

Church Window

The magazine for the parishes of

St. Peter's Leighton-cum-Minshull Vernon



St. Leonard's Warmingham

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall never perish but have eternal life." *John 3:16*

December 2025

Church Contacts

Enquiries about baptisms, weddings and funerals please contact Rev Paul North:

Tel: 01270 522213 Email: revpaulnorth@outlook.com



Vicarage address:

The Vicarage, Middlewich Road, Minshull Vernon, Crewe, CW1 4RD

St Leonard's Church, Warmingham

Churchwardens:

Janet Furber Tel: 01270 526393 Email: lesjan@talktalk.net

Mike Sant Tel: 01270 762819 Email: mikesant@talktalk.net

Safeguarding Officer:

Jo Price Tel: 07904 435038 Email: safeguarding.slw@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.warminghamchurch.weebly.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StLeonardschurchwarmingham/>

Items for the magazine relating to Warmingham & District can be sent to helan.isherwood@sky.com

St Peter's Church, Leighton-cum-Minshull Vernon

Churchwardens:

Chris Ward Tel: 07985 941569 Email: chris@ward1247.plus.com

Ben Entwistle Tel: 07518 649262 Email: bentwistle1770@gmail.com

Safeguarding Officer:

Irene Booth Tel: 07754 887557 Email: lcmsafeguarding@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.stpeters-leighton.org.uk>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stpeterslcmv>

Christmas Lights

Have you put your Christmas decorations up yet? The other night I went by a row of houses who all had identical lights up on their eaves. It was very impressive. There is always the really amazing house in your area, the one that outdoes everyone else. I mean the lengths people go to decorating their houses is quite something. There are times when you just have to go, 'Wow, fair play, I can't compete with such brilliance.' But then we are not supposed to really.



Christmas never was a competition about who has the best house. I mean nothing we do here on earth will ever, or could ever, compete with the glory and majesty of heaven. And that is what Jesus gave up to be born on earth. We can't outshine heavenly glory! But Jesus left all the wonder of heaven to be laid in an animal feeding box. Luke recalls how Mary

wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. Luke 2:7

This was no glamorous palace. Jesus left the glory of heaven and was laid in an animal feeding box. That feeding box had great significance, as the Shepherds were told,

Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.¹² This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.' Luke 2:11-12

The manger was a sign Jesus was the Saviour.

The Saviour of the world was to be found in the humblest of places. So, this Christmas, if you want to, go to town with the lights, reflect the angels and stars, the glory of this occasion, but equally remember, you don't have to. Jesus, the Son of God, was laid in a manger, in the simplest of beds.

The Saviour of the World!

From our October Registers



Baptisms

We welcome you into the Lord's family

St Peter's

12th Willow-Rose Rimmer



Weddings

Bless these thy servants



Funerals

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted"

Christmas Prayer

Almighty Father,

Thank you for your indescribable gift of Jesus – the Light of the world.

Thank you that He brought light and life to all who received Him during His life on earth and that He still brings light and life to all who receive Him.

Lord, how this broken world needs your light today. As we rejoice and give thanks for Christmas, we pray that the light of Jesus will pierce the darkness of self-interest and hatred – and change the hearts of those who do not love you or their neighbours.

We pray that by the power of your Holy Spirit you will deliver your people from evil, and that Your kingdom will come on earth as in heaven. Thank you, Father, that because of Jesus, light will *always* shine in the darkness and the darkness will *never* be able to extinguish it.

Glory and thanks and praise to You Father God, this Christmas and always. In Jesus' saving and powerful name. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Warmingham Event Dates

St Leonard's December diary dates



Wednesday 10th	Carol Singing in the Bear's Paw, 7-8pm
Sunday 14th	Christmas Lunch in the Village Hall after the Morning Service. Approx. 12.30pm 3 course lunch with wine included. Tickets £30.00. To book, contact Janet Furber on 01270 526393
Tuesday 16th	Nantwich Voices Christmas Concert in church at 7.00pm Cash donations on the door
Friday 19th	A service of Lessons and Carols in church at 7pm
Sunday 21st	Interactive Nativity in church at 3pm

Looking Ahead:



Monday 26th January
PCC meeting in church at 7.30pm

Sunday 11th January 2026
Plough Service at 11.30am



Saturday 21st February

Pancake and Coffee morning.
Watch out for details.

