

VILLAGE NEWS

MAY 2026



Sunrise at St Andrew's Easter Sunday

Photo taken by Jane Turner

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

DIRECTORY

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Secretary: TBC

Stoke Trister with Bayford

Chair: Niru Linsey

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nirulinsley@icloud.com

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cmvillagehall@gmail.com

Arthur Morison Memorial Hall,

Cucklington

Chair: Campbell Dunford

campbell@willowbarns.com

Bookings:

cvhbookingsecretary@gmail.com

Bayford Village Hall

Bookings: Niru Linsey

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nirulinsey@icloud.com

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101 - non emergency line

999 - emergencies

Local police officers

louise.perry@avonandsomerset.police.uk

mya.greenfield@avonandsomerset.police.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Charlton Musgrove

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

Called to care

By Michael Beasley, Bishop of Bath and Wells

I heard about one of the earliest scientists to get involved in climate change research. When he began, the researcher said, he'd believed that if we could just get the science right, all the challenges could be resolved. The best information would enable humankind to find the right technologies and take the right actions to bring climate change under control. Twenty-five years on, the scientist said, he'd realised he'd got it all wrong. What we need to sort out, he said, is the human heart. We know what to do to address the climate emergency. Our challenge is that we're all too liable to place the actions we need to take into the 'too difficult' box, or just deny there's a problem altogether.

Yet whether we like it or not, the climate emergency is a reality that is advancing upon us. It's seen in rising sea levels and increased freak weather. Talk to our brothers and sisters in Zambia and they'll tell you that the climate emergency is upon them now in increased droughts and floods. Last year the National Emergency Briefing on the Climate and Nature Crisis saw leading experts brief an audience of over 1,200 politicians and leaders from business, culture, faith, sport and the media. The Briefing outlined the implications of climate breakdown for health, food systems, national security and the economy. If you've not seen it please can I encourage you to find out where you can watch it.

I invite us all to think too about the next steps we can take to address an issue we'd probably rather ignore. The Church of England has set the bold target of becoming Carbon Net Zero by 2030. Our churches can make a difference in local communities towards achieving this ambitious goal. I urge you to fill out your church's Carbon Footprint return, sign up to achieve an A Rocha Eco Church Award, make whatever difference you can where you are. Such actions are a sign of us turning around – metanoia as the New Testament puts it – away from denial of what's wrong towards putting things right. Our actions can be signs of the change in heart that all of us need to make.



Benefice Services

May 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 3rd May

9am Rise & Shine Family Service	St Michael's Church, Pen Selwood
9am Holy Communion	St Lawrence's Church, Cucklington
10am Café Church	St John's Church, Charlton Musgrove
10:30am Holy Communion	St Peter & St Paul's Church, Wincanton

Sunday 10th May

9am Holy Communion	St Stephen's Church, Charlton Musgrove
9am Holy Communion	St Michael's Church, Pen Selwood
10:30am Morning Worship	St Peter & St Paul's Church, Wincanton
6:30pm Evening Service	St Lawrence's Church, Cucklington (Sung)

Thursday 14th May

7pm Deanery Ascension Day Service St Mary's Church, Bruton

Sunday 17th May

9am Morning Service	St Michael's Church, Pen Selwood
9am Holy Communion	St Lawrence's Church, Cucklington
10:00am Morning Praise	St John's Church, Charlton Musgrove
10:30am Holy Communion	St Peter & St Paul's Church, Wincanton

Sunday 24th May

10:30am Whole Benefice Communion St Michael's Church, Pen Selwood

Sunday 31st May

10:30am Whole Benefice Morning Worship St Lawrence's Church, Cucklington

Sunday 7th June

9:00am Rise & Shine Families	St Michaels, Pen Selwood
9:00am Said Holy Communion	St Lawrences, Cucklington
10:00am Cafe Church	St Johns, Charlton Musgrove
10:30am Holy Communion	St Peter & St Pauls, Wincanton

The motto for our Churches in our Diocese, is 'Living and Telling the Story of Jesus'. The churches here in our villages are working together to do just that! At the moment we do not have a vicar, (we are in a period of interregnum) however our churches are still functioning well and are active. We have a new benefice name, '**The Monarch Way**', the history of the name is coming from the 625 mile footpath in England which was the escape route for King Charles II after the 1651 battle of Worcester. Our Benefice Development Minister, Reverend Lydia Avery is working with us in our mission and in preparation to receive our new vicar. Our beautiful country churches have been proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ for hundreds of years and has been the core belief in our communities. Our PCCs (Parochial Church Councils), are elected annually, usually in the month of May. Members are required to be actual communicants and have been on the Electoral Roll for 6 months and are trained to the legal level of Safeguarding for the Church of England with a DBS check, (more information on the above is easily available within our church hub.) You can obtain details from our safeguarding officers in all the churches. Safeguarding is taken very seriously within our churches and the diocese. If you feel you would like to be involved in any way in your local church, you would be most welcome.

