

# Parish Link

The Parish Magazine for the Benefice of  
Bagendon, Baunton, Coberley and Cowley, Colesbourne,  
Elkstone, North Cerney, Rendcomb and Stratton



**December 2024/January 2025**

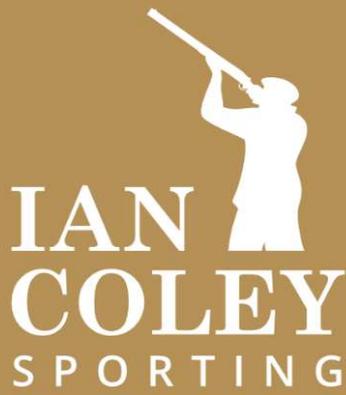
<http://www.churnvalley.org.uk>

*Facebook site: 'Churn Valley Benefice'*

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## Pastoral Letter – *Revd David Minns*

I mentioned in last month's magazine that the season of Advent is the Church's New Year. You probably knew that anyway. Before the year can begin, we first draw a line under the year just past – for us that's in November. That year reaches its peak with Christ on His throne in heaven – 'Christ the King' Sunday. Now the New Year can begin – and it starts by looking forward to God coming to us. That's the season of Advent. Christmas celebrates the arrival of God incarnate in Jesus Christ.

For a new thing to begin, something must end. T.S Eliot wrote: "What we call the beginning is often the end. And to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from."

Endings are not to be feared, they are part of what defines something; it has a start, it has an end – it has existed for a time. A never-ending race is just exhausting and a never-ending football match pointless! An ending is the start point for something new.

Endings and beginnings are part of life – life was designed that way! The Bible opens with the words 'In the beginning, and though we haven't finished yet there is a promise from Jesus 'Behold, I am coming soon'. And the response is 'Amen. Come Lord Jesus'!

Our Churn Valley Benefice is going through some significant changes at the moment, and some of those changes are endings. This magazine is the last one that will appear in printed form for the foreseeable future. However, all the important information will continue to be available and its ending for now will give the Benefice and a future new Minister a clearer picture of the best way to communicate news about the church.

Speaking of a new Minister; I will be leaving after Easter this coming year, and Janet shortly before Easter. These endings to our ministries will bring new challenges, but will open up possibilities for new ministries in the future. You might take up the call to train as a worship leader and discover a gift you had never before considered. As a Benefice you may work

together in new ways and make new plans for how future ministry may work here.

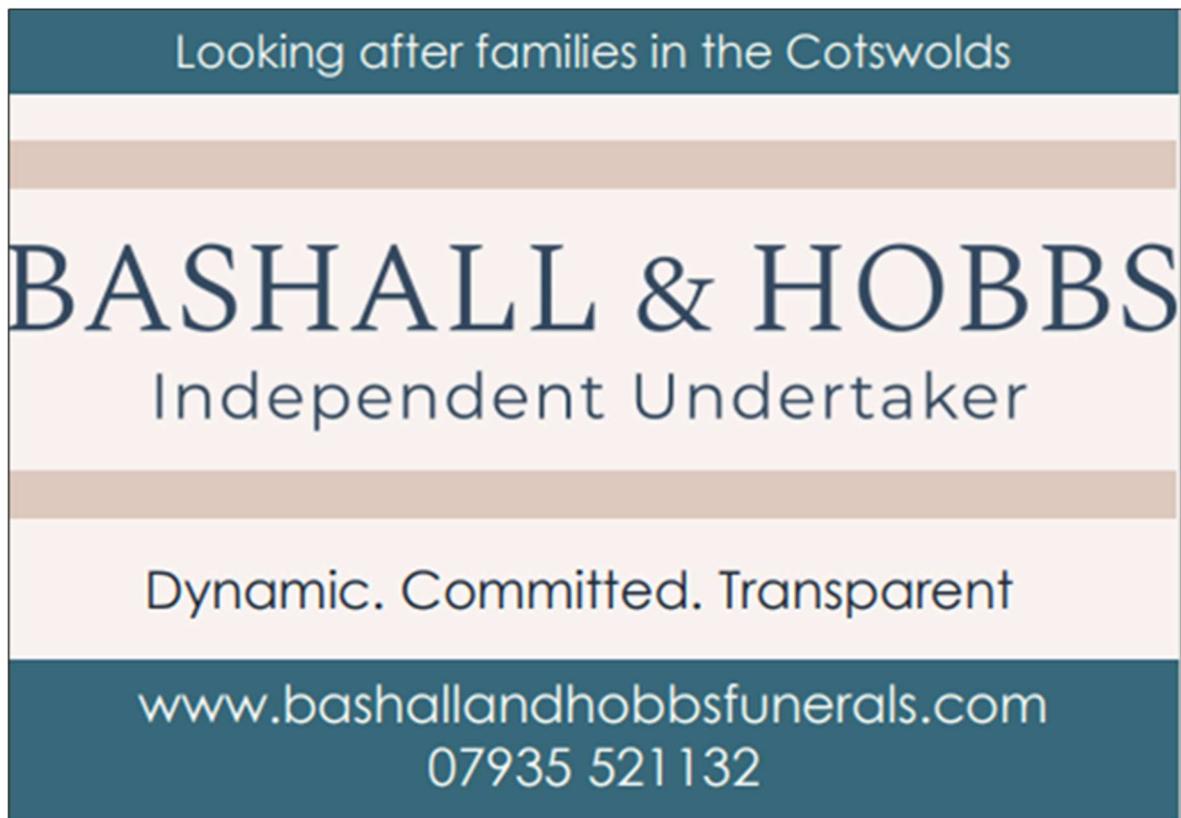
Endings can make us a bit anxious, but that is because we are comfortable with the familiar. Challenges, and also creativity come when new things happen.

