

CASTLE CARY & ANSFORD

NEWSLETTER



The newsletter for Castle Cary and Ansford which invites reports on local events and activities.

We welcome articles from Castle Cary and Ansford groups and organisations. Please keep below 250 words.

If you include notice of local future events do give full and accurate dates and times.

Deadline for copy for next newsletter: Tuesday 16 April 2019

Distribution: 4-10 May 2019.

Email to deputy.town.clerk@castle-cary.co.uk or send to "Newsletter", The Market House, Market Place, Castle Cary BA7 7AH. We prefer copy by email, but don't worry if this is not possible for you.

CASTLE CARY TOWN COUNCIL

We would like to thank the shop owners for the wonderful, pretty, twinkly decorations they put up for Christmas. This year they were up for a bit longer and they cheered us all up making our lovely High Street even more attractive to visitors. Our (very cold) Horsepond and Market House decorations are managed by Councillors and friends. Julian Shave and his team put up the trees with lights supplied by the Town Council. The Big Christmas team is thanked elsewhere but Big Christmas deserves a big shout for being an outstanding event in our calendar with a huge commitment from the whole of our two communities and it is always enjoyed by everyone.

We ended last year with the excellent news that Castle Cary Town Council has achieved the Foundation level of the Local Council Award. 'To achieve a Foundation Award a Council demonstrates that it has the documentation and information in place for operating lawfully and according to standard practice. The Council also has policies for training Councillors and Officers and is building a foundation for improvement and development'. See our website for our policies and more information: <http://www.castle-cary.co.uk/policies-procedures/>

The panel commented particularly 'on the Council's impressive record of training which demonstrates a positive commitment to investing in people which should be commended'. Those of you who keep an eye on our strategic objectives will know that achieving this award is one of our objectives and we very much hope that, after the elections in May, we shall be able to submit our application for the next level. We have to wait to apply because we need to have

two-thirds of the Council membership who have stood for election. At present we have more than four Councillors who have been co-opted in the last four years.

That leads me to promote the elections for Town and Parish Councils which are on 2nd May along with District Council elections. We have not recently had a Town Council election and it would be a real achievement to encourage more people to stand for our Town and Parish Councils. There will be more information in the next few weeks but if you would like to stand, nominations are likely to open around 18th March. Castle Cary Town Council is independent of political influences, even though individual members may belong to a political party. We will be promoting opportunities for you to find out more through websites, Facebook pages and the Cary Crier. Watch this space, and of course anyone is very welcome to attend all our committee and Council meetings. The full Town and Parish Council meetings will particularly give you a flavour of how we work, as well as looking at websites. You are very welcome to email any of us or the Town Clerk for an appointment to find out more. Contact details are on the website.

Our newsletter is one of the ways for us to communicate with you all and the last one explained how to report broken pavements to Somerset County Council. We regularly report broken and dangerous ones but it is so much more effective if you report them as well. If you want to report a problem then call: 0300 123 2224 or email Somerset County Council on this link: <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-transport/problems-on-the-road/report-a-problem-with-street-and-roadworks/>

COUNCIL TAX, BUDGET, PRECEPT

The 2019/20 budget has been set at £169,140, partly funded with a release from reserves of £12,140 which means the precept for 2019/20 is £157,000.

This is an increase of 3% for a band D property, equating to 10p per week.

The additional expenditure provides funding for Fairfield maintenance, Millbrook Conversion project, Youth Building, Grant funding the Library, a Speed Indicator device, Tarmac repairs at the Cemetery & the Donald Pither Pavilion project.

Further information is available on the CCTC website, www.castle-cary.co.uk

You will receive a reference number which is useful to keep. When the Highways team comes to assess the condition of our pavements we will, if we can, accompany them to ensure they pick up all the issues reported to the Town Council.

Another way to communicate both ways is through our FaceBook site. We are all frantically 'liking' and 'sharing' pages to promote events such as our weekly market and the monthly vintage market. If liking and sharing is something that isn't a mystery to you then please can you help our town by doing it? There are also Instagram accounts for the Market House, Vintage Market and Shop Castle Cary. If "Insta's" your thing then do sign up to these as well. It's a whole

new world and you will also find many Castle Cary favourites on there.

As winter progresses, more people may be struggling to stretch budgets. Please be aware that there is a Foodbank available to our residents. Although it is based in Shepton Mallet anyone in our communities can access information from the Millbrook Surgery or any of the Churches. Further support can be obtained from the CAB on <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/help-if-on-a-low-income/using-a-food-bank/>

We all wish you a belated Happy New Year in our very strange times and let's hope that our communities continue to pull together to make 2019 a happy, healthy and successful year for all.

Judi Morison



CASTLE CARY TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk: Sue Hake

Email: town.clerk@castle-cary.co.uk

Tel: 01963 359631

Deputy Clerk: Claire Craner-Buckley

Email: deputy.town.clerk@castle-cary.co.uk

Tel: 01963 359631

Open: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10–12 noon
(appointments at other times)

Bookings and Promotions Manager:

Holly Callow. Email: markethouse.bookings@castle-cary.co.uk. Tel: 01963 351763

Open: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday mornings by appointment

Information Point: Volunteers

Email: tourism@castle-cary.co.uk

Tel: 01963 351763. Winter Opening:

Mon–Friday 9.30–12 noon, Sat 9.00–12 noon

Councillors:

Martin Atkins	Margaret Bebbington
Justin Birch	Hedge Burley
Robert Gilbey	Judi Morison (Chair)
Pek Peppin	Terry Philpott
Sally Snook	Penny Steiner
Nick Weeks	Barbara Williams

One vacancy

Full Council meetings are held on 3rd Monday of each month at 7 pm in the Market House
The Public are welcome to attend.

