



St Andrew's Churches Banwell and Congresbury Pew News



2nd October 2026

Pew News Update

Please note that after this, Pew News will move from a fortnightly to a monthly publication schedule. It will be circulated on the first Friday of each month, with the **next edition** due to be released on **Friday 6th November**.

Harvest Supper – Food, Fun and Laughter!

What a wonderful way to celebrate Harvest! Both Banwell and Congresbury enjoyed fantastic Harvest Suppers, with good food, great entertainment and plenty of laughter along the way.

Banwell

A very special thank you goes to Jacki for organising the Banwell Harvest Supper and helping to make it such an enjoyable evening.

We are also incredibly grateful to Steve, Harry, Martin, Alan and Mal, who helped put the tables out, clear everything away, man the raffle and generally lend a hand throughout the evening. A huge thank you to Jason too, for all his help in the kitchen.

Our thanks must also go to Chris, Anne, Mary, Lyn, Sandra and Angela, without whose help the evening simply wouldn't have happened.

A special thank you to Andrew and Beverley Lake, who generously donated the tomatoes, and to everyone who donated prizes for the raffle.

The entertainment was a real delight! Thank you to George for his jokes, Laura for her

wonderful nod to hedgehogs, and Daisy and Ben, who sang brilliantly for us. It was a lovely evening of friendship, food and fun, and a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community.



Congresbury

Congresbury also enjoyed a fantastic evening, with a delicious supper and some wonderful entertainment.

A special thank you goes to Lynda and Ruth H for organising the evening, and to Ruth W, Angela and Helen for all their help on the night.

We were also treated to some fantastic music and singing. A massive thank you to Jamie and Alyx for singing for us, Caz for assisting with the backing tracks, and Nichola, Petra and Chris for providing the music.

Both evenings were a wonderful celebration of Harvest and, most importantly, an

opportunity to spend time together, enjoy one another's company and share plenty of laughter.

Thank you to everyone who helped, donated, performed, cooked, organised, cleared up or simply came along and made the evenings so special.



Thank You!

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us in person or online for our Harvest Services at both churches. It was wonderful to celebrate together and give thanks for all that we have.

We would also like to say a very special thank

you to our flower ladies and all their helpers, who worked so hard to decorate both churches so beautifully for Harvest. The wonderful displays were a fitting celebration of the season and were very much appreciated.

Thank you to everyone who helped, donated, performed, cooked, organised, decorated, cleared up or simply came along and made our Harvest celebrations so special.



Day Trip to Bristol Zoo Project **Saturday 10 October**

Why not join us for a fun day out together at **Bristol Zoo Project** on Saturday 10 October?

It's a great opportunity to enjoy a day exploring the zoo, seeing the animals and spending time together as a church community. Everyone is welcome to come along! Please let the office know by Wednesday 7th October if you are able to come.

We have arranged a **special group booking price**, making the tickets:

- **Adults:** £20.86 per person
- **Children aged 2-14:** £16.80 per person

We will meet together in the **Bristol Zoo Project car park at 10:00am** on the day and then enjoy the day together.

If you would like to join us, please contact the Church Office by Wednesday 7th October at admin@newcreationchurches.org.uk to arrange your ticket. As this is a group booking, we need to know beforehand who will be attending so that we can arrange our tickets at the discounted rate.

We hope you can join us for what promises to be a lovely day out together!



Toybox Appeal Reaches Its Target

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent Toybox appeal. We are delighted to share that the appeal has now reached its target, ensuring continued support for Angie and Peter, the two young people sponsored by St Andrew's through Toybox.

Many thanks to all those who generously donated, whether £12 or £24, helping us achieve this wonderful result. We are also especially grateful to Rosemary, who coordinated the appeal and encouraged such a positive response from our church

community.

We hope to receive updates on Angie and Peter soon, and we look forward to sharing news of how they are getting on. In the meantime, please keep an eye on the church noticeboards, where future updates will be displayed.

Thank you once again to everyone who contributed, and to Rosemary for her hard work in making the appeal such a success.



Winscombe Christian Aid Autumn Quiz

Friday 23 October, 7pm - Winscombe Church Centre

The Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill Christian Aid Committee warmly invites you to their **Autumn Quiz** on Friday 23 October.

Teams can be made up of up to six people, but if you're coming on your own, you are very welcome to join a team on the evening. **Tickets are £10 per person**, with light refreshments provided. Please bring your own drinks.

Tickets: Winscombe Church Office, Farrons Estate Agents, or email winscombec christianaid@gmail.com.

The committee would also be grateful for anyone who is able to help with some of the practical arrangements on the evening. If you can lend a hand, please contact Janet or David using the details in the accompanying advert.

Can't make the quiz? You can still support Christian Aid by donating to their **Harvest of Hope Appeal 2026** on the following link <https://give.christianaid.org.uk/donate/CAM-012055>



A Little Heart of Hope

Sometimes, at this time of year, we all need a little hope.

The Mothers' Union at Banwell are offering a small reminder that hope is for everyone. They are giving away heart-shaped tokens, completely free, to anyone who would like to take one home.

