



Welcome to Combwich

Otter Tales

Published with the generous support of Otterhampton Parish Council

Inside this issue

Page 1

Spring

Page 2

Parish Council Offcuts

Page 3

OPRA

Page 4

Otterhampton School

Page 5

Combwich & District WI

Page 6

Robin Prowse - Profile

Page 7

Combwich 1st Brownies and AED & CPR
Workshop

Page 8

WWT Steart Marshes

Page 9

WWT Steart Marshes

Page 10

Village Hall & Harbour View Bar

Page 11

Trading Standards (Rogue traders)

Page 12

Newsletter and Combwich website

Page 13

Old Combwich

Page 14

Village Welcome Sign

Post Office and Stores

Recycling

Page 15

Otter Wheels, Short Mat Bowls & Pilates

Page 16

Mobile Library & Diary of events



It doesn't feel like spring but these March Hares certainly think so. (Photo taken by Jacqueline Hill whilst on holiday at Rachel's Quorn Barn in the village).



And daffodils resplendent throughout the village

Otterhampton Offcuts

Snippets from your February 2020 Parish Council Meeting

Combwich Wharf - Community Drop In

EDF has arranged a Community Drop in for questions on the Combwich Wharf refurbishment on Wednesday 4th March, 2pm-3pm at Otterhampton Village Hall.

SCC Somerset Road Safety Team (Route 60+) Presentation – 5 March 2020

Don't forget the Somerset Road Safety Team presentation on Thursday 5.3.20, 10am – 1pm in Otterhampton Village Hall.

Foreshore fence and replacement hides at Steart

Work has commenced to install a substantial fence to prevent walkers (particularly with dogs) walking along the foreshore at Steart. This has been necessary to prevent disturbance for ground nesting birds and those birds that roost along the shore. Excluding the Tower hide, new hides will replace the existing ones on the peninsula. The work is due to be completed by the end of March.

Wharf Road Landscaping



A small sub group is looking for ideas to enhance the often overgrown and untidy verges along the Wharf Rd which is an annual cost to us. Ideally this will be a low maintenance cost option.

Diverted temporary footpath during Combwich Wharf works

For those of you who may not be aware, this footpath has been substantially repaired and reopened (arranged by EDF who have temporary responsibility until the wharf refurbishment works are complete). Hopefully this will make it a much safer and pleasant path to walk along.

Replacement and additional defibrillator for Combwich and BT Phone Box

We were recently notified that it was BT's intention to remove the phone box in Combwich, unless we could find an acceptable use for it, whereby we could adopt the Box for a £1, plus we would need to take care of its future maintenance. We decided that we wanted to keep the Box and that we would use it to house the defibrillator. BT has just agreed to our request.

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

Public Car Parking in Cannington

Cannington Parish Council in conjunction with the College, has been able to secure free public parking during out of college hours. This will be useful should anyone wish to use the pubs, shops, Walled Gardens or the Indian restaurant. The parking is accessed at the College's main entrance on Rodway Hill and it is the car park in front of the reception area. Availability - Monday to Thursday, 6pm until 7am and Friday 6pm until Monday 7am. Maximum stay 4 hours. CCTV is in operation.

The next parish council meetings will be held on Thursday 5 March 2020 and Thursday 2 April, at 7.00pm 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

Tina Gardener Chair

OPRA AGM

Please join us for our get together at the Anchor on Monday 23rd March at 7.30pm for a free glass of wine and nibbles. It is a largely social occasion, but includes our annual general meeting where we elect our committee and officers. Don't worry, you won't be pressganged in to doing any thing you don't want to do (but, if you want to get more involved you will be very welcome). All 100 Club members will receive an individual invitation, but all parishioners are invited too. This is an opportunity to learn more about this recreational local charity, meet the people involved and influence what we do. New ideas are always welcome. We look forward to seeing you.



OPRA Officers and Committee Chair

Tina Gardener 652642

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

Jacqui Sparks 652069

Melvin Fooks 322459

100 Club Organisers

Ann Leathwood 652399

Sue Francis 653663

Easter Activities

Coming soon will be our Annual Children's' Easter Egg Hunt which this year will take place on Good Friday 10th April, setting off at 11am from the Anchor. A free egg for all who complete hunt and a large egg for the winner

At 8pm on Easter Sunday 12th April it's time for the adults to have a bit of fun with the Easter Quiz run by Shaun and Mary Ryall. Always a highly entertaining evening.



