

Putting the Love of Christ in the Heart of our Community



Signpost

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



November 2023

Free

Who's Who in Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill Churches

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PCC Secretary	Bill Wallace	01934 844650
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Churchwardens St James the Great, Winscombe	Ian Hine winswarden2@outlook.com	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
Pastoral Care Co-ordinator	Reverend Pauline Nixon revpolly@gmail.com	07511 935860
Churchill Methodist Minister Pastor	Reverend Meg Slingo Ken Young	01934 852314 01934 852686
Lynch Chapel Pastor/Minister	The Lynch, Winscombe, BS25 1AR David Jewell davidjewells@aol.com	07443 907454
Sidcot Quakers Meeting House	Oakridge Lane, Sidcot, BS25 1LT	01934 843065
Roman Catholics	Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Cheddar	01458 83593

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

Future copies will be available by email or can be downloaded from the Benefice website:
www.winsandchurches.org.uk

If you would like to receive future copies in colour, electronically, please send your email address to
parishmag2@gmail.com

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

reacHing
wElcoming
cARing
seRving
Teaching



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

A Time to Remember



Remembrance Sunday draws people together in a way that is almost unique. Young and old gather together to remember and reflect. Whether in church, at a war memorial or some other remembrance event, the reality of war with its horrors, suffering and futility touches each of us one way or another. Some bring memories of active service or carry the memory of a loved one lost in time of war. Others struggle to imagine the true horrors of war with its suffering past and present. The war between Russia and Ukraine rolls on, and firsthand we see the tragic consequences of the conflict in Israel and Gaza.

We long for a world where peace with justice reign, so how appropriate that during this time of Remembrance in November, we have the Poppy.



In 1915 having lost a friend in Ypres, a Canadian doctor Lieu Col John McCrae, inspired by the sight of poppies growing and flowering on the very land that had been scarred by battle, wrote his famous poem In Flanders Field. Later, after the war, the poppy was adopted as a symbol of remembrance and hope.



Today we still wear poppies and lay wreaths of poppies at war memorials. The hope being that in remembering the futility and suffering of war, we'll be committed to strive for a world where all may live in freedom within a just and peaceful society.

A message for all ages as illustrated by pupils from Churchill Primary School laying the poppy wreath they made in school at their local War Memorial.

But, in a world that loves war, how can we know peace? Worldly peace comes and goes but there is a different kind of peace - the peace that Jesus talked about that we can experience in our lives. A deep-down peace more real than the world can ever understand.

The Easter story tells us that when Jesus died on the cross for the sins of the world, He won for the entire world a different kind of peace, and a freedom that sets people free from all those things that drag them down. Jesus is God's gift of peace to all who will welcome Him into their lives. And His gift of peace is one we can pass on.

Sebastian Temple's words epitomise this:

*Lord, Make me a channel of Your peace
Where there is hatred let me bring your love;
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light ...*

The full words and music can be found on Youtube:
<https://youtu.be/g8eorCEMIK4?si=7xt9DieoUhTx2njc>

Pauline Hurst. St John's Churchill.

	<p>Remembrance Day Services at our Churches Sunday 12th November St James the Great, Winscombe 10.50 am All Saints, Sandford 10.50 am St John's, Churchill 10.50 am All are welcome</p>	
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Remembrance Day in Weston-Super-Mare

Weston-super-Mare will again fall silent on 12th November at 11:00 am to remember those who have served the country through our Armed Forces. Grove Park is expected to be packed with thousands of people for Remembrance Sunday.

A parade of cadets, military personnel - past and present - scouts and guides will set off from the High Street on Sunday at 10.25 am, accompanied by a band.

A service, featuring hymns, wreath laying and the national anthem will follow.

A two-minute silence will be observed at 11.00 am.

People attending the service at Grove Park are asked to print off or even better read from their phone an order of service, which can be found <https://wsm-tc.gov.uk/news-events/grove-park-remembrance-sunday/> to ensure there are enough copies for everyone and to save the environment.

A field of remembrance will be set up to the right of the war memorial, where people are allowed to leave tributes to the fallen. However, organisers ask that this is not done during the service.



Signpost - The Parish Magazine

This magazine is created by volunteers from the Anglican Churches in the Benefices of Winscombe and 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 December Magazine is Sunday 12th November. 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

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

SIGNPOST - DONATIONS WELCOME

It costs approximately £600 per annum to produce the magazine, based on current prices for materials and ink. Volunteers give their time freely to compile, print and distribute the magazine.

We are always grateful to those who choose to make a donation towards the on-going costs of the magazine and those that place, paid for, advertising in it.

Donations can be placed in an envelope marked 'Signpost Donation' and posted in the letterbox at the Church Centre in Winscombe.

If you wish to place an advert, please contact the Editorial Team: parishmag2@gmail.com

Many thanks to all those who have already made a donation. Thank you.



**Remembrance Sunday
Sunday 12th November 2023**



Our Services

St James's, Winscombe 10.50 am
All Saints, Sandford 10.50 am
St John's, Churchill 10.50 am

All Welcome

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.*

**The Role of Honour for Our Villages
First World War 1914 - 1918**

Roland G Arscott
Joseph Avery
Frederick Thomas Baker
Richard Frank Board
John Ivor Body
William Edgar Browning
James Callow
Harold Wookey Clark
Edwin Cook
William Dare
Albert Dudden
Robert Dudden
William Henry Fry
W Glover
Herbert William Hemmens
James Hugh Horne
Ronald John Ranulph Leacroft
John Douglas Wyld McMichael
Frederick James Miller

Edward John Atkins
A Baker
Herbert Bennett
Frank Body
Arthur Redvers Bradford
John Stembidge Burdge
Clifford Stanley Clark
Percy Arthur Clark
Lewis Frederick Cox
Francis George Davey
Edward Dudden
Arthur Ernest Fry
Edwin B Gill
William Deacon Hayman
George Hilling
Charles Eric Jupe
Harry Percival Luck
Alfred Manning
Reginald Albert Newing



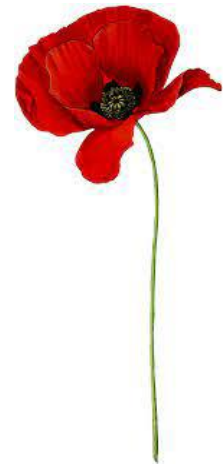
Wilfred Stephen Newing
Charles Petherham
Wilfred Guy Powell
James Joseph Roper
Sidney Thomas Sandford
William Albert Shiner
Norman Blackmore Thomas
Henry John Venn

Albert Nipper
John Pople
Ernest Algernon Phillips
Colin Henry Roynon
William Sawtell
Thomas William Edward Southwood
Albert John Tyrrell
Godfrey Wiglesworth

Second World War 1939 - 1945



Frederick Andrews
Eric Esmond Courfield Barnes
Sydney William Temple Bentall
Colin Birch
Anthony Holland Brown
Arthur Buxton
James Vivian Deverell Cooke
Henry Duff
Malcolm Edwards
John Malcolm Glaisher
William Harvey
Richard Hogarth
Cyril Herbert Alfred Humphries
John London
Rowland James Luton
Harold Thomas Palmer
Robert Louis Edward Reynolds
John Henry Richards
Cedric Rowntree Robson
Oliver Wookey



Members of Churchill Choirs Killed by a Bomb on Dolebury Warren

Percival Trevor Coles (aged 13)
Mervyn Wookey (aged 13)

UN Peacekeeping Force Balkans 1997

Gareth Evans

COFFEE MORNING



Every Tuesday at 10.30 am
Church Centre, Winscombe
All Welcome

Join us on Tuesday 7th November for
our special
Remembrance Coffee Morning
with children from
Winscombe Primary School



All Saints Church Community Café



The October cafe raised £344.50
including Gift Aid.
Many thanks to all those who supported us.

Our next cafe will be our Christmas Cafe
Saturday 4th November
10.30 am to 12.30 am
at All Saints
Charity Christmas Cards
Raffle for Christmas Hamper and other prizes



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

We look forward to seeing you again.

There will be no in cafe in December. We re-open on Saturday 6th January 2024

Stir up Sunday!

The last Sunday before Advent is 'Stir-up Sunday', the day when traditionally families gather together to prepare the Christmas pudding. This year that will be Sunday 19th November.

