

Wembdon Parish Paper

Edition 20



Connecting with our community



Wembdon Village Hall Official Opening July 2017 conducted by

Dame Elizabeth Periam Gass, Lady Gass DCVO JP
Lord Lieutenant of Somerset 1998-2015

News in brief:

The Village Hall was formally opened with an official ceremony, followed by a village day opening which was enjoyed and attended by local residents and neighbouring visitors, enjoying cream teas, children's activities and culminating in a family bar-b-q.

The SID purchased by the parish council is now operational in 3 designated areas around the village, with more to be established. Parish Councillors are working with residents to collate and process the data which has already highlighted the volume of traffic speeding through the village. The police have reacted with additional speed monitoring patrols and locations.

We were all delighted to see the new zebra crossing installed and functional in time for the new school year. WPC has actively supported this project for many years.

The Public Space Protection Order has been granted for a designated section of Wembdon Parklands which requires dogs to be kept on leads in these areas. SDC will install the appropriate signage shortly.

The Environmental Agency provided a detailed presentation regarding the Bridgwater Tidal Barrier scheme. Details can be found on the Sedgemoor District Council website.

A notice board (no longer compliant with the requirements of Parish Council notices) has been relocated to the allotments for their use. Good to see up-cycling in action!

The Parish Council wish to extend heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Wembdon Community Association for organising another fantastic Village Day; enjoyed by many, both local and from further afield with fabulous exhibits, stalls and entertainments, alongside the ever popular car boot sale. Looking forward, please support the Fireworks display.

Parish Council meetings are now being held in the Village Hall on the second Monday of the month – although this may be subject to change. Everyone is welcome.

Contact Parish Council - www.wembdon.org email: wembdonpc@gmail.com

Visit our Facebook page Wembdon parish council.

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OFFICIAL OPENING OF WEMBDON VILLAGE HALL

Our iconic Village Hall was officially opened on 21st July 2017, the ribbon being cut by Dame Elizabeth Gass, DCVO, JP, Lord Lieutenant of Somerset 1998-2015, and four of our younger parishioners; Isla Bingham, George Macey, Alfie James-Stone and Harry James-Stone, in the presence of a large number of major funders, local dignitaries and invited guests, including our MP, the Rt Hon Ian Liddell-Grainger.

Introductions, a summary of the project and a vote of thanks for all the funders including S.Notaro, the Trustees, the Project Team and their wives and partners was given by Mike Solomon, Chairman Wembdon Parish Council. Opening addresses were then made by Kerry Rickards, Chief Executive SDC; Ian Liddell-Grainger MP; Peter Renshaw, Chairman Viridor Credits; and Lyn Tyrrell, Trustee and Hall Manager.

The ceremonies were followed by a tour of the facilities when all the guests took the opportunity to have a good look around. The overwhelming view was that Wembdon was now provided with one of the very best village halls, positioned as it is with spectacular views over the new Village Green, with the rebuilt Parish Centre and our Parish Church as the backdrop, providing indoor and outdoor facilities for all ages in the very centre of our village.



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The
Green
Wembdon

Update from The Green at Wembdon:

“
A Village Hall, Sports Ground and Open Space
”

What an amazing summer! Hundreds of people of all ages have come through our doors and many of them are blown away by what has been achieved. The hall is almost fully booked for Friday and Saturday nights until the start of 2018. We have hosted a diverse range of events from baby naming ceremonies, birthdays for children and adults, wedding anniversary, retirement parties, and wakes.

The opening events were well attended and show cased the facility well. The sponsors were proud to be a part of our unique and iconic facility. The Trustees and greater project team had this success as a vision and are pleased it is exceeding all expectations.

The first cricket season has come and gone and if we thought the summer was busy you should see the junior footballers from mid-September. The fields are a riot of colour with all the different age groups competing. Our programme of regular groups and classes are included in this update.

We have some special events in the near future to look forward to. We are hosting a Halloween party on Saturday 27th October, Craft Fayre on Saturday 18th November, Jazz Night featuring Sunset Café Stompers on Saturday 25th November. Tickets for Halloween and Jazz Night can be purchased from the bar at weekends.

Unfortunately if you have not bought a ticket for our New Year's Eve party featuring local band Hundred Faces it is now a sell-out. We will be opening our doors on Boxing Day for a free event with children's entertainer from 2.30pm.

