

The Village Magazine

Backwell Chelvey Brockley



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Vol 90 No 11

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2023**

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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
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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
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		Backwell Drama Club	Chris Hooper Tel 01275 464353
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Thursday 7th December 2023
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Tickets £5.00 (includes refreshments)
 Online: bandnladieschoir.eventbrite.com
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There will be a charity collection at the end of the concert. Our nominated charity for this event is www.home-startnorthsomerset.org.uk

Backwell Parish Council

Over 60s Christmas Tea Party



Thursday 30th November
Backwell Parish Hall
 2 pm till 5 pm (Doors open at 1:30 pm)

~ Refreshments & Entertainment ~

Complimentary tickets are available from the Parish Council Office Rodney Road on: Tuesday 7th, 14th and 21st November between 10.00am and 12.00 noon

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backwellvillagemag@gmail.com
*Submission deadline for next issue is the
12th of the preceding month.*

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

The Village Magazine

Backwell Chelvey Brockley

A tree to remember...

When our children were young, we had the great privilege of living for six years in Hexham in Northumberland - an ancient market town which lies just south of some of the most stunning stretches of Hadrian's Wall. Our favourite walk took in the iconic, lone tree at Sycamore Gap, a tree famous for its age, resilience, and spectacular beauty. When the news broke last month that it had been felled in an act of deliberate vandalism, we felt dismayed, betrayed and truly bereft.

Since then, there's been a huge outpouring of grief and anger. Many people are mourning the loss of a beloved tree, a place of pilgrimage and the locus of so many precious family memories. Still more are making connections between this senseless loss and a widespread disconnection with the natural world, evidenced in our general apathy towards its degradation and depletion.

Each November brings us poignant moments to remember, to grieve, and to seek new life. I am reminded at this time of the year of a Native American mourning ritual. The bereaved person grieves by selecting a tree and making a deep gash in its trunk. The wound in the tree marks their suffering and keeping vigil there enables them to confront the depth of their hurt. With the passing of the seasons, the injured tree slowly begins to heal. Just as the tree recovers and survives, so too the bereaved person, though scarred, is able in time to embrace life once more.

When we take time this month to remember our lost loved ones or to grieve our war-torn world, I hope we will find some moments also to contemplate the existential loss being suffered by planet earth and to recommit ourselves to safeguarding its life and our future. Pope Francis has this week issued a fresh call to political leaders to rapidly accelerate our transition to renewable energy to avoid reaching the breaking point of irreversible climate change and biodiversity loss.

Our friends in Northumberland are as yet undecided about how to fill the aching gap left by the lost tree. A commemorative bench? A sculpture? A newly planted thicket of trees? Perhaps we would do better to keep a time of silent and humble contemplation and allow the gaping, empty dell at the side of the Roman wall to convict us all of our need for root-and-branch change.

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





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Parish Council Meeting – October 2023

Planning – Councillors heard that at present there were no updates regarding the developments at Rodney Road and Farleigh Fields. These will continue to be monitored by Councillors.

It was confirmed that Gleeson had submitted an outline proposal for 400 homes south of Nailsea.

Ref 23/P/1145/OUT. Councillor Barclay continues to liaise with Nailsea Town Council on this matter.

Planning applications. There were two planning applications from North Somerset for discussion. One related to tree maintenance in Dark Lane, and Councillors resolved to support the decision of the NSC Tree Officer. The other was an administrative matter relating to a planning application in Church Lane. Councillors were neutral on this matter as the Planning Officer at NSC would deal with it appropriately.

Bristol Airport – Cllr Martin reported that he had spoken with Airport representatives about the continued difficulties that Downside residents were experiencing with pedestrians and vehicle parking. The matter will also be discussed with the Police. Councillors were pleased to hear that the proposed work at the Airport will take place during daylight hours. However, Cllr Martin said that residents still had concerns about light spillage during the night and confirmed that he would continue to monitor the situation.

Cllr Taylor told members that not all the residents of Downside had received the consultation letter sent out by the Airport. He will ask the Airport to send the letter out again to all homes.

Cllr Taylor reported that he had had discussions with NSC about the ongoing request for a 20mph limit on Downside Road. It is hoped that NSC will exceptionally waive the criteria for the road, allowing a lower speed limit to be introduced.

Councillors were pleased to hear that the Airport Hotel will again be offering a 'warm space' this winter.

Events in Backwell – Cllr Bowerman reminded Councillors that the over 60's party would take place on **Thursday, 30th November**. She also told Councillors that 'Carols around the Crib' had been organised for **Thursday, 21st December**, with the Congresbury Brass band in attendance to add to the festive mood.

Footpaths – Cllr Power described the problems with muddy gateways every winter between the Scout Hut and West Leigh Infants' School. She will seek solutions and report to the November meeting.

Maintenance – Councillors unanimously agreed that the gate at the Moor Lane Play Area should be repaired at a cost of £455 + VAT. This will improve safety for the children who use it.

Allotments – It was decided that the rents for the Allotments should remain the same in 2024.

Cllrs Ould and Ramos recused themselves as they are Allotment holders.

The next meeting of the Full Council will be held at the Parish Hall on **Thursday, 2nd November 2023** at 7.30pm. All members of the public would be made very welcome.



Bridget for Backwell Home Energy Advice this winter.

There are a number of ways the council and partners are helping households get warmer this winter.

