

# The Link

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



**APRIL 2022**

Parish Response To The War In Ukraine

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A Letter From Linda Oliver

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Somerset Buses Update

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Parish Events & Services Details & Jubilee Celebrations Update

**...and so very much more local news and info inside!**

**£1**

## PARISH OF HARDINGTON VALE

### RECTOR

Rev Caroline Walker  
The Rectory, Vicarage Lane,  
Norton St Philip, BA2 7LY  
01373 834258  
carolinewalker@btinternet.com  
Day off: - Friday

### CURATE

Rev Jo Robinson  
The Old Rectory, 38 Church Lane,  
Rode  
01373 831381  
321jorobinson@gmail.com

### READERS

Barbara Day  
Brewery House, North Street, NSP  
01373 834438  
Barbara.day04@gmail.com

Michael Harrison  
51 Fortescue Street, NSP  
01373 834086  
michael.harrison@bcs.org

### PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Ros Clarke  
The Hub Office, Norton St Philip Church  
Mon, Tues and Wed 8.30am to 12.30pm  
01373 834488  
admin@hardingtonvale.org.uk

### PCC TREASURER

Nick Brown  
Norton St Philip Church BA2 7LY  
01373-834488  
Treasurer@hardingtonvale.org.uk

### PCC SECRETARY

Tony Day  
Brewery House, North St. BA2 7LE  
01373-834438  
secretary@hardingtonvale.org.uk

### ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER

Ros Clarke

### PARISH WARDENS

(with specific responsibilities in brackets)  
David Lockley (pastoral&outreach) 01373 834414  
Christopher Todd (strategy) 01373-834856  
Geoff Banwell (finance) 01373 831139  
Chris Cloke (buildings) 01373 834917

### CHAPEL WARDEN

**Farleigh Hungerford:**  
Guy Hungerford 01249 701211  
**Tellisford:**  
Rachel Fielden 01373 830322

### DEPUTY WARDEN

**Rode:**  
Sally Pickett 01373 831796

### ELECTED PCC MEMBERS

Andrew Morrison <sup>1</sup>, Barbara Day <sup>1</sup>, Robin Finlay, <sup>1</sup>  
Sharman Flindall <sup>1</sup>, Andy Filkins, Susie Filkins,  
Rachel Feilden <sup>3</sup>, John Flindall, Francis Green <sup>4</sup>,  
Rachel Stewart, Anne Harkness, Ros Lockley,  
Sally Pickett <sup>3</sup>, Michael Walker  
<sup>1</sup> Deanery Synod Representatives  
<sup>2</sup> Safeguarding Officer currently vacant  
<sup>3</sup> Chapel or Deputy wardens at Farleigh  
Hungerford, Rode and Tellisford.  
<sup>4</sup> with specific responsibility for Hemington  
churchyard

### CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WORKER

Sue Rodford (kidschurch@hardingtonvale.org.uk)

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### Editor

Gill Leonard edits and produces The Link  
01373 831072 gillhleonard@aol.com

### Subscriptions/Distribution

Caroline Williams  
01373 831046 carolinewilliams205@gmail.com

### Advertising

Gill Leonard  
01373 831072 gillhleonard@aol.com

### HARDINGTON VALE WEBSITE

www.hardingtonvale.org.uk

Hemington and Hardington are in the care of the  
Churches Conservation Trust contact Helen  
Booker hbooker@thecc.org.uk 07831 873489

### RODE CHAPEL METHODIST- BAPTIST

**Minister:** Rev Tina Swire 01749 595759  
**Secretary:** Bill Jackson 01373 830411  
rode.chapel@btinternet.com  
**Key Holder:** Alison Hughes 01373 830244  
rode.chapel@btinternet.com /830411

## USEFUL COMMUNITY CONTACT DETAILS

Organisation	Contact Name	Contact Number
Allotments - Rode Rode Gardens Association	Lucy Travis (Chair)	831726/Lucy_travis@hotmail.com
Buddy Scheme (Rode)	Mike Salmon	831257/mikesalmon123@icloud.com
Community Speed Watch (CSW)	Malcolm Wood	830301/mwood17@uwclub.net
Cricket Club (Rode) Seniors Cricket Club (NSP) Youth & Seniors	Andy Pickett Mark Finch	andypickett2013@gmail.com/07775 805546 07876 191100
Friends of Rode and Norton Schools (FRANS)	Brandon Quentin-Hicks (Joint Chair)	brandon@bambooohouse.co.uk 07867 545720
Gardening: Rode & District Club	Averil Morrow	830686/averil.morrow@yahoo.co.uk
Ladies Group (Rode)	Pat Banwell	831139
Lunch Club	Alex Sing	Asing_homeandgardens@hotmail.com/830836
Memorial Hall (Rode)	Bookings: Kate Robinson	rodehall@bananasoft.net www.rodevillagehall.co.uk
NSP Pre-School	Dawn Strand	admin@nortonpreschool.co.uk/834791
Old School Room Farleigh H'ford Over 60's	Dilys McKechnie Pat Smith	01225 754925 830559
Parish Council - Rode	Hugh Williams (Parish Clerk)	Clerk.rodeparishcouncil@gmail.com rodevillage.com/parish-council/
Parish Paths Liaison Officers	Cathy & Nick Taylor	candn800@btinternet.com
Playing Field/Pavilion (Rode)	Bookings	rodepfbookings@gmail.com
Post Office (Rode)	Demi Ward	830321
RANS Running & Walking Club www.facebook.com/TeamRANS	Brandon Quentin-Hicks	brandon@bambooohouse.co.uk 07867 545720
Rode & NSP First School Federation	Headteacher: Georgina Muxworthy	830523
Rodevillage.com Website & Twitter Feed	George Berry	info@rodevillage.com http://twitter.com/rodevillage
1 <sup>st</sup> Rode Scout Group Beavers Wed 4.45-5.45pm Cubs Thu 6-7.30pm Scouts Wed 7-8.30pm During school term time	Group Scout Leader: Howard Russell	hdrussell01@gmail.com 830640/07736 739680
Scouts Edor Explorer Unit Every other Tuesday 8-9.30pm in term time	James Osborne	jamesosborne1@live.co.uk 07773 280939
Village Agent	Nic Edwards	07946 461468/ nicolae@somersetcc.org.uk
Walking Group	Liz Dinnis	elizabethdinnis49@gmail.com/07788 656337
Community Transport & Local Government & Closest GP		
Community Transport	Mendip Community Slinky Bus Bookings Frome Community Cars	01749 880613/www.menfopcommunitytransport.co.uk 01749 880482 07596 591391
Mendip D C	General Enquiries	0300 303 8588
Somerset C C	General Enquiries	0300 123 2224
County Councillor	Linda Oliver (Conservative)	loliver@somerset.gov.uk/834210
District Councillor	Barbi Lund (Green Party)	Cllr.lund@mendip.gov.uk/07846 335636
Beckington Family Practice	Appointments T: 830006 Results 9.30-13.00/14.00-16.00 T: 867986	Enquiries and Emergencies T: 830316 Dispensary 8.30-13.00/15.00-18.30 T: 867987
NHS 111 24 hour medical care help	Contact 111 if you have an urgent T: 111 Online: 111.nhs.co.uk	medical problem and you are unsure what to do
Frome Rural Beat Neighbourhood Police Team	PCSO PCSO Supervisor Neighbourhood Officer	Russell.ford@avonandsomerset.police.uk/07547658018 Stephen.Reading@avonandsomerset.police.uk David.Cohen@avonandsomerset.police.uk

# Church Reflection, News & Events

## REFLECTION - "MUSTN'T GRUMBLE..."

To start with, I mustn't grumble that I can't write about Spring as Caroline wrote about it in the last issue of the magazine! - even though it seems obvious to me, as I write, that Spring starts today. The sun is shining, the sky is a clear blue, the hills gleam in various beautiful shades and people are enjoying sitting or lingering in the sun. So what shall I write about? Maybe grumbling is a good topic.

I like to think that I don't grumble much... though I do complain about my sore toes (new shoes) and the mud that has caked my bicycle's mudguards (too much rain) which means that pedalling over to Rode is harder work than usual (aging joints). Grumbling seems to start at a very early age. My youngest grandchild grumbled loudly in no uncertain terms last Sunday when given the chips that he had asked for, but then deciding he'd rather have the rice that the rest of us were having!

Is grumbling a sin? We are currently in the middle of Lent and most of the bible readings we seem to be having in church are about sin. Jesus was tempted to sin in various ways in the wilderness but remained free... and the parallel is often drawn between Jesus' wilderness journey and the people of Israel escaping Egyptian captivity. One of the things that happened as the people of Israel travelled through the desert was that - although free at last - people started grumbling. They were thirsty, they were hungry, and the miraculous manna from heaven did not seem enough. Their circumstances were so much better than when they were in captivity but they still grumbled.

So what about us? Our lives are not always easy but we have our freedom, and we recognise afresh how very special that is in our world, given the circumstances of many others. I remember having lunch outside a pub with a dear friend of mine who died quite young. We were looking across a valley at a beautiful view while a flotilla of multicoloured hot air balloons were drifting across the sky in the sunshine. At this sight my friend, though aware of various sorrows, declared, "There is a God in Heaven, and he loves us!".

Let us also realise that we can make a difference! I was struck by a recent piece of news about an ageing rock star (even older than me) who filled in the ruts in the road outside his property so that his Ferrari could get through. Presumably instead of just grumbling he got on and did something, however questionable his motivation! At the present time many people are acting to help refugees in various ways, many giving gifts or donating money, others planning to open their own homes. We can all make a difference! And if God is for us who can be against us. God is so much for us that His son died on a cross for crimes He did

# Church Reflection, News & Events

not commit so that we might find life through Him, whoever we are. That is what we remember at Easter.

So as we notice any glimpse of beauty and freedom in our daily lives, let's rejoice this Easter time. Let's remember that we can be forgiven our grumbling and let's pay attention to our many blessings.

*Michael Harrison*

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## NEWS FROM ST LAWRENCE

I am writing this on what is officially the first day of spring and walking to church this morning it felt like spring had really arrived – blue skies, spring bulbs and sunshine! We certainly felt very blessed as we sat in church and thanked God for the beautiful day we were enjoying.



Breakfast Church has gathered its momentum again after the break during the pandemic. In February people attending were asked to make any donations for the breakfast and these would be going to aid charities supporting the people affected by the war in Ukraine. The next Breakfast Church will now be in May (9<sup>th</sup>) as it falls on Palm Sunday in April so instead of attending Breakfast Church we would like as many of the congregation as possible to go and take part in the Palm Sunday Procession on April 10<sup>th</sup> in Norton St Philip.

Help for the people of Ukraine was discussed at the March meeting of the PCC and as a result of that and discussions amongst the congregation we are encouraging people to donate if they are able to the DEC (Disasters Emergency Committee: [www.dec.org.uk](http://www.dec.org.uk)). Furthermore, Mary Morrison in Norton is coordinating our efforts as a church community and if and when refugees are housed in the parish we will look to supporting them and the host families.

Easter will soon be upon us; details of Easter Services can be found on page 6 (a full list of April Services is inside the back cover). Please come and join us for any of the Services, you will be most welcome and we look forward to seeing you.

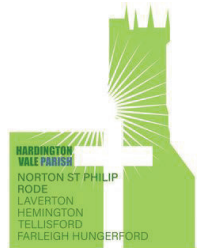
The Rode Roxy is up and running again with 39 people attending a screening of Nomadland on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March. The Roxy is run by the Heart of Rode Committee for the maintenance of St Lawrence church and church yard. We would like to thank all those who support this and other events run by HOR.

*Sally Pickett and Geoff Banwell*

# Church Reflection, News & Events

## H.V. PARISH RESPONSE TO THE UKRAINIAN REFUGEE CRISIS

There can be little that has occupied our minds and hearts more in the past few weeks than the plight of those who are either enduring life in the war zone that is currently Ukraine, or who are endeavouring to escape to safety in neighbouring countries. The UK government have responded by offering to accept refugees to this country, not only those who have family and friends to whom they can go but also those who are not in such a fortunate position.



