

MOMSS MAGAZINE



Frosty Morning
Drawing by Anne Farmer

FEBRUARY 2023

**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

and www.stawellvillage.info and

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, Isobel Davis and Gill Wilkinson.

Editor this month: Gill Wilkinson

Compiler this month: Jane Stryker

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
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

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.

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Jane Stryker Tel: 01458 210661

E-mail momssgadverts@live.co.uk

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number 1 of volume 20

DON'T FORGET !
March edition deadlines:
Adverts 12 February
Articles 15 February

FROM THE EDITOR

The days begin to lengthen, spring bulbs begin to show their flowers. Why not banish those winter blues by trying out some of the events in our villages? There is gardening in Moorlinch and Othery, a flourishing book group or, ladies, look at the events in our local WIs, there are far more than 'Jam and Jerusalem', there is fun and friendship. You could gain more knowledge of our clear Somerset skies, or attend a free concert. Alternatively, just go to a village coffee morning and meet your neighbours. The choice is yours.

Gill Wilkinson (Editor)
momssgeditor@live.co.uk

BENEFICE, DEANERY AND DIOCESAN ITEMS

UNITED BENEFICE MEETING LOOKING FORWARD IN PARISH AND BENEFICE Sunday 26 February 2-4.30pm Othery Village Hall

ALL are invited, refreshments will be provided

The afternoon will be led by Rob Walrond (Deanery and Parish Development Adviser (Rural) and look at how each parish and then the UB can develop over the next twelve months and beyond. All members of the congregations are invited.

Come and have your say in the development of your church.

LENT COURSE

Rev Andrea would like to lead a Lent devotional course with reflections using the following booklet: 'Sharing the Easter Story' by Sally Welch. Whilst this booklet is for daily study it can be run in a weekly get-together discussion format – like our previous Lent Course sessions. However the price of the booklet varies greatly depending on where you can obtain a copy. If you look it up yourself on Google - or any other search engine – you may be able to get a bargain. Rev Andrea would like to run a course beginning in March – dates, times and venues to be arranged. If our magazine readers would like to join in with a weekly Lent course please contact Rev Andrea direct.

Anita Winslade, Hon Admin Assistant
01823 698368



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BY KAYLEIGH BALL

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BEAUTY *On The Levels*

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS

Open Daily

The United Benefice churches in Middlezoy and Stawell are open daily for private prayer.

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.

The Prayer Group

PRAYERS AND SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE

Churches across Bath and Wells have been praying for Ukraine and for peace. Many are open for those who wish to have a quiet moment of prayer or to light a candle, others have been holding prayer vigils. Locally church communities are working closely with aid agencies to raise money and support those in need in Ukraine and refugees from the conflict.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms:

Violet Nellie PEPPARD was baptised in Holy Cross Church Middlezoy on Sunday 8 January.

Deaths/Funerals:

Mrs Cynthia CROSIER died on 22 December 2022. Her funeral was held at Holy Cross Church Middlezoy on 19 January.

The ashes of Joyce Daisy Maud BULLEN were interred in Holy Cross Church Middlezoy on 23 January.



LETTER FROM BISHOP MICHAEL A BETTER WAY

Culture, it's said, is "how things get done around here". This suggests that our understanding of the world is largely formed by our experiences and what we're accustomed to. That's all fine until everything around us, as it does, keeps on changing. Then we're set on a collision course between how we think things should be and how they actually are. Anybody aged over 40 who's had to ask a nine-year-old how to use their new phone will understand this dilemma perfectly.

Cultural collisions aren't just restricted to technology. They affect churches too. Many of us grew up with a model of church set up by the Victorians. This mostly meant that each parish had one church building with its own vicar, who took responsibility for most aspects of the ministry needed in a particular place. Yet even this was new in its day. Look much further back and things worked very differently. The New Testament speaks of churches where lots of different people played many different roles, each operating out of the particular skills and gifts given them by God. In Ephesians the writer describes a church where "some [are] apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers".

So, what would be the right model of church for our day? The Victorians' assumption that the vicar would do almost everything would seem to be a crying waste of the gifts and passions that together we share. And as more of our clergy care for three, six or more

parishes, the nineteenth century model is increasingly leaving our vicars tired, overstretched and liable to burn out.

