

# Signpost

# Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill Parish Magazine



**November 2025** 

**FREE** 

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

Vicar Vacant Post St James the Great, Winscombe See page 5 for an update All Saints, Sandford St John the Baptist, Churchill **Assistant Curate** Reverend Jacqui Keir-Bucknall 07990 766647 rev.jacqui.kb@gmail.com **Benefice Administrator &** Sue Smyth 01934 352696 **Signpost Editor** 52 Woodborough Road, **Church Office** Winscombe, BS25 1BA admin@winsandchurches.org.uk **PCCs' Secretaries** Bridget Andrews (St James & All Saints) 01934 352696 winsandsec24@gmail.com Emma Stocks (St John's) 01934 853873 emma.stocks@hotmail.com **Parish Safeguarding Officers** Jo Claridge (St James's & All Saints) 07986 665618 safeguarding@winsandchurches.org.uk Pauline Hurst (St John's) 01934 852784 stjchurchill.safeguarding@outlook.com **Churchwardens** St James the Great, Winscombe Derrick Claridge 07941 202768 winscombechurchwarden@gmail.com Beth Cutmore 07486 549030 bethwayside@gmail.com All Saints, Sandford Diana Williams 01934 852449 sandfordchurchwarden@gmail.com Simon Crew 07960 151717 smg.crew@yahoo.co.uk St John the Baptist, Churchill Tricia Avery 01934 852360 averyfarm@cpsmail.co.uk One vacant post **Pastoral Care Team** Reverend Pauline Nixon 07511 935860 revpolly@gmail.com **Churchill Methodist, Minister** Reverend Andrew Bell 01934 852314 **Pastor** Ken Young 01934 852686 **Lynch Chapel** David Jewell 07443 907454 Pastor/Minister The Lynch, Winscombe, BS25 1AR davidjewells@aol.com **Sidcot Quakers Meeting House** Oakridge Lane, Sidcot, BS25 1LT 01934 843065

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

**Roman Catholics** 

- St James the Great Church, Church Lane, Winscombe, BS25 1BX
- 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

Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Cheddar

01934 709224

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



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



#### Lest we forget!

Recently, I read that there hasn't been one day in over two hundred years without some kind of war on earth, whether political, tribal, religious, territorial, civil, regional or global. What a terrible indictment on the human race and especially as there has been war since time began. It seems the very nature of mankind is to wage war. How hopeful people were when they claimed that the First World War was, 'the war to end all wars'.

This year, 2025, we've marked the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of VE Day (Victory in Europe) on 8<sup>th</sup> May, and of VJ Day (Victory over Japan) on 15<sup>th</sup> August. VJ Day marking the surrender of the Japanese, which in effect, finally ended the Second World War. It's interesting to note that in Japan, the 15<sup>th</sup> August is known officially as; 'the day for mourning of war dead and praying for peace'.

Anniversaries always give time for reflection and this year's 80<sup>th</sup> anniversaries have been no exception. As part of Europe and with World War II on our doorstep, perhaps over the years we've heard many tales of bravery and sacrifice of those who gave their lives in the fight for freedom, or who risked their lives saving others in the blitz and so much more. The world could have been a very different place for us without their sacrifice, which cannot and should not be forgotten. This includes those who fought or were captured and tortured in the war still raging in the Pacific, when peace had already been declared in Europe. Perhaps these men, and women, are some of our forgotten heroes. Stories remembered and broadcast during August 1945 were quite harrowing. Stories never shared before as many had been told to say nothing of their experiences when they returned home, shadows of their former selves.

And so, we remember - not just the sacrifice of the many during two world wars, but also those who, since then, have left homes and family to serve their country overseas in the fight for justice, freedom and peace, in places like Iraq and Afghanistan. No war is victimless. Many have died; others have life changing injuries. Families have lost loved ones, children a parent.

Wars, past and present, are a stark reminder of a world deeply broken and divided because of man's inhumanity to man. But God calls us, as Christians, to look to Jesus who is the Prince of Peace. Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God" (Matthew 5:9). Being a peacemaker in today's world isn't just for governments and nations. It's about each and every one of us too. How we live, how we relate to those around us and to situations we face from day to day. Let us never forget to pray for peace with justice in our world, and to pray for those who still suffer the effects of wars today.

Pauline Hurst St John's Church, Churchill

#### **Signpost - The Parish Magazine**

Welcome to November's edition of Signpost. The magazine aims to serve and reach out to the local village communities of Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill and in doing so, provide opportunities for the residents to become more aware of activities across all Christian denominations and within our villages. We hope you enjoy reading this month's edition.

#### Next Month's Magazine

The deadline for December's edition is Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November. Please submit items, which should be no longer than 400 words, as Word documents to <a href="mailto:parishmag2@gmail.com">parishmag2@gmail.com</a>. 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 and/or reformat submitted articles.

#### Signpost – paper copy

We produce a limited number of black and white printed copies of Signpost that are available from some local shops, each of our churches and the Church Centre.

#### Signpost – via email

We encourage as many people as possible to receive their full colour copy of Signpost via email. If you would like to receive future editions by email, please send your email address to <a href="mailto:parishmag2@gmail.com">parishmag2@gmail.com</a>. If you are unable to receive your copy via email, please contact one of the Churchwardens giving your full name and address.

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
- Signpost Magazine: download the latest copy and find out how to contribute
- Hire A Venue: how to hire our Church Centre, Churches and meeting rooms

#### **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 distribute the magazine.

We are always grateful to supporters who choose to make a donation, and those that place a paid for advert, towards the on-going costs of the magazine. 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 at parishmag2@gmail.com.

Many thanks to all those who have already made a donation; your generosity is very much appreciated.

#### **VACANCY NEWS**

The following announcement was made in each of our churches on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

We are delighted to announce the appointment of the Revd Dr Julian Davies to the post of Vicar of the Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford with Churchill. This appointment is subject to enhanced DBS clearance. We look forward to welcoming Julian and to his licensing which will be held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026. We hold Julian, his family and our parishes, in our prayers at this time of transition. Julian says, "I am thrilled to be appointed as the vicar of Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill. I very much look forward to meeting and working with everyone in the three churches and being a part of these communities in this beautiful part of North Somerset."

We look forward to welcoming Julian and his family to the Benefice.





Hi, my name is Julian Davies, and I am really looking forward to joining you all in the near future.

So, a little bit of info about myself! I was born in Plymouth some 55 years ago and in my early years we travelled around a bit for my Dad's work before we settled in Essex, near Southend-on-Sea, where I lived from the age of 9 to 25.

In my mid 20s I came to Bristol to study for a History degree at UWE, and it was there, in my second year, that I met Diane, my future wife. After graduation, I moved across the city to study for a History PhD at the University of Bristol, which was awarded in 2003. An academic career seemed the natural progression, yet I felt a pull to the 'real world' and so work in a busy Bristol housing office and other public sector roles, came next.

Although nominally raised a Christian, I only really came to faith during our wedding preparations when we attended an Alpha course. Church offered us something we hadn't come across before, and something in the warm hospitality we received, stayed with us and drew us in! Diane and I were married in 2004 at St Mary's in Saltford where we continued to worship for the next 10 years, along with our then young family.

In terms of interests, I am a keen football fan and despite the abject lack of success, I am a life-long Plymouth Argyle fan! In my youth and into my 20s I enjoyed travelling all over the country with friends watching games, but these days I much prefer the lure of local grassroots football. I enjoy listening to music of all kinds including classical and jazz, though rock, pop and country music is what I enjoy the most. I love country walking, and my wife and I have spent many happy hours traversing the Mendips, so as you can imagine the location of this benefice is perfect for us. Though I am sure there is a lot more to explore!

I very much look forward to meeting you all in the New Year!



