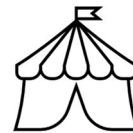


BABCARY NEWS AND VIEWS

BABCARY SUMMER FETE



Saturday 20th June



3pm on the Playing Field

PLANTS

CAKES

RAFFLE

TEAS

PROSECCO

CHILDREN'S TOMBOLA

WHITE ELEPHANT

SIDE SHOWS

BOTTLE STALL

This month we have news of the Cricket Club and Arts and Craft Group, plus an interesting article on the Shop.

We hope to see you all at the Fete for a fun afternoon!

Deadline for the July/August edition; 22nd June

Email: carolehartnell@googlemail.com.



Babcary Village Calendar 2027



If you have any good photos of Babcary, Foddington or Steart please email them, with the suggested month, to Jazz Tucker at babcaryparishclerk@icloud.com. Winter has already passed so any autumn or winter scenes can be sent in straight away

Cricket Club Report



Babcary Cricket Club Maintain Winning Start

Babcary Cricket Club played their first away fixture of the season on Friday 15th May, travelling to face local rivals Ditcheat Cricket Club in the East Somerset Premier League.

After Babcary lost the toss, Ditcheat elected to bat first, hoping to make the most of the conditions before the weather and light deteriorated as the evening wore on. Babcary worked hard in the field to keep the Ditcheat scoring under control, although the home side had two key batters who made the bulk of their runs and proved difficult to remove.

Charles Pitt made the important breakthrough by bowling the Ditcheat captain, while Steve Paul claimed the other key wicket, thanks to an excellent catch from Ali Lyle. The ball seemed to hang in the air for an eternity, but Ali held his nerve superbly. Ditcheat were eventually all out for 130 — a total Babcary knew would be a challenging chase.

Babcary's openers, Patrick Legg and Steve Paul, laid a solid foundation giving the visitors a strong platform. However, as the rain showers became increasingly heavy and the darkening skies made it harder to see the ball, the match developed into a tense and competitive contest.

With 33 runs needed from the final four overs, the game was finely balanced. Charles Pitt then struck a crucial consecutive six and four to put Babcary firmly in the driving seat. From there, the team held their nerve and secured victory with an over to spare.

The final result was: Babcary beat Ditcheat who were 130 all out.

It was an excellent result against a tough rival and means Babcary maintain their 100% winning record in the East Somerset Premier League. A great start to the season — and many thanks to everyone who came along to support, especially given the weather.

Batting - P Legg 28, S Paul 27, E Roberti 2, R Canterbury 17 NO, C Pitt 24 NO.

Bowlers - D Shardlow O4, M1, W2 R14.

A Bosgowan O4, M0, W2, R23

C Pitt O4, M0, W1, R22

J De Morinerre, O1, M0, W0, R11

P Legg O2, M0, W1, R16

P Cuff O3,M0,W0,R9
S Paul O2,M0,W3,R11

Fixtures:

Fri 5th June Babcary v Martock (home) league T20
Sun 14th June Babcary v Kingsdon (away) league T20
Fri 26th June Babcary v Sparkford (away) league T20
Sun 5th July Babcary v Ditchat (home) Fosse Cup 50 overs
Sun 12th July Babcary v Dircheat (away) Fosse Cup 50 overs
Tues 28th July Babcary v The Newt (away) friendly T20

Babcary Art & Craft Group

The Babcary Art and Craft Group was set up to give like-minded creatives a place to meet to discuss their latest projects and share new ideas.

The first meeting was on 19th February this year, with the aim to meet fortnightly in the Hut between 7.00 and 8.30 pm. It was always intended to be an informal activity allowing participants to drop in when able.

There is a core of usually seven attendees most weeks and the crafts/art covered ranges between knitting, crochet, cross stitch, tapestry work, hand embroidery, drawing, watercolour painting and mixed media/collaging.

There's a range of expertise among the regular attendees and if you're at the start of your creative journey or want to try something new, there'll be plenty of help and guidance available.

The group has plans for some creative workshops during the summer months so keep an eye on the newsletter for announcements. Booking will be essential, as places will be limited and a small fee will be charged to cover the cost of materials.

We are all very friendly and would love you to join us.

