

News and Notes

Issue 331

November 2003

Remembrance

Smokey bonfires heaped with damp leaves turned over with a fork and beginning to blaze. Itchy knitted pixy hood and belted coat against the cold. My father, or someone else's father, carefully following the instructions on those yellow and red cones or blue and white rockets and mothers handing us sparklers, much smaller than they are now, but one in each hand. These are my memories of the 5th of November. We did 'apple bobbing' at school and ate sooty sausages....never a great event but always fun. By the time our children came along the dangers of firework parties in the garden had been recognized and the local parks were used for huge bonfires and firework displays, a hog roast and a fairground. But still the cry was 'remember, remember'. Bonfire night may remind us of the burning of the 'guy' of the Gunpowder Plot in 1605, but it is mostly buried in the mists of time.

The more significant remembering in November is the sacrifice of those who gave their lives in war. The Royal British Legion leaflet this year reminds us that "The sacrifice goes on..." It tells of lives that are radically changed by the effects of war, young men and women re-establishing their lives in a new way as the result of bomb blasts.

Sir John Millais painted a haunting picture of four girls piling leaves on a bonfire in the twilight. Two are gazing into the fire, maybe recalling those leaves in the days of summer? The other two are looking out into the distance, what will be in the coming year? The genesis of this picture is thought to be a remark made by Millais to his friend Holman Hunt, "Is there any sensation more delicious than that awakened by the odour of burning leaves? To me nothing brings back sweeter memories of the days that are gone...". The leaves fall as the poppy leaves will fall at the Remembrance service on the eve of Remembrance Day but like the Millais painting we must in our remembering be looking forward as well as back. It was Camus who said "The greatest fidelity to the past is to give everything to the present." Every day in the present is a challenge for those fighting their way back from injury. Every day for us is an opportunity to give ourselves to the present moment. We can have confidence that underneath us are the 'everlasting arms' of the God who loves us. At the end of his poem 'Autumn', Rainer Maria Rilke puts it like this:

"We are all falling. This hand's falling too -
all have this falling-sickness none withstands.
And yet there's One whose gently-holding hands
this universal falling can't fall through."

Kate Rosslyn Smith

Church of England Services

Sunday 2nd November 4 before Advent All Souls'	8.00 am 9.30 am 11.00 am 6.00 pm	Holy Communion BCP Parish Communion Parish Communion Evening Prayer BCP	Nunton Britford Coombe Bissett Homington	WC DH WC WC
Sunday 9th November 3 before Advent Remembrance Sunday	8.00 am 10.55 am 10.55 am	Holy Communion BCP Remembrance Service Remembrance Service	Homington Odstock Coombe Bissett	WC WC DH
Sunday 16th November 2 before Advent	8.00 am 9.30 am 9.30 am 11.00 am	Holy Communion BCP Parish Communion (JC) Morning Service Parish Communion BCP	Britford Nunton Homington Coombe Bissett	WC DH WC DH
Sunday 23rd November 1 before Advent Christ the King	8.00 am 9.30 am 11.00 am 11.00 am	Holy Communion BCP Parish Communion Morning Service Holy Communion BCP	Homington Charlton All Saints Odstock Coombe Bissett	WC VW AT DH
Sunday 30th November 1st Sunday of Advent St. Andrew	10.00 am	Parish Communion	Nunton	WC/KS

DH = The Revd Canon David Henley, WC = The Revd Westley Cole, KS = The Revd Kate Rosslyn Smith,

VW = The Revd Canon Vernon White, AT = Adrian Taylor. BCP = Book of Common Prayer, JC = Junior Church

From the Editor

If you have items for inclusion in *News & Notes*, please send them to me, Adrian Taylor, Florida, Nunton Drove, Nunton SP5 4HZ, tel: 01722 325862, email: vcmtaylor@msn.com.

Monetary donations should be sent to our Treasurer, Neil Guttridge, Court-Hay, Lower Road, Charlton All Saints, Salisbury SP5 4HQ, telephone 01725 511468.

The deadline for the December edition is Tuesday, 18th November.

Holy Days In November

1st Nov. All Saints' Day: 8.00am Broad Chalke (DH)

A message from Graham Southgate

Writing from somewhere north of Salisbury Plain . . .

Having now been Vicar of Bratton, Edington and Imber, Erlestoke and Coulston for not quite two weeks, I am trying to get to know lots of people as quickly as possible. That doesn't mean, however, that I have forgotten you on the southern side of the Plain.

I am very grateful for the wonderful send-off you gave me: to those who arranged for their own villages to say 'Good bye', as well as to those who attended the Service in Coombe Bissett on 10th August and provided the wonderful lunch afterwards.

Thanks, too, for the farewell presents - some corporate and some from individuals - including some impressive cheques: I have carefully unwrapped the glass and silverware, tended the cactus, hung the pictures, perused the books (and there is plenty of scope for garden improvements), added to the number of rose bushes, and started thinking about how to use some of the book tokens.

