

The Village Magazine

Backwell Chelvey Brockley



Katie Gaunt - Flamenco Dancer & Teacher

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Local Services

Backwell Secondary School	Kim Laney (Business Leader) Tel 01275 463371	Backwell Parish Council	43 Rodney Road, Backwell BS48 3HW Parish Clerk Mrs J Stone Tel 01275 464653 clerk@backwell-pc.gov.uk www.backwell-pc.gov.uk
Backwell C of E Junior School	Secretary Tel 01275 462632	Brockley Parish Council (also contact for Cleeve Parish Council)	Parish Clerk Andy Warren Tel 07932 191964 brockley_pc@hotmail.co.uk www.brockleypc.org
West Leigh Infant School	Secretary Tel 01275 463274	Backwell Residents Association (BRA)	Hon Sec Mike Veal Tel 01275 461187 www.backwellresidents.org.uk
Fairfield School	Secretary Tel 01275 462743	Backwell Playing Field Charity	Fran Parry Tel 07949487457 backwellplayingfieldscharity@gmail.com
Backwell Medical Centre (Part of the Tynesfield Medical Group)	15 West Town Road Tel 01275 465100 (Monday - Fridays, excluding Bank Holidays) Out of hours Tel 111 www.tynesfield.nhs.uk	BET (Backwell Environmental Trust)	Ian Chambers Tel 01275 463315 www.backwellenvironmenttrust.org
Dental Surgeons	P Kennedy and Associates 17 West Town Road Tel 01275 462421	Parish Hall Booking	Sarah Ould Tel 01275 541080 booking@backwellparishhall.org.uk
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North Somerset District Councillors	Cllr Bridget Petty, Backwell Tel 07881320224 bridget.petty@n-somerset.gov.uk Cllr Steve Hogg, Wrington Broadstone, Silver Street, Wrington, BS40 5QE Tel 01934 863283	Backwell Village Club	membership@backwellplayhouse.co.uk bookings@backwellplayhouse.co.uk
Police	Avon & Somerset Constabulary Non Emergency Calls 101 https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk	Playhouse Theatre	Tim Lewis Tel 01275 790555 www.backwellcameraclub.org.uk
Wellspring Counselling	Tel 01275 810879 admin@wellspringcounselling.org.uk	Playhouse Film Club	Gill Rich Tel 01275 462615
The Rotary Club of Nailsea and Backwell	www.rotarynailsea.org enquiriesRNB@gmail.com	Backwell Camera Club	Robin Langford Tel 01275 855822 rclangford64@gmail.com
		Backwell Drama Club	Chris Hooper Tel 01275 464353
		Backwell Garden Club	Robin Langford Tel 01275 855822 rclangford64@gmail.com
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**Backwell's
 Energy-Saving
 and Freecycle Day**



Saturday, 23th September



Examples of affordable, eco-friendly, energy-saving solutions to inspire you.
(2pm-5pm)



"Freecycle" in various places around Backwell - everything free to take!
(9:30am-5pm)

Please contact Sustainable Backwell by email at sustainablebackwell@gmail.com if you would like to show your energy-saving ideas or will have items for freecycle.

A map and list of participating homes will be available one week before the event.

St Bridget's at Harvest Time

Flower Festival 1-3rd September

1st September Friday 6.00-8.00pm wine reception
 2nd September Saturday 10.00-4.00pm refreshments
 3rd September Sunday 10.30am- 4.00pm refreshments

Donations on the day

If you wish to sponsor an arrangement in memory or as a celebration, we seek a donations of £25, a card will be placed by the arrangement in the church.

Our Grand Draw for a luxury lodge holiday in South Devon will be drawn on Sunday afternoon at 3.00pm, tickets available throughout the weekend



Editor Jane Canning
5 West Town Road, Backwell (01275) 790309
backwellvillagemag@gmail.com
*Submission deadline for next issue is the
12th of the preceding month.*

Advertising Manager Hilary Power
hpower@virginmedia.com

The Village Magazine

Backwell Chelvey Brockley

<https://www.backwellvillagemag.co.uk/>

Promises, Promises, Promises

We all make promises. Sometimes we make them as throw away comments – ‘I promise I’ll be ready in five minutes!’ – when we know we definitely won’t be. Sometimes we make promises out of desperation, trying to persuade someone of our reliability – ‘I promise I will be there, I won’t let you down!’. Sometimes we make promises after much thought and consideration.

I got married two months ago and my wife and I spent time considering the vows we would say to each other. They were very important! A hundred and fifty people watched and listened as we promised to love one another and be faithful to one another until death do us part. A registrar was present to make sure we said the legal bits correctly, a Reverend spoke the words to us so that we could repeat them accurately to one another, and we signed a marriage certificate to make our promises legal.

When someone makes a promise to us there is an expectation that it can be trusted because they will deliver on their word. The reality, however, can often be different. People let us down, betray us, or fall short on their promises. When this happens, we feel hurt. We may even be less trusting of other people in the future.

In the Bible, God makes many promises. A particular promise Jesus makes, which is important to me, is found in John 14:2-4:

“My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Jesus promised his followers and friends that he was going to return to God the Father to prepare a place for them. This promise applies to everyone who loves and follows Jesus. When friends and family have died, to know that Jesus has prepared a wonderful place for them to be has proved to be a great comfort for me. It is also very reassuring to know that Jesus will welcome me there too one day, and I will be with him for eternity.

