

Putting the Love of Christ in the Heart of our Community



Signpost

Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill Parish Magazine



November 2026

FREE

Who's Who in Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill Churches

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Parish Safeguarding Officers	Jo Claridge (St James's & All Saints) safeguarding@winsandchurches.org.uk Pauline Hurst (St John's) stjchurchill.safeguarding@outlook.com	07986 665618 01934 852784
Churchwardens St James the Great, Winscombe	Derrick Claridge winscombechurchwarden@gmail.com Beth Cutmore bethwayside@gmail.com	07941 202768 07486 549030
All Saints, Sandford	Diana Williams sandfordchurchwarden@gmail.com <i>One vacant post</i>	01934 852449
St John the Baptist, Churchill	Tricia Avery averyfarm@cpsmail.co.uk <i>One vacant post</i>	01934 852360
Pastoral Care Team	Reverend Pauline Nixon revpolly@gmail.com	07511 935860
Churchill Methodist, Minister Pastor	Reverend Andrew Bell Ken Young	01934 852314 01934 852686
Lynch Chapel Pastor/Minister	David Jewell The Lynch, Winscombe, BS25 1AR davidjewells@aol.com	07443 907454
Sidcot Quakers Meeting House	Oakridge Lane, Sidcot, BS25 1LT	01934 843065
Roman Catholics	Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Cheddar	01934 709224

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



If there is one word that defines the month of November more than any other, it is surely '*remembering*'. The very 1st day of the month is All Saints' Day, a day which celebrates men and women in whose lives the Church has seen the grace of God powerfully at work. It is an opportunity to give thanks for that grace, and a time to be encouraged by the saints' example. You are invited to join us at All Saints Church at 10.30 am on Sunday 1st November as we mark this important day.

And All Souls, also known as Commemoration of the Faithful Departed, is an opportunity for us to give thanks in memory of those dear to us whom we see no more. Our service at St James's Church at 3 pm on Sunday 1st November will do just that in a service many find extremely personal and moving.

Our remembering then moves on to events more worldly. On Bonfire Night we recall the attempt to blow up Parliament and assassinate King James I in 1605, a shocking incident somehow dimmed by the great passage of time, and partly by the fact that the plan was thwarted.

Then to Remembrance with Remembrance Sunday falling on 8th November as we gather at 10.50 am to remember those who lost their lives in both World Wars and other conflicts since. We remember those who sacrificed their own lives for their country and the communities from which they came.

Remembering is an important aspect of human life and is important in our walk with Christ too. Every time we meet to worship, we remember the sacrifice Jesus made for the whole world, to grant us salvation from all the ills of the world and the brokenness we all live through at times. With Blessings to you whatever you are remembering in this month of remembering.

Reverend Dr Julian Davies

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 15th November. 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.

**Church of England Parishes of
Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill**

We shall remember All Souls this year on
SUNDAY 1st NOVEMBER at 3 pm
St James the Great Church, Winscombe

This will be a thoughtful and gentle time of singing,
listening to music and poems and being together to
remember those we have loved; you will also be able to
have your loved one's name read out.

*Remember me,
when you will search the skies in constant wonder.
Am I gone from you?
Remember me in all your tears and sighs,
And hear my promise - I'm still one with you.*

Remembrance Day Services

Sunday 8th November 2026



All welcome

St John's, Churchill 10.50 am

All Saints, Sandford 10.50 am

St James's, Winscombe 10.50 am

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

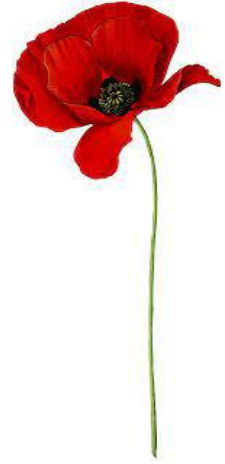


Edward John Atkins
A Baker
Herbert Bennett
Frank Body
Arthur Redvers Bradford
John Stembridge Burdge
Clifford Stanley Clark
Percy Arthur Clark
Lewis Frederick Cox
Francis George Davey
Edward Dudden
Arthur Ernest Fry
Edwin B Gill
William Deacon Hayman
George Hilling
Charles Eric Jupe
Harry Percival Luck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

Second World War 1939 – 1945



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



Members of Churchill Choirs Killed by a Bomb on Dolebury Warren

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

UN Peacekeeping Force Balkans 1997

Gareth Evans



*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.*



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.

All Saints Church Community Café

The October café raised £368.00 including Gift Aid ~ thank you to everyone who came along to support us.

The next Christmas themed café date is:

SATURDAY 7th NOVEMBER 2026



Lots of festive and homemade goodies – please join us

(there is no café in December)

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 ≡



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!*



Churchill and Langford Ladies Lunch Club

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month

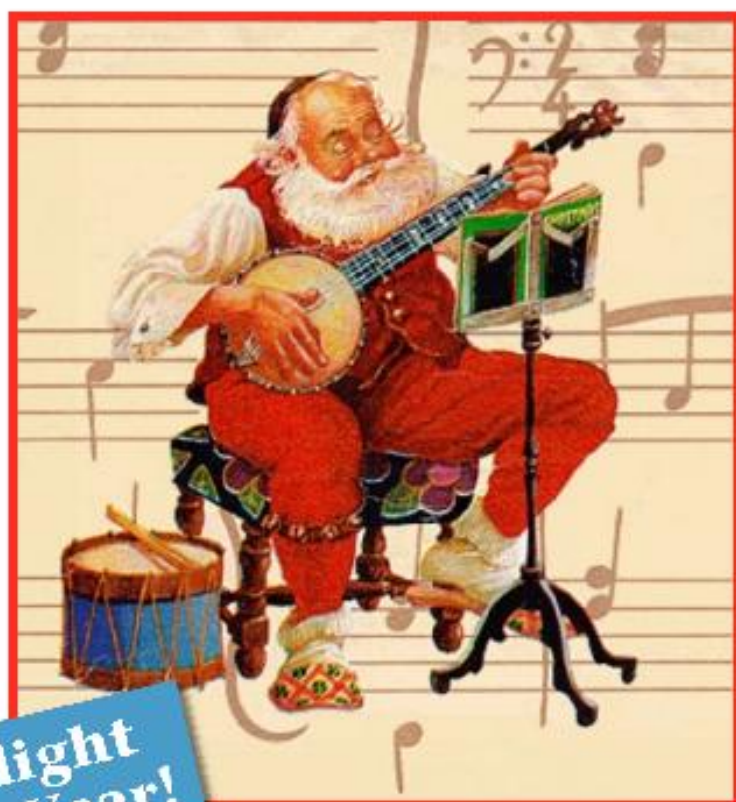
Churchill Methodist Chapel Hall, Front Street, Churchill at 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm

£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**



**Highlight
of the Year!**

Folk at Christmas

*Ten-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 5th 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

Autumn Supper at the Church Centre

The St James's Events Team held their annual Autumn Supper on Friday 16th October at the Church Centre.

