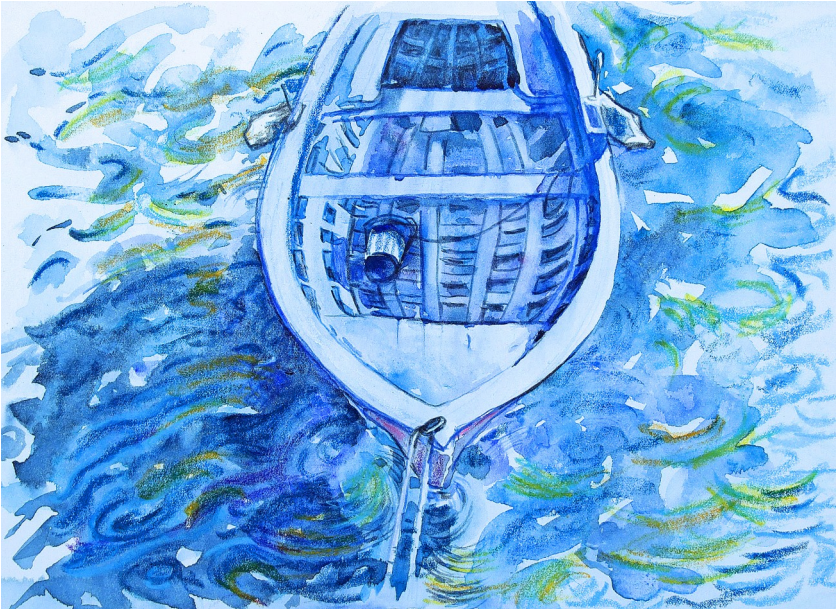


# MOMSS MAGAZINE

This edition of the MOMSS magazine has been sponsored anonymously so that it can continue to be delivered free of charge to each home in our villages. We are very grateful to our sponsors.



Resting on the Ebb Tide  
Drawing by Anne Farmer  
(1944 - 2024)

## OCTOBER 2024

News & Views for our MOMSS villages of  
Middlezoy, Othery, Moorlinch, Stawell,  
Sutton Mallet and Greinton

Printed by: Media Edge UK Ltd, Bridgwater, 01278 450406

# MOMSS MAGAZINE

This publication is hand delivered  
**FREE** to over 1,040 homes within the  
villages in the United Benefice:  
**Middlezoy, Othery, Moorlinch,  
Stawell, Sutton Mallet & Greinton**

It can also be found at:

[www.middlezoyvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.middlezoyvillagehall.org.uk)

and [www.stawellvillage.info](http://www.stawellvillage.info) and

[www.achurchnearyou.com/Othery/page](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/Othery/page)

MOMSS is issued 11 times a year (there is a joint December/January issue) and is designed as a Community Magazine. It is produced by volunteers, with the authority of the United Benefice Churchwardens, for the villagers' benefit.

## EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

**Committee:** Richard Graham, Anita Winslade, Jane Stryker and Isobel Davis.

**Editor this month:** Anita Winslade

**Compiler this month:** Isobel Davis

## NEWS ARTICLES

We regret we cannot guarantee inclusion of articles or photographs and may need to edit copy due to space limitations.

**Submitting articles:** Copy preferred in Microsoft Word format.

Email to [momssgeditor@live.co.uk](mailto:momssgeditor@live.co.uk)

300 word limit please.

Submit handwritten copy via one of the members of the committee if you are unable to find someone to help you transfer it to email. We cannot guarantee its accurate inclusion.

**Submitting photos or artwork:**

also [momssgeditor@live.co.uk](mailto:momssgeditor@live.co.uk)

We gladly accept news and views from all groups or individuals, however, the Committee has overriding editorial control. We cannot accept liability for loss or damage arising from any error, inaccuracies or omission from any copy or advertising. The views expressed in the magazine are not necessarily those of the United Benefice, the Editorial teams or the publisher.

## MOMSS Publishing House Style

Articles submitted to the magazine are put into MOMSS house style. This uses Gill Sans 10pt for general text with Gill Sans bold 10pt for sub-headings. Arial Black 10pt is used for main headings. Example of our date format is '25 December' – the st, rd, th are only used after dates with no month alongside. There is no need to insert year unless referring to year ahead. We use a 12 hour time format eg '5.30pm'. Italics, bold or underlining will not be included.

## Advertising costs

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**This magazine is edition  
number 9 of volume 21**

**DON'T FORGET !  
November edition deadlines:  
Adverts 12 October  
Articles 15 October**

## FROM THE EDITOR

Autumn brings with it mellowness and the realisation of time passing and the world around us changing. Life on earth goes through its cycle: birth, growth, maturity, fading, wilting, withering and expiration. But not all is totally lost – the cycle restarts! From deep roots new life will form and be born, growth and maturity will endure. Life will go on as normal and we shall see it time and time again.

It is with great sadness that we have suffered the blow of the loss of our talented cover drawing artist, Anne Farmer. Some of her many talents were expressed with her drawings, paintings and book writing. Her generosity of letting us use her artwork for the magazine cover has given pleasure to many people over the years and especially the magazine team.

Anne's daughter Nancy has agreed for us to continue to use and re-use her drawings – several of which we have not previously used and are in hand. We are most grateful to the Farmer family.

October sees us looking back over the summer months (yes, we did have a summer!) and in this edition there are fulsome reports of events in our six villages of the benefice and also of the wider world.

We may have an 'Indian Summer' this October, I hope so. If we are so fortunate then I fully intend to enjoy it and wish you all a Happy Autumn. *Anita Winslade, Editor, 01823 698368*

## GENERAL ITEMS

### ANNE FARMER

It is with great sadness that we have to report that local artist Anne Farmer died on 29 August, little more than a month away from her 80th birthday. To mark Anne's passing the Moorlinch bellringers tolled the tenor bell 79 times and friends and family lit a candle in her memory on Friday 6 September.

