



## Keeping up traditions?

There's a big field down along the stream near where we live. In a straight line across it, runs a public footpath. Over the years the route has changed and the path now winds alongside the river and few people use the old direct route. The streamside path now even has a fence running by it. Over the years the use has changed. Traditionally it probably provided a clear route across to Church or the mill for people from the surrounding hamlets, but now it's mainly used for dog walkers and those exploring our wonderful countryside.

Traditions change and, as we approach the season of so many traditions, it got me thinking. Obviously there are traditions which have been going all our lives and before; Christmas trees brought into the house, giving of presents, pulling of crackers ,..... Others are disappearing for most; making a wish when we stir the Christmas pudding, door to door carol singing, going to Church(!)..... No more driving round the village with a tractor and trailer, harmonium perched on the back and handbells sounding out in various farm kitchens.



Families develop their own traditions and maybe it's no bad thing that they change. Until a couple of years ago I'd probably never driven a car on Christmas afternoon. Now family commitments mean that we drive across the country on Christmas Day to meet up with our family. We have a great time singing carols very loudly in the car on Christmas afternoon! There seem to be far more activities like carol singing and Nativities going on around urban areas rather than the country. Christmas celebrations certainly extend much further than just Christian countries. A nephew in Borneo says that all the shop assistants in his local town are wearing festive hats and Deeley boppers at this time of year!

Two thousand years ago, in an occupied country in the Middle East where there had been constant violence and fighting for hundreds of years, a baby was born in a rough old shed . It seems some things really don't change; humans find it hard to live peaceably with each other. There are an awful lot of people in the Middle East and throughout the world who won't get a chance to celebrate any religious festivals this year. Let's hope everyone can realistically seek some sort of compromise and peace as we approach another New Year.

Maybe we should look forward and start our own new traditions. They might just be modifications of an old one, or maybe totally new. After all, that footpath around the edge of our local stream is far more interesting than the old straight line across the field!

Have a great Christmas and New Year whatever traditions you follow!

*Fen Marshall*

*Family traditions counter  
alienation and confusion.  
They help us define who  
we are; they provide  
something steady, reliable  
and safe in a confusing world.*

- Susan Lieberman  
familyhow



## LEGO CLUB at Thornbury Library

Listen to a story or some poems, then create your own LEGO masterpieces and display them in the library for your family and friends to see.

**FREE Every Saturday 9.30am**  
no booking required

## View 5 Alive online

Remember that 5 Alive is available online and in colour at:

- [www.falfield.org.uk](http://www.falfield.org.uk)
- <https://cromhall.com/cromhall/st-andrews-church>
- [www.tytherington-pc.gov.uk](http://www.tytherington-pc.gov.uk)

If you would prefer to view your magazine online, rather than receive a paper copy, please inform the person who delivers to your address. This will help to keep our printing costs down.



## Tat3

The December meeting  
will be

on

**Friday Dec 8<sup>th</sup>**

when we have been invited to  
**St Andrew's Primary School**  
**at 2pm**

to be entertained by the children.

An excellent start to the Christmas  
season!

**All local senior citizens  
welcome..**

**For more information contact Ann on  
01454 294200**



## Thornbury Eisteddfod

The Eisteddfod will be running again next year..... so come and sing a song, recite a poem, play the piano or flute or other musical instrument and have fun.

The dates are as follows:

- Sun March 10th, Instrumentals day.
- Tues March 12th. Choirs and Mixed ensembles.
- Sat March 16th, Speech and Drama.
- Sun March 17th, Vocals.

Thornbury Eisteddfod is a celebration of the great range of talent in the local area. We hope that taking part in our festival will be an enjoyable and encouraging experience and provide a platform for our young performers.

There are competitive and non-competitive classes. All ages and abilities are welcome to take part.

Details are in the syllabus which can be downloaded from the Thornbury Arts Festival website: [www.thornburyartsfestival.com](http://www.thornburyartsfestival.com)

We are indebted to Thornbury Lions, who generously sponsor us each year.



**Enjoy a free hot drink  
in Thornbury Library**  
**Available Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri**  
**9.30am-4.00pm**

Use the computers or use your own iPad, phone etc. (wifi available). Read a book, a newspaper, browse the shelves, enjoy a communal puzzle or just relax.

Falfield Hall Management Committee  
invite you to join us for

## Christmas Carols around the Tree

**Falfield Village Green**  
**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023**  
**From 5 pm**

Enjoy festive refreshments.

A visit from Father Christmas  
Join in with community Carol Singing to  
get you in the festive mood.

***This event is kindly supported by  
local businesses:***

***The Huntsman Inn and Falfield  
Stores***



## TYTHERINGTON VILLAGE CALENDAR

Now available from the  
village shop

Priced only £3





BEFRIENDING  
VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED

Can you spare 1 hour a week to do something life changing for someone else?

