



Welcome to Combwich

Otter Tales

Published with the generous support of Otterhampton Parish Council

Combwich, Steart & Otterhampton Memories

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This photograph of Combwich Pill was probably taken about 1920 and shows the 4 cottages adjacent to a saw mill used to repair the buoys from the Bristol Channel, one of which remains opposite the village hall. You can just see on the opposite side of the river the White House Pub now long gone. There has been a river crossing at Combwich for thousands of years at low tide and since the 13th century a ferry operated from near the Anchor to the White House on the Pawlet side of the river.

To see more old photographs of the area go to the Combwich, Steart and Otterhampton Memories Facebook page.



Otterhampton Offcuts

Snippets from your Parish Council Meetings during August and September 2019

Village Walk 5.8.19

We do not normally have a meeting in August but we do have a walk around the village to look at areas in need of attention and to look at potential projects that may further enhance the parish. Briefly, these are as follows:

Clearance of vegetation from the brook before the winter.

We held a meeting with the Environment Agency (EA) on 4.9.19 to try and clarify the responsibilities for amongst other things, the maintenance of the brook. "Owners" of watercourses have responsibilities for the stretch of the watercourse they own. An "owner" of a watercourse is usually defined by a watercourse if it runs under your land or on the boundary of your land up to its centre. If this applies to you and you are unsure of your responsibilities, please refer to the riparian ownership website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-watercourse>. It is quite possible that if the brook is not cleared it could cause flooding in the village if we have significant rainfall over the coming months.

Flood bank on the common

We asked the Environment Agency when the flood bank will be cut. We were told it would be any time after November. It is the EA's responsibility. The bank requires to be cut before bad weather sets in so the bank can easily be inspected for cracks or areas of vulnerability.

Bus shelter

We will consider if the bus shelter is in need of repair or if we should look to replace it. The external light to encompass the bus shelter is due to be erected during September.

Weed Growth

We thought the village looked to be in need of some TLC in places with weeds growing out of pavements and walls. Normally SDC spray the weeds once or twice a year, but it is not known if they have done so this year or intend to. We will check the position with SDC. We may also consider having a 'village tidy up day'. Please let us know your thoughts on this?

Brownie Copse on the common

This area is in need of some serious attention! The Tree and Open Spaces steering group are looking at ideas and considering what could be done here.

Minor highway issues

Re-lining of the lines near the Brookside and Church Hill junction, and patching required of the highway in Church Hill has been reported to SCC Highways.

Play Area

We are in communication with Wicksteed (contractor) discussing yet again the state of the safety surfacing and ground settlement issues. SDC has been requested to spray the weeds as part of the maintenance contract.

Contact details for the parish council

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Julie Evans (Chair)	01278 652735
Bob Birkenhead (Vice Chair)	01278 653127
Rachel Perrett	01278 652958
Tina Gardener	01278 652642
Marie Beckley	07748 154395
Lindsey Parsons	07843 604787
Andrew Darch (Stewart)	01278 653495
Mrs Aly Prowse (Clerk)	01278 652426

otterhamptonpcclerk@gmail.com

County and District Ward Members

Mike Caswell (District & County)	01278 652043
Julie Pay (District)	01278 732956

Removal of Willows and Brambles

The contract has been placed to remove the willow trees and brambles from the area around the brook near the defibrillator and phone box. The work will be carried out late autumn. Work will also be required to make safe some overhanging willow tree branches on the Wharf Rd.

Planned Maintenance Works on the Hinkley Point Road (C182)

Work to repair and reinforce the verge overruns on the C182 is expected to commence in early October for a period of 5-6 weeks. The work will be carried out in 300m length sections using temporary traffic lights to manage local traffic. The work is planned to be carried out overnight from 7pm to 5.30am, so the C182 should be free flowing during the day.

The next parish council meeting will be held on Thursday 3 October 2019, at 6.30pm, in Otterhampton Village Hall.

Residents are very welcome at our meetings. You will be given a warm welcome and the opportunity to participate and discuss the various topics. In addition, tea, coffee and biscuits are available from 5-10 minutes before the meeting start time.



