



**FEBRUARY 2024**

# PARISH NEWS

**UNITED BENEFICE OF  
PUBLOW WITH PENSFORD,  
COMPTON DANDO  
AND CHELWOOD**

## UNITED BENEFICE OF PUBLW WITH PENSFORD, COMPTON DANDO AND CHELWOOD

### PRIEST IN CHARGE

Revd Denise Calverley 07849 821588

### CHURCH WARDENS

|                      |                |              |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Publow with Pensford | Andrew Hillman | 01761 490324 |
| Compton Dando        | Clive Howarth  | 01761 490644 |
|                      | Neil Borer     | 07793 811605 |

### PUBLW WITH PENSFORD PCC

|           |                    |              |
|-----------|--------------------|--------------|
| Secretary | Mrs Jill Sherborne | 07771 863166 |
| Treasurer | Mike Paul          | 07542 710140 |

### COMPTON DANDO & CHELWOOD PCC

|           |                    |              |
|-----------|--------------------|--------------|
| Secretary | Mrs Jill Sherborne | 07771 863166 |
| Treasurer | David Stoyle       | 07813 112938 |

**For Benefice Enquiries**      [pensfordparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:pensfordparishoffice@gmail.com)

## CHURCH SERVICES

### 1ST SUNDAY

Publow All Saints' 10:00am Holy Communion

### 2ND SUNDAY

Compton Dando St. Mary's 10:00am Café Church

### 3RD SUNDAY

Publow All Saints' 10:00am Holy Communion

### 4TH SUNDAY

Compton Dando St. Mary's 10:00am Holy Communion

### 5TH SUNDAY

Rotation between Publow All Saints' and Compton Dando St. Mary's

### WEEKLY

Every Wednesday Publow All Saints' 9.30am Morning Prayer

Every Thursday Compton Dando St. Mary's 9.30am Morning Prayer

FRONT COVER IMAGE: All Saints' Church, Publow. Email a jpeg of our local churches to [pensford@gmail.com](mailto:pensford@gmail.com) and see it as one of our front cover.

## PARISH PONDERINGS

Happy New Year. It's about a month before Ash Wednesday but it's still the season of Epiphany in the Church of England. Epiphany is from the Greek word 'epiphaneia', meaning "manifestation" or "appearance commemorating the visit of the Magi or wise men to Jesus". So why is Epiphany a season in the Church?

Someone who knew I was about to prepare my February article, asked me "Do you recycle your sermons and messages from year to year?" My "no" was met with surprised disbelief. Then the following... "They're just words on a page. Surely you use them again and again." "No." What followed was, "I'm sure at some point religion will go the way of AI and it will be doing it."

That may be true. But computers can't replicate THE Epiphany...the revelation of Jesus Christ to the world. The manifestation of God's love and salvation for all people of every tribe, tongue and nation on the earth for all time. The truth of Jesus manifested in the world cannot be mimicked. He can't be replicated by anything man made. Humanity is uniquely made in God's image when God breathed life in us. We have a soul = our mind, will and emotions. We also have an eternal spirit because we're created to have relationship with eternal God. God sent his one and only Son Jesus into the world so that the world would know God and we might live through him. 1 John 4:9. Jesus also gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit to know God and live in peace with him.

It's evident that many in the world do not want peace in relationship with others or with God. Why is this so? Let's imagine for a moment that there is no god of any kind to be answerable to, nor to intervene and save us from, ourselves and our capacity for self-destruction. Now, who do we blame for the suffering in the world? Logically, it must be ourselves. So then, where does sacrificial love come from? Or a sense of justice? Where does peace come from that we so desperately long for?

Now, let's imagine there is a God that we might turn to. That He loves us totally. Because of that love He did do something about our problems. He became like us, was born like us. Lived and died for us. He proved he was God by rising to life again. Most importantly we are free to choose the love and peace he offers us eternally or the way we're doing things. Which would you choose? This is the Epiphany and Lent. Let's share both together.

