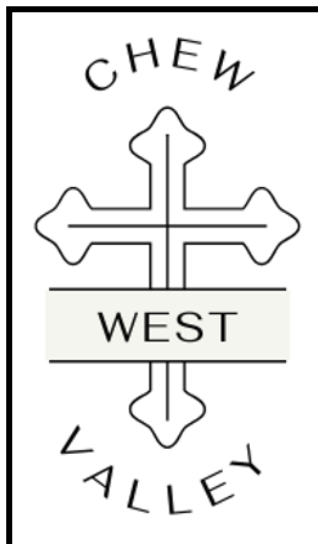


**Chew Stoke with
Nempnett Thrubwell
Parish News**
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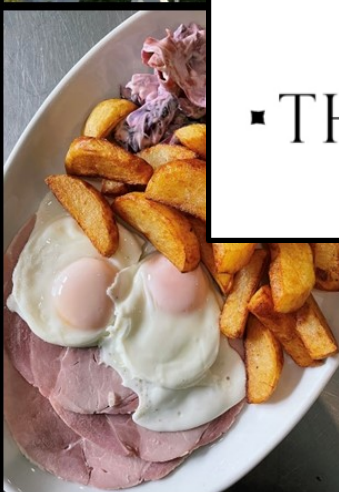
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- *Chemical Clean Downs*



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 Village Hall

www.chewstokechurchhall.org.uk

Chair: R Donlevy

01275 333106

Bookings Sec.: Coral Westaway

07955646579

Nempnett Thrubwell Village Hall

Gill Ford

01761 462391

Women's Institute

Hazel Wedlake

01275 332812

Chew Stoke Toddler Group

Carol Hare

01761 221695

Chew Stoke Bowling Club

Phil Gullam

01275 472605

Cricket Club

Ro Master

01275 331229

Drama Club

Ruth Knight

01275 333601

Chew Stoke School

Headteacher: Ben Hewett

01275 332354

Governors' Clerk: Liz Dagger

"

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

or contacting the Editor:

Cynthia K Troup 01275 333002

Handwritten entries can be delivered to Cynthia at

Fairwood, Pilgrims Way, Chew Stoke

**The copy deadline for the
April edition
will be Monday 17th March**

WHO'S WHO IN THE CHURCH

Rector: Rev Dr Ian Mills 01275 474504 chewvalleywest@gmail.com

Curate: The Revd Fran Smettem 01934 340682 curatechewvalleywest@gmail.com

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

Nempnett Thrubwell:	Rosemary Porter	01761 462571
	Nick Houlton	01761 462075

Capt. Bellringers:	Chew Stoke: John Bone	01275 332328
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Nempnett Thrubwell:	Andrew Ball	01275 472356
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Churchyard Maintenance:	Chew Stoke: Anne Summers	01275 333812
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Nempnett Thrubwell:	Nick Houlton	01761 462075
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Magazine: Editor:	Cynthia Troup
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Distribution:	Joanne Stephenson & Cynthia Troup
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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:	D. and K Haskard
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PCC Treasurers:

Chew Stoke: Tina Kilroy	Nempnett Thrubwell:	Nick Houlton
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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, Rosemary Porter, Dorian and Kathleen Haskard

Chew Stoke Sidespeople: Mesdames: Down, Downey, Kilroy, Limburn, Patch, Manville, McInnis, and Troup,
Messrs: Jameson 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

Letter from our Rector, the Rev Dr Ian Mills

Dear Friends,

In the Church Calendar we are about to enter the season of Lent. For some of us that word might stir memories of giving things up—or taking things up—for a season. When I was young, Lent was taken seriously at home, at church and in school. We knew that when the final treats had been consumed on Shrove Tuesday it would be a long forty days until we could unwrap our first Easter Eggs.

It is true that the origins of Lent involve sacrifice and self-denial. The period of forty days and nights recalls the time Jesus chose to spend in the wilderness facing hunger and temptation before he began his ministry. As such, Christians should take Lent seriously as a time of penitence—an opportunity to pause and to put right our relationship with God by seeking his forgiveness for what we have done and left undone.

But we lose something of the meaning of Lent if we focus solely on this aspect. The word Lent itself is derived from the Anglo-Saxon *lencten*, meaning ‘Spring’. So, at the heart of Lent isn’t gloom and misery, but something to do with new life; the promise of darkness giving way to light, chilly winds to the warmth of summer and barren hedgerows to full bloom.

For this reason Lent became an opportunity for new Christians to prepare for new life through the water of Baptism—or to recall the promises made at their Baptism. In so doing they were seeking new life in Jesus, just as the changing of the seasons revived the world around them.

