



# The Timsbury Letter

**PUBLISHED BY TIMSBURY  
PARISH COUNCIL**

**NO: 508 December 2021**

[timsbury.org.uk](http://timsbury.org.uk)

Cover Picture: Unsplash.com

# Christmas Services St Mary's Church, Umsbury

December 2021



- Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December 11.00am Christingle Service
- Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December 3.00 pm Carol Service for families with Special Needs.
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December 6.30 pm **Open Air Carols at the Miner's Garden with the Midsomer Norton and Radstock Silver Band.**
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 7.00pm Traditional Carol Service at St Mary's Church
- 24<sup>th</sup> December. Christmas Eve. 3.00 pm The Crib Service: For all the Family!
- 24<sup>th</sup> December. Christmas Eve 11.30 pm Midnight 'Mass' for Christmas
- 25<sup>th</sup> December. Christmas Day 10.00 am All Age Christmas Celebration

For more details contact Revd Martin Blewett on 01761 472448 or email [martinblewett@gmail.com](mailto:martinblewett@gmail.com). St Mary's Church are on



# Welcome to the December Timsbury Letter

## ***Features this Month***

The Conygre Trust Report – page 6

Timsbury Remembrance Service– page 12

St Mary's Primary School - page 14

Going Green this Christmas – page 28

Art Trail Delight for Cam Valley Group - page 29

**February Letter Deadline:** Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> January

Please send articles and adverts EARLY to:

Madeleine Potts, newsletter@timsbury.org.uk 07834 859291

47 Southlands Drive. Images & adverts in JPG format.

## **Village News**

### **Christmas is coming!**

Members of the Parish Council, the Clerk and everyone involved in producing and distributing the *Timsbury Letter* would like to offer all readers their best wishes for joy and happiness throughout the festive season.

Shortly after this edition is published a Christmas tree will be erected in the

Miners' Garden and be festively decorated with coloured lights. On the evening of Monday, December 20<sup>th</sup> you are invited to join the Midsomer Norton and Radstock Silver Band as it provides the music for Christmas carol singing in the Garden and The Square. See page 24 for more details.

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### **Hub Library**

Starting with an empty space in the YMCA building in August 2018, the Library has now been open for three

years and the number of books being borrowed is approaching 600 each month. Over 3000 books are on our

shelves in Timsbury and there is access to millions, through the Libraries West website, that can be chosen and delivered for our customers collection. There is a large reading section for

children with new books being regularly delivered. Why not come along and relax with a good book and a hot drink reasonably priced and available in our café area next to the Library.

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## New Parish Councillor

Nick Lewis, now semi-retired from his work as an electrical engineer at the University of Bristol, moved with his wife to their home on Radford Hill just over a year ago. Since then, Nick and his black labrador Rosie have walked most of the footpaths surrounding the village and all three are delighted to have moved here from Bath.

“Having travelled to Timsbury for some years visiting my invalid father I liked the area and the people. I have been delighted with the welcome we

received and look forward to participating in village life.”



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## Health Care Survey

Health and care organisations across B&NES, Swindon and Wiltshire have created an Integrated Care System (ICS) to take responsibility for our health and wellbeing. To be known as the BSW Partnership the new organisation should ensure greater collaboration and the pooling of skills and expertise to improve the quality of care and make the best use of resources to meet health needs. The aim is for health and care to focus more on helping everyone to live a healthy life and stay well.

As part of this integration scheme St Marys Surgery has joined with eight other GP practices across North East

Somerset, to form the 3 Valleys Health Primary Care Network.

With its communications programme the BSW Partnership is encouraging everyone to express their views on health care by completing an online survey:

**<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/62X5T3D>**

The survey will remain open until December 14<sup>th</sup>.

More details on the BSW Partnership can be found at **<https://bswpartnership.nhs.uk/>**

## Planning Applications

Comments by the Parish Council can be seen on the B&NES planning website, in the Parish Council Minutes at: [timsbury.org.uk/parishcouncil/meetings](https://timsbury.org.uk/parishcouncil/meetings) and on noticeboards in the Conygre Hall and outside the Our Plaice chip shop.

### Applications decided by B&NES Council

**21/03754/FUL** Parcel 1120, Bungays Hill, High Littleton, Bristol.

Erection of general-purpose farm building. REFUSED

**21/03521/FUL** The Old Rectory, The Square, Timsbury.

Erection of single storey timber clad garden building to be used as a home office for the homeowner. PERMITTED

### Applications to be considered by Timsbury Parish Council

**21/04711/LBA** Parish's House, Hook, Timsbury BA2 0ND (request for listed building consent). Internal works for the installation of through floor lift from ground floor utility room to small rear bedroom on first floor.

### DISCLAIMER:

Views and opinions expressed in the Timsbury Letter are those of each individual contributor and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Parish Council.

### Next Parish Council Meeting

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm in the Conygre Hall

See [timsbury.org.uk/parishcouncil](https://timsbury.org.uk/parishcouncil)

**Angela Wilson**  
Parish Clerk



[timsbury.pariah.clerk@gmail.com](mailto:timsbury.pariah.clerk@gmail.com)  
07594 651 366  
c/o YMCA, North Road, Timsbury BA2 0JH

### DEADLINE

**February Issue Deadline:**

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> January**

Please send articles and adverts **EARLY** to:

**Madeleine Potts**

[newsletter@timsbury.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@timsbury.org.uk)

07834859291

47 Southland Drive

Please send images and

adverts in JPG format.