# **Remembrance Day** Sunday 9th November 2025

#### Our Services – all welcome





## The Role of Honour for Our Villages

#### First World War 1914 - 1918

Roland G Arscott Joseph Avery Frederick Thomas Baker Richard Frank Board

John Ivor Body William Edgar Browning

James Callow

Harold Wookey Clark

**Edwin Cook** William Dare Albert Dudden Robert Dudden William Henry Fry

W Glover

Herbert William Hemmens

James Hugh Horne

Ronald John Ranulph Leacroft

Alfred Manning

Frederick James Miller Wilfred Stephen Newing

Charles Petherham

John Pople

James Joseph Roper

Sidney Thomas Sandford

William Albert Shiner

Norman Blackmore Thomas

Henry John Venn

**Edward John Atkins** 

A Baker

Herbert Bennett

Frank Body

**Arthur Redvers Bradford** 

John Stembridge Burdge

Clifford Stanley Clark

Percy Arthur Clark

Lewis Frederick Cox Francis George Davey

**Edward Dudden** 

Arthur Ernest Fry

Edwin B Gill

William Deacon Hayman

George Hilling

Charles Eric Jupe

Harry Percival Luck

John Douglas Wyld McMichael

Reginald Albert Newing

Albert Nipper

**Ernest Algernon Phillips** 

Wilfred Guy Powell Colin Henry Roynon

William Sawtell

Thomas William Edward Southwood

Albert John Tyrrell

Godfrey Wiglesworth



#### **Second World War 1939 – 1945**



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



### Members of Churchill Choirs Killed by a Bomb on Dolebury Warren

Oliver Wookey

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

## **UN Peacekeeping Force Balkans 1997**

**Gareth Evans** 

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

# All Saints Church Community Café

The October's Café raised £316.25 - including Gift Aid.
Thank you to everyone who supported us.

Our next cafe date is:

# SATURDAY 1st NOVEMBER

Christmas themed Café with charity Christmas cards,

Christmas hamper raffle and other prizes

10.30 am - 12.30 pm

All Saints Church, Sandford

A variety of coffee, teas and soft drinks along with homemade cakes, biscuits and soup is served











# Churchill Reading Room NOW OPEN

Saturday mornings 10 am - midday

Come and join us for a friendly chat over coffee at the Reading Room on Front Street

(just behind the Clock Tower)

We have a lending library and jigsaw exchange plus teas, coffees, cake and bacon baps on offer.

A chance to catch up with friends and neighbours.

Hope to see you there!



### **Supporting Your Local Foodbanks**



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

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

There are collection baskets for each village in each of the Churches and at the Church Centre.

The foodbanks also appreciate cash donations which can be used to buy items in particular need or provide vouchers that can be spent on food in local supermarkets.

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

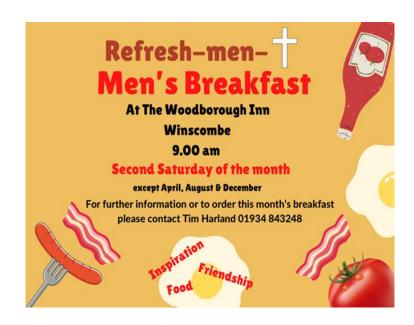
These are some of the items that can be donated and are always gratefully received.

Soup – packet and tinned	Tinned vegetables
Instant mashed potato	Tinned fish
Cereals	◆ UHT milk
Sauces – tins and jars of pasta sauce	Main meals in tins (not Fray Bentos pies please)
Custard – tinned or instant	❖ Squash
Long life fruit juices	Paper goods – toilet roll, kitchen roll etc.
<ul><li>Desserts – tinned fruit, rice pudding, sponge</li></ul>	Tinned cold meats – corned beef, spam
Pasta, rice, instant noodles	Tea bags, coffee, hot chocolate
❖ Sugar	Biscuits
<ul><li>Personal items – soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste</li></ul>	Men's and ladies' toiletries
Confectionery	Snack bars and crisps

### Message from the FAHLC - Foodbank

We were very touched and grateful for your congregation's response to the Harvest Festival Appeal. As you may know, at this time of year demand increases and everyone is so very thankful for your continuing generosity and support.

Thank you all very, very much.



Our breakfast in October was an open meeting as Chris Greenwood had kindly agreed to be the first of what we hope may be a continuing series, when members present aspects of their lives along the lines of 'Desert Island Discs'. Although so well known in the community, Chris told us much about his life, careers and much else, that we would not otherwise have known. Being an accomplished musician, he was not short of musical memories to enliven his most interesting talk. The feedback following the breakfast has been very positive, and we can look forward to more of our members relating their histories, their interests and aspirations and perhaps a step or two in faith along the way.

Our next breakfast together will be on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November.** This will be for men only again. But please do let me know if you will be coming at least a week in advance, as I will need to let the Woodborough Inn know an estimate of our numbers for the Saturday.

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.

Please note that the price of breakfast has been increased by £1, the first rise for 18 months. The price of a small English Breakfast is now £11.50. The vegetarian option is now £10.50. Other breakfast options will be available, but these do need to be pre-booked.

To book your place for this month's breakfast contact Tim Harland on 01934 843248.

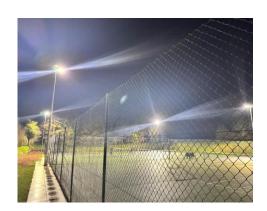
From time to time, it really is worth checking out the many local businesses which advertise in Signpost - see pages 55 to 66 for details and the services provided.





# IN WINSCOMBE, TENNIS DOESN'T END WITH THE SUMMER





Whilst our 6 courts are all outdoors, we continue to play throughout the autumn and winter unless it's raining heavily! Whilst we would love you to join this friendly club, you can still play on Courts 5 and 6 without being a member. Our Pay and Play courts can be booked through the website, and they are now floodlit (cost included in the very reasonable £10 per hour booking fee), so you can play on, despite the dark evenings, until 10.00 pm. To book visit the Winscombe Tennis Club website: <a href="https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/winscombeLTC">https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/winscombeLTC</a>.

We are pleased to announce that we have a New Head Coach: Dominic Stones. He runs classes for the juniors after school and also for adults including fitness cardio sessions and lessons for those wishing to take up or improve their tennis. For further details or to book coaching contact Dom on: winscombetennisclubcoaching@outlook.com or phone 07955 261372.



You can find us behind the Cricket Club at the Recreation Ground (beyond the Lynch), Winscombe, BS25 1AP.



## **Shipham, Rowberrow & Star History Society**

**Next meeting date:** 

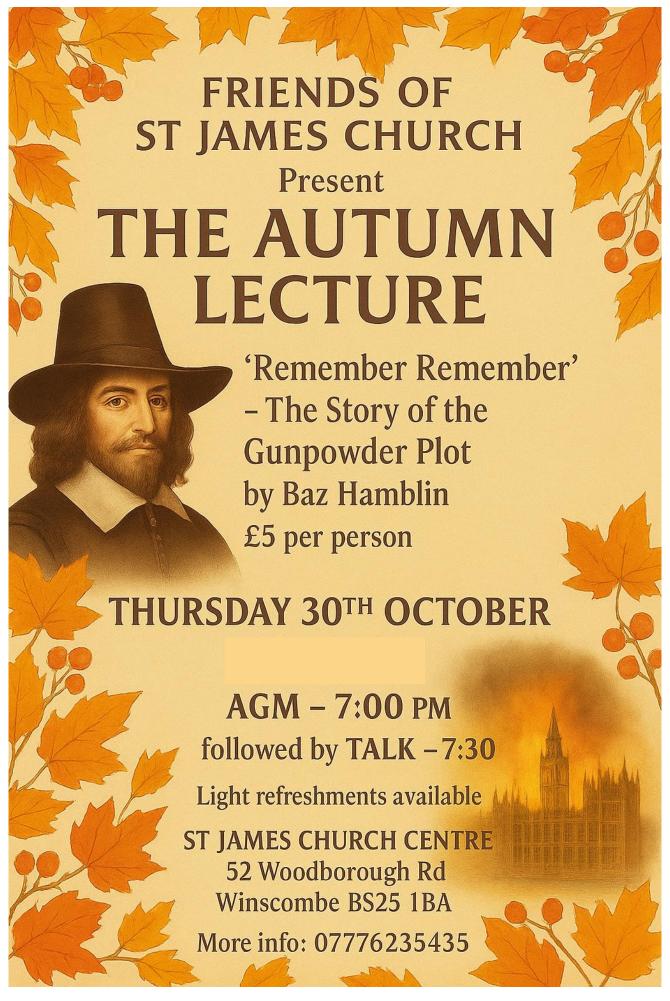
# Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November

Speaker: Clive Burlton

**Talk entitled:** 'The Lost City (White City Barracks)'

at Shipham Village Hall, BS25 1SG

Refreshments: 7.15 pm Members: £2, guests £4 For further details contact: Jan Taylor 01934 260784



#### **November Quiz**

On 4<sup>th</sup> November 1843 the 5.5 metre statue of Lord Nelson was hauled to the top of its 60



metre column in Trafalgar Square, London. Nelson's Column was built to commemorate Nelson's victory in the Battle of Trafalgar, which is also where he died. However, construction didn't actually begin until several decades after his death (between 1840 and 1843), which was also when the Trafalgar Square, that we know today, was created. In fact, the National Gallery was only recently completed when work began on Nelson's Column.

