

# 5 Villages Alive



Volume 21 Issue 1

January 2024

## Still the season to be jolly?

I guess you will be reading this in 2024 when many of you will have taken down the decorations, put the tree out for the Council to collect and heaved a sigh of relief that **IT** is over for another year and we can get back to normal.

However, I'm writing in Advent, the start of the church's liturgical year. In the past this was widely observed as a time of abstinence, not quite as severe as Lent, but certainly a time of preparation and prayer for the coming of a baby who would change the world. In the Church we use purple vestments to purple to signify this solemn and frugal time.

How things change! Now the month of December is regarded as a frantic buying bonanza for the retail trades. A season of excess, with parties, alcohol flowing, perhaps having one too many and a headache the next day! For the majority several hundred years ago this would have been a very lean time; after the first frosts no green vegetables in the garden, the larder looking very sparse unless the thrifty housewife had bottled and preserved a bountiful summer glut, little meat unless that too had been preserved, early darkness and late sunrise was hard on the workers who lived gruelling lives on the land.

Perhaps we need to go back to the days when the 25th December heralded 12 days of feasting, fun and general mischief. Certainly, at Court in the reigns of the Henrys and Elizabeth, there would have been a different diversion each day, a play, a masque, a grand banquet or a musical entertainment. A fool or mischief maker was crowned as the King or Lord of Misrule, generally encouraging everyone to break as many rules and niceties as he could devise, all the while keeping an eye on the royal persons for fear of later losing his head. The gentry waited on their servants at a banquet and the two usually distant classes made merry together. (No doubt the hardworking servants would have prepared this meal!)

The common folk (you and me!) also had fun during the twelve days. Work was kept to what was absolutely necessary and the community came together to enjoy feasting, often pooling resources to ensure everyone was able to join in. Church on Christmas Day was the beginning of the celebrations, rather like at Court, a Lord of Misrule was elected. The Landlords and their Ladies often provided a celebration meal, where they served their staff. Carol singers would join up with folk who owned a pipe, fiddle, or maybe a drum, to entertain their neighbours, not as we sing carols before Christmas. It is suggested that this tradition was to make begging seem less de-meaning, there were so many in need and little work was available during the winter.

The origins of Boxing Day is shrouded in the mists of time. Maybe it was a time when the servants received their new uniforms in a box from their masters, (what a jolly, generous gift!) or the gifts received the day before were put away safely in their boxes; I've read several other equally unlikely ideas. The 26th was also St. Stephen's Day, when decorated ploughs would be hauled through the village for a blessing at the church gate, ensuring a good harvest the next year.

We mustn't forget Mumming, dating back centuries, with St. George, the Turkish Snipe, the Doctor, Old King Cole (who had a wooden leg and 12 children) and various local additions. I'm not sure how these go together but much larking about and fun was had, particularly with Dr. Opliss Popliss Drops. 'What are they?' you ask. I've no idea. Answers to this and any other queries on a postcard to the Editor.

A Happy and Healthy 2024 to you all.  
*Hilary Legg*



### 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.



### 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.

**Recycle your Christmas Cards  
in aid of the Cheltenham Cobalt Unit**

**Cards may be left in Berkeley  
between 2nd - 13th January 2024**

**at**  
**Berkeley Pharmacy**  
**J C Aldridge**  
**The Perfect Blend Café**

### The Big Garden Birdwatch

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Big Garden Birdwatch is the largest wildlife survey in the UK and takes place on the last week-end in January.

Last year in the UK, over half a million people took part in Big Garden Birdwatch 2023, counting a massive 9.1 million birds!



House Sparrows were the most numerous but counts of these are down by 57% compared to the first Birdwatch in 1979. In fact, we've lost 38 million birds from UK skies in the last 60 years, so with birds facing increasing challenges to their habitat, it's more important than ever to get involved in the Birdwatch. Every bird you do – or don't – count will give us a valuable insight into how garden birds are faring.

