



COMBWICH, OTTERHAMPTON AND STEART NEWSLETTER

Otter Tales

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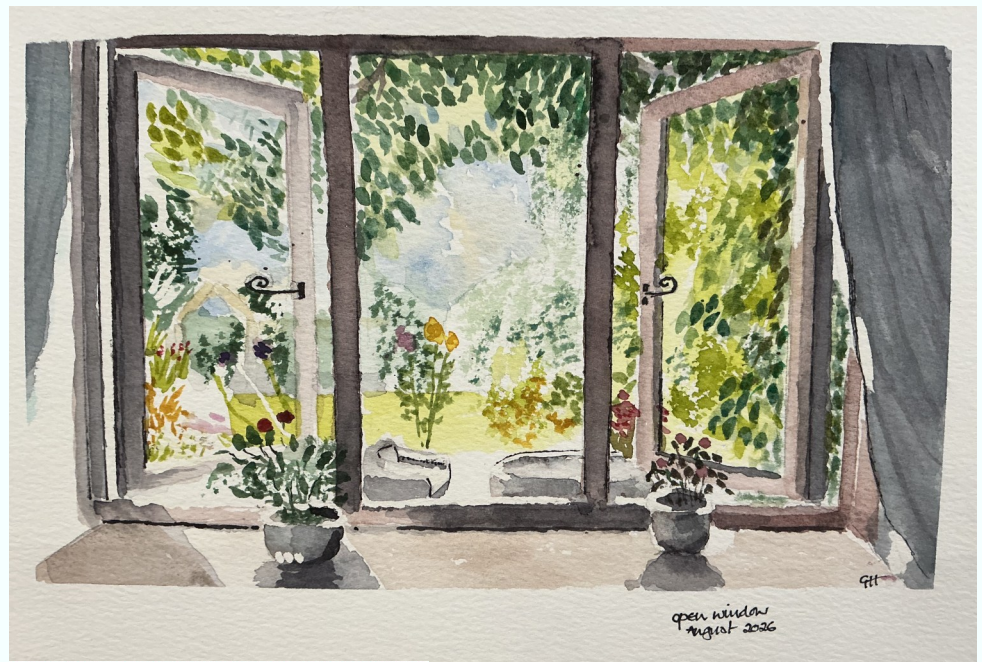
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Mobile Library &
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Local Talent Abounds!



***Congratulations to everyone
who entered this year's
Flower and Art and Craft
Show.***

***Best in Show and Parish
Council Trophy went to Gill
Howell for her painting of
'through the window'***

***Best House Entry and Garden
Club Trophy went to Caitlin
and Toby Parham.***





Otterhampton Parish Council

COMBWICH • OTTERHAMPTON • STEART

A brief run down on parish matters:

The Anchor Inn – Cllr Parker and Clerk recently attended an appeal hearing at Somerset Council. The property owners have appealed the decision to register the Anchor Inn as an Asset of Community Value. They are exploring adding a further 6 rooms to the downstairs area. We are awaiting the results. If the decision is upheld in our favour, the next step will be for villagers to come together and establish a working group to make it happen – we will keep you informed.

Wharf Road – The Parish Council is developing plans for environmental improvements along Wharf Road. Following consultations with ecologists, the Council is committed to ensuring that any works support local wildlife, protect important habitats and deliver long-term biodiversity benefits for the area.

Flooding – Further to the award by central government of £50 millions to Somerset for the management of flooding, we are delighted to advise that Combwich has been successful in gaining access to some of this money. Works are proposed to commence in Spring next year.

Resignation – The members of the parish council would like to express their sincere thanks for the support and works carried out by Cllr Dodge who has recently resigned.

Enhancing the village – Permissions are currently being sort from the relevant authorities to carry out works to the road signage and village entrance sign. In addition, we are consulting with England Nature to explore how the common can be better utilised ensuring that we continue to protect and improve the biodiversity of the area.



