# PARISH MAGAZINE

Issue 9. November 2023 www.bishopstachbrook.com

Your magazine featuring news and views from Bishop's Tachbrook Parish.





# What's in this month's magazine

Hello and welcome to the November Parish Magazine. It's packed with interesting ideas, essential local knowledge and some great pictures. Thanks to Fleur Hay for the Remembrance photos, quite stunning.

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# A message from the vicar

Revd. Jonathan Smith



#### November: A Time to Remember.

One old Michael McIntyre joke runs that as soon as the last firework fizzles out in the sky, mums, parents (and I could add numerous overly busy souls like Vicars) eye one another in slight panic and silently mouth the word 'Christmas'!

For the Church year it's good not to rush ahead but to pause in the month of November to acknowledge this season of **Remembrance**. Our hearts turn to reflection, gratitude, and a profound sense of reverence for those who have sacrificed lives for our freedom but also a moment to remember our very own loved ones who have died. During Remembrance Sunday there is particularly useful chance to be silent as the local community comes together to remember, honour, and sometimes heal itself. It's a season that encapsulates the solemnity of sacrifice but also brings a rising hope promised by the resurrection.

The famous passage we often use at this moment is Ecclesiastes which reminds us that "There is a time for everything, a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot." On Remembrance Sunday, we embrace that cycle of life and death, acknowledging the

significance of the lives of past Heroes and Saints. Stopping for Poppy Sunday is important in 3 ways.

#### **Honouring Sacrifice:**

In a world so marred by conflict and suffering, Remembrance Sunday offers us the chance to honour those who have sacrificed for the greater good. The love and sacrifice serve as the ultimate example of selflessness. It's an unmatched blueprint for humanity. The gospel of John beautifully encapsulated that when he wrote "This is how we know what love is: Christ laid down his life for us. It is simply the greatest thing we can do to lay down our lives for a sister or brother." Thankfully we not all called to literally sacrifice our lives but in many ways, we die each day to serve and put others needs above our own.

#### **Healing Through Hope:**

Society and the wider world is in an increasingly challenging and unprecedented moment. The news of wars and natural abnormality seems constant. Remembrance Season, while tinged with sorrow, is also a time to find solace in the hope of being reconciled to the world that there is hope of finding healing in unimaginable ways. For anyone who grieves and has lost all hope, it's essential to remember that some healing is not only possible, but an inherent, natural part of the faith journey. Holding on to the assurance that the arms of the Lord surround and help us gain light and comfort again during the darkest times.

#### A Call to Action:

"In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead" says the book of James. All around us the pandemic has drained society of so much energy, enthusiasm, and commitment, but we need to remember back to our heritage and let memories inspire us again to action. Reflecting and honouring the memory of those who have sacrificed can renew our commitment to acts of service, volunteering, supporting charities, working to bring healing with messages of hope to others. That's what we aim to try to do at St Chads - occasionally bearing some fruit!

So finally, Remembrance Season is a time of reflection, gratitude, and renewal for churches and communities everywhere. Honouring lives and finding healing in the hope of the resurrection. Let us enter this season with not so much a let it snow but a '

'Let us pause, let us pause, let us pause'.

Pause with open hearts, making prayerful impact in our communities with love and compassion in response to our gratitude for others. When we do, and whether we are conscious of it or not, we truly embody the Christian spirit of this Remembrance season.

#### Rev Jonathan Smith





# **St Chad's Christmas Programme**

Date in December	Event	Time
3rd	Christingle All Age	10 a.m.
3rd	Craft fair in the St Chad's Centre  Stalls are available contact Fiona on 07506  581240	11.30 a.m.
10th	Communion	10 a.m.
10th	'Carols on the Green'	4 p.m.
11th	St Chad's Tinies with Christmas Nativity Puppet Show  Show from 11 a.m11.30 a.m. Free	10.30-12.30 pm.
17th	Communion Including dressing up the crib with Sunday Club	10 am.
17th	Carol service	6.30 p.m.
24th	Christmas Eve - BCP Communion 8am / Nativity Service	4 p.m.
24th	Midnight Mass	11.30 p.m.
25th	Christmas Day – Family Communion	10.00 a.m.

