

Putting the Love of Christ in the Heart of our Community



Signpost

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



February 2024

Free

Who's Who in Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill Churches

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PCC Secretary	Bill Wallace	01934 844650
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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



What the World Needs Now.



As we begin February, I am sure there are many young (and older) people looking forward to Valentine's Day. But who was the Saint Valentine that this special day has been named after? Well, no-one really knows for certain. However, there are two stories of men called Valentine whom the day may be named after.

Both were priests in the third century and were executed on 14th February in different years. The first was arrested for defying a Roman decree that forbade soldiers to marry. He was executed for the crime of continuing to marry soldiers who were in love.

The second story is that an imprisoned priest fell in love with one of his visitors and began writing letters to her. Just before his execution he signed his last letter to her, 'From your Valentine'.

Whether either of these, or any other stories are true, we can still be sure that 14th February is almost definitely named after a martyred Saint Valentine and is a day we associate with love.

The word 'love' can be found 310 times in the King James version of the Bible and between 500 and 750 times in more modern versions. In English we just have the one word, 'love', but there are three Greek words used in the Bible that have slightly different meanings – 'eros' which is a romantic love; 'philos' which is warm affection or friendship and 'agape' – the sacrificial, unconditional love that God has for each one of us.

On St Valentine's Day we probably concentrate more on the 'eros' type of love but, perhaps, on that day, and every day, we should think more about the 'agape' kind of love.

In John's Gospel, Jesus tells us, 'To love one another as I have loved you'. Jesus loved us so much that he gave his life for us. We, most probably, in this country, are not called to give our life for others, although in many other countries this is happening. So, how can we show this 'agape' love to others? Every one of us can do this in some simple way – a kind word, a helping hand, generosity, hospitality, forgiveness and in so many more ways.

Burt Bacharach and Hal David wrote a wonderful song in the 1960's recorded by Dionne Warwick among others. The lyrics begin – 'What the world needs now is love, sweet love. It's the only thing that there's just too little of. What the world needs now is love, sweet love, not just for some but for everyone'.

Our world today is desperately in need of God's 'agape' love. Let's think and pray about how we can share that 'agape' love in whatever way we can.

Reverend Pauline Nixon



Pastoral Care Team



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

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 March Magazine is Sunday 11th February. 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
- ❖ 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.



WANTED!

EDITOR/COMPILER FOR SIGNPOST

Signpost Magazine is published monthly by the Churches of Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill. It is distributed both electronically and in paper form to over 400 readers. Although church based it is very much a publication for the community with details of forthcoming events and reports on recent events held by both the churches and other community organisations, plus items of local interest. For some of the older readers who have mobility issues and perhaps do not have access to modern technology this magazine is an information lifeline.

With the impending retirement of the current Editor, we need someone to take on this role for what is a successful and widely read publication.

The role entails working closely with contributors and implementing the editorial content strategy for their articles and reports. These are then compiled to form the magazine sent out at the beginning of each month.

The magazine is currently produced using Microsoft Word so a good working knowledge of this application would be desirable. Support with specific aspects can be provided.

This volunteer position would suit a keen individual interested in helping to bring the community together with this community focused magazine.

Support would be available from the existing team including a period of handover. Some ongoing support with editing is available from our Church Administrator.

If you are interested, please contact Jo Claridge by email to parishmag2@gmail.com



ALSO WANTED!

ADVERTISING MANAGER FOR SIGNPOST

Signpost Magazine requires someone to take on the role of Advertising Manager.

The magazine currently includes about 15 advertisements. These are paid for annually.

The role of the advertising manager is to:

- Send out invoices for advertisements annually.
- Liaise with Church Bookkeeper re payments received.
- Send out reminders as required.
- Liaise with new advertisers regarding cost, size and layout.
- Liaise with magazine editor monthly.

This volunteer position would suit an individual keen to make a positive contribution to the life of our villages.

Support would be available from the existing team including a period of handover.

The ability to use Microsoft Word or Apple 'Pages' would be desirable.

If you are interested, please contact Jo Claridge by email to parishmag2@gmail.com

CHURCH CENTRE VOLUNTEERS



Wanted: to help with the care of our Church Centre in Winscombe.

The Centre is used by many community organisations as well as for Church Services.

Volunteers are needed to support the Lettings and Centre Managers with the following:

- Occasional opening/closing for ad hoc lettings (regular users have their own keys).
- Checking that the centre hall, toilets and kitchen are clean and tidy after lettings.
- If necessary, attending to any issues such as stacking chairs and tables correctly, vacuuming or mopping the floor, emptying bins etc.
- Reporting any matters of concern to the Lettings or Centre Manager.

These duties would be shared with others on a rota basis.

Expenses incurred would be fully reimbursed.

Can you help?

If you can and have a little spare time, please contact the Benefice Administrator by email admin@winsandchurches.org.uk

All Saints Church Community Café



The January Café raised
£370.36 including Gift Aid for church
funds

Many thanks to all those who supported us.

