

The WESTFIELD WARBLER

SUMMER 2023
ISSUE 46



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of King Charles III
with a special
'Big Lunch'

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Message from the Chairman

Hello everyone, I hope that you are all looking forward to the summer months.

This year I will be standing down as Chairman of the Parish Council. This is a decision that I have not taken lightly as I have enjoyed my time as Chairman.

However, as I am very committed to ensuring the best for the people of Westfield, I will remain as a Councillor for the parish.

Having changed my job, I now don't have the amount of time that the Chair of the Parish Council needs to commit. I feel that as Chairman, you should always have your finger on the pulse of all events in the parish. Unfortunately, I am finding that difficult and I don't like to let the council down.

For the ten years plus that I have held the position of Chairman, I have enjoyed working with lots of people on lots of different projects.

The office staff have kept me on the straight and narrow and they have been a pleasure to work closely with on all aspects that affect Westfield, which continues to move onwards and upwards.

I feel sure that the person who takes on the role will be as positive as myself, working hard for the community and they will know that the whole of the Parish Council will be behind them, because we work as a team and not as individuals.

Many thanks to all who have helped me in the role as Chairman over the years and I will still be on hand to deal with any queries from residents.

Cllr Geoff Fuller - Chair of Westfield Parish Council

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The next edition of The Westfield Warbler will be in September 2023. If you would like your group to be included, please contact us by 9th August.

You can view The Westfield Warbler on the Council's website at www.westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk

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It's Official! We are Good with Outstanding Features



This fantastic news follows a two day inspection which took place earlier this year. We are delighted that Ofsted has recognised all the excellent work going on at Westfield School and Nursery.

Whilst Quality of Education, Behaviours and Attitudes, Leadership and Management and Early Years Provision were all recognised to be Good, Personal Development was rated as Outstanding, and we could not be prouder of our pupils and staff. This is a huge success for the school and we are very proud of the report which highlights many key strengths.

The inspectors recognised that **"the school is inclusive and welcoming."**

The school prioritises **"pupils' character development through an exceptional programme of experiences."** The children **"enjoy activities to enhance the curriculum, such as the 'Fantastic Futures' programme and the link with the local university to promote physical activity."**

"From early years to Year 6, the experiences pupils receive deepen their knowledge of all walks of life in modern Britain."

"In lessons, and around the school, pupils behave positively. Relationships between pupils and staff are respectful."

"Pupils say they know how to value everyone."

"The school values of creativity, respect, collaboration, ambition and resilience support everything the school does."

The inspectors also recognised that effective support is in place for those pupils with specific behavioural and emotional needs. Leaders work closely with families and external agencies and the children benefit from the school's inclusive ethos.

This is the school's first inspection since it joined the Midsomer Norton Schools' Partnership in 2018. Headteacher Simon Mills said: "Everyone at Westfield is incredibly proud of our recent Ofsted report. In particular, we are pleased that Inspectors were able to see for themselves the caring and inclusive environment we have created here and that our children feel very happy and safe in school.

"All of us are so immersed in the day-to-day running of the school that we do not stop to think about the impact of our teaching and ambition for Westfield children which have resulted in the successive 'Good' judgements from Ofsted.

"The report is a credit to children and staff across the school and to the strong relationships that have been built with pupils, parents, and the wider community. We are extremely proud of everything that we have been able to achieve at Westfield since the last Ofsted and as always, we look

forward to the school continuing to help all of our pupils fulfil their potential in the future. As with our well known hashtag phrase, #teamwestfield, this truly makes the school a highly popular and successful place to learn."

Beat the Street is coming to the Somer Valley!

A popular interactive game that makes exercise fun is set to launch across Paulton, Radstock, Midsomer Norton, Westfield, Peasedown St John and Timsbury.

Beat the Street was created by GP Dr William Bird to encourage people to explore their local areas and to make exercise fun. It has been played by more than 1.6m people in more than 120 locations in the UK and increased levels of physical activity among adults and children.

The game is open to anyone of any age who would like to take part and takes place in the Somer Valley from Wednesday, 17th May to Wednesday, 28th June. Children use a card and map which will be provided by participating primary schools, and adults can pick up a free card from one of the distribution points listed on the Beat the Street Somer Valley website at www.beatthestreet.me/somervalley

Alternatively, players over the age of 13 can download the free Beat the Street app to play the game with their phone.

There are prizes for the teams that walk, cycle or wheel the furthest with vouchers for books and sports equipment on offer. There is also a leaderboard for individuals, as well as a total points leaderboard and an average leaderboard so opportunities for teams of all sizes to win prizes.

