

ISSUE 71

DECEMBER 2022/JANUARY 2023

FREE

# Three Parishes

*Serving the Communities of Tillington, Duncton & Upwaltham*



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FEAST**

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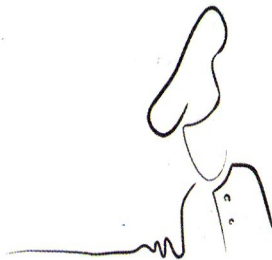
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## EDITORIAL

Alexander Pope wrote “Hope springs eternal in the human breast”, and so it should! ‘Hope’ is a word that recurs frequently in this edition of the magazine, three times in the Upwaltham news alone. There is no doubt that, although cushioned somewhat in West Sussex, we live in troubled times. The legacy of Covid has given way to war in Europe, energy crises worldwide, and significant financial hardship at home.

It is easy to get despondent, and yet Christmas and the New Year are surely the seasons for hope for better times.

Any birth is a miracle, but the birth of Jesus, bringing as it did the promises of love and peace, will surely give us all renewed hope as we celebrate the anniversary of that birth this Christmas. From a humble stable and no material wealth has come a Saviour with whom we can always park our problems, and be sure of comfort and support.

Then with January comes the whole dawning of a New Year, a time for resolutions, and a hope for new starts and fresh bright horizons. This double edition of the 3 Parishes Magazine is full of hope, of jolly contributions to keep you amused. So, tuck up in bed and read about Scampi the dog, the nice side of Mr Fox, Viv Blunt’s Desert Island choices, a seasonal poem and recipe, a wintery quiz, and tales of memorable Christmases in the past. We hope (there’s that word again) that you find lots to enjoy.

It is also the time of year when we like to thank you our readers for many kind comments, and especially to thank all our advertisers, without whose support we could not keep going. We give special thanks to our amazing printers, our proof readers, and especially all those dozens of you who distribute copies in your neighbourhoods every month.

The editorial team are full of hope for kindness and goodwill to fill all your homes this Christmas, and throughout 2023. After all, 2023 is a number which contains seven Prime Factors.

### FROM THE REGISTERS

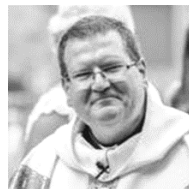
#### **All Hallows Church, Tillington**

Interment of ashes: 7 November - Iain Macleod  
10 November - Ian McNeil

#### **Holy Trinity Church, Duncton**

Funeral: 17 November - Sylvia Beadsley (at Guildford Crematorium)

## FROM ALL HALLOWS



The year 2022 has been the most turbulent, politically speaking, that I can remember. Our nation has lurched from one crisis to another. At the beginning of the year there was still a sense that Covid-19 was our greatest immediate enemy . . . but the invasion of Ukraine by the despicable Putin changed that. We end this year inestimably richer for having welcomed Ukrainian refugee families into our communities, initially as strangers, but now firmly as friends. And now we pray for peace.

I am at the end of my first full year as parish priest to the villages of Tillington, Duncton and Upwaltham. Thanks to the ongoing vaccination programme, 2022 has been a much better year. There have been no interruptions to Sunday worship, as we have tried to live alongside Covid. As I write this, on an unseasonably warm but wet November day, there are six weeks to go before the end of the year.

It looks as if Annie and I will have officiated at many fewer funerals than last year, six to date, but, when added to four interments, seven weddings and three baptisms, this is affirming evidence of the church journeying alongside individuals and families through the ups and downs of life. It is always our privilege to stand with families on the difficult, as well as the happy, days. Thankfully, it is now easier to offer home communion, so if you know someone who might like that, or would perhaps just value a chat, please encourage them to contact me.

From what I have read, the big retailers are toning down their Christmas television advertisements. We think of our villages as affluent and happy places to live, and for the most part that is true, but there will be people in our midst who are dreading Christmas because of grief, loneliness, or anxieties about health or the cost of living, so please look out for your neighbours during the Christmas season and winter months. Generosity and kindness are watchwords for our villages: there are always more individuals wanting to help than asking for it. If you need a prescription collected or a lift to a medical appointment, our 'Local Care' groups can help. I can make referrals to the Petworth Food Bank and I encourage anyone in financial difficulties not to suffer in silence. The Tillington Church Hardship Fund, for example, may be able to help those struggling with fuel payments.

In this magazine you will find details of the Advent course and the full range of Christmas services, intended to offer something for everybody, including children and families. Christmas is, of course, a time to give and receive gifts. But please remember that we are already gifts to one another. And the world's greatest gift was born in a stable, two thousand years ago.

Wishing you a blessed and joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year,

*David*

## **NOTICE BOARD**

Send your notices to  
*3parishesmagazine@gmail.com*, headed Notice Board.  
The Tillington and Duncun Facebook pages have proved useful  
for some of us - use these as well.

### **TILLINGTON MEN'S BREAKFAST**

Tillington Village Hall. 8.15 for 8.30 start.

**Saturday, December 2nd**

Nicola Garrard will talk on schools and her experience of teaching boys in London gangs. Nicola's book on the subject, *29 Locks*, was in The Financial Times' "Top 5 Best Books of 2021", and is on the BBA YA longlist award and that for the Branford Boase Award for "Outstanding Novel by a first-time writer".

**Saturday, January 7th**

Major David Marshall.  
'*My Musical Journey*' subtitled 'from humble beginnings in a Cornish brass band to Director of Music of the Band of the Coldstream Guards'.

All men are welcome.  
£7 on the door. 8.15 for 8.30 at Tillington Village Hall.  
No booking necessary.