**From the Parish registers of  
St Mary's Compton  
Dando  
Funeral**

3rd January 2024 - Royston John WEBB

**Christmas Market  
All Saints'  
2nd December**

This popular event saw All Saints' Church packed with buyers and sellers. We had a full complement of stalls selling everything Christmas related and a huge number of villagers and supporters from further afield, all eager to snap up their choice of baked goodies, Christmas decorations, knitted goods, pictures, white elephant bargains, local honey, a variety of cards, glass items and even take-away Thai food! The raffle was very popular, the hamper being won by Tony Jones and the Christmas cake by Alison Hearn. Refreshments with mince pies were also available. A huge thank you goes to everyone who supported this very enjoyable event in whatever capacity and, as a result, nearly £2,000 has been passed to the All Saints' General Fund. The next event will be on Saturday, 3rd February, when we have a stall selling pre-loved goods and second-hand books. If anyone wishes to donate, please bring your items to the church. Home baking and a plant stall with hellebores and house plants will also be available.

**For further information: Judith Hillman 01761 490324, Janet Smith 490584 or Gillian Wookey 490336.**

**From the Parish Registers of  
All Saints' Publow  
Interment of Ashes**

6th December - Anthony Paul FILER

**Christingle Service**

This short service, held in aid of the Children's Society, took place on Christmas Eve amidst much excitement on the part of the youngsters who attended with their parents and grandparents. The crib scene was set up with the help of children taking their chosen character to Rev. Denise to be placed in the crib scene which was then blessed. An explanation of the meaning of Christingle preceded the lighting of the candles and giving out of Christingles to every family. A very generous collection amounting to £334.52 has been forwarded to the Children's Society towards their invaluable work with vulnerable children. Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way.

**Pensford Primary School  
Nativity Play**

Once again All Saints' was pleased to welcome all members of Pensford Primary School for rehearsals and performances of their special take on the story of the Nativity. The two performances demonstrated the great deal of hard work put in by all the pupils and their staff members and showed up how much they all enjoyed coming together for this all-school event. We look forward to welcoming them again and are very grateful to Mr. Barton for offering All Saints' a share of the very generous collection.



Vaishali and Umang Patel - Copyright to Ros Anstey

**Postmaster's Award**

The communities of All Saints', St. Mary's, St. Leonard's and surrounding villages would wish to add their congratulations to Umang Patel and his wife Vaishali for the receipt of a Post Office Community Service Award. We all know how much we value their unstinting commitment to their local, and wider, community and thank them for their continuing presence amongst us. We are blessed to have you.

**All Saints' Carol Service**

The Carol Service was very well attended and the congregation sang heartily in support of the large benefice choir. Richard Sanders, our young organist and choirmaster, had put together a wonderful, traditional service and the choir produced some outstanding singing with soaring descants, supported by a trumpet which really set it off.

Three students from Pensford Primary School were among the readers and they did themselves, their families and their school proud. The combined collection from All Saints' and St. Mary's carol services raised £406.82 which has been forwarded to Shelter.

**All Saints' Tower**

The 14th Century builders of All Saints' did a stunning job. Considering that it is so close to the River Chew, which has notoriously flooded many times over the centuries, it has suffered very little flood damage, unlike St. Thomas Becket in Pensford half a mile up stream.

However, the large volume of water which has to be taken away from the building whenever it rains - and it certainly rains in this part of the world, particularly in recent months - has recently caused problems. The guttering and down pipes do a great job but taking the water away to the River Chew has not worked well recently. The result is dampness in the tower walls and uncertain amounts of degradation of the footings of the tower and the rest of the church. Clearly, we cannot allow this to continue. Are there soakaways, dispersing the water around the churchyard or is the water conducted into the river directly through pipes? To date we have not been able to discover, despite enlisting expert help and attempting to trace the course using dye. We now have permission to dig in the churchyard to try to solve the problem. We shall start with a trial pit close to the South West corner of the tower. The work will be supervised by a qualified archaeologist and the church architect and should not cause too much disruption. We must hope that the solution is quickly found and at not too great cost. We must continue to conserve this wonderful building.