This month's quiz is all about famous statues which can be found around the UK.

- 1. A statue in the centre of Newcastle Upon Tyne pays tribute to which famous tea drinker?
- 2. Whose act of faithfulness is honoured with a statue in Candlemaker Row, Edinburgh?
- 3. The equestrian statue 'Self Sacrifice' depicts which person famed for riding naked through the streets of Coventry?
- 4. Which contemporary sculpture stands 20 metres tall and has a wingspan of 54 metres?
- 5. Which author's statue was erected in Portsmouth on his 202<sup>nd</sup> birthday despite his dying wish for 'no monument' to his life.
- 6. Which visitor from darkest Peru is immortalised at Paddington Station?
- 7. A statue of the first Englishman to circumnavigate the globe stands on Plymouth Hoe. He is also reputed to have enjoyed a game of bowls! Who is the statue of?
- 8. What is the name of the controversial statue by Damien Hurst which can be found on Ilfracombe Harbour?
- 9. Which character from a story by J M Barrie can be found immortalised in Kensington Gardens? And do you know where in Somerset you can see a replica?
- 10. A statue in Belfast was erected to commemorate the lives lost in the sinking of which ship in April 1912?

#### Answers can be found on page 42



#### Winscombe District U3A

There is no meeting in December - hope to see you at the New Year
Our next meeting is on Monday 19th January 2026

£2.50. Visitors very welcome. Refreshments from 2 pm

You can help children in distress all around the world



# SAVE the CHILDREN LUNCHES

Shipham Village Hall
Fridays 14<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November - 12.30 pm
children under 5 can enjoy a free lunch!

Everyone is welcome to join us for soup, locally baked bread, cheddar cheese, pickle, homemade biscuits, tea or coffee
£5.50 (pay at the door) - all profits support the
Save the Children Charity number 213890

#### **WINSCOMBE W.I.**

You are welcome to join us for our next meeting:



## Wednesday 12th November 2025

at 7.15 pm for 7.30 pm start
Sewell House, Belmont Road, Winscombe, BS25 1LQ

AGM and General Knowledge Quiz refreshments available - find us on Facebook



## WINSCOMBE VILLAGE PUMPKIN COMPETITION



Are you proud of your pumpkin carving and want to enter the village competition?

After the 'Trick or Treaters' have visited your home, bring along your pumpkin to the:

**Patio Area of Winscombe Club** 

7 Sandford Road, BS25 1HD

FRIDAY 31st OCTOBER - 6.30 to 8.30 pm

PRIZES FOR THE BEST IN THE VILLAGE

#### **Gardening Notes for November**

#### **Hardwood Cuttings**

Many ornamental shrubs and trees such as dogwood, willow, flowering currant, forsythia and roses can be propagated by this method, once the leaves have fallen. Choose vigorous one-year old stems about the thickness of a pencil and make a cut just above a pair of buds at the



top, and below a bud, at the bottom. Each cutting should measure 25 to 30cm long. Remember which are the top ends of your cuttings, make a slit trench in the soil and push them in. Alternatively, if you are short of space, root them in a large pot using 'cuttings' compost, burying two thirds of each cutting. Do not allow the soil to dry out during the summer; they should be

ready to transplant next winter.

#### **Root Cuttings**

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

There are two different methods of taking root cuttings depending on the thickness of the roots.

#### **Thick Root Cuttings**

With plants such as acanthus, anchusa and oriental poppies, detach a few chunky pieces of root either by delving into the soil, or by digging up the whole plant. Cut the roots into 5cm pieces and push them into a pot or modules containing multi-purpose compost, keeping the end closest to the crown uppermost. Cover the surface with grit, water thoroughly and keep in a warm bright place. After a few weeks you will see new leaves emerging but be patient and wait a few more weeks before potting on, to allow a good root system to develop.

#### **Thin Root Cuttings**

Take root cuttings from plants such as geraniums, sanguineum, Japanese anemones and phlox, which have thinner roots, by cutting into 5 to 10cm lengths (the thinner the root, the longer the cutting should be). By laying the roots on the surface of compost and covering with grit, we are replicating the way these roots run around just below the surface of the soil and have the ability to make new shoots from nodules all along the surface. Once rooted transplant them carefully.

#### Roses

Reduce long new shoots on shrub and bush roses by up to one-third to avoid damage to the root system caused by wind rock; final pruning will take place in the spring.

Why not come along, meet new people and have a chat over a cuppa ~ everyone welcome

# Winscombe Village Market



Every month there is a good and varied selection of stalls – hope to see you there!

\* bread \* cakes
 \* vegetables

\* wood crafts \* cards
 \* jams, chutneys &
preserves \* jewellery
 \* handmade crafts



9 AM - 12.00 PM

# **SATURDAY 15th NOVEMBER**

Councillor Joe Tristram holds a Council Ward Surgery on market days between 10 and 11.30 am in the Church Centre

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

#### **November Word Search**

This month's Word Search is on the theme of Bonfire Night.

There are 20 words relating to the 5<sup>th</sup> November hidden in the grid. Circle the words as you find them, they may be found across, down, diagonally and backwards and can overlap with each other. The hidden words are listed beneath the word search.











Answers can be found on page 47



BANGER
BLAZE
BONFIRE
CATHERINE WHEEL
DISPLAY

FIRECRACKER
GUNPOWDER
GUY FAWKES
HOT DOG
JUMPING JACK

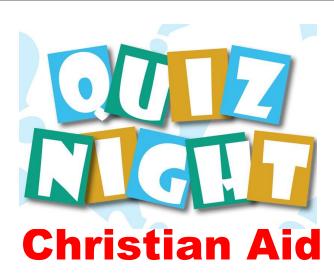
NOVEMBER
PARLIAMENT
PLOT
PYROTECHNICS
ROCKET

ROMAN CANDLE SPARKLER SQUIB TOFFEE APPLE

**TREASON** 

#### Christmas Times a-coming, and you know what that means!

To kickstart the run up to Christmas, Badgerset return for an evening of music, dance and humour at their annual **Christmas Concert** on **Saturday 6**<sup>th</sup> **December** in the Church Centre, Winscombe. Listen to new Christmas songs, join in with familiar carols and, as usual, expect the unexpected! See poster on page 46 for full details or contact Martin Hagen on 07901 510992 or email at <a href="mailto:hagen.martin@gmail.com">hagen.martin@gmail.com</a>.



# Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 7 pm Church Centre, Winscombe, BS25 1BA

Join us for a fun, friendly quiz raising money to support families fleeing conflict and enable them to buy food and lifesaving supplies. Bring a team of five or six or come on your own and join a team. Plus, a great raffle!

Tickets £10 per person including light supper - bring your

own drinks. Doors open 6.30 pm for 7 pm start

Tickets available from:

Janet Corry - 01934 842657 Angela Morris - 01934 852327 David Hart - 07778 109769 Church Centre - 01934 352696

Or email winscombechristianaid@gmail.com





#### **Wrington Vale Rotary Club**

#### Classic Car and Bike Festival at Brean Down

The day combined a striking display of chrome and craftsmanship with friendly conversation, and a lively atmosphere. Susie Downs ran a raffle of very attractive prizes that drew strong support, while Angus Murray kept everyone fuelled with tasty baps all morning. All profits will be donated to local causes including, *'Somewhere to Go'* - the centre providing food and support in Weston-super-Mare, and local schools. Altogether it was a most enjoyable occasion that celebrated our heritage, and helped people less fortunate than ourselves.











Winscombe **PROBUS** was set up in 1976 as a Men's Club, but in line with modern culture, things have changed. We now welcome ladies to join us, particularly members' partners.

**Next meeting:** Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November

**Speaker:** Mike Hennessey

Talk entitled: 'Small Talk Saves Lives'

**Venue:** Winscombe Community Association Hall [coffee and biscuits from 10.15 am - talk starts at 11 am]

For more info call David Martin on 01934 844327 or just turn up!



#### **RNLI MENDIP BRANCH**



#### RNLI MENDIP BRANCH - WHY NOT JOIN US?

Our team of community fundraising volunteers, in and around Winscombe and the West Mendip area, devote their time to raising vital funds for the RNLI. This branch (formerly called Winscombe & District Fundraising Branch until 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025), includes the area around Winscombe from Nailsea in the north through Winscombe and Shipham to Wedmore, and east from Winscombe through Axbridge, Cheddar, Priddy and Wells to Shepton Mallet. The southern edge runs from Wedmore east to embrace Glastonbury and Street.