Contact for Clerk (Aly Prowse)
otterhamptonpcclerk@gmail.com or Tel
01278 652426



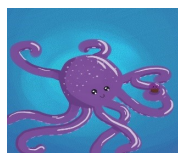
Otterhampton Parish Recreation Association (OPRA)

Registered Charity Number 1124017

The last of this summer's OPRA events was the successful Walk and Cream Tea on 1st September around Steart. Fortunately the weather was kind allowing a short walk around Steart Point and back to Dowells Farm, Steart (to join others who did not want to walk), for a delicious cream tea hosted by Aly and Robin Prowse at their home. For those that wanted it there was the chance to try Robin's traditionally made cider, which was much appreciated. The proceeds were in aid of Steart Church.



The summer is hardly over and our thoughts turn to the annual firework display and lantern parade. This year it will take place on Sunday 3rd November. The lantern parade will commence at 5.30pm followed by the firework display at 6.00pm where hotdogs and burgers will be available.



The theme for the lanterns this year will be 'Under the Sea'. So, get your thinking caps on! The workshops for children will take the same format as last year. The cost per child will be £2.50 and places can be booked at the Post Office nearer the time. Lookout for posters for more information. If possible, please book into one of the earlier sessions as many of the creations take one more than one session to complete and if necessary, Sarah will book you into another session to finish the lantern. The dates for the workshops are;

Thursday 24 th October	10am to 1pm and 1.30pm to 4.30pm
Friday 25 th October	1.30pm to 4.30pm
Monday 28 th October	10am to 1pm
Tuesday 29 th October	1.30pm to 4.30pm
Wednesday 30 th October	10am to 1pm and 1.30pm to 3.30pm (finishing and collection)

As mentioned in an earlier issue we are hoping that groups within the village might like to make their own lanterns. It is hoped that these can be made in late September and early October. If you are interested then please contact Sarah Webb as soon as possible; basketlady@talktalk.net. We would like to thank Harbour View Players who have been running bingo sessions to help fund the adult lanterns. Please look out for the posters advertising further bingo sessions

As always, these events aren't possible without volunteers. If you are able to help in any way please contact Tina Gardener on 652642 or tinagardener@btinternet.com

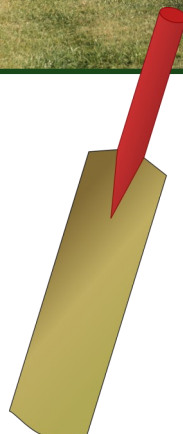
Combwich Annual Cricket Match



The Annual Combwich Cricket Match was held on the common at the end of August with two teams drawn from the village. Fortunately the weather was good although there were fears that the high tides would present a problem. Mike Gardener who prepared the pitch meticulously watched anxiously to check the tide level.

A great time was had by all with some skilful play and some demonstrating the need for some practice. When the batting team were all out a refreshment break was called and the teams and guests retired to the Anchor for a barbeque and liquid refreshments before returning to the pitch to continue the match.

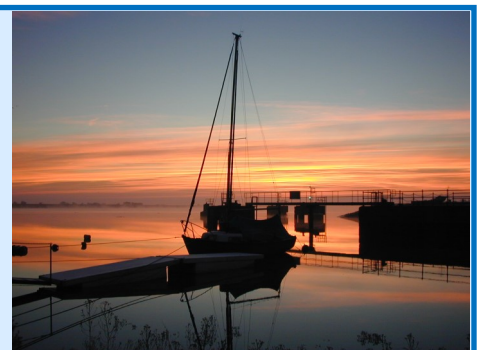
Murry Lister who organised the event expressed his appreciation of Matt from the anchor for supplying the bbq & food, the post office for their voluntary contributions to the day. Kev Hill for organising help. Ian Newbury, Sophie Oatridge, Brian Hutchins for helping out on the day, all who participated and contributed and last but certainly not least, Mike Gardener for preparing everything about the wicket and umpiring too.



High Tides and all that!

It is predicted that exceptionally high tides of about 7 metres will occur on the evenings of 29th and 30th September at 9pm (sunset at 8pm) although this could vary depending on the weather, wind direction and atmospheric pressure.

Just as exceptionally high tides are exciting (providing they don't breach the flood defences) they also provide exceptionally low tides when rarely seen parts of the river bed are exposed.



