



## WELCOME TO WICKWAR

On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to take this opportunity to offer you a very warm welcome to the village. We hope that the information contained in this pack will help you to settle more comfortably into your new home and the village.

Wickwar is a thriving community with many excellent facilities of which we are very proud. There are numerous local facilities which host varied events and are available for hire by residents, including the Town Hall, the Village Hall, the Community Centre and the Church Room. There are extensive playing fields which, as well as providing excellent dog walking, are the home of our football club, a 1km trim trail, allotments and a fenced children's play area, all in a safe and traffic free environment.

Neighbours usually become your first contacts and source of information, but please feel free to contact any member of the Parish Council for assistance. The Buthay Inn, Social Club and Coffee Shop are treasure troves of local information and the staff there will always do what they can to help newcomers to the village.

As residents, we trust that you will soon feel and become part of this community.

We have tried to gather as much useful information as possible into this pack and the Councillors responsible for it would welcome any suggestions you may have for its improvement.

To find out more about the history of our wonderful village, please turn to the end of this pack.

We wish you many happy years in Wickwar and hope you will join us in maintaining our vibrant and friendly community.

Stephen Isaac  
Chairman, Wickwar Parish Council



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## 1. News and information

If you are a member of Facebook, you will find the **Wickwar Village Forum** an invaluable source of local information. You will also receive a monthly copy of the **Wickwar and Rangeworthy Parish News** through your letterbox. The Parish News aims to carry a balance of community and religious based information, as well as to promote local clubs and associations. To find out more, to advertise, or to submit an article, please contact the editor at [parishnews.wickwar@gmail.com](mailto:parishnews.wickwar@gmail.com).

Further information about the village can be found on the [wickwar.org](http://wickwar.org) website.

## 2. Parish Council Meetings

The Parish Council is primarily responsible for:

- the King George V Playing Field, play area and pavilion off the Downs Road;
- the village cemetery adjacent to Holy Trinity Church;
- litter bins and dog bins around the village;
- the Town Hall on the High Street.

The Parish Council meets monthly, on the first Wednesday of the month, at 7pm in the Town Hall. (There is no meeting in August). The agenda is posted on the noticeboard outside the Town Hall and on the website. Previous minutes can also be found here, along with other useful information about the village. Members of the public are invited to attend, and raise any issues that we can help with during the first 20 minutes of the meeting. Councillors and the Parish Clerk may be contacted at any time. Councillor contact details may be found on the website. The Clerk may be contacted at:

Tel: 07895 527353

Email: [clerkwickwarpc@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwickwarpc@gmail.com)

Website: [wickwar.org](http://wickwar.org)

## 3. Other Parish Representatives

South Gloucestershire Council Ward Councillors (Chipping Sodbury and Cotswold Edge):

Mrs Patricia Trull (Liberal Democrat)

Tel: 07742 400467

Email: [Pat.Trull@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:Pat.Trull@southglos.gov.uk)

Mr Adrian Rush (Liberal Democrat)

Tel: 01454 319509

Mobile: 07595 220283

Email: [Adrian.Rush@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:Adrian.Rush@southglos.gov.uk)

Member of Parliament:

Mr Luke Hall (Conservative)

Tel: 01454 311267

Email: [luke.hall.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:luke.hall.mp@parliament.uk)

Website: [www.lukehall.org.uk](http://www.lukehall.org.uk)

## 4. Parish Church

Holy Trinity Church, Wickwar - Minister Rev'd Canon David Russell

The beautiful parish church is usually open to visitors during daylight hours. For details of services, please visit the website or the Facebook page. Details can also be found on the noticeboards outside the Rectory on the High Street and at the bottom of the Stank path to the church, and in the monthly Wickwar and Rangeworthy Parish News.

For enquiries please contact the Benefice Administrator, Julia Stevens.

Tel: 01454 294267 (Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 10-3pm)

Email: [parishoffice.wickwar@gmail.com](mailto:parishoffice.wickwar@gmail.com)

Website: [www.wickwarchurch.plus.com](http://www.wickwarchurch.plus.com)

## 5. Health

### General Practitioners

There are two surgeries in Wotton-Under-Edge and four in Yate.

**The Chipping Surgery**, Symn Lane, Wotton-under-edge, Gloucestershire GL12 7BD

Tel: 01453 842214

Website: [www.thechippingsurgery.co.uk](http://www.thechippingsurgery.co.uk)

**The Culverhay Surgery**, Wotton-Under-Edge, Gloucestershire GL12 7LS

Tel: 01453 843893

Website: [www.culverhaysurgery.com](http://www.culverhaysurgery.com)

For Yate surgeries visit [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) to find details.

