



News and Notes



for Bodenham, Britford, Charlton All Saints, Nunton and Odstock December 2009

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News & Notes

Editor: Adrian Taylor

01722 325862
(email below)

Treasurer:

Neil Guttridge

01725 511468

Court-Hay, Charlton All Saints
Salisbury SP5 4HQ

Deadline

18th of each month

"He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all"

David Jenkins, one time Bishop of Durham, used to say that God is "the Great Disturber". That certainly seems to apply to Christmas! There are angels with strange messages to turn life totally upside down. Not just for Mary and Joseph, shepherds and innkeepers, or wise men from the east. I always feel for Zechariah and Elizabeth, both well on in years, peacefully living a quiet life. Suddenly they are thrust into the limelight, Zechariah literally struck speechless by the angel's visit. They are to have a son John, with a special calling as the prophets of old. No wonder Zechariah was startled and gripped with fear!

The young Mary was likewise hugely disturbed. Not ready to be married, but promised – probably arranged by her family - to Joseph. Countless painters over the centuries have tried to capture the moment when she gasps as the angel gives her the amazing news. She will bear the Saviour of the world. "Nothing is impossible with God" says the angel. God is the Great Disturber.

So Christmas comes once again – we remember how God chose to disturb his world, from the slumber of complacency, apathy or pride. People living without reference to God, forgetting His love. Then, as now, some people ignored the divine visit, and went about their business. But for many, life changed for ever.

Western culture seems to say that Christmas is only for children and the infant nativity play, not really for adults! Yet the Bible account challenges this. The birth narrative which begins with two elderly people, also ends with two elderly people actually *waiting* for God – Simeon and Anna – so they can die in peace. When they see the child Jesus, they praise God, knowing life is now complete. The Great Disturber has done his work! Happy Christmas to you all!

Alison Williams

Church of England Services

Sunday, 6 th Dec Advent 2	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	Parish Communion Family Service Parish Communion Evensong BCP	Britford Nunton Coombe Bissett Homington	JT ACFT AW AW
Sunday, 13 th Dec Advent 3	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Parish Communion Matins Family Service	Odstock Charlton Coombe Bissett	AW DB AW
Sunday, 20 th Dec Advent 4	8.00am 9.30am 3.30pm 6.00pm 6.00pm	Holy Communion Family Communion Christingle Carol Service Carol Service	Britford Homington Charlton All Saints Odstock Coombe Bissett	AW CH AW AW JT
Thursday, 24 th Dec Christmas Eve	6.00pm 11.00pm	Carol Service Midnight Eucharist	Homington Coombe Bissett	AW AW
Friday, 25 th Dec Christmas Day	8.00am 9.30am 9.30am 11.00am	Holy Communion Family Communion Family Communion Family Service	Homington Charlton All Saints Nunton Coombe Bissett	AW CH AW AW
Sunday, 27 th Dec Christmas 1	11.00am	Parish Communion	Bishopstone	JT/AW

AW = Revd Alison Williams, JT = Revd Jenny Taylor, CH = Revd Charles Hatton,
DB = Denis Blake, ACFT = Adrian Taylor BCP = Book of Common Prayer

WI Meeting 9th November 2009

Elizabeth Cutter

The meeting was opened by the President, Sue Bourne, who thanked Maria Amey for the beautiful autumnal flower arrangement for the President's table. She reported that the WI Annual Council Meeting, in Salisbury on Oct 26th, had been very good with excellent speakers on a wide variety of topics.

Arrangements were discussed for the Christmas lunch on Dec 17th at The Emblems, Fovant. Details of the next theatre group, skittles group, walking group and book group meetings were announced. Jean Van Hagen, the Secretary, read the correspondence and Sheila May, the Treasurer, gave her report. Members were also invited to look at the display of Phoenix cards available to order. Diane Crump thanked members for her bursary to Denman College where she had attended an interesting course on 'Bejewelled Silk Jewellery'.

The Flower of the Month competition was won by Isabel Stone with a delicate Kaffir lily.

Members then listened to a most entertaining talk from The Mayor of Salisbury, Councillor Bobbie Chettleburgh. Firstly she talked about her many duties as Mayor in 2003-04. Her charity that year was a Book of Remembrance for the men and women from Salisbury who had fallen in conflicts since World War 1. The book is available to see in St Thomas' Parish Church and she was very grateful to St Thomas' for their support. She then went on to talk about her new role as Mayor and her current charity, Children's Chance, which gives financial support to any child in a 20 mile radius of Salisbury to develop their talents and potential. Ulla Whitty thanked her for sharing some amusing anecdotes and for giving us an insight into mayoral life.

The next meeting is the Christmas Meeting on December 14th at the Radnor Hall when we will be entertained by 'The Ashburton Handbell Ringers'.