Combwich Boat Club - Gig Section

Combwich Ladies B
Appledore Regatta
10 August 2019



Combwich Boat Club's gig section has been enjoying a successful and busy summer taking part in a number of competitions as well as regular and well attended sessions on the River Parrett. In a recent regatta at Appledore the club's ladies team finished second for the best result of the season so far. The club finished third overall on the day beating some long established clubs along the way. The club held a taster session (*bottom right*) over the bank holiday

weekend and potential rowers are always welcome to have a go and should contact club secretary Trevor Reason in the first instance. In September two boats have been entered in the London Marathon of Boating, for a 21.6 mile river race. The following month teams will take part in a 14 mile endurance race



Vintage Afternoon Tea

In the village hall

3 - 5pm

Saturday 21st September

Join us for a lovely afternoon with
sandwiches, cakes, tea and fabulous company

All for £5.

Proceeds to the village hall refurbishment fund

For more information contact Helen Jowett on 652322



News from Combwich and District WI July and August 2019 -

by Wendy Durant

Thursday 18th July, our meeting with our new Committee officiating for the first time; our lovely new President Brenda, Secretary Anne and Treasurer Elizabeth. Brenda made it all look so easy, welcomed us warmly and between them they soon dealt with the business of the day. Anne read the minutes of the last meeting, they were passed and signed before Elizabeth updated us with the financial statement. Apologies were received from Vanessa, Rachel and Doreen.



We were informed about Cannington W.I. hosting a Group Meeting on October 14th and the commencement of the Annual Skittles Knockout which also begins in October. Brenda invited us to put ourselves forward for the Skittles team and so far 11 of us have been added to the list, so plenty of skilled ladies available. Hopefully we can arrange a few practices beforehand to help us progress a little further in the competition this year!

The County AGM will be held on 23rd November so that's another date for the diary. Elizabeth invited us to join our Annual Outing, this year to A La Ronde near Exmouth on 20th September. This was taken up by many of those present and she will contact the absentees soon.



Wendy reported on the Craft Club which is going really well this year. In addition to the Banner we are making, we have another few projects on the go, namely the 'jewel' key ring plaques, the Wine Bottle lights and the Embroidery stitch classes. Our next Craft Club meeting is on Monday 7th October and the following one is Monday 4th November, both at the Stockland Club starting at 1.00 p.m.

We had an excellent speaker this month, Darren Hillman, who gave a wonderful talk and slide show about photography. Darren took early retirement to concentrate on his hobby and has made a real success of it, photographing mostly birds and winning many prizes. He also brought along around twenty A3 prints which he had printed and mounted himself - they were quite amazing. A lot of them had been taken locally either at Steart Marshes, Ham Wall or Greinton Nature Reserve, with others as far afield as mid Wales and Portland.

There were the larger birds, Red Kite, Giant White Egret, Herons, Buzzards, Owls etc. and smaller ones like the Kingfisher, Great Tits, Siskin, and Goldfinch.

Darren told us how important it is to make sure you get the eye of the bird in focus as in a competition this is the first thing a judge will look for, so if the eye is not right, your photo stands no chance! This is obviously a man who has a keen eye for a photo, knowledge of birds in their habitat coupled with great patience and this has to be one of the most interesting and captivating talks we have had. The evening ended with a photographic competition, judged by Darren and Wendy was the winner with an action shot of two of her dogs. Sue thanked Darren on behalf of the W.I. Elizabeth and Sue provided the refreshments.

THERE WAS NO AUGUST MEETING, THE NEXT MEETING IS ON THURSDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 7.30 P.M. AT THE STOCKLAND CLUB WHEN CAROL RENNISON WILL BE INTRODUCING US TO FLOWER ARRANGING. EVERYONE WELCOME.

Why not come along to our WI Monthly Meeting to enjoy what is on offer, you can be sure of a warm welcome. For more information or to join Combwich & District WI, please do not hesitate to phone Brenda Wasley (President) on 01278 446279 or Anne Weston (Secretary) on 01278 653192. We look forward to your call.



Otterhampton Primary School.

Head Teacher, Claire Luce



Otterhampton Primary School Sports Day

We were blessed with fine weather on July 10th for our annual sports day and the event was thoroughly enjoyed by both participants and spectators. The races and events were rounded off with a samba drum performance by Bay Class and dance moves by the after school club run by Cally Stephens. The Friends of OPS provided refreshments which included a BBQ and ice-creams which raised just short of £300. It was an excellent way to round off the year and great fun was had by all!



Ron Page - Profile

Ron Page seems to have been around for ever and it certainly has been a long time. His family have farmed Lower Hill Farm, Otterhampton since 1917 when his grandparents Joe and Nettie Page moved from Wedmore to take on the tenancy. Ron was born in 1935 in Otterhampton, but most of his schooling was in Huish Episcopi near Langport, transferring to Stogursey for the last year of his education.

