

# A message from Huw

## Light in the Darkness

Officially this is completely wrong, but I feel that Winter begins on November 5<sup>th</sup>. The nights are drawing in, the temperature is dropping, and we celebrate by building great big bonfires and setting off fireworks. Bonfire Nights are some of my happiest memories of childhood, and even then I felt we were pushing back the darkness with our celebrations. (In fact I've always been slightly puzzled by other nations whose big fireworks take place in the summer. Somehow that just doesn't feel right to me.) When the weather is dark and gloomy, everything feels worse; when the sun comes out, our spirits rise.

Of course, it would be daft to suggest that no good things happen during the Winter, and that everything is wonderful in the Summer; life isn't as simple as that. But the symbolism of Light and Darkness runs deep within us all, on an instinctive level. Maybe it goes right back to when the first cave dwellers discovered fire, and saw how it transformed their lives. So times of physical darkness often get linked in our minds with being emotionally tired and depressed.

No one is quite certain why the early church chose to celebrate the birth of Jesus on December 25<sup>th</sup>. It almost certainly wasn't the day he was born – in those days only important people remembered their birthdays and Jesus was no one special (in human terms, anyway). Various theories exist, but I think it's wonderful that Christmas is so close to the shortest day of the year (21<sup>st</sup> December this year). One of the earliest descriptions of Jesus is as the Light of the World, and the imagery of Light coming to us when we most need it is striking. Light lets us see what is around us, and warms us when we are cold. In the same way Jesus showed us, in word and deed, that God loves us and demonstrated what a life made up of love is like.

He went further, and used the same title, "Light of the World", to describe his followers. In other words, he challenges us to show God's love to a broken and lonely world. This is a challenge for every day of the year, of course, but it is still true at Christmas. In fact, when the media are busy painting pictures of happy families and great big meals, the lack of such things can be especially hard to bear. In the middle of all our fun and excitement, our giving and receiving of presents, can we find the time to share the love of God with those in need? What can I do this Christmas to celebrate it in the way that would most please Jesus himself – by caring for the poor and hungry?

May you, and all you love, have a joyful and blessed Christmas! Huw

## **A note from the Editors**

Advent is a time for thoughtfulness about the coming of our Lord, and starts on Advent Sunday, December the 2<sup>nd</sup> this year. It is traditionally a time of penitence and abstinence, although I fear that we do not follow that discipline as much as we should these days.

The joyous singing when I was a boy of that great Besançon carol 'People look East' still rings in my ears. Eleanor Farjeon's lovely words fill the heart with anticipation – not of just the impending fun and excitement of Christmas, but also of the renewal of hope for the future given by the birth of that tiny Holy Child. May that hope grow and be fulfilled for us all, despite the darkness of this world! Love, the Guest, the Rose, the Star, the Lord is on the way.

We wish all our readers the happiest of Christmases and best wishes for the New Year.

## *Ann Whittington*

We are very sad to announce the death of Ann Whittington, aged 92, on 3 November and we send deepest sympathy to her family in their loss. Ann was a leading member of the St Mary's congregation, a founder member of St Mary's Women's Guild and a Vice President and was also a member of the Friends of St Mary's Winkfield. A memorial service will be held in St Mary's church on Tuesday 11 December at 2:30pm.

## *From the Parish Registers*

### **Baptisms**

Welcome to the following children, welcomed into God's Church recently

7 October:	Malifie Cayford Prymrose Cayford Lily Garbutt
28 October	Theo Manthorpe
18 November	Oscar Harris Charles Jerrum

### **Interment**

An interment of ashes was carried out at St Mary's church for the late Mrs Susan Morris on Sunday 18 November 2018.

**Requiescat in pace**

# Bits and Pieces

## Office opening hours

Monday-Friday 9:30am – 12noon.

## Contact info

Church Office: c/o St Martin's Church, Church Road,  
Chavey Down, SL5 8RR Phone: 01344 882933  
Website: [www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk](http://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk)  
email: [admin@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk](mailto:admin@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk)

If you are arranging an event, please contact Alison Burt in the Church Office, so that it can be noted in the Church diary and mentioned on the website. Alison will endeavour to keep track of activities and timings etc. You may view event details on the website given above.

Prayers are held every week at 9:15am on:

- |                          |  |                           |
|--------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| ❖ Monday at St Peter's   |  | ❖ Wednesday at St Mary's  |
| ❖ Tuesday at St Martin's |  | ❖ Thursday at St Martin's |

For further details please contact the church office. All are welcome to attend.