No matter how many times people break their promises, do not deliver on their commitments, or let us down, we can always trust Jesus’ promises because he is faithful and won’t ever forget his promises to us. This is just one of the many amazing promises God makes in the Bible. Why not have a look for yourself, to find out just how much God loves you, to discover the amazing things he says about you, and the great plans he has for you?

Tim Crossley (Minister-in-training, Backwell Baptist Church)





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Parish Council report – July 2023

Councillors heard that Cllr Ould was stepping aside from her role as Chair for a while. The vice Chairs, Cllrs Barclay and Lloyd will act in her absence.

Planning

The 'Gleeson' proposals.

Councillors discussed the effects of the proposed housing development south of Nailsea and west of Backwell Lake. Gleeson have intimated that they will apply for 400 dwellings to be built on the land by Youngwood Lane. Whilst

the proposal is in Nailsea, it would affect residents in Station Road and also impinge on the 'strategic gap' between our two settlements.

Councillors unanimously voted to strongly oppose the proposals and instructed their regular planning consultant to submit a response to the initial consultation highlighting the Parish Council's concerns. It was also agreed that representatives from the Parish Council would attend meetings with Nailsea Town Councillors and work with them to ensure that the interests of Backwell residents were safeguarded.

There were several planning applications considered, most of which required no comment to North Somerset Council. However, one, a proposal to build a barn with a yard for equestrian purposes at the top of Hillside Road whilst not opposed, a request will be made for the Planning Officer to inspect the site in relation to access/ egress at the junction with the A370.

Enhancement

Cllr Bowerman told Councillors that the breakfast on Coronation Day had been a great success, with plenty of bacon and sausage rolls served up to eager attendees. £107 was raised in donations which will be given to Nailsea Food Bank. The commission and installation of a commemorative stained glass at the Parish Hall will take place in due course.

Dates for the diary:

The over-60's Tea Party will be held on Thursday, 30th November and Carols around the Crib on Thursday, 21st December

Highways

Councillors unanimously agreed the payment of £1345 to prepare the road then renew the lines and markings outside West Leigh Infant School. The work will also include some marking out of lines in the playground at no extra cost.

Employment

Councillors unanimous agree to advertise the new post of a permanent deputy Clerk (part time) to work alongside and assist the current Clerk. Further details will be made available at the Parish Office, by phone or by email.

The next full meeting of the Parish Council will be on **Thursday, 3rd August at The Parish Hall**. All will be warmly welcomed.

Want to help shape the present and future of Backwell? Interested in becoming a Parish Councillor? Contact the Parish Office by phone (01275 464653) or email (clerk@backwell-pc.gov.uk) or speak with any Parish Councillor.



Front Cover Story

Katie Gaunt - Flamenco Dancer & Teacher

I have lived in Backwell for 23 years and have been teaching regular flamenco classes here now for ten years.

I was 40 when I first fell in love with flamenco after a visit to Seville at festival time. The Spanish people were dancing Sevillanas which is the only partner dance we do in flamenco. It was mesmerising to see the colour of all the dresses, the music but especially the feeling and passion with the way they danced. I knew I wanted to learn! That was 25 years ago now.

I have studied with three teachers/choreographers and have danced in many shows both in the UK and Spain. Indeed, myself and my musicians (Fiesta Flamenca) have performed in many of the local villages raising money for various charities. I now have a "castanet orchestra" which has also started to perform in local concerts.

Flamenco is an artform and is studied as such. It is like learning a language and you have to have patience and persistence - practise and the passion will come. I started my classes with eight students. Like all small businesses, it was hard during Covid, but I taught online for 15 months and the majority of my students kept going. I now tutor over 50 students and run classes for complete beginners through to advanced and performance level, with ages running from 9 to 78.

If you are interested in finding out more about flamenco, then please contact me on 07806 559207 or katiegau@live.co.uk

Katie Gaunt



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Backwell School News

Term 6 was a great success with lots to celebrate at Backwell School.

Grease is the word!

Our Key Stage 3 production of "Grease" was a resounding success with over 850 people coming to support the show for its three-night run. Students from years 7, 8 and 9 became T-Birds and Pink Ladies, singing and dancing their way through the iconic songs of the popular show. The commitment and sense of teamwork on display was a joy to watch, resulting in two hours of vibrant musical theatre. The cast was given great support by a tight and focussed 10-piece band and a team of talented technicians overseeing all the lights, sound, staging, costumes, and props. This was a terrific team effort, pulled together by the vision and energy of director J. May, musical director E. Caldwell and technical director S. Stokes.



French Exchange trip to St Malo

After three years affected by the pandemic, we were delighted to have been able to re-establish our link with the Collège F. Broussais in Dinan. Thirty-one excited students from Years 9 and 10 embarked on the overnight ferry journey to St Malo, France.

Our first day in St Malo started with an invigorating walk around the ramparts and exploration of the beautiful old town before transferring to the Surf School for an afternoon of banana boating and paddle boarding. Students were greeted warmly by their exchange partners at school and made their way home to meet their French families for the week.

