

News & Notes

Issue 320

December 2002

Church Services

Sunday 1 December Advent 1	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	WC	Nunton
	9.30 am	Parish Communion	GS	Britford
	11.00 am	Parish Communion	WC	Coombe
	6.00 pm	Evensong (BCP)	GS	Homington
Sunday 8 December Advent 2	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	WC	Homington
	9.30 am	Parish Communion (JC)	GS	Odstock
	11.00 am	Family Service	WC	Coombe
	11.00 am	Matins (BCP)	GS	Charlton
Sunday 15 December Advent 3	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	WC	Britford
	9.30 am	Parish Communion (JC)	GS	Nunton
	9.30 am	Morning Service (All Age)	WC	Homington
	11.00 am	Parish Communion (BCP)	GS	Coombe
Sunday 22 December Advent 4	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	GS	Homington
	4.00 pm	Christingle Service	GS	Charlton
	5.00 pm	Carol Service	WC	Nunton
	7.00 pm	Carol Service	GS/WC	Coombe
Tuesday 24 December Christmas Eve	6.00 pm	Carol Service	WC/GS	Homington
	11.30 pm	Midnight Eucharist	WC/GS	Coombe
Wednesday 25 December Christmas Day	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	GS	Homington
	9.30 am	Family Communion	WC	Charlton
	9.30 am	Family Communion	GS	Britford
	11.00 am	Family Service	GS	Coombe
	11.00 am	Family Communion	WC	Odstock
Sunday 29 December Christmas 1	10.00 am	Parish Communion	WC/GS	Charlton
Sunday 5 January Christmas 2	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	GS	Nunton
	9.30 am	Parish Communion	WC	Britford
	11.00 am	Parish Communion	DH	Coombe
	6.00 pm	Evensong (BCP)	WC	Homington

GS = Rev Dr Graham Southgate, WC = Rev Westley Cole, DH = Rev Canon David Henley

What are we celebrating?

Graham Southgate

I remember reading in the Church Times last year some advice (I assume that it was light-hearted) aimed at helping clergy 'survive' the festive season. In responding to the comment, "It's your busy time, vicar" it was suggested that clergy could do nothing more than smile weakly!

Well, despite such sentiments, I enjoy Christmas. In fact, I would go further and say that I love Christmas. Yet that doesn't mean that there aren't times when I am left rather confused, and wondering what all the fuss is about. Let me explain.

As I sit writing this article, it is only three weeks since I returned from what for me was my summer holiday. Yet even before I went away I had become aware of the so-called 'essentials' of Christmas that were beginning to litter the local supermarkets and shops, making it increasingly difficult to find the one thing you

actually needed — you know the situation: you ask an assistant the whereabouts of something, only be told that it has been removed to make way for Christmas stock.

Where, however, is Christmas to be found among such things as fluffy penguins (I trained as a biologist, so I know that penguins don't have fur!) and singing fir trees? Hunt as I may, I just can't find it. So I get confused.

If I give you a few clues, however, then perhaps you could be kind enough to help me in my search? As far as I remember the real Christmas is the occasion by which Christians celebrate the birth of a child in Bethlehem. He was named Jesus, and the message announcing his birth hailed him as God's Son and the Prince of Peace. Some shepherds claimed that angels had visited them too, telling them that Jesus was "good news for all people . . . a Saviour . . . the Messiah, the Lord" — and I can't help wondering if it was the lack of distractions that brought those shepherds to this realisation.

Rumour has it that churches are the places where one can experience the authentic Christmas celebration, but for some reason they don't make much fuss about it until the latter part of December. Perhaps that's the point? So I'll be there to experience a real Christmas — will you?

From the Editor

Our Christmas edition of *News & Notes* has been paid for by Mr & Mrs Kelly of Carpetwise. As always, we are very grateful to you, and to everyone who sends donations - we couldn't manage without you! The monthly photocopying cost for *News & Notes* is £40 for a 4 side issue. 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 2003 issue, which will be distributed slightly later than usual, is Friday 27 December.

