

#### **ART, CRAFT & SOCIAL** GROUP

2.00pm - 4.00pm on the first Wednesday of every month

Come and meet like-minded Art & Crafters, bring your own materials.

£2.00 per session (includes tea and coffee).\

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

#### **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





### At the Village Hall Monday 1.00pm - 3.00pm

Tuesday 9.00am - 12.00pm

#### EAST CHINNOCK GARDENING & COUNTRYSIDE CLUB, **& PORTMAN COMMUNITY PARK**

Working Bees take place on the first Saturday of each month between 10.00am - 12.00 noon. Coffee and cake is available in the Room@thePark. Come along. bring a trowel, help plant some flowers for pollinators, have fun

and make new friends



East Chinnock WI (Women's Institute) meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 7.30 at The Village Hall. New members are always welcome. There is a monthly programme of events and plenty of friendly faces to meet. You can come to a couple of meetings and see if it's for you before you commit to membership.



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For more information: Visit hareatthechestnut.co.uk, call on 07496420117, or essage via Facebook



# The Chinnock Chimes

April/May 2025



### Now's the time to get down and dirty in the garden.

For the past few years I've won the trophy for the most points in the Fruit and Veg section and also the Stoodley Trophy for a collection of vegetables. It's time someone won them from me.

You'll find the classes and the rules in the Show Schedule that's delivered to every house in the village. You can make copies of the entry forms if you need to.

So come on you Gardening Wimps, try to wrest these trophies from my grubby gardener's hands if you dare.





This year's Village Show will be held on Saturday 26th July in the village hall, and we hope that everyone who can will enter their creative items into the Show.

We try to make it a fun event for everyone and have classes especially for children. Homemade cakes with tea or coffee will be available for you to enjoy for your refreshment.





Rik Rybicki

The following are the Handicraft, Art and Photographic classes for this year.

#### Handicraft

- 44 Any knitted or crocheted item
- 45 An item of needlework, tapestry, cross-stich or embroidery
- 46 Item of woodwork, maximum size 30 x 30 cm
- 47 You made it, let us see it

#### Art

- 48 Seascape
- 49 Tea for 2
- 50 Farming

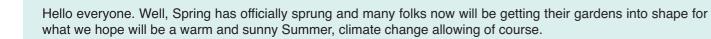
#### Photography (maximum size A4)

- 51 Portrait
- 52 Tree/trees
- 53 Vehicle/vehicles

### Parish Council and Local News

### Coffee Break

#### **Crossword Puzzle**



This is also the time to start planning what you might be interested in growing with our Village Show in mind, whether it be vegetables, fruit, shrubs, pot plants, flower arrangements - garden or wild flowers. All entries will be welcomed and we hope to have a high turnout for a fun afternoon. Copies of the Show Schedule with all the details you need will be arriving through your letterbox soon.

Hope to see you there!

The deadline for the next issue is May 11th.

Best wishes Angela

**EDITOR** 

Email: thechinnockchimes@btinternet.com



#### PLANNING AND PLANNING APPLICATIONS

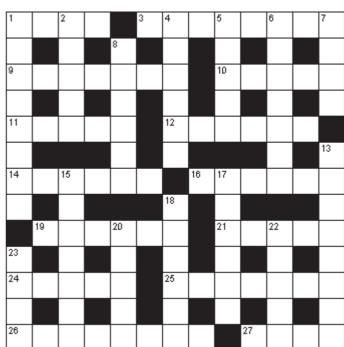
Planning App: 24/01790/FUL The erection of 6 dwellings and garages on land to the rear of Portman Arms.

An email from a resident was received relating to this planning application highlighting that they were unhappy with the design and layout of the plans and therefore did not support this application. The Parish Council agreed with their comments, and while they are happy to see some small development to improve the current 'eyesore' of a carpark, a resolution was passed to provide a 'neutral' response. (Proposer: Cllr Cox, Seconder: Cllr Wetherell).

There were no planning applications received after publication of the agenda.

Cllr. Goodes has continued to chase up Planning enforcement regarding the section 215 notice for the Woodentop Inn. He has also contacted the owner of the Woodentop regarding the overall condition of the plot, sharing the view of Parishioners that it is an eyesore and asking for it to be improved.