❖ **BEFRIEND A LONELY AND ISOLATED ELDERLY PERSON IN THORNBURY AND SURROUNDING AREAS.**

- ❖ Be matched with someone in walking distance to your home
- ❖ Choose the client you want to visit based on your preferences
- ❖ Visit them at their home once a week for approx. 1 hour
- ❖ Have a chat and a cup of tea - **make their week!**
- ❖ On a date / time that works around you - whether that's weekends, evenings or daytime slots.

Call us on **01454 411707 opt. 2** to find out more!

Or Email: [volunteering@ageuksouthglos.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@ageuksouthglos.org.uk)

67 High Street, Thornbury, Bristol, BS35 2AW

Charity Number: 1109999

## Cromhall Village Shop

A CHRISTMAS INVITATION  
TO ALL OUR  
CUSTOMERS AND  
OUR LOVELY  
VOLUNTEERS

*Please join us for  
festive nibbles and drinks*

*From 10.00am – 12.00 noon  
on Sat 16<sup>th</sup> December*

Before then, take some of the strain off and order your festive baked goods, milk, eggs and  
**FROCESTER FAYRE FABULOUS  
TURKEY, PORK, BEEF,  
HAM, QUICHES etc**

### Computer Support 1-1 at Thornbury Library

Book a session with our computer volunteer for IT and digital support

**Every Thursday 9.30am, 10.30am,  
11.30am**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who supported the series of soup lunches at St Leonard's, Tortworth in any way.



We raised a total of £510 for The Leprosy Mission - enough to pay for a prosthetic limb for a leprosy patient or to dig a well to enable a family to grow crops successfully.

St George's Church, Falfield

Christingle with  
Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 3.30pm

Come and celebrate the Nativity and sing traditional Carols within the Christingle service.

All are welcome whatever your age.



## SAXOPHONE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

WITH

**'THE  
STANDING  
STONES'**



at  
**ST JAMES' CHURCH,  
TYTHERINGTON**

**SAT 2nd DECEMBER 7.30pm**



Tickets £12.50 each –  
**CASH ONLY,**  
(to include a glass of  
wine & mince pie)  
available from  
Tytherington Village  
Shop

Enquiries to Rita Ponting (01454 417848)

**Children's Winter Crafts  
at Thornbury Library**

**Saturday 16th December  
10.45am-11.45am**

*Make some lovely winter deco-  
rations for the festive season*





## Falfield Village Community Website

After 20 plus years of operating the Village website on a voluntary basis, I have decided that the time has come for me to give up the running of this website at the end of this year.



If there is anyone in the village who would like to take on the role of the running of this website and would like further information, I can be contacted in the first instance by email at: [webmaster@falfield.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@falfield.org.uk).

*James Carpenter*

*NB Without this resource, which James has provided for so long, there will be no easy online access to records of many aspects of village life and church records which are currently available on the website. Thank you James for all your hard work over the years. Ed.*

**St Andrew's Church  
CROMHALL**

**Candlelight  
Carol Concert**  
**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 4pm**  
with  
**Oldland Brass**  
**Carols and Readings**  
**Mulled wine and Mince pies**



## ASHWORTHY CATTERY

**ASHWORTHY FARM, TYTHERINGTON,**

**NR WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE, GLOS GL12 8QD**

We are a family run business dedicated to providing the perfect environment for your cats to stay.

Set in a quiet, secluded countryside residence, this newly-built cattery has been constructed to the highest standards and is fully licensed by South Gloucestershire Council.

For all enquires please contact Nicola on 07799805996

TORTWORTH  
ESTATE



## Christmas Trees

Freshly cut, Estate grown Norway Spruce and reduced drop Nordmann Fir trees will be on sale at Tortworth Estate Yard, GL12 8HF from the beginning of December.

Check our website [www.tortwortheastate.com](http://www.tortwortheastate.com) and [www.facebook.com/tortwortheastate](https://www.facebook.com/tortwortheastate) for opening times.

Trees larger than 10ft can be cut to order, please call our office to arrange.

## Firewood

Seasoned hardwood logs from our own sustainably managed woodland available for free local delivery

Full or half loads of 8" logs (approx 1 ton - 1.8m3)

To place an order, please call 01454 260268 or email us on [office@tortwortheastate.com](mailto:office@tortwortheastate.com)



## Thornbury Art Club – December 2023/January 2024

There will be no Club night in December.

**Our January club night is Tuesday 23rd**  
at St Mary's Church Hall 7.15 for 7.30pm

**Watercolour painter Catherine Beale**  
demonstrates wet-in-wet technique to develop  
**atmospheric valley mists.**

Visitors welcome. Non-members £6.  
Tel. 01454 414433 for further details.

