



Welcome to Combwich

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Our thanks to EDF Hinkley Point who print this newsletter without charge

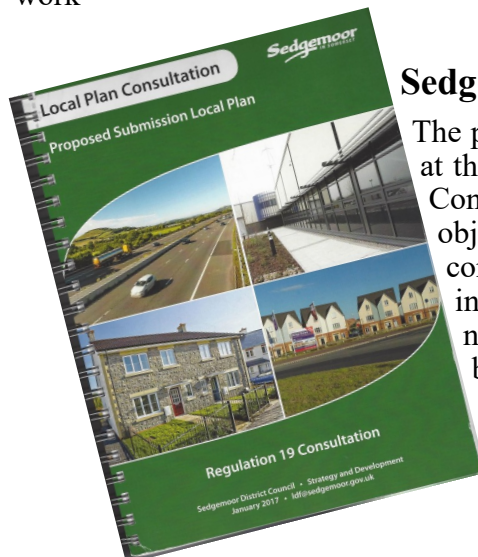
Combwich Crafters Exhibition and Sale



Combwich Crafters Exhibition and Sale - Saturday 29th April 7pm till late at the Village Hall

Come along and celebrate the work of the talented *Combwich Crafters* and their lovely handmade work. Items will also be on sale. You will also see the wonderful Combwich Wall Hanging lovingly made by the *Crafters* over the last couple of years and depicting images of Combwich. The Wall Hanging will be handed over to the Village Hall so it can hang permanently in the Hall for all to see and admire. You can immortalise your name on the Wall Hanging by "Buying a Combwich Brick" for £5; proceeds to the Village Hall.

Make an evening of it and have a drink at the bar while perusing the Crafters' work



Sedgemoor Local Plan Consultation

The parish council and members of the public at the March meeting debated the Local Plan Consultation which sets out the key policy objectives until the year 2032. The major concerns expressed related to the road infrastructure and the 'opportunity' of 150 new homes to be built in Combwich between 2020 and 2025.

More on page 3

Otterhampton Offcuts

Snippets from the February and March 2017 Parish Council meetings

Combwich Wharf – Update by EDF

The next update on the Combwich Wharf refurbishment and the laydown area will be held prior to the **next parish council meeting on Thursday 6 April 2017**.

EDF Community Impact Mitigation (CIM) Fund & Otterhampton Parish Project Team (OPPT)

We had a good response to our request for new OPPT members with 5 new volunteers coming forward. It is not too late to volunteer, so please get in touch if you are interested. We are however waiting for the Somerset Community Foundation (SCF) to produce the CIM procedure before calling a meeting. The SCF are the organisation responsible for managing and awarding funds through this phase of the CIM funding.

If you are a group within the parish seeking funds to enhance and support your organisation, it may be worth researching costs and putting some ideas together.

Bus Service

The free bus service provided by EDF Hinkley C has now been running for a month. The service operates between Cannington and Minehead, 3 times per day, Monday to Friday and will initially run for a year. If you would like a timetable, please contact the Clerk.

Speeding Concerns on the C182

Following concerns brought to our attention, Councillors agreed that we should write to Somerset County Council (SCC) to request a 40 mph speed restriction from the new roundabout at Rodway through to the Otterhampton/Stear Marshes' junction. Three accidents that we know of have occurred along this stretch of road since the cycle path was opened.

Grass Verges by the Play Area

The grass verges adjacent to the play area are fast eroding with the numbers of vehicles parking there, particularly in the wet weather. As a consequence not only does it look a mess, but we are concerned at the amount of mud on the road which could be a safety hazard, particularly in its proximity to the play area. We have asked Highways for permission to install verge markers as a temporary measure. We are awaiting their response.



