

MOMSS MAGAZINE



Summer shades

Drawing by Anne Farmer (1944 - 2024)

JULY 2025

**News & Views for our MOMSS villages of
Middlezoy, Othery, Moorlinch, Stawell,
Sutton Mallet and Greinton**

Our advertisers enable us to provide the MOMSS magazine free of charge to each home in our villages. Please support them if you can, and mention this magazine.

Printed by: Media Edge UK Ltd, Bridgwater, 01278 450406

MOMSS MAGAZINE

This publication is hand delivered
**FREE to over 1,040 homes within the
villages in the United Benefice:
Middlezoy, Othery, Moorlinch,
Stawell, Sutton Mallet & Greinton**

It can also be found at:

www.middlezoyvillagehall.org.uk

and www.stawellvillage.info and

www.achurchnearyou.com/Othery/page

MOMSS is issued 11 times a year (there is a joint December/January issue) and is designed as a Community Magazine. It is produced by volunteers, with the authority of the United Benefice Churchwardens, for the villagers' benefit.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Committee: Richard Graham, Anita Winslade, Jane Stryker and Isobel Davis.

Editor this month: Anita Winslade

Compiler this month: Isobel Davis

NEWS ARTICLES

We regret we cannot guarantee inclusion of articles or photographs and may need to edit copy due to space limitations.

Submitting articles: Copy preferred in Microsoft Word format.

Email to momssgeditor@live.co.uk

300 word limit please.

Submit handwritten copy via one of the members of the committee if you are unable to find someone to help you transfer it to email. We cannot guarantee its accurate inclusion.

Submitting photos or artwork:

also momssgeditor@live.co.uk

We gladly accept news and views from all groups or individuals, however, the Committee has overriding editorial control. We cannot accept liability for loss or damage arising from any error, inaccuracies or omission from any copy or advertising. The views expressed in the magazine are not necessarily those of the United Benefice, the Editorial teams or the publisher.

MOMSS Publishing House Style

Articles submitted to the magazine are put into MOMSS house style. This uses Gill Sans 10pt for general text with Gill Sans bold 10pt for sub-headings. Arial Black 10pt is used for main headings. Example of our date format is '25 December' – the st, rd, th are only used after dates with no month alongside. There is no need to insert year unless referring to year ahead. We use a 12 hour time format eg '5.30pm'. Italics, bold or underlining will not be included.

Advertising costs

Quarter Page (A7 size):

Single edition £20; Three editions £50;

Six editions £90; Annual £175.

Half Page (A6 size):

Single edition £40; Three editions £100;

Six editions £180; Annual £350.

For further pricing information and technical details phone

Jane Stryker Tel: 01458 210661

E-mail momssgadverts@live.co.uk

Please note: Copy and payment for adverts must be received by 12th of the month (see date of deadlines on this page).

Advertising space is limited. We cannot guarantee single adverts will be accepted for publication.

MOMSS Account details

Account name: United Benefice MOMSS

Sort Code 09.01.53

Account Number 79133288

Reference 'Magazine'.

**This magazine is edition
number 6 of volume 22**

**DON'T FORGET !
August edition deadlines:
Adverts 12 July
Articles 15 July**

FROM THE EDITOR

Phew, what a lot of hot weather we have been experiencing during recent weeks! Rain occasionally fell but not really enough to help fields and gardens to survive let alone thrive. For sure rain will come in plentiful doses – probably when we personally do not want it to interrupt or spoil our holidays and trips out to gardens and seaside resorts. Haymaking and cereal harvesting definitely need dry weather followed by nourishing gentle showers of soft refreshing rain.

In the magazine this month we have sad news, happy news, disappointing news, encouraging news, joyful and very thankful news. Seek and you shall find! Take time to relax and enjoy the articles and pictures and perhaps be curious enough to get out and about in our lovely county of Somerset and beyond.

Sincerely wishing you all a happy Summer!

Anita Winslade, Editor

GENERAL ITEMS

SKY AT NIGHT - July

Sunrise Sunset

Beginning of July 5.01am-9.29pm

End of July 5.35am-8.59pm

Moon Phases

First Quarter 2nd / Full Moon 10th / Last Quarter 18th / New Moon 24th

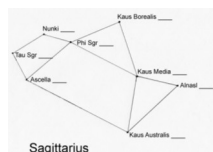
Planets

Mars sets in the west at 11pm quite faint and star-like, then at 11.30pm Saturn again faint and star-like appears in the east. Early morning at 2am Venus can be seen shining as it rises in the east, followed by another bright object - the planet Jupiter.

Constellation

Late evening during the last couple of weeks of July find a flat clear southern horizon so you can get a good view of the Constellation of Sagittarius. On first glance this area may appear to be quite cloudy but this is in fact clouds of stars as we are looking toward the centre and most dense part of our Milky Way galaxy. The stars of Sagittarius form a teapot shaped asterism complete with handle, lid and spout. From a really dark location steam appears to be coming out of the spout, an illusion caused by a mass of stars in this direction.

Phenomena: On the morning of 22 July before dawn the waning crescent Moon appears with Jupiter to the left and Venus to the right, the three brightest objects in the sky after the Sun.



Paul Adamson 01823 698156

SOMERSET LEVELS STARGAZERS

At our July meeting amateur astronomer, astro-photographer and science educator Mark Radice gives a follow up from his talk last year on *Observing the Moon* as he presents *Observing the Planets*. The meeting will be held on Wednesday 30 July in Othery Village Hall, Fore Street, Othery. TA7 0QU.

We also have a night sky guide for the month ahead and astronomy news. Admission is £3 with membership available. For more details or to be added to our mailing list please contact somersetlevelsstargazers@hotmail.com or follow us on Facebook.

Paul Adamson, 01823 698156

FARM DIARY

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

In the Field. From the middle of June, the expected weather is hay making weather. Unfortunately, in the cereal fields what we need is rain. Lack of it will mean a smaller harvest. It is likely that prices will also be lower as a result of the trade deal with the Americans which will allow in an amount of bioethanol equivalent to our annual production. This will close the only plant we have making this green fuel from cereals. That represents a loss of a market to cereal growers. Jobs will also be lost at the plant. July is the time to prepare for the winter barley and oil seed rape harvest. The goats have now gone and the lambs are growing well. Livestock tend to grow well in sunny conditions as less energy is being used to maintain body temperature. It goes in to growing the animal instead.