Our next café will be on
Saturday 3rd February 2023
10.30 am to 12.30 pm
at All Saints



**Save the
Children**

'Save The Children' Lunches
at
Shipham Village Hall



**Save the
Children**

Our lunches will be served on

Friday 2nd and 16th February at 12.30 pm

Join us for soup, bread, cheese, pickle and homemade biscuits,
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



ST JAMES'S EVENTS TEAM



LEAP INTO 2024 QUIZ



**Saturday 10th February
7.00pm**



**at The Church Centre
Winscombe**

**Come as a team (up to 6)
or join others on the night**

**2024
LEAP YEAR**

**Tickets £5 each from
the Church Office (01934 844650)
Post Office & Wine Shop**



Bring your own food and drink

Churches Together

LENT 2024



Lent Reflections

In lieu of a Lent Course this year you are invited to the following Services, a different one each week hosted by different churches:

Thursday 29th February

Sidcot Meeting House 6.00 pm

Coffee and chat followed by Meeting for Worship 6.30 pm to 7.15 pm

Wednesday 6th March

Lynch Chapel 2.00 pm

Thursday 14th March

All Saints Church, Sandford at 3.00 pm

Monday 25th March

Cheddar Catholic Church, Tweentown, Cheddar

Stations of the Cross at 7.00 pm

Walks of Witness

Good Friday: Friday 29th March

10.00 am Ecumenical Walk of Witness starting at The Church Centre, Winscombe and ending with a short service at Lynch Chapel.

2.30 pm Churchill Walk of Witness. Starting at St John's with a short service

Lent Lunches

All starting at 12.30 pm

Friday 23rd February at The Church Centre, Winscombe

Speaker from Key Steps a charity that supports the homeless.

Hosted by St James, All Saints and St John's

Friday 8th March at The Church Centre, Winscombe

Speaker Lisa Cooper from Somewhere to Go

Hosted by Sidcot Friends

Friday 15th March at The Church Centre, Winscombe

Speakers Bernice and Phil Jevons: Kathmandu Bible Church

Hosted by Lynch Chapel

Friday 22nd March at Cheddar Catholic Church, Cheddar

Speaker Vicki Caldwell from FEES Fund

Hosted by Cheddar Roman Catholics



Having got off to a good start in January with 20 attending our breakfast, we look forward to our next meeting at which we will welcome Reverend David Jewell, the new minister at the Lynch Chapel, who will be with us as our speaker on **Saturday 17th February**.

All men are welcome and as usual I will send reminders to all on the mailing list, but do join us if you have not been before, or invite friends as we have capacity for more at the Woodborough Inn.

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.



QUIZ EVENING

Saturday 24th February
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

(Call - 823484)

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

Lynch Chapel News

You may have experienced the challenge recently of roof tiles on your home falling off due to the high winds we have experienced, or fence panels becoming uprooted. The power of the wind is amazing! I recall walking on the Brecon Beacons in my youth and as I reached near to the summit of Pen y Fan, the highest point in that area, it was so windy that I couldn't stand up: I had to crawl to the Ordnance Survey marker!

We have had some windy days recently and this has brought to mind the double meaning of 'Ruach' in the Bible. This word not only means wind, but also Spirit. In Hebrew the Holy Spirit is the Holy Wind. As I found in my mountain scrambles, it is very hard to walk against the wind and it is tiring and exhausting to walk against the direction the Holy Spirit is wanting to take you. Jonah is the classic example of someone who tried and look what happened to him!

You may recall the words of Jesus to Nicodemus, recorded in the third chapter of John's gospel: *"Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So, it is with everyone born of the Spirit."*

You may well be asking yourself the perfectly valid question: *"How do I know when I am doing things in agreement with the Holy Spirit?"* The Holy Spirit always blows in the direction of the Holy, the pure, the sacred. If you are attempting to commit yourself to unholy thoughts or actions, then you will be competing against the Holy Spirit's work in your life. Once you repent and turn around then your life becomes so much easier, because you have the power and strength of the Holy Spirit behind you. When you walk in the Spirit, life changes from being a drag to becoming a breeze!

Bless you, Pastor David



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

'I BEG YOU, BEAR WITH ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE'

**You are invited to join us
at All Saints Church, Sandford
Friday 1st March at 10.30 am**

This year's World Day of Prayer Service has been prepared by the women of Palestine and is being hosted by All Saints Church, Sandford.

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 'Praying Palestinian Women' created by artist, Halima Aziz, shows three women praying together in a peaceful, outdoor space.

Halima has used motifs and symbols which indicate the origin and cohesiveness of these women.

Olive trees are a sign of everlasting and abundant life because they can live for thousands of years. The Palestinian people are deeply rooted in their country and this is underlined by the golden roots of the tree. Poppy flowers are abundant and meaningful as they are a reminder of loved ones who have given their lives for their country. Traditional Palestinian dress such as the tatreez (embroidery), thobe (dress) or the white scarf symbolise the people's creativity and their country's rich heritage.

Let us join with the women of Palestine as they reflect on continuing challenging times, encouraging them to keep searching for a deeper understanding among all people who share the land, trusting and hoping in the humanity of one another.

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.

<https://www.wwdp.org.uk>



 **ST JAMES'S EVENTS TEAM** 

FRIDAY FILM CLUB

At the Church Centre
Woodborough Road, Winscombe

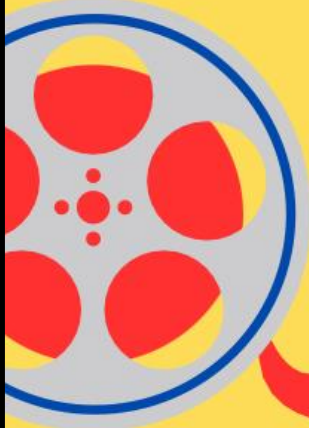

Friday 2nd February

Doors open at 2.00pm

Film starts at 2.15 pm

ALL WELCOME

Free Entry



When pilot Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger lands his damaged plane on the Hudson River in order to save the flight's passengers and crew, some consider him a hero while others think he was reckless.

Pancake Fun!

In 2024 Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Day will fall on Tuesday 13th February. Here are a few fun facts about pancakes!



