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a magazine for the villages around Ham Hill



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Contents.

- | | | | |
|------------------|-----|-------------------|----|
| ● The Wall | 6-7 | ● Ham Hill Update | 20 |
| ● Grow to Eat | 12 | ● CADAS | 26 |
| ● The David Hall | 15 | ● Answers | 28 |
| ● It's a Puzzle | 17 | ● Where To Look | 30 |

Please support our local businesses as much as you are able.

Please note that all the information within these pages is correct at the time of going to print.

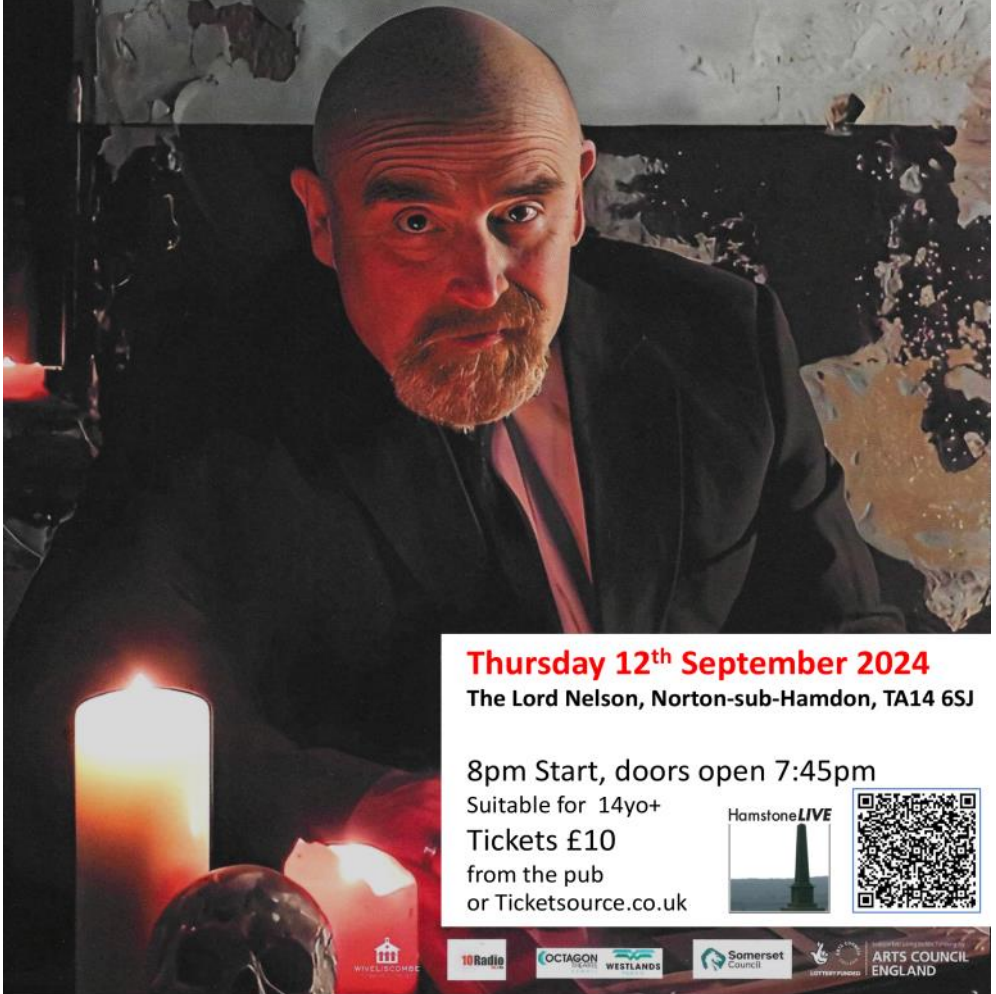
Copy deadline for the October issue is Friday 13th September

VIC LLEWELLYN presents

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*A Thrilling Play about Ghosts,
Memory Loss, and Feeling the Fear!*



Thursday 12th September 2024

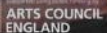
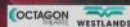
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hlefeuvre@hotmail.co.uk. Free first class trial, £43 for 6 weeks, or £8.50 pay-as-you-go thereafter.

NO ONE is Listening (A ghost story).

Thursday 12th September 8pm

HamstoneLive brings a thrilling play, written and performed by master storyteller Vic Llewellyn, join us for this joyful, funny, and heartbreaking ride. Tickets £10 , more details on page 4.

