

The Village Magazine

Backwell Chelvey Brockley



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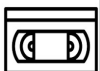
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The Village Magazine

Backwell Chelvey Brockley

A journey with purpose

What makes a good journey? Is it the scenery, the mode of transport, the snacks, company or destination? A timely thing to ponder as we are in holiday season and some of us may be travelling to different places near and far.

A memorable journey for me was travelling with my family to Myanmar in South East Asia when I was in my early 20's. It was the first time my mum was able to return to her home country after 30 years. It was an incredible experience to meet her wider family and get to know a beautiful country.

The purpose of the journey was for my mum to be reunited with extended family, and for us to be introduced to a country that forms our heritage. I remember clearly how my mum packed suitcases with presents for her aunts, uncles and cousins.

In the Bible, the book of Acts presents historical accounts of different journeys. Including when Paul journeyed to Damascus from Rome with the sole purpose of persecuting Christians. However, on the way Paul had a transforming encounter with Jesus, one which would change his life. His new purpose was to follow Jesus and make Him known wherever he went.

For each one of us, what is our purpose in life and how can we know? We discussed this recently at Hillside Church, and about how faith can come into it. Paul later writes in a letter to the Philippians, 'I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Jesus my Lord.'

Starting with what we are good at or passionate about can be helpful. My friend shared at church how she wanted to be a teacher, which then led to her working in a school in Lebanon, using the gifts she had to make a difference to the lives of young people. In the film, Forrest Gump, his mum says, "You have to do the best with what God gave you." An encouragement to make the most of your abilities and circumstances.

To journey with purpose is about the smaller details too. I try each morning to start my day remembering who God is and that I am loved by Him. Also, there is the Bible App, Lectio 365, which often starts with a simple prayer giving purpose to the day:

'Father, help me to live this day to the fullest, being true to you in every way. Jesus, help me to give myself away to others, being kind to everyone I meet....'

So whether you are heading to Myanmar or Mumbles on your holidays, it's a good time to think about your purpose, what you're passionate about and also that invitation to get to know Jesus.

The invitation is open to everyone.

Zoe Germain
Leader of Hillside Church, Woodlands Church Family

Cover photograph by Ann Belcher.

This picture of the lady creating lots of bubbles for the children to enjoy, was taken at the village event this year. I had forgotten that this was on but heard music coming from the park so went to investigate. I didn't take my camera (so unusual as it is nearly always with me!) However I did have my phone and the best camera is the one you have with you so took a few shots with it, not expecting to get anything useful. However when I downloaded

them, with a little bit of editing and using AI, I had some that were good to print.

If the only camera you have is your phone and find that your images are not as good as you expected when you took them, then you need a bit of help and that is what we can do for you at the Camera Club. We meet every Thursday evening at the WI hall from 7.30 starting again in September. We would be delighted to see you.



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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Parish Council Report – July Meeting Planning

Farleigh Fields East Alliance Homes will shortly take over ownership of the affordable homes. This will provide social housing for people on NSC's housing list. **Grove Farm** is progressing through the necessary stages. BPC will be working with Brockley PC on common issues.

Land North of Farleigh Road. Cllr Harland reported that the planning documents for the proposed development application have been submitted and may shortly be available to view on the NSC planning portal.

South Nailsea (Gleasons) Cllr Harland reported that historical data on flood risks has not been included in new documents. Councillors agreed to send a joint letter with Nailsea Town Council expressing serious concerns to the Environment Agency.

Bristol Airport Expansion Cllr Harland told Members that BPC's robust response had been submitted. Thanks were expressed to everyone involved in preparing the document.

Strawberries and Cream Cherry Tree Councillors support remedial pruning taking place, with the minimum being removed. Opportunities to graft the tree will be explored.

Transport and Highways Members discussed the safety of crossing the road outside Backwell Junior School. It was agreed that the school would be contacted to discuss the issue, and that BPC would review previously proposed schemes.

Cllr Hatcher expressed concern that the nighttime closure of Farleigh Road for resurfacing works in September are expected to take up to 15 nights. He asked if NSC could consider traffic management arrangements that maintain some level of access.

Cllr Power told Members that she has contacted NSC regarding the new 20mph speed limit on Farleigh Road. Proper signage needs to be in place as soon as possible.

Cllr Power reported that work is continuing to identify suitable locations for the proposed speed indicator signs with the necessary infrastructure.

Environment and Community

The digital noticeboard has been ordered. Cabling and other work will be needed prior to installation.