Planning Committee meetings are held on 1st Monday of each month at 6.30 pm in the Market House (apart from Bank Holidays)
The Public are welcome to attend

See website for dates of **Finance & Management; Properties & Infrastructure and Marketing & Communications Committee meetings.**

South Somerset District Councillors:

Mr Henry Hobhouse Tel: 01963 440272

Mr Nick Weeks Tel: 01963 350572

County Councillor:

Mr Mike Lewis Tel: 01935 851536

FAIRFIELD

I thought that I had written my last piece about Fairfield in the Winter newsletter but this was not to be. The field is still being used regularly by dog walkers, but other equipment is not used as much during these winter months, though keen cyclists are seen at weekends on the pump track.

The project group delivered the installation of the facilities and now we need a group of volunteers to continue to look after the field, The Fairfield Management Group. The work involved will include:

- Overseeing general maintenance of the field (which will be managed by the Council). This will include grass cutting, boundary repairs, equipment repairs etc.
- Ensuring that the pump track is well maintained.
- Ensuring that the Sensory Garden is weeded, watered and generally looked after.
- Installation of any new equipment.
- Promoting and coordinating the use of the field by organisations, companies and charities for community events and occasions
- Generating income by lettings, hiring, grants and fund-raising.

Interested? Then contact Sue Hake, Town Clerk, 01963 359631, town.clerk@castle-cary.co.uk and give her your contact details.

Also meet the Project team on site on Saturday 23 March when we will walk you around the site and explain more about the work – come prepared to do some light maintenance work!!

We look forward to seeing crowds on Fairfield on 23 March.

Castle Cary & Ansford

BIG CHRISTMAS

A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL

A huge thank you to the Big Christmas team, traders, shop keepers, entertainers, marshals, visitors, et al.

We are already working on the 2019 event so watch this space!!

ANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

At the time of producing this write up (early January) local Councils are busy attempting to agree their budgets for the next financial year. Ansford Parish Council is no exception, nor is Castle Cary Town Council. Over recent years Ansford Parish Council has worked hard to minimise unnecessary expenditure in order not to burden their residents with extra costs. With the expansion of both Ansford and Castle Cary with new developments on the outskirts, the requirement to provide good facilities for use by residents is becoming a major challenge. With this in mind both Ansford and Castle Cary Councils have been holding joint discussions on ways to share costs for those facilities which are used by residents of both parishes – eg play areas, public toilets, recreation fields etc.

By the time this newsletter is published (mid February) either we have experienced extreme winter weather or, based on last year, we are still to experience it. Ansford Parish Council has worked hard to ensure that there are adequate grit bins in the parish. Some new ones have been purchased and some old ones replaced. Fortunately the County Council backed down on their threat not to provide supplies of grit for this winter. It remains to be seen if supplies will be provided for next winter! Remember that only about 7g of salt is required per square metre to prevent ice forming. That's less than a tablespoon. It is not necessary to empty the complete grit bin.

ANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Mr C. Edwards – Chairman

Mr A. Gibbons – Vice Chairman

Mr N. Begg, Mr G Clothier, Mrs D Pinnions

Clerk: Gordon McCarthy – 01749 812225

email: ansford.clerk@yahoo.com, Address:

Taddywoody, Lamyatt, Somerset BA4 6NQ

Please contact the clerk to find out the dates of the next parish council meetings. You are more than welcome to attend all open meetings of the council – and to participate – there is a public open session on the agenda at all monthly meetings. Agendas can be seen (a minimum of three clear days in advance of meetings) on the village noticeboards around the parish at Woodforde Green, Lower Ansford and Ancastle and will also be on the Council website.

Website:

www.parish-council.com/ansford



Castle Cary Town Council Town Councillor Vacancy

Are you interested in your local community and how it is developed in the future?

Do you have concerns about what happens in your community and the surrounding area?

Are you interested in making sure that the best possible services are available and maintained for residents?

You can probably answer "yes" to at least one of these questions but have you ever considered becoming a Town Councillor?

All that is required is genuine desire to help the community and a commitment to attend Town Council meetings. Good quality training is available. To find out more about becoming a Town Councillor either talk to an existing Town Councillor and/or Town Clerk, or visit the National Association of Local Councils' website: www.nalc.gov.uk.

The Town Council is made up of a total of 13 Town Councillors. It serves an estimated population of 2000 people. Full Council Meetings are held every month on the third Monday evening at 7.00pm at the Market House with other Committee meetings held at 6.30pm. The Town Council is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the Market House and The Shambles, the Donald Pither Memorial Ground and Pavilion, the children's play area, the town's Cemetery and Chapel along with other smaller assets including the Millbrook Car Park toilet facilities, Fairfield and the Roundhouse. It also has to make sure that spending is kept within the agreed precept limit.

It is very important that the Town Council has its full complement of Town Councillors so that any decisions are made in a democratic way. The Town Council represents the opinions of residents in discussions with the district and county councils, especially decisions that concern the future development of the town.

If you are interested, please contact:

Mrs Susan Hake, Town Clerk
c/o The Market House, Castle Cary
tel: 01963 359631
or email: town.clerk@castle-cary.co.uk



ALL SAINTS' DEVELOPMENT FUND

Following the launch of the Fund with the Festival of Angels, during 2018 there have been a series of successful fundraising events. For example, to name just a few, on 16 June All Saints' hosted a charity art sale on behalf of Save the Children. The concert given by HMS Heron on 26 July raised over £1,100. Over £400 was raised through the serving of cream teas at St Andrew's during the event in September which saw the official opening of Fairfield. The Stanchester Quire concert on 30 November raised £140. On 6 December our stall at the Big Christmas raised £110 and finally, The Maesbury Singers Concert on 15 December raised £747.50. I am delighted to report that so far, through events and donations, over £10,000 has been raised.