DEFRA. According to the editor of the Farmers Weekly dated 13 June 2025, the changes at Defra in the last 12 months are difficult to overstate. A change of ministerial team; a spending review; a new chief executive for the Animal and Plant Health Authority; the departure of the most prominent civil servant for farming; still to come is a change of chief executive for the Rural Payments Agency and a change of permanent secretary. As an outsider, one wonders what the morale in the department is like. The editor did not mention an old news story of a couple of months ago about a senior Defra civil servant who worked from home and managed to hold down two similar positions. To this author, it is not one bad apple that is the problem so much as one bad apple and three bosses who did not know what their senior subordinate was up to. On the farm we are struggling with Rachel Reeves' inheritance tax grab on all private

EMZ Pilates & Yoga (FB/Insta/Youtube)

Pilates Curry Rivel Village Hall Mon 630pm

Yoga Curry Rivel Village Hall Mon 730pm

Yoga Othery Village Hall Wed 930am

Pilates Westonzoyland Village Hall Thurs 930am



£8 per class, payments taken monthly or £10 PAYG

121 sessions for a more personalised plan/rehab/pre & post natal

Tailored celebration **wellness parties**

07378 551774 emzpilatesandyoga@gmail.com

<https://atonewithemz.co.uk> FB/Insta/Youtube

businesses, as well as the weather. Likewise, we are about six years into a seven-year reduction in farm support announced by Prime Minister Boris Johnson and the ministry have yet to decide how to protect fields with a high portion of peat. It is a privilege to be working outside, while the weather is so good, observing nature as it blossoms.

Richard Graham

WESTERN FRONT ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of the Somerset branch of the WFA is at 7.30pm on Wednesday 9 July in Othery Village Hall, Fore Street, Othery, TA7 0QU. We start the evening with a short AGM and this will be followed by a look at the German U Boat. Chairman Ian Stevenson will look at some of the little known facts of the German U boat as well as some of the more notorious actions that caused outrage around the world. Everyone is welcome to attend our meetings.

Pat Adamson

Secretary, Somerset branch, WFA 01823 698156

MIDDLEZOY AND OTHERY SCHOOLS

We can't believe that June is upon us already and that we only have another five weeks until the end of term. Our Year 6 children completed their SATs in May and were treated by the PTA to a pizza-making lunch in Taunton, which they all enjoyed. They and the rest of KS2 are now busy rehearsing their end of year production, *Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies*, which takes place on 7 and 8 July in Othery Village Hall.

The children have been enjoying enrichment trips: Unicorn class visited Noah's Ark Zoo



Bubbles & Suds

- Window Cleaning
- Conservatory Cleaning
- Fascia & Soffit Cleaning
- Gutter Clearance
- Solar Panel Cleaning

01458 258188



info@bubbles-and-suds.co.uk
www.bubbles-and-suds.co.uk



Farm linked to their science work and Phoenix class went to see the Roman Villa at The Newt, which linked to their learning in history.

As always at this time of year, there are still lots of events coming up. Dragon class will be off to Okehampton for their residential next week. We also have our school sports afternoon on Monday 23 June at Middlezoy's recreation ground.

To finish off our term, our favourite artist, Darrell Wakelam will be coming in for two days in July. He will be working with the children in their new classes on topics for next year.

Our Open Afternoon is booked for late July which offers our children the chance to share their work from throughout the year with their parents and carers.

A request.... We are looking at replacing our Trim Trail area and seek sponsorship and/or support from any outside companies who may be able to help us with groundworks/fundraising. Our current Trim Trail was put in in 2011 so has lasted well but is now in need of an update. Please contact the school office if you are able to support us in any way. Email: office@othmid.ppat365.org or telephone: 01823 698464.



*Heidi Braithwaite,
Office Assistant*

NEWS FROM OUR MPS

Update from Tessa Munt, MP for Moorlinch, Stawell, Sutton Mallet and Greinton

Hello everyone,

When I was elected last July, I wanted to focus on specific health issues, including the chronic health condition known as ME. Thank you to those who've shared the reality of living with this condition. I wrote to the Health Secretary asking him to fund research for both ME and Long Covid sufferers. I was delighted that all 71 of my MP colleagues signed the letter, which I delivered just before World ME Day.

On the Justice Committee, our Report on the Criminal Cases Review Commission reveals it's an organisation needing complete root and branch reform. Our next focus is on ending the cycle of reoffending through better prisoner rehabilitation and resettlement.

Celebrating World Cider Day served as a great reminder of all that's good and vibrant about this special area – not least, its people! I run many 'surgeries' in wonderful independent coffee shops and village pubs. If you'd like to speak to me, please come and chat.

My next local 'surgery': Friday 11 July from 7pm to 8pm at Ashcott Beer Festival.

Thank you.

You can contact me:

Call: 01934 440639 (answerphone out of office hours)

Email: tessa.munt.mp@parliament.uk

Post: Tessa Munt Freepost (you won't need a stamp!)



Ashley Fox, MP for Middlezoy and Othery

I recently met with Paul, who runs Styles Menswear in Eastover. After years serving Bridgwater, he's now facing a £6,000 increase in business rates - and that's before we even get to the catastrophic impact of the roadworks outside his door.

Over the period of a year, footfall in Bridgwater has dropped by more than 400,000 and the most recent figures show that decline isn't going away. In the first quarter of this year alone, footfall fell from 547,484 to 465,164 compared to the same period last year. That's over 80,000 fewer people coming into town to do their shopping, have a coffee, or enjoy a meal - and local businesses are feeling every bit of that loss.

Since December, when Somerset Council first announced the full Eastover closure, I've urged them to rethink. I've written repeatedly to raise concerns, met with affected businesses, and applied pressure for proper support. When I learned that Somerset Council had doubled pavement licence fees - right in the middle of prolonged disruption - I called for those charges to be waived. It was an unfair kick in the teeth to some businesses already struggling to survive, and I made it clear that some form of compensation or relief was essential.

