



# CHURCHILL & LANGFORD

## LOCAL NEWS

Churchill Parish Council serving the community  
of Churchill and Langford villages

[www.churchillpc.org.uk](http://www.churchillpc.org.uk)

NOVEMBER 2025





Welcome to our newsletter for the community of Churchill and Langford villages. Full Council meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at the Community Hall, Ladymead Lane, Churchill and you are welcome to attend these meetings.

Parish Clerk Sally Diaz

**Report from Councillor Keating on North Somerset matters:**

Councillor Keating was unable to attend but sent the following report:

West of England Combined Authority (WECA): It has been decided by Government that North Somerset Council (NSC) will join WECA. Decision at last Council was to start this process to retain some control.

**Local Plan:** The Local Plan will be approved at this week's cabinet meeting. This will mark the end of NSC involvement. There will be a further consultation, but input will go to the Government Inspector for their consideration. This must be urgently moved forward to avoid WECA using NSC for their own region wide spatial plan.

Finances: NSC financial situation will be discussed at the Cabinet meeting. There is significant pressure of care cost increases vs reduced Government funding creates risk.

**Churchill PC's response to the Library Consultation:**

Churchill Parish Council fully support the need to keep Winscombe Library open and understand the importance of the library to our residents. It provides a sense of community. It is a warm space, helps prevent loneliness, provides connection with others. New residents can integrate. Children can access books, and it provides computer availability for those struggling with the cost of living.

**To consider the Community Governance Review.**

The Parish Council response to the Community Governance Review and object to the number of Councillors being reduced to 10 instead of 13. The villages of Churchill and Langford are increasing in size and residents. A full cohort of Councillors is required to support the community.

**Councillor reports**

Councillor Alleyne advised that the Parish Council is ineligible for trees from the Forest of Dean.

Councillor Murray advised that there is water running on Front St, The clerk will report this. The signage for the village store and post office need to be removed. The clerk will action this.

**Councillor Johnson reported on the Banwell Bypass mitigation:**

The BB team are trying to manage the sharp increase in traffic. Plans have not moved on since discussions last year. There will be 20mph in the centre of the villages. Areas of concern have been the junction of Hilliers Lane, chicanes on Church Lane and the impact this will have during School drop off and pick ups and slowing traffic at the Nelson Inn and the puffin crossing.

## **Well done to Churchill Cricket Club, who have been awarded the Somerset Cricket League's Fair Play Award for 2025.**

Out of all the clubs in Somerset, our First and Second XI teams were voted by their opponents as the fairest and most sporting sides across 36 matches this season. It's the first time in our history we've received this award, and we couldn't be prouder. It reflects the hard work, respect, and team spirit shown by every member on and off the field.

Playing the game the right way really does pay off. Well done, team Churchill.

There was a recent incident in Churchill, and after contacting the Police, they responded swiftly.

A big thank you to our local policing team for their prompt action and continued support in keeping our community safe.



## **Wrington Vale Rotary Club**

Classic Car and Bike Festival at Brean Down. The day combined a striking display of chrome and craftsmanship with friendly conversation and a lively atmosphere. Susie Downs ran a raffle of very attractive prizes that drew strong support, while Angus Murray kept everyone fuelled with tasty baps all morning. All profits will be donated to local causes, including "Somewhere to Go" - the centre providing food and support in Weston-super-Mare, and local schools. Altogether, it was a most enjoyable occasion that celebrated our heritage and helped people less fortunate than ourselves.



An orienteering event is taking place on Saturday 6th December at Langford Vet School for adults and children. The event is organised by Bristol Orienteering Klub (BOK) and University of Bristol Orienteering Club (UBOC) and we expect between 100 and 150 orienteers to attend the event with parking taking place at the vet school.

The children's orienteering course will remain within the Vet School Campus while the adult course, in addition to taking place within the Vet School Campus, will also take place on public roads to the west and southwest of the campus. The event has permission from North Somerset Council and the University of Bristol.

The event will take place between 10:30 and 12:45am on the Saturday. The orienteers will set off at approximately one-minute intervals (there is no mass start) and will be moving around the course as individuals. Controls are identified by a small white and orange 'kite' with a battery-operated box about 10x8x4cm, temporarily attached to fixed items, e.g., a lamppost or tree. All controls are non-invasive, they will be put out just before the event and be removed immediately after the event and leave no trace of them ever having been there. An example of what our controls look like is included below.

Details of the event are available through the BOK web site <https://www.bristolorienteering.org.uk/>. The event is open to all and if any locals want to take part, information on how to enter are on the web site or people can contact me as the organiser if they want to know more, but please note entries close one week before the event.