It's easy to take part. Just spend an hour watching the birds in your patch, whether it's your garden your balcony or your local park, between 26 and 28 January, and record the birds that land. (Birds that fly over don't count.) Count the highest number of each species that you see at any one time - (if you see four sparrows together and another two later on, you'll record 4, not 6).

Tell the RSPB what you saw, even if that's nothing at all! You can submit your results online or by post.

Go to [www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch](http://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch) for more details.



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

# Tat3

on  
**Weds January 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**at 3pm**



**in Cromhall Village Hall**

All senior citizens living in or around  
Cromhall are welcome for tea and a chat.

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



**Thornbury Orchestra Concert  
14th January 2024**

**3.00pm at  
Marlwood School, Alveston**

**Tickets:** (Available on the door) **Adults: £10**  
Children and concessions free.

Programme includes:

- Shostakovich Jazz Suite No 2,
- Bernstein's Overture to "Candide",
- Gershwin's "An American in Paris",
- Hoe-Down and Buckaroo Holiday by Copland
- Don Gillis's Symphony No 5-and-a-Half.

The concert is in aid of the Hatch Camphill Community, a local charity supporting adults with learning disabilities to live independent lives. For more details, contact [info@thornburyorchestra.org.uk](mailto:info@thornburyorchestra.org.uk).

The orchestra was founded in 2002 and draws players from across South Gloucestershire and beyond. We rehearse regularly in St Helen's, Alveston and normally give two or three concerts a year, all in support of local charities. We are always keen to hear from interested players and currently have a number of vacancies. For more details, visit our website [www.thornburyorchestra.org.uk](http://www.thornburyorchestra.org.uk)

## Cromhall 100 Club

It's that time of year again.... to renew, or perhaps buy for the first time, numbers for Cromhall's 100 Club.

The year runs from January to December with four ordinary draws taking place in February, May, August and November where prizes of £30, £20 and £10 are drawn and two special draws at Easter and Christmas with one prize of £50. So, you have several chances of winning something every year!

Money raised from the club goes to support St.Andrew's Church, Cromhall, boosting much needed funds to help with general running and maintenance of the building. This year, more than ever, your support will be greatly appreciated as we face expensive repairs and rising costs.

You can have any number of club numbers for 2024 at £10 each and you can buy them at any time but to be in for all of the chances to win we would like to receive all applications as soon as possible.

Once the club is complete you can confirm your number/s which will be displayed in Cromhall Village shop and the Church Porch (where winning numbers will be advertised too).

To be in with a chance, please complete the slip below and return to Cromhall Village Shop or any Cromhall PCC member along with payment of £10 for each number required.

Thank you for your much appreciated support and Good Luck!

*St.Andrew's PCC*

✂-----  
**CROMHALL 100 Club 2024 Please return this slip in an envelope with payment (cash or cheque made out to "Cromhall PCC") to Cromhall Village Shop.**

Name:.....

Address..... Tel. No .....

Number of Nos required ..... at £10 each. Amount to pay .....

**If you are a lucky winner, to whom should the prize cheque be made payable?** .....

## End of Cromhall Road Safety Project – Community Update

Two years ago, Cromhall Road Safety Project was formed as a community group to improve road safety in Cromhall, in particular to address the issue of vehicles speeding through the village, which continues to pose a threat to people's safety. As a team we have worked with the following organisations to raise the importance of the issue and to seek their support:

- Member of Parliament for Thornbury and Yate, Luke Hall
- The Police and Crime Commissioner for Avon and Somerset, Mark Shelford
- The Chief Constable for Avon and Somerset Police, Sarah Crew
- The Avon and Somerset Police Road Safety Team, led by Damien Devanny
- South Gloucestershire Council Road Safety Team
- Cromhall Parish Council, and more

We have achieved a lot over the last two years: Setting up the Community Speed Watch Group, securing funding from a couple of sponsors for a Digital Speed Watch System (using Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology) and developing a good understanding of how to certify and operate such a system. The use of a Digital Speed Watch System was considered key to finally getting on top of the problem, as a similar system has been used successfully for a number of years in the nearby Parish of Kingswood, Gloucestershire. Also, other alternatives researched were deemed to be ineffective.