On Palm Sunday we had a united benefice service at Pen Selwood, remembering our Lord's journey into Jerusalem. We received palm crosses and walked with Roly, the donkey from the church to the Tree, where history has it, that John Wesley preached, it was a very thoughtful service, reminding us of what our Lord Jesus did for us all on the cross at Calvary.

Our Easter services, started at Stoke Trister with a sunrise service, followed by communion services in Cucklington and Charlton Musgrove. True celebrations of the triumph over death of our risen Lord. All the churches looked beautiful. The services inspired a joyous Easter egg hunt for 'grown ups' and children alike. Thank you to everyone who worked together and made it all possible.

Jean Brown



EASTER WORSHIP

Year- by-year our Easter Day Sun-Rise Service seems to draw more worshippers. This was true of our recent Easter Sun-Rise worship. An encouraging number joined us to welcome the Risen Son at our 6.15am Service at St. Andrew's, Stoke Trister, and to affirm "Jesus Christ is risen today. Alleluia!"

The sun played its part too, and rose on cue over the hill to shine on us in the churchyard. Even with the sun's appearance it was good to huddle round the fire-basket and enjoy post-Service refreshments, Easter biscuits and Easter eggs.



Later that morning a good congregation gathered at St. Lawrence's for the more formal - yet joyous - Easter Day Holy Communion worship, and to appreciate yet another splendid sermon preached by our Reader, Barbara Priest. Barbara emphasised the importance and ever-present relevance of the Easter message - in good times and testing times - "Alleluia! Christ is risen!"

MDV

Walking through the night!

Will Sellick is training for The Cotswold Way Ultra Challenge on June 13th & 14th.

The Cotswold Way follows a 100 kilometre (62 mile) route through beautiful Cotswolds scenery. Beginning and finishing in Cirencester, Will sets off on Saturday morning, continues through the night, and will finish on Sunday.

He is walking in support of Parkinson's UK.

If you would like to sponsor him, please follow the link below.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/will-sellick-1>

Find out about the work of Parkinson's UK, at

<https://www.parkinsons.org.uk/>



Jeremy Sellick



first fridays

ft. **based**

Friday 1st May

From 7:30pm BA9 8HN

First Fridays continues on Friday 3rd April, then every first Friday of the month, at 7:30pm.

This is a short run of 6 x sessions to lay down essential foundations of the Christian faith and challenge us to be bold and courageous in putting what we believe into practice.

Our desire is for this to be something like a sandbox and launchpad, both for new believers seeking to learn and apply the basics, as well as for old believers desperate to get back to their first love.

Everyone is welcome. With Marcus Letts and Clive Jackson.

Venue: Charlton Musgrove Village Hall

Friday 8th May



A Christian Education Project:
Using Agile Learning Tools

Featuring:
Open The Book, Alpha Youth, Presentations, Bake-Off, Strategy Games, Ping Pong & more!

 Arthur Morison Village Hall, Cucklington BA9 9PZ

 Every 2nd Friday

 Starts: 3:30
Ends: 6:30

Facilitated by:



 Join via
WhatsApp:



Agile Learning Fridays (or ALF for short) is a brand new Christian education project happening every 2nd Friday of the month 3:30 - 6:30pm.

We use Agile Learning tools to support local families seeking a faith-based and community-rooted approach to learning. This project is intentionally made accessible to both home-schooling families and families interested in extra-curricular activities.

ALF is intentionally:

- * Relational – learning happens in community
- * Participatory – children and adults co-create the experience
- * Liturgical – a rhythm of prayer, devotion and fellowship frames the day
- * Experimental – open to iteration, feedback and growth

Everyone is welcome, so please tell your friends. Hosted by Marcus and Emily Letts.