"I would like to express my thanks to all those who sent flowers, cards and letters on the death of my brother. I was and am still coming to terms with the loss but your kind wishes and prayers were very much appreciated and brought comfort to me."

*Viv Blunt*

See further notices in the following pages:

**ADVENT COURSE** 1st, 5th and 15th December (page 24)

**TILLINGTON CAROL SINGING:** 16th December (page 15)

**PETWORTH TOWN BAND CONCERT** 17th December (page 36)

**LEACONFIELD SINGERS CONCERT** 17th December (page 53)

**CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES FOR ALL AGES** (page 24)



Rob, our ex-Postman, sends Christmas greetings to the good people of Tillington. He remembers you all during past Christmases in better times, with fondness and treasured memories. God bless you all.



Please Come to the  
**Christmas Lunch**  
in Tillington Village Hall



Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December  
at 12 noon for 12.30 lunch

Tickets £7.50 each, payable at the door.

We look forward to seeing you!

Please telephone Mark 344489, or Sheila 343351  
or Gillie 342231, if you would like to come.

**HEARTSMART WALKS**

**Wednesday, 14th December – 10.30am**  
**Fittleworth Countryside**



Leader: Gerald; Duration: 1.5 hours; Distance: 3 miles.

Two short stretches on tarmac and then a lovely walk through countryside surrounding Fittleworth. No stiles, and wonderful views across the River Rother. Two inclines. Excellent café available for loos, teas, coffees and small lunches at the end.

Meet: Fittleworth Village Hall RH20 1JB, in the car park area at rear of the Hall. From Petworth take the A283 east towards Fittleworth, and in middle of village turn right into School Lane. After the playing fields, the Village Hall (and shop) is on the left. Park at the rear of the Hall, please.



**Friday, 13th January – 10.30am**  
**Petworth Park – History, and to see the Deer**

Leader: Gerald; Duration: 1.5 hours.; Distance: 3 miles.

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Meet: The Horse Guards Inn, Upperton Road, Tillington, GU28 9AF.

Contact Gerald if uncertain, on 07748 597 568. Dogs welcome.

## 99<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR GEORGE (BUNNY) WARREN

George Warren celebrated his 99th birthday on 3rd November. The occasion was marked by a small dinner party arranged by Carolyn Purnell and Jenny Williams at the Village Hall.

George initiated the current Three Parishes Magazine in the 1990's and edited it for many years. His writing pseudonym of Lapidus originated from his school-teaching-days nickname of Bunny.

George would like to thank everyone who sent him cards and good wishes for his birthday. He very much enjoyed the celebratory supper in the Village Hall. He has kindly written a few words relating to his time as Editor of your magazine (see below) and on the next page we reproduce an article included in a magazine edition of 25 years ago when George was editor. Also please see George's "Memorable Christmas" on page 21!



“When I first arrived in Tillington in the early 1990s, there was a small parish newsletter comprising two or three sheets of paper. I saw that there was a great opportunity to develop a magazine, which would promote and report on all aspects of village life. I hoped and intended that it would have something for everyone, whether news of events and activities, sport or festivals. I wrote occasional contributions as ‘Lapidus’, reflecting on the seasons, country customs and the beauty of the countryside around us. I thought that having a proper cover for the new Magazine was important, and my sketches of the three churches of Tillington, Duncton and Upwaltham proved a popular choice for many years. It was a labour of love and a great privilege for me to edit the Parish Magazine and I am delighted that it continues in good heart today.”

## CHRISTMAS IN THE LIGHT



"Turn on the light", we say, first thing in the morning and when the sun sets. We can't do much without light. In a power-cut we find ourselves at a loss, bumping into things, unable to lay our hands on what we need.

Light is so necessary to life that no wonder Jesus Christ said, "I am the Light of the world." To live apart from Him, ignoring Him, is to stumble and grope and lose the way. At Christmas we celebrate His birth, Light coming to shine in the world's darkness.

There is no doubt of the darkness around us. We see the signs of it in cruelty, violence, aggression and hooliganism, broken marriages and divided families, war and oppression in many countries.

Jesus came like a shaft of light, to show the way of living which God intends, the way of love and self-sacrifice and consideration for others, the way that leads to peace. He came to draw people out of darkness into Light.

There is equally no doubt that many, many people do live by the Light of Christ.

They do not often appear in the newspapers, but we recognise them whenever we meet kindness, integrity, faithfulness, service to the handicapped, selfless concern for those in need. Whether or not they acknowledge it, the Light of Christ shines through them, bringing joy.

Sometimes it seems that the darkness is so powerful and the Light so fragile. Then we take confidence from the words of St. John's Gospel in the Gospel for Christmas Day; "The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it." Nor ever will.

So Christmas and Light go together. Lights in and outside our houses, lights on the Christmas tree, lights in Oxford Street and in towns, lights in Church, all remind us of the Light that came in Jesus Christ.

*Reproduced from a contribution to Three Parishes Magazine  
by Canon Christopher Biddell 25 years ago*

## A UKRANIAN CHRISTMAS

Our village, where my parents were born, is called Petrove, Kirovohrad region of Ukraine, located on the banks of the picturesque Ingulets River. Christmas was the biggest holiday every year. I remember that at Christmas there was a severe frost: the river Ingulets was covered with ice and snow. One of the oldest Ukrainian Christmas traditions is the festive dinner on January 6.

When the first evening star appears in the sky, Mum is preparing dinner, and we can't wait to sit down at the table. Mum covers the table with a white tablecloth and serves our 12 cherished Ukrainian dishes.

