

Come

December 1998

The time draws near the birth of Christ;
The moon is hid; the night is still,
The Christmas bells from hill to hill
Answer each other in the mist.

Each voice four changes on the wind,
That now dilate and now decrease,
Peace and goodwill to all mankind.
from In Memoriam - Tennyson

The church bells ringing out across the valley say come. The Star of Bethlehem says come. The Advent Hymns, the Christmas Carols all say come.

How did the shepherds and wisemen come - hesitantly, with haste - out of curiosity, hopefully, with anticipation, conviction, or was there an element of doubt, of diffidence, which as they knelt at the manger turned to wonder, awe and prayer.

Come and worship Christ the Newborn King.

Annabel Tier

Church Services

Sunday 6 December 2nd in Advent	8.00 am	Holy Communion	BCP	WC	Nunton
	9.30 am	Parish Communion	ASBB	GS	Britford
	11.00 am	Matins	BCP	WC	Odstock
	11.00 am	Parish Communion	ASBB	GS	Coombe
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer	BCP	SW	Homington
Sunday 13 December 3rd in Advent	8.30 am	Holy Communion	BCP	GS	Homington
	9.30 am	Parish Communion (JC)	ASBA	GS	Nunton
	11.00 am	Family Service		RR	Coombe
	11.00 am	Matins	BCP	AT	Charlton
Wednesday 16 December	6.30 pm	Christingle Service		GS/RR	Coombe
Sunday 20 December 4th in Advent	9.30 am	Parish Communion	ASBA	WC	Charlton
	9.30 am	Matins	BCP	GS	Homington
	11.00 am	Matins	BCP	WC	Britford
	5.00 pm	Carol Service		GS	Nunton
	6.30 pm	Carol Service		GS/WC	Coombe
Thursday 24 December Christmas Eve	6.00 pm	Carol Service		WC/GS	Homington
	11.30 pm	Midnight Eucharist	BCP	WC/GS	Coombe
Friday 25 December Christmas Day	8.00 am	Holy Communion	BCP	GS	Homington
	9.30 am	Family Communion	ASBA	WC	Charlton
	9.30 am	Family Communion	ASBA	GS	Britford
	11.00 am	Family Service		GS	Coombe
	11.00 am	Family Communion	ASBA	GS	Odstock
Sunday 27 December St John, Evangelist	8.00 am	Holy Communion	BCP	WC	Homington
	11.00 am	Matins	BCP	WC	Coombe
	11.00 am	Matins + Holy Communion	BCP	GS	Nunton
	3.00 pm	Afternoon Service		GS	Homington
	6.00 pm	Carol Service		GS	Charlton
GS = Graham Southgate, WC = Westley Cole, SHW = Sydney Willcox, KC = Karen Curnock, AT = Annabel Tier, RR = Roger Redding, TS = Terry Sankey, JW = John Watson. If anyone would like a lift to any of the services, please telephone Debby Underhill on 01722 329769.					

From the Editor

This month's Christmas edition has been paid for by a generous reader in Britford - we are much indebted to all such donations - thank you. The monthly production cost of *News & Notes* is now £32.50. If anyone would like to sponsor an issue, you will receive not only our grateful thanks, but also an advertisement for yourself, your business or a charity of your choice on the front page. 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 January issue, which will be delivered a little later than usual, is Tuesday 29 December- late copy cannot, I'm afraid, be accepted.



News from the Vicarage

Just about a year ago I wrote an article explaining why the parishes of the Chalke Valley were changing their lectionary (that is, the pattern of scriptural readings used in church Sunday by Sunday). I have certainly found the change to have been worthwhile, both because it has enabled us to encounter the readings in their biblical context (rather than chosen simply because they fit a particular theme) and because we are now joining with most other Christians in reading the same parts of the Bible as we worship God. Advent Sunday marked the beginning of the Church's year, and this time round it will be Saint Matthew's gospel that supplies the majority of our readings.

There are two important items of news concerning concerts this month. Firstly, the members of Downton Band will be visiting the Parish Church in Charlton All Saints to present their annual Concert. The date is Tuesday 8 December, at 7.30 pm. Secondly, Ben Lamb is arranging a Christmas concert in Britford Church, on Saturday 19 December at 7.00 pm. In addition, the staff and children of Odstock County Primary School will be joining us for the Christingle Service in Odstock Church on 10 January at 5.00 pm.. Everybody is most welcome at these events.

January has five Sundays, which means that there will be just one service in our eastern group of parishes on 31 January. This time it is Homington's turn to act as host, and the service will be a Parish Communion (BCP) at 10.00 am.

With just twelve months left to go, the year 2000 is clearly going to be an important year but for one reason alone: it marks the two thousandth anniversary of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem. For this reason the Bishop of Jerusalem has invited our Diocese to visit the Holy Land on pilgrimage during that special year. So, if you would like to visit the places of Jesus' birth, death and resurrection, then please contact me for further details.

I should be pleased to hear from anyone who would normally receive Holy Communion but is confined to their home. This applies to the whole year but I know that it's especially important at Christmas. On behalf of the Churchwardens of all three parishes as well as my colleagues in the Team Ministry, I should like to wish you all a very happy Christmas.

Graham Southgate 330628

Additional Holy Days in December

26 - Saint Stephen - 10.00 am Holy Communion at Coombe Bissett.

28 - Holy Innocents - 10.00 am Holy Communion at Nunton.

From the Registers

Holy Baptism

On Sunday 1 November at Odstock: Naomi Sharnelle Amelia McKnight.

