

## Wansdyke Play Association

At Westhill Gardens Playing Field every Tuesday from 3.30pm - 6.00pm.

With the clocks going back, we at Wansdyke Play Association have found the darkness descending upon us. Instead of being miserable about it though we're excited about using the darkness for Play! It means fires, hot chocolates, games using lights and much more. In recent weeks we've had loads of energy from the children and teenagers, loads of ideas and great conversations about what we can do in the future. Come and get involved! Everyone is welcome and we are a friendly bunch - chances are you'll know someone there!

## Logo Competition at Norton Radstock College

To mark the first year of the life of Westfield Parish Council, a competition for students of Norton Radstock College has been set up to design a logo and strapline for Westfield Parish Council.

As a guideline the Parish Council has asked that entries embody the strong community focus of the Parish Council. The winning logo and strapline will be used by the Parish Council on its letter headed paper, the Parish newsletter and the Parish Council's website [www.westfield-pc.gov.uk](http://www.westfield-pc.gov.uk)

Norton Radstock College will select its three best entries to be put forward for public voting by residents of Westfield in the early part of next year.

The Parish Council hopes that this will mark the beginning of an excellent working partnership between the College and the Parish Council and that the resulting artwork will be a lasting tribute to this Partnership.



## Isn't History Funny?

In the early 1950s a Somerset man inherited his father's farm, and all the farm debts! The banks were going to call in the loans, so he decided to come up to Westfield to work in the pits to earn enough money to keep the banks at bay. He did, and he managed to keep his inheritance.

The man was of course, Michael Eavis, and his farm is Worthy Farm in Pilton. A few years later he started the world famous Glastonbury Festival.

He told his story when he came to open the Five Arches cycle path earlier this year. I asked him if I could write the tale up for the parish newsletter, he laughed and said of course - that's what happened! Isn't it funny sometimes how things work out, how Westfield saved Glastonbury Festival!

**Cllr. Robin Moss**

# The Westfield Warbler

## Westfield Parish Council Newsletter

December 2011—Edition 1

## A Message from The Chair of the Council

Although it doesn't seem like it, seven months have passed since you elected your new council. In that time we have moved from Radstock to an affordable office within the centre of Westfield, finally got an idea of our financial position from fascinating figures left to us by BANES and most importantly, secured the services of a highly capable and qualified Clerk. I say importantly because if we are to develop Westfield Parish Council into a meaningful, community supporting Council we will need these skills.

A key part of our support will be to keep you informed and to develop ways in which you can tell us what you want and expect from us.

Your newsletter will soon become quarterly and we will develop the funding to support this. So, if you belong to a club or organisation that adds value to the life of our community we would like to hear from you.

We hope you enjoy this first edition, either way let us know your feedback.

**Cllr Rob Appleyard**

## Winter Maintenance Scheme snowballs in Westfield

Following recent press coverage, Westfield Parish Council is delighted that five volunteers have come forward to be Snow Wardens for the Parish. Part of a Pilot Scheme by Bath & North East Somerset Council (B&NES), we would be one of 15 communities in this area where B&NES improves its winter maintenance with help from the community.

Snow Wardens receive training from B&NES, together with a supply of bagged salt and a small hand-propelled salt spreader. If you can give some time to help, no matter how small, possibly just to spread salt in the roads most local to you, please contact Westfield Parish Council on 01761 410669 or email: [council@westfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:council@westfield-pc.gov.uk)



## Westfield Supports Young Footballers

Westfield Parish Council is pleased to say that it is freezing its football pitch charges this year. The pitches at Westhill and Norton Hill Recreation Grounds are amongst the most competitively priced in the area. In particular the Parish Council is keen to encourage and promote junior football, with pitches costing £87.50 a season.

Chairman of the Parish Council's Finance and Personnel Committee, Cllr Robin Moss, commented "I am really pleased that we have been able to hold charges at the current level for the 2011/12 season, despite a very high parish budget. We continue to be very good value for money and encourage teams to use the pitches".

For more information about hiring a pitch please contact Westfield Parish Council on 01761 410669 or email:

[council@westfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:council@westfield-pc.gov.uk)

### Councillors' Contacts

Rob Appleyard, Chair, 10 Waterford Park, BA3 3TR—01761 434568

Rober Baber, 7 Westfield Terrace, BA3 3UT—01761 432863

Anne Clarke, 16 Fosseyway Cottages, BA3 3TX—07939 494463

Geoff Fuller, Vice Chair, 22 Elm Tree Avenue, BA3 3SZ—01761 439198

Sue Hamilton, 33 Longfellow Road, BA3 3YZ—01761 417630

Robin Moss, 5-7 Old Bath Road, BA3 3HB—01761 432224

Eddie Newman, 20 Fosseyway Cottages, BA3 3TH—01761 435109

Ted Pack—36 St Peter's Road, BA3 4BJ—01761 414840

Sheena Russell, 11 Waterford Park, BA3 3TS—01761 434731

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### Officers' Contacts

Westfield Parish Council,

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Tel—01761 410669 [www.westfield-pc.gov.uk](http://www.westfield-pc.gov.uk)

Lesley Welsh, Parish Clerk—[Lesley.welch@westfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:Lesley.welch@westfield-pc.gov.uk)

Hazel Franklin, Finance Officer—[Hazel.franklin@westfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:Hazel.franklin@westfield-pc.gov.uk)

Brenda Burridge, Administrative Assistant—[Brenda.burridge@westfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:Brenda.burridge@westfield-pc.gov.uk)

*If you would like to have an article published or advertise in the next edition of the newsletter please contact the Parish Clerk on 01761 410669 or email [Lesley.welch@westfield-pc.gov.uk](mailto:Lesley.welch@westfield-pc.gov.uk)*

## A Time Capsule for Westfield



To help commemorate the first year of Westfield Parish Council, the Parish Council would like to bury a time capsule beneath a stone plinth. To accord with the Parish Council's community focus, it would like the elements within the time capsule to come entirely from the local schools and voluntary groups in Westfield.