We need a better way; one that draws on the rich talents, abilities and skills that our church members have. Here in Bath and Wells we're calling this 'shared local ministry'. Examples of what that can look like exist in many places around our diocese. Neither first century nor nineteenth century, but an emerging twenty-first century way of how we want "to get things done around here". A better way to inhabit well the faith we've inherited in our time and generation.

+Michael

The Right Reverend Michael Beasley, Bishop of Bath and Wells

MUSIC ON THE LEVELS

Free Concert Sunday 26 February 3pm

St Mary's Church, Main Road, Westonzoyland, TA7 0EP.

Devon Salinas and Sophie Green

Vocalist Sophie and guitarist Devon will be putting their own stamp on covers of popular songs such as 'Isn't She Lovely', 'American Boy', 'September', and 'Stand by Me'. Both are in their final year at Leeds Conservatoire but are already in great demand at festivals and to perform with other solo artists and bands.

As there are currently no statutory requirements with regard to Covid we are being a little more relaxed about numbers. Nevertheless, Music on the Levels has an informal booking system to help provide a comfortable and enjoyable experience for everyone and give an indication of how many cakes to bake! However, if you have not booked by the time of the concert, there may still be room for you.

We are retaining the principle of free entry to our concerts as we want to include as many people as possible.

Of course, there is a cost to us! So, in order to help with the artists' fees and other expenses such as heating, insurance and licenses, we sell refreshments and a raffle is held. Donations are encouraged from those who can afford to contribute.

Therefore, if you want to come to the concert, contact Frank Challenger; details below.

Frank Challenger 01278 699071

email: f.challenger@icloud.com



FARM DIARY

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

In the field. The sheep can stay out all winter. Although, if they graze only on grass where the nutrition has declined, they will not grow much. However, they improve the field immensely. Undergrazing is as bad for fields as overgrazing. The sheep remove any excess vegetation over the winter without the spoiling of the sward and soil structure which would result from the feet of heavier animals. Just before Christmas we used the sheep to graze our winter oilseed rape crop, we have not done this previously. Excess growth in our mild winters increases fungal diseases, so we are using the sheep to reduce the fungal disease burden by letting in more air and light. The goats are in the farm buildings. Kidding is due in late February/early March. Exciting times ahead.

Grain marketing. We use Openfield, a farmer-owned cooperative, to market all our grain. Most of it is in pools: they have the task of finding a buyer whilst we insure and store the grain safely and securely. We can receive up to 65% of our money immediately, even if the crop has been neither sold nor moved. Final reckoning is in late August of the year following the harvest when the remaining 35% is paid plus any other further moneys. Prices have dropped a lot from their peak as the southern hemisphere's harvest gets under way.

Openfield have 300 UK destinations to which they deliver grain. There are 45,000 UK cereal holdings but the writer is not sure with how many Openfield deal. (Source - Cecilia Pryce, market analyst, Openfield)

Countryside Stewardship. This is a scheme to fund farmers to look after various different landscape features including fauna and flora. It is available under the latest schemes. In practice, here in Somerset, we have lots of hedges and trees and landscape types so there is already a diverse environment.

Richard Graham

SKY AT NIGHT

February 2023

Sunrise Sunset

Beginning of February 7.47am-5.02pm

End of February 6.57am-5.50pm

Moon Phases

Full Moon 5th / Last Quarter 13th / New Moon 20th / first Quarter 27th

Planets

Venus is a fantastic sight shining in the west at sunset, setting at 8pm. This is joined on the evening of 22 February by the planet Jupiter (which sets at 9pm); between these two you will see a crescent Moon. At this time look out for Earthshine on the unlit section of the crescent Moon; this is light from the Sun reflected back by the Earth. Red Mars is still prominent, close to the Pleiades and sets at 3.30am.

Constellation

The bright star to the bottom left of the constellation of Orion the Hunter is Sirius in the constellation of Canis Major the Greater Dog. Sirius is the brightest star in the sky being so close to our solar system the light takes only just over 8 years to reach us. The shimmering effect (and different colours if you look with binoculars) is due to the star appearing so low that it is distorted by turbulence in the atmosphere.





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Phenomena

On the evening of 3 February look for the almost full Moon below and forming a line with the stars Castor and Pollux the twins of the constellation of Gemini the Twins.

