

VILLAGE NEWS

AUGUST 2026



Cucklington, Stoke Trister with Bayford
FLOWER SHOW 2026

8th August 2pm

Cucklington village hall

Entry fee £1, children free,

Refreshments and a Raffle with an Auction of produce.

Prize giving at 3 pm

Closing date for entries 6th August.

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

DIRECTORY

PARISH COUNCIL CONTACTS

Charlton Musgrove

Chair: Robin Bastable

Tel: 01963 32317

Clerk: Lisa Gilby

Tel: 01747 821240

clerk@charltonmusgrovepc.org.uk

Cucklington

Chair : Oliver Stanley

cucklingtonchairman@gmail.com

Secretary: TBC

Stoke Trister with Bayford

Chair: Niru Linsey

Tel: 01963 33972

chair@stoketristerbayford-pc.gov.uk

Clerk: Kate Fullerton

clerk@stoketristerbayford-pc.gov.uk

VILLAGE HALL CONTACTS

Charlton Musgrove

Chair: Kelvin Moore

cmvillagehall@gmail.com

Arthur Morison Memorial Hall,

Cucklington

Chair: Campbell Dunford

campbell@willowbarns.com

Bookings:

cvhbookingsecretary@gmail.com

Bayford Village Hall

Bookings: Niru Linsey

Tel: 01963 33972

nirulinsey@icloud.com

POLICE

101 - non emergency line

999 - emergencies

Local police officers

Jacob Tailby

6394@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

Jean Brown

Tel: 01963 32434 / 07828 650620

martynandjeanbrown@gmail.com

What we treasure reveals where our heart really is

This month, the Church will mark the feast of St Laurence. If my calculations are correct, there are seven churches dedicated to St Laurence/Lawrence in our Diocese of Bath & Wells, so happy patronal festival to all of them!

We don't know a lot about Laurence, but what we do know is impressive. He was a deacon martyred by the Romans in a particularly violent way, during a time of brutal persecution of Christians.

It's said that the Emperor ordered him to hand over all the treasure of the Church. He refused. But not in the way you might think. When he was asked to gather and display all the treasure of the Church, he called together the poor of the city to pray. And when the soldiers came to collect the treasure, and found only the poorest of the poor, Laurence declared, "These are the treasures of the Church." For that defiance in the face of tyranny, he was killed.

Laurence's worldview was in complete contrast to that of the ruling powers. Where they saw the poor as worthless and to be despised, he saw them as precious. He valued people above possessions in a way the authorities found baffling, maybe even threatening.

Jesus famously taught that what we treasure reveals where our heart really is.

In our society there are so many competing demands for our hearts and minds. It can be hard to work out where to place our loyalty. If you were asked to gather all your treasure, I wonder what you'd bring, and what that would reveal? If we analysed how we spend our money as individuals, PCCs, and a Diocesan Board of Finance -the body that manages the assets and finances of our diocese - what would that show about our priorities?

Those are provocative questions to ask, and tricky to answer. But in an area where St Laurence is so honoured, maybe we should try.

Fiona Gibson, Bishop of Taunton



Benefice Services

August 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 2nd August

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 9th August

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 Andrew's Church, Stoke Trister (Said)

Sunday 16th August

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

Sunday 23rd August

10:30am Whole Benefice Communion – St Lawrence's Church, Cucklington

Sunday 30th August

10:30am Whole Benefice Morning Service – St Stephens's Church,
Charlton Musgrove

Sunday 6th September

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

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. **August 7th & 21st.**

Please check www.penselwood.ning for more details.

Mobile Library Visits Pen Selwood at the **Old Orchard lay by** in **Queens Grove** monthly **12:25-12:50pm** on **August 14th.**

8th August **Coffee Morning in Wincanton Church 10:00am – 12:00 noon.** Raffle, Homemade Cakes & Savouries, Bookstall &, Refreshments. **Everybody welcome!**

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 Reverend 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



The poster features a background image of hands holding a bunch of dark grapes. In the top left corner is the 'Laid down LIFE' logo with an icon of a person in a blue robe. In the top right corner is the 'saint john's' logo with a cross icon. The text 'first' and 'fridays' is written in large, white, sans-serif font, with 'first' above 'fridays'. Below this, the word 'based' is written in a large, bold, yellow, sans-serif font, with 'ft.' in a smaller font to its left. At the bottom, the text 'Friday 7th August' is in bold black, followed by 'Starts 7:30pm' and 'RSVP for location:'. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner.

