

The Village Magazine

Backwell Chelvey Brockley



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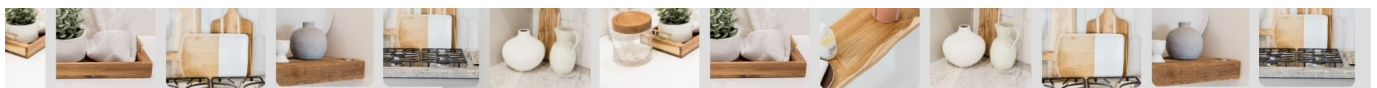
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The Village Magazine

Backwell Chelvey Brockley

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A home from home...

It's been a month or more of comings and goings in Backwell. Lots of us glad to be out and about again in the village, despite the inclement Spring weather. Spurred on by this sense of release we feel after the long winter months inside, we've relished fresh opportunities to be out meeting people and perhaps crossing boundaries into new territories along the way.

The Coronation weekend was a case in point. Perhaps you enjoyed a Saturday morning coronation

breakfast at the Parish Hall or made it up to St Andrew's to help with the churchyard rewilding or climb the church tower on Bank Holiday Monday? Perhaps you took up the invitation to try out bowling or enjoy a cream tea at our illustrious West Town Bowls club?

This royal festive fun followed hard on the heels of Earth Day when we gathered at the Rodney Road pop-up stall to calculate our carbon footprints and garner fresh tips for sustainable living. The same weekend we got better acquainted with many of the local organisations and wonderful individuals who contribute to the rich diversity of village life at the *We are Backwell 2023* exhibition, jointly hosted by the St John's Ambulance Cadets and West Town Methodist Church.

On my knees that weekend in the Parish Hall, I was instructed with confident expertise on the correct way to administer CPR by some teenage cadets. Up the road at the chapel, we welcomed guests of all ages to view artwork from local primary schools and personal exhibits of all kinds which gave us insights into the stories of individual members of our village community.

One local resident came to live here twenty years ago. Her exhibit charted her journey from the Baltic island of Gotland in Sweden to Backwell and introduced us to some of the precious customs of life in her native homeland. But Anna's story ended with this testimony: *'being part of the Backwell community has shown me that I can have a home away from home. The community here comes together in the most admirable ways and that is worth more than anything for me.'*

I am deeply gratified that Anna feels this way. I hope and pray that her experience is the experience of everyone who moves into our village. If we can be a place where all people are truly welcomed, truly valued, truly included, then we will have reason to be proud of ourselves.



*Deborah Mallett
Minister of West Town Backwell, and Nailsea Methodist Churches*



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Front Cover Story Get yourself noticed

Have you come across the phrases 'Live local, love local', or 'Love where you live'? They exude a sense of community, and that's an ideal that Backwell Camera Club (BCC) endorses with its offer of taking photographs for other groups and clubs within the Backwell area. Take, for example, Backwell Playhouse: they have invited members of the camera club to recent dress rehearsals in exchange for publicity and promotional images (eg the image on the front of this magazine). Then there's the Backwell summer fete and Christmas carols, the annual Nailsea (Motor) Bike Show, local sports fixtures, plus a handful of events in Clevedon – all of which benefit from the skills and enthusiasm of BCC's members, not to mention some fantastic photographs.

"It's one of the reasons I was attracted to the camera club in the first place," says Sandra, who is now in her second year with BCC. "As both a motorbike and theatre lover, I have enjoyed every moment of getting

'real life' practice of taking photos in these environments. And it's great to feel that my photos may be of some use – other than just living on my computer. There's definitely a buzz to it."

Backwell Camera Club, which first opened its doors in 1960s, is very hands-on, always seeking opportunities to share and learn. "The club takes all skill levels and nurtures members from whatever stage they are at in their own photographic journey," Sandra continues. "I've certainly benefited from huge amounts of encouragement, and I've learned so much in such a short time."

BCC welcomes contact from not-for-profit organisations in the area that have an event they would like photographing. You can email info@backwellcamera.club. Alternatively, learn more about the club and view the members' galleries at <http://backwellcamera.club/> where you'll find comprehensive information about where the club meets, its programme of events and its special interest groups.



The Parish Council's May report will be in next month's magazine.

Celebrating our links

Churches across Bath and Wells and in Zambia are invited to celebrate the links between the dioceses on Sunday, **2nd July** on the renamed 'Zambia - Bath and Wells Sunday'. Launched in 2021 as Zambia Sunday, the day has been renamed to reflect the desire for the link not just to be celebrated in churches in Bath and Wells, but also in churches in Zambia.

Martin Canning Chair of the diocesan World Mission Group, explains, "Zambia - Bath Wells Sunday is an opportunity for every parish across our six partner dioceses to pray and learn more about each other, and to consider our place as part of the worldwide Anglican Communion.

It is also an opportunity to give thanks for the nearly 45 years we have celebrated life and faith together through our companionship link. Even if a parish doesn't currently actively have a link, we hope they will join with us in prayer on the day."

As well as celebrating the link, with all the joys that it brings people are also asked to reflect on the challenges we are all facing, including climate change which affects some areas of the world more than others. Sara Emmett, diocesan Climate Justice and Environment Adviser says, "Growing our relationship with our brothers and sisters in Zambia offers many benefits, but certainly gives us a greater insight into not only the impact of climate change, but also the inequity of climate change."

