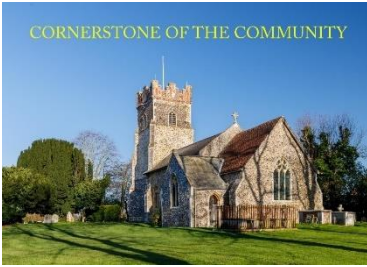


THE LANTERN

NEWS OF THE PARISH OF ST ANDREW'S BREDFIELD



NOVEMBER 2023



FROM ST ANDREW'S MINISTRY TEAM

Greater love hath no man than to lay down his life for his friends.

Our world is rocked by the constant barrage of the news of the horrors of wars, conflict and those dead or injured as a consequence. As we see the images on the news or social media of Ukraine, Israel and Gaza, if you are like me, we can be overwhelmed by the sheer scale of violence and loss. But we can remember and pray.

Every November, Remembrance Sunday reminds us to reminisce, remember, recall, recollect, remind. These words all have in common the prefix 're' originating from Latin. When we use 're', we mean again, or even again and again. In short, repetition – another 're' word. Remembrance Sunday is a day when traditionally communities gather to recall, remember, reminisce, recollect and are reminded of conflicts and war, and all those who have lost their lives or had them significantly changed. It is also a time when we come together to pray for peace in our world for today, and for tomorrow.

Jesus lived out the truth of the verse "greater love hath no man than to lay down his life for his friends", and we look to him to bring peace around the world, including the 'gulf' between us and God.

I remember from quite a young age visiting the World War I battlefields in Flanders and seeing vast numbers of row upon row of neatly tended war graves. Each of these speaks of sacrifice and the cost of a life: a life of a child, parent, relative or friend. Over the years, these experiences have reminded me how vital it is that we take time to remember the fallen and take care of the living. This year our particular focus at St Andrew's is remembering the RAF and all those involved in the air forces, as well as Israel, Ukraine and the other conflicts raging today.

Now a retail park and BT research centre, Martlesham Heath was originally used as one of the early Royal Flying Corps airfields during the First World War. From 1917 until 1939, it was home to the Aeroplane Experimental Unit testing aircraft, some of which would go on to be used during the Second World War. RAF Woodbridge and RAF Bentwaters, the former Royal Air Force airfields were constructed in the 1940's: Woodbridge as a base to receive distressed aircraft returning from raids over Germany, and Bentwaters as a base for Bomber Command. Both were later used by the United States Air Force during the Cold War until the 1990s.

Bredfield itself witnessed the war from the air during the Second World War, including a plane crashing in the field just behind the church. As a village, we remember five residents who died during the Second World War, three in the army, one in the navy, and one in the RAF. George Cone (known as Billy) was the son of Herbert and Anna Cone of Chapel Farm, who joined the RAF and was training to be a navigator when his plane developed engine troubles in Mid-Wales. It crashed with the loss of all six crew members who are commemorated in Guildford Cathedral and at Lake Vyrnwy in Wales. We also remember Daniel Sedgwick, whose father lived at the Old Rectory in Debach during the war, was a pilot in Bomber Command, and died when his Halifax was shot down over Germany in 1944.

This November, join me in remembering all those who will grow not old, as we that are left have the opportunity, the RAF and its connections with our area, and at the same time pray for peace in Ukraine, Israel and Gaza – as well as many other regions in our torn and divided world.

With my prayers and every blessing,

Charles Trefusis

Rector

During November, you might like to use or adapt the prayer of Archbishop Hosam Naoum of Jerusalem:

O God of all justice and peace,

we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land.

Be with those who need you in these days of suffering;

we pray for people of all faiths –
Jews, Muslims and Christians and for all people of the land.
While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment
of peace, we also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples.
Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and
honour as your children – for to all of us you are our Heavenly Father.
In Jesus' name we pray,
Amen.

At the British War Cemetery, Bayeux by Charles Causley

I walked where in their talking graves
And shirts of earth five thousand lay,
When history with ten feasts of fire
Had eaten the red air away.

'I am Christ's boy,' I cried. " I bear
In iron hands the bread, the fishes.
I hang with honey and with rose
This tidy wreck of all your wishes.

'On your geometry of sleep
The chestnut and the fir-tree fly,
And lavender and marguerite
Forge with their flowers an English sky.

'Turn now towards the belling town
Your jigsaws of impossible bone,
And rising read your rank of snow
Accurate as death upon the stone.'

