

News & Notes

Issue 274

February 1999

Marking the New Millennium

Syd Willcox

Villages throughout Wiltshire are at present discussing ways of celebrating the new millennium. No doubt there will be many social events, parties, fireworks, barn dances, musical concerts etc. Some people also feel it is important to mark the occasion with something more permanent such as the planting of flowers or trees, or the provision of more benches at beauty spots.

I have been giving the matter some thought over the last few weeks and it suddenly occurred to me that the traditional Wiltshire way of doing this sort of thing is to carve something out of the chalk hillsides. It could be anything from a giant to a horse or even the more modern army cap badges at Fovant. Now it is rather strange that our valley though known as the Chalke Valley has no chalk emblem.

So what about it? Is there a generous landowner prepared to offer a fairly steep sided chalk escarpment? And, if such is forthcoming, what emblem should be used? To my mind what we are celebrating is 2000 years of Christianity at influence in the world.

Now one of the oldest symbols of Christianity was the fish. It was the secret sign, which Christians made on the ground in order to identify their faith to one another in times of persecution. Why the fish? Because the Greek word for fish was "Ichthus" the letters of which spelt out the title "Jesus Christ, Son of God, Saviour". So maybe our valley symbol could look something like this:



Another reason in its favour is that our chalk stream, the Ebble, is a trout stream. Well it's just a thought! †

Church Services

Sunday 7 February	8.00 am	Holy Communion	BCP	GS	Nunton
2nd before Lent	9.30 am	Parish Communion	ASBB	GS	Britford
	11.00 am	Parish Communion	ASBB	WC	Coombe
	11.00 am	Matins	BCP	GS	Odstock
	6.00 pm	Evensong	BCP	WC	Homington
Sunday 14 February	8.00 am	Holy Communion	BCP	GS	Homington
1st before Lent	9.30 am	Parish Communion (JC)	ASBA	GS	Nunton
	11.00 am	Family Service		GS	Coombe
	11.00 am	Matins	BCP	AT	Charlton
Wednesday 17 February	12.00 noon	Holy Communion		GS	Nunton
Ash Wednesday	7.30 pm	Parish Communion (Ashes)		WC	Coombe
Sunday 21 February	9.30 am	Matins	BCP	JW	Homington
1st of Lent	9.30 am	Parish Communion (JC)	ASBA	TS	Odstock
	9.30 am	Parish Communion	ASBA	GS	Charlton
	11.00 am	Parish Communion	BCP	TS	Coombe
	11.00 am	Matins	BCP	GS	Britford
	6.00 pm	Evensong	BCP	GS	Odstock
Sunday 28 February	8.00 am	Holy Communion	BCP	GS	Homington
2nd of Lent	9.30 am	Parish Communion	ASBA	WC	Charlton
	11.00 am	Matins	BCP	GS	Coombe
	11.00 am	Matins	BCP	WC	Nunton
	3.00 pm	Afternoon Service		GS	Homington

GS = Graham Southgate, WC = Westley Cole, SHW = Sydney Willcox, KC = Karen Curnock, AT = Annabel Tier, RR = Roger Redding, TS = Terry Sankey, JW = John Watson.

From the Editor

This issue has been paid for by an anonymous donor – very many thanks go to this kind reader. 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 March issue is Friday 19 February - late copy cannot, I'm afraid, be accepted.

News from the Vicarage

Graham Southgate 01722 330628

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which is 17 February this year. There will be two services in the eastern part of the Chalke Valley: at 12 noon there will be Holy Communion at Nunton and at 7.30 pm there will be a Parish Communion with imposition of Ashes at Coombe Bissett.

NEW START — NEW FIRE is the title of the ecumenical Lent Course that has been commended to us by the Bishop of Salisbury. It is a five-part series written by David Durston (a Canon Residentiary of Salisbury Cathedral) and Philip Richter (a Methodist educator based at Sarum College). I hope that as many people as possible will make time to attend the sessions arranged locally: five consecutive Wednesdays in the Barker Room at Nunton beginning at 7.30 pm on 24 February or five consecutive Thursdays at Brines Cottage in Coombe Bissett beginning at 3 pm on 25 February (of course, you may prefer to "mix and match"). It would be good to have an idea of numbers, so please give me a ring.

The Lent Project — which each of the nine parishes in the Chalke Valley will be supporting — is to provide prisoners with Christian books. It is being organised by the Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge (SPCK) and has the support of the Reverend Mary Ridgewell, the Chaplain at HM Prison Guys Marsh near Shaftesbury. There will be news of fund-raising events in the next issue of *News and Notes* so please let me know if you would like to arrange something.†



in five weekly sessions:
Wednesdays, starting 24th February
in the Barker Room, Nunton at 7.30 p.m.

or

Thursdays, starting 25th February
in Brines Cottage, Homington Road, Coombe Bissett at 3 p.m.

Lent Project

Syd Willcox

The Team Council has decided that this year the churches of the Valley should support the SPCK. This is the Church of England's oldest missionary society now celebrating 300 years since it was founded to help provide bibles and other Christian books to help proclaim the Gospel. We shall be working for a particular project this Lent – Prison Initiative. This is a scheme to provide Christian books for prisons. It is encouraging to note that several hundred prisoners in our prisons have in recent years studied the Christian faith via the Alpha Course and have come to faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Such people are anxious to read more about their faith. This scheme will help meet that need. So look out for fund-raising events near you or take a Lent box. Please make a note of this date – Tuesday 9 March – supper evening 7 pm Ebbesbourne Village Hall. Speaker Rev Mary Ridgewell, Chaplain, HM Prison Guy's Marsh, Shaftesbury.†

From the Registers

Burials

On Friday 22 January at Nunton: Kathleen Hilda Summerhayes

Holy Days in February

2 Feb - The Presentation of Christ (Candlemas) — 8 am Holy Communion at Nunton.

17 Feb - Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent — 8 am Holy Communion at Nunton and 7.30 pm Parish Communion with the Imposition of Ashes at Coombe Bissett.

