

# MOMSS MAGAZINE

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



Holiday souvenirs - by Anne Farmer

## AUGUST 2024

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

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# 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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*Half Page (A6 size):*

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Six editions £190; Annual £350.

For further pricing information and technical details phone

Jane Stryker Tel: 01458 210661

E-mail [momssgadverts@live.co.uk](mailto:momssgadverts@live.co.uk)

Please note: Copy and payment for adverts must be received by 12<sup>th</sup> of the month (see date of deadlines on this page).

Advertising space is limited. We cannot guarantee single adverts will be accepted for publication.

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**DON'T FORGET !**  
September edition deadlines:  
Adverts 12 August  
Articles 15 August

## ***FROM THE EDITOR***

Did Summer come and go? Or is it still hovering over Europe and waiting to burst upon us during August? I hope so.

Well we have a new UK national government which perhaps could be described as bursting upon us. Many hopes and good ideas are flowing from them - let us all trust that they will figure it all out and take us forward calmly, sensibly and prudently.

Thankfully we have a reasonable, law abiding democracy.

Overseas there is much trouble and strife with foreign governments facing revolts, revolutions and ruination because of dissatisfaction with politics, hunger, thirst, natural disasters, greed and people who think they have the total right to dominate and rule whichever way they gain power.

In July we said an emotional farewell to Rev Andrea and husband Andrew and daughter Laura and now face an uncertain period whilst the diocesan authorities work out how our parishes will continue. We wait for their decision and hope it will not be too long before we know.

Turning our attention to sport we have felt some disappointments as Spain triumphed at Wimbledon, also at the men's Euro 2024 but we have been pleased that our women are progressing well with their Euro 2026 qualifiers and our cricket teams are giving us something to cheer about. The Olympic Games started on 26 July in Paris and will continue through to 11 August so we can look forward to our country's athletes performing well and possibly winning well-deserved medals.

In the meantime let us further cheer ourselves up by reading this edition of the magazine from cover to cover because you will find many articles of interest and perhaps learn something new that you had not known before!

Enjoy your holidays!

*Anita Winslade, Editor, 01823 698368*

## ***GENERAL ITEMS***

### **THANK YOU ANNE**

The Magazine Committee thank artist Anne Farmer for her regular supply of drawings and pictures for the front cover of the magazine and send their very best wishes to her for peace and comfort in her illness.

*Richard, Anita, Jane and Isobel, Magazine Committee members*



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

#### **Sunrise Sunset**

Beginning of August 5.38am-8.57pm      End of August 6.24am-7.59pm

#### **Moon Phases**

New Moon 4th / First Quarter 12th / Full Moon 19th / Last Quarter 26th

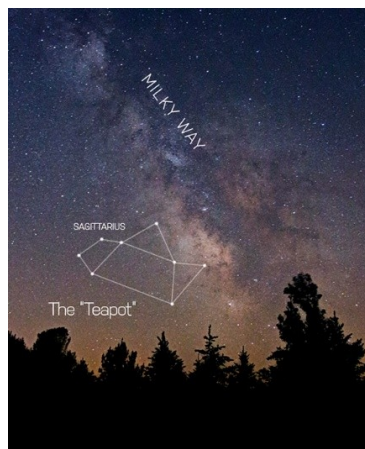
**Planets:** Venus reappears in the west at sunset and sets around 9pm at which time in the east Saturn appears. Mars and Jupiter rise in the east just after midnight.

**Constellation:** The faint glow of the Milky Way stretches high overhead now and if

you follow it downwards from the stars of the summer triangle (see last month's MOMSS) down to the south you will see the teapot shape of stars of the constellation of Sagittarius. From a dark location the Milky Way becomes more bright and nebulous here as this is the centre of our galaxy: in fact it looks like steam coming out of the spout!! Scanning this area with binoculars is very rewarding revealing numerous stars.

### Phenomena

August is a busy month astronomically speaking if you are prepared to stay up late or get up early. We start with the night of the 12th/13th which is the peak of the Perseid meteor shower and with the Moon setting at 11pm on the 12th it should be a good show. Two occultations take place this month with the Moon passing in front of the planet Saturn between 4.28am and 5.21am on the morning of the 21st then on the morning of the 26th it moves across the stars of the Seven Sisters star cluster in Taurus.



