



# Tormarton & West Littleton Newsletter

December  
2023  
& January  
2024

**BEST WISHES TO YOU ALL FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR**

## Diary

Sun	3 Dec	10.30 am	Tormarton Family Gift Service
Sun	3 Dec	3.00 - 5pm	Children's Christmas Party
Mon	4 Dec	10.00 – 12 noon	Free Coffee Morning at the Compass Inn
Fri	8 Dec	7.00 onwards	Village Christmas Supper at The Compass Inn – see below
Sun	17 Dec	5.00 pm	Tormarton Carol Service
Mon	18 Dec	10.00 – 12 noon	Free Coffee Morning at the Compass Inn
Fri	22 Dec	5.00 pm	West Littleton Carol Service
Fri	22 Dec	6.30 pm	Tormarton Village Carol Singing
Mon	8 Jan	10.00 – 12 noon	Free Coffee Morning at the Compass Inn
Mon	22 Jan	10.00 – 12 noon	Free Coffee Morning at the Compass Inn

## Recyclable & Refuse Collection:

Recycling items and food bins are collected **every** week. Black and green bins are collected **alternate** weeks. For details on Recycling items to be put in each box/bag, check information on the South Glos website

**N.B. Days/dates shown below may well be changed over the Christmas and New Year period, up to date information has been provided with your last bin collection.**

### **Tormarton – Mondays**

Bins: 11 & 27 Dec; 9 & 22 Jan

### **Old Hundred Lane – Wednesdays**

Bins: 6 & 20 Dec; 3 & 17 Jan

### **B4465 towards Codrington – Fridays**

Bins: 8 & 22 Dec; 5 & 19 Jan,

### **West Littleton – Mondays or Tuesdays (depending on location)**

4/5 & 18/19 Dec; 2/3 & 15/16 Jan; 29/30 Jan

## TORMARTON CHURCH SERVICES

<b>Sun 3 Dec:</b>	10.30 am	<b>Family friendly morning Gift Service</b> –see below	Mike Strathdee
<b>Sun 17 Dec</b>	5 pm	<b>Candlelight Carol &amp; Christingle Service</b> with seasonal refreshments to follow	
<b>Mon 25 Dec:</b>	10.30 am	<b>Christmas Family Celebration with Holy Communion</b>	Rev. Sally
<b>Sun 7 Jan:</b>	10.30 am	Family Service followed by light refreshments	Rev. Sally
<b>Sun 21 Jan:</b>	9 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion	Rev. Sally

## WEST LITTLETON CHURCH SERVICES

<b>Sun 10 Dec:</b>	10.30am	Mattins & collection of Gifts for the Sisters of the Church	Aurea Hart
<b>Fri 22 Dec:</b>	5 pm	<b>Carol Service</b> in the Churchyard followed by mulled wine and mince pies	
There will be Christingles for the children. If very wet we will move into the church.			Rev. Sally
<b>Mon 25 Dec:</b>	10 am	<b>Christmas Service with Holy Communion (1662)</b>	Rev. Lynne
<b>Sun 14 Jan</b>	10.30am	Mattins	Aurea Hart
<b>Sun 28 Jan:</b>	9 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Sally/Rev Sharon

## **Special Service in Marshfield**

There is a Benefice Peace Vigil for the Israel and Gaza conflict on Monday 4th December at 7-8pm in Marshfield Church.

## **CHRISTMAS NEWS FROM REV SALLY**

As we enter Advent and the busy Christmas Season, we wish you joy, and hope to see you in church for the Carols & Christingle Service at 5pm on 17th December, and the family-friendly Christmas morning service at 10.30am.

The church will look a bit different this year with the South Aisle cleared and a new floor laid, creating a space for gathering after the carols to enjoy mulled wine and refreshments! There may also be some extra heaters in place soon which is good news as the colder weather arrives. Do come in and see what has changed.

We are grateful to Churchwarden Stewart Waters who has overseen this first stage of reordering and we look forward to putting in a servery in the new year as funds allow. We hope the village will be able to support us in this as we would love the church to feel a warm and welcoming place for all and to be able to offer hospitality more widely.

### **Christmas Collection for the Community of the Sisters of the Church**

Thank you again for your generous response at harvest to help those who are struggling to cope. At Christmas we will again support the Sisters of the Church as they reach out to help local individuals and families.

We are collecting gifts of new toiletries, gloves, warm scarves, hats and socks for men and women and £15 Argos or One4All gift cards for the children: either donations towards the cards or the cards themselves, so that they can give one per child to all the families that are in need.