However, a spokesperson for the Avon and Somerset Police Road Safety Team recently announced they were to review their support for Digital Speed Watch Systems as part of a wider review of Community Speed Watch. They plan to report the outcome in January 2024.

Additionally, over the past 2 years, we have engaged with Cromhall Parish Council to seek their support in the ownership of the system, their support being critical to the procurement and operation of any system within the village. Unfortunately, despite best efforts, the Parish Council has not been supportive of it and has never worked jointly with the project, which has been surprising and very disappointing for the team. This lack of support from our own Parish Council, plus the review being conducted by the Police, means that the project cannot proceed any further.

Finally, it must be said that, the resolution of road safety issues in the village now sits with Cromhall Parish Council. From now on, we would urge members of the community to contact the Parish Council to raise any road safety concerns and to hold them accountable for resolving such matters.

Dave Gilbert

*Cromhall Road Safety Project*



### **ASHWORTHY CATTERY**

**ASHWORTHY FARM, TYTHERINGTON,**

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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





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

### **Tytherington Local History Group**

**The first meeting of the year will be on  
Friday 19th January at 7.30pm**

**Speaker: Paul Barnett**  
*Maritime historian*

**Subject: Port to Port**  
*An historical journey the length and breadth of the  
Sharpness to Gloucester canal*



**Purton Bridge** © Copyright Lewis Clarke

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**Membership subscription for 2024 is £5**  
**Entry per meeting: members £2, Visitors £3**

*All meetings take place at 7.30pm in the School-  
room located at the rear of the Baptist Church on  
Itchington Road.*

### **HAVE YOUR SAY: Consultation on how to implement spend- ing reductions on Library Services in South Gloucestershire**

The proposals presented in the consultation will have an impact on the way libraries in South Gloucestershire operate.

Please spare 5 minutes to pop into your local library to and fill in a consultation form and tell us what your local library means to you and how you prefer to use the library services, we would really appreciate hearing your opinions.

Please return your completed response to the library or post to the address at the end of the form.

Alternatively you can read all the details and submit your response online at  
[www.southglos.gov.uk/librarysavings-consultation](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/librarysavings-consultation)

**Consultation ends 10<sup>th</sup> January  
2024**



### **Resolve to help others this New Year**

With Christmas a distant memory and the long dark nights stretching out in front of you, why not consider volunteering in your local community? Not only will you improve your health and happiness but by giving just an hour a week of your time you can make a huge difference to those that you help.

There are many reasons why people volunteer. For some, volunteering can be a route to employment, or a chance to try something new which may lead to a career change. For others, volunteering is a chance to meet new people, make new friends and make a difference to the lives of others.

Thornbury Volunteer Centre can provide you with information and support on volunteering opportunities in the local area which best suit your needs, skills and time available, whilst making sure that you find volunteering an enjoyable and worthwhile experience.

We are contacted regularly by groups and organisations that are seeking to recruit volunteers from all walks of life, levels of expertise (from none to highly skilled) and time available.

Age, gender or disability is not a barrier to volunteering. Anyone, who is able to spare some time, from an hour a week to once a month or just on a one-off basis, would be warmly welcomed by someone in the community.

### **Volunteering is a valuable experience that benefits all parties.**

To find out more please contact Thornbury Volunteer Centre on 01454 413392; email; [mail@volunteer-thornbury.co.uk](mailto:mail@volunteer-thornbury.co.uk) web-site; [www.volunteer-thornbury.co.uk](http://www.volunteer-thornbury.co.uk); twitter; @thornburyvc or Facebook; thornburyvolunteers.

### **Buy your tickets for 'Brigadoon'!**

The curtain is about to rise on The Parish Players' 2024 production of Brigadoon at Olveston Parish Hall in Tockington. Tickets go on sale on Saturday 13th January for the performances during February half-term, from Wednesday 14th to Saturday 17th February at 7.30pm.

