

# The Village Magazine

Backwell Chelvey Brockley



Backwell Village Show 2023

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**Vol 90 No 10**

**Free** In print  
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**October  
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### MEET KATIE

After graduating from Capilano University (Canada) with a diploma in Choral Music, Katie read Music at Bristol University, where she graduated with 1st class honours. She has over a decade of experience teaching singing, piano, and woodwind instruments to all ages in her private practice, and is currently conducting the local adult community choir 'Evergreen Chorus'.

As a mother to two young children, she is passionate about providing children with a holistic music education, where they can experience the joy of singing and be a part of a nurturing community.



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*Submission deadline for next issue is the  
12<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month.*

# The Village Magazine

Backwell Chelvey Brockley

**Advertising Manager** Hilary Power  
[hpower@virginmedia.com](mailto:hpower@virginmedia.com)

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

## Growing chaplaincy

At a time when we are hearing about the growing secular nature of our society, it may be surprising to hear that, in Bath and Wells, almost every month there is a call from an organisation enquiring about getting a chaplain. The calls come from all types of settings - from private companies, public sector organisations and educational institutions – and in the last six years, over 60 new chaplaincies have been established.



Some of the Backwell C of E Junior School Pupil Chaplains at Moorside Farm. Find out more on page 13

Mike Haslam, Chaplaincy Lead for Bath and Wells says, “While some chaplaincies have been initiated by local churches, the overwhelming majority have been requested by the organisations themselves, and they have mostly never before had any Christian or other spiritual ministry in their setting. People are seeking the spiritual Christian presence a chaplain can offer - it continues to amaze me, and I thank God for it.”

Chaplains in Bath and Wells come in all forms – lay and ordained, full time and part time, young and old, from all Christian denominations. They can be found in schools and hospitals, but also in golf clubs and the courts, walking the hedgerows and at power stations.

Explaining their popularity, Mike says, “Chaplains are part of the team where they are based – dealing with the same codes, policies, culture and joys, but no-one has to talk to a chaplain so there is also that element of being a guest that can prove very powerful.”

While chaplaincy is going from strength to strength in Bath and Wells, and across the country, it's not all sunshine and roses.

Mike explains, “It can be a vulnerable position. It's not always easy to measure a chaplaincy's success within the frameworks of either organisation or the church. However, I have enormous hope for the future of chaplaincy as together with our churches we seek to share with our communities the good news of Jesus.”

*Diocese of Bath and Wells*



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## Meeting of Backwell Parish Council –September 2023

Councillors were informed that Cllr Morley had resigned. All present wished her well for the future.



**Planning –** Councillors discussed four planning applications

and returned them to North Somerset Council with no objections.

There were no updates regarding the developments at Farleigh Fields and Rodney Road. Councillors were told that their response to the 'Gleeson' proposals – development of land north of Nailsea potentially affecting Backwell residents in Station Road and Station Close – had been submitted.

The Council will continue to work closely with Nailsea Town Council and Backwell Residents' Association to monitor the proposals.

**The Airport –** Cllr Martin reported that he has scheduled a meeting with Bristol Airport representatives to discuss the serious issues of pedestrian safety and the lack of public transport into the airport which might help to alleviate the situation. It is hoped that North Somerset Council will send a representative.

**Enhancement –** Councillors were pleased to see the draft design for the stained-glass window commissioned to commemorate the King's coronation. It was unanimously agreed that residents should be consulted about the final design, and the draft will be posted on Facebook.

**Deputy Clerk –** Councillors were pleased to hear that the job description for the new post of Deputy Clerk had been agreed, and that the role will be advertised through various media.

**Woodland Expansion –** Cllr Horton told Councillors that she had met with a representative from the Forest of Avon to discuss where Parish Council land could be used to plant trees. The strip of land by Moor Lane Playground has been identified as a possible site. Grants are available to defray the costs involved.

The next full Parish Council meeting will be held at 7.30pm on **Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> October** at the Parish Hall. All are very welcome to attend.

There are still vacancies on the Parish Council. If you are interested in shaping the future of Backwell, please contact the Clerk – [clerk@backwell-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@backwell-pc.gov.uk) or 01275 464653

**The over 60's Christmas party** will take place in the Parish Hall on **Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> November** at 2.00pm.

You can collect your free tickets from the Parish Office in Rodney Road on Tuesdays 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> November between 10.00am – 12.00 noon.

If you have problems getting to the office for a ticket, please give the Clerk a ring on 01275 464653 and we'll see what we can do to help. Look forward to seeing you.

## Backwell Camera Club

We are a club for photography enthusiasts of all abilities, styles and interests based in Backwell. We meet weekly on Thursdays, at 7.15pm (for a 7.30pm start) at the WI Hall, Station Road. Our group is a friendly mix of very experienced to very little experience. Regardless of where you are on your own photographic 'journey', you can expect a warm welcome from all of us.

