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St Mary's churchyard cross, (14th century) picture © Rick Dixon

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From the Editor

You will have noticed we have a new format for *The Chronicle*. Allan Webster, who has been printing the magazine since December 1994 has retired from the role and we thank him immensely for this contribution to the life of Cricklade. Allan and Nicky will continue their roles as Advertising and Distribution Managers until the end of the year, while we get a new team in place.

We now have the opportunity to include an Advertiser Index which you will find on page 43 in this issue. We hope to keep this as a regular feature, but it may need to be sacrificed if other content dictates.

On 15 November, there will be a Come & Sing performance of Vivaldi's *Gloria* at the United Church (page 27). It is a wonderful piece of music and it will be great to hear how the singers come together after only rehearsing on that day!

Cricklade Cinema have a special showing this month. This features Cricklade itself. *Gone To Ground* is a mystery thriller much of which was filmed in Cricklade. See page 28 for details of all showings.



Cricklade Art Group are holding their annual exhibition over the weekend of 15 and 16 November at the Town Hall. It's always good to see the talent on display, so see page 28.

On 29 November the Christmas Lights will be turned on in the High Street. The event programme starts at 4pm and will be graced by an appearance of Santa!

Next month is our joint December and January 2026 issue. Please be sure to send me articles covering both months by 1 November.

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The deadline for the joint Dec 24 / Jan 26 issue is Saturday 1 Nov 2025

The Chronicle Magazine Contacts - see page 44

Community contacts all 01793 unless stated or emergency This section is intended to give quick access to emergency and community help phone numbers. If you spot something missing, please let us know: RickDixonChronicle@gmail.com or 01793 759123.

Churches see centre pages
Cricklade Town Council 751394
Latton P/Council clerk@latton-pc.gov.uk
MP (South Cotswolds) 01285 300555
roz.savage.mp@parliament.uk
Wiltshire Councillor 752501
Wiltshire Council hub 0300 456 0100
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Optician (82 High St) 750415
Purton Vets (Bath Rd) 751698
Household Recycling Centre 778205
Samaritans <i>FREE</i> : 116 123
Schools: St Sampson's Primary 750452
Cricklade Manor Prep 750275
Bradon Forest 770570

Cricklade Town Hall

To book your event at Cricklade Town Hall, please contact our Bookings Secretary, Mrs Nicola Fry on 07977 758 389 (before 9pm please) or via email at *crickladetownhall@hotmail.com* for further details, or Facebook for photos and other information: www.facebook.com/crickladetownhall



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Roz Savage MP

Roz Savage, MP for the South Cotswolds, is holding regular constituency surgeries to support residents with their concerns. Following parliamentary advice, these surgeries are now by appointment only.



Where possible, appointments will be held virtually. However, Roz is also hosting less frequent in-person surgeries at various locations across the constituency to ensure accessibility for all residents.

To book an appointment, please email *roz.savage.mp@parliament.uk* or call her office on 01285 300555. If you have specific accessibility needs, please let the team know when booking.

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Cricklade Town Council

Town Council Meetings

Monday 10 November Community and Leisure Committee

Monday 17 November Planning, Conservation and Transport Committee

Monday 24 November Premises and Finance Committee

Monday 1 December Full Town Council

All meetings commence at 7pm, and are held in the Council Chambers, 113 High Street. Press and members of the public are welcome and have an opportunity to ask questions at the beginning of each meeting.

Remembrance Sunday - 9 November 2025

Every November we have the opportunity to remember all those who gave their lives in defence of our country and we invite all residents of Cricklade, and surrounding districts to join us again.

Traffic will be held up for a short time whilst the event is happening and the High Street from the Clock to North Wall will be closed for a period of time, but marshals will be on duty to manage the traffic restrictions. The Town Council apologises for any inconvenience.

The schedule for the day will be as follows

10.20am The Cricklade Band will lead the parade from the Town Hall to the War

Memorial

10.45am Wreath laying commences

11.00am The Two Minutes Silence

11.10am Band lead parade to St Sampson's Church

11.20am Remembrance Service in St Sampson's Church commences

Approx 12.30pm

Short service and wreath laying at RAF Blakehill Farm Cairns

Organisations who wish to lay a wreath but have not already made the necessary arrangements should contact us as soon as possible. The Town Council Office will be open on the morning of Remembrance Sunday for the collection of wreaths for those that have not already done so.

On Tuesday 11 November at 10.45am a short Remembrance Service will take place for children of Cricklade schools at the War Memorial. A road closure is in place for 20 minutes from 10.45am to 11.05am from Abingdon Court Lane to North Wall junction. Members of the public are also welcome to attend.

Cricklade Christmas Lights Festival – 29 November 2025

We are pleased to announce that once again the Christmas Lights High Street Switch on will take place on 29 November, with events starting from 4pm, Carols around the tree at 6pm with the switch on planned for 6.30pm. Santa is rumoured to be attending along with the Cricklade Band!

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Christmas Lights Competition

As the High Street is lit in all its glory, so too will the homes of Cricklade take on their winter glow.

The judges will be out making their decisions in the two weeks up to 25 December, there is no need to enter.



Vandalism at Fairview Fields

Sadly, in August two of the benches and a bin in Fairview Fields were vandalised. The picnic benches were burned by barbecues, and the bin mindlessly ripped out of the ground. Please remember the money to replace these items comes from all of our pockets so if you do see someone causing any issues to bins and benches or any other council property, please report it as soon as possible to Cricklade Town Council or the Police using 101 or the online reporting tool.

The Town Council and Tourist Information Point is open, except Bank Holidays:

Monday to Friday 10.00 - 16.00 hrs (Closed 12.30 - 13.30 hrs) Closed Public Holidays

Tel: 01793 751394 E-mail: admin@crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk

Follow the Council @ www.facebook.com/CrickladeTownCouncil



St Mary's Churchyard Cross

The cross in our cover picture dates from the 14th century and is a Grade One listed building in its own right.