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.



Comwich Annual Cricket Match

The annual cricket match organised by the late Murray Lister, Kevin Hill and friends, has become a permanent fixture in the village calendar. After discussing this with Holly Lister, OPRA has offered to help with the organisation and make this a great fund raising opportunity for Murray's favourite charities. We would also like to name this the "Murray Lister Memorial Cricket Match" and provide a shield.

Watch out for further information in future editions of Otter Tales.

Walks

Why not join us on our monthly Sunday morning walks. They are always very friendly and never rushed (*though some of us like to get back to the Anchor for a late lunch*). We normally meet to share cars if we are walking away from the village. Watch out for the posters, or ask to join the OPRA emailing list.

OPRA 100 Club

Our 100 Club which raises the money to fund our activities in the parish will, by the 1st April have over 100 members who each participate in our weekly draw (drawn monthly). If you would like more information then come along to our AGM or contact a committee member above.



Otterhampton Primary School.

Spring term highlights

Head Teacher, Claire Luce



This half term seems to have gone so quickly yet we have crammed in so much to give our students the best opportunities to enhance their learning.

Each class has been busy learning skills and knowledge about different topics. Brook Class have been looking at 'Toys from the past'. They are looking forward to visiting Allerford Toy Museum after half term. River Class have been studying 'Deserts' and have linked this to their



art work. Bay Class are learning about the Anglo-Saxons. They visited the Glastonbury Rural life museum and took part in several Anglo-Saxon workshops.

In January we took a short ride to Rodway Farm in Cannington for lambing day. Brook, River and Bay classes were able to see newly born lambs and calves, and experience life on a farm.



Reception, Year 1 and 2 gymnasts took part in a competition at St Joseph's School and came a very admirable 3rd place. They are pictured sporting our brand new hoodies! These were purchased using some of our Sport Premium money.

The students continue to impress me with their excellent behaviour both in School and when they represent the school when we go on trips.



We are very excited to have some new playground markings completed by 'Inspired Playgrounds' and the Year 4/5s are looking forward to some leadership training after half term.

Our newly elected School Council met this week to discuss healthy eating, e-safety and how to be 'Eco monitors'. I am looking forward to implementing some of their ideas.

Three budding Year 6 writers had the opportunity to take part in a 'Writing workshop' on a Saturday at Wellington School.

The Friends of OPS held a Valentine's disco on Friday 14th and a great time was had by all.



After School Clubs are extremely popular at OPS and this half term we have offered art, singing, circuit training, mindfulness, homework and football clubs! These will run up to Easter.

Our new IT equipment (funded by the EDF Community Fund and OPS Friends) has gone down very well. The iPad and laptops are used daily in all subjects! Pictured they are being used in maths and in our lunchtime IT club.

Thank you to the students, parents and the community for your continued support.

JANUARY 2020

Our first meeting of the New Year was a hoot! We were lucky to have Jo Lang as a speaker. Jo is a physiotherapist at the Nuffield Hospital in Taunton who specialises in women's problems, anything below the belt and above the legs so to speak, I'm sure you get my drift! She spoke of things of which would be of interest to most of us and of things which many of us have encountered at one time or another, but all done with humour and compassion and we all agreed Jo was one of our best speakers both for her information and her personality.



We didn't have a Craft Club meeting in January as the date coincided with our Annual Dinner which we held once again at Blackmore Farm. Because of this we didn't have a Ladies Lunch either so our Dinner eclipsed both of these – (easy month for me). Our Blackmore Farm 'do' went down a treat with us all. Ann and Ian sure know how to feed people and the table was heaving with loads of fabulous food which we really enjoyed – a very happy occasion. Safe to say the evening ended too soon and we all agreed we could have stayed on far longer.



FEBRUARY 2020

We have now settled into the new year, well new decade really and this month we welcomed Gail Wainright who gave us a very interesting and informative talk and slideshow about her holiday in New Zealand, principally in Napier, a seaside city on the east side of the North Island. Napier was ravaged by an earthquake in 1931 and was rebuilt in an Art Deco style and Gail had taken lots of photos of these buildings which have attracted much tourism to the area.

This month we welcomed two new ladies (always a lovely occasion) from Combwich, Sandra and Elizabeth. Hope you enjoy our W.I. as much as I do, as when I moved to the area 3 years ago, it was a great way to make new friends and get involved instead of languishing at home not knowing anyone. One of our much loved ladies, Betty, had a big birthday this month, so we had a bit of birthday cake, and presented her with flowers and a card. It was lovely to share this occasion with her and Betty, how do you look so young and vibrant?