Our principle aims are raising money and the profile of the RNLI locally. Fundraising events include an annual quiz, an annual plant and garden sale, supper nights, folk and gospel concerts, day trips, village and town fairs, 'Betty's Pots', garden centre and supermarket collections, and in the process, we also have a lot of fun! The branch provides monthly updates about our activities in this magazine, and on local village websites, plus we have our new public Facebook group (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/831976350849360">https://www.facebook.com/groups/831976350849360</a>) that provides updates about our local branch activities. For more information contact Tina Joyce by email meejlfh@gmail.com or telephone 01934 842304.

#### WINSCOMBE FOLK NIGHT





On Saturday 11th October the Branch held a RNLI Winscombe Folk Night in the Church Centre, Winscombe organised by James Barattini. An audience of around 60 people were treated to a wonderful evening of folk music by Jon Wilks who is an English writer, folk singer, and guitarist from Birmingham. Jon performed his own authentic interpretations of traditional English folk songs, many collected from 'The Black Country', as well as some of his own original compositions. Jon accompanied himself on both six-string and twelve-string guitar and treated the audience to some brilliant finger plucking including a couple of instrumental numbers. Meanwhile, the audience enjoyed beers, ciders, wines and soft drinks from the cash bar and were able to purchase some of Jon's own recordings

and literature. Financial results will be available for the December edition.

#### RNLI MENDIP CELEBRATES 220th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR

RNLI Mendip Branch celebrated a brand new event for Trafalgar Night on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October at Mendip Spring Golf and Country Club, Congresbury. The evening started with a welcome reception and drinks followed by a 3-course dinner; the main course was the traditional roast beef with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes and vegetables. The guest speaker was Mark Dowie CBE, the former CEO of the RNLI. The evening included a 'Heads or

Tails' competition for a cash prize, a multi-prize raffle, traditional Battle of Trafalgar stories, the Toast to Lord Nelson, the Loyal Toast, and the Naval and RNLI Hymn 'Eternal Father Strong to Save'. Carriages were from 10:30 pm but celebrations continued after this in the golf club bar. Photographs and results will be available in the December edition.

#### RNLI MENDIP BRANCH POP-UP SALE – SATURDAY 8<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

There will be a RNLI Pop-Up Sale inside Winscombe Community Centre, Sandford Road, Winscombe, BS25 1HP from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November**. Entry is free to browse, and the sale will include larger Items that have been donated, RNLI Christmas cards, jigsaws, Christmas stocking fillers, Christmas cakes and puddings, spring bulbs, Chris's tools and domestic items, a multi-prize Christmas raffle and refreshments (beverages, cakes and biscuits). The Committee is still working on some additional stalls with a Christmas flavour so come along and support the RNLI. Contact Tina Joyce by email <a href="mailto:meejlfh@gmail.com">meejlfh@gmail.com</a> or telephone 01934 842304 for more details.

#### RNLI MENDIP FOLK CONCERT 'GRANNY'S ATTIC' SATURDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER



RNLI Mendip Branch will present a Folk Concert by the Folk Trio 'Granny's Attic' at 8:00 pm (doors open 7:15 pm) on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November in St James's Church Centre, 52 Woodborough Road, Winscombe BS25 1BA. Tickets costing £15 are obtainable from James Barattini winscombe.folk@gmail.com or call 07703 538861.

Granny's Attic provides lively performances and skilled delivery of traditional material, playing with verve, energy and their very own inimitable style. Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne (melodeon, Anglo concertina and vocals), George Sansome (guitar and vocals) and Lewis Wood (violin and vocals), are keen to push new boundaries by exploring fresh approaches and writing their own compositions. There will be a bar selling beers, ciders, wine and soft drinks plus a raffle in aid of the RNLI.

#### RNLI MENDIP BRANCH REINDEER RUN - SUNDAY 30th NOVEMBER

RNLI Mendip Branch is pleased to announce that our third **Reindeer Run** will start at 2:00 pm on **Sunday 30**<sup>th</sup> **November.** Assemble from 1:00 pm at Winscombe Cricket Club, 31 The Lynch, Winscombe BS25 1AP. Runners of all standards are welcome and are encouraged to get sponsorship and bring along supporters as drinks and refreshments will be available. Contact Tim Moran <u>Tim@moransonline.com</u> or call 07801 678432 for further information.

#### SEPTEMBER SHOUTS - PORTISHEAD CREW RESPOND TO MEDICAL EMERGENCY

In September there were 13 'shouts' between three of our four Somerset Lifeboat Stations (Minehead -3, Portishead -6, Weston-super-Mare -4).

On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September, Portishead Lifeboat volunteers launched to assist a yacht preparing to take part in the Holms Race from Portishead. A medical emergency had been reported, with one of the crew members vomiting blood. With the seriousness of the situation, the lifeboat launched at best speed. Thanks to calm seas and beautiful weather, the crew reached the yacht quickly.

Crew members Andy and Marc were transferred from the lifeboat to the yacht, where they began casualty care and assessed the situation. After a few minutes speaking with the sailor, his condition began to improve. Following a joint decision with Lifeboat Helm Susan, the casualty was transferred to the lifeboat to be brought ashore for further treatment by the waiting Ambulance Service team. After further assessment, it was decided that the sailor should be



taken to hospital for additional checks. The Portishead Coastguard Rescue Team and a Coastguard Rescue helicopter were also in attendance.





Winscombe Community Singers

Presents

# Autumn Colours

A concert to add flavour to the season

Saturday November 15<sup>th</sup>
7pm for 7:30 start

At The Church Centre

52 Woodborough Rd, Winscombe BS25 1BA

Tickets from Eventbrite

Adults: £8

Secondary aged Children: £4

Primary & Under Free

Or ring 07900693783

Refreshments included in ticket price.





## Churchill Music Programme of Events 2025-2026



Artist	Venue	Date & Time	Price: Champions	Price: Non- Champions
Celestia Choir with Director David Ogden	St Mary's Church, Yatton, BS49 4HH	Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> December at 3pm	£15.50 Under 18 £1.00	£19.50 Under 18 £1.00
Churchill Young Musician of the Year 2026	St John's Church, Churchill, BS25 5QW	Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January at 6pm	£9 Under 18 free	£9 Under 18 free
Aquinas Piano Trio: Martin Cousin, Ruth Rogers & Katherine Jenkinson	St John's Church, Churchill, BS25 5QW	Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March at 3pm	£15.50 Under 18 £1.00	£19.50 Under 18 £1.00
London Mozart Players	All Saints Church, Wrington, BS40 5LF	Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> April at 3pm	£15.50 Under 18 £1.00	£19.50 Under 18 £1.00
Royal Marines Association Concert Band	Churchill Recreation Field, Ladymead Lane, Churchill	Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> June at 3pm	Free	Free

https://churchillmusic.org.uk/

Tickets: ticketsource.co.uk, holly@churchillmusic.org.uk or call Holly Greenwood-Roger on 07442 672805



Every Tuesday at 10.30 am Church Centre, Winscombe All Welcome





# Folk ... Yes, but all kinds of music and verse Fourth Tuesday each month 7.30 to 10.30 – just £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

#### **AID FOR UKRAINE**

The people of Ukraine are desperately in need of the following items:

- Warm winter clothes
- Camping equipment
- Kitchen utensils
- Blankets and bedding
- Mobility aids

- Tents
- Sleeping bags
- Crockery and cutlery
- Medical supplies
- Wheelchairs

### Can you help?

Need items collected? Contact Martin Spiller on 01934 852295 or drop off to Angela Morris at 81 Green Hill Road, Sandford, BS25 5PF on 01934 852327

# 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 £17 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



#### Harvest Festival at St James's Church

Harvest was celebrated at St James the Great, Winscombe on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September; it was a lovely sunny morning.

The church was beautifully decorated by our talented flower arrangers with seasonal foliage including teasels, wheat and grapes. The choir sang a special anthem, and the service was led by our Curate, Reverend Jacqui.

We also collected harvest gifts for the foodbank at the 'For All Healthy Living Centre' in Weston – see page 9 for further details on how you can support this very worthy cause.



The service was followed by our Harvest Lunch in the Church Centre attended by over 50 people from the church and the local community. We enjoyed food and fellowship with a delicious lunch of cold meats served with a variety of salads followed by homemade apple crumble and cream.