Over the next eight days, a variety of cultural and linguistic activities were packed in, including a trip to Le Mont Saint Michel, oyster tasting at Cancale, a day tree climbing (squeezing through barrels, zip wiring across a lake and hugging a lot of trees), completing a treasure hunt and finding out about the fascinating history of Brittany and its customs. We were extremely impressed by the enthusiasm,

openness and resilience demonstrated by our students and would like to extend a 'grand merci' to our French colleagues and exchange families for having made our stay so enjoyable and memorable.

Enrichment Week 2023

What a week! Year 7 camps to Avon Tyrell in the New Forest, Year 8 visit to Warwick Castle, Year 9 camp to Falmouth, Cornwall were just a few of the exciting opportunities our students took part in during enrichment week.

Students have canoed, paddle boarded, zip wired, climbed trees, built rafts, made fires, met exotic animals, drumming workshops, created their own graffiti, taken on work experience placements and learnt about business networking, experienced trial interviews, and visited Bath university (and much more).

Not a quiet moment was had for all students in Years 7,8,9,10 and 12. Thank you to our students for great enthusiasm and teamwork demonstrated throughout enrichment week.

We would also like to offer a special thanks to all the Backwell School staff who organised, led and accompanied activities and trips during this incredible week.

Thank you to the Backwell School Association (BSA)

At the end of another highly successful year of fundraising for Backwell School by the BSA we would like to pass on our thanks to the incredible team for all their hard work and commitment.

The BSA is always happy to hear from anyone who can help or who has a new fundraising idea they would like to carry out with other parents. Please contact the BSA via: mailbox@backwellschool.net We wish everyone at Backwell School and in our local community, happy and healthy summer holidays.

Dates for the start of next academic year in September 2023:

Term 1: Monday 4th September - Friday 20th October 2023

Inset days: Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th September
Wednesday 6th September will be for Year 7 and Year 12 only.

First day of Term 1 for all students is Thursday 7th September

Mrs C E Gardner , PA to Headteacher



Federation of West Leigh Infant & Backwell Junior School Summer Fayre

Backwell Junior School Association and West Leigh PTA say a huge thank you to everyone who helped with and attended this year's joint Summer Fayre! We were delighted we raised approximately £4,400 on the day.

It was wonderful to see the children enjoying themselves and making the most of "Soak the Teacher" as well as the other fun games and activities available,

West Leigh Infant School

Rabbit Class (aged 5-6) - the Victorian Seaside

This term we have learnt about the Victorian seaside. To help us with our topic we borrowed a seaside history box from Weston Museum. The children really enjoyed dipping into the history box and pulling out unusual and interesting objects to look at. They discovered that Victorian children also liked to build sandcastles when they went to the beach. Their buckets were made of

tin and the spades were made of wood. Plastic had not yet been invented.

The children enjoyed finding out that Punch and Judy shows date back as far as the Victorian era. Rabbit class also looked at some old black and white photographs of the Victorian seaside. They were interested to see that Victorian swimming costumes were very different from the costumes that are worn today. Cold water swimming is nothing new. The Victorians also thought it brought health benefits. We really looked forward to our trip to Clevedon with its Victorian Pier.



tin and the spades were made of wood. Plastic had not yet been invented.

Backwell Junior School

We are excited that our unicorn left our building!!!! It is forming part of the Unicorn Festival 2023 which has been on display around Bristol since 1st July. For further details of where to spot the unicorns: <https://theunicornfest.co.uk/>. We are so proud of how she turned out, with particular thanks to the Kenney family for helping with the finishing touches. Thank you also to our design winners, Arthur, Arabella, George, Grace and Ivy along with our school council members who helped with the painting. We look forward to the unicorn returning to us in September and finding a permanent home in our secret garden.



Backwell Village Show 2023

Saturday 16th September



2.00pm-5.00pm

Backwell Parish Hall &
WI Hall

Free Entry

*- Includes local displays,
games and refreshments*

<https://backwellvillageshow.co.uk>

West Backwell Bowling Club

Our 'Thrive with Bowls' campaign has been very successful, with several new members now meeting regularly on a Tuesday evening. The Scouts & the WI have also come along to give bowling a go. A competitive mixed league has started this season especially for newer bowlers and those who work.

The Men and Ladies have reached the semi-finals in various Cup & Trophy matches. Shireen Matley, Emma Price and Julie Ratcliffe have played in Somerset County matches, with Emma and Julie being selected for the prestigious Johns Squad, when they played Wiltshire, Cornwall and Dorset.

Parker's Estate Agents are sponsoring the Club, and provided us with new green & yellow tops, emphasising the Stag, which is on our badge, and was in the Robinson family crest. We wore them when visiting the Royal Household Bowling Club, in the grounds of Windsor Castle, for a re-arranged match. We were due to play in 2020 when West Backwell was to celebrate its 90th Anniversary, and the Royal Household its centenary. We had a great day out in Windsor, with a win for West Backwell.

Other sponsors have put on special events in the clubhouse, including a fashion show, chiropractor's and other health presentations and coffee mornings.

The Coronation Tea Party in May was amazing with a full clubhouse enjoying prosecco and cakes, indoor games and outdoor fun bowling. The annual Strawberry Tea was popular. Everyone is welcome to come to Friday Club Nights, meet our members, enjoy a drink at the bar and have a go at bowls – our coaches are on hand to help.

We look forward to a Barbecue this month, fish & chips supper, and Club Finals weekend in September, a Ukelele evening in October, 'End of Season Dinner' at the Masonic in November, and the very well supported Holly & Mistletoe event in December.