However, now we are in 2019, the challenge to raise over £100,000 to fix the roof continues. So, with renewed impetus, the Steering Group is planning more events throughout this year. Publicity will appear around the town, on the Town's website page and Facebook. Thank you for all the support.

David Baldwin, Chairman.



BOWLS CLUB

As I sit writing this article it's mid January and the Club has slipped gently into Winter mode. However, unlike a family of hibernating hedgehogs it does not mean we can rest and relax. The Scouting organisation buzz phrase of "Be Prepared" now comes to mind for without a lot of hard work over the next two and a half months we would not be ready for the start of the season in mid April.

Due to benign weather with no snow, not much recent rain and few hard frosts our bowling green and grounds are looking fantastic, but who knows what the rest of winter and early spring will give us?

Our clubhouse also needs constant maintenance – kitchen and bar areas cleaned and restocked, changing rooms given a new lick of paint, carpet in need of a good clean etc, etc, etc – the list is endless!

But ready we will be with the help of our terrific club members who are willing volunteers.

We eagerly look forward to another sparkling and successful year. Some of us are very talented at this sport and others less so but we are all valued and enjoy our bowling at whatever level and the friendships it brings.

Why not visit our website for more information: www.castlecarybowlsclub.moonfruit.com.

Y.C.



CARNIVALS IN SOMERSET PROMOTION PROJECT

Carnivals in Somerset Promotion Project (CISPP) each year since 2010 has produced 20,000 leaflets to distribute to tourist information centres and other outlets, giving the dates, times and locations, including Castle Cary, of all illuminated carnivals, to attract more tourism to the West Country during the autumn period.

In 2018 most of the carnival towns had an increased volume of carnival spectators. Now CISPP has bought a satellite dish and for the third year will be streaming via the internet YouTube some of Somerset's largest carnivals. Nevertheless, going to see a real carnival is the best experience and CISPP therefore all the year round promotes all West Country carnivals –

particularly Cary's wonderful Children's Carnival which Ann Hallett created and her family carries on. Also our special family-friendly carnival with fewer floats but with good bands, majorettes and very special illuminated masqueraders, now including entries from Ansford Academy and Cary Primary School.

Gordon Stockman



CARY COMEDIANS CARNIVAL CLUB

This is Cary Comedians Carnival Club's 42nd year. Last year was the only time that the club was not able to compete with a float in carnivals. However, the club built, in nine weeks, a collection float and collected with it in Castle Cary and all later carnivals. This has enabled us to purchase ten new tyres which were needed and work has started already for this year's Comic Feature float. Many of you will know that the club has been a top Comic Feature club during those forty years, only beaten on many occasions by the Newmarket Club of Bridgwater in the County Circuit.

The club has recruited some new members and still needs more people to join. You can learn many skills and several older members with skills can pass on their knowledge to the younger generation in the hope that 'Cary Comedians' can survive for another 40 years. We are grateful to David and Helen Boyer, Maureen Higgins and many other patrons and we are always looking for sponsors, as it costs over £10,000 a year to run a carnival club with illuminated float. However, carnivals in Somerset raise over 40 million pounds each year for the Somerset economy and together Somerset carnivals raise over £100,000 for local charities and organizations.

Most people who spectate at carnivals look for floats despite the great performances of bands and majorettes and carnival masqueraders with or without props. Help us please to keep Cary's great Comic Feature float club going not only for our lovely family carnival but also for the Wessex GP carnivals and the Guy Fawkes county carnivals which are perhaps the best illuminated carnivals in the world!

Gordon Stockman



CASTLE CARY & ANSFORD CARNIVAL SOCIETY

Although our carnivals are some months away the carnival committee is already busy!

Earlier this month we had a great evening donating £2,000 from our carnival collections to 15 local charitable organisations. Carnival Society Treasurer, Jeannie Thanisch said, "People running these

organisations are just delighted to receive the donations – so a big thanks to the generous folks of Cary for making such a big difference to our community.”

It costs over £6,000 a year to put on our carnivals. This comes from a programme of fund-raising throughout the year. Watch out for more details of an exciting new afternoon’s entertainment at our Summer Carnival Fair in June – details coming soon! Other events will include an evening with a spiritual medium, coffee mornings outside the Market House ... and of course our ever-popular monthly Bingo.

On the first Wednesday of every month, it’s eyes-down for a great night out! It’s a very friendly evening, with great prizes. Held at Ansford Academy, doors are open from 6.30pm, for eyes-down at 7.30pm. Everyone welcome!

For latest news, visit our website: www.ccacs.org.uk, FaceBook page <https://www.facebook.com/CaryCarnivalSociety/> or contact Society Secretary, Caroline Sharley on carolinejsharley@gmail.com.



CARYFORD FITNESS – 1610

Active body. Active Mind.

Happy New Year to all our Customers.

2019 sees the launch of our brand new exercise timetable. We have introduced morning classes, plus additional evening classes. These include Yoga, Pilates, Zumba, Group Cycle and Legs, Bums & Tums.

Our Wellness Works programme continues to grow. If your doctor or health professional feels that physical activity can help with a health condition, they can refer you. You can also refer yourself to 1610’s Wellness Works Scheme if you have any existing medical or health condition, or even if you just need some extra support, guidance or motivation. Sessions are run by our co-ordinator Kate, and she can be contacted by calling the centre on 01963 350600. Kate’s working days are Monday and Wednesday.

We offer memberships and pay as you go options here at Caryford. So if you don’t want to tie yourself into any contract, you can simply pay as you go. Our classes, gym and badminton/table tennis all have this option.

Visit <https://www.1610.org.uk/centres/caryford-fitness-and-leisure/> or call us on 01963 350600. Alternatively you can find us behind Ansford Academy.



HELLO and WELCOME to our weekly

Tuesday Market !