The day does not actually get its name from 'stirring the pudding': it gets its name from the Book of Common Prayer. The Collect of the Day for the last Sunday before Advent starts, "Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people". However, since Victorian times it has become associated with the rather lovely family custom of preparing for Christmas together by making the Christmas pudding, an essential part of most British Christmas dinners.



The Christmas pudding as we know it is said to have been introduced to Britain by Prince Albert, consort of Queen Victoria, however it is thought that a version of the pudding was actually introduced from Germany by George I (sometimes known as the 'pudding king') in 1714.

Usually, the pudding is prepared well in advance (5 weeks before Christmas) and then reheated (and lit!) on Christmas Day itself.

Most puddings will contain some of the following ingredients: dried fruit, prunes and dates (often soaked in brandy), candied peel, mixed spice, treacle, suet, eggs, breadcrumbs and dark brown sugar. Traditionally there would be 13 ingredients in all, to represent Jesus and his disciples. Most families have a favourite recipe or follow one handed down over the generations.

Sometimes silver coins are added to the mixture; anyone who finds one when eating the pudding is said to receive health, wealth and happiness in the coming year. Unfortunately, it has been known for the discovery of a coin in the pudding to result in a broken tooth – not quite so lucky in this case!

On Stir-Up Sunday, families gather together to mix the pudding. Each member of the family takes a turn in stirring the mixture whilst making a wish. The pudding should be stirred from east to west, in honour of the Magi (Wise Men) who came from the east to visit the baby Jesus. It's also a good excuse to enjoy a wee dram or a cup of festive mulled wine!

On Christmas Day the pudding has its own ritual. It is topped with a sprig of holly (plastic holly is best as holly berries are poisonous) to represent Jesus' crown of thorns. A little warm brandy is then poured over it and lit – with care, as many an eyebrow has fallen victim to an over-enthusiastic dousing of the pudding in alcohol! It is then carried proudly, alight and flaming, to the table to be served with brandy butter and cream or lashings of hot custard.

Indeed, even Charles Dickens mentions this festive ritual in his novel 'A Christmas Carol':

"Mrs Cratchit left the room alone – too nervous to bear witnesses – to take the pudding up and bring it in... Hallo! A great deal of steam! The pudding was out of the copper which smells like a washing-day. That was the cloth. A smell like an eating-house and a pastrycook's next door to each other, with a laundress's next door to that. That was the pudding. In half a minute Mrs. Cratchit entered – flushed, but smiling proudly – with the pudding, like a speckled cannon-ball.

Sadly, the tradition of Stir-Up Sunday is dying out, as nowadays most Christmas puddings are shop-bought.

Reverend Ann Ogram

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY



September was a very busy month for The Children's Society Committee in Winscombe. At the beginning of the month, we had our 'Collection for Children' – two days of standing outside Morrisons in Worle. People were extraordinarily generous, and we raised over £450.00 from the small change that those leaving the store dropped into our buckets. Many commented as they donated that it was so good to have a charity collecting cash rather than insisting on bank payments or online donations – the death of cash is not happening yet! Thank you to all those who helped us collect – the warmth and encouragement of most who pass by is reward in itself.

We ended the month with the Annual Box Opening at the Tuesday Morning Church Centre Coffee Morning. Again, extremely well supported and we banked just over £1,800 with almost twenty boxes still outstanding! Huge thanks to all those who fill their boxes with their spare cash (and some notes!), to those who served at the very busy Coffee Morning and to our stalwart counters. If anyone doesn't already have a Children's Society Box and would like one, please contact Sarah Gunn on 01934 842373.

Our next event is the Benefice Christingle Service on Sunday 10th December at 3.00 pm in St James's Church – a wonderful Service where the children each create a Christingle and we all then circle the inside of the church, turn out the lights and sing 'Away in a Manger' by the light of the candles in the Christingles. Magic!



Winscombe St James's Children's Society Committee



**THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY
CHRISTINGLE SERVICE
SUNDAY 10th DECEMBER 3.00 pm**

What is a Christingle Service?

It is a joyful family service that is named after the Christingles that are lit during the celebration.

Christingles are made from an orange (but in cider country here in Winscombe, we use an apple!) decorated with red tape, sweets and a candle.



Christingles began in the Moravian Church in Germany. At a children's service in Marienborn in 1747, Bishop Johannes de Watteville looked for a simple way to explain the happiness that had come to people through Jesus. He decided to give the children a symbol to do this. And in 1968, John Pensom of The Children's Society adapted the Christingle and introduced it to the Church of England.

And as we celebrate Christingle, we also have a collection to support The Children's Society and their work with children and young people in the darkest situations imaginable.

Our Christingle Service also looks forward to Christmas and is the first of the many family services that will happen in the Parish during the Christmas season. Please do come and join us at 3.00 pm on Sunday 10th December in St James's Church on Winscombe Hill – you can be assured of a warm, candlelit welcome!

Winscombe St James' Children's Society Committee



ST JAMES'S EVENTS TEAM



FRIDAY FILM CLUB

At the Church Centre

Woodborough Road, Winscombe

Friday 10th November

Refreshments 2.30pm

Film starts 2.45 pm

ALL WELCOME

Free Entry

In 1961, 60 year old, Kempton Bunton, stole a famous portrait from the National Gallery. What happened next became the stuff of legend.

An uplifting true story about a good man who set out to change the world and managed to save his marriage.



Harvest Messy Church October 2023

It was an unseasonably warm day for October's Harvest Messy Church.

Harvest vegetables were coated in paint for enjoyable printing for some. Coloured fondant icing was moulded into tiny bananas, blackberries and strawberries. (Guess the fruits?!)



And the new Lego that has been generously donated for Messy Church was turned into tractors, fruits and flowers. After a relay race game, collecting fruits from the baskets, we sang; *'Thank you Lord for this fine day'* and *'Thank you Lord for Harvest Time'*.

Then we introduced the children to a favourite of the adults present *'All Things Bright and Beautiful'*. We enacted the story of Jesus feeding of the 5,000 and we finished by thanking our loving Father God for looking after us, and for our food, ending with a prayer for people across the world who don't have enough to eat, asking God to show us what we can do to help them.

We welcomed 2 new families who'd previously attended Scramblers. However, for the last 2 Messy Churches the number of families coming has been lower than a year ago. Our next session is on Sunday November 12th. Following this we will review recent and ongoing interest from families for



Messy Church. In the light of the other Christian teaching that is provided by teams from Churches



Together at weekly assemblies in our local primary schools, as well as what is provided for families by other churches locally, we want to assess best use of our resources going forward.



During autumn 2023!
ON SUNDAYS: 2.30-4pm
@The Church Centre
Woodborough Rd, Winscombe
***November 12th 2.30-4pm**

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

- **Crafts, 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

in December our special seasonal events will include:

****SATURDAY December 23rd @4pm CRIB SERVICE****



Refresh-men-t Breakfast

October's breakfast took place on Saturday 21st October with our speaker, David Hart, from Christian Aid who told us about his work and faith journey. David's passion for the work of Christian Aid and its engagement with communities across the world was evident.

Our November breakfast takes place on Saturday 18th November in the skittle alley at the Woodborough Inn at 9.00am.

All are welcome to join us, both regulars and newcomers, as we meet together in a relaxed, informal way to enjoy a quality breakfast with friends. There will be time to chat and hopefully welcome new people to our friendly group.

A choice of breakfasts will be available but *these do need to be pre-booked.*

- 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
- Vegetarian Cooked Breakfast including tea/coffee/fruit juice - £9.50
- Bacon Bap including tea/coffee/fruit juice - £7.50
- 2 rounds of toast with butter, jam, marmalade including tea/coffee/fruit juice - £5.00

To book your place for this month's breakfast contact Tim Harland on 01834 843248.



Come to ...



Carols by Lantern Light

with Weston Brass Band

Church Centre Car Park

Woodborough Road, Winscombe

Saturday 16th December

from 4.30pm

Santa arrives at 4.45pm

Singing from 5.00pm

Santa's Grotto

Refreshments

Children's Stalls



Bring a lantern or torch

Free Entry

Donations for the Foodbank at The All Healthy Living Centre
and for St James's Church



Please note
new venue

Folk at Christmas

*Eleven-strong folk band BadgerSet
presents a miscellany of Christmas-themed
songs, dances, readings and tunes.*

The Church Centre

52 Woodborough Road, Winscombe BS25 1BA

Saturday 9th December at 7.30pm

Tickets £10.00 including seasonal refreshments

Available from: Winscombe Post Office, The Wine Shop and The Church Office

For further details please contact Martin Hagen on 01934 842511 or by email:

hagen.martin@gmail.com

Proceeds in aid of St James's and All Saints Church funds



Supporting Your Local Foodbanks



Our churches 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.

