

# Wembdon Parish Paper

Edition 10



Connecting with our community



Know Your Parish Councillors.



Mike Solomon, Julia Riddle, Neil Harrison, Anne Reed, Lorraine Burge, Tom Thayer & Joanna Jackson represent Wembdon Wembdon ward. Terry Thake, Dan Bingham & Jason Woods represent Wembdon Victoria ward

**You asked.....** Hopefully you will find the background to how your questions are answered here. It will not detail the entire debate or depth of enquiry, just a bit more insight. 😊

Can we have more litter bins through the village, especially from Wembdon Stores, along Church Rd, through to the NDR? There are bins at the bus stop, 2 in the park, 1 at the NDR crossing. Bin emptying is a considerable expense in the budget, as is purchasing & siting new bins. The potential benefit was not deemed to outweigh the cost implications.

Can the road side hedges be cut along Wembdon Hill? Highways at SDC informed us the hedges are the responsibility of the landowner / resident. If you have a hedge on your property you own all sides of it and are responsible for cutting all aspects of it.

Can the surface water issue at the Inwood Rd/Wembdon Rise junction be addressed? Highways informed us the problem will be surveyed and corrected within weeks.

Can the NDR footpath foliage be cut back from Churchfields to Chilton traffic lights, the path is impassable? This is an issue of land ownership. The landowner has been contacted & foliage cut. They also take care to avoid the bird nesting season.

Can the footpath from Wares Lane to the NDR be resurfaced along its entire length? This has been considered at length. In essence this is marked as a rural footpath and as such it is reasonable. However it is well used & useful in encouraging

families to walk to school. Issues include drainage / run off water, use of the path if tarmacked as a skate/scooter run, on-going maintenance & responsibility. Therefore improvement with compacted scalping's will be explored with the County Council thus allowing soak-away and discouraging wheeled vehicles / skate boards etc.

Can something be done for residents about the parking in the Inwood Road estate at school pick up / drop off times? WPC continue to liaise with St George's school, the police and residents. The issue is difficult to resolve to everyone's satisfaction. Double yellow lines could be marked throughout however this also prevents residents parking. PCSO's have been requested to attend at school times to monitor and advise car owners. The issues have been highlighted to the Parking Inspector's team at District & County level.

Can the stile at the bottom off Wembdon Hill / A39 be replaced with a gate, the step is too high? As a more cost effective solution an additional lower step will be added. Rights of Way Officer at County Council contacted.

Can the Cherry Tree on The Common that died be replaced? Soil inspection showed this tree died due to fungal infection. It will cost £2000 to treat the soil in order to replant a tree. Therefore no tree will be planted and the recommended action to prevent excessive soil disturbance will be adopted.

The full minutes with all other matters discussed can be obtained from WPC clerk on request, or viewed on the website.

# What is happening with the new Wembdon Village hall?

## When can we use it?

These are the questions you ask us. Well good news! By the time you read this, the tender documents will be out and by Easter contractors will have been appointed to build the hall. In the next few weeks some ground preparation work will begin and by summer the main works will be started. There are three elements to the project: landscaping the Village Green, the Village hall and the access bridge from Homberg Way (the NDR). Landscaping includes preparation of pitches; these need a settling period before they can be used. The sport grant givers have very strict regulations with which the project has to comply. Landscaping also includes drainage ponds, new pathways and the more obvious soft landscaping and planting, including new trees.

The Village Hall will be a substantial building and the structure of the land means initial works will involve piling for the foundations. The access bridge has required very detailed planning, governed by the Highways Dept, due to the access onto a very busy road. The team have worked constantly and conscientiously during the last year, securing various forms of funding, acquiring planning permission, transferring land ownership and satisfying the requirements of 'grant givers' all of whom have been enormously patient with the process. Viridor Credits have helped us to move forward by enabling 'The Trust' to appoint a Project Manager to help us keep everything on track. In autumn 2013 we held an open meeting which was well attended and we are very grateful to those who attended and offered valuable opinions and ideas. We would also like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all those who so generously gave or pledged donations.

