



5ALIVE!

June 2024

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FROM THE EDITOR

THANKS TO JIM DUFFUS for the photo on the front cover of this issue. In the note he sent with it, Jim thanked people like Bryan who give up so much of their time to help make Great Elm the attractive place it is. Can I echo that but also add that it's down to all of the many volunteers that every one of our communities are special in so many ways. HUGE thanks to everyone who helps in any way, whether they litter pick, keep the church yards immaculate, help check the speeds of cars, vans and trucks as they drive along our roads, keep our church and village halls up and running, and take on board all of the many other tasks which contribute to village life. THANK YOU!

Peter

JOTTINGS FROM A COUNTRY CHURCHYARD

I AM WRITING This during the first day of a spell of really good weather we have at last been promised in May. Wonderful! Sitting under a 'forget-me-not' blue sky, the sun on my back and new green leaves unfurling everywhere. Such a welcome relief from the months of dreary cloud and rain which have trailed our long winter into spring.

Whoops! I have just been circled by the largest hornet I have ever seen, investigating the opening buds of the cotoneaster growing by my seat. Presumably a huge queen just emerged from hibernation? But not, thankfully, one of the nasty Asian ones which predate our bees; these I understand from our local bee expert, are actually smaller than our native hornet and differently striped.

Now, before I wander off sideways as I so often do, I must say a big THANK YOU to an unknown friend of a friend who read recently that I needed to replace my sarcococca which had died. Suddenly a good friend appeared at my ever-open back door bearing a little sarcococca in a lovely, cuffed clay pot with a pretty label stating it "needs loving".

Editor: Peter Corbett mellsmag@hotmail.com

Advertising: Peter Corbett, 01373 466536, mellsmag@hotmail.com

Deadline for July/August is **WEDNESDAY JUNE 12TH** but do check!

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CONTACTS

Mells Group of churches is currently in a vacancy. For any enquiries please contact the church warden in your parish. For weddings contact the benefice administrator, Mrs Catherine Brown, email catmellsgroup@gmail.com. She works on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

Church laymen and women Church wardens

Buckland Dinham Jenny Waller,
07887 556936

Chantry Hazel Tovey 836384
David Rawlins 836252

Great Elm Sally Rosa 07833
900947

Mells/ Vobster Mrs Diana
Sylvester 812386

Whatley Mrs K Gay 836175

Parish council chairs and clerks

John Reckless 01373 461841
Diane Sleight 07907 156735
parishclerk@bucklanddinham.org

John Earl 01373 812450
Joy Book 07704 584953

Andrew Bramston 01373 836513
Rachel Nash
clerk.whatleyparishcouncil@gmail.com

Roman Catholic Services

Mells: Sundays at 11.30am Frome: Saturdays 5.30pm.
Wednesdays 11.30am Sundays 10.00am

Somerset Councillor: Philip Ham 01373 812152

Others to be confirmed

Chantry and Whatley Francis Hayden 07970 839532

Police: PCSO Louise Perry, 07874 893777

“A present from my friend Jill who read your piece,” said friend Mary. So, very many thanks, Jill. It will be well loved – and known of course as Jill’s sarcococca. Wasn’t that a lovely thoughtful surprise gift? And all done the old-fashioned way, through the village grapevine/network without the help of the internet and chit chat or however things are done nowadays. This old dinosaur is still surviving happily and enjoying all the pleasures of life without the hassle. And people are wonderfully tolerant, patient and generous to this old fossil too as exemplified above.

I am amazed every year at the number of cowslips appearing in the “wilded” areas of the churchyard, having carefully nurtured one single plant for years, tucked under a shrub where it was missed by the mower. Now there are dozens, probably hundreds. The churchyard has had a second mowing and trimming around the graves which shows up the contrasting wild areas which grow taller and ever more colourful, with violets, ground ivy and speedwell at low level and hawk bit above to be followed soon by the moon daisies. And there are so many tiny things that I would need my wildflower books to identify. All beautiful and providing a colourful carpet for the church to rest upon.