There are collection baskets for each village in each of the churches and at the Church Centre. The foodbanks also appreciate cash donations which can be used to buy items in particular need or provide vouchers that can be spent on food in local supermarkets.

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.

News from the For All Healthy Living Centre Foodbank

We thought you would like to hear about the Foodbank we support in Bournville. We always get a very warm welcome on our weekly trip to deliver what we have collected.

If you want to come and see their operation let us know and we will arrange it. You can have cup of coffee or tea in the cafe, see the library and the secondhand clothes sales. They have a Church and Doctors' Surgery in the complex, but the surgery struggles and we understand is mostly staffed by locums.

In September the Foodbank provided assistance to 46 families; this totals 110 local people including 42 Children; that is enough basic food and household essentials to last for 3 days. Just under 1,000 plates of food have been provided.

The kind donations from our congregation really make a difference to the quality of the parcels they can provide.

Many of us also help by sending modest cash donations by standing order from our bank accounts; these regular amounts allow them to budget and respond to unexpected crises.

Beth and Denys

Christmas Donations for the Foodbank

Last year we added some treats to our regular deliveries.

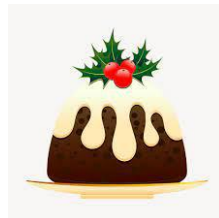
Here is a list of items they are hoping to distribute in time for Christmas.



Donations please by the 15th December.

- ❖ Individual or sharing packs of crisps/ snacks/ Twiglets/ tortilla chips
- ❖ Boxes of biscuits or chocolates
- ❖ Packs of cakes/sweet things (jam tarts/ mini rolls/ mince pies - long dated please)
- ❖ Tins or packs of custard, jelly, trifle mix, Angel Delight, Dream Topping or tins of condensed milk.
- ❖ Christmas (or other) puddings, family or individual sized - long dated please
- ❖ Packet stuffing and gravy granules.
- ❖ Children's chocolate selection boxes

Thank you so much in advance. It will be good to let them know that the joy and meaning of Christmas is for everyone.





Winscombe Community Association Christmas Fair

**Winscombe Community Centre
Saturday 25th November
11.00 am - 2.00 pm**

Father Christmas is coming to Winscombe for our Christmas Fair. Come and start your Christmas shopping, with tasty snacks and drinks as well.

Happy
Thanks
giving



CHURCHILL BABY
& TODDLER GROUP

6, 13, 20 & 27

November

Churchill Methodist
9.00-11.30am

Try us for FREE!

♥ Friendly group, easy parking

♥ Bright hall, lots of toys

♥ Yummy snacks; cuppa & chat



INFO: Jacqueline
01934 844134



Churchill Methodist Church

churchillmethodistchurch.org.uk



Pre-Christmas Craft Fair



At Churchill Reading Room

(Front Street, Churchill, BS25 5NG)

Saturday 11th November

10am-4pm

Christmas Crafts

Body Shop products

Handmade Jewellery

Christmas Cards, Advent Calendars, Notebooks

Artwork, Cards and Mugs and other Crafty Gifts

Jams, Chutneys, Honey and Plants



Relax with a cuppa in our freshly decorated room with tea; coffee; bacon baps and a variety of cakes and mince pies on offer.



November Quiz



This month's quiz takes the theme of Remembrance.

1. World War One officially ended with the signing of which treaty?
2. Which monarch oversaw the first Remembrance Day memorial?
3. Who wrote the poem 'In Flanders Fields'?
4. In what year were artificial poppies first sold in Britain?
5. In 2014, a commemorative art installation saw 888,246 ceramic poppies placed outside of which UK landmark?
6. What does 'cenotaph' mean and where in London is the cenotaph?
7. The National Memorial Arboretum is based in which UK county?
8. What colour poppies are sometimes worn by pacifists?
9. Which charity provides support to members and veterans of the British Armed Forces?
10. What colour poppies are worn to honour animals who were victims of war?

Answers on page 52.

Mendip Folk Dance Club

Mondays 13th and 27th November

The Church Centre (St. James' Church Hall), Winscombe BS25 1BA

8.00 pm – 10.00 pm £3 per person

New dancers welcome (first night free of charge)

For further details contact Pat 01934 742853

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal 2023



Good News & Great Joy

There are many ways to show you care at Christmas time. Since 1990 in the UK, international charity Samaritan's Purse has mounted Operation Christmas Child to deliver tangible hope and love to children abroad living in the toughest circumstances. Inspired initially by the plight of Romanian children living in harsh, bare orphanages, this tried and tested network of churches and Christian organisations delivers shoeboxes to children in Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia.



Some 'difficult to reach' communities live in authoritarian regimes that are politically or religiously restrictive, whereas some communities are geographically isolated. The shoeboxes network was active in Ukraine some years ago, but the supply and distribution of boxes was boosted last year.

These humanitarian gifts are distributed widely among poor families, not just Christian families, and the marvellous joy of the child is shared by the whole family. In addition to the obvious delight of toys, families highly value school stationery supplies, clothing and toiletries. Families are invited to an optional course called the Greatest Journey, where children can hear the good news of the Christmas story and the life of Jesus offered to us all.

How You Can Help

Whether you are a group, business or individual, there are several ways to help:

- Pick and Pack a box yourself, choosing your own gifts, and covering the £5 donation towards carriage costs. Pay your donation online and print a barcode for your box so you can find out its final destination.
- Donate gifts specific for boys or girls, aged 2-4 years, 5-9 years or 10-14 years for Packing Party on Saturday 11th November 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. (See "Do's and Don'ts" on separate poster or website.)
- Build a Box Online £20 via website (please count it toward our goal of 100)

DROP OFF WEEK
13th – 20th November
Nearest Drop Point Churchill
Methodist
Front St, Churchill
Local Coordinator
01934 844134 Jacqueline
samaritans-purse.org.uk

2023 Appeal Shoebox Packing Party



Saturday 11 November

09.30 -12.30 @Churchill Methodist Hall BS25 5NG

Enjoy filling boxes with
cuppa, cake or bacon butty!



*Advance donations &
INFO: call Jacqueline
01934 844134*

SPONSERS NEEDED

To give £5 towards
distribution cost of
each shoebox



How to Help Fill A Box

- ✓ All boxes must be labelled for GIRL or BOY and age 2-4y, 5-9y or 10-14y
- ✓ Please bring or donate gifts in advance or

School: notepads, colouring pencils, colouring book, crayons solar calculator, erasers, manual sharpener, pens, rulers, string

Clothing: socks, pants, mittens, gloves, warm hat, vests, scarf

Hygiene: comb, hairbrush, cup nailbrush, toothbrush, soap, flannel, sponge, manicure set

New Toys with CE mark eg balls, cars, animals, yoyo. Snap picture cards, playdoh, doll, cuddly toys, wind up toys or torch, skip'g rope, puppets, musical item, purse.

No books with words. No guns, batteries, toothpaste, chocolate, sweets or liquids



What do you want in a Community Hub for Winscombe?

In our fast, growing village we have heard people say that they would like a place that meets the needs of different age groups; a place that helps the isolated and newcomers to make new friends, a place that enables people with similar needs and concerns to meet together, to support each other, and of course a place to have fun.



Here are few ideas that have been suggested for a Winscombe community hub and centre;

- More clubs and activities for young people and older people
- Carers' Support Service
- Free and welcoming warm community space in winter
- Support for families with children who have special educational needs
- Dementia care
- Counselling services
- Debt advice

Have you thought about what a community hub could do for Winscombe?

'What do you need?'

'What do you think would be good for the community in Winscombe?'

So do contact us and let us know what your ideas.

Or tell us about local groups and providers that would like a space to use to benefit others.

Contact the Church Office on 01934 844650 or Alison email alisonparmj@aol.com

Why do we want a new building to provide a community hub and centre?