Ron's father had the opportunity with his siblings to purchase the farm in 1946, but as a result of a family dispute the farm was put up for auction again in 1949 and his father bought it outright. From those early days Ron and his brother Ken worked on the farm learning all the skills necessary to run a successful business.

When dad died in 1972 Ron and Ken took over the farm which was mostly dairy, beef cows, sheep and pigs and some poultry too. They also grew oats and barley which all went towards feeding the livestock. Ron was responsible for the livestock and Ken did the tractor work and farm maintenance.

Originally the farm was 135 acres, but over the years they were able to buy land and extended it to 285 acres, although they later lost 118 acres when WWT Steart Marshes was created.

A typical day Ron recalls, was up and out by 6am, way before it was light in the winter, to milk the cows and feed all the animals, before returning to the house for a big cooked breakfast, necessary to sustain them for the long day ahead. After breakfast there was always much to do depending on the time of the year, cleaning and maintaining the milking parlour and various buildings and equipment, lambing and calving, taking stock to market to say nothing of the constant need to repair fences and hedges.

After a short lunch they were out again and by 4 o'clock it was time to get the cows in again for the evening milking. By the time this was done, and the milking parlour cleaned, it was around 7pm and home for a bit of supper and a rest, perhaps listening to the radio or watching television before retiring to bed exhausted between 9 and 10pm.

It was never an easy life and sometimes dangerous and when things go wrong there is often no one around to help. Animals are unpredictable and the sheer weight of cattle can inflict serious injury. Ron's father was seriously injured when he was gored by a bull and Ron himself was crushed against the wall of the feed trough by the head of a bull splintering the bones of his leg, and if he had fallen to the ground he may well have been killed. With much determination and in great pain, he managed to drag himself up the wall on a beam away from the bull. After shouting for help he was helped to the house where an ambulance was called. He produced the 15-inch stainless steel rod which was inserted in his leg whilst the bones knitted together again. On another occasion he broke his hip.

They were long days, seven days a week with little respite. There were good times too, Ron recalls, particularly at harvest time when villagers and children would come and help.

There wasn't much leisure time, but when he had the time, he would go to the Quantock Vale Young Farmers Club meetings which he enjoyed very much, often going on trips to agricultural shows. For some years they were also involved in organising a gymkhana on Park Field. In later years he was able with a group of local farmers to visit several European countries and once to Canada.

Ron still lives in a bungalow on the farm with amazing views across the Parrett Estuary and Bristol Channel and to the right Pawlet Hams and the Mendips. Now a regular at the Friday Coffee mornings, Ron is enjoying his retirement doing many of the things he was unable to do when he had a farm to run.



Hinkley Point C - Community Impact Research



My name is Charlotte Percy and I am currently completing my third-year dissertation at Royal Holloway University of London. For my dissertation research I am looking into the different views that the community surrounding Hinkley Point C has towards the construction of the nuclear power station and how these views have been managed and resolved by EDF and various other companies involved in the construction.

As part of my research I have developed a questionnaire in order for me to gain insight into what these conflicts are and your personal experience with Hinkley Point C and EDF energy.

If you have a spare 5 minutes, I would be very grateful if you could assist me in my research by filling out the questionnaire through the link or QR code below -

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSIkWsW0yxEjajBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAMAANYJHdVUMEdaWkxVRFdBTVNGVTBCQIVZQzNPOTZRTi4u>

Thank you so much for your time I really appreciate it.

Charlotte



*Will and Wishes for Final Days is important -
so get it done.*

Makes You think - Makes you plan

And yes - it can be fun!

Our village hall is constantly in need of financial support. A treasured centre of the Combech Community. Have you thought of considering a donation to our village hall in your will?

Helen Jowett



OTTERHAMPTON VILLAGE HALL

News from the Otterhampton Village Hall Committee



THE PAST

Tenders for the planned refurbishment work will be ready for the Committee to consider in September. Once we have the figures for the proposed costs we will be in a position to seek funding from the Hinkley Community Fund and other organisations.

If you have any queries about the refurbishment please don't hesitate to contact the village hall committee: write to us at the Hall, email me or phone me on bartonbs@btinternet.com or 01278 653531.

