

A Happy New Year to All our Readers

January 1997

Christmas is over, some might think, but not according to the Church's Calendar. According to the Church Calendar we are now in that part of Christmas known as Epiphany, the manifestation of Christ. Central to this feast is the visit of those mysterious Wise Men (The Magi). These strange travellers from the East, according to some commentators, were Medes. The Medes were a small nation that lived in the area known to us now as the Persian Gulf.

As a nation they never really made it on their own; they tended to make alliances with other groups to gain power and influence. They were a nation of Mystics, Magicians and Astrologers, hence their interest in the birth of the Christ child.

Their gifts reflect the prophetic nature of their mission-quest. Gold for a King; Frankincense for a Priest; and Myrrh for the embalming of the dead.

What gift did this child give to them, we might ask. The gift that He gives to us all when we journey along life's road to meet Him. The knowledge that here is someone who is unique; who brings peace, hope and salvation to us all. Jesus said: "Come to me all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads and I will give you rest". (Matthew 11:28)

The Romany travellers have an expression in their language for a resting place "Atchin-Tan". That is a place here you can hold up for a while and refresh yourselves. It is a place of shelter from the elements with wood for a fire and grass for your horse. Christ is our "Atchin-Tan" - our place of final rest and refreshment. Let us rejoice in Him our great discovery as we start this New Year.

Roger Redding

Church Services

Sunday 5 January	9.30 am	Parish Communion	ASB	Britford
	10.00 am	Matins	BCP	Odstock
Sunday 12 January	9.30 am	Parish Communion (Junior Church)	ASB	Nunton
	10.00 am	Matins	BCP	Charlton
Sunday 19 January	9.30 am	Parish Communion (Junior Church)	ASB	Odstock
	11.15 am	Matins	BCP	Britford
Sunday 26 January	10.00 am	Matins	BCP	Nunton
	10.00 am	Parish Communion	ASB	Charlton
Sunday 2 February	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.

	Page Audi	Page Volkswagen
	582-600 Ringwood Road, Poole	582-600 Ringwood Road, Poole
	01202 775050	01202 775000
	Page Toyota	Page Volvo
	296 Ringwood Road, Ferndown	Ferndown Crossroads, Ferndown
	01202 872201	01202 870087

From the Editor

Firstly, a Very Happy New Year! This issue has been paid for by **Page Motors** - I am very grateful to David Matthews of Charlton for being the first sponsor in our new scheme. Beginning this month, *News & Notes* will no longer be part-funded by our PCCs, but will be paid for entirely by one sponsor/advertiser each month. The cost is £40 for a month. In return, 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 February 1997 issue of *News & Notes* is Friday 24 January.

WI

On 9 December the Christmas meeting was held in the Britford Memorial Hall. Mrs Jill Johnson welcomed members and guests, including two founder members Mrs Jo Lamb and Mrs Norris. We stood in silence to remember Mrs Joan Evers who died recently. On 17 April 1997, Marwell Zoo is celebrating its 25th anniversary and WI members from all over Wiltshire are asked to join the celebrations with a one day visit.

Mrs Dorothy Darton of Bodenham, an "Evacuee from Guernsey" was our speaker. She was born on this beautiful island and spoke of her early love for singing and piano playing, and at the age of 3 ½, singing at her local chapel. When she was 13 ½, World War II broke out - in June 1940 France capitulated and the Channel Islands were undefended. At midnight the next night Dorothy and a group of her friends were evacuated from St Peter Port and landed in Weymouth, then were sent to Rochdale. The invasion of Guernsey meant that these children were not to see their parents till 1946. Mrs Darton continued her singing career and has subsequently sung at the Edinburgh Festival, at Glyndebourne and at the Radnor Hall! Her talk was much enjoyed - she is just recovering from laryngitis. There was a raffle, a bring and buy stall, and mulled wine and mince pies were served.

Angela Moules

Thanks

The Stanger family held a "Blue Peter" sale at their home, Brimble Lodge, Nunton and raised £100. Thanks to all who helped.

Thanks to Maxine, caretaker of the Radnor Hall, who made 200 mince pies for the two nights of the revue and pantomime.

AM

Congratulations

Congratulations to Dr Martin Baker for gaining a PhD in Civil Engineering at the University of Wales College of Cardiff, and on Martin's marriage to Samantha Huckfield on 2 November at Castell Coch, Cardiff.

AM

Help for Odstock Church

Please, are there any volunteers to arrange flowers and clean brasses for 2 weeks during 1997? OR just to clean brasses during 2 weeks in Lent? (We have lost three of our team and would be very grateful for your help.) Please contact Mrs Barbara Taunton, The Croft, Odstock, tel 01722 329773 for further information.

Odstock Church Appeal Fund

Madeline Baker and friends made cakes and mince pies and sold coffee at Georgina von Etzdorf's sale in The Avenue on 30 November and 1 December and raised £167.

On 7 December at the coffee morning, bring & buy and Christmas raffle - held at Odstock Manor by kind permission of Jonathan & Penny Marland - trade was brisk and £371.75 was raised. Many thanks to all who helped in any way.

Angela Moules

'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

Downton Band Concert 10 December 1996

Were churches made for brass instruments or *vice versa*? Whichever way round that may be, the concert given to us by the Downton Band in the church hall in Charlton was a brilliant and frequently moving start to the village's run-up to Christmas.