Prayers and other liturgical resources for 'Zambia – Bath and Wells Sunday' can be found on the diocesan website, along with lots of stories of how the link works in different parishes across Bath and Wells.



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Backwell School News

Runwell Returns...

RunWell is a six-week programme that all Year 7 students have been involved in over the past few weeks. The programme aims to educate students on the benefits that running (and exercise in general) can have on our mental health. They follow a training plan which will culminate in a 20-minute run in July.

This fantastic initiative has been organised by Mrs Randall and many staff have been involved in supporting, and taking part, in the training runs which have been taking place in Tutor Time and PE lessons.

Journalism Competition

During the past few weeks, the team at *The Croak* – the school's online newspaper – ran a competition for budding journalists in Years 7-11. A number of high-quality entries were received, and then were judged at a meeting of *The Croak* team.

In a closely fought contest, Lois R won the competition with her entry about the pleasures of reading. However, the team really enjoyed reading some entries on slightly more niche topics, and consequently judged Brandon P and Elliot W's articles - about electricity pylons and tarmac respectively – as runners up. All students are currently in Year 11 and deserve congratulations on their informative and highly entertaining articles. Well done again to our winner and runners up in the competition and thank you to all the students who entered. Particular thanks to Molly D in Year 12, who had the idea for the competition and was instrumental in organising it.

Farewell to Year 11 and Year 13

Exam season is well underway (this year it runs from mid-May to the end of June) which means that Year 11 and 13 are now on study leave. Before they headed off to focus on their revision, we held farewell assemblies for them. These contained lots of reminiscing, funny pictures and a few tears. Both years also collected their commemorative hoodies. At the end of the exam season both year groups will be celebrating with 'prom-style' events at Ashton Gate Stadium. They will be able to let their hair down on the dance floor and really celebrate the end of their exams and this stage of their education. We look forward to celebrating with them again in August when they collect their results.

Key Dates

Monday **5th June** – Start of Term 6

Wednesday **14th June** – Expressive Arts Showcase Event

19th - 21st June – KS3 production of *Grease*

26th - 30th June – Enrichment Week for years 7,8,and 9



Farewell I am also moving on from Backwell School to work in a new role at the Lighthouse Schools Partnership from the start of June. I have very much enjoyed writing for *The Village Magazine* for the past few years and I know that the school will continue to send updates, so the village knows what we are up to.

Mrs Capel-Davies Headteacher's PA

PS We thank Mrs Capel-Davies very much for the regular and most interesting reports she has sent us each month for several years, keeping us informed of the many and varied events and activities taking place at Backwell School. She will be greatly missed, but we send her our very best wishes for her new role in the administration of the Lighthouse Schools Partnership, which involves all three of our Backwell State Schools...

Repair Café

Sustainable Backwell volunteers will be running a Repair Café alongside the Fairtrade Café on **Saturday 10th June, 10am-12noon, at the Parish Hall**. We will have a go at repairing anything! It's better to repair than throw it out. In the past we have repaired chairs, coats, shopping bags, a strimmer, table lamps, rucksacks, umbrellas, a food mixer, secateurs, bikes, cuddly toys ... We can also sharpen garden tools, knives and scissors.

Nailsea Sheddars will be there with some surplus tools to give away to anyone who would find them useful.

BJS Pupil Chaplains lead a school church service for the the first time on 17th May



Backwell Scout News

Tuesday Beavers

Most of our Beavers went on a big day out organised by Gordano District Scouting in April. We had an exciting day at Westonbirt Arboretum as part of Dragon Slayer 2023. The Beavers walked many miles and took part in various activities such as orienteering, nature art, learning about pollinators and a walk on the treetop bridge. We even saw a couple of deer. Thank you to all the leaders who came with us and made this trip possible.

In our sessions, we have been working towards our community impact badge - the aim being to increase biodiversity in Backwell. We have done a survey, identifying plants and animals on the playing fields and field next to the scout hut, as well as identifying and preparing areas in the scout hut garden to grow wildflowers. We have sowed our seeds and are keeping our fingers crossed that we manage to grow lots of flowers, but we also want to get the wider community involved. The Beavers have prepared over 100 seed packets, and these are available for people to pick up for free at Heaven Coffee House at Backwell Crossroads. We hope lots of you will get involved, pick up a seed packet and grow some flowers at home. Tuesday Beavers would love to see how you get on so please share pictures of your flowers with us on email at tuesdaybeaversbackwell@gmail.com. We will create a display of our biodiversity project at the scout hut later in the term to show what we have achieved. *Hanne*

Thursday Beavers

We have been out in the great outdoors, visiting Bourton Combe for some den building; growing sunflowers and doing a treasure hunt to find the King's lost crown before his coronation. Recently we have been exploring the Nailsea sculpture trail and visiting Weston Fire Station. *Jeff*



Monday Cubs.

We are focusing on increasing micro fauna biodiversity at the moment. With the bug hotels already built, preparations are underway for habitat gardens. Along the way the cubs are learning to identify an assortment of insects and plants, the focus being on pollination.

Donations of seeds and a cold frame have been a huge help with this. All the cubs who have taken part will be able to apply for a green Blue Peter badge.

Helen - Akela

Tuesday Scouts

April and May were months of bank holidays with Easter and an extra one for the coronation, so Scouting takes a little bit of a back seat - but food came to the fore and plans were afoot.

