

The Village Connection

Leigh on Mendip + Downhead + Stoke St Michael +

Issue 333

October 2026



October

- 2 Coffee & Chat Stoke Church 10 - Noon
- 3 Community Concert Stoke Church 7pm
- 4 Leigh on Mendip Harvest Supper – LoM Memorial Hall, 7pm
- 9 Coffee & Chat Stoke Church 10 - Noon
- 9 Leigh Lunch Memorial Hall LoM *See p 15*
- 10 FOLC Fun Bingo Memorial Hall LoM 7pm *See p 9*
- 10 FOLC Bingo Evening Memorial Hall LoM from 7pm *See p 5*

- 11 Stoke St Michael Harvest Supper - SsM Memorial Hall 5.30pm
- 12 Leigh WI Memorial Hall LoM 7.15
- 16 Coffee & Chat Stoke Church with PCSO Mortimer 10 - Noon

- 17 & 18 Leigh Arts & Crafts Exhibition 11am - 5pm *See p 13*
- 19 Downhead Harvest Auction – Green Farm, 6pm
- 22 FOLC Coffee Morning Church Cafe LoM 10.30 - Noon *See p9*
- 23 Coffee & Chat Stoke Church 10 - Noon
- 30 Coffee & Chat Stoke Church 10 - Noon

November

- 6 Leigh Rec AGM
 - 20 FOLC Christmas Fair Memorial Hall LoM 6 - 8 pm *See p9*
 - 26 FOLC Strawberry Cream Tea Church Cafe LoM 2.30 - 4pm *See p9*
 - 29 Stoke Church Christmas Fair Memorial Hall SsM 10am - Noon
- See p11*

December

- 7 - 13 FOLC Christmas Tree Festival

From the Reverend Keith Johnson

Nunney Rectory

Harvest is one of my favourite festivals. I love attending suppers and auctions, listening to school children singing *Cauliflowers Fluffy*, helping to gather gifts of non-perishable food, which are donated to the local Frome or Shepton Mallet Foodbanks, not forgetting well-known Harvest hymns like:

"We plough the fields, and scatter the good seed on the land, but it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand...."

The chorus sums up perfectly what should be foremost in our minds at harvest:

"All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above; then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love."

How often do we take God's abundant gifts for granted? I know that I do sometimes. Crops are being gathered in from our fields, maize, wheat and barley, a vital ingredient in our food chain. Farmers throughout the UK have struggled this year with such a dry summer, and are having to rethink what they plant, due to challenging conditions.

In Africa the absence of rain can mean disaster for a whole village. Whenever it rains, my inclination is to take cover. In Africa rain is seen as a blessing from God – when the rains arrive it is not uncommon for the whole village to run outside and dance!

Thank you dear Lord for the harvest. For all the good things which you provide in our lives. We thank you for our farmers, and all those involved in producing everything which ends up on our tables at mealtimes. Amen.

Stoke St Michael Harvest Supper

**Sunday 11th October 5.30pm
Stoke St Michael Memorial Hall**

**A three course supper
followed by auction of produce**



Bar

Adults £7.50 Children £4

To book a ticket contact

Janet Gilham 01749 840671

All welcome

Donations of produce for the auction very welcome – either to the church on Friday, Saturday or to the Harvest Service

Harvest Service

Sunday 11th October 4pm

St Michael's Church



— CHURCH —

Harvest Festival

*Come and join us for a
celebration of God's provision*

**Monday 19th October
at 6pm**

 **Green Farm Downhead**



All donations of produce
for the auction can be left
at Green Farm but please
contact Dan Britten (07834 318332)
first to arrange a suitable time.



From the Registers

Baptisms

Cameron Wills	Witham	13th September
Samara Norton & Benjamin Norton, Maurice & Sumner Down	Stoke St Michael	20th September

Weddings

Jack Flagg - Grace Rawlins	Leigh on Mendip	7th September
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Funerals

Janet Baker	Wanstrow	1st September,
Laurence Watts	Wanstrow	7th September
Pru Hartley	Marston	24th September
Kathleen Udell	Stoke St Michael	29th September

Letter from Fiona Gibson Bishop of Taunton

Every story honoured

In August I had the immense privilege of meeting Lynette Richards-Lorde who came to Flourish House with her daughter Chrissy Richards-Levi and Susann Savidge, Chair of Somerset African Caribbean Network. Hearing Lynette's story of faith, courage, and public service was a joyful and humbling experience. She came to Taunton, aged just 19, in 1959 in answer to an invitation from the British government to come to the UK to work in the NHS. Initially training as a nurse at Musgrove Park Hospital in Taunton, Lynette then became a midwife and, during a distinguished career in hospitals across the UK, became the UK's first Black divisional nursing officer for midwifery. And it all started right here in Somerset!

