



*Spring has sprung in Wembdon!*

## Parish Clerk



The joys of spring feel like a real thing. Everything just seems lighter and more upbeat once the sunshine creeps in and we're out of the depths of winter.

But why do we feel so much better when spring rolls around? Is it all in our heads?

Waking up to bird song, sunshine and warmth throughout spring can be hugely uplifting, evoking the happiness, optimism and positivity that many of us struggle with in winter. These months can bring lots of

benefits to our psychological, physical and mental health.

Nature connectedness can help improve our mental health, with the fresh air, longer days and calmness of open spaces offering a retreat and distraction from our standard routines, being closer to greenery, gardens and parks that will provide a boost to your energy and sense of wellness. The colourful, fragranced blossoms can also be uplifting and make us appreciate the beauty of nature.

### **Getting out and about more**

More daylight and warmer temperatures mean we're more inclined to get moving outdoors, too.

Finding the motivation to go out for a run in the cold, dark and miserable conditions of winter can be very difficult, but the longer, brighter days of spring afford no excuses, meaning we are more likely to be physically active. Walking or cycling short distances, rather than driving, becomes a joy, and just by walking outdoors, the risk of heart disease, diabetes and even depression is reduced.

I hope you all get the chance to enjoy the outdoors, the Parklands is the perfect place to do so, we are so lucky to have that amenity.

And please remember to keep your dog on a lead at all times.



**VE DAY**<sup>®</sup>  
80<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION  
8 MAY 2025

This year we are marking the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day. This was the end of fighting on World War II, in Europe.

These are our plans to celebrate this historic event

**6.30pm** St George's Church bells will be ringing out.

**8 pm** Fish and Chips at the Cottage Inn

Due to the fact that Fish and Chips - Britain's favourite dish, was not rationed by Prime Minister Churchill during the whole of WWII, we also want to use this occasion to continue paying tribute to the brave fishermen who fished the seas and the farmers and land girls who toiled in the fields, by meeting together from around 8 pm at the Cottage Inn. You will need to arrange to bring your own fish and chips, but plates, cutlery and condiments will be provided.

At 9.30 pm all are welcome to be at the allotment path, Wembdon Hill, where we will be lighting the beacon, and there should be a good view of other beacons as far away as south Wales, if we are lucky with the weather.



A choir will sing the patriotic song, "I vow to Thee my Country", as a tribute to the men and women who took part in WWII, as well as the many civilians, who lost their lives or returned home injured.

# Wembdon begin School Streets initiative to reduce traffic and encourage pupils to walk to school!



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### Road closure encourages pupils to walk to school



### What are School Streets?

*A School Street is a road outside a school with a temporary restriction on motorised traffic at school drop-off and pick-up times. The restriction applies to school traffic and through traffic. The result is a safer, healthier and pleasant environment for everyone.*

*Parents are being encouraged to break the habit of driving to school and instead walk or cycle with their children under a new scheme.*

Wembdon St George's, working with Somerset Activity and Sports Partnership, is now preventing school traffic from using Brantwood Road at drop-off and pick-up times during a six-month trial of the scheme.

*The school uses a temporary barrier to stop traffic and only allow pedestrians, bicycles and scooters onto the road at drop off and pickup times.*

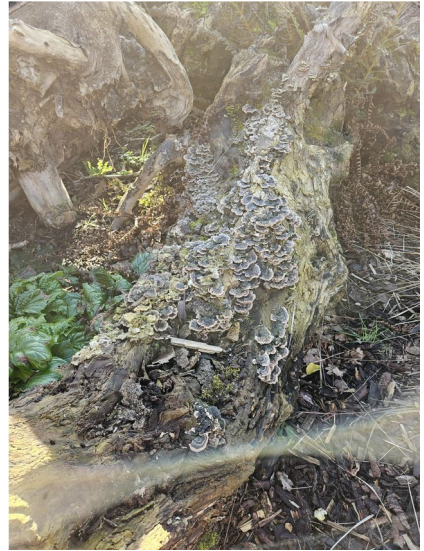
*Head teacher Clare Wallace said the school had seen a difference since the trial began. "The feedback from families is overwhelmingly positive and the atmosphere at the start of the school day is calmer for all!"*

The temporary barrier is manned by volunteers, who put the barrier into place each morning and afternoon. The school are desperate for help with this moving forward. If anyone has some spare time, and would like to help, please contact the school on 01278 451726 The mornings are from 8.20-9.05am and afternoons from 3.20-3.40pm Even if you have just one morning or afternoon free, it would really help!