Our club, which was established many years ago, covers a wide range of photographic interests. Our current programme includes talks, demos and presentations by external presenters covering a range of photographic genres and 'how to' topics. We also run social evenings, members' presentations, competitions, appraisals and quizzes. We are active year-round. During summer, for example, our members met regularly for photographic walks in and around Bristol and North Somerset. We also post our images regularly on our Instagram feed [@backwellcameraclub](https://www.instagram.com/backwellcameraclub)

Along with our weekly meet-up, the club has a number of special interest groups – for example, the Practical Group and the Travel Group – which run monthly. Additionally, we are active in the local community by taking photos of concerts, sports fixtures, shows and performances (such as those given at the Backwell Playhouse).

Why not come along one Thursday and check us out for yourselves. Meanwhile, you'll find more information on <http://backwellcamera.club/> along with some of our members' photographs.



Taken by Sandra Stafford of Backwell Camera Club at a dress rehearsal for a performance at Backwell Playhouse

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## Backwell School News

We have had a very positive start to the school year, welcoming new pupils in Years 7, 12 and across the school. The weather certainly reminded us that although the autumn term was beginning, the sunshine and high temperatures decided it was still summer.

### Post 16 Exam Results 2023

On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August, our Year 13 students at Backwell School received their A-Level and vocational subject results.

Our students faced ongoing challenges post-pandemic, including sitting their GCSEs under very different circumstances. After four years of significant disruption to their education, these students took exams that had been marked 'normally' - at the same level as the 2019 cohort, the last year of results before the pandemic. Despite the challenges they faced, Backwell students received excellent results and the vast majority of students who applied had university places confirmed, many of which were at their first-choice universities. Others secured extremely valuable apprenticeships and other training offers. We are incredibly proud of our year 13 students, who met the huge challenges they faced over the last few years with positivity and determination. We are following their progress as they embark on an exciting new chapter in their lives at university, in training and employment, in many cases preceded by wonderfully exotic travel experiences. Congratulations to all our leavers and thanks to parents/carers and Backwell staff for the support and expertise you gave them.



### GCSE Results 2023

On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August, Year 11 students were in school to collect their results and to celebrate their impressive achievements.



Despite having their education significantly disrupted over several years, this year group were graded 'normally' in a return to the pre-pandemic

standards of 2019 and before. They showed great resilience and positivity in their approach to GCSEs and were rewarded with fantastic results.

It was especially pleasing to see that the vast majority of Backwell students had secured a place at the institution and course of their choice for the next stage of their education.

Congratulations to all our Year 11 students. They are a wonderful group of young people and can be immensely proud of what they have achieved.

We are thrilled that many of them are staying at Backwell School for their sixth form studies and we will follow with equal interest the progress of those who have chosen alternative courses or training next year.

## Open Evening – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023

School life is never quiet.

We welcomed prospective new parents to Backwell School at our recent Open Evening.

We are now running tours for prospective new pupils (throughout mornings in October) to give a glimpse of life at Backwell School. Although the school year is only just starting, we are already looking ahead to pupils who will be applying to join us in September 2024.



## Backwell's 2ND Saturday Fair Trade Café October 14<sup>th</sup> Backwell Parish Hall 10.00 to 12.00 noon

Come along to the community café and enjoy the excellent Fairtrade coffee and tea as well as some delicious home baked pastries and biscuits. As usual this month the bulk-buy Grub Club will provide its comprehensive service. Here you can join and buy all kinds of food stuffs in bulk including many different types of flour, a wide range of cereals, nuts, seeds and spices as well as all kinds of tinned fruit and vegetables, various coffees, teas, beverages, chocolates, biscuits and much more. The range includes many fair trade and organic items. Come and peruse the catalogue or go to <http://www.essential-trading.co.uk>, join the Club and place an order. You can also buy from the goods on display without joining or ordering.

Move from recycling to re-using by bringing your own container to fill (or better refill) with all kinds of Bio-D detergents and cleaning fluids on our Bio-D stall. Our District Councillor Bridget Petty intends to be present again to discuss local affairs with any concerned resident.

The Repair Café will also be present.

## Repair Café

Sustainable Backwell volunteers will be running a Repair Café alongside the Fairtrade Café on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October**, 10.00am-12.00noon, 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 Shedders will be there with some surplus tools to give away to anyone who would find them useful.

## Rotary Charity Quiz

Over the years, the Rotary Charity Quiz has grown in popularity and we are rapidly approaching the latest version which will be held at the Backwell WI Hall on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November** at 7.00pm. Cost £6 pp, all proceeds in aid of the Memory Café. For tickets and /or further information, please contact Roger Smith on 01275 854076 or [roger.jan1942@gmail.com](mailto:roger.jan1942@gmail.com).

## Clarinet & Piano Concert at St Mary's, Yatton

7.30pm on Saturday **21<sup>st</sup> October** at St Mary's Church, [www.yms.org.uk](http://www.yms.org.uk)

## Backwell Playhouse Theatre Company Presents: The Wind in The Willows

Adapted for the stage by Mike Kenny, Backwell Playhouse presents an inventive and entertaining version of Kenneth Grahame's timeless classic, The Wind in The Willows.

Join Mole, Ratty and Badger as they become embroiled in the adventures of Toad. His yearning for the need for speed leads them all into a desperate fight against the Wild Wooders.

The Wind in The Willows is a charming play with songs, suitable for all the family.

