

News & Notes

Issue 309

January 2002

Resolutions

Westley Cole

The year 2002 begins with the Festival of the Naming of Jesus on 1st January at which Joseph and Mary, in response to our Lord's command, named him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. *St. Matthew Ch.1.v.21.*

Behind us lies 2001 with its tragic conflicts in many countries - the terrorist attacks on America on September 11 and the resultant conflict in Afghanistan; the continuing escalation of hostilities between Palestinians and Israelis in the Middle East; the conflicts in the Balkans and the ever present tension in Northern Ireland.

On a more personal and localised note here in the Chalke Valley we look back and give thanks for the seven years of the ministry of Canon Syd Willcox as Team Rector as he begins his retirement at Bridport in Dorset.

We do not know what the year ahead may contain for the world, the Chalke Valley or ourselves. It may turn out to be a happy year or a sad one - a year when things go smoothly or a year full of difficulties and tribulations. But what we do know is that the whole world needs a Saviour - what we do know is that each and every one of us needs a Saviour - and that God has given us one in His Son Jesus Christ. In the year that is just beginning let us look to Jesus as that Saviour, walking always in His steps and praying that men and women everywhere will do the same, so that we may truly, at the last, have 'peace on earth and goodwill towards all men'.

Church Services

Sunday 6 January The Epiphany	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	WC	Nunton
	9.30 am	Parish Communion	GS	Britford
	11.00 am	Parish Communion	JK	Coombe
	6.00 pm	Evensong (BCP)	WC	Homington
Sunday 13 January Epiphany 2	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	GS	Homington
	9.30 am	Parish Communion (JC)	WC	Odstock
	11.00 am	Family Service (All Age)	GS	Coombe
	11.00 am	Matins (BCP)	WC	Charlton
	5.00 pm	Christingle Service	GS	Odstock
Sunday 20 January Epiphany 3	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	GS	Britford
	9.30 am	Parish Communion (JC)	GS	Nunton
	9.30 am	Morning Service (All Age)	WC	Homington
	11.00 am	Parish Communion (BCP)	WC	Coombe
Sunday 27 January Epiphany 4	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	GS	Homington
	9.30 am	Parish Communion	GS	Charlton
	11.00 am	Morning Service (All Age)	ACT	Odstock
	11.00 am	Matins (BCP)	GS	Coombe
Sunday 3 February 2nd before Lent	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)		Nunton
	9.30 am	Parish Communion		Britford
	11.00 am	Parish Communion		Coombe
	6.00 pm	Evensong (BCP)		Homington

ACT = Adrian Taylor, GS = Rev Dr Graham Southgate, JK = Rt Rev John Kirkham, WC = Rev Westley Cole

From the Registers

Holy Baptism

On Sunday 2nd December at Britford:
Molly Elizabeth Thomlinson

Holy Matrimony

On Saturday 22nd December at Britford:
Stuart Roy Bird and Emily Louise Stratton.

From the Editor

The monthly photocopying cost for *News & Notes* has risen to £40 - if you would like to sponsor an issue, please get in touch with Neil. Editorial items for inclusion in *News & Notes* should be sent to Clare Penny at Azalea Cottage, Chapel Lane, Charlton All Saints, SP5 4HF, telephone 01725 512869 or email clare@azalea.demon.co.uk Monetary donations should be sent to Neil Guttridge, *News & Notes* Treasurer, on 01725 511468 or at Court-Hay, Lower Road, Charlton All Saints, SP5 4HQ. Notices of charity and non-profit making events are inserted free, but all other advertisements are charged at £2 per 30 words, or £20 for 12 insertions. The deadline for the February issue is Friday 18th January.