Downside Cllr Martin reported that residents at Downside had been expressing increasing concerns, particularly in relation to Bristol Airport. Cllr Harland noted that the Council's response to Bristol Airport's planning application addressed a wide range of issues. A temporary bus stop has been installed. If well used, BPC hope it will be made permanent.

Allotments. Work is ongoing to address water issues at the Allotments.

Seating Requests had been received for additional benches in the village, one suggestion being in the vicinity of the pharmacy. Additional seating may be placed near the Moor Lane Play Area subject to cost.

Cycle Racks Councillors agreed in principle to install more cycle racks in the village.

Play Equipment Councillors would like to replace and also add equipment at Moor Lane and Oatfield play areas. The Community Infrastructure Levy funds may be eligible to fund these.

The next full Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, 6th August 2026 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. All would be made most welcome.

Bridget for Backwell

We're definitely in full swing with the summer season of festivals and fun. Some of the things I love about Backwell are community days like the Walking Carnival and Fayre on the Fields. What a triumph to see so many organisations, fab volunteers with kids and adults having lots of fun.

The countdown is now on for the annual Backwell Village Show - a highlight, have you put the date in your diary – Saturday 19th September. The competition categories should be out now.

The Sea Shanty and Folk Music Festival dates are 31 July - 2nd August 2026, a great day out with lots of free performances around the town in Weston-super-Mare.

This summer we will again see FREE BUS travel for under 16s, so do get out and enjoy the area. When we spend locally we are helping our local economy. If your child may be looking over 16, I do recommend they carry some form of ID.

In other news, I have been informed there will be some minor changes to timetables of the X1/X1a and X9. I have not had the details yet, it is coming on 30th August, and I am sure it will be communicated at the stops, online and on the app. I'm keen to know if the new shelters are proving more accurate with their timetables. I know this was a frustration I used to have,

the new crossing is coming along near the leisure centre, something the school had requested to help students safely get to the bus stop. This was funded by the Persimmon development on Farleigh Road.

The road closure for re-surfacing has been delayed to early September, more information will be on the council website or One.Network is an excellent website for updates on planned road and utilities works. I do recognise that nighttime closures will be disruptive, but I'm sure we'll all benefit from resurfacing and new road markings when they are completed. I am assured that North Somerset Council does try to keep disruption and impact on major bus routes to a minimum.

I've reported a number of pot holes on Station Road, and they've now been repaired. You can do this easily online any time, on the North Somerset Council website it says Do It Online.

I hope everyone enjoys a summer holiday. I'll not be available the second half of August, I will be enjoying the UK beaches with my family.

Councillor Bridget Petty (She/Her)
Green Party Councillor for Backwell, North Somerset
Green Group Leader
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BACKWELL SCOUTS



group inland over the moor following the river past Watersmeet, both starting from Lynmouth and ending at the camp site which they all achieved. They were duly rewarded in the evening being bitten by midges but with a cooling swim in the adjacent Badgworthy Water. On Sunday each team walked another 10 miles going from the camp site and back to Lynmouth - some coast path confusion was successfully overcome! A stop off at McDonalds in Taunton on the way home completed a very successful and rewarding weekend.

Summer camp preparations are under way with site booked and

Monday Cubs

This month we have planned and put into action a beach clean at Weston Super Mare. This included designing and making sand draggers which retrieved rubbish beneath the sand. The Cubs have also investigated the history of Backwell, looking at old photos and discovering how Backwell was described in the Domesday Book.

Most recently the Cubs have spent an evening in the woods identifying trees and plants and playing wide games.

Helen

Tuesday Scouts

It has been hot lately so clearly a good time to test strength, resilience, stamina and all round fitness with a mini 'Hyrox' (Hybrid Rockstar-strength and endurance) course around the Playing Fields! Rolling barrels, lugging gas bottles and wheelbarrowing were amongst the half dozen activity stations with a full run around the arena between the completion of each station. The end result is that all our Scouts are confirmed fit, some more than others but all successfully challenged themselves and proved their mettle.

The older Scouts went off for a weekend on Exmoor undertaking their Expedition Challenge. The first challenge was putting up tents on an impossibly small terraced plot at Cloud Farm which was somehow completed with great success. Saturday was day one of the walk, a 10 mile hike with one group on the Southwest Coast Path passing the Foreland Point Lighthouse along the way and the other

activities arranged, so something to look forward to next month!

Ian

Thursday Beavers

We have been very busy this term and managed to keep cool outside. Athletics & silly games, learning about rewilding, pitching tents and road safety with the green x code.