The newest is an Advice line to provide top tips to help you along. The advice line, **0800 082 2234**, is open from 10.00am – 4.00pm on weekdays. There is also an email address, home.energy@cse.org.uk, which you can email and request a callback.

Connected for Warmth is the name given to a scheme set up by National Grid to help people tackle the cost-of-living crisis and rising energy bills. This is achieved by installing free energy-saving measures.

Your property simply needs to be in Council Tax band A to D and that's it. If you don't know what yours is, give them a ring and they can check for you - 0800 107 8576 or search

www.evolvehes.co.uk/connected-for-warmth/

Solar Together has launched, it is an innovative scheme which uses the collective bargaining power of local households to access high quality solar panels, battery storage and installation at a competitive price.

<https://solartogether.co.uk/north-somerset/home>

Finally, as part of a vital step in North Somerset's journey to becoming a carbon-neutral area by 2030. Up to £25,000 of grant funding is available to eligible households. To qualify for the funding, households must **not use gas central heating**, have a combined annual household income of under £31,000 per year, and have an Energy Performance Certificate with a rating of D, E, F or G. Anyone who has a question about the scheme can call the project team on 0117 352 1180 or email

domestic@energyservicebristol.co.uk. I know there are different options but this is not all decided by the council. I still think it's important to let friends and neighbours know if they might qualify.

Sustainable Backwell will be at the November Fairtrade Café with energy advice, do pop in **Saturday 11th November** at the Parish Hall.

Bridget at the Home Energy Day in September.



Councillor Bridget Petty
Telephone: **07881 320 224**
(Primarily available Tuesday and Thursdays)
Other days I have a paid job so will struggle to attend meetings and briefings.

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Welcome to Backwell School Sixth Form

Thursday 2nd November from 5.00pm to 7.15pm

Backwell Sixth Form has a track record of students receiving high-quality specialist teaching that leads to excellent examination results, and supports the move to the next level, whether that is university, gap year or apprenticeship. We offer additional expert support for especially competitive courses such as medicine or veterinary science as well.

Backwell Sixth Form offers some of the best post-16 facilities in the area. Students have their own Sixth Form Block, common-room, specialist classrooms, music studio and cafeteria. They also have priority use of two specialist theatres, a dance studio, our newly opened sports hall, and the best school library in the area.

The opportunities beyond the classroom are huge too. Students are invited to join the Sixth Form Committee, run social events and raise money for charity, become a Peer Educator, do the Duke of Edinburgh Gold award or be appointed a member of the Head Student team. There are also many creative events on offer, especially the annual sixth

form show, entirely produced, directed, and performed by students.

Backwell Sixth Form gives students the right mix of independence and support. 'Study Periods' and 'Home Study' give sixth formers the freedom to choose when and where to get their work done. They are supported as independent learners and offered easy access to expert help and advice on the issues sixth formers care about: academic, financial, and personal.

Every year Backwell Sixth Form welcomes a large number of students who join us after studying GCSEs at other schools. In 2024 post 16 students are invited to be one of them. The application deadline is **Friday 5th January 2024**.

Find out more at www.backwellschool.net and come to our **Sixth Form Open Evening, Thursday 2nd November, between 5.00pm and 7.15pm**.

Presentations from the Sixth Form leadership team will be given at 5.00pm and 7.00pm. There will be opportunities to visit curriculum areas, meet teachers and current students, and seek advice from the Sixth Form Team. We look forward to meeting you.

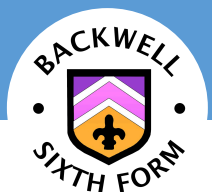
Rose Haywood Head of Sixth Form

Saturday 25th November, West Mendip Orchestra with Joss Wort (piano) at St Mary's Church, Yatton

Do you remember Joss Wort? Those of you who enjoy Backwell School concerts may have seen him perform. After leaving

BACKWELL SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

OPEN EVENING



From 5.00 to 7.15 pm **Thursday 2 November 2023**

Arrive anytime between 5.00 - 6.45 pm

Presentations from the Sixth Form Leadership Team at 5.00 and 7.00 pm

From 5.00 - 7.00 pm: Visit curriculum areas; talk to teachers and current students; seek advice from the Sixth Form Team.



Application deadline Friday 5 January 2024

Visit www.backwellschool.net to find out more



Backwell School Sixth Form, he entered the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and is now in his third year. He plays piano with the West Mendip Orchestra, Somerset's principal amateur orchestra. Joss, who is from Yatton, gave a highly acclaimed solo recital for the Yatton Music Society shortly after the Covid restrictions were relaxed, and now he is having his concerto debut, playing Beethoven's 2nd piano concerto. The concert at St Mary's will also include Brahms' Tragic Overture and Rimsky Korsakov's Symphony no 1.

Concert starts 7.30pm, tickets £10, students £5, children free. Full details of the concert are on the Yatton Music Society's website www.yms.org.uk.



Christmas card sale 4th November in the Parish Hall, 10.00an - 12.00

Why bother with Christmas Cards?

- It's a way of keeping contact with old friends
- They speak to the lonely
- Decoration for your house
- They are a very important source of income for charities
- In Backwell, using the Christmas Post supports the local Scouts

Come to the annual Christmas Card sale, browse cards from Brace, Cystic Fibrosis, Bristol Oncology, RNLI, Children's Hospice, Mothers' Union, Diabetes UK while enjoying a cup of coffee.