*Paul Adamson 01823698156*

## SOMERSET LEVELS STARGAZERS

Our August meeting is on Wednesday 28th at 7.30pm in Othery Village Hall TA7 0QU when our most distant club member John Rosenfield from Aviemore Scotland will present via Zoom a talk on the moons of the planet Mars. We also have our night sky guide and astronomy news. Admission is £3 with membership available. Free tea and coffee are also provided.

We are also on Zoom. Follow us on Facebook.

For more details please contact [somersetlevelstargazers@hotmail.com](mailto:somersetlevelstargazers@hotmail.com).

*Paul Adamson 01823698156.*

## FARM DIARY

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

**In the Field.** August is cereal harvest month at this latitude. The French and German cereal harvest has already started some weeks ago. Irrespective of the season, in this part of Somerset and in the rain shadow of the Quantocks, the wheat is usually ready to harvest from August 1st. Whether we can actually start combining depends on the weather at the time. We need the grain to be 'dry' for long term storage. That is under 15% moisture. We will not start harvesting until it drops to below 20% and is drying rapidly otherwise we spend too much on drying costs. Drying is achieved with an oil fired double flow continuous drier. It was made in 1980 by Alvan Blanch whose manufacturing facilities are in Wiltshire. They produce driers for any granular crop and they sell all over the world. Not sure about electric drying yet. At the time of writing in mid-July, it would be helpful to have some sun to ripen the grain and also avoid the cost of drying. Grazing animals also do better with the warmth of the sun on their backs as they then need less food for their maintenance.

**Box tree moth.** It seems it is possible the writer was wrong to suggest the demise of this plant in this area. Only time will tell. But the article generated interest. One person

searching on the internet, found a non-chemical spray option that appears to work. It contains bacilli. Whether it is a one-off application is yet to be discovered but I doubt it.

**Solar panels.** Ed Miliband, the new Energy Secretary, has decided that a big solar farm can be built on 2,792 acres around villages on the Suffolk/Cambridge border. This despite the considered opinion of officials and councils. This author's old agronomist, who was a scientist and had a way with numbers, worked out that the energy of a field of wheat (wheat has a calorific value; it can be burnt to produce energy) was the same approximately as a similar sized field of solar panels. I hope he took into account the energy used to grow and harvest the wheat. Wheat produces bread and meat and milk which from a 'grass' is stunning. However, after the life time span of solar panels has elapsed, say about 20 years, there is the matter of disposal. No doubt the company that put them there in the first place will have long gone by the time that day comes and this will leave all, including the farmer, with a problem. He advised caution.

*Richard Graham*

### **MIDDLEZOY AND OTHERY SCHOOLS**

Our Summer Term has flown by with so many learning opportunities having been provided for the children. The staff have, once again, worked incredibly hard throughout the year and this term has been no exception. Our success this year has been due to the phenomenal team of staff who work together so well for the benefit of our children and their families. Being a small school, we are fortunate to know all our children and their families incredibly well and this means we can provide the very best support to all. I have now had the privilege of being the Headteacher for four years and am so proud of all that has been achieved in that time.

One of the main events on the school's calendar is the annual Sports Day. The parents supported in force and our wonderful PTA supplied refreshments. Throughout the year, children work in their teams: Bristol, Bath, Exeter and Wells, and earn team points which are recorded and celebrated in our weekly celebration assembly. During the Sports afternoon the children compete in teams for six activities including: javelin throw, bean bag toss, football dribble, over and under, egg and spoon relay race and an obstacle relay. The children are then given the opportunity to compete individually in their year group running race. This year, Mrs Hall and I added some surprise additional races for our year

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six. This included a fancy dress race on bouncy hoppers which was well received by the children and parents. The sudden gusts of wind only added to the excitement of this final race, creating a fun way to end the afternoon.

There is so much more to share with you, but a special mention must go to our year 6 leavers who are off to their secondary schools in September. It has been a pleasure to teach them and they will be greatly missed, however, they are definitely ready for their next chapter and I know they will do incredibly well.