As you can see, it is not a cross in the true sense of the word. Centuries of erosion have eaten away at the details on the four sides of its top. These are thought to represent scenes from the life of the Virgin Mary – the Annunciation (facing the street, east); then in anticlockwise direction, the Presentation of Christ at the Temple (north); the Crucifixion (west); and finally the Assumption of the Virgin Mary (south).

(Description above based on the Town Council's information board in the entrance yard to the church.)

[Ed: for context, Edwards I, II and III, and Richard II ruled England during the 14th century. The longest reign of these completely within the 1300s was Edward III (1327 to 1377). His reign is especially noted for the beginning of the Hundred Years' War including the Battle of Crécy (1346). Richard II was king from 1377 to 1399. His reign saw the Peasants' Revolt and the start of the Wars of the Roses.]



Wiltshire Perspective

- The Area Board
- Police and Crime Commissioner
- Remembrance Sunday
- Postal election re-registration
- Parking



The Area Board tries to promote local priorities and has budgets to help local good causes. With inherited dwindling budgets it puts more emphasis on the board to nurture communication, both upwards and sideways across parishes to assist in greater self-reliance. This is

something I've put time and effort into and not really produced commensurate results. My options as I saw them were either to spend more time with possible similar results or reduce the amount of time spent in supporting another person, which is the option I've selected.

During the last Area Board meeting, we heard a presentation from the Police & Crime Commissioner who gave a mixed message of Wiltshire being the safest County in England but with one of the lowest budgets of any force. The Commissioner was reaching out to gain a steer on priorities, which largely comes from an Independent Advisory Group, consisting of volunteer residents, which is always looking for new people to provide fresh perspectives.

On the subject of the Police, I understand that our local Police Constable will sadly be moving on to another role. I wish PC Butwell well and look forward to building a relationship with the new incumbent when they're in place, I'm pleased to say that PCSO Beasley will still be staying with us here.

The representative of the Police force for the Remembrance service in Cricklade will be her line manager, Inspector Anger (rhyming with Ranger). There will also be our MP. When the Parliamentary constituency had two towns in it, life was fairly simple for the MP to alternate between the two. With the new cross-border constituency we have six towns, so she will probably be a less frequent representative in the future.

On the subject of representation, there was a change to rules around the validity of postal vote registrations, which used to be valid for 5 years. Nowadays they will need to be reapplied for every three years. More of a national item than a Wiltshire thing, but perhaps something to keep in the back of your mind for the future.

Lastly parking, which in Cricklade and Latton is universally free. The rest of Wiltshire pays almost £9m a year to park in the County's car parks and certain streets. There is an intention to waive the fees paid by Blue Badge holders. Much political mileage is being made on either side of the argument about wasting income by waiving fees (estimated at up to £40k or less than half of one percent) or helping the vulnerable in our communities. I'd just like to point out how lucky we are in our situation; but that it would be nice if people who park all day might stop a little further out so temporary visitors might find it easier to carry all their purchases back to their cars.

If you think I can help you with this or anything else, please let me know. If I am not immediately available, my answer machine is monitored, so do get in touch and I promise to do my best.

Nick Dye, councillor for Cricklade, Latton and Marston Meysey Nick.dye@wiltshire.gov.uk or 752501

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All Souls Services 2025

Our annual All Souls Bereavement Service for Cricklade and Latton, remembering those we love and see no longer, will take place on Sunday 2 November in St Sampson's Church starting at 6.30pm. A quiet and reflective service, we will include the names of those associated with Cricklade and Latton who have died in the last year and whose services we have taken. Anyone who would like to come is very welcome and families involved will receive a letter of invitation from our ministers.

We know that many people from the community like to come and remember family members who have died: everyone is welcome as we seek God's comfort and hear the message of hope we have in Jesus.

There will be a time during the service when you can light a candle as we remember those who have died. If you are coming to the service and would like the name of your loved one included, please contact our administrator, Jane Eyles at admin@upperthames.org.uk, or phone 01793 979304, with the name(s) to be included.

For Ashton Keynes and Leigh there will be a similar service at 4pm on 2 November in Holy Cross Church, Ashton Keynes.

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Thank you so much for all those who attended and supported the Macmillan Coffee Afternoon at Cricklade Bowls Club.

I am overwhelmed by the generosity and support from you all and can confirm that £505 was raised ... an amazing amount of money,

This will be really benefit those who are in need of Macmillan's Services.

A heartfelt thank-you once again.

Wendy

Distributors

We would like to thank Mrs Dudley and Mr Livingstone who have both helped over many years distributing *The Chronicle* on their separate rounds.

Thank you also to those who responded to our search for further deliverers.

- Due to a temporary unavailability, we need someone to cover Purton Road, Water Furlongs, Giles Avenue, The Forty, Carpenters & Ockwells (one round of 60+ copies total, which doesn't take that long!).
- We would also like a few volunteers to stand in if someone is ill or away. Many of
 our deliverers cover their own absences by neighbours or family taking over their
 round but we could do with some names of people we could call on to cover
 occasionally. Let us know if you could help.

If you can help, this will make life easier for the other distributors. Please contact Allan or Nicky on 01793 752898.

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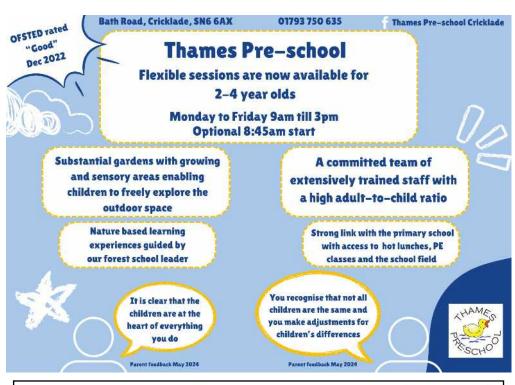
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CRICKLADE CINEMA!

Saturday 22 November: We are delighted to announce that we have a special event lined up. We will be showing

Gone To Ground a mystery thriller **much of which was filmed in Cricklade.** The inspiration for the story is Gervase Peel, a World War II bomber pilot who lived at Calcutt Hall, just outside Cricklade. Gervase's son, Phil Peel, is the film's writer and director and will be joining us for the screening. Phil will talk about the making of *Gone To Ground*, and about his father, who was well known locally, not least as a volunteer who used to deliver the Cricklade Chronicle!