WI

Judy Barke

The January meeting was held in the Barker Room, Nunton. The President welcomed Mrs Pat Reeves who has rejoined the Institute. A busy month ahead had been arranged for members with visits to Aladdin and Blithe Spirit at the Playhouse, a skittles match and "friendly" skittles and scrabble games. A donation of £150 had been received from the Fete Committee with a request that the cake stall be incorporated into the produce and plant stall at the next fete in July. The bring and buy, and raffle at the December meeting raised £205.55. Members were asked to vote for possible resolutions to go forward to the Agenda Conference on 26 April, and to put forward suggestions for the Summer Outing at the next meeting, which will be on 8 February. The speaker will be Mrs Barbara Slater — "Gathering No Moss".

Mrs Pat Reeves won the flower of the month competition with an iris stylosa. The speaker was Mrs Helen Mayes who gave an excellent talk on Aromatherapy, followed by a very enthusiastic question time.

Hampton Court Palace

There is a proposed coach trip to Hampton Court Palace on 22 May. If anyone is interested in a day out, could they please contact Madeline Baker on 01722 329374.

House Help Needed

Mrs E Earley, 5 High Road, Britford, tel 01722 416331 requires house help for 3-4 hours per week.

Britford in Brief

PCC AGM

The Annual General Meeting of Britford PCC will be held on Tuesday 20 April at Britford Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm. All welcome.

Organists

Joyce and Eric Babbs have retired as Britford's organists, and Mr Chris West will take over.

Lilies for Easter

If anyone would like to donate Easter lilies in memory of a loved one, please contact Daphne Scamell or any Britford PCC member.

Parish Council

Britford Parish Council would welcome suggestions from Britford residents on ways in which Britford could celebrate, or otherwise mark, the Millennium.

Odstock Church Appeal Fund

Madeline Baker, Appeal Treasurer

Many thanks to Ian and Nicky from the Yew Tree for their generous donation of £102 from their Christmas raffle, to the Odstock Church Appeal Fund.

How to Care for your Garden

A talk and question time by



Graham George



Nurseryman and garden designer

At The Radnor Hall on Thursday 18 February from
7.30 – 9.30 pm

Coffee, raffle, information stall

Tickets £1 from Margaret Barrow on 01722 329747

All proceeds will go to NACC, the National
Association for Crohns and Colitis

Easter Lilies for Nunton

If anyone would like to give a donation towards the cost of Easter Lilies in Nunton Church, in memory of a relative or friend, would they kindly contact Diane Fray, Macaria Cottage, Nunton, tel 01722 329753, before 10 March.

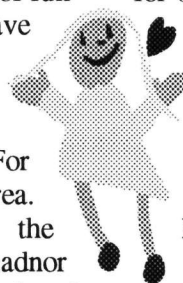
Whist Drives

Bernice Loader

Proceeds from the Nunton Barker Room Whist Drives during 1998 amounted to £280, which has been donated to church funds. Many thanks to those who gave prizes for the Christmas Drive, and to the players, the majority of whom travel quite a distance every week to support the drives.

Tiny Tots of Bodenham

The growing parent and toddler group with a difference! Lots of fun for 0-5 years old and their parents. We have many toys and activities for all ages. We have a messy room for play dough, painting, colouring and sticking. For summer, we have an outdoor play area. We are open throughout the holidays. You will find us at the Radnor Hall, Bodenham every Wednesday afternoon from 2-4 pm. Entry is £1. Everybody is made welcome. Hope to see you soon. Any enquiries, please phone Maxine on 01722 329760.



Contact Numbers

<i>Team Rector</i>	Canon Sydney Willcox, The Rectory, Broad Chalke 01722 780262 (Day off - Mon)
<i>Team Vicar</i>	Revd Roger Redding, Vicarage, Ebbesbourne Wake 01722 780408 (Day off - Mon)
<i>Team Vicar</i>	Revd Dr Graham Southgate, Nunton Vicarage 01722 330628 (Day off - Fri)
<i>Churchwardens</i>	Nunton - Harry Joynt 01722 329782 Odstock - Peter Martin 01722 329743 Charlton - Peter Cox 01722 329709 Britford - Daphne Scamell 01722 334858

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
Tiny Tots	Every Wednesday, 2 - 4 pm The Radnor Hall, Bodenham
Whist Drive	Every Thursday, 7.30 pm Barker Room, Nunton
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 (12 & 26 February): Village Hut, Charlton 9.45 am Alternate Tuesdays (9 & 23 February): Brookmead, Britford 10.35 am Post Office, Bodenham 10.55 am Radnor Arms, Nunton 11.10 am Crossroads, Odstock 11.35 am

Dates for your Diary

4 February	Supper Evening, Broadchalke Village Hall 7.00 pm
18 February	Garden Talk, Radnor Hall 7.30 pm
24 February	Start of Lent course, Barker Room, Nunton 7.30 pm
25 February	Start of Lent course, Brines Cottage, Coombe Bissett 3 pm
9 March	Supper Evening, Ebbesbourne Village Hall 7.00 pm
20 April	Britford PCC AGM, Britford Memorial Hall 7.30 pm
22 May	Proposed trip to Hampton Court Palace