WEST AND MIDDLE CHINNOCK WOMEN'S INSTITUTE Formed 1949

Think the WI is all just "Jam and Jerusalem"?

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If you would be interested in joining us please contact either:

Lyn – 01935 881138

e: lyn@threeways.me.uk

Sue – 01935 882665

e: sue.everest@sky.com

You will be sure to receive the friendliest of welcomes.

Meetings are held in West & Middle Chinnock Village Hall on the third Thursday of the month at 6.45pm

Stoke sub Hamdon Gardening Club Wednesday 25th September

Our first meeting of the Autumn promises to give us some insights into one of the most prestigious of Dorset's stately homes.

Andrew Hunt will be speaking on "Kingston Lacey Through the Ages". This lavish family home, re-imagined as a Venetian Palace, boasts a classic English garden with fernery, herbaceous borders, formal parterre and kitchen garden, surrounded by Japanese-inspired planting and colourful woodland.

Free refreshments; plant sales; raffle.

Visitors very welcome.

The Memorial Hall, Stoke-sub-Hamdon.
7.15 for 7.30 p.m.

Martock Church Concert:

The Barnstaple Male Voice Choir

Saturday **21st September 2024**

All Saints Church, MARTOCK; TA12 6JN

Time: 7:30 pm

Tickets: £10.00

at **Guardianstickets@gmail.com**

07547 213992/Martock Gallery/ Martock Newsagent (**CASH ONLY**); £12.00 at door.

www.martockonline.co.uk/events

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The Barnstaple Male Voice Choir is an internationally touring choir that provides a wide variety of music across all genres. A concert not to be missed.

The Village Artists Group

Are you looking for a new challenge and have a little spare time? The Village Artists Group's Autumn term commences on Tuesday 3rd September at Stoke-sub-Hamdon Memorial Hall.

Come and join a very friendly self-guided group of artists for painting, drawing etc. on Tuesday evenings 7.30 to 9:30 pm and Friday mornings 10.00 to 12.00 noon during school term time. FREE first visit to see how you get on!

For more information on the group or workshop contact Andrew on (01935) 823691 - SSHTheVillageArtistGroup@gmail.com
Facebook: Stoke Sub Hamdon The Village Artists Group

Manors and Water Mills of Norton and Stoke-sub-Hamdon

How many Manors and Mills used to operate in these areas ? Who owned which, and what was their place in English and local history ? How did the Mills work and who were the families that operated them ? If you would like to find out more then come along to **St Mary's Church, Norton-sub-Hamdon at 7:00 for 7:30pm on Friday 20th September 2024** where Dr John Ashton FRCGP will provide an enjoyable insight in his illustrated talk. Tickets at £5 are on sale in Norton Community shop and on the door on the night. A cash wine and soft drinks bar will be available with all proceeds being used to support the upkeep of the church fabric.

Would you like to join a health walk to meet more people and to get fitter?

Three levels are available in Stoke sub Hamdon. All start from the Lighthouse Café, and have trained leaders as guides. Dress for the weather, stout footwear recommended. Well behaved dogs on leads are also welcome.

Make Every Step Count 40 mins on pavements around the village.

Mondays 9th and 23rd September. Meet at 9.30. Stay on for a drink at the café afterwards to continue talking. Contact Penny on 822208 or Mark on 07496148756

Medium Health Walk 3-4 miles 90 minutes on a mixture of pavements and footpaths.

Mondays 9th and 23rd September. Stay on for refreshments in the café afterwards.

Longer 5-6 miles Health Walk with the option of a pub lunch at the end. **Tues. 3rd Sept.**

For the medium and longer walks, meet at 9.50 to start walking at 10am.
Contact Sue 07792311736 or Doug 07778946508.



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This series is all about using small spaces to grow FOOD to eat.

Green Wall Garden

Green Walls or “vertical gardens” are made up of planting pockets attached to a wall. It’s a fantastic way to increase your growing space and reflected heat from walls encourages earlier and/or longer crops. There are several kits available to buy, but don’t underestimate a simple repurposed capped gutter and wall fixings.

Shallow rooting herbs and salads are particularly suited to this type of growing, but my personal preference is for strawberries!

Strawberry “runners” can be planted out September - October. They are the small offshoot plants that look like little clumps of soil and roots with very few leaves! Have faith, planted out now, they will settle in over winter and be fruiting next year!

Runners are an economical way of buying strawberry plants but it’s worth asking other gardeners who may be putting their strawberry patches to bed for winter (and often will have spare runners!).