We managed to spend a couple of weeks preparing for and presenting our Scout version of MasterChef and all the Scouts rose to the challenge of presenting a three-course meal based on one of six countries (France, Spain, Mexico, Japan, Thailand and India) all made from scratch on the night. We were entertained with such delights as Chicken Korma, Fajitas, Paella and Sushi with the winning team representing France with a crepe starter, medium rare beef steak with 'roasted' potatoes and asparagus in a jus followed by a French cheese board. I don't think we will be able to afford quite such exciting options at our forthcoming camps.

Looking ahead our older Scouts are now well into planning for their Expedition Challenge and will be walking some 20+ miles in the Gower (South Wales) taking in Rhossili Bay to the west and camping overnight not far from Abertawe (Swansea). We will also be taking part in our last ever JOTT (Jamboree on the Trail) walk as this annual international walking event for Scouts comes to an end - sad but still exciting. More news to come as the events take place.

Look out for updates from all our 2023 camps in coming issues.

Ian, Assistant Scout Leader

Friday Scouts have been very busy again. We thoroughly enjoyed our 'back to basics' camp in the Gower.

We were very proud of our Ten Tors scouts, who did fantastically well. Whilst they were off training, the rest of us honed our camp skills; camp cooking, putting up tents, making camp gadgets and eating s'mores, stopping only to have more fun on the beach and in the sea.

Friday Scouts spent an evening picking up litter, sadly picking up many, many bags full from around the Playing Fields and Rodney Road areas. As much of it has been recycled as possible. What a shame it needed doing in the first place.

We had a fun session in the Portishead Lido. The outdoor pool was warm, but it was cold out of the water. We are looking forward to a night hike this term, along with a foraging and wild cooking workshop.

All are more than welcome to bring along their cars to our car wash madness on Friday evening of **23rd June 7.00 to 9.00pm** on the top car park near the Scout Hut.

We look forward to seeing many of you there .

Lorraine and the Friday Scouts team

Backwell Residents Association (BRA)

The BRA March hardcopy newsletter was distributed to 2,000 Backwell houses in advance of our AGM on April 18th, held in the Sixth Form lecture theatre at Backwell School. We were delighted that 126 people attended – our highest attendance ever.

Our paid-up membership in 2022 was 432 households, which represents well over a fifth of Backwell. Finances are sound, with 2022 showing a slight loss, but we retain a significant balance for exceptional expenditure.

The main speaker was Lucy White, our planning consultant who lives in the village. She explained the hierarchy of planning policy and law, starting at the national level where there are tensions between politicians favouring a hard-line top-down approach and those emphasising the need for local input. North Somerset Council (NSC) must produce a new Local Plan in the near future, and Backwell will then need a new Neighbourhood Plan. Mike Rose, our BRA committee member planning specialist, gave the latest updates on developments within Backwell (and Nailsea, given that we share highways issues etc). About 40 minutes was allocated for comments/questions, which was taken up with well-informed exchanges. A sample is given below:

65 houses off Rodney Road Can we influence the quality of houses built? Also, there is much village concern regarding lorries accessing the field during construction, and regarding major detailed design issues with the site entrance.

Section 106 and other payments In due course significant monies will be available from developers for spending on Backwell projects. Backwell Parish Council has a duty to allow residents to have their say on some of these payments. BRA will keep members informed.

Solar panels and Electric Vehicle charging points Installing these on new housing is very logical, but the planning system moves very slowly to encourage this.

Backwell should be Pro-active and not just respond to developments The main route for this is via a Neighbourhood Plan. The current NP contained sites where the Village proposed housing, and this has been delivered.

Nailsea & Backwell Station Access Unfortunately, despite years of lobbying, there is no budget for an improvement in access to the station.

Extra traffic on Station Road New housing is increasing the traffic on this inadequate road, which is not capable of improvement. New roads to take the traffic would not be affordable and/or would be in the Green Belt.

Airport Roads Bristol Airport has obtained permission from the Secretary of State to use compulsory powers to increase the capacity of the A38 and Downside near the junction. Bristol Airport will fund the changes.

Finally, the AGM minutes and further notes are given on the BRA website under "Other Information". We would like to thank Backwell School for the use of their excellent facility, and those members who came to the AGM who made it such a lively event.

We also thank members who have already renewed their membership in 2023, and welcome new members. If you have not renewed, please do so as soon as possible so we can maintain our high representation and impact.

from the BRA Committee

Website

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Scouts (continued) Explorers

Ten Tors took place on Dartmoor on the weekend of 28th - 30th April, a week earlier than usual, owing to the coronation on 6th May. It was a great success, with all 29 Scouts and Explorers from Backwell completing their respective challenges in good times. The weather was a mixed bag, with low cloud creating some navigational challenges, heavy showers making the already very wet moor that bit soggy to hike over, but most of the time it was good walking weather with overcast skies and a cool breeze.

Congratulations to all our participants:

35-mile Challenge:

Illy, Aletor, Eve, Freddie, Sam, Jamie, Barnaby, Evie, Noah, Ellis, Phoebe, Kitty, Ollie, Tom, Ted, George, Gregor & Sam

45-mile Challenge:

Henry, Ruby, Georgia, Hannah, Freya, Liv & Rosie

55-mile Challenge:

Martha, Tom, Jamie & Peter

Thank you to all who helped out with training this year for Ten Tors each month since October, especially Dave Bennett, Simon Stevens, Matt Dobbs and Debs Erskine. *Iain Explorers Leader*

Bridget for Backwell

I am delighted to confirm I was re-elected in the May 2023 local elections. 48% of Backwell turned out to vote, this is higher than our area average of 36%.