Doors open at 7pm. Film starts at 7.30 (running time 1hr 45mins)

Tickets can be purchased in advance from the Town Council Offices at 113 High Street. Price £5

At the time of writing, some details have still to be finalised, but please note: the film has yet to receive a BBFC certificate, so the screening will be for over 18s only.

And of course our regular Autumn Season continues on **Tuesday 25 November** at 8pm in the Town Hall with:

Bridget Jones: Mad About The Boy

15 (Strong language, sex references). 2hrs 4mins

Renee Zellweger returns in the further (and final?) adventures of dotty diarist Bridget, now a widow and mother who may yet have a chance of finding love and excitement.

And still to come ...

16 December: The Ballad Of Wallis Island (12A, 1hr 39mins) *To Be Confirmed*

Tickets can be purchased in advance from the Town Council
Offices at 113 High Street or on the door (subject to availability). Price £5.

More details about all the films being shown and information on Cricklade Cinema can be found on our website (www.crickladecinema.org.uk).

Email us at: crickladecinema@gmail.com Check us out at Facebook Cricklade Cinema

Bingo4U

Come along on Wednesday afternoons at the Jenner Hall – anyone welcome. £2 entry. Eyes down at 2pm.

Contacts: Chris 07500 871 680 or Liz 07780 473 024







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Cricklade Bloomers

Whispers from the Walled Garden

At his wife's suggestion, on 3 September, Bloomer's had a visit from Mr Martin Nye who is High Sheriff of Wiltshire for 2025 - 2026. As well as the usual duties of High Sheriff, Mr Nye has chosen 'Food' as his theme for the year. This will encompass all aspects of food from farm to fork, and Bloomers was one of the charities and organisations he had hoped to visit.

Mrs Nye is a Trustee of the Wiltshire Gardens Trust and the couple open their own garden for The National Gardens Scheme. Mr Nye was given a tour of the Walled Garden and a history of the work Bloomers have done over the last twenty years.

Christmas wreath workshops, wreath kits and table arrangement workshops can still be booked by visiting crickladeinbloom.co.uk. Wreath workshops are almost fully booked but it is worth checking the website for kits and table decorations and any cancellations.

If you can provide any evergreen foliage for the workshops we can collect it from mid-November. Please contact anita@crickladeinbloom.co.uk

Cricklade Garden Club

Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month in the Town Hall Annexe. Tea and cakes are served from 7pm. Speaker starts at 7.30.

The next meeting is on **Tuesday 11 November** when our speaker is Harriet Rycroft. Her talk is entitled:



Winter Interest, Spring Joy: Planting up Pots

Harriet was for many years the head gardener at Whichford Pottery, becoming very well known for creating spectacular container displays all year round. She now lectures, teaches and writes about container planting. Her book "Pots" was published in 2022.

She will demonstrate creating container plantings which will last from September to May, using bulbs, perennials, shrubs and bedding plants.

With at least 500 pots on display in her own garden, we can look forward to a masterclass on planting up pots.

For information about the club, upcoming events and trips please look at our excellent website www.crickladegardenclub.org.uk

Membership is £25 p.a. We are affiliated to the Gloucestershire Federation of Gardening Societies (www.gfgs.org.uk)

Visitors welcome at £5 a session – come and give us a try.

Oueries to Bizzie 07876 347 973 or Janet 07765 276 534.

We look forward to seeing you!

Cricklade W.L.

We enjoyed an excellent evening upgrading our mobile phone photography skills courtesy of Anne Eckersley. It has a certainly made a difference to my photos.

A group of our members attended the Wiltshire WI AGM in Devizes with a good speaker and a delicious lunch. Upcoming we have a visit to the Blackett Observatory at Marlborough. We must congratulate member Bren Hosking who completed a sponsored charity wing walk at Rendcomb airfield – very brave lady ... looking forward to seeing the photos.

Date for the diary for this month is **20 November** at 7.30 when we are to listen to advice about Staying Safe Online given by the Bobby Van Trust. With all the scams around at the moment this could be invaluable advice. Do think about joining us. We only charge £5 for visitors and that includes the talk, refreshments and homemade cake - good value I think.

There is also the Coffee and Chat, open to everyone, at the White Hart at 11am on the first Tuesday of every month: the next ones are 4 November and 2 December. Everyone is welcome, hope to see you there.

If you are interested in finding out more about us please contact our secretary Viv Tomkins on 01793 752459 or email at Vivienne.tomkins@btinternet.com.

In the meantime, happy Christmas shopping everyone.

Cricklade Jenner Hall (Parish Hall) "Save It Club"

In the Monthly Draw held on 25 September the lucky winners were:-

First Prize Barry Palmer £36.00 Second Prize Colin Missen f24.00 Jenner Hall Funds: £60.00



To Join the Jenner Hall "Save It Club", please contact Paul Marley Tel: 752851.

The Subscription for the "Save It Club" is only £12 per year. Subscribers are encouraged to pay a year's subscription of £12 by Standing Order.

St Mary's Annual Quiz Night

Friday 31 October 2025 at 7pm

Cricklade Town Hall

Tickets Adult £10.00 Children under 16 £5.00 Available from Animal Fayre, High Street, Cricklade,

St Mary's RC Church or Anita Barrett on 01793 750039.

A light supper is included in the ticket price, please bring your own drinks.

Join us for a fun filled evening!



St Mary's

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Cricklade Open Door

It's the end of October/beginning of November, the clocks went back on 26 October and we now have dark mornings, darker evenings and chilly days ahead. Why not warm your bodies and spirits by coming to Open Door, once, twice or even three times a week, where a warm hall, warm welcome, warm refreshments, lunch and company can be yours for half an hour, a couple of hours or however long you'd like to stay with us.



At the end of September (gosh - ages ago!) we held our fundraising Coffee Morning and raised £809.95 which will help us towards keeping Open Door in our community. Thank you to everyone who supported us in many ways.

