

VILLAGE NEWS

FEBRUARY 2026



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

DIRECTORY

PARISH COUNCIL CONTACTS

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POLICE

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999 - emergencies

Local police officers

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

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Bayford

Andy Chesterman: 01963 33465

Cucklington

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Pip Loxton

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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

Generations growing in faith together

Our extended family recently got together for a celebration. We were nine adults from 24-68, one toddler, and one dog, and it was glorious! The joy was simply in being together, whatever our age.

I sometimes wonder what would happen in the life of our churches if we could adopt the same outlook there? Each generation glad that the other is there. Each generation contributing something to the whole. Each generation looking to the interests of the others, making sure there was something that spoke to the others even if not to them.

The writer of the Chronicles records something you could miss if you weren't looking for it. In 2 Chronicles 20, when Judah was facing attack from Ammon and Moab, King Jehoshaphat proclaimed a fast and summoned the people. This is what it says in verse 13:

"All Judah stood before the Lord, with their little ones, their wives, and their children."

At a time of great peril, when the king was seeking the LORD, all generations came together to pray.

We often think of intergenerational meaning us older ones passing on wisdom to the younger ones, and that's certainly part of it. But a truly intergenerational family, which the church is, means all generations welcoming one another, valuing one another, learning from one another, and praying with and for one another. It's not a one-way thing.

Our younger generations are ambassadors from the future, with wisdom to give us about their culture, and how to share the timeless truths of the gospel with their peers. They are leaders and learners, just as we all are.

What might it look like across our diocese if we committed to making room for other generations? What might it look like if, like the people of God in ancient times, we came together in our year of especial focus on prayer - adults, young people, and little ones - and sought the power and wisdom of God together? I have a feeling we'd be surprised!

The Rt Revd Dr Fiona Gibson
Bishop of Taunton



Benefice Services

February 2026

St Stephens Rectory Lane, Charlton Musgrove
St John's Barrow Lane, Charlton Musgrove
St Lawrence, Cucklington
St Andrew, Stoke Trister
St Michaels, Pen Selwood
St Peter & St Pauls, Church Street, Wincanton

Sunday 1st February

9am Rise & Shine Families	St Michaels, Pen Selwood
10am Said Holy Communion	St Lawrences, Cucklington
10am Cafe Church	St Johns, Charlton Musgrove
10:45am Holy Communion	St Peter & St Pauls, Wincanton

Sunday 8th February

9am Holy Communion	St Stephens, Charlton Musgrove
9am Holy Communion	St Michaels, Pen Selwood
10:45am Holy Communion	St Peter & St Pauls, Wincanton

Sunday 15th February

9am Holy Communion	St Michaels, Pen Selwood
10am Morning Praise	St Johns, Charlton Musgrove
10:45am Holy Communion	St Peter & St Pauls, Wincanton
6:30pm Evensong	St Andrews, Stoke Trister

Wednesday 18th February

7pm Ash Wednesday Communion at St Peter & St Pauls, Wincanton

Sunday 22nd February

9am Holy Communion	St Lawrences, Cucklington
10:45am Holy Communion	St Peter & St Pauls, Wincanton
4pm Evensong	St Michaels, Pen Selwood

Sunday 1st March

9am Rise & Shine Families	St Michaels, Pen Selwood
10am Said Holy Communion	St Lawrences, Cucklington
10am Cafe Church	St Johns, Charlton Musgrove
10:45am Holy Communion	St Peter & St Pauls, Wincanton

BENEFICE SOCIAL EVENT

This evening was thoroughly enjoyed by one and all who attended, we had delicious food cooked & served to us, many thanks goes to everyone who helped not only with the food but the entertainment too and behind the bar. There were over 100 people there. The entertainment brought many a smile to our faces. It was a great time of fellowship.





presents...

† saint john's

first fridays

ft. based

Starts 6th Feb

From 7:30pm BA9 8HN

every 1st Sunday

Café Church

at

† saint john's

Starts 10am

BA9 8HN

† saint john's

morning praise

every 3rd
Sunday

Starts 10am

BA9 8HN



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Arthur
Morison
Village Hall,
Cucklington
BA9 9PZ



Every 2nd
Friday



Starts: 3:30
Ends: 6:30

Facilitated by:



Join via
WhatsApp:



First meeting is Friday 13th February in
Cucklington, from 3:30 - 6:30pm

Prayer for the Benefice

Beloved God, guide us as we work together at this time of change, to love and encourage one another in Faith. Bless Rev Lydia as we support her in bringing together our parishes of Wincanton, Pen Selwood, Cucklington, Charlton Musgrove and Stoke Trister with Bayford into one Benefice to worship you.
Amen.

