

Rev. Jane Durham tel: 01458 223417 Mobile: 07421 700 242 email: rev.jane.durham@gmail.com

CHURCHWARDENS

Keinton Mandeville with Kingweston
Mrs Rachel Willcox 07966 873 660

Lydford on Fosse
Mr Ralph Berry (01963) 240164

Barton St David
Mrs Carolyn Giddings (01458) 851617

Lay Ministers: Jane Sedgman (01458) 223237

Jan Jones (01458) 851608

Benefice Administrator, Jo Oubridge – Email: wheathillbenefice@gmail.com

Web Page : wheathill.org Parish Magazine Editor – Email: wheathillbeneficemagazine@gmail.com



Grill a Vicar – Coffee & Chat
Do you have questions for clergy ?
Do you wonder about things –
faith, baptism, marriage, challenges or something else?
Jane will be in Newlands Farm Shop Cafe,
Keinton Mandeville
On
Thursday, 30th July at 2:00pm
Come and join her there for tea/coffee and a chat

**** Keinton Mandeville Methodist Chapel – Letter of Closure ****

It is with great regret and much sadness that the very difficult decision has been made to CLOSE our iconic, Grade 2 listed Methodist Chapel – built in 1843 by volunteer quarrymen from the village.

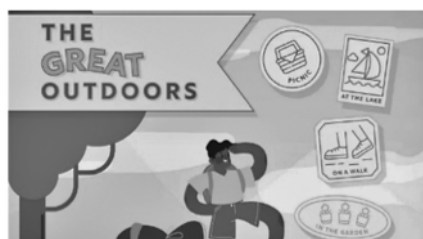
Unfortunately, the Chapel is suffering from a declining congregation... increasing maintenance and running costs mean that the Chapel, which has no financial reserves, is no longer viable.

The seventeen evening talks and suppers we have been running have been a great success, drawing in many members of the village and surrounding areas. Regrettably, as a means of fund raising, they have only delayed the inevitable as have generous quests.

We would like to thank, most sincerely, all those who have supported our efforts to maintain the viability of the Chapel which has, over many years, been an important and integral part in the life of our village.

(See page 12 for details of Methodist Chapel services for July/August and other notes)

Wheathill Benefice and Keinton Mandeville Methodist Chapel
Holiday Club will run from 18th – 20th August
10:00am – 12 noon In Keinton Mandeville Methodist Chapel



For Primary School aged children

(those starting reception need older child or adult with them) – FREE –

Weather permitting we will be outside for part of each day

Please ensure all children are wearing sunscreen and bring a sunhat

All welcome, further details from Jane Durham rev.jane.durham@gmail.com or
(01458) 223417 or 07421700 242

Dates to Note:

10 - 11/7 Lydford Family Fun;
18/07 Barton Carnival;
18/07 St Margaret's Open Gdns
22/07 Home Communion
18 - 20/8 Holiday Club

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Deadline for September 2026 magazine 09:00 am Thursday 20th August

Items to the Editor – VIA EMAIL PLEASE: wheathillbeneficemagazine@gmail.com



Have you seen me cycling around our villages more than usual?

I have cycled for many years and love using my bike to get from A to B and around the villages. When we first moved here, despite cycling the roads of Liverpool for 17 years I was unsure about cycling on the main road, but after discovering the joys of battery assist cycling I gained the confidence to do so. Also when we moved here I was not very strong and was recovering from a long term health condition. By the grace of God and with time and healing I am now much stronger and healthier (*the Somerset air has had an effect!*) and am rejoicing in that strength and healing.

My times of ill health have given me an increased appreciation of some accessibility issues that people face, as has getting to know individuals and churches. Keinton PCC has for many years discussed making the building more accessible and versatile. This involves removing the trip hazard of the pew platforms, making space for wheelchairs, push chairs and for us to do things differently.

The PCC are aware that making changes to churches can be an emotive issue, and working with the diocesan authorities and heritage societies the aim is to retain as much of the 'look and feel' of the building as possible, including the parquet floor and the lissaisles with their gratings. The PCC also intends to keep four pews which will be moveable, and to have chairs for most of the congregation. Some of the chairs will have arms.

Please do talk to myself, Rachel (*as Churchwarden*) or Debbie (*as Treasurer*) about these plans, we have not yet submitted the application and are interested to hear what

others think. Our architect is very sympathetic to the building and to our hopes and prayers for it.

This process is now at the point of drawing up plans, and the hope is to submit the application this year. In order to facilitate this there are currently six chairs in Keinton church, please do sit on them, and note your preferred chairs (*first, second and third choice*) on the yellow sheet stuck on the vestry door

Obviously this is going to cost money, but the hope is that in the long term it will enable the building to be used more often and in different ways, so that it does not stand empty most of the time.

Just Giving QR code



Raising Funds

In order to raise some funds for this, *I am planning to cycle 275km this summer visiting 15 of the 17 other St Mary Magdalene Churches across the diocese over five days, on the 21st and 28th July, 21st and 27th August and 15th September.* The July rides start and finishes in Keinton, in August one ride is from Exford to Taunton and the final two rides finish in Keinton. I'm doing this in part to raise some of the funds we need, but also to rejoice in the level of healing that I have received and to enjoy our amazing county.

Would you like to sponsor me?

There are several different ways that you can do this:

Fill in a sponsor form and either give cash or use the giving gizmo to pay. *Please make sure that you only use Keinton or Kingweston's gizmos and that Jane Durham or Debbie von Bergen know that you've paid and how you paid.*

Fill in a sponsor form and write a cheque to Keinton Mandeville with Kingweston PCC.

Use the **Just Giving QR code** (*feel free to reduce the amount Just Giving suggest you give them*). You can just search for **Vicar on a Bike** on Just Giving under campaigns. There will be posters and 'luggage label' type give-aways to pass on to people that will give access to the Just Giving page.

Details of the bike rides will come in due time, and we hope that there will be an Instagram account so you can follow our progress.

Thank you for your support, Jane



Date for your Diary !