**Andrew Hillman  
Churchwarden**

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## — DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS —

### Our precious gift

By Alastair Redfern, Assistant Bishop for the Diocese of Bath and Wells

As Christians, while we may look to reduce our own carbon footprint, we are called to be stewards and witnesses of a much more radical resource. The clue is in the word 'ecology'.

'Eco' comes from the Greek word oikos, meaning house, or dwelling place. Ecology is partly about our responsibility to recognise the precious gift of the Earth, as our dwelling place: to be thankful, and play our part. God made humankind to care for the earthly world: Jesus amplifies the call, as He uses 'nature' as the sign of how we can live in order to flourish and to fulfil God's will.

'Logy' comes from a Greek word logos interpreted as reason, the ordering of knowledge, logic. In John's Gospel, logos is a word to describe Jesus - through whom all things are made and from whom all true knowledge comes. Logos is the word, the source of all goodness and grace, for every human life, and for all of creation.

It is the 'logos', the word, who inhabits our lives, our creation - inviting us to recognise His light, and allow it to overcome the darkness of our own limited concerns and agendas. We meet the logos in scripture, in worship, in prayer, and deeper reflection.

In Jesus, as logos, we can find the wisdom, the resources and the commitment to play our part in caring for creation. We are able to invite others to recognise the deeper truths about Eco, our common dwelling place, and to see more clearly how we join with others to work out what to do, how to live, and honour the gift of life that we receive through Him. The Logos is the possibility of good news for humankind and for the Earth.

What a responsibility each Christian disciple is called to bear! And what grace can be ours to enable us to fulfil our calling, and help all of God's children become caught up in the praise and prayer that gives true life to our dwelling place, and to exercise our stewardship appropriately.

Read John 1v1-14. Become an ECO-warrior - committed our common dwelling place - through celebrating the power and presence of the LOGOS. ECOLOGY: we know it makes sense.

**Bishop Alastair**



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## LOCAL GROUPS

### Vacancy for a Parish Flood Representative

Working as a community is a sensible way to help reduce the impacts of a shared flood risk. In view of the recent spate of wet weather, swollen rivers and flooded roads, the Parish Council is seeking to fill the vacant post of Parish Flood Representative.

Our Parish Flood Representative would be a designated individual who would work in conjunction with the Parish Council to liaise with Bath & North East Somerset Council's Drainage & Flooding team. The individual would provide an important communication link between the whole of our Parish and the Flood Risk Management authorities on issues such as:

- land drainage
- surface water flooding
- groundwater flooding
- watercourse flooding

It should be emphasised that this position is NOT a flood emergency role. It is primarily concerned with the reporting of ongoing local land drainage and flooding issues in order to come up with practical solutions for long-term improvements. No technical knowledge of drainage or flooding is required, what's more important is that the Flood Representative is willing to gather information about drainage issues within our Parish and pass this on to Bath and North East Somerset Council's Drainage and Flooding team.

The Parish Flood Representative would also make a parish flood plan, keep it up to date and provide information and advice to residents on how to keep safe during flooding.

This is a voluntary, unpaid role. The individual does not need to be a Parish Councillor or attend regular Parish Council meetings. Any member of the public is welcome to apply but the nomination would need to be agreed with the Parish Council.