Shrove Tuesday

- ❖ The idea of eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday is more than 1,000 years old! They were originally invented as a way of using up all the leftover fatty and rich foods before Lent begins on Ash Wednesday.
- ❖ In Britain we use 52 million eggs on Pancake Day. That's 22 million more than any other day!
- ❖ The record for the most pancake flips in two minutes is 349! Can you beat that this year? The highest pancake toss reached 329 cm high!
- ❖ The largest pancake ever made weighed about three tonnes and measured almost 15 metres across.
- ❖ In Iceland, people eat salted meat and peas instead of pancakes on Shrove Tuesday.
- ❖ In France and the U.S.A. Pancake Day is called Mardi Gras which means 'Fat Tuesday'. In France, people like to make a wish before flipping their pancakes. They do this while holding a coin in their other hand.
- ❖ On Pancake Day in Finland, people eat green pea soup and pastries.
- ❖ How about an unusual Shrove Tuesday fact? Before baking powder was invented, people would use fresh snow in the pancakes instead! This is because it contains a chemical called ammonia which helps the pancakes to come out fluffy and soft.
- ❖ In Germany, Pancake Day is called "Fastnacht" which means "eve of the fast".
- ❖ William Shakespeare loved pancakes, and there are pancakes written into two of his plays - *All's Well That Ends Well* and *As You Like It*. Shakespeare's Shrove Tuesday would have been a little different to yours however, dinner was at midday, not in the evening, and pancakes would follow dinner rather than be the main course.
- ❖ The first pancake recipe recorded was in an English cookbook from the 15th Century - that's over 500 years ago!
- ❖ Andrei Smirnoff from Russia ate 73 pancakes in one hour. That's more than one a minute and the Guinness World Record for the most pancakes served in eight hours is 34,818.



Pudding Night



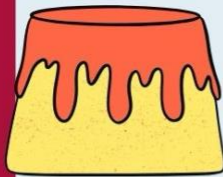
3 February 7.30 pm

@Churchill Methodist BS25 5NG

Doors Open 6.45pm



Menu



Welcome Mocktail



1 Small Main

3 Puddings from Selection
Tea or Coffee



Bookings (Veggie available) & Transport

Jacqueline 01934 844134



Churchill **Methodist** Church



churchillmethodistchurch.org.uk



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)

February 1st, 8th, 22nd & 29th

At The Church Centre, Winscombe

Contact Enid on 01934 842534 for more information



February Quiz

On St Valentine's Day.

All the questions this month relate to events that have taken place on St Valentine's Day.



1. On St Valentine's Day in 1779 Captain Cook was stabbed to death by natives of the Sandwich Islands. What are these islands now called?
2. Christopher Sholes was born on St Valentine's Day in 1819. What piece of office equipment did he invent?
3. On St Valentine's Day in 1852 which famous London children's hospital accepted its first patient?
4. On St Valentine's Day in 1895 the first performance of 'The Importance of Being Earnest' was staged. Who was it written by?
5. Film director, Alan Parker, was born on St Valentine's Day in 1944. What is the name of his spoof gangster musical comedy film starring only child actors?
6. On St Valentine's Day in 1989 the Ayatollah Khomeini issued a fatwa calling on Muslims to kill Salman Rushdie for writing which blasphemous novel?
7. Which US composer who died on St Valentine's Day in 1988 is best known for his collaboration with lyricist Alan Lerner with whom he wrote My Fair Lady, Gigi and Camelot?
8. Which former England Football Captain and Manager with the initials K.K. was born on St Valentine's Day in 1951?
9. In which US city, on St Valentine's Day in 1929, did the St. Valentine's Day Massacre take place?
10. Which popular video sharing website went live on St Valentine's Day in 2005?



Family Film Club

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

Saturday 24th February

Saturday 23rd March

Saturday 27th April

Doors open at 2.45pm

Film starts at 3pm

Admission FREE

**Come and collect your 2024 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



THURSDAY LUNCHES

1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 February

12.30pm @ Churchill Methodist BS25 5NG

Only
£5



MENU
Bowl of Soup with roll
Hot Pudding or Cold Dessert
& Tea or Coffee



- ✓ Warm welcome to all
- ✓ Easy access ramp
- ✓ Easy parking



For bookings & transport:
01934 832606 Queenie
or **852197** Janet



Churchill Methodist Church
churchillmethodist.org.uk



Mendip Folk Dance Club

Mondays 12th and 26th February

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



Folk .. Yes, but all kinds of music and verse.

Fourth Tuesday each month 7.30 to 10.30 £2

Upstairs Bar, Winscombe Club, 7 Sandford Road.

A quiet and respectful acoustic space for performers and audience.

Further information from Nigel Carson, 07551 197685 or winscombefolkclub@gmail.com. Also on Facebook.

SUPPORTING BRISTOL WOMENS' REFUGE

Do you have any of the following for the Charity?

- ❖ Women's clothing
- ❖ Children's Clothing

'Bristol Women's Refuge' supports victims of domestic abuse.

