

Roche News

May 2025



Letter from the Editor

I would like to say a huge thank you to Neil and Sarah for being the Distribution Co-ordinators over the past 5½ years. They have done an amazing job ensuring the smooth handling of the magazines every month before they go out to the distributors. This month will be the last magazine they help with as they have decided to concentrate on other things. I am thrilled to say that Sally will be taking over although any problems or enquiries should be directed to me.

Thanks also go to Imerys for their continued support of the magazine.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to everyone who helped Dorothy and Phyllis when Dorothy had her fall. It was nice to see such compassion being shown.

Rachel Wakeman

DEADLINE for JUNE 2025 Edition is 15 MAY 2025

**The Roche News is now online at www.rocheparishcouncil.gov.uk
under Latest Roche News (Parish Magazine)**

THANK YOU

I would like to thank all who came to help me when I fell in the village, at the beginning of April, and also for all the gifts and enquiries. I am recovering well and hope to be out and about again soon.

Dorothy Grose

DISCLAIMER: Whilst the magazine could not be published without the support of the villagers and businesses in the community, the Editor takes no responsibility for any of the content published.

Roche AGM: All annual reports will be included on the website after the May meeting in the AGM Minutes. Chairman's Annual Report presented as follows for 2024-2025:

- Another year has flown by, and I find myself reflecting on the considerable progress we have made as a Parish Council. I want to begin by expressing my sincere gratitude to each and every one of you for your continued support, hard work, and dedication. Your commitment to our village is invaluable. Without your collective efforts, we would not be able to maintain our village's standards, effectively influence new ideas, and foster the growth we all strive for.
- Excitingly, the beginning of this summer will see the opening of the much-anticipated Link Road. This will bring numerous benefits to our village and the surrounding areas, alleviating traffic congestion and opening up new opportunities. Following the Link Road's completion, we plan to immediately initiate a project focused on improving the Village Centre and addressing the safety concerns surrounding pedestrian access to the train station. I am confident that these investments will leave our village in a significantly improved position for the future.
- Our Neighbourhood Plan continues to be a crucial tool in shaping our village's development. We rely on it to provide informed commentary on planning permissions, ensuring that any new developments align with the community's vision. As we anticipate further potential planning applications within our parish, the Neighbourhood Plan, and any future revisions, will become even more critical in protecting our village's character and ensuring sustainable growth.
- I am particularly pleased to announce that we have commenced work on enhancing our sports pitches and grassed walking areas. Our vision is to create a well-used and cherished space for the community. We will continue to develop the park with new equipment and innovative ideas, focusing on creating a vibrant hub for recreation and community engagement. Furthermore, our commitment to public safety remains a top priority.
- We are on track to deliver the CCTV project this year, providing an added layer of security and reassurance for our residents.
- The enhancements we have undertaken at the Duck Pond have been overwhelmingly positive. The improvements have undeniably enhanced the area, creating a more attractive and enjoyable space for everyone to appreciate.
- Maintaining the beauty of our village is also of paramount importance. Through diligent tree inspections and meticulous hedgerow maintenance, we have successfully preserved the aesthetic appeal of our surroundings. I believe our efforts in this area speak for themselves.
- Finally, I want to emphasise the robust and transparent nature of our spending plans. We managed our budget extremely well last year, and we have clear and well-defined objectives for the upcoming year. We are committed to ensuring that the services and facilities we support are delivered to the highest standard, thanks to the collective efforts of everyone involved.
- In closing, I offer my sincere thanks to all Members for their unwavering dedication and support.

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ROCHE 55 CLUB COACH TRIPS 2025

May	21st	Holmleigh Garden Centre	Half Day
June	4th	SIDMOUTH	FULL DAY
	18th	Looe	Half Day
July	2nd	TRAGO MILLS, NEWTON ABBOTT	FULL DAY
	16th	Tavistock	Half Day
August	6th	Falmouth	Half Day
	20th	TORQUAY	FULL DAY
September	3rd	Plymouth/The Box/Shops	Half Day
November	19th	Endsleigh Gardens	Half Day

Full Day Price £20. Half Price Day £15.
Full Day leaves Victory Hall at 9am.
Half Day leaves Victory Hall at 12.30pm.

