

**Chew Stoke with
Nempnett Thrubwell
Parish News**

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April 2025



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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 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
May edition
will be Monday 14th April**

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,

Some of you will recall the controversy around the Andrew Lloyd-Webber and Tim Rice musical *Jesus Christ Superstar* when it was first staged in the early 1970s. Productions in the West End, Broadway and around the world attracted protests from religious groups who felt the portrayal of the final days of Jesus as a rock opera was blasphemous, and some of the content too loosely based on the Passion Story as found in the Gospels. When I was a student in Belfast in the early 2000s a touring production of *Superstar* still managed to attract some protesters some 30 years after its first run—that's the sort of publicity that you can't buy!

I have seen *Superstar* and have concluded that for all the negative attention it might have attracted over the years, it does remind us of one important aspect of the Holy Week story which we might otherwise lose—that Jesus Christ would not allow himself to be a 'superstar' despite the efforts of the powerful religious and political systems which closed in on him during the last week of his life.

We forget how tempted Jesus must have been to display his true power—to end the argument over who he was once and for all. We forget how tempted Jesus must have been to take on the mantle of a 'superstar', with all the trappings of celebrity that the Son of God might have deserved. But we don't have to look far in our world to see this sort of 'easy' power and its rewards—the sort of power which deceives, bullies and corrupts.

Easter reminds us of the true nature of God's power. It reminds us that the same God who created the universe entered Jerusalem on a humble donkey. Easter reminds us that the same all-powerful Son of God wept in the Garden of Gethsemane as his friends betrayed and deserted him. Easter reminds us that power doesn't come with wearing a golden crown, but a crown of thorns.

At Easter, the power of love and hope took on death and won. That same all-powerful, living Jesus calls us into ever-deeper relationship with him not because of who he is, but because of what he has done for us.

Wishing you every blessing for a Joyful Easter,

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.

Wednesday 2nd April 2025

St Katharine's, Felton at 10.30am

Wednesday 16th April 2025 (Wednesday of Holy Week)

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 14th April**
in **Winford Church** at **1.45pm**.

Note: the second Monday this month

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 9th April**
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.

Weekly Church e-Newsletter

If you would like to receive a weekly email Newsletter with a reminder of service times for the coming Sunday, details of readings, and some thoughts on the readings with prayer suggestions, please sign-up via our website:

<https://chewvalleywest.org/newsletter>

Palm Sunday Procession

We mark the beginning of Holy Week in our group of parishes with a **Palm Procession** beginning at **Winford Church** at **10.45am** on Sunday 13th April. The Procession is followed by an act of worship which includes the reading of the Passion Story and Holy Communion.

Easter Trail and Easter Vigil – Saturday 19th April 2025



We are hosting a special, interactive family trail on Holy Saturday (Easter Eve), **Saturday 19th April** between **1.00 and 3.00pm** in **St Andrew's Church, Chew Stoke**. This will be an opportunity to experience the wonderful story of Holy Week and Easter through craft and interactive activities. Refreshments will be provided and the trail will end with a Chocolate Hunt and a performance by our Children's Choirs!

Later on Easter Eve we meet in St Andrew's for **The Easter Vigil** at **8.00pm**. This is a poignant celebration of Light overcoming Darkness which begins with the lighting of the Easter Fire and a candlelit procession into church.

Holy Week

Details of special services in our group of parishes during Holy Week:

SUNDAY 13th APRIL

10.45am

WINFORD St Mary & St Peter

PALM SUNDAY

Palm Procession,
Passion & Eucharist

THURSDAY 17th APRIL

7.00pm

BISHOP SUTTON Holy Trinity

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Eucharist of the
Last Supper

FRIDAY 18th APRIL

9.00am

STOWEY St Nicholas & St Mary

GOOD FRIDAY

Meditation on The Cross

2.00pm

WINFORD St Mary & St Peter

'An Hour at the Cross'

SATURDAY 19th APRIL

8.00opm

CHEW STOKE St Andrew

HOLY SATURDAY

The Easter Vigil



Our popular all-age 'Sunday First' worship will recommence on

Sunday 4th May

at **St Andrew's, Chew Stoke** at 10.00am.

Breakfast and craft activities will be provided followed by a short act of worship for all ages.



