The Link \$

The magazine for Rode, Tellisford, Woolverton and Farleigh Hungerford, part of Hardington Vale



APRIL 2023

Rode Community Buildings Proposals

Hardington Vale New Ideas & Info

Easter Events & Services, Rode Parish Roadshow, Coronation & Other Events News

and much more local news and info too...

PARISH OF HARDINGTON VALE

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DEPUTY WARDEN

Sally Pickett - 01373 831796

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Andrew Morrison¹, Barbara Day¹, Robin Finlay,¹, Andy Filkins, Susie Filkins, Rachel Feilden³, John Flindall, Brenda Graham, Diana Lucas, Rachel Stewart², Anne Harkness, Ros Lockley, David Mayall, Sally Pickett³, Peter Stratford,

¹ Deanery Synod Representatives

² Safeguarding Officer

³ Chapel or Deputy wardens at Farleigh Hungerford, Rode and Tellisford.

⁴ with specific responsibility for Hemington churchyard

CHILDRENS' AND FAMILIES WORKER

Vacant

HARDINGTON VALE WEBSITE

www.hardingtonvale.org.uk

Hemington and Hardington

are in the care of the Churches Conservation Trust Keyholder Peter Simper 01373 834315

THE LINK MAGAZINE is published by the Parochial Church Council which reserves the right to edit any material submitted for publication.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the PCC, the Rector or the Editor.

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Cubs Thu 6-7.30pm					
Scouts Wed 7-8.30pm					
Scouts Edor Explorer Unit					
Every other Tuesday 8-9.30pm					
NB During school terms only					
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		, ,			
T: 867986				spensary Telephone Hours 12.00-15.00 T: 867987	
		ou have an urgent	medical	problem and you are unsure what to do	
medical care help T: 111 Online: 1 Frome Rural Beat PCSO		11.IIIIS.CO.UK		Dohart Mall@ayanandaamara-t!	
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REFLECTION

Do you remember watching 'You've Been Framed'? It was a TV programme full of funny home videos - usually of someone attempting to do a stunt. They wanted their success to be recorded, but in the end it was their failures that made them famous - they were hilarious to watch but they were often also so painful that they made you wince.

'Failure' is the title of the Church of England lent book - written by Bishop Emma Ineson. I wonder what you think of when you hear the word 'failure'? Maybe you think about failure on a global scale — conflict, famine, injustice, poverty. Or perhaps you think of corporate failure — failure of the government, the church, the institutions that we thought were on our side. Or maybe you think about personal failure — failure in relationships, health, finances or career or even just failure in the everyday challenges — failure to be patient or kind. How do these failures make you feel?

As Emma Ineson says - 'Failure is the wallpaper of life. It hangs in the background, slowly building the scenery of our days. How can we live, surrounded as we are by failure?' It sounds depressing doesn't it? But in fact Emma's book is surprisingly positive and hopeful. One of the things she talks about is learning how to live with failure - we can stop being afraid of it or trying to run away from it and instead turn it into something useful.

Scientists teach us about failure — Thomas Edison, when talking about his invention of the light bulb said - 'I have not failed 10,000 times — I've successfully found 10,000 ways that will not work.' Intelligent failure means willing to take risks in the areas that really matter. Most of us approach risk with a certain amount of fear — and that is healthy up to a point. But it becomes unhealthy when we are afraid of feeling that we are incompetent - that we don't measure up — that we are unworthy. The root of that fear is shame.

The Easter story has a lot to teach us about failure. Jesus spent his days on earth life showing people how God wanted them to live, and he hung around with people we might consider failures - including tax collectors and prostitutes. Try to imagine what Jesus' social media would have looked like – there would have been comments and trolls.

Then on Palm Sunday it went viral as he rode into Jerusalem on the crest of a wave of popularity. But just a few days later he is arrested, stripped and beaten by Roman soldiers, mocked by the crowd, and abandoned by his followers – he is cancelled, and he is crucified. Good Friday looked like it was the end – Jesus' life looked like a colossal failure.

And perhaps it felt like a failure to Jesus too — he cries out to God; 'why have you forsaken me?' But then he also prays; 'Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing.' The cross, which looked like failure, became the ultimate success because, despite everything, Jesus continues to love us. Then, on Easter Sunday we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ — love wins - the empty tomb opens the door for each of us to live lives free from guilt and shame.

Failure – it happens to us all and it will continue to plague us, so we will just have to learn to live with it. We can learn how to react well to failure, not to downplay it or dismiss it, but to learn from it. And more than that - because of Easter- we can choose to live without fear and without shame because we know that despite everything, we are supremely loved.

Jo Robinson Curate

NEWS FROM ST LAWRENCE

On Mothering Sunday, we had a very enjoyable Service with posies for all the ladies and audience participation by a number of lively children who were naturally the stars of the show. It was lovely to see so many people in church celebrating Mothering Sunday.



We have been teaching about 6 people from the village to ring the bells at St Lawrence (you may have heard us on a Tuesday evening). They are all really enthusiastic and seem to enjoy finding this new hobby which combines keeping fit with music skills and bell handling technique. We are delighted to say they are doing brilliantly and so we are hoping we will have our own Rode band of ringers to ring the bells on Easter Sunday this year, listen out!

Easter will soon be .upon us so please see the Services at St Lawrence for Holy week on page 8. Due to Easter Sunday falling on the second Sunday of the month when we normally hold Breakfast Church there will be no Breakfast Church in April this year.

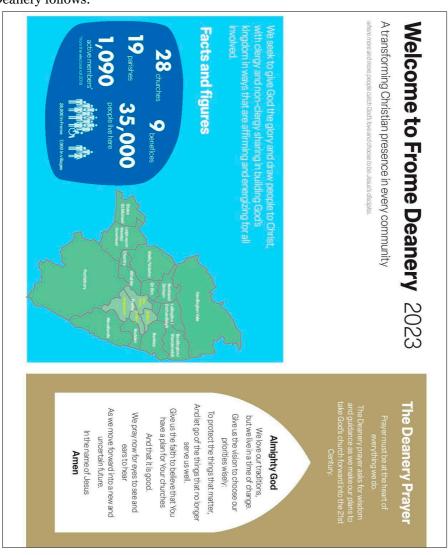
For news on our Roof Appeal please see page 10..

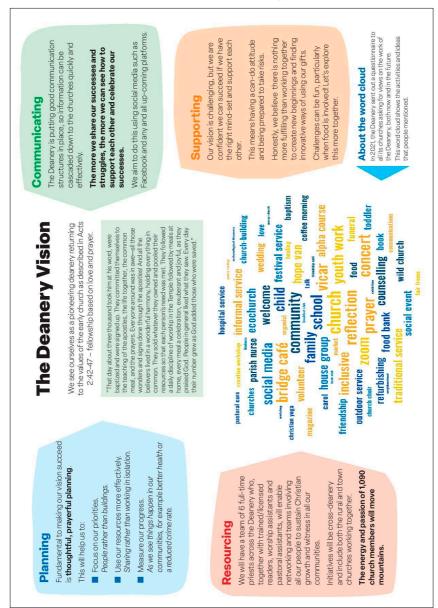
Happy Easter

Sally Pickett and Geoff Banwell

FROME DEANERY REORGANISATION

In response to changes across the Bath and Wells Diocese Frome Deanery is doing some reorganisation of posts. In Hardington Vale we are exploring the possibility of incorporating Buckland Dinham into the Benefice. Some information the Deanery Mission and Pastoral Group have drawn up about our Deanery follows:





or further details please contact Caroline Walker Area Dean carolinehwalker@btinternet.com

1625 - YOUNG ADULT PIONEERS MINISTERS

What is a Pioneer?

It is a trendy term – and much used in the secular world as well as the church.

In Christian ministry, Pioneers work to reach those who are unlikely to experience the love and grace of Jesus by joining an existing congregation worshipping in a church building. As well as reaching those beyond the church community, they will often work with those they are reaching to support them to form new ways of worship or exploring discipleship which reflect their interests and priorities. This would be in partnership with local churches. So, for example, you may have heard of 'Messy Church,' which works to engage families who may struggle with the quiet and controlled atmosphere of much church-based worship; or 'Forest Church,' which aims to reach those who love the outdoors.

In Frome and the area around, very few if any young adults regularly worship in existing churches – of any denomination.

The Diocese of Bath and Wells employs us Andrew and Elizabeth Alden as a job share to engage with young adults -16-25 years old - to be friend them, to invite them to explore the way of Jesus and then to build some form of worshipping community. We are coming up to the halfway point of a five-year post.

At this stage, we, as the Young Adult Pioneers, have a number of regular projects which enable us to meet young adults. These include weekly lunches with young adults at the YMCA, a monthly book club set-up in conjunction with Hunting Raven Bookshop in Frome, pop-up events with the HOPE team once or twice a month – but weekly in the summer – in one of the parks in Frome, a garden project called The Giant's Garden which offers growing space for young adults, a monthly open home, we offer chaplaincy at the Army Cadet Force and one-to-one discipleship and mentoring. Some of the young adults are now exploring discipleship and we hope that by the end of 2023 there will be a discipleship group meeting regularly to explore the way of Jesus.