We continue to fund raise with our monthly Village Market and quiz (see separate item for details). We would gratefully receive any financial support from you by buying a brick and soon to be released details of sponsoring a tree or bench. Bridgwater College students are working with us upgrading the Web Site and we plan to involve students from the Cannington Campus with tree planting, ensuring that the new Village Hall becomes a whole community project.

Grateful thanks go to the stalwart people who manned car parks on Carnival night raising more funds for the cause.

Oh yes! The answer to the last question, fingers crossed and with luck and professional skills on our side, see you in Wembdon Village Hall for New Year Celebrations 2015. We may have to sit on a rug and use a paper plate but at least we will have a Village Hall.

On that point, coming soon are details of how you can help and get involved in fitting out, running and booking the hall, by joining one of several working parties/sub committees that are now being set up.



**The  
Green**

Wembdon

## Wembdon village Market

First Market of 2014, February 22<sup>nd</sup>

Then the last Saturday of each month

10am-12noon The Parish Centre, Church Road

Fresh local produce available. New stall holders welcome. Tel: 01278 458434



## Pub Quiz

A lively fun and sociable evening at The Cottage Inn. The last Tuesday of the month  
7pm for a 7:30pm start. 4 people/team,  
£2.50pp.

New challengers welcome



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The **WCA** and senior citizens of Wembdon thoroughly enjoyed their annual Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner. Many thanks to Windsor Catering & 2 wine waiters - kept busy throughout!



## EDF Information Briefing.

EDF Energy is proposing to build a new nuclear power station at Hinkley Point known as HPC. It will provide a clean, secure and affordable source of electricity for more than five million homes in the UK and will create thousands of jobs.

They're making the roads safer and better before they start building HPC. £16 million of investment is planned for roads in Somerset, with the bulk of these improvements coming before they construct the new power station. EDF Energy has worked with the relevant authorities and local communities to identify and develop the right improvements. Improvements in Cannington and along the C182, the main road to Hinkley Point are complete and now they're getting started on the A39 at Sandford Hill Corner.

The plan is to transform the corner, making it safer by turning it into a new roundabout. We expect work to start in late February and to be complete by autumn.

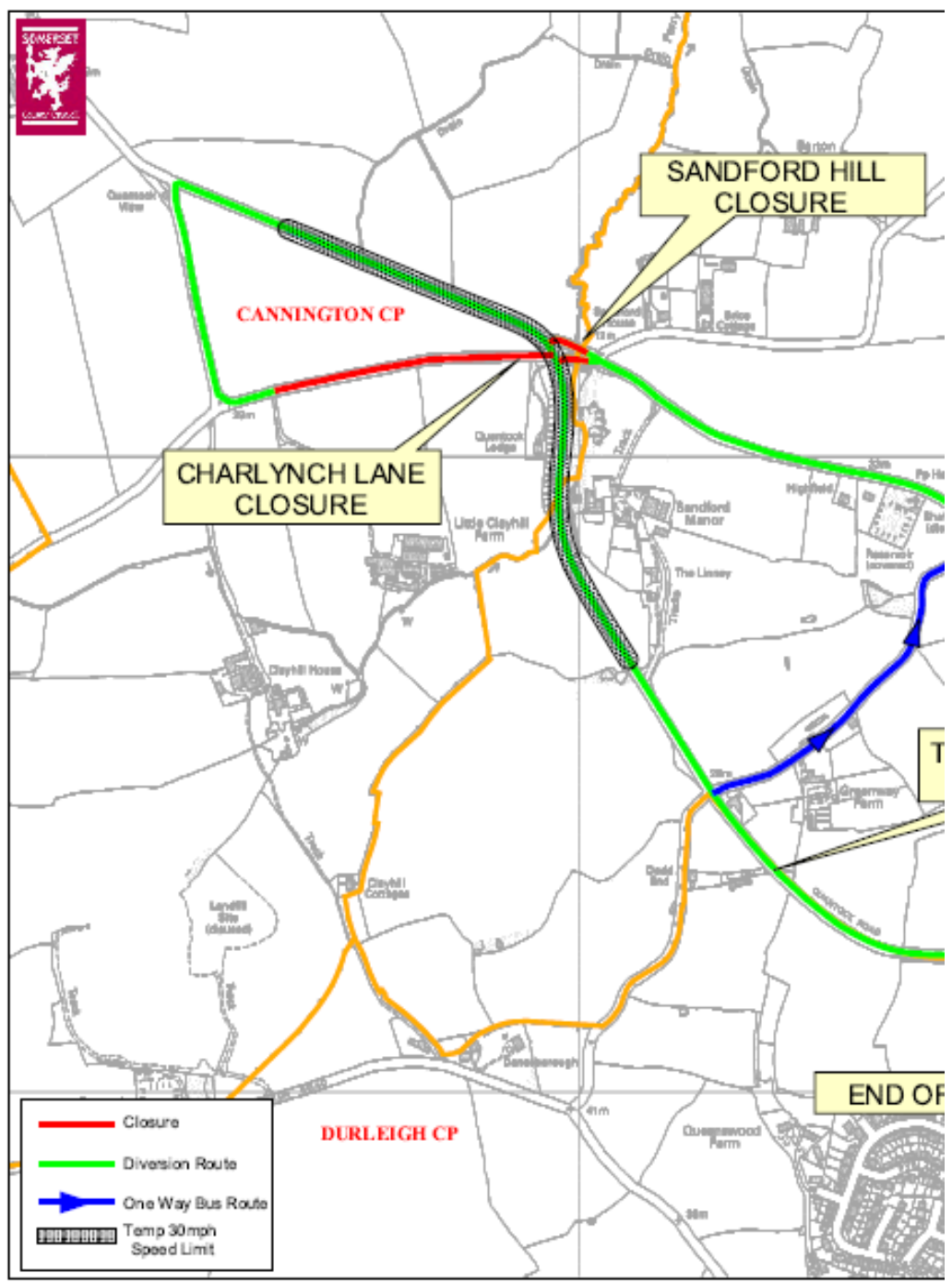
To maintain safety whilst the roundabout is being built traffic restrictions will be in place on the A39 and local road networks, pedestrians will be diverted around the works and access to properties will be maintained.