Backwell Playing Fields Charity

Did you know that Backwell Playing Fields Charity is managed by volunteer trustees? We are grateful to Chris Green who has recently stepped up as Vice Chair, supporting our current Chair (Drummond Forbes). If you have a son or daughter going into Yr 12 we would love to hear from them if they'd consider standing as a Youth Trustee for the academic year 2023-24, please get in touch at backwellplayingfieldscharity@gmail.com.

The playing fields are all set for the summer holidays - we hope everyone enjoys the wonderful green space and facilities we're so lucky to have!

Backwell Backstops & Nailsea Availables

Many of you will have fond memories of Backwell Backstops hospital car service, ably run for many years by Tina Andrews. When the Covid-19 pandemic forced us all into lockdown, the Backstops, like many other local groups, suspended their operations.

Unfortunately, Backwell Backstops were unable to reform later as most of their drivers had retired during the pandemic. Therefore, in August 2020, Nailsea Availables agreed to extend their catchment area to include Backwell, initially on a temporary basis, and they have been doing so ever since. Anyone needing a lift to a medical appointment can make a request through one of the Tyntesfield surgeries. They must give at least 2 days' notice, preferably more, and Nailsea Availables will try to find a volunteer driver. There is a fixed charge for each trip, payable in cash directly to the volunteer driver to defray their expenses.

It obviously makes more sense for Backwell patients to be transported by drivers who live in Backwell, and during the past year, 5 new Backwell drivers have joined the 29 volunteers from Nailsea, but we still need more. Can you help your neighbours? At the moment, trips for both Nailsea and Backwell residents are offered to all drivers, with Nailsea Availables providing the administration for the service. There is no minimum commitment.

Our current drivers all say how much they get out of volunteering. We meet so many interesting people and in my own case, especially, I value the regular parking practice I get which stops my skills getting rusty. Chatting about mutual acquaintances can often lead to reviving old friendships from the past as well as making new friends.

If you are interested in knowing more, with no obligation, please contact our Senior Co-ordinator, Jeanne Wood on 01275 853146, or email: jeanne.wood@virginmedia.com.

For those who don't know us, Nailsea Availables has been taking Tyntesfield patients to their hospital, surgery and other medical appointments for over 40 years. Drivers use their own cars, receive a fixed sum directly from the patient to cover their running expenses and have public liability insurance provided through Nailsea and District Community Transport. Nailsea Availables does not intend to change its name to include Backwell as it is our sincere hope that Backwell Backstops will be able to reform in the future.

The Somerset International Festival of the Arts

Since moving to North Somerset from London over ten years ago violinists Simon and Liv-Marie Kodurand have been determined to find a way in which to contribute their skills and love of music to the benefit of the local community.

The Somerset International Festival of the Arts is an annual celebration of classical music and the arts which brings together leading international chamber musicians and performers to North Somerset. Based in the beautiful setting of St Andrew's Church in Backwell, our festival aims to celebrate exceptional music making, and support music education and outreach projects through partnership programmes with schools and the local community. Somerset is rich with musicians and artists of the highest calibre, many of whom perform nationally and internationally with some of the country's leading orchestras and ensembles. We are fortunate to have close links with the Bristol Ensemble, the South West's leading chamber orchestra, who will be ensemble in residence for our inaugural festival.

Our launch festival will take place between the **6th - 8th October 2023**, presenting a series of events with leading international musicians including concerts, workshops and talks. Tickets are on sale for all our events and can be bought here:

www.somersetfestivalarts.co.uk/2023-festival

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Backwell Scout News

Tuesday Beavers

Before the holidays, Tuesday Beavers made the most of the light evenings and set off on an evening hike. We had been practising navigation skills throughout this year and this was a chance for them to show what they had learned. They used a map to navigate the route, locating seven checkpoints along the way. At each check point there was a hidden letter and the task was to collect all the letters and work out the word. They did brilliantly completing the route on a hot summer's evening and spelt out the word BEAVERS. At the end of the hike we released five butterflies into the scout garden as part of our biodiversity project.

We also made the trip to our district group campsite, Glenny Wood, near Portishead, for an evening of adventurous activities. There was bouldering, an assault course, grass sledges, a tunnel maze and pedal karts. It was a busy and very fun evening! Everyone got stuck in and challenged themselves in the various activities. As well as showing us how fast and fit they were, the Beavers also showed great team building skills – encouraging each other and working as a team to help tidy up at the end. We are very lucky to have this great facility on our doorstep and hope to return soon.

Hanne – Beaver leader

Monday Cubs

Monday Cubs' habitat gardens are coming to life which is great to see after all the effort that has gone into them. Some campfire cookery has also been enjoyed. This featured such classics as sausages and s'mores. The Cubs also improved their local knowledge by doing a local services hike which took a route that encompassed as many of the local facilities and services that we have in our village as could be crammed into an hour and a quarter of walking. Many of the pack are looking forward to camp which is happening just before the end of term.

Helen – Akela

Thursday Cubs

We have spent a few weeks working for their Photographer and Entertainer badges. The former involved taking photos around the Scout hut and on a hike, and carrying out various editing techniques to display them on a photo montage.

For their Entertainer's badge, cubs created sock puppets and then wrote and presented a short puppet play for the rest of the pack. This creativity continued at our cub camp with their camp fire skits, in the middle of July. We finished the term with mini Olympics.