# Parish Council News

By Matt Greene

Unfortunately the village suffered another severe raw sewage spillage in October (I separate these from the regular spillages we see near the bridge over the Tach Brook). I do reflect that, for all the noise in the press about sewage in rivers, the impact (for humans at least) pales in significance to the impact of sewage entering your house, your garden, or lying stagnant on the path on the way to school.

We have invited two representatives from Severn Trent to attend our meeting in November to explain how they are planning to stop this continuing health hazard and to provide details of the timescale for upgrading the system. The representative responsible for the planning application, due to be received by this Parish Council in November, has declined our offer. He states that Severn Trent intends to start construction next Summer onwards once their design activities are completed and they have a Contractor in place with the intention of completing construction of the foul sewer by the end of 2024. No firm timescales have been given. Councillors will be trying to obtain a date for when the Parish Council will see the planning application. The second representative is yet to respond. He is responsible for the daily operational issues e.g. the raw sewage leakage and smells. He has been made aware of the smells on Church Hill and Kingsley Road. We will keep you updated via Facebook on attendance.

A plea, from a resident who recently suffered the effects of a "fat-berg" and asked me to highlight this point in the magazine, please be careful what you put down the sink though/flush away; the infrastructure in the village area in particular is not up to scratch and therefore we must all play our part in reducing our impact on it.

Onto traffic, Cllr. Carter has been working very hard and patiently trying to address the Banbury Road junction 120 signature petition. He devised a scheme and secured Parish Council funding to implement it. He has now met with County Cllr. Matecki, who is also the portfolio holder for County Highways, and an officer who is the Lead Commissioner for Safety Engineering, Transport Strategy & Road Safety Group at County Highways. The officer decided that the proposed junction warning system is incompatible with highways policies and procedures and, despite the Parish offering to commit all the funding towards it, it was comprehensively

rejected. The message from Highways is that this junction is unlikely to be addressed because of the lack of recorded data of accidents of sufficient seriousness (if only the magazine design allowed for face-palm emojis).

Cllr. Carter is also trying to assist with the road safety concerns on Vickers Way near Heathcote Primary School. A scheme has been devised but yet again is waiting patiently for County Hlghways to review, we will continue to pursue a solution that improves road safety. No news on changes to the Harbury Lane junction - despite the deadline having passed.

The dead trees on Lionheart Avenue will be replaced by the developer this winter; please note that the street trees are the responsibility of the District Council.

Post boxes will be installed on Peabody Way and Duke of York Avenue; this is really good news!

No update on the date for the installation of play equipment on Seven Acre Close. The Parish Council has been actively chasing for a date. District Cllr. Matt Collins is taking an interest in moving this forward for us.

The Parish Council has formally asked Warwick District Council to obtain land for the path to Oakley Wood. This was promised by the District Council as part of the community investment package connected with the school. More on this next month!

The recycling scheme started on 21st October - please look out for separate information.

The damaged lamp post on Yardley Way has been reported to the District Council. We also note that two tree trunks have recently been broken on Yardley Way. If you see anyone causing damage to the trees please contact the Police or the clerk.

Work on the car park on the Meadow should start in November. It might become more difficult to park when visiting the Meadow so please consider this in the coming months. The driveway will also be tarmacked which means no vehicular access for a 24 hour period to the Club, BMX track and allotments. Updates will

be provided on Facebook.

Lights have been damaged on the Sports and Social Club driveway. We believe a vehicle has reversed into the bollards. If you see a vehicle damaging the bollards please do note the registration number and let us know. Residents of this parish pay for this damage.

Plots have been marked on the Oakley Meadows allotments and these will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. The list is long and the clerk will be contacting residents shortly. The rent will be £15 per year payable in January.

All allotment plots will be managed by the Parish Council and allocated by the Parish Council. If your plot is allocated by someone other than the clerk then it will not be legally yours to rent. If you have an existing half plot and want more land then your name will need to be added to the 28 resident long list. Half plots will be allocated to new allotment holders prior to existing allotment holders being given additional land. Existing allotment holders will be receiving letters asking them to confirm that they wish to rent for 2024. This will be accompanied by a new contract. There will also be new security arrangements on the Meadow allotments. Any allotment holder wanting information should email the clerk.

It has been agreed that allotment rents will increase in January 2025 in line with October's CPI. We will report the increase in the next magazine.