Tormarton gifts will be collected at the special family friendly Gift Service on 3<sup>rd</sup> December or can be left in a box at the rear of the church during the week before the Gift Service, gift cards or money donations should be delivered to Janet Wells (01454 218549)

West Littleton gifts will be collected at the service on 10<sup>th</sup> December.

## **PARISH COUNCIL - NOTES from Chairman Simon Stevens**

The festive season is here, and it looks like there will be lots of village events over the next month to make sure there is something for everyone. You'll find details of these included in this newsletter, so please support them when and where you can.

The one that I have been asked to mention is the 'Village Christmas Supper', which is being kindly hosted by The Compass Inn on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> December from 7.00 pm onwards. Rupert and the team will be providing a tasty cheese board, mulled wine, and of course minced pies for all those who attend. This event will be free to attend, and the bar will be open for those who wish to purchase additional drinks etc.

On behalf of all the members of the Parish Council I would like to wish you all the very best for the festive season ahead, and hope you have a safe and merry holiday season.

**New Parish Clerk urgently required** - The hunt for a new Parish Clerk continues and although Jack is kindly continuing to support us remotely from Jersey, this will eventually need to come to an end. Therefore, we do urgently need to find a replacement for Jack, either in the form of an experienced clerk (which is proving unlikely) or by someone who would be prepared to formally train for the role whilst in the position. So, if there are any residents out there who fancy a new challenge and would like to earn a reasonable part-time wage whilst training for a formal qualification, then please email Jack using the email address in the link below or talk to one of your Parish Councillors for more information.

**Local Plan** – The consultation on the next phase of the Local Plan for South Gloucestershire launches on 4 Dec for nine weeks. Full details will be posted on the village WhatsApp as soon as they are available.

**The next meeting of the Parish Council** will take place at the village hall on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 6:30pm. As always, Parish Council members will welcome your attendance and contributions on the night.

You can also raise any comments and concerns by emailing Clerk Jack at [clerk@tormarton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@tormarton-pc.gov.uk).

## **PARISH HALL NEWS**

**The Children's Christmas Party** on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December will be between 3pm and 5pm with special guests and a bouncy castle. This is a free to enter party with snacks and drinks, party games and activities. All children up to 11 years are invited with parents and/or grandparents/uncles & aunts and anybody else connected to the children welcome. We do have a number of young children in the village and it would be great to see as many as possible and of course those from outside of the village are also welcome. Hopefully there will be a few special guests and this year we will ensure that the pass the parcel game runs a little more smoothly!

The clean up of the car park and playground took place on Sunday and a big thank you to the team for turning out on a damp and dreary day. The cleaning of the gutters and drains is important and I know the nursery were pleased to see that the car park had been swept when they came to work on Monday. The playground will be power washed to remove the moss shortly and hopefully this will ensure that the annual inspection does not identify too many faults.

The works inside the hall are continuing with painting nearly finished and the carpet in the committee room to be replaced between Christmas and the New Year when the nursery is closed.

### **Village Hall Bookings**

The Hall is available in the evenings and at weekends for any function and the Rotowasher which is used to clean the floor in the hall is available to hire, this can also be used to clean carpets.

Please contact Sophie email: [sophiehthomson@hotmail.com](mailto:sophiehthomson@hotmail.com), phone: 07786 653834 for all enquiries.

### **You could save a life! - DEFIBRILLATORS**

We have TWO AED (Automated Electronic Defibrillators) available locally, one by the entrance to the Village Hall in Tormarton and one near the village noticeboard in West Littleton.

NO training is necessary to use them BUT they are the best way to save someone's life if they have gone into cardiac arrest - and time is of the essence.

If you think that someone has had a cardiac arrest (that is they are not obviously breathing or responding to you) you should:

- 1) Dial 999 and shout for help
- 2) Start doing CPR - the 999 operator will talk you through this, you DON'T need to breathe into anyone's mouth, just do chest compressions.
- 3) Send someone to get a defibrillator if you can. These do not need any specialist training to use. They talk you through how to use them and will only deliver a shock if the onboard computer thinks it's appropriate.

### **Using a defibrillator fast after a cardiac arrest saves lives**

The Defibrillator case **DOES NOT need a code** – just twist the cover to remove and access.