We offer you all the following:

- Fresh Fruit and Veg and local organic too!
 - Meat from Bagnall Farm
 - Gluten free goodies from Stretties
 - Neal’s Yard Products
- Fleecy Hats, Fisherman smocks and more!
 - Fresh fish
 - Huge cheese range
 - Taylor’s Bread
 - Pop’s Thai Kitchen
 - Preserves and knitted goods
- Olives and Deli goodies REGULARLY on the 4th Tuesday of the month
- PLUS casuals from week to week, including Peruvian woollen goods for this season!

**Look forward to seeing you there
8.30 to 2.00pm at The Market House**

*Please LIKE and SHARE our Castle Cary Market
Facebook page.*

CARYFORD HALL

Many thanks to those of you who shop at the Co-op in town, and support local charities with the use of your membership card, because we were delighted to be given the amazing sum of £1,815.78 at a presentation before Christmas.

We are also very grateful to SSDC for a grant of £12,500, supporting our extension plans. Yarlinton Housing Group have also granted us £3,000, and Ansford Parish Council and Cary Town Council have given us a total of £2,710. These may all seem amazing sums, but as we are trying to raise a total of £500,000, we still have a long way to go. There are many more events planned over the coming weeks and months to raise the remainder, alongside which a number of grants are being sought.

Our annual lecture will be held on March 2nd, with another fascinating talk from Commander Philip Unwin – this time focussing on the SS Great Eastern; tickets will be available from the bookshop and the Town Hall as usual, and will be £12 (or £13 at the door). A bar will be available before the talk, as well as a selection of canapés.

Another interesting event will be an Auction of Promises – Monday May 6th – something special to watch out for.

On 30th June 2019, the Hall will be celebrating its Silver Jubilee! An amazing achievement and we are planning a celebration event with free entry – watch out for details nearer the time.

Rosemary Rymer, 01963 351057

CASTLE CARY CHOIR

It will be another busy year for Castle Cary choir, who are practising lots of new pieces for their upcoming concerts. The concerts always provide a good evening of entertainment as the programme includes a wide variety of music, so there really is something for everyone.

Details are still being finalised, but here are the dates for your diary:

Friday 24th May –

Methodist Church, Castle Cary

Friday 7th June –

Church of All Saints, Kingweston

Friday 28th June –

Parish Church, Street

If you would like us to help you to raise money for your Church or favourite charity please get in touch. To find out more about fundraising, future events and to join the choir, please call John Roberts on 07970 039007 or check out our [website at www.castlecarychoir.org](http://www.castlecarychoir.org).

We hope you can join us!

* * * * *

CARY AMATEUR THEATRICAL SOCIETY (CATS)

February production – “Sweet Charity”

From Wednesday 20th to Saturday 23rd February, CATS brings you the well-loved musical, ‘Sweet Charity’.

Charity Hope Valentine always tries to look on the bright side of life, despite working in a rundown dance hall and contending with a seemingly endless run of bad dates. Determined to find love, Charity falls for suave actor Vittorio Vidal, but their romance is all too brief. However, when Charity finds herself stuck in an elevator with the reserved Oscar Lindquist, it turns out that she may have finally met her match...

Set in New York in the 1960s and featuring well known musical hits such as ‘Big Spender’ and ‘Rhythm of Life’, ‘Sweet Charity’ is a fun, fast paced musical guaranteed to give audiences a really enjoyable night’s entertainment. The show runs from Wednesday 20th to Saturday 23rd February 2019 at Ansford Academy, Castle Cary, starting each evening at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £10, available online at www.thelittleboxoffice.com/cats or from ‘Needful Things’, Castle Cary.

We hope to see you there and promise you won’t be disappointed.

* * * * *

CHRISTIAN AID

Christian Aid works across the world. In Africa our work includes strengthening peace-building in South Sudan and promoting resilient farming in Kenya. In Asia, we help promote women’s rights in Afghanistan and rebuild lives after the Philippines typhoon. In Latin America and the Caribbean, we help promote gender justice in Brazil and support marginalised communities as they struggle to earn a living in El Salvador. In the Middle East our work includes defending people’s rights in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory, protecting women at risk of violence in Iraq and providing humanitarian assistance to refugees in Lebanon.

Those are ongoing projects. Christian Aid also helps in emergencies. After the Tsunami struck Indonesia in December Christian Aid was immediately working with its sister organisation there to bring relief. From Castle Cary and Ansford we were able to send over £650 collected in church services at Christmas to help with this.

12th to 18th May is Christian Aid week, our annual big national fundraiser. In Castle Cary we will be holding a Coffee Morning in the Market House on Saturday 11th May and during the week delivering envelopes to every house in the town. These can then be left at various drop-off points. We will finish the week with a united service at All Saints’ Church on Sunday 19th May.

Please support these events and if you can help, please let me know on 01963 351275 or drosborne2@btinternet.com. To find out more about Christian Aid go to www.christianaid.org.uk.

David Osborne

THE MARKET HOUSE CASTLE CARY



*Are you organising a party? An important meeting?
An exhibition? Your wedding?!*

THE MARKET HOUSE IS AVAILABLE TO HIRE

Using these simple steps:

- 1) Get in contact or pop in to reserve a date
 - 2) Complete and return our booking form
 - 3) Sign the booking confirmation
- And voila! the booking is yours!

**The Market House, Market Place, Castle Cary BA7
7AH. Tel: 01963 351763**

Email: markethouse.bookings@castle-cary.co.uk

CHURCHES TOGETHER in CASTLE CARY and ANSFORD

Thanks to many people's generosity, we were able to give approximately 210 mince pies to visitors at the Big Christmas. Following the Carol Service, in All Saints' in 2018, mulled wine and mince pies were shared, and £270 from donations, was sent to UNICEF UK to help the Syrian, Yemen Appeal.