As well as the iconic summer fruits, strawberry plants offer pretty flowers, delicate foliage and the subsequent runners soon soften the edges of the planters.

Keeping strawberries off the ground reduces slug damage and nets can be hung to protect fruit from birds and squirrels without the trip hazard to pets and children.

Lettuce and spinach are excellent companion plants for strawberries, perfectly suited to green wall growing and can also be sown now.



Claire Ashton 

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★ **NOVEL NIGHTS presents Fresh Fiction - Travel - Friday 27th September £7**
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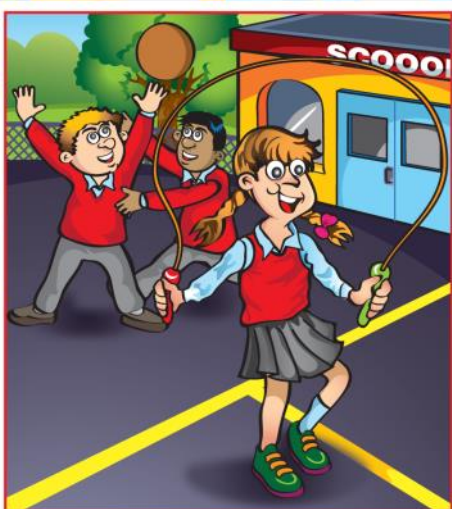
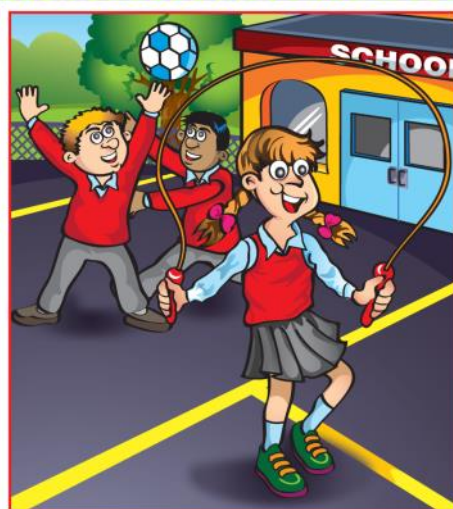
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It's a Puzzle

Spot The Difference

Find the 10 differences between the 2 pictures below.



Scramble

Unscramble the letters on the right to find the names of 6 playground activities.

Each one has an extra letter:

Find these for the missing word that describes what you would be doing if someone is 'seeking' you.



- 1) hallb mesga
- 2) ningruin
- 3) aple drogf
- 4) itchca
- 5) bingclimn
- 6) singchag

Extra Letter.

<input type="checkbox"/>
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Extra Letter Answer



Answers on page 28

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Saturday 7 th	Far Too Much Stuff
Saturday 14 th	Slipstream
Saturday 21 st	Not Like the Others
Saturday 28 th	Autumn Red



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Ham Hill Update



Rangers' Update



The Rangers had a busy summer season and as always, were supported by our fantastic army of volunteers. They have been busy cutting paths, including down Witcombe Valley and through Pit Wood, as well as continuing their work to control invasive species. The team have been pulling Wild Parsnip and Ragwort, and in the last month, have cleared the Northern Spur.

A contractor took the hay cut on the Plateau fields, after flowering had finished and the plants had set seed. The sheep have been taken off-site for now, to return later in the season to eat the fresh growth of grass that sprouts up after the hay cut and to tread wildflower seed into the ground. Following our annual grassland management programme where one field is left uncut, this year the Warren has not been cut, to provide habitat for invertebrates and cover for small mammals.

The wonderful walling volunteers continue to rebuild the dry stone wall at the edge of Butchers', overlooking Witcombe Valley. They have so far restored a section of 18 metres in length to full height, with the coping stones yet to go on.



The Ham Hill team are thrilled to announce that the park has been awarded the prestigious Green Flag Award for 2024. This award recognised the hard work of the Rangers and volunteers who care for these sites, ensuring they are enjoyed by visitors, local community and wildlife. A big thank you goes to the Friends of Ham Hill, for funding the entry cost this year.

Wildlife

Warmer weather finally arrived in August and we had some great wildlife sightings. There were plenty of butterflies and dragonflies on the wing. Late evening walkers were treated to a wonderful display of glow-worms amongst the Victorian Quarryscape. Not worms at all, the females of this beetle species will use bioluminescence to attract the males flying overhead.