Each little heart is a simple symbol of hope, love and encouragement. Perhaps you're going through a difficult time, perhaps you know someone who is, or perhaps you simply feel that a little reminder of hope would be good to have.

Everyone is welcome to take a heart. There is no charge and no need to ask, simply take one for yourself, or one to give to someone who may need a little hope.

The hearts are available from the Mothers' Union table at the back of St Andrew's Church, near the font. Please feel free to take one whenever you visit the church.

A small heart can carry a big message: you are not alone, and there is always hope.

Prayer for Autumn Nights

As the nights start to draw in and we lose the uplifting long days and light of summer, we ask for your blessing to be on those who struggle with health issues - whether visible or not to others. The darker days often seem harder to bear when you are struggling.

Please grant peace of mind and courage to those afflicted. Amen



**A Prayer from the
Kingfisher Crew, St Andrew's
School**



The Mustard Seed Prayer

Dear God
Help us to get stronger like the mustard tree.
Help us to always be kind and welcome
others.
Thank you to all the people who help us grow
at school and at home.
Thank you for making our school so wonderful
and safe.
Help us to welcome anyone who is new to the
school.
Help us to grow together to have courage, to
be compassionate and to be trustworthy.
Amen September 2026

**A Payer from the Eagles
Crew, St Andrew's School
September 2026**



Dear God
Let us grow and flourish like the mustard seed
Let us have courage in our minds
Trust in our souls
And compassion in our hearts
Help us to accept disappointment and learn
from it
Support us in leading by example even when it
is challenging
Protect us with your holy spirit so that we
stride in faith and confidence
Amen

Remembrance and Armistice Day Services

This November, we will gather together across
Banwell and Congresbury to remember with
gratitude and respect all those who have
given their lives in service and sacrifice, and
to reflect on the importance of peace.

We warmly invite everyone to join us at our
Remembrance Services:

St Andrew's Church, Congresbury

Sunday 8 November – 10:30am

St Andrew's Church, Banwell

Sunday 8 November – 3:00pm

We will also mark **Armistice Day** on
Wednesday 11 November, with a short
service of remembrance and reflection:

Congresbury Memorial Hall

10:45am

Banwell – St Andrew's Church

10:45am

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend
these services as we come together as a
community to remember, honour and pray
for peace.



**All Souls' Services
Remembering those we love**

Our All Souls' Services offer a quiet and
reflective opportunity to remember and
give thanks for those we have loved and
lost.

During the services, there will be an
opportunity to hear the names of loved
ones read aloud and to light a candle in
their memory. Whether your loss is recent
or many years ago, you are warmly invited
to join us as we remember together and
hold one another in prayer.

St Andrew's Church, Banwell

Sunday 25 October at 4:00pm

St Andrew's Church, Congresbury

Sunday 1 November at 4:00pm

If you would like the name of a loved one to
be remembered during the service, please
send their name to the **Church Office** by
emailing

admin@newcreationchurches.org.uk.

**Please ensure names are submitted by
Friday 16 October** so that we can make sure
they are included in the service.

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend,
whether or not you have a name included in
the service.

Additional Tech Team Members Needed

We are looking for more people to join our valued church tech team, to help with Sunday services and life events on an ad hoc basis. **No experience needed** as full training will be provided.

If you are interested, or would like to hear more, please contact the church office or speak to Caz.



Light Up a Life

Monday 14th December | 7.00pm

St Andrew's Church, Congresbury

This Christmas, we warmly invite you to join us at **St Andrew's Church, Congresbury**, for **Light Up a Life**, an evening of remembrance and carols organised and led by **Weston Hospicecare**.

Christmas can be a particularly poignant time for those who are remembering someone special. Light Up a Life offers an opportunity to come together, reflect and remember those we have loved and lost, while sharing in the hope and comfort of the Christmas season.

The evening will include beautiful Christmas carols, readings and moments of reflection, providing a peaceful space to remember loved ones and celebrate the light they brought into our lives.

Whether you have experienced bereavement recently or many years ago, everyone is welcome to attend.

If you are unable to join us in person, the service will also be livestreamed, allowing you to take part from home.

The posh new harvest tractor

I brought an expensive new tractor
In vibrant, glowing green.
With 4 sets of head lights
The swankest every seen

I've an ,overhead waterproof canopy
And a padded heated tractor seat
I've Wi-Fi radio and a computer
The horn has the loudest bleep

But I think I've , been sold a dud
The salesman said it was electric
But I can't find a charging point
So life on the farm, is now very tragic

So I've resurrected the petrol tractor
My 1950s Massey Fergeson
Old but, rustic, very reliable
But only seats one person

So the dog now sits on my lap
And we are back on the petroleum
The new tractors been sent back
Lonley in that city posh showroom

Poem written by Romany Poppit-Price



Volunteers Wanted for Our Panto!