What exactly is served on the table on Christmas Eve in Ukraine? As a rule, there should be 12 dishes on the table this evening. According to one version, the number 12 means the number of months in one year, according to another, the number of disciples. But these dishes are very tasty and easy to prepare!

1. Kutia is the most important dish on the table. This is wheat porridge, which symbolizes the unity of the world of the living and the world of the dead.
2. Compôte - from dried fruits.
3. Cabbage rolls.
4. Dumplings with different fillings.
5. Lean borscht.
6. Pancakes made of peas - symbolize the tears of the Mother of God, shed for the sins of people.
7. Fried, baked or marinated fish.
8. Salad of pickled cucumbers, sauerkraut and onions.
9. Potato fritters.
10. Boiled potatoes seasoned with garlic and oil.
11. Stewed cabbage with mushrooms.
12. Pies with different fillings.

After dinner, carols began. Young people and children dressed in Ukrainian national clothes and gathered in groups went from house to house and caroled, that is, sang carols. Carols are Ukrainian songs that glorified the birth of Jesus. In return, the hosts give the children small money and sweets.

I do not know a better holiday in my family and in my personal life. This is the dearest, brightest holiday for me!!! Because no matter how many dishes are on the table and no matter what faith you belong to, the main thing on this holiday is to celebrate it with those you love, that is, with your family!!!

In the photo, my daughter and I are wearing Ukrainian national headdresses.



My daughter and I wish you happiness, health, well-being and everything beautiful on this wonderful Christmas holiday!!! Although this year we are very far from our family, we are with our relatives and loved ones with all our hearts!

*Olga Mykhailichenko*

## **TILLINGTON CAROL SINGING AROUND THE VILLAGE**

Friday, December 16th

Meet at Village Hall 5.30 pm

Finish approx. 7.00 pm followed by refreshments

All ages welcome!



## NEWS FROM THE FARM

As we quickly roll through autumn and into winter, it's hard to remember the dry summer we've just had. Our farm is on a south facing slope, with sandy soil, and currently it is covered in mushrooms, lush green grass and clover, with a wide array of natural wild flowers some of which we have planted, although these have not done at all well due to the drought.

We made hay on our stewardship area, which consisted mostly of grasses, dock and fat hen; great for the ecology and also great for the goats, who love a varied hay, full of nettle and weeds, but only if it's well made, if you please. Thanks to our vintage Massey and my Dad's determination, our little tractor bobbed up and down for hours turning the winter feed so that it dried as quickly as possible; little did we know at the time that we would use these bales so soon, leaving none for the winter after all!

The farm all burnt up and brown, we had to send the cattle off to a nice cool barn on a diet of potatoes, which they love. We made some hard decisions and sold 80% of the sheep, leaving the goats to free range the farm, eating weeds and brambles from the hedgerows, supplemented with ad-lib hay and a small ration of hard feed. They still tested the boundaries and escaped off farm to see if there was anything else to be had.

They always returned to bask in the sun trapped concrete yard, lying on red-hot metal troughs, seemingly unaware of just how hot it was, running away from any cool shower I offered them, looking at me all dagger eyes, as if I just sprayed them with acid. Meanwhile, the remaining sheep and lambs gladly received a drenching of water, as, despite the cooler shed, they were quite distressed with heat, so bath time became a daily routine.

Generally my tribe of goats are pretty respectful of the electric fence, but small kids would squeeze between the wires trying to find something green and fresh to eat, having not yet developed a taste for hay. The mothers would charge through the fences with reckless abandon to be with their kids and protect them, wrecking the fences and getting electric shocks, the sound would carry to the house and my heart would sink, knowing that another day would be wasted fixing the fences. To add to my workload, one or more of the many badgers on the farm would also decide that 'actually this fence here is in my way' and knock out my temporary stakes to dig up a wasps' nest, or get a drink from the low-sided drinking buckets.

Now that the farm is green again, with the goats all settled, after just only 3 weeks off the summer (winter) feed routine, I am back to it again for the



duration of winter! As the goodness in the grass lessens and they chew through the fields (with 60 goats it doesn't take long), hay is again back on the menu.

Mating started earlier this year, thanks to Myrtle and her gymnastics, jumping two five-bar gates, climbing a haystack and jumping down from it, some 3 metres into the billy pen, to visit her love 'MickeyRay'. Spurred on by her antics, the days are now filled with the love screams from both nannies and billies, day and night. They sound like they're being tortured, along with that distinctly pungent smell ... it is not a time of year I enjoy the smell or taste of goats' cheese!



Bella the roe deer also struggled with the heat and lack of vegetation. She would nestle in the shade of the barn in a nettle patch and we would enjoy her company when it was too hot to work, reaching down fresh leaves for her to eat, or armed with a barrow of freshly cut garden snacks to share around. When she was really down, a few of her favourite ‘Cheerios’, did the trick, only to have her stuff her face in the box and help herself! Apparently our dog Sprocket was taking more than her fair share or I wasn’t quick enough with the offerings. Since June, she was being visited more frequently by her boyfriend (whom we nicknamed Kevin), as July/August is when roe deer are in rut. He would take her on the odd night out and she’d chill with me all sleepy the next day and we’d just lie there together snoozing in the shade.



Those are the last precious days we spent with her, as, one day in mid-August, she was gone . . . . We looked and called but she didn’t come home for her supper, not even for a treat. She had eloped with Kevin, that scoundrel! It was of course what I always wanted for her, but after 15 months I had allowed myself to believe she would stay. I do miss her little face jostling among the lambs and goats kids for her tea or appearing unnoticed behind us “peeping” for some leaves please. It’s heartbreaking for us, but it has been a real pleasure helping a frail day-old fawn reach her potential against all the odds. We do of course hope she may visit one day, perhaps if she gets hungry over winter or maybe with fawns next year—now wouldn’t that be exciting!