Once the game is underway, players find their nearest "Beat Box" – or sensor - which will appear on lampposts around the Somer Valley. There will be 55 sensors that record each players'

point tally. These sensors are contactless so that you don't need to touch them – simply hover your card over the Beat Box and it will beep and flash to record your points. Visit two Beat Boxes within an hour and collect 10 points for each Beat Box, then keep going!

Beat the Street Somer Valley is being delivered by Intelligent Health and has been commissioned by The Active Way. The Active Way is led by Bath & North East Somerset Council and funded by Active Travel England. Additional funding has been provided by the National Lottery via Sport England.

Rebecca Reynolds, Director of Public Health, said: "It's free to take part in Beat the Street and it's open to everyone regardless of age, ability or background. It's an inclusive and compelling game that encourages you to exercise in a fun way with friends and family, plus it's a great way of getting to know your local area.

"The Beat the Street game has been played nearby in Somerset and has been extremely successful in terms of encouraging people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds to get active as a community. We can't wait to see how many miles people clock up."

More information will be available at www.beatthestreet.me/Somervalley and on social media at @BTSSomerValley

Inspirational Citizen Award 2023

The Westfield Inspirational Citizen Award, now in its sixth year, continues to recognise local people who make our lives better.

This year sees the award going to Marion Harrington, who has tirelessly campaigned to keep the number 82 bus service running.

Mrs Harrington relies on this service to live independently, as do many others. To quote Mrs Harrington: the bus is my lifeline.

On receiving the award, Mrs Harrington said: "I am honoured, I am very passionate about the buses. The bus is my lifeline, I use it for going shopping, to the post office, pharmacy and dentist, without it I would be stuck at home. I value my independence and I'm fighting to keep my independence."

Westfield Parish Council thanks Mrs Harrington for her continued efforts to keep the buses running.



Volunteers Needed!

The Carers' Centre is dedicated to helping those who provide care to a partner, relative or friend in Westfield.

We're looking for friendly volunteers to help deliver our fantastic wellbeing activities, inspire the local community and more!

Inspired to make a difference? Please get in touch today!

☎ 0800 0388 885 ✉ volunteer@banescarerscentre.org.uk
👉 banescarerscentre.org.uk/volunteer



Dragons' Den

We held our ninth Dragons' Den style event on Friday the 21st of April at the Whisty Hall, Radstock, with ten awards of £500 up for grabs. It was extremely well attended by representatives from thirteen local projects, who had ninety seconds to creatively present their ideas to the receptive audience.

Our theme for this Dragons' Den was GREEN, so project ideas were required to improve the environment or connect people with the great outdoors.

Robin Moss, from our Big Local team, led the proceedings and kept the event on track with time.

Robin updated the audience on the many projects we've been involved in and what we're going to do over the next couple of years and gave a special thanks to Somer Valley Rotary Club, for generously contributing £500 towards the grant pot.

Soon enough, the pitches began and the timer started – 90 seconds doesn't sound like a long time, but you would be surprised at how much information can be shared!

The three friendly dragons took it in turns to ask an encouraging question at the end of each pitch so that the contestants had a further opportunity to shine.

Our brilliant dragons were: Angela Emms, Philanthropy Manager at Quartet Community Foundation; Phil Edmonds, Treasurer of the Somer Valley Rotary Club; and Jenny Cowie, Funding Officer at TNL Community Fund. Before the event started, the contestants had the opportunity to network with the dragons and find out what kind of support was available from their organisations.

In our Dragons' Dens, it's the community that decides who wins. Almost seventy votes were counted while some delicious cakes provided by the SWALLOW café were devoured.

Projects based in Westfield include:

Fosseway School – to create a more inclusive and safer playground which will be available for



Successful applicants, Larch Court Allotments, Swallow charity and Fosseway School.

use by those attending holiday clubs, inclusive playschemes and activities in the school grounds

SWALLOW charity – will purchase a carpentry bench to enable their group to develop their skills and create new items which they can go on to sell at local markets, our cafes and in their online shop.

Larch Court Allotments – can begin to create a safe walking surface for the current allotment users and visitors with mobility issues.

The Radstock and Westfield Big Local team would like to say a huge thank you to everyone that attended this very successful Dragons' Den style event, as without you, it wouldn't work! The event is resident-led, resident-supported and residents will lead and access the projects that won – that's what Big Local is all about!

Helping to improve our Parish – Could you be a Councillor?

Westfield Parish Council has, at the time of writing this, two vacancies for Councillor. We have capacity for 11 Councillors and 9 of the current councillors have put themselves forward for re-election.

As a result, there was no election in Westfield and a person that would be interested in taking on the role would be co-opted rather than elected.