For enquiries, please contact: - Mary Drown tel.  
01454 414433 [chairthornburyart@gmail.com](mailto:chairthornburyart@gmail.com)



## Newday BEAUTY

### Christmas package offers

Gel Manicure, pedicure and eyebrow wax  
£45 (normally £53)

30 minute facial with gel pedicure £44  
(normally £48)

Half leg, underarm and eyebrow wax £27  
(usually £31)

Valid during December  
Gift vouchers also available

*Phone Amy 07534519486 or find me on  
Facebook*



**Rhymetime at  
Thornbury Library**  
**FREE**  
**Every Monday and Friday**  
**9.30am-10am**

### **Tytherington Local History Group Autumn Programme**

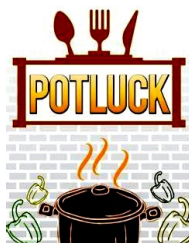
*All meetings take place at 7.30pm in the School-room located at the rear of the Baptist Church on Itchington Road. Talks last about an hour and are followed by refreshments. There is a small charge for admission: Members £2, Visitors £3 and anyone is welcome to join us for the talks.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Friday 8th December**  
**AGM & Business meeting**

**Followed by**  
**Pot Luck Supper**  
**provided by our members**  
(Members please note!!)

**There will be no charge for admittance.**  
**Please come and join us.**



### **Let's sing the 'GOOD NEWS' at St George's Church, Falfield, Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 3.30pm**



St George's Church will be preparing for Christmas in a different way this year.

During our December services the Church is alight with the warm glow of lit candles placed in the windows of the church. We hope this is a welcoming sign for you to come and join us for any of our services this month. We offer a quiet time to sit and reflect as well as sing in this busy run up to Christmas Day.

There are two traditional services mark the approach to Christmas: 'Carols by Candlelight' and the 'Christingle' service. This year we will be combining our celebration on Christmas Eve starting at 3.30pm

Christingle is a delight as families come together to hear again the Christmas story, during which children gradually build up the Crib scene which is placed at the front of the church and hear the meaning of the Christingle. The wonderful experience of holding the Christingle orange with the lit candle (under the supervision of an adult) is also one that appeals to children before it is extinguished and taken home, with as many sweets as have managed to be saved!



This year as Christmas Eve falls on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December, we are combining the much-loved 'Christingle' Service and the 'Carols by Candlelight' in one service. It will be a very informal as we add the traditional carols which form the Christmas story as the children build up the crib scene.

If you have never experienced a 'Christingle' Service, or a 'Carols by Candlelight', please come along this year, there is no age limit to this wonderful expression of God's love demonstrated in the symbol of the Christingle and the singing of Carols.



### **CRY Coffee Morning**

I am so pleased to let everyone know that the total sum raised at the Coffee Morning held in Tytherington Village Hall on 4th November in aid of Cardiac Risk in the Young is £1,325.00p.

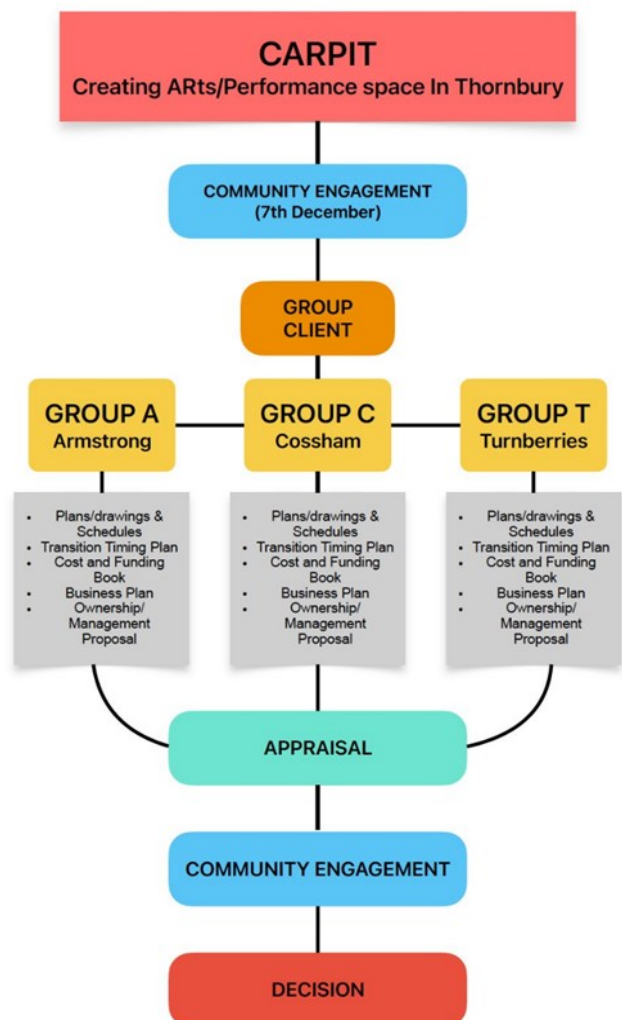
Thank you to all who helped on the day, who kindly donated raffle prizes, those who made cakes, and of course to everyone who came and supported me. I can't thank you all enough.

*Rita Ponting.*

## Latest news on the Armstrong Hall

At last, the Armstrong Hall Charitable Trust, managed by the Town Council, has drawn up a plan to prepare cases for three options in Thornbury. This is thanks to the efforts of James Murray and several of the new Councillors.

