

Wantage & Abingdon Circuit

GROVE & WANTAGE METHODIST NEWS



The Methodist Church



November 2026

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Contributions for the **next Newsletter** (December/January) should be sent to the
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Wantage Morning Worship is shared each week on Zoom at 10:30
(for access to this please contact Gordon Skidmore)

Grove web site is found from www.wantab.org.uk
Wantage web site www.wantagemethodist.org.uk
Circuit web site www.wantab.org.uk

Newsletter Contribution deadline dates – 2026

Winter (December/January) Sunday 22nd November

Newsletter Contribution deadline dates – 2027

February	Sunday 24 th January
March	Sunday 21 st February
April	Sunday 14 th March
May	Sunday 18 th April
June	Sunday 23 rd May

Advent: Judgement and Hope, Redemption and Restoration

Since ancient times, the Christian church has followed the annual rhythm of the liturgical year which begins four Sundays before Christmas and includes seven seasons. These seasons unfold in a pattern that follows the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas and continues through the day before Christmas. This year, the first Sunday of this four-week period falls on 29 November. The name Advent, derived from a Latin word for “coming”, is considered a time of preparation, hope, and expectation, as the church awaits both Christ’s earthly birth as the baby born in Bethlehem and his final coming “in power and glory,” as we confess when reciting the Nicene Creed.

The theological word that describes Jesus’ final coming is “apocalyptic”, and if truth be told, many Christians find the apocalyptic Jesus very uncomfortable or difficult to engage with. Most of us favour the Holy Child, Emmanuel: the loving and gentle Jesus, who comforts us and teaches through stories and parables. Christians and non-Christians alike love the image of Christ the shepherd, holding a lamb in his arms or carting the lost sheep home on his shoulders, one of the very first images and icons - Christ the Good Shepherd. We like the Jesus whose teaching we can turn into helpful advice for how to make our day just a little bit better and the Jesus we agree with; and sometimes, we love the angry, justice-seeking Jesus - the Jesus who turned over tables in the temple. Yet, the apocalyptic Jesus, who talks of judgement, promises another Advent when he will come again in glorious majesty to be our judge. This is very much a part of the Good News of celebrating Advent now.

The Good News at the heart of Advent is that the One who comes as Judge comes also as Redeemer. This is the God who took our humanity upon himself, entering our world in the vulnerability of a child and sharing fully in our human life. The Good News at the heart of Advent is that the God who comes as Judge is the God who loves us enough to confront what diminishes us and separates us from one another, calling us back to the life for which we were created: a life of receiving love, living in love and sharing love.

The four weeks of Advent offer us the space and time to prepare for Christ’s birth as well as his second coming: to make things right, to give, to share, to forgive and to apologise. The season affords us the opportunity to let go of our grudges, to let go of ways in which we hurt others and to walk in the Lord’s ways – ways of righteousness and justice. (Psalm 89:14)

Christ’s coming among us as a vulnerable child gives us hope. The Christ who will come again as Judge fills us with hope too, because the one who judges is the same one who loves, forgives and redeems us. We can therefore face his coming with confidence, holding firmly to that hope we proclaim.

May he whose second coming in power and great glory we await, make us steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. Amen.

“Yes, I am coming soon. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.” (Revelation 22:20)

Every blessing, Georgina

People I have known 3: Mr (Tom) Pilsbury

In what is now known as Year 5 in Primary School I believed that in Year 6 you had to be in Mr Haines' class to be a member of the school football team. Mr Haines was the team coach. In a school with a three-form intake that meant I had a one in three chance of getting into his class. At the end of the summer term, we were informed which classes we were to be in come September. My heart sank. I was to be in Mr Pilsbury's class. I was devastated. I thought my chances of catching Mr Haines' eye with my dazzling dribbling skills were zilch. Not only that but Mr Pilsbury was known to be strict! No football, no fooling around in class. What hope was there for me? He was tall, over six foot, above a clipped moustache was an eagle beak of a nose, upon which sat glasses. Behind the glasses were piercing eyes. He was an imposing figure with a bark that could be heard across a playground.

On the first day of the new school year, I arrived in class despondent. Mr Pilsbury had allocated our seats. Thankfully I was placed next to my good friend Keith Leadbeater, opposite Caroline Gibson and Mandy Richards. Things were looking up.