We joined the Christmas Tree Festival, at the Methodist Church, our tree showing the symbol for Churches Together, pictures of the Churches, and the Charities we have supported in recent years.

At the Crib Service, on 22nd December, Canon Fisher blessed the crib figures, and, in sunshine, we were able to share the service on the cobbled area at the Market House. We are grateful to Canon Fisher for designing the picture for the Christmas Services Christmas card.

In the New Year we prepare for the week of prayer for Christian Unity, and the Churches' Season of Lent; our Lent appeal in 2019 will assist a Leprosy Charity. The Appeal will be launched at a joint Service, in the Methodist Church, on Sunday 3rd March 2019.

V. Chainey for Churches Together.



CINEMA IN CARYFORD

We continue our 2019 season with The Little Stranger on February 26th, The Guardians (French with sub titles) on March 12, First Man on March 26th, and A Star is Born on April 30th. Tickets as usual from the Market House or on the door.

We do aim to give our profits to local groups. So if your group has a need/aim, please get in touch.



EAT:CASTLE CARY

Hold the date – we are really pleased to be welcoming our first free food and drink festival to town on Saturday 4 May.

Stretching from Ansford Road/High Street, down the High Street and Fore Street to The Horsepond – plus in Bailey Hill and in the Market House you can expect a feast for the senses!

There will be some of the very best local producers, fresh street food and family entertainment. We are expecting around 75 producers. There will also be demos, cook school and masterclasses – all free of charge.

The event is been designed to showcase Castle Cary businesses and community groups.

Are you a member of a local community group who wants to raise their profile, engage with new people and be a part of a fresh event?

Could your business use a different footfall or test a new way to market itself? Are you looking for a creative partnership opportunity?

Is being part of a new festival, focused on food and drink, your idea of heaven?

Then talk to the organisers... Email Bev & Sarah at hello@eatfestivals.org, call Sarah on 07771 665445 or get in touch via social media (@eatfestivals on Twitter @eatcastlecary on Facebook).



SAVE THE DATE
Saturday 4 May 2019
9.00 – 16.00
Castle Cary Town Centre

A free to attend one day locally focused food and drink festival
Fresh Local Market
Some of the best local producers, fresh street food and family entertainment
Meet the makers
Showcasing Castle Cary businesses & Community Groups
Workshops, classes and demos
Tel 07771 665445
Email hello@eatfestivals.org
www.eatfestivals.org



FOLK (or any other) MUSIC

... once a month at the George Hotel

Every second Sunday of the month (8 pm start) we have an informal 'unplugged' musical session at The George, where all musicians and aspiring musicians are most welcome to join us. The format is 'round-the-room', where everyone has an opportunity to do something musical (all instruments welcome) or maybe read a poem. For more information ring John on 07746 605523.

John Anderson



CASTLE CARY FOOTBALL CLUB

The Football Club was formed in 1894 and was known as the "Non-Cons" owing to its association with the Congregational and Wesleyan Sunday school. This year, 2019, we are celebrating 125 years since the club was formed.

Still playing at the Donald Pither Memorial Ground, the club has grown in size over the years.

Currently the club runs seven youth teams: Under 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 16. All play in the Yeovil League. For the men's teams, Castle Cary Reserves play in the Premier Division of the Yeovil League, the first team play in Division Two of the Somerset County League. We also run an Over-35 team.

We are a very friendly club run by a very supportive committee. Our beliefs are to have fun and enjoy the game. If anyone would like to join the club or perhaps sponsor a team please get in touch with Brian on 07968 034929. Throughout 2019 the club will be hosting several events. Please come along – all welcome.



GREENER CARY

We face a crisis. Plastic pollution, climate change, poor air quality and shortage of landfill sites are just part of the problem. Lots of people want to do something, but don't think they can. Many of them live in this town.

On 14th March at 7.30pm we are holding a meeting in the Shambles at the Market House for organisations, businesses and individuals wanting to make Castle Cary greener. We can't solve the global problem, but we can improve our bit of the world, and have an impact for good elsewhere.

Just a few possibilities: we can reduce the amount of carbon we emit by improving our transport system to rely less on vans, cars and trucks; shops can stock goods transported shorter distances; we can eat food which has less impact on the environment; we can develop our local entertainment so there is less need to travel. You no doubt have lots of other ideas.

At the meeting on 14th March we will identify how local individuals and groups already make the Castle Cary area greener, gather ideas for another Green Fair on 14th September, and think of what we can do long term.

If you're concerned to make Cary greener, come to the meeting and encourage others too. We can do a lot, and we can do more together than as individuals.

For further information contact David Osborne, Greener Cary, drosborne2@btinternet.com, 01963 351275.

You'll find Greener Cary on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/greenercary>



CARY HISTORY SOCIETY

Cary History Society presents a talk by Myc Riggulsford on 'Common Ground: Somerset & the 800th Anniversary of the Forest Charter', on Sunday 10th March at 4pm (doors open 3.30pm) at Caryford Community Hall. Tickets £5 on the door, or

from Bailey Hill Bookshop. Profits go to Castle Cary Museum.

Discover why this ancient charter is still relevant to us in Somerset today – from foraging for food and collecting firewood on land you don't own to why your electricity bill might be illegal. Join science and environment journalist – and former Pilton resident – Myc Riggulsford for a bit of history, comedy and some RADICAL thinking.

If you would like to keep up to date with events and outings organised by Cary History Society, why not add your name to their mailing list? Email caryhistsoc@gmail.com for more details.



CASTLE CARY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

I have already told you in previous newsletters that many volunteers have come forward to offer to take their turn at staffing the library desk, and now at last their training has started. We take over the library on 1st April which is disconcertingly soon, but are assured that for our first week of operation we will have professional library staff to help and guide us.