## Parish Mag compilation & collation (c/o [www.fosmw.com](http://www.fosmw.com))

The collation date for the February Parish Mag is Friday **25 January 2019** The deadline for articles etc. is **Thursday 10 January 2019**.

If any one would like to come and help us with the Parish Mag collation for an hour or so, please contact Margaret Smith (Tel: 01344 882433 or mobile: 07709 285291 or email [margaret@rosie25.plus.com](mailto:margaret@rosie25.plus.com)). We also need someone to manage the distribution of the printed magazine: please contact the church office at the contact details above.

The online colour-edition of the parish mag is at [www.fosmw.com/parishmag](http://www.fosmw.com/parishmag)

## Events, Notices and Dates for your Diaries

### Friends of St Mary's Winkfield AGM

The 3<sup>rd</sup> AGM of the Friends of St Mary's Winkfield will take place in Popel's Hall at 7:30pm on Thursday 28 February 2019.

### Advent Compline

During Advent Huw will be offering three simple evening services to think about the theme of Light. They will only last about 20 mins or so, and everyone is welcome to attend. They all start at 7:30pm, and are as follows:

- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November      St Martin's      Light for Warmth
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December      St Mary's      Light for Guidance
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December      St Peter's      Light for Purity

## **Chavey Down Women's Institute**

Our Christmas party is to take place on Monday 17 December. This event is always most enjoyable with visitors from other institutes.

Our theme this year is Suffragettes, with vintage songs from Kitty Mazinsky.

Our first meeting of 2019 will be on Monday 21 January when our speakers will be Shirley-Ann and Richard Mills on 'Health and well-being'. So if you are interested then do come along and join us where a warm welcome awaits you.

In the meantime on behalf of the committee and all the members of Chavey Down WI, we wish you a very Happy Christmas and every good wish for 2019.

Janey Bethune-Williams 883854

# **Music & Merriment**

## **Music and Merriment concert – 1 December 2018**

Come to our concert – this is a real treat awaiting you at 7:30pm on Saturday 1 December at St Mary's Church. A concert programme for all to enjoy, including the closest you'll ever get to a child musical prodigy, enhanced by mulled wine and mince-pies at the interval. How can you possibly resist it??

Tickets £12 (£6 for under 13s) available online from the Friends website [www.fosmw.com](http://www.fosmw.com) or by telephoning 01344 882918 or at St Mary's services.

## **Wonderful Woodley Concert Band**

The Woodley Concert Band has supplied musicians for our Music and Merriment concert for a number of years – including the brass quintet, so you will be familiar with the skills of this very high quality local band, with great experience at putting on a programme of favourite popular music.

Why don't you have a happy afternoon or evening with the Band? It has both matinée and evening performances of its annual Christmas Concert on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December. This concert has moved back to its old familiar location at Reddam House School Theatre (which used to be the Bearwood School theatre).

The Band was recently honoured by being asked to perform at the Berkshire Poppy Appeal service in Reading Minster on 3/11/18. It also performs at other charity events.

The Band's website [www.woodleyconcertband.org.uk](http://www.woodleyconcertband.org.uk) is well worth a visit, and you may see some faces in their collection of photos who look familiar.



**Woodley Concert Band**

PRESENTS  
A

# Holly Jolly

CHRISTMAS  
CONCERT

**A FESTIVE CONCERT OF  
CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND CAROLS**

**Sunday 16th December 2:30pm & 7:30pm**

**REDDAM HOUSE SCHOOL  
THEATRE . Sindlesham  
(formerly Bearwood Theatre)**

Matinee - £10.00, free for under 16's

Evening - £12.00, £10.00 Concessions

For box office details visit [www.woodleyconcertband.org.uk](http://www.woodleyconcertband.org.uk)

Or call the ticket line on 0870 321 2186

Registered Charity No. 1059259

## **Wonderful Woodley Concert Band (continued)**

### **Family Matins at St Mary's– second Sundays at 10am**

The Family Matins service on second Sundays continues with the congregation growing each month. It is a short BCP Morning prayer service with the children reading and taking part in a short play during the sermon slot.

- December 9 – Nativity and carols
- January 13 – Baptism of Jesus

The rehearsal takes place at 9am in Popels Hall on the second Sunday.