# Wembdon Parklands & Community Together

Early spring sunshine, just what we all needed! Walking around the Parklands it lovely to see so many people out and about, sitting chatting with friends on the sensory border seats, children smiling and having fun on their bikes, and people walking their dogs. The ground and trees are showing signs of rejuvenation, buds are appearing, and bulbs are coming up and flowering.



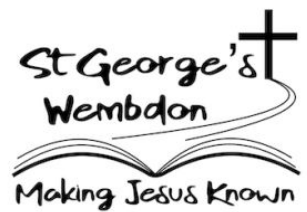
As a team we are looking forwards to carrying out our spring maintenance jobs, and planning improvements which will enhance and support many types of wildlife.



Please come and say hello, we love to stop and chat, and if you would like to join us with a little weeding, please get in touch with Lorna Edwards telephone 07917101990.

Meanwhile keep enjoying the parklands and its wildlife.

# St George's Wembdon



## Sundays at 10am

Join us every Sunday for our service at 10am followed by coffee in the Parish Centre. Please see website ([www.sgw.org.uk](http://www.sgw.org.uk)) for more details.



## Easter Story Trail Good Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April 10am - 12pm

An interactive activity trail that explains the Easter story. Games, crafts and refreshments. Free entry. Scan the QR code or see website for more details.

## Celebration of the Cross, Good Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April, 6pm

A service of reflection on Good Friday evening, with hymns and readings.

## Easter Sunday Celebration & Family Holy Communion, Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April, 10am

Celebrate Jesus' resurrection with us on Easter Sunday morning at 10am. Includes family Holy Communion and groups for younger children.

[www.sgw.org.uk](http://www.sgw.org.uk) for more information on all upcoming services and events

# New email and website addresses

## For Wembdon Parish Council

We are delighted to announce that by the time you read this Wembdon Parish Council will have moved to its new email and website addresses.

You can now visit our website at

[www.wembdonparish.gov.uk](http://www.wembdonparish.gov.uk)

Remember to bookmark our home page, to make us easier to find.

Our Clerk and Councillors will also have new email addresses – all ending with .gov.uk which you can find on our website.

Our use of a .gov.uk address confirms that we are a genuine local government organisation, as such addresses are used exclusively by government and public sector organisations in the UK. It conveys trust and authority, and its use confirms a high level of security of data.

For the switch to our new addresses, we have been fortunate to receive a government grant which covers the initial setup costs: we will incur no additional costs for two years, after which we will have to pay a small annual registration fee.

To reassure you: any emails sent to our old addresses will not go astray - they will be forwarded automatically to the new ones. But we'd prefer you to start using the new ones. Likewise, anybody accessing our old website address will be automatically redirected to the new one.

# 20's Plenty



# Where people are

**20's Plenty for Us** campaigns for 20mph as the default speed limit for urban and village streets where people live, work, shop, play and learn.

[www.20splenty.org](http://www.20splenty.org)

# SID & Speedwatch Report

## **Vehicle movements:**

Sandford Hill – drop from **711** per day **Oct '24** to **576** per day Nov-Feb.

Wembdon Rise (by Wares Lane) – drop from **1,165** per day to **973** per day Nov-Feb

Wembdon Rise (from NDR) – from **1,511** per day to **1,492** per day Nov-Feb

Wembdon Hill (going downhill) – from **917** per day to **781**

## **Average speeds and 85<sup>th</sup>% (speed most drivers travel at)**

Sandford Hill – **26.48mph** & **34 mph**

Wembdon Rise (by Wares Lane) – **20.48 mph** & **24 mph**

Wembdon Rise (from NDR) – **20.74 mph** & **24 mph (fall from 25mph)**

Wembdon Hill (going downhill) – **22.6 to 19.66** & **29 mph to 27.2 mph**

## **Police Speed Enforcement**

A police speed enforcement officer was in action, near to the zebra crossing, around lunchtime on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025. He captured 5 drivers going above the speed limit of whom 4 were LOCAL! He waited until they had passed the SID giving them ample time to slow down.

They will, where appropriate, be offered the option of a speed awareness course in lieu of fine/points.

The Parish Council welcomes this action by the police and hopes to see regular visits.