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October, 7.30pm**

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## Backwell Playhouse Comedy Night

The Playhouse is delighted to continue with North Somerset's best and longest running comedy event. Our MC for the night is Rob C, who is joined by Billy James, Rebecca Tully, Eric Powers Mwanza, Matt Pugsley and our Headliner, Jon Wagstaffe.

The event starts at 7.30pm and the bar is open from 7.00pm and throughout the evening.

Tickets are just £10 and available online from [www.BackwellPlayhouse.co.uk](http://www.BackwellPlayhouse.co.uk)

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## Backwell Playing Fields Charity

**Volunteer Day 8/10/23** - if you fancy helping to keep our village playing fields in tip-top condition in return for home-baked cake, the annual Volunteer Day is coming up on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October**, meeting at 1.00pm at the Rodney Road playground. Older children can join in and younger ones are welcome to play on the fields while their grown-ups work. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear, and if possible, bring gardening gloves/secateurs/green waste bags



**Little Lambs**  
Baby and Toddler Group

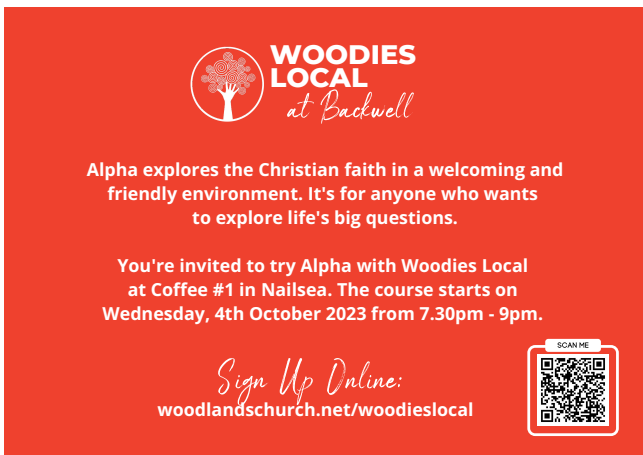
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## Backwell Scout News Scout Christmas Post

As we approach half term of the school year, the Scout Christmas Post Team start getting their Santa hats on and dreaming up ways to encourage people to use this wonderful local service. We will once again be hoping to deliver all of your local Christmas Cards throughout Nailsea and Backwell. However, we could really do with growing our tiny support team. In particular we are looking for someone to re-design our flyers and posters for this year and someone who may be able to help with social media engagement. **If you think you could help with either of these - or just help collect and sort post in the few weeks leading up to Christmas, then please do get in touch [backwellscoutpost@gmail.com](mailto:backwellscoutpost@gmail.com).**

We will once again be supporting the Charity Christmas Card Sale where you can buy Scout Christmas Stamps along with your cards on **4<sup>th</sup> November** in the Parish Hall.

## Tuesday Beavers

We look forward to welcoming back our Beavers after a long summer break, but we also bid a sad farewell to Hanne Mohan, who has been our excellent Section Leader, as she moves up to Cubs. Hanne will be much missed by all Tuesday Beavers, volunteers and leaders. We all wish you the very best Hanne.

This term we will be spending a lot of time on teamwork and will be challenging our Beavers to a den building competition. We'll also be asking 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](mailto:tuesdaybeaversbackwell@gmail.com)

*Sarah, Section Leader*

**Thursday Beavers** started back on 14<sup>th</sup> September, welcoming eight new Beavers to our group and some new leaders as well. We have a fun term of activities planned including a visit to the scouts' activity centre at Glenny Wood, a visit and pond dipping at Moreend Spout, a week learning about France for our international

badge and creating our own mini-gardens. *Jeff*

## Thursday Cubs

At the end of last term Monday and Thursday cubs had a summer camp at Glenny Wood Scout Campsite just outside Portishead. They slept in tents with a brave few cubs sleeping outside in hammocks. On the Saturday we travelled to Go Ape Outdoor Activity Centre in the Forest of Dean to do the adventure high ropes course.

A fun day was had at Go Ape with the cubs enjoying the thrills of high ropes and death slides. Sunday was a wet start with cubs enjoying some outdoor activities of tunnelling, grass sledging and go carts. Some very tired cubs came home on Sunday afternoon. This term they will be focusing on being healthy, emergency aid and Geo-caching. *Tony*

## Tuesday Scouts

August is always a very quiet month for us having broken up for the school holidays, but we always have our annual Summer Camp on offer - this year we took twenty-two Scouts to Harry's Island in The New Forest for a week's camp at the end of the month.

At the start of the week, we looked at some essential camp skills and woggle making as well as an orienteering/geocache type activity out in the Forest and a day of kayaking in Christchurch on the Rivers Stour and Avon. Keeping with the watery theme we then travelled the short distance to Mudeford Quay for sessions of windsurfing (new one for us.) and Stand-up Paddle-boarding followed by games on the beach. The Scouts later went shopping in the local Sainsbury supermarket to buy the ingredients for the evening 'Masterchef' competition. The following day we were land-locked with a cycling trip through the Forest from Burley to Lyndhurst and a walking treasure trail around Burley itself to search out the clues and expose the murderer.

