

The Link

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



MAY 2024

1st Rode Scout Group Adventures

Calling All New Footballers - Girls and Boys

Climate Emergency Group and No Mow May

Cream Teas at St Lawrence

and much more local news and details inside...

£1



RECTOR

Rev Caroline Walker
The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, NSP BA2 7LY
Tel: 01373 834258
carolinehwalker@btinternet.com

READERS

Barbara Day
Brewery House, North St. Michael Harrison
01373 834438 51 Fortescue Street
Barbara.day04@gmail.com 01373 834086
michael.harrison@bcs.org

Fergus Stewart
2 Fleur De Lys, Fortescue Street
07789 838418
fstewart660@gmail.com

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

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

PCC TREASURER

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

PCC SECRETARY

Lorna Powell
Bel.Amandier@outlook.com

ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER Ros Clarke

PARISH WARDENS

(with specific responsibilities in brackets)
David Lockley (pastoral and outreach) –
01373 834414
Fergus Stewart (strategy)
Geoff Banwell (finance)- 01373 831139
Chris Cloke (buildings) – 01373 834917

CHAPEL WARDEN

Farleigh Hungerford
Guy Hungerford – 01249 701211
Tellisford
Rachel Feilden – 01373 830322

DEPUTY WARDEN

Rode
Sally Pickett – 01373 831796

ELECTED PCC MEMBERS

Andrew Morrison ¹, Barbara Day ¹, Mark Baines,
Andy Filkins, Susie Filkins, Brenda Graham,
Diana Lucas ¹, Rachel Stewart ², Anne Harkness,
David Mayall, Sally Pickett ³, Anthony Powell,
Nicky Robinson, Peter Stratford.

¹Deanery Synod Representatives

²Safeguarding Officer

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

HARDINGTON VALE WEBSITE

www.hardingtonvale.org

Hemington and Hardington

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the PCC, the Rector or the Editor.

EDITOR

Cathy Taylor edits and produces the magazine.
01373 830460
candn800@btinternet.com

ADVERTISING MANAGER

Gill Leonard
01373 831072
gillhlleonard@aol.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS MANAGER

Caroline Williams
01373 831046
carolinewilliams205@gmail.com

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thelink@rodevillage.com

RODE CHAPEL METHODIST BAPTIST

Minister: Rev Andrew Prout
Secretary: Valerie Parker 01373-831012
rode.chapel@btinternet.com
Key Holder: Alison Hughes 01373 830244
rode.chapel@btinternet.com

USEFUL COMMUNITY CONTACT DETAILS

Organisation	Contact Name	Contact Number
Allotments - Rode Rode Gardens Association	Tracey Gardener (Chair)	tracey_mayled@hotmail.com / 831803
Climate Emergency Group - Rode	Jim McAuliffe	jim.mcauliffe@btinternet.com
Community Speed Watch (CSW)	Malcolm Wood	mwood17@uwclub.net / 830301
Cricknet Club (Rode) Seniors	Andy Pickett	andypickett2013@gmail.com/07775 805546
Friends of Rode and Norton Schools (FRANS)	Jill Clay	friendsrodenorton@gmail.com 07766 127218
Gardening: Rode & District Club	Averil Morrow	rodeanddistrictgardeningclub@outlook.com
Health Connections	Ann Collins	ann.collins6@nhs.net www.healthconnections Mendip.org /468368
Lunch Club, Rode	Hannah Lovell Cross Keys	830900
Memorial Hall (Rode)	Bookings: Martin Long	rodehall@bananasoft.net http://rodevillagehall.co.uk
NSP Pre-School	Dawn Strand	info@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 www.rodevillage.com/parish-council
Parish Paths Liaison Officers	Cathy & Nick Taylor	candn800@btinternet.com
Playing Field/Pavilion (Rode)	Bookings: Diana Russell	rodepfbookings@gmail.com / 07714 441040
Post Office, Café & Shop (Rode)	Demi	830321
Photography Club, NSP	Andrew Blumfield	nspphotoclub@gmail.com
RANS Running & Walking Club www.facebook.com/TeamRANS	Brandon Quentin- Hicks	brandon@bamboohouse.co.uk 07867 545720
Reengage Sunday Tea Group	Gill Leonard	gillhleonard@aol.com / 831072
Rode & NSP First School Federation	Headteacher: Georgina Muxworthy	830523
Rode Parent/Carer/Toddler Group	Ros Jackson	rosjackson@btinternet.com
Rodevillage.com website	Jim McAuliffe Hugh Williams	jim.mcauliffe@btinternet.com clerk.rodeparishcouncil@gmail.com
1 st Rode Scout Group Beavers Wed 5.30pm - 6.30pm Cubs Thu 6.15pm - 7.45pm Scouts Wed 7pm - 8.30pm Scouts Edor Explorer Unit Every other Tuesday 8pm -9.30pm NB During school terms only	Group Scout Leader: Howard Russell	hdrussello1@gmail.com 830640/07736 739680
Village Agent	Nic Edwards	nicolae@somersettrcc.org.uk / 07946 461468
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	www.mendipcommunitytransport.co.uk / 01749 880613 01749 880482 07596 591391
Somerset C. C. Councillors	General Enquiries Councillor Adam Boyden Councillor Dawn Denton	0300 123 2224 adam.boyden@somerset.gov.uk dawndentonfrome@gmail.com
Beckington Family Practice	Appointments and Enquiries: 830316 Dispensary: 867987	Dispensary Opening Hours: 8.30-13.00/14.00-18.30 Dispensary Phone Hours 9.30-13.00/14.00-18.30 Results T: 867986 Results 9.30-13.00/14.00-16.00
NHS 111 24-hour medical care help	Contact 111 if you have an urgent medical problem and you are unsure what to do. Online: 111.nhs.uk Call :111	

Church Reflection, News & Events

REFLECTION

Spring

Nothing is so beautiful as Spring –
When weeds, in wheels, shoot long and lovely and lush;
Thrush's eggs look little low heavens, and thrush
Through the echoing timber does so rinse and wring
The ear, it strikes like lightnings to hear him sing;
The glassy pear tree leaves and blooms, they brush
The descending blue; that blue is all in a rush
With richness; the racing lambs too have fair their fling.

What is all this juice and all this joy?
A strain of the earth's sweet being in the beginning
In Eden garden. – Have, get, before it cloy,
Before it cloud, Christ, lord, and sour with sinning,
Innocent mind and Mayday in girl and boy,
Most, O maid's child, thy choice and worthy the winning.

Gerard Manley Hopkins

Spring is a beautiful time of year and as we move out (hopefully) of the long, cold, wet spell that we have been experiencing lately....Spring will be on us very quickly. Spring echoes the church calendar.

Having celebrated Easter and the resurrection of Jesus we have renewed hope, renewed vision and renewed understanding of a better way to live and be - celebrating that we can be forgiven, and that there is life beyond death.

Children are often helpful in showing us how to see the beauty around us, when we so often focus on the negatives and the problems. The innocent joy of hearing a child laugh as they jump on a trampoline or run across the fields. Like lambs they are still carefree and simply glad to be alive.

Our grandson recently was captivated playing 'poo sticks' - the infectious laughter from him and his Dad, stick floating gaily away, instantly lifted everyone's spirits.

In May we move into the period in the church calendar between Ascension Day and Pentecost. The rising of Jesus to heaven to be with His father and the descending of the Holy Spirit to fill the disciples - spring in our spiritual lives too. This year it falls between 9th - 19th May.

Church Reflection, News & Events

The Global prayer initiative, Thy Kingdom Come (TKC) that the Archbishop of Canterbury started in May 2016, has grown from a dream of possibility into a movement which unites more than a million Christians in prayer, in nearly 90% of countries worldwide, across 85 different denominations and traditions so that friends and family, neighbours and colleagues might come to have faith in Jesus Christ.

Every person, household and church is encouraged to pray during the 11 days in their own way.

It is our hope and prayer, that those who have not yet heard the Good News of Jesus Christ and His love for the world, will hear it for themselves and respond and follow Him.

"In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities."

Archbishop Justin Welby

Would you like to join with us in this too?

Praying for a 'childlike' season of Spring and joy in our communities and churches across the land.

