

VILLAGE NEWS

JUNE 2025



Picture taken by Andrea Stroud at Bayford Hill Viewpoint

Published free by your churches as a service to the community, donations to treasurers welcome.

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Bayford Village Hall

Bookings: Niru Linsey

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nirulinsey@icloud.com

POLICE

101 - non emergency line

999 - emergencies

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louise.perry@avonandsomerset.police.uk

mya.greenfield@avonandsomerset.police.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

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Stoke Trister

Peter Munro: 01963 33036

Bayford

Andy Chesterman: 01963 33465

Cucklington

Di Hammet 01747 840770

dmhammet99@aol.com

CHURCH

Pip Loxton

Tel: 07849329727

piploxton677@gmail.com

CHURCH WARDENS & TREASURER

Charlton Musgrove

Church Warden: *position vacant*

Treasurer: Jeremy Sellick

Tel: 01963 32174

jeremysellick@hotmail.co.uk

Cucklington

Church Warden: Pip Loxton

Tel: 07849329727

piploxton677@gmail.com

Treasurer: Christopher Birrell

Tel 01963 33209

crsb@clingerhouse.com

Stoke Trister with Bayford

Church Warden: *position vacant*

Treasurer: Christopher Birrell

Tel 01963 33209

crsb@clingerhouse.com

BENEFICE SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Jenny Kimber

Tel: 01963 33446 / 07799645661

Jennydoggrell@hotmail.com

Benefice Services and Events

May to July 2025

SSCM St Stephens Rectory Lane, Charlton Musgrove

SJCM St John's Barrow Lane, Charlton Musgrove

SLC St Lawrence, Cucklington

SAST St Andrew, Stoke Trister

May	25 th	9.00	Holy Communion	SLC
		10.00	APCM	SLC
	29 th	19.00	Ascension Day (All Saints' Church, Castle Cary)	
June	1 st	10.00	Said Holy Communion	SLC
		10.00	Cafe Church	SJCM
	8 th	9.00	Holy Communion	SSCM
	15 th	10.00	Morning Praise	SJCM
		18.30	Evensong	SAST
	22 nd	9.00	Holy Communion	SLC
	29 th	10.00	New Benefice Service (St Peter & St Paul's Church Wincanton)	
July	6 th	10.00	Said Holy Communion	SLC
		10.00	Cafe Church	SJCM
	13 th	9.00	Holy Communion	SSCM
	20 th	10.00	Morning Praise	SJCM
		18.00	Evensong	SLC
	27 th	9.00	Holy Communion	SLC

THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE

Those words, and all of verse 24 from Psalm 118, have a determined ring to them, so-much-so that I use them as a prayer at the beginning of every day.

Many years ago, during a vacancy in our Herefordshire group of parishes, we needed a Lent Course. As something which might have wide appeal, I invited half-a-dozen folk to come and be interviewed about their faith and their faith journey. Happily it was a revealing, and an immensely encouraging and uplifting, course.

A bishop told of how, as a young lad in their council house in Bristol, he had been chopping firewood for his Mum when one of the sticks sprung into his eye. As he said of his long spell in hospital "I lost an eye but gained a faith". It was a remarkable story.

The stories shared by the other speakers were equally revealing. Andy, a local GP, spoke tellingly of how, as a medical student, he had attended one of the earliest Alpha courses at Holy Trinity, Brompton and had come to faith, a faith which guided him still in his challenging work looking after his patient's well-being.

A very moving story was told by a clergyman's wife. Her husband, somewhat older than her and so dedicated to his calling, was brilliantly supported by his young wife. Sadly the striking change in her life led to a nervous breakdown. With her husband's ready and loving support she came through it, much stronger, and with a real empathy for those who struggled, in all sorts of ways. She became a valued counsellor. Above all she and her husband so joyously shared the love of Jesus with all they encountered, at all times, in all places. It was a privilege to hear her story and always a joy to be in their company.