Above your easy heads my prayers
I said with syllables of clay.

'What gift,' I asked, 'shall I bring now
Before I weep and walk away?'

*Take, they replied, the oak and laurel.
Take our fortune of tears and live
Like a spendthrift lover.
All we ask is the one gift you cannot give.*

November 1940 ...

It is now exactly 83 years since war touched Bredfield directly. The Battle of Britain had been underway during the summer of 1940, and although by the autumn the main enemy air offensive had shifted to night raids, daylight attacks were still occurring.

On Sunday 17 November 1940 a large air raid was detected closing the east coast, and aircraft were scrambled from airfields across south-eastern England as aerial dogfights developed over Essex and Suffolk. At 09.05 eleven Hurricane aircraft of 17 Squadron took off from Martlesham Heath and ten minutes later were vectored to intercept a formation to the north of Ipswich and sighted a group of 40-plus aircraft which were heading for a raid on Felixstowe and Harwich. One of the Hurricanes, piloted by Flying Officer Manfred Czernin, singled out and attacked one of the rear aircraft of the leading formation, seeing pieces of the tail fly off and one of the engines stop. He was then 'bounced' by an enemy fighter aircraft which attacked him from astern and set his aircraft on fire. Czernin managed to bale out, landing in Ufford, but his burning aircraft crashed in a field near Bredfield church. His attacker had been the German air ace, Adolf Galland. The aircraft he attacked, an Me.110, lost power and crashed into the North Sea, the crew baling out, with the pilot (Werner Neumann) being rescued by the Aldeburgh lifeboat, the gunner (Stoff) landing at Orford.

Czernin had been born in Berlin to an Austrian father and English mother, but his parents had divorced when he was a child, and he had been educated in England. He had a distinguished career as a fighter pilot, being credited with 18 victories, including, in August 1940, shooting down three aircraft in one sortie, by making a very determined head-on attack on a group of enemy aircraft. He was awarded the DSO and DFC and later the Military Cross (MC) for his work with Italian partisans. He survived the war and died in 1962. His attacker, Adolf Galland, is recognised as one of the greatest air aces, also survived the war, dying in 1996.

[main source: The National Archives, ref: AIR.50/9: 17 Squadron combat reports 1940-41 – also <https://aircrewremembered.com/KrackerDatabase>]

David Hepper

Five Years in the RAF

Rev Hugh Hawes is a familiar figure in Bredfield: he has been the Minister at the Chapel for around 10 years and preaches at St Andrew's at the joint annual Service of Remembrance. But did you know that being a Baptist Minister was not his first career?

Born in Neasden, Middlesex in 1935, he left Dartford Secondary Modern School at 15 and went to work as a lab assistant in the Pathology and Mortuary Lab at St Thomas's Hospital. As he approached 18, he knew that he would be called up to do National Service. He had heard that if you joined up voluntarily, you were likely to get more interesting and better paid work (the more so, the longer you signed for), so he signed up with the RAF for 5 years. As a committed Christian from childhood, he knew he could never fight, so he chose the RAF as there were plenty of roles that did not require him to be trained for combat.



Starting at the RAF Radio School at Compton Bassett, Wiltshire, basic training took 6 months, and, although there was rifle drill (at which he excelled, and which led to his being banned from the local fairground!), his training was more for discipline rather than war. He is very aware, though, that this would have been very different had this country still been at war.

At the end of his training, Hugh was very amused to see the next batch of raw recruits arrive, full of attitude and airs. It was the early days of the Teddy Boys, with their beautifully coiffed haircuts and "no-one's going to tell me what to do" attitude. Hugh and his mates used to tease them that would lose

both the haircuts and the attitude very quickly, which they flatly denied. Seeing the same recruits a few weeks later with shaved heads and doing exactly as they were told made Hugh and his mates grin!

Initially, Hugh was posted to RAF St Eval near Padstow, Cornwall. St Eval was an RAF station for the RAF Coastal Command. Hugh really wanted to go into the control tower, which he was fortunate to be able to do. He was never in charge there but did get to speak to many pilots during his time there, including some rather daredevil ones who – having flown across the Atlantic – would tell him that they were 20 minutes away from the runway, but only had 15 minutes of fuel left! Hugh had to keep his cool and guide them safely to the runway. He remembers planes landing and the engine immediately cutting out; “The pilots did get told off for that!”

