

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HARDWICK and WEEDON

**St. Mary's Parish Church
Weedon Methodist Chapel**



January 2026

Parish Magazine and Village Newsletter

Dear Friends,

The decorations have been stored away; relatives have departed for home, and the last of the turkey is hopefully no longer lingering somewhere at the back of the fridge. Christmas has come to an end, the return to work/school has happened, and something of normality has resumed. January has dawned and the bleakness of the winter months continues as we all eagerly await the signs of spring.

Life seems to be full of periods of waiting for impending big events, like weddings and holidays. Sometimes we're just looking for signs that things are getting better, more hopeful, that something new and exciting will give added lustre to life. As a nation we have an international reputation for being experts at queuing, a people of patient endurance, willing to wait in line until our turn comes. Even within the Church, our seasons of preparation - like Advent and Lent - ask people of faith to await great festivals. The key question for us is how effectively do we use these times of waiting that are an inevitable part of life?

Once Christmas has passed the Church, traditionally, uses this period to remind itself of some of the key incidents in the life of Jesus. This then runs into Lent and a focus on the journey of our Lord towards Jerusalem, to crucifixion, and then Easter comes with the celebration of the victory of love through Resurrection. It is a time to ask the key question of who Jesus is.

Dictionaries in Stalinist Russia define Jesus as a mythical figure who never existed; others see him as the greatest human that has ever lived, whose message of peace and love still needs to be heard. The Church believes him to be the Son of God and the Saviour of Humanity, which are big, bold claims based on our understanding of the gospel story and the claims that Jesus and others made. One such book has, to my mind, a really impressive title: "The Man Who Chopped History in Half." It works on a number of levels ' most obviously it's designed to pique interest, to encourage potential readers to take the risk of picking it up to see what it is all about. Equally, it depicts something of what the author will endeavour to unfold as he seeks to explore the significance of Jesus, who came in response to prophecy and whose death, in Christian terms, offers a distant turning point of human history. Thirdly, it presents a challenge

to see whether the author can convince the reader to acknowledge the strength of his argument and agree with the title's assertion. Who is Jesus? It is a really profound question, showing how Christians can spend a lifetime evolving the understanding of who Jesus claims to be, and how this is important for us as we continue upon our pilgrimage of life. Ultimately, I would argue, it is a great love story not of a slushy romantic time, but a love story that speaks to all of us about the height and depth, the breadth and length, of the love that the God who brought us to be has for the whole of Humanity, and his desire that we might draw close and experience his compassion for ourselves. The story of Jesus is one that is real, gritty in places, as it contrasts something of a folly of humanity with the wisdom of the Divine. It invites the world to look anew at what it is to be human and invites us to seek to emulate the example that Jesus offered. Of love prepared to pay an ultimate price to allow us to share in love's victory and the belief that death is not an end, as there is the hope of eternal life for those who embrace the Jesus way.

I suppose the ultimate question here is whether this is the time for us to explore something more of the claims the Church makes about Jesus, in the hope of the we can discover a love that will never let us go.

Blessings

Richard

The Royal British Legion



Whitchurch & District Branch

The money box collections raised £2,747.65, the PCC collections in Wingrave 2025 were £486.80, the PCC in Whitchurch 2025 was £456.75, the PCC in Hardwick 2024 was £350.00 and the Bar Code £184.00. Other donations from Bingo in Aston Abbotts was £88.00, Hardwick Cakes £210.00 and the WI in Wingrave £18.00. A total of £4,541.20. Grateful thanks to those volunteers who helped in the collection.

