



## Kind Congresbury.

For those who don't remember, this initiative documented 800 random acts of kindness during the 800th anniversary year of St Andrew's Church. We may not always welcome the developers who are building over our fields, but to give credit where credit is due, Vistry were inspired by Kind Congresbury to volunteer a kindness to the village. They and their contractor Prodec have done a very nice job at Congresbury Youth Club, providing all the labour and materials for a repaint of the outside. It's waiting now for the young people of our holiday project to make their mark on it. Thank you!

## News from the Parish Council

Well, I'm sorry to nag but our rubbish storm is turning into a tsunami! Please use a bin if you can, if the bin's full, consider the option of taking your rubbish home with you. You carried it out, carry it back empty! My Grandmother had a saying, "Do not be like the slimy snail,

behind you leave a dirty trail. Let it be said where you have been, you leave the face of nature (and in this case Congresbury) clean! You may or may not know that our village handy man, jack of all trades, is off work currently and the temporary one we are using can only empty bins once a week. We are searching for an alternative at the moment, whilst still keeping the job open, hoping that Adrian will be able to come back. In the meanwhile, do what you can please to keep Congresbury clean and tidy.

What a wonderful afternoon at the summer fair. The weather was perfect, the burgers were great, and everyone had a lovely time. The flower show section was stunning, some fabulous flowers and plants, very tempting cakes and jams and a great effort from the children. No weeds at all in the miniature vegetable patches! Talking of gardens, is there anyone who'd like an allotment? The 10 empty sites at the beginning of the season are being allocated fast, but if you would still like to supply

yourself with fresh fruit and vegetables, you may yet have a chance. If you feel a whole plot would be too much for you, there may be a half plot to break you in gently!

For more information on this call the parish office on 01934 838802 and speak to Cat, she'd be very happy to take you on a tour. Apply sooner rather than later!

*Jane Clarke, Chair. Congresbury PC.*

## Old Inn Regulars Fund

It is with regret that the Committee have decided to close the Old Inn Regulars Fund after many years and many thousands of pounds being donated to local organisations. The Committee has agreed to distribute all monies left in the account (£2580) to St Andrews School, Congresbury Scouts & Guides, Congresbury Youth Partnership, Congresbury Preschool and Little Rascals, each to receive £500, with the small residue to The Royal British Legion.

Thanks go to all that have supported us over the many years.

## Community Café

Along with the Debbie Fortune estate agent's team, we are currently fundraising for the Air Ambulance and in September will be fundraising for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Following a successful planning application, work on improving facilities in the café will start in August, initially a pitched roof canopy over part of the courtyard. Subject to the weather, the café will be closed for two weeks from 12th August.

In recent months our bakers have come up with some new cakes - White chocolate & Raspberry, Peach & Raspberry, and Pineapple plus a Gluten and Dairy Free Lime Polenta.

## Congresbury WI

The WI cake stall at the village fête sold out as usual and we were grateful for lower temperatures than last year. Takings were very satisfactory!

In August we'll be having our members' cream tea outing, and on September 18<sup>th</sup> we're looking forward to a talk from Claire and Jo who run the Congresbury Re-Store shop.

Visitors are always welcome (entry £2), and we'd love to have new members. Our meetings are on the third Wednesday of the month at 2.15 in the Methodist Hall.

Further information from the secretary, Susan Hibberd, on 01934 833544



## Congresbury Youth Partnership

We hope that by the time you are reading this, the repairs to the youth club building will finally have been completed, and the outside ready for our young people to personalise over the summer.

CYP took over the building when North Somerset closed down the Youth Service, and with support from the Parish Council, runs activities for young people from it. But it's not there just for those sessions. It is available to hire for one off or regular activities by other groups, and we are very happy to talk to you about how you could use the building. Contact [alex@congsyp.org.uk](mailto:alex@congsyp.org.uk).

