

Putting the Love of Christ in the Heart of our Community



Signpost

Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill
Parish Magazine



April 2024

Free

Who's Who in Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill Churches

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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



The Cost of Living

Recently published data from the Coroners of England and Wales showed a sobering rise in the number of cases of deaths deemed to have been preventable, had appropriate action or resources been applied sooner.

As a society, we set great store by the preservation of life and, mercifully, have not lost our capacity to be shocked when we hear of deaths in tragic circumstances. Our whole medical service is founded on the principle embodied in the Hippocratic Oath, taken by doctors who are solemnly committed to using “[their] power to help the sick...” and to “abstain from harming or wronging” anyone by their practices.

We can be moved and outraged to learn of numbers of people killed in wars or dying in natural disasters, who had no control over their own chance of survival. Our reactions may serve to make us value our own life and our scope for freely making choices all the more gratefully.

Thirty-six years ago, Esther Rantzen used her *That's Life!* TV show to celebrate the achievement of Nicholas Winton, thanks to whom 669 Jewish children were saved from extermination by the Nazis. She declared that “every life he had saved was precious.”

When, if ever, does any life stop being ‘precious’ enough to be worth continuing? Now, with her diagnosis of a severe lung cancer, Esther Rantzen freely admits that she has “signed up to Dignitas”, saying “going to Zurich is still an option I’m considering if my life gets unendurable.” If she should take that route, although family “support my right to choose” she says, “it is entirely my decision.” But because any accompanying family members would be, under British law, liable on their return to be found found complicit in her murder, she now campaigns urgently to have our law changed.

Anyone, Christians included, who has faith in a Creator God, may readily agree that our very state of being alive is an unearned gift from start to finish. So, when public debate raises the moral issue of ‘assisted dying’, we have to address the questions which that raises. If we accept that our lives are a God-given gift, are we entitled to reach a point where we refuse to go on receiving it, and decide to return the gift, like unwanted goods, organising our death on our terms? What would be our motives? What consideration would we give to the implications for family and friends and how we value their part in our lives if we opted for ‘assisted dying’?

Openly accepting that we have to rely on Christ’s transforming grace to make the most of the life He endows us with – what you could call ‘assisted *living*’ – is part of the Christian’s liberating experience. If we want a perspective on questions of life and death, then take Christ’s own mission statement: “I have come that [you] may have life, and may have it in all its fullness”.

Rosemary Mann

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 May Magazine is Sunday 14th April. 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.

Vicar's Eastertide Message 2024

'The God who spoke light into existence, saying, "Let light shine from the darkness," is the very One who sets our hearts ablaze.'

2 Corinthians 4:6

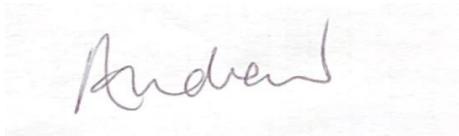


Last month it emerged that the Princess of Wales had adjusted a family photo used for Mothering Sunday. This seemed to me perhaps much less controversial than it was made out to be – for which of us hasn't tried to carefully present the best photographic impression of our young family? And which of us has not curated the photos that appear on our Social Media accounts? The reality isn't always as the photo suggests.

Having an interest in photography, I read recently some of Reverend Steve Radley's work about faith and photography, called 'Seeing the Light'. An RAF chaplain who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, he returned home and was diagnosed with PTSD. In his work, he reflects on the words we often associate with the process of photography and suggests that we might amend them so that we might see things in a different light. For example, instead of 'taking' a photo, seeing the photo as a 'gift'; instead of seeing the subject as an 'object', seeing it as 'co-creator'; instead of the image being 'mine', seeing it as 'ours'; instead of concern for control over the presented image, retaining an openness to 'surprise and mystery'.

St Paul suggests to us that Jesus Christ is the light of the world, and that when we see things by his light, we see them more as they truly are. This isn't about seeing the world through rose tinted glasses; but asking God to come into our hearts and help us to see the world more as he sees it. At Easter we are reminded that Christ died for us, and that his resurrection on Easter Day can mark a new beginning for us all, when we see things more clearly in light of his forgiveness. St Paul's words encourage us to let the light of Christ illuminate ourselves and our surroundings such that we are able to see God's handiwork more clearly. I think part of this means to take the time to be more 'present in the moments' we are given each day as gifts from God, and to use this life we have been given, less to take, and more to give.

Christ, our light, help us to
Let your light shine through us;
In our words and actions
In our attitudes and relationships
By our hands and in our hearts
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen



Reverend Andrew
Vicar



Churches Together

Local Churches Together in Winscombe and Sandford have been operating officially since 2000, but informally for much longer. We now want to discern the way forward; how can we work best together for the future, building on the great relationships of the past years?

So, we'd like your views:

- In what ways do you value or benefit from the work of Churches Together?
- What sort of things would you like to see Churches Together achieving?
- How do you see Churches Together going forward, recalling that at the last Committee meeting it was proposed that St John's Churchill and Churchill Methodists be co-opted onto the CT Committee.
- How do we best share the planning of events and leading of meetings?
- And would you be willing to get more involved in the planning of events together?

Please do let Sarah Gunn (sarahgunn200@hotmail.com), Hilary Hagen (hilaryhagen54@gmail.com), Rev Andrew (rev.andrew.hiscox@hotmail.com) or Rev Jacqui (rev.jacqui.kb@gmail.com) know your thoughts by mid-May, when the CT Committee next meets. And if you are reading this as a member of another participating church (other than the Anglican contingent) please let your CT rep know your thoughts.

Hilary Hagen



**Save the
Children**

'Save The Children' Lunches at **Shipham Village Hall**



**Save the
Children**

Our lunches will be served on

Friday 12th and 26th April at 12.30 pm

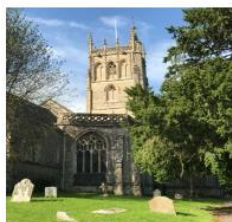
Join us for soup, bread, cheese, pickle and homemade biscuits,
tea or coffee

£5.50 per person

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

Church of England in Winscombe and Sandford



****Annual Church Meeting****

21st April 2024 at 11.30am

Church Centre

(St James's Church Hall)



A wonderful opportunity to come together and hear:

- What the Church has achieved in the last year**
- About our exciting Vision for the Future**

****All on the Church Electoral Roll are welcome****

All Saints Church Community Café



The March 'Café raised
£368.47 including Gift Aid for church funds
Many thanks to all those who supported us.

Our next cafe will be on
Saturday 6th April 2024
10.30 am to 12.30 pm
at All Saints

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

We look forward to seeing you again.



QUIZ EVENING

All Saints Church Quiz

The quiz which took place on Saturday 24th
February at Sandford Village Hall was well
attended.

The quiz really challenged us, but everyone had a good time.
Grateful thanks to Stuart and Jeannette for setting the quiz.

We raised £398 for All Saints Church Building Fund to provide kitchen and toilet
upgrade.

