

*Putting the Love of Christ in the Heart of our Community*



# ***Signpost***

***Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill  
Parish Magazine***



March 2023

Free

## Who's Who in Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill Churches

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<b>Assistant Curate</b>	Reverend Jacqui Keir-Bucknall rev.jacqui.kb@gmail.com	07990 766647
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<b>PCC Secretary</b>	Bill Wallace winsandsec@gmail.com	01934 844650
<b>Churchwardens</b> St James the Great, Winscombe	Derrick Claridge winscombechurchwarden@gmail.com Ian Hine winswarden2@outlook.com	01934 843014 01934843961
All Saints, Sandford	Diana Williams sandfordchurchwarden@gmail.com Douglas Ogram douglas@ogram.com	01934 852449 01934 820972
St John the Baptist, Churchill	Tricia Avery averyfarm@cpsmail.co.uk	01934 852360
<b>Pastoral Care Co-ordinator</b>	Reverend Pauline Nixon revpolly@gmail.com	07511 935860
<b>Churchill Methodist Minister Pastor</b>	Reverend Meg Slingo Ken Young	01934 852314 01934 852686
<b>Lynch Chapel Pastor/Minister</b>	The Lynch, Winscombe, BS25 1AR Vacancy	01934 844401
<b>Sidcot Quakers Meeting House</b>	Oakridge Lane, Sidcot, BS25 1LT	01934 843065
<b>Roman Catholics</b>	Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Cheddar	01458 83593

### **We hope you will enjoy this copy of 'Signpost'.**

If you would like to receive future copies in colour, electronically, please send your email address to parishmag2@gmail.com. Alternatively it can be downloaded from the church website: [www.winsandchurches.org.uk](http://www.winsandchurches.org.uk)

A limited number of black and white printed copies are available from some local shops, each of our churches and the Church Centre (St James's Church Hall).

If you are unable to receive your copy by downloading it or by email please telephone the Church Office (01934 844650) and leave a message including your full name and address.

This magazine is one of the ways we are fulfilling our Vision

reach**ing**  
wel**com**ing  
ca**ri**ng   
se**rv**ing  
Teach**ing**

Putting the love of Christ in the heart of our community.



As I write we are in 'between time' (Ordinary Time as the lectionary describes it) which separates Candlemas and the beginning of Lent. The epistle from Romans speaks of 'Creation groaning' and we cannot help thinking of the aftermath of events unfolding in Turkey and Syria following the terrible earthquake.

March commences with Saint David's Day, patron saint of Wales. It was in the city named after him that I was ordained to priestly orders thirty years ago this coming July. Doesn't time fly!

Mentioning flying, my mind slips back fifty years to when I was a young RFA Officer serving on a frontline naval ship called the RFA Regent. In my naivety I had volunteered to take part in a 'Jackstay' human transport exercise during a Replenishment at Sea (RAS) between our ship and an aircraft carrier. RAS is an effective method of transferring items from one ship to another whilst under way. During the event participating ships continue in convoy on an identical parallel course yet frequently changing compass direction to confuse and hinder any potential hostile act against the convoy.

On the occasion which involved my transfer across I had the misfortune of becoming stuck mid channel when a pulley cable on the aircraft carrier jammed. Being stuck half-way between two exceptionally large warships sailing at high speed, whilst altering course in choppy seas and windy conditions, linked only by a harness attached to some reinforced ropes and wires at a 'considerable height' above sea-level, makes one stop and think. Indeed, I had stopped and was thinking 'O why did I volunteer for this?' And yes, I also said a few prayers as well!

In emergencies or for sudden operational reasons the RAS link can be terminated with the RAS ships rapidly breaking away. It is quite amazing how one becomes quite religious at times like that. Thankfully the cable line eventually was unfouled and I arrived safely at my seaborn destination. I remember it well. Certain things do stick in one's memory!

From an allegorical point of view that tale fits in quite aptly with the Gospel (John 3:1-17) for our first Sunday in March in which Jesus is speaking to Nicodemus about the kingdom of heaven. I don't want to write too much here about what is said since you may find it more helpful and of greater benefit by personally reading the Gospel passage.

I certainly thought of heavenly things whilst hanging on that jackstay. Of being 'borne from above' with 'the wind blowing where it chose' and the water all around. Indeed, in those moments my whole being and spirit were literally hanging between 'heaven and earth', the Seafarer's hymn, "Eternal Father Strong to Save" very much resounding in my mind at the time.

Jesus' words to Nicodemus however go far deeper in a spiritual way. It is the crux of faith he is speaking about and when put in its correct context, we find Jesus proclaiming the 'Gospel message' of God's saving grace - of Sacrifice, Redemption and Salvation leading to eternal life for all believers.

Nicodemus visited Jesus by night but returns home enlightened by the words, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." John 3:16-17.

Lent is upon us, A time to think deeply upon those things which really matter and discern those things which do not. May we use this time well so that at the end our Easter Joy in the Lord shall be complete and whole in Jesus Name.

Reverend Warren Williams.

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## **Why not come and join our 'Alpha?' Course?**

Alpha is a series of informal sessions exploring the basics of the Christian faith, over coffee, tea and cake!

Typically run over eleven weeks, each session looks at a different question around faith, with talks from DVD setting the scene. The talks are designed to create conversation in small groups afterwards.

So if you'd like to explore more about the Christian faith in a friendly atmosphere, whether you're a regular church goer or not, this is the course for you!

We are looking to offer the course after Easter 2023. It's totally free, and everyone's welcome.

Contact: [Rev.andrew.hiscox@hotmail.com](mailto:Rev.andrew.hiscox@hotmail.com)

## **Signpost - The Parish Magazine**

This magazine is created by volunteers from the Anglican Churches in the Benefices of Winscombe, Sandford with Churchill. It aims to serve and reach out to the local village communities and in doing so provide opportunities for the residents to become more aware of activities across all Christian denominations and within our villages.

## **Next Month's Magazine**

***The deadline for the April Magazine is Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March.*** Please submit items as Word documents to parishmag2@gmail.com which should be no longer than 400 words. If you are including photographs please ensure that you have the permission of anyone appearing in the photograph for them to be published in this magazine. Please supply high resolution photographs as jpegs.

The Editorial Team reserve the right to amend or reformat submitted articles.

We are producing limited black and white printed copies of 'Signpost' and encourage as many people as possible to receive their full colour copy electronically.

If you would like to receive future editions of this magazine by email please send your email address to parishmag2@gmail.com

## **Our Website**

[www.winsandchurches.org.uk](http://www.winsandchurches.org.uk)

Our website is the 'go to place' for information about our Churches and activities. It is regularly updated with the latest news and information.

- ❖ Home Page: latest news, monthly service plan
- ❖ Our Vision: find out about our plans for the future
- ❖ Church Life: our activities and groups
- ❖ Our Podcasts and Videos: a library of Church services to watch or listen to
- ❖ Parish Magazine: download the latest copy and find out how to contribute
- ❖ Hire A Venue: how to hire our Church Centre, Churches and meeting rooms

### **How To Find Our Churches - If you need directions to:-**

- St James the Great Church, Church Lane, Winscombe, BS25 1DE
- All Saints Church, Hill Road, Sandford, BS25 5NY
- St John the Baptist Church, Church Lane, Churchill, BS25 5QW
- Church Centre, 52 Woodborough Road, Winscombe, BS25 1BA

Please use your Satnav with the postcodes, or visit the website [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)

## Responding to the Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal



**DISASTERS  
EMERGENCY  
COMMITTEE**

From the news I am sure you have seen or heard of the earthquake that created such devastation in Northern Syria and Turkey last month. Our thoughts and prayers go out to those who have lost loved ones or their homes, and have seen such devastation in their towns and villages.

As a church community we have an opportunity to respond to through prayer and by giving financially via some of the charities working to bring relief efforts and urgently needed supplies to the region. To this end, across our three villages, I invite you to give via our churches to the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), which includes Tear Fund and Christian Aid. Tear Fund is a Christian charity which partners with churches in more than 50 of the world's poorest countries. Christian Aid are supporting the partners in Syria and across the region with whom they have been working since 2012.

If you are able to give, please give your gift directly to the church bank account using the reference 'Earthquake' so we can earmark these donations. The account details are:

Sort Code 60-23-32

Account Number 53349822

Reference Earthquake

Alternatively, you can also put your donation in the offertory plate in an envelope marked 'Earthquake', during our regular church services at St John's, All Saints and St James. And at our Café Church Service at the Church Centre on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March, we will collect any final donations and shortly afterwards share the overall total our church community has raised in response to this terrible natural disaster.

In your prayer times, you may wish to use the following prayer for those suffering at this time:

*We pray for the people of Central Turkey and North West Syria, whose lives have been devastated by the earthquake. Be present, O Lord, our Good Shepherd, to bring comfort, relief, shelter and human kindness. Shield the people who suffer, console those who are bereaved, prosper the provision of relief, strengthen the work of emergency teams, and shine your light and hope in the midst of despair.*

*In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Reverend Andrew Hiscox

Vicar

Church of England Parishes of Winscombe and Sandford with Churchill

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

'I HAVE HEARD ABOUT YOUR FAITH'

**You are invited to join us  
at Sidcot Meeting House, Oakridge Lane  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 2.30 pm**

This year's World day of Prayer Service has been prepared by the women of Taiwan and is being hosted by the Quakers.

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers.

Taiwan is an island rich in natural resources and culturally diverse. During the service the women of Taiwan will share the issues they face geographically, politically and socially and also their hopes for the future.



This painting created by artist, Hui-Wen HSAIO, uses images that highlight Taiwan's best-known features to express how the Christian faith brings peace and a new vision to Taiwan.