We will once again prepare for the new School year with our 'Stepping up' Service on 30th August 2026 at 10:30am in Keinton church, all are welcome.

Benefice Churches – Churches open for private prayer

The churches of Barton St David, Keinton Mandeville, Kingweston are now all open daily for private prayer **with the exception for Lydford** during the period mid-June to mid-September it is closed except for services due to issues with usage of the neighbouring river Brue.

Church Car Parks – In Keinton, Kingweston and Lydford it is now possible to give when you visit using the QR codes found on noticeboards or at the door. *If you use the churchyards or car park please do consider making occasional or regular donations towards their maintenance and their ongoing place in the lives of our communities.*

Transport to Church An understanding has been reached with **Wheathill Priory Community Transport** for people who need lifts to Church Services. WPCT will try to assist on Sunday mornings, if this applies to you or someone you know, **call 07799 487 719**, preferably 48 hours in advance. *Thank you WPCT!*

Wheathill Benefice Church Services – July & August 2026

Date	08:30 am	10:30 am (or as noted)	Other Services
5th July Trinity 5	Holy Communion Lydford on Fosse	Morning Prayer Barton St David	—
12th July Trinity 6	10:30 am Benefice Holy Communion, Lydford on Fosse		
19th July Trinity 7	10:30 am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Keinton		
22nd July	3:00pm House Communion , Lydford Parish hall		
26th July Trinity 8	Holy Communion Lydford on Fosse	Morning Prayer Barton St David	4:00pm Keinton Faith 'n Fun
2nd Aug. Trinity 9	10:30 am Holy Communion, Lydford on Fosse		
9th Aug. Trinity 10	10:30 am Holy Communion, Kingweston		
16th Aug Trinity 11	10:30 am Holy Communion, Keinton Mandeville		
23rd Aug. Trinity 12	Holy Communion Lydford on Fosse	Morning Prayer Baptism Barton St David	—
30th Aug Trinity 13	Holy Communion Barton St David	"Stepping Up Service" Keinton Mandeville	—

From the Registers

We offer our congratulations to:

Jessica POWELL and Conor POWER on the occasion of their wedding at St Peter's Church, West Lydford, on Saturday, 23rd May 2026.

We welcome into the Lord's Family :

Francesca Freyer RUDDLE who was Baptised on 31st May 2026 in Keinton Mandeville church;

We offer our condolences to the family and friends of :

Mrs Aphra MACLAREN whose ashes were interred at Lydford church on Monday, 1st June 2026

Mr Alan CARTER who passed away on the 19th May 2026 aged 95 years.

His funeral took place at Keinton church on the 11th June followed by his burial in Tiverton.





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Save the Date!

Saturday 24th October

7:30 pm

Keinton Mandeville Village Hall

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Foresail

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Keinton Environment Group (KEG)

The window for Spring wildflower planting is over but we will be doing more work in the Autumn. Contact us if you have an area of your garden, or a verge, you'd like to plant with pollinators – *friendly wildflowers which will not only be good for wildlife but will also make the village a more colourful and attractive place to live*. We will either come and help with the work or simply provide the seeds or plug plants at no cost to you.

Our programme of presentations which we use for fundraising to support our various projects around the village continues. *Next talk will be given by Hayley Warrens, Vice Chair of Somerset Climate Action*. The date (TBC) will be either the first or second week of September - details via social media and village notice boards when it has been confirmed. Needless to say other events are in the pipeline for later in the year.

Wildlife help – It's delightful to hear of increased hedgehog sightings – and garden visits – but there's other wildlife that needs a helping hand. *KEG is starting a campaign to encourage residents to provide nest sites for Swallows, Swifts and Martins (all are in decline at the moment)*. This will include a recommendation to incorporate swift bricks in new buildings or building repairs.

Meetings are open to anyone to attend and we'd love to get more people involved in what we do. KEG's meetings are usually the second Wednesday of each month and *have moved back to the Quarry Inn* now it has re-opened. *Next meetings are 8th July, 12th August and 9th September starting at 6.00pm.*

Email: info@keintonenvironmentgroup.org.uk

Facebook: (5) Keinton Environment Group (KEG) Facebook



Keinton Mandeville Meet Up

(includes surrounding villages)



We guarantee a warm welcome for –

Carers, the Cared for and anyone who would benefit from getting together for fun, company, information on hot topics – Fraud, Fire Prevention etc. and availability of local support. *We welcome attendees suggesting ideas for future speakers/topics*

Everything is free including refreshments.

Where: Keinton Mandeville Village Hall TA11 6ES

When: First Wednesday of the Month **Time** - 11:0am to 12:30pm

For further information contact: jane.carers@outlook.com

Keinton Mandeville Table Top Games Group

If you would like to come along for a drink and a chat or have a coffee/tea while playing table top games like Scrabble, Boggle, Rummikub, Logo, cards, chess etc. then why not come along to the group which meets in KM Village Hall. We chat, drink tea and coffee and play table top games. If you would like to come along just for a coffee and a chat without playing any games then you will be made just as welcome. There is no charge as the sessions are funded by KM Parish Council. Open to anyone who wants to come, you don't need to live in Keinton Mandeville.

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T & C's Apply

Keinton Mandeville Church Openers – July and August 2026

Should you need to swap, please let Emma know and the person due to hand the key onto you. If anyone else would like to help with the locking and unlocking of the church – please call 223344.

Sunday 28th June – Sunday 5th July	Joanne Wallwork	07757704221
Sunday 5th July – Sunday 12th	Roger Locke	224287
Sunday 12th July – Sunday 19th	Neil Bain	223314
Sunday 19th July – Sunday 26th	Graham & Lynne Poulton	07718125505
		07866279447

Sunday 26th July – Sunday 2nd Aug	Neill Thomas	07919161501
Sunday 2nd Aug – Sunday 9th	Larry Henessy	223344
Sunday 9th Aug – Sunday 16th	Jo & Chris Tripp	224696
Sunday 16th Aug – Sunday 23rd	John Walker	223500
Sunday 23rd Aug – Sunday 30th	Sue Baker	223500
Sunday 30th Aug – Sunday 6th Sept	Sandra & Chris Weigh	223500



Scouting Around Barton

If you ever wondered whether our young people can survive anything the British weather throws at them,

Cub Camp provided a convincing answer!

