

# The Chinnock Chimes

June/July 2025

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**COFFEE MORNINGS**

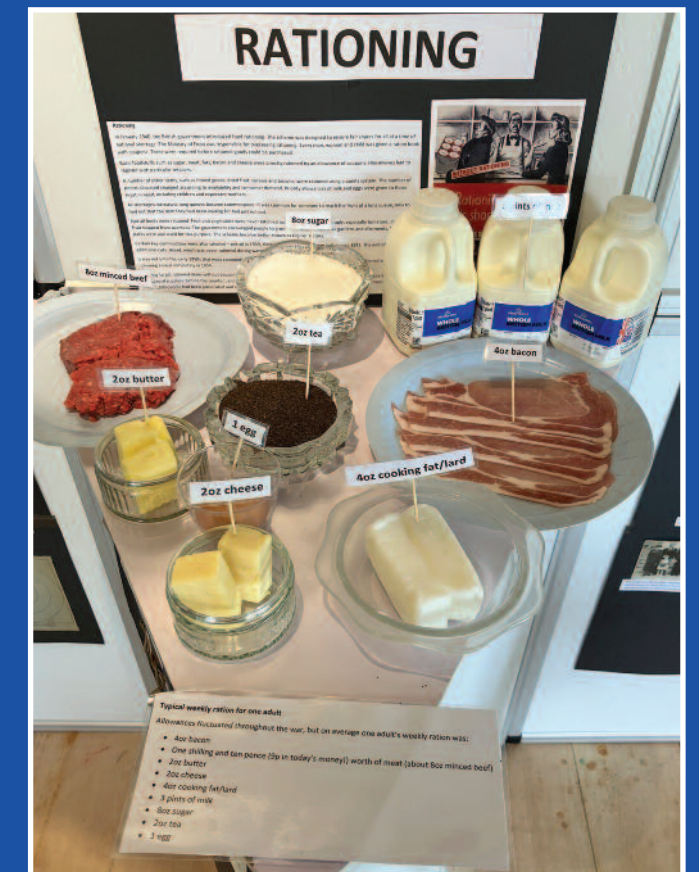
Coffee mornings are held on the **first and third Wednesday** of each month, 10.30am - 12.00pm.

**Prices:**  
Coffee and biscuits £1.50.  
Additional coffees £1.00



**POST OFFICE**

**At the Village Hall**  
Monday 1.00pm - 3.00pm  
Tuesday 9.00am - 12.00pm



VE Day, 80th Anniversary Celebrations in East Chinnock, 2025





## EDITOR

## Hello Everyone,

With Summer hopefully approaching and holidays being planned, some of the village clubs and activities have ceased until the Autumn, so we celebrated our last Pub Night - a popular event and returning in September - on April 25th. Soup Lunches and Kurling have also finished for the time being. We will of course be having the annual Village Show and Music Nights in July; further details in this issue.

I'd just like to say a big thank you to Paul Taylor who for several years has organised the printing of The Chimes. He has now retired, so Happy Retirement Paul and many thanks.

Best wishes  
Angela

Copy deadline for the next issue is July 11th.  
Email: [thechinnockchimes@btinternet.com](mailto:thechinnockchimes@btinternet.com)

### MEETING OF EAST CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 7th APRIL 2025 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Before the meeting commenced there was an opportunity for the public to speak:

A parishioner asked if there was any further news of the section 215 notice for the Wooden Top Inn.

The Chairman replied that the section 215 notice ended in November, and that enforcement was now in place for this order, but this usually takes a very long time. The Chairman has written to the owner, asking if they would consider tidying-up the car-park area, but there was no response.

Unfortunately, there is little else the Parish Council can do. Cllr Hewitson agree to see if there is any further progress on the Section 215 enforcement.



### Council to update road closure order for Chinnock Hollow

A permanent road closure notice is being issued by Somerset Council to ensure the continued safety of the public at a location in south Somerset.

