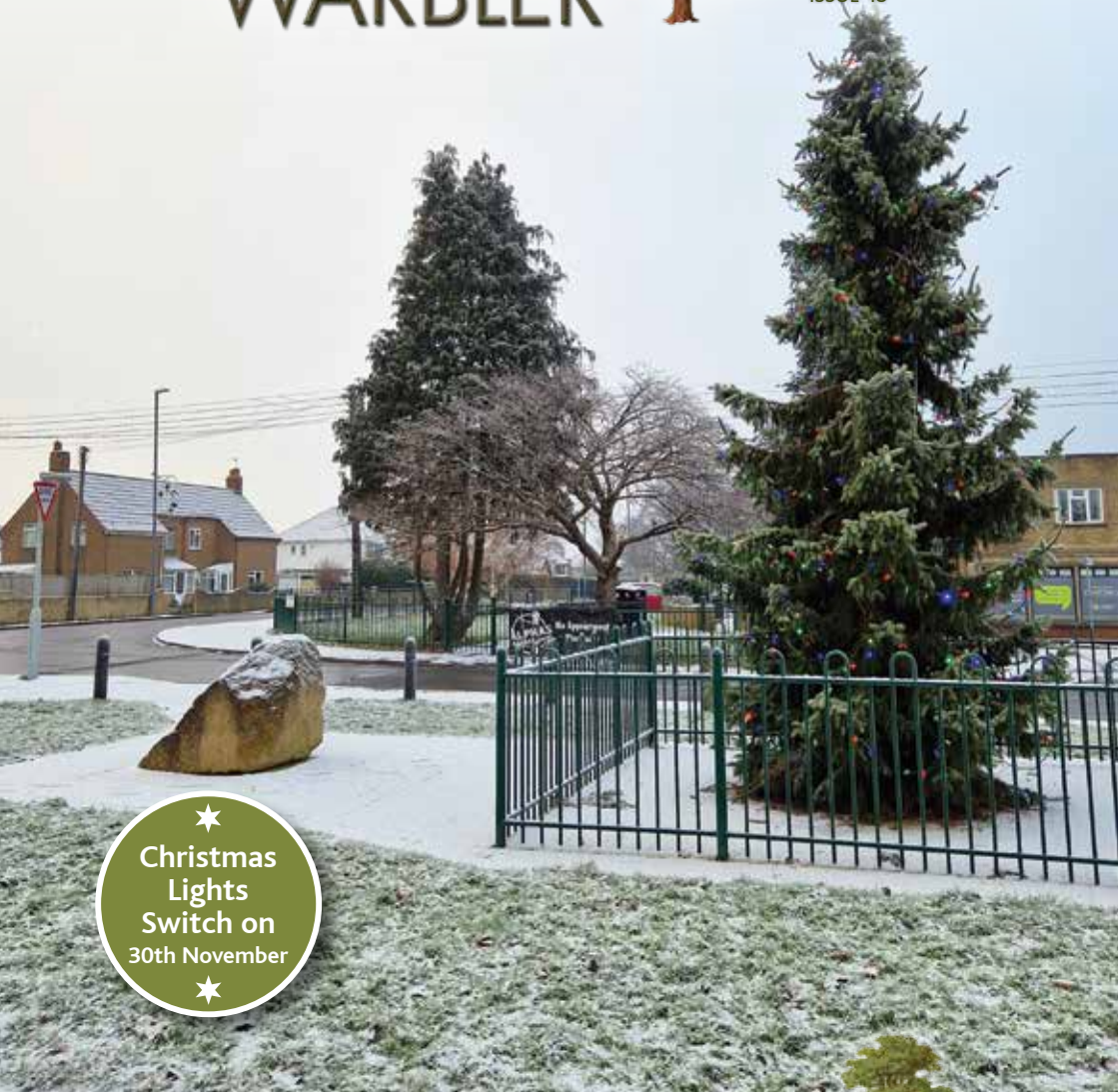


# The WESTFIELD WARBLER



WINTER 2023  
ISSUE 48



★  
Christmas  
Lights  
Switch on  
30th November



Produced for Westfield Parish Council



Westfield  
Parish  
Council

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# Message from the Chairman

**The Parish Council are delighted to say a huge thank you to the Waterside Carnival Club for the new defibrillator at Westhill Club and the replacement at the Co-op on Elm Tree Avenue.**

An aspiration of the Parish Council is to improve the community identity of Westfield. One of the ways of doing this, these days, is to increase our digital presence, so we have been busy working on our Facebook and Instagram and it is being engaged with by more people all the time. Take a look if you haven't yet seen us – our Facebook profile is Westfield Parish Council and on Instagram you can find us @westfield\_\_pc

At this time of year it is very busy on the events front. There is an informal gathering on 11th November at 11am at the Memorial Stone, Elm Tree Avenue where we will pay our respects to those affected by war. A more formal event, led by the Trinity Methodist Church, will be held at the stone on Sunday 12th.

I'm sure that most parents and carers will be pleased to know that, at the time of writing this, there are 68 days to Christmas! Our ever-popular Christmas lights switch on will take place on Thursday November 30th, starting at 6:30pm. Don't forget Santa will be there and we will serve mulled wine, hot chocolate and mince pies. This is a completely free event for the people of Westfield.