- The existing church community centre is not designed or equipped for this kind of community vision.
- It has no disabled access.
- It does not have any smaller spaces that feel cosy and nurturing.
- It does not have any spaces that offer privacy for confidential matters to be discussed.
- It does not have a space where people can meet informally such as a drop-in cafe area
- It is only able to offer one off user at a time. A more flexible space could cater for many more users at once.



Family Film Club

**On the Big Screen
at Lynch Chapel, Winscombe**

25th November

**Doors open at 2.45pm
Film starts at 3pm**

Admission FREE

**Come and collect your 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



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)

at The Church Centre, Winscombe

November 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th
December 7th & 14th

Contact Enid on 01934 842534 for more information



Local History Corner

...And things that go bump in the night!



THE IGNIS-FATUUS, OR WILL-O-THE-WISP.

Many of the unexplained phenomena that were at one time supposed to be paranormal events were a way for a largely uneducated population to make sense of the world in which they lived. For example, in Somerset, mysterious lights that could sometimes be seen in reed beds on the Levels were regarded by many as evidence of unworldly activity, and variously called Will o'the Wisp and Jack o'Lantern among many other names. We now know this as spontaneous combustion of marsh gases called *ignis fatuus*. This particular occurrence has been recorded for centuries in many different cultures and even noted by Shakespeare in Henry IV Part I and demonstrates the willingness of people to find paranormal explanations for mysterious events.

In Winscombe, an event happened over 200 years that challenged the credibility of many people and even today defies explanation. A resident in the 18th century who lived in a cottage close to where the Friends Meeting House now stands at Sidcot, was renowned locally for applying herbal remedies to both man and animal and for practising as a magician or conjuror. Only his surname is recorded – Beecham. When he died, he was buried in the churchyard although this was against his wishes as he wanted to be interred beneath a tree in his garden. It is reported that he had said there would be 'trouble' if this was request was not complied with.

His widow, Joan, continued to live in the cottage. It is recorded that a caretaker of the Meeting House, who lodged with the widow Joan, called agitatedly into a regular Meeting of the Friends that was in progress to report she had witnessed furniture and household items being violently thrown about the cottage and two Friends, an Elder and a Minister, went to the cottage to witness these events. This was said to be on the anniversary of the death of the conjurer. The Friends could not explain the phenomenon and even people who came from afar, among them Hannah More, to see the location where this event happened, all failed to provide any explanation which never again occurred.

There is no record of exactly where Mr Beecham's cottage was in Sidcot and no indication as to where he might have been buried in the St. James's churchyard.

John Matthews

References

Evans, Ivor H., 1981. *Brewer's dictionary of phrase and fable*. rev. ed. London, Cassell.

Compton, Theodore. 1892. *A Mendip valley: its inhabitants and surroundings*. London, Stanford.





**WINSCOMBE AND SANDFORD
FESTIVAL AND FLAGS GROUP
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

MONDAY 27th NOVEMBER 2023 at 6:45 pm

The Church Centre, 52 Woodborough Road, Winscombe BS25 1BA

Further information from Alison Haynes and tabled questions to be emailed by

Monday 20th November 2023 to alisonparmj@aol.com

Everyone is welcome to attend

Winscombe Village Show



What a scorcher! We always hope for good weather, but this year it was almost too good. We sold out of chilled soft drinks, resulting in repeated trips to the Spar and Co-op and buying up all of their stock.

Entries in classes were up, but the unreliable weather during the summer resulted in fewer entries for the horticultural classes.

Circus skills, dancers, choirs, a DJ and Folk Music kept everyone entertained, plus opportunities to try games of skill, cliffs to climb and bottles to win! We raised a fantastic £4,500 towards maintaining the Community Centre; exact profits are not yet finalised.

Once again, we find ourselves short staffed in the fundraising team and have a vacancy for someone with social media/advertising skills. Also, after serving magnificently for 37 years, Pat is standing down from organising the baking classes. Do we have a Mary Berry in the village who could take over her spot?

If you would like to join us in any capacity, please contact Jackie Warren on 07811 292909 or winscombejackie@gmail.com



**Save the
Children**

'Save The Children' Lunches

at

Shipham Village Hall



**Save the
Children**

Our lunches will be served on

Friday 3rd and 17th November at 12.30 pm
and continue fortnightly until Friday 15th December

Join us for soup, bread, cheese, pickle and homemade biscuits,
tea or coffee
£5.00

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

Si Barron Concert at The Church Centre: 14th October 2023

This superb performer did not disappoint the audience, enthralled by the quality of his guitar, the exquisite vocals of his own and traditional songs, or the humour and interest of his introductions. Simon is a consummate performer and we were proud to have him both here and at Nailsea Folk Club the previous night.

These WFC Concerts provide a platform for our local talent to show our audience what quality exists in our monthly club evenings. On this

occasion Silverline (Jenny McNamara / lead vocals, Matt Williamson lead guitar and backing vocals, plus Zac on bass and vocals) performed a lovely set. Not so much folk just great songs from across the decades. Whereas Ross Wallis from Glastonbury Folk Club who comes



Ross Wallis

regularly to Winscombe performed some lovely songs again with his customary complex guitar accompaniment. He also recited three poems he had written bringing additional gravitas to the subject matter.

An evening of the highest quality in all departments, and we hope that the message is getting out there – Winscombe Folk Club is “Here for you”. We are acoustic and enjoy all kinds of music and spoken word. We keep

costs to a minimum, so please see our regular notice in Signpost. You will be most welcome as an audience member or performer.

We circulate a monthly Bulletin by email and this captures any live events in and around this

area that we know about, so if you want to join the list, please just email

winscombefolkclub@gmail.com.

Or if you have an event you want to publicise to a select audience, just let me have the details.

The bar proceeds went to the RNLI so our thanks to Tina and Kevin for managing that entirely. Thanks also to the club members for helping to set up and pack away afterwards.

Nigel Carson

07551 197685



Si Barron



Silverline

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

(USING SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS)

Wednesday 13th December
Church Centre, Winscombe
7.00 - 9.00pm

£25 per person
(Includes all materials and
seasonal refreshments)

We will provide:

- ❖ wreath base
- ❖ greenery
- ❖ accessories
- ❖ wreath making tips

Please bring:

- ❖ secateurs
- ❖ scissors
- ❖ gardening gloves

Tickets can be purchased from Winscombe Post Office, the Wine Shop and the Church Office

For further information contact Helen: helenmacpherson@btconnect.com 07837 426413
or the Church Office 01934 844650

Supporting St James's Church Funds

Winscombe Community Singers



present



'A Winter Warmer'



A concert of seasonal music

Saturday 18th November 7.30pm

at The Church Centre

Woodborough Road, Winscombe BS25 1BA

Refreshments, Raffle

Tickets from Farrons and Choir Members

Adults £10

Secondary aged children £5

Primary and pre-school Free

Includes mulled wine or
soft drink and mince pie



NOVEMBER 2023 – DIARY

WED 1	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James’s
THURS 2	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	10.00am	Communion in the Community – Dunster Court
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James’s
FRI 3	2.30pm	Film Club – Church Centre
SAT 4	2.30-4.00pm	Come for a Cuppa – Lynch Chapel
SUN 5		ALL SAINTS DAY/4th SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT
		See opposite page for details of Services
SUN 5	11.00am	Communion in the Community - Sandford Station
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
	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James’s
THUR 9	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James’s
SAT 11	9.00am	Winscombe Saturday Market – Community Centre
SUN 12		REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
		See opposite page for details of Services
	2.30pm	Messy Church – Church Centre
TUES 14	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 15	2.45pm	Communion in the Community – Sewell House
	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James’s
THUR 16	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James’s
SAT 18	9.00am	Mens Refreshmen+ Mens Breakfast - Woodborough Inn
SUN 19		2nd SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT
		See opposite page for details of Services
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
	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James’s Church
THUR 23	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	7.00pm	‘Two Wheels, Two legs and a Well ‘ - Autumn Lecture in aid of Friends of St James – Church Centre
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James’s
SUN 26		CHRIST THE KING/LAST SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT
		See opposite page for details of Services
TUES 28	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 29	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James’s
THUR 30	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James’s Church

