



St Andrew's Churches Banwell and Congresbury Pew News



18th September 2026

Mad Hatter's Afternoon Tea a Wonderful Success

A huge **thank you to everyone who joined us** for our Mad Hatter's Afternoon Tea at St Andrew's Church. It was a **delightful afternoon**, full of friendship, laughter and plenty of delicious refreshments.

It was **wonderful to see so many people embracing the theme** and arriving in an array of **imaginative headwear**. From fabulous homemade creations to spectacular shop-bought hats, some even complete with bells, there were plenty of talking points and smiles all round.

Guests enjoyed a **fantastic spread of savoury and sweet treats**, with a separate table offering a wide selection of gluten-free goodies. There was certainly something for everyone, and the refreshments were greatly appreciated.

The church itself was transformed for the occasion, with the **back of the church decorated with giant playing cards and beautiful hand-painted images of Alice and the Mad Hatter**, helping to create a truly magical Wonderland atmosphere.

A highlight of the afternoon was our **Best Dressed competition**. **Congratulations to Dave**, who won a box of chocolates for his **outstanding themed outfit**. He had clearly gone above and beyond, and his costume was a worthy winner.

Special thanks must go to Ruth H and Lynda for all their hard work in organising the

event, as well as everyone who helped with the catering, decorations and clearing up afterwards. Their efforts ensured that the afternoon was such an enjoyable and memorable occasion.

We are grateful to everyone who attended and helped make the Mad Hatter's Afternoon Tea such a success. The accompanying photographs give just a glimpse of the fun and creativity that made the afternoon so special.



TOMORROW! Big Autumn Tidy

Tomorrow (Saturday 19 September), **10am-12 noon**, we're holding our Big Autumn Tidy to help **care for and refresh our church grounds**.

Whether you can spare the whole morning or just an hour, we'd love your help. **Please bring protective gloves** and, if you have them, **loppers, choppers or green waste bags**.

Hot drinks will be provided.

Many hands make light work, so do come along and help keep our church grounds looking their best for the months ahead. Everyone is welcome!

Harvest Services This Sunday

Our harvest celebrations begin this weekend, and everyone is warmly invited to join us as we give thanks for God's provision and celebrate the harvest season together.

- **St Andrew's Church, Congresbury**
Sunday 20 September, 10.30am
- **Holy Saviour's Church, Puxton**
Sunday 20 September, 3.00pm
- **St Andrew's Church, Banwell**
Sunday 27 September, 10.30am

Whether you are a regular member of our congregations or joining us for the first time, we look forward to welcoming you to these special Harvest Festival services.

All Souls' Services

Our annual All Souls' Services will be held at:

- **St Andrew's, Banwell** – 4.00pm, Sunday 25th October
- **St Andrew's, Congresbury** – 4.00pm, Sunday 1st November

If you would like a loved one's name to be read during the service, please submit it via: forms.cloud.microsoft/e/4bJpBi5XQs (or use QR code below)

Names may also be emailed to our administrators using the email address on the back of this issue.



Harvest Appeal for Clevedon District Foodbank

This Harvest season, Clevedon District Foodbank is appealing for extra support as it prepares to help local families at Christmas. Each year, the foodbank packs and distributes more than **600 Christmas hamper bags** to people in our community who are facing hardship.

There are two ways you can help:

Donate Food

The foodbank is particularly asking for the following items:

- Tinned ham
- Tinned salmon
- Tinned tuna
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned custard
- Christmas biscuits
- Long-life fruit juice
- Stuffing
- Chutneys



These items will be used in the Christmas hampers distributed to local families.

Donate Money

Financial donations help cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as supporting longer-term projects that help people build a more sustainable future.

Our churches act as collection points for local foodbanks throughout the year, and donations are always welcome. As part of this year's Harvest Appeal, we would particularly encourage contributions from the shopping list above. Food donations may be left in church at any time.

We recognise that many households are facing financial pressures of their own, and we would never want anyone to feel obliged to give. If you are able to support the appeal, whether through a food donation, a financial contribution, or simply by keeping the work of the Foodbank in your prayers, your support will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your generosity and for supporting those in our community who are experiencing hardship.