On the final day we reverted to a water-based theme (as did the weather) and went to the near-by Aquapark for all things bouncy and floaty (or coffee for those of a more mature age.) with an

afternoon of Archery and Tomahawk Throwing. At the end of the week, we returned home to hand the Scouts back to their parents for various levels of cleaning/washing/fumigating - a tiring but enjoyable week for all. *Ian, Asst Scout Leader*

## Friday Scouts

How do Friday Scouts manage to top the last programme each term? Can we do it again? Our amazing leadership team manage it every time and this term will not disappoint.

We kick start our term with a joint raft building event with the Thursday cubs. Scouts will build rafts and have a go at sailing them before supporting the cubs to have a go.

We have lots lined up, a camp in the Cotswolds, hikes, cooking, games and fun, fun, fun! Watch this space for details of our mini-bus quiz fundraiser in November.... Let the adventures keep coming...

*Lorraine*

*Section Leader of Friday Scouts*

## Explorers

Not much news from us for August, but Katie and Doug returned safely from the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea, having had a fantastic and memorable time. Despite the challenges and disruption that the flooding, heatwave and typhoon created, the experience was overwhelmingly positive and it showed how resilient and flexible they both were in going with the ever-changing plans. Well done to both. They did us, and themselves, proud 😊

*Iain, Explorers Leader*





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## Backwell Parish Hall Refurbishment

Backwell Parish Hall is run by an annually elected committee of trustees on villagers' behalf. The trustees have been even busier than normal this year planning, preparing for and carrying out refurbishment of the Hall's kitchen. The overall design is to commercial standards meaning that all appliances and shelving are made of stainless steel. The kitchen now boasts a dishwasher kindly donated by "The Meeting Point", an electric range cooker with a large single oven and six solid electric plates complete with cooker hood and extractor fan, a sink unit with two large sinks, a wheeled heated pass-through unit in which food can be kept warm until needed in the Hall and a fridge/freezer. To accommodate the pass-through unit the old hatch has been removed.

In addition to the kitchen refurbishment project, the Hall has been painted, the insulation of the Hall has been improved further, the heating system upgraded with new more efficient radiators and the chair store at the side of the Hall has been made secure.

The trustees are grateful to North Somerset Council, Backwell Parish Council and Bristol Airport for their financial support for the work, and to the tradespeople who have turned trustees' ideas into reality including MAP electricians, North Somerset Gas Services, Backwell Carpets, Andy Hughes (tiling) Del Martin (building), Simon Jones (carpentry) and Ian Phillips (painter). Warmcare Insulation undertook the insulation work. The trustees are also grateful to their regular summer hirers for their flexibility while the work has been taking place. The Hall is again ready to hire. Email [bookings@backwellparishhall.org.uk](mailto:bookings@backwellparishhall.org.uk) or phone 541080 and enquire for your next event.

If you want to see a full pictorial record of the refurbishment of the Hall, go to <https://photos.app.goo.gl/TFph9vV1Pb7eCTSr6> (with thanks to Andy Stagg for documenting the changes).



## Pupil Chaplains Help St Andrew's Church Achieve Bronze Echo-Award

Each year the Pupil Chaplain team at Backwell Junior School takes part in two community missions. Last school year the children enjoyed serving a meal at The Meeting Point at the Parish Hall. Following their discussion about caring for the environment with Bishop Michael Beasley at their commissioning service, the chaplains decided to get involved in St Andrew's Eco Church application.

The team feels strongly about caring for our planet, Zoe (Backwell Junior School- Year 6) writes "I chose to be part of this topic because looking after our planet is crucial to our survival. It is our duty to take care of the gifts we've been given. Everything we need to save it is right in front of us and we are deciding not to use it, it's very frustrating to see. A few weeks ago, global warming turned into 'global boiling', so this issue is even more urgent. We can't just do nothing!" Rory is concerned about littering in Backwell: "I see people littering more and more. Just the other day I saw lots of kids from the secondary school leave all their cans and wrappers lying around in the Playing Fields, it made me sad. The planet is important, because it's the only place we have to live, and I don't want that to be gone for the next generation".

The Pupil Chaplains visited the St Andrew's Harvest service at Moorside Farm to tell our congregation about their involvement in the application process, and to show the amazing plaque we received after A Rocha awarded us a Bronze Certificate. Although proud of this achievement, the children are already working on an Action Plan to get St Andrew's up to a Silver!



## West Backwell Bowling Club

We closed with a Bowls Drive on 17<sup>th</sup> September organised by the Captains May Vivian and Bob Bees. It has been a most enjoyable season, with the emphasis on our *Thrive with Bowls* campaign, which has brought in many new members. We are grateful to Emma Price for masterminding this, and for the grants and sponsorship received from Parker's Estate Agents, who gave us new shirts, also Willow Chiropractors, The Rising Sun, Mark's Mobile Butchers, Nelly Homes & Gardens, Karuta Sportswear, Sparkle Restore & Rocket Media UK Ltd.

There was some great bowling on our Finals weekend, organised by Frances and Gordon Ogden, although Sunday morning competitions had to be delayed following the thunder & lightning & freak flooding of the green.