Please note change of venue Cucklington Village Hall

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. **May 8th & 22nd.**
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 **May 22nd.**
- Craft Market** Pen Selwood Village Hall **May 30th 10am—3pm.**
- 9th May** **Coffee Morning** in **Wincanton Church 10:00am – 12:00 noon.** Raffle, Homemade Cakes & Savouries, Bookstall &, Refreshments. **Everybody welcome!**

Please continue to pray for our parishes coming together to form our new Monarch's Way 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."*

David Hull will be speaking on **Wednesday 27th May 7.15pm at the Charlton Musgrove village hall**, David, together with his wife Sarah and their three daughters moved to Freedom Church Bristol in January 2020.



Originally from nearby Bath, David has spent over twenty years serving in both church and educational ministry.

He is passionate about helping people discover and grow in a life changing relationship with Jesus, opening up Scripture with clarity and conviction, and renewing our appreciation for the rich revival heritage that continues to shape the Church and nation today. Please join us.

All Welcome



Cucklington Village Hall

Chairman: Campbell Dunford (01963 34220)
Secretary: Di Hammet (01747 840770)
dmhammet99@aol.com

Hall bookings:
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 8th May.

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 & Plant Sale Saturday 30th May



10.00am- 12.00pm

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

FOR YOUR DIARY !!

**Cucklington Parish
Annual Meeting
Friday 15th May
7pm @ the CVH**

**Parish of
Cucklington & Stoke Trister
with Bayford Annual
Parochial Church Meeting
Sunday 31st May**

9:30am @ St Lawrence's Church
Everyone on the Electoral Roll
may attend the meeting.

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 VILLAGE HALL

PRESENTS

THE CHORAL



Movie Night

1st May 7.15pm

Doors open @ 6.30pm

Entry £6.00

**Cash bar & cinema snacks
on sale**

Cucklington, Stoke Trister with Bayford Flower Show

Photographic Classes

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



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 accept 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

St Lawrence's, Cucklington and St Andrew's, Stoke Trister with Bayford Electoral Roll is now under review.

Those already on the Roll do not need to do anything at this time. Anyone wishing to be included on the Roll can find application forms for completion by **7th May** in either church.

Please place completed forms in the box in either church porch.

WHAT IS THE ELECTORAL ROLL?

The Electoral Roll is the register of voting members of our two churches, St Lawrence's and St Andrew's. It is a register of those entitled to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Council.

WHO CAN BE ON THE ELECTORAL ROLL?

Baptised residents in the villages who are: members of the Church of England or a Church in communion with the Church of England;
over 16 years old, *(those who will be 16 during the next 12 months can be entered on their next birthday);*

Or non resident but have worshipped here regularly for the last six months *(or who would have attended had ill health not prevented them).*



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



Dear Residents of the Parish of Stoke Trister with Bayford;
Please join us at Bayford Village Hall, Bayford, Wincanton
whilst we celebrate the good work carried out in our Parish by so
many wonderful volunteers!

Stoke Trister with Bayford Annual Residents Meeting

Taking place on

Thursday 14th May 2026 7pm until 8pm

Everyone is welcome – please spread the word!

Light refreshments will be provided.



Parish of Cucklington & Stoke Trister with Bayford Annual Parochial Church Meeting Sunday 31st May

9:30am @ St Lawrence's Church Cucklington
Everyone on the Electoral Roll may attend the meeting.