Frank

Tuesday Scouts The two big events to report on in July are the last ever JOTT (Jamboree on the Trail) hike and the Expedition Challenge to The Gower. JOTT took place in The Quantock Hills to the south of Holford and the weather was very good for the hike. All the teams made it around the nine mile route although one team did go a little 'off-piste'. Nevertheless they made it to the end. We did have to explain to them that 'eeny meeny miny moe' was not a good substitute for map reading and navigation skills! It was only a one day hike so we were able to offer them some archery to complete the weekend



which was well received by all. Two weeks later we were in The Gower, west of Swansea, for the expedition weekend, two days of walking totalling 23 miles in all. All the Scouts arranged their food and accommodation at a very basic (but cheap) Scout site at the end of the runways at Swansea Airport (few, if any, planes to worry about though). The hike started at Penmaen and headed northwest over the hills to Llanmadoc then southwards through Llangennith to Rhossili Bay. The following day was all coastal walking past Worms Head, Port Eynon and on to the end at Oxwich Bay. There were a couple of short showers but nothing to dampen the spirits and everyone completed the route with no navigational problems at all. The next event is our usual end of year Summer Camp. Plans are well advanced for this which is at Harry's Island in The New Forest.

Ian – Assistant Scout Leader

Friday Scouts

Friday Scouts have been busy again with lots of cooking activities and bowls at the bowling club. We made £145 in 1½ hrs one Friday night doing a car wash to raise funds for our upcoming summer camp. The scouts wanted to get some sports equipment and some water pistols!

At the beginning of July we had our Year 8 Expedition Challenge camp in the Gower with the Tuesday scouts. The Scouts were amazing, completing 23 miles over two days. Friday Scouts had a very tired but happy team of four and they should be really proud of their map reading skills and team camaraderie.

They planned their own route, menu and kit lists. They shopped and cooked for themselves and for me. They enjoyed it so much - they are already thinking ahead to next year's Ten Tors...

To end the term we went on a unicorn hunt around Bristol, and squeezed in a sandcastle competition at Weston before twenty-two of our scouts head off with us leaders to Collard Bridge, Barnstable for our week-long Summer camp. Among lots of other things we are going surfing and coasteering. Wish us luck!

Lorraine Section Leader of Friday Scouts

Explorers

As our summer term drew to a close and we enjoyed trying our hand at croquet and lawn bowls. Thank you to Nailsea and District Croquet Club and West Backwell Bowls Club for hosting us. We also did a chippy hike, resulting in a WI style judging of which local establishment provided the best looking, value and tasting chips.

We're very excited to be taking nineteen of our Explorers overseas for our summer camp this year, visiting Amsterdam, Berlin, Prague and Bratislava. We'll be Interrailing our way across Europe and staying in hostels, exploring these great cities and taking part in some fun and cultural activities along the way.

Iain, Explorers Leader



The team smiling despite the rain

The Meeting Point

Holiday Action, our children's summer programme, is rapidly filling up, but do check availability on our website (see below) which has Eventbrite booking links. The full programme is:

1st August, two workshops on Poly Printing, run by Creative Escapes from Flax Bourton.

8th August Noah's Ark Farm Zoo with some of their smaller animals.

15th August Ukulele workshops, by Uke Lift.

22nd August Cooking and baking, maybe your own lunch.

29th August two-hour clay workshop, with plenty of additional clay for solo work.

It all happens between 10.00 and 12.00 and this year will be in the **WI Hall**. Do join us for lunch if you can on 1st or 15th August.

Kitchen refurbishment in the Parish Hall means we are moving to the WI Hall for the summer, but lunches will continue. We have home-made soup, bread and cheese on **1st August at 1.00pm**, and it would be good to welcome families after the morning activities. The next 2-course lunch is on **15th August at 1.00pm**, and we do ask for bookings for this one by 8th August, just to ensure we have catered for you. Children eat free at either lunch.

Coffee and cake will be available through the summer during the morning sessions in the WI Hall, but we will not be open after lunch. The Sitting Fit Yoga sessions take a rest over the summer but will return in September. Do check the September magazine for details.

This month the usual **Communion** service will be held on **1st August at 12.15** in the WI Hall. All are welcome to this very informal gathering.

Volunteers needed. Are you recently retired or just about to? Would you like to be involved in supporting the local Backwell community? The Meeting Point and its parent charity Backwell Life are seeking new volunteers and/or Trustees to continue the work we started ten years ago. If you might be interested in helping us secure the future of our work, please get in touch by phone or e-mail.

Contact: e-mail or phone: backwell.life@gmail.com or call/text on 07851 438530. Or visit our website at www.themeetingpointbackwell.co.uk



Holiday Action 23 @The Meeting Point



Free holiday activities for children

1 st August	Poly Printing
8 th August	Noah's Ark
15 th August	Ukulele Workshop
22 nd August	Cooking club
29 th August	Clay

**10am -
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WI Hall**

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Bridget for Backwell

As we go into August many people will be thinking of holiday plans and fun times to be had.

I know for us as a family we are always excited about the free offering that The Meeting Point provide on a Tuesday morning.

The Village Show program is out with all the lovely skills and talents people can get involved with to win those prizes come September.