If you would like to take part please contact Lesley Philpot –  
lesleyphilpot50@gmail.com or 01344 427561

### **St Mary's Choirs - Adult and Junior**

#### **St Mary's Choirs - Adult and Junior**

Junior Choir rehearsals continue on Thursdays at 6:45pm and the choir usually performs at the Family Matins services on second Sundays.

Several of St Mary's extra singers joined the choristers for the Remembrance Day service on 11 November. The choir led the congregation to the War Memorial where the service began.

Choristers will be rehearsing for the 9 Lessons and Carols service on December 16.

If anyone would like to join either choir please do contact me.

Lesley Philpot    Lesleyphilpot50@gmail.com    01344 427561

### **Winkfield and North Ascot Good Neighbours Scheme**

We are always looking for people to join us as drivers. If you have some spare time, are patient, caring and in good health, you could volunteer and make a big difference to local people. Interested? Please contact Lynne Wilkes on 01344-884947 or email to [lynnebobben@btinternet.com](mailto:lynnebobben@btinternet.com)

## *News from around the Parish*

### **Remembrance Day 11/11/18 at St Mary's church**

As befits a day that commemorates the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the First World War, our service at St Mary's was special, moving and memorable.

Canon Dagnell was unwell and unable to lead the Remembrance Sunday service, and we were fortunate that John Kimbell was able to step in at the last moment.

John had prepared all the readings and as archivist at Lambrook School, has been working tirelessly to ensure that the wartime service of all those connected to the school is recognised and honoured.

These readings proved an inspiration that drew out the atmosphere of the war, mostly from the personal writings of Lambrook pupils who were only too well aware of the bravery – and tragic loss – of young people that they had known when at school.

John's research had covered 'The Lambrook Legacy and Chronicles'; 'The Bickersteth Diaries 1914-1918', edited by John Bickersteth, former Bishop of Bath and Wells; the Census for 1901 and 1911, the 'There but not There Project' and letters home, including a particularly poignant one written on Armistice Day.

These moving readings engaged everybody, reminding us all of the human tragedies that make up the grim statistics of the Great War.

The choir led the congregation to the Memorial, followed by the British Legion flag, the St Mary's Women's Guild banner and the Girl Guides flag. After prayers, the trumpet introduced the two-minutes silence.

After the last notes of the Reveille faded, wreaths were laid by the British Legion, Winkfield and Cranbourne Borough Councillor Mrs Moira Gaw, David Parkin, Chairman Winkfield Parish Council, Mrs Judy Warren, St Mary's Women's Guild and Holly and Amelia representing the 09:30 congregation. The congregation then returned to the church for the service.

The readings were read excellently by Matthew Hemsley, Moira Gaw, Daisy McMahon, John Edwards, Jonathan Hemsley and Sue Bish. Tony Bish read the names of those who had lost their lives during the 1914-1918 war and 1939-1945 war. The congregation sang rousing hymns, including Jerusalem, and, of course, 'God save the Queen', and retired to the solemn strains of the Largo from Handel's Serse, played on the newly renovated organ.

It was a most moving service. We are extremely grateful to John Kimbell.

## **Bell Ringers Report November 2018**

The 5th Sunday in September was very special; we rang "Crimond" and "Immortal Invisible" during communion which we hope the congregation enjoyed.

October's first social event for the bell ringers was Harvest Supper; and what an evening!! It started with a service in church which was conducted by candlelight and torches as there was a power cut – which was atmospheric. Then we went to Popels Hall for a truly delicious meal – thanks to Moira, who produced

wonderful hot food despite the lack of electricity. Fortunately power was restored just as we were starting to sit down.

After dinner the entertainment was enormous fun – the hand bells played, a poem was read, a squeeze box was squeezed and, of course, there was singing! An excellent evening – make a note in your diaries to join in 2019.

We are looking forward to ringing the tower bells on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November to commemorate the Armistice Day centenary. All the towers across the country will be ringing for Sunday services and again at 12:30pm – it should be very special!

We are all looking forward to contributing to the evening of Music and Merriment on 1 December which is an annual treat!!

Our very popular quiz night is on 9 February next year – please make a note in your diaries and come along and support us, it is always a great event with a delicious ploughman's supper.