New skills and adventures greeting them at Glenny Woods Activity Centre, pond dipping, confidence course and grass sledging. Great fun was had by all.

Our summer term ends with our family picnic and water games !!

1ST BACKWELL NEED YOU !!

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SCHOOL NEWS

Summer at Backwell School

As another successful academic year draws to a close, we would like to share some of the many highlights from recent weeks at Backwell School and thank our parish community for its continued support throughout the year.

One of the standout events of the summer term has been our annual Summer Concerts. These wonderful evenings showcased the extraordinary talent, dedication and confidence of students from across all year groups. With performances ranging from ensembles to solo acts, the concerts were a true celebration of music and the performing arts. It has been particularly pleasing to see participation continue to grow year on year, reflecting both the enthusiasm of our students and the exceptional work of our Performing Arts staff and visiting music teachers. The concerts were filled with energy, creativity and joy, and provided a fitting reminder of the richness of school life beyond the classroom. If you haven't yet had the opportunity to attend one of our concerts or school productions, we warmly encourage you to join us in the new academic year. They are wonderful celebrations of our students' talent, creativity and confidence, and I am sure you will not be disappointed.

Another major highlight has been our annual Enrichment Week, which provides students with invaluable opportunities to learn through experience, challenge themselves and develop lasting friendships. Despite some disruption caused by the weather, students embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm and resilience. Year 7 enjoyed activities at Mendip Activity Centre, Year 8 took part in exciting challenges and animal encounters, Year 9 experienced a full programme of outdoor adventure activities on the south coast, Year 10 completed work experience placements, and Year 12 participated in Future Careers Week. Throughout the week, students demonstrated kindness, courage and ambition, supporting one another while creating memories that will stay with them for years to come.

We have also enjoyed celebrating important milestones for our older students. Year 11 and Year 13 completed their public examinations with maturity and determination, while their Proms and Celebration Ball provided wonderful opportunities to mark the end of significant chapters in their school journeys. We wish them every success as they move forward to the next stage of their education and careers.

Looking ahead, we are particularly excited about welcoming our new Year 7 students in September. Transition events have already given many pupils their first taste of life at Backwell, and it has been wonderful to see their excitement about joining our community. Our existing students were excellent ambassadors, demonstrating the kindness and support that underpin our school values. We look forward to officially welcoming the new cohort and their families at the start of the new academic year.

We are also looking forward to our Open Evening on Thursday 17 September, and the subsequent daily tours of the school, one of the highlights of the school calendar. This is always a genuine celebration of Backwell School, when we have the opportunity to showcase the outstanding learning, enrichment opportunities and sense of community that make our school so special. We greatly enjoy opening our doors to prospective students and families and sharing all that Backwell has to offer.

As the summer holidays begin, we would like to thank the parish community for the encouragement, support and friendship you have shown throughout this academic year. Your goodwill and interest in the life of the school are deeply valued and play an important role in helping our young people flourish. On behalf of our students, staff and governors, we wish you a restful, happy and blessed summer. We look forward to strengthening our partnership with you in the new academic year, because it is through working together, supporting one another and sharing in the success of our young people that we truly demonstrate what it means to say, 'We Are Backwell'.



Will Penny
Headteacher

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The Backwell Village Show

Save the Date! The Backwell Village Show is returning on Saturday, 19th September 2026. We are thrilled to bring our wonderful community together once again for a fantastic day of colour, creativity and friendly competition.

Hosted across the WI and Parish Halls, this annual tradition is entirely free to enter and offers something special for every member of the family. Whether you are a keen gardener, an aspiring baker, a talented crafter, or a passionate photographer, we have exhibition classes tailored for all ages and skill levels. It is your time to shine and showcase your unique talents!

Beyond the friendly competitions, you can look forward to engaging children's activities, displays from our dedicated local groups, and a fund-raising raffle. After viewing the entries in the afternoon, unwind at our cafe and indulge in a traditional cream tea while catching up with neighbours.

In early September we will host a special activity morning for children to start making some entries and for you to find out more and meet the show committee.

Mark your calendars, spread the word, and start working on your entries! For the latest updates, entry guidelines, and schedule announcements, please visit our website at www.backwellvillageshow.co.uk or follow us on Facebook @backwellvillageshow.

Come and Watch the Highlight of the Croquet Season

Nailsea and District Croquet Club is looking forward to the highlight of the season: Finals Weekend (26-27 Sept). A multitude of club trophies will be fought for in an end of season battle, seeing the top players in each discipline perform. Most forms of the game will be played, including speed croquet against the clock. Members of the public are welcome to come and watch, for free. Club members will be on hand to explain what is happening.