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 chinnock.hollow@	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 <sup>1/2</sup> -yrs) Scouts (10 <sup>1/2</sup> -14yrs)	Guides, Brownies, Rainbows			
Oliver Patrick 07969 269416 oliver.patrick@ somerset.gov.uk	Nancy Chapman ecparishcouncilclerk @yahoo.co.uk	Booking & Keys Martin Harris 01935 864582 martinatthegables@ btinternet.com	01935 862212	Kay Strode 07503 751133	James Divall 01935 863105	westcoker@girlguiding somerset.org.uk			
County Councillor	Citizens Advice Bureau	Entertainments Committee Chair	Westlake Dispensary	Pre - School (under 5's)	Explorers (14 - 18 years)	FEOFFEES			
Mike Hewitson mikehewitson@ somerset.gov.uk	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			



#### Across

 1 Multitude (4)
 1 W

 3 Zimbabwe, formerly (8)
 2 Si

 9 Male sibling (7)
 5 M

 10 Fear-stricken state (5)
 6 St

 11 Cabs (5)
 7 W

 12 Large bodies of water (6)
 6 St

 14 Fervent (6)
 13 E

 16 Consequence (6)
 13 E

 19 Northern Ireland (6)
 17 L

 21 Food from heaven (5)
 Ame

 24 Easily digested (5)
 18 E

 25 Pencilled picture (7)
 20 L

 26 Stubbornly persistent (8)
 22 E

 27 Fledgling's home (4)
 23 L

#### Down

- 1 Wonted (8) 2 Sitting Bull's tribe (5)
- 4 Famous public school (6)
- 5 Male duck (5)
- 6 Steadfast (7)
- 7 Weapons (4)
- 8 Selected (6)
- 13 Direct (8)
- 15 Inundated (7)
- **17** Large treeless plains in South America (6)
- **18** Direct (anag) (6)
- **20** Instructor (5)
- 22 Din (5)
- 23 Lowest female singing voice (4)

# Crossword Solution to the Previous Issue



#### **Entertainments Committee**

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



### 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.

LOTTERY WINNERS February 1st Jenny Symes 2nd Annette Spurrell

March 1st Duncan Goodes 2nd Sarah Homewood

# Launston.

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## 10 Village Hall Events

#### **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 Kirlew: 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 give a hand with weeding planters, plants taking hold to cover fence.Coffee and cake available at Room on the Park.

#### Soup Lunches

2nd Wednesday of the month, please see notices for details.

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 Gona

10:30am - 12.00pm every Thursday in the Hall . Telephone Robin Sheldrake: 07990 506833 for details.

#### **Pop Up Pub Night**

Friday April 25th 8-11pm Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Dogs welcome. £2 per person.



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#### **SOUP LUNCHES WINTER/SPRING 2025**

April 9th Village Hall

Please see notices and media for booking.

### St.Andrews Day Tea Party

Everyone is invited to a Tea Party at Blenheim, Westways on 23rd April from 2.30pm to celebrate St. Andrews Day. Please join us for Traditional afternoon tea.

This is a fundraiser for the toilet/servery project at St. Marys.

For further info contact 01935 863209.

# News from St. Mary's and our other Benefice Churches 3



#### Worship Services Apr/May 25

#### Palm Sunday 13th April, 6pm

Evening Prayer at All Saints Church Closworth. This includes the last of Rev Phil Macaulay's talks on Genesis and its relevance to our lives today. 'Conflict in the family'. (Note – there will be no Evening Prayer at St Mary's East Chinnock that Sunday).

#### **Easter Services**

Maunday Thursday 17th April, 7pm	Holy Communion at		
Good Friday 18th April, 10am	East Chinnock Walk		
2pm -7pm	All Saints Church Su All are welcome to co and pray.		
Easter Sunday 20th April 9.15am	Holy Communion at		
11am	Holy Communion at		
11am	Holy Communion at		
Sunday 27th April, 10am	Holy Communion at		
Sunday 4th May, 9.15am	Holy Communion at		
Sunday 11th, May 4pm 6pm	in St Mary's East ( meeting). Anyone on Evening Prayer at St		
Sunday 18th May 9.45am for 10am	Café Church, East C		
Sunday 25th May 10am	Holy Communion at		

#### Praver for village.

In April we are praying for households in High Street, Carter's lane, Portman Close, Chinnock Hollow, and Odcombe Hollow, and in May we are praying for households in College, The Village Hall, and Fordhay to the cottages beyond Bridge Farm Cider. Please do let us know any prayer requests you have. We would be glad to join our prayers with yours. The dedicated and confidential email to send prayer requests is prayeratstmarys@gmail.com

\*for further information on the Walk of Witness contact me on gilliantettmar@gmail.com

You can check for 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 QRcode on this page

- St Michael's Church East Coker.
- of Witness. Meet by the Portman Park.\*
- Sutton Bingham. Church will be open with praver stations. come along for as long or short a time as you wish to reflect
- St Roch's Church, Pendomer
- t St Martin's Church, West Coker
- St Mary's Church, Hardington
- St Mary's church, East Chinnock
- St Mary's church, East Chinnock