To book or make enquiries phone Doreen 01726 891361

**Please keep your articles, photos,
memories or event adverts coming.
Many thanks.**

ROCHE SECOND WIND EXERCISE CLASS

Feel free to come along and join us at the Roche Victory Hall each Tuesday morning 10am-11am for some gentle exercise for the over 50s. These are done to music, some sitting and some standing.

We have a great deal of fun.

£3 per session
& 50p for refreshments.

We have a fully qualified tutor.
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7th May

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By the time this article comes to print, the election will be over, I will 'officially' be a Pensioner and you will have a new Cornwall Councillor serving you.

I hope the election went well and I would like to congratulate all of the candidates for standing in the first place.

Special congratulations must go to whoever has been elected. They will have the honour of serving and representing the residents of this Division. It is a responsibility that cannot be taken lightly and I wish them every success while they are in post.

Once the result is announced, I will contact our new Councillor and offer them support and assistance while they get bedded in.

In closing I'd like to thank each and every one of you for the support that I have had over the last 4 years, I couldn't have achieved half of what I have without your help.

Peter

peterthomasguest@gmail.com [New email address]

07947 826627 [unchanged]



Ballet class. Photos © Madge Yelland. Left to right: Margaret Sturtridge, Winifred Hacker, Coleen Smale, Thelma Hodge, Madge Hooper, Hilary Rowe, Barbara Hawkey, Margaret Rowe, Hilary Faro. Three in front standing: Pamela Yelland, Joan Trethewey, Eleanor Handcock. Sitting: Jenny Kellow.



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WEDNESDAYS

Roche Sports and Social Club
07:30, 09:00 & 17:30, 19:00
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Girlguiding
Roche



Rainbows
For ages 4 to 7

Rainbows welcomes all girls to come together to laugh, learn and have fun in a creative, safe space. It's a wonderful world of adventure, week after week, just for her.



Brownies
For ages 7 to 10

Brownies is full of firsts: she can explore her creative side, get out into the great outdoors, learn how to look after herself, others and the world we live in.



Guides
For ages 10 to 14

Guides is a fun-filled space, she'll have one big adventure with friends, learn how to be herself, explore the things she loves and do stuff she's never done before!



Rangers
For ages 14 to 18

Rangers is an open and relaxed space, where you can regularly meet up, go on trips at home and abroad, to help make a difference to the things you care about.

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Free Quotations

Roche Methodist Church News

Thank you to all who supported the Lent Soup Lunches. £235 has been sent to Christian Aid.

Our Chapel Anniversary is on May 4th and the Preacher at 10.30am will be

Dr E Burroughs. After the service, there will be coffee and biscuits followed by lunch out at the Victoria.

Anyone wishing to join us please let Gill know by April 29th on 01726 891234.

Christian Aid week is from May 11th to 18th.

On the 18th St Gomonda's church will be joining us for a Christian Aid service and the collection will go to Christian Aid.

On May 8th we will be hosting a V E Day cream tea from 2.30pm till 5pm in the Chapel Hall. A warm welcome to everyone to join us in celebrating 80 years from V E Day. Donations appreciated.

May 17th we are holding a Spring Fayre from 10am till 1pm in the hall. Raffle, tombola, refreshments,

ROCHE METHODIST CHAPEL HALL



Friday 30th May

£7

At 12 noon

2 course meal and cuppa

Meet friends—new and old

Please call Gill on 01726 891234

(up to 2 days beforehand)

(Advise on any dietary requirements/allergies)

See you there

ALL WELCOME

friendship bracelet making, and lots more. Proceeds for Chapel funds.

Preachers for May at 10.30am

4th	Dr E Burroughs
11th	At Bugle
18th	Rev P Benney
25th	Mr R Holland

There will be no Sunday School on May 4th although we will meet on the 18th from 10.30am to 11.30am in the hall.

**Further information
from Sue on 01726 890428**



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St Gomonda's Church Roche



The hopes of tomorrow always seem very distant. Hope can be something very positive, to keep us going, to keep us focussed. Sometimes the light of the candle of hope is the only thing that will lighten the darkness that for so many envelopes our very existence although sometimes hope is a delusion. To the gambler, the hope that just this one the right football result, the right horse, the last throw of the dice or the twist of the card will rescue the situation and make all things right. For some there is that element of luck, for others "who dares wins" should never be said.