Cllr Danny Bonnett is organising the plan, and they have engaged several of us to help with the work needed.



The project is being called CARPIT, and a flowchart is shown of the processes, in brief, along with the fundraising reports the Trust has already received – see left.

Options A (Armstrong) and C (Cossham) may well merge, providing further sub-options down the line for exactly what to do at what point. There is also Option T for the plan to build new facilities at Turnberries instead.

**On 7<sup>th</sup> December they will once again look for engagement from the community to see how the process is going, and to invite further comment, which could be invaluable for shaping possibilities. (See page 9)**

I really hope you and people you know will be interested and able to attend on 7<sup>th</sup> or will send in your thoughts and ideas if you can't make that date.

We are extremely aware that the term “community” extends well beyond the boundaries of Thornbury, and we most warmly welcome everyone's interest.

*Jill Dimond, AHAA*



### DAN NORRIS

West of England  
**METRO MAYOR**

### Update from Dan Norris, Mayor of the West of England

**Grants for local shops to cut carbon:** Grants of up to £15,000 for local businesses to cut their energy bills and carbon emissions are now on offer. The green grants are there for premises such as pubs, restaurants and shops to purchase and install energy efficient equipment - reducing their emissions by seven tonnes on average. Grants

are available on a first come, first served basis. For more information please contact: [lowcarbonbusiness@westofengland-ca.gov.uk](mailto:lowcarbonbusiness@westofengland-ca.gov.uk) or 0117 332 1520.

**Keep Warm this Winter:** It's important to stay above 17°C, especially if you're ill, an older person, or have young children. As Mayor of the West of England, once again I'm running a *Keep Warm this Winter* drive. For top tips please visit: [www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/keepwarm](http://www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/keepwarm).

### Birthday Buses - enjoy Christmas in style:

Don't forget if your Birthday is coming up in December to apply for your FREE bus pass to enjoy the winter season in style. You can use it to make as many journeys as you like without restrictions throughout the whole of your birthday month.

Head to [www.birthdaybus.co.uk](http://www.birthdaybus.co.uk) for more information and send off your application today.

**Let's get jolly with your trolley!** Finally as thoughts turn to Christmas shopping, don't forget to shop local and support our fantastic independents.





## Church services and information

A reminder that the five parishes of the former benefice are now separate entities. There is no longer a benefice office or a central point of contact. This means that the churchwardens of each church need to be contacted directly.

**Cromhall:** Ann Greenhalgh 01454 294200  
**Falfield:** Headley Pain 01454 269017 or Sian Hogg 07986699986/sianhogg@gmx.com  
**Rockhampton:** Liz Cullimore 01454 412208  
**Tortworth:** Hilary Legg 01454 413234 or Fen Marshall 01454 260821  
**Tytherington:** John Williams 01454 412515 or Phil Coward 01454 281444

If they are unavailable, please try one of the other Wardens who will try to help you. Please bear in mind they do have other lives and may not be available instantly. However, leave a message and they will deal with it as soon as they can. Failing that, contact **Rev. Graham Stacey, the Area Dean** on [gramham@stbarts-camandcoaley.org.uk](mailto:gramham@stbarts-camandcoaley.org.uk) or Tel. **01453 709859**

### Cromhall

Sat 9th 2 - 4pm  
**SUN 10TH 4.00PM**  
**SUN 24TH 9.30AM**

Christmas activity afternoon in church for all.  
**CAROLS AND READINGS WITH OLDLAND BRASS**  
**CHRISTMAS EVE EUCHARIST WITH REV DAVID POWE.**

### Falfield

**NB no café church on the first Sunday.**

Sun 10th 10.30am  
 Sun 17th 10.30am  
**SUN 24TH 3.30PM**  
 Sun 31st 10.30am

Holy Communion with Rev Rob Axford  
 Morning Prayer  
**CHRISTINGLE WITH CAROLS**  
 Join Tortworth for United Benefice carols

### Rockhampton

**SUN 17TH 6.00PM**

**CAROL SERVICE**

### Tortworth

Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> 10.30am  
**CHRISTMAS DAY 10.30AM**  
**Sun 31<sup>st</sup> 10.30am**  
 Sun 7th January 10.30am

Holy Communion Rev Frances Wookey.  
**HOLY COMMUNION Rev Rob Axford**  
**UNITED BENEFICE CAROL SERVICE**  
 Holy Communion with Rev. Robert Axford

### Tytherington

Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> 10.30am  
 Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> 9.30am  
 Sun 17<sup>th</sup> 6.00pm  
**Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> 4.00pm**  
**Sun 24<sup>th</sup> 11.30pm**

Joint service with Baptists at St James'  
 Said Holy Communion  
**CAROL SERVICE** followed by Mulled Wine & Mince Pies  
**CRIB & CHRISTINGLE service**  
**CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT COMMUNION**