Why not come and join us in Rode Chapel during our 24 hours of prayer, 9.00am - 9.00am 15th - 16th May....



*'Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,'
Matthew 6: v9-10*

Rev Caroline H Walker

Church Reflection, News & Events

NEWS FROM ST LAWRENCE

You may have heard the bells ringing on the morning of Saturday 13th April – this was a visiting band of ringers from around Somerset who rang a peal – non-stop ringing which on this occasion took 2 hours 40 minutes to complete. As I am normally one of the ringers it was nice for a change to not be ringing but to hear the bells being rung by experienced ringers. I seem to remember it was a lovely day and I sat outside in the garden with a cup of tea listening to the bells.

Many of us gathered in Norton church on Maundy Thursday for a Passover supper. The tables had been beautifully laid and the food was delicious and traditional to the Passover feast. Although it was a solemn occasion there was an opportunity to catch up with people as we ate and also to discuss the various traditions we were enacting such as the washing of each others hands and the significance of the food items.

You may have seen about 20 of us walking round Rode on Good Friday behind the large wooden cross, this was our walk of witness and we were blessed with good weather for the majority of the walk. We were then welcomed by the chapel congregation for a short service and reflection.

The church looked beautiful for Easter Sunday, with the wonderful arrangements created by our team of flower arrangers and we are very grateful for all their hard work.



Church Reflection, News & Events



We are in the process of revamping our fourth Sunday informal service. It will be at the new time of 9am (just like Breakfast Church on the second Sunday of the month) and I will outline more about it in next month's Link. However, suffice to say we will begin with coffee and the service will commence at 9.15am, aiming to finish by 10am. It will be a more contemplative service and time for reflection and individual prayer. We aim to begin the new service on the last Sunday in May - 26th.

An advance notice that the Rev Andy Bowerman will be joining us on the first Sunday in June to lead our service. This is the first service he has taken in the parish since he left in 2019 to take up a post in Abu Dhabi and he is now Canon of Bradford Cathedral.

We are holding two cream tea events in May on two Sunday afternoons – the 5th and 26th from 3-5pm – at St Lawrence. These will be to raise funds for the on-going roof project which is subject to a temporary lull because of the seasonal activities of the bats. Please come and join us for tea and scones.

Can we take this opportunity to thank Adam and Hilary Harris and all the team who help to put on the Rode Roxy every month from October to April. We are very grateful for this monthly fundraiser which is a lovely social occasion and allows us to raise funds for St Lawrence.

Sally Pickett and Geoff Banwell

Church Reflection, News & Events



#PLEDGE2PRAY

**On Wednesday 15th May
as part of the National prayer initiative
'Thy Kingdom Come'
the Christians together in Rode and
across the villages of Hardington Vale
invite YOU....
To The Chapel at Rode
from 9am on Wednesday 15th May
through to 9am on Thursday 16th May**

There will be someone there praying for the whole 24hours.

If you would like to be on that rota, please contact either:
Caroline Walker carolinehwalker@btinternet.com 01373 834258 or
Bill Jackson billjackson54@btinternet.com 01373 830411.

If you would like to simply drop in for a time of prayer that is fine too and you will be very welcome.

There will be a creative and interactive prayer area set aside in the Chapel, or just come and enjoy time apart to commune with God Himself.

This could be the opportunity that you have been longing for

“Prayer moves us closer not only to God, but to one another.

It connects us with those whom we otherwise cannot see.

Prayer breaks down division, in prayer we take each other's hands and find our safe stronghold.”

Archbishop Justin Welby



ST LAWRENCE ROOF PROJECT UPDATE



We are holding two cream tea events in May on two Sunday afternoons. The 5th and 26th from 3pm - 5pm at St Lawrence.

These will be to raise funds for the on-going roof project which is subject to a temporary lull because of the seasonal activities of the bats.

Please come and join us for tea and scones.

Sally Pickett and Geoff Banwell

LUNCHTIME CONCERT AT NORTON ST PHILIP

This month's Lunchtime Concert at St Philip & St James Church welcomes back the international pianist Charles Wiffen.

Charles has performed extensively throughout the UK, Europe, USA, the Far East and Africa.

He has given recitals in London's Wigmore Hall and Purcell Room, and in Manchester's Bridgewater Hall. At his concert on the 9th May, his programme will include:

- Mozart: Sonata in B flat, k333
- Schubert/Liszt: Gretchen am Spinnrade
- Muhly: Move
- Liszt: Sonata in B minor

Do not miss this rare opportunity to hear a world class pianist perform here in Norton St Philip.

Doors open at 12.30pm and admission is just £5.

David Lockley

Parish News



Celebrating India and the work of ASHA

Food - Fun - Photos!!!

A great evening was had in St Philip and St James church on Friday 5th April to see a few of our travel in India photos and to hear about an update of the work of ASHA following on from their 35 years celebrations. Over £600 was raised - thank you to all who came and donated.

Plenty of curry was consumed. We were joined by Sir Dominic and Lady Louise Asquith (see picture) - the retired British High Commissioner of India and he also shared some insights from their time in India and working with Dr Kiran Martin to further the work of ASHA.



If you missed the evening but would like to make a direct donation to this work then please go to the ASHA website and donate through the Great Britain contact. <https://asha-india.org>

Thank you for your ongoing partnership in this work...

Caroline, Michael and Mark

For any further details: Caroline Walker carolinehwalker@btinternet.com
01373 834258 or Mark Baines mark@mar-com.net 07860 799426



RODE RIVERSIDE WALK

Volunteer Needed to Issue Passes!

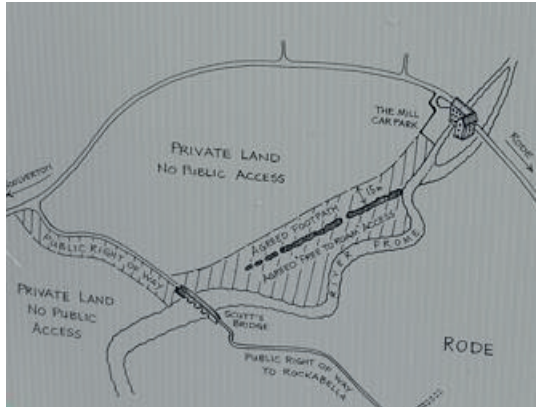
The path that runs alongside the river from The Mill car park to Scutts bridge, is not a public footpath.

However, the Parish Council negotiated an agreement with the farmer, whereby residents of Rode and Woolverton are allowed to use this path, providing they hold a pass.

The passes are issued on request by a volunteer on behalf of the Parish Council and we are now looking for a new volunteer to take over this role!

The duties of the role are to take the initial telephone request from residents wishing to hold a pass, record their details on an Excel database and then issue a pass to them. The pass is free and doesn't need to be renewed, so there is no money or annual renewal process to worry about.

If you are interested and would like more details, please contact Hugh Williams (Parish Clerk) on 831046 /clerk.rodeparishcouncil@gmail.com



RODE CHAPEL MUSICAL GARDEN PARTY

May 11th 12pm – 3pm

After the success of last year's indoor garden party which took place on a "beautiful" July day (when it rained relentlessly), but was great fun, nonetheless, we have decided to have another try, but in May!

This year we have pianists and a brass band lined up to provide the entertainment plus a few surprises on the way.

The entry fee of £5 includes a cuppa, a piece of cake and some amazing music. There will be plants to buy at the plant stall and those who would like more than a piece of cake will be able to purchase a Ploughman's lunch.

So come along and listen to the music. Who knows, it might even be fine enough to sit outside...



Ros Jackson

Parish News

FRANS

Just before the Easter holidays FRANS were excited to host our second ever colour run.

For those of you who don't know what a colour run is, it's a fun run with a twist. A small loop is marked out with four 'colour stations' spaced out around the loop. As you complete a loop colour powder is dusted over you as you pass through the colour stations.