CAROLS

BY

CANDLELIGHT

A Concert of seasonal music and readings by



**SARUM
VOICES**

at
*Saint Peter's
Church,
Britford*

Saturday 21st December 2002 at 5 pm

WI

Diane Wait

It was a thoroughly enjoyable meeting at the Radnor Hall on Monday, 11th November when members and guests, Mrs Ruth Martin and Mrs Denys Betts received a warm welcome from Mrs Julia Joynt (President). She was delighted to report that Denys, who is an ex-President, has rejoined our WI and is an important member of the Scrabble team. The prayer was read by Mrs Dorothy Darton, and Mrs Jill Dodd, although not present at the meeting, provided a lovely white potted chrysanthemum for the President's table.

Julia reported that the Downland Group meeting at Whiteparish had been a great success and we had done rather well by coming third in the Archbold Cup competition. Our presentation jars of preserves were well received by the judge. Mrs Jean Van Hagen (Secretary) then read out the correspondence and explained to members that there will be a different system introduced to help speed up the business aspect of meetings. Basically members wishing to participate in future events will be asked to sign a book confirming their intent. Mrs Margaret Barrow (Treasurer) read out her financial statement and was delighted to report that we have received a cheque for £200.00 from the Fete Committee, which was donated as a way of thanks for all the hard work put in at the annual Summer Fete. She also gave a short summary of the excellent Council meeting held recently at City Hall. A number of members had attended and all agreed it was a most enjoyable occasion. Miss Judith Johnson confirmed that we will be having Christmas Lunch at the Radnor Arms on 11th December and handed out the superb choice of menus supplied by Cathie and Ken. I am sure it will be a delightful occasion for everyone, which will be enjoyed in the warm and friendly atmosphere of the Radnor. Despite some strong competition, Mrs Pat Reeves was the successful

winner of the flower of the month competition with a gorgeous yellow Fremontodendron.

Following a relaxed and enjoyable coffee break we sat down to listen to Mr Robert Baker (Bob) give us a very informative and entertaining talk about the 100 year old history of Chas H Baker in Salisbury. Family members, including his father and grandfather played very important roles in the formation and running of the business over many years, although Bob let it be known that his father would really have preferred to be a farmer. However, this was not to be and after running the business for a number of years eventually handed over the reins to Bob in 1966, who then devoted his time to making the business more viable. This was not achieved, however, without having to make painful decisions along the way to ensure its survival. Chas H Baker continues to thrive and offers customers a superb selection of high quality stylish clothes and the staff are well known for their courtesy, loyalty and old world charm, which customers value and appreciate. Shops like Chas H Baker are a rarity in this day and age and the service and choice offered is second to none. Long may this continue. We all enjoyed Bob's talk enormously and I, as a relative newcomer, learned a great deal about Salisbury and how trade was run in earlier years. Mrs Sue Bourne gave him an enthusiastic and appreciative vote of thanks and members were then keen to ask him a number of questions. His answers were quite fascinating, reflecting nostalgically on bygone days when the markets were colourful and noisy and Salisbury had many more businesses similar to Chas H Baker - sadly most of them are no longer in existence.

9th December is the date of our Christmas meeting and party. On that occasion Mrs Sonia Woolley will provide the entertainment with a selection of "Readings for Christmas" which should be fun. There will also be a bring and buy stall, raffle and mince pies and mulled wine to get us in the party mood. If you feel like enjoying an early touch of Christmas please do come and join us at the Radnor Hall at 10 am. Guests will be very welcome and guaranteed a good time.

Finally, we would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and hopefully a peaceful New Year. I would personally like to thank Mrs Clare Penny for the splendid and accurate way she presents the WI reports in *News & Notes* every month - it really is much appreciated.



TABLE TOP AND JUMBLE SALE

at The Radnor Hall

SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER AT 2 PM

£5 per table for sellers

20p entrance fee

In aid of Salisbury Diabetic Association

Odstock, Nunton & Bodenham Fete

(Secretary, Keith Wilby)

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Radnor Hall on 30th October 2002. It was reported that the profit from Fete 2002 was £4224. A copy of the fete account will be available for inspection in Bodenham PO. A revised Constitution for the Fete Committee was discussed and agreed, a copy of which will also be held in Bodenham PO for viewing.

The Chairman (Brian Clake) of the Committee thanked all members and villagers for their support for the fete last July, which due to good weather, some hard work by a band of volunteers, and some attractive new events was deemed to be a great success. Planning is now underway for Fete 2003, so please note the date: 12th July 2003. Any proposals for new events or changes in format for next year will be welcomed by the fete committee.