**PLEASE CHECK  
 TIMES OF SERVICES  
 OVER THE  
 CHRISTMAS PERIOD**



*Everyone is welcome to join us at any of these services.*



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VAT No: 801 1244 91

**Alveston Gardens Association**  
**Monday 4th December**  
**Pest and Disease Control**  
**without the use of chemicals**  
 with Roger Umpelby

**7.30pm in Alveston Jubilee Hall**  
 All welcome - Visitors (£3)



## **Ukrainian Storytime at Thornbury Library**

**Mondays at 4pm**

Please tell your Ukrainian family, friends, and colleagues, about Zoya, a Ukrainian teacher, who will be in the library every Monday at 4pm to share stories, reading, etc, from the Ukraine

### **Have You Read...?"**

**A book group for everyone**



*Have  
you  
read?*

Come and enjoy an open book group with a difference No set novel to read. Just drop in for an hour for refreshments and a chat

**Friday 1st Dec 2pm-3pm**

**Get help from Thornbury CAB**  
**Town Hall, Thornbury.**  
**Tuesdays 10am - 12 noon**

No appointment needed

**citizens  
advice**

For free independent, confidential advice given on a wide range of subjects from housing to relationships , benefit entitlement and debt.

Ring 0808 278 7947 or [www.southgloscab.org.uk](http://www.southgloscab.org.uk)

**Saturday Dec 23rd**  
**10.30am - 12.00 noon**  
**Tytherington Village Shop and Post Office**

**Invites all  
volunteers, helpers  
and customers for  
Christmas drinks  
and nibbles**



**St Peter's Hospice**  
**Christmas Coffee Morning**  
**Saturday 9th December**

10.00am – 11.30am

Methodist Church Hall, Thornbury.

Christmas cards, Gift stall,

Home made cakes, Raffle etc.

*Entry to include tea/coffee and cake: £3.00 per person.*



## **CHRISTMAS Family Stay and Play**

at St Andrew's Church, Cromhall

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> December Time: 2 - 4pm

Pop on your loudest Christmas jumper, wrap yourself in tinsel, and Jingle all the Way down for a **FREE** Christmas Crafternoon!

Come and make your own Jingle Bell, Baby Jesus Star Decoration or Angel Gabriel Tree Topper. Can you feed Father Christmas some mince pies or hook a hoop on Rudolph's antlers? Maybe win a prize at the Six Socks game. Get warm and cosy at our Hot Chocolate Bar with tasty toppings, mince pies and reindeer cupcakes. Oh... and don't forget to write your Christmas List because guess who's promised to pop down the church chimney and share a Christmas story with you...

Father Christmas himself!

HO! HO! HO!





Thank you to Tytherington Baptist Church and Litfield Land Ltd for their kind donations to our printing costs.



*The printing costs of 5 Alive are chiefly met by revenue from our advertisers, together with donations from parish councils, some regular users and readers. The editor and treasurer give their time gratis, which enables us to offer copies free of charge to residents of our 5 villages.*

*If you regularly enjoy reading 5 Alive but do not live in one of our 5 villages, perhaps you would like to consider making a contribution to our printing costs.*

*For ease of administration, we prefer payments by BACS (Account Name: Benefice Newsletter Bank Sort Code:55-61-38 Account No: 72008733 Reference: Your name to allow us to identify the payment.)*

*Regular donations may also be made by standing order.*

*For further details please contact our Treasurer, Mr Geoff Crosthwaite telephone 01454 294140*

*Email: geoffrey.crosthwaite@outlook.com or write to him at The Barn, Townwell, Cromhall, Wotton-Under-Edge, GL12 8AQ.*

## Tango Calor Trio

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm**

**Porch House,  
Castle St, Thornbury**

This musical evening presents a collective of wonderful musicians who share a love for Argentine tango.



Tango Calor was set up by bandoneon player Mirek Salmon (BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Welsh National Opera, RSC) in 2016.

For this concert Mirek will be joined by guitar virtuoso Daniel Kellie described by D'Addario Strings as "Truly stunning" and sensational vocalist Indira Roman. Together they will take you on a journey from the classic tango of 1940s Buenos Aires to the beloved music of Astor Piazzolla with a few seasonal surprises on the way! Expect romance, passion and fireworks!

**Paying bar available.**



**Tickets are £12 from**

**[AAGThornbury@gmail.com](mailto:AAGThornbury@gmail.com)**

## THE ARMSTRONG HALL TRUST

CHARITY NUMBER 272883

### INVITATION TO PUBLIC DISSEMINATION MEETING Date: 7th December 2023

**Time: 7 - 9pm**

**Location: Thornbury Baptist Church,  
Gillingstool, Thornbury, BS35 2EG**

The Trust would like to invite all members of the public to a meeting designed to inform of the recent, current and future work being completed by teams of trust members alongside selected volunteers from various user groups.

The meeting will involve a presentation from the trust, a Q&A session and will finish with an opportunity for members of the public to give any input in to the current project before decisions are made on the future of a arts/ performance space in Thornbury.

