



Issue #001
May - June

FREE

Driving Miss Diane

Local News - Community Contributions - Food - Puzzles!



Welcome all!

Preface from Diane

This month marks quite a massive milestone for us as we launch the very first issue of our newsletter for the community, so firstly, thank you for taking the time out of your day to give this a read! Before we dive into this edition, I think it's a good time to talk about why we chose to create a newsletter in the first place - and the main reason behind the decision is to hopefully connect us all a little closer.

Since I started the business in August 2024, it became pretty obvious that this was never going to be as simple as taking customers from A to B and that's completely down to all of the very friendly people of Shepton Mallet and beyond who we've gotten to know and are part of our day to day lives.

Community is so important to our well-being, providing a sense of belonging and support and our hope is that through this newsletter you will all feel a little more connected; to me, Harry, our lovely town and hopefully to each other.

With each newsletter aiming to release around the end of every month, we'll take the time to sit back and reflect on the past four weeks as well as look ahead at what's happening around the Shepton area. Whether you're interested in hearing all about upcoming events, local news and businesses or simply wanting to hear what we and other customers got up to - this newsletter will hopefully have something for all of our readers!

To finish up on that note, if you have any feedback or suggestions on what you'd like to see in this newsletter or if you would like to contribute something then we'd love to hear, as we really want to strengthen our community and take you along for the journey (through the stories in our newsletter as well as quite literally around town, of course!)

Under this lovely summer's sun, a great way to keep cool is with a quick visit to the **Collett Park Café** that is usually open during the nice weather - serving tasty ice creams as well as other small bites to enjoy.



JANET, FROM OAKHILL

We asked some of our customers if they wanted to send us a photo that brought them joy. Janet was quick to send in this peculiar apple which made her chuckle - with its appearance alike Santa or Elvis Presley.



RUTH, FROM SHEPTON MALLET

"Here's my happy photo, now that they serve drinks and snacks it's nearly perfect. It can be a short walk with time to read a book or a longer walk to feel healthier." Ruth and the rest of us can definitely say that we're glad to have Collett Park.



The Food Section - By Diane

The very first food shout-out should go to a special place in town and where else like it, than the **Cheeky Bean Café**? Located in the market place, Harry and I started meeting here when we first began working together. We would meet here on a Friday morning after looking around the stalls of the market, when we both had a free hour. It's been a good while since that's happened, but we made time last week on my birthday. It certainly did not disappoint. Offering **100% free range** produce, the quality is amazing. My favourite meal is the full breakfast and Harry had the same but packed into a burger. Truly wonderful food cooked with passion and flare!



With the temperatures only getting hotter and hotter as we come into summer, here's the **best advice on keeping safe and cool**

- Place a shallow bowl of ice in front of a fan for a chilled breeze.
- Face your fan out of a room or window during the cooler evenings, to exhaust the hot air.
- Cool your pulse-points like your wrists, neck or forehead with a cold, rinsed cloth.

Marion, from the Ridgeway in Shepton, recommends a fan that goes around your neck like headphones to stay cool.



Our friends, Kris & Kevin, are proud to have opened their brand **new plant and gardenalia shop** - Thomas D'arcy!

Their business is now located in **Wells** on **Market Street** in the Loaf courtyard, but you can also find them at the **Shepton Mallet Friday & Sunday Markets**.

Out & about with Harry

Sometimes, when I have the time, I decide to avoid the motorway altogether and stick to the rural roads for a nice touch of scenery. On a journey down to Brighton, I was rather glad I did - as this took me right across the South Downs and through dozens of quaint, idyllic British villages and hamlets. Each with their own charm, cottages with thatched roofs and perfectly preserved red telephone boxes and duck ponds. Pairing this with the summer weather that brought out all of the classic cars onto the roads, it truly felt like I had travelled back in time.

In the heart of the South Downs, I noticed something rather odd and I quickly parked my car up near an old post office that appeared to have been turned into someone's home. This wasn't what had caught my attention, however, but rather a church called All Hallows in the small village of Tillington. The tower of the church is boldly crested by a "Scot's Crown" spire, held from four flying buttresses, which gives off a striking presence. Arguably the most notable "Scot's Crown" can be found upon St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh.