Our Ladies' Singles champion is Julie Ratcliffe, finalist Sheila Claxton, and the Men's champion Adam Knights, finalist Adam Shaw. Sheila & both Adams won other singles competitions, as did May Vivian, Lynn Pearson, Gordon Ogden, and Bob Keightley. There were ladies, men's and mixed Pairs, Triples and Fours competitions, with several new members being in the successful teams. West Backwell have had winning teams in other local club's Tournament days. Emma and Adam K were Mixed Pairs finalists at the Clevedon Tournament. Emma and Julie played in the prestigious Somerset Johns squad, and also got to the semi-finals in two Somerset competitions. Shireen Matley was also selected to play in some Somerset matches.

There was a traditional Fish Supper in September. Later this month we will enjoy a Ukelele evening, and in November our End of Season Dinner, with presentation of the trophies. Do come along to the Club on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December**, when we hold our popular annual *Holly & Mistletoe* event.

## Backwell Probus Club Report

We have had two meetings since the last report, the first was entitled "Lighthouses of the Bristol Channel" by John Page. John was an extremely keen presenter showing us that there are forty lighthouses in the Bristol Channel. He started with the early ones built in the 16<sup>th</sup> century using a fire as a light followed by the advent of electric bulbs with generation facilities being established in each one with incredible lens. It was quite an amazing story. At our second meeting, we invited the ladies to join us for lunch (an annual event) and to hear a talk beforehand by Tony Griffiths on the "Art of the Magician". He performed many tricks but kept up a continuous banter of jokes to everyone's amusement, which was a highly entertaining presentation.

In October we can look forward to "Astronomy", and "Festival of Britain", 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)*

## The Meeting Point

We have now returned to the Parish Hall as usual and are enjoying the wonderful new kitchen and the freshly decorated hall. Well done to the team managing this process over the summer. Making use of these facilities, we are offering our home-made soup lunch on

**3<sup>rd</sup> October at 1.00pm**, with the usual accompaniments. The next 2-course lunch is on **17<sup>th</sup> October at 1.00pm**, and we do ask for bookings for this one by 10<sup>th</sup> October please, to ensure we have catered for you. We are always open to welcoming new guests for these lunches, so do bring a friend or neighbour.

This half-term, we have invited Go Sketch to run a children's workshop from **10.00 to 12.00 on 24<sup>th</sup> October**. This is a drop-in session and was much appreciated when Emma ran it in the summer last year. No need to book – just turn up. And of course, there will be coffee and cake.

The Sitting Fit Yoga sessions started with an even larger group last month, which is encouraging for Nina. There will as usual be refreshments from 10.30, with the session running from 11.00 to 12.00. Half term this month means a one-week break, so no yoga on **24<sup>th</sup> October**.

It was lovely to see the after-school drop-ins again at the same time as the ballet lessons next door. Except for half-term, we're open with a comfy space, tea and other refreshments and something for the children to do while they wait.

This month the usual Communion Service will be held on **3<sup>rd</sup> October at 12.15**, in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to this very informal gathering.

**Volunteers needed.** Are you recently retired or just about to? Would you like to be involved in supporting the local Backwell community? The Meeting Point and its parent charity Backwell Life are seeking new volunteers and/or Trustees to continue the work we started 10 years ago. If you might be interested in helping us secure the future of our work, please get in touch by phone or e-mail.

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

## Backwell WI

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October** from 7:30pm in the WI Hall.

We will be doing a workshop with Rosie and Karin from **Mindful Craft Bristol**.

New members welcome

Email [BackwellWI@gmail](mailto:BackwellWI@gmail) for more information or find us on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.



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## St Andrew's Ladies Group

Around 35 women attended the A.G.M. chaired by Martin Canning, on September 11<sup>th</sup>, and we were pleased to welcome three new members. A review of the previous 12 months was given by the co-leader Elizabeth Webb. The programme had included talks given by Christina Gray, Director of Public Health for Bristol; Tim Hooper with his tales of life as a TV extra, and a glimpse of the Holy Land given by Revd Deborah Mallet. £100 had been raised for the Food Bank, it being our charity for a second year.

The resignations of the outgoing secretary Sheila Rowsell, and treasurer Di Bramall were reluctantly accepted, also that of Kathy West. Small tokens of appreciation were given to all three.

In the absence of any nominations for these posts, as an interim measure, Elizabeth Webb will cover secretarial matters and Valerie Lamb will become treasurer. It is hoped that other names will emerge to be co-opted later.

After the business was concluded, David Francis from the Memory Cafe described the breadth of care that is provided by the trained volunteers for members and carers. Memory café accepts everyone no matter how advanced their dementia and through its activities, music, singing, art and quality time, members are enabled to retain social contact, and relationships can be repaired. This worthwhile cause will be our charity for this year.

Our next meeting will be on **October 9<sup>th</sup>** at 7.30pm in the Church Room, when Jane and Martin Canning will speak under the heading Moving on- From Tanzania to Zambia. All women are welcome to join us.

*Elizabeth Webb*

## Nailsea District Leg Club

Wednesday mornings at the Leg Club held at the Tithe Barn continue to run very successfully on an appointment system, but **good news** – Leg Club can now take 'walk – ins' again, which haven't been possible since before the pandemic.



However, there may be a short wait and to avoid this we suggest you come after 10.00am, as those with pre-booked appointments will need to stick to their time. Appointments can still be made through your surgery and this guarantees that a member (patient) is seen at a particular time without having to wait too long.