Chinnock Hollow near Yeovil was closed in February 2021 after being severely impacted by a significant landslide involving 20 tonnes of rock and sand, as well as a large tree. This followed a less serious incident just a week earlier.

A specialist geological survey identified the substantial risk of another serious landslide which meant the road was kept closed under a temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TRO).

At this time, the major funding required in order to safeguard the road and allow it to reopen is not available, so the Council needs to apply for a permanent TRO to replace the temporary one. The Council remains committed to exploring all potential sources of funding and is continuing to lobby for transport investment in the area. The TRO can be reversed in the future should funding become available.

Somerset Council's Lead Member for Transport and Waste, Councillor Richard Wilkins said: *"Nothing has changed - Chinnock Hollow remains unsafe for vehicles, pedestrians or cyclists, but we need to move to a proper legal position."*

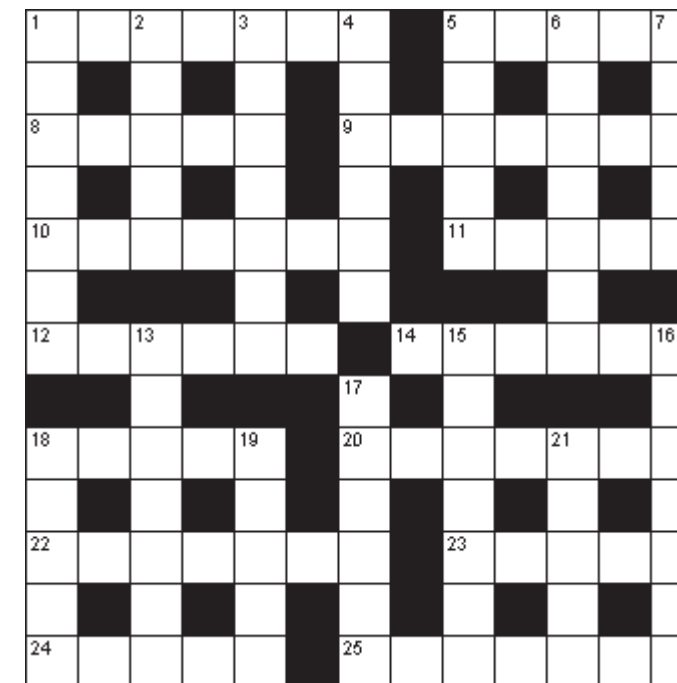
However, we are continuing to lobby for transport investment in our county, when funding streams become available we will lobby strongly on behalf of the local communities."

You can read the Chinnock Hollow reports here: [Transport policy](#).

Follow @TravelSomerset on Twitter and Facebook for live travel updates, roadworks and other highways news.

If you spot a problem on the road you can report it quickly and easily here: [www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/report-a-problem-on-the-road/](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/report-a-problem-on-the-road/).

## Crossword Puzzle



## Across

- 1 Placate (7)
- 5 Domestic servants (5)
- 8 Horrifying, sensational (5)
- 9 Exult, make merry (7)
- 10 Matrimony (7)
- 11 Rule (5)
- 12 Heavenly (6)
- 14 One who attends to horses (6)
- 18 Capital of Western Australia (5)
- 20 Disrobe (7)
- 22 Ceased (7)
- 23 Short-legged breed of dog (5)
- 24 Fittingly (5)
- 25 Borne (7)

## Down

- 1 Permitted (7)
- 2 Trimmed, peeled (5)
- 3 Et cetera (3,2,2)
- 4 I've found it! (6)
- 5 Military rank (5)
- 6 First (7)
- 7 Back of a boat (5)
- 13 New England state (7)
- 15 Beguiled (7)
- 16 Discern (anag) (7)
- 17 Embrace (6)
- 18 Penne, rigatoni, etc (5)
- 19 Contented (5)
- 21 Mistake (5)

## BOOKS!

There are books available in the Village Hall which are free for you to take or borrow whenever the hall is open.