The women in the painting are sitting by a stream, praying silently and looking up into the dark. Despite the uncertainty of the path ahead, they know that the salvation of Christ has come.

Two endangered species are featured which are both of unique significance to the Taiwanese people. The Mikado pheasant is endemic to mountainous regions of Taiwan and is usually regarded as one of Taiwan's national birds. The Black-faced Spoonbill migrates thousands of miles every year to spend the winter in Taiwan. Their distinctiveness symbolises a characteristic of the Taiwanese people—confidence

and perseverance in times of difficulty.

The Phalaenopsis (Butterfly) orchids stand out. They are the pride of Taiwan, which has a worldwide reputation as the "Kingdom of Orchids."

The green grass represents the Taiwanese as simple, confident, strong and under God's care.

Let us join with them as we give thanks for the beautiful island and people of Taiwan and encourage one another in our faith just as Apostle Paul did in his letters.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later.



**Save the  
Children**

## **‘Save The Children’ Lunches**

at

**Shipham Village Hall**



**Save the  
Children**

Our lunches are served at 12.30 pm on the second and fourth Fridays of the month.

### **Fridays 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> March**

Join us for soup, bread, cheese, pickle and homemade biscuits, tea or coffee

£5.00

### **Good Friday Lunch- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April**

Join us for soup, bread, cheese, pickle and hot cross buns, tea or coffee

£5.50

Payments will be taken on the door and all profits go to Save the Children charity.

For further details contact Amanda Firth on 01934 844232



# **LENT**

## LENT LUNCHES

Please come to our weekly simple soup lunches followed by guest speakers. Donations from the lunches go to the charity concerned. All lunches start at 12.30

and to be held at the Church Centre, Winscombe EXCEPT the last lunch which will be held at Cheddar Catholic Church. All very welcome.

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March hosted by Sidcot Friends – speaker from Cheddar Food Bank

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March hosted by Lynch Chapel – speaker from Mission Aviation Fellowship

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March hosted by All Saints/ Saint James – speaker from Christian Aid

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March hosted by the Roman Catholics – speaker from Free Wheelers

Further information from Hilary Hagen 01934 842511



# come to Scramblers

A friendly,  
church toddler group for children  
from birth to 4 years  
and their parents/carers

Toys

Drinks &  
Snacks

Stories  
Both Bible &  
traditional

Singing

Craft Activities

Games

Thursdays 9.30am - 11.30am  
(term time only)

March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>  
Easter Break 3 weeks, return on April 27<sup>th</sup>  
at The Church Centre, Winscombe

Contact Enid on 01934 842534 for more information





## Messy Church in February

Do you remember the story of 'Moses in the Bullrushes'?  
What was the name of the river in which Moses's cradle was placed?

Yes, the River Nile! The Messy Church children got the answer!

We painted a big picture of the river Nile and added the baby, Moses, in his cradle with his sister Miriam keeping watch, and Pharaoh's daughter finding him and asking Miriam to find someone to care for him. All so carefully coloured by the children, and now adorning the wall of the Church Centre. And yes, there were pyramids nearby at the time when Moses was born.



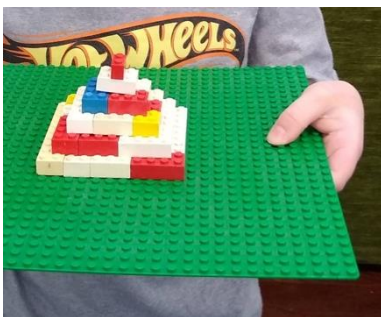
God had an amazing way of protecting baby Moses from the anger and jealousy of Pharaoh, King of Egypt. Moses had a special part to play in God's big plan.

Diana reminded us that He looked after the baby Jesus too, when he was a vulnerable baby at risk from King Herod.

We sang the song 'One More Step Along the World I Go', a good reminder that our loving God travels with us too along our road of life's ups and downs.

Our lovely team of helpers welcomed several new families.

Some clever children constructed pyramids out of Lego, and some wove paper strips to decorate their own "basket".



What else? Well ever creative creative Enid's culinary 'make' for the children this time was a jelly-baby 'baby' placed in a 'basket' of chocolate/Weetabix crispy.

And we played 'Please Mr Crocodile Can I Cross the Water' because, of course, there are Nile crocodiles in the River Nile!

We've got more stories from the life of Moses at our next session on 11<sup>th</sup> March and, we hope, some interesting activities to go with them. Spread the word!



**During the spring!**



**at our Church Centre, Woodborough Rd, Winscombe**

**\*January 7th 2.30-4pm**

**\*February 11th 2.30-4pm**

**\*March 11th 2.30-4pm**

**\*April 8th 2.30-4pm**

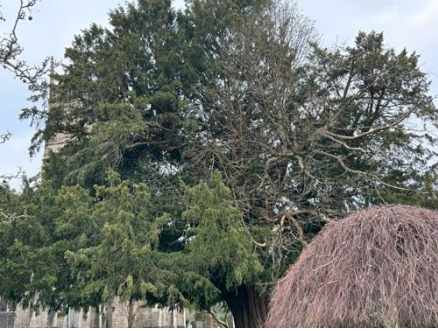
**Bring Mum and/or Dad and come and join us! ....for....**

- **Crafts and games**
- **Songs**
- **Bible story told through drama**
- **Drinks and Snacks**

More information?... <https://winsandchurches.org.uk/messy-church/>

Or find us on Facebook : search for Winsand Churches Messy Church

## Our Ancient Yew Tree



Those of you who visit St James's or walk through the churchyard cannot fail to notice our huge and ancient yew tree which is thought to be between 600 and 800 years old.

You may also have noticed that the yew has been suffering some dieback over the past year or so, particularly on one side. This has prompted the PCC to take advice from both the Ancient Yew Society and a local arborist.

Later this month the dead limbs will be cut out and the large bough that crosses the path leading from the wooden churchyard gate will be cut back so that it is within the crown of the tree.

The other job required is the repositioning of the seat that encircles the tree. This needs to be demolished and rebuilt further out from the trunk. The space created can then be filled with new soil to nourish the tree.

*If anyone has the skills to help with, or take on this work for the church, the PCC would love to hear from you. You can contact one of the Churchwardens whose details are on page 2 of the magazine.*

Here is a little more about the history of the tree.

The Winscombe yew was first recorded in 1791 as 'a very fine yew tree, with a large spread of branches'. (*Collinson: History and Antiquities of the County of Somerset*)

In 'The Bristol Flora' of 1912, JM White called it 'perhaps the finest and most perfect'. He thought that the tree may have been planted when 'Winscombe Manor was a possession of Glastonbury Abbey' and considered its age may approach 1000 years!

In 1914 in 'The Heart of Mendip' Knight called it 'a magnificent yew.....the glory of the churchyard'. He noted that seven large boughs had been broken off in a storm in 1884 and considered the tree to be no more than 400 years old.

It is interesting that the yew recovered from the loss of these large boughs and that it has had other limbs removed over the years.

This helps to give us confidence that the works taking place this month will benefit the tree and see it continue to flourish and grace our churchyard well into the future.



## THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY CURRENT CAMPAIGNS



Want to know how The Children's Society uses the money we raise to support vulnerable children in the UK? Then read on!

At present the Society is running four campaigns:

- supporting children affected by the Cost of Living Crisis,
- Children's Mental Health,
- providing Guardians for all unaccompanied child refugees and migrants arriving in this country
- #LookCloser - raising awareness of child exploitation.

The Cost of Living campaign is urging the government to provide free school meals for all children whose families are on Universal Credit, to increase Child Benefit and to give more funding for families in crisis.

The Children's Mental Health campaign is funding pop-up Mental Health hubs where young people can get help and advice quickly.

Guardians for unaccompanied refugee and migrant children has young campaigners – who were themselves originally supported by the Children's Society - working with these very vulnerable, lonely and easily exploited children to make sure they are kept safe in this country.



#LookCloser is an award-winning, national project to prevent child exploitation - funded by the Home Office - that TCS has been running, together with the British Transport Police and National County Lines Coordination Centre, for four years. Sadly, all across the country young people are being manipulated, sexually abused, forced to launder money and deal drugs. This exploitation isn't obvious but it happens everywhere, even in rural

communities. #LookCloser raises public awareness of the signs of child exploitation and what to do about it. Twice a year they have a week highlighting the issues – what to look for and where to report any concerns - with posters and leaflets. This spring's Week of Action runs from 27<sup>th</sup> February to 6<sup>th</sup> March and leaflets explaining what is being done are in our Churches and in the Library. Together we can all help to bring an end to this abuse of children.

Here in Winscombe and Sandford, with your generous support, we continue to raise money for all the valuable work the CS does and we are already planning our events for 2023. Paul and Mo's Day will be back in August, as will the Box Opening Coffee Morning in September!

Watch this space for more details nearer the time.

## **Refresh-men-t**

### **Rebranded, Refreshed, Relocated and Restarting!**

Our last meeting was held at The Railway Inn in Sandford on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022, when we invited ladies to join us for a talk by Archdeacon Adrian. Since then your committee has met to reconsider the future.

You may be aware that we have been experiencing difficulties in meeting the requirement of The Railway to have a minimum of 20 people at each breakfast. The invitation to the ladies was an experiment to see if this could be an answer. Interestingly the reaction from both sexes was less than positive. The main objection was that it should be, and remain to be, predominantly an event for the men.

Our review considered all aspects of our meetings including purpose, location, cost and format.

#### **REBRANDED**

Minor changes and our meetings are to be rebranded as Refresh-men-t Breakfast.

