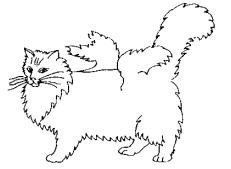


# Wiveliscombe Messenger



Serving the Wivey Area August/September 2006 No 54

## MESSANGER EDITORIAL

# There's bronze in them thar hills!

## 2,000-plus years of history beneath our feet

WIVELISCOMBE is bursting with exciting developments - the wonderful RED HAT artisan's co-operative which we feature in this issue of the Messenger, archaeological finds at Maundown, the Silents Film Festival and the completion of the Jim Laker Fund managed Brewery Plaque Trail; extra thanks must go to John Alder for all his time and commitment to the trail.

Just look in this edition of the Messenger to see what else has been happening.

Let's hope the good weather continues so that we can all enjoy the huge selection of fetes and other events advertised in Diary Dates; we even have a fashion feature so that you know what to wear to all those unmissable local occasions.

We look forward to your contributions to the next issue - email articles direct to [messenger@wiveliscombe.com](mailto:messenger@wiveliscombe.com). 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.

## Deadline for next issue

**THE deadline for copy for the October/November issue is Thursday August 31st.**

All material can be sent or delivered to Wiveliscombe House or sent by email to: [messenger@wiveliscombe.com](mailto: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:** 623330  
**Ilana Alder:** 624102

E-mail: [messenger@wiveliscombe.com](mailto:messenger@wiveliscombe.com)

**ALMOST 500 Wiveliscombe and 10 Parishes residents were lucky enough to be given a fantastic preview of a 2,000 year old Iron Age settlement when Wessex Water opened their Maundown treatment works site on the hot evening of Wednesday 19th July.**

The archaeologists had been called in immediately after a Bronze Age cremation and funeral urn, dating from 2,500 BC, were found. This important find alerted them to the possibility of more treasures nearby!

People began queuing early in the evening to see what else the experts had uncovered but they didn't expect to see such exciting discoveries!

Most excitingly, two hours earlier, a hoard of Roman bronze coins had been discovered resting under stones at the entrance to one of the clearly defined roundhouses.

Richard McConnell, Project Manager of Context One Archaeological Services, who is conducting the dig said: "This is really pushing the boundaries. This site is around 3rd Century Iron Age, but the people were still living as if it were 400 years earlier.



Richard McConnell shows local people what the Maundown roundhouses probably looked like

"It's as if Roman style living had passed them by".

The coins were clearly visible tumbling out of the rim of a buried pot. Both Richard and Bob Croft, SCC County Archaeologist, agree that this site represents an important discovery in Somerset and adds greatly to their knowledge of West Somerset's pre-history.

The dig had already produced the well-preserved outlines of two roundhouses, numerous pits, postholes, ditches, gullies and some limited industrial activity.

The floor of the roundhouse, in which the hoard of coins was discovered, is in particularly good condition and it was even possible to imagine Iron Age families living and working in and around the site because so much pottery, daub, pieces of iron, burnt stones and charcoal have been found.

The archaeologists said that there would be very much more to discover as the site represents what could possibly be a much larger settlement stretching to the west.

Wessex Water has been extremely accommodating

to the archaeologists. Mark Lloyds, Project Manager of the site, said: "Whilst this is causing some delay, we agree that it is important to preserve such findings as best we can and to provide this information to local residents".

Thanks are due to the expertise of the archaeologists in uncovering and presenting such treasures and to Wessex Water for holding an "Open Site" - and what planning - the week happened to be National Archaeology Week!

PH

## It's not the dogs' fault - I blame the owners

THE Parish Council rarely has a meeting where someone does not complain about dog's mess on the streets and footpaths of Wiveliscombe.

Jews Lane, the road to Langley, outside the Primary School - there is almost no where that inconsiderate dog owners do not leave their mark despite the Civic Society providing a free supply dog poo bags for anyone who asks at Wiveliscombe House.

### So what is the law?

The Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 allowed Local Authorities the power to designate 'No Fouling Zones' or 'Designated Areas'. In Taunton Deane the general rule is that if you are out in a public place, chances are it has been designated.

### What does that mean to a dog owner?

It is now an offence to allow your dog to foul and for you not to clean up the faeces immediately.

If an officer of the local authority witnesses you then you can expect to be prosecuted.

If the owner did not see the dog foul or

did not have a bag with him/her, they could not be prosecuted?

Yes you could. Not seeing the dog foul or not having a bag is no defence and you could be prosecuted.

If I let the dog out on its own, I could not be prosecuted?

Yes you could. If the dog is witnessed by a local authority officer and you are the registered owner/keeper of the dog.

Would I be prosecuted for a first offence?

Yes, because of the health risks to young children and the number of complaints from the public.

### So what is the punishment?

The Act has increased the fine to a maximum of £1,000 and you would also gain a criminal record.

If I see other people allowing their dogs to foul what can I do about it?

You can contact the Dog Warden's Service on 01823 356550. In that way the Dog Wardens can target irresponsible owners.

A pamphlet "Dog Fouling The Law" is available from the Wiveliscombe Community Office.

Printed and published by the West Somerset Free Press on behalf of the Wiveliscombe Civic Society

**RE-NU KITCHENS**  
 WANT A NEW KITCHEN?  
**JUST CHANGE THE DOORS!**  
 RE-NU WORKSHOP makes doors and drawer-fronts. ANY SIZE - which we fit onto your existing kitchen cupboards and bedroom wardrobes. We also fit new worktops, extra cupboards, sinks and appliances.  
**LESS TIME, DISTURBANCE AND COST**  
 A personal and local service  
 Telephone Jim Foster on 01984 618499  
[www.re-nukitchens.co.uk](http://www.re-nukitchens.co.uk)

**FORD ROAD-WIVELISCOMBE**  
**TEL. 01984 624273**  
**EDWARD PRECISION SAW SERVICES**  
**RETAIL SHOP OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY**  
 8am - 1pm & 1.45pm - 5pm  
**YOUR LOCAL STOCKIST FOR NEW AND SECONDHAND WOODWORKING MACHINERY**  
**FULL TOOL, CUTTER AND SAW SHARPENING SERVICE**

**THE LARDER**  
 20 WEST STREET WIVELISCOMBE  
 Tel. 01984 623236

- ★ Fresh Fruit and Vegetables ★
- ★ Homemade Pies, Quiches and Cakes ★
- ★ Fresh Fish ★
- ★ Fresh Bread (some baked in shop) ★
- ★ Free Range Eggs ★
- ★ Extensive Range of Cheeses ★
- ★ Dried Fruits and Pulses ★
- ★ Old Fashioned Sweets ★
- ★ Plants ★

**FULL RANGE OF SHEPPYS CIDERS AND LOCAL WINES**