We thank the Events Group for organising the bonfire and fireworks. Please enjoy yourselves but, if you must drive to the Meadow, park responsibly. We have invited the Police to the event and made them aware of the parking concerns expressed by residents last year.

16th and 17th November will see major tree work taking place on the Village Green and the Meadow - maybe a chance to take an alternative walking route.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, 9th November at 7.30pm at St. Chad's Centre. All residents are welcome to attend.

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# District Council Update

By Andrew Day

We've all been busy snapping back into autumn routines, as the longer nights return and the clocks change. This month's the key news items are:

**Post boxes** – New post boxes have been approved for sites on Duke of York Avenue and Peabody Way.

**Sewers** – Another major sewage incident occurred on Mallory Road. We're pressing Severn Trent Water to confirm the timetable for the network upgrade scheduled for next



summer. The old sewers haven't been up to the task for years and the ongoing threat of sewage overspills to the quality of life of local residents is unacceptable.

**New local plan** – We've asked for clearer understanding of how many new homes will be required for local needs and requested that a review of the new housing projections be completed. A report on the 'Preferred Options' public consultation will be released soon. Remember, the possible sites that have been put forward by local landowners and developers will be assessed against the overall strategy, the housing need and the new planning policies, before being considered for the Local Plan. So, just because a site has been put forward does not mean it will necessarily be included in the new Plan for future development. We'll keep you posted on progress with this important item.

**Oakley wood path** – A key priority we both share is to support the Parish Council in creating a safe and accessible path for pedestrians to walk from Bishop's Tachbrook to Oakley Wood. Working with Cllr Jan Matecki to co-ordinate plans with County Highways, this vital scheme would give everyone easy access to our historic and beautiful local Woodland. Now that the Parish Council has selected a preferred route, we will support negotiations to provide the land necessary to

enable a safe scheme which will extend the existing path from Oakley Meadow up to the M40 bridge and onwards to the Banbury Road.

And finally ... we wish you and your family as safe and enjoyable bonfire night. Please give thought to our furry friends and vulnerable neighbours, for whom our celebrations may cause considerable distress.

We're here to help. While we both have busy full-time jobs, we're online most days so please email regarding matters you'd like us to address. We also attend the regular Bishop's Tachbrook Parish Council meetings, if you'd like to catch-up inperson.

Thank you for all that you're doing to help make the Bishop's Tachbrook Ward a great place for us all to live.

**Cllr Matt Collins** 

**Cllr Andrew Day** 

matt.collins@warwickdc.gov.uk andrew.day@warwickdc.gov.uk

# **Allotments**

If you fancy harvesting your own home grown produce there are allotments in the village available please contact Corinne Hill Parish Clerk at:

clerk@bishopstachbrook.com



# Parish Working Party

Great results from the parish working party on 21st October they cleared the BMX track & the meadow perimeter, thanks to all who were able to help, we have some demonstrable results!!

Next on the task list for 11th November where they'll be clearing the remnants of the Bonfire from the Meadow, This will be a messy job so suggest old clothes, gloves, masks and of course shovels are brought for this event. We all also have to replace the turf.

Other tasks on the To Do List (these will likely be for the December WP) Flail the Farm Walk path
Strim headstone in the churchyard

If you know of any other jobs please advise Paul Gilman paul@bishopstachbrook.com They can then be added to the list.





# History Group

By Ian E Morley

Having a Ball - Regency Style

The History Group meeting (St. Chad's Centre, 2.30 Tuesday 10th October) welcomed Mr. Sayer's Players who played Regency music on Regency instruments in Regency costume, and gave guides to dressing for a Regency Ball. In between there were interesting asides about the history of Leamington and snippets reported from newspapers of the time.

It seems that the 'Regency' period is not well defined. Strictly speaking it refers to the period when George III was deemed unfit to rule and his son became 'Prince Regent'. However, it has been extended to cover the years between 1795 and 1830 (roughly) because of cultural similarities that are hard to ignore but hard to pin down. For many the period is identified closely with the novels of Jane Austen, which are celebrated not only for her prose style but for the many insights she gave us into the social conventions of the time.