A good friend, a Merchant Navy Captain, was another guest. Often away at sea, away from family, for long periods, with no chance of getting to Church, he regularly conducted worship on board for his multi-national crew, and valued especially those times when they came into port and had contact with the Mission to Seafarers.

Our Bishop's wife, among many illuminating insights, recalled how she had come to faith whilst at school, a well-known girls' school. The words of the hymn "*There's a wideness in God's mercy ...*" sung lustily in her school days still encouraged her today.

Audrey, a longtime resident, was 84 but spoke easily about her faith. Born and bred in Yorkshire, she shared many attributes typically recognized in folk from the Broad Acres. Her memories included church-going from a young age, twice on most Sundays with Sunday School in between, and she spoke movingly about Whitsunday parades and their hymns accompanied by the village's brass band. All this had provided for Audrey a firm foundation of life-long faith. She concluded her compelling story by telling us that, as she pulled back the curtains at the start of every new day, she said aloud the words from Psalm 118, verse 24.

The stories of all the interviewees were amazing and uplifting. Audrey's story – of an enduring faith - made such an impression on me that, from that moment, I too started each day by offering that same verse, Psalm 118, verse 24, at the start of each day as a prayer of commitment to God:

"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it".

Mike Vockins



“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”

- John 14:27 (ESV)

“I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

- John 16:33 (ESV)

It's been almost one year since my wife Emily and I began a regular rhythm of missional activities here in this Benefice. Despite the difficulties and uncertainties of being in interregnum, we've nevertheless experienced an outpouring of God's grace in our midst. Growth in our rural church community, especially as young people and young families join in with what's happening, bucks an overall trend of decline in rural parishes nationwide and is cause for celebration and thanksgiving.

These passages, both taken from Jesus' Farewell Discourse in John's gospel, help us to understand this paradox of new growth despite apparent obstacles. In the difficult and challenging world in which we live, learning how to rest and rejoice in Jesus might feel easier said than done! But Jesus is our peace because His supernatural life has overcome the world, both 2,000 years ago on the Cross and today in our everyday lives. As we learn to live and love like Jesus, we might be surprised by His guidance to accept our circumstances and take life as it comes. Perhaps unexpectedly, it is precisely through our willingness to trust and follow Him *despite the challenges that God is able to bless us exceedingly abundantly, both in our own lives and in our community life together.*

Let's be encouraged, therefore, that God is overcoming the world here and now in our village, as always. Remember Jesus invites us to embrace the world as it is, and not how we would like it to be. As we learn to trust in Him despite the difficulties, let's be confident in His promise of more fruit of His Spirit in our lives than we could ever have imagined possible. And as we continue to pray for a new incumbent, let's pause to take heart in all that God has done and is doing in this time of interregnum.



Marcus Letts

Wincanton Choral Society
Neil Moore music director

A SUMMER SOIRÉE

35TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

John Rutter *The Sprig of Thyme*
George Shearing *Songs and Sonnets from Shakespeare*
Solos and duets
Jacquelyn Bevan, piano

Tickets available through www.ticketsource.co.uk
or on the door. Details: 01749 860457

Saturday 14th June 2025, 7.30pm
Main Hall, King Arthurs School, Wincanton

Tickets £10

www.wincantonchoralsociety.co.uk Registered Charity no. 1029009

The Pilgrim Singers present

A SUMMER SERENADE

A Charity Concert in aid of Médecins Sans Frontières

**at The Dogs, Tout Hill,
Wincanton, BA9 9DL
Sunday 6 July 5pm**

Garden opens at 3pm for picnics

Tickets £15 (under 18s free)
Available: on the door, from choir members,
Wincanton Post Office,
or contact 01963 33695

Strawberries & Cream and Pimm's included
Marquee cover

Cucklington, Stoke Trister with Bayford Flower Show
16th August 2025
Photographic Classes

- 1 My favourite view
- 2 Portrait of an animal
- 3 A family event



A member of the communications team at the Somerset Council recently talked to Helen McInnes about Somerset Council's Route1 Advocacy and Independent Visitor Service.