The local libraries offer the summer reading challenge and it'll be good to see the Nailsea library re-open in the precinct, down near the veg shop. Do check it out.

North Somerset Council often promote free or low cost activities for families in the summer holidays, I get these updates by following the council on Facebook.

It's been great hearing positive feedback about the content from NS Life which is the printed magazine from the council. It also had information about signing up to the email version, which is very popular and provides a really good summary of local information and news from the council. I was delighted to hear about the chance to have free bus travel in your birthday month, an initiative from the council to help us all get about and enjoy the buses, you will need to register from August on this website www.BirthdayBus.co.uk

A short final thought from me, at this time please continue to support our local shops, cafes, restaurants and when you travel further afield still think about eating seasonal, supporting locals, avoiding waste and leaving anything but footprints on our beaches and countryside. It's lovely to hear our five-year-olds are learning about how their behaviour can make or break our planet, a good foundation for their futures.

*Happy August
Cllr Bridget Petty*



Energy-Saving and Freecycle Day

On **Saturday 23rd September**, Sustainable Backwell is organising an **Energy-Saving and Freecycle Day**.

Some driveways and house fronts will have free-to-collect items from 9.00am to 5.00pm. If you would like to put items on your drive and would like your address included on the list and map, please email Sustainable Backwell at sustainablebackwell@gmail.com or phone 463978 by 14th September. If your house is very tucked away, we may be able to arrange for your items to go on someone else's drive.

Free-to-collect items Energy-saving & Composting advice



Also, in the Parish Hall from 11.00am to 3.00pm, there will be local residents to chat to about the energy-saving measures they have tried. On display will be information about Backwell homes that have installed: solar panels; batteries; heat pumps; electric vehicle charging points; draught-proofing and other cheap DIY measures; wall, floor and loft insulation; etc. There will be further information from Bristol's Centre for Sustainable Energy. If you have done interesting energy-saving measures in your house and would like to share your experiences, please contact us at sustainablebackwell@gmail.com.

There will also be displays about waste minimisation such as by composting with Backwell's composting expert on hand to give advice. Tea, coffee and snacks will be available at the Parish Hall too. Please come along to chat and ask all your energy questions before the cold weather hits and our bills rise

Backwell & Nailsea Macular Support

Please note that there is no meeting in August. The Group will be on a garden outing, including tea and cakes! Enjoy the rest of the summer, and we look forward to welcoming you to the next meeting in the W.I. Hall, which will be on Wednesday **27th September** at 1.30pm. More information from Sheila on 01275 462107



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REMINDER – What is a Leg Club?

This community initiative supports those with lower legs issues, ulcers, varicose veins, pain, skin problems, rashes, etc. Volunteers provide refreshments, social interaction and befriending to those who may be isolated at home due to leg problems.

Having the full support of local GPs and Sirona, NHS Practice and Community nurses provide clinical advice, assessment and treatment to patients attending Leg Club, plus a holistic and thorough review of leg concerns.

Held at Nailsea Tithe Barn, a community setting, rather than on medical premises or in the patient's home, because it empowers members to participate in their care, in a social environment that eases loneliness by providing congenial surroundings, meeting old friends and making new.



Nurses are employed either by Tyntesfield Medical Group or the Community Partnership and the NHS provides dressings. A contribution is paid by Leg Club for use of the Tithe Barn, plus the equipment used and other incidentals such as refreshments, driver reimbursement and stationary. Fundraising is relied on heavily – plus some member donations and grants.

Leg Club serves patients registered with Tyntesfield Medical Group; anyone can call in on Wednesday morning 10.00 – 11.30am. have a tea/coffee to see how we work. Patients may be encouraged to attend by their GP, Practice or District Nurse and an appointment can be made for treatment at Leg Club through your surgery. All are welcome, including carers and family members. Should you have difficulty getting to the Leg Club, there are volunteer drivers who may be able to assist, providing you can walk from your front door to a car unassisted.

For more information call Carole Brooke (07954 302498) or Sandy Riley (01275 853547).

Backwell & Nailsea Support Group for Carers
Inviting members (and previous attendees) to join us on **Wednesday 2nd August** for a visit to Cadbury Garden Centre (to include cream tea/sandwiches)
Booking essential – for more details contact Beverley on 01275 463215 after 6.00pm

Backwell Garden Club.

The Garden Club will return to the WI Hall in August. Our Speaker on **Wednesday 16th August** will be Katherine Kear and her talk is entitled "Tales from the Potting Shed". The meeting will be at the usual time 1.45pm for 2.00pm.

The Club meets every third Wednesday of the month in the afternoon in the WI Hall, Station Road, Backwell. New Members are always welcome to come along and join us.

For further information please contact Robin Langford on either 01275 855822 or email rclangford64@gmail.com.

St Andrew's MU

Members enjoyed an afternoon of fellowship over a cream tea and cake. It was nice to welcome some non-MU members to this event. Money was raised to go to MU projects. One or two members had also enjoyed a cream tea at Christchurch, and Wraxall along with members from other branches.

Once again Cleeve MU put on an enjoyable lunch raising money for MU worldwide, this also was attended by some of our members and from branches in the Deanery. There were a large number of hot fillings to choose from for a jacket potato with salad, followed by another large choice of homemade desserts.

There is no branch meeting in August.