# CLAGS

planting BulbS on broadoak  
green



At the request of a local resident, volunteers with CLAGS (Churchill and Langford Action for Green Spaces) have been planting daffodils, crocuses and snowdrops on Broadoak Green. This will add welcome colour in the early months of the year and will provide extra pollen for busy insects when little other food is available.

If you have an idea for improving a local green space for the community and the wildlife or if you would like to be involved in future projects with CLAGS please contact us at:

[jubilangwood@gmail.com](mailto:jubilangwood@gmail.com)



# CHURCHILL AND LANGFORD VILLAGE DIARY!



Planning an event in Churchill or Langford? Make sure your event doesn't clash. Whether it's a music event, flower show, village get-together or a local club meeting, make sure your date doesn't clash with other key activities by checking the Village Diary and adding your event to it!



The Village Diary, maintained by the Communications Officer of Churchill Parish Council, is a central calendar designed to help local groups and residents coordinate activities throughout the year. It's a simple but powerful way to avoid overlapping events, maximise attendance, and support each other's efforts in building a vibrant, well-connected community.

To ensure your event gets the attention it deserves, and to help others do the same, the form with the details of your event as early as possible. The more we all use the Village Diary, the more effective it becomes.

Let's work together to keep Churchill's community life thriving, one well-planned event at a time!

<https://churchillpc.org.uk/whats-on/>

## Update from Tessa Munt, MP for Churchill and Langford

I hope you've had a wonderful summer. I've enjoyed meeting many of you at local events and my 'surgeries' in the area. Thank you if you came to say hello, share your views and ask questions.

My summer diary included visits to several excellent local charities and organisations, including the Armed Forces Cadets whilst they were away on camp in Hampshire, Prickles Hedgehog Rescue and the Wildlife Trust, learning about their restoration projects. There is so much going on and it's a real privilege to recognise publicly the efforts of those who volunteer, support and take responsibility for so much activity locally.

I hosted my first 'youth' surgeries this summer and it was good to hear from young people about their hopes and concerns. It is likely that today's 12 year olds and upwards will be able to vote at the next General Election and it's interesting to know what the next generation really cares about.

Last month, I wrote about the Environment Agency's planned withdrawal of main river maintenance, and I've made my concerns about this and the potential for flooding in this part of Somerset very clear. I attended the South West Association of Drainage Authorities (SWADA) emergency meeting about the situation and when Parliament returned in the first week of September, I requested Ministerial intervention.

Locally, I enjoyed a visit to Mendip Vale Medical Group, visiting both their Langford Surgery and the building in Congresbury, and heard about their plans. Further afield, I met specialists at the Royal Marsden Hospital working with the latest Radiotherapy machines – amazing! I've pressed the Government for years on updating NHS machines. I was also interviewed by Channel 4 News on research into the condition ME, on which I continue to campaign.

Thank you if you've contacted me – I am here to represent you. I'm running 'surgeries' across the area, so please come along. A full list of dates, times and venues is available if you call or email me, but the most local are listed below:

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October from 10:00 to 11:00 at The Market Kitchen Café, Churchill

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October from 12:00 to 13:00 at The Lamb Inn, Axbridge

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October from 10:00 to 11:00 at Congresbury Community Café

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October from 15:00 to 16:00 at The Coffee Bank, Winscombe

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October from 16:00 to 17:00 at The Shipham Inn

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October from 18:00 to 19:00 at The Bell Inn, Banwell

No appointment is necessary - it's first come, first served. If you can't come to meet me, I'll come to see you.

Thank you.

Tessa

You can contact me:

Call: 01934 440639 (answerphone outside office hours)

Email: [tessa.munt.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:tessa.munt.mp@parliament.uk)

Post: Tessa Munt Freepost (you won't need a stamp!)

You can also contact your North Somerset Councillor, Patrick Keating:

Call: 07584 674740

Email: [patrick.keating@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:patrick.keating@n-somerset.gov.uk)



## **CHURCHILL WAR MEMORIAL HALL**

**Ladymead Lane, Churchill**

Churchill War Memorial Hall is looking for two volunteers to fill these opportunities on the committee

1. Committee Secretary - basic admin, correspondence, meetings
2. Treasurer - Invoicing hirers, bill payments etc

The Committee meets four times a year - January, April, July, October.

If you could spare a couple of hours per month to volunteer to help run and keep this thriving village hall amenity as a vital part of village, we would love to hear from you.