While setting up the altar for communion one Sunday recently, I used a purificator with one slightly nibbled corner. I was reminded of Frisky, one of my past cavaliers, who, when I returned one Sunday with the church laundry as usual in my pocket, pulled it out quietly and sucked the wine from one corner, leaving a frayed edge. I try to use this, with apologies, when we have a specially dog loving visiting priest. It is odd the things that some dogs have a passion for.

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Muffin and Floss, sibling puppies, had a craving for soap in any form. Floss would climb up to the washbasin to steal the soap while Muffin would raid the under-sink cupboard for washing powder. I had to put a chain and padlock on the cupboard door eventually – in fact it's still there, as a reminder of my dear Muffin. My beloved Faye had a passion for candlewax (collected from church drippings) which I sprinkle on the logs of the ready laid fire. Faye would scramble among the logs to scrunch up her favourite treats, so I had to put a guard up until I lit the fire. Odd tastes indeed. Most dogs like sweet things but we had one many years ago who didn't. My grandmother (Nannie) lived her later years in three rooms on the attic floor of our old house "back home". Whenever Nannie wanted some small item, like a packet of tea, biscuits or a newspaper she would ring down on her house phone and we would attach the item to the collar of Daphne, our black labrador and send her up to Nannie who would reward her with a toffee. Daphne, being a polite dog, never refused the treat but, disliking it, would carefully push it under the stair carpet on the way down. So, whenever one cleaned the stairs, one would come across scattered toffees, poked under the stair treads.

Oh dear! Gone off sideways again! I hope everyone reading this is a dog lover or they will be bored stiff.

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Returning to the countryside again – as far as I can tell, the oaks seem to be leafing up before the ash trees so hopefully “oak before ash, only a splash” will apply. But as ash are becoming scarcer because of ash die back it’s not easy to find one nearby to compare. Surely we have had more than our share of rain with so many poor farmers unable to sow crops in waterlogged fields. But right now the sun is shining so we should count our blessings and look forward with hope.

See you in June.

Hazell

ROUND AND ABOUT

50 PLACES AVAILABLE WITH DOROTHY HOUSE FOR THE FROME RUNNING FESTIVAL!

Dorothy House is proud to partner with RunThrough, as they bring back the much loved Frome Running Festival on August 18th, 2024.

The Frome Running Festival returns this year, reinvigorated and with a new running director. The Festival will be hosting 5k, 10k and Half Marathon



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Church services in June

	2 nd June	9 th June	16 th June	23 rd June	30 th June	7 th July
Chantry	10.00am Group Service: Holy Communion David Clarke	11am: Matins Val Rawlins	11am Holy Communion David Gatliffe	11am: Holy Communion Anthony Davies	11am Holy Communion David Clarke	
Great Elm			9.30am Holy Communion Robin Isherwood	9.30am Informal Service Richard King		
Mells			9.30am: Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Prayer		
Whatley		9.30am: Matins Hazell Tovey		9.30am Holy Communion David Clarke		10.00am Group Service Holy Communion David Gatliffe

If you want to keep an eye open for any changes to services, you can check the schedule on the Mells Group website, www.mellsgroup.church/whatson.