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 MORNING



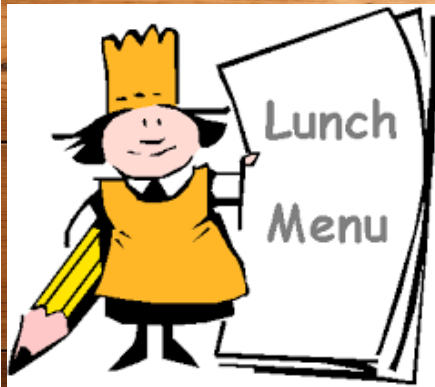
Thursday 7th May

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

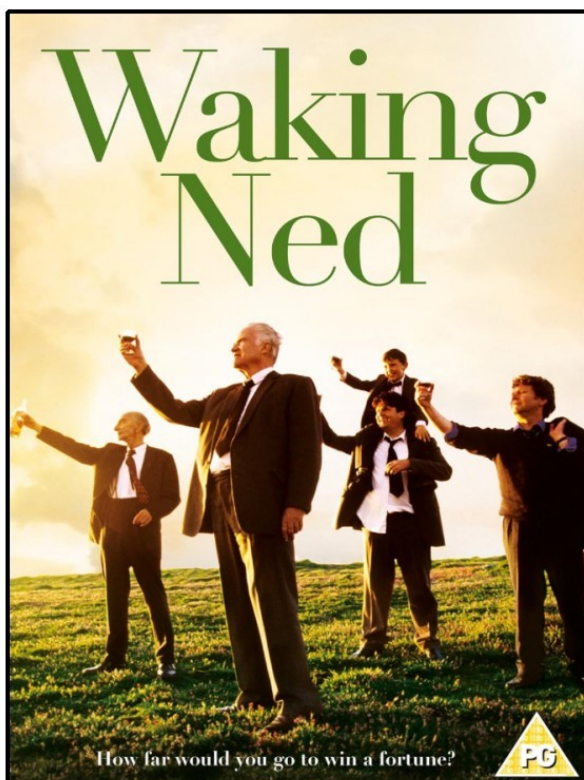
ALL WELCOME

BAYFORD VILLAGE HALL

WEDNESDAY 20th May

12.15 TO EAT AT 12.30

Please call Mary on 34420 by Sunday 17th to book your lunch.



"Waking Ned" is a charming Irish comedy about a small village scheming to claim a lottery jackpot after the winner dies of shock.

The story is set in the quaint, close-knit Irish village of Tullymore, where the residents are abuzz with news that someone has won the National Lottery. Jackie O'Shea, a clever and opportunistic villager, and his lifelong friend Michael O'Sullivan discover that the winner is Ned Devine, a reclusive elderly man. When they visit Ned to congratulate him, they find him dead, clutching the winning ticket, having died from the shock of his fortune.

Bayford Village Hall

Film Night

Saturday 9th May

7.00pm

(doors open at 6.30pm)






Operation: Tame the Jungle (aka Stoke Trister Church Garden Tidy-Up!)



It's happened... the church garden has officially declared independence. The weeds are thriving and are getting ideas above their station, + we suspect there may be a daisy uprising underway.

On **Saturday, May 23rd, 10am to 12pm**, we're assembling a heroic team of volunteers to restore order.

No prior gardening experience required! If you can tell the difference between a flower and something that definitely shouldn't be there, you're already overqualified 



The mission (should you choose to accept):


Wrestle a few weeds.

Tidy, trim, and enjoy a good natter while pretending we know what we're doing.

Sausage and bacon butties will be provided!

Whether you stay for an hour or the whole morning, every little helps.., and it's a great chance to enjoy some fresh air & good company.

Bring your gardening gloves, your enthusiasm, and if possible any garden tools that

might help 

Please let me know if you can make it by contacting Gary:

Tel: 07595411212

Email: gabaker@pm.me



Can you help:-

Would you be able to help clean

St Andrew's Church, Stoke Trister

On Tuesday 2nd June, 2026

10 – 11 am Refreshments provided

Many jobs,

Polishing, brushing up, brushing cobwebs down, and vacuuming.

For Further details please contact:

Christine on 01963 32311

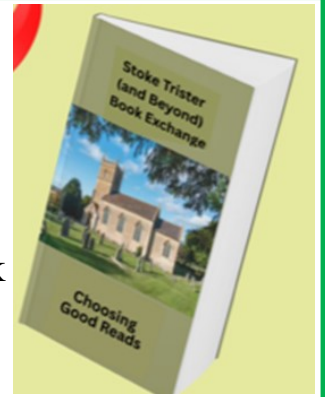


COFFEE AND BOOKS

St Andrew's Church, Stoke Trister

Stoke Trister (and Beyond) Book Exchange

Has anyone read *God's Own Country* by Ross Raisin? It's a bleak tale about a troubled rural teenager whose grip on reality loosens in the middle of nowhere, before everything goes... exactly as well as you'd expect.



Our copy recently resurfaced from the summerhouse, where it had been serving time over the cold winter. It was exiled there—along with many other innocent bystanders—after my daughter spotted what she believed to be a book mite on one of the pages. Personally, I think it may have been a comma. Easy mistake. (Though if it had been quotation marks, we could've been in real trouble—they travel in breeding pairs, don't they)?

My daughter's reaction, in fairness, comes from experience. When she lived in rented accommodation, infestations followed her around with unnerving loyalty: silverfish (odd little creatures), dust mites, carpet beetles—you name it, she hosted it. So her suspicion of a single speck on a page is not entirely without precedent, and the last thing she wanted was to find her doddering old parents disappearing under a full-blown book mite uprising.