At Christmas we celebrate God doing a new thing – God is fond of new things: “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.” says God through the prophet Isaiah.

The new thing we celebrate at Christmas is the incarnation of God in the flesh of Christ. Until now God had relied on words and prophets to make him known, now Jesus would reveal God in a new and glorious way. The extraordinary truth of Christmas is that God has showed up – and now walks with us.

The world at the moment is complex and perplexing, full of things we would like to see end, in the hope that the new thing will be better. Peace instead of war, mutual understanding instead of suspicion, and love instead of anger and hate. God longs to guide us to the new thing, and we can enter into the year ahead with confidence knowing that God – the God who shows up – is walking with us. That’s why we celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas; a birth that is so important that it was announced by angels, sought out by wise men and still celebrated 2 thousand years later. There will be carols and celebrations in our churches along the Churn Valley over the Christmas period. We would love to welcome you if you would come and join us to celebrate God’s new thing.

Love, David



## Thank you

As it comes to our last printed copy of Parish Link for a while we want to say a huge thank you to everyone who has contributed to Parish Link over the years. Thank you to all have edited, contributed articles and distributed the Parish Link magazines.

The paper issues of Parish Link will be suspended after this edition, when a new rector is appointed to the Churn Valley Benefice the production of the Parish Link will be reviewed.

There will be a monthly email which will have some of the news and information which has been included in the Parish Link. If you would like to sign up for the email please contact [janet.cv@anderson-mackenzie.co.uk](mailto:janet.cv@anderson-mackenzie.co.uk) If you would like to receive a paper copy of the email please let your Parish Link distributor know and we will be able to provide you with one.

# ST. MARGARET'S, BAGENDON

## TRADITIONAL CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

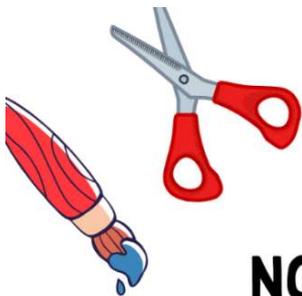
### SUNDAY 17TH DECEMBER 6PM

PLEASE BRING FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO ENJOY THIS  
TRADITIONAL VILLAGE GATHERING.

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AFTER THE SERVICE.

DURING THE SERVICE A COLLECTION WILL BE TAKEN IN  
SUPPORT OF WINSTON'S WISH AND HOME START.

A SERVICE OF  
HOLY COMMUNION WITH CAROLS  
WILL BE HELD ON CHRISTMAS DAY AT 9.30 AM.



## SUPER SUNDAY SUPPER SERVICE



**NORTH CERNEY VILLAGE HALL 4-6PM**



**SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER - CHRISTINGLE**

**SUNDAY 5TH JANUARY  
-JOHN THE BAPTIST**

CRAFT, GAMES AND ACTIVITIES FROM 4 PM

STORIES, SONGS AND PRAYERS FROM 4.45 PM

JACKET POTATO SUPPER FROM 5.15 PM

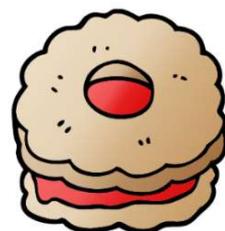
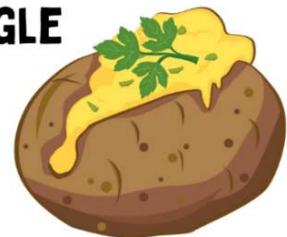
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Parish Church

**Sunday 15th December**  
**Christmas**

**Sunday 21st January**  
**John the Baptist**

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Crafts and Games  
and the 3Bs puppet crew

More details?  
Call/text  
07821 474711  
beneficeoffice.cv  
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**Plough Sunday Benefice Service**  
**11am**  
**Sunday 12th January**  
**Slacks Barn**  
**Upper Coberley**  
**GL53 9RE**  
**All Welcome**

## Thank you to Corinna Bramley - Annabel Purcell

Corinna

Where to start? Well, I know where Corinna would start. She always began every email asking how I was and how the family were, or whether I had had a good weekend or indeed an observation about the weather. It was always a pleasure to receive an email from Corinna, they almost seemed to come with a smile!