As space is limited, we would request that user groups who are already informed or involved in the project stay at home to allow space for the wider public to attend.

We look forward to seeing you all.

*James Murray on Behalf of the Armstrong Hall Trust*



### **Avon and Somerset Police SERVE. PROTECT. RESPECT.**

With the dark nights rolling in the police would like to make everyone aware of their

#### **StreetSafe link/App**

The purpose of the App is, as per Avon and Somerset Constabulary's priority of

- reducing Violence Against Women and Girls (**VAWG**),
- to identify those areas where people feel most uncomfortable/unsafe walking (any time) in public. This could be **Environmental** (streetlights, lack of CCTV etc...) or **Behavioural** (Persons loitering/following, unwanted attention etc...).

The App can be downloaded on most platforms and the link is:

<https://www.police.uk/pu/notices/streetsafe/street-safe/>



## TYTHERINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

PASTOR - BRIAN ALLEN

FOR FURTHER DETAILS OF ANY OF OUR SERVICES/ACTIVITIES, PLEASE CONTACT  
Brian on 0117 9 793104 or e-mail: [allenbroncksea@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:allenbroncksea@blueyonder.co.uk)

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Joint Service at St. James' {Advent Sunday}	Val & Brian
10 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent	Brian
17 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	Brian
24 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Service	Brian
25 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Day Praise	Brian
31 <sup>st</sup>	2023 Thanksgiving Service	Brian

\*Service includes Holy Communion

All services commence at 10:30 a.m. (Unless otherwise stated)

*Everyone welcome*

### Tytherington Baptist Church AFTERNOON TEA



Our next session  
will be held on  
**WEDNESDAY 6th December**  
from 2.30pm in the Schoolroom.  
All are welcome.

### Come aboard for Sea Shanties at The Ship with The Severn Whalers!!!



**The Ship, Bristol  
Road, Alveston  
Friday 19th January  
2024 at 7.30pm.**

A gathering of shipmates  
has been convened by  
the Armstrong Arts Group to keep the music going  
and the smiles on our faces!

The Severn Whalers is a North Bristol based shanty  
and sea song group and performs predominantly  
in the area along the banks of the River Severn.

They love to entertain audiences, keeping the tales  
of old Bristol's seafaring alive, introducing new  
songs and revitalising the old.

Tickets are £10 from  
[AAGThornbury@gmail.com](mailto:AAGThornbury@gmail.com)



*Octopus Drama Group presents*  
**King Arthur and the Knights of the  
Round Table**

**Christ the King Church Hall  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
7.30pm**

**& Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January at 11am and 2.30pm**

**Tickets: Adults £8, Children £6. (Under 18's)  
available from Rosie and Rex gift shop on  
Thornbury High Street from Friday Dec 1<sup>st</sup>.**

## HANDYMAN SERVICES

### Specialist in Property Maintenance:

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Graham Pedley GL12 8LQ

01454 260372 07891 482286 [clenet02@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:clenet02@yahoo.co.uk)



## Thornbury Foodbank Christmas Shopping list

We are in need of some stock items which are detailed below but this month we are also asking for items to include in the extra Christmas parcels we make up for those who come to us for help during December.

**We will be making up these parcels on 4 December 2023. It would be most helpful if we could receive these items before that date.**

- Chocolate novelties
- Box/tin of biscuits
- Tinned Custard
- Alcohol Free Mince pies (Not dated before Christmas)
- Tinned salmon (large and small)
- Savoury nibbles
- Small gifts suitable for children
- UHT Milk
- Long life fruit juice
- Instant Mash
- Tinned cold meat
- Adult & children's toothbrushes
- Household cleaning items
- Dog food

Cooking oil – 1 ltr bottle  
Chick peas/kidney beans  
Crisps/Savoury snacks  
Instant meals /pot noodles  
Jam  
Squash  
Coffee  
Sweets/chocolates  
Soup  
Shaving foam  
Male & female deodorant  
Toilet rolls

Can you please make sure all items are in date and unopened?

Thank you for your on-going support.

**Donations can be placed in the basket in Tesco, the Co-op at Thornbury Fields or left on the Baptist church steps on Wednesdays between 9.30am and 11am**

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**Email: [simoncromhallchapel@gmail.com](mailto:simoncromhallchapel@gmail.com)**

All our sermons are available on the website: [WWW.CROMHALLCHAPEL.ORG](http://WWW.CROMHALLCHAPEL.ORG)



### Sunday Worship Services for December:

Join us as we worship the Lord each Sunday, followed by refreshments.