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*

Lynch Chapel News



After a wet winter, it is good to have the days stretching out again and the colours of flowers once again beautifying the landscape, to be able to turn down the heating and enjoy the prospect of days and the odd week enjoying the British countryside! It is always essential that we recognise our Lord God at work in both the days of promise and the times of bleakness and dark.

I recently attended the funeral of a good friend who died very suddenly in his fifties. As I had visited him in the hospital's Chapel of Rest with his wife and read Psalm 23 aloud, I was invited to read it again. As you may know it includes the words, 'Even though I walk through the valley of death, I will fear no evil.' As believers we know that Jesus will be with us, even in our darkest hour.

A well-run community hall, golf club or fitness group can be hugely beneficial and give a sense of community. The difference between those groups and church fellowships is that, yes, in a church fellowship there are sound relationships between all those attending - horizontal relationships, but also a vertical relationship with the living God, freely accessed through prayer. Throughout the Bible people pray. We have prayers recorded from Moses, Joshua, Gideon, David, Solomon, Paul, James, Jesus, and many others. There is no limit on the frequency, length, or type of words that we can use in our prayers.

I recall listening to Pete Greig preach on the Holy Trinity Brompton podcast. If you want to listen to it, here is the link <https://youtu.be/9GueVxFAW9I?si=MAU95WkQTHuLf01F>. He is the founder of the 24-7 prayer international group, which has reached more than half the nations on earth. He declares prayer to be, 'the heartbeat, the bottom of the volcano. Without prayer, we are religious, but we don't have a relationship.' He reminds us after reading from James chapter 5 verses 13-18 that the brother of Jesus encourages us to, 'come what may, you must pray'. Prayer is as vital to the Christian believer as oxygen; through prayer we discover more clearly the will of God and draw closer to our Saviour.

One of the ways God demonstrates His loving care of us is through the people He sends to support us in times of personal crisis. I am sure that everyone has examples of this loving care and patient, courteous goodwill towards us. Recently, there have been a couple of events in my life when I have witnessed people going that extra mile, because they care. It is a great encouragement to see these signs of God at work. He loves us, He protects us, He guides us!

May God go with you, Pastor David

Come for a Cuppa!

LYNCH CHAPEL



Saturday 6th April and 4th May

2.30pm - 4pm

Tea/coffee and cake



First Saturday every month!

Come for a Cuppa!

Knit &

**Second and fourth
Wednesday each month**

10th and 24th April

8th and 22nd May

2pm - 4pm

at LYNCH CHAPEL

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

**Tea and coffee
provided.**





Family Film Club

On the Big Screen at Lynch Chapel, Winscombe

Saturday 27th April

Saturday 18th May

Saturday 29th June

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





Mother's Day Messy Church

We sang

"Jesus put this song into our hearts

It's a song of joy no-one can take

"Jesus taught us how to live in harmony,

"Jesus taught us how to be a family...

...different faces different races, He made us one"...



away...."

We were happy to welcome Pauline Hurst to our Messy Church team. She helped us to think about how we are *ALL* in God's family. Here are some of the lovely illustrations she made to help us think about our theme.



We made this new mural for the wall of the Church Centre. Our thanks go particularly to Nancy and Hannah from Year 6 who carefully coloured in the lettering for us. We hope you will think the background resembles one of our North Somerset villages, with hills, a church tower, a bridge and 2 other "church" buildings. The children drew pictures of their own family members with some distinguishing characteristics to identify them, that were stuck on the foreground. Do have a close look the next time you're in the Church Centre.



There were cards to colour to give to Mums or other loved ones, and little flower arrangements to prepare in plastic “vases,” helped by Diana and decorated by the children. Our thanks to Chris Hayter for donations from her garden for the arrangements, and to Diana for other pretty additions to the flowers.



Enid had brought some home-made heart-shaped biscuits which the children enjoyed decorating. Who will eat them I wonder! And Bridget organised an energetic game in which the children enjoyed running between 2 “houses” without getting caught.

Our next Messy Church will be in the Autumn as we find families prefer to enjoy activities outside on weekends during the Summer Term.

We have 2 provisional Autumn dates:

Saturday 21st September 2.30-4pm

Saturday 9th November 2.30-4pm.

Everyone is welcome!

Look out for our banner in front of the Church Centre which will remind you when Messy Church is coming up!

MESSY CHURCH HERE
NEXT SATURDAY 2.30 - 4.00pm
Churches Working Together

Knit for Peace at the Church Centre

Attendees at the Tuesday Coffee morning, at the Church Centre in Winscombe, have risen to the challenge and offered to knit squares in support of 'Knit for Peace' being organised by Sidcot School.

Barley Hearn from Sidcot School attended coffee morning on Tuesday 19th April to lend a hand and help to teach newcomers to the skill of knitting. She also showed the group a finished blanket and explained that she delivers the blankets to a Taunton based charity that ensures they reach Ukraine.



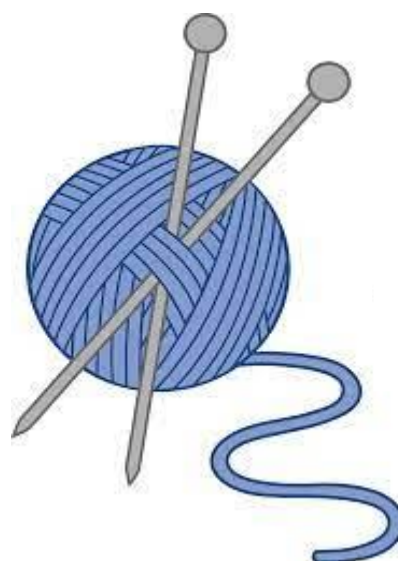
Everyone is welcome to support this project by knitting 6-inch squares using garter stitch.

The pattern opposite is the one that the students at Sidcot have been using, however, you are welcome to knit more straightforward squares as long as the finished dimension is 6 inches square. Please use double knitting wool.

Knit your squares at home or why not come along to Coffee Mornings, 10.30 am every Tuesday in The Church Centre, and knit and chat with others over a cuppa?

Please bring finished squares along to one of our Coffee mornings and we will deliver them to Sidcot School where the squares will be sewn in to blankets by the students.

Can't knit but would like to learn? Come along and we can teach you.



Blanket Square



MEASUREMENTS:

Each Square: 3in/7½cm depth x
3in/7½cm width or
6in/15cm depth x 6in/15cm width.

MATERIALS:

Approx 9 yards D.K. Yarn for each
3in/7½cm square.
Approx 36 yards D.K. Yarn for each
6in/15cm square.
1 pair of 4mm (UK8-USA6) Knitting
Needles.
1 Tapestry Needle.

TENSION:

20sts and 40 rows to 10cm, 4in over
garter stitch.

ABBREVIATIONS:

k knit **mm** millimetres
cm centimetres **in** inch(es)
st(s) stitch(es)
kf&b knit into the front and back of the
same stitch.
k2tog knit 2 stitches together.