You can also buy the Real Advent Calendar (<https://meaningfulchocolate.co.uk/pages/real-advent-calendar>) and stamps from the Scouts. There may be more surprise items to buy as well.

The Real Advent Calendar is the UK's only Fairtrade Advent calendar which comes with a free 24 page Christmas story-activity book and supports charitable causes.

The 2023 Real Advent Calendar is a fun way for parents, grandparents and Godparents to share the Christmas story. The 2023 calendar has a new design. There is a Fairtrade Chocolate and a line of the Christmas story behind each of the 25 windows. The free book has a page for every day of Advent, expanding on the Christmas story and includes some fun challenges.

The Real Advent Calendar is made using Fairtrade chocolate - giving producers a fair price and a cash bonus. Money raised from the sales of the calendar will also help provide care and support for mums and new babies in African villages supported by the Funzi and Bodo trust.

No other calendar enables parents and children to experience the Christmas story for 24 days, and be challenged to do some good in the season.



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Federation of West Leigh Infant & Backwell Junior School

West Leigh Infant School

Owl Class News (Yr1 aged 5-6)

Owl Class has worked hard in the last few weeks and Mrs Bowden-Green has been very impressed with how well the children have settled into life in Year 1. In Maths they have been busy counting, sorting and looking at Place Value with numbers up to 10. They have read the stories of "Stanley's Stick" and "Billy and the Beast" in their English lessons. Recently, the children have looked at the work of Andy Goldsworthy and created these lovely spiral artworks using natural items that they collected from the playground. Fantastic effort Owl Class.



Backwell Junior School Tithe Barn

The children in 6M (Yr. 6 aged 10-11) visited the Tithe Barn in Nailsea as part of their topic on Victorians. During the day they learnt about the history of the barn and Hannah More, who started a school in the 18th century as she felt it was important for children to read and write and know about God. Hannah felt it was important to encourage children and not beat them. She was a famous writer and was against slavery. 6M dressed up as Victorian children and had some lessons Victorian style.

They wrote on slate boards and drew a Victorian artefact, such as a carpet beater. The slates made a weird scratching noise and had to be pressed just the right amount for it to show. Instead of calculators they used an abacus to do their maths – the concept was simple, so it made the maths easier.

6M also studied an original school register and logbook from Victorian times.

There seemed to be a lot of diseases such as measles and scarlet fever.

The Tithe Barn was great fun; and everyone learnt a lot and hope to visit again.



Backwell 2ND Saturday Fairtrade Cafe 11th November 10.00am -12.00 Backwell Parish Hall

This month there are the usual stalls

- Grub Club
- Bio-D washing up and laundry liquid refills
- Local Honey

In addition this month you will find

- Advice on energy saving (see page 18)
- Ceramics for sale from local potters

As always there is Fairtrade coffee and tea, along with homemade biscuits, to enjoy while chatting with friends or making new ones.



Backwell Scout News

World Scout Jamboree in South Korea

The World Scout Jamboree is an international scout camp, for scouts from all over the world. 50,000 scouts and leaders attend, and this year it was held in South Korea. Unfortunately, there were a few organisational issues - as you may have seen from the news. Having spent a few days in Seoul with my unit (made up of 36 young people and 4 leaders from Avon) we were told that there was no running water on the campsite, so we stayed in Seoul for an extra day. After a 4-hour drive to the Jamboree site - we had made it. It was 42 degrees and there were insects everywhere. We set up our site and went to the Opening Ceremony, where Bear Grylls opened the Jamboree, and the President of South Korea gave a speech. Over the next 3 days, we had a great time swapping badges, bags and neckers with people from all over the world. However, it was so hot that all activities were cancelled, and all the Korean workers there (including the toilet cleaners) went home because it was too hot. On the fourth day of our Jamboree experience, after the army had been called in to run the event, the UK Contingent decided that it was no longer safe for us to stay. We ended up spending nearly two weeks in a five-star hotel in Seoul. It was amazing - despite the fact we were all sad that we had to leave the Jamboree site.

During this time, we went to the Korean Royal Palace and wore traditional Korean dress (Hanbok), we had the closing ceremony - which was a Kpop concert - and we were lucky enough to visit the DMZ (the border with North Korea). I feel very fortunate to have been there, but it was a really poignant visit.

Overall, it was an incredible experience, despite it not being quite the jamboree we signed up for. I have left it with new friends and amazing memories!
Katie, a 1st Backwell Explorer.

Tuesday Beavers

We looked forward to welcoming back our Beavers after a long summer break, but we also bid a sad farewell to Hanne Mohan, who was our excellent Section Leader, as she moved up to Cubs. Hanne is

missed by all Tuesday Beavers, volunteers and leaders, but we all wish her the very best.

This term we are spending a lot of time on teamwork and are challenging our Beavers to a den building competition. We have asked the children to bring in their favourite board game from home to play with their fellow Beavers and explain how their game works, to help build their team building skills.

If your child is on the waiting list or wants to join us and you are willing to become an assistant leader, they will be given priority when places are allocated. If you are interested in finding out more, please get in touch on tuesdaybeaversbackwell@gmail.com
Sarah Section Leader

Monday Cubs

To start this term Monday Cubs developed new skills in emergency aid, including scenarios to test their knowledge. We've taken advantage of the dry evenings to do fire lighting and making water filters. The Cubs have also explored the culture and food of Norway, National Day is celebrated, gravlax and cinnamon buns all featured. Scouting knowledge was enhanced by making Lego world badges and discovering the meaning of this emblem.

