

SUMMER
2018
SPECIAL EDITION
**NORTH
SOMERSET** LIFE



SUMMER SPECIAL

www.n-somerset.gov.uk

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Advertising and sponsorship **opportunities**

A man in a brown suit is captured mid-jump on a sandy beach. He has a large, bright red balloon balanced on his head. The balloon is the central focus, with the words "STAND OUT!" written in white capital letters across its middle. The background shows the ocean and a clear sky.

STAND OUT!

Image credit: Paul Blakemore

Find out how North Somerset Council can help your business stand out in front of thousands of residents, tourists and new customers. Contact Will Jenkins

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will.jenkins@n-somerset.gov.uk • www.n-somerset.gov.uk/advertising

Dear reader,



As you are aware, local councils across the country have had funding cuts since 2010. North Somerset staff have coped extremely well but the growth in care costs has meant highly-visible services have suffered from further reductions and were unsustainable. The waste collection service has been particularly affected, with many residents upset at missed collections and poor communication of what was happening. Some crews found they were unable to complete rounds because of the volume of waste on certain routes, and the new operators knew they needed to change its operations and routing. These have now been done and although the recent changes have caused their own problems as drivers get to know the new routes, early indications show that there is a marked improvement which will be a great relief to everyone. I can assure you that council officers involved are working tirelessly to get it right and are making real progress.

The other source of complaints recently has been the growth of vegetation on footpaths, roadsides and open spaces. Recent weather has led to more growth than usual and the reduced number of crews could not possibly cope. More crews have now been taken on and will be able to catch up. Please let your local councillor know if there are any particular areas that need treatment.

I mention these examples because of an article published recently which shows how local government had another nine per cent reduction in resources in just the last two years. But over the same period, the Local Government Ministry in London has grown by 18 per cent. How can central government say they understand what is happening locally when they seem to be employing more people in order to tell local authorities to employ fewer? We are constantly told about devolving decisions and responsibility but then see further centralisation. Surely employing more people locally would help local economies and, at the same time, reduce pressure on an overheated London. It might also help more people afford to buy some of the homes we are being forced to give permissions for, even though there is still no evidence of a need for so many.

The third runway at Heathrow has now been approved at a cost of about £18bn. This is alongside the HS2 railway at over £100bn. The cost estimates seem to keep changing. We are told these are investments for the future but then so is much-needed investment in local skills and employment. I agree with investing for the future, even in lean times, but investing in huge capital projects leads to ongoing repairs and running costs. Investing in skills, jobs and people leads to a social and economic profit.

Despite the difficulties, I am delighted to say investment in North Somerset continues and we are working with neighbouring authorities to improve long-term projects for sustainable infrastructure.

I hope you all have a good summer and are able to enjoy some of the hundreds of events across the area.

Councillor Nigel Ashton, Leader of North Somerset Council

Contents

4 News update

Summer Special

10 Be a tourist on your doorstep

12 Map of North Somerset's attractions

14 General events

16 Fun for younger people

17 Food festivals

18 Theatre and music

23 Summer cycling

24 Walk – Country walk around Claverham

28 Plans for £4m improvements to Grove Park

30 50th anniversary of flooding

42 Worlebury hillfort

47 Contact details



This publication is available in large print, Braille or audio formats on request. Help is also available for people who require council information in languages other than English. Life editor: 01275 884 139

Are you fostering privately?

Private foster carers are being reminded they need to inform North Somerset Council about their living arrangements.

Private fostering is an informal arrangement when a child under 16 (or 18 if disabled) stays with someone who is not a close relative for more than 28 continuous days.

A close relative is a step-parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle or aunt, whether of full blood, half blood or marriage.

Examples of private fostering might include:

- a teenager living with the family of a boyfriend or girlfriend
- children living with a friend's family as a result of parental separation, divorce or arguments at home
- children sent to this country for education or health reasons by parents who live abroad.



Anyone who is privately fostering, or aware of a private fostering arrangement, can contact North Somerset Council on **01275 888 808** or cyps.careconnect@n-somerset.gov.uk



Sycamore Lodge Nursing Home

Lodge Lane, Nailsea, North Somerset BS48 1LX

Home Manager: Caroline Carter
Call: 01275 858 000
Email: SycamoreLodge.Manager@Shaw.co.uk

[f](#) shawhealthcare
[@shawhealthcare](#)
www.shaw.co.uk



We offer a complete pathway of dementia care, and now also have a new 18 bedded general nursing service on site. All with a dedicated caring staff team, creating a homely atmosphere for everyone.

- Nursing Dementia Care
- General Nursing Care
- Day Care
- Residential Dementia Care

Weston on the map for arts and culture

Arts and culture will continue to thrive in Weston-super-Mare thanks to £50,000 of new funding.

Since Banksy brought Dismaland to the Tropicana in 2015, the town has continued to develop its role as a significant coastal arts and culture destination and this has become a key element of North Somerset Council's regeneration and growth plans for the town.

The council has been working with Arts Council England South West (ACE SW) for the past two years to explore opportunities for projects and funding for arts initiatives.

Now ACE SW has allocated £50,000 towards establishing a cultural development company for Weston-super-Mare and has identified the town's cultural development as a South West priority for 2018-20.

Chief executive of Arts Council England, Darren Henley, visited the town in May to see some of the cultural activity already on offer and discuss future potential.

During his visit he went to the Tropicana, Italian Gardens, The Stable creative hub, the Heritage Action Zone, Blakehay Theatre and Old Town Quarry.

Darren said: "There is a vibrant creative community here and a council with huge ambitions to redefine the English seaside town.

"Weston is a cultural and artistic gem, a beacon that other seaside towns can learn from.

"At the Arts Council we are passionate about taking great art and culture to the people.

"It can change places and we want to be with Weston on that journey for many years to come."

ACE SW has also introduced four national arts organisations to the town who are now in discussion with the council about future projects.



iPad up for grabs



Residents in North Somerset could be in with the chance of winning an iPad by simply creating an account on the council's website.

A free prize draw is being held for people who sign up to the online MyAccount system and one lucky resident will win an iPad.

MyAccount can be used to access many council services, such as:

- **council tax** – view your details, set up a direct debit, make payments, apply for discounts and amend address details
- **benefits** – make an application and report a change in your circumstances
- **reporting problems** – such as graffiti or fly tipping
- **waste and recycling** – report a missed collection or request a new or replacement bin
- **business rates** – manage your business rate.

Customer service manager Simone Davey said: "It's quick and simple for residents to use and saves the council money – so the more we can encourage residents to self-serve, the more money can be spent on providing essential council services."

To be in with the chance of winning, sign up at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/myaccount before Friday 27 July.

North Somerset Council's partner Agilisys is sponsoring the prize. The draw will take place on Monday 6 August.

For more information and full terms and conditions go to www.n-somerset.gov.uk/drawterms

Sign up to MyAccount online at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/register. Registration is quick, easy and secure.

Web chat proving popular

Online chat is a new quick and easy way to resolve a simple enquiry on North Somerset Council's website.

Click on the new 'start chat' button and one of the council's advisers will be able to reply and help you.

Nearly 1,000 chats now take place every month and people are using it to find out things like when their next recycling collection is due and how to set up direct debit to pay their council tax.

Advisers can help you navigate around the website and stay on the chat until you've successfully completed your transaction or found the information you need.



Volunteers needed to support vulnerable young people

Volunteers are needed to help and support young people in North Somerset to make positive life changes.

Junction 21, North Somerset Council's youth offending service volunteer mentoring project, is holding an open evening for potential volunteers to find out more about the scheme.

Volunteers support young people who are vulnerable for a variety of reasons, including being placed into care, poor school attendance or becoming

involved in anti-social behaviour.

Would-be volunteers are asked to spare a couple of hours a week for a minimum of 12 months.

To take part, you must be over 21, have no criminal offences in the past five years and be clean of any substance misuse issues for five years.

Volunteers receive on-going training, gain a recognised qualification, have monthly group supervision, twice yearly group events and regular relationship reviews.



The open evening takes place from 6-9pm, on Thursday 19 July at Central Chambers, 24-26 Walliscote Road, Weston-super-Mare. For more information call Steve Coggins: 01275 888 360

New disco for people with special needs in Portishead

A new monthly disco has launched in Portishead as a social get-together for people with additional needs and their families.

A small group of parents and volunteers are organising monthly discos at the Folk Hall and they are proving popular.

One of the organisers, Chris Sperring, said: "Socialising and having fun is something most of us take for granted but we have found that opportunities for people with special needs are really limited.

"My son has severe autism and learning difficulties but he really loves seeing his friends and has always loved music."

The disco is supported by national charity United Response, which provides personalised care and support for people with learning disabilities.

Organisers hope to expand the group with other social events and activities in the future.

Discos run once a month on a Friday, from 7.30-9pm at the Folk Hall in High Street.

Entrance is £4 (carers free), including refreshments.

For more information call Chris Sperring on **07799 413 918** or Emma Hall on **07870 562 986**.

 search for Portishead Discos

Retire and relax

In the heart of North Somerset is **Sandford Station**, a lively retirement village with a great community spirit. The excellent facilities and staff provide the perfect retirement lifestyle.

To find out more or book a place on an open day call **0117 919 4262**.

www.stmonicastrust.org.uk/villages/sandford-station

Registered Charity 202151



St Monica Trust

Theatre Orchard receiving Arts Council funding

Photo credit: Paul Blakemore



North Somerset's popular performing arts development charity is now being given regular funding to help develop its programme.

Theatre Orchard has become the first theatre organisation in North Somerset to join Arts Council England's National Portfolio, a collection of leading arts and cultural organisations that receive regular funding.

It is among 101 organisations in the South West to be in the national portfolio for 2018-22.

This means the charity will receive £360,000 over the four years to

continue its touring theatre work and develop an outreach programme for communities in North Somerset.

Theatre Orchard was established in 2007 to bring theatre shows and performance to unusual indoor and outdoor spaces across North Somerset, including empty shops, a cinema, seafronts, piers, gardens, country pubs and even quarries.

In partnership with local theatre company Living Spit, it set up the

Theatre Shop in Clevedon and has been involved in establishing a theatre programme at the Tropicana in Weston-super-Mare.

Creative director Fiona Matthews said: "We are thrilled to join the National Portfolio.

"Over the next four years, we look forward to building on our work and reaching out to new audiences with a programme of unmissable participation and performance."

www.thetheatreorchard.org.uk TheTheatreOrchard @TheatreOrchard @theatreorchard

Youth exchange opportunity for Weston's young people



Young people from Weston-super-Mare who would like to experience life in Germany are invited to join a popular exchange programme.

The Weston-super-Mare and Hildesheim youth exchange has taken place for more than 30 years and organisers are now looking for young people to take part in this year's adventure.

Parents of young people aged between 12 and 17 who would like to visit the German town in the October school holidays are invited to get in touch.

Young people, aged 12 to 17, will be hosted by German families with children about the same age. Trips can vary due to weather but a packed schedule is guaranteed.

This year the YMCA is also on board to help support the young people.

Parents who want to find out more can contact Debbie Stone on **01934 429 035** or **debbiestone67@btinternet.com**

Fly tipping is costing the earth

Fly tipping - the illegal dumping of waste - can pollute the environment and cost significant amounts of council tax payers' money to clear away.

All householders and businesses have a duty of care for any waste that they produce.

This means that you must dispose of it legally and only use licenced waste carriers. Fly tipping can carry a maximum fine of £50,000 or even more if the case goes to crown court, and a prison sentence of up to five years.

Any waste that you pay to have removed from your property is classed as commercial waste and needs to be disposed of accordingly.

It must not be taken to the recycling centres as these are for household waste only.

When having waste collected from your property or business remember SCRAP:

- **Suspect** – if it doesn't look right it probably isn't
- **Check** – ask for a waste carrier licence number issued by the Environment Agency
- **Refuse** – unsolicited offers to take your waste
- **Ask** – question where they will take your waste
- **Paperwork** – you need a signed waste transfer note from the person collecting your waste.

If your waste is found fly tipped and you can't provide documentation showing who collected it, you can be prosecuted.



www.n-somerset.gov.uk/flytipping

Experience history and heritage during open days

Venues across North Somerset will soon be opening their doors for free so visitors can experience their local history, architecture and culture.



The national Heritage Open Days initiative takes place over two weekends, from Thursday 6 to Sunday 9 September and from Thursday 13 to Sunday 16 September.

People will have the opportunity to experience places they may have never visited before, such as the old Magistrates' Court, Grove House, or churches in Weston-super-Mare.

A full what's on guide will be available from mid-August.

To find the venues taking part, visit www.heritageopendays.org.uk/visiting



Happy Days are coming to Weston-super-Mare, Opening late Summer 2018!

We are opening a new nursery/pre-school in your area

If you are looking for high quality childcare and early years education that meets the individual needs of your child, find out why Happy Days could be just what you are looking for. With over 25 years experience looking after children, we understand that no one is more precious than your little one.



Happy Days
Where Children Shine



0800 783 3431

westonsm@happydaysnurseries.com www.happydaysnurseries.com
Happy Days Weston-super-Mare, Beaufighter Road, Weston-super-Mare, BS24 8EE

Be a tourist on your home turf

About eight million people visit North Somerset every year to enjoy our glorious coastline, stunning countryside and extensive calendar of events.

The area has some great places to go for family days out, as well as fun-filled activities and lots of local heritage.

So see North Somerset through the eyes of a tourist and enjoy a summer staycation right here on our doorstep, whether you take a bucket and spade to the beach, put your walking shoes on and meander around the Mendips, or sip a tea in a seafront café.

Lots of events also take place throughout the summer to cater for all tastes, from food and drink festivals filled with local produce, to sporting events, or arts and culture.

In this summer special *Life* you'll find:

- 12 – map of attractions
- 14 – general events
- 16 – fun for younger people
- 17 – food and festivals
- 18 – theatre and music
- 21 – health and fitness.



You can also visit www.discovernorthsomerset.co.uk for the most up-to-date listings, or keep an eye on social media.

 TropicanaWeston  WestonSeafront  WestonSeafront

Disclaimer: All information correct at time of going to print (June 2018). While every effort is made to ensure accuracy, North Somerset Council cannot accept responsibility or liability for any errors which have occurred. North Somerset Council cannot recommend or endorse any of the providers listed. It is recommended that you always check with the relevant organisation first to ensure their service meets your requirements.



Sun safety

You can burn even on a cloudy day in the UK and melanoma skin cancer is the fifth most common cancer.

Fingers crossed the sun will shine this summer so it's worth remembering some sun protection tips for when it does.

It is largely preventable through good sun safety habits though so try following these simple steps:



Spend time in the shade, especially between 11am and 3pm



Take **extra care** if you have paler skin, moles, are only exposed to intense sun occasionally, or have a family history of skin cancer



If you're going to be in the sun long enough to burn, **apply sunscreen twice**: 30 minutes before going out and again just before you go out



Avoid burning and cover up with suitable clothing and sunglasses



Apply sunscreen to all exposed skin – face, neck and ears – and head if you have thinning or no hair. A wide-brimmed hat is even better



Reapply sunscreen liberally and often, including after being in the water even if using 'water resistant' ones



Take extra care with children as their skin is more sensitive, especially the very young. Babies under six months shouldn't be in direct sunlight



Watch out for changes to your skin, including a new mole, growth or lump, or any moles, freckles or patches of skin that change in size, shape or colour. Report these to your doctor as soon as possible. Skin cancer is much easier to treat when found early.