The next Community Choir rehearsal will be held on

Wednesday 9th April 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'S GOINGS-ON

Mind and Spirit

Did you know that Mind and Spirit has been going for a year now?! This group started as a place for people with memory loss and their spouses, carers and friends to connect and get support from those who know what it's like. We offer tea and coffee, biscuits and often cake, and a chance to chat. We also have some spiritual input, which may be a passage from the Bible, or a topic to talk about. Last month we spoke about what we give up for Lent, and Fran shared about her biggest Lent challenge which was to ask for help. We had a long conversation about how difficult this is!

Anyone experiencing these kinds of losses is very welcome to join us, on the 2nd Wednesday of the month (apart from August) at Felton Village Hall, from 10.30-11.45am. There is plenty of parking and you will get a warm welcome.

Chew Stoke Grow Your Own

Fran's gardening project will be meeting on Wednesdays from 3.30-5.30pm for all ages to grow together, with a toddler session on a Thursday morning from 10.30-11.30am, at Dippenstiles on Bristol Road. Do come along and help with planting, weeding or mulching, or indeed just soaking up the sun (I'm feeling optimistic!) and fresh air with a side of conversation. We are using the lower gate for access, which is by the Eggs for Sale sign.

Easter Trail

Come along to St Andrew's Church, Chew Stoke on Saturday 19 April from 1-3pm for Easter crafts and activities, followed by an Easter trail egg hunt. We're looking forward to welcoming Mini Melodies and Jubilee! Choirs to sing, and there will be plenty of refreshments available.

St Andrews Charity Soup Lunch



Wednesday 2nd April

12.30 till 1.30 in the Village Hall

See you there for homemade soup and cakes!

£6 entrance, £1 for children under 5

Last month £400 was given to Dorothy House Hospice.

April's charity will be Sight Research UK based in Bristol

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

Holy Trinity Church Bishop Sutton Spring Fayre

A Spring Fair will take place at Holy Trinity Church in Bishop Sutton on Saturday, 10 May, from 10am to 3pm with a diverse range of stalls featuring plants, bunting, bric-a-brac, cakes, and refreshments.

Tables bookable for selling @ £10, contact Jim on 01275 332402.

Raffle with fantastic prizes and a tombola stall, ensuring a delightful experience for all.

Help us raise funds for church repairs and have a really fun day!

Save the date!

**St Andrews Chew Stoke Summer Fair on Saturday 7th June
More information in May.....**



**Congratulations to our Rector Ian and his wife
Kelly-Anne on the birth of their daughter
Iris Catherine Elizabeth
on the 15th March!**

Benefice of Chew Valley West

Diocese of Bath & Wells April Services

	Sunday 6 April Fifth Sunday of Lent	Sunday 13 April Palm Sunday	Sunday 20 April Easter Day	Sunday 27 April Second Sunday of Easter	Sunday 4 May Third Sunday of Easter
CHEW STOKE St Andrew			6.30pm Evensong	10.30am Eucharist	10.00am Sunday First
NEMPNETT THRUBWELL The Blessed Virgin Mary			9.00am Eucharist	6.30pm Evensong	
FELTON St Katharine	11.00am Eucharist		11.00am Eucharist		
WINFORD St Mary & St Peter		11.00am Procession of Palms, The Passion & Eucharist	11.00am Eucharist CANON JOHN REYNOLDS		9.00am Eucharist
REGIL St James			8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)		
STOWEY St Nicholas & The Blessed Virgin Mary	6.30pm Evensong	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	9.00am Holy Communion (BCP) VEN TONY WILDS	6.30pm Evensong VEN TONY WILDS	6.30pm Evensong
BISHOP SUTTON Holy Trinity			10.30am Eucharist		

St Andrews April Rota

Flowers 10am Easter Saturday decoration of the church
27th April Altar and Lady Chapel: Liz Boyd and Rachel Burgoyne

Cleaning & Brass: Hazel P. **Volunteers needed please!**

Readers & Sidespeople

Saturday 19th 8pm: Easter Vigil

Reader: Sue C. Romans 6: 3-11 (Luke 24: 1-12)

Sidespeople: Cynthia & Andrew

Sunday 20th Easter Day 6.30pm: Evensong

Reader: Andrew Acts 10: 14- 43 John 20: 1-18

Sidespeople: Andrew & Laura

Sunday 27th 10.30am: Eucharist

Reader: Jerry Moorhouse Acts 5: 27 –2 (John 20: 19-end)

Sidespeople: Sara Hindle & tba



Cake Sale Raises Funds for School's Thrive Room

The Parochial Church Council recently held a cake sale to raise money for Chew Stoke Primary School's Thrive Room.

