

Meare and Westhay Village News Feb - Mar 2022



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Table of Content

Editors News	4
Would Like to Mention	5
Clerk Report	6 / 7
Police News	7
Royal Request for Carnival Cart	8
Westhay School Rooms	9
Bin Collection	9
Ladies Group	11
St. Mary's Church News	12
Butterfly Walks	13
Announcements	14
Meare & Westhay Fundraising Team	16 / 17
Meare Parish New Hall Updates & Events	18 / 19
MPAG	19
Meare Community Church	20
Men and Women's Shed	21
Our District Councilors Contact Details	22
Halls and Meeting Places	24
Bus Timetable	25
Citizens Advice Explains Government Grant	26 / 27
Village Councilors & Useful Telephone Numbers	28 / 29
Magazine Dates & Contact Information	30
Local Chemist opening times	30

Editors News

Happy New Year to all.

Well the parish managed to put on several different Christmas events, even though Covid was trying to spoil them all. I tried to attend as many as possible. Then New Years Eve the band due to play at the pub contracted Covid so there we were listening to a heavy metal band. It was fantastic, took me back to my younger days.

What will this year bring I wonder? I hope we manage to put on a special Queens Platinum Jubilee celebration. I am sure if we all give a bit of input, we can make it a brilliant event. There will of course be the parade in London on the 5th June, and we have heard Bridgwater Carnival is providing one of the carts for the event. With the extra days off it will make it a lovely family time I'm sure.

I had heard that the Street Royal British Legion nearly closed its doors for good but thanks to many volunteers in the community, including Tracey Hole, Sam Payne, Paul Titterall, Dennis Bailey, Richard Dines, Dave Payne, Paul Harris, Leza Holme, Steve Shepherd, Adam Atkins, Amanda Page, a new committee and new staff they have managed to keep it open.

By the time you read this I would have taken part between the 28-30 January 2022, in the RSPB England Big Garden Birdwatch. Last year I saw around 10 different species of bird on our bird table. It will be interesting to see the difference this year.

We are so lucky to have so many different species around us and we seem to have so many talented photographers locally that capture our wildlife and brilliant scenery so well.

<p>C. Willcox General Garden Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lawn cutting• Weeding• Hedge trimming• Garden clearance etc <p>Tel: 01458 442994 Mob: 07880926872</p>	<p>WANTED VINYL RECORDS</p> <p>CASH PAID TEL: 07745 599522</p> 
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Would like to Mention

Tea for One

A Meeting place for anyone who has been bereaved of their partner. Losing a spouse is a very unique feeling. Come and share with others who are in the same situation. No matter how long ago, nor what your situation is now, we would love to hear from you. Come and share a cup of tea (or coffee) with us.

Meare Community Church, Church Path, Thursdays at 3pm. Limited parking available. Thank you Maggie Ludbrook

Honeygar Farm, Westhay

Somerset Wildlife Trust is currently planning a major fundraising campaign to enable it to buy Honeygar Farm from the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation by early 2023. Honeygar Farm is located between the Trust's Westhay Moor NNR, Westhay Heath and Catcott Nature reserve in the Avalon Marshes, one of the largest and most important wetland areas in the UK. Over the next decade the Trust will work with those who live and work in the area to develop its vision for the development of the buildings at Honeygar which will require a second major fundraising campaign.

Wellington Monument Proposal

A man surprised his girlfriend with a marriage proposal 175ft up the Wellington Monument, the world's tallest three-sided obelisk. NHS worker Jonathon Storry popped the question to Kylie Springall after they climbed the 232 steps to the top. As Kylie admired the view, she turned around to find Jonathan on one knee.. After accepting the proposal, Ms Springall told BBC Radio Somerset "I had no idea at all." The proposal was made possible by the National Trust, which owns the Grade II listed monument. Do you have a proposal story you would like to share?

Condolences

Our condolences go to the family and friends of 3 well known business men of the Parish who all passed away just before Christmas. Full details under the Announcements section.

Clerk Report

Thank You

Thank you to Mike Balch for running the village oil buying group for many years. Your contribution to the community was much appreciated by the residents who relied on you to get them the best price for their fuel.