This year's event had a 'Rat Pack' theme with Joni and Susan, otherwise known as Belle Street providing the entertainment as the 'Rat Pack Girls'. A brilliant, interactive show celebrated the golden era of swing and the timeless magic of the Rat Pack era. We were soon crooning along to their renditions of tunes made famous by Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jnr, Dean Martin and others. The evening was interspersed with stories about the Rat Pack in their heyday, with lots of witty humour which truly engaged the audience.



A delicious ploughman's supper was served in the interval, and a table top quiz tested the audience's knowledge of the Rat Pack era and their songs – those who listened carefully to the show found many of the answers there for the taking!

As usual, the main reason for holding the event was to bring people together from the local community to have fun and fellowship. However, the evening also raised over £400 for church funds.



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:

4TH NOVEMBER & 2ND DECEMBER



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

**Any age and all abilities
welcome.**

Tea and coffee provided.

Knit & Natter



**Second and fourth
Wednesday each month**

2pm - 4pm

at LYNCH CHAPEL

(Just over the bridge on The Lynch)



NOVEMBER 11th & 25th

DECEMBER 9th

November Quiz

Edmund Halley, the English astronomer and mathematician, was born on 8th November 1656 and is best known for identifying the comet named after him. This month's quiz is all about things that are named after people.



- 1 A British Earl was so fond of gambling that he would refuse to leave the gaming tables to eat. His servants brought him snacks which he could eat while he played. Which snack, which remains very popular to this day, was named after the Earl?
- 2 Which branch of the Franciscan Order gives its name to a hugely popular type of frothy coffee and a monkey native to Central and South America?
- 3 Which term, named after a character in Sheridan's play 'The Rivals', describes an accidental or deliberate word mix-up that creates a nonsensical or funny phrase?
- 4 The name of which Dicken's character is now commonly used to describe a mean or miserly person?
- 5 What was the name of the 19th Century Anglican priest who is most remembered for his slips of the tongue, in which he would transpose the first letters of words?
- 6 What is the name of King Ahab's wife whose story is told in the Bible's book of Kings? Today it may be used to describe an immoral, shameless, manipulative or rebellious person who uses deceit or seduction to get their way.
- 7 What type of waterproof coat, using a rubber coated material, is named after the person who invented it?
- 8 After whom is the toy known as a 'teddy bear' named?
- 9 Which item of footwear is named after Arthur Wellesley, a Duke best known for his role in the Napoleonic Wars?
- 10 The term 'Luddite' has its origins in a group of people named Luddites. What sort of person is the term used to describe nowadays?

Answers can be found on page 45



Saturday 7th November
Churchill Recreation Ground
Gates open 5:15 p.m.

**Tickets
from
£6.50**



Bring your family, bring your friends
- Let's light up the night together!

Gardening Notes for November

Hippeastrums (Amaryllis)

Potted up in November, these come into flower in the new year. They need free draining compost with at least half the huge bulb sitting proud of the surface; use pots that are about 2.5cm wider than the bulb. If you are planting more than one bulb, alpine pots are ideal as they are far less likely to topple over. Water and place the bulbs somewhere warm and light, a greenhouse or conservatory are ideal, but a bright windowsill works well. Water regularly but don't overwater as they hate sitting in cold wet soil. The stems look very solid but are in fact hollow, so can easily bend and often break. Support them with a thin stake that will help to carry the weight of the immense flowers.



Bare Root Fruit Trees and Roses

Now is the time to start planting bare-root shrubs and trees as many plants enter full dormancy. Apple trees and roses are ideal candidates for this cost effective form of plants. Soak the roots well then prepare the planting area. Fan the roots out so they fit comfortably in the hole, then back fill and firm in. Plant fruit trees at the same depth as they were grown previously, look for the nursery mark - an area slightly darker than the rest of the trunk. Stake the tree, with the stake knocked in at an angle of 45 degrees. Plant roses so that the graft mark is a couple of inches below the level of the soil, this will reduce the likelihood of wind rock.

Mulching

Give any bare soil a boost for next year by adding a layer of mulch consisting of garden compost or well-rotted manure. Firstly, remove any weeds and ideally the soil should be moist, so after a wet spell is ideal.

Ferns

Make room for next year's early spring growth by cutting back fronds of deciduous ferns when they have died off. Avoid cutting right into the centre where next year's fronds will be forming.

Planting Tulips

November is the best time to plant tulips to reduce the risk of tulip disease. In borders and containers, plant at a depth of at least three times the height of the bulb - deeper if possible. For container planting use an equal mixture of multi-purpose compost and John Innes No2. Cover the bulbs with compost, place in a sunny position and water.



The Greenhouse

Now is the time to insulate the greenhouse with bubble wrap, this will keep the greenhouse 2 or 3 degrees higher than the outside temperature. Before doing so, scrub the glass and staging with disinfectant and sweep up any debris from the floor. Bring in any tender plants in containers. such as fuchsias and agapanthus.



No speaker had been arranged for our October meeting, so it was an occasion when we could just gather to share our interests and concerns. Our 30 or so members come with a great wealth of experiences and interests, so that a gathering of even half the number, is a pleasant occasion with much to discuss or share. Whether new to the group, or present as a founding member years ago, we have so much to learn from each other. So, although a speaker may enhance our time together, there still seems to be a purpose in meeting when there is no speaker. We are lining up speakers for the new year, but for our last breakfast together this year, there will again be no speaker.