The Thrive Room provides support for children who need extra emotional and social support. It helps them develop coping skills and build resilience. The PCC wanted to support this important resource.

There was a variety of homemade treats available at the cake sale. The school thanked everyone who baked, bought, or donated.

In addition to the cake sale, the school held a non-uniform day. Children made donations and wore their own clothes. The combined efforts of the cake sale and non-uniform day showed the great working relationship between the church and the school in supporting the children's well-being and raised nearly £400



Following government news about housing increases, we discussed the feasibility and need for a Housing Needs Survey in Chew Stoke. Feedback from B&NES advises not to proceed at present, so agreed to establish how the village will be considered by B&NES following update of the Local Plan. Agreed to arrange meeting with Gary Ward and George Blanchard from B&NES to find out more. (It is possible a village like Chew Stoke may be required to increase housing by 5%, which would be approx 20 houses over the life of the Local Plan). The benefits of undertaking a survey or assessment at a later stage are that they would provide evidence of the type and size of housing needs the residents have.

The Annual Village Meeting for Thursday 15th May at 7.00pm.

Agreed the following groups to be asked if they would like to participate: Community Bloom, Road Safety Working Group, Bioblitz Event, WI, Village Hall Committee, Chew Stoke Scouts.

Chew Stoke village has entered **Community Bloom 2025**. Chew Stoke Primary School have also entered the 'In Your School' category, and other groups are very welcome to get involved if they would like to. A doodle poll has been set up so residents can volunteer to help, please contact the Clerk if you would like to be involved. It is also a good option for Duke of Edinburgh Awards students to help as part of the volunteering section, please contact us if you are interested in being involved. A Bioblitz event is being planned with both schools for Monday 28th April from 12noon till 10pm in Rectory Field.

The **Road Safety Working Group** are meeting regularly. They are due to start up the Community Speedwatch (CSW) Scheme. Speeding on the main routes into the village and through the middle on Bristol Road remains a serious issue. CSPC agreed to request collection of speed data using speed strips from A&S Police. Agreed to 2 locations initially at a cost of £125 per location, Walley Court Road and Stoke Hill. Discussed purchasing either CSW cameras or a vehicle activated sign (VAS). Costs will be considered . **Continued overleaf**

A Freedom of Information request will be submitted to A&S Police for historic speed data. Concern was raised about cars parking on zigzag lines outside the Primary School at drop off time, the school to be contacted to let them know and seek help from PCSO's. Clerk to contact PCSO's regarding speeding on Herons Green, correspondence received about ongoing issues in the area, especially in the evenings, with the toad patrol volunteers currently in the area.

At the last meeting CSPC agreed to purchase 2 new bleed kits for the village. Chew Medical Practice have agreed to have one bleed kit sited on an external wall at the practice. Two kits now on order from Heartsafe.

**Next meeting Thursday 3rd April 2025 at 7.30pm
in the Village Hall, Chew Stoke.**

Clubs & Societies



At the MAJESTIC
Aka Chew Stoke Village Hall
Thursday 24th April

RAY –15

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

The extraordinary life of Ray Charles—a man who fought harder and went further than anyone thought possible. Told in his adult life with flashbacks to his youth, we see his humble origins in Florida, his turbulent childhood which included losing a brother and then his sight, his rise as a pianist in a touring band, him writing his own songs and running his own band and then stardom whilst battling addiction and its effects on his working life and family. Jamie Fox stars.

CHEW VALLEY HISTORY SOCIETY

Our next meeting, on **Weds 2nd April** will be the Society's AGM. Following the business part of the evening there will be a short talk about "Church Houses" by Colin Budge. Doors will be open at 7.15.pm. with the meeting starting at 7.45.pm.