You can read more about Lynette's story on the diocesan website but, for me, the most moving part about meeting Lynette was seeing how extraordinarily humble she is, and what a great impact she has had on the lives not just of the mothers she helped during pregnancy and delivery, but on British society as a whole.

October is Black History Month. It's easy to think it's solely about learning

more of the history of Black people across the world, and that's an important part of it. But more than that, it's about acknowledging and celebrating the history of those of Global Majority Heritage who have played, and continue to play, an integral part in British society and churches for centuries. Black History Month teaches us all more about our collective story.

Rt Revd Tim Wambunya, Bishop of Wolverhampton, invites us all, however we mark Black History Month, to allow our celebrations to, "help us become more truly intercultural communities, where every story is honoured, every gift welcomed, and every person cherished in Christ."

We'd love to hear about your plans to do just that, wherever you are across our diocese.

Sidesmen & Flowers



Leigh on Mendip

	Sideman	Flowers
4 October	Mary Witts	Harvest flowers
11 October	No service	Caroline Dove
18 October	No service	-
25 October	No service	-
1 November	tba	-

Church/Brass Cleaning

October - Margaret Loten & Joan Pattison
 November - Mary Witts & Lally Lee

Stoke St Michael

	Sideman	Flowers
4 October	Penny Anderson	Cicely Middle
11 October	Harvest service	-
18 October	Wendy Foulds	-
25 October	Janet Gilham	Karen Pearce
1 November	Penny Anderson	-

Church Cleaning

October - Jane Evans
 November - Cicely Middle

Sunday Stokers

This Autumn, Stokers are bringing fun to the church!

Every third Sunday of the month, all families are warmly invited to come along to Stoke St Michael's friendly church:



- | | | |
|-------|---|--|
| 10.30 | - | Children's activities and coffee for the grown-ups |
| 11.00 | - | Stay for the family service |
| 12pm | - | More refreshments and time to play/chat |

Put these dates in your diary.....

Sunday 18th October

Sunday 15th November



We'll be stoked to see you!

STOKE ST MICHAEL OPEN GARDENS – 6th JUNE 2027

Stoke St. Michael church will be joining in the Open Gardens fun by serving delicious refreshments and running a plant stall.

 **Plant donations gratefully received!** 

Now is the perfect time to get organised and start growing plants for our stall next year. Every donated plant will help make our plant stall a success!

 **START GROWING NOW!**

 **Divide overgrown perennials**

Dig up large clumps of herbaceous perennials such as hostas and geraniums. Gently separate them into smaller sections and replant them in pots. They'll have plenty of time to establish before next summer.

 **Collect and sow seeds**

Snip dry seed heads from your favourite annuals and perennials. Store the seeds in labelled paper envelopes and sow them when the time is right.

 **Take hardwood cuttings**

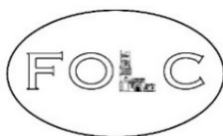
Take cuttings from healthy shrubs and roses. Push the woody stems into

pots of sandy compost and, with a little patience, you could have brand-new plants ready for next year!

🌸 So, while you're tidying the garden this autumn, why not grow a few extra plants for the church plant stall?

Every plant, cutting and packet of seeds is very gratefully received.

Thank you for helping our church grow! 🌱



FRIENDS OF LEIGH CHURCH
Registered charity number (England and Wales): 1174913

OCTOBER UPDATE

The Friends of Leigh Church have been busy organising fund raising activities for the months before Christmas. We would be delighted to welcome everyone to some (or all!) of these events.

The programme starts with an evening of **Fun Bingo on** Saturday 10th October in the Memorial Hall. Doors and bar open from 7pm. Eyes down 7.30. Entrance costs £5, books, £6 for ten tickets.

There will be a **Coffee morning** on October 22nd in the church café. 10.30-12. If you fancy a **Strawberry cream tea**, come along on November 26th. 2.30-4 pm.