Chinnock church APCM(Annual Church Parish Council n the electoral role welcome to attend. St Mary's Church East Chinnock

- Chinnock Village Hall
- Holy Communion at St Mary's church, East Chinnock(tbc)



### News & Reviews

### Round and About

#### East Chinnock Gardening & Countryside Club

Community Clubs are long established part of our rural landscape. Yet there is a shift in focus to linking through social media and we see diminishing numbers in attendance. We persist because there are real benefits of community and gardening. To welcome residents we serve tea, coffee and cake so you can chat to Gardening Club members and learn more of how the club helps you get the most from your garden with shared gardening knowledge, plants and over the year, expert speakers.

#### Review

The more obvious part of the club are the monthly meetings. In February, Ben Garner, of Dorchester based Water Artisans, was a stunning speaker. His company has designed and built natural swimming pools, ponds and water features around the country. Each year they are invited to convert garden designers' ideas for water features at Chelsea Flower Show that are wonderfully complex and spectacular. It was a treat to view his work and enjoy his enthusiasm and expertise. This was a world class speaker.

#### Coming up:

April 6th, Saturday 10am -12noon (or any part of)- working bee at Portman Park, simple weeding and planting to keep this public space looking lovely.

April 14th, Monday (not 21st as Easter) 7 for 7.15 start - The speaker will be Brian Hesketh - on growing vegetables in your own garden without chemicals, so you can enjoy eating tasty and healthy veg.

May 19th, Monday - 7 for 7.15pm start - is the PLANT, SEED & Tool SWAP. This evening is open to all village residents to come along and obtain some plants for their garden. You are welcome even if you don't have anything to swap, just come and get some young plants already to grow on for fun.

We also have a knife and tool sharpener on site at very reasonable rates.

June ( date TBA) offers a summer treat to view Three Gardens in East Chinnock. Then sit in the sunshine and joy of an English Country Garden and have a cream tea.

You can see we are an active club. Clubs need members so why not come along to one of the meetings (visitors £3) and consider joining in. The busiest people can benefit most from time in the garden as the body and mind engage in the simple pleasure of seeing plants grow into flower or yummy vegetables. Gardening is a free activity that parents and children can share. You are welcome to come along and share the experience of garden club members. The location for talks is the Village Hall, East Chinnock.

The club is kept going by a small number of people who volunteer to be on the committee and we value fresh input from those who can contribute a few hours in a year.

On Sat April 6th we recommence the maintenance of the planter beds in Portman Park and the attention needed to encourage the plants established last year which are clambering up the front mesh fence. This will transform the fence into an attractive green and fragrant hedge as they grow.







PORTMAN PARK coming alive March 3rd 2025

**Diane Summer** 

#### Review

March 17th The speaker was Ian Hallet, a local show judge talking about the history and future of Village Shows. There is a community spirit in growing and showing vegetables and flowers as a vital part of village life. And this contributes to being sustainable in a world of climate change.

This was a fascinating talk where Ian showed us just what attributes and faults on the various vegetables and flowers that usually are on show are, what the judges look for: the defects to avoid, to stick to the exact requirements stated on the entry form and other tips on how to achieve points.

the club's nadir came during Covid, when our financial future was in the balance and consideration was given to just playing village friendlies. However, we stuck at it and with the building of the Jubilee Pavilion (and a slight name change reversal!) we saw an opportunity to re-launch the club, as a family based community hub. There are now thriving junior and women's sections, the WC&H Panthers in the mid Wessex Sunday League, alongside our senior Adult team in the Somerset Cricket Saturday League. We are also a host for Super 1s, disability cricket, through the Somerset Cricket Foundation. Our mission statement, Cricket For Everyone, For a Lifetime is truly being lived out.

As mentioned, family is important to us, and the Knibbs family name etched in the history of the club. So, in this important year we are fortunate to have one of our 'founding fathers', Barry Knibbs, continuing in his role as our club president (and ground guru).

As part of the Anniversary celebrations we will be hosting a 'Cricket Weekend' over 10th -14th July, with more details to follow. As always, we encourage everyone to support us and get involved whether that is playing, volunteering, sponsoring or becoming a social member to simply enjoy the cricket and good company.