This captivating musical, set in the Scottish Highlands, is a tale of romance and suspense that is sure to fill your winter evenings with colour and light. As well as the uplifting vocal harmonies that The Parish Players are renowned for, you can look forward to lively Scottish dancing from our team of accomplished teenage performers.

Tickets are £10 for adults, £7 for children and £12 for premium seats. Call the Box Office on 01454 202011 and find out more at [www.facebook.com/OlvestonParishPlayers](https://www.facebook.com/OlvestonParishPlayers).

# New Year – New Power of Attorney

This January make a new year's resolution to make sure you have up-to-date Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPAs) in place.

**"Lasting Powers of Attorney are now even more important than Wills"** according to Martin Lewis on his recent ITV show. He also said however young you feel, "The right time to put them in place is NOW!"

Our local legal experts – Simpson Solicitors – offer all our readers a genuine FREE review meeting. There are no long complicated forms for you to fill in as they do all the work for you. You will not feel rushed, as they will take as long as you need.

Michelle at Simpson Solicitors says "An LPA is how you appoint those you trust to support you if you became ill and need assistance. They can make sure your bills are paid, your finances are looked after and that you receive the medical treatment you would want."



Having an old and out of date Enduring Power of Attorney can cause your family huge, as they could have to wait over 3 months registering them before they can be used. Also it is limited and it may now have the wrong people appointed.

Having up-to-date **Lasting Powers of Attorney** means they can be set up and registered by the Court now – so they are ready to use if needed.

John at Simpsons says "Our LPA service is different. It comes with free aftercare to your Attorneys to help them activate the LPAs and support for them in using them. It is all about us making it easy for you."

**JANUARY SPECIAL OFFERS:** 20% OFF for 2 LPAs. 40% OFF EPA upgrade service. Plus a FREE Home Visit Service for our readers who would find it difficult to get to their Thornbury offices. Call their friendly team on **01454 412 278**



## Free Will Review

Book your **FREE MEETING** at home or at our Thornbury Office.

**Get up-to-date Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney to make sure it is your wishes that are followed. Have peace of mind that everything is done properly by our award-winning team: In person meetings. Plain English advice. Clear fixed prices. No hidden costs. Protect their inheritance.**

**On your own:** You choose who you want to inherit from you

**Living together:** Decide if and how your partner is protected

**Parent Wills:** Provide for children & name Guardians to raise them

**Later Life Wills:** Protect inheritance from Tax and Care Home Fees

**Lasting Powers of Attorney:** Appoint those you trust to make decisions, in case of serious illness or injury

★★★★★

"We were made to feel very welcome and cared for" H.L.

"You have lifted a great weight off our shoulders" C.R.

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full price if you buy 2 Powers of Attorney

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**Or visit our ground floor offices (free client car park):**  
12 The Plain, Thornbury, BS35 2BE | [simpsonsollicitors.com](http://simpsonsollicitors.com)

St. Andrew's, Cromhall



St. Leonard's, Tortworth



St. Oswald's, Rockhampton



St. James', Tytherington



St. George's, Falfield



## 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 graham@stbarts-camandcoaley.org.uk or Tel. 01453 709859**

### Cromhall

Sun 14th 9.30am

Morning Prayer

Sun 21st 9.30am

Eucharist led by Rev. Ian Gardner

### Falfield

Sun 14th 10.30am

Holy Communion

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> 10.30am

Morning Prayer

Sun 28<sup>th</sup> 10.30am

Join Rockhampton

### Rockhampton

Sun 28th 10.30am

Holy Communion with Rev. David Powe.

### Tortworth

Sun 7th 10.30am

Holy Communion with Rev. Robert Axford.

Sun 21st 10.30am

Morning Prayer

Sun 4th Feb 10.30am

Holy Communion with Rev. Robert Axford

### Tytherington

Thurs 4th 9.30am

Said Communion

Sun 7th 10.30am

Epiphany and Covenant service at the Baptist Church

Sun 21st 10.30am

Holy Communion

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

## Information needed: Youth group leaders

- Does your present accommodation suit you?
- Do you need more space, different facilities, or a more central location?

