



# News and Notes

for Bodenham, Britford, Charlton All Saints, Nunton and Odstock December 2010

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## News & Notes

**Editor: Adrian Taylor**  
01722 325862  
(email below)

**Deadline**  
18<sup>th</sup> of each month

## Now's the season to be jolly...

It's one of my irritating habits, so my friends say. It drives them mad! If I am happy, then I am sure to hum "Now's the season to be jolly" – even in June or July! I don't associate this tune only with Christmas. But I do feel happy at Christmas, despite getting very grumpy at the use of phrases like "Season's greetings" or "Festive cheer" on Christmas cards. Or inflatable Santas at garden centres. Or celebrations that totally ignore what we are supposed to be celebrating. Or.... (Yes, I think I can probably be even grumpier than the News & Notes Editor!)

Christmas was a very late arrival on the Church calendar. For the first few centuries after Jesus lived on earth, it was his death and resurrection, Easter, that was the major annual focus for worship and celebration. Not surprising really. No other religious leader had ever risen from the dead, leaving an empty tomb! But his followers were convinced that this was no ordinary religious leader. No. In this man, at a particular time in history, in some mysterious way, "all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell". These words of St Paul are very similar to the famous words of St John which form the climax of every Christmas carol service: "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us". Instead of just talking to us, God became a living Word, and lived among us.

This is the fantastic good news at the heart of Christmas. No wonder we love singing about it! God's love and power, His healing and forgiveness were seen among us. Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us. Christmas carols say it all. No wonder I get very grumpy if they are just played as musical wallpaper at the supermarket! Or as background jingles on TV for a week of over indulgence. But don't let me get grumpy! Christmas is a season to be jolly! Let's celebrate!

*Alison Williams (01722 330628)*

## Church of England Services

|  |  |   |  |                        |
|--|--|---|--|------------------------|
| 5 <sup>th</sup> December<br>Advent 2                   | 9.30am<br>11.00am<br>11.00am<br>6.00pm | Parish Communion<br>Family Service<br>Parish Communion<br>Choral Evensong | Britford<br>Nunton<br>Coombe Bissett<br>Homington  | JT<br>ACFT<br>AW<br>AW |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> December<br>Advent 3                  | 9.30am<br>11.00am<br>11.00am           | Parish Communion<br>Family Service<br>Choral Matins                       | Odstock<br>Coombe Bissett<br>Charlton All Saints   | AW<br>AW<br>DB         |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> December<br>Advent 4                  | 9.30am<br>6.00pm<br>6.00pm             | Holy Communion<br>Carol Service<br>Carol Service                          | Homington<br>Coombe Bissett<br>Nunton              | DH/JT<br>JT<br>AW      |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> December                              | 6.00pm                                 | Carol Service with Christingles   | Charlton All Saints                                | AW                     |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> December<br>Christmas Eve             | 6.00pm<br>11.00pm                      | Carol Service<br>Midnight Eucharist                                       | Homington<br>Coombe Bissett                        | AW<br>AW               |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> December<br>Christmas Day             | 8.00am<br>9.30am<br>9.30am<br>11.00am  | Holy Communion<br>Family Communion<br>Family Communion<br>Family Service  | Homington<br>Britford<br>Odstock<br>Coombe Bissett | AW<br>JT<br>AW<br>AW   |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> December<br>Christmas 1<br>St Stephen | 11.00am                                | Holy Communion  | Bishopstone  | JT                     |

DH = Canon David Henley, AW = Revd Alison Williams, JT = Revd Jenny Taylor,  
DB = Denis Blake, ACFT = Adrian Taylor

## Odstock, Nunton & Bodenham WI

*Anna Treseder*

At the meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> November, Elizabeth Cutter, President, extended a warm welcome to members and to Marian Hearne, who has recently come to live in The Orchard, and to Sarah Savage from Phoenix Cards. She thanked Judy Barke for her beautiful flower arrangement. In response to comments from members in a recent survey, new microphone equipment has been purchased. Updates on the Theatre, Skittles, Scrabble, Book Club and Walking Group activities followed, and also the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports. Forthcoming events include the Downland Group Meeting today, and the Share a Skill meeting, with a Christmas theme, at 10am on Monday 29 November at the Radnor Hall, and the Christmas lunch starting at 12.30pm for 1pm on 16 December arranged by Suzie Appleford at The Emblems. Members are invited to visit Whiteparish WI on 17 November, and to attend a Carol Concert at Laycock on 4 December. The annual WI meeting at City Hall on 25 October was well-run and enjoyable with stimulating talks.