Of course, you can partake of the wonderful refreshments and chat that are always available, provided by the great team of volunteers, occasionally enjoy the lovely piano music from Chris Coppin, or have some fun on the tombola, which happens every couple of months.

Anyone who feels they would benefit from what is on offer at Leg Club, is always welcome to drop in and see a nurse without an appointment, Leg Club is there to help, even if only it's advice that's required. For those without transport and are able to walk from their front door to a car, transport can be arranged with one of the volunteer drivers.

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

## Knitting for Others

I am having an 'Open House' (bungalow) on Monday **11<sup>th</sup> October**, the second Monday of the month. From 10.30am, then from 2.30pm, with refreshments, of course. This is to welcome all who wish to remind themselves of the relaxing activity of knitting and at the same time help to make something useful for cold families, seafarers and perhaps something different. This year we have been asked to make angels for the children who attend "Little Lambs" to add to their crib figure collection we have knitted over the last two years. You will be welcomed with coffee, tea or a cold drink also a nibble (or two). There will be patterns, yarn and needles to take. There may be smiles of welcome from the group who meet each second Monday of each month from 10.30am.

From this month of October there will not be Tuesday afternoon meetings

*Barbara Paige, 18 Karen Close (01275 463131)*

**North Somerset Quilters** will be meeting on **Friday October 20<sup>th</sup>** at 7.30pm at the W.I. Hall in Station Road, Backwell BS48 3QW.

We will be welcoming Nicholas Ball with his talk - "Inspiring Improv". Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available. Visitors welcome at a cost of £6.00. Nicholas will also be running a Workshop, entitled "Koi Carp" on the **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October** from 10.00am – 4.00pm. For more information regarding the meeting or workshop please contact Karen 01275 463119



"Koi Carp"

We will also be hosting a "Doughty's Roadshow" in the WI Hall, on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October**, with their usual array of Fabrics and Waddings.

10.00am - 2.30pm. Admission 50p .... Tea, Coffee and Cake will be served.

## Nailsea & District Local History Society

will meet in the Green Room at Nailsea School at 7.45pm on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October**, our AGM night, to hear Group Captain Jock Heron OBE talk about "The History of Aviation at Filton". Visitors/Guests welcome £3. More Information - 01275 463479.





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## St Andrew's MU

The MU Deanery Festival Service was the first event after our break in August. This at All Saints church Wraxall, led by Rev'd Carol Edwards a member of Wraxall branch. Other members of the branch took part in the service. This is a special time when members from all the branches in the Deanery can worship and receive communion together. Fellowship tea and cakes made by Wraxall MU members, were enjoyed in the Cross Tree centre following the service.

We were very saddened by the loss of Dorothy Jobling, a faithful member for many years.

### Dates for October

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>** 2.15pm Growing up in Backwell a talk by three of our members.

## Backwell & Nailsea Macular Support

The garden trip in August was a huge success. The weather was glorious, and the guided garden tour was both interesting and informative. Tea and home-made cakes were also much enjoyed.

The next meeting is on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October**, at 1.30pm in Backwell W.I. Hall. The speaker will be Jo Fishwick, Regional Manager of the Macular Society, bringing us up-to-date on all things "macular". We welcome anyone wanting to know more about Macular Degeneration. More information from Sheila on 01275 462107.

## Backwell & Nailsea Support Group for Carers

Inviting all carers to join us on Wednesday **4<sup>th</sup> October** at the WI Hall, Backwell crossroads, Backwell; from 2.00pm – 3.30pm

Speaker: Mr Tim Lewis and Ms Sheila Furneaux

Subject: Around the World in 80 days

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*)

## St Andrew's Art Group

### Open Evening and Art Exhibition

We are delighted to report that we raised £437 from our Open Evening in June and a stunning £1,880 from the Exhibition in July. Our charity this year is Great Western Air Ambulance who will receive the total of £2,317. This will fund one helicopter call out which will mean the difference to someone whose life is in danger. We are very grateful for the wonderful support of everyone who attended and helped at both these fund-raising events, especially the friends and family members who assisted with the Exhibition. The transport of the stands was free thanks to the generosity of the local Nailsea firm of Local Man and Van ([D.A.Team@hotmail.com](mailto:D.A.Team@hotmail.com)) which help keep expenses as low as possible. Many thanks to our members and friends in Backwell and the area for their continued support. Will we do it again in 2024? Probably....

*Jill Hobday*

## Backwell Garden Club.

The Club will meet on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October** at 1.45pm for 2.00pm in the WI Hall, Station Road, Backwell for the Club AGM which will be followed by Rob Handy giving an "Update on the Forest Garden". The Club Meets every third Wednesday of the month at the WI Hall and is always pleased to welcome new members.

For further information please contact Robin Langford, Chairman, on 01275 855822 or email [rclangford64@gmail.com](mailto:rclangford64@gmail.com)

## Film Club

At last, after a rather wintery summer and a summery beginning to autumn, we restart on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October** with a comedy/drama entitled **A Man Called Otto** featuring no less a star than Tom Hanks. Otto is a grump who's given up on life



following the loss of his wife and wants to end it all. When a young family moves in nearby, he meets his match in the quick-witted Marisol, leading to a friendship that will turn his world around.