We have also held a 'Survivor' Camp at which the Cubs prepared and maintained fires on

great to see the younger Cubs enjoying their sessions and gaining confidence and the older ones leading by example. We have had Cub Olympics, gardening and sunflower growing, followed by geocaching, countryside code, smoothie-making, yoga and emergency aid; and always lots of fun games. We were also able to take up a kind offer from Friday Scouts to ride their craftily built rafts on the River Yeo. Autumn plans include a visit to Portishead Lifeboat Station and a camp sleepover.
Imogen, Assistant Section Leader

Tuesday Scouts

We are back into the swing of things as Summer hung on for a little bit longer, kicking off with some team building fun and a Cluedo-esque wide game around the village. It was interesting to find out how many Scouts didn't know where some Backwell landmarks were located. We also had our older Scouts presenting their Expedition Challenge reports to the troop after which they were presented with their Challenge Awards having completed everything required.

Talking of Expeditions we had our final Hill Walking Day of the year, planned for the Brecon Beacons but hastily transferred to Exmoor due to poor weather and low cloud forecasts. Despite low cloud and drizzle, Hannah, James, Reuben and Tom

completed a walk over the hills from Simonsbath to Watersmeet. We had planned to finish further on at Lynmouth but lost a lot of time when we were virtually the first people to arrive at an accident where a young man had come off his Motorcross bike on a rough track, gashed his head and almost certainly broken his leg. All the Scouts remained calm throughout and helped to



1st Backwell

which they did all their cooking, filtered water, built shelters and enjoyed a hilarious story telling campfire evening.
Helen

Thursday Cubs

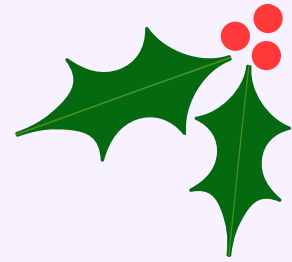
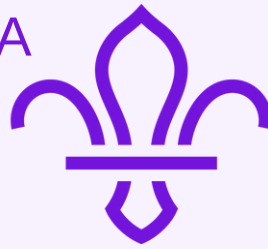
Our pack has grown to 31 cubs since summer term. We also have a growing leadership team and always value any parent help for our range of activities. It's

keep the man comfortable (he was in a lot of pain) for a good hour until his friends (and thankfully an ambulance) arrived. We are very proud of them and the way they conducted themselves throughout. 'Learning First Aid' may not sound exciting, but sometime, somewhere it may prove to be a useful skill to have.

Ian Asst Scout Leader

BACKWELL & NAILSEA

Scouts



SCOUTS CHRISTMAS POST

Backwell and Nailsea Scouts are once again working together to deliver Christmas cards and letters in Backwell and Nailsea to raise money for both troops.

As well as a much-needed fundraiser, this is also a unique community activity that the Scouts provide to the village. We are extremely grateful to all the local businesses who help us in providing this service for our local community. It is a great way to support the Scouting community for just 50p per stamp.

We have a thriving Scout troop in Backwell with 213 young people involved and benefitting from the fabulous support of our Scout leaders and the facilities. Unfortunately, those facilities are often in need of maintenance but with every stamp you buy you will be helping to keep the vehicles running and the hall operational.

Stamps and post boxes will be available from Saturday 25th November at Backwell Motors, Backwell Vets, Parkers Estate Agents, Backwell Barbers and Backwell Village Club.

The last posting date will be noon on Saturday 16th December.

We are very grateful to all the parents, Scouts and Explorers who are helping to distribute and sort the post this year. If you'd like to get involved please contact Backwellscoutpost@gmail.com.



The Meeting Point

Cake isn't everything, you know, but it's a great place to start. We're open in the Parish Hall every Tuesday from 10.30am to 4.30pm, so do drop in for refreshment and some company. We may not be part of the official Warm

Welcome this winter, but it will be warm, and we will make you welcome.



A regular part of this welcome is lunch on two Tuesday per month. This month it will be our home-made soup lunch on **7th November at 1.00pm**, with the usual accompaniments, then a 2-course lunch on **21st November at 1.00pm**. We do ask for bookings for this one by 14th November please, to ensure we have catered for you. We are always open to including new guests for these lunches, so do bring a friend or neighbour.

The Sitting Fit Yoga sessions are an even larger group now, with around twenty people enjoying Nina's sessions each week. There will as usual be refreshments from 10.30, with the session running from 11.00 to 12.00noon.

This month the usual **Communion** service will be held on **7th November at 12.15**, in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to this very informal gathering.

Backwell Life's AGM is on **Tuesday 7th November** at 7.00 for 7.30pm in West Town Methodist Church. Members will hear what we have been doing and what we plan for the future. Please do come and support us. Membership fees will also be due, but remain at a very reasonable £5 per year.

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

Tyntesfield Patient Participation Group

The TMGPPG (Tyntesfield Medical Group Patient Participation Group) represents patients, working alongside all four of doctors' surgeries in the Tyntesfield Medical Group (TMG). It survived the pandemic, using Zoom to keep going, and largely due to the work of the Committee led by the chairperson Pam Yabsley is seen to be a successful, active group working closely with TMG. The group organises Health Events in our area and aims to provide a valid patient voice. The September AGM saw a fresh committee installed, led by Richard Rogers. The new Committee is eager to reach out and be representative across all four practices in the group. At present, the population of Backwell is very under-represented on the PPG. Please think about joining and helping to shape this valuable patient voice. The PPG meets monthly for 10 months of the year at 7.00pm on the fourth Tuesday. If you are interested, please email tmgppg@gmail.com.