Carol Stratton reported that the final batch of sweaters for children in Zimbabwe has been posted. Anyone who wishes to continue knitting sweaters, hats, gloves and hand-puppets is welcome to do so. The items will be sent to Bulgaria or Romania.

After coffee, Major L Bohana gave an interesting talk and slide show on "The Role of Women on the Home Front During the 1914-1918 War", outlining their ever increasing contribution to the war effort across a very wide range of areas including transport, agriculture, forestry and munitions. Ulla Whitty thanked Major Bohana very much for his informative talk.

The Christmas Meeting will take place in the Radnor Hall on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December. There will be a bring-and-buy stall, a raffle, mince pies and mulled wine. Guests are welcome.

## Christmas in Charlton All Saints

*Peter Cox*

On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December in the church at 7.30pm, we welcome the Downton Band for our annual Christmas Concert. An evening of carols and Christmas music with mulled wine, mince pies and a raffle. All welcome.

The following Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 6pm there will be a village carol service with chistringles, a service for the young and not so young. As is our custom in Charlton, gifts for the children and mothers at the women's refuge in Salisbury would be most appreciated. A warm welcome to all, to hear once more the Christmas message.

## Charlton All Saints Garden Society

On 24<sup>th</sup> October, photographer, David Poynter, came to give a wonderful show of slides he took of birds and animals on his visit to Botswana a few years ago. As many of our members know parts of Africa well, it was a great treat, especially as it was one of his last talks. He feels that in his mid 80's, it's time to slow down.

## Britford Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at the Memorial Hall, Britford at 1930 on Wednesday 1st December 2010. Among the items to be discussed is the parking of cars outside the hospital on the road to Odstock.

The next scheduled parish election for Parish councillors will be May 2013.

Christmas greetings and a Peaceful New Year to all residents.

## Grand Pumpkin Competition

Our thanks go to all who once again supported the Pumpkin Competition this year. We managed to set an all-time record with Angus Paton's winning pumpkin which weighed in at an amazing 115lbs! (see N&N website for pictures)

The proceeds of £85 from seed sales and the raffle went towards a framed photograph of Charles "Chas" Morrell, who was a keen supporter of the competition, and which is now on display in the Radnor Arms. The remainder of monies raised will be put towards a village project during the course of the year.

## Carol Singing

There'll be carol singing as usual in Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham. Here are the details for those that would like to join in:

### 20<sup>th</sup> December - Nunton and Bodenham

Meet at the bus shelter in Nunton at 6.30pm with a torch. (Enquiries to Debby Underhill 01722 329769)

### 21<sup>st</sup> December - Odstock

Meet at Odstock crossroads at 6.30pm with a torch. All welcome!



**Are you retired or over 60? If so the students of**

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DOWNTON**

**invite you to a**

## **Christmas Concert and Tea**

**on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2010**

**4.00pm to 6.00pm**

**in the School Hall**

***Please contact Reception (01725-550300) by  
6<sup>th</sup> December to reserve a place  
and help us with catering.***

**Help with local transport may be available and  
must be arranged when booking with Reception.**

## Wool Required

- ❖ Two local ladies are looking for donations of wool
- ❖ Any colour, any thickness, any amount will be gratefully received
- ❖ These ladies knit blankets all year round for the Trussell Trust
- ❖ The blankets are given to orphans and the needy in Bulgaria
- ❖ *For any donations of wool, please ring Helen on 01722 412288*

*Many thanks to those who have already donated.*

## Chalke Valley Flower Club

Liz Long 01722 780448

'At Home with the Robin' is a talk with slides by Mike Read.

If that first line caught your eye then you are a birdwatcher who is about to become interested in flower arranging. On January 26th we shall be having our brief AGM in Broadchalke Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. Traditionally we follow it with an enjoyment that is a little different and this year we are really lucky. The internationally known wildlife photographer Mike Read is coming from his local home to talk to us about the Robin and a few other garden birds. Very special will be the photos illustrating the talk.

