

# News and Notes

Issue 356

for Bodenham, Britford, Charlton All Saints, Nunton and Odstock

December 2005

## Too busy to notice?

There I was sitting in my car in the automatic car-wash – you know, when the car is pounded on all sides by those huge rollers, water sloshing everywhere and you feel rather helpless. After all, you can't get out of your car at that precise moment and you can't admire the view. Trapped!

Doesn't life sometimes feel like this? Pressed in on all sides, with so much to do, we can feel trapped and overwhelmed. During the weeks before Christmas, especially! The diary gets ridiculously full. Even if much of our society has left the Christ out of Christmas, the celebration must go on. How can I survive as a Christian, in the middle of it all?

Let me tell you what I did in the car-wash. I used the time to pray. In other words I tried to do what I often do for the odd half hour in a busy day. I make a little space to cultivate my 'interior life'. I stop. Maybe listen to music. Read a chapter from a devotional book. Pray. It's the quality of our interior life that determines how well we cope with everything else. And it's the interior life that gives *meaning* to everything else.

I love Christmas! But I know that unless I make space to reflect on its real meaning and allow God to come close – which is the mystery of the Incarnation! – then it will leave me feeling tired and empty. May I wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and invite you to make the most of the special Christmas services!

*Alison Williams*

*(The Vicarage, Nunton, 01722 330628)*

## Church of England Services

Sunday, 4 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 2	8.00am 9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm	Holy Communion BCP Parish Communion Parish Communion Evening Prayer BCP	Nunton Britford Coombe Bissett Homington	AW AW AW WC
Sunday, 11 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 3	8.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion BCP Parish Communion Family Service Morning Prayer BCP	Homington Odstock Coombe Bissett Charlton All Saints	WC AW AW DB
Sunday, 18 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 4	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 4.00pm	Parish Communion Morning Service Holy Communion BCP Carols with Christingle Carols with Christingle	Nunton Homington Coombe Bissett Britford Charlton All Saints	AW WC WC AW AW
Thursday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	7.00pm	Village Carol Service	Coombe Bissett	
Friday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> December	5.00pm 6.30pm	Carol Service with Sarum Voices Carol Service	Britford Odstock	
Saturday, 24 <sup>th</sup> December Christmas Eve	6.00pm 11.30pm	Carol Service Midnight Eucharist	Homington Coombe Bissett	AW AW
Sunday, 25 <sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day	8.00am 9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion BCP Parish Communion Parish Communion Parish Communion Family Service	Homington Charlton All Saints Britford Nunton Coombe Bissett	WC KRS AW AW AW
Sunday, 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2006	11.00am 11.00am	New Year Parish Communion New Year Parish Communion	Nunton Coombe Bissett	
AW = Revd Alison Williams, WC = Revd Westley Cole, DB = Denis Blake, KRS = Revd Kate Rosslyn Smith BCP = Book of Common Prayer				

## WI

*Julia Joynt*

Sue Bourne presided over a large gathering of members and visitors in the Radnor Hall on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> November. Before starting the meeting, she told us about the sad death the previous Friday of one of our long time members, Barbara Taunton. She also talked about the unexpected and untimely death of Barbara Gill, national chairman of the WI. Audrey Elliott was then thanked for her superb flower arrangement for the President's table.

Theatre arrangements were discussed, also scrabble, and a possible formation of a whist team. The last skittles match ended in victory!

Anna Treseder, who went as our delegate, reported on the Wiltshire Federation Council meeting held at the City Hall which had been much enjoyed by all who attended and included two memorable talks, one by Christine Hamilton, which was most entertaining, and the other by Paul Whitaker on 'Music for the Deaf', which was highly entertaining as well as being deeply moving. Visits to other WIs, the Downland Group meeting and a Quiz evening had also been much enjoyed. Altogether it was deemed to have been a busy social month.

The flower of the month was won by Sue Bourne with a Super Star rose.

After coffee, we were treated to a talk by Mr Richard Grasby entitled "The Joy of Letters". He took us through, from his moment of inspiration on seeing lettering created by Eric Gill in 1958, to some of the wonderful and varied commissions he had carried out over the years, and, with gentle wit and enormous knowledge, he introduced us to the intricacies and infinitely varied skills of carving letters in stone. I think we shall all be looking at lettering with different eyes now.

The next meeting will be on 12<sup>th</sup> December with Bring and Buy and Raffle stalls and mince pies and mulled wine.

### **Odstock Primary School**

Our children have been out and about in November with trips to both Langford Lakes and Old Sarum. Thankfully the weather was kind for both trips and the children learnt lots and have continued with that learning in class, including making models of Old Sarum.

Our participation in the annual Christmas shoe box appeal was well supported and all the boxes are now on their way to needy children in Eastern Europe.

We recently had a Travel Committee meeting at the school to discuss the results of the traffic survey and what action we could take to make the road near school a safer place. We have been successful in applying for a travel grant of £4000 which will help

us to achieve this. If you have any suggestions please do let us know as we are keen to involve the whole community in improving the area outside school.

Advance notice of our annual Christmas extravaganza. This year we will be creating a Winter Wonderland in the Radnor Hall on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December. All members of the community are welcome to attend at 1.30pm so please come along if you are able.

We are collecting tokens from Nestlé Box Tops, Persil Stars and the new Tesco Vouchers for Sports Equipment. If you have any at home please do let us have them – they really do all count.

### **Charlton All Saints Garden Club**

This month, Sylvia Parrett gave us some ideas about planning strategies for a labour saving garden. For example 5 minutes a day or a bucket of weeds a day. It sounded good to those of us who are not keen on hard work.

### **Britford December Supper**

We have decided to try a Supper Evening in December for all Britford Villagers. This will be a very informal evening for everyone to get together before Christmas. Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December. Britford Village Hall. £5.00 per ticket. 7.30pm.

