

From the Rector's Study

Lent

February 1997

Ever since the early days of the Christian church, the weeks leading up to Easter have been a time of spiritual refreshment. Sometimes the emphasis has been placed on fasting and abstinence, but of recent years the church has appealed for positive action rather than the negative "giving things up for Lent".

Here are some ways in which you can be involved in a positive way:

1. Prayer Most churches are responding to the Bishop's call to designate a certain time and day each week for a time of prayer in our churches. Please ask the churchwardens about this and even if we don't meet together in church, we can all make extra time for prayer at home.

2. Lent Project The Team Council this year has decided to support the Chalke Valley Link Scheme, which helps with transport and home-care in emergencies. At present it does not stretch further east than Stratford Tony but it is hoped that eventually it will cover the whole valley. Please feel free to hold a small fund raising event or make a donation to this scheme via the Team Treasurer, Mr David Hitchings, Knapp Farm, Broad Chalke. There will be a Food Fayre in aid of this at Broad Chalke Village Hall on Saturday 15 March at 10.30 am.

3. Lent Study Group The Team Rector will lead a series of study groups on "Prayer" in The Barker Room, Nunton on Fridays, beginning Friday 14 February at 7.30 pm. Do please try to attend and bring a friend with you.

Let's
Engage
Neglected
Talents

Syd Willcox

Church Services

Sunday 2 February	9.30 am	Parish Communion	ASB	Britford
	10.00 am	Matins	BCP	Odstock
Sunday 9 February	9.30 am	Parish Communion (Junior Church)	ASB	Nunton
	10.00 am	Matins	BCP	Charlton
Sunday 16 February	9.30 am	Parish Communion (Junior Church)	ASB	Odstock
	11.15 am	Morning Prayer	ASB	Britford
Sunday 23 February	10.00 am	Matins	BCP	Nunton
	10.00 am	Parish Communion	ASB	Charlton
Sunday 2 March	9.30 am	Parish Communion	ASB	Britford
	10.00 am	Matins	BCP	Odstock
Fridays	5.30 pm	Short Evening Prayers		Nunton

If anyone would like a lift to any of the services in any of the villages, please telephone Debby Underhill on 01722 329769.

New Team Vicar

For those who have not yet heard, the new Team Vicar for the eastern end of the Benefice is to be the Rev'd Dr Graham Southgate, at present Curate of Tisbury. Graham is a native of Warminster. After leaving school he studied micro-biology and obtained both a BSc and PhD. He trained for ordination at Cuddesdon College, Oxford and obtained a further degree in Theology. He will move to Nunton Rectory after Easter.

Welcome

Welcome to Domenica, a daughter to Penny and Jonathan Marland, a sister to Marcus, Hugo and Allegra, born on 21 January.

From the Editor

This month's edition of *News & Notes* has been sponsored by a donation of £50 from a Charlton reader. This is a very generous gift, and your support is heart-warming. Our newsletter is no longer part-funded by our PCCs, but relies solely on sponsorship and donations (however small) from the readers. The cost we need to meet each month is £40. In return for your money, we offer the sponsor some advertising/acknowledgement (if required) on the front page of our newsletter. If anyone is interested, please contact Neil Guttridge, *News & Notes* Treasurer, on 01725 511468 or at Court-Hay, Lower Road, Charlton All Saints, SP5 4HQ. Editorial items for inclusion in *News & Notes* should be sent as usual to Clare Penny at Azalea Cottage, Chapel Lane, Charlton All Saints, SP5 4HF or telephone me on 01725 512869. 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 March issue of *News & Notes* is Friday 21 February.

Joint PCC Meeting

The Team Rector would like all PCC members of Nunton, Odstock, Britford and Charlton All Saints to meet in the Barker Room on Friday 7 March at 7.30 pm. The prime business will be:

Times and Patterns of Worship.

Arrangements for the Team Vicar's Installation.

Charlton Theatre Club

Club members are looking forward to the new year's season and are currently choosing events from the following shortlist:

Monday 24 February	English National Ballet	The Mayflower, Southampton
Tuesday 25 February	Triple Bill	
Thursday 6 March	The Government Inspector	Salisbury Playhouse
Monday 17 March	Time and Conways	Salisbury Playhouse
Monday 14 April	Travels with my Aunt	Salisbury Playhouse

If anyone is interested in joining the club or sampling one of our events, now is the time to contact me, as we are expecting to double our numbers this year. To get a full update contact me or see a copy of the current members' newsletter on the Charlton village noticeboard.