For further information or more details please contact:

Martin Fletcher Tel: 01934 853253

or

Mimi Simpson 01934853282 / 07814490370

### ***Churchill and Langford Ladies Lunch Club***

*We meet on the first Tuesday of each month  
at The Churchill Inn, Churchill at 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm*

*£17 per head for a 2-course lunch with coffee*

***Pre-booking is essential***

*Contact Margaret Avery on 07725 056051 for further details*

***Please note that the lunch is limited to residents of the two villages or those that have moved away but wish to stay in contact with friends***



Explore gardening topics with John Simmons

I've been telling you to plant your spring bulbs for several months, so you've hopefully done that by now. However, I've also been telling you to delay planting tulip bulbs. You can do it now! The reason you delay planting tulips is first, because it (may!) avoid the worst of autumn's rain, so reducing the general risk of fungal diseases caused by damp soil. More specifically though it reduces the risk of tulip fire, a particularly nasty fungal disease that spreads rapidly from plant to plant. I always plant tulip bulbs on a small bed of sand, as this helps prevent rot.

Lily bulbs can also be planted in pots, using a gritty (well drained) soil mix. Again, I typically bed the bulbs on a couple of centimetres of sand.

Autumn bedding plants such as pansies, violas and wallflowers can still be planted if the weather is mild. They are best planted on a sunny day, in rich, moist soil. Again, add grit for good drainage – there's a recurring theme here!

In the veg garden there won't be much you can plant, but broad beans, onion sets and garlic are an exception:

- Garlic does best if it's in the ground through a prolonged period of cold, so get it in now. You're best to use garlic bred for garden sowing rather than supermarket garlic as the latter may not be suitable for our climate. However, if supermarket garlic is all you can get then give it a try! Split the bulbs into individual cloves and plant 5cm deep in light soil, or 3cm deep in heavy soil, with the cloves 15cm apart.
- Winter onion sets (sets are mini onions) can also be planted now if your soil is not too heavy. All you have to do is push the set about 2cm into loose soil. You may need to cover them to prevent birds pulling them out.
- Early broad bean varieties (Aquadulce is the best known) can also be sown now. Sow them on their sides, about 5cm deep, 20cm apart, with rows about 45cm apart.

Don't be a tidy-freak. Leave tall perennials like asters, rudbeckias and teasels to die back - they provide seeds for hungry birds, shelter for insects, and look beautiful on frosty winter mornings. Some perennials don't like being cut back, as their dead top growth provides protection from frost; fuschias and penstemons for example. Plants with hollow stems, such as verbena, shouldn't be cut back as the cut stem will collect water and the plant may rot and die.

If you have a compost heap then use it; get rotted organic matter out onto beds as a winter mulch. If you don't have much to play with then concentrate on protecting the likes of dahlias and cannas from the wet and cold by piling a few inches of compost on them once the first frosts have killed off the top growth.

Perhaps most important of all collect Gardeners Gold! Fallen leaves are the most precious resource I have in my garden. If you put them in your green bin then you should hang your head in shame. If I'm feeling energetic and cold I rake them up. More commonly though I collect them using the lawnmower. I pile them up in a mesh enclosure and leave them for 10 months. I then empty this out, shovelling the well-rotted, but still not quite ready, leaf mould into old compost bags or our old green waste bin bags. I then leave them for the winter. By spring this stuff will be wonderful. It has a multitude of uses as a soil improver, mulch or component of a potting soil mix.

Last but not least, get out and about. The rather lovely weather that we've had for so much of this year is producing a spectacular display of autumn colour. You'll probably already have noticed this by the time you read this column. This will still be in full swing through the first half of November. If you want to see some spectacular displays that are reasonably local then I can wholeheartedly recommend Westonbirt Arboretum and Stourhead. Over the water the Wye Valley at Tintern, and the Forest of Dean will also be worth a trip.

# We have allotments available NOW!

Allotments plots available at Churchill

We have several plots available at our Allotment fields on Pudding Pie Lane. The plots are available for Churchill/Langford residents and those from our surrounding villages. If you are interested in taking over a plot, contact me on 07399 523961 or on [clerk@churchillpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@churchillpc.org.uk)



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[www.langfordvets.co.uk](http://www.langfordvets.co.uk)  
Langford Vets,  
Langford, BS40 5DU



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[rigid.joints.enroach](https://www.what3words.com/rigid.joints.enroach)

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Churchill, Langford and surrounding area

# UP COMING EVENTS

## COUNCIL MEETING

Full Council meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at the Community Hall, Ladymead Lane, Churchill.