Over time I began to realise that things were going well. Mr Pilsbury was strict, as I had been led to believe, but he was interesting. I noticed that I wanted to do well and please him. I began to thrive. By the end of the year, I was sorry to leave his class, even though I was excited to be going into a new school after the summer holidays. Keith and I bought Mr Pilsbury a Parker Pen as a farewell gift but one of us, I can't recall which, had forgotten to take it into class on the last day. We knew where he lived, so the following day we knocked on his door and gave it to him. He invited us in to meet his wife. He was very proud to tell her these were the two boys, the only two pupils in his class, who had passed the Eleven Plus and gained entry to the Grammar School. He asked us to let him know how we got on in the school which we did for a year or two until Keith dropped off and I went on my own. This was a relationship that could never happen today for all sorts of understandable reasons. Mr & Mrs Pilsbury never had children and they both took an interest in my schooling, encouraging me, and developing my thinking. At home Mr Pilsbury was a gentle soul. He had an infectious chuckle at which his body would vibrate in his armchair.

I began to hear Mr Pilsbury's story, himself an only child, secured a place at a Grammar School, called up to serve in the Army during the Second World War, shot in the neck by a sniper a few days after the invasion of Normandy and after the war trained as a teacher. He was a lover of art, a Francophile, and avid reader. He filled a gap in my life and I think I filled a gap in his.

When I left school and began a Sandwich Course at Wolverhampton Poly the friendship continued. Mr and Mrs Pilsbury had now become Tom and Frankie to me. They were amongst the very first I told when I felt called to the Methodist ministry. It was only natural for me to take Karen to meet Tom and Frankie when she became my girlfriend. It was a joy for me that he accepted our invitation to do one of the readings on our wedding day. I can still picture his beaming smile when he stood at the church lectern on that day forty years ago. We had come a long way from a disappointed ten-year-old hearing that I would be in his class, to listening with much fondness to him as he read at our wedding. He then took the same delight as he had

in me when engaging in conversation with our two young boys when they came along. When Lord of The Rings, Fellowship of the Ring first aired in the cinema in 2001, the four of us sat together, octogenarian Tom, eleven-year-old David, nine-year-old Robert, and I. Tom whooped with as much joy as the boys during the battle scenes and his familiar chuckle ever present every time Bilbo Baggins put in an appearance.

I recall with clarity his pain when he spoke on the phone informing me of Frankie's death. He asked if I would conduct the funeral as he didn't want anyone else to do it. He was never the same again after his beloved Frankie died and it was not long before I had to fulfil his request to conduct his own funeral. It was a tough service for me to get through. It was an extraordinary end to an extraordinary friendship, one that had inspired me, given me a sense of worth, and one for which I will forever be grateful.

Whoever decided to put me in Mr Pilsbury's class in the summer of 1970 will never know what a fateful decision that was. Oh, and by the way, Tom must have put a good word in with Mr Haines, because I was the only boy in Tom's class to play in the school football team that season!

Rev Bruce

Wallingford Methodist Church In Conversation With Roshni Mooneram

Policy and strategy consultant, inclusion architect, leadership coach, international keynote speaker, and writer. Working at the intersection of science, policy and global health across Africa, Asia and Europe

Tuesday 10 November
12 Noon - 1.00pm



Once Struggling Church is Now Booming

A Methodist church once on the brink of closure now boasts a booming multinational congregation who can listen to services in their own languages.

Just three years ago, Didcot Methodist Church in Oxfordshire could only count on an average attendance of around 12 worshippers, leading to fears that the 1903-constructed house of worship would no longer be viable.

But today up to 60 people flock through the doors on a Sunday morning, with more than ten nationalities represented in the thriving church family.

Putting the growth down to prayer and consistent pastoral oversight, the Revd Bruce Thompson says that engagement, inclusion and participation are also vital components in welcoming new people to the church.

He said: "Didcot has one of the most diverse populations amongst the towns of South Oxfordshire, and the Methodist church has grown to reflect that demographic. It has been important to welcome new attendees, to follow up shortly afterwards, and to involve those who wish to participate early on."

One new member explained why she began worshipping at the church by saying that she was passing one Sunday, saw people who "looked like me" and went in. She is now one of the Church Council's representatives to the Circuit Meeting.



Another joined after seeing the church noticeboard, which included her first language.

The Revd Bruce said that communicating with the new congregation has been vital.