Additional Holy Days

- 1 Jan Naming of Jesus Holy Communion 10 am at Charlton All Saints
- 7 Jan Baptism of Christ Holy Communion 8 am at Nunton
- 25 Jan Conversion of Saint Paul Holy Communion 8 am at Nunton
- 2 Feb Presentation of Christ (Candlemas) Holy Communion 8 am at Nunton

Women's Institute

Diane Wait

It is a pleasure to do the write-up for the December meeting as it is always such a happy occasion. This year was no exception with a very well attended meeting on 10th December. Mrs Sue Bourne was delighted to welcome a number of guests from other WIs and made special mention of Mrs Morris who was a founder member of our WI. It was also lovely to see Mrs Denys Betts (ex-president) who had braved the heavy traffic and driven up from Bath for the occasion.

Business matters were kept to a minimum but Sue did mention that there will be a visit to Denman College on 13th May and several members will be travelling to Oxford for the day. Mrs Jean Van Hagen read out the correspondence detailing future events and also discussed the Downton Skittles Evening on 15th January. It looks like we will be represented by at least two teams on the night. Mrs Julia Joynt reported that we have received a very welcome cheque for £200.00 from the Fete Committee, and Mrs Joy Saunders confirmed that she has made reservations for a number of future productions at the Playhouse. Following our visit to the Pantomime on 8th January we will be seeing the play "Donkeys Years" on 20th January.

Following the formalities we enjoyed coffee and biscuits and were able to buy from the really excellent Bring & Buy stall which was skilfully run

by Mrs Ruth Austen and Mrs Isobel Stone. There were some great bargains to be had and I admit to buying quite a few stocking fillers as well as a superb rolling pin to match my new kitchen! There was also an excellent raffle with some really good prizes, including quite a few bottles!

Following the coffee break the chairs were pushed back to make way for the entertainment "Farthingales in Action" provided by Mrs Diana Cruickshank and two beautifully dressed Elizabethan dancers. The lady wore a gorgeous royal blue velvet dress with a jewel encrusted front panel and superb accessories. The gentleman looked very dashing in a bottle green velvet outfit trimmed with gold. They performed an original Italian dance dating back to the 16th century. Mrs Cruickshank then showed us how an Elizabethan lady would dress with a substantial number of under garments, including a corset, hooped petticoat, something called a "bum roll" to make the skirt sit properly, another petticoat, and then her beautiful green velvet skirt with a gold encrusted front panel. Under her bejewelled bodice she wore a stomacher to ensure that she would stand well. Naturally she had to be assisted with dressing, especially the lacing of the corset. However, the end result was well worth the effort and Diana looked every inch a regal Elizabethan lady. The rest of the cabaret was taken up with a description of the Elizabethan gentleman's elegant outfit, more delightful dances and some amusing prose. Diana described the type of make-up worn and this mainly comprised lead and arsenic white powder, which was terribly bad for the skin. We are just so lucky these days with all the modern cosmetics. It is said that Queen Elizabeth I owned about 300 wigs and over 3000 costumes - luckily she had enough storage room! All three performers took part in the final dance for which they received a well deserved ovation and treated us to an encore. Members asked Diana a lot of questions and we all now know a lot more about the Elizabethan era. Mrs Jackie Feltham gave a very grateful vote of thanks for such delightful entertainment.

The hall was looking particularly festive with a nicely decorated Christmas tree and lots of pretty garlands so it was easy for everyone to get into the Christmas spirit with delicious mince pies and mulled wine. Many thanks to all those who helped make the party a success.

The next meeting will be on 14th January and our speaker will be Mr Nigel Lewis telling us all about "Barn Owls". This will make a lovely start to the 2002 season.

On behalf of our WI, may I once again wish everyone a very happy, but more importantly I feel, peaceful 2002. Let us pray that it will be.

Office Space to Rent

Fully-serviced office space for rent in award winning new building in Odstock. 260 - 580 sq ft. £6/sq ft + service charge per annum. Please call Jonathan Docherty on 01722 343007.