Jill Glennerster 01344-884071





# SERVICES ACROSS THE BENEFICE

## Key in the tables below

♠ – the collection is to be shared with the Church and the Children's Society

^ – please bring a new toy for a child or toiletries for an adult and Christmas biscuits or sweets for the Foodbank

✚ – followed by Communion by Extension at 10:45am (St P 25/12)

✚✚ - followed by Said Communion at 11:45am

\* – entry by ticket only from [www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk](http://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk)

## St Mary's, Winkfield – December 2018 services

Date	Day	Time	Service
2	1st Sunday of Advent	9:30am	Family Praise
		11am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		12:45pm	Holy Baptism
4	Tuesday	7:30pm	Compline
9	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10am	Nativity and Crib Service
16	3rd Sunday of Advent	9:30am	Family Praise
		11am	9 Lessons & Carols ✚✚
23	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		No 9:30am or 11am service at St Mary's today. Please join the 11am Carol Service at St Peter's church	
24	Christmas Eve	2pm	Carols & Candlelight *
		3:30pm	Carols & Candlelight *
		11:30pm	Holy Communion (BCP)
25	Christmas Day	11am	Christmas Matins ✚✚
30	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas	9:30am	No services in our churches this weekend.
		11am	

## St Mary's – January 2019 services

Date	Day	Time	Service
6	The Epiphany	9:30am	Family Praise
		11am	Holy Communion (BCP)

Date	Day	Time	Service
13	2nd Sunday of Epiphany – the Baptism of Christ	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10am	Family Matins
20	3rd Sunday of Epiphany –	9:30am	Family Praise
		11am	Holy Communion (BCP)
27	4th Sunday of Epiphany	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		9:30am	Family Praise
		11am	Morning Prayer

### St Martin's, Chavey Down – December 2018 services

Date	Day	Time	Service
2	1st Sunday of Advent	9:30am	Family/All Age ^
9	2nd Sunday of Advent	9:30am	Holy Communion
12	Wednesday	7:30pm	Compline
15	Saturday	5pm	Chavey Down Carols
16	3rd Sunday of Advent	9:30am	9 Lessons & Carols
23	4th Sunday of Advent	No 9:30am service at St Martin's today. Please join the 11am Carol Service at St Peter's church	
24	Christmas Eve	6pm	Family Communion
25	Christmas Day	9:30am	Holy Communion
30	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas	9:30am	No services in our churches this weekend.

### St Martin's, Chavey Down – January 2019 services

Date	Day	Time	Service
6	The Epiphany	9:30am	All Age
13	2nd Sunday of Epiphany – The Baptism of Christ	9:30am	Holy Communion
20	3rd Sunday of Epiphany	9:30am	Morning Prayer
27	4th Sunday of Epiphany	9:30am	Holy Communion

### St Peter's, Cranbourne – December 2018 services

Date	Day	Time	Service
2	1st Sunday of Advent	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		11am	SPATS/All Age † ^

9	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	11am	Holy Communion
		12:45pm	Holy Baptisms
16	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		11am	Morning Prayer
19	Wednesday	7:30pm	Compline
23	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	11am	Carol Service (You are also welcome to join today's 8am Holy Communion (BCP) service at St Mary's Church)
24	Christmas Eve	8pm	Communion by Candlelight
25	Christmas Day	10am	SPATS/All Age ☩
30	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas	8am	No services in our churches this weekend.
		11am	

### St Peter's, Cranbourne – January 2019 services

Date	Day	Time	Service
6	The Epiphany	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		11am	SPATS – All Together
13	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany – The Baptism of Christ	11am	Holy Communion
20	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		11am	Morning Prayer
27	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany	11am	Holy Communion (BCP)

### Flowers & Cleaning Rotas

#### St Mary's – December 2018 and January 2019

Dates	Flowers
7 and 14 Dec 2018	Esther Bond and Doreen Potter: ADVENT Memorial Table only
21 Dec 2018	Arabella Cameron, Doreen Potter and Church Flower Arrangers: CHRISTMAS FLOWERS
4 and 11 Jan 2019	Jane Hodgson and Anna Clayton
18 and 25 Jan 2019	Penny Cardwell and Doreen Potter