Ministry to young adults is costly. We hope that the Deanery will be encouraged to know that some of the cost of this is paid for from those outside of the Deanery. For example, the YMCA lunch is paid for by a praying friend who knows us from before Frome, who himself was at one stage in the care system; \pounds_{500} was given by an individual to buy fruit trees and bulbs for the Garden and money for the wall repair and raised beds there came from Andrew's former church; and the parks ministry has seen over \pounds_{400} given by individuals.

However, there is still some way to go before a community of young adults in the area can be self-supporting – if indeed this is ever possible. We are deeply grateful to the Deanery for their gifts and events like the Barn Dance on 28th April (see page 36 for full details) which will raise money to enable more young adults to hear the good news of Jesus.



We would love you to find out more about our work. If you use Instagram you can follow three of the projects mentioned above at:

@1625bookclub

@1625thegiantsgarden

@1625parkspopup

Otherwise, give us a ring and arrange to have a coffee together. Andrew's number is 07894 736788.

Thank you for your interest, and for investing the time to read this.

Andrew and Elizabeth Alden



Church Easter Events



WALK THROUGH THE VILLAGE OF NORTON ST PHILIP WITH PALMS

FOLLOWING 'JESUS', HIS DISCIPLES AND THEIR DONKEY MEET 10.25 IN THE CAR PARK OF

> THE GEORGE INN SUNDAY APRIL 2ND

CONCLUDES ON THE GREEN OUTSIDE CHURCH REFRESHMENTS AT THE END IN CHURCH

(IF WET ALL - INCLUDING DONKEY - IN CHURCH)

GOOD FRIDAY 7th events across April the parish

WALK OF WITNESS

MEET OUTSIDE

ST LAWRENCE RODE

AT 10.00AM

An Hour at the

Cross 2 - 3pm

St Philip & St James

Norton St Philip prayer and reflection

TELLISFORD ALL SAINTS

12hours of Prayer 9am - 9pm



Wednesday April 5th

- · creative prayer ideas provided
- · time for quiet reflection and prayer
- · drop in anytime during the day

***WALK OF WITNESS

Please note that the route this year will START at St Lawrence Rode, 10,00am and proceed... to The Bell, along Church Lane, to Orneage Close, into the Brewery Site and out by the Brewery Pump ramp to High Street. Then along Lower Street, up Farthing Row (or Halfpenny Row), to the Hall car park and on to The Green.

> We will hold a brief service there. or at the Chapel if the weather's not so good.



Maundy Thursday 6th April

Agape Meal

re-enact a Passover Meal

St Philip and St James church - 6pm

Eat a meal together Share Communion



To help with catering please let us know if you are hoping to come Barbara Day 834438 Beth Harrison 834086

EASTER DAY **CELEBRATION!!!**

St Lawrence church Rode SUNDAY 9th April Holy Communion

10.30am He is Risen! Hallelujah!!!

INVITATION TO A MEETING TO DISCUSS THE VILLAGE HALL: TUESDAY 16TH MAY, 7PM

Earlier this year, the Village Hall Committee was approached by the Playing Fields Committee and the Scouts to discuss the idea of a joint amenity in Rode, combining the functions of the Hall and the Pavilion and with a separate space for the Scouting groups, to be located on the Playing Fields. This was precipitated by the repairs needed for the Pavilion and the age of both the Pavilion and the Scout Hut. The Village Hall Committee considered that this proposal may also bring future benefits for those booking the Hall, including outdoor space and updated facilities, and were in favour of understanding the potential for such a project. The three organisations approached the Parish Council who approved the establishment of a joint committee, with Parish Council representation, to explore this further.

As each organisation is separate, each needs to act in accordance with its own Governing Conditions or Constitution. At present, the joint committee is simply discussing the possibility of this project, with village consultation and engagement to follow in due course. However, if the idea for such a joint facility were to be realised, this would mean the Village Hall would be sold and the proceeds put towards the new facility. While the intention is that the Hall and its facilities will remain in use for the Village until any new facility is ready, the Hall Committee needs to know whether the sale of the Hall for this purpose would be supported.

Following the Hall's Governing Conditions, we are required to invite "the inhabitants of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards of the Parishes of Rode, Woolverton and Tellisford" to a meeting to agree, by majority, any such proposal.

The meeting will be held in the Village Hall 16th May at 7pm, immediately following the Village Hall AGM which will begin at 6.30pm. At this meeting the following Resolution will be proposed:

"this Resolution seeks the agreement of the inhabitants of the age of 18 years or upwards of the Parishes of Rode, Woolverton and Tellisford to explore the viability of the project to collocate the Hall, Pavilion and (as a separate space but collocated) the Scout groups and, if it proceeds, to discontinue the use of the Hall in its current location when the new facility is ready, to dispose of its assets to contribute to the new project and to continue the charitable objects of the Hall in its new location."

Kate Robinson and Mark Dymond on behalf of the Village Hall Committee

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH ROOF APPEAL UPDATE

One myth that we did not cover in the FAQs sent out in March is that we could sell the Rectory in Church Lane and downsize, thereby releasing cash to spend on the church roof. The problem is that all housing for Church of England clergy in this country is either owned or rented by the Diocese in which it is situated. We would, therefore, not receive anything from a sale of the Rectory.

Our thanks go to all those who have so far responded to our roof appeal launched at the beginning of March. Up until the 18th March the position is as follows:

	£
Donations from 29 households	7,540.00
Gift Aid	<u>1,855.00</u>
	9,395.00
Matched donation	<u>9,395.00</u>
	18,790.00
Grant from the Benefact Trust	6,000.00
Grant from Richard Oatley Foundation	22,500.00
Further pledge from Richard Oatley Foundation	<u>277,500.00</u>
	324,790.00
Target	400,000.00
Current shortfall	£75,210.00
	=======

We look forward to hearing from many more households, so that the gap can be closed. The individual who is matching the donations from other donors has contributed £9,395 up to 18^{th} March as shown above. The pledge is to match donations up to an aggregate of £25,000 so there is considerable scope to go further in that respect.

Apart from cash donations, Andy Hooker has very kindly offered Christchurch House as a venue for a musical event, not necessarily confined to string instruments like most of his concerts.

Are there any musicians or singers out there who would like to take advantage of this and help by that means? Please contact one of us if so.

All other fundraising offers will be very welcome.

Happy Easter

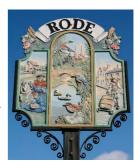
Sally Pickett and Geoff Banwell



RODE PARISH COUNCIL QUESTIONNAIRE ON STREET LIGHTS

During March residents have been consulted about whether some of the 70+ streetlights in Rode should be turned off at midnight and, if still dark, come back on at 5.30 am.

The main reason for turning off around half the streetlights as a trial is to reduce energy use (as part of Rode PC's commitment to reduce its impact on climate change) and to reduce light pollution and its impact on wildlife.



This initiative follows several other councils throughout the UK that have taken similar action.

Lights at road junctions would remain on all night and currently it is planned that no area, (apart from Clay Lane, The Sportsman and Churchfields which have no streetlights), would be completely dark overnight as some lights will be kept on in each road.

Initial results indicate Rode residents are in strongly favour of this action. However, if approved by residents and the Parish Council it will still take some time before this is actioned as it will also require approval from both the police and Somerset Council.

It should be noted that although lighting will be reduced and more stars become visible it will unfortunately not result in 'dark skies' over Rode. Dark skies will only come about if this trial is successful and further lights are subsequently turned off. A few concerns have been expressed that crime will increase with increased darkness; however, a National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) study found there was no increase in crime and in fact some types of crime fell.

Residents will be kept informed about this initiative.

If any residents currently have streetlights that directly shine into their properties, please can you let me know as Somerset can shield these lights. This is a separate issue to lights going off after midnight.

Hugh Williams

Clerk to Rode Parish Council

 $E: \ Clerk.rode parish council @gmail.com$

WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT MARCH 2023

This is my last contribution to The Link in my role as District Councillor.

I will be remaining on Norton St Philip Parish Council (PC) but I will no longer have the same relationship with the villages of Rode, Laverton, Lullington, Tellisford and Woolverton. One of the great pleasures of my District Councillor role has been getting to know more about all the communities and beautiful countryside in the ward.

My tenure has been topped and tailed by the 2 major planning applications in Rode – at Merfield and on Barbara's Field. And sandwiched in between was the second round of hearings which saw the Mer field site removed as an allocation in Local Plan Part 2! It was huge pleasure to me that Merfield application was turned down both by Mendip and at appeal; I am keeping my fingers crossed for a similar outcome for the appeal on Barbara's Field.



Putting planning to one side I have really appreciated the welcome I received from Rode villagers and PC as well as the Parish Meetings in the smaller villages. All the meetings are extremely friendly and relatively informal — evidenced by the turn out of village residents who want to participate. And whilst relatively informal, business gets done.

My time as a District Councillor has also coincided with a growing awareness of the climate crisis. This has affected planning applications — both in terms of applications submitted and in terms of what is considered at both a Parish Council and District Council level — with a greater emphasis on insulation and renewable energy. In the best submissions sustainable construction materials and the facility for electric vehicle charging are also included. My hope is that developers will move faster than government policy and that soon all houses constructed will align with passive house standards. Think of all the savings to be made on energy bills!