# The Conygre Trust – Report for years 2019/20 and 2020/21

The chairman, Peter Buchan, reported that both the Hall and the Field remained in excellent condition after 18 months of significant challenges that had demanded a lot of effort.

He expressed his thanks to the caretaking staff, Jacqui Grainger and recently appointed Derek Shirley; booking officer Malcolm Tucker; groundkeeper Austin Sage and to Les Robbins for taking care of the Play Area. He also thanked the trustees for their support and help over the past two years and made special mention of Jeff Sluggett whose contribution as both trustee and caretaker was sorely missed.

Reporting on developments in the past two years the chairman mentioned improvements to the CCTV installation and to external lighting; refurbishment of the bar; redecoration, sound proofing and floor treatment in the Bowls Court; redecoration, floor treatment and sound loop installation in the Hall; resurfacing in the Play Area and completing refurbishment of the Tennis Court. The court was now available to book online throughout the year by arrangement with Somer Valley Tennis.

Projects for the coming year included upgrading the Hall's fire alarm and exit fittings in response to a recent inspection; completing the installation of LED lights in the Hall and adding

further Wetpour surfacing in the play area.

## Financial results

The treasurer, Mat Bramley, reported on two very different years. Financial results for the year ending March 2020 were typical of the Trust's normal activity while results for the year ending March 2021 had been severely distorted by the Covid restrictions. However, support from the government with grants and furlough payments had enabled the Trust to complete the 2021 year with a surplus.

For income the key numbers for the two years respectively were: Hall booking fees - £38,509 and £7,316; leases for cricket and snooker - £4,573 and £2,674; Parish Council for field maintenance - £7,072 and £7,662; football clubs £2,998 and £473. In 2021 government support amounted to £24,095 and tennis court fees were £995.

For expenditure the key numbers were: services - £7,046 and £2,872; insurance - £2,161 and £2,292; housekeeping - £10,403 and £8,135; field maintenance £8,984 and £7,481; caretaking for Play Area - £781 and £818; repairs and refurbishment - £6,575 and £10,952.

At the end of March 2021, the Trust had reserves of £102,962 to provide for future development and contingencies.

# Speed Watch needs YOU!

By Mary Anne Ansell

Did you know that over 70% of Timsbury residents think speeding is the most important issue in this village? Residents know that some of the roads through the village can be dangerous because of speeding, especially when people are using them as rat runs. The introduction of 20 mph zones has helped to ensure that in general people are driving more slowly. However, about one in five drivers do not observe the 20mph limit and in some cases can be going at speeds well over 30mph, especially in the evenings. It isn't surprising we are all concerned about speeding.

The Timsbury SpeedWatch Team has been working together since early 2020. We have all had police training and try to do a session at least twice a week. The places where we stand must be agreed in advance with police advisors; we can't just stand anywhere because we must have good visibility to be able to monitor speeds effectively. We work in groups of three and usually for an hour at a time and during that time we record the speed for anyone breaking the limit, and also their vehicle registration, colour and make, direction of travel and time.

We also count every car which passes in either direction so we can work out the percentage of speeders. We report the results to the police online after each

outing and those who are breaking the speed limit will receive a warning letter. Those doing excessive speeds may have a more explicit warning. The record of speeders is retained on police files so that they can check for repeat offences.

Residents in general respond to the work of the Team very positively but often ask why we don't do more and why we don't stand in a range of other places. Currently we have designated places on North and South Roads, The Avenue and Radford Hill. You may be surprised to know that the current SpeedWatch Team is only SIX volunteers! We need more people to help.

Doing SpeedWatch would take as little as an hour of your time in a week. Can YOU spare that time to support this important work? You would receive training and when joining the Team, would just need to be recording speed, recording vehicle numbers or noting vehicle information. The work is straightforward, uncomplicated and even enjoyable, so why not try it out for yourself?

If you have a spare hour or two and would like to know more, please contact: Mary-Anne Ansell  
(maryanneansell24@hotmail.co.uk)

# The Green Pages

By Bridget Newbery

## Timsbury Carbon Foot printing

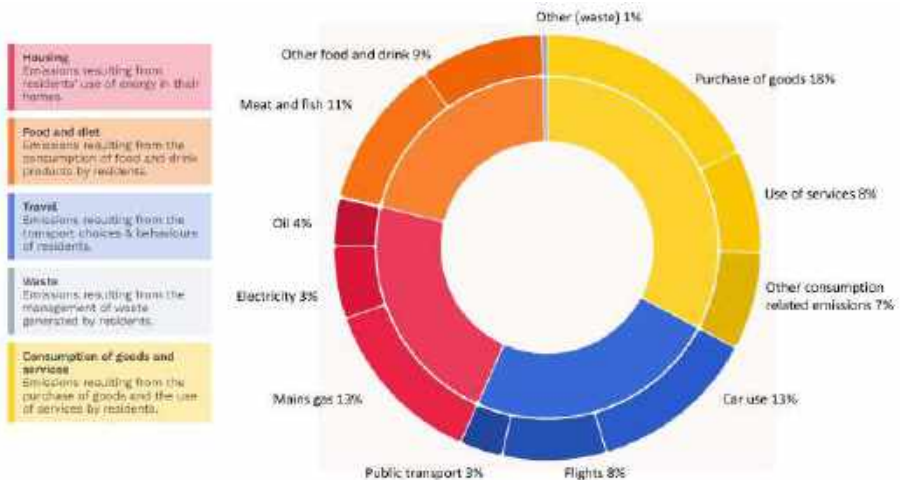
Have you ever wondered about the size of the carbon footprint of the village? Or looked into your own carbon footprint? Or you might be wondering what a carbon footprint even is?