Hardington Vale Church Services – JUNE 2024

DATE	TIME	SERVICE	LEADER
Sunday 2 June	9.00 am	Norton St Philip , Informal Breakfast	A Bowerman C Walker/A Bowerman
	10.30 am	Rode , United Parish Holy Communion	
	6.00 pm	Rode Chapel , Meeting Place	
Monday 3 June	9.00 am	Norton St Philip , Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 4 June	11.00 am	Rode Chapel , Ecumenical Holy Communion	
	5.00 pm	Laverton , Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 5 June	8.30 am	Hemington , Morning Prayer	
	5.00 pm	Rode Chapel , Informal Prayer	
Thursday 6 June	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip , Silent Prayer	
Sunday 9 June	9.00 am	Rode , Informal Breakfast	A/S Filkins C Walker/H Stewart
	10.30 am	Norton St Philip , Holy Communion	
	11.00 am	Laverton , Matins	
	11.00 am	Buckland Dinham , Iona Service	
Monday 10 June	9.00 am	Norton St Philip , Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 11 June	5.00 pm	Tellisford , Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 12 June	8.30 am	Hemington , Morning Prayer	
	5.00 pm	Rode Chapel , Informal Prayer	
Thursday 13 June	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip , Silent Prayer	
Sunday 16 June	9.00 am	Farleigh Hungerford , Holy Communion	C Walker/M Harrison C Walker/M Harrison B Day M Weymunt
	10.30 am	Rode , Holy Communion	
	10.30 am	Norton St Philip , Informal Worship	
	11.00 am	Laverton , Matins	
	11.00 am	Buckland Dinham , Holy Communion	
Monday 17 June	9.00 am	Norton St Philip , Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 18 June	5.00 pm	Laverton , Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 19 June	8.30 am	Hemington , Morning Prayer	
	6.00 pm	Rode Chapel , Informal Prayer	
Thursday 20 June	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip , Silent Prayer	
Sunday 23 June	9.00 am	Tellisford , Holy Communion	C Walker Iba C Walker
	9.00 am	Rode , Contemplation & Coffee	
	10.30 am	Norton St Philip , Holy Communion	
	11.00 am	Laverton , Matins	
	6.00 pm	Buckland Dinham , Evening Service	
Monday 24 June	9.00 am	Norton St Philip , Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 25 June	5.00 pm	Tellisford , Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 26 June	8.30 am	Hemington , Morning Prayer	
	5.00 pm	Rode Chapel , Informal Prayer	
Thursday 27 June	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip , Silent Prayer	
Sunday 30 June	10.30 am	Norton St Philip , United service Farewell to Caroline Walker	C Walker
	6.00 pm	Rode Chapel , Meeting Place	

routes through the wonderful town and surrounding villages of Frome. All routes start and finish at the runners' village, which will be hosted by the old showfield grounds.

As charity partner for the race, Dorothy House has 50 bond places up for grabs. These can be found on the website: www.dorothyhouse.org.uk For any runners supporting the charity, they will receive some fantastic benefits, including a bespoke Frome runners vest or t-shirt to wear on the day. As well as this, the Hospice will have a stand in the runners' village to welcome you when you arrive and also as you return from your run.

Steph Cox, Relationship Fundraising Lead at Dorothy House said "As a Frome resident myself and knowing friends and family who have taken part in the event previously, I am really excited to see it return with some fresh energy! We really appreciate the opportunity that RunThrough have given us and hope that as many local people as possible sign up and choose to support the Hospice. Being able to sign up to a local event, with money raised, supporting friends and family in the local area is what it's all about. I can't wait to support all of the runners on the day!"

Matt Wood, Co-Founder of RunThrough said "We're thrilled to support Dorothy House Hospice Care through the Frome Running Festival. Events like this play a crucial role in helping them continue their important work. We encourage everyone to join us at this year's festival for a fun-filled day of running, fundraising, and supporting patients and their families in Frome and beyond."

If you'd like to sign up to take part in the 5k, 10k or half marathon for Dorothy House, call 01225 721480, email: events@dorothyhouse-hospice.org.uk or for more information check out the website: www.dorothyhouse.org.uk

BUCKLAND DINHAM

CHURCH NEWS

The June Services at St. Michael's will be as listed in the rota with the communion service on June 16th. All welcome.

REMINDER If like me, you found it difficult to read the poster in the May edition of 5Alive it was to advertise an evening with Gregory Steward with favourite songs from the classics and musicals. Those who came to his last concert will remember what a very talented tenor he is, so I hope you will

come and bring your friends on Sunday June 30th 6.00 p.m. for an enjoyable evening. Please bring a picnic and hopefully the weather will be warm and you can sit outside in the interval. Tickets are £10.00 (under 16s free) either at the door or online at gregory-steward-bucklandeventbrite.com.