#### **REFRESHED**

Format changed to move away from having a speaker at each breakfast, allowing for more chat and fellowship time for the men, and then a speaker at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each quarter, which could be an Open Meeting with ladies invited.

#### **RELOCATED**

A change of location, returning to the skittle alley at The Woodborough Inn, Winscombe. This is not as central as The Railway, but can offer greater flexibility of opening time, length of meeting, seating arrangements and menu. Meals will be served at the tables, rather than buffet style. There are no minimum number requirements and a reduction in cost!

The agreed menu choice is:

- Cooked breakfast: 1 x sausage, 1 x bacon, 1 x fried egg, hash brown, mushrooms, grilled tomato, baked beans, black pudding, toast and butter with tea/coffee/fruit juice - £10.00
- Bacon Bap including tea/coffee/fruit juice - £7.50
- 2 rounds of toast with butter, jam, marmalade including tea/coffee/fruit juice - £5.00

#### **RESTARTING**

Refresh-men-t Breakfast is starting again after the Easter break on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each of the following months

May, June, \*July, September, October, \*November (\*Speaker) and on into 2024

Starting at approximately 9.00 am.

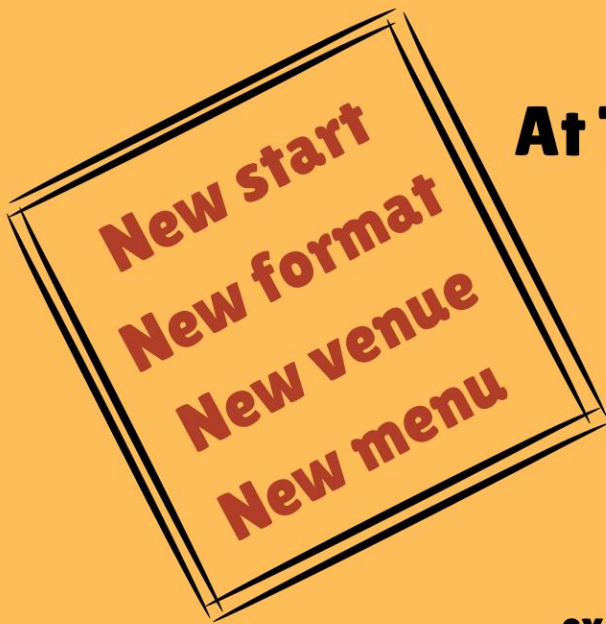
Further information about May's meeting will be in the next edition of Signpost and will be emailed to current members by Tim Harland.

Please tell all your friends and neighbours as all are welcome.

Contact details are on the poster (opposite).

GREAT EGG-SPECTATIONS AT

# Refresh-men-+ Breakfast



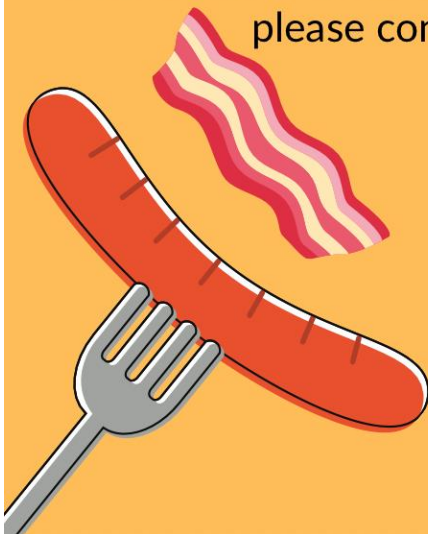
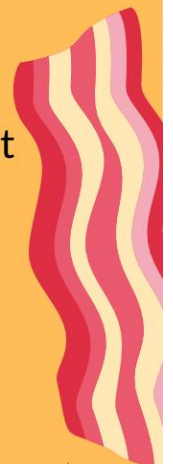
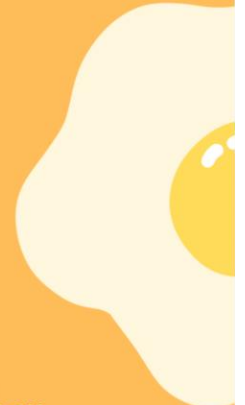
**At The Woodborough Inn**  
**Winscombe**  
**9.00 am**

**Third Saturday**  
**of the month**

**except March, August & December**

**Re-starting on Saturday 20th May 2023**

For further information or to order this month's men's breakfast  
please contact Tim Harland 01934 843248



**Friendship**  
**Food**  
**Inspiration**



## Lynch Link



Greetings from all of us at Lynch Chapel.

As I am writing this, preparations for Lent and Easter are well on the way. The evenings are gradually getting lighter, but warmer weather has yet to come.

We are fortunate to have a warm, friendly environment in which we can show films on our big screen at chapel. The showing of the film 'The Way'

launched the beginning of this year's ecumenical Lent study groups.

Our Family Film club restarted last November and is held on the last Saturday of the month, at 2.45 pm for 3.00 pm start. Refreshments are on sale before the film and during the interval. The popcorn, sweets, soft drinks, tea, coffee etc. are part of the attraction.

Our Sunday Services start at 10.30 am and are taken by visiting preachers except for the months when there is a fifth Sunday, and then the deacons prepare and take the service. There is always provision for a Sunday school if we have visiting children. An informal service is held on the first Wednesday of the month at 10.30 am with refreshments afterwards.

We are prayerfully in discussion with the churches in our group about a new minister, and pray that God will guide us to the right person.

Our Knit and Natter group meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 2.00 pm. We are a small friendly group and would welcome anyone who would like to join us. You can knit, crochet or just sit and natter. We help each other if anyone gets stuck with a pattern or is just learning a new hobby.

On the first Saturday of the month, we hold our tea, coffee and cake afternoons from 2.30 pm to 4.00 pm.

All are welcome to any of our services or activities.

Every blessing from us all at the Lynch.

Enid Clark





# Family Film Club

## On the Big Screen at Lynch Chapel, Winscombe

**LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH**

25<sup>th</sup> February, 25<sup>th</sup> March, 29<sup>th</sup> April, 20<sup>th</sup> May (third Saturday),  
24<sup>th</sup> June and 29<sup>th</sup> July.

Doors open at 2.45pm  
Film starts at 3pm

**Admission FREE**

**Come and collect your 2023 Family Film Club membership card  
Membership FREE**

Films are usually 'U' rated and sometimes 'PG'  
so suitable for the whole family to enjoy

**Children of all ages welcome**  
- but must be accompanied by an adult  
Tea/Coffee - Sweets - Popcorn - Soft Drinks  
available to buy



## Supporting and Respecting our Natural World.

### Welcoming Bees and Other Beneficial Insects to the Garden

Last month we saw how hard pollinators have to work in order to find enough pollen and nectar for their needs. This applies particularly to the bee family since they are the only insects that have to provide their larvae with food throughout the year. Most other larvae are carnivorous and search for their own food such as aphids.

Of course collecting honey and nectar is done for the benefit of the colony but we humans take advantage of products from the hive; honey, of course, but also wax, propolis and pollen.

How can we make life easier for pollinating insects?

- Provide flowers throughout the year especially early and late in the season. As our climate changes insects especially bees come out to forage on milder days in winter but if there are no flowers they lose energy during the search and die. Early flowers include snowdrops, primroses, hellebores, tulips, mahonia, blackthorn and poplar. Late flowers are Michaelmas daisies, some asters, heathers, caryopteris and especially ivy.
- Plant in groups of the same plant. Bees have favourites! This way energy can be saved instead of being lost in their search.
- Provide flowers whose pollen and nectar are easily accessible. Single flowers are easier than double. Members of the daisy family are very easy such as rudbeckia, shasta



daisies, marigolds and heleniums. Umbellefers are a favourite too such as angelica because they have many tiny flowers on one head (umbel) so the insect can simply crawl over the flowers saving energy otherwise lost in flight. Others would include astrantia, fennel, sweet cicely, ammi majus and visnaga and once allowed to go to seed carrots, onions, leeks, coriander, dill and parsnips.

*The picture shows Angelica Gigas.*

*The insect (wasp ) can simply crawl over the flowers, No flight, less energy !*

Beware of too many bedding plants. They have colour but are bred so that they often have no pollen, nectar or even scent plus many have extra petals produced at the expense of anthers for pollen. Petunias are a good example.

Dave Goulson in his book, 'The Garden Jungle', has hope for pollinators because they multiply very quickly under the right conditions so here is a challenge to provide some ideal pollinator conditions in our gardens that will also enhance our lives.



## Supporting Your Local Foodbanks

Our churches and the wider community support the **Cheddar Valley Foodbank** and the Foodbank based at the **For All Healthy Living Centre** in Bournville, Weston-Super-Mare.



We are pleased to be able to deliver non perishable foods to the Foodbanks, and continue to make a significant contribution.

### Good News from the For All Healthy Living Centre Foodbank

A big thank you to you all for your very generous contributions and support through January and February.

Some good news to share is that the Centre has a Grant from the Government to help those people who are struggling and in very real difficulty with funding their prepayment meters.

People are able to visit the Centre with their payment card and get the card topped up. This scheme has been running from mid January. and they hope the funds will last to the end of March.

Beth and Denys Cutmore

There are collection baskets in each of the villages at the churches and at the Church Centre.

Cash donations can be placed in the postbox at the Church Centre in Winscombe. Please label to show whether your donation is for the Cheddar Foodbank or the For All Healthy Living Centre.