This year's Cub Camp was, to put it politely, a little breezy. Some of the gusts seemed determined to relocate our tents to the next county! Thankfully, our Cubs took it all in their stride and threw themselves into a packed programme of activities, adventures and fun. With plenty of laughter, surprisingly no muddy boots but enough fresh air to keep parents happy for weeks afterwards. The challenging conditions proved that some of our much-loved camping equipment is showing its age. **Some tents and bits of kit need replacing as a priority.** Note our article below asking for help at our major fundraiser at the Barton Carnival.

The Cubs aren't slowing down anytime soon, already looking forward to their *Annual Box Car Racing event in Sussex*. For those unfamiliar with this glorious spectacle, imagine soapbox racing, engineering genius, occasional questionable steering decisions, and huge amounts of excitement. What could possibly go wrong?

Scouts are going Magnet fishing. Armed with strong magnets and endless curiosity, they'll pull treasures from local waterways. Some finds have been more interesting than others, and I'm still waiting for someone to haul up gold. They've also been building shelters, honing up their survival skills. Armed with ropes and determination, they have been creating highly practical woodland hideaways. These skills will come in handy when they head off to *JAWS Activity Camp in July*, a highlight of the Scouting calendar and something all are eagerly anticipating. So many activities including dragon boating, caving, climbing, abseiling, archery, shooting and more.

Beavers are equally busy, brightening up meetings by making wonderfully colourful tie-dye T-shirts, a visit to a local fire station where they learned about fire safety and the important work firefighters do, and enjoyed a fantastic *District Beaver Day held at Cub Camp*. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet other Beavers, try new activities and enjoy a real taste of outdoor adventure.

If you would like to know more about the Scout Group or reserve a place for a young person, please email Vega on gslbarton@yahoo.com or visit our website <https://bartonstdavidscout.group> here you'll find more info on dates etc. and joining forms for adults and young people.

A special appeal to everyone that reads this Article

July 18th is the wonderful Barton Carnival. *Barton St David Scout Group will again be running the Tea Rooms at the event.* Last year's support from the community was heartwarming. People donated cakes, scones, cream, jam and sandwiches, volunteered their time, and turned the Tea Rooms into a huge success. This helped the Scout Group and the Carnival Committee raise valuable funds, but also created a lovely community spirit leaving everyone with a warm glow long after the last cup of tea had been poured.

We would be incredibly grateful for donations of: **Cakes and tray bakes; Scones; Clotted cream; Strawberry jam; any other baked goods or refreshments.** *Each slice of cake sold helps us raise money for new camping equipment and resources to allow our young people to continue enjoying the adventures, skills and experiences that Scouting provides.* It will also help to support the wonderful facilities of the Barton Village Hall and Playing Field which so many people use and enjoy. *Please let us know in advance what you are able to provide.* Whilst the possibility of an avalanche of Victoria sponges sounds appealing at first, we do need variety! If you can help, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Our Leaders and parents who helped at recent camps will also be baking cakes and standing there all day. Please consider donating something to prevent a complete physical collapse of these brave and intrepid Leaders who give so much of their free time to help the children of the villages.

Please email Vega on gslbarton@yahoo.com and let her know what you can donate to help us strike the perfect balance and ensure our visitors can enjoy the full Tea Room experience, keep the young people smiling and our Scouting adventures going strong.

Vega Sturgess,

Group Lead Volunteer, Barton St David Scout Group. gslbarton@yahoo.com

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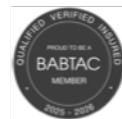
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BARTON ST DAVID Carnival

Saturday, 18th July From 1:00pm
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FREE ENTRY – ALL WELCOME

A fantastic day out for all!

Enjoy live entertainment, competitions, family fun and great food all afternoon and evening

1.00pm Carnival Opens

1.15pm Fancy Dress Parade

1.30pm Dog Show Begins

1.45pm Shepton Mallet Big Band

2.00pm Cake Entries Close (judging 3pm)

2.30pm Magic Show

3.00pm Keith Horler

3.45pm Village Races (incl. Wife Carrying)

4.30pm Half a Shanty

5.00pm Raffle Draw

5.15pm Sheep Racing

6.00pm It's a Knockout

7.00pm Half a Shanty

8.30pm The Untold



COMPETITIONS

- Fancy Dress – Beatrix Potter theme
- Decorated Rabbit Cut-outs
- Barton Bake Off
- 'Baaarton' Sheep Racing



LIVE MUSIC

- Shepton Mallet Big Band
- Half a Shanty
- Keith Horler
- The Untold
- Acoustic tent performances



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- Judge's Favourite



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Evening entertainment continues into the night.

Follow us: Facebook:

www.facebook.com/bartonstdavidcarnival

Village website: [https://](https://bartonstdavidparish.gov.uk/carnival/)

bartonstdavidparish.gov.uk/carnival/

Barton St David History Club

In June, Helen Baggott *"The Postcard Detective"* showed us how she was able, by following the genealogy from family names on old postcards, to make connections back to some of those who sailed on the Mayflower; at the same time explaining the terrible conditions they endured both during and after the voyage.

Our next meeting will be in September but do come and visit our stand at the Barton St David Carnival on Saturday, 18th July.

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Wheathill Benefice Choir

During the summer the Benefice Choir is taking a break, but we are still looking for a musical director, that special person who is an occasional organist and could also lead the choir, so if you think you can help, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

And if you have heard us and would like to join in, just drop an email to:

Rachel Willcox (r.kaywillcox@gmail.com);

Claire Harding (betweenlanes@live.co.uk) or;

Rev Jane Durham (rev.jane.durham@gmail.com)



We would be delighted to hear from you at any time and new voices are always extremely welcome.