And it's not just Bridgwater that feels the strain. This chaos doesn't stop at the town boundary. Poorly managed road closures and diversion routes often drive traffic straight through rural villages. The result? Congestion, damaged roads, and disruption to daily life. Too often, residents are left to deal with last-minute works and poor communication from the Council.

I will continue to stand with our traders and residents. I'll keep fighting for practical support and I will keep speaking up - because we deserve better.

If you need assistance or would like to raise any concerns, please feel free to meet Ashley Fox in Othery on Tuesday 22 July 4pm-5pm in The Church Room, North Lane, TA7 0QG. So if you have an issue or a question that you want to raise do come along. No need to book in advance – just turn up or get in touch at :

ashley.fox.mp@parliament.uk

www.ashleyfox.org.uk

Facebook: Ashley7Fox



ASHLEY FOX MP

*Here to
Help!*



✉ House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

@ ashley.fox.mp@parliament.uk

☎ 01278 811 007

f Ashley7Fox

Financed through allowances available to the Member of Parliament.

Sign up to my newsletter



SCAN ME

Radiant.

**REFORMER PILATES STUDIO
AT COATES ENGLISH WILLOW,
MEARE GREEN**

**Drop in, memberships & packs
available, scan the QR code to book in!**



**Classes for beginners, intermediate
& advanced**

CONTACT US

WWW.RADIANTPILATES.CO.UK

HELLO@RADIANTPILATES.CO.UK

**UNIT 5 MEARE GREEN COURT, STOKE ST.
GREGORY TA3 6HY**

MOORLINCH VILLAGE NEWS

MOORLINCH PLANT SALE SUCCESS!

We were lucky to have wonderful weather for our annual plant sale in May. So many people came and bought from the large selection of great quality plants donated by our green-fingered community. Cream teas quickly sold out and stunning cakes were snapped up. People enjoyed a relaxing afternoon beneath the new gazebo in the Church Hall grounds with views across our lovely countryside. And I have to mention this ... the new dishwasher was put to good use.



Thank you to all who helped and all who donated cakes and plants ... so many of you! Thank you to all who came and supported our event. All the money raised (over £1,000) will go towards paying the bills for the hall and for repairs and maintenance so that we can keep it available for everyone to use.

Samantha Dawe, sam.eastend@gmail.com

MOORLINCH CHURCH HALL

May was a great month for the Moorlinch Church Hall, so we wanted to update you on the news and remind you that the hall is available for you to book for any fun family events, practising your favourite sport or having a get together with friends.



Here are some of the committee's highlights;

- Hugely successful plant sale raising funds to help with hall upkeep and bills;
- New gazebo finished and used for the first time;
- External decorating has smartened up and protected some of the wood and cladding;
- Snagging jobs nearly completed following construction projects funded from the Sedgemoor DC grant;
- Lovely villagers volunteering to weed and cut the grass ready for the plant sale


Swallowcliffe Interiors Ltd
Bespoke Soft Furnishings

*We offer the following Services,
all in the comfort of your own home.*

- *Bespoke hand sewn curtains*
- *Lampshades* **All types of blinds*
- *Cushions - including outdoor*
- *Wallpaper* **Fabric, poles and tracks*
- *Small upholstery jobs*

By appointment only, but please contact us by:

Phone: 07444 297 912

Email: info@swallowcliffeinteriors.co.uk

Website: www.swallowcliffeinteriors.co.uk

(many thanks to you, this was such a help);

• We warmly welcome Hilary McNeill to the committee.

Hope we saw you on Sunday 22 June at Midsummer Madness - afternoon cream teas and a few bits of fun.

Sam Dawe

STAWELL & SUTTON MALLET VILLAGE NEWS

Information is available on the website www.stawellvillage.info

STAWELL & SUTTON MALLET PARISH COUNCIL

Contact details for the Clerk to the Parish Council are:

Mr Chris Fry, 101 Bradney Lane, Bawdrip, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 8PQ.

Email address: cnfry@talktalk.net Mobile: 07796 794037

ST. FRANCIS CHURCH

Reminder - Cream Teas!

St. Francis Church is having a Cream Teas afternoon on Saturday 19 July, at Stawell Village Hall, from 3pm - 5pm. Scones will be provided by the talented scone makers of Stawell, Jim and Morag Thorley. Do come along and try them, they are scrummy!!



Church Flowers

Our church flower rota has sadly depleted and we need to recruit some new people to help. It is not too arduous, just twice a year and no super creative skills required, just some vases and some flowers, from the garden, if available, some greenery etc. If you are willing, contact Ruth on 01278 722914. Thank you.

Ruth Peberdy, Stawell Church Committee

VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 26 July monthly Coffee Morning at Terry and Annie Holder's, Fry's Cottage from 10am till 12 noon. All welcome and put some cash in the pot as the church starts to consider major repair work on the building.



STAWELL AND SUTTON MALLET VILLAGE HALL

All that's happening at Stawell & Sutton Mallet Village Hall in July:

Groups

Monday Keep Fit with Liza 7pm - 8pm

Tuesday Yoga with Clare 7pm - 8.15pm

Wednesday Dog training with Sophie 5pm - 7pm

Wednesday Short Mat Bowls 7pm - 9pm

Thursday Zumba with Carole-Anne 9.30am - 10.30am

Thursday Art Group 7pm - 9pm

Friday Yoga with Clare 10am - 11.15am

Events

Saturday 12th Hub Cafe 10.30am - 1pm

Monday 21st Whist 2pm - 4pm

Saturday 26th Hub Pub 7.30pm - 11pm



Maxine Hughes, Chairperson

GREINTON PARISH CHURCH

St Michael and All Angels

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held on 19 May. Church finances and the physical state of the church, which has just been subject to a 5-yearly survey, were the main topics of discussion.

Although the church building is in reasonable condition, the church architect assesses that works costing about £300,000 will be required within the next 10 years. Everyone at the meeting agreed that there was very little prospect of us being able to raise that sort of money and grant funding would be difficult to get with such a small congregation - there are only five people on the church's electoral roll and the Parochial Church Council (PCC) consists of just three people, soon to reduce to two.

Therefore, with great sadness, the PCC has concluded that the church must close as a Church of England place of worship and the Diocese of Bath and Wells has been informed of this.