These are some of the items that can be donated and are always gratefully received.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| ❖ Soup – packet and tinned                      | ❖ Tinned vegetables                                |
| ❖ Instant mashed potato                         | ❖ Tinned fish                                      |
| ❖ Cereals                                       | ❖ UHT milk   |
| ❖ Sauces – tins and jars of pasta sauce         | ❖ Main meals in tins (nit Fray Bentos pies please) |
| ❖ Tinned cold meat – corned beef, spam etc      | ❖ Squash   |
| ❖ Long life fruit juices                        | ❖ Paper goods – toilet roll, kitchen roll etc.     |
| ❖ Desserts – tinned fruit, rice pudding, sponge | ❖ Custard – tinned or instant                      |
| ❖ Pasta, rice, instant noodles                  | ❖ Tea bags, coffee, hot chocolate                  |
| ❖ Sugar   | ❖ Biscuits   |
| ❖ Personal items – soap, toothbrushes & paste   | ❖ Men's and ladies' toiletries                     |
| ❖ Confectionery                                 | ❖ Snack bars and crisps                            |



## WINSCOMBE HILL TOAD PATROL

Did you know that toads both hibernate and migrate? Like a lot of UK amphibians, they only necessarily live in or around ponds during the breeding season. The rest of the time they can be found anywhere that is moderately damp. This means that a lot of them have to travel long distances in the late winter to get back to their breeding ponds, and they always return to the pond they were hatched in!



Winscombe Hill is one of the biggest known toad migration routes in the South West with up to 2,000 toads migrating along about half a mile of road every February and March. In recent years the route has become a rat-run between the A371 and the A38 at the top of Shute Shelve Hill, resulting in the death of perhaps more than half of these vulnerable amphibians.

In negotiation with North Somerset Council, the Winscombe Toad Patrol, led by Cheddar resident Joy Trusler, have arranged for official signs to go up advising drivers to seek another route from dusk to dawn, which is when the toads migrate. "These plucky little creatures need all the help they can get, with their numbers plummeting, like so much of our wildlife" said Joy.

If you see one of the bright yellow signs when travelling through the area, please use another route to safeguard the survival of the Winscombe Hill toad population and for the safety of the volunteer patrollers.



## March Quiz

Mothing Sunday or Mother's Day is celebrated on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March this year so this month's quiz takes its inspiration from the subject of 'mothers'.



1. In the famous proverb, what is 'the mother of invention'?
2. In which city was Mother Theresa born, and in which city did she die?
3. The painting 'Arrangement in Grey and Black No. 1' is best known by what name?
4. Which actress played the mother in the 1970 film of 'The Railway Children'?
5. Mother's ruin is a common term for which alcoholic drink?
6. What mother would you find in an oyster?
7. In the nursery rhyme who had no food for her dog?
8. Who was the famous 'Mother of Montgomery' whose actions sparked the US Civil Rights movement in 1955?
9. What group of animals have young that are carried in their mother's pouch?
10. Who was the Greek King of Thebes who fell in love with his mother?

**Answers can be found on page 41**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Folk .. Yes but all kinds of music and verse.  
Fourth Tuesday each month 7.30 pm to 10.30 pm  
£2**

Upstairs Bar, Winscombe Club, 7 Sandford Road.  
A quiet and respectful acoustic space for performers  
and audience.

Further information from Nigel Carson, 07551 197  
685 or winscombefolkclub@gmail.com. Also on Facebook.



## Tree Wardens and Parish Council working on the Award Land (AL)

For those who haven't heard of the 'Award Land', it is a small wood owned by the Parish Council accessible from Quarry Road, by the disused Sandford quarry. See details at [https://www.winscombeandsandford-pc.gov.uk/Award\\_Land\\_42950.aspx](https://www.winscombeandsandford-pc.gov.uk/Award_Land_42950.aspx) for its history.



Ash dieback is affecting many of the ash trees in the AL and Winscombe and Sandford Tree Wardens are working with the Parish Council Environment Working Group on a five-year+ plan to deal with the ash trees and improve the natural environment.

We are working in collaboration with other organisations, including the ANOB, the Forestry Commission, North Somerset Council Tree Officers and local naturalists.

Our strategy is:

1. To remove all diseased ash trees as soon as the tree's canopy is reduced to about 25% of normal.
2. To reduce the number of evergreen *Quercus ilex* (holm oaks) which have been multiplying in recent years, and stopping other plants from colonising the ground beneath them by shutting out the light. Climate change is causing extremes of weather – particularly drought followed by heavy rain, and ground cover will help stop the soil being washed away.
- 3 To resume woodland maintenance by coppicing hazel trees, which will also open out the wood for ground plants to grow.
- 4 To encourage natural regeneration of the other trees and shrubs present in the AL, including English oaks, hawthorn, sycamore, old man's beard, spindle, rowan, as well as planting some others, such as Goat willow, and Scots pine.
- 5 Currently we are surveying the AL to discover the current variety of wildlife present, including birds, bats, amphibians and reptiles, with a view to monitoring them during and after our project.
- 6 We will leave as much as possible of the cut trees and other plants to decompose, and also some dead trunks standing to provide homes for owls and other animals. This dead plant material will provide food for microbes, fungi, insects and other invertebrates to thrive and in turn provide food for birds, dormice and other rodents, as well as improving the soil to encourage growth of more plants and trees.

Please don't worry if, when taking your dog for a walk round the AL, you think we are making it 'untidy'. Tidiness is one reason for the catastrophic decline in our wildlife over the last 50 years. Brambles and other plants that we find a nuisance provide a valuable habitat for wild life.

## Local History Corner

### Historic Industries in the Winscombe Area

The term 'industry' is a term not commonly heard in rural areas, but for over 2000 years industrial activity has taken place locally and often on a large scale. We have the Romans to thank for the commercial exploitation of lead on the Mendips.

It was a commodity much used in construction work throughout their empire. The lead from Charterhouse was particularly sought after as it had high silver content (about 5%) and thus doubly valuable. It was transported mainly through the Vale of Winscombe to harbours with access to the Severn estuary.

A number of well -constructed roads have been identified locally by archaeologists (see *Roads and Raiders* in March 2022 *Signpost*). Lead was still being recovered from the area as late as 1910 and it is recorded that about 44kg of silver was mined in 1878.

A major-post mediaeval industry was the mining of calamine to be used in the production of brass. This was extensively mined in Winscombe. Mines are recorded on the south side of The Green, and a 17<sup>th</sup> century map (now in Somerset Record Office) giving their location, has recently been discovered. This industry came to a halt in the 1870's destroyed by cheaper imports from abroad.

A memorial to a miner, Robert Stok who died in 1725, with images of tools and a furnace, may be seen in the south aisle of St.James's.



*Glass waste, showing quartz inclusions, from the kin site*

Manganese was also mined but to a far lesser extent. This was used in glassmaking and glazes. A glass-making kiln site has been identified south of Shipham Lane thanks to a walker, Mr Kelvyn Baker who picked up a lump of glass waste in woodland. An investigation by ALERT, a local archaeological team, discovered indications of structures at the bottom of a hill. On the brow, a favoured position for such sites, an overgrown area was recorded which was probably the kiln location.

Near here, the late Professor Mick Aston identified an area of 'surface mining'. This is now thought by ALERT to be an indication of the gravel surface of the nearby Roman road being removed for smelting. More research is required here. The site has been reported to Cat Lodge, the North Somerset Senior Archaeologist.

Two small linked enclosures can be seen on 19<sup>th</sup> century maps of the area and suggests that there may have been more kilns further the west, close to the Post Office sorting office.

Iron ore was mined on the Mendips in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, and in Winscombe this activity gives the name to Oakridge, Oker Hedge, and Ocherage on local maps and is taken from the name of the ore, ochre. Coal was also found, and we know from excavations that coal braziers were used by the inhabitants of the Roman villa at Star.

**Reference:** Gough, J.W., 1966. *The mines of Mendip*. London: David & Charles. Revised 1967.

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## Winscombe W.I.

You are welcome to join us for our next meeting.

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

at 7.15 pm for a 7.30 pm start

at 'The Church Centre', Winscombe

Come and enjoy aspects of our local history with our guest speaker, Lois Brenchley, who will tell us all about 'The Twenties in Winscombe'.

Refreshments will be available and we hope to see you will be able to come along and join us.

Carol Hudson (Secretary)

\*\*\*\*\*

## All Saints Church Community Café



The February Cafe raised £337.50 including Gift Aid.  
Many thanks to all those who supported us.

Our next cafes will be on  
**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March and Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April**  
at All Saints

We serve coffee, a variety of teas and soft drinks along with homemade cakes, biscuits and soup.

We look forward to seeing you again.





# QUIZ EVENING

**Friday 3rd March  
Sandford Village Hall  
7.00 for 7.30 pm**

**Teams of  
up to 6**

**Raffle**



**Bring your own  
drinks and nibbles**

**Tickets: £4.00 per person**

***(In aid of All Saints Church  
Building Fund)***

# Coronation Celebration for Sandford and Winscombe Community



## SAVE THE DATE

### SATURDAY 6<sup>th</sup> MAY 2023

Afternoon & Evening  
Winscombe Community Centre

BBQ & Bar

Giant  
Marquee



Two Live  
Bands

Bring Your Own Picnic  
Children's Entertainer

LOOK OUT FOR YOUR  
LEAFLET THROUGH YOUR DOOR

Organised by the Festival and Flags Group  
Any queries contact Alison - [alisonparmj@aol.com](mailto:alisonparmj@aol.com)

**Churchill & Langford Village Fund**

# **QUIZ NIGHT**

# **Saturday 4th March**



**Churchill Memorial Hall**

**7pm for 7:30pm**

**Tickets: £5 pp to Include 'Nibbles'**

**Teams of up to Eight**

**All Welcome — Support Your Village**

**Licensed Bar**

**Tickets available from Churchill Post Office & Stores**



## Churchill Music Young Musician of the Year Competition

The atmosphere was electric for our Churchill Music Young Musician of the Year competition. Advanced music students at Churchill Academy presented an eight-minute programme of contrasting works to demonstrate their musicality, technical ability and presentation skills in the beautiful setting of St. John's Church, Churchill. In addition to the generous cash prizes and trophies, winners have the opportunity to perform in the Young Artist's Showcase in St. George's, Bristol and the District Final of the Rotary Young Musician of the Year.