In Backwell, I received 1144 votes, the conservative candidate 434 votes, Independent 200 votes. This is a large majority and I look forward to work hard for our community for the next four years. I continue to be available to residents on the email address bridget.petty@n-somerset.gov.uk and phone number 07881 320 224.

Across North Somerset the Green Party had ambitions to increase our numbers and we successfully have seen seven elected from Pill to Puxton, Banwell to Backwell. The other Green councillors will also establish a strong local support base and deliver for the communities.

For the past four years I was selected to be the Cabinet Member for the Climate Emergency, and group leader of our group of four. I have now decided I will pass the baton on to some excellent other colleagues. Annemieke Waite, elected for Winford ward which includes Flax Bourton, will be the Cabinet member for Climate, Waste and Sustainability. Jenna Ho Marris, elected for Pill and Abbots Leigh will be the cabinet member for Homes and Health. I wish them both the best of luck. I will take up a new job and the work of councillor will become the part-time closer to one day a week role that other non-cabinet members take. This will mean my council work will fit around other employment, but I remain committed to working hard for our community.

This week it has been confirmed that the Green group will work with Labour, Lib Dems and Independents to establish a partnership administration, similar to the rainbow of the past four years but the Greens now have two seats at the cabinet.

As a Green Party representative, we have plans to improve everything that matters for families and communities. Greens across the country do things differently, always working to offer fair, green solutions that make life better for all. Speaking to so

many of you in the months leading up to the election I am confident that this is what you are looking for, and I will be working collaboratively with you and the new partnership administration of North Somerset in the coming years.

I try to attend most FairTrade monthly cafés, the second Saturday of the month 10.00am-12.00 at the Parish Hall, it is a good time to catch me, otherwise email or telephone.
Bridget Petty

St Andrew's Church, net Zero and the Environment

Last year, the Church of England General Synod adopted the plan to become net zero carbon by 2030. For churches, this includes a series of milestones to be achieved by that date. So how is St Andrew's church doing?

One of the first steps was to complete an energy footprint tool, showing where our energy is consumed. This was carried out last year. We are also encouraged to register with the EcoChurch award scheme run by A Rocha, the environmental charity. We're registered but haven't completed the application for a bronze award. Are you willing to help us achieve this first award?

Other steps we have taken include installing solar panels on the roof and fitting a new energy-efficient water heater. We're in the process of changing all light bulbs to LED (even the high-level spotlights) and we've switched to a 100% green energy tariff, so we are making progress.

You may also have noticed that on the Big Help Out day last month, we undertook some re-wilding in a small area of the churchyard to encourage wild flowers, insects and birds. This too is part of our effort to be greener – to reduce our impact on the environment.

None of this is easy in a Grade 1 listed building, but if tackling a specific area of interest or concern in your beautiful village church appeals to you and you'd like to help, please do get in touch.

Martin Canning Tel: 01275 790309



Backwell Life Celebrates

Backwell Life is a local Charity. Its main project is The Meeting Point which acts as a hub for other activities. Over the last ten years these have included.

- A drop in café providing Fairtrade tea and coffee alongside homemade cake
- Lunch (twice a month)
- Seated Yoga
- Access to a computer and free WiFi
- Board Games sessions
- Signposting advice through leaflets and now the computer
- Vouchers for the Food Bank
- Tea and Tech (support for using digital devices)
- "Present Time" (a craft time for families)
- Holiday Break (activities for children during short holidays)
- Holiday Action (free activities for children during the summer holiday)
- CAP course
- Beginners Bridge (that is the card game)
- Knitting together (including knitting sheep and a Poldark doll)
- Local oral history
- Grave Talk
- Visiting speakers providing useful information (Solicitor, Community transport, Scam awareness, Dementia Friends, Sustainable Energy, Positive Step, Macular Society, Travelling Optician, the Home Library Service and Healthwatch
- Memory boxes (Weston Museum)
- Communion service
- Warm Room scheme
- Cooking for Real People

And always company and chat

If you are interested in any of these, or have suggestions for something else we could host, please contact The Meeting Point.

The Meeting Point

This year we celebrate the Tenth anniversary of Backwell Life and The Meeting Point, so we'd like to thank all of our volunteers and our Trustees for their wonderful contributions and support over this time. If you would like to find out more about the charity and its aims or to offer your support, please get in touch.

Our children's summer activities programme, Holiday Action, is now all arranged and some of you may have seen the pre-publicity. We have a great mix of things to do lined up, all of which will be in the WI Hall as the Parish Hall kitchen will be closed for refurbishment in August. Bookings will be by Eventbrite again. Full details will be in next month's magazine.

It may be a little warmer, but a light lunch of home-made soup, bread and cheese is still popular. We welcome everyone to the Parish Hall on **6th June at 1.00pm**, and it's a very sociable event. Come and sample what's on offer and bring a friend. The next 2-course lunch is on **20th June at 1.00pm**, and we do ask for bookings for this one by 13th June, just to ensure we (well, Scotty really) have catered for you.



Coffee, tea and home-made cake are available any Tuesday, between 10.30am and 4.30pm and you can be assured of a warm welcome. The after-school group enjoying a little refreshment whilst children are taking their dance class next door is always a lively time – and there's usually still cake to be had.