We don't always get everything as everyone would wish, we are still working on signage and the overgrown areas around the car park. We welcome the community to come and get involved. Our office hours are Tuesday 8.30-10 am and Wednesday 6-8 pm please come to the bar/ terrace if the front door is locked.

Finally it was lovely to see so many local people and visitors enjoying a beautiful August Bank Holiday Monday WCA Village Day: The Village Hall, The Green, The Parish Centre, Church and park buzzed, everyone looked relaxed and happy, the sense of community spirit was palpable, and long may it thrive. Lyn Tyrrell.

Regular classes and features at Wembdon Village Hall:

Monday: In Line We Dance - 7.30pm - 10.30pm

Tuesday: Zumba - 7pm – 9pm

Wednesday: Zumba - 9.30am -10.30am.

Slimming World - 7.30pm

Thursday: Music Bus - Babies & Tots 1pm – 2pm: 2.10pm - 3.10pm

Zumba and Insanity 6pm – 9pm

Friday: Heart Rehab - 9am – 10am

Core Strength Pilates 10am – 11am

Monthly Dances with Rivera le Roc or Music in Motion 7pm – midnight

STAN THE MAN ENTERTAINMENTS

over 10 years in the business, now based in Wembdon.
DJ, Mobile Disco Hire, Karaoke, Tribute Acts, Drag Act, Live Bands.

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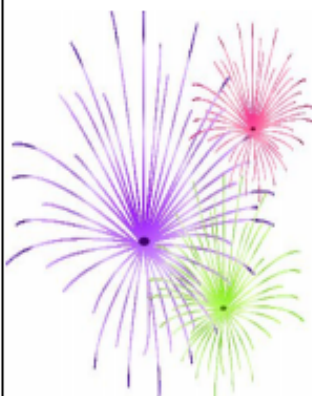
WEMBDON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

FIREWORKS DISPLAY 2017

Don't miss this annual treat!

To be held at
Blakes Road field, Wembdon (next to Church)
On

SATURDAY 28th October 2017



FIREWORK DISPLAY at 6.45p.m.

**ADMISSION: - Adults £2 Children £1
Pre-school – FREE
(FAMILY TICKET: £5 for 2 adults and up to 3 children)**

Hotdogs, soup, crisps, drinks available from 6.00 p.m. on the field

**£1700 worth of brilliant aerial fireworks from
Skyburst Fireworks - professionally fired**

**FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY
PLEASE WALK IF AT ALL POSSIBLE**

No Sparklers or personal fireworks allowed on the field.

POLICE and FIRST AID PERSONNEL IN ATTENDANCE.

**Be there whatever the weather and support your local
Community Association.**

HIGHWAYS AND SPEEDWATCH.

Wembdon's **Speed Indicator Device** (SID) has been in operation now for 4 months. Locations have been selected according to known speeding hot-spots and the availability of posts – 2 more posts are due by Christmas!

We have used 3 locations so far:

Wembdon Hill - downhill towards the shop - 2,800 violations of more than 30 mph in 11 days. The fastest speed recorded was 60 mph;

Church Rd – towards the park & church - the SID was in place for 16 days and 4,774 exceeded 20 mph; the fastest recorded speed was 45 mph;

Top of Wembdon Hill, by Skimmerton Lane - entering the Village - the latest 'speeder' count, in 15 days, 4,767 vehicles going more than 30 mph.

The good news is that at the start of placement on Wembdon Hill 25.2% of vehicles were over the speed limit, but by the end 14.2 % a reduction of 11%.

In Church Rd at the start 45.6% of vehicles were breaking the 20-mph limit but by the end the figure was 23.5% a reduction of 20%!

Data seems to show that constantly being reminded of the Speed Limit- and the warning sign to **SLOW DOWN** – has a positive impact on driver behaviour.

This Data has been passed to the police speed enforcement team, who we are meeting with on October 2nd so they can witness the problem first-hand. We expect, as a minimum, the placement of the police motorcycle speed enforcement team, at regular intervals, to catch drivers responsible for making Wembdon roads a danger to all of us. Other good news is the 30 mph “Gateway” to the village has been moved further back towards Cannington. The hope is that traffic will slow down sooner!

Finally, the installation of the long-awaited Zebra Crossing in Wembdon Rise has, we hope, made it much safer to cross the road and forced drivers to slow down in that area of the village.

Grateful thanks to John Robins, Pete Prole & Dave Gliddon for their support in getting the SID operational. There is a chance the Speed Watch Team could re-start, but we do need more volunteers to be trained up. Many of you feel strongly about the village being used as a rat run, so please put your name forward and join us.