It was great to get back to our Craft Club on the first Monday of February in the Stockland Club. February is the Green Heart month for W.I. nationally, so we all made Green Hearts which demonstrate the W.I.'s commitment to "*showing the love for all things affected by Climate Change*". There were some very clever hearts displayed at the end of the afternoon. Next month we will be getting stuck in to our wall hanging that we started last year. This reflects our villages and we have all come up with ideas for different squares that capture Combwich, Stockland and the villages around. It will be spectacular once its finished.

For our first Ladies Lunch of the year we went to the Cottage Inn at Keenthorpe where we had the usual noisy, giggly time. The Cottage has recently been refurbished and proved to be an excellent venue for us in terms of hospitality, ambience and food. All so good that when we vetted them at the end of the afternoon, they came up as our top venue which is no mean feat as we are a choosy lot of girls. Joining your local W.I. will give you access to at least three great activities each month – the W.I. meeting, the Craft Club and the Ladies Lunch, so don't just sit at home, come along and have fun with good company. We're not Jam and Jerusalem at all, we're just friendly, fun, modern ladies and we welcome everyone, **so come on Combwich ladies, join our W.I. have lots of fun and enrich your life. Ring Anne 653192**

Robin Prowse - Profile



Born in Bovey Tracey, Devon in 1951, the family soon moved to Widecombe in the Moor and Robin attended the primary school there. His parents worked at a special school on Dartmoor and kept goats, mainly for health reasons, to provide the milk to deal (successfully) with Robin's childhood eczema. From the start the outdoor life appealed to Robin with Dartmoor as his playground there was plenty of scope for childhood adventure.

His father became a milk recorder for the Milk Marketing Board and Robin remembers sitting on the petrol tank of his dad's motor bike as he travelled around the local farms. No crash helmets in those days!

Robin enjoyed his primary school days which ended when he passed his 11-plus exam and went off as a boarder to Queen Elizabeth Grammar School in Crediton. The awareness of the sacrifice his parents made in paying for all the clothes and other kit, which cost two or three months wages has stayed with him, and he

regrets not working harder at his studies. He did well with his O levels but then became distracted and did not complete his A levels.

Dartmoor was his playground and as he grew into his teens, together with a few friends, bought old cars and motorbikes and raced them around the Dartmoor countryside carefully avoiding the local bobby.

On leaving school he came back to Widecombe in the Moor to work on a farm for a year, following this he secured employment on a 300-acre oak woodland estate owned by the Nature Conservancy Council (NCC) which later became English Nature. He gained experience and worked on several other estates in the South West. As his career developed, he found his working life divided roughly into three parts, forestry operations, teaching and organising displays, and scientific work. For a brief period, he was called back to Dartmoor to manage the conservation of the Large Blue Butterfly. Unfortunately, this was not successful, and they became extinct by 1979, although they have since been reintroduced.

By 1979 he was promoted to the role of site manager of Bridgwater Bay Nature Reserve and Shapwick Heath both with internationally important environmental and wildlife designations (more details of this can be drawn from Robins contribution to "Otterhampton Parish 2000" a history of the parish produced by Bill Johnson for the millennium). He also had responsibility for a number of other sites, including the Somerset Levels and the Avon Gorge.



He first lived in Stolford before moving into Dowells Farm, Steart, in 1985 from where he met his future wife Aly. Robin took early retirement in 2009, although he remains a voluntary warden with what is now Natural England. He devoted himself to a variety of DIY projects not least of which was the creation of a cider barn complete with a beautifully restored working cider press. The barn is resplendent with a huge display of cider making and agricultural/forestry tools and memorabilia.

The quality of Robin's (non-commercial) cider is well known locally, and often on a Friday night, when the Union flag flies over the barn, friends and neighbours can be seen imbibing and telling a tale.

Over the last couple of months, he has helped Aly indulge her passion for large Munsterlander dogs by successfully raising 13 puppies from their bitch Marta, who they took to Germany to mate with a German stud dog.