With very best wishes,

*Lindsay Hayward, Headteacher. Tel: 01823 698464*

## **AUDREY'S MUSIC IN THE GARDEN, MOORLINCH - 18 AUGUST**

My charity garden party is from 2.30pm onwards and carrying on throughout the evening. The main attraction being the 24 piece Mendip Swing Band, performing twice early on in the afternoon, followed by half a dozen other performers later in the day. This year's charity is for The Somerset and Dorset Air Ambulance.

The aim is for guests to bring a drink and a picnic, maybe some could bring a chair or rug, but many chairs will be provided. If we are suffering inclement weather all will be under canvas and indoors. Entry charge is £5 per person.

There will be an auction and a large raffle.



*Audrey Warner, 01458 780139*

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*Steven Pinder*

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## GOOD NEWS

In the media today, there are lots of bad news stories. It is said that these sell newspapers. Recently, the author met a cousin's friend who is a young woman in her late 20s of Kenyan origin and who lives in London. She had just come back from a sub-Saharan African country where she had secured the spending of £55 million of research funding from the Wellcome Trust, her employer.

The Wellcome Trust, headquartered on the Euston Road in London, is one of the world's largest charitable trusts. She told me it spends its annual income of £1 billion on medical research for the future health of people and animals. This money is spent all over the world.

The trust was started in 1936 with the legacy of the pharmaceutical magnate Sir Henry Wellcome. Next to their administrative building, the Wellcome Collection was established to enhance the understanding of medical science and history and is open six days of the week and is free of charge.

Part of the fabric of this country, this is an amazing good news story.

*Richard Graham*

## BISHOP MICHAEL'S ADDRESS TO GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL

It's brilliant to be able to welcome you to God's own county of Somerset. We're so glad you're here at the festival and I hope you're having a wonderful time.

I live just down the road from here in Wells, which is the smallest city in England.

Normally, because we're in Cheddar Cheese Country, this place is full of cows.

But during this festival weekend, the number of people here is about 20 times the population of my entire city.

This leaves me feeling that I've entered into a different reality, And I wonder, wherever you've come from, if that's your experience of Glastonbury too? And by this I don't just mean how you feel about the state of the loos! But rather of what it's meant to you on being here to live life to a different beat, to experience a time of different priorities, to live in a reality that's very different to everyday existence.

You're probably thinking that anyone who's a bishop must spend their days living in a different reality most of the time. And you might well be right.

Because that, for me, is what faith is all about. Of seeing the world from a different perspective.

A different vantage point.

The Bible has lots of stories that illustrate this. One of my favourites comes from the first part of the Bible that Christians call the Old Testament. It tells about a prophet called Elisha and his servant, getting surrounded by the forces of a hostile army. The servant gets very upset. He sees that he and his master are heavily outnumbered. He reckons that their prospects are not good.

But then Elisha says to him. "You're not seeing the whole of reality." And then Elisha prays that the servant's eyes will



be fully opened. When they are he's able to see that the whole host of heaven is with him and his master - horses and chariots of fire. The help that's on hand is more than able to get them out of the fix they're in.

I wonder how you're seeing things during this time that you've stepped out of everyday life into the very different reality that is Glastonbury? As you compare what it's like to be here with your existence back at home, what has being here said to you about what you value most? The kind of world you want to live in? The life you'd like to live?

For me, as someone who tries, not always successfully, to follow Jesus Christ, I hope that the perspective I have on these things is shaped by his life, his love for this extraordinary planet that we've been given to live upon. In Jesus, I encounter someone who had 20:20 vision. He was able to see what was most important, to live it, and act upon it. Or as Jesus put it, to know life in all its fullness.

If you've not encountered Jesus's life, might you like to find out more? We've great people in our church tent opposite here and just above the big camping ground. There to help you explore what I've found in Jesus: a bigger picture, a wider and better vision of what it might mean to be a human being and to live well in our world. I invite you to discover in him a different reality altogether.

## **MOORLINCH VILLAGE NEWS**

### **SEA SUNDAY BREAKFAST CAFÉ**

Following a hearty breakfast of cereal, fruit and yoghurt, plus bacon and sausage butties, Pauline led us in a reflective and informative service to celebrate Sea Sunday and the Mission to Seafarers.

To keep the mood afloat we sang two hymns and made some paper boats that ended up, when put into water, as not being as buoyant as our mood!