And of course, besides the friendliness there was the efficient details that one needed for a wedding or indeed a funeral. She had always liaised with the relevant parties and presented one with a list of the facts. If only everyone was like Corinna....

Our daughter, who was recently married in Rendcomb, said what a pleasure it was to talk to Corinna who went out of her way to find an available organist and make everything possible. Corinna, in true form, remembered the date and wanted to know how the day had been.

I know that this appreciation is felt up and down the Churn Valley. I have heard nothing but praise for our Benefice Administrator and I can't imagine how we managed before Corinna arrived and kept us all in order! The weekly pew sheets always arrived, the Parish Link was informative and well designed and I am sure that there were always numerous other tasks - all performed with efficiency and good humour.

I want to thank you on behalf of the Benefice for everything that you have done for us and wish you all the best for your future plans. We shall miss you!

*Thank you to Annabel for writing this piece for us, after the recent churchwardens and treasurers meeting, echoing the thoughts of all in the Benefice.*

## From the Benefice Registers

### Baptisms

13 <sup>th</sup> October '24	Austin Idris John Carroll	St John's, Elkstone
19 <sup>th</sup> October '24	Aurelia Rose Bunney	St Mary's, Cowley
26 <sup>th</sup> October '24	Cecily Freeman Morrow-Brown	St Peter's, Rendcomb
3 <sup>rd</sup> November '24	Fergus Robert Winwood - Aitken	St Margaret's, Bagendon

### Celebration of life

27 <sup>th</sup> October '24	Marlow Anthony Buckley	St Margaret's, Bagendon
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### Funerals and Thanksgiving services

11 <sup>th</sup> November '24	Ann Griffiths	St Peter's, Stratton
25 <sup>th</sup> November '24	Michael Cooch	St John's, Elkstone

### Weddings

5 <sup>th</sup> October	Katherine Barnett and Sam Walton	St Peter's, Rendcomb
11 <sup>th</sup> October	Joe Horn Harriet Vockins	All Saints', North Cerney

## Advent Journey 2024

Advent Journey 2024 - would you like to host the Holy Family?

Mary and Joseph will once again set out with their donkey on their Advent journey around Stratton, beginning at St. Peters, Stratton, on Advent Sunday on 1st December after the 9.30 service.

The family will be welcomed into homes as well as other venues including Stratton School and Stratton Court .

As a host you will provide space in your home, overnight, for Mary, Joseph and the donkey, figures beautifully crafted by Chris and Ron Rodgers. If the hand-over to the next host happens in the evening, you may like to light a candle or have a light in the window to welcome them.



The Holy Family will finally complete their journey, returning to St Peter's on Christmas Eve joining the congregation at the Christingle Nativity service.

If you would like to host the Family - please contact Jane Trotter - [janeyt.ciren@hotmail.com](mailto:janeyt.ciren@hotmail.com) or 07941313569 or 01285 655156

# Schools' News

## North Cerney Primary Academy



**Sports** Sadie Herbert from Kingshill School has been providing excellent PE sessions for Kingfisher class this term. The children have been focusing on their listening and team building skills and having lot of fun.

**Forest School** Wren class have been enjoying Forest School with Miss Law this term, looking at the Autumnal leaves and making hedgehogs out of them.

 North Cerney Primary Academy

# Christmas Fair

**Sunday 1st December**  
**11am - 1.30pm**  
**North Cerney Village Hall**

*An event for all the family to enjoy,  
everyone is welcome!*

**Tombola ★ Hot Dogs ★ Cakes**  
**Games ★ Silent Auction**  
**Stalls ★ Crafts ★ Raffle**



We enjoyed playing with the autumn leaves today at forest school.  
Lots of different colours.





## Class 3 Reports

The new school year has started well for Class 3 at Stratton Church of England Primary School. We have all settled into our new class routines well and have really enjoyed our first trip of the year to the Cheltenham Literacy Festival. We were very excited to be able to listen to the brilliant Michael Rosen. He entertained us with lots of interactive poetry and he made us laugh a lot when retelling his famous 'chocolate cake' story. Some of us also bumped into other famous book characters on the day such as the Gruffalo!



We are now all really looking forward to term 2 and all that it brings, including two more class trips and of course the build up to Christmas and all the excitement that comes with it.