COFFEE MORNING The June Coffee morning will be held as usual on the third Saturday of the month, that is the 15th 10.00 to 12.00, so we look forward to another happy gathering with lots to talk about. So many things happening in Buckland Dinham for you to all enjoy.

BUCKLAND BUDDIES Firstly I must apologize for not giving the correct title last month, whilst this group is for ladies it is also open to anyone who would like to come if the speaker is of interest. The cost is £3.00 per visit to include tea/coffee and biscuits. The next meeting is on June 4th and our speaker is a milliner (sorry I do not have her name). Why not come along, it may be somebody you know! We look forward to seeing some new faces.

What an amazing Plant and Cake Sale on Saturday May 11th, so a big thank you to all who contributed with bringing plants and cakes for sale to make this such a very successful morning. A grand total of £432.00 was made and I gather that the whole morning was a very happy occasion. I was sorry to have missed it. *Jill Wright*

SHORT MAT BOWLS No response so far for our appeal for new members. Wednesday afternoons from 2.30 – 4.30, in the Village Hall. It is fun and we do need a few more to keep this club going. Just come along and have a go, only £2.50 with free tea/coffee and a biscuit.

Jill Wright

BUCKLAND DINHAM PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION

AGM

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join us for wine , chat and nibbles

Farewell Service

for
Revd Caroline Walker
celebrating all that Caroline and Michael
have contributed
during their time in Hardington Vale

United service at
St Philip and St James Church
Norton St Philip
Sunday 30th June
10.30am



*Followed by a bring and share **family picnic**
for everyone in the community -
more details to follow on
social media and the parish website
www.hardingtonvale.org.uk*

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OR THE PICNIC
OR BOTH!**

CHANTRY

The Ascension Day Service in Chantry Church was led by Martin Weymont and enjoyed by the few of us who attended. It was quite disappointing that so few people attended, perhaps it was because it always falls mid-week.

Your prayers are asked for John Lewis who is quite ill.

Maintenance

Date	Cleaning	Flowers
01-06-24	Dolly & Val	Lauren
08-06-24	Sonia	Val
15-06-24	Sue	Hazel
22-06-24	Clare	Hazel
29-06-24	Dolly & Val	Lauren

Holy Trinity Church Chantry is to have a cake and plant sale on June !ST from 10:00am till 4:00pm. All proceeds are to go to the Friends of Chantry and Friends of Whatley for their respective church buildings and other village projects.

Please come, enjoy some refreshments and take home something for the kitchen table or something for the garden for as little as £1. Bring a friend and enjoy a great day out.

Please bring cash if you can. See you there!

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Over the past four weeks we've screened the Channel 4 drama Dance. The series was based on the novels by Anthony Powell written while living in Chantry. It worked well and we will be having other screenings and events featuring the connection to Chantry. A big thank you to all those who supported the event. We raised £400.00 for the friends of Chantry.

Thanks to John Powell for donating the vintage champagne and the special edition of "Dance" novels which were auctioned off at the last screening. *Andrew*

GREAT ELM

HEIDELBERG MATERIALS' DONATION HELPS VILLAGE HALL TO BE REBUILT

Heidelberg Materials' Whatley quarry near Frome has made a donation to Great Elm Village Hall Committee to support the hall's reconstruction project. The village's only community space had previously been damaged by an uninsured driver crashing into the hall in July 2023, which caused thousands of pounds worth of damage.

The community donation helped vital exterior construction work to be completed. It is one of several local projects supported by the quarry this



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year, with other recent donations including material for improved car parking at Coleford Parish Council's allotments, a donation to Friends of Chantry Church and funding sports kit for Mells Church of England First School.

Vincent Pitt, Operations Manager for Whatley quarry, said: "We were pleased to be able to help with this project as we recognised how important the hall is to the people of Great Elm as the village's only community space."