Hugh subsequently spent time at RAF Calshot, near Southampton, which was a seaplane and flying-boat station. Hugh was fascinated by these and was very excited when he found he was speaking from the control tower to the test pilot of the Saunders-Roe SR.45 Princess, which was the largest all-metal flying boat in the world. Weighing 140 tons and with a wingspan of 220 feet, the flying boat needed up to a mile of water to be able to get into the air.

Hugh really enjoyed his time with the RAF and, although he subsequently pursued other careers, such as chauffeur to Mr Fenwick Jnr of Fenwick’s department stores, before training to be a minister, he never lost his admiration for the discipline that was instilled into him during his time with the RAF. He became Chaplain to the Boys Brigade in Hove, Sussex and was a Scout Master in Old Bexley, Kent. He remembers going on Scout parades in Bexley Heath where someone would always toss the mace up through the trolley-bus wires, proving that daredevils are with us in every generation!

DIARY DATES

Calling all (would-be) Singers!

We would love this year's carol service to be even more special than usual, so have decided that we are going to have a choir to lead the singing! Anyone can join, but we ask that you come to a few rehearsals to perfect our performance. These will be held in the Church Room on the following Thursday evenings: 23rd and 30th November, 7th and 14th December. Please let Steve know if you are interested on churchwardens.bredfield@gmail.com or 01394 384371 or 07704 856005

Churchyard Clear-up Saturday 4th November

Do come along on Saturday 4th November from 9.30am to help tidy up the churchyard. There are jobs suitable for all ages and abilities. Feel free to bring your own hand tools. Refreshments will be provided.

Come and Have Fun - Build a Bug Hotel to Help Wildlife

WHEN? Saturday 4th November 10.00am

WHERE? St Andrews' Churchyard. Meet outside Church Room

WHO? All ages, but school age children MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT (machinery will be in use for the Churchyard Clear-up, gates to road and at back of church will be open, and graves can provide trip hazards)

WHAT CAN YOU DO? Come and help for an hour or two. Encourage your friends to join in. Bring something from home that would be useful.

Wear protective gloves if possible and sensible shoes.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ANYONE LOOKING FOR LEAVES, TWIGS ETC IN THE CHURCHYARD MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT AT ALL TIMES.

WHY BUILD A BUG HOTEL? Our small bugs need our help: they need shelter to hibernate and for safety. Biodiversity is important to us all.

WHAT DO WE NEED?

BRICKS for the corners

3 WOODEN PALLETTS (already offered)

MATERIALS to create cosy nooks and crannies, such as:

Dead wood, small sticks, bark, for Beetles, Earwigs, Centipede, Millipedes, Woodlice, Beetles etc and their babies

Bamboo canes, Stems with hollow centres, for Funnel Web Spiders, friendly nesting Solitary Bees such as Mason Bees, Leaf Cutter Bees, etc

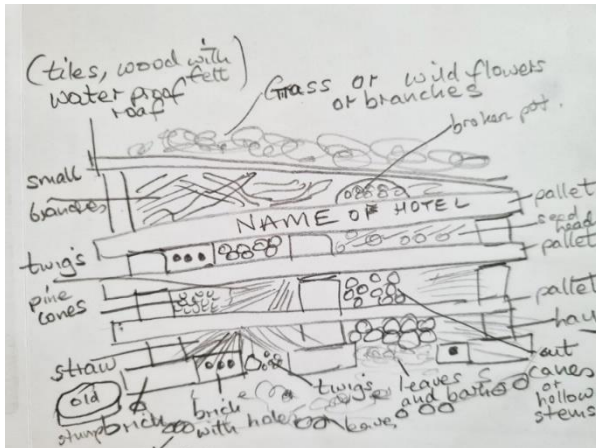
Bricks or stones with holes for Frogs/Toads/Newts

Leaves and bark

Old broken clay flowerpots for Bumblebees

Dry leaves, dried flower heads and seed heads, sticks, straw, hay, pinecones for Ladybirds, Beetles Lacewings etc and Hedgehogs' bedding

Old roof tiles, old planks covered in roofing felt for a roof. There could also be gritty soil on top for wild seeds to grow or wooden branches to decompose and harbour more bugs.



TO FINISH we could name our hotel and paint a waterproof sign on wood or a tile. *****Can you think of any ideas of a name for our bug hotel?*****

DRINKS AND BISCUITS WILL BE AVAILABLE

Any questions or donations of materials please contact a Church Warden

Food Donations

Thank you to all those who have given so generously for the Salvation Army Food Bank.