But as well as this fantastic team of "Desk Volunteers", other people have offered help with the Home Loan service, with the story telling sessions and children's activities, with computer training for new users of smart phones and tablets, with publicity and a website. A large number have been less specific, simply offering to help with fundraising events. Our next step is to set up a "Friends" committee to act as an umbrella for all these support activities.

We have several events scheduled, so now we urgently need a Friends committee to find organisers.

- Sat 9th March **Reg Meuross** at the Market House singing a selection of his amazing songs – tickets £12 in advance from the Market House. Hosted by Caryford Music Productions, net profit to the Library Project.
- Sat 23rd March **Coffee Morning**. Good coffee. Imaginative theme needed.
- Tuesday 21st May. Promoting the library at the **Annual Town Meeting**.

And more – authors' events, book quizzes etc – your ideas wanted.

Email fcccl@gmail.com explaining your particular interest. We promise you an interesting and enjoyable time.



LIVING HISTORY GROUP

After twenty-two years the Castle Cary and Ansford Living History Group has run its course and wound up.

In accordance with its constitution all the assets

have been offered to, and subsequently accepted by, the Castle Cary and District Museum and Preservation Society.

A *HUGE THANK YOU* goes to the local community for all the support given over the years in so many ways and which enabled us to stage exhibitions and produce four quality publications which will still be available from Bailey Hill bookshop, the Post Office and the Museum.

Valerie Nicholls, Founder Member



MACMILLAN

The Castle Cary Macmillan Committee is really looking forward to another successful year of fundraising. We had two fabulous collections before Christmas – we raised £590 at Wincanton Races and £611 at Morrisons. Thank you to everyone who stood in the cold with the collection tins and of course to everyone who donated – we couldn't do it without you.

We have lots of exciting fundraising ideas for 2019 so we hope you will be able to join us. We are planning another swishing evening, a Sunday Brunch, and of course the collections at various supermarkets, plant sales and Bath & West events. The next fun evening is the Macmillan Big Quiz so please look out for the posters around town or phone Cas Sandy on 01963 359165 if you would like to put up a team – there may still be some places left.

You will also see around the town the green Macmillan collecting pots. These are kindly placed in the doctors' surgery and the local shops and pubs. They really help to boost the collection totals so thank you to everyone who puts in their small change – we are always grateful for anything you can donate.

Macmillan Cancer Support is such a worthwhile cause so if you would like to find out more or get involved please call Janet Loe on 07714 030813.



METHODIST CHURCH

It was great to see so many people visiting our Christmas Tree festival including all the children from the primary school. Many thanks to all those who decorated trees and who visited us.

We continue to worship every Sunday at 10.30am and 6.30pm. We have junior church during morning worship and about once a month we have all-age worship. We have recently upgraded our sound system and we continue to raise money to install a more suitable lift in our building. Do join us whenever you are able.

Our schoolroom is available for hire – please contact Patricia Fuller 01963 351635.

MACMILLAN HELP ABOUT

Presents an Evening with

DR. SAM GUGLANI

APRIL 11th, 7 – 9:00 pm

THE MARKET HOUSE, CASTLE CARY BA7 7AH

This is a special opportunity to hear Oncology Consultant and author, Dr Sam Guglani who will be speaking about why human relationships are as central to the practice of medicine as are science and technology – and how sometimes storytelling can help us understand this.

Sam chairs the Gloucestershire Hospital Trust's law and ethics group, and holds Master's degrees in Ethics and Creative Writing. He is the Founder and Director of Medicine Unboxed, which utilizes the arts and creative industries to bring different perspectives to medicine. He is also a published poet and contributor to The Lancet. His debut novel, *Histories*, (available from the Bailey Hill Bookshop) was published in 2017.

This event is free, but numbers are restricted, so tickets are essential and can be collected from March onwards at the Bailey Hill Bookshop.

Refreshments will be provided.

Regular events

Homegroups on Monday morning or afternoon or Thursday evening;

Toddlers meets in the schoolroom – Tues 10am – for all preschoolers and their carers;

Coffee for All in the schoolroom Wednesdays 9.30 till 12 – pop along for coffee, cake, chat and more!

Check out our website at <http://www.carymethodists.org> or find us on Facebook – Castle Cary Methodist Church.



CARY RAMBLERS GROUP

Shorter days in late October made a local ramble a sensible choice. Our walk started at Evercreech strolling across the Somerset countryside bringing us to Milton Bridge to admire a charming knot garden and probably the only church in the middle of a working farmyard. At Spargrove we took in a dry moated farmhouse before walking along the delightful Batcombe Bottom. We returned to Evercreech via Higher Allam and Chesterblade. A beautiful warm and sunny Autumn day.

Our ramble early November was cancelled due to poor weather.

In late November our circular ramble was around Fonthill Estate (Wiltshire). Starting from the Beckford Arms across the fields to the hamlet of Fonthill Gifford we then climbed a chalk ridge before

descending to Berwick St Leonard and its ancient church, where we stopped for lunch, accompanied by a local cockerel crowing noisily! We then walked across the fields to Fonthill Bishop and followed a bridleway to the small settlement of Ridge. We descended again to the valley and followed the lake shore before returning to our cars.

Our final walk of the year began and concluded at Stratton-on-the-Fosse but it was cut short due to heavy rain during the second half. Our spirits were lifted when we enjoyed tea, mulled wine, mince pies and stollen in the warm and dry!

We meet at lower Millbrook Gardens car park on alternate Wednesdays and leave promptly at 09.30. For more information contact Anne Pitt on 01963 359621.

SSCAT Bus Ring and Ride

Serving the surrounding towns and villages of Wincanton, it's available to people of all ages who, for one reason or another are unable to access service buses. Available for picking you up and dropping you off at your door.

You pay a membership fee of £10 (renewable when your bus pass is renewed) followed by zone related fares when travelling on the bus. Bus passes will give you a 50% reduction in fare if travelling after 9.30 am.

