

Your Letters

Deadline 5 p.m. Mondays, contactus@
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Dear Editor,

Railway Pledge

I think I'm right that a Conservative party pledge is to open up old branch lines closed by the Beeching cuts in the sixties.

So, can Mr Rees-Mogg tell us if Radstock will be part of this scheme, or was the idea a ploy to get votes? Radstock to Frome, enabling direct access to mainline trains from Frome to London etc., and opening up Radstock to tourism – making the area thriving, as it was in days gone by.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Latchem.

Midsomer Norton

Dear Editor,

No need to panic about 'Climate Change'

I write in response to the article in last week's **Journal** about Charlotte Dagless, who wants to 'kick-start change'. I am all for that. However, my hobby of choice is to assemble all information for and against a particular subject of interest.

The most important thing is to function from a basis of fact, and not hearsay.

Greta Thunberg magically came out of nowhere last year, was introduced to all important people and makes speeches to the United Nations. She inculcates fear into people and actually says, "I want you to be frightened". I would rather she had said: "I want you to be informed."

The BBC endlessly repeat 'climate change' – blaming all phenomena on it. It gets into our heads after a time. Climate has always changed. We have had many ice ages, warm periods,

including the Middle Ages warm period and the Roman warm period where we grew vines in Scotland.

Calculations about how the weather will be in the future are horrendously difficult. There are currently over 100 mathematical models and to make a statement what will happen in ten years' time with any degree of certainty is well nigh impossible.

In 2006, Al Gore said that we had only ten years left to save the planet from a scorching, and he was wrong. If anything, the temperature of the Earth has dropped somewhat; this is partly explainable by the decrease in the activity of the sun as we approach the Maunder minimum due in 2030.

The amount of CO2 we have produced in recent years has been enormous, yet the temperature has only increased by 1%. The earth has a great capacity to adjust itself and balance the warmth coming in from the Sun to the warmth being given out.

Prophecies and calculations are best left to the experts, not paid by industry people or those who are just repeating material that they have heard.

In the article, Charlotte has claimed that 'world leading scientists have said that we have twelve years to cut emissions in half in order to prevent catastrophic climate change impacts later this century'. Were these the same people that said that 97% of scientists agree about man-made climate change? The fact is that if you dig down, such lists cannot be found.

What concerns me is that a lot of children, influenced by Greta, are really afraid about the future when there is no reasonable justification for this hysteria.

If there was, then why don't the media allow a debate?

Carbon dioxide is a trace element in the atmosphere, but one which is part of the nitrogen cycle, a gas that is absorbed by plants, which then manufacture oxygen. Without carbon dioxide, all animal and plant life – that includes us – would be dead. Carbon dioxide is currently just above 400 ppm. In the past, it has been as high as 4,000 ppm, well within safety limits. The public now seem to regard this life-giving gas, or as David Bellamy said, nature's natural fertiliser, as a poison.

The main controller of temperature is the sun. 0.04% in the atmosphere that is carbon dioxide, 96% is produced by natural causes. For example, volcanoes, and the release of carbon dioxide from the sea, which holds twenty times as much of the gas than the atmosphere. These natural forces are mighty. The idea that eating vegetables instead of meat will reduce this or have any impact whatsoever is ludicrous.

Among the scientific community, there is no consensus of agreement about man's role in climate change compared with natural forces. In the last warm period in the Middle Ages, there were no internal combustion machines; motor cars, planes, or anything else apart from bonfires to produce carbon.

The BBC has decided that the science has been 'settled', when in fact, the views of the 30,000 scientists who disagree have been suppressed. It is interesting that they do not allow Lord Monckton or Piers Corbyn to have their view. Search for these people on YouTube and you will see that the science is most definitely not settled.

I have had a look at Charlotte's site: dayoneevents.co.uk and it is a good start, full of practical ideas on how to save energy and indeed have a better life. Nothing wrong with that. However, it is quite another thing to understand climate change, which requires a lot of study. If you remember, it used to be called global warming. Have you wondered why the name was changed?

We have lived through end of the world prophecies many times and we need to take a deep breath and look at both points of view. You could start by having a look at my site: Xreposed.com.

The thing we really need to be afraid of is 5G – there is no escape, and for that I refer you to my site, 5Gexposed.com. I am happy to take questions via the

sites mentioned.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Snellgrove.

Midsomer Norton

Dear Editor,

BBC Red Button Teletext Service

So, the BBC Red Button Teletext Service will bite the dust at the end of this month.

Only last Friday, the subject of this discontinuance was brought up.

The effect on sport lovers who currently depend on this service to access up-to-date news and sport will be shattering.

It's okay if you have a computer, phone contract and a daily newspaper, but what happens if you're housebound, or unable or unwilling to afford them?

Our MP, like his Boss, tells me he does not like the BBC. Letters to the BBC Complaints Department and OFCOM have only produced standard replies. So, it seems the curtain will fall on this valuable facility.

No doubt state pensioners will bear this in mind for the reduction in service when the bill for the licence fee falls on their mat in the summer; whilst TV presenters and others continue to receive mega salaries?

Good-bye, dear friend, we will miss you!

Yours ever,

D A Shearn.

Paulton

Dear Editor,

On the buses – if you can find one!

I was quite amused by the letter from Eleanor Jackson saying that the CEO of First Bus (AKA Worst Bus) thinks the new timetable for the 172 will improve matters.

The bus now only operates on the hour, so how does this class as an improvement? Also, if you are working in Bath, after 19.15, you will have to wait an hour for the next bus which will take nearly two hours to get to Paulton.

A great improvement!

Yours sincerely,

M. Thornton.

Midsomer Norton

Dear Editor,

Come along and find out more at local forum

The next meeting of the Somer

Valley Forum is due to take place on Wednesday, 22nd January 2020, 6.30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of The Hollies, High Street, Midsomer Norton BA3 2DP.

The Forum is an opportunity for residents to hear how B&NES and the Parish Councils are addressing their concerns. At this meeting, Forum members and residents will hear from the B&NES Cabinet on their priorities and financial plans and will have an opportunity to ask questions.

I'd urge all your readers to take an interest in the Somer Valley Forum and their local Parish Council meetings. Accountability is the heartbeat to a healthy democracy.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Marwood.

Welton

Dear Editor,

Welton Village Group – we still exist!

May I thank Mr Terry Hill for his interest in Welton Village Group; the short answer to his question is yes, we still are a going concern, but our earlier aspirations of developing a community spirit with a thriving team of volunteers and social activities did not enjoy the level of support we hoped for.

On a personal level, I believe that this may be due to the general air of despondency in Welton caused by derelict and decaying sites, including the old Welton Bibby and Baron site. The journey from Stones Cross down Station Road towards the Dolphin is unlikely to raise the spirits.

We agreed, therefore, at the last AGM, that Welton Village Group would continue to maintain its core tasks, such as emptying the bins on the Greenway, weekly, supported by a small but valued team of volunteers, but would otherwise maintain a low profile until the future of the Welton Bibby and Baron site became clearer and we could make a constructive input on behalf of local residents.

Our next AGM will be held on Thursday, 16th January at 7.30 p.m. in the Midsomer Norton Social Club, and we will be delighted to welcome Mr Hill and any other present or potential member of Welton Village Group.

Yours,

Roger Tollervey,

Chair, Welton Village Group.

Getting in touch with us ...

Tel: 01761 258030

Email: contactus@mnrjournal.co.uk

Website: www.mnrjournal.co.uk



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Editorial, Lucy Slade: 01761 258028

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JOURNAL



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