Friday 7th August
Starts 7:30pm
RSVP for location:

Wincanton Parish Church Coffee Morning



In the Parish Church
Saturday 8th August
10:00am – 12:00 noon

Refreshments
Homemade Cakes
Book Stall & Raffle!

ALL WELCOME!



Cucklington Village Hall

Chairman: Campbell Dunford (01963 34220)

Secretary: Di Hammet (01747 840770)

dmhammet99@aol.com

Hall bookings:

cvhbookingsecretary@gmail.com

Website: www.cucklington.org.uk

CUCKLINGTON

St Lawrence's Church

www.cucklington.org.uk

Church Warden—Pip Loxton

Tel: 07849329727

Please note

New Booking Secretary for the Cucklington Village Hall Janice Lees. Future hire enquiries should be addressed to her via the cvhbookingsecretary@gmail.com email address.

Hall emergency problems and other admin issues should be addressed to

dmhammet99@aol.com

Tel: 01747840770

Coffee Morning

Saturday 29th August



10.00am- 12.00pm

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

**Pop
up
Pub**



Friday 7th August

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.



**FUN AND
GAMES AT
THE
CUCKLINGTON
N
SUMMER**



Who's Who - St.Lawrence Church, Cucklington

Georgie and **Christopher Birrell** live at Clinger, (which is out of the village toward Buckhorn Weston) where they enjoy the lovely view and fantastic skies across the Vale. Although they've lived here for twenty years, Christopher's father came to these parts, near Shaftesbury, back in 1970.

Christopher has been Treasurer for St Lawrence's (and now for St Andrew's, Stoke Trister) for a number of years. He puts in a huge amount of work behind the scenes - not just grappling with numbers, budgets and bills but also corresponding with the Diocese on behalf of the PCC - and far more as the Minutes of the PCC reveal ...

Christopher considers it a very favourable aspect of our villages that the two churches are significantly supported by those who aren't necessarily church goers but who regard St Lawrence's, St Andrew's (and their churchyards) as integral parts of our two villages and our community. (Christopher is also Treasurer of Cucklington Parish Meeting. Cucklington doesn't have the formality of a Parish Council, instead the village meets twice a year to fulfil its local authority obligations.).

Well, Christopher, what's in your shopping basket for a picnic?

A good picnic shouldn't be trifled with... that's why mine would have a Summer Pudding. This would follow on from a good, well curried, Coronation Chicken. There could also be quantities of provencal rosé...

And do you have a favourite place in the world - apart from Cucklington of course!

When it's not raining and the midges are at bay, it's hard to beat the West Coast of Scotland. Not just the hills (there are no mountains in Scotland) but some of the best beaches in the world.

I wonder, do you have a skill or talent we perhaps don't know about?

Many years ago, I did rewire a house from top to bottom. The electrician who checked it over, offered me a job!

If you could travel back in time to meet someone from the past, who might it be?

I've always had a soft spot for Genghis Khan. His achievements were considerable, least of all in the context of his time (about a century before records began for St Lawrence's). I have always hoped that at some point, in a yurt in distant Mongolia, the conversation went "Come on Genghis, we need one more to make up a horde..."

And finally, but so important, please give just one good reason to visit St Lawrence's church

Do come to St Lawrence's. You will find it a place of peaceful reflection and an opportunity to take time for yourself. There's always a warm welcome and Pip's coffee and biscuits!

Amanda Watts

Who's Who - St. Lawrence Church, Cucklington

You've no doubt come across **John Crocker**, Dairy Farmer and Member of the Parish Church Council, driving his big blue tractor or quad bike around the village. In his youth he lived next door to the church and continues to farm the field around the church to this day.

We're very grateful to John for his enthusiasm and commitment to helping to ensure the churchyard is well maintained. He is the third generation of his family to farm in Cucklington since his grandfather arrived here back in 1901. John was one of the 33,000 UK registered dairy farmers in 1996 - thirty years on he is just one of 6,850...

I asked John what his personal connection was to St Lawrence. His answer reminded me of a well known film ...

In the last seventy years, four weddings, two funerals, seven christenings and a confirmation.

John, if you ever happened to be marooned on a desert island, what luxury item might you miss the most?

My mobile phone.

What's your favourite place in the world (apart from Cucklington of course!)

Looking out of the window of the house we stay in Porthleven, Cornwall. Sea, sea and more sea.

And now a silly question - Would you rather be an animal or a fish? Any particular sort?