Unfortunately due to various circumstances, a number of our committee members have had to leave the Committee over the past 12 months and we would welcome any new members to help plan for next July.

Additionally we urgently need to expand our team of volunteers to help in the days leading up to the fete to help with preparation or running a stall. Only a few hours work would be required, but such help would assist us greatly in running our fete each year and supporting village life, and maintaining our financial donations to local causes. Over the past years we have been able to make donations to the maintenance of our churches, Odstock and Downton schools, Nunton Day Hospital, The Orchard Nunton, village jubilee celebrations, Radnor Hall and Barker Room, Jubilee Garden in Odstock, the football club pavilion, pre-school activities, ON & B WI, and the village social fund.

If you can spare some time to help us it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Brian Clake 01722 340261, Keith Wilby 01722 328608, or Lynn McNichol in Bodenham PO.

Odstock Primary School News

The bonfire night and firework display this year had to unfortunately be cancelled. We had originally postponed it due to bad weather and the following week everything was still so wet and there was a firefighters' strike, so we took the decision that it just wasn't safe to continue.

However, on a brighter note the PFA are planning a family party on Friday 31st January at the Radnor Hall. Anybody from school or the village will be invited to attend. More details to follow in next month's edition.

The junior class has been out and about recently, attending a Shakespeare 4 Kidz production of "Midsummer Night's Dream" – an account follows by one of our children:

"We went to Salisbury City Hall and saw a Midsummer Night's Dream. A king had conquered the Amazons and decided to marry their Queen Hipolita. There was going to be a royal wedding and it was traditional to have public entertainment. So a man called Bottom organised a play called 'Perimius and Fisbee'. But meanwhile, an angry lord called Aegeus brought before the king his daughter, Hermia, who had flatly refused to marry the man her father had chosen for her, Demetrius, which was strictly against the law. However, Hermia had fallen in love with Lysanda.

Puck placed the fairy dust the fairy king had given him in Lysanda's sleeping eyes, and Helena (who loved Demetrius) was the first living creature he saw! So instead of loving Hermia, he loved Helena! The fairy queen loved Bottom who was dressed in a donkey suit! But in the end, it all got sorted out and there was a triple wedding and Bottom's entertainment, so everyone lived happily ever after. I really enjoyed it!"

They also took part in a small schools netball tournament against six other schools. Whilst we didn't win all the children tried their best and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. They are also going on a trip to InTech and taking part in the small schools carol concert later in December.

We also had a visit from Barbara Box who talked to the children about her forthcoming part in the clipper ship race. A report by one of the children follows:

"Mrs Box lives near Salisbury and she has come into school to tell us about the Clipper 2002 race. Mrs Box is going to fly by aeroplane to Cuba which is just off the south coast of North America. She leaves on the 13th December 2002 from Cuba and she sails to the Hawaiian islands where she gets off and flies back home to London! Mrs Box's boat is called Cape Town. The tribe of boats all have names of a town, the boats are called Glasgow, New York, Jersey, London, Hong Kong, Liverpool, Cape Town and Bristol."

The school also recently supported the Poppy Appeal and helped raise valuable funds.

We would like to take this opportunity to extend once again our thanks to the Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham Fete committee for their generous donation to school funds. We are intending to use the money to continue expanding ICT facilities within the school.

Book Fair



We are holding a Book Fair at the school over the course of four days. If you would like to view the books on offer please come to the school on Tuesday 3rd December, Wednesday 4th December or Thursday 5th

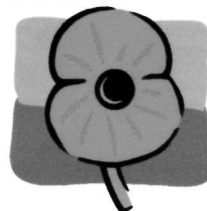
December between 3.00 pm and 3.30 pm. On Friday 6th December you can also come between 8.15 am and 8.45 am as well as the afternoon slot. All sales during the course of the fair generate commission for the school which we can then use to purchase further books for our library.

Advance Notice

We are planning our annual Christmas Concert on Thursday 19th December. Once again we are going to hire the Radnor Hall and put on two performances. The first will be at 2 pm and the second at 6.30 pm. Anyone is invited to attend and enjoy the show – just turn up. There will be a raffle and refreshments, including mince pies that the children will be making at school beforehand.