Our **Christmas Fair** will take place in the Memorial Hall from 6-8pm on November 20th. Stalls, raffle, mulled wine and delicious cakes will be available.

The Christmas Tree Festival this year will be extended from 7th-13th December. Further details to follow.

Thank you to everyone who supports us. If you require more information, please contact as at folcleigh@gmail.com



Nurturing Curious Minds

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at Leigh on Mendip School



Places available at our wonderful provision offering an engaging curriculum for children aged 2-4 years.

WHY CHOOSE US:

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- ✓ Play-based learning

To arrange a tour of our Preschool, please call 01373 812592, or
email office@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk

Leigh on Mendip Parent, Toddler and Baby Group

New members are always welcome at
Leigh on Mendip Memorial Hall
Tuesdays 9am - 11am (term time only)
£1.50 for first child and 50p each for siblings
(including refreshments and resources)

If you need any more information contact

Vicky Williams on 07866 894303

St Michael & All Angels **CHRISTMAS FAIR**

Sat 28th November

Stoke Memorial Hall

10.00am - Noon

Coffee & Mince Pies, Raffle &
more

Father Christmas will be there
from 10.30 - 11.30

Stalls available at £12.00 each

Contact Janet Gilham

01749 840671 to book a stall

Bishop Michael called to serve in the House of Lords

Bishop Michael has been called to serve in the House of Lords as one of the Church of England's Lords Spiritual. He has received his writ of summons from the King and is expected to be introduced to the House in October.

He will continue his ministry as Bishop of Bath and Wells alongside his parliamentary responsibilities, contributing to debates, scrutinising legislation and voting in the House of Lords.

Speaking about his new role Bishop Michael said, "I am deeply honoured to have been called to undertake this responsibility. I look forward to representing the needs and interests of Somerset in the Upper Chamber, sitting as a non-political member who can work with people of all faiths and none, as well as with all political parties.

"I look forward to bringing my expertise in health and international development to my role. There will be an enormous amount to learn about how Parliament works. To enable this to happen, when parliament is sitting, I anticipate being in Westminster about one day a week as part of this role. I will also need to be in residence for two weeks each year to offer prayers for the House of Lords each day as it begins its proceedings."

"In order to speak well for Somerset, it is going to be really important that I continue to significant time worshipping and visiting in parishes, schools, chaplaincies and communities. This enables me to hear the achievements, concerns, hopes and experiences of people across our county, so that I can better understand all that is happening.

"Every day, it is an enormous honour to serve the people of our county. I look forward to building on what I have shared with you over the past four years, and to extending that in this new way.

Bishop Michael will be introduced as a Member of the House of Lords at a ceremony on 27 October.

There are 26 places in the House of Lords reserved for Church of England archbishops and bishops. Known collectively as the Lords Spiritual, they reflect the constitutional place of the Church of England, with the monarch as its Supreme Governor.

Five of those seats are held by virtue of office: the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, and the Bishops of London, Durham and Winchester.

The remaining 21 seats are filled by eligible diocesan bishops in England as vacancies arise. Since 2015, legislation has made provision for eligible women bishops to enter the House ahead of male bishops who would otherwise have been next in line. The Lords Spiritual have the same rights to speak and vote as other members of the House while they hold their seats. A bishop also leads prayers at the beginning of each sitting day.

Unlike life peers, bishops do not hold their places in the Lords for life. Their membership is linked to holding the relevant episcopal office.

LEIGH on MENDIP

ARTS
and
CRAFTS 2026
EXHIBITION

FREE ENTRY!

and the
ART

17th - 18th Oct
11am - 5pm

CAFE



**MORE
INFO...**



**MORE
INFO email...**
artscrafts.leigh@gmail.com

MEMORIAL HALL

Mendip Live Wires

A Night of Feathered Wonders



What a wonderful evening we had at our W.I. monthly meeting in September. We were delighted to welcome Alan Wells, who brought along three magnificent birds of prey: a tiny Little Owl, a beautiful Barn Owl and a majestic Tawny Owl.

Alan began the evening with a fascinating talk about how he first became involved in rescuing birds of prey, and his ongoing work to rehabilitate them, with the hope that those able to do so can eventually return to the wild. He then introduced each bird in turn, explaining the fascinating differences between them and the remarkable ways in which each species hunts and captures its prey. It was wonderful to learn about these beautiful creatures while seeing them so close at hand.