BIBLE READINGS FOR NOVEMBER

Sunday 5th November Revelation 7: 9-end Psalm 34: 1-10 1 John 3: 1-3 Matthew 5: 1-12	Sunday 12th November Amos 5: 18-24 Psalm 70 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-end Matthew 25: 1-13	
Sunday 19th November Zephaniah 1: 7,12-18 Psalm 90: 1-8 [9-11] 12 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11 Matthew 25: 14-30	Sunday 26th November Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24 Psalm 95: 1-7 Ephesians 1: 15-23 Matthew 25: 31-46	

Church Service Times Opportunities to Worship in November

Sunday 5 th November	8.00 am	St James's	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Church Centre	Café Church
	11.00 am	All Saint's	Patronal Holy Communion
Sunday 12 th November	10.50 am	St James's	Remembrance Service
	10.50 am	All Saints	Remembrance Service
	10.50 am	St John's	Remembrance Service
Sunday 19 th November	10.00 am	Church Centre	Family Holy Communion
Sunday 26 th November	9.30 am	St James's	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	All Saints	Morning Worship
	11.00 am	St John's	Holy Communion

Midweek Services

Every Tuesday All Saints 10.00 am Holy Communion

Special Services in November

Thursday 2 nd November	Dunster Court	10.00 am	Communion in the Community
Sunday 5 th November	Sandford Station	11.00 am	Communion in the Community
Wednesday 15 th November	Sewell House	2.45 pm	Communion in the Community
Thursday 30 th November	Winscombe Hall	11.00 am	Communion in the Community

We Congratulate

Our love and congratulations go to:

Ben Rundle and **Kate Porter** who were married at St John's Church, Churchill on Saturday 7th October 2023.

We Remember

Our love and sympathy go to the family and friends of

Geoff Lockett whose ashes were interred at St James's on Sunday 22nd October 2023.

Jill Cureton whose funeral service took place at Weston Crematorium on Monday 30th October

Safeguarding

Our churches are committed to promoting a safe environment and culture. The safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults is a priority. Further information about our Safeguarding Policies and Procedures can be found on our website <https://winsandchurches.org.uk/safeguarding/>. Details of how to contact one of our Parish Safeguarding Officers can be found on page 2 of this magazine.

A November Birthday

William Blake



At Remembrance Day Services around the country the words of William Blake's Jerusalem are sung. Blake was virtually unknown during his lifetime, yet he is regarded as one of the greatest poets and printmakers in British history.

Blake was born in 1757 in Soho, London. He was one of eight children, two of whom died in infancy. He went to school to learn reading and writing until the age of 10 but wanted to be an artist from an early age. When William was 10 his parents enrolled him in Henry Pars's Drawing School in London and he was later apprenticed to an engraver. In 1779 he became a student at the Royal Academy.

He hated life drawing, preferring classical sculptures and paintings of Greek antiquities and started to make engraved copies of prints and books which his parents, who were considered well-off, bought for him. At the age of 21 he became a professional engraver, and this was how he earned his living. His early engravings were copies of designs of other artists but later he received commissions to engrave his own designs. He also invented a new method of etching which he used to create his 'illuminated books.'

Blake was a committed Christian, although he was hostile to the Church of England and all other forms of organised religion. He was fascinated by the Bible, and it was a great influence and source of inspiration throughout his life. He believed that the human and the divine were one and the same, and that exercising the imagination was itself a spiritual act.

Blake claimed to have experienced visions throughout his life from a young age. He was regarded as extremely odd and unworldly. Some called him a madman and others believed that he suffered from mental illness.

Despite this he excelled as an English Romantic artist and poet and those close to him described Blake as 'far from unstable'.

Blake was happily married to Catherine Sophia Boucher although there are no records of the couple having any children. William taught Catherine to read and write and subsequently, she helped colour his printed poems.

Today William Blake is more famous for his poetry than his engraving and poetry, one of the most famous being 'Tyger Tyger'. The words we know as 'Jerusalem' actually come from the preface to his epic poem, 'Milton: A Poem in Two Books'. The poem was inspired by the legend of a young Jesus on the shores of England and is linked to a verse in the book of Revelation. The tune we know so well was composed by Hubert Parry.

*And did those feet in ancient time
Walk upon England's mountain green?
And was the holy Lamb of God
On England's pleasant pastures seen?*

Churchill & Langford Village Fund



WRINGTON
DRAMA CLUB

Saturday 18th November

7:00pm for 7:30pm

Churchill Memorial Hall

Tickets £15 (Over 18s Only)

Includes Supper

Licensed Bar

Optional Dress – ‘Gangsters and Molls’

Tickets Available From

www.churchillpc.org.uk

Booking Charge Applies

Absolutely No Acting Required

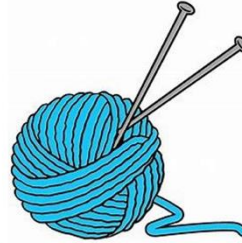




**Knit, crochet, macramé,
sew or simply natter!**

**Tea and coffee
provided.**

Knit & Natter



**Second and fourth
Wednesday each
month**

2pm - 4pm

at LYNCH CHAPEL

(Just over the bridge on The Lynch)

FREE
**No need to book -
just turn up!**



NOVEMBER 8th and 22nd

DECEMBER 13th

Come for a Cuppa!



LYNCH CHAPEL

First Saturday each month

2.30pm - 4pm

Tea/coffee and cake



Come for a Cuppa!

Lynch Chapel Winscombe

Young Persons' Concert

Saturday 18th

November

3.00 pm



Come and enjoy a concert of young people performing for you. Some are beginners and some are more advanced.

If you are under 16 and would like to perform in this concert, please contact Alison at alison.waite5@btinternet.com It is not a competition and all standards of musicians are welcome, especially beginners.



Churchill Music! Saturday 2nd December

St John the Baptist Church, Church Lane, Churchill BS25 5QW

7.30 – 9.30 pm

A concert drama exploring the mystery of Beethoven's 'Beloved'

Expect drama, exquisite live piano music, and intrigue...



Jessica Duchen, author with Viv McLean, piano

After Beethoven's death in 1827, his secretary discovered a passionate letter hidden in his apartment, addressed only to his 'Immortal Beloved'. Who was she? Jessica Duchen's novel, Immortal, explores the tragic secret behind the story and forms the basis for this concert drama. The novelist herself will be taking us on a journey through this long-suppressed history in the company of pianist, Viv McLean who will illustrate the story with excerpts of Beethoven's piano music.

Tickets

Champions of Churchill Music: £15.50; non-Champions £19.50; Under 18's £1.

Available online from [Ticketsource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk) or Holly at holly@churchillmusic.org.uk or 07442 672805.

Sale of Charity Christmas Cards

Wednesday 1st November 2023

13 Belmont Road

10.00 am until 1.00 pm



**Cards from RNLI,
Children's Society,
Children's Hospice SW
and others**

Free coffee/tea and cake

Hope to see you there.

Supporting and Protecting our Natural World

Sanctuary may be a safe place, a refuge from danger, so it needs to be a spot that is hidden, secluded and sheltered, or it may even be a place to retreat to in times of stress.

All creatures need sanctuary, and this is why it is wise (essential) not to cut down and clear vegetation that has grown during the warmer months so making our gardens tidy but not very friendly to wildlife during the tougher months.

Perhaps we have listened to pleas to encourage pollinators into the garden in order to do our bit to redress the huge decline in biodiversity of all species since the 1970s while at the same time enhancing our own lives. However, **STOP!** where do these pollinators and all others go once the more inclement weather arrives? They may well die if too much vegetation has been 'tidied.' Most species hide or hibernate in various stages of their life cycle lying low until the spring returns. The stages include adults, eggs and various larval stages including caterpillars.

This was brought home to me when I realised that my tiny pond was invisible so I started to pull away some vegetation. I exposed a little of the water, looked down and there looking up at me was a beautiful mature frog. It was so still that I thought; '*but I do not have a china frog*'. I decided no more interfering anywhere; let things be.



The brimstone butterfly is always a welcome sign that spring is on the way. That is because they overwinter as adults and can start looking for nectar early February/March. They hibernate in evergreen shrubs (particularly ivy), so resist cutting back. The wings have scalloped edges to blend with the leaves. Brimstone male is yellow but females are creamy coloured.