*Contestants from left: Ailish, Wilfred,, Lucas, Adam, Simon Smith (Chair) Izzie, Matt, Toby, Tom,*

Simon Smith FRSA, international violinist and Coordinator of String Studies at Wells Cathedral School chaired this year's adjudication panel. He was joined by Adrian Trapp MA Cantab, former Director of Music at Weston Parish Church and professional french horn player, Holly Greenwood-Rogers, BA (Dunelm) MMus (RBC) a former winner of both Junior and Senior Young Musician Awards when she was at Churchill Academy. The musicality and technical ability of the students was exciting. During the nail-biting interval the packed audience and invited guests which included Churchill Parish Council chair, Jackie Bush and Cllr Catherine Gibbons, Executive member of North Somerset Council for Children and Life-long Learning, voted for the young musician who they felt should win the special Churchill Music Audience Trophy and were entertained by Churchill Academy's Chamber Choir.

The Raymond Hayter Song prize – a financial award which is not part of the competition is made in memory of Raymond Hayter and Beryl Roper. It is generously supported each year in their memory by Beryl's nephew Matthew Jones. The prize is awarded to the young vocal student who has the most promising voice and works hard to contribute to the musical life of Churchill Academy. This year it was awarded to Gemma Partridge (Year 12) who gave a lovely performance in the interval.

Musicians! Congratulations to you all. We hope that you enjoyed performing to us as much as we enjoyed listening to you. Your presentations were excellent – the judges had very hard choices to make.

### Winners 2023

Churchill Music Young Musician of the Year : Tom Donovan (Year 13) – guitar.

Ursula Dornton Vocal Prize sponsored by the Trinity Singers : Matt Lucas (Year 12)

Churchill Music Junior Trophy : Adam Corke (Year 11) – tuba.

Churchill Music Audience Trophy : Toby Wilson (Year 11) – violin.

### Runners up

Lucas Granger (Year 10) – guitar

Wilfred Maitland-Round (Year 10) – cornet

Felicity Dickson-Boardman (Year 11) voice

Ailish Phillips (Year 12) – cornet

Churchill Music awarded tokens to all runners up.



**Sat. March 11<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm**  
All Saints Church, Wroughton



**The Passion and vitality of authentic Latin music blended with the virtuosity of the classical tradition, Classico Latino brings a fresh perspective on the world of Latin-American music, breathing new life into songs from across the continent.**

**Tickets:** £14.50 Champions of CM; £18.50 Non-Champions; Under 18's £1.00

**From:** Ticketsource; holly@churchillmusic.org.uk or 07442 672805

**Let the bus take the fuss! 01934 852589** to reserve your seat on the **Churchill & Langford Minibus**

**More Info:** Jan 01934 853518 jan@churchillmusic.org.uk



[www.churchillmusic.org.uk](http://www.churchillmusic.org.uk)



**UK charity No 1121866**

**MARCH 2023 – DIARY**

WED 1	7.15pm	Choir Practice
THURS 2	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James's
FRI 3	7.00pm	Quiz Evening – Sandford Village Hall - In aid of All Saints Building Fund
SAT 4	10.30am	Community Café – All Saints
<b>SUN 5</b>	<b>LENT 2</b>	<b>See opposite page for details of Services</b>
TUES 7	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 8	2.00pm	Knit and Natter – Lynch Chapel
	7.00pm	Winscombe WI – Church Centre
	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James's
THURS 9	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	10.00am	Communion in the Community - Dunster Court
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James's
FRI 10	12.30pm	Lent Lunch – Church Centre. Speaker - Cheddar Food Bank
SAT 11	2.30-4.00pm	Messy Church – Church Centre
<b>SUN 12</b>	<b>LENT 3</b>	<b>See opposite page for details of Services</b>
TUES 14	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 15	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James's Church
THURS 16	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James's Church
FRI 17	12.30pm	Lent Lunch - Church Centre. Speaker - Mission Aviation Fellowship
SAT 18	9.00am	Winscombe Saturday Market – Community Centre
<b>SUN 19</b>	<b>MOTHERING SUNDAY/LENT 4</b>	<b>See opposite page for details of Services</b>
TUES 21	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 22	2.00pm	Knit and Natter – Lynch Chapel
	2.15pm	Communion in the Community – Sewell House
THURS 23	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James's
FRI 24	12.30pm	Lent Lunch – Church Centre. Speaker – Christian Aid
<b>SUN 26</b>	<b>LENT 5/PASSION SUNDAY</b>	<b>See opposite page for details of Services</b>
TUES 27	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 28	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James's
THUR 29	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	10.00am	Communion in the Community - Dunster Court
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James's
FRI 30	12.30pm	Lent Lunch – Our Lady Queen of Apostles Hall, Cheddar Speaker – Free Wheelers

**BIBLE READINGS FOR MARCH**

<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March</b>
Genesis 12: 1-14	Exodus 17: 1-7	Exodus 2: 1-10	Ezekiel 37: 1-14
Psalms 121	Psalms 95	Psalms 127: 1-4	Psalms 130
Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17	Romans 5: 1-11	Colossians 3: 12-17	Romans 8: 6-11
John 3: 1-17	John 4: 5-42	John 19: 25-27	John 11: 1-45

## Church Service Times Opportunities to Worship in March

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	8.00 am	St John's	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Church Centre	Charity Café Church
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30 am	St James's	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	All Saints	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	St John's	Holy Communion
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00 am	Church Centre	Benefice Family Holy Communion
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30 am	St James's	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	All Saints	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	St John's	Holy Communion

### Midweek Services

Every Tuesday                      All Saints                      10.00 am                      Holy Communion

### Special Services March

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March                      Dunster Court                      10.00 am                      Communion in the Community  
 Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March                      Sewell House                      2.45 pm                      Communion in the Community

#### We Remember

Our love and sympathy go to the families and friends of:

**Dr Christopher John Garrett** whose funeral took place at All Saints Church on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023 followed by his burial at Ilex Lane Cemetery.

**Susan Merle Hawkins** whose funeral took place at Sedgemoor Crematorium on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at St James's Church on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February .

**Raye Trunkfield** whose cremation took place on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at St James's Church on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February and interment in the churchyard.

**Sandra Dorothy Carpenter** whose funeral took place at St John's Church on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February followed by a committal at Weston Crematorium.

**Derek Moore** whose funeral took place at Sedgemoor Crematorium on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

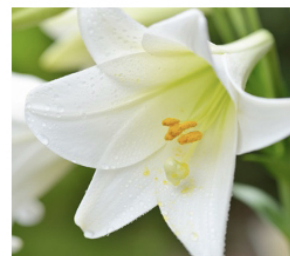
#### Easter Lilies at All Saints

Each Easter at All Saints in Sandford, special flower arrangements, featuring lilies, are created.

Many of the lilies are donated in memory of loved ones.

If you would like to donate a flower in memory of someone special to you, please place the money in an envelope marked 'All Saints Easter Flowers' and give it to one of the Church Wardens or to Angela Morris at a service or place it in the letterbox at the Church Centre.

For more information please contact Angela on 01934 852327.



## St David's Day

St David's Day is celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> March across Wales and the wider world but who was St David and why was he famous?



**He was born in a storm:** St David was born in the year 500. According to legend, his mother St Non gave birth to him on a Pembrokeshire clifftop during a fierce storm. The spot is marked by the ruins of Non's Chapel, and a nearby holy well is said to have healing powers

**He was a fine preacher:** St David became a renowned preacher, founding monastic settlements and churches in Wales, Brittany and southwest England – including, possibly, the abbey at Glastonbury. St David reputedly made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, from which he brought back a stone that now sits in an altar at St Davids Cathedral, built on the site of his original monastery.

**He was a teetotal vegetarian:** St David and his monks followed a simple, austere life. They ploughed the fields by hand, and refrained from eating meat or drinking beer. St David himself was reputed to have consumed only leeks and water, which is perhaps why the leek became a national symbol.

Shakespeare immortalised the emblem of the leek. In Henry V the Welsh Captain Fluellen says to the King, 'I do believe your majesty takes no scorn to wear a leek upon St Davy's Day.' King Henry responds: "I wear it for a memorable honour; for I am Welsh, you know, good countryman".

**He performed miracles:** The most famous miracle associated with St David took place when he was preaching to a large crowd in Llanddewi Brefi. When people at the back complained that they could not hear him, the ground on which he stood rose up to form a hill. A white dove, sent by God, settled on his shoulder

**His legacy lives on:** St David died on 1 March in 589. He was buried at the site of St David's cathedral, where his shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the Middle Ages. His last words to his followers came from a sermon he gave on the previous Sunday: 'Be joyful, keep the faith, and do the little things that you have heard and seen me do.' The phrase - 'Do the little things in life' - is still a well-known maxim in Wales.

At least 50 churches in Wales are named after him. Churches and chapels dedicated to David can also be found in South West England, Ireland and Brittany.

The nickname 'Taffy' for a Welshman links back to St David as the word derives from the Welsh spelling of his name 'Dafydd'

**St David is the only patron saint of the British Isles to be born here:** His flag is a yellow cross on a black background. Unlike the flags of St Andrew, St George and St Patrick, which are all represented on the Union Flag, the flag of St David is missing!