Gwenan Jones



What do trees say after a long winter? *What a re-leaf.!*

Why do harsh winters often catch people in Leicester by surprise?  
*Because the ice in Leicester is silent!*

How does Jack Frost get to work? *By icicle!*



## A MEMORABLE CHRISTMAS

What makes a memorable Christmas? Its often the repeating of family traditions and simply being with those we love over the holidays. But sometimes an unexpected joy, or disaster, or a totally different environment, makes a particularly memorable Christmas. We have been asking around ...

### **Ice Cold in Beijing**

It must have been nearly forty years ago when I was living and working in Beijing. A friend's husband worked for a New York bank and had managed to secure as their residence the old imperial library at the Summer Palace. The palace grounds were closed to visitors over the holiday and the lake was frozen solid. The library, which looked out over the huge lake, was a single story traditional Chinese building with huge red pillars either side of the double front doors and a Chinese tiled fishtail roof.

And so a happy group of expats gathered at our friends' for Christmas day. Some of the men had built a "yacht" to sail across the ice – a toboggan with a sail, but it worked and flew across the lake in the biting cold, dry Beijing winter sunshine.

In those days, it was hard to find imported wine in China but somehow I had managed to get hold of some cases of quarter-size bottles of champagne, known as 'piccolos' or 'splits'. Unfortunately, they had been around for a while and not stood up too well, having perhaps languished too long in a warehouse. On opening the first chilled bottle, there was a distinctly musty smell and taste, but the bubbles were still there. Undeterred, we put a sugar cube and slug of brandy in each glass, which worked a treat to disguise the mustiness.

Someone else had managed to smuggle in a turkey from Hong Kong. And so we enjoyed our Beijing Christmas, skating and drinking champagne cocktails on the frozen lake, followed by a full Christmas dinner in the imperial library.

*Sue Laker, Duncton*

### **Double Trouble**

I was in Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur working for the High Commission and was lucky enough to receive an invite to Christmas lunch and another invite to a Christmas meal in the evening. I don't remember hesitating or having to decide which one to go to, although I think the lunch was probably with my boss and his family. I accepted both and remember little details of either meal other than going home after lunch at about 5pm and sleeping for an hour before venturing forth for the evening and another turkey and Christmas pud. Yes, we had the traditional food on both occasions, despite the heat and the humidity both being in the 90s.

*Angela GC*

## **Christmas in Brazil**

All through their childhood the boys (5 in total) would punctuate their Christmas period with a sighed “that was the best Christmas EVER”!!

Personally I would rule out the one when all five were in various stages of chicken pox or, through bad planning, it was just the two of us and the M&S lobster we’d bought as a treat turned out to be bad.

We all enjoyed the one when all the boys were students or low earners and we limited present spending to £1 - imaginative gifts in abundance!

We would get used to delaying our lunch to enable Geoff in his GP role to carve the turkey for the local Cheshire Home and share some Christmas cheer! Christmases in Devon involved much food, banter, long walks and the occasional sea dip for the foolhardy (there’s one in every family). We love the family get-togethers, carols, badly played musical instruments—the inevitable child-produced play/concert (no, I’ll do the washing up, really!!).

The first big Christmas together after Covid was very emotional and (dare I say it) LOUD!

The one Christmas that stands out was our Christmas shared with Brazilian daughter-in-law’s family in Brazil five years ago. It included a variety of experiences - a boat trip under the Iguazu Falls, a stay at a turtle breeding beach and many food delights, most of them real calorie bombs, using copious amounts of condensed milk and sugar (why do they get energy and we get diabetes?). A meal is not a dinner without rice and Christmas rice contained a lot of extra nuts, fruits etc. Meat is abundant and often highly salted and the passion fruit juice is to die for!

I think my personal highlight was in Salvador - a very edgy place with African roots, full of life and all kinds of music. We came across a huge outdoor church service in one of the big squares - so much joy, music, singing - all celebrating the birth of Christ, which is what we all do around the world in our own different ways.

*Gill Pye*

## **Defrocked in Venice**

Free of family, no commitments and off work, we made an instant decision to fly to Venice with British Airways for a three-day break. On Christmas Eve we arrived happy and excited with no responsibilities, no commitments and NO baggage.

Due to ‘inclement’ weather the baggage handlers had been unable to load our bags. We had no clothes, no toiletries, no medicines and no presents. Under

Pressure, BA gave us permission to do some essential shopping, not so easy at 5.00pm on Christmas Eve with only limited Italian. A chemist, under duress, provided our prescribed medicines. One advantage of being a doctor.

Clothes were more difficult. We hit the last big store ten minutes before the Christmas closure. We split up to the men's and women's departments, grabbed a startled assistant each, and ran round picking off underwear, shirts/blouses, jerseys, trousers/dresses, socks, even a pair of shoes, and some Venetian night-wear! ... all just as they were closing up. We enjoyed a complete new wardrobe over Christmas, and BA to their great credit reimbursed the whole bill.

Our baggage arrived just as we were leaving the hotel to come home three days later. I still wear a lovely warm blue cashmere jumper with happy memories of Christmas in Venice many years ago.

*Ian and Shelley Fergusson*

### **The School Christmas Party**

As Headmaster of a primary and infant school in Tottenham, I was always very happy to see the anticipation of the children as Christmas approached. When I chalked December 1<sup>st</sup> on the board, a ripple of excitement would go round the room!