### Minor Injuries Units

**Yate Minor Injury Unit**, Yate West Gate Centre, 21 West Walk, yate, BS37 4AX.

Tel: 01454 315355

Website: [www.sirona-cic.org.uk/services/minor-injury-unit](http://www.sirona-cic.org.uk/services/minor-injury-unit)

The Yate Minor Injury Unit (MIU) offers treatment for adults and children (not babies under 12 months) for a wide range of minor injuries. The unit is open from 8am until 8pm, seven days a week including bank holidays. X-ray facilities are available from 8am until 7.30pm, Mon to Fri and from 9am until 5.30pm Sat, Sun and bank holidays.

You can drop in with no appointment necessary or you can be referred in by another healthcare professional, such as your GP.

**Vale Community Hospital Minor Injuries and Illness Unit**, Lister Road, Dursley, GL11 4BA

Tel: 0300 421 8494

Website: [ghc.nhs.uk/locations/vale/](http://ghc.nhs.uk/locations/vale/)

The Vale Hospital offers treatment for adults and children for a wide range of minor injuries. Opening times: 8am – 8pm. The X-ray department is open from 9am to 5pm on Tues and Fri.

Appointments are available by phoning 111, alternatively you can walk in.

Nearest Accident& Emergency Departments

<b>Southmead Hospital</b> (10.8 miles) Southmead Road Westbury-on-Trym Bristol Avon BS10 5NB Tel: 0117 950 5050 (16 or over)	<b>Bristol Royal Infirmary</b> (12.7 miles) Marlborough Street Bristol Avon BS2 8HW Tel: 0117 923 0000 (All ages)	<b>Royal United Hospitals Bath</b> (14 miles) Combe Park Bath Avon BA1 3NG Tel: 01225 428331 (All ages)	<b>Gloucestershire Royal Hospital</b> (20.1 miles) Great Western Road Gloucester Gloucestershire GL1 3NN Tel: 03004 222 222 (All ages)
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For children under 16:

**Bristol Royal Hospital for Children** (12.8 miles)

Upper Maudlin Street  
Bristol  
Avon  
BS2 8BJ  
Tel: 0117 342 8460

Health and Wellbeing

One You South Gloucestershire is a healthy lifestyles and wellbeing service for adults to help make important, lasting improvements to their health. There is lots of local information about exercise opportunities, diet, reducing drinking and smokefree services. Visit the website or call to find out more.

Tel: [01454 865337](tel:01454865337)

Website: [oneyou.southglos.gov.uk](http://oneyou.southglos.gov.uk)

## 6. Dentists

For details of NHS dentists with availability please visit [www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/nhs-services/dentists/](http://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/nhs-services/dentists/)

## 7. South Gloucestershire Council

For services including waste and recycling, planning, street care, health and social care, and education, please visit the South Gloucestershire Council website.

Abandoned vehicles, fly tipping, flooded roads and potholes are all problems which directly affect the quality of life in the village. These issues are generally the responsibility of South Gloucestershire Council. If you spot a problem, visit the South Gloucestershire Council website [www.southglos.gov.uk](http://www.southglos.gov.uk) and click on the purple **Report online** button near the top of the home page. This takes you to a list of issues which can be reported via the website. If you are unsure which agency is responsible for a particular problem, please contact the Clerk who can point you in the right direction.

Website: [www.southglos.gov.uk](http://www.southglos.gov.uk)

## 8. Police

Wickwar falls under the Chipping Sodbury Neighbourhood Beat Team. You should always call **999** when it is an emergency, such as when a crime is in progress. For non-emergency crimes please call 101 or report online at [www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/report](http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/report). The Neighbourhood Beat Manager and PCSO can also be contacted via email. Regular Neighbourhood Beat Surgeries are held in the Town Hall and are open to members of the public to raise concerns about any community safety issue. Please see the noticeboard outside the Town Hall, visit the [wickwar.org](http://wickwar.org) website, or the Avon and Somerset Police website for details of the next surgery.