Check sunscreen isn't past its expiry date – most last two to three years. Use **at least factor 15** sunscreen with **at least four-star UVA**



Apply enough sunscreen – **about two teaspoons** for an adult's head, arms and neck, or **two tablespoons** for your entire body.

Find out more at www.nhs.uk/sun



A holiday at home

Living in North Somerset means we have stunning coastline, countryside and top tourist attractions on our doorstep.

As we head into the busy summer season, why not sample some of the delights on offer?

Popular attractions include...



1 Off shore

Westward Ho!
www.mwmarine.org

Steep Holm
www.steeptholm.org.uk

2 Weston-super-Mare

Blakehay Theatre
www.blakehaytheatre.co.uk

Grand Pier
www.grandpier.co.uk

SeaQuarium
www.seaquarium.co.uk

Pirate Adventureland
www.pirateadventureland.com

Playhouse Theatre
www.theplayhouse.co.uk

Tropicana
www.tropicanaweston.co.uk

Weston Water Adventure Play Park
www.wsm-tc.gov.uk/parks

Weston-super-Mare Museum
www.westonmuseum.org

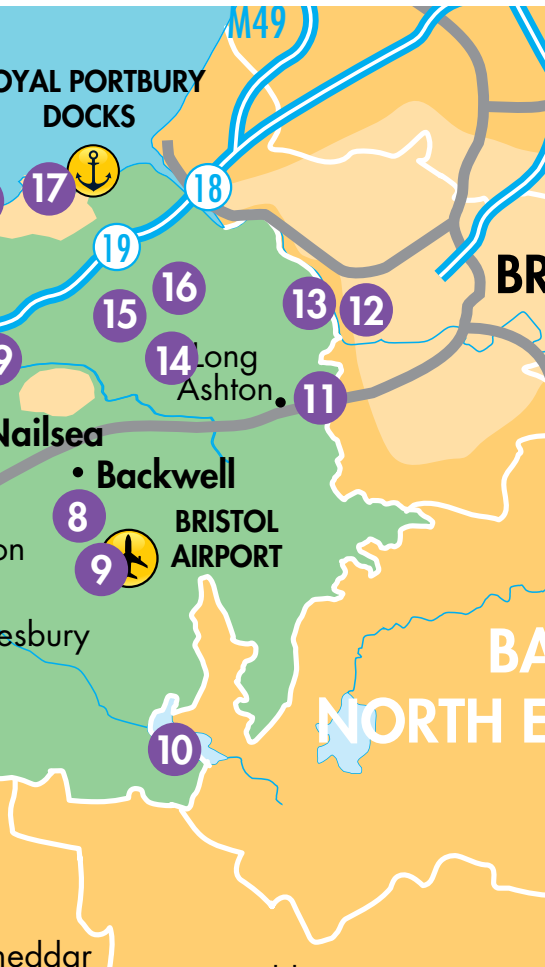
3 Helicopter Museum
www.helicoptermuseum.co.uk

4 Court Farm Country Park
www.courtfarmcountrypark.co.uk

5 Puxton Park
www.puxton.co.uk

6 Strawberry Line
www.strawberrylinecafe.co.uk
www.strawberryline.org.uk

7 Mendip Snowsports Centre
www.mendipsnowsport.co.uk



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 Goblin Combe www.goblincombe.org.uk 9 Barley Wood Walled Garden www.walledgarden.co.uk 10 Burrington Combe www.walkscene.co.uk/description_13 11 Ashton Court www.bristol.gov.uk/ashtoncourtstate 12 Clifton Suspension Bridge Visitor Centre www.cliftonbridge.org.uk 13 Leigh Woods www.nationaltrust.org.uk/leigh-woods 14 Tyntesfield Estate (National Trust) www.nationaltrust.org.uk/tyntesfield | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 Noah's Ark Zoo Farm www.noahsarkzoofarm.co.uk 16 Oakham Treasures www.oakhamtreasures.co.uk 17 Portishead Quays Marina and Arts Trail www.visitportishead.net/art-trail.php 18 Portishead Open Air Pool www.portisheadopenairpool.org.uk 19 Clevedon Court (National Trust) www.nationaltrust.org.uk/clevedon-court 20 Clevedon Craft Centre www.clevedoncraftcentre.co.uk 21 Clevedon Pier www.clevedonpier.co.uk |
|--|---|



July

Daily until Sunday 2 September

Funland @ The Tropicana

Marine Parade. Outdoor funfair. Including Dinosaur Day on Saturday 14 July. www.funlandtropicana.com

Daily until the end of September

Sand Sculpture Festival

10am-6pm, Weston beach. Tickets £4 for adults, £3.50 for students, £3 for children 15 and below, free for under-3s. Family ticket £10 (2 adults, 2 children) www.westonsandsculpture.co.uk

Friday 6 and Saturday 7

Lynne Castell's Art Groups' Exhibition and Sale

10am-4pm, St Martin's Church, Church Road, Worle. Free admission.

Saturday 7

Brews, Blues and Barbecues – first anniversary of Pitchfork Ales brewery
Noon-5pm, The Brewery, Wick Lane, West Hewish. Free entry (pre-registration required). Two free pints of beer with every adult ticket, or voucher for unlimited soft drinks. Children and designated drivers get free soft drinks all day. Blues band, brewery tours, Pimms and Prosecco Glam Bar, street food and bouncy castle. www.pitchforkales.com

Friday 6 – Sunday 8

Lions Claverham Beer Festival

Claverham Village Hall, Bishops Road, Cleeve. Tickets needed for Friday and Saturday evening sessions, from 7.30pm. Free entry for afternoon sessions from 12.30pm on Saturday and Sunday. www.claverham-beer-festival.btck.co.uk

Sunday 8

Portishead Raft Race and village picnic

11.30am, Lake Grounds, Portishead. With music and village fete. www.portisheadrafttrace.co.uk

Classic car show

10.30am, Grove Park, Weston-super-Mare. Sponsored by Grove Park Café (also Sunday 22 July, Sunday 5 and Monday 27 August).

North Somerset Model Show

10am-5.30pm, Helicopter Museum, Locking. 01934 635 227

Friday 13 – Sunday 15

Nailsea and Backwell Beer and Cider Festival

Nailsea and Backwell Rugby Club, West End Lane. 6-11pm Friday, noon-11pm Saturday, noon-8pm Sunday. £10 in advance (with two free tokens), £5 on the gate plus £5 for a glass. www.nailseabeerandciderfestival.co.uk

Sunday 15

Portishead Soap Box Race

Esplanade Road, Battery Point and Lake Grounds. www.portisheadsoapbox.co.uk

Saturday 21 – Sunday 22

Regional Water Ski Races

Knightstone Causeway and Marine Lake. SWASC regional race (also National Double Header on Saturday 4 August). www.bwsw.org.uk





Friday 27 – Sunday 29

Weston Lion's Club Real Ale and Cider Festival

Beach Lawns, Weston. Live music and catering. Entry £1 per person during the day and £3 after 5pm. Families welcome and children's drinks are free when adult-priced drinks are purchased. The festival has raised more than £350,000 for charity in its 10 years.

www.westonlionsrealalefestival.co.uk



Saturday 28

Yatton and District Horticultural Society Summer Show

Glebelands. Stalls and live music.

Saturday 28 – Sunday 29

Weston Pride Noon, Grove Park, Weston-super-Mare. Celebration event with music and dance to promote equality and diversity in the LGBT community. www.wsmpride.com

Portishead Flower Show and Country Fair

11.30am-6.30pm on Sat, 10am-6pm on Sun, Flower Show Field, Clapton Lane, Portishead. Flower shows and arena events. £5 adults, under 17s free. Free parking in Gordano school fields. www.portisheadflowershow.com

August

Saturday 4

Nailsea and District Horticultural Society

Summer Show noon-5pm, Nailsea School, Mizzymead Road. Show schedules available from Nailsea Library, PS Travel in Station Road, and www.nailseahorticulturalsociety.co.uk

Monday 6 – Sunday 19

Shaun Rogers Fun Fair

Salthouse Fields, Clevedon

Thursday 9 – Sunday 12

Bristol International Balloon Fiesta

Ashton Court Estate, Long Ashton. Free entry but charge for car parking. www.bristolballoonfiesta.co.uk

Saturday 11

Weston Horticultural Society Flower Show

www.wsmhorticultural.org.uk

Saturday 18

Tickenham Flower Show

Village Hall and field.

Sunday 19

North Somerset RSPCA Fun Dog Show and Fete

Noon-4.30pm, Beach Lawns, Weston-super-Mare.



Saturday 25 and Sunday 26

Clevedon Flower Show

Salthouse Fields, Clevedon. Live music, dog show, horticultural classes, crafts, bar.

www.clevedonflowershow.com

Sunday 26 and Monday 27

Stars of Time Film and Comic Con

10am-5.30pm, Tropicana, Marine Parade. Celebrities from film and TV, memorabilia and collectibles. Various admission charges and family tickets available. www.starsoftime.co.uk

September

Saturday 8

Friends Of The Playhouse Open Day

The Playhouse Theatre, Weston-super-Mare. Regular behind-the-scenes tours from 11am to 3pm. Sign up to become a friend for £10 a year.



Photos © Dale Cherry for The Reading Agency, with thanks to Idea Store Watney Market

July

Saturday 7 and Sunday 8

Uphill Family Fun Weekend and village fete

From noon-4pm, on Saturday at Uphill primary school grounds. Duck race at 10.30am on Sunday, from Old Church Road bridge, in aid of Children's Hospice South West. Then beach picnic (bring your own food) and sandcastle competition from 2.30-4.30pm on Sunday, at Weston Bay Yacht Club.
www.uphillvillagesociety.org.uk

Wednesday 18 and Thursday 19

TYNTEtots: Alice in Wonderland

10am and 1pm each day, Tyntesfield, Wraxall. Storytelling, crafts and games for 2-5-year-olds and their families inspired by Alice in Wonderland. Adult £3, child £7, group of three children £18, group of two children £12. Tiny tots free of charge when accompanying an older sibling or companion. Booking essential. Call 0344 249 1895. Booking fee applies.



Saturday 21

Grand Pier KidsFest

From 11am, The Grand Pier, Weston-super-Mare. Including CBeebies and Let's Play stars Sid and Rebecca with their stage show It's Time to Play at 1pm. £15 www.grandpier.co.uk

Charity Family Fun Day

Noon-8pm, Hornets Rugby Club, Hutton Moor Road, Weston-super-Mare. To raise money for childhood bereavement charity Winston's Wish and The Divinity Foundation.

August

Wednesday 1

TYNTEfest 2018

10.30am and 1.30pm, Tyntesfield, Wraxall. Storytelling, crafts and games for 2-5-year-olds and their families to celebrate National Playday. Adult £3, child (aged 2-5) £8. Tiny tots free of charge when accompanying an older sibling or companion. Booking essential. Call 0344 249 1895. Booking fee applies.

Summer reading challenge begins

Join Dennis, Gnasher and friends to hunt out Beanotown's buried treasure in this year's popular Summer Reading Challenge.

Children aged four to 11 are invited to join the annual Reading Agency challenge, taking place in North Somerset libraries from Saturday 14 July to Saturday 8 September.

This year's theme is Mischief Makers to celebrate the 80th anniversary of Beano, the world's longest running comic.

Children will explore a map of Beanotown to find the mysterious buried treasure and become ultimate mischief makers.

Bring your child to sign-up for free at your local library and receive a fold-out map to record their reading journey.

As they read any six library books of their choice they will collect special stickers over three further visits to the library during the summer.

Complete the challenge and receive a certificate and medal (subject to availability).

Library staff and volunteers are on hand to help. Children who take part return to school more fluent, confident and happy readers.



July

Saturday 7

The Great British Gin Festival

Afternoon session 1-5pm, evening session 6-10pm, Tropicana, Marine Parade, Weston-super-Mare. The UK's biggest Gin Festival Tour. Tickle your taste buds with more than 100 different gins from around the world. Tickets from £15.50, including entry, gin bible and glass. Includes trade stands, talks and entertainment. Bars will operate on a token system. Over-18s only. www.tropicanaaweston.co.uk



August

Sunday 5

Weston-super-Mare Vegan Fair

10am-3pm, Tropicana, Marine Parade. Explore plant-based living, including cheese, chocolates and cakes, clothes and culture. Also talks, workshops and children's activities. £3 on the door. Under 14s free when accompanied by a paying adult. www.tropicanaaweston.co.uk



Sunday 5 (and Sunday 2 September)

Clevedon Sunday Market

Explore and celebrate Clevedon's Hill and Sea area and browse a mixture of stalls, selling artisan produce, handmade gifts and vintage treasures, along Hill Road and Alexandra Road. www.theClevedonSundayMarket.co.uk

Saturday 11

Eat:Portishead

10am-5pm, Portishead Marina. Free food and drink festival. Sample a wide variety of local produce from more than 80 farmers, producers and makers. Entertainment includes face painting, balloon modelling, crabbing, music and some livestock. Including vegan, gluten free and dairy free options. www.eatfestivals.org

Saturday 25 Aug

Spanish Festival

2-10.30pm, Venga Restaurant and Tapas Bar, High Street, Portishead. A celebration of Spanish culture, with live music and flamenco performance. Ticket price (£10) includes a welcome drink on arrival. Book tickets in advance. www.vengauk.co.uk/events

September

Saturday 8

Pizza and Prosecco Festival

Brunch session noon-5pm, evening session 6-11pm, Tropicana, Marine Parade, Weston-super-Mare. The ultimate food pair party. Tickets from £17, including entry and entertainment, an Aperol Spritz, prosecco bible and a slice of pizza. Over-18s only. www.tropicanaaweston.co.uk





Pariah Khan

© Jack Offord 2016



Thought-provoking theatre

Visit Clevedon's Theatre Shop for some thought-provoking fun this July.

● Saturday 7

Nuketown by Jack Dean Writer and performer Jack Dean with his travelling Lego pile. Help him build Nuketown in an epic tale about a new utopian model city. Free drop-in build session ahead of the show, from 3-5pm. For ages 14+.



Jack Dean

● Thursday 12

An Indian Abroad by Pariah Khan A debut one-man show from Bristol-based writer and performer Pariah Khan. A tale of exploring 'foreign' lands as he visits the exotic island of Great Britain. For ages 14+.

● Saturday 14

Instant Wit Quick-fire comedy improvisation show. For ages 12+.

All performances start at 7.30pm at The Theatre Shop, Queen's Square, Clevedon. Tickets cost £11. Book at www.theatreshop.org.uk or call 03336 663 366 (£1.50 booking fee).



Stand-up at the Blakehay

Stand-up comedy can now be enjoyed on stage in Weston-super-Mare as part of a regular series of events this summer.

The Blakehay Theatre, in Wadham Street, and Comedy Grove present Weston Comedy Club, running at 8pm on the first Thursday of each month until October.

The regular events are bringing comedians from some of the biggest comedy clubs to the Weston stage.