In response to this, Hardington Vale Parish propose to look at ways in which they can support refugees who in the first instance may be those who are due to begin arriving from Ukraine who may be placed in our area as well as those who have offered to host them. Following consultation with the leadership team, the Rector, Caroline, has registered the parish as a group with the Sanctuary Foundation Organisation, who, along with other charities, will be supporting the government initiative to encourage UK individuals and organisations to offer accommodation for individuals or groups of refugees fleeing Ukraine.

We are aware that there are several individuals within our parish who have already expressed willingness to host those needing a place to stay and who have signed up with the government scheme and / or with other organisations such as Sanctuary Foundation. We have also started to research what is already in place to support refugees who have arrived in our region in the past to see what may be needed, what we can learn and what we may be able to do as a group and as individuals to help.

The proposal is to:

1. Appoint coordinator(s) to liaise with the parish leadership team and PCC supported by a community / area support group (based on those who those who have expressed interest). Currently Andraea Dawson Shepherd will coordinate for Laverton and Mary Morrison for Norton St Philip. There will be a coordinator for the Rode area confirmed in due course. Other parish areas may also like to put names forward.
2. Continue to research what other groups and organisations exist who may already be working in this area and to communicate / coordinate with them.
3. Offer to create a list of existing and potential sponsors who may be receiving individuals and groups into their homes.
4. Provide appropriate help, support, guidance and information for sponsors if needed and for refugees concerning available benefits, services, health and education.

# Church Reflection, News & Events

5. Offer to identify needs and to coordinate volunteer helpers and possibly back-up hosts.
6. Publish information about what we are trying to do and to be a point of contact for sponsors, refugees, volunteers, government and charity groups.
7. Provide opportunities for Refugee groups to meet up, support each other and socialise together.
8. Check with food and clothing banks as to their needs and access for refugees in need.
9. Assess what provision could be made locally to provide essential items.
10. Create list of useful volunteer roles for which people could sign up.

For more information or to express interest contact me on 01373 834979 / [dmarymorrison@btinternet.com](mailto:dmarymorrison@btinternet.com) or:

Andrea Dawson-Shepherd 07970 885896 / [andrea-ds@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:andrea-ds@yahoo.co.uk)

Jo Robinson 01373 831381 / [321jorobinson@gmail.com](mailto:321jorobinson@gmail.com)

Ali Smith [ali.w.s.smith@gmail.com](mailto:ali.w.s.smith@gmail.com)

Sanctuary Foundation and the government are planning to publish further guidance in due course and there will be a church leaders event late March.

*Mary Morrison*

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## ECUMENICAL HOLY COMMUNION AT RODE CHAPEL

After a short trial of changing the time of the Service to late morning it has been decided to revert back to the original time of 9.45am. The next Holy Communion at Rode Chapel will be on 5th April at 9.45am.



*Sue Beaven*

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## NSP Church Flexible Space Available For Hire

The new flexible space in St Philip & St James Church can now be hired for events for further details contact:

For further details contact Andrew Morrison:

T: 01373 834979 E: [andrew@turnerpartners.co.uk](mailto:andrew@turnerpartners.co.uk)

Events in the week required to finish at 10 pm

Events at the weekend required to finish at 11pm

# Church Reflection, News & Events



## PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

Starts at 10.30am on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>

From The George Inn NSP Car Park

Join Us



## TELLISFORD ALL SAINTS

12hours of Prayer

9am - 9pm

Wednesday April 13<sup>th</sup>



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

Maundy Thursday 14th 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



Fergus and Rachel Stewart

e: fandrstewart1985@gmail.com

t: 01373 834611

Walk of  
Witness

**15th  
April**

Meet outside  
Rode Chapel  
at 10am  
Concluding  
at  
St Lawrence  
Rode Church  
with short  
Service at  
11.00am



An Hour at  
the Cross

2 - 3pm

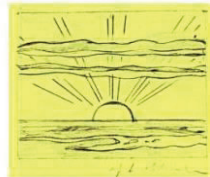
St Philip  
& St James  
Norton St  
Philip

Prayer and  
Reflection

**GOOD FRIDAY**

**Events across the parish**

## EASTER DAY CELEBRATION!!!



*St Lawrence Church Rode*

**SUNDAY 17th April**

*Holy Communion*

**10.30am**

**He is Risen! Hallelujah!!!**




# Church Reflection, News & Events

**Devotional** Last Sunday of the Month  
**YOGA** @Norton St Philip Church  
5-6:15pm  
30th January  
27th February  
27th March  
24th April  
29th May  
26th June  
ZOOM also available

*Find peace*  
*Find hope*  
*Find faith*

Gentle yoga class  
using Christian meditation  
All are welcome

£5 donation  
Bring a mat  
carolinehwalker@btinternet.com



All are welcome to attend this Yoga and Meditation Class.

Tea, conversation and prayer available afterwards. Donation optional.

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## *Hardington Vale Rogation Walking The Parish 2022 Sunday 22 May*



### *Norton St Philip - Hemington (4.5 miles - easy/moderate)*

*2.00 pm set off from the church at Norton St Philip via Hardington*

*4.00 pm onwards... arrive at Hemington for tea - contribution (£5) to CCT*

*for more information please contact Michael Fowler on 01373 834925*

*Everyone is welcome including non-walkers and well-behaved dogs*

# Parish News

## YOUR PATRONAGE IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED...

Dear Readers and Advertisers

April is the first month of the new subscription and advertising year and we would like to thank all of you who have signed up for another year and welcome and thank our new subscribers and advertisers.

Your support of The Link is wonderful and crucial to its survival. Happy Easter.

*Gill Leonard*  
Link Editor & Advertising

*Caroline Williams*  
Link Subscriptions & Distribution

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## BETTER BUS CHARTER FOR SOMERSET

We need to do something about improving our buses in Somerset.

Our county currently has the second lowest level of bus journeys per resident of all the counties in England and Somerset's bus services have the very lowest level of passenger satisfaction in the country.



Residents of Somerset experience this every day, whether it's with difficulties getting to health services, reduced opportunities for those seeking work and further education or just the limited (if any) evening and Sunday bus services.

As a result, we see ever increasing numbers of cars on our roads which causes higher levels of local air pollution and increase our carbon emissions.

Somerset Bus Partnership was formed just a year ago to campaign for better bus services across our county and already we have a Somerset-wide network of 115 town and parish transport representatives who share our passion for better buses.

Somerset residents have every right to expect better, but it will need funding.

We have developed a Somerset Bus Charter and invite not just Councillors but community groups, churches and residents to join with us and endorse it. Get in touch - [somersetbuspartnership@gmail.com](mailto:somersetbuspartnership@gmail.com)

## **THE SOMERSET BUS CHARTER:**

**BETTER BUSES FOR ALL OUR COMMUNITIES** - We need a core network of frequent, high-quality services linking our towns and main villages with enhanced weekend and evening services. Also we want an extension of the demand-responsive ‘Slinky’ bus services, available to all and with longer operating hours.

**AN INTEGRATED TRANSPORT NETWORK** - We need bus routes to link with local railway stations with timetables that offer improved connections between buses and trains.

We also want to see the introduction of integrated ticketing across the county’s different bus operators and with trains too.

**PROMOTION OF EXISTING AND NEW SERVICES** - We should be promoting the bus as an important way by which we all can address the climate emergency in Somerset (transport accounts for nearly half of all carbon emissions in Somerset).

To enable more to go by bus, it is essential that current bus timetable information is shown at all main bus stops and bus times information is available in libraries and at other information points.

**AN AFFORDABLE TRANSPORT SERVICE FOR ALL** - We should make bus travel more attractive through cheaper fares especially targeted at young people up to the age of 25. Plus, for everyone, a new, all-operator, countywide value ticket.

**CLEANER BUSES** - We want an accelerated transition from diesel buses to zero emission buses.

**MEANINGFUL FUNDING OF BUS SERVICES** - We need Somerset’s bus budget to be brought progressively up to the average for similar rural authorities in the Southwest.

*Peter Travis*

Somerset Bus Partnership

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## **STOP PRESS...**

Ashford Homes appeal regarding their previously rejected proposal for 29 new homes on the greenfield site between The Mead and Straight Lane has been dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate.

# Parish News

## A LETTER TO YOU FROM LINDA OLIVER...

Dear Resident, the last time I wrote to you in this way was back in March 2019, when, because of personal reasons, I had decided not to stand for re-election as a Mendip District Councillor.

Here I am in 2022 with the same dilemma. Do I stand again and continue the work I have been doing for over 8 years as a County Councillor, albeit in a different role? The election on the 5<sup>th</sup> May is for a different Somerset-wide role. It is to elect Somerset Unitary Councillors, who will have a 5-year term.



It is with much sadness and regret that, while I am passionately committed to being the community champion and voice for residents in Frome North Division, I cannot realistically continue to do so for another 5 years.

I would have loved to have been part of the New Somerset Unitary Council and be involved with the Local Community Networks. It's going to be an exciting and challenging time and right up my street.

My reasons for not standing are purely about family. I have spent 6 years as a Mendip District Councillor in the area, including 2 years as a councillor in Kent, over 8 years as a County Councillor in Somerset, and before that was a Parish Councillor and Chair of the local Parish Council. During that time, I have not been around for my family and friends, nor taken care of my own health.

Something needs to change. I do not want to share my personal issues with you in detail, but it is now time that I focus on these. I cannot do that if I have committed to a further 5 years representing residents of Frome North. I know that there would be a time I could not deliver my commitment to you.

I will miss the work involved, and working with parish councils, residents, and the officers. I still have some outstanding pieces of work, and I will make sure all the relevant details and contacts are passed on. I will miss the implementation of my last of 4 highways improvement schemes I submitted. The last one is to improve visibility and reduce speed limits at the Cuckoo Lane and Gypsy Lane junction in Frome. The final implementation of the scheme is likely to be in August. I will naturally not be able to resist following with interest the implementation of this highway's improvement scheme, and all the other areas of work that are ongoing.

# Parish News

The good news for me is that Dawn Denton is going to stand for election in Frome North. Some of you may know Dawn, who lives in Frome and runs her own Content Marketing and Training business and has frequently spoken at local business events. We have been working together and I am reassured that continuity will be maintained. She would be a good champion to represent you. This makes it so much easier to pass over the reins to someone equally committed to representing you with a strong voice for the villages and the part of Frome that is within the Frome North Division.

Take care and kind regards

*Linda Oliver*

T: 01373 834210 E: lindaolivernsp@gmail.com

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## **SUCCESS! LEADERS FOUND FOR RODE'S EXPLORER SCOUTS**

Delighted to report that Explorer Leaders James and Russell can relax (and I can stop pleading on their behalf) as they have at last had a response to pleas over the last few months for more volunteers to be Explorer Scouts Leaders.



Happily the threat to Explorers being able to continue has been averted and our parish youth can continue to have the opportunity to experience and benefit from all that Explorer Scouts offer.

A big thank you to the new Leaders for stepping up.

*Gill Leonard*

Editor

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## **200 CLUB DRAW RESULTS**

The 200 club winners of the February draw were:

1st prize £50 John Flindall

2nd prize £25 Martin Banwell

Drawn by Sam at Rode Post Office

*Jan Jupp*



# Parish News

## PARISH COUNCIL BACKS RODE JUBILEE PARKFEST

JUNE 4<sup>th</sup> Noon-11:00pm

“We want Rode’s Jubilee event to be very special. Something that people, especially our village children, will remember all their lives”, said Mike Salmon, Rode Parish Council Chair.

At their March meeting, Rode PC decided to help with the funding of the children’s entertainment, plus a Jubilee tea and a commemorative mug for all village children (under 13).

Ann Edney, working with Pat Restorick, is booking entertainers, organising activities and making arrangements for the food for the children’s afternoon tea.



Meanwhile, Brandon Quentin-Hicks is lining up bands and a disco to ensure the evening entertainment will keep the adults rocking through till the late hours.

And Keith Sharman is asking local businesses to sponsor kegs of special beers that he’s organising for the event.