Women's and children's clothing can be left in the porch at

81 Greenhill Road, Sandford

Angela Morris 01934 852327



FEBRUARY 2024 – DIARY

THUR 1	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	10.00am	Communion in the Community – Dunster Court
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James’s
FRI 2	3.30pm	Film Club – Church Centre
SAT 3	10.30am	Community Café – All Saints Church, Sandford
	2.00pm	Come for a Cuppa – Lynch Chapel
	7.30pm	Pudding Night – Churchill Methodist Church
SUN 4		2nd SUNDAY BEFORE LENT
		See opposite page for details of Services
MON 5	9.30am	Churchill Baby & Toddler Group – Churchill Methodist Church
TUES 6	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 7	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James’s
	7.30pm	Sandford & District Gardening Club – Sandford Village Hall
THUR 8	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James’s
SAT 10	7.00pm	Leap into 2024 Quiz – Church Centre
SUN 11		SUNDAY BEFORE LENT
		See opposite page for details of Services
TUES 13	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 14		ASH WEDNESDAY
		See opposite page for details of Services
	2.00pm	Knit and Natter – Lynch Chapel
THUR 15	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James’s
SAT 17	9.30am	Refreshmen+@ Woodborough Inn
SUN 18		LENT 1
		See opposite page for details of Services
	4.00pm	Create Sunday – Churchill Methodist Church
MON 19	9.30am	Churchill Baby & Toddler Group – Churchill Methodist Church
TUES 20	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 21	2.45pm	Communion in the Community – Sewell House
	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James’s Church
THURS 22	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
FRI 23	12.00noon	Lent Lunch – Church Centre
SAT 24	6.00pm	Beetle Drive – Church Centre
	7.00pm	Quiz Night – Churchill Memorial Hall
	7.00pm	Quiz Night – Sandford Village Hall
SUN 25		LENT 2
		See opposite page for details of Services
MON 26	9.30am	Churchill Baby & Toddler Group – Churchill Methodist Church
TUES 27	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 28	2.00pm	Knit and Natter – Lynch Chapel
	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James’s Church
THUR 29	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	10.30am	Communion in the Community – Winscombe Hall
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James’

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.

Church Service Times Opportunities to Worship in February

Sunday 4th February	8.00 am	St John's	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Church Centre	Charity Café Church – Christian Aid
Sunday 11th February	9.30 am	St James's	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	All Saints	Morning Worship
	11.00 am	St John's	Holy Communion
Wednesday 14th February	7.00 pm	St James's	Imposition of Ashes
Sunday 18th February	10.00 am	Church Centre	Family Holy Communion
	11.00 am	All Saints	Morning Worship
Sunday 25th February	9.30 am	St James's	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	All Saints	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	St John's	Morning Worship

Midweek Services

Every Tuesday All Saints 10.00 am Holy Communion

Special Services in February

Thursday 1 st February	Dunster Court	10.00 am	Communion in the Community
Sunday 4 th February	Sandford Station	11.00 am	Communion in the Community
Wednesday 21 st February	Sewell House	2.45 pm	Communion in the Community
Thursday 29 th February	Winscombe Hall	10.30 am	Communion in the Community

We Welcome



Clara Turburville to our church family. She was baptised at St John's Church on Sunday 14th January 2024.

We Remember

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

Geoffrey Stocker whose funeral service took place on 3rd January 2024.

BIBLE READINGS FOR FEBRUARY

<p>Sunday 4th February Proverbs 8: 1, 22-31 Psalm 104: 26-end Colossians 1: 15-20 John 1: 1-14</p>	<p>Sunday 11th February 2 Kings 2: 1-12 Psalm 50: 1-6 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6 Mark 9: 2-9</p>	<p>Wednesday 14th February Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17 <i>or</i> Isaiah 58: 1-12 Psalm 51: 1-18 2 Corinthians 5: 20b – 6:10 Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21 <i>or</i> John 8: 1-11</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  ASH WEDNESDAY </div>
<p>Sunday 18th February Genesis 9: 8-17 Psalm 25: 1-9 1 Peter 3: 18-end Mark 1: 9-15</p>	<p>Sunday 25th February Genesis 17: 1-7,15-16 Psalm 22: 23-end Romans 4: 13-end Mark 8: 31-end</p>	

A February Birthday : Charles Dickens



Charles Dickens was born on 7th 1812 in Portsmouth. Renowned for portraying the gruesome truths about Victorian England and the perils of Britain's social class system, his unprecedented celebrity made him the most popular novelist of his century, and since then Dickens's books have never been out of print. Here are some interesting facts you may not know about him.

Dickens was forced to work at a young age at Warren's Blacking Warehouse along the River Thames, pasting labels onto the pots used for shoe polish. He later found work as a junior clerk in a law office, studied shorthand and started working as a reporter.

He doesn't have anything to do with the phrase 'What the Dickens?' Which dates back to at least Shakespearean times. Dickens in the phrase means devil.

America was not his favourite place. "I can do nothing that I want to do, go nowhere where I want to go, and see nothing that I want to see," he complained in a letter about his U.S. travels. "If I turn into the street, I am followed by a multitude."

Dickens perfected the cliffhanger ending. Many of his novels were initially written in monthly or weekly instalments, so he needed to encourage readers to buy the next episode.

He had pet ravens, one of whom appears as a character in *Barnaby Rudge*. One of his ravens is said to have inspired Edgar Allen Poe's poem, 'The Raven'.

Dickens had his cat's paw stuffed. He once declared 'What greater gift than the love of a cat?' When his cat, Bob, died in 1862, Dickens had his paw stuffed and mounted on an ivory letter opener engraved 'C.D. In memory of Bob 1862.'

Dickens was a prodigious wordsmith, known to create words and phrases of his own such as butter-fingers, flummox, the creeps, dustbin, ugsome, so angular and more!

He started a home for fallen women and was involved in its management.

He was a Victorian Ghostbuster! In common with several other authors he was a member of the Ghost Club a group that attempted to investigate supposed supernatural encounters.

He wrote more Christmas stories than just *A Christmas Carol* such as *The Chimes* and *the Cricket on the Hearth*.

A train crash nearly derailed him in 1865 when travelling home from France. Dickens helped to rescue stranded passengers when their carriage was left dangling from the tracks over a bridge.