Gilli Salmons

The dates for Babcary Art & Craft Group are:

28 May
11 & 25 June
23 July
20 August
3 & 17 September
7 to 8.30 pm in the hut - all welcome

NEWS VIEWS AND COMMENTS

Congratulations to Emily (Kingston) and Ellie on the birth of Monty George who weighed in at 7lb 13oz on 27th April.

Congratulations also to Joe and Dixie Mattock on the birth of Meadow who was born on the 3rd May.

We were very sorry to hear that Betty Witcher has died at the grand old age of 96 on 27th April. She wrote some lovely poetry some of which appeared in this newsletter. Our condolences to Jan and Mike and all Betty's family.

Welcome (back) to Holly and James Norman and their children Jack, Frankie and Otis who move into their new house this month.

Weather Report

Babcary received 25.7mm of rainfall during April. There was no rain for the last 10 days of the month. This was approximately 60% of our long-term average. We had a heavy hailstorm on 11th of the month with over 10mm of rain.

Steve Street

Looking after our nesting birds

During this beautiful spring when everything is growing like mad, this is a friendly reminder that, as we work on our gardens, it's bird nesting season and it's not only not recommended, but even potentially illegal - to do anything that might disturb or harm nesting birds. Those that follow the news will perhaps be aware that wild bird numbers in general are plummeting dramatically, most of all in farmland areas like ours which have seen a 60% decline since 1970. And while there are multiple causes, some beyond our control, there are others that we can do something about, one of which is to refrain from trimming trees, shrubs and hedges from 1st March through to September

The law in question is the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, which says that all wild birds, their nests (from the moment they start building) eggs and chicks, are protected. It covers not only deliberate, but also careless or reckless harm, especially to birds on the ever growing "red list", a number of which we have in our neighbourhood. So it's important to know that by trimming trees and hedges in spring and summer you may be inadvertently breaking the law. Simply disturbing red list birds through, for example, using power tools near their nests, can still be illegal.

While this may sound draconian, there has been considerable alarm and added urgency this spring with the publication of the RSPB's latest annual bird survey figures which shows further steep decline in some species, resulting in the addition of more of our local birds, including greenfinches, to the "red list". This is the official advice from Somerset Council's website <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/planning-buildings-and-land/bird-nesting-season-guidance/> :

Bird nesting season usually takes place between March and September each year. However, the timing can vary depending on weather conditions and bird species.

Works can take place to trees and hedgerows during bird nesting season as long as a thorough inspection has taken place on the site by a qualified specialist for example, tree surgeon or ecologist prior to any works commencing to ensure nesting birds or other wildlife are not disturbed.

However, it is strongly recommended to undertake vegetation or tree works outside this period to prevent the risk of disturbing nesting birds or other wildlife.

The website goes on to cite the 1981 Countryside Act: *The penalties for disturbing nesting birds can include unlimited fines and up to six months in prison. All nesting birds, their eggs and nests are protected by law.*
Irene & Vee

From Sarah Groves (nee Bailey).

I am grateful to have been able to bring my parents; Marion & Robin Bailey to their final resting place in Babcary churchyard on 7th May. Babcary was always the place they considered home and they both had fond memories of their time here fully participating in village activities. Robin helped to build the hall on the playing fields and Marion helped in the running of the village shop, fete and sewing circle.

Clock Golf

Advance notice of the annual Babcary Clock Golf Tournament. 9th August (Sunday) on the immaculate lawns of Percy House by kind permission of Robin & Jenny

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Shop Rota

6 th June	Helen and Teresa	4 th July	Judy and Lesley
13 th June	Lucy and Jenny	11 th July	NO SHOP -SPORTS DAY
20 th June	NO SHOP - FETE	18 th July	Jan and Karen
27 th June	Rita and Carole	25 th July	Caroline and Tracyanne
		1 st August	Gilli and Shirley

Mobile Library

Visits the bus shelter on 4th June from 12.55 – 1.15pm

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE

Sports Day

Babcary Sports Day will be on Saturday 11th July from 2.45pm

100 Club - REMINDER

Subs for the new year are now due. £12 per person please. this is a major fund raising activity for the upkeep of the playing field, the Hut and the playground equipment. Please send a BACS transfer with your surname as the reference.

