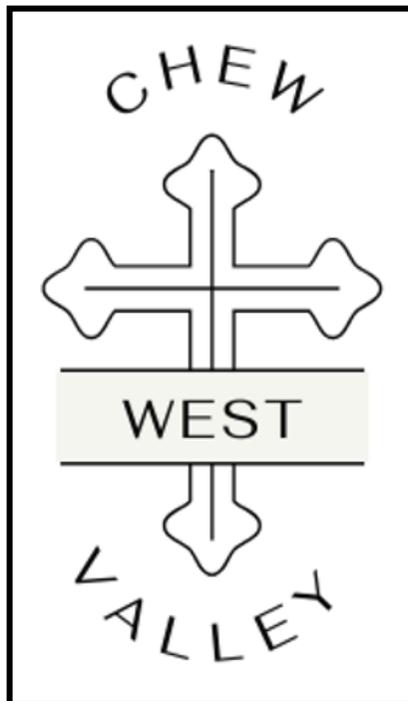


**Chew Stoke with  
Nempnett Thrubwell  
Parish News**  
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**February**



**[www.chewvalleywest.org](http://www.chewvalleywest.org)**

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\*\*\*\*\*

## **USEFUL CONTACTS**

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Chew Stoke Parish Council**

stevenread@chewstoke.org.uk

Chairperson: Steve Read

Clerk: SJ Streatfeild

07916 785348

### **Nempnett Thrubwell Parish Council**

Clerk: Liz Horne

07754 737008

### **Chew Stoke Church Hall**

www.chewstokechurchhall.org.uk

Chair: R Donlevy

01275 333106

Bookings Sec.: Coral Westaway

07955646579

Gill Ford

01761 462391

### **Nempnett Thrubwell Village Hall**

Hazel Wedlake

01275 332812

### **Women's Institute**

Angelina Woodley

07851227411

### **Chew Stoke Toddler group**

### **U3A Intermediate Bridge**

Carol Hare

01761 221695

### **Chew Stoke Bowling Club**

Phil Gullam

01275 472605

### **Cricket Club**

Ro Masters

01275 331229

### **Drama Club**

Andrew Tromans

07710 163743

### **Chew Stoke School**

Headteacher: Ben Hewett

01275 332354

Chair/Governors: Marita Price

07568 185415

### **Chew Valley School**

Headteacher: Gareth Beynon

01275 332272

### **Chew Valley Lake Sailing Club**

Allen Marsh

01275 331143

### **Chew Valley Choral Society**

Helen Boyde

01275 333014

### **Chew Stoke Film Club**

Kim Heath

01275 331711

### **Harvest Home**

Nick Baker

01275 333753

www.chewstokeharvesthome.org.uk

### **Chew Valley Art Club**

Liz Boyd

07941 471410

## **MAGAZINE CONTACTS AND DEADLINES**

Got some news? Want to advertise an event or your business?

You can get in touch with us either by

**Email: [chewstokemag@gmail.com](mailto:chewstokemag@gmail.com)**

or contacting the Editor:

**Cynthia K Troup 01275 333002**

Handwritten entries can be delivered to Cynthia at

Fairwood, Pilgrims Way, Chew Stoke

**Distribution: Suzanne McDonald Tel 01275 333130**

Email [suzanne@mcdonaldmccall.com](mailto:suzanne@mcdonaldmccall.com)

**The copy deadline for the  
March edition will be  
Friday 16th February**

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CHURCH

Rector: **Rev Dr Ian Mills** 01275 474504 [chewvalleywest@gmail.com](mailto:chewvalleywest@gmail.com)

Curate: **The Revd Fran Smettem** 01934 340682 [curatechewvalleywest@gmail.com](mailto:curatechewvalleywest@gmail.com)

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Churchwardens: Chew Stoke: Andrew Troup 01275 333002  
Tina Kilroy 07920246322

Nempnett Thrubwell: Rosemary Porter 01761 462571  
Nick Houlton 01761 462075

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Capt. Bellringers: Chew Stoke: John Bone 01275 332328