The need to help people continues now that the weather is colder, so could you please continue to add donations of similar items to the collection boxes when possible.

St Andrew's PCC

Posada (from the Spanish word for "hotel or inn")

There will be a Mary, Joseph and donkey group travelling from home to home in Bredfield from Advent until Christmas Eve this year. The journey re-enacts Mary and Joseph's search for lodging before the birth of Jesus. If you would be willing to house the weary travellers for the night, please contact us: churchwardens.bredfield@gmail.com

Christmas Tree with Stars of Love and Doves of Peace

From 1st December you are invited to add a pre-cut card shape to the tree in St Andrews. STARS to represent anyone missing around your Christmas table this year, for whatever reason, and DOVES to represent the need for peace in our World.

Ann Stammers

Coffee and Cake morning

This is being planned for the Church Room, on a fortnightly weekday, starting in the New Year. This will be open to all, with filter coffee etc and fresh cakes, for a small donation towards cost, on a regular basis. A great opportunity for a midweek social occasion in our village.

We have a team of volunteers to help, but if you would like to join in you would be most welcome. Just let one of our Churchwardens know.

If anyone knows where we can source a weatherproof A Frame to advertise when we are open, that would be great.

Ann Stammers

Join in the Festive Fun at
Bredfield Village Hall's

Christmas Fair

Saturday 25th November 2023

1 – 4pm



Visit Santa – He will be arriving at 1pm

Christmas Themed Stalls

Festive Baps, Mince Pies and Mulled Wine

Raffle – to be drawn at 3.30

See you there

NEWS FROM BREDFIELD

BREDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Bredfield Parish Council Report

The Nights are Drawing In

The last full meeting of the Parish Council was held on the 25th September with 6 members of the public present. Elaine Bryce (our County Councillor) and Colin Hedgley (one of our two District Councillors) attended the start of the meeting giving an update on their respective council activities. The full minutes of the meeting and the councillor's reports can be found under draft minutes on the Parish Council website.

Mole Catching

The Bredfield Wildlife Group asked the Parish Council if it was still necessary to protect the village green by hiring a mole catcher, particularly given the village's wildlife credentials.

It was pointed out that moles are beneficial to the environment. By digging up the earth, moles help make the soil healthier by aerating it. This allows more types of plants to grow, which in turn feed more insects. Not only this, the tunnels improve soil drainage, which helps stop flooding and puddles forming on the ground.

Concern was raised about mole hills causing damage to the mower blades if the hills are not removed before mowing.

At the moment there are no moles under the village green.

After discussion it was decided not to renew the mole catching contract this year. Should moles become a problem we will look for alternative solutions.



Parish Council Budget

An overall review of the Parish Council's budget shows that to cover the impact of inflation we will need to increase our element of Council Tax for next year by around 3% (or possibly more). Currently the annual Parish element of Council Tax for a Band D property is £36.86 so a 3% increase would bring this element to £38 - adding a shade over 2p a week to a typical council tax bill. Be assured this is all for the greater good.

Our budget and the change to the Parish element of the precept will be agreed at the 20th November Parish Council Meeting.

Jubilee Meadow and Orchard

The Council received an update on progress and plans for the Jubilee Meadow and Orchard. It is planned to hold a volunteering day in November to tidy the surrounding hedges and trees, install better deer proof tree guards and a number of other activities.

Website

Following feedback the Parish Council website has been updated to highlight the contact email address.

Nik Bestow

BREDFIELD AMATEUR DRAMATICS SOCIETY (B.A.D.S)

'Drama from Hall to Hall'

At a tender age I unwittingly became an original member of B.A.D.S, my parents and another Bredfield family were the Founders of the Society formed in 1977. It would be fair to say that a lot of drama went on the Hall stage over the following years and most of it enjoyably silly, both for the Am-Dram members and the audience!

Those Bredfield residents who can remember that far back will tell you, the village did not have much in the way of social facilities back then. Being a culture of beg, borrow or homemade when it came to any big projects. Indeed, we had to use the old village Hall – nothing more than a glorified ex-military canteen wooden barrack-like hut donated after WWII by the RAF Search Station which had been established at Bredfield House. The building (I

use the term loosely) had one toilet to the side, squeaky floorboards, small wire-glass windows and a tiny kitchenette with that all too familiar smell of rotting lino and bleach. At the far end, was a slight raised stage. There was a permanent unkempt upright piano, which the mice used to love to move into when the Hall was less active. Consequently, hearing the odd out-of-tune note on entering the main room was not uncommon before rehearsals. Those B.A.D.S members not fond of the furry 'Extras' were usually more afraid of the Directors than the mice – like the war motto; we kept calm and carried On!