Vacancy for Parish Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer For the Parish of Meare

The successful applicant will be required to attend a monthly evening Parish Council meeting. The meetings are usually on the 3rd Monday of each month except for August and December when meetings are not usually held. They will prepare, in consultation with appropriate members, agendas and minutes for meetings of the Council, to ensure all are prepared for approval

They will also be responsible for keeping the accounts for the Council, paying invoices, provide a monthly internal Summary of Account and produce accounts and records for the external annual auditor, reclaiming VAT and annual budgeting for the Precept.

PAYE is out sourced

They will also be responsible for ensuring that lawful instructions of the Council in connection with its function as a local authority are carried out and to act as the main point of contact on Council business.

To work with the Council's elected members, in accordance with the Council's constitution

To advise the Council on and assist in the development of policies and implementation plans. Utilise a range of data sources e.g. local and national political trends, and present appropriately to enable decision making by elected members

To ensure the effective implementation of Council' lawful decisions, policies and projects.

To attend relevant training, conferences and forums associated with the role or the development of Council service.

Salary to be based on experience in line with NALC's pay scale.

Hours of work will be 15 hours a week and will be home based with extra hours, if and when needed.

Parish Council Election

An election of Parish Councillors will be held on 5th May 2022 together with the Unitary Authority elections.

If you wish to stand as a Parish Councillor please go to the Mendip District Council's website and look up Parish Council Elections 2022 and click on relevant link.

Parish Council Meetings – 7.30pm in The Chapel

Monday 21st February

Monday 21st March

Police News

Beat Surgery

The next Beat Surgery which covers our area is at Street Parish Council's Office, 11:00AM - 12:00PM on Wed 02 February 2022 in the John Webster Room, Street.

Help Needed

Dashcam footage sought of a grey or silver saloon car – possibly an Audi – was seen parked on The Causeway with its hazard lights on, near to a burglary in Mark. The burglary which happened while the occupants were out for just 30 minutes, between 5.30pm and 6pm on Monday 3 January. If you can help call 101 and give the reference 5222001826.

CCTV appeal after shop worker spat at.

Do you recognise this man? We'd like to speak to him as part of our enquiries into an incident in a shop in Glastonbury High Street between 9.30 and 10am on Wednesday 15 December 2021. We'd ask him – or anyone who can help us trace him – to call 101 reference 5221293803





Royal Request for Carnival Cart

Bridgwater Guy Fawkes Carnival Team received a special invitation to build a bespoke cart for the London spectacle Queen's Platinum Jubilee Pageant. The Pageant is due to take place on the 5th June .

Chris Hocking, the project co-ordinator for the pageant entry said "not having the normal carnival in 2020 has worked very well because in a normal year, we may not have been able to get the volunteers to create the cart. Being asked to take part in the pageant is a fantastic honour and privilege."

The preparations are already underway to create a special entry for the pageants carnival parade to be staged in London on the 5th June 2022.

Mike Crocker, President of Bridgwater Carnival Said, "Undoubtedly it will prove an enormous undertaking to build an entry from 'scratch' and we have therefore invited members from every carnival club in the town to play a role in constructing an entry which will reflect the style and expertise which have become the hallmarks of our parades."

 <p>THE DAIRY AT WESTHAY EST. 2021</p> <p>FARM FRESH MILK</p> <p>Gently pasteurised daily, our whole milk is super fresh and full of natural flavour. The milk, along with reusable glass bottles, is available to buy from our vending machines which take cash or contactless card payments.</p> <p>MILK ~ CHEESE ~ BUTTER ~ EGGS ~ MILKSHAKE New House Farm, Burtle Road, Westhay,</p>	<p>Andrews </p> <p>NEW VIRTUAL OFFICES IN MID SOMERSET</p> <p>Andrews are delighted to have opened new virtual offices covering Wells, Glastonbury, Street, Shepton Mallet and Cheddar.</p> <p>These new virtual offices run by local people, along with the 50 physical offices that Andrews Property Group operate, offer a great blend of traditional and modern Estate Agency.</p> <p>We are currently offering 1% + VAT selling fees. If you would like a free no obligation valuation please visit www.andrewsonline.co.uk or call 03300 564443 to book!</p>
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Westhay School Rooms

The Committee is pleased that the Schoolroom is now open for bookings, subject to any further conditions imposed by HM. Government. All users will be required to abide by all of these conditions, and will be responsible for ensuring that “social distancing” is observed.