This does not mean that the church building will close immediately or for ever. It is likely that we will be able to continue using the church as we have done over recent years (Harvest Celebration, Remembrance, Christmas Singalong etc), at least until the future of the building (which is Grade I listed) has been determined.

The churchyard also will remain open for the time being.

The village will be consulted as to the future use of the building but meetings held over the past few years have been unable to come up with any ideas which we, as a community, might be able to take forward.

Importantly, the cost of maintaining the building will no longer be the PCC's responsibility.



Towans Care Residential Home

CQC Rated Good | 9.9/10 on Independent Ratings
Award-Winning Home

Services:

- Day Care
- Respite & Recuperation Stays
- Permanent Residential Care

Enjoy a full-time activities programme, home-cooked meals, and exceptional care in a beautiful home with accessible gardens.

AWARD-WINNING CARE

Visit us: Towans Care Home
Berrow Road, Burnham-on-Sea,
TA8 2EZ

Contact: 01278 788166
care.manager@towans.co.uk
www.towans.co.uk
facebook.com/TowansCareHome

VILLAGE HALL

The Harvest Barn Dance will take place on Saturday 6 September, doors open at 6.30pm.

Live music from Hobson's Choice, back by popular request.

Fish & Chips van and possibly the best value bar in Somerset.

Entry £10; £6 for under 18s; primary school aged children free.

Toby Crispin, greintonvillage@gmail.com



MIDDLEZOY VILLAGE NEWS

MIDDLEZOY VILLAGE HALL Middlezoy Community Project

Middlezoy Village Hall will be holding their AGM on Monday 7 July. This will start at 7pm. Please come along to show your support.

Friday evenings are still a big success, fish and chips being the best attended. We also have other food wagons attending - details are posted on the Middlezoy Facebook page. We also have a burger van that attends on some Friday evenings; this is run by Starburst which is a Somerset fund raising organisation which raises money for local charities. The last time they came they raised £200 selling food from their burger van.

On Friday 11 July we will be welcoming the Chalice Morris Men performing at the village hall from 8pm. This is also a fish and chip evening, so come down and join us for a fun evening.

On 6 September will be a horse racing evening, we are hoping to raise money to enable us to replace the decking at the front of the hall.

Do you need somewhere to hold a weekly class? Yoga, pilates, dance or other?

Middlezoy Village Hall are currently offering your first 4 hours free when you sign up for 26 hours hire. Please email: middlezoyvillagehallbookings@gmail.com

We are still looking for more volunteers to help run and organise events for the future.

If you would like to come along to one of our meetings, we hold them on the first Monday of every month starting at 7pm. We usually aim to finish no later than 9pm.

If you can help, please contact me on 0776 0887 907.

Paul Baker, MCP Chair

MIDDLEZOY VILLAGE SHOP & POST OFFICE

We are lucky enough to continue to host the Post Office within our little community shop to ensure that local communities can continue to benefit from this much needed service.

The PO updated their hours on 1 June to enable cover on every day of the week and are now open 8.30am – 1pm every weekday.

The shop took the opportunity to adjust our hours as follows:

Monday - Friday 8.30am – 1pm and 3pm - 5pm

Saturday 8.45am – 12noon

Sunday Closed all day

We are so grateful to all our brilliant volunteers who continue to work behind the counter and behind the scenes to ensure we can continue this great community resource for you.

We have finished some structural improvements recently and are working hard to bring you new and exciting stock.

We have a new regular delivery of fresh bread / pastries from Winnies Bakery; South West Gold award winning Single Variety Co preserves; Wessex Country Gammons and much more – call in and have a look !

Our pop-up café in late May was a great success. We plan others when the weather is fine.

We always welcome new volunteers, do get in touch if you have an hour or two a week to spare to support any aspect of running the shop - contact

middlezoyvillageshop@outlook.com We really appreciate your ongoing support - Thank You! Follow us on Facebook for shop and Post Office updates.

Middlezoy Village Shop Committee

REV KELVIN WILLIAMS

Kelvin has decided to hang up his 'dog collar' after 60+ years as a priest. We thank Kelvin for his Ministry in the Benefice. Following several years when he led services, recently he has cut back on his workload but has continued to take Home Communion to three households and officiate at Interment of Ashes. We are sure we will be able to call on him for advice and his words of wisdom for many years to come.

To say thank you to Kelvin there is an Afternoon Tea in Holy Cross Church on Saturday 5 July at 3pm. All are welcome. In recognition of his contribution to the Benefice, Kelvin has accepted a proposal that if you wish to make a donation, he will forward it to a charity of his choosing. Donations can be handed to your Churchwarden.

Middlezoy Churchwarden and PCC

AJP Electrics

Electrical Contractor

- ♦ Minor works to full re-wires
- ♦ Landlord services
- ♦ Certification
- ♦ Led lighting and
- ♦ Many more services

For all your electrical needs, please contact Andrew on 07967 300072
or
apoelectrics@aol.com

WEEKLY MONDAY COFFEE MORNINGS

This month we say farewell and good luck for the future to a great friend of the village and to the coffee morning. Ildiko Maria Haraszti (known to us as Ilde) has been a minister in training for the Methodist Church for the last 2 years. She has attended many Coffee Mornings and I know has touched the hearts of many. She leaves to take up her permanent position covering four rural Methodist Churches in Wolverhampton. We have invited Ilde to come along on Monday 7 July when we will be presenting her with a gift and will have the opportunity to say farewell.

The Coffee Morning runs every Monday (excluding bank holidays) 10am - 11.45am. We look forward to seeing you there.

Jill Darby (Co-ordinator)

MIDDLEZOY METHODIST CHURCH

Welcome to Summer and her family!

On a wonderful Sunday afternoon in June we welcomed Summer into the body of the Methodist Church in Middlezoy – Summer, her mum Caroline and dad Richard were accompanied by a host of family and friends for the special occasion.

The Peekaboo Gang Toddler Group continues to meet weekly in term time and welcomes new families. This is a place of fun and friendship on a Friday morning, 9.30am-12.30pm, come any time, and stay for as long as you want.