The next monthly Village Market will be held on Saturday 14th September between 10am and midday so come along and browse the various stalls and chat with friends over a cup of tea and a bacon roll. We are also holding a consultation event between 11am and 1pm to discuss the need for the Village Hall to change its charitable governance scheme so Trustees are financially protected during the major refurbishment. This is YOUR Village Hall so please come along and speak to Trustees about the importance of us applying for a Charitable Incorporation Organisation (CIO).



THE PRESENT



THE FUTURE



Harbour View Club

The Bar is open Fridays and Saturdays from 7pm to midnight, Sundays between 2 and 6pm - this may alter shortly but if the 'open sign' is lit come on in! Annual membership is only £2.50 and new members are welcome; £1 is charged for visitors. The Club has a fully stocked bar including Real Ale (on a handpump); a darts area and skittle alley are available for social events.

We had a great turnout for the annual August Bank Holiday Sunday Paella Day. The weather was perfect; the sangria, wine and beer flowed and everyone enjoyed the brilliant paellas. The chicken and fish paellas were made by Richard Navoy and Bruce Barton made a vegetarian option. Villagers and members enjoyed sitting on the green opposite the Club eating, drinking and chatting to friends in the sunshine. The Bar Committee would like to thank those members of the Bridgwater UK Harley Owners Group Chapter for returning again this year with their amazing motorbikes. An event not to be missed next year.



Dates for your diary include:

First Saturday of each month brings the monthly quiz with a cash jackpot prize for the winner and various prizes for each round. Cost is £1 per person and starts at 8.30pm. Come along and test your brainpower.

There will be a Treasure Hunt around Combwich in the Autumn. Meet at the Village Hall and then back to Harbour View Bar for refreshments and cheese and biscuits supper;

Look out for the blackboards and posters for details of the next event and come along.



OTTERHAMPTON VILLAGE HALL CONSULTATION MEETING

WHEN: SATURDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2019

WHERE: OTTERHAMPTON VILLAGE HALL – HARBOUR VIEW BAR AREA

WHAT TIME: 11am TIL 1pm

WHAT'S IT ABOUT: the Trustees of Otterhampton Village Hall want to change the status of the Hall to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) but must consult with residents before an application can be made.

The general terms of the existing governance document will not change. BUT if we do not change our governance document the refurbishment will not go ahead as Trustees could be financially liable during the forthcoming refurbishment. If the refurbishment does not go ahead the Hall is likely to close in the near future as the hall cannot be maintained to a sufficient standard.

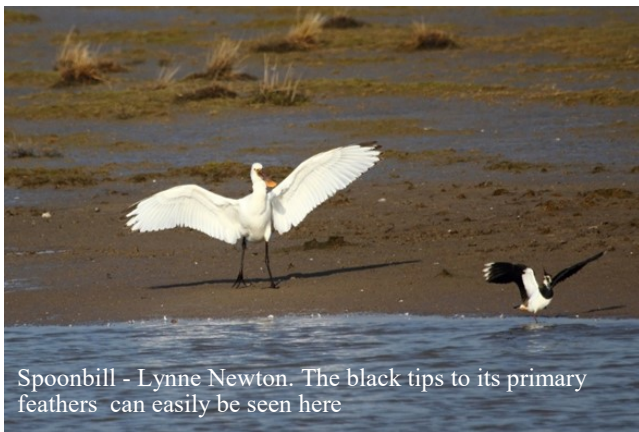
This is YOUR Village Hall so PLEASE make your views known.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO: come along to the consultation and have your say or write your comments and leave at the Village Hall or email them to bartonbs@btinternet.com



Reserve

Late July saw the arrival of a young Spoonbill back on the reserve, which can be aged by the black tips to its primary feathers. Other numbers of waders have also started appearing post breeding season, including over 50 Redshank, a number of Greenshank and both Common and Green Sandpipers. Kestrels are also a more regular sighting at this time of year on the reserve, looking for an easy meal after the hay cut. **(Sam Wall – Reserve Warden)**



Spoonbill - Lynne Newton. The black tips to its primary feathers can easily be seen here



Purple loosestrife *Lythrum salicaria* (above right) These tall purple flower spikes can be found in damp fresh water areas throughout the site.

It flowers between June and August, providing a valuable food source for a wide range of insects, they are particularly noted for attracting Red tailed bumblebees, Brimstone butterflies and elephant hawk moths.

Purple loosestrife was well studied by Charles Darwin who was interested in the heterostylous nature of its flowers (this means it's flowers can form differently from individual to individual). Darwin hypothesised that this stopped self-pollination and encouraged cross pollination more recent research has proven this correct.