And, of course, there is the Christmas home decorations competition that will be judged by Father Christmas himself on Friday December 15th. He will be joined by myself and Councillor Cooper and we will advise the winner on the same night.

I'd like to wish all Westfield residents a Merry Christmas and very best wishes for 2024.

# Contents

4	New defibrillators
6	Then and Now in Westfield
11	SWALLOW Charity
12	Westfield In Bloom
15	Bumblebee Class
16	Christmas Lights Switch on
18	Westfield Football Club
21	What's On
24	Bulb planting
27	Festive recipe
30	Parish Clerk
31	Parish Councillors

The next edition of The Westfield Warbler will be in February 2024. If you would like your group to be included, please contact us by 18th January.

You can view The Westfield Warbler on the Council's website at [www.westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk)

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# New Defibrillators in Westfield

Waterside Carnival Club, originally based at the Clarks Factory, Westfield, no longer takes part in the carnival circuit, due to a lack of members, but they continue to raise money by working as stewards at the Glastonbury Festival each year.

The club decided to keep raising funds to enable the purchase of defibrillators for the local community. It's a way of giving something back to the community and a recognition of all the support Waterside Carnival Club received over the years.

This year, the club has bought and installed three more defibrillators, two in Westfield and one in Writhlington. One of the new defibs in Westfield replaces the first the club bought in 2013 which was due to be replaced. These three were installed with the help of Paul Kirby of PK Electrical.

The defibrillators cost approx. £2,500. They are rapidly becoming expected in towns and villages, as they are known to have saved many lives. Studies have shown that a shock given within three to five minutes can produce survival rates between 50 and 70 per cent. The immediate delivery of CPR combined with the early use of a defibrillator gives a person in cardiac arrest the best chance of surviving.

Upon making the call to the emergency services the ambulance operators will advise where the nearest unit is to where you are calling from and give you the access code to open the door to the unit. Once access to the machine is obtained, the instructions on the unit itself are very clear and easy to use.

To date, the club has funded the purchase and installation of seven defibs in the local community.

The Parish Council is happy that the number of defibrillators in Westfield is increasing all the time. This gives anyone in cardiac arrest more chance of survival.

Cllr Wilkinson said: "Westfield Parish Council would like to give a huge thanks to Waterside Carnival Club for their generosity. The donations that they have given to the Parish Council for these defibrillators are, literally, life-saving. Defibrillators are essential in today's communities and we are proud to have several that can be accessed easily in Westfield."

The defibrillators have all been donated in memory of the late Mr Larry Dando, Mr Colin Francis, Mrs Lynda Palfreman and Mr Andrew Coles, all members of the Waterside Carnival Club.





WESTFIELD  
Parish Council

# Christmas Lights Switch On

**30th November 2023**

**6:30pm**

**At the Christmas tree  
on the corner of Wells Road / Elm Tree Ave**

Festive music from the Midsomer Norton and Radstock  
Silver Band

Carol singing with Westfield Voices  
and Westfield Primary School

Free mulled wine, hot chocolate and mince pies

Free Father Christmas Grotto

Reading from Rev. Ian Rousell



[www.westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk)



[westfield\\_\\_pc](https://www.instagram.com/westfield__pc)



Westfield Parish Council



# Then

◀ Westfield 1908



# Now

Westfield 2023 ▶



# Then

◀ Westfield Primary School c1948



# Now

◀ & ▲ Westfield Primary School 2023







## Then

◀ The original St Peter's Church



## Now

◀ & ▲ The St Peter's Church 2023



## Then

◀ Elm Tree Inn c1950

## Now

Housing in place of the Elm Tree Inn ▶



# Remembrance Service

## – Bridges Electrical Engineers Limited

As we approach November, a month of reflection and remembrance, we invite the Westfield community and local businesses to join us for our annual Remembrance Service.

This event will take place on Friday, 10th November, at Bridges Engineering House, located on Second Avenue in Westfield Trading Estate, Midsomer Norton.

At the heart of this service is a two-minute silence, a moment to honour the sacrifices of those who have served our country and express our gratitude for the peace and freedom we enjoy today.

We extend a warm invitation to local businesses and residents who wish to join us.



Date: Friday, 10th November 2023

Time: 10:45 AM

Location: Bridges Engineering House, Second Avenue, Westfield Trading Estate, Midsomer Norton.

Join us to remember and reflect, as a community.



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# Christmas Outdoor Decorations Competition

**Westfield residents, this is notice to get your Christmas displays pristine as Santa is coming to judge them again this year.**

We are into our third year of this competition and Mr and Mrs Holcombe of Waterside Road were

absolutely delighted to have won last year. Mrs Holcombe said: "It has made my Christmas."

Santa and two of our Councillors will be looking around Westfield on Friday, 15th December and will let the winner know that evening.



**To advertise in the next edition of the Westfield Warbler, contact Carmen on 01761 458192 or email [carmen@ignyte-uk.co.uk](mailto:carmen@ignyte-uk.co.uk)**



## **MARKETING SUITE OPENING WEDNESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER**

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# SWALLOW Charity focus on employment

For many members of SWALLOW, the local charity supporting teenagers and adults with learning disabilities, having a job is their dream. They want to be able to work, to contribute to society and to feel valued.

At SWALLOW Charity's Work Skills Enterprise Scheme, people have the opportunity to gain valuable experience which can help them prepare for the world of work. In the craft sessions they work as a team to produce wonderful cards and gifts. In horticulture, members learn how to grow vegetables and flowers and elements of garden maintenance.

At SWALLOW's two Community Cafés in Radstock and Peasedown, our trainees learn catering skills, both in the kitchen and front of house. The teams work hard together to produce delicious food and drinks.

SWALLOW also offers supported employment opportunities within the charity and we are asking other local employers to consider whether they could do the same. There are a number of SWALLOW members who would desperately like to share their skills and become valuable members of a local company's workforce. We are asking local employers to consider giving SWALLOW members a chance to prove what they can contribute.

We have an employment support co-ordinator that can provide prospective employers with support, both before employment and ongoing. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact – Sam Williams at 01761 414 034 or by email [Samwilliams@swallowcharity.org](mailto:Samwilliams@swallowcharity.org)

If you would like to know more about SWALLOW and the work that it does in and around Midsomer Norton, go to [www.swallowcharity.org](http://www.swallowcharity.org)



**YOUTH CONNECT  
SOUTH WEST**

**TUESDAY INTERS  
YOUTH CLUB**

Are you in Year 7, 8 or 9?

Join our youth club and get involved in  
crafts, music, cooking, sports and other  
activities at

**WESTFIELD CHURCH**  
**630PM -830PM**

Westfield Methodist Church,  
Wesley Road, BA3 3XA

50p subs and registration required  
For more info contact Carrie  
[carrie.ford@ycsw.org.uk](mailto:carrie.ford@ycsw.org.uk)  
07875488718



# Westfield In Bloom

**Congratulations are due to the members of Westfield in Bloom, a network of enthusiastic gardeners and volunteers who worked together with Rob Wicke (responsible for the hanging baskets and model coal trucks) and Westfield Parish Council to achieve a 'silver gilt' award in the annual SW in Bloom competition.**

This is an outstanding result for a first-time entry in the Ayre Cup section for settlements of 5,000-9,000 people. A huge thank you is due to everyone who contributed, whether picking up litter, making coffee for the judges on their tour, providing information about the Waterside Project or having their allotments tidy.

'Outstanding' is how four of the entries in the 'It's Your Neighbourhood' competition section are categorised: Larch Court Allotments, Swallows Office Garden, Westfield Primary School and Westfield Allotments. Pushing hard behind is the Fosseway School front garden,

a new entry in 2022, led by an enthusiastic young groundsman, Darren. A recent discovery of a 2010 picture of Mrs Ross and the primary school gardening club demonstrates just how far the school has come, adding an orchard, a model mine 'flower' bed, a pond and wildlife area and now a woodland area. It is not surprising they won a special award for composting and vegetable growing, while Swallows were recognised as the most inclusive project in the South West.

The main entry scored highly for community engagement and appreciation of heritage



assets. The theme was 'It's Our Neighbourhood' and community identity and pride in Westfield are important when the Parish Council was only created in 2011 and when we have so many relatively new residents. Everyone can enjoy In Bloom, but as there are great plans for reclaiming derelict small plots of land, sprucing up the area around the Elm Tree Avenue shops, planting more bulbs and trees and improving green spaces, more volunteers are needed. This does not mean sitting around in meetings but rolling up one's sleeves. However, our greatest

need is for IT and publicity support. Last year's entry was done on a shoestring – provided by one generous donor. Fund-raising will also be necessary.

For any further information, please contact Dr Eleanor Jackson, Convenor, Westfield in Bloom, 01761 438968 or [eleanor\\_jackson@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:eleanor_jackson@bathnes.gov.uk) or Cllrs Paul Millard (allotments) and Pat Williams (treasurer). See also [www.rhs.org.uk](http://www.rhs.org.uk)

## Ash trees at Norton Hill Recreation Ground

**It is with sadness in our hearts that we have to say goodbye to the last of the Ash Trees which line the A367 at Norton Hill Recreation Ground, as they are to be felled due to Ash Dieback.**

Our experience in Westfield is not unique. In recent years, the United Kingdom has faced a devastating ecological crisis with the rapid spread of Ash Dieback disease. This fungal infection poses a serious threat to one of the UK's most iconic tree species. With approximately 126 million Ash Trees in the UK, the consequences of this epidemic extend beyond the realm of ecology, impacting landscapes, wildlife, and local economies. According to the Forestry Commission, it's estimated that over 95% of Ash Trees could be lost in the UK, leaving a devastating impact on woodlands and hedgerows.

The Ash Dieback epidemic is a stark reminder of the delicate balance within our ecosystems and the fragility of our natural world.

Right: The Ash Trees in all their glory



# Grants from Westfield Parish Council

Each year Westfield Parish Council invites local community groups to apply for grant funding to help with their work for the people of Westfield. Grants of up to £1,000 are available.

Applications this year were varied. It was good to see that some new organisations realised that there was funding available for their work and applied to us.

Discussions were long and intense and decisions were made on the day. These decisions have to be ratified by Finance and Personnel Committee and then by Full Council, so no information is available yet to share. However, watch this space and all will become clear very shortly.

We thought it would be good to celebrate the work of the successful candidates and have, therefore, arranged a presentation evening at Westhill Club on 12th December.

This presentation evening will also be to celebrate the wonderful work done in the community by Westfield in Bloom, acknowledging the fantastic green space displays and achievements in the South West in Bloom competition in the summer.

We look forward to seeing representatives from all of these groups and sharing among everyone what a vibrant community Westfield is becoming.

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# Bumblebee class visit the Somerset Museum of Rural Life

**On Thursday, 5th October Year 2s from Westfield Primary School had a fun, amazing trip to The Rural Life Museum in Glastonbury.**

First, we all got on to the coach, we were feeling excited. When we arrived, we met two ladies called Sandy and Mary and they talked to us about the seasons. We had to take part in a quiz and we were so happy to discover we won!

Next we looked at some different objects, such as an egg, milk, bread and cheese and we had to decide whether they came from an animal or a plant.

Then we made some creamy butter. We had to shake some double cream lots and lots until it started to become butter. We were allowed to take our butter home to enjoy.

After that we had the chance to turn wheat into flour. We used a colourful bat to hit the wheat until the seeds came out. Then we had to grind the seeds to make soft, white flour.

We saw a pretend cow and we were allowed to try and milk it.

After a busy morning, we were all ready for lunch. When we had finished eating, we went to play on the field. We saw some nice, friendly sheep and some of us enjoyed collecting shiny conkers.

Then we went into the museum and looked at an old fashioned toilet, some old toys and a kitchen. We had the chance to dress up in some old fashioned clothes and hats.

Finally it was time to go back to school. We got our bags and coats and then we got back on the coach.

We all had a fabulous time.

Written by Bumblebee class.





# *Christmas Light* **returns for its**

This annual event has become a staple in the C and this year will return with all the excitement

As people gather around the Christmas tree on the corner of Wells Road and Elm Tree Avenue, you will hear the Silver Band playing Christmas carols, smell the (free) hot chocolate and mulled wine and see excited children lining up to receive their (free) gift from Father Christmas.



# Lights Switch On

## eleventh year!

Christmas calendar for the people of Westfield  
at and merriment of previous years.

This year we will be joined by Westfield Voices and Westfield Primary School Choir who will lead the carol singing. Rev Ian Rousell will give a short speech before the Chair of Westfield Parish Council is joined by our special guests to switch on the Christmas lights.

The Christmas lights spread cheer and joy throughout Westfield on those chilly winter nights so join us on Thursday 30th November from 6.30pm to see them switched on!





# Clean up after your dogs and help Westfield FC succeed

**Andy Ball, manager of Westfield FC's U14s team, tells us about the team and the issues they've come across with dog fouling on their pitches.**

## **Can you tell us a bit of background about the club?**

The club has been in existence since 1976 and was established from a youth set up. The club currently runs three adults teams, a vets team and youth teams from tots to under 16s.

The club play on various pitches around Westfield, with their base at the Centurion Hotel. The club also uses the local schools and the two council-run pitches at Westhill Social Club and Norton Hill Recreation Ground.

## **As manager of the U14s team, can you tell us about what your role entails?**

I have been the manager of the age group since my son was 5 years old and have seen the boys grow throughout. We have had many boys join and leave and the group has evolved over the years. We currently have three original boys since the start.

I currently have a squad of sixteen boys and have two players interested in joining.

I am assisted by three other coaches.

## **How often do the team train and play matches?**

We train on Tuesday evenings and play matches on Sunday afternoons and are members of the Mid Wilts Under 14s youth league.

## **You train at Norton Hill Recreation Ground. Unfortunately, you had to contact us recently regarding dog fouling. Can you tell us about the issues you have encountered?**

Every training session and game that we play at Norton Hill Recreation Ground, we always have



an issue with having to clear up dog fouling. We find this extremely frustrating as sometimes, the fouling is not always seen until we are half way through a game.

It really isn't very helpful for us as this disrupts our sessions, when all it takes is for each individual dog walker to clear up after themselves.

## **What effect does this have on the children and volunteers who run the club?**

My understanding is that dog faeces can cause blindness and all it takes is for a child to fall and come in contact with it and serious consequences can happen.

## **What do you think will help improve the situation?**

All I would like is some consideration from the small minority of dog walkers who do not clear up after their dogs.

I thought I'd heard that dogs should be kept on a lead whilst using the site, but I am not sure if there are signs around the ground explaining this. We had a situation at training recently when a woman walked through the middle of our session without the dog on the lead. How does she know the dog has not done anything whilst away from her? This could cause issues for the young players.

Find out more about Westfield FC on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/westfieldfc1976](https://www.facebook.com/westfieldfc1976) or via email [westfieldfc@live.com](mailto:westfieldfc@live.com)

# Get online with Age UK

Could you or someone you know benefit from support to get online or use digital devices? Using the internet is a lot simpler than you might think, and it's never too late to learn. With the right support, you can get online - staying in touch, involved, and independent.

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**Email: [digital@ageukbanes.co.uk](mailto:digital@ageukbanes.co.uk)**



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# WHAT'S ON

## NOVEMBER

**10th** – Remembrance at Bridges Electrical Engineering, Westfield Trading Estate, 10.45am

**11th** – Informal Act of Remembrance led by Rev, Ian Rousell, with silence and Last Post at the Memorial Stone, Elm Tree Avenue. Coffee available before and afterwards at the Church Hall, 10.50am

**11th** – Bombshell, live at Mardons Club, 9pm

**12th** – Remembrance Day, all are welcome to join the Methodist congregation at the Memorial Stone for traditional ceremony. The service begins at the church at 10.30am and resumes there after a minute's silence

**12th** – Formal Act of Remembrance and laying of wreaths led by Rev David Winstanley at the memorial stone, Elm Tree Avenue, 10.55am

**13th** – Wellbeing Café at Radstock Museum, from 1pm

**14th** – Environment and Development Committee Meeting, 7pm at the Oval Office, Cobblers' Way

**14th** – Westfield TT Running Club, 6.30pm. For details of groups and levels of ability, search for 'Westfield TT Running Group' on Facebook

**15th** – Westfield TT Running Club, 6.30pm. For details of groups and levels of ability, search for 'Westfield TT Running Group' on Facebook

**16th** – Reminiscence Group at Trinity Methodist Church from 11am

**18th** – Coffee Morning at Trinity Methodist Church with service from Rev David Winstanley, 10am

**18th** – Sad Dad Club, live at Mardons Club, 9pm

**20th** – Local History Club at Radstock Museum, from 10.30am

**21st** – Memory Club at Radstock Museum, from 10.30 am

**21st** – Westfield TT Running Club, 6.30pm. For details of groups and levels of ability, search for 'Westfield TT Running Group' on Facebook

**22nd** – Westfield TT Running Club, 6.30pm. For details of groups and levels of ability, search for 'Westfield TT Running Group' on Facebook

**22nd** – Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting, 10am at the Oval Office, Cobblers' Way

**22nd** – Coffee Morning at Trinity Methodist Church, 10am

**24th** – Quiz Night at Mardons Club, in aid of Mind. Charity, organised by The Cornish Bakery. 7.30pm for 8pm start, teams of up to 6, £5 per person - booking is essential - for more info or to book your team email: v.myers@thecornishbakery.com

**25th** – From Jovi (Bon Jovi Tribute) live at Mardons Club, 9p m

**28th** – Wellbeing Café for carers at Radstock Museum, from 1pm

**28th** – Westfield TT Running Club, 6.30pm. For details of groups and levels of ability, search for 'Westfield TT Running Group' on Facebook

**29th** – Westfield TT Running Club, 6.30pm. For details of groups and levels of ability, search for 'Westfield TT Running Group' on Facebook

**30th** – Christmas Lights Switch-On, 6.30pm, Elm Tree Avenue, Wells Road

## DECEMBER

**1st** – Christmas Fun Family Prize Bingo, hosted by Luckington Carnival Club - eyes down 7.30pm at Mardons Club

**2nd** – Coffee Morning at Trinity Methodist Church, 10am

**2nd** – Call The Shots, live at Mardons Club, 9pm

**4th** – Midsomer Norton Carer Café at Mardons Club, 10am - noon

**4th** – Westfield Parish Council Meeting, 7pm at the Oval Office, Cobblers' Way

**5th** – Safe and Sound Homecare Coffee Morning at Mardons Club, 10.30am - 11.30am. Open to all for coffee and a chat, RSVP on 01761 410745

**5th** – Westfield TT Running Club, 6.30pm. For details of groups and levels of ability, search for 'Westfield TT Running Group' on Facebook

**6th** – Westfield TT Running Club, 6.30pm. For details of groups and levels of ability, search for 'Westfield TT Running Group' on Facebook

**8th** – Friday Club at Trinity Methodist Church

**9th** – Coffee Morning at Trinity Methodist Church with service from Rev David Winstanley, 10am

**9th** – JPJ, live at Mardons Club, 9pm

**10th** – Carol Service at St Nicholas Church, 7pm

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

**12th** – Westfield TT Running Club, 6.30pm. For details of groups and levels of ability, search for 'Westfield TT Running Group' on Facebook

**12th** – Grants Presentation Evening, Westhill Club, time TBC

**13th** – Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting, 10am at the Oval Office, Cobblers' Way

**13th** – Westfield TT Running Club, 6.30pm. For details of groups and levels of ability, search for 'Westfield TT Running Group' on Facebook

**16th** – Coffee morning at Trinity Methodist Church, 10am

**16th** – Christmas Party part 1 (Christmas Present) with Dr Fraggie, live at Mardons Club, 9pm

**17th** – Carol Service at Trinity Methodist Church, led by Rev David Winstanley and Westfield Voices

**17th** – Christingle Service at St Nicholas Church, 11.15am

**17th** – Christingle Service at St Peter's Church, 4pm

**17th** – Carol service at St Peter's Church, 7pm

**19th** – Westfield TT Running Club, 6.30pm. For details of groups and levels of ability, search for 'Westfield TT Running Group' on Facebook

**20th** – Westfield TT Running Club, 6.30pm. For details of groups and levels of ability, search for 'Westfield TT Running Group' on Facebook

**23rd** – Christmas Party part 2 (Christmas Past) with Outatime 80s Tribute, live at Mardons Club, 9pm

**24th** – Kids' Christmas Party at Mardons Club, 1pm start, fun, games and mayhem, plus a visit from Santa (children must be supervised throughout)

**24th** – Crib Service at St Peter's Church, 2.30pm

**24th** – Crib Service at St Nicholas' Church, 4pm

**24th** – Midnight Communion at St Peter's Church, 11.30pm

**25th** – Christmas Day Family Communion at St Nicholas' Church, 10am

**31st** – New Year's Eve Party at Mardons Club, with live music from The Walker Close Band - Entry by advance ticket only - £10 members or £12 non-members

## JANUARY

**6th** – Flick Switch, live at Mardons Club, 9pm

**8th** – Midsomer Norton Carer Café at Mardons Club, 10am - noon

**8th** – Westfield Parish Council Meeting, 7pm at the Oval Office, Cobblers' Way

**13th** – Moon Rivers, live at Mardons Club, 9pm

**15th** – Environment and Development Committee Meeting, 7pm at the Oval Office, Cobblers' Way

**20th** – Rooted, live at Mardons Club, 9pm

**24th** – Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting, 10am at the Oval Office, Cobblers' Way

## ADVERTISE AN EVENT

Please send details of your event to:  
[news@ignyte-uk.co.uk](mailto:news@ignyte-uk.co.uk)

# Christmas at Ammerdown

Join us in our idyllic tranquil setting this festive season!

## Stained Glass Christmas Decoration Workshop

Friday 24 November 10pm-4pm  
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## Ammerdown Christmas Fun Day

Saturday 2 December 12pm-4pm FREE ENTRY!

## The Joseph Story

Sunday 3 December 4pm - 5:30pm £8 Suitable for 12+  
*A warmly funny and gentle eighty minute one man play that lets Joseph, the forgotten man and displaced father, have his say.*

## Candlelit Christmas Carols

Wednesday 13 December 7pm Donations Welcome.  
*A delightful evening of festive carols in our beautiful garden.*

## Christmas Meals

Wednesday 13th to Saturday 16th December  
Two Courses £26.95 Three Courses £32.95

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# OPEN EVENTS >> 2023



**SOMER VALLEY CAMPUS (RADSTOCK)**

**WED 8<sup>TH</sup> NOV - 4PM-7PM**

**CITY CENTRE CAMPUS (BATH)**

**SAT 25<sup>TH</sup> NOV - 10AM-1PM**

Register at [bathcollege.ac.uk/openevents](http://bathcollege.ac.uk/openevents)



# Volunteers plant 900 bulbs in Westfield!

On Tuesday, 24th October, volunteers met at Glebelands, Westfield, to plant 900 spring bulbs. The joint project, organised by B&NES and Westfield Parish Council has been in the pipeline since the end of 2022, following suggestions from a local resident and has now been completed.

Camassias and a variety of different daffodil bulbs were planted and will produce colour throughout the Spring months.



Chair of Westfield Parish Council, Phil Wilkinson, said: "It was great to see a group of local people come together for the bulb planting which will brighten the streets of Westfield. A big thank you from us at the Parish Council for contributing your time."

Paul Pearce, Team Leader Parks Projects at B&NES said: "It was really nice to work in partnership with the Parish Council and local residents. Thanks to everyone for giving their time."



# Trinity Methodist Church

**Trinity Methodist Church is a busy church on the main road through Westfield. We welcomed a new Minister this September, Reverend David Winstanley, who has settled in nicely and very quickly getting used to our ways.**

As well as being open for worship on Sundays from 10.30am to 11.30am, when everyone is welcome, we are also open for the community on several occasions during the week. Every Saturday morning, we are open for refreshments from 10am until 12 noon. On alternate Saturdays, we have a cake stall and also serve bacon rolls and hot dogs. These coffee mornings are always very well attended by the whole community. Please come along and check out our new kitchen, which has made a world of difference to us. Also, we are very shortly having glass doors fitted between the hall and the church which will brighten up the whole building.

Why not join us at Knit and Natter on Tuesday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm. Sometimes not much knitting gets done but there is always a lot of hilarity and cups of tea and, quite often, cake. On the second Friday of every month, from 2pm to 4pm, we are open for Friday Club where mainly,

more mature people, can get together for a lovely chat and tea and cake. We sometimes have a speaker or some sort of Quiz. Things can get quite lively and fun is had by all.

We hold 3 or 4 charity fundraising events every year. For instance, this year they have included Cream Teas in aid of Breast Cancer and in September we served afternoon teas raising funds for the local charity "Swallow". These events were very successful and most enjoyable. It would be lovely to see even more of the community on any of these occasions.

During late October and November, we will again be selling Charity Christmas Cards. They will be available to buy on Tuesday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm and also every Saturday between 10am and 12 noon.

Look out for notices on the railings and our new notice board advertising all activities and celebrations over the Christmas period.

Our church hall is available for hire for birthday parties or meetings. Please contact Sue Tandy 01761232119 or [sue.tandy@btinternet.com](mailto:sue.tandy@btinternet.com) for more information.

---

## Can you help Somer Valley Food Bank?

**Here are the latest items needed by the Food Bank to help local families this winter:**

### **Food items**

- Milk Powder
- Biscuits
- Instant Mash
- Coffee
- Custard
- Fruit Juice
- Pasta
- Vegetable Soup
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned Vegetables
- Squash

### **Non Food Items**

- Toilet Roll
- Household cleaner
- Washing up liquid
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Razors & Shaving Foam
- Deodorant

Please no cash donations with food items.

Drop off points include Salvation Army Hall, MSN and St Nick's Church Foyer, Radstock.



# Westfield needs one more Councillor



Would you consider being co-opted to Westfield Parish Council?

## What do councillors do?

Councillors are the champions of their community and give residents a voice.

Becoming a councillor will allow you to make a real difference in your community by engaging with residents, local groups and businesses to find out their needs; making decisions on which services and projects the council should take forward; and getting involved locally to ensure the services are meeting your community's needs.

## How long does it take?

The Parish Council meets once a month and has a number of Committees on which you can serve.

## Can I stand?

There are only a few rules to stand for election. For example you must be:

- A British citizen, or a citizen of the Commonwealth
- 18 years of age or older
- Live in an area that is served by a local council

Please contact Westfield Parish Council on 01761 410669  
or [council@westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:council@westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk) for more information.

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Please feel free to contact us for more details and to see how we can help you or to find out about visiting us.

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# POTATO STUFFING CHRISTMAS WREATH

The perfect centrepiece for every Christmas dinner table and festive spread, this vegan wreath is a guaranteed showstopper.

## Ingredients:

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 red onion
- 5 cloves garlic
- 400g white potatoes
- 100g mixed chopped nuts, we used pistachios and walnuts
- 3 sprigs each of fresh rosemary and thyme
- Large pinch of salt & pepper
- 1 tbsp tomato puree
- 80ml water
- 1 tsp rosemary
- 1 tsp thyme
- 1 tsp sage
- 2 tbsp cranberry sauce

Recipe from  
[www.seasonalspuds.com](http://www.seasonalspuds.com)



## Method

- 1) Start by preheating the oven to 200°C, drizzle olive oil onto a large baking tray, place in the middle of the oven to heat up.
- 2) Quarter the potatoes, then add to the pan with the hot oil, sprinkle in salt with a few sprigs of fresh rosemary then bake for around 25 minutes.
- 3) Prepare the filling by dicing the onion, add to frying pan with a drizzle of olive oil for around 4 minutes.
- 4) Finely chop the garlic cloves then add to the pan with the onion, toss in the dried rosemary, sage and thyme, mixed chopped nuts and fry for around 6-7 minutes.
- 5) Add the tomato puree with a dash of water and mix until combined and set aside.
- 6) Once the potatoes have roasted, add to the pan then roughly mash together before adding to a greased baking sheet, mould to the shape of a wreath and bake for a further 20 minutes.
- 7) Take out once crispy, then drizzle a little cranberry sauce over the top and a few sprigs of thyme leaves

# Enjoy great days out with a **FREE Residents' Discovery Card**

**The Residents' Discovery Card is completely free for all residents of Bath & North East Somerset and is your pass to fun, free and discounted days out throughout our beautiful region.**

It's a great way to explore and enjoy all that our local area has to offer with discounts on activities, attractions, experiences and places to eat and drink. Your Discovery Card gives you free entry to The Roman Baths (Tripadvisor's top UK attraction in 2022), Bath Abbey, the changing exhibitions at Victoria Art Gallery and the beautiful Parade Gardens in the heart of the city.

There are also discounts on a host of leisure activities, days out and things to do including money off matches at Bath City FC, discounted entry to Radstock Museum, reduced bike and

boating hire, cut price comedy shows at Komedia and special offers at Bath Thermae Spa. And if that works up an appetite, you can also enjoy special prices at a feast of cafes and restaurants. New offers are added all the time. You can explore all the current benefits on the Discovery Card website.

Signing up is easy – just fill in your details online and book an appointment to collect your new pass, then start planning your next day out in Bath & North East Somerset. You can activate and pick up your card in Bath, Keynsham or Midsomer Norton, whichever is the most convenient location to you.

To find out more and sign up visit the Discovery Card website - [www.beta.bathnes.gov.uk/bath-residents-discovery-card](http://www.beta.bathnes.gov.uk/bath-residents-discovery-card)



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# Mardons Club

As the winter nights are drawing in, things are hotting up at Mardons with some top bands set to appear over the coming months - as mentioned in the last issue of *The Warbler*, both Sad Dad Club and From Jovi will be performing in November, before the Christmas festivities get underway!

