

Putting the Love of Christ in the Heart of our Community



Signpost

Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill Parish Magazine



September 2026

FREE

Who's Who in Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill Churches

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

- 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

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

reacHing
welcoming
cAring
seRving
Teaching



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



I don't know about you, but when I think about the month of September, I immediately think of new beginnings. It's probably because it is the start of the new academic year and all those years of school, college, university, and then my own children's education, have embedded in my psyche that September represents new beginnings.

For our young people, either moving up year groups, moving school, or starting college or university, new horizons beckon, and new beginnings offer a new start. For some, they will lament their former place of education, while others may be happy to move on, living out the words of the prophet Isaiah:

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!" (Isaiah 43:18-19).

I am sure we all pray, and wish our young people well, as the new academic year begins. Of course, over the summer we have seen a new beginning in government too with a new prime minister, Andy Burnham MP. Since Boris Johnson left office in 2022, Burnham is our 4th prime minister in that short period of time.

With our politicians we find it easy to become cynical, and to paraphrase Isaiah, find them easy to forget and mostly creating pasts we certainly don't wish to dwell upon. Yet in scripture, we are encouraged to pay serious attention to the political life of our nation. We see this reflected in a letter of St Paul who urged worshippers to pray for all people including; *'kings and all those in authority'*, so that *'we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness'* (1 Timothy 2:2). From these words, I get a strong sense that while God wishes us to be wise to who is in power, what God really values is when we go about our daily activities with a quiet integrity and dedication. When we place greater priority to praying for our political leaders, rather than joining in with the sometimes very polarised and aggressive debates on various issues, we thereby join in the privilege of sharing in God's mission of love for the world. Anyone can criticise and denigrate others, including our politicians, so we do a *'new thing'* when we pray for them. Amen.

Reverend Dr Julian Davies

Signpost - The Parish Magazine

Welcome to September'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 October's edition is Sunday 13th September. Please submit items, which should be no longer than 400 words, as Word documents to parishmag2@gmail.com . If you include 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 reserves 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 parishmag2@gmail.com . 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.



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. |
| ❖ Desserts – tinned fruit, rice pudding, sponge | ❖ Tinned cold meats – corned beef, spam |
| ❖ Pasta, rice, instant noodles | ❖ Tea bags, coffee, hot chocolate |
| ❖ Sugar | ❖ Biscuits |
| ❖ Personal items – soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste | ❖ Men's and ladies' toiletries |
| ❖ Confectionery | ❖ Snack bars and crisps |

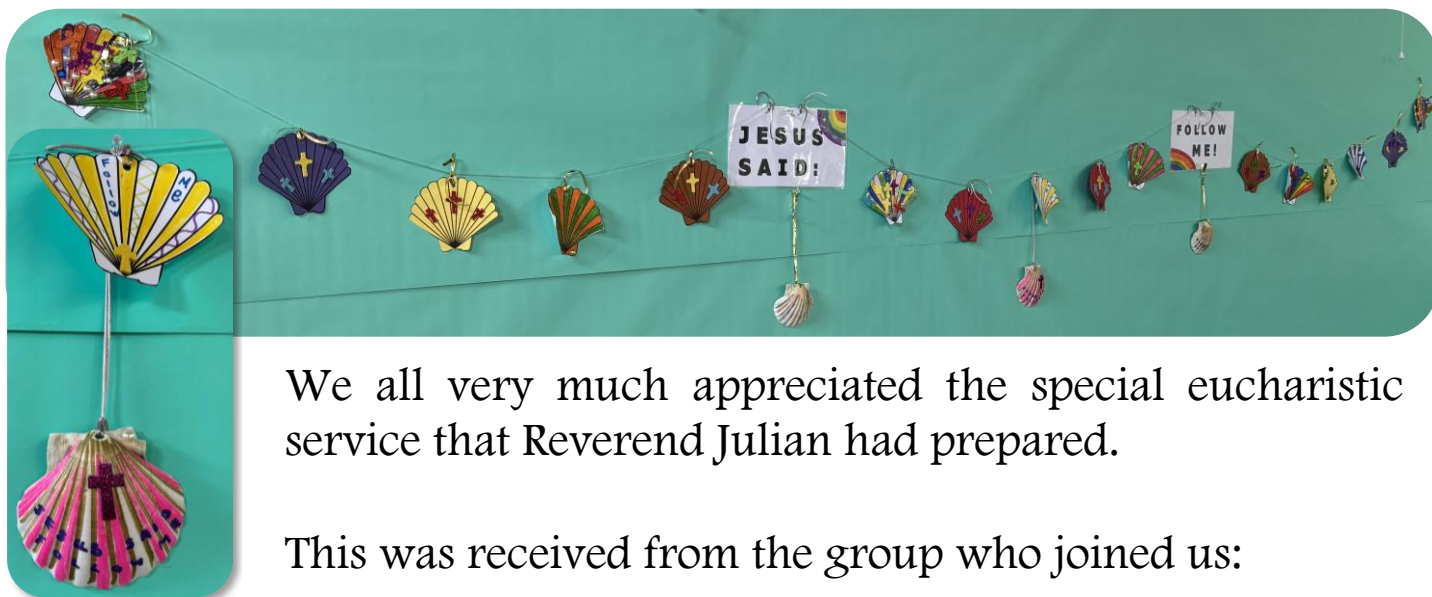
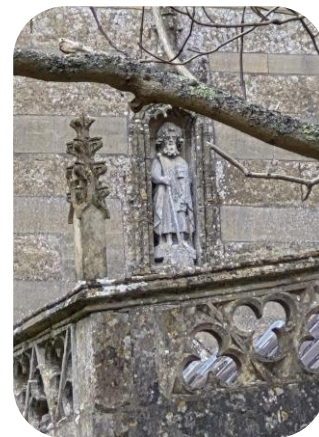
Safeguarding

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.

St James's Church Patronal Festival

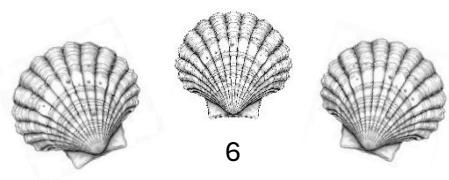
St James's Patronal Festival took place on Sunday 26th July, and it was a real celebration of our Patron Saint. We were joined by many visitors including a group from the Confraternity of St James. The children who came, decorated scallop shells (the symbol of St James) and joined in with other activities.



We all very much appreciated the special eucharistic service that Reverend Julian had prepared.

This was received from the group who joined us:

A small group of us were invited by Reverend Dr Julian Davies to celebrate the Patronal Festival at the Church of St James the Great, Winscombe. Prior to our visit, two of the church members, who had completed parts of the Frances and Portuguese routes, had made a display of their photographs and reflections on their walks. The church members couldn't have been more welcoming and after the service, over coffee and cake, it was lovely to chat and encourage those who were thinking of walking a camino. We eventually found the statue of St James tucked away on the church tower!