A carbon footprint is a way of measuring the total amount of greenhouse gases (including carbon dioxide and methane) that are generated by our actions. It's usually measured in tonnes of carbon dioxide, and when greenhouse gases other than carbon dioxide are included, they are weighted by their global warming potential and added to produce a carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub> e) value.

There are two different ways of estimating carbon footprints for an area. More often than not 'territorial' carbon footprints are used, which means counting only emissions originating in a given area and splitting the total across the population to give per-person or per-household footprints.

That approach is useful, but a bit problematic because it counts emissions over which the people who live in that place have little or no control (for example if there is a motorway running through your area, or businesses providing services for people who live elsewhere); and it misses out a lot of emissions which those people are responsible for (mainly through demand

***The consumption based carbon footprint for Timsbury looks like this:***



for goods made in factories in other countries).


An alternative approach is to look at 'consumption based' emissions. In other words, the emissions for which we are responsible for because of what we buy

and eat and how we live our lives. In many ways this is a more sensible way to look at individual and local footprints because it's more focussed on the things we can actually change.

**Per-household emissions for Timsbury are, on average, 17 tonnes CO2e per year.**

	Total emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> e)	Per-household emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> e)	%
<b>Total emissions</b>	<b>20,015</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100</b>
Consumption of goods and services	6,563	5.5	33
Travel	4,777	4	24
Housing	4,444	3.7	22
Food and diet	4,146	3.5	21
Waste	85	0.1	<1

**DANCE LOVERS UNITE**



*groove's*

FACILITATED BY

*Katy*

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## Adult Groove Dance Party Workout

Every Tuesday @YMCA  
North Rd Timsbury Bath BA2 0JH  
7.45pm - 8.45pm

**What is Groove?** The Groove DANCEfloor is a dynamically interactive and creative group dance experience.

With great music, your facilitator will UNITE everyone in a simple movement or rhythm but you get to dance it your own UNIQUE way.

While exploring a variety of styles and genres, we encourage you to enjoy and feel good in your body every step along the way.

You'll experience everything from slow delicious meditative grooves, to heart thumping and strength building cardio beats. The perfect recipe to nurture your body, mind, heart and soul.

Book Your Place Now

Call, Text or Whatsapp Katy on 07866594665

£5 per adult

No Dance Experience Necessary

**See You on the DANCEfloor!**



# Youth Work in Timsbury

By Jane Van-Haaps

## Youth and Community Worker in Timsbury



Friday Night Youth Group at the YMCA has been hectic. We start at 6.30pm with those in School Years 6 (though a few younger ones have crept in when numbers allow) and then we are straight into the busy group for those in School Years 7-10 (11-15 years-ish).

We aim to create a safe space for young people to meet with their peers in a welcoming environment. Activities include pool, table tennis, indoor sports such as football and hockey, x-box, craft materials, board games. The £1 entrance cost includes a drink and snack. The first week back indoors was quiet but since then we have seen numbers rise to 36 over both groups.

Staff are in short supply, so we have been particularly happy to welcome an enquiry from a potential volunteer who read of our need in this newsletter. If, after coming to club and going through the necessary checks, she still wants to

give up some of her Friday nights, then we will introduce her in the next Newsletter. Watch this space!

There's never a dull moment and positive interactions with the teenage members of our community is, I feel, more important now than ever. Some have suffered more than we can easily see over this pandemic.

Eleven years ago, I was a Youth Worker for BANES council running a detached team of staff in Midsomer Norton just as the new skate park (by the leisure centre) was opened. We were out on the streets of MSN four nights a week meeting and talking to teenagers. I went on maternity leave and, by the time I came back, that entire team had been disbanded and not replaced. Two weeks ago, my eleven year old son and friend were attacked in that same skate park, by young lads. I went back in the afternoon to talk to some of those involved.... The causes of this unprovoked violence are varied but I firmly believe that, although they may not show it, young people want adults who will journey alongside them.

Of course parents and extended family are crucial, but there is also a need for adults outside of the family who accept them as they are, show care, listen and

when appropriate share some of their own experience.

We are so lucky in Timsbury that the Parish Council is prepared to invest in young people through financial support for Youth Connect (the organisation which has come out of the Council no longer running 'Open Access' Youth Work) who run a session each week in Timsbury and through my work running Timsbury Youth Project.

In the next Newsletter I'll focus on the Wednesday Young Leader's project

where we have enjoyed some fantastic sessions working alongside artist Edwina Bridgeman. But for now, I'll wish you all a peaceful, happy and healthy Christmas and New Year.