The Royal British Legion

Susan Jenkins



The proceeds of this year's house to house Poppy Appeal in Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham amounted to £515.24. My grateful thanks to all who helped.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

at



Charlton All Saints

Sunday 22nd December at 4 pm

The collection will support the work of

The Children's Society,

a voluntary organisation of the Church of
England.

The Charlton All Saints 2002 Bonfire Bash

Graham and Jackie Barrett - Hollytree House

Spectacular fireworks, a roaring bonfire and some excellent mulled wine helped to warm the spirits at this year's Bonfire Bash, on a very damp Saturday evening.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed food and raffle prizes and all those who helped set up on the day and clear up afterwards! You all helped make this an excellent evening and we hope everyone enjoyed it as much as we did.

Unfortunately, due to the escalating cost of insurance, no profit was made this year - however, we were able to cover the shortfall thanks to some generous donations from the village and sponsorship from Croft Builders.

Charlton All Saints Garden Society

A cosy evening around trays of fungi was enjoyed by the Garden Society on Monday 28th October. Kenny Jelfs had spent the day foraging for specimens, although sadly it is not a good year for them.

However, I'm told he cooks these strange objects and people eat them!

The next meeting will be on 24th February 2003. Vincent Mears will return to talk about Seed Propagation. On 28th April we shall have a Seedling Swap.



Downton Band Concert

with Carols and
Mince Pies

on

Tuesday 10th December

7.30 pm

at

**The Church Hall
Charlton All Saints**



*Entrance Free, but it'll cost you
to get out!*

Pumpkin Competition

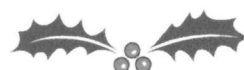
Rebecca Smith

Once again, a very big thank you to all those who supported the Pumpkin Competition held on 27th October at the Radnor Arms.



Although entries were down this year, the winner of the heaviest pumpkin in the adult section was Pat Jacobs whose pumpkin weighed in at 118 lbs, and the children's section was won by Emma and James Poynting whose pumpkin weighed in at 19 lbs.

The combined sale of pumpkin seeds and raffle tickets realised a total of approximately £270 which will be donated to Odstock School funds.



Team Council Report (in brief)

David Henley

The Team Council met on November 12th and the following plans were made for Lent 2003:

1. A non-residential weekend for all the parishes of the team, Sat 22nd – Sun 23rd March. We hope the new Archdeacon of Sarum, The Ven Alan Jeans, will be joining us. Something for everyone - so keep the weekend free. More details nearer the time.
2. We hope to have a Lent course running across the Team, each parish making its own plans as appropriate. The course is entitled "New world, old faith" and is run over 5 weeks – contributors include Dr Rowan Williams, Archbishop (designate) of Canterbury, Dr David Hope, Archbishop of York and Revd John Polkinghorne FRS ex-professor of Mathematics and Physics at Cambridge. Lots to get your teeth into!
3. The Lent project will be the Mothers' Union "Away from it all" (AFIA) caravan holiday scheme, which provides breaks for those in need. Much more detail will follow!

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: Village Hut, Charlton 10.00 - 10.15 am Alternate Tuesdays: Brookmead, Britford 11.00 am; Radnor Arms, Nunton 11.20 am; Crossroads, Odstock 11.45 am

For Your Diary

10 December	Downton Band Concert, Charlton Church Hall, 7.30 pm
14 December	Table Top Sale, Radnor Hall, 2.00 pm
19 December	Odstock School Christmas Concert, Radnor Hall, 2.00 pm and 6.30 pm
21 December	Carols by Candlelight - Sarum Voices, St Peter's Church, Britford, 5.00 pm
22 December	Christingle Service, Charlton Church, 4.00 pm

For Sale

Hayter 24" rotary mower, petrol, powered roller drive, excellent condition £250.00. Contact Peter Cox 01722 329709 or Neil Guttridge 01725 511468.

"Too Many Cooks"

Having a lunch or dinner party, but would prefer not to cook? Then give me a call.

I will create a menu to suit you and the occasion (formal or informal) and even help serve the meal if required, leaving you to enjoy your own party (maximum number catered for is ten).

Puddings are a speciality of mine and if that's your only requirement I can provide these for far greater numbers of guests!

Amanda Lyles 01725 513530