During October, we enjoyed an Autumn Tea with sandwiches, savouries, cakes, tea and coffee and with memories of warmer Summer days - glasses of Pimms!

Also in October, we had guests from St Sampson's C of E Primary School - 75 children and their teachers and assistants. Yes - 75 children!! all sitting on the floor and behaving very well. They came as part of their 'Sharing their Learning' project and we all, young and not so young, had a most enjoyable morning listening to songs, old and new and hearing about 'The Stick Man' by Julia Donaldson.

We have started our plans for Christmas (goodness!), so in the next *Chronicle*, we shall share those with you.

Open Door - Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays 10.00 - 3.30 The Jenner Hall, Bath Road, Cricklade, Tel: 07599 987 851

We will be closed for two weeks from Monday 3 November Reopening Monday 17 November

Do ring for more information and leave a message on the answer machine, when we are closed; we always pick up messages.

Latton 100 Club

So the results for the penultimate draw for the year are as follows:

1st:	£100	John Forshaw
2nd:	£28	Jean Richardson
3rd:	£17	Cath Forshaw
4th∙	£9.50	Fileen Lawrence

Seems that luck was in the Forshaw residence!

Congratulations to you all.

Thank you all for your support for the club which goes towards the upkeep of the fabric of St John the Baptist Church, Latton.

If you wish to join or have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me by email: Latton100club@gmail.com.

Good luck! Nicki Crabtree, Club Secretary

Coffee Café

All are welcome to attend the weekly Coffee Café each Friday at Cricklade United Church Hall, Calcutt Street from 10am to 11.30am. Come along for a coffee and a chat.

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Cricklade Historical Society Committee

Volunteers Wanted!

Are you interested in the history of Cricklade, its people, places and houses? Do you want to help to understand, record and celebrate Cricklade's rich heritage? The Cricklade Historical Society is looking for volunteers to join our Committee of four. As a member of the Committee, you would help with the running of the Society, our museum and support organisation of events and talks.

If you enjoy helping to plan events, are interested in the operation of the museum or want to learn more about our local history and community, there's an opportunity for you. No prior committee experience is needed – just an interest in the history of your town and a willingness to be a member of the Society and contribute to our work.

By volunteering, you'll have the chance to:

- Help to organise events that raise funds for the Society
- Be part of historical initiatives and exhibitions about Cricklade
- · Connect with like-minded individuals who share your interest
- Make a real impact in helping to preserve Cricklade's past for future generations If you're interested, we'd love to hear from you! Get in touch with us today: phone Stuart Pryde, Acting Chair on 07764 742 527. Email spryde2@gmail.com

Help us keep history alive – volunteer with the Cricklade Historical Society!

Your Chance to Make a Difference

Now that autumn is with us and winter is approaching, our OPEN DOOR minibus volunteer team has a couple of vacancies.

Our smart minibus makes it possible for our less mobile members to get to and from Jenner Hall on each Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, enjoy activities, have a tasty lunch, get some exercise and meet friends. We currently have **2 vacancies for volunteer minibus assistants**.

Volunteering involves helping our members to and from the minibus at Jenner Hall and their homes. We operate a rota system where you choose the day or days you can help. It usually involves helping only two or three times a month.

To get started and make a difference in Cricklade, please contact Adina Grace by email at *janda.grace447@outlook.com* or call Adina on 07592 916 966.

In Memoriam

■ JOHN BREEDS

Penny, Rob and Family would like to thank everyone who came to John's funeral on 9 September 2025.

Thank you also for all the lovely messages and cards and for your donations to the charities: Myeloma UK and Alzheimer's Society. Special thanks to Russell and all from Blackwells Funeral Directors who helped us so much and also to the Celebrant Sophie Best who conveyed John's life so eloquently.

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Churches Together in Cricklade & Latton Cricklade United Church, Calcutt Street, Cricklade

261 AICE2 10	tille Opper Thaines Churches
2 November	4th before Advent or All Saints
8am	Holy Communion at St Sampson's
10am	Holy Communion at Holy Cross
10am	Morning Worship at St Sampson's*
	with music group and children's activities
10am	Morning Worship at St John the Baptist, Latton
4pm	All Souls Bereavement Service at Holy Cross with candle lighting
6.30pm	All Souls Bereavement Service at St Sampson's with candle lighting
9 November	Remembrance Sunday
10.55ar	n Remembrance Sunday Service at Holy Cross
10.55ar	n Remembrance Sunday Service at Leigh All Saints
11.15ar	n Remembrance Sunday Service at St Sampson's
16 November	2nd before Advent
8am	Holy Communion followed by breakfast at St Sampson's
10am	Holy Communion at St John the Baptist, Latton
10am	Morning Worship at St Sampson's*
10am	Informal Morning Worship at Holy Cross
3.30pm	Messy Church at Holy Cross
6.30pm	Evensong at St Sampson's
23 November	Christ the King
8.30am	Holy Communion BCP at Holy Cross
10am	Holy Communion at St Sampson's*
10am	Morning Worship at St John the Baptist, Latton
30 November	Advent Sunday
8am	BCP Communion at St Sampson's Cricklade*
10.30ar	n North Wilts Deanery Holy Communion at Malmesbury Abbey
	(includes all Upper Thames churches)
4pm	Christingle Celebration at Holy Cross with Ashton Keynes school choir.
* Without hea	ting at St Sampson's it is likely that most 10am services will take place in

Without heating at St Sampson's it is likely that most 10am services will take place in the school – please check the website. Remembrance will be in the church and we will probably not have heating – please be prepared in what you wear.

The 8am Communion, Remembrance and All Souls services will continue in the church as usual. We are actively working for a solution to this - see page 24..