## SING FOR FUN

Every Friday 1.30 to 2.30  
St Marys Church Langford  
For everyone who simply wants to feel better through singing.  
More info Jan Murry  
info@churchillmusic.org.uk

## EXPLORE TRINITY SINGERS

Unlock the benefits of singing for your health and well-being!  
Trinity Singers, based in Churchill, North Somerset, welcomes you to: Elevate musical standards with a diverse repertoire, Perform concerts blending Sacred and Secular music, and connect with church music at services and events.  
Discover the joy of singing at  
<https://www.trinitysingers.co.uk/>

## CHURCHILL 2000 LADIES GROUP

Join a small group of about 14 members called the Churchill 2000 formed after the closure of the Churchill W.I. in 2000  
Meeting 11 times a year at 7.30pm in the Reading Room opposite the Methodist church on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Enjoy a speaker, a meal out, visit a garden or have in house entertainment.  
Open to new members to join a very relaxed group who enjoy an evening together along with a cup of tea and biscuits.  
Email [katieandshelagh@btinternet.com](mailto:katieandshelagh@btinternet.com)

## WOMEN'S BOOTCAMP - CHURCHILL

### ALL FITNESS LEVELS WELCOME!

From complete beginners to advanced athletes. Workouts scientifically proven to make a difference.

### MEET LOCAL WOMEN IN YOUR AREA

Make friends and build confidence. This is more than a bootcamp - it's a community.

### LOCATION:

Churchill recreation ground

### PRICE:

Just £5 per session!

### WHEN:

Drop me a message of 'BOOTCAMP' and I will let you know times and days available!

 **07944600211**

 **aimeeparker04**

**AIMEE ACTIVE**  
*Train Smart, Live Strong*





Churchill and Langford Village Fund

# Community Fireworks Extravaganza



08 . 11 . 25

Churchill Recreation Ground  
Gates open 17:15

Tickets: [www.thevillagefund.org.uk](http://www.thevillagefund.org.uk), or



# Becky Harrison Interior Designer



As the seasons begin to shift, the nights draw in and we say goodbye to the warmth of summer, the amount of time we spend indoors tends to substantially increase. This transition to the cooler months is the perfect opportunity to pause and consider how our homes can actively support our wellbeing in the months ahead.

For me, wellbeing at home isn't about expensive makeovers or chasing trends. It's about creating a space that feels warm, inviting, and helps us feel our best, no matter what the weather is doing outside. The change of season is a natural prompt to refresh not just our surroundings, but also our daily routines and how we use our spaces.

- **Windows:** You may have noticed as the light levels change, attention being drawn to mucky windows, give them a clean to allow as much natural light into your home as possible

While you are at it, get out the duster and remove the cobwebs, energy gets stuck in webs and we want to keep it moving!

- **Pack away your summer items:** It'll be a while before we need bikinis & picnic blankets again so put aside some time to tidy away your summer items before digging out the things you need for Autumn
- **Declutter for Peace of Mind:** Autumn is a great time to clear out what you no longer need. Letting go of clutter can do wonders for your mental clarity and emotional balance, making your home feel more spacious and restful. Don't forget to schedule in time to actually remove the items you declutter too!
- **Create Little Moments of Joy:** Whether it's a favourite mug for your morning tea, a cosy reading nook, or simply lighting a candle in the evening, small rituals can have a big impact on your mood and sense of wellbeing.
- **Set Up Spaces That Support You:** Think about how you want to feel in each room as the season changes. Do you crave a calm spot to unwind, or a lively space for family gatherings? Use colour, scent, and lighting to guide the atmosphere and make each room work for you.
- **Ditch the seasonal decorating :** Personally I am really not a fan of seasonal decorating, by all means bring out the blankets and thicker duvets but I'm here to tell you, no one needs a different set of cushions or a new welcome mat for each season.

Ultimately, our homes should be places that help us recharge and feel at ease. This autumn, I encourage you to take a few simple steps to nurture your wellbeing at home; your sanctuary for the season ahead.

Until next time,  
Becky x



# The Minibus Society

The Churchill and Langford Minibus Society is now running a scheme to assist people in getting to their hospital appointments.

This scheme aims to connect volunteer drivers from the Churchill and Langford community with patients to provide convenient transport to the region's medical centres.

The service will be provided using local drivers' personal vehicles, or, alternatively, a community minibus.

All drivers will be DBS cleared, and, as part of the process, all drivers will be enrolled as a member of the minibus society.