The last couple of years has also seen Rode working more closely with Norton St Philip and Beckington on the climate emergency and the Rode, Beckington and Norton St Philip Climate Emergency Group was established in 2022. Last September saw our first local Big Green Weekend and another is planned for 17th and 18th June 2023 – to coincide with the last two days of Frome Big Green Week. Should anyone wish to get involved please contact me (barbilund@live.co.uk) or Jim McAuliffe (jim.mcauliffe@btinternet.com).

The end of my tenure coincides with the ending of the district councils in Somerset and the move to a Unitary authority – Somerset Council. It feels fairly momentous and I hope that our northeast corner of Somerset is fully considered when whole County decisions are made. I am sure Adam Boyden and Dawn Denton, your Somerset Councillors, will do their best to make sure that we continue to be well represented.

Finally, a simple thank you for a really enjoyable four years.

Barbi Lund

Editor's Note: Our thanks to Barbi for all she has done in her role as a Mendip District Councillor and for her involvement with The Link in that regard. I know she will continue to be a force in our community and look forward to hearing about and featuring her future endeavours on behalf of our environment.

THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

Culture is grounded in community. The pub was always the first to be constructed in the middle of a collection of houses or a farming community. This served two purposes. It was to be the focal point for the community to come together and a contact point for those passing through. Secondly, and most importantly, the pubs came first to house the builders, masons, and carpenters while they built the churches. As villages grew, halls, greens and sports fields were developed to bring people together. And of course, more pubs.

But the nature of a village means that, although the sense of belonging is strong, there is a constant struggle to remain connected to services outside of the village – buses, libraries, and support from the local and county authorities, as well as community groups, charities, and volunteering opportunities.

The April Parish Roadshow will give Rode and surrounding communities connection with local organisations and get the support and information needed for health, social, community and friendship solutions. When we come together, we enhance what makes our communities special, unique, and vibrant.



Pop into Rode Village Hall between 4pm and 6pm on Tuesday 4th April to meet your local community organisations, ask your questions, get the support you need. Or just come to say "Hi!". See page 33 for more information.

Dawn Denton

Somerset County Councillor for Frome North

RODE PLAYING FIELD APRIL UPDATE

The Project Team assembled to develop plans for the new Rode Community Pavilion involves officers from the Rode Memorial Hall, Rode Scouts and Rode Playing Field, as well as a representative from Rode Parish Council.



Exploratory work continues whilst plans are being made for an extensive programme of consultations with Rode residents. It is hoped the consultation can be held later this year.

Peter Travis
Rode Playing Field Committee

HARDINGTON VALE HONOURED...

For our collective support of the 80 + Ukrainians we have welcomed to our villages and rural surrounds in Hardington Vale, Mike Best, the leader of Somerset County Council has bestowed upon us an Award for Service to the Community, describing us as "Golden-hearted heroes".

The 2022 awards were presented at a ceremony in Taunton, and our community was the only one to be given an award for supporting Ukrainians. We were the second up in an evening that saw 40 awards for outstanding community action across the whole of Somerset.



Andraea Dawson-Shepherd, as Chair of the Hardington Vale Community Group for Ukraine, had the pleasure of accepting the award. She did this on behalf of not only the rest of the committee, Mary Morrison, Ali Smith and Dave Walsh, but also on behalf of all the hosts and the many buddies, helpers, drivers, language teachers and health professionals, to name but a few of the roles our community played, who have enabled our Ukrainian guests

to settle with us and start to build their lives again.

Well done everyone who has been involved in supporting our Ukrainian guests - you are indeed golden-hearted heroes.

Bob & Debby Hill

APRIL RODE ROXY

The Roxy's last film show of the season is on Friday 21st April, when the film being shown is 'Fisherman's Friends One and All'. Or Part two if you prefer. See page 36 for more details.



Come and join us for an evening of Cornish humour and scenery, a bit of pathos, lots of singing, and maybe a glass or three!

Tickets available at the Post Office.

Adam Harris

FAREWELL AND WELCOMES

After 26 years at the practice as a GP and Partner, it's time for us to say good-bye to Dr Beaven.

The practice in conjunction with the Patient Participation Group would like to invite all patients to St. Luke's Surgery in Beckington on Saturday 15th April from 15:00 to 17:00 for a chance to say a personal farewell.



We will be opening our waiting room and refreshments will be available. There'll be time to reminisce and chat with Dr Beaven. Sorry, no medical consultations or dispensary.

We are pleased to welcome Dr Karen Finch and three new trainee GPs to the team. Dr Emily McCartney will be with us for one year and Dr Amy Gwyther and Dr Chiamaka Guest will both be with us for six months.

Did you know that you can contact us online for non-urgent queries? Use the easy link from our website.

Please check our website and Facebook page for news and updates from the surgery.



THE MILL AT RODE KING CHARLES 11 CORONATION PARTY

Spring is in the air, and what better way to bring in the season than a Coronation street party extravaganza at The Mill at Rode – see page **XX** for more details.

Enjoy local stalls, kids entertainment, face painting and street food, along with the Coronation showing live in our Wheel House. Our main Eating House and bar will also be open as usual! Dress code is red and blue!



Join us and bring down the whole family, even your furry friends! See you there!

Sam & Rachael
The Mill at Rode

WHO KILLED THE CARETAKER?

And yes indeed on Saturday 26th March, we did find out 'Who Killed the Caretaker'!

Lots of familiar faces once again trod the boards to bring a three act play to Rode Memorial Hall with the audience required to listen out for clues and guess who the murderer and his/her accomplice were.



We were delighted to have a full hall and everyone entered into the spirit of the evening and there was much laughter as the play unfolded. There is always a comedy answer prize as well as prizes for the super sleuths who correctly guess the murderer and these were duly awarded.

A massive thanks to all the cast and helpers on the night and I'm delighted to say we raised around £660.

This was a fundraiser for The Heart of Rode and as I'm sure you know we are currently fundraising for a new roof for St Lawrence church so we're delighted so many people came and supported this event. Thank you!

Who knows we may return again in 2024 with another case to solve!

Sally Pickett

CONCERTS IN NORTON ST PHILIP CHURCH

The church in NSP is proving to be an excellent venue for music, appreciated by a loyal and a growing audience. Alongside the popular lunchtime concerts we now also some evening events and an afternoon event. Details of our April concerts and a full listing of what we have coming up in 2023 are on page 34.

David Lockley

CALLING ALL KNITTERS!

Supporting the Mission to Seafarers - you may remember that we put out an appeal in 2022 to anyone who enjoyed knitting and would like to make hats/scarves/fingerless gloves for the hardy men and women who serve on board merchant ships, transporting goods round the world in all weathers and sea conditions.

At that time the Missions representatives weren't able to carry out ship visits because of Covid and weren't able to deliver our gifts, but I'm happy to say that those restrictions have now been lifted. A couple of weeks ago I posted a large parcel containing 19 beautiful hats to the Flying Angel Club in South Shields and a couple of days ago I received this delightful message: "Could you please forward our grateful thanks to the Knitters of Hardington Vale for the lovely knitting they have done. The seafarers very much appreciate them, especially with the weather we are having at present! Thank you for your kind donation."

The Secretary General of the charity, Andrew Wright, will be taking part in the annual Sea Sunday Service in Norton St Philip on 23 July. It would be wonderful to be able to present him with some more knitted gifts. The Mission to Seafarers' website has straightforward patterns which are easy to download, as well as plenty of information about the charity's activities. If you're able to help or would like further information, please contact me, 01373 830362.

Debby Hill

A GOOD NIGHT...

The ABBA SOS gig in aid of Rode panto funds was a sell out and a big success. The band were terrific and the event was also memorable for some fancy dance moves and great fancy dress outfits from young and old alike. Thank you.

Gary Holloway

PLAYING FIELD LOTTERY

Playing Field Lottery winners in February 2023.

Drawn by staff and customers in the Cross Keys:

1st - £50.00 Mrs. Aubree, Rode.

2nd - £25.00 Moya, c/o Cross Keys, Rode.

3rd - £25.00 Richard Priest, Rode.

Sunday Roast for two, courtesy of Mark & Hannah; Mrs. Attwell, Rode.

If you would like a chance to get a slice of this action, remember only 200 tickets available and a share of £100 and two Sunday roasts, possible all for £1.00 per ticket! And remember you are supporting the Playing Field (which needs all the help it can get right now!) when you buy your ticket.

Tickets on sale at the Post Office, or directly from Jane and I.

Next draw Sunday 30th. April

If you would like to do the draw or witness it, then please just turn up at the Cross Keys on draw night at 8pm.

Keith Sharman

T: 830408

200 CLUB DRAW RESULTS

The results for Scouts February 200 club draw:

1st prize £50 - Jill Meikle 2nd prize £25 - Luke Towe

Drawn by James from the Cross Keys

Jan Jupp



APOLOGIES...

From "Muddy Fingernails" for the absence of the Gardening Pages this month.



1st Rode (Scout Group)



LAVERTON NEWS

Church Cleaning: What do they say? Many hands make light work - and they

certainly did! Thanks to everyone who turned up, rolled up their sleeves and got stuck in to spruce up the church inside and out! Thanks also to Gilli and Tracy for the coffee and delicious cake!