Nailsea District Leg Club

Thankfully after stormy, autumn weather it was dry for the handbag sale on

23rd September, when £158 was raised to support Leg Club.

Thank you to the volunteers and those who came to browse and buy. In 2024 sales are booked in for Saturday 18th May and 21st September, and more 'stock' (in good condition and empty please) is welcome and can be taken to No.65 any time. Although we ask for donations from members towards the cost of refreshments and transport, keeping funds topped up is vital. We're fortunate to have a pro-active committee including chair Carole Brooke, who is wizard at applying for grants that are appropriate to Leg Club as a charity.

It's great to welcome members and carers alike on Wednesday mornings at Nailsea Tithe Barn. Now that appointments are no longer necessary, if you have leg problems or related issues, do drop in to see a nurse for advice or treatment if needed, and naturally partake of the refreshments and chat always on offer. It's a happy and friendly place to be on Wednesdays 9.00am - 11.30am. For more information please call either Carole Brooke 07954 302498 or Sandy Riley 01275 853547, (Sandy also organises the transport rota).



Christians Together In & Around Backwell Backwell Christian Fellowship

Wednesday, 1st November 2.30pm at Lawnside AGM **Prayer Watch**

Monday 6th November 7.45 – 9.30pm at St Andrew's. Starting with refreshments; all welcome to join in prayers for our community and the world.

Open the Book

Wednesday mornings, **1st, 15th and 29th November**, at West Leigh Infants School. Themes: David, Daniel and Zechariah

Backwell Life

AGM on Tuesday **7th November** at 7.00pm, at West Town Methodist Church

Charity Christmas Card sale

Please support the charities by purchasing cards on **Saturday 4th November**, from 10.00 – 12 noon, at the Parish Hall.

North Somerset Quilters will be meeting on **Friday November 17th** at 7.30pm at the W.I. Hall in Station Rd., Backwell BS48 3QW. We will be welcoming Gill Clarke with her talk - "Me, My Quilts and I". Louise Horler, of 'Sew Scrumptious' in Nailsea, will be our trader for the evening. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available. Visitors welcome at a cost of £6.00. For more information Tel Karen 01275 463119

Congresbury Singers

"Touch of Nostalgia", with guest appearance classical guitarist, John Sydenham, **Saturday November 18th** at 7.30pm in the War Memorial Hall, Congresbury; £10 including wine/buffet.

Tickets from Congresbury Post Office/Re-Store/on door.



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St Andrew's MU

A ploughman's lunch was enjoyed by members, before visiting Lake Galilee via beautiful photos. These were accompanied by a talk by Rev'd Deborah Mallett, on her visit to Israel. A bible reading was read by her, relating to the places by Lake Galilee in the photos being shown on the screen. It was an enjoyable and interesting afternoon.

It was with much sadness that we heard of the sudden death of one of our new members, Sandra Forsyth, a long-standing member of St Andrew's Church

Dates for November

Thursday 9th 12.00 noon Lunch at the Failand Inn

Thursday 16th 11.30am Portishead Deanery MU
Cathedral Prayers, Wells

Tuesday 28th 2.15pm Ukraine & the refugee situation
Speaker:- Ian Bainbridge

Backwell Probus Club Report

We have had two meetings since the last report, the first was entitled "The Myths and Legends of Sabrina. Goddess of the River Severn" by Nichola Haazs. It was fascinating to see so much material on her slide show, some of which came from Geoffrey of Monmouth. It was an entertaining presentation. Our second meeting

featured "Space Detectives" by Jo Richardson, who basically is an educationalist on Space Exploration. She spent most of her illustrated talk on the new Space probe, the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST). This has widened our understanding of space, finding more planets at a far greater distance from Earth. JWST is situated in Space 1.5 million Km from Earth and was fired by NASA into Space in 2021.

In November we can look forward to "Time Gentlemen Please" and "A Fair Cop – Humorous Reflections on a Police Career", 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 Tel : 01275 463160

When members of the group of the closed branch of Backwell Women's Institute (not to be confused with the new branch) met up in October we decided to finish with meetings for tea in the WI Hall but hopefully will continue to meet up elsewhere from February 2023 onwards simply for tea and chat - watch this space.

Some of us are meeting up for lunch at Cadbury Garden Centre on **Monday 4th December** around 12.30pm. If you would like to join us, please let Pauline or Elizabeth know so we can inform Cadbury Garden Centre of the numbers expected – at the moment the Parlour has been provisionally reserved. Thank you for supporting us in the past and hopefully we will see some of you for the lunch.

Many thanks, Pauline Smith 07884 292 229 or Elizabeth Reay emreay@hotmail.co.uk

Nailsea Concert Orchestra's Autumn Concert will take place on **Saturday 18th November** at the Auditorium Nailsea School. Mahler Symphony No 4, Mozart Overture II Re Pastore and Exultate Jubilate with soloist Charlotte Newstead are in the programme. The concert starts at 7.30pm with a pre-concert talk at 6.45pm.