Aggregate Industries will be undertaking the work on behalf of EDF Energy. Standard working hours are 07:30-17:30 Monday–Friday, but there may be some activity on Saturdays and outside of these hours.

If you would like to find out more about the improvements or have any questions contact details for EDF Energy are below.

### **Contact details:**

- EDF Energy Visitor Centre: Angel Place Shopping Centre, Bridgwater, TA6 3TQ Open 9:30am-4pm Mon-Fri 9:30am-1pm on Saturday
- Email: [Hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com](mailto:Hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com)
- Free phone: 0800 0969650







SANDFORD HILL CLOSURE

CANNINGTON CP

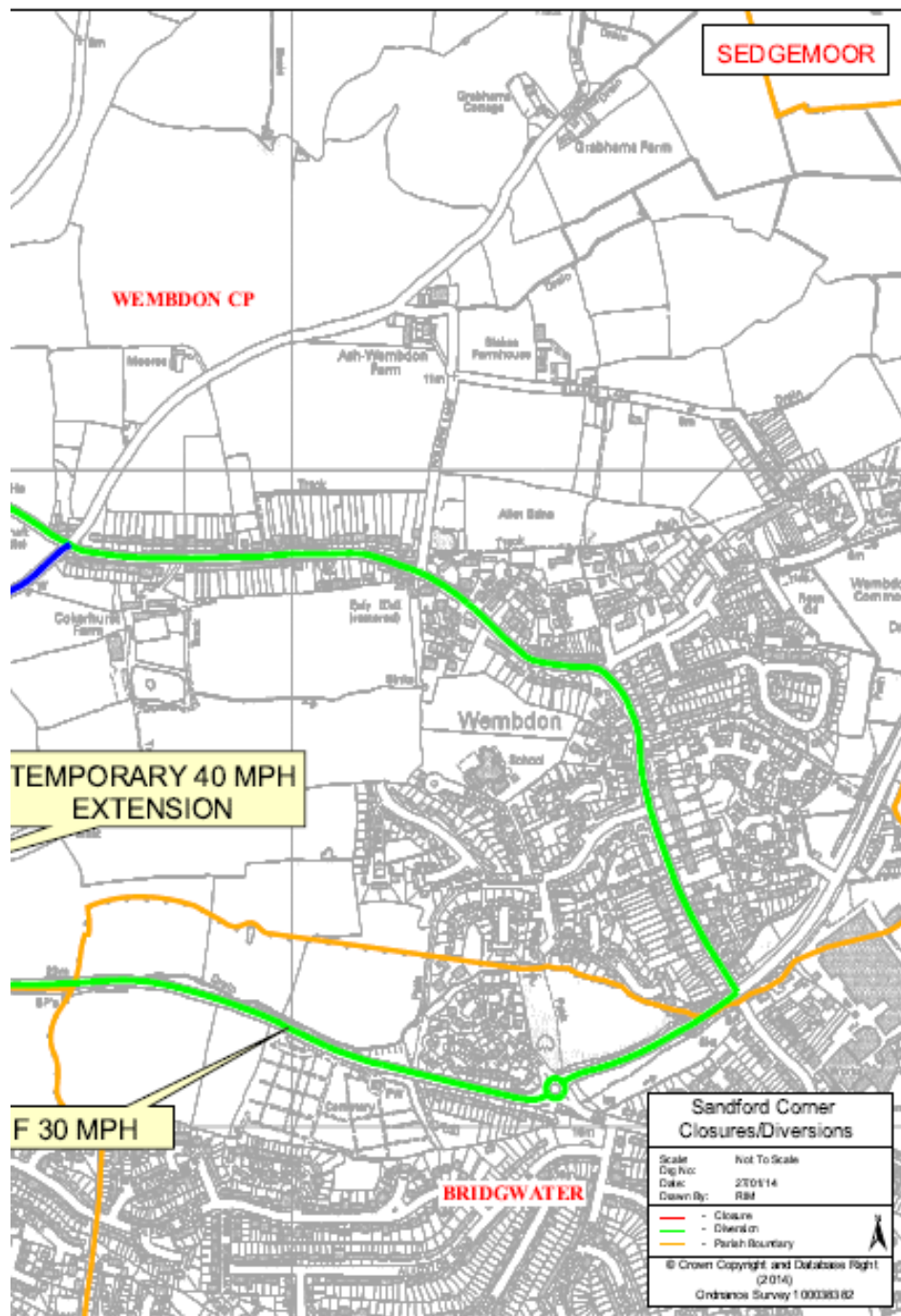
CHARLYNCH LANE CLOSURE

DURLEIGH CP

END OF

-  Closure
-  Diversion Route
-  One Way Bus Route
-  Temp 30 mph Speed Limit







# St George's Church, Wembdon.

January and February can feel like hard work. Where do you turn for strength and comfort? For some it's cakes, for others it's ale. Christians can turn to God who is "our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." (Psalm 46:1). A little bit of church news for this edition:

**Minibus lift:** Every Friday morning we offer transport to and from Morrison's. This has been popular and much appreciated. There are spaces on the weekly run. Contact Tom and Sue Dempsey (423095).

**Big Promise** celebrates marriage. Couples are invited to renew their marriage vows on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> Feb and maybe take part in a world record attempt. For more information ring Bob Ballard (683700).

**St George's Parish Centre:** A date for the diary: Saturday 3rd May, will be a May Day Celebration and Community fund raising event for the Parish Centre redevelopment project. Also, a celebration of 70 years of the outside buildings. Look out for more details in April. If you would like to know more, please contact Roger Smith (444551) or Dean Franklin (429897)

**The Coffee Shop** is open Monday-Friday mornings 10am-12noon.

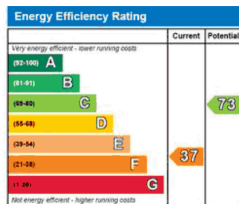
Ed Moll [ed@sgw.org.uk](mailto:ed@sgw.org.uk) St George's Church (423468) [www.sgw.org.uk](http://www.sgw.org.uk)

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## **Notes from a Councillor**

### **Cllr Anne Reed**

Finance.

Quantock Cluster Representative.

Hinkley Point liaison.