The music was played live on violin, recorder, and electronic harpsichord. The three members of Mr. Sayer's Players played a Quadrille, a Waltz, a Minuet, and an English country dance known as 'Mr Beveridge's Maggot' (featured in the BBC's *Pride and Prejudice*). Mr. Beveridge was a dancing master of the time but the term 'maggot' is not what it seems. According to my Shorter Oxford English Dictionary it means 'a whimsical fancy', and in this case it is part of the name of a rather courtly country dance in which couples are arranged in longways sets, to dance a hornpipe set in triple time. However, the dance is much more sedate than the term hornpipe would suggest. Towards the end of the session members of the audience were invited to participate in a similar dance (suitably sedate, however improperly they were dressed).

I say 'improperly dressed' because it seems that the social niceties of the Regency period were as strictly regulated as any of the steps in the dances of that time. We were given some extracts from 'Miss Lisa Brown's Guide to Dressing for a Regency Ball - Gentleman's edition' (and a fuller version may be found at <a href="https://cdrochester.otg/flyers/MensBallClothing2008.pd">https://cdrochester.otg/flyers/MensBallClothing2008.pd</a>) (Or just type



'Miss Lisa Brown's Guide....' into your favourite search engine and you will get there just as well.)

Apparently, Jeff Sayer's clothing (shown above) is excellent, but his facial hair does not pass muster. The sideburns could have been ok if 'they extended no lower than a line connecting the bottom of the ear lobe and the corner of the mouth', but it was so easy to lapse into impropriety. Beards were frowned on and not allowed at all in the military. In addition, both men and women were expected, encouraged, and cajoled to have hair that was curly rather than hair that was straight. The use of 'hair gel' and 'curling papers' was apparently *de rigeur*. If you

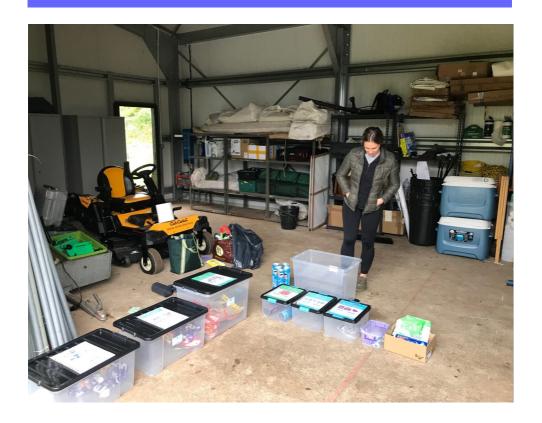
look at the photograph that heads this piece you will see that the ringlets in the hair of the lady pianist fit the bill exactly.

During the Regency period Learnington Spa developed at a pace. The Royal Pump Rooms opened in 1814. The Old Town Assembly Rooms opened at the Parthenon on Bath Street in 1821. It is now the site of the supermarket Iceland. That part of Learnington seems to have been a centre of entertainment at that time. One item given prominence was a balloon ascent from the Bowling Green Inn by Charles Green (a professional 'aeronaut') on 18th May 1824. Apparently, a crowd of about 14,000 people watched the take off and the balloon passed over Southam before landing at Milton in Northamptonshire.

All in all a very enjoyable meeting and our thanks to Mr. Sayer's Players (Jeff Sayer, Margaret Taylor, and Libby Thompson).

The next meeting of the History Group is on Tuesday 14th November at St Chad's Centre. Dr. Thomas Pert, from the `University of Warwick, will give a talk on the 'Thirty Years War'. Because Dr Pert has other commitments on that day his talk will start at 2.00 p.m. instead of the usual time of 2.30 p.m. So, usual place and usual date (second Tuesday of the month), but not the usual time.

# TRACC



On 21st October Kathryn ran the first recycling day in the Bullen building. It's fair to say that both Kathryn and those who brought items to be recycled learnt more about what you can and can't recycle. Thoroughly worthwhile and important iniaitive!

The next recycling day will be on 25th November, watch out for more information on Facebook

Please follow us on Instagram and Facebook @btrecycle or email us <a href="mailto:btrecyclinghub@gmail.com">btrecyclinghub@gmail.com</a> for more information.

# Nature Page By Steve Harvey

After a false start Autumn's arrived. This is the season when the first bird I hear just before dawn is the Tawny Owl, soon to be followed, still in the dark, by the Robin. An unusual duet with the night shift clocking off and the day shift clocking on.

As the light seeps into the parkland there's often a mist that hangs between the trees and over the sheep there's a chill in the air and a forever dampness.