All Saints Church Community Café

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Café on the 1st August – this month people could choose to make their donation to either The Children's Hospice South West or Weston Hospicecare – thank you to everyone who helped us to raise funds for these worthy charities.

The next café date is:

SATURDAY 5th SEPTEMBER 2026

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

We look forward to seeing you ~ **EVERYONE WELCOME**



COFFEE MORNING

Good coffee. Great company.
Everyone welcome!



Relax with
a cuppa



Meet new
people



Feel part of
your community

Pop in. Say hello. You'll be glad you did! ♥

Make friends • Share stories • Take a break • Be part of something special ♥

Provided by St James's Church for the local community



Every Tuesday
at 10.30 am



Church Centre,
Winscombe

≡ All Welcome ≡

Use our **CHURCH CENTRE** for your **EVENTS, PARTIES OR CLASSES**

 Church Centre, Woodborough Road,
Winscombe BS25 1BA



Large newly re-decorated hall



Fully accessible to all



Good acoustics for
music events



Fully equipped kitchen



Badminton/ Pickleball Court



Competitively priced



For more information contact
the Benefice Administrator

01934 352696

| admin@winsandchurches.org.uk

Floral Cream Tea



On Saturday 15th August the St James's Events Team hosted a Floral Cream Tea at the Church Centre in Winscombe.

The afternoon began with entertainment from the Somerset Crooner (aka Andrew Sheldon, a farmer from nearby Draycott), singing country and classic tracks from a number of well-known artists. Everyone enjoyed listening to, or joining in, with the more familiar tunes, whilst sipping a glass or two of elderflower fizz.

This was followed by a delicious traditional cream tea of scones, jam, fresh strawberries and clotted cream, accompanied by a cup of tea of course!



During the afternoon there was a garden flowers quiz, a draw for those who wore floral attire, and the customary raffle with prizes matching the afternoon's theme.

Everyone agreed it was a really lovely afternoon. Money raised from the event will be used for further upkeep of the Church Centre where the main hall has recently been redecorated.

A Fresh Look for the Church Centre Hall

The main hall at the Church Centre has recently been redecorated and is looking very fresh and bright with its new coat of brilliant white.



The Church uses the hall for its monthly Benefice Service, Tuesday Coffee Mornings, Scramblers (parents and pre-school group), and for a number of social events throughout the year.

BUT don't forget that the hall, with its excellent access and facilities, makes a great location to hold classes and family parties. The good acoustics also make it the ideal place to host concerts and bands. *AND* our prices are highly competitive!

Non-commercial hire starts at just **£10.00 per hour** which includes the use of the kitchen for making drinks. The well-equipped kitchen can also be hired for serving food. Commercial hire starts at **£12.00 per hour**.

For more information go to: <https://hallbookingonline.com/winscombe/> or contact our Benefice Administrator on 01934 352696 admin@winsandchurches.org.uk . We are always happy to arrange a visit so you can see the facilities we have on offer and discuss your individual needs.



ST JAMES'S EVENTS TEAM



**ALL ARE WELCOME
AT OUR**

HARVEST LUNCH

SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER

1.00 pm

at the Church Centre

**Sign up and get
your free ticket
from Beth, Jo or Sue**

**Please advise of any special dietary
requirements in advance**

For further information please contact the Church Office

01934 352696

admin@winsandchurches.org.uk

September Quiz

September marks the beginning of the new school year. This month's quiz is all about famous schools, both real and from the world of fiction.

- 1 Which school of witchcraft and wizardry was attended by Harry Potter?
- 2 Which teacher taught at the fictional Marcia Blaine School for Girls in Edinburgh?
- 3 Which boarding school in north-east Scotland was attended by King Charles III?
- 4 Miss Agatha Trunchbull is the tyrannical headmistress of Crunchem Hall in which book by Roald Dahl?
- 5 Which school was founded by Henry VI in 1440 to provide free education to 70 poor boys?
- 6 The cruel fictional Victorian school, Dotheboys Hall features in which Charles Dickens novel?
- 7 Which school did former Prime Ministers Peel, Palmerston and Churchill all attend?
- 8 Which 1967 film starring Sidney Poitier and Lulu (who also sang the theme song), deals with social and racial issues in a secondary school in the East End of London?
- 9 Which real life school is the setting for Tom Browns Schooldays?
- 10 Mrs McClusky was the best known headteacher of which school in a long running BBC TV series?



Answers can be found on page 39



WINSCOMBE VILLAGE SHOW

SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2026

Enter our Show categories

Scan the QR Code for details on how to enter

There will be entertainment for all the family

plus MINI DOG SHOW

see page 21 for details

Stalls and Refreshments

Show opens 1.30 – 4.00 p.m.

Entrance £1 adults Children/concessions 50p



Registered Charity No. 1186290

Flower Team at St James's Church in Winscombe

A big welcome and thank you, to the new members of St James's Flower Team, for their beautiful flower arrangements. If you're interested in joining the team, please contact Helen on 07837 426413.



Here is just a small selection of the floral arrangements recently created by the team.



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



Churchill Reading Room

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
tea, coffee, cake and bacon baps on offer.

*A chance to catch up with friends and neighbours.
Hope to see you there!*



NEW VENUE
from 1st September

Churchill and Langford Ladies Lunch Club

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month

Churchill Methodist Chapel Hall, Front Street, Churchill at 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm

£18 per head for a 2-course lunch

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**



September marks the start of our three autumn breakfast meetings. Our first meeting will take place on **Saturday 12th September** starting at 9 am in the Woodborough Inn. What could be a better way to start the day of the Winscombe Village Show than with a hearty, full English breakfast, in good company? As a bonus, this will be an **open meeting** to which ladies are invited too. Well-known to most of us, and a long-term resident of Winscombe, Denys Cutmore has kindly agreed to share some aspects of his life story, most likely interspersed with tracks of music associated with his faith and the different phases, interests and events in his life.

Do come, and invite friends, but please let me know by Sunday 6th September at the latest if you will be coming as I will need to let the Woodborough Inn have an estimate of our numbers for the Saturday. As usual I will send reminders to all on the mailing list.

The price of a small English breakfast is £11.50. The vegetarian option is £10.50. Other breakfast options including a bacon bap, or tea and toast, will be available. *All these do need to be pre-booked* so that the kitchen at the Woodborough Inn can order in the appropriate quantities.

To book your place for the September breakfast, please contact Tim Harland on 01934 843248.



WEDDING DRESS FESTIVAL

Saturday 12th September 2026
Sunday 13th September 2026

12-4 both days.

Light lunch and
cream teas being
served.

St John the Baptist, Church
Lane, Churchill

September Word Search

As the summer draws to a close, our Word Search this month is on the theme of wildlife and nature in September.