Class 3 teachers - Mrs Walker and Mrs Sibson

# Community News and Events



## Tuesday Group – *Judith Wood*



On 5th November John Parker gave us a very interesting talk on Urban trees and their history and importance for the town and countryside. Unfortunately, John had forgotten to bring his projector with him so he had to give his talk without any slides but the group decided that this made the talk far more interesting and everyone got involved with questions etc

Tuesday 3rd December will be our Christmas party with mince pies, sausages rolls and mulled wine together with our mystery guests to entertain us. Remember everyone is welcome so do try and join us on this friendly community evening at Stratton Village Hall 7.00 for 7.30pm.

There will be no meetings in January so our first meeting will be on Tuesday February 4th 2025; our guest speaker will be Richard Gunner who will be giving a talk on the 'Kemble to Cirencester Electric Train' which should be very interesting so please try to join us on this evening.

We would just like to wish you a Happy Christmas and a Merry New Year and hopefully see you all in 2025.

We look forward to meeting everyone on Tuesday 3rd December 2024 at Stratton Village Hall, 7.30pm entrance £3.00 pp.

For further information contact Judith Wood 01285 652713 or Gill Keen 01285 652069

## Scrubditch Care Farm - *Emma Costley-White*



**Christmas Fair** - Saturday 7 December 10am to 1pm – Father Christmas will be there! FREE ENTRY!

Christmas Trees, Eli Baxter (of George Clarke's Channel 4 fame!) Nav's Christmas Willow, Jewellery, Produce and much more...and delicious refreshments of course! Do come along and support this fun festive event

Landscaping Phase 2 has just launched! – we are fund raising to build a sensory garden, a series of 12 raised beds (four will be for wheel chair users) a large fruit cage for soft fruit, an avenue of nut trees, and a potting shed. This will provide lots of new activities, and we hope to start work next Spring. If anyone has any plants/shrubs/fruit bushes they have pruned back/split – we are aiming to pot on as many as possible for this phase.

**Pig News!** Dee Dee is pregnant!! Andrew the pig scanner came this morning – piglets will be due end of Jan/start of Feb 25. We are hoping to take on another sow 'in pig' shortly called Sushi – so she would have a litter in April with any luck – just in time for our Spring Open Day!

**Sheep news!** Look out for 'blue bottoms' ...Roger has been in with the ewes for a week now!

**Duckling & Hen news!** We are going to put eggs in the incubator over Christmas in time for some chicks to take to events in January and February. Wish us luck!

**Vegs & Flowers** We are busy planting up pots with 'surprise bulbs' to sell at our Christmas Fair – they make lovely Christmas presents!

**We are recruiting!** We are currently recruiting for a part time care farm support worker (up to 21 hours) and a book keeper (up to 7 hours) for more information please email: [manager@scrubditchcarefarm.org.uk](mailto:manager@scrubditchcarefarm.org.uk)  
We would like to wish everyone a very HAPPY CHRISTMAS and a HEALTHY NEW YEAR From everyone at the Care Farm. A special thank you to those of you who have supported us this year!

## Dates for the diary:

Wreath making workshop – Tuesday 26th November sold out

Christmas Fair – Saturday 7th December 10 – 1pm

End of Term – Friday 20th December

New Term starts – Monday 6th January

Event at St Roses, Stroud – Monday 27th January

Event at National Star College – Friday 14th February

Spring Open Day & Plant Sale – Saturday 26th April

Bookings for student sessions being taken now – email us at:  
[manager@scrubditchcarefarm.org.uk](mailto:manager@scrubditchcarefarm.org.uk)



## Stratton Educational Foundation

Applications are invited once again by the Trustees for grants in aid of persons under the age of 25 years who, or whose parents, are resident in the Ecclesiastical Parishes of Stratton with Baunton, and who require financial help towards the cost of preparing for a profession or trade or in furthering their education, or in providing group facilities for recreation and social and physical training. Individual applicants might wish to apply for a grant to help with the cost of textbooks or equipment, for example, which they need for a college course. For further details and an application form please contact Mrs C Bramley: [corinna.bramley2@gmail.com](mailto:corinna.bramley2@gmail.com)



*Completed applications should be returned by 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025.*

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# **Churn Valley Benefice Christingle Services**



**Everyone of any  
age is very  
welcome to  
these services  
which are free  
to attend.  
Hope to see you  
at one.**

**Sunday**

**8th December 2024**

**4 pm North Cerney  
Village Hall**

**Friday**

**13th December 2024**

**5 pm Rendcomb Church**

**Tuesday**

**24th December 2024**

**3 pm Stratton Church**

**Sunday**

**5th January 2025**

**9.30am Baunton Church**

**11 am Elkstone Church**

## Benefice Choir Carol Concert

6.30 pm Tuesday 17th December, All saints Church, North Cerney.  
Carol concert with the Churn Valley choir. Mix of carols and Christmas songs with poems and readings. Refreshments afterwards in the village hall. This is a free event.