If you have a little one under 3 years old, pop by and meet some lovely people whilst your little one enjoys playing in the small and friendly space. Our last session this term before the summer holidays will be Friday 18 July and we will return after the start of the September term on Friday 5 September. We have recently acquired a little funding from the Methodist District which has enabled us to buy some bistro tables and chairs (see notice re Pop up Café) and some raised beds. We have been helped with soil from Simon and Carol (thank you so much) and have planted these up with some vegetables for the children to care for, and they have been planting seeds (a little late, but we hope they will grow) – nasturtiums and sunflowers – for the other planter. We have also invested in a Bug Hotel for them to notice tiny creatures setting up home.



The next Salads and Sweets will be on Tuesday 22 July from 1pm!! An opportunity to get together with friends and have a meal over conversation. Thank you to all our supporters who come from the village and from Circuit to contribute or to enjoy. £7 per person.



Pop-up Café

The first Pop-up Café session went really well and we will hope to repeat this with the shop on sunny Saturdays – look for the poster on the fence, or the notice on Facebook to let you know when the next one will be. The purpose is for the shop and ourselves simply to provide a space for people using the shop to sit for a few moments and chat together over a cup of coffee and piece of cake.



July services:

Sunday 13th, 10am – United Service in Holy Cross (rearranged to Holy Cross because of a Baptism there)

Sunday 27th, 6.30pm – Service 'in the round' with Holy Communion led by Rev Deborah Kirk

Booking the Methodist Church for your events:

Don't forget that the Chapel space and Back Room are available to hire - phone Jill Darby on 01823 698000.

Reverend Deborah Kirk,
Superintendent Minister, Taunton Deane and South Sedgemoor Methodist Circuit
Deputy Chair, SW Peninsula Methodist District 01823 334854
Ildiko Haraszti Minister-in-Training, ildikotutor@gmail.com

MIDDLEZOY WOMEN'S SOCIAL CLUB

If you are aged 65 and over and a village resident you will by the middle of this month receive an invitation for the annual outing. This year we will go to Darts Farm on route to Sidmouth. We have already booked the sunshine for Tuesday 12 August. Please note that this year we are going a week later to avoid the Sidmouth Folk Festival.

If you do not receive an invitation but are eligible, please let me know.

Return your invites promptly to ensure your seat on the coach.

Jill Darby, *Chairman*, 01823 698000 Jilldrb@gmail.com

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

Bell Restoration Project Fund Raising

The Brunch on Saturday 7 June was well attended despite a cooler day. Lots of conversations and over £300 raised for the bell restoration project.

The next event is a Wine and Cheese evening in the church on Saturday 9 August.

OTHERY VILLAGE NEWS

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

The church is currently only open from 9am to 3.30pm, Mondays to Fridays during school term days and for services. Genuine visitors can phone 07714 672316 to arrange for access at other times.

MEET YOUR LOCAL MP

Ashley Fox MP will be in Othery on Tuesday 22 July, 16.00 - 17.00 in The Church Room, North Lane, TA7 0QG. So if you have an issue or a question that you want to raise do come along. No need to book in advance – just turn up.

OTHERY GARDENING CLUB

Othery Gardening Club stopped meeting earlier this year and did not have a stall at the annual Othery Street Fayre. A final article will be published soon by Chairperson Jo Taylor.

Editor

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

Thank you to all the people who recently purchased a VE 80 Poppy Pin - there was £228.05p in the Royal British Legion donation box.

I am hoping to get some VJ 80 pins when available so please let me know if you will want one of these as all the last ones were reserved quickly.

Thank you from myself and the RBL.



Pat Adamson, Othery

OTHERY BOOK READING GROUP

The Rooster House - a Ukrainian family memoir by Victoria Belim

Victoria Belim - Victoria Frolova - took the surname of her great-grandmother Asya to honour one of the most influential women in her life and the one who inspired her to write their stories.



On a visit to Ukraine, the place of her childhood, Victoria came across her great-grandfather's diary. One page scored deep with the single line "Brother Nikodim vanished in the 1930s fighting to free Ukraine". This was the trigger to begin her search, culminating in entering The Rooster House and the dark truths contained in its basement.

The majority of our readers really enjoyed this book. Most found it very interesting, regretting not knowing more about Russia, its dark past where people disappeared, how blatant lies were told by the KGB and the inhumanity of children punished for what the previous generations had done. It was pointed out that middle Europe had changed hands over the centuries as a result of war. The sense of humour in the book was enjoyed and the entertaining characters. Other comments were engaging, profound, political book, personal story with flowing writing that had a lasting effect. One member went so far as to describe the book as brilliantly written by a remarkable writer. Some members however found the book disappointing as not much was mentioned about Crimea and odd no reference to the current conflict. One member found the book long winded and was disappointed there wasn't more information about life under Russian rule. However the Holodomor, the famine of the 1930s that killed millions of Ukrainians, is referenced in the book. As a result Victoria's grandmother, Valentina, regarded her garden and cherry orchard were extremely important to her, where plant varieties and planting times were carefully researched.

For further information about our group please email martinwall1@mac.com

Marion Hilling

M. Franks & Sons

Independent Family Funeral Directors

- * Private Chapel of Rest *
- * 24 Hour Personal & Caring Service *
- * Home Visiting Service *

Bath Road, Ashcott,
Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 9QT

Telephone: 01458 210627 or 01458 860157

Email: mfranksandsons@gmail.com

Website: www.mfranksandsons.co.uk

OTHERY VILLAGE HALL

Looks like summer is finally here! It's been lovely to see new faces at our social evenings and our events (and of course the regulars). We hope you have enjoyed yourselves.

We are always on the lookout for more people to help run our bar on a Friday night – if you are over 18 and are interested in doing a shift every now and then (or more frequently) then please get in touch.

As ever please keep an eye out for our visiting food vendors every Friday.

SAVE THE DATES!

18 July – Summer Barbecue 6pm

20 September - Live Music Night featuring The Painkillers

Regular events

Friday night social from 7pm including happy hour (and a half) on the first Friday of the month – enjoy 50% off!
Pilates, Western Front Association, Short Mat Bowls, Little Pickles and Somerset Levels Stargazers as advertised on the village hall website
www.othervillagehall.org.uk

Rachael Selway, Secretary,
Othervillage Hall Management Committee
Email: othervillagehall@hotmail.co.uk
Tel: 07456 653252

OTHERY STREET FAYRE

As I write this article we are mere days away from the Street Fayre. The weather is looking like it is going to be HOT. We hope those that attended the day enjoyed themselves. A full report will be in next month's MOMSS.