## St Martin's – December 2018 and January 2019

Dates	Flowers	Cleaning
2 Dec 2018	Mrs Fanning/Mrs Logan	Mrs Luff
9 Dec 2018	Mrs Atkinson	Mrs Dickinson
16 Dec 2018	Mrs Atkinson	Mrs Dickinson
23 Dec 2018	TBA/TBA	Mrs Luff
24 Dec 2018	ALL FLOWER ARRANGERS	Mrs Jenkins
25 Dec 2018	ALL FLOWER ARRANGERS	Mrs Jenkins
31 Dec 2018	Mrs Zerilli / Mrs Randall	Mrs Paramor
6 Jan 2019	Mrs Zerilli / Mrs Randall	Mrs Paramor
13 Jan 2019	Mrs Timbrell/Mrs Phillips	Mrs Crane
20 Jan 2019	Mrs Timbrell/Mrs Phillips	Mrs Crane
27 Jan 2019	Mrs Bunker/Mrs Smith	Mrs Paramor

St Martin's church still requires two more flower arrangers. Please help if you can. Training and assistance will be given if needed. Ruth Timbrell

## What's on in December 2018 and January 2019

### Special events – December 2018

Day	Dec	Event	Time/place
Sat	1	St Mary's – Music & Merriment – Christmas Concert <b>A wonderful way to start the Christmas season!</b> Tickets 01344 882918 or at St Mary's services or available online from: <a href="http://www.fosmw.com">www.fosmw.com</a> . Tickets £12 (£6 for under -13s).	
Tue	4	Primary School Verification Signing Surgery 10am at the church office – by appointment only (telephone bookings will not be accepted) – please email <a href="mailto:admin@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk">admin@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk</a>	
Sat	8	Primary School Verification Signing Surgery 10am at the church office – by appointment only (telephone bookings will not be accepted) – please email <a href="mailto:admin@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk">admin@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk</a>	
Tue	11	Memorial service for Ann Whittington	St Mary's church 2:30pm. See page 2
		Primary School Verification Signing Surgery 10am at the church office – by appointment only (telephone bookings will not be accepted) – please email <a href="mailto:admin@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk">admin@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk</a>	

Day	Dec	Event	Time/place
Sat	15	Chavey Down Village Carol Service	5pm at St Martin's Church
Sun	16	Woodley Concert Band concert. See page 5	2:30pm (Matinée) or 7:30pm Reddam House School Theatre

### Special events – January 2019

Day	Jan	Event	Time/place
Thur	3	No Chat & Craft today	Next session 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2019
Sat	6	No Baptism Preparation Session	Next session 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2019
Sun	7	Exodus Youth Group	6–7pm at Tanglewood, SL5 8RF
Wed	10	Deadline for Parish Mag articles	
Sun	20	Week of prayer for Christian Unity	

NB. All content in these lists may be subject to change without notice.

### For your diaries!

28 February 2019: AGM of Friends of St Mary's Winkfield, 7:30pm, Popels Hall

### Regular events (see also [www.fosmw.com/parishmag](http://www.fosmw.com/parishmag))

Day	Event
Mondays not including Bank Holidays	Ascot Bridge Club – Chavey Down, Ascot. For more information please call David Calcutt on 886412, or visit the web site <a href="http://www.ascotbridge.org.uk">www.ascotbridge.org.uk</a>
	Pilates with Amanda Mann at St Martin's Church from 9:30-10:30am & 10:45-11:45am. Visit the website: <a href="http://www.amandamann.uk.com">www.amandamann.uk.com</a> or email <a href="mailto:info@amandamann.uk.com">info@amandamann.uk.com</a> or call Amanda on 07767 816499
	Ballet With Victoria Lyons at St Peters Hall. For more information call 638538.
	Ascot Yoga 7:45-9pm at Carnation hall. Visit <a href="http://www.AscotFitness.co.uk">www.AscotFitness.co.uk</a> for more info or contact Flo Young on 07711 077038 email <a href="mailto:Flo@AscotFitness.co.uk">Flo@AscotFitness.co.uk</a>
2nd Monday of the month	Whist Drive at 7:30pm in the White Hart, Church Road, SL4 4SE

