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The Messenger

Published free for Holy Trinity, Cleeve and St Barnabas, Claverham

Issue 413 November 2025

Let not one sparrow falleth.



Many years ago, before charity shops, when a jumble sale was the highlight of village life, I went to Cleeve Village Hall hoping to find some treasures. I always made for the bric a brac stall and there, at the front of the table, was a pocket sized book with a faded, tatty, green fabric cover, marred by a circular brown mark. Intrigued, I picked it up and found that it had been stamped with the inscription **Stalag VIIIB.**

This small book was a New Testament and had belonged to a P.O.W.. I opened the cover and there, on the inside, the prisoner had written in faint but beautiful handwriting, a prayer, and underneath he had added '*Not one sparrow falleth,*'

These words have stayed with me ever since. Obviously this phrase from Matthew's Gospel meant a lot to this prisoner. Locked up, not knowing when the war would end... would he see his loved ones again... how were they managing..... were they safe?

Yet he found comfort in this simple phrase; it doesn't matter how insignificant you are, whatever your circumstances, dire or not, God knows every one of us and is there for all of us.

These words were so relevant to this young serviceman over eighty years ago, and are still very meaningful for us all today.

JR.



November Services

Sunday 2nd November
10am Holy Communion
in Holy Trinity

Sunday 9th November
A Service for Remembrance
10.50am in St Barnabas
10.50am in Holy Trinity

Sunday 16th November
10am Holy Communion
in Holy Trinity

Sunday 23rd November
**9.30am Cafe Church - Are you
ready? with Advent and
Christmas themed crafts and
activities for children
in Cleeve Village Hall**

11am Holy Communion
in St Barnabas

Sunday 30th November
10am Group Service
Holy Communion in Holy Trinity

Thursdays 9.30am in Holy Trinity
6th & 20th Morning Prayer
13th & 27th Holy Communion



January Services

Sunday 4th January
10am Holy Communion
in Holy Trinity

Sunday 11th January
10am Holy Communion
in St Barnabas

Sunday 18th January
10am Holy Communion
in Holy Trinity

Sunday 25th January
**9.30am Cafe Church - breakfast
served from 9.15am**

11am Morning Prayer
in St Barnabas

Thursdays 9.30am in Holy Trinity
15th & 29th Morning Prayer
8th & 22th Holy Communion

All are welcome

For more information
please contact
Rev'd Daile Wilshire
01934 904765



**Holy Trinity and St Barnabas
Come and Celebrate with Us**



Sunday 7th December

10am Holy Communion in Holy Trinity

4pm DIY Christingle in Holy Trinity

Arrive between 4-4.20pm to make your own Christingle.

The service starts at 4.30pm

Sunday 14th December

10am Holy Communion in St Barnabas

Sunday 21st December

10am Holy Communion in Holy Trinity

4pm Village Carol Service in St Barnabas

6.30 pm Carols by Candlelight in Holy Trinity

Christmas Eve

4pm Crib Service

with The Grumpy Owl at Bickley, Main Rd , Cleeve.

11.30pm Midnight Communion

in St Barnabas



Christmas Day

10am A Christmas Celebration in Holy Trinity

Sunday 28th December

10am Holy Communion in St Barnabas

For more information ★ Revd Daile Wilshire 01934 904765

Rev Daile writes -

At our October Café Church, we shared with one another those Bible stories and verses that mean the most to us. There were Psalms, parables, and passages from both the Old and New Testaments. We reflected on how, despite all the technology in the world, 1 in 5 people still do not have access to the Bible in their own language.



We wondered how our lives might have been different if we didn't have the Bible in our language, and we explored why some people think the Bible is so important. We also shared how we personally engage with Scripture and how God's Word inspires, teaches, challenges, and connects us.

So, what's on the menu for 23rd November's Café Church?

This month will be a service for all ages, as we invite children and families from CdW School to join us. Breakfast will be available before the service from 9:15 a.m.

During the service, there will be something for everyone to join in with as we reflect on what it means to be ready, ready to worship the newborn King, as if it was the first time. There will be a quiz, table talk questions and conversations, music, craft and bacon rolls! (Warm croissants with jam for the vegetarians!)

We look forward to welcoming you! And if you've never been to a Café Church before, why not give it a try? It's always a warm and relaxed morning, and a great way to start the countdown to our Christmas celebrations.

Holy Trinity & St Barnabas

invite you to join us on
Sunday 23rd November at
Café Church

Join us for breakfast, followed by an informal service for all ages, with Christmas crafts and activities for children.