# CREATE! Sunday



**Sunday 26 March 4-6pm**

@ Churchill Methodist Hall

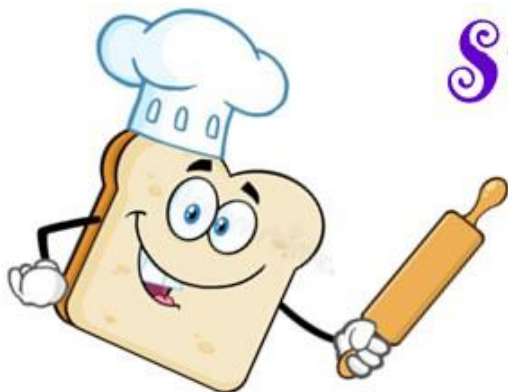


## You're Invited!

*Just pop along to the*

### Good Friends'

### Supper



- ✓ Warm welcome to all
- ✓ Family friendly, inc seniors
- ✓ Make own pizza
- ✓ Fun activities & crafts
- ✓ Storytime & songs
- ✓ FREE tea

INFO: Jacqueline

**01934 844134**

[churchillmethodistchurch.org.uk](http://churchillmethodistchurch.org.uk)

The **Methodist** Church 

## Warm Spaces in Our Villages

Here is a list of Warm Spaces being provided in our villages.

### Winscombe

#### Church Centre

Tuesdays

10.30 am - 12.00 noon (Coffee, tea and biscuits)

12.00 noon - 2.00 pm (Soup and a roll)

Thursdays

9.30 am - 11.30 am (Scramblers - warm space for those with young children)

#### Strawberry Line Tea Rooms

Monday to Saturday 10.00 am to 3.00 pm

#### Winscombe Library

Tuesdays 9.30 am to 12.30 pm & 1.30 pm to 5.00 pm (opens at 10.00 am on first Tuesday in month)

Thursdays 10.00 am to 12.30 pm & 1.30 pm to 5.00 pm

Saturday 9.30 am to 1.00 pm

*Extended Access Hours: daily 8.00 am to 8.00 pm*

*Please note that the warm space at Winscombe Community Centre has closed*

#### Lynch Chapel

Knit and Natter: every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm

Coffee and Cake Afternoons: every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month 2.30 pm - 4.30 pm

### Sandford

#### Sandford Village Hall

Tuesdays 10.00 am -12.00 pm

#### All Saints Community Cafe

First Saturday of each month 10 am to 12.30 pm

### Churchill

#### Mendip Activity Centre - Alpine Lodge

Monday to Thursday 3.00 pm to 10.00 pm





**Licensed Bar**

**All proceeds to Winscombe  
Community Association**

# **Quiz Night**

**Saturday 25 March**

**Winscombe Community Centre,  
Sandford Road**

**7.00 for 7.30 p.m. start**

**Tables of 6**

**£8 per person**

**Including buffet supper**

**Bar available**

**To book a table please telephone**

**01934 844357**

**Registered Charity No. 280231**

## Community Transport in Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill

We are fortunate to have a number of community transport schemes operating in our villages. We have included details of these schemes this month and will include a digest of this information in future editions.



### The Churchill and Langford Minibus Society

The Churchill and Langford Minibus Society runs two minibuses and operates a schedule of trips every month to shops in Wells, Nailsea, Clevedon, Worle and Weston. In addition it also provides transport for members to their healthcare appointments and subject to availability runs non scheduled trips for its members.

In the past these have included Churchill Music, Theatres, Cinema, pub lunches, trips to the coast and social events etc.

To see the current schedule of trips please visit

[https://www.churchillpc.org.uk/Minibus\\_Society\\_36635.aspx](https://www.churchillpc.org.uk/Minibus_Society_36635.aspx)

The schedule is also advertised on various noticeboards around the villages.

To become a Society member of the Community transport scheme please contact one of the organisers listed on the schedule of trips who will explain about the trips and how to enrol as a member.

The Society is always looking to recruit new organisers and drivers so if you have some spare time then we would love to hear from you. The Chairman's details are on the journey schedule.

The Society also provides the opportunity to make new friends and help you reduce your carbon footprint.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Sandford Helpline

If you are a resident of Sandford and require help with transport to medical appointments, please contact any of the following numbers



01934 820300

01934 824071

01934 822174

01934 822030

Please do not leave messages but keep trying until you get an answer.

# Churchill Volunteer Driver Scheme

## Information for Drivers and Passengers

This is a self help scheme to assist those without transport to get to the optician, dentist, medical appointments or hospital visits. The service is not available for shopping trips or social purposes.

All information received must be treated as confidential.

Since drivers are providing their time and vehicles voluntarily, passengers are requested to offer reimbursement towards the cost of petrol and any out of pocket expenses such as parking fees.

For guidance, the following donations are suggested for typical journeys. These have increased on 1 January 2023 to take account of recent increases in costs.

BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY	£15
SOUTHMEAD HOSITAL	£20
BATH Royal United Hospital	£25
CONGRESBURY	£5
YATTON	£5
WESTON HOSPITAL	£10
WINSCOMBE	£5
WRINGTON	£5
CHURCHILL SURGERY	£5

For other journeys, not specified, the donation will be agreed before the trip by the organiser.

In case of problems, please contact Kate on 01934 853081 or Trevor on 01934 852589

1 January 2023



**WINSCOMBE CONTACT  
SCHEME**



**TRANSPORT  
AVAILABLE FOR  
MEDICAL  
APPOINTMENTS**

**ALL RESIDENTS OF  
WINSCOMBE AND/OR  
PATIENTS OF WINSCOMBE  
SURGERY CAN REQUEST  
TRANSPORT FOR ALL HEALTH  
RELATED APPOINTMENTS  
FROM THE CONTACT SCHEME**

**We ask for a donation to cover costs:**

**50p per mile is requested for local journeys.**

**We arrange transport within a 30 mile radius. £19 for the  
Bristol Central Hospitals, Southmead Hospital £22 and  
Musgrove Park Hospital £30.00.**

**Transport arrangements are made by contacting:  
the transport co-ordinator on **07888 812398** or via the web  
page**

**<https://www.winscombeandsandford.org.uk/OLD/wcs1.html>  
with as much notice as possible.**



## **WINSCOMBE CONTACT SCHEME**

The Winscombe Contact Scheme (WCS) is a "good neighbour" organisation which provides transport to medical appointments for passengers who are unable to use public transport or transport is not available. This facility is for Winscombe residents or patients of Winscombe Surgery. Transport is also provided for passengers who wish to attend the Wednesday Luncheon Club.

**We urgently need driver volunteers.**

Volunteer drivers use their own vehicle to transport passengers to hospital or medical appointments. Expenses are repaid at 45 pence a mile. Public liability insurance provided. It is a rewarding and worthwhile way to spend some of your free time!

Interested? For more information contact:  
Lottie Enser Transport Secretary  
email: [enser@btinternet.com](mailto:enser@btinternet.com)

## **Gardening Notes for March**

March brings a burst of spring colour to the garden as daffodils, hellebores and pulmonaria reach their peak and many shrubs come into blossom. Not only are there flowers, but many plants provide colourful new foliage at this time of year such as *Aconitum carmichaelii* 'Royal Flush', *Phlox paniculata* 'Prince of Orange', *Corydalis temulifolia* 'Chocolate Star' and *Anthriscus sylvestris* 'Going for Gold'.

### **Dividing Snowdrops**

Snowdrops are one of the first bulbs to flower, and as they don't mind light shade are perfect for lighting up dark corners. It is easy to propagate snowdrops and now is the time to act before the foliage dies down. Lift congested clumps and divide up, replanting at the same depth. Overcrowded bulbs don't flower well, so by giving them more space you will get a better display.

### **Dogwoods**

Dogwoods are grown for their colourful stems in winter. The brightest colours are produced on the youngest stems, so if you prune them every year after winter you will get the best colours. Either coppice by cutting all the stems down to ground level and keeping the annual growth low, or thin out to encourage a higher shrub. Give the growth a boost with a top dressing of general fertiliser afterwards.

### **Dividing Perennials**

March is an ideal time for lifting and dividing congested late flowering perennials that have outgrown their space, or replanting any that are in the wrong place. Hostas dislike root disturbance so only divide when they have outgrown their space. Woody clumps should be chopped up into sections with a spade. Heucheras need dividing every three years as they become woody with growth only around the edges. Hemerocallis (day lilies) should be lifted with a fork to limit root damage. Split the clumps by using two forks back to back and prising apart. Other perennials that may be divided at this time of year are *astrantia*, *rudbeckia*, geranium and helenium.

### **Propagating from basal cuttings**

Another method of increasing plants is by propagating from basal cuttings. *Phlox*, dahlias, campanulas, asters, delphiniums and helenium all lend themselves to this method. Use a sharp knife to cut down into the point at which shoots emerge from the root system. Trim the base of the cutting and if the rosette of leaves is very big reduce by half. Plant the cuttings in a multi purpose compost around the edge of a pot, water well and place the pot in a polythene bag or heated propagator



## SANDFORD & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB



Our first meeting of the year was well attended. We had a very humorous talk and slideshow given by our speaker Colin Higgins otherwise known as 'Higgy' on Gardening for Wildlife. He told us that when he moved into his home the garden was a blank canvas so he set about making it into a haven for wildlife.

The three most important things to remember were providing the wildlife with water, food and shelter; hedges for the birds to nest in, a few logs for insects to make their homes in, and a pond or two to attract frogs, toads, newts and dragonflies. He also suggested leaving some areas wild with wild flowers and long grass for slow worms and grass snakes.

If you haven't got hedges we were told it was a good idea to put up bird boxes and also to clean your bird feeders at least once a month to prevent diseases. Never feed birds white bread as it swells in their stomachs.