Tennis club - REMINDER

Subs for the coming year are now due. £75 family membership or £40 per adult and £20 for children. If you are a new member please contact Simon Hoar 07904 344453 for access. Please send a BACS transfer with your surname as the reference.

Bank details: Acc name: Babcary Playing Field, sort code: 09 01 55, acc no. 7452 5181.

Rubbish

There is now a big new green bin just inside the gate of the playing field which is both for dog waste and litter.

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

An article overleaf from the Evening Post in April 1984 about the Community Shop, when the shop was held in one end of Church Farm. On the same page is a special offer for a new Renault 11 which could be yours for just £5,470 - *with a free Sinclair Spectrum thrown in.*

Sarah Bailey (formerly of Robin's Nest, North St – now known as Ford Cottage) visited Babcary last month to have her parents (Robin & Marion) ashes interred in the churchyard. She kindly left with us some memorabilia including this article about the shop. It has her as a teenager on the left and a young looking Rita Kingston centre right.

Robin was related to several of the old Babcary families. He was born in Milton House in North St and lived in Tydvil Cottage for a while.

Service with a smile



Left to right: Sarah Bailey, Anne Watson, Rita Kingston and Diana Olive at the Babcary community shop.

A COMMUNITY shop held every Saturday in a farmhouse room at Babcary, near Yeovil, is doing wonders for village life.

Other villages may be keen to start their own after hearing of its success.

Villagers meet and newcomers get to know each other. Home cooks and gardeners can earn cash and raise money for village projects.

The shop has the blessing of sub-postmistress Mrs Isable Goldsworthy who has run the post office and more official village shop since 1958.

"There is no question of competition. I don't feel any threat from them. In fact I support it and it certainly helps keep people in the village," she said.

Honey

The community shop began at the post office three years ago, but has now moved to the garden room of Mrs Diana Olive's home, Church Farm.

It sells mainly home-baked food and garden produce but the committee which runs it also buys honey and non-perishable goods to resell.

The cooks and gardeners take 80 per cent of their produce sales leaving the rest for the committee. This is divided between the village playing field committee, now raising funds for tennis courts, and a subsidy for the harvest supper.

The shop committee usually clears £20 profit each week and £400 was made last year.

Children make coffee and wash up.

Mrs Jean Teesdale specialises in home-made marmalades and jams and Mrs Mary Gilling makes raised pies, quiches and cakes every week.

Mrs Lillie Ray, aged 80, makes meringues which are soon snapped up.

One of the organisers, Mrs Jennifer Scadding said: "It is a fantastic way of raising money. There are about 12 of us involved. It certainly fills a need for casual goods and it is a marvellous way for people to get to know each other."

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Midweek Pilgrims Prayers

Fr Pip now holds short midweek prayers in each of the six churches. A 20 minute or so service with time to reflect, pray for others and ourselves.

Sat 13th June 9am
 Tues 30th June 5.15pm

Services

Sunday	31 st May	10.30	Lovington	Communion	
Sunday	7 th June	10.30	S.Barrow	communion	
Sunday	14th June	10.30	Babcary	communion	
Sunday	21 st June	<u>10.30</u>	N.Barrow	communion	Flower Festival
Sunday	28 th June	10.30	Hornblotton	Communion	Patronal
Sunday	5 th July	10.30	Alford	Communion	

Cleaning

Flowers

Coffee

Sidesmen

June 7th	Nikki and Karen	Lucy		
June 14th	Rita and Jenny	Maureen		Robin & Caroline
June 21st	Simon & Shirley	Karen		
June 28th	Jan and Lucy	Rita		
July 5th	Sarah and Sarah	Jo		

PARISH COUNCIL

Babcary Parish Council

Draft minutes from Monday 11th May 2026 8.00pm at The Hut

Present: Mr Simon Hoar, Mrs Glynis Kingston, Mrs Vee Vyner, Mrs Jane Diamond, Mr Damien Pick, Mr Phil Sketchly, Mr Steve Street, Mr Kevin Messenger (County Councillor) Mrs Jasmine Tucker (Parish Clerk) & 1 Member of The Public (MP).