Charities and local businesses are asked to contact Ann Edney on 01373 830544 if they would like to have a stall on June 4<sup>th</sup> or if they want to organise a fund raising activity at Rode’s Jubilee event.

The June 4<sup>th</sup> Jubilee ParkFest is being organised by Rode Playing Field, FRANS and the Scouts with the support of Rode Parish Council.

Everyone else is asked to mark the date in their diaries as it is going to be a ParkFest like no other!

*Peter Travis*

Member of the ParkFest Team

## RODE DRAINAGE PROJECT – MARCH 2022

Work on the Rode Drainage Project has been continuing.

The project team has been working through the tender process with a view to appointing a contractor to undertake the proposed infrastructure works.

The programme for the works will be confirmed once the contract has been awarded. It is, however, anticipated that work will commence within the next few months.

Some work has already been completed. In October 2021 a new field drain was installed between Green Park Pond and Green Park Lane. Sediment traps were installed at the upstream and down-stream extents of the pipe.

The new field drain will minimise the sheet runoff across the field. This will reduce the mobilisation of sediments and soils ending up in the flood attenuation ponds and migrating downstream to the culvert beneath the A361.

This project is led by Calm Engineering, on behalf of Mendip District Council and partners:



Field drain during construction

Mendip Flood Hub - For further information about the Rode Drainage Project and other projects within Mendip district, please visit:

<https://mendip-flood-risk-management-programme-mendip.hub.arcgis.com/>



If you have any queries or would like to contact us, please e-mail [caroline@calmengineering.co.uk](mailto:caroline@calmengineering.co.uk) quoting Rode and we will get in touch.

# Parish News

## SPRINGTIME AT THE PLAYING FIELD

As the warmer weather arrives so does the opportunity to take stock of where the playing field is in terms of maintenance. Last month I mentioned the need to refresh and refurbish the play area and how we might go about raising the money. On top of that the ceiling's just come down in the ladies toilet due to a leaking roof so there's a lot of maintenance to crack on with. Keep 'em peeled for playing field refurbishment appeal!

### Plantathon 2

In December we had our first Plantathon to install the hedge along the south eastern boundary of the community orchard/wildlife garden area.



On Saturday March 19th we held our second event to plant 100 trees donated by The Woodland Trust. What a fantastic afternoon it was – sunny, reasonably warm and a good band of local residents assembled and planted all the trees in just over an hour. The photo is the silver birch copse where we hope to locate a nice bench. In other parts we've planted small groups of wild cherry/downy birch/rowan which should look wonderful in years to come. We also planted donated trees – a couple of locally grown oaks as well as a walnut tree from Walnut Close courtesy of an industrious, albeit forgetful squirrel. Thanks to all who helped on the day particularly the design team of Averil Morrow, Eilish Michell, Sharman Flindall (fantastic cakes Sharman!), Becky Clarke and, of course Pat Restorick who worked her magic with the teas.

**...And It's Goodbye from Him.** After the best part of four years, I've decided it's time to call it a day as Chair and Trustee of the playing field. It's been an interesting time not least of all trying to guide the charity through a pandemic. Thanks to everyone who supported me throughout my tenure, particularly current Trustees Ann Edney, Pat Restorick, Mal Bertenshaw, Matt Thorman as well as, at other times, Jo Stewart Cox, John Griffiths, Nicky Robinson-Moore and Lynne McDonnell. Also, thanks to our new Trustees Diana Russell, Peter Travis and Steve Eyles for agreeing to take the reins for the coming months (and maybe years?!).

*Nigel Clarke*

rodepfbookings@gmail.com



## SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL MARCH UPDATE

**Somerset Coronavirus Support Helpline:** A single phone number continues to be available for anyone in Somerset who needs Coronavirus-related support. **0300 790 6275**, is open seven days a week from 8am to 6pm.

**Local Government Reorganisation:** Following the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) decision to support the move to a single Unitary Council across Somerset the Structural Changes Order were approved by the House of Commons Committee on 23<sup>rd</sup> January and will now go before the Lords on or before 14<sup>th</sup> March. The first elections to the new authority together with Somerset Town and Parish elections will be held on 5th May 2022.

**County Council Revenue Budget:** Highlights of the 2022/23 Somerset budget include: An extra £18 million investment in Adults Social Care (13% increase), an extra £12 million invested in Children's Services (13% increase), an additional £8.4 million identified to invest in schools and £48 million in capital projects, including roads. Additionally there is a major investment in supporting the commitment to create a zero carbon Somerset by 2030 with £7.8 million allocated to reduce energy use in council buildings and £1 million invested in the electrifying the council fleet and building a charging infrastructure in the county. The County Council's share of Council Tax is proposed to rise by a two per cent with a further one per cent rise under the social care precept. For a home rated Band D for Council Tax this is equivalent to a rise of 78p a week.

**Opportunity Boost Scheme:** A new grant has been launched to help people in Somerset overcome financial barriers when seeking employment and returning to work. The Opportunity Boost Scheme will provide grants worth up to £500 to help with the cost associated progressing into work, such as transport costs, childcare, work clothes, learning resources and training courses. The funding for the scheme has been provided through the Somerset Recovery Fund, and the initiative is being delivered in partnership between Somerset County Council and Citizens Advice Somerset. To qualify, applicants must be aged 16 or over, not be entitled to any other financial assistance for job seeking, and had a pre-Covid salary of less than £25,000. For More information visit

[www.westsomersetadvice.org.uk/?p=1380](http://www.westsomersetadvice.org.uk/?p=1380)

**Half Term and Easter food support:** Somerset County Council is again working with schools to provide food vouchers to families eligible for Free School Meals to combat holiday hunger over the February half-term and Easter holidays. The Council has helped provide food vouchers to those children in need of support during the school holidays since October 2020, providing a much-needed boost to families who have felt the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic. The allocation for February half-term and Easter provides vouchers worth £15 per pupil for the week and includes additional funding so that schools can also allocate vouchers to families who are in need of support but do not qualify for Free School Meals.

**Ukraine:** In addition to flying the Ukrainian flag and lighting County Hall in Yellow and Blue the County Council are offering extra support to Ukrainian members of staff and residents in Somerset. The Council stands by, ready to support the national humanitarian aid effort to relocate refugees displaced by Russian aggression.



# Parish News

## SCOUTS CAR BOOT SALE REPORT

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the Scout Car Boot Sale at Hillview Farm a few weeks ago, whether you had a stall, came to buy, or just came for the hot chocolate, bacon rolls and yummy cakes that were provided so generously.

It was unfortunately a very cold day but nevertheless you stuck it out and the result was over £500 profit made for the scout funds which was pretty amazing. We hope to organise another one soon but next time we will try to pre-book the weather! Thanks again.

*James & Elizabeth Osborne*



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## PLAYING FIELD LOTTERY

Winners in February 2022, drawn by Hannah and others in the Cross Keys:

1<sup>st</sup> - £50.00 ... Wendy Gould, Rode.

2<sup>nd</sup> - £25.00 ... Rode School.

3<sup>rd</sup> - £25.00 ... Gill Lynch, Rode.

Sunday Roast for 2, Mrs. Dickenson, Rode. Thanks again to Mark and Hannah.

A share of £100 and 2 Sunday roasts all possible for £1.00 per ticket! And you will be supporting the Playing Field. Tickets on sale at the Post Office, or directly from Jane and I. Next draw 30<sup>th</sup> of April.

*Keith Sharman*

T: 830408

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## COOKING FOR UKRAINE

A wonderful fund raising evening was hosted by Somerset Foodie and The Village Baking Co. with special guest chef Ping Coombs - a former winner of Masterchef!



Beautiful floral jam jar displays were created by Virginia Garaux, with kind donations from Ellie at Flowers at the Gate, along with flower donations from the gardens of Laverton to create a blue and yellow theme.

The food was delicious, the raffle prizes superb and the event raised the incredible amount of £9,000 - what a tremendous effort! Thank you to everyone involved.

*Jackie Moss*

## LAVERTON NEWS

After the storms of last month isn't it wonderful to see and feel the warmth of the spring sunshine? The Daffodils are now looking glorious and the early blackthorn blossom appearing in our hedgerows looks like a dusting of snow - spring has finally sprung!

**Ukraine** - We have all been so moved by the recent events in Ukraine and we've all been trying to help in our own way. Many thanks to Gilli for acting as a collection point for donated items from folk in the village and for taking them to Westbury to be transported to the Polish border.

**Laverton Jubilee Celebrations** - We had a very enthusiastic and productive first meeting of the 'organising team'. Lots of exciting plans afoot, it's all coming together. Does anyone know where we might be able to borrow some small hay bales please? Also if you have a vehicle that will take tables/benches that would be most helpful. Most items will be coming from within the village. Many thanks to Emma Hogan's brilliant leaflet design.



**The Little Owl** - The little owl is back in Laverton - it's been spotted on several occasions at dusk on a barn in Row Lane!

It's been a bit like a comedy sketch this week with Caroline texting to say it's there and Martin and I scurrying round - only to see it fly away! But eventually we saw it - not the best photo, a bit dark but all Martin could get as the light was fading!

**Max Milligan: Birth of a Volcano** - In March 2021 a volcano erupted in Iceland. Laverton's very own Max Milligan managed to escape the UK and capture images from intimate close ups to panoramics. If you'd like to hear more about Max's adventures pop along to the Strode Theatre in Street on Friday 1st April where Max is taking part in their Book Fest. Tickets available direct from Strode Theatre website:

[strodetheatre.org.uk/whats-on/view/book-fest-max-milligan-birth-of-a-volcano/](http://strodetheatre.org.uk/whats-on/view/book-fest-max-milligan-birth-of-a-volcano/)

His lecture includes stunning pictures, extraordinary adventures, hilarious moments and some nudity. Max's books have appeared in The Times Top Ten Travel Books of the Year and he lectures regularly at The Royal Geographical Society.



*Jackie Moss*

E: [martinandjackiemoss@gmail.com](mailto:martinandjackiemoss@gmail.com)

# Parish Health & Wellbeing

## SOUTHWICK COUNTRY PARK PARKRUN

A free, fun, and friendly weekly 5k community event. Walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate – it's up to you!

**When is it?** Every Saturday at 9:00am.

**Where is it?** The event takes place at Southwick Country Park, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

**What does it cost to join in?** Nothing - it's free! but please register before you first come along. Only ever register with parkrun once and don't forget to bring a scannable copy of your barcode (request a reminder). If you forget it, you won't get a time.

**How fast do I have to be?** We all take part for our own enjoyment. Please come along and join in whatever your pace!

Visit [www.parkrun.org.uk/southwickcountrypark/](http://www.parkrun.org.uk/southwickcountrypark/) for more details.



**What is parkrun?** Free, weekly, community events all around the world in parks and open spaces. Parkrun's a positive, welcoming and inclusive experience where there is no time limit and no one finishes last. Everyone is welcome to come along, whether you walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate.

**How do I take part?** Registration is completely free and only needs to be done once, whether you intend to walk, jog, run, or volunteer or do a combination of all these things! Simply complete the registration form, print your barcode and head down to your local event. There are 1,113 events around the country to choose from. Wherever you are you can find your nearest parkrun using our event map.



**Be part of our community.** There are so many reasons to take part! Whether you walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate, you can learn new skills and enhance your health and happiness in the great outdoors whilst making new friends, feeling part of your local community and improving your fitness. Still not convinced? Check out loads of inspirational stories from parkrunners on our [blog](#), or watch them on our [YouTube channel](#).

# Parish Health & Wellbeing

## 'COUCH TO 5K'

I'm not sure what made me think 'maybe I could do that' when I saw Brandon's advert for a course in Rode on Facebook. Possibly it was because my dog walking activity had reduced as our little dog had passed her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday. Anyway, I decided to give it a go, not really thinking that I would make it to 5k.