Volunteers needed: -

Volunteering is a great way to get involved in the community and there are a number of ways that you can get involved, we are currently looking for help with the following:

- Play ground Inspector (training will be provided)
- Emergency planning volunteer

Youth Group Forum – Members of OPC are exploring the viability of a Youth Group Forum within the parish and would very much like to hear from anyone who might be interested in getting involved; in particular those who might be considering a career or studying Politics, but not limited to. Please email the Clerk expressing your interest.

Want to find out what the Parish Council is doing?

Parish council meetings are open to the public, so if you have a bug-bear you would like to discuss please come along. These take place on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Otterhampton Village Hall starting at 1900. Meeting details are on the website along with Agendas and Minutes.

Full details of the decisions taken at parish council meetings are contained within the minutes which are available on the three village notice boards (opposite the old Post Office, opposite the Anchor Inn and on the wall of Ferricies Farm, Steart) or the www.otterhamptonparishcouncil.gov.uk website, with regular updates on the Facebook page. Regular posts are also made on Facebook.

Contact for Clerk (Stephanie Juniper) clerk@otterhamptonparishcouncil.gov.uk or Tel 07395 008455. Please note that the Clerk works flexible part-time hours.

LETS DRESS UP OTTERHAMPTON AND HAVE SOME FUN!

Otterhampton Parish Council Launches Its First Ever Christmas Home Decoration Competition

Otterhampton Parish Council is excited to invite residents to spread some festive cheer by taking part in the village's **first-ever Christmas Home Decoration Competition**.

Whether it's sparkling fairy lights, a traditional Christmas scene, a winter wonderland, or a display full of festive fun, every household in the parish is encouraged to get involved and help make Otterhampton shine this Christmas.

Important Dates

Entries Open: 22 November 2026.

Entry Deadline: 13 December 2026

Judging Day: 17 December 2026

Winners Announced: 19 December 2026 at the Christmas Raffle Draw in the Village Hall

Cost to Enter: FREE



Further details will be available on the Otterhampton Parish Council website shortly.

Categories

The Best Decorated Home (voted for by residents of the parish)

The Chair's Award

The Best dressed door

The display with the most BLING!

The Best Window display (must be visible from the road)

Open to all households within the parish

Contact details for parish councillors

Lindsey Parsons (Chair)	lindsey.parsons@otterhamptonparishcouncil.gov.uk	01278 653700
Connie Sanders	connie.sanders@otterhamptonparishcouncil.gov.uk	01278 653307
Tina Gardener	tina.gardener@otterhamptonparishcouncil.gov.uk	01278 652642
Mike Haycraft	mike.haycraft@otterhamptonparishcouncil.gov.uk	01278 653264
Carol Bradbury	carol.bradbury@otterhamptonparishcouncil.gov.uk	01278 652313
Steven Parker (vice Chair)	steven.parker@otterhamptonparishcouncil.gov.uk	07895 239878

Clerk to the parish council

Stephanie Juniper	clerk@otterhamptonparishcouncil.gov.uk	07395 008455
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(Stephanie works part-time and flexible hours)

County Ward Members

Mike Caswell	01278 652043.	Brian Bolt	079708 55990
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20's Plenty

where people are

20's Plenty for Us campaigns for 20mph as the default speed limit for urban and village streets where people live, work, shop, play and learn.
www.20splenty.org

Let's Fill the Village with Christmas Magic!



Christmas Tree Festival

Wednesday 9th December to
Wednesday 23rd December 2026

St Peter's Church, Combwich.



Dear Villagers,

This year we are holding a Christmas Tree Festival in St Peter's Church for a fortnight during December 2026

If you, your group, or business would like to enter the Christmas Tree Festival it will cost £5.00 for a 3ft Christmas Tree. The trees will be available to decorate from Monday 7th December. It is a lovely way to promote your crafts, your group or business. The church will be open all the time, so people can pop in when it suits them to look at the trees.

You will need to order your tree by contacting me by Wednesday 25th November, so I can order the correct amount. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Many blessings,

Rev Jan Church

email: revjanchurch@gmail.com

Parish Council Elections

There will be elections in many parts of the country, including here in our parish next year. Parish councils provide residents the opportunity influence what happens in locally. They decide which activities to support, where money should be spent, what services should be delivered, and what policies should be implemented.