Tickets are £5 on the night at the door. See the website of photographer Mike Read for more background.

So the round-up for our local flower club for 2010 shows that we have over 60 regular members, have organised an evening's entertainment for 11 months of the year and enjoyed two special outings. We have been proud and pleased to do the flower arrangements for 11 weddings which allowed us to make generous donations to Salisbury Hospice, the National Children's Society and Breast Cancer Charities.

Next year we shall look forward to more weddings and special events in addition to regular flower arranging demonstration evenings. Special will be the Broadchalke Church Flower Festival in June. It promises to be a challenging yet rewarding weekend for our club.

If that sounds fun then come and join us. We welcome new members and especially young people with young ideas.

## Healing and Wholeness

Bowerchalke Church

At 11.00am

Third Thursday of each month

## A Taste of Christmas

Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010

at 18.00hrs

Carriages at 20.00hrs

Radnor Hall, Bodenham

Tickets £7.50

Enjoy an informal early evening sampling of a Christmas selection of Whisky and Beer accompanied by traditional Christmas nibbles in aid of **British Heart Foundation**.

*Please send a cheque,  
payable to British Heart Foundation, to  
Simon Jackson, The Garden House,  
Middle Street, Salisbury SP2 8LR  
quoting your name, address, tel no and email.*

## Council Tax scam

Local people are being asked to be on their guard against a scam which involves bogus claims that they are entitled to a council tax rebate.

Wiltshire Council's trading standards officers have been alerted that the scam is operating in the county.

Sue Wilkin from trading standards said: "This scam is widespread, and it is not the first time it has surfaced in Wiltshire. It begins with a phone call to a resident stating they can get a rebate on their council tax.

"The resident is then asked to give their bank details to the caller. Wiltshire Council staff would not call in this way, or ask for bank details over the phone.

"The council always writes to people when it wishes to communicate on important subjects such as council tax."

Anyone who believes they may have been a victim of this scam should call for advice from Consumer Direct on 08454 040506.

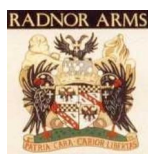
Wiltshire Council takes every step to ensure council tax demands are correct, but if people have concerns, they should contact the council directly.

## For Sale

### Artificial Christmas Tree

Of very good quality, from John Lewis, this very lifelike tree is in three sections and has its own very stable base. When assembled it is just over 6 feet tall. The "branches" hinge down for realism and back up again for storage: it likes plenty of decoration and lights! We have had it for four years and it cost about £50 when new. It is now for sale for £10.00. If you are interested and would like to see it, please ring Anne or Denis Blake on 01725-511743, or call at Yew Tree House, Lower Road, Charlton All Saints. It would be a good idea to ring us before calling.

# RADNOR ARMS



## **Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec - Pudding Night**

Ken's Steak and Kidney Pudding and  
Steamed Pudding - £9.95

## **Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Dec - Fish and Chips**

Two Courses - £10.95

**Please call 01722 329722 to book**

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## **Chalke Valley Church Website**

If you've begun to explore the new Chalke Valley website, [www.chalkevalley.org.uk](http://www.chalkevalley.org.uk) you'll probably have found the online DIARY. This is a vital page for all the Valley! On it you can see what is happening, and the date, and place. With this information you can plan your own events, knowing that they will not be held on the same night as another major one - and avoid all the disappointment of a clash of dates.

Please check the online Diary (on the right of the Diary page): select the month you want, then scroll down to see what else is booked for the date you have in mind... (and to be sure that someone else has not already entered the same information!).

The easiest way for you to add your own events to the Valley Diary is for you to complete the Event Form online.

If you have any problem, please submit your 'Event' information by email to Lavender Buckland:  
[lbfish2@btinternet.com](mailto:lbfish2@btinternet.com).

## **Shaftesbury Orchestra's Winter Concert - Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December**

This term Shaftesbury Orchestra has been studying a lively programme under their regular conductor, Andrew Cowen from the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra: Overture in the Italian Style by Schubert, Mozart's Symphony No 31 (Paris), and Haydn's Symphony 100 (Military). Norman Savage has been leading as usual.