If you would like to find out more about the Parish Flood Representative role please email the Parish Clerk, Helen Richardson at [clerk@publow-with-pensford-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@publow-with-pensford-pc.gov.uk)

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**Every 2 weeks in the Old School Room, Pensford**

*Parsnip & apple - spicy carrot... we made a lot !  
Then a problem... how to keep it all hot ?  
But the top choice by those who came,  
Curried butternut... from chef tony by name!  
A really cold day so just the thing  
To warm us up... we'll do it 'til spring!  
So many folk came... meet up with their chums  
Everyone happy... no one looking glum !  
Some had seconds & even thirds  
So the sense of achievement knew no words.  
Thanking those who suggested soup  
I think you'll agree we're a lovely group  
Ros took photos so you'll see who they are  
Each one take a bow... you are a star !*

**February 7th & 21st - 12 till 2**

Please join us and bring a friend!

If you need a lift please phone Jane Flower 01761490234 / 07703698123

# All Saints' Market



**Saturday 3rd February**

**10 - 11:30**

- Home Baking
- Pre-loved Stall • Books
- Plants

**Admission £1 to include tea/coffee and biscuit.**

*Proceeds towards All Saints' General Fund*

**All Saints' Church, BS39 4HP**

**February, 2024**

- Saturday, 3rd** Coffee Morning and Market, *All Saints' Publow* 10.00am
- Sunday, 4th** Holy Communion, *All Saints' Publow*, 10.00am
- Sunday, 11th** Café Church, *St. Mary's Compton Dando*, 10.00am
- Tuesday, 13th** Shrove Tuesday. Concert & Pancakes in *Old School Room, Pensford*, 7.30pm onwards
- Wednesday, 14th** Ash Wednesday Service, *St. Mary's Compton Dando*, 7.30pm
- Sunday, 18th** Holy Communion, *All Saints' Publow*, 10.00am
- Sunday, 25th** Holy Communion, *St. Mary's Compton Dando*, 10am

 Pensford Memorial Hall

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Support your local Village Hall**

**06.02.2024**

**Tuesday 6th February 7.30pm**

**Publow Lane, Pensford, BS39 4HW**

**Our Agenda**

- **Committee Members needed.**
- **Events**
- **2024 Fundraising**
- **A.O.B**



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## LOCAL GROUPS

### Avon Wildlife Trust Chew Valley Group Programme

**Thursday, 22nd February 2024**

**BUTTERFLIES** in the CHEW VALLEY An illustrated talk by Rupert Higgins. An exploration of the natural history of these charismatic insects, a look at their past, present and possible future in and around the Chew Valley, and a discussion of what we can all do to ensure their survival. Rupert is a well known and local ecologist involved in and advising on many aspects of management and biodiversity plans for local SSSIs and Nature Reserves.

Chew Magna Old School Room, 7.45pm. Admission £2.50 incl. refreshments.

### Update from Dan Norris

#### 'Social Economy West' Launches

Co-operatives and other community-focused firms can now access advice and support from a new service: Social Economy West. Find out more at [www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/socialeconomywest/](http://www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/socialeconomywest/).

#### Local Businesses - Turn your roof into a Renewable Power Station

Small and medium-sized businesses in the West of England can benefit from grants to help them cut their emissions and their energy bills by installing solar panels on larger commercial and industrial roofs - think warehouses, factories and larger offices. Grants are available first come first served, with a total of £500,000 up for grabs.

For further information please contact: [lowcarbonbusiness@westofengland-ca.gov.uk](mailto:lowcarbonbusiness@westofengland-ca.gov.uk)

#### Time to 'Leap' on to the Bus

2024 is a leap year which means an extra day added to the calendar. That's great news for those with February birthdays as they will have a whole extra day to use their free 'Birthday Bus Month Pass'.

Birthday Buses from the Mayoral Combined Authority gives you unlimited free bus travel throughout the month of your Birthday. Don't forget to apply at: [www.birthdaybus.co.uk](http://www.birthdaybus.co.uk)!

### Chew Valley U3A

We will hold our monthly meeting on Monday, 19th February 2024 at 10.30am at Ubley Parish Hall, when Dick Hyde will present a talk about the Barton Camp at Winscombe for Disadvantaged City Children.