An animal! Either a labrador because all I would have to do is eat and sleep and have my tummy tickled, or a cow at Church Farm Dairy as my every need would be pampered!

If you could travel back in time ... which period would you visit?

Late Victorian, early Edwardian, when my grandfather came to the village, to see the changes in agriculture and in the village.

And finally, can you give me one good reason to visit St Lawrence church?

A good time to visit is Harvest Festival, when inside the building is decorated with all the produce from the land and outside the church door, looking west you can see the wonderful countryside and cattle, where some of our food is produced.



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



Hire the Bayford Village Hall!

Your Local Venue for Every Occasion

Looking for the perfect space to host your next event?

The Village Hall is available to hire for parties, meetings, classes, and more. With one larger main room, a separate kitchen and toilet facilities, and a convenient location in the heart of the village, it's ideal for gatherings

If you are a resident of Bayford or Stoke Trister it's only £25 to hire for 4 hours. (£35 for non residents).

For easy online booking or just to find out more about what the Village Hall can offer log onto

<https://bayfordvillagehall.org>



COFFEE MORNING

Thursday 6th August

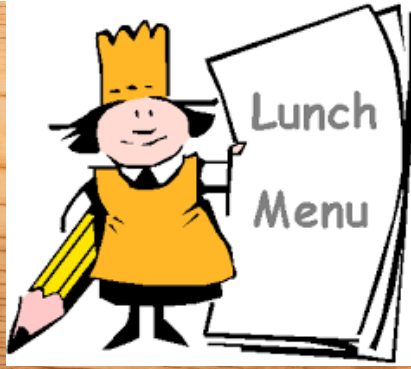
10:00am to 12noon

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 12th August
12.15 TO EAT AT 12.30**

Please call Mary on 34420 by Sunday 9th to book your lunch.



Bayford Village Hall

Film Night

Saturday 8th August

7.00pm

(doors open at 6.30pm)

**£5.00 including snacks &
refreshments**



The Phantom of the Opera at the Royal Albert Hall (2011) is a lavishly staged 25th anniversary concert of Andrew Lloyd Webber's iconic musical, performed with a full cast, orchestra, and elaborate sets in London's famed venue. It blends romance, drama, and soaring music in an opulent theatrical spectacle.

The Bayford Inn Update

It's been a scorcher this month, and the pub has been a brilliant place to cool down, catch up and enjoy a cold drink.

Will is back, which means food is back on the menu. Alongside Fish and Chips Friday, we'll be starting Burger Night on Thursdays, with vegan and vegetarian options available. It's £20 including a drink, so we hope you can come in and enjoy it.

Quiz night was really well supported and, with Will's return, we were able to offer light plates and basket meals, which went down really well.

Renovation work is progressing well. We'll soon be finishing the back hallway and the cladding on the storeroom, before turning our attention to the rear of the pub with planters, lighting and, we hope, an outdoor BBQ area.

Don't forget, we are looking to build a team of volunteers to help with bar work, cooking, waiting, building, cleaning, coffee and cake mornings, and more. Quite a few people have already shown an interest, so if you'd like to get involved and can spare a couple of hours or so a week, it would be great. Pop in and speak to Mel.

The pub is at a pivotal moment, and we need as much support as possible to help it remain viable. That could be through shares, sponsorship, donations or, at a base level, simply by coming in to enjoy a drink or two. We are very close to offering coffee and cake in the mornings, so watch this space — a chance to come in and read the paper, check some emails or have a good old chinwag.

We have the popular Jamaican pop-up 'Full Yuh Belly' returning for the whole day on 8 August. Please come and try something a bit different. Keep an eye on the socials, website and in the pub for upcoming events.

We may be open again, but there is still plenty to do and more money to raise to secure the pub's future for the long term. Every visit, every offer of help and every bit of support helps keep The Bayford Inn at the heart of our community.

Ben Giles



COFFEE AND BOOKS

St Andrew's Church, Stoke Trister



Stoke Trister (and Beyond) Book Exchange

Leafing through *Richard II*, a young A-level student came across the line: “*I wasted time, and now doth time waste me.*” He was struck by its relevance to modern life—and particularly to his own situation. His exam was the next day, and he hadn’t actually done any revision.

Writers are completely in control of time. They can move forwards (*Nineteen Eighty-Four* by George Orwell, written in 1948— even 1984 seems ages ago now), they can move backwards (*A Tale of Two Cities*, one of only two historical novels Dickens wrote), or backwards and forwards (*Catch-22*—you never quite know where you are in that one).