Wincanton and Pen Selwood Diary Dates

- Black Bin Café** Held in **Pen Selwood Village Hall** every other Friday **10:30am – 12:30pm** a great social event and well worth a visit. Tea, coffee and wonderful cakes. Café next open **January 30th, February 13th & 27th**. Please check www.penselwood.ning for more details.
- Mobile Library** Visits Pen Selwood at the **Old Orchard lay by** in **Queens Grove** monthly **12:30-12:45pm** on January 30th and February 27th.
- 14th February** **Coffee Morning** in **Wincanton Church 10:00am – 12:00 noon**. Raffle, Homemade Cakes & Savouries, Bookstall &, Refreshments. **Everybody welcome!**

Clive Jackson will be speaking on **Wednesday 25th February 7.15pm at the Charlton Musgrove village hall**, Clive was a dairy farmer near Gillingham, called to serve the Lord full time in 1978. He is the Founder of 'Fathers house' in Shaftesbury. He has ministered across India, Africa, Canada and many countries around the world, more recently ministering in India. He's spoken at conferences to many church leaders across the south west and around the world . Please join us.





Cucklington Village Hall

Chairman: Campbell Dunford (01963 34220)

Secretary: Di Hammet (01747 840770)
dmhammet99@aol.com

Hall bookings: Karen Dunford
cvhbookingsecretary@gmail.com

CUCKLINGTON

St Lawrence's Church

www.cucklington.org.uk

Church Warden—Pip Loxton

Tel: 07849329727

SCRABBLE

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

7.00pm Friday 13th February.

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 February



10.00am- 12.00pm

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

A very big thank you to everyone who contributed to the decorating of the Church at Christmas, as usual the Church looked beautiful.

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.

Join

MIKE SPENCER

as he brings to life ...

..... ICELAND ~

“LAND OF

ICE & FIRE”

CUCKLINGTON VILLAGE HALL

6th February @ 7pm

Tickets: £12.00 pp

**Supper – choice of delicious
casseroles**

**** CASH BAR ****

To help with catering please book in advance at:

dmhammet99@aol.com

Supporting our local communities.....

Cucklington Social Group in cooperation with the Village Hall committee have decided to trial a food bank project to help those less well off than ourselves



Urgently needed food items:

- Jam
- Sponge puddings
- Tinned meat
- Tomato ketchup
- UHT fruit juice

All dry goods, tins and jars are always welcome but must not have been previously opened or exceed the sell by date.

For obvious reasons they cannot except fresh produce of any kind.

Please bring along any contributions to the Hall on the **last Saturday of each month** - conveniently also **Coffee Morning** in case people want to stop for a chat and some delicious cake with a coffee !!!

PLEASE NOTE.... For safety reasons contributions **cannot** be left in the Hall other than on the **last Saturday of each month**. Food gifts can be left in the porch at Longhill Cottage if you are unable to take it to the Hall on the specified dates.

Should you have any comments or queries please contact nonilowney@hotmail.com

PLANT SALE and Coffee Morning 30th May in the Cucklington Village Hall.

Please sow a few extra seeds and think of us when dividing plants.



Cucklington, Stoke Trister with Bayford Flower Show

Photographic Classes

- 1 A Cold Frosty Morning
- 2 Spring is in the air
- 3 A Village Event





STOKE TRISTER WITH BAYFORD

www.stoketristerbayford.net

web@stoketristerbayford.net



FIRST RESPONDERS

Laura Rose-Walker 07772 436812

Jo Garrett 07973 631744

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



COFFEE MORNING



Thursday 5th February

10:00am to 12noon

at The Bayford Village Hall

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 February

12.15 TO EAT AT 12.30



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

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Little Voice is a 1998 British musical film. The story is set in Scarborough and follows the life of Laura Hoff, affectionately known as LV, who is characterized by her soft, childlike voice and her reclusive nature. Living with her loud and boisterous mother, Mari, LV finds solace in her late father's collection of vinyl records, where she mimics the voices of iconic singers like Judy Garland, Marilyn Monroe, and Shirley Bassey.