Since February 2006 Anne has supplied the MOMSS magazine with pictures and drawings for its covers. Both Anne and her artwork will also be familiar to visitors to Moorlinch Vineyard, both as a working vineyard and subsequently as Anne's venue during Somerset Arts Weeks.

Anne enthusiastically and skilfully recorded the world around her:

*"Boats and barns, sheep and shoes, flowers and feathers... (plus artistry and alliteration, obviously)... you will see I paint what takes my fancy! I love the verve and light of watercolours and I try to show the variety of things you can do with them".*

In recent years she was also inspired by her dog, Petra, a lively and naughty black Labrador who erupted onto the scene after the death of Anne's dearly missed husband Peter, Petra's almost-namesake, at the beginning of 2020.

MOMSS magazine would like to express their sadness at her death, and their gratitude at her generosity in her tireless supply of images for publication. She will be greatly missed by us all: friends, family and readers.

Those who would like to attend her memorial service at 12.30pm on 9 October at Moorlinch Church and afterwards at the Ring o' Bells are very welcome to do so **but**



**please email Nancy Farmer** (Anne's daughter) for details and importantly so that she will know you are coming and can get an idea of numbers.

Thank you, with warmest regards, Nancy Farmer [mail@nancyfarmer.net](mailto:mail@nancyfarmer.net)

MOMSS Magazine Committee

## **SKY AT NIGHT Sky Diary October 2024**

### **Sunrise Sunset**

Beginning of October 7.13am-6.49pm

End of October 7.03am-4.47pm

### **Moon Phases**

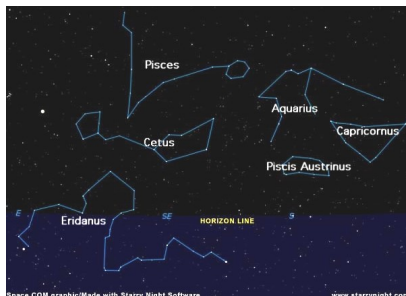
New Moon 2nd / First Quarter 10th / Full Moon 17th / Last Quarter 24th

### **Planets**

Venus although bright is difficult to see as it sits low in the west as the sun goes down before setting at 7pm because of the bright evening twilight. Saturn is visible all evening into the early hours when it sets at 3.30am. Jupiter rises at 8.30pm and is a splendid bright object, which along with Mars appearing at 11pm means we have good views of the planets before midnight.

### **Constellation**

The sky looking south at this time of year is full of watery constellations! Looking here at around 11.30pm we have left to right the constellations of Eridanus (a river), Cetus (the monster whale), Pisces (two fish), Aquarius (the water carrier), Capricornus (the sea goat) and above these we have Delphinus (the dolphin) and below Pisces Austrinus (the southern fish). Get your fishing net ready (binoculars) and see what you can catch in this interesting area of sky.



### **Phenomena**

The biggest and brightest super moon rises just after 6pm on Thursday 17th and on the morning of Sunday 27th our clocks go back one hour at 2am as British Summer Time (BST) ends and we revert to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

*Paul Adamson 01823 698156*

## **SOMERSET LEVELS STARGAZERS**

Our October meeting is on Wednesday 30th at 7.30pm in Othery Village Hall TA7 0QU when committee member Brian Fraser gives a talk on unmanned lunar landers. We also have a night sky guide for October and astronomy news. Admission is £3 with membership available. Free tea and coffee are also provided. We are also on Zoom. For more details please contact [somersetlevelsstargazers@hotmail.com](mailto:somersetlevelsstargazers@hotmail.com) Follow us on Facebook.

*Paul Adamson, 01823698156*

## **FARM DIARY**

This is written for non-farmers who live surrounded by farmland.

**In the Field.** October is the month for drilling cereals. Also, the maize harvest will be underway. Farms can be 'ring fenced' which means that public roads do not need to be used to get from field to field. In our case, we use public roads all the time and this also is quite common. Generally, we do not have roads with hedges on banks as is common in Devon but there are single track roads. Consideration is the key and being able to

reverse your car. It is difficult to reverse a tractor and silage trailer on the highway even if one has a camera on the rear of the trailer. We do not have this although we have fitted one to our combine as it is a long and wide vehicle.

**Vegans.** "Going vegan could be really bad for your health" wrote David Cox in a Sunday Telegraph article dated 8 September. He quoted a lot a Dr Geoff Mullan, who has an internet presence. A vegan diet is considered good for weight loss and heart health as well as being better for the planet. The latter this writer has considered debatable in previous diaries. As regards health, it is known that babies and the very young should not be on a vegan diet although this was not in his article. The article examined Dr Mullan's thoughts on six key nutrients you can't get easily from plants: vitamin B12, calcium, DHA (an omega 3), iron, zinc, selenium. Some of these are not available from plants and some nutrients such as zinc and calcium are more difficult to absorb from a plant-based diet. Before changing to a vegan diet, this author suggests a lot of reading from practitioners who have credentials. This author thinks of meat and dairy as being nutrient dense and what the body is used to having.

**Fleeces.** A fashion guru said the other day that with clothes getting cheaper we have been buying a lot more of them. As most are from man-made materials, this does not seem wise from an environmental point of view. As mentioned before, sheep are shorn once a year and their fleeces have little market value. We are starting to use them as a weed suppressant around newly planted trees. They will also retain moisture and keep the soil warm. All these conditions should make our trees grow well. They will have done their job if they last two years. The tree in this tube was planted in the early spring and has green leaves although it has not been watered by hand.