"The average age of the new members is significantly lower than those who have attended many years.

"The combination of age, and in some circumstances the diversity of language, has meant that WhatsApp has been the preferred choice of communication.

"Checking up on one another, extending an invitation to read, and promoting special services and other events is more effectively accomplished through WhatsApp. It also provides a degree of distance and sense of safety, not being too intrusive."

Another factor in the church's growth and inclusivity is a translation service created by member Kanniah Chille.

Kanniah set about ensuring no one would feel excluded from worship on the grounds of language and produced a system that attendees can access by scanning a QR code from a poster in the foyer or on the noticeboard.

This takes the user to a website where they can select the language of their choice. As they listen to the service, their smartphone produces the text in both the language of the speaker and the user.

The text is recorded on the site, allowing the user to play back both languages, thus helping them develop their language skills. Details about the service can be found on chillexion.co.uk

In November, the church is to host its second International Day celebration, where members invite family, friends and neighbours to participate in worship and share in a meal with dishes from across the globe.

In addition to International Day, a team consisting of members from five different countries lead worship every six weeks, bringing colour, fresh perspectives and diverse traditions to the church.



DEMENTIA FRIENDLY SERVICE

SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER AT 2PM



ALL SAINTS METHODIST CHURCH

APPLEFORD DRIVE ABINGDON OX14 2AQ

TELEPHONE: 01235 520 282

EMAIL: office.allsaintsab@gmail.com



Future Service dates -The first Saturday in each month starting 2027: February 6th, March 6th, April 3rd, May 1st, June 5th, July 3rd, August 7th, September 4th, October 2nd, November 6th, December 4th.

A Winter's Night

Wantage Choral Society

Sarah Quartel
Cecilia McDowall

A Winter Day
A Winter's Night
Traditional Carols

CELLO SOLOIST
BRASS QUINTET
CONDUCTOR

Jacqueline Johnson

Hannah Zaki

Saturday 28 November 2026 | 7.30pm

Wantage Parish Church



WANTAGE
CHORAL
SOCIETY

wantagechoralsociety.co.uk

Registered Charity No 265227

All Tickets £18

Tickets available from wantagechoralsociety.co.uk
Wantage Bookshop, members of WCS
or on the door

Under 16s – Free

GROVE

You are invited to a **Coffee Morning** on **Saturday, 7th November** from 10.00 am till 12 noon at the church. Handmade cards will be on sale. The charity benefitting will be Freyja's Fund, which supports young cancer patients and their families at the J.R. Hospital. Judith and her family are our hosts for the morning. We hope you are able to join us for a chat and tea/coffee and cake. It is really good to see you all. Thank you to all who support us so well and to those who help by providing cakes and/or help on the day. It is all much appreciated.

Ecumenical Prayer for Revival will be on **Sunday 1st November** from 6.30 to 8 pm. You are invited to come and pray with us. All are welcome.

Church Council will meet on **Monday, 9th November** at 7.30 pm in the Meeting Room. All interested in the life and work of Grove Methodist Church are invited to come and share in this meeting.

Film Club is meeting on **Friday, 20th November** at 7.30 pm in the Meeting Room. We will be showing "Captain Corelli's Mandolin". *This is a 2001 war film directed by John Madden. It is based on the 1994 novel by Louis de Bernieres. The film pays homage to the thousands of Italian soldiers executed at the Massacre of the Acqui Division by German forces in Cephalonia in September 1943 and to the people of Cephalonia who were killed in the 1953 Ionian earthquake. The novel's protagonists are portrayed by actors Nicolas Cage and Penelope Cruz.*

Admission is free. All are welcome. A small donation helps with expenses.

Tuesday Fellowship in **October** is on **Tuesday, 27th October** at 2.15 pm. Our speaker is Libby Hawkness-Smith, who is going to talk about Sweden. Kath has invited us to meet at her home, 4 Mayfield Avenue, Grove. We hope you will be able to join us for the afternoon.

Tuesday Fellowship in November – details will be given in the weekly notice sheet nearer the time.

Craft Group meets at the Cornerstone Coffee Shop on Monday afternoons from 2 to 4 pm. All are welcome. Bring your own craft to do and enjoy a chat and exchange of ideas with other crafters while you work. We each give a donation of £1 to Cornerstone and buy a drink of our choice.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Coffee Morning in October for The Brain Tumour Charity. Donations amounted to £373. To this has been added Gift Aid money in hand, making a total of £466.76 to be transferred to the charity.