## **Speedwatch**

**The Speed Watch team will start up again in the Spring when, hopefully, better weather will be around. They cannot operate during inclement weather for safety reasons.**

A decorative border surrounds the text, featuring a light blue teapot with a pink handle and spout, a pink teacup with a floral pattern, and a brown teacup with a saucer. The border is adorned with various flowers, including purple and pink blossoms, and green foliage with small purple berries.

# Wembdon Spring Craft Fair

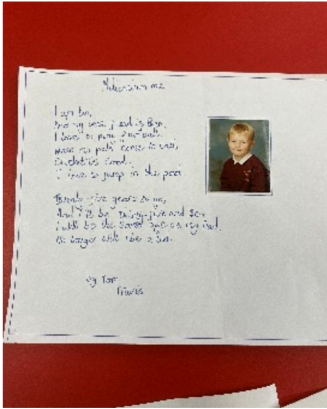
Saturday,  
29 March 2025

**10 am - 3.30 pm**  
**Coffee, homemade**  
**cakes & lunch-time**  
**savouries**

**Many stalls offering**  
**locally made crafts &**  
**gifts**

**Wembdon Village Hall**  
**Homberg Way**  
**Wembdon**  
**Bridgwater TA6 7BY**

# Time Capsule opened at St George's school

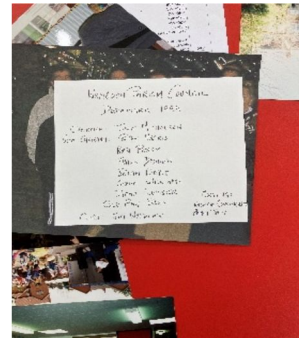


Wembdon school celebrated an important event at the beginning of this year. They opened a time capsule on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January. It had been closed in January 2000, and it contained photographs, and memorabilia, providing a snapshot of Wembdon Village at the

Millennium. Twenty five years later, it made very interesting viewing! Mark Phillips was invited along as the chairman of the Millennium Committee/Wembdon Community Association at the time to make a short speech at the start of the ceremony. There were around 50 invited guests, and each group opened an envelope of items. Everyone was amazed at what was found and it was enjoyed by all who attended. Each class came into the main hall and viewed everything.

The capsule contained many photographs of children and people involved in the community of Wembdon at that time. It also included:

A list of the Wembdon Parish Council committee members in 1999.



A Millennium calendar from Wembdon Sunshiners playgroup.

A list of the players and managers of Wembdon football club

A rather bulky mobile phone!

The design plans for the Millennium Bridge, the footbridge that crosses into the park from



Church Road, and a picture of the members of the Wembdon Millenium Committee who worked hard to raise money for the funding for it.

A school roll listing all the pupils at the school at that time. It included their parent's contact numbers – there were no mobile numbers to be seen!

A poem from one of the pupils who won a competition at the time to have his words and photo in the capsule. The last verse reads “25 years to go, and I'll be 35 and so, I will be the same age as my dad, no longer will I be a lad! He is now the director of the building company who are about to start work on building the new changing room for the Village Hall.

The children are now aiming to fill a new capsule with modern items and a selection of items from the original year 2000 capsule.



# **The Green @ Wembdon upcoming events**

**Saturday 29th March 2025 - Stroke association**

**Coffee Morning**

As Emily is running the London marathon in April 2025 and is fundraising for this charity in memory of her Grandad. We will also be holding a raffle.

**7th April 2025 - Kids activity Day - cupcake decorating, colouring, easter**

**9th April 2025 - Easter Cream Tea Scones with Jam and Cream and Easter biscuits**

**11th April 2025 - Movie Day** Movie to be confirmed

**14th April 2025 - Easter egg hunt** more info to follow

**5th May 2025 - Ladies Day / Topsy Tea** Please enquire to book in advance

**8th May 2025 - VE day 80th anniversary**

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# *John Hodge*

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## **A polite reminder!**

**We kindly ask that you please keep your dog on a lead unless you are using the dedicated dog exercise field.**

**We are very grateful for your cooperation.**



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## Wednesday

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## Thursday

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event here at The Green**

**[www.wembdonvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.wembdonvillagehall.co.uk)**

## Do You Need a Cleaner?

I have taken early retirement from my job as a Registered General Nurse (RGN) and I am now providing domestic cleaning services. I live close to Wembdon and aim to provide a friendly and reliable service.

*References available.*

Please TEXT Alison  
on 07714 194578

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# Wembdon Parish Council

## has a Vacancy for a Parish Councillor

**Would you like to get things done and contribute to the well-being of the community in Wembdon?**

Wembdon Parish Council is made up local people of varied ages, genders and backgrounds who share a common enthusiasm to improve the community.