### **NEWS from THE COMPASS INN**

**Free Coffee Mornings** – stay warm this winter with free village coffee mornings. Everyone welcome, no need to book, just come along between 10am and 12 noon. Dec 4 & 18, Jan 8 & 22.

**Village Christmas Supper** – Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 7pm onwards

Tasty Cheese Board, Mulled Wine and Mince Pies will be supplied.

There is no charge to attend but it will help with catering if we know that you are coming.

Please contact the Compass on [info@compass-inn.co.uk](mailto:info@compass-inn.co.uk) , 01454 218242 if you are planning to come.

### **TORMARTON CAROL SINGING – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

The village Carol Singing is a great Tormarton tradition and we are really keen for families to get involved; all are welcome - singers and non-singers – while the young people have fun running from house to house and knocking on doors with the collection tins. Last year we collected £200 for charities working to help the people of Ukraine.

We will leave Drake House (the modern house behind the village pond) at 6.30 pm and hope to visit most of the houses in the centre of the village.

If you would like us to visit you or if you would like more details, do please contact Janet Wells on 218549

### **Badminton Club**

The Badminton club plays every Tuesday at the Tormarton Parish Hall from 7 - 9 pm.

New members of all ages and experience are most welcome to join us.

Please contact Heather Gent on 218223 for any further information.

**Pilates sessions** are currently held via zoom at 6 pm every Monday evening.

Anyone interested in joining, who has already done some Pilates, can contact Sophie, email: [sophiehthomson@hotmail.com](mailto:sophiehthomson@hotmail.com), phone: 07786 653834. Cost: £5 per session.

### **Playing Field 100 Club:**

The next draw will be held at The Compass Inn on Monday, 18th December, at 8.30pm. All welcome. Payment of 2023/2024 memberships would be appreciated. Please contact your usual collector.

### **Fireworks on New Year's Eve:**

It would be appreciated if anyone planning to have fireworks could let their neighbours know, especially those with dogs or with livestock in the fields.

### **Contact Details for our Local Community Police**

Bianca Rotariu – PCSO9061 Email: [9061@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:9061@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

Emma Sheppard – PCSO 7315 Email: [7315@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:7315@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

The Chief Inspector Dan Forster (Neighbourhood Policing) and the newly appointed Deputy Chief Constable, John Reilly, have indicated that they are totally committed to continuing neighbourhood policing. They have asked that Parish Councillors stress to residents the importance of reporting all incidents, as if they don't know about an issue how can they do anything about it.

### **WESTlink – 'on demand' bus service**

WESTlink is the new 'on demand' bus service which operates in our area. It runs without a fixed timetable or route and can be booked 'on demand' by users through an app or by phone 0117 457 8561.

To find out more about the service visit <https://travelwest.info/westlink/> or download the WESTlink App to your mobile device.

### **Green Community Travel (GCT)**

Are you stuck at home with difficult access to doctors, hospitals and shops or even just to see friends? Or do you fancy an outing to the pub or to a garden centre?

Green community transport provides affordable and accessible transport from your door.

More information about the service and about becoming a volunteer driver is available at [www.greencommunitytravel.co.uk](http://www.greencommunitytravel.co.uk) or telephone 01454 228706.

### **Would you like your newsletter via email?**

We are gradually replacing the printed newsletter with a regular email with printed copies for those households not on email. If you would like to receive future copy via email, please email [newsletter@tormarton.org](mailto:newsletter@tormarton.org) with your name, first line of address and email address

### **Tormarton Community WhatsApp group**

The group has been set up by Noreen Finnamore to facilitate the sharing of important information relevant to the people of Tormarton. All are welcome and encouraged to join. This is important as we move to new ways of distributing the information available in the newsletter.

To join the group please send an email to Noreen at [home@thefinnamores.com](mailto:home@thefinnamores.com) giving details of your name, mobile number and the first line of your address.

### **Rota Volunteers, Tormarton Church**

Church Flowers: 3/10 Dec – Mrs J. Berry 17/24/31 Dec & 7 Jan – Mrs S. Giles  
14/21 Jan - Mrs S. Turner 28 Jan & 4 Feb - Mrs. L. Scott-Martin  
All festive decorations please for the Carol Service on 17 December

Church Cleaning: Dec – Mr. T. Calleja  
Jan - Mrs J. Clark and Mrs L. Scott-Martin

The village newsletter is kindly printed by Simon Stevens. Thank you Simon.

Items for the next issue to be sent to [newsletter@tormarton.org](mailto:newsletter@tormarton.org) no later than 24<sup>th</sup> January please.