Hello Helen, what is Route1 Advocacy and what do you do?

In a nutshell, we are a very small team of 7 field staff, a team manager and a business support officer who recruit train and support volunteers. In addition to this, we all do advocacy ourselves and some of us are also Independent Visitors!

So are you an independent company or part of Somerset Council?

We are part of Somerset Council, but 'sit' within the Quality Assurance team to maintain the required level of independent that is required for the roles we carry out. This also allows us to support young people with complaints without their being a conflict of interest.

You've mentioned Independent Visitors and advocacy, what is the difference between these roles?

Independent Visitors (IVs) are trusted adult friends and are available to any child who is Looked After, who would like one. As a volunteer the IV is often the only person in a child's life who is not paid to be there – which is quite a powerful message to the young person. The relationship can continue to be supported by Route1 for as long as the young person wants it to, and all volunteers agree to at least two years.

Advocacy is quite different. Firstly, it's available to any child who has a social worker, and who wants to speak to an advocate, and each advocacy case is usually short term with no expectation of a long-term commitment to a particular child.

Some of our volunteers do one role or the other, and quite a few do both!

Is there a reason that you use volunteers?

Absolutely. The Children Act actually identifies that IVs should be volunteers who have a role to "visit, befriend and advise the child".

One of the advocacy standards is that advocacy services should be independent, and the use of volunteers supports us in maintaining our independence. Using our team of highly trained volunteers also allows us to do much more advocacy than would be possible with a staff team of seven field staff. Last year, Route1 provided advocacy for children on more than 1000 occasions!

Why is it important to ensure the voice of the child is heard?

Children are experts in their own lives, and when decisions are being made that effect their lives it is imperative that their views are heard – and listened to! At times, the child may have key information which allows other professionals a different insight into how best to support the young person and/or family.

There have also been a number of safeguarding reviews where if the child's voice had been heard, and taken seriously, there would have been a different outcome.

If someone is interested in becoming a volunteer or supporting Route1 in any way, how can they find out more or get involved?

Our website can be found at www.route1advocacy.co.uk and has more information about the roles and a link to the application site. We also have active social media channels on Instagram and Facebook. And if you prefer the human touch, you can give us a call on 01749 822801.



Route1 Advocacy & Independent Visitors



route1advocacy



Cucklington Village Hall
Chairman: Campbell Dunford (01963 34220)
Secretary: Di Hammet (01747 840770)
dmhammet99@aol.com
Hall bookings: Jenny Rawlings (01963 33320)
Website: www.cucklington.org.uk

CUCKLINGTON
St Lawrence's Church
www.cucklington.org.uk
Church Warden - Pip Loxton
T: 07970 009142

SCRABBLE

We are playing Scrabble on the second Friday this month in Cucklington at AMMH join us at

7.00pm Friday 13th June.

We would be delighted to welcome new members. We play a friendly game, including many levels of ability. All you need to bring is whatever you would like to drink, 'nibbles' are provided!

If you would like more information please contact

Gaye on 01747 840450.

Coffee Morning

Saturday 28th June



10.00am- 12.00pm

EVERYONE IS WELCOME



Friday 6th June

7pm at the village hall

TABLE TENNIS

At

CUCKLINGTON VILLAGE HALL
EACH TUESDAY 7.30pm - 10.00pm

£2.50 including refreshments

New members needed

Please contact Celia or Richard
01963 32069 or text 07761355900



N'let point-of-contact.....send Cucklington copy to piploxtton677@gmail.com

before 18th of the month, please.

Cucklington commemorates VEday80

At the START!