We would like to offer our grateful thanks to Bryan Wallbridge, who was Chair of the Environment and Development Committee and Vice Chair of the Parish Council for many years, for all his help with the work of the Parish Council. Cllr Lesley Mansell has also left us and our thanks go to her for her contribution to Westfield's journey during her time with us.

If you are interested and would like a chat about what being a Councillor entails, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council on Monday to Thursdays 9-2pm on 01761 401669. Or, simply write to the Parish Council, The Oval Office, Cobblers Way, Westfield BA3 3BX or email council@westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk with some brief information about yourself and what inspires you to be a Parish Councillor.

It is not necessary to be qualified in any particular area and, for balance, we particularly welcome young adults. We are looking for a local person with the desire to represent and improve our community. Why not look at our website, www.westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk, to find out more about what we do. We hope to hear from you.



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Feedback on a 2022-23 Grant award

Westfield Parish Council's Grant Awards last year went to various worthwhile causes, one of which was SWALLOW, a charity based in Westfield that does wonderful things for teenagers and adults with learning disabilities. They were awarded £975.

Here is their report on how the grant was spent:

We used the money to appoint a builder to build a bespoke cupboard in one of our workshop spaces, where we run creative enterprise sessions for teenagers and adults with learning disabilities. The cupboard has been built into the room as a permanent storage space with a lockable door and is working brilliantly already. The builder created stud walls, which have been skimmed and painted to match the rest of the room. He has inserted shelving inside and there is plenty of space for us to store items of all shapes and sizes.

SWALLOW staff and members alike are very happy with the new addition to their work space. Staff have commented that it's really good to work in a much tidier space and be able to put things away properly at the end of a session. One of our members also

commented: "The new cupboard is great – now I know where to find my things!"

We believe that the new cupboard now enables our members to do things more independently during their sessions. Because the shelving is clearly marked, they are able to get things out and tidy away with confidence, and without having to ask for support. It has also encouraged a new table layout within the room that is much easier for our members who use wheelchairs to move around in.

An additional benefit is that the room is often used for meetings and training, and now looks much more presentable as a result of the cupboard. It has increased the multi-purpose usability of the room.

We would like to thank Westfield Parish ever so much for supporting the construction of our new cupboard.

More information is available on the B&NES website.



What3Words and our defibrillators

What is What3Words?

The world is divided into 3 metre squares and each square given a unique combination of three words. It's the easiest way to find and share exact locations.

This method of locating exactly where you are at the touch of a button on your phone is becoming more and more useful.

In Westfield, we have 6 defibrillators. When we questioned the operators of them about whether What3Words would be useful in helping identify their location, we were advised that they already have that identification with the ambulance service. That led us to think about the person in the street being able to locate them as well by using this app.



The idea for this is that if you are in Westfield and call 999, you can give them your What3words location and they can quickly and easily direct you to the nearest defibrillator.

Give it a go and see where you are in the world according to What3words!

www.what3words.com

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Wellsway Pit Disaster

From what we have been able to find out, production began from the Wellsway pit in 1829. It was owned by the Countess of Waldegrave as were other mines in the area. The pit closed in 1920.

A noticeably significant historical event in Westfield was the day in November 1839, that 12 men and boys fell to their death at the Wellsway Pit.

The rope carrying them to the floor of the pit snapped. At the time, this was thought not to have been an accident, but the rope to have been 'maliciously' cut. The unthinkable was suspected for the rope, nearly new after six months of being worked with 37 hundredweight, had the appearance of being cut with a knife or chisel passed over the fibres. This was never proved and no one was ever brought to account over the accident.

The grave of these men is at St John's in Midsomer Norton and is marked with a plaque stating "In this grave are deposited the remains of the twelve undermentioned sufferers all of whom were killed at Wellsway Coal Works on 5th November 1839, by the snapping of the rope as they were on the point of descending into the pit. The rope was generally thought to have been maliciously cut."

Those who died were:

James Keevill, aged 41

Mark Keevill, aged 13

James Keevill Jr, aged 13

Richard Langford, aged 45

Farnham Langford, aged 15

Alfred Langford, aged 13

James Pearce, aged 17

William Summers, aged 24

William Adams, aged 20

Leonard Hooper Dowling, aged 13

Amos Dando, aged 12

John Barnett, aged 41.

The Parish Council has ordered a remembrance plaque to be placed on the coal truck planter by the Christmas tree at the top of Elm Tree Avenue.

There is a lot more information about mining in the area in Radstock Museum. Why not pay it a visit?