Bags of Kindness for Ukraine

Banwell Mothers' Union is aiming to fill **150 Bags of Kindness for Ukraine**. Donations of toiletries, basic medicines, food, warm clothing, bedding, batteries, candles, pet supplies and other practical essentials would be greatly appreciated. Full lists of the items needed can be found on posters displayed in both churches. **Every gift will help support people facing hardship**. Thank you for your generosity.



Upcoming Funeral in Congresbury

- **Brian Gosling at 1:30pm on Wednesday 23rd September**

Please note the change in time from last the last edition of Pew News.



Upcoming Services

Date	Church	Time	Service
Sunday 20 th September	Congresbury	10:30am	Congresbury Harvest Service
	Puxton	3pm	Puxton Harvest Service
	Banwell	4pm	Evensong
Tuesday 22 nd September	Banwell	9am	Midweek Communion
Wednesday 23 rd September	Congresbury	9:30am	Midweek Communion
Sunday 27 th September	Banwell	10:30am	Banwell Harvest Service
	Congresbury	10:30am	Morning Worship
	Banwell	4pm	Evensong
Tuesday 29 th September	Banwell	9am	Midweek Communion
Wednesday 30 th September	Congresbury	9:30am	Midweek Communion
Sunday 4 th October	Congresbury	10:30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion
	Banwell	4pm	BCP Holy Communion
	Banwell	5:30pm	Cafe Church

Dates for your diary

- **Monday Evenings**

- Living Faith - The Chosen, where we join together to watch and discuss the Chosen on zoom, at 7:30pm, all welcome to join. Contact Matt to be added to the call. Every week except for the first Monday of each month (when Soul Gym runs instead).
- Soul Gym - 7:30pm at the Vicarage in Congresbury on the first Monday of each month.

- **Tuesday Evenings (term-time only)** - Banwell Youth Group (10-18 year olds), 6:30-8:30pm at the Youth & Community Centre - entry £1

- **Wednesday mornings** - Coffee and Chat, at Banwell Scout Hut, 10am-12noon. All welcome, donations gratefully received, please come along.

- **Wednesday mornings (term-time only)** - Banwell Toddler Group, 9:30-11am at the Youth & Community Centre

- **Friday mornings (term-time only)** - Take 5, 8am-9am at St Andrew's Congresbury

- **First Friday of the Month** - Congresbury Coffee and Chat, 1:45pm in the Refectory

- **Sundays (term-time only)** - Dreamshed Inclusive Theatre Group, 5:30-7pm at the Refectory in Congresbury.

- **Thursday 17th September** - Improving Ageing Big Tea Celebration, 10:30am to 3:00pm, at Milton Baptist Church. Contact Nicky Pybus at nicky.pybus@vansmail.org.uk or 07395 073817 to book.

- **Friday 18th September** - Apple pressing, 3.15-4.30 at St Andrew's Church Congresbury. Everyone welcome.

- **Saturday 19th September** - Gardening Group, 10am-12noon at St Andrew's Church, Congresbury

- **Saturday 19th September** - Banwell Harvest Supper, Banwell Village Hall (ticketed event - now sold out!)

- **Monday 21st September** - Leonard Elms Care Home Service. Please meet in Congresbury Church car park at 2pm.

- **Friday 25th September** - Congresbury Harvest Supper, Congresbury War Memorial Hall (last few tickets £12 - purchase from churchwardens, at the church office or online at ticketsource.com/new-creation-churches-mendip-vale/congresbury-harvest-supper-2026/e-djxla/)

- **Saturday 26th September** - Men's Breakfast, 8:30-10am at Banwell Village Hall

Office Opening Hours: Wednesday to Friday 9:30am-2:30pm

Our administrators work from Banwell church on Tuesdays

Tel: 01934 833126 E-mail: admin@newcreationchurches.org.uk

Website: www.newcreationchurches.org.uk

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/NewCreationChurches