The club can be found off Avening Close, Nailsea, BS48 4TB; <https://what3words.com/pose.lame.former>). Details can be found at <https://www.nailsea-croquet.org.uk/>. For more information, contact Erica on ericacroquet@gmail.com or 07754 092800.



Picnic & Praise

"On 19th July, four local churches gathered for 'Picnic & Praise' on the beautiful Backwell fields 🌞🎵
 ❤️ We enjoyed singing, praying, catching up with friends, enjoying the sunshine, and celebrating community!"



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Rotary Nailsea & Backwell

July being the start of the Rotary Year we started with Committee Leads reporting on their proposals for the year. The Golf Day in tropical heat raised funds for Prostate Cancer Charity. The club meeting involved a slideshow of our previous year's activities and illustrated talks about Rome and Peru. We also visited the American Museum at Bath to see an original copy of the Declaration of Independence. Amazingly, we won our second match in the District Boules Competition but lost in the quarter finals of the Skittles Competition.

In August we will be seeing a video and hearing about Turning Nailsea Pink plus having a speaker from Cancer Research UK and in September we have a professional speaker talking about Bristol born Viscount, Field Marshal 'Bill' Slim of 'The Forgotten Army' who became Governor General of Australia.

We are looking for community minded individuals that want to have fun to join us, More information on our website www.rotarynailsea.org or email us enquiries@rotarynailsea.org.

Our Trust Fund has donated £500 to Shelterbox for their Venezuelan Earthquake Appeal; they quickly started providing emergency accommodation and other life essentials in the affected areas. They work closely with Venezuelan Rotary Clubs to ensure effective aid is provided where it is most needed.





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The Walking Carnival Report - Backwell Climate Action

The Walking Carnival provided fun for our community whilst emphasising the need for rewinding our environment. Dance displays, a range of music from local to world soloists, food stalls, dog shows and a variety of stalls catered for all ages and tastes. The Theatre Club's 'Oscar re-wilding' was a great take on the theme.

Funding from the Parish Council and Nailsea Community Trust with the permission from the Playing Fields Committee makes it all possible. To all the stall holders and activity facilitators a huge thanks.

We are a small team, this year helped enormously by Sian and Rebecca who kept the social media up to date. Jane Atherton and Stewart England are the driving force.

That's not to say we wouldn't welcome anyone else to join us.

26th Sept: Please help us Litterpick Backwell's Hedges and Verges

Could you come and help for an hour or so? Clear the rubbish so that wildlife does not become entangled with it, and so that it does not fragment into seriously polluting microplastic particles.

The next Backwell Litterpick will be at 2.30pm on Saturday 26th September. Meet outside The Spar on Rodney Road at 2.30pm. We have litterpickers to lend out but please bring your own garden gloves, if possible.

Forthcoming Dates: Sat 26th September, Sat 31st October, Sat 28th November
Email
sustainablebackwell@gmail.com for more info.



Backwell Garden Club

The Garden Club August Meeting on the 19th has Sarah Mead, Director of Yeo Valley Organic Garden telling the story of the garden. The Club meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month in the WI Hall, Station Road, Backwell. BS48 3QW at 1.45pm for a 2pm prompt start. Visitors and potential new members are always welcome to just come along.

For further information please contact Robin Langford, Chairman, on either 07811693579 or email rclangford64@gmail.com

Backwell & Nailsea Macular Support

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 26th August, at the W.I. Hall, Station Road, Backwell at 2.30 p.m. Members and supporters, please note the change of time; this is because we shall be having afternoon tea together!!

A coach trip is planned for Thursday 3rd September to the American Museum in Bath, leaving Backwell at 10.30 a.m. If anyone is interested at this late date, please ring Sheila, 01275 462107, to see if there is a seat.

Nailsea District Leg Club

Two successful fund raisers held recently boosted Leg Club funds, so many thanks to those who donated, helped and bought handbags, raising over £400. Plus thanks to sponsors and walkers who took part in the Rotary Club charity walk, which brought in more than £600.

This helps to keep Leg Club going at Nailsea Tithe Barn every Wednesday 9.00 -11.30 a.m. where expert advice and treatment is provided by our qualified nursing team, for anyone registered with Tyntesfield Medical Group with lower leg issues. Wednesday mornings at the Tithe Barn are always lively, with lots of friendly chat, entertainment, occasionally a tombola, but always refreshments (with cake!).

