

# Wembdon Parish Paper Edition 45



Wembdon Village Day will once again be held on August Bank Holiday Monday



## Parish Clerk's notes

Once again it has been a busy few months in the parish. The highlight for me was the lighting of the beacon in commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings. A very large crowd gathered on a lovely clear evening to witness the lighting by Councillors Chris Chalk and Mark Phillips. Unfortunately, all hasn't been good news, and shortly after the beacon event all the sheds at the allotments were broken into, with damage being caused. Other premises in Wembdon and Bridgwater were also attacked on the same night, so it seems that a criminal gang were very active. The accessible

trampoline in the Recreation Ground has now been repaired following the damage caused earlier this year. A few eyebrows were raised when it became known that the cost of the repair was £4,000. This is a specialist piece of equipment which, along with the accessible roundabout, cost £38,000 to install. This money was raised through fundraising projects. When the edging tiles were ripped off, the structure of the trampoline was damaged which called for major specialist repair. Hence the large repair cost. As one councillor said, "if you own a Porche you don't ask your mate who has a spanner to repair it!". The cost of the repairs was covered by our insurers.

I often receive reports of selfish drivers parking right on junctions and obstructing the views of other road users pulling out. This is not only inconsiderate but also can be cited as the cause of blame if a road traffic collision occurs, meaning that the insurance of the parked car could be claimed against. I am asked, 'what is the Parish Council doing about this?'. Well, although all highways matters are the responsibility of Somerset Council the Parish Council could take a request for double yellow lines to them for consideration. This should not be done lightly, as there is little enforcement of these lines and some drivers will simply ignore them, which causes even more complaints. Also, the prevention of parking in one place only displaces it elsewhere. The Parish Council considers these requests on a 'case by case' basis. Bear in mind that if Somerset Council did agree to install new lines then there would be a wait of at least a year, and possibly longer, for the work to be done due to the backlog in its highways work programme. This would be treated as 'low priority work'.

I hope that you all enjoy Wembdon Village Day, and that the weather is fine.

## FOOTPATHS IN WEMBDON

We are blessed with many excellent footpaths in and around the village, which we endeavour to keep well-maintained and, as a result, well-used. Dog walkers particularly enjoy having plenty of paths to exercise their pooches and we provide plenty of bins, both dog and general, for waste disposal, so please ensure you use them. Householders can help too by keeping a close check on their hedges, particularly at this time of year when high growth rates can result in overhanging brambles and shrubs pushing pedestrians, and other users, into the road to get past. The Parish Council



maintains the **village** footpaths as a general guide and Somerset Council's Rights of Way team are responsible for the **rural** paths along with landowners. If you spot really overgrown paths then report them to us if they're local ([clerk@wembdon.org](mailto:clerk@wembdon.org)) with a photo and precise location. If they're rural then go

online and report them here, again with photos and precise locations: <https://roam.somerset.gov.uk>

We recently worked in partnership with the Rights of Way team to replace the broken gates and posts on the path from Blake's Road up to the allotments. These are needed to ensure that cyclists don't use the path as a route or racetrack which would endanger walkers on their travels. The gates were donated by Somerset Council's PRow team and the Parish Council paid for the installation which was expertly carried out by a local contractor. These are the pictures of the gates before and after – we hope you enjoy your walks!



# Wembdon St George's Church School



## EYFS School Trip

On Tuesday the 25th of June, the sun was shining and the EYFS children of Wembdon St George's Church school embarked on an exciting adventure to the woods for a memorable school trip!

The children were full of curiosity and enthusiasm and their little faces beamed with excitement as they boarded the coach. Once they arrived at the woods, the children's eyes widened at the sight of the towering trees and the wildflowers, whilst listening to the chirping of birds and the buzzing insects.



After a lovely walk through the woods, the children gathered around a campfire for a well-deserved snack of marshmallows (toasted by themselves) and hot chocolate. The children waved goodbye to the woods rosy-cheeked and giggling with children asking, "can we go there every day?"



# Wembdon Parklands & Community Together

Despite the weather this summer the Parklands is flourishing, and is more beautiful than ever, the trees seem taller, plants are growing fast, and the wildlife is thriving. The PACT team are hard at work focusing on maintenance and improving the borders and features for everyone to enjoy. The new Parish Council maintenance contractor is doing a great job of mowing pathways and leaving large areas long grass for insects and small mammals.