BLANKET SQUARE.

(Knit Diagonally)

Using 4mm Knitting Needles.

Cast on 1 stitch.

1st Row: kf&b. [2sts]

2nd Row: K1, kf&b. [3sts]

3rd Row: K1, kf&b, k1. [4sts]

4th Row: K1, kf&b, k2. [5sts]

5th Row: K1, kf&b, K3. [6sts]

6th Row: *K1, kf&b, knit to the end of
the row.*

3in/7½cm Squares only: Repeat the
6th Row from * to * until 20 sts are on
the needle.

6in/15cm Squares only: Repeat the
6th Row from * to * until 40 sts are on
the needle.

Begin to decrease.

Next Row: K1, k2tog, knit to the end
of the row.

Repeat this row until 2 sts remain on
the needle.

Next Row: K2tog.

Bind off the remaining stitch.

Knit the required number of squares in
colours of your choice for your blanket.

TO MAKE UP.

Using a Tapestry Needle. Sew
squares together. Fasten off all loose
ends.

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<http://www.audrey-wilson.blogspot.com>

<http://www.ravelry.com/stores/audrey-wilson-designs>



We have enjoyed meeting as a group for the last three months with attendance just under 20 mostly. As we will not be meeting in April, our next breakfast together will be on Saturday 18th May at 9.00 am.

All men will be welcome, and as usual I will send reminders to all on the mailing list. Do consider joining us if you have not been before, or invite friends too, as we have capacity for more at the Woodborough Inn. A full breakfast is now £10.50, but there are still other options for less.

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 - £10.50
- 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

BINGO & BANGERS!

For all ages



&



**Saturday 27th April 2024 at 6.30pm
at The Church Centre, Winscombe**

An evening of fun for all ages.

Prize Bingo with expert caller & other games.

Hot Dog , side salad & dessert.

(pork sausage or vegan)

TICKETS £8

(including prize bingo books & supper)

From Church Office 01934 844650

and Post Office



April Quiz



In this month's edition we celebrate the birthday of Charlie Chaplin so our quiz is all about classic black and white movies.

1. Which black-and-white classic is considered Orson Welles' masterpiece by film critics?
2. In which film might you check into the Bates Hotel and run into a guy named Norman?
3. In which film can you see Charlie Chaplin's 'Little Tramp' updating himself in the industrial world?
4. Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon 'dragged' themselves out of trouble in this film where they disguise themselves as women to run away from gangsters? Can you name it?
5. Which Frank Capra film, now considered a classic Christmas movie, was initially a flop at the box office. It stars James Stewart as an angel
6. Which 1962 legal drama which won three Academy Awards stars Gregory Peck as Atticus Finch and as Boo Radley?
7. Which film adapted from a Tennessee William's prize-winning play tells the story of a Mississippi Southern belle, Blanche Dubois?
8. Can you name the classic 1938 comedy film starring Katharine Hepburn and Cary Grant in which they play a scatterbrained young woman and a zoology professor in a series of misadventures involving a pet leopard?
9. Which 1943 film starring Humphrey Bogart features a famous piano scene and the often-misquoted lines "Play it once, Sam" and "Play it, Sam."
10. Which satirical Stanley Kubrick film released in 1964 takes a darkly comedic look at the Cold War and the threat of Nuclear War?

Answers on page 32.



ST JAMES'S EVENTS TEAM



FRIDAY FILM CLUB

At the Church Centre

Woodborough Road, Winscombe

Friday 5th April

Doors open at 2.00pm

Film starts at 2.15 pm

ALL WELCOME

Free Entry

Our film, set in the 1960s, is an inspirational, courageous and empowering story about extraordinary women in the Southern US who build an unlikely friendship around a secret writing project – one that breaks society's rules and puts them all at risk. Filled with poignancy, humour and hope.


PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A CHANGE FROM THE ORIGINALLY ADVERTISED FILM

Winscombe and District Christian Aid Group

We're very grateful to all those who made a donation at February's café service. A total of £530 was received (Including gift aid). Your gifts demonstrate our willingness to stand in solidarity for justice, equality and dignity with our global neighbours.



The local Christian Aid group are preparing for this year's Christian Aid week. Every Christian Aid Week, people across Britain and Ireland raise funds, act and pray united in hope for a fairer world.




Aline is pushing back against poverty.

Abused, homeless and hungry, Aline was on the brink of survival in Burundi. But she transformed her life with a little help from Christian Aid and secured a vital income and a home for her and her children.

Support more families like Aline's to push back against the inhumanity of poverty. **Donate today.**

Join us this Christian Aid Week **12-18 May**
Please donate at **CAWeek.org**



This year's appeal runs from May 12th to 18th and is focussing on the organisation's work in Burundi, one of the most densely populated and poorest countries in Africa. There will be more information about the project we are featuring in next month's magazine.

This Christian Aid Week (from May 12th to 18th) supporters are once more stepping up, knowing that every prayer, every gift, every action helps transforms lives. You can be part of the team fundraising or taking on your fundraising challenge

There are seven days and so many ways to make a difference – find out all the ways you can support Christian Aid Week by visiting the Christian Aid website.

You can already donate directly to the Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill Christian Aid Week appeal here:

<https://fundraise.christianaid.org.uk/envelope-2024/winscombe>

We also have an exciting fundraising event coming up.

Friday 7th June

Joyful Spirit Choir

Sidcot School, Large Meeting Hall.

Joyful Spirit – a community gospel choir based in Wrington. With a live four piece band and around 40 singers they'll perform a range of songs inspired by gospel music from artists such as Abba, Jackie Wilson, Dusty Springfield, Marvin Gaye, Simon & Garfunkel, Toto, ELO, Earth Wind & Fire, etc.

More details on how to obtain tickets to follow in next month's magazine.

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)

April 18th & 25th at The Church Centre, Winscombe

May 2nd & 9th at Lynch Chapel, The Lynch, Winscombe

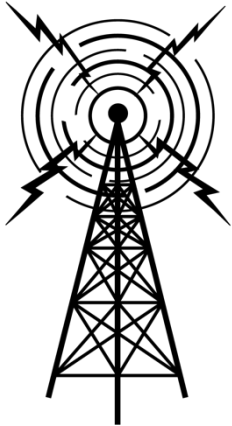
May 16th & 23rd at The Church Centre, Winscombe

Contact Enid on 01934 842534 for more information



Churches and Chapels on the Air (CHOTA)

Saturday 14th September 2024



Back in 2006 it occurred to John, a radio amateur (callsign G3XYF), farmer and Christian living in East Yorkshire, that he could combine his amateur radio hobby with the open day at his Church organised by the York Historic Churches Trust.

From this 'Churches and Chapels on the Air' has evolved. On the second Saturday of September every year amateur radio stations are now established at Churches all over the world. Many, many radio amateurs take great pleasure in contacting as many of these stations as they can on the day.

