesdays + Thursdays (check 'What's On' for dates)	20:00 - 22:00
--	---------------

Music with Mummy and Jolly Baby (Schofield

Room) Wednesday	09:15 - 11:30
-----------------	---------------

Yoga (Main Hall)

Wednesday	09:30 - 10:45
-----------	---------------

Funfit - Fitness and Pilates

Wednesday	18:00 - 19:00
-----------	---------------

Puppy Training (Heathfield Hall)

Wednesday	18:30 - 21:30
-----------	---------------

Flexercise (Main Hall)

Thursday	09:30 - 10:30
----------	---------------

Coffee Morning (Ladies & Gents-Heathfield Hall)

Thursday	10:00 - 11:30
----------	---------------

MNDA (Heathfield Hall)

Once a month on a Thursday	13:30 - 16:30
----------------------------	---------------

Bounce & Burn (Main Hall)

Thursday	18:00 - 19:00
----------	---------------

Monkton Evening WI (Heathfield Hall)

Fourth Thursday of month	19:15 - 21:25
--------------------------	---------------

Baby Sensory (Main Hall)

Friday	09:00 - 15:15
--------	---------------

Puppy Training (Main Hall)

Friday	18:30 - 21:30
--------	---------------

Trams & Light Railways (Schofield Room)

Once a month on a Saturday	13:30 - 16:30
----------------------------	---------------

Hardy Plant Society (Main Hall)

Once a month on a Saturday	09:30 - 13:00
----------------------------	---------------

Orchid Society (Heathfield Hall)

Once a month on a Sunday	14:00 - 17:00
--------------------------	---------------

'O' Gauge Model Railways (Main Hall)

Quarterly on a Sunday	09:00 - 17:00
-----------------------	---------------

To get a pdf copy of the Village News
emailed to you,
please email
thelocalvillagenews@live.co.uk



Round Britain eRIB

In 2021 mother and son team Jaqui and Harry Besley established the [Round Britain eRIB](https://roundbritain-erib.org) Challenge project (roundbritain-erib.org) to highlight the opportunities for green transition of the small leisure powerboat sector; showing sailing clubs and harbour masters that zero emission technologies are on their way and how they can charge electric vessels. To do this, Harry will make an attempt to drive an electric RIB around Great Britain in the Summer 2024 (see [Facebook](#)).

Whilst the core objective of the Round Britain eRIB project is to inject some momentum into the green transition of the small leisure powerboat sector; it is also about providing a platform for those supporting the journey to Net Zero and highlighting the companies and innovators who are trying to move the industry forward. Our project brings together British engineering and innovators, adventure, sustainability, STEM education, youth challenge, marine charity fundraising and record setting.



ENTER OUR PRIZE DRAW

You could win!

- Meet the Skipper and step aboard
- WaveJam experience for two

ROUND BRITAIN ERIB

Gill

Jet boarding adventure experience for two

This is your chance to blast across the water on your own Wave Jam electric jet board, an incredible feeling as the water rushes over your body.



This experience for two adults or children will take you on a mini jet boarding adventure across a lake, river or in the sea. The owner and inventor of Wave Jam jet boards will personally guide you both on your own private adventure, as you learn to drive your Wave Jam jet board, perhaps even doing some doughnuts and duck dives along the way! Your adventure will take place at a time and UK location of your choice, with wetsuits, safety gear and training all included.

The Prize draw will run until we depart, which could be approx. 13th July - see the information about how to enter.

We will also be looking for donations all through the challenge so please follow us on Instagram, Facebook and YouTube. It would be great if you could 'Support Us' on the website.

Also our website will have a live tracker where you can look out for the Start and Finish notifications and come and see us at Lyme Regis.