Leg Club would be pleased to welcome more volunteers, maybe twice a month, either to set up and then chat with members (patients), or as drivers to bring members to the Tithe Barn (these members must be able to walk from their front door to the car, so no lifting necessary.) Of course new members are welcome too, the doors are always open for anyone who wants to come and investigate – curiosity can be satisfied!

For more information call Carole Brooke: 07954 302498.

Backwell and Nailsea Support Group for Carers

Inviting all carers (anyone who takes care of a spouse, partner, relative, friend, neighbour etc on a regular basis) to join us on Wednesday 5th August 2026 at the WI Hall in Backwell from 2.00 pm - 3.30 pm.

Subject: In-house activity - My Favourite Holiday Place (talk, photos, postcards, souvenirs etc) Come and join us for support, friendship, entertainment and a short respite from your caring role. The afternoon includes a quiz, raffle, delicious refreshments and a warm welcome - all free of charge. New carers are always welcome, any age or gender. Look forward to seeing you. Beverley, Carol, Cath, Chris and Mel (Volunteers).



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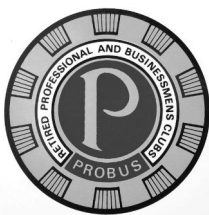
West Town & Backwell WI

Wednesday 19th August - Join us for A Summer Evening's Walk to St Nicholas' Church, Brockley. Join our friendly group of women for a summer evening's walk. Meet at The Rising Sun pub in Backwell at 7:00pm for a prompt departure. The walk is expected to take 45 minutes each way, and there will be a short talk by a member of the Churches Conservation Trust when we arrive at St Nicholas' Church. The event is free to members and £3 for visitors. Well-behaved dogs are welcome! For more information, email BackwellWI@gmail.com or find us on Facebook or www.backwellwi.org.uk



Backwell Probus Club Report

Since our last report, we have had two meetings, the first was a talk by Ian Selby on "The Billy Cotton Band Show". Billy Cotton was born in 1899 and his music career started in the 1920's, but became better known for his Radio and TV shows in the 1950's and caught the public's attention with his catch-phrase "Wakey Wakey". He introduced many performers who became stars, such as Russ Conway and many others. Our second talk was "UN peacekeeping not fit for purpose" and was given by Brian Barber. He started with the establishment of the United Nations organisation in 1945 by 50 nations. Much later a UN Peace-keeping force was formed by a retired Canadian general in 1994. They first started to sort out the conflicts in the Congo in 2003 with the peace-keeping force largely drawn from Ghana. They have tried to stop fighting in Liberia and Sudan and have descended into bad practices of rape in their attempts to stop the conflicts. Brian was involved with a charity overseeing all this mess and obviously was pretty critical.



For our next meetings in August, we can look forward to talks on "Carting Boy to Area Manager" and "Sink the Tirpitz, the Life of Godfrey Place VC". We meet 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

St Andrew's Ladies Group

The committee ran a quiz in May and after an initial slow response, over forty members came along with their friends and families to fill every available space, the evening proved to be a great success. We raised enough money to give a generous cheque to our charity which was The Children's Air Ambulance Service.

The ladies were disappointed in June as our planned trip to Devon had to be cancelled as we couldn't quite fill the fifty seater coach to make the trip viable. We meet again after the summer break on Monday September 14th for our AGM. Our new chosen charity for the coming year will be St Peter's Hospice,

which is the wonderful regional charity which supports those in need of end of life care. We are always pleased to see new members or visitors who just want to join us to listen to a particular speaker. We meet at St Andrew's Church house at 7.30pm on the second Monday of each month at 7.30pm, do join us. Gillian Vasey. Group leader.

St Andrews Mothers' Union

Due to unforeseen circumstances our speaker for our June meeting was unable to come at the last minute.

Elizabeth Reay, a Diocesan member, was at the meeting and volunteered to talk about her recent trip to St Paul's in London for the celebration of Mary Sumner, our founder and the 150 year anniversary. This was an important and moving celebration involving many from overseas branches including a friend of Elizabeth's whom she had met when visiting a Mothers' Union branch in Australia. There were questions from our members and several reminisced about our past branch excursions to Alford, Hampshire where Mary Sumner lived and the visit to Winchester Cathedral where she is buried. Our numbers were low due to the extreme heat, however those who attended spent a very enjoyable couple of hours.

We do not meet in August so our next meeting will be our Harvest Lunch on Tuesday September 22nd at 12 noon in Church House. Visitors are always welcome to our meetings which unless otherwise stated are on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 2.15 in Church House.



Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Thank you to everyone who braved the heatwave to visit our home and garden in June. It was a joy to share a space filled with craft, art, sculpture and plenty of delicious cream teas.

Thanks to your generosity, we raised £465 for Cancer Research UK and £1,605 for Children's Hospice South West.

A pink coat was left behind and later discovered in our wardrobe — please get in touch if it's yours.

Wishing you a wonderful, sunshine-filled summer.

Paul and Renate O'Donnell

The Meeting Point in August

Summer Activities
2026

We have been overwhelmed by the enthusiastic response to our TMP school summer holiday kids activities. All 180 spaces booked on the first day of booking! We are sorry if you have been disappointed. To accommodate the demand we will divide sessions into 2 groups . 10-10.45 and 11-11.45 to release another 15 places for drumming, Noah's Ark, cooking, and collage.

There will be other activities on offer for the whole of the 2 hour session (construction, craft, books, board games etc).

The events and refreshments will be free but there will be an opportunity for you to donate towards costs if you are able.

Please release your booking by texting/phoning 07851 438530 if you find you are unable to attend/ your child gets a better offer/ is not well/ doesn't want to come etc etc. so that the place may be used Thank you for your understanding.

All children must be accompanied by a parent/carer.
Booking through Eventbrite (QR code with this article).

The sessions are :

July 28th. Craft with Sarah
August 4th Drums with Josh
August 10th Noah's Ark.
August 18th Cook with Tamsin
August 25th Circus Skills

September 1st. Collage with Sue

Of course there will as ever be a warm welcome and refreshments (yoga refugees? 😊) from 10-12 during the school holiday. There are comfortable sofas in the committee rooms if the hall is too noisy for you. Come for coffee, cake and chat.

Lunches as usual. Soup August 4th. Scotty's 2 course. August 18th

August calendar

Tuesday 4th 12.00	Children's Activities.	10-
- 12.45	Informal communion	12.15
	Soup lunch.	£7
	Close	2.30
Tuesday 11th 12.00	Children's Activities.	10-
Tuesday 18th 12.00	Children's Activities.	10-
3.00	Scotty's 2 cours	
	Close	
Tuesday 25th 10.00-12.00.	Children's activi	

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The Meeting Point in July

Summer Activities 2026

We are looking forward to our school summer holiday kids activities. 10am - 12pm on Tuesdays. As usual the events and refreshments will be free but there will be an opportunity for you to donate towards costs. All children to be accompanied by a parent/carer. 30 places per morning. Booking through Eventbrite from 1st July (QR code with this article). If you book but are unable to come please cancel to release your place. This will avoid disappointing families when there would have been space. Please call or send a message to 07851 438530

The sessions are :	July 28th. Craft with Sarah	August 4th	Drums with Josh
	August 10th Noah's Ark.	August 18th	Cook with Tamsin
	August 25th Circus Skills	September 1st	Collage with Sue

Of course there will as usual be a warm welcome and refreshments for all from 10-12 during the school holiday. There are comfortable sofas in the committee room if the hall is too noisy for you. Come for coffee, cake and chat. Swap a book?

July calendar

Tuesday 7th	Yoga 11.00-12.00. Informal communion Soup lunch. Close 4.30	Refreshments from 10.30 £2 12.15 - 12.45 £7
Tuesday 14th	Yoga with Nina. £5 11-12. Close 4.30	Refreshments from 10.30. £2
Tuesday 21st.	Yoga with Nina. £5. Scotty's 2 course lunch Close 3.00	Refreshments from 10.30. £2 £9
Tuesday 28th	Children's activities. 10.00-12.00. Close. 12.00.	Open for refreshments for all.



The Village Magazine: A Journey of Shared Purpose

By Allan Rhodes, Editor

What makes a good journey? In this month's edition, Zoe Germain from Hillside Church invites us to reflect on that very question as we navigate the holiday season. She reminds us that a memorable journey requires clear purpose, whether travelling across the globe to reconnect with family roots or discovering new ways to give ourselves away to others right here at home. Reading her words caused me to reflect on my own recent journey as Editor of The Village Magazine. It also brought to mind a fascinating piece of Backwell history I recently sat down with: Martin Weeks' booklet, Reflections from the Tennis Shed, which gathers stories of village life between 1931 and 1989.