If you would be interested in using a renewed Armstrong Hall Complex or extended facilities on the Turnberries site in Thornbury for your group's activities, please could you make contact with Jill Dimond:

[ghrdimond@gmail.com](mailto:ghrdimond@gmail.com), copying in [Armstronghalltrust@gmail.com](mailto:Armstronghalltrust@gmail.com).

Your needs are important for the future of large space provision in the locality.

*Thank you.*



### "Where Is Mrs Christie?" starring Liz Grand

*A one person play written by Chris Jaegar, revealing the amazing story of Agatha Christie's mysterious disappearance.*

In 1926, she was at the centre of a mystery as perplexing as any of her fiction, a series of events which sparked one of the biggest and most extensive police hunts in history. She claimed then, and for the rest of the life, that she was suffering from amnesia and remembered nothing. Neither the press nor the police believed her.

Actor **Liz Grand** presents her one-woman show 'Where Is Mrs Christie?' Did she suffer from amnesia? Was it a publicity stunt? Or was there a darker secret involved?

**Saturday 24th February 2024  
at 7.30pm**

**Thornbury Methodist Church Hall**

**Tickets £15 from**

**AAGThornbury@gmail.com.**





Thank you to Tytherington Marquee, Anon, Tytherington Parish Council, and Tytherington Local History Group 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](mailto:geoffrey.crosthwaite@outlook.com) or write to him at The Barn, Townwell, Cromhall, Wotton-Under-Edge, GL12 8AQ.

Cheques, payable to **Benefice Newsletter**, may also be sent to our treasurer or the editor.

## St Peter's Hospice Severnside Support Group

### Winter Warmer Lunch



**Methodist Church Hall, Thornbury**  
**Monday 22nd January at 1.00pm**

Cottage Pie and Crumble  
followed by tea/coffee –  
Vegetarian option will be available.

**Tickets: £10.00 per person**

Available from St Peter's Hospice Shop, High Street, Thornbury, from 5th January 2024, or pay on the door.



*Please support St Peter's your local Hospice.*



## 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

## 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)

## Severn Valley Quilters

### Exhibition 2024

**Saturday 17th February 9.30am - 4pm**

**Thornbury Methodist Church Hall.**  
**Castle Court, Thornbury**  
**BS35 2AQ**

Sales Table } CASH  
Tombola }  
Refreshments } SALES

**Trader – Mark Pickles – Sewing Studio**

**Proceeds to Cancer Research UK**

**Disabled Access**

**Admission £3 (Cash Only)**

## Have You Read...?"

### A book group for everyone

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 5th January**  
**2pm - 3pm**



## Cherry King 1927 – 2023



Following her death last November, the life of one of the stalwarts of Tortworth, Cherry King, was celebrated in the church where she had worshipped for over seventy years. A faithful member of St Leonard's, she was active in most areas of its life, serving on the PCC for many years and continuing to worship there after moving to Bagstone. On her visits last year, to Soup Lunch, Cream Teas and Sunday services, she was delighted to meet up with old friends.

Cherry moved to Tortworth in January 1951 following her marriage to David King and threw herself into her new role as farmer's wife. Her skills were evident in her garden where flowers and vegetables thrived, and inside the farm she was adept at decorating and furnishing their home whilst David set about creating a tennis court, which provided many happy hours of entertainment for all their friends. They loved entertaining; afternoon teas on Sunday with the best china, and home-made scones and cakes, and sandwiches with wafer thin bread. Weekly summer tennis parties followed by a bring and share supper, and in winter, dinner parties and big Sunday lunches.

Cherry's training for life as a farmer's wife began when as Cherry Christine Wilcox she arrived in the village of Pendock on the Worcestershire/ Gloucestershire border in September 1927, joining her parents and older brother, Frank. Later, younger brother, Richard, also arrived. As a little girl she helped with a variety of tasks in and outdoors

When Cherry was 11, her father moved to Manor Farm at Baunton, near Cirencester, where she began her secondary education. Cherry was a clever girl who loved school, but her mother's long-term illness meant that she was unable to go on to further education and at 15 she left to help out at home. During the war years she helped with running the house: cooking for the family, and also the two prisoners of war, Harry and Joachim, who had been sent to help on the farm. She even recalled that when a team of Polish refugees brought the threshing machine to the farm, she was able to augment their meagre rations. She helped outside as well, stooking sheaves and passing them up to the man who was making the ricks.