I hope that these lengthening, warming days of Lent can help us prepare to celebrate that same life which burst from the empty tomb on that first Easter Day.

Yours in Christ,

Ian K. Mills +

Church News



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

Ash Wednesday – 5th March 2025

St Katharine's, Felton at 10.30am

Wednesday 19th March 2025

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



Sparklers will be held on **Monday 17th March**
in **Winford Church**
at **1.45pm**.

Please spread the word to families who may be interested in an hour of fellowship, activities, conversation, and refreshments.

If you are new to the area why not come along and meet other young families?



Contemplative Prayer Group

Our Benefice **Contemplative Prayer Group** meets on the first Monday of each month between 10.30am and 11.30am in St Andrew's Church, Chew Stoke, led by Rev Dr Victor Barley.

Mind and Spirit



Mind and Spirit will be held on **Wednesday 12th March** at **10.30am** in **Felton Village Hall**.

If you live with any condition causing memory loss, or care for someone with memory loss, you are very welcome for some spiritual support and connection with people who know what it's like.

Contact Revd Fran for more details.

Mothering Day Service
Sunday 30th March in St Andrews Church
Family Eucharist 10.30am
Activities for children
and music from Mini Melodies and Jubilee Choirs
Posy making in the Village Hall
after school on Friday 28th March (see p.14)



The season of Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, 5th March 2025**. 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 to 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:

St Katharine's, Felton – Holy Communion at 10.30am

St Andrew's, Chew Stoke – Holy Communion at 7.00pm

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



World Day of Prayer

**“World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by
Christian women who
welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice”**

We look forward to a special service to mark this year's World Day of Prayer on **Friday 7th March 2025 at 7.00pm** in **St Mary & St Peter's, Winford**. The service will be led by Revd Fran Smettem with contributions from women from across the parishes within our group. Everyone is welcome to attend this short service of prayer, readings and hymns. As always, St Mary & St Peter's will be open throughout the day for prayer and reflection.

Lent Walks at the Lake

We will be hosting two Lent Walks around Chew Valley Lake on **Saturday 22 March** and **Saturday 29 March 2025**. Everyone is welcome to join us for these gentle walks and a chance to talk along the way.

Please meet at **2.00pm** on each Saturday at **Picnic Area Car Park 2**.
Dogs on leads are welcome!



Full English or Continental Breakfast

At Nempnett Village Hall

On Sunday March 16th

From 10am to 12o'clock

Also some Easter Flowers and a Raffle

in Aid of Nempnett Church

PLEASE JOIN US!



The next Community Choir rehearsal will be held on

Wednesday 12th March at 7.00pm.

As always, these sessions are free and everything you need will be provided. If you haven't been before, you will be made very welcome! There is no audition, and singers of every standard and level of experience can join in.

Fran is very excited about starting a **Growing food project in Chew Stoke.**

Sessions for all ages will take place on a **Wednesday after school, from 3.30-5.30**, and for parents/carers and toddlers on **Thursday mornings from 10.30-11.30**. Anyone is welcome, regardless of growing experience! The first session will take place on Wednesday 26 March when we will start preparing the beds for sowing. Please contact Fran if you are interested in taking part on 01934 340682 or curatechewvalleywest@gmail.com

Posy making for Mothering Sunday will take place in Chew Stoke village hall on Friday 28 March straight after school. Children are welcome to bring a parent/carer and make a posy to take home for anyone who fulfils a mothering role for them. We will also be making posies for the Mothering Sunday service!

Pancakes and More

at Chew Stoke Methodist Church

Tuesday 4th March 2025 12 noon to 2pm

Price £6 includes soup and a roll, a sweet pancake with a choice of filling, tea or coffee.

Proceeds to Chew Stoke Chapel.

St Andrews Charity Soup Lunch



Wednesday 5th March

12.30 till 1.30 in the Village Hall

See you there for homemade soup and cakes!

£6 entrance, £1 for children under 5

All proceeds to Dorothy House (see page 23)

If you are working from home, why not come and have some fresh homemade food and support this very deserving charity?

CHURCHYARD BLITZ! **SATURDAY 29th MARCH 10AM.**

Getting St Andrew's ready for Easter!

Do come and help us tidy up.

Mowing, raking, brushing, snipping. Plenty of tools.

Good fun, Good friendship

Coffee, Tea and Cake.

Everyone Welcome – even just to sit in the sun!

Thank You!