Neighbourhood Beat Manager: PC Kenneth Hill  
Email: [Kenneth.Hill@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:Kenneth.Hill@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Sian Rollings  
Email: [Sian.Rollings@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:Sian.Rollings@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

Website: [www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/your-area/chipping-sodbury](http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/your-area/chipping-sodbury)

## 9. Public Transport and Cycling

### Bus Services

Wickwar is served by the number 84 and 85 bus services to Chipping Sodbury/ Yate and Wotton-under-edge. The High Street bus stops are outside the Congregational Church/ Town Hall. Change at Yate bus station for onward services.

Website: [www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables](http://www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables)  
Website: [www.travelinesw.com](http://www.travelinesw.com) and [travelwest.info](http://travelwest.info)

### Train

Yate Station, Badminton Road, Yate BS37 5JF  
The station has a car park (pay and display) and ticket office/ ticket machine.

Website: [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

### Community Transport - Green Community Travel

Community transport is available for those who find it difficult to use public transport, experience social isolation, need to travel with mobility equipment, or need help getting to medical appointments. Green Community Travel provides a ring and ride or voluntary car scheme for social and medical appointments, as well as a programme of visits and outings. To find out more or to join please contact the office.

Office Tel: 01454 228706  
Ring & Ride Tel: 0845 241 0985  
Email: [admin@greencommunitytravel.co.uk](mailto:admin@greencommunitytravel.co.uk)  
Website: [www.greencommunitytravel.co.uk](http://www.greencommunitytravel.co.uk)

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## Cycling

For information about local cycling routes visit the [betterbybike](#) website. You can download or order a regional cycle map for South Gloucestershire, and download leisure rides, guides and booklets.

Website: [betterbybike.info](http://betterbybike.info)

## **10. Childcare and Education**

### Pre-School

Currently the nearest pre-school is Tiddlypeeps Forest School in Tortworth.

Tiddlypeeps Forest School, The Log Cabin, Tortworth Primary, Wotton-Under-Edge, GL12 8HG

Tel: 07496 268441

Website: [www.tiddlypeeps.co.uk](http://www.tiddlypeeps.co.uk)

### Primary

**Alexander Hosea Primary School**, Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, GL12 8PF

Tel: 01454 294239

Email: [AlexanderHoseaPrimary@sgmail.org.uk](mailto:AlexanderHoseaPrimary@sgmail.org.uk)

Website: [www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk](http://www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk)

### Out of School and Holiday Club

**Wickwar Out of School Club (WOOSC)**, Community Rooms, Alexander Hosea Primary School, Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, GL12 8NH

Tel: 07815 561783

Email: [woosc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:woosc@hotmail.co.uk)

Website: [www.woosc.org.uk](http://www.woosc.org.uk)

### Secondary

**Katharine Lady Berkeley's School**, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire, GL12 8RB

Tel: 01453 842227

Email: [info@klbschool.org.uk](mailto:info@klbschool.org.uk)

Website: [www.klbschool.org.uk](http://www.klbschool.org.uk)

**Chipping Sodbury School**, Bowling Road, Chipping Sodbury, BS37 6EW

Tel: 01454 862900

Email: [enquiries@chippingsodburyschool.com](mailto:enquiries@chippingsodburyschool.com)

Website: [www.chippingsodburyschool.com](http://www.chippingsodburyschool.com)

### Childcare

There are a number of childminders who serve the village. For more information about local childcare options please visit [www.1bigdatabase.org.uk](http://www.1bigdatabase.org.uk)

## 11. Libraries

The main library can be found in Yate, but there are smaller branch libraries in Chipping Sodbury and Wotton-under-Edge.

**Yate Library**, 44 West Walk, Yate, South Gloucestershire, BS37 4AX

The library is staffed Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 10am – 5.30pm, and Sat 9.30am – 2.30pm.

Registered Open Access users may visit the library Mon – Sun 8am – 7.30pm. For more information about becoming an Open Access user visit [www.southglos.gov.uk/OpenAccess](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/OpenAccess)

Email: [Yate.library@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:Yate.library@southglos.gov.uk)

Website: [www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries/yate-library](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries/yate-library)

**Chipping Sodbury Library**, High Street, Chipping Sodbury, Bristol, BS37 6AH

Open: Tues 9.30am to 12.30pm and 1:30pm to 4:30pm

Weds 9.30am to 6.30pm

Fri 9.30am to 12.30pm

Sat 9.30am to 12.30pm

Tel: 01454 868006

Email: [libraries@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@southglos.gov.uk)

Website: [www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries/chipping-sodbury-library](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries/chipping-sodbury-library)