(The "Scot's Crown" on the All Hallows church of Tillington)

Get connected with our community

We would love for everyone to

join in on the fun and feel just that touch more connected with their community - so if you would like to share something via this local newsletter then simply send us a photo that brings you joy, tell us a little bit about why and you may just see it in a future issue!

Our goal is for our newsletter to remain free for all, but if you would like to spare some pennies towards the printing material costs, then your **donation** would be very much appreciated indeed. The newsletter will be available to pick up from your driver, or alternatively it is available online either via our website or through email - just give us an email to ask and we'll sign you up for an automated service!

Contact us - drivingmissdiane@gmail.com

If you want to see what we're up to on a more regular basis, check out our Facebook page!





WHAT'S ON?

Dates for your diary

June 1-3 – Exhibition Train – East Somerset Railway – (Free event/booking required)

June 5 - The Voice of the Ditchheat Organ - St Mary Magdalene Church, Ditchheat,

June 7 – Giant Flea Market – Bath & West Showground

June 12-14 - Antique & Collectors Fair - Bath & West Showground

June 13 - Repair Café - Art Bank - 11am -1pm

June 13 - Collett Park Day - 10am-5pm (FREE EVENT)

June 14 - Open Gardens by Shepton Snowdrops - 12pm-5pm

June 14 – Carer Cream Tea – Make the Sunshine Studio - (Free/Donations welcome)

June 18-28 - Shepton Mallet Midsummer Festival - Various

June 27 – Big Draw – Collett Park – 10am -1pm (Free event)

July 3 – 5 – Autofest – Bath & West Showground

July 17-19 – Rock n Ribs – Bath & West Showground

August 16 - Mid-Somerset Show (FREE EVENT)

August 30 - Circus in the Park (FREE EVENT)



WHAT'S ON?

FREE Regular events

Monday -

Watch this space... Know an event happening on Monday? Let us know!

Tuesday -

Ascend – Make the Sunshine Studio – Fortnightly – 5:15-6pm
(Dance for d/Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent young people)

Baby Boogie & rhymetime – Library – Weekly 10am

Beginner Walks (1 mile) – 2nd & 4th in month – 10am Meet at Collett park

Men's Shed – Weekly - Charlton Industrial Estate 9am – 12pm

Pain Café support group - 1st in the month 10:30– 12pm – Mind Office

Wednesday -

Crochet and chat – Weekly - Art Bank – PM

Men's Shed – Weekly - Charlton Industrial Estate 9am – 12pm

Social & games – The Club – 4th in month 2:30-4pm – Run by Dementia Alliance

Talking Café – Weekly 10-12pm in the Art Bank

Watercolours – Art Bank – 2nd and 4th in month afternoons (materials provided)

Thursday -

Digital Café – Weekly in Library – 2-4pm (help with any digital devices)

Men's Shed – Weekly - Charlton Industrial Estate 9am – 4pm

Creativity for over 55's – 2nd in month - Make the Sunshine Studio – 10:15am

Friday -

Games Café – Aimed at ages 18-30 – Weekly 1:30-3pm in the Mind office

Shepton Mallet Friday Market – Weekly in the market place with various stalls from local businesses

Music & singing – 3rd in month 1:45pm-3:30pm Salvation Army
(For people with memory problems, learning difficulties or suffering from loneliness)

Saturday -

Football is fun – Ages 3-6 – 10am in Collett park

Sunday -

Community Yoga in the park -Weekly - Starts 10am – bring a mat

Shepton Mallet Sunday Market – Last Sunday each month – Shepton Market place - Local artisan market with fresh food stalls, antiques, gardenalia, workshops & music!