## WESTERN FRONT ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of the Somerset branch is in Othery Village Hall, Fore St, TA7 0QU on Wednesday 9 October at 7.30pm. Our speaker is Chris Copson, education officer at the Tank Museum and formerly of The Keep (Dorset's Museum). He will take a look at the Gallipoli campaign through the eyes of the 5th Battalion of the Dorset Regiment.



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Richard Graham



The battalion suffered from severe casualties and deprivation due to the terrain and location. At one stage the battalion was down to approximately 250 men and had to be merged temporarily with the Manchester Regiment.

WFA members and non-members alike are equally welcome to attend and hear this interesting story. We ask for a modest £5 donation to defray costs. This will entitle you to a free tea and coffee and entry into our famous raffle.

*Pat Adamson, Secretary Somerset branch WFA*

## **MIDDLEZOY AND OTHERY SCHOOLS**

We have had another very positive start to the academic year, which has seen us welcome our new starters in Reception as well as other new starters in key stage 2. The weather has been wonderful, allowing lots of opportunities for outside learning including rugby coaching sessions, with Helen Sheerman of Somerton RFC.

Across the school the children have started their topic learning, Phoenix class is learning about Brunel's Britain and will be off to visit the East Somerset Railway soon. Unicorns class took part in a wonderful carnival workshop to support their learning about the Bridgwater carnival. Dragons are learning about the different biomes around the world. Key stage 2 will also be visiting Wells Cathedral to enrich their learning in RE. Looking ahead we have our MacMillan coffee afternoon on Friday 27 September and our harvest assembly for parents will be in early October. We will be collecting food items for Langport foodbank.

As the term progresses, we look forward to sharing more information with you. Please have a look on our website for our latest newsletters and further details about our schools <https://www.middlezoyandotheryschools.co.uk/>

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If you would like to arrange to visit us, please contact Miss Braithwaite in the school office on 01823 698464.

Lindsay Hayward, Headteacher  
Othery Village School, Fore Street, Othery, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 0PX  
Phone: 01823 698464 Email: [office@othmid.ppat365.org](mailto:office@othmid.ppat365.org)

## **GREINTON VILLAGE NEWS**

### **VILLAGE NEWS**

Monthly pub nights continue as usual – the next ones are on Friday 4 October and Friday 2 November.

There will be a brief Act of Remembrance in St Michael and All Angels church on Sunday 10 November, beginning at 10.45am. All are welcome.

*Toby Crispin*

## **MIDDLEZOY VILLAGE NEWS**

### **MIDDLEZOY VILLAGE HALL**

We have a number of events on Saturday evenings throughout the autumn and winter months, the first being on 12 October. This will be a mouse racing evening to raise money for the bells and supporting system in the tower of Middlezoy Holy Cross Church. They need to raise in the region of £35,000. So please come along and support us for this evening of mouse racing. The bar will be open from 7pm till late.



The different food wagons will still be coming to the village hall every Friday evening throughout the autumn and winter months. Details of who will be there will be posted on the Middlezoy Facebook pages.

One for the diary, on 9 November we are going to have a music quiz evening. Full details will be posted in the future.

The cricket season has come to an end and the bar opening on a Saturday during the matches has been a big success. The start of the football season has seen the ladies football team starting to play on Saturday mornings.

To help run these events we're looking for more volunteers to join us on the Committee. The more volunteers the more events can be put on, on a Saturday night. If you're

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interested in helping to put on or organise events, come along to one of our meetings which are held on the first Monday of every month starting at 7.30pm. We usually aim to finish by no later than 9pm.  
*Paul Baker, Acting MCP chair*

## **HOLY CROSS CHURCH**

### **Churchyard Tidy Up Morning**

The autumn churchyard tidy up morning is on Saturday 5 October commencing at 9.30am. Please bring your cutters, secateurs, strimmers, shears etc. No doubt, as usual, we will finish up with homemade refreshments and who knows perhaps even a bacon roll.

### **ECO Silver Award**

Two years ago the church was awarded an Eco bronze award. We are now ready to make an application for the silver award. LED lights have been installed, recycling bags have been provided. There will be displays in the church encouraging the use of Fairtrade or equivalent produce and help in considering your carbon footprint and your energy consumption.

### **Open Tower Day**

The second Open Tower day of the year, held on Sunday 15 September, was well attended. Several climbed the 93 steps for clear views across the Levels and in collaboration with Context One, who are undertaking an archaeological investigation in the village, several finds dating from the bronze age period were on display. There was also a display, which will remain in the church, of the proposed bell restoration work. As is common with many of our events, cream teas and home-made cakes were enjoyed.

### **Bell Restoration Fund**

The church's Bell Restoration Fund got a welcome boost with the donation of £250 from the raffle held during Middlezoy Cricket Club's end of season match versus the Power Poles XI. Our thanks to Willie and Deborah Clason and Middlezoy Cricket Club for their generosity.

### **All Age Worship on 27 October**

During the service Vicky Boulton from the Langport Food Bank will speak about their project. Please come and support Vicky.

### **Visitors**

The policy of the PCC is to ensure the church is open every day and it is always pleasing to read the comments left in the visitors book or to show visitors around the church. Recently, from a visitor from Cirencester, we received a wonderful picture of the west elevation of the tower he had produced by combining photographs from different angles,  
*Ian Campbell, Churchwarden*

## **MIDDLEZOY ARCHEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION**

Context One Heritage and Archaeology have been excavating a Bronze Age site at Back Lane, Middlezoy. The site was first spotted as a ditched enclosure on an aerial photograph. In 2019, geophysical survey took place within the west side of the enclosure, followed by narrow exploratory trenches. This suggested a Late Bronze Age date along with a Romano-British field system and medieval quarry pits.

The current excavation is helping us understand what our Bronze Age ancestors were up to but not everything is as it seems ...