**Wotton-under-Edge Library**, Wotton-under-Edge Library, Ludgate Hill, Wotton-under-Edge GL12 7JJ

Mon Closed

Tues 10am – 1pm, 2pm – 6pm

Weds 10am – 1pm, 2pm – 5pm

Thurs Closed

Fri 10am – 1pm, 2pm – 5pm

Sat 9.30am – 12.30pm

Tel: 01453 842115

Email: [wottonunderedgelibrary@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:wottonunderedgelibrary@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

Website: [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries/find-a-library/wotton-under-edge-library](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries/find-a-library/wotton-under-edge-library)

## 12. Post Offices and Postal Collections

### Post Boxes

**Station Road** (outside the Village Hall): Collections Mon – Fri 9am, Sat 7am.

**Corner of North Street/ Inglestone Road**: Collections Mon – Fri 9am, Sat 7am.

**Sodbury Road** (Outside Wickwar Youth Centre): Collections Mon – Fri 5pm, Sat 10.15am

### Mobile Post Office Van

The mobile Post Office van can be found outside Wickwar Youth Centre every Friday from 11am – 1pm.



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### Post Offices

**Kingswood Village Stores and Post Office**, 14 The Chipping, Hillesley Road, Kingswood, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire GL12 8RT

Open Mon – Fri 6.30am – 8pm, Sat – Sun 7.30am – 7pm

Tel: 01453 842230

**Charfield Post Office**, 7-8 Avon Road, Charfield, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire GL12 8TT

Open Mon – Sun 6am – 9pm

**Yate Post Office**, 1 South Parade Shopping Centre, Bristol BS37 4BB

Open Mon - Fri 9am – 5.30pm, Sat 9am – 12.30pm

Branch Post Offices can also be found in Cromhall and Wotton-under-Edge.

## **13. Rooms for Hire**

**Wickwar Village Hall**, 25 Station Road, Wickwar, GL12 8NB

The Village Hall hosts a number of community groups and classes and is also available for private hire. The hall has a kitchen area and disabled access via a ramp. For enquiries, please contact the secretary.

Tel: 01454 294419

Email: [susanhoward650@gmail.com](mailto:susanhoward650@gmail.com)

**Wickwar Community Centre**, Alexander Hosea Primary School, Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, GL12 8NH

The Olive Pollard Room and the school hall are available for private hire in the evenings and at weekends. For enquiries please contact the bookings secretary.

Tel: 07818 025208

Email: [wickwarcommunityrooms@yahoo.com](mailto:wickwarcommunityrooms@yahoo.com)

**Church Room**, Holy Trinity Church, Wickwar, GL12 8NB

The Church Room is available to hire for parties, wakes, group and business meetings. For enquiries please contact Julia Stevens.

Tel: 01454 299938

Email: [parishoffice.wickwar@gmail.com](mailto:parishoffice.wickwar@gmail.com)

**Town Hall**, High Street, Wickwar, GL12 8NP

The upstairs meeting room is available for use by village and community groups. Please note there is no disabled access to the room. Please contact the Parish Clerk for more information.

Tel: 07895 527353

Email: [clerkwicwarpc@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwicwarpc@gmail.com)

Website: [wickwar.org](http://wickwar.org)

## 14. Shopping

### **The Village Shop @ The Buthay Inn, 15 High Street, Wickwar, GL12 8NE**

Stocks bread, milk, Hall End Farm eggs, sweets and essentials. Please bring your own carrier bag. Times subject to change, so please check locally. There is a red newspaper box in the car park where newspapers are delivered daily to subscribers. To find out about the subscriber scheme please contact Philip Reville (Tel: 01454 294466, Email: [pandarev55@gmail.com](mailto:pandarev55@gmail.com))

Tues - Fri 3pm – 7pm

Sat & Sun 8am – 5 pm

### **The Highstreet Studio, 30a High Street, Wickwar, GL12 8NP**

The High Street Studio offers a hair, nail and barber service. Greetings cards are also on sale in the shop.

Tel: 01454 299953

Facebook page: [The High Street Studio Wickwar](#)

### **Wickwar Wessex Brewing Company Shop, The Old Brewery, Station Road, Wickwar, GL12 8NB**

Opening hours: Thurs & Fri 10am – 6pm, Sat 10am – 4pm

Shop Tel: 01454 299592

Website: [shop.wickwarbrewing.com](http://shop.wickwarbrewing.com)

The village is within easy reach of the town of Yate, where the full range of shops and services can be accessed. The smaller market towns of Chipping Sodbury and Wotton-under-edge host key services as well as a range of independent shops, cafes and hostelrys.