I have been a Parish Councillor for just over 2 years now, being elected in November 2011. I had just retired as a GP in Taunton Road medical centre, where I was a partner for 27 years. I have lived in the parish since 1980, and my 2 children went to St George's School. Originally from Suffolk, where I lived in a small village (my father was the local GP), I understand how rural communities work. I trained in London where I met my husband; also a partner at Taunton Rd medical centre, and now retired. We have 4 grandchildren, 2 in Bridgwater and 2 in Surrey. Apart from them, my interests are gardening, reading and generally trying to keep fit (in better weather you may see me out jogging!) I have followed the proposals for the development of the village green as an "interested bystander", and in my "manifesto" pledged to do what I could to further developments of facilities for all age groups and interests. I serve on the finance committee of the council, and represent the WPC at Quantock Parish cluster meetings, Hinkley Point transport forum and site stakeholder group meetings. I feel I know quite a lot about the village and many of the residents. It is a privilege to represent you and I hope to continue to give something back to this community for as long as I can. Thank you – Anne.

## **News from Sedgemoor District Council from Cllr Ann Bown and Cllr Ian Dyer; representing Wembdon and Cannington.**

We would like to start with something that affects all of us:

Sedgemoor has experience unprecedented flooding, officers have manned an emergency centre within Bridgwater House on a round the clock basis. Environmental Health, Housing and Clean Surroundings teams have operated out of normal hours as and when the situation was warranted. We have deployed approximately 3,500 sandbags and are grateful for the support from Somerset 4x4, the Red Cross and the W.I. 16,000 acres were under water on the 10<sup>th</sup> January this is just over 11.5% of Sedgemoor's landmass.

The preparation of the Budget for the next financial year is well under way, again the government has reduced our grant which represents a cut of more than 38% over the past 4 years. We are very hopeful that next year's budget will not include any service cuts with the majority savings coming from changing the way in which services are delivered. Sedgemoor keeps 9p in every pound from your Council Tax and the remaining 91p is split between the County Council, The Fire Service, The Police and your Parish Council.

### **A few headlines and successes from 2013:**

£100 million of public sector investment in Sedgemoor with the new Hospital and Police Headquarters to open in the spring of 2014.

Building and opening of the £6.3 million state-of-the-art swimming pool and sport facility in Bridgwater.

£128 million of Community Benefit from Hinkley Point C.

Project Grants – 56 Community Groups have been awarded over £41,583.62 from Sedgemoor Grants Process.

A Total of 2000 + new jobs in the Sedgemoor Area – by being a pro-business Authority: Jobs bring people and prosperity.

**We wish you all a happy and healthy 2014, Ann and Ian.**

# Allotment top tips!

## Money savers for the allotment:

☺ Make your own pots for seedlings from recycled materials. Newspaper is perfect for starting off beans, save toilet-roll inners for sowing broad beans & sweet peas. Plant loo-roll & all to prevent root disturbance.

☺ Start a seed swap with fellow growers to exchange surplus seeds and all get the crops you need.

☺ Half fill big pots with crocks to reduce the compost used when growing shallow-rooted veg, such as salads.

☺ Lay twigs over newly planted garlic to keep birds off.

☺ Make your compost – the key thing is to add oxygen, so turn it regularly to create invaluable organic matter.

**30 minutes spare.....** Prepare a bean trench where you will grow your crop. Dig a 30cm deep trench and gradually fill it with veg peelings and shredded paper. Layer it with soil when full. The contents will rot down and enrich the soil, ready for your beans in the spring.



Having requested villager's views regarding the telephone box, the only correspondence received requested its removal. WPC has subsequently submitted this request to BT, who are going to survey where there is an alternative phone box locally. The matter is therefore now in their hands .

## Community Speed Watch



Shocking isn't it? Fortunately the speed limit through our village is



Does it shock you to know that on Wembdon rise, between 9:30 and 10:30 (a 1 hour period) our dedicated Community Speed Watch Team recorded 250 cars passing through! Of these 75 were speeding, recording speeds between 34-49mph. WPC believes excessive speed through the village to be one of the greatest hazards and dangers our residents face. We have a growing population including elderly folk, children and youngsters, and residents with disabilities or impairments, combined with narrow, and in places absent, pavements. With ever increasing traffic we wish to preserve our villager's peace and safety. Currently we are doing our best to collect data to support a proposal to lower the speed limit further, in line with many other local villages, and obtain speed indicator devices. If you are able to get involved and offer any help or support, or have any comments regarding this, please get in touch. Thank you.