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Gemma Brooking of the Great Elm Village Hall committee commented: "We are very grateful to Heidelberg Material's Whatley team for this generous donation. Now that the exterior work is nearing completion, we are turning our focus to the hall's interior and await the outcome of other grant applications."

GREAT ELM CHURCH NEWS

Part of the plasterwork of the ceiling in the NW corner of the church came down in early May due to ingress of water probably driven by the unusual north wind. The Annual Parish Church Council meeting was held on May 13th. The council remains unchanged.

Every year in early summer Bryan Eley (featured on the front cover) does a wonderful job on the village green, strimming and carting away the old herbage. It's great that folk like Bryan volunteer an hour or two each year to help make such an attractive village. And the annual church yard clean up has taken place with a good turnout of 13 folk, armed with strimmers, trowels and clippers did an excellent job finishing off with the usual coffee, cake and chat.



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Our Coffee, Cake & Chat event held on May 11th was well attended, raising £100 for the village hall restoration fund. There will be another in June.

MELLS WITH VOBSTER

TERRY YORKE, OF BULLS GREEN, CHANTRY, BORN ON MAY 2ND 1935 AND DIED ON APRIL 14TH 2024, AGED 88

A service was held in St. Andrew's Church on May 2nd, which would have been Terry's 89th birthday.

Terry came from a farming family in Foxcote. He and Jenny were married at St. Andrew's and lived for some years in The Duckery, in Mells Park, where Jenny's father had worked. Terry was Secretary of the Mells Flower Show. He and Jenny had four children, Martin died at a year old, Rachel, died at four years, and then they had Brendon. When Brendon was three, Terry and Jenny moved to Asham House, little more than a ruin, on the outskirts of Chantry. They lived in a caravan for some years while Terry gradually built a home from the row of derelict cottages. Later on they adopted Simon, a Rubella child, greatly loved, who died at the age of 21. Jenny led the Brownie pack in Mells, and when Brendon was of an age to become a Scout, Terry resurrected the Mells Troop which he ran for some years. He was a man of firm convictions and in retirement was a fundraiser for Marie Curie Charity,



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covering a huge area. When Jenny died some six years ago, Terry was really knocked back. He had cared for her for the last part of her life, and although assisted by carers and by Brendon, he was drained. To distract himself he turned beautiful wooden objects, nurtured orchids, continued to drive, found great joy in attending the wedding of his granddaughter Rebecca. Terry was admitted to the RUH in Bath in January following a fall, when it was discovered that his cancer had spread. He was transferred to Frome Community Hospital for palliative care. Brendon was at his side every day. Our prayers and thoughts are for his family at this time. May Terry rest in peace, and rise in Glory.

Jacob Rees Mogg

on

The glories of Somerset

**Come and put your questions and comments to Jacob
over a glass of wine on June 7th at 7.00 pm**

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or from Jill Henderson, jillhenderson1@icloud.com

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m: 0772 941 1360

t: 01373 834439



MELLS PEAL OF BELLS

Mells residents may have noticed that the church bells have been rung a little more than usual over the past few weeks. At the end of April a team came over from Ireland and rang our bells, and in mid-May we welcomed some forty members of the Ladies Guild. At the end of May we will be visited by a team from East Anglia. These committed bellringers go from church to church when touring an area.

MELLS VILLAGE DAY

What a thoroughly enjoyable day this was! At the church we hosted the talks during the afternoon, and in the evening a lively succession of musicians, feeling privileged to welcome everyone. Our grateful thanks go to everyone who contributed to this very special day, the dedicated and hardworking committee, the stallholders, those who provided refreshments, manned barriers, and provided so much entertainment on The Green. Thank you, to you all. Roll on next year!

MELLS 1ST SCOUTS

The Mells 1st Scouts would like to say huge thanks to the Whatley Common Good Trust, jointly with Halecombe Quarry, for helping us to fund our group with some throwing axes and shelters.