<b>Day</b>	<b>Event</b>
Tuesdays	Short Mat Bowls at Carnation Hall at 7pm. For more information please ring 882137 and 301158
1st Tuesday of the month	St Mary's Women's Guild meeting at 2:30pm, now always at St Mary's church.
Wednesdays	EXTEND – fun, fitness & movement classes for the over-60s. 10:30-11:30am at St Martin's Church Hall, SL5 8RR. Please contact Elizabeth Wright AISTID tel: 883078 or email: lizziewright25@hotmail.com
	Zumba gold class at St Peter's church hall 7-8pm
	Chavey Down Association Bingo Club at St Martin's Hall (fortnightly) at 8pm contact Monica or David on 884348.
	The NOMADS Table Tennis Club at Carnation Hall, For more information contact Mike on 773939.
	Pilates classes at Carnation Hall: Contact Rebecca on 0774 860 3145, email: pilatesascot@btinternet.com or visit <a href="http://www.pilatesascot.co.uk">www.pilatesascot.co.uk</a> .
	Soft Furnishing/Dressmaking Courses on Wednesdays. Day and evening courses. Places available. Please contact Sally Beer on tel no: 01344 882528 for further details, the venue schedule and timings.
2nd Wednesday of the month	Ascot Horticultural Society meets at 7:45pm in King Edward's Hall, North Ascot (unless otherwise stated). All welcome. Admission: members £1 and visitors £2.50. Details on <a href="http://www.ascorthorticulturalsociety.org.uk">www.ascorthorticulturalsociety.org.uk</a> or call Peter Cleare on 01344 622086.
Thursdays	CHAT & CRAFT – now including Chess, Scrabble and Bridge. Between 2 and 4pm at St Peters Church. Entry £1. Open to all. Finish that project, enjoy a good game, or just come for a cuppa and chat. For more information please contact Anne Crewe on 01344 885091 or email: <a href="mailto:annecrewe83@gmail.com">annecrewe83@gmail.com</a>
	The Carnation Badminton Club plays on Thursdays at Carnation Hall, 8-10pm. New members welcome.
	CLUBBERCISE Dance Fitness class at Carnation Hall 7-8pm, For more info, please see <a href="http://www.AscotFitness.co.uk">www.AscotFitness.co.uk</a> or contact Flo Young on 0771 1077038 or <a href="mailto:Flo@AscotFitness.co.uk">Flo@AscotFitness.co.uk</a>

Day	Event
1st Sunday of the month	Exodus - Benefice Youth Group – Meeting on the first Sunday of the month (term time only) from 6-7pm. For all the young people of the Benefice, and their friends, in Years 6-9. A mixture of fun and Christian teaching. Please let Revd Huw Mordecai, know if you would like to come. Tel: 01344 893973. Email ID: beneficeminister@gmail.com From April-September: at St Peter's Church, Hatchet Lane, Cranbourne, SL4 2EG. From October - March at: Tanglewood, Birch Lane, Long Hill Road, Chavey Down, SL5 8RF)

The hand bells were delighted to be asked to ring during the on 10 December, and the following day we will be ringing at the Savill Building at 11am so do come along if you can to this lovely venue.

## *News from around the Parish*

### **Friends of St Mary's Winkfield (FOSMW – [www.fosmw.com](http://www.fosmw.com))**

#### **St Mary's organ**

The organ was available for the Remembrance Service, and successfully supported five hymns (including Jerusalem and God Save the Queen), many minutes of playing before and during the service and the Largo of Handel's Serse as a voluntary. However, there is still quite a lot of work to be done before the job is completed and the north wall of the church is clear of organ parts.

#### **Music and Merriment**

The Music and Merriment concert will take place on Saturday 1 December and rehearsals for both JCC and SCC are well under way The programme is varied and full of talent. Tickets are available on line om [www.fosmw.com](http://www.fosmw.com), or by telephone 01344 882918 or in church. See also page 4.

#### **Next project**

The next major project will be to attend to the electrical rewiring of St Mary's church. Details will be released very soon.

#### **Photographic Competition – prize-winning photos**

The first-prize photo can be seen as the cover photo for the web edition of the parish mag (go to [www.fosmw.com/parishmag](http://www.fosmw.com/parishmag) to access this), and we will continue to use other prize-winning photos in this way.

## **Joining FOSMW**

Thank you to those who have recently joined FOSMW. If you haven't yet joined then please consider doing so. Application forms are available in the Church and online.

## **AGM**

The AGM of the Friends of St Mary's Winkfield will take place at 7:30pm on 28 February 2019 in Popel's Hall.

Lesley Philpot Chairman

## **St Mary's Women's Guild – November meeting**

Members were delighted that the Rev. Huw Mordecai was well enough to attend the meeting.