Our next meeting will take place on **Saturday 14th November** at 9 am at the Woodborough Inn. Do come, and invite your friends, but please let me know, at least by Sunday 8th November, if you will be coming as I 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.

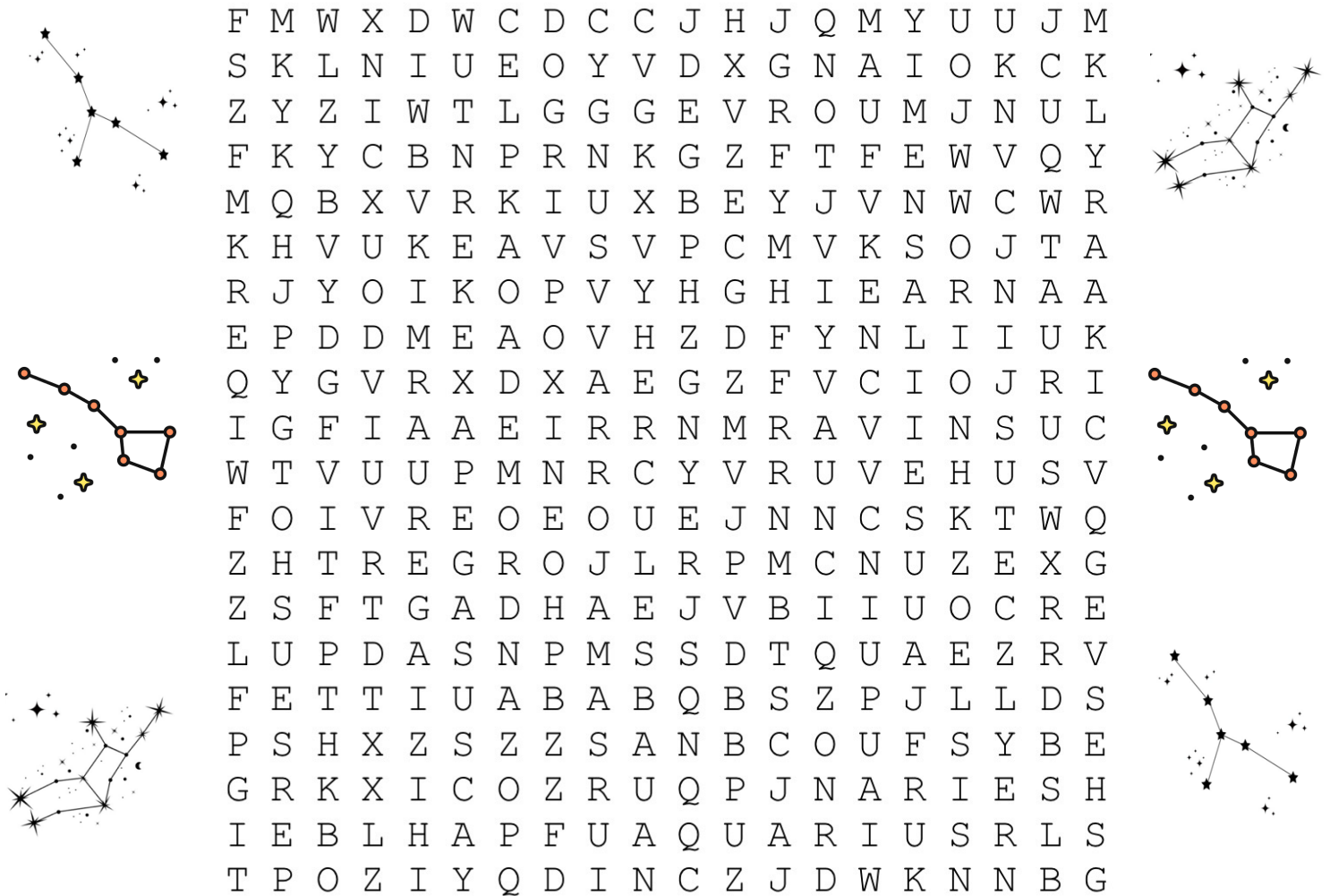
To book your place for this breakfast, please contact Tim Harland on 01934 843248.

November Word Search

November brings longer nights and more opportunities to view the night sky, and on a clear night, the stars. This month's word search features the names of 20 constellations that you might be able to spot.

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.

CONSTELLATIONS



ANDROMEDA
AQUARIUS
ARIES
AUREGA
CETUS

CYGNUS
GEMINI
HERCULES
HYDRA
LEO

LIBRA
LYRA
MENSA
ORION
PEGASUS

PERSEUS
PHOENIX
TAURUS
URSA MAJOR
VIRGO

Answers can be found on page 39

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

AID FOR UKRAINE

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

Harvest Flowers at All Saints

A big thank you to Angela Morris and Llyn Callow for the beautiful floral arrangements recently displayed for the Harvest Service in All Saints Church, Sandford.

If you're interested in getting involved and want to help Angela and Llyn create more beautiful arrangements, please contact Angela on 01934 852327.



Shipham, Rowberrow & Star History Society

Next meeting date:

TUESDAY 10th NOVEMBER

Speaker: Simon Talbot-Ponsonby

Talk entitled: *'The Birnbeck Pier Project'*

at Shipham Village Hall, BS25 1SG

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

FREE
REFRESHMENTS

FREE
EVENT

CHURCHILL BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Tots Paint Pots



Mon 16 & 23 November
09.00-11.30 @Churchill Methodist
BS25 5NG

Christmas gifts & keepsakes
Wide choice of mugs,
plates & decorations

Pots to be glazed, fired &
returned 23 or 30 Nov

Pay as you go - from £4
cash or mobile banking

Children's toys & snack
Unlimited coffee & tea



Take Home Kits: pre-order only
collect 16.11, paint & drop 23.11

Churchill Methodist Church
Contact us:

churchillmethodistchurch@gmail.com
churchillmethodistchurch.org.uk

FUN PLAY & CRAFT

we ♥
CREATE! Sunday

SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER
4-6PM @CHURCHILL METHODIST
BS25 5NG

FREE!