3 <sup>rd</sup> (10.30am) Simon Carey	(6.30pm) Roger Chilvers
10 <sup>th</sup> (10.30am) Damon Ujvarosy	(6.30pm) Simon Carey
17 <sup>th</sup> (10.30am) Simon Carey	(6.30pm) Carols by Candlelight - Simon
24 <sup>th</sup> (10.30am) Tom Brown	(5.15pm*) Family Carol Service – Simon NB *Preceded by mince pies and crafts for the children at 4.00pm in the hall
31 <sup>st</sup> (10.30am) Simon Carey	

**Wednesdays at 7.30pm:** 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> we meet in various homes in the area. 13<sup>th</sup> Bible Study and Prayer on zoom

**Tuesday half hour of prayer (on zoom):** 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm; 12<sup>th</sup> at 9.30am

**Cromhall Crafters:** Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm. Join a friendly group of ladies to work on your own craft while we chat over a cup of tea.

**Coffee Mornings:** Join us for coffee and cake every Thursday morning (except 28<sup>th</sup> Dec), 10.00am – 12.00noon

**Ladies Christmas Special:** Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 7.15pm - 9.00pm. Join us for an enjoyable evening with a group craft, nibbles and talks on "Christmas around the World".

### Special Christmas Events:

- Carols by Candlelight Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm
- Family Christmas Carols on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>, beginning with mince pies and coffee with crafts for the children in the hall at 4.00pm and then a family carol service at 5.15pm.
- Christmas Day at 10.30 – a short service with carols.

Verse of the year for 2023: *For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes...as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."*  
*Romans 1:16 and 17*

### Falfield WI - November Meeting



The November meeting, held in Stone VH was our AGM. Our Adviser for the evening was Joyce Taylor from Stone. Gill Spiller was re-elected as president - well done Gill - and 2 new members joined the committee.

We were all sorry to hear of the death of Ann Gill. Ann had been an enthusiastic member for many years, with a great sense of fun.

After singing Jerusalem and birthday wishes, there was short business meeting. On the 9th December we will be making Christmas wreaths, hopefully in Falfield. (Location to be advised.)

The next meeting is our Christmas get-together and members were asked to sign up to bring a plate of food. We were also told about the Carols round the Christmas tree in Falfield on December 9th.

The AGM was followed by a Beetle Drive, which was won by Julie Higgs. The cup for the competition, My Favourite Mug, was won by Gill Spiller.

### Thornbury Choral Society's News

Thornbury Choral Society resumes rehearsals after the Christmas break on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> 2024 at 8.00pm at the United Reformed Church. We shall be preparing a programme of music by English composers including Holst, Vaughan Williams and Britten for our concert on May 14<sup>th</sup> 2024.

During the coming months we shall be holding our **Annual Choral workshop** to take place on **Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am at Thornbury Baptist Church**. We shall be taking a closer look at Edward Elgar's Choral work "Songs from the Bavarian Highlands"

We are always delighted to welcome new members. We are sure that there must be lots of singers who have recently moved into the area and are looking for the opportunity to sing in a good choir and make new friends.

All details about the Society and future events can be found on our website:  
[www.thornburychoralsociety.org.uk](http://www.thornburychoralsociety.org.uk)

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**Contact Sarah, our HR Manager**



## Tytherington Village Shop & Post Office



With the Christmas season fast approaching, please make use of your local Post Office. Enjoy the convenience of posting those Christmas parcels with easy parking and without having to join the long queues which exist at many of the bigger facilities.

These are our normal opening hours, although we hope we can offer longer PO opening hours in the run up to Christmas. This will depend on the staffing available, so keep an eye out for a notice in the shop, once we are clearer about the position. **Shop hours will remain as normal.**

Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
<b>4.12.23</b>	9.00 – 1.00	9.00 -11.30	9.00 -11.30	9.00 – 1.00	9.00 -11.30
<b>11.12.23</b>	9.00 – 1.00	9.00 –11.30	9.00 -11.30	9.00 – 1.00	9.00 -11.30

During this time when shops are very busy, you may prefer to shop locally. Remember you can order a range of bakery items, meat and dairy products to pick up at your convenience. Just pop into the shop and ask about this service.

We have plenty of Christmas stock in the shop, from cards and wrapping paper to festive treats, smaller gifts and stocking fillers.

The Bonus Ball fund raiser will be in full swing during December and January and the numbers will go on sale at the start of November, so make sure you secure your lucky number by getting it early!

All the funds raised will support the Outreach Post Office at Tytherington, together with money raised from the raffle for our Christmas Hamper. The draw for the lucky winner of the hamper will take place in the shop at the Christmas drinks get-together on Saturday morning December 23 so we do hope all our friends old and new will come along.

**ADVERTISEMENTS:** To advertise in this publication please contact Kay Rea,  
The Bungalow, Moorslade, Falfield. Tel:01454 260364 Email [kay.rea@btinternet.com](mailto:kay.rea@btinternet.com)

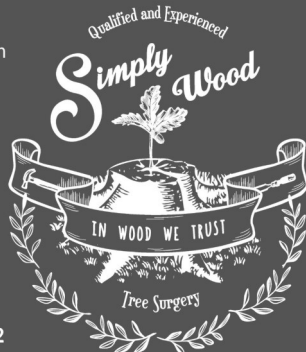
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### Tortworth Forest Centre

Tortworth Forest Centre is based in The Dell at Tortworth Arboretum. Once owned by the Ducie family, the wider arboretum is now split between hotel grounds, the Dell, Leyhill Prison and surrounding estate land. The Dell sits at the arboretum's centre and is home to many notable and champion trees, listed on the Tree Register of the British Isles.