[If you would like to find out more about Bath YFC, who's strapline is "Building Hope in Young People's Lives", do visit [www.bathyfc.co.uk](http://www.bathyfc.co.uk).]

**Jane van Haaps 07483156995**  
**[jane@bathyfc.co.uk](mailto:jane@bathyfc.co.uk)**



*Merry Christmas*  
*From all of us at Timsbury Library*

**Our last open session before Christmas is Monday 20th  
December 2-4pm and our first session open after the  
Christmas break is 2-4pm on Tuesday 4th January 2022.**

**Timsbury  
Community  
Library**

# Timsbury Remembrance Service



14<sup>th</sup> November 2021

By Chris Fiddes



A large crowd attended Timsbury Remembrance Service on this the Royal British Legion Centenary year. It was great to see so many Timsbury residents from all generations, after a very restricted service last year, due to Covid.

The service was conducted by the Revd Martin Blewett, Barry Sewell, Chairman of Timsbury Branch of the Royal British Legion, Chris Fiddes Standard Bearer and John Hare Bugler - with his excellent playing of the Last Post. Wreaths were led by representatives of the three Services, Timsbury RBL, two children from St Mary's Primary School, who led a Special Royal British Legion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary wreath, Brownies, Girl Guides, Lions and Parish Council.

Following the service at the War Memorial a service was held in St Mary's

church conducted by Revd Martin Blewett and Revd David Winstanley Timsbury Methodist, who gave the sermon. Barry Sewell read out the "Roll Of Honour" of all the men who gave their lives in both World Wars from Timsbury, Barry also gave a reading about the History of the Poppy and a very poignant poem: "The Poppy". Other readings were read by: Veronica Hoskins, Angela Martin, Elaine Martin and Collen Shute, all with reference to the importance of Remembrance for all those men and women who gave their lives so we could all be here today.

On behalf of Timsbury Royal British Legion I would like to thank everyone who attended, making it one of the largest crowds we have had for our Remembrance Service.

# Timsbury British Royal Legion honour dedicated Poppy Appeal Volunteers.

By Chris Fiddes



Valerie Swain and Helen Smart were thanked by Timsbury's Royal British Legion Branch which covers Timsbury, Camerton and Tunley for their dedication to the Poppy Appeal, Valerie 52 and Helen 17 years totalling an amazing sixty-nine years between them.

Valerie, from Camerton said "in 1969 on many a dark, wet and cold November evening I started collecting for the Branch around Camerton, walking from Camerton Hill, up to the farm and along Paulton Lane, including part of Camerton Parish and down towards Peasedown. I also took the poppies to work and the W.I. and many of my friends would be very generous with their donations." On receiving the gifts of appreciation, Valerie said: "I did not expect any of this, thank you so much for the very generous gifts."

Helen has dedicated a lot of her life to Timsbury Branch, collecting for the Poppy Appeal. She said "I started collecting in 2004 when my daughter was ten, she used to come around with me and help. It was a good opportunity to tell her about the importance of Remembrance Day, and the significance of the Poppy and how the money we collected was used. It has never ceased to amaze me the generosity of people, especially those who would donate even though they already had a poppy. Thank you so much to the generous people of Timsbury for all of these years and to Barry and Chris for the lovely gifts to mark that.

The ladies were both presented with a framed certificate of appreciation, a poppy brooch and a beautiful arrangement of flowers to thank them for giving up their time for the Branch.



# St Mary's Primary School

By Chris Daniels



St Mary's Primary School recently took part in a special event which was being held by the Times Tables Rock Stars website. The England Rocks competition was launched at the school by us having a dressing up day, with our Key Stage 2 children arriving dressed as rock stars.

Times Tables Rock Stars is a platform enabling children to take part in online games to develop their speed in answering multiplication and division calculations.



Our Key Stage One pupils play similar school dressed as robots. Both of these games on a related website called Numbots, which focuses on addition and subtraction facts. These children came to school dressed as robots. Both of these websites are used to develop the children's factual fluency and arithmetical proficiency.



The EYFS Ducklings dressed up as numbers and our Year 6 Eagles enjoyed designing and creating some fun number games and puzzles for our youngest pupils to take part in.

St Mary's Primary School has also been contributing to the village's Armistice Day commemorations. You may have seen the poppy display at the front of the school, which included poppies made by the children from plastic bottles. Our entire school fell silent at

11.00am on 11<sup>th</sup> November as we observed the two-minute silence to remember all those who have lost their lives in conflict. Members of our Year 6 class, who have recently been learning about World War 2 in their history lessons, were invited to lay a wreath at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday. Our thanks to Chris Fiddes from the Timsbury Royal British Legion for inviting us to take part in this special ceremony.



# St Mary's Primary School PTA Plea



Would you like to support the children at your local village school to improve their reading and enrich their library? Of course you would!!

St Mary's school is working hard to improve the children's reading ability and enjoyment, but the school library is in desperate need of a refresh! They have put together an Amazon Wish list of the books they would like and any help to purchase these would benefit all the children in the school.

Perhaps you already have some of these books collecting dust at home? Books

can be used, but need to be in good condition please. The Amazon wish list link is below for anyone wanting to purchase directly from Amazon or any other shop.