There were many opportunities to include preparations for Christmas in classroom activities: the children would make decorations in handcraft lessons, which we would display in the school ... and they would all make Christmas cards to send each other – I was very clear that pupils should send cards not only to their best friends, but remember those who might not receive many. There were boxes around the school, all painted red, like a Royal Mail box, and there would be great excitement when it was time to unload the boxes and distribute the cards.

The biggest joy, however, was the Christmas Party, held just before the end of term. The little children would enjoy games, and then the top class would participate in a 'formal'. The class would spend an afternoon a week beforehand learning how to dance. On the day of the Party they would come to school in their best clothes – and would show off their new-found social skills for the first time. I was stunned every year by their changed appearance – a happy glimpse of the young adults they would become. After the dancing, the children would disperse to their classrooms to enjoy a tea – they all brought contributions of sandwiches and cake. I am sure they all went home extremely tired but happy – I know I did.

*George Warren*

## CANDLE CANDOUR

Candles on the altar are everyday for us, but they have quite a history, and even afterlives!

Candles started in ancient Egypt, as (wickless) reed pith dipped in (smelly) fat. The Greeks and Romans had them too, but whereas for us a 'nice candle' is a treat, for them candles lit only poor men's funerals and their houses. Anyone better off used an oil-lamp (still smoky, though less odorous), or for solemn processions a flaming torch. Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Light, has centred on candle-lighting from the 100s BC, and when the Romans turned Christian, Emperor Constantine had 'large wax candles' lit in the streets of Constantinople on Easter night (extravagance!).

St Jerome was among the first to report that candles were lit in Church to honour the reading of the Gospel, but only in 1086 do we learn of worshippers burning candles throughout as we do, as well as using Paschal candles.

Here in Europe, candle-light usually stayed smelly until the Middle Ages, when, for anyone who could afford it, beeswax took over. Of course, then, abbeys kept bees – some still do. In towns, candle-makers formed guilds, and collectors went door-to-door collecting materials from household waste (early recycling!). The nineteenth century brought stearin and paraffin 'waxes', still used now. And nowadays I can buy even soybean wax, in hobby shops or online, plus perfumes (including frankincense and myrrh).

There are several ways of making candles. The easiest must be to pour melted wax into a mould, though I must watch over the temperature and compensate for the inevitable shrinkage during cooling. (Blessings on the man who invented the Aga. Indispensable.) How I would love a dipping frame – but you need a deep container for the wax, into which you dip a wick, preferably safely tied onto a frame, and another for water to chill the work in progress. Not good for kitchen operations. If I had a factory, I could make candles using pressure, not heat. 'Candle sand' can be poured into a cold mould, then squashed by a piston so that the outside of the candle becomes a glossy coating and a hole is left in the middle of it. Machines then push a wick in. The problem with these candles is that they 'tunnel', burning down the middle and leaving a 'wall' all round, which eventually hides the flame and leaves me to trim off the excess and make all tidy with a hot knife blade (thank you again, Aga).

But whatever its origins, no stub is safe from me. They all melt together, any grot is removed, a mould prepared, wick securely fixed, and a new candle emerges, whether a white votive, purple for Advent, or a fanciful coloured pillar smelling of chocolate orange. Give me what you don't want – and buy it back from me!

*Lee Lavington*

**Bob & Sue Rance**  
**Wish all their friends in the local community**  
**A Very Merry Christmas**  
**and**  
**A Safe, Healthy & Happy New Year**



**From ‘In Memoriam’ by Alfred Lord Tennyson**

Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
Ring, happy bells, across the snow;  
The year is going, let him go;  
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind,  
For those that here we see no more;  
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,  
Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out a slowly dying cause,  
And ancient forms of party strife;  
Ring in the nobler modes of life,  
With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring out false pride in place and blood,  
The civic slander and the spite;  
Ring in the love of truth and right,  
Ring in the common love of good.

Ring in the valiant man and free,  
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;  
Ring out the darkness of the land,  
Ring in the Christ that is to be.



**Want to stop and take a breath in the Christmas rush?**

**7-9pm**

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December  
Tillington Village Hall

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December  
Duncton Village Hall

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December  
Fittleworth Church

## **ADVENT COURSE**

### **Expectations**

Join us from 7-9pm to enjoy a light supper and spend a short time exploring advent through Handel's 'Messiah', led by Valerie Garrow and Annie Sneller.

**Everybody welcome to one, two or all three evenings.**

For more info please contact Annie Sneller on 07790 107377 or [thesnellers@gmail.com](mailto:thesnellers@gmail.com)

RSVP appreciated for catering purposes  
by Nov 25th

## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES**



### **CHRISTINGLE**

**Saturday 4th December at 4pm**



Children - let us know if you would like a 'Christingle in a bag' delivered to your home. Please then bring it to the church at 4 pm for a short candlelit service.

### **CRIB SERVICE**

**Tuesday, 20th December at 10am**

Outdoor nativity procession starting at Tillington Village Hall and ending up inside the church. Come along from 9.45, dressed as Mary, Joseph, a shepherd or a king—or just be you! Costumes available if needed—let us know what you need. We hope to have a pony, a sheep and a goat to lead our procession via the Horse Guards and then onto the Church. Do join us at the Village Hall.

### **CHRISTMAS DAY**

Family Holy Communion with Canon John Bundock. Children will be warmly welcomed and we'd love to know what present you've received. Bring it with you if it's not too big.