For a decade The Dell was abandoned leaving it overgrown and unsafe. Since 2014 volunteers have met regularly to work on restoration and maintenance. As part of the restoration work 59 new trees and shrubs have been planted and 72 trees re-labelled. We welcome new volunteers, and offer a safe space in which to work and be yourself.

Find out more about us here: [tortwortharboretum.org](http://tortwortharboretum.org)

**Next events:**

- **9th December - Wreath Making Workshop**
- **16th December - Evergreen Visitor Day**

### 'CALENDAR GIRLS' SWELLS THE COFFERS OF TWO CANCER CHARITIES

The play 'Calendar Girls' (written by Tim Firth) was performed by Collaborative Productions between 21 to 23 September at Rangeworthy Village Hall. This was a two-fold charity event which, due to the popularity of this poignant play, saw packed audiences with standing ovations.

The cast of 12, headed by Barb Smith and Sue Smith as Directors, had such fun putting on this play and are delighted to have been able to boost the coffers of both BUST and Blood Cancer UK in their strive to beat cancer. The £5,899.37 raised from the four performances is being shared between the two charities.

Collaborative Productions would like to thank the audiences for reaching deep into their pockets to support these two worthy charities. We are also grateful to our sponsor Renishaw plc, as well as the many people and companies who helped us put on this production, some of whom offered their services free of charge to enable us to donate more money to the two charities.

For a brand new group formed to put on Calendar Girls, the cast and crew are immensely proud and heartened to have received so many favourable comments and to be able to donate these funds to support both charities.

### Hungarian Mince Pies


**Pastry:**  
 5 ozs plain flour  
 4ozs butter (must be hard – straight from fridge)  
 1 egg yolk (size 2) to bind  
 1 teasp rum  
 1 tbs evaporated milk

Mincemeat to fill

1 egg white (size 2) to glaze  
 Caster sugar to dredge

Cook at 190<sup>0</sup> C for 15 – 20 minutes





***Thank you to all our contributors and advertisers who ensure that we have some content in each month's 5 Alive, as well as printers (Cotswold Marketing) and distributors who kindly make sure that we receive our copies each month. We are also grateful to our Treasurer who keeps an eye on the finances. As always, it's a team effort!***

***Wishing everyone a Healthy and Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.***



### CROMHALL VILLAGE SHOP

#### NEW OPENING TIMES FROM 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2023

Due to staffing concerns, we are making a slight adjustment to our evening hours.

#### OPENING TIMES

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Shop</b>	9.00-1.00	9.00-1.00	9.00-1.00	9.00-1.00	9.00-1.00	9.00-12.00
	2.00-5.00	CLOSED	CLOSED	2.00-7.00	2.00-7.00	CLOSED
<b>P.O.</b>	9.00-1.00	9.00-12.30	CLOSED	9.00-1.00	9.00-1.00	CLOSED
	2.00-5.00	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED

**CHRISTMAS OPENING:** We will be open as normal except for **CHRISTMAS DAY, BOXING DAY AND NEW YEAR'S DAY**

## **Your magazine: How to send copy or adverts for inclusion in '5 Alive':**

### **NEWS COPY:**

#### **Where?**

- News items should be sent to Kay Rea, The Bungalow, Moorslade, Falfield, GL12 8DJ Tel. 01454 260364 Email: [kay.rea@btinternet.com](mailto:kay.rea@btinternet.com)

#### **When?**

- Copy date is **strictly before midnight on the 19th of each month** (but the earlier we receive material the better).

#### **In what form?**

- Please submit all copy by e-mail (attachments should be in **Word or Publisher** format, **not** PDF). (We reserve the right of the editor to edit, and you may find that small changes are made for the sake of space etc)
- If you want to submit an advertising poster or similar, black and white is preferable as it reproduces more clearly.
- **Charities wishing to publicise events should quote their charity number.**

### **ADVERTISING:**

- **The deadline for inclusion of advertising in 5 Alive is the 12th of the month preceding publication.**
- Enquiries about advertising should be directed to Kay Rea, The Bungalow, Moorslade, Falfield, Nr Wotton-under-Edge, Glos, GL12 8DJ. Tel. 01454 260364 Email: [kay.rea@btinternet.com](mailto:kay.rea@btinternet.com)

### **Charges per issue are as follows:**

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Full page:	£60	£42
Half page:	£30	£21
Quarter page:	£19	£16
Eighth of page:	£12	£10

**There is a 10% discount for advertisers paying for a year's advertising in advance and 5% for those paying for 6 months' advertising in advance**

Payment may be made by BACS. Cheques should be made out to '**Benefice Newsletter**' and sent to Kay Rea (as above).



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