Russell Peters. Tel: 01275332741/07976266427. Email: russpeters@btinternet.com



Arts Society Mendip Tuesday 1st April

The Road to Santiago de Compostela: Pilgrimage and Spectacle.

Ian Cockburn, specialist in the 800 years of Moorish occupation and Christian reconquest of medieval Iberia, will describe how, from the 11th century, the cathedral of this city was the 3rd most important pilgrimage site after Jerusalem and Rome. The 'camino' is dotted with Romanesque churches and monasteries, with architecture, art and reliquaries to venerate the saints and attract the pilgrims.

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 - 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 Stanton Drew Village Hall where there is easy access and parking.

On **Thursday 10th April** our popular speaker John Tucker will talk on '**Annuals in a Mixed Border**'.

The competition will be for 3 garden flowers.

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



Chew Valley U3A Ubley Parish Hall

Monday April 28th.

Our speaker, by popular request, will be

Alex Leger talking about 'More adventures from TVs BLUE PETER'

Members £1, Visitors £2.50 inc refreshments. Annual membership currently £10.

Doors open at 10am.

Talk begins at 10.30am after notices.

Please note the date is a week later than normal because of the Easter Bank Holiday.

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!



With Spring on the way, a talk from Richard Rickitt about the 'Amazing Honey Bee' was most appropriate for our March meeting, and with Richard's considerable experience he was well qualified for any questions from local amateur beekeepers. He also brought along the products of his profession with honey for sale.

In a change to the programme for Wednesday, April 16th, our speaker will be **Jim Hardcastle, Manager of Mendip Hills National Landscape**. The National Landscape Partnership provides effective long-term management to keep the Mendip Hills National Landscape special. The primary purpose is to provide a strategic, independent service dedicated to the conservation and enhancement of the Mendip Hills National Landscape, so this should be very interesting.

The Spring Group meeting is at Wrington Memorial Hall on Wednesday April 2nd. The competition is a basket of Spring Flowers

Other opportunities being explored this Spring are skittles when we play against neighbouring WI's, small informal group visits to exhibitions such as one at the Holburne Museum in Bath and extending craft ideas.

Come along and join us to find out more!

Hazel Wedlake (President 01275 332 812) or

Secretary Debbie Storey chewstokewi@avonfwi.org.uk

Jane Austen's 250th Birthday

Bath Abbey presents 'Austens at the Abbey', a unique celebration of Jane Austen's life and legacy, running from 5 April - 27 September

2025. This special program includes an exhibition exploring Austen's connections to the Abbey, interactive family fun days, and exclusive after hours tours featuring costumed guides bringing 18th-century Bath to life.

[Visit bathabbey.org/austen for details and tickets.](http://bathabbey.org/austen)



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

Wednesday 30th April

The Agricultural Revolution 1700-1850

and why we wouldn't have had an Industrial Revolution without it.

Speaker: Dr. Jim Pimperl

Between 1700 and 1850 the population of United Kingdom nearly quadrupled and there were vast changes in agriculture. This talk will explore how the large increase in productivity that was needed was achieved, from making the earth more productive, improvements in animal breeding, developments in mechanisation, organisational progress, and the expansion of markets. The industrial revolution was dependent on these advances.

Doors open at 7.15pm for 7.30pm.

Booking opens on April 16th and closes at midday on April 30th.

Visitors welcome £3. Book in advance (essential)

Booking: please email: info@harptreeshistorysociety.org with subject line "April 2025 "

Chew Valley Gadget Busters

April 9th The Queens, Chew Magna

May 14th 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 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.

BRAIN OF NEMPNETT 2025 CHARITY QUIZ



**IN AID OF M.N.D ASSOCIATION
AND PROSTATE CANCER UK**



FRIDAY 25TH APRIL

MENDIP THRUBWELL VILLAGE HALL

**DOORS OPEN 7.00PM WITH COMPLIMENTARY DRINK
ON ARRIVAL**

**SUPPER 7.30PM– QUIZ 8.30PM– RAFFLE DRAW 10PM
TEAMS OF 4**

TICKETS £15 TO INCLUDE QUIZ & SUPPER

Note, there is no bar so please bring your own drinks!

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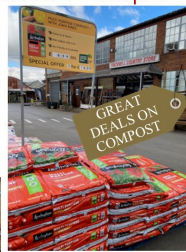
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