## 15. Eating and Drinking

### **Wickwar Coffee Shop, 31 High Street, Wickwar, GL12 8NE**

Found on the High Street, the Coffee Shop is open Mon - Fri 9am – 3pm and Sat 9am – 12.30pm for breakfast, lunch or coffee and cake. Eat-in or take-away. Visit the Facebook page for more information.

Tel: 01454 299885

### **Wickwar Social Club, 35 High Street, Wickwar, GL12 8NP**

Found on the High Street, this active non-profit club is run by members for individuals and couples who want to socialise and participate in activities with like-minded people. Weekly activities include pool, bingo, tote draw, darts and crib, as well as special events throughout the year. Open every day, see the website for opening times. New members are welcome.

Tel: 01454 294221

Website: [www.wickwarsocial.club](http://www.wickwarsocial.club)

### **The Buthay Inn, 15 High St, Wickwar, GL12 8NE**

This friendly local is open Tues – Sun. See the board outside or the website for opening hours. The Village Shop is onsite in the old skittle alley.

Lunch is served Fri – Sat 12pm – 2pm and Sun 12pm – 3pm.

Dinner is served Tues – Sat 6pm – 9pm

Tel: 01454 299083

Email: [hello@thebuthay.co.uk](mailto:hello@thebuthay.co.uk)

Website: [thebuthay.co.uk](http://thebuthay.co.uk)

## 16. Sports Facilities and Outdoor Space

### Playing Fields

We are extremely lucky to have large playing fields in a beautiful location on the western side of the village. They can be reached on foot via the footpath from the Buthay Lane, or via the access lane off the Downs Road. The access lane is also accessible via car, with carparking available next to the pavilion.

The **King George V Playing Field** includes **football pitches**, a **pavilion** and a **children's play area**. The playing field is owned and managed by the Parish Council. The **pavilion** is available for hire by outside bodies at a cost of **£5.00 per session** (am, pm or evening), no charge for village-based voluntary groups. For enquiries or to report a problem, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Tel: 07895 527353

Email: [clerkwickwarpc@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwickwarpc@gmail.com)

Website: [wickwar.org](http://wickwar.org)

**Wickwar Playing Fields** are situated adjacent to the King George V Playing Field and provide 15 acres of recreational space. The fields currently host the **village allotments**, a **community orchard**, an **apiary**, **two football pitches** and a **1km trim trail**. The Wickwar Games is hosted on the fields each July and fruit picking days take place in the autumn. The field is managed by Wickwar Playing Fields Association Trustees, a registered charitable trust, and is available for public and private functions. The Trustees can be contacted via the Chairman.

Email: [johnfbroad@btinternet.com](mailto:johnfbroad@btinternet.com)

### Tennis Courts

**Tubbs Turf Tennis Court**, Kingswood, Gloucestershire

Tubbs Turf is a community-funded and volunteer run sports facility. Members use the tennis courts free of charge and can book in advance by booking their court times on the club house board. Membership is open to non-residents.

Email: [admin@tubbsturf.co.uk](mailto:admin@tubbsturf.co.uk)

Email: [membership@tubbsturf.co.uk](mailto:membership@tubbsturf.co.uk)

Website: [tubbsturf.co.uk](http://tubbsturf.co.uk)

### Swimming Pools and Leisure Centres

The nearest swimming pool is at the leisure centre in Yate. There is an outdoor pool in Wotton-under-Edge, and indoor pools slightly further away at Thornbury Leisure Centre and The Pulse, Dursley (leisure centre).

**Yate Leisure Centre & Thornbury Leisure Centre**

Tel: 0300 333 0300

Email: [contactcentre@circadiantrust.org](mailto:contactcentre@circadiantrust.org)

Website: [activecentres.org](http://activecentres.org)

Updated February 2020

**Wotton (outdoor) Pool**, Symn Lane, Wotton-under-Edge, GL12 7BD

Open mid April – mid September. Check the website/Facebook page for opening dates and times.