Joanna Matthews, 01725 512262

WI

Mrs Sue Bourne presided on 13 January, and reported that the Christmas meeting at Britford Memorial Hall was much enjoyed by everybody. Members agreed to donate £25.00 from funds to the Bird Sanctuary to save endangered red squirrels, also £25.00 to the tree planting scheme in Coombe Bissett.

Due to the illness of January's speaker, Mrs Joan Dixon nobly stepped in, at very short notice, to show us her "Images of Peru". She was born, baptised and attended school in Arequipa. We saw stunningly beautiful slides of mountains, lakes and valleys. Lake Titcaca is navigable and covers 3,500 sq miles between Peru and Bolivia in the high Andes. Much of the wildlife here has been decimated, especially the ruddy ducks. There is a large trout fishing industry here. There are sheep, llama and alpaca in many areas. In the markets, pottery, herbs and clothes, and materials in brilliant vegetable-dyed colours are sold. (Sadly plastic is now creeping in.) There is great poverty, but a beauty and dignity is evident in many of the faces of these people.

On 10 February, Mrs Biddy Carr will talk on "The Island on the Edge of the World". Angela Moules won the "Flower of the Month" with a Mahonia x Charity.

Angela Moules

Carol Singing

A group of Park Lane residents sang carols in Britford and collected £100, including subsequent donations, for the charity Hope and Homes for Children. It was for us an enjoyable occasion and the generosity of Britford residents was much appreciated in the letter of thanks received from the charity.

Henry Head

'Connections' by Roacar (Private Hire)

Door to door travel to airports, docks and ferries at affordable prices
Get connected now, ring 01725 511876 or 0374 440953

Evan Roach, Windrush, Slab Lane, Woodfalls

Spring/Jumble Sale

on 8 March at 2 pm at Britford School

Jumble * Bric-a-brac * Betterwear * Cake stall * Refreshments

Entrance 20p

If you have any items to donate, please contact Mary Onstenk on 01722 322643 to arrange collection.
All proceeds to Britford School funds.

Britford Church

Britford PCC would like volunteers to remove the damp plaster from the vestry wall. If you feel you can help, please contact Daphne Scamell on 01722 334858.

An Entertaining Time

The entertainment at Britford Memorial Hall on 21 December showed a profit of £141 for St Peter's Church, Britford. Thanks to everyone who gave their support. Judith Sturdy

Salisbury Conservative Association

The Annual General Meeting of the Odstock, Nunton, Bodenham and Britford Branch will be held on Friday 21 March at 6.30 pm in the Barker Room, Nunton. Mr Robert Key, our Member of Parliament, and Mr Julian Johnson, our County Councillor, will address the meeting. It is hoped that as many members as possible will attend the meeting in view of the forthcoming general election.

A very big thank you to everyone who supported the Bazaar in the Guildhall on 23 November. Our branch's produce stall raised £434.00. Judy Barke

A Message from your local Red Cross

The International Committee of the Red Cross is striving to limit the threat and use of anti-personnel landmines. The Red Cross is taking the lead in trying to get governments to ban the production and deployment of these lethal weapons. Afghanistan alone has had 10 million anti-personnel landmines laid. These weapons have the potential to blow off limbs or render adults blind. If a child steps on one of these mines they are usually killed.

The ICRC is not only trying to get these weapons banned, but is raising money for an education programme. Anti-personnel landmines come in all shapes and sizes. Children, because they have nothing else to play with, pick up these innocent looking pieces of plastic as a toy. Adults are being trained to clear their fields of these weapons so that they can firstly protect themselves and secondly support their families. These weapons cause utter devastation.

At Wiltshire Red Cross we have a presentation we can make to groups who are interested to learn more about this very important worldwide campaign. As well as helping to promote issues of international importance, Wiltshire Red Cross provides a number of services to local communities. These include:

- * Training courses for the public from a 2 hour Save-a-Life course to a 14 hour practical first aid course.
- * We also have an excellent course to train those who babysit from time to time - this is particularly useful for youngsters.
- * A free short term medical loan service - wheelchairs, commodes etc.
- * Help with transport and escort for those who cannot use public transport.
- * Escorted holidays for frail, elderly or disabled people.
- * Trained first-aiders, with or without ambulance support, can be provided for your local events.