'Couch to 5k' is a course designed to enable you to build up to a run of 5 kilometres over a period of about 10 weeks. You start very gradually with 1 minute running and 1 minute walking over a period of 20 minutes. The amount of running gradually increases until you run continuously for 20 minutes. You then increase the running time until you can do 5k without stopping. Brandon organised group training sessions each Monday evening for the 6 of us who signed up and then it was up to us to do 2 more sessions each week.

Despite having never really done much running and not being very keen on it, I found that I was quite enjoying the sessions. I felt good afterwards and it gave me a sense of achievement. Over the weeks the increase in my fitness was very noticeable. The culmination of the training was to participate in a 5k Parkrun, but I didn't want to do it. However, I was persuaded by the others and found myself joining them at the Frome Parkrun on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March along with around 200 others. I have to admit that it was a struggle, but I did get round and apparently came 2<sup>nd</sup> in my age group (there were probably only 2 of us in the group!) The rest of the Rode group did really well and made good times.

Thanks to Brendon Quentin-Hicks for running the course and for his support which, along with the encouragement of my companions, enabled me to make it. I've just got to keep on running now!

*Caroline Williams*



Before the run



After the run

# Parish Health & Wellbeing

## VILLAGE AGENT NEWS

Spring is in the air, and we are all starting to venture out as the weather improves and now all restrictions have been lifted. I've enjoyed meeting lots of you at various coffee mornings and events across our area.



**Get Outside in Somerset** - At the time of writing it has been a little damp, but good news is the start of spring is on its way! Bringing longer and lighter days, milder weather and hopefully... a much-needed dose of vitamin D.

Get ready for spring adventures and outdoor fun with Get Outside in Somerset. From activities to events and challenges for all abilities, or need some help setting some goals and intentions? We have lots of interesting blogs for you, along with opportunities to volunteer and ways to be active. You can find a roundup of our latest stories and all the great stuff happening near you, all information can be found on the website [getoutsideinsomerset.co.uk](http://getoutsideinsomerset.co.uk) or on our social media channels.

**Talking Cafés** - Many of our Talking Cafes have returned, find your local Café at [somersetagents.org/talking-cafes/](http://somersetagents.org/talking-cafes/) Or watch our Talking Cafes LIVE on Facebook [somersetagents.org/talking-cafes/talking-cafe-live-sessions/](http://somersetagents.org/talking-cafes/talking-cafe-live-sessions/) every week we have guests talking, answering questions. We have over 300 recordings available for you to watch back so that you never have to miss out. Visit: [youtube.com/channel/UC5goIPHD91Ie4VDI5NMJdrQ](https://youtube.com/channel/UC5goIPHD91Ie4VDI5NMJdrQ)

**Could you REHOME your old phone** - By donating an unused phone to us, YOU can help reduce loneliness and isolation for people in West Somerset, as well as help in their everyday lives such as doing their shopping online and staying connected to friends and family. To donate your old phone please contact me.

We will: ✓refurbish the phone ✓remove any personal data ✓provide the new owner with a SIM card ✓support them to use the phone with video tutorials and install apps that will help them to keep in touch with their loved ones ✓Check your 'bits and bobs' drawer where old devices lurk waiting to be loved again!

Stay safe and well

*Nic Edwards*

E: [nicolae@somersetcc.org.uk](mailto:nicolae@somersetcc.org.uk) T: 07946 461468

Community Council for Somerset (CCS)

T: 01823 331 222 W: [www.somersetagents.org](http://www.somersetagents.org) E: [info@somersetcc.org.uk](mailto:info@somersetcc.org.uk)

## SWP APRIL CHANGES

All change - later summer hours at your recycle sites.

April marks the switch from winter to summer hours for Somerset recycling sites. Sites are open the same days as in winter, including all 16 open every Saturday and Sunday 9am-4pm year-round. But instead of winter's 9am-5pm on weekdays, summer hours - when a site is open - are 9am-6pm from Friday 1 April. Sites switch back to their winter timetable from Saturday 1 October 2022. All site details here:

[somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycling/centres](https://somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycling/centres).

All change - one day later collections for your Easter card, plastic, foil. Everyone's collections change for Easter. Good Friday 15 April pick-ups move to Saturday 16 April and with no collections on Easter Monday 18 April, all Easter week collections are a day later, including Friday collections taking place on Saturday 23 April.



Good news: almost all Easter egg packaging can be recycled in kerbside collections: glitter-free card in black recycle box, while clear plastic trays that hold the eggs can join aluminium foil in your Blue Bag. PS: Next bank holiday with 1 day later collections is on Monday 2 May.

Got lots of anything? If time and transport or help, drop it all off at a recycle site. If safe to store, put out over time.

Waste less time; do more online - For details of what Recycle More collects and what materials go in which containers, see [somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycle-more](https://somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycle-more).

To check all your collection days - recycling, rubbish, garden waste - click on My Collection Day at [somersetwaste.gov.uk](https://somersetwaste.gov.uk) (tip: postcode gap AB12 3CD). Useful to see all the changes for your collections after bank holidays, over Easter or around the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

And via My Waste Services at [somersetwaste.gov.uk](https://somersetwaste.gov.uk), you can:

- Order any recycle container free
- Log missed collections after 7pm
- Order paid bulky waste pick-up
- Sort clinical/assisted collections
- Get recycle site van/trailer permit
- Send comments about services
- Pay for asbestos/plasterboard

My Waste Services is available 24/7 so no reason to wait to make that call, and no need to sit waiting for an answer.

# Parish Ecology

## NO MOW MAY

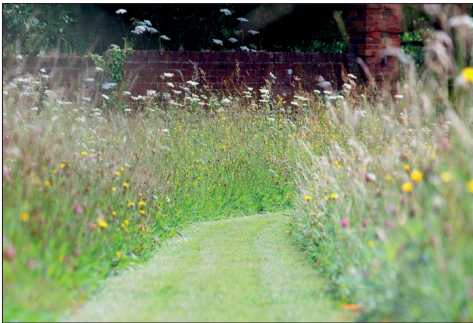
Spring is in the air, and the sound of lawns being mowed is a frequent addition to the birdsong!

That first mow of the year can be very rewarding - the garden is almost instantly turned from a rather scruffy looking “field” to a neat and tidy lawn. However, that early cut is definitely NOT rewarding for wildlife - in particular bees and other pollinators which are critical to food production (around a third of all the crops we eat rely on invertebrates for pollination). These creatures rely almost entirely on wildflowers to survive. However, in the UK we have lost over 97% of species-rich flower meadows since the 1930s.



As a result, in order to help protect wildlife, the charity Plantlife started the “No Mow May” campaign several years ago – and whilst private gardens cannot substitute ancient wild meadows, we can do a huge amount on a small scale to reverse critical habitat loss.

And the good news is we can do this with little or no effort, saving energy (and money) in the process....because one of the best ways to encourage wildflowers in the garden is simply to forget the lawnmower and just let your grass grow.



Leave a patch of lawn to its own devices during spring and summer, and the chances are that at least some wildflowers will appear in your new mini-meadow. Not only will it attract wildlife into your garden, but it will look lovely too – a powerful reminder that we should value what’s left and support all efforts to restore wildflower meadows.

Try to resist cutting until at least the middle of July – or even into early September if you can. This gives the wildflowers a chance to complete their cycle of growing, flowering and setting seed. The exact timing of the first cut depends on the year and the weather, but a later cut will help species like knapweed and orchids to spread, while earlier cuts can help control competitive species, such as common hogweed. If you get more invasive plants like nettle or dock, it’s best to pull these up by hand.



# Parish Ecology

What comes up in your no-mow mini-meadow depends very much on what you start with....the average lawn is usually home to what many would describe as 'weeds', but many of these so-called weeds will grow into lovely wildflowers. Indeed, there seems to be a growing realisation that our gardens shouldn't necessarily be pristine "weed-free" environments....I read an interesting article in the Guardian a few weeks ago entitled "How I learned to love weeds – and why you should, too" by Alys Fowler....thoroughly recommended!

When you finally cut your "no mow" area aim to cut the grass down hard to a few centimetres in height, but leave some strips or edges uncut as refuges for insects. You might need a scythe or a strimmer for that first cut, but after that a standard mower will be fine. If it's a small enough patch you might even get by with a pair of garden shears. Our experience last summer was that a couple of hours with the garden shears, and then a mow, was all that was required. The cut area will then probably need a week or two to "green up".

To find out more, checkout the Plantlife website: [www.plantlife.org.uk](http://www.plantlife.org.uk)

Incidentally, the Parish Council has also discussed the potential to reduce the mowing of the land it owns. Apart from the Playing Field, the areas of land under PC ownership are individually rather small, and therefore it was decided to experiment with one of those small sites for the coming year.

Plus - the "Section 106 Land" (which is the new extension to the playing field) will be another area acting to restore the invertebrate population in the village.

Finally, if you are interested in joining the Rode Climate Emergency Group, we would love to have you! Drop me a line ([jim.mcauliffe@btinternet.com](mailto:jim.mcauliffe@btinternet.com)). Our next meeting is **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm** in the Memorial Hall.

*Jim McAuliffe*

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## DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT APRIL 2022

By the time this goes out there will hopefully be a glimmer of light at the end of the dark tunnel that is the war in Ukraine, the shocking and bewildering event that will have been to the forefront of all our minds over the last weeks.

I want to start by expressing my solidarity with the people of the Ukraine – and with those people in Russia who are being deceived by their government about the appalling events that are taking place on their doorstep.

# Parish Ecology

More recently some of the news coverage has turned to the resulting fuel crisis and the way the war has highlighted our reliance on fossil fuels. If ever there was a time to turn our backs on fossil fuels and invest in renewable energy the time is now. However, rather than seizing this opportunity, the UK government has, in the first instance, moved from a relationship with one despotic state, Russia, to nurturing its relationship with another despotic state, Saudi Arabia.

Meanwhile the climate crisis shows no signs of going away - it has simply been overshadowed by other events. With so many local matters that usually take up the majority of my time it is often easy to lose sight of the fact that I was elected on a Green Party ticket. And, although the Green Party is not a single-issue party, I wholeheartedly believe that the climate crisis is the most pressing issue of our time.

Some of you may have seen the coverage of 3 young men who locked themselves onto goalposts during football matches last month.

I would like to echo some of the bold statements made by Louis, 21, who locked himself on at the Everton v Newcastle match. This was his plea to us all,

“It's time to look up, time to step up and not standby. It's time to act like it's an emergency. We face a cost-of-living crisis, a housing crisis, a fuel crisis and a climate crisis. Our government is betraying us by funding new oil fields in the North Sea. New oil means destruction of our children's future. It means suffering for the poorest and the most marginalised in all regions.”

This was reiterated by a more establishment figure, Baroness Camilla Cavendish, in the Financial Times, “This is the moment to ‘go big’ on green energy, rather than doubling down on fossil fuels. We’ll never get a better opportunity to tackle climate change and to guarantee energy security at the same time. We need to fast-track more wind and solar power and to redouble efforts to improve the storage and transmission of renewable power, we need insulation for our ‘damp and draughty houses’ and a wider push to improve energy efficiency. Yes, it will be hard but ‘defending freedom has its price.’” (Quotation from The Week.)

There are many ways to step up and get involved. It is up to us all.

For more information please feel free to contact me on [barbilund@live.co.uk](mailto:barbilund@live.co.uk) or Jim McAuliffe, Rode Climate Emergency Group Lead on [jim.mcauliffe@btinternet.com](mailto:jim.mcauliffe@btinternet.com)

*Barbi Lund*

# Parish Youth News & Events

## H.V. CHILDREN AND FAMILY WORKER NEWS

Dear Families, a big thank you to all our parish families who donated baby and toddler items for a baby and toddler safe place in Poland. Thank you to Rachel Ledbury who coordinated this and made sure all the items got to the departure point.

TOTS AND TOYS - We now open from 9am on a Wednesday morning at St. Philip and St. James Church Norton St.Philip.

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 just ten minutes before you continue your busy day. We used to offer this service before Covid took over our lives! Tots and Toys will be open over the school Easter holidays as usual.



MINI BREAKFAST CHURCH - As Mini Breakfast Church falls on Easter Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April, we are moving to Easter Saturday morning 16<sup>th</sup> April at 10.00am.