The next date to make note of is the Deanery MU service being held at All Saints church Wraxall at 2.30pm on **Wednesday 6th September**, when once again it is a chance to join together with members from the other branches in the Deanery, do come.

We were very sad to hear of the passing of Susan Harker, she suffered her illness bravely. She was a loyal committee member of our MU. She will be missed by all.

Dates

Wednesday 6th September 2.30pm Deanery Service
All Saints church Wraxall

Backwell Probus Club Report

We have had two meetings since the last report, the first was entitled "The New 5 Wonders of the World", an illustrated talk by David Head. He described how a guy had set-up a group to find the new man-made wonders of the world. He managed to get other countries involved to eventually enable over a million people to vote. He described the five in depth, the top one being the Taj Mahal. At our second meeting we were entertained by member Ray Griffiths on "Larwood-beyond the Body Line". He showed us pictures of the famous Australian cricketer, who was bowling high balls, a then new feature of cricket in 1933 and also very controversial, because it was a more gentlemanly game at that time.

In August, we look forward to two interesting talks "Ffestiniog Railway" and "Lighthouses of the Bristol Channel", so do come and enjoy these on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 10.00am for coffee followed by a 10.30am talk in the Bowls Pavilion. Any retired men are welcome to join us for convivial conversation before and after the talk.

Peter Lamb (01275 463160)

Backwell and Nailsea Ladies Choir

Our Autumn term starts on Thursday **14th September**; meeting at 1.15pm in Backwell WI Hall.

We will be learning a variety of music to sing at our Christmas concert which this year will be held on Thursday 7th December in the afternoon. Our musical director is Katie Williams who has just completed her first year with us.

New members are most welcome. Please give me a call if you are interested on 07929 093888. We offer a free taster session so why not give it a try. We work hard but have fun as well.

Lesley Barratt



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Backwell Baptist Church Sunday Services

6th August (Communion)

Preacher: Neil Mobbs

Service Leader: Tim Crossley

Theme: Culture of Discipleship: Abide in Christ

Passage: John 15:1-17

13th August

Preacher: Tim Crossley

Service Leader: Sheila Whiting

Theme: Culture of Discipleship: Love God and Carry your Cross

Passage: Luke 9:21-27

20th August

Preacher: Tim Crossley

Service Leader: Ruth Ham

Theme: Culture of Discipleship: Love People

Passage: Luke 10:25-37

27th August

No Service at Backwell Baptist. Please join us at Nailsea Baptist Church.

To find out more, please visit our website:

<https://backwellbaptist.co.uk/>

West Town Methodist Church Sunday Services for August at 10.30am

6th Revd Michael Pullan

13th Revd David Sharp *Communion*

20th Alan Emery; Nailsea will join us for a United Service

27th Heather Bentley

Ready Teddy Sing, Open the Book, Fellowship Group, Lawnside Christian Fellowship and Prayer Watch do not meet in August.

Hire of building

West Town Methodist Church is in the centre of the village and provides ample comfortable space for small gatherings, meetings, rehearsals, children's parties, etc. Do look at the pictures on the Church website. We have recently installed a large wall-mounted TV screen for audio visual presentations by agreement.

Contact Julie Ratcliffe

on email: ratcliffedj@btinternet.com

or 01275 463123

News from St Francis

This is the most popular holiday month for children and families alike.

The Parishioners of St Francis would like to wish everyone a happy, safe and peaceful summer break; time to enjoy a well-deserved break from School and work. We celebrate the Feast of the Assumption on **Tuesday 15th August**. This feast is widely celebrated all over Christendom. The Holy Day marks the occasion of the Virgin Mary's bodily ascent into Heaven at the end of her earthly life.

Please see website www.josephfrancis.org for all Mass times.

Masses are continuing to be Livestreamed.

manna

From the Church of England Diocese of Bath and Wells

Supporting our schools

In Bath and Wells we are blessed to have 182 Church of England schools. While each of them support their children in their own unique way, their values are underpinned by the Church of England's values of wisdom, hope, community and dignity. Supporting of our schools with their own unique talents are our school governors.

Ed Gregory, Director of Education for Bath and Wells, says, "Governors are an essential part of the leadership team in a school or trust. You don't need to be an expert in education, the strength of a governing board comes from skills and experiences each person brings. While we have some amazingly supportive governors, we also have many gaps to fill,



particularly Foundation Governors and Trustees, so if you feel this is something you are called to do, why not find out more about how you could help? It doesn't take much of your time, we provide lots of support and I have no doubt you will find it extremely rewarding."

Headteacher Jayne Rochford-Smith, St Andrew's Church School, Bath, says, "Governors are what I would call 'critical friends'. They bring advice, they help us to move the school forward, and they also help us to make the right decisions."

Foundation Governors are appointed as Governors and as 'Champions' for the preservation and development the religious character of our Church of England schools, a responsibility of the entire Governing Board. They can be from any walk of life and any age, over 18, and be a practising Anglican or a member of another Christian denomination within the Churches Together movement. If you'd like to be a governor, even if you don't have a current church connection, if you have the support of the school and church community and are passionate about ensuring that the religious character of the school is flourishing, we'd still be keen to talk to you so get in touch. bathandwells.org.uk/governors

The Benefice of Backwell with Chelvey and Brockley St Andrew's Backwell, St Bridget's Chelvey and St Nicholas, Brockley

Its that time of year when every one is thinking about Holidays!