Most of the pottery is Middle Bronze Age, pushing the site back to 3,500 years ago. The enclosure ditches vary considerably in size, the largest being 3m wide and 2.4m deep,



while others are much smaller. We know that feasting was taking place; one ditch contained a whole cow buried with a cooking vessel and hearth debris. Other objects include a quern for grinding grain, a bronze bracelet, and tools for textile and metal working. People were living here, but where?

The answer came over the volunteer weekend held on 13-15 September when we carried out geophysical survey in the east side of the enclosure. In true Time Team style, we discovered a 16-17m diameter circular ring. Just the right size for a very large Bronze Age roundhouse! We can now interpret the site as a Bronze Age farmstead for a large family group. A ditch that divides the site may have separated the 'farmyard' from the domestic area and the varying ditch sizes might relate to where animals needed to be kept in or out.

As if that wasn't enough, we have also found flint tools dating to the Neolithic. It's been great getting to know villagers during the Friday tea-break tours, volunteer digging, and open afternoon. Thank you for your support!

*Cheryl Green*



*The large enclosure ditch being recorded*



*Local volunteers taking part in the excavation*

## **WEEKLY COFFEE MORNINGS**

Every Monday (excluding bank holidays) 10am-12 noon at the Methodist Chapel. Tea/coffee/hot chocolate and biscuits. Books, jigsaws, knitting patterns and a bric-a-brac stall. Come along and have a cuppa with your friends or come and make new friends. Everyone welcome.



*Jill Darby (Co-ordinator)*

## **MIDDLEZOY METHODIST CHURCH**

### **The Peekaboo Gang Toddler Group**

Meets on Friday mornings in the Methodist Church, 9.30am-12noon – come when you want, for as long as you want. A friendly group for under 3s and their parents/carers. We will take a little break for half term on Friday 1 November.

### **Family Fun Day during Half Term**

There will be an event during half term for families - activities, craft and fun run by the churches. Date to be confirmed, so check for local publicity and facebook for details.

### **Booking the Methodist Church for your events**

Don't forget that the chapel space and back room are available to hire - phone Jill Darby on 01823 698000.

### **Services during October**

Sunday 13 October, 10am – United Service at Holy Cross

Sunday 27 October, 6.30pm – Circuit Service with Holy Communion – all welcome.

*Rev Deborah Kirk, Minister [deborah.m.kirk@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.m.kirk@gmail.com) 01823 334854*

*Idiko Haraszti Minister-in-Training*

# ***OTHERY VILLAGE NEWS***

## **ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH**

The church is currently only open from 9am to 3.30pm, Mondays to Fridays during school term days and for church services. Genuine visitors can phone 07714 672316 to arrange for access at other times. *Churchwardens and PCC*

## **OTHERY PCC AUTUMN MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 22 October starting at 7.30pm in the Church Room. *Mervyn Winslade and Anthony Betty, Churchwardens*

## **OTHERY VILLAGE HALL**

The Committee would like to say a big thank you to Nigel and Cherry for the planting up of the flower pots outside the Hall.

Remember that Enrico's Pizza will be at the Hall every second Friday of the month.

### **Save these dates!**

AGM - Tuesday 15 October 8pm

Quiz - Friday 18 October 7pm

Halloween Party – Friday 25 October £7 per adult/£3 per child. Fancy dress encouraged for all!!

Othery's Inaugural Beer Fest - Friday 15 November, 7pm. Variety of Ales and Hotdogs will be on sale plus the usual bar.

Village Christmas Party - Sunday 8 December – everyone welcome

Carol Singing event - Friday 20 December.

Children from Middlezoy and Othery School will be leading us in singing some carols, with mince pies and mulled wine being served free. Please come and join us for what will be a lovely festive occasion. Keep an eye out for the posters around the village and on the notice board giving more details.

### **Regular events**

Happy hour at the Village Hall bar on the first Friday of the month. All drinks and snacks 50% off from 7pm to 8.30pm.

Wednesday 9 October 7.30pm WFA

Wednesday 30 October 7.30pm Stargazers

Thursdays – 10am Toddler Group (3rd, 10th 17th, 24th, 31st)

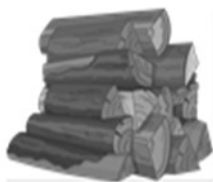
7.30pm Short Mat Bowls

Fridays – 11am Pilates 7pm Bar Night

### **And finally**

If you are new to the village it would lovely to meet you at our regular Friday night bar socials, starting at 7pm. Please follow us on

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Facebook for details of events as they arise!

For everyone, if you have any ideas for events that you would like to see held at the Village Hall or are happy to volunteer some time to supporting the above planned events or on the Friday night bar then please contact the committee using the contacts below.

Rachael Selway, Secretary, Othery Village Hall Management Committee

Email: otheryvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk Tel: 07456 653252

Website: www.otheryvillagehall.org.uk

## OTHERY BOOK READING GROUP

### *The Whalebone Theatre* by Joanna Quinn

Joanna Quinn was born in London in 1976. When she was 7 she moved with her mother and sister to Dorset. Joanna wrote stories as a child and her first published work was one inspired by Dorset – a story called *Kestrel* that won a WH Smith Young Writers Award when she was 12.

*The Whalebone Theatre*, a first novel, is the story of an old English manor house by the sea, with crumbling chimneys, draping ivy and a library full of dusty hardbacks. It's the story of the three children who grow up there, and the adventures they create for themselves while the grown-ups entertain endless party guests; the worlds they imagine from books they aren't supposed to read and the lessons they learn from eavesdropping through oak-panelled doors. But far away from the big house, as the children grow to adulthood another story has been unfolding in the wings and when the war finally takes centre stage, the siblings find themselves cast, unrehearsed into roles they never expected to play.