The Sitting Fit Yoga sessions of seated exercises are on their normal schedule of **11.00 to 12.00** every Tuesday in term time. This very sociable group begin arriving from 10.30 for coffee before Nina starts her class, so a chance to catch up with news – and did we mention the cake?

Continuing on **27th June**, our digital /tech advice sessions will include help with using the NHS app on your phone, tablet or i-Pad. Bring your smartphone, laptop or other device on the fourth Tuesday of the month from **11.00** and we'll do our best to help. If you have a question on any other Tuesday morning, just drop in and we'll see what we can do to assist.

This month the usual **Communion** service will be held on **6th June at 12.15**. All are welcome to this very informal gathering.

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

St Andrew's Art Group

Open Evening - 29th June - 'A Day in the Life of the Air Ambulance'

The Art Group is holding an Open Evening on Thursday 29th June in St Andrew's Church House, 7.00pm for 7.30pm. Our charity is Great Western Air Ambulance and the speaker will tell us about their lifesaving service deploying helicopters for people in North Somerset. A helicopter was deployed for the husband of a member of the Art Group last year.

Tickets are £8 each to include a glass of wine or soft drink and can be obtained from Art Group members or Jenny on 0797 466 7886. There will be a raffle and Art Group members' paintings on display.

Please support this worthy charity. Thank you.

Jill Hobday

Senior Club

Our speaker in April was Fiona Franklyn, who gave us a compassionate talk on the Childrens' Air Ambulance of which, we were surprised to hear, there are only two covering the whole of the UK. She became involved in their activities as the result of their saving her grandson's life.

Karen Zold will speak to us in May about the life of those working below stairs at Tyntesfield and we finish the season with our annual Garden Party (inside if wet or cold or generally inclement) at 104 Church Lane. Let us know if you can come or want to bring a friend.

Nancy (01275 790555)

Music for Kings Charles

The next concert by Nailsea Choral Society is at Holy Trinity Church on **Saturday 3rd June** at 7.30pm. The programme will be music connected to three Kings named Charles including Handel Coronation Anthems and pieces by Child, Tompkins and Parry. You won't want to miss Nailsea Choral Society's contribution to the Coronation season. Tickets, which include a finger buffet after the concert are £10 with under 18s £5

<https://nailseachoral.org.uk/>

Backwell Probus Club Report

We have had two meetings since the last report, the first was on "The RAF Harriers in the Cold War" by Group Captain Jock Heron OBE, when we had a detailed illustrated talk on the development of the Vertical take-off Hawker Harrier from 1966, and then its specific use in the Falklands War in 1982 and its more modern development up to 2010. Recently we have had a most interesting talk by Mike Hooper on "The Industrial & Fine Arts Exhibition", which took place in the Centre of Bristol in 1893 and showed a surprising collection of internal photos of the exhibitors, literally a showcase of Bristol manufacturing industries at that time. He also showed us pictures of the covering-over of the River Frome, thus creating the Centre as we know it today.

In June, we look forward to two interesting talks "The Cromwell Street Murders" and "Five New Wonders of the World", 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)



Nailsea Concert Orchestra's summer concert is on **Saturday July 1st** at the Auditorium Nailsea School. It promises to be a spectacular night of music with Gershwin's American in Paris, Sibelius's Finlandia, Debussy's Clair de Lune and other well-loved pieces on the programme.

The concert is in support of the Bristol Methodist Centre and starts at 7.30pm. There is a pre-concert talk at 6.45pm. Tickets are £13 adults, £11 concessions and £5 under 18s and are available on the door, from Nailsea Music Shop or from the website www.nailseaconcertorchestra.org.





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St Andrew's Art Group Open Exhibition - Backwell Parish Hall

Friday 28th July 7.30pm - 9.00pm, Saturday 29th July 10.00am - 6.00pm, Sunday 30th July 10.00am – 4.00pm

Calling All Artists

Entries are invited for our Open Exhibition in July.

Entry forms may be obtained from Lindsey Busby - telephone number 01275 852348 (after 2.00pm please) or TEXT 07339 4029 469 - email: rtscribbler88@gmail.com.

Our charity this year is Great Western Air Ambulance Charity which provides critical care and air ambulance service across Bristol, Bath & North East Somerset, North Somerset, Gloucestershire and South Gloucester. With no day-to-day government funding, GWAAC rely on donations. There have already been 469 missions in the first quarter of 2023 with 558 missions up to mid-April 2023.

Please note this date in your diary to come and support the Exhibition which will have affordable original art, cards, a raffle and home-made cakes and refreshments. Many thanks. *Jill Hobday*

Nailsea Charity Walks & Runs

The twelfth Nailsea Charity Walks & Runs, organised by Rotary Nailsea & Backwell, takes place on **Sunday 11th June**. This is a great opportunity to support your favourite charity by getting sponsorship to walk, or run, 5K, 10K or 20K. The event is based at the Scotch Horn Centre in Nailsea and if 11th June doesn't suit you, you can do your walk or run at any time until the end of July.

Charity incomes have been hit with a double whammy, first the pandemic caused a halt to fundraising and now the current increase in costs of all kinds is causing great hardship, hindering their ability to provide their services. They desperately need our support. So, we are challenging the community to put out another record number of people in 2023 and to raise a record amount of money.

The event is suitable for all ages and level of fitness with the shortest walk being suitable for disability vehicles and pushchairs / strollers whereas we challenge the fittest to run the 20K, as several have done in recent years.