Wheathill Priory Community Transport – WPCT Update

We are a volunteer driving service for the residents of Keinton Mandeville, Kingweston, Lydford and Barton St. David. If you are a resident of our villages, do not drive or have your own transport, or you find public transport (*if it is available*) difficult to access, you may be eligible to use our Community Transport Scheme for journeys **up to 25 miles each way** to:

- the doctor, dentist, hospital (*if free transport is not available*), post office, shops,
- friends or relatives (*including when in hospital*)
- local bus stops, bus stations or railway stations for onward journeys.

If you wish to use our Community Transport scheme please call us 48 hours in advance and we will do what we can to help: Contact is: **07799 487719**.

Please note that due to higher fuel costs our mileage charge will increase from 50p/mile to 55p/mile from 1st July 2026.

We are always interested in drivers who can spare a few hours a month to join our team. *Drivers are paid 55p per mile (the recently updated Government approved mileage rate) for each drive undertaken.*

If you would like to help, please call our coordinator on the above number.

Knit & Natter, Keinton Mandeville

At Knit and Natter, we are always happy to receive donations of wool which are used for community projects.

New members are always welcome to come along and join us. We meet Monday afternoons 2:00 – 4:00 p.m in the Methodist Church rooms.

For further details please contact Emma Stevens 01458 223344.

Welcome and POPin Cafe

Tuesday 28th July in Lydford Parish Hall – From 10:30am to 12 midday

We are continuing our cafe on the fourth Tuesday of the month. There will be good coffee/tea (*decaff available*) and tasty homemade biscuits/cakes (*gluten-free also available*).

Everyone is welcome, so please come along, have a chat and perhaps take away a book or two from the selection displayed. *Please note that we will be having a break in August but will return in September.*

On behalf of Walters & Pope Charity

The Walters and Pope Trust Fund (Lydford-on-Fosse)

- ❖ **HELP!** Do you know anyone in Lydford who needs help and/or support?
- ❖ It may be help with buying books for university.
- ❖ It may be help with buying tools or equipment for a new job.
- ❖ It may be support for someone who is ill, or who is caring for someone.

The Walters and Pope Trust Fund has a small annual income – the Trustees would like to spend this money, fairly and discreetly, for the benefit of anyone who lives in Lydford. If there is anyone who would like assistance, please contact the Trust in confidence:

Secretary, Caroline Seehra tel: 07926 488190

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St Peter's Church, Lydford on Fosse

The church services are on page 3 of the magazine

Patronal Festival BBQ on Sunday 28th June

St Peters Patronal Service this year is a Holy Communion service at 10.30 on Sunday 28th June followed by a BBQ in the churchyard from 11:45am. This is open to all residents and *we are seeking donations of £10 per person or £25 per family*. Donations are being split with 50% going to the Church fabric fund and 50% to *Tear Fund to support relief efforts for the Ebola outbreak in DRC in Africa*. This has slipped from the world news in the past few weeks but there is still a great need for funds to help eradicate this terrible disease.

Lydford Fun Day, Saturday, 11th July

St Peters PCC will again have a Water into Wine stall at the at this event, do come along and try for a bottle of wine. There will also be a small exhibition in the Parish Hall marquee with information on church activities.

House Communion Wednesday, 22nd July

The next House Communion is on 22nd July at 3:00pm in Lydford Parish Hall. This short service of Holy Communion is open to all residents of the benefice and offers a chance to meet up over a cup of tea and cake after the service.

Afternoon Teas to be held 26th July; 9th August and 23rd August

St Peters PCC will be serving afternoon teas in the Parish Hall from 3:00pm to 4:30pm on the above dates, to raise funds for Church maintenance and especially for the updating of the Church heating system. Members of the local community and visitors to the area are most welcome. Donations of £5 per head would be welcome. The Church will also be open on these afternoons for those who wish to visit it.

Church opening suspended mid-June to mid-September

The daily opening of St Peters Church is *suspended from mid June until mid September to avoid mis-use of the church by unsocial behaviour*.

Harvest Supper on Friday 18th September – The successful 2025 Harvest Supper in the Tythe Barn at Huntswell House in West Lydford will be repeated this year by kind permission of Marty and Lauren Starkey. Put the date in your diaries. Tickets will be £25 and more details will be available in the September magazine.

Volunteers Needed

If you have an occasional couple of hours to spare, you would be most welcome to join one of the teams that clean the Church, arrange flowers, or help to maintain the churchyard. If you feel you could help please call Ralph on (01963) 240 164.



St Margaret's Open Gardens

Step into summer at the beautiful gardens of
St Margaret's Hospice Care

Saturday, 18th July, Between 11:00am to 3:00pm



Admission by Donation, and four-legged friends are also welcome, but please keep them on lead. There's plenty for families to enjoy, too! Children can take part in an exciting scavenger hunt, searching for natural treasures hidden throughout the gardens, and say hello to St Margaret's friendly mascot, Busy Bee. Enjoy garden games including the Nerf wall, Spin to Win, a tombola, and the ever-popular Glorious Gardens raffle.

Enjoy the winding paths, with vibrant displays of blooming shrubs and dahlias. Wander at your own pace, breathe in the fresh air, and marvel at the thoughtfully designed planting that makes this garden a sanctuary for patients and their loved ones. St Margaret's staff and volunteers will be on hand to answer your questions and guide you through the garden, revealing peaceful wildlife habitats and sharing the inspiration behind this special space.

Afterwards, treat yourself to a cup of tea and a delicious slice of homemade cake, lovingly prepared by the hospice kitchen team – *you're also warmly invited to bring a picnic and enjoy a laid-back lunch on the lawn* surrounded by nature and soak up the joyful atmosphere with *live performances from local bands and choirs in the Round House* — the perfect soundtrack to a wonderful day of colour and community. **Susan Bickle, Fundraising Admin Volunteer, Tel: 01935 709485**

Lydford on Fosse Parish Council

Next LoF PC meeting in Lydford Parish Hall is on Wednesday, 8th July, starting at 7:00pm. There will be no ordinary meeting of the Parish Council in August 2026.