The hidden words are listed beneath the word search. Circle the words in the word search as you find them. They can be found across, down, diagonally, and backwards and can overlap with each other.

Answers can be found on page 45

H	Q	O	V	X	J	F	B	A	D	G	E	R	R	P	L	X	V	U	S
T	Y	S	W	A	L	L	O	W	S	T	G	A	T	T	O	J	J	T	L
M	I	S	T	H	V	U	E	U	G	A	R	X	S	F	F	F	A	E	O
L	Q	H	E	O	I	C	Q	J	P	B	P	U	U	V	E	F	O	X	E
V	P	U	U	R	G	K	U	A	B	E	O	T	S	R	E	L	G	P	S
I	J	X	A	S	U	L	I	C	W	L	E	E	E	L	W	H	L	T	G
X	D	H	F	E	D	O	N	O	O	L	L	C	I	L	H	P	O	L	X
H	N	R	N	C	Y	O	O	R	Y	E	S	R	R	O	K	D	B	H	C
O	Z	E	Z	H	Y	T	X	N	V	R	O	X	R	B	S	F	A	A	S
L	X	D	U	E	P	S	T	S	H	T	M	Q	E	X	M	X	I	R	N
V	O	D	G	S	Q	D	G	U	E	S	W	Z	B	V	D	X	J	V	I
S	B	E	O	T	B	A	K	N	D	I	S	P	K	F	O	J	P	E	C
N	O	E	R	N	Y	O	L	D	G	P	Z	X	C	T	F	X	Y	S	Y
E	R	R	S	U	U	T	H	E	E	I	Y	V	A	X	Q	U	P	T	M
K	R	V	E	T	W	F	M	U	H	P	V	W	L	L	W	P	Z	I	D
C	C	C	O	B	W	E	B	S	O	X	R	E	B	J	O	U	N	H	J
A	J	H	P	K	Z	C	M	I	G	R	A	T	I	O	N	G	T	P	M
R	A	Y	S	Y	I	L	Y	H	M	W	S	S	Q	U	I	R	R	E	L
B	W	L	H	I	H	I	B	E	R	N	A	T	I	O	N	G	A	C	O
X	I	N	M	T	N	U	X	Y	M	J	J	N	D	E	S	V	E	I	J

ACORNS

BADGER

BLACKBERRIES

BRACKEN

COBWEBS

EQUINOX

FOX

GORSE

HARVEST

HEDGEHOG

HIBERNATION

HORSE CHESTNUT

MIGRATION

MIST

PIPISTRELLE BAT

RED DEER

SLOES

SQUIRREL

SWALLOWS

TOADSTOOL

RNLI LIFEGUARDS ON BREAN AND BURNHAM BEACHES

The RNLI celebrated 25 years of lifeguards on UK and Irish beaches on the 31st July; the International Lifeguards' Appreciation Day. Lifeguards returned to Brean and Burnham beaches on 4th July and will be present until 7th September. During a busy and varied summer last year, Somerset RNLI lifeguards responded to 74 incidents. This included 38 rescues and assists, 31 first aid treatments and a total of 108 people aided; this clearly highlights the important role RNLI lifeguards play in keeping beachgoers safe. At Brean last season, they assisted 5 people who had been cut-off by the rapidly incoming tide. On Burnham-on-Sea's estuary bar, 6 individuals were helped back to safety after becoming stranded at low tide in an area known for its shifting sands and strong currents. Teams also rescued a young child who became stuck in mud on Burnham's main beach.

In July, the RNLI lifeguard supervisor, Brett Schofield said; *"Our lifeguards have been preparing over recent weeks with refresher training and inductions to ensure they're fully ready for the season ahead. They're looking forward to returning to the beaches and getting back to what they do best - keeping people safe, offering advice and providing a professional lifesaving service. We're grateful to Somerset Council for their continued support in making this service possible during the peak summer period, working alongside beach wardens to help protect everyone enjoying the coast."*



RNLI LIFEBOAT DAY – SATURDAY 10th OCTOBER

The RNLI Nationwide Lifeboat Day is on Saturday 10th October and Mendip Branch is approaching Waitrose in Wells to have a collection box in the store for Waitrose tokens, as our contribution to RNLI Lifeboat Saturday. Nearer the date the Branch may organise some other activity.

RNLI MENDIP FOLK NIGHT – SATURDAY 10th OCTOBER

A reminder that James Barattini has booked 'Harbottle and Jonas' for a RNLI Folk Night at the Church Centre, Winscombe to coincide with the Nationwide Lifeboat Day. James will advise more details in due course.

TRAFALGAR NIGHT DINNER & DANCE – SATURDAY 24th OCTOBER – *POSTPONED*

At the recent planning meeting, due to circumstances that have occurred outside the control of the Committee, it became clear that it will no longer be possible to resource and plan the event this year. Reluctantly, the Committee decided that the RNLI Mendip Branch Trafalgar Night must be postponed until Saturday 23rd October 2027.

JULY SHOUTS

In July, there were 30 ‘*shouts*’ between our 4 Somerset Lifeboat Stations (Burnham-on-Sea – 3, Minehead – 5, Portishead – 9, Weston-super-Mare – 13).

On Saturday 11th July at 1:50 pm during the Weston-super-Mare Lifeboat Open Day, a member of the public alerted the crew that a person had entered the water near Knightstone Island and not returned. HM Coastguard (on site for the event), quickly established it was a young child who had become separated from its mother. Both lifeboats launched immediately. Ten minutes later, the D Class crew spotted the child half a mile from where it had entered the water, neck deep, with a fast-incoming tide. Crew member Chris Cox went into the water to reassure the child and bring it safely aboard. The child was brought back to Knightstone slipway and reunited with its mother, before being checked over by the Lifeboat Medical Advisor and HM Coastguard rescue officers; the child was confirmed safe and well. It was a very special rescue for all involved.

AID FOR UKRAINE

Your help is needed **NOW** – the people of Ukraine are desperately trying to provide shelter before the winter.

Please get in touch if you have any of these items to donate:

- Tents
- Tools and torches
- Blankets and bedding
- Mobility aids
- Bandages and dressings
- Kitchen utensils
- Camping equipment
- Sleeping bags
- Wheelchairs
- Medical supplies
- Over the counter painkillers
- Crockery and cutlery

Can you help?

Need items collected? Contact Martin Spiller on 01934 852295.
Drop off to Angela Morris at 81 Green Hill Road, Sandford, BS25 5PF
or call her on 01934 852327 to arrange collection



OPEN GARDEN DAY THANK YOU FROM THE WINSCOMBE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY SUPPORT GROUP

Once again, Paul and Mo's Open Garden Day, held in mid-August, was a resounding success! So many came and were not put off by the extreme heat of the day. Mo and her amazing family had covered the garden with gazebos, so no-one had to endure sitting in the hot sunshine. We all enjoyed coffee and cakes, lunch and then cream teas, tirelessly prepared and served by Mo and her supportive family and friends. We, the Winscombe Children's Society Support Group, are so grateful to them for continuing to host this annual event in memory of Paul and thank you to all who attended and helped us to raise the amazing total of over £1,600! To the Matthews family - *THANK YOU*.