To quote the Radio Society of Great Britain: -

"Amateur radio is a popular technical hobby and volunteer public service that uses designated radio frequencies for non-commercial exchange of messages, wireless experimentation, self-training, and emergency communications."

"Amateur Radio is the only hobby governed by international treaty."

Amateur radio is a very diverse hobby in all senses of the word. There are radio amateurs in almost every country on the planet, of every age, race, creed and gender. Amateurs' interests and activities within the hobby are also very diverse, far too diverse to even attempt to list here. However, one activity that many radio amateurs enjoy is setting up and operating a "Special Event Station", usually with its own, and relevant, amateur radio callsign (in the UK these are issued by OFCOM), at an event or activity in their local community.

A small group of radio amateurs from this area are planning to set up and operate just such a Special Event Station during 'Churches and Chapels on the Air Day' later this year from the Church of Saint James the Great.

We'd like to be active between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on Saturday 14th September subject to us not getting in the way of any Church services that day! And, if you're anywhere near the Church on the day, it would be great if you could pop in, say hello and come see what it's all about. Or, if you're a licensed radio amateur, give us a call.

A hangover from the age of Morse telegraphy, at the end of a radio contact, amateurs use the simple two number code '73', meaning "Best Regards". It's a nice way to say goodbye that is unique to amateur radio.

So, 73 from Sean G7NJX and Warren M7RVD.

Reverend Warren Williams



Jumble, Rumble & Upcycle Sale
Saturday, 13 April 2024
In aid of Winscombe Community Centre New Building

Our next very popular Jumble Sale will be held
at Winscombe Community Centre, Sandford Road on
Saturday 13 April

There will be great bargains, refreshments and a raffle too.
The Jumble Sale starts at 2 p.m. but if you would like to donate jumble please bring it
along on the morning of 13th January from 9.30 a.m.
Profits will go towards our NEW Community Centre.



For more information on Jumble Sale please call 07811 292909



WINSCOMBE W.I. – NEW VENUE

You are welcome to join us for our next meeting:

Wednesday 10th April 2024

at 7.30 pm

at Sewell House, Belmont Road, Winscombe BS25 1LQ

Our speaker will be:

Becky Barnes: *How Your Wardrobe Could Save the Planet*

Refreshments will be available



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



Winscombe District U3A
Monday 15th April 2024 2.00pm

Winscombe Community Centre, BS25 1HP

A Day in the Life of a Polaris Submarine

Talk by Mike Bravery

Visitors very welcome.



SAVE THE DATES

**Tuesday 4th June - D-Day 80 Coffee Morning
Church Centre 10.30 am**

**Thursday 6th June - D-Day Community Event
Church Centre 7.00 pm**

**Thursday 6th June - Beacon Lighting
Millennium Green 9.15 pm**

**Friday 7th June - Friday Film Club WW2 Theme
Church Centre 2.00 pm**

**Saturday 8th June - D-Day 80 Nostalgia Night
An evening of themed entertainment, fun & food
Church Centre 7.00 pm**


**COME AND CELEBRATE WITH US
D-DAY 80 WINSCOMBE**

More details of each event to follow

APRIL 2024 – DIARY

TUES 2	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 3	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James’s
	7.30pm	Sandford & District Gardening Club – Sandford Village Hall
THUR 4	10.00am	Communion in the Community – Dunster Court
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James’s
FRI 5	2.00pm	Friday Film Club – Church Centre
SAT 6	10.30am	Community Café – All Saints, Sandford
	2.30pm	Come for a Cuppa – Lynch Chapel
SUN 7	EASTER 2	
	See opposite page for details of Services	
TUES 9	9.30am	Churchill Baby & Toddler Group – Churchill Methodist Church
	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 10	2.00pm	Knit and Natter – Lynch Chapel
	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James’s
THUR 11	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James’s
SUN 14	EASTER 3	
	See opposite page for details of Services	
MON 15	9.30am	Churchill Baby & Toddler Group – Churchill Methodist Church
TUES 16	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 17	2.45pm	Communion in the Community – Sewell House
	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James’s Church
THURS 18	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
SUN 21	EASTER 4	
	See opposite page for details of Services	
	11.30am	Parish Annual Parochial Church Meeting – Church Centre
MON 22	9.30am	Churchill Baby & Toddler Group – Churchill Methodist Church
TUES 23	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 24	2.00pm	Knit and Natter – Lynch Chapel
	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James’s
THUR 25	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	11.00am	Communion in the Community – Winscombe Hall
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James’s
SAT 27	2.45pm	Family Film Club – Lynch Chapel
	7.00pm	‘Bingo & Bangers’ Games Night with supper– Church Centre
SUN 28	EASTER 5	
	See opposite page for details of Services	
MON 29	9.30am	Churchill Baby & Toddler Group – Churchill Methodist Church
TUES 30	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre

BIBLE READINGS FOR APRIL

<p>Sunday 7th April Acts 4: 32-35 Psalm 133 1 John 1: 1-2:2 John 20: 19-31</p>	<p>Sunday 14th April Acts 3: 12-19 Psalm 4 1 John 3: 1-7 Luke 24: 36b-48</p>	
<p>Sunday 21st April Acts 4: 5-12 Psalm 23 1 John 3: 16-24 John 10: 11-18</p>	<p>Sunday 28th April Acts 8: 26-40 Psalm 22: 25-31 1 John 4: 7-21 John 15: 1-8</p>	

Church Service Times Opportunities to Worship in April

Sunday 7 th April	8.00 am	St John's	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Church Centre	Café Church
	11.00 am	Sandford Station	Holy Communion
Sunday 14 th April	9.30 am	St James's	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	All Saints	Parish Praise
	11.00 am	St John's	Holy Communion
Sunday 21 st April	10.00 am	Church Centre	Family Holy Communion
	11.00 am	All Saints	Holy Communion
Sunday 28 th April	9.30 am	St James's	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	All Saints	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	St John's	Parish Praise

Midweek Services

Every Tuesday	All Saints	10.00 am	Holy Communion
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Special Services in April

Thursday 4 th April	Dunster Court	10.00 am	Communion in the Community
Wednesday 17 th April	Sewell House	2.45 pm	Communion in the Community
Thursday 25 th April	Winscombe Hall	10.30 am	Communion in the Community



We Congratulate

Our love and congratulations go to:

Christopher Mark Lovett and Sophie Anne Humm who were married at St John's Church on Saturday 30th March 2024.

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.

An April Birthday

Charlie Chaplin



Charlie Chaplin was born on 16th April 1889 and was renowned as British comic actor, filmmaker and composer rising to fame in the era of the silent movies. His on-screen persona of 'The Little Tramp' helped him to become a worldwide icon and he is considered to be one of the film industry's most important figures. His childhood was one of poverty and hardship yet by 1918 he was one of the world's best-known figures.

Here are a few interesting facts about Charlie!

He started performing as a child.