Thank you so much to everyone.

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed so generously at our Harvest celebrations, with gifts of dried and tinned foods for the Foodbank. All that you give is very much appreciated.

And thank you for your continuing support for the Foodbank, week by week, by putting contributions in the box in the entrance hall or in the collection boxes in the local

stores, and by cash donations. Thank you. All donations are very much appreciated. The need is still great.

We continue to hold in our prayers all those who are in poor health or have other difficulties and problems. Thank you to everyone who helps in whatever way they are able to. Your prayers and support are very much appreciated.

Safeguarding

The Methodist Church is committed to safeguarding as an integral part of its life and ministry.

Safeguarding is about the action the Church takes to promote a safer culture.

This means we will:

- promote the welfare of children, young people and adults
- work to prevent abuse from occurring
- seek to protect and respond well to those that have been abused

If you have, or become aware of any concern, you must contact your Church's Safeguarding Officer :-

Grove :

Lynda Culley 07759 085336 or Rev Georgina on 01235 219070

Wantage :

Ken Smith 01235 767545 or Rev Bruce on 01235 813242

You must not speak to others about your concerns or investigate them yourself.

WANTAGE

A Time for Reflection

Jane Kent and Helen Carter

On the first Sunday of the month, we have a 'Time for Reflection' in the Godfrey Room from 9:30 - 10 am. There will be some music, a reading from the lectionary for that day, some questions to ponder individually and the opportunity to share any thoughts briefly if you wish before finishing with some music.

Everyone welcome!

Remembrance Day service

Helen Carter

Please note the timing of **worship** on **November 8th** is **9.30 am**. Rev Bruce will be leading this and it will include the sacrament of Holy Communion. The timing is such that there will be time, for those who wish to, to attend the service at the War Memorial at the Parish church.

Local Arrangements.

Helen Carter

In the current Plan we have 3 Local Arrangements. These are when members of the church organise and lead worship as there aren't enough available Ministers or Local Preachers for every church in the Circuit to have either a minister or Local Preacher to lead worship. Some members of our church attended sessions run by Rev Bruce designed to help with organising and facilitating Local Arrangements.

If you have ideas for an act of worship, why not share that idea with one of the stewards or anyone on the Church Leadership Team. (If you are unsure who to talk to, please check out the 'Who's Who board in the corridor leading to the hall from the church.) We don't guarantee to use your idea immediately, but rest assured the idea won't get lost.

Community Café

Carolyn Roche

We will be open as usual on Monday mornings providing a warm, welcoming space for our regulars and for the occasional visitors. Thank you to all the volunteers who help in providing refreshment and company. Please let me know if you feel you could occasionally take a turn on the rota or provide a cake for the refreshments. At some point during November, we will be making decorations during a café session ready to decorate the Café Tree for the Christmas Tree Festival. Donations this month continue to support Changing Lives.

Kids@church

Jane, Dave, Cath

In October we met and before hearing the story of God providing manna for the Israelites we made bread rolls! We had fun acting out the story and then enjoyed eating our bread rolls for breakfast!

In **November** we will meet at 9.30am on **Sunday 15th**.

Kids@Church is an informal, monthly get-together for children and their families, where we explore a Bible story, engage in an activity and finish with a shared breakfast. New friends always welcome!

(For more information, please feel free to give Jane a call /text on 07443 420205)

Bible Study at Elmbrook Care Home

June Grunwald

In October we studied Psalm 23. Our meeting on **Monday, 9th November** will be more of a short service of Remembrance rather than a bible study.

Elmbrook Bible Study is held at the care home on Grove Road, on the second Monday of the month at 2.30 pm, lasting between 30 and 45 minutes. After the bible study we usually have a drink in the Bistro area in the care home, which is appreciated by residents.

Advent Group

Alison Phillips

Christmas has already arrived in the shops, but I only feel ready for Christmas when I have set some time aside each week to rediscover the real meaning that lies behind the turkey and tinsel.

However many Christmases we have celebrated, there is always something to learn, be reminded of or see in a different way and this is what happens when a group of people get together to read the Bible, pray and study.

I haven't decided on what course we will study yet, but I do invite you to keep 4 Thursday mornings free, November 26th, December 3, 10, and 17 from 10 am to 12 midday.