The Church Organ – Mice and bureaucracy: The organ in the church is of a size and type known as a Chamber Organ. It was built by organ builder Charles Ayton in 1865. In 1911 it was a leaving present to the Dean of Westminster Abbey, the Very Reverend Armitage Robinson who became Dean of Bath & Wells. He died in 1933 and in 1942 his widow wanted to give it away. Laverton's rector got in quick!

Last year, 2022, our organ maintainer and tuner found a mouse nest inside and said parts would have to go to his workshop to be cleaned up. That's when church bureaucracy put a spanner in the works because the rules said that a Faculty was needed. This required the approval of the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC). But the organ specialist in the DAC had long-standing disagreements with our organ builder and raised objections. To resolve matters, both sides agreed to abide by the opinion of worldwide organ specialist Dominic Gwynn, if he could be persuaded to come and see it. He visited the church in October 2022 and spent 3 hours examining the organ. A new Faculty application incorporating his recommendations went to the DAC and ultimately on 9 January 2023 a Faculty was granted.

On 17 March this year, our organ maintainer came to the church, took out and stowed all the pipes and took away the main components to his workshop for cleaning and repair. Progress at last after nearly a year of mice and bureaucracy. Both Hill.

Mid-Somerset Festival: Well done to Indy from The Batch who performed a poem entitled 'untraditional pasty' by Peter Dixon at this year's mid Somerset festival. It was his first mid Somerset performance and he was awarded 3rd place. The judge said his performance was 'full of vitality and expression and very entertaining!' His mum



Daisy had performed there many moons ago so it was quite a trip down memory lane! Well done Indy!

Jackie Moss

Parish Youth News & Events

HERE'S SOME NEWS FROM FRANS!

What a blast we had at our first ever colour run! The FRANS team and all who came along well and truly welcomed spring on Sunday 12th March, the weather got the memo too as the sun shone down upon us all (in one of those blink and you miss it windows that we have been having).

Children (big and small) ran round a loop marked out on the Mead in Norton St Philip whilst being showered in coloured dust, a tradition that originates in Hinduism as their festival Holi, where the different coloured powders signify something special like love, prosperity, health and Krishna.

Thank you to all who could come and support, the response was fantastic and we hope we delivered a fun morning. Incredibly we raised £1.7K for the school too which is a bonus but the best part truly was seeing so many smiles and so much joy.

Here are some pictures of the day.







Parish Youth News & Events







Our next event will be on May 5th to mark the coronation.

We'll be throwing a little coronation party for all the school children after school, we are hoping they (and the adults) will enjoy some live music, food and drinks. Let's hope the weather gets the memo for this day too!



RODE WEEKLY PARENT/CARER & TODDLER GROUP

Mondays during term time 9.30-11.30pm Rode Chapel



Parish Youth News & Events

TOTS and TOYS



Our baby and toddler group is open Wednesdays 9.00 am -10.45 am at St Philip and St James Church Norton St Philip, No booking needed.

If you have just dropped your child at pre-school or school and you are on your own, you are welcome to pop in for a coffee and a chat with friends even for a few minutes. £2.00 per adult to include coffee and cake. Please bring your own refreshments for your child.





Parish Ecology

"GREEN OPEN DOORS" - HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Last September, as part of the Big Green Weekend in Rode and neighbouring villages, we held a "Green Open Doors" event.



The idea was similar to the "Open Gardens" concept, with householders opening up their properties to visitors – but in this case it wasn't about green fingers, but rather green technologies! Everything from heat pumps to solar panels and even e-bikes were featured.

The objective of the event was to inspire those thinking of taking the next steps in reducing the carbon footprint of their home. Householders who had already taken the plunge were on hand to show off the technology, explain the pros and cons, and answer questions.

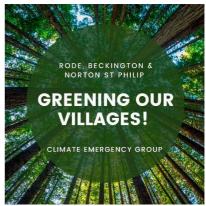


The event was a great success, and we're therefore planning to run something similar this year, to coincide with the national "Great Big Green Week" which runs from $10^{th} - 18^{th}$ June.

At this stage we're looking for people who would be willing to open their doors for a few hours and showcase environmental technology, or changes they have made to their property to reduce its carbon footprint. This could include heat pumps, retrofit work, solar panels, water recycling, etc. Or — perhaps you've purchased an electric vehicle or e-bike and are happy to share your experience.

We are tentatively planning to run the event on **Sunday 18th June** – but there may be some flexibility if this date isn't possible for everyone.

If you are interested in being part of the event, and inspiring more people to start their journey to a less carbon intensive home, or – if you know someone who may be interested - then please get in contact: email me on jim.mcauliffe@btinternet.com



Jim McAuliffe

MORE BUSES FOR RODE

It was back in April 2014 that more than 200 Rode villagers sat down in the middle of the road and blocked Rode's High Street to protest at the loss of our village bus services.



Ever since then... yes for the past 9 years... we have been battling for improved bus services for Rode. In that struggle, Rode Parish Council has led the way, supporting our bus services by funding a Rode Village timetable. Our parish councillors have then delivered it to every house in Rode.

Rode residents have also backed our buses. By using the bus services... that's because in many cases they had no choice but to rely on buses to get about but also many residents have gone out of their way to use buses so as to make sure Rode has a bus service for those who need it.

Our bus services have steadily got more regular and more frequent. Year by year. Slowly. Steadily.

We are grateful to Faresaver with their bus services to Frome and Trowbridge (and onto Chippenham). Faresaver has always provided highly reliable and regular bus services. Our challenge has been to get First to run more of their Bath buses through our village. For a long time, most of their D2 buses bypassed Rode but slowly, each year over the past 9 years, we have got a few more of First's D2 to come through Rode.

From April 2nd 2023, every D2 bus will go via Rode, whether that's en route to Bath or coming back from Bath. So, we will finally have the sort of bus service we used to have ... and this is what we have campaigned for over the past 9 years.

But we will need to use our buses if we are to keep them. Given the new reduced £2 single fare it certainly makes economic sense to go by bus.

Your new Rode bus timetable follows - please BUS IT whenever you can.

Peter Travis
Rode Parish Council/FAVBUG

£2 Single Bus Fares

RODE VILLAGE BUS TIMES NEW TIMES FROM SUNDAY APRIL 2ND

£2 Single Bus Fares

TO FROME

Faresaver: X34 in black, First: D2 in red.

Monday to Friday

07:21 07:31 08:32 10:03 10:07 11:07 11:14

12:07 12:30 13:07 13:50 14:07 15:07 15:22

16:24 16:37 17:21 18:07 19:23 20:40 21:37

Saturday only

23.42

07:41 08:30 09:09 10:09 09:50 11:05 11:09 12:09 12:20 13:09 13:41 14:09 14:58 15:09 16:15 16:44 17:35 17:44 18:54 20:07 21:22 22:29 23:38

Sunday only

10:04 11:14 12:29 13:40 14:57 16:07 17:29 18:39 19:53

FROM FROME

Faresaver: X34 in black First: D2 red.

Monday to Friday

05:42 06:42 06:55 07:02 08:12 09:22 10:05 10:58 11:05 12:05 12:13 13:05 13:28 14:05 14:45 14:51 16:06 16:25 17:30 17:36 19:05 20:10 22:20

Saturday only

06:52 07:10 08:10 08:12 09:27 09:45 10:45 10:47 11:45 12:02 12:45 13:17 13:45 14:36 14:45 15:45 15:57 16:45 17:05 17:11 18:31 19:46 21:00 22:10

Sunday only

08:32 09:44 10:57 12:06 13:21 14:31 15:51 17:01 18:21 10:47

TO BATH

First: D2 in red.

Monday to Friday

06:08 07:08 07:28 08:38 09:48 11:23 12:38 13:54 15:17 16:31 17:58 19:28 20:33 22:39

Saturday only

07:19 08:39 09:54 11:13 12:28 13:42 15:02 16:22 17:36 18:55 20:08 21:22 22:32

Sunday only

08:55 10:07 11:20 12:29 13:44 14:53 16:14 17:24 18:42

FROM BATH

First: D2 in red.

Monday to Friday

06:53 09:35 10:45 12:00 13:20 14:35 16:00 17:30 18:50 20:10 21:10 23:15

Saturday only

08:00 09:20 10:35 11:50 13:10 14:25 15:40 17:00 18:20 19:35 20:50 22:00 23:10

Sunday only

09:35 10:45 12:00 13:10 14:25 15:35 16:55 18:05 19:20

TO TROWBRIDGE/CHIPPENHAM

Faresaver: X34i n black.

Monday to Friday

07:08 10:17 11:17 12:17 13:17 14:17 14:57 16:37 17:42

Saturday only

07:22 08:22 09:57 10:57 11:57 12:57 13:57

14:57 16:32 17:17

FROM TROWBRIDGE

Faresaver: X34 times in black.

Monday to Friday

07:17 08:14 09:53 10:53 11:53 12:53 13:53 15:06 16:06 17:05 **18:00** (By request only)

Saturday only

07:29 08:57 09:57 10:57 11:57 12:57 13:57 14:57 16:32 17:32

More Buses Going Through Rode.