I hope that you enjoyed your visit to Edington Priory for my Institution and Induction: it was good to see so many friendly faces in the congregation, and to get a chance to speak to you afterwards. My new parishioners thought you a very friendly group of people and also thought it appropriate to pass on some of the kind things you said about me (but they wouldn't tell me who warned them of my cake 'habit' - although I think I can guess!).

If you are ever up this way (perhaps for next year's Edington Festival or at Imber?) then it would be good to see you: Westley Cole can let you have the necessary address details (not that I am expecting you to mis-lay this copy of the magazine!): Bratton Vicarage 01380 830374.

Best regards,

Graham Southgate

WI

Diane Wait

The October 13 meeting was exceptionally well attended with Julia Joynt (President) welcoming 44 members plus guest Diana Adwick. Jilli Bulpitt read the prayer and Sue Bourne provided a lovely flower arrangement for the President's table. Julia congratulated those members whose millennium calendar photos appeared in the latest Limited Edition. She thanked everyone for their hard work at the successful September promotional meeting and especially Margaret Barrow. Val Martyn discussed future presentations at the Playhouse. Sheila May gave dates for future skittles matches and Sue Bourne said that more members are urgently needed to boost the scrabble team.

Judith Johnson confirmed that the Christmas Lunch will be held at the Radnor Arms on Monday December 15th and gave everyone a copy of the excellent menu. Margaret Barrow read out the financial statement and was pleased to report that we have received a cheque for £200.00 from the Fete Committee. Subscriptions for the coming year will be £20.00. Jean Van Hagen (Secretary) discussed future events, including an invitation from Whiteparish WI. Julia won flower of the month with a gorgeous deep crimson Ena Harkness rose.

Following the coffee break, Mr D Tomlin gave members a truly entertaining talk about his 18 years serving as a Queen's Bodyguard. He showed some wonderful photos in his colourful uniform and also some of the Queen presenting him with the Victoria Medal of Honour two years ago. The highlights of his year are the State Opening of Parliament, the Queen's Official Birthday celebrations and, of course, the Investitures at Buckingham Palace. Mrs Jill Dodd thanked him for an inspirational and fascinating talk.

The next meeting is on Monday, November 10 when the talk will be "A Funny Way to Earn a Living" by Bob Fox.

Items to collect

If you left a child's fleece or food dishes at the Courtyard, Charlton All Saints, after the Barbecue in July please call Barbara Box on 01725 510758.

Christmas Cards in aid of the Sudan Link

Debby Underhill

Have you ever thought of buying recycled Christmas cards so that all the money goes to help people who have a real need? Well now's your chance! They're a real bargain at just £1 for 10 cards and I will have them at the 9.30am services at Britford, Odstock, Nunton, and Charlton throughout November and December. Alternatively you can call me on 01722 329769 if you want some.

Autumn Fair and Harvest Supper

Denis Blake

IT'S ALL GO AT CHARLTON!

On two consecutive Saturdays, the church hall at Charlton has been that apiarist's delight, a "hive of activity". The two events could scarcely have been more different and yet there was an important common factor: the village did what it does best - succeed spectacularly in spite of its small size.

On the 4th October, Clare Penny triumphed, aided by a remarkably small band of helpers, in organising the Autumn Fair. The Hall was filled with bric à brac, cakes and buns, plants, tea-serving area and books - oh, so many books! It was a real thrill to say that by 7.00 that evening the whole lot had gone! Yes, really. It would be idle to pretend that we had SOLD everything because we were able to shift masses of stuff to the Ace of Hearts appeal and we hope they benefited appropriately. The £420.00 raised will greatly ease the burden of the parish's "Share". Well done, congratulations and thanks to Clare and to all her helpers.

While on the subject of Clare Penny, mention must be made again to her utterly incredible work as Editor of News and Notes. I know that Adrian Taylor paid her a very handsome compliment in the last issue but perhaps I could add my own: Clare marshalled, edited, re-typed, laid out and published with real skill and professionalism and at the same time carried on being a brilliant wife and mother; how and where she found the energy and the time I shall never know. The whole benefice owes her much.

On the 11th October, some 58 people sat down to a buffet Harvest Supper in the Hall and we were filled! Ham, fresh bread, butter, cheese, apple pies and turnovers, blackberry and apple pies, blackcurrant pies, beer from a barrel and wine from bottles - if you weren't there, then tough! Come next year! It was a grand occasion and so richly rewarding to see so many children having a good time. THAT is what the Church is - or should be - all about. We were all thrilled that Canon David Henley took the time to be with us; he was and always is a most welcome guest. It was sad that at the last minute Westley Cole and his dear lady could not be with us - it would have been good to welcome both these marvellous pastors at the same function. The whole concept of Harvest Supper was encapsulated in what we shared at Charlton and we hope that all your other Harvest celebrations in the benefice were as good as ours. Thank you to Pam Cox and her team of helpers, especially Mary Penn and Anne Blake, Sheena Ross and Anne Simmons, and to Ian Ashworth and Neil Guttridge on the potable side of the meal. Well done indeed!!