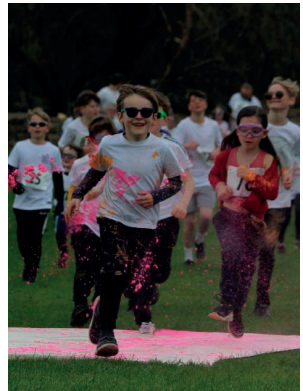


Fortunately, the weather was fine and the excitement was high. The Palm Sunday procession passed through the Mead just before we started so everyone had the added bonus of welcoming buster the donkey to the run arena. Our small cafe proved to be a roaring success too; we sold out of bacon baps for the hungry runners. Smiles were in abundance as the runners completed lamp on lap, eventually we had

to call 'last lap' as some of the children were proving to have more staying power than the Duracell bunny!

As this is one of the most popular events of the year, I'm sure we'll be running it again next year to coincide with Holi so watch this space next March if you'd like to come along.

In total we made approximately £1600 for the school which is amazing. All proceeds will be going straight into the school ensuring the children are fully equipped and have the best opportunities. One focus at the minute is raising money towards a multifunctional and SEN space for the Norton St. Phillip site (reception and year 1 children).



If you would like to help towards school fundraising, we welcome any donations at any time, even direct transfers:



Friends of Rode and Norton Schools
Account number: 31419160
Sort code: 309875

RPF LOTTERY WINNERS

Playing Field Lottery winners in March 2024
Drawn by staff & customers in the Cross Keys.

1st - £50.00 Mr. J Griffiths, Rode.

2nd - £25.00 Mike Salmon, Rode.

3rd - £25.00 Robert Sharman, ex Rode.

Sunday Roast for two at The Cross Keys, courtesy of Mark & Hannah ... Mr. G. Banwell, Rode.

If you would like a chance to get a slice of this action, remember only 200 tickets available and a share of £100 & two Sunday roasts, for £1.00 per ticket!

And remember you are supporting the Playing Field (which needs all the help it can get right now!) when you buy your ticket.

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

Next draw Friday 31st of May. If you would like to do the draw or witness it, then please just turn up at the Cross Keys on draw night at 8pm.

Keith Sharman

T: 830408



1ST RODE MAJOR SCOUT GROUP 200 CLUB

The results for the Scouts 200 club for March were:

1st prize: £50 John Flindall

2nd prize: £25 David Roy

Thanks to Demi at Rode Post Office for drawing the lucky winners.

Janet Jupp



REPAIR CAFÉ - POSTPONED

We were unable to entice a sufficient number of expert repairers to assist with the first ever Repair Café in Rode. So regrettably we have had to postpone.

We hope to go ahead with the first Rode Repair Café in September. If you know someone who could help by volunteering as a repairer, please let me know.

However, if you have something that needs repairing and it can't wait until September, Norton St Philip holds their next Repair Café on **Saturday 11th May, 10.00am – 12.00pm**, in the Palaiet Hall, Church Street, NSP

Jim McAuliffe

Parish News

LAVERTON NEWS

Easter Service at St Mary's Church - from Gilli Weeks

Easter was celebrated with a full Church of friends and visiting families and in spite of the rather damp conditions a jolly Easter Egg Hunt was held afterwards in the Churchyard. Many thanks to all who helped with the flowers and decorations.



Foodbank update - from Tracey Sessions

Thank you for your donations to the Laverton Foodbank. I took 22 items on my last trip on 22 March. However, the food bank is really struggling at the moment to meet demand for everyday food and toiletries so please consider bringing a donation and placing it in the box inside the church, even unwanted easter eggs will be gratefully received. Thank you.

And finally...

Laverton enjoyed a perfect Saturday morning village social on 20 April, masterminded by the Friends of St Mary's Church. We enjoyed glorious blue skies and sunshine, coffee, tea, cake, more cake, friendly dogs, gurgling babies, yet more cake, jolly conversations and earnest debates (banana cake or lemon drizzle??). We lolled amidst the headstones in the beautiful church grounds and studied the new map of the village houses created by Andy and the brilliant village timeline put together by Andraea. So much work and thought went into this - thank you!



The map and timeline are still on the walls inside the church - do take a look! Many thanks to the organizers and everyone who brought such delicious food to share. Standards as high as ever!

Virginia Garaux

Parish Nature

EARLY SPRING IN ALL SAINTS TELLISFORD CHURCHYARD

Over several dry and wind-free days in January, we pollarded the seven lime trees, offered the branches as supports to village gardeners growing (for example) climbing beans, sweet peas or dahlias, then transformed the remainder into chippings, which were all used in various Tellisford gardens.

Some piles of rotting wood remain as sanctuaries for creatures that appreciate that kind of setting.

Just before Palm Sunday, Jean Richardson from Hemington (who is a great deal more knowledgeable about botany than me) visited our churchyard on a damp, chilly and windy morning to record what could be seen on Saturday 23rd March.

In alphabetical order, here is the list of plants that she found which were not already on her spreadsheet:-

Lesser Celandine, Chive?, Dog's Mercury, Field Wood Rush, Honesty, Honeysuckle, Ivy-leaved Speedwell, Rue-leaved Saxifrage, Snowdrop.



Field Wood Rush is a member of the *Luzula* (Wood-Rushes) family. Its stems are rarely over 15cm (6") tall, usually much less, so when Jean took this photo of it she must have been horizontal, at ground level. Her photo makes one able to appreciate the modest beauty of this small plant, which we probably trample on without noticing it in the grass.

I was also intrigued to learn about Rue-leaved Saxifrage, a tiny plant growing on the north-facing roof over the organ.

Having followed Jean's guidance on where to find it in the churchyard, I have now discovered it at home, growing 2 to 3 inches high between limestone slabs.

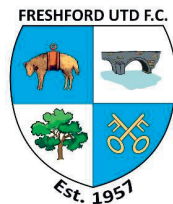
Rachel Feilden

All Saints Tellisford Fabric Committee

Parish Youth News & Events

CALLING ALL NEW FOOTBALLERS BOYS AND GIRLS

Freshford United Youth F.C. has just about finished the season after a very good year, with all age groups doing well in their leagues and looking forward to summer tournaments now.



We are already planning for 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 2024 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 16's (minus Under 13's unfortunately) plus two adult teams. Every team train weekly, with most age groups playing regular games in the Mid Norton & District Youth League.

We have also started an all girl group on Saturday mornings at our pitch in Freshford, which welcomes girls of any primary school age which we are building up in numbers so we can hopefully start getting enough in an age group to start playing some matches next season, please come along and give it a try, contact Chris for more details.

All teams are looking for more players of all ages, abilities, boys and girls so even if you want to test it out and not commit, we can offer a free tester session for 2 weeks to see how your child gets on before you have to commit to anything.

We also have our summer Festival of Football on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th June up at our pitch in Freshford opposite Homewood Hotel & Restaurant, which will host over 100 teams entering the tournament in what is always a great weekend. So please feel free to come along and support our teams or watch some exciting football.

There will be food and drink served all day and a large raffle with various prizes which we are still looking to add to, if any local businesses would be so kind to donate a prize.

We have a footfall of over 2,000 people on the weekend and every person attending will be given a program for the weekend that we are looking for sponsors for. If any local businesses are interested in this or the raffle please contact Chris, details below.

As always, we welcome any support from the village and if you want to keep up to date with what is happening information is always available on our website www.freshfordunitedfc.com

Chris Birleson

Club Manager

07738 741477 cb@dentons.net

Parish Youth News & Events

MONTHLY YOUTH ACTIVITY SPACE IN NORTON

Youth Space is a club open to all secondary age young people in Hardington Vale. It runs on the 4th Monday of each month from 7-8.30pm (although we'll have a few bank holidays to negotiate – watch this space!).



We meet in the St Philip & St James Church in Norton St Philip. The extensive floor space now available allows us to set up a range of activities, including pool, table tennis, badminton, table football, board games and crafts. There is always food as well, and unlimited hot chocolate.

We've had really encouraging numbers so far – an average of 20 young people come from Norton, Rode and Faulkland - and we'd be delighted to welcome new members. We're really grateful for the support we've received from parents and the community. Thank you to Band in the Barn for their generous donation, and to our dedicated crew of leaders and helpers.

We're still in the early stages and are thinking about how to develop the programme, especially for (hopefully!) warmer months ahead. If you're passing, do pop in and see what's going on – it'll make you feel young!