- ♥ FUN FOR TOTS TO TEENS
- ♥ PLAY, CRAFTS & CHAT
- ♥ STORY & SONGS
- ♥ BUFFET TEA

welcome!



Churchill Methodist Church
churchillmethodistchurch.org.uk
churchillmethodistchurch@gmail.com

Celebrating Harvest at St James

This year our harvest celebration took place on Sunday 20th September.

A special service, led by Reverend Julian, was held at St James's with prayers of thanksgiving, readings and harvest hymns including, of course, '*We Plough the Fields and Scatter*'.

Our talented flower-arrangers had been hard at work to provide a seasonal theme throughout the church, creating a perfect setting for our worship.

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards a huge amount of non-perishable produce for the foodbank as part of our harvest giving to others, and the display included a traditional harvest loaf in the form of a tied wheat sheaf with a harvest mouse.



The tradition of the harvest loaf dates back to the Anglo-Saxon festival of Lammas (meaning loaf mass), held on 1st August. It marked the beginning of the wheat harvest when farmers' wives baked bread from the first reaped corn and took it to church to be blessed. The mouse symbolises the field creatures and the rustic '*corn spirit*' of the land.

Following the Harvest Service, about 50 members of the church and the local community gathered at the Church Centre for our annual Harvest Lunch.

St James's Events Team served a delicious ham and turkey salad followed by homemade apple crumble and cream; a lovely way to share harvest fellowship with each other.

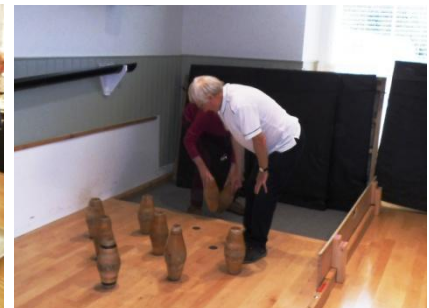


RESULTS FROM RAFA WINGS APPEAL 2026 EVENTS

In the October edition, RAFA-MSB reported on five events during September that commemorated the 86th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain and formed the centrepiece of the Branch's fundraising for the RAFA 2026 Wings Appeal. The financial results are that a total of £1,383 was raised as follows: Ad Astra Cider Farm Quiz £530; Morrison's, Wells £240; Sainsbury's, Cheddar £254; Battle of Britain Service, Street Methodist Church £120; Morrison's, Glastonbury £175; and the collection tin at Sainsbury's, Cheddar £63. Thank you to all who supported us.

BRANCH FUN GAMES DAY MONDAY 5th OCTOBER

On Monday 5th October, the Royal Air Forces Association Mid-Somerset Branch (RAFA-MSB) held an Informal Fun Games Day. Eleven jolly gamesters met at The Bell Inn, Evercreech, starting with coffee in the bar after which they deployed to the skittles alley. Eight players then participated in a highly competitive and enjoyable game of skittles over four rounds with Graham Mackinlay being declared the winner ... again! Meanwhile, the other three concentrated on a fierce card game of UNO plus a go at the block removal game; this year there were no takers for darts or pool. At 1 pm everyone decanted to the bar, chose drinks and sat down in the dining area where they were served their choice of lunch. After discussion, the consensus was to abandon the afternoon activities, so the party closed at 2.30 pm. Our grateful thanks are extended to the Bell Inn for all their attention and first-rate meals.



NOVEMBER GENERAL BRANCH MEETING

The RAFA-MSB November event will be a General Branch Meeting on Monday 2nd November at Mendip Golf Club, Gurney Slade, Somerset, BA3 4UT (please note change in venue), for a presentation by Baz Hamblin entitled '*The Gunpowder Plot*' plus a General Branch Meeting to discuss the Christmas lunch and future programme up to the March 2027 AGM. This will be followed by lunch and drinks from the club's menu and bar.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

This Remembrance Sunday on 8th November, members of RAFA-MSB will attend Remembrance Services and lay RAFA wreaths at War Memorials in nine locations across the Branch coverage area at Axbridge, Cheddar, Glastonbury, Morlands War Memorial, St Cuthbert's Wells, Shepton Mallet, Shipham, Street and Wookey.

BRANCH CHRISTMAS LUNCH SATURDAY 19th DECEMBER

RAFA-MSB December's event will be the Christmas lunch on Saturday 19th December starting at 12:15 pm in the Isle of Wedmore Golf Club, Lineage, Lascot Hill, Wedmore, Somerset, BS28 4QT (note new venue). This will be a formal Christmas lunch starting with a drink on arrival, a two or three course lunch (choices for each course chosen in advance), and ending with coffee and the Loyal Toast.

STARTING 2027

The first RAFA-MSB event in the New Year will be a General Branch Meeting on Monday 4th January 2027 in the Isle of Wedmore Golf Club, Lineage, Lascot Hill, Wedmore, Somerset, BS28 4QT (note new venue). There will be a presentation by Cindy Bayley entitled, *'The Life of an RAF Wife'* followed by a meeting to prepare for the AGM and discuss the programme for 2027.

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

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Our Box Opening, held on 6th October, was a great success with so many attending the Church Centre 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 with us, serving coffee, making cakes, or doing all of the above! We were delighted to bank £1,424.24 and as I write there are still a few boxes to be collected in and counted so the final total will be 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 for your support for all our events in 2026 – **THANK YOU!**

Sarah Gunn, Angie Lacy, Lesley Matthews and Mo Matthews

come to Scramblers

A friendly,
church toddler group for
children from birth to 4 years
and their parents/carers

TOYS

Drinks and
snacks

Stories
Both Bible and
traditional

Craft
Activities

Games

Singing

Thursdays 9.30am - 11.30am
(term time only)

October 29th - *NO Scramblers, Half Term*
November 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th
December 3rd & 10th
all at The Church Centre

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



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 16th November starting at 2.30 pm

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

Speaker: Simon Begent

Talk entitled: *'Weston Aviation'*

Refreshments from 2 to 2.30 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



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 standout events:

- ❖ **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 NOW at ticketsource.co.uk.

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



WINSCOMBE W.I.