For details of the line-up each month visit www.blakehaytheatre.co.uk. Not suitable for under-18s.

Tickets £12. Box office: 01934 645 493

More live theatre

Saturday 26 July

The Tempest with The Lord Chamberlain's Men 7.30pm, the Croquet Lawn, Tyntesfield, Wraxall. Bring a chair and picnic for this outdoor performance. Booking essential, and booking fee applies. Various ticket prices. 0344 249 1895.

Thursday 2 – Saturday 4 August

A Midsummer Night's Dream by Worle Operatic and Dramatic Society 7.30pm (and 2.30pm on Saturday), Tropicana, Marine Parade, Weston-super-Mare. www.tropicana-weston.co.uk www.worleoperatic.co.uk/comingsoon



July

Friday 6 – Sunday 8

Backwell Festival Backwell Junior School, Church Lane, Backwell. A diverse cultural festival with two stages of live world music, art workshops, theatre, author talks, a chefs’ tent, children’s tent, and discussions. This year’s theme is oceans, highlighting the issues of plastic. Bands include Me and My Friends, RSVP Bhangra and The Rim Tins. Workshops include Senegalese dance and bellydancing. Talks include Captain Corelli’s Mandolin author Louis de Bernières and storyteller Michael Loader.



First is offering 33 per cent off bus journeys to festival-goers over the weekend. Tickets from www.backwellfestival.co.uk

Friday 13

Craig Charles Funk and Soul Club and guest DJs 7.30pm, Tropicana, Marine Parade, Weston-super-Mare. Over-16s only. www.tropicanaaweston.co.uk

Saturday 14

Easy on the Ear – a concert by the Miscellany choir 7.30pm, Clevedon Baptist Church Hall, Station Road, Clevedon. Including the mandolin, ukuleles and voices of The Rhynes. Tickets £8, including refreshments, on the door or in advance from 01275 875 262.

In aid of Andrew House, which helps men reintegrate with society after addiction.

Saturday 21

Battle of Britpop: Oasis vs Blur 7.30pm, Winter Gardens, Weston-super-Mare. Tribute acts of two of the UK’s best Britpop bands go head-to-head – Oas-is and Blur’d. Tickets £10 in advance or £12 on the door. www.westonwintergardens.co.uk

Saturday 1 September

The South West Rockability Rebellion 2 10am-1am, Winter Gardens, Weston-super-Mare. Five bands and five DJs, including the last ever Jack Rabbit Slim show in the South West. Advanced tickets £10 or £15 on the door. Contact 07727 689 333, rockapeevents@btinternet.com or visit www.westonwintergardens.co.uk



Free concerts in the park

Enjoy free music in Weston-super-Mare’s Grove Park every Sunday afternoon this summer.

Concerts, sponsored by Grove Park café, take place from 2.30pm.

July

- 8 Serenade Big Band
- 15 Paulton Concert Band
- 22 Worlewind Band

August

- 5 Worlewind Band
- 12 Bath Spa Band
- 19 North Somerset Community Band
- 26 Bristol Male Voice Choir
- 27 Tim Pitman

September

- 2 Burtle Silver Band
- 9 Serenade Big Band
- 16 Worle Community Choir

Craig Charles at the Tropicana in February





Mondays

Portishead in Harmony (E) (women only) 10.30am-12pm, The Folk Hall, Portishead High Street. £5 per session. www.wendysergeant.vpweb.co.uk, 01275 814 220

Clevedon A Cappella (E) (women only) 2-3.30pm, Kenn Road Methodist Church. £5 per session. www.wendysergeant.vpweb.co.uk, 01275 814 220

Afternoon singing group (fortnightly) 2-4pm, St Jude's Hall, St Peter's Church, Baytree Road, Worle. 01934 413 571

Mixed Company Community Choir (E) 7.30-9.30pm, Golden Valley Primary School, Nailsea. £6 per session with free taster

Clevedon Choral Society (E) 7.15 pm, Methodist Church Hall, Kenn Road, Clevedon. www.clevedonchoralsociety.org.uk

Weston-super-Mare Rock Choir (E, term time only) 7.30pm, Vintage Church, Hughenden Road. www.rockchoir.com

Clevedon Light Opera Club (E) 7.30pm (Juniors Thu 7pm) Princes Hall, Clevedon Community Centre. 01275 791 556

Vocalise Choir (E) 7.30-9.30pm, United Reform Church, Waterloo Street, Weston. £5 inc refreshments. 01934 627 709

Clevedon Players (and Wed, Fri) (leading up to a play) 7.30-10pm, the Stables, behind Princes Hall, Princes Road, Clevedon. 01275 853 975

Costanzi Consort (E) 7.45pm, All Saints Church, Weston-super-Mare. Auditioned chamber choir directed by Peter Leech. www.costanziconsort.org.uk

RAFA Concert Band (E) 8pm, Victoria Methodist Church Hall, Station Road, Weston-super-Mare. www.rafaconcertband.org.uk 01934 820 205

Footlights Community Choir 8-9:30pm, Community Hall, Trinity School, Portishead. No experience necessary.



Tuesdays

Cadbury Wind Band (E) (term time only) 7.15-9.15pm, Yatton Rugby Football Club. 01275 792 300

Lyrical Ladies Choir (E) 7.20-8.20pm, Nailsea School. £4 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Portishead Rock Choir (E, term time only) 7.30pm, Gordano School canteen, St Mary's Road. www.rockchoir.com

Waves of Harmony (E) 7.30pm, Victoria Methodist Church Hall, Station Road, Weston-super-Mare. Women's 4-part acapella group. 01934 643 823. www.wavesofharmony.co.uk

Cheddar Male Choir (E) 7.30pm, Draycott Village Hall. New members welcome. www.cheddarmvchoir.co.uk

Winscombe Community Choir (E) 7.30pm, Winscombe Primary School, Moorham Road. www.winscombecommunitychoir.org.uk

Campus Choir (E) 7.30-9pm, The Campus, Locking Castle, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 832 283. www.singoutlouduk.com

Weston Choral Society (E) (term time only) 7.30pm, Milton Methodist Church Hall, Milton Hill, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 813 255

Clevedon Music Club (3) 7.30pm, Community Centre, Princes Road. Classical concerts by professional musicians. £8 per concert on the door. 01275 879 099

Nailsea Choral Society (E) 7.30pm, Vestry Hall, Christ Church, Nailsea. 01275 875 533 www.nailseachoral.org.uk

Trinity Singers (E) 7.30pm, Churchill Primary School, Pudding Pie Lane, Langford. www.trinitysingers.co.uk 01934 415 301

Tra La Community Choir (A) 7.30pm, Club Room, Community Centre, Long Ashton. 07932 623 672

Portishead Town Band (E) 7.45pm, Methodist Church Hall, High Street. New players welcome. 07816 544 474, 01275 818 575



Pill Community Choir (E) 7.45-9.15pm, Pill Community Centre. £5 per session or £4 if paying for a term. Free taster session. www.wendysergeant.vpweb.co.uk, 01275 814 220

Congresbury Singers (E) 7.50pm, Old School Rooms, Congresbury. 01934 876 104

Samba Drumming (E) 8-10pm, All Saint's Church Hall, All Saint's Lane, Clevedon. Beginners welcome, £6 with free taster session. 01275 545 714

Weston Brass Band (E) (and Thu) 8pm, Church Road Methodist Church, Upper Church Road, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 842 461

Nailsea Folk Club (2) Grove Sports Centre, Nailsea. (4) Prince of Orange Inn, Yatton. All musicians and singers welcome. 01275 857 784

Wednesdays

Clevedon Ladies Choir (E) (September-June) 2.15-3.30pm, St Peter's Church Hall, Alexandra Road. £25 per year. 01275 874 109 clevedonladieschoir@gmail.com

Highly Strung Community Band (E) 6.30-9.30pm. Folk/country music. www.highlystrungcommunityband.co.uk 01275 847 909

Nailsea Rock Choir (E, term time only) 7.30pm, Southfield Church, Southfield Road. www.rockchoir.com

Weston Music Appreciation Society (A) 7.30pm, St Jude's Hall, Baytree Road. 01934 814 752

Somerset Singers (E) 7.30pm, Meeting House, Sidcot School, Sidcot. 01934 743 965

Yatton Ladies Choir (E) 7.30-8.30pm, Yatton Infants School. £4 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Harmony Plus Choir (E) 7.45-9pm, Emmanuel Church, Weston. 01934 629 112

Footlights Community Choir 7.45-9.15pm, Community

Entrance, Nailsea School, Mizzymead Road. No experience necessary. 07818 065 015 footlightsperformance@gmail.com

Portishead Community Choir (E) 8-9.30pm, Avon Way Hall, Portishead. £5 per session or £4 if paying for a term. Free taster session. www.wendysergeant.vpweb.co.uk, 01275 814 220

Thursdays

Music Is Fun (E) (babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers) Methodist Church, Nailsea. 30 min session £3, 40 min session £3.40. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Singing Mums Choir (E) 7.10-8.10pm, Nailsea School. £4 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

The Baytree Singers (E) 7.30-9.30pm, St Jude's Hall, St Peter's Church, Baytree Road, Worle. No experience necessary.

Portishead Choral Society (E) 7.45pm, The Folk Hall, High Street, Portishead. 01275 855 059

Cantiamo Ladies Choir (A) (grade 8+ musicians only) 8.15-9.30pm, Nailsea School. £5 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Weston Organ and Keyboard Club (1) 7.30pm, Somerset Suite, Weston Football Club. £5 members, £6 non-members. 01934 812 759

Worle Community Choir (E) 7.30pm, Beckett Primary School, Tavistock Road, Worle. New members welcome. 07972 909 939

Vibe Pop/Rock Choir (E) 7.30-9.30 pm, St Joseph's Primary School, Bristol Road, Portishead. vibepopchoir@gmail.com

Muskrats Jazz Band (1) 8.30pm, Clarence House, High Street, Portishead. £3. Bar and dancing, all welcome. 01275 814 434

Traditional jazz night (2) 8.30pm, Salthouse pub, Clevedon. Resident band, the Dixieland Rascals. Free entry



Fridays

Singastics Junior Choir (E) (Y3-Y7) 3.40-4.30pm, Hannah More School, Nailsea. £3 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Lions Brass 4 Youth (E) 5.30pm/6.15-7.45pm, 1st Clevedon Scout Hall. County brass band. 07815 733 886

Weston Youth Orchestra (E) 6-7pm (8-12 yrs), 7-9pm (12-20 yrs). Boulevard United Reformed Church, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 622 519 or 07787 520 230

Male Choir (E) 7.30-9pm, Victoria Methodist Hall, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 529 728

North Somerset Community Brass Band (E) 7.30-9.30pm, Puxton and Hewish Village Hall. 01275 397 582

Congresbury Brass Band (E) 7.30-9.30pm, Methodist Church Hall, Congresbury. 01275 849 611/07986 007 829

Clevedon Gilbert and Sullivan Society (E) 7.30-10pm, St Peter's Church Hall, Alexandra Road, Clevedon. New members welcome. 01934 838 713

Nailsea Concert Orchestra (E) (term time only) 7.30pm, Nailsea Methodist Church. www.nailseaconcertorchestra.org

West Mendip Orchestra (E) (term time only) 7.45-10pm, Lynch Chapel, Winscombe. 01275 463 480

Harmony Plus Brass (E) 7.45pm, Emmanuel Church, Weston. 01934 629 112

Nailsea Theatre Club (E) 8pm, Nailsea Little Theatre, Union Street. 01275 852 275 (Box office: 07772 981 037)

Saturdays

Pret A Chanter Ladies Choir (A) 9.30-11.30am, Southfield Church, Nailsea. £8 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Cadbury Saxophone Band (A) 10.15am-12.30pm in Cleeve/Yatton. 01934 830 072 or www.cadburysaxband.co.uk

Sundays

Barley Rye choir (E) 6.30-8.30pm (winter) 7-9pm (summer), Ring o' Bells, Nailsea. New members welcome. 01454 411 052



July

Sunday 15

Great Weston Ride

A 57-mile challenge bike ride from Bristol to Weston-super-Mare, through the Mendips and across the Somerset Levels. Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult. No under 14s. £29.50 for adult entry. 07956 858 851 or mail@greatwestonride.com www.greatwestonride.com



Family Yoga with Finnola Staples

5.15pm, Haywood Village Academy, Weston-super-Mare. For ages 3+. £5 for whole family (two adults and two children). www.sweetresultsfitness.co.uk

SweetResultFitness

August

Saturday 4

Mendip Marauder Ultramarathon (30 or 50 miles). Mendip Way to Uphill beach. 8am start for 50-miler, 10am start for 30-miler. www.albionrunning.org/mendip-marauder

Saturday 11

Portishead Triathlon Portishead www.pac-tri.com

Saturday 25 and Sunday 26

The 401 Festival of Running

Portishead Lake Grounds, Portishead. Multiple distances for adults and children, including a 5k and half marathon on Saturday, 10k on Sunday. Including free music festival and street food. Organised by 401 marathon runner Ben Smith, to raise money for the 401 Foundation. www.the401.foundation



September

Sunday 16

Masterclass with Zumba Education Specialist™ Hender Corredor-Escalante

Hans Price Academy, Weston-super-Mare Strong By Zumba 10-11am, Zumba 11:30am-1pm. Also, Family Zumba 10-10.45am (from age 8) and Kids Zumba 11.30am-12.15pm (ages 4-7) Adults £10, children £2.50 www.sweetresultsfitness.co.uk

SweetResultFitness

Visit the gym, go for a swim, or take part in a class at one of North Somerset's leisure centres:

@Worle

New Bristol Road, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 529 540 www.worle.org.uk

Backwell leisure centre

Farleigh Road. 01275 463 726 www.leisurecentre.com/backwell-leisure-centre

The Campus

Locking Castle, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 427 427 www.the-campus.org.uk

Churchill sports centre

Churchill Green. 01934 852 303 www.better.org.uk/churchill-sports-centre

Clevedon School sports centre

Valley Road. 01275 877 182

Gordano School sports centre

St Marys Road, Portishead. 01275 843 942 www.gordanosportscentre.org.uk

Hans Price sports centre

Marchfields Way, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 642 426 www.hansprice.org.uk/sports-centre

Hutton Moor leisure centre

Hutton Moor Road, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 425 900 www.leisurecentre.com/hutton-moor-leisure-centre

The Link at Nailsea School

Mizzymeard Road, Nailsea 01275 852 251 www.nailseaschool.com/the-link/sports

Parish Wharf leisure centre

Harbour Road, Portishead. 01275 848 494 www.placesforpeopleleisure.org/centres/parish-wharf-leisure-centre

Portishead Open Air Pool

Esplanade Road. 01275 843 454 www.portisheadopenairpool.org.uk

Scotch Horn leisure centre

Brockway, Nailsea. 01275 856 965 www.leisurecentre.com/scotch-horn-leisure-centre

Strode leisure centre

Strode Road, Clevedon. 01275 879 242 www.placesforpeopleleisure.org/centres/strode-leisure-centre

Mondays

Stroke Communication Group (E) 10am, Summer Lane Care Home, Diamond Batch. 01275 870 328