For more information contact  
Gerald (342151), Annie (342507) or Shelley (345150)

**TILLINGTON, DUNCTON AND UPWALTHAM**  
**CHURCH SERVICES DURING DECEMBER 2022**

	All Hallows Church, Tillington	Holy Trinity Church, Duncton	St Mary's Church, Upwaltham
Second Sunday of Advent, 4 December	Christingle Service at 4pm		
Wednesday 7 December	BCP Holy Communion at 10am		
Third Sunday of Advent, 11 December	Parish Communion at 9.30am	Service of Lessons and Carols at 6pm	
Fourth Sunday of Advent, 18 December	Service of Lessons and Carols at 6pm		Service of Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion at 11.30am
Tuesday 20 December	Crib Pageant Service, gathering at Village Hall at 10am		
Wednesday 21 December	BCP Holy Communion at 10am		
Christmas Eve 24 December		Crib Service at 4pm	
Christmas Day 25 December	Family Communion at 9.30am We welcome Rev'd Canon John Bundock		

Additional services in our group during December:

**4 December:** 9.30 Parish Communion at Fittleworth; 11am BCP Holy Communion at Stopham.

**11 December:** 8am BCP Holy Communion at Fittleworth; 9.45am/10.15am Breakfast, then All-age Service at Fittleworth; 4pm BCP Evensong at Stopham.

**18 December:** 9.30am Parish Communion at Fittleworth; 3.30pm Service of Lessons and Carols at Fittleworth; 6pm Service of Lessons and Carols at Stopham.

**Christmas Eve, 24 December:** Crib Service at Fittleworth; 11.30pm Midnight Mass at Fittleworth

**Christmas Day, 25 December:** 9.30 Family Communion at Fittleworth; 11am BCP Holy Communion at Stopham.

*David Crook, Priest-in-Charge*

**TILLINGTON, DUNCTON AND UPWALTHAM**  
**CHURCH SERVICES DURING JANUARY 2023**

	<b>All Hallows Church, Tillington</b>	<b>Holy Trinity Church, Dunton</b>	<b>St Mary's Church, Upwaltham</b>
Sunday 1 January 2023	<u>No service today</u>		
Wednesday 4 January	<u>No BCP Holy Communion today</u>		
Epiphany (transferred), 8 January	Parish Communion at 9.30am	Parish Communion at 11am	
Second Sunday of Epiphany, Plough Sunday (transferred), 15 January	BCP Holy Com- munion at 9.30am		Plough Sunday Country Service at 11.30am
	Five-Parish Evening Prayer online via Zoom at 6pm. Please contact David to register for his weekly email with Zoom links.		
Wednesday 18 January	BCP Holy Com- munion at 10am		
<u>Third Sunday</u>  of Epiphany, 22 January	Morning Prayer and Praise at 9.30am	BCP Holy Com- munion at 10.30am	
Presentation of Christ in the Temple/ Candlemas (transferred), 29 January	<u>Five-parishes, fifth-Sunday service at</u>  Fittleworth at 10.30am		
Third Sunday before Lent/Septuagesima, 5 February	Breakfast Church/ All-age Service at 9.45am/10.15am		

**Additional services in our group during January:**

**1 January:** 9.30 Covenant Communion at Fittleworth; No service at Stopham.

**8 January:** 8am BCP Holy Communion at Fittleworth; 9.45am/10.15am Breakfast, then All-age Service at Fittleworth; 4pm BCP Evensong at Stopham.

**15 January:** 9.30am Parish Communion at Fittleworth; 11am BCP Holy Communion at Stopham.

**22 January:** 9.30am Parish Communion at Fittleworth; 11am BCP Matins at Stopham

**29 January:** 10.30am Five-parishes, fifth-Sunday service at Fittleworth

**5 February:** 9.30am Parish Communion at Fittleworth; BCP Holy Communion at Stopham

*David Crook, Priest-in-Charge*  
([david.crook15@btinternet.com](mailto:david.crook15@btinternet.com); 01798 865473)



# Kids' Pages

## HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Why was the turkey in the band?  
Becusae he was the only one with  
drumsticks!

What do Santa's  
little helpers learn  
at school?  
The elf-abet

What do you sing at a  
snowman's birthday?  
Freeze a jolly good fel-  
low

What happens to elves when they are  
naughty?  
They get the sack!