Luckington Carnival Club invite you to join them on Friday, 1st December for Christmas Prize Bingo. Always a popular event, due to the terrific hampers up for grabs, this is one for the whole family... and of course, there's a large cash flyer just for the adults.

One Christmas party is never enough, so, once again, Mardons will be hosting two! 'Christmas Present' with the fabulous Dr Fraggie Band on Saturday, 16th December and 'Christmas Past' on Saturday, 23rd where Outatime will take everyone back to the superb music of the 80s with their tribute night.

Yet again, the club is pleased to announce the Kids' Christmas Party will be returning on Christmas Eve afternoon. Organiser, Glyn, has been in touch with Santa and he's confirmed the date is in his diary and he hopes to see you there. As always, there will be lots of fun, plenty of games and music and lots of sweets and treats for all the good boys and girls!



Sad Dad Club - 18th November

The Walker Close Band are one of the leading groups at Mardons, frontman, Tod, has an exceptional voice and range, well-suited to their mix of styles and party music and with equally talented bandmates, this year's New Year's Eve party is set to be a cracker!



The Walker Close Band - New Year's Eve

Looking ahead to 2024, Mardons will be introducing a handful of great new bands, including Moon Rivers and Brakelight, as well as welcoming back some good friends - for more information and New Year's Eve ticket details, visit [www.facebook.com/mardonsclub](https://www.facebook.com/mardonsclub)

Ahead of all that, The Cornish Bakery have organised a Quiz night on Friday, 24th November to raise funds for the Mind Charity - look out for a novel 'food tasting' round - remember to pre-book your team!



New band, Moon Rivers, make their debut in 2024



# The Parish Clerk

**We hope that 6.30pm on Thursday 30th November is firmly set in your diary for the annual Westfield Christmas Lights Switch On. If anything is likely to get you into the festive spirit, then this is surely it!**

We are also running the Christmas decorations competition again this year. No need to enter, our judges will be touring the parish and will select the winning Christmas display which catches their eye.

As we look back on 2023, we have seen events taking off at Waterside Valley ranging from nature walks to hedge laying workshops and well-being sessions. We hope to build on these and continue to make Waterside Valley open and accessible to all.

Looking ahead to next year, we have several large projects in the pipeline: new changing rooms for teams at Westhill Recreation Ground, an office for the Parish Council and we hope, new footbridges at Waterside Valley.

May I wish you a happy and peaceful Christmas and all the very best for 2024.

**Lesley Close**

**Parish Clerk**



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## Community Oil Buying Scheme – buy together for lower prices

**If you rely on oil for your heating and hot water, then you may have considered joining a syndicate buying group... but did you know you have your own, local, well-established group, buying throughout B&NES, North Somerset, South Gloucester and Bristol?**

The West of England Rural Network is a local charity promoting rural sustainability. Already well recognised in the community as the organisation from which the Village Agents operate, they have additionally, over the last 10 years, been successfully operating a syndicate oil buying scheme, aimed at reducing rural fuel poverty. By placing a single, large order once a month and negotiating with multiple national suppliers to get the best price, members may on average pay 6 pence per litre less than the average high street oil price.

Thanks to a grant awarded by Quartet Community Foundation, annual membership (\*normally £20/year for domestic users) is free for domestic heating oil users aged 70 and over. The scheme is open to all residents, community buildings (£30/year) and businesses (£100/year) within Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset, South Gloucestershire and Bristol.

If you're interested in joining or learning more about the Community Oil Buying Scheme, give Kaz a call, on Tel: 01275 333701, email: [karen@wern.org.uk](mailto:karen@wern.org.uk) or visit WERN's website: [www.wern.org.uk/community-oil-buying-scheme/](http://www.wern.org.uk/community-oil-buying-scheme/)



# Your Councillors



**Cllr Diana Cooper**  
01761 415155  
diana.cooper@  
westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk



**Cllr James Cradock**  
James.cradock@  
westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk



**Cllr Geoff Fuller**  
Chair  
07540 998603  
geoff.fuller@  
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**Cllr James Honess**  
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westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk



**Cllr Ron Hopkins**  
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01761 435852  
ron.hopkins@  
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**Cllr Eleanor Jackson**  
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01761 438968  
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westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk  
(also BaNES councillor for  
the Westfield ward)



**Cllr Paul Millard**  
Paul.millard@  
westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk



**Cllr Robin Moss**  
07543 626184  
robin.moss@  
westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk  
(also BaNES councillor for  
the Westfield ward)



**Cllr Phil Wilkinson**  
01761 431355 /  
07803 927626  
phil.wilkinson@  
westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk



**Cllr Pat Williams**  
01761 432630  
pat.williams@  
westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk



**Could this be you?**



**Westfield  
Parish  
Council**

The Oval Office, Cobblers Way St Peter's Business Park, Westfield BA3 3BX  
Telephone: 01761 410669 Email: council@westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk  
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Any queries can be emailed to council@westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk and will be answered during normal working hours which are Monday to Thursday 9am to 4.30pm.

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