Having joined the local Young Farmers Club with her brother, Frank, Cherry was a popular sociable, bright and pretty girl who soon caught the eye of David King. They loved dancing together, and David soon realised that she was the perfect partner for an ambitious and passionate farmer!

Between 1952 and 1955 daughters Janet and Ruth, followed by son, Christopher, had arrived. Busy as she was Cherry still somehow found time to make beautiful, smocked dresses, and hand knitted jumpers. In village life these skills were in evidence at annual church fêtes at The Rectory where Cherry ran the "New Stall", which she stocked with hand-made aprons, and embroidered tablecloths.

Cherry's 96 years have seen many changes in the world. Throughout this time her life revolved around three main themes: family, friends and farming. She gave generously of her time and her skills to everyone. She was a born optimist, but also courageous and determined. No matter what life threw at her she never grumbled or moped – but looked for ways to make things better and then got on with it - doing yoga in her 90s and continuing daily exercises even after her last episode in hospital.

Cherry certainly made the most of the gift of her long life – and set a great example for us all to do the same!!

### ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, CROMHALL NOVEMBER 100 CLUB WINNERS

£30 R. BAINBRIDGE    £20 RAY PADFIELD    £10 PEGGY COLLETT

The PCC invite you to renew your membership for 2024 by filling in the form on page 3 of this edition of 5Alive.

Mandy Bird (01454 294186)





## 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)

7 <sup>th</sup>	Joint Service At Chapel {Epiphany & Covenant}	<b>Brian</b>
14 <sup>th</sup>	"Word & Witness (1) [Ezekiel Chapter 2, vv 1 – 7]*	<b>Brian</b>
21 <sup>st</sup>	"Word & Witness (1) [Ezekiel Chapter 2 v 7 – 3 v 12]	<b>Brian</b>
28 <sup>th</sup>	"Word & Witness (1) [Ezekiel Chapter 3, vv 16 – 21]	<b>Brian</b>

\*Service includes Holy Communion

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

*Everyone welcome*

### Tytherington Baptist Church AFTERNOON TEA

**NO** Afternoon Tea session in  
**January**

Our next 'Afternoon Tea' will be held on  
Wednesday **7<sup>th</sup> February**,  
commencing at 2:30 p.m. 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.**

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North Bristol  
& South Glos



## Thornbury Foodbank Shopping list

We are in need of some stock items which are detailed below.

- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Vegetable
- Sponge Puddings
- Coffee
- UHT Milk (Long Life)
- Washing Powder
- Toilet Roll
- Deodorant

**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**

North Bristol & South Gloucestershire Food Bank currently **doesn't need** anymore of these items: *Pasta, Baked Beans, Cereal, Tea, Mince Pies, Christmas Puddings.*

Get an email when North Bristol & South Gloucestershire Food Bank needs items. This is around every month or so.

[thornbury@nbsg.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:thornbury@nbsg.foodbank.org.uk)



## Falfield WI - Christmas Party

Gill Spiller welcomed everyone to the Christmas Party in the village hall. The alterations to the hall are a great improvement, although there were a few finishing touches to be made, with further work to be done in the future.

We were delighted to hear that Veronica Fordham was doing very well after her operation. She will soon be out and about again.

The Christmas boxes had been very successful this year and members were asked for blankets, teddies and knitted hats for next year. Thanks were given to the members who had organised walks during the year. We visited quite a variety of areas up as far as Stroud and enjoyed some very good lunches as well on the walks.

We are asked to look at the Resolutions for the coming year as forms need to be handed in at the February meeting.

Diane Bryan won the flower of the month cup with Jenny Jones in second and joint third place for Ann Mair and Gill Spiller.