What do frogs wear on  
their feet?  
Open toad sandals

## CHRISTMAS LOG OR YULE LOG MADE EASY



### **Ingredients**

1 large chocolate roll  
1 large block of milk chocolate  
Some icing sugar

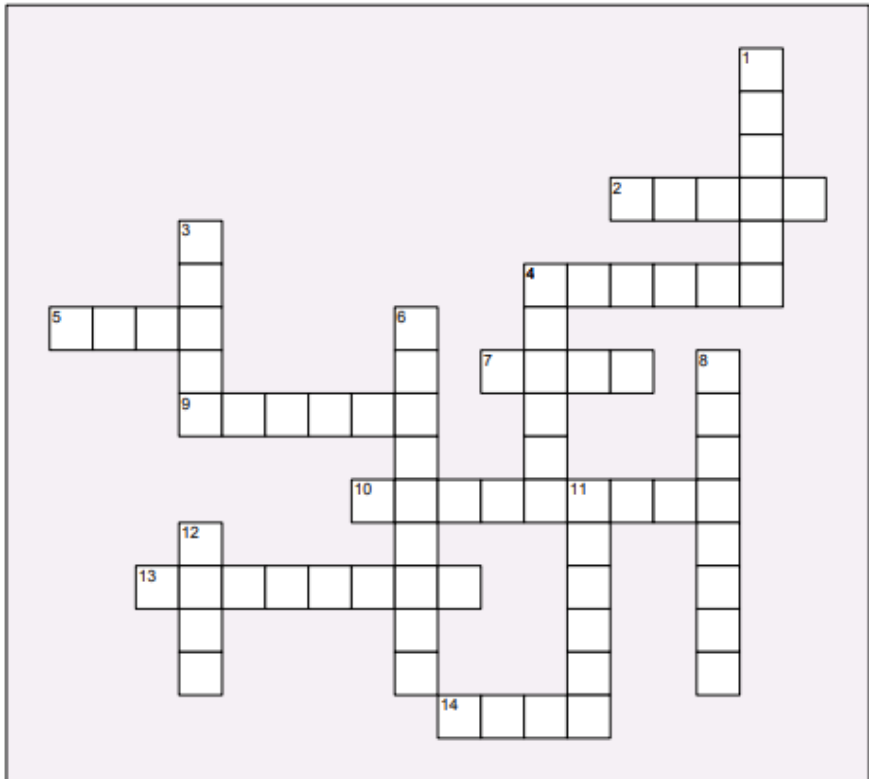
Melt the chocolate in the microwave and spread cover the roll.

Take a fork and make marks down the length of the roll to look like bark of a tree.

The chocolate will set quite quickly so you may have to work quickly

Sprinkle some icing sugar on to make it appear to have snow on it.  
Decorate with maybe holly, a candle, whatever you have available.

## **EAT and ENJOY**



**Across:**

- 2: Animals in the stable with Jesus
- 4: A building that is used for Christian services.
- 5: Animal in the stable with Jesus
- 7: we decorate one of these
- 9: Where Jesus was born
- 10: Jesus' birthday
- 13: Pull these and see what's inside
- 14: Jesus' mother

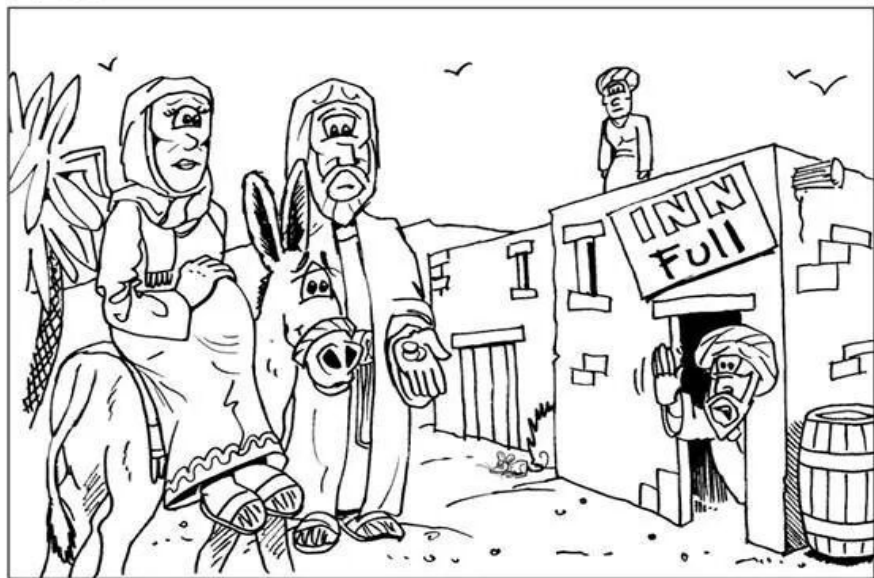
**Down**

- 1: Jesus' father
- 3: Three of them visited the stable
- 4: Songs we sing at Christmas
- 6: Men on the hillside waiting to see Jesus
- 8: we may get given some of these
- 11: We often eat this roasted
- 12: A small bed



# SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Can you spot the 10 differences between these 2 pictures of Mary & Joseph going to Bethlehem?



## TILLINGTON SIDESPEOPLE AND READERS DECEMBER 2022

Date	Time	Service	Sidespeople	Readers
Sunday 4 <sup>h</sup>	4 pm	Christingle Service in aid of The Children's Society	TEAM	TEAM
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Parish Communion	Mrs Graves and Mr Gresham-Cooke	Mr Gresham-Cooke Jas. 5. 7-10
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Carol Service	Mr and Mrs Williams	Readers Allocated
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Day	9.30 am	Family Communion	Mrs Blunt and Mr Gresham-Cooke	No Reading

## TILLINGTON SIDESPEOPLE AND READERS JANUARY 2023

Date	Time	Service	Sidespeople	Readers
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Parish Communion	Mrs Blunt and Ms Wilson	Mrs Blunt Acts 10: 34-43
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	BCP Holy Communion	Mr and Mrs Garrow	Mrs Garrow 1 Cor: 1-9
	6.00 pm	Zoom Evening Prayer		
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30 am	Morning Prayer and Praise	Mrs Woodhatch and Mr Gresham-Cooke	Mrs Gresham-Cooke 1 Cor: 10-18

## RAINFALL FOR OCTOBER 2022

Year	October	Year Total
2022	121mms	523mms
2021	158mms	883mms
2020	242mms	734mms
2019	142mms	660mms
2018	51mms	711mms
2017	46mms	727mms
2016	26mms	647mms

*John Mayes, Haymarsh*

## NEWS FROM THE COUNCIL

Our Services of Remembrance have now all taken place and the one thing that struck me this year was how many people attended - the turnout seemed exceptional and I'm sure you will agree that 'we will remember them.' I wonder how many of you know that Petworth's Twin town Ranville in Normandy was the first village liberated on D-Day? I do try and visit on 6th of June each year and, like the Remembrance Day here, it is quite an emotional time.