Hope is a dichotomy, something that we know is important though can just as easily delude us. Hence the advent of the phrase in the 20th century, "the false hope" as explored by Polivy and Herman (2000). Being a Priest I am so conscious of hope as being vital, if we lose hope, we lose that courage to be, said Martin Luther King; alongside its abusive use in aiding delusion and its harmful side effects.

And for so many a new horizon is the only hope, not a short lived immediate fix. We have to hand over our whole selves, our very souls to that hope rather than accept the temptation of burying our head in the sand. Even without hope life is life and hope does not provide the answers but rather stimulates the questions. And that hope, that light of the end of the tunnel is pro-active to enable us to get a grip on the handle of life. Maybe it is simply a small step into the unknown, although sometimes it is that small step, that risk that can change. It is the first step that is the all important one, for the first time. So, embrace this new horizon wherever it may be, stand still and look far off away from here, as if you were looking out to sea. For it is that place that is over there, that is our new hope that is beyond compare.

Chris the vicar

Chris McQuillen-Wright
priest.midcornwall@gmail.com

Services for May at 9.30am

Services at the Church this month
are all at 9.30am on a Sunday
morning. All are always welcome.

It is with great sadness that
Roche Church announces that their
beloved organist Tony Morris passed
away this Lent.

As a mark of respect a pianist will not be
sort till after Easter. A small stipend is
available for any pianist willing to play a
minimum of once a month.

For more details please contact
the vicar: Rev Chris.

I may not always be able to respond
immediately. Thank you for your
patience and understanding.



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- A special thank you to Councillor Bob Kretowicz for his invaluable support as Vice Chair. I would also like to express my gratitude to Councillor Matthew Taylor for his expert guidance within the planning arena. And finally, as always, my sincere thanks to our Clerk, Julie Burdon, she does a brilliant job.

Dan Inch - Chairman to Roche Parish Council

Land opposite Duck Pond: Concerns were expressed at the last meeting that there appears to be ongoing issues with large items being thrown into the stream and someone using as a cut through. This is not a short-cut and the Parish Council are looking at costs to replace the hedge to prevent this from continuing.

Roche Volunteer Working Group Party: The next date for the litter collection will be Sunday 4th May 2025. Following this the dates commence in 2025 as follows: 6th July; 7th September and 2nd November 2025 meeting at Roche Victory Hall Car Park at 10am. Any member of the community is welcome to attend, and we are very grateful for this working group.

Meetings of Roche Parish Council for 2025: Meetings for 2025 to be held on a Monday as follows: 12th May including nomination of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Sub-Committees and representatives to organisations, 9th June, 7th July, 11th August, 8th September, 13th October, 10th November and 8th December 2025 We have a public forum session at the beginning of every meeting, for which we allow 15 minutes, 5 minutes per person at the discretion of the Chairman.

Parish Clerk (Mrs Julie Burdon) c/o 1 Treburdon Drive, Roche, St Austell, PL26 8QB

Email: clerk@rocheaparishcouncil.gov.uk (01726 890983 or 07899 718000)

<http://www.rocheaparishcouncil.gov.uk/> <https://www.facebook.com/rocheaparishcouncil/>



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Roche Carnival 2025 Donation/Sponsorship Request

Date: 08/04/2025



Dear All within Roche and The Clays,

After the success of last year's Roche carnival, we would like to encourage you to join us.

We are incredibly proud of all the hard work and support that goes into the planning of the Carnival, and we are excited to announce that this year's event will be held from Sunday 27th July to Saturday 2nd August.

The Carnival would not be possible without the support of locals and companies like yourselves, who provide valuable products and services to help us organise a successful Carnival.

To continue providing a fun and safe Carnival for everyone, we are reaching out to you to see if you could either sponsor a Carnival class, donate an item for our multiple raffles we hold throughout the week, or volunteer a service to make this year's events possible.

With your sponsorship and/or donations, we will be able to host further fundraising events in the lead up to the Carnival, along with hosting the Carnival itself.

If you wish to sponsor a class, the minimum donation we kindly ask for is £30. This includes your name/Business being mentioned against any advertising for the classes, a mention on the day of the Carnival and a mention on our 'drop down banner' which is used at most events we hold.

Please pay the donation in by BACS as below and then let us know so we may issue you an invoice for your records.

