

# NewsLink

17th – 30th May 2026



CHURCHES OF  
**NORTH  
BRADFORD  
ON AVON  
& VILLAGES**

Dear Friends,

For those of you who don't know me, I am Becky Strike, the Children and Families Worker for the benefice. I am married to John, with two young children, William (8) and Emily (5), and have lived in the wonderful village of Winsley for the past 10 years.

It has been my privilege to work with the community of Bradford on Avon and beyond as the Community Outreach Officer for the Discover Christ Church! Project for the past almost 3 years. However, if you had said to me this time last year that I would be moving onto a ministerial role, I would never have believed it. I feel so ill-equipped, I can't possibly do that, it's just not me, what if I mess up...the list of doubts goes on.



Often in life we can feel like this. Simply just not good enough, worried about making mistakes or missing opportunities because we don't feel brave enough to take that step. But when the chance to apply for the position came up, I pushed all those doubts aside as I knew God was wanting me to do this work. I felt this overwhelming sense of calling and a sense that everything would work out, I just needed to take that step and trust him:

***“Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.”***  
***Proverbs 3:5-6***

So, dear friends, be encouraged. We are called to step out in faith, not through our own strength, but through strength in Christ. It may not feel easy, it may be uncomfortable, but trust in the Lord, and he will show you which path to take. Sometimes those paths may lead you in unexpected ways, as has been the case for me, but the Lord will give you all you need to succeed.

We have a new dedicated children and families prayer group, that meets online once a month, every third Wednesday at 6pm. It is an informal group that has focused areas for prayer as well as the chance to share updates on this work. If you would like to join us, please let me know. You can email me: [childrenandfamiliesnboa@gmail.com](mailto:childrenandfamiliesnboa@gmail.com) – you would be most welcome.

I am excited to see all the amazing things that God will do in our benefice, especially in the lives of our children and families; it feels like exciting times ahead! I look forward to seeing you very soon.

Yours In Christ,  
Becky Strike, Children & Families Worker

***Rev Katie will be on holiday from 25th - 31st May. For anything urgent, please contact Rev Tim Hawkings 25th – 26th May, and then Rev Tessa Mann 27th – 31st May.***

## Upcoming Services

### Sunday 17th May

10am - **Holy Communion** - St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh led by Rev Tim Hawkings  
10am - **Holy Communion, with talk on Sudan by John Joy** - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley led by Rev Paul Batson  
10:30am - **Refresh with Breakfast (café-style worship)** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon led Rev Katie Jackson

### Monday 18th May

4:30pm - **Christian Meditation** - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley led by Rev Paul Batson

### Sunday 24th May - Pentecost Sunday

10am - **Morning Prayer** - St James' Church, South Wraxall led by Linds Batson  
10am - **Together in Worship & Baptism** - St Nicholas' Church, led by Rev Katie Jackson  
10:30am - **Holy Communion** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon, led by Rev Keith Charnley

### Wednesday 27th May

10:30am - **Holy Communion** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon led by Rev Paul Batson

### Sunday 31st May

10am - **Benefice Service** - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley led by Rev Tim Hawkings

## **REFRESH WITH BREAKFAST**

Family friendly café-style worship



Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026 - 10:30am  
Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

**ALL VERY WELCOME**

## **Gentle Worship**

followed by tea

Date: Wednesday 10th June 2026  
Venue: St Nicholas' Church & Church Hall, Winsley  
Time: Service in church 2.30pm - Tea in hall 3-4pm

A gentle afternoon service of worship suitable for those experiencing dementia and their carers or anyone who might find larger morning worship challenging.



For more details, contact  
Rev Tessa at [revtgm86@gmail.com](mailto:revtgm86@gmail.com)  
or Rev Paul at [paulbatson78@gmail.com](mailto:paulbatson78@gmail.com)



## **Christ Church Café**

**SATURDAY 6TH JUNE**  
10AM - 12PM

MEET AND CHAT

COFFEE & CAKE



**CHILDREN'S  
ACTIVITIES**

**ALL WELCOME**



bluebird  
care

In Partnership with



## **Conversation and Craft**

Join us for fun crafts, cakes, and chat for people of all ages  
Christ Church, Bradford on Avon, BA15 1SJ



Upcoming Dates  
April 22, May 13,  
June 3, June 24

1:30pm - 3pm

All are welcome

## **Coming Soon!**

During our Sunday services in June, we will be exploring the theme of the welcome of God. Each week will have a different focus but here's an overview to whet the appetite.

Sunday 7th June  
**Introduction**

Sunday 14th June  
**Children**

Sunday 21st June  
**The Outsider**

Sunday 28th June  
**The Unseen**

## Social Events Across the Benefice

Friday 15th May - 6pm - **Canzona Concert 'Spring into Summer'** - St James' Church, South Wraxall

Wednesday 20th May - 10am-12pm - **Kettle's On** - Winsley Church Hall, Winsley

Wednesday 20th May - 10:30am - **Coffee & Company** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Thursday 21st May - 10am - **The Ark** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Thursday 21st May - 3pm - **BOA Youth Drop In** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Wednesday 27th May - 10:30am - **Sunbeams** - Winsley Church Hall, Winsley

Wednesday 3rd June - 1:30-3pm - **Conversation & Craft** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Saturday 6th June - 10am-12pm - **Christ Church Café** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon



### Dementia Awareness Training & Thank You Tea

Date: Tuesday 23rd June 2026

Time: 1.30pm - 3.30pm

Venue: Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

**Who for:** anyone in our parishes involved in welcome, hospitality or pastoral care eg: church welcomers, refreshments/cafe helpers, LPA's, LWL's etc

**Purpose:** Growing our understanding and awareness of dementia - session led by Bluebird Care, followed by tea and cake

The tea will be served by our Clergy Team as a thank you for all the hospitality and welcome that goes on in our churches.

