



Congresbury *Life*

Issue 5 | June-July 2024

News from the Parish Council

Well, some sort of magic going on in Congresbury! Before the last Congresbury Life had even gone to press, a very kind young man took it upon himself to move the planters at the cross on Broad Street (you may remember my little rant in the last edition) and they are back in the right place! No thanks are due to North Somerset, all thanks are due to this young man. I won't name him in case N. Som decide it wasn't his job. There's a bit too much "computer says no!" around in my humble opinion. In other news, the work at Smallway crossroads has been put on hold for the foreseeable. I believe N. Som are having a rethink after the complaints about the other bus lane 'improvements'. The planning application for the land just before said crossroads is up again, please feel free to comment on the N. Somerset planning website. By the time this comes to you, we will have had the village clean up day and thank you to all who helped out, and specially to the organisers. These things don't just happen, someone is at the back pulling strings and organising! Finally, enjoy the weather, get out in your garden, or even the allotment, and soak up the beauty of the place we're lucky enough to live in.

To keep the clean-up going, you can register for free rubbish bags. <https://n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/parking-travel-roads/street-cleaning/adopt-street>

Jane Clarke, Chair. Congresbury PC.

Congresbury Village Allotments

There are still allotments available to rent and it's not too late to start as the weather is improving at last! Some plots are rather overgrown so need more work than others. Perhaps worth suggesting a rent reduction? Enquiries: 01934 939902
admin@congresbury-pc.gov.uk

Where have all the benches gone?

The Kent Road Green has been without a bench since last summer and the Millennium Green is down to just a couple of benches. Congresbury has many long-term residents who, with increasing age and, sadly, infirmity, need somewhere to sit and rest. There are 2 benches currently stored in the Parish Office shed which could quickly be reinstated. But the fear of anti-social behaviour seems to outweigh considerations for older residents and now the Parish is without a maintenance man. What can we do?

ReStore Congresbury

Congratulations on celebrating their fourth birthday. ReStore promotes practical plastic-free buying habits and have, since they opened their doors:

- Refilled over 15,500 bottles,
- Sold two tonnes of washing up liquid,
- And topped up over one tonne of porridge oats.

Open in new premises in Broad Street, Tues – Sat 09.00 to 16.00

Congresbury WI

Congresbury WI have a busy time ahead. On 19th June Mike Kier will be talking to us about Scam Awareness and on 17th July Marlene Holmes will reveal the pleasures and problems of living in a Historic House. August always promises a "Cream Tea" excursion in the area.

Meetings start at 2.15 on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Methodist Hall. New members and visitors are always welcome.

Contact: Susan Hibberd (secretary) on 01934 833544.

Congresbury Village Fete 29th June



Join us on Saturday 29th June at St. Andrew's Church Paddock for the annual Village Fete and Summer Flower Show.

This year the theme is the Paris 2024 Olympics, so prepare for a fun-filled afternoon with stalls from Congresbury's organisations, fully licensed bar and BBQ and some sport themed games in the arena. With music from Congresbury Brass Band.

End the evening with the traditional 'Do After the Fete' from 7pm. Talented young local band will be entertaining us with feel-good floor fillers for a good family night out. Fully licensed bar. All tickets £5. Under 16s free!

Gardening Club Summer Show

The date is set, 29th June, and the marquee is all booked for the 2024 Rose Show. Hopefully this cold wet spring will delay the roses blooming; making it a bumper year for the rose classes, and your vegetables and fruit will be just ripe and ready for showing. There is, however, so much more to the Gardening Club Rose Show. We are hoping for lots of entries from bakers, flower arrangers, photographers, artists and from a whole range of villagers who enjoy making crafts. It's a great way to showcase your talents! We especially

would like to see more children's entries this year, and there are lots of classes for their different age groups. To find out what the classes are please pick up a show schedule or go to the Gardening Club website www.congresburygardening.org.uk. Fill in the entry form and return it to the Post Office a couple of days before the show. Late entries are always accepted on the morning of the show (before 10.30 am please) but will cost you a few pence more! Have a go and help make the show a great success this year.

Blooming Congresbury



In March you might have seen a number of volunteers from the Blooming Congresbury group and the Congresbury Garden Club toiling away in the precinct. Our aim was to reorganise the planters outside the shops which have become overgrown and a bit of an eyesore throughout the years. Although it looked a daunting task thanks to the number of volunteers who turned up to help we were able to dig out all the beds, prepare a number of them for replanting and fill the remainder with loose chipping in a couple of sessions. Plants have now been bought and the planters are looking beautiful. We would like to thank Oldfields, Dream Doors, the Post Office, The Cottage Loaf and Hodder's butcher for their generous cash donations which, added to money raised at a quiz at the Plough, paid for the chipping and the new plants.

The precinct looks so much better now, please encourage people to look after it and value it.