Food will be served from 9.15am, and the service starts at 9.30am in Cleeve Village Hall.

Please send us a message on 07747637234 to let us know you are coming so we know how many children to expect and bacon rolls to make!

Could you help?

I am still looking for more people who would be willing to read a lesson or lead prayers in our services. If you would like to know more, please get in touch. Daile

St Barnabas Harvest Festival

At St Barnabas Harvest Festival on 12th October we were fortunate to have Sue and Dave Regan from Clevedon Foodbank with us. Trussell foodbanks started in Salisbury in 2000 by Paddy and Carol Henderson, a Christian couple who used a legacy from Carol's mother, Betty Trussell in response to local need.

Within two years it became a national organisation and in 2024 2.9 million food parcels were given out.



Sue emphasised that this does not indicate a success story but a failure on the part of a society in which it is all too easy to fall into debt and that people from all walks of life find themselves in a situation where they have to choose between paying the bills or feeding the family. Clevedon Foodbank has a person from the Citizen's Advice Bureau present so that there is someone to talk through people's problems and help to direct them to other agencies that may be able to help. Many thanks to those who have given contributions from St Barnabas, Holy Trinity and from Court de Wyck school. They are greatly appreciated.

On the 16th and 17th December they will be packing and distributing approximately 700 Christmas Hamper bags to people facing food crisis in the North Somerset area. The Reverse Advent Calendar below itemises the items that they would like to include in our hampers.

1 Tinned Tuna	2 Tinned Ham	3 Cranberry Sauce	4 Stuffing Mix	5 Tinned Fruit	6 Tinned Custard
7 Christmas Pudding	8 Christmas Cakes	9 Large Biscuits	10 Large Sweets	11 Small Sweets	12 Selection Box
13 Pringles	14 Savoury Biscuits	15 Coffee	16 Hot Chocolate	17 Tea Bags	18 Shampoo
19 Tinned Salmon	20 Trifle Mix	21 Long Life Squirry Cream	22 Chutney	23 Small Panettone	24 Mince Pies

Don't Forget!

If you are collecting food items for the **Foodbank** Christmas Collection, or items for the boxes for **Seafarers**, don't forget to bring all items in and place them in the boxes in the church hall foyer by the **23rd November** for the Missions to Seafarers, and by **the end of December** for Clevedon Foodbank. Dave has asked for any cheques/online payments to go to the PCC, and he will scoop it all up into an overall cheque for the Foodbank. You can also donate online at - <https://clevedondistrict.foodbank.org.uk/>

HOLY TRINITY WARM ROOM 2025/6

Soupa Thursday

As daylight time grows shorter and our thoughts onto chillier times, everyone at Holy Trinity is pleased to announce that the Warm Room is again opening its doors, every Thursday, having started in November.



Soupa Thursdays are open to anyone in Cleeve or Claverham who would like to come along between midday and 4pm on every Thursday throughout the winter.

Folks can turn up at any time, stay for as long as they wish, enjoy soup and a roll, cake, tea and coffee, plus great company, take part in an activity [your own or something in the room], or not; all together with our weekly-changing team of qualified helpers.

Each winter since 2022, we have been pleased to have new folks joining us for a warm up and a chat, so if you haven't been along before – just drop in and give us a try.

It is great fun, why not come along and join us? If transport is a problem, lifts are available – just let us know.

If you would like more details, please give the **Warm Room hotline** a ring on **838515**.

Dear Holy Trinity and St Barnabas people,

The Safeguarding Team would like to invite you to Church of England Basic Safeguarding Training Saturday 22nd November 2.30 at St Mary's Chapter House.

All church members are encouraged to cover the two sessions on Basic and Foundation Safeguarding training.

This training is a requirement for those of us in a particular role, for instance it is for members of the PCC. Those who have completed the training over three years ago may need to renew it by completing the updated training.

The format and emphasis have both changed since we last offered this, and a Trainer will lead us through the session. The Chapter House will be open from 2pm with a 2.30pm prompt start, tea and biscuits

afterwards. The session is likely to take an hour and a half, depending on discussion and questions.

Some of you will prefer to do the training in your own time, or you may not be free on that date. You can find the training can be easily accessed online through a booking system on the Bath and Wells Safeguarding site.

If you have any problems with finding this, or any questions, please do not hesitate to get back to Jeannie Osmond, Ann Long, Julia Bush, or Sue Thomas. The Office will have our contact details if needed.

In the Spring we will follow up with the Foundation Training, meanwhile we look forward to seeing you on 22nd November.