We are grateful to the volunteers who erected the Christmas tree and lights, which we know brought some cheer to those who passed through the village.

Café Westhay will commence on the first Saturday of each month, with the exception of June, when to mark the HM the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee celebrations, there will be a “Queen’s Jubilee Tea” at 3.00pm.

Richard Brown.

Secretary.

Westhay Schoolroom Events (Registered Charity No.288021)		
5th Feb.	10:30am	Café Westhay
5th Mar.	10:30am	Café Westhay
2nd Apr.	10:30am	Café Westhay
7th May	10:30am	Café Westhay

Bin Collection Dates :- kerbside by 6 am		
Wednesday 2nd & 16th	February	Garden Waste only
Thursday 17th	February	Recycling & Refuse
Thursday 3rd, 10th & 24th	February	Recycling only
Wednesday 2nd, 16th, 30th	March	Garden Waste only
Thursday 10th & 31st	March	Recycling & Refuse
Thursday 3rd, 17th & 24th	March	Recycling only

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Ladies Group

Following all the current guidelines for everyone's safety, our varied programme has continued, recently including an interesting talk from a local cider maker, complete with samples!

For our Christmas celebration, members had delicious meals at the Duck at Burtle. It was a very enjoyable evening, and we were really well looked after by the staff. The generous portions meant some doggy bags were taken home!

Speakers, outings etc, would normally be set out for the next year, but we are currently booking a couple at a time. A demonstration of cake decorating is on our list of hopefuls, and we will add others as virus restrictions allow. Members will be notified of any changes, which will also be put on the village websites.

The group meet on the third Thursday of each month, and will be holding meetings in the Community Church Hall, or in The Church Rooms, if there is to be a service.

May we wish you all a very Happy, Healthy, New Year.

Meare and Westhay Ladies Group Events and Meetings	
20th January	Gloria McClurg with more fascinating incites on Meare Social History. Community Church Hall 7pm
17th February	Mike Strange at Community Church Hall 7pm
17th March	AGM and Bingo

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St. Mary's Church News

At the start of 2022 we are continuing with our monthly Communion service at 11.00am on the first Sunday of the month(See calendar below)

There will be a temporary reduction in the Benefice clergy staff team due to our vicar David MacGeoch having a knee operation and being out of action for a while. All messages and requests can still go through the Benefice office via the secretary Sharon e mail : abbeyparishes@gmail.com.

Many thanks to all who helped decorate the church and put up the candles and tree and checked electricity connections for our Christmas services. It was very colourful and all lasted well from the December carol service through to twelfth night the 6th January and the start of Epiphany. We were sad however to be saying farewell at Memorial Services during this time, to three long standing village members, Basil Loxton, Ken Rogers and Colin Carroll and extend our sympathies to all their families.

In spite of the winter storms Dawson Steeplejacks were able to work on the tower roof and repair and upgrade the lightning conductor. and ensure the weather vane was secure. Look up next time you are walking near the church and see if the cockerel is turning in the wind!

Best wishes to all for a happy and healthy 2022 from all at St Marys

Services		
Sun. 6th Feb.	11:00	Holy Communion at St. Marys
3rd March		Ash Wednesday, The Start of Lent. Service at St. Johns & St. Benedict's in Glastonbury.
Sun. 6th March	11:00	Holy Communion at St. Marys
Sun 27th March		Mothers Day Service and events TBC

BUTTERFLY WALKS

From Spring to early Autumn, groups of volunteers walk regular routes and record the species of butterflies they see. These routes (referred to as transects) are fixed so that the results of the surveys can be compared on a year-by-year basis, giving environmental scientists indicators of change. The data is fed to the **UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (UKBMS)** and is added together with the records from the annual *Big Butterfly Count* (performed in our gardens) plus other surveys called *Random Squares* – the latter giving a ‘snapshot’ of what is happening in that locality.

We’re looking for more volunteers to join the regular survey teams. You don’t have to be experienced, training is given and identification aids provided. The transect routes typically take two hours of steady walking and observation and, for various reasons, recorders should be in pairs.

Many routes are level walking though we do also have requirement for the Polden and Mendip Hill areas too where different butterflies occur but the walking is a slightly harder.

Each transect is surveyed weekly by volunteers on a 4 - 6 week rota so that is not onerous but you do get to see the range of butterfly species in that area. Good news is: butterfly surveys are done in fair weather.