For donated raffle prizes, we will gratefully collect from you. Please contact Shane Gregory, Committee Chairman on 07788 814467 or Jade Vickery, Committee Secretary on 07881 455673.

If you would like to get more involved, why not join the parade, walking or with a company vehicle and enter your business into a class too.

If you wish to support us or would like additional information, please feel free to contact the Roche Carnival Committee 2025 on Facebook or Email Roche Carnival Committee on rohecarnival@outlook.com

Thank you for your consideration. With your help and support, we can make our 2025 Carnival bigger and better!

Sincerely

Sharon Edyvean – Carnival Committee Treasurer

Roche Carnival Committee

Bank Details are:

Roche Carnival Committee – sort code: 40-40-04 - Account number: 51295756



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24th June	Mount Edgecombe & Harbour Cruise
14th-18th July	Visit Chester
29th July	Port Eliot Estate with Kernow Mill
30th July	Tiverton Canal Barge & Bickleigh Mill
5th August	Legoland (book early for tickets)
13th August	Plymouth Firework Championships
18th August	Dawlish Rail / Exmouth Coastal Cruise
2nd September	Paradise Park, Hayle
5th - 7th Sept	Burghley Horse Trials

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What's on at Wheal Martyn Clay Works



Launch into half term with our space themed activities

Zoom around Wheal Martyn's historic woodland grounds on the space themed '**May the Fun Be With You**' trail this summer half term starting

Saturday 24 May. You can also get creative by making and painting your own planet, alien or spaceship out of clay. Creative sessions start from **Monday 26 May**. **Ceramic teddy painting workshops** will also be available on **Saturday 24 May and Sunday 8 June**.

Volunteers take over the Roger Preston Gallery

Wheal Martyn is delighted to showcase a range of artwork created by our talented team of volunteers from **Friday 9 May** in our new exhibition **Artists of Wheal Martyn**. Enjoy this rich and diverse body of work from a number of local artists.

Music from Cornwall

Join us for an inspiring selection of musical fundraising events every month at Wheal Martyn. Coming up we have **Barrett's Privateers** delighting audiences with their traditional Cornish songs on **Saturday 31 May** and **Helm & the All Star Band** with their lush blanket of harmonies on **Thursday 5 June**.

Please visit www.wheal-martyn.com for full details on events and to book your tickets.

Facebook: @whealmartyncw, X & Instagram: @whealmartyn,
TikTok @whealmartynmuseum

Roche Girlguiding News

The end of one term and, by the time you have read the magazine, another term will have started.

During the last month, the Guide, Rangers and Rainbow section have been busy making Mother's Day cards and gifts. Brownies celebrated St Pirans Day and invited parents to come and share jam and cream scones during their meeting. Brownies have also been travelling back in time and doing activities and games that the Brownies played in times gone by and looking at previous uniforms, the brown dress and yellow tie.

Two Guides made their promise, Bea and Izzy were welcomed to the Guide section. Once again, the Guides and Rangers went on their annual egg hunt around the village, finding and solving clues and finding eggs at some of their destinations. The Rainbows went on a nature walk around the village and completed part of their Nature Interest badge.

ROCHE VICTORY HALL & SOCIAL CLUB

BINGO – THURSDAYS

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Roche Cricket
Club

50 years of keeping Cornwall's pioneering china clay industry story alive

The UK's only china clay mining museum is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

For the last half century, Wheal Martyn Clay Works has been dedicated to preserving and retelling stories from Cornwall's significant china clay industry past.

The fully Accredited Museum, two miles north of St Austell in Cornwall, is located within two former Victorian clay works. It tells the story of this fascinating industry and the people who worked and lived in a landscape defined by Cornwall's iconic 'white pyramids'.

The museum was established at Wheal Martyn in March 1975 by English China Clays Ltd, one of the leading producers of china clay at the time. The site brings alive a period of the industry's history, spanning from the 1820s through to the 1960s, when clay mining was labour intensive and physically taxing.

It is home to a vast collection of items and objects, a substantial archive plus an irreplaceable collection of built heritage and working mining machinery, some of which is designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument by Historic England. Wheal Martyn's Managing Director, Colin Vallance, said: "We are proud to be celebrating 50 years of sharing Cornwall's china clay mining story – 50 years of welcoming our community and visitors, inspiring and educating future generations in the context of this remarkable industry which has global reach and produces a product every one of us uses every day.