Both Chaplin's parents were music hall entertainers in London. At age five, Chaplin replaced his mother (who was suffering from laryngitis) at a music-hall show, singing in front of a crowd of soldiers. A few years later he performed as part of a clog dance troupe and various theatrical roles.

He didn't win a Charlie Chaplin look-a-like contest

In 1915, Chaplin took part in a Charlie Chaplin look-a-like contest. Unbelievably, the judges and audience didn't realise that he was the real one! It is reported that, instead of winning, he took home third place.

He was the first actor to appear in Time Magazine

Chaplin was the first actor ever to appear in Time Magazine in the 6th July 1925 issue. The magazine is famous for its influential and controversial covers, and this was a big step for the actor.

He was a great musician and composer

Chaplin composed the music for many of his own movies, despite never having had proper music training. In 1972, Chaplin actually won an Oscar for the music in Limelight (1952), which he helped compose.

He resisted the arrival of the 'talkies'.

As one of the most iconic representatives of silent cinema, Chaplin refused to adopt audio and dialogue for a long time, even though sound technology in the film industry was becoming increasingly popular.

He had four younger wives and 11 children

Chaplain was known to be a popular man among the ladies! He was married four times, all with women younger than him, and three even being teenagers. Each of his first three marriages were short lived but his final marriage to Oona O'Neill lasted the rest of his life.

He never became a citizen of the United States

Chaplin never became an American citizen, despite living in the United States for almost 40 years. After the movie *Modern Times*, he gained a reputation as a communist sympathiser. In 1952, the U.S. government revoked his permit, meaning Chaplin was not allowed to return to the United States after a holiday to England. As a result, Chaplin moved to Switzerland, where he spent the rest of his life. He only returned to the United States in 1972, to accept his honorary Oscar.

He had blue eyes

The audience had always believed that Chaplin had brown eyes. Due to the black and white cinema era, most people were not able to recognise that Chaplin had fabulous blue eyes!

He knew Albert Einstein and Met Ghandi

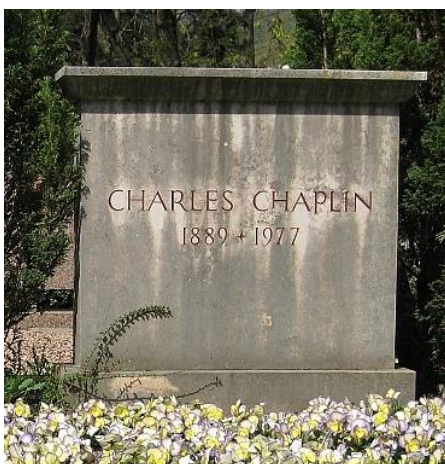
Albert Einstein was a guest of honour during the premiere of Chaplin's movie *City Lights* in Los Angeles on 2nd February 1931. He also met Ghandi in London, later in the same year.

There is an asteroid called Charlie Chaplin

When Lyudmila Karachkina discovered a main-belt asteroid on the 4th October 1981, four years after the death of the actor, she decided to call it 3623 Chaplin. Not many actors can say they have had the same honour!

He only received a star on the Walk of Fame in 1972

The only time Chaplin returned to the United States after his exile was in 1972, when he finally received his first Oscar and a star on the Walk of Fame. The project to give him a star had begun 20 years prior to release, but was initially refused due to his political views.



Grave robbers made off with Chaplin's remains.

Chaplain died in 1977. Just a few months after his death, two robbers stole his coffin from a Swiss cemetery and sent his wife a \$600,000 ransom demand. When she refused to pay, they allegedly threatened her kids. The bungling robbers were soon caught, however, and the coffin was recovered. It was then reburied in a theft-proof concrete vault.

Supporting and Protecting our Natural World.

Mountains out of Molehills

What does the saying 'making mountains out of molehills' mean? It means exaggerating the importance of something trivial. Perhaps we exaggerate the 'nuisance' of molehills more than we should? Surely, they do more good than harm?

I started to think of moles when walking along the verge from Greenhill Lane, Sandford towards the ski slope turning on the A368. Suddenly over 50 molehills had appeared (just the work of one mole)!



Apparently, a mole can dig up to 15 feet each hour. Every, so often excess soil is pushed to the surface, resulting in a molehill. These molehills appeared in early February. That is the start of the breeding period so one mole may have been trying to access a mate in a new area or was simply endeavouring to keep its tunnel in good repair especially after compaction or flooding. The young are born between

March and June – quite soon now.

Moles spend most of their lives underground in tunnels that they dig themselves at depths varying from immediately below the surface to 70cm or more. The only reasons they may emerge is to find grass for nesting material or if young ones have been turned out to find their own home after 9 weeks learning from their mother. Tough love! They may search for food on the surface at night if it has been particularly dry.

Whilst most people have never seen a live mole, they would have no difficulty in recognising this beautiful creature perhaps because as children we came across Mr. Mole of Mole End in 'Wind in the Willows' by Kenneth Grahame. Moles mostly live alone in underground tunnels at various depths with interlinked chambers in which they store their favourite food - earthworms - or to bring up their young.

Moles have a wedge-shaped body about our hand size and short tail with broad front feet, powerful shoulders and long, long nails for digging and foraging. Its bare pink nose is extremely sensitive packed with over 25,000. sensory receptors - compared with 17,000 in the human hand. The mole can identify anything it touches seven times faster than we can blink. This makes it the most sensitive organ in the animal world.



Many people especially farmers, golf course professionals and some gardeners find it hard to live with moles and their hills. Time and frustration are lost trying to deal with them usually nowadays by using poisoned worms or cruel traps though it may be a thankless task for new moles quickly take over the abandoned home.

In the past mole catchers used the soft velvety coats to make mole skin jackets and trousers but now rodent officers tend to be responsible for mole destruction though it is possible to buy humane live capture traps. It is illegal to leave a mole longer than twenty-four hours in a trap.

Are moles useful to gardeners and farmers?

Most definitely YES! They are the unsung and unseen heroes of the animal world. By digging up the earth, moles add air. This allows more types of plants to grow, so feeding more insects and therefore more vertebrates including birds. Not only this, but their tunnels also improve soil drainage, which helps flood prevention. They also like to eat underground grubs such as leather jackets and wire worms that would usually feed off crops, so moles can help to control unwanted invertebrates. Lastly molehill soil is ideal for making compost and topdressing.

It is a change to know that moles are not on an endangered list. Perhaps they just keep out of the way of humans if they can?



Shipham, Rowberrow & Star History Society.

Our meeting on 12th March saw a small but enthusiastic attendance. Paul Gregory delivered a fascinating talk on the Weston, Clevedon & Portishead Railway with plenty of then-and-now photographs and even a short black & white film from yesteryear. Paul first became interested in the railway after moving to Portishead and eventually set up a website in 2006 which attracted many enquiries. Membership from all over the world now stands at 170.