DON'T FORGET—it's the INSIDE CHURCH CLEANING BLITZ on

Saturday 1st March from 10 am till 12noon

All welcome, tea and coffee provided

Benefice of Chew Valley West

Diocese of Bath & Wells March Services

	Sunday 2 March Sunday before Lent	Sunday 9 March First Sunday of Lent	Sunday 16 March Second Sunday of Lent	Sunday 23 March Third Sunday of Lent	Sunday 30 March Mothering Sunday
CHEW STOKE St Andrew	10.30am Eucharist		6.30pm Evensong		10.30am Family Eucharist
NEMPNETT THRUBWELL The Blessed Virgin Mary		9.30am Eucharist		6.30pm Evensong	
FELTON St Katharine		11.00am Eucharist		9.00am Morning Worship	
WINFORD St Mary & St Peter	9.00am Morning Worship			11.00am Eucharist	
REGIL St James			8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)		
STOWEY St Nicholas & The Blessed Virgin Mary	6.30pm Evensong	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)		6.30pm Evensong VEN TONY WILDS	
BISHOP SUTTON Holy Trinity		10.30am Morning Worship MRS SANDRA EDGERTON	10.30am Eucharist		10.30am Morning Worship

St Andrews March Rota

Flowers March 2nd **Altar** Cynthia **Lady Chapel:** May Witt

Then lent, so no flowers until Easter

Cleaning & Brass: Hazel Poynter and Cynthia

Readers & Sidespeople

Sunday 2nd March 10:30 Eucharist

Reader: Jerry Moorhouse 2 Corinthians 3 :12- Corinthians 4: 2

Sidespeople: Andrew & Lindsey

Sunday 16th March 6.30pm Evensong

Readers: Liz W & Hazel P Genesis 15 : 1-12, 17-18 Luke 13: 31-end

Sidespeople: Jessica & Sheila

Sunday 30th March 10.30 Family Eucharist Mothering Day Svrice

Reader: Sue Cook 2Corinthians 1: 3-7

Sidespeople: Cynthia & Andrew



School News



Chew Stoke Church School pupils have a new, secure home for their bikes, thanks to the combined efforts of local businesses and volunteers. The school community is thrilled with the newly completed bike shed, a project made possible by the generosity of Dando's (who donated the wood) and MJ Patch (who provided the metalwork).

The school also gave special recognition to parent Mr. Littler, whose design skills and project management were instrumental. He not only created the plans but also oversaw the material acquisition and volunteer coordination. The result is a fantastic addition to the school grounds, ready for students to use as the school gears up for its next Team Modeshift initiative, encouraging active travel.



Chew Valley Community Transport Scheme Urgently Needs More Volunteers!

If you, or anyone that you know, might be interested in volunteering for CVCT, either as a driver or by joining our team of coordinators, please contact us to ask for more information:

CVCT phone number: 01275 333430 – or email: cvct.coordinator@gmail.com

Community Projects & Initiatives

New Bleed Kit for the Village – CSPC agreed to purchase a second bleed kit, it will be installed at the Village Hall. The Parish Council is exploring a third kit for the north of the village.

Housing Needs Survey – CSPC are considering whether to undertake a survey to assess local housing needs for the village. Awaiting further information.

Community Bloom 2025 – The village is entering again! Deadline: 30th March. Local groups are encouraged to join, and enter the 'In Your Neighbourhood' categories.

BioBlitz Event – Plans to work with Chew Valley School EcoClub to organise an event focused on local biodiversity.

Road Safety & Traffic Updates

Community Speedwatch – Volunteers are ready to restart the initiative. Looking into acquiring Autospeedwatch cameras.

Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) – B&NES has new signs available on rotation. Parish Council has requested signs for five key locations, including Stoke Hill and Pagans Hill.

Bristol Road Crossing Improvements – Work is complete. The project enhances pedestrian safety, particularly for schoolchildren. *CSPC are aware that some concerns have been raised within the community. Below is a bit of background and explanation which might help to answer some of the queries raised.*

For some time CSPC have been in dialogue with B&NES about how best to create a safer crossing point for Bristol Road, for school children, shoppers, and all residents walking in the village. CSPC have also been liaising with the Primary School. The PC and the School are encouraging parking for school drop off in Bilbie Road, hence making a crossing around the shop/Quarry Hay area.

B&NES confirmed they had funding available for this and came up with a proposal which they discussed with CSPC.

CSPC also asked for comments from the community and one or two communications were received - all around the theme of not wanting too much built environment / street lighting etc.

A Zebra Crossing was proposed by B&NES, but this would require street lighting in that area, CSPC decided we did not want due to the impact on dark sky policy etc.

A plan was agreed upon which meant a narrower crossing point and a different colour surface on the road, but no street lighting.