The next Children's Society event of the year is our **Annual Box Opening** which is being held on **Tuesday 6th October** as part of the Tuesday Coffee Morning at the Church Centre. Do come and join us for coffee, chat and stalls (bric-a-brac, home produce, Christmas cards and raffle), and if you have a Children's Society box, bring it along to be counted. *We look forward to seeing you!*

Shipham, Rowberrow & Star History Society

Next meeting date:

TUESDAY 8th SEPTEMBER

Annual General Meeting

Followed by speaker: Ken Atherton

Talk entitled: *'Christmas Day in the Workhouse'*
at Shipham Village Hall, BS25 1SG

Refreshments: 7.15 pm **Members:** £2, guests £4
Contact Jan Taylor 01934 260784 for further details

WINSCOMBE VILLAGE SHOW
SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2026
1.30 – 4.00 p.m.
& MINI DOG SHOW

As part of the Village Show this year we are having a 'Mini Dog Show'. Please bring along your pet and take part in our fun categories. See QR Code for Show details

Waggiest tail
Best rescue dog
Biggest smile
Longest sit and stay
Best dressed dog
Longest ears



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

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)

September 10th & 17th at The Church Centre
September 24th at Lynch Chapel
October 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd at The Church Centre
October 29th - no Scramblers, Half Term

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



Gardening Notes for September

Reviving the Flower Border

Borders can become tired and overcrowded, so at some point they will need reinvigorating and refreshing. Action can commence at any time of the year, but autumn is the very best time to start. This does not necessarily mean a complete make-over is needed or ripping everything out and starting again! Sometimes, a theme changes, or a certain plant may have become a thug and taken over. Very often the best plan is to remove it, or if you don't want to ban it completely, try dividing it and potting up some pieces (using old compost). To restrict growth, plant the pot in the border with its rim just below the surface.

Some plants may need:

- moving if they are in the wrong place
- dividing up if they are taking up too much space and preventing neighbouring plants from flourishing
- removing completely if they have never grown properly and are beyond caring for.

Carrying out this work also provides an opportunity to improve the soil by adding garden compost or manure, giving light soils more substance and improving the texture of heavy soils. If a shrub has become tired, congested and full of dead wood, renovation pruning may be required. This can be a drastic process and can be best done in the winter when the plant is dormant. Use sharp loppers to cut main stems back to 15cm above the ground; you may have to remove thin weak branches when the shrub regrows, choosing the strongest shoots to create a balanced shape. Feed with organic matter after pruning.

If you have decided a shrub is in the wrong place, it is worth preparing it for its move in the months before you dig it up. Prune it, aiming for a well-balanced shape and open centre. It's also an idea to prune the roots by slicing through with a sharp spade, making a trench around the plant. Prepare its

new home in advance, adding lots of organic matter and making the planting hole wider than the root ball. Once in place, backfill and shake gently to get rid of any air pockets, water well and keep watering.

Some older plants that have outgrown their space, may need rejuvenating by splitting up. Autumn is the best time to divide early flowering plants such as brunnera by digging up the whole clump and pulling it apart. Late flowering plants such as asters and rudbeckias should be split up in the spring. Some plants with dense roots, like hostas can be chopped into chunks, as long as each chunk has a bud and substantial roots.



Winscombe Contact Scheme

Voluntary transport to medical appointments

We urgently need volunteer drivers – could you help the Winscombe community?

- ❖ Volunteer drivers are urgently needed to take Winscombe residents to medical appointments
- ❖ Drivers use their own vehicle
- ❖ Expenses are fully reimbursed
- ❖ No regular commitment necessary
- ❖ Such a rewarding and worthwhile way of spending your free time

This valued scheme has been taking Winscombe residents to medical appointments since 1974.

Interested in finding out more?

Email Lottie Enser: enser@btinternet.com



u3a

Winscombe District

Monday 21st September starting at 2.30 pm

Main Event Hall, Winscombe Community Centre, Sandford Road, BS25 1JA

Speaker: Danielle Schreve

Talk: *'Winscombe Wolves & Wrington Rhinos: Ice Age Mammals on Mendip'*

Refreshments from 2 pm

Members £2 ~ Visitors, very welcome £3

Visitors are also welcome to join us for coffee mornings which take place at the same venue on the first Monday of the month from 10 am to 12 midday



Wrighton Vale Rotary Club – Bob's 8th Ukraine Journey



*Off to Ukraine again!
Bob Preedy,
Keith Bigwood,
Glynn Lawrence &
Richard Bigwood*

The indefatigable Bob Preedy and his Rotary mates have once again driven vehicles, loaded with essential supplies, to Ukraine. Once delivered, the vehicles are used for humanitarian purposes, including transporting wounded soldiers and returning those who have lost their lives, from the front line.



As on previous journeys, the sight of expanding graveyards was particularly poignant. Bob noted that many graves belonged to fathers and sons, a stark reminder of the human cost of the conflict. Equally concerning is the destruction of vital infrastructure, with roadside filling stations and other essential facilities, increasingly becoming targets of drone attacks.

Our club has been highly active in sourcing vehicles, filling them with much-needed items such as generators, rollators and medical supplies, and delivering them directly to Ukraine. In this work we have been supported by the charity **Pickups for Peace**, which has now achieved the remarkable milestone of delivering its 900th vehicle.

Many people have made significant personal contributions to support these vital journeys, particularly towards the purchase of vehicles, which have become an essential part of the humanitarian war effort. The team's next trip is planned for October.

If you are moved by these endeavours and would like to make a donation, however small, please make your contribution to:
Rotary Club of Wrighton Vale Trust - Sort Code: 30-90-89 - Account Number: 35838468
Every penny donated will go directly to this cause

Date for your diary: Classic Car and Bike Meet - Sunday 4th October – 9 am to 1 pm.

Location: Brean Down, Somerset Leisure, Brean Farm, Brean, TA8 2RR. Enjoy a big breakfast and take part in the renowned prize draw, featuring a range of very attractive prizes. Call **01278 751055** for details.

For further information contact **Angie Biggs** 07790 400718.

WELCOME

Thursday Lunches

3, 10, 17 & 24 September

12.30pm Churchill Methodist BS25 5NG

Menu

Quiche, Gala Pie, Ham
or Cheese Ploughman's
Cold Dessert
Tea or Coffee

Only £5

Churchill Methodist Church
Contact us:
churchillmethodistchurch@gmail.com
churchillmethodistchurch.org.uk

Short
informal

Mid-Week

LYNCH CHAPEL
First Wednesday
every month
10.30am
followed by
tea & coffee

SERVICE

ALL AGES WELCOME **TOY CORNER AVAILABLE**

NEXT DATES: 2ND SEPTEMBER & 7TH OCTOBER



WINSCOMBE W.I.