Positive Step Coffee Morning (2) 10am-noon, Locking Castle Church Hall, Jasmine Way.
www.positivestep.org.uk

Arthritis Care Weston Branch (2) 2pm, St Saviours Hall, Locking Rd. 01934 622 808

Croquet Club (E, and Weds and Fri, April-Oct) 2-4pm, Clarence Park East, Weston-super-Mare. Just turn up or call 01934 413 515
clarencparkcroquet@gmail.com

Fibromyalgia Group (4) 2pm, Our Lady of Lourdes church hall, Baytree Road, Worle. 01934 413 868

Myalgic Encephalopathy/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Support Group (4) 1.30pm, The Sub Station, St Andrew's Parade, Weston-super-Mare.
help.me.wsm@gmail.com

Qigong (E) 7.30-9pm, Locking Village Hall. 07913 922 063
jan.qigong@gmail.com

Tuesdays

Western Active Stroke Group (E) 10am, Worlebury Golf Club. 01934 519 266

Somerset Cancer Care Support Group (E) 10am, Summer Lane Care Home, Diamond Batch. 0800 731 4608

Dance fitness (E) 10am, Clevedon Triangle Club. £4. 01275 544 472

Walking Football (E) 10-11am, Weston Football Club. £2 per session. 07970 681 178



DIAL (Disability Information and Advice Line) (E) 11am-3pm (also Thursdays). Answer machine at all other times. 01934 419 426
www.westondial.co.uk

Golden Oldies sing and stretch classes Venues in Clevedon, Portishead, Weston-super-Mare, Pill and Nailsea. 01761 470 006
www.golden-oldies.org.uk

Stroke Group (E) noon, Parish Wharf Leisure Centre, Portishead. 07899 754 937

Fibro Friends WSM – Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Support Group (2) 11am, 1 in 4 People, Oxford Street, Weston
www.fibrofriendswsm.co.uk

Weston Macular Support Group (2) 2pm, Lauriston Hotel, Weston. 01934 516 627

Cancer Rehabilitation class (E) 2-3pm, Hutton Moor leisure centre, Weston-super-Mare. 07899 754 937

Cancer Rehabilitation class (E) 3-4pm, Hands Stadium, Davis Lane, Clevedon. £1.50 per class. 07800 743305

Nailsea and District Footpath Group (E) and Thu (E), Sun (2,3), Sat (4). Range of walking difficulties.
www.nfpg.org.uk or 01275 810 067

Bipolar UK (2) 7.30pm, FRIEND, Oxford Street, Weston. 0845 434 9915

Tuesday Badminton club (E, term time) 8-10pm, Broadoak School, Weston-super-Mare.
johnrudall@hotmail.com

Wednesdays

Ashcombe Park Bowling Club (E)(and Sat) 10am-noon, Ashcombe Park, Weston. 01934 522 779

Stroke Communication Group (A) 10am, Methodist Church Hall, Silver Street, Nailsea. 01275 870 328

Women's Action Group (WAGS) 12.30-2pm, 35 Boulevard, Weston-super-Mare. Women-only group for those who need help with addiction. 01934 427 940

NHS Stop Smoking Café (E) 6pm, Tesco café, Weston. 01275 546 744

Weston Area National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society (2) 6.30-8.30pm, The Campus, Locking Castle, Weston. www.nras.org.uk, 01934 620 583

Nailsea and Backwell Diabetes Support Group (2) 7-9pm, Methodist Church Hall, Silver Street.
nailsea.diabetes@gmail.com

Bogs of Somerset Hash House Harriers (E) 7.15pm, various locations. See www.bristolhash.org.uk/bogs 079 6649 5086 or 01275 874 671

Thursdays

YouTree Cancer Support Group (E) 10am, Lauriston Hotel, Knightstone Rd, Weston. 07932 143 452

FUCHSIA Cancer Support Group (E) 10am, Night Jar pub, Worle. 07896 699 627

Friendship Group (E) 10am-noon, Worlebury Golf Club. For people with long-term illness, carers also welcome. 01934 823 415

Badders Badminton Group (E) 10am-noon, Strode Leisure Centre. 01179 682 461

Walking Football (E) 10.30-11.30am, Hand Stadium, Clevedon. 01275 878 052

Parkinson's UK Weston Branch (1) 2.30pm, St Saviour's Hall, Locking Rd. 01934 813 547/625 633

Portishead Macular Help Group (4) 2.30pm, Folk Hall. 01275 845 238

Weston Osteoporosis Support Group Meets 5 times a year (March, May, July, September and November), in the Lecture Theatre, The Academy, Weston General Hospital. Information about local services and practical matters for people with osteoporosis. 01934 415 096
moraine7@hotmail.co.uk

Diabetes UK (Weston) (1) 7.30pm, Waverley Suite, Weston Hospital Academy [also – quiz night (2) Social Club, Devonshire Road] 01934 628 985

Upfront Friends (4) 7.30pm, Royal Hotel, South Parade, Weston-super-Mare. For breast cancer sufferers, survivors and friends. 01934 815 446 (call first in case venue is changed)

South Avon Canoe Club (E, Oct-March) 8.15-10pm, Churchill Swimming Pool. Kit provided All are welcome.
southavoncanoeclub@gmail.com
www.sacc.co.uk

Fridays

Partially Sighted and Blind Club (E) 10.15am-2pm, Pembroke Court, Elton Rd, Clevedon. 01275 219 730

Long Ashton Bowling Club (E, April-Sept) 6pm, Community Centre, Keedwell Hill, Long Ashton. No previous experience necessary. 01275 853 885



Portishead Stroke Drop-In Centre (1) 10.30am, Clarence House, High Street. 01275 818 492

Saturdays

Parkinson's UK North West Somerset branch meeting (2) 10.30am-12.15pm, St Francis Church Hall, Nailsea. 01275 855 524

Sundays

Weston Ability FC (E) 11am-noon, @Worle, New Bristol Road, Weston. Football club for ages 8 and up with special needs. 07876 064 439



Stay steady classes

Age UK Somerset runs classes across the area for anyone aged 50+, including Movement to Music, seated yoga, Stretch and Flex, Tai Chi, Boccia, and chair-based Flexercise sessions.

Visit www.ageuksomerset.org.uk/somerset or contact Nikki Smith on 07530 777 895 or nikki.smith@ageuksomerset.org.uk

Read the latest Active Directory at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/go4life



Get on your bike this summer

Summer is the perfect time to get on your bike.

Many schemes are available in North Somerset to encourage you to get back on the saddle and the free Borrow a Bike scheme could be just the answer.



Find out more at betterbybike.info/loanbikes

People living or working in the area can borrow a bike for free for two weeks, including the new Specialized Alibi.

This revolutionary bike features airless tyres, completely removing the pain of pumping up or fixing punctures.

Other bikes available include electric or folding ones.

Bikes come with all accessories and a helmet can be supplied if needed.



Give your bike a once-over

If your bike has been hibernating and you're not sure it works properly, an appointment with a mechanic could be just what the doctor ordered.

North Somerset Council's sustainable travel team offers free Dr Bike sessions for schools, businesses and community organisations in the area, thanks to funding from the Department for Transport.

Mechanics carry out safety checks and minor repairs as well as giving advice about further repairs.

Two mechanics recently serviced 32 bikes at Worle Community School.

Assistant business manager at the school, Neill Bird, said: "We were really pleased when Dr Bike mechanics visited, making all those future journeys that little bit safer."

Organisations can also borrow an electric bike for free for six months to encourage staff to cycle to meetings or during lunchtime.

These new e-bikes can go up to 100 miles on a single charge.

Buy a used or new bike

Refurbished bikes are available from these shops:

- **In2gear** – Clarence Park East, Walliscote Road, Weston-super-Mare
- **Weston Bicycle Works** – (rear of) 143, Locking Road, Weston-super-Mare

If you're looking for a new bike, visit betterbybike.info/bike-shops to find your nearest shop.



Take part in the Travelwest Challenge

Compete with colleagues, friends or neighbours during a sustainable travel challenge this summer.

Track your journeys on your smartphone using the BetterPoints app and be rewarded for leaving the car at home.

www.travelwest.info/challenge

To book a free Dr Bike session or electric pool bike, contact sustainable.travel@n-somerset.gov.uk or 01934 426 629



Country walk around Claverham



Claverham is a pretty village nestled in the North Somerset levels near Yatton. This short, accessible route around the village passes fields and farms along the quiet country lanes.

Walk information

Distance: 2.7 miles

Difficulty: a flat route, following quiet country lanes. It is accessible for wheelchairs and buggies. There is no pavement along some of the lanes but roads were quiet when *Life* did the walk.

Duration: about 1 hour

Map: OS 154 Explorer

How to get there

Start at map ref: ST 447662

By car: from the A370 at Yatton. Parking is on residential roads in the village, so please park considerably (village hall car park is only for people using the venue)

By bus: X2 – Weston to Bristol service

Claverham, between Yatton and Cleeve, was originally a farming hamlet within the North Somerset levels. It was probably named after the clover fields which surround the village.

This walk takes a leisurely stroll along the village lanes. Start at the corner of High Street and Claverham Road.

The building on this corner was originally the village post office and more recently a restaurant.

Go along the High Street, passing Chestnut Drive on your left and Melanie's hairdressers and Pizza2Go on your right.



Continue along this road as it turns a sharp right corner. It becomes a lane and the pavement runs out so be careful of vehicles.

You will pass fields, with far-reaching views towards Clevedon on your left.

Continue on and you will come to the picturesque St Barnabas Church on the junction of Jasmine Lane and Brockley Way.

The grade II listed limestone church dates from 1879 and was completed as a daughter church to St Mary's in Yatton.

Continue on Brockley Way, past a forge and some stables. Follow it around the bend and you will come





This map is for guidance only and walkers should carry and use the OS 1:25000 map when out. © Crown copyright and database rights 2018 Ordnance Survey 100023397. You are not permitted to copy, sub-license, distribute or sell this data to third parties in any form.

to a t-junction. Turn left here and continue past some nurseries.

Continue along Lower Claverham. These lanes are popular with cyclists and horse riders on sunny days.

The lane winds between fields, past Chestnut Farm and Clover Nursery on the left, and Streamcross Farm on the right.

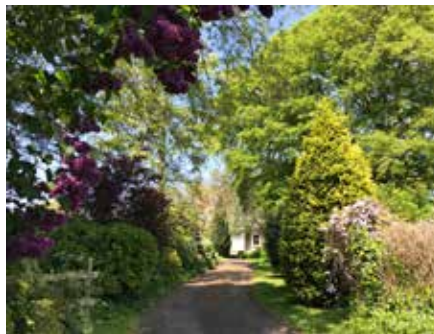
Carry on and you will then pass the picturesque Manor Cottage and splendid Claverham House on your right.

Grade II Claverham House dates from 1744, with 19th century additions including a wooden summerhouse and Victorian greenhouse.

Please note – this is a private house, not open to the public.

Shortly after here there is a left turn into Chestnut Drive.

Follow this until you meet the High Street again, facing Melanie's hairdressers and your start.



Health walks

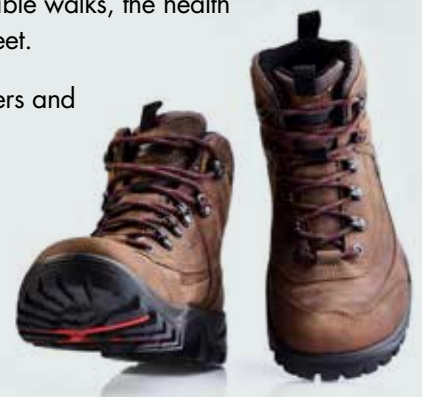
If you'd like to enjoy more short, accessible walks, the health walks initiative could be just up your street.

Health walks are led by trained volunteers and last between 30 and 90 minutes.

They are the ideal first step for anyone wanting to become more active.

Six groups run across North Somerset, including Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead, Weston-super-Mare, Winscombe and Yatton.

To find out more visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/healthwalks or call the sports and active lifestyles team on 01275 882 730.





SUMMER CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



Mondays

Weston Monday Art Group (E) 10am, St Saviour's Church Hall, Locking Rd. 01934 514 127

Winscombe District U3A Coffee Morning (1, except Aug) 10am, Winscombe Community Centre. £1 inc refreshments.

Tots 1 (E, term time only) 10-11.30am, Bristol Road Baptist Church, Southside, Weston-super-Mare

Iron Age hillfort of Weston-super-Mare restoration group (E) (and Fridays) 10am-noon, access from Trinity Road. 01934 412 038

Winscombe Probus Club (2 and 4) 10.30am, Winscombe Community Centre. 01934 782 505

Duplicate bridge (E)(and Thurs, Fri, Sat) 1.30pm, 21 Montpelier, Weston. 01934 633 530

Kewstoke Arts and Crafts Group (E) 2pm, Village Hall. 01934 628 309

Georgian Club for over 60s (E) 2pm, St Georges Community Centre, Willow Close. 01934 510 953

NHS Retirement Fellowship (2) 2pm, Our Lady of Lourdes Church Hall, Worle. 01934 417 850

Winscombe District U3A (3, except Aug and Dec) 2pm, Winscombe Community Centre. £1.50 members, £2 non-members.