Golden Jubilee Celebrations – Monday 3rd June 2002

Jonathan Somers (Tel: 01725 513190)

The Charlton All Saints Golden Jubilee Committee would like to thank everybody who has already donated for their magnificent contributions. We have received some very generous donations and the day looks set to be a memorable tribute to the Queen and great fun for everyone in the village.

We plan to start our celebrations at noon, with the village church bells joining those ringing throughout the nation. A splendid feast is then planned for all the village, possibly in Lower Road (permission pending and weather permitting). The evening's festivities will be held in the Great Barn (behind Charlton House). A traditional band and caller has been booked to provide the entertainment, with a hog roast and refreshments to keep us going.

Please book the date in your diaries – Monday 3rd June. The following Tuesday is a Bank Holiday, which is just as well, as doubtless there will be some aching legs (and possibly heads!) to rest.

If you have not already contributed to the fund, we would be very grateful if you could send a donation, be it postal order, cash or cheque (made payable to Charlton All Saints Golden Jubilee Fund) to Denis Blake at Yew Tree House.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the day or to volunteer to help (extra hands are always welcome). The committee will keep you informed as and when the plans become more definite in the forthcoming months.

Weight Watchers

Mon 6.30 - 8.00 pm	Baptist Church, Brown St
Wed 9.30 - 10.45 am	Baptist Church, Brown St
Tues 6.45 - 8.00 pm	Harnham Sports Club
Wed 6.15 - 7.45 pm	The Pavilion, Bishopdown Farm

All welcome at Weight Watchers meetings. We're pleased to see you whether you want to lose 10lbs or 20lbs! Contact Peggy Knight (01722 320259) or Rosemary Chapell (01722 336288) for further details.

Whist Drives

Bernice Loader

During 2001, £250 was donated to church funds from proceeds of the weekly whist drives, held in the Barker Room. This was a little higher than the previous year. Many thanks to the few local players,

and others who travel from farther afield to play. Also a big thank you to those who kindly donated prizes for the Christmas drive.

Pantomime and Comedy at the Radnor Hall

Diane Wait

Although the festive season has been and gone, I am sure that the pre-Christmas presentation by the Radnor Hall Players of their whodunit, sketches and pantomime will still be fresh in the minds of those fortunate enough to see them playing to packed houses on November 29th, 30th and 1st December. On arriving at the hall guests were greeted by Roger and Pam Trubshaw and delicious glasses of mulled wine were handed out by Debby Underhill. Even though the hall was very full Pam had somehow managed to arrange the tables and chairs so that everyone would get a good view of the stage. Just before curtain-up Harry Joynt, looking resplendent in a maroon striped jacket and bow tie, explained to the audience the style of coarse acting about to be seen in Streuth (an original whodunit by Michael Green). It was a stylish one act play with a classy performance from Julian Johnson as the frustrated inspector trying to solve the case. He was admirably supported by Adrian Taylor, Stephanie Elcock, Alexander Joynt, Sherwood Elcock, John Ferris, Jill Johnson, Anthony Warley, Harry Joynt and Dorothy Darton.

Following the play we enjoyed a selection of songs and sketches organised by Nick Stanger. The Two Yokels played by Anthony Warley and John Ferris went down well as did the Preying Mantis Wedding with Nick Stanger (the vicar) attempting to marry the "gorgeous" bride attired in bright green (Carol Dodd) and the understandably reluctant groom (Simon Jackson) also wearing vivid green. I am afraid the groom predictably did a runner! Julian, Sam Vyas, John and Sherwood displaying their beautifully made-up midriffs brought the house down with their rendition of The New Face of the Old Brigade and with Morning Glory there was a lot of enthusiastic singing from the audience.