For many of our members, the highlight of the evening was the opportunity to don a leather glove and experience the breathtaking moment when one of these magnificent birds flew down and settled on their hand. Some were even lucky enough to gently stroke their feathers. Their plumage was incredibly soft to the touch, and watching them take flight was truly majestic.

It was a memorable evening, filled with fascinating facts, wonderful photographs and, of course, plenty of 'oohs' and 'aahs' as these extraordinary birds took centre stage. A huge thank you to Alan for sharing his knowledge, passion and these very special feathered visitors with us.

The evening ended with refreshments and a chance to mingle and chat about our thoughts to other members.

We are a thriving WI group with members from Leigh on Mendip and other surrounding villages, with wide-ranging ages and interests – meeting on the 2nd Monday of each month in the Memorial Hall. More room, of course, for new members. If you think this could be for you just turn up at 7.15pm or contact Caroline on 07974 025608. Our new e-mail address is mendiplivewires@gmail.com

There is more information on Leigh on Mendip Village Website.

(<https://leigh-on-mendip.org.uk/>) via either the Groups button or Events page, where you will find a link to our Facebook group.

LEIGH RECREATION FIELD

Bonus Club – The winners in Sep were Jane and Ben, and Andrew and Alan. Their £20 winnings will be with them shortly. The new Bonus Club year starts at the beginning of Oct so the committee have busily been trying to sell tickets. Thank-you to those who have already paid and a reminder to those who haven't, can you please pay by the end of Sep. If there is anyone who would like to be part of the bonus club please contact a member of the Recreation Field Committee.

Coronation Park – A 'dog parking area' has been created just outside Coronation park to provide an area where you can secure your dog safely whilst using the park. Dogs are not allowed in Coronation Park due to safety reasons.

THE LEIGH LUNCH

at Leigh on Mendip Memorial Hall

Come and join us!

Friday 9 October 2026

and the second Friday of every month

Arrive from 11.30am, lunch served 12.30pm

**Just £6 for a delicious 2-course hot lunch,
including hot drinks (card payments preferred)**

Bar available

All diets can be catered for - just let us know.

Reserve your place now!

E-mail v.l.higginsfox@btinternet.com or call 01373 812087

by **Tuesday 6 October** at the latest.

If you would like help with transport please let us know when you book

Friends of Leigh Church, Registered Charity No. 1174913

Leigh on Mendip Memorial Hall

Celebrating 70 Years of our Village Hall

This year marks a very special milestone as our village hall celebrates its 70th birthday!

Over the years, the hall has been at the heart of village life, providing a space for meetings, celebrations, activities and community events. To help keep it welcoming and useful for the years ahead, we have recently made a couple of improvements, including a new front door giving better accessibility and a new cooker.

This year our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on 6th November at 7.30pm in the hall, and everyone is warmly encouraged to attend.

The AGM is a great opportunity to find out more about the hall, hear about future plans, support the work that goes on behind the scenes, or find out more about joining the committee and getting involved.

As we celebrate 70 years, we would love to see as many villagers as possible come along and help us look forward to future years keeping the hall as a usable community space.

Church Services in the Benefices of Stoke St Michael, Leigh on Mendip and the United Parish of Postlebury

2nd October (Friday)

10.00 Nunney

Holy Communion BCP *Revd. Stephen Kivett*

Sunday 4th October - 18th Sunday after Trinity

09.30 Wanstrow

Holy Communion

11.00 Leigh on Mendip

Harvest Communion

18.00 Stoke St Michael

Evensong

Jane Evans

8th October (Thursday)

18.00 Wanstrow

Compline & Meditation

Sunday 11th October - 19th Sunday after Trinity

09.30 Nunney

Harvest Communion

11.00 Witham

Harvest Service

16.00 Stoke St Michael

Harvest Service

16th October (Friday)

10.00 Nunney

Holy Communion BCP

Revd. David Gatcliffe

Sunday 18th October - Luke the Evangelist/20th Sunday after Trinity

09.30 Marston

Harvest Communion *

11.00 Stoke St Michael

Family Communion *

16.00 Nunney

Messy Church

Lay led

17.00 Wanstrow

Harvest Thanksgiving *Revd. Stephen Kivett*

18.00 Downhead

Evensong

October 2026



Sunday 25th October - Last Sunday after Trinity

09.30	Stoke St Michael	Holy Communion	<i>Revd. Graham Witts</i>
11.00	Cloford	Holy Communion	<i>Revd. Graham Witts</i>

Sunday 1st November - All Saints Day

09.30	Wanstrow	Holy Communion	
11.00	Leigh on Mendip	Harvest Communion	
15.00	Marston	All Souls Service	
18.00	Stoke St Michael	Evensong	<i>Jane Evans</i>

2nd October (Friday)

10.00	Nunney	Holy Communion BCP	<i>Revd. Stephen Kivett</i>
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All services taken by Reverend Johnson unless stated otherwise.