At Peak Times. Night Time Too. Hourly Buses On Sundays.

X34 Times Unchanged.

BUS WALKS!

Now that Spring is here (!) it's a great time to get the walking boots on and explore the local countryside. Plus – at least for the next few months - your walk can be combined with possibly the best bus services to ever serve Rode. An added bonus is that the £2 single fare offer has been extended to the end of June.

This walk combines good exercise, the opportunity for a decent coffee, brunch, or a pint in Frome, and a swift journey back to Rode on the D2 or X34.



Rode and Beckington to Frome:

From Rode, this walk is approximately 10km (just over 6 miles), and should take around a couple of hours. It skirts the Orchardleigh Estate and is a really good mix of quiet lanes, well-maintained paths, and open-country tracks.

Starting from Rode, head out of the village along Straight Lane, cross the A36, and head into Beckington. Once you get into the heart of Beckington you can make your way down to the River Frome either via Mill Lane (the turning on the right just before Goose Street) or Stubbs Lane (the right hand turning, just before you get to the school).

If you head down Mill Lane, take the track to the left (after approx. 300 metres), signposted to the water recycling centre. Follow the track down the hill, and the path should

be obvious (over a little stile). Carry on through a couple of fields - you'll see a sign for the "Beckington Loop" headed to your left, but don't take this - carry straight on across the next field, over the stile (next to the sign "Polite Notice") and through a small wooded area. You will then reach the bottom of Stubbs Lane - cross the road and head along the paved track opposite, past Dairy House Farm and then along the path down to the river where you'll reach a footbridge. [If you continued on to Stubbs Lane, the route is slightly easier. Approx 500 metres along Stubbs Lane, watch out for a footpath on the left, sign-posted "To Lullington". Continue along the path, through a wooded area, and you'll emerge at the top of a field. Head downhill and join another path to the left of Dairy House Farm. Carry on down towards the river, where you'll find a wooden bridge.]





Cross the river and make your way up to Lullington Lane.

You can either turn immediately left and walk along the lane, or head up the little path opposite, turning almost immediately left once in the wooded area

and follow the path along the edge of the golf course.

After around 600 metres follow the path as it turns right, and head through the woods for another 500 metres until you emerge at Orchardleigh Lake. Turning left here, the path skirts the eastern and southern sides of the lake...this can get pretty muddy after rain (although in places there's some relatively new wooden walkways).

At the western end of the lake the path crosses back to the opposite bank - here the path itself is in poor shape, often being under water and in February this bit definitely required wellies, or some nimble footwork! Once on the other side, turn left and you can make out the beautiful 13th century St Mary's Church which sits on a small "island" at the far end of the lake. The church has no electricity, so services are held by candlelight, and the small organ is hand-pumped. Leaving the church, head along the short track and turn left up the lane. When the lane takes a sharp right, follow the footpath straight ahead. Once over the brow of the hill you'll come to the tiny grass airstrip that serves Orchardleigh House. Signs warn you that it's an active runway!

Across the runway continue along the footpath until you reach a short section of road. Turn right at the junction, before taking the path on the left across a field (next to a small equestrian centre). Cross Coalash Lane and take the path opposite up to the railway line. Taking care, cross the tracks and continue along the well-maintained path, skirting Whatcombe Farm and then head towards the river. Follow the footpath along the river bank, under the railway line, past the allotments, back under the railway (!), and emerge opposite the Cheese & Grain. You are now well and truly in Frome - and ready for a well-earned coffee, brunch, or a decent pint!

A combination of the D2 and X34 services means there are very frequent buses from the centre of Frome back to Rode.

Jim McAuliffe

Parish History

RODE HISTORY

St. Lawrence Church (part 2)

Following on from the early history of the church in last month's Link, in 1753, a ring of six new bells were cast for St. Lawrence by Thomas Bilbie of Chew Stoke and hung in a new oak frame. The bells are inscribed with the names of churchwardens William Tucker, Henry Batten, Thomas Noad and Benjamin Hawkins.

Major renovation work was undertaken in the 1770s, including, repairing the roof and replacement of the clerestory windows high in the nave. We know because the latter did not find favour in the 1870s, when they were described by one critic as being more suitable to a mill than a church (a "swipe" at the church architect of the time who had designed several of Trowbridge's woollen mills.) and replaced with the current more traditional style.



Clypping the church

The ancient custom of "clypping" the church, still carried out today, was captured on Shrove Tuesday night in 1848 by local artist, William Wheatley.

Two years later the rector, the Rev. Charles Glossop, who was rector at Rode and Woolverton for 56 years, launched an appeal to raise money for further work on the church.

The renovations eventually began in 1872, directed by Mr. C. E. Davis of Bath.

The work was a major undertaking, requiring the building to be completely stripped. The primary visual changes included the extension of the north aisle to provide an organ chamber and vestry, raising the roof of the chancel, restoration of the window tracery, removal of the gallery, and replacement of the box pews in the nave with open ones. Less obvious, but with significant impact, was the installation of a heating system with a boiler in the crypt.

The success of the project was largely due to the energy of Capt. Arthur Mayne Noad, R.N. retired, who lived in Southfield House. He was a churchwarden from 1859 to 1888 and is commemorated by the splendid east window of the south aisle which tells the story of the Good Samaritan.

Parish History

The organ was built by a local man, Henry John Prosser, 1845-1915, well known in this region as an organ-builder and seller of other musical instruments. It was rebuilt in 1998 with the aid of a substantial grant from the National Heritage Memorial Fund and then repositioned in the North Aisle.

In recent years (2005), the bells have been retuned and rehung on a steel frame, after many years of silence as the old oak bell frame had become unsafe. Then in 2011 the vestry was fitted with catering facilities and a toilet to enable the church to be used for a broader range of functions.

Like many old churches, St. Lawrence is a treasure chest of family history and is visited by descendants of long-gone villagers from as far afield as New Zealand.

The walls of the church are rich in memorials to local people. In the north aisle is one to Benjamin Hawkins, who died in 1772 having outlived his four wives. He must have been a very familiar figure in the village as he was a churchwarden and owner of the Cross Keys Inn. Another, to a faithful servant, Josiah Frances, parish clerk for 53 years in the 1800s, including attendance at 664 funerals!

The churchyard has its story to tell too. The older part to the north and east contains eight grade 2 listed chest tombs. Two of these are in memory of the Edwards family. Benjamin Edwards lived in the Corner House, (21 High St.), which contained the pump room for Rode's medicinal mineral water in the 18th century. A lych gate, erected at the entrance off the A361 during the 1874 renovations, was demolished by a motor car in 1966. The more recent part of the churchyard was also added in 1874 and is still in use.

Below the yew hedge and wall which bounds the churchyard near the tower, a meadow, containing some low earthworks, slopes down to Green Park Pond and the brook. Could this have been the site of an earlier manor house of the St. Maurs with its park stretching out to Park Gate Lane and Green Park cottages in Orneage Close.

Peter Harris

Editor's Note: Many thanks to our "Rode History Man", Peter Harris, without whom we would not be able to have these snapshots in to our parish history.

Peter is a published author on Rode – his books are available at Rode P.O. & General Store. If you come across any old parish magazines in your attic or wish to involve him in researching something involving local history do contact him. His email address is: pjh14cl@gmail.com

Parish Groups

RODE & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

After our AGM in March Geoff Hobson gave us a very informative demonstration and talk about Orchids.



Orchids come from all over the world and there are over 25,000 species with new ones still being discovered. They can be divided into terrestrial types that grow in soil and epiphytic ones attached to trees though they are not parasitic. The flowers consist of 3 sepals and 3 petals with the central one forming a lip for insects to land on. There are hardy orchids growing wild in Britain but the most popular ones grown indoors are phalaenopsis. (moth orchids) They need bright light and even temperature and regular watering. It is essential to drain the pot after watering as they will rot if left sitting in water. The aerial roots that spill out of the pot would be used for attaching to trees in the wild and should be left alone if green and plump, they are part of the nature of the plant. In fact the pot is really for our convenience, the plant doesn't need it at all. Once the flowers begin to fade the branch can be cut under the lowest flower to stimulate another flowering spike. Geoff recommended doing this once, then cutting down to the base which will give the plant chance to recover and grow more leaves. It may take 18 months for the plant to re-flower. Weak feed can be applied monthly. Geoff demonstrated how to re-pot with specialist orchid compost which is mainly bark.

Some members went home with 4 re-potted plants, having only brought one to the meeting. Most of the plants Geoff looked at were too wet or too dry and he was ruthless in re potting and pruning and insisted that orchids are very tough plants which will survive most mistreatment. He suggested horticultural Neem oil for pests such as scale insect. We enjoyed a very informative evening.

Next month our meeting is a week early due to Easter, when we welcome Dominic Hamilton to talk about the Painswick Rococo Garden on Monday 3rd April 2023 at 7.30pm.

Averil Morrow

RODE CRAFT CLUB

We each bring long whatever we are working on, share ideas and skills and enjoy each other's company over a cuppa and biscuits.

There is no need to book or to commit to coming every week. All abilities too, we all help each other. Weekly on Thursday afternoons, 2-4 pm at Rode Chapel.