Our Breakfast Cafés are a relaxed, informal start to Sunday mornings and everyone is welcome. There is no upper or lower age limit!

*Jane Stryker*



### **FIESTA ESPANOLA**

#### **A Spanish themed evening**

On Saturday 10 August from 6pm to 9pm in Moorlinch Church Hall and grounds. An evening of Spanish food and music.

Bring your own drink and rugs if the weather is kind. Tables will be set up as well, either inside or out.

£20 per ticket - £5 per child under 10

£45 per family ticket – 2 children under 10

Ticket prices include all food and a welcome glass of Sangria.

Further details of ticket prices etc on posters around the area or you can get your tickets by emailing [moorlinchgnscc@aol.com](mailto:moorlinchgnscc@aol.com)



*Moorlinch Good Neighbours Social Committee*



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

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

## **VISIT SUTTON MALLET CHURCH**

### **A hidden gem in the Polden villages**

The Church, Sutton Mallet is a redundant church looked after by The Churches Conservation Trust (CCT). The church remains consecrated and in most years we have a Christmas Eve Service and a few visits from the United Benefice. The churchyard is the responsibility of the PCC of Moorlinch with Stawell & Sutton Mallet. The church is cared for by volunteers in the village - it is open daily, and on entry you will immediately notice how clean and well looked after it feels. There are always flowers in the church and it is a very calm and peaceful space.

I would like to acknowledge all of this voluntary support - it took me a long time to realise that one of our villagers had been keeping the church beautifully clean for years, very discreetly, and we are all very grateful to her for this. Others have been mowing the paths, arranging flowers, organising services and events and generally looking out for the welfare of this lovely building and grounds.

In July, some of us met with our local CCT representative, Marie Leverett along with James Routledge, CCT Estate Officer and Richard Graham for the PCC, to discuss ways of opening up the church to more visitors along with its care and maintenance.

We will be holding a Summertime Teatime open afternoon on Saturday August 17 from 3.00pm - 5.00pm, and also joining in the CCT Heritage Open Days on September 7 and 8 (more details to follow). We hope that many MOMMs readers will join us for these events.

So please visit our lovely little church - you will be greeted by the golden cockerel who sits astride the tower and you can see the historic box pews. Hopefully you will also find a moment of peaceful contemplation in this beautiful space.

*Mortimer Rhind-Tutt (CCT Volunteer)*

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)



*Sutton Mallet Church*



*an interior view*



*Orchids in the churchyard*



*Font, with flowers*

## **ST FRANCIS CHURCH, STAWELL**

### **Hog Roast**

Everyone who came to our Hog Roast on 6 July were greatly appreciative of the organic

meat supplied by Pynes of North Petherton. It was of the highest quality and much of it.

Lorraine and Chis Bennett were the fortunate winners of a large hamper of goodies and we are sure that the items will be much enjoyed.

*Ruth Peberdy*



### Coming Events



Saturday 31 August. The monthly Coffee Morning is at Nigel and Janet Miller's, Hedgehogs. 10am till 12 noon. All welcome.

Saturday 28 September. Advance notice of the Harvest Supper in the village hall.

*St Francis Church Committee*

## **GREINTON VILLAGE NEWS**

### **VILLAGE NEWS**

The main event in Greinton's social calendar is fast approaching - our annual Harvest Barn Dance which takes place on Saturday 21 September in the marquee next to the Village Hall (thanks to the Roebuck family for permitting the use of their paddock once again). Following on from the resounding success of last year we have live music for you, plus the usual hog roast, possibly the best value cash bar in Somerset and a tombola/raffle. It really is the best possible way to get together with friends and neighbours, have a chat and enjoy a dance or two and generally let your hair down.

The following weekend, on Sunday 29 September there will be a Harvest Celebration in the parish church, starting at 5pm. As usual, this is not a formal church service, but a programme of songs, readings and music to allow us to reflect on the changing seasons and give thanks for the harvest. Suggestions for items to include are, as always, gratefully received and volunteers to read (or play/sing) will be welcomed with open arms.

On the subject of the church, there is still no news from the Diocese regarding the future of the church building - we have come up with a potential plan and are waiting to hear whether it is acceptable. In the meantime, the occasional service still takes place.