**** Reverend Johnson and Preacher Matthew Howson***

INFORMATION PAGE

Vicar: The Reverend Keith Johnson

The Rectory, High Street, Nunney, BA11 4LZ Tel: 01373 792344

Parish Administrator : Claire Edwards

Phone: 07404 824355 email: postleburysecretary@gmail.com

Parish Office, The Rectory, High Street, Nunney, BA11 4LZ
Office hours - Thursday 11am- 5pm

Leigh on Mendip and Downhead Parochial Church Council

Contact email: sec.lomd.pcc@gmail.com

Churchwardens	Paula Freeland	Honeysuckle Cottage
	07722 359093	Leigh on Mendip BA3 5QQ
	Patricia Lawrence	1 Manor Farm Cottages
	07971 207037	Downhead BA4 4LG
	email	pat.allsaintschapel@gmail.com
Treasurer	Margaret Loten	6 The Old Sawmills
	01373 812922	Leigh on Mendip BA3 5RQ
Secretary	Mary Witts	11 Bellfield
	01373 812367	Leigh on Mendip BA3 5QH

Stoke St Michael Parochial Church Council

Contact email : stokestmichaelchurchwardens@gmail.com

See also : <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/10959>
<https://www.facebook.com/StokeStMichaelChurch>

Churchwardens	Jane Evans	Withybrook
	01749 840660	Stoke St Michael BA3 5JQ
	Wendy Foulds	2 St Michael's Close
	07851 801310	Stoke St Michael BA3 5LF
Treasurer	Penny Anderson	Grove View, East End
	07970 908671	Stoke St Michael BA3 5LB
	email	ssmchurchtreasurer@gmail.com
Secretary	Janet Gilham	Hillside, Withybrook
	01749 840671	Stoke St Michael BA3 5JQ

Safeguarding Officer for Leigh on Mendip, Downhead

Post vacant please contact Parish Administrator

Safeguarding Officer for Stoke St Michael

Rachel McEntee

Email: ssmchurchsafeguarding@gmail.com Mob: 07497 972576

Stoke St. Michael War Memorial Hall

EXCITING NEWS!

Seed swap!

**NOW AVAILABLE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY
BOOK SWAP SUMMERHOUSE AT REAR OF HALL**



Come and see! We still of course have over 400 books and over 25 puzzles. No charge, simply swap!

OTHER DIARY DATES:

- SAT 10 OCT – Community Breakfast Club
- TUE / WED 1 & 2 EVENINGS – WREATH MAKING
- SUN 13 DEC – SEN RESIDENTS' CHRISTMAS MEAL

More details to follow. Watch for notices.

East Mendip Gardening Club

October's crisp autumnal days bring changing colours, longer nights, and the occasional frost. If you grow fruit and veg you're probably still harvesting and storing this year's crops, and there's plenty to be getting on with in the garden this month.

Start hollyhock seeds undercover now. Pot up seedlings and over-winter in a cold greenhouse or cold frame.

Sow sweet peas, *Aquilegia vulgaris* and Oriental poppy seeds and place them in the cold frame over to winter for planting out in the spring.

Sow Hellebore seeds in pots in a cold frame. Germination can be slow, so be patient!

There's still time to direct sow hardy annuals such as cornflower seeds, *Limnantes douglasii* (poached egg plant) or annual poppies and larkspur. They'll flower earlier next year if sown now.

Sow wildflower seeds directly in the ground now to attract bees and butterflies next year.

This is the ideal time to plant clematis.

Winter-hardy pea 'Meteor' can be directly sown now for cropping next spring.

Sow broad bean 'Aquadulce Claudia' outdoors for the earliest crops next year.

Plant autumn onion and shallot sets now for an early harvest next summer.

Now's the perfect time to order strawberry runners to plant up a strawberry patch for cropping next year.