Val Parker

Parish Groups

MONDAY LUNCH CLUB

Please make a note of the dates for April and May Lunch club: Monday 17th April Monday 15th May

Back to first Monday of the month for June and July!

Don't forget to book your place - look forward to seeing you there!

Alex Sing and the Lunch Club Team T: 01373 830836 / 07828 600095

RODE WALKING GROUP

The walk in March was blessed with excellent weather which always makes it more enjoyable. We drove to Mells and followed the Mells Village Trail which involved

stopping and looking at places of interest, of which there were quite a few, whilst walking through this attractive village. Followed by coffee and a chat in the PO cafe

This month, on Tuesday 11th April, we will walk in the Longleat woods, starting at 10 am from the Heaven's Gate car park on the Horningsham Road, BA12 7LA. Please contact me if you are unsure of this area or need a lift to get there.

We follow a pleasant track down through woods to the outskirts of Horningsham and then walk along lanes and through fields before climbing back up in woods to the Heaven's Gate viewpoint overlooking Longleat House.

I look forward to seeing all my regular walkers and anyone else who would like to join us.

Liz Dinnis

T: 07788656337 E: elizabethdinnis49@gmail.com

OTHER CLUBS/GROUPS NEWS AND INFO WELCOME...

News and information about other clubs and groups in the parish is great to have for our readers. If you'd like us to include details of a club you're involved or if you're thinking of starting a group we'd love to help in promoting it... do get in touch. Gill Leonard Editor T: 01373 831072 E: gillhlleonard@aol.com

Parish Groups

RODE OVER 60'S ANNUAL DINNER

On Friday 10th March, members of Rode Over 60's met in the Memorial Hall for our Annual Dinner. Unfortunately I was unable to attend due to illness. I have it on good authority it was a very successful evening. Good food (as ever, provided by Jo Pobjoy and her team) and great company.



It was just after our Annual Dinner in March 2020 that the whole country went into Lockdown. We are thankful to be able to enjoy each other's company again since last March.

We are looking forward to our new programme of events for 2023/24. In fact our next meeting is our AGM to be held on Friday 14th April, 2.30pm in the Memorial Hall. Subscriptions will be due and remain at £10.

New members are always welcome.

Birthdays for April: 4th April, Mrs. N. Sparky

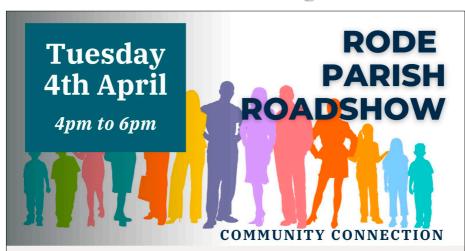
7th April, Mrs. R. Osborne 14th April, Mrs. M. Bertenshaw

15th April, Mrs. J. Gayer 24th April, Mr. D. Carter

We wish them all a very Happy Birthday.

Gail Stinton

Forthcoming Parish Events



Meet us at the Rode Village Hall



SOMERSET



SOMERSET
VILLAGE AGENTS



MENDIP HEALTH CONNECTORS

Contact for info:

Cllr Dawn Denton for Frome North:

dawndentonfrome@gmail.com



SOMERSET BUS
PARTNERSHIP



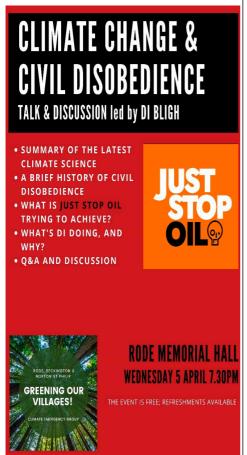
GARDENING TOGETHER

About the Roadshow

There is so much support available locally.

If you would like advice & to know more about accessing services, charities, & organisations in almost any capacity, please do pop in for a chat!

Forthcoming Parish Events



NORTON ST PHILIP CHURCH CONCERTS DETAILS & DATES

Lunchtime Concerts - These take place on the first Thursday of the month, 1pm to 2pm. Tickets are £5 available on the door.

- 6 April: Young Waters Haunting harmonies, toe-tapping rhythm and twisted folk.
- 4 May: Iain Ballamy (saxophone) and Huw Warren (piano) - Internationally acclaimed ECM recording artists Iain Ballamy and Huw Warren.
- 1 June: Band of Pilgrims Back by popular demand... but this time it's the full band!
- 6 July: Poetry and Music with Josephine Corcoran and Guests

Evening Concerts:

- Saturday 29 April 7.30pm An evening with Sarah McQuaid Tickets via David Lockley 01373 834414 or wegottickets.com/event/563876. £12 in advance or £13 on the door.
- Saturday 7 October -Hungrytown Americana/celtic singer-songwriters
- Saturday 25 November The Magnificent AKs. The singing blokes of Ashton Keynes who can lower the tone, be supremely silly and move you to tears in one evening.

Saturday Afternoon Concert: Saturday 20 May at 3pm

• Night River Presents: DG Solaris - DG Solaris is a fantastic and widely celebrated singer songwriter based in Frome who will be performing a rare afternoon concert in the church. Expect fine songwriting, a beautiful voice and unique guitar playing in our most acoustically stunning church. This concert is open to all ages. Tickets available at:

wegottickets.com/event/572312



Talking cafes are a place to meet new people, make friends and chat to a community signposter about activities, support groups and services in your community.

...and coming to Rode! More details in the May issue of The Link





When? April 17th 2.30 – 4 pm (3rd Mon of every month)
Where? St Philip and St James Church, NSP

Come and enjoy a cuppa and friendly people to chat with

NEW: we now have puzzles and board/card games too!

We have a great café team who are looking forward to meeting you! ALL ARE WELCOME!

Contact Jo for more information 321jorobinson@gmail.com 01373 831381





Frome Deanery Barn Dance

on Friday 28th April

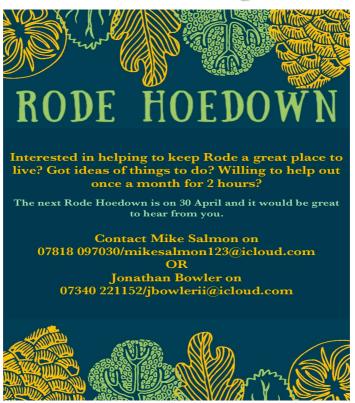
at Whatcombe Farm, Jacks Lane, Frome BA11 3NL

7pm onwards....

The Rode Worthies playing and calling... Tickets £15 per person (to include food) available from Caroline Walker <u>carolinehwalker@btinternet.com</u> 01373 834258

Bar, Raffle, Auction of promises

All proceeds to supporting the Frome 1625 Pioneers -Andrew and Elizabeth Alden







Tellisford Parish Meeting

The Villages of Tellisford and Woolverton

Monday 15th May 2023 at 19:00pm

The AGM of Tellisford Parish Meeting will be held on Monday, 15th May 2023 at 19.00, venue The House Woolverton.

The agenda will be circulated 14 days before the meeting.

All residents of Tellisford and Woolverton who are over the age of 18 are entitled to attend, speak and vote.

AGM for Baker Crabb and Boucher Trust (Tellisford only) will convene immediately afterwards

HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT THE LOCAL GROUPS ACTIVITIES TOO?

THERE ARE SOME DETAILS IN THE MAGAZINE AND IN THE BACK PAGE DIARY... WE'D LOVE TO INCLUDE AND HELP PROMOTE MORE ...

JUST SEND IN THE DETAILS...





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£10 each & further details from
Jo Casey 01373 830885 jo@mijocasey.plus.com

On Saturday 29 April at 7:30pm. 'Dolce Singers' chamber choir will be performing a programme of music at St Margaret's Corsley which Church. includes Canticles by 'BBC Radio 3' and 'Classic FM Album of the Week' composer, Matthew Coleridge.

This is the first live performance of his 'Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis' with the composer himself singing. The evening includes other choral classics, Mozart's 'Requiem', Handel's 'Zadok the Priest' and Parry's 'I was glad'.

Please see the concert advert for times and ticket details.



BRADFORD ON AVON FLOWER CLUB

The next Flower Club demonstration will be on **Thursday 6th April**, Cath Brown from the Bradford on Avon Club will be demonstrating at Holt Village Hall beginning at 7.30pm, it is entitled "A Flower Prescription", there will be refreshments available on the evening and a raffle for the flowers.

Visitors are very welcome, price £7.50.

The following week on Thursday 13th April is the Club's Practice session on, 7.30pm in the Holt Village Hall, if you wish to attend please contact our Club Chair, Sharon, on the tel number below for more details.

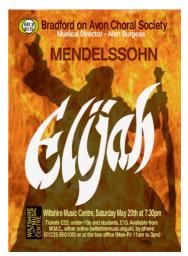
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PRESS RELEASE FOR MENDELSSOHN'S ELIJAH

The Bradford on Avon Choral Society is delighted to be returning to the Wiltshire Music Centre on Saturday 20th May 2023 at 7.30pm to perform one of Mendelssohn's most popular oratorios, Elijah.

It is a dramatic telling of the story of the prophet Elijah: living through famine and drought, bringing the dead to life, defeating the prophets of Baal and being carried by a fiery chariot in a whirlwind to heaven.