The evening's entertainment was provided by Falfield WI's own talent. Music, singing, poetry and sketches all contributed to a great evening.

Next month Phillip Taubenheim will visit us so we are asked to bring along items for him to talk about.

Happy New Year to one and all.

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## Tytherington Village Hall Bingo Night



**Friday 12th January 2024**

**Village Hall Annexe**

**Open from 7pm, eyes down at 7:30pm**

**£10 to play 6 Games    Cash prizes!**

**Bring your own drinks.**

**It's not Mecca bingo, just good fun!  
No experience needed**

**No need to book but please note we are limited to 50 places**

**Enquiries: Sian 07968 122551 or Sam 07786 860657**

**Please support the Village Hall Committee of volunteers, all proceeds go to the upkeep and running of the hall and future events run for Tytherington Village.**

**EVERYONE WELCOME**





## CROMHALL CHAPEL

Registered Charity No: 1179269

**Welcomes You!**



**Tel: Simon Carey (Pastor – Elder) 07824 804305**

**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 January:

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

7 <sup>th</sup> (10.30am) Simon Carey	(6.30pm) David Frampton
14 <sup>th</sup> (10.30am) Peter Cresswell	(6.30pm) Simon Carey
21 <sup>st</sup> (10.30am) Richard Luxton	(6.30pm) Simon Carey
28 <sup>th</sup> (10.30am) Simon Carey	(6.30pm) Alan Tarling

**Wednesdays at 7.30pm:** 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> we meet in various homes in the area; 10<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Bible Study and Prayer on zoom; 24<sup>th</sup> Members' Meeting

**Tuesday half hour of prayer (on zoom):** 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm; 9<sup>th</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9.30am

**Cromhall Crafters:** Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 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 10.00am -12 noon.

**Men's Breakfast:** 24<sup>th</sup> January at 9.00am. Join us for a hearty breakfast followed by a talk by Dave Dyer entitled "Motoring On".

**Verses of the year for 2024:** *"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ – to the glory and praise of God."* Philippians 1: 9-11

### Thornbury Art Club – January 2024.

**Club night: Tuesday 23rd January 2024**

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)

Or visit [www.thornburyartclub.org.uk](http://www.thornburyartclub.org.uk)

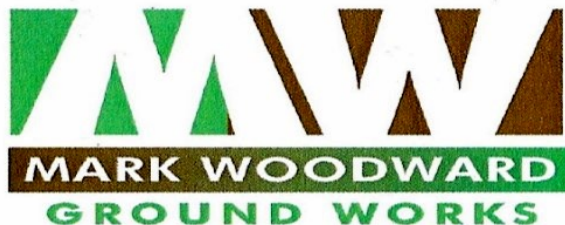
[www.facebook.com/ThornburyArtClub](https://www.facebook.com/ThornburyArtClub)

### 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**

- Do you have experience of working with Publisher?
- Might you be interested in helping with the production of this magazine?
- If so, please contact the editor.



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**Contact Sarah, our HR Manager**



### 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)

### CLinC Quilt Draw 2023.



**Thank you** to everyone who bought a draw ticket for the Quilt. The Draw took place at 'Under The Edge Quilters' on Thursday Dec 7<sup>th</sup>. It raised £776 for the work of CLinC in Zambian community schools.

1<sup>st</sup> prize, the quilt, was won by Jo Young, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize -the quilted bag was won by Joan Stephens and the 3rd prize, the quilted pouch, was won by Clive Young.

More information about the work of our charity can be found on [www.cromhall.com/clinc](http://www.cromhall.com/clinc) Ann Greenhalgh



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The Bungalow, Moorslade, Falfield. Tel:01454 260364 Email [kay.rea@btinternet.com](mailto:kay.rea@btinternet.com)

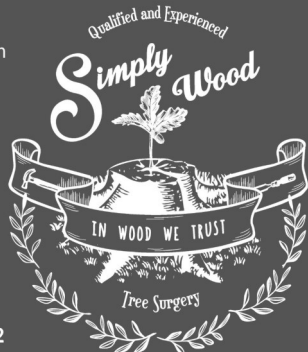
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## Community Arboretum urgently fundraising to ensure the future of Mental Health & Wellbeing groups

Tortworth Forest Centre CIC based in The Dell at Tortworth Arboretum is fundraising to replace their minibus which is vital for providing free transport to volunteers and participants so they can access the community arboretum where people and trees thrive together.