## New leader needed

Could you be the new leader for the Churn Valley Community Choir?

We are a small community choir who sing a wide variety of music, classical, folk and songs from the shows. We have about 16 members, some read music and others don't, so sometimes we use musical scores, but mainly we learn by ear.

We meet weekly on Tuesdays in North Cerney Village hall from 7.15pm until 8.45pm (we have a short tea break in the middle). We perform at Churn Valley community events like Elkstone Open Gardens, Stratton Court Care Home, Coberley Harvest Supper, North Cerney carol concert.

We need someone who can teach us to sing a piece and accompany us on the keyboard at the same time.

If you would like to find out more please contact Revd David Minns [dlkminns@gmail.com](mailto:dlkminns@gmail.com) or 01285 655199 who will be able to tell you more about the choir and the rate of pay we can offer for each evening.

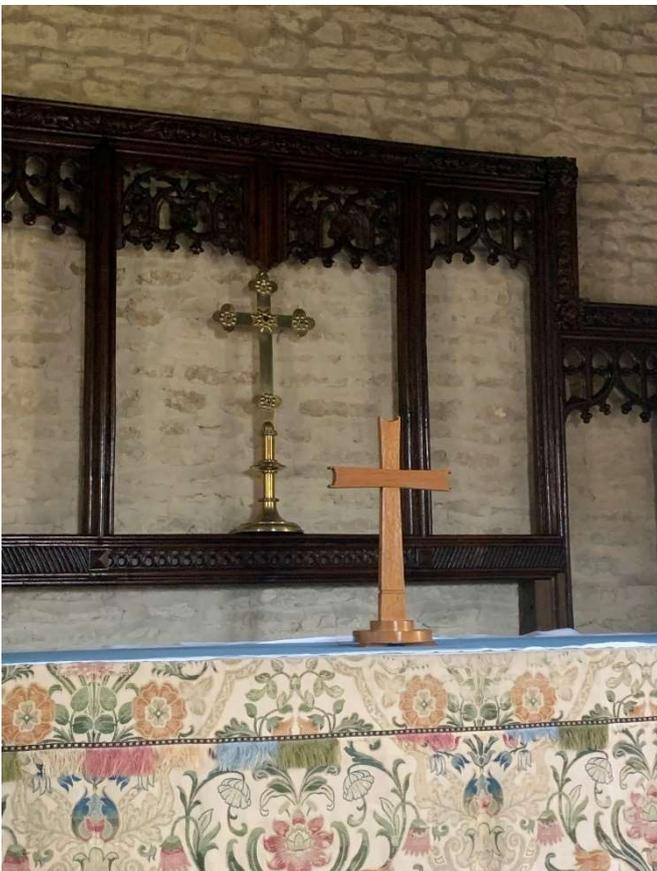
## Next Benefice Service 8<sup>th</sup> December at Baunton

We will be looking at the angel encounters in the Advent and Christmas story.

As part of the service we would like to display angel models which have been created for the day. Templates for simple models will be available in your church building shortly, or feel free to bring a different sort of angel to the service as you feel inspired.

We will also be saying thank you to Corinna Bramley as this service. Corinna has recently left her post as Benefice administrator after many years of devoted service. Please do come as you can, please also car share if at all possible as there is limited parking in Baunton.

If you have any angels ready before the day please let Janet have them otherwise just bring them along. The angel below is one from the template.



# DECEMBER SERVICES AT ST PETER'S CHURCH, STRATTON

**Sunday 1st December** 9.30 am Advent Communion Service

**Sunday 8th December** 11.00 am Benefice Service at Baunton

## **Sunday 15th December**

9.30 am All Age Big Breakfast Christmas Bash at Stratton School

5.00 pm 'The Great Carol Sing', at the church

Followed by refreshments. Bring your percussion!

**Sunday 22nd December** 11.00 am Holy Communion

## **Christmas Eve**

3.00 pm Christingle service and Nativity

11.15pm Midnight Holy Communion

## **Christmas Day**

11.00 am All Age Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion

## **Sunday 29th December**

11.00 am United Benefice Holy Communion at Colesbourne



## **D-Day 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorated in “The Longest Yarn” - Jan Moore**

D-Day 80th Anniversary Commemorated in “The Longest Yarn” comes to Tewkesbury Abbey – December/January

The Longest Yarn is a 100% knitted 80m 3D depiction of 6 June 1944: a work of art which will eventually be displayed permanently only a few miles from The Bayeux Tapestry and become a long term stunning record of another piece of history.