Each individual loosestrife plant can produce over 2 million seeds, this has caused big problems in America where it is considered an invasive species, forming thick stands that shade out native species.

(Ronan Conn – Reserve Warden)

Engagement

Volunteer trip to Slimbridge



Our summer event to say thank you to our dedicated team of Steart Marshes volunteers took place last week. We made our way to Slimbridge for walks, exploring the site and Scott House tours throughout the day. Before the buffet lunch, Steart staff all gave updates on their current work and developments around the site.

The highlight of the day was having the opportunity to look around Sir Peter Scott's house (founder of WWT) in a preview of the public tours which will start this September. It was amazing to stand in his studio, left as it was when he lived there, and look out over the water at the amazing views

which he painted. A very poignant moment was seeing the photo of his father, Scott of the Antarctic, framed on the studio wall.

WWT Steart Marshes *continued*



Good show of team work from the staff and volunteers during training with Reflex First Aid last week.
Written by Nicole Turnbull-Wigley (WWT Engagement Officer)

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer at Steart Marshes please contact us at info.steart@wwt.org.uk to arrange a taster day, or complete an

application form on our website wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres/steart-marshes/visiting/.

Please come and talk to me if you have any questions or comments about Steart Marshes. I can be

contacted on 01278 651090 / 07717 342061 or email at nicole.wigley@wwt.org.uk

Any further queries please don't hesitate to contact the Site Manager, Alys Laver on 01278 651090 / 07717 505966 or email on alys.laver@wwt.org.uk

WWT STEART MARSHES EVBENTS AUTUMN 2019



4X4 TOURS TO THE BREACH

12th & 23rd Sep & 7th Nov. Enjoy spectacular views on this drive along the riverbank to the breach. Includes a rare opportunity to walk down onto the saltmarsh, not normally open to the public. 10-12 & 1-3pm each day. Booking Essential. Suggested minimum donation £10



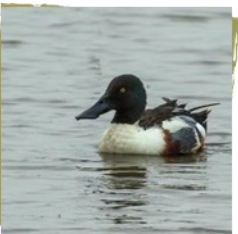
HIGH TIDE BIRDWATCHING WALK

Tue 1st October. Come and enjoy the spectacle of the high tide as it fills the largest area of the reserve, and witness hundreds of birds feeding from key viewpoints. 8:30 - 10:30am. Booking essential. Suggested minimum donation £5



NIGHT WALK

Thu 31st Oct. Enjoy a walk through the reserve after dark to hear the sounds of the saltmarsh at night. Hot drink included. 7-9pm Please book in advance. Suggested minimum donation £5



FRESHWATER BIRDWATCHING WALK

Sun 24th Nov. Discover our freshwater marsh which undergoes the amazing transformation from grazing fields to water-filled lake at this time of year. 10-12noon. Please book in advance. Suggested minimum donation £5

WWT
Steart Marshes

To book events contact wwt.org.uk
Tel; 01278 651090 e info.steart@www.org.uk
WWT Stert Drove, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA5 2PU

****NOTIFICATIONS OF
LARGE LOADS ON C182 AND
DELAYS****

The parish council normally receives letters from EDF advising of forthcoming large HGV movements along the C182, likely to cause delays to road users' journeys. We always put these on the noticeboards (these will be put on coloured paper so they stand out) in Otter Tales (if the timing coincides with publication dates) and also on the Website (www.combwich.org.uk). If you subscribe to the website, you will be notified automatically.

**ANCHOR INN
@ COMBWICH**

Traditional Village Inn and Guesthouse

OPENING TIMES

Monday to Thursday 5pm to 11pm

Saturday Sunday 12pm to 11pm

Food served Tuesday to Friday 6pm to 9pm

Friday Saturday Sunday 12 to 2pm and 6pm to 9pm

Tuesday burger night all burgers £6.50

Wednesday steak night steaks from £7.50

Sunday carvery 12.30 to 2.30 £9.50 each

01278653612

www.combwichanchor.co.uk

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carvery's for £14
Must book and bring voucher in
01278653612

**COMBWICH P.O.
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Established 20 Yrs**

**Bridgwater (Saltlands) Recycling
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Saltlands Avenue, Chilton Trinity, TA6 3JS
(entrance off Western Way)
Telephone 01278 444877

Opening hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00
am - 6:00 pm

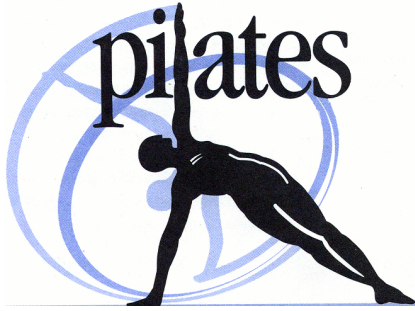
Saturday - Sunday
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Otter Tales -Your Newsletter

This is your newsletter and we hope it provides the right balance of information and entertainment. If you think some part of it could be improved, or even deleted, or there are other issues you would like covered please let me know.