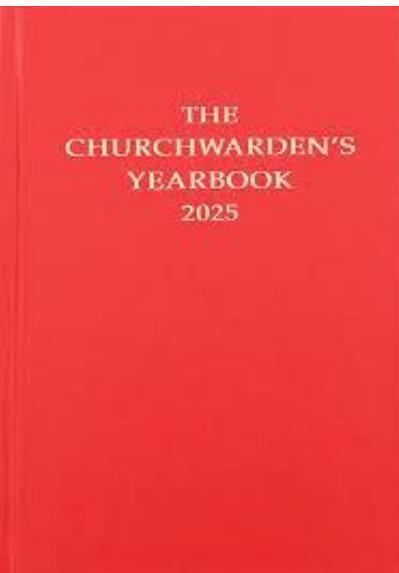
Warmingham Home Group

There is no home group in December.

The next meeting will be on **Monday 19th January** at 2pm at the home of Helan Isherwood. Please contact Helan on 01606 841711 for further details.

Vacancies - St Leonard's Church

Our current **Treasurer** is stepping down due to her work and family commitments. We are looking for a volunteer to join the PCC and take on this valuable role.



Our current **Churchwardens** will be stepping down from their role at the 2026 APCM. If you feel you may be interested, please speak to them for more information.



Our **Secretary** has announced that she will be stepping down from the secretarial role at the 2026 APCM. Please consider if you could take on this role.



So we are looking for volunteers to join the PCC and prepare to take on these roles. Do you think you have the interest and skills to take on these important jobs?

Donations of Food for St Paul's Centre for Christmas



At St Leonard's we are asking for donations of long-life food to be brought to the service on **Sunday 14th December** or to the Village Hall as you come to the Christmas Lunch.

If you have been collecting food items as suggested in November's magazine with the reverse Advent Calendar then please bring them along to church.

St Leonard's Christmas Lunch



Sunday 14th December in Warmingham Village Hall
after the Morning Service (Approx. 12.30pm) £30.00 per head
for a three-course lunch including glass of wine or soft drink.

Book your place by signing the list in church
or by contacting Janet Furber on 01270 526393

And the angel said to them, 'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. *Luke 2:10-11*



Christmas Events at St Peter's and St Leonard's

Dec 7th - 11:30am -1pm

Christmas Fair at St Peter's

Dec 10th - 7pm

Carol Singing at the Bear's Paw

Dec 14th - 12.30pm

St Leonard's Christmas Lunch

Dec 16th - 7pm

Nantwich Voices with So Strings

Christmas Concert

at St Leonard's

Dec 17th - 7.30pm

South Cheshire Concert Band

Christmas Concert at St Peter's



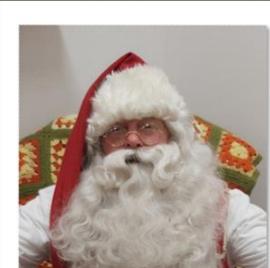
THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Christmas Fair

**Sunday 7th December
11:30 - 1pm**

**St Peter's Community Hall
Middlewich Road, CW1 4RD**

**Raffle
Christmas Tombola
Arts and Crafts
Free Refreshments
Children meet Santa for free**



**Meet Santa
11:30 - 1pm**

**Raising money for
St Paul's Pantry
& Leighton
Hospital Labour
Ward**



Donations of Toys to St Paul's Centre



St Nicholas will be visiting St Peter's Community Hall on **Sunday 7th December** at 12noon. Refreshments will be served and all are very welcome to attend.

If you are able to bring to the hall any new or good quality second hand toys these will be given to St Paul's Centre for children less fortunate this Christmas. Thank you.

Protect our birds

This Christmas why not give the birds in your garden a Christmas present by joining the RSPB? More and more of our wild birds are disappearing, making the RSPB's work vital, to make sure that the birds we have grown up with and love remain a familiar sight for our children and future generations. More than 200 different kinds of wild birds live within our shores – why not help the RSPB to help them? Visit: www.rspb.org.uk



The Children's Society box collection



The total sent to The Children's Society collected from your boxes for this year is £322.96. Many thanks to all who have contributed.

I have a few boxes if anyone else would be willing to have one to pop in those odd coins, they soon add up and make a difference to this very worthwhile charity.

Please give me a call if you would like to help – 01270 214316.