Dickens was buried in Westminster Abbey against his wishes. The Dean of Westminster wanted a famous writer to be buried in Poet's Corner.

Churchill & Langford Village Fund

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 24th Feb



Churchill Memorial Hall

7pm for 7:30pm

Save The Date

Teams of up to Eight

Tickets will be available from:

www.thevillagefund.org.uk



CREATE! Sunday



RAINBOWS & PROMISES

Sunday 18 February

4pm @Churchill Methodist

BS25 5NG

-  **FUN for families, inc seniors**
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-  **FREE ENTRY & BUFFET TEA**



**INFO: Jacqueline
01934 844134**



Churchill Methodist Church
churchillmethodistchurch.org.uk





**Come and have fun at a
Beetle Drive!**



**6.00pm Saturday 24th February
For everyone aged 8 to 108**

**At Winscombe Church Centre,
Woodborough Road, BS25 1BA**

Tickets: £3 per person

Light refreshments - please bring your own drinks.

Separate raffles for children and grown-ups

Help Christian Aid's work world-wide.

**Tickets from: Janet Corry: 01934 842657 or
Angela Morris: 01934 852327.**

Supporting and Protecting Our Natural World A Joyful Coincidence.

This month it's me who will be supported and protected by the natural world as I enjoy a walk in Sandford Woods. I call it 'Thanksgiving Wood'.

The wonder of the world, the beauty,
The power, the shapes of things their
Colours, lights and shades, these I saw
Look ye also while life lasts.

Quote from 'The Little Grey Men.' by BB (pen name of Denys Watkins)

My favourite path runs east west along the northern edge of Sandford Woods. About halfway along is a fallen tree trunk that makes a most comfortable seat. I often sit for quite a time. At first it is silent but steadily and surely the previous occupants return - blackbirds, wrens, blue tits jays and robins to reclaim their territory unaware of me. Just to the right, no more than twenty feet away is a small hollow in which I hope to see a deer.

On this day I saw a roe deer with the typical white rump watching us directly. She seemed unconcerned so I watched and waited. She watched too as she continued browsing. Eventually she decided to bound up the slope and then I noticed that she had a fawn with her that immediately followed. I had been completely unaware of the second deer.



I was reluctant to leave. Nevertheless I made for Marilyn's seat. Marilyn was a wonderful friend of mine who sadly died from breast cancer in 2006. We used to walk daily in the woods with our dogs. Her husband asked my stepson, Tom, to make a special seat in memory of Marilyn and her two dogs Max and Brandy. It is an ideal place to rest and for Sky, the beloved Border Collie that accompanies me, to have a treat.





As I walked on, King's Mine came into sight.

These branches mark the entrance to King Mine! It is included in the Mendip Cave Registry and Archive at ST4301 5937. It is very near the footpath. Below the 'cover' is a drop of 7.5 metres. This was a mine working but at the shaft's foot is a chamber 6 metres high, 7 metres wide and 15 metres long.

The mine was rediscovered in 2005 by Dave Upperton, who named it in honour of his friend, Lieutenant Tony King who was horribly killed in the 2003 Iraq War in his early twenties – still full of life and hope. Both these young men attended Churchill Academy. It was my great pleasure to teach Tony geography.

This walk is unfailingly life affirming. I can say, 'In the woods you can lose yourself or find yourself.'

Shipham, Rowberrow & Star History Society.

Our first meeting of the New Year was an invitation to our members to bring along something of their own and tell the others about it. Called '*Show and Tell*' it proved to be quite a social occasion with everyone interested in the various items and their background stories.

Among the items were some beautifully embroidered cigarette cards, circa 1930; a Cobbler's Last which illustrated how all the trades came together in days gone by to ensure that small communities could cater to their own needs; a small ceramic pot from a London company which contained an ointment to cure everything from a sore head to bad legs! More local items were two clay jugs made by Powells of Bristol.

A very poignant photo was of three generations of firemen from the Taylor family - grandfather, father and son – and this came with the history of the Fire Service. The current Chairman, who was a policeman with the Bristol Constabulary, also told of his time 'on the front line' during some brutal strikes.

One slightly bizarre item was a postcard from 1889 which was given to one of our members. It was sent by someone in London to a resident of Shipham. Intrigued by the backstory to this, our member traced its history and finally discovered how the sender and recipient had met. A long journey and a truly amazing story!

Our next meeting will be our Annual Dinner at the Star on Tuesday 13th February.

ATEA QUINTET

MARCH
2ND
2024



ALL SAINTS CHURCH,
WRINGTON

7.30PM START

**Saturday 2nd March,
7:30 pm - 9:30 pm**

All Saint's Church, Wrington. BS40 5LG

Atéa Quintet: Alena Walentin, Flute; Anna Hashimoto, Clarinet; Ashley Myall, Bassoon; Chris Beagles, Horn; Philip Haworth, Oboe

Brimming with energy and inspiration, the internationally acclaimed Atéa Quintet present an engaging programme showcasing the rich and varied sound palette of the flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon and horn. Combining the elegance and charm of Mozart, the drama of Strauss and a touch of Gershwin' jazz, this concert is sure to have something for all, alongside the opportunity to discover new composers introducing fresh and exciting styles, sounds and perspectives.

The Atéa has already wowed audiences in some of the finest halls in the world! Brought together by their communal love of wind chamber music, the Atéa have individually received several prizes in international competitions and played with all of the country's leading orchestras.

Tickets: Champions of Churchill Music £15.50; Non-Champions £19.50; Under 18's 1.00
From: [Ticketsource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk) or holly@churchillmusic.org.uk or [07442 672805](tel:07442672805).