It all sounds like a pleasant way to get back into the Playhouse Film Club new season.

**November 2<sup>nd</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup>** will bring us **Mrs Harris Goes to Paris**, another comedy/drama, this time starring Lesley Manville. The plot revolves around 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.

Membership is still available for Thursday and Saturday nights and, of course, guests are welcome provided members ring me on 01275 790555 to ascertain available seating.

*Tim Lewis*

## Senior Club

Tim & Sheila's 'Music from Across the Pond' at our first meeting following the summer break was an American based musical entertainment (the 'Pond' in question was not Backwell Lake.) and featured music from Tom Lehrer, Stephen Foster, Mary Poppins, South Pacific and My Fair Lady.

We follow this on **October 17<sup>th</sup>** with a new talk from Roy Ackrill intriguingly entitled 'Motoring in Backwell and Beyond'.

We meet on the third Friday of each month in the lounge at Lawnside at 2.30pm. We welcome anyone interested in coming along for a little light entertainment, a cup of tea and a chat.

*Nancy Lewis 01275 790555*

**The Charity Christmas Card** sale will this year be on **November 4<sup>th</sup>** in the Parish Hall from 10.30 – 12.00. If you would like to book a table for your favourite charity, there is no charge, please contact Jean Routley (462059).



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October Sunday Services

### 1<sup>st</sup> October (Communion service)

Preacher: Neil Mobbs

Service Leader: Tim Crossley

Theme: Jesus is King

Passage: John 18-19

### 8<sup>th</sup> October

Preacher: Tim Crossley

Service Leader: Sheila Whiting

Theme: Jesus is Friend

Passages: James 4:1-6 and John 15:12-17

### 15<sup>th</sup> October

Preacher: Peter Price

Service Leader: Anne Nicklen

Theme: Jesus is: God

Passage: John 1:1-18

**22<sup>nd</sup> October** – Together Service with NBC, at Kingshill School. (Communion Service)

Preachers: Tim Crossley and Peter Burns

Theme: Jesus is Shepherd

Passage: John 10:1-18

### 29<sup>th</sup> October

Preacher: Crawford Telfor

Service Leader: Tim Crossley

Theme: Living in a Foreign Land

Passage: Daniel 1

## News from St Francis

The Feast Day of St Francis is on Wednesday **4<sup>th</sup> October** which we'll remember at Masses on the proceeding Sunday (**1<sup>st</sup> October**). After morning Mass, a new statue of St Francis (kindly donated by a previous parishioner) will be blessed and the new area of the garden will be opened for prayer and contemplation.

October, like the month of May is dedicated to the veneration of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Catholic Church's liturgical calendar. We honour Mary this month.

A social event this month is an exciting pig race (toy ones) to be held on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October** at 7.00pm. Please bring drinks and snacks while pizza slices will be available.

The cost is £6 per family or £3 per adult to raise funds for the leaking Church roof.

Please see website for all Masses and Livestreaming . [www.Joseph Francis.org](http://www.Joseph Francis.org)

## Christians Together In & around Backwell

**Open the Book** – will be at West Leigh Infants on Wednesday morning, **11<sup>th</sup> October**.

**Backwell Christian Fellowship at Lawnside**  
2.30 on Wednesday, **4<sup>th</sup> October**.  
Speaker tba

### Prayer Watch

All welcome to join in prayers for our community and the world from 7.45 – 9.30pm on Monday, **2<sup>nd</sup> October** at Backwell Baptist Church

## West Town Methodist Church

October Sunday Services, at 10.30 am

**1<sup>st</sup>** Mark Mallett

**8<sup>th</sup>** Martin Buckley

**15<sup>th</sup>** Revd Deborah Mallett **Communion**

**22<sup>nd</sup>** Heather Bentley

**29<sup>th</sup>** United Service at Nailsea Methodist Church

**Ready Teddy Sing** – Tuesdays, 10-00 – 12.00 noon.  
Our toddlers and babies group led by Patty Lou, our Families Worker.

**Fellowship Group** – all welcome to join this friendly study group at 10.30am on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October** at 53 Oakleigh Close and **18<sup>th</sup> October** at 3 Mariners Drive.

### Church Family Sausage Supper

Saturday, **7<sup>th</sup> October** 7.00pm. Full details from Heather Bentley

### 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 [ratcliffedj@btinternet.com](mailto:ratcliffedj@btinternet.com) or 01275 463123

## St Bridget's Church

The Flower Festival in the Church at the beginning of September was very much the highlight of our fund-raising year. We are delighted to report that our efforts to recoup the costs of the new lighting in the church and the repair of the lightening conductor have now been achieved. In addition, the splendid gift for our draw of a holiday in Devon for six has added greatly to the overall result – huge thanks to Cofton Holidays.

We must again put in writing our thanks to the Clevedon & District Flower Club for the superb range of displays which were admired by everyone visiting us over the three days. It has been such a pleasure working with them, just as it was in 2007 when they again helped us enormously to reach our Appeal Target.

We were equally delighted to see so many of our friends enjoying the refreshments, while sitting on the lawn and enjoying the view across the valley to St Andrew's. What a feast of colour we have had.