If you think things could be done differently, or just want to have your say, or perhaps contribute to our community, then why not consider becoming part the parish council by standing for election next May.

WANTED

A treasurer for the Village Hall Committee to continue enabling the hall to be used as a community space for village user groups, activities and events.

If you are interested please contact Lindsey Parsons 01278 653700



HARBOUR VIEW BAR & Village Hall *a report from Bev*



Welcome to the newly refurbished Harbour View Bar. We were closed at the beginning of August to completely rip out the bar area from floor to ceiling & start again. A very tight schedule, many, many hours of the committee's time were spent sorting, boxing, clearing, painting, cleaning, dump runs, town visits for supplies plus numerous other jobs. A new drink shelf has been added to the darts area and new tongue & groove to match under the dart board. This new area was very much welcomed by the darts players. Thank you Paul Tanner for your woodworking skills.

We are really pleased with the result, more modern & a more pleasant area to work in. Massive thank you to all the committee who gave up their valuable time & lovely to welcome back our bar staff & some new faces behind the bar too.



What's going on

Memberships for 2026/7 are due, £5 for the year, please pop in when you are passing.

We continue to host ladies' skittles, garden club once a month and Richard's brilliant quiz...look out for dates. The darts season starts in October and this year our club team, Harbour Flights have fabulous new shirts bought by Harbour View Bar, sponsored by PJ Flooring... great logo & some questionable nicknames on the back. We wish you good luck for the season.

The village hall will also be hosting the darts leagues competitions, always a good turnout and a great social event.

Otterhampton village hall is a great space, we have a skittle alley, short mat bowl's room, a well stocked bar and kitchen, all of which can be hired for birthday parties, christenings weddings, music events & even cinema evenings as we have a pull down screen.

If you are interested in hiring any of our rooms please contact the village hall, we will be happy to help.

There will be more events coming up during the Autumn & the run up to Christmas so keep an eye on the notice board outside the hall, on social media or pop down to the Friday coffee morning between 10-12, meet new people or catch up with old friends in a warm & welcoming space.

Harbour View Bar will be showing the Rugby Autumn Internationals in November. Dates will be advertised in due course in their social media pages.

Recent collections in the bar have been donated to Elliot's Touch of £22.06 and to Dorset & Somerset Air ambulance charity of £25.00. Thankyou to our members for their donations.

A wealth of knowledge from our residents, always a friendly face who can tell you what events are being organised.

If you would like to be a part of any of our committees, village hall or Harbour View Bar or just volunteer to help when events are happening, please contact us.

We look forward to seeing you.

Opening hours for Harbour View Bar

Thursday 4-8 pm

Friday 2-11 pm

Sunday 3-8 pm



Saturday quiz once a month, the next quiz being Saturday 17th October



Otterhampton Primary School - Autumn update

Claire Luce - Executive Head Teacher

We've had a good first couple of weeks back and all the children have been engaged and ready to learn. They have impressed us with their enthusiasm.

PTA Meeting: We had a Friends of Otterhampton Primary School PTA Annual general meeting, last week. The team are looking forward to raising lots of money for the school.

St Mary's Church, Stockland Bristol Trip: Last week we all had a lovely trip to Stockland Bristol church. Reverend Alison explained about the renovations taking place there and the builders let the children see the plans and even take part in some raking out and pointing, and rubbing a stained glass window frame. The children had a fantastic time.

Harvest Festival: All parents were welcomed to join us for a Harvest Festival service at St Peter's Church in Combwich on Wednesday 30th September at 1.30pm. Food donations were given to Bridgwater Food Bank.

Open Mornings: We are holding Open Mornings for potential students on the following dates and times:

Monday 5th October - 9.15am and 11.15am

Wednesday 11th November - 9.15am

If you wish to attend, please let the school know or just turn up on the day.

WWT Rap workshop: This week, we had some visitors from WWT who came to deliver an exciting rap workshop. The children enjoyed joining in with his raps about the salt marshes and creating their own class rap.