The stone plinth will be situated next to a new rooted Christmas Tree in the centre of the piece of open space on the right hand side of Elm Tree Avenue as you enter from Fosseyway.

If you belong to a Church, Voluntary Group or School in Westfield, we very much hope that you will contribute a small item and, if you wish to include an explanation of the significance of that item, we would be most grateful. Please would you send the item to Westfield Parish Council, The Oval Office, Cobblers Way, Westfield BA3 3BX marked clearly 'for the time capsule', by the end of February 2012.

## Could You Be A Councillor?

A casual vacancy has arisen for the office of Parish Councillor in Westfield.

If you have an interest in serving the community in which you live or work, improving your local environment and taking part in what becomes really rewarding work, please contact either the Chairman of the Council, Cllr Rob Appleyard on 01761 434568 (evenings) or email Rob\_Appleyard@bathnes.gov.uk. You can also contact the Parish Clerk, Lesley Welch on 01761 410669 (Mon-Thurs mornings) or email lesley.welch@westfield-pc.gov.uk

To help dispel any myths, it is not necessary to be qualified in any particular area. It is important only that, as a local person, you have the desire to represent and improve our community. We would be delighted to talk to you about the work involved, the support for new Councillors, the time commitment, and how to go about becoming a Councillor. Why not also look at our website [www.westfield-pc.gov.uk](http://www.westfield-pc.gov.uk) where you will find more information about being a Councillor.



## Community Plan

Over the next few months the parish council will be asking residents of Westfield to submit ideas on how their community could be improved. Suggestions could be from an individual, from groups such as a crèche, sports club, local charity, resident and religious groups. With the consultation open to all, together we can improve living in Westfield. In stimulating interest in local issues, it can galvanize community spirit, get neighbourhoods talking to each other and strengthen the council's relationship with residents. When the consultation is completed and the ideas are prioritised the council can apply, through B&NES, for Lottery Monies. Using the newsletter, we will issue guidelines on how you can submit your suggestions. So, get talking to each other now, formulate your ideas and be ready!

**Cllr. Roger Baber**

## New Access to Health Scheme in BATHNES

SWAN Volunteer Transport scheme has a new pilot project Access to Health part funded by Big Lottery to help elderly / disabled people on low income (by this we mean savings of under £16,000) to help access outpatient appointments at the Bath Royal United Hospital and local Doctors appointments.

Our team of volunteer drivers are using their own cars to transport people to the RUH and Dr's appointments. We aim to cover the whole county.

Members of the public can make direct telephone enquiries and register with the scheme at no cost. Telephone: 01761 439548. We also welcome calls from professionals in the care services and voluntary organisations, friends and relatives.

We ask for a suggested donation when we provide this service for each individual journey, the transport is not free and not commissioned by the NHS or Patient Transport. Please ring for current suggested donations as this may vary depending on the residential destination from the hospital.

We can also help people get to Paulton Hospital, day care, shopping trips, visiting friends and loved ones, clubs and any other community activity.

Contact SWAN on 01761 439548



## Radstock Museum Needs Your Help

If you are good at accounts and looking for worthwhile voluntary work, look no further than Radstock Museum. It urgently needs a new honorary treasurer to look after its books. Contact manager/curator Nick Turner on 01761 437722, or email him at [info@radstockmuseum.co.uk](mailto:info@radstockmuseum.co.uk).

The museum's latest exhibition, "Women In.....," about Somerset women's contribution to history, is currently going great guns, and finishes at the end of November. In February the popular Patchwork and Quilting exhibition returns.

The museum is also packed to the rafters with artefacts about the lives of people who inhabited the area when the Somerset Coalfield was at its production peak. Outside is a gigantic colliery wheel, Radstock's memorial to the hundreds of coalminers who died in pit accidents over the centuries before the coalfield closed down in the 1970s, and inside visitors are greeted by a magnificent reconstruction of 19th century pithead apparatus and the tub which carried the last load of coal raised in Somerset. The museum also boasts a replica mine tunnel, a Victorian classroom, a typical miners' cottage, an old-fashioned Co-op shop and a Victorian printing shop. It is open Monday to Friday and Sunday 2pm to 5pm, and Saturday 11am to 5pm.

## Service Personnel & Veterans Agency

Following the recent Remembrance Day Services in the area, a local resident has advised that Veterans may be entitled to priority treatment for accepted disablements. This includes all Veterans whose medical condition is a result of military service.

For information please contact the Service Personnel & Veterans Agency on freephone 0800 169 2277 or text phone 0800 169 3458

## Plea to Dog Walkers

Information for dog owners and walkers; under the Environmental Act 1990 after picking up dog waste, if there is not a designated bin available dispose of your bag in a regular litter bin. Not the best idea in my opinion but better than leaving it on the ground.

**Cllr Eddie Newman**