Please come and join us, you will be very welcome. Ring Peggy Knight 320259 or Julia Shipsey 335096.

**Cleaner Wanted**  
**Energetic, reliable person needed**  
**for cleaning and ironing,**  
**Odstock village.**  
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**01722 325155**

### **Milford House Nursing Home & Care Services**



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## Pumpkin Competition



*Pumpkin weighing with Alan Ambrose's winning pumpkin in a wheelbarrow!*

The annual Pumpkin Competition was held at the Radnor Arms on Sunday 30 October and, as ever, was very well supported.

Alan Ambrose produced the winning pumpkin which weighed in at 78 lbs, closely followed by Julie Poynting with a pumpkin weighing in at 60 lbs.

Our thanks go to all who contributed to this event, which produced a magnificent £200 which will be donated to Odstock School funds.

### **Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham Fête**

Please put Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> July in your diary so you won't miss the Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham Grand Fête. We're hoping to dance to Peter Pod and the Peas the night before.

## **SPAIN - Andalucia**

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## **Fingertipz Light Concept Nails Sandie Benstead**

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Britford, Salisbury SP5 4DS*

**01722 341625 or 07800 747559**

## **Poppies**

*Susan Jenkins*

This year was an all time record, with a total of £938.29 raised for the Royal British Legion as a result of house to house collections in Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham and the collection from a large congregation at the combined Remembrance Sunday service at Nunton Church.

I am extremely grateful to all my helpers for achieving such a splendid result.

### **Charlton All Saints Christingle**

*Peter Cox*

There will be a Christingle Service at 4.00pm on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> December at which all will be welcome, especially those with children.

We support the Woman's Refuge at Christmas. If you would like to give a small gift for a child or mother, they are always gratefully received.

### **Carol Singing at Nunton**

Please join us for Carol Singing round Nunton on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December meeting at the bus shelter at 5.30pm before singing in the Orchard or wherever you hear us a little later if that's too early. Please bring a torch. Those that stay at home, please listen out for a knock at the door accompanied by a carol and be ready with a donation for the Children's Society.

## **DOWNTON BAND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

this prestigious band will be giving  
its traditional Christmas Concert at

**CHARLTON ALL SAINTS CHURCH HALL**  
on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> December, at 7.30 p.m.

Admission Free

There will be seasonal refreshments, a Raffle and, of course, a collection will be taken which will be divided between the Band and Charlton Church's funds.

Do, please, come to this popular, musical and extremely enjoyable start to the fun and rejoicing of Christmas. We do, of course, get to sing carols!

REPEAT, ADMISSION FREE, but getting out again will, we hope, cost you at least something!

## **Need a babysitter?**

**Weekends or evenings**

**£6 per hour/ £8 after midnight**

**Call Hannah Stubbs**

**on 01722 330006 / 07745 555618**

## ODSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Some important decisions will need to be taken at the next two scheduled Ordinary Parish Council meetings. The amount of the precept must be notified to Salisbury District Council by the end of January and will need to take into account a method for funding the popular Community Skips Service. Wiltshire County Council has advised that the practice of sending skips direct to landfill will not be permitted from 2006 onward. Wiltshire Police Authority is being required to work more closely with neighbouring Police forces and is consulting on several options to meet the demands of central government. The long awaited play area project in the Nunton Recreation Ground is reaching a critical stage and Salisbury District Council will be expecting Parish Council members to attend liaison meetings to help determine the amount of next year's Council Tax.

The Parish Council meets at 7:30pm in the Radnor Hall on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> December and again on 19<sup>th</sup> January. Parishioners and all members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend and can contact any elected PC member or the Parish Clerk in advance of the meetings. Contact information can easily be found on the Internet or call 01794-341405.



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### Regular Events

WI	Second Monday of the month, 10.00am, Radnor Hall, Bodenham
Whist Drive	Every Thursday, 7.30pm Barker Room, Nunton
Singing Group	Every Tuesday, 8.00pm, contact Adrian Taylor on 01722 325862
Tiny Tots	Wednesdays (ex. Aug.) 9.45-11.45am, Radnor Hall, Bodenham, contact Joanne Philp on 01722 510565
Mobile Library	Alternate Wednesdays (14 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> ): Brookmead, Britford 10.00 – 10.20am Phone Box, Charlton 10.30 – 10.45am, Radnor Arms, Nunton 11.00 – 11.20am
Open Circle Folk Dancing	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Mondays each month, 7.30pm, Radnor Hall, contact Clare Chitty on <a href="tel:01722330871">01722 330871</a>

### December Dates

6 <sup>th</sup> December	Britford December Supper, Britford Village Hall, 7.30pm (see page 2)
7 <sup>th</sup> December	Downton Band Christmas Concert, Charlton All Saints Church Hall, 7.30pm (see page 3)
12 <sup>th</sup> December	WI Meeting with Bring and Buy and Raffle stalls (see WI report on page 2)
20 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Singing round Nunton (see page 3)

### Advance Dates

15 <sup>th</sup> July 2006	Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham Grand Fête, Nunton Football Field, 2.00pm
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### News and Notes Contacts

Articles to the Editor, Adrian Taylor,  
Florida, Nunton Drove, Nunton, Salisbury SP5 4HZ  
tel: 01722 325862 (evenings)  
email: [newsandnotes@tesco.net](mailto:newsandnotes@tesco.net) **Deadline: 18<sup>th</sup> of each month**

Monetary donations to the Treasurer, Neil Guttridge,  
Court Hay, Lower Road, Charlton All Saints,  
Salisbury SP5 4HQ  
tel: 01725 511468

**A Merry Christmas to all News and Notes readers!**