For more information, contact me on 07789 838418 or fstewart660@gmail.com or 01373 834611

Fergus Stewart

NORTON ST PHILIP PRE-SCHOOL

Running up to the Easter holidays at Norton St Philip, the Pre-school have been busy. The children and staff have enjoyed many Easter activities together including making Easter cards for family and friends and getting out our chefs' hats to make chocolate Easter nests using cereal and melted chocolate. The Pre-school committee also organised an Easter egg trail in the village to raise funds for the Pre-school and to give everyone the excuse to eat lots of cake and chocolate!



Alongside our Easter activities we have explored printing, cutting the shapes out of potato and using paint to print the shapes onto paper. The role play area was turned into a veterinary surgery and children have been helping to make all the animals feel better. In our outside play area the children have been working together to build their own obstacle courses. They have talked to each other about what they would like to build and then worked as a team to create the obstacle course, moving the different parts to make sure they were stable enough for them to walk on. They have also enjoyed playing in our new sand kitchen.

Dawn Strand

Parish Youth News & Events

1ST RODE SCOUT GROUP

The Beavers have been busy planting seeds ready for their plant sale later this year, watch this space for the date.



The Cubs had a great night at the Frome football grounds with a guided tour before watching a game.



The Explorers have also been enjoying a wild camp.

Claire Le Page

Scouts - Survival camp 2024

The Scouts that signed up for this adventure faced challenging weather conditions to say the least. They were competent and a brilliant team together. Congratulations to all participants and to the Scout Leaders that supervised.



Pandora Jacobs

Parish Youth News & Events

Scouts Silent Auction

We raised £1,300 on the day including the sale of wonderful bacon rolls and home-made cakes.

We still have a few pieces of furniture left which are on facebook. Other items left we will be taking for a car boot sale in June.

We must thank Janet and Lyn plus our committee for all their efforts as well as a few parents and to Bill and Ros Jackson and Val Parker who came along to help with refreshments even though they are not directly involved. Also, a big thanks to all who gave items and everyone who bought an item or in some cases more than one!!

Howard Russell

Group Leader 1st Rode Scout Group



TOTS AND TOYS

MUMS, DADS, CARERS AND GRANDPARENTS...

Are you at home with a baby, toddler or pre-schooler?

Would you like to meet up with others for a chat, tea/coffee and refreshments while the children play and sing?

EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING 9.00am - 10.45am

in St Philip and St James church, Norton St Philip

£2 donation for refreshments

Further information, please contact Maria Fleming, Playgroup Leader email:

totsandtoysnsp@gmail.com

Beckington Pre-School

Full days and lunchtime sessions available during term time

Children welcomed Ages 2 - 4 with funding plus 30 hours

Beckington Village Hall
www.beckingtonpre-school.co.uk
07920137800
info@beckingtonpre-school.co.uk
Find us on

Charity no. 1035832

**RODE WEEKLY
PARENT/CARER &
TODDLER GROUP
Mondays during
term time
9.45am - 11.15am
Rode Chapel**



Parish Environment

CLIMATE EMERGENCY UPDATE

No Mow May is here again!

It's that time of year when the lawnmowers emerge from sheds and garages around the country. 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. So, ignoring your mower over the month of May will provide a much-needed boost for wildlife throughout the summer.....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.

Check out the Plantlife website:

<https://www.plantlife.org.uk/campaigns/nomowmay/>

Proposed Solar Farm in Rode

If you are reading this copy of The Link slightly later in the month, you may already know the outcome of the application to create a large-scale Solar Farm in Rode....the application will be considered at the May meeting of the Somerset East planning committee, which takes place on Tuesday 7th May.

Thinking about installing a heat pump?

A reminder that the Climate Emergency Group is hosting a free online webinar for local homeowners – **“What you need to know before purchasing a heat pump”**. The talk will be given by Philip Haile who runs Transition Bath's Heat Pump Advisory Service, and will take place on **Thursday 9th May at 7pm**. If you're interested, email jim.mcauliffe@btinternet.com for log-in details, etc.

The talk will cover a range of issues, including:

- How do heat pumps work?
- Which homes are most suitable, cylinders, outside space
- Thermal insulation improvements, historic homes

Parish Environment

- Temperature versus efficiency/cost/CO2, weather compensation
- Locating a heat pump, noise, planning permission
- Do you run them 24/7? Most efficient ways of running them
- Installation costs
- How to go about getting quotes? Installers versus energy companies

Yet more sewage in the River Frome

The issue (many would say “scandal”) of untreated sewage being regularly pumped into our rivers and seas has become increasingly high profile in the last few years. Despite the media attention there seems little chance of much near-term improvement. Locally, Wessex Water have been upgrading the treatment works in Rode, but the latest data shows that, yet again, the figures for Rode are the worst on record. In total, the facility overflowed **102 times** last year, for a total of **1,429 hours**. This compares to 82 times and 1,248 hours in 2022. These most recent results are significantly worse than for each of the previous three years (data is available from 2019 onwards). The Rivers Trust publishes the data on sewage overflows for nearly all "Combined Sewer Overflows" (CSOs) and water treatment works in England & Wales, and the data is available on their website:<https://theriverstrust.org/sewage-map>

The river can look idyllic, but unfortunately there still appears to be a serious risk of nasty objects floating around...in addition to any agricultural run-off or other forms of pollution.

Get involved/keep in touch

The Climate Emergency Group has a monthly newsletter, which now reaches around 100 subscribers....if you'd like to join them, drop me a line at the email address below, or enter this link in your browser: <https://mailchi.mp/4b503e0ba20c/initial-sign-up> (sorry for the rather unfriendly web address!)

Climate Emergency Group – New Leader Required!

Finally, another reminder that - having been in the hot-seat for three years - I will be stepping back from "leading" the Rode, Beckington & Norton St Philip Climate Emergency Group in the summer. Whilst we've organised a number of successful events, produced a monthly email newsletter, and sought to highlight the climate emergency locally, I think it's time for someone with more expertise, energy, and time, to take on the mantle - and in particular to inspire us to reach the next level.

If you think that person is YOU - please drop me a line....and, if it's not you, but you know someone who could be interested, please ask them to get in contact.

Jim McAuliffe jim.mcauliffe@btinternet.com

Parish Groups

RODE AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

Herbs at Rode and District Gardening Club

Carrie Pakenham arrived early for the club's last meeting in the Village Hall before the Autumn because she had brought a large variety of plants to share with us in her talk about herbs. The many members and guests present browsed the club's sales table to pick up plants grown by members for the house or garden, and sales were brisk before the talk.

Averil Morrow reminded everyone to take a copy of directions to the gardens the club will visit this Spring and Summer, and to sign up early for the September trip to RHS Wisley before the trip is opened to others in the villages.

A second board was seeking helpers on June 9th 11am -4pm for the Rode Open Gardens. Gardeners in Rode were encouraged to open their gardens and/or to help run the stall selling visit maps and the plants on the day. People could sign up for two-hour slots.

Helen welcomed Carrie who comes from Rudge and has grown and sold herbs for many years. She passed around a bouquet with a wide range of flowers and foliage, which most members were surprised to learn were all herbs. Most people are familiar with culinary herbs, but herbs also provided the earliest medicines, dyes and fragrances. Herbs have a very long history of use. Some were used in pre-Christian religious ceremonies and have survived through to today like bringing holly and mistletoe into our homes at Christmas.

She talked of the use of birch bark to ease pain from strains, and the collection of sphagnum moss during the First World War as it has antiseptic qualities and can hold large amounts of fluid, so was used on wounds. World War Two saw widespread collection of berries and rose hips to produce syrups to provide vitamins for children. Modern day Chinese scientists are researching tree peonies for their possible medicinal uses.

Herbs are still used in this country to today to heal and treat medical conditions, but we were warned to consult an herbalist rather than use plants in our gardens. We were, however, encouraged to grow comfrey to make a tonic for our garden and save money. The green parts of the plant can be cut and added to water to soak for a few weeks. The liquid produced added to water will nourish growing plants. She also encouraged us to make jellies to preserve the flavours of fruits, herbs etc. as it is easier to make than jams.