To help, contact
Blooming Congresbury Group

Di Hassan 01934 876454 or contact Congresbury Parish Council.

The Friends of St. Andrews Church

We are a group of people who raise funds for the upkeep of St. Andrews Church Congresbury. We raise funds at the Village Show in June with refreshments, and hold a Christmas Fair in November, both of which are well attended. We would welcome new members to the Friends to support these events and future activities. Any interested parties should contact the secretary. royettechapman@icloud.com

Our current challenge is to raise monies to carry out repairs to the Church Clock which has recently ceased to function. Any donation would be gratefully accepted and can be made by way of paying to:
The Friends of St Andrews Church Congresbury

Sort code. 60-23-32

Account Number 43783392

Please use this with a reference of your name, and the word "clock"; we would be grateful for any one-off donations or standing orders. Or send a cheque made out to the above a/c name to the Church Office. If you wish to Gift Aid your donation/s please contact The Treasurer on 01934833770

Congresbury Scout Group



The 1964 on our group scarf signifies that there has been continuous scouting in Congresbury for 60 years. (There was a previous Scout group in the village between the two World Wars). The group celebrated the anniversary with a Church Parade on St George's Day, followed by games and a splendid tea party provided by the parents. Members of the Group and their families will be going on a weekend camp in September, which

will have elements of the old and modern traditions. If there are any previous members of the Scout Group with memories to contribute to our archive, please contact Alex Ballard cidercot.alex@gmail.com. She would be interested to hear from you.

For enquiries about joining the group as an adult, or a Scout, Cub or Beaver, please contact

geoffreybailey@gmail.com

We share our headquarters in Mill Leg with the Guides. For enquiries about joining them, contact sonya.stocker@sky.com



Forthcoming BLUEY Day Trips for residents

Weds 19th June to St. Fagans National Museum of History, Wales

Pick-up points:

The Precinct at 9.30am and Riverside Car Park, Millennium Green, at 9.40am. There will be a charge of £6.50 per person (payable on the bus). Bluey is a 15-seater, wheelchair accessible bus available to clubs, societies, groups and individuals to hire.

To book a seat or for information please ring 01934 257247 (leave a message if no reply, we will get back to you) or email:

bookingmanagerbluey@gmail.com



Nature is our Neighbour

Get More Involved! We are not all experts but we all share a passion to 'do something' to turn the tide for the natural environment; join us and meet like-minded people. The more volunteers YACWAG has, the more we can achieve.

Sunday 9th June 2-4pm Cobthorn Reserve, Congresbury BS49 5DS:

Festival of Nature Community Day

Join bird, bat and small mammal guided walks and see YACWAG's new field with Trees for Climate planting. Family nature trail and hedgerow ID. Sorry no dogs.

Saturday 15th June 2.30-5pm

Hangstones Pavilion, Stowey Road BS49 4HS: Yatton School's Carnival

a stall with displays and games.

Saturday 29th June 1.30-5pm Church Drive BS49 5DX: displays and games at the Village Fete.

Sunday 14th July 7.30-10pm The

Plough Inn Congresbury BS49 5JA:

general knowledge fundraising pub quiz come with a team or join with others on the night. £1 per person to enter. Raffle prizes welcome.

Further details of all the above on <http://yacwag.org.uk>

Finally, please support our **Swift**

Project by reporting any sightings of swifts on swifts@yacwag.org.uk

Memorial Hall.

Book Sales are held fortnightly on Saturdays to raise funds for the hall. The range of adult and children's books and jigsaws is amazing. Upcoming sales are on 8th and 22nd June 9am to 1pm

Available for functions at competitive rates. Follow us on Facebook:

[Congresbury War Memorial Hall.](#)

Congresbury Singers

Concert - an "All American Program". Sat. 22 June @ 7.30 at the War Memorial Hall, Congresbury - £12.00 inc. refreshments. Tickets available from the PO, Re-store Congresbury or on the door.

The community café

The Community Café runs a 'Glut Market' of donated plants and local home-grown produce, throughout spring to autumn, which are available to buy for a reasonable donation.

Over the last few weeks, we have seen a variety of donated plants come

in e.g. primrose, Japanese anemone, forget me knots, foxgloves, borage, crocus, ox eye daisy, evening primrose, and a lot of lily of the valley and some strawberry and vegetable plants. We are in need of large plastic pots, if you have any. Surplus profits from the café are used to support organisations in the village, as well as some local and national ones. Thanks to the café volunteers, customers and the generosity of Lisa and Neil at Debbie Fortune Estate Agents the café are donating £1,175 to St Andrew's school to help with the costs of this year's Year 6 camp.

The café is open from 9 to 1pm every Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays except bank holidays.



Although term time sessions finish on 19th of July, we will be running a series of activities during the school holidays. One week will focus upon art activities, and other weeks will have trips out and activities requested by members. Weather permitting we will try to personalise our Youth Club building with some organised graffiti. Please don't start this without permission!