I have just crossed America from Seattle to Portland in Oregon to the Grand Canyon to Chicago to New York. It was a great 20 days visiting friends and seeing just a few of the things that the US has to offer. While I was in Chicago, I swam in one of the great lakes that Chicago sits beside – Lake Michigan. It was really bizarre to be sitting on a sandy beach yet the water was fresh water with waves! Not at all what I expected. I wonder where you are going for your holidays this year? I hope you too experience something really good that you weren't expecting, something that you can bring back as a memory for the years to come. Happy August whatever or where ever you are.

Rev Katy

Services in August

St Andrew's Church

6th Transfiguration

9.15am Sung Eucharist

10.45am Informal worship with Baptism

13th Trinity 10

9.15am Sung Eucharist

16th Wednesday Communion

12.00 noon in St Andrew's Church House

20th Trinity 11

10.45am Informal worship with Communion

**BBQ Fundraiser for CMS (see below) in the Church
yard, starting at 12.30**

5.00pm Sung Evensong

27th Trinity 12

9.15am Said Communion BCP

10.45am Informal worship

St Bridget's Church

6th Transfiguration

9.15am Holy Communion

13th Trinity 10

9.15am Morning Worship

20th Trinity 11

9.15am Holy Communion

We were all sad to have learned recently of Rev'd Katy's impending departure at the end of this month. It has been a real pleasure working with her and sharing the ministry to this benefice. Her particular enthusiasm for working with children has enabled the growth of our ministry across significant parts of our community. We wish her and Peter well as they return to their family home in Bath and Katy takes up her new role of Chaplain to Bath Spa University.

May God bless her continuing ministry. *The Ministry Team*

**Benefice Register of
Baptisms, Marriages and
Funerals in June 2023**

Burial of ashes:
16th June - Theresa Southern

As part of our church services and in private prayer, we remember people in our community. To help focus our thoughts and prayers, we identify people by the roads in our benefice where they live and work. Thus, the whole area is covered over the course of 18 months, a few roads at a time

**In August we will be
praying for people living
and working in**

**Long-thorn, Luntly Mead,
Garstons Close, Marle Pitts
Slades Court**

The Charity St Andrew's is supporting this quarter is CMS

The Church Mission Society (CMS) story began in London in 1799 with a group of Christians whose hearts were stirred to go to the edges; people like William Wilberforce, John Venn and John Newton. Together, they worked to abolish the slave trade, they fought for the rights of oppressed people at home and they launched out onto dangerous seas to share Jesus with the world.

CMS is likewise called to connect with people at the edges: the edges of church, the edges of society, the edges of our comfort zones. They are always looking for others who will join them at edges near and far, to help share God's love in creative ways, knowing that person-by-person, community-by-community, this is how we will see our world made new.

CMS describes itself as a community on a journey of rediscovering God's mission together.



Christians Together In & around Backwell

Benefice of Backwell and Chelvey with Brockley

<https://www.backwellchelveybenefice.org.uk/>

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Tel 01275 880463
rector@standrewsbackwell.org.uk

Reader Martin Canning
Tel 01275 790309

Lay Worship Assisstant Carol Hellen
Tel 01275 463810

Benefice Office Tel 01275 463469
admin@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk

St Andrew's

Church Wardens Cherry Leake
Tel 0770 888 3075
leakefamily1@hotmail.com

Andy Pitcher
Tel 07837281158

Bell Ringers Rebecca Cox
Tel 01275 462416

Organist and Choir Master Andrew Colley
music@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk

PCC Secretary Jane Canning
Tel 01275 790309

PCC Treasurer Lesley Barratt
Tel 01275 857899

Mothers' Union Co-ordinator Marie Bale
Tel 01275 269246

Ladies Group Leader Shena Jones
Tel 01275 852427

St Andrew's Art Group Chair - Jenny Alsop
Tel 01275 791113

Sunday Club and Little Lambs Timi Booy
childrensworker@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk

St Bridget's

Church Wardens Vacancy

PCC Secretary J Britton 01275 462007

PCC Treasurer J Prior Tel 01275 852374

West Town Methodist Church

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Minister Rev'd Deborah Mallett
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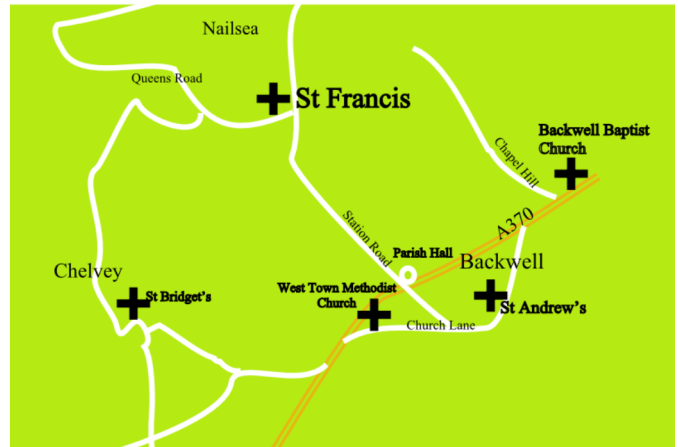
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Secretary David Nicklen Tel 01934 876842

Treasurer Ruth Ham

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Parish Priest Father Richard Elson
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Diaries of Church Services and activities can be found on pages 20 and 21.

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