1st Combwich Brownies



The Brownie Guide Unit in Combwich meets every Monday evening during term time from 17.45 – 19.30 at Otterhampton Village Hall, welcoming girls from Combwich and a wealth of surrounding villages. Numbers have recently increased due to the recent closure of the Brownie unit at Nether Stowey. We do however still have some vacancies and would welcome girls rising 7 to 8 plus years old. At the moment we only have two girls who live in the village and would very much like to increase this number. Anyone interested is always welcome to come along for a taster session.

Girl Guiding has recently launched a very exciting new programme for all of its members from Rainbows to Rangers and the girls are thoroughly enjoying taking part in new, exciting and challenging activities and gaining new style badges at the same time.

We are also seeking an adult helper who would be willing to attend regularly to help us with our activities. At present we run with two adult leaders, a young leader and a parent helper on a rota basis.

For further information about joining Brownies or taking on the role of adult helper please contact Liz Brown 01278652687 or Karen Barton 652673. Alternatively for joining Brownies visit the girlguiding.co.uk and register your daughter to join 1st Combwich Brownies.



AED & CPR Workshops

Richard Navoy has kindly offered to run an AED & CPR workshops in the Village Hall.

There will be an opportunity to learn how to use an AED and how to perform CPR.

The aim is to share Richards' knowledge as a trained First Aider giving everyone in the Village the platform to help their own family and community.



30,000
Cardiac Arrests
a year
1 in 10 survive



CALL PUSH RESCUE
HELP CREATE A NATION OF LIFESAVERS

Public
Access
Defibrillator
Locations

Please contact Sue Barton on 01278 653531, or email her at bartonbs@btinternet.com to register your interest. Workshop dates to be arranged.
Automatic External Defibrillator **CardioPulmonary Resuscitation**



Delivering as Intended: Demonstration Wetland

Even before its completion, the role of WWT Steart Marshes reserve as a demonstration wetland was clear. Recognised as one of the best examples of design and engineering for wetland habitat creation, ongoing research is providing invaluable evidence of the multiple benefits to be realised from wetland restoration.

When the opportunity arises to talk to those who are able to make changes in policy, this evidence is key to bring about change in behaviours, policies and management practices. Many decision makers remain unaware of wetlands and WWT. We need to be strategic in our approach, taking them on a journey on which they become firstly interested, then motivated and finally act on our behalf.

On the 7th February, the Environment Minister: Rebecca Pow came to Steart Marshes to learn about how the site is delivering services that benefit people and wildlife. Walking onto the new flood bank and looking over the huge expanse of saltmarsh provided the ideal setting to



talk about the huge quantities of carbon research has shown Steart Marshes is locking away every year. Showcasing saltmarshes as vital weapons in the fight against climate change, storing carbon more efficiently than any other natural ecosystem.

(From left to right: Alys Laver, Site Manager; Rebecca Pow, Environment Minister; Kevin Perberdy, WWT Chief Operating Officer; and Tim McGrath, Senior Project Manager. Photo: WWT Tom Fewins)

We also talked about the value to improving commercially important fish stocks, such as sea bass found during research surveys. With the food theme continuing, we discussed the reserve's agricultural management plan as part of a viable farm business, providing opportunities for the production of high-end food products such as saltmarsh beef and lamb. The experience of managing both farm business and biodiversity conservation are being used to model longer-term sustainable adaptation to climate change.

With our 25 year vision where threats to wetlands globally have been addressed by people who have been influenced by WWT. With the global climate summit being held in November, and the current Government talking about the use of natural solutions. This timely visit can only add weight to our goals, striving for a future where people are taking an ecosystem services-based approach to managing land and water. Regardless of political persuasion, visits from key MP's enable us to advocate and realise an overarching vision of a world where healthy wetland nature thrives and enriches lives.

WWT Steart Marshes *continued*

Volunteering

This month we have celebrated the 6 year anniversary of practical volunteering at Steart Marshes, with tea and home-made cakes.

We have over 50 volunteers that help us with everything including: practical work, office work, surveys, visitor engagement, data entry and many other things.



A big thank you to all of our volunteers for all of your help and hard work!

Alice Beaney – Assistant Warden



Engagement

Not a pleasant subject, but I am afraid we have an increasing problem with dog fouling at the northern end of the site, particularly along the track by the pond at Wall Common. I was recently helping with a guided walk and we spent more time avoiding dog-mess than we did looking at the landscape.



We have made the decision to highlight the issue in this area of the reserve and will be speaking to the Sedgemoor dog warden.

Failing to pick up dog mess in a public place is an offence and a health hazard.

Nicole Turnbull – Engagement Officer

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions for the team we can be contacted on:

Alys Laver, Site Manager: 01278 651090 / 07717 505966 or email on alys.laver@wwt.org.uk

Nicole Turnbull, Engagement Officer: 01278 651090 / 07717 342061
nicole.turnbull@wwt.org.uk



OTTERHAMPTON VILLAGE HALL

News from the Otterhampton Village Hall Committee



THE PAST

THE PRESENT

THE FUTURE

UPDATE ON THE VILLAGE HALL REFURBISHMENT

We have had a slight delay with the submission of the grant application and the Business Plan to the OPPT Committee, Parish Council and then the EDF Community Fund. The application should be submitted very soon.

We may have an issue with the instalment of an accessibility ramp. We have been advised by a member of Somerset County Council that they will object to the planning application; they consider that cars parked near or adjacent to the proposed ramp may cause a problem for passing traffic and “worse case scenario a potential accident”.

Trustees consider that cars would not park near the ramp and will be asking Sedgemoor District Council officers for advice on the way forward with a planning application.

Thanks to everyone who came along to the brilliant Stoggymen concert on Saturday 22nd February. The Hall was packed and a great time had by all. The Stoggymen had to do 3 encores! Particular thanks to Lindsey who prepared the ploughman's and arranged the raffle; to Lin, Amber, Ollie and Sophie, Bruce, Sue, Geoff and Audrey for selling raffle tickets, arranging the Hall and clearing up. Also to Rob, Pete and Jane at the Comwich shop for agreeing to sell the tickets.

We made just under £400 profit from the ticket sales and the raffle and a proportion of this will go to the Stoggymen's charity The Calvert Trust, an activity centre on Exmoor for people with physical, learning, behavioural and sensory difficulties; a brilliant charity. The rest goes to the Village Hall refurbishment fund. Thanks to everyone who supported the event.



More news:

..... **Keep informed about events at the Village Hall and Harbour View Bar via the new Facebook**

page - Otterhampton Village Hall - with the OVH symbol.



Keep in touch, share photos and take part in forthcoming competitions.

.....**Watch out for the new Village Hall website which will be available very soon.** Information about the Hall, events, how to book a room and refurbishment updates will soon be available on line.

HARBOUR VIEW BAR



Harbour View Bar Committee is looking for up to 2 new members to join the team. They meet once a month and always looking for fresh ideas to increase membership and promote the venue. A positive attitude is a must!

If you would like to help either call Bruce Barton on 653531, put your name and contact details in the letter box (please mark for HVB), or drop in when the bar is open. We would love to see you.

The current Committee members are:

Steve Lang, Chair, Marie Beckley, Secretary, Rachel Ingram, Bev Lang, Corby Stansfield, Stuart Stansfield, Heath Bennett and Bruce Barton, Treasurer.

Continued over



A favourite tactic of rogue traders is to target vulnerable people at home offering services like driveway and paving repairs but charge far too much for a poor-quality or unfinished job or take the money up front and vanish without doing any work. They may also fail to give the customer paperwork, including a 14-day cooling-off period, that they are legally required to provide.

They may say they are working for the council or other authority and show identification cards to try to look legitimate. They may say they have leftover tarmac from resurfacing roads, but council or highways authorities would never offer leftover materials to the public.

Not all traders who cold call are rogue traders, but it's important to remember the golden rules:

- Never agree to work from someone you think might be a rogue trader.
- If you're not sure, don't open the door.
- If an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is.
- Use your door chain when opening the door to strangers.
- Properly check the identity of callers before opening the door.
- Keep doors and windows secure.

If you think a crime is being committed now or you are in danger, call the police on 999 immediately.

For non-emergencies, call the police on 101.

To report a problem with a trader and get advice, call Citizens Advice on 03454 040506.

If you want to have work done at home:

- Get three quotes from reputable businesses you trust.
- Ask friends or family for recommendations.

Use a scheme or association to find reliable businesses. For example:

Find local, trustworthy businesses through the Buy With Confidence scheme. All businesses in the scheme are vetted, approved and monitored by Trading Standards. Visit buywithconfidence.gov.uk or call 01392 383430.

Or use a member of an appropriate reputable trade association. Members must stick to their codes of practice. If a trader says they are a member of an association, check this is true.

Decide who to use in your own time.