We meet at [1, Mill Paddock, Letcombe Regis](#) (coffee at 10!) and all are welcome.

It is very helpful if you would let me know in advance if you would like to be with us so that I can buy the right amount of material, but it is more important that you just come even if you cannot make all four sessions.

I look forward to hearing from you and that you will join us in getting ready to celebrate the birth of God's Son.

Tuesday Afternoon Prayer and Study Group

Carolyn Roche

This is an open and friendly group who meet for Prayer and Bible Study each Tuesday at 2 pm in the Parlour. Please feel free to join us. If you have someone or a situation you would like us to pray for, please let me know.

In November, we will be continuing with the Fruit of the Spirit Study. This is one of the Life Builder Study Guides.

Dates for November are as follows:

3rd November **NO BIBLE STUDY**

10th November Fruit of the Spirit – Study 6 – Goodness (Psalm 107)

17th November Fruit of the Spirit – Study 7 – Faithfulness (2 Chronicles 20:1-30)

24th November Fruit of the Spirit – Study 8 – Gentleness (1 Thessalonians 2:1-12)

If you have any queries or prayer requests you can contact me (Carolyn Roche) by telephone on 07906 518323 or email: ciroche48@hotmail.com

With unseasonably warm weather this autumn, following the year's extraordinarily hot, dry summer, we've seen much evidence of unusual activity in our natural environment. Some plants are flowering more than once, whilst some trees began shedding their foliage long before usual as a desperate attempt at survival. In drought conditions many farmers have harvested disappointingly poor yields of grain, and we are warned that some food will be in short supply. How reassured we can feel by knowing that God's unfailing promises allow us to place complete dependence on him as our provider. We can trust in God being, in every season, our source of all that we need. As well as thankfulness for what is provided for us, comes a realisation that many people in other parts of the world are facing much deeper struggles than our relatively small ones. How richly blessed we are, and how earnestly we pray for those whose living conditions and food supplies are inadequate.

A few weeks ago, Hilary Rewcastle moved into Charlton Lodge Care Home on the Kingsgrove estate. It is good to know that she feels happily settled into her new surroundings, and we assure Hilary of our continuing love and prayers for her.

After quite a long period in the JR, Jane Soffe has been able to return home. She is being supported by her daughter Emma and daily carers. We pray for Jane's improved health and for Emma's continuing care of her.

With sadness we have learned that Jane Robinson's youngest and sole surviving sister, Enid, has died. We offer Jane our condolences in faith that God's sustaining love will comfort and strengthen her in this bereavement.

As Gill Skidmore's treatment continues, we assure her that our prayers for her and for Gordon continue also. It's wonderful that they have some exciting family news to celebrate this month. It's an amazing achievement by their grandson Austin. At age 8 he has just become the Minimoto British Champion in his class for youngsters aged 7 to 13. Gordon's approaching birthday will mark his inclusion to the ever increasing number of over-eighties within our church family. In acknowledging this milestone, we also assure both Gordon and Gill of our love and our gratitude for everything they do within the life of our church.

For Margaret and Francis McAlpin, 29th October this year marks a special milestone. On that day 60 years ago, their marriage service took place in our Church, led by Rev. Noel Richards. Margaret and Francis had met in May, got engaged in July and were married in October! We offer our warmest congratulations to them both on their Diamond Anniversary.

Our friends, Noreen and Peter Hemmings from Grove have been in our prayers this year following their granddaughter Rachel's cancer diagnosis. Sadly, Rachel died a few weeks ago, and we offer our love and prayers for all of her family in their time of deep sadness. Noreen and Peter have said that the love and kindness they have received, and the knowledge of being prayed for by so many people, has given them much strength and comfort. We pray that God will continue to sustain and reassure them with His comfort, care and love.

For very many years it has been our tradition for the service of re-dedication and re-commissioning of our Pastoral Links to take place during the annual Covenant Service in January. Consequently, our Membership Tickets haven't been distributed until almost halfway through the Methodist Year which begins in September. This anomaly has been avoided this year as the recognition of our Pastoral Team has recently taken place, and we have fallen in line again with Methodist convention.

Our **Annual Memorial Service** will occur **at 4:00 pm** on the same day as the national Service of Remembrance. We are grateful to Bruce for returning to Wantage to take this service for us, having already led our service of Holy Communion in the morning.