Yatton Art Group (E) 2.15pm, Village Hall. 01934 249 907

Clevedon Mixed Leisure Club (1 and 3) 2.30pm, Consti Club, Kenn Road. 01275 875 179

Weston Flower Arrangement Society (4) 2.30pm, St Georges Hall. 01934 812 177

Whist drive-in, Portishead (E) 7.15pm. 01275 844 290 or 843 851

Clevedon Lions Club (3) 7.15pm, Walton Hotel. 01275 878 983

Weston Amateur Radio Society (E) 7.30pm, Weston Social Club, Drove Rd. 01761 221 206

Weston Quilters (1) 7.30pm, United Reform Church, Waterloo Street. 01934 834 278

Worle Lions (2) 8pm, Windsor Castle pub. www.worlelions.co.uk, 08458 339 862

Lions Club of Portishead (2) 8pm, Clarence House, High Street. 08432 895 330

Nailsea Lions Club (2) 8pm, Grove Sports Centre. 01275 855 046

Yatton WI (2) 8pm, Yatton Village Hall. 01934 834 796

Royal British Legion (Portishead) (3) 8pm, Clarence House, High Street. 01934 251 468

Tuesdays

Weston U3A (E) 10am, Friends Meeting House, High Street

Mendip Art Group (E) 10am, Banwell Village Hall. 01934 645 885

North Somerset Botanical Painting Society (E) 10am, Brackenwood Garden Centre, Abbots Leigh. 01934 832 952

Age UK free advice sessions (1) 10am-noon, Portishead Library, (2) 10am-noon, Nailsea Library, (4) 9.30am-12.30pm, Winscombe GP surgery. 0845 643 4621

Coffee and Chat (E, also Saturdays) 10am-noon, Portishead High Street Methodist Church, Portishead. 01275 844 917

Friends of Trendlewood Park (3)(and first Sun) 10am-1pm, Trendlewood Park, Nailsea. www.friendsoftrendlewoodpark.org.uk, 07879 607 492

Clevedon Happy Companions Club (E) 10.30am-2.30pm. Small, friendly social group for 4th age Clevedonians. 07887 744 295

Coffee Stop drop-in coffee morning (E) 10.30am, Milton Baptist Church, Baytree Rd. 01934 641 574

Kewstoke's Tiny Teds Toddler Group (E) 10.30am-noon, St Paul's Church Hall. £2 per family. 07980 384 034

Clevedon Probus Club 1974 (1)(3) 10.30am, Community Centre, Princes Rd. 01275 876 297

Clevedon Probus2008 Club (2)(4) 10.30am, Clevedon Community Centre, Princes Rd. 01275 874 631

Multicultural Friendship Association (E) 1-3pm, Weston Room, Badger Centre, Wadham Street, Weston. 07587 335 963, www.mfa-wsm.org.uk

Lynne Castell Watercolours Art Group (E) 1-4pm, Greenways Farm, 2 Lyefield Road, Worle. 01934 628 760 or www.lynnecastell.f2s.com

Portishead Rotary Club Memory Café (1)(3) 2.15pm, Jubilee Hall, Slade Rd. 01275 871 197

Weston Scrabble Club (E) 7pm, St Saviour's Church Hall, Locking Rd. 01934 620 948

Weston-super-Mare and District Family History Society (4, except Aug and Dec) 7pm, Vintage Church, Hughenden Road, Weston. 01934 418 998

Catenian Association (1) 7.15pm, Cadbury House Hotel, Congresbury. For Catholic men. 01275 877 180

Rotary Club of Portishead (E) 7.30pm, Clarence House, High Street. 01275 845 509

A1 Camera Club (E) 7.30pm, St Georges Community Centre, Willow Close. 01934 521 780

Hutton Ladies Group (1) 7.30pm, Village Hall. 01934 623 450

Bleadon Photographic Club (1, 2, 4) 7.30-9.30pm, Bleadon Coronation Hall. 01934 812 573

Portishead Quilters (1)(3) 7.30pm, Redcliffe Hall. 01275 848 467

North Somerset Vintage Tractor Club (1) Redhill Village Hall. 01275 474 649

Weston Railway Society (1) Function Room, Conservative Club. 01934 628 289

Clevedon Art Club (2) 7.30pm, Sixth Form Centre, Clevedon School, Valley Road. 01275 879 556

Women of Weston Women's Institute (3) 7.30pm, Vintage Community Church, Hughenden Road, Weston. WeAreWOWWI@gmail.com

Weston Archaeological and Natural History Society (2) 7.30pm, Victoria Methodist Church Hall, Station Rd. 01934 620 785

Portishead Townswomen's Guild (4) 7.30pm, Folk Hall. 01275 847 271

Clevedon and District Model Boat Club (4) 7.30pm, The Salthouse (also sail on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 10am)

Nailsea and District Model Railway Club (E) 7.30pm, Clevedon Craft Centre, off Moor Lane. www.nailsea-district-mrc.co.uk

Clevedon and District Flower Club (4) 7.30pm, Community Centre, Princes Rd. 01275 859 797

Nailsea Miners Rotary Club (E) 7.45pm, George pub, Backwell. 01275 854 641

Weston and Mendip Advanced Motorists' Group (3) 8pm, Village Hall, Crookes Lane, Kewstoke

Yeo Valley Lions Club (2) 8pm, Yatton Village Hall. 08458 339 602

North Somerset Modellers' Society (2) 8.30pm, Windsor Castle pub, Milton. 01934 417 907

Wednesdays

Lynne Castell Oils, Acrylics, Pastels Art Group (E) 10am-1pm, Greenways Farm, 2 Lyefield Road, Worle. 01934 628 760 or www.lynnecastell.f2s.com

Yeo Valley Probus Club (1) (3) 10.30am, Backwell Bowls Club. 01275 857 769

Backwell Probus Club (2)(4) 10.30am, West Backwell Bowling Club. For retired men, to listen to talks on a wide variety of topics. 01275 462 627

North Somerset Over 50s Club (4) 11am, Clevedon Community Centre. 01275 842 282

Gordano Probus Club (2) 12.30pm, Clarence House, High Street, Portishead. 01275 398 706

Portishead Probus Club 73 (3) noon-3pm, Clarence House Social Club, High Street. 01275 814 249/07715 572 106

Failand Art Group (E) 1.30pm, Village Hall, Oxhouse Lane. Jimpeck1502@gmail.com

Banwell Bridge Club (E) 1.30pm, Village Hall. 01934 522 405

Friends of Weston-super-Mare Museum (3) 1.30pm, Blakehay Café, Wadham Street, Weston. Meetings free to members. Small fee to visitors.

Woodspring Scrabble Club (E) 2pm, United Reformed Church, Weston. 01934 815 358





Nailsea Scrabble Club (E) 2pm, Mizzymead Recreation Centre. 01275 464 864

Worle Friendship Club (E) 2pm, Worle Community Centre, Lawrence Rd. 01934 510 863

Portbury Over Sixties Club (1) 2pm, Portbury Village Hall

Backwell Garden Club (3) 2pm, WI Hall. 01275 464 236

Portishead Senior Citizens Forum (3) 2.15pm, Folk Hall. 01275 843 678

Clevedon Senior Citizens' Forum (4) 2.30pm, Masonic Hall, Albert Road. 01275 874 296

Weston Amnesty International (2) 6.30pm, Worlebury Golf Club, Weston. 01934 419 014

Weston and Worle Bridge Club (E) 7pm (and Fri 2pm), St Joseph's Church Hall, Camp Rd. 01934 510 027

Weston Sea Cadets (E) (and Fri), 7pm, Cadet HQ, Sunnyside Rd North. 11 to 18-year-olds.

Portishead Spiritualist Association (E) 7.30pm, Brampton Way Playgroup Hall, Brampton Way. 01275 843 744

Weston Moose Social Evening (4) 7pm, Ebdon Arms, Wick St Lawrence. Skittles, darts and friendly conversation. 01934 814 042 or 41litton@iscali.co.uk

Wrington Vale Rotary Club (E) 7.30pm, Burrington Inn, Burrington Combe. 01934 844 214

Clevedon Yeo Rotary Club (1 and 3) 7.30pm, Walton Park Hotel, Wellington Terrace, Clevedon. 01275 218 987
www.clevedoneyeorotary.org.uk

Nailsea and District Horticultural Society (2) 7.30pm, United Reformed Church Hall, Stockway North. £2 for members, £3 for visitors. 01275 855 342

Nailsea Stamp and Postcard Club (2) 7.30pm, Mizzymead Recreation Centre. 01275 855 875

Nailsea and Backwell Townswomen's Guild (2) 7.30pm, Methodist Hall. 01275 810 579

Worle WI (3) 7.30pm, Castle Batch Community Centre, Bishop's Avenue. 01934 511 329

Portishead Floral Art Society (3) 7.30pm, Somerset Hall. £5 for visitors. 01275 374 201

Royal British Legion (Clevedon) (3) 7.30pm, Community Centre, Prince's Rd 01275 879 816

Gordano Valley 41 Club (4) 7.30pm, Royal Inn, Portishead. 01275 817 258

Moorhens WI (1) 8pm, Locking Castle Church. moorhensWI@gmail.com

Thursdays

Community Coffee Morning (E) 10am, Clarence Park Baptist Church, Walliscote Road, Weston. 01934 424 550

Probus Club WSM (1)(3) 10am, Worlebury Golf Club, Worlebury. 01934 514 857
www.probusweston.com

Probus Club of Nailsea (2) (4) 10am, Mizzymead Social Club. 01275 790 335

Probus Milton (2)(4) 10am, Milton Methodist Church. 01934 525 476

Weston Twins and More (4) 10am, Kids Hut, Winter Gardens. 01934 528 348

Civil Service Retirement Fellowship (1)(3) 10am, Friends Meeting House, High Street, Weston. 01275 858 766

Copse Coffee drop-in coffee morning (A) 10.30am, Copse Rd Chapel, Seavale Rd, Clevedon. 01275 798 667/07873 180 135

Notable Club (E) Uphill Scouts Hall. 07749 625 217

Channell Scrabble Club (E) 2pm, Friends Meeting House, High Street, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 418 876

Social duplicate bridge (E) 2pm, Vintage Community Church Hall, Hughenden Road, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 627 751

Winscombe Bridge Club 2pm. 01275 540 604
www.winbridge.org.uk

Uphill Friendship Club (over 50s) (E) 2.15pm, Victory Hall, Uphill. 01934 429 678

Weston and District National Trust Association (2)(and fourth Fri) 2.15pm, Corpus Christi Church Hall, Weston. 01934 633 593

Yatton Knitting Club (E) 5.45pm, Yatton Library. All abilities welcome. Free tea or coffee. 01934 426 100

Vintage Hornby Railway Collectors (4) 6pm, Scout Hut, Totterdown Rd Weston. 01934 413 053

Loves Book Club (1) 6.30pm, Loves Cafe, 9 West Street. 01934 645 672

Vegetarian Cookery Club (A) 6.45pm, Church Hall, 500 Locking Rd, Worle. 01934 628 860

Uphill Brushstrokes (2) 7pm, Uphill Village Hall. All abilities. 01934 820 105

Weston Woodturning Circle (3) 7pm, Weston Football Club, Winterstoke Rd. 01934 510 862

Weston Chess Club (E) 7.30pm, Weston-super-Mare Conservative Club, 24-26 Alexandra Parade. 01934 643 171

Portishead Camera Club (E, Sept-May) 7.30pm, Redcliffe Bay Hall, Newhaven Road. 01275 848 895
www.portisheadcameraclub.co.uk

Weston-super-Mare Horticultural Society (2) 7.30pm, St Peter's Church Hall, Baytree Rd.

Banwell WI (2) 7.30pm, Village Hall, Banwell. Visitors welcome. 01934 253 761

Hewish and District WI (3) 7.30pm, Hewish and Puxton Village Hall, Maysgreen Lane. 01934 249 352

Avon Wildlife Trust Long Ashton (3) 7.30pm, Jubilee Pavilion, Keedwell Hill. 01275 392 690

North Somerset Rural Business Forum (3) 7.30pm, Mendip Spring Golf Club. £7.50 for non members. 01531 820 307

Royal British Legion (Nailsea) (3) 7.30pm, Grove Sports Club. 01275 856 879

Bleadon Sugarcraft Club (4) 7.30pm, Bleadon Coronation Hall, Visitors £3.50. 07535 915 582

Bristol Sailors Meeting (4) 8pm, British Legion Hall, Long Ashton.

Fridays

Good Companions Senior Citizens Club (E) 9am, Somerset Hall, Portishead. 01275 848 059

Gadget Club (1) 10-11am, Town Hall library, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 426 010

Lynne Castell Calligraphy Group (A) 10am-1pm, a Weston venue. 01934 628 760 or www.lynnecastell.f2s.com

Mead Vale Friendship Club (over 50s) (E) 2pm, Community Hall, Worle. 01934 510 672

Portishead Folk Hall Senior Citizens Club (E) 2pm, Folk Hall, High Street, Portishead. £1, inc refreshments and entertainment. 01275 390 350

50-plus club (E) 2-4pm, Castle Batch Community Centre, Bishop Avenue, Worle.

Scrabble Club (E) 2.15-5pm, Clevedon Conservative Club. £1 per session. 01275 342 974

Long Ashton Bowling Club (E - May-Sept) 6pm, Community Centre, Keedwell Hill. 01275 853 885

Nailsea Computer Club (1)(3)(4) 7pm, Southfield Church, Southfield Close, Nailsea. 01275 852 521

North Somerset Quilters (3) 7.30pm, WI Hall, Station Rd, Backwell. 01275 463 119

Portishead Stamp Club (4) 7.30pm, Friends' Meeting House, St Mary's Rd. Annual convention at Gordano School on 18 August and discussion at Friends' Meeting House on 24 August. New members welcome from Portishead and beyond. www.portisheadphilatelicsociety.org.uk

Banwell Society of Archaeology (2) 7.30pm, Banwell Village Hall.

Saturdays

Hutton Lace and Craft Group (2) 9.30am, Village Hall. 01934 822 871

CREWS Backstage Support (E) 10am-1pm, The Stables, Princes Rd, Clevedon. 07824 821 814

Portbury Community Café (1) 10am, Village Hall. 07971 501 374

Friends of the Playhouse 10am, upstairs bar of The Playhouse, High Street, Weston. Regular fundraising coffee mornings.

YABEEP Natural Beekeeping Group (2) 10.30am, Claverham Village Hall, Bishops Rd. YABEEP@gmail.com

Avon Guild of Spinners, Weavers and Dyers (2) 10.30am, Bowls Pavilion, Long Ashton Community Centre. 01275 464 526

Parkinson's UK North West Somerset branch meeting (2) 10.30am-12.15pm, St Francis Church Hall, Nailsea. 01275 855 524

Weston-super-Mare & District Family History (E) 2pm-3.30pm, Weston library, Town Hall, Walliscote Grove Rd.

Sundays

Games and other activities group for over 50s (3) 2-4pm, The Lawnside, Church Lane, Backwell. 01934 888 803

Worle Lions Quiz (1) Windsor Castle pub. Entry £2.50 inc food and cash prize. www.worlelions.co.uk 08458 339 862



Plan for £4m improvements to Grove Park

Popular Grove Park in Weston-super-Mare could see £4m of improvements so locals and visitors can enjoy the town's 'secret garden' even more.

The park, at the northern end of the High Street, has a rich and varied heritage which reflects the character and history of its neighbourhood.

North Somerset Council is now exploring options for a programme of improvements and will be submitting the first stage of a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) bid in August.

Work could include:

- renovating buildings, rockeries, ponds, boundaries, pathways, steps and planting to enhance the park's beauty and biodiversity
- improving the children's play area at the top
- developing the main entrance, enhancing the link between the High Street and the park
- training skilled apprenticeships in horticulture and heritage craft skills

- introducing park ambassadors to share their knowledge of the park's history with visitors
- linking with the Heritage Action Zone project to create a historic trail through the park and into the town centre.

John Flannigan, community and environment service manager at North Somerset Council, said: "As part of the proposed programme, the council will bid for £4m from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

"The process is in two stages and it's incredibly competitive, but we hope to progress to stage two at the end of the year.

"Grove Park is a wonderful, relaxing green space for many Westonians. The lottery funding will allow us to restore some of the heritage features, open up the park to visitors and

locals, and return this secret garden to its former glory."

Friends from Grove Park said: "We are delighted with the proposed changes.

"Our group has worked hard to improve the park, including fundraising £10,000 in partnership with Osprey Outdoors for a bug hotel, renovating the rockery and working with Weston College students to install new flowerbeds near the sports enclosure.

"We look forward to working with the council to bring this glorious park back to its original state."



Exhibition of aerial photography now open

Historic aerial photographs of Weston-super-Mare can now be viewed as part of a special exhibition celebrating the town's heritage.

Weston Past and Present is now open in Tiffany's Restaurant on the Grand Pier until 10 January next year.

It has been put together as part of the Heritage Action Zone initiative, with aerial photographs taken over the last few months by Historic England.

These are displayed alongside images of Weston from many years ago.