Our regular After School, Youth Club and Code Club sessions will resume at the beginning of the Autumn term. Contact [Karen@congsyp.org.uk](mailto:Karen@congsyp.org.uk)

Here's a report from a youth club member, Eliza:

*I enjoyed the paddle boarding activity during Whitsun. It was held by youth club. It was very fun and meant we got to socialise with younger children and learn how to paddle board at the same time! After, we went to the fun fair! The day was filled with splashes, fun and rides!*

## CYP Youth Awards

The Youth Awards are presented annually in memory of the late Tony Sullivan, one of our volunteers. Some of this year's

winners are shown in the photo below, together with Graham Marshall and John Oldham from Yeo Valley Lions, and Ellie Gooch, the first Lions Young Leader in Service in Congresbury.



Any other young person who is interested in validating volunteer work in this way, contact [alex@congsyp.org.uk](mailto:alex@congsyp.org.uk) It might prove useful on your CV one day!

## Congresbury Community Preschool Planters



At Congresbury Preschool we love going out to explore the local area and finding out about our environment. To help in our community we have 'adopted' two of the planter boxes in the village and will be caring for them over the next year.



The children have enjoyed helping with planting, weeding, and watering and have added some colourful bunting and windmills. We hope they make you smile when you walk by!



## Congars Cafe

Congars Cafe situated in Broad Street and is open from 9-4 Tuesday to Saturday inclusive. A warm and friendly welcome is guaranteed as we serve Congresbury and many of our adjacent villages. Recently we became a Community Interest Company (CIC), with plenty of indoor and outdoor seating space suitable to hire for meetings and group sessions for confidential meetings.

As well as serving food and drinks we also run craft workshops, such as our popular fused glass workshops once a month on Wednesday. This coming month we are holding our first oil painting workshop. So, if anyone would like to start another workshop or just use space for such things as knit and natter, crochet or reading groups, please ask. Repair Cafe is on the fourth Saturday morning of each month where local volunteers repair clothing, toys, and fabrics for a suitable donation. We are hoping to expand this eventually to repair ceramics, electrics, etc, so if you have such skills, speak to us. We have received funding for three support groups: I'm Fine - A support group for ladies with long term illnesses and hidden disabilities, STAR - A bereavement support group. Our final group is through a national organisation called: Talk Club - A men's mental health support group. We are still looking for a man to facilitate the group - Please Volunteer!

We are open throughout the summer and can be contacted through our Facebook page, email: [congarscafe20@gmail.com](mailto:congarscafe20@gmail.com) or call on [07715876827](tel:07715876827), or come in to see us.

Nature is your Neighbour.



Thank you very much if you stopped by our stand to say hello, at Yatton Carnival or Congresbury Fete. Perhaps you'd like to join us on our Stowey Reserve, Yatton at 11am on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August to seek out grasshoppers and crickets with expert, Fred Giles. Free, but booking through our website where further details can be found, is essential: [www.yacwag.org.uk](http://www.yacwag.org.uk)

Nature and Bioblitz Day at Congresbury Youth Club, 10:00-16:00, 7<sup>th</sup> August. Open to families or unaccompanied 8 - 14 year olds. Children below the age of 8 are welcome, but need to be accompanied by an adult. Please bring a packed lunch. Bookings: [Karen@congsyp.org.uk](mailto:Karen@congsyp.org.uk)

Finally, a reminder to support our Swift Project by reporting any sightings of swifts, before they begin their return to Africa, on [swifts@yacwag.org.uk](mailto:swifts@yacwag.org.uk)

## Congresbury Community Library

We have a lot happening in the library during the summer holidays. The Summer Reading Challenge is already underway and

continues until 14<sup>th</sup> September. It is free to all children between the ages of 4 and 11 and encourages them to read at least 6 library books during this period. They have the opportunity to collect rewards along the way and it helps to maintain their reading skills during the long summer holiday.

During the holiday we are running a number of free activity sessions:

☐ Lego Sessions Every Friday afternoon between 2:00 and 4:30 pm until 30 August

☐ Art Sessions On Wednesday 31 July, 14 and 28 August between 10:00am and 12:00 pm. Suitable for school age children. All materials will be provided.