Contact details for the parish council

PARISH COUNCILLORS

John Berry (Chairman)	01278 652682
Dick Best (Vice Chairman)	01278 651063
Barry Leathwood	01278 652399
Bob Birkenhead	01278 653127
Julie Evans	01278 652735
Rachel Perrett	01278 652958
Dave Cather	07720 313041
Mrs Aly Prowse (Clerk)	01278 652426
otterhamptonpcclerk@gmail.com	

County and District Ward Members

John Edney (County)	01278 653026
Mike Caswell (District)	01278 652043
Julie Pay (District)	01278 732956

Email Contact Addresses

OPRA has a large number of residents' email addresses to alert the community of forthcoming events. There are times when the parish council would also like to contact the community, possibly at short notice. In addition to the normal channels of communication available to us; e.g. notice boards and leaflet drops; we would find email addresses, combined with the OPRA list very helpful as an additional means of communication to use for important issues. If you would be happy for us to contact you by this medium, please send a brief email to otterhamptonpcclerk@gmail.com

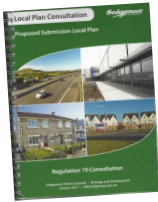
Annual Parish Meeting

The next meeting following 6th April, will be our Annual Meeting on Thursday 4 May 2017. You will be warmly welcomed to attend. It is your opportunity to raise any issues or concerns with the parish council or just to observe what happens at a parish council meeting. We hope to see as many of you as possible.

Speeding in Combwich

For a long time the parish council and residents have been concerned about the speed of vehicles driving in the village. On the initiative of the parish council speed checks (SID readings) for the period 23 February 2 March were taken from opposite the post office on Brookside Road. Surprisingly, car speeds are much lower than we thought with average recorded speeds of 23mph/24mph. The majority of vehicles were travelling between 15-20mph (43%), followed by 20-25mph (35%) and then more or less the same number at 25-30mph (12%) and 10-15mph (10%). There were no vehicles recorded within the speed category 35-40mph or above.

Maybe they just seem to be going faster!



Continued from page 1

Concern was expressed with an associated document called 'Sedgemoor's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)'.

This was published in January this year with the purpose of providing a robust evidence base on housing land availability, as Sedgemoor Council progress its emerging Local Plan. This document identified an 'opportunity' to build 150 homes in Combwich between 2020 and 2025. Sedgemoor officials who were not able to attend the meeting had given verbal assurances that this would never happen. Not surprisingly people were not reassured by this.

There was total opposition to building 150 houses in Combwich which is a big development and may impact adversely on this close-knit community, with no public transport.

With the support of all members present at the meeting, the parish council will write to SDC to comment on the principles of a development of this size including the following points:

- A development of this size would swamp the village which currently has 349 houses. It would be potentially difficult to integrate so many people into the village which could put at risk the existing community spirit
- There is no public transport so could lead to isolation
- Concern about flooding of existing homes from run off from a hill side development
- Unless adequate parking was provided as part of the development, this could lead to further congestion in the village
- Urbanisation of the rural community and loss of green and open space

However, there are some potential advantages to a smaller development. These include:

- The provision of some affordable houses and potential housing for an aging population
- An opportunity to create an additional access to the School
- More families would presumably help to sustain the school, pub and village shop

With regard to Combwich Wharf the council will make clear that Policy D26 (residential amenity) in the Core Strategy should be reinstated in the new Local Plan Consultation.

Combwich Wharf Update

Representatives of EDF will be giving an update on the refurbishment of the Wharf at the next meeting on Thursday 6th April starting at 6.30pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Notes from your Village Agent

Izzy Silvester

New text number to combat rural crime - 81819



Avon and Somerset Police launched a new text service on 17 January, to help us prevent and detect rural crime.

The police are asking rural communities and businesses to help by providing information and intelligence about suspected crime in their area.

The new number will allow the public to text information directly to the Rural Crime Team, who will be able to assess and action the intelligence quickly and efficiently.

Inspector Joanna Mines, from the Rural Crime Team in Somerset, "Many people who belong to our Farm Watch scheme had said they wanted a facility to be able to pass on information and respond to messages quickly, and this new number will allow that.

"We want to hear from anyone who has information about any suspicious or potentially criminal activity in their area, for example - details of people/vehicles seen behaving suspiciously, potentially stolen goods or livestock being offered for sale either to the public or at markets, sightings of stolen vehicles we might put out an alert for."

"We have had real success using a text number to facilitate reporting of drink drivers in the past and we hope this will prove as effective."

The number won't be monitored 24/7 but the team will be looking at it when they are on duty, it therefore shouldn't be used for reporting crimes, or anything which requires an immediate police attendance. In those circumstances please dial 999.

The new number is **81819**, please text us any information you believe could either help prevent or detect a crime in your area.

You can still pass on information via the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. They never ask your name or trace your call.

If you are finding life a bit hard going at the moment, I may be able to help.

Please phone me Izzy Silvester your village agent on 07931 018045, leave me your name and number and I will ring you back.