... a spirited group of 4 - 92-year-olds joined Pip & Mark at St Lawrence's church to try chiming the bells. With no skill but great enthusiasm, we all had a go at feeling a rope, and making a noise. It may have sounded better to listening ears than it did to us on the end of our ropes but we had great fun. *Mike Spencer said: Pip, thank you very much for the opportunity to ring the bells. The granddaughters loved it and Joni (the big one) was so taken by it that she wants to take it up - just as a hobby, of course, so it doesn't affect her career as a gymnast!!*



... & on to the Village Hall where a medley of memories was on offer as residents from Cucklington & Stoke Trister/Bayford joined the celebrations. The Hall was a riot of red, white and blue bunting,



laid out with a choice of traditional pub games - bar skittles (courtesy of John Crocker), splat-the-rat (from Jo & Richard Jones), shove ha'penny (from Jenny & Mikey), darts, board games, quoits – something for everyone, especially the kids - adult or actual!! The bar did a roaring trade, making hilarious the Sing-a-long of old favourite war songs. Clearly few knew the actual song words, but undaunted, confidently belted out each chorus line! John Crocker explained how Cucklington became one of the Blessed Villages after

the War, since all our war veterans had come safely home again. In their honour, he read out their names and we remembered them. Then on to the next spectacle: guided in the dark by the plaintive sound of Andrew Cranfield's bagpipes, everybody traipsed over to Strap Lane and gathered in anticipation for

.... the BEACON!

Another spectacular bonfire had been built which blazed so high it was visible as far away as Gillingham (or so it was said!?). Thank you, John; bonfires don't build themselves, and you excelled yourself with this one. As we all watched in slight awe, Lachlan Frazer delivered the National Proclamation, leaving us to reflected on how fortunate we are, both to live in our beautiful Parish and to have ancestors who were prepared to fight and die to ensure we could enjoy that precious privilege.

A wonderful evening altogether, with great thanks to our organisers - Noni & the Social Group; Anne & her bar team; 'arsonist' extraordinaire, John Crocker, and all those attending who helped make it such a memorable event.

As Lachlan later commented: *"Our forefathers would have been proud of us! Thanks to all."* Di Hammet



Ready for the next Cucklington get together?

Friday 4 July 2025 : Summer BBQ

@ the Cucklington Village Hall with fun & frolics on the field

And don't be deterred by the weather ... we'll have it covered, whether outside or in !!

Tickets **£5** each (Grannies, children, dogs on leads FREE)

Watch out for more details to come. . . .



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www.stoketristerbayford.net

web@stoketristerbayford.net



AED

Emergency
Defibrillator

FIRST RESPONDERS

Laura Rose-Walker 07772 436812

Jo Garrett 07973 631744

Chris Rose-Walker 07919 261739 Aly Diggle-Perry 07770 221330



AED

Emergency
Defibrillator



In 1962, Roald Dahl (Hugh Bonneville) was an upcoming children's author, his wife, Patricia Neal (Keeley Hawes), was a Hollywood movie star. This unlikely pairing retreated to the English countryside to bring up their expanding young family, only for their lives to be turned upside down when their daughter Olivia contracted the measles virus and died. Her death devastated the couple, yet, their shared grief became a source of redemption and strength, Neal going on to win an Oscar and Dahl writing the book which made him a household name.



Bayford Village Hall

Film Night

Saturday 14th June

7.00pm

(doors open at 6.30pm)

COFFEE MORNING

Bayford Village Hall



10am-12noon

Thurs 5th June

All

welcome

Coffee, cake with friends, new and old.

Meeting and making friends over food!

JOIN US FOR LUNCH

ALL WELCOME

BAYFORD VILLAGE HALL

WEDNESDAY 18th June

12.15 TO EAT AT 12.30



*Please call Mary on 34420 by
Sunday 15th to book your lunch.*

Stoke Trister (and Beyond) Book Exchange

Are you a reader? Do you have books on your shelves that you have enjoyed and you'd like to pass them on?