"We are so grateful to all those who have contributed towards making Wheal Martyn what it is today – our Friends, volunteers, community and funders, without which the charity could not possibly achieve all that it does.

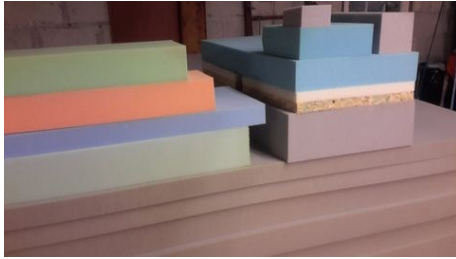
"As we embark on a year of celebration, it's a great time to visit. We'll be celebrating with some special events and offers, so keep an eye on our website and social channels for more details."

The museum's staff and volunteers, including many from the China Clay History Society, have worked tirelessly over the last 50 years to develop and deliver a number of projects to restore the current site and collection.



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Significant milestones have included the development of the main Atrium and Discovery Centre in 2005; the restoration of the 18 foot waterwheel, a key part of the Scheduled Ancient Monument at Wheal Martyn, in 2017 and the 'Clay Works' project, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and a range of Trusts and Foundations, which saw extensive preservation of two historic industrial buildings and the creation of a learning space and gallery for temporary exhibitions in 2022.

Colin added: "Alongside these physical changes, our engagement and educational programme has expanded and is designed to promote a deeper understanding of the significance of china clay to Cornwall's history and culture of our area.

"Through working in partnership with other museums, community groups and individuals, and with the support of investment from Cornwall Council, Arts Council England and many other funders, we have been able to really expand our offer and reach a broader range of people. Regular activity now includes a Memory Café, arts for health sessions, Cornish speaking mornings, home education workshops, family activity programme, monthly music nights featuring Cornish talent, exhibitions, a climate café and creative workshops, as well as a whole range of occasional events and activities."

As part of its anniversary celebrations, Wheal Martyn is also asking for people to share their stories and photos from visits to Wheal Martyn over the years.

If you have anything you would like to contribute, please email to info@wheal-martyn.com.

About Wheal Martyn

Wheal Martyn is a registered charity, number 1001838.

Wheal Martyn Clay Works is a museum and heritage centre on the outskirts of St Austell, Cornwall. Set in 26 acres, the collections and historic buildings are preserved to tell the story of Cornwall's largest mining industry. There are opportunities for learning and community engagement – ever more important today as fewer people have first-hand experience of the industry which shaped the lives of people, landscape and economy in mid-Cornwall.

Wheal Martyn (PL26 8XG) is just six miles from the A30 on the B3274, 2 miles north of St. Austell.

www.wheal-martyn.com

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The Vanishing Norm 'Local Extinction'

Fifty years ago, when I first moved to Chillbrook Farm where I currently reside., the air was filled with the 'excited chatter' of returning Swallows and House Martins. Their mud nests were repaired and new ones built under the eaves of our thatched farmhouse. The barn was always alive with nests all over the beams and joists. Their swooping and gliding around the farm and over the fields we all took for granted. Come the Autumn the telegraph wires were covered with the birds gathering for their departure and then at a time and on a day of their choosing they were gone on their long arduous journey to South Africa where I learnt they reared another brood. All this we took for granted although over the years their numbers have diminished.

Agri- business has taken over from farming, big is now beautiful and the health lobby has won the day. Open slurry pits are banned, insecticides rule and nature in the raw is not fashionable. No, they want 'flagship' projects such as reintroducing the beaver, wild boar and wolf. Sadly, the modern agricultural policies have meant that our migratory birds have lost out.

A quick look at the number plate on your car will tell you just how few flying insects there are around. My windscreen is rarely covered in fly splatter so the food for our flying friends is diminished.

As a boy I took no notice of the swallows. Fifty years ago, I took them for granted and then I had children. We started to notice their decline, slowly but surely their numbers have declined. Last year two breeding pairs managed to rear but a few young. This year so far only one bird has returned which must mean that at this rate that this year is the last. No doubt few will notice, and this will be happening up and down the country. All until it is too late. The sad thing is that once gone they are gone, we cannot re-introduce a migratory bird. Personally, I think that this is a great tragedy, and it has happened in my lifetime. I am not moaning although I feel a little sad and wanted to share my observations with those who, like me, relish the wonders of nature and the outdoors.