In *Of Mice and Men*, Steinbeck stops time in one of the most beautifully written passages in English literature. “As happens sometimes, a moment settled and hovered and remained for much more than a moment. And sound stopped and movement stopped for much, much more than a moment...”

Books let us travel through time in another way too. We can pick up a novel written hundreds of years ago and step straight into another world. The earliest novel generally recognised is *The Tale of Genji* (Japan, c.1010), by Murasaki Shikibu. I had to look that up because I didn’t know.

Surprised that it was over a thousand years old, I asked my husband whether he'd heard of it.

"Yes," he replied smugly. "I've got it on my Kindle."

"So... have you read it?"

"Well... no."

Apparently it's rather long. Smugness gone to the wall, I think. But reading 1000+ pages does take up a lot of time, I suppose, especially when you’ve been asked 1000 times to clean the windows and haven’t found the time to do it.

At our Book Exchange Event we're planning a little time shift of our own. Kick-off (sorry if that phrase brings back painful memories) will now be **11.00 am** instead of **10.30 am**, finishing at **12.30 pm**. We decided we'd all be in less of a rush—and who wants to rush a coffee?

Our next event is on **12th August, from 11.00 am to 12.30 pm, at St Andrew's Church, Stoke Trister**. We'd love to see you there. After all, time is passing whether we're having fun or not—so we might as well make sure we are!

“Enjoy yourself. It’s later than you think!”

Penelope
(Book Exchange, Stoke Trister and Beyond)



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



Charlton Musgrove Community Defibrillator & Bleed Kit

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(opposite Nos 3 and 4 Dibbens Row).

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What3 Words: doubt.fields.bottom

Further information is available on the Parish Council
website at

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

Annual Macmillan Coffee Morning

Charlton Musgrove Village hall

25th September 10-12noon

Cake and Savoury stall.

Raffle and of course, fresh Brewed Coffee!

Please support this important event in it's
13th year—providing help for those with
Cancer.

If you can help us in anyway,
please contact Jean Brown (07828 650620),
Ceri Izard (07759 027849).

More details to follow:



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 21st August 10.30 to 12.00



VILLAGES' WALKING GROUP – WALKS IN AUGUST, SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

In June our by-now traditional Mid-Summer Evening walk, led for us by Sara and Steve Jarrett, yet again enjoyed a balmy summer evening in the woods near Alfred's Tower. After a very hot day it was a delight to have the cooler temperatures of the woods, and also to be able to take in the stunning summer evening views across towards Lamyatt Beacon.

Barrie and Ceri Izzard kindly have offered to lead our August walk on its revised date of Thursday 20th August. As usual, let's meet at Charlton Musgrove Village Hall ready to depart by 10am. Do join us if you can - it will be good to have your company (it should be cooler too by then!).

Looking further ahead the following have been penciled in for future walks: Saturday 26th September and Friday 23rd October, so please jot them down in your diary and do join us for those walks; you will be most welcome.

Mike and Eileen

Mike and Eileen Vockins

mdvockins@btinternet.com

01963 34837



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



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

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And concerning payment, email

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EVENTS FOR YOUR AUGUST 2026 DIARY

Cucklington

4th 11th 18th 25th	Table tennis, 7.30pm AMMH
8th	Cucklington, Stoke Trister with Bayford Flower Show Gates open 2.00pm Cucklington Village Hall
7th	Pop up Pub 7.00pm AMMH
29th	Coffee morning 10:00am to 12:00pm AMMH

Stoke Trister & Bayford

6th	Coffee morning, 10:00am to 12:00pm Bayford Village Hall
8th	Full Yuh Belly Jamaican Food . All day at The Bayford Inn
8th	Movie night "The Phantom of the Opera at the Royal Albert Hall" doors open at 6.30pm Bayford Village Hall
12th	St Andrew's Church Coffee & Book Exchange 11:00am to 12:30pm
12th	Village lunch, 12.15pm Bayford Village Hall
20th	Quiz Night starts 7:30pm The Bayford Inn

Charlton Musgrove

3rd 10th 17th 24th 31st	St John's Coffee Morning 10:00am to 12:00pm CM
11th 25th	Short mat bowls, 2pm Charlton Musgrove village hall
20th	Village Walk 10:00am meet at Charlton Musgrove Village hall car park
21st	Coffee Morning 10:30am to 12:00pm Charlton Musgrove Village hall



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

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

DEADLINE

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