Anthony Betty, Chairman, Street Fayre Cttee
07801233676 anthonybetty@hotmail.co.uk

GOOD NEWS FOR OTHERY

Many of you may have known or remember Dennis Stone, who was born here. His great love was his Wolseley police car which has attended the Street Fayre for many years and also the Road Run.

He always held the village close to his heart even after moving to Glastonbury.

Dennis has recently passed away and a percentage of his estate has been donated to the village by Mr Paul Gloak, Mill Lane, Othervillage, being his Executor.

The beneficiaries are:

• Othervillage Primary school	£ 6,992.94p
• Othervillage Hall Committee	£20,978.81p
• St Michael's Othervillage PCC (Church Room repairs)	£13,985.87p
• St Michael's Othervillage PCC (Church)	£27,971.74p

Paul Gloak, Executor

BENEFICE, DEANERY AND DIOCESAN NEWS

PROCESSES WHILE WE ARE IN VACANCY

The Churchwardens are the people to contact for arranging baptisms, weddings and funerals during the vacancy of the post of Priest-in-Charge for the United Benefice of MOMSS&G.

Details of normal regular services are being arranged with the Area Dean and will be published as usual in this magazine and on posters.

UB Churchwardens



Sedgemoor
Mobile Foot Care

Cheryl Lyn Lockyer S.A.C. Dip FHPT & S.A.C. Dip FHPP

Can you reach your feet?
Do you need help cutting your toe nails?

Do you suffer
discomfort from...

Callus & Corns
Athletes Foot
Ingrowing Toe Nails
Fungal Infection
Dry Skin

Treatment in the comfort of your own home

Evening & Weekend calls available

For treatment of your foot related problems, including all of the above
contact **Cherrie** on **0779 439 0617**

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS Open Daily

The United Benefice churches in Middlezoy and Stawell are open daily for private prayer; see their notice boards for their opening times. Othery church is currently only open from 9am to 3.30pm, Mondays to Fridays during school term days and services. Genuine visitors can phone 07714 672316 to arrange for access at other times.

BENEFICE/MIDDLEZOY PRAYER GROUP

Please do not think you have to be a member of the local churches as we are very willing to pray for anyone who asks. The prayer group feel it is needed so please do not hesitate to get in touch by emailing middlezoyprayers@gmail.com then the group are informed of the request and the prayers are included in those individuals' prayer time. Every prayer request is treated with confidentiality and respect.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch as we are here to listen and help. *The Prayer Group*

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptism:

Frederick Osborn Foyle was baptised in St Michael's Church, Othery on Sunday 8 June by Canon Andrew Neaum.

Deaths/Funerals:

Mary Hembrow of Othery died on Sunday 8 June – her funeral will be on Saturday 19 July at Sedgemoor Crematorium.

Margaret Davey, formerly of Othery, died on Wednesday 11 June. She played a vital role in the life of St. Michael's Church for many years and will be sadly missed. Her funeral will be held on Tuesday 22 July in St Michael's Church, Othery.



REV KELVIN RETIRES *(This article is repeated from page 13)*

Kelvin has decided to hang up his 'dog collar' after 60+ years as a priest. We thank Kelvin for his Ministry in the Benefice.

Following several years when he led services, recently he has cut back on his workload but has continued to take Home Communion to three households and officiate at Interment of Ashes. We are sure we will be able to call on him for advice and his words of wisdom for many years to come.

To say thank you to Kelvin there is an Afternoon Tea in Holy Cross church on Saturday 5 July at 3pm. All are welcome.

In recognition of his contribution to the Benefice, Kelvin has accepted a proposal that if you wish to make a donation, he will forward it to a charity of his choosing. Donations can be handed to your Churchwarden.

Benefice Churchwardens and Readers

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE 7-11 July

This year's Week of Prayer will focus on different ages and stages. Churches, schools, small groups and individuals are encouraged to join in praying for the children and young people in our communities.

If desired a daily prayer guide and video put together by the diocesan Go Team can be downloaded from the website.

In addition the weekly benefice Wave of Prayer highlighted for Wednesdays and Fridays are encouraging individuals to support the children and young people daily.

Holy Cross church will prepare a prayer tree in the church for prayer messages to be left on for those who visit the church. The summer breaks from pre-school, school and further education can mean that some students will be on a completely new journey in the future. We pray for guidance and peace of mind in their daily life. 🙏

Pauline Davies and Sarah Blake

LISTENING TO YOUNG PEOPLE



Later this month I shall be joining young people from around our diocese on a visit to the Taizé community in France. Taizé offers the opportunity to take a step back from daily life, meet people from around the world, join in a week of prayer, worship and Bible teaching, and reflect on our life of faith. In churches we often speak *about* God.

To visit Taizé is to have a big encounter *with* God.

This will be the third time I have helped lead a Bath and Wells group on this pilgrimage. Some of our young people will be making a return visit, others attending for the first time. I am looking forward to seeing all they gain from the experience and to simply spending time listening to them and all they have to say.

The opportunity to spend an extended time listening to young people is an utter privilege. While more young people are showing an interest in faith, the Church of England is undeniably still dominated by the older generations. Whenever I can, I value immensely the chance to listen to young people – of their hopes and dreams, their fears and perspectives, their insights and understanding. Such listening is essential if young people are to be fully part of the life of our Church. It's vital if we are to continue to see the shoots of growth that are happening across our diocese and the wider church. We're pursuing this challenge of listening to young people in lots of different ways. It doesn't just happen at Taizé! Our Young Leaders Hub is one arena. Elsewhere we are looking at how young people can play their full part within the life of our diocesan decision-making bodies and in the national church too. I urge you to do the same where you are.

"Nothing about us without us" is a challenge that's sometimes extended when discussing how young people can participate fully wherever they find themselves. What an aim and a prize this would be for us all to pursue.

+ Michael Beasley, Bishop of Bath and Wells

**To make
us smile**



#14 What Else Can Happen To Make This Day
Even Worse?



YOUR PATCH – OUR PLANET

INVITATION TO FREE SEMINAR FOR ALL POLDEN RESIDENTS

Woolavington Village Hall, TA7 8DY on Tuesday 23 September, 7pm for 7.30pm – 9.30pm. Whether you've a window box, large garden or manage a piece of land in your village, join like-minded individuals to share ideas and help support local wildlife.