Nempnett Thrubwell: Andrew Ball 01275 472356

Churchyard Maintenance: Chew Stoke: Anne Summers 01275 333812

Nempnett Thrubwell: Nick Houlton 01761 462075

Magazine: Editor: Cynthia Troup

Distribution: Suzanne Macdonald & Joanne Stephenson

Deanery Synod Reps: Chew Stoke: Jessica McInnes  
Jerry Moorhouse

Nempnett Thrubwell: Rosemary Porter

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**PCC Secretaries:**

Chew Stoke: Jessica McInnes Nempnett Thrubwell: Alison Howard

**PCC Treasurers:**

Chew Stoke: Tina Kilroy Nempnett Thrubwell: Nick Houlton

**PCC members:**

Chew Stoke: Tina Kilroy, Jessica McInnes, Laura Down, Sheila Limburn, Lindsey Suenson-Taylor,  
Andrew Troup (Vice Chair), Les Poynter, Jerry Moorhouse,  
Sue Cook and Hazel Wedlake

Nempnett Thrubwell:

Jane Batten, James Everett, Geraldine Ford, Nick Houlton,  
Alison Howard, Hugo King, Jane Oosthuizen and Rosemary Porter

Chew Stoke Sidespeople: Mesdames: Downey, Limburn, Patch, Manville, McInnes,  
Troup, Kilroy, Power and Down

Messrs: Jameson, Soper, Kilroy, Poynter and Moorhouse.

### **Website**

A reminder that full details of forthcoming services and events in our benefice of Chew Valley West can be found on our website: [www.chewvalleywest.org](http://www.chewvalleywest.org)

## Letter from our Rector, the Rev. Dr. Ian Mills

Dear Friends,

During these early days of 2024 I have been reflecting on some words from a much-loved hymn. It's a favourite of mine which we sing regularly—as often at weddings as we do at funerals.

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,  
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

The hymn is a simple prayer which recognises our dependence on God at every time of day and in every season of our lives. It asks God to be present with us as we go about our everyday tasks at work and at home.

I have been thinking about the opening line, especially those words 'hopefulness' and 'joy'. We can all recognise that joy and hope are often in short supply in our world. Perhaps they are also lacking in your own life, or in the lives of those dearest to you for any number of good reasons. Joy and hope can seem like things we might only glimpse in passing—if we are fortunate enough.

Yet this hymn reminds us that hope and joy are not just qualities which are part of God, they are *all* of God. God is *all* hopefulness and *all* joy. It is through his presence in our lives that we find bliss and peace in our hearts.

May God be present with you and those you love at the beginning of this New Year, and may you continue to know his loving, hopeful, joyful presence through every day and every season.

Yours in Christ,

Ian K. Mills +



Our **Contemplative Prayer Group** meets on the first Monday of each month between 10.00am and 11.00am in St Andrew's Church, Chew Stoke, led by Rev Dr Victor Barley.

Contemplative Prayer focuses on stillness and silence—praying in a way that listens to God and seeks the direction of the Holy Spirit. Each session will include a reading from Scripture, a reflection, and a time of prayer.

The next meetings will be held in St Andrew's on **Monday 5th February and Monday 4th March 2024.**



Holy Communion with Intercessions for Healing is held in our group of parishes on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 10.30am.

Wednesday 7th February 2024  
St Katharine's, Felton at 10.30am  
Wednesday 21st February 2024  
St Andrew's, Chew Stoke at 10.30am

'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.'  
(Matthew 11:18)



**Sparklers Pre School Group** will be held on **Monday 19th February** in **Winford Baptist Chapel** at **1.45pm.**

Please note the temporary change of venue while Winford Church is closed for restoration work. Please spread the word to families who may be interested in an hour of fellowship, activities, conversation, and refreshments.



## PARISH OF ST ANDREW, CHEW STOKE PARISH REGISTER

### Funeral

*'The Lord is my shepherd'*

20th January 2024 **Anthea Margaret Barley**  
Funeral service at St Andrew's, Chew Stoke followed by  
Committal at South Bristol Crematorium

## Church Electoral Roll for St Andrews Church, Chew Stoke

In accordance with the Church Representation Rules, we are revising our Church Electoral Roll, in preparation for our Annual Parochial Church (APC) meeting.