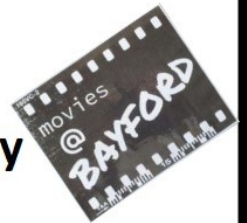
Bayford Village Hall

Film Night

Saturday 14th February

7.00pm

(doors open at 6.30pm)



Afternoon tea at Bayford Village Hall

Friday 27th February at 2.30pm

**Tea and cake will be served with
light entertainment included.**

This event is free of charge. All welcome
**Please book your place by contacting Alice on
01963 33525**



Cucklington, Stoke Trister with Bayford Flower Show

Photographic Classes

- 1 A Cold Frosty Morning**
- 2 Spring is in the air**
- 3 A Village Event**



COFFEE AND BOOKS

St Andrew's Church, Stoke Trister

Stoke Trister (and Beyond) Book Exchange

January and February are so wet and miserable that they practically demand you stay indoors. They're an ideal excuse to put the fire on, make a cup of tea, and sit very still with a book while the weather does whatever it likes outside. Fog is especially good at encouraging this behaviour, and we've had plenty of it lately. Fog is a thoroughly unfriendly thing: it creeps about, hides familiar landmarks, and makes you feel faintly suspicious of everything.



Writers have always agreed. Stevenson's famous line in *Jekyll and Hyde*, "A fog rolled over the city" (once memorably misread by a girl in my class as "A *FROG* rolled over the city", to good-natured guffaws from her friends) was a neat symbol for Hyde's hidden personality. Dickens also used fog to suggest confusion, describing it as "fog everywhere. Fog up the river... fog down the river..." (Bleak House) and continued at such length that, by the time he finished, your tea would definitely be cold. Weather has always affected us, and, judging by our interest in forecasts, always will.

Fortunately, reading is a pleasure in any weather. Summer will eventually arrive, and with it the chance to sit outside in deckchairs, avoiding all the sensible things we should be doing by disappearing into books borrowed from our Book Exchange.

One of the earliest lyrical poems in recognisably modern English begins, "Summer is icumin in, sing loud cuckoo." The author (almost certainly a bloke) must have been staring out at a grim 12th-century January and thought a bit of forced cheerfulness was in order. As most people couldn't read, we can only hope he sang it loudly enough for it to work.

Our books are now back in the church, just inside the door. You don't need to wait for a Books and Coffee event to pop in, browse, and take one home—although do beware the muddy patch by the gate. It's slippery, and falling over while thinking about literature would be undignified.

The next event is **Wednesday 11th February, 10.30–12.00**. Do come and join us for coffee. With luck, there might even be a glimpse of pre-spring sunshine—or at least slightly less fog.

We'd love to see you there.

Penelope

(Book Exchange, Stoke Trister and Beyond)



Christmas Fair in aid of St. Andrews Church, Stoke Trister.

Thank you to everyone who came and supported us on the 29th November, on the day we made just over £900, but with several sales over the next couple of weeks this was raised to £977.35, with two donations, one to round up to £980 and then a very kind Bayford resident who was unable to come on the day made the total up to £1,000. Thank you so much.

I would like to thank everyone who donated goods and raffle prizes (we had 28 raffle prizes) and especially to all those who helped set up and on the day, make it such a successful event this year.

Can we do better (with your help) next year?

Christine

St Andrews Church, Stoke Trister, Christmas Tree Festival 2025

The Stoke Trister Church Community welcomed many visitors to this years St Andrews Church, Stoke Trister, Christmas Tree Festival 2025.

*We had **24** trees displayed inside St Andrews Church this year and raised a total of **£514.33**. We appreciate the effort of all those who entered a tree. In doing so we hope this has enabled both children and adults to enter into the spirit of Christmas.*

Visitors voted for their favourite tree by placing a donation into the numbered container next to the tree...

I can reveal that, in:

3rd place: Leigh Master's – Christmas Post

***2nd place: Karen & Charlotte Baber – Jumpers for Joy at Christmas
and.... drum roll please...***

1st place: Angela Baker – Christmas Pigs in Blankets

We wish all church visitors

A Happy New Year

Gary





Can you help:-

We are looking for Volunteers to Clean the Church.

It would be great to have

5/6 Volunteers to help clean the Church every 2/3 months.

The next Big Clean is

Tuesday 3rd March, 2026

10 – 11 am Refreshments provided

Many jobs, Polishing, brushing up, brushing cobwebs down, vacuuming.