Or email me on izzy@somerset.rcc.org.uk

I do only work part-time so it may take a day or two for me to return your call.

Thank you

Izzy

News from Combwich and District WI

Vanessa J Smith (President)

On Monday 16th January 2017, to kick start the New Year as we mean to go on, much laughter and merriment could be heard in Nether Stowey as members of Combwich & District met at the Ancient Mariner for the usual post Christmas meal. I think we should rename it our 'New Year Nosh up!' A lovely time was had by all.

Our monthly meeting was held on 19th January when we shared another social and fun-packed evening organised by Sue Jacobs. We had a general knowledge quiz to put our brains in gear and then we played 'Pass the Bomb', which had us in hysterics and our brains in overload, this was a most entertaining game and fantastic fun with a group of people.



February 16th, members were looking forward to 'Something Crafty' with Hannah Lore Sellick, who is always a favourite with us as she is such a talented and interesting lady. Unfortunately she had to postpone her visit for health reasons, but will come and share her crafty ideas with us when she is fully recovered. However, we were not disappointed and still had a 'crafty' evening with another equally talented and creative lady called Sue Sellars who had us embellishing green felt hearts, (which are supposed to be worn as brooches) a theme for WI's throughout February with the purpose to instigate a discussion about Climate Change. You may see our hearts adorning a sales table in the form of bunting in the future!

In March, we have invited Linda Fisher from Invest Southwest Will Management Services, to come and talk to us about wills and will related Matters, as she did back in 2013. Linda was so informative and helpful on such a complicated issue, and perhaps one that no one really wants to think about, but in a social setting will be less daunting. If you would like to join us and learn more about this issue, please ask a member or phone Vanessa or Brenda, you would be very welcome.



I mentioned in the last edition, about Combwich & District WI starting a Craft Group for its members and I have been in talks with Wendy Asplin, who is very keen to get this going. It has met with much interest already. We will have one monthly meeting and also an opportunity for full day workshops, starting with our local 'basket lady', Sarah Webb, who is going to teach us Willow Sculpture.

I will keep you informed of any further planned events, keep a look out for our monthly posters displayed in the Post Office and Otterhampton Village Hall.

On Monday 20th February, a few of our members joined Cannington WI for a very enjoyable evening when we were given an insight into the creative use of 'driftwood'.

It is amazing what gets washed up on the beach! We all made a lovely mobile out of a few pieces of driftwood, some shells and a stone heart. Mine is hanging on the tree in my front garden and the birds love it.

We are always thrilled to welcome anyone who is interested to share an evening with us, who wants to find out more about this organisation of forward thinking, fun loving, socialites. We love learning new skills and being informed about the world around us.

So if you would like to join us and learn more about your local Women's Institute or any further information, we would love to hear from you.

Please phone Vanessa on 01278 652830 or Brenda Wasley on 01278 446279



Otterhampton Parish Recreation Association (OPRA)

Registered Charity Number 1124017

Coming Up



If you are an OPRA or 100 Club member join us for a glass of wine and nibbles at the Anchor at 7.30pm on Monday 27th March for a social chat about what we can do to make life better in

our community. Your ideas and suggestions always welcome.

It is also our AGM when we elect our officials for the coming year

OPRA Officers and Committee

Chair

Jacqui Sparks 652069

Secretary

Ann Leathwood 652399

Treasurer

Sue Francis 653663

Vice Chair

Barry Leathwood 652399

Committee

Mary Cornish 653868

Beverly Smith 652595

Di Davie 652141

Felicity Ashworth 653633

100 Club Organisers

Ann Leathwood 652399

Sue Francis 653663

And on Good Friday

It's the Children's Easter Egg Hunt



All children and grand children of the parish are invited to join our free Easter Egg Hunt at 11am, 14th April from the Anchor.

A free chocolate Easter Egg will be given to all children taking part and a bumper egg for the winner

The 100 Club draw takes place every month at the Coffee Morning Otterhampton Village Hall and the winning numbers are displayed in the Post Office and the parish website www.combwich.org.uk shortly afterwards.

If you want to join the 100 Club or become involved in OPRA activities please contact Ann on 652399 or any committee member.

On Easter Sunday

For the more active there will be an easy organised circular walk for all ages on Easter Sunday morning meeting at 10am at the Anchor. These are social occasions for the whole family and often end up back at the Anchor for late but delicious Sunday lunch. For more information watch out for posters advertising the event or ring 652399.