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Waterside Valley update

Work is starting to get underway at Waterside Valley to keep the habitat wildlife friendly, as well as accessible. We are working with Somer Valley Rediscovered and, with the aid of the WECA grant, we are hoping to have some scrub clearance taking place soon.

The bridges over the river are next on the list for work and we are meeting with contractors to carry out repair/maintenance work.

In the meantime, dog waste bins have been installed at two of the entrances to the site.

Recently we were sent this photo of someone enjoying their leisure time at the miners' pool. Is there any chance someone recognises her? We would love to know.

If anyone has any historical photos of the Waterside Valley we would love to have copies that can be published in the Warbler. They are always of great interest.



Miner's swimming pool around 1930



WELLSWAY
SCHOOL

Open Morning and Evenings at Wellsway School

Year 5 - Tuesday 4th July - Tours from 9.15am – 10.45am

Year 6 - Thursday 21st September - Tours from 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Year 6 - Tuesday 26th September - Tours from 9.15am – 10.45am



We are delighted to confirm our two open morning dates; we are offering tours to students and families who are interested in joining Wellsway School in September 2024. Visitors always comment on the purposeful, caring and happy ethos of the school, so what better way for you to find out about our vision and values than to come and experience them for yourselves? For those parents/carers who are unable to attend, there will be an additional Year 6 Open Evening in September. The morning will provide an opportunity to see the school in action; to visit curriculum areas and discuss the Wellsway School experience with students and staff. Please be advised that the morning will finish at 10.45am, the last tour will depart at 10.20am. Our staff and students are the biggest advocate for our school and I am sure when you visit, you will see why we believe Wellsway School is a unique community.

Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 5th October, between 6.00pm – 8.00pm

We are delighted to invite key stage 4 students to our Sixth form open evening. On the evening students will be able to see the enhanced range of subjects and enrichment opportunities on offer at Wellsway school and learn how we work as a collaborative Sixth Form 'Futura Sixth' to be a truly comprehensive sixth form. Students will have the opportunity to speak with staff; attend a presentation from school leaders; speak with sixth form students and discover more about our wide range of courses and experiences that support students throughout Post-16 and on to their next step. This will be followed up by our Open Morning for external applicants, on Wednesday 18th October 2023, between 9.05am - 10.45am.

Futura
Learning Partnership
Children • Choice • Collaboration

WESTFIELD FRONT GARDEN COMPETITION 2023



The Front Garden Competition is here again for its 9th year.

We love to celebrate the beauty of some of the gardens in Westfield that bring a smile to the face of passers-by.

If you have, or see, a front garden or container that you feel is worthy of a prize, then please let us know. Details of how to enter are on our website. Prizes are kindly donated by Thomsons Hardware of Radstock.

Last year's winners:



For more information and full guidelines see:

www.westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk/front-garden-competition/

01761 410669 council@westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk



At Badgers, it's all about having fun, learning new skills and making friends.

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sja.org.uk/badgers



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Coronation 'Big Lunch'

On a lovely Sunday in May – how lucky were we with that weather!!
- following the coronation of King Charles III, Westfield Parish Council hosted a 'Big Lunch' for families at Westhill Recreation Ground.



We were assisted by Westhill Club and Dan's Ice Cream Van who provided some great food, teas/coffees and ice creams or lollies for the attendees. The Parish Council paid for 300 of each of these and they were all taken up and appreciated. One of our very own Councillors – James Honess – cooked up some delicious cakes to help celebrate the occasion.



On site were two very bouncy castles from Jolly Jumpers and face painting for anyone who wanted to look colourful in red, white and blue for the occasion. These were incredibly popular and priced free of charge by the Parish Council. Hayley Spiller, who did the face painting, said she'd had a lovely day but definitely needed a strong cup of tea and a lie down!!

Cllr Geoff Fuller said, after the event, that the feedback he'd received had been overwhelming and everyone had enjoyed it. He opened proceedings, helped by Westfield's 2023 Inspirational Citizen, Marion Harrington. They introduced the Midsomer Norton and Radstock Sliver Band, who are always on hand to help the Parish Council get their events off to a good start. God Save the King was played to get things started and the band played some great popular, traditional tunes to get everyone in the mood.



Then Pete, of PDJ Discos, took over and the party got well under way! Pete did a great job of keeping everyone entertained. The children were all invited to take part in different competitions – a colouring competition, a fancy dress competition and a poetry competition. There were several winners of each category and each were announced by Pete and received their prizes. Pete also arranged several games of his own and everyone went away with a prize.

The event was watched over by stewards from Jesters Carnival Club. We are always happy to help with the fundraising for the club and their work is appreciated. Thanks must also go to St John's Ambulance who, luckily, had a very quiet day.