Amongst the culinary herbs were several varieties of rosemary which can easily be grown from cuttings as Carrie demonstrated. There was so much useful information and a wide choice of reasonably priced plants to buy. Many people took home more plants to find a place to plant in their garden, or a jar of jelly to enjoy.

Parish Groups

This month is our first garden visit. It is an afternoon trip to Forest Lodge at Pen Selwood, Wincanton, meeting at 2:30pm on Monday 13th May. This is a 3-acre mature garden with a lake, bulbs and flowering trees. Guests are welcome but please let the club know you are intending to be there. Entry price to the garden is around £10.

Sharman Flindall

Willow Workshop



On 11th April The Rode and District Gardening Club held a Wicker Workshop where we were instructed by Clyde, from Wild Wicker, on making a garden obelisk. These are tall structures for growing climbing plants on, usually sweetpeas.



We had a very busy morning creating our obelisks and it was interesting to learn about the many types of willow - different strengths, flexibility and colours.

Overall, 20 amazing obelisks were made and everyone took their creations home to use in their gardens.

Karen Clothier

MONDAY LUNCH CLUB

Monday 13th May - 12.30pm

Mark, Hannah, and the wonderful lunch club helpers would be delighted to see you at our monthly over 60's lunch club.



Please book by contacting Hannah at The Cross Keys, pop in or give us a call 01373 830900 letting us know how many spaces and of any allergens. £5 per person - please bring cash on the day.

The raffle will be held as usual, please bring cash to buy tickets, and all donated prizes are very welcomed.

Thank you for your support of this non-profit village initiative, it's a really lovely afternoon; especially with Kim and her team of superstar helpers from Rode School joining us each month.

See you soon.

Hannah Lovell and Mark Warrener

Parish Groups

RODE OVER 60'S

On Friday 12th April Rode Over 60's held their AGM in the Memorial Hall.

It was a particularly special occasion as Pat Smith stepped down from the position of Chairman after many years service. A position she has held since 1991, after already being a committee member since 1987.

Also, Ros Dymond ended her long service. She joined the committee in 1991 and has served as both Treasurer and Secretary over the years. We wish them both a well-earned retirement and offer our gratitude and thanks for their dedication to the Rode Over 60's Club for so many years. Well done!

Angela Harper our President presented floral arrangements, cards and vouchers to Pat and Ros.



Peter Harris, our local historian, had researched the history of 7 Lower Street, the property on the corner of Walnut Close which is undergoing major renovation. Peter created an informative display and thanked other longstanding residents for their valuable information.

Our new chairman, Val Parker, whom most of you may know already, said she looks forward to her new role. Another busy person!

Birthdays in May:

Mrs. M. Martin, 1st. Mr. J. Thomas, 1st. Mr. B. Brookbanks, 2nd. Mrs. E. Byrne, 11th. Mr. T. Ryan, 28th.

We wish them all a very Happy Birthday.

Next event: Coach trip to Portsmouth Wednesday 8th May, leaving the village green prompt at 9.30am. If you would like to join us, you will be very welcome. Telephone Tom Ryan on 07414 497946 for further information. Fares members £20, visitors £22.

The more passengers the better, the club subsidises the cost to keep fares down, so a full coach is good for everyone.

Gail Stinton

Parish Groups

RODE WALKING GROUP (2ND THURSDAY IN THE MONTH)

Please note the change of day for the May walk, this will take place on the first Thursday of the month instead of the 2nd Thursday (as above).



Last month's walk started at Heaven's Gate car park, with a coffee stop at Shearwater Lake Tea Rooms and then back to the starting point by a slightly different route. A longer walk than usual at 4.6 miles (7.4 km) with sightings of bluebells and manageable mud occasionally.

The next walk will be local, starting at Rode Village Green at 10 am on Thursday 2nd May.

We will be walking the Tellisford Loop, so no transport arrangements needed. The basic walk is 5 km but some walkers who want a longer walk may choose to take the public footpath through Manor Farm and following the river valley to eventually join Tellisford Lane further up. We will all meet up at The Mill for coffee.

Please contact me with any queries.

Liz Dinnis

elizabethdinnis49@gmail.com

07788656337

RODE CRAFT CLUB

We each bring along whatever we are working on, share ideas and skills and enjoy each other's company over a cuppa and biscuits. Weekly on Thursday afternoons, 2-4 pm at Rode Chapel. There is no need to book or to commit to coming every week.



We have knitters, embroiderers, crocheters, card makers, leather workers and cross stitchers. The list goes on! All abilities too. We all help each other.

Val Parker

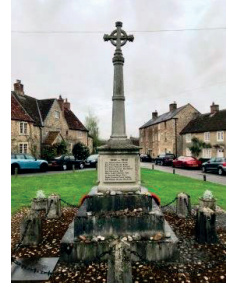
Parish History

NOOKS AND CORNERS: WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Although a distance of almost three miles separates the war memorials of Norton St Philip (left) and Rode (right), these monuments are in fact



connected by a number of curious historic coincidences and the matter of roughly 9,000 miles - the distance between England and West Australia. For each stone cross bears the name of an emigrant (one from Somerset and one from Wiltshire), each of whom left the West Country, settled in Australia and, following the outbreak of war in 1914, enlisted in the Australian military forces, both joining, unknown to each other, the same infantry unit and each losing their



lives on the same day in 1918. The lives and deaths of Percy Wadman and Ernest Kemp are intimately linked, yet they may never have met.

The story of Norton-based Percy Wadman (recorded on the NSP memorial) is well known to me, (it's told in the '*Brief Lives*' booklet) but the name of Ernest Kemp, recorded on the Rode memorial, was a recent discovery and, having learned that Ernest had served in the same West Australian infantry battalion as Percy, I was intrigued by the possibility that the two might have had some experiences in common. A little digging revealed that the two men had close ties with Bradford-on-Avon before both emigrated, each settling in different parts of Western Australia.

Ernest William Kemp (born in Rode in about 1898), together with his family, (father Edward, mother Hannah and younger sister Rosina) left their then home in Bradford-on-Avon for Australia in September 1911, arriving in Fremantle in November of that year. NSP based Percy Wadman (born in Bradford in 1890) arrived at Fremantle almost exactly a year later. Almost 8 years older than Ernest, Percy became a farmer, and Ernest, when old enough, gained employment as a 'driver'.

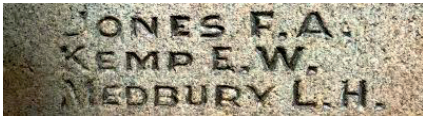
During the War Percy and Ernest enlisted in the Australian Military Forces, and as fate would have it, both ended up in the 51st Infantry Battalion. Percy signed on in June 1916 and Ernest in January 1917. Both gave their place of birth as Bradford on Avon - Ernest giving his new 'home' address as *Coode Street, Bayswater W.A.*

They both, in turn, made the long dangerous voyage by troopship to England en route for Flanders and, prior to active service in France, both men were retained in England for final training on Salisbury Plain: Percy in late 1916 and Ernest in the spring of 1917. The Wiltshire landscape would surely have been familiar to them, and like many visiting Australian soldiers they would have got to know Codford and its pubs, (especially '*The George*'), very well before being despatched to the drudgery and dangers of the Western Front.

Parish History

Both were in the line with their battalion in late April 1918, during the momentous German 'Spring Offensive', when the city of Amiens, a vital Allied communications centre, was subject to repeated enemy attacks. Following the German occupation of the nearby large village of Villers-Bretonneux on 24 April, Amiens looked destined to fall, and the British Fourth Army Commander, so alarmed by the situation, ordered that Villers-Bretonneux be immediately retaken. It was in a hastily organised but ultimately successful nighttime counter attack (in which the English-born Australian senior officer, Major-General J J Talbot Hobbs played a crucial planning role) and in which Australian forces (including the 51st Infantry Battalion), predominated, that the village was recaptured and the German drive to Amiens finally halted. But the savage fighting that night claimed many lives, including both Ernest and Percy. In the confusion of the immediate post-battle reports both men were recorded as 'missing in action'. It was not until the end of June 1918 that Ernest was officially confirmed as 'killed in action,' and not until October 1918 that Percy's relatives knew for certain that he had also died that fateful night.