E-mail karen@congyo.org.uk or follow us on Facebook for more details.

A local parent is hoping to organise some informal skateboarding over the holidays, so if you would like to register interest in this, please contact Karen as above.

Nature On Our Doorstep

A wonderful project began in April for young people in North Somerset. The project has been possible due to a grant from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) Community Grants Programme, and the partnership between YACWAG, Congresbury Youth Partnership and FOREAL CIC.

Special themed sessions related to nature are being delivered with a creative focus during Congresbury's Wednesday's youth club hours 3.15pm – 5pm and 6.30pm – 8.30pm. Young people from surrounding villages are welcome at both groups, and anyone from 8 - 14 yrs can attend any of the sessions. Sessions are led by experts and enthusiasts, and fun activities are provided to engage young people in a specific area of local conservation.

The dates for the remaining sessions: **Wednesday 12th June.** Planting for pollinators, identification, sketching and painting nature, painting on feathers.

Wednesday 10th July. Butterfly and moth conservation, arts and crafts.

Wednesday 7th August. Summer holiday club. 10am – 4pm Bioblitz Bonanza, Citizen Science, identifying species, designing landscapes for nature, drawing insects, arts, and crafts, junk band, painting on feathers.

Friday 4th October 2nd Bat walk and star gazing.

Tuesday 15th October, 'The right light at night. The effects on the natural world.'

Tuesday 29th October, half term club. space, stories, arts and crafts Keep a look out on social media for updates, or email karen@congsyp.org.uk

Congresbury Rec & Sporting Clubs

As the longer evenings start to come in we welcome new members for a beverage of your choice in the sun! Memberships are now due for April so please ask at the bar for more details on getting those member prices. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook ([facebook.com/CongresburyRecClub](https://www.facebook.com/CongresburyRecClub)) or Instagram (congresburyrec) for the details of the most up to date events. The football season is coming to an end; any players interested in joining ready for next season please contact congresburyfc1906@gmail.com about pre-season training.

Summer League Tennis begins this week with matches on Mondays for the Men and Tuesdays for the Ladies. The Tennis club are still looking for a Chair Person so please contact news@congresburyltc.net

The cricket season is also about to begin with fixtures throughout the week and the weekend, a great way to relax and get some fresh air by coming to support! Keep an eye out for fixtures by following on Facebook [facebook.com/congresburycricketclub](https://www.facebook.com/congresburycricketclub) or Instagram (congresburycricket_club).

Patchwork Group meet in the Old School Rooms on Tuesday afternoons from 1.30 to 4.00 pm. We are a friendly group who would welcome experienced or beginner makers of Patchwork. We all do our own thing but are happy to help new people learn the techniques they need to get them started. We charge £2 per session. Anyone who is interested can come along on a Tuesday afternoon and introduce themselves.

Congresbury Bowls Club

Bank holiday Monday May 6th. saw Bristol host this year's Bowls Four Counties Festival.

The Somerset team did well; the finishing scores were an impressive 32-10 and 22-15, with a close finish of 20-22 on their third rink, their overall score enabling them to take the win overall on shot difference in what was a nail-biting finish to a spectacular afternoon of bowls.

A total of five young players selected for Somerset were from Congresbury Bowling Club, which continues to support its successful juniors section, and has many of its young members playing at county level and beyond.

Congresbury Bowls Club welcomes new players of all ages and abilities, running a coaching session for all on a Monday evening at 6pm, and a junior session on Sundays at 10am

www.congresburybowls.co.uk

Congresbury Community Library

GOBLIN COMBE: DOMAIN/DOMINION Join us for a celebration of Goblin Combe through Poetry and Pictures presented by Isabel White and Jo Shepherd, on Wed June 26th, Old School Rooms at 7.30pm (tickets £5 to include refreshments)

July sees the start of the Children's Summer Reading Challenge which is free for children aged 4 - 11 years and encourages them to keep up the reading habit over their long break from school. They can win rewards along the way and receive a medal and certificate if they complete the challenge which runs from July 6 to the middle of September. This year's theme is Marvelled Makers and celebrates creativity and imagination.

We will be holding a number of free activities throughout the summer holiday that children can access including some Lego Modelling days.

Keep checking our noticeboard, Facebook page or website www.congresbury-library.org.uk

Our monthly Knitting Group will be held on Friday June 21 and July 19. From 10:00 to midday.

Everyone welcome.

Congresbury Footpaths Group

Our Sunday walk on June 16th, hopefully with a sunny picnic, will be to Long Ashton.

Summer outing 21st July for a 6-mile walk ending with a cream tea in Dunster.

Both walks meet at Riverside car park for 10am start.

Shorter walks on first Tuesday of each month from 9.30.

For more information call Marilyn on 01934 832657.

This issue is sponsored by the Gardening Club. If you could sponsor a future edition, or wish to submit information, please contact congresburylife@gmail.com