New volunteers will be accompanied on the route by an experienced surveyor until they become familiar with species identification.

To ensure volunteers know whether they want to take part, we plan to do a series of escorted walks in February and March when we can describe in more detail what is required. If you wish to book a place, please contact me either by phone, text or email.

Fred Giles

07719 468335 or butterflysurvey@outlook.com



BUTTERFLY RECORDERS
WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO JOIN THE
TEAM OF BUTTERFLY SURVEYORS ON OUR
NATURE RESERVES

No experience required – training is provided.
Various transect routes, most are level walking
Please contact Fred Giles: 07719 468335
or butterflysurvey@outlook.com

Announcements

Deaths

Basil Bernard Loxton aged 79 years passed suddenly away at his home on the 14th November 2021. The Funeral service was held at St. Mary's Church Meare followed by his burial in the cemetery on Tuesday 14th December 2021. Donations will be shared between Dorset & Somerset air Ambulance and St. Marys Church Meare. Funeral directors M Franks & Sons. Organist Matthew Redman. Service led by Reverend David MacGeoch.

Ken Rogers aged 88 years, passed away on the 6th December 2021 at his home. Funeral Service and the celebrations of his life took place at St. Mary's Church Meare on the 22nd December 2021, followed by burial in the cemetery. Donations given will go to sight savers of which Ken was very passionate about. It helps children who are losing their sight. Funeral Directors M Franks & Sons. Organist Bernie Brown. Solo Andy Mulliner. Service led by Reverend David MacGeoch.

Colin Raymond Carroll aged 89 years, (Late of Meare) passed away peacefully Monday 13th December 2021 at St. Benedict's nursing home, Glastonbury. The funeral service and burial took place St. Mary's Church Meare on Thursday 6th January 2022 at 12 noon. Donations to "Love" Musgrove Park Taunton. Funeral Directors M Franks & Sons. Service led by Reverend David MacGeoch.



Birth

A belated congratulations to Tristan and Kirsty Foster on the birth of their baby son, Max Oliver born on 29th November 2021, pictured left .

Happy Special Birthday

Belated 60th Birthday wishes to **Chris Francis** who celebrated his 60th on 21st December 2021.

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Firstly, MWFT would like to wish each and every one of you a happy, healthy and safe New Year 2022 and we hope you all had a lovely peaceful Christmas. Last year, as with the previous year, was a testing time once more for all of us and meant that we were sometimes restricted as to what we could do in the way of events but we tried to make the most of it. We would like to take this opportunity to recap what we did in 2021 and also share with you our projected events for 2022.

2021

Towards the end of last year, TTs Takeaway took over the running of our monthly breakfast. It was becoming difficult for us to continue due to a lack of volunteers but we wish TTs Takeaway every success and hope that you will continue to join the breakfast on the third Sunday of each month. As always, our monthly 100 Club draw will take place during the breakfast.

Events held in 2021 include, the following:-

Monthly Lazy Sunday Breakfast, Teddy Bears' Picnic, Christmas Lunch, (right) & Carol Service (below).



100 Club: 2021 was a great year for our 100 Club with continued support not only from our old members but from new members too. Most months saw every number taken up which of course meant increased prize money for our lucky winners. We continued to do a “winner takes all” draw in July and December which proved to be extremely popular. Below is a brief overview of how some of the 100 Club funds were spent:

- * We have paid out £3,300 to our winners – this includes two “winner takes all” prizes of £500 each.
- * We have spent £750 on plants, planters, manure, bulbs throughout the villages.
- * We have funds to purchase a bespoke rot-free bench to place near the Fish House.

Our current future plans for 100 Club money include:

Replacing some old rose bushes opposite the fish house, planting more bulbs, repairing/replacing the bench outside the church rooms as it has sadly been vandalized, updating/replacing plants and so on. We will always be looking for other projects throughout the year and will update you all at the time.

We would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to all our 100 Club supporters who have made this possible.

2022

Whilst it is difficult to predict exactly what will happen due to the ongoing presence of Covid, we have held the following dates for a few events.

All these events, including further details, will be advertised nearer the time, but please make a note of these dates.