Please pray for:

Adrian, Alison C & family, Alyson, Caroline, Carol M, Dave, Doug & Anne Hatto, Edwina, Emma Wright & family, Findley, Mark, Angela & family, Geoff, Gillian B, Gill & Gordon S, Gloria S, Greta Thornbury, Jane Robinson, Jo, June G, Jane & Emma S & family, Jo A, Jordan, June H, Ken & Grace W, Mary S, Meriel, Peter, Phillip Jones, the family of Rachel, Sharon, Tony G, Trudy, Val & John B

Our Ministers, Local Preachers & Worship Leaders,
kids@church, Street Pastors, Cornerstone
and those members of our church family
who, through frailty or ill health, can no longer worship with us.

If you have any queries or prayer requests you can contact me (Carolyn Roche) by telephone on 01235 764310 or email: ciroche48@hotmail.com

WMC Prayer WhatsApp group

Please let Helen Carter know if you would like to be involved in responding to urgent prayer requests. Thank you.

Prayer tree

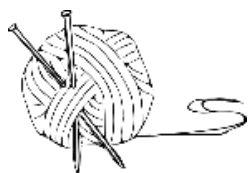
Anyone can leave a prayer request on the tree. It is appreciated if a date is written on the tag somewhere. Please take time to check the tree and choose someone or a situation to pray for or about. Also, if any of the prayer cards on the table feel relevant to you please do take one.

IBRA Daily Bible Study - Fresh from the Word.

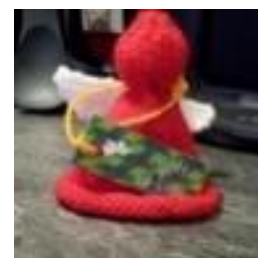
Helen Carter will now be ordering this one week into November. Please let her know if you would like a copy ordered for you. The cost will be about £20 - depending on how many people order a copy.

Knit & Chat

Carolyn Roche



Knit & Chat will meet on **Monday 2nd** and **Monday 16th November** at 2 pm in the Hall. The labels have arrived from the printers and will soon be ready to attach to the angels. This year the angels will be blessed on **Sunday 6th December** which will also be the weekend of the Christmas Tree Festival. This means that we will begin tying on labels on 16th November. We may need to meet on **30th November** so that the labelling can be completed in time. This would also be the opportunity to decorate our tree for the Christmas Tree Festival.



If you need wool, have any other queries or just fancy a chat do please call me.



Christmas Tree Festival Wantage Methodist Church 4th – 6th December



This year our Christmas Tree Festival will be supporting the **Cancer Research UK**. We shall be open from **6 pm – 9 pm on Dickensian Evening, Friday 4th December**, for people to look at the trees and to enjoy refreshments and stalls in the hall. Greengage, a local folk band, will be performing Christmas carols and festive tunes in the chapel from 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm.

The festivities will continue with a **Coffee Morning on Saturday 5th December**, 10 am - 12 noon, and the trees will remain in place for the Sunday service when the angels will also be blessed.

We will be having a stall in the hall selling cakes, biscuits and handmade Christmas gifts/goodies (no bric-a-brac please). Please let Ann Barber know if you would be able to contribute something for this. There are other jobs to be done in order for the festival to take place so please let me know if you can help – this ranges from setting out bases for the trees to taking a turn sitting in church when people are looking round. Many thanks in advance for your support. Looking forward to seeing you all that weekend.

Carolyn Roche 07906 518323 ciroche48@hotmail.com

Food Bank

Helen Carter

As ever, a huge thank you to everyone who has donated to this vital community initiative. The need is as great as ever. Please ensure there is a good number months left until the 'Best Before' date. Thank you.

Sustainable Wantage Library of Things: Before buying an expensive item that you will only use very occasionally, why not consider checking out the Library of Things at the Mix in Mill Street (open on Mondays from 2 - 6, Wednesdays 10 - 4 and Saturdays 10 - 4) Currently there are 110 items in their catalogue - which can be found at <https://sustainablewantage.lend-engine.com/>. Maybe you have something that you don't use very often and would be willing to offer it to Sustainable Wantage to add to the Library of Things. It does make sense for tools, and special cooking utensils and crockery to be available for others to use instead of gathering dust and taking up space in our cupboards and sheds.

