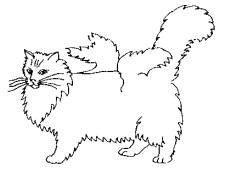


Wiveliscombe Messenger



Serving the Wivey Area August/September 2005 No 48

10 A feast of the arts

10 parishes festival

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SEPTEMBER will bring a feast of the arts to this area as the second, hugely successful 10 Parishes Festival gets underway.

Almost seven thousand people were involved as visitors, workshop participants and artists at the last one and this, from September 10th - 18th, promises to be even more exciting.

Artists, craftspeople and organisers have spent months planning a feast of viewing and hands-on activities in each of the ten parishes - Milverton, Wiveliscombe, Bathelton, Ashbrittle, Brompton Ralph and Clatworthy, Fitzhead, Chipstable with Waterrow, Stawley and Huish Champflower.

"You expect festivals like this in big towns and cities, but to find it in such a rural area is terrific," said Festi-

By Sue Mitchinson

val Organiser Pauline Homeshaw.

"It's wonderful seeing so many people working together, professionals and amateurs, and it's very exciting planning and running an arts festival on this scale."

Artists, potters, sculptors and photographers will be mingling with film makers, performers and creative people of many disciplines at galleries and open studios, while children and



Pauline Homeshaw, irrepressible and inexhaustible organiser of the festival

young people will be a particular focus with a huge variety of workshops and

shows.

Cream teas, wine and snacks and traditional Indian cuisine will be offered at various venues, and a special launch as well as a grand finale of celebration in Wiveliscombe is planned.

The idea of the 10 Parishes Festival grew from plans to alternate with the extremely successful Somerset Art Weeks, held every two years, as well as from efforts to regenerate rural areas after the devastation

of foot and mouth disease.

"Life in rural areas has changed," said Pauline. "A recent study found that rural crafts will overtake conventional work such as farming in time, and a new population is demanding other things."

Financing a festival on this scale requires a huge amount of fundraising and help has come from many quarters, including councils, local businesses and charities.

To find out all you want to know about the 10 Parishes Festival see the Festival Guides available from August in shops, libraries and community centres or log on to www.wiveliscombe.com or www.tauntondeane.gov.uk/heartofsomerset and click on Arts & Crafts. For further information ring 01984 624564 or 01984 624777.

Deadline for next issue

THE deadline for copy for the October/ November issue is Thursday September 1st. All material can be sent or delivered to Wiveliscombe House or sent by email to: messenger@wiveliscombe.com

Our aim is to ensure that copies of the Messenger are delivered and available to the community within three days of publication. If you can help us with delivery please contact Hilary Miller 01984 623875.

Editorial Team

Hilary Miller: 623875 - Newspaper co-ordinator
Brian Collingridge: 624336 - Local Economic Initiatives
David Bond: 623308 - Photographic, general interest
Pauline Homeshaw: 624564 - General interest
Lavinia Werrett: 01823 401464 - Milverton correspondent
Dave Meehan: 624544
Simon Turnbull: 01984623330
Ilana Alder: 624102
 E-mail: messenger@wiveliscombe.com

More festival news on pages 6 and 7

EDITORIAL

WE are delighted to welcome Simon Turnbull on to the Messenger Editorial Team.

Simon has written the occasional article for the Messenger before and many of you will be aware of his tangential, not to say iconoclastic, view of modern life and mores.

He promises that the juxtaposition of pigeons and cats will be a feature of his role as a contributor and as a conduit for other writers to the paper.

Simon is also chairman of the excellent Jim Laker Fund committee.

We focus on the 10 Parishes Festival in this edition. Sue Mitchinson of Something to Say and Pauline Homeshaw, the Festival

Organiser, have put together a really exciting programme and a comprehensive guide to the arts and crafts treats which you can enjoy in September.

The Messenger welcomes articles and information about all local activities, clubs and societies. However, it is worth remembering space is often limited and your article has more chance of being published if it is of a reasonable length and submitted by the deadline.

We would prefer articles to be emailed direct to messenger@wiveliscombe.com but they can also be left, typed at least please, in Wiveliscombe House for collection. The deadline for the next edition is always on the front page of the current edition.

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