Percy's body was eventually found and formally interred in what is now Adelaide Cemetery, to the west of the village; his name was also recorded on the NSP war memorial, which was unveiled in 1920. Poor Ernest was lost for ever – his body was never found. But his name lives on. It was first recorded on the war memorial in his



home village of Rode, which was also dedicated in 1920 and five years later his service was acknowledged on his adopted home town's war memorial – in Bayswater WA (now a low-rise suburb of Perth).

This elegant memorial was unveiled on Anzac Day (25 April) 1925, by the victor of the Villers-Bretonneux action, General Talbot Hobbs, a commander both Percy and Ernest may well have seen during their active service. A sympathetic and thoughtful leader - he had begun life as an architect and later developed a particular interest in war memorials - Talbot Hobbs genuinely earned the trust of his men. Ernest's name was also subsequently recorded on the National Australian War Memorial for the Missing in France, at Villers-Bretonneux, which was inaugurated in 1938.

Unfortunately, General Talbot Hobbs, who played a prominent role in the establishment of the Memorial, died at sea on his way to attend its unveiling. It remains a place of pilgrimage for Australian families, a permanent reminder of the importance of the action which took place there, forever honouring the men whose sacrifice ensured victory. A memorial for which so much was owed to Talbot Hobbs and on which Ernest's name forms a small but integral part.



Phil Dutton

Parish Friends & Family Notices

LAVERTON NEWS

Laverton resident takes to the stage

Daisy Dugmore will be making her Frome stage debut in "A Bunch of Amateurs" from 25th - 27th April, an exciting new comedy which is being staged at The Merlin Theatre.

Other noteworthy events on Laverton's social media

Tamara celebrated a certain birthday milestone - HAPPY BIRTHDAY TAMARA!!

Virginia Garaux



It is with much sadness that we share with you the passing of Thelma Young, formerly of Lower Street, Rode.

Thelma died peacefully on 4th April, at the age of 94, in her care home in Chippenham where she has lived for the last two years.

Thelma moved to Rode from London with her husband Ted in 1991. She was very happy living in such a lovely village for so many years and was an active part of the community until recently.

There will be a service at West Wiltshire Crematorium, Semington, on Monday 13th May at 11.45 am.

Any enquiries to FW Jones Funeral Directors on 01249 652525.

Dave and Jo
(Thelma's children)

Parish Food & Drink



Calling adventurous cooks of Rode Village!

We sell foodie ingredients sourced from all over the world and write recipes to inspire you to cook new dishes at home. Head to our website and check us out! Ben & Alice xx

♥ Warehouse shop at Church Farm, Rode BALL 6AA - just off the A361 - we share a building with MasterChef Winner Ping Coombes and the Fussel's Rapeseed Oil team
We are open on Mon-Fri 9am - 5pm. Come and say hello!

♥ Order online. FREE Same-day Local Delivery in our ZERO emission van Min order £20

♥ We also run small-group foodie cooking workshops!

♥ somersefoodie.com



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Follow directions from the Budgens roundabout.



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Email:

info@TheMillAtRode.com

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www.TheMillAtRode.com

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Parish Food & Drink



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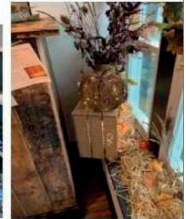
01373 830321

USUAL OPENING HOURS

Monday	9.00 - 17.00
Tuesday	9.00 - 17.00
Wednesday	9.00 - 13.00
Thursday	9.00 - 17.00
Friday	9.00 - 17.00
Saturday	9.00 - 13.00

Change to weekday closing:
We'll be closing 30 minutes earlier
at 5pm on Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri.

Closed May Bank Holidays:
Monday 6th May
Monday 27th May



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



PARISH RECIPE

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.

Email: thelink@rodevillage.com



Forthcoming Parish Events

Cream Teas

at St Lawrence Church, 3pm to 5pm
Sunday May 5th and Sunday May 26th
in aid of St Lawrence Roof Project.



Notice of Rode and District Memorial Hall AGM

The Rode and District Memorial Hall AGM will be held on:
Monday 20th May 2024
At 6.15pm
Venue: Rode Memorial Hall

All residents of the Parish are welcome to attend.

Forget-me-not Café

When? Third Monday of every month 2.30-4 PM

Where? St Philip and St James Church, NSP

Come and enjoy a cuppa and friendly people to chat with. We have a great café team, all Dementia Friends, who are looking forward to meeting you!



ALL ARE WELCOME!

For more information admin@hardingtonvale.org.uk 01373 834488

Forthcoming Parish Events



£5

Piano Recital

by **Charles Wiffen**

Music by
Mozart
Schubert
Muhly
Liszt

Thursday 9 May


St Philip & St James Church
Norton St Philip
12.30 for 1.00pm

The NSP Luchtime Concert

Saturday May 11th

Rode Chapel Musical Garden
Party

12 – 3 pm



Entry £5 includes cake & hot drink


& Live Music

Ploughman's lunches and plants also for sale.

BAND IN A BARN

Saturday 22nd June

Norton Farm, Norton St Philip
www.facebook.com/bandinabarnnsp



RODE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

At 7pm Monday 13th May
Memorial Hall Committee Room

SOMERSET MOBILE LIBRARY

Rode - High Street BA11 6PB 11.15am – 11.45am

2024 Dates: - 24th May, 21st June, 19th July

Forthcoming Parish Events



Let it grow

for #NoMowMay

Plantlife's #NoMowMay is the annual campaign calling on all garden owners and green space managers not to mow during May.

Approximately 97% of flower-rich meadows have been lost since the 1930s. With them gone, is vital food needed by pollinators like bees and butterflies.

Leaving patches of grassy areas to grow longer this summer allows native flowers to bloom for bees and butterflies and provides shelter for small mammals.

With over 23 million gardens in the UK, even the smallest grassy patches add up to a significant proportion of our land which, if managed properly, can deliver enormous gains for nature, communities and the climate.

Less mowing also means we have more time to enjoy our green spaces and connect with nature.

Whether you're in a city, town or the countryside – you and your green spaces can get involved in #NoMowMay. Put the lawnmower away and give nature a boost it deserves this summer.

Join the No Mow May movement at plantlife.org.uk/nomowmay



FROME NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

‘Come and Meet us’ event at Rode Post Office
Saturday 11th May 10am- 12pm

Louise Perry & Will Mortimer
Police Community Support Officers (PCSO)

Forthcoming Parish Events

A vibrant poster for Rode Park Fest. The background is dark blue with colorful triangular bunting at the top and bottom. The title 'RODE PARK FEST' is in large, bold, white letters with a red and blue outline. Below it, 'SAVE THE DATE' is written in white. A yellow banner contains the dates 'SATURDAY & SUNDAY 13TH & 14TH JULY'. The event list includes 'LIVE MUSIC | BBQ | BAR', 'TRACTOR RIDES | TOMBOLA', 'COMEDY | RACES | DISCO', 'TRADITIONAL FETE GAMES', 'TALENT SHOW | SHOPPING VILLAGE', 'TUG OF WAR | CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING', and '.. AND LOTS MORE!'. The location is 'RODE PLAYING FIELD ORNEAGE CLOSE RODE'. The email 'rodeparkfest@gmail.com' is at the bottom. Decorative icons include musical notes, fireworks, a beer, a trophy, a guitar, and shopping bags.

RODE PARK FEST

SAVE THE DATE

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY
13TH & 14TH JULY**

**LIVE MUSIC | BBQ | BAR
TRACTOR RIDES | TOMBOLA
COMEDY | RACES | DISCO
TRADITIONAL FETE GAMES
TALENT SHOW | SHOPPING VILLAGE
TUG OF WAR | CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING
.. AND LOTS MORE!**

**RODE PLAYING FIELD
ORNEAGE CLOSE
RODE**

rodeparkfest@gmail.com

PYJAMA-THEMED CHARITY NIGHT WALK

Take on a brilliant pyjama-themed charity night walk in Bath!

Dorothy House is looking for fabulous people to take on a night of walking, talking and dancing in Bath on Saturday 15th June. This year's theme is all about pyjamas – it will be the biggest PJ party in town!