*Ann, Julia, Sue and Jeannie Parish
Safeguarding Officers Team*

Yatton Local History Society

The next two meetings of YLS are -

Tuesday December 2nd Host - Pat Denny - 'The other end of Yatton'

Tuesday Jan 6th - talk by Brian Margetson on 'Crossing the Severn.'

Both these meetings are on Zoom. For details contact -

yattonlocalhistorysoc@gmail.com

Claverham News.



Our ever popular village market will be held this month on **Saturday 15th November** from 10am – 12 noon. The December market will be a week earlier than usual on **13th December** so come along and and browse for your Christmas presents!

Ladies' Guild on **December 4th** will be welcoming Paul O'Donnell leading a seasonal singalong and there will be mince pies and a raffle. Our Christmas lunch is on December 11th at Doubletree by Hilton, Cadbury. See everybody again at Guild Feb 5th 2026!!
Jean



HOLY TRINITY CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2025

**To be held on SATURDAY 15TH NOVEMBER
at Cleeve Village Hall from 11am to 3pm**

There will be all the usual fun-of-the-Fayre events,
with numerous stalls providing
Super Hand-Made Gift Ideas for Christmas,
together with lots of other stalls including
preserves, jams, scrummy cakes, bottle stall, win a hamper [4 prizes],
wood craft, tombola, pick a basket, bric-a-brac, books,

**In addition, there will be delicious piping hot lunches from noon,
with tea and coffee served throughout the day.**

Come along and enjoy a really friendly and fun event, with super bargains
and chances to win some wonderful prizes,
especially in the super hamper raffles,
all to be drawn at 2.30pm.

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**FINAL THOUGHT - If you are willing to help in any way –
eg bake a cake, bring bric-a-brac, books, etc.,
donate a prize for the raffle, the tombola or a hamper,
help run a stall, help in the kitchen, etc.**

Please ring Lin [838515] or Gill [832917]

Mothers' UNION

We started our October Mothers' Union meeting with opening prayers and notices. We then had the pleasure of welcoming Revd.Daile Wilshire. She spoke to us about

her life leading up to joining us as our Vicar here at Cleeve & Claverham.

Daile presented us with a sheet of photographs of herself from childhood to her licensing service back in July this year at Holy Trinity. *Cont'd page 8....*

As she went through the photos, she gave us an insight to her life, telling us about her upbringing, including where she and her two brothers were raised by her father as a single parent to when she became a Christian at the age of fourteen.

There was a great picture of Daile dressed as a Christmas Snowman when she was nursing in the 80's. She told us how one matron noticed how good she was at one-to-one care and recommended she try primary care nursing which eventually led her to take a job at the newly opened Hospice in Dorchester, which she loved.

Sadly, she had to give up nursing in the 90's due to poor health. There was a wonderful picture of Daile with a saucepan on her head, as she explained, this was a Gladiator challenge when she was involved with youth work at the Methodist church in Portland.

Daile felt a calling to the ministry in the 2000'S. There were also photos of her receiving her degree, one of her ordination service and her lovely family. It was an excellent way for us to get to know Daile, we all appreciated her honesty when she spoke

to us about her Post-natal depression and health issues.

As usual we finished with a delicious home cooked meal prepared by Lin.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 18th November at St Barnabas at 11.45am for 12noon start, where we will be joined by Yatton MU for what's becoming an annual singalong to your favourite hymns accompanied by organist Robert Rideout.

The committee have been working hard to get an interesting and varied programme ready for next year and hopefully this will be distributed at our Christmas meal at Bickley in December.

Monthly Meetings from Oct 2025 – Jan 2026

Tuesday 18th November – Your favourite hymns with Robert Rideout
12noon St Barnabas Church

Tuesday 9th December – Christmas Meal & Carols – 12noon at Bickley

2026

20th January 2026 – AGM with communion – 12noon Holy Trinity Church room.

All Meetings followed by a delicious homemade lunch.

Gill

West Mendip Orchestra at St Mary's, Yatton, 29th November.

The West Mendip Orchestra is one of Somerset's principal amateur orchestras based in Winscombe. Their conductor is John Johnson a graduate of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in piano and composition. Their programme for the YMS is supported by Yatton Parish Council and will include music by Dvorak, Schumann and with John playing piano music by Finzi accompanied by the string section of the orchestra.