### Defibrillation Trained Adults Contact Numbers



**Neil Harrison (Parish Councillor) tel: 457549**

**Chrissie Melhuish (Cottage Inn) tel: 07929085306**

**Hazel Percy (Opp Post Office) tel: 07816865178**

**Esther Thayer (Wares Lane) tel: 07967822954**

**Jo Sellick (Blakes Rd) tel: 07938068840**

## Diary Dates at a glance.

**Parish council Meetings** 10<sup>th</sup>Feb,  
14<sup>th</sup>Mar, 11<sup>th</sup>Apr 2014

(Dates subject to change.)

**Produce Market** 22<sup>nd</sup>Feb, 28<sup>th</sup>Mar,  
26<sup>th</sup>April

**Pub quiz** 25<sup>th</sup>Feb, 25<sup>th</sup>Mar, 29<sup>th</sup>Apr

## **ROAD SWEEPING**

Road sweeping in Wembdon will take place on the following dates:

Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2014

Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> Mar 2014

Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> Apr 2014

Please check the website for the route; if we are able to reduce parking on the streets on these days we'll have a better result & cleaner streets!



## **Contact your Parish Council**

website: [www.wembdon.org](http://www.wembdon.org)

email: [clerk@wembdonpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@wembdonpc.co.uk)

Visit our Facebook page Wembdon parish council

Follow us on **twitter** @wembdonpc

**Post:** Mr Owen Cullwick

32 Oak Tree Place, Burnham on Sea,  
Somerset, TA8 2LH

**Phone:** 01278 794463



## **Any Concerns?**



What can your Parish Council do for you and your village? Does it need improving, installing, repairing, reviewing or removing? Please let us know about any issues or aspects of village life which we may be able to attend to. We welcome your positive feedback as well, so why not let us know if we did a good job too!

Advertise here. To advertise here or for more information please contact Tom Thayer via email: [clerk@wembdon.org](mailto:clerk@wembdon.org)

**A5: ½ page £20 ¼ page £10 mini £5 (b&w).** If you would like to submit an entry about your club or village event please contact the Communication Team via WPC, as above.

## **Local contacts and information.**

**Wembdon community Association (WCA):** Clive Kett tel: 01278 423229

**Wembdon Stores:** Opening hours Mon-Sun 5:00am – 9:00pm (except Bank Holidays) tel: 01278 434815

**The Cottage Inn:** Opening hours Mon-Fri 6:00pm- 11:00pm  
Sat & Sun 12noon- 4:00pm; 6:00pm-11:00pm tel: 01278 423259

**St George's Church office:** tel: 01278 423468 / Ed Moll tel: 01278 423647

**Beavers / Cubs / Scouts:** Group Leader John Ennals tel: 07703 033 947

**Brownies:** Leader Carol Jarman tel: 01278 445268

**Guides:** Leader Marilyn Hellier tel: 07946 479 899

**Cricket club:** Email: [wembdoncricket@gmail.com](mailto:wembdoncricket@gmail.com)

Youth Team Co-ordinator – Dan Bingham tel: 07841 013 128

Senior Cricket, pavilion hire, sponsorship & enquiries - Dan Bingham

Ladies Cricket – Coraley Dunn tel: 01278 434479

**Football club:** Caroline Fretwell Email: [englandbirdie@aol.com](mailto:englandbirdie@aol.com)

tel:07736045967

**Wembdon Ladies:** Linda Poile tel: 01278 424431

**Wembdon Toddlers:** Thurs 10am-12noon Dawn Brett tel: 01278 422809

**Ladies keep Fit:** Mon 10:00am-11:00am Viv Tolcher tel: 01278 424491

**Art Group:** Tues 10:00am-12:30pm Kay Robbins tel: 01278 423212

**Jay Singers:** Tues 7:45pm Tim Loveday tel: 01278 425422

**U3A Bridge:** Thurs 1:45pm Ernie Whitehead tel: 01278 424134

**Travel Line:** (local bus information) 0871 200 22 33