On Easter Sunday evening it is time for the Annual Easter Quiz with Sean and Mary at 8pm the Anchor.



£1.50 per player
Teams of 4

Work is the curse of the drinking classes
Oscar Wilde

Out of the Mouth of the Parrett

A RIVER ADVENTURE!

Take a voyage into the heart of Somerset.
A picture of life along the river Parrett captured
in film, sound and live performance.

Bridgwater Library
21 March - 8 April 2017



Out of the Mouth of The Parrett

A RIVER ADVENTURE!

From the Bristol Channel into Somerset's rural heartlands, this is a colourful portrait of an extraordinary landscape as seen through the eyes of the people who live and work there.

A free event for adults and young people (age 8+) housed within a spectacular world of light and sound, specially constructed in Bridgwater Library.

Opening Times:

Weekdays: 10.00 - 16.00
Saturdays: 10.00 - 13.00
Thursday 6 April: 18.00 - 20.30

Encounter real life stories; discover hidden treasures; revel in glorious landscapes.



*An original multi-media production
by Theatre Mélange in partnership
with Somerset Libraries...*

#ParrettsMouth



Sedgemoor
IN SOMERSET



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Otterhampton Village Hall

News from the Otterhampton Village Hall Committee



In addition to a Murder Mystery Night; a musical evening in aid of Cancer Research and an exhibition by the Combwich Crafters (full details on page 1 Otter Tales) the Village Hall Committee are also planning events. These will include more fun for the whole family with Bingo and Beetledrives and the monthly Village Markets.

There will also be an Indoor Boot Sale so start collecting those items you no longer need and wish to sell. WATCH OUT for posters and the blackboards giving full details.

This is YOUR Village Hall so if you have any ideas for future events please do let us know - phone Sue Barton on 653531 or email her on bartonbs@btinternet.com All our events provide much needed funds for the upkeep, maintenance and development of the hall so your involvement is VITAL if you want to keep the hall going.

The Hall is available to hire and ideal for parties and arrangements can be made for the Harbour View Club bar to be open – if you would like more information contact Di Davie on 01278 652141 or email her on dianadavie@hotmail.co.uk

The Village Hall Committee is holding their Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 12th April at 7.30pm to elect Committee Trustees; everyone is welcome to attend. If you would like be involved in the running, maintenance and future of the Village Hall why not become a Trustee?

HARBOUR VIEW SOCIAL CLUB

The Club is open Fridays and Saturdays from 7pm to midnight. Annual membership is only £2.50 with £1 charged for visitors. Everyone is welcome so why not come along? The Club has a fully stocked bar and a darts area and skittle alley are available. The Club also arranges several special events including:-

- Red Nose Day on Friday 24th March when all the proceeds from various fun events will be given to the charity;
- monthly quizzes on the first Saturday of each month starting on Saturday 1st April (possibly expect some April Fools Day questions!);
- Taste of the World food nights which have included the ever popular Spanish evening with home made paella, and an Indian night with freshly made curries. The Club will generously give the donations from the Indian Night on Saturday 11th March to the Red Nose Charity.

Look out for the blackboards in the Village to see what the next event will be.

If you have any questions about the Club give Bruce Barton a call on 653531 or email him at bartonbs@btinternet.com

Information about the Village Hall and Harbour View Club and events being held are on the village website : www.combwich.org.uk Why not subscribe to the website (free!) and keep informed about forthcoming events? Events will also be advertised on the Combwich Facebook and the forthcoming Harbour View Club Facebook pages.



Stearth Marshes

working in partnership with



Environment
Agency

EVENTS

We are hosting a number of Meet the Scientist events between now and the end of March. We are delighted that many of the scientists researching the developing saltmarsh are coming down to show off their work to local people. Come and meet them and find out what they're doing: the events are suitable for all ages, are free and you can drop in anytime between 11am and 3pm.



Dates:
7 and 8 March
14 and 15 March
24 and 25 March

Did you know that ragworms that live in the saltmarsh (or the big muddy bit, as it's often called) bury seeds and so they are essential to the plants that grow on the marsh? But it's recently been discovered that they are also gardeners. The husks of the seeds are too hard for them to eat, so they store them in their burrows until they sprout and then eat them – like we do with beansprouts.