The music demands a full symphony orchestra which will be led by Simon Kodurand, Artistic Director of the Bristol Ensemble, and equally at home on both the modern and baroque violin.



Tickets are available now from the Wiltshire Music Centre – wiltshiremusic.org.uk or 01225 860100. £22/£15 for under 18s and students (includes £2 booking fee). For further information please contact Sarah Davies (07857467524)



Can you lend us a hand?

To mark His Majesty The King's Coronation thousands of organisations across the country are getting together to give us all the chance to help out in our own local communities.

Starting on Monday 8th May there will be opportunities for everyone to join in. No matter what you are good at, there'll be something to suit helping hands of all shapes and sizes! From checking in on someone who'd like a bit of company or volunteering for a charity the more of us who join in, the bigger help we will be.

If you can spare an hour...fantastic. The day?...amazing. If it becomes a regular thing, so much the better. If we all do a bit, it will really help a lot.

Help us to do something amazing. Join in, Lend a hand. Make <u>a change.</u>

Visit: thebighelpout.org.uk

Noticeboard

GOOD NEWS FOR EVERYONE (FORMERLY GIDEONS) UPDATE

Thank you for your continued support for Good News for Everyone! We visit schools on a regular basis: you may recall a time when you received a little red "Gideons Bible" as a pupil at school! This is a significant moment for many young people. We have stories of people whose lives have been shaped by their Gideons Bible.. sometimes after many years of storing it away! Last month we visited the Blue School in Wells and distributed over 200 bibles following a morning assembly. Over the coming weeks we have visits planned to local schools including Oakfield and Selwood (and we always take some Ukrainian bibles). Let me know if you would like to arrange a visit to any other schools.

Just before Christmas we distributed 100 New testaments and other literature to people attending the Frome Extravaganza. Alongside our work in schools we have opportunities for conversations and offering Bibles to hotels, prisons and nursing homes as well as places of work such as the livestock market at Standerwick. We also have links with "Canal Ministries" providing New Testaments along with food boxes to people living on our neighbouring waterways: many of whom are in need of support and encouragement.

It is always encouraging to hear what God is doing through neighbouring churches. One church hosts an "Open House" programme aiming to provide a shower and meals for those who have fallen on hard times... and bibles are available for them. Another local initiative uses the 'Good News For Everyone' bibles in door to door ministry. There are reports of great discussions: we hope people's lives are eternally changed by the Word of God through this literature. Please pray for some forthcoming opportunities:

- Supply of 200-300 Ukrainian New Testaments to troops currently training in the UK
- Chaplaincy opportunities at both the livestock market and local prison
- Opportunities for outreach at Hinckley Point C construction site (the largest construction site in Western Europe with > 8000 employees)
- Agricultural Shows across the Southwest including the New Forest Show, Devon County Show and Frome Cheese Show
- Reopening of doors in local schools (closed following the pandemic)

In July I am joining Scripture Distribution at the Island Games on Guernsey. Outreach at the Tall Ships Event in Falmouth is planned during August. Please join us in praying for God's blessing on the opportunities available to us... and for more resource to reach even more people!

Richard Loveless

MINUTES OF MEETING OF RODE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN RODE MEMORIAL HALL ON TUESDAY 7th MARCH 2023 AT 7.30 pm

CONFIRMED

Present:

Cllr Mike Salmon – Chair (MS), Cllr Andy Pickett (AP), Cllr Ann Edney (AE), Cllr Pat Restorick (PR) and Cllr Jim McAuliffe (JM)

In attendance: Cllr Barbi Lund, Cllr Dawn Denton, Hugh Williams – Clerk and 3 parishioners.

1. Public Participation: Concern was expressed over the absence of the local MP, David Warburton, who had not responded to a parishioner and when they approached the Speaker of the House of Commons with their concerns the Speaker had refused to acknowledge any misdemeanours of the MP. The Chair said there was an item on the agenda regarding David Warburton.

The managers of The Mill reported that they were willing to hold an event at The Mill to commemorate the Coronation of the King. They were thanked for this and the PC offered to help advertise and support this.

- **2. Apologies for absence**: Cllr P Travis, Cllr J Bowler and Cllr A Boyden (County Councillor)
- **3. Approval of the minutes**: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th February were approved.
- 4. Declarations of interest: None.
- **5. Report from District Councillor:** Cllr Barbi Lund reported that four Citizens Advice Bureaus across Somerset were considering merging into one. She also said that Lendology were providing loans to people to renovate homes prior to letting them. Lendology can also provide loans for double glazing and insulation.
- **6. Report from County Councillors:** Cllr Dawn Denton said that the A36 slip road still had not been reported to Highways England but she would now report it. New plans for improving the Rode Hill/Bradford Road junction had been issued and she would send these to the PC. There was no timescale for this work. It had now been agreed that she and Cllr Boyden would be on the new East Somerset planning committee which was being set up ready to start on 1st April.

7. Actions from previous meeting:

i. Trees: Merfield/The Mead: Cllr Lund had been in contact with the agent acting for Mr and Mrs James and a tree surgeon had been out to look at the trees. The Clerk reported he had now spoken to the tree surgeon and the trees were due to be cut during the week commencing 11 April. There

- would be some restrictions along The Mead during the felling. Thanks were given to Cllr Lund to resolving this issue.
- **ii. Hoedown:** The date, 26th March, had been advertised in The Link and this would be mainly a litter picking day to coincide with the Great British Spring Clean. It was agreed that the start time should probably be 2.00 pm. Posters would be put up.
- **iii. Highways:** Concern was expressed over the large amount of rubbish at the side of the A₃6 and A₃61 in the area. Since the verges/hedges had been cut this rubbish had become very noticeable. Cllr Denton agreed to raise this with Somerset.
 - Additionally on the issue of highways it was reported that the mail was no longer being delivered to Brook Cottage on the A361. It was agreed to try and improve access and Andy Fussell would be asked if he could cut back the hedge by the road.
- **iv. Footpaths to and from Church Farm:** JM reported that he had been in contact with the Enforcement Officer at Mendip who had tried to pass the issue back to Planning. However, Simon Trafford had agreed to come back on this issue during w/c 13 March. This remained a problem as the Developer was refusing to maintain the path beyond the Church Farm estate, hence it could become unusable.
- v. Grass Cutting: The Clerk reported he had accepted the quote from Eagle and alerted them to the fact that extra land on the playing field might require cutting later in the season. AP said that he was hoping David Jupp would level the land to extend the cricket playing area. This would then need to be rotovated and seeded. As this is \$106 land it was thought some of the \$106 monies could be used on this project.
- vi. Allotments: The PC had been willing to gift the land at the end of The Mead to become allotments. However, it had been decided at the recent Rode Garden Association AGM not to take up this offer as the costs of fencing etc. were too prohibitive. Land near Church Farm was to be investigated for allotments.
- **8. Climate Change Group:** AP reported that it was planned to remove the top soil and clear the ditch on 25th March on the area by the Memorial Hall. A tipper trailer would move the soil to the S106 land on the playing field. Subsequently the land would then be re-seeded with wild flowers.

9. Highways:

- **i. Double yellow lines:** The missing section on Rode Hill had been filled in. Repainting of the double yellow lines in the village had been requested and should be done in the next financial year.
- **ii. Street Lighting:** The Clerk distributed the questionnaire to Councillors to put in residents' doors. The result would be reviewed at the next meeting.
- **iii. Drainage:** It was reported the work in Beckington had run into problems but the work should start in Rode on 22nd March. JM had spoken to Montel (the

contractor) and had been reassured the budget for the Rode works was still in place. Somerset would be taking over the responsibility for the works from Mendip.

10. Planning:

i) New applications:

2023/0313/TCA: Reduce willow by 5 metres and reduce lateral branches by up to 2.5 metres and remove dead and split wood and hanging branches. Halfpenny Row. No objections.

ii. Mendip decisions:

2023/0131/TCA: Reduce magnolia, plum and apple trees all by 1m - 5 Lower Street. Approved.

iii. Appeal ref: 3292838:

Planning proposal to build up to 49 dwellings on Barbara's Field, Church Lane. The Inspector had visited the site in the middle of February but the decision was still awaited. Concern was expressed that the delay in deciding could mean she might approve the application to build.

- 11. Website: JM, PT and the Clerk had had a training session on the dummy site. The structure is in place and needs to be populated. It was agreed other organisations needed to be approached to see what content they needed put on the site. All of the PC would have access to the site prior to it being launched, hopefully at the end of April.
- **12. Coronation Weekend:** The offer by The Mill to host an event was considered a good option for an event for the village.
- **13.** Neighbourhood Plan/Conservation area: It was agreed all Councillors would look at the Neighbourhood Plan before the next meeting and there could possibly be a survey in the village over future housing requirements. AP said he would have time in April to prepare an outline Conservation Plan for Rode.
- **14. Buses:** The £2 fare had been extended to the end of June which was appreciated. There are going to be more evening buses from Frome to Rode and there is to be a new fast service D2X running between Frome and Bath which would stop in Beckington. A new timetable would come in at the beginning of April and it was agreed to fund the printing of this new timetable for distribution. The meeting also agreed that, if required, up to £500 would be available to promote use of the D2 bus service.
- **15.David Warburton MP:** There was concern that parishioners were not being represented by their local MP as he had not attended the House of Commons for months and had not been active in the constituency for a year. The meeting was aware that constituents had not had responses from him. Consideration was given to a no confidence motion in David Warburton but it was noted that the PC had itself not approached him so this might not be the correct action. There was concern that Parliament had taken no action regarding the claims made against him and that he theoretically was still an MP even if performing no duties. It was agreed the PC would write to him asking him what

support and help he could give if asked with a deadline for response. This issue would be reconsidered at the next meeting.