To Council business and what's going on:

Children's Services: Things continue to improve and an OFSTED inspection is expected early in 2023. Here's hoping for more good news.

Children in Care: I attended our Exceptional People in Care awards in Worthing in November and this is always a great day for the children we care for. They receive acknowledgement and awards for all the improvements they themselves have achieved, as do the wonderful foster parents and others that take care of them.

Fire and Rescue: Completion nears on the Horsham Training Centre and Fire Station, which will soon be available to hire by other Fire and Rescue Services for their staff training. The Fire and Rescue service has also recently had an HMI inspection, which found that improvements needed had been carried out and things like safer home inspections were now up to speed. Also, there have been some big fires lately, including one in Crawley which about 25 fire units attended, including the retained unit in Petworth.

Budgets: As you know, all West Sussex councils and the South Downs National Park continue to look closely at budgets, and the challenges get more and more difficult as we see things shaping up for the future. However, things do change and I will try and keep parishes up to date with what is happening. Meanwhile, you may have heard of 'Supporting You', a Chichester District Council and partners initiative to support those struggling with the cost of living. Contact [supportingyou@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:supportingyou@chichester.gov.uk) or 01243 534860.

Across the county generally, one of the big stories is the mental health of young people in West Sussex. The County Council is working with other agencies to develop a ground-breaking mental health triage service bringing together all partners to form the basis of a national learning scheme.

If you would like to or need to contact me it's [jdunton@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:jdunton@chichester.gov.uk) or [janet.dunton@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:janet.dunton@westsussex.gov.uk) mobile 07979152898.

Keep safe!

*Janet Dunton,,  
County Councillor, Petworth Division  
and Chichester District Councillor, Loxwood Ward*

## WINTER QUIZ



### A. GEOGRAPHY \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is Father Christmas's address?
2. In what country is the Santa Claus Village?
3. Where in the world does the sun first rise on Christmas morning?
4. Which country's Santa translates as Christmas Goat?
5. On what day do the Chinese celebrate Christmas?



### B. SPORT \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is the Cresta Run?
2. Who '...first picked up the ball and ran with it, thus originating the distinctive feature of the Rugby game' ?
3. In which city were the Winter Olympics held in early 2022?
4. What is the name given to the rubber disc used in Ice Hockey?
5. Yukigassen in Japan, and SheenAab Jung in Kashmir, are the names given to which winter team sport?

### C. MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_



1. What Italian composer wrote about Winter, Spring, Summer and Autumn?
2. What Frozen figure encouraged us to let it go?
3. Who sings "Baby, it's Cold Outside" ?
4. The theme song from which film is "Walking in the Air"?
5. The Red Hot Chilli Peppers had a very cold hit in 2006 ... what was it?

### D. LITERATURE \_\_\_\_\_



1. Which Shakespeare play contains the lines "When icicles hang by the wall And Dick the shepherd blows his nail" ?
2. What is the image on Mark Darcy's Christmas sweater in the film Bridget Jones' Diary"?
3. In which Jane Austen novel is Christmas celebrated at Hartfield ?
4. In which book is the Mayor of Gloucester to be married on Christmas Day ?
5. In which children's classic is it always winter but never Christmas ?

*(Answers on page 53)*

## PORTRAIT OF A PET

Soon after moving in with me, my girlfriend said we needed a dog as home was not a home without one. Having experienced her Dad's large slobbering Golden Retriever at close quarters, I sensed this required some delicate negotiation. A big dog was out of the question and so it was we headed off to a farm on the Welsh border to pick up a Jack Russell puppy. It is well known that when a couple buys a dog together the relationship is getting serious, and my girlfriend is now my fiancée.

At one time, Jack Russell farm puppies were given away with a load of straw or hay. Nowadays one will set you back around £800 – cheap as puppies go. The little scrap at 8 weeks was so small, soft and shivering when we placed her in her new cage in the back of the car and was sick all the way home. Not however as sick as when we first took her to my parents' house, where she found an appetising brown cube of something under the sofa and was happily chewing away at it. It was confirmed that they had a mouse problem and had put down some Big Cheese rat bait. Off to the vet, who pumped her little stomach and charged as much as the puppy herself had cost. My mother still feels so terribly guilty, she never complains when Scampi jumps on the sofa and spoils her with duck fillet treats every time we are in Duncton, Scampi's paradise of a country retreat.

Our little Scampi is now one, and a puppy no longer. She curls like a cat on our laps when we are working at our computers and snuggles into our clothing if we leave her, comforted by the familiar smell. But a terrier is a terrier and chasing squirrels is her passion. We can't even mention the "s" word without her circling any tree which harbours one in a frenzy of excitement.

We were approached recently by a local vegetable farmer wanting to move his composting heaps who enquired "Is your dog a good ratter by any chance? Bring her along and give her a try." Thinking better perhaps not to mention it to the fiancée, I took Scampi along at the appointed time to try her out. Jack Russells were used during the Great War to clear rats and mice from the trenches.





How much comfort a little terrier may have brought to some of the troops in such horrendous conditions – a reminder of home maybe. A dog who can work is special. They are quick, motivated by movement and kill so fast, it is far more humane than rat poison to use a terrier for vermin control. Scampi worked alongside an older Jack Russell dog that afternoon and was responsible for almost half of the 20 or so rats they despatched. We were rewarded for her efforts with a basket of organic vegetables.

Not only does she love us, but she also curls up with Uncle Gus, the Golden Retