

For Participation or Prayer, week beginning 9th December

- Mon:** 2pm, Little Saints, St George's Hall
2pm, Pastoral visit to Craghall
3pm, Churchwardens meeting
6pm, Advent Reading group (email Rev Debbie for info)
6pm, Beavers, St George's Hall
7.15pm, Scouts, St George's Hall
- Tues:** 8.45am, Morning Prayer, St Hilda's
9.30am, Holy Communion, St Hilda's
9.30am, Tuesday Group, St George's
11.30am Office staff meeting
2pm Pastoral Care team meeting, Winskell Room
2.30pm, Meet & Move (referral required)
6pm, Carol Service, St Hilda's
7.30pm, Concert Band (members only), St George's Hall
- Weds:** 10am, Prayers for the sick & other concerns, 3 High Laws
10am, Plant Pots Nativity service, St George's
5.30pm, Cubs, St George's Hall
7.15pm, Tai Chi, St George's Hall
- Thurs:** 8.45am, Morning Prayer, St George's
9.30am, Holy Communion, St George's
10am, Little Kickers, St George's Hall
1pm, Plant Pots Christmas party, St George's Hall
2pm Pastoral visit to Cestria
4.30pm, Junior Choir practice, St George's
7pm, Choir practice, St George's
- Fri:** 10am, Friday Café, St George's Hall
11am, Sing & Socialise, St George's Hall
7.30pm, Bellringing, St George's
- Sat:** 9am, Rugby Minis, St George's Hall
2pm, Living Nativity, beginning at St George's
7pm, Christmas with the Singers, St George's



Eco Church tips - Taking Care of the Wildlife (and ourselves)

Sarah Leedham, the A Rocha UK Reserve Manager at Foxearth Meadows, has given us her five top tips to further help wildlife, and ourselves, this winter:

1. Leave seed heads and summer plants: on a cold, frosty morning seed heads and 'gone over' plants can look spectacular. Attract Goldfinches and keep other small birds going through the cold months by leaving your plants instead of clearing them away. Less work for you and more food for garden birds. Without a garden? Window feeders are a great option.
2. Rotten apples and pears for Redwings: squidding a few rotting apples and pears* into paths and your lawn may attract Redwing. This winter visitor from Scandinavia will be glad of a feed up in your garden and you'll get lovely views of, yes, a red patch under the wings and the distinctive eye stripes of this handsome visitor.
3. Take a friend to see trees in winter: the cold, winter months can be difficult and lonely for some, especially people who are less mobile. Offer to take a friend or relative to a countryside area where they wouldn't usually go, to experience nature. Accessible sites in your area can be found by looking up Accessible Countryside for Everyone (ACE).
4. Feed your hedgehogs: they sometimes emerge too early so providing food for them really helps. The Wildlife Trusts recommend plain kitten biscuits or meat-based wet dog or cat food* with a dish of water. Be wary of 'hedgehog food' sold commercially as this can cause harm.
5. Plant a native tree or shrub: rather than going for an ornamental, why not choose a native species? For autumn colour you can't beat the humble Field Maple For striking white florets and bright red berries. Try the under-appreciated Guelder Rose (shrubby and great for wet areas). For growing your own pea sticks and fencing material, consider planting a Hazel so you can stop buying Bamboo shipped from China.

**This may not always be appropriate if you have issues with rodents, especially in built-up areas.*