Alternatively I have set up a charity PayPal fundraiser pool and will do a bulk order to save people paying postage; PayPal donation link - <https://paypal.com/pools/c/8EoAnLrLn3>  
Amazon Wishlist - [https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1TGFPHYAKDO0RM?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1TGFPHYAKDO0RM?ref_=wl_share)

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## Timsbury Snooker Club

Timsbury Snooker Club is always on the lookout for new members. Newcomers to the village may not be aware that we have two full sized tables in the Conygre Hall which are kept in good condition.

Full members need to be aged 16 but there are opportunities for younger members to get involved if accompanied by an adult. There are also plans to hold coaching sessions for youngsters if there is enough interest.

The pandemic obviously brought activities to a close but the club is now up and running again and subscriptions for the new season will be taken at the beginning of 2022.

For full details contact Derek Biggs on **01761 470994**.



MERRY  
CHRISTMAS



# Festive Coffee Morning

Saturday 11th December  
10-12 noon

St Mary's Church  
Timsbury



Invites you for a  
welcoming glass of Sherry  
to compliment the coffee &  
mince-pies!



Christmas gifts  
& Cake stall.

Everyone  
is welcome!

# Timsbury Brownies

By Amber Nolan

A few weeks ago, the girls requested that we visit a posh hotel at Brownies! Obviously, the logistics of this is a bit difficult, so we decided to create a posh hotel at Brownies instead! We all came to Brownies dressed in fancy clothes and had a takeaway meal from the Seven Stars.

Over the next few weeks before Christmas, we will be talking about leadership skills, making pet pillows, making mug cakes, doing Christmas karaoke, and making 82 Christmas presents for the residents at Barchester Bloomfield Care Centre in Paulton.

We are selling our Christmas cards designed by the girls for £2.50 for a pack of 5, to raise money for the unit and support the girls. Please contact me if you would like to buy some.

Timsbury Brownies offers lots of fun



activities and learning experiences for girls aged 7-10. We meet every Tuesday evening. If you're interested and would like more information, please email [arjnolan1@gmail.com](mailto:arjnolan1@gmail.com) or text **07580191611**. In addition, we are always looking for adult volunteers to join the team. These contact details can be used to enquire about this too.

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## A Thank You!

Ann and Mike Saunders

Throughout the year we have placed our surplus fruit and vegetables at the bottom of drive and asked for donations. We would like to thank everyone who has donated money in return for the produce.

This year we have raised £525. The money raised will be going to Children's Hospice South West. We hope you have enjoyed what you have taken.

Thank you for your continued support!

Ann and Mike, 61 Southlands Drive.

### Project Linus Meetings

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December

10.00am– 2.00pm

## DON'T MISS THIS!

With over 30 classes every week including all the usual favourites from **Yoga, Pilates, Sculpt & Tone, Boxercise, and Kettles**, to courses in **Mum & Baby Yoga, Kids Yoga, Kids Holiday Bounce and Circuits, Pole, and Aerial Yoga** - we believe that we have something for everyone but don't just take our word for it! Sign up for our special offer of 3 months for the price of 2 - that's right...

**3 MONTHS**  
MEMBERSHIP  
STARTING AT JUST **£79**

Just visit us at  
[www.balance.thecountrysidegym.co.uk](http://www.balance.thecountrysidegym.co.uk)  
for more information and to find a time that suits you! Or call us on **07776 147020**



balance

THE COUNTRYSIDE GYM



**SPECIAL OFFER**

**BUY 2 MONTHS**

**GET 1**

**FREE!**



**CONTACT US TODAY TO BOOK YOUR SPOT!**

## Christmas in the Churchyard!

**Look out in St Mary's Churchyard over Advent for the Christmas story in figures. Each week in December some new characters from the Nativity story will appear!**

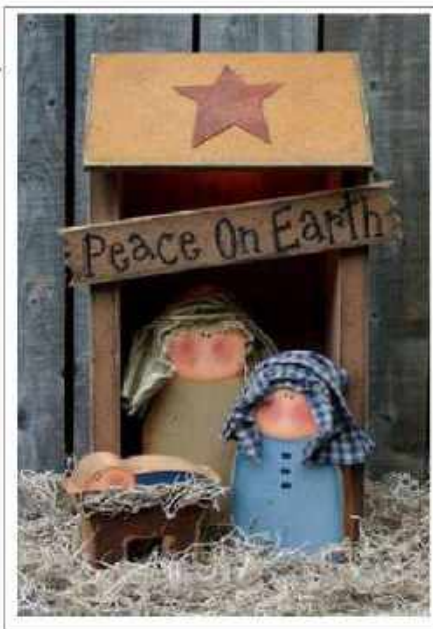
Angels,

A Donkey,

Shepherds and Sheep

Three Kings

**We invite you to St Mary's Church on Christmas Eve to see the whole Christmas scene and Crib**



## Village Church Services

### St Mary's Church, Timsbury

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December** 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP 1662) 11.00am Christingle Service

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December** 8.00am Holy Communion (CW) 11.00am Holy Communion 3.00pm Christmas Carol Service for families with Special Needs.

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December** 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP 1662) 11.00am Morning Prayer

**Wednesday 22<sup>th</sup> December** 7.00pm St Mary's Traditional Carol Service

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December** 3.00pm Crib Service 11.30pm Midnight 'Mass' for Christmas

**Christmas Day 25<sup>th</sup> December** 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP 1662) 10.00am Christmas Celebration with Holy Communion

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December** 10.00am Benefice Service at Priston Church

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**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December** 12.30pm Thursday Lunch Club at the Conygre Hall for those living alone.