Cara MacMahon, Heritage Action Zone officer at North Somerset Council, said: "We wanted to feature archive and new imagery side-by-side to show how the landscape of



The Grand Pier in 1935



The Grand Pier today



Weston has changed in the last hundred years."

Michelle Michael, director and co-owner at the Grand Pier said: "We hope many people will visit and see for themselves how Weston has changed over the past century."

Weston was one of the first places in the country to be awarded Heritage Action Zone status.

The exhibition can be viewed in Tiffany's team room every day from 10am to 3pm until December.

Heritage Café working hand-in-hand with The Stable

A new manager has taken the helm of a popular café in Weston's Grove Village and is now working hand-in-hand with the creative hub next door.

Sarah Evans took over The Heritage, in Wadham Street, in May and the two businesses are going strong together.



Sarah Evans

Sarah, who is also a singer and well-known Adele impersonator, took over the business from her friend Terry Reynolds.

She said: "Terry and his staff built up a fantastic and loyal following so I look forward to continuing his great work, adding my own touches to the premises and the menus as the year goes on."

Kerry O'Neill manages The Stable next door, Weston's new creative hub and co-working space for the digital, tech and creative communities.

Kerry said: "It's always been brilliant to have the Heritage next door.

"Members of our co-working hub and their visitors, and all those attending our free workshops and events, have often popped in for lunch, cakes and coffees.

"We now have plans to work hand-in-hand with the café to offer discounts to our members, co-promoted evening and lunch events, and much more.

"We look forward to sending people in each other's direction as the years progress."

www.facebook.com/heritagewsm • www.facebook.com/thestableweston
www.thestableweston.com/en/events

Fifty years since the Great Floods

Fifty years have passed since heavy flooding hit the South West and homes and businesses were destroyed.

In July 1968, thunderstorms and torrential rain arrived in the region causing major damage, including locally in Congresbury and Wrington.

In more recent years, flooding also hit North Somerset in 2012 during the second wettest year on record in the UK, and again in 2016.

Life takes a look at the work which continues to be done in the area to reduce the risk...

Flood risk

Flooding can threaten lives and cause substantial damage to people, property, infrastructure and land.

While flooding is a natural process and cannot be completely prevented, it can be managed.

North Somerset Council has responsibility for managing flooding

from surface water, ordinary watercourses such as ditches and streams, and groundwater sources, as well as drainage from the road network.

Tidal flooding and main rivers remain the responsibility of the Environment Agency.

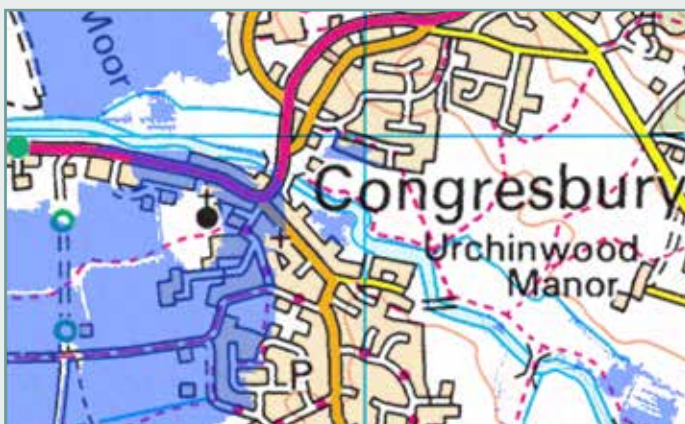
The council has developed a local flood risk management strategy and continues to work with partners such as the Environment Agency and Wessex Water to develop action plans.

Larger flood relief schemes are currently being completed in Wrington and the Summer Lane area of Weston-super-Mare.

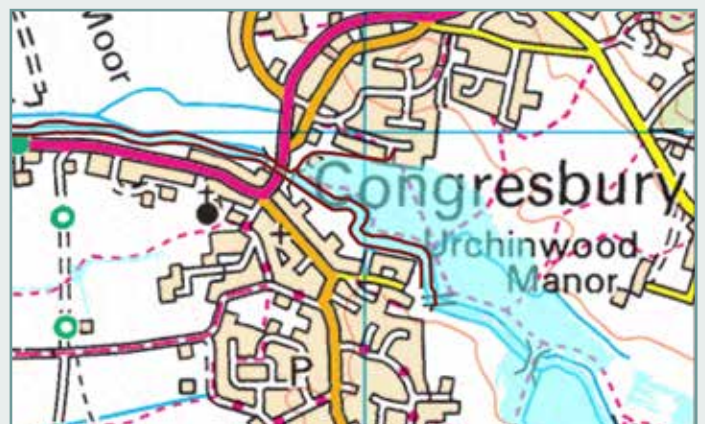
Summer Lane suffered flooding twice in 2012 and again in 2016, when at one stage 4,000 litres of water was pumped every minute to protect local homes and businesses.



Approximate extent of flooding without Environment Agency defences



Approximate extent of flooding with Environment Agency defences



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Flooding in Congresbury in 1968. Courtesy of Weston, Worle and Somerset Mercury.

Following the 2012 flooding, council officers produced a hydraulic model to analyse it and consider possible solutions.

Government funding of £240,000 was identified for the project, North Somerset Council agreed to provide £212,000, and in April this year the government announced the scheme would receive an additional £430,000 of funding.

Suggested improvements include raising the current embankments on the existing wet and dry ponds, building a new dry pond flood storage area, improving the ditch drainage and adding a new culvert crossing under Bransby Way.

Once completed, the project will provide nearby properties with a protection level of a 'one-in-200-years' flood event.

What happened in 1968?

Heavy rain arrived from northern France on the morning of Monday, 8 July and continued throughout the day.

Water levels in rivers and ditches across the South West began to rise but the flood defences of the time held strong.

The storm slowed during the early hours of Tuesday morning but following a sunny Wednesday morning, a second, larger rain front arrived.

Thunderstorms and torrential rain began, which was later recorded as a one-in-60-year event.

Severe flooding occurred in many towns and villages across the South West within hours, as much of the land was still saturated from Monday's rain.

In total seven people across the South West lost their lives and homes and businesses were destroyed. The Duke of Edinburgh later visited some of the worst-affected areas.

In North Somerset, Congresbury suffered major flooding and markers can still be spotted in local pubs to show the highest water level.

Major flood defences were later installed in the village to reduce the risk of such severe flooding happening again.

Reporting flooding

- If there is an emergency or danger to life, call **999**
- Report flooding to property (both internal and external) by downloading and filling out a form at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/reportpropertyflooding, or call Council Connect at **01934 888 802**
- Stay safe if you see flooding on the road or a blocked gully. Never enter flood water on foot or in your vehicle. Just six inches of fast flowing water can knock you over and there may be hazards underwater you can't see
- Report road flooding issues online at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/reporthishighwayflooding or call Council Connect at 01934 888 802.



For more information about flooding visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/flooding

An online directory developed by the National Flood Forum provides links to products and services to help protect your property, as well as flood resilience advice. Visit www.bluepages.org.uk

Sign up for free flood warnings from the Environment Agency at www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings or call **03459 881 188**

A Met Office weather warning app is also available on the Google Play or Apple app stores.

Trained volunteers in Congresbury and Wrington have joined North Somerset's Community Resilience scheme.

They work with council highways officers to deploy 'flood' signs as quickly as possible in their local communities when needed. Find out more about Community Resilience and help prepare your community for an emergency at www.communityresilience-ns.org.uk



Walk your way to health

Summer is the perfect time to be more active and small lifestyle changes could make a big difference to your long-term health and wellbeing.

Many of us know we should be getting more exercise but struggle to fit it in – but did you know that walking briskly for just 10 continuous minutes counts as exercise?

Brisk walking means going at a faster pace than usual to get your heart pumping.

And an app from Public Health England makes it easier to fit it into each day.

The free Active 10 app tracks your walking and tells you when to up the pace, whether you are walking to work, the shops, or getting some fresh air in the evening sunshine.

It's the only app of its kind to combine intensity and time, rather than just distance or number of steps.

Nearly 2,000 people in North Somerset have already downloaded the app and achieved nearly 37,000 hours of brisk walking between them.



Find out more and download the app at www.nhs.uk/active10

Free lifestyle support

Residents in Weston-super-Mare could access up to 12 sessions of healthy lifestyle support – for free.

North Somerset Council's Health Trainer service provides free and confidential one-to-one support to help people reach their personal goals and improve their health and wellbeing.

This might be to eat more healthily, exercise more, lose weight, stop smoking or reduce alcohol intake.

Some support can be offered in a group setting to enable you to gain from other people's experiences as well.

The service is available to Weston residents aged 18 or over.

Anyone not meeting this criteria will be referred to another organisation which can help.

Contact the Health Trainers to find out more or visit a drop-in session – no appointment necessary:

- Town Hall*, Weston-super-Mare – 10am-noon, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday



- For All Healthy Living Centre*, Weston-super-Mare – 1.30-2.30pm, Wednesdays
- Oldmixon Family Centre*, Weston-super-Mare – 9-11am, Tuesdays

*(visit reception on arrival and ask for the health trainer)

Some appointments are also available at the council's Castlewood office in Clevedon.

To find out if you're eligible to attend, contact: 01934 427 661

Health.trainers@n-somerset.gov.uk

NSHealthTrainer



BECAUSE THERE'S ONLY ONE YOU



Could you share a life?

Caring residents in North Somerset are opening up their family homes to accommodate people with extra needs.

The Shared Lives scheme sees people welcoming adults into their own home to help them live a full and meaningful life, whether on a full-time, short break or daily basis.

This might include older people, those living with dementia, a learning disability, those with mental health difficulties, or physical or sensory impairments.

John, aged 33, has a learning disability and recently moved out of a small care home where he had been living for nine years.

His social worker suggested the Shared Lives scheme so he was matched with a family and had several day visits and overnight stays to get to know them before moving in.

They have now all adjusted to living together and John likes to be part of the family as well as enjoying having freedom and control.

Homeowner Abi said: "John has settled in really well, he has an amazing sense of humour."

The family have had meals out together, day trips, swimming sessions, and John enjoys walking the dog.

Abi supported John to buy himself a bike and John is now loving the independence and freedom, and regularly goes on bike rides with one of Abi's children.

John said:

"I feel valued and that I belong."

Shared Lives carers come from all walks of life and do not need specific qualifications or experience.

Families go through a thorough assessment and receive training and on-going support.

The role is paid and fees depend on what service is provided, how many people are supported and what sort of support each person needs.



To find out more or to get involved contact Shared Lives: 01934 427 600
www.LD4U.org.uk

Rural businesses expanding

Rural businesses and social enterprises in North Somerset are expanding thanks to new grants aimed at creating jobs and improving wellbeing.

Businesses and communities in rural parts of the area have succeeded in securing funding through the West of England Rural Development programme and LEADER fund.

Grants of between £10,000 and £100,000 were available and applicants had to go through a rigorous two-stage process.

Projects had to meet one of the national LEADER priorities and additional local West of England priorities.

These priorities focused on areas such as future-proofed food production, farming and horticulture; having a successful rural tourism infrastructure; a diverse and vibrant culture and heritage, and more.



The LEADER programme is managed by a partnership body, the West of England Local Action Group. Calls for applications and decisions on whether they meet the funding criteria are made by the partnership, which includes North Somerset Council. www.westofenglandrdp.org.uk

Successful grant awards in North Somerset to date include:

- more than £93,000 to Failand Farm to create a biodynamic winery and cider mill
- nearly £80,000 to Trethowan's Dairy, in Hewish, to build a new cheddar plant
- more than £84,000 to St Michael's Church, in Dundry, for modification and improvement works
- £24,000 to Bradley's Juice, in Hewish, for a new filling, washing and bottling line
- more than £10,000 to oak building manufacturer Westwind Oak, in Yatton, for workshop development
- more than £10,000 to cider makers Ganley and Naish, in Kenn, for expansion of cider production
- £83,000 to Aldwick Court Farm, in Blagdon, to expand the wine making facility, create new tourism accommodation and on-site catering to support wedding and conferencing
- £215,000 to Jacklands Fishing Lakes, in Nailsea, for a new farm shop and production facilities for a trout farm.

Trethowan's Dairy

An award-winning Caerphilly cheese producer is expanding its product line and making better use of its quality milk supply.

Trethowan's is a family-run business based at Puxton Court Farm, in Hewish, and it has made mature Caerphilly cheese using a traditional recipe for more than 20 years.

The business relocated to Hewish from west Wales in 2014 due to the quality of milk at the farm.

Co-director Maugan Trethowan said: "The milk is perfect for our cheesemaking but we are only using about half of what the herd produces.

"To make the most of the milk supply, we wanted to start producing a new cheese.

"Being so close to Cheddar, we decided it would be fantastic to make a traditional, unpasteurised, clothbound West Country cheddar."



ng thanks to new funding



The £80,000 funding helped pay for the specialist equipment needed to start making cheddar and towards building a store next to the dairy.

Maugan added: "It's very difficult to get a new cheddar off the ground as the cheese takes about a year to mature, so there has to be a large investment in milk during the first year of production before we see any return.

"Having the equipment and cheddar store funded has been a real help in terms of cash flow for this project."

The first batch of cheddar, called Pitchfork, is currently maturing at another dairy in Somerset until the store room at Trethowan's is finished.

Maugan added: "This will make a massive difference to our business.

"It means we will be using our dairy to full capacity and we'll be able to employ more local people as we increase to six days a week production from our current three days a week."

an with the new Pitchfork Cheddar



Failand Farm

Organic and biodynamic cider and wine will soon be produced in Failand thanks to more than £93,000 of funding.

The cider mill and vineyard at Failand Farm is now taking shape and 3,100 vines have been planted this year.

Matthew Stephenson, who runs the farm together with his wife Philipa and their son John, said: "We were delighted to have our application accepted and to know our vision for a collaborative hub in North Somerset, specialising in the natural production of wines and ciders, resonated with the awarding body."

The vineyard is using organic processes and biodynamic agriculture, a way of treating soil fertility and plant growth as interrelated and emphasising the use of manure and composts.

Work is progressing well and they are on-track to be ready for this year's harvest.

Matthew said: "Our partners Limeburn Hill Biodynamic Vineyard and cidemakers Sam and Beccy Leach will be using the space this autumn, with Failand Farm's own vineyard producing its first harvest in 2019.



The cider mill taking shape

"All three of us share a philosophy of using organic or biodynamically grown fruit, minimal use of additives, and wild ferments using naturally occurring yeast."

New jobs are being created at the farm as a result of the expansion.



Driving growth to

Spending money with small and medium-sized businesses can help drive economic growth so North Somerset Council is making this a priority in its own business.

The Federation of Small Businesses says that doing business locally is better value for money because for every £1 spent with a small or medium-sized business, 63p is re-spent in the local area compared to 40p with a larger business.

North Somerset Council has made it a priority to drive growth in North Somerset's economy and support local jobs, so is putting its money where its mouth is by using local suppliers where possible.

The council spends £170m a year commissioning goods, works and services from its suppliers to help deliver local services.

Mark Roddan, head of strategic procurement at North Somerset Council, said: "Councils must focus on providing the maximum benefit into their communities from every

taxpayer pound that is spent, and take responsibility for generating economic, environmental and social growth in their local communities."