Tel: 01453 842086

Website: [wottonpool.co.uk](http://wottonpool.co.uk)

**The Pulse, Dursley (Leisure Centre)**, Castle Street, Dursley, GL11 4BS

Tel: 01453 546441

Email: [hello@pulsedursley.co.uk](mailto:hello@pulsedursley.co.uk)

Website: [www.pulsedursley.co.uk](http://www.pulsedursley.co.uk)

## 17. Lower Woods Nature Reserve and Public Rights of Way

**Lower Woods Nature Reserve**, between Wickwar and Hawkesbury Upton off Inglestone Common, Wickwar GL9 1BY

Lower Woods is one of the largest ancient woodlands in the south-west of England and a stretch of the Little Avon river runs through the nature reserve. There are three way-marked walking routes suitable for people and dogs. You can walk from the village or there is car-parking onsite. For more information contact Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust.

Tel: 01452 383333

Email: [info@gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk](mailto:info@gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk)

Website: [www.gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk/nature-reserves/lower-woods](http://www.gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk/nature-reserves/lower-woods)

### Public Rights of Way and Walking Routes

Public rights of way, including public footpaths and bridleways, criss-cross the parish and provide a great opportunity to explore the great outdoors on your doorstep. For more information and for an online map of public rights of way in the parish, visit the Outdoorswest website. For a hard copy map please contact the Parish Clerk. The Parish Council organises a series of Sunday walks during the summer months. For more information contact the Parish Clerk.

Website: [www.outdoorswest.org.uk/Home/maps-and-routes](http://www.outdoorswest.org.uk/Home/maps-and-routes)

For information on nearby circular and long-distance walks, visit the walking section of the One You South Gloucestershire website, where you can download a series of pdf leaflets.

Website: [oneyou.southglos.gov.uk/move-more/walking](http://oneyou.southglos.gov.uk/move-more/walking)

## 18. Village Groups and Clubs for Children and Young People

**Wickwar Baby and Toddler Group**, Wickwar Village Hall, Station Road, Wickwar

Wickwar Baby and Toddler Group is a warm and friendly local group for bumps, babies and toddlers, all the way up to school age. It provides play, including a variety of toys and ride-ons, healthy snacks, a craft activity and story and song time. Everyone is welcome – from mums and dads to carers and grandparents. Come along for a cup of tea, biscuits and friendly chit chat.

Every Tues and Fri, 9.30am-11.30am during term time in Wickwar Village Hall. £2 per adult, £1 for the 1st child, 50p per subsequent child, under 6 months go free. Visit the Facebook page for more information.

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**Wickwar Youth Club**, Wickwar Youth Centre, Sodbury Road, Wickwar GL12 8PG

A warm welcome awaits you at Wickwar Youth Centre. The Youth Centre is run by a Management Committee and is a Registered Charity. Look out for the termly programme in the Wickwar and Rangeworthy Parish News and on the Wickwar Village Forum Facebook page.

**MONDAYS – JUNIORS 10-13YRS**

Fee – £1.00 (new members 1st week free)

6:30pm – 8:30pm (Term time only)

Fun and lively session, get involved in sports competitions, cook tasty snacks, and do creative art activities. Come along to get involved!

**WEDNESDAYS – SENIORS 13 PLUS**

Fee – £1.00 (new members 1st week free)

6.30pm-8.30pm (Term time only)

Relaxed and friendly atmosphere, chill, do some art work, or cook up a storm in the kitchen! Come in to find out more.

For more information contact Trustee & Secretary Derek Fletcher.

Tel: 01454 294668

Email: [derek\\_fletcher@onetel.com](mailto:derek_fletcher@onetel.com) or [wickwaryouth@gmail.com](mailto:wickwaryouth@gmail.com)

**Wickwar Beavers, Cubs and Scouts**

All three groups meet in the Church Room, Holy Trinity Church, Wickwar, on Thursday evenings. For more information visit the 1<sup>st</sup> Wickwar Scouts Facebook page or the website.

Website: [www.scouts.org.uk](http://www.scouts.org.uk)

Email: [1stwickwarscouts@gmail.com](mailto:1stwickwarscouts@gmail.com)

**Wickwar Rainbows, Brownies and Guides**

All three groups meet on a Monday evening in Wickwar Village Hall. For more information visit the website.

Website: [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)

**Wickwar Wanderers Football Club**, King George V Playing Fields, Downs Road, Wickwar

WWFC runs teams from a skills group for children over 5, through to a Veterans Team playing in the Bristol Casual League. Training takes place at Wickwar Playing Fields for the junior teams, and indoors at the YOSC gym in Yate for the adult teams. Matches are played on Saturday morning for Under 8 – 11s, and Saturday afternoons for Adults and on Sundays for the Youth Teams. Training and/or matches for the Veterans are usually on a Sunday morning. For up to date information or to contact WWFC, please visit the website.