The role of a Councillor is very wide-ranging, from discussing planning applications and organising village events, to improving health and wellbeing and lobbying on local issues.

Councillors receive no payment for their time.

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:** To be a Councillor you must be:

- A British, Commonwealth or EU citizen.
- Aged 18 years or over.
- In one of the following categories:
  - a) appear on the Electoral Register for the parish,
  - b) have lived in (or within 3 miles of) the parish for at least a year.
  - c) have had your main place of work within the parish for at least a year.

Please feel free to come along to observe the next Council meeting on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 7.00pm at The Green, Wembdon.

If you would like more information, please contact the Clerk at [clerk@wembdonparish.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@wembdonparish.gov.uk).

# Parish Councillor Contacts

## Councillors

Anne Reed ( <i>Chairman</i> )	01278 421429	Mark Phillips ( <i>Vice Chairman</i> )	07941 983311
Peter Major	01278 421448	Bridget Hedaux	01278 424842
Dianne Claydon	07891 996707	Paul King	07564 955964
Lorna Edwards	07917 101990	Dave Gliddon	07828 210076
Jenny Hayden- Briffett	01278 450701	Suzanne Bromme	07483 242030

## Parish Clerk and Parish Paper editor

Miss Sam Warren

Tel: 07359864310

9 Sloway Lane, West Huntspill, Highbridge TA9 3RJ

Email: [clerk@wembdonparish.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@wembdonparish.gov.uk)

Wembdon Parish Council holds its meetings in the Village Hall at 7pm on the second Monday of each month, apart from August. The meeting agenda will be published on the Council's website and notice boards on the Wednesday prior to the meeting. All Parishioners are warmly invited to attend the meetings and learn all about the activities of the Council, and what is happening in Wembdon. The next Parish Council meetings will be held in the Village Hall at 7pm on Mondays 7<sup>th</sup> April and 12<sup>th</sup> May for the Annual Council Meeting.

**Please note that Wembdon Parish Council does not endorse any of the advertisers in the Parish Paper**

# Local contacts and information

Wembdon Community Association (WCA): John Rudge Tel: 01278 767836  
email [wembdon.community@btinternet.com](mailto:wembdon.community@btinternet.com)

The Green at Wembdon: - [info@wembdonvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:info@wembdonvillagehall.co.uk)  
website [wembdonvillagehall.co.uk](http://wembdonvillagehall.co.uk)

The Cottage Inn: Opening hours Mon-Thurs 4:00pm – Close, Fri 2:00pm- Close,  
Sat, Sun and Bank Holidays 12noon- Close. Tel: 07585 448294

St George's Church office: Tel: 01278 423468 Rev. Ed Moll Tel: 01278 423647

Parish Centre: [parishcentre@sgw.org.uk](mailto:parishcentre@sgw.org.uk) Jo Tinker Tel: 07970119525

The Green at Wembdon [www.wembdonvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.wembdonvillagehall.co.uk) Tel: 07856282330

Sedgemoor Chess club, Mon. 7-9.30 Chris McKinley Tel: 01278 421675

Brownies: Leader Tamson Wetherall Tel: 07975 866343

Cricket club: [bounceandturn@hotmail.com](mailto:bounceandturn@hotmail.com) Phil Curd Tel:07795 251590

Wembdon FC: [football@wembdonjfc.co.uk](mailto:football@wembdonjfc.co.uk) Phil Brunskill Tel: 07742 429283

Wembdon Sunshiners Pre-school: Jen Dodden Tel: 01278 457100

Jolly Melodies, Thurs 9-12.30, & Wed.4-6 Lisa Drew Tel: 07903284835

Art Group: Tues 9:30am-noon Kay Robins Tel: 01278 423212

Ukulele Group: Thurs 10am-noon Paul Arrigoni Tel: 07833 484232

Wembdon Bridge Club: Thurs 1:45pm Ernie Whitehead Tel: 01278 424134

Bridgwater Bridge club Thurs 6.30-10.00 John Scotford. Tel: 07909322851

Sedgemoor Stitchers: Vanessa Leighton Tel: 01278 662977

Wembdon Parklands and Community Together: Lorna Edwards Tel: 07917 101990  
[wembdonpact@gmail.com](mailto:wembdonpact@gmail.com) [www.wembdonparklandsandcommunitytogether.com](http://www.wembdonparklandsandcommunitytogether.com)

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