## LOTTERY WINNERS

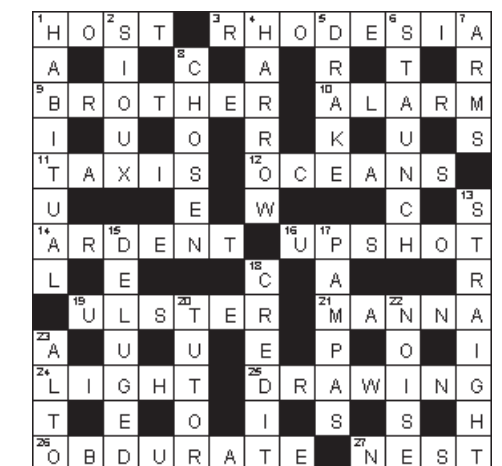
## April

1st Hazel Redgwick  
2nd Marianne Merchant

## May

1st Ashley Lock  
2nd H Baker 200 club

### Crossword Solution to the Previous Issue



## USEFUL CONTACTS

Somerset Council	Parish Council Chairman	Post Office (Village Hall)	Yeovil Hospital	Crewkerne Health Centre (appointments)	Beavers (6-8 years)	Scouts Active Support (adults)
0300 123 2224	Duncan Goodes 07806 791320 <a href="mailto:chinnock.hollow@btinternet.com">chinnock.hollow@btinternet.com</a>	Monday 1pm - 3pm Tuesday 9am - 12pm	01935 475122	01460 72435	Heather Pitts 01935 433840	Pete Divall 01935 422328
County Councillor	Parish Council Clerk	Village Hall	Westlake Surgery	Preschool, Baby & Toddler Group	Cubs (8-10 1/2 -yrs) Scouts (10 1/2 -14yrs)	Guides, Brownies, Rainbows
Oliver Patrick 07969 269416 <a href="mailto:oliver.patrick@somerset.gov.uk">oliver.patrick@somerset.gov.uk</a>	Nancy Chapman <a href="mailto:ecparishcouncilclerk@yahoo.co.uk">ecparishcouncilclerk@yahoo.co.uk</a>	Booking & Keys Martin Harris 01935 864582 <a href="mailto:martinatthegables@btinternet.com">martinatthegables@btinternet.com</a>	01935 862212	Kay Strode 07503 751133	James Divall 01935 863105	<a href="mailto:westcoker@girlguiding-somerset.org.uk">westcoker@girlguiding-somerset.org.uk</a>
County Councillor	Citizens Advice Bureau	Entertainments Committee Chair	Westlake Dispensary	Pre - School (under 5's)	Explorers (14 - 18 years)	FEOFFEES
Mike Hewitson <a href="mailto:mikehewitson@somerset.gov.uk">mikehewitson@somerset.gov.uk</a>	Petters Way Yeovil BA20 1SH 0808 2787842	Pat Lock 01935 863899	01935 865104	07798 812 540 or see East Coker Pre-school Facebook page	Mike Beckerleg 01935 862719	John Cox - Chairman 01935 863304 Jane Lock - Clerk 01935 863899



**FREE ENTRY!**

**EAST CHINNOCK MUSIC NIGHT**  
presents local band (plus support)

**MCROLIGHT**

**SATURDAY 21 JUNE 2025**

at the **PORTMAN COMMUNITY PARK** (Playing Field), Weston Street  
Gates open at 6:30 / Live Music from 7:00

**BAR:** Wine, Beer, Cider and Soft Drinks to be purchased from the bar  
Re-useable "glasses" will be available to buy or bring yours from last year

**BBQ:** Burgers and Sausages will be served in recyclable food trays  
Meat supplied by **Saunders Butchers**

**PLEASE DO NOT BRING YOUR OWN FOOD/DRINK AS PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT SUPPORTS THE VILLAGE**