The June Parish Council Meeting was held Wednesday 10/06/26

- **Planning** – two planning applications were reviewed. One for a new bungalow-style dwelling opposite the Sports Ground in West Lydford, and one for the erection of a timber-frame carport for a residence on Old School Lane in West Lydford. The PC recommended that both be approved *subject to the conditions identified during the meeting*. Several other planning-related queries have been raised by Parishioners, such as developments and demolitions that have been undertaken without planning permission. The Planning Member's advice on each of these was presented, and he also reminded all present that residents can always approach him for advice on whether planning permission is required (at jim.frampton@lydfordonfosseparish.gov.uk). He also advised anyone considering making an adjustment to their property or a major development, to discuss the matter beforehand with your neighbours to avoid potential bad feeling and simplify the planning process.
- **Highways Safety** – The Highways Member presented a progressive plan to introduce Village Gateways and Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) on the main approaches to the Parish in order to address speeding traffic.
- **Traffic Light Replacement** – work to replace the traffic lights at the junction of the A37 and Cary Road, including excavation of sub-surface equipment and road re-surfacing, has been scheduled by Somerset Council to take place between 22nd June and early September this year. The PC outlined its commitment to supporting local businesses and residents affected by the associated traffic disruption, and its ongoing engagement with the project delivering the work to minimize the effects on all.

Forthcoming Events

- **Volunteers sought for Riverside Conservation** – The River Brue and Mill Race that run through Lydford on Fosse face a couple of major ecological challenges at the moment:
 - A. **Himalayan Balsam** – Himalayan balsam outcompetes native riverside plants and then dies back each winter, leaving bare banks that are more prone to erosion and increased sediment runoff, which in turn degrades river habitats and biodiversity. To counter this, a working party will aim to pull the plants up before they can produce seeds and propagate.
 - B. **Sedge** - Excessive sedge growth on the Mill Race chokes channels, impeding fish movement and habitat use, and as dense vegetation accumulates and decays, it reduces oxygenation levels which can kill fish trapped by the dense growth. Thinning of sedge growth along the Mill Race by an occasional Working Party will help to overcome these issues.

This type of work is weather dependent, so we are looking for 'expressions of interest' from any volunteers who are willing to help if they're available. Times and dates will be notified (by WhatsApp/Email). If you're prepared to help, please contact Kevin at kevinrowbottom@hotmail.com.

Neighbourhood Plan Group – Many Parishioners are already aware, that planning processes and policies in England and in Somerset are currently undergoing some major changes in order to make it easier for developers to build new houses and business premises. Most people understand the pressing need for more housing, but the emerging regime looks a rather blunt approach and could undermine the character of local communities and create a free-for-all for development on green spaces.

To maintain some influence over future planning decisions within Lydford on Fosse, the Parish Council has formed a group to develop a '**Neighbourhood Plan**' in simple terms, a document explaining what is important about our community to its residents, and therefore where and what building should (& should not) take place within it. We have formed a small group of volunteers to work on the **Neighbourhood Plan**, we are still keen to recruit more to ensure the accuracy, quality and completeness of the plan that we develop. If you would like to join the group, or just find out a bit more about the work that we hope to do, please contact Jim at: jim.frampton@lydfordonfosseparish.gov.uk



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To Remain Anonymous Call 0800 555111

Street Contacts
A37 – Jeremy Spencer 07517 771852
Lydford on Fosse - Cary Road – Lali Seehra 07530 121515
East Lydford - Church Lane (A37 side) – Ian Poynter 01963 240424
Church Lane (Castle Cary side) Lynne Mitchell 07773 345092

West Lydford
South of the Brue – Ann Parkhouse 07977 260110/Mike Pauley 01963 240469
North of the Brue – Linda Foote 01963 240336
B3153 from Lydford traffic lights to boundary with Keinton Mandeville including
King o' Mill – Maggi Hollands 07816 445597

Village Contact – Lynne Mitchell 07773 345092 lydfordnhw@gmail.com



Some useful advice from the Police to help prevent burglary – especially during the summer holidays!

- Ensure that all doors and windows are closed and properly locked – use a key, don't just lift the door handle. Take the keys out of the door when it's locked and put them somewhere out of sight and reach.
- Sheds, garages and outbuildings are popular targets for burglars, so increase the security to these whenever possible. Check that the contents of these places are included on our home and contents insurance.
- Make sure your property is security marked.
- Restrict access to the rear of your property wherever possible – lock any side gates leading to the rear – as the back or patio doors are the most popular site of forced entry.
- Lock away ladders or any tools that could help a burglar and secure any garden furniture or wheelie bins that can be moved to help gain access to an extension or first floor window.
- If you're taking the car with you, ask a neighbour to use your driveway while you are away to make the home look occupied.
- Cut the lawn and keep the garden tidy. Long grass suggests that the house is empty, or the occupant is unable to look after the garden.
- Consider installing a burglar alarm – *they're a real deterrent – not cheap but effective!*

Don't forget to cancel any milk, newspaper or regular delivery.

Lydford Third Tuesday Group

Next Events

Over the summer months, we will be having trips to local venues of interest and members will be emailed details nearer the time.

September 15th Meeting

Our next meeting in the Parish Hall is on September 15th with a *talk by Owl Obsession* and an opportunity see some of their owls close-up. This will be an open meeting – all are welcome to attend.

Women Visitors from Lydford and surrounding villages are welcome to ALL our events usually held at 7:30pm on the third Tuesday of the month in the Parish Hall, West Lydford (unless otherwise stated).