You may have noticed that the churchyard got extremely overgrown earlier in the summer - we are now looking into ways to ensure it is cut more frequently in the future.

*Toby Crispin*



### **GREINTON PARISH CHAIR STEPPING DOWN RENEWED APPEAL !**

After 3 years our current Parish Chair of Greinton is looking to hand over the reins to another person.

The role is an important, but not particularly taxing, one as much of the management, contracts, funding and administrative processes are all in place and in a good state.

The time allocation is as much or as little as you are willing to give, but one hour per week should be enough to stay on top of everything.

If you are interested in being nominated for the position at the next Parish Meeting please email the Parish Meeting Clerk via [greintonparish@gmail.com](mailto:greintonparish@gmail.com) and he can arrange a call or a meeting to discuss it further.

*Clerk to Greinton Parish Meeting,  
[greintonparish@gmail.com](mailto:greintonparish@gmail.com)*

## **MIDDLEZOY VILLAGE NEWS**

### **LEVELS METHODISTS CHURCH NEWS**

#### **THANK YOU SO MUCH!**

More 'thank you's' to Ian, Wes, David and Gerry who again worked on the outside space at the Methodist Church. They moved the small gate, and the rotten decking, before placing two posts for the side fence to be moved up to the oil tank and create a safe area for children to the side of the building. A big thank you to them.



#### **THE AUGUST SALADS AND SWEETS LUNCH**

This will be on Tuesday 13th at 12noon. £7 per person. Thank you to those who come along – helpers and guests – who each contribute to this happy and convivial time. The money goes to help towards our expenses.

#### **THE TODDLER GROUP**

'The Peekaboo Gang' continues to meet on a Friday morning, and we are enjoying some outside fun during the summer days – hope we can have a few more!

#### **BOOKING THE METHODIST CHURCH FOR YOUR EVENTS**

Don't forget that the Chapel space and Back Room are available to hire. There is a booking form on the website <https://middlezoychapeluk.wordpress.com/bookings> or contact Jill Darby, [jilldrb@gmail.com](mailto:jilldrb@gmail.com) or at 01823 698000.

#### **SERVICES DURING AUGUST**

Sunday 11 August, 10am, United Outdoor Service with the 'RIPPLE EFFECT' group at Blake Training Centre, Middlezoy.

Sunday 25 August, Anniversary Celebration. Cream Tea at 5.30pm, followed by a Favourite Hymn Service at 6.30pm. Do come! Let us know your favourite hymn by 22 August (contact Deborah 01823 334854).

*Revd Deborah Kirk, Minister [deborah.m.kirk@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.m.kirk@gmail.com) 01823 334854  
Ildiko Haraszti Minister-in-Training*

## **OTHERY VILLAGE NEWS**

### **ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH**

The church is currently closed other than for church services. Genuine visitors can phone 07714 672316 to arrange for access at other times.

*Churchwardens and PCC*

### **OTHERY STREET FAYRE**

The funds raised this year by the Street Fayre on 15 June are approximately £4,000. Our very grateful thanks to all who attended and contributed to this excellent result. We are having a 'Thank You' Cheese and Wine evening on Wednesday 11 September at 7.30pm in the Church Room for all who helped with the Fayre. Please let me know if you wish to attend so we have an idea of numbers for catering. This is an important event to reward our volunteers and hopefully try to recruit more people to help organise next year's event on Saturday 21 June. I can provide you with more details.

*Anthony Betty, OSF Committee Chairman, 07801 233676*

## FOURTH ANNUAL CLASSIC AND VINTAGE VEHICLES ROAD RUN

**Saturday 7 September**

The annual Othery Road Run returns this year on Saturday 7 September. The event is to be held by kind permission in Chirpy Davis's field at the top end of the village. The best way to enter the ground is by the entrance off of Pathe Lane.



Vehicles will start lining up from 1pm and with all in position

for judging at 3pm and the first vehicle away at 3.30pm. The entry fees for vehicles are £10 pre-booked via Mervyn on 01823 698368 or £12 on the day at the gate.

The general public will have free entry for viewing, admiring and socialising etc. Teas, coffees and light refreshments will be on sale to all from 1pm and a Pig Roast from 5pm.