All those involved with the Harvest celebrations were thanked, with particular thanks to John Kimbell, our speaker today, for leading the Evensong service by candlelight due to a lengthy power cut in the church and surrounding area

Members expressed their appreciation of the visit to Oxford Cathedral. The group was divided into two and they were shown round by very experienced and knowledgeable guides. The visit to the library was excellent with a very young and enthusiastic librarian describing the collection. Tea followed and the afternoon finished with Evensong.

The visit to the CADS production of 'When we are married' was enjoyed by all.

The Rev. Huw Mordecai thanked all those who had prepared meals for him during his first few weeks out of hospital.

He informed members that Ann Whittington, a founder member of the Guild and a Vice President had died on Saturday 3 November. Ann had been house bound for some time and sadly, over the last few months, there had been a steady deterioration in her condition. Huw said prayers for Ann and her family.

John Kimbell spoke with enthusiasm about his work as archivist at Lambrook School. The school was founded in 1860 by Robert Burnside. It has always had close links with St Mary's Winkfield, although since 1904 it has had its own chapel. A particularly fine feature is the Memorial Lancet Window designed to honour former staff and pupils who served in the two World Wars. It was very moving to listen as John gave the names of some of those who died on the battlefield, including Raymond Asquith, the eldest son of the Prime Minister.

John works tirelessly to ensure that the wartime service of all those connected to the school is duly recognised and honoured. John used many sources for his research including the Census for 1901 and 1911 and the "There but not There Project." Reports from this were read at St Mary's Remembrance Service on



Sunday 11 November. John concluded by answering questions on key points of interest that had arisen from his talk.

The meeting closed at 3:45 pm.

Lesley Philpot, President

## Thoughts of all sorts

### **A radiant star**

*This poem by Marian Caragounis was set to music by Anthony Hodson in the Music and Merriment Christmas Concert, to be sung by both the adult and children's choirs*

A radiant star on Christmas morn  
Announced the Royal Son was born;  
When darkness fell it led the way  
To where a newborn baby lay.

No trumpet call, no sound of drum  
To tell the world 'The Lord has come';  
But angel voices filled the air,  
And glory light shone everywhere.

The angels' message still is heard,  
Repeated now in song and word;  
And all who hear it love to sing  
About the advent of their King.

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### **How Silent Night first began - 200 years ago**

*Tim Lenton tells the story of a much-loved carol...*

One of the most popular Christmas carols, *Silent Night*, was performed for the first time 200 years ago this month, on 24<sup>th</sup> December 1818, at midnight mass at a parish church in Oberndorf, near Salzburg, Austria.

The carol was originally a poem, written in six verses by priest Joseph Mohr two years earlier. Because the church organ was broken, he thought it would be nice to turn the poem into a simple carol that could be played by a guitar, and so he asked church organist Franz Xaver Gruber if he could write a suitable tune. Gruber did so in a matter of hours.

That night Mohr and Gruber sang the new composition, with Mohr playing guitar.

Karl Mauracher, an organ builder working at the Oberndorf church, took the carol home with him to the Zillertal, about 100 miles away, where it was taken up and popularised by two travelling families of folk singers, the Strassers and the Rainers.

They eventually sang it in New York, where in 1859 Episcopal priest John Freeman Young wrote and published the rather free English translation that is most frequently sung today, using only three verses and changing the rhythm slightly. The carol has been translated into about 140 languages.

## **25 December – The story of the Christingle**

The word 'Christingle' actually means 'Christ Light', and celebrates the light of Jesus coming into the world. Stories of how the Christingle began look back to the Moravian Church, which is found in the Czech Republic. The Moravians have held Christingle services for more than 200 years, and according to them, this is how the first Christingle might have been made:

Many years ago the children in a village were asked to bring a Christmas gift to put beside the crib in the church. One family was very poor, and had no money for gifts, but the three children were still determined to take something. The only nice thing they had was an orange, so they decided to give the Christ-child that.

But then they discovered the top was going green, so the eldest cut it out, and put a candle in the hole. To add some colour, one of the girls took a red ribbon from her hair and tied it around the middle of the orange. It was hard to make the ribbon stay still, so they fastened it in place with toothpicks. The toothpicks looked a bit bare, so the youngest child added some raisins to them.

The children took their decorated orange lantern to the church for the Christmas Mass. The other children sneered at their meagre gift, but the priest seized upon it with joy. He held it up as an example of the true understanding of the meaning of Christmas, for the following reasons: the orange is round, like the world; the candle gives us light in the dark, like the love of God; the red ribbon goes round the 'world', as a symbol of Christ's blood, given for everyone; the four sticks point in all directions, and symbolise that God is over all: North, South, East and West; and the fruit and nuts remind us of God's blessings.