Plant blueberry plants. Make sure you have an acid soil or alternatively grow them in pots of ericaceous compost.

Autumn is an ideal time to plant bare root fruit trees.

This month is an ideal time to plant bare root evergreen and semi-evergreen hedging plants. Choose evergreen hedging for year round screening and native hedging to provide a habitat and food source for wildlife too! Divide your herbaceous perennials.

This will keep your plants healthy and vigorous year after year and multiply your stock.

Net ponds now before autumn leaf fall gets underway to reduce the amount of debris entering the water.

Keep camellias and rhododendrons well watered at this time of year to ensure that next year's buds develop well.

Raise pumpkins and squashes off the ground to prevent rotting. Place them on a piece of slate or wood.

Help pumpkins ripen in time for Halloween by removing any leaves shading the fruits.

Cut bean and pea plants away at ground level when they have finished cropping. Leave the roots, as this will slowly release nitrogen back into the soil as they break down.

Pot up some mint and parsley for the kitchen windowsill for fresh herbs through the winter.

Pot up some mint and parsley for the kitchen windowsill for fresh herbs through the winter.

Pot up some mint and parsley for the kitchen windowsill for fresh herbs through the winter.

Install water butts to collect rain this autumn and winter. Rain water is great for watering ericaceous plants such as blueberries, rhododendrons and camellias.

Taken from <https://www.thompson-morgan.com/in-the-garden-this-month>

On Tuesday 27th October the East Mendip Gardening Club will meet for in the Ashwick & Oakhill Village at 7.40pm when, head gardener, James Cross will tell us about the Bishops Palace Gardens. Details from our Chair Mark Manley, markamanley81@googlemail.com or see <https://www.ashwickparish.org/clubs-and-societies/east-mendip-gardening-club>

Leigh on Mendip Allotment Association

The Leigh on Mendip allotments are in the field to the west side of the Recreation Playing Field. If you live in the parish of Leigh on Mendip and want to register, or simply discuss having an allotment, please contact :- Tim Spurgeon, 18, Park Hayes, tel 07813 505830 or e mail timsurgeon@btinternet.com

THE HIVE

Early Years Unit at Stoke St Michael Primary School

Moonshill Road, Stoke St Michael BA3 5LG

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To arrange a visit please email: office@stokestmichaelprimary.co.uk or call the office on 01749 840470. For more information go to www.stokestmichaelprimary.co.uk or visit



@StokeStMichaelSchool.



THE PERSECUTED CHURCH AND HOW TO SUPPORT IT

Colin Bailey

Nigeria



The situation for Christians in Nigeria continues to be dire. The Baptist Press cites a report by aid agency Open Doors US showing numbers of killings were up in the last quarter of 2025 compared to the same period last year. 1,735 civilians including Christians were

killed compared to 1,148 killed in the same period in 2024. Abductions rose from 1,352 to 3,415. Christians are also being internally displaced: an estimated 3.8 million individuals were internally displaced as of April, in addition to more than 405,000 who have fled to Niger, Chad, and Cameroon. The violence is increasingly impacting Muslim communities too.

The Church in Nigeria continues to be targeted in northern Nigeria and the Middle Belt. In the former, the report says, there have been “churches destroyed or abandoned, and congregations displaced into urban centers”. Alongside Boko Haram and ISWAP (Islamic State – West Africa Province), Fulani militants are especially active. As the Open Doors World Watch List country profile on Nigeria points out, converts from Islam are especially mistreated for turning to follow Jesus. In northern Nigeria, twelve states have implemented Sharia (Islamic law) which creates a system where Christians are treated as second-class citizens.

Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Nigeria. Open Doors say “Your prayers are invaluable in helping believers stand firm amidst persecution”. **Also please sign the *Arise Africa* petition on the Open Doors website, answering the call of the African church and calling for protection, justice, and restoration for Christians and other vulnerable people in sub-Saharan Africa:**

<https://www.opendoorsuk.org/act/arise-africa/africa-petition/>

References and further reading

Baptist Press: <https://www.baptistpress.com/resource-library/news/nigeria-government-responding-better-to-terrorism-but-killings-abductions-up-report-says/>

Open Doors World Watch List – Nigeria: <https://www.opendoorsuk.org/persecution/world-watch-list/nigeria/>

Open Doors *Arise Africa* petition: <https://www.opendoorsuk.org/act/arise-africa/africa-petition/>

Stoke St. Michael War Memorial Hall



Hall available for hire – competitive rates

Booking enquiries via ‘stokestmichaelhall.org’

Facilities include a fully equipped kitchen, large audio screen, wifi, speakers, accessible changing. Bar available.