As a charity we are always looking for sponsorship or donations to enable the service to continue. If you feel you maybe able to contribute, please contact us on the number below.

**To book or for more information
please ring
01963 33864**



CARY RUNNERS

Cary Runners is an informal group of “runners” with the aim of supporting and helping each other with our running. We range in fitness levels from very gentle joggers to serious competitive runners. We meet every Monday at 18h30; until the clocks change at the end of March outside the George Hotel and then from April to October at Orchard Farm, Cockhill.

We usually divide into groups; some enjoy a relaxed social jog, while others prefer a more taxing run. These runs range from about 4 to 10 km (3 – 6 miles). We also meet at other times during the week for more strenuous runs. If you're training for a race, join us – some of us will probably be training for the same race. Whether you are a seasoned runner or a beginner, and regardless of your level of fitness, you'll find running much easier when you have others to encourage you. If you would like to join us either turn up at 18h30 on a Monday evening or call Dave Boyer

(01963 350418 / 07903 276315) or Dan Patrick at the George Hotel (07966 224261 / 01963 350761) for more information. You can also get details of our runs on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/caryrunners/



1st CASTLE CARY SCOUT GROUP

The 1st Castle Cary Scout Group is pleased to announce that the improvement works carried out at their Scout Halls are now complete and would like to thank Viridor Credits Environmental Company for funding this work via The Landfill Communities Fund. We would also like to thank those organisations and individuals within our community who supported us with our grant application.

2019 marks 100 years of Scouting within Castle Cary and our new facilities will ensure that young people involved with Scouting will meet in a safe and modern environment as we progress through the coming years.

To celebrate the modernisation of our Halls, a Service will be held at All Saints' Church on Sunday 24th February 2019 at 2.30pm. This will be followed by the official opening and refreshments in our newly refurbished Halls.

All members of the community are invited to join us and if you would like to attend please contact Roy on 01963 351025 or e-mail 1stcastle Caryscouts@gmail.com



SOMERSET WILDLIFE

The Somerset Wildlife Trust's Spring programme of illustrated wildlife talks on the first Tuesday of the month at Caryford Hall, begins on 5th March with a talk by Colin Varndell about 'The Hedgehog Predicament'. Colin will talk about the ecology of the hedgehog, its diet, and dangers that hedgehogs face in our modern world. His presentation also suggests how we can help hedgehogs survive in our gardens, and the general urban habitat they now seem to prefer.

On 2nd April, Steve Mews of the Somerset Wildlife Trust will give a talk about the likely impact of climate change on Somerset's wildlife. He will also tell us what the Trust is doing, as well as giving us ideas of what all of us can do to help wildlife face this greatest of challenges.

The final talk of our 2018-19 programme is on 7th May 'India – More Than Just Tigers' by Philip Mugridge. India is well known for its tigers, and Philip will show these magnificent predators in his illustrated talk. He will also show the less well known wildlife from his travels around India, such as mass gatherings of cranes, asiatic lions, antelopes, and of course the Taj Mahal.

All talks begin at 8pm, tea and coffee is served from 7.30pm. Entrance £3 per adult, children free. Caryford Hall is fully accessible.

The Somerset Wildlife Trust's Annual Plant Sale will take place this year on the morning of Saturday 4th May as part of the Eat Cary Festival in the Market Place. Any donation of (edible) plants would be gratefully received. Please contact Caroline Rathbone on 01749 812127 or carolinerathbone@btinternet.com.

* * * * *

TOOLS FOR SELF RELIANCE

The Cary group of Tools for Self-Reliance meets every term-time Tuesday in the D & T building at Ansford Academy to restore and repair a variety of tools. We are always happy to welcome new members, so whether or not you have any restoration expertise please consider calling in to see what we get up to.

We are currently trying to source a number of specialist tools for self-help projects in Africa. We would be very happy to hear from Newsletter readers who have any items on the following list to donate: angle grinders, cobblers' awls, foot pumps, jig saws, multimeters, lasting pliers, leatherwork scissors, scissors medium and large, skiving knives, slipstones, carpenters' vice, piston ring compressors, welding clamps and gloves.

We also welcome all sorts of other items, including garden tools and hand sewing machines, so if in doubt, please DON'T throw it out but let us have your unwanted tools and let us decide how they can best be put to good use. Amon on 01749 813239 can collect.

Our next sale in the Market House will be on Saturday 16th March where we will again be selling a wide variety of good quality refurbished tools, so look out for us there.

* * * * *

WALKS & TALKS

"A pleasant walk, a pleasant talk"

Do join us on our gentle health walks on the first and third Thursday of the month. We leave the Market House promptly at 2pm, walk not more than one and a half miles along pavements and footpaths, returning to the Market House at about 3pm for a welcome cup of tea. We don't rush, but we keep a steady pace, and we enjoy our conversation.

Wrap up warm and put on a pair of comfortable shoes, and come with us!

- 7 February and 21 February
- 7 March and 21 March
- 4 April and 18 April
- 2 May and 9 May

Ring Laura beforehand on 351461 or just come along.

NB If we had more leaders, we could run more walks with a range of speed and distance – do get in touch if you would like to help.

* * * * *

ZAMBIA MATTERS

The Cary Mufulira Community Partnership Trust (CMCPT) holds its AGM on Tuesday 12 February at Caryford Hall. All are welcome to attend. We gather at 6.30pm for coffee, with the business meeting taking place at 7pm sharp. After that there will be short presentations showing the very wide range of activities in which the Trust is involved.