To Do - make a hibernaculum for frogs

This is a quick, easy and free way to make a winter hideaway for frogs (*they spend most of the year out of water*)

1. Start with an old grow bag containing spent compost
2. Choose a sheltered site that is unlikely to be disturbed
3. Dig a shallow trench and lay the bag in the trench
4. Completely cover the bag with lawn cuttings and/or fallen leaves packing them down firmly - frogs like to squeeze into tight places
5. Lastly lay twigs or fallen branches on top and leave until April



Churchill Methodist Church
CREATE! Sunday

Advent Angels,

Stars & Craft

Sunday 19 November

4-6pm Churchill Methodist, BS25 5NG



- ♥ **Fun for families**
- ♥ **FREE Crafts Workshop**
- ♥ **Bible Storytime**
- ♥ **Buffet Tea**



**INFO: Jacqueline
01934 844134**

www.churchillmethodistchurch.org.uk



West Mendip Orchestra

John Johnson Director of Music

Helen Grey Leader



In conjunction with Yatton Music Society

Brahms

Tragic Overture

Beethoven

Piano Concerto No 2

Soloist: Joss Wort

Rimsky Korsakov

Symphony No 1

Saturday 25th November 2023 at 7.30pm

St Mary's Church, Yatton BS49 4HH

Tickets £10 on the door
children free, students(16+) half price

The Society gratefully acknowledges a grant from Yatton Parish
Council to support this concert



www.west-mendip-orchestra.org.uk Reg. charity no 1041826

Yatton Music Society www.yms.org.uk Reg. charity no 1024758

or phone 01934 838616



Gardening Notes for November

Dividing plants at this time of the year is a good way of making new ones, but this can also be achieved by taking hardwood and root cuttings.

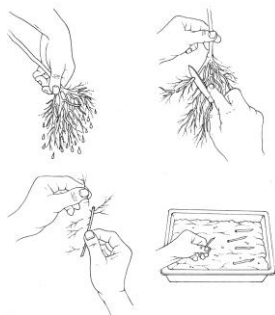
Hardwood Cuttings: soft fruit such as blackcurrants and gooseberries, to ornamentals like buddleia, elder, forsythia, cornus, hydrangea, deutzia, weigela and viburnum, can be increased from hardwood cuttings, all you need is a sharp pair of secateurs. During leaf fall, choose straight twigs that have grown this year, from each length of stem you might get several cuttings. Take care when removing wood from the parent plant by cutting just above a bud as if you were pruning. The optimum length of a cutting is between 10cm and 30cm; cut just below a bud at the base and just above a bud at the top making a sloping cut to carry away excess water.



Make a trench in the soil by simply pushing in a sharp spade then pushing it forwards slightly to open it up. Line the cuttings along the trench, approximately 15cm apart with the sloping cut at the top and firm the soil around them. Two-thirds of the cutting should be below the surface with a couple of buds above ground. Your cuttings will grow on in the trench next year but remember to keep them well watered and weed free. Transfer them into their final position next autumn or pot them up into individual pots for growing on.

Root Cuttings: it is not surprising that new plants can be grown from a piece of severed root. If you have ever tried to remove an acanthus you will know how easy it is to regrow from a piece of root left behind! Root cuttings can be taken from various perennials including phlox, rhus, mint, Japanese anemones, verbascum, poppies, acanthus and echinops.

Thick Root Cuttings - detach a few chunky pieces of root either by delving into the soil or digging up the whole plant. Cut the roots into 5cm lengths making sure you keep the end closest to the crown uppermost. Push them into a pot or modules containing multi purpose compost keeping the crown end uppermost. Cover the surface with grit and water thoroughly and keep in a warm bright place. Wait a few weeks after new leaves appear before potting on into individual pots.



Thin Root Cuttings - cut the roots into sections 5-10cms long, the thinner the root the longer the cutting should be. Lay the roots on the surface of the compost in a seed tray and cover them with grit, once rooted transplant them carefully.

Sandford & District Gardening Club

Stephen Threasher welcomed our brilliant speaker Chris Sperring, who gave us a most informative talk on British Owls.

Chris is a professional wildlife conservationist who works for the Owl and Hawk Trust. He also is a keen musician and has presented programmes for TV and Radio.

You could tell he was a keen photographer with the beautiful photos of the different species of Owls he showed us.

He gave us a repertoire of all their bird songs which was amazing!

We were then shown where they choose their different habitats, which ones use other birds nests or old squirrel drays, barns and cliffs and trees.

Chris goes out to farms to advise farmers how to make sure that the owls can still hunt on their land. We were told that their favourite food is small mammals.



We were informed that a huge number of birds are becoming extinct because their habitat is disappearing and it is down to humans; just leaving an area of our garden to grow wild can help a lot as this gives the birds a feeding ground for insects.

Chris then answered the member's questions.

Stephen thanked Chris for his talk.

Next meeting:
Wednesday 1st November 2023 at 7.30 pm
Sandford Village Hall.
Talk by Rob Handy
'Easy to Grow Perennial Vegetables'

Afterwards there will be a short A.G.M and refreshments.

Wednesday 6th December 2023
Christmas Party for members.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Thursday Lunches

Soup & Pudding

2, 9, 16, 23 & 30

NOVEMBER 2023

12.30PM @CHURCHILL
METHODIST FRONT ST BS25 5NG

For bookings & transport:

01934 832606 Queenie

or **852197** Janet

churchillmethodistchurch.org.uk

ONLY £5



**The Friends of St James's the Great Church,
Winscombe**

Two Legs, Two Wheels and a Well



Gary Hale will tell us about his grueling fundraising trip climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, immediately followed by a 440km bike ride across Tanzania and a story about providing clean water to rural communities in Uganda.

Thursday 23rd November 2023

The Church Centre, 52 Woodborough Road,
Winscombe BS25 1BA

7pm for 7.30pm lecture

Tickets £10, including a glass of wine or soft drink

Tickets Available from:
Hampden Osteopathic Clinic Tel 01934 843617
Or Pay On the door

Vida Guitar Quartet
at Shipham Village Hall, Shipham, BS25 1SG
Friday 24th November 2023 at 7.30pm

A concert hosted by the Hewish based Wyvern Afinado Guitar Orchestra (WAGO) and supported by the Bristol Classical Guitar Society (BCGS).

VIDA GQ brings together four guitarists of exceptional artistry who share a passion for chamber music. **Mark Ashford, Amanda Cook**, both internationally renowned performers, and **Mark Eden** and **Christopher Stell** otherwise known as the Eden Stell Guitar Duo, one of the most innovative guitar duos in the world.

<https://vidagq.com>

In this concert the VIDA GQ will present music from Leonard Bernstein's West Side Story in one of their most exciting arrangements to date, along with works by Bach, Poulenc, and Schubert.

VIDA GQ concertise across the globe and have four CDs : *'Love, the Magician'* (BGS118) featuring Bizet's famous Carmen Suite; *'Rhapsody'* (BGS121) featuring an epic arrangement of George Gershwin's Rhapsody in blue; *'The leaves be Green'* (BGS126) an all-English fare of: Britten, Warlock, Vaughan Williams, and Elgar; and most recently *'Bachianas'* (BGS130) featuring Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No.3 and composers influenced by Bach's music.



Tickets price £12, half price for students over 16, children free
(Please pay on the door by cash or card)

	<p style="text-align: center;">WINSCOMBE W.I. You are welcome to join us for our AGM meeting: Wednesday 8th November at 7.15 pm for 7.30 pm start at the Church Centre, Winscombe AGM followed by a General Knowledge Quiz refreshments will be available <i>(we are now on Facebook)</i></p>
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ADVENTURES IN TIME AND SPACE

60 Years of Doctor Who Art Exhibition

Weston Museum, Burlington Street, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1PR

21st October 2023 to 27th January 2024

Allons-y, time travellers and art aficionados! Weston Museum is all set to take you on a nostalgia-filled ride with "***Adventures in Time and Space – 60 Years of Doctor Who Art.***" Celebrating the show's six decades, this exhibition promises to be a treat for all those who've shared an adventure with the Doctor.

This is the largest collection of original and digital art from, and about the programme ever shown in one location!

Hold onto your sonic screwdriver as you journey back to the roots of the longest-running. Sci-Fi extravaganza known to humanity. From the classic era that graced our TV screens from 1963 to 1989, to the modern reboot that's been stealing our hearts since 2005, this exhibition is a heartwarming journey for Whovians of all generations.