Most of the attending members liked the book very much with one member saying she loved, loved, loved it. The one dissenting voice felt that there were some characters who we only got a glimpse of and wanted Quinn to expand and explore the issues raised such as homophobia and class prejudice which were never articulated, however, I would certainly recommend this book to fellow readers. The October meeting will discuss *The Ghost Ship* by Kate Mosse. *Scilla Tempest*

## OTHERY GARDENING CLUB

Our summer trip in July was to The Newt in Somerset. Influenced by two thousand years of horticultural history but most recently by the Italo-French architect Patrice Taravella who believes a garden should be beautiful and useful; the gardens are both ornamental and productive, surrounded by diverse woodland providing a sheltered habitat for wildlife. Everyone



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thoroughly enjoyed their day exploring the estate.

As we move into autumn, our next meeting will be on Tuesday 8 October at 7.30pm at Othery Village Hall when our speaker will be from Boo Cottage Botanicals who are based near Taunton. They produce a skincare range packed full of plant based goodness and will bring products to sell. Why not come along? £4 for visitors and new members can join on the evening. Refreshments are available for a small donation.

For further information about our club please contact Jo Taylor on 01823 698123 or email [otherygardeningclub@live.co.uk](mailto:otherygardeningclub@live.co.uk)

Lesley Stanford

## **FOURTH ANNUAL CLASSIC AND VINTAGE VEHICLES ROAD RUN**

St Michael's Church Road Run was held on Saturday 7 September.

Although the weather seemed to be fine for the lining up and judging, once the vehicles left on the Road Run, we had downpours. Unfortunately, we had a very low turnout and made a small sum of £150 for church repairs.



The winner of the 'Thanks for the Memory' Perpetual Cup (presented in appreciation of 'The Vehicle Stirring Most Memories' at the Vehicles Road Run) was Chris Davey of Taunton with his 1969 Burlington Arrow.

Due to the time and effort involved on putting on this event the organising committee have decided not to hold another due to poor turnout and low income.

We would thank everyone that has attended and supported us over the last few years.

*Anthony Betty, Road Run Committee Chairman, 07801 233676*

## **TUESDAY COFFEE MORNINGS**

Coffee Mornings are held in the Church Room every Tuesday between 10am and 12 noon. We offer tea, hot chocolate and a variety of coffees including cappuccino and fresh coffee so there is something to suit everyone's taste. We



also have a selection of home-made marmalade and sometimes chutney! We have a number of books for sale (25p each) with a varied selection of authors and we even have jigsaw puzzles for those of you who fancy a challenge. This is a great opportunity to meet up with friends and relax for a while, so please come along and join us - you'll be made very welcome.

*Coffee Morning Committee*

## **MOORLINC H VILLAGE NEWS**

### **HARVEST CELEBRATION WEEKEND**

**St Mary's - 5 and 6 October**

We will be decorating the church with flowers and harvest produce with Gilly Hayward very much in mind. We will close the weekend with our Harvest Celebration at 5pm on Sunday 6 October and, as we did last year, we will enjoy the odd glass of cider or two and apple cake and cheese.



We would love to have some vegetable animals as we did many years ago. So, if you are a child or a child at heart please get carving and sticking so we can have a good display of creative vegetable beasts.

Further details on social media and village email.

*Jane Stryker*

## **MOORLINCH, STAWELL & SUTTON MALLET PCC**

The next meeting of the Parochial Church Council will be on Thursday 17 October at The Old Vicarage, Moorlinch at 5pm.

## **MOORLINCH CRAFT AND COFFEE MORNING**

The next session will be on Saturday 2 November from 10am to 12.30pm.

Make a note in your diary. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Full details in next month's issue.

*Sam Dawe*

## ***STAWELL & SUTTON MALLET VILLAGE NEWS***

Information is available on the website [www.stawellvillage.info](http://www.stawellvillage.info)

### **COMING EVENTS**

Saturday 26 October the monthly coffee morning will be at Charles and Tracey Casson, Walnut Tree Farm. 10am till 12 noon. All welcome. *St Francis Church Committee*



### **STAWELL AND SUTTON MALLET VILLAGE HALL**

Our regular events for the month are the following

Monday - Keep fit 7pm to 8pm

Tuesday- Yoga 7pm - 8.15pm

Wednesday - Bowling 7pm - 9pm

Thursday - Zumba 9.15am - 10.15am

and Art group 7pm - 9pm

Friday - Yoga 10am - 11.15am

Hub Cafe Saturday 12th 10.30 - 1pm

*Maxine Hughes, Chairperson*

### **SUTTON MALLET CHURCH**

#### **New Gates for Heritage Open Days**

On Saturday September 7 we welcomed visitors from far and wide for Heritage Open Days. During the morning we displayed the Chalice, dating from 1572 and lots of information about the church and the village. Some visitors had fascinating stories of times gone by in Sutton Mallet and we hope to hear more from them in the future. The church was wonderfully decked out with flowers, and we placed a small posy on each burial site in the churchyard.

During this summer, considerable progress has been made with clearing the churchyard with the help of a number of volunteers. All the graves are now accessible and visible and a new map of the site is on display in the porch. For our recent open days, visitors have approached the church through our

## **GREINTON SERVICE STATION**

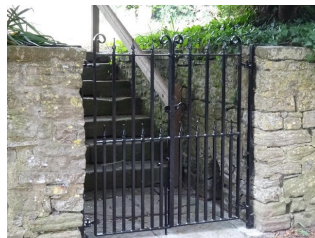
**CHRIS CLEVERLY**

**MOT testing on petrol and diesel vehicles**

- **Car sales and servicing**
- **All repairs undertaken**
- **Air conditioning and service and repair**

**Taunton Road  
Greinton, Bridgwater, TA7 9BP  
Telephone 01458 210094**

splendid new gates - having displayed the names of farmers, shopkeepers, blacksmiths and others from years gone by, it was heart-warming to find out that they were made by our own craftsman, Richard Woodberry, in Sutton Mallet. While fitting the gates, Richard also strengthened the wall around them and we are all grateful to him and also to Mike and Linda Larkman who funded the project. We hope from now on that the grass in the churchyard can be kept trimmed - and if anyone would like to help, please get in touch with me.