In 2010, the government announced an aspiration for 25 per cent of its spending to go to small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) by 2015, extending this to 33 per cent by 2020.

During 2016/17, North Somerset Council spent 35 per cent with SMEs, so is already exceeding the target.

It has now made it part of its procurement rules that preference should be given to local suppliers for all contracts below £5,000, and local suppliers should be included in the list of companies invited to tender for contracts up to £50,000.

For larger contracts where local suppliers do not exist, or there are other reasons for considering non

local suppliers, the council wants to optimise the amount of work that can be sub-contracted to local suppliers.



From left: Ryan Garrard, Martin Clark and Paul Davies from John West Contractors



small businesses

Mark said: "We also work with local suppliers to ensure they are aware of upcoming opportunities in advance of a formal tender process, and to help them understand our requirements better and submit competitive bids.

"This might include meeting potential suppliers to get their feedback on specifications before they are issued."

One such firm which has recently benefited is Weston-super-Mare-based John West Contractors.

This family-run business carries out general building work as well as plumbing, heating and electrical work.

It has now been awarded a 12-month contract to provide reactive maintenance services to council buildings.

Mark said: "Our previous contractor did not want to continue with their contract and we had to find a solution with short notice.

"We spoke to a various local and national contractors but chose John West because they had good experience and capable people, and their charges were very competitive."

Managing director Mark Bass said: "It was great news to hear that we

had been awarded the contract to provide reactive maintenance services to North Somerset Council.

"As a local business whose workforce and supply chain almost entirely come from the North Somerset area, it's good to be given the opportunity to secure a regular supply of work from our local authority.

"The beneficial effect to the local economy can only be good for us all."

The public sector procurement process is governed by a wide range of laws which can make bidding very complex, but North Somerset Council is also looking to simplify the processes.

It can also provide support and advice to smaller suppliers, and constructive feedback to unsuccessful suppliers.



To find out more, visit
www.n-somerset.gov.uk/localsupplypolicy

A 'hole' lot of winter trouble



Last winter presented some of the biggest challenges in more than 10 years for North Somerset Council's highways maintenance team.

Repeated cycles of ice and thaw, below average temperatures and snow stretched resources to the limit and caused lasting damage to roads.

In total, North Somerset's gritters went out 118 times from November, compared with just 40 trips the year before.

More than 3,500 tonnes of salt was used to grit the 31,419 miles covered by North Somerset's six gritters.

This equates to travelling to Australia, then back home, and back to Australia again.

The council also had to put snowploughs onto gritters on two occasions – something that had not been needed for five years.

The arrival of snow in March caused widespread disruption as it drifted off fields and onto roads.

Clearing roads during unsociable hours and in difficult conditions became a team effort, with great support from the council's maintenance contractor Skanska, farming contractors Jon Sealy and Sons, and Nick Bartlett and Pete Tuckfield services who installed road closures and filled grit bins.

Everyone involved helped to keep main, strategic routes passable.

The damage

Four months after the snow, the council is still dealing with the fallout from an extreme winter.

Due to the severity of the conditions, the Government's Department for Transport (DfT) has provided councils with extra funding for pothole repairs but more support is still needed.

The money provided by the DfT has been used to fund the hire of a spray

injection patcher machine to carry out repairs at well-known pothole hotspots.

The patcher, which can repair carriageway defects quickly, has been used for 16 weeks between March and July.

It cleans and coats the defected base with binder, fills it with coated chips and then adds a top layer of binder and chips. A built-in sweeper takes care of any loose chips on the road while the roller wheels provide additional compaction, leaving a long lasting and well-defined patch.

The machine can quickly and effectively apply single or multiple sealing layers to the cracked surface, extending the life of the road at minimum cost, and with very little disruption to normal traffic.

All work is carried out by a single person from within the safety of a cab.



New highways maintenance contract

A £50m road maintenance contract has been signed by North Somerset Council, promising to deliver a transport network which ‘meets the needs of road users now and in the future’.

The council has agreed a five-year contract with Skanska to improve the condition of the area’s roads and deliver the best possible value for money.

Skanska held the previous road maintenance contract, which finished in March.

It will maintain road surfaces, drainage, road markings and provide emergency response and temporary traffic management services.

Prevention rather than cure

Even with extra funding to repair potholes, the council has a packed programme to ensure road conditions are maintained and a proactive ‘whole life’ approach is taken.

Preventative work is carried out wherever possible to extend the life of a road surface before potholes start to form and the road condition deteriorates to a point where a much more expensive repair is needed.

Improving roads remains a priority despite budget pressures and results from a DfT survey show this is paying off.

The 2017 results rated the area’s roads as some of the best in the country.

As part of this, a £5m annual carriageway surfacing programme began in June.

Key schemes to be completed include Birnbeck Road in Weston, Rownham Hill in Leigh Woods, Tickenham Hill in Tickenham, and Broadoak Hill in Dundry.

The council will continue to use crews to repair potholes and highway defects where needed and is using the spray injection patcher again during late summer for 10 weeks.

How do potholes form?

A pothole is a structural failure in a road surface due to water in the underlying soil structure and traffic passing over the affected area.

Water weakens the underlying soil and traffic then fatigues and breaks the poorly supported asphalt surface in the affected area.

Continued traffic removes both asphalt and the underlying soil material to create a hole.



Fact file

- In 2017/18 the council filled about 28,400 potholes at a cost of more than £445,000
- About 9,150 were filled manually by a work team
- An additional 19,288 were filled using a spray injection patching machine

Report potholes and other road issues at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/connect
 For the latest updates on roads and travel in North Somerset follow:  @NStravel _roads •  NStravelandroads

Gone in 20 seconds

A well sorted recycling box can take as little as 20 seconds for crews to collect compared with two minutes for an unsorted one.

Sorting your recycling means crews can collect it faster and traffic congestion on the roads is reduced.

In the first box, plastic (except black) bottles, pots, tubs and trays can be mixed together with tins, cans and aerosols.

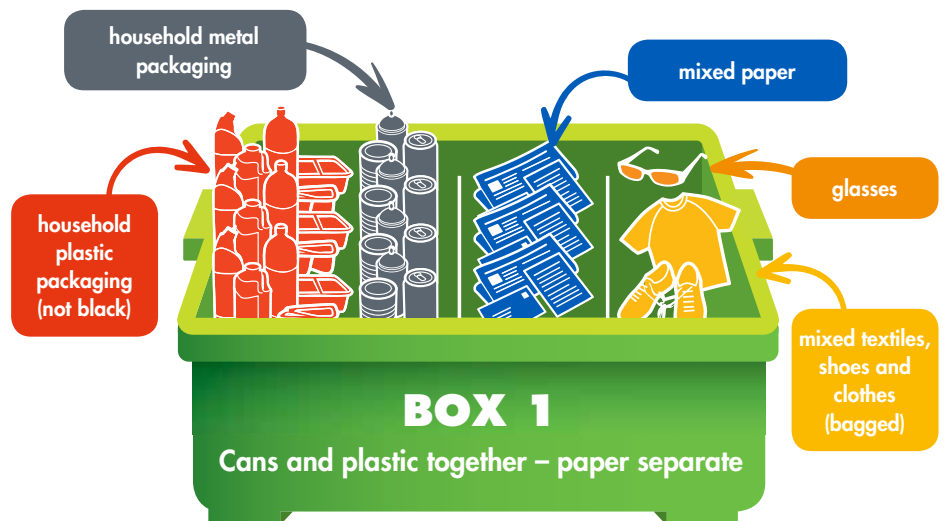
Paper needs to be kept separate and textiles should be bagged and loosely tied to keep them clean and dry.

In the second box, cardboard and cartons can be flattened together and glass should be kept separate.

Batteries should be bagged, but not tied, as crews struggle to collect them when they are loose in the box.

Please ensure:

- containers are out by 7am on your collection day
- your rubbish bin does not contain anything which could be recycled
- the bin lid is closed
- you do not put out extra sacks of non-recyclable rubbish as these will not be collected.



FAQs

Do I need two recycling boxes?

A second box can make it easier to separate your materials. We recently sent two new box stickers with your collection dates letter to show how to sort.

If you only have one box and do not create much recycling then you can continue with just one but please still separate the items inside.

Should I have dividers for my boxes?

The dividing lines shown in the illustration are there to make it clearer how materials should be separated. You do not need dividers in your boxes, just group the materials together as shown.

What should I do with excess waste?

If you are recycling as much as possible then you shouldn't be generating excess general rubbish. If you do, you can take it to one of the three recycling centres in North Somerset.

If you have more recycling than can fit in your boxes, with the exception of glass, it can be put into separate, untied carrier bags next to your boxes for collection.

Where can I find my collection dates?

Download your collection calendar online at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/collectiondays

COMPOSTING LET'S GET DOWN TO EARTH

Composting at home is a cheap and easy way to make use of garden waste as well as creating a valuable product from your uncooked food waste.

The key to composting is balance: a good composter needs air, moisture, shelter, warmth and a mixture of 'green' fruit and veg peelings, grass, plants and flowers, and 'brown' hedge trimmings, paper, cardboard, twigs and leaves.

Compost bins are available to buy from North Somerset Council for the reduced price of £15. Call **01934 888 802** or visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/composting



New life given to old items

Furniture, books, electrical items and bric-a-brac are all being diverted from landfill and reused thanks to a scheme at Portishead recycling centre.



North Somerset Council launched a reuse section at the Valley Road centre in April, working with the charity Changing Lives.

Residents who have good-quality, pre-loved items which someone else could make use of can drop them off to be reused locally.

The reuse area can be found near the exit of the recycling centre, so pack your vehicle with this in mind as you will reach it at the end of your visit.

Anyone with any questions or who needs help can ask a member of staff.

It is hoped the reuse scheme can be introduced at North Somerset's other two recycling centres in the future.

To find out which items are accepted for reuse, visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/reuse

Work under way to preserve Iron Age hillfort



Ramparts and pits have recently been revealed at an 'outstanding' Iron Age hillfort in Weston-super-Mare.

Worlebury Camp occupies 10 hectares on Worlebury Hill, overlooking Weston Bay, Sand Bay and the Bristol Channel, and is an outstanding monument due to its rare coastal location, size and considerable defences.

The site is a Scheduled Monument, the highest protection an archaeological monument can be given.

However, it was put on the Heritage at Risk register in 2016 because of the harm caused to it, including vandalism, tree and vegetation growth and fly tipping.

To combat this, North Somerset Council is working with volunteers from the Worlebury Hillfort Group and other local interest groups to raise awareness of the importance of the hillfort and create a management plan for the site.

North Somerset Council's archaeologist Cat Lodge said:

"The volunteers have been working hard to clear parts of the interior of the hillfort of unwanted vegetation and have exposed some amazing pits for people to see."

The significant eastern ramparts have also been cleared by the council's grounds maintenance contractors Glendale.

Campfires, removal of stones and metal detecting are all prohibited as they damage the archaeology.

This includes building 'play forts' or shelters from the rocks on the site.

Cat said: "Whether you have visited before, or would like to see the hillfort for the first time, take a walk around it and imagine yourself transported back 2,000 years.

"Such an impressive structure should be enjoyed but respected, so please bear in mind that this is a Scheduled Monument."





1880s-1930s maps from the collections of the British Library and National Library of Scotland.

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What is a hillfort?

Hillforts are defended settlements, surrounded by circuits of banks and ditches.

They are regarded as centres of permanent occupation, built in response to increasing warfare from the middle of the Iron Age onwards, and provide a powerful insight into how people lived more than 2,000 years ago.

The location chosen for hillforts were incredibly important.

Worlebury Camp is mostly hidden by trees that were first planted in the 1820s.

Before the 19th century, though, it would have been open to the elements and its defences visible for miles around.

It has a set of seven banks and ditches on the eastern ramparts, meaning it is a 'multivallate' hillfort (many ditches).

The ramparts were constructed in a series of dry stone walls which acted as buttresses for additional defence, with a wooden fence on top.



These walls now appear as huge heaps of tumbled stones and are most obviously visible at the eastern ramparts.

The northern side of the hillfort uses the natural cliff as a line of defence.

Archaeological studies have previously been undertaken at Worlebury Camp, with excavations recorded in 1851 by Rev F Warre and in the 1880s by C W Dymond.

During these excavations, 93 pits were identified, as well as pottery vessels, bone, wood and antler tools, and even human burials.

Other features such as entrances and large ditches were also recorded.

Cat said: "The 93 pits were stone-lined and grain such as barley, spelt wheat and oats were recovered, suggesting they were used for storage.

"Some contained skeletons and it is believed by some that these were ritual burials, signifying a special symbolic meaning.

"Some burials were discovered with iron weapons and both the skeletons and walls of the fort show signs of a hostile attack.

"Some skulls also showed evidence of wounds and the rampart material appears to have been burned. Slingstones and spears were also found along the southern ramparts.

"Although the end of the hillfort's life appears to have been an unpleasant one, we hope to learn more about the lives of its inhabitants through re-examination of some of the artefacts."



Find out more about the hillfort and see some artefacts recovered during excavations – including pots and skulls – at Weston Museum, in Burlington Street, Weston-super-Mare. www.westonmuseum.org

To find out more about volunteering at the site, contact the Worlebury Hillfort Group on Facebook or email Cat Lodge at dm.archaeology@n-somerset.gov.uk • [f worleburyhillfort](https://www.facebook.com/worleburyhillfort)

If you see anyone causing criminal damage on the site, call 999 if the crime is in progress. If the suspect is no longer at the scene, call 101.



Bringing empty homes back into use



Empty properties are a wasted resource so help is at hand for owners to bring them back into use.

Houses left empty in the long-term can deteriorate, become a target for vandalism, attract anti-social behaviour and decrease in value.

Major repair to your empty property

One option to help owners get their property back into use is low-cost loans to help with renovation, available from Wessex Resolutions.

Chris and his sister Julie inherited a property which was uninhabitable so were having no luck in selling it.

They approached Wessex Resolutions to discuss the loan scheme.

Chris said: "Following the assessment, we sourced quotes from our chosen contractors which came to £15,000.

"We got a deferred capital repayment loan, which meant we didn't need to make any repayments for the first two years.

Before the works were carried out, the pair had received cash offers for the property of about £105,000.

After the work was done, the value rose to £150,000, giving them an extra £30,000 once the loan was paid-off and the property sold.

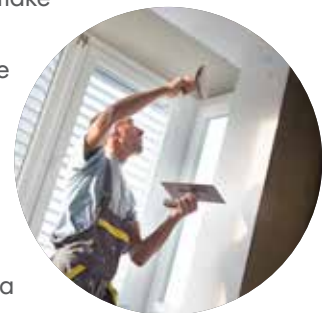
- No arrangement fees or early repayment charges
- Loans have a fixed interest rate and typical 4.2 per cent APR, subject to status and interest is calculated daily
- Missing payments could affect your credit rating and ability to obtain credit in the future
- Wessex Resolutions may insist on loans being protected at the Land Registry by a title restriction.

Letting your empty property

Owners of an empty property might also consider letting it out.

If just small repairs are needed to make it suitable, or you want someone to help find you tenants or provide a full lettings service, North Somerset Council's lettings team may be able to help.

A range of free incentives are available to make letting your property more attractive, such as bonds for deposits and dedicated support from a lettings officer.