Carol Singing

Carol Singing is planned as follows:

Odstock - 18th December

Meet at Odstock Crossroads at 6.30pm

Bodenham and Nunton - 22nd December

Meet at the ex-Post Office, Bodenham at 6.00pm. We shall move across to Nunton after a while, sing in the Orchard at around 7.00pm and then at places around the village.

Singers wrap up warm and bring a torch. Those at home listen out! We shall be collecting for various children's charities.

Lt Cdr Gavin Simmonite DFC RN

I am very grateful to Sue, Gavin's wife, for allowing me to include the following citation thus overcoming Gavin's own natural modesty. We wish Gavin well during his current tour of duty in Afghanistan. Gavin and Sue live in Odstock. Ed.

"Lieutenant Commander Gavin Simmonite Royal Navy has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross recognising the exemplary professionalism, leadership and courage displayed as Sea King Detachment Commander within the Joint Helicopter Force whilst deployed on operations in Afghanistan. His aircraft was so damaged by enemy fire that under normal circumstances it should have been landed immediately. Through his exceptional airmanship and handling skills he was able to nurse it back to a friendly location, thereby saving not only a precious resource but also the lives of his crew."

Aussie Invasion

Gerard Thompson (Macleay Island, Queensland)

Surely Nunton and the Radnor Arms will never be the same!

It was the day the Aussie's invaded.

Well, a couple of them anyway . . . Gerard and Glenda Thompson made their way to the Radnor by accident, staying at Newcourt Lodge just up the road, and discovered your lovely watering hole and many of the locals.

When all the Aussie ragging was dispensed with, the true friendship and conviviality of the Nunton 'locals' shone through.

"We were pleased to meet up with Adrian Taylor who, we discovered, is the editor of News and Notes. Being a managing editor in Australia made for some interesting swapping of notes and information," Gerard Thompson said.

Others the Aussies caught up with on the day were Rugby man (unfortunate Bath supporter) Mike Smith and wife Rebecca (whilst the kids are away!), and man in the corner Nigel Wait and wife Di.

They were delighted to look up the News and Notes website and came up with 'new sand notes!!'

All in good fun, and thank you for you kind hospitality Nunton, the Radnor Arms and News and Notes!

Remembrance Sunday

The collection at the Remembrance Sunday Service at Charlton All Saints this year raised £358.50 towards the Poppy Appeal. Many thanks to all who contributed.



Trussell Trust and Morning Star

Debby Underhill 01722 329769

Think of others even in little ways this Christmas
Christmas is coming and you will be going out and filling your cupboards with all those bits you may need. Well, you need to make room in those cupboards! You might find a few tins or groceries, which are still in date but none of the family like! There is a basket at the back of Nunton Church behind the font that needs groceries and tins for the **Trussell Trust** (they feed the needy) and you never know if it could be you! Britford Church collect for "**Morning Star**" who provide for the homeless. Please help if you can.

A338 Roadworks from 18th Jan

Julian Johnson (Wiltshire Councillor)

Major road works on the A338 between the roundabout with Batten Lane in Downton and the county boundary with Hampshire are due to start on 18th January 2010 and last for approximately 4 months.

These works will include carriageway reconstruction and resurfacing, drainage improvements, new kerbing and new road markings. It is hoped to carry out this work under temporary traffic lights but at some stage in the schedule the road will have to be completely closed whilst final resurfacing operations take place. The exact dates and times for this closure have yet to be confirmed but are likely to be during the school Easter holidays, but avoiding the bank holiday weekend. Diversionary routes will be publicised nearer the time.

Regular users of this road have frequently complained at the poor standard of repair and this is now a welcome opportunity to bring this stretch of the A338 up to an acceptable standard. Inevitably there will be disruption whilst work is being carried out but the contractors will do their best to keep it to the minimum.

Odstock Primary School

Remembrance Assembly

The Remembrance Assembly held on 11th November was made extra special this year because we were fortunate enough to have Mr Denis Blake from Charlton All Saints to play the Last Post and Reveille for us. The children felt that it made the assembly very special for them. They said it was brilliant and we learned about playing the trumpet as well. A very big thank you to Mr and Mrs Blake.



At the Radnor Hall, Bodenham

Pantomime

"The Beauty Sleeps"

by Peter Nuttall

and Cabaret

Fri & Sat, 11th & 12th December - Sold out

Thursday 10th December 7.30pm

Bar and snacks

A few tickets left at £6 (£3 - under 16)

Contact the Radnor Hall 01722 329760

DOWNTON BAND

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Our favourite local band will be giving its traditional Christmas Concert

at

CHARLTON ALL SAINTS CHURCH HALL

on Wednesday, 16th December 2009

at 7.30pm

ADMISSION FREE



There will be seasonal refreshments, a Raffle and, of course, a collection will be taken which will be divided between the Band and Charlton church's funds.