Founded in 2015, Tortworth Forest Centre CIC have brought together hundreds of volunteers who have worked tirelessly to restore the arboretum which had become overgrown, inaccessible and unsafe for the public to visit. Alongside the restoration work, the team deliver the Woodland Wellbeing Programme which supports participants to build their confidence in social groups, learn woodland skills and connect with nature.

Sadly, the Tortworth minibus is on its last legs (or wheels?), having transported hundreds of volunteers and project participants from Bristol, Kingswood, Yate and Bradley Stoke to Tortworth. Making the project inclusive by offering free transport is vital and helps people without car access to spend time amongst our trees to improve their mental health and wellbeing.

**After spending a small fortune trying to keep it on the road, the team have realised that the time has come to retire the transit and find a more reliable minibus. They need to raise £30-40k for a 5-year-old 16-seater minibus and they need your help!**

Alongside submitting grant bids, Tortworth are running a fundraising raffle with over 40 incredible prizes donated by local artists and businesses. [For every £5 you donate](#) you will get 1 raffle ticket entered into the draw to be in with a chance of winning:

- One night bed & breakfast stay for two in a Deluxe Junior Suite at De Vere Tortworth Court (1 available)
- An exclusive photoshoot with Tuesdays Child Photography (1 available)
- One day Barefoot Yoga retreat in June 2024 (1 available)
- One night exclusive camping at Tortworth Arboretum (1 available)
- One night stay for two at Spires Apartments, Cardiff donated by Webbeds (1 available)
- and much more!

For more information on how you can help, please visit [www.tortwortharboretum.org](http://www.tortwortharboretum.org)

**Donationlink:** <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/minibus-fundraiser>

**Contact** Amy Walsh, telephone number 07949 312 218 or email [amyw@tortwortharboretum.org](mailto:amyw@tortwortharboretum.org)

## An update from the Metro Mayor

### DAN NORRIS West of England METRO MAYOR

now on offer.

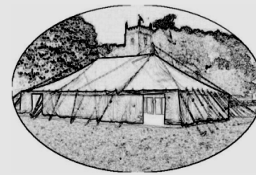
'Safer Shops West' will allow any independent shop impacted by shoplifting, like local convenience stores, to receive support towards the costs of items such as CCTV, screens, body cams and hand-held radios. For more information, please visit: <http://www.westofengland.ca.gov.uk/safershopswest>.

**Happy Bus month:** Have you got a Birthday coming up? If so don't forget to apply for your 'Birthday bus' pass which gives you unlimited free bus travel throughout the month of your Birthday. Please apply at: [www.birthdaybus.co.uk](http://www.birthdaybus.co.uk)

**Culture West to give every child chance to see wonders of West:** Working with the Arts Council, the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority has launched 'Culture West'. This will ensure every child in the West of England has the opportunity to enjoy a cultural experience. New cash will enable schools to organise trips to the West of England's fantastic theatres, galleries and museums. Plus, musicians, painters and poets will head to the classroom for a series of 'artists residencies' with local school pupils.

**Local charities urged to apply for new Heat Pump Grants:** Charities with inefficient heating systems looking to upgrade can benefit from new grants to help to install air-to-water, ground-to-water or water-to-water heat pumps. For further information please contact:

## Tytherington Marquee



**AVAILABLE FOR HIRE**

**May – Sept**

We have an enthusiastic team that will transport it, put it up and take it down. Volunteers are always welcome!

The proceeds from each rental goes back into the community. Benefiting local organisations and charities. If you would like to be considered for a donation please contact us.

**Contact** Paul Barrow  
07548 668719 [pwbarrow@sky.com](mailto:pwbarrow@sky.com)

## 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)

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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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