Our next meeting is on:

WEDNESDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2026

at 7.15 pm for 7.30 pm

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

AGM + General Knowledge Quiz

refreshments available - find us on Facebook



**Save the
Children**

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

SAVE the CHILDREN LUNCHES

**Join us for lunch at 12.30 pm on
Fridays 13th and 27th November**

Christmas Special – Friday 11th December

*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!



*If you're worried about paying
your energy bills this winter, there
is free help and advice available -
see page 55 for more details.*

Winscombe Community Association

CHRISTMAS FAIR



21 NOVEMBER

10.30 am – 2.00 pm

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



Visit Father Christmas, start your Christmas shopping -
crafts, jewellery, cards, books, and gifts to buy,
seasonal refreshments and a raffle

**Come and join us for a great opportunity
To purchase some unique Christmas presents**

Registered Charity No. 1186290

For more information please email: winscombejackie@gmail.com



Wrrington Vale Rotary Club

Ukraine donations

Our sincere thanks for the huge number of donations we received following the article last month. Unfortunately, we have no way of thanking you personally, however, you can rest assured that the money will be carefully spent in support of our next trip departing in November (see below). If you wish to make a donation, please call Angie Biggs on 07790 400718. Thank you.

Bob's 9th Ukraine Journey will depart from the Railway Inn, Sandford at 10.30 am on Tuesday 10th November; everyone is most welcome to come along and wish them well. This time, the team will be Rotarians Bob Preedy, Richard Bigwood and Paul Jenkins.

Car Fest at Brean

An amazing number of exhibitors with fabulous cars and bikes, gathered on a beautiful morning and were rewarded with a huge attendance of spectators admiring their precious vehicles. Proceedings were helped along with fabulous baps provided by Murray Specialist Caterers and copious amounts of coffee. As usual, Suzie excelled by providing a vast array of excellent prizes for the raffle, which was very well supported. We are delighted to advise that due to your generosity, we raised £2,400 all of which will go to good causes.



Aerial view of the show



Suzie's fabulous prize draw



Enjoying the cars

Want to know more about
Wrrington Vale Rotary Club?
Contact **Angie Biggs** on 07790 400718

Thursday Afternoon Volunteers Needed (term time only) for Lyncombe Lodge Riding for the Disabled Association Group Wick St Lawrence

We are a small group of enthusiastic people whose aim is to provide life enhancing riding experiences for disabled children. We usually have a small waiting list of children keen to ride with us; to reduce this list, we need more helpers. You don't have to be able to ride to help as everyone is given basic RDA training. If you have some time available and would like an initial conversation, please email lyncombelodge.rda@gmail.com or contact our **Group Organiser, Mrs Stella Dales** on **01934 852364**. Likewise, if you have a child with either a physical or learning/mental disability who is keen and would benefit from riding, please do get in touch.

FURTHER INFORMATION



We meet at Wick Stables Riding School in Wick St Lawrence, which has been awarded the Accessibility Mark by the RDA. We run two sessions on Thursday afternoons (during term time), starting at 1pm and teach children from 5 years of age upwards. Some of our riders have competed in regional and national RDA competitions and displays. Riders attending sessions do so with the support of their schools. Participation provides children with physical and emotional therapy, fun, personal challenges and achievement in an environment where they do not *'stand out from the crowd'* because of their

disability. Parents, teachers and carers have commented on real improvements in their children's physical and emotional well-being and engagement in learning as a result of riding. Additionally, the community we have created produces regular contact, in person support and new friendships.

Want to get involved, then why not get in touch to find out more?

Lyncombe Lodge Group Riding for the Disabled Association incorporating Carriage Driving
Registered Charity Number: 1192614

* * * * *



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

Funeral Preparation Workshop

A caring and practical session to help
us think ahead and support ourselves
and our families.



Information
and guidance



Space for questions
and discussion



A chance to reflect
on what matters

**Lindsay from
Gowers Funeral Directors**
will be attending
to offer advice.



Saturday 21st November
2.00 pm
Lynch Chapel, Winscombe

*Planning ahead can bring peace of mind
for you and those you love.*

EVERYONE WELCOME



DIARY – NOVEMBER 2026

SUN 1

ALL SAINTS DAY

See opposite page for details of Services

MON 2	9.00am	Morning Prayer – St James's
TUES 3	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 4	10.30am	Mid-week Service – Lynch Chapel
	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James's
	7.30pm	Sandford & District Gardening Club
THUR 5	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	10.00am	Communion in the Community @ Dunster Court
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James's
SAT 7	10.30am	All Saints Church Community Café

SUN 8

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

See opposite page for details of Services

MON 9	9.00am	Morning Prayer – St James's
TUES 10	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 11	2.00pm	Knit & Natter – Lynch Chapel
	7.15pm	Winscombe WI – Community Centre
THURS 12	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James's
SAT 14	9.00am	Refresh-Men-t – Men's Breakfast, Woodborough Inn

SUN 15

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

See opposite page for details of Services

MON 16	9.00am	Morning Prayer – St James's
TUES 17	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 18	2.45pm	Communion in the Community @ Sewell House
	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James's
THURS 19	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing – St James's

SUN 22

CHRIST THE KING

See opposite page for details of Services

MON 21	9.00am	Morning Prayer – St James's
TUES 24	10.00am	Midweek Communion – All Saints Church Room
	10.30am	Coffee Morning – Church Centre
WED 25	2.00pm	Knit & Natter – Lynch Chapel
	7.15pm	Choir Practice – St James's
THURS 26	9.30am	Scramblers – Church Centre
	11.00am	Communion in the Community – Winscombe Hall
SAT 28	2.30-4.00pm	Come for a Cuppa – Lynch Chapel

SUN 29

ADVENT SUNDAY

See opposite page for details of Services

MON 30	9.00am	Morning Prayer – St James's
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Church Service Times - Opportunities to Worship in November

Sunday 1st November	8.30 am 10.30 am	St John's All Saints	BCP Holy Communion Holy Communion Patronal
Sunday 8th November	10.50 am 10.50 am 10.50 am	St John's All Saints St James's	Remembrance Service Remembrance Service Remembrance Service
Sunday 15th November	8.30 am 10.30 am	St James's Church Centre	Holy Communion BCP Benefice Praise
Sunday 22nd November	10.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am	St John's All Saints St James's	Morning Worship Holy Communion Holy Communion
Sunday 29th November	10.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am	St John's All Saints St James's	Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion

Other Services in November

Every Monday	9.00 am	Morning Prayer at St James's
Every Tuesday	10.00 am	Holy Communion at All Saints

Special Services in November

Sunday 1 st November	11.00 am	Holy Communion at Sandford Station
Thursday 5 th November	10.00 am	Holy Communion at Dunster Court
Wednesday 18 th November	2.45 pm	Holy Communion at Sewell House
Thursday 26 th November	11.00 am	Holy Communion at Winscombe Hall

We welcome: Edward Gough to our church family. Edward was baptised at All Saints Church, Sandford on Sunday 25th October.