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December** 6.30pm Open Air Carols at the Miners' Garden, The Square, Timsbury with the Midsomer Norton and Radstock Silver Band

Every Wednesday, weekly 9.30 am Holy Communion Service.

#### Revd Martin Blewett

Benefice of Timsbury with Priston, Camerton & Dunkerton

The Rectory, South Road, Timsbury, Bath, BA2 0EJ

Tel: (01761) 472448. Mobile: 07854 273489

Email: martinblewett@gmail.com

**Benefice Safeguarding Officer.** Mrs Elaine Martin. (01761) 479506

### Congregational Church North Road (with full wheelchair access)

Secretary: Maureen Cox 01761 479656

## Tabor Free Methodist Church

There will be a weekly series of services at Tabor in December.

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December** 11:00 am Margaret West

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December** 10:00 am Rosanna Blewett with Timsbury Childcare Group

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December** 3:00 pm Carol Service

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December** TBA

Everyone is welcome.

It is also hoped to run a Christmas Coffee morning on Saturday December 4th with tea, coffee, cake, tombola, raffle etc.

Tabor will continue to operate the two large monitors fitted at the front of the church to enhance worship. It will stream hymns direct into the building via the internet projecting them on the monitors and this should add a little extra to the worship over the Christmas period.

The members and officers at Tabor wish everyone a peaceful and healthy Christmas and a very happy new year.

**Pastoral Matters-** Eric Barge 01761 420234

**Secretary-** Geoff Shute 01761 568524

[www.taborfreemethodist.org](http://www.taborfreemethodist.org)

## Methodist Church South Road

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December** 10.30am Rev Jan Tate Holy Communion

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December** 10.30am Rev Philip Turner

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December** 10.30am Rev David Winstanley Carol Service

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December** 9.30am Rev David Winstanley CHRISTMAS DAY

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December** No Service

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January** 10.30am Rev David Winstanley Covenant Service

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January** 10.30am Mrs Cathy Edge

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January** 10.30am Mr Ian Withers

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January** 10.30am Rev Denise Harding

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January** 10.30am Mr Steve Beck

Once all Covid restrictions have been removed and it is safe to do so Open Doors will be returning. In the meantime everyone is welcome to join us at our Sunday services where a warm and friendly welcome awaits.

**Revd David Winstanley**

40 North Medows, Peasedown St John, Bath, BA2 8PS

01761 439934

[dwin64@hotmail.com](mailto:dwin64@hotmail.com)

Secretary Frances Nicholson 01761 470841



# Timsbury Theatre Group

By Peter Buchanan

## THERE'S STILL TIME TO BUY PANTOMIME TICKETS!

Our Christmas pantomime "Aladdin (a lotta trouble)" by Sam Allen is an excellent script with which to celebrate our first performance since December 2019. We're so pleased to get back on stage to entertain our audiences after being in limbo for nearly two years.

This pantomime has lots of drama, comedy and music with some flashes, bangs and special effects thrown in for good measure, not to mention spectacular sets and colourful costumes! Aladdin will be on stage at the Conygre Hall from Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December, with shows on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 7.30pm, and Saturday at 2.00pm and 6.00pm. The two Saturday performances are filling up, so the best available seats are on the other three days, but there are still seats available for all performances.

Ticket prices are £10 adults, £6 children, and £28 for a family of four (2+2). The best way to buy tickets is via our website [www.thettg.org](http://www.thettg.org), or you can contact the box office on [timsburytheatre@gmail.com](mailto:timsburytheatre@gmail.com) and by phone or text to 07542 152595.

We will be going ahead with our much-delayed production of "The Vicar of Dibley", with three performances from Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March

2022. All 2020 tickets will be valid for the same night of the week, but if there are ticket-holders who would like a refund, this can be arranged by emailing [timsburytheatre@gmail.com](mailto:timsburytheatre@gmail.com). Additional tickets will be available from January 2022.

To find out more about opportunities for taking part in productions or helping backstage, please contact Peter Crooke on **01761 434479**, Jo Whittock **472745** or Peter Buchanan **471818**.

More information about the group is on our website [www.thettg.org](http://www.thettg.org) and you can also find us on Facebook and Twitter.

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# Ruminations of Radford Mill

By Richard Fox

Listening to Greta Thunberg I am repeatedly reminded of how she uses language in a completely different way than the 'important' people, such as politicians. It is inspiring to realise that she is only 18, and has inspired a world-wide movement for change just by talking. What an amazing teenager.

What is happening in Timsbury? Our Parish Council has officially decided to acknowledge the "climate emergency". What does that mean - emergency? Is it one of those words from the mouths of politicians that Greta has flagged as "blah-blah-blah"? And our village has our very own Green Action Group, and we have this wonderful newsletter each month, which for the first time ever has published a special edition devoted to an arguably political subject. Perhaps we are moving in the right direction - Thank you, Madeleine.

It's easy to point fingers and call out others. Let's try to be more positive. Let's look at how we can assist the Parish Council to take some really constructive "emergency" actions. What might the councillors be able to do? Let's gather a list of suggestions that they can take, that will begin to have a visible effect on life in Timsbury.