The Upper Thames Benefice

Cricklade St Sampson's, Latton St John the Baptist, Ashton Keynes Holy Cross and the Leigh All Saints

Contact details:

Vicar: Revd Canon Debbie Dewes - email: vicar@upperthames.org.uk tel: 01793 752718 Associate Vicar: Revd Shirley Danby - email: revdshirleyd@gmail.com tel. 07980 548844 Curate: Revd Sharon Gleed - email: curate@upperthames.org.uk tel: 07305 006693 Parishes Administrator: Jane Eyles - email: admin@upperthames.org.uk tel: 01793 979304

Minister: Revd Sarah Simpson, tel. 01666 826866, Email: sarahsimpson14@btinternet.com

As a United Reformed / Methodist Church, we are part of the URC North West Wiltshire Pastorate and the Upper Thames Methodist Circuit. Please have a look at our website for all the current information regarding our services, dates, times and other events. crickladeunitedchurch.co.uk

Sunday morning services during November,

2 Nov	at 10.30am - Nigel Price	16 Nov	at 10.30am - Godfrey Room
9 Nov	Remembrance Sunday including	23 Nov	at 10.30am - Rev Roy Fowler
	a united service at St Sampson's.		including Communion
	See details on page 23	30 Nov	at 10.30am - Rev Sarah Simpson

Bounce and Rhyme

A group for parents, carers and grandparents who are looking after babies and/or toddlers - taking place on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 1.45 to 3pm

Venue - the United Church hall in Calcutt Street.

This month - 4 November and 18 November

Do come along for nursery rhymes, a story book, refreshments and a chat. There is no charge, we are delighted to welcome you.

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Weekly Mass times 9.30am on Sundays 10.00am on Fridays

For notices please see the noticeboard on the railings of St Mary's.

Parish website www.stthomasparishfairford.org.uk.

7 September Arabella Sherwood Kent at St Sampson's

Father Michael Robertson can be contacted on 01285 712586 or by email michael.Robertson@cliftondiocese.com

The Friends of St Mary's website with more details of the history of the church is at www.crickladestmary.org.uk

From the Registers of the Upper Thames Group of Churches **Baptism**

/ September	Alabella Silei Wood Refit, at St Sampsons
Wedding	
5 September	Katie Anne Pointer & Connor Daryl Collier, at St John the Baptist
Funerals	
11 September	Thomas (Tom) Frederick Fletcher at Holy Cross & North Wiltshire
	Crematorium

23 September Jacqueline Ann Hickman at St Sampson's & Cricklade cemetery

26 September Michael Douglas Iveson at Kingsdown Crematorium 27 September Philip Denman Akeroyd, interment of ashes at Holy Cross

30 September Roberta Nellie Webb, service of thanksqiving & interment of ashes at All Saints

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St Sampson's Church Refurbishment Appeal

Creating a Community Space for the Future

We enjoyed a magical concert in St Sampson's Church with Robert Vincent. Many thanks to The Old Stables. More to come next year!



The Chronicle

A huge thank-you to everyone who has supported our fundraising events or donated towards St Sampson's Church's new heating system. We want our church to be usable as soon as possible and we appreciate your patience over this past year when the church has been even colder than normal!

Our next steps are:

- Completing the installation of three-phase electricity (hopefully by the time this goes to print!) This will mean we can use more electricity at any given time so it is very important for our future heating system.
- Removing the old asbestos boiler to make room for the boilers and future heat pump equipment in the boiler room.
- Installing two electric water boilers to heat the current radiators so we can have heating as soon as possible. The temperature will be similar to that before the old boiler was condemned.
- Working on our long-term vision for the refurbishment. Air source heat pumps are still part of those plans and they will work together with the electric boilers as part of a hybrid system in the future, making the temperature much more comfortable.
- Installing Photo-Voltaic (PV) panels and batteries soon to help offset some of the costs of electric heating and as part of our commitment to sustainability.

The estimated costs of this next phase are:

Removal of asbestos boiler: £12,000-£15,000

Installation of 2 x electric boilers: £35,000-£45,000

Additional electrical work: up to £4,000

PV panels and batteries: £18,000

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We have almost enough in grant promises and funds raised to meet these costs. As ever, we are so grateful for your support which will help with the heating system and our planning for the wider refurbishment.

Donations to the Refurbishment Appeal

How to give: Cash or cheques (made payable to St Sampson's PCC No. 2 Account) in the donations box in church or send to Adina Grace (Church Warden and Treasurer), 24 North Wall, Cricklade, SN6 6DU. For further details please contact Adina on 01793 380583 or email janda.grace447@outlook.com

Online donations can be made by scanning the QR code (right) or visiting donate.giveasyoulive.com.

> **Advance Notice of Events - Look out for posters! Quiz 7 February 2026**

Wine Tasting 20 March 2026

St Sampson's Church 100 Club

The lucky winner of the June 2025 draw was Ruth Evans who won £33.00. St Sampson's Church benefited by £33.00.

To join the 100 Club, contact Sharon Smith: tel. 751375 or email sharonismith54@hotmail.com

Cricklade Development Foundation

The Old Police Station – Community Project Update



The site has been transformed. Once a quiet, little-used building, it is now full of life, providing two homes for local people and space for local businesses that together employ more than thirty-five people. The site also proudly features the Queen Elizabeth II Walkway, with displays that celebrate our High Street (thanks to a grant from Cricklade Town Council), the life of our late Queen, and Cricklade's history during her reign.

Recent months have seen some exciting progress:

- Garden Volunteers Their dedication has been outstanding. From designing the garden to rebuilding dry stone walls and putting up fencing, their work has saved thousands of pounds. Their efforts were recognised by Community First, who awarded them the Community Project funded through the Landfill Communities Fund Programme Award. This recognition is richly deserved, and we offer them our heartfelt thanks. This project would not have been possible without their commitment and sheer hard work.
- National Lottery Grant We were recently awarded £5,460 towards tools and equipment for the community garden. This will help our volunteers continue their excellent work in maintaining and developing the garden – and support other users of this garden/event space.
- Improved Entrance Thanks to a grant from the Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board contributing towards the costs, the front of the building has been re-paved, creating a more attractive, safer, and welcoming entrance to the premises and the garden at the rear.

Looking Ahead

- The town's Christmas Tree will once again be hosted at the Old Police Station. The Christmas Lights Switch-On will take place on Saturday 29 November, with events starting from at 4pm. Please make a note of the date. Please look out for further information from the Christmas Lights Switch On team.
- Our Annual General Meeting will take place on Tuesday 11 November 2025 at 7pm in Cricklade Town Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend, although only members may vote. Documents are available on our website under 'Governance'.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support this community effort, especially our members - together, we're making a real difference.