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**Tea and coffee
provided.**

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2pm - 4pm

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(Just over the bridge on The Lynch)

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just turn up!**



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MARCH 13th and 27th

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Saturday 3rd February

2.30pm - 4pm

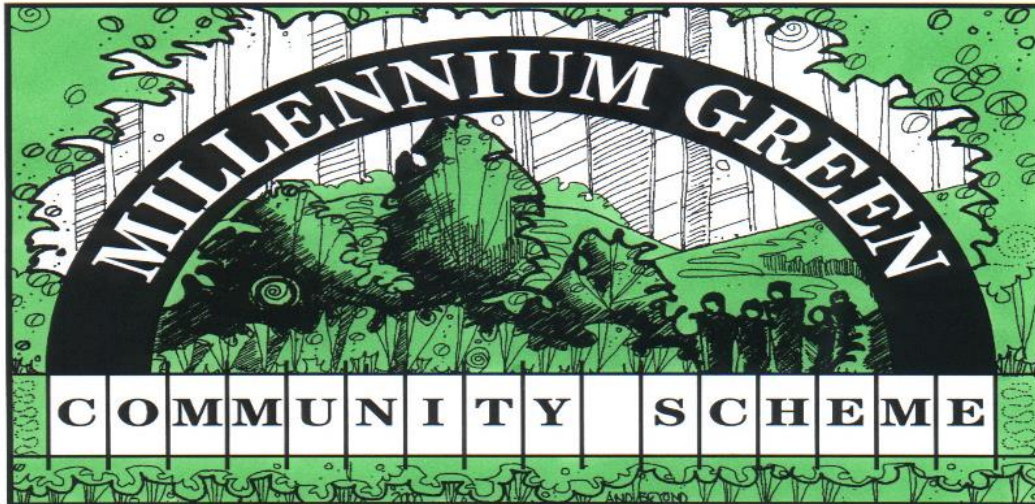
Tea/coffee and cake

First Saturday every month!

Come for a Cuppa!



OLD STATION



Winscombe & Sandford Millennium Green Trust
Registered Charity No 1072279

Old Station Millennium Green Jumble Sale Winscombe

Saturday 24th February 2.00 pm
Winscombe Community Centre BS25 1JA

**Please support this fundraising event for the Millennium Green
Community Site.**

Anything saleable, including white elephant, books, toys and bric-a-brac
to cakes and produce appreciated.

Items can be dropped at the Centre between 9.30 am and 12.00 noon on the
day.

or phone 01934 843461 for help.

**** Have a 'turn-out' for us or come along and 'rummage' ****

Organisers: Winscombe & Sandford Millennium Green Trust

The Trust also has a two-hour work session on Monday mornings to
maintain the site

in good order for local residents to enjoy nature.

All abilities welcome.

If interested contact: David on 01934 844626 or
ritaanddavidbandey@outlook.com

Gardening Notes for February

Galanthus (Snowdrops)



As snowdrop flowers fade, spread the plants through borders by dividing large established clumps and then replanting them. If you are growing these for the first-time plants can be obtained by mail order at this time of the year, in the green. Choose a place with a little winter sun or at least some brightness; the site should be cool, shaded and not too dry, the soil moisture retentive and organic rich. Snowdrops do best with minimal competition, keep away from vigorous plants or anything especially leafy, while they are in growth.

Growing tomatoes from seed

February is a good time to sow plants to grow in the greenhouse; you will need a heated propagator. Sow seeds in a modular tray made up of small cells, sowing a couple of seeds in each one, after germination reduce to one plant. Only lightly cover the seeds and stand the trays in water before placing in the propagator. Once they have their first true leaves, pot them up into 3-inch pots, burying them as deep as the first set of leaves. If in compost, the hairs on the stems will grow into roots. After about 3 to 4 weeks pot on into 5-inch pots and by mid-April they can either be planted in the border in the greenhouse or in 10 litre pots sunk into the border enabling you to gain extra height. Each plant needs a strong cane to tie to for support. At all times the plants need protection against frost which means the greenhouse might need heating.



Pruning Roses

Most roses benefit from pruning, as it will improve health, flowering and the plant's longevity. Roses are best pruned in late winter and early spring just as they are coming into growth. Early flowering ramblers are the exception; they should be pruned after flowering has finished.

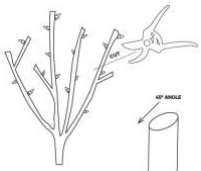
Hybrid tea: Leave 4 to 6 stems – shorten to about 5 buds from the base.

Floribunda: Leave 6 to 8 stems – shorten to about 7 buds from the base.

Modern shrub roses: Reduce height by about 1/3rd and remove any stems that are weak or congested.

Climbers: Prune out 1 or 2 older stems and shorten side-shoots to 3 buds.

Ramblers: Remove up to half the older stems and shorten side-shoots to 3 buds.



Cuts should be about 5mm above an outward facing bud. Buds may not be obvious, so look for a horizontal line on one side of the stem, this is a node, and cut just above. With all roses remove any dead, crossing or damaged stems.



QUIZ NIGHT

Winscombe Community Association

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 16 March 2024

£10 per person to include buffet supper,
doors open 7 p.m., first question at 7.30
pm.

Max team size 6, bar available

To book your table please telephone
01934 844357



Trinity Singers

Sunday Afternoon Concert 17th March

Trinity Singers will be giving a short Sunday Afternoon concert at St. Mary's Church, Yatton at 3.30 pm on Sunday 17th March. This marks the first event in their 25th Anniversary year.