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## LOCAL GROUPS

### CV Garden Society news

February's speaker as renowned garden expert Mary Payne who will be speaking on 8th February. This friendly society meet on the second Thursday of the month at 8pm at Stanton Drew Village Hall where there is easy access and parking.

### Two Hundred Years of Saving Lives at Sea

In 2024 the RNLI will celebrate 200 years of service dedicated to the preservation of those who work or play at sea or on our inland waters. Here in the Chew Valley we try and do our bit to raise funds to keep this crucial service going and it is thanks to our loyal supporters that we are able to do this. We recently held our Curry Lunch which raised £2,300 and thanks go to all who contributed. In fact, 94% of RNLI income is derived solely from public donations. In May 2024 we are planning to celebrate our bicentenary with an outdoor event at Lady Farm, Chelwood to which all family members will be welcome. Make a note of the timing and keep an eye open for further information. We also hope to repeat our Curry Lunch in the Autumn. Our small committee is now in desperate need of new members to help plan our fund raising activities. We only meet on two or three occasions a year, so please consider helping us by dropping a note to: [rnlichewvalley@gmail.com](mailto:rnlichewvalley@gmail.com).



## CHELWOOD COMMUNITY FUND



Invites applications for Grant Awards for Charitable Purposes from organisations, community groups and individuals in Chelwood and the surrounding parishes. The Grant Application Guidelines and the Grant Application Form can be downloaded at [www.chelwood-village.co.uk](http://www.chelwood-village.co.uk) or you can call Stephen Meale on 07890 965172 or email [stephenmeale@icloud.com](mailto:stephenmeale@icloud.com) for copies and more information.

Chelwood Community Fund Charitable Incorporated Organisation is a Registered Charity (No. 1170268) established to distribute surplus funds generated by Chelwood Community Energy Limited (a Community Benefit Society) for the benefit of the local community.

### Pensford Publow and The Stanton's

#### Community Trust 100 Club

Congratulations to our Annual Winners

1st Prize: 076 - £2434  
2nd Prize: 051 - £1217

Congratulations to our Monthly Winners

1st Prize: 034 - £420  
2nd Prize: 081 - £105  
3rd Prize: 035 - £105

**Just 100 people can make a big difference**

Raising funds to benefit projects within our communities

**The Next Draw Date:**  
Monday 8th January 2024  
at The Druids Arms

For more information call  
Phil on **07785 723797** or  
Sue on **07989 977992**

[www.ppsct.org.uk](http://www.ppsct.org.uk)

### Pensford Publow and The Stanton's

#### Community Trust 100 Club

Congratulations to our latest Winners

1st Prize: 087 - £420  
2nd Prize: 008 - £105  
3rd Prize: 092 - £105

**Just 100 people can make a big difference**

Raising funds to benefit projects within our communities

**Next Draw Date TBC**  
Please refer to website

All Draws are  
7.00pm for 7.30pm Draw

For more information call  
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## NOTICE BOARD

### Chelwood Lucky Draw

January 2024 - £12 - P. Richards; £10 - J. Fagnani; £6 - G. Knight; £4 - A. Armstrong.  
December 2023 - £12 - D. Ross; £10 - C. Shepherd; £6 - P Telling; £4 - S & P Smyth.  
November 2023 - £12 - A. Ross; £10 - B. Parsons; £6 - J & S Casselden; £4 - R. Morgan.

### Chew Valley Gadget Busters

Here to help with digital devices

February 7th, The Queens, Chew Magna. February 21st, Stoke Inn, Chew Stoke.  
Both sessions are from 12.30-2.30 pm. It costs £3 per appointment, all of which will go to charity.