There is no charge for admission, though this time the retiring collection will be in aid of the **Stars Appeal** for Salisbury District Hospital, which aims to fund extra care and equipment for all wards and departments over and above that provided by the NHS. (Lots of information on their website.)

The concert is at 7.30 Sunday 5 December at the Centenary Hall, Port Regis School, Motcombe.

Further information or interview please call Judy Ashwin 01258 451079

## **Stars Appeal Car Raffle**

Another Stars Appeal fund raising initiative is the offer of the chance to win a brand new car in their Christmas Raffle. The Kia Picanto is worth over £7,500, and has been supplied by F.J. Chalke of Mere who are supporting the Stars Appeal raffle for the second year in succession. Second prize is a luxury hamper of festive food and drink, which has been donated by the famous Le Gavroche Restaurant in London. Third prize, donated by Kludo and Spirit Bar, is a bottle of Louis Roederer Cristal Champagne worth £200, the favourite champagne of Jay Z! Tickets are only £1 each, and are available from the Stars Appeal Bookstall in the Main Entrance at Salisbury District Hospital and at F.J. Chalke of Mere. For extra books to sell to friends, colleagues and neighbours, call The Stars Appeal Office on 01722 429005.

The winning tickets will be drawn on Thursday, December 23rd 2010, and winners will be notified by phone the same day.

## **Chalke Valley Ladies Choir**

**presents**

## **A CANDLELIT CHRISTMAS**

*Music and Readings for the Season*

at

Holy Trinity, Bowerchalke

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December

7.30pm

Tickets: £8

(includes refreshments)

from: Marrianne Tomkies 01722 780052

Janet Roe 01725 519242

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For Care and Support call 01722 718830

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| <b>Regular Events</b>                        |   |
|--|---|
| WI   | Second Monday of the month, 10.00am, Radnor Hall, Bodenham  |
| Whist Drive                                  | Every Thursday, 7.30pm, Barker Room, Nunton   |
| Singing Group                                | Every Tuesday (ex. Aug/Dec.), 7.00pm, Barker Room, contact Adrian Taylor on 01722 325862  |
| Tiny Tots                                    | Wednesdays (ex. Aug.) 9.45 – 11.45am, Radnor Hall, Bodenham (Suzie Orchiton - 01722 502026)   |
| Mobile Library                               | Britford (The Green), alt. Thursdays, 9.40 – 9.55am (9 <sup>th</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup> December)<br>Charlton All Saints ('phone box), alt. Fridays, 10.25 – 10.40am (3 <sup>rd</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> & 31 <sup>st</sup> December)<br>Nunton (The Orchard), monthly, 11.55 – 12.25pm (22 <sup>nd</sup> December) |
| Acorn Social Club                            | Coffee Morning – Wednesdays 10.30am, Bingo – Fridays 7.00pm at the Orchard  |
| Open Circle<br>Folk Dancing/<br>Local Vocals | Dancing: 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Mondays each month, 7.30pm, Radnor Hall<br>Local Vocals: 1 <sup>st</sup> Monday each month, 7.30 pm Radnor Hall<br>contact Clare Chitty on 01722 330871  |
| <b>Diary Dates</b>                           |   |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec                          | Britford Parish Council Meeting, Memorial Hall, 7.30pm ( <i>see page 2</i> )  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec                          | A Taste of Christmas, Radnor Hall, 6.00pm ( <i>see page 3</i> )   |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec                         | A Candlelit Christmas, Holy Trinity Bowerchalke, 7.30pm ( <i>see page 4</i> )   |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec                         | Christmas Concert and Tea, Trafalgar School, 4.00pm ( <i>see page 2</i> )   |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec                         | Downton Band at Charlton All Saints, 7.30pm ( <i>see page 2</i> )   |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec                         | Carol Singing, Nunton and Bodenham, 6.30pm ( <i>see page 2</i> )  |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec                         | Carol Singing, Odstock, 6.30pm ( <i>see page 2</i> )  |

***A very Happy Christmas  
to all  
News and Notes readers***