Much of the rolling stock was second hand and unfortunately has now been broken up but recently four lengths of original 22-yard-long track were discovered. Another tale was about train speeds – 25 mph and sometimes even slower! These were called the ‘blackberry specials’ as they were slow enough to allow passengers to get off and plunder the hedgerows!

Next Meeting

Tuesday 9th April at 7.15.pm

Shipham Village Hall

From Gutenberg to Gates a talk by Roy Ackrill

£2 for members, £4 for guests. Information from Pam Taylor 01934 260784



Churchill Music! Saturday 27th April 2024

All Saints Church, Wroughton 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm

Karolos: (Harriet Mackenzie, Violin; Sarah-Jane Bradley, Viola; Graham Walker, Cello; Craig Ogden, Guitar.)



Karolos brings together internationally acclaimed soloists in a unique chamber music group. The ensemble is committed to seeking out new repertoire as well as performing works from the canon. They will perform an exciting, varied programme including gems such as their own arrangement of Vivaldi's Guitar Concerto and tangos by the Argentinian composer Piazzola.

Tickets: Champions of Churchill Music £15.50; Non-Champions £19.50; Under 18's £1.00
From: Ticketsource or holly@churchillmusic.org.uk. or 07442 672805

April Quiz Answers

1. Citizen Kane
2. Psycho
3. Modern Times
4. Some Like It Hot
5. It's a Wonderful Life
6. To Kill a Mockingbird
7. A Streetcar Named Desire
8. Bringing Up Baby
9. Casablanca
10. Dr Strangelove



Trinity Singers invite singers to celebrate their 25th Anniversary

In 2024 Trinity Singers celebrate 25 years of making music in and around the North Somerset area.

To mark the occasion, they will be performing an exciting programme of French and Czech sacred music of the 19th Century, including works by Franck, Dvořák, Janáček, and Saint-Saëns (Messe de Requiem) at All Saints Church, Weston Super Mare, on Saturday 11th May 2024. A programme with big helpings of French Romanticism coupled with Czech folk-inflected lyricism!

The choir will be supported by the excellent Lochrian Ensemble, plus David Bednall (organ), and Julia Hammersley (harp), and conducted by their Musical Director Andrew Tyrrell.

Another opportunity for experienced singers is our Sunday afternoon concert at St Mary's Church, Yatton on 17th March next year. From early January we will be working on this in parallel with rehearsals for the May concert.

And of course

Trinity Singers rehearse at Churchill Primary School, Pudding Pie Lane, Langford, BS40 5EL from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm every Tuesday and new singers, especially sopranos and tenors (male or female) would be most welcome.

If you would like to know more about the choir, please email trinitysingers1999@gmail.com

Bob Shapland, Chairman, Trinity Singers

07769 813489

bob.shapland@btinternet.com

Website www.trinitysingers.org.uk



Gardening Notes for April

Spanish Bluebells

Although Spanish bluebells may look pretty, they are an invasive species and are rapidly cross pollinating with our native English bluebells, even in woodlands. These can be recognised as they are often paler in colour than the native species and flowers are arranged on all sides of the stem whereas the flowers of English



bluebells fall only on one side of the stem and the spike droops at the top. To protect our native species and to prevent them becoming hybridised, I know it may not be a popular suggestion, but we should be reducing the Spanish bluebells and the best way to tackle this is by digging them out when they are in leaf and before they flower.

Winter Flowering Heathers

Use a pair of hedging shears to cut back this year's flowered stems on winter-flowering heathers now that they have faded. Heathers flower on new wood so trim back all growth to the base of the lowest set of flowers, this will encourage new growth to develop, keep the bush neat and compact, and ready to flower next winter.



Alpines

Plant some spring flowering alpines in pots to brighten up the garden. Good drainage is the key to success with these plants, so mix equal parts of grit and John Innes No2 compost and choose a pot with drainage holes; terracotta is ideal. Part-fill the pot with the compost mixture and firm down, placing the plants on the surface and filling around with more compost, add a final layer of grit to the surface which will both protect the crown and set the flowers off.

The Greenhouse

This month can be a busy time in the greenhouse, on warm days open vents to control the temperature and close at night. Newly sown pots and trays of seed can dry out very quickly on the surface, so rather than soaking the whole pot use a hand-held mister to wet the top layer. Feel the weight of the container too, and if it is very light, use a fine rose on a small watering can to water the whole pot. Check plants in small pots to see if they need repotting, knock them out of their pot and if the roots are beginning to fill the pot, repot in the next size up using a compost with more nutrient. Prick out seedlings to the next growing stage into individual pots. The soft stems of seedlings can grow roots if they are a bit leggy, so plant them lower into the compost to improve their strength and always handle by the leaves and not the stem which can easily become damaged.



Sandford and District Gardening Club

John Dunster introduced speaker John Addison who gave a very interesting talk on Water Gardens.

We were told that there are a number of ways to incorporate water into our gardens. Small water features can be bought at local garden centres. Containers can be sunk into the ground and planted around the edge to keep the water cooler; they do not have to be very deep to attract wildlife into your garden.

When choosing a place to situate a pond it is a good idea to keep it away from trees, so an open site is more beneficial. A wildlife pond can be planted in some shade to help keep the water clearer. John advised that rubber butyl liners are the easiest to use as they have a 10-year guarantee and are easier to lay in the hole that has just been dug.



Lots of ideas were shared about the different varieties of plants that can be used to oxygenate the water and also to plant around the pond to make it more of a feature. He showed some beautiful photos ranging from waterfalls and

Japanese water gardens that were amazing. John Dunster thanked John for his talk.

Dates for your Diary

Next Meeting

Wednesday 3rd April 2024 at 7.30 pm

Sandford Village Hall

Speaker: Dr George Hargreaves on Magnolias

PLANT SALE

Saturday 11th May 2024

10.30 am to 11.30 am

There will be vegetable plants, sweet peas, bedding plants and John Dunster's famous perennials which are a fantastic bargain!!



Don't Let The Sun Go Down On Our Choir

We have an exciting program of choral music culminating with a performance of Handel's Messiah at St Cuthberts Church, Wells on 30th November 2024.

 Somerset
Choral Society

Rehearsals on
Wednesdays at 7pm-
9pm at The Catholic
Church Hall,
Tweentown, Cheddar
BS27 3HU
Call 07397 806319 for
further details



YOUR
CHOIR
NEEDS YOU

Tenors and Basses www.somersetchoral.co.uk
Contact Peter Kingston: peter@pandjkingston.co.uk
Next concerts: May - Brahms, Mendelssohn, Holst
November - The Messiah



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On Monday 4th March the Branch held its 2024 Annual General Meeting in Wells Golf Club. Nineteen stoic members attended this year's formal AGM that included a pictorial presentation of the 2023 activities; a review and discussion of 2023 accounts by the Treasurer; the election of the Branch Committee (Paul Ashmore was appointed as the new Chairman), and a discussion about the 2024 conferences. The new Chairman explained and presented the branch objectives for 2024 and outlined the proposed 2024 programme based on the draft 2024 budget. The AGM concluded with drinks from the bar followed by a pre-ordered lunch from the golf club menu.