The church is open daily, so if you would like a few minutes of peace and calm please visit - pass through the new gates, sit on our new bench, enter and enjoy the atmosphere of the church.



*Mortimer Rhind-Tutt (CCT Volunteer) [mortimer.rt@gmail.com](mailto:mortimer.rt@gmail.com)*

Churches Conservation Trust [www.visitchurches.org.uk](http://www.visitchurches.org.uk)

CCT Representative Marie Leverett [mleverett@theccct.org.uk](mailto:mleverett@theccct.org.uk)



## ***BENEFICE, DEANERY AND DIOCESAN NEWS***

### **PROCESSES NOW WE ARE IN VACANCY**

The Churchwardens are the people to contact for arranging Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals during the vacancy of the post of Priest-in-Charge for the United Benefice of MOMSS&G.

Details of normal regular services are being arranged with the Area Dean and will be published as usual in this magazine and on posters.

*UB Churchwardens*

### **FROM THE REGISTERS Deaths/Funerals:**

Anne FARMER of Moorlinch died at home on Thursday 29 August, aged 79. For details of the funeral arrangements please see the article at the beginning of the magazine.

Steven BLAKE of Middlezoy died on 3 September and was cremated at Sedgemoor Crematorium on 16 September.

Keith MOUNTCASTLE of Middlezoy died on 9 September. His Celebration of Life service is to be held on Wednesday 2 October in Holy Cross Church at 1pm.

### **BENEFICE/MIDDLEZOY PRAYER GROUP**

Please do not think you have to be a member of the local churches as we are very willing to pray for anyone who asks. The prayer group feel it is needed so please do not hesitate to get in touch by emailing [middlezoyprayers@gmail.com](mailto:middlezoyprayers@gmail.com)

*The Prayer Group*



## **BISHOP'S LETTER**

### **A LIGHT WHICH SHINES IN THE DARKNESS**

The custodial sentences imposed on many of those involved in the recent riots in communities across our country have highlighted, yet again, the issue of criminal justice and the pressures and strains within the prison system. The seemingly ever-increasing size of the prison population; the appalling conditions within many of our older prisons, especially those in our inner cities; the almost total lack of provision for education and rehabilitation and an apparent unwillingness by those elected to Parliament to consider whether the whole of our justice system needs a radical overhaul have all resulted in much media comment.

But one part of the prison system which has not been mentioned is the invaluable role played by those who serve as chaplains. Prison and restorative justice have been a constant thread almost throughout the whole of my life beginning with my first visit while still in my teens to what was then called a Borstal.

Since then, I've had the privilege of working with chaplaincy teams across the whole of the prison estate. I've witnessed at first hand the extraordinary work done by those teams, lay and ordained, of all faiths, working together to witness to God's love in Christ and caring for all those in the prison system, both staff and prisoners. I've often said to those on the outside, if you want to know what true collaborative ministry looks like in practice, look no further than a chaplaincy team. While each member remains true to his or her particular faith, the barriers which often divide people of faith have no part in that shared work of witness and service.

Sadly, all too often, the work of chaplaincies not just in prison but in all aspects of our human life, in education, hospital, mental health, care homes and many other places, is barely known – that is, until we need their care. But chaplaincies are the yeast which leaven our society. The light which shines in the darkness. Society, as we long and pray for it to be, would be the poorer without them.



*Bishop Trevor Willmott,*

*Assistant Bishop for the Diocese of Bath and Wells*

## ***M. Franks & Sons***

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**Website: [www.mfranksandsons.co.uk](http://www.mfranksandsons.co.uk)**



**Sunday 27 October**  
our clocks go back one  
hour at 2am  
so we can have an  
extra hour in bed.

## NEW 'PARISH SHARE' SYSTEM

Jane Durham has advised that there is a Deanery Synod on Wednesday 16 October in the Brue Benefice. All PCC members will be invited as there will be a presentation on the new Parish Share system — the Common Fund. Also, there will be more information on the THRIVE course that Jane is involved with. Further invitations will arrive so save the date.



Richard Graham

## RURAL FORUM

The 2024 Rural Forum is being held at Bagley Baptist Church on Monday 21 October from 10am - 3.30pm. It is an ideal opportunity to see what is happening to other rural churches in the Diocese.

The theme this year is *Discipleship in the Rural Church*. The keynote speaker will be Rev Jo Neary, Team Vicar in Salisbury Diocese and tutor in Rural Ministry and Mission at Sarum College.

There will also be a variety of workshops on aspects of rural church life, and an opportunity to connect with others from across the diocese. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

Rob Walrond, the Bath and Wells Deanery and Parish Development Adviser (Rural), described the event last year as “Brilliant. There was a lot of encouragement, a wonderful variety of examples shared of how people are connecting with their communities, which inspired and encouraged everyone.”

To register for this free event, please complete the diocese online registration form via <https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/calendar/1140>

## ***ROUND AND ABOUT BEYOND THE BENEFICE***

### MUSIC ON THE LEVELS

**Free Concert Sunday 27 October at 3pm  
St Mary's Church, Main Road, Westonzoyland,  
TA7 0EP.**

**Arquebus Trio a folk group from Somerset**

This is a dynamic Somerset based folk trio formed by local guitarist, Sam Patten. With a mixture of foot stomping fiddle tunes and upbeat songs, playing with

the energy of a band that loves what it does, this is not to be missed. The programme will be a mixture original songs and traditional tunes - jigs, reels and hornpipes.