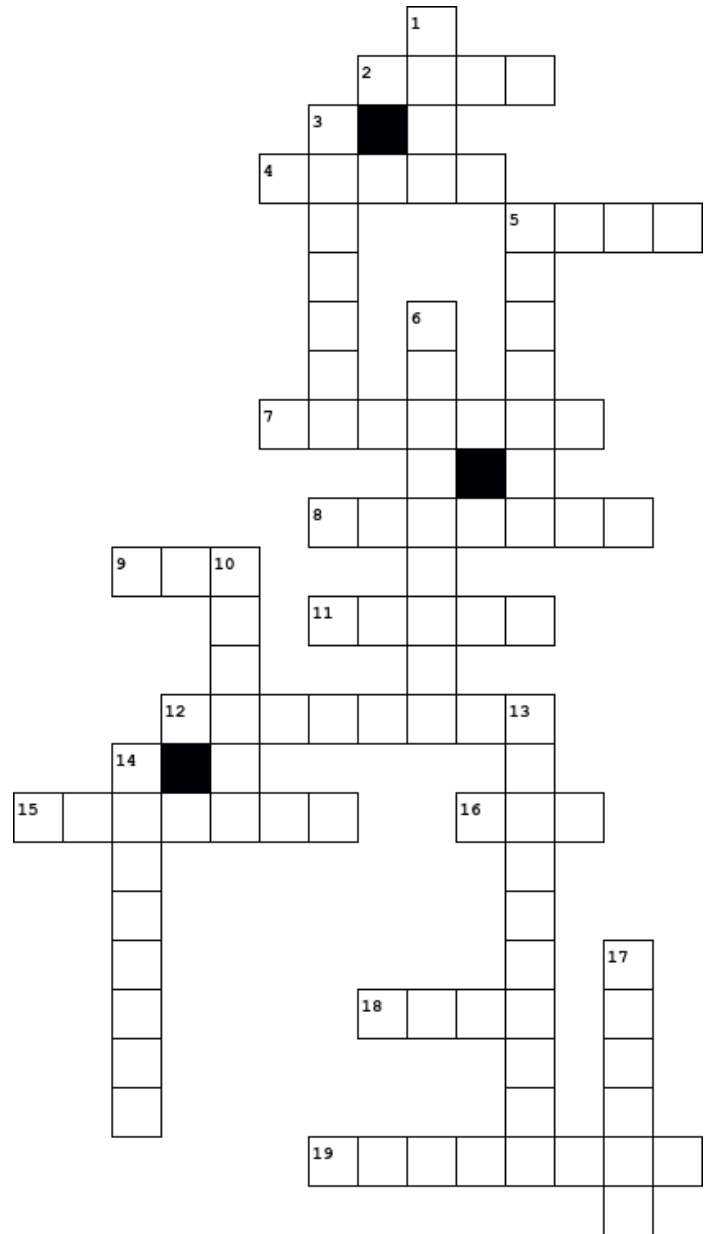
Puzzle Sheet

Across

2. Place devoted to agricultural processes
4. Drink created through the fermentation of apples
5. Recreational grounds for the public to enjoy the outdoors
7. Trains stop and load passengers here
8. Establishment producing beers, ales and ciders
9. Places in which people can enjoy a good pint
11. Steep-sided valley or ravine
12. Grade II listed old market stall
15. Carries water through Shepton Mallet
16. Geographically distinct hill or formation
18. Outdoor swimming area, sure to be busy in the summer
19. Bell-shaped flower with an annual celebration in Shepton

Down

1. Small, informal places to grab a tea, coffee or sandwich
3. Elevated bridge to carry rail
5. Depressions in the road across Shepton Mallet
6. First to boast its gothic style and located in Wells
10. A senior member of the Christian clergy
13. Open, expansive area dedicated to hosting events
14. Large war memorial found in Shepton Mallet
17. Facility designed to confine individuals



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STREET
DOWNSIDE
RADSTOCK
COXLEY
DEAN
PRESTLEIGH
SHEPTON
WELLS
CHESTERBLADE
CHELYNCH
BATH
FROME
EVERCREECH
PILTON
TAUNTON
YEOVIL
CROSCOMBE
BOWLISH
CHEDDAR
BODDEN

Crossword answers revealed next issue