Paul Adamson, 01823 698156

SOMERSET LEVELS STARGAZERS

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 22 February at 7.30pm in Othery Village Hall. Our main talk this month is presented by club members Richard and Sue Horsham and is entitled 'The Death of Stars'. We also have a guide to observing the night sky during the month of March along with all the latest news from the world of Astronomy and Spaceflight.

£3 visitors (includes hot drinks); membership available. The meeting is also on Zoom for a small donation. For details and Zoom link contact details below.

Additionally, there is a programme of exciting talks lined up for the year ahead and we encourage people to attend the meetings in person if possible. We have an astronomy library with telescopes and binoculars available to use when the skies permit, together with the camaraderie of like-minded people which cannot be matched by watching online. Each month along with the main talk, we give a guide to the night sky for the month ahead along with the latest news from the world of Astronomy and Spaceflight. We look forward to seeing you.

For details please contact us on somersetlevelsstargazers@hotmail.com

www.somersetlevelsstargazers.co.uk Follow us on Facebook

Paul Adamson 01823698156

WESTERN FRONT ASSOCIATION (WFA)

Somerset Branch

The next meeting of the branch will take place on Wednesday 8 February 7.30pm in Othery Village Hall. Our next talk is 'Taunton's Men in the Great War'. Richard Salter will look at the men of Taunton who returned from the war using a 1919 survey of the area. There may be heroes and villains, or just those men who had 'done their bit'.

WFA and non-members alike are welcome to this fascinating talk and it will interest all who have an interest in local history. We ask for a modest £5 on the door to defray costs. This will include free tea or coffee and a free raffle ticket.

If you wish to bring your own drinks, then please feel free to do so.

Pat Adamson, Secretary, Somerset branch WFA, 01823 698156

Somersetwfa@hotmail.com



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SOMERSET BUS PARTNERSHIP

Welcomes Flat Rate Fare Proposals

Somerset Bus Partnership welcomes the Government's plan to provide up to £60 million, to enable bus operators to cap single adult bus fares at £2. The £2 flat fare comes in from the beginning of January and will continue through to the end of March 2023. Most bus operators are expected to adopt the scheme.

This means millions of people across England will save money at a time when many households are suffering massive pressures from the rising cost of living. The move will help people travel for work, education, shopping and medical treatments and provide a much-needed saving in daily expenditure.

The current average single fare for a 3-mile journey is estimated at over £2.80, meaning that the new fare will save passengers almost 30% of the price every time they travel.

In addition, Somerset County Council currently plans to introduce a £1 single/£2 return bus fare in Taunton, as part of its Bus Service Improvement Plan. Somerset Bus Partnership welcomes this initiative but emphasises the need to procure further funding to enable this flat rate fare to be extended across all of Somerset.

Somerset Bus Partnership Co-Chair, Peter Travis, said, "Bus usage declined in Somerset in the last decade and even more so due to the pandemic. We need initiatives like these to restore and improve passenger levels. Encouraging people to choose buses over cars helps to reduce carbon emissions. It is estimated that the Government's £60 million will reduce car journeys by at least 2 million and cut pollution and congestion for all of us."

Somerset Bus Partnership will continue to work closely with Somerset County Council to encourage bus use and ensure implementation of the Bus Service Improvement Plan across the county.

Contact us at: somersetbuspartnership@gmail.com; <https://www.somersetbuspartnership.co.uk/>
<https://www.facebook.com/Somerset-Bus-Partnership-105704811629827>

LOOK TO THIS DAY

Look to this day

For it is life

The very life of life

In its brief course lie all

The realities and verities of existence,

The bliss of growth,

The splendour of action,

The glory of power.

For yesterday is but a dream

And tomorrow is only a vision,

But today, well lived,

Makes yesterday a dream of happiness

And every tomorrow a vision of hope.

Look well, therefore, to this day.

Kalidasa 4th-5th Century AD

(Sanskrit)

This verse was always in the pocket of a recently deceased cousin of Richard Graham. He

was internationally known in the world of sea salvage: at one time salvaging a burning oil tanker in the Persian Gulf during the Iran-Iraq war in the 1980s. Other companies had turned the salvage down. Read about it in his book 'Salvage' by Ian Tew. He has written several other books about his adventures.