*Tony Stirratt*



**WOODIES LOCAL**  
at Backwell

Join us this autumn for cafe church with pastries and coffee, fun activities for kids and a chance to explore faith.

Come along from 11am - 12pm  
17th Sept | 15th Oct | 19th Nov | 17th Dec  
Fairfield School, Fairfield Way, Backwell, BS48 3PD

woodlands church  
Got a question? Get in touch  
[zoe.germain@woodlandschurch.net](mailto:zoe.germain@woodlandschurch.net)

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

After our brief but record-breaking Indian summer last month, we are now heading towards autumn proper. However, we hold in our prayers the people of Morocco suffering the impact of the terrible earthquake as well as areas of the world suffering from the damaging effects of climate change which is part of the cause of the floods in Libya. We reflected on this at our Harvest Service at Moorside Farm and acknowledged our small part in combatting this in the receipt of an Eco Church Bronze Award. We also heard the views of the farming community here as well as in Zambia through the work of Ripple Effect, a local Bath charity.

The weekend of **6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> October** sees St Andrew's hosting the inaugural Somerset International Festival of the Arts. It's a real pleasure to welcome and support this festival, which includes a Family Workshop on the Saturday. More details are on page 12.

There is also a celebration of the Harvest at St Nicholas, Brockley on **1<sup>st</sup> October** at 5.30pm. The University choir will be providing musical support for this celebration.

During the vacancy, the church wardens aim to consult widely and to keep the community as a whole informed of progress towards the creation of a benefice profile and the search for a new Rector.

With warm greetings,  
Martin Canning

### Sundays in October

#### St Andrew's Church

**1<sup>st</sup> Trinity 17**

9.00am Little Lambs

10.45am Informal Worship and Word

**8<sup>th</sup> Trinity 18**

10.45am Sung Eucharist

**15<sup>th</sup> Trinity 19**

10.45am Informal Worship with Communion.

5.00pm Evensong

**22<sup>nd</sup> Trinity 20**

9.15am Sung Eucharist

10.45am Informal Worship and Word

**29<sup>th</sup> Bible Sunday**

10.45am Benefice Eucharist

4.00pm All Souls Service

#### St Bridget's Church

**1<sup>st</sup> Trinity 17**

5.30pm Harvest Service at St Nicholas, Brockley

**8<sup>th</sup> Trinity 18**

9.15am Morning Worship

**15<sup>th</sup> Trinity 19**

9.15am Holy Communion

#### Benefice Register of Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals in August 2023

##### Burial of Ashes

13<sup>th</sup> Susan Harker St Andrew's

24<sup>th</sup> Joan Garbutt St Andrew's

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 October we  
will be praying  
for people living  
in Russet Close,  
Mulberry Close,  
Embercourt Drive,  
Mariners Drive,  
Mariners Close**

#### 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/>

Rector	Rev'd Dr Catherine Garner Tel 01275 880463 <a href="mailto:rector@standrewsbackwell.org.uk">rector@standrewsbackwell.org.uk</a>
Reader	Martin Canning Tel 01275 790309
Lay Worship Assisstant	Carol Hellen Tel 01275 463810
Benefice Office	Tel 01275 463469 <a href="mailto:admin@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk">admin@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk</a>

## St Andrew's

Church Wardens	Cherry Leake Tel 0770 888 3075 <a href="mailto:leakefamily1@hotmail.com">leakefamily1@hotmail.com</a>
	Andy Pitcher Tel 07837281158
Bell Ringers	Rebecca Cox Tel 01275 462416
Organist and Choir Master	Andrew Colley <a href="mailto:music@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk">music@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk</a>
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 <a href="mailto:childrensworker@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk">childrensworker@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk</a>

## St Bridget's

Church Wardens	Vacancy
PCC Secretary	J Britton 01275 462007
PCC Treasurer	J Prior Tel 01275 852374

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

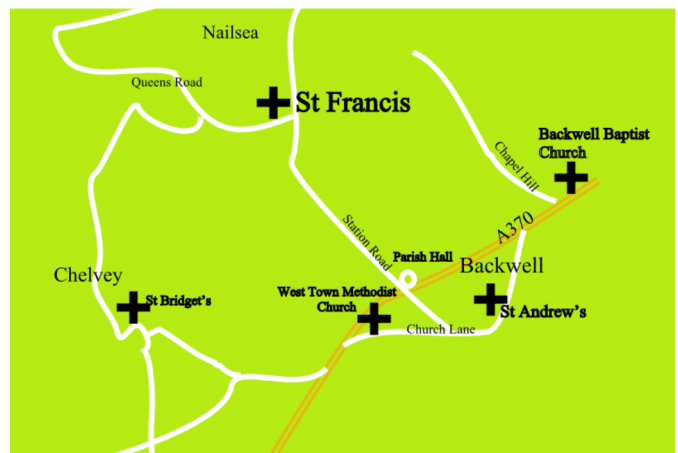
Pastor	Timothy Crossley	Tel 07521 787115
Secretary	David Nicklen	Tel 01934 876842
Treasurer	Ruth Ham	

## 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 <a href="mailto:zoe.germain@woodlandchurch.net">zoe.germain@woodlandchurch.net</a>
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STUDIO IN BACKWELL

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