### Subscription Information

The deadline for the next edition - March 2024 is the 16th February 2024.  
You can view this newsletter and any previous versions online at:  
[www.publow-with-pensford-pc.gov.uk](http://www.publow-with-pensford-pc.gov.uk)

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### Sudoku challenge - 0224 (Easy)

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   | 2 |   |   |   | 4 | 9 |   |
|   |   | 5 | 3 |   |   |   | 2 | 7 |
|   |   | 4 |   |   |   | 8 | 3 |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 5 |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 7 |   | 1 |   | 5 |   |   | 4 | 9 |
| 2 |   |   | 5 | 7 |   | 1 |   |   |
|   | 3 |   |   | 9 | 8 |   | 7 |   |
|   | 5 |   | 1 | 2 | 3 |   |   |   |

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 1 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 6 |
| 3 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 7 |
| 9 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 3 |
| 6 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 8 |
| 4 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 9 |
| 8 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 2 |
| 2 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 4 |
| 7 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 5 |

Previous edition answers



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Directory of Local Organisations

**Bath and North East Somerset Council**  
Chelwood - Sam Ross 0 7480 064554  
**Compton Dando** - Alison\_Streatfield-James@bathnes.gov.uk  
**Publow**- Mr P May 01761 452223  
**B&NES Information Switchboard**  
01225 477000  
**Bristol Airport (Noise Concerns)**  
01275 473799  
**Chelwood Parish Council**  
Chair - Julie Glynn 01761 490832  
**Chelwood Village Hall**  
Bookings - Mr Pat Harrison 01761 490218  
**Chew Valley Choral Society**  
Catherine Hunt 0781 4098457  
**Chew Valley Gardening Society**  
Graham Nicol 01275 333456  
**Compton Dando Parish Council**  
Chair - Dawn Drury 07584710130  
Clerk - Susan Smith 07746930582 or email clerk@comptondando-parishcouncil.org.uk  
**Compton Dando Parish Hall**  
Bookings - Christel Rees 01761 206046 - comptonhalluk@gmail.com  
**Compton Dando Community Association**  
Chair - Christel Rees 01761 206046  
Treasurer - Hannah Maggs 07720 574200  
Secretary - Barend ter Haar 01761 490903  
**Compton Dando Neighbourhood Watch**  
Coordinator - Sarah Wilson 07836 201611  
**Pensford Evergreens**  
Janet Smith 01761 490584  
**Pensford Football**  
Steve Harrison 07891 635661  
**Pensford Golf Society**  
Chair - David Parnell 01761 490888  
**Pensford Guides**  
Rachael Dando 01761 490663  
**Pensford Local History Group**  
Email pensfordhistorygroup@gmail.com  
**Pensford Old School Room** (Church Room)  
Email osr.pensford@gmail.com or 01761 490234

**Pensford Memorial Hall**  
Chair - Steve Wilcox 07970 722774  
Bookings - 07836 254436 or email pensfordhallbookings@hotmail.co.uk  
**Pensford Neighbourhood Watch**  
Coordinator - Dom Lowe neighbourhoodwatch@publow-with-pensford-pc.gov.uk  
**Pensford School**  
Headteacher - Mr Warrick Barton 01761 490470  
Chair of Governors - Emily Huish  
**Pensford Tennis Club**  
Secretary - Alison Patey 01275 235568  
**Pensford Toddlers Group**  
Ruth Knox - 07817163825.  
**Police Community Support Officers**  
Mr Martyn Bragg 101  
**Publow Parish Council**  
Chair - Sue Grimes 01761490867  
Clerk - Helen Richardson 07899 970173  
**Rotary Club**  
Tony Quinn 01761 419328  
**Stanton Drew & Pensford Preschool**  
Leader - Nicky Sparkes 07810 632064  
**Village Agent**  
Alyson Akroyd - 01275 333700  
**Zero Carbon Compton Dando**  
Matt Jones - 07769 908627  
**Parish News Team**  
Enquiries - Judith Hillman 07802 662291  
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**Invoicing and Credit Control**  
Matthew Critten 01761 492609  
**Head distributor** - Yvonne Phillips 01761 490426  
**Main distributors:** Woollard - Mary Rogers, Compton Dando - Pam Cole & Fiona Gregg-Smith, Chelwood - Jacky Young

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