When one realises that Captain Tew played a major part in some of the most memorable events of the last century and survived without being drowned, blown up, or permanently imprisoned, it is understandable he lived one day at a time. Or as a reviewer put it: "No cure, no pay"- those are the terms under which a salvor operates, and in doing so he takes on an onerous responsibility. If he is defeated by the elements he is not paid. He receives nothing, however much money, effort, sweat and tears he has put in. Salvage is not a business for the faint-hearted."

MIDDLEZOY VILLAGE NEWS

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

The Advent/Christmas period was a busy time. It started with the Posada figures being blessed on Advent Sunday at Moorlinch and then finding refuge in 27 homes, including visiting Burrowbridge and Othery, before arriving at Holy Cross during the Crib Service. On Thursday 15 December the Church was full for the Middlezoy/Othery School

Christmas concert and on Friday 16 December the carol singing and raffle in the village hall raised £200 for the Children's Hospice South West. The carol service on Sunday 18 December, the craft, Christingle and coffee afternoon in the Chapel on Wednesday 21 December, the crib service held on Christmas Eve and the service on Christmas morning were all well attended.

Thank you to all who decorated the church for the Christmas period and to Roger and Allana of 'Pathe Christmas Trees' for donating the tree that stood in the churchyard.



Langport Food bank

The contributions for the Foodbank this Christmas doubled...needing two trips to Langport. The contributions were greatly appreciated and Vicky Boulton, the organiser, sent a thank you stating:

"Words cannot express the gratitude I hold for all you do every month. I get the nice bit, to see the relief come over the faces of those accepting the wonderful foods you gift them.

With your support we are able to feed families and individuals who worry every day, you take that worry away".

We will be going up on Friday 24 February. If you wish to donate please leave up at the church, at the village coffee morning or in our porch at 11a Main Road Middlezoy. You can also arrange for donations to be collected by emailing shrubrose@yahoo.co.uk or phoning



me on 01823 698790.

Ian Campbell

Churchwarden & Middlezoy PCC

CELEBRATIONS FOR THE CORONATION OF CHARLES III

Saturday 6 May

Save the date. Planning is in hand to celebrate the Coronation. The focus will be on the one day and hopefully will cater for all sections of the village community. Further information will follow so watch this space.

Pam Jamieson on behalf of the organising group.

VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING

Is it really February? At least the nights are drawing in a little later and spring is around the corner. Christmas seems a long time ago!

We had a lovely end to the year at our coffee morning on Monday 12 December. We had the pleasure of being entertained by the Othery and Middlezoy School children. They were a delight and certainly helped to start the Christmas season for us. Thank you for the hard work of the teachers and teaching assistants, it was very much appreciated. We hope they will visit us again soon.

We were also able to donate a total of just over £1,000 to several village organisations. We do not aim to make any profit from the coffee mornings and want to give it back to the village. This was the first time we have been able to do so since Covid and it was a great feeling. Our Christmas raffle was for charity and a total of £64 was given to St Margaret's Hospice. This amount was matched from the funds and donated to the Langport food bank. Our craft tables were a great success in the run up to Christmas. Watch out for details, we may have some again nearer to Easter.

We look forward to seeing you on a Monday 10-12 at the chapel. Whether a regular or your first time, you will be met with a warm welcome. Tea/coffee/hot chocolate and biscuits available and a weekly raffle. The bring and buy stall is up and running, any contributions will be well received.

Jill Darby, Village Coffee Morning Co-ordinator

Tel: 01823 698000 Email: jilldrb@gmail.com

LEVELS METHODIST CHURCH Services

12 February	10.30am	Morning Worship	David Clitheroe
26 February	6.30pm	Circuit Service	Rev Deborah Kirk HC

Thanks to all who came to the Christmas events. Happy 2023.

Sandy Rogers and Pauline Stewart, Chapel Stewards

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MIDDLEZOY COMMUNITY PROJECT (MCP)

The popularity of the village hall bar continued through the autumn and Christmas period. They are very friendly occasions where groups of the young, the not so young, and women on their own all feel welcome.

Fancy Fish and Chips bring their mobile van to the car park every other Friday, starting on 13 January from 5.30 until 8.30pm.