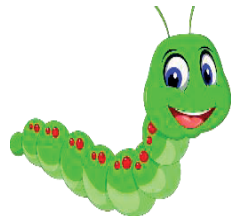
We will be making an Easter Garden in the porch of NSP Church as part of the floral display to celebrate Easter plus making some Easter decorations to take home and listening to the Easter story from the Bible.



When we have finished there will be a traditional Easter Egg hunt in the churchyard. Please can you let me know if you are able to attend so that I have enough resources ready especially Easter eggs!

CATERPILLAR POP UP CLUB - Caterpillar Club (3-9 year old's) will take place on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2pm-3.30pm.

Our theme will be 'New Life' and we shall be checking in on our bug hotel and drawing illustrations to go in our new bug hotel noticeboard to help visitors discover 'new life' in our church yard.



The cost will be £2.00 per child. Please book in with me so I have enough resources for everyone.

*Sue Rodford*

H.V. Children and Family Worker

E: [kidschurch@hardingtonvale.org.uk](mailto:kidschurch@hardingtonvale.org.uk) T: 01373 812766

# Parish Youth News & Events

## FRESHFORD UNITED YOUTH F.C. LATEST

We are nearing the end of the season, after a very good season, with more and more new faces joining all age groups.

We're already planning next season and are looking for new players in all ages and will open the door to children who are starting Primary school in September 2022 to start the next age group with training every Sunday Morning. We will have a team in every age group from Under 5's to Under 14's (Minus Under 10's unfortunately), plus our Adult team. Every team trains weekly with most age groups playing regular games in the Mid Norton & District Youth League. All teams are looking for more players - all abilities, boys and girls. Want to try things out first? We can offer a free tester session for 2 weeks to see how a child gets on before committing to anything.



We're excited to be planning/organising our Summer Festival of Football, which will take place over the weekend of 16/17<sup>th</sup> July 2022 with tournaments for every age group as well as other entertainment for the family plus lots of food, drink, snacks, sweets and ice creams available all weekend. This event brings a large footfall of over 2000 people over the weekend so we're looking for businesses who'd like to place adverts in the weekend programme that's distributed to all arriving at the event. Donations/prizes/vouchers for the raffle are welcome - a substantial donation/prize/voucher can offer a free advert. If you are able to offer any advertising or donation, please contact me on the number below.

If you want to enter your Adult or Youth team into the tournament please get in touch for a great weekend of Football and fun.

If you would like to have a stall/presence at the weekend we're looking for more activities for people and/or stalls selling items or promoting your business, just get in touch to find out more.

A building project happening soon? We're after rubble but mainly soil of different grades at our Freshford pitches - to save you costs on skip hire we'd be happy to accept any, please call me on the number below to discuss.

As always, we welcome any support and to keep up to date with what is happening check out our website [www.freshfordunitedfc.com](http://www.freshfordunitedfc.com)

*Chris Birlson*

Club Manager

T: 07738 741477 E: [cb@dentons.net](mailto:cb@dentons.net) 07738 741477 E: [cb@dentons.net](mailto:cb@dentons.net)

# Parish Youth News & Events



EVERY Wednesday 9 – 10.45am  
St Philip and St James Church, NSP

Toys, songs and stories. No need to book drop in sessions.  
New play space in the church and new heating.

£2.00 per adult for coffee and cake.  
No charge for children, please bring refreshments for them.

Contact Sue – H.V. Children's Worker if you need more details  
E: kidschurch@hardingtonvale.org.uk. T: 01373 812766

Beckington Pre-School

**CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES!**

**EASTER EGG HUNT!**

**SUN 10TH APRIL 11AM - 2PM**

RAFFLE \* BACON BAPS \* TEA & CAKES  
BOUNCY CASTLE \* SUPERHERO EASTER EGG HUNT  
SUPERHERO MASKS \* TEDDY BEAR STALL  
TOMBOLA \* AND LOTS MORE!

**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT  
BECKINGTON PRE-SCHOOL,  
BECKINGTON FIRST SCHOOL  
& MES AMIS.  
CASH ONLY PLEASE**

**£4  
TICKET**

Beckington Baptist Church Hall  
www.beckingtonpre-school.co.uk  
01373 831492  
info@beckingtonpre-school.co.uk  
Find us on

Charity no. 1035832

Beckington Pre-School

Open term time from 8:45am

Children aged 2-4 welcome  
30 hours funding accepted

Beckington Baptist Church Hall  
www.beckingtonpre-school.co.uk  
01373 831492  
info@beckingtonpre-school.co.uk  
Find us on

Charity no. 1035832

# Parish Gardening

**SORRY..... NO MUDDY FINGERNAILS THIS MONTH.**

The sun has been shining - so she has been working hard in the garden - but will be back in the next issue with lots of gardening tips and advice.

## RODE GROWS AND SHARES

### Seed Sharing Table and 2022 Giant Sunflower Competition Launch:

Thank you so much to all those of you who braved the cold weather on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March to come down for a chat, to pick up (and drop off) some seeds/plants/pots/books, sign up to the Giant Sunflower Competition and who generously donated.



We raised £86.31 for the Rode Community Orchard and Wildlife Garden, which has been handed over to Nigel Clarke. Well done and thank you to everyone (including my mum and Steven who helped on the stand)! I'll be putting the leftover seed packets in the Rode community telephone box/book exchange, so please do help yourself.



We have 37 people now signed up for the Giant Sunflower Competition plus the 5 classes at Rode and Norton School Federation. All seeds have been picked up or delivered, and information emails have been sent out. I can't wait to see your wonderful sunflowers across the Parish, and I wonder how tall the tallest will be this year!

### Rode in Bloom and Open Gardens Sunday 19 June 2022, 11-4pm:

I hope you can join us for the second year of this event to celebrate the wonderful gardens and growing spaces in Rode. The competition element this year will just be focused on the people's favourite garden (voted for by you), and the children's planters - with prizes awarded to the winners and homegrown thank you gifts for all entrants.

We are also encouraging villagers to embrace the "In Bloom" aspect by helping Rode to be even more beautiful and abundant with flowers - in front gardens or in pots, a small amount can make a big and collective difference to both wildlife and to our experience. In the run up to the big day, we will organise opportunities to share surplus plants to help make Rode Bloom even more!

On the 19<sup>th</sup>, there will be a hub on the village green (where maps will be available, plants and gardenalia too plus children's planter competition) and there will be refreshments on offer at various locations around the village for you to refuel between garden visits.

# Parish Gardening

Money raised from the day will be donated to the Rode Community Orchard and Wildlife Garden.

If you are interested in opening your garden as part of the day, however big or small, entering the children's planter competition, donating plants or gardenalia or generally being involved we would love to hear from you! Please do get in touch with either myself (best to email) [juliarobb@hotmail.co.uk/07527 918314](mailto:juliarobb@hotmail.co.uk)) or one of the following:

Averil Morrow ([830686/averil.morrow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:830686/averil.morrow@yahoo.co.uk))

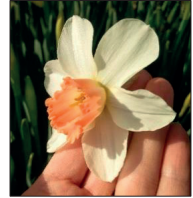
Lucy Travis ([831726/Lucy\\_travis@hotmail.com](mailto:831726/Lucy_travis@hotmail.com))

Sharman Flindall ([830456/sharman.flindall2@btinternet.com](mailto:830456/sharman.flindall2@btinternet.com))

## Shared Gardens:

Recently I have had interest from a couple of garden owners in the Parish to share their gardens, which is fantastic and I am now in the process of coordinating with all interested parties - garden owners and growers. Hoping for these shared gardens to be underway soon.

For our shared garden, we feel a little behind in the growing season - we have started seed sowing (sweet peas and tomatoes were the first priority - with at least 10 varieties of each, and have done some ground preparations, which feels good, but I know there's a lot we want to do. We still need to replace the glass panes that blew out during Storm Eunice, but we have one intact greenhouse we can use now for propagation. Our daffodils have started to bloom and the tulips are coming on nicely - I'm excited for the parrot and peony types to flower especially!



An insight from one of the shared garden owners on the scheme:

"The benefits for the landowner are that they have a share of the produce that are grown, their vegetable plot is kept tidy, they have someone new to talk to and it is good to know that in some small way that they are helping someone."

Do you have a patch of garden that you don't use any more or is too much work? Would you be interested to share your garden with others? Or would you like to have more space to grow vegetables, fruits and flowers?

If so, I would love to hear from you if you are interested in getting involved in the Garden Share scheme across the parish. It would be best to email me - [juliarobb@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:juliarobb@hotmail.co.uk) or my phone number is 07527 918314

*Julia Robb*

# Parish Farming

## FUSSELS, BOXING HARES & SINGING BLACKBIRDS

Spring is finally here and it has been wonderful to feel the sun again after such a wet and windy time. The cool of early morning and even a light frost has then resulted in a beautiful day. Wildlife is very busy but the birds particularly, nest building ready for the first broods.

There is a blackbird that is singing at the top of his voice outside my bedroom window from about 4.30am but I don't mind, his song is spring. He also sings in my garden perched in the Hazel tree in the evening. From there he can see the best hedge to build a nest. He is quite tame already.

I love that there is birdsong even though the new builds next door disrupted things for a while; all their wild and free space to build nests and roam, gone. But they are learning to live with this new development. There was evidence of not only birds but badgers, foxes, hedgehogs and rabbits in the orchard for as long as I have lived here. But some are returning. Recently I saw boxing hares in a field on the Rudge Lane. Last summer, one bounded down the lane towards me. It felt surreal to just stand there as it passed me!



**Fine Foods:** Andy and I were in Dorchester recently talking to a W.I. Group. It was a lovely afternoon and he talked (and talked) while I cooked, which they enjoyed tasting at the end! Our first Tours are coming up and we are looking forward to welcoming guests to HQ. Our Kitchen here is available for hire; as it was recently for several days, by Chefs preparing for a Civic Reception in Trowbridge.

**Markets:** The Farmer's Markets continue to be busy with Axbridge 2/4 and the Frome Independent 3/4. Nailsea is on 16/4. Don't forget our nearest Frome Farmers Market on Saturday 9/4 IN THE CHEESE & GRAIN. Come and meet the Producer/Grower which also gives you the chance to hear the back story.

**Our Factory Shop** here at Fussels HQ continues to be open: 9-5 Monday to Friday and 10-1 on Saturdays.

**Tours:** BLOOMING TOURS Thursday 21 April | Thursday 5 May | Thursday 19 May | all at 6.30pm. There are still some places available on all dates, so do



# Parish Farming

think about joining us. They are a pleasant way to spend an evening and a light supper is included!

**Shows/Events:** The first of the Events I have booked is in April. Clem's Fairs at Compton Marbling, Nr. Tisbury. A stunning location with a wonderful range of stalls. Dates are Friday 29 & Saturday 30 April 10-5.

**Farm:** Again, we are growing an early flowering strain of Oilseed Rape; a great food source for the bees. Jamie from Waggle & Hum will be bringing in his hives to place close to the OSR in April, which helps immensely with pollination. It is already coming into flower and the crop looks healthy this year!

We are, at last ready to plant our Spring Barley and Field Beans. We have a new Claydon Drill (yellow) and you will see Shaun busy drilling around the farm.



This is a fantastic piece of kit, direct drilling which gives the seed a great chance to germinate and appear above ground. Soon Shed Field, Brickyard and Barbara's Field will be spread with FYM and ploughed ready for the maize to be drilled. The maize is a different drill and will be arriving late April/early May, once the ground is prepared.

The clocks will be forward by now and the celebration of Easter, and what it means, is fast approaching.

Take care

*Lizzy Etheridge*

[info@fusselsfinefoods.co.uk](mailto:info@fusselsfinefoods.co.uk)/01373 831286/[www.fusselsfinefoods.co.uk](http://www.fusselsfinefoods.co.uk)

# Parish Groups

## RODE LADIES GROUP

On February 23<sup>rd</sup> Pat Banwell welcomed members to their first meeting since September 2021. She said no subscriptions would be collected since sufficient funds were available for now. There was still a vacancy for Secretary and anyone interested should speak to Pam George or Pat to find out more. The Annual Programme had not been produced yet due to uncertainties about the future.

Pat then introduced Mr Ian Williamson whose talk and slide show on The Silk Road was in aid of St. Margaret's Hospice.

The Silk Road is an ancient Eurasian trade route spanning some 4,000 miles. In 2018 Ian joined a 35 day tour organised by Oasis Overland Truck Trips to travel to the Chinese border, through Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan.

In Bishkek, the capital of Kyrgystan, the two guides met seventeen trekkers from different countries and familiarised them with their home for the next month – the overland truck - custom built to handle the rough terrain and varied climate encountered in Central Asia. For security purposes the safe for storage of money and valuables was always to be referred to as “the fridge”.



The adventurers were split into four groups to rotate the different daily tasks which included shopping and cooking, erecting the tents for sleeping in, and collecting firewood.

Their bumpy expedition took them through the Ala Archa National Park, and around Lake Issy-Kul (the seventh deepest lake in the world and the second largest saline lake after the Caspian Sea). Then they enjoyed two days living in yurts by the beautiful Song Kol lake at an altitude of 10,000 feet. The next leg of their sometimes perilous journey took them via Samarkand and Moinak, across the desert to Aksu-Zhabagly, then Khiva with its numerous museums and mosques. In Turkmenistan they saw the crater which has been burning gas for 70 years despite efforts to extinguish it.

# Parish Groups

For Ian his journey ended abruptly at the border to Iran where he was denied a visa due to his UK nationality. However, he has kept in touch with his Oasis guides and plans to go on other such expeditions.

Sue Shannon thanked Ian for sharing the highlights of his exciting trip. Shirley Livingstone won the raffle.

The next meeting, on Wednesday 27th April at 2.30pm at Memorial Hall, will include a talk about Cleveland Pools. Over 200 years old, they are the oldest open air pools in England and will be reopening in July following refurbishment. The meeting is open to anyone who thinks they might like to join the group when membership re-starts. Please come along and meet us.

*Pam George*

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## MONDAY LUNCH CLUB

Next meeting will be at the Village Hall on Monday 4th April, arrive 12.15-12.30, £4 (cash only please!) for a home cooked 2 course meal.



Come on down and have a great couple of hours with old friends and new, if you haven't been before you'll be most welcome!

If you need help getting to the hall please let me know and we can arrange transport for you.

You MUST let me know well in advance please if you wish to attend - please just give me a ring - look forward to seeing you there!!

Future Dates for your Diary:

May - No Lunch Club in May

June - Lunch Club Monday 13th June 2022

July- Lunch Club Monday 11th July 2022

*Alex Sing and the Team*

01373 830836

# Parish Groups

## RODE OVER 60'S

The Annual Dinner held on 11th March in the Hall was a great success, on arrival the guests were supplied with a welcome drink by Tom Ryan, who I must say did a very good job! a 3 course delicious meal followed with coffee. Our grateful thanks go to Jo Pobjoy and her team for their very hard work in supplying the food and waiting on us at table in their usual competent way.



In April we wish Happy Birthday to Norah Sparey on 4th, Ronnie Osborne on 7th, Marilyn Bertenshaw on 14th and David Carter on 24th. we hope you all enjoy your Special Day.

Rode Over 60's AGM is on Friday 8th April at 2.30pm in the Hall.

*Sue Beaven*

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## RODE MONTHLY WALKING GROUP

We had a very pleasant walk to Lullington and back via Beckington in March. The weather was good and dry, and the walks not too muddy.



Next month, on Tuesday 12 April, we will be repeating the Freshford walk. Meet at 10 am in the car park beside the A36 above Freshford, this is opposite Branch Road which leads to Hinton Charterhouse and is visible from the main road. If this is not clear to new members of the group please contact me.

This walk will be approximately 5 km but has steep ascents and descents. Coffee can be obtained at the Freshford shop/cafe towards the end of the walk.

Please contact me for further details.

*Liz Dinnis*

E: [elizabethdinnis49@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethdinnis49@gmail.com) T: 07788 656337

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## OTHER CLUBS NEWS WELCOME...

If you would like us to include details of a club you are involved with, please do contact us: [link@rodevillage.com](mailto:link@rodevillage.com). We would be very happy to help promote it.



# Parish Groups

## RODE & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB



In March we had a talk on Hedgehog Awareness from Laura Batt from the Prickles Rescue Centre. Hedgehogs have been added to the Red List for British Mammals classified as vulnerable to extinction and could disappear from our gardens in the next 10 years. Numbers have declined because of the increase in road traffic, lack of habitat and numbers killed by badgers.

We can make a difference by making sure our gardens are hedgehog friendly, good for hedgehogs and good for us by keeping slugs at bay. Pesticides and metaldehyde slug pellets are poisonous to hedgehogs, so please try to use organic methods. Access to gardens has become tricky for hedgehogs with the use of garden fences, particularly ones with concrete base boards. Small gaps can allow hedgehogs to progress from one garden to another on their nightly foraging trips, they can travel up to 1-2miles a night.

A shallow dish of fresh water and food such as specialist hedgehog food or cat/dog food or muesli moistened with water ( not milk) might bring regular visits from a hedgehog. Food can be put underneath a plastic crate to keep it safe from pets, with 12cm square hole cut in one side and weighted with a stone. A small wild area will provide hedgehogs with natural food , shelter and a nesting area. Hedgehog homes can be bought or constructed with information from the British Hedgehog Preservation Society

There are a number of simple ways to make a garden safer for hedgehogs. We all know that bonfires may conceal hedgehogs but compost heaps may attract them and need to be turned carefully. Hedgehogs are good swimmers but ponds need to have a shallow area or a 'ladder' to make sure hedgehogs can get out if pools have steep sides. Fruit, pea netting or football nets can cause a hazard when hedgehogs get tangled. Laura had a number of products for sale to help with providing funds for the Prickles charity.

On Monday 11th April we will welcome Sally Morgan to talk about Climate Change Gardening, 7.30pm in Rode Village Hall, all welcome.


In June we are planning a visit to RHS Wisley, Surrey and want to fill the coach so would welcome guests to join us. Monday 13th June 9.15am from Rode Village Hall returning by approximately 7pm, £20. Please get in touch if you wish to book a seat.

*Averil Morrow*

T: 830686 E: [averil.morrow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:averil.morrow@yahoo.co.uk)

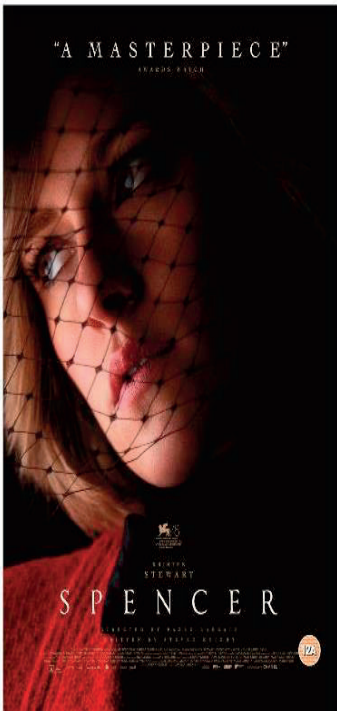
# Parish Events

REMEMBER TO CHECK OUT OUR DIARY/YEAR PLANNER ON THE BACK COVER FOR DETAILS OF FUTURE EVENTS AND OTHER REGULAR PARISH EVENTS - ALL CROSS REFERENCED TO PAGE NUMBERS IN THIS ISSUE



Monday 4th April, Rode Memorial Hall.  
Arrive 12.15-12.30, £4 (cash only please!)  
Future Dates for your Diary:

May - No Lunch Club in May  
June - Lunch Club Monday 13th June 2022  
July- Lunch Club Monday 11th July 2022



## FRIDAY 8TH APRIL

### 7.30 pm Memorial Hall

The marriage of Princess Diana (Kristen Stewart) and Prince Charles (Jack Farthing) has long since grown cold. However, peace is ordained for the Christmas festivities at Sandringham There's eating and drinking, shooting and hunting. Diana knows the game. But this year, things will be very different. *Spencer* is an imagining of what might have happened during those few fateful days.

*"Playing out over three excruciating days at Sandringham – from Christmas Eve to Boxing Day – and carried shoulder high by a note-perfect Kristen Stewart, Spencer dances between ethereal ghost story, arch social satire and no-holds-barred psychodrama, while remaining at heart a paean to motherhood."* Mark Kermode

**Tickets: £ 6.00 in advance from Rode Post Office - £ 6.50 on the door**

- Doors open 7pm • Licensed Bar • Raffle •

**ONE BAG  
BIG  
DIFFERENCE** #GBSpringClean

**RODE SPRING CLEAN**

**SUNDAY APRIL 10TH AT 2:00PM**

Meet on the Village Green to collect grabbers & bags and join **THE CLEAN-UP OF RODE Streets and Pavements.**

Refreshments on Rode Playing Field at 4:00pm

**ALL WELCOME**

Join the Great British Spring Clean  
25 March - 10 April 2022



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In partnership with



Headline partners



*Forget-me-not Café*



When? - 11th April (second Monday of every month)

**NEW TIME 2.30 – 4 pm**

Where? - St Philip and St James Church, NSP

Come and enjoy a cuppa and friendly people to chat with. Some of us may have memory challenges but we have a great café team who are all Dementia Friends!

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Contact Jo for more information

[321jorobinson@gmail.com](mailto:321jorobinson@gmail.com) 01373 831381



# Parish Events

## Treasure Hunt and Cream Teas

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May

In order to raise money to send 2 Explorers  
(belonging to the Rode Scout Group)  
to the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea in 2023,  
we are organising a walking treasure hunt starting on the Rode Village Green  
at 2pm on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May.

Cream teas will be served in the Memorial Hall from 2-5.30pm.

More information from Sally Pickett (831796)

### Follow Us



#DreamWild #UK25WJ



Date for your diaries...

June 2nd  
2pm onwards  
In

St Philip and St James Church Norton St Philip Church



Projecting Highlights of the Coronation  
Cream Teas

**Rode Jubilee**

# ParkFest

**SATURDAY JUNE 4TH**  
**RODE PLAYING FIELD**  
**MIDDAY-11.00PM**

GAMES - ENTERTAINERS - STREET PARTY  
TRACTOR RIDES - MUSIC - STALLS - BAR  
SPECIAL EVENTS - CAFE IN THE PAVILLION  
FOOD STALLS - PROSSECO/GIN BAR  
FREE JUBILEE MUGS FOR LOCAL CHILDREN!

**Live music from 6pm**  
**THE BONSAIS - Henry Ray (El Toro)**  
With more acts TBC  
Kids Disco, Open Mic, Dance Off, Top local music

**All day tickets - £5**  
**Children under 13 FREE**



# Parish Food & Drink



## THE MILL AT RODE

**Rode Mill** have some exciting Easter events happening in April and the lead up to summer! Keep your eyes peeled on our socials for more details about our Easter egg hunt on the 16<sup>th</sup> April! Due to the wonderful forecasted weather for this month, we will be holding events like BBQs and cocktail parties so make sure you keep an eye out for those.

To book a table please call 01373831100 now.

@rodemillofficial

<http://www.rodemill.co.uk>



## Blooming Rapeseed & Farm Tour

April & May 2022

What's Included:

Glass of bubbles on arrival • Field trip  
Factory tour • Cooking demo & tasting

All for £18 per person

Book online [www.fussels.co.uk](http://www.fussels.co.uk)

or call 01373 831286.



British Rapeseed Oil

# Parish Food & Drink

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Our own packed wholefood ingredients are 100% Plastic free

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## RODE GENERAL STORE, CAFE & POST OFFICE

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We look forward to welcoming you back to our modern shop & cafe to enjoy a warm welcome, home cooked food, buy local produce and goods.