Regular community activities include:

- *‘Tuesday Friends’ group meets every Tuesday, 2-4pm. Join us for crafty activities or just for a coffee & chat*
- *Monthly cinema Sept – July (see posters)*

We are also proud to host a community ‘Book and Puzzle Swap’ in the summerhouse at the back of the hall. We have hundreds of books and dozens of puzzles, regularly updated.

Come and see for yourself...





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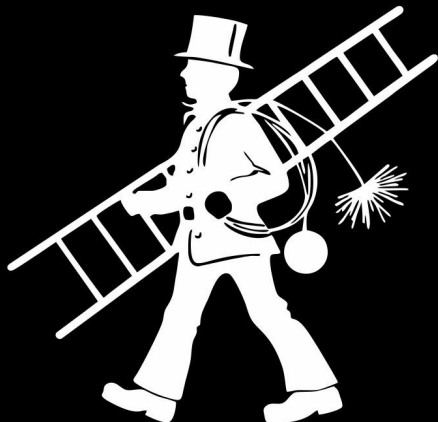
Email-danielhurle@sky.com

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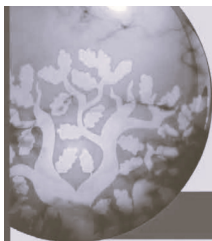
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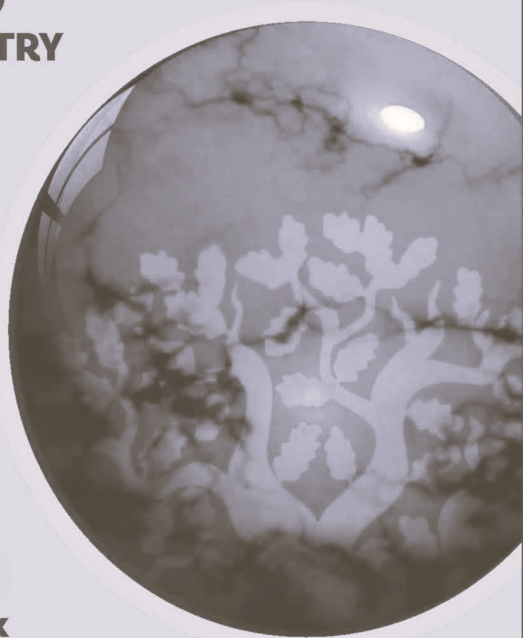
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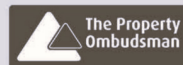
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Chair
Vicki Taylor
Tel. 01373 813942

Clerk
Joe McGhee
Tel. 07518 710688

Email parish.clerk@leigh-on-mendip.org.uk

Meetings are held on the **3rd** Monday of every month in the Memorial Hall unless otherwise advised – see Parish Noticeboards for details of Agenda, Minutes etc. or visit

www.leigh-on-mendip.org.uk



All parishioners welcome to attend

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Some items may also be hired for outside use. A list is available.

Booking clerk Ann Orpwood 01373 812459
r.a.orpwood@btinternet.com

Articles for the next issue to be submitted by the 20th of each month

E-mail - thevillageconnection@hotmail.com

Post - Janet Gilham, Hillside, Withybrook, Stoke St Michael, BA3 5JQ

Your Village contacts are:-

Leigh	Jan Pattison	Yew Tree Cottage, Tadhil	01373 812460
Stoke	Janet Gilham	Hillside, Withybrook	01749 840671
Downhead	Steve Britten	The Old Granary, Downhead	01749 880118

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Payment for adverts to:-

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Cheques made payable to Stoke and Leigh Magazine

Note from the Editor

When emailing articles or adverts please use black text and grayscale for all logos and pictures A5 portrait format with 1cm margins 1.5cm bottom margin. Or A4 landscape same margins two columns with central gutter of 2cm.

Leigh on Mendip Village Website:- www.leigh-on-mendip.org.uk

Police Community Support Officers

Louise Perry for Leigh on Mendip and Will Mortimer for Stoke St Michael

Tel: 101 for non-emergencies 999 for emergencies only

Or report on line at: <https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/report>

CCS Village Agent Nic Edwards Tel 01823331222