#### West Coker & Hardington CC (Home fixtures 2025)

Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	14.00	Chard A XI (H)	MWL
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	13:30	Curry Rivel (H)	SCL
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	18.00	Queen Camel (H)	Un 12s
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00	Chard (H)	Un 10s
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	14.00	Yeovil Royal Blasters 2XI (H)	MWL
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	13:30	Bridgwater Pointers (H)	SCL
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00	West+Middle Chinnock (H)	Un 10s
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	14.00	Street (H)	MWL
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	18.00	West+Middle Chinnock (H)	Un 12s
Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	13:30	Wembdon 3XI (H)	SCL
Sunday 1st June	10.00	Yeovil Wildcats (H)	Un 10s
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	18.00	Long Sutton (H)	Un 12s
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	13:30	Taunton Indians 2XI (H)	SCL
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	14.00	Broadwindsor (H)	MWL
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	14.00	Taunton Deane (H)	Gibson Pairs
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	18.00	Yeovil Wildcats (H)	Un 12s
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	18.00	Thornford (H)	T20
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	13.30	Lydford Sports (H)	SCL
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	18.00	Crewkerne (H)	T20
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00	South Petherton (H)	Un 10s
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	14.00	Sherborne (H)	MWL
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	18.00	Newt (H)	T20
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	10.30	President's Match	T20
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	13:30	Long Sutton 2XI (H)	SCL
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	14.00	Broadway and Horton (H)	Gibson Pairs
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	14.00	Yeovil (H)	MWL
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> July	13:30	Trull (H)	SCL
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August	14.00	Milborne Port (H)	MWL
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> August	14.00	Staplegrove (H)	Gibson Pairs
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> August	18.00	Perrott Plodders (H)	T20
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> August	13:30	Holford (H)	SCL
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> August	14.00	Yeovil Royal Blasters 1XI (H)	MWL
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> August	18.00	Yeovil (H)	T20
Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> August	13:30	Butleigh 2XI (H)	SCL
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	14.00	Sherborne (H)	T20 MWL

#### Notes (fixtures may change and subject to weather!)

- MWL (Mid Wessex League), SCL (Somerset Cricket League), Gibson Pairs (Women)
- 10<sup>th</sup> 13t<sup>h</sup> July is 50 Years of West Coker and Hardington CC celebration weekend. More information to follow in April issue with details of outdoor practice start dates
- All Stars & Juniors Friday evening sessions run from mid May mid July

### Village Hall & Round and About

### News & Reviews

#### From the Village Hall Management Committee

**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

#### Village Hall Crockery

Quite a number of white pudding bowls are missing. Could users of the hall please check in their cupboards in case any have found their way there. This can easily happen if people take leftovers home after a village soup lunch or other social event. No penalty!

#### **BOOKS!**

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



#### There are 2 Table-Tennis tables available at the Village Hall

All you need to do is book the hall, bring your friends, bats and balls along for a fun session.



### West Coker & Hardington CC celebrating 50 years

There is a great picture in our Halves Lane clubhouse of a Hardington Mandeville cricket team dating back to 1897, but sadly there are no records from that era, so our story leaps forward to 1975 when the club was re-established over a few pints at The Mandeville Arms. As this was partly rivalry in response to

The Royal Oak down in Hardington Moor fielding a side, it was fitting that Charles Hooper (then landlord of The Mandeville Arms) was the club's first President.

With no home ground, apart from occasional use of The Royal Oak's field, all the early fixtures were away and as the team grew in numbers and strength, the need for a home ground became a priority. Passports were obtained and in 1977 a delegation headed up and over the ridge to sound out West Coker about use of their recreation ground at Halves Lane.

Permission was granted and then began the hard work of producing a 22 yard strip of grass that could pass as something resembling a cricket wicket, which, after a few years of hard work became an established square. In 1982 an army hut from Lufton was erected as a purpose built pavilion, with changing rooms and showers added shortly after.

Competitive cricket was initially played in The Frome Valley mid week league but the growing number and quality of playing members needed more challenges and so in 1980 Douglas Gall and Tony Hobson went to work forming the Sunday Mid Wessex Cricket League, which has since continued to flourish and grow with our Panthers joining this season.

A very successful youth section was formed in 1982, nurturing players for future senior sides and the following year we joined the Somerset Cricket League, bringing league cricket to Halves Lane for the first time. West Coker was incorporated into the club's name in recognition of the support given by the village during the formative years.

Five promotions in 9 years through the 90's, led to probably the club's most successful season in 2001 with promotions to Mid Wessex League Div 1, Somerset Cricket League Div 2 and winning the Frome Valley Cup. Over the years there have been many memories made and stories turned into bar folklore, none more so than when a star studded Somerset side played at Halves Lane in XXXX, with a young Stu Knibbs smashing Andy Caddick through the covers for four, on the way to victory!