ABOVE ALL PLEASE SET A GOOD EXAMPLE - KEEP TO A SAFE SPEED GOING IN AND OUT OF WEMBDON!

Shocking & mindless vandalism of the children's play area, Wembdon Park.



Sadly residents recently woke up to this appalling and offensive vandalism of our children's play area – many images are too offensive to re-produce. Thanks to the swift and heroic efforts of a group of locals armed with cleaning products, plenty of elbow grease, goodwill and community spirit, the damage was minimised and the play area restored for the children to use before too many folk were exposed to its content. WPC has liaised closely with the Police and local PCSO's and are advised the culprits have been identified and are now undergoing a community resolution intervention including paying for the cleaning materials, cleaning the remaining graffiti, and some community pay-back hours to make a positive contribution to the area. We were all shocked by these events, and WPC wishes to extend grateful thanks to all those who helped with the clean up, and our PCSO's for acting so swiftly to support our community and respond to this anti-social behaviour.

A note from our PCSO's.

In response to several calls regarding possible drug misuse, residents are encouraged to please call **Crime Stoppers** to report the activity witnessed.



DOG WALKING

At the end of September the Bridgwater Mercury printed an article about a new policy that is being introduced by Sedgemoor District Council. The policy will cover many areas including people who drink alcohol and use drugs in public spaces. It also sets out the SDC plans for the walking of dogs in public places. SDC were meeting in early October to accept this new policy.

Our Parish Council has outlined its plans for the whole area of The Green at Wembdon and we would like to thank everyone who has supported these plans by keeping your dog(s) on a lead when walking on the sports fields and children's park. The Parkland area is getting better and better as the grass is being cut shorter and more regularly and we are delighted to see more dogs off lead in this area. SDC has included all our plans for on lead and off lead areas in its new policy and this will be active very soon.

The SDC Dog Warden has been in contact with the PC to begin plans to patrol our park and we look forward to working together.



Wembdon Village Day.

After several years battling with a variety of weather conditions, the members of the Wembdon Community Association (WCA) were praying that this year's August Bank Holiday Monday weather would be dry to allow them to raise funds needed to support village organisations and projects throughout the coming year, especially with new facilities available at the Parish Centre and the Village Hall. They were not disappointed on a day that turned out to be one of the warmest this year. We were blessed with glorious sunshine all through the day, so the first car-booters were waiting to enter the field at 6am, just as the organisers were setting up the stalls on the Common! An estimated 3000 people came to enjoy the many attractions, including a well-attended Car Boot Sale, a Craft Show at the new Village Hall, Bar, BBQ and stalls run by local clubs and charities, as well as fête favourites such as a coconut shy, hook-a-duck and smash the crockery. The annual Fruit, Vegetable, Flower and Craft Show in the Parish Centre had several new exhibitors, especially in the children's classes, and, as ever, the quality of entries was exceedingly high. The Scarecrow Competition was run for the 2nd year running, with several entries appearing across the Village to the shock of the local seagulls! This year the judges awarded the Best Exhibit trophy to Mrs Margaret Hawkings for her painting of sweet peas, and to Miss Bethany Moss for her illustrated poem entitled "One More Step Along The Road I Go". Many of the exhibitors donated their entries after the show to be auctioned off and Ian Dyer as auctioneer did a fantastic job persuading people to part with their money. The facilities at the newly refurbished Parish Centre were also enjoyed by those visiting for refreshments and they were treated to amazing performances from Burtle Silver Band, while enjoying delicious sandwiches, cakes and cream teas prepared and served by members of the Wembdon community. The new Village Hall was home to a Craft Show and the bar, which attracted many visitors from further afield, as well as members of the local community. The new sports field hosted many more attractions including the annual Children's Races which also saw participation from some of the "adult children", requiring them to perform push-ups, before racing to collect cones placed along the course! All in all a very successful event made possible by the hard work and dedication of the Wembdon Community Association with an enormous amount of help and support from the local community, without which the staging of an event of this magnitude would be impossible. With this year's very successful Village Day behind us, members of the WCA are now looking forward to our next major event: the spectacular Annual Firework Display at Blake's Field (by the church), on Saturday 28th October 2017 at 6.45 p.m. This is a professionally-fired display by "Skyburst", and we look forward to seeing you there! Fiona Grief (WCA Flower show committee)



GIVE-AN-HOUR (or two).