Do, please, come to this popular, musical and extremely enjoyable start to the fun and rejoicing of Christmas. We do, of course, get to sing Carols!

REPEAT, ADMISSION FREE, but getting out again will, we hope, cost you at least SOMETHING!

Charlton All Saints Raffle

At the Downton Band Concert at Charlton All Saints on 16th December, there will as usual be an excellent raffle. There is a slight change this year in that we ask all of you not only to contribute to the raffle but also TO DELIVER the prizes to Dorothy Roblou, at Calvados, Lower Road, Charlton All Saints. We cannot organise collection of gifts this year.

Notice of Firework Display

Sonya & Graham are having celebrations in Nunton on Friday, 11th December which will include music and a firework display at approximately 10.45pm They would like to apologise in advance for any inconvenience this may cause to families and their animals.

Pumpkin Competition - 2009

A very big thank you to all who supported this year's Pumpkin Competition and weigh-in at the Radnor Arms on 25 October. Congratulations to Colin Lucas who produced the winning pumpkin (55lbs) and Charlotte Taylor who grew the heaviest entry in the children's category (46lbs). Isobel and Daniel Parsons won the chocolate prize for the most extraordinary pumpkin. Proceeds from the sale of seeds and raffle tickets realised nearly £250 which will be put towards a project yet to be decided.

At the weigh-in we remembered two very much loved participants in many previous competitions, Allan "Yorkie" Ambrose and Charles "Chas" Morrell, who both sadly died this year. We were joined by both families at the weigh-in when a bench dedicated to Yorkie's memory, and bought from the proceeds of last year's competition, was unveiled.

Sarum Decorative and Fine Arts Society

January 12th

We Three Kings: The Magic in Legend and Art
by Ms Terri Pearson

The development of the legend from simple beginnings to the complexity it achieved in Medieval times.

Visitors Welcome. Entrance £5.00.

The Society meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every month (except July and August) at 11.00am in St Francis Church Hall, Beatrice Road, Salisbury SP1 3PN. Contact phone number: 01722 780683.

Letter to all residents of the Southern Wiltshire Community Area

Dear Residents and Partners,

Southern Wiltshire Area Board

I am very aware that there is still some unease and concern about what our Area Board 'is all about'. As chairman I must take responsibility for that uncertainty but I must confess that my own thoughts are only just beginning to gel as a result of our first couple of meetings.

I wanted to share with you what is emerging in my mind about our future.

Firstly two things that I am determined our Board should NOT be about.

We should not be duplicating the work and responsibilities of Parish Councils and at all costs we should not allow the Board to become just another 'talking shop'. We are there to improve things for the communities we represent.

So what ARE we about?

We must keep in mind that the creation of the Area Boards was a key component of the unitary council proposals. This new way of working was intended to 'fill the gap' left by the removal of the district councils

and to provide a new way of engaging with our communities.

Something which has emerged very clearly from our first meetings is that we are a very diverse Area with several very different and self-contained settlements each with a Parish Council 'doing its own thing'. Whilst there seems to be a reluctance to think about tackling issues on a community area-wide basis there is little doubt that there is a whole range of issues which are common to just about every settlement: youth provision and speeding to name but two examples.

The Board has the power – indeed the duty – to call to account WC and other service providers for aspects of service delivery which our residents feel are inadequate.

It seems obvious to me that we stand a much better chance of achieving solutions (or at least mitigations) of problems by acting together rather than each parish acting on its own (and doing much the same thing as the next-door parish). **There is strength in numbers.**

By tackling problems which are genuinely community area-wide at a community area level we shall be achieving things for individual settlements within the Area so it is very much in the interests of individual parishes to contribute to work at a community area level.

Let me say what I think is emerging about the role of the Community Area Board:

- The Issue system provides a mechanism whereby individual Parish Councils who have been working unsuccessfully to get a resolution of a particular issue affecting that particular settlement can enlist the dedicated aid of the Community Area Manager and the support of the Area Board.
- The Area Board provides a forum at which particular service providers can be challenged and called to account on issues of concern to all, or at least several settlements in the Area.
- It provides a focal point for groups of parishes and/or service providers and community groups to tackle issues which are multi-agency in nature.

The Working Party on the renewal of the Community Area Plan is likely to throw up issues which fall into these categories but in the meantime I plan to introduce "SPOTLIGHT ON" sessions into our proceedings where the Area Board spends most of its evening on a single issue of widespread interest or concern.

If you would like to suggest such topics please write to me. And also please write if you have any other comments or suggestions about the future of the Area Board.

By tackling issues at an Area level we can, I'm sure, make really worthwhile contributions to the well-being of individual settlements.