The tickets are £13 Adults, £11 Concessions, £5 for Under 18s and available on the door, Nailsea Music Shop and our website www.nailseaconcertorchestra.org Retiring collection in support of The Barn Owls.

Backwell & Nailsea Support Group for Carers

Inviting all carers to join us on Wednesday 1st November at the WI Hall, Backwell crossroads, Backwell, from 2.00pm – 3.30pm

Making Christmas Foliage Decorations

Come and join us for support, friendship entertainment and a short respite from your caring role. New carers, any age or gender, always welcome

Beverley, Carol, Cath, Chris, Chris and Mel (Volunteers)
(For more information: 01275 463215 (after 6.00 pm) or rayandbevcook@gmail.com)

Body conditioning class

Friday morning's class continues; term time only 9.15 - 10.05am

New Evening Class starting **Wednesday 1st November** 19.00-19.50. Both classes are held in the WI Hall. Suitable for all ages and abilities - excellent resistance work for overall strength, muscle toning and bone density - PAR-Q (Physical Activity Readiness Questionnaire) will need to be completed before participating.

Bring water and a mat. For further details contact Caroline Knight 07825794553 dizzyme@outlook.com

Backwell Garden Club

The garden club will meet in November on **Wednesday 15th** at 1.45pm for 2.00pm in the WI Hall, Station Road, Backwell. Our speaker is David Moon who will be giving a talk on "Gardens of the Rich and Famous."

The Club meets every third Wednesday of the month in the afternoon at 1.45pm. New Members and Visitors are always welcome. Further details can be obtained from Robin Langford, Chairman on 01275 855822 or email rclangford64@gmail.com

Senior Club

At our first meeting when we were entertained by Tim & Sheila to 'Music from across the Pond', we were delighted to welcome an excellent number of members and also six new members ... please continue.

On October 17th Roy Ackrill will be giving us his new talk "Motoring in Backwell and Beyond", a subject that sounds most intriguing - do come along to find out what it is all about. November brings us a talk from Jean Routley, which promises to be of great interest to us all - a nostalgic reminder of the recent past entitled 'Growing up in Backwell'.

Lawnside is a great venue where we continue to meet 2.30pm on the third Friday of each month. Everyone is welcome. *Nancy Lewis 01275 790555*

Eventbrite link to sign up: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/little-lambs-joseph-and-his-colourful-coat-tickets-718157326897?aff=oddtcreator>



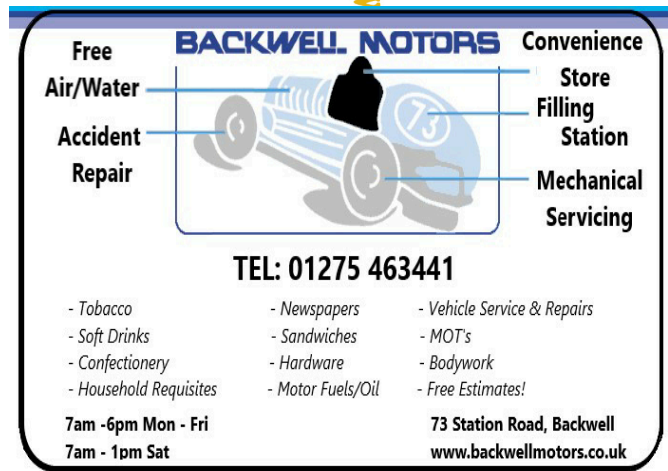
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Baby and Toddler Group

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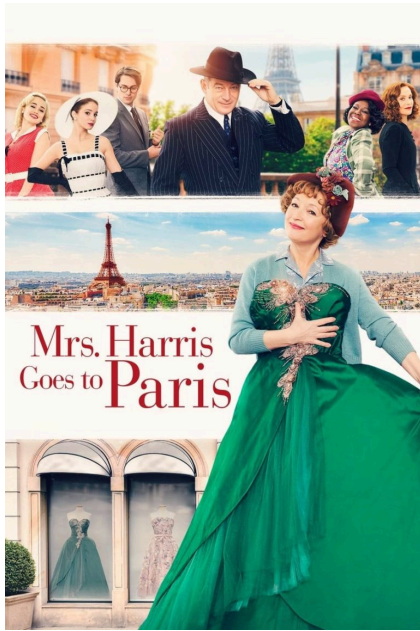
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Film Club

On **November 2nd, 3rd & 4th**
we show **Mrs Harris goes to Paris**,



which is described as a comedy/drama and promises to be highly entertaining. Lesley Manville stars as a widowed cleaning lady in 1950s London, who falls madly in love with a couture Dior dress and decides that she must have one of her own. After she works, starves, and gambles to raise the funds to pursue her dream, she embarks on an adventure to Paris which will change not only her own outlook, but the very future of the House of Dior.

Please note that our December offering starts on **November 30th** for three nights and will be that feel good movie **Fisherman's Friends: One and All**. A true story that reveals that fame is never plain sailing.

Tim Lewis 01275 790555

St Andrews Ladies Group

Our October meeting started on a very sombre note as we remembered in prayer Sandra Forsyth, who had sadly died whilst on holiday in Spain with her husband Ian and their family. Sandra had contributed a great deal to the group being leader several times during the 40 years of its existence. She will be very much missed.