Out went *God's Own Country* to freeze in the summerhouse. If you are looking for 'subject-specific terminology'—a requirement of English Literature GCSE—you might want to use the word 'irony' here. Apparently, book mite eggs don't hatch if they're frozen. And yes, you can indeed freeze in a summerhouse in winter. (This is the kind of practical knowledge you never realise you'll need until suddenly you do). In fact, this is exactly the sort of thing we end up discussing at our Book Exchange events. Not so much the content of books—unless you count possible comma-mites—as everything that happens around them. We are not, it's fair to say, a highbrow gathering.

We meet every second Wednesday of the month at St Andrew's Church, Stoke Trister, from 10:30 to 12:00. There's coffee, conversation, and absolutely no requirement to have read anything whatsoever. Readers, non-readers, and the merely book-adjacent are all very welcome. The next event is Wednesday, 13 May.

I'm quite looking forward to re-reading *God's Own Country*. The commas appear to be behaving themselves, and I'm reasonably confident the mites—real or imagined—have now been seen off.

That said... you never can be entirely sure.....,

We'd love to see you there.

Penelope

(Book Exchange, Stoke Trister and Beyond)

The Bayford Inn Update

Thank you to everyone who has been coming along to The Bayford Inn - whether for a quiet drink, joining the monthly quiz or enjoying one of the delicious pop ups we've been having!



This month we are delighted to welcome Mel Giles as Assistant Bar Manager who is supporting Pub Manager Will Carey as he continues to run the pub as well as planning the future for the kitchen and restaurant! (Watch this space)! Meanwhile, we are planning to offer coffees and teas very soon which we will announce in-pub and on the social media channels when we are ready!



Upcoming Events

- 2nd May Full Yuh Belly Jamaican - food pop up -6pm onwards
- 21st May Quiz Night (Full)
- 18th June Quiz Night (to book a space email manager@bayfordinn.com)

Buy Merch from the Pub!

Limited Edition The Bayford Inn Glassware is available to buy from the pub - with Pint Glasses £20 and Half pint glasses £18 - cash or card at the till. Plus we have The Bayford Inn branded Umbrellas at £30 each (although hopefully we will not be needing these soon!).

****All proceeds from the in-pub merch sales go directly to the pub!****



The Bayford Inn Update

The **Bayford Inn Spring Crowdfunder** (Scan QR code) is now live so please feel free to donate (at any time) or sponsor furniture or equipment! We have six fantastic picnic tables crying out for sponsors!



And we are shortly updating the **Shareholders board** with new names - a huge thank you to all our shareholders so far! We still need more shareholders so we can buy the freehold outright (don't forget you may be entitled to 50% tax relief if you invest) Please check out the website

www.bayfordinn.com and/or have a chat to one of the Committee or existing shareholders!



And finally, big shout out to **Marcus Giles** for the new flower (and herb) troughs at the front of the pub adding a splash of spring colour!

Please come and see us soon!

Cheers!

Sam





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
website at

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

Charlton Musgrove Annual Parochial Church Meeting is to be held on **Thursday 21st May at 7:30pm** in **St John's Chapel**, Barrow Lane. Everyone on the Charlton Musgrove Church Electoral Roll may attend the meeting.

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

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

EVERY MONDAY MORNING
- 10AM-12PM

ST. JOHNS CHURCH
CHARLTON MUSGROVE



COME ALONG FOR CAKE AND
COMPANY!



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 15th May 10.30 to 12.00



BRING & BUY

Plant Sale!

AT
CHARLTON MUSGROVE
VILLAGE HALL. BA9 8HF



MAY 9

9.30 TO 12.30

ONLY £2.00 PER PLANT!

Raising money for our 2
churches, our village hall
and local charities



Charlton Musgrove News

Laszlo and Sarah Almasi. Since Laszlo and Sarah moved, in the autumn, from Fir Cottage in Charlton Musgrove various friends and neighbours have asked after them and their well-being. Currently they are enjoying living in mid-Devon and Eileen and I have been pleased to meet up with them a couple of times. But they soon will be on the move again, as Laszlo has been appointed Head Gardener at Tresillian House, a large country house near St. Agnes Head in Cornwall. It has a well-established garden of some 22 acres, and a walled kitchen garden described as one of the finest in Cornwall. Laszlo will be succeeding John Harris, the well-known and respected previous Head Gardener, who retired recently after forty years, and both he and Sarah are greatly looking forward to their new move and new home.