Our love and sympathy go to the families and friends of those we remember:

Kitty Salter whose funeral service took place at All Saints Church, Sandford followed by her burial in Ilex Lane cemetery on Monday 12th October.

Rita Marshall whose funeral service took place at St James's Church, Winscombe followed by her cremation on Thursday 29th October.

Cynthia Aslin whose funeral service took place at Sedgemoor Crematorium on 30th October.

BIBLE READINGS FOR NOVEMBER

Sunday 1st November Revelation 7: 9-end Psalm 34: 1-10 1 John 3: 1-3 Matthew 5: 1-12	Sunday 8th November Wisdom of Solomon 6: 12-16 or Amos 5: 18-24 Psalm 70 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-end Matthew 25: 1-13	Sunday 15th November Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-end Psalm 90: 1-8, 12 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11 Matthew 25: 14-30
Sunday 22nd November Ezekial 34: 11-16, 20-24 Psalm 95: 1-7 Ephesians 1: 15-end Matthew 25: 31-end	Sunday 29th November Isaiah 64: 1-9 Psalm 80: 1-8, 18-20 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9 Mark 13: 4-end	



Supporting and Protecting our Natural World

Staying Alive (Part 1)

This article, especially its title, was prompted by the Bee Gees song, '*Staying Alive*'. It is about survival, hardship and resilience in urban areas, specifically New York, but I thought that it could equally apply to creatures trying to survive in their own environments and how they try to stay alive by using a variety of ploys. It is a huge topic, and I am only scratching the surface with a few examples - there will have to be a Part 2!

My attention was caught by a black and white patterned tiger moth resting against the outside kitchen wall. Suddenly it opened its wings to reveal bright red hind wings. Red usually means danger, so the moth exposed its red colour to warn off predators. Maybe me!



Because the 6-spot burnet moth (pictured here), flies slowly during the day, it is highly visible to predators. The red spots, against the glossy, dark wings immediately warn their predators that the moth is highly toxic and foul-tasting. Six-spot burnets produce hydrogen cyanide. If a bird ignores the red spots and bites the moth, it receives a bitter, toxic chemical secretion... predators quickly learn to avoid them!

As well as red colouring, some insects mimic much more intimidating animals, such as the peacock butterfly that has 4 big 'eyes' on its wings, and also the harmless hoverfly that is striped like a stinging wasp.

During the very hot weather, I ate many meals outside surrounded by chickens. I noticed that they took grain very quickly from the food bowl whilst constantly pausing to look around, presumably watching out for predators. Birds have no teeth. Instead, they have a crop that is near the throat, which is an expandable, muscular pouch that stores and softens food ready to be digested later when in a safe place.

Birds have a gizzard too as part of the digestive system with thick muscular walls containing grit to grind down food such as grain, nuts and seeds to a fine paste. After this, the food is digested normally.

Some insects, such as the honey bee, have a crop in which they collect and store nectar until they return to the hive. A closed valve prevents the liquid from entering its own digestive system. The bee adds enzymes from its glands to kick start the transformation into honey. Once in the hive, the liquid is regurgitated for the worker bees to allocate to the comb.



Birds have evolved different beak shapes so that they are not all after the same food in their habitat. For example, finches and sparrows have beaks that are short, thick and cone shaped like nutcrackers, that can deal with seeds and grains.



How does this tiny bird cope with all the spines?

Some beaks are generalist like those of a blackbird so that they can eat a varied diet of insects, seeds and fruit.

Other beaks are slim and down curved. Tree creepers always climb upwards on a trunk spiralling around the trunk as they go and use their very stiff tail feathers to push against the tree for extra support. Their beaks are used to prize out insects from bark crevices. When they reach the top, they fly to the bottom of a new tree and start again.

Other stouter, sharp hooked beaks are used by birds of prey such as hawks and owls to cling onto their prey and tear apart the flesh.

Strong and chisel like beaks are used to hammer into tree bark to find insects; woodpeckers are an example. Whereas a long spear like beak, like those of kingfishers and herons, help to pierce or grab slippery aquatic prey.

End Piece

This is organic growing at work with insects helping the gardener. As you can see black fly has smothered this salvia, so ladybirds have moved in to devour them.

Why use chemicals when there is an army of creatures to help?



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

creative POTTERY Evening

THURSDAY 12 NOVEMBER

7-9pm @Churchill Methodist BS25 5NG

Chat, connect & try new skills -
good for beginners & all levels

Cuppa or soft drink + nibbles inc
Pay-as-Go by card, mob, cash for
wide choice of quality blank pots

Glazed pots returned 23 November

Booking by email preferred, not
essential. Pay cash for tix on day

Friendly Tutor Elaine

Churchill Methodist Church

Contact us:

churchillmethodistchurch@gmail.com

churchillmethodistchurch.org.uk



BUCKET COLLECTION AT TESCO NAILSEA



On Sunday 20th September, six of our sterling members were ‘moored’ at the entrance of TESCO Nailsea with ‘rescue buckets’ deployed. On this occasion we welcomed our latest volunteer Nick who helped us as we smiled and chatted with the customers about the RNLI nationally and in Somerset. The Branch is pleased to report that there was no unpleasantness and to announce that the total amount collected was just over

£770 (£312.70 cash plus £458 on the card machine); this is the first collection where card donations have exceeded cash so maybe this is the trend in future.