Sunday 10th April	Easter Bingo, (venue to be confirmed)
Monday 29th August	Family Picnic at the Fish House for all ages
Saturday 29th October	Silent Disco
Sunday 18th December	Candle Lit Carol Service

AND FINALLY - THANKS TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT MWFT COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!!!



Meare and Westhay Village Hall and Playing Fields Progress Update

Fundraising and Events

As part of our Christmas celebrations, we were delighted to welcome over 100 children, along with their parents, grandparents and carers at our Santa's Grotto in Westhay School rooms on 4th and 5th December. This event was run in conjunction with King William Carnival Club and kindly supported by Somerset County Council, Gwilliam's of Edington and Meare



Parish Council. There were delicious mince pies, chocolates, mulled wine and much merriment and thank you to all those who helped out and joined in the fun.

As we move into the New Year our fundraising efforts continue and we need further support from our community. Grant applications can be time-consuming, but many hands make light work! We are a small committee so if anyone in the community has some time spare and wishes to get involved and support the hall please contact us; we would value your input no matter how big or small.

Do you or have you ever worked at Clarks? Or have family members or friends in the villages who have? If so, please contact us. Clarks are a potential grantor who wish to support community projects that benefit their employees, past or present. We don't need specific details but if we can provide numbers of employees, this may significantly increase our chances of gaining funding from Clarks.

Don't forget, you can also do your bit to help raise funds by shopping at **AmazonSmile** as well as **easyfundraising.org.uk**. Both of these sites cost nothing to use and the savings really do add up!

We have raised over **£400** on easyfundraising from just **20** active savers – imagine what we could raise if the whole village signed up!

AmazonSmile purchases have generated **£150** for the hall from only **35** shoppers. It really is simple – just shop at **smile.amazon.co.uk** instead of **amazon.co.uk** and select ‘Meare and Westhay Village Hall’. You only need to choose your charity once and every time you purchase from AmazonSmile, you will help raise funds for your community.

Special Thanks

Our special thanks also to **Anthony Baker** who has made a donation to the hall.

Facebook Page and Village Website

You can read all our latest progress updates on our Facebook page. Search for ‘Meare and Westhay Village Hall’ and share it with friends and family within the community.

As always, if anyone has any questions or would like to know more about the work we are doing to bring this project to fruition please email villagehall@meareandwesthay.com The committee are more than happy to answer any of your questions.

MEARE PARISH ACTIVITY GROUP (MPAG)

Happy New Year everyone! Do hope you all managed to have an enjoyable Christmas.

Our Christmas Bingo was great fun, and thanks must go to Sam Bantock for her hard work, as well as those who attended. Unfortunately, the current situation made holding the Burns Night supper impractical, but we hope to continue with smaller events, such as quizzes as soon as possible, and are still planning to do a BBQ, with some kind of entertainment for the Jubilee weekend.

We look forward to seeing lots of you soon.

Janice Bradley secretary MPAG

Meare Community Church

A thought for today by Mike Strange. Help!

“Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.” The Bible, Proverbs 15:22.

You know how it works. We look at a post on Facebook, or a video on YouTube. Your search is remembered and similar posts and videos are recommended. The algorithms lead us to a place where we only hear from those who say what we want to see and hear. The danger of this, of course, is that it inevitably leads us to an echo chamber where our own views are reinforced. A place where ignorance, prejudice and lazy thinking remain unchallenged and where inconvenient facts are ignored. This is the road that leads to the fantasy world inhabited by conspiracy theorists and climate deniers. The truth is that, for our own sanity, we all need to face up to inconvenient facts and encounter opinions that challenge us.

A true friend can save us grief by sometimes telling us uncomfortable things that we do not want to hear. Advice about such things as a risky purchase, an application for an unsuitable job, an unhelpful relationship As the proverb says, we need to surround ourselves with many good friends like these.

As we enter a new year, let us each resolve to challenge our own thinking. To gather our news and facts from reputable sources. To enquire about the facts. To ensure that we have heard the whole story. To be open to hearing and reflecting on the views of others, including those we may disagree with. To even be prepared to – radical thought – sometimes change our mind.

Mike Strange
Pastor
Meare Community Church

Meare Community Church

Due to the current situation, we regret that we will not be holding Sunday services, Brunch or the "Music with Mike" Toddler group in person until the situation improves.