It is so satisfying to see so many people benefiting from the Parklands and stopping to show their appreciation for all the hard work the Wembdon PACT volunteers put in, and this is much appreciated. To help preserve this special place, we need volunteers who can give two hours per-week to work on this wonderful area. Please contact Lorna Edwards, telephone 07917101990 if you would like to join the team.



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We're fundraising for Breast Cancer Now, the research and support charity, so they can be there for anyone affected by breast cancer.  
[breastcancer.org/afternoontea](http://breastcancer.org/afternoontea)

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**BREAST CANCER NOW**

**There is still time to sign up for the next adventure at holiday bible club, followed by fun and games on Wembdon Village Day**

St George's Wembdon Making Jesus Known

We invite you to join us on Village day for...  
 Family fun games in and around the church

**UNDERWATER THEME**

1pm-2.30pm

**THIS IS A FREE EVENT**

**All children must be accompanied by an adult**

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# 20's Plenty



# Where people are

**20's Plenty for Us** campaigns for 20mph as the default speed limit for urban and village streets where people live, work, shop, play and learn.

[www.20splenty.org](http://www.20splenty.org)



## Speed Indicator Device and Speedwatch Report

We have continued to see an increase in traffic flow through the village since work has started on the Cokerhurst development.

### Vehicle movements per day have risen as follows:

Sandford Hill – from 426 per day Jan '24 to 720 per day in July  
Wembdon Rise (by Wares Lane) – from 873 per day to 1,174 per day.

Wembdon Rise (from NDR) – from 1,444 per day to 1,665 per day in July

Wembdon Hill (going uphill) – from 525 per day to 770 per day.

### Average speeds and 85<sup>th</sup>% (speed most drivers travel at)

Sandford Hill – from 26.25mph in Jan 24 to 34 mph in July

Wembdon Rise (by Wares Lane) – from 20.6 mph to 24 mph

Wembdon Rise (from NDR) – from 21 mph to 25 mph

Wembdon Hill (going uphill) – 21 mph to 28.8 mph

### Speedwatch

The team were active on June 27<sup>th</sup> on Wembdon Rise, near the Inwood Junction.

12 vehicles were recorded at 26 mph and over and reported to A&S Police. This was approximately 12% of the total vehicles that were travelling through the village at this point. One vehicle had no MOT.

The SPEEDWATCH team are always on the lookout for new recruits who can spare an hour or two a month to help out with the monitoring. Please contact the clerk with your details if you're able to help.

**FINALLY-THANK YOU** to all those residents who are acting responsibly and driving to the speed limit. Your actions will, hopefully, help to keep Wembdon as a safe place to walk, cycle and drive.

# Allotment News



There has been a great deal of activity over the past months at the allotments. After a wet mild winter followed by a cool wet spring finally the plots are looking productive. It has been a battle to keep the grass and weeds in check, and to keep the slugs and snails at bay. Last season's newest tenants have worked extremely hard to make excellent progress on their plots. It is

going to be a difficult job judging the 'Most improved Allotment' and 'Best Allotment' to be awarded on Village Day. This season we have welcomed six new tenants who are taking over recently vacated plots.

The potholes have been filled in benefiting all who use the track; new signs have been fixed to the main gate to notify when the gate is locked in the evening; over grown vacated plots have been strimmed ready for new tenants and the dripping tap by the bench has been replaced.

Sadly, many of the sheds at the allotments were broken into recently. A few things were stolen, however it was the damage, expense and inconvenience for those allotment holders it affected which was most annoying.

Being the tenant of an allotment is a big commitment and requires time and effort to keep a plot in good growing condition and productive. There is an obligation to allotment neighbours to keep the paths cut and the weeds and grass down to stop the seed spreading to clean plots. However, there is a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction to be had with the results of your hard work. Not every allotment site has a view like Wembdon's. The Wembdon Parishioners waiting list is currently very low. If you are interested in having a plot in the future, please email [d.claydon@wembdon.org](mailto:d.claydon@wembdon.org)

# Would you like to help people in the parish?

If so, volunteers are required to join the **Wembdon Parish Council Flood Action Group**.