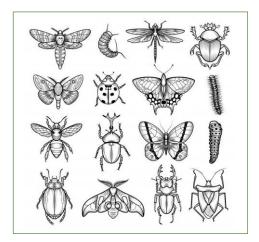


All Saints Church held their delicious, well attended, Ploughman's lunch on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October. This first lunch, held in the church using the new facilities of the renovated Church Room, raised £359.98 towards the next phase of the building fund. Thank you.



#### **Sandford & District Gardening Club**

John welcomed three new members Kathy, Sarah and Adrian, and then introduced our Speaker Colin Higgins who gave a really interesting talk on 'Gardening Nature's Way'.



Higgy, as he likes to be known, explained that there were over 27,000 known insects. They include ladybirds, butterflies, moths, flies, dragonflies, hoverflies, bees, and beetles. Moths were really important as they pollinate a wider range of plants than bees and butterflies do combined. They also fly by day and night.

We were told that it was really good to plant our beds and borders with a wide range of pollinating plants, with different flower shapes, to enable a wider selection of insects. Also, it is good to leave some long grass which

encourages hedgehogs, slow worms and meadow species of butterflies, and to incorporate some rotting wood to encourage beetles. It was useful to have some water features in the garden as this encourages dragonflies, frogs and toads.

Higgy encouraged us to think differently about insects as they don't just sting and bite! They are an important part of the food chain and the health of our gardens.

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November**. The speaker will be Nick King delivering a talk entitled; 'The Goats of the Gorge', followed by a short A.G.M and refreshments.

Date for your diary: **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**, *Members only* **Christmas Party** with a buffet and entertainment.

All meetings are held in Sandford Village Hall at 7.30 pm on the first Wednesday of each month. *Everyone welcome*.

#### THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Our Box Opening, held at the beginning of October, was a great success with so many attending the Coffee Morning and bringing their Children's Society boxes with them for us to count. There was a 'buzz' as people chatted, perused our Christmas cards, were tempted by the goodies on the home produce stall, and splashed out on raffle tickets. Thank you *SO* much to all who supported us either with boxes, spending money, serving coffee, making cakes or doing all of the previous! We were delighted to bank £1,485.00; to date there are still ten or so boxes to be counted, so the final total will be even higher. As ever, the Winscombe and Sandford community give us great support in our work raising money for The Children's Society and we, the Committee, are deeply grateful to you all – *THANK YOU!* 

Sarah Gunn, Angie Lacy, Lesley Matthews and Mo Matthews



#### **NOVEMBER 2025 - DIARY**

SUN 2	ALL SAINTS	S DAY te page for details of Services
TUES 4	10.00am	Midweek Communion - All Saints Church Room
WED 5	10.30am	Midweek Informal Service - Lynch Chapel
VVLD 3	7.15pm	Choir Practice - St James's
THUR 6	9.30am	Scramblers - Church Centre
THOR	10.00am	Communion in the Community - Dunster Court
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing - St James's
SAT 8	9.00am	Refresh-Men-+ Mens Breakfast - Woodborough Inn
SATO	9.00am	Refresil-Men-+ Mens Breaklast - Woodborough Inin
SUN 9		ANCE SUNDAY
		te page for details of Services
TUES 11	10.00am	Midweek Communion - All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning - Church Centre
WED 12	10.30am	Midweek Informal Service - Lynch Chapel
	2.00pm	Knit & Natter - Lynch Chapel
	7.15pm	Winscombe WI - Sewell House
THURS 13	9.30am	Scramblers - Church Centre
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing - St James's
FRI 14	7.00pm	Christian Aid Quiz Night - Church Centre
SAT 15	9.00am	Winscombe Community Market - Church Centre
SUN 16	2ND REFOR	E ADVENT – SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY
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JON 10	_	
TUES 18	_	te page for details of Services  Midweek Communion - All Saints Church Room
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TUES 18	See opposi 10.00am 10.30am 10.30am 2.45pm	te page for details of Services  Midweek Communion - All Saints Church Room  Coffee Morning - Church Centre  Midweek Informal Service - Lynch Chapel
TUES 18	See opposi 10.00am 10.30am 10.30am	te page for details of Services  Midweek Communion - All Saints Church Room Coffee Morning - Church Centre Midweek Informal Service - Lynch Chapel Holy Communion - Sewell House
TUES 18 WED 19	See opposi 10.00am 10.30am 10.30am 2.45pm 7.15pm	te page for details of Services  Midweek Communion - All Saints Church Room Coffee Morning - Church Centre Midweek Informal Service - Lynch Chapel Holy Communion - Sewell House Choir Practice - St James's
TUES 18 WED 19 THUR 20	See opposi 10.00am 10.30am 10.30am 2.45pm 7.15pm 9.30am 7.30pm	te page for details of Services  Midweek Communion - All Saints Church Room Coffee Morning - Church Centre Midweek Informal Service - Lynch Chapel Holy Communion - Sewell House Choir Practice - St James's Scramblers - Church Centre
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TUES 18 WED 19 THUR 20 SUN 23 TUES 25	See opposi 10.00am 10.30am 10.30am 2.45pm 7.15pm 9.30am 7.30pm  CHRIST TH See opposi 10.00am 10.30am	te page for details of Services  Midweek Communion - All Saints Church Room Coffee Morning - Church Centre Midweek Informal Service - Lynch Chapel Holy Communion - Sewell House Choir Practice - St James's Scramblers - Church Centre Bell Ringing - St James's  E KING – 1 <sup>ST</sup> BEFORE ADVENT te page for details of Services Midweek Communion - All Saints Church Room Coffee Morning - Church Centre
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TUES 18 WED 19 THUR 20 SUN 23 TUES 25 WED 26 THURS 27	See opposi 10.00am 10.30am 10.30am 2.45pm 7.15pm 9.30am 7.30pm  CHRIST TH See opposi 10.00am 10.30am 10.30am 10.30am 2.00pm 7.15pm 11.00am 7.30pm 2.30pm 1st SUNDA	Midweek Communion - All Saints Church Room Coffee Morning - Church Centre Midweek Informal Service - Lynch Chapel Holy Communion - Sewell House Choir Practice - St James's Scramblers - Church Centre Bell Ringing - St James's  E KING - 1 <sup>ST</sup> BEFORE ADVENT te page for details of Services Midweek Communion - All Saints Church Room Coffee Morning - Church Centre Midweek Informal Service - Lynch Chapel Knit & Natter - Lynch Chapel Choir Practice - St James's Holy Communion - Winscombe Hall Bell Ringing - St James's

# **Church Service Times Opportunities to Worship in November**

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	8.00 am	St John's	BCP Holy Communion
	11.00 am	All Saints	Patronal Festival Holy Communion
	3.00 pm	St James's	All Souls Service
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	10.50 am	St James's	Remembrance Sunday Service
	10.50 am	All Saints	Remembrance Sunday Service
	10.50 am	St John's	Remembrance Service and Holy
			Communion
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00 am	Church Centre	Family Holy Communion
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	9.30 am	St James's	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	All Saints	Morning Worship
	11.00 am	St John's	Morning Worship
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00 am	St James's	Benefice Advent Service Holy
			Communion

#### **Midweek Services**

Every Tuesday	, 10.00 am	Holy	Communion at All Saints

#### **Special Services in November**

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	11.00 am	Holy Communion at Sandford Station
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00 am	Holy Communion at Dunster Court
Wednesday 19th November	2.45 pm	Holy Communion at Sewell House
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	10.30 am	Holy Communion at Winscombe Hall

#### We remember the families and friends of:

**William Morris** whose funeral service took place at Canford Crematorium on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025.

**Colin Pain** whose funeral service took place at St Mary's Church, Langford followed by his burial in St John's Churchyard, Churchill on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

**Jean Hodson** whose funeral service took place at St James's Church, Winscombe followed by her cremation on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025.

#### **BIBLE READINGS FOR NOVEMBER**

DIDLE READINGS FOR NO	VEIVIDER			
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Sunday 9th November	Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> November		
Isaiah 1: 10-18	Job 19: 23-27a	Malachi 4: 1-2a		
Psalm 32: 1-8	Psalm 17: 1-9 (or 17: 1-8)	Psalm 98		
2 Thessalonians 1	2 Thessalonians 2: 1-5, 13-end	2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13		
Luke 19: 1-10	Luke 20: 27-38	Luke 21: 5-19		
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Sunday 30th November	[7]		
Jeremiah 23: 1-6	Isaiah 2: 1-5			
Psalm 46	Psalm 122			
Colossians 1: 11-20	Romans 13: 11-end			
Luke 23: 33-43	Matthew 24: 36-44			

#### **All Saints Church Room Refurbishment**

The Church Room at All Saints has been a meeting place for worship and fellowship for many years. It was not built to particularly exacting standards and has recently suffered from rising damp and a leaking roof. The kitchen facilities and the toilet left a lot to be desired! A couple of years ago we decided that it was in desperate need of refurbishing.

kitchen before ...





... and after

To this end we started to raise the money, and with generous donations from the church community and joyful fundraising events, we amassed nearly £14,000 in our building fund. This was not enough to carry out the refurbishment, so we looked at obtaining grants. With the help of a local benefactor, we applied to the Thatchers Foundation. Just before Christmas last year we heard from Anne Thatcher, the Foundation Co-Ordinator, that we would be given a grant of £15,000 towards the refurbishment. This meant that we could go ahead with the work which started, using local reputable contractors, in January this year.



It is now finished, and we have a bright and colourful new room with modern kitchen facilities, and a toilet which is disabled compliant, with access for wheelchairs through a new sliding door and an alarm system. It also has a baby changing station.

On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September we had the official opening. The church was full, and guests were provided with tea, coffee and a wonderful selection of cakes, all served by our Community Café volunteers. Our Churchwarden Diana introduced Martin Thatcher, who did the honours by cutting the ribbon. She thanked the Foundation, and also the many supporters from our church



community and beyond who generously donated to the project. Towards the end we were short of a few items of fixtures and fittings, so again, our wonderful church community sponsored items and donated an extra £2,000.

On behalf of the Project Team, I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the refurbishment. It goes to show what can be achieved by a small, but vibrant, church community within the Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford with Churchill. Thank you again.

Douglas Ogram
On behalf of Diana Williams, Bill Witter and Llyn and Tony Callow (Project Team)

# CHURCHILL BABY & TODDLER



**Tots-Paint-Own-Pots** 

# Mon 17 & 24 November

09.00-11.30 @Churchill Methodist

Great Gifts,
Super Keepsakes
Wide choice of cups,
plates & decorations

LOTS OF FUN, TOYS,

PLAY & CHAT

Children's snack

Bottomless coffee & tea

Choose blank pots

pay by cash, card, mobile

GLAZED POTS RETURNED

**MON 1 DECEMBER** 





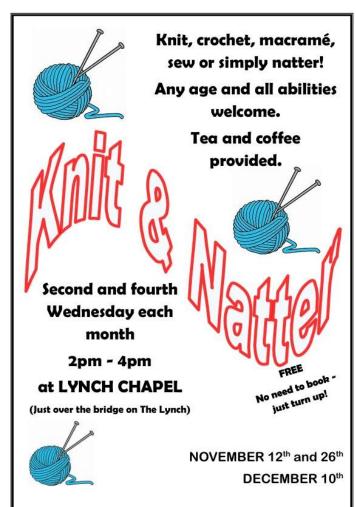
Churchill Methodist Church

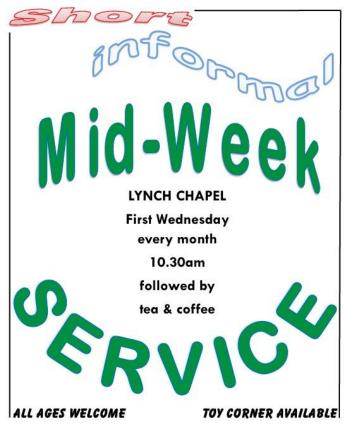
churchillmethodist.org.uk

churchillmethodistchurch@gmail.com









NEXT DATES: 5<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER

# West Mendip Orchestra

John Johnson Director of Music Helen Grey Leader



# CONCERT In conjunction with Yatton Music Society www.yms.org.uk

Schumann Glazunov Finzi Dvořák Julius Caesar Overture
Poème Lyrique
Eclogue for Piano and Strings
Symphony No 8 in G Major

Saturday 29th November 2025 at 7.30 pm St Mary's Church, Yatton BS49 4HH

Tickets £15
Members/Students over 16 £10
Children Free



www.west-mendip-orchestra.org.uk
Supported by the Mortlock Memorial Fund





## **Supporting and Protecting Our Natural World**

## Do Not Disturb!

By October/ November, insects are beginning to respond to changes that lead them to adapt their life cycles. Such triggers include shortening of the number of daylight hours (the most certain and inevitable change), decreasing temperatures, and food shortages. These changes set off physiological reactions leading to a state of suspended animation (similar to hibernation) and are called diapause; a dormant time achieved by closing down metabolic processes to conserve energy. There are various strategies that can be done to achieve this state. For example, some insects put on weight during good times so that survival is possible without food. Some insects can produce glycerol (a kind of antifreeze), that prevents their bodies from freezing during very cold spells. Others, such as the Painted Lady butterfly, undertake long journeys to find warmer climates until our spring returns.

Not all insects overwinter as an adult, some do but others may overwinter as eggs, larvae

or pupae, but all have to be prepared! Whatever the stage all must have a safe, undisturbed haven such as log piles, brash, leaf litter, soil, holes in the soil left by mice or bees, clumps of uncut grass, crevices in walls, dead plants and the bark of trees. Gardeners can provide many of these needs... if only we would, so that when spring comes there is plenty of life surviving. I think insects deserve the kind of sign left on hotel room doors!



The shield bug or stink bug, is an example of an insect that overwinters as an adult. The



most common species is the green shield bug. They are squat, geometrically shaped insects enclosed in a hard carapace and are often found basking on leaves such as roses and raspberries. They are one of the easiest insects to watch, as they do not fly away quickly if disturbed, though they do fly mainly to find a mate, food or avoid predators. Their camouflage is usually enough so that they do not need to fly. This photo does not suggest this I'm afraid. Shield

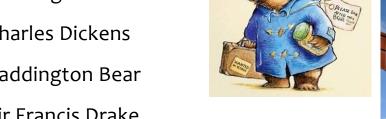
bugs have a long proboscis so that they can suck sap from their host, but usually no real damage occurs. When in danger, shield bugs can expel foul smelling chemicals from their abdomen. Dried shield bugs, pounded into powder, were used by apothecaries to help urinary tract disorders, and for reducing fevers or soothing colic. Powder could also be mixed with honey or rosewater to be used as a lotion. Green shield bugs overwinter as adults in secluded places as mentioned. They change colour from green to dark brown or bronze to blend in with their hiding place. In April or May they emerge, lay eggs and begin their cycle again.

If possible, please 'do not disturb' insect hiding places during the winter, try to wait until the spring!

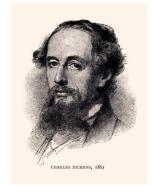
## **November Quiz Answers**

How statuesque was your knowledge this month?

- Earl Grey 1.
- Greyfriars Bobby; a dog who reputedly spent 14 years guarding the 2. grave of his owner
- Lady Godiva 3.
- The Angel of the North 4.
- Charles Dickens 5.
- **Paddington Bear** 6.
- Sir Francis Drake 7.
- 8. Verity







- Peter Pan a replica can be found in the Four Seasons garden at The 9. Newt in Somerset
- 10. The Titanic



# Pastoral Care Team



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

Or perhaps you have a prayer request?

If yes, please get in touch - our Pastoral Care Team is on hand to offer support.

If you do need support or would like further information, please contact Reverend Pauline Nixon 07511 935860 or email revpolly@gmail.com

## **Local History Corner No. 24**

The Vale of Winscombe has been a major route for any traveller between the Seven Estuary and areas inland at least since the last Ice Age. It is bounded north and south by low lying land which is periodically flooded as a result of the earth's crust recovering from the enormous pressure put on in by the weight of the ice.

This valley has therefore seen the hunter gatherers of the Mesolithic era, the first farmers of the Neolithic period, and invaders from the south, over thousands of years. Many have left evidence of their existence that has now, for the most part, been destroyed deliberately or accidentally by later generations. However, modern techniques have enabled some indications of the lives of our early predecessors, to be recovered. One local research group, ALERT, has been busy identifying sites that might otherwise be lost and reporting them to the North Somerset Senior Archaeologist and also to the Somerset Heritage Centre. Reports are published by Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society and are also made to the North Somerset Heritage Forum.