I am proud to say that Bredfield village came together as a community to both be in the group, and support B.A.D.S. In recognition of this, the acting charity (no pun intended) with its small band of... shall we politely say 'untrained' but enthusiastic actors, ambitious stage management inc. lighting and 'anything for a free ticket' front of house; managed to raise vital funds for the village over the years.

The Group started out basic in nature, just a few small sketches as this old Hall was fantastic for cosy plays. However far too cramped for Pantomimes, with unlucky 'no-seat' people literally standing outside and looking in through the open windows to watch the show! Scenery had to be cleverly used in multiple ways and rotated multiple times on the tiny stage area. Live music was provided by a piano and occasionally electric guitar or drums depending on who had joined that year.

There used to be generally two performances of a Play or Review (bunch of sketches) on Friday/Saturday and three performances for Pantomimes. Pantomimes were not only more crowded due to attracting cast relatives, families and children etc, but we liked to have a quieter 'Preview' type performance on the Thursday night for concessions- mainly the Old Age Pensioners (O.A.P.S) as they were known in those days. One Review during Wimbledon season only had 8 Pensioners turn up, as consummate performers the show did go on! Dear Billy Richardson (a stalwart supporter and long rooted Bredfield Resident) was one of those 8 and after the curtain call, he stood up and thanked the cast of actors for the great performance "on behalf of the whole audience."

Lindsay

WE LIVE HERE: BREDFIELD

“Bredfield summer views: 2023 and bygone years”.



Here are another 2 photographs from this summer’s photo project:

October 2021 and two people, from different generations, are harvesting apples

from Bredfield Jubilee Meadow and Orchard: Samuel Belfield and Angela Derham. This was the first year in which apples were harvested for the annual Apple Pressing Day

Submitted by Stewart Belfield



Granny’s Secret Garden

The kitchen garden was overgrown with nettles, brambles and bamboo when we moved into Bredfield Place in the October of 2020. Gradually the front has



been cleared and is now in its second year of producing vegetables and fruit. The back has been left for wild flowers with a few paths cut through. Our grandson thinks it’s our secret garden looked after by Mr Gummage who can be seen resting on an old bench under the trees.

Submitted by Yvonne and Chris Woods

NATURE NOTES

The arrival of November marks a change of cast for local bird life. Some familiar characters remain in our gardens – Robin, Dunnock, Blackbird, Blue Tit, et al – but several other birds, that have been with us during the summer – such as Swift, Swallow, House Martin, and Whitethroat - have long-since migrated south to warmer climates.

Two familiar warblers, Chiffchaff and Blackcap, are shorter distance migrants; usually off to southern Europe rather than Africa. Climate change, over the last decade or two, has brought milder winters. Some Chiffchaff and Blackcap now decide to stay put, so there's a chance that you may still find them in your garden during the winter.

Finches and buntings pair up in the spring to mate and breed, but in November they will be back forming flocks. Some members of these flocks may be resident birds, but they will be joined by other members which have moved here from northern Europe, to escape the freezing winters there. A walk along Bredfield's footpaths in winter may bring sights of flocks of Linnet and Yellowhammer. You will also come across flocks of winter thrushes: Fieldfare and Redwing. These birds have flown south to feed on our fields and in our hedges during the winter. There are several cherry trees and crab apple trees in the village, that still have fruit in November and December. Watch for these glorious winter thrushes visiting those trees to gorge the fruit. If you're really lucky, you may even find a group of Waxwing!



You'll see more Blackbirds than usual in your garden over the winter. And, if you look closely, you might notice that some of the males have dark beaks, rather than yellow ones. Those black-billed Blackbirds will also have arrived from northern climes, but they prefer your garden rather than exposed fields. At the end of winter, 'our' Blackbirds will remain, and they'll be back to their usual grumpy, scolding, territorial ways.