Men and women who give up their time for the love of playing music are wonderful people at any time, but the Downton Band, whose history goes back about 150 years, deserve our special affection and support.

The programme they gave us - yes, gave, for they made no charge for their music - was varied and featured each section of the band in the choice of pieces. The flugelhorn, the trombone, the euphonium and the E-flat soprano cornet all had wonderful moments as also had the solo cornet. No band can ever stand without a solid bass-line and the tubas in the back row provided just that.

In the interval there was the sheer bliss of mulled wine and mince pies and the second half of the concert was given over to the community, audience-chosen singing of carols. As a matter of interest, the accompanying of singing is the most taxing form of playing for a brass player as it involves long periods of sustained legato sound which takes far more skill than one would expect.

That the Band was popular both as an ensemble and as individuals was beyond doubt and we hope that they will come to us every year. By way of our support for them in their drive to repair and modernise their rehearsal facilities, a collection was made which amounted to £168.00.

All of us present at the concert owe a debt of gratitude both to the band and their conductor and, of course, to those generous and skilled people who produced those far-too-tempting "half time" refreshments. It was a grand evening!

Denis Blake

Burns' Night

Saturday 25 January 1997 at 7.30 pm

at the Radnor Hall

Tickets £5, to include food, whisky and entertainment, from Liz Stubbs, tel 01722 330006

Bring a pudding if you wish

Nursery Vouchers and Odstock School

From April 1997 all parents of 4 year olds will receive a nursery voucher worth £1,100 to spend on nursery education of their choice for 3 terms after their child is 4 years old.

The voucher may be spent in a reception class, nursery unit, pre-school (playgroup), private nursery or independent school.

The Wiltshire schools admission policy has changed so that all children who are 4 years old by 31 August 1997 could start school on 1 September 1997 - ie one intake only per academic year.

At Odstock School we hope that all summer born 4 year old children (born between 1 April and 31 August) will come for just half a day until Christmas. We care about the children and want to provide for their needs, providing the right curriculum for them. Our infant teacher is updating her early years' training this Summer. We have listed all the resources we need for this young age group, to include climbing equipment and a safe outside area amongst other things.

PTA fundraising, planning and our budget need to be set by April 1997. If you have a child 0 - 5 years and you would like them to come to Odstock School, please can you let us know so that we can appoint staff and plan for their needs. Do come and see what we are doing!

Do ring our Head Teacher Paul Niblett on 01722 329701.

Debby Underhill, Governor



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

Whist Drive

The Barker Room Whist Drive organisers wish to thank those who kindly donated prizes for the Christmas one. Also thanks to the faithful few who attend, especially players from Salisbury and surrounding villages, upon whom we depend for the survival of this weekly event. £320 was given to church funds in 1996.

Bernice Loader

Carol Singing

In Odstock, for the Children's Society

An intrepid group of carol singers, aged from 1 - 79, plus one tortoiseshell cat, gathered at Odstock crossroads and braved the muddy roads, stopping here and there for mulled wine and mince pies. £100.00 was collected. It was good to have so many young children. AM

In Charlton, for Hillcote, our local children's home

The Charlton Carollers met at Holly Tree House for Dutch courage by kind invitation of Jenny & Harley Morgrette, and then set off to charm and delight the village with well loved carols. With 8 young children to rattle the collecting tins, we collected £90 from generous residents, and ended the evening for warming mulled wine and mince pies at Rivermeade, by kind invitation of Anne Simmons. A good time was had by all, and our thanks go to all who sang, all who donated, and in particular to Jenny, Harley and Anne for their much-appreciated hospitality.

Odstock, Nunton & Bodenham Parish Council News

There will be a Parish Council meeting at the Radnor Hall at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 7 January. All are welcome.

Radnor Hall Players Christmas Revue & Pantomime

For two evenings, 29 & 30 November, the Radnor Hall echoed with laughter and cheers as the Radnor Hall Players raised the roof with their revue sketches and pantomime, full of topical jokes and references. Delicious mince pies and wine served during the interval fuelled the enthusiasm of a very appreciative audience. Colin Berry with Graham and Stewart Ford were the highlight of the revue with an hilarious 9 O'Clock sketch that the Monty Python team would have been proud of. Melanie Ferris produced a wonderfully colourful pantomime, using all the favourite elements of cheeky dame, horrid witches, cuddly (large) bears, perfectly stupid guardsmen, and a fiendish Witchhunter - too many stars to single out all the actors by name, but the whole show went with a swing, and the audience just loved the opportunity to boo and hiss at the appropriate times. Congratulations to the producer and all her troupe. We all look forward to another evening of fiendish delights next year!

Yvette O'Keeffe

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

7 January Odstock, Nunton & Bodenham Parish Council meeting, Radnor Hall 7.30 pm
25 January Burns' Night, Radnor Hall 7.30 pm
27 January Charlton Gardening Club "Pruning" by Mr Vincent Meers at Charlton Church Hall 7.30 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, 7.30 pm, contact Adrian Taylor on 01722 325862
Mobile Library Alternate Fridays (17 & 31 January): Village Hut, Charlton 9.50 am
Alternate Tuesdays (7 & 21 January): Brookmead, Britford 9.45 am
Post Office, Bodenham 10.05 am, Radnor Arms, Nunton 10.20 am
Crossroads, Odstock 10.50 am