Recent projects by ALERT have included identifying a site at Rackley where structures were destroyed by the Great Flood of 1607. Here, a ground resistance 'section' has enabled us to see the deep layers of alluvium that were deposited above possible mediaeval buildings. Techniques in aerial surveying such as LIDAR enable archaeologists to locate features that may only remain as traces invisible to the eye. Mysterious linear features, possibly associated with a ploughed-out Bronze Age round barrow, have been recorded using this technique at Oakridge. Also, at Oakridge (named for ochre, a source of a form of iron historically used for smelting and as a colouring agent), ALERT has identified an area which was almost certainly used in the production of iron. There was a strong Roman presence in Winscombe, but housing development over the years has destroyed all but a few traces. One feature that has been tentatively identified is by Southlease, just north of Sidcot Lane. Here, a 1947 aerial photograph shows the clear indication of a possible Roman camp outlined mainly in property This displays the classic 'playing card' shape and would have measured boundaries. approximately 200m by 180m. Part of the line of a road running from Yadley Lane, can be traced which leads towards Southlease in the centre of the south side of this feature. The road was called Knollis's Way after a 18th century landowner.

There is still much of our history yet to find.

## **John Matthews**



## ROYAL AIR FORCES ASSOCIATION MID-SOMERSET BRANCH NEWS AND FUTURE PROGRAMME



### OCTOBER EVENT

On **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October** the Royal Air Forces Association Mid-Somerset Branch (RAFA-MSB) held an **Informal Fun Games Day** when thirteen jolly 'gamesters' met at The Bell Inn, Evercreech, to enjoy a highly competitive game of skittles that was won by Mark. Three members also played the card game UNO and ran a mini quiz, all in a fun social atmosphere. The day started with coffee and at 1:30 pm there was a communal lunch and drinks from the comprehensive pub menu and bar. The games continued into the afternoon.





## **NOVEMBER AND FUTURE PROGRAMME**

RAFA-MSB will meet on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** for a **Branch General Meeting** at 11:00 am in Wells Golf Club, Blackheath Lane, Wells, BA5 3DS. There will be a presentation by our new Australian Member, Brian Smith entitled, 'Ged Ay All' covering his life in the RAAF and beyond. The presentation will be followed by a General Meeting to discuss continuity planning for the Branch, and an outline programme for 2026. The meeting will end with an optional lunch and drinks from the club's menu and bar. RAFA-MSB covers BS25, BS26, BS27, BS28, BA4, BA5, BA16, TA10 and TA11 postal areas. RAFA members, 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 RAFA aims and purpose, are welcome.

On **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November**, Paul and Suzanne Rolfe of the Ad Astra Cider Farm are running a **Quiz Night** in aid of the Royal Air Forces Association at the Cider Barn, Stone Allerton, BS26 2NG. Doors open at 6:00 pm and the quiz will start at 7:00 pm. The quiz night is open to everyone for teams of six people at £5 per head. All profits will go to RAFA-MSB. There will be a fully stocked bar including the wonderful Ad Astra ciders, beers, wines and spirits, plus hot beverages and packet snacks. Come and enjoy a quiz with an aviation and cider flavour!

RAFA-MSB's December Event will be the Branch **Christmas Lunch** on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December** at 12:15 pm in Wells Golf Club, Blackheath Lane, Wells, BA5 3DS. This will be a formal Christmas lunch starting with a drink on arrival, a two or three course lunch (with choices for each course chosen in advance), and ending with coffee and port for the Loyal Toast.

For information about any of these events, please contact the Branch via email <a href="mailto:rafa.midsomerset@gmail.com">rafa.midsomerset@gmail.com</a> or telephone the Secretary on 01458 224057.



# Dementia Support Group in Winscombe

Join our FREE, friendly group for people living with dementia and their carers. Sessions include activities that support memory & wellbeing, plus info and guidance.

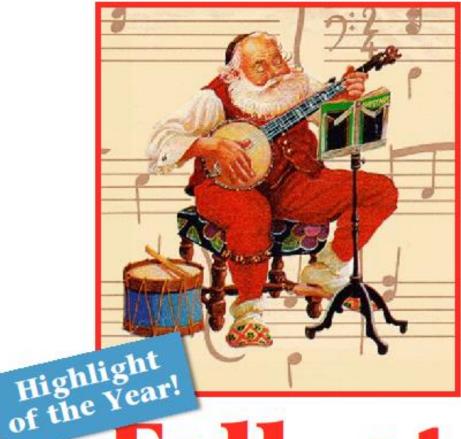
All are welcome, whether you have a dementia diagnosis, or are worried about your memory. Carers are invited to come alone, or bring those they care for. Refreshments provided - we'd love to see you there!

## Winscombe Community Centre, Sandford Rd, BS25 1JA

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October, 10am-12pm Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November, 10am-12pm Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December, 10am-12pm

Contact us if you have any questions: info@aliveactivities.org or 07861 385 543





# Folk at Christmas

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

## St James's Church Centre

52 Woodborough Road, Winscombe BS25 1BA

## Saturday 6th December at 7.30pm

Tickets £10.00 including seasonal refreshments Available from: Winscombe Post Office, The Wine Shop, St James's Church Centre Office

or from Martin Hagen - hagen.martin@gmail.com and 07901 510992

## **November Word Search**

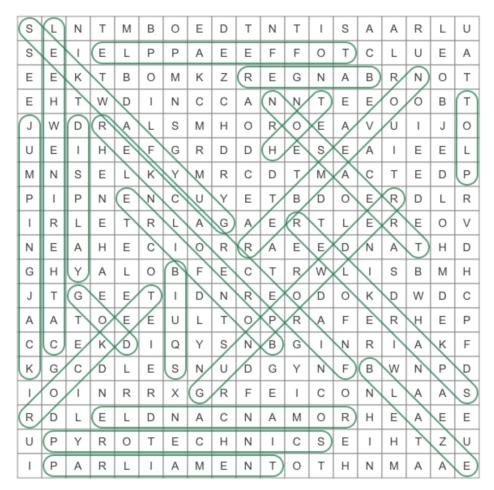
Did you manage to find all 20 words?

















## **Sandford Helpline**

This is a car scheme offering transport to all Sandford residents who do not have family or friends to take them to health-related appointments including hospitals, dentists or opticians.



We have a small pool of volunteer drivers **BUT URGENTLY NEED MORE!!** 

Regular commitment is not necessary and mileage allowance is paid - please contact: Chris Noble on 01934 903145 or email: mrs.noble@gmail.com



## Let's Walk into the Light



A story, that's often told in our churches, comes from the fourth chapter of John's Gospel. It tells of Jesus, in the blinding heat of midday, meeting a Samaritan woman at the well in a town called Sychar. The woman is hoisting up heavy buckets of water in the hot sun. She's there because she's a woman with 'a reputation' and it's the only time of day she can avoid the muttering of her neighbours

who meet at the well at cooler hours.

In an extraordinary encounter, Jesus sees deep into the woman's heart. Through their conversation, Jesus brings about her healing and restoration into the community from which she is estranged. It's a story of life, possibility, new beginnings and forgiveness.

The woman at the well is not the only Biblical story set in Sychar. There's another, contained in the 34<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Book of Genesis. This is a tale of terror that's never heard in our churches; the rape of a girl called Dinah. It's a dark, nasty tale of violence that wrecks the life of individuals, families and the entire community. So, we don't speak about it. We keep it hidden.

Sometimes people say to me of safeguarding, 'it's just a tick box exercise', an onerous compliance requirement. Rather, I would say, that our work in safeguarding asks fundamental questions about the kind of places we want our churches to be. Just like the Bible passages I've mentioned, we can be places of hiddenness, silence and hurt. Or indeed, places of life, new beginnings and restoration.

Accounts like the Makin Review have shone light on our story. We've also been working hard to bring about change. While we cannot be complacent, I am intensely proud of all that was revealed about safeguarding in Bath and Wells by our independent audit that happened earlier this year. This told us that we are moving towards a much better story.

So, let's build on the momentum we have created. Let's walk into the light.

Michael Beasley
Bishop of Bath and Wells

## Need a Venue for Your Event?

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

## In Winscombe

The Church Centre (with kitchen) St James's Church







In Sandford
All Saints Church (flexible seating)
Meeting Room (with small refreshment area)





For further information or to make a booking visit our online booking system https://hallbookingonline.com

In Churchill





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

The Reading Room (3m x 9m) with small kitchen and toilet facilities Contact Emma Stocks 07972 585406



## **DEFIBRILLATORS**

Defibrillators can be found locally in the following locations:



## Winscombe

Winscombe Cricket Club Winscombe Community Association Woodborough Grange (Redrow Homes)

## Sandford

Pullman Restaurant (Sandford Station Retirement Village)
Thatchers Cider (Main Reception and Hive Staff Office)
Railway Inn
Sandford Primary School

## Churchill

Memorial Hall, Ladymead Lane Pro-Heating, Langford Road Touts Supermarket and Petrol, A38



Defibrillators are designed to be as easy as possible to use. The defibrillator will tell you how to use it, so even if you've never had the experience of using one before, you should try your best and give it a go - you could save someone's life.