First Aid – Defibrillator

Heather Wells

We have recently been doing some work on where to find the nearest Defibrillator (the closest one to the church is outside the Nationwide, in the Market Square). While putting the required information on a poster for the hall vestibule, I wondered whether people would be interested in learning how to perform CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation or Chest Compressions) to be used in the scenario where someone's heart stops.

I attended a really good two-hour session led by Wantage Lifesavers earlier in the year and would be happy to arrange a session for Wantage and / or Grove Methodist Churches. The session is for a maximum of 12 people and although it is free they asked for a donation.

If you are interested, please do let me know, I can be emailed on heatherwells@quavas.com or please feel free to speak to me at church. If there is enough interest, I will organise a session.

What is happening on the Wantage premises at present?

Monday	Morning	Community Café	Hall	1 st /3 rd Weeks
	Afternoon	Knit & Chat	Hall	
	Evening	CA	Hall	
Tuesday	Morning	MIND	Hall	
	Afternoon	Tuesday Prayer & Bible Study	Parlour	
	Evening	Wantage Camera Club	Hall	
Wednesday				
	Evening	Wantage Sings	Hall	
Thursday	Midday	KAWI	Hall	3 rd Week
	Evening	Slimming World	Hall	
Friday	Morning	WCC Mother & Toddlers	All	Term time
Saturday	Morning	WCC Dads Out	All	1 st Week
	Midday	NA	Parlour	

One off Bookings

November

Thursday 5 th	Day	SUDEP
Thursday 12 th	Morning	Huckleberry Therapeutic School
	Evening	Music Makers
Saturday 14 th	Morning	Private Party
Saturday 21 st	Morning	WCC Craft Matters
Friday 27 th	Evening	LibDem AGM
Saturday 28 th	Morning	Clothes Swap
	Aft/Eve	Private Party

December

Saturday 5 th	Morning	CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL
Saturday 12 th	Morning	Dads Out

SERVICES during NOVEMBER

Sunday 1st November

All Saints

Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10,22; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

10:30 am Wantage

Rev Georgina Bondzi-Simpson

10:30 am Grove

Rev Nigel Ogley

6:30 pm Prayer for Revival at Grove

Sunday 8th November

Remembrance Sunday

Ordinary 32

Amos 5:18-24; Psalm 70; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

9:30 am Wantage

Rev Bruce Thompson

This service will include the sacrament of Holy Communion

10:30 am Grove

Rev Georgina Bondzi-Simpson

This service will include the sacrament of Holy Communion

4:00 pm Wantage **Annual Memorial Service** Rev Bruce Thompson

Sunday 15th November

Interfaith Week

Ordinary 33

Zephaniah 1:7.12-18; Psalm 90:1-8,12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

9:30 am Wantage

Kids@Church

10:30 am Wantage

Local Arrangements

10:30 am Grove

Local Arrangements

Sunday 22nd November

Sunday before Advent

Women against Violence

Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24; Psalm 95:1-7a; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

10:30 am Wantage

Elizabeth Wood

10:30 am Grove

Rev Nigel Ogley

Sunday 29th November

Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7,17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

10:30 am Wantage

Stephen Atkinson

10:30 am Grove

Carolyn Luscombe

DIARY FOR NOVEMBER

November

Sunday, 1st	9:30 am	A Time for Reflection	p12
	6:30 pm	Prayer for Revival at Grove	p10
Saturday 7 th	10:00 am	Coffee Morning at Grove	p10
Sunday, 8th	Remembrance Sunday		
	9:30 am	Morning Worship (inc Holy Communion) at Wantage	p12
	4:00 pm	Annual Memorial Service at Wantage	p14
Monday 9 th	2:30 pm	Bible Study at Elmbrook Care Home	p13
Sunday 15th	9:30 am	Kids@Church	p12
Friday 20 th	7:30 pm	Film Club at Grove	p10
Sunday 22nd	Deadline for November Newsletter		
Thursday 26 th	10:00 am	Advent Study Group at Mill Paddock, Letcombe Regis	

December

Thursday 3 rd	10 am	Advent Study Group at Mill Paddock, Letcombe Regis	p13
,Friday 4th – Sunday 6th Wantage CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL			
Thursday 10 th	10 am	Advent Study Group at Mill Paddock, Letcombe Regis	p13
Thursday 17 th	10 am	Advent Study Group at Mill Paddock, Letcombe Regis	p13