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

## TUESDAY COFFEE MORNINGS

Coffee Mornings are held in the Church Room every Tuesday from 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*

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## OTHERY PARISH COUNCIL

### EMERGENCY PLAN

**Can you help with the Emergency plan for Othery?**

We need to list some volunteers with specific skills in case of a major emergency. If anyone living in the village is a doctor or nurse, a first aider or has the ability for helping with mechanical machinery, heavy lifting or towing then please feel free to private message me with a name and contact number if you are happy to be added to the plan.

### NO COUNCIL MEETING IN AUGUST

Please note that there will not be a meeting in August but we will meet as usual on Monday 9 September in Othery Village Hall.

*Councillor Vicki Jones, Vicki Ivins  
vicki\_ivins@hotmail.com*

## OTHERY BOOK READING GROUP

*After Me Comes the Flood* by Sarah Perry

The author was brought up in a devout, strict Baptist family and had little access to contemporary culture and writing. Although she later left the church there was no family rift and the early influences are evident in her works.

This was her first novel, although the subsequent *The Essex Serpent* is better known and familiar to a number of the group. Her books have been nominated for various literary awards, winning prizes including East Anglian Book of the Year for *After Me Comes the Flood*, which was also long-listed for the Guardian First Book Award.

Bookish John Cole, aloof and alone in middle age, walks out of his life following a month without rain. On his way to visit his brother on the Norfolk coast, his car breaks down in the punishing heat. Abandoning it on an isolated road, he comes to a solitary house whose residents welcome him in. But there's more to this strange community hidden in the Thetford pines than meets the eye: his hosts all know him by name. They've prepared a room for him, and claim to have been waiting for him all along. The days pass almost in a dream while John attempts to make sense of the house and the residents with a feeling of impending doom as they all wait for the rain to end the drought.

The novel elicited contrasting opinions, ranging from several readers who absolutely loved the rich writing, characters and descriptions and are looking forward to re-reading it, a few who were ambivalent or disappointed to one member who thought it the worst book they had ever read!

The next book will be discussed at our September meeting.

*Mollie O'Flanagan*

## OTHERY VILLAGE HALL

### A little bit of news on a nice problem to have

The Management Committee of the hall have been confronted with a nice problem. In short, the success of the trading activity in the hall, particularly the bar, has brought our turnover above the admittedly low threshold for charitable tax exemption. **SO WE NOW HAVE SOME TAX TO PAY!!!**

The solution is to create a structure that lets us establish a wholly owned independent arm to run the bar which can gift aid its profits to OVH. Our current Trust based charitable structure which has served the community since the hall was established does not have the flexibility to create such a body so the committee has now established and registered



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with the Charity Commissioners a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) which does have the necessary flexibility and will take over the running of the hall. The CIO is the gold standard structure for new village hall charities, we have adopted the approved standard wording.

These changes will make no difference to hall user experience - the difference will be that all the income generated by your use of the hall can be ploughed back into its maintenance and community activity.

We want to encourage all in the village to use the hall and the facilities it provides. If you do and you like it you can get involved as a volunteer without taking the responsibility of being a committee member. We want to grow our bar volunteers to have cover for our Friday night socials and other events where a bar is needed. You don't need experience just a little bit of 'nouse' and a smile will do, because training is given.

Please contact us via [otheryvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:otheryvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk) or 07456 653252.

### Upcoming events

AGM - Tuesday 15 October, 7.30pm

Halloween Party - Saturday 2 November

Children's Xmas Party - Sunday 8 December

### Regular events

Happy Hour with the village hall bar on the first Friday of every month, 40% off all drinks and snacks until 8.30pm.

Wednesday 28 August - Somerset Stargazers

Thursdays - 10am Toddler Group (1, 8, 22 August), 7.30pm Short Mat Bowls

Fridays - 11am Pilates, 7pm Bar night.

### Finally ... an appreciation

By the time you read this our Secretary since Nov 2019, Bridget Gander, will be making her new home in Bath and our new Secretary, Rachael Selway, will be starting to comprehend the considerable and varied duties 'Bridg' quietly and efficiently performed for our community.