Coming up we have two dates for your diaries, both in March: on Saturday 11th we are holding another popular fun music quiz at the hall, hosted by Clive Hennessy. Teams of up to a maximum of six at only £2 a head. Book a table ahead please, so that we know the numbers to expect. Prizes to be won!!

Shortly after the quiz we have decided to celebrate St Patrick's Day on Friday 17 March with an Irish themed evening; plenty of Guinness and Irish Whiskey and (we hope) an Irish music band too. We will hold a raffle with some very special Irish prizes. This will be a free event with no tickets required.

For the coronation weekend on Saturday 6 May in the evening we are having a Blues Brother Tribute Band, 'The Amazing Blues Brothers'. The tickets will be £10 including a hog roast.

Save the date with further details to follow.

As always, we would like to thank our regular customers and volunteer staff for their continued support. MCP could not function without you.

Sally Evans (vice chairman) 01823 690234

sallymevans43@gmail.com

OTHERY VILLAGE NEWS

TOM BOOTHBY

It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden death in Devon of Thomas William Donald Boothby, late of Blenheim House Othery, on 17 January 2023 aged 33 years old. Thank you for all the messages, cards and love we have received.

The Adamson / Boothby and Robery family



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ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Breakfast Café Church

Café Church is church with a difference. Seated round tables in the Church Room we drink fresh coffee, eat a simple breakfast and discuss faith together. It's still a service, we sing a few songs, maybe hear a bit of a talk, say some prayers, but we're relaxed about it all.

St Michael's held our first Breakfast Café Church on Sunday 15 January in the Church Room from 9.30-11am and it was good! We're hoping to have one every other month so look out for it in the March MOMSS magazine and we'll let you know on the village Facebook page. You will be most welcome whether you are a church-goer or not.

Isobel Davis

Gregory Steward Concert

This was a most pleasant evening event which took place in St Michael's Church. Gregory's programme of songs was most expertly staged and performed and the audience were most appreciative. Refreshments were served during the interval and the overall experience prompted many requests for the chance to hold another concert in the church sometime in the near future.

Mervyn Winslade & Margaret Harris (Churchwardens)

St Michael's Crib and Carol Services

We held our annual Christmas Eve Carols and Crib service at 3pm in St Michael's church where 92 people attended.

This joyful and colourful service is a firm favourite with families, friends, villagers and visitors! Many of the children dressed up in costumes and re-enacted the nativity scenes as well as the whole congregation joining in with all the carols and prayers.

We thank everyone for attending, for all their help and support.

Mervyn Winslade & Margaret Harris (Churchwardens)

CHURCH ROOM

Coffee Mornings

Our Tuesday morning sessions continue throughout the winter and with the new heaters now installed are a pleasant and comfortable meeting place for allcomers. In the week before Christmas the last session of 2022 was a Christmas special with extra delights and a super raffle. The 2023 sessions have now started and doors open from 10am to noon each Tuesday.

Christmas Dinner

In December a group of the regular Coffee Morning people enjoyed an excellent Christmas dinner at the Lamb and Lion in Hambridge.

Church Room Committee

OTHERY READING GROUP

'Priscilla: the Hidden Life of an Englishwoman in Wartime France' by Nicholas Shakespeare was the first book of 2023 for the Reading Group. The author (not a direct descendant of William), wrote an acclaimed biography of Bruce Chatwin, several novels which have won literary awards, was nominated for the Booker prize and wrote and narrated a BAFTA winning BBC Arena television programme about writer and actor Dirk Bogarde. He spent his childhood in the Far East and South America where his father was a diplomat. His mother was the daughter of a journalist. He has been described as one of the best English

novelists of our time. Priscilla is the story he uncovered about his glamorous, enigmatic aunt of whose existence his mother, her sister, was not aware of until after the war. All of which led the readers to expect an exciting tale of a courageous woman joining the French Resistance and escaping the Nazis, much as Nicholas himself was anticipating. As such we were disappointed. After her parents' separation Priscilla moved to Paris with her mother, then married a French aristocrat. When war broke out the family would not protect her, her husband although affectionate was impotent and Priscilla had several affairs. She was interned but on her release many restrictions were imposed so she relied on men to provide for her. She was the mistress of black marketers and officials who smuggled artworks looted from Jewish homes. She lived and dined well. On repatriation she said "I got out just in time," her friend later realised this meant she escaped retribution for fraternising with the enemy.