If you are interested in knowing about any of the items mentioned, or if you think the Red Cross can help you with one of its services, please telephone Branch Headquarters, Public Affairs Department on 01380 870246.



Handy/Oddjob Man

Ring MIKE your local handy/oddjob man - any task considered
General maintenance inside & outside - painting - grass cutting -
driving (HGV and PSV licences held) etc

Free estimates - one off or regular contracts - telephone 01722 322677

Downton Secondary School - Termly Report

We've all had a busy term, especially our Year 11 pupils who provided a splendid team for our Presentation Evening in November and a large group of singers for our choir. They have had two weeks of work experience and have now got the results of their mock GCSE examinations so they face a busy time preparing for the future.

At the other end of the school, we have welcomed a record number of Year 6 visitors, hoping to find a place at Downton in the coming Autumn. It looks as though it will be another "bumper year" following our present Year 7 which has been our largest for a number of years.

All pupils took part in a sponsored walk in October and have donated £1100 to local charities. The DSA have continued to hold regular fund raising activities, the Christmas Fayre on 7 December being particularly successful by raising almost £1000, and we are very grateful for their hard work and all the local support from businesses, parents and friends.

School sports teams continue to flourish and over 50 pupils have made three visits to Twickenham during the term to watch rugby matches.

As usual we finished off the term with our Christmas service which was well supported and many pupils were involved with the music and readings. The choir, of over 50 pupils, gave two pre-Christmas concerts for the elderly of the village and our school band, Antarktica, and small orchestra rehearse regularly. Elizabeth Cutter

Saturday 22 February

Faith Hawley Memorial Fund ~ Coffee/Lunch

10.30 am - 1.30 pm at Matrimony Farmhouse, Charlton All Saints

In aid of Faith Hawley's memorial bench Bring-and-Buy & Raffle

Any offers of help or raffle prizes welcome. Please contact Carole Stratton on 01722 329720 or Madeline Baker on 01722 329374. We have collected half the funds needed to purchase a good bench, and hope to have it in place by the spring.

Contact Numbers

Team Rector Canon Sydney Willcox, The Rectory, Broad Chalke 01722 780262
Team Vicar Revd Roger Redding, The Vicarage, Ebbesbourne Wake 01722 780408
Churchwardens Nunton - Harry Joynt 01722 329782
Odstock - Peter Martin 01722 329743
Charlton - Peter Cox 01722 329709
Britford - Daphne Scamell 01722 334858

Dates for your Diary

14 February Lent Study Group, Barker Room 7.30 pm
22 February Faith Hawley Memorial Fund Coffee/Lunch, Matrimony Farmhouse, Charlton 10.30 - 1.30
7 March Joint PCC meeting, Barker Room 7.30 pm
8 March Britford School Spring/Jumble Sale, School 2.00 pm
8 March Downton Secondary School Jumble Sale, School Hall 11.00 am
15 March Food Fayre, Broad Chalke Village Hall 10.30 am
21 March Conservative Association AGM, Barker Room 6.30 pm
24 March Charlton Gardening Club First Birthday Party, Charlton Church Hall 7.30 pm
3/5 May Downton Secondary School car parking for the Cuckoo Fair
11 May Downton Secondary School Family Car Treasure Hunt, School 3.00 pm
14 June Downton Secondary School Summer Fun Day and Craft Fair, School 12.00 noon

Regular Events

WI Second Monday of the month, 10.00 am Barker Room, Nunton
Junior Church To coincide with 9.30 am services at Nunton or Odstock Churches, held at the Barker Room, contact Adrian Taylor on 01722 325862
Bingo Every Friday, 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm The Orchard, Nunton
Singing Group Every Tuesday, 7.30 pm, contact Adrian Taylor on 01722 325862
Mobile Library Alternate Fridays (14 & 28 February): Village Hut, Charlton 9.50 am
Alternate Tuesdays (4 & 18 February): Brookmead, Britford 9.45 am
Post Office, Bodenham 10.05 am, Radnor Arms, Nunton 10.20 am
Crossroads, Odstock 10.50 am