Event highlights include a free drink upon arrival, numerous stalls including an environmentally friendly face paint bar and a photo booth, a fully marshalled 5K or 10K walk, and finally a DJ bringing in the party vibes!

The Midnight Walk is for anyone aged 12+ and starts at the Bath Pavilion. Arrival is from 9pm, with time to enjoy drinks, food, fun and funky warm-up with Cheryl Sprinkler from Mojo Moves. This year, there'll be both the usual 5K walk, as well as a brand new 10K route for those looking to push themselves! The 10K walkers will set off at 10pm, followed by the 5K walkers heading out at 11pm, enjoying the sights of Bath on a wonderful summer night.

All the walkers will be back at Bath Pavilion around midnight where everyone will continue to celebrate with the legendary slumber party! Celebrations at the Pavilion will finish at 1.30am.

Every penny raised from the Midnight Walk will help fund the Dorothy House "Hospice at Home" service. Dorothy House is asking each walker to aim to raise a minimum of £50, which could fund two hours of overnight care, provided by one of the charity's compassionate, skilled and experienced Hospice at Home carers.

Sign up for £20 today at dorothyhouse.org.uk.

Dorothy House Hospice Care provides exceptional free palliative and end of life care to a population of over 550,000 people in Bath & North East Somerset, and parts of Somerset and Wiltshire.

We provide medical services, family support and personalised hospice at home care for around half of the people in our community who are approaching death. We are funded partly by the NHS, but predominantly by donations, our 25 shops, and fundraising efforts. For every £1 from the government, we have to work hard to raise another £4 to make sure that we can meet the growing need for our services.

To support us with our many fundraising efforts, please visit us online at dorothyhouse.org.uk or call us on 01225 721 480.

Noticeboard



Saturday 15th June 10:30 – 12:30

Beckington Village Hall

Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Sale

In aid of Local Riding for the Disabled Group and other charities.

Any other local Charity or Group wishing to book a table please phone Heather on 01985 213530.

Saxon Group RDA Registered Charity 1187766

New Season Starts Sunday 14th April. New members welcome from Friday 19th April @ 5.45pm onwards.

BRADFORD ON AVON BOWLS CLUB

Culver Close (near the Tithe Barn)
Open daily
New members welcome

BradfordonAvon.Bowls22 | bradfordonavonbowlsclub.org.uk

Avon and Somerset Police

Elections for the Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) take place on Thursday, 2 May 2024.

The role of the PCC is to be the voice of the people and hold the police to account.

They are responsible for the totality of policing.

PCCs aim to cut crime and deliver an effective and efficient police service within their force area.

For more information about the PCC election, visit aspccelections.co.uk

Advertising Feature

Quality care in Frome you can trust

When a family is thinking about care for a loved one, they want the best - they want to know that the care home they choose will put their loved one's safety, happiness and wellbeing first.

Rossetti House is managed by award-winning provider Care UK - one of the UK's most highly successful care home operators* with over 40 years' experience of delivering high quality care to older people.

Living at Rossetti House is all about quality of life. Every colleague in the home is passionate about enabling residents to enjoy a fulfilling lifestyle, tailored around their unique needs and preferences. The lifestyle team organises a huge variety of group and one-to-one activities, with plenty going on each day.

With the extra support that our care home offers, new residents are often surprised at what they can do, whether that's being able to continue with an activity they've enjoyed in the past, or even discovering new hobbies with our daily activities.

The purpose-built home is designed for enjoying a luxury lifestyle, with en-suite rooms and facilities including a cinema, café, hair and beauty salon, and comfortable lounges and dining rooms.

The home also boasts stunning gardens with wheelchair friendly pathways – the perfect place to spend some time when the weather allows.

Whether your loved one enjoys a quiet cup of tea in bed before starting the day, loves going

for strolls in the landscaped grounds, or enjoys a chat over a glass of wine, the team at Rossetti House will spend time to enable them to continue living life the way they want to.

Join us for our next event

Knit and natter

Every Tuesday, 2.30pm - 4.30pm

Come along to our weekly session alongside residents at Rossetti House. Take part in learning and sharing new skills while enjoying complimentary light refreshments.

Contact the home to RSVP.

Rossetti House care home
Welshmill Lane, Frome BA11 2AA
01373 610 232
careuk.com/rossetti-house



*As rated by the Care Quality Commission in England and the Care Inspectorate in Scotland.

Noticeboard

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Families Welcome

Frome Carnival Day this year will be on Saturday 21st September

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF MEETING OF RODE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN
RODE MEMORIAL HALL
ON MONDAY 15th APRIL 2024 AT 7.30 pm

UNCONFIRMED

Present:

Cllr Mike Salmon (MS) – Chair, Cllr Andy Pickett (AP), Cllr Ann Edney (AE), Cllr Jonathan Bowler (JB), Cllr Moira Punt (MP) and Cllr Peter Travis (PT).

In attendance: Hugh Williams – Clerk, Cllr Dawn Denton (County Councillor).

1. Parishioners Participation: No Parishioners were present.

Congratulations were given to Peter Travis on his Frome Civic Award.

2. Apologies for absence: Cllr J McAuliffe, Cllr P Restorick and Cllr A Boyden (County Councillor)

3. Approval of the minutes: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th March were approved.

4. Declarations of interest: None.

5. County Councillor's report:

Cllr Denton reported that she had recently heard that CALM Engineering were due to meet with Somerset to progress the outstanding drainage work. She said she would chase this up.

She also agreed to investigate Conservation Areas for Rode.

6. Actions from previous meeting:

i. Hoedowns: It was agreed to set up a Hoedown for May.

ii. Bench on Lower Street: The current bench is in a poor condition and the meeting agreed to purchase a replacement and install it. A limit of £500 was agreed. JB agreed to progress.

iii. Paths at playing field: The new path was due to start later this month now the ground was drier and should be completed in early May.

iv. The Mill: A response from Phil Wake agreeing an 'online' call had been received. AP agreed to speak to Grant Slade who had comprehensive records of the licence hearing and then go back to Phil Wake to seek clarification on the issue.

v. Paths from Barrow Farm: The meeting agreed to go ahead with Steven Whitehead for 7 cuts over the growing season.

vi. Drainage: Cllr McAuliffe had been in contact with Somerset but had been given no update on work on Crooked Lane and Straight Lane. (See also minute 5 for CALM Engineering). It was noted that Somerset Rivers Authority was hosting a meeting, to discuss flooding issues in the area, in Frome Town Hall on Tuesday 23rd April and JB hoped to attend.

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

7. Climate Change Group: There was still a shortage of volunteers to help with the Repair Café in June and this would probably be delayed until September. A new Chair was still being sought for the Group.

8. Highways issues:

i) Autospeedwatch: It had been reported that a large number of vehicles had been recorded exceeding the speed limit going up Bradford Road. It was agreed that this data should be forwarded to the police who would hopefully send letters to repeat offenders. (John Flindall would be asked to submit data). The Clerk reported that the Speed Watch Team had resources to monitor another Autospeedwatch device and this could be located on Rode Hill. However, it was agreed to not purchase another device until it was seen that some action was being taken by law enforcement on the current data collection.

ii) Street Lights Turn off: The Clerk reported that he had received a quote for the work and this had been circulated. It was agreed to progress this with Somerset.

9. Planning:

i) New applications:

2024/0365/TCA: Walnut tree, reduce crown by 1-2m – Mayfield Mill, 4A High Street. No objections.

2024/0492/TCA: Sycamore, pull back house side by 2-3m and crown lift to 5m; sycamore, crown lift to 5m; horse chestnuts, fell – The Millers House, 1 Rode Hill. No objections.

ii) Somerset decisions:

2024/0244/TCA: Sorbus, reduce by 0.5-1m all round; grafted maple, reduce crown by 1-1.5m; apple and pear, thin crowns by 10% and reduce by 1-1.5m; birch remove all dead wood and reduce crown by 1-2m – The Stables, Langham Place. Approved

iii) Other: It was agreed to forward the Friends of the Earth link regarding placing of solar and wind farms in the UK to Nikki White at Somerset Planning for consideration when reviewing the solar farm application (2023/2183/FUL).