Readers mostly found the book interesting but not living up to the hype and would not recommend either book or author. However, it poses the question "What would I have done in the situation?"

The Book for February is 'Drive your Plow over the Bones of the Dead' by Olga Tokarkzuc.

Should you be interested in joining the group contact Martin Wall martinwall@mac.com.
Mollie O'Flanagan

OTHERY VILLAGE HALL

Mexican Evening - Friday 24 February - The hall is hosting an evening of Mexican food and drink. We will be selling chilli, margaritas and bottles of beer with a slice of lime in the top, as well as our regular choices of beverages. Join us for what promises to be a fun evening. Dress up if you dare. All welcome, no entrance charge. Contact us as below to reserve a table.

Table Top Sale - Sunday 26 March - Tables are available for £15. If the weather permits we may have some set up outside or in the gazebo. Contact us as below if you would like to book. More details to follow.

Regular Events

Tuesday 14 February Gardening Club

Wednesday 8 February Western Front Association, 22 February Somerset Stargazers

Thursday 7.30pm Short mat bowls

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MOORLINCH VILLAGE NEWS

ST MARY'S CHURCH Christmas in Moorlinch

Like many parishes we had a busy lead up to Christmas – despite the rather inclement weather. Our usual Christingle was 'reimagined' and was eventually held in and outside Ham's Barton thanks to Jon and Alex Bedford. We enjoyed the warmth of two bright fire pits, hot sausages, the stars in the skies, sparklers and lustily sang carols. Thankfully England didn't make it to the World Cup Final so we were able to hold our traditional carol service at a reasonable time on the Sunday evening. It was a cheerful service and many thanks to Tony Leigh for serving the hot mulled wine and mince pies in the church thus avoiding the need to battle with the elements to get to the Church Hall! We were fortunate enough to hold the United Benefice Midnight Mass at St Mary's and were delighted that Rev Andrea had recovered from her bout of Covid to take the service.

First ever Vegan Taster Event a Success

On Saturday 14 January, Moorlinch Church Hall hosted a Vegan Taster lunch with proceeds going to the Afghanistan appeal by 'Medicins Sans Frontiers'. The idea was to showcase tasty vegan food that does not cost the earth and is easy to prepare. All recipes were made available so that favourite dishes could be recreated at home. Nine separate courses were prepared and served by the team and no one left hungry!



There was tasty carrot and coriander soup, sausage rolls (vegan of course) and falafels for starters. Lentil shepherd's pie, ultimate chilli and Vietnamese-style noodle salad for mains with fruit crumble, sticky toffee pudding and chocolate cake for dessert all served with

either vegan cream, yoghurt or ice-cream. Tea, coffee, juice and oat biscuits were also available for anyone who still had room.

Grateful thanks to all who came, ate and complimented and to all those who made it possible, from menu creators, cooks, setter-uppers, servers and dishwashers. £325 was raised for Afghanistan too! A fantastic joint effort.

Carrie Skinner

Garden pruning why, when & how?

Join us in Moorlinch Church Hall on Saturday 25 February at 12.30 for a Soup and Pudding Lunch. This will be followed by an illustrated guide, in the church, to the principles of pruning trees and shrubs in your garden by Gilly Hayward. Tickets £10 available from gillyhayward@hotmail.com or text to 07837 050961. Monies raised will go to St Mary's Church Hearing Loop Fund. *Gilly Hayward*



STAWELL & SUTTON MALLET VILLAGE NEWS

Information is available on the website www.stawellvillage.info

ST FRANCIS STAWELL

We know Christmas is really here when we hold our annual crib service on Christmas Eve.

The simplicity of our church, the flickering candles and the singing of Christmas carols created the atmosphere for the Posada figures to be united with the babe in the manger. Many thanks to Denise Rogers who along with the members of her youth group, did a great job, as did Dinky the Donkey who also took part, courtesy of owner, Catherine. He was so well behaved.

A very happy new year to all MOMSS+G readers from all of us at St. Francis' Church

Ruth Peberdy

COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 25 February Coffee morning 10 till 12 noon is at Giles and Ailish Edwards, Connaught House. All welcome.