With Sam on lead vocals and Bouzouki, Alex on Fiddle and Sarah on Bass and Mandolin, Arquebus are full of fun and banter and there will be something for all folk fans to enjoy.

The name is a long story but basically an arquebus was one of the first types of musket from the 15th century. It all comes from a comment someone made when we first started about how the arquebus was a bit hit and miss and you would basically set fire to it and hope for the best. Our bass player joked that it was a bit like our playing and



the name stuck.

Refreshments are available at a modest charge from 2.15 pm until the start of the performance. In order to help with the artists' and other costs a raffle is held. In addition, donations are encouraged. It costs around £400 to put on a concert.

Up to now we've never exceeded the church's capacity and never had to turn anyone away, BUT please note, seats are available on a first come, first served basis.

Any further information *Frank Challenger 01278 699071 email: f.challenger@icloud.com*

## **THE WI - MORE THAN JAM AND JERUSALEM**

### **Think fun and frolics, trips and treats**

There are talks, activities and events for every woman, single or wed. You can have a bit of fun, make friends, try a new hobby or just explore a new venue. Whichever WI you attend you can be sure of a warm welcome.

### **WIs near us**

Ashcott and Pedwell	7.30pm	Third Thursday	Ashcott Village Hall, TA7 9PZ
Shapwick Starlets	7.30pm	Second Tuesday	Village Hall, Station Rd, TA7 9NJ
Westonzoyland	7.15pm	Second Wednesday	Village Hall Cheer Lane TA7 0EZ

Local times can vary so it is best to contact Somerset Federation before attending for the first time 01278 287034.

### **Westonzoyland WI**

Come to our September meeting on Wednesday 9 October and see a demonstration by Nettie of Craft House Chocolate Somerton. It should be a tasteful evening!

Should you fancy a night out with the girls, come and see us. We welcome you.

For any further information please email: [zoywisec@gmail.com](mailto:zoywisec@gmail.com) or call Gill Wilkinson on 01823 698429.

*Gill Wilkinson, Secretary*



## ***Useful INFORMATION***

### **FOODBANKS**

Any donation is appreciated and will reach the people who need it.

### **DONATION POINTS**

**Middlezoy:** Holy Cross Church, Village Coffee Mornings or Meadowbank, 11a Main Rd.

**Othery:** St Michael's Church Porch.

**Moorlinch:** Spring Cottage, Pit Hill Lane, Moorlinch or St Mary's Church Porch.

**Stawell:** The Old Post Office, Stawell

**Cash Donation:** By contacting the relevant Foodbank you can make either a single or a regular donation. If you are in a position to give via Gift Aid, the Foodbank will be able to claim back the tax you have paid on this.

**To obtain assistance from a Foodbank** you need a referral from: Citizens Advice Bureau: Clarence House High St, Bridgwater, TA6 3BH 03444 889623 or your Village Agent, local GP surgery, schools, health visitors and social workers.

**Bridgwater Foodbank** can be contacted by email [info@bridgwater.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@bridgwater.foodbank.org.uk) or phone 01278 434636 or 07804 119273 (Open Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays). They will help put you in touch with one of the agencies that can help with a referral.

**Langport Cares** email [langportcares/foodbank@gmail.com](mailto:langportcares/foodbank@gmail.com)



## DEFIBRILLATOR MACHINES

From the scene of an incident, call 999, ask for Ambulance.

Ascertain the condition of the patient. If a defibrillator is required give the following information about the nearest machine.

### Call sign

Greinton Phone Box	TA7 9BW	CHT-RT-1583	
Middlezoy Chapel	TA7 0NZ	SC0253	
Middlezoy Village Hall	TA7 0PG	SC0254	(machine at car park end)
Moorlinch Farm	TA7 9BU		
Othery Village Hall	TA7 0QU		
Stawell Village Hall	TA7 9AD		

Within 200m of a defibrillator they can give you the code to open the cabinet on post code alone, farther away the call sign is required.



## HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING & REFUSE COLLECTIONS

The schedules for the MOMSS & G area are:

### MIDDLEZOY

**Recycling Boxes, every week:** Wednesdays 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 October

**Black Wheeled Bins, every 3 weeks:** Wednesdays 9, 30 October

**Garden Waste Bins, every other week:** Mondays 7, 21 October, 4 November

### OTHERY

**Recycling Boxes, every week:** Fridays 4, 11, 18, 25 October, 1 November

**Black Wheeled Bins, every 3 weeks:** Fridays 18 October, 8 November

**Garden Waste Bins, every other week:** Thursdays 3, 17, 31 October

### MOORLINCH, STAWELL, SUTTON MALLET & GREINTON

**Recycling Boxes, every week:** Wednesdays 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 October

**Black Wheeled Bins, every 3 weeks:** Wednesdays 9, 30 October

**Garden Waste Bins, every other week:** Thursdays 10, 24 October, 7 November



## RECYCLING CENTRES

All 16 Somerset recycling sites open at weekends

9am to 4pm on Saturday and Sunday, 9am to 5pm weekdays.

Full details of each site, location, opening times, materials they will accept etc. can be found at [www.somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycling/centres](http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycling/centres)

## MOBILE LIBRARY

### Taunton Area, Route P

The service continues every 4 weeks on Fridays.