Holding that booklet made me consider the true purpose of our magazine 37 years on. How does a hyper-local, independent publication survive, and indeed thrive? The answer lies in a concept that economists call community-supported initiatives. Just as Martin Weeks' booklet was a labour of love, our monthly magazine is sustained not by commercial profit, but by a quiet, collective partnership.

We do not operate as a traditional business selling a product to passive consumers. Instead, we are an ecosystem built on shared stewardship. The magazine exists to weave the life of our village together, relying on three interconnected roots that keep us standing, come rain or shine.

First, our local businesses provide the essential financial baseline. By placing their adverts with us, they cover our paper and print bills while staying connected to local households. Secondly, our readers and donors provide stability. Voluntary annual contributions demonstrate the value residents place on an independent local voice, shielding the publication from external economic pressures. Finally, our contributors give the magazine its heart and soul. From the Parish Council, schools, WI, sports clubs, and local groups to the talented members of our Backwell Camera Club, content is gifted by the community, for the community. Add our dedicated volunteer distributors, and the shared nature of our task becomes clear.

A community-supported initiative shifts our mindset from being mere consumers to being active partners in the place we inhabit. Every month, as this magazine comes together through our combined efforts, I see that purpose in action. Thank you to everyone who reads, contributes to, and supports this publication. You are all vital partners in keeping Backwell's voice alive.

If you have a story, local news update, or event to share for the next edition, or if you would like to support our shared publication through an annual reader donation, please do get in touch at backwellvillagemag@gmail.com.

BACKWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

Baptist Church Services

2nd August

Preacher: Tim Crossley

Service Leader: Tim Crossley

Passage: Joshua 22

Theme: Dividing the Land & Eastern Tribes Return

Home

9th August (Communion)

Preacher: Neil Mobbs

Service Leader: Tim Crossley

Passage Joshua 23

Theme: Joshua's Farewell

16th August

Preacher: Tim Crossley

Service Leader: Dawn Jefferies

Passage: Joshua 24

Theme: Joshua's Legacy and the Covenant

Renewed

23rd August

Preacher: Tim Crossley

Service Leader: Tim Crossley

Passage: Ruth 1-4

Theme: Ruth's Story

30th August

No service today. If you are around, you'd be very welcome at Nailsea Baptist Church.

WEST TOWN METHODIST CHURCH

West Town Methodist Church

Sunday Services, at 10.30 am

July	5th	Rev David Sharpe	Communion
	12th	Rev Preben Andersen	
	19th	Rev Sally Ratcliffe	
	26th	Alan Emery	

The Hub - Monday mornings 10.00 to 12.00, where a warm welcome awaits you for a cuppa and a chat. Feel free to bring along knitting, crocheting, puzzles, craft project etc., or simply enjoy the conversation! Any info, please contact Ann Pullan Email: ann.pullan@btinternet.com or Shirley Edwards: tsmce12@gmail.com

Ready Teddy Sing – our babies and toddler group. Every Tuesday
10.00 – 12.00 during term time

Knitting Group – Tuesday evenings, in schoolroom.

Art Group – Wednesday mornings in schoolroom

Wednesday Fellowship Group

Dates and venue tba

Thursday Fellowship Group

2nd July at Jan Lydon's 10.30 for 11.00

16th July 11.30 am at Rooted

Hire of building

West Town Methodist Church is in the centre of the village and provides ample comfortable space for small gatherings, meetings, children's parties etc. For details please contact Julie on Email: ratcliffedj@btinternet.com

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

Services in August

St Andrew's Church

Sunday 2nd 11.00am	9th Sunday after Trinity Informal Communion
Sunday 9th 11.00am 5.00pm	10th Sunday after Trinity Sung Eucharist Said Evening Prayer
Sunday 16th 9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	11th Sunday after Trinity Café Church Sung Eucharist Said Evening Prayer
Sunday 23rd 9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	12th Sunday after Trinity Café Church Sung Eucharist with Baptism Said Evening Prayer
Sunday 30th 11.00am 5.00pm	13th Sunday after Trinity Sung Eucharist Said Evening Prayer

St Bridget's Church

Sunday 2nd 9.15am	9th Sunday after Trinity Holy Communion
Sunday 9th 9.15am	10th Sunday after Trinity Morning Prayer
Sunday 16th 9.15am	11th Sunday after Trinity Holy Communion
Sunday 23rd 9.15am	12th Sunday after Trinity Morning Worship
Sunday 30th 9.15am	13th Sunday after Trinity Morning Prayer

St Bridget's Church

Our Summer Cream Tea at the home of Howard and Barbara Walton was a great success. Blessed with glorious weather, we enjoyed a wonderful afternoon in their beautiful garden, with a fantastic turnout of neighbours and friends. Our sincere thanks to Howard and Barbara for hosting, and to everyone who came along — together we raised over £500 towards the maintenance and upkeep of the church.