RNLI MENDIP LIFEBOAT DAY FOLK CONCERT ‘HARBOTTLE & JONAS’

RNLI Mendip Branch held a Folk Concert for National Lifeboat Day by the South Devon duo ‘Harbottle & Jonas’ on Saturday 10th October in St James’s Church Centre, Winscombe. The duo comprising of husband and wife, David Harbottle and Freya Jonas, featured David on banjo, acoustic guitars and stomp box and Freya on concertina, harmonium and cittern, plus close vocal harmonies from both. Their music provided a unique, distinct and compelling signature sound. Both compose and arrange music from a range of traditions across the UK. Freya sang one of her songs ‘Carry On All You Fishermen’ that she wrote on the train from Exeter to Newton Abbott as it travelled around the coast of Dawlish and Teignmouth estuary.

The second half started with their arrangement of the hymn, ‘Now the Green Blade Riseth’ or ‘Love is Come Again’ to the French tune ‘Noel Nouvelet’ followed by a slowed down version of ‘The Eddystone Light’. The audience applauded enthusiastically throughout and were treated to an encore of one of the Gaelic blessings arranged by Freya and sung acapella; this was the very first time they performed this to a live audience and the reception they received was ecstatic!



There was a bar selling beers, ciders, wine and soft drinks plus a raffle in aid of the RNLI while the duo had their latest recordings and merchandise for sale. Financial results will be reported in the December edition.

RNLI MENDIP BRANCH CHRISTMAS POP-UP SALE – SATURDAY 7th NOVEMBER

RNLI Mendip Branch will hold a Christmas Pop-Up Sale inside Winscombe Community Centre, Sandford Road, Winscombe, BS25 1HP from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon on Saturday 7th November. Entry is free to browse, and the sale will include larger donated items, RNLI Christmas cards, jigsaws, stocking fillers, Christmas cakes and puddings, spring bulbs, Chris’s tools and domestic items, a multi-prize raffle and refreshments

(beverages, cakes and biscuits). All the stalls will have a Christmas flavour so come and see what's on offer. Contact Tina Joyce by email meejlfh@gmail.com or call 01934 842304 for more details.

TESCO SUPERMARKETS IN SOMERSET SUPPORT RNLI MENDIP BRANCH

RNLI Mendip Branch is pleased to announce that two local TESCO supermarkets are supporting the RNLI by authorising RNLI bucket collections in their stores during December. On Friday 18th December the TESCO Nailsea store will host our team between 9:30 am and 5:00 pm and, on Christmas Eve Thursday 24th December, the TESCO Shepton Mallet store (following their annual tradition), will host our team from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm with 'Stormy Stan' and 'Stormy Sonny' in attendance plus a supply of carrots for the reindeers that evening!

SEPTEMBER SHOUTS

In September, there were 17 'shouts' between our four Somerset Lifeboat Stations (Burnham-on-Sea – 1, Minehead – 3, Portishead – 9, Weston-super-Mare – 4). Five of the callouts at Portishead came over four days!

At 1.10 pm on Sunday 27th September volunteer crew at Weston-Super-Mare's RNLI lifeboat station were paged to reports of a casualty aboard a fishing charter boat needing urgent medical assistance.

Jack Price, skipper of the fishing boat belonging to Storm Lee Charters Swansea and Cardiff, described events before the pager alert came in; *"What started as a normal Storm Lee fishing experience with plenty of fish and laughs, quickly became a serious medical emergency. I noticed that a gentleman on board wasn't quite himself, despite assuring us he was okay, his condition became increasingly concerning. I had no choice but to put my safety at sea training into practise and call the Coastguard for assistance."*



Weston lifeboat approaching



Charter boat coastguard helicopter arriving over lifeboat

The HM Coastguard alerted Weston Lifeboats' Launch Authority requesting an immediate launch of the vessel which was situated near Brean Down. Due to it being low tide, the D-Class lifeboat was launched via the low water route with 4 crew members on board. Matt Lyons, volunteer boat crew said; *"Due to the severity of the symptoms we knew we needed to get to the casualty fast. Once we reached the vessel we climbed aboard and conducted a casualty care assessment. A retired paramedic on board had already provided some valuable casualty support while waiting for us to arrive. Tidal conditions and the urgency to get the casualty to hospital meant an airlift was the quickest and safest way to do this."*

Skipper Jack recounted; “It was such a great help to get the RNLI crew aboard and take over. It meant I could concentrate on helming the boat and looking after the other passengers. They were fantastic. As part of emergency training exercises, crews talk through helicopter assistance and winching people off but it’s not a scenario you can practice. Sea conditions were challenging, but everyone played their part to ensure it went as safely as possible. It was an outstanding coordinated response and a relief to know that the gentleman was getting the medical attention he needed.” The casualty was taken to hospital in Bristol and discharged the following day.



November Word Search Answers

CONSTELLATIONS

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

Come for a Cuppa!



**Tea and Cake
in the afternoon**

*LAST Saturday every month!
Toy Corner available*

LYNCH CHAPEL

2.30pm - 4pm

NEXT:

Saturday 31st October

Saturday 28th November



Come for a Cuppa!

WINSCOMBE LUNCHEON CLUB

We are looking for volunteers to help at our Luncheon Club which provides a hot meal for elderly people living alone.

We meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month (except August), 9 am to 2 pm in the Church Centre, Winscombe.

Interested in getting involved?

Contact Mo Matthews on 01934 843729 for details.

West Mendip Orchestra

Oliver Humpage Conductor

Helen Grey Leader



Autumn Concert

Fierrabras Overture

Schubert

Suite - Jeux d'enfants

Bizet

Waverley Overture

Berlioz

Symphony No. 4 "Italian" Mendelssohn

Friday 27th November 2026, 7:45pm

St Nicholas Church,

Uphill Road South, Uphill,

Weston-super-Mare, BS23 4SD

Tickets £12 (concessions £10, students £2)

Available at the door (cash or card)



www.west-mendip-orchestra.org.uk Charity no. 1041826

Supported by The Mortlock Memorial Fund



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

Hello everyone,

Locally, I met farmers from along the Mendips to discuss rocketing rural crime, taking those problems to the Police. I also had a great visit to Weston College, spending time with many politically engaged young people discussing politics. I've watched the People's Emergency Briefing twice now at Winspace and at other venues and, as one of the 25% of MPs who believe this should be screened on all television channels, I'm keen to hear what you think.