Fancy getting involved in some Christmas fun? We're looking for volunteers to join our **panto team!**

Whether you'd like to perform, help behind the scenes, or simply lend a hand, we'd love to hear from you. No previous experience is needed, just enthusiasm and a willingness to have some fun! 🌲 ✨

Rehearsals are every Sunday at 5.30pm

 The Refectory, St Andrew's Church, Congresbury
Come along and see what it's all about,
everyone is welcome!



Christmas Calendar

Please note that more dates may be added.

Timings are shown where known. Some events organised by other groups are still awaiting confirmation, but we wanted to share the dates as early as possible.

November 2026

Saturday 28th - Christmas Sale and Coffee Morning

Organised by the Friends of St Andrew's Church (Congresbury)

December 2026

Wednesday 2nd December - Congresbury Christmas Fair, 6.30-8.30pm on Broad Street
Organised by Congresbury Scout and Guide Group

Saturday 5th December - Banwell Christmas Market, 11am-3pm at Banwell Youth & Community Centre and Scout Hut
Organised by Banwell Parish Council

Saturday 12th December - Cadbury Saxophone Band at St Andrew's Church, Congresbury
Organised by Cadbury Saxophone Band

Monday 14th December - Light Up a Life Service, 7pm at St Andrew's Church, Congresbury
Organised by Weston Hospicecare

Tuesday 15th December - Congresbury Singers Concert at St Andrew's Church, Congresbury
Organised by Congresbury Singers

Saturday 19th December - Carols Under the Tower, 6pm at St Andrew's Church, Banwell

Sunday 20th December - Carol Service, 3pm at Holy Saviour's Church, Puxton

Sunday 20th December - Carol Service, 6.30pm at St Andrew's Church, Congresbury

Sunday 20th December - Carol Service, 6.30pm at St Andrew's Church, Banwell

Monday 21st December - The Elms Christmas Service, meet at 2pm in Congresbury church car park

Thursday 24th December - Crib Service, 3pm at St Andrew's Church, Congresbury

Thursday 24th December - Christingle Service, 5pm at St Andrew's Church, Banwell

Thursday 24th December - Midnight Mass, 11.30pm at St Andrew's Church, Banwell

Friday 25th December - Christmas Day Service, 10.30am at St Andrew's Church, Congresbury

Friday 1st January - New Years Day Service, 12noon at St Andrew's Church, Congresbury

Christmas dates can also be found on the 'What's On' page on our website!

Please check there for updates between editions of Pew News.



Upcoming funerals

- **Erika Bailey** - 2:30pm on Monday 5th October - Weston Crem
 - **Chris Higgins** - 12noon on Tuesday 6th October - St Andrew's Congresbury
 - **David Walbyoff** - 11.30am on Thursday 22nd October - St Andrew's Congresbury
 - **Paul Mitchelmore** - 12:30pm on Monday 26th October - St Andrew's Banwell
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Upcoming Services

Date	Church	Time	Service
Sunday 4 th October	Congresbury	10:30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion
	Banwell	4pm	BCP Holy Communion
	Banwell	5:30pm	Cafe Church
Tuesday 6 th	Banwell	9am	Midweek Communion
Wednesday 7 th	Congresbury	9:30am	Midweek Communion
Sunday 11 th October	Banwell	10:30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion
	Congresbury	10:30am	Morning Worship
	Banwell	4pm	Evensong
Tuesday 13 th	Banwell	9am	Midweek Communion
Wednesday 14 th	Congresbury	9:30am	Midweek Communion
Sunday 18 th October	Congresbury	10:30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion
	Banwell	4pm	Evensong
	Congresbury	5:30pm	Cafe Church
Tuesday 20 th	Banwell	9am	Midweek Communion
Wednesday 21 st	Congresbury	9:30am	Midweek Communion
Sunday 25 th October	Banwell	10:30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion
	Congresbury	10:30am	Morning Worship
	Banwell	4pm	All Souls Service
Tuesday 27 th	Banwell	9am	Midweek Communion
Wednesday 28 th	Congresbury	9:30am	Midweek Communion
Sunday 1 st November	Congresbury	10:30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion
	Congresbury	4pm	All Souls Service
	Banwell	4pm	Evensong
Tuesday 3 rd	Banwell	9am	Midweek Communion
Wednesday 4 th	Congresbury	10:30am	Midweek Communion

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.

- **Wednesday 14th October** - Mothers Union, 2.30pm at Banwell Youth and Community Centre

- **Sunday 25th October** - All Souls Service - St Andrew's Church, Banwell at 4pm

- **Sunday 1st November** - All Souls Service - St Andrew's Church, Congresbury at 4pm

- **Sunday 8th November** - Remembrance Sunday - St Andrew's Congresbury at 10:30am. St Andrew's Banwell at 3pm.

- **Wednesday 11th November** - Armistice Day - Congresbury 10:45am at the Memorial Hall. Banwell at St Andrew's Church at 10:45am.

- **Saturday 28th November** - Friends Christmas Fair at St Andrew's Church, Congresbury. Time to be Confirmed.

- **Saturday 5th December** - Banwell Christmas Market - Scout Hut and YCC - 11am-3pm



Please see inside for Christmas dates!



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