Would you be interested in having a Book Exchange in St Andrew's Church?

Please email alison.dixon8@btinternet.com for more details.

Or scan this code to send an email without having to type it all in!



BOOK EXCHANGE at St Andrew's

To Ladies and Gentlemen in our villages

If you enjoy reading do come to have a coffee at St Andrew's, Stoke Trister on Tuesday, 10th June between 10.30am and 12 noon.

Either bring a book you have enjoyed and are willing to lend to the Exchange or just come to see what it's all about.

See poster to get more information by email from Alison Dixon

or text her on 0785 5548586.



We would love to invite you to Bayford Village Hall on **Friday 6th June at 2.30pm** to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of VE day and the 81st Anniversary of D-Day.

A selection of WW2 songs will be shown on film (sing along optional) followed by **tea and cake.**

The afternoon is free of charge so please RSVP to Alice on 01963 33525
Look forward to seeing you.



Looking ahead
to Saturday, 5th July
at St Andrew's, Stoke Trister
from 5pm

Come for drinks and snacks in the churchyard, when Chris Page, (Bass Man) will be playing some jazz and swing .



All welcome!

The Bayford Inn Update

The
Bayford
Inn

In the last month or so, quite a few things have happened:

- studwork has been prepared for the intended new front door onto the street;
 - the old gates, hanging sign, and an asbestos roof have all been removed;
 - more scrap metal has been sorted & sold to raise funds;
- much filling and painting has continued!

Thank you very much, as ever, to all those of you who have been helping out.

The vast majority of the work continues to be done on a voluntary basis, to save money - but obviously when people are working only in their free time (mostly at weekends), progress is slower than if an army of contractors was being hired.

Therefore, we're still not going to be ready to open for a little while yet, but are doing our best to prioritise this - while of course wanting to ensure we "get it right" when we do open.

Next up:

- Preparation to present our financial reports for January-March to shareholders
- Starting to make plans for a shareholders AGM this summer (we expect be able to announce a date for this in next month's newsletter)

Scaffolding to go up soon, so we can work on repairs to the exterior of the building.

Oliver Lockwood





CHARLTON MUSGROVE
www.charltonmusgrove.org
E: cmvillagehall@gmail.com



Charlton Musgrove Community Defibril-
stored inside the old Phone Box
on Barrow Lane, Charlton Musgrove
(opposite Nos 3 and 4 Dibbens Row).

Postcode: BA9 8HQ
What3 Words: doubt.fields.bottom

Further information is available on the Parish Council web-
site at

<https://charltonmusgrovepc.org.uk/community-defibrillator/>

Defibrillator Awareness Session

*The annual parish Defibrillator Awareness Session for Charlton Musgrove residents will take place on **Saturday 28th June** at 10.00 am
In Charlton Musgrove Memorial Hall.*

All welcome – Free attendance

Hall open and coffee served from 09.00 onwards

Training Session from 10.00 until 11:00



*worship
& prayer*

Friday June 6th

On the 1st Friday of each Month, at 7pm,
we are having a time of worship and prayer in St John's,
with a group of young people,
led by Marcus Letts.
Do join us!

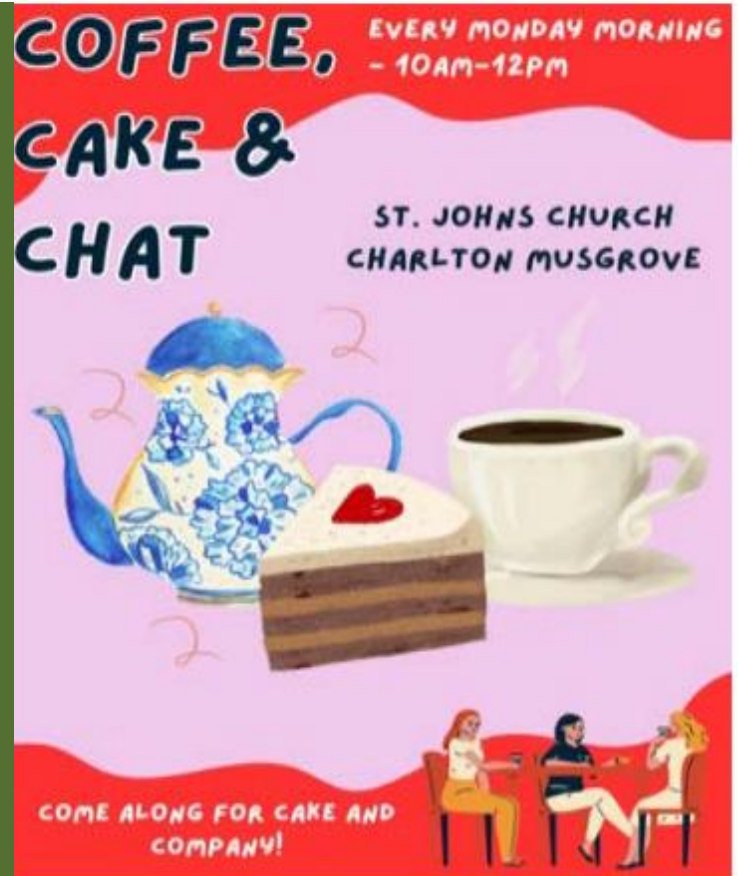
Charlton Musgrove Short Mat Bowls

The Bowls Club is held in the Village Hall on the **2nd and 4th Tuesday** of the month. We start at 2 pm until 4p.m.

Tea and coffee are provided half way through the meeting. Fees are £3 per session.

If you are at all interested, please come along and join us. We are a very friendly group and have room for new members.

Janet and Tony Cole (01963 31739)



Coffee, cake & chat has been running for a while now, it's a lovely time, it's run by the church as an outreach to our community & also provides finance for our church, which in turn helps to pay for the Village news!!



Memorial Hall Coffee Morning

A once-a-month coffee morning is held on the 3rd Friday of each month. There will be an opportunity to catch up with neighbours. All this for £2.00. Any surplus monies made will go to local charities.

*The next Charlton Musgrove Memorial Hall coffee morning will be held on
Friday 20th June 10.30 to 12.00*

*An additional coffee morning will be held on Saturday 28th June
to coincide with the annual parish Defibrillator Awareness Session
(session starts at 10:00 - see separate AED advert)*





Village Plant Sale

A full-to-bursting Memorial Hall car park well before 9:30 on Saturday could mean only one thing - Plant Sale!

A stream of happy customers made off bearing their purchases, having contributed to total profits of well over £2,000.

Congratulations to Georgie, Clare, Maymie and their team of helpers. £556 has been donated to each of the Memorial Hall, The Growing Space, Treatment Bags and our churches.

Well done everybody.

PS. Next Years' Plant Sale will be on Saturday 9th May. Save the date!

Jeremy Sellick

VILLAGES' WALKING GROUP –JUNE AND JULY WALKS.

Some dates for your diary, if you would like to join our Villages' Walking Group on their ventures in the coming two months.

In case you receive your copy of Village News early a reminder that Barrie and Ceri Izard are leading a walk in the Pen Selwood area on **Friday 30th May**. They plan to take in the nature reserve, a castle and fort, and a ridge walk on this walk. As is our custom we shall meet first at Charlton Musgrove Village Hall ready to set off for 10am. This will allow car-sharing for those who would welcome this.

Since the Group was first formed, in January 2022, we have established a custom of having a **Mid-Summer Evening Walk**. This was started by Steve and Sara Jarrett and they kindly have agreed to lead us on another Mid-Summer Evening Walk on **Thursday 26th June**. On each previous occasion the weather has been balmy, and made for an enjoyable evening walk. If you would like to join us we shall meet as usual at CMVH, but on this occasion ready for a **7pm departure**.