If you have honeysuckle planted in the garden look out for bullfinches as they love the berries.

The plants you choose will also be beneficial to all the species of butterflies, bees and moths, plants like evening primrose, aster, verbena, echinacea, scabious and rudbeckia to name a few.

John thanked Colin for a very interesting talk, and reminded our members about our summer outing to Dewstow Gardens and Grottos and Dyffryn Gardens on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

Dates for your diary:

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 at 7.30 pm**

Sandford Village Hall

A talk entitled

'Hanging Baskets and Containers' by Mike Smith

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2023 10.30am to 12 noon**

Come and join us to view the members' show at Sandford Village Hall

Coffee and homemade cakes on sale

Entry is free

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7.30 pm**

Sandford Village Hall

A talk entitled

'A New Style of Roses' by Mervyn Reed

New members are always most welcome or come as a visitor

# THURSDAY LUNCHES

2, 7, 16, 23 & 30 March

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## March Quiz Answers

1. Necessity
2. She was born in Skopje (now capital of Macedonia), and died in Calcutta (renamed Kolkata)
3. Whistler's Mother
5. Gin
7. Old Mother Hubbard
9. Marsupials



4. Dinah Sheridan
6. Mother of Pearl
8. Rosa Parks
10. Oedipus

\*\*\*\*\*

### Churchill and Langford Ladies Lunch Club

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month  
at The Churchill Inn, Churchill at 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm  
£15 per head for a 2 course lunch with coffee.

**Pre-booking is essential.**

Contact Margaret Avery on 07725 056051 for further details.

Please note that the lunch is limited to residents of the two villages or those that have moved away  
but wish to stay in contact with friends



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## Winscombe Saturday Market

**Winscombe Community  
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**Every 3rd Saturday  
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**0900-1300**

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***Helen Grey*** Leader



***Overture to the Thieving Magpie***

***G Rossini***

***Night on a Bare Mountain***

***M Mussorgsky***

***Festival March***

***A Dvorak***

***Symphony no 7***

***C V Stanford***

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023, 7:45pm**

**Churchill Academy & Sixth Form, Churchill Green, Churchill BS25 5QN**

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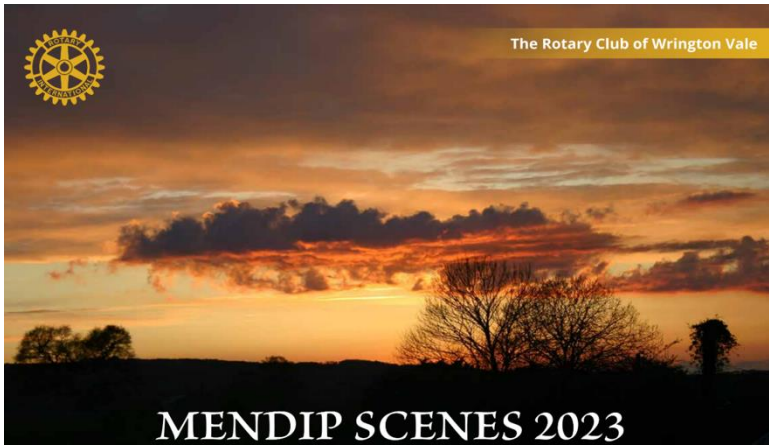
The **Methodist** Church





## Wrighton Vale Rotary Club

### Mendip Scenes Rotary Calendar.



This is the second year of this venture and it has proved even more popular. We sold nearly 200 in local shops and generated about £800, with extra goodwill, all of which is being donated to good causes.

Alvis's Farm Shop staff did wonderfully well by selling thirty-five.

Special thanks to Andrew Sweet and Maxwell House Printers for printing at cost.

### Supporting Ukraine.

Rotary has already contributed many millions of dollars and aid to Ukraine. In response to a further appeal, Members collected some 60 sacks of desperately needed clothing. We took three truck loads to Cheltenham for onward transport by lorry.



*Three stalwarts organizing a mountain of donations.*

### Our Meetings

We meet each week, generally have a meal and a Speaker on a diverse range of topics. This is a pretty casual affair with a fair bit of bonhomie. Once a month we have a business meeting when we address our work in society. If you are interested give us a ring. Angie Biggs on 07790 400718 or Ivor Metherell 01761 462607

It is with great sadness that Royal Air Forces Association Mid-Somerset Branch must announce that our Chairman John Hawkins unexpectedly passed away in his sleep on the night of Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January. It has been a great shock for all our members and our heartfelt sympathy goes out to his widow Jill. Members expressed their tributes to John at the Branch Meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February.



On a happier note, Frank Smith, an RAF veteran, long term member of RAFA Mid-Somerset Branch, and long time resident of Glastonbury, celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on 12<sup>th</sup> January with a small celebration with his two daughters and an RAF roundel birthday cake as well as with a steady stream of well-wishers.

He was pleased to receive a card from their Majesties as well as two certificates from the RAF Association (RAFA): one from RAFA President, Air Marshal Sir Baz North, for his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and another from this Branch recognising his unbroken 76 year membership of RAFA. Frank joined the RAF in December 1941 as a Wireless Operator (W Op) and became an expert in Morse Code, including taking down messages in Japanese. In 1943 he was posted to India but had such an adverse reaction to the climate in Bombay that he was posted home in 1944. He spent the rest of his service in the UK, aside from a short posting to Celle in Germany when he experienced the horrors of the Liberation of the Bergen-Belsen Concentration Camp. Frank was demobilised in 1946 in the rank of Leading Aircraftman. Post-war Frank's wartime skills as a W Op gained him employment with Cable & Wireless and then the Post Office until his retirement.

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March

Branch AGM

11:00 am for 11:15

The Wessex Hotel, 15 High Street, Street, BA16 0EF.

The meeting will be a formal AGM reporting on the activities in 2022, presenting the Branch accounts and outlining the plans for 2023. The meeting will be followed by lunch in the hotel dining room.

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April

Branch Visit to Boscombe Down Aviation Museum including a Pub Lunch at the 'Old Castle', Salisbury. Full details will be announced at the Branch AGM mentioned above.

All events are open to Branch Members, RAFA Members from other Branches, Current and Ex-RAF Service Personnel (Including RAF Reserves), and Members of the "RAF Family".

Please contact the Branch via email [rafa.midsomerset@gmail.com](mailto:rafa.midsomerset@gmail.com) or telephone the Secretary 01458 224057 for further information.

## Quentin Blake Exhibition at Weston Museum

4<sup>th</sup> March to 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2023

'Illustrating Verse' is the first ever exhibition dedicated to Quentin Blake's illustrations for poetry.



Quentin Blake has been writing and illustrating poetry throughout his 60 year career. Many of his own books feature rhymes and songs, and he has collaborated with writers including Michael Rosen and local author Roald Dahl (who lived in Weston-super-Mare and has a Blue Plaque).

As well as artwork for popular nursery rhymes like 'The Owl and the Pussycat' and classic stories including 'Alice in Wonderland', the exhibition features previously unseen works from Blake's archive, such as surreal illustrations for Sylvia Plath's 'The Bed Book' and mischievous cats for T. S. Elliot's 'The Song of the Jellicles'.

Sketchbooks and rough drawings give a rare insight into Blake's writing and book design process, as well as the creation of characters for Roald Dahl's novel 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' and his own 'Mr Magnolia'.

This not to be missed exhibition features original illustrations courtesy of Quentin Blake.



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**Music for A Royal Occasion**  
**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023**



On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March, Trinity Singers will be giving a concert in recognition of both the upcoming Coronation and the Royal Events of 2022.

'Music for a Royal Occasion' will include Mozart's *Coronation Mass*, Handel's much loved *Zadok the Priest* and other works performed at the late Queen's Coronation, together with Purcell's evocative *Funeral Sentences*.

Accompanying the choir on the recently restored organ will be Claire Alsop, Assistant Organist at St. Mary Redcliffe Church, and the choir will be conducted by its Musical Director, Andrew Tyrrell.

The concert will be at All Saints Church, Wrington, BS40 5LG, at 7.30 pm and tickets (£12.50) are available through [www.trinitysingers.co.uk](http://www.trinitysingers.co.uk)



Mozart's *Coronation Mass* - KV317  
Handel's 'Zadok the Priest' and  
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All Saints' Church, Wrington,  
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Saturday 25th March, 7:30 pm



Director: Andrew Tyrrell  
Organ: Claire Alsop

Tickets from *trinitysingers.co.uk* or at  
the door, or use the QR code:



Adults £12.50, Students £1

## JANUARY RESULTS



The Reindeer Run on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022 raised £342 although there is additional sponsorship money of £250 still to be confirmed by HQ RNLI. On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January the Branch held a very successful Super Quiz in Shipham Village Hall in which twenty teams took part, the first quiz since 2020. Teams came from across the Branch area including a representative from the Portishead Branch. There was a comprehensive raffle and although the bar was well stocked, it sold all the red wine, most of the white and beers and ciders. Tina's Ploughman's meal during the interval received a whole host of compliments with many returning to the tables for 'seconds'. Eventually, the Quiz was won by 'The Redland Raiders' (see photo) with 'The Quizzy Rascals' taking second prize. Our Treasurer has just reported that the Quiz made a profit of £1,823 which is a brilliant result. Thanks to all that helped and took part!