We received some wonderful photos from Pamela Bruce-Lockhart who has allowed us to publish them here and we are very grateful for those.

Terry Andrews of Westhill Club was absolutely delighted that the day had gone so well. His staff all worked very hard to make sure everyone had their free food and drinks and the Parish Council are very grateful to them.





An event like this is always well received and, while we are conscious that the annual Fun Day that the Parish Council used to organise hasn't happened for a few years, we would like to put something on for the people of Westfield on a regular basis.



We cannot do this without your help – we need volunteers. If you are interested in becoming part of these occasions then please contact the Parish Council.

Local Charity's Lonely Hearts

SWALLOW Charity is desperately seeking new Friends who can help to underpin their work supporting local teenagers and adults with learning disabilities to live life to the full.

If you have a GSOH and WLTM a new charity partner, SWALLOW would love to hear from you. To become a Friend of SWALLOW just make a monthly donation and the charity will put the money to good use, changing lives and making futures bright. SWALLOW's Friends make donations of any amount, from £1 a month to £100 a month or more – they are grateful for whatever you can afford.

Examples of the kind of difference your support can make include:

£5 a month can help to purchase art materials to support someone to express themselves through art and creativity.

£20 a month can help someone who is particularly isolated at home to get out and about in their community.

£40 a month can help a team of people with learning disabilities to get fit and healthy at SWALLOW's weekly football club.



In return for your generosity, SWALLOW will add you to their special Tree of Friendship at their main offices and send you sneak previews of their news, upcoming events and projects. If you can support SWALLOW Charity in its 30th Anniversary this year, it will be a match made in heaven!

If you can help, please contact Jade Ogden at jadeogden@swallowcharity.org or call on 01761 414034. To find out more about SWALLOW's work, please visit www.swallowcharity.org

Ready, Set, Read!

The annual Summer Reading Challenge returns with a new theme of Ready, Set, Read! Delivered in partnership with national children's charity, the Youth Sport Trust and public libraries, this year's Summer Reading Challenge aims to keep children's minds and bodies active over the summer break.

Children from across B&NES are challenged to get reading over the summer holidays, from July to September. By taking part in the free challenge, children will be able to join a superstar team and navigate a fictional summer obstacle course brought to life with illustrations by children's illustrator, Loretta Schauer.

The Youth Sport Trust has developed fun family activity cards, which alongside the official 2023 Summer Reading Challenge book lists will aim to keep imaginations moving over the school holidays. Head to summerreadingchallenge.org.uk to find out more.



Coronation Poems

Kit Brooks - Turtle class

If I was King for the day

If I was King for the day, I would have
a full English breakfast,
Served at a large wooden dinner table
with lots of juicy fruit,
Servants would bring me chocolate milk
in a big gold jug,
I would ask for a velvet blanket
to wrap around me whilst I sit on my throne.

If I was King for the day, I would find a way
to stop animals from becoming extinct,
I would donate lots of money to charities
to help cure cancer,
I would get a ginormous grocery shop
and give the food to the homeless,
I would discuss laws to be passed
and check the banks for robbers.

If I was King for the day, I would travel
in a big blue boat to Disney Land,
I would swim with the Dolphins
and say hello to the Whales,
I would de-clutter the litter from the oceans
to respect their home.
I think it would be a tough job,
but I would like to try it, just for a day

Badger Class

Coronation Poem

King Charles loves the pretty flowers
in his palace garden,
King Charles enjoys riding in his
magnificent golden carriage,
King Charles loves being with his family and
Prince William will be king one day.
King Charles has a beautiful palace in London,
King Charles loves taking care of nature
and our lovely world,
King Charles has a sparkling, golden crown with
lots of amazing jewels and gems that shine.
Hip Hip Hooray for King Charles!
Good luck on your special day!

Alfie Wilcox - Rabbit Class,

King Charles III

King Charles has lots of medals.
King Charles likes nature because
he likes flowers and tweeting birds.
King Charles is smart and special.
King Charles is rich because he has a
golden coach.
King Charles has a special castle.
King Charles has sparkly jewels on his crown.

Bumblebee Class

The Colours of the Coronation

Red are the rubies sparkling brightly like stars.
Orange is the beautiful sunset
ending the day of celebration.
Yellow is the shiny, gold carriage
moving through London.
Green are the emeralds glimmering
in the sunlight.
Blue is the bright, clear sky
looking down over London.
Purple is the long, velvet cape
wrapped around the King's shoulders.
Grey is the long, concrete road
that the procession follows.
Brown is the old, wooden throne seating the king.
A rainbow of celebration for our new king.