Contact Details

For more information, and/or to become a member to support the project, please email contact@crickladefoundation.org.uk, telephone our Secretary, Terri Robertson, on 07902 421 756, or visit www.crickladefoundation.org.uk. You can also follow us on Facebook. The Chronicle Page 25

Cricklade Foodbank

Open every Friday 10am to 11.30am in the Jenner Hall, Bath Road



The Foodbank continues to serve our local community. As well as providing emergency food for our clients, we can offer a listening ear and can often signpost clients to organisations which are expert in a particular area, e.g. debt, domestic abuse, homelessness etc.

If you have a couple of hours spare on any Friday morning and would like to become a volunteer, please email *crickladecm@malmesburydistrict.foodbank.org.uk* to contact the Centre Manager.

Thank you to everyone who has donated food or non-food items this month. Your contributions are always most welcome. We are particularly short of gluten-free items.

As usual, the donation points are: Tesco, Culverhay Stores, Animal Fayre (pet shop), the Town Council Office, St. Sampson's School (during term time) and the local churches.

Sing Four Four Community Choir

There are just a couple of weeks to go until our 'Come and Sing' event on Saturday15 November in Cricklade United Church. We



will be singing Vivaldi's 'Gloria'. If you would like to join us, we will be delighted to see you. If you would like to sing, there is still time to register. Please refer to the poster opposite for registration details. There are limited audience places, and there is no charge to come and listen, but donations will be gratefully received.

Alongside the 'Gloria', the choir is rehearsing their repertoire for the Christmas Concert on Sunday 14 December in St Mary's Church, Purton. The concert starts at 3pm. After the performance there will be tea and cake. We will also be running a raffle, so please bring some cash.

For more information, please go to our website: *singfourfour.org.uk*. Alternatively, you can contact our musical director, Jen Bamford, on *jenloubamford@googlemail.com*

Ashton Keynes Village Choir

If you like singing, come and join a successful and friendly choir. Ashton Keynes Village Choir welcomes male and female singers. Rehearsals on Tuesdays 7.30pm in the school hall, Ashton Keynes.

Please come along or phone Georgie for more details 07526 924 710.

Winter Concert

29 November at 7pm Village Hall, Ashton Keynes

Parkinson's UK

At Cricklade Hotel & Spa, Common Hill SN6 6HA: 10.30am - noon

Join us for coffee, cake and chat on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

JOIN US.

There you will find plenty of level parking, good access and an accessible loo! Contact: parkinsonscafecricklade@gmail.com or call 07951 944 760.

The volunteers team looks forward to seeing you there! Page 26

PARKINSON'S^{UK} CHANGE ATTITUDES. FIND A CURE. JOIN US.

The Chronicle

COME & SING COMMUNITY CHOIR COME & SING CO

(+ small booking fee if booked through TicketSource)

Registration & hot drinks 10.30am Informal performance - 4pm



Please bring your own score-the Barenreiter edition is preferred.

Light refreshments will be available, but please bring your own packed lunch.

To book, scan the OR code to register through TicketSource www.ticketsource.co.uk/sing-44-community-choir or contact us through the email phillipa58@hotmail.com

www.singfourfour.org.uk

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Cricklade Art Group

We welcome you to our Autumn Exhibition. There will be a wide range of art on display, including paintings, cards



and ceramics from a range of artists. For a preview of the work being exhibited check www.facebook.com/CrickladeArtGroup during the week before the exhibition.

We will also have our popular raffle. Refreshments – including tea, coffee and homemade cake. Come along and enjoy the art work.

Autumn Exhibition 2025

Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 November 2025

10am to 4pm

Cricklade Town Hall

Free entry!

All are welcome!

If you wish to learn more about the Cricklade Art Group, visit our website www.crickladeart.co.uk

The group meets monthly on the third Tuesday of the month at the Cricklade Town Hall Annexe from 7.30 to 9.30pm. If you have any questions or are interested in becoming a member, please drop us a line to our email address *crickladeartgroup@gmail.com*.





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This space is only £79 for 11 months! Please contact Nicky at crickladechronicleadds@gmail.com or telephone 01793 752898 (office hours)





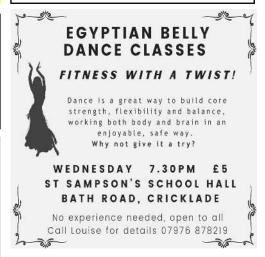


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Cricklade Camera Club

Are you interested in photography, or do you just want to take better photographs? If so, why not come along to Cricklade Camera Club? Visitors and new members will receive a warm welcome – you don't even need a camera. Everyone is welcome. Come and try us out, your first evening is FREE.

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Cricklade Town Hall Annexe and there is a range of talks, workshops and Zoom presentations throughout the year. To see all our activities take a look at the programme page of our website crickladecameraclub.org/program

On Tuesday 4 November, 7.30pm in the Town Hall Annexe, is the first round of the club's annual league competition. Members will have entered up to three digital images and three printed images, which will be scored by an external judge on the night. Even if you haven't entered any images come along ... it's a great way to learn what makes a good photograph.

On Wednesday 12 November at 7.30pm we will join bh Photography Club for their Zoom meeting presented by Andrew Moss Photography, "He shoots, he scores".

On Tuesday 18 November at 7.30pm in the Town Hall Committee Room we will be holding a Workshop, an opportunity for members to improve their skills.



November 2025

5th O

12th **①**

20th

28th **D**





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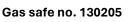
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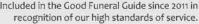




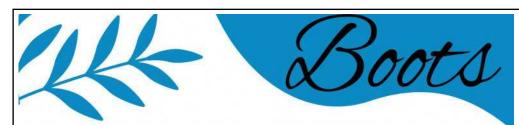








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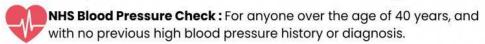
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- Shingles (Adults 18 years and over)
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Cricklade Memory Cafe

We are now into colder shorter days, which are not always welcome especially by some of us who therefore spend more time at home. However, our members continue to bring us joy and friendship each



month, and we regularly have visitors who are able to offer more specialised support and signposting to the relevant areas of help available. We aim to support carers as well as their cared for and we understand how isolating this can sometimes feel.