Collectively, we could all have a greater impact on local wildlife if we come together to manage our gardens and land positively for nature. On the Poldens, we are fortunate to have local populations of the rare Hazel Dormice, Great Crested Newt, Large Blue Butterfly, Shril Carder Bee, Lesser Horseshoe Bat, Bee Orchid and Little Owl. By working together to connect the wild spaces across the Poldens, we can protect these species both now and in the future.

The FREE annual seminar hosted by local volunteer group, the Polden Environmental Network (PEN) is open to all local residents, landowners and community groups. A panel of guest speakers will share good practice and help us all achieve the little wins needed to support and connect the precious wildlife in our gardens, villages and countryside.

We hope to see you there! For more information and to book your free place, please email PEN at poldensgroup@outlook.com



*This article forwarded by The Rev. Kirsty Wells,
Rector: The Link Benefice & Sedgemoor Area Dean*

AROUND AND ABOUT BEYOND THE BENEFICE

MIDDLEZOY ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB

The Female Game

In the last 4 years the participation of girls and women playing football has increased by 56%. There has also been a significant increase in females taking up coaching and refereeing, female coaches have increased by 88% and coaches by an amazing 113% between 2020-2024. Many factors can be thanked for inspiring a new generation of players one being national team successes like the Lionesses victory at UEFA Woman's Euros 2022. There are also more female targeted initiatives available, with grassroots programmes and emerging talent centres.

At Middlezoy Rovers FC we are extremely proud to be part of the growth in female football provision. We believe that football helps with self-confidence, teaches team work and enables players to build great friendships and develop skills. Being an active sport it has huge benefits to physical health but also makes a big difference to the mental health of the players getting involved, it boosts self-esteem and can relieve anxiety and stresses from everyday life or pressures of school.

We are very fortunate to be able to offer inclusive girls football to the community and are proud of the girls we have within our club and of course the coaches who make football available to them. We currently have an U14s, U15s and the beginnings of an U12s team for next season (September). We are also able to offer our girls a natural progression pathway to our Middlezoy Rovers Ladies team, the lowest age of this team being 16, so they have a flawless transition from youth football to adult football.

We currently have some player availability on our U15 and U12 team so if you have a daughter/niece/cousin/friend who would be interested in becoming involved please send us a message - we'd love to hear from you.



Middlezoy Rovers also run a fun Wildcats session once a week at Bridgwater College for girls aged between 5-11, aimed at girls playing football, making friends and having fun, there are a few weeks left of this programme so again if you are interested pop us a message middlezoyroversyouth@gmail.com Craig Berry, Secretary/Treasurer

THE WI - MORE THAN JAM AND JERUSALEM

Think fun and frolics, trips and treats and Christmas parties

There are talks, activities and events for every woman, single or wed. You can have a bit of fun, make friends, try a new hobby or just explore a new venue. Whichever WI you attend you can be sure of a warm welcome.

WIs near us

Ashcott and Pedwell	7.30pm	Third Thursday	Ashcott Village Hall, TA7 9PZ
Shapwick Starlets	7.30pm	Second Tuesday	Village Hall, Station Rd, TA7 9NJ
Westonzoyland	7.15pm	Second Wednesday	Village Hall Cheer Lane TA7 0EZ

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

Westonzoyland WI : Come to our meeting on Wednesday 9 July and learn more about the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI). Most of its lifeboat crews are unpaid volunteers.

Should you fancy a night out with the girls, come and see us. We welcome you.

For any further information please email: zoywisec@gmail.com or call Gill Wilkinson on 01823 698429. Gill Wilkinson, Secretary



Useful INFORMATION

FOODBANKS - DONATION POINTS

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

Othery: St Michael's Church Porch.

Moorlinch: Spring Cottage, Pit Hill Lane, Moorlinch or St Mary's Church Porch.

Stawell: The Old Post Office, Stawell

Cash Donation: By contacting the relevant Foodbank you can make either a single or a regular donation. If you are in a position to give via Gift Aid, the Foodbank will be able to claim back the tax you have paid on this.

To obtain assistance from a Foodbank you need a referral from Citizens Advice Somerset, St. Mary's House, Magdalene St, Taunton, TA1 1SB (08082 787842) or your Village Agent, local GP surgery, schools, health visitors and social workers.

Bridgwater Foodbank can be contacted by email info@bridgwater.foodbank.org.uk or phone 01278 434636 or 07804 119273 (Open Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays). They will help put you in touch with one of the agencies that can help with a referral.

Langport Cares email langportcares/foodbank@gmail.com

The Glastonbury Community Fridge is organised by the charity Love Glastonbury. It is situated at Town Hall, Magdalene Street, Glastonbury and is open daily 9am - 4pm. Help yourself to food, there is no charge. There are no contact details, other than by Facebook: search for Glastonbury Fridge. Love Glastonbury also runs a Community Pantry with a wide range of food items and toiletries, based in Abbey Mews, off Silver Street. The Pantry is open Wednesday 1pm to 4pm and Saturday 10am to 1pm. Just come along and pick 10 items for a suggested voluntary donation of £2.50.

USEFUL INFORMATION

DEFIBRILLATOR MACHINES

At scene, assess - is casualty breathing? Call 999 and ask for Ambulance. Start CPR if needed. Call handler will advise of defibrillator location and **may** give a lockbox code. Clearly inform a helper to fetch machine, giving location with any lockbox code and to take a phone. Return without delay.