For full details, including how to register to take part, go to <https://bit.ly/NailseaWalks>.

Any queries can be addressed to Bob Keightley at RotaryNailseaWalks@outlook.com.

Knitting for Others

Do you find it difficult to “keep going” as you used to, so have a “sit down” feeling cross or sad that you can not be as useful as you were? One answer is to knit for others, those who need warm garments, blankets...

Knitting for Others group either meet together once a month to socialize and admire each other's contributions or knit only at home, asking a friend to bring, or bringing their gifts themselves, to my home with their name and telephone number in the bag, please.

I have patterns for families and seafarers' garments, also for a few toys so that the latter can take a present home for the little son or daughter, that they might never have seen.

If you think this kind of activity helpful to yourself making your “sitting down time” happier and more productive. you can phone me at any time, leaving your name and telephone number on my answer phone if necessary.

Date this month are

Monday June 12th from 10.30am

Tuesday 13th from 2.30pm

both meetings are at 18 Karen Close.

If you would prefer an evening, please phone me.

Barbara Paige (01275 463131)

Rotary Bookstall

17th June 2023, outside Waitrose, 9.00am to 1.00pm



NAILSEA CHARITY WALKS & RUNS 2023

Raise money for YOUR Charity

Walk or Run 5k, 10k or 20k

Sunday, 11th June 2023
or any day of your choice up to 31st July

Full details at
bit.ly/NailseaWalks

Rotary
Nailsea & Backwell

The poster features a group of people walking through a grassy field towards a village in the background. The text is overlaid on the image in various colors and fonts. A QR code is located in the bottom left corner, and the Rotary logo is in the bottom right corner.

Paul and Renate invite you to their

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and Cream Teas

23rd June - 9th July 2023

11am to 6pm - closed Tuesdays

We are once again opening our house & gardens for a Craft Extravaganza! We'll have beautiful hand crafted items made by us and by other local crafts people. Enjoy homemade cakes and cream teas all day.

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There is also a raffle for Cancer Research UK



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Nailsea District Leg Club

It was good to have an AGM again in April, when the committee all agreed to continue in post. Reports showed they had worked hard during the pandemic to maintain contact with some members, regularly held committee meetings via Zoom. Eventually they re-started the Leg Club Café on Wednesday mornings at Nailsea Tithe Barn in September 2021, and the clinic in January 2023. The AGM was well attended by volunteers, drawn by the inevitable tea and home-made cake (a necessity!), followed by lively discussion on adult safeguarding led by Sue and Marion from CURO (Latin for care). This is an important issue which goes both ways, several interesting points were raised, and a variety of scenarios were discussed as to how volunteers would approach them.

Visiting Leg Club monthly, Kelly Willis (of Community Connect run by CURO) is able to assist with information, advice and guidance to enable people to avoid isolation and continue living independently, making home visits if necessary. Her remit covers many things and she is in routine contact with social services and local surgeries. Her visits have benefited members and some volunteers too and there are always plenty of questions for her. Looking to the future, there is every hope that our clinic will soon become a 'drop-in' once again, but meanwhile for more information call Carole Brooke (07954 302498) or Sandy Riley (01275 853547).

Film Club

Our efforts are now assigned towards making next season another success story. Membership letters have been dispatched and so booking your seats for more cinematic adventure should be a priority. We have a wonderful theatre, good projection equipment, a licensed bar and a great local membership - nothing could be more enticing for those wanting a sociable night out amongst friends, watching a film on a big screen without having to venture far from home.

To those of you who have not experienced this delight we offer a big, warm welcome and for a modest fee of £22 you can get to see eight films (and help to choose next year's programme) and a £2 discount off each in-house Playhouse production. Seems too good to be true! Contact Tina on 01275 464259 for details.

A big thank you to our projectionists, front of housers and the Playhouse for organising the bar.

Tim Lewis (01275 790555)

St. Andrew's Ladies Group

Diary Dates

12th June The Group's Summer outing to Berwick Lodge. After this date we shall have our Summer break. Our new year starts with our A.G.M. on **11th September 2023**. Any newcomers who come along will be very welcome.

Sheila Rowsell (01275 463750)



Backwell Garden Club.

The Club's June meeting is on Wednesday **21st June** in the WI Hall, Backwell starting at 1.45 for 2.00pm. The Speaker is Lady Rosemary Fitzgerald who will give a talk entitled "Love it or Loathe it - Style & Fashion in Gardens".

In July the Club will be visiting RHS Rosemoor in Devon on the **19th** in place of the usual meeting. The Club will be back at the WI Hall on the **16th August**. The club meets monthly on the third Wednesday of the month in the WI Hall.

Further information regarding the Club or the July coach outing to RHS Rosemoor please contact Robin Langford, Chairman on 01275855822 or email rclangford64@gmail.com

Backwell & Nailsea Macular Support

I wonder if it is perhaps a bit cheeky to follow up King Charles' call to mobilise local volunteers to seek helpers for our small village group.

We need sighted, fit people once a month (on the last Wednesday afternoon) to help us

- 1) set up and put back chairs and tables, and/or
- 2) help run some of the activities of the group.

We are quite a jolly (if elderly) lot, and would be most appreciative of any assistance.

On **Wednesday 28th June**, in the W.I. Hall at 1.30pm, our speaker will talk on "Community Connect". Everyone is welcome if this is of interest. More information from Sheila at 01275 462107.