Our regular Coffee Mornings continue through the summer, with the next held on Saturday 1st August, 10am to 12 noon, at the church. Do join us for coffee, cake and a chance to explore our beautiful 12th century Church, which has stood at the heart of Chelvey for almost nine hundred years.

Sunday services continue every week at 9.15am — a very warm welcome awaits anyone who would like to join us.

Looking ahead to the Autumn, we're delighted to welcome Chris Yeo from Clevedon Salerooms for an Antiques Evening on Thursday 10th September at 6.30pm. Bring along your antiques to learn more about them (please, no clocks, medals, jewellery or coins) — light refreshments will be provided, with

donations welcome on the day. To reserve a seat, please ring Sue on 01275 853879.

For information about all our services and events, please visit our website www.stbridgetschelvey.co.uk.



St Francis

After a busy few months, August is a time to relax with families and friends. The Parishioners of St Francis would like to wish everyone a happy, safe and peaceful summer break; time to enjoy a well deserved break from School and work. During this time our hall is going to be repainted, giving a fresh look for September. We celebrate the feast of the Assumption on Sunday 16th August. This feast is widely celebrated all over Christendom. The Holy day marks the occasion of the Virgin Mary's bodily ascent into heaven at the end of her earthly life.

Please see website: www.josephfrancis.org for all Mass times and Livestreaming.

Christians Together In & around Backwell

St. Andrew's

Rector: Rev'd Sam Norton revsamnorton@gmail.com Tel 07771349319 (Day off: Friday)

Benefice Office: admin@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk Tel 01275 463469 (Open Tue, Thu & Fri 9.30-12.30)

Church Wardens: Cherry Leake Tel 0770 888 3075 leakefamily1@hotmail.com / Andy Pitcher Tel 07837281158

Bell Ringers: Rebecca Cox Tel 01275 462416

Director of Music: Edward Stancombe BackwellMusic@outlook.com

PCC Secretary: Vacant- contact via Church Wardens

PCC Treasurer: Lesley Barratt Tel 07929 093888

Mothers' Union: Co-ordinator Marie Bale Tel 01275 269246

Ladies Group: Leader Gillian Vasey Tel:07892004836

St Andrew's Art Group: Lindsey Busby Tel 01275 852348

Children's Worker: Timi Booy currently on maternity leave

Benefice of Backwell and Chelvey with Brockley

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

St Bridget's

- Church Wardens
 - Roger Watson 01275 462821
 - Sue Bougourd 01275 853879
- PCC Secretary
 - J Britton 01275 462007
- PCC Treasurer
 - Marcus Merry

Roman Catholic Church of St Francis

Parish Priest
Father Frank Wainwright
Tel 01275 851530
www.josephfrancis.org

West Town Methodist Church

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

- Minister
 - Revd Sally Ratcliffe- 01275 852473
- Church Stewards
 - Val Sowerby
 - Heather Bentley
 - Shirley Edwards
 - Brian Kemmish
 - Sarah Ould
 - Julie Ratcliffe
 - May Vivian
- Treasurer: Nigel Hardman - 01275 851581

Backwell Baptist Church

Chapel Hill, BS48 3PW

Minister Rev'd. Tim Crossley

Children / Toddler Activities (& DSL) - Sarah Crossley

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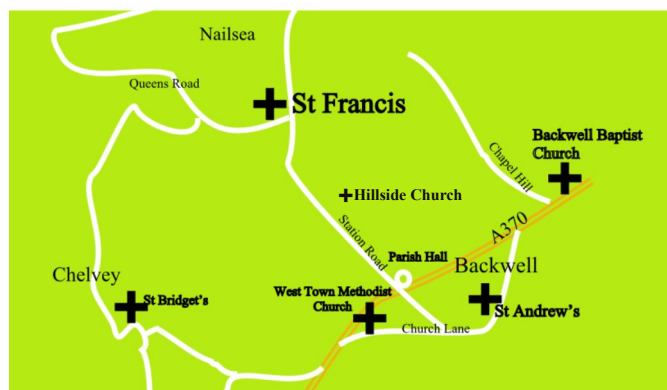
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Hillside Church, part of Woodlands Church Family

Meeting every Sunday 11am
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Church Leader: Zoe Germain

For more details email: hillside@woodlandschurch.net



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