For details of this year's programme or more information contact us at:
lydfordthirtuesday@gmail.com or take a look at our website at:
<https://thirtuesday.wixsite.com/thirtuesday>



Lydford and District Gardening Club

There is a game which in our household is called *'Categories'*. Other names abound for this activity and apparently it was a favourite of John F. Kennedy. In this game players attempt to think of words which fit into different categories and they all start with the same letter. The first part of the entertainment is to choose the different categories, examples of which will need to be written down. *Flowers, Rivers, Football Teams, Philosophers etc.*

Points are scored for thinking of an example in each case and extra marks are gained if the thing chosen is unique, not being chosen by anyone else who is playing. The letter chosen in each case is generally a common one such as 's' or 't'. Equally the categories need to be sensible and suitable for the age and experience of the players and allowing several options in each case. Thus Stoke City F.C. players with names beginning with 'Z' might not gain general acclaim whereas Somerset villages beginning with 'B' would be fine as an ice-breaker at the start of a Third Tuesday meeting. Disputes can occur. For flowers, are both Latin and common names acceptable? Where pop groups are concerned does *'The'* count as in *'The Beatles'* or would that be a 'B'. Is Cliff Richard a 'C', an 'R' or even an 'S' for Sir? The barrister-like efforts of people pleading to have their answers accepted is often far more entertaining than the answers themselves.

As far as I aware, the Gardening Club has never devoted one of their meetings to this particular activity although who knows what might happen in the future! However if one of the categories was *'Trees'* the speaker at the last meeting would have been in a class of her own. From A to Z in Latin, English or probably any other language, Amelia Williams would have been able to have thought of an obscure tree name which would have guaranteed her maximum points. She gave a detailed and informative talk on trees throughout the year supported by some excellent photographs and including good tips on pruning and advice on the selection of varieties for different places and purposes.

And just to show that Gardening Club membership is the gift that keeps on giving and could solve all your Christmas present issues at a single stroke, the next horticulturalist to take their turn in the Colosseum that is also known as the Lydford Parish Hall, will be Tim Parker.

Tuesday 14th July – *Tim is the current Head Gardener at Stourhead.*

Quite a few years ago, Alan Power, who used to hold that position, came to talk to the Club and was thoroughly impressive. That experience obviously helped Mr. Power as a stepping stone towards the major career that he is having within the National Trust and also as part of the wider horticultural world. No doubt Mr. Parker will be equally brilliant and give everyone some of the hidden stories behind the running of the famous Wiltshire estate where walking the whole way around the lake is a major rite of passage for many toddlers, their parents and possibly their grandparents!

The July meeting will also be an opportunity for the publication of the results of the potato growing competition. Mr. Parker might have to hold his fire until this vital information has been given and fully appreciated!



In August the Club does not meet

Everyone is obviously in the Caribbean, on the French Riviera or sampling the delights of the Greek Islands. If a meeting were to be held, attendance would be minimal. However, as is now traditional, external factors permitting

On Tuesday, 8th September a barbecue will be held at the Parish Hall

to welcome members back from their holidays and also to provide the opportunity for people to swap excess produce and tell tall tales about the size and numbers of slugs and other pests that have made the growing season even more of a battlefield than usual.

Game of categories topics

As a topic in the game of categories, there surely has to be room for *'Biscuits'*. From Abernethy Biscuits via Bourbons, Custard Creams (*Double C, double points!*) and all the way to Water Biscuits, (*X,Y and Z needing further research*).

Yet debate will rage about what is and what is not a biscuit. Jaffa Cakes anyone?



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Sunday, 5 th July	Morning Worship	Jacqui Cobb
Sunday, 19 th July	Holy Communion 3:00pm	Rev Collin Moore
Sunday, 2 nd August	Morning Worship	Ken Young
Sunday, 16 th August	Holy Communion 3:00pm	Rev Andrew Bell

Save the Date

'The Great Outdoors' is the theme for this year's **Holiday Club**. It will run from Tuesday 18th – Thursday 20th August in the Methodist Community Hall. All Primary School children are invited to join in, including those about to start.

Regular Groups

Knit and Natter: Meet on Mondays, 2:00 – 4:00pm.

Toddlers and carer: Meet on Tuesdays, 10:00am – 12 noon.
Everyone is welcome to join these fun and friendly groups!

Wild Roots Growing for Wellbeing Group

Mondays 10:30 am - 2:30pm at Catsham Nr Baltonsborough.

Wild Roots Growing for Wellbeing Project welcomes people who are keen to get outdoors, learn new skills, share their skills or just have the opportunity to spend some time in a peaceful environment. Our main emphasis is on horticulture and rural craft activities which take place in our large vegetable, fruit and flower growing area.

Maybe you need an excuse to get out of the house or just want to dip your toe into being around other people again. Whatever it is you're looking for we can always find gardening related activities to suit your mood and energy levels on the day. With two covered open sided sheltered areas and a large poly-tunnel we can cater for whatever the British weather throws at us!

If you want to find out more please contact Ursula Casey at: ursula@wilderwoods.org.
Central Somerset Outdoor Learning Partnership – Registered Charity Number 1151284 <https://www.facebook.com/wilderwoods.org> www.wilderwoods.org

**** Next Keinton Mandeville Big Breakfast ****

**On 17th Saturday October from 9:00am,
Keinton Mandeville Village Hall**

This will be the 27th year of this great community event.

The funds raised will help to support many of our local organisations plus *Alzheimer's Society, WHY and Save the Children*. Come along and enjoy a delicious breakfast or afternoon cream tea (or both!) and all the attractions that make the **Big Breakfast** the event it has become! Do bring your family and friends.

Breakfasts served from 9:00am to 1:00pm Cream Teas 2:00pm to 4:00pm.

If you are part of a local organisation and would like support from the funds we raise for a particular project, to buy equipment, a special activity or anything else, please contact the committee on:

keintonbigbreakfast@gmail.com.

More details will be in the next Parish Magazine and on Social Media. As we have mentioned previously, this will be the **last** in which our current Chair and Secretary will be involved. *We are very keen to hear from anyone who would be interested in helping continue this great village tradition and shadow the current Chair and Secretary this year with the view to taking office in 2027.*

The Big Breakfast Committee works brilliantly as a team to ensure that this wonderful village occasion is both a special community and fundraising event.