Churches Together in Hardwick and Weedon

Sunday 4th January 2026

At 9.00 a.m. in St. Mary's Parish Church

Rev. Richard Atkinson will lead a
Family Communion Service

Sunday 11th January 2026

At 9.30a.m. in Weedon Methodist Chapel
Christingle Service led by **David Neville**

Sunday 18th January 2026

At 9.30 a.m. in St. Mary's Parish Church

Rev. Janet Bayly will lead a
Family Communion Service

Sunday 25th January 2026

At 9.30 a.m. in St. Mary's Parish Church

Lay-led Service

Sunday 1st February 2026

At 9.00 a.m. in St. Mary's Parish Church

Rev. Richard Atkinson will lead a
Family Communion Service

January Rota

Date	Sidesperson	Reading	Reader	Prayers	Teas & Coffees
January 4th	Sue	Ephesians 1:3-14	Tony	Sarah	Sue and Tony
January 11th	Weedon Service				
January 18th	Martin Wright	1 Corinthians: 1:1-9	Margaret Askew	Helen O	Carol and Martin
January 25th	Anna/David	1 Corinthians: 1:10-18	Lizzy	Stan	Anna and David

IN MEMORIAM – JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Harold Fincher	1990	John Chamberlain	2012
Les Kay	1998	Laurie Gower	2013
John Moran	2001	Joan Hawes	2014
Bill Hawes	2002	Roy Wizard	2015
Rita Kay	2003	Robert Bowman-Shaw	2020
Sally Rossiter	2003	Debbie Jamieson	2023
Margaret Rogers	2004	Eileen Lawson	2024
Stephen Palin	2010	Trevor Bowman-Shaw	2024
Janet Jones	2011	Thomas Parkhouse	2024
Diane Latham	2012	Brian Cox	2025

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me

John 14:1

Come and drop in at ...

The Schoolroom Café
WEEDON

Have a chat
Catch up with the news
Chill out ...



The Schoolroom Café
is normally on the
**FIRST FRIDAY in each
month**

Freshly brewed coffee & tea
Home baked cakes & cookies
Including gluten free
Eat in or takeaway

Proceeds to Schoolroom funds

Pay by cash or card

Friday 10.30 am to 12 noon

January 2nd

Book Swap Corner

... bring one to take one ...



TUESDAY CLUB WEEDON

**Tuesday January 13th
at 8 pm**
in Weedon Old Schoolroom

Hear the story of:

“THE COTSWOLDS—Wool, Warfare, Recession and Return.”

Presented by Mr S Callery.

We look forward to seeing you.

Please contact Judy Nagele on 01296 641278
for more details.

**Deadline for February Magazine
End of Friday January 16th**



Well done to the Hardwick pre-school children, staff and supporters who enjoyed their Christmas Celebration of songs for relatives and carers in St Mary's in December – with a special visitor as you can see!

Come and join us for a game of



Whist

New venue: WEEDON SCHOOL ROOM

January 13th and 27th starting 2.00 pm, £5 per person

Come and join us for a friendly game of whist, coffee & biscuits.

Everybody's welcome,
If you don't know how to play don't worry, we can teach you.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HARDWICK WITH WEEDON

COMMUNITY EVENTS 2026

25.01.2026

FAMILY GAMES AFTERNOON

Puzzle Library Launch

3-5pm | Weedon Chapel



28.02.2026

KID'S MOVIE NIGHT

Please scan to vote for your choice of movie

3-5pm | Weedon Chapel | £5 pc



[RSVP HERE](#)



15.03.2026

MOTHER'S DAY AFTERNOON

TEA & HOLY COW TEA PAIRING

2-4pm | St. Mary's Hardwick | £15 pp



[RSVP HERE](#)



11.04.2026

ITALIAN JOB MOVIE NIGHT

6-8pm | St. Mary's Hardwick | £5 pp



[RSVP HERE](#)



30.05.2026

BURGERS, BEER & BANTER

4-8pm | St. Mary's Hardwick | £15 pp / £5 pc



[RSVP HERE](#)



To RSVP please scan the QR code or email weedonhardwickchurches@gmail.com
We are looking forward to seeing you.

Weedon Village Association

Over 65's New Year Lunch

Sunday 18th January 2026

The Old Schoolroom

Invitations will be sent out in early December to those already on the list. If you or your husband/wife/partner now qualify (over 65) please let Wendy Kett know on 640366, w.kett@btinternet.com otherwise you'll miss a great party.