'Birds, Beasts and the Natural World' will include a broad selection of choral arrangements by composers including Lennon and McCartney (Blackbird), Haydn (The Heavens are Telling), Gibbons (The Swan), Rutter (Willow Song), Lauridsen (Sure on this Shining Night), and Flanders and Swann (Hippopotamus Song).

The singers will be conducted by their Musical Director, Andrew Tyrrell, and accompanied by Alison Blundell.

The concert will be followed by tea and cakes, so what better way to spend a Sunday afternoon!

On 11th May there will be a celebratory Anniversary Concert at All Saints Church, Weston-super-Mare, featuring French and Czech sacred music from the 19th Century including works by Franck, Dvořák, Janáček, and Saint-Saëns.

The choir rehearses at 7.30 pm every Tuesday at Churchill Primary School and new singers are welcome. www.trinitysingers.co.uk

Bob Shapland
07769 813489





BRANCH CHRISTMAS LUNCH



Although reported in January, the early copy date prevented inclusion of any photographs from the Branch Christmas Lunch in Wells Golf Club on Saturday 16th December. Twenty-seven Members enjoyed the excellent social gathering including their 2 or 3 course lunch followed by coffee and port, a Loyal Toast to the King and ending with some jolly renditions of Christmas songs and Carols.

JANUARY MEETING

The first 2024 event was a Branch Meeting on Monday 8th January at Wells Golf Club. Dave Willmot gave an excellent presentation entitled *'The Tudor & the Atom Bomb'* that traced the development of the Avro Tudor passenger aircraft after World War II and the difficulties it faced, the involvement of Freddie Laker, and Dave flying as First Officer on a Tudor owned by Freddie Laker to ferry atom bomb components between UK, Woomera and Christmas Island. On one visit, Dave arrived at Christmas Island just three days after an Atom Bomb Test and had to stay for eleven days with just a tee shirt and pair of shorts in high radiation levels while awaiting a replacement engine from UK.



The meeting then reviewed the autumn 2023 programme and the morning concluded with a pub lunch and drinks.

FUTURE PROGRAMME

The next Branch Meeting is on **Monday 5th February** at 11:00 am in Wells Golf Club, Blackheath Lane, Wells, BA5 3DS. This meeting will include a presentation by **Baz Hamblin** entitled *'Operation Black Buck'* covering the organisation and implementation of the Victor Tanker and Vulcan Bomber Force from Ascension Island to attack Port Stanley airfield during the Falklands War in 1982. The meeting will conclude with briefings and preparation for the Branch AGM in March followed by the usual option for lunch and drinks from the golf club menu and bar.

The 2024 **Annual General Meeting** will be on **Monday 4th March** at 11:00 am in Wells Golf Club, Blackheath Lane, Wells, BA5 3DS. This will be a formal AGM including a presentation on 2023 activities, a review of 2023 accounts, election of the Branch Committee, nomination of the Branch Support Group and discussion of the proposed 2024 Programme. The AGM will conclude with an option for a pub lunch and drinks from the bar. *All Branch Members are encouraged to attend.*

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 further information, please either contact the Branch via email at rafa.midsomerset@gmail.com or telephone the Secretary on 01458 224057.



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Have fun, make friends and enjoy singing.

Tuesday evenings 7.30pm - 9.00pm
Winscombe Community Centre

Musical Director: Joshua Newport

For further details please contact
Simon Page on 07900 693783

www.winscombecommunitysingers.co.uk



RNLI WINSCOMBE & DISTRICT BRANCH



RESULTS UPDATE

December proved to be a busy month for Branch Fundraising. The Reindeer Run raised £1,250 in cash from ticket sales and the raffle but there is likely to be more individual online income from 'Just Giving'. Our branch shout (collection) at Tesco Nailsea rescued £1,205 in cash plus £300 on the card machine making a grand total of £1,505 while the Christmas Eve shout at Tesco Shepton Mallet rescued £1,109 (£880 in cash/ £229 card receipts). That is not bad for just standing in the foyers wearing RNLI tabards with 'Stormy Stan & Stormy Reindeer' and smiling at the shoppers. Consequently, our total for 2023 is likely to be around £19,000.



RNLI WINSCOMBE & DISTRICT BRANCH BICENTENNIAL SUPER QUIZ

Our Bicentennial Year started with a Super Quiz in Shipham Village Hall - 20 teams of 6 joined in the fun with a variety of fun names; Redland Raiders, Mature Cheddars, Beech Nuts and Hystericals to name but a few. Everyone enjoyed the quiz, Tina's Mega Ploughman's Supper, a well-stocked bar and a Bicentennial raffle. More details will be reported next month.

RNLI WINSCOMBE & DISTRICT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2024 is the Bicentennial of the formation of the RNLI and the Branch will hold its AGM at 3pm on Thursday 29th February. All Branch Committee Members, regular helpers and supporters are encouraged to attend. The AGM will include a presentation on 2023 activities, a review of the accounts, election of the Branch Committee, and discussion of the proposed 2024 Programme. For further details please contact either: Chairman, Allan Cooper 01934 842954 email: allan.coop@tiscali.co.uk or the Secretary, Mary Wallace 01934 842075 email: mary.wallace@hotmail.co.uk

DECEMBER SHOUTS

In December there were 4 'shouts' for our 4 Lifeboat Stations (Minehead 2, Portishead 2). Minehead lifeboats were called out on 29th and 30th December to assist the police in searches of the shoreline for missing persons; luckily both persons were found safe and well ashore. On 22nd December, the Portishead crew were involved in a similar incident. The pager sounded at 8.53 pm and as several crew were at the lifeboat station along with their Launch Authorities and with the Atlantic 85 class lifeboat already poised at the top of the ramp ready to launch (just in case this very situation happened), within minutes they were ready to go and help the Coastguards and Police search for a missing person. Just as the barrier was lifted and the launch rig started to make its way to the water's edge they were stood down. Thankfully once again, the person had been found safe and well.