If you would like more information, please contact Chris Lane on: keintonbigbreakfast@gmail.com

The Committee

Lydford on Fosse Parish Hall

July and August News

There's plenty happening at the hall as we head into summer, even though August will be a little quieter while many groups take a break.

Parish Hall AGM

First up is the Parish Hall Management Committee AGM on Monday, 7th July at 7:00pm, a friendly chance to hear what's been going on behind the scenes and what's planned next. We're also looking to welcome a new Treasurer to the team. It's a small, steady role (*just a couple of hours a week*), with on-the-job training, lots of support, and a genuinely friendly committee.

The Parish Hall will also have a marquee at the Sports Club's Family Fun Day on Saturday 11th July, so whether you're joining us to share what your group does or simply dropping in to discover more about village activities, we're looking forward to seeing you.

Then comes the big one: Saturday, 25th July, when we'll be hosting our anniversary celebration, a late-afternoon-into-evening gathering with a BBQ and live music from Foresail and Straw Man, marking twenty years since the hall's renovation. It promises to be a lovely community moment.

We're also delighted to share a new treat: *three Sunday afternoons of cream teas*, served by the PCC to raise funds for improvements to the church heating system. Delicious scones for an excellent cause - what more could anyone want?

There's a lot to look forward to and we hope to see you at the hall soon. If you'd like to chat about any of the events, please stop me at any of the parish events or email me at chair@lydfordparishhall.org.uk thank you, Jane F

User Events for July 2026

Thur 2nd	Scrapbags Yoga	2 - 4pm 7:00pm	Sociable Fabric/Wool Crafts Local Yoga group with Jill
Tues 7th	Parish Hall Maintenance	8 am - 5pm	Essential work for the Hall
Mon 7th Mon 7th	Parish Hall AGM PH Committee Meeting	7:00pm 8:00pm	Welcome, Treasurer sought. Planning events, upgrades etc.
Wed 8th	Parish Council Meeting	7:00pm	All welcome to attend
Thu 9th	Yoga	7:00pm	Local Yoga group with Jill
Fri 10th	Third Tuesday Group	TBC	Visit Harry's Cider for Pizza
Sat 11th	We are all here for the Sport's Club Fun Day	12 - 5pm	Tell us about your group/ conme start a new hobby
Mon 13th	Royal Enfield Owners Club	7:30pm	Members and guests of Club
Tues 14th	LDGC	7:20pm	Speaker – Tim Parker
Tues 16th	Scrapbags Yoga	2 - 4pm 7:00pm	Sociable Fabric/Wool Crafts Local Yoga group with Jill
Wed 22nd	St Peter's House Communion	3:00pm	Quiet reflection, shared fellowship
Thu 23rd	Yoga	7:00pm	Local Yoga group with Jill
Sat 25th	Celebration Evening	4:00pm on	Live local bands, games BBQ !
Sun 26th	St Peter's Afternoon Tea	3 - 4:30pm	Fund raiser to update heating
Tues 28th	Welcome & POPin Cafe	10:30am	All welcome/drinks & bakes
Thu 30th	Yoga	7:00pm	Local Yoga group with Jill

Continued next page

Pilates

Monday at

Keinton Mandeville Village Hall

09:15am – 10:15am (*Intermediate*)

10:30am – 11:30am (*Beginners*)

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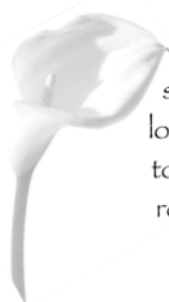
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Lydford Parish Hall

(Continuation)

Parish Hall Bookings -

The following groups have no meetings during August but will return in September: Scrapbags/Yoga; Lydford & District Gardening Club; Parish Council and Third Tuesday Group;

User Events Booked for August 2026

Sun 9th	St Peter's Afternoon Tea	3 - 4:30pm	Fund raiser to update heating
Mon 10th	Royal Enfield Owners Club	7:30pm	Members and guests of Club
Sun 23rd	St Peter's Afternoon Tea	3 - 4:30pm	Fund raiser to update heating
Tues 25th	Welcome & POPin Cafe	10:30am	All welcome/drinks & bakes

Keinton Mandeville Parish Council

Meetings – The next parish council meetings are on Tuesday, 7th July and Tuesday 1st September in the Village Hall at 7:30pm. Public session will take place at 7:30pm at the beginning of the meeting. All are welcome to attend.

Parish Council new email address and website – New Website and email, these are easier to navigate: <https://keintonmandevilleparishcouncil.go.uk> and Parish Clerk new email address: clerk@keintonmandevilleparishcouncil.go.uk

Speed Reductions in the High Street – The 20mph limit has now come into effect and following feedback from the community we have followed up completion of the work which includes more reminders in the zones that it is 20mph. Recently you will also have seen the roundels have been put in place. The speed indicator device has also been fully activated so that it can record speeds over 20mph in the required zones. The parish council hopes that this supports the reduction of speed in the village which was determined to be a concern by many residents.

Traffic Signal Replacement at A37 Lydford Cross Keys

The majority of the work will be completed with temporary traffic lights in place but there will be some closures and these will be posted onto the parish council website when they are confirmed. This work is due to start in early September.

A Public Liaison Officer, Syed Shah, can be contacted for further information on 07812449605 or syed.shah@somerset.gov.uk.

Kaye Elston,

Clerk to Keinton Mandeville Parish Council

Lydford Scrapbags



Are you interested in joining a group for: ...

Sewing, quilting, dressmaking or embroidery; also you could do knitting, crochet, macramé, bobbin lace etc.?

We meet in the Parish Hall, West Lydford, on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month between 2:00pm – 4:00pm
For which we all pay a small fee.

My contact details are: Phone: 01963 240435 or 07484 612828

Email: annefleming1@btinternet.com

Anne Fleming

The Henry Livius Trust

The Livius Trust has two distinct aims: providing items, services and facilities at Keinton Mandeville Primary School; and advancing religion in accordance with the doctrines of the Church of England in the Parish of Keinton Mandeville.