The PC requested the lowered kerb to be on the North side of Quarry Hay, but B&NES explained that this was not possible as it was too close to the traffic calming section of road. This is why the dropped kerb is on the South (The Stoke) side of Quarry Hay.

B&NES also specified bollards to be included in the plan to prevent pavement parking in key areas that affect sight lines for pedestrians when using the crossing point. The only request that CSPC made was that this should include bollards on the north side of Quarry Hay (opposite the shop) as there has been a persistent problem with parking on this (pedestrian) area. PTO for further info.

PC Report Contd. *CSPC were also keen to ensure that any bollards were the same quality and appearance as bollards already around the village (Pilgrims way /School Lane and in the traffic calming zone).*

Legal parking in the village has not been affected by this scheme or the bollards. They simply prevent illegal (pavement) parking and parking on junctions. As such they have made use of the crossing point safer (better sight lines) and ensured constant pavement access for buggies, wheelchairs etc.

Overall CSPC understand people's concerns around changes to the environment but feel that the B&NES plan as now implemented has made a positive contribution to safety, particularly for school traffic, at the same time as having the least possible impact on the environment and feel of our rural village.

Other Key Updates

Parish Council Communication – Updates will now be shared on the village Facebook page and 'The Telegraph,' with comments directed via email to the Clerk.

PCAA Meetings – Cllr Read will attend future meetings as the council representative.

Recreational Trail – Discussions ongoing with Bristol Water regarding a blocked drain at Woodford Lane.

Village Tidiness – A request to all residents & visitors to help keep the village clean. Community Bloom will take an active role in encouraging tidiness around public areas.

Next Meeting: 📅 Thursday 6th March 2025 ⌚ 7:30 PM 📍 Village Hall

Clubs & Societies



At the MAJESTIC Aka Chew Stoke Village Hall Thursday 27th March. Vindication Swim

**Doors 7pm for 7:30pm screening.
Members £3, Non Members £7.**

The Majestic Cinema in Chew Stoke presents a rare opportunity to see the highly acclaimed film about Mercedes Gleitze, who in 1927 became the first British woman to swim the English Channel.

'Vindication Swim' depicts Mercedes' upstream struggle in overcoming both the cold waters of the English Channel and the oppressive society of 1920s England. However, after a rival comes forward claiming to have accomplished the same feat, Mercedes is forced into battle to retain her record and her legacy.

Chew Valley U3A Ubley Parish Hall

The next meeting of the Chew Valley U3A will be held at Ubley Parish Hall on Monday 17th March when the speaker will be Naomi Johns talking about

The modern bird of prey and urban evolution.

Doors open at 10am for coffee & biscuits. Talk begins at 10.30am. Members: £1.

Visitors welcome: £2.50 or £10 for the year!



Arts Society Mendip Tuesday 4th March:

Three Baltic Capitals: Tallinn, Vilnius and Riga.

Simon Rees, musician and tour leader, will introduce us to the capitals of Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia. All Hanseatic trading cities built in the North German style of medieval architecture, each came under the rule of conflicting empires: Swedish, Russian and German, with their later buildings reflecting these different cultures. The talk will begin at 11.00am in Croscombe Village Hall (and simultaneously via Zoom – a link will be sent to members and guests). Guests are welcome (up to a maximum of 3 lectures in a season) for £10. More information and our full programme are available on our [website](http://www.theartsocietymendip.org.uk) - www.theartsocietymendip.org.uk. We are also running a **Day of Special Interest** on **Thursday 27th March** in Croscombe Village Hall from 10.00am – 3.00pm (not available on Zoom). There will be three lectures on the subject of : ***18th Century English Porcelain - Chelsea, Worcester, Bow and Derby*** with Jane Gardiner, who is a very experienced lecturer and was formerly a deputy director of Sotheby's. Guests are very welcome and places are £30. Please see our website for more information and details of how to book.

CHEW VALLEY HISTORY SOCIETY

The Society's new year got off to a brilliant start on Weds 5th Feb with a lecture, "King Charles II" by Professor Ronald Hutton. - Always superb!
Our next meeting, on Weds 5th March, will be a talk and demonstration by the Chew Valley Handbell Ringers on the **"History of Handbell Ringing"**. There will also be the opportunity to "have a go" for any member of the audience. The meeting will be held in the Millennium Hall, Chew Magna, doors open at 7.15.pm. with the meeting starting at 7.45.pm. Tea / coffee and biscuits will be served. Everyone is welcome at any of our meetings ; guests and visitors £3.00. per person. Russell Peters. Tel: 01285332741 / 07976266427. Email: russpeters@btinternet.com

Chew Valley Gardening Society

This friendly society meets on the second Thursday of the month at Stanton Drew Village Hall where there is easy access and parking.
On Thursday 13th March Micky Little will speak on

' Summer Flowering Bulbs: The Living Jigsaw'.