**THIS IS A FREE EVENT. IF YOU ENJOY IT, PLEASE CONSIDER CONTRIBUTING TO ONE OF THE EXTRA DONATION BUCKETS ON THE NIGHT, THANK YOU.**

**CASH ONLY PLEASE**

Organised by the East Chinnock Entertainments Committee  
IN THE EVENT OF BAD WEATHER, PLEASE LOOK ON NOTICEBOARDS OR EAST CHINNOCK VILLAGE FACEBOOK PAGE

### Entertainments Committee

The Entertainments Committee own a marquee and 6 gazebos, which are available for **private hire to East Chinnock villagers only.**



**Contact Pat Lock for further information and booking on 01935 863899**

Marquee: 20m x 7m - £175 for a maximum of 3 days  
Gazebos: 3m x 3m with sides - £30 each for a maximum of 3 days

*The gazebos can easily be erected by the hirer, however, the marquee will be erected by Pat and his team, who will require at least 3 additional people (organised by the hirer) to assist in erection.*

**The hirer is required to ensure that they have adequate insurance in place to protect against damage or loss.**



Photo courtesy of Peter Jory

### Usual pattern of worship services for St Mary's church community

- 1st Sunday** 9.15am Holy Communion (usually in St Mary's church but this Sunday 1st June it will be in the Room @ the Park because of the ongoing building works in the church)
- 2nd Sunday** 6pm in summer, (5pm Nov-Mar) Evening Prayer (usually in St Mary's church but on 8th June it may still be in the Room @ the Park because of the ongoing building works in the church)
- 3rd Sunday** 9.45 for 10am start Café Church (Not in the Village Hall due to floor refinishing. See notice boards for venue).
- 4th Sunday** 10am Holy Communion (usually in St Mary's church but this Sunday 22nd June may still be in the Room @ the Park, depending on how the building work is progressing)

### Prayer for village.

In June we are praying for households in Weston Street, Forge Lane, Weston Farm, and the cottages and houses up to Cleaves Track. In July we are praying for those in Orchardleigh, Springfields, and Orchard Close. Please do let us know any prayer requests you have. We would be glad to join our prayers with yours.



You can check for any variations on this pattern, and updated news for St Mary's East Chinnock and relevant Benefice News on the Church Near You, website <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11012/> and using the QR code on this page. The church notice board outside the church gates also shows the time and place of the service that coming Sunday. If it is blank it means the service is elsewhere in the Benefice.

Gillian Tettmar

### West Coker & Hardington Cricket Club

We are celebrating  
**50\* not out**  
Events from 10th - 14th July

Join us for -

**Thursday PM:**

Super 1s training

**Friday PM:**

Mixed inter-club T20

& Youth disco

**Saturday AM:**

T20 match

**Saturday PM:**

First XI League match

**Saturday Eve:**

Hog roast - Silent Disco

Also Bar - Barbecue

**Sunday AM:**

U10 match

**Sunday PM:**

Women's Softball



Hog Roast & Disco

**TICKETS**

Purchased from -

- West Coker Post Office

- Hardington Village Shop

- West Coker & Hardington Cricket Club

**£8 per person**

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### Room @ the Park - The redecoration is complete!

The Room @ the Park is getting ready for summer!

After the Room was handed back to St Mary's when the playgroup closed, volunteers from across the village worked hard to transform the garden and begin refurbishing the Room. Thanks to a generous donor in the village, all the windows were replaced and a new electric heater installed. Leaks were repaired and the repainting began, inside and outside.

And now, thanks to the generosity of another village resident, a professional painter and decorator, has completed the interior painting, and the restored Room is now ready for summer.

If you were in the village at the time, you'll remember the questionnaire St Mary's distributed to every household, inviting suggestions for using the Room. Ideas included a café, pub, and social events space. Since then, the Room has become home to the Saturday Morning Café, monthly Men's Breakfast, as well as evening events like the Carol Singing last Christmas.