Our next meeting is on:

WEDNESDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2026

at 7.15 pm for 7.30 pm

Community Centre (Meeting Room), 11 Sandford Road, BS25 1JA

Speaker: Barry Hamblin

Talk entitled: 'Lavender, the Forgotten Herb' (it's history, properties and uses)

refreshments available - find us on Facebook

Sandford & District Gardening Club

Our Summer Show was an immense success with over 150 exhibits, which was surprising as the weather was so hot. The vegetable section was better than most years and there were a lot of exhibits in the flower section; the floral art arrangements were beautiful. There are some very talented members who exhibited in the handicrafts section, as well as a delicious array of cakes in the cookery section.

Many thanks to all the members who donated cakes for the refreshments, to all the exhibitors, and to everyone who came along to support the show. We had a super raffle and a really lovely afternoon.



The trophy winners were as follows:

Vegetable Cup - Gill Cleverly and Meryl Leach

Fuchsia Trophy, Dickens Cup and Committee Trophy for Best Exhibit in the Show - John Dunster

W.I. Rose Bowl - Janet Roberts, Beryl Jenkins and Eire Roswell

Members Trophy, Committee Ladies Vase, Committee Cup, Whitewell Challenge Cup, Stan Thatcher Cup, Ebsworth Cup and Presidents Cup - Gill Cleverly

Greg Smith Memorial Trophy - Meryl Leach and Jean Lewis

Sweet Pea Trophy - Sarah Babajee

Vic Bridges Dahlia Trophy - Eira Roswell

Novices Trophy - Sophie Vincent

Single Rose Trophy - Eire Roswell

Higgins 40th Anniversary Trophy - Jane Kelly

Sandford Harvest Home Cup - Jane Kelly



There is no meeting in September.

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 7th October** at 7.30 pm in Sandford Village Hall at 7.30 pm when there will be a talk by James Cross (Head Gardener at the Bishops Palace Garden in Wells), entitled; *'The Winter Garden'*.

*We were extremely disappointed that one of the village tubs has been vandalised yet again this year. It is such a shame because a lot of work goes into making the tubs look beautiful for the village and annoying for the people who give up their time to water them. **To whom it may concern, if you have any respect for the village, will you please leave them alone!!***



**Save the
Children**

*You can help children in distress around the
world and enjoy a lovely lunch with friends*

SAVE the CHILDREN LUNCHES



**Save the
Children**

Dates of future lunches:

Fridays 18th September & 2nd October at 12.30 pm

*Everyone is welcome to join us for soup, locally baked bread, cheddar
cheese, pickle, homemade biscuits, tea or coffee - £5.50*

Children under 5 will be given a free lunch

Lunches are held in Shipham Village Hall, BS25 1SG with all profits
supporting the Save the Children Charity No. 213890

Please join us and bring a friend!

Come for a Cuppa!



**Tea and Cake
in the afternoon**

LAST Saturday every month!

Toy Corner available

LYNCH CHAPEL

2.30pm - 4pm

NEXT: Saturday 29th August
Saturday 26th September
Saturday 31st October
Saturday 28th November



Come for a Cuppa!



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

**Any age and all abilities
welcome.**

**Tea and coffee
provided.**

Knit &

**Second and fourth
Wednesday each
month**

2pm - 4pm

at LYNCH CHAPEL

(Just over the bridge on The Lynch)



**SEPTEMBER 9th & 23rd
OCTOBER 14th & 28th
NOVEMBER 11th & 25th
DECEMBER 9th**





World-class Virtuosos, Operatic Comedy and Garden Bluegrass: Churchill Music unveils thrilling new concert season.

Churchill Music, a charity dedicated to bringing world-class live performances, and life-changing music education to rural North Somerset, has officially launched its brand-new concert season. Featuring internationally acclaimed artists, interactive musical storytelling, and vibrant community initiatives, the lineup promises an unforgettable journey through sound across local historic venues.

Known for bringing premier talent, such as past performers Sheku & Isata Kanneh-Mason, to local doorsteps, Churchill Music's new season kicks off with an eclectic array of five standout events:

- ❖ **Kosmos:** A high-octane trio blending Tango, Gypsy, Balkan, and Far Eastern music with classical virtuosity (**St John's Church, Churchill**).
- ❖ **CarmenCo's My My My Delilah:** A witty concert-play giving opera's classic femme fatale her say, featuring flute, voice, and dual classical guitars (**St John's Church, Churchill**).
- ❖ **Churchill Young Musician of the Year 2027:** Showcasing elite young talent from Churchill Academy competing for top honours, judged by industry professionals with an audience-voted trophy (**St John's Church, Churchill**).
- ❖ **Guy Johnston and Tom Poster:** BBC Young Musician winner Guy Johnston (cello) and celebrated pianist Tom Poster, perform masterworks by Brahms and Bonis (**All Saints Church, Wrington**).
- ❖ **Chameleon Wind Quartet:** A captivating performance switching between 13 woodwind instruments, featuring a brand-new commission by Ben Harlan (*The Pianist*) (**All Saints Church, Wrington**).
- ❖ **Joff Lawson Trio in the Garden:** A festive family lunchtime event featuring folk, bluegrass, and harmonies alongside an included hog roast (**garden event**).

Alongside these stellar performances, every concert directly supports Churchill Music's extensive community outreach. Since 2007, the charity has reached over 21,600 young people, bringing instrument taster lessons, school workshops, and the groundbreaking 'Power of Music' mental health project, to over 40 local primary and secondary schools. *"We believe live music should be accessible, joy-filled, and deeply transformative for all ages,"* says Jan Murray from Churchill Music. *"Whether you are coming to hear world-renowned cellists, enjoy an afternoon of bluegrass in a sunlit garden, or support our brilliant young local talent, every ticket bought helps us keep music education alive in North Somerset."*

Tickets available to purchase at ticketsource.co.uk from 15th September 2026.

For further information please contact violet@churchillmusic.org.uk.