FUTURE CONFERENCES

Wales, Midlands and Southwest Area Conference

Saturday 1st June at Leonardo Hotel, Swindon

Annual Conference

Saturday 19th to Sunday 20th October at Wyboston Lakes Resort, Bedfordshire

FUTURE PROGRAMME

The next Branch Meeting is on Monday 8th April at 11:00 am in Wells Golf Club, Blackheath Lane, Wells, BA5 3DS and will include a presentation by Paul Ashmore entitled: 'They Bend Them, We Mend Them' and catalogues some of his experiences as an Engineering Officer at a range of RAF stations over a 20 year period. The meeting will conclude with the usual option for a pub lunch and drinks from the golf club menu and bar.

The May Branch Meeting will be on Monday 13th May at 11:00 am and include a presentation by Peter Mount entitled: 'A Communication Technician's Royal Air Force Adventure'.

A visit to the Fleet Air Arm Museum at Yeovilton will take place on a Saturday in May. For further details contact the Secretary via email at rafa.midsomerset@gmail.com or telephone 01458 224057.

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.

Registered Charity No 120250

Trinity Singers

25 years of making music in North Somerset

25th

Musical Director - Andrew Tyrrell

Laudate Dominum - Alleluia!

French and Czech sacred music from the C19th including:

Panis Angelicus (Franck),

Tu Trinitatis Unitas (Dvořák),

Messe de Requiem Op 54 (Saint-Saëns)

Saturday 11th May 2024 at 19.30

Organ - David Bednall

Harp - Julia Hammersley

Strings - Lochrian Ensemble

Tickets: £15 (accompanied U18 £5)

www.trinitysingers.co.uk

All Saints Church

All Saints Road

Weston-super-Mare

BS23 2NL



Scan for tickets

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



Wrigton Vale Rotary Club

Winscombe Frog Race

Master of Ceremonies John Alvis and President Angie Biggs introduced the show and explained the format for the evening to some seventy punters and the would-be jockeys who gathered in St James's Church Centre.

Punters, seemingly ignoring the jockey weigh in, got into the mood with a sumptuous paella provided by Murrays Catering and beverages from the Thatcher emporium. The riders were briefed by the Frog Club Steward on the state of the going; advised to be quite slippery after a recent polish!

Our Auctioneer, John Thatcher, with much ado, persuaded the punters to part with their money. The racing was in the form of five heats. Each heat winner qualified for the Final. The jockey simply pulls the frog on a string. Not as easy as it looks! The final, an even more noisy affair was won by Brian Pearce from the Winscombe Stables. Brian is often seen exercising on the Winscombe circuit.



MC John Alvis (l), Auctioneer John Thatcher and pensive jockeys



This was a fabulous evening, full of fun with friends and family which generated over £1,800 for local good causes. We are grateful to all the volunteers who made this possible. All this, including food and a drink for a £15 ticket!

Brian Pearce, winning jockey with his medals and frog!

For further information contact Angie Biggs on 07790 400718.



RNLI WINSCOMBE & DISTRICT BRANCH



RESULTS UPDATE

The Branch launched to Tesco Shepton Mallet at 09:00 on Sunday 18th February and 8 of our crew were on station from 10:00 to 16:00 with 'rescue buckets' and gathered £541 from the Sunday shoppers. Tina's eBay and auction sales have continued including the sale of a rowing machine for £200; items on sale are displayed on the RNLI noticeboard at Brown's Corner, Winscombe. The Treasurer has reported that around £3,000 has been raised so far this year.

RNLI WINSCOMBE & DISTRICT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The Branch held its AGM at 3:00pm on Thursday 29th February at the President's house. The AGM included a presentation on 2023 activities. In summary, the Branch organised and ran 12 events of their own, participated in a further 6 local events and held 5 committee meetings to plan this programme. Those present reviewed the 2023 accounts (£20,188 profit); elected the Branch Committee and discussed the proposed 2024 Bicentennial Programme. Following the AGM, the Branch held

its first Committee Meeting of 2024. Photographs and further details of the reports will appear in a future edition and on the Branch Facebook site.

COLLECTION AT TESCO CLEVEDON

On Saturday 13th April, the Branch will launch to Tesco Clevedon at 08:30 and 8 of our crew will be on station from 09:00 to 17:00 ready to rescue funds from the Saturday shoppers. This will be our first 'shout' at this location, so results will be reported in a future edition.

FUTURE PROGRAMME OF EVENTS BY ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTING RNLI WINSCOMBE & DISTRICT BRANCH RNLI BICENTENNIAL YEAR

Mendip Inner Wheel is presenting a:

Concert of Popular Music by the Cameo Orchestra Bristol

(popular light orchestral and show music including soloists Jenny, Alan and Hannah)

Saturday 27th April @ 7:30pm

St Andrew's Church, Cheddar, BS27 3RE

Tickets: £10 available from Margaret Gelder, telephone: 01934 710573 or pay on the door

Calling all car boot traders! Winscombe Community Market has decided to do some fundraising for the RNLI Winscombe Branch and will hold a **Car Boot Sale** (in conjunction with their monthly Saturday Market) outside **Winscombe Community Centre** on **20th April** from **9:00 am to 1:00 pm**. All attendees will need their own outside set up and will be charged £10 per 3m x 3m space. Only household and garage items will be allowed (no crafts or food stalls). *All stall fees will go to the RNLI.*

Winscombe Folk Club is presenting a:

Vintage Cheddar Rock Band Concert

Includes the music of Chuck Berry, Soul, The Beatles, ABBA,

Jerry Lee Lewis, Roy Orbison and many, many more!

This promises to be a roaring evening of pedigree "Rock" from the 1960s onwards

Saturday 18th May @ 8.00 pm (doors open 7:30 pm)

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

Tickets: £8 + 38p booking fee per ticket from Universe.com/winscombe

or text 07551 197685. Bar available

PORTISHEAD LIFEBOAT STATION OPEN DAY

Portishead Lifeboat Station will be open to visitors on **Sunday 28th April** from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Join them for a day of family-friendly fun as they celebrate the RNLI's 200th birthday. Visitors will have the opportunity to meet their volunteer crew, see the lifeboat in action and even take a look onboard. They will be joined by other local emergency services as well as by the famous 'Beach Buddies' lifesaving puppet theatre. There will be face painting, children's crafts and a family treasure trail as well as hot food, hot and cold drinks, and lots of cake!

ANNUAL PLANT & GARDEN SALE

This year's Annual Plant & Garden Jumble sale will be on **Saturday 25th May** starting at 10:00 am at the Winscombe Community Centre, Sandford Road. The sale will include the full range of greenhouse plants, bedding plants and general garden items.

FEBRUARY SHOUTS

In February there were 11 'shouts' between our 4 lifeboat stations (Burnham-on-Sea 1, Minehead – 1, Portishead – 6, W-s-M - 3).