Following this we were served with the first course of a truly excellent supper of chicken in a delicious white sauce prepared by Pippa Warley and Shel Martin. The meal was hot and tasty, which was quite an achievement with so many to cater for each night. After this it was time for Act 1 of the eagerly awaited pantomime Mother Goose (by Bob Heather and Roger Lamb) directed by Harry Joynt. This was a very ambitious venture with a large cast, including a number of children. However, it was to prove a great success and Sam Vyas, in his first leading role, played a magnificent Mother Goose. He was very natural as Gertie, exceedingly funny, and had an immediate sympathetic rapport with the audience. There were many witty comments from those

watching and by the time Act 2 took place, following the excellent dessert course, everyone was in true pantomime spirit. There were some wonderful performances from the cast including Liz Stanger as Vanity, the extremely bad fairy and Alice Taylor playing a very composed and beautiful good fairy. Oliver Warley played Candy the Goose and immediately won all our hearts. Eleanor Stanger played a delightful and pretty Jill and Jack played by Pippa Crosthwaite made a very handsome principal boy. Billy Goose was very agreeably played by Sherwood Elcock and there was a lot of hissing and booing directed at Sidney Snyder wickedly played by Peter Docherty. Imogen Warley looked enchanting as another good fairy, and newcomers Sheri Start and Linda France were popular as Bodjit and Scrachit playing two totally incompetent but funny odd job men! Matthew Hampton played a scary goblin and the village children, playing themselves, included Anand and Nathan Vyas and William and Peter Stanger. It was an excellent performance by all and much enjoyed by a very appreciative audience. I should mention that Stephanie Elcock stepped in at the last minute to play the part of Jill on Saturday night as Eleanor had unfortunately been taken ill. She did a superb job at very short notice and was virtually word perfect.

After the final curtain Sherwood Elcock on behalf of the Radnor Hall Players thanked Pippa Warley and Shel Martin, Barbara Box, Alan Ambrose, Roger and Pam Trubshaw, Alexander Joynt and John Ferris, Debby Underhill and Margaret Barrow, Adrian Taylor, and Nick Stanger for all their hard work. Harry then came on stage to thank the cast and everyone who had worked so hard to make the production a success. He gave a very warm and grateful vote of thanks to his wife Julia who had done such a wonderful job with designing and painting the scenery, and who had also undertaken the job of Stage Manager.

Finally, on everybody's behalf I would like to thank Harry for all his hard work as director and producer, and for all the other tasks he has undertaken for this year's presentation. He has said the time has now come for him to retire as producer, although he will be happy to continue as director. He will be a hard act to follow but hopefully there is someone willing to take up the reins in his place. Thank you very much Harry for giving us so much pleasure and enjoyment over the years. It is much appreciated.

Footnote by Harry Joynt

This production was in several respects our most ambitious, demanding - and consequently exhausting (!) - one to date. But it turned out well and we made a handsome profit for the hall of some £1500. So well done one and all.

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Odstock Primary School News

As we are sure you will have noticed the classroom extension to our school is now well underway and is aiming to be completed by the end of February, all being well. The work has provided the children with a great learning opportunity, especially the infant class who are each completing a "history" book containing drawings of each stage of the building. They have also been collecting building materials and taking lots of photographs.

In June, our junior children each entered a piece of writing, entitled "A Day in the Life of ..." into a national competition. We are very pleased to announce that two of our pupils' stories have been chosen to be published in the book containing a collection of items from pupils throughout the West Country.

We held our annual Christmas concert in the Radnor Hall this year and put on two performances. Each was well attended and although some of the children were very nervous they all managed very well and the audience enjoyed themselves. The event was a mix of a mummies' play, performed mainly by the year 6 children, carol singing, a recorder medley and the nativity play performed by the infant class. The previous day the children had great fun making mince pies in school and these were given out to the audience after the show, and were much appreciated. We must extend our thanks to Richard Seal who kindly gave up his time to accompany our children on the piano for both the morning rehearsal and afternoon performance. Mrs Barter, our school's recorder teacher, did the honours for the evening performance.

The school also took part in the Small Schools Carol Concert at the City Hall. This is an annual event where several schools meet and sing together and perform individual items. As this was our first year at this event, we did not do an individual item but have certainly picked up lots of inspiration from the others and will be doing one next year!