DIARY – SEPTEMBER 2026

TUES 1	10.00am	Midweek Communion - All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning - Church Centre
WED 2	10.30am	Midweek Service - Lynch Chapel
THURS 3	10.00am	Communion in the Community - Dunster Court
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing - St James's

SUN 6

TRINITY 14

See opposite page for details of Services

TUES 8	10.00am	Midweek Communion - All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning - Church Centre
WED 9	2.00pm	Knit & Natter - Lynch Chapel
	7.15pm	Choir Practice - St James's
THUR 10	9.30am	Scramblers - Church Centre
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing - St James's
SAT 12	9.00am	Refresh-Men-t - Men's Breakfast, Woodborough Inn
	1.30pm	Winscombe Village Show - Community Centre

SUN 13

TRINITY 15

See opposite page for details of Services

TUES 15	10.00am	Midweek Communion - All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning - Church Centre
WED 16	2.45pm	Communion in the Community - Sewell House
	7.15pm	Choir Practice - St James's
THURS 17	9.30am	Scramblers - Church Centre
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing - St James's

SUN 20

TRINITY 16 HARVEST FESTIVAL AT ST JAMES'S AND ALL SAINTS

See opposite page for details of Services

TUES 22	10.00am	Midweek Communion - All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning - Church Centre
WED 23	2.00pm	Knit & Natter - Lynch Chapel
	7.15pm	Choir Practice - St James's
THURS 24	9.30am	Scramblers - NB Lynch Chapel
	11.00am	Communion in the Community - Winscombe Hall
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing - St James's
SAT 26	2.30-4.00pm	Come for a Cuppa - Lynch Chapel

SUN 27

TRINITY 17 – HARVEST FESTIVAL AT ST JOHN'S, CHURCHILL

See opposite page for details of Services

TUES 29	10.00am	Midweek Communion - All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning - Church Centre

Church Service Times - Opportunities to Worship in September

Sunday 6th September	8.30 am 10.30 am	St John's Church Centre	Holy Communion Benefice Praise
Sunday 13th September	10.30 am 10.30 am	St John's All Saints	Morning Worship Holy Communion
Sunday 20th September	10.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am	St John's All Saints St James's	Holy Communion Holy Communion Harvest Holy Communion Harvest
Sunday 27th September	10.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am	St John's All Saints St James's	Holy Communion Harvest Holy Communion Holy Communion

Midweek Services

Every Tuesday 10.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints

Special Services in September

Thursday 3rd September 10.00 am Holy Communion at Dunster Court
 Sunday 6th September 11.00 am Holy Communion at Sandford Station
 Wednesday 16th September 2.45 pm Holy Communion at Sewell House
 Thursday 24th September 11.00 am Holy Communion at Winscombe Hall

BIBLE READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER

Sunday 6th September Exodus 12: 1-14 <i>or</i> Ezekiel 33: 7-11 Psalm 149 <i>or</i> Psalm 111: 33-40 Romans 13: 8-end Matthew 18: 15-20	Sunday 13th September Exodus 14: 19-end <i>or</i> Genesis 50: 15-21 Romans 14: 1-12 Matthew 18: 21-35
Sunday 20th September Deuteronomy 8: 7-18 <i>or</i> 28: 1-14 Psalm 65 2 Corinthians 9: 6-end Luke 12: 16-30 <i>or</i> 17: 11-19	Sunday 27th September Exodus 17: 1-7 <i>or</i> Ezekiel 18: 1-4, 25-end Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16 <i>or</i> Psalm 25: 1-8 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32

Christian Aid Harvest Appeal and Quiz

The climate crisis is making it harder than ever for families to grow food. In countries like South Sudan, flooding and unpredictable seasons are destroying harvests, leaving farming families struggling to feed their children. But hope is growing. The money raised from our quiz will help us to stand in solidarity with farming communities protecting their land, strengthening their livelihoods, and planting seeds of hope for the future.



Anok (pictured here), lives in Aguat, where floodwaters sweep through the village year after year. One season, floods destroyed her cattle shed, killing all her animals at once. Like many farmers, she feared what the future would hold for her children. But Anok and her community were not alone - with

support from Christian Aid's partners, people in Aguat came together to protect their land. They built dykes to hold back the water, helping families protect their homes and animals, grow food again, and strengthen the livelihoods they'd built.

We hope you can join us for our **Autumn Quiz** on **Friday 23rd October** at the Church Centre, Winscombe starting at 7 pm (doors open at 6.30 pm). The Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill Christian Aid Committee would be delighted if a couple of people could assist us during the evening with some of the practical arrangements. If you can help, please contact either Janet on 01934 842657 or David on 07778 109769.

If you are unable to come to the quiz but wish to donate, you can do so here, [Harvest of Hope Appeal 2026 | Donate](#) . Thank you.



actalliance
Christian Aid is a member of ACT Alliance.

Dignity. Equality. Justice. Love.



for Christian Aid

Friday 23 October 7pm

Join us for a fun, friendly quiz raising money to support families in South Sudan to secure their harvests. 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. Tickets from the church office, Janet Corry 01934 842657, or David Hart 07778 109769. Friday 23 October 6.30pm for 7pm start.

Email winscombechristianaid@gmail.com



Winscombe Church Centre, Woodborough Road, BS25 1BA

Is it hot enough for you?

Chris Packham

Film on Climate Change

Wed 16th September - 7:30

Winscombe Community Centre
(old building)

50 minute film
followed by discussion

Go to this website to reserve
free tickets or just turn up



Good Old Fashioned Jumble Sale

Saturday 10th October at 2 pm

in aid of Winscombe Community Centre



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



Please join us - there will be great bargains, refreshments and a raffle

The Jumble Sale starts at 2 pm but if you would like to donate your unwanted items,
please bring them along to the Community Centre from 9.30 am on the 10th October

Call 07811 292909 for more information

Registered Charity No. 1186290



ST JAMES'S EVENTS TEAM



Friday 16th October

7.00pm

Autumn Supper

At the Church Centre, Winscombe

With entertainment from

Belle Street Duo



*Music from
'Rat Pack'*

of the
40s, 50s and 60s

**Tickets £12 available from
the Post Office and Church Office**



**Autumn
Ploughmans**



**Live
Entertainment**



Bar

Information from Church Office

01934 352696 admin@winsandchurches.org.uk



AUGUST ACTIVITY

RAFA-MSB held a barbecue on Sunday 2nd August in the cider barn at Ad Astra Cider Farm, courtesy of the owners, Paul and Suzanne Rolfe and Branch members. Sixteen members and guests gathered for greetings, initial drinks from the bar and much chat sitting on benches under a gazebo on the grassed area in front of the cider barn. Paul fired up the BBQ, and the air was soon filled with the aroma of cooking sausages, burgers and chicken alongside a comprehensive selection of salads, cheeses and bread to accompany. A couple of members played a quick game of pétanque while Brian taught us the card game 'Golf'. For dessert, Suzanne brought out apple pie and cheesecake; all in all, a very tasty and splendid Sunday lunch in the open air!

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The RAFA-MSB autumn programme will start with a **Charity Quiz and Pizza Night** on **Thursday 3rd September**. Paul and Suzanne Rolfe of Ad Astra Cider Farm, Stone Allerton, BS26 2NG, invite all members of the public to this quiz night in aid of the RAFA 2026 Wings Appeal (doors open 6:00 pm, quiz starts at 7:00 pm). The quiz is for teams of up to 6 at £5 per head; all quiz fees will be donated to the RAFA 2026 Wings Appeal. As this is the run-up to the 86th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain, the evening will have a strong RAF flavour and information on what the RAFA charity does. There will be a full bar throughout the evening, and pizzas will be available for purchase. For more information, please contact the cider farm at paul.rolfe@adastracider.com or call 07897 348119.