MDV

VILLAGES' WALKING GROUP – MAY AND JUNE WALKS

Our plea, last month, for the weather to dry up was answered - so much so that the bluebells, which were to be the focus of our walk, flowered (and started to go over!) at different times, which led (unusually) to us having not one, but two, bluebell walks in April. But one can never have too much of bluebells!

Looking ahead to the coming months, our May walk will be on Friday 22nd May, and will be led for us by Tony and Janet Cole, location yet to be confirmed.

In June we look forward to Steve and Sara Jarrett leading us on our Mid-Summer Evening Walk on Wednesday 24th June. Balmy mid-summer weather has usually accompanied our Mid-Summer Evening walk, so we look forward to more of the same!

For our May walk we shall meet at Charlton Musgrove Village Hall ready to depart by 10am. The meeting time for the June walk will be advised nearer the time.

Do join us if you can for one, or both, of these walks. You will be most welcome, whether one of our regular walkers or someone wanting to join us for the first time. Do come!

A call or message beforehand to say you are walking with us would be kind, and ensure we don't set off without you.

And a date ahead: our July walk is penciled in for Saturday 25th July.



Mike and Eileen

Mike and Eileen Vockins

mdvockins@btinternet.com

01963 34837



Save the Date

For the 2026

Charlton Musgrove Open Gardens

SUN | 31 | MAY

1:30-5:00 PM

PLEASE HELP US BY:

Putting up posters

Letting your friends know

Making cakes & scones

Helping on the day

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT

RUTH 07966 426 962

MAYMIE 07775 521701

RAISING MONEY FOR
BOTH CHARLTON MUSGROVE CHURCHES

&

TOOLS FOR SELF RELIANCE



Explore beautiful gardens of all sizes

CHARLTON MUSGROVE OPEN GARDENS

**Sunday 31 May
1:30-5 pm**

**Entrance fee
£10 per person
Under 12s free**

**delicious homemade
teas on sale in
several gardens**

Tickets & a map of all participating gardens will be for sale on the day at the following locations:

- Eden House BA9 8EZ
- Lower Shalford BA9 8HE
- St Stephens Church & Charlton House BA9 8ES
- Barrow Lane Farm BA9 8HJ

**Sustainable Church Flowers Demonstration
1:30-2:00pm in St Stephen's Church BA9 8ES**

**Expert vegetable growing advice all afternoon
1:30-5:00pm at Eden House BA9 8EZ**

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both Charlton Musgrove churches
&
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Well-behaved dogs welcome on leads

Editor's Message

May this month be blessed with beautiful encounters, joyful moments and personal achievements. May the Lord give you strength and inspiration in the challenges you may encounter and may you overcome them with grace and determination.

Blessings one and all.

Keith Stroud



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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EVENTS FOR YOUR MAY 2026 DIARY

Cucklington

1st	Movie Night "The Choral" doors open at 6:30pm CVH
5th 12th 19th 26th	Table tennis, 7.30pm CVH
8th	Scrabble, 7.00pm CVH
15th	Annual Parish Meeting 7:00pm CVH
30th	Coffee morning 10:40am to 12:00pm AMMH

Stoke Trister & Bayford

2nd	Full Yuh Belly Jamaican food pop up - 6.00pm onwards Bayford Inn
7th	Coffee morning, 10:00am to 12:00pm Bayford Village Hall
9th	Movie night "Gosford Park" doors open at 6.30pm Bayford Village Hall
13th	St Andrew's Church Coffee & Book Exchange 10:30am to 12:00pm
14th	Annual Parish Meeting 7.00pm Bayford Village Hall
20th	Village lunch, 12.15pm Bayford Village Hall
21st	Quiz Night 7:30pm (Full) Bayford Inn
23rd	St Andrew's Church Garden Tidy Up

Charlton Musgrove

4th 11th 18th 25th	St John's Coffee Morning 10:00am to 12:00pm CM
9th	Plant Sale 9:30am to 12:30pm Charlton Musgrove village hall
12th 26th	Short mat bowls, 2pm Charlton Musgrove village hall
15th	Coffee Morning 10:30am to 12:00pm Charlton Musgrove Village hall
22nd	Village Walk 10:00am meet at Charlton Musgrove Village hall car park
31st	Charlton Musgrove Open Gardens 1:30pm to 5.:00pm



MAY 2026						
GARDEN + RECYCLING X HOUSEHOLD O						
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5 X O	6 +	7	8	9	10
11 X	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 X	19 +	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 X O	27	28	29	30	31

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

DEADLINE

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