In the next few months WWT will be developing a website to give more information about the research happening here.

We will run birdwatching walks with a focus on the general wildlife and birdlife once the winter waders have gone. The first of these will be on Thursday 13 April, this the during Easter holidays. Please get in touch if you would like to book. These walks are two hours and £3 WWT members, £4 non-members. Younger birdwatchers can also have a go on Wednesday 12th April.

Other events can be found on the News pages of our website (wwt.org.uk/stearth/news)

Volunteering

We will be running a taster session for volunteering, for those who can't volunteer during the week. This will be on Sunday, 26th February (10am to 2pm), please let us know if you're going to come, so we know numbers and can plan the tasks and equipment.

If you'd like to find out more, please contact info.stearth@wwt.org.uk or ring the reserve office on 01278 651090. We regularly have other volunteering opportunities as well, so please get in touch if you're interested.

People Engagement Officer

My time at Stearth Marshes is coming to an end, and what a fantastic year it's been. The reserve is as lovely a place to work as it is to visit, and I look forward to coming back many times. We've got an interesting programme of events in place throughout the year, and for the next phase of engagement work people who use the reserve and live very locally will remain at the centre of WWT's work. Lucy

Reserve

We've had the highest number of Lapwing (6305), Shelduck (725) and Curlew (673) recorded in February. This illustrates the huge value of the intertidal area which is providing vital areas for wintering



Lapwing on the main marsh (Paul Roberts WWT Volunteer)

We're very much looking forward to seeing what the breeding season brings this year, there are already skylarks everywhere establishing territories and filling the air with their nostalgic song. The skylark is known in areas of open farmland, favouring large grassland fields due to the openness and short vegetation allowing the sighting of potential predators. As a result we've had high numbers of breeding skylarks (41 pairs in 2016) on the flood embankments and in the fields we cut for hay.



Sky Lark (Joe Cockram)

Breeding season is between April and August, skylarks nest on the ground avoiding vegetation over 60 cm high. Due to the high predation rates, skylarks need to produce up to three broods a season. Buffer strips and spring crops, which we actively sow on the reserve ensure there is enough food throughout the season which is essential to maintain adult populations. They feed on a range of seeds and plant shoots whilst their chicks are entirely dependent on insects such as ants, spiders and grasshoppers until they fledge.