Otterhampton Parish Recreation Association (OPRA)

Registered Charity Number 1124017

Chair Tina Gardener 652642 - Secretary Carol Bradbury 652313

The long hot summer is a fading memory as autumn colours abound and a prelude to darker nights and the long winter ahead. All seasons have their attractions and various village organisations will be organising events to get us through the winter.

It is a busy time for OPRA, and plans are already in hand. Our AGM will be on Wednesday 28th October at 7.30pm in the Harbour View Bar when we get to elect our Committee and make plans for the coming year, and yes, there may be a glass of wine too! All welcome.

Our annual Fireworks Display arranged in conjunction with the parish council will be on the Common at 6pm Sunday 1st November with a bbq from 5.30pm. This is a free event, but please bring a little cash to donate and help defray expenses. Always a very popular event.

The annual over 65's Christmas Dinner, a three course meal with wine too, and is free as always and will be held in the village hall on Saturday 5th December. Invitations will be sent out three weeks before the event. If you have been before, you are on the list to be invited again. If you are over 65 and not been invited before, please contact Tina or Carol as soon as possible (under age partners are welcome at a charge of £10).



We normally provide the Christmas trees for Combwich and Steart and this year will be no exception. The lights on the Combwich Tree (by the telephone box) will be switched on at 5pm on Sunday 6th December, immediately after Christingle.

All these events are financed by our 100 Club members who contribute £1 a week to participate in a weekly/monthly draw. If you want to join the 100 Club, or become involved in OPRA activities please contact Tina on 652642, Sue 653663 or Carrol 652313 .

Apology we had to first postpone and then cancel the dog show due to unforeseen circumstances during the summer, but we will try again in 2027.

Pippi's Ponderings



We have made it through the hottest summer on record. Nobody thought it would end but somehow the mince pies are out in shops and summer has become a distant memory.

Andy Burhnam has yet to get the country back on track emotionally, politically or financially. It now costs £400 to make spaghetti bolognese. British people are now investing in Mince and Diesel instead of gold.



Mavis is now wondering what to do with her 600 bottles of factor 50 suncream she bulk bought at the height of the heatwave.

She's left them by her door in the hope that when Halloween comes around, she can give them out to the trick or treaters. What Mavis doesn't know is Halloween is cancelled this year as nothing reflects the true horror of this world than our own current affairs. In the distance amongst the despair Mariah Carey can be heard warming up her vocals...

Bill Johnson at 95 years young!

An extra special occasion at the Friday morning Coffee Club was the celebration of Bill Johnson's 95th birthday surrounded by family and friends.

Bill a familiar figure in the village who until very recently traversed the village and the riverside paths on his electric tricycle.

He moved to the village with his wife June when he secured the job of Chief Clerk to the Clerk to the Justices at Bridgwater Magistrates Court. After work his passion was sailing and he built his own boat Ishani in his garden and was a key figure in the Combnich sailing community.

He has contributed to the community in many ways, and a lasting legacy is his book on the history of Otterhampton Parish 2000.

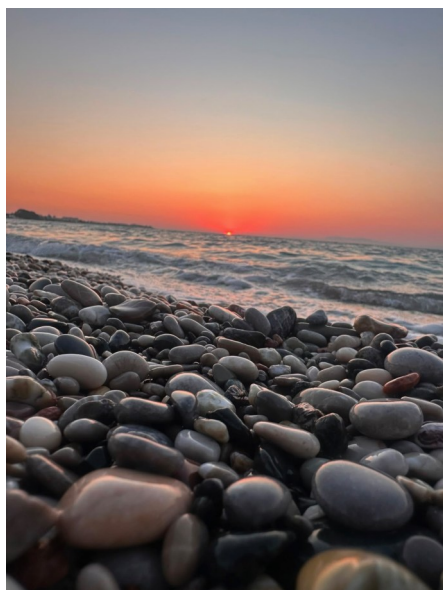
A more detailed account of Bill's life can be found in the January 2025 issue of Otter Tales which is available on the Otterhampton Parish Council website.



The Flower Arts and Crafts Show

attracted another Village Hall full of exhibits.