Every Anglican Church maintains a Church electoral roll on which names of voting church members are recorded. Being on this roll is an important way of confirming your commitment to our church community and to the vision of the church and allows voting at APC. To be added to the roll, a member needs to be baptised, aged 16 or over, a church member resident in the parish or regularly attending church service though not resident in the parish.

The roll is fully revised every 6 years. Forms for application can be found in the porch of St Andrews. These should be returned to the electoral roll officer.

If you are already on the current electoral roll, there is no need to complete a new form this year. All those on the roll will be sent an email in the coming weeks.

Forms can be completed and returned to:

**Sara Hindle Electoral Roll Officer, by 15th March 2024,**

Hill Cottage, Stoke Hill, Chew Stoke, BS40 8XF. 07798922683

I will also collect from the church if they are left there for me.

## Chew Valley West Community Choirs



The next Community Choir session will be held on **Thursday 15th February 2024 at 7.00pm**. Please note that as restoration work is being carried out in Winford Church our venue will be **Chew Stoke Village Hall**.

Our Children's Community Choirs **Mini Melodies** and **Jubilee!** meet in Chew Stoke Church School on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3.30–4.30pm. Please see Mrs Carol Hope or the Rector for more information.

More details about our choirs are available on our websites:

[www.chewvalleywest.org/community-choir](http://www.chewvalleywest.org/community-choir)

[www.chewvalleywest.org/childrens-choir](http://www.chewvalleywest.org/childrens-choir)



# St Andrew's Church Charity Soup Lunch

**Wednesday 7th February**  
in the village hall, first Wednesday of the month  
from 12.30 – 1.30pm, £6 on the door, kids £1

\*Homemade soups

\*Cheese and pate

\*Tea/coffee

\* Homemade cakes

January's lunch raised £ 249.50 for the Salvation Army

## Ash Wednesday



The season of **Lent** begins on **Ash Wednesday, 14th February 2024**. Lent is an important time which prepares us for the great celebration of Easter. It is a season in which Christians should take seriously our duty, repent of the sins which separate us from God, to receive the assurance of God's forgiveness, and to grow in faith and devotion to the Lord.

We will mark Ash Wednesday—the beginning of Lent—with the following services in our group of parishes:

### Ash Wednesday, 14th February 2024

St Katharine's, Felton – Holy Communion at 10.30am  
St Andrew's, Chew Stoke – Holy Communion at 7.00pm

Ashes will be available at the end of these services, if it is your custom and tradition to receive them.

### Mind and Spirit: Conversations about memory loss

If you are living with memory loss, or care for someone with memory loss, you are warmly invited to Mind and Spirit, which offers a space for spiritual connection and support. The next meetings are on **Wednesday 28 February** and **Wednesday 27 March**, both starting at **10.30am**, in **Felton Village Hall**.

If you'd like to know more, please contact Fran at [curatechewvalleywest@gmail.com](mailto:curatechewvalleywest@gmail.com) or 01934 340682.

**Benefice of Chew Valley West**  
Diocese of Bath & Wells February Services

	Sunday 4 Feb Second Sunday before Lent	Sunday 11 Feb Sunday before Lent	Sunday 18 Feb Lent 1	Sunday 25 Feb Lent 2
<b>CHEW STOKE</b> St Andrew	10.30am Eucharist		6.30pm Evensong	
<b>NEMPNETT THRUBWELL</b> The Blessed Virgin Mary		9.30am Eucharist		6.30pm Evensong
<b>FELTON</b> St Katharine		11.00am Eucharist		9.00am Morning Worship
<b>WINFORD</b> St Mary & St Peter	Church closed to allow restoration work • Services will be held in St James', Regil			
<b>REGIL</b> St James	9.00am Morning Worship		8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	11.00am Eucharist
<b>STOWEY</b> St Nicholas & The Blessed Virgin Mary	6.30pm Evensong	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)		6.30pm Evensong VEN TONY WILDS
<b>BISHOP SUTTON</b> Holy Trinity		10.30am Morn- ing Worship  MRS SANDRA EDGERTON	10.30am Eucharist	

**St Andrews February Rota**

**Flowers:** TBC

**Cleaning & Brass:** The church cleaning and brass for February will be carried out by Duke of Edinburgh award volunteers.