Yours,

Richard Britton

Chairman of Southern Wiltshire Area Board

Officer Contact: Tom Bray

Address: 47 Endless Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3UH
Telephone: 01722 434252

Britford Parish Council

Bryan Rycroft, Parish Clerk

At the Council meeting on 7th October, the following items were discussed;

- a. Road lines repainting. A reply is awaited from Wilton after they have carried out an inspection.
- b. Street lamp on the High Road. Confirmation received that it will be replaced.
- c. Work has been completed on the path between Britford and Britford Lane
- d. A sign by the road to the Farm Shop was discussed, but the comment was made that cars leaving Britford should take care and not speed.

The Annual Audit had been approved, displayed in the village and paid for. The possible developments with Britford and Odstock Primary Schools were noted. One Planning application for a small development at Odstock Hospital was agreed. The problem of parking on the pavement of the High Road was raised especially for pedestrians.

The next meeting is Wednesday, 2nd December.

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**Saturday 12th December
7.30pm**

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Broad Chalke Post Office

Chalke Valley Flower Club

Liz Long 01722 780448

At the club's meeting in October we enjoyed a series of imaginative flower arrangements from a new young designer Nicky Heal. The colourful presentations brought fresh ideas which showed that there are always new trends and young minds to develop the art of flower arranging. No doubt David Martin will have surprised us in different ways with his Christmas show that was staged last week.

There is no activity in December. On January 27th we shall be holding our Annual General Meeting at Broadchalke Village Hall at 7.30pm

Coombe Bissett & Homington Garden Club

Chairman: Roger Stockton 01722 780866

Email: Coombebissettgardenclub@live.com

Annual General Meeting

25th January, 2010

Coombe Bissett Village Hall

Lunch 12.30 p.m.

Followed by AGM and talk on
Bees and Bee Keeping by Ian Fowler

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On Saturday 19th December at 7pm at All Saints Broad Chalke, Madding Crowd (a Hardyesque West Gallery group from the pre-organ era) will be coming once again to Broad Chalke, this time to lead an early 19th Century style carol service *for the whole benefice*.

This service is for everyone.

If you are a singer, or a musician of any portable instrument, do come to the workshop/rehearsal at the Chapel at 2pm, however rusty your playing may be. (Tea will be served afterwards)

This service is JUST FOR FUN --- so come along to sing and play under rather rustic instruction!

Those attending the afternoon workshop should indicate their intention by e-mailing Michael Roe mj.roe@virgin.net or phoning 01725 519242.

The general congregation should just come to the service at 7pm, as normal (i.e. full of good cheer).



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Some of the highlights in October are:

- Thursday 10 December, 8pm (£9 / £7)
Crossings (theatre)
A play inspired by the true story of slave ship The Zong.
- Tuesday 15 December, 8pm (£14 / £12)
An Albion Christmas
Celebrate Christmas with traditional festive tunes
from folk music legends.
- Saturday 19 December, 8.30pm (£10)
Acoustic Café
Relaxed evening of music in the bar, featuring a
performance by Nick Harper
www.salisburyartscentre.co.uk

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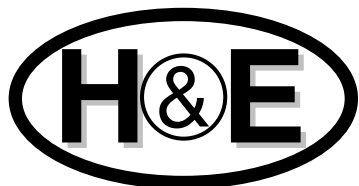
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Regular Events

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 (10 th and 24 th December) Charlton All Saints ('phone box), alt. Fridays, 10.25 – 10.40am (4 th and 18 th December) Nunton (The Orchard), monthly, 11.55 – 12.25pm (23 rd December)
Acorn Social Club	Coffee Morning – Wednesdays 10.30am, Bingo – Fridays 7.00pm at the Orchard
Open Circle Folk Dancing	2 nd , 4 th and 5 th Mondays each month, 7.30pm, Radnor Hall, contact Clare Chitty on 01722 330871

Diary Dates

10/11/12 th Dec	"The Beauty Sleeps" and Cabaret, Radnor Hall, 7.30pm (<i>see page 3</i>)
10 th Dec	Christmas Concert and Tea, Trafalgar School, 4.00pm (<i>see page 6</i>)
12 th Dec	Christmas Concert, Broad Chalke, 7.30pm (<i>see page 5</i>)
16 th Dec	Downton Band, Annual Christmas Concert, Charlton All Saints, 7.30pm (<i>see page 3</i>)
17 th Dec	"Third Thursday" Healing and Wholeness Service, Bowerchalke Church 11.00 -11.30am
18 th Dec	Carol Singing, Odstock (<i>see page 2</i>)
19 th Dec	Benefice Carol Service, Broad Chalke, 7.00pm (<i>page 5</i>)
20 th Dec	Christingle Service, Charlton All Saints, 3.30pm
20 th Dec	Carol Service, Odstock, 6.00pm
22 nd Dec	Carol Singing, Nunton and Bodenham (<i>see page 2</i>)