Feedback is important to ensure we meet the needs of our community. Contact the editor with your comments.

barry.leathwood@btinternet.com or ring
652399



Otterhampton Village Hall will be holding Pilates classes for all ages and abilities every Tuesday evening from 6.30-7.30pm.

Pilates is a gentle paced class, mainly floor based and helps improve core

stability, muscle tone, strength, posture and balance. All of which we require our bodies to have to stay healthy, whatever our age!

Classes are taught by a qualified and experienced Instructor and cost £5 per session. You are welcome to attend and see if it suits you before you commit and then payment will be required in advance for that term. For anymore information please contact Cally on

Tel: 07555302145/651214

And email: callystephens18@icloud.com.



Cumbwitch Short Mat Bowls Club

(Established 1987)

First floor Otterhampton Village Hall Combwich.

**New members welcome
why not come and give it a try**

Mon:7.15pm for 7.30 > 9.30

Tel:Brian:01278 652747

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?

Volunteer drivers needed. Mileage allowance paid. For more information contact Richard on 01278 652503 or stirlings.greenacres@hotmail.com

Ring - Otter Wheels on: 07925 154 216 - but please try to give us 48 hours notice

This not-for-profit car scheme has been running around 3 years, with over 600 journeys to date. 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. **Though this is mainly a week day service, we will do our utmost to provide a driver at weekends, especially for hospital visits.**

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	£1.25	£2.50
Bridgwater Hospital	£4.35	£8.50
Bridgwater Town Centre	£3.50	£7.50

Please note when you renew your bus pass you must let us have your new number.

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

The success of the scheme means we need additional drivers. If you are interested please ring 07925



MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library visits Combwich and Stockland every four weeks on a Thursday morning at the following times.

Otterhampton School TA5 2QS	10.05 - 10.40
Harbour TA5 2QU	10.55 - 11.15
Combwich Post Office TA5 2QW	11.20 - 11.40
Stockland Bristol Captains TA5 2PY	11.50 - 12.05

Visits on Thursdays - every 4 weeks

2019	2019	2019
17 Jan	9 May	29 Aug
14 Feb	6 Jun	26 Sep
14 Mar	4 Jul	24 Oct
11 Apr	1 Aug	21 Nov
		19 Dec

Please make use of this facility if you can. We have the advantage in Combwich of the school using the mobile library which helps us to retain the service.

If you have an interesting hobby, or interest which you would like to share in these pages, please contact the editor.

And if you would like to receive Otter Tales by email as well as hard copy please email

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

DIARY OF EVENTS (Otterhampton Village Hall unless otherwise stated)

REGULAR EVENTS			
Monday	Art Club Brownies Short Mat Bowls	2pm - 4pm 5.45pm - 7.30pm 7.30pm - 9.30pm	
Tuesday	Aerobics	9.30am - 10.30am	
	Pilates	10.45am - 11.45am 6.30pm - 7.30pm	
	Gentle movement to music	12.15pm - 1pm	
Wednesday	Combwich Crafters Short Mat Bowls	10am - 12 noon 7.30pm - 9.30pm	
Thursday (1 st of month)	Parish Council Meeting	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 (occasional Police surgery)	10am - 12noon	
Saturday (2 nd of month)	Combwich Market	10am - 12noon	
FUTURE EVENTS			
Thursday 3 October	Parish Council Meeting (early start re WWT presentation on new office building proposals at Steart Marshes compound)	6.30pm start	Tea and biscuits provided
Thursday 7 November	Parish Council Meeting	7pm	Tea and biscuits provided
Saturday 14 September	Village Hall Consultation	11am - 1pm	Harbour View Bar
Articles by 6 October	Next Otter Tales		Distribution by 14 October

Otter Tales

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Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information published in Otter Tales, some of the views expressed are those of individuals or organisations.