Please contact Christine on 01963 32311



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



Charlton Musgrove Community Defibril-

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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->

VILLAGES' WALKING GROUP – FEBRUARY WALKS

Despite mud and gentle rain we had a most enjoyable walk, locally, on New Year's Day. As we move into 2026, Friday 27th February is penciled in for our Villages' Walking Group's February walk, so please note it in your diaries. Recent frosts began to dry up fields and footpaths but the persistent recent rains frustratingly have again made these paths very slippery and ridiculously muddy. On one recent recce I lost a wellington boot, firmly clasped by deep mud.

So the weather may yet dictate where we walk, but even if fields and footpaths remain muddy morasses, there are some delightful circular walks we can tackle on quiet lanes, and so continue to enjoy the exercise, enjoy the countryside, enjoy each other's company.

Those who walk with us regularly will be notified, in plenty of time, of the location for our walk on 27th February (for which we shall meet, as usual, at CM Village Hall ready to leave at 10am).

If you are not yet a "regular" walker with us but would like to join us on Friday 27th February, do please get in touch. It will be great to see you.



Mike and Eileen

Mike and Eileen Vockins

mdvockins@btinternet.com

01963 34837

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 February 10.30 to 12.00



Christmas seems a long time ago! So much preparation then it's quickly gone!

We had 4 services in Charlton Musgrove which were all really well attended. Our churches were decorated beautifully & our tree's looked lovely. It was really special to have the children decorating the outside tree at St John's before the Crib service. Thank you everyone.

The Crib service is always very special, held in St Johns church, it was packed with Angels, shepherds and Kings, the 'folk' acting were brilliant, thank you Marcus Letts for leading this service.

The Christingle service at St Stephens was by candlelit; telling the story of the birth of Jesus in this way was very special.

The Carol service at St Stephens was lovely, thank you to everyone taking part and to Ruth for pulling it together.

The Christmas day service at St Stephens was led by Stuart Thomas, it was lovely to see so many families in attendance.

How good to ponder on the story, the fulfilment of the prophecies from hundreds of years before, always Inspire me.

Our Benefice Development Minister. Rev Lydia Avery and team, (people from each parish) are working together to form a good pattern of services in preparation for a new priest to join us. We are planning on holding a vision day for everyone to come along , please look out for further details.

On March 8th our Archdeacon, The Venerable Anne Gell will be leading a service at St Stephens at 10.30am. All welcome, please do join us.

Happy New Year to everyone,
Jean Brown

The parish council have set up a Facebook page – Charlton Musgrove Parish Council Notice Board – its intended use is to post agendas and minutes of meetings as there seems to be members of the public who would engage with this medium rather than looking at the website.

Editor's Message

May you experience Jesus Christ's grace this New Year, trusting in his providence, finding joy in his presence and confidently walking knowing he is at work in your life.

Happy New Year

Keith Stroud

Photo taken by Andrea Stroud
at Pen Selwood



03001232224

SOMERSET COUNCIL

www.somerset.gov.uk

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



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Full page - £540

Half - £270

Quarter - £135

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EVENTS FOR YOUR FEBRUARY 2026 DIARY

Cucklington

3rd 10th 17th 24th	Table tennis, 7.30pm AMMH
6th	Iceland "Land of Ice & Fire" with Cash Bar 7:00pm AMMH
13th	Scrabble, 7.00pm AMMH
28th	Coffee morning 10:00am to 12:00pm AMMH

Stoke Trister & Bayford

5th	Coffee morning, 10:00am to 12:00pm Bayford village Hall
11th	St Andrew's Church Coffee & Book Exchange 10:30am to 12:00pm
14th	Movie night "Little Voice" doors open at 6.30pm Bayford village hall
18th	Village lunch, 12.15pm Bayford village hall
27th	Afternoon tea at Bayford village hall 2.30pm

Charlton Musgrove

2nd 9th 16th 23rd	St John's Coffee Morning 10:00am to 12:00pm CM
10th 24th	Short mat bowls, 2pm Charlton Musgrove village hall
20th	Coffee Morning 10:30am to 12:00pm Charlton Musgrove Village hall
27th	Village Walk 10:00am meet at Charlton Musgrove Village hall car park



FEBRUARY 2026						
GARDEN + RECYCLING X HOUSEHOLD O						
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2 X	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 X O	10 +	11	12	13	14	15
16 X	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 X	24 +	25	26	27	28	

my collection days Somerset Council website: www.somerset.gov.uk/collection-days

DEADLINE

The deadline for the March issue is the 18th February but please feel free to send it earlier! Send to MrKeithStroud@Gmail.com