Richard Graham

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*subject to eligibility

GREINTON VILLAGE NEWS

Information is available from greintonvillage@gmail.com or via the Greinton Village in Somerset Facebook group

FEBRUARY NEWS

December was a relatively busy month for Greinton. On Saturday 3rd we held what has become our traditional Christmas Bingo Night. Thanks to the generous donations we received, we were able to hold a raffle (thanks to Pauline and Jean) as well as provide lots of lovely prizes for all the games. There was a wonderfully cosy atmosphere and lots of community spirit. To top it off, we raised some much-appreciated funds for the ongoing upkeep of the Village Hall. Two weeks later, a small but intrepid band of carollers toured the village, singing Christmas carols as they went. We were lucky enough to have good weather and a mostly appreciative audience who generously donated to church funds. We finished off with mulled cider and mince pies around the fire pit – a great way to get into the Christmas spirit. Six days later it was more carols, along with seasonal poetry reading and other seasonal songs at the Christmas Singalong, finishing off with more mulled cider/ apple juice and mince pies. This is the second time we have held this event and it is proving to be a great way to get the wider village community to come into the church and appreciate its quiet beauty. For more than one participant it was the first time they had been inside the church. Finally, a very successful New Year's Eve party was held at the Village Hall, complete with karaoke. Judging by the lack of interest in the regular pub night the following Friday, the party was an outstanding success.

Forthcoming event

In addition to the regular Pub Nights on the first Friday of each month, there are the Quiz Night on Saturday 11 February and Mouse Racing on Saturday 18 March. Both events are in the Village Hall and start at 7pm. There is also a United Benefice Holy Communion service in the church on Sunday 19 February, starting at 10am.

Toby Crispin

USEFUL INFORMATION

WOMENS INSTITUTES NEAR US

Ashcott and Pedwell 7.30pm - 3rd Thursday - Ashcott Village Hall, TA7 9PZ.

Burrowbridge 7.30pm - 3rd Monday - Coronation Hall West Yeo Road, TA7 0RH

Shapwick Starlets 7.30pm - 2nd Tuesday - Village Hall, Station Road, TA7 9NJ.

Westonzoyland 7.15pm - 2nd Wednesday - Village Hall Cheer Lane TA7 0EZ

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

Westonzoyland Wednesday 8 February 'Privies, a Walk up the Garden Path' with John Dando.

Burrowbridge Monday 20 February, Kurling.

Ladies, shake off the Winter Blues and try a fun night out with the girls.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

FOODBANKS

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

Donation Points

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

Othery: St Michael's Church Othery
Moorlinch: Spring Cottage, Pit Hill Lane, Moorlinch

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 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

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 local doctors' surgeries.



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

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 recycling and rubbish collections for the MOMSS & G area are:

MIDDLEZOY & OTHERY

Recycling Boxes, every week:

Thursdays: 2, 9, 16, 23 February, 2 March

Black Wheeled Bins, every 3 weeks:

Thursday: 16 February

Garden Waste Bins, every other week:

Middlezoy: Mondays 13, 27 February

Othery: Thursdays 9, 23 February

MOORLINCH, STAWELL, SUTTON MALLET & GREINTON

Recycling Boxes, every week:

Wednesdays 1, 8, 15, 22 February, 1 March

Black Wheeled Bins, every 3 weeks:

Wednesdays: 1, 22 February

Garden Waste Bins, every other week:

Thursdays 2, 16 February, 2 March



RECYCLING CENTRES

Winter opening hours are 9am-5pm 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

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

CRIMESTOPPERS 8am-10pm Weekdays 0800 555111

MOBILE LIBRARY

This service continues on a Friday every 4 weeks.