The Trustees are open to any proposals that accord with the Trust's aims

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Michael Beasley
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Human flourishing for all



'Tell me about your school days' is a deeply illuminating question to ask. Our experience of school shapes us deeply our whole lives long. Schools mould our character and values. They develop our skills and expectations. They influence our relationships and our life chances.

Rooted in our understanding of the Bible, Christians have been involved in schooling for many centuries. In the nineteenth century, the Church of England's National Society set up thousands of schools all around our country, established principally for the benefit of the poor. It is largely out of this heritage that our Diocese of Bath and Wells continues to have a stake in so many of Somerset's schools today. We have 180 Church Schools, the majority of which are for primary aged children, with nine middle, upper or secondary schools and one specialist provision. Big and small, and found in all kinds of communities, our schools educate around 60% of Somerset's primary school children.

Our schools are Church Schools, they are not faith schools. We are open to everyone, of all faiths and none. Our schools are guided by our Christian ethos, manifested in their engagement with the Bible and worship, in prayer and Christian ethics. More recently, this is expressed most fully in the Church of England's Vision for Education. This understands our schools' mission to be 'deeply Christian, serving the Common Good'. Our vision embraces the spiritual, physical, intellectual, emotional, moral and social development of children and young people. Our vision is of human flourishing for all.

As bishop, I am privileged to spend lots of time in our Church Schools. The most fun I have is being grilled by young people who pose me questions about ethics and doctrine, our Church's life and faith. I'm certainly kept on my toes! What I value most is seeing played out in our young people the four main elements of our Church's vision – wisdom, hope, community and dignity. These commitments are reflected in the stories told in this edition of Manna. I hope you'll enjoy reading them as they illustrate our vision for education in the schools of our diocese.

Bishop Michael

Keinton Mandeville WI

In June – we welcomed **Neil Smart from Medical Detection Dogs**, who presented a awareness raising session about the *work of bio-detection and medical alert assistance dogs*.

These amazing animals are trained to detect various medical conditions in many situations, and are accompanied in their work by *Ambassador dogs* - who received all the cuddles and treats whilst their 'colleagues' are working! Two visitors expressed how enjoyable the evening had been too!

Our free Community First Aid training day on 27th June in partnership with the Parish Council at the village hall attracted a lot of interest. Attendees learned how to feel confident about using lifesaving techniques, including CPR and defibrillator use.

16th July – we will hear about costume jewellery of the 60s, 70s and 80s, and learn of its ability to help women express their style without the financial burden of diamonds! Although there is *no meeting in August*, we still get together for a convivial day out in a Somerset beauty spot and enjoy local refreshments.

September 17th

We meet up again for a talk **by Andy Rowden, from The Financial Detectives** about ensuring we protect our loved ones and manage our assets.

We are delighted to welcome new members and visitors to our meetings. You are very welcome to come and discover what we get up to, we look forward to seeing you!

Please contact Sarah on my new email address at:
commskmwi@gmail.com

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SHOCK Update

The LVA 100 Estate – Somerset Council starts again !

Following a request for clarification from our Parish Council, **Somerset Council** has now confirmed that *it intends to take the LVA 100 planning application back to Planning Committee South for another go.*

This is highly unusual. The clear inference from the documents on the planning portal is that, following Counsel's advice, SC is concerned about the risk of legal costs and judicial criticism if the Parish Council's judicial review application were to be successful: its response is the radical one of going back to square one.

This is excellent news! The aim of a judicial review is to get the Court to set aside the original decision, meaning that the application would anyway have to start again from scratch. In essence, this is what has just happened, but without the effort and expense of going to the High Court.

As for the timing of the second hearing, we think the earliest it could take place is September, but it is much more likely to be towards the end of this year or into next. All the statutory consultees (Highways, Education, Water etc) will need to be re-consulted and a new ecology survey is needed, which will take time.

In the meantime, you can rest assured that the Parish Council and SHOCK will be keeping a very close eye on proceedings, challenging both LVA and Somerset Planning to confront the manifest failings in last year's process and decision.

Wanted – Organist/Pianist

Wheathill Benefice is made up of 4 churches –

Barton St David, Keinton Mandeville

Kingweston and Lydford on Fosse

We hold a Service every Sunday and alternate our services across our Benefice churches. *We are in need of an Organist or Pianist to support our service's* so that we can continue to fill the churches with joy and fellowship.

If you think you might be able to help us even if it is infrequently, please contact Jo on email address: wheathillbenefice@gmail.com

Keinton Mandeville Village Hall

Have you thought about hiring Keinton Mandeville Village Hall for your special event – *a party, wedding reception, exhibition, fund-raising activity, meeting or social gathering?*

Enjoy drinks on the covered veranda, use the newly refurbished kitchen and committee room, there is masses of parking and safe access to the Happy Tracks play area for children – what's not to like?

With favourable rates for local residents, do get in touch with any of the hall Trustees for more information at kmvillagehall@gmail.com -

or check out <https://keintonmandevillevh.co.uk/>

to see what's planned and view the bookings calendar for hall vacancies. If you have time to spare and would like to get involved in running this great facility, please do let us know. *More help will be very welcome.*

Our Parish Magazine is Produced by the Wheathill Benefice Parochial Church Council and printed by Snell Print

The Parish Magazine continues in printed form but is also be available on the Benefice Website: wheathill.org plus linked via kingweston.net and lydfordonfosse.co.uk and bartonstdavidparish.gov.uk Copies are also emailed to contacts on Facebook.

We continue to deliver a free copy to every house in the villages of Barton St David, Keinton Mandeville, Kingweston, Lydford on Fosse and Wheathill by our much valued volunteers.

"Whilst the Benefice includes advertisements within the magazine this does not mean their endorsement or otherwise of any of the contractors/advertisers, however please do let any business you may use from the adverts, know that you found them in the Wheathill Benefice Parish Magazine".