The parish of Wembdon has several areas that during times of wet weather, are subject to flooding. This could be due to overflowing ditches (rhyes), surface water or rivers and brooks bursting their banks or even something specific to actual dwellings.

Firstly, the group needs volunteers to be able to give a very quick assessment of the problem and refer it on to the necessary people that will hopefully rectify the issues.

Secondly, if there is need to evacuate people to a safe place, the same volunteers would also be needed to help at the evacuation site, ensuring that people are safe and well looked after whilst the problem persists.

If you feel you could help in any way, please contact Councillor Paul King on 07564 955964 who will endeavour to answer your questions.

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# *John Hodge*

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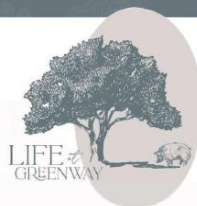
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## Do You Need a Cleaner?

I have taken early retirement from my job as a Registered General Nurse (RGN) and I am now providing domestic cleaning services. I live close to Wembdon and aim to provide a friendly and reliable service.

*References available.*

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# Parish Councillor Contacts

## Councillors

Anne Reed (Chairman)	01278 421429	Mark Phillips (Vice Chairman)	07941 983311
Chris Chalk	01278 459386	Bridget Hedaux	01278 424842
Dianne Claydon	01278 456052	Paul King	07564 955964
Lorna Edwards	07917 101990	Dave Gliddon	07828 210076
Jenny Hayden- Briffett	01278 450701	Suzanne Bromme	07483 242030

## Parish Clerk and Parish Paper editor

Tony Jay Tel: 07859 911204

5 Maple View, Kewstoke, Weston super Mare BS22 9XQ

Email: [clerk@wembdon.org](mailto:clerk@wembdon.org)

Wembdon Parish Council holds its meetings in the Village Hall at 7pm on the second Monday of each month, apart from August. The meeting agenda will be published on the Council's website and notice boards on the Wednesday prior to the meeting. All Parishioners are warmly invited to attend the meetings and learn all about the activities of the Council, and what is happening in Wembdon. The next Parish Council meetings will be held in the Village Hall at 7pm on Mondays 9<sup>th</sup> September and 14<sup>th</sup> October.

Please note that Wembdon Parish Council does not endorse any of the advertisers in the Parish Paper

## Local contacts and information

Wembdon Community Association (WCA): Graham Grief – 01278 457973 email [wembdon.community@btinternet.com](mailto:wembdon.community@btinternet.com)

Wembdon Village Hall: - [info@wembdonvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:info@wembdonvillagehall.co.uk)  
website [wembdonvillagehall.co.uk](http://wembdonvillagehall.co.uk)

The Cottage Inn: Opening hours Mon-Thurs 4:00pm – Close, Fri 2:00pm- Close, Sat, Sun and Bank Holidays 12noon- Close. tel: 07585 448294

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

Parish Centre: Liz Birch tel: 07970119525

Brownies: Leader Tamson Wetherall tel: 07975 866343

Cricket club: Phil Curd tel:07795 251590 [bounceandturn@hotmail.com](mailto:bounceandturn@hotmail.com)

Wembdon FC: Phil Brunskill tel: 07742 429283 [football@wembdonjfc.co.uk](mailto:football@wembdonjfc.co.uk)

Wembdon Sunshiners Pre-school: Jen Dodden tel: 01278 457100

Music with Mummy: Tues 1.00pm-3.00pm Lisa Drew tel: 07903 284835

Ladies keep Fit: Mon 9.45am-10.45am Viv Tolcher tel: 01278 424491

Art Group: Tues 9:30am-noon Kay Robins tel: 01278 423212

Ukulele Group: Thurs 10am-noon M Wheatley 01278 429 388

Wembdon Bridge Club: Thurs 1:45pm Ernie Whitehead tel: 01278 424134

Sedgemoor Stitchers: Vanessa Leighton tel: 01278 662977

Wembdon Parklands and Community Together: Lorna Edwards tel: 07917101990  
email [wembdonpact@gmail.com](mailto:wembdonpact@gmail.com) website:  
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