## BETTY'S POTS UPDATE

'Betty's Pots' are small individual jam and marmalade pots. A lady in Locking puts an RNLI label on each jar and people are encouraged to fill them with either five pence or twenty pence coins for the RNLI. These were made available to each team at the Super Quiz and since starting this project in 2022, £200 has been raised and banked. In Wedmore, pots can be obtained from and filled pots returned to Zero Waste Pantry in Wrington but Tina (01934-842304) is on the look out for more venues willing to help us

## RNLI WINSCOMBE & DISTRICT BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING THURSDAY 9<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2023

The Branch will hold its AGM on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 7:30 pm (doors open 7:00 pm) in the Winscombe Club, 7 Sandford Road, Winscombe BS25 1HD. This year the Branch will be running a 'Super AGM' with the aim of providing a lively, interesting and entertaining evening about the wider RNLI as well as Branch reports and accounts. The Winscombe Club Bar will be available for purchase of drinks, beverages and more. The AGM Programme will cover:

- The compulsory meeting agenda – Chairman's Report ; Treasurer's Accounts & Report
- Pictorial presentation of Branch activities 2022
- Life as a RNLI Lifeguard and as an Inshore Lifeboat Crew Member
- Preparing for the RNLI Bi-Centenary in March 2024
- Rowing the Atlantic for the RNLI
- Getting involved in fun activities in our RNLI Branch
- Questions & answers about the RNLI and discussion

This will be a meeting open to the general public so come and find out some more about what happens. For further details about the meeting, please ring 01934-842954 or e-mail: [allan.coop@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:allan.coop@tiscali.co.uk)

## **ANNUAL PLANT SALE**

This year's Annual Plant & Garden Equipment Sale will be on Saturday 13th May starting at 10:00am at the Winscombe Community Centre, Sandford Road, Winscombe, BS25 1HP and will follow the pattern of previous years".

## **ATLANTIC DRAGONS ROWING THE ATLANTIC FOR THE RNLI**

Currently, a friend of one of the RNLI Winscombe Committee, called Dan Bohin, together with his colleague, Adrian Tyrrell, known as 'The Atlantic Dragons' are rowing the Atlantic to raise £50,000 for the RNLI. The pair set off from Lanzarote in the Canary Islands heading for Antigua on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023. On 10<sup>th</sup> February, it was Day 39 of their crossing when they had rowed 1,945 nautical miles (66.8% complete) with 968 nautical miles to row to reach their destination, averaging 53 nautical miles each day. They report that tiredness is still a big factor and they report this slowly becoming worse despite best efforts to sleep, eat and drink. They have used about two thirds of their food supplies which should be ok, as long as there are no further delays. They expect to arrive in Antigua in early March but still seek more sponsorship money. Readers can follow the progress of the Atlantic Dragons at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063656361359>

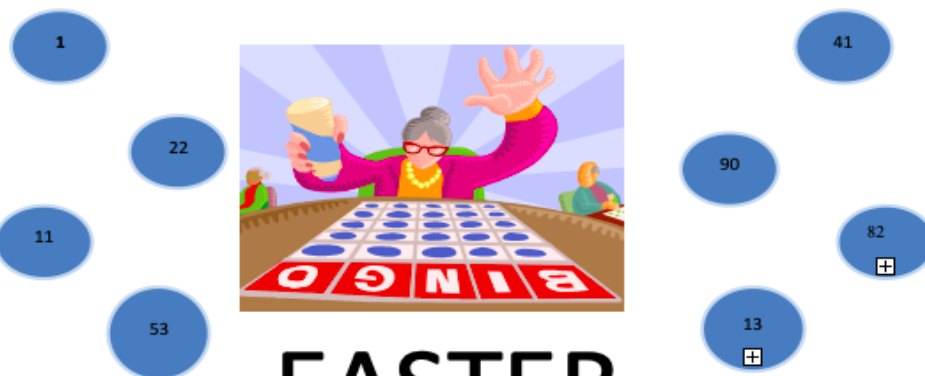


## **JANUARY RESCUES**

In January there were five shouts (Minehead 2, & Weston-super-Mare 3). On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 14:00 the pagers sounded for the Weston Crews following a Mayday call from a 17 foot fishing vessel with engine issues, reportedly North of Sand Point. With the possibility of water being taken on, the salvage pump was loaded onto the Atlantic 85 lifeboat. The shore crew quickly launched both of the inshore lifeboats from Knightstone Harbour, to make best speed to the casualty vessel which was quickly located and it was established that the sole casualty on-board was safe, although cold.

Following a slow tow to Portishead, the vessel was passed into the care of the waiting Portishead Coastguard Rescue Team inside the Marina Lock Gate. Before arriving at Portishead, the casualty was taken onto the D class lifeboat and brought ashore, as he was suffering from mild hypothermia, due to the time he had been outside with little protection from the elements. Once the vessel and casualty were safely handed over, both lifeboats returned to Weston.

## CHURCHILL SKITTLE AND SOCIAL CLUB



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**Family Services at the Church Centre**  
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Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March: Mothering Sunday Family Holy Communion 10am

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Last month's article by Bishop Michael arrived too late for publication so we have included it this month instead.

## A Better Way



Culture, it's said, is 'how things get done around here'. This suggests that our understanding of the world is largely formed by our experiences and what we're accustomed to. That's all fine until everything around us, as it does, keeps on changing. Then we're then set on a collision course between how we think things should be, and how they actually are. Anybody aged over 40 who's had to ask a nine year old how to use their new phone will understand this dilemma perfectly.

Cultural collisions aren't just restricted to technology. They affect churches too. Many of us grew up with a model of church set up by the Victorians. This mostly meant that each parish had one church building with its own vicar, who took responsibility for most aspects of the ministry needed in a particular place.

Yet even this was new in its day. Look much further back and things worked very differently. The New Testament speaks of churches where lots of different people played many different roles, each operating out of the particular skills and gifts given them by God. In Ephesians the writer describes a church where 'some [are] apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers'.

So what would be the right model of church for our day? The Victorians' assumption that the vicar would do almost everything would seem to be a crying waste of the gifts and passions that together we share. And as more of our clergy care for three, six or more parishes, the nineteenth century model is increasingly leaving our vicars tired, overstretched and liable to burn out.

We need a better way; one that draws on the rich talents, abilities and skills that our church members have. Here in Bath and Wells we're calling this 'shared local ministry'. Examples of what that can look like exist in many places around our diocese. Neither first century nor nineteenth century, but an emerging twenty first century way of how we want 'to get things done around here'. A better way to inhabit well the faith we've inherited in our time and generation.

Bishop Michael

## When We Hoe a Field



‘When we hoe a field, we all start in this corner and we go this way’ is my favourite Zambian proverb. I’ve been sharing its words with people from our parishes, schools and chaplaincies as a way of inviting us all to think about how our diocesan vision can be refreshed and developed to help us look towards the future with confidence and joy.

Our vision calls us to ‘live and tell the story of Jesus’. It speaks of faith in action. It makes clear that all we do is in the name of Jesus. And it’s full of aspiration; living out its words is a life-long task.



But what might our vision mean in terms of what we’d like to focus on specifically? This is where my Zambian proverb comes in. For my sense is that in our common life we would be strengthened if we had a greater focus of what we’re all working towards together.

To help us think about this, I’m suggesting four themes that I hope we can all get behind. The aim is not to generate a new initiative, rather it’s to identify priorities for our common life upon which we can all focus. Our diverse communities of course mean that anything we do needs to fit local contexts. But I hope the four themes can provide a common framework that will help us all.

Under our overall vision of ‘living and telling the story of Jesus’, the themes are:

- Valuing and cherishing the people we already have
- Offering worship and sharing our faith together in new and different ways
- Developing our own faith and the faith of others.
- Sharing in ministry and leadership.
- 

I’m inviting everyone to have their say about how these could be developed, adapted or altered. Please do speak with each other and your local church, school and chaplaincy leaders about how this can happen where you are. More information to enable feedback is available at [bathandwells.org.uk/vision](http://bathandwells.org.uk/vision).

Please be part of the conversation! Your insights, thoughts and experience are invaluable in helping us think together what it means to ‘live and tell the story of Jesus’.

Bishop Michael

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<b>Fire</b>	Non-Emergency	01179 262061
<b>Police, Fire, Ambulance</b>		Call 999
<b>Utilities - Emergency</b>	Gas - National Grid Gas Electricity - Western Power Distribution Water - Bristol Water Water - Wessex Water (24 hour)	0800 111 999 Call 105 03457 023797 02456 004600
<b>Health</b>	NHS Health Enquiries Winscombe Surgery Banwell Surgery Mendip Vale, Langford	Call 111 01934 842211 01934 820113 01934 852906
<b>Hospitals</b>	Weston General Hospital Bristol Royal Infirmary Bristol Southmead Bristol Children's Hospital	01934 636363 01179 230000 01179 505050 01179 665881
<b>Pharmacy</b>	Boots, Winscombe	01934 843168
<b>Dentists</b>	Honeycomb Dental Clinic Winscombe Dental Practice	01934 842573 01934 842230
<b>Veterinary</b>	Alexandra and Hillyfields Vets Langford Vets Small Animal Practice	01934 843381 01934 852422
<b>North Somerset Council</b>	Information Out of Hours Emergency Environmental Problems Council Tax and Benefits Social Services	01934 888888 01934 622669 01934 888802 01934 888144 01275 888801
<b>Parish Councils</b>	Winscombe and Sandford Churchill and Langford	01934 844257 07399 523961
<b>Assistance</b>	Winscombe Contact Scheme Sandford Helpline Churchill Churches Volunteer Driver Scheme Samaritans (North Somerset) Citizens Advice Bureau Churchill and Langford Minibus	07888 812398 01934 822030 01934 852239 0330 094 5717 0808 278 7973 01934 852589
<b>Schools</b>	Winscombe Primary School Sandford Primary School Churchill Academy and Sixth Form Sidcot School	01934 843407 01934 852602 01934 852771 01934 843102

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