Dragonfly Class

King Charles III

Crown goes to the new King
Our new King Charles III
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Nation comes together to have a good time
Anointed to be King
Together as one, we celebrate
Inspired by the past, we create our future
Ovations and street parties
A new beginning for our nation

WHAT'S ON

JUNE

3rd – Coffee Morning at Trinity Methodist Church

3rd – Pete Holden at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

3rd – Live band, The Longshots, at Mardons Social Club, free entry - 9pm start

5th – Midsomer Norton Carers' Café, Mardons Social Club

5th – Local History Club, Radstock Museum

5th – Parish Council Meeting, 7pm at the Oval Office, Cobblers' Way

6th – Knit and Natter at Trinity Methodist Church

6th – Memory Club at Radstock Museum

8th – Colin Lewis Social at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

9th – Friday Club at Trinity Methodist Church

9th – ABBA Tribute at Mardons Social Club, entry by ticket only, in aid of Luckington Carnival Club

10th – Coffee Morning at Trinity Methodist Church

10th – CJ at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

12th – Well-being Café at Radstock Museum

12th – Environment and Development Committee Meeting, 7pm at the Oval Office, Cobblers' Way

13th – Knit and Natter at Trinity Methodist Church

17th – Coffee Morning at Trinity Methodist Church

17th – Diesel Driver Taster experience at Somerset and Dorset Joint Railway

17th – Night Hours at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

17th – Live band, Flick Switch, at Mardons Social Club, free entry - 9pm start

19th – Local History Club at Radstock Museum

20th – Knit and Natter at Trinity Methodist Church

20th – Memory Club at Radstock Museum

21st – Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting, 10am at the Oval Office, Cobblers' Way

24th – Coffee Morning at Trinity Methodist Church

24th – Shazam at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

24th – Live band, Haytown75, at Mardons Social Club, free entry - 9pm start

26th – Wellbeing Café at Radstock Museum

27th – Knit and Natter at Trinity Methodist Church

29th – Barry Karldan Social at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

30th – Family Night disco at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

JULY

1st – Coffee morning at Trinity Methodist Church

1st – The Woods Band at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

1st – Outatime - 80s Tribute, at Mardons Social Club, free entry - 9pm start

3rd – Local History Club at Radstock Museum

3rd – Parish Council Meeting, 7pm at the Oval Office, Cobblers' Way

4th – Knit and Natter at Trinity Methodist Church

4th – Memory Club at Radstock Museum

8th – Coffee Morning at Trinity Methodist Church

8th – Wickham Weekender at Somerset and Dorset Joint Railway

8th – Social with Play It Again Steve at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

9th – Wickham Weekender at Somerset and Dorset Joint Railway

10th – Wellbeing Café at Radstock Museum

10th – Environment and Development Committee Meeting, 7pm at the Oval Office, Cobblers' Way

14th – Friday Club at Trinity Methodist Church

15th – Coffee Morning at Trinity Methodist Church

15th – Two Of Clubs at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

15th – Live band, Freefall, at Mardons Social Club, free entry - 9pm start

17th – Local History Club at Radstock Museum

18th – Knit and Natter at Trinity Methodist Church

18th – Memory Club at Radstock Museum

19th – Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting, 10am at the Oval Office, Cobblers' Way

22nd – Coffee morning at Trinity Methodist Church

22nd – Overboard Duo at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

22nd – Live band, Hair Of The Dog, at Mardons Social Club, free entry - 9pm start

25th – Knit and Natter at Trinity Methodist Church

26th – Wickham Trolley Rides at Somerset and Dorset Railway

27th – Social with Steven Cesari at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

29th – Coffee Morning at Trinity Methodist Church

29th – New Era at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

29th – Live band, Chaing The Beat, at Mardons Social Club, free entry - 9pm start

30th – Summer Family Prize Bingo, at Mardons Social Club, in aid of Luckington Carnival Club

31st – Wellbeing Café at Radstock Museum

AUGUST

1st – Knit and Natter at Trinity Methodist Church

1st – Memory Club at Radstock Museum

2nd – Wickham Trolley Rides at Somerset and Dorset Railway

4th – Family Night with PJD Disco at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

5th – Coffee Morning at Trinity Methodist Church

5th – Play It Again Steve at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

7th – Local History Club at Radstock Museum

8th – Knit and Natter at Trinity Methodist Church

9th – Wickham Trolley Rides at Somerset and Dorset Railway

10th – Social with Pete Holden at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

12th – Coffee Morning at Trinity Methodist Church

12th – The Hartbeats at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

12th – Live band, VooDoo Seven, at Mardons Social Club, free entry - 9pm start

14th – Wellbeing Club at Radstock Museum

15th – Knit and Natter at Trinity Methodist Church

15th – Memory Club at Radstock Museum

16th – Wickham Trolley Rides at Somerset and Dorset Railway

18th – Charity fundraiser with Trash Casino, at Mardons Social Club, entry by ticket only.