Back in the 1990s the Trust focussed on the link between Ansford Academy and Mufulira Secondary School in the Zambian Copperbelt region. Since then the Trust has inspired other individuals and organisations to become involved – three Rotary Clubs (Yeovil, Yeovale and now Brue Valley) have partnered with Mufulira Rotary Club resulting in projects helping Mufulira's appallingly resourced hospitals and schools; a number of primary schools in Mufulira have links with primary schools in our area – Bruton and Wincanton Primary Schools are particularly active, with reciprocal teacher visits on a regular basis. Inspired by CMCPT, the Minor Metals Trading Association (MMTA) is now funding elective placements from UK to Mufulira Hospitals.

IntroZambia visits to Mufulira continue, organised by Laura Tilling and Steve Curtis. These visits strongly support CMCPT and its activities. Steve himself has recently caused the installation of a donated ultrasound machine in Kamuchanga Hospital and supported the rehabilitation of the hospital's water system. Anthony Lipmann of MMTA, inspired through involvement with CMCPT and his visits with IntroZambia, has taken up with Mopani Copper Mine the issues of pollution from the Mufulira smelter.

Do come and hear all about it.

[Laura Tilling \(tillinglaura@gmail.com\)](mailto:tillinglaura@gmail.com)

* * * * *

Castle Cary

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

which ran from 27 October – 10 November 2018

I would like to thank all those who kindly supported us in this Appeal, and all the many collectors who stood with their collection box, sometimes in dreadful conditions, to help us achieve the fantastic amount of £7,400 – over £2,000 more than in 2017.

Thank you everybody.

Poppy Appeal Organizer TDC04 Area

LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

- ACF, Castle Cary Platoon – 01963 240382
Action for Children – 01963 351554
Alcoholics Anonymous – 0800 917 7650
All Saints' & St Andrew's Churches – 01963 351615
Alzheimer's Society – 01458 251541
Ansford Parish Council – 01749 812225
Ansford Academy – 01963 350895
ATC 2277 (Cary & District) Squadron – 07717 683404
Bellringing – 01963 350002
Bible Study Group – 01749 860571
Britannia Carnival Club – 07855 497263
British Heart Foundation – 01963 350022
Camelot Rounders – 07969 233760
Care4Cary – 07803 855208
Cary Allotments – 01963 350917
Cary Amateur Theatrical Society (CATS) – 07715 510359
Cary Business Network – 01963 350600
Cary Comedians Carnival Club – 01963 440472
Cary Conservative Association – 01963 350977
Cary History Society – caryhistsoc@gmail.com
Cary Reels – 01963 350276
Cary Runners – 01963 350418
Caryford Community Hall – 01963 351324
Caryford Fitness & Leisure – 01963 350600
Caryford Short Mat Bowls – 01963 359069
Carymarsh Nature Reserve – 01963 350418
Carymoor Environmental Centre – 01963 350143
Castle Cary & Ansford Carnival Society – 07711 266969
Castle Cary & Ansford Women's Institute –
07402 765932
Castle Cary Bowls Club – 01963 359573
Castle Cary Bridge Club – 01935 850122
Castle Cary Ceramics Group – 01460 54117
Castle Cary Children's Centre – 01935 475938
Castle Cary Choir – 01749 830293
Castle Cary Cricket Club – 01963 350841
Castle Cary Football Club – 01963 350587
Castle Cary Gardening Association – 01963 350618
Castle Cary Majorettes (Cygnetts) – 01963 350603
Castle Cary Out of School Club (The Hive) – 07496 348233
Castle Cary Primary School – 01963 350520
Castle Cary Railway Club – 01749 860571
Castle Cary Rainbows – 01963 350004
Castle Cary Ramblers – 01963 359621
Castle Cary Rugby Club – 01963 351178
Castle Cary Town Council – 01963 359631
Castle Cary Town Museum – 01963 350680
Castle Cary Twinning Association – 01963 31619
Christian Aid – 01963 351275
Churches Together – 01963 351275
Cinema in Caryford – 01963 350132
Decorative and Fine Arts Society – 01963 350132
EatCary – 01963 351461
Fair Trade Group – 01963 350629
Friends of Cary 2000 – 07803 855208
Friends of Cemetery Chapel – 01963 351220
Guide Dogs for the Blind – 01963 350182
Judo Club – 01749 890308
Liberal Democrats – 01963 350570
Macmillan Cancer Support – 01963 351112
Market House Dance Studio – 07805 571590
Martial Arts – 07738 599670
Messy Church – 01963 351615
Methodist Church – 01963 351598
Methodist Church lettings – 01963 351635
Mid-Somerset Flower Club – 01963 351811
Millbrook Surgery Friends Group – 01963 350210
Moat Garden Project – 01963 350899
Monday Club – 01963 350931
Mothers' Union – 01963 350621
National Blood Transfusion – 01963 350279
Parson Woodforde Society – www.parsonwoodforde.org.uk
Plastic Wise – plasticwisecastlecary@gmail.com
Red Cross – 01963 350830
RoadPeace – 01963 359044
Rogue mma – 07738 599670
Rotary Club (Brue Valley) – 07767 488719
Royal British Legion – 01963 351154
Save the Children Shop – 01963 351681
St Margaret's Hospice – 0845 070 8910
Scouts/Cubs/Beavers – 07773 515511
Somerset Beekeepers Association – 07855 899257
Somerset Wildlife Trust (SE Area) – 01749 812127
South Somerset Community Accessible Transport –
01963 34594
Table Tennis Club – 01963 351571
Taekwon-Do Club – 07759 405601
Tiddlywinks – 01963 350341
Together Magazine – 01963 350627
Tools for Self Reliance – 01749 813239
Tourist Information Group – 01963 351763
Toybox Pre-school – 01963 359600
U3A Camelot Area – 01963 33444 & 01963 351269
Use Less Share More Group – 01963 351461
Women's Friendly Hour – 01963 350510
Workers' Education Association (WEA) – 01749 860352
Youth Matters – 01963 350160
Zambia Links (CMCPT) – 01963 351461