Many thanks, *Margaret Davies*

JOY

St Peter's Services in Advent and Christmas

Nov 30th – 11am

Joint Advent Service at St Peter's

7th Dec - 10.45am

Service with School Choir

followed by St Nicholas in the hall

21st Dec - 7pm

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve - 24th Dec

3pm & 4.30pm

Christingle Services

11.30pm

Midnight Eucharist

Christmas Day - 25th Dec - 10.45am

Family Communion



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

JOY

St Leonard's Services in Advent and Christmas

Nov 30th – 11am

Joint Advent Service at St Peter's

19st Dec - 7pm

A Service of Lessons and Carols

21st Dec - 3pm

Interactive Nativity

Christmas Day - 25th Dec - 9 am

Family Communion

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

St Leonard's Calendar of Services / Rotas

Please check times of services carefully

Date	Times and services	Sides-persons	Altar Flowers & Brasses	Cleaning
Sunday 7th December The Second Sunday of Advent	11.30am Morning Prayer	Lynne Case	Helen Walker	Janet and team
Sunday 14th December The Third Sunday of Advent	11.30am Morning Service	Janet Newton	Christmas flowers	
Friday 19th December	7.00pm A Service of Lessons and Carols			
Sunday 21st December The Fourth Sunday of Advent	No Morning Service 3pm Interactive Nativity	Ken Newton	Christmas flowers	
Thursday 25th December Christmas Day	9.00am Communion and Carols			
Sunday 28th December The First Sunday of Christmas	11.00am Joint Service at St Leonard's	Nicole Archer	Jenny Sant	
Sunday 4th January The Epiphany	11.30am Morning Service	Simon Moss	Jenny Sant	

St Peter's Calendar of Services

Date	Times and Services	Readings and Readers 10.45am	Readings and Readers 7pm
Sunday 7th December The Second Sunday of Advent	9.00am HC 10.45am HC No Evensong	Romans 15.4-13 <i>Ben Entwistle</i> Matthew 3.1-12	No Evensong
Sunday 14th December The Third Sunday of Advent	9.00am HC 10.45am HC 7pm Evensong	James 5.7-10 <i>Alison Bate</i> Matthew 11.2-11	Isaiah 5.8-30 <i>Ruth Edge</i> Acts 13.13-41 <i>Chris Ward</i>
Sunday 21st December The Fourth Sunday of Advent	9am HC 10.45am HC 7pm A Service of Lessons and Carols	Romans 1.1-7 <i>Gilly Booth</i> Matthew 1.18-25	Lessons and Carols followed by refreshments
Wednesday 24th December Christmas Eve	3pm & 4.30pm Christingle Services 11.30pm Midnight Eucharist	Hebrews 1.1-12 John 1.1-14	
Thursday 25th December Christmas Day	10.45am Family Communion	Titus 3.4-7 Luke 2.1-20	
Sunday 28th December The First Sunday of Christmas	No 9am HC 11.00am Joint Service at St Leonard's No 7pm Evensong		No Evensong
Sunday 4th January The Epiphany	9.00am HC 10.45am HC No Evensong	Ephesians 3.1-12 <i>Alan Culshaw</i> Matthew 2.1-12	No Evensong

St Peter's Rotas

Date	Sidespersons	Offertory	Cleaning	Altar Flowers
Sunday 7th December The Second Sunday of Advent	Robert Hodson	Philippa Goyer and Ann deRuiter	John and Ruth Edge	No flowers in Advent
Sunday 14th December The Third Sunday of Advent	Philip and Gail Barnes Sandra Parkes	Paul Harvey and Ben Entwistle	Phyllis Darlington and Dorothy Riley	No flowers in Advent
Sunday 21st December The Fourth Sunday of Advent	Albert and Jane Dunseath Sandra Parkes	John Edge and Ann Hughes	Andrew Hollinshead	No flowers in Advent
Wednesday 24th December Christmas Eve				Christmas flowers
Thursday 25th December Christmas Day				Christmas flowers
Sunday 28th December The First Sunday of Christmas	Joint Service at St Leonard's		Val Simcock & Paul Harvey	Christmas flowers
Sunday 4th January The Epiphany	Robert Hodson	Philippa Goyer and Ann deRuiter	Audrey Bergin	Christmas flowers

Jim's Licensing Service

On Sunday 16th November a contingent of fifteen members of St Peter's Church attended the licensing of our old friend Jim Britcliffe. It was held at St Andrew's Church in Crewe and the licensing service was taken by Bishop Sam of Stockport. Accompanying him were various members of clergy who all played significant roles during the service. In the congregation there were also two visiting Bishops from the islands of Melanesia, which was a lovely surprise for everyone.