Evie Cadmore supplied cakes and bakes while Harbour View Bar opened to provide refreshments. Thanks to them both for their new and continuing support of Garden Club and the Show.



Charlie Gamblin won Best in Section and the Otter Tales Under 16 trophy for his photograph 'my happy place' that he took on his summer holidays.

John Bradley's winning Flower in a Vase and Sue Aherne's winning Floral Art Entry.

Combwich Short Mat Bowls club

WELCOMES
new members

Are you free on Monday
and/or
Thursday afternoon from
2.30pm - 3.30 pm?
Why not come along and give
it a go, what do you have to
lose?
Venue: Otterhampton Village
Hall

**Give Don a ring to arrange your trial
lesson.**

07717 860686



Spicy Tomato & Red Onion Chutney *John Bradley*

This month's recipe is a typical autumnal thing to do after a good cropping season & in preparation for winter. The aromatic spices will remind us of our Indian summer & is great with a good slice of extra mature cheddar. I'm a big fan of Barbers extra mature & is available at Mole Valley Farmers.

Spicy Tomato & Red Onion Chutney

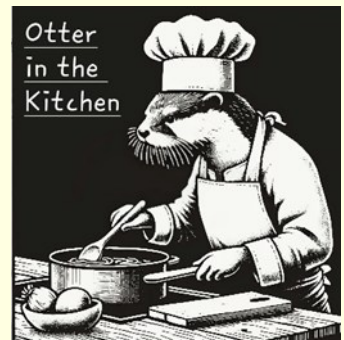
1.5kg ripe tomatoes - skinned & chopped
450g finely chopped red onion
900ml malt vinegar
50g mix of nigella seed/cumin seed.
1 rounded tspn ground ginger
1 tbsp French mustard
4 crushed cloves garlic
2tspn salt
1/2 tspn cayenne pepper
350g soft brown sugar
225g sultanas or raisins roughly chopped
150g tomato paste

Method

Place the onion, spices, mustard & half the vinegar into a preserving pan. Bring to the boil & simmer until the onion is soft. Add the tomato, remaining vinegar & all other ingredients except the tomato paste & bring back to boil simmering for 1.5/2hrs or until the chutney consistency is thickening. The tomato paste can now be added to adjust the consistency stirring frequently to avoid and burning on the bottom of the pan.

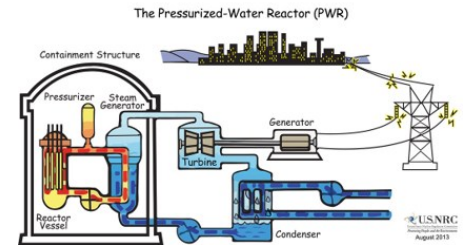
The chutney should now be of a jammy consistency & with no surface liquid.

Carefully pour the mixture into sterilised preserving jars & seal with a vinegar proof lid.



Yet another nuclear power station for Hinkley? *By Tim Jones*

Could a fourth nuclear power station be built at Hinkley Point? Well according to some old paperwork I was sorting out - no less than the nuclear industry's Environmental Statement presented to the original HPC Inquiry - it could.



I am of course referring to the public inquiry held at vast expense for around 15 months at Cannington Court in the late eighties. The Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB) was then running the station and wanted to build the country's second PWR following on from Sizewell B. It was a very inclusive inquiry with anti-nuclear groups being bussed down regularly from Bristol at the company's expense. Arthur Scargill even put in an appearance which briefly livened the proceedings up.

A team of shorthand typists recorded every word and by nine o'clock the following morning it was possible to pick up a complete transcript of the previous day's proceedings. Rumour had it that the person supplying the transcripts had a contract where he and his team were paid by the word. I wonder if he ever needed to work again. In 1990 the inquiry ultimately supported the building of a third nuclear power station at Hinkley at around the same time the Government of the day, with impeccable timing, announced a moratorium on new nuclear build.

But what of the possibility of a fourth station? Early on in its Environmental Statement the CEGB, while admitting it had no programme for the development of a D station, states: *the area to the west of the 'C' station site was investigated in 1978 -1979 and was found to be feasible*. It further goes on to say that the C station layout as it was then, had been devised to allow for construction of a D station with minimum disturbance to the building of HPC.