Summer Ball

Saturday 6th June 2026

Weedon Lodge

Dance music, silent disco, a fabulous meal and cash bar all making for a great night out – don't miss out! Tickets £60

Save the date

WEEDON OLD SCHOOLROOM

available for hire

The Old Schoolroom is available for community, group or personal bookings, including parties. Full of historical character and atmosphere, but equipped with all up-to-date facilities, it's suitable for a wide range of activities. Fibre broadband wifi is provided free.

The upstairs meeting room is keenly priced and ideal for small groups.

We have 100% green and clean energy at the hall with an electric boiler and renewable electricity supplier.

Interested in hiring?
Phone **01296 641382**.

Email john_bush@btinternet.com
Text 07909 143960



See the Old Schoolroom pages
at weedonbucks.org.uk

WEEDON OLD SCHOOLROOM

WANTED – Bookings Secretary and Hall Supervisor

COULD YOU VOLUNTEER FOR THIS ROLE?

After many years of commitment to and responsibility for the Weedon village hall – a registered charity – John and Shirley Bush are retiring from their joint roles as Bookings Secretaries and Hall Supervisors in March 2026.

There is a full committee of Trustees, who all contribute to the running of the hall, but we really need an individual or couple who could take over the day-to-day responsibility. Digital skills (computer and smartphone) essential.

For more information, please contact Chair of Trustees Joanna Rose on 07885 201159 or joanna@cjrose.net.



Weedon

Art Class

Every Thursday

2-4 pm

The Old Schoolroom, Weedon

Come and enjoy developing your own original art in a friendly environment.
£ 5 a session. All abilities welcome.

We are also looking for an art tutor if anyone is interested.

For details contact Clare on

01296 641039



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN
HARDWICK WITH WEEDON

HARDWICK & WEEDON GAMES AFTERNOON

Bring the whole
family — young &
young-at-heart —
for a fun-filled
afternoon of games!

Sunday, 25th January
3:00 PM
WEEDON CHAPEL

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN
HARDWICK WITH WEEDON

KIDS MOVIE NIGHT

28 FEBRUARY 2026 | 3:00 PM
WEEDON CHAPEL

VOTE FOR YOUR CHOICE OF MOVIE

£5 PER TICKET

POPCORN & PICK A MIX
INCLUDED

BOOK
&
VOTE





*A late or
very early*

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN
HARDWICK WITH WEEDON

CHRISTINGLE FAMILY SERVICE

SUNDAY 11TH JANUARY

9:30 AM | WEEDON CHAPEL

Come along to this fun and
magical service and join in

WHITCHURCH & OVING YOUTH CLUB FUND

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR GRANTS

The Trustees of Whitchurch & Oving Youth Club are pleased to announce the establishment of a charitable fund designed to assist the young people of Whitchurch, Oving and designated surrounding villages with single grants for educational and personal development purposes.

Applications for single grants are invited from, and on behalf of, individuals between the ages of 5 to 21 years inclusive who are resident in Whitchurch, Oving, Pitchcott, Hardwick, Weedon, Creslow and Dunton, to a maximum of £500 per award.

Applications for single grants are also invited from not-for-profit clubs, societies and organisations operating predominately for young people between the ages of 5 to 21 years and who predominately reside in Whitchurch, Oving, Pitchcott, Hardwick, Weedon, Creslow and Dunton, to a maximum of £3,000 per award.

Grant applications will be considered at the end of each February, May and October and the deadline for receipt of application forms for February 2026 grants is **20th February 2026**.

For application forms and further information please contact
whitchurchovingyc@gmail.com



MEET UP LUNCH CLUB

Tuesday 13th January
(every 2nd Tuesday of the month)

Join our Cublington community lunch
to make new or connect with old
friends.

Come along to a friendly welcome,
have a chat to your neighbours over a
two course lunch.

We look forward to seeing you,
pavilion open from 12.15pm with lunch
served at 1pm.