Jim is now Priest in charge of three churches in Crewe, St Andrew's, St Peter's and All Saints. It was lovely to see a full church - the congregation being made up of people from all three churches, plus the group from St Peter's, Minshull Vernon. As well as Jim's family and friends.

Jim had chosen five beautiful hymns; Lift High the Cross, When the deer pants for the water, Love Divine, Thine be the Glory, Guide me O Thou Great Redeemer.

They were interspersed throughout the service and all sung with great gusto. The final one accompanied by children using a collection of percussion instruments.

Bishop Sam, joined by the other clergy, led us through the service, constantly reassuring Jim that he would be well supported in his new role, caring for the varied communities he now serves.

From Jim's description of the services taking place in his churches the following week, it seems like a difficult and complicated task. I really hope he has a good calendar and spread sheet to track exactly where he should be and when.

Once all the formalities were over we were treated to a very delicious array of food. The ladies of the church had definitely been very busy.

Jim was very pleased to see people from St Peter's who'd made the effort to go and support him as our church was where he began his journey into the priesthood.

Jim was very gracious making sure he spent time mingling and chatting with as many people as possible.

It was good to see Mrs Britcliffe (Jim's mum), sitting alongside Debbie and his brother. It was good to catch up with them and hear how things are going.

I'm sure that as he moves forward with his new role, which seems a difficult one, we at St Peter's wish him good luck and will hold him in our thoughts and prayers.

Good luck and God bless you Jim.

Gilly Booth



St Paul's Centre

Hope | Dignity | Confidence | Opportunity

St. Pauls Centre, Hightown, Crewe, Cheshire, CW1 3BY

Our current shopping list:

Potatoes / vegetables / tomatoes tinned	Pasta / spaghetti / rice	Mince pies / cakes / biscuits / crackers / crisps	Soup – tinned & packets
Cereals / sugar / UHT milk	Jam / marmalade	Sponge pudding – tinned	Baked beans / spaghetti - tinned
Tinned meats / instant gravy	Tea bags / coffee	Fruit / custard tinned / carton	Fruit juice (long life) / squash



SOUTH CHESHIRE CONCERT BAND



"CHRISTMAS CONCERT"



Wednesday 17th December 7.30 pm
at
St Peter's Community Hall, Minshull
Vernon CW1 4RD.



Free Entry
Raffle Refreshments
Retiring Collection



St Peter's December Book of Remembrance

1st Lily Edge (1992), Winifred Mary Hollinshead (1992),
Jonathan Lee Horn (2011)

2nd Peter Williams (2016)

3rd Darren Geoffrey Patrick (1994)

4th John Stewart Thorpe (2008)

5th William John Mackle (1988)

6th Julie Susan Wakefield (2021)

7th Esther Foster (1913), Edna Craven (1994), Sheila Foster (2022)

8th Jacqueline Barnes (1995), Peggy Joan Winzer (1996),
David Morris (2018), Rodney Cash (2021)

9th Douglas Tye Spencer (2015)

10th Herbert Adolf Karl Winzer (2006), Michael Hugh Finch (2023)

11th Frank Ollerhead (1989), Louisa Ethel Bolderson (1990),
Elsie Barrett (1997), Vera Joan Earrey (2013)

12th Archibald Leslie Goldie (1989), Denise Bramall (2021)

13th Tom Darlington (1993), Nancy Cooper (2021)

14th Shirley Moss (2005)

15th George Cecil Jinks (1992), Cecil Herbert Knapper (1996),
Percy Edge (1999), Freda Nisbett (2006)

17th David Graham Booth (2011)

18th Arthur William Cooke (1983), Ellen Davenport (1998)

19th Ivy May Knapper (1988), Diane Marie Manley (2019),
Alan Heath (2018)

21st Betty Foxley (2015)

22nd Frederick Austin Cooper (2009)

23rd Emily Hilda Jinks (1973), Robert Hazeldine (2008),
Audrey Callwood (2019)

24th Thelma Marie Epps (2012), Pamela Ivy Ward (2015),
Harold Bolderson (2017)

26th Rosina Hopley (2010)

27th Winifred Maxwell (1992), Barbara Howarth (2017)

28th George Henry Wilde (1961), Edward Haughton (1996),
Alan MacDonald (2022)

29th William George Young (1995)

30th Reginald Arthur Gough (2008), Stephen John Foxley (2011),
Mary Cecilia Mackle (2018), Alan MacDonald (2022)

31st John Heming (2004)

News from Warmingham CE Primary

Children Leading Change – A Proud Moment for Our School

For the past three years, a group of our Year 5 and 6 children have been leading research projects linked to actions on our School Development Plan. These projects have shown us just how powerful children's voices can be when they are truly listened to.