Our group of volunteers has continued to work on the Parkland although numbers have deteriorated a little over the past few months. The area is looking better and better though there are always jobs to do. The team spent a few hours this month at the front of our Village Hall tidying up some of the flower borders and there is much to do to improve the entrance area. We meet on the first Saturday of every month from 10.00am till lunchtime. I would like to make it easier to keep volunteers informed of future dates, tasks and equipment needed so I would appreciate your help. Would all of the team who have been involved in the past, and anybody who would like to start, send me your email address. I can then set up a Give-an-Hour list so that I can have instant contact at the push of a button. I can then inform the whole group about equipment needed for any task.

My address is harrison.neil96@yahoo.com

INITIATIVE! How about this as an example of enthusiasm and commitment? The pictures show Steve and Tristan working on the area by the new boundary fence on the cricket field. Steve asked if there was anything that Tristan could do to help that would keep him busy. He started on the small copse by the bench but soon got the area under control. Using his own initiative, he extended his work area so that he began to tackle the whole area between the back of the fence and the rhyne – about 100 metres long!! This is an amazing effort for a young teenager and everyone on the PC is grateful for his work. If you see him on the field, stop and have a chat as he loves the company.

Thank you Tristan and Steve! - Neil Harrison.



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- Visit: www.dogbuddy.com/JXQTK
- Call Dave now for a no obligation quote on 07828 210 076 or 01278 424777
- First Class Service Guaranteed

Wembdon St George's Primary School.

The 1st September was the official conversion date for Wembdon St George's to become a Bath and Wells Multi-Academy Trust School. A great deal of support is being offered with a focussed and strategic action plan in place and there has been a rapid period of change which has included getting to grips with new administrative systems, changes to teaching and learning and the school environment but all with one focus – **improvement for our children.**

Every area of the school is in the process of being sorted, cleaned and re-organised. Any old, broken, out of date equipment and materials are being recycled in order that we have a school fit for purpose with only good quality, up-to- date resources for staff and children – you may have seen the large skip outside school. Other changes have included separating KS1 and KS2 at break times which has created safer and calmer playtimes with a huge reduction in first aid incidents. We now have an Early Bird Activity where children can come straight into the classrooms in the morning which has resulted in a much more positive and calmer start to the school day; it has also improved parking in terms of parents dropping their children off in the morning. I am pleased to see that Highways have been a visible presence again outside school at the end of the day and I will continue to monitor this situation carefully and raise concerns brought to me through the school newsletter.

Our new reception children are now in school fulltime and our Year 6 pupils have just returned from a week in Shropshire at an Outdoor Adventure Centre – a great teambuilding opportunity and the children learnt some very new and exciting skills. Our Harvest Festival will be celebrated in church and this year and the school is again supporting our local foodbank. Our Christian value this term is Trust and we are inviting parents and grandparents into school when their child's class is leading collective worship. Our Year 4 have started swimming lessons at 1610, multi-skills clubs before and after school are proving popular and it is lovely to welcome back our peripatetic music staff after the summer break.

Safeguarding is always high on our agenda and we are having some new fencing fitted around the school site. We have also reviewed and tightened access to our site and that of Dragonflies, our breakfast and after school club, with school gates only being opened for short periods at the start and end of the school day. All access is now through the main entrance.

Through joining the BWMAT we have become part of a large family of schools with a consistent approach, message and strong Christian values whilst still retaining our own individuality as a school. I look forward to sharing our journey with you.

Judith Heale. Headteacher.

KAREN GREGORY

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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.



Playing Fields...

Summer 2017 has been an incredibly busy first summer on The Green. Wembdon Cricket Club came back to the village for the first time in more than 50 years. The Sunday XI won their division and the Ladies side were victorious in the inaugural Storm Festival which we hosted. The 4 Saturday sides all finished in the top 4 positions. Our junior cricket nights were well attended with more than 100 young boys and girls making full use of the superb facilities. Wembdon Risers rounder's team could be found every other Tuesday on The Green in the summer having played for many years outside the parish. During the summer we also hosted Primary School cricket and rounder's festivals for SASP. We hosted an Under 11 District cricket festival for the Somerset Cricket Board. The regional finals for the Last Man Stands franchise. We also hosted touring sides from the midlands and London and are busy planning an even bigger programme for 2018. Since the final game at the beginning of September both cricket squares have been top dressed and fresh grass seed is busy germinating. The height of the grass has been raised ready for the football season and 6 pitches are now marked out for Wembdon Football Club. The top corner of playing field near Wembdon Motors has recently been turfed and we are all delighted with how well the playing fields now look. In the coming weeks the fields will receive an autumn weed and feed plus they will get verti-drained to help keep the pitches in top condition and drainage functioning affectively.