Biggs Pavilion
Stewkley Road
Cublington



MENU

Chicken & Chorizo Stew
served with rice

Cottage Pie served with
seasonal veg

Warm Apple Cake with Custard
Cheeseboard

Two courses £20

Please bring your own drinks (BYOB)

Contact Emma to book with your menu choice, closing date for bookings Friday 9th January (vegetarian option available on request)
07787 838167
cafedujardin8@hotmail.com

CASH & CARD ACCEPTED

Wild Weedon

*The Weedon Wildlife Group
aims to protect and promote
wildlife in and around Weedon
and Hardwick*



Happy New Year. My resolution last year was to leave more wild, untidy spots in the garden to help wildlife and by and large I think it's worked. To help wildlife you too could:

- Make a woodpile with twigs and branches to provide shelter for all sorts of things (insects love this but so do hedgehogs).
- Provide water (especially when natural ponds freeze over).
- Add some bird feeders to help our feathered friends.
- Clear out your bird boxes and put up new ones. Some birds will use these to roost in over winter but they'll also be ready for the nesting season in spring.
- Keep it dark at night (minimise light overspill to help moths).
- Leave fallen fruit for wildlife to enjoy.
- Stay messy – a tidy garden is an empty garden!

Providing regular food and ice-free water will get your garden ready for the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch over the weekend of 23–25 Jan. This is a great excuse to do nothing for an hour except count the birds. Go to the RSPB's web page to register and submit your counts.

It's not too late to request a Wild Weedon calendar. Just contact us at contact@wildweedon.org.uk, which is also the place to put forward good ideas for activities and projects for 2026.

Have a great really Wild year everyone.

The Hardwick Players Present



Snow White Whiter than White

Sunday 22nd February 2026

3pm & 6pm

Hardwick Village Hall

HP22 4EA

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MESSAGE ROSALIE; 07846544884

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WEEDON



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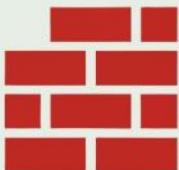
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THREE COURSES £29

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Give Richard a ring on 01296 641176 for more information



John Bridle's Hall for hire



We are lucky in our village to have a fabulous village hall that is available for hire. It has seen many birthday parties, club meetings, games nights, pantomimes and quiz nights. It is a great space for entertaining with a large hall area and a smaller section at the back that can be closed off.

There are two toilets (including a disabled toilet and access) and a well equipped kitchen. It also has a fenced hard standing court yard and a stones throw away from the small village green with a slide and swing.

Hall hire is £10.00 per hour before 6pm or £20.00 per hour after 6pm

To book the hall please contact Rosalie on 07846544884 or email hardwickvillagebucks@outlook.com

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Visit trustyguts.com for more information and contact melanie.oluabiola@trustyguts.com or message 07543 276455 to book a place.

£12 per session of 1hr 15 mins or £55 per block of 5.

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31 Lakeside, Watermead, Aylesbury HP19 0FX

Amrit, or known to some as Rani, has 16 years' experience of working in the beauty industry and has branched out on her own setting up her business within Avanti Hairdressing at Watermead, a handy location with free parking. Pop in to pick up a copy of her price list for all the usual treatments including manicures and pedicures. Amrit can provide gift vouchers – a great idea for a Christmas present – and will have special offers in January.

Amrit has existing local clients in Hardwick and Weedon who will be able personally to recommend her. Message or WhatsApp on the above number for an appointment or call with any queries.

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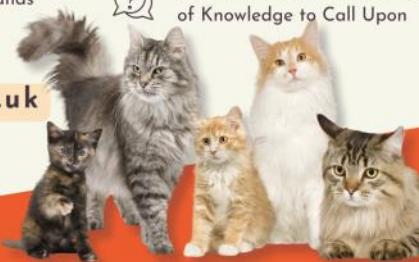


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Mandy Simons, Chief Operating Officer (COO)
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"I can highly recommend Chris for all your computing needs. No job is too small. Fast and efficient service and reasonable costs."

Rev Steve Flashman
Vicar, Holy Cross, St Mary
and All Saints, Oving with
Pitchcott

SCHORNE TEAM OF PARISHES - SERVICES Jan-26