After the painting was finished, the Saturday Café was the first village activity hosted in the Room, followed by the WI VE Day celebrations on May 8th and then Men's Breakfast will be back in the Room at 8.30 on

Saturday May 17th, for bacon butties and putting the world to rights!

Many thanks again to all who've made the Room's refurbishment possible, whether by donations, or by wielding a paint-brush or trowel.

**Alex Swarbrick**





**Photograph of the village taken before World War II from the top of the Church tower, and a recent shot of the same view.**

The top photograph shows Old Court Farm before its conversion into Portman Court and the land on which Spring Cottage now stands. There are some buildings in front of the "Portman Arms" pub, and a huge tree, all of which have now gone, and the photograph also shows the A30 road before it was widened in 1940. Land was compulsorily purchased from "The Gables" and "Courthayes" (then known as Court House, previously "The Laurels") to enable this to happen, and the front walls of the two houses were rebuilt further back. In the case of "The Gables" the sum paid for the land was £75!

"The Gables", a guest house at this time, had been the village bakery until 1919 and a small lean-to extension housing an oven in the end wall had to be demolished to make way for the wider road.

**Martin Harris**



### From the Village Hall Management Committee

**The Village Hall will be closed between 16th and 20th July inclusive** whilst the floor is repaired and refinished,

The Coffee Morning on the 16th, the Qi Gong class on the 17th, the Pilates class on the 19th and the Cafe Church meeting on the 20th will therefore, unfortunately, be cancelled.

The Hall Committee apologises for the inconvenience.

### REGULAR EVENTS

#### Coffee Mornings

10:30am - 12:00pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday in the Hall.

#### Post Office

Monday 1:00pm - 3:00pm, Tuesday 9:00am - 12:00pm every week in the Hall.

#### E.C. Gardening Club

7:00pm on the 3rd Monday in the Hall.

#### E.C. Art, Craft & Social Group

2:00 - 4:00pm on the 1st Wednesday in the Hall. □

#### Saturday Morning Cafe

10:00 - 12:00am on the 1st Saturday in The Room@The Park.

#### Mens Breakfast

8.30am on the 3rd Saturday of the month in the Room@the Park, Telephone Richard Kirlaw: 07966 754110 or John Chappelle: 07887 875622 for further details.

#### Mobile Library

Every four weeks on Route "E" .

#### St. Mary's Cafe Church

9:45am on the 3rd Sunday in the Hall..

#### Monthly Working Bee -

##### Portman Community Park

10:00-12:00 - 1st Saturday of the month. Drop by and give a hand with weeding planters, plants taking hold to cover fence. Coffee and cake available at Room on the Park.

#### E.C. WI (Women's Institute)

7:30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month in the Hall.

#### Pilates - NEW Times

Saturdays: 9.30 - 10am seated  
10.15 - 11am mat

Sharon Smith: 07715 0782 for details.

#### Qi Gong

10:30am - 12:00pm every Thursday in the Hall .  
Telephone Robin Sheldrake: 07990 506833 for details.

### Village Hall Hiring Charges

The increase in electricity charges for the hall have resulted in the Hall Management Committee having to increase the charges to hirers. We are still one of the cheapest halls to hire.

#### New charges as from Oct 1st 2025

Oct 1st - March 31st	£10 per hour
April 1st - Sept 30th	£8 per hour

The increased winter rate is to cover the months when more electricity is used.

**PLEASE take care to ensure that ALL the heating is OFF before leaving the hall**



## East Chinnock Village Show

**SATURDAY, JULY 26th**

**9 -10.am deliver exhibits / 11am judging / 2.15pm - 3.30 open to the public**

A chance to show the fruit and veg you have grown in the ever changing climate conditions and art and craft exhibits.

Children's classes are an opportunity for the next generation of gardeners and crafters.

It's fun and rewarding to share the results of gardening efforts, tips and ideas.