A reminder to all dog walkers that as of October dogs have to be on a lead in the playing field. We hope everyone continues to enjoy The Green, and the grounds team are determined to make it one of the finest playing fields in the west.



**27TH
OCTOBER
6PM-11PM**

**The Green at Wembdon
Homberg Way
Wembdon
TA6 7BY**

**ADULT - £7
CHILD - £4
UNDER 2's - FREE**

**New venue, The Green at
Wembdon, suitable for the
whole family!**

**Disco - Kid & Adult Fancy Dress
(Optional) - Magic Mind
Face Painting - Finger Food -
Cupcakes - Fully Licensed Bar!**

Free off street car parking.



HALLOWEEN PARTY!



**The Green
Wembdon**

Family Event. Let's Party!

Enquiries/tickets: 07887 915 027 | Facebook: The Green Wembdon

Ageing Well - in Sedgemoor

Health & Well-being sessions for older adults

| Class | Venue | Day & Time | Cost |
|---|---|---|-------|
| Yoga, Stretch and Flex - Axbridge | Axbridge Town Hall, The Square, Axbridge BS26 2AP | Mondays 10:15am-11:15am | £4.00 |
| Mature Movers - Bridgwater | Westfield Church Hall, West Street, Bridgwater TA6 7EU | Tuesdays 2:30pm-3:30pm | £4.00 |
| Tai Chi - Bridgwater | Trinity Hall, St Saviours Avenue, TA6 3NZ | Thursdays 10:00am-11:30am | £5.00 |
| Yoga, Stretch & Flex - Bridgwater | Sydenham Community Centre, Parkway, Bridgwater, TA6 4QZ | Class is currently full. Please contact us for details. | £4.00 |
| Stay Strong Stay Steady - Bridgwater | West Bow House, West Street, Bridgwater TA6 3RT | Contact us for details as this class is by referral. | £4.00 |
| Flexercise- Active in Age - Cannington | United Reform Church, High St, Cannington TA6 7HD | Mondays 2:30pm-3:30pm | |
| Extend - Movement to Music - Cheddar | Cheddar Village Hall, Church Street, Cheddar BS27 3RA | Fridays 2:00pm-3:00pm | £4.00 |
| Tai Chi for Health- Chilton Polden | Chilton Polden Village Hall, Priory Road, TA7 9EH | Fridays 11am-12pm | £3.00 |
| Tai Chi - Highbridge | Highbridge Community Centre, Market Street, TA9 3BW | Thursdays 12noon-1pm | £4.00 |
| NEW! Line Dancing - Highbridge | Highbridge Community Centre, Market Street, TA9 3BW | Starts 5th Sept, then Tuesdays 2.30pm-3.30pm | £4.00 |
| Dunk's Easy Dance - Nether Stowey | Nether Stowey Village Hall, Lime Street, TA5 1NH | Wednesdays 1:00pm-2:00pm | £4.00 |
| Flexercise - Spaxton | Spaxton Village Hall, High Street, Spaxton TA5 1BS | Wednesdays 2:30pm-3:30pm (fortnightly) | £2.00 |

For further info please call 01823 345626 or email ageingwell@ageuksomerset.org.uk

JAZZ

NIGHT!

FEATURING Sunset Cafe Stompers!

Saturday November 25th
7.30PM For 8PM Start

Authentic 7 piece line-up, augmented
by the considerable vocal talents of
Mr Hamish Maxwell!

The Sunset Cafe Stompers play the music of the jazz
age! Great melodies from Scott Joplin to Fats Waller...
as well as songs made famous by artists as diverse as
Patsy Cline, Marlon Brando and even Elton.

Tickets Only **£10**
Includes Interval Snacks
Purchase At The Green Wembdon

More info or tickets? Please contact Bev:
bev@wem12@sky.com | 07887 915 027



Green

This looks like a great night – An authentic 7 piece line-up with
the vocal talent of Hamish Maxwell.

The poster details have not reproduced well here but for
more details or tickets please contact **07887 915 027** or purchase
tickets at The Green, Wembdon. Thank you 😊



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