We then welcomed Jane and Martin Canning who between them gave us a glimpse of their overseas visits to Tanzania and Zambia. It was interesting to learn of the ongoing links between this diocese and that of Zambia. The pictures and video clips shown helped bring the story to life and gave us an idea of life in that part of Africa.

The next meeting on **November 13th** will be a 60s music presentation given by Ian Selby. So not as previously advertised, a demonstration of the art of quilting by Barbara Webber. That treat will come next year.

We give a welcome to any woman in the village who would like to join us. If you get in quickly, you will be able to join us for our Christmas Lunch at the Masonic Hall on **December 11th** cost £26. It's always a Festive occasion.
Elizabeth Webb

Backwell & Nailsea Macular Support

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 29th November** at 1.30pm in Backwell W.I. Hall, Station Road. We will be entertained by Roy Ackrill with a miscellany of digital items.

Please join us if this is something you would like to hear – no commitments; no eye problems required. £2 at the door for tea and biscuits.

Everyone is most welcome; further information from Sheila on 01275 462107.

Would you like to reduce your Energy Bills and cut your carbon footprint?

Then come along to the Fairtrade Café on **Saturday, 11th November**, 10.00am-12.00noon, because there will be

- ☺ Info about cheap, practical ways to draught-proof and insulate your home from the Centre for Sustainable Energy.
- ☺ Backwell householders to chat to about their experiences with solar and batteries, electric car charging, heat pumps, time of day tariffs, etc.
- ☺ Find out where your home leaks heat by booking a thermal imaging survey.

St Andrew's Bellringers

September was a busy and successful month for St Andrew's Bellringers. Our annual outing was a weekend away to the Welsh borders where we rang at six different towers and enjoyed a trip on the Llangollen Railway, followed by an interesting tour round the engine works. The following week, Backwell ringers were the backbone of the Chew branch team which competed in the Bath & Wells Diocesan competition for ringing on 8 bells held at Wincanton. Our team was again victorious and has now won this competition for the last seven times, an unmatched record of achievement. At the beginning of the month, we held a tower open day and nearly 50 people were able to climb to the top of the tower to admire the view, see the bells and watch a short demonstration of ringing.

At the end of August, we rang a full peal of 5000 changes as a farewell compliment to the Rector, Rev Dr Katy Garner, and this included one of our ringers celebrating her sixteenth birthday. For the Coronation we rang three separate pieces of ringing including both a full peal and a quarter peal to enable all our ringers to help mark the occasion.

We hold our main practice on Wednesday evenings, but also host a learners practice from 3.30 to 5.00pm on Mondays and now have vacancies to join our band and would welcome new recruits or returning lapsed ringers. Bell ringing can be a fascinating and challenging hobby and can be done from the age of 10 upwards; for more information watch the videos from the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers (https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLmJrg8h0wm_qcplL89bKrMPvpDT8YEgs_2) or contact our Ringing Master (Rebecca Cox, 07788748324, r.j.cox@blueyonder.co.uk)



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Sunday Services

Doors open - 10.00am
Services start - 10:30am

05th November (Communion)

Preacher: Tim Crossley
Service Leader: Ruth Ham
Theme: Living in a Foreign Land
Passage: Daniel 2

12th November (Remembrance Sunday)

Preacher: Steve Loader
Service Leader: Tim Crossley
Theme: Living in a Foreign Land
Passage: Daniel 3

19th November

Preacher: Peter Burns
Service Leader: Dawn Jefferies
Theme: Open Doors: The Persecuted Church

26th November (Café Style)

Preacher: Tim Crossley
Service Leader: Alan and Ann Lewis
Theme: Living in a Foreign Land
Passage: Daniel 4

St Bridget's

The year has finally brought about a huge change to the running of our church. We already knew last year that our Treasurer John Prior would be retiring after eighteen years and that we were also faced with both positions as Churchwarden remaining unoccupied. The added blow of the Rector leaving in July has caused even more concern.

I am glad however to report that better news is not far away and that as from this October, our new treasurer is Marcus Merry who has willingly agreed to assume the reins. John Prior with Mary always at his side, has guided us through a most vital time in the 900-year history of our church. He became the essential part of our Appeal in 2007 when we determined to raise £100,000 for the vital restoration of the tower and windows just to keep the church wind and waterproofed. At every stage he provided the numbers for the decisions to be made, but above all, his guidance notes were always there for us to agree the way forward. A gentle learning curve for those fortunate enough to be involved with this former chairman of a Public Liability Company.

As many will know the Appeal Target was met inside one year and we were able to press on and improve all facilities in the next thirteen years including the provision of a separate building containing a catering-size kitchen and toilet. Without his guidance we would have struggled but with his wise words ringing in our ears, we all slept soundly.

As a footnote, we aim also to report that by the time this November magazine reaches you, that we will once again have two churchwardens at St Bridget's to lead us through the Vacancy however long that may be.

Tony Stirratt

West Town Methodist Church

November Sunday Services, at 10.30am

5th Revd David Sharp

12th Remembrance Service at St Andrew's

19th Revd Deborah Mallett Communion

26th Alan Emery

Ready Teddy Sing – Tuesdays, 10.00am – 12.00 noon

Our toddlers and babies group led by Patty Lou, our Families Worker, with May Vivian and a team of volunteers.

Fellowship Group – all welcome to join this friendly

study group at 10.30am for 11.00, on Wednesday

1st November at 3 Mariners Drive and 15th & 29th

November at 53 Oakleigh Close.