☐ Code Club Saturday 24 August 10:00 am to 12:00 pm session, come along and see what you can do?

Please note that children must be accompanied by an adult when attending these sessions. Contact the library if you need further details.

Come and celebrate our 7th Birthday on Saturday 10 August, 10:00am - 12:00pm, with free tea/coffee and delicious homemade cakes. Meet our volunteers and browse the books in our Honesty Library. September sees the start of our Autumn/Winter talks. Our first talk given by Jo Richardson, a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, is all about the James Webb Space Telescope. The talk will be on Thursday 26 September starting at 7:30 pm in the Methodist Hall, High Street, Congresbury. Tickets

cost £4 and will be available from the library from the beginning of September and on the door. For any information about the library visit our website

[www.congresbury-library.org.uk](http://www.congresbury-library.org.uk), visit our Facebook page, email [congresburylibrary@gmail.com](mailto:congresburylibrary@gmail.com) or phone 01934 426200.

### Sportsman's Day at Congresbury Bowling Club August 11th.

A regular feature of Congresbury's village events is Sportsman's Day at the Bowls Club. This is where 20+ teams of local village residents representing local organisation, pubs, businesses etc who are non- bowlers battle it out all day to be the village champions. This year the fun is on August 11th from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to come along and watch. There will be food available to buy and the bar will be open all day.

Why not come along for a couple of hours to watch the fun and cheer on your favourite team. You might discover that you are interested in taking up the sport. Many club members will be around all day who can talk to you about the sport and how to participate. The Bowls Green is located in Mill Leg near the village scout hut. We look forward to meeting lots of young (and not so young) new friends.

### BLUEY Trips



Weds 21st August to Wells

Weds 28th August to Somerset Rural Life Museum, Glastonbury

Weds 18th Sept to Gloucester Docks

Pick up points: Riverside Car Park, Millennium Green, Congresbury 9.30am and The Precinct 9.40am. There will be a charge of £5.00 per person for Wells & Glastonbury Trip/s and £6.50 for Gloucester trip (payable on the bus). To book a seat or for information please ring 01934 257247 or email: [bookingmanagerbluey@gmail.com](mailto:bookingmanagerbluey@gmail.com) (leave a message if no reply, we will get back to you)

### Congresbury Community Transport - Driving for the Community.

New drivers are desperately needed, only standard car licence required if you are under 70, and full training is given.

### Congresbury Carers Appeal for Drivers

Since the beginning of the year, the carers have done 140 visits to either hospitals or surgeries and would really appreciate any help from new drivers willing to offer transport in their own cars.

Contact [margaretleimdorfer@gmail.com](mailto:margaretleimdorfer@gmail.com)



### Congresbury Scouts.

Continuing our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations, we will be holding a family camp at Huish Woods in September. Scouting and Guiding is not just fun for young people; all sections of our uniformed groups

are happy to include adults who want to get involved.

Contact [geoffreymbailey@gmail.com](mailto:geoffreymbailey@gmail.com) or [sonya.stocker@sky.com](mailto:sonya.stocker@sky.com)

Congresbury Footpaths Group Tuesday walks, generally about 4 miles, meeting at Riverside Car Park, 9.30 6<sup>th</sup> Aug and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept Sunday walks, generally about 6 miles, meeting at Riverside Car Park at 10.00, bringing a packed lunch. 18<sup>th</sup> Aug and 15<sup>th</sup> Sept. For more details contact [julia@koblizek.org](mailto:julia@koblizek.org)

### Take 5

Prepare, Cook, and Eat with Us at the Scout Hut, Congresbury – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Aug.



Message from the Editors You have been reading the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of Congresbury Life, sponsored by Congresbury Parish Council.

The magazine has highlighted opportunities to become more involved in the life of our village. Please get in touch if you are an existing group needing support for your initiatives, or if you are an individual with even a small amount of time to offer to volunteer. Our email is: [congresburylife@gmail.com](mailto:congresburylife@gmail.com)

*"Big Teams of People, Each Doing a Little".*