16. New Councillor: It was reported someone was possibly willing to become a co-opted Councillor and it was agreed to ask them to attend the next meeting.

17. Financial matters:

- **i. Financial situation:** An overview of the accounts for the current year had been circulated. It was noted that for the year the PC would be posting a loss of just over £6,000; this was principally due to defending the position to oppose development of Barbara's Field at the Planning Inspectorate Hearing.
- **ii. Payments:** The following payments were agreed:

Frome Printers (street light questionnaire)	£90.00
Clerk Salary	£247.29
HMRC PAYE	£60.40
Peter Watkinson (clock repairs)	£155.00

18. Any Other Business:

- **i. Ukrainian flag:** A question had been raised why the flag was no longer flying. It had been agreed that both the Union and Ukrainian flags were only flown on specific days and this would continue. It was noted that unfortunately the Ukrainian flag had not been flown on the anniversary of the start of the war.
- <u>ii.Gigaclear:</u> It was reported Gigaclear had on its agenda the clearance by the new box. (This has now been done). It was also offering free connection to the Memorial Hall and there was currently an offer to those showing interest in joining Gigaclear on its website.
- **19.Cllr Barbi Lund:** The meeting thanked her for her support and help over the last few years and wished her well now Mendip District Council was ending there would be no District Councillor in future. A gift was given to her in appreciation.

20. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting would be held in the Committee Room at the Memorial Hall on:

Tuesday 11th April at 7.30pm

Гhe meeting closed at 9.30pm.	
Signed	
Date	Print

Website: rodevillage.com/parish-council

...and finally

WHERE IN HARDINGTON VALE?

Where in Hardington Vale, was this old photograph taken?

Did you recognise the view in last month's photograph? It was Parkgate Lane in Rode in the snow.



	Codeword									L	ast	mo	nth'	s Su	ıdok	ĸu						
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POEM OF THE MONTH

Flower god, god of the spring, beautiful, bountiful, Cold-dyed shield in the sky, lover of versicles, Here I wander in April Cold, grey-headed; and still to my Heart, Spring comes with a bound, Spring the deliverer, Spring, song-leader in woods, chorally resonant; Spring, flower-planter in meadows, Child-conductor in willowy Fields deep dotted with bloom, daisies and crocuses: Here that child from his heart drinks of eternity: O child, happy are children!"

Robert Louis Stevenson, 'Flower God, God of the Spring', 1890



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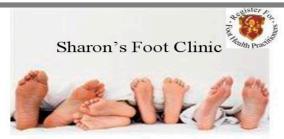
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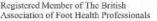
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HARDINGTON VALE CHURCH SERVICES - APRIL 2023

DATE	TIME	SERVICES - API	LEADER
(60330)(6)	9.00 am	Norton St Philip, Breakfast Church	A & S Filkins
Sunday 2 April (red)	9.00 am 10.30 am		A & S FIIKINS
Palm Sunday	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip, Palm Procession Rode, Chapel, Meeting Place	
NA	9.00 pm		
Monday 3 April	9.00 am	Norton St Philip, Morning Prayer Rode Chapel, Compline	
Holy Week	9.00 pm	Norton St Philip, Compline	
	9.00 pm	Laverton, Compline	
Tuesday 4 April	9.00 pm	Rode Chapel, Compline	
ruesuay 4 April	9.00 pm	Norton St Philip, Compline	
	9.00 pm	Laverton, Compline	
Wednesday 5 April	9.00 pm	Rode chapel, Compline	
Wednesday 5 April	9.00 pm	Norton St Philip, Compline	
	9.00 pm	Laverton, Compline	
	9.00 am -	Tellisford, Day of Prayer concluding with	
	9.00 pm	Compline	
MaundyThursday 6 April	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip, Passover Meal	
Friday 7 April	2-3.00 pm	Norton St Philip, Hour at the Cross	
GOOD FRIDAY	10.00 am-	Rode Walk of Witness starts St Lawrence	
GOODTRIDAT	11.00 am	ending with short service @ Rode Chapel	
Sunday 9 April	6.00 am	Norton St Philip, Sunrise Vigil	B Day
EASTER	9.00 am	Farleigh Hungerford, Holy Communion	J Robinson
End (En	10.30 am	Norton St Philip, Holy Communion	C Walker
	10.30 am	Rode St Lawrence, Holy Communion	J Robinson
	11.00 am	Laverton, Holy Communion	S Kivett
Wednesday 12 April	8.30 am	Hemington, Morning Prayer	
	5.00 pm	Rode Chapel, Ecumenical Informal Prayer	
Thursday 13 April	6.00 pm	n Norton St Philip, Silent Prayer	
Sunday 16 April	10.30 am	Rode St Lawrence, Holy Communion	C Walker
•	10.30 am	Norton St Philip, Informal Worship	C Walker
	11.00 am	Laverton, Matins	M Walker/B Day
Monday 17 April	9.00 am	Norton St Philip, Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 18 April	5.00 pm	Tellisford, Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 19 April	8.30 am	Hemington, Morning Prayer	
8 9	5.00 pm	Rode Chapel, Informal Prayer	
Thursday 20 April	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip, Silent Prayer	
Sunday 23 April	9.00 am	Tellisford, Holy Communion	J Robinson
	10.30 am	Norton St Philip, Holy Communion	J Robinson
	10.30 am	Rode St Lawrence, Informal Worship	C Walker
	11.00 am	Laverton, Matins	
Monday 24 April	9.00 am	Norton St Philip, Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 25 April	5.00 pm	Laverton, Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 26 April	8.30 am	Hemington, Morning Prayer	
19 19	5.00 pm	Rode Chapel, Informal Prayer	
Thursday 27 April	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip, Silent Prayer	
Sunday 30 April	10.30 am	Norton St Philip, United Holy Communion	J Robinson/C Walker
***************************************		www.hardingtonvale.org.uk	

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RODE CHAPEL

APRIL 2023 SUNDAY SERVICES - 10.30 a.m.

Sunday	9th April	Rev Michael White
Sunday	16th April	Rev Tina Swires
Sunday	23rd April	Barry Speddings

Sunday 30th April Rev Andrew Kellett (Holy Communion)

	APRIL 2023 DIARY
Mon 3 Apr	7.30pm Rode & District Gardening Club see page 30 for details
Tue 4 Apr	4pm Rode Parish Roadshow see pages 13 & 33 for details
Wed 5 Apr	7.30pm Just Stop Oil see pages 23 & 34 for details
Thu 6 Apr	1pm-2pm NSP Lunchtime Concert see page 17 & 34 for details
Fri 7 Apr	BANK HOLIDAY – Good Friday
Sat 8 Apr	10.30am Family Fun Easter Trail see page 35 for details
Sun 9 Apr	Easter Sunday
Mon 10 Apr	BANK HOLIDAY – Easter Monday
Tue 11 Apr	10am Rode Walking Group see page 31 for details 7.30pm Rode Parish Council Meeting see page 49 for details
Fri 14 Apr	11.15 – 11.45am Mobile Library, High Street, Rode 2.30pm Rode Over 60s see page 32 for details
Sat 15 Apr	3-5pm Dr Bevan Farewell, Beckington Surgery see page 15
Mon 17 Apr	12.15pm Monday Lunch Club see page 31 for details 2.30-4pm Forgot Me Not Café see page 35 for details
Fri 21 Apr MAY LINK COPY DEADLINE 7 for 7.30pm Rode Roxy see page 15 & 36 for details	
Fri 28 Apr	7.00pm Barn Dance see pages 7 & 36 for details
Sat 29 Apr	7.30pm NSP Evening Concert see pages 17 & 34 for details
Sun 30 Apr	1.55pm Rode Hoedown see page 37 for details 8pm RPF Lottery Draw, The Cross Keys see page 18 for details
	YEAR PLANNER
Mon 1 May	BANK HOLIDAY – Early May Bank Holiday
Sat 6 May	Coronation of Kings Charles 111 11am The Mill Coronation Party see pages 16 & 37 for details
Mon 8 May	BANK HOLIDAY – Coronation of Kings Charles 111
Mon 15 May	12.15pm Monday Lunch Club see page 31 for details 7pm Tellisford Parish Meeting see page 38 for details
Tue 26 May	7pm Rode Memorial Hall Meeting see page 9 for details
Sun Jun 18	Father's Day
Mon 29 May	BANK HOLIDAY - Spring Bank Holiday
Mon 28 Aug	BANK HOLIDAY – Summer Bank Holiday



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Content for 'The Link' always welcome - email gillhlleonard@aol.com

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