Expect to be greeted by the images of familiar faces of the Doctors we've cherished through the years – from the stern charm of William Hartnell to the iconic scarf-swirling of Tom Baker, the cheeky charm of David Tennant, the ground-breaking brilliance of Jodie Whittaker, and the excitement of the new Ncuti Gatwa. And of course, it wouldn't be a Doctor Who affair without our favourite villains – the Daleks, Cybermen, and a host of creatures that have given the Doctor a run for their money across time and space.

The exhibition promises to be a '*tardis*' of artistic archives, rounding up an exceptional collection from private art collectors and dedicated fans who've lovingly held onto these visual treasures. On display will be iconic book covers, VHS video covers, annuals, comics and graphic novels that have kept us hooked. To add a sprinkle of that quintessential Doctor Who magic, there's even a painting that made its debut on the show itself.

For further information visit www.westonmuseum.org or call 01934 621028

The Doctor Who Scarf Project

21st October 2023 to 27th January 2024



Weston Museum is so excited about their new exhibition '*Adventures in Time and Space – 60 Years of Doctor Who Art*', that they just want to wrap themselves in yet more Doctor Who fun, so have decided to get knitting and they want you to join in! Their aim is to make Weston-super-Mare a sea of colourful Doctor Who loveliness by knitting the longest community made, Dr Who Scarf ever!

Grab one of our knitting starter packs from the museum shop (throughout the exhibition dates) and get knitting your own scarf. There is a free knitting starter day in the October Half Term, where a team of helpers are on-hand to get you started – no need to book.

Ever wondered why the 4th Doctor (Tom Baker) had such a long-striped scarf? The story goes that the costume designer gave a knitter a big bag of wool and asked her to knit a scarf. He thought she would choose what she liked from the bag, but instead she used up the whole lot and an iconic piece of Doctor Who fashion was created! After some fun has been had wrapping various things in the awesome scarf, the is to cut it into standard lengths and given to the 'Warm Bundles Project' for the homeless.



If you have any spare wool or knitting needles at home and would like to donate them to the project, please email: Katherine Bell (Learning and Events Officer) katherine.bell@wsm-tc.gov.uk

For further information or to arrange dropping off some wool or needles, email: museum@wsm-tc.gov.uk

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NOVEMBER

TUESDAY | **14** | 7 TILL 9PM
2023



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£12 STUDENT

£15



Wrigton Vale Rotary Club

Children's Air Ambulance – motto – keeping hope alive!

Our guest Speaker Fiona Franklin, also President of the new Weston Bay Rotary Club, gave us a wonderful insight into the Charity. Most of us only knew of Air Ambulance and didn't know that the organization existed as a completely separate entity.

She explained that the charity, independent of the NHS, started in 2012 and now serves the whole of the UK except Ireland.

In 2022 they were delighted to receive two new Augusta 169 helicopters specifically developed for the transport of critically ill babies and children to specialist hospitals. Most essentially, it is equipped with an incubator. Currently demands are for about for 40 to 50 missions per week. Payload is 5000kg. Typically it carries – two pilots, the patient, three medics and the all important parent. Each major transport event costs about £3500, so raising money is essential. Another wonderful cause for us to support.



Fiona Franklin with President Angie Biggs

November Quiz Answers

1. The Treaty of Versailles.
2. King George V
3. John McCrae
4. 1921
5. Tower of London
6. Cenotaph means 'Empty tomb'; Whitehall
7. Staffordshire
8. White
9. Royal British Legion
10. Purple



All Saints Church Room Refurbishment Project

The Church Room was built in the late 1970's and early 80's. A lot of the work was done by 16 to 18 years old students on the Youth Opportunities Programme, which was superseded by the Youth Training Scheme (YTS) in 1983. Over the years it has become obvious that the work was not to the highest standards. For example we have a rising damp problem due to an inadequate damp proof course. This will have to be addressed during the refurbishment.

The intention is to refurbish the room to provide a modern space for use not only by the church, but also as a venue for the Sandford community. The existing kitchen alcove will be incorporated into the toilet to provide a fully accessible unisex toilet with the latest disabled facilities. The space lost will be more than adequately compensated for by the removal of the storage cupboards to the west wall.

The roof will be checked because we have had the occasional leak. The ceiling will be replaced, the roof space insulated to the latest building regulations, and the walls will be battened, insulated and reboarded and plastered. This is when the damp problem will be addressed.

A completely new 'L' shaped kitchen will be fitted to the north and east walls with plenty of base and wall units for storage, and new worktops. At the same time the plumbing and electrics will be upgraded.

We are in the process of obtaining quotations for the work, with a budget estimate of £26,000. We are also looking at how to fund the project and obtain grants, and we shall be organising fund raising events to boost our existing building fund. We would welcome donations from our wonderful church friends and supporters, and the wider community.

If you have any comments, suggestions or questions please talk to one of our Project Team.

Llyn and Tony Callow, Diana Williams and Douglas Ogram





Brownies

1st Strawberry Line

1st Strawberry Line Brownies (Tuesday) needs new leaders to remain open next year.

Could you be the next Brown Owl? Or another member of the team?



<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/register-to-volunteer/>

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OCTOBER EVENTS

On Monday 2nd October the General Branch Meeting was held in Wells Golf Club. Members met for coffee followed by a presentation and a lively discussion on *'The Future of the RAFA'* by the President Dick Whittingham in preparation for the Association AGM in Birmingham on Saturday 14th October. As a result, the members present gave their direction to the President on which way to vote in one critical resolution. This was followed by a four round *'Fun Quiz'* covering a range of topics that adduced some interesting and sometimes hilarious wrong answers. Members then enjoyed lunch and a drink.

On Friday 13th October ten Branch members visited the Weston-super-Mare Helicopter Museum and were hosted by Alan Whitfield who led an absorbing and interesting tour of the museum exhibits explaining how the principles of helicopter flight had evolved from the 1930s up to the present day. Alan offered his practical experience of maintaining, operating and flying in many of the helicopters displayed. He also introduced the party to the separate evolution and examples of helicopters on display from the USA, Italy, France and Russia. Near the end of the tour there was a surprise visit from a Royal Navy Westland Wildcat helicopter on a training flight. The visit ended with a lunch in the museum cafe.



NOVEMBER PROGRAMME

The next meeting on Monday 6th November starting at 11 am will include a presentation on *'The Hungarian Army Air Corps'* by Captain Erdesz. The meeting will take place at the Bell Inn, Bruton Rd, Evercreech, BA4 6HY followed by an optional lunch.

Date for your diaries: The December event will be the Christmas Lunch on Saturday 16th December assembling at 12:15 pm in Wells Golf Club, Blackheath Lane, Wells, BA5 3DS. Drinks in the bar on arrival, then a 3-course lunch followed by coffee and port.

The Branch covers BS25, BS26, BS27, BS28, BA4, BA5, BA16, TA10 & TA11 postal areas. This event is open to Members from any RAFA Branch, current and ex-RAF personnel and Reserves, current and ex-Commonwealth Air Forces Personnel, members of the RAF family and members of the public that support the aims and purpose of RAFA. For more information email rafa.midsomerset@gmail.com or call the Secretary on 01458 224057.

RESULTS UPDATE

The RNLI *'Betty's Pots'* are now being returned regularly to Farron's Estate Agents and various RNLI events; £59 was banked in September while sales of items organised by Tina our President, netted a further £102. The RNLI Folk Night with Reg Meuross on Saturday 30th September produced a profit of £539 from the combination of ticket sales, raffle and bar takings so that the September final result was £700, a good solid result.

BRISTOL SHANTY FESTIVAL (BSF) – SATURDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER

As reported in the October edition, the BSF was well attended with larger crowds than in 2022 but financial results are not yet available and will be reported in a future edition.