Remember, if you agree to work in your home that will cost more than £42, you are legally entitled to a 14-day cooling-off period in which you can change your mind before the work starts. If you agree to the work starting within that time, you will be liable for any cost incurred by the business up until the point at which you cancel.

This article has been written by Devon, Somerset and Torbay Trading Standards Service <https://www.devonsomersettradingstandards.gov.uk/>

Harbour View Bar continued

Dates for your diary include:

- The monthly quiz takes place on the first **Saturday of each month** (unless advertised) 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.

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

The Bar is open Fridays and Saturdays from 7pm to midnight, Sundays between 2 and 6pm, and also some Mondays and Tuesdays for the Winter darts and skittles nights 7 till 12pm (if the lights are on and the door is open so is the bar so come on in!). Annual membership is now due at only £2.50 and new members are always welcome; £1 is charged for visitors so why not come along? The Bar has a fully stocked bar including Real Ale (on a handpump); a darts area and skittle alley are available for social events.

The Otterhampton Parish Newsletter and Website



Otter Tales

In Otter Tales we try to keep you informed of all that is going on in the parish and provide some light relief too. We hope you enjoy it. However, we only publish the newsletter every two months making it difficult to provide absolutely up-to-date information. But, there is a solution and it is available at the click of a button if you have a computer, or via the touch screen of a smart phone or tablet; I refer of course to our parish website www.combwich.org.uk.

It is full of useful information including a calendar of forthcoming events in the village hall and elsewhere in the parish. If you follow the LINKS (top right of the home screen) you will find information on leisure, culture, food and drink, police, health, school, young people and much more.

There is also a section devoted to the village hall, though this may change as they are setting up their own website, but it also contains lots of useful information.

OPRA is the next tab (who also own the website) which provides information about the charity, who is involved and what it does. There is also details our main fund raiser the 100 Club.

The parish council has its own section too with up-to-date information on meetings, agenda and minutes. Want to know how your money is spent – it is all there.

Go straight to our Community and Emergency Plans.

If what's happening at the Combwich Wharf and HPC is important to you, follow the "Major Projects" tab; scroll down further to the latest information on WWT Steart Marshes and the Combwich Ponds.

To be advised of new posts just add your email address and press "subscribe".

Finally, if you have any suggestions to improve the website, correction or just want more information, use the "Contact" tab at the bottom right of the home page to let us know



Do you recognise these pictures of old Combwich? Are you interested in the history of our community, if so, why not join the “Combwich, Steart & Otterhampton Memories” Facebook group



Thinking caps on. Can you identify the locations in these photographs



Welcome to Comwich

Our lovely “Welcome to Comwich” sign has fallen victim of the recent storms and is now waiting repair.

The sign was a millennium project, initiated by the parish council and involved the children in the village.

Unfortunately the sign was badly damaged and will need expert restoration. Another job for our ever busy parish council.

COMBWICH P.O. & STORES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Groceries• Off Licence• Cards & Stationery• Post Office	Family Business Established 20 Yrs
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Bridgwater (Saltlands) Recycling Centre

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

Opening hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 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



Combwich 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 - 9.30pm

Tel: Marcus 01278 652971

Otter Wheels

Your local car scheme always there for You

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

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 - but please try to give us 48 hours notice

This not-for-profit car scheme has been running around 3 years, with over 800 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	£4.25	£8.50
Bridgwater Town Centre	£3.50	£7.00



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, to register as a passenger and to book a journey

The success of the scheme means we need additional drivers. If you are interested please ring 07925 154216. Expenses are paid

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

2020	2020	
30 Jan	21 May	10 Sep
27 Feb	18 June	8 Oct
26 Mar	16 July	5 Nov
23 Apr	13 Aug	3 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 anything.

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 Pilates Gentle movement to music	9.30am - 10.30am 10.45am - 11.45am 12.15pm - 12.45pm	Contact Callystephens18@icloud.com Tel: 651215/07387287860
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

Wednesday 4th March	Combwich Wharf Drop-In EDF	2pm-3pm	Otterhampton Village Hall
Thursday 5th March 2020	Parish Council Meeting	7.00pm	Tea and biscuits provided
Thursday 5th March	Route 60+ Presentation Somerset Road Safety Team	10am - 1pm	Otterhampton Village Hall
Thursday 2nd April 2020	Parish Council Meeting		Tea and biscuits provided
Articles by 5th April 2020	Next Otter Tales		Distribution by week commencing 11th April

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.