BATTLE OF BRITAIN COMMEMORATION 2026

The Mid-Somerset Branch (RAFA-MSB) Battle Of Britain Service will be on Sunday 13th September at 10:30 am in Street Methodist Church, Leigh Road, Street, BA16 0HA, and led by the Branch Chaplain the Reverend Collin Moore who is the minister at this church. The service will commemorate the 86th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain and the activity, personnel and service of the RAF during WW2 and subsequent conflicts. The service is open to all members of the public and will be attended by local dignitaries and followed by a wreath laying ceremony at the Street War Memorial, Merriman Gardens Park, Street, BA16 0JR.

During the Battle of Britain period, RAFA-MSB will be running collections in support of the RAFA 2026 Wings Appeal at the following supermarkets:

- Morrison's, Wells - Saturday 5th September
- Sainsbury's, Cheddar - Saturday 12th September
- Morrison's, Glastonbury - Saturday 19th September

Look out for our display board and branch members with collection buckets!

OCTOBER MEETING

RAFA-MSB will meet on Monday 5th October at 11:00 am in the Bell Inn, Bruton Road, Evercreech, BA4 6HY for an *'Informal Fun Games Day'* with skittles, darts and pool plus cards and board games; there will be no formal branch business at this event. Coffee, drinks and lunch may be ordered on arrival from the pub menu. Members will be able to continue games after lunch if they wish.

NOVEMBER MEETING

The November event will be a General Branch Meeting on Monday 2nd November and will include a presentation by Baz Hamblin entitled; *'The Gunpowder Plot'*, followed by the traditional bar and lunch – venue to be confirmed.

BRANCH COVERAGE AND CONTACT DETAILS

RAFA-MSB covers BS25, BS26, BS27, BS28, BS29, BS40, BA4, BA5, BA6, BA11, BA16, TA1, TA10, TA11 and TA21 postal areas. The Committee welcomes RAFA members, current and ex-RAF personnel and reserves, current and ex-Commonwealth Air Forces personnel and reserves, members of the RAF family and members of the public that support RAFA's aims and purposes, living in these areas, to join us for all our 2026 events.

For information about any of these events, please contact the Branch via email rafa.midsomerset@gmail.com or call the Secretary on 01458 224057.



Dementia Support Group in Winscombe

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

All are welcome, whether you have a dementia diagnosis, or are worried about your memory. Refreshments provided - we'd love to see you there!

Where: Old School, Winscombe Community Centre
Sandford Road, BS25 1JA

When: Mondays from 10am to 12 noon
(excluding bank holidays)

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



aliveactivities.org | 07861 385 543 | Reg. Charity 1132708



Carer's Wellbeing Group in Winscombe

Join our FREE, welcoming group for carers. Our monthly sessions will include activities to boost wellbeing, plus info & guidance to support you in your role of being a carer.

A carer is someone who provides unpaid, regular help and support to a family member, friend, or neighbour who can't manage on their own.

Where: Old School, Winscombe Community Centre
Sandford Road, BS25 1JA

When: 2nd Monday of each month
10am to 12 noon

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



aliveactivities.org | 07861 385 543 | Reg. Charity 1132708

we ♥

CREATE! Sunday

#FUN FOR FAMILIES & ALL AGES

Sundays 4-6pm

For venue check out churchillmethodistchurch.org.uk

SAVE THESE

2026 DATES!

20 September

18 October

22 November

20 December

Ready... Steady... Fun!

#QUALITY FAMILY TIME

#NATURE & CRAFT ACTIVITIES

#OUTDOOR OR INDOOR GAMES

#MEET LOCAL FAMILIES

#STORY & BUFFET TEA

**outdoor venues to be confirmed*

Churchill Methodist Church

Contact us:

churchillmethodistchurch@gmail.com

churchillmethodistchurch.org.uk

Free



September Quiz Answers

Hope this quiz has put you at the top of the class!

- 1 Hogwarts
- 2 Miss Jean Brodie
- 3 Gordonstoun
- 4 Matilda
- 5 Eton
- 6 Nicolas Nickleby
- 7 Harrow
- 8 To Sir With Love
- 9 Rugby
- 10 Grange Hill



PICKLE BALL

Do you play?

Would you like to play in Winscombe?

Badminton Court and equipment available for hire at the Church Centre

Contact
01934 352696
admin@winsandchurches.org.uk

The poster features a blue background with a white diagonal stripe. A large yellow pickleball is shown in the top right corner. A blue pickleball paddle is shown in the bottom left corner, with a yellow pickleball on it. Two green pickleballs with motion lines are shown on the left and right sides of the poster.

Supporting and Protecting Our Natural World

A Pile of Old Wood

It is well known that introducing a pond or a log pile to the garden (no matter the size), is a sure way of immediately attracting and encouraging a diversity of wildlife. Why not have both working together in proximity to each other to attract an even wider diversity of creatures and help increase their numbers hugely? Log piles offer vital shelter, nest sites, food and safety from predators for insects, amphibians and small mammals. Some may venture out from the pond once the breeding season is over and use the log pile.



You could be ambitious and set up a stumpery - an architectural log pile, first popularised in Victorian times. The nearest local one is at Tyntesfield in Wraxall and there is another at RHS Rosemoor in Devon.

A stumpery can vary in size according to available space, but it needs to be in a shady spot. It is made of upside-down dead trees, logs, branches and roots. Gaps between may be filled with soil and/or compost. Plant with shade loving plants such as hellebores,

hostas, ferns, bluebells and snowdrops, and just let nature take its course.

Back to the more usual log pile. There are a few provisos to producing a successful pile. It needs to be built in a shady, damp, undisturbed spot so that the wood does not dry out. Ideally it would be close to a pond. Never build a log pile on concrete but on soil so that creatures can move freely from the soil to the pile and vice versa.

The type and size of wood is important, possibly a mix of hard wood (oak, ash, birch) and soft (coniferous) logs that have not been chemically treated or painted and have their bark intact.

The shape of the pile can be variable, though larger logs need to be at the base for stability, and ideally partly sunken into a shallow depression dug into the ground so connecting the wood with soil organisms that hasten the breakdown process. Then begin to stack logs into a pyramidal shape with larger branches, twigs and leaves to fill the gaps. Smaller gaps can be filled with soil and/or compost so making a cosy home for hibernating hedgehogs or frogs and toads, though in my garden such idealism is quickly thwarted by rabbits! Honeysuckle could be grown over the logs, or you could sprinkle wildflower seeds. Ivy, a favourite of bees, is likely to quickly establish itself.



If space or wood is hard to come by, it also works well to just lay a few logs at the back of a border, or at the foot of a hedge. Falling logs as a brash pile is an alternative. This again needs to be a pyramidal shape but of dead stems and pruning from the previous year's raspberry canes and perennials; you can keep adding to this pile.