19th – Gavin Laborious at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

19th – Silent Disco at Mardons Social Club, free entry all welcome

21st – Local History Club at Radstock Museum

22nd – Knit and Natter at Trinity Methodist Church

23rd – Wickham Trolley Rides at Somerset and Dorset Railway

26th – Coffee Morning at Trinity Methodist Church

26th – The Raindrops Band at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

28th – Wellbeing Club at Radstock Museum

29th – Knit and Natter at Trinity Methodist Church

30th – Wickham Trolley Rides at Somerset and Dorset Railway

31st – Social with Debt at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

SEPTEMBER

2nd – Coffee Morning at Trinity Methodist Church

2nd – Lee Ross at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

2nd – Live band, The Jamestown Brothers, at Mardons Social Club, free entry - 9pm start

4th – Local History Club at Radstock Museum

4th – Parsh Council Meeting, 7pm at the Oval Office, Cobblers' Way

5th – Knit and Natter at Trinity Methodist Church

5th – Memory Club at Radstock Museum

6th – Wickham Trolley Rides at Somerset and Dorset Railway

9th – Jay at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

9th – Live band, Replic80s, at Mardons Social Club, free entry - 9pm start

11th – Environment and Development Committee Meeting, 7pm at the Oval Office, Cobblers' Way

14th – Social with Play It Steve at Westfield Sports and Community Centre

20th – Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting, 10am at the Oval Office, Cobblers' Way



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A message from the Police

With the conclusion of the trial for the murder of Charley Bates, I hope some closure can now be given to the parents and friends who were so deeply affected by this tragic event. A conviction for murder and a long prison sentence hopefully sends the right message to young people nationwide, let alone Radstock, to not carry knives on them. With a blink of an eye, a young life can be lost and another young life spends a large chunk of theirs incarcerated.

Unfortunately, recently I have noticed an increase in anti-social behaviour amongst groups of youths in Westfield. This is not just isolated to Westfield, but encompasses the neighbouring areas of Midsomer Norton, Radstock and Peasedown St John. Overall, the police are aware of who is causing the anti-social behaviour and are working hard with partner agencies, such as education, local authority, town councils, youth offending teams,

youth connect and most importantly, parents, to tackle the scourge of anti-social behaviour which can be so impactful. I only today received a letter of thanks from a member of the public who stated: "thank you for taking my case seriously and having empathy and understanding to see the negative and distressing effect that anti-social behaviour had on my life." These impactful words are not mine, but the words of a victim of crime.

I understand not everybody lives by the same standards and there are very few places in the world, let alone the UK, which have a Utopian society. I'm sure many would advocate tougher powers for the police, but we have to find the fine balance between prosecution and education. We must be careful of creating a Utopian society by creating Dystopian rules.

I mentioned parents earlier as the most important cog in tackling anti-social behaviour because they are the true arbiters of what is right and wrong and should be teaching their children. I would always encourage parents to actively be aware and intrusive around what your children are doing before you get a knock on the door from one of my officers.

There is always an increase in anti-social behaviour when the weather improves and the days are longer. I will ensure the neighbourhood team in Westfield deal effectively and robustly with it, but I will say it just isn't down to us, and all citizens have a responsibility to pull together to create a sense of community and belonging. I would encourage that if you see anti-social behaviour, report it on 101 or 999 (in an emergency). If you are a parent of teenagers reading this – what are your children doing today? Are you happy their behaviour meets your standards?

Lee Humphreys
Police Sergeant 432

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Our Mining Heritage



On a bright spring morning at the beginning of May, the Trustees of Somerset District Miners Trust met to install a silhouette of a miner next to the Wellsway Planter on Wells Road in the heart of Westfield.

As the Treasurer of the Trust, Mo Duery said, "We have embarked on this to make sure people are aware of our mining history. Silhouettes of miners are going up across the district. In the near future there will also be a notice board giving information about the former coal mines in the area".

Cllrs Diana Cooper and Paul Millard accepted the silhouette on behalf of Westfield Parish Council, thanking the Trust for their care in preserving this important aspect of the heritage of our parish.

Pictured from the Trust: Chairman, Bryn Hawkins, Treasurer, Mo Duery and Trustees, Selwyn Rhees, Dennis Chedgy and Julie Dexter. And from the Parish Council, Cllrs Diana Cooper and Paul Millard.