A Green Woodpecker calls out its loud echoey laughing 'Yaffle' as in Professor Yaffle. Late summer through to Autumn is the most likely time to see and hear them, whereas the Great Spotted is everywhere in late Winter and Spring.

The young Robins are now looking like their parents, wearing their official Robin uniforms. This now brings them into conflict with the older generation, so singing to sort out the Winter food territories is in full swing.

The young goldfinches are developing their full colours, the gold and black band of feathers is on the wings from the start. Now the red and black feathers are appearing on their faces.

The old Cedar tree is looking stunning now covered in small green male flowers that look like tens of thousands of small green candles covering every branch. Tiz a wonder to behold.

The Jackdaws are hungry now the weather has cooled off. Each morning they wait patiently for the 'food bank' to open, several on the cottage roof and more in the trees. One little call from us and they all turn round and pay full attention. Another call or two and they all fly down to breakfast, always a good start to the day for both of us.

This is also the Season when you are most likely to see Squirrels killed on the road, many of them hunting for nuts, acorns and Chestnuts. When they gather them to carry to a secret stash sites many of them will cross the roads and don't always



make it safely.

I occasionally have a Muntjac cross the road, usually doing a saunter with their head down. The other day two Muntjac crossed in front of me when I was on the way to Moreton Morrell. No sauntering there but a full blown gallop, one chasing the other. Now as these deer can breed all through the year I reckon it was probably a male chasing a female. Well she ran fast with her head down and seemed to have no plans to start a family.

### WI

#### By Anne Allen

October is our annual meeting. To me the most important meeting of the year when reports are given and the new committee is elected, or press-ganged and new officers elected.

We started the meeting with Jerusalem which was lovely. Why is it that when you make a music recording it goes quiet when needed? We overruled it and finished up with a rousing chorus instead.

I started the meeting by welcoming so many people plus 2 visitors and then ran through our normal meeting business. We have enjoyed a meal at Kolshi , ok so I forgot to tell everyone to bring their own drinks but a cold ginger beer was perfect with a King Prawn Biryani. We are now considering our next venue.

I had been promoting our group meeting when we were expecting Paulus the Cabaret Geek to entertain us. My worst nightmare happened. He cried off mid afternoon with bad weather in London and an incident on the railway. I was expecting over 50 people, so a mad hour was spent making sure everyone knew. My apologies if you had planned to join us.

As always county have been organising various activities and events for us to enjoy. These include the ever popular Serious Science Lectures, Glass- Unsung Wonder Material and How to Cure an Upset Stomach -the History of Antacids and Modern Drugs. We can learn to create cards, willow plant supports and about poetry, visit Nottingham Christmas Market or the National Space Centre, take part in a darts tournament and enjoy a cookery demonstration using the Warwickshire Cookery Book "Kitchen Wisdom".

I'm sure you will agree something for everyone.

Bishops Tachbrook have entered both the recent County Quiz and Jigsaw Competition coming 6th in the quiz and 3rd in the jigsaw's. Very well done to both teams

After a ploughman's supper we continued with the annual meeting proper. We





had the secretaries report reminding everyone of what we got up to over the last





12 months, reviewed our bylaws, and I gave the Presidents address thanking everyone for all their work in helping to run our WI. Everyone does their own little

bit for which I and the committee are very grateful. From the new committee we elected a President and I was very happy to present the president's brooch to Mrs Sam Howells wishing her all the best for the coming 12 months.

The evening finished with a sweetie quiz. Only 20 questions but boy did it make us think

Next month the speaker is Sally from Henley Chocolates , who has promised faithfully to turn up after last year's hiccup. The chocolates are delicious. December is Christmas Party Time with in-house entertainment and the Village Chippy are providing the food . If you want to join us please let me know by mid November for preordering your meal.