One large beetle that mainly lives in the southern part of the UK is the stag or staghorn beetle. They may well visit your log pile, although currently they are in decline because of habitat loss and changes in land use. The male has large stag like antlers, that are in fact jaws, used to fight off rivals. Females do not need them. Stag beetles can be seen from May until late August during which time they mate, lay their eggs and then die. Such a short life. The large white larvae make their way into rotting wood and may stay there for up to 7 years. They pupate, thus starting a massive change into adults, so restarting the life cycle.

Early in the spring it is hard to recognise certain birds that come to the garden. Two small brown birds, with speckled breasts, regularly arrived on the table outside while I was eating a snack remarkably close by. On the table, I had put a few suet pellets which were taken, one at a time, by each bird. As time went by changes happened as the breast feathers slowly turned red. Robins!



* * * * *

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

Update from Tessa Munt, MP for Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill



Hello everyone,

September sees me back for a new 'term' in Westminster, having enjoyed working locally in August.

In July, I was delighted to spend time with pupils and teachers from Churchill School on their recent visit. I love meeting school groups in Parliament, and it was good to hear the students' questions and listen to their views and ideas. I'll be back at Churchill School next term and look forward to continuing our conversations.

I popped into the Sydney Hill Wesleyan Cottage Homes open day on a hot sunny afternoon, and it was lovely to speak to some of the residents, family members and the team supporting the residents of these beautiful homes.

Thank you also for the warm welcome to Churchill Methodist Church Thursday Lunch Club. It was wonderful to speak with you and the amazing team who help prepare lunch. I'm looking forward to returning at Christmas!

As well as attending the original '*National Emergency Briefing*' in London last November, I've been privileged to support community viewings of the '*People's Emergency Briefing*' in Cheddar, Shipham, Winscombe and several other locations. I'm looking forward to future viewings and want to extend a thank you to all who've watched and sent me their thoughts, even if only to say they're supportive, or have signed the petition. This is such an important discussion to have.

My next most local surgeries are listed below, but please call me or visit my website for the full list:

Friday 4th September from 10:00 to 11:00 at **The Market Kitchen Café, Churchill**

Friday 4th September from 15:00 to 16:00 at **The New Inn, Blagdon**

Monday 7th September from 09:30 to 10:30 at **The Community Café, Congresbury**

Thursday 17th September from 14:00 to 15:00 at **The Railway Inn, Sandford**

Friday 25th September from 10:00 to 11:00 at **The Coffee Bank, Winscombe**

Friday 25th September from 18:00 to 19:00 at **The Brewer's Arms, Banwell**

No appointment is necessary - it's first come, first served. If you can't come to meet me, I'll come to see you. *Thank you.*

Tessa

You can contact me:

Call: 01934 440639 (answerphone outside office hours)

Email: tessa.munt.mp@parliament.uk

Post: Tessa Munt Freepost (you won't need a stamp!)

To keep updated on my work as your MP, find me on Facebook, Instagram, Bluesky and LinkedIn

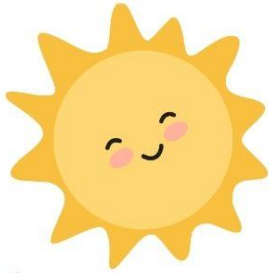
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Called to Care for God's Earth



Then God said; *'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'* (Genesis 1:26).

These words come from the account of creation found in Genesis Chapter 1. I'm often asked about this text. Is it true? How do I square its words with my understanding of science? Do I believe this is how the world was made?

I don't think Genesis 1 is a literal account; a description offered in the style of a David Attenborough documentary. Rather, I suggest, that this account is so stuffed with truth that it's hard for us to deal with. Truth that's not about factual deception, but about meaning, purpose and value. Genesis 1 asks; *'How do we understand the world?'* and *'How should we live in it?'*

Take for example the words, *'have dominion'* to be found in Genesis 1:26 given above. These words, an interpretation of the Hebrew word *'radah'*, have been understood very differently.

Some would say that to *'have dominion'* or *'radah'*, has been understood as harsh domination, treading down, and using raw force; a justification for treating the non-human world as an expendable resource for human consumption that has led to our destruction of so much of the natural world around us.

Others suggest that the true meaning of *'radah'* is service and care. This sees *'have dominion'* as a call not to crush, but to protect, nurture, and provide justice. This view sees humankind invited to act as deputies for God, called to cultivate the earth responsibly while preserving its health and flourishing.

Arguments about the interpretation of a Hebrew word may seem specialist. But how we read one of the most important passages of the Bible, can shape our whole world view. Service and care, or domination and destruction? These differing ideas lie at the very heart of the arguments we have about how humankind should treat our earthly home that God has gifted us. What steps will we take, however small, to protect it?

By Michael Beasley, Bishop of Bath and Wells

September Word Search Answers



H	Q	O	V	X	J	F	B	A	D	G	E	R	R	P	L	X	V	U	S
T	Y	S	W	A	L	L	O	W	S	T	G	A	T	T	O	J	J	T	L
M	I	S	T	H	V	U	E	U	G	A	R	X	S	F	F	F	A	E	O
L	Q	H	E	O	I	C	Q	J	P	B	P	U	U	V	E	F	O	X	E
V	P	U	U	R	G	K	U	A	B	E	O	T	S	R	E	L	G	P	S
I	J	X	A	S	U	L	I	C	W	L	E	E	E	L	W	H	L	T	G
X	D	H	F	E	D	O	N	O	O	L	L	C	I	L	H	P	O	L	X
H	N	R	N	C	Y	O	O	R	Y	E	S	R	R	O	K	D	B	H	C
O	Z	E	Z	H	Y	T	X	N	V	R	O	X	R	B	S	F	A	A	S
L	X	D	U	E	P	S	T	S	H	T	M	Q	E	X	M	X	I	R	N
V	O	D	G	S	Q	D	G	U	E	S	W	Z	B	V	D	X	J	V	I
S	B	E	O	T	B	A	K	N	D	I	S	P	K	F	O	J	P	E	C
N	O	E	R	N	Y	O	L	D	G	P	Z	X	C	T	F	X	Y	S	Y
E	R	R	S	U	U	T	H	E	E	I	Y	V	A	X	Q	U	P	T	M
K	R	V	E	T	W	F	M	U	H	P	V	W	L	L	W	P	Z	I	D
C	C	C	O	B	W	E	B	S	O	X	R	E	B	J	O	U	N	H	J
A	J	H	P	K	Z	C	M	I	G	R	A	T	I	O	N	G	T	P	M
R	A	Y	S	Y	I	L	Y	H	M	W	S	S	O	U	I	R	R	E	L
B	W	L	H	I	H	I	B	E	R	N	A	T	I	O	N	G	A	C	O
X	I	N	M	T	N	U	X	Y	M	J	J	N	D	E	S	V	E	I	J



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