St Andrew's MU

Members from other branches in our Portishead Deanery joined us for our lunchtime meeting, we enjoyed food and fellowship. The lunch was followed by David Francis giving us a very informative talk on dementia and the Memory Cafe held in the Tythe Barn, Nailsea.

The MU Diocesan Annual meeting was held at Bagley Baptist Church Hall, a good opportunity to meet members from all the branches in the diocese. The day started with a service, the Right Reverend Bishop Michael of Bath and Wells was the speaker. Coffee was served following the service, and an opportunity to look at the MU displays including the Soles of our Shoes exhibition, shoes that seek to tell the stories of victims of domestic abuse, very moving. The afternoon was the meeting when the future of the MU in the diocese was discussed.

Dates for June

Tuesday 27th 2.30pm Cream tea in Church House

Wednesday 28th 12.00 noon Cleeve MU Worldwide Lunch

Backwell & Nailsea Support Group for Carers Annual Free Cream Tea & Plant Sale

Everyone Welcome. Don't Miss This Enjoyable Afternoon

Please join us on **Wednesday 7th June** from 2.00pm – 3.30pm at the WI Hall, Backwell Crossroads, Backwell. Delicious free cream tea, plant sale, raffle and quiz; homemade cakes and biscuits for sale, also books, puzzles and notelets etc Music kindly provided by Mrs Routley *Beverley Cook (01275 463215)*



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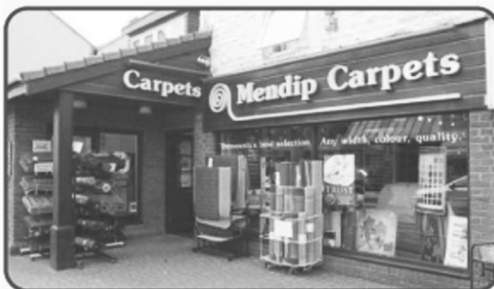
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Backwell Baptist Church Sunday Services

4th June (Communion).

Preacher: P. Price

Service Leader: Molly Jeffries

Theme: Bless the Community: Lessons we can learn from biblical characters.

11th June

Preacher: Nigel Coles

Service leader: Ruth Ham

Theme: Bless the Community: Lessons we can learn from biblical characters.

18th June

Preacher: TBC

Service leader: Tim Crossley

Theme: Bless the Community: Lessons we can learn from biblical characters.

25th June – Together Service with Nailsea Baptist @ Kingshill School

Preacher: Crawford Telford

Service Leader: Tim Crossley

Theme: Jeremiah



News from St Francis

June is a busy month in our Church.

We begin with our children celebrating their first Holy Communion Mass on Sunday **11th June**.

Followed soon after by our young people being confirmed by Bishop Declan on Sunday **25th June**. Both Masses are at 11.00am. We pray and think of these families during these few weeks.

St Francis is joined with St Joseph's Church in Portishead and we'll be holding a joint Parish quiz in Nailsea on the evening of Friday **16th June**.

There is also an opportunity to join in with a meal (for both Parishes) at St Joseph's on Saturday **24th June**. Please check times on the website

www.josephfrancis.org

People, who want to learn more about the Catholic Faith can attend a course beginning on **20th June** at St Joseph's starting at 7.30pm.

The Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul (patrons of our Diocese) is celebrated on Thursday **29th June**.

This is a Holy Day of Obligation, meaning Catholic's are asked to attend Mass. There will be an evening Mass on Wednesday **28th June** at 7.00pm and Thursday morning at 9.15am.

West Town Methodist Church

June Sunday Services, at 10.30 am

4th John Flowers

11th Revd Deborah Mallett **Communion**

18th Revd Deborah Mallett

25th Heather Bentley

Ready Teddy Sing for parents and toddlers Tuesday mornings 10.00 – 12.00 noon. Play, story, songs, craft and café led by our Families' Worker Patty Lou Bryant.

Fellowship Group Wednesday **7th and 21st June** at 10.30 am, at 53 Oakleigh Close. All welcome

We are Backwell Exhibition

Pam and Heather planted the seed of an idea for this exhibition, and with the help of Sarah & her St John Ambulance cadets, and other members of West Town, it grew and blossomed. The Village really rallied round and produced some amazing exhibits. Thanks to all those who set up, were stewards, made cakes, helped with refreshments, organised children's activities, arranged flowers, and cleared up et al. Over 200 people came through the doors of West Town, and the Parish Hall, and we had some wonderful comments. The experience brought many unexpected and delightful gifts to us and proved a wonderful opportunity to make connections and forge friendships on which we can build in the year ahead. Refreshments at West Town raised £145.60 for the Food Bank.

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

Christians Together In & around Backwell

Open the Book

Wednesday mornings at West Leigh Infants School

June 7th Daniel and the lion's den

21st The fiery furnace

Backwell Christian Fellowship

2.30 pm at Lawnside, meets fortnightly

June 14th Motivation

28th Annabel Lewis (bees)

Prayer Watch

The next Prayer group meeting is at West Town

7.45pm on **Monday 5th June**.

Christian Aid

Thank you to all those who have delivered envelopes around the village, and to Parker's who continued to be the Collection Point, despite the refurbishment. Special thanks to Martin Canning and Chris Elliott for their help. Total raised to be announced next month.

Julie Ratcliffe

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

We are coming to the end of our "It's all about" sermon series, for both St Andrew's and St Bridget's, On **June 4th** we will be hearing some testimonies from the community during the service.