In that time, she has barely missed a meeting, promptly providing all the admin tasks which make for the smooth running of the committee. Providing wise counsel, financial

acumen and thoughtful contributions. Playing her part in the hall's response to Covid and its ambition to create an attractive functional and appealing hall to all users. Most importantly being the pioneer and principal mover behind the day-to-day operation of the bar and regularly staffing the bar for the Friday night socials. It was her 'baby', she had 'nouse' and a smile and a bit of fun



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which the punters appreciated. She will undoubtedly be missed by her committee colleagues and her many friends in the village. We wish her well.

*Stephen Richards Bond, Chair, Othery Village Hall Management Committee  
Email: otheryvillagehall@hotmail.co.uk and www.otheryvillagehall.org.uk*

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

### **THE REV ANDREA'S RETIREMENT AND FAREWELL**

After Rev Andrea's final United Benefice Communion service in St Michael's church, Othery, on Sunday 21 July, a reception and lunch was held in Othery Village Hall hosted by our wardens, Readers and members of our United Benefice church family. After much retelling of occasions during her time as Vicar of MOMSS&G a presentation from the villages was made to Rev Andrea with thanks for her ministry and with good wishes for her onward journey to her, husband Andrew and daughter Laura's new home and a happy retirement.

*Churchwardens and PCC Members*

### **PROCESSES AFTER REV ANDREA'S DEPARTURE**

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*



## **CHURCHES AND CHAPELS Open Daily**

The United Benefice churches in Middlezooy and Stawell are open daily for private prayer; see their notice boards for their opening times. Othery church is currently closed other than for church services. Genuine visitors can phone 07714 672316 to arrange for access at other times.

## **FROM THE REGISTERS**

### **Deaths/Funerals:**

Gilly HAYWARD of Moorlinch died suddenly on Wednesday 19 June at Musgrove Park Hospital. Greatly missed by family, friends and everyone who knew her. Funeral arrangements to be confirmed.

Leslie FENTON of Sutton Mallet died on Wednesday 19 June and his funeral was held on Monday 8 July at the Sedgemoor Crematorium.

Clive Paul GROVES of Sutton Mallet died suddenly on Saturday 22 June at home. Sorely missed by all his family and many friends. Funeral arrangements to be confirmed.

George CLAPP of Middlezooy died on Wednesday 26 June. His funeral service at Holy Cross on Friday 26 July was followed by cremation at Sedgemoor Crematorium.

Pamela YOUNG funeral service was held at Holy Cross on Tuesday 30 July followed by a burial in the churchyard.



## **TAKE A BREAK!**

It's August! Does that mean holiday season for you? Of course it will be for some ... but where and doing what?

Holidays mean all sorts of different places and activities –

sometimes inactivity – and our preferences and choices are hugely diverse. Whether you are travelling this month, or staying at home, any break in our routines gives us a brilliant opportunity. We have a God-given moment to get perspective. Or perhaps I should say that we have the chance to get a renewed sense of who we are, whose we are, and who we might become.

I invite you to step back from everyday tasks and burdens and to place yourself into the glorious divine perspective. It's something we do week by week (or more regularly) in our worship but a holiday, or a break in our normal pattern of life, gives a special chance to do this. Seeing ourselves in a bigger context will, of course, be humbling and make us freshly aware of our frailty, yet it will also raise our eyes and our sights to the potential in which we have a share.

The invitation which Jesus gave to his first disciples is the same one he gives us who are the latest generations of his followers. It is to share in something greater and bigger than we can ever fully comprehend, and to do that by accepting our personal part in the community of the Gospel, the Church, in building the Kingdom of God.

“Take a Break” urges the signs on motorways. Take a break this summer, whether or not you leave home, to regain your perspective on the beauty and privilege of being a follower of Jesus in bringing the Kingdom a little closer. See the opportunities as well as the challenges in your community, our nation, and the world. Looking more widely and more broadly gives a proper perspective on who we in the divine economy, and how we can serve both God and also other people.

*Bishop Christopher Foster, Assistant Bishop, Diocese of Bath and Wells*



## **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

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

### **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 August meeting on Wednesday 14 August and hear of *The Tales beyond the Bedpan*. An Irish woman who wanted to be a pilot, but was coerced into training as a nurse in Bart's, tells of her experiences and adventures.