80 scenes, each measuring one metre in length display the world’s largest amphibious invasion. The Longest Yarn is something quite unique and not to be missed. The scenes include the build-up to D-Day in England, the horrors on the Landing Beaches and the Bloody Inland Battles. Guidance from professional historians has supported the scenes which have been selected by the creators to depict the accurate story of that momentous day. Some of the scenes present actual WW2 veterans that were in the theatre of war in Normandy on 6th June, and others present the lesser known events in local towns and villages in Normandy.

180 knitters from across the world, including the UK, USA, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, France and even people with NATO stationed in Europe, have joined in to help make this project happen.

Tansy Foster, an English resident of Carentan, who came up with the idea and has coordinated the project said:

“One of my favourite scenes is the depiction of the famous moment when Lord Lovat and Piper Bill Millin crossed Pegasus Bridge, and another is when Bill plays his pipes on Sword Beach. Piper Millin’s son donated his father’s favourite jumper to us which we unravelled (frogged) and used to knit the figures of Piper Bill – it’s given a real poignancy to these scenes”

An accompanying book will be on sale, giving more information on each of the 80 scenes, including a photo of each one taken in 1944 to show viewers what each scene was based on.

To help Tewkesbury Abbey to manage numbers, if you wish to take a party of more than 10 people, they ask you to let them know in advance by emailing [info@tewkesburyabbey.org.uk](mailto:info@tewkesburyabbey.org.uk)

There is no charge for entry but donations are invited- suggested at £5 per person. Tickets are not needed.

Opening times and occasional times when the exhibition will be closed within the period, are listed below.

OPEN Saturday 7 December – Thursday 9 January. 9.30am -3.45pm

- Closed on Sundays and
- Closed on Tuesday 24 December, Wednesday 25 December
- The exhibition will remain open in spite of Concert Rehearsals and Stage Building on Wednesday 11, Friday 13 and Monday 16 December, but expect some noise.



PS If you want an eye witness report on the exhibition, call Revd Jan Moore, 01285 640077. I saw it displayed in Carontan Cathedral in July before it left France to come on tour to England... It's amazing.



Photos Courtesy of  
Jan Moore

**Caring for our Environment – Tip of the month**

Tip of the Month

**SCRUNCH your Christmas wrapping paper this year!**



For more ideas, see:  
[www.greeningtetbury.org](http://www.greeningtetbury.org)

The UK uses **227,000 MILES** of Christmas paper every year (GWP Group).

Recycling saves 70% of energy costs.

If your scrunched-up paper stays scrunched –  
**RECYCLE IT!** (Remove the sellotape first.)

Foil and glittery paper should go in the black waste bin. 😞



 **Greening Tetbury**

# Crossword Answers

## ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD BW106 (November 2024)

### ACROSS:

1	COOKER	10	FAST	15	QUARTZ	22	ANNA
4	BURROW	11	JEWEL	17	SCOTCH	23	CLUB HOUSE
7	ANTIDOTES	13	DOOMED	19	YOUTH	24	STARVE
9	TRUG	14	RUDDER	20	IRIS	25	EXPAND

### DOWN:

1	COATED	5	REEF	11	JETTY	17	STROKE
2	KING	6	WINTER	12	LURCH	18	HEALED
3	RUINED	7	AUTOMATIC	15	QUILTS	21	SLUR
4	BROKER	8	SANDSTONE	16	ZOMBIE	22	A S A P



A final thank you to our friend Ben Woods for keeping our brains exercised each month with interesting crossword challenges in *Parish Link* for at least 10 years now.

# Services in December and January

## KEY TO MINISTERS:

### CVB Licensed Ministers:

**DM** = Revd David Minns (Rector) (*Day off: Friday*)

T: 01285 655199; e: [dlkminns@gmail.com](mailto:dlkminns@gmail.com)



**JA-M** = Revd Dr Janet Anderson-MacKenzie (Associate Priest) (*Part-time - 3 days a week. Working days = Sunday, Monday and Tuesday*).

T: 07821 474711; e: [janet.cv@anderson-mackenzie.co.uk](mailto:janet.cv@anderson-mackenzie.co.uk)

**MG** = Mr Martin Green (Licensed Reader)

T: 01666 577532 e: [mgreen282@btinternet.com](mailto:mgreen282@btinternet.com)

**MV** = Mr Mark Venn (Licensed Reader)

T: 01285 831209 e: [mark.w.venn@btinternet.com](mailto:mark.w.venn@btinternet.com)

### Additional Ministers:

**JM** = Revd Jan Moore T: 01285 640077; [therevjan@gmail.com](mailto:therevjan@gmail.com)

**CP** = Revd Cliff Pooley T: 01242 243981; [cliff.pooley@btinternet.com](mailto:cliff.pooley@btinternet.com)

### Chaplain, Rendcomb College:

**MH** = Marie Hobbs: [hobbsm@rendcombcollege.org.uk](mailto:hobbsm@rendcombcollege.org.uk)

## December Services

### Parish Church of St Margaret's, Bagendon

Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup>	9.30am	Matins (MG)
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	HC [CW] (DM)
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Carols by Candlelight (DM)
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30am	HC [CW] (DM)
Wednesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Holy Communion with Carols (JA-M)
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<i>United Benefice Service at Colesbourne</i>

