

CHURCHILL AND SARSDEN

Roundabout

AUGUST 2025



Village Hall News

VILLAGE BARBECUE ON THE GREEN

Saturday 30th August - 5pm start

It will soon be time for the village BBQ which will take place on Saturday 30th August, starting at 5pm. Last year was a fabulous village get together and we're hoping for a lovely evening weather wise once again. Tickets are available from John Arnott on 07795388261 or email arnottjohn@aol.com. Cost will be £12 for adults for a steak baguette (or alternative) and £6.00 for children. Please book your tickets in plenty of time so that we can ensure we have enough BBQ supplies. This will be a bring your own drinks event.

AUTUMN COLOURS AT SARSDEN GLEBE WITH A DOG SHOW

Sunday 14th September, 1 - 4.30 pm

It won't be too long until the autumn open gardens at Sarsden Glebe with the beginning of the change in colours showing around the garden and throughout the landscape. Anne Bachelor is also organising a fabulous dog show at Sarsden Glebe, the first in the village since 2020. Teas and cake will be available from the Village Hall baking team. We are running a tombola stall on the day and would welcome any unused gifts or items you think might be suitable to go on the stall and email Helen - helencheckley25@gmail.com or take to the Community Cafe in September.

COMMUNITY CAFE

The cafe run ends Tuesday July 29th. Thank you to all our volunteers who run the cafe and/or bake cakes and to those who come to enjoy the baked delights and company. The cafe will restart at the beginning of September.

CHURCHILL COUNTRYSTYLE CALENDAR 2026

We have received some village photos but are still looking for more, especially from younger villagers. Photos from any time of year on what Churchill & Sarsden means to you would be very welcome. Please submit them to the Churchill Calendar 2026 project:

<https://churchillsarsden.com/churchill-calendar-2026-project/>

Visit the village website <https://churchillsarsden.com/> for further details and information about forthcoming events. Any comments or suggestions for content are very welcome. Contact john@johnfordhamdesign.com

If you would like to put any information in *Roundabout*, please send it to francescahobart@outlook.com by the 15th of the month.

From the Archives – Churchill Methodist Chapel 1927-2025

There has long been a culture of dissent in these fair, rural parts against the prevailing semi-feudal social order which held sway for many centuries, distinguishing landowners from land workers. The arrival of the railway linking Oxford, Worcester and Wolverhampton helped promote nonconformist denominations to meet the spiritual and moral needs of the navvies, railway employees and the working class inhabitants of the villages along the new route. Further dissenters arrived from the West Country: stock farming tenants, some of them Methodists, came to work on neglected land including the Sarsden Estate, made vacant by cheap grain arriving from North America (sadly no one thought of using tariffs to deter such unfair trade).

With the later sale of the Sarsden Estate, these farmers were able to buy the freehold of their tenancy on reasonable terms, one of whom was Herbert Crudge, a descendent of Mr J.B. Crudge who was amongst the original incomers from Devon. Herbert Crudge dearly wished for a new Primitive Methodist Chapel to be built in Churchill to replace the old chapel which had fallen into disrepair, a task taken up by his widow Edith who offered the site in Kingham Road adjoining Churchill Farm. A Trust was set up in 1926 with eleven members: Edith Crudge, George Crudge of Conduit Farm, another Churchill resident Alfred Pearce, plus a cowman, a labourer, a hawker, a yard foreman, a wheelwright, a van man, a Co-op employee, and a plumber's mate, culminating in the opening of the new chapel on Easter Day 1927. Presiding at the ceremony was a friend of Edith's, the prominent Quaker and chocolate manufacturer Richard Cadbury. Tea was served in the village schoolroom for such a huge crowd that the evening service that followed had to be held in an adjacent field.

By the 1970s Sunday congregations in the chapel started to fall away but then improved with the transference of some Kingham Methodists to Churchill when their chapel closed, the arrival of several committed Methodists to Kingham Hill school and a major reconstruction of the chapel fabric in 1988. Sadly Churchill Methodist Chapel held its last service on 26 July and is now combined with Chipping Norton, after over 250 years of Methodist witness in the village. Let's hope it finds a sympathetic new owner to preserve its fine history.

~ Paul Branche

Front cover photograph by Anne Mandry

HOME CAR BOOT SALE

LAST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH, STARTING 31 AUGUST

HOW IT WORKS:

Park your car on your drive or outside your house.

Fill your boot with items to give away or sell.

Mark each item as free or add a suggested donation.

Then ... wander around the village in search of treasure!

Can you GIVE US YOUR SUPPORT?

Deposit your used, new or surplus bras into our bra bank.

Give them a new lease of life - raising vital funds for research into secondary spread breast cancer.

Every bra you donate really makes a difference!

For more information, or to order your own bra bank email recycling@againstbreastcancer.org.uk or visit againstbreastcancer.org.uk

Bra Bank

AG INST breast cancer
Registered Charity No: 112258
For Collection
Email: abc@brabanks.org.uk
Tel: 0330 137 3900

RECYCLING CLOTHES COMPANY LTD

012255 534211
E: recycling@againstbreastcancer.org.uk
Registered Charity No: 112258

AG INST breast cancer

WHO HAS THE WAGGIEST TAIL OF ALL?

SARSDEN GLEBE, 14th September at 2 pm

Pups, listen up! Not long to go now before you can sniff out some top-class treats and tickles at the Village Dog Show. Entries for classes taken on the day from 1pm, judging starts at 2pm. Proceeds to the Village Hall Refurbishment Fund.

All dogs on leads, please.

There will also be a special children's prize awarded for the 'Best Decorated Dog Lead' - we look forward to seeing your creations!

For class details, please see the Churchill & Sarsden village website.

Further enquiries to Anne Batchelor on 07814 186784.