## **Emergency Bleed Kit Now Available at Churchill Memorial Hall**

We're pleased to share that a Bleed Control Kit is now installed at Churchill Memorial Hall,

Ladymead Lane, Langford providing lifesaving equipment in case of a serious emergency.

These kits are designed to help control severe bleeding before emergency services arrive and can be the difference between life and death.

They are easy to use and accessible to the public in case of a critical situation.

Location: Churchill Memorial Hall - available 24/7

## **Cruse Bereavement Care**



Cruse is a national charity that provides advice, information and support to anyone who has been bereaved (children, young people and adults), whenever or however the death occurred. The service is provided by trained, experienced volunteers, and is confidential and free.

Cruse provides face-to-face, telephone, email and website support both post- and pre- bereavement. We have a national helpline, and local services throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Our sister organisation Cruse Scotland provides services in Scotland.

### We offer:

- Someone to talk to face-to-face or on the telephone
- Online support
- Groups some bereaved people find it helpful to talk to others in similar circumstances
- Information about many aspects of bereavement and other sources of help and support
- Face-to-face, telephone helpline and online support for children and young people

For help and support details contact your local Cruse Service

- Visit our website at www.cruse.org.uk
- Telephone our national helpline freephone on 0808 808 1677
- Email us at helpline@cruse.org.uk

## Children and young people can

- Telephone our young people's freephone helpline on 0808 808 1677
- Visit 'Hope Again' our website designed by and for young people- at www.hopeagain.org.uk
- Email Hope Again at hopeagain@cruse.org.uk

## 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 <a href="https://winsandchurches.org.uk/safeguarding/">https://winsandchurches.org.uk/safeguarding/</a>.

Details of how to contact one of our Parish Safeguarding Officers can be found on page 2 of this magazine.



# What's going on every week at St James's Church Centre?

52 Woodborough Road, Winscombe



## BADMINTON

Monday morning Wednesday evening

Thinking of setting up a class or club but not sure what you need from the Church Centre? Happy to discuss ~ give Sue a call



# CHAIR YOGA EXERCISE

Thursday afternoon





CHI BALANCE

Friday morning

## COFFEE MORNING

Tuesday morning





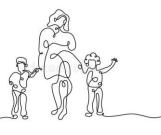
# OVEMENT AND NCE EXERCISE

Thursday evening

# SCRAMBLERS

Parents & Toddlers

Thursday morning Term-time only





Wednesday morning

## Need a venue for a class, event or party?

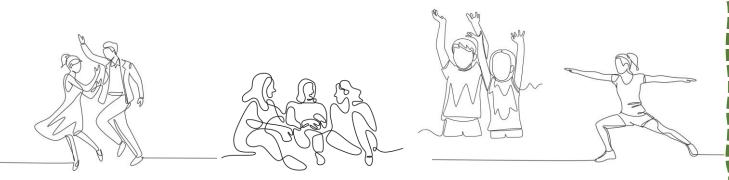
Hourly rate: Private from £10.00 / Commercial from £15.00 Seating for 120 / Fully Accessible / Kitchen Facilities

## FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

Email: admin@winsandchurches.org.uk or Call: 01934 352696

## Looking for a local venue for a regular class or group?

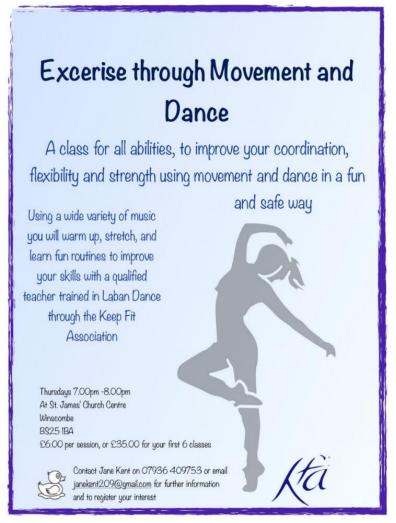
Church Centre, Winscombe could be just perfect



- ✓ fully accessible ✓ spacious facilities ✓ free parking ✓ kitchen
- ✓ fully equipped hall ✓ central to a thriving, expanding village

Interested in finding out more?

Call: 01934 352696 or Email: admin@winsandchurches.org.uk





# Churchill & Langford Minibus Charity

Minibus trips
Most days there are trips from
Banwell, Burrington, Churchill, Langford, Shipham &
Winscombe to various destinations.
Everyone is welcome to join & membership is free.
We make a small charge for the journeys

For More information.

https://churchillpc.org.uk/local-services/mutual-aid-minibus-society/

**Alternatively contact** 

Trevor 01934 852589 or Kim 07880 25472

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# S.M.H **Property Maintenance**

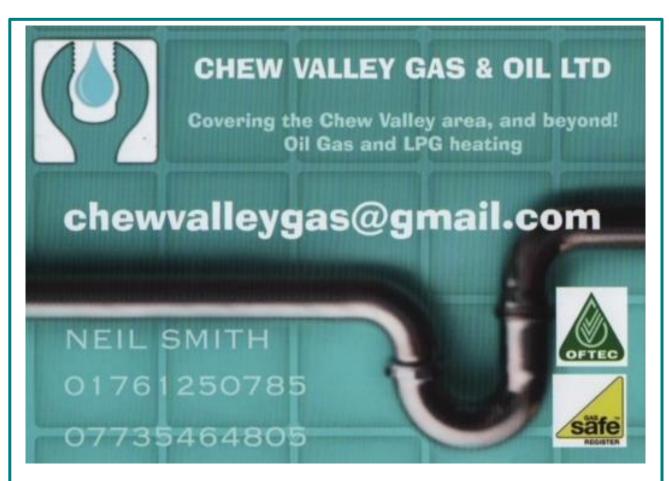
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## **Avoiding Court Disputes over your Will**

Roughly one in five families have disputes about inheritance, estimates suggest. Each year, approximately 10,000 people dispute Wills across England and Wales.

With court disputes over Wills becoming increasingly common, how can you reduce the risk of legal battles over your Will?

Disputes over Wills typically occur when Executors – the individuals responsible for managing the Estate – fail to fulfil their duties properly. Missteps such as unequal asset distribution, favouring certain beneficiaries, or neglecting the terms of the Will can lead to legal challenges.

Executors play a crucial role in ensuring that the deceased's wishes are carried out. However, when they act improperly or irresponsibly, beneficiaries may feel compelled to pursue legal action. With court cases increasing year on year, it's vital to take steps to mitigate these risks during the Will-writing process.

**Steps to Minimise Will Disputes** 

**Understand Your Family dynamics** - it is helpful to have a clear picture of the relationships involved. This helps to identify possible areas of contention such as if someone is being excluded.

Choose the Right Executor(s) - many court disputes stem from Executors failing to act responsibly. Select the right person for this role to ensure your estate is managed fairly & efficiently. Key considerations include their trustworthiness, capability as well as their location and age.

Write a Clear, Detailed Will - Wills that are not specific can cause of disputes. A well-drafted Will leaves no room for misinterpretation. Include specific instructions regarding: distribution of assets, the roles & responsibilities of Executors & provisions for any excluded family members. Clarity is key. By explicitly stating your intentions, you reduce the chances of mistakes that could lead to legal challenges.

If you would like advice about reviewing your Will, please call **01934 442030** to arrange an informal chat.

## Futura Planning

sww

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# **Lasting Power of Attorney**

## Just as important as making a Will

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www.sewellhouse.co.uk

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## Thinking about placing an advert in Signpost?

Are you a trader who wants to reach out to local residents? Why not advertise your services here? Every month the Signpost magazine is distributed and read (paper copy and online), by the many residents of Winscombe, Sandford, Churchill and beyond.



Full page advert	£252 per year	
1/2 page advert	£126 per year	
1/3 page advert	£84 per year	
1/6 page advert	£42 per year	
3-line advert	£12 per year	
One-off commercial event £12		

Contact the Signpost Editor to find out more email: parishmag2@gmail.com *or* call: 01934 352696

Reminder notes

## **Useful Telephone Numbers**

Police	Non- Emergency PCSO Kayley Anderson	Call 101 07802 874658
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.

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