I hosted a debate on aluminium recycling on the first day back to Parliament after the summer. North Somerset earns income from aluminium collected at the kerbside, but many other Councils across the country earn little or nothing from their aluminium, which the Government now classifies as a 'critical mineral'. I'm chasing answers to my questions to Defra Ministers and Councils, and hope to improve recycling, trade and our mineral resilience nationally.

I was honoured to be main speaker at the 2026 Flood Resilience conference. As Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Flooding and Flooded Communities, I continue to raise the High Court's precedent setting 'Yatton decision' to build 190 homes on a site deemed at risk of flooding. I'm taking my concerns directly to the Housing and Planning Minister, Matthew Pennycook and will report back soon.

I met with campaigners aiming to achieve changes to 'Plan 2' loans under a Student Loans Review, attended the Radiotherapy Report launch, the 'Back British Farming' reception, the 'Lock Out' drink driving presentation and the 'Stop the Grind' campaign meeting, which seeks to halt the appalling practice of annual mass slaughter of dolphins and whales in the Faroe Islands. It is shocking to discover that little has changed since I first worked on this campaign as a volunteer with the Environmental Investigation Agency over three decades ago.

I asked Ministers questions about:

- * the mobile phone Emergency Alert system
- * the astronomical charges made for retirement village homes
- * World Suicide Prevention Day

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

Friday 6th November from 10:00 to 11:00 at **The Market Kitchen Café, Churchill**

Monday 9th November from 09:30 to 10:30 at **The Community Café, Congresbury**

Saturday 21st November from 15:00 to 16:00 at **The Coffee Bank, Winscombe**

Friday 27th November 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

You can also contact your North Somerset Councillor for Churchill, Patrick Keating:

Call: 07584 674740

Email: patrick.keating@n-somerset.gov.uk

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We had a superb talk by James Cross who has been the Head Gardener at the Bishops Palace in Wells for 22 years. The garden covers about 14 acres and has certainly evolved over the years since he has been there.

The talk started with some beautiful pictures of the Christmas decorations, a wonderful wreath which greets you as you enter the garden (which has to be hoisted by a couple of men, one above and one below, to get it in position. Most of the decorations are made from the flowers and shrubs from the garden.

There are always plants of interest whatever time you visit the garden, especially the winter. The great hall border consists of shrubs of beautiful colour which gives structural winter interest, this includes Pittosporum Purple (Tom Thumb), Garria Elliptica with its beautiful tassels, Arbutus (Strawberry Tree), and perennials euphorbia and rosemary; this was inspired by John Brooks Garden. James decided to create a large bed in the garden which consisted of hydrangea Quercifolia, dogwoods (of various colours), blue spruce, and sarcococca. There is also an Acer Grisium tree which is under planted with black grass and looks beautiful with frost on its leaves. There were so many plants that looked good in the winter. We were shown photos of the Stumpery with the tree ferns, sword ferns and hellebores. The Phelps Garden, known as the formal garden, is planted up with roses, sedums and Russian sage. John Dunster thanked James for his talk.

Most of the members collected their free bulbs for the Spring Show.

Our next meeting: Wednesday November 4th at 7.30 pm. There will be a short AGM, a quiz and some lovely refreshments. The Competition: Three different stems of plants showing autumn colour in a vase and can include berries.

A reminder to all members not to forget to put your name down for the Christmas Party during the November meeting.

November Quiz Answers

How many names were you familiar with? Here are the answers:

- 1 Sandwich
- 2 Capuchin
- 3 Malapropism
- 4 Scrooge
- 5 Spooner
- 6 Jezebel
- 7 Mackintosh
- 8 US President Theodore Roosevelt
- 9 Wellington Boot
- 10 A person who opposes new technology



* ? * ? * ? *

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A Journey with God



One of the most significant places in the UK for me is the Holy Island of Lindisfarne, and the pilgrimages I've made, to and from the island walking barefoot over the sands, have been holy moments.

Unlike other journeys, pilgrimages are deliberate journeys of transformation. I went on a pilgrimage from Watchet to Stogursey this year with a group of laity and clergy from Quantock Deanery. It had moments of challenge, and moments of joy. We were definitely changed as we travelled. It was a holy time.

In Christian teaching, pilgrimage has long been seen as a form of martyrdom. Not the martyrdom of shedding our blood, but the martyrdom of shedding our preferences, our self-centred desires.

The psalmist wrote; *"Blessed are those whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on a pilgrimage."* Those words show a yearning to be with God in his dwelling place, and that's a yearning we can all mirror in our prayers, whether we can physically undertake a pilgrimage or not.

One of the most famous stories of a pilgrimage is, of course, Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress. I find the closing words of the book among the most moving in literature, as they link our lives in this world to our journey's end with God. *"I cannot describe what Christian felt when he came face to face with the King... I woke too soon. And besides, no one can dream the Unimaginable. I shall have to cross the River myself before I can say exactly what the City of Gold contains. I would not have chosen to wake. But I did. I am awake now. Time to get up, then, I suppose, and continue the journey. I am on a pilgrimage too, you see. Everyone is."*

May God bless you on every step of your pilgrimage, and may you find your rest in him.

Fiona Gibson, Bishop of Taunton

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Monday morning
Wednesday evening



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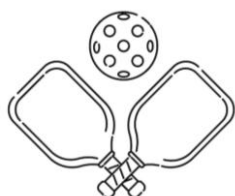


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Winscombe Community Association
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Sandford

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.

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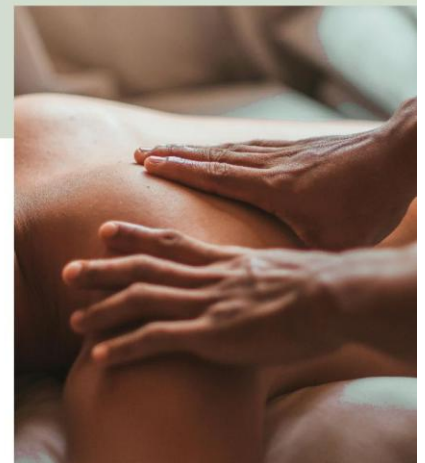


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