The competition will be for 3 x daffodils or narcissi.

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



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 £5 a session!



On a cold February night, we enjoyed the smell of baking as Wendy Bird, local domestic science teacher, cooked some pastries as part of her Science of Pastry Making presentation. Some useful tips and insights for us all! Thankyou Wendy!

We look forward in May to visiting The Caisson garden near Bath, unusually based around a disused canal but recently restored by Phil and Amanda Honey resulting in a sustainable landscape that is visually stunning and rich in thriving wildlife.

Next month's meeting on Wednesday 19th March brings us Jim Hardcastle, Manager of the Mendip Hills, talking on his work maintaining the natural beauty of the area.

(enquiries to chewstokewi@avonfwi.org.uk)

Hazel Wedlake (President).



Chew Valley Country Market is looking for someone to help with baking - maybe on a rota, if weekly attendance is difficult.

You will need to have your Food Hygiene Certificate Level 2, available on line, which is not difficult and takes no more than couple of hours to complete in the comfort of your own home! You join with a very small nominal fee, and you and the other producers are paid monthly with a small deduction for insurance and hire of premises costs.

This friendly community event, takes place on Friday mornings 9.30 – 11a.m
at The Lower Old School Room, Chew Magna. BS40 8SH.

Please come in to discuss this opportunity any Friday (except Good Friday, when the market will be held on a Thursday.)

Market Manager - 01275 332 812 or orders.cvcmmarket@gmail.com

Facebook [chewvalleycountry market](https://www.facebook.com/chewvalleycountrymarket)



**Thursday March 27th 2025: Avon Wildlife Trust -
Chew Valley Group:**

**“PONDS - Putting in a pond, the pleasures and
pitfalls”.**

In this illustrated talk Stephanie Chadwick talks about her
experience of pond building. Why is putting in a pond such a good idea?
What rewards does it bring?

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

**Chew Valley Gadget Busters March 12th, The Queens, Chew Magna
April 9th, The Stoke Inn, Chew Stoke**

Having difficulty using the Green Buses, the 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! Chew Valley Gadget Busters are holding face to face
sessions, thanks to The Queens pub in Chew Magna and the Stoke Inn, Chew
Stoke. 2-hour sessions each month, from 12.30-2.30 pm on a Wednesday.** It
costs **£3** per session, all of which will go to charity. Either book by emailing
cvgadgetbusters@gmail.com or turn up on the day.

Harptrees History Society West Harptree Memorial Hall, BS40 6EG.

Wednesday March 26th

Prof. Richard Coates will talk on Shirehampton Remount Depot

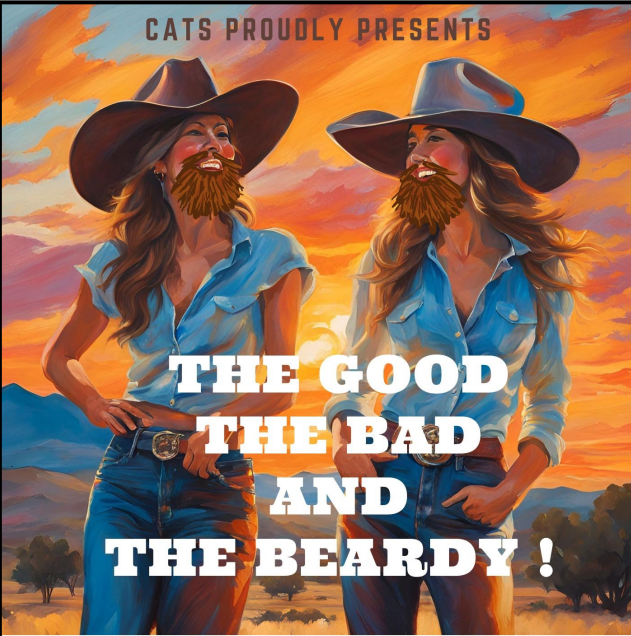
It was not only men who were needed at the front during the First World War –
war-trained horses were needed in great numbers to replace those lost. Several
Remount Depots were set up across the UK to help maintain this supply and the
depot at Shirehampton was one of the largest.

Doors open at 7.15pm for 7.30pm.

Booking opens on March 12th and closes at midday on March 26th.

Visitors welcome £3. Book in advance (essential) but pay on the night
Booking: please email: info@harptreeshistorysociety.org with subject line
“March 2025”

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