Our local birds of prey will stay put here, and the same goes for the owls that are resident in the area. The calls of Tawny Owls are a familiar nightly sound in the winter: ‘too-whit-too-woo’ or ‘kvik’. Little Owls are also resident in Bredfield. It’s a great sight to find them perched atop a post at dusk, on the lookout for their next meal. Earlier this year, a pair of Little Owls raised a family in the area between the playing fields and Suffolk Yurts. The silhouette photograph included here is of an amorous pair of local Little Owls in a dead tree in the middle of their territory. Keep a look out for these winter birds, and wonder at how they all adapt and adopt ways to survive in the harshest of months.

Stewart Belfield
<https://bredfieldwfv.org.uk>



100 Club Winners

September

1st Prize	No.82 N Young
2nd Prize	No.6 C Howe

BREDFIELD PRAYER CIRCLE

The Bredfield Prayer Circle is a group of Parishioners united in prayer for the needs of our community. The Prayer Circle operates in confidence. It does not discuss your requests but simply includes your needs with their private prayer. Please give just a first name and enough details to make your request meaningful to those who will be praying with you. If you are in need of prayer, or praying yourself, and would like the prayer of others please contact Anne Ackerley 01394 384805 or Alison Cannard 01473 737707.

SEASONAL RECIPE FROM THE VILLAGE SHOP

This month we should celebrate the Brassicas - kale and broccoli, and even the humble and much-maligned cabbage! Here are some recipes to try.

Kale and Carrot au Gratin

300ml vegetable stock
1 onion, peeled and chopped
1 tsp fresh thyme, chopped
75g long grain rice
2 large carrots, peeled and sliced
1 kg curly green kale
100g ricotta
75g grated cheddar cheese
Pinch of nutmeg
2 tblsp wholemeal breadcrumbs

Heat the stock in a pan with the onion and thyme. Add the rice and simmer until cooked, about 15 mins. Add the sliced carrots towards the end of the cooking time, and steam the kale separately for a few minutes. Transfer the rice to an ovenproof dish and mix in the kale, ricotta and half the grated cheese. Season with salt and pepper, and the nutmeg. Sprinkle the breadcrumbs and remaining cheese on top and a little rapeseed oil. Cook in the oven at 180oC, gas mark 4, for 20 mins, until browned on top.

All these ingredients are available in the shop, and more brassica recipes as well. Do come along and do your bit to improve the image of our lovely local cabbages!

Kate Pirkis



USEFUL INFORMATION

St Andrew's, Bredfield

Rector: Rev Charles Trefusis

Churchwardens: Stephen Stammers and Paul Cannard

For all enquiries regarding St Andrew's, contact:
the Churchwardens on churchwardens.bredfield@gmail.com or call Steve
Stammers on 01394 384371 or 07704 856005

St John's church office on 01394 383162 or info@stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk

For information about the Benefice of St John's and St Andrew's go to
www.stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk

Bredfield Village Shop opening times: Monday – Saturday 9.30-12.30

Want to know what's happening in the village? Check out the website
<http://bredfield.onesuffolk.net>

For regular info updates- join our MailChimp email group. Email Anne
Henderson - henny@dircon.co.uk and she will add you to the MailChimp list
Want to know about the Village Hall and Bredfield Wildlife Friendly Village –
check out <https://www.bredfieldvillagehall.org.uk>
<https://bredfieldwfv.org.uk>

Please send any contribution for the Lantern to Alison Cannard
at lantern.bredfield@gmail.com , 01473 737707 by 10th of the
month before the month in which you would like it to appear.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER SERVICES AT ST. ANDREW'S

Sunday 5 th November	Holy Communion Light and Darkness	9.15am
Sunday 12 th November Remembrance	Act of Remembrance and Remembrance Service	<u>10.50am</u>
Sunday 19 th November	Holy Communion Joshua 5	9.15am
Sunday 26 th November	Service of the Word Joshua 6	9.15am
Sunday 3 rd December Patronal Festival 1 st Sunday in Advent	Holy Communion	<u>10.00am</u>
Sunday 10 th December	Service of the Word	9.15am
Sunday 17 th December	Carols by Candlelight	<u>5.00pm</u>
Sunday 24 th December CHRISTMAS EVE	Crib Service	<u>3.00pm</u>
Monday 25 th December CHRISTMAS DAY	Holy Communion Christmas Day Celebration	<u>10.00am</u>
Sunday 31 st December	No service at St Andrew's	-

DIARY DATES AT A GLANCE

Sat 4 th November	Churchyard clear-up
Sat 25 th November 1-4pm	Christmas Fair
From 26 th November	Posada figures start their journey
23 rd , 30 th November 7 th , 14 th December	Carol Service choir practice