Welcome

On Monday 23 November to Elizabeth Michael (nee Hollingshurst) a daughter Ellen Rose (7lbs 9oz). Mother, daughter and Dad (Alex) all doing well.



WI

On 9 November, Mrs Jill Johnson chaired the meeting in the absence of Mrs Sue Bourne. Plans have been made for some members to attend "Just Between Ourselves" by Alan Ayckbourn, and "Aladdin" at Salisbury Playhouse. Our skittles team won their first match - well done!

At the Downland Group meeting at Downton on 2 November, 5 members attended and enjoyed an illustrated talk on Salisbury by Miss Kathy Quinn. The competition for a wrapped box using 3 different crafts was won by our Institute so we retain the Archbold Cup for a year, and our name is added to the scroll of annual winners.

The Christmas meeting will be in Britford Memorial Hall on 14 December with the usual bring and buy and raffle - donations to both of these will be welcome. Guests are welcome at a cost of £1.00.

Mr Alan Corkhill came to give us a talk on "Behind the Scenes at Salisbury Playhouse". Now theatregoers will know what "goes on" - he is responsible for lighting and design, set designs, wardrobe, hiring of costumes and wigs when they cannot be made on the premises. There is a list of friendly householders who offer bed and breakfast to visiting actors/actresses. The plays are selected by Jonathan Church, the Playhouse Director.

The flower of the month was a yellow polyanthus - won by Angela Moules.

Angela Moules

Radnor Hall Jumble Sale

Thank you to all the gallant helpers and kind providers for the successful Jumble in October. We raised £171 for the Hall funds. We have bought some nice lightweight tables and hope to purchase more. If you would like to book the Radnor Hall for a family party or regular meetings our rates are very competitive, especially for locals. Do ring Maxine on 01722 329760. Thanks from Debby Underhill.

Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham CHURCH ENVELOPE SCHEME

We are now coming to the end of our first year of the weekly giving envelope scheme. This is a confidential way of giving a small amount weekly to help towards the upkeep of the Churches. If you would like more information to join, please ring Debby Underhill tel 01722 329769.

Charlton All Saints Poppy Appeal

The total from the collection boxes was £119, and £125.50 was donated at our Remembrance Day Service. Many thanks to all who contributed so generously.

Joan Mackenzie

Nunton Carol Service

If you would like to sing in the choir at the Carol Service to be held in St Andrews, Nunton at 5.00 pm on Sunday 20 December please contact Julia Joynt (01722 329782) or Adrian Taylor (01722 325862). The first rehearsal will be at Nunton House on Wednesday 2 December starting at 8.00 pm and further rehearsals will be agreed on that evening.

Refreshments at GVE Sale

Many thanks to GVE Company for letting us sell refreshments at their sale on 21/22 November, in aid of Odstock Church Appeal Fund. We made £273 over the two days. Also many thanks to all the people who make delicious cakes and to the ladies who helped serve over the two days.

On behalf of the Odstock Church Appeal Fund

Photographs of Odstock

Has anyone early photographs or postcards of Odstock village that they could show me? I am particularly interested in the Mill and Waterwheel, and the Chapel Barn at Manor Farm, lost by fire. Please contact Rosemary Dickens, 2 Clearbury Close, Odstock (behind Yew Tree Inn).

House Help Needed

Mrs J Martin, Nunton Farm, tel 01722 329743 requires house help for 3-4 hours per week. Also house help is needed by Mrs S Martin, Elm Tree, Nunton, tel 01722 328971, for 4 or more hours per week..

Foreign Students

If there is anyone who would like to host a foreign student over Christmas, please contact Pauline Crowder on 01722 320052.

Contact Numbers

Team Rector Canon Sydney Willcox, The Rectory, Broad Chalke 01722 780262 (Day off - Mon)
Team Vicar Revd Roger Redding, Vicarage, Ebbesbourne Wake 01722 780408 (Day off - Mon)
Team Vicar Revd Dr Graham Southgate, Nunton Vicarage, Nunton 01722 330628 (Day off - Fri)
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



2 December First Carol service choir rehearsal, Nunton House, 8.00 pm
6 December Red Cross Christmas supper, Kington Manor
8 December Downton Band Concert, Charlton Church Hall, 7.30 pm
19 December Concert in Britford Church, 7.00 pm

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, 8.00 pm, contact Adrian Taylor on 01722 325862
Mobile Library Alternate Fridays (4 & 18 December): Village Hut, Charlton 9.45 am
Alternate Tuesdays (8 & 22 December): Brookmead, Britford 10.35 am
Post Office, Bodenhams 10.55 am Radnor Arms, Nunton 11.10 am
Crossroads, Odstock 11.35 am

DOWNTON BAND

are

in concert

at

The Parish Church

CHARLTON ALL SAINTS

on

TUESDAY 8th DECEMBER 1998
at 7:30 pm

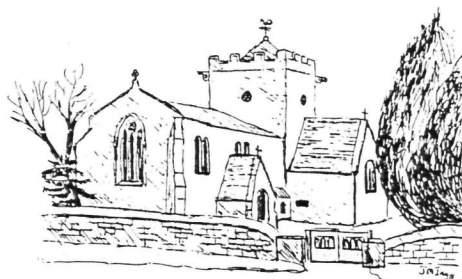
Refreshments + Raffle + Retiring Collection

Carols

by

Candlelight

An evening of festive music and readings presented by
The Sarum Voices



at

Britford Church

Saturday 19th December at 7:00 pm

For further information, please call Ben Lamb on 01722 334447