**Readers & Sidespeople**

**Sunday 4th Feb 10.30am Eucharist**

Readers: Jerry & Celebrant Colossians 1:15-20 John 1:1-14

Sidespeople: Claire & Sheila

**Sunday 18th Feb. 6.30pm Evensong**

Readers: Sue & Liz Genesis 9:8-17 Mark 1:9-15

Sidespeople: Peter Jameson & Laura



## **Lent Bible Study 2024**

### **The Acts of the Apostles**

The Acts of the Apostles is a fascinating book. The longest of the New Testament, it tells the story of what God did to take the message of the Risen Jesus into all the then-known world. It begins where St Luke's Gospel ends with the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus. From there it records the growth of the church as it expands geographically from Jerusalem to Rome, and both culturally and ethnically as the Good News of Jesus spreads from Jews to Gentiles.

Over six weeks we will spend time studying the early chapters of Acts in detail (probably Chapters 1–3) finding much to inspire and challenge us as the same Church of God in our time and place.

**When:** Tuesdays 20th, 27th February; 5th, 12th 19th March 2024

**Time:** 12.30–1.30pm

**Where:** Chew Stoke Village Hall

Led by the Rector, Revd Dr Ian Mills & Revd Fran Smettem

For further information contact the Rector: [chewvalleywest@gmail.com](mailto:chewvalleywest@gmail.com) or 01275 474504

i) Councillor vacancy – the parish council currently has a vacancy, we would very much like to fill this seat. If you are interested in helping your community, we would love to hear from you! We meet once a month, normally on the first Thursday, and you would be joining a great team of councillors working to make Chew Stoke a great place to live and work. If you live or work in the parish and are over 18 years old, please consider this rewarding opportunity! For further information please email the clerk: [clerk@chewstoke.org.uk](mailto:clerk@chewstoke.org.uk)

ii) Update on Rectory Field – A representative from Chew Valley Needs Trees is meeting with children from the Primary School this month to get their views regarding the planting of the new trees. Further information for all residents to follow.

iii) The Parish Council are looking at the feasibility of entering Chew Stoke into the RHS Village in Bloom competition this summer, we need to assess the level of support that there would be for this exciting idea. We are planning to hold a meeting to gauge support initially, further information to follow shortly. In the meantime, if you would like to get involved, please email the clerk on the email above.

iv) The Parish Council agreed the budget for 24-25 and a precept request for £23K. This is a below inflation increase, and it has not been increased for the last 2 years.

v) The PC noticeboard on Bristol Road is in need of some love and attention, a bit of sanding a varnishing probably to protect it from the elements. If anyone is able to help us out and give a few hours to make it look better and freshen it up, we would be very grateful. Supplies will be provided. Please email the PC on the email above. Thank you.

Next meeting **Thursday 1st February 2024** at **7.30pm** in the **Village Hall**.

# School News

Chew Stoke Church School held their annual Christingle service at St Andrews Church in the village in December.

The service was led by Angela Fraser who is the schools Youth Chaplain and our local vicar, Rev Ian with the help of Rev Fran, school staff and pupils. The school's Worship, Ethos and Equality Team told the Christmas story and also led the prayers.

Ben Hewett, headteacher, said 'It was lovely to see the church full with parents, children and other family members, this is always a very magical way to begin our Christmas festivities'.

A collection was held for the Children's Society and our partner school in Uganda, who are raising money to build new classrooms.



Towards the end of last term, the school had a visit from Dan Norris, the Metro Mayor. The visit coincided with Road Safety Week and Mr Norris came along to see some of the initiatives that the school has been working on.

Mr Norris met with the PE council who shared the work they have been doing in this area, observed road safety training and spent some time with the pupils monitoring the speed of traffic through the village.

The school was recently awarded the South West Regional School of the Year Award for promoting sustainable and active travel and will travel to London in March for the national finals!

## Clubs & Societies



### At the **MAJESTIC** Aka Chew Stoke Village hall

**Living (12) 2022 – Thursday 29 February 2024**

Living is the story of an ordinary man, reduced by years of oppressive office routine to a shadow existence, who at the eleventh hour is forced to reflect upon his life and makes a supreme effort to turn it into something wonderful. A tour de force performance by Bill Nighy in this adaptation of Akira Kurosawa's 'Ikiru.' Please note that this film will be preceded by the Film Club AGM that will last 20-30 mins.



#### Two Hundred Years of Saving Lives at Sea

In 2024 the RNLI will celebrate 200 years of service dedicated to the preservation of those who work or play at sea or on our inland waters. The RNLI was founded by Sir William Hillary on the Isle of Man, where he observed at first hand the perils of seafaring. He personally took part in many incidents to help save lives and as a result, resolved to set up a rescue service which subsequently became the RNLI in Great Britain and Ireland.

Since its establishment, the RNLI has saved more than 144,000 lives but this has come at the high cost of losing 600 volunteer crew members in the process. The work continues today with a wider remit, as our beaches swell with holiday makers in the summer. In 2022 there were 9312 lifeboat launches with 389 lives saved and beach lifeguards saving 117 lives.

Here in the Chew Valley we try and do our bit to raise funds to keep this crucial service going and it is thanks to our loyal supporters that we are able to do this. We recently held our Curry Lunch which raised £2,300 and thanks go to all who contributed. In fact, 94% of RNLI income is derived solely from public donations.

We are a small, inland branch of the RNLI, but we do as much as we can to help our charity achieve its objective of 'Saving Lives at Sea' - which we intend, with the help of our loyal supporters and the general public, to continue for the next 200 years!

In May 2024 we are planning to celebrate our bicentenary with an outdoor event at Lady Farm, Chelwood to which all family members will be welcome. Make a note of the timing and keep an eye open for further information. We also hope to repeat our Curry Lunch in the Autumn. Our small committee is now in desperate need of new members to help plan our fund raising activities. We only meet on two or three occasions a year, so please consider helping us by dropping a note to: [rnlichewvalley@gmail.com](mailto:rnlichewvalley@gmail.com)

### CHEW VALLEY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY MEETING

Our next meeting on Weds 7th Feb will be held in the Millennium Hall, Chew Magna, doors opening at 7.15pm. with the lecture starting at 7.45.

Our speaker, Garry Atterton's lecture will be on "Homes of the Bristol Poor - Poverty in Victorian Britain".

Everyone is welcome to this talk; the visitor's fee being £3.00. per person.



Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February

#### ***Edward Seago: from Circus to Sandringham.***

James Russell, curator and writer, will talk about this popular artist who was overlooked by the critics of his day. His life story is also full of interest; amongst his friends were royalty, to which can be added a colourful wartime career and a trip to Antarctica in the Royal Yacht. The talk will begin at 11.00am in Croscombe Village Hall (and simultaneously via Zoom – a link will be sent to members & guests).

Guests are welcome for a fee of £10. Alternatively, annual membership covering 10 lectures is £53pp or £102 for a couple. Further details and full programme available on our website; [www.theartsocietymendip.org.uk](http://www.theartsocietymendip.org.uk).

### Chew Valley Gardening Society

This friendly society meets on the second Thursday of the month at 8pm at Stanton Drew Village Hall where there is easy access and parking.

On Thursday 14th February **Mary Payne** will talk on

#### **'Sustainable Gardening for the Future'**

The competition will be 'something with a Valentine theme'

If you would like to become a member please contact Graham Nicol, our Chair, on 01275 333456 or just come along, you are warmly invited.



### **Harptrees History Society at West Harptree Memorial Hall**

**The Clifton Observatory, Wednesday 28th February 2024.**

Mary Coward, a local historian, will give a talk. She has carried out extensive research for a book which details the background to the building and its uses. This will be on sale at £10, with proceeds going to the Samaritans. **Visitors are very welcome to this event at £3 a head.** You need to book in advance but can pay on the night.

West Harptree Memorial Hall. BS40 6EG Doors open at 7.15pm for 7.30pm.

Public booking opens 7th February and closes at midday on February 28th.

To book, please email: [info@harptreeshistorysociety.org](mailto:info@harptreeshistorysociety.org) with subject line "Feb 2024"

### **Avon Wildlife Trust - Chew Valley Group:**

**Thursday 22nd February 2024: Avon Wildlife Trust - Chew Valley Group: BUTTERFLIES in the CHEW VALLEY** illustrated talk by **Rupert Higgins**. Exploring the natural history of these insects and a look at their past, present and possible future in the Chew Valley.