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Run a group, club, service or activity in B&NES for families, SEND children and young people or adults needing care or support? Register for free on Live Well B&NES.

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Supporting children and young people aged 0-25 with additional needs (Rainbow Resource: our SEND Local Offer)

Are you a parent carer of a child with additional needs? Come to our free drop-in SEND event at Radstock Youth Centre on Friday 16th June 10:00 – 12:00. You'll meet representatives from several SEND groups, services and organisations.

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Somerset's young bowlers



Somerset's youngsters triumphed again recently when they brought home the Under 25's Four Counties Tournament trophy for the second year on the trot.

Local youngsters, Chloe Holmes from Norwest Bowls Club and Sam Dart from Purnells Bowls Club, joined other young bowlers from Somerset when they met at Gloucester Spa Bowling green to play against teams from Gloucester, Worcestershire and Wiltshire. It was a lovely, sunny afternoon and although the green was somewhat challenging, we were treated to some brilliant bowling. It certainly wasn't an easy win with two of Somerset's rinks going into their final ends drawing on shots but they persevered and both won three final shots to take their games, while our third rink won by nine shots. This meant Somerset won on all their rinks and were unbeatable, therefore retaining the trophy for a second year. Well done to all our players. A great result.

Congratulations also go to Norwest's Jack Vine who was recently presented, belatedly, with the trophy for Boys' Under 18's Player of the Year for 2022. Well done Jack!



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ORDER ON JUST EAT

Gardeners at Westfield Allotments headed out on a grey April day to plant a memorial tree to remember friends and neighbours in the community who suffered through the pandemic, and to hold a small ceremony.

All residents of Westfield are welcome to come along to the allotments and take a look at any time.

Alison Perry.

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A Super Summer at Mardons

It's been a very busy few months at Mardons since the last edition of the Warbler - There's been several fundraising events and of course plenty of great entertainment.

Highlights have been the recent 80s and 90s nights that saw the club illuminated by everyone's glow sticks and fabulous over the top 80s outfits. The Coronation night party was another terrific party with the club full of revellers keen to celebrate.



Coronation Party Night

With Outatime returning for another dose of 80s nostalgia, the brilliant Voodoo Seven all set for a special party night and local lads, Hair Of The Dog, set to rock the club, there's a busy calendar of events planned throughout the summer.

Luckington Carnival Club have organized an ABBA tribute night to be held at Mardons on Friday, 9th June. Live 6 piece band, SOS The Music Of ABBA will playing all the hits from the Swedish supergroup!

As this is a fundraising event for Luckington, this will be a rare night, where the club will be open to ticket holders only - tickets are on sale now from the bar.

The Carnival Club are also due to return for another of their very popular Quiz Nights, as well as a Summer Family Prize Bingo, so please support them whenever you are able.

There's always lots happening at Mardons, grab your friends and enjoy a great night out!

[Facebook.com/mardonsclub](https://www.facebook.com/mardonsclub)



The Jamestown Brothers

Looking forward, Mardons will be welcoming a number of new bands over the coming months. The highly anticipated Freefall and Chasing The Beat are set to make their débuts, and club regulars will spot a familiar face as former bar manager, Kierran, takes to the stage as lead singer of the group, Flick Switch.

Excitingly, The Jamestown Brothers will finally arrive at Mardons later this Summer, this talented originals band is pretty special and one you really shouldn't miss!



The Parish Clerk

At the time of writing, we were gearing up to the Coronation and putting together the final arrangements for the Coronation Big Lunch at Westhill Recreation Ground. We hope that you all had a good time and that you also enjoyed the wonderful poetry that was sent to us by Westfield Primary School.

In the office we are concentrating on the financial year end and are working hard to meet the new requirements set out by our new external auditors.

Meanwhile, at Waterside Valley, the new dog bins have been installed and we are working with Somerset Valley Rediscovered for some scrub clearance on site. The four pedestrian bridges across the watercourse have been examined and we are putting together a plan for their renovation and management.

As a reminder of Westfield's mining heritage, a silhouette of a miner has been installed on the corner of Wells Road and Elm Tree Avenue. Grateful thanks to the Somerset District Miners Trust for arranging and funding this important piece of heritage.

Finally, we are having a commemorative plaque put on the coal truck planter at the top of Elm Tree Avenue in memory of those who died in the Wellsway Pit Disaster. If you are passing, please do take a look.

Enjoy the summer!.

Lesley Close

Parish Clerk



Bridges at Waterside Valley in need of an upgrade

Your Councillors



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westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk



Cllr Geoff Fuller
Chair
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**Westfield
Parish
Council**

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