The Children's Society first introduced the Christingle Service to The Church of England in 1968, and it has since become a popular event in the church calendar. This candlelit celebration is an ideal way to share the key messages of the Christian faith, while helping to raise vital funds to help vulnerable children across the country. Visit: [www.childrenssociety.org.uk](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk)

## **On two wise men, one three-legged sheep and a tipsy tree**

The Rectory, St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

It really is time to get some new figures for the crib. After a series of accidents over the years, we are now down to two wise men, two shepherds, and one three-legged sheep that only remains upright if it is leaning against a shepherd.

Joseph, having been obliged to stand outside the shelter of the stable for the last four decades, is now comprehensively veneered with bat droppings. In a desperate effort to enlarge this rather frugal cast, Miss Timmins hit on the idea of introducing characters from the children's Easter garden. This would have all been very well if both sets of figures had been to the same scale, but we now have the shepherds apparently being threatened by two ten feet rabbits.

One of our local farmers – I am sure very kindly meant – donated far more straw for the stable than was necessary. Our decorators, refusing to let his generosity go to waste, used the lot. The result is that Mary and Joseph stand up to their waists, looking as if they are being engulfed by a straw snow drift. The crib, along with baby Jesus, has disappeared entirely. The latter is not entirely to be regretted, since no one can now see that Jesus has no nose and only one arm, the result of one of our children dropping Him on the floor at last year's Crib Service.

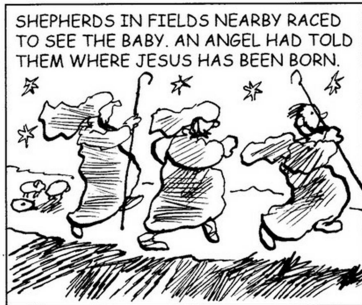
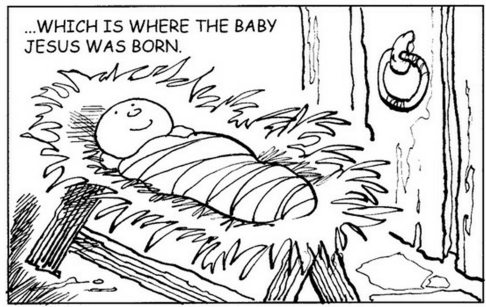
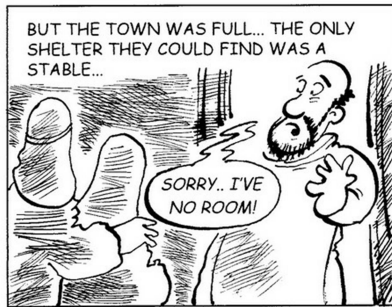
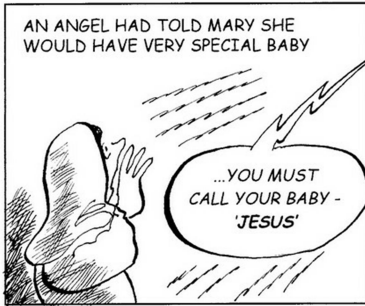
I am sure your ecologically appropriate Christmas tree, made of re-cycled dustbin liners will be much appreciated by your congregation, knowing that they are saving the planet for future generations. We however remain traditional, with a tree always donated by the local squire from his estate, even if it is at the cost of adding another degree to global warming. Not only does it look more fitting, but it gives our verger something to do on twelfth night, as he sweeps up several hundredweight of pine needles.

I sometimes wonder if it is entire coincidence that the tree is always delivered by the estate staff on a day when there has been torrential rain in the area. Carrying it into church up the aisle makes it look as if the parting of the Red Sea has unsuccessfully taken place inside St. James'. The major problem every year is getting the wretched thing to stand upright in the sanctuary. It takes so long that I sometimes feel it would be quicker to re-align all the church pillars to the same angle as the tree itself.

Last year's decision to have tree lights which flashed in succession was not a success. Those members who stared at them for too long while singing carols tended to fall over – although I suspect that Major Crump's inability to remain upright at the midnight Service was for rather different reasons. Not using flashing lights this year, the Major will have to find a different excuse.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace

# Children's Corner



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