**Chew Magna Old School Room, 7.45pm. Admission £2.50.**



In December, Members enjoyed a festive evening of cocktails and craft. Assisted by John Bone, Mark Storey and Richard Osborne as “bartenders” for the night, a variety of delicious cocktails created by the committee were enjoyed, whilst taking part in a craft workshop organised by Becky Lear. Penny Savill won the hat competition with an imaginative creation labelled “I know I`m Crackers!” and a lovely Christmas hamper was won by Becky Lear. Mary Dowson finished the evening with a flourish accompanying us to a selection of carols. A good time was had by all!

The WI carol service at St Andrews kindly taken by Rev. Ian Mills and Rev. Fran Smetton, was well supported by the Chew Valley Group and raised an amazing £150 for Carpenters Food & Support at Witherwood.

In January, we enjoyed a relaxed evening decorating pottery supplied by local potter, Donna Coles.

2024 brings a programme of interesting and varied talks, two of which are open to guests, male and female which are Caving and Cave Rescue in May and a talk by Auctioneer Chris Yeo in October.

Our next meeting is on Wed February 21st. 7.30 p.m. at Chew Stoke Village Hall. The Future of Gardening by Mary. J. Payne, MBE, M. Hort.(RHS). Guests welcome.

Hazel Wedlake President. Info. secretary Debbie Storey [debbie.storey@uwclub.net](mailto:debbie.storey@uwclub.net)



## Chew Valley U3A

Chew Valley U3A will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, 19th February 2024 at 10.30am at Ubley Parish Hall, when Dick Hyde will present a talk about the Barton Camp at Winscombe for Disadvantaged City Children.

All members and guests welcome.

Friendly **Keep-Fit class at 10am on Tuesday mornings at Chew Stoke Village Hall.** Just bring a mat to join in aerobic movement to music followed by floor exercises. Only £4 a session!

## CHEW VALLEY FLOWER CLUB

A very happy New Year to all our friends in the valley. Club events began very late in Jan. As I write, on the 8th., we have had no meetings since last Nov 20th, when we tried an experimental afternoon meeting, with a lunch, followed by a speaker. This idea was to encourage people who dislike driving to evening meetings on dark winter nights. This was successful, and is likely to be repeated. After that meeting, our A.G.M, and our Christmas meeting were both cancelled, one due to floods in our area, and the other for unavoidable reasons. So, as this report will not be read until after Jan 22nd, when our A.G.M. will eventually take place, I have no details to report until after that. Hopefully, then things will get back to normal. Maybe we will have a new committee, and possibly some new members too. If you would like to join us for fun and friendship with flowers, come and join us at Compton Martin Village Hall.

We meet fortnightly, on Monday evenings, at 7.30pm. We would love to see you.  
Joyce Burton 01761 462560.

## Chew Valley Gadget Busters

Having difficulty using the Green Buses, WESTLink App or website to book a ride? Or do you have problems using your laptop, iPad, tablet, phone or digital camera? Or maybe you want to make video calls, send photos or use WhatsApp to contact your friends and family, but don't know how. **Gadget Busters are here to help!**



**12.30-2.30pm on the following Wednesdays:**

**February 7th, The Queens Pub, Silver Street, Chew Magna**  
**February 21st, The Stoke Inn, Bristol Road, Chew Stoke**

It costs **£3** per session, all of which will go to charity. Either book by emailing [cvgadgetbusters@gmail.com](mailto:cvgadgetbusters@gmail.com), or turn up on the day.

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### CHEW VALLEY DEATH CAFE

A safe and supportive setting for discussions about life and death, based in Chew Valley, at Bishop Sutton Community Library.

This is time and space to talk about life, death and loss over tea or coffee and cake.

As a group, our aim is to increase understanding of death, creating a view that helps us make the most of our lives.

We welcome anyone who would like to join us.

**Please contact:**

**[Bryonyhuntley2019@gmail.com](mailto:Bryonyhuntley2019@gmail.com)**

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