The costs for hospital transport:

BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY £20

SOUTHMEAD HOSPITAL £20

BATH Royal United Hospital £25

CONGRESBURY £10

YATTON £10

WESTON HOSPITAL £10

WINSCOMBE £10

WRINGTON £10

CHURCHILL SURGERY £10

For other journeys, not specified, the donation will be agreed before the trip by the organiser.

If you need help ring Trevor on 01934 852589 or 07836600019

The Churchill and Langford Minibus Society also runs two minibuses and operates a schedule of trips every month to shops in Wells, Nailsea, Clevedon, Worle and Weston. In addition, it also provides transport for members to their healthcare appointments and subject to availability runs non scheduled trips for its members. In the past, these have included Churchill Music, Theatres, Cinema, pub lunches, trips to the coast and social events etc. To see the current schedule of trips please visit [www.churchillpc.org.uk/local-services/mutual-aid-minibus-society](http://www.churchillpc.org.uk/local-services/mutual-aid-minibus-society).

To become a Society member of the Community transport scheme please contact one of the organisers listed on the schedule of trips who will explain about the trips and how to enroll as a member. The Society is always looking to recruit new organisers and drivers so if you have some spare time then we would love to hear from you. The Chairman's details are on the journey schedule. The Society also provides the opportunity to make new friends and help you reduce your carbon footprint.

# CHURCHILL & LANGFORD MINIBUS

## November



Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	<p><b>Our area covers Churchill, Langford, Burrington, Shipham, Winscombe, Sandford and Banwell.</b></p> <p>Membership is free and we ask for a small donation for each journey. If you are interested in any of these trips <b>please phone the organiser</b>, whose names &amp; numbers are shown below.</p> <p>They will let you know if seats are available. We will pick you up close to where you live.</p> <p>The Society is grateful for the support of Churchill, Shipham, Winscombe, Sandford, Burrington and Banwell Parish Councils.</p> <p><b>For any queries please ring Trevor on 01934 852589</b></p>
<b>AM</b> Flowerdown* Maggie	<b>AM</b> Weston* Mavis	<b>PM</b> Worle* Jennie	<b>AM</b> Yatton <b>PM</b> Community Lunches Angela	<b>AM</b> Wells Angela	
<b>AM</b> Cribbs Causeway* Ann	<b>PM</b> Weston* Linda	<b>AM</b> Nailsea Jennie	<b>AM</b> Worle <b>PM</b> Community Lunches Angela		
<b>AM</b> Bath Sharon	<b>AM</b> Worle* Kim	<b>AM</b> Wells Linda	<b>AM</b> Yatton <b>PM</b> Community Lunches Angela		
<b>PM</b> Flowerdown* Ann	<b>AM</b> Nailsea* Kim <b>PM</b> Weston* Linda	<b>AM</b> Wells* Ann	<b>AM</b> Winscombe <b>PM</b> Community Lunches Angela		

**Maggie 07516 172683, Angela 01934 707115, Mavis 07739 608691**

**Kim 07880 254722, Jennie 01934 843758, Ann 01934 822441,**

**John 07855 944049, Sharon 07981 064586,**

**Linda 01934 853755 07871 478229,**



**Can also pick up in the Banwell Area**

# Noticeboards



Churchill Parish Council updates six noticeboards for the community of Churchill and Langford. Residents can advertise an event on the notice board but not regular group or a business.

If you would like your posters displayed in the noticeboards, please send physical copies to:

The Parish Clerk 17 Sealey Close, Draycott, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3UA

Please note, that we cannot print posters for the noticeboards on your behalf.

## Do you own a local business?

Churchill & Langford Parish Council Newsletter is making advertising space available for local businesses to promote their wares and services.

Businesses can buy a spot in this newsletter to advertise. Prices will be £60 for 12 months, and £35 for six months. The advertisement can consist of one line, the name of the business, the type of business, and contact details.

These advertising spaces will be aimed at businesses in and around the local area of Churchill & Langford.

If you are interested in advertising with us, or if you would simply like more information, please contact our Clerk, Sally Diaz, on [clerk@churchillpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@churchillpc.org.uk) or on 07399 523 961

Got a local event to share?

We love to know what's on and spread the word. Please send information about your event to Becky - [comms@churchillpc.org.uk](mailto:comms@churchillpc.org.uk)



## Contact us

If you have any questions or comments, you can get in touch with us by emailing [clerk@churchillpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@churchillpc.org.uk)

You can find us on Facebook

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

Visit [www.churchillpc.org.uk](http://www.churchillpc.org.uk) to find out about Churchill and Langford villages, access help, community transport + details of activities and events.