Each of us needs to look at our personal lives, and do our best to reduce consumption of everything, re-use the things we have already bought, recycle nearly everything else, and plant more trees.

However, our individual actions are not really going to make much of a big impact on the 'emergency'. We need group action that changes the minds and habits of large groups of people. So let's see how we can push (or pull) our Parish Council towards taking emergency action. And if we can get the Council to spend 20% of their time (that's 24 minutes per month) at every meeting discussing "green" actions in the village, that might serve as a model for other Parish Councils, and villagers elsewhere, to step up their efforts towards addressing the emergency.

Here are a few suggestions for the Parish Council, off the top of my head - - maybe some are good, maybe not.

- Encourage all villagers to plant trees. Instruct the clerk to find some landowners around the parish who might be willing to set up a people's woodland. Organise some Tree days - everyone out planting during January and

February. I can think of one landowner who would be sympathetic, and probably there are others that need to be contacted and persuaded.

- Appoint one councillor (or co-opt someone into the job) to be the “Climate officer”, responsible for viewing EVERYTHING the Council does or could do from a climate-emergency perspective and make recommendations for some improvements.
- “Show moral leadership” (Dan Norris’ words) by stating opposition to Bristol Airport’s expansion plans, and other local “green” campaigns. Remaining silent is not a good “emergency” strategy

- Encourage the Green Action Group to come up with constructive suggestions, by giving them a small budget
- Requesting a monthly report on progress at Parish Council meetings
- Publishing recruitment adverts for new GAG members in the Timsbury Letter and Timsbury Rocks
- Encouraging more cycling in the village, and set examples for others to follow
- Encouraging more homeowners to install solar panels

Come on, Timsbury! Let’s get together and make some changes to business as usual.



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# Going Green this Christmas

By Matilda Lines

In my school we have been talking about how we can all make a difference to our climate. My family and I have been thinking of how to make Christmas this year more sustainable.

## Presents

We will be aiming to buy presents for each other that are made locally or second hand to reduce toy waste and helps save resources to make new products. By buying locally this supports local businesses and reduces your carbon footprint. You could buy your friend an experience or consider supporting WWF by choosing animal adoption. My aunt kindly gave me this for Christmas one year and I enjoy having regular updates on how my penguins are doing in Antarctica.

## Wrapping Paper

This year we will be wrapping our Christmas presents in recycled boxes and fabric. This means we will be using packaging more than once and help to reduce waste even further. We can also then save that fabric to be used again next year and we don't have to keep buying new ones. It can also be great fun decorating the boxes you are going to use and reusing ribbon.

## Christmas Crackers

Why don't you try making your own crackers this year?! Or if you don't have

the time get eco-friendly and plastic free crackers. Crackers can be so fun to make and much better for the environment!

## Christmas Lights



We will be making sure that this Christmas all our Christmas lights are LED. This is because LED lights use less energy and look just as good.

## Eat Locally

To make our planet better buy your Christmas dinner food from a local shop to limit food miles.

In conclusion, I think we should all be eco-friendly this Christmas and work together as a community to help save our planet.

## Scary Fact

Each Christmas we use approximately 8000 tonnes of wrapping paper which is around 50000 trees so let's all try make a difference to reduce this figure.

# Art Trail Delight for Cam Valley Group

By Alison ter Haar

Visitors flocked to the first Cam Valley Arts Trail since Covid19's arrival. Everyone was delighted to be back in real-life to view, touch and feel all the wonderful items on display over the weekend. We even had a visit from a guide dog in training, Davey the labradoodle, who was very well behaved.

Unsurprisingly with a brilliant line up of 35 artists and crafts people exhibiting across the venues in Cam Valley the Trail continued its contribution to supporting artists in the region. John Pope, potter, had a good showing for his pottery demonstration. He demonstrated how to piece together his slab clock, beautifully textured with bark and using household objects to create marks to show the hour and add pattern. For the click mechanism he has to measure the plumb line precisely and a spirit level ensures it stands vertical.

Artists and crafters were amazed at how many people wanted to ask seeking questions about their working processes with many offering their own ideas.

Tina commented after her visit: "Inspiring, with fantastic explanations." And Caroline said: "Fabulous talent and great variety of art/craft, I was so impressed."

The Arts Trail team would like to thank

the people of Cam Valley, their volunteers, the artists, and the community organisations providing refreshments.



*Colin Amos woodturner*



*Alison ter Haar glassworker*

The group hope to have a Workshop Event in early spring and our usual Spring Sale & Exhibition later in the spring. To keep up to date with events, follow us on Facebook or Instagram, or visit [www.camvalleyartstrail.co.uk](http://www.camvalleyartstrail.co.uk)

# The Gardening Club

By Graham Nicholls

On a cold evening the room was crowded for the talk by Christopher Bond entitled 'Satisfying all Five Senses in your Garden'. It was a talk using digital slides and to show us that gardening isn't just planting and waiting for things to flower but to realise that the garden can be improved by using these senses although the talk wasn't meant for all of us to go away and plant a Sensory garden.