Looking ahead to July, Tony and Janet Cole kindly have agreed to lead their planned walk in North Cadbury (postponed from end of March). This will be on **Friday 25th July**. This will be new walking territory for our Group, and so a walk to look forward to. We shall meet as usual at CMVH ready to leave by 10am.

Do join us for one or all or any of these walks – you will be most welcome. The group is intended for all walkers in our three villages, and will find you are joining a friendly group enjoying splendid countryside and scenery, and getting gentle exercise. If you are able to join us it would be a kindness to let us know beforehand, as it would be a pity to set off without you!

Mike and Eileen

Mike and Eileen Vockins

mdvockins@btinternet.com

01963 34837





SOMERSET COUNCIL

www.somerset.gov.uk

03001232224

8.30am-5pm Mon - Fri

To check bin collections, pay council tax, check school term dates, check on planning applications, adult social care, parking etc

You can always get help and advice from a council "customer access point" at the Balsam centre in Wincanton.

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Sarah Dyke (Lib Dem)

sarah.dyke.mp@parliament.uk



Editor's Message

This month's quick note from me, your Editor, many thanks for the information received, again there's an action packed village news in the offing. I'm always encouraged by our benefice and the way in which we all pull together and support one another. I'm particularly fond of this piece of scripture found in 1 John 4:19, which says "we love because he first loved us" which highlights the idea that God's love for humanity is the foundation upon which our love for God and others is built.

Blessings one and all.

Keith Stroud

ADVERTISING IN THE VILLAGE NEWS

Full page - £540

Half - £270

Quarter - £135

Eighth - £67

Sixteenth - £35

Prices quoted are for 11 insertions.

Please send ad copy to Keith at

MrKeithStroud@Gmail.com

And concerning payment, email

Jeremysellick@hotmail.co.uk

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BA9 9RA

Tel: 07814 857496

Kylie's cleaning services

Domestic cleaner

07545 220663

EVENTS FOR YOUR JUNE DIARY

Cucklington

3rd 10th 17th 24th Table tennis, 7.30pm AMMH

6th Pop up Pub 7.00pm

13th Scrabble, 7.00pm AMMH

28th Coffee morning AMMH

Stoke Trister & Bayford

5th Coffee morning, 10am Bayford village hall

6th VE and D-Day Celebration 2:30pm Village Hall

10th St Andrew's Church Book Exchange 10:30am to 12:00pm

13th Youth Alpha BBQ 7:30pm at BA9 8NQ

14th Movie night "To Olivia doors open at 6.30pm Bayford village hall

18th Village lunch, 12.15pm Bayford village hall

Charlton Musgrove

2nd 9th 16th 23rd 30th St John's Coffee Morning 10:00am CM

10th 24th Short mat bowls, 2pm Charlton Musgrove village hall

20th Coffee Morning 10:30am Charlton Musgrove Memorial hall

26th Village Walk 7:00pm meet at Charlton Musgrove Memorial hall car park

28th Coffee Morning 9:00am with defibrillator Awareness session at 10:00am
Charlton Musgrove Memorial hall

June 2025

GARDEN + RECYCLING X HOUSEHOLD O

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
2 XO	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 X	10 +	11	12	13	14	15
16 X	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 XO	24 +	25	26	27	28	29
30 X						

This collection calendar is correct (according to SSDC) for all of Charlton Musgrove, Bayford, most of Stoke Trister (BA9 9PJ, BA9 9PQ) and part of Cucklington (BA9 9QH, BA9 9QJ, BA9 9QY, BA9 9PW, BA9 9PU, BA9 9QN)

For other postcodes in Stoke Trister and Cucklington the recycling and garden waste is the same but refuse is on the 16th

DEADLINE

The deadline for the July issue is as always the 18th but please feel free to send it earlier!

Send to MrKeithStroud@Gmail.com