RSVP: [nboabenefice@gmail.com](mailto:nboabenefice@gmail.com)

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### Monkton Farleigh Scarecrow Trail

St Peter's and Churchfields, the Village School hosted another successful scarecrow trail in Monkton Farleigh over the May Bank Holiday weekend which attracted a large number of visitors who enjoyed 28 imaginative and amusing scarecrows all based on nursery rhymes.

On the first day of the trail teas, cakes, BBQ, freshly made pizza and other treats were available from the village hall. The photo shows "Mary, Mary" created by the team at St Peter's and displayed in the churchyard.

Thanks to everyone who came to see the trail and to all those whose hard work made this such a popular and enjoyable family event.

Rachel & Colin Exley



### South Wraxall Village Breakfast

Our final breakfast of the season saw our cooks very busy in the kitchen with an early morning rush. We welcomed 57 customers altogether who enjoyed their full English breakfast with fellow villagers, regular visitors from further afield and our (now regular) group of cyclists.

We could not do this without the help of our team of cooks, servers, and washer-uppers and we are very grateful to them all. We also want to thank the Walker family for supplying the eggs and Rob and Liz at the Longs Arms who generously donated our top quality sausages, bacon and haggis. Thank you to everyone. The proceeds of £635 go towards the upkeep of St James's church.

The next breakfast won't be until the Autumn but we will be setting some dates soon for serving afternoon tea in St James's church over the summer. South Wraxall Village Breakfast Team

## KETTLE'S ON

Community Café



1<sup>ST</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup>  
WEDNESDAY  
OF EACH  
MONTH

ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH HALL

10AM-12PM

COFFEE, TEA, CAKE AND CONVERSATION.  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME.  
BRING YOUR FRIENDS, NEIGHBOURS AND  
THOSE NEW TO VILLAGE.

At St Nicholas' Holy Communion service on Sunday 17th May, John Joy will be will joining us to give an update on South Sudan. There will be an opportunity to make a donation after the service, but if you would like to support the Churches work in South Sudan you can also make a donation to Kadugli Diocese via BACS - Acc Name: Bradford Deanery Sort Code: 30-98-75 Acc No: 00710285

Bank: Lloyds Bank Trowbridge Ref: Kadugli (This is important)



**NORTH BRADFORD & VILLAGES  
MEN'S & LADIES' GROUPS**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
7pm in St Nicholas Church Hall, Winsley**

**HERE WE GO ROUND THE  
MULBERRY HARBOURS**

Historian David Verghese will describe the biggest civil engineering project of WW2, and its contribution to victory in Europe.

*Supper will be fish and chips. Bring your own drinks or buy from the Social Club.*

**All men and women in the four parishes, church members or not, are warmly invited.**

**Please book with Paul Billingham as soon as possible (pr24bill@aol.com or 01225 722229)**

**NewsLink**

The next NewsLink will be on **Sunday 31st May**. Please send any relevant contributions to **nboabenefice@gmail.com** by **25th May**.



Baby and Toddler Café

**Baby & Toddler Group  
Christ Church  
Thursdays in term time  
10am - 11:30am**

Come along with your little ones for fun, toys, stories, songs, craft & snacks.

For more details contact Hilary - 01225 782527



**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June - 6pm  
St Nicholas' Church,  
Winsley**



*Eco-poetry  
Evening  
with  
Dr Helen Moore*

An evening with internationally acclaimed eco-poet Dr Helen Moore who will be reading from her two latest books.

*The Last Lighthouse in Rising Seas, forthcoming from Palewell Press in May 2026, and river/run, an eco-poetic trilogy, (Cape Farewell Books, 2024).*

This should prove to be an inspiring and thought-provoking evening.

Tickets are free. To book tickets visit [www.wildwatersfestival.com](http://www.wildwatersfestival.com)

Donations will be invited to cover modest church expenses and the rest will be sent to the charity River Action.

**Parent & Toddler Group  
Winsley Church Hall**



**2nd & 4th Wednesday of month  
10:30-11:30am**

Toys & games, coffee & cake for adults, squash & healthy treats for children followed by a bible story.

**Next Sunbeams 27th May**

Contact Mary Hewetson  
01225 722210

**Forget-me-not Café**

Free refreshments, home-made cakes, Fun, good company



A friendly café for those living with dementia and their carers.



The first Thursday afternoon of the month 3 - 4:30pm  
Winsley Church Hall

**May 7<sup>th</sup> June 4<sup>th</sup> July 2<sup>nd</sup> August 6<sup>th</sup>**

*"looking forward to the next one" "delicious tea"  
"really enjoyed ourselves"*



Cafes are also held at Holy Trinity Bradford on Avon on the third Thursday morning of the month 11 - 12:30pm

**Ministry Team:**

Rector: Rev Katie Jackson (01225 722230)  
Rev Tessa Mann (309374)

**Lay Pastoral Assistants:**

Stephen Pike (782537), Denise Davies (863678)  
Gill Fairhurst (867560), Daphne Cox (868224)  
Elizabeth Bush (866624)

**Benefice Office:** Kate Davies (865046)  
[nboabenefice@gmail.com](mailto:nboabenefice@gmail.com)

**Church Wardens:**

**Winsley:** Richard Mann (309374) Penny Pierce (723284)  
**Christ Church:** Margaret Thompson (571305)

Deputy - Wendy Brown (862857)

**South Wraxall:** Dave Wyper (865384)

Valentine Thornhill (862552)

**Monkton Farleigh:** Rachel & Colin Exley (851485)

**Children & Families Worker:** Becky Strike  
[childrenandfamiliesnboa@gmail.com](mailto:childrenandfamiliesnboa@gmail.com)