01373 830321

Open Monday - Saturday

32a High Street, Rode, BA11 6PA



Monday	09.00 - 17.30
Tuesday	09.00 - 17.30
Wednesday	09.00 - 13.00
Thursday	09.00 - 17.30
Friday	09.00 - 17.30
Saturday	09.00 - 13.00

# Parish Food & Drink



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**WE CAN DELIVER TO YOUR BUSINESS OR EVENT**

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**Church Farm, Parkgate Ln, Rode, BA11 6AA**

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**AVAILABLE WEEKLY FROM:**

**Rode General Store & Cafe, Mes Amis, The Cross Keys,  
Somerset Foodie, Wild Herb, Farleigh Farm Shop, Frama,  
8 Stony Street & TEALS**

---

# Parish Food & Drink

## CHATLEY FARM BROWNIES

NEAR BATH

[www.chatleyfarmbrownies.co.uk](http://www.chatleyfarmbrownies.co.uk)



Lovingly handmade on the farm  
9 Delicious flavours  
Delivered by Royal Mail

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Gluten free options  
Local Collection from Norton St Philip

### OUR MULTI BUY OFFERS

**£8.50**

For 1 pack

**£8.00**

each for 2 or 3  
packs

**£7.50**

each for 4 or  
more packs

Follow us on facebook! [www.facebook.com/ChatleyFarmBath](http://www.facebook.com/ChatleyFarmBath)

# Parish Food & Drink



Tables available outside and in our extension. Full table service.  
No booking necessary.  
Open inside from 17 May.



**Farleigh Road**  
FARM SHOP & CAFÉ

Phone 01225 720006  
[www.farleighroadfarmshop.co.uk](http://www.farleighroadfarmshop.co.uk)

## Cafe & Shop both now open!

We are so happy that our  
cafe is now open.



Breakfast 9.00 – 11.30  
Lunch 12.00 – 3.30  
Afternoon Tea until 4.00

*We are still offering our delivery and  
collection services from the shop for  
those not feeling comfortable visiting us.*



# Parish Food & Drink

## PARISH RECIPE

### POTATO GNOCCHI WITH SAUSAGE AND KALE

This dish is really simple and quicker to make than sausage and mash - no peeling potatoes or making onion gravy.

If you don't have any kale there are plenty of other green vegetables in season that you can use, tender stem broccoli, cavalo nero, chard or spring greens would all work just as well.

#### **Ingredients for 2 portions:**

3-4 Good Quality Sausages, skins removed  
1/2 Dried Chipotle Chilli, chopped  
A big sprig of Fresh Rosemary, needles removed from the stalks  
3 Cloves of Garlic, roughly chopped  
2 Fresh Tomatoes, roughly diced  
100g Kale, leaves roughly torn up  
200g Frozen Potato Gnocchi  
Extra Virgin Olive Oil  
Extra Virgin Rapeseed Oil  
A good grating of Grana Padano  
A good twist of Black Pepper  
A generous pinch of salt

You'll need a large non-stick frying pan for this dish and a large saucepan for boiling the gnocchi.

#### **Method:**

1. Fill your saucepan with lots of water, a generous pinch of salt and bring to the boil.
2. Remove the skins from the sausages and break them into little meatballs.
3. Heat the frying pan, add a splash of oil and fry the sausages on a medium to high heat.
4. After a minute, add in the chopped dried chilli, the rosemary needles and the chopped garlic.

## Parish Food & Drink

5. Once the sausages have browned a little, usually around 2 minutes, add in the chopped up fresh tomato. Cook for a further couple of minutes until the tomatoes start to break down.
6. Now add the picked kale leaves and mix in with the sausages.
7. The kale will take a couple of minutes to sweat down, time to cook the gnocchi. Cook them in the salted boiling water, straight from the freezer. They will take a couple of minutes.
8. Whilst the gnocchi are cooking, add a small ladle of the cooking water to your pan, this will create a little steam that will finish cooking the kale.
9. Once the gnocchi float to the surface they are done. Scoop them out, straight into your pan and gently mix with the sausages and kale.

Done.

Serve on warm plates with a good grating of Grana Padano, a twist of black pepper and a drizzle of extra virgin olive oil.

*Ben Tollworthy - the Somerset Foodie*

N.B. I have used many of our Somerset Foodie products including frozen gnocchi - traditionally made, light, fluffy and quickly frozen - nothing like the tasteless, rubbery parcels engineered to sit for months on a supermarket shelf. Please see our ad on page 40. I also use delicious locally sourced sausages - Tom and Charlotte Wheeler's - made in small batches from pigs reared in Norton St Philip.

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Do you have a favourite recipe that you'd like to share with our readers?

If you do, please send it in... you'll receive a bottle of Fussels' Rape Seed Oil courtesy of Fussels' Fine Foods for your trouble!

If you have a photograph of the finished dish, please do forward a copy of that too.

E: [gillhleonard@aol.com](mailto:gillhleonard@aol.com)



# Noticeboard

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



### SERVICE NOT SELF

THE BECKINGTON & DISTRICT BRANCH OF THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Saturday 2nd April  
10 a.m.-12 noon RBL Coffee Morning,  
Baptist Church, Beckington.

Sunday 12th June  
4.30 p.m. Falklands Campaign  
Commemoration Service,  
St George's Church, Beckington.

**BECKINGTON TENNIS CLUB** - Tennis holiday camps (tennis drills, quiz and competitions). Easter Medal competitions (red ball, orange ball, green ball and yellow ball). LTA Youth course - £34.99 to include tennis racket, 3 balls, t shirt and 6 lessons. Bookings can be made on: [clubspark.lta.org.uk/BeckingtonTennisAssociation/BookCourse/9e168e67-efd6-41ba-8624-cff2c28d9e](http://clubspark.lta.org.uk/BeckingtonTennisAssociation/BookCourse/9e168e67-efd6-41ba-8624-cff2c28d9e)

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: DANIEL ROBERT CUSHING

## DURUFLÉ REQUIEM

EUROPEAN SACRED MUSIC

Saturday 2nd April 2022, 7:30pm  
Holy Trinity Church, Bradford-on-Avon

Tickets: £15 | U18 - £8  
[www.dolcesingers.co.uk](http://www.dolcesingers.co.uk)

**Dolce Singers**

Soprano: Krystl Ride      Baritone: Matthew Tilley  
Cellist: Kathryn Drury      Organist: Gary Desmond

# How-to 2022

Sunday 10th April 2022 (11:00-15:00)  
Tower View Playing Field, Frome

**Come along and learn how to**

craft	build things	maintain things	do your thing
dance	design things	play	re-use things
repair things	make things	recycle	care for things
sing	recycle	make things	

This event is sponsored by **Frome** **MOUNT** **Jess Gardiner**



### St GEORGE'S DAY

**SATURDAY APRIL 23rd 12noon -2:30pm**

### SOMERSET MORRIS DANCERS

will be performing at

**St GEORGE'S CHURCH BECKINGTON**

Come and join us to keep this English tradition alive!

Ploughman's lunches served in the church

Friends of St George's

**BECKINGTON PRE SCHOOL EASTER EGG HUNT**  
10<sup>TH</sup> APRIL SEE PAGE XX FOR DETAILS



Dorothy House have decided to revamp their popular Midnight Walk, to celebrate our wonderful community of local ladies! Taking place on Saturday 11 June, all fabulous females aged 14+ are invited to join forces and take on a 5km midnight walk around the beautiful city of Bath.

Their theme this year is...get glowing in your neon outfits! You'll receive an exclusive free Midnight Walk T-shirt and you can go as crazy (or non-crazy) as you like with groovy glow accessories! The charity wants you to be there and comfortable in what you're wearing - so anything really does go. The event will be based in the new home of Bath Pavilion...which will be given a glowing UV makeover. Arrive from 10pm for drinks, food, fun, merchandise sales, laughter, games and a funky warm-up, before heading off into the city to walk at midnight. Get back for food and celebrations and then head off home, happy and glowing by 2am.

Dorothy House asks every lady taking part to raise a minimum of £40 in sponsorship, or to make a donation in lieu of sponsorship. This money will fund their vital patient care they provide to those in our community. Register for the Midnight Walk today at [dorothyhouse.org.uk/get-involved/events/womens-midnight-walk-2022/](http://dorothyhouse.org.uk/get-involved/events/womens-midnight-walk-2022/)

### SAVE THE DATE... 16/17<sup>TH</sup> JULY

The F.U.F.C. Summer Festival of Football will take place over the weekend of 16/17<sup>th</sup> July 2022 with tournaments for every age group.

Other entertainment for the family - and lots of food and drink available all weekend. More details to follow...





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**Opening Times:**

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JUSTINE TAYLOR

# Parish Council Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF MEETING OF RODE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN  
RODE MEMORIAL HALL  
ON TUESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2022 AT 7.30 pm

---

## UNCONFIRMED

### **Present:**

Cllr Andy Pickett (AP) – in the Chair, Cllr Peter Travis (PT), Cllr Ann Edney (AE), Cllr Pat Restorick (PR), Cllr Jim McAuliffe (JM), Cllr Elaine Butler (EB).

**In attendance:** Cllr Linda Oliver, Cllr Barbi Lund, Hugh Williams – Clerk and 6 Parishioners

### **1. Public Participation:**

Deep concern was expressed over the danger the trees on Merfield, that ran alongside The Mead, were causing; a number of branches had come down during storm 'Eunice' two of which fell into the road. Action on these trees was requested.

There was still no 20mph limit within the village and the Parish Council (PC) was asked to chase up its installation.

Parishioners were concerned over the large number of accidents that had occurred at the Bradford Road/Rode Hill junction. There had been five since Christmas 2021 and it had been fortunate there had been no fatalities. This junction had been of concern since 2018.

It was noted that an appeal was to be lodged against the rejection to the planning application to build on Barbara's Field and the PC was asked to continue to oppose this. Church Lane was highlighted as already a problem road before any extra traffic generated from a development.

The question posed to Mendip on 5G did not meet the concerns that had been expressed at the last Parish Council meeting and Rode was requested to endorse a precautionary principal.

**2. Apologies for absence:** Cllr Mike Salmon.

**3. Approval of the minutes:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> February were approved.

**4. Declarations of interest:** AP said he had interest in planning application 2021/0071/OTS (Barbara's Field) but this had been cleared by the Clerk.

**5. Report from County Councillor:** Cllr Oliver said she had tried to chase up the officer dealing with The Sportsman but he was on holiday until next week. Caroline Murray would be chased up as she had been going to chase up Wessex Water on this issue. This would be put on the next agenda.

**6. Report from District Councillor:** Cllr Lund's report had nothing specific for Rode.

### **7. Actions from previous meeting:**

# Parish Council Meeting Minutes

- i. **Trees: Merfield/The Mead** These trees are on private land and Somerset County Council are unable to do much, but could issue a Section 154 if branches or trees could fall into the road requesting the owner to do something. It was noted the Somerset arboriculturist had inspected the trees prior to the storm and said no work was required. The branches which came into the road during the storm were significant around 150mm in diameter and 6m long. Cllr Oliver requested photos and the report from the local expert on these trees and she would pursue this with Somerset.  
**Parish trees:** Clerk reported that an inspection, by an independent tree expert, had been made and his report was expected soon. Verbally he had reported that the trees were generally in good condition.
- ii. **Clock:** The Clerk had obtained a cheaper quote for scaffolding up to the clock (£650) and the meeting agreed the repairs should now be carried out using this cheaper quote. The Cross Keys had cleared the putting up of the scaffolding.
- iii. **Footpath from Church Farm to Playing field:** The path was still to be completed and Autograph had agreed to improve the top section which had already flooded. It was hoped this would now be completed by the end of March. Under the S106 agreement a Path Maintenance Committee should be formed and Andy Fussell and Autograph would be reminded of this.
- iv. **5G:** The response from Mendip was noted. Any planning application should include a 50m clearance radius round any 5G mast and if any mast was proposed in Rode this would be ensured. Glastonbury had set up a committee to look into 5G and after two years had not reached a unanimous decision to support 5G, so had agreed to adopt a precautionary principal. It was noted Mendip is to consider two applications at its meeting next week and this would be monitored. After discussion it was agreed that, having only heard one side of the argument on 5G and the PC having limited technical knowledge on the issue, the PC would maintain a watching brief on 5G. The PC would not send any further questions to Mendip.
- v. **Grit bin:** It was reported that the residents of Providence Place were unable to agree a position for this. Therefore, at present this would not be progressed.
- vi. **Mead development:** Further information would be gathered.
- vii. **Coach House, Rode Hill:** No retrospective planning application had been submitted. It was agreed the time limit for doing this would be checked.
- viii. **Fingerposts:** The Clerk reported that the three-finger post could not be refurbished in this financial year and it was agreed to now request all three posts were done together.