There will be a live Sunday service at 11am via Zoom - follow the link on the website. www.mearecommunitychurch.org.uk

On Mondays at 9:30 there will also be a short prayer meeting via Zoom.

Street & Walton Men's Shed



Happy New Year... Now that Christmas is over, it's time to think about what you are going to do through the coming winter months, one answer could be becoming a member of a Men's Shed. You could refurbish your garden furniture ready for the summer, make planters for your patio or any number of things that you may have planned to do. The Street & Walton Shed has the tools and the skills to help you do just about anything in wood and most other materials to.

To make a start you can join us at the shed as we are open for new members both male and female to join us. We have plenty of space in our two workshops for you to work, and a kitchen/social area for you to chat over tea or coffee.

We open 3 days a week, Monday 9am to 12:30pm on Tuesdays 9am to 4:30pm on Thursdays 9am to 4:30pm, we may be opening for extra days if there is a demand.

The lady's session is from 1pm to 4:30pm on Tuesday afternoon, we also hold a mixed session on Thursday afternoon from 1pm to 4:30pm.

We are still accepting donations of tools and equipment (no matter how big), so please let us know if you have anything you no longer need (Maybe someone gave you a new tool for Christmas and you no longer need the old one!) please contact us and we will collect.

If you want more information about what a Shed is, how to visit or join our Shed, or any of the other local Sheds, please use the contact page at:

<https://streetwaltonmensshed.wixsite.com/street-walton-shed>
or Facebook using the tag: S&WMS in your browser or **ring: 01458 443940**.

Brian Bastable, Secretary, Street & Walton Men's Shed.

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Yoga Classes with Francesca

Mondays 10am

at Meare Church Rooms

Private Yoga session also available Contact

Francesca 07909 144414

Evening class coming in January 2022!

Matt Martin

Mendip District Councillor - Moor Ward
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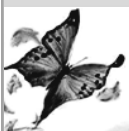


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Halls and Meeting places

Westhay School Rooms.

The School Room mainly consists of a hall which can be booked out for club activities and fetes. Hire is £7 per hour. Cafe Westhay to commence at 10.30am on the first Saturday of each month

For bookings contact Ann Moss (01458 860853) the Secretary is:



Meare
Community
Church

Meare Church Rooms

Available for private hire or community events.
Please call **01458 860597**
Or email **Janice.bradley3@btinternet.com**

Session Times	Hall Address	Post Office opening times
8am – 1pm	The Church Rooms	Friday
1pm – 6pm	St Mary's Road	9.30am – 12:30pm
6pm – 11pm	Meare	Also used for voting station
£30 Per Session	Somerset	BA6 9PU
7 Days a week		

The Muddy Lane Playing Fields.

Muddy Lane playing Field has a car park for up to 30 cars, a children park and play area and a Petanque terrain. Dogs cannot be exercised on the playing field, although dogs and their owners can use the public footpath to access the network of footpaths in the surrounding fields. The footpath has been diverted and now runs around the perimeter of the playing field. Details of the diversion were published in the June - July 2021 edition of the Meare and Westhay Village News. The field can accom-

Allotments

You must be a member of the parish to have an allotment subject to availability. Located at the end of Bramble Close. Yearly membership is £10 & rent £20 pa. Contact John Shaw on (01458 860040) or

Bus time Table 668				
The Miners Arms, (W-bound), Shipham	07:25	10:00	13:00	15:50
Tweentown, (E-bound), Cheddar	07:33	10:08	13:08	15:58
The Post Office, (S-bound), Cocklake	07:44	10:19	13:19	16:09
The Mall, (S-bound), Wedmore	07:47	10:22	13:22	16:12
Mudgely Cross, (SE-bound), Mudgely	07:52	10:27	13:27	16:17
Turnpike House, (S-bound), Westhay	07:57	10:32	13:32	16:22
Millbatch, (opp), Meare	08:00	10:35	13:35	16:25
Post Office, (near), Meare	08:01	10:36	13:36	16:26
Bus Shelter, (NE-bound), Stileway	08:02	10:37	13:37	16:27
Community Hospital, (S-bound), Brindham	08:09	10:44	13:44	16:34
Chinnock Road Spar Shop, (W-bound), Glastonbury	08:11	10:46	13:46	16:36
Town Hall, (S-bound, Glastonbury	08:16	0:511-	13:51	16:41
Strode College, (E-bound), Street	08:25			
Crispin Hall, (W-bound), Street	08:28	11:03	14:03	16:53
Sainsburys, (NE-bound), Street	08:33	11:08	14:08	
Sainsburys, (NE-bound), Street	08:50	11:25	14:30	
The Library, (SE-bound), Street	08:55	11:30	14:35	17:00
Street Strode College (N-bound) Street				17:05
Town Hall, (N-bound, Glastonbury	09:05	11:40	14:45	17:13
Chinnock Road Spar Shop, (E-bound), Glastonbury	09:10	11:45	14:50	17:18
Community Hospital, (N-bound), Brindham	09:12	11:47	14:52	17:20
Bus Shelter, (NE-bound), Stileway	09:18	11:53	14:58	17:26
Post Office, (near), Meare	09:20	11:55	15:00	17:28
Millbatch, (opp), Meare	09:20	11:55	15:00	17:28
Westhay Turnpike House (N-bound),	09:25	12:00	15:03	17:31
Mudgely Cross, (N-bound), Mudgely	09:30	12:05	15:10	17:38
The Borough Yard, (N-bound), Wedmore	09:35	12:10	15:15	17:43
The Post Office, (N-bound), Cocklake	09:39	12:14	15:19	17:46
Tweentown, (W-bound), Cheddar	09:48	12:23	15:28	17:55
The Miners Arms, (NE-bound), Shipham	09:54	12:29	15:34	18:03

Citizens Advice Explains Government Grants

The Government recently announced that funding would be available to provide grants for households in need of some short-term financial support where they are struggling to afford the cost of food, gas, electricity, oil and water bills, and other essential costs this winter. Doubtless, with the cuts to Universal Credit, rising fuel costs and inflation, there will be many such households in Somerset facing financial difficulties.

Within Somerset, the client grants are being distributed jointly by the five local Citizens Advice. As the fund is only open until 31st March 2022, we want to ensure that as many households-in-need as possible have the opportunity to access the financial support they need.

Below is information taken from the government leaflet explaining who the fund is targeted at, and how to apply.

Many thanks.

[Ian Byworth](#)

Chief Executive Officer, Citizens Advice Mendip

Your Questions Answered

The Somerset household support fund is designed to provide short-term financial support (from December to the end of March 2022) to vulnerable households which are struggling to afford the cost of food, gas, electricity, oil and water bills and other essential costs.

Funded by the DWP, administered by Somerset County Council and distributed by Citizens Advice Somerset.

Who can apply:-

You must live in the county of Somerset

You will be over the age of 16 and living independently of parents/carers

You are struggling to pay for essentials because you don't have enough money

You can provide the required proof of your identity, Somerset residency and proof of your benefits or proof of your income. (most recent/last months bank statements).

Can I get help if I work, am Retired or do not work at all?

Yes, there are many different reasons why it has become difficult to pay for essentials. The key thing is that you and your household are struggling to pay for essentials.

Will household support fund affect my benefits?

No, it will not affect your benefits

How do I apply?

You apply through a dedicated and secure web portal. Scan the QR code or type the following in google.

hsf.citizensadvice Somerset.org.uk



Before you start have the evidence you need ready. Proof of benefits, bank statements/transaction list for last months. You will need to have photos, scanned documents, screen prints, and pdfs are all okay to use.

What if I can't apply through the website?

If this is difficult for you there are lots of community groups, village agents, health coaches and other support organisations that know about this fund and will be able to assist you to apply through the web portal.

If you don't have any support and need help to apply.

Please call Somerset County Council on 03007906275. The Somerset team will pass you contact details to your nearest Citizens Advice officer who will help you to make an application.

How long does it take to make an application?

Citizens Advice will process completed applications within 5 working days. Incomplete applications will not be processed until all the evidence required has been provided.

Suspected fraudulent applications will be investigated and may lead to criminal proceedings.