10. Neighbourhood Plan: The premeeting had discussed the current Rode Neighbourhood Plan and it was agreed that Context Planning would be approached on a number of issues. The PC agreed that it would try and avoid any substantive changes that required a referendum.

The main points to take to Context were:

- a) Conservation area to be increased to include Merfield, rectory on Bradford Road etc. But should this be done separately or as part of the Neighbourhood Plan?
- b) To increase the Recreation area (playing field) to include the new S106 land and also can this be redesignated as F2 land instead of green space.
- c) To strengthen Policies 5, 8, 11, 12 and 13 within the existing Plan.

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

d) How to get the footpaths from Church Farm to Church Lane and the Recreation area officially designated as footpaths.

e) To strengthen environmental statements within the Plan.

It was agreed not to expand the scope of the Plan to include The Mill or extend it to include any neighbouring parishes. Some issues regarding land ownership would be clarified. AP agreed to discuss these points with Context.

11. Buses: The new timetables had been delivered by Councillors to all properties in Rode. There was still a threat to the buses, especially the weekend services. There was concern First buses to Bath at times were full and this might not be getting recorded. It was agreed to use the village Facebook to record this. PT asked for further funding to promote bus use. The PC agreed to allocate up to £200.

12. New Village Hall: It was reported that the meeting held on 1st April had been positive, although some concerns were expressed over lack of terms of reference and that the concept design being prepared could restrict any future architect design. A budget had been agreed to get an initial planning application prepared. It was noted that the current Memorial Hall cannot be sold without consent by the village. The next meeting was due to be held on 23rd April but due to availability of participants could be delayed. However, there is urgency due to the current state of the Scout Hut and Pavilion to progress the plans.

13. Financial matters:

i) **Allotment charge:** It was agreed to charge £60 for this year.

ii) **Annual Governance and Accountability Return – Section 1:** The meeting agreed that Rode Parish Council complied with all the accounting statements in Section 1 of the AGAR form.

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

SALC (training)	£25.00
Glasdon (waste bin)	£86.34
Frome Printing/P Travis (bus timetables)	£160.00
J H Jones	£809.99
John Osborne (bench)	£274.99
Clerk Salary	£259.31
HMRC PAYE	£64.60
H Williams (sign and whisky for Speedwatch retiree)	£56.34

14. Any other business: The Chair asked if anyone was willing to take on Chairmanship at the Annual Meeting for the coming year. He said he could continue for one more year but would need to hand over some duties to other members of the Parish Council.

15. Date of next meeting: The next meeting would be held in the Committee Room at the Memorial Hall on: **Monday 13th May at 7.30pm.** This meeting will follow the Annual Parish Meeting starting at **7.00pm.**

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.



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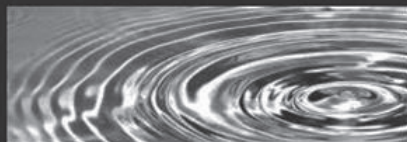
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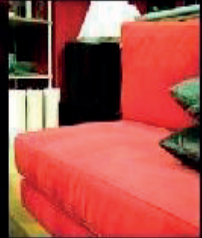
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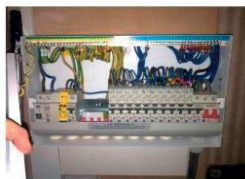


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Wednesday 1 May	8.30 am 5.00 pm	Hemington , Morning Prayer Rode Chapel , Ecumenical Informal Prayer	
Thursday 2 May	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip , Silent Prayer	
Sunday 5 May	9.00 am 10.30 am 11.00 am 6.00 pm	Norton St Philip , Informal Breakfast Rode St Lawrence , Holy Communion Laverton , Holy Communion Rode Chapel , Meeting Place	B Day C Walker/M Harrison S Kivett
Tuesday 7 May	11.00 am 5.00 pm	Rode Chapel , Ecumenical Holy Communion Laverton , Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 8 May	8.30 am 5.00 pm	Hemington , Morning Prayer Rode Chapel , Ecumenical Informal Prayer	
Thursday 9 May Ascension Day	8.00 am 6.00 pm	Norton St Philip , Holy Communion Norton St Philip , Silent Prayer	
Sunday 12 May	9.00 am 9.00 am 10.30 am 11.00 am 11.00 am	Tellisford , Matins Rode St Lawrence , Informal Breakfast Norton St Philip , Holy Communion Laverton , Matins Buckland Dinham , Iona Service	B Day C Walker/P Bennett
Monday 13 May	9.00 am	Norton St Philip , Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 14 May	5.00 pm	Tellisford , Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 15 May	8.30 am 5.00 pm	Hemington , Morning Prayer Rode Chapel , Ecumenical Informal Prayer	
Thursday 16 May	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip , Silent Prayer	
Sunday 19 May	9.00 am 10.30 am 10.30 am 11.00 am 11.00 am	Farleigh Hungerford , Morning Worship Rode St Lawrence , Holy Communion Norton St Philip , Informal Worship Laverton , Matins Buckland Dinham , Holy Communion	C Walker C Walker R Stewart/F Stewart D Gatcliffe
Monday 20 May	9.00 am	Norton St Philip , Morning Prayer	
Tuesday 21 May	5.00 pm	Laverton , Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 22 May	8.30 am 5.00 pm	Hemington , Morning Prayer Rode Chapel , Ecumenical Informal Prayer	
Thursday 23 May	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip , Silent Prayer	
Sunday 26 May	9.00 am 10.30 am 10.30 am 11.00 am 6.00 pm	Tellisford , Holy Communion Rode St Lawrence , Informal Worship Norton St Philip , Holy Communion Laverton , Matins Buckland Dinham , Evening Service	J Perrett B Day J Perrett
Tuesday 28 May	5.00 pm	Laverton , Evening Prayer	
Wednesday 29 May	8.30 am 5.00 pm	Hemington , Morning Prayer Rode Chapel , Ecumenical Informal Prayer	
Thursday 30 May	6.00 pm	Norton St Philip , Silent Prayer	

RODE CHAPEL MAY 2024 SUNDAY SERVICES – 10.30 am

12th May Rev A. Prout (HC), 19th May Mr K. Young, 26th May Rev G. Warmington
5th May 6pm Meeting Place Music Based Worship
Every Wednesday 5pm Ecumenical Prayers

May 2024 Diary	
Thu 2nd May	10am Rode Walking Group - see page 23 (please note this is a change of date)
Sun 5th May	3pm - 5pm Cream Teas at St Lawrence Church - see page 7
Mon 6th May	Bank Holiday
Wed 8th May	9.30pm Rode Over 60s Coach Trip - see page 22
Thurs 9th May	12.30pm for 1pm NSP Church Lunchtime Concert - see page 7
Sat 11th May	10am - 12pm PCSO Come and Meet Us - see page 33 10am - 12pm NSP Repair Café - see page 11 12pm - 3pm Rode Chapel Musical Garden Party - see page 9
Mon 13th May	12.30pm Monday Lunch Club - see page 21 2.30pm Rode & District Gardening Club Trip - see page 21 7pm Annual Parish Council Meeting - see page 32 7.30pm Rode Parish Council Meeting - see page 41
Mon 20th May	6.15pm Rode and District Memorial Hall AGM - see page 31
Tue 21 st May	Copy Deadline for June Link
Fri 24th May	11.15am - 11.45am Somerset Mobile Library Rode High Street
Sun 26th May	3pm - 5pm Cream Teas at St Lawrence Church - see page 7
Mon 27th May	Bank Holiday
Fri 31st May	8pm RPF Lottery Draw, The Cross Keys - see page 11
Year Planner	
Sun 9th June	Rode & District Gardening Club Open Gardens
Sun 16th Jun	Father's Day
Sat 22nd Jun	Band in A Barn, NSP - see page 32
Sat 13th July	Rode Park Fest - see page 34
Sun 14th July	Rode Park Fest - see page 34
Mon 26th Aug	Bank Holiday
Mon 9th Sept	Rode Gardening Club Visit to Wisley

WASTE COLLECTIONS							
● REFUSE ● RECYCLING ● GARDEN							
May 2024							
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	31			

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Front cover photos:

Grey Heron (in the river near The Mill) and Lilac in bloom (on Rockabella)