Apologies: Mr Henry Hobhouse (County Councillor).

April 2026 Minutes agreed & signed.

- 1) Election of chairman and vice chairman
Simon Hoar elected Chairman, Phil Sketchley proposed, Damien Pick seconded.
Phil Sketchley elected Vice Chairman, Simon Hoar proposed, Damien Pick seconded

2) **Annual Parish Meeting - Open forum - no concerns raised.**

3) **Matters Arising**

- i) Potholes, Safety Defect Completion Monthly Review HH forwarded response to potholes Perry Hill, Dilkes Lane & Foddington Road now marked for repairs. PS reported back that potholes on Perry Hill were reported in late November 2025, repaired in December, and then broke down again in January 2026. It was re-reported and eventually got re-repaired in late March /April. This is just one example of many potholes reported. Please continue report any potholes or subsequent damage to vehicles due to potholes to Somerset Council.
On a lighter note, thank you to the kind soul who filled/patched the potholes along Babcary Lane. HH still to contact Tracey Harris (Highways) in moving forward.
- ii) Defibrillator update, SH sourced a 2nd defibrillator, via BHF (British Heart Foundation) for £1648, this includes a heat & light weatherproof bundle. It was suggested BPC contact Viridor re costs incurred for 2nd defib (Funds secured for bat boxes in the village possible further funds available).
- iii) Parish Clerk, .gov email, has been delayed due to current website being renewed. Website renewal by approved company required to add uk.gov email address. JT has approached approved companies in order to switch to compliant website in due course.
- iv) Dog refuse bin removal & multi use bin refurbishment progress, PS has painted ¼ of the new bin and SH has installed a new concrete base in preparation for renewed bin.

4) **Finance**

- i) Capital Reserve account stands at £20,280.83 Current Account balance £50.
- ii) AGAR instructions received April 2026, Babcary Parish Council certifies that during the financial year 2025/26, the higher of the authority's total gross income for the year or total gross annual expenditure, for the year did not exceed £25,000, and will be completing a certificate of exemption, confirmed, 11/05/26.
- iii) VV & JD bank account signatory status to be requested.

5) **Planning Consultation -**

- i) 26/00530/FUL Land at end of Dilkes Lane, Babcary
Awaiting Decision.

- 6) **Red Lion ACV** - car park disposal. Asset of Community Value Ref : ELP/HJS/ACV96S
Community Right to Bid. The parish council received notification from Somerset Council that the owners of the Red Lion were seeking to dispose of part of the car park. A six-week moratorium period has therefore come into effect from 6 April

2026 and ends on 18 May 2026 giving community groups an opportunity to express an interest in buying the car park asset of community value in place. The parish council did not consider it practical to make a bid on the part of the car park being sold, though concerns were raised regarding alternative car parking provisions should this go ahead.
One comment received, Gary Tubridy.

7) **Correspondence**

- i) i) A substantial letter was received from Charie & Clare Garrard regarding the Red Lion and raising many issues. It was decided to invite them to a meeting prior to the next parish council to discuss the issues face to face and foster a better relationship for the future success of the pub.
- ii) Tim Marshwood, Heritage at Risk, Finger Posts & Somerset Forge regarding the state of the fingerposts. They were last repainted in 2018. SH has responded and will be repainting them in due course.
- iii)

8) **AOB**

- i) none

Date and Time of Next Meeting: 8pm Monday 8th of June 2026 in the Hut.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday 4 th June	Mobile Library	Bus shelter 12.55 – 1.15pm
Friday 5 th June	Cricket	Babcary playing field
Monday 8 th June	PC meeting	Hut 8pm
Thursday 11 th June	Art and craft group	Hut 7 – 8.30pm
Saturday 13 th June	Midweek prayers	Babcary church 9pm
Sunday 14 th June	Communion service	Babcary church 10.30
Saturday 20 th June	Fete	Playing field 3pm
Thursday 23 rd June	Art and craft group	Hut 7 – 8’30pm
Tuesday 30 th	Midweek prayers	Babcary church 5.15pm
Every Tuesday	Bell Ringing	6pm in the church
Every Saturday	Community Shop	9.30 – 11am in the hut