Bird in Hand Pub	01458-860859
Childline	0800 1111
Domestic Violence Hotline	18007997233
Highways Faults (Mon-Fri 8am-6pm)	0300 123 2224
Home Library Service contact Kirsty Jenssen – email: kjenssen@somerset.gov.uk	07814 079831
Meare Church Rooms Hiring Enquiries, contact Janice by phone or at Janice.bradley3@btinternet.com	01458 860597
Meare Community Church, Mike Strange email mikep- strange123@gmail.com or ring	07514-520396
Meare Manor	01458-860449
Meare Village Primary School	01458-860228
Mendip District Council	0300 303 8588
Mind email info@mindinsomerset.org.uk or ring	01749 233115
St Mary's Church Mon-Fri 09.00 - 13.00	01458 834281
Parish Paths Liaison Officer	01458-860537
Police non-emergency	101
Railway Inn	01458-741428
Samaritans	116 123
Street Light Faults	0845 6010 939
Western Power (For Power Cuts)	0800 6783105
Village Poppy Appeal Organisers Charlotte/ Elizabeth	01458-860865 07866-080194
Yoga Classes (Steph or Bridge)07764-935167	07712-897498
Post Office Opening Times Friday 9:30am to 12:30pm	

Meare Parish Council Members			
Chairperson Chris Bennetts	Crysnal, Westhay BA6 9TN	Chris@baysystems.ltd.uk	01458 860393
Anthony Baker	5 Glastonbury Road, BA6 9SN	biffbaker@gmail.com	078999 24465
Paul Bradley	19 Downs Or- chard BA6 9SQ	p_bradley6@btinternet.com	01458 860597
Colin Foster	Pilgrims way, Stileway, BA6 9SH	colinjfoster@aol.com	077347 53113
Tristan Foster	13 Glastonbury Road, BA6 9SN	tristanfoster@aol.com	077393 50968
Alvin Neale	57 St. Marys Road, BA6 9SR	violetfarm@btconnect.com	014580 860277
Roger Stacey	Home Farm, BA6 9TQ	Roger.stacey@virgin.net	01458 860575
Michael Turner- Welch	19 Oxenpill, BA6 9TQ	mturnerwelch@gmail.com	01458 860602
Janet Westover	11 The Levels, BA6 9SE	janetbwestover@gmail.com	01458 860770
Victoria Winters	12 The Levels, BA6 9SE	torslook@hotmail.co.uk	
Alan Wren	88 St. Marys Road, BA6 9SS	alanwren2411@gmail.com	01458 860537

Magazine Dates & Contact Information

Material received after the deadline may not be included.

A copy of Meare & Westhay Village News is available from the village website: www.meareandwesthay.com

Please send all articles and advertising to Caroline Sanderson (editor) at:- **MeareandWesthay@gmail.com** or ring on **01458**

Issue	Deadline	Distribution
Apr / May	1st Mar 22	1st Apr 22
June / July	1st May 22	1st June 22

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1/2 page £92.00
Full page £180.00

Middle page (Colour only)

1/8 page £36.00
1/4 page £66.00
1/2 page £115.00

Meare & Westhay Village News welcomes all and any contributions to the magazine. However it should be remembered that any views or comments expressed are those of the individual contributor and do not in any way reflect the opinion of the magazine, the editor or the Parish Council. The editorial team also wish to make it clear they reserve the right to amend, edit or omit any article or contribution in the interest of legality, public decency, availability of space or any other reason.

Invoices for advertisements will be sent by myself, Mrs Caroline Sanderson and must be settled prior to the appearance of the advert in the magazine.

Knights Pharmacy, Feversham Lane, Glastonbury, BA6 9LP, Mon-Fri 8am- 8pm, Sat 9am – 5pm, closed Sunday 01458 834986

Tesco Pharmacy, Wirral Park Rd, Glastonbury BA6 9NR, Monday 8am – 10.30pm, Tuesday to Friday 6.30am-10.30pm, Saturday 6.30am - 10pm, Sunday 10am - 4pm. 01458 769503

Boots, 39 High St, Glastonbury, BA6 9DS, No longer displaying opening time. Please ring first. 01458 831211



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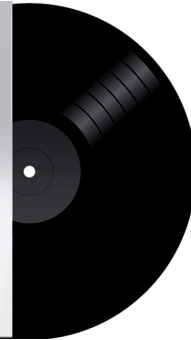
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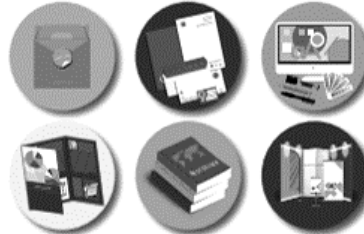
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