GREAT ELM VILLAGE HALL

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If anyone would like to join our scout group, we have spaces for young ones aged 6-14, so please call or message Davin on 07812948639. Davin Kenwood.

CHILDREN’S ART EXHIBITION: We are very much looking forward to hosting the exhibition in the church of local children’s art, in June.

NEW VICAR UPDATE: an advertisement has gone to the Diocese to be advertised on the Bath and Wells Diocese website, and we hope and pray that there will be a good response! Rev. Robin Isherwood has, for the past two years, given much of his time in the Mells parish, and has now retired from this work. We have been very grateful for all his guidance and support. Thank you so much, Robin.

MELLS PARISH COUNCIL (full minutes can be found at mellsparishcouncil.org.uk/parish-council/minutes-agendas/notes of Mells Parish Council held on Tuesday 14 May 2024

Suez waste collection contract: The Council’s waste contractor, SUEZ, has made a significant annual loss on its £24m a year contract. Negotiations are taking place. Without an increase, there is a risk that SUEZ may exit the contract which is for another six years. Even with

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the recent rerouting of collections, SUEZ considers the contract unviable.

Revised waste collection routes: Recycling and rubbish collection days are changing from Monday June 17th for households in eastern parts of the county.

Roadside grass-cutting: From May 2024, where safe to do so, mowing routines across managed highway verges, open spaces, country parks and council property grounds will be reduced although safety and visibility around verges and public spaces such as play areas will be cut more regularly. On wider verges, only one meter swathe is mowed, leaving the rest untouched to maintain biodiversity. Further information on the cutting schedule can be found at somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/grass-cutting/

Children and Young Peoples Plan: The new Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) for Somerset sets out the Council's aims for 2024-2030. Members of Somerset Youth Forum have suggested that the most important priorities are - Having a better experience in education, leading healthier live, help to improve your mental health, living in safer communities, building better relationships and being prepared for adulthood. The Council wants to encourage all individuals under the age of 25 to share their thoughts on these priorities via the online survey: forms.office.com/e/dNHr44HCfn

Volunteer Drivers: Volunteer drivers in Somerset have reduced by about 67 per cent in recent years. These dedicated drivers provide essential transportation services to residents, especially those who



live in rural areas with little public transport. If you have at least half a day available and a car, please consider volunteering. Volunteer drivers receive training and are reimbursed expenses at 45p per mile (or 50p per mile with passengers).

MATTERS ARISING

Crates by defibrillator – Post Office: The shop is looking at either moving the bin slightly to allow the crates to be placed by it or placing them at the back of the shop if the plans to erect some new storage goes ahead.

Trees overhanging telephone lines – Little Green: Clerk to contact Openreach.
'Queens Canopy' – tree planting: Cllr Asquith confirmed that some trees will be planted at Longfield.

Quarry noise: This appears to mainly affect just a few houses which are in direct line of the quarry. The main issue reported by Cllr Asquith is the grinding of the lorry gears as they negotiate the steep climb up to the surface with the stock at night. Cllr West will investigate if the quarry is able to move the stock to the surface in the afternoon or to another place to avoid the movements in the middle of the night. Noise is at its worse when the wind is south westerly.

HIGHWAY AND FOOTPATH ISSUES:

Stone baskets on Park Corner: Cllr Henderson reported that he has raised the matter with the quarry as the area is on their boundary.

Fingerposts by Vobster Inn and leaning post top of Conduit Hill: Cllr West will take a look at what is required to straighten the one at the top of Conduit Hill and remove the vegetation. The painting contractor is arranging for someone to fix the moving post at Vobster.

PLANNING

New applications:

2024/0620/FUL: Erection of dwelling and creation of parking, turning and access area – Prospect Cottage, Top Lane. Clerk to request that the parking area is created prior to the work to enable the works vans to be parked off the road.

2024/0661/CLP: Application for a proposed lawful development certificate for stationing of mobile home within the garden of Bridge Cottage – Bridge Cottage, Holes Lane. Clerk to request that provision for parking for the mobile home should be made on the site.