The last day of term was a fun day with party games and lots of merriment and we even had a visit from Father Christmas who gave each child a present.

Finally the Sun newspaper has started its "Books for Schools" campaign and Walkers crisp packets will

shortly be displaying tokens. We would be very pleased to receive any tokens that villagers might like to donate to the school. Please just pop them in an envelope and through our door!

Hope you all had a good Christmas and we send our best wishes for a happy 2002.

A message from Syd and Jenny Willcox

We would like to thank all the kind people of the Chalke Valley, who helped to give us such a memorable and splendid send-off before we departed to our retirement home in Bridport. Our thanks go to all concerned in the provision of three wonderful parties at Bowerchalke, Broad Chalke and Homington and also to those who sent messages of goodwill by post. We are overwhelmed and sincerely grateful for your generous gifts to us, both those in kind, which will bring back memories of you all and also your magnanimous gifts of money. We hope to use part of this to buy a greenhouse, which will also be a source of memories of our happy years in the Chalke Valley.

At the time of writing we are still surrounded by boxes and unable to find vital items of equipment!! However, we hope that, come the new year we will be straight and that some of you will find your way to visit us in our new home :- 7 Hillingdon, Bridport, Dorset.

We have been blessed with marvellous sunny weather for our move and we are enjoying some wonderful sunrises as we have breakfast and gaze out of our dining room window. It might be advisable to phone before you come so that we can arrange to be in. Tel :- 01308 459139. May God bless you all with a happy and peaceful 2002. With all our love, Syd and Jenny.

Charlton Garden Society

Future attractions include: Monday 4th February - A talk by Sylvia Parrett on Gardening in Southern

California. Monday 25th March - Nick Lock will talk on Colour and Contrast in the Garden. Both meetings start at 7.30 pm in Charlton Church Hall.

Going green in the garden is easy!

Welcome to the first in a series of articles from the Green Gardening Project. The project aims to encourage gardeners to adopt environmentally friendly methods in the garden, but what exactly are these methods and why should we bother about them?

Serious global problems exist that concern us all, from climate change to natural resources running out. We have to think of changes we can make in our daily lives to help us live in a more sustainable way and help reverse these trends. The good news is that by Green Gardening and making a few small changes, we can make a real difference to the environment and still enjoy our gardens.

Over the next few editions we will be considering topics such as:

- ☼ reducing waste - home composting and the use of recycled products
- ☼ protecting natural resources - using peat-free and other sustainable products
- ☼ saving water - using water butts, mulching and drought resistant plants
- ☼ reducing pollution - organic methods, alternatives to slug pellets
- ☼ maintaining biodiversity - encouraging wildlife, habitat creation, planting for wildlife, native species or 'old' varieties.

In the meantime, if you would like to know more about the Green Gardening Project, contact Maggie McDonald on 01380 725670 or email: mmcdonald@wiltshirewildlife.org

Regular Events

WI	Second Monday of the month, 10.00 am Radnor Hall, Bodenham
Junior Church	To coincide with 9.30 am services at Nunton or Odstock Churches (except August), held at the Barker Room, contact Adrian Taylor on 01722 325862
Whist Drive	Every Thursday, 7.30 pm Barker Room, Nunton
Singing Group	Every Monday, 8.00 pm, contact Adrian Taylor on 01722 325862
Tiny Tots	Every Wed 9.30 - 11.30 am, Radnor Hall, Bodenham Contact at Suzie Orchiton 01722 502026
Mobile Library	Alternate Fridays (11 & 25 January): Village Hut, Charlton 10.00 - 10.15 am Alternate Tuesdays (15 & 29 January): Brookmead, Britford 11.00 am; Radnor Arms, Nunton 11.20 am; Crossroads, Odstock 11.45 am

For Your Diary

4 February	Charlton Garden Society, 7.30 pm Charlton Church Hall
25 March	Charlton Garden Society, 7.30 pm Charlton Church Hall