Their insights don't just shape their own learning — they influence how we, as a school, grow, adapt, and improve. When children are given the chance to lead, to question, and to share their thoughts, the impact is remarkable. It strengthens our community, enriches our practice, and ensures that every decision we make keeps the children firmly at the heart of everything we do.

Last week, our Head Pupils — Emily, Seb, Rogan, and Oscar — attended the Chester Diocese Senior Leaders Conference to share the research project on Courageous Advocacy they completed last year. They presented twice: first to an audience of 22 headteachers and then to another group of 15. They spoke with confidence, answered unrehearsed questions, and demonstrated the lasting impact of their work six months on.

It was, without doubt, one of my proudest moments as a headteacher. They were amazing! Other schools were so impressed by what they had achieved and left feeling inspired to start similar projects in their own settings. One headteacher even said our workshop was the best part of her day.



This work is very special — it shows what happens when we trust children to lead. Proud doesn't even begin to cover it!



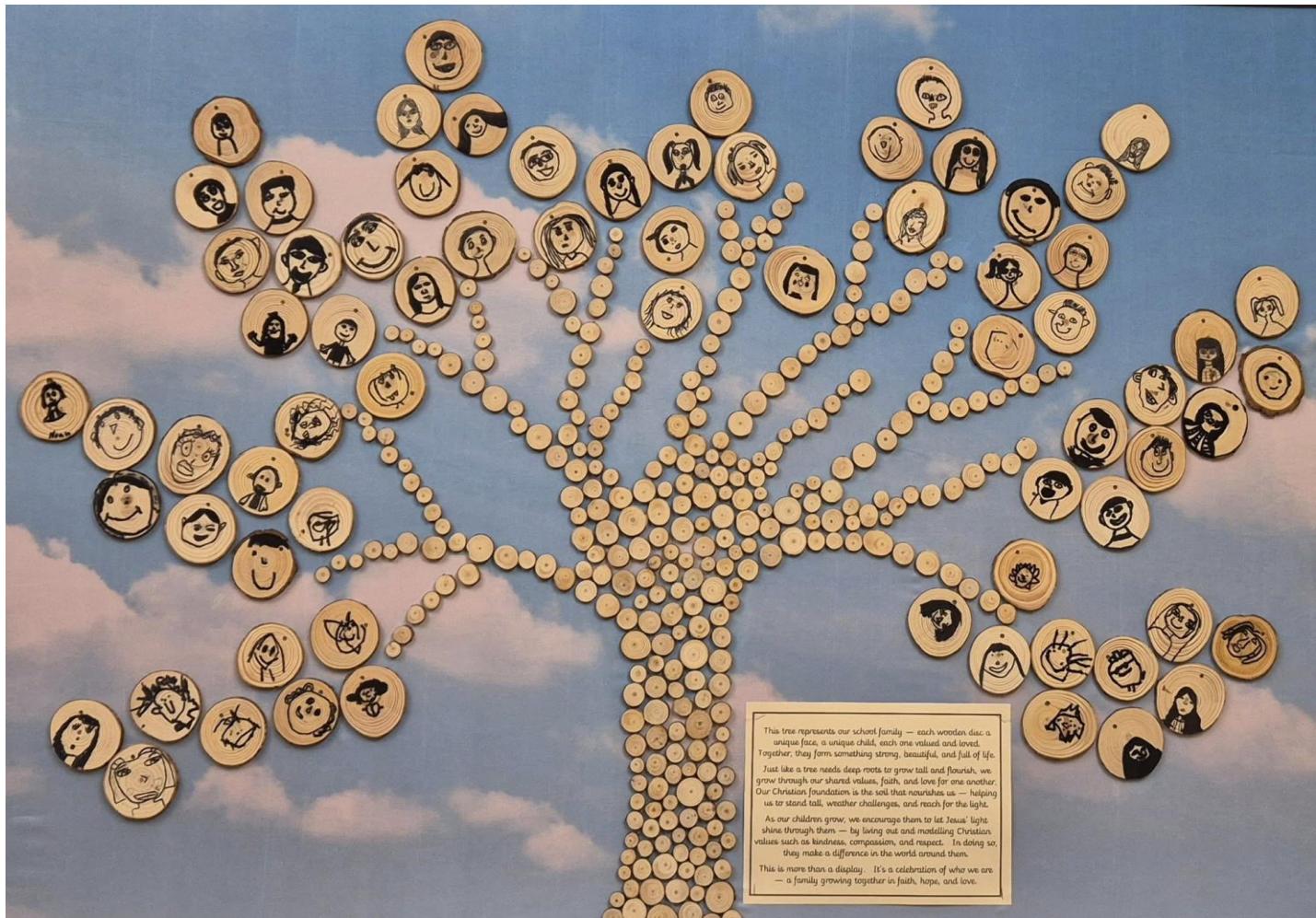


THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Chester Diocesan Board of Education

Supporting Church of England schools in the Diocese of Chester





This tree represents our school family — each wooden disc a unique face, a unique child, each one valued and loved. Together, they form something strong, beautiful, and full of life.

Just like a tree needs deep roots to grow tall and flourish, we grow through our shared values, faith, and love for one another. Our Christian foundation is the soil that nourishes us — helping us to stand tall, weather challenges, and reach for the light.

As our children grow, we encourage them to let Jesus' light shine through them — by living out and modelling Christian values such as kindness, compassion, and respect. In doing so, they make a difference in the world around them.

This is more than a display. It's a celebration of who we are — a family growing together in faith, hope, and love.

Warmingham Village News

December Diary Dates

Wednesday 3rd	W.I. Meeting	7.30pm	Village Hall
Wednesday 10th	Carol Singing	7.00pm	Bears Paw
Tuesday 16th	Christmas Concert	7.00pm	Church
Friday 19th	Lessons & Carols	7.00pm	Church
Sunday 21st	Nativity Service	3.00pm	Church

Warmingham & District W.I.