### Parish Church of St Mary Magdalene, Baunton

Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Benefice Service (JA-M and DM)
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup>	4.30pm	Carols by Candlelight (DM)
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<i>United Benefice Service at Colesbourne</i>

### Parish Church of St Giles, Coberley

Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup>		<i>Service at Cowley</i>
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<i>Benefice Service at Baunton</i>
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	HC (JA-M)
Tuesday	24 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	Carol Service (JA-M)
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<i>United Benefice Service at Colesbourne</i>

### Parish Church of St James, Colesbourne

Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am	Matins (CH)
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	HC [BCP] (JA-M)
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Carol Service (CP)
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup>		<i>No Service</i>
Wednesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Christmas Day HC [BCP] (DM)
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<i>United Benefice Service at Colesbourne</i>

### Parish Church of St Mary, Cowley

Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup>	11.00am	HC [CW] (JA-M)
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<i>Benefice Service at Baunton</i>
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Carol Service (JA-M)
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup>		<i>No Service</i>
Wednesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Christmas Communion (JA-M)
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<i>United Benefice Service at Colesbourne</i>

### Parish Church of St John the Evangelist, Elkstone

Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup>	11.00am	MW (MV)
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<i>Benefice Service at Baunton</i>
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm	Carols & Lessons (MV)
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	11.30pm	Midnight HC (JA-M)
Monday	25 <sup>th</sup>		<i>No Service</i>
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<i>United Benefice Service at Colesbourne</i>

### Parish Church of All Saints, North Cerney

Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup>	11.00 am	HC [CW] (DM)
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<i>Benefice Service at Baunton</i>
		4.00pm	Super Sunday Supper Service
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup>		<i>No Service</i>
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	11.00am	Matins (MG)
Wednesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Christmas Day HC (MV)
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<i>United Benefice Service at Colesbourne</i>

### Parish Church of St Peter, Rendcomb

Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup>		<i>No Service</i>
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<i>Benefice Service at Baunton</i>
Friday	13 <sup>th</sup>	5.00pm	Christingle (MH)
Wednesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	All Age Christmas Service (MH)
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<i>United Benefice Service at Colesbourne</i>

### Parish Church of St Peter, Stratton

Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup>	9.30am	Advent HC (DM)
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<i>Benefice Service at Baunton</i>
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	<i>Big Breakfast Bash – All Age – at Stratton School (DM &amp; JA-M)</i>
	15 <sup>th</sup>	5.00pm	The Great Carol Sing
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	11.00am	HC (JA-M)
Tuesday	24 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm	Christingle & Nativity (DM)
		11.15pm	Midnight HC (DM)
Wednesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	All Age Christmas HC (DM)

### **NB Arrangements for Wednesday Services in Dec & Jan**

There is usually a Service of Holy Communion or Morning Prayer in St Peter's, Stratton, at 10am on a Wednesday morning. However, please note there will be no 10 am service 25<sup>th</sup> December or on 1<sup>st</sup> January.

### January 2025 Services

#### Parish Church of St Margaret's, Bagendon

Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Matins (MG)
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	HC [CW] (JA-M)
Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	HC [BCP] (TBC)
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	HC [CW] (DM)

#### Parish Church of St Mary Magdalene, Baunton

Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Christingle (DM)
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### Parish Church of St Giles, Coberley

Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup>		<i>Service at Cowley</i>
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<b>BENEFICE PLOUGH SUNDAY</b> (In Slacks Barn, Upper Coberley, GL53 9RE)
Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup>		<i>Service at Cowley</i>
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	HC [BCP] (JA-M)

### Parish Church of St James, Colesbourne

Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Matins (CH)
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	HC [BCP] (DM)
Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Matins (MV)
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Matins (MV)

### Parish Church of St John the Evangelist, Elkstone

Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Christingle
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup>		<i>Benefice Plough Sunday, Coberley</i>
Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	HC (DM)
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup>		<i>Service at Rendcomb</i>

### Parish Church of All Saints, North Cerney

Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion (DM)
Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	Super Sunday Supper Service in Village Hall (DM & JA-M)
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup>		<i>Benefice Plough Sunday at Coberley</i>
Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup>		<i>No Service</i>
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Matins (MG)

### Parish Church of St Peter, Rendcomb

Sunday	14 <sup>th</sup>		<i>Benefice Plough Sunday at Coberley</i>
Sunday	28 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	HC [DM]

### Parish Church of St Peter, Stratton

Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	HC (JA-M)
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup>		<i>Benefice Plough Sunday at Coberley</i>
Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	<i>Big Breakfast Bash – All Age – at Stratton School (DM/JA-M)</i>
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	HC (JA-M)

## News from the Diocese

### **A message from Bishop Rachel and Bishop Robert issued on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024.**

For clergy, lay leaders and worshipping communities across the Diocese of Gloucester

We are acutely aware that this past week in the life of the Church of England has been turbulent and painful, particularly for victims and survivors of abuse, who must remain front and centre in our thoughts, actions and prayers. As you know from our statement we believe that the resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury has been the right thing, whilst recognising this has resulted in further turbulence.