Next visit: 10 February

Stawell Village Hall 9.50am - 10.30am

Moorlinch Tapmoor Road Junction 10.45am - 11.05am

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

MOMSS COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Please advise momssgeditor@live.co.uk of amendments/additions

ANGLICAN CHURCH INFORMATION

Priest-in-Charge

Rev Andrea Harwood 01458 443239 vicarmomss@gmail.com

Sunday mornings, Tuesdays and Wednesdays plus half a day on Saturdays (by arrangement)

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 Margaret Harris 01823 698838

Moorlinch: Fiona Hixon 01458 211096

Stawell contact: To be arranged

Sutton Mallet contact: Brian Lishman 01278 722579

Greinton contact: Jean Heywood 01458 210497

METHODIST CHAPEL MIDDLEZOY

Minister: Rev Deborah Kirk 01823 334854

Chapel Stewards: Pauline Stewart 01823 698351 and Sandy Rogers 01823 698220

PARISH COUNCILS/MEETINGS

Middlezoy—Chairman: Paul Baker 01823 698082

Othery—Chairman: Andrew Tizzard 01823 690284

Moorlinch—Meeting Chairman: Ron Hixon 01458 211096

Stawell and Sutton Mallet—Chairman: Brian Lishman 01278 722579

Greinton—Enquiries: Toby Crispin 01458 210227

DISTRICT PCSOs

Georgia Coles 07889 659466; Benjamin Simpkin 07889 659932

VILLAGE AGENTS

See information on page 15 in greyscale version for contact details

HELPFUL NUMBERS

Middlezoy: School 01823 698465; The George Inn 01823 698215;

P.O. 01823 698981 Shop 01823 587222

Open Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 8.45am-12pm, 2pm-5pm

Shop open additionally Wed 8.45am-11am, Sat 8.45am-12pm

Othery: School 01823 698464

Moorlinch: Ring O'Bells 01458 210358

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

Middlezoy Village Hall 01823 698366; Othery Village Hall 01823 690482;

Moorlinch Church Hall 01458 210755;

Stawell & Sutton Mallet Village Hall 01278 723665; Greinton Village Hall 01458 210277

SERVICES CHART FOR CHAPEL AND UB CHURCHES FEBRUARY 2023

DATE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE
February 5 Sun <i>(Third before Lent)</i>	10.00 am	United Benefice Sung Eucharist service	St Francis, Stawell
12 Sun <i>(Second Sunday before Lent)</i>	10.00 am 10.00 am 10.00 am 10.30 am	Holy Communion service Holy Communion service All Age Worship Joint Worship For All service	St Michael's, Othery St Mary's, Moorlinch St. Francis, Stawell Methodist Chapel, Middlezoy
19 Sun <i>(Sunday next before Lent)</i>	10.00 am	United Benefice Holy Communion	St Michael & All Angels, Greinton
22nd Wed ASH WEDNESDAY	7.30 pm	United Benefice Holy Communion with Ashes	St Michael's, Othery
26 Sun <i>(First Sunday of Lent)</i>	10.00 am 10.00 am 10.00 am 10.00 am 6.30 pm	Holy Communion service Holy Communion service All Age Worship service Holy Communion service Circuit Communion Service	Holy Cross, Middlezoy St Michael's, Othery St Mary's, Moorlinch St Francis, Stawell Methodist Chapel, Middlezoy

The Common Worship readings and lessons for the services

DATE	SEASON	READINGS
February 5 Sun	Third Sunday before Lent	OT: Isaiah, chapter 58, verses 1 to 12 Psalm: 121, verses 1 to 10 Epistle: 1 Corinthians, chapter 2, verses 1 to 16 Gospel: Matthew, chapter 5, verses 13 to 20
12 Sun	Second Sunday before Lent	OT: Genesis, chapter 1, verses 1 to Chapter 2, verse 3 Psalm: 136 Epistle: Romans, chapter 8, verses 18 to 25 Gospel: Matthew, chapter 6, verses 24 to 34
19 Sun	Sunday next before Lent	OT: Exodus, chapter 24, verses 12 to 18 Psalm: 2 Epistle: 2 Peter, chapter 1, verses 16 to 21 Gospel: Matthew, chapter 17, verses 1 to 9
22 Wed	Ash Wednesday	OT: Isaiah, chapter 58, verses 1 to 12 Psalm: 51, verses 1 to 18 Epistle: 2 Corinthians, chp 5, vv 20b to chp 6, v 10 Gospel Matthew, chapter 6 verses 1 to 6 and 16 to 21
26 Sun	First Sunday of Lent	OT: Genesis, chp 2, vv 15 to 17, chp 3, vv 1 to 7 Psalm: 32 Epistle: Romans, chapter 5, verses 12 to 19 Gospel: Matthew, chapter 4, verses 1 to 11

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