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

For any further information please email: [zoywisec@gmail.com](mailto:zoywisec@gmail.com)

or call Gill Wilkinson, Secretary, on 01823 698429.

Gill Wilkinson



## ***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 7, 14, 21, Thursday 29 August, Wednesday 4 September

**Black Wheeled Bins, every 3 weeks:** Wednesday 7, Thursday 29 August

**Garden Waste Bins, every other week:** Monday 12, Tuesday 27 August

### OTHERY

#### Recycling Boxes, every week:

Fridays 2, 9, 16, 23, Saturday 24 August, Friday 30 August

**Black Wheeled Bins, every 3 weeks:** Fridays 16 August, 6 September

**Garden Waste Bins, every other week:** Thursdays 8, 22 August, 5 September

### MOORLINCH, STAWELL, SUTTON MALLETT & GREINTON

#### Recycling Boxes, every week:

Wednesdays 7, 14, 21, Thursday 29 August, Wednesday 4 September

**Black Wheeled Bins, every 3 weeks:** Wednesday 7, Thursday 29 August

**Garden Waste Bins, every other week:** Thursdays 1, 15, Friday 30 August

## RECYCLING CENTRES

### Summer opening hours (April to September)

9am-6pm weekdays and 9am-4pm weekends.

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: 16 August:

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 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 contact: 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 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: Anne Farmer 01458 210393

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 AUGUST

DATE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE
<b>August 4</b> Sun (Tenth after Trinity)	10.00 am	United Benefice Communion service	St. Mary's, Moorlinch
11 Sun (Eleventh after Trinity)	10.00 am	Joint outside service with 'Ripple Effect'	Blake Training Centre, M'zoy
	10.00 am	Prayer and Praise	St Michael's, Othery
	10.00 am	Morning Prayer	St Mary's, Moorlinch
	10.00 am	Morning Worship	St Francis, Stawell
18 Sun (Twelfth after Trinity)	10.00 am	United Benefice Communion Service	St Francis, Stawell
25 Sun (Thirteenth after Trinity)	9.30 am	No service, join in at other services	Holy Cross, Middlezoy
	9.30 am	Breakfast Café	The Church Room, Othery
	9.30 am	Breakfast Café	The Church Hall, Moorlinch
	10.00 am	Morning Prayer	St Francis, Stawell
	5.30 pm	Anniversary Celebration Cream Tea	Methodist Chapel, Middlezoy
6.30 pm	Service with Favourite Hymns		
<b>September 1</b> Sun (Fourteenth after Trinity)	10.00 am	United Benefice Communion service	Holy Cross, Middlezoy

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

DATE	SEASON	READINGS
<b>August 4</b> Sun	Tenth Sunday after Trinity	OT: 2 Samuel, chapter 11, verses 26 to chapter 12, verse 13a Psalm: 51, verses 1 to 13 Epistle: Ephesians, chapter 4, verses 1 to 15 Gospel: John chapter 6, verses 24 to 35
11 Sun	Eleventh Sunday after Trinity	OT: 2 Samuel, chapter 18, verses 5 to 9, 15 and 31 to 33 Psalm: 130 Epistle: Ephesians, chapter 4, verses 25 to chapter 5, verse 2 Gospel: John chapter 6 verses 35 and 41 to 51
18 Sun	Twelfth Sunday after Trinity	OT: 1 Kings, chapter 2 verses 10 to 12, chapter 3, vs 3 to 14 Psalm: 111 Epistle: Ephesians, chapter 5, verses 15 to 20 Gospel: John, chapter 6, verses 51 to 58
25 Sun	Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity	OT: 1 Kings, chapter 8, verses 1, 6, 10, 11, 22 to 30, 41 to 43 Psalm: 84 Epistle: Ephesians, chapter 6, verses 10 to 20 Gospel: John, chapter 6, verses 56 to 69
<b>September 1</b> Sun	Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity	OT: Song of Solomon, chapter 2, verses 8 to 13 Psalm: 45, verses 1, 2 and 6 to 9 Epistle: James, chapter 1, verses 17 to 27 (the end) Gospel: Mark chapter 7, verses 1 to 8, 14, 15 and 21 to 23