Website: [www.wickwarfc.co.uk](http://www.wickwarfc.co.uk)

## 19. Village Clubs, Classes and Other Activities

There are lots of different clubs in the village to get involved in including football, running, cricket and the Wickwar Women's Circle. Please visit the [wickwar.org](http://wickwar.org) website for more information. A range of dance, fitness, yoga and other classes run in the village hall and Wickwar Community Centre. Please see the noticeboards outside or the Wickwar Village Forum on Facebook, for the most up to date information.

## 20. Allotments

Set up in 2006 so that people in the village can grow their own fruit and vegetables locally, the allotments are a small, friendly, self-managed site located at the Wickwar Playing Fields. There are 19 plots of which 8 are whole plots and 22 are half plots.

There is currently a small waiting list, with an average waiting time of approximately a year before a plot becomes available. New applicants from within the Chipping Sodbury and Cotswold Edge Ward, and particularly Wickwar, are welcome. For more details please contact the Allotment Secretary (contact details can be found on the [wickwar.org](http://wickwar.org) website).

Website: [wickwar.org/community/groups-and-clubs/wickwar-allotments-association](http://wickwar.org/community/groups-and-clubs/wickwar-allotments-association)

## 21. Wickwar Cemetery

Wickwar Cemetery, found behind Holy Trinity Church, is provided for residents of the Parish of Wickwar. It is owned and operated by Wickwar Parish Council, acting as the Burial Authority. For more information, please visit the website or contact the Parish Clerk.

Tel: 07895 527353

Email: [clerkwicikwarpc@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwicikwarpc@gmail.com)

Website: [wickwar.org](http://wickwar.org)

## 22. History of Wickwar

Wichen or Wyken, simply meaning “a settlement” (later shortened to Wick), originated in the Saxon period, though there are Roman remains in the area. In the Domesday Book it contained about 30 families and was worth £12 – a prosperous village for the time. The settlement would have been by the church, which is now on the very edge of the village.

The present geography is explained by the fact that in 1285 Roger de la Warre, whose ancestor John had been granted the manor in 1185, obtained a charter for a market from Edward I and created a new planned settlement, now the High Street, which became known as Wickwar. The earlier village, apart from the church. Until 1883 Wickwar was legally a borough with a Mayor and Aldermen, although the population was never more than about 1,000 until the late 20th century; the mace of 1709 is still preserved.

The existence of Wotton-under-Edge four miles to the north, and Chipping Sodbury four miles to the south, probably explains why Wickwar never developed into a sizeable town.

The old part of the village was designated a Conservation Area in 1973 and contains 67 listed buildings. Although parts of some houses in the High Street date back as far as the 15th century, the street's appearance today is predominantly 18th century, since many dwellings were “modernised” in that period with sash windows and, in some cases, classical door-frames, although the traditional lime rendering has been removed from many houses in recent times to expose the attractive (and extremely hard) local stone. The properties are on typical long medieval burgage or half-burgage plots, though some have been sub-divided with houses at the other end. To the east, the original boundary of Back Lane still survives.

Wickwar had a weekly market on Mondays, and fairs on 6th April, 2nd July and the first Monday in November. There was probably a market building of some kind in the middle of the High Street, replaced with the increase of road traffic in the late 18th century by the present Town Hall of 1795. This had an open market area and the village lock-up on the ground floor, with a meeting-room upstairs which is still used for the parish council and other meetings. The clock, which strikes a bell in the turret hourly, is said to be the oldest town hall clock in Britain, and may have been in the previous building: in 1676 the Mayor was ordered to wind the clock, and it is still wound daily.

The parish church of Holy Trinity stands on high ground on the northern edge of the village, reached by a raised footpath called the Stank (meaning dam – there were fish ponds here until the 19th century). The present handsome building, with a prominent tower, dates from around 1300 with additions and alterations in the 14th and 15th centuries; a major restoration in 1881 has left its mark. There is an early 14th century statue of St. John the Baptist on the north side, and inside are a Jacobean pulpit, a magnificent brass chandelier of 1728, the Chapel of the medieval Guild of the Weavers and Dyers of Wickwar, and the Gunston memorial window depicting the history of the village, given in 1977 by Sir Derrick and Lady Gunston in memory of their son John, killed in World War Two.