Photos by Martin Harris

### Out and about...

Our resident Farrier, Olly Greenslade at the annual Abbey Hill Steam Rally in Yeovil. His beautiful horses, Star and Sky, draw his Bow Top caravan. Seen below receiving his award in the Vintage Caravan section.



### Review

Our last **Pop-Up Pub Night** for the time being took place on Friday April 25th. These evenings have been very popular, it's a great place to meet people and put the world to rights! This time, we had live music in the background provided by Aaron and Rik, which was a great addition to the event. I hope we'll hear more of them when we resume sessions in September.

Angela



One of 'The Regulars!'



### Reviews

**At the WI meeting on 9 April**, we were joined by Patricia Perry for a talk on 'Being A Magistrate'.

Patricia is a retired Magistrate - also known as a Justice of the Peace. She was sworn in in 1977. We learned that Magistrates are often volunteers who go through extensive training to become a lower-level judicial officer who handles minor legal matters like speeding, drink-driving, theft, domestic violence, small claims, and may also issue search warrants or arrest warrants. There are approximately 21,000 Magistrates in the country.

She told us that Magistrates have to take an oath to serve without "favour, affection, malice, or ill will" and to always remember the victim when taking cases. A Magistrates Court will hear 95% of all criminal cases - the definition of which is "if it breaks the law, that's criminal" and is all evidence-based.

The difference between the various types of court were explained: Crown Court handles serious cases needing greater punishments like rape, possession of bladed weapons and paedophiles. Civil Courts hear about agricultural problems and if money is owed. Family Courts oversee mediation and divorce cases (where the child's welfare comes first).

**Thank you to everyone who supported the Afternoon Tea held at the Room @ The Park on Thursday 8 May in celebration of the 80th Anniversary of VE Day.**

Guests were treated to tea, sandwiches, cakes and scones (with options of jam on first OR cream on first!) whilst 1940s music played in the background. Most people arrived wearing red, white and blue adding to the joyful atmosphere.

There was a mini WW2 exhibition to which several villagers donated personal items (thank you!) and covered The Blitz, Evacuation, Active Service, The Land Army, Life During WW2 and The Home Guard.

There was also a display showing one week's typical adult ration of bacon, mincemeat, milk sugar, tea, cheese, butter and lard. It was quite humbling to see it laid out and to see what small amounts there were.

Ted Tierney said a few words of thanks. There was a lovely atmosphere in the room and I hope everyone who came enjoyed it.

I'm very happy to report that we have raised £235 for the Royal British Legion and this will be donated to the local branch at Crewkerne.

Sara Russell





**Our AGM on Wednesday May 14th** was sandwiched between two other exciting events.

On Tuesday, May 13th, 8 members joined a coach trip organised by West Coker WI to Salisbury Cathedral Flower Festival, 'The Spirit of Water'. What fabulous flower arrangements! The cathedral looked spectacularly beautiful. It's was perfect weather too and everyone had a perfect day.



**On Thursday, May 15th** a different group of 8 members from East Chinnock went to a Lebanese cookery demonstration arranged by Misterton WI. Waffa Powell, a Lebanese lady who showed us how to make 3 different authentic dishes. They were Dfeen, Fattouch and Salat Laban. We tasted all of these, delicious! Misterton had kindly laid on wine too. Wafaa was extremely entertaining and informative. Our very own Pam O'Donnell was one of the sous chefs, helping with the preparation.

Ros Weber



## East Chinnock Arts, Crafts & Social Group



This very sociable group meets on the first Wednesday of every month. You can come along and pursue a wide range of hobbies, even your household accounts if necessary! Activities amongst the current members include Cross Stitch work, Embroidery, Water Colour Painting, Diamond Art, Crochet, Fabric Art and Knitting.

Sessions cost £3.00 and include tea and coffee; from 2pm - 4pm, bring your own materials.

For more information contact  
Gerald Witcher: 01935 862602  
gwitcher@btinternet.com