If I can help with further information about the WI please give me a call or find us on Facebook

Anne Allen 07929356701 or pussycatgalore12@yahoo.co.uk

# St Chad's Centre Schedule

Monday	Activity	Contact
	St Chad's' Tinies	
	We are a friendly playgroup for children aged 0-4 years and their carers.	
10-11.30am	Hot drinks and snacks, toys, craft activities and singing.	Contact on Facebook
	All welcome.	
	Term time only	
17.00-19.00	Martial Arts Class. Over 12 years and adults	Andy Shaw – andy@linkcube.co.uk
	HISTORY GROUP	
Tuesday 14th November 2.00 p.m. start	Dr. Thomas Pert, from the `University of Warwick, will give a talk on the 'Thirty Years War'.	John Fletcher on 01926 426001 or johnfletcher@sky. com

Tuesday	Activity	Contact
	ADVENTURE BABIES  Take your little ones on a Sensory Story-telling Adventure every Tuesday at St Chad's Centre, as we bring brilliant books to life with puppets, props, bubbles and sensory activities.  Mini Adventurers (0-18 months) 9.15am - 10.00am	lindsey@adventure babies.co.uk or visit:
9.15-12.30	Diddy Adventurers (0-12 months) 10.30am - 11.15am  Mini Adventurers (0-18 months) 11.45am - 12.30am  Booking essential please visit www.adventurebabies.co.uk/ warwickshireandcoventry to secure your place or contact lindsey@adventurebabies.co.uk	www.adventurebab ies.co.uk/ warwickshireandco ventry

16.30-19.00	ATOMIC DANCE  Mini Freestyle and Acrobatic Arts  4.30pm-5.15pm - Ages 4-7 A combination of Freestyle Dance and Acrobatic Arts  Junior Freestyle & Acrobatic Arts 2  5.15pm-6.15pm - Ages 7-12 A combination of Freestyle Dance and Acrobatic Arts  Junior - Lyrical/Street/Jazz  6.15pm-7.00pm Ages 7-12 A combination of Street and Jazz Techniques  Please see website for more details	Contact Ellie Rowe 07392 348155 or ellie@atomicdance .co.uk
19.00-20.00	YOGA Supporting Health & Wellbeing Yoga classes with Amanda Specialising in yoga for beginners. Sedentary workers, and mums. Please bring your own mat / block	www.lifewithaman daj.com

Wednesday	Activity	Contact
	ADVENTURE BABIES	
	Take your little ones on a Sensory Story-telling Adventure every Wednesday at St Chad's Centre, as we bring brilliant books to life with puppets, props, bubbles and sensory activities.	lindsey@adventur ebabies.co.uk
	Mini Adventurers (0-18 months) 9.15am - 10.00am	or visit:
9.15-12.30	Diddy Adventurers (0-12 months) 10.30am - 11.15am	www.adventureba bies.co.uk/
	Mini Adventurers (0-18 months) 11.45am - 12.30am	warwickshireandc oventry
	Booking essential please visit www.adventurebabies.co.uk/ warwickshireandcoventry to secure your place or contact lindsey@adventurebabies.co. uk	
18.00-19.00	YOGA	
	Supporting Health & Wellbeing	
	Yoga classes with Amanda	www.lifewithaman
	Specialising in yoga for beginners. Sedentary workers, and mums.	daj.com
	Please bring your own mat / block	

Wednesday	Activity	Contact
19.15-20.00	Zumba Glow with Beth  We turn the lights down and the music and disco lights UP!  Beginners welcome £7 cash or card Have fun getting fit with us. It's exercise in disguise	07966320536  Facebook: dance yourself fit with Beth
Thursday	Activity	Contact
10.15-11.45	ST CHAD'S COMMUNITY CAFÉ  Serving Drinks and Cake for you to enjoy	kateatkaribu22 @outlook.com 07713113464
12.15-13.15	NEW CLASS STARTING 8 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER  YOGA/MINDFULLNESS  A gentle and relaxing yoga/ mindfulness class to increase physical flexibility, mobility and improve mental wellbeing and awareness.  To book please contact Amanda	www.lifewithaman daj.com  Message or WhatsApp 07795498759

Friday	Activity	Contact
10.00-12.00	<b>Tai Chi</b> - All Classes are for beginners but are suitable for anyone. First class is free, so no reason not to find if Tai Chi is right for you.	Peter Fletcher 07487 685679
16.00-17.15	Cook Stars  Fun cooking classes, all ingredients included plus a craft activity & recipe card to keep.  Suitable for 2-11 year olds (under 5's will need to be accompanied by an adult)	Angela  Call/text 07477083778  ange- la@cookstars.co.u k
<b>Sundays</b> 18.15-20.00	St Chad's Youth Club	www.stChad'sbt .org



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