This month sees the second of our Little Lambs singing service where we will be learning some new songs or playing the instruments, listening to a story and doing a craft together. Our Little Lambs messy play has been so popular that we thought we would offer something else on a Sunday for you as a family with pre-schoolers to come to. Please note that although the messy play on the first Sunday of the month starts at 9.00am the singing service on the third Sunday will start at 9.30am and last about 40 minutes – looking forward to seeing you there.

Services in June

St Andrew's Church

4th June Trinity Sunday

9.00am Little Lambs messy play
9.15am Sung Eucharist
10.45am Informal worship

11th June St Barnabas

9.15am Sung Eucharist

18th June Trinity 2

9.30 Little lambs singing service
10.45am Informal worship
with Communion
5.00pm Sung Evensong

25th June Trinity 3

9.15am Said Communion BCP
10.45am Informal worship

St Bridget's Church

4th June Trinity Sunday

9.15am Holy Communion

11th June St Barnabas

9.15am Morning Worship

18th June Trinity 2

9.15am Holy Communion

Benefice Register of Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals in April 2023

Baptisms:

9th April - Eliza Ann Merry (St Bridget's)

Weddings:

1st April - Louise Pitteway & Dominic Hurrell
22nd April - Laura Baggaley & Jonathan Abbott

Funerals:

20th April - Kathleen Cooper

St Bridget's Church

We were delighted to start off our events programme with a most successful 'Spring Coffee Morning' in the church at the end of April. The occasion was made for us all by Jean Routley's organ recital. We are aiming to replace the costs incurred in re-lighting the church and the very necessary repair to the lightning conductor on the tower. The £754 raised from the morning will certainly help. Grateful thanks to the many who came along.

Two more events are planned during this Coronation Summer to help not only with the church funds but also to bring our community together. On Saturday, **24th June** we hold our 'Midsummer Fete' at Elm Tree Farm, near the 'Blue Flame', from 2.00 – 5.00pm. The highlight of this will be a group of musicians from Bristol called "Westerly Winds", a group comprising over forty players with a repertoire of music from classical to modern, who will appeal to all ages. In addition there will be cream teas, tombola, garden and novelty games, a very special 2023 Prize Draw for a holiday in South Devon and various stalls. There is plenty of parking and a large barn in case it rains.

On the first weekend in September the Clevedon and District Flower Club have been invited to decorate our church in honour of St Bridget who died in 523 AD, 1,500 years ago. Many will remember the marvellous flower festival the Club arranged in 2007. More details will be available soon but please make a note of the date, **1st – 3rd September**.

St Andrew's Charity this quarter, which we are supporting because of their help with our work in Backwell Junior School.....



Bristol Schools Connection

We help churches in the Bristol area to serve their local schools and to work with them to create imaginative spaces for spiritual development.

Bringing churches and schools together

We provide coaching, training and consultancy to churches who wish to connect with their local schools and develop a supportive relationship.

We develop long-term coaching relationships with individuals or teams within churches to equip them to serve their local school appropriately.

We help schools to reimagine spiritual development and equip the local church to contribute in a relevant and credible way.

The educational world is constantly changing – we connect schools and churches in order to capitalise on the resources within church

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 June we will be praying for people living and working in
The Briers, Moor Lane and Moorfield Road**

communities to enrich spiritual aspects of school life in ways that are appropriate to the school's ethos and the broader educational context.

Christians Together In & around Backwell

Benefice of Backwell and Chelvey with Brockley

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

Rector Rev'd Dr Catherine Garner
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

<https://sites.google.com/view/westtownmethodist/>

Minister Rev'd Deborah Mallett
Tel 01275 852473

Church Stewards Mrs H Bentley, B Brice, Mrs S Edwards,
B Kemmish, Mrs P Marchant, Mrs J Ratcliffe,
Mrs V Sowerby, Mrs M Vivian

Treasurer Mr Nigel Hardman
01275 851581

Organist Mrs V Sowerby
Tel 01275 462708

Backwell Baptist Church, Chapel Hill

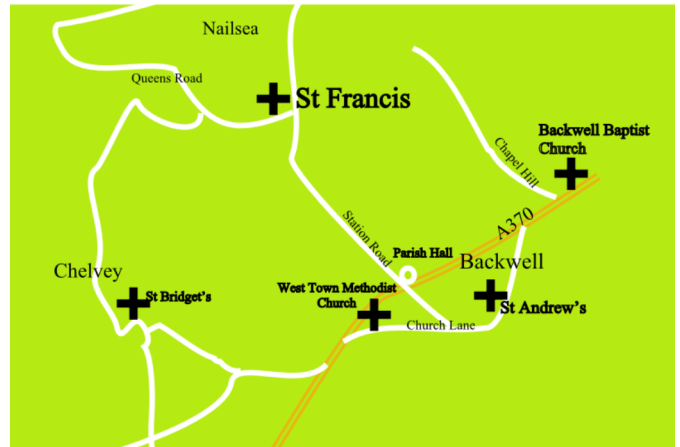
Pastor Timothy Crossley Tel 07305540488

Secretary David Nicklen Tel 01934 876842

Treasurer Ruth Ham

Roman Catholic Church of St Francis Ash Hayes Road, Nailsea

Parish Priest Father Richard Elson
Tel 01275 851530



Diaries of Church Services and activities can be found on pages 20 and 21.

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