On Wednesday 5th November the W.I. held its Annual Meeting at which Sue Hill was confirmed as the President for the next year. There was an illustrated talk about the history of Chester Zoo from Ray Hill. The competition was “Chester”.



At the extra “Winter Warmer” meeting held on Wednesday 12th November members enjoyed a Beetle Drive and a supper of soup and apple pie.

The December meeting will be on **Wednesday 3rd December** when there will be a film night. The competition theme is “Movie”.

The Christmas Lunch is booked for **Monday 8th December**.

The first meeting of 2026 is on **Wednesday 7th January**.

The next meeting of the **Book Group** is on **Monday 12th January** when the book to be discussed is *Raising Hare* by Chloe Dalton.

The **Darts Group** will be pausing their meetings to enjoy Christmas gatherings in December.

Warmingham & District W.I. usually meets on the first Wednesday of the month in the village hall at 7.30pm. Visitors and new members are always welcome. For further information please contact Sue Hill by email: wiwarmingham@gmail.com

Walk 'n Talk

There is no Walk 'n Talk planned for December. The next date will be **Tuesday 13th January 2026**.

If you wish to join the walk please ring Caroline on 01270 526022. You do not need to be a W.I. member to join this activity.

Items for the Village News should be sent to helan.isherwood@sky.com



St Leonard's Christmas Raffle

Christmas Raffle tickets are available from Church Secretary Janet Furber and from PCC members
£1.00 per ticket / £5.00 per book.

1st prize	M&S Christmas Hamper
2nd prize	£50.00 voucher for the Bears Paw
3rd prize	Prosecco Hamper
4th prize	£50.00 voucher for the Bears Paw
5th prize	Hotel Chocolat Hamper

We have super prizes in our Christmas Raffle. We are very grateful to Kistos holdings and the Bears Paw for their generous prizes.

The draw will take place at the Nine Lessons and Carols on **Friday 19th December**.

ST PETER'S AND ST LEONARD'S
PRAYER PICNIC
THURSDAYS 12 NOON



BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC

St Peter's Community Hall, CW1 4RD

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ST PETER'S COMMUNITY HALL

Middlewich Road CW1 4RD
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 Email: revpaulnorth@outlook.com

Vicarage address:
 The Vicarage, Middlewich Road,
 Minshull Vernon, Crewe,
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The hall is the perfect venue for anniversaries, christenings and naming days, engagements and everything in between.

Reservations can be made via -
bookings@
warminghamvillagehall.org
or 01270 526111 / 07484 906104



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