Please be assured that all the right safeguarding processes are being followed regarding people in this diocese related to the content and findings of the Makin report.

The letter linked below from Bishop Joanne Grenfell, the Lead Bishop for Safeguarding, not only outlines some key information but also helpfully reminds us of the journey we have been on regarding safeguarding, not least the current work being done in response to the Jay Report regarding independence. The meeting of General Synod in February 2025 will be significant in taking this forward.

Many of you will recall that this Diocese had our independent INEQ audit earlier this year and the audit found “a strong and tangible focus on safeguarding with a clear leadership commitment to create and support a culture that enables everyone engaged with and by the church to flourish”. That does not mean we should be complacent but we do hope it offers confidence in all that we are endeavouring to live together. As we approach Safeguarding Sunday (17 November) it is important for us all to renew our commitment and understanding that safeguarding is the responsibility of every one of us, not only in our worshipping communities but in our daily lives. It is about how we live the truth that every person is

created in the image of God, and our desire to live and share the transforming love revealed in Jesus Christ. Furthermore, it is about a commitment to shining the light of Christ in dark places and bringing to light the brokenness that too often remains hidden.

We want to thank our superb diocesan safeguarding team, led by Brett Riches, and pay tribute to their wisdom, support and care, particularly in their response to victims and survivors. We also want to express our deep thanks to all those people who voluntarily live out the role of Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) across the diocese. We also want to acknowledge that in a week when there has been so much focus on Archbishops and bishops, that the life of the Church is primarily what is being lived out at the local level and across so many different contexts of our diocese, and in so many different ways. We are saddened that the events of this week will have placed additional pressure on you, not least emotionally, and we are aware that trust and integrity has been brought into question. We want to express our heartfelt thanks to you for your ministry and your commitment to live and share the good news of Jesus Christ. It is a privilege to share in ministry with you.

It is our hope and prayer that as we all continue to reflect, that we will stay rooted and grounded in the one who brings life out of death, and that we will renew our commitment to live and share Christ's life in all its fullness among the people and places of our daily lives as disciples of Jesus Christ.

We end by referring to Psalm 23, familiar to so many in places of celebration and sorrow. It is a good place to pause, pray and reflect.

With our thanks for you and with our prayers,

Bishop Rachel and Bishop Robert

## Winstone and District WI - *Elizabeth Asher*

November is the month we hold our Annual Meeting so we do not have a speaker.

The Annual Report covering our meetings and various forays throughout the last year was read out by our President before being forwarded to WI House. - What a year we had!!!!. It was nice to recall events and speakers that we had all enjoyed.

The Committee stood down and a new President and Vice President were elected. The Treasurer and Secretary will be elected at our meeting, in December. Auxiliary posts were also elected. The evening passed very cheerfully and quickly.

It was decided that instead of a Christmas dinner a New Year Celebration dinner would be something to look forward to in the aftermath of the Christmas rush. The place and date is yet to be decided.



Our December meeting is a Tudor Christmas which we are all looking forward to participating in. Sounds fun.

Our CHRISTMAS FAIR is on Saturday 23d November 11.00am. to 3.00pm.in Winstone Village Hall and we have fun things for everyone. We look forward to seeing you.

Winstone and District WI meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month in Winstone Village Hall and new members, or visitors, are always welcome. If you would like any information call Chris on 01285821261

# Directory

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	Colesbourne <i>vacancy</i>	
	Elkstone Carole Bury	01242 870493 carolebury@hotmail.com
	Rendcomb Carol Bailey (temporary)	01285 831836 wrensorttwo@gmail.com
	Stratton Jill Ashton	jillashton13@gmail.com

## DIRECTORY CONTINUED....

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	Coberley	Steve Bunker	
	Colesbourne	Sir Henry Elwes (temporary)	01242 870264 hwg@colesbourne.net
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	Elkstone Rendcomb	(vacancy) Annabel Purcell	01285 831686 annabelpurcell@hotmail.co.uk
<b>Organists</b>	Stratton	Steve Bunker	
	Bagendon	Tony Hymas	01285 831728
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<b>Pastoral Emergency in</b>	Cowley	Andrea Board	aboard@hotmail.co.uk
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