



Wesley Methodist Church Weeke

Wesley Somborne Link

One Church on two sites

12th December 2025



King's Somborne Methodist Church

Christmas is coming!

What are you looking forward to at Christmas? Turkey, presents, seeing family, carols at church, Christmas cards from old friends?

To believe the news media, the country is almost bankrupt and no one has any money to spend! Yet the shops and website orders are booming with presents (which most people can do without). Do we really need all those presents? Do we need all that food? What is Christmas all about?

The build up to Christmas at Wesley is, to my mind, quite a joyous occasion in addition to our excellent morning services. We started with the Advent Lights Ceremony which was brilliant and the lights outside the church, wonderful!

The church decorations this year were mainly coloured red and this was enhanced by the pots of red cyclamen which will be distributed to those of our church family who cannot attend services this Christmas in the two weeks before Christmas day.

We welcomed the 1st Winchester Scout Group for a full to overflowing (into the foyer) congregation of scouts, cubs, beavers and their families. A lively and splendid occasion led by Sam Barnes. This year saw the 38th Scout Carol Service hosted by Wesley since the new sanctuary was built.

Then there is the Mini Marvels Christmas Party (36 children plus Santa, I was told) then the Triangle Playgroup Nativity Play and our Community Carols with the Mayor and MP and many other people from our Winchester Community. A service not to be missed and ideal to bring along your friends and neighbours. The Church "all age Nativity" the Sunday before Christmas, is always a highlight of multigenerational activity and is thoroughly recommended for your young family members or neighbours. The theme this year is the story of The Three Trees.

Christmas Day service is at 9.30 a.m. remember not to be late. Incidentally have you taken some of the Christmas Tree invites to put through your neighbours doors?

What happens after Christmas?

Lots of paper in the recycling bin, lots of leftover food to last you until Easter? What do you do with those Christmas Cards with lovely messages in?

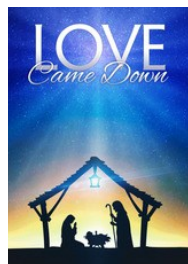
Memories of encounters and times spent with family. Not only parents and siblings/cousins but often children, grandchildren and great grandchildren and neighbours. Or a lonely time in your own home with no visitors - not even Carol Singers to cheer, but we do have the television and you can choose your favourite programme!

The Carols we sing at Christmas are so relevant to our nation's culture. People of faith and no faith rejoice in the annual celebration of the Birth of the Saviour Jesus. For others, Christmas is a time of remembering. Those memories bring back earlier times in our lives of making decisions about the way we live and love, as we serve Jesus Christ the Son of God. Can you remember your earliest Christmas Day?

Whatever you believe remember - ***Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine: Love was born at Christmas, star and angels gave the sign.***

A Happy and Blessed Christmas to you all.

Richard



On Sunday 14th December at 10.30am, the Service will be led by Dr Mike Wood
On Sunday 14th December, at 6.30pm, the Community Carol Service will be led by Revd Peter Rayson
These services will be live streamed, the link to which can be found via the Wesley Website at:
www.wesleychurch.org.uk

Dates for Your Diary:

11th December: Mini-Marvels (9.00—11.00am)

11th November: Together Thursday 2.30—4.30pm

11th December: Circuit Children and Youth Leader meeting at 7.00pm pm on Zoom

14th December: Service led by Dr Mike Wood at Wesley 10.30am

14th December: Service of Holy Communion led by Revd Peter Rayson at King's Somborne 10.30am

14th December: Community Carols led by Revd Peter Rayson at Wesley 6.30pm

16th December: Christmas Dinner at the Golden Lion 6.00pm for 6.30pm start

19th December: Friday Fun Club (5.00-6.30pm)

19th December: Feel Good Friday (7.00-9.00pm)

21st December: Nativity Service led by Revd Peter Rayson at Wesley 10.30am

21st December: Carols led by Mrs Elizabeth Britton at King's Somborne 10.30am

21st December: Messy Church at King's Somborne (3.00-5.00pm)

25th December: Service led by Revd Peter Rayson at Wesley 9.30am

28th December: No Service at Wesley

28th December: Service at King's Somborne led by the LA Team 10.30am

4th January 2026: Covenant Service led by Revd Peter Rayson at Wesley 10.30am

4th January 2026: Service led by Mr Mike Bowstead at King's Somborne 10.30am

Wesley getting ready for Christmas.....



Carol singing outside Costa, the garden lights (thanks to Aden and Dave for this lovely display) and the Sanctuary, such a welcoming place. Thanks to all who made this year's Advent Lights so special!

We need any items or notices to be sent to Paul and Brenda, by Wednesday 17th December. As there will be a Wesley Somborne Link on Friday 19th December, a Christmas Special, then the next edition will be on Friday 9th January 2026.

Email: brenda.yarrien@btinternet.com or by phone on 01794389153.



To everyone at Wesley,
Wishing you a peaceful and happy Christmas and all best wishes for
2026.
From all of us at King's Somborne Methodist Church.