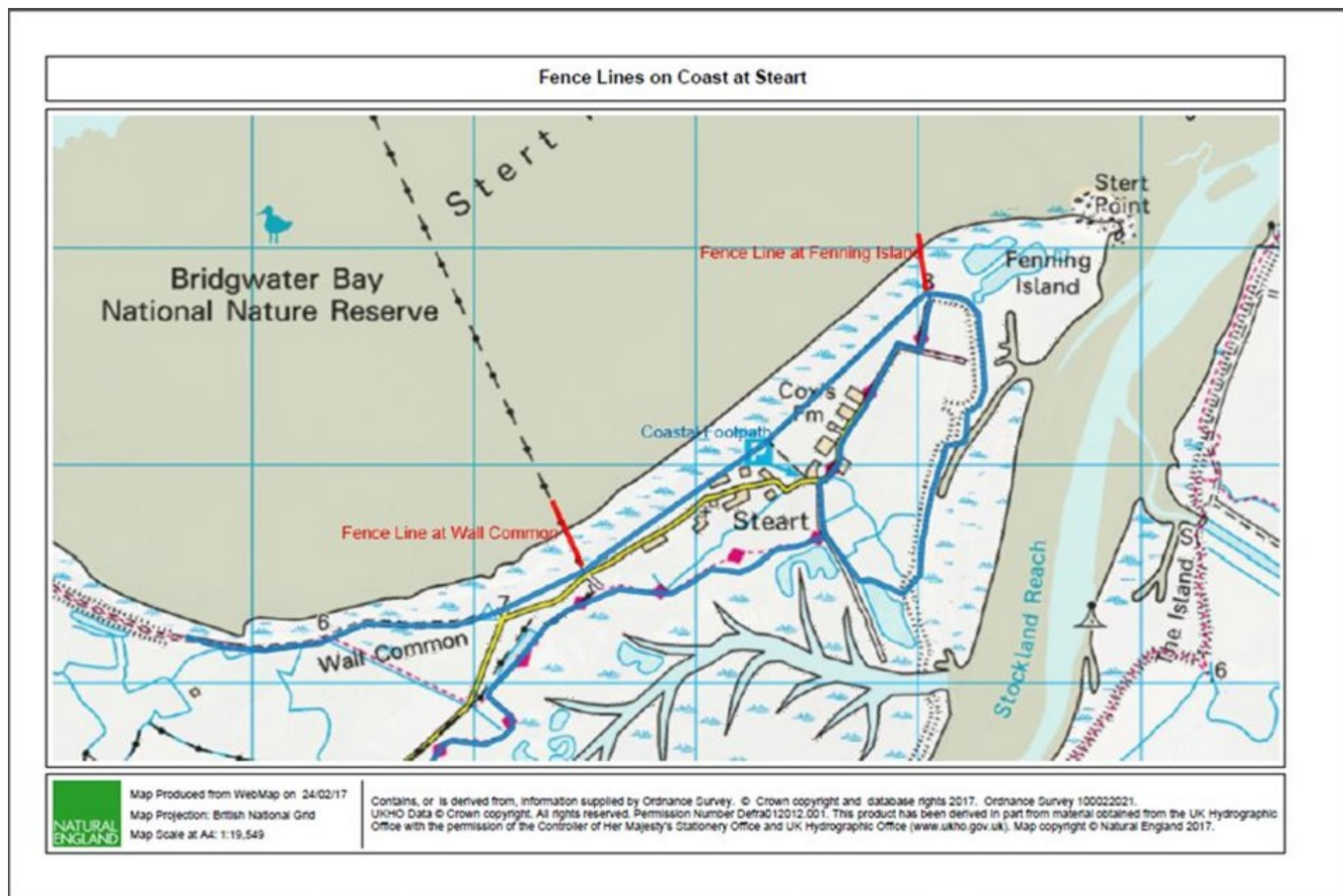
Now on the Red List for Birds on Conservation Concern, there has been a 53% decline between 1970 and 2005. Providing areas for breeding and feeding are vital to the success of the species and the management of the Steart Marshes reserve provides them with the best possible chance of success.

- Areas of spring cereal as part of the arable rotation, provides ideal and much needed late-season nesting habitat.
- We retain over-winter stubble, to provide a source of winter food and a nesting habitat in spring/summer.
- Buffer strips and field margins will provide similar conditions and can attract very high breeding densities.
- Sympathetically managed grasslands and hay meadows as both feeding and nesting habitat. We take late hay cuts and keep stocking densities low to avoid trampling. We're mindful of nesting birds and fledglings when cutting hay, by monitoring breeding birds and recording their locations.

A pair of Oystercatchers have been observed mating on Otterhampton Marsh, still early but certainly a positive sign. We will keep you updated on their progress.

Fence Line Restoration on the Coast at Steart

Following on from the recent opening of the England Coastal Footpath, Natural England is undertaking restoration work on the fence line to the north-east of Wall Common (see attached map).



In addition to better livestock management, on Wall Common, a primary purpose of this fence is to protect the roosting and breeding waders, which utilise the stretch of coast between Wall Common and Fenning Island. These waterbirds are prone to disturbance from people and dogs. Consequently, Natural England is asking people if they will stay on the Coastal Footpath.

Waders that roost between Wall Common and Fenning Island



Curlew



Dunlin



Whimbrel

Waders that breed between Wall Common and Fenning Island



Ringed Plover



Oystercatcher

Anyone requiring further information please contact Natural England at:
somersetavonandwiltshire@naturalengland.org.uk

News from Revd Alison Waters

The Rectory, 27 Brook Street, Cannington TA5 2HP
cannington.benefice@gmail.com
01278 652953

I am delighted to say that the major building works at St Peter's Church are now complete. We just await the return of the bells (which had to be removed to allow other repairs) and I am advised this will happen at the end of March. Then finally the scaffolding will be taken down. We hope to be able to reopen the church for Sunday services after Easter.

I am greatly appreciative of the support and patience of local residents during the last few years of closure and reinstatement. And, of course, none of the repairs would have been possible without the Heritage Lottery Fund and the National Churches Trust.

Recent months have seen visits by the Local History club at Otterhampton School who have been learning about the history of the building and we hope to take advantage of the scaffolding whilst we have it to fix a webcam to the spire, looking out on the beautiful countryside around the village and the comings and goings on the water, which will feed into a website.