February Quiz Answers

On St Valentine's Day.

1. Hawaii
2. The typewriter
3. Great Ormond Street Hospital
4. George Bernard Shaw
5. Buggy Malone
6. The Satanic Verses
7. Frederick Loewe
8. Kevin Keegan
9. Chicago
10. You Tube



**COFFEE
MORNING**



Every Tuesday at 10.30 am
Church Centre, Winscombe
All Welcome

Our Precious Gift

By Alastair Redfern, Assistant Bishop for the Diocese of Bath and Wells



As Christians, while we may look to reduce our own carbon footprint, we are called to be stewards and witnesses of a much more radical resource. The clue is in the word ‘ecology’.

‘Eco’ comes from the Greek word oikos, meaning house, or dwelling place. Ecology is partly about our responsibility to recognise the precious gift of the Earth, as our dwelling place: to be thankful, and play our part. God made humankind to care for the earthly world: Jesus amplifies the call, as He uses ‘nature’ as the sign of how we can live in order to flourish and to fulfil God’s will.

‘Logy’ comes from a Greek word logos interpreted as reason, the ordering of knowledge, logic. In John’s Gospel, logos is a word to describe Jesus – through whom all things are made and from whom all true knowledge comes. Logos is the word, the source of all goodness and grace, for every human life, and for all of creation.

It is the ‘logos’, the word, who inhabits our lives, our creation – inviting us to recognise His light, and allow it to overcome the darkness of our own limited concerns and agendas. We meet the logos in scripture, in worship, in prayer, and deeper reflection.

In Jesus, as logos, we can find the wisdom, the resources and the commitment to play our part in caring for creation. We are able to invite others to recognise the deeper truths about Eco, our common dwelling place, and to see more clearly how we join with others to work out what to do, how to live, and honour the gift of life that we receive through Him. The Logos is the possibility of good news for humankind and for the Earth.

What a responsibility each Christian disciple is called to bear! And what grace can be ours to enable us to fulfil our calling and help all of God’s children become caught up in the praise and prayer that gives true life to our dwelling place, and to exercise our stewardship appropriately.

Read John 1v1-14. Become an ECO-warrior – committed to our common dwelling place – through celebrating the power and presence of the LOGOS.

ECOLOGY: we know it makes sense.

Bishop Alastair

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

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BS23 1NF
Tel: 01934 414161

129a High Street Worle
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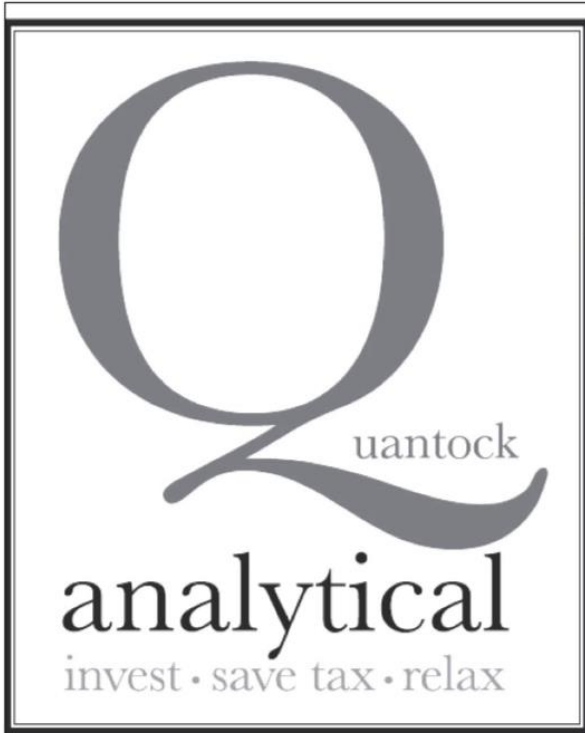
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Fire	Non-Emergency	01179 262061
Police, Fire, Ambulance		Call 999
Utilities - Emergency	Gas - National Grid Gas Electricity - National Grid Water - Bristol Water Water - Wessex Water (24 hour)	0800 111 999 Call 105 03457 023797 02456 004600
Health	NHS Health Enquiries Winscombe Surgery Banwell Surgery Mendip Vale, Langford	Call 111 01934 842211 01934 820113 01934 852906
Hospitals	Weston General Hospital Bristol Royal Infirmary Bristol Southmead Bristol Children's Hospital	01934 636363 01179 230000 01179 505050 01179 665881
Pharmacy	Boots, Winscombe	01934 843168
Dentists	Honeycomb Dental Clinic Winscombe Dental Practice	01934 842573 01934 842230
Veterinary	Alexandra and Hillyfields Vets Langford Vets Small Animal Practice	01934 843381 01934 852422
North Somerset Council	Information Out of Hours Emergency Environmental Problems Council Tax and Benefits Social Services	01934 888888 01934 622669 01934 888802 01934 888144 01275 888801
Parish Councils	Winscombe and Sandford Churchill and Langford	01934 844257 07399 523961
Assistance	Winscombe Contact Scheme Sandford Helpline Churchill Churches Volunteer Driver Scheme Samaritans (North Somerset) Citizens Advice Bureau Churchill and Langford Minibus	07888 812398 01934 852426 01934 852239 0330 094 5717 0808 278 7973 01934 852589
Schools	Winscombe Primary School Sandford Primary School Churchill Academy and Sixth Form Sidcot School	01934 843407 01934 852602 01934 852771 01934 843102

***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.***