# Parish Council Meeting Minutes

## **8. Highways:**

**a) Bradford Road/Rode Hill junction:** Cllr Oliver reported that she had sent information on the recent accidents to the small improvements team and road safety team and awaited to hear from them. It was agreed that the small improvements made by Somerset had not resolved the problem at this junction and the PC agreed that something more should be done. It appeared that some accidents on these crossroads were not reported and those that did not result in injury probably did not get logged. It was agreed that a site meeting with Somerset should be sought with a group from the Parish Council (and The Scrivens) at which the issues could be clearly demonstrated. Cllr Oliver and the Clerk would seek to get this organised.

**b) Memorandum of Understanding:** This still had to be completed and a meeting would be arranged in the near future. An additional SID on the Bradford Road on the Bradford side would also be sought.

## **9. Planning:**

### **i) New applications:**

None

Concern was expressed that Mendip were not automatically sending new applications to those on the contact list surrounding a new application. AE and PR agreed to continue to ensure these people were aware of new applications.

### **ii. Mendip decisions:**

**2021/2641/TCA:** Reduce height of apple and birch tree – 7 Langham Place. Approved

**2021/2867/TCA:** Reduce height and lateral branches of plane, yew, maple, three cherry, hazel and two ash trees – Langham House. Approved.

### **iii. Other:**

It was noted that the Developer was applying for Mendip's refusal of planning application 2021/0071/OTS for 49 houses on 'Barbara's Field' to go to appeal by inquiry. It is up to the appellant to show that Mendip's decision was wrong and they would have to challenge Mendip's reasons for rejection. The Parish Council would keep a close eye on this and would be given time to make further comment. Anyone can comment but it was emphasised the comments should be focused on the reasons for rejection and not to raise other issues.

**10. Climate Emergency Group:** JM reported that questionnaires to ask all resident what they want to do with regard climate change were being printed. These would be hand delivered with residents' names on them to be completed and hopefully returned by the end of the month. The PC agreed to fund the printing of these.

**11. Playing Field Constitution:** AP reported that he had met with the legal advisor and Steve and Amanda Eyles to amend the first draft Constitution and a new draft would be reviewed when available.

# Parish Council Meeting Minutes

**12. Queen's Jubilee Celebrations:** The celebrations to be held on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June on the playing field were discussed and the Parish Council agreed to fund the children's food, mugs and entertainment along with further contributions to a total of £5,000. This type of celebration rarely occurred and it was important to try and ensure it was a success.

**13. British Spring Clean:** Rode had signed up to take part in this event which was taking place between 25<sup>th</sup> March and 10<sup>th</sup> April and would be organising a village clean-up on the afternoon (2.00pm – 4.00pm) of Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April, with tea on the playing field afterwards. The PC agreed to fund further litter-pick sticks and bags.

**14. Buses:** PT reported that discussions regarding the funding Somerset is bidding for are still ongoing. However, services should keep going. Worryingly passenger numbers are still low following covid and the rapidly increasing fuel cost are both of concern.

**15. Elections:** Nomination papers are now available for the Parish Council elections and these have to be back to Mendip by 5<sup>th</sup> April. A notice of the elections would go up once the government had finally approved that they could take place a year early.

**16. Annual meeting:** A date could not be agreed at the meeting and the Clerk agreed to check on availability of both the Memorial Hall and the Chapel. [Clerk's Note: I have been informed that due to elections this meeting has to take place between 9<sup>th</sup> May and 23<sup>rd</sup> May.]

## **17. Financial matters:**

**Payments:** The following payments were agreed:

Clerk Salary	£220.62
HMRC PAYE	£55.20
A Edney (PC contribution to Jubilee celebrations)	£5,000.00

## **18. Date of next meeting:**

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

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm**

The meeting closed at 10.10pm.

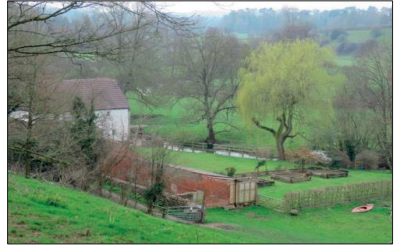
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# ...and finally

## WHERE IN HARDINGTON VALE?

Where, in Hardington Vale, would you see this view?

Did you recognise the fingerpost in last month's photograph? It was at the bottom of Shawford Lane in Rode.



### Codeword

8	20	4	21	20	25	13	20		14	18	9	7
17		21		8		7		10		24		17
3	7	17	6	18	8	20		20	22	9	7	1
24		13		26		9		2		11		24
1	26	15	20		14	23	20	11	7	26		20
20				8		20		17		25		
12	9	16	16	7	20		10	7	9	22	20	25
		17		20		13		20				20
21		18	14	17	8	14	25		7	9	8	1
25		13		3		21		9		8		19
13	7	14	1	24		8	14	18	11	9	25	14
7		12		1		17		8		16		11
20	19	20	11		15	25	20	20	5	20	11	15
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

### Last month's Sudoku

2	1	5	6	9	7	4	8	3
8	7	4	3	2	5	6	1	9
3	9	6	8	1	4	2	7	5
4	2	9	5	3	8	7	6	1
1	5	8	9	7	6	3	4	2
7	6	3	1	4	2	9	5	8
6	8	7	2	5	3	1	9	4
9	4	2	7	8	1	5	3	6
5	3	1	4	6	9	8	2	7

## 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 willow  
 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'*



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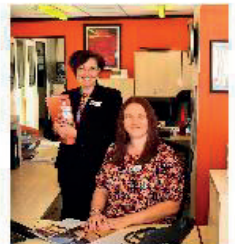


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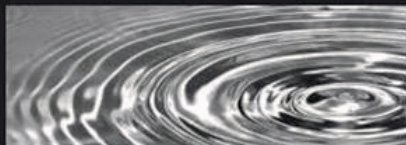
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## Hardington Vale Church Services – APRIL 2022

DATE	TIME	SERVICE	PREACHER
<b>Sunday 3 April</b>	9.00 am 10.30 am 11.00 am 6.00 pm	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Informal Breakfast <b>Rode St Lawrence</b> , Holy Communion <b>Laverton</b> , Holy Communion <b>Rode</b> , Chapel, Meeting Place	F & R Stewart C Walker/M Harrison J Robinson
<b>Monday 4 April</b>	9.00 am	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Morning Prayer	
<b>Tuesday 5 April</b>	9.45 am 5.00 pm	<b>Rode</b> , Chapel, Ecumenical Holy Communion <b>Laverton</b> , Evening Prayer	
<b>Wednesday 6 April</b>	8.30 am 6.00 pm	<b>Hemington</b> , Morning Prayer <b>Rode Chapel</b> , Informal Prayer	Zoom
<b>Thursday 7 April</b>	6.00 pm	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Silent Prayer	
<b>Sunday 10 April PALM SUNDAY</b>	8.00 am 10.30 am	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Holy Communion (said) <b>Norton St Philip</b> , Palm Procession	C Walker C Walker/J Robinson
<b>Monday 11 April</b>	9.00 am 9.00 pm 9.00 pm 9.00 pm	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Morning Prayer <b>Rode chapel</b> , Compline <b>Norton St Philip</b> , Compline <b>Laverton</b> , Compline	
<b>Tuesday 12 April</b>	9.00 pm 9.00 pm 9.00 pm	<b>Rode chapel</b> , Compline <b>Norton St Philip</b> , Compline <b>Laverton</b> , Compline	
<b>Wednesday 13 April</b>	9.00 pm 9.00 pm 9.00 pm 9 am–9 pm	<b>Rode chapel</b> , Compline <b>Norton St Philip</b> , Compline <b>Laverton</b> , Compline <b>Tellisford</b> , Day of Prayer	
<b>Thursday 14 April MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>	6.00 pm	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Passover Meal	F Stewart/R Stewart
<b>Friday 15 April GOOD FRIDAY</b>	All day 10.00 am 11.00 am 2 pm–3 pm	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Stations of the Cross <b>Rode</b> March of Witness starting at Chapel <b>Rode St Lawrence</b> , short service <b>Norton St Philip</b> , Hour at the Cross	For prayer & reflection
<b>Sunday 17 April EASTER SUNDAY</b>	Sunrise 9.00 am 10.30 am 10.30 am 11.00 am	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Vigil <b>Tellisford</b> , Holy Communion <b>Rode St Lawrence</b> , Holy Communion <b>Norton St Philip</b> , Holy Communion <b>Laverton</b> , Holy Communion	B Day J Robinson J Robinson C Walker S Kivett
<b>Tuesday 19 April</b>	5.00 pm	<b>Laverton</b> , Evening Prayer	
<b>Wednesday 20 April</b>	8.30 am 6.00 pm	<b>Hemington</b> , Morning Prayer <b>Rode Chapel</b> , Informal Prayer	
<b>Thursday 21 April</b>	6.00 pm	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Silent Prayer	
<b>Sunday 24 April</b>	10.30 am 11.00 am	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Holy Communion <b>Laverton</b> , Matins	C Walker/M Harrison
<b>Monday 25 April</b>	9.00 am	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Morning Prayer	
<b>Tuesday 26 April</b>	6.00 pm	<b>Tellisford</b> , Evening Prayer	
<b>Wednesday 27 April</b>	8.30 am 6.00 pm	<b>Hemington</b> , Morning Prayer <b>Rode Chapel</b> , Informal Prayer	
<b>Thursday 28 April</b>	6.00 pm	<b>Norton St Philip</b> , Silent Prayer	

APRIL 2022 DIARY	
Fri 1 Apr	11.25-11.55am Mobile Library, High Street, Rode
Mon 4 Apr	12.15pm Monday Lunch Club see page 33
Tue 5 Apr	7.30pm Rode Parish Council Meeting see page 51 for details
Fri 8 Apr	2.30pm AGM Over 60's see page 34 for details 7pm Rode Roxy see page 36 for details
Sun 10 Apr	2pm Rode Spring Clean see page 37
Mon 11 Apr	2.30pm Forgot Me Not Café see page 37 for details 7.30pm Rode & District Gardening Club see page 35 for details
Tue 12 Apr	10am Rode Walking Group see page 34 for details
Wed 13 Apr	7.30pm Rode Climate Emergency Group see page 23 for details
Fri 15 Apr	BANK HOLIDAY Good Friday
Sun 17 Apr	Easter Sunday
Mon 18 Apr	BANK HOLIDAY Easter Monday
Wed 20 Apr	2-3.30pm Caterpillar Pop Up Club see page 25 for details
Sat 23 Apr	<b>MAY LINK COPY DEADLINE</b>
Wed 27 Apr	2.30pm Rode Ladies Group see page 33 for details
Sat 30 Apr	8pm RPF Lottery Draw, The Cross Keys see page 16 for details
FORWARD PLANNER	
Mon 2 May	BANK HOLIDAY Early May Bank Holiday
Fri 5 May	Parish Council Elections
Sun 9 May	2-5.30pm Treasure Hunt & Cream Teas see page 38 for details
Thu 2 Jun	BANK HOLIDAY Late May Bank Holiday 2pm Projecting Highlights of the Coronation & Cream Teas see page 38 for details
Fri 3 Jun	BANK HOLIDAY Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday
Sat 4 Jun	Midday-11pm Rode Platinum Jubilee Parkfest see pages 12 & 38 for details
Sun 19 Jun	11-4pm Rode Open Gardens see page 28 for details



## Apr 2022



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

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