SCC/4095/2024: Restoration of Lime Kiln Hill Quarry – Lime Kiln Quarry – no objections. The access point further up the hill is considered an improvement.

2024/0823/HSE: Small utility room extension, front and rear porches, modifications of some openings – Rock Edge, Mells Green to Little Green – no objections.

Quarry applications:

SCC/3837/2021/IDO: This permission covers the Asham Wood void area and extends across an area of 32.3ha – This application was formally withdrawn on 7 May 2024.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Fast traffic by Claveys Farm: Resident has raised concerns regarding the speed of traffic in this area. Clerk to look into what is required to have speed camera signs placed on the 30mph post in the hope this will deter drivers. *Post meeting note: PSCO Louise Perry has reported that there were over 50 prosecutions in Mells for speeding in 2023.*

ITEMS TO REPORT / ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

War memorial: The war memorial is looking untidy due to a change at the Walled Garden. It is hoped that the contractor who will be employed to cut the grass triangle, will be willing to undertake its maintenance.

Fete: This was a great success. The ‘entry’ fee system is actually illegal and a donation should have been requested.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 11 June 2024 at **7.15pm** in the Barn

Joy Book, Clerk

Tel: 07704 585953, Email: parishcouncils.frome@gmail.com

WHATLEY

VILLAGE PARTY, ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WHATLEY : WEDNESDAY JUNE 27TH 6.00 -7.30PM

We celebrate the refit of St George's Church, Whatley and its opening as a new community hub for the use of the villages of Whatley and Egford.

The church has been renovated over the last few months with wonderful new facilities including a kitchen and toilet. This makes non-religious activities possible to take place alongside its central role as a place of worship.

This celebration will acknowledge the importance of a community space for the villages of Whatley and Egford. We also launch Friends of Whatley as a community run organisation to support the running of events in the church/community space.

We look forward to welcoming you to join us and to share in the progress of this new initiative for the church and for us as a community.

All welcome to celebrate, to share your ideas for the future.



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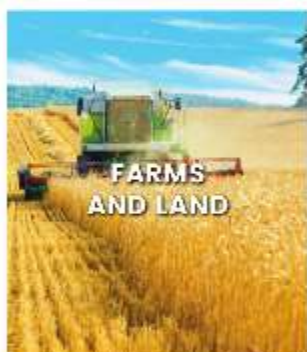
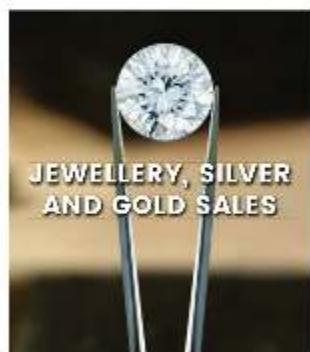
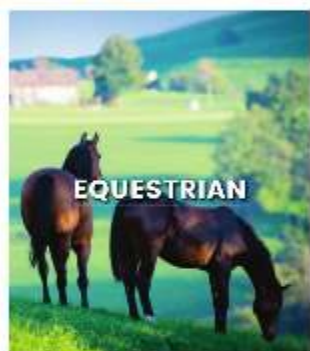
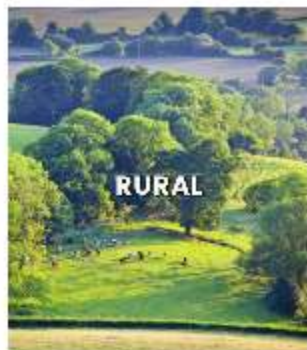
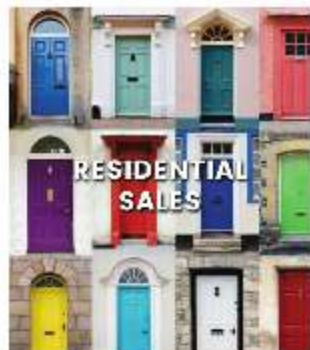
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