In September we had a great morning with Glyn and Steve who played their guitars and sang for us. Our lovely friend Cat from *Home Instead* joined us in October for another round of fun and music. Christmas will soon be upon us and we look forward to our Christmas Party day on Wednesday 17 December with a buffet lunch, music from Tony M and the draw of our annual raffle.

With this in mind before we start hearing Christmas music wherever we go all the members and volunteers want to offer our special thanks to all the local businesses who have sponsored us this year. We were delighted to welcome Russell and Tinikka from Blackwells to our August Café, who joined us for coffee and presented Vona with a very generous cheque. Both The Vale and The White Hart have sponsored several monthly cafés this year and ATR Landscapes, Barchester White Lodge and Cricklade Hardware have also given us sponsorship this year. In an earlier post we also thanked both our pétanque clubs for their generous support and sponsorship. We are so grateful not only for these monetary donations but for the support they offer along with many local people who sometimes pop in with raffle prizes, or food gifts. Cricklade and its people are very special and we can't thank them enough for their continued support.

If you are a carer or family member of someone with memory issues, come and see what a friendly, fun group we have and how much support our members gain from being part of CMC. We are open on the first Wednesday of each month at the Town Hall Annexe from 10.30 to 12.30 for coffee, cakes, friendship and fun in a safe welcoming environment. You will be most welcome.

For more information, please contact Vona 07896 723 794 or Margaret 07976 620 089.

The Book Page: Calling All Readers!

Two Cricklade authors, Malcolm Brooks and Bizzie White, have successfully launched their newly published novels. Malcolm's is a thriller "Murder on the London Underground", a sequel to his first book "The Mediterranean Mystery." If you want a fast-paced, action packed read, go to Malcolm on 07852 836 633 or email malgilly@gmail.com

Bizzie's book, "Darkleigh" is an historical novel set in a small Cotswold valley in 1815, when the soldiers return from the Battle of Waterloo and lives are changed forever.

Bizzie writes under the name Lee Pennell and further details can be found on her website *leepennell.co.uk*

If any aspiring authors would like to talk about the process of self publishing, do get in touch with either of us.

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Cricklade Pétanque Club

Our pistes are at Cricklade House Hotel and Spa, SN6 6HA

We recently hosted a GWR triples event and also had a very enjoyable time when one of our members organised a 3-ender competition. Congratulations to all the winners.



The last of our matches for our club members competition have been completed and trophies and medals will be presented at our AGM.

If you would like to come along and have a go you would always be welcome on any of our playing days as below. There is nearly always someone around to show you the ropes but better still there are Pétanque England DBS checked qualified coaches at our coaching sessions. These sessions are a combination of training and then playing a couple of games. Nothing too serious. It really is a lovely way to get a bit of gentle exercise and to meet new people.

Our playing days are: Mon 2 - 4.30pm

Wed 2 - 4.30pm Sat 10am -12.30pm

Coaching Sessions are: Wed 10 - 11.30am (ladies) Fri 10 - 11.30am (mixed)

Please arrive 10 minutes before start to avoid delays in play!

www.crickladepetanqueclub.co.uk Facebook Cricklade Petanque Club email: info@crickladepetanqueclub.co.uk



The Club is celebrating! We have our first player to graduate to our Senior Men's team having started in our Minis.

This is especially exciting for us as we are looking for new players to join the ranks of our Senior's team. Senior men's training is on Thursdays 7 to 8.30pm at Fairview Fields, no experience necessary; contact Captain, Nick 07542 021 692, or Coach, Pixie 07728 399 759, all are welcome.

Come and join us and have some fun; Adults, Juniors and Minis. RUGBY – the sport that builds strength, teamwork and resilience.

Mixed Tag is on Tuesdays 7 to 8pm. We are a friendly club and welcome new players and supporters.

In September we lost to Widden Old Boys and Supermarine, but won against Royal Wootton Bassett IV. In November we play at home to Corsham II on the 8th, at home to Chippenham III on the 22nd and away to Swindon II on the 29th.

Our Minis section continues to grow and is open to boys and girls of all abilities. We aim to provide a safe environment where every player can enjoy rugby and develop their personal and social skills as well as a wide array of transferable multi-sports skills. Training is held at our Fairview Fields ground and new players from age 6 are always welcome (no experience necessary and your first 4 sessions are free). Please contact our Director of Minis, Seth Wareing, sethwareing@hotmail.com or phone 07305 059 879. We would also welcome any parents who want to get involved and support the Juniors and Minis, so if you are interested please contact Seth.

Saxons Pétanque Club, Cricklade Leisure Centre

Saxons Pétanque Club play on the gravel just in front of Cricklade Leisure Centre at 2pm on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and 10am on Saturday mornings, with coaching sessions advertised on our notice board just inside the Leisure Centre.

Pétanque (or boules) is fun, it's sociable and it's very easy to pick up. You're welcome to come along, borrow some boules, and give it a go with no obligation to join the club. Just arrive about 15 minutes before the start time to get sorted out. Should you decide to join, annual membership is only £25.

Our social events include skittles and tenpin bowling and we organise a few friendly club competitions throughout the year. Some of our more competitive members play in the Cotswold Pétanque League and in various competitions in the Great Western Region.

At the end of September, twenty of our members enjoyed a 3-ender pétanque competition where, believe it or not, each game is just 3 ends! (Normally you play up to a score of 13 points.) This means lots of quick games against all the other pairs with a break for a picnic lunch and cash prizes for the top three pairs.

If you'd like to find out more about Saxons Pétanque Club, we're a friendly bunch so please come and say hello, take a look at our notice board inside the Leisure Centre, or visit our website at *saxonspetanque.co.uk*.