The first sense – Smell, most of us have this sense so why not use plants/flowers that give a good fragrance. Lily of the Valley, Daphnes and Roses all come into this category but are only just a tiny few that can be used. As Christopher said, walking around the garden and smelling all the beautiful fragrances can be so uplifting.

His next sense was Sound. How lovely for those of us lucky to have a pond with a waterfall or fountain and able to hear the sound of it in action. So restful. The birds singing their songs or chattering, although the pheasants that visit our garden can be a little noisy. The wind blowing through the trees or shrubs, bees and other insects all come under this heading.

Sight came next whether it be the flowers, snowdrops and cyclamen for example in spring or the various architectural plants such as bamboo or the upright hazel branches. Look at the

form of the leaves on the plants, but watch that the colours aren't too vivid . Christopher told us that 12% of the UK population is colour blind so some visitors to the garden may not be able to see those colours.

Touch and Feel. Lots of plants have furry or shiny leaves. He spoke about Magnolias with shiny leaves, Sempervivums with intricate patterns, Yuccas and of course ferns which most of us must have in our gardens. All have leaves that are Touchy feely.

Taste. What a feast for the U.K. having such a temperate climate. All sorts of vegetables and fruit can be grown here, so much more than many other countries, how lucky we are. Lots of herbs with a variety of flavours and even plants like nasturtiums have parts you can eat and taste.

Finally onto the sixth sense, the plants themselves. Sundews that feel insects on them, the Sensitive Plants that I'm sure many of you have touched just to see the leaves close up. Trees talk to one another Christopher suggested, quoting reports of tree roots warning other trees of a dangerous fungus so they can prepare a defence. Finally as a sixth sense the question was 'Does music have an effect on plants?' Does leaving a radio on all day make your plants happier? Maybe or maybe not but it's worth trying.



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# The Natural History Group



By Rod Bruce

We will have had our November meeting, a welcome return from Helena Crouch the acknowledged expert on Mendip Ferns. Quite a varied collection and 2022 will continue to offer a varied programme provided by the planning by the Committee's research for Speakers.

The Annual General Meeting brought forth a request, heartily endorsed from the floor, that our December meeting should partially follow what has been an American super tradition where members bring a plate of food which is pooled for a festive feast. The other entertainment for the evening will be provided by the Committee, in particular the Secretary sourcing something festively amusing.

Last minute Calendars and Home Made

Christmas Cards will also be available helping Group Funds.

It is evident that some of our Membership are still cautious regarding Covid conditions and our Christmas Greetings go to them however WE DO FOLLOW DISTANCING CONDITIONS AND PREFER MASKS TO BE WORN. A worthwhile number of members have attended our 2021 Meetings and we look forward to the New Year with anticipation.

**Chairman Ken Blake**

07734558521 kenb@brisso.co.uk

**Secretary Rod Bruce**

01761 433013 rodbruce@talktalk.net

---

## Remembering Alan White

Liz White and family would like to thank everyone who sent messages, flowers and cards following the death of Alan. He will be really missed by us all.

Alan lived in Timsbury his entire life. He was a happy person, loved farming and his family and always saw the funny side of life.

Thank you to all who attended his funeral and donated in his memory.

Liz White

The Barn, Tabor Farm.

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# Tabor Ringers

By Diane Carter

At the recent A.G.M of the Tabor Ringers, based at Tabor Church Timsbury, Ms Angie Poole, was re-elected as Leader, with, Mrs Barb Spalding voted in unanimously to see another year as Secretary. With the very sad loss of our Treasurer, Mrs Annette Rhymes, one of our new members, Ms Pat Scovell, very kindly volunteered to take her place as Treasurer for which everyone was grateful. Mrs Dianne Carter was also asked to carry on as Publicity Officer.

With very little to report from the past year because of the pandemic Angie thanked everyone for their loyalty to the group and formally welcomed the 5 new members. In her address she reiterated, that although we work very hard in rehearsals to ensure as high a standard as possible to entertain the various social clubs, care homes and other venues we visit, it is also about enjoying ourselves, friendship and supporting each other.

The Secretary reported our last rehearsal was in March 2020, about the beginning of the pandemic, and in view of this we decided to cancel rehearsals for the next month – expecting to resume at the end of April, but, of course lockdown changed these plans. The Ringers always take part in Tabor Carol Service, but because this was not

possible in December 2020 a recording of the Ringers playing on Somer Radio was played to the congregation. It is hoped we can personally play at this year's Carol Service on 19th December. The Ringers are taking part in the switching on of the Christmas lights at Paulton on 4th December. It was with regret that two requests to play at Care Homes had to be declined to ensure the safety of our ringers who have devised a social distanced seating arrangement which could not be upheld in confined spaces.

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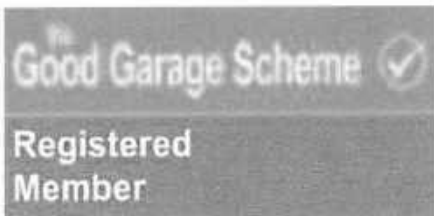


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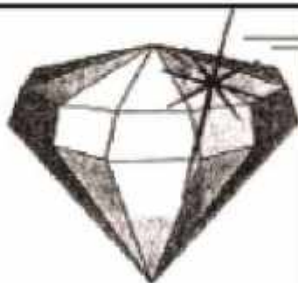


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