Next visit: 18 October

Stawell Village Hall 10.10am - 10.40am

Moorlinch Tapmoor Road Junction 10.55am - 11.15am

Middlezoy Main Road Bus Stop 12.20pm - 1pm



For further information about reading books online contact

Libraries Direct on 0300 123 2224 or visit [www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries)

# MOMSS COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Please advise [momssgeditor@live.co.uk](mailto:momssgeditor@live.co.uk) of amendments/additions

## ANGLICAN CHURCH INFORMATION

### Priest-in-Charge: Vacancy

Contact your village Churchwarden or contact person listed below

### United Benefice Readers

Pauline Davies 01278 451280 and Richard Graham 01278 722284

### Parish Auxiliary Lay Ministers

Mervyn Winslade (Othery); Ruth Peberdy (Stawell)

### Churchwardens

Middlezoy: Ian Campbell 01823 698790

Othery: Mervyn Winslade 01823 698368 and Anthony Betty 07801 233676

Moorlinch: Fiona Hixon 01458 211096

Stawell Deputy Warden: Richard Graham 01278 722284

Sutton Mallet contact: Brian Lishman 01278 722579

Greinton contact: Jean Heywood 01458 210497

## METHODIST CHAPEL MIDDLEZOY

**Minister:** Rev Deborah Kirk 01823 334854

Local Contact: Jill Darby [jilldrb@gmail.com](mailto:jilldrb@gmail.com) 01823 698000

Bookings: <https://middlezoychapeluk.wordpress.com/bookings/> or Jill Darby (above)

## PARISH COUNCILS/MEETINGS

Middlezoy - Chairman: Paul Baker 07760 887907

Othery - Chairman: Andrew Tizzard 01823 690284

Moorlinch - Meeting Chairman TBA

Stawell and Sutton Mallet - Chairman: Philip Jay

Greinton - Enquiries: Toby Crispin 01458 210227

## VILLAGE AMENITIES

**Middlezoy:** The George Inn 01823 698215;

Shop 01823 587222 open Mon, Tues 8.45am-1.00, 1.30-4.30pm, Wed 8.45am-11.00am,

Thurs, Fri 8.45am-1.00, 1.30-5pm, Sat 8.45am-12 noon;

P.O. 01823 698981 open Mon, Tues 10.00am-1.00, 1.30-4.30pm, Wed closed,

Thurs, Fri 10.00am-1.00, 1.30-5pm, Sat closed; Village Hall 07885 195418

**Othery:** School 01823 698464; Othery Village Hall 01823 690482

**Moorlinch:** Ring O'Bells 01458 210358; Church Hall 01458 210755

**Stawell & Sutton Mallet:** Village Hall 01278 723665

**Greinton:** Village Hall 01458 210277

**POLICE:** Emergencies only tel: 999 ; Non emergencies tel: 101

**CRIMESTOPPERS:** 8am-10pm Weekdays 0800 555111;

**NHS:** Tel: 111

**DISTRICT PCSOs:** Georgia Coles 07889 659466; Tom Russell 07935 013566

## VILLAGE AGENTS

To contact a Village Agent ring 01823 331222 and they will find the most suitable person to deal with your query. Referrals can also be made via doctors' surgeries.

## SERVICES CHART FOR CHAPEL AND UB CHURCHES OCTOBER

DATE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE
<b>October</b> 6 Sun (Nineteenth after Trinity)	10.00 am	Sutton Mallet United Benefice Harvest Service	Sutton Mallet Church
13 Sun (Twentieth after Trinity)	10.00 am 10.00 am 10.00 am 10.00 am	Joint All Age Worship Prayer and Praise Morning Prayer Morning Worship	Holy Cross, Middlezoy St Michael's, Othery St Mary's, Moorlinch St Francis, Stawell
20 Sun (Twenty-first after Trinity)	10.00 am	United Benefice Sung Eucharist	St Francis, Stawell
27 Sun (Last after Trinity) (Bible Sunday)	9.30 am 9.30 am 10.00 am 10.00 am 6.30 pm	Breakfast Café Breakfast Café All Age Worship Morning Worship Circuit Communion service	St Michael's, Othery St Mary's, Moorlinch Holy Cross, Middlezoy St Francis, Stawell Methodist Chapel, Middlezoy
<b>November</b> 3 Sun (Fourth before Advent)	10.00 am	United Benefice Communion Service	Holy Cross, Middlezoy

### The Common Worship (Year B) readings and lessons for the services:

DATE	SEASON	READINGS
Various dates	Harvest Festival (Year B)	OT: Joel, chapter 2, verses 21 to 27 Psalm: 126 Epistle: 1 Timothy, chapter 2, verses 1 to 7 Gospel: Matthew, chapter 6, verses 25 to 33
<b>October</b> 6 Sun	Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity	OT: Job, chapter 1, verse 1 and chapter 2, verses 1 to 10 Psalm: 26 Epistle: Hebrews, ch. 1, verses 1 to 4 and ch. 2, verses 5 to 12 Gospel: Mark chapter 10, verses 2 to 16
13 Sun	Twentieth after Trinity	OT: Job, chapter 23, verse 1 to 9, 16 and 17 (the end) Psalm: 22, verses 1 to 15 Epistle: Hebrews, chapter 4, verses 12 to 16 (the end) Gospel: Mark, chapter 10, verses 17 to 31
20 Sun	Twenty-first after Trinity	OT: Job, chapter 38, verses 1 to 7 and 34 to 41 (the end) Psalm: 104, verses 1 to 10, 26 and 35c Epistle: Hebrews, chapter 5, verses 1 to 10 Gospel: Mark, chapter 10, verses 35 to 45
27 Sun	Last after Trinity (Bible Sunday)	OT: Isaiah, chapter 55, verses 1 to 11 Psalm: 19, verses 7 to 14 (the end) Epistle: 2 Timothy, chapter 3, verse 14 to chapter 4, verse 5 Gospel: John, chapter 5, verses 36b to 47 (the end)
<b>November</b> 3 Sun	Fourth before Advent	OT: Deuteronomy, chapter 6, verse 1 to 9 Psalm: 119, verses 1 to 8 Epistle: Hebrews, chapter 9, verses 11 to 14 Gospel: Mark, chapter 12, verses 28 to 34