Cricklade Library

The Library is above the Town Council Office at 113 High Street. The entrance is through the gateway and there is a lift as well as stairs to the library level.

Current opening hours are: (Closed Bank Holidays)

Mon: 2–4pm | Wed: 2–4pm | Fri: 2–5pm | Sun: Closed Tues: 10am–1pm | Thurs: 2–7pm | Sat 10am–1pm |

Cricklade & District Probus Club

We are looking forward to our forthcoming group meetings when the following talks will take place.

13 Nov Christopher Scott: The Battle of Waterloo

27 Nov Martin Collisson: Abolition of the Slave Trade



Meetings normally take place fortnightly on a Thursday meeting at 10am for a 10.20 start at the White Hart Hotel in Cricklade. Ours is a friendly group who enjoy keeping our minds active and socialising over a drink in the bar after the meetings. We are actively seeking to expand our numbers and look forward to welcoming new members to the Club.

For further information about our local club please contact the Honorary Secretary, Martin Chambers on 01793 751223. If you contact Martin and advise you would like to attend, which is free for the first few visits, you will be allocated a dedicated host who will introduce you to our members. Alternatively, just turn up on the day and you will be made welcome. For further details about Cricklade & District Probus Club and our scheduled talks for the year, visit our new website at *probus.org.uk/cricklade*

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		The	Chronicle Diary - November 2025
1	Sa		Chronicle Copy deadline
3	M	,	Wiltshire Schools resume (others may differ)
			until 16 Nov: Open Door closed
		10am	to 12 noon: Computer Club at Leisure Centre
4	Tu	1.45pm	to 2.45pm: Bounce & Rhyme, United Church, Calcutt Street
		7.30pm	Camera Club at Town Hall Annexe
5	W	·	Bonfire night
		10.30am	to 12.30pm: Memory Café at Town Hall Annexe
9	Su	10.20am	to 11.20am: Remembrance Sunday Parade (Waylands to War Memorial)
10	Μ	7pm	Town Council Community & Leisure Committee, Council Chamber
11	Tu	11am	Schools remembrance service at War Memorial
		7pm	Bowls Club AGM at Bath Road club house
		7pm	Cricklade Development Foundation AGM at Town Hall, all welcome
		7pm	speaker 7.30pm: Garden Club at Town Hall Annexe
		10.20am	Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel
15	Sa	10am	to 4pm: Cricklade Art Group Exhibition at Town Hall
	_	4pm	Vivaldi Gloria performance, United Church. No charge but limited spaces
		10am	to 4pm: Cricklade Art Group Exhibition at Town Hall
		7pm	Town Council Planning, Cons & Trans Committee, Council Chamber
18	IU	1.45pm	to 2.45pm: Bounce & Rhyme, United Church, Calcutt Street
10	۱۸/	7.30pm 10.30am	Art Group at Town Hall Annexe
		7.30pm	to 12 noon: Parkinson's Café at Cricklade Hotel & Spa Cricklade W.I. at Town Hall Annexe
		7.30pm	Cricklade Cinema at Town Hall, tickets from Town Council Office
		7pm	Town Council Premises & Finance Committee, Council Chamber
		8pm	Cricklade Cinema at Town Hall, tickets from Town Council Office
		10.20am	Probus Club at the White Hart Hotel
		from 4pm	
		7pm	Ashton Keynes Village Choir winter concert at A/K Village Hall
			Évery Week
Мо	nda	y, Tuesday, 1	Thursday: 10am-3.30pm: Open Door at Jenner Hall
We	dne	sday (2-4pm	n), Saturday (10am-noon) Cricklade Museum open, Calcutt Street
Tu	6.3	0pm	Cricklade Walking Group - from Cricklade Leisure Centre
	7-8	pm	Mixed tag
W	1.4	5 for 2pm	Bingo4U at Jenner Hall
Th	10	-11.30am	Acorn Community Bank: in Tourist Information Office
		0-4.30pm	The Paint Palette: Ladies' Art Group at Town Hall Annexe
		.30pm	Senior men's rugby training at Fairview Fields
		0pm	The Cricklade Band rehearsal night, at Town Hall, visitors welcome
_		0-9.30pm	Sing Four Four choir rehearsal at United Church, Calcutt Street
F		0am	Cricklade Walking Group - from Waylands/Saxons Rest Cricklade Foodbank at Jenner Hall
		11.30am 11.30am	Cricklade Foodbank at Jenner Hall Coffee Cafe at Cricklade United Church Hall
			St Sampson's church choir rehearsal
	7pr	11	or sampsons charcification tenearsal

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The Final Word ...

November is a month for *remembering* – and for each occasion, there's a visual symbol to help us and provide focus.

Our All Souls' Bereavement service is a chance to remember, with thankfulness, those whom we have loved but see no more, and we invite those present to light a candle – a reminder that in Jesus' light shines in dark times, giving hope and a way forward.

Then there's Bonfire Night, remembering Guy Fawkes' attempt to blow up Parliament, with fireworks and bonfires as our visual reminder.

On Remembrance Sunday, we pause to remember those who gave their lives in wars and conflicts for our freedom. Across the world, there will be services at war memorials and in churches, at which people like us will give thanks to God for their sacrifice, and will pray for those serving in our armed forces today. But Remembering is more than thinking back about what happened – it's about honouring the courage of those who died, learning from their example and thinking about our future and in that, we hold on to hope.

The poppy is a well known symbol of remembrance. Poking up through the soil in the fields of Flanders in WW1, the poppy has been, and still is, a symbol of hope. Even in the turmoil, sadness and horror of war, somehow a small bright flower came to life. Today we need hope in our world more than ever.

For Christians, the most significant act of remembering is when we come together to remember, in bread and wine, the death and resurrection of Jesus. In giving his life on the cross for the sake of others, he shows us and offers us the self-giving love at the heart of God.

So, as we remember with candles, bonfires, poppies, or bread and wine, may we all take time to pause and reflect. And may remembering inspire us to live with gratitude, courage, peace and hope in God today and, to play our small part in building a better world.

Revd Shirley Danby, Associate Vicar in Upper Thames

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