Until the 18th century, Wickwar prospered through the woollen industry; John Leland's "Itinerary" in the 1530's called it "a pretty clothing townlet". One reminder of this is the Alexander Hosea Primary School. Hosea (pronounced "Hosey") was an apprentice in the 17th century who went to London and became a prosperous merchant: the story is that he ran away after dropping the dish of whitepot his master had sent him to fetch from the cook-shop. At the end of his life he endowed a school in his birthplace, and the original building of 1684 still stands at the north end of the High Street.

In 1991 the school moved to new premises, which have been twice extended; it now has about 220 pupils, and the hall and community room are well-used by village organisations. In the late 19th century the village had several schools, of which the National Girls' School of 1860 is now the Village Hall and the Board School of 1878 is the Youth Centre.

With the decline of hand spinning and weaving, Wickwar suffered a period of decline in the 18th century, although the manufacture of clay pipes seems to have prospered at this time: one maker, the appropriately-named Obadiah Ash, was Mayor five times between 1714 and 1723. From 1800, malting and brewing developed, mainly thanks to the Arnold family who owned two breweries, John Arnold & Sons in the High Street and Arnold Perrett in Station Road. The malthouse behind the High Street is now part of the premises of Wilcox's Garage; the Arnold Perrett buildings became a cider factory for part of the 20th century and now house the Heritage Wine depository and the Wickwar Brewery set up in 1990, which brews real ales and is a flourishing business. The cider-bottling building is now occupied by English Country Pottery and various commercial companies.

Perhaps it is not surprising that in the 19th century Wickwar had a reputation for drunkenness; there were at least nine public houses, of which only the Buthay (formerly the New Inn) survives – the actual buthay, where archery was practised, is off the High Street and has been greatly encroached upon by houses and garages. The Beaufort Arms is now the Social Club. On the other hand, in a village of less than 1,000 people there were, in addition to the parish church, three nonconformist chapels. The Wesleyan one closed in 1870 and is now only remembered as Chapel House; the Baptist Chapel of 1865, in the Buthay, is now a private dwelling; but the Congregational Chapel, built in 1817 with attractive buildings in the High Street, is still very active.

In the late 18th century a turnpike road was set up passing through Wickwar. Tollgate Cottage still exists at the south end of the village, and the White Horse gate at the north end is remembered in the modern road Turnpike Gate. The railway arrived with the opening of the station on Brunel's Bristol – Gloucester main line in 1844. This had a big impact, not least with the building of Wickwar tunnel, which cost ten lives and led to the draining of the lake near the church and later to the demolition of

Pool House, the Tudor house belonging to the lord of the manor. Several ventilation shafts mark the line of the tunnel. The station closed in 1964 as part of Dr. Beeching's "axe" and unfortunately was totally demolished. There was a Station Hotel nearby which is now a private dwelling.

The manor passed from the de la Warres to the Ducie family in the 17th century, and the present Earl, who was born and brought up in Australia, lives locally, though not in the massive Victorian mansion of Tortworth Court built by his ancestor, which is now a hotel. In 1864 the then Earl built a large new rectory near the church, his sister having married the Rector, and this is one of the most notable houses in the village – though no longer lived in by the Rector! Another important house is the Queen Anne period Hill House, where the brewer John Arnold lived in the 19th century and Sally, Duchess of Westminster from 1968 until her death in 1990: during her time there were many parties and important visitors, including Prince Charles. The inappropriately-named Castle Farm House at the south end of Wickwar is an imposing 18th and 19th century building which became a residential home for the elderly until its closure in 2019. It will shortly be converted into residential properties.

The Arnold Perrett Brewery was early in utilising electric power from a hydro-electric generator, and the excess capacity was used to provide lighting to the High Street in 1888, making Wickwar one of the first places in the country to have electric street lighting. The original poles remained in use until they were removed in 1999 and the cables put underground, ending a link with the past but improving the appearance of the street.

Wickwar has had a rich and interesting history, and with its enviable location in the foothills of the Cotswolds surrounded by beautiful countryside, but still within easy commuting distance of Yate, Bristol and Gloucester, looks set to have a similarly bright future. We hope you enjoy your time here.

**Sourced from, and with thanks to, Mary Isaac: "The History of Wickwar" and the Reverend Canon David Perry: "Holy Trinity Church History"**



Photograph courtesy of Anton Henley