Burnham-on-Sea RNLI lifeboat crews were paged on 17th February at 1.42 pm to assist a 27 foot yacht with engine failure. The yacht's owner was returning to his berth in the River Brue when the engine cut out at the entrance of the river. He tried to sail but the light winds were not sufficient to stem the swift outgoing tide. HM Coastguard had been notified of the earlier engine problem, but escalated the situation when the yacht was unable to make any headway. The Atlantic 85 lifeboat was launched at 1:55 pm and Burnham's D class lifeboat was also launched at 2.20 pm to offer strategic support. The stricken yacht was discovered by the Atlantic lifeboat crew in the vicinity of Burnham's lighthouse and towed to the visitor's pontoon at Burnham Sailing Club in the River Brue. Once the casualty craft was secured safely, both lifeboats returned to Burnham jetty for recovery and wash down by the volunteer crews.

Helmsman Stuart Lacey explained; *"We discovered the yacht in the main channel, near Burnham's iconic lighthouse, unsuccessfully trying to sail against the outgoing tide. We towed the yacht back to Burnham Sailing Club, leaving it secured to the visitor's pontoon. The yacht was well prepared with the correct safety gear. An engine can play up at any time. The crew were pleased to see us and we were glad to be able to help."*

The Peckham Gospel

All around the world we seem to be plagued by stories of terror and terrorism; wars, shootings, knife crime, migrants fleeing from their homes and bombs almost everywhere. Where do we go to get peace? What do we do to make things better, not just for us, but for the world at large?

Stephen Lawrence was an innocent young man who was murdered and we all know his story but perhaps don't know some of the detail so read on

'The Peckham Gospel' according to Reverend Simon Cutmore, from one of his sermons:

On the evening of 22 April 1993, Mr & Mrs Conor Taaffe had been to a prayer meeting at their local Catholic church. As they left the church, they noticed two young black boys who were running towards them. Further away they saw a young man holding his upper chest with one of his hands, as if he might have been injured in that area. Then they saw him crash onto the pavement. At once they realised that something very serious had happened.

They moved closer, oblivious of their own needs or safety. There was another man standing in the middle of the road trying to flag down passing cars. Then they saw him go to the telephone box on the other side of the road, probably to try to call the emergency services.

The Taaffe's crouched down on the hard pavement with the young man as he lay there, and Mr Taaffe remembers an involuntary movement of the head to the left and a sound as if the young man was choking and trying to breathe. There was quite a lot of blood on the pavement.

As the young man's life clearly was ebbing away, Mrs Taaffe gently and lovingly reached over and touched the young man's head. The last words he heard as he gave up his life were her whispering into his ear: 'you are loved, you are loved...'. The young man's name was Stephen Lawrence.

Oblivious to His own needs, in the person of Jesus Christ, God makes His way down close to us. In His incarnation, He comes down to where we are, in love and compassion, onto the litter filled streets of our lives, and whispers into our ears, into our lives, into our very souls - you are loved, you are loved, you are loved...

That is the extent of the love of God in Jesus Christ. Instead of crossing the road and walking by on the other side, perhaps understandably avoiding us, not wanting to get involved with the mess, He runs to us... He crouches near to us on the hard pavement of our lives, gently loving us into life, whispering into our souls - you are loved, you are loved, you are loved; He meets us again and again, today, here, even as we ask life's 'why?' questions He offers us the wages of eternal life, knowing that the costs are covered, the price is paid.

Today we need to decide for ourselves - perhaps for the first time, maybe afresh, whether to accept the generous grace-filled offer of His life transforming love, his very self - freely given, thoroughly undeserved and outrageously unwarranted and offered widely and to all, whether we have known Him for eighty years, eight weeks, eight hours or not.

For faith, being Christian, is not about how much we know about God in our heads, or for how long, but how we are known by God in His heart of love. Amen.

For the full version of this sermon visit:- <https://www.rectorymusings.co.uk/2011/09/peckham-gospel.html>

copyright: Reverend Simon Cutmore MATR. Vicar of Mill End & Heronsgate with West Hyde



Wells Cathedral Admission Changes

Wells Cathedral has announced changes to its admission guidelines from 22nd April 2024.

Free passes are available to local people and to parishioners in the Diocese of Bath and Wells, with a new entry charge for tourists. It will remain free to enter for worship, prayer, and to light a candle.

The monies raised by the £14 tourist admission charge will go towards the care of the cathedral building and its mission.

Information about the Parish Pass and how to apply for it is available from the [Wells Cathedral Website](#).

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Bishop Michael to visit Zambia



Bishop Michael will be making his first visit to Zambia as Bishop of Bath and Wells this month, having previously spent time there during his career as an epidemiologist.

Commenting on his visit, which takes place from 22nd April to 5th May 2024, Bishop Michael says, “I am really looking forward to be going back to Zambia. It takes the whole world to know Christ and I’m so excited at the thought of all I will learn from our Zambian brothers and sisters. I am also looking forward to the opportunity to explore how we can potentially work together on a joint environmental project involving our schools.”

The Diocese of Bath and Wells has had a link with Zambia for over 40 years. Through the link our church communities are learning from one another as people from different cultures, but whose thoughts and actions are centred on the Gospel.



Worship is Key



In January I was back in my old Diocese of Exeter, marking the death of Sabine Baring Gould 100 years before. What an extraordinary person he was, with an incredible range and roundedness of learning and interests, in an equally full and fulfilled life.

He was a great traveller and prolific writer of biographies, folklore, travel books, theology, novels and hymns, including some, such as 'Onward Christian soldiers' that remain popular today.

He was a linguist and translator; and, as an archaeologist on Dartmoor, very much a pioneer in the field.

For many, his greatest achievement was his collecting the old folk songs of Devon and Cornwall, providing inspiration for such composers as Elgar, Vaughan Williams and Holst. He was also the Squire of Lewtrenchard and, being ordained, he appointed himself as parish priest as well!

This he saw as his true vocation. His responsibility, and that of the local church, was the cure of souls from cradle to grave. This meant a care for the spiritual wellbeing of all in the community and for their bodily and social welfare too. Striving for good health and housing must go hand in hand with growth in faith and prayer. All should be encouraged to full humanity, to holy discipleship, to the recognition, and use, of whatever gifts anyone possessed for the common good.

But, underlying all of this, one other aspect of this great man's life speaks very strongly to me now. That is how he understood worship and its relationship to the whole of life. 'To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination by the beauty of God, to open the heart to the love of God, to devote the will to the purpose of God'.

There are many encouraging stories of new Christian worshipping communities in Bath and Wells. Worshipping is key. I am reminded of the later words of Archbishop William Temple: 'It is sometimes said that conduct is supremely important, and worship helps it. The truth is that worship is supremely important and conduct tests it.'

Michael Langrish
Assistant Bishop for Bath and Wells

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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