United Church Winchester

Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Eve

4pm

Light Afternoon Tea

from 3pm

All Welcome



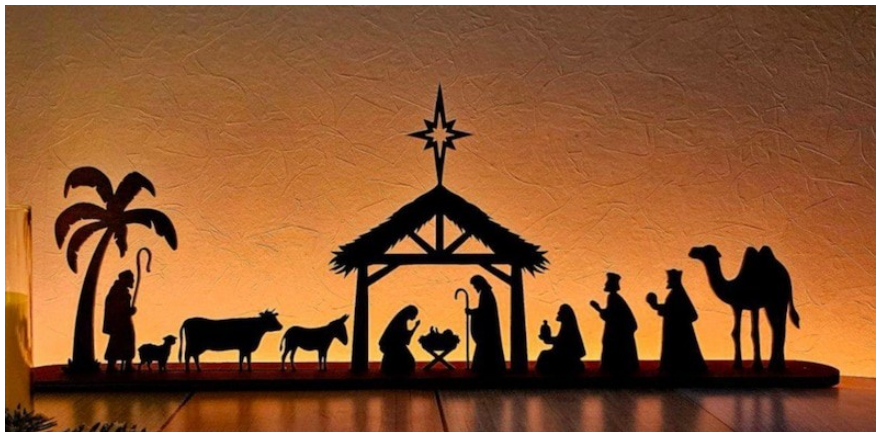
Christmas 2025

This year again you can pin
ONE Christmas Card for
all your friends at Wesley.

Then offer a donation to

BEACON

Night Shelter



Remember to collect you
stamps in aid of Naomi House



Eco Tips for Christmas

Go for a natural wreath and decorations. Holly sprigs, ivy trails, pinecones, rose hips... Take a bag, go for a walk, and see what you can find! Make sure that you have permission from the land-owner before you start snipping. Don't take too much and do leave some berries for the birds. Source as much as you can from what's already dropped. Then get creative and make a beautiful wreath and Christmas decorations from natural materials.

Remember the reason for the season. Practising generosity and hospitality is a great way to show Christ's love at Christmas. Invite someone who'd otherwise be on their own, to join you on Christmas Day. It's also a way of reducing energy consumption as they'll share your heating and cooking!

Please support our invaluable Flower Ministry by signing the new rota for 2026, in the Foyer, to give offers of help. For further details please see Janet Cunningham. Many thanks!



Chaplaincy News

December 2025 Issue 10

Welcome to Issue 10 of Chaplaincy News. This month we reflect on the opportunities and challenges of this time of year. As the year draws to a close, we also share two opportunities on our hospital sites for remembrance and looking ahead.

"Tidings of comfort and joy"

Throughout the year, the Chaplaincy Team provides support to thousands of people of all faiths and beliefs and none. This continues at Christmas time where we are available to support anyone who needs us.

Some people will be celebrating discharge from hospital, positive test results, good news of a loved one, or time off over this period. Others will find the time challenging, spending Christmas away from loved ones due to illness or work, perhaps separated by distance or bereavement. This time of year is a time of mixed emotions for many people.

Our chapels/sacred spaces provide places for reflection within the busy hospital environment. This year we will be offering two opportunities for reflection and remembrance in these spaces in Andover, Basingstoke and Winchester. All are welcome to write their hopes for the coming year on a tag and hang it on our Christmas Tree of Hope. For those missing a loved one this Christmas, through death, distance or another circumstance, there is an opportunity to write the person's name on our star and place it on our Wall of Stars. Together we can remember and hope.

Whether this is a time of celebration or challenge for you, the Chaplaincy Team wish you "tidings of comfort and joy".

...and don't' forget the carol singing!



Join us to sing carols on the wards!

WINCHESTER 6pm Tuesday 16th December

BASINGSTOKE 6pm Wednesday 17th December



Meet in the Chapel on each site to travel to the wards. Santa hats optional!



E mail: CHAPLAINCY@HHFT.NHS.UK

Tel: 01256 314901 (x44901) or 01962 824906 (x24906)



UKRAINIAN CHRISTMAS IN WINCHESTER



For more information on how to get **tickets** please visit:

[winchester.gov.uk/
mayor-of-winchester](https://winchester.gov.uk/mayor-of-winchester)

The event will take place on

Friday 19 December

United Church, Jewry Street, Winchester

6.30pm

Tickets: £20pp

The event includes Festive Concert, Traditional Ukrainian instruments and captivating dances, Snacks and traditional Ukrainian Christmas dishes and lots more.



WUCA

Winchester Ukrainian
Cultural Association



THE MAYOR OF
WINCHESTER EVENT

THE MAYOR OF WINCHESTER'S
SUPPORTED CHARITIES 2025 - 2026



A Prayer for Advent

Lord you wait for us
to come and see you.
You wait to shine light
where there is darkness,

To show love
where there is hate,
To share peace
where there is conflict.

Lord you wait for us
to come and see you.

You wait for us
to remember
what has been fulfilled,
to prepare

for what must still be done.

You wait in hope and expectation,

Longing for us
To shine your light,
To show your love,
To share your peace.



Advent

T S A Y A K L E G S U Y R E D F O L W H
 S H T I R D T H M H A U A E O Z C O I L
 T F E D S A V J W D E N D R N H T R S L
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ADORE
 AGE
 CALENDAR
 CHRISTINGLE
 DONKEY
 JOSEPH
 MAGI
 NEW
 SAVE
 SONG
 THECOMING
 WAIT

ADVENT
 ANGEL
 CELEBATE
 CHRISTMASTREE
 FOURTHSUNDAY
 LORD
 MARY
 PAROUSIA
 SKY
 STAR
 TRAVEL
 WISE

ADVENTUS
 BETHLEHEM
 CHRISTIAN
 DAVID
 HAIL
 LOVE
 NAZARETH
 PRAYER