At the end of July, we welcomed Key Stage 3 from Stanchester Academy for a BioBlitz. Despite the rain, the students found and identified an impressive number of invertebrates, including an abundance of Six-spot Burnet Moths – one of our beautiful day-flying moths, that pupate in a papery cocoon attached to grass stems.

Find out more about our marvellous moths with our **drop-in Moth Morning on Saturday 14th September**. Head to visitsouthsomerset.com for further details.

As September sets in and the first whispers of autumn are in the air, flowers turn to fruit and our hedgerows bulge with berries. Look out for elderberries hanging in great clusters from elder trees. These berries are almost black and are a favourite amongst many species of bird – but very toxic to humans when consumed raw! Besides the blackberries, the sloes and the hawthorn berries, hazelnuts will also be falling to the ground. All of these are a valuable food source for small mammals, who will be looking for as much food as possible to build up fat reserves before winter takes hold.



Speckled Wood Butterfly



Six-spot Burnet Moth



Elderberries

'Uncovering Ham Hill's past for its future' project update

The rangers were very pleased to put their new tractor and digger to good use, and the machines have made a significant difference to their workload across the site. The team have continued to cut paths with the tractor and have made use of the digger for work to improve paths following an audit to provide accessible routes for the new Tramper (all terrain mobility vehicle), including placing boulders on the path up to the War Memorial, to create safer access for the Tramper. Likewise, work has started creating a new accessible path down to Deep Quarry.

Detailed designs for the new Visitor Centre are progressing and have reached RIBA stage 4, when precise technical plans are drawn up. The team are working with a landscape architect to ensure that the Visitor Centre fits seamlessly into its surroundings to provide a better experience for visitors. The interpretation design for the permanent exhibition is in the early design process and the team are really excited about how this will look.

From mosaic making to den building, ammonite art to axe throwing, we had a fantastic time at all our summer events – a big thank you to everyone who came along and took part! The Ham Hill Dog Show has been rescheduled for Sunday 15th September, due to August's hot weather. We look forward to welcoming everyone and meeting their furry friends! Follow us on Facebook or head to visitsouthsomerset.com for further details about our upcoming events.



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LETTER SUDOKU

Each row, column and 3x3 box must contain the letters A B C D E F G H and I, just once.

I	B		D		F		E	
		F	A		E			
H			C				D	G
	B		E		I	A	F	
C								B
	F	A	D		B		H	
F	E				D			I
			I		C	E		
B	I		E		D			A



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Crewkerne And District Astronomical Society

CADAS is the local astronomical society. We cover the area from Taunton across Somerset to the Ham villages and Yeovil. We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. The meetings are open to everyone.

Our website is www.cadas.net

The meeting on 18th September will start while it's still light with a "Show and Tell" by members of equipment or techniques they use for astronomy. This will be indoors fair or foul weather! After tea/coffee and cakes we'll set up to do an observing session on the field with telescopes and members guiding some naked eye observing if the weather permits. We hope to see some of the best summer objects. Saturn and the full moon will be rising in the east.

Our speaker at the October Meeting will be Adrian Dening (www.staroversomerset.com) who will talk about his portable astronomical equipment.

Many people believe that astronomy requires complex and expensive equipment but you can enjoy the night sky with the naked eye, binoc-

ulars and take pictures with phone cameras. There are many objects or phenomena that can be seen, the most obvious being the Moon. There is much more to see. The Sun is very active and the Northern lights have been visible very recently. The planets are becoming more visible and Saturn in particular is observable in the evening sky. From a dark site the Milky Way will really stand out. These 2 images were taken with a standard camera with no additional or special equipment.



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Answers from page 17 and 25

Spot the Difference



Letter Sudoku

I	C	B	G	D	H	F	A	E
D	G	F	A	B	E	C	I	H
H	A	E	C	I	F	B	D	G
G	B	H	E	C	I	A	F	D
C	I	D	H	F	A	G	E	B
E	F	A	D	G	B	I	H	C
F	E	C	B	A	D	H	G	I
A	D	G	I	H	C	E	B	F
B	H	I	F	E	G	D	C	A

Scramble

1) hallb mesga	ball games	Extra Letter.	<input type="text" value="h"/>
2) ningruin	running		<input type="text" value="i"/>
3) aple drogf	leap frog		<input type="text" value="d"/>
4) itchca	catch		<input type="text" value="i"/>
5) bingclimn	climbing		<input type="text" value="n"/>
6) singchag	chasing		<input type="text" value="g"/>
Extra Letter Answer	hiding		

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