To find out more about loans for major repair contact Wessex Resolutions: 01823 461 099 • enquiries@wrcic.org.uk • www.wrcic.org.uk

To find out more about letting your empty home contact the lettings team: 01934 426 483 • lettingsteam@n-somerset.gov.uk www.n-somerset.gov.uk/rentingoutproperty



Get vocal, be heard

Listening to residents' views is an important part of the democratic process and North Somerset Council welcomes ideas to make things better.

While the council can't act on every suggestion, it listens to feedback and makes changes where possible.

You said:

I don't often have small change on me to pay for on-street car parking. What can be done?

We did:

On-street parking charges in Weston-super-Mare can now be paid for through your smartphone thanks to the introduction of a virtual permit system.

The MiPermit pay-by-phone service had been introduced in most council car parks and it has now been rolled out to on-street pay and display areas in Weston.

People can either pay the parking charge by texting from a mobile phone or by downloading the free MiPermit app.

This means drivers who do not have cash or the right money on them can get a ticket, and there is no risk of a ticket falling off the windscreen.

A reminder text can also be sent, giving a 20-minute notification that their virtual ticket is going to expire.

Once purchased, a virtual ticket will appear on the civil enforcement officer's handset so they will know who has purchased it.

The two-hour maximum stay per street and no return for two hours, remains in force during the restricted hours in the on-street pay and display areas.

Notices and signs should still be observed. If used in off-street car parks, the virtual ticket can be extended without having to return to the vehicle or car park.

You can also book in advance at www.mipermit.com/locations by searching for North Somerset Council under 'car park operators'

Comment on council consultations

Have your say on North Somerset Council's policies by taking part in consultations.

All consultations are listed at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/consult and it is an opportunity for residents to tell the council what they really think.

Sign up here to receive email alerts when new consultations are opened.

At the beginning of every month posters are also put up in all North Somerset libraries and council connect points, such as the Castlewood office in Clevedon, to publicise the live consultations and how to take part.

www.n-somerset.gov.uk/consult

Your views

Send your items to
Editor, North Somerset Life
North Somerset Council
Floor 1, Town Hall
Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1UJ
or email editor@n-somerset.gov.uk

@NorthSomersetC

NorthSomersetCouncil
NorthSomersetLife

Items submitted without a valid name and address will not be considered for publication. Please tell us if you do not want your details published. Due to space restrictions letters may be edited.

Dear Editor,

I try to sort my recycling boxes but there always seems to be plastic items left after my collection. Please can someone advise me what plastics I am able to recycle?

Editor's reply:

We recycle plastic bottles, tubs, pots and trays. These plastic items can be clear or coloured, but not black plastic. We also cannot accept bubble wrap, polystyrene or plastic film - including crisp packets, chocolate wrappers, or cellophane. Please take film off your pots and trays. Hard plastics such as children's toys, plant pots and garden furniture are not recyclable. Remember to always wash, squash and sort your recycling.

Dear Editor

We know we should recycle food waste but the compostable liners are so expensive we couldn't afford to keep buying them. Can we use anything instead?

Editor's reply:

You no longer need compostable liners because North Somerset's food waste is sent to anaerobic digestion in Weston-super-Mare rather than being composted. Instead you can line your caddy with a plastic bag. You could make use of bread bags or carrier bags to line your caddy, or buy the small rolls of plastic bin liners in supermarkets which are much cheaper than compostable liners.

Dear Editor

Clevedon Art Club's 62nd annual open art exhibition will soon take place. The exhibition runs from 18 to 27 August, in the Science Atrium at Clevedon School. Open daily from 10.30am-6pm (2-6pm on Sunday). Admission is £1. For more information visit clevedonartclub.co.uk

Steve Jenkins, Clevedon Art Club

North Somerset Life is on Instagram. Tag [#northsomersetlife](https://www.instagram.com/northsomersetlife) to share your photos



@GBG_



@MATTHEWPRICEARTIST



@NICOLEWORBOYS



Many topics are covered on Twitter and Facebook and last month these issues were raised...

If we are all trying to travel in a greener manner what is the logic in there being no bus between Nailsea and Backwell on Sundays and Bank Holidays and later evening? I thought links to railway stations should be maintained - it's only common sense.

North Somerset Council:

Bus service X8 is operated commercially by First West of England. It is therefore a commercial decision by First not to serve this route on Sundays and public holidays. If you want to contact First with your comments you can call 0345 602 0121 or email to firstsouthuk@firstgroup.com.

Seems like the @BiffaService recycling team didn't like my empty @thatchers_cider keg @NorthSomersetC

North Somerset Council:

These are too big to be taken by the kerbside collection crew and would damage the baler back at the depot. If you are happy to, you can take the keg to a recycling centre and it will be disposed of as scrap metal.

North Somerset Life is the award winning magazine for the people of North Somerset. Your copy should be delivered with your post unless you use Royal Mail's opt out service to block unaddressed mail.

You can download this issue and back issues from www.n-somerset.gov.uk/nsl or pick copies up from council buildings.

Coming next issue:

- Community learning
- Made in North Somerset showcase returns

Sign up to *Life's* online edition and receive news straight into your inbox. Visit www.northsomersetlife.co.uk

www.n-somerset.gov.uk

Report it. Request it. Pay for it.
www.n-somerset.gov.uk/connect

9am – 5pm Mon – Fri

Council Connect: for all streets and open spaces enquiries: 01934 888 802

Care Connect: for all social services enquiries: 01275 888 801
care.connect@n-somerset.gov.uk

Main switchboard: 01934 888 888

Emergency (out of hours): 01934 622 669

North Somerset Council
Town Hall
Weston-super-Mare BS23 1UJ

Tide timetables for Weston-super-Mare

Tide facts

Approximate high water times at:

- Clevedon: 10 min
- Portishead: 18 min
- later than Weston-super-Mare.

Weather conditions which differ from the average will have an effect on the differences between predicted and actual tide times.

Strong winds can hold the tide in or push the tide out. Air pressure can also cause fluctuations in predicted levels.

Tidal predictions for Weston-super-Mare have been computed by the Proudman Oceanographic Laboratory.

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www.n-somerset.gov.uk/tidetables

JULY 2018

| Date | High water | | Low water | | High water | | Low water | |
|--------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| | Time | Height (M) | Time | Height (M) | Time | Height (M) | Time | Height (M) |
| | AM | | | | PM | | | |
| 1 Sun | 09:29 | 10.96 | 02:51 | 1.40 | 21:44 | 11.07 | 15:04 | 1.55 |
| 2 Mon | 10:00 | 10.78 | 03:25 | 1.50 | 22:18 | 10.81 | 15:37 | 1.68 |
| 3 Tue | 10:35 | 10.51 | 04:01 | 1.65 | 22:53 | 10.46 | 16:12 | 1.86 |
| 4 Wed | 11:11 | 10.16 | 04:40 | 1.85 | 23:32 | 10.06 | 16:50 | 2.07 |
| 5 Thu | 11:52 | 9.80 | 05:22 | 2.08 | - | - | 17:36 | 2.29 |
| 6 Fri | 00:16 | 9.71 | 06:12 | 2.28 | 12:39 | 9.50 | 18:32 | 2.50 |
| 7 Sat | 01:09 | 9.48 | 07:13 | 2.45 | 13:37 | 9.35 | 19:39 | 2.66 |
| 8 Sun | 02:19 | 9.46 | 08:26 | 2.53 | 14:56 | 9.50 | 21:03 | 2.65 |
| 9 Mon | 03:37 | 9.83 | 09:48 | 2.34 | 16:10 | 10.06 | 22:20 | 2.28 |
| 10 Tue | 04:44 | 10.47 | 10:51 | 1.90 | 17:13 | 10.80 | 23:19 | 1.80 |
| 11 Wed | 05:46 | 11.14 | 11:48 | 1.50 | 18:12 | 11.50 | - | - |
| 12 Thu | 06:04 | 11.71 | 00:18 | 1.38 | 19:07 | 12.05 | 12:46 | 1.12 |
| 13 Fri | 07:38 | 12.14 | 01:13 | 0.99 | 19:58 | 12.44 | 13:37 | 0.80 |
| 14 Sat | 08:28 | 12.42 | 02:03 | 0.68 | 20:48 | 12.66 | 14:25 | 0.59 |
| 15 Sun | 09:16 | 12.52 | 02:52 | 0.50 | 21:35 | 12.68 | 15:12 | 0.53 |
| 16 Mon | 10:03 | 12.40 | 03:40 | 0.50 | 22:22 | 12.47 | 16:02 | 0.64 |
| 17 Tue | 10:50 | 12.03 | 04:29 | 0.69 | 23:09 | 12.00 | 16:48 | 0.90 |
| 18 Wed | 11:36 | 11.44 | 05:15 | 1.02 | 23:57 | 11.35 | 17:35 | 1.27 |
| 19 Thu | - | - | 06:02 | 1.43 | 12:25 | 10.75 | 18:23 | 1.70 |
| 20 Fri | 00:46 | 10.65 | 06:51 | 1.86 | 13:16 | 10.09 | 19:16 | 2.13 |
| 21 Sat | 01:40 | 10.02 | 07:46 | 2.28 | 14:14 | 9.60 | 20:19 | 2.51 |
| 22 Sun | 02:41 | 9.58 | 08:55 | 2.59 | 15:21 | 9.40 | 21:32 | 2.64 |
| 23 Mon | 03:52 | 9.45 | 10:02 | 2.59 | 16:33 | 9.58 | 22:32 | 2.46 |
| 24 Tue | 05:03 | 9.68 | 10:57 | 2.35 | 17:35 | 10.04 | 23:23 | 2.13 |
| 25 Wed | 06:01 | 10.11 | 11:47 | 2.02 | 18:25 | 10.55 | - | - |
| 26 Thu | 06:48 | 10.52 | 00:08 | 1.81 | 19:08 | 10.95 | 12:28 | 1.73 |
| 27 Fri | 07:29 | 10.82 | 00:48 | 1.57 | 19:46 | 11.20 | 13:07 | 1.55 |
| 28 Sat | 08:05 | 11.00 | 01:26 | 1.43 | 20:21 | 11.33 | 13:42 | 1.46 |
| 29 Sun | 08:38 | 11.12 | 02:02 | 1.35 | 20:53 | 11.40 | 14:17 | 1.42 |
| 30 Mon | 09:09 | 11.22 | 02:37 | 1.31 | 21:26 | 11.43 | 14:52 | 1.40 |
| 31 Tue | 09:41 | 11.25 | 03:12 | 1.30 | 21:59 | 11.35 | 15:26 | 1.44 |

AUGUST 2018

| Date | High water | | Low water | | High water | | Low water | |
|--------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| | Time | Height (M) | Time | Height (M) | Time | Height (M) | Time | Height (M) |
| | AM | | | | PM | | | |
| 1 Wed | 10:15 | 11.11 | 03:50 | 1.37 | 22:34 | 11.08 | 16:02 | 1.59 |
| 2 Thu | 10:49 | 10.80 | 04:26 | 1.56 | 23:09 | 10.67 | 16:36 | 1.81 |
| 3 Fri | 11:26 | 10.36 | 05:01 | 1.82 | 23:46 | 10.20 | 17:11 | 2.06 |
| 4 Sat | - | - | 05:39 | 2.07 | 12:04 | 9.93 | 17:55 | 2.31 |
| 5 Sun | 00:31 | 9.78 | 06:30 | 2.31 | 12:54 | 9.57 | 18:54 | 2.56 |
| 6 Mon | 01:32 | 9.47 | 07:36 | 2.56 | 14:08 | 9.37 | 20:12 | 2.78 |
| 7 Tue | 02:57 | 9.48 | 09:08 | 2.66 | 15:35 | 9.67 | 21:54 | 2.60 |
| 8 Wed | 04:17 | 9.99 | 10:30 | 2.24 | 16:50 | 10.40 | 23:00 | 2.04 |
| 9 Thu | 05:27 | 10.75 | 11:31 | 1.72 | 17:56 | 11.23 | - | - |
| 10 Fri | 06:32 | 11.52 | 00:05 | 1.50 | 18:56 | 11.98 | 12:34 | 1.20 |
| 11 Sat | 07:27 | 12.15 | 01:02 | 0.94 | 19:47 | 12.53 | 13:26 | 0.72 |
| 12 Sun | 08:16 | 12.56 | 01:53 | 0.51 | 20:35 | 12.85 | 14:13 | 0.40 |
| 13 Mon | 09:02 | 12.76 | 02:40 | 0.27 | 21:19 | 12.95 | 14:59 | 0.28 |
| 14 Tue | 09:46 | 12.70 | 03:26 | 0.26 | 22:02 | 12.77 | 15:44 | 0.38 |
| 15 Wed | 10:28 | 12.34 | 04:10 | 0.49 | 22:46 | 12.26 | 16:26 | 0.71 |
| 16 Thu | 11:10 | 11.68 | 04:49 | 0.92 | 23:27 | 11.49 | 17:05 | 1.19 |
| 17 Fri | 11:51 | 10.84 | 05:26 | 1.45 | - | - | 17:43 | 1.73 |
| 18 Sat | 00:08 | 10.60 | 06:02 | 1.98 | 12:32 | 9.98 | 18:22 | 2.26 |
| 19 Sun | 00:53 | 9.75 | 06:45 | 2.49 | 13:22 | 9.25 | 19:11 | 2.77 |
| 20 Mon | 01:50 | 9.06 | 07:39 | 2.98 | 14:29 | 8.81 | 20:26 | 3.19 |
| 21 Tue | 03:02 | 8.73 | 09:15 | 3.23 | 15:50 | 8.88 | 22:03 | 3.03 |
| 22 Wed | 04:29 | 8.97 | 10:31 | 2.84 | 17:08 | 9.50 | 23:00 | 2.45 |
| 23 Thu | 05:39 | 9.66 | 11:23 | 2.26 | 18:04 | 10.30 | 23:46 | 1.90 |
| 24 Fri | 06:28 | 10.36 | - | - | 18:47 | 10.92 | 12:07 | 1.78 |
| 25 Sat | 07:08 | 10.86 | 00:28 | 1.52 | 19:25 | 11.31 | 12:46 | 1.49 |
| 26 Sun | 07:43 | 11.16 | 01:06 | 1.31 | 19:58 | 11.52 | 13:23 | 1.34 |
| 27 Mon | 08:16 | 11.37 | 01:43 | 1.21 | 20:31 | 11.68 | 14:00 | 1.26 |
| 28 Tue | 08:46 | 11.57 | 02:19 | 1.13 | 21:03 | 11.81 | 14:35 | 1.21 |
| 29 Wed | 09:18 | 11.70 | 02:56 | 1.09 | 21:36 | 11.82 | 15:10 | 1.22 |
| 30 Thu | 09:51 | 11.64 | 03:32 | 1.15 | 22:10 | 11.59 | 15:45 | 1.36 |
| 31 Fri | 10:24 | 11.31 | 04:06 | 1.36 | 22:44 | 11.12 | 16:17 | 1.63 |



Check the roads online before you head out into summer traffic.

Go to www.n-somerset.gov.uk/roadworks

View live traffic flow as well as planned roadworks and closures.