Of course it didn't happen. But what one day if it did - the country needs more home grown power generation and the land is still there? By then - as part of cost cutting and efficiency- the numerous white buses might even be driverless. Now that's something to ponder.

Neighbourhood Watch for Combwich and Otterhampton

A new Neighbourhood Watch scheme is currently being set up for Combwich and Otterhampton. The scheme has now been registered, and the registration process is expected to take around 15 days. In the meantime, I am looking for local residents who may be willing to volunteer and help support the scheme.



Neighbourhood Watch is about helping residents stay informed and aware of what is happening locally. It can help with sharing information about suspicious activity, scams, thefts from gardens, sheds or vehicles, and other concerns that may affect people in the area.

There has already been some very positive feedback from local residents, including those who feel the scheme could offer extra reassurance for older or vulnerable people who live alone. I am also hoping to arrange an initial Neighbourhood Watch meeting in October, hopefully at Otterhampton Village Hall. This will give residents an opportunity to find out more about the scheme, ask questions and, if they wish, become involved. You do not need to commit a large amount of time to volunteer, even a small amount of help would be very much appreciated.

If you would like to volunteer, register your interest or simply find out more, please contact me at natkit8@gmail.com.
Natasha Skirton

What we've been up to!

In July Neil Smart gave an insight to the work of Medical Detection Dogs. As a volunteer Neil has seen the incredible work these dogs. It currently costs £29,000 a year to train a dog and can take between 18 months and 2 years, dependant on the individual animal. Spaniels and Labradors are mainly used as they respond well to training. These dogs are referred to as Super Sniffers and use their sense of smell to detect human disease. Did you know that a dog has approximately 300 million sensors in its nose compared to a human who has 5 million! In trials 94.3% of dogs accurately detected the covid virus. At present AI is currently being developed to mimic a dog's nose.

At the end of July, the lunch club visited The Crossways Inn at West Huntspill.

After the summer break the WI met again in September when we celebrated 75 years of Combwich and District WI. Members contributed to a celebratory supper and previous members were invited to join in with the celebration. After hearing how members had attended a variety of workshops and competitions over the years, we then heard excerpts from the minutes from the 90's, it was lovely to hear what members were up to then and to compare to present day. Our buffet supper was thoroughly enjoyed by all and a slice of cake, made by our talented president, and a glass of bubbly were a fitting way to end the evening.



theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



Combwich and District WI

Dates for your diaries

15th October – Alys Laver WWT – Competition – picture of your favourite bird

19th November – Becky Wright of Dryad Gin – Competition – old or new tot/shot glass

17th December – Xmas buffet – Competition – best wrapped Secret Santa gift

Why not come along to one of our evenings and see what happens. We welcome visitors and new members to join us at our meetings, which are held on the third Thursday of each month in Otterhampton Village Hall, doors open at 7.00 ready for 7.30 start.

For more information contact Connie on 01278 653307



WWT Steart Marshes & Bridgwater Bay NNR



Dumping Grass and Garden Cuttings on the Reserve

Unfortunately, we are experiencing an increase in incidents of people dumping their garden waste on the reserve. It should be noted that the practice of waste on the edge of ditches is illegal fly-tipping and can lead to a number of different issues such as blocking drainage systems, causing local flooding and environmental damage.

Flood risk: Cuttings have the potential to wash into watercourses, clogging channels and storm drains which leads to property and road floods.

Water Pollution: As green waste decomposes in water, it strips out dissolved oxygen and releases excess nutrients, killing fish and triggering suffocating algae blooms.

Habitat Damage: High nutrient loads from decomposing clippings smother and kill native plants, spread invasive seeds, and introduce plant diseases or fungi.

Livestock risks: Grass clippings can ferment quickly, heat up, and cause fatal digestive issues or poisoning if livestock consume them.

Legal Penalties: Disposing of garden waste outside your property boundary or in public spaces counts as fly-tipping under UK law, carrying fixed penalty notices or prosecution.

Please consider better alternatives such as leaving cuttings on the lawn or adding to a home compost bin mixed with dry brown waste like twigs or cardboard. Use your local council's green waste collection service or take the clippings to a household recycling centre.

The WWT Reserves team works tirelessly to protect and enhance a mosaic of habitats and the wide array of species found across the Steart Marshes and Bridgwater Bay reserves. We thank you for your understanding on this matter.

Wardens and volunteers have been busy cutting back some of the young growth next to hedgerows which we laid last year around Polden screen. This creates a dense, upright hedge which we can access to lay in the future, and means that the hedge won't grow across the path whilst we can't cut it during nesting bird season. Some areas of new growth further back from the path are being allowed to grow into thicker areas of hedge and scrub patches.

We've also been cutting some reed around lagoons on Stockland in front of the viewing platform, to keep areas of open water and create variety in the age and height of the reeds at the edge of the water, as well as giving a better view from the platform. This was all cut with the Softrack. Some of the willows in front of the platform have also been cut back by Ronan, Alice and Sam so the water is visible.

Audio events and history walks are still bookable on our website events page...

Come and experience the history and the sounds of Steart Marshes including voices of the local community, wildlife, water & the second world war influence on the area.

Sundays 20th and 27th September – The Three Waters sound experience

Sunday 4th October – History walks

See our latest updates @WWTSteartMarshes on Facebook and Instagram, or our website www.wwt.org.uk/steart

Reserve Office: 01278 651090 info.steart@wwt.org.uk **Duty Manager:** 07717 505966

Email: barry.leathwood@btinternet.com

www.otterhamptonparishcouncil.gov.uk

1st Combwich Brownies

We have started the new term with 24 brownies, having had two girls leave at the end of last term, and one new recruit starting. This is ideally the maximum number of girls we can take, but we do have 5 girls leaving in December, because they have reached the end of their Brownies journey. Three of these girls will have achieved their gold award, which is the highest award they can get. The other two girls were older when they joined us so have not had the time to progress as far. We are thrilled that four of our leavers have taken the decision to move up to Guides in Bridgwater and continue their journeys through the exciting world of Girl Guiding. With five girls leaving we will have room for a few new recruits, so if you have a child whom you think might be interested, please put her on our waiting list by going to the girl guiding website. The ideal starting age is 7, but we do take 8 or even 9-year-olds. Alternatively, contact Karen Barton. 07857 823989. Or e-mail her at karenbarton@girlguidingsomerset.org.uk.

We have an exciting programme arranged for this term which includes a trip to Steart beach to light fires and toast marshmallows for s'mores. A visit to Steart Marshes for pond dipping with Brownies from Watchet (about 50 in all), swimming at Quantock Lodge, a sleepover at Longleat and yet another sleepover at Fiddington and the trip to the cinema to see Hexed. All this alongside our normal Monday evening programme, which this term will include learning to shop with real money, i.e. cash. Making and eating tasty fajitas, learning to use tools and then making bird boxes, observing a night sky and practising some first aid.

With such a busy programme it may not surprise you to know that we are looking for more adult helpers. No qualifications are necessary, just a willingness to lend a hand with the activities we do on a Monday evening. If you feel you might be interested, just contact Karen. Details above. And arrange to come and visit us. We have a lovely mix of girls from various villages, and we have a lot of fun.

Brownies meet on Monday evenings during term time. 5:45- 7:30 PM.



Pavement Parking

If you have to park on pavements please ensure you leave plenty of space for a double buggy, wheel chair, or mobility scooter to pass safely on the pavement.

And

Please do not obstruct lowered kerbs as these are often the only access to and from the pavements for wheel chair users etc.

Thank You

Email: barry.leathwood@btinternet.com



Tuesday 13th October

An Informative talk on

Garden Design

by Award Winning Designer

SALLY LEANEY

*Big plot? Small plot? Learn some of
The tricks to get the most out of
Your Garden ready for next season*

Bar Open - Raffle

Guests £3 - Members Free

Still not a member? Come along & join on the night!

Village Hall - 7 for 7.30

www.otterhamptonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Remembrance Sunday Service

St Peter's Church, Combwich

Sunday 8th November 26
11.15am

Please join us in remembering
those men and women who
gave their lives for us.

Lest we forget...



Get ready for a

St Peter's Church Harvest CELEBRATIO

On

Saturday 3rd October 2026

Otterhampton Village Hall, Combwich

7.00pm

£10.00 per person for a 3-course meal

Followed by a Service in St Peter's church
11.15am Sunday 4th October 2026

Join us in celebrating Harvest with friends,
food, worship and prayers.

Contact: Rev Jan Church to book a seat at the supper Tel:
07733433526 or revjanchurch@gmail.com



POP-UP CAFE

HILL HOUSE CHRISTIAN CENTRE

EVERY THURSDAY
10:00AM - 1:30PM

Otterhampton, TA5 2PT



HILLHOUSE@HILLHOUSE.ORG.UK

STARTING ON THURSDAY 8th OCTOBER

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR

Hill House WINTER WARMER

28 NOVEMBER, 2026

10:00 - 15:00

FOOD LIVE MUSIC GIFTS

HILLHOUSE@HILLHOUSE.ORG.UK



*Fancy Fish
And Chips*



Visiting
Combwich

Tuesday

27th October &
24th November

Friday

9th October

6th November

4th December



Otter Wheels

Your volunteer car scheme is here for you.

Is lack of transport a problem? Want to visit a friend or family, or go to the dentist, doctor, hospital, then maybe we can help.

Ring Otter Wheels on 07925154216— to book a trip, but please give as much notice as you can before you need to travel. You will need to register (if you have not already done so) on this number before you can book a trip

This not for profit car scheme has been running for several years with well over 1,600 trips completed. If you haven't tried us give us a go. Door to door service with friendly experienced drivers, all DBS checked and happy to help. Typical return journey prices are: -

	With bus pass	Without bus pass
Cannington Health Centre	£1.75	£3.50
Bridgwater Bus Station	£4.45	£8.90
Musgrove Hospital Taunton	£12.70	£22.70
Blackbrook Business Park	£9.55	£19.50

Including booking fee

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

This is our 10th Anniversary Year

Feedback

Email, comment, feedback, and suggestions to the editor please.

Stories, articles reports, events and other items for publication in the next edition of Otter Tales need to be received by Thursday 19th November 2026

Email The Editor:
barry.leathwood@btinternet.com

Church Bellringers

Contact bellringers for Birthday Bells, or if you would like a go at bell ringing.

combwichbells@outlook.com

Defibrillators can save your life.

The 2 Combwich defibrillators are positioned in the telephone box and on the corner of the Anchor in Ship Lane

The Steart defibrillator is positioned at Ferrices Farm.

Dial 999 to call for an ambulance then follow the simple instructions. **NO TRAINING NEEDED**



Otter Tales:

Editor: Barry Leathwood. Assisted by Steven Parker.
Distribution: Di Davie. Email dianadavie@hotmail.co.uk

Articles for publication: email

barry.leathwood@btinternet.com Published with the generous support of the Parish Council

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

Articles for the next issue by Thurs 19th November 2026

Mobile Library: Dates and Times.

Thursday 1st October, 29th October, 26th November

Combwich Harbour TA5 2QU 10.15 – 10.50

Combwich Shop TA5 2QW 10.55 – 11.20

Stockland Bristol Club TA5 2PY 11.30– 11.55

For more information about this service contact Somerset Direct 0300 123224 or visit www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries

To keep up to date with all that is happening in the parish check the various village noticeboards, log onto www.otterhamptonparishcouncil.gov.uk or visit the

“All Things Combwich” Facebook page.

For information about the village hall go to www.otterhamptonvillagehall.co.uk

For local history visit Combwich, Steart and Otterhampton Memories Facebook Group



To access the parish council website scan the QR code.



Your favourite Jam, Marmalade and chutney and also plants are still available.

Proceeds from the market will be donated to charity.

Ring Liz on 01278 652687



Otterhampton Parish Recreation Association operates a parish emailing service providing information about local events and other information about the local area.

If you wish to be included, email barry.leathwood@btinternet.com