RNLI WINSCOMBE FOLK NIGHT - SATURDAY 30th SEPTEMBER FEATURING REG MEUROSS & COHEN BRAITHWAITE-KILCOYNE

An audience of 80 enthused when they heard and appreciated the full story of the African Slave Trade as outlined in the research undertaken by Reg Meuross and the Song Cycle he created from the research. The story was narrated by Devon historian Lucy McKeith who has researched the history of Africans in Devon for thirty years. Starting with the role of John Hawkins in 1562, the first of the English Captains of Slave Ships who was endorsed by Queen Elizabeth I; the trade was continued by Sir Francis Drake. The Royal African Company (RAC) was formed in 1672 with the sole aim of trading African slaves for the Caribbean and American colonies. The narrative outlined the role of Edward Colston in the RAC leading to the song *'Good Morning Mr Colston'*. A former slave Olaudah Equiano produced his story in 1789. Also covered were the role of the USA Southern States, the function of the slave trading ports of Bristol and Bridgwater, the start of the Abolition movement and, finally the Abolition of Slavery Act passed in Parliament on 1st May 1807. Between each chapter in the story, Reg and Cohen performed one of the songs from his Song Cycle *'Stolen from God'* ending with *'Stranger in a Strange Land'*; all in all a wonderful evening!



COLLECTION AT TESCO SUPERMARKET NAILSEA – 21st & 22nd OCTOBER

By the time you read this, RNLI Winscombe Members complete with *'Rescue Buckets'* will have rescued cash from shoppers at the *'mouth'* of Tesco Supermarket in Nailsea - results will be published next month.

RNLI WINSCOMBE & DISTRICT BRANCH POP-UP SALE – SATURDAY 11th NOVEMBER

There will be a RNLI Pop-Up Sale inside Winscombe Community Centre, Sandford Road, Winscombe, BS25 1HP from 10 am – midday. The sale will include larger donated items; jigsaws, Christmas stocking fillers, spring bulbs, Chris's tools and domestic items, and refreshments (beverages, cakes and biscuits). The Committee are still working on some additional stalls with a Christmas flavour so come and see what will be available.

RNLI WINSCOMBE & DISTRICT BRANCH REINDEER RUN - SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER

RNLI Winscombe & District Branch is pleased to announce that our second Reindeer Run will be at 2 pm on Sunday 3rd December assembling at Winscombe Cricket Club, 31 The Lynch, Winscombe BS25 1AP. Runners of all standards are welcome; there will be a 2.5km Santa Santa Trail (open to all) and a 5km Reindeer Trail (minimum age 11). Both trails are off-road and fancy dress will be welcome. Runners are encouraged to get sponsorship and bring supporters as drinks and refreshments will be available. Details are:

2.5km Santa Santa - adults £12, juniors £6 (under 18) - family £32 (2 adults, 2 juniors)

5km Reindeer Run - adults £16, juniors £8 (under 18) - family £42 (2 adults, 2 juniors)

Further details on RNLI Winscombe Facebook site

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/831976350849360>

or contact Tim Moran on Tim@moransonline.com or call 07801 678432.

SEPTEMBER SHOUTS

In September there were 17 'shouts' between our four Lifeboat Stations (Burnham-on-Sea – 1, Minehead – 3, Portishead – 3, W-s-M – 10).

Burnham-on-Sea volunteer crews were paged at 8:39 pm, 30th September, after a teenager was reported stranded in the River Brue. Burnham's D class lifeboat *Burnham Reach* was launched quickly; with a short delay while the flood gates at the top of Burnham jetty were unlocked (they had been closed by the environment agency as a precaution because of a forecasted high 12 metre tide). The volunteer lifeboat crew set off for the River Brue at a safe speed as it was night and extremely dark. On entering the Brue, both sides of the river were searched, towards Highbridge. The casualty was located on the bank near Apex Park as he had aided the search using a light from his mobile 'phone. The crew realised he was who they were looking for, brought him onto the lifeboat, dressed him with a casualty lifejacket, and took him to the Sailing Club Beach Head. Once landed safely he was given a brief check-over and pronounced none the worse for wear from his ordeal.

Lifeboat Helmsman Marc Smith explained; *"Apparently the casualty was walking along the riverbank, suddenly realised he was on a bank surrounded by water and reeds and, as it was dark and not knowing which direction was safe, he sensibly called home for assistance. His mother immediately called 999 for the Coastguard, who called in the RNLI."*

Shipham, Rowberrow & Star History Society

Following our AGM we had a lovely talk from Peter Tinney of Lime Kiln Farm in Wedmore. He told us about the many changes that he has been witness to over his years as a farmer and gave us a glimpse of the future too! Cows can now go through a cow wash, similar to a car wash. Peter is famous for his 'yarns' and he didn't disappoint giving the audience the low down on how he left school on the Friday and started work with his father and the cows the following Monday. Peter introduced us to his witch elm walking stick; always a talking point he said. It was made from one of the three trees on the farm. Witch elms are prized for their smooth and attractive bark.

Next talk by Yvonne Bell entitled: *Edwardian Coronations*

(takes place on King Charles III's birthday so a fitting subject for this talk)

Tuesday 14th November at 7.30 pm

Thierry Room, Shipham Hall

Doors open at 7.00 pm

Meetings start at 7.30 pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month

Members £2 (*£10 for the year*) - Guests £4

Visitors are always very welcome

Light refreshments provided: tea, coffee and a biscuit (or 2)

For more information contact Jan Taylor on 01934 260784

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*

Pastoral Care Team

We are looking for caring, compassionate people who would be willing to give a little of their time to help those in our communities who are lonely, isolated or in need.

This might mean a visit or just an occasional phone call.

Training will be given to anyone who is interested.



Do you know someone who is feeling lonely, isolated or in need for any reason?

Our Pastoral Care Team is on hand to offer support.

If you would like any further information, please [contact](#)
Reverend Pauline Nixon
07511 935860 revpolly@gmail.com

Time to Re-member



I am shortly leaving Bath and Wells for a time to serve as interim Acting Diocesan Bishop in the Diocese of Coventry.

You may know that the city of Coventry saw some very heavy shelling during World War 2, which resulted in the destruction of the Cathedral.

A new Cathedral has since been built and stands alongside the old ruin as a testament of hope. Though different in style, there's a harmony of old and new. It shows us where conflict can destroy, peace can be found as we seek to live together as the people of God.

This marrying of modern and traditional styles of architecture, helps us to consider how we fashion the life we are called to live as Christians in our communities. It is not that we put aside our differences nor require others to conform to our own shape or form. Rather we recognise the value of listening fully to others and learn to hear the voice of God. Determining to value the worth of each contribution and discerning together a faithful walk with God.

This season of Remembrance encourages us to look back and to value the contributions of those who have gone before us, giving their lives in the service of others. It is not about glorifying the concept of war and conflict but the desire to establish a peaceful world for all. As we look back, so we are invited to look forward and commit to establishing a world where all have a place and where the Prince of Peace, Jesus, is our example.

Coventry is the home to the Community of the Cross of Nails. A community of reconciliation based around the cross fashioned by iron nails found within the ruins of the Cathedral following the fire. Its mission is to live out the practice of peace-building, encouraging people across the world to learn to be reconciled with themselves and one another, as they find reconciliation with God, through Christ.

As I leave here, I do so with plenty of memories, many happy, occasionally sad. Often the latter are those where I have got things wrong and failed to live up to my calling to be the grace-filled child of God I long to be. So, if I have let you down, I am sorry and please pray for me, as I will for you, that God continues to reconcile us to Himself and to one another.

And as we hold our acts of remembrance this month, may we become re-membered (put back together), as the people of God.

Bishop Ruth

Community Transport in Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill

We are fortunate to have a number of community transport schemes operating in our villages.



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

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.

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 852426

01934 822174

01934 822030

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

Churchill Volunteer Driver Scheme

This is a self help scheme to assist those without transport to get to the optician, dentist, medical appointments or hospital visits.

Contact Kate on 01934853081 or Trevor on 01934 852589

Winscombe Contact Scheme

Transport available for medical and other health related appointments for all residents of Winscombe.



To make arrangements please contact the transport co-ordinator on 07888 812398

Need a Venue for Your Event?

We have several venues available to hire for parties, meetings, classes, concerts and other events.

In Winscombe

The Church Centre (with kitchen)

St James's Church



In Sandford

All Saints Church (flexible seating)

Meeting Room (with small refreshment area)



For further information or to make a booking visit our online booking system

<https://hallbookingonline.com>

In Churchill



The Reading Room
(3m x 9m) with small kitchen and toilet
facilities

Contact Emma Stocks 07972 585406

The Stable
Seating for 25 to 30 people, sink unit
and limited crockery, cutlery
Contact Tricia Avery 01934 852360



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***We hope you have enjoyed reading Signpost.
Don't forget to send us your email address to receive next month's Signpost and future
editions.***