John Wood

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Roche Past by Adrian Wilson

The Place Names of Roche, Part Two

More Cornish language place names around Roche with their meanings in English and dates when they were first recorded.

Polskeys, first mentioned in 1250, it means “the pool at the fenced wood or sheltered wood”.

Tregoss, first recorded in 1260, it means “the settlement or farm of the fen” appropriate for a moorland setting.

Penstraze, first recorded in 1291, means “the place at the head of the low ground”.

Tremodrett first recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as a manor, which covered most of the parish of Roche, it’s meaning is “Modred’s settlement or farm”, Modred being a personal name.

Pits Mingle, means “Quarry Pits”, Mingle from Cornish Mengledh for a quarry.

Chycoose, means the “house of the wood”.

Hendra, first mentioned in 1270, it is a very common place name in Cornwall. St Dennis has a Hendra, it means “the old farm”.

Transhumance was common in Cornwall centuries ago, it’s the transference of farm animals to higher pasture ground in the summer, returning them to the “old farm” or home farm, for the winter. I would think the animals from our Hendra would be taken up to the high ground to the south of the parish.

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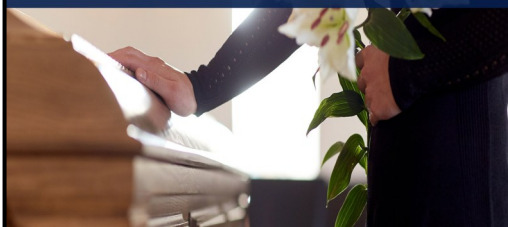
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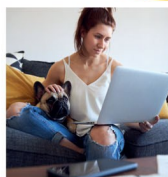
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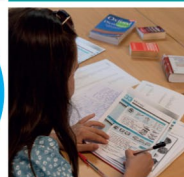
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LONG TERM CONDITION FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT GROUP: Weekly at the Chapel Rooms 1pm-3pm. Call Allison 07795 663661.

BEAVERS & CUBS: Weekly - Beavers 6pm-7pm, Cubs 6.45pm-8pm at Roche School. Email: theclaysscoutgroup@outlook.com

TUESDAY

BOBBINS, PINS & NEEDLES: Weekly 9am-12.30pm at the Methodist Chapel Hall. Contact Christina on 07986 450869 or 01726 852293.

ROCHE SECOND WIND: Weekly 10am-11am at the Roche Victory Hall. £3 per session plus 50p for refreshments.

RAINBOWS, BROWNIES, GUIDES & RANGERS: Tuesday evenings, term time only, at the Victory Hall. For further information visit www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested - for volunteers and www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus for enquiries

ROCHE ROCKERS WI (WOMEN'S INSTITUTE): Fourth Tuesday of the month. 7pm-9pm in the Chapel Rooms. Contact Jacky on 07531 664695.

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MOBILE LIBRARY: Every four weeks 4.10pm-4.30pm in Harmony Close.

55 CLUB: September to April at 1.45pm to 4pm in the Victory Hall. Call Liz Clutsom on 01726 890563.

JUNIOR BRASS BAND: Weekly 6pm-7pm. Contact the Secretary on 01726 892848 or email info@rochebrass.co.uk

THURSDAY

CRAFT, COFFEE, CHAT: Weekly at the Methodist Chapel Hall 10am-12.30pm. Come and join us, £2 each week, first week free.

SCOUTS: Weekly - 6.30pm-8.30pm at Roche School. Email: theclaysscoutgroup@outlook.com

THURSDAY

ROCHE YOUNG FARMERS: Meeting place (when not out on visits): Roche Sports and Social Club (Roche Football Club) on Thursday nights from 7.30pm to 9pm. Contact Chairwoman: Marley Lamerton 07860 219365 or Secretary: Aeryn Cooke 07756 525100.

SUNDAY

SUNDAY CLUB: First and third Sunday of the month, except August, in the Methodist Hall 10.15am-11.30am. For children over three. Contact Sue on 01726 890428 (evenings).

VILLAGE LITTER PICK: First Sunday of every other month. Meet at Roche Victory Hall Car Park at 10am. Contact Parish Clerk on 01726 890983 for more details.

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Many thanks.**

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