Both fortunes and playing numbers have fluctuated over the years, which is symptomatic of village cricket nationally, and



#### Review

The WI had a visit from our local PCSO (Police Community Support Officer) for the Crewkerne Rural area, Caoimhe Hickey, at our March meeting which was most interesting.

Caoimhe (pronounced "Queever") first showed us the stab-proof vest she has to wear and the equipment it housed including colour video equipment, a radio, torches and notebook. The vest looked big and cumbersome, and it weighed 14lb which needed to be worn at all times, including when chasing and pinning down shoplifters! The vest is made of kevlar, a strong, heat-resistant synthetic fiber.

Caoimhe loves her job of 19 years which is just as well as she starts work at 6am and works long hours. As a PCSO, the role is a key liaison point between local communities and policing. Very much a modern-day "Bobby on the beat", PCSOs provide a visible, accessible and approachable uniformed presence in the community to offer reassurance, defuse situations with threats of conflict, improve confidence and trust, gather information and foster good community relations.

Her role involves visiting schools and talking to children to try to educate them and encourage respect for the police; dealing with shoplifters (sadly an all-too-often occurrence); holding 'beat surgeries' where you can meet to discuss any concerns, and dealing with burglaries, which in our area tend to be more rural and farming related e.g. theft of agricultural equipment and even sheep or cattle. Her top advice for small farms or smallholdings was to get CCTV and **Avon and Somerset Police** marking equipment with ink that can only be seen with Delivering outstanding policing to specialist equipment.

The next Beat Surgeries are on Saturday 12 April : 10:30 to 11:30 at Merriott Village Hall 11:30 to 12:30 at South Petherton Library



# **AFTERNOON TEA**

incl. mini war exhibition\*

### Thursday 8 May 2025

The Room @ The Park (old Church Room)

3-5pm

All welcome

### Wear red, white & blue!

\*if you have anything small and WWII related and would like it to be included in the exhibition, please contact Sara Russell on 07746 032299 or sara.russell@btopenworld.com





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#### East/West Coker Branch RBL Special Cheese and Wine Evening

In the year when we celebrate VE and VJ day, we are thrilled to announce a night of great entertainment featuring the

#### **HMS Heron Volunteer Band**

Those who have had the pleasure of seeing them perform can attest to the enjoyable experience they provide. We can be sure of the prospect of a fantastic night ahead, filled with great music, delicious food and wine. Don't miss out on what promises to be a memorable evening.

#### Venue: East Coker Village Hall. Date: 9th May Start: 7:30 pm

Tickets: £14 (includes a glass of wine) Tickets available from: Jill Holland (tel 862782), Jude Petheram (tel 863531), Marilyn Smith (tel 863944).

### The Heartwarming Story of St. Mary's Windows

Many residents of East Chinnock are familiar with the story behind the windows, but relative newcomers who have not yet ventured into the Church may find the story of interest.

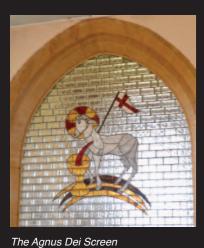
Gunter Anton was an 18 year old prisoner of war, a rear gunner in the Luftwaffe shot down over Southampton. Sent to the POW Camp at Houndstone near Yeovil, like many other prisoners, he was allowed to live and work on a local farm and was sent to Court Farm, East Chinnock in 1945.

He often visited St. Mary's, where he found comfort and help, and prayed for his parent's safety. Before the war, he had trained in making stained glass and looking at the church from the farm, he developed the idea of making a stained glass window.

He returned to Germany in 1948 and with his father, built up a stained glass window making business. He returned to East Chinnock in 1962, bringing the beautiful window in the South wall of the nave, followed by the North Sanctuary window in 1967.

In 1969, he sent the glass for several more windows ahead, which was impounded by HM Customs & Excise who found it difficult to believe that it was a gift. After its release and installation, Gunter returned again to complete the windows, finally building the glass screen in June 1988. The work took 26 years, given as a thanksgiving for a safe return from the war, as an act of reconciliation and an acknowledgement of the kindness and help he received from the people of East Chinnock.

The windows were dedicated in 1989, Gunter died six months later, but as friends in Germany said, it seemed that his life's work was done.





The Annunciation in the centre South nave



Mary with the baby Jesus and Christ the King Photos by Martin Harris



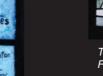


The Archangels, Raphael and Uriel above, Michael and Gabriel below.









CHURCH.

Gunter Anton's signiture



The Anna window on the North wall



The healing of the blind beggar on the North East nave



The slaughter of the Holy Innocents and the Flight into Egypt over the West door

PAMPHLETS CONTAINING MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ARE AVAILABLE INSIDE THE



The South West window depicting the Crucifiction