The question now is: what next? St Peter's offers a large space in the centre of the village and whilst it will continue to be used for services, weddings, funerals and baptisms, the PCC (the church council) and I feel strongly that there could be more community use of this precious resource.

I would be very grateful for your input as to how the church building could be used to benefit the community other than in worship. Whilst at present the interior is somewhat fixed (predominately with pews!), there is certainly scope for reordering and making a much more user-friendly environment. Please do get in touch with me with any thoughts and ideas you might have - all will be very gratefully received and inform our future plans.



Also this month we said goodbye to two valued members of the church. Cyril and Isabel Ward have worshipped at and served St Peter's for over 30 years. Cyril, as organist, has led the congregations at Combswich and, latterly, at Stockland, with skill and imagination. Isabel is an inspirational woman of faith. They will both be sadly missed but we wish them every blessing in their move to Lincoln, to be nearer their family, and, on 5th March, they were presented with a gorgeous Tom Jacobs painting of the village, seen from a windswept common, as a token of our enormous appreciation of their service and friendship.



Spring is in the air!



There is a glorious display of daffodils throughout the parish, thanks largely to our village gardener Keith Preston, who also keeps the village tidy. The fields are full of Spring lambs. These photographs were taken in Steart during a rare fine day by Aly Prowse.



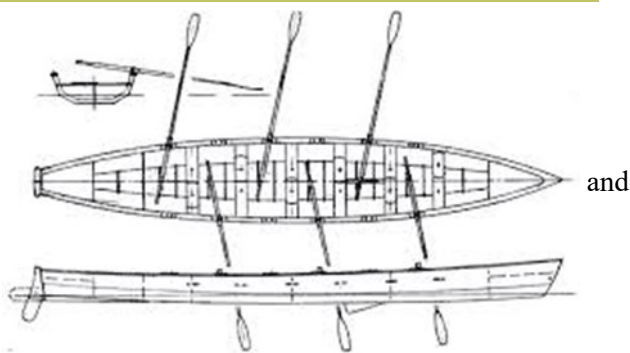
Combwich Motor Boat and Sailing Club

GIG RACING

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

Cornish Gig Racing is becoming popular around the Bristol Channel, there are Gig Clubs at Burnham-on-Sea, Clevedon and Bristol.

Cornish Gigs are about 30 feet long overall and crewed by 6 oarsmen and a cox'n. This is a sport for all ages, male and female.



The Combwich M.B.&S.C committee have discussed the formation of a gig racing team and supports exploring the feasibility of forming a team.

If you are seriously interested please contact Bill Johnson at 3 Harbour View, Combwich TA5 2QU. Tel: 01278 652283.

Provided there is a worthwhile response Bill will arrange a demonstration and a taster session with the Burnham-on-Sea Gig Club



Otter Wheels

Your local car scheme always there for **You**

Is lack of transport a problem?

Can't get to the dentist, doctor, hospital, shopping, visit a friend?

Ring - Otter Wheels on: 07925 154 216

This not for profit car scheme has been running for seven months now, if you haven't tried us why not give us a go? Door to door service with friendly experienced drivers all DBS checked and happy to help.

The rates are reasonable and are per car, not per person and those with a bus pass travel half price.

Typical return journey prices are: -

	With bus pass	Without bus pass
Cannington Health Centre	£2.25	£3.50
Bridgwater Bus station	£4.50	£8.00
Musgrove Hospital Taunton	£10.25	£19.50

Ring Otter Wheels 07925 154 216 for more information and to book a journey

Harbour-View Players Present

MURDER

*At The
Village Hall*

Sunday 30th April 7.30

**Find 'WHODUNNIT' and
WIN £50 CASH!**

**Ploughmans, Free Bottle of
Wine on Each Table, Raffle**

**Tickets £10 from Combwich
Post Office & Store**

COMBICH VILLAGE HALL TA5 2QZ

**A NIGHT OUT WITH
YVETTE STAELENS
AND
MITCH NORMAN**



**FRIDAY 7th
APRIL 7.30^{PM}
OTTERHAMPTON
VILLAGE HALL
TA5 2QZ**

In aid of



**CANCER
RESEARCH
UK**

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1089464),
Scotland (SC041666) & Isle of Man (1103)



**Supper & Tea/Coffee
Tickets £12.00**

**Tickets Available from Lesley Burge on
01278 652061 & Combwich Post Office**



Stop getting nuisance calls!