Church Fellowship Group Christmas Fair

Kate Woolven

On 18th November, the Chalke Valley Fellowship Group's Christmas Fair is taking place in the Broad Chalke Village Hall from 10am to 2pm. You will be able to get free coffee and a delicious slice of home made cake and, from noon onwards, a delicious free lunch. We will have many stalls and hope you will come and join us for a morning of friendship. All donations will be going to The Bridge Project, which is an organisation in Salisbury which takes the Gospel message into schools.

Florence Iris Pearce

Philip and Dawn Pearce are delighted to announce the arrival of their daughter, Florence Iris Pearce, born on 15th July 2003, and would like to send their thanks for all good wishes, cards and gifts. We would be very happy if you would like to join us to welcome Florence to the church, at her Baptism at St Peter's, Britford, at 12.30pm on Sunday 16th November 2003.

Charlton Garden Society

Barbara Box

On 29th September, Maggie MacDonald of Wiltshire Wildlife gave a very informative talk on sustaining an organic garden. There were many aspects to this topic from good compost to biological control of insect pests. Sadly rabbits weren't mentioned!

Next meetings:

27th October - 'Friends and Foes' - Barbara Last
24th November - Next year's seedling swap and Rebecca Midgeley on "Compost and Compost Bins".

Odstock Primary School News

From 7th November two teachers from the Gambia will be spending a fortnight with us, extending the links made with their community by Mrs Marsh last February.

Our exciting Christmas concert in the Radnor Hall will be on December 18th, times of performances to follow, and all are welcome.

We are planning to demolish the annexe and build upwards. However, in order to secure funding, our school roll needs to reach beyond 60 in September 2004. Children who will be entering their reception year in September 2004 should register with us now.

Primary aged village children, not attending school but wanting to borrow books from our library, should ring school to make arrangements.

We are still collecting Persil Stars and Nestle Box Tops. Please just drop them through our letterbox.

Please continue to use our recycling bins but remember to follow the notices on them as to what can and cannot be included. Thanks for your help

Britford Coffee Morning

Peggy Knight

A coffee morning in aid of St Peter's Church, Britford was held on Saturday, 20th September in David and Peggy Knight's garden at Coote Cottage. A bright sunny morning encouraged a good crowd to come along including a welcome number of children. We were delighted to raise £81.30 from the coffee morning and plant stall and are very grateful for two donations of £100 each which brought the morning's total to £281.30. A very big thank you to everyone who came along and supported us so generously.

The Charlton All Saints 2003 Bonfire Bash

Saturday, 8th November



From 6.00pm next to the Village Barn
Traditional Bonfire Refreshments

For tickets contact Graham & Jackie Barrett
Hollytree House, Church Lane
01722 324097

£6.00 Adults, £3.00 Children (5-14 years)

The Radnor Hall Players

present

Cinderella

and

a Revue

at

The Radnor Hall, Bodenham
on Thursday 27th,
Friday, 28th and
Saturday, 29th November

at

7.30pm

Tickets for Thursday - £5.00

Tickets for Fri/Sat –

to include Supper - £8.00

from

Pam Trubshaw - 01722 323472

and Bodenham Post Office
on sale from 1st November

*Kindly sponsored by New Hall
Hospital*

Regular Events

WI	Second Monday of the month, 10.00 am Radnor Hall, Bodenham
Junior Church	To co-incide with 9.30 am service 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 Wednesday 9.30 – 11.30 am, Radnor Hall, Bodenham, contact Suzie Orchiton on 01722 502026
Mobile Library	Alternate Wednesdays (5 th & 19 th): Brookmead, Britford 10.00 – 10.20 am Village Hut, Charlton 10.30 – 10.45 am, Radnor Arms, Nunton 11.00 – 11.20 am

Dates for Your Diary

29 th October	Charlton All Saints Garden Society meeting in the church at 7.30pm.
1 st November	Cwm Garw Welsh Male Voice Choir, St Lawrence's Church, Downton 7.00pm (Tickets: Chris Pitts 01725 510646)
4 th November	LPA meeting (call Kate Rosslyn Smith on 01747 871605 for details)
8 th November	A Celebration of 30 years of the Salisbury - Sudan Link, Salisbury Cathedral at 12.00 noon
8 th November	Bonfire Bash – Charlton All Saints (see above)
9 th November	Remembrance Service at St Mary's, Odstock, 10.55am .
10 th November	WI meeting

18th November Church Fellowship Group's Christmas Fair, Broad Chalke Village Hall 10.00am – 2.00pm

24th November Charlton All Saints Garden Society

27th, 28th, 29th November – Cinderella and a Revue at the Radnor Hall (see above)