Call sign

Greinton Phone box	TA7 9BW	CHT-RT-1583	
Middlezoy, Broadfield Park	TA7 0PH	SC0255	
Middlezoy Chapel	TA7 0NZ	SC0253	
Middlezoy Village Hall	TA7 0PG	SC0254	(machine at car park end)
Moorlinch Farm	TA7 9BU		
Othery Village Hall	TA7 0QU		
Stawell Village Hall	TA7 9AD		
Sutton Mallet Phone box	TA7 9AT		

HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING & REFUSE COLLECTIONS

The schedules for the MOMSS & G area are:

MIDDLEZOY:

Recycling Boxes, every week: Wednesdays 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 July

Black Wheeled Bins, every 3 weeks: Wednesdays 9, 30 July, 20 August

Garden Waste Bins, every other week: Mondays 14, 28 July

OTHERY:

Recycling Boxes, every week: Fridays 4, 11, 18, 25 July, 1 August

Black Wheeled Bins, every 3 weeks: Friday 18 July, 1, 8 August

Garden Waste Bins, every other week: Thursdays 10, 24 July, 7 August

MOORLINCH, STAWELL, SUTTON MALLET & GREINTON:

Recycling Boxes, every week: Wednesdays 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 July

Black Wheeled Bins, every 3 weeks: Wednesdays 9, 30 July, 20 August

Garden Waste Bins, every other week: Thursdays 3, 17, 31 July, 14 August



RECYCLING CENTRES Summer opening times (1 April - 30 September)

All 16 Somerset recycling sites open at weekends, 9am to 4pm on Saturdays and Sundays. 9am to 6pm weekdays.

Full details of each site, location, opening times, materials they will accept etc. can be found at <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/bins-recycling-and-waste/find-your-nearest-recycling-centre/>

MOBILE LIBRARY Taunton Area, Route P

The service continues every 4 weeks on Fridays: Next visits: 11 July, 8 August.

Stawell Village Hall 10.10am - 10.40am

Moorlinch Tapmoor Road Junction 10.55am - 11.15am

Middlezoy Main Road Bus Stop 12.20pm - 12.50pm

For further information about reading books online contact Libraries Direct



MOMSS COMMUNITY INFORMATION

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

ANGLICAN CHURCH INFORMATION

Priest-in-Charge: Vacancy

Contact your village Churchwarden or contact person listed below

United Benefice Readers

Pauline Davies 01278 451280 and Richard Graham 01278 722284

Parish Auxiliary Lay Minister

Ruth Peberdy (Stawell)

Churchwardens

Middlezoy: Ian Campbell 01823 698790

Othery: Anthony Betty 07801 233676

Moorlinch: Fiona Hixon 07767 763628

Stawell Deputy Warden: Richard Graham 01278 722284

Sutton Mallet contact: Brian Lishman 01278 722579

Greinton contact: Jean Heywood 01458 210497

METHODIST CHAPEL MIDDLEZOY

Minister: Rev Deborah Kirk 01823 334854

Local Contact: Jill Darby jilldrb@gmail.com 01823 698000

Bookings: <https://middlezoychapeluk.wordpress.com/bookings/> or Jill Darby (above)

PARISH COUNCILS/MEETINGS

Middlezoy - Chairman: Paul Baker 01823 698082

Othery - Chairman: Andrew Tizzard 01823 690284

Moorlinch - Meeting Clerk: Richard Hennah email: themoorlinchclerk@gmail.com

Stawell and Sutton Mallet - Clerk: Mr Chris Fry 07796 794037

Greinton - Enquiries: Toby Crispin 01458 210227

VILLAGE AMENITIES

Middlezoy: The George Inn 01823 698215;

Shop 01823 587222 open Mon-Fri 8.30am-1pm and 3pm-5pm, Sat 8.45am-12 noon;

P.O. 01823 698981 open Mon-Fri 8.30-1pm;

Village Hall 07885 195418

Othery: School 01823 698464; Othery Village Hall 01823 690482

Moorlinch: Ring O'Bells 01458 210358; Church Hall 01458 210755

Stawell & Sutton Mallet: Village Hall 01278 723665

Greinton: Village Hall 01458 210277

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

CRIMESTOPPERS: 8am-10pm Weekdays 0800 555111;

NHS: Tel: 111

DISTRICT PCSOs: Georgia Coles 07889 659466; Tom Russell 07935 013566

VILLAGE AGENTS

To contact a Village Agent ring 01823 331222 and they will find the most suitable person

SERVICES CHART FOR CHAPEL AND UB CHURCHES JULY 2025

DATE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE
July 6 Sun <i>(Second after Trinity)</i>	10.00 am	United Benefice Communion service	St Michael's, Othery
13 Sun <i>(Fourth after Trinity)</i>	10.00 am 10.00 am 10.00 am	Joint Family service and Baptism Prayer & Praise Morning Worship	Holy Cross, Middlezoy St Michael's, Othery St Francis, Stawell
20 Sun <i>(Fifth after Trinity)</i>	10.00 am	United Benefice Communion service	St Mary's, Moorlinch
27 Sun <i>(Sixth after Trinity)</i>	9.00 am 9.30 am 10.00 am 10.00 am 6.30 pm	Breakfast Café Breakfast Café Holy Communion Morning Worship Circuit Communion Service	St Mary's, Moorlinch Othery Church Room Holy Cross, Middlezoy St Francis, Stawell Methodists Chapel, Middlezoy
August 3 Sun <i>(Seventh after Trinity)</i>	10.00 am	United Benefice Communion service	St Francis, Stawell

The Common Worship (Year C) readings and lessons for the following services:

DATE	SEASON	READINGS
July 6 Sun	Third after Trinity	OT: 2 Kings, chapter 5, verses 1 to 14 Psalm: 30 Epistle: Galatians, chapter 6, verses 1 to 16 Gospel: Luke, chapter 10, verses 1 to 11, 16 to 20
13 Sun	Fourth after Trinity	OT: Amos, chapter 7, verses 7 to 17 (the end) Psalm: 82 Epistle: Colossians, chapter 1, verses 1 to 14 Gospel: Luke, chapter 10, verses 25 to 37
20 Sun	Fifth after Trinity	OT: Amos, chapter 8, verses 1 to 12 Psalm: 52 Epistle: Colossians, chapter 1, verses 15 to 28 Gospel: Luke, chapter 10, verses 38 to the end
27 Sun	Sixth after Trinity	OT: Hosea, chapter 1, verses 2 to 10 Psalm: 85 Epistle: Colossians, chapter 2, verses 6 to 15 Gospel: Luke, chapter 11, verses 1 to 13
August 3 Sun	Seventh after Trinity	OT: Hosea, chapter 11, verses 1 to 11 Psalm: 107, verses 1 to 9 Epistle: Colossians, chapter 3, verses 1 to 11 Gospel: Luke, chapter 12, verses 13 to 21