There are some actions you can take to stop getting nuisance calls that you don't want. You shouldn't get nuisance calls if you didn't give the caller your number - for example:

BT launches new service called *BT Call Protect*, the system analyses call data to identify rogue numbers. Typically it will highlight phone numbers that make large numbers of calls. Those calls will then be automatically diverted into a junk voicemail box. The system will continue to block such callers even if they change their number, a common tactic used by spammers.

If you use Call protect or the 1571 service, you will automatically get 1572 soon. If you can't wait, either go online or dial 1572 and register your phone number. Customers will also be able to identify other nuisance callers, by dialling in the code 1572 after receiving such a call.

(Talk Talk has already introduced a similar central call blocking system for landlines, while Vodafone operates a system for mobiles)

Register with the Telephone Preference Service

The other way to stop nuisance calls is to register your number with the Telephone Preference Service - they'll add you to their list of numbers that don't want to receive sales and marketing calls.

It's a free service and it's easy to register. You'll need your phone number, postcode and an email address to sign up on the Telephone Preference Service website. You can also sign up from your mobile by texting 'TPS' and your email address to 85095.

If you think it's a scam call

Scams usually involve people being tricked into giving money. If you think a caller is trying to run a scam, you should report it to Actionfraud. If possible, you should also report scam calls to the ICO <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/nuisance-calls/> so these scamsters can be brought to justice

GET HELP WITH THE CITIZENS ADVICE CONSUMER HELPLINE ON 03454 04 05 06 IF YOU NEED MORE HELP

If you are finding life a bit hard going at the moment, your village agent Izzy Silvester may be able to help on 07931 018045, leave her your name and number and she will ring you back. Or email her on izzy@somerset.rcc.org.uk. Izzy only works part-time so it may take a day or two for her to return your call.

MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library visits Combwich and Stockland every four weeks on a Tuesday morning from 28th March

Otterhampton School TA5 2QS 9.45 - 10.40

Harbour TA5 2QU 10.45 – 11.05

Combwich Post Office TA5 2QW 11.10 – 11.30

Stockland Bristol Captains TA5 2PY 11.40 – 11.55

Please make use of this facility, we have the advantage in Combwich of the school using the mobile library which helps us to retain the service. Unfortunately the service has recently been withdrawn from Steart due to lack of use.

“To live is the rarest thing in the world. Most people exist, that is all.”

– [Oscar Wilde](#)

“Life is what happens to us while we are making other plans.”

– [Allen Saunders](#)

“I'm not afraid of death; I just don't want to be there when it happens.”

– [Woody Allen](#)

Your village website www.combwich.org.uk is the place to go for up to date information on what is happening in the parish and much more. Take a look to see what you have been missing. You can subscribe by adding your email address to the home page to receive email notices of new posts to ensure you don't miss anything.

DIARY OF EVENTS

(Otterhampton Village Hall unless otherwise stated)

REGULAR EVENTS

Monday	Art Club	2pm – 4pm	
Monday	Brownies	5.45pm - 7.30pm	
Tuesday	Aerobics Pilates	9.30am – 10.30am 10.45 am – 11.45am	
Wednesday	Doctors Surgery	3pm – 4pm	
Wednesday	Combwich Crafters	10am – 12 noon	
Thursday (1 st of month)	Parish Council	7pm	Starts with public session
Thursday (2 nd & 4 th of month)	Choir	7pm – 8pm	
Thursday (3 rd of month)	Combwich& District WI	7.30pm	Stockland Sports & Social Club
Friday	Coffee morning	10am – 12 noon	
Saturday (2 nd of month)	Combwich Market	10am – 12 noon	

FUTURE EVENTS

6th April 2017	Parish Council Meeting to include an update on Combwich Wharf	6.30pm	
4th May 2017	Parish Council Meeting to include the Parish Assembly and Annual Meeting	7pm	Starts with public session
15 th May 2017	Next Otter Tales		Articles by 7th May

Otter Tales

Articles for publication to Barry Leathwood (editor) Tel: 652399, email: barry.leathwood@btinternet.com

Events to Aly Prowse, Tel: 652426 email: otterhamptonpcclerk@gmail.com

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Our thanks to EDF Hinkley Point B who print this newsletter without charge.