The concert starts at 7.30pm at St Mary's Church. Tickets price £15, YMS members and students £10, accompanied children under 16 free. Details of this concert are on the Yatton Music Society's website www.yms.org.uk



FOCOS CHRISTMAS PARTY 2025

Cleeve Village Hall

Saturday 6th December



The FOCOS Christmas Party is open to all Cleeve and Claverham residents aged 60+ and is a grand night out; if you qualify to come, but have never joined us before, we can guarantee you will have a great time.

Invitations for Cleeve and Claverham's social event of the year will be distributed, mostly by telephone, between 10th and 16th November.

So, if you are a 'first-timer' or a 'regular' who hasn't received an invitation by 16th November, please ring the FOCOS Christmas Party hot-line on 838515. [leave a message if the call centre staff are engaged on another calls]

Just to give you an idea of the planning that is going on, we can confirm that the menu has been agreed; the turkeys have been ordered; the pantomime continues to be rehearsed; the wine is being chilled and the transport is being arranged – so the only thing left is to notify our clientele that the FOCOS Christmas Party has been booked at **5.45pm for 6pm start at Cleeve Village Hall On Saturday 6th December.**

Lifts are available, please just ask!

FOCOS PANTO – JANUARY 2026

FOCOS are pleased to announce that another rip-roaring Pantomime will be taking place at Cleeve Village Hall on **Friday 16th and Saturday 17th January**, following a piping hot supper and sweet. More details to follow in the next edition of the Messenger



Many Claverham and Cleeve residents are concerned about the proposal for Wain Homes to build 130 homes off the High Street in Claverham. The planning application is due to be submitted at the end of November/early December.

Claverham Future is a group set up to oppose unsuitable developments in this village. If you feel strongly about this proposed development and want to be included on the mailing list please email claverhamfuture@gmail.com, who will act as a hub to keep you informed about the application and give guidance about how to word your letters. It is very important that if you want to protect our environment, feel strongly about road safety, lack of amenities etc that you let your views be known to the Planning Dept.

This will be the last Messenger for 2025. Starting in 2026, there will be a few small changes to how the Messenger is published. From next year, it will be available on the last Sunday of each month. This means that all contributions will need to be sent in by the middle of the month.

We'll also be inviting key people to write a Thought for the Day or an editorial piece, or a story to encourage us.. If you know someone who might be interested in contributing, please let us know.

Our hope is that the Messenger becomes a one-stop shop for all the information you need — including service rotas, updates from across our churches, and upcoming events.

To make that happen, we need your contributions! Please share details of any events, news, or activities so we can include them. Photos as well!

Thank you for your continued support and involvement.

Holy Trinity Cleaning Rota

Enid Pring Ron Pring	November 9th
Kath Hunt Alan Hunt	November 16th
Gill Roe Helen Bailey	December 7th
Carole Perrott Jennie Ford	December 21st
Jenny Haworth	December 28th

Last funny of the year from Ron -

Wife is a bit annoyed after visiting her friend. "She always make me take my shoes off when I enter the house and she hasn't even got a bouncy castle"

And from Clive

I met a boy I went to school with 50 years ago who complained about the time I put glue on his pen. He still can't let it go!

With Panto season coming up, he has been diagnosed with a fear of giants -

Feefiphobia!

Useful Church Contacts

Church Office	Mon-Fri 09.30-11.30	.....	01934 832184
Priest in Charge	Revd Daile Wilshere		01934 904765 or
Cleeve & Claverham	dailewilshere@live.co.uk		07810 551447
Deputy Wardens	Dave & Lin Mortimer	.....	01934 838515
	Elizabeth Vaughan	.....	07787 781716
	Gill Roe	.....	01934 832917
Safeguarding Officer	Jeannie Osmond	.....	01934 832421
Websites	htcleeve.wixsite.com/cleeve-and-claverham		
	yattonchurches.org		
Facebook	facebook.com/Cleeve-and-Claverham-Messenger		

Paul and Renate invite you to a

Christmas Extravaganza

6th -23rd November 2025
11am - 4pm
Closed Mondays & Tuesdays

We are selling beautiful Christmas gifts made by us and other local crafts people, and you can also enjoy fresh, homemade cakes and refreshments.

3 Bishop's Mead, Cleeve BS49 4NH

Thank you for your contributions to this month's Messenger and for keeping them coming through the past year.

The next edition will be in churches on the **4th January 2026** - where has this year gone!

There will be a Christmas publication in December which Rev'd Daile is putting together.

Anything that you would like me to include in the January Messenger should be with me by **Wednesday 17th December** They can be e mailed to carole.perrott@gmx.com, given to me at church or put through the door of 15 Chestnut Drive, Claverham.

Keep warm and well Everybody!

Carole