The Welcome Hub, at West Town Methodist Church Restarting on Monday, 30th October

Come Along and Meet Each Other in our Welcome Hub on Monday mornings from 10.00am to 12.00, where a warm welcome awaits you.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided.

We're here for you for a cuppa and a chat. Additionally, you are invited to bring along your knitting, crocheting, puzzles, craft project etc., or simply some quiet time. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you there.

Any queries, in the first instance, please contact Shirley Edwards on email: tsmce12@gmail.com

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 month begins with celebrating All Saints Day (1st November) with Mass at 9.15am. This is followed by All Souls Day on 2nd November with Mass at 9.15am. After 11.00am Mass on 5th November Father Richard will be blessing the memorial garden beside the church. In this month we all remember both nationally and locally all those who have died in the Two World Wars and subsequent conflicts. We remember them on Remembrance Sunday on 12th November.

Later this month, on 25th November at 10.30am Father is having a special Mass remembering parishioners who have recently died. This gives an opportunity to pray for our loved ones. Refreshments will follow after Mass.

Traditionally, we're invited to pray for deceased relatives and friends at all Masses in November.

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

It was a great pleasure for St Andrew's to host the first Somerset International Festival of the Arts between 6th and 8th October. Nearly 400 people came and enjoyed the music over the weekend and it was good to hear of the work the organisers have been doing with our local schools.

The news of the terrible conflict in Israel and Gaza has brought a sombre mood to this period and we continue to pray for peace in that troubled region. It is of course happening at the time when we think of conflicts past and commemorate those who lost their lives in other wars. The Act of Remembrance on Armistice Day will take place at **11.00am on 11th November** at the war memorial by St Andrew's Church. This is followed by the Ecumenical Remembrance Service at 10.45am on Sunday **12th**. Representatives from all the churches will take part alongside those from other village organisations.

A group representing both of our churches has begun work on creating the benefice profile, which will express our vision for the future in this place. It's important to hear a range of views on this, which will no doubt be based on consultation with a variety of people and groups. This is an early element in the search for a new Rector.

With warm greetings, Martin Canning

Sundays in November

St Andrew's Church

5th All Saints

9.00am Little Lambs
10.45am Informal Worship and Word

12th Remembrance Sunday

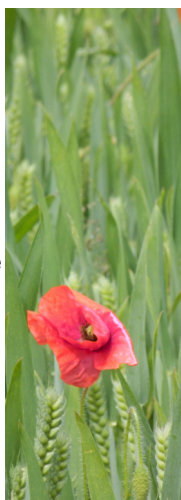
10.45am Ecumenical Remembrance Service

19th Second Before Advent

10.45am Informal Worship with Communion.
5.00pm Evensong

26th Christ the King

9.15am Sung Eucharist
10.45am Informal Worship with Baptism



St Bridget's Church

5th All Saints

9.15am Holy Communion

19th Second Before Advent

9.15am Morning Prayer

Benefice Register of Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals in September 2023

Internment of ashes

7th Reginald Phillips
14th Cynthia Papworth

Funeral

28th Dorothy Jobling

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 November we will be praying for people living in Rodney Road, Orchard Road, Bramley Drive, The Crescent

Community of the Sisters of the Church (Bristol).

As part of their missional activity, St Andrew's Church members support a different local or international charity each quarter. From October to December 2023, that charity is The Sisters of the Church in Bristol, who have a wonderful ministry in the city.

In the early 1990's four Sisters from the Community moved to Ashley Road and they have had a presence there ever since. As part of their lives of prayer and active service, the Sisters began giving out small food parcels to about 12 people a week - this has now grown to 250-300 a week. Callers come to the house for food and companionship and the Loaves and Fishes Ministry has become their main focus.

Poverty in the UK is a disturbing reality they see every day. In the Gospel of John 6:1-14 Jesus took a boy's offering of 'five small barley loaves and two small fish' and fed the five thousand. Together with wonderful volunteers, the Sisters are the channels of countless people's kind and generous donations which is why they have named the ministry 'The Five Loaves and Two Fishes Project'.

Food parcels are offered to anyone who calls asking for one. No one is judged, and no questions are asked except their name. Anyone and everyone is welcome, with no justification needed. The only restriction is that one parcel is given per person, per week. When possible, sandwiches and drinks are also offered, alongside help with form filling and phone calls. The sisters are also trying to help those in fuel poverty by offering a top up once a month, a lifeline for those in desperate need.

Short breaks for families, children's days out and pastoral care are all part of the Sisters' ministry. Prayer is also a vital part of their ministry and is offered to anyone who asks.

The Sisters' Christmas Appeal letter will be available shortly and will be posted on the St Andrew's website. If you would like to respond, please take your gifts to St Andrew's or call the Benefice office to arrange collection. This year, all of the Harvest gifts from St Andrew's were donated to the Sisters.

Christians Together In & around Backwell

Benefice of Backwell and Chelvey with Brockley

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

St Andrew's

Rector	Vacancy Any inquiries please contact the office
Readers	Martin Canning Tel 01275 790309 David George Tel 07532202786
Benefice Office	Tel 01275 463469 admin@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk
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	Marcus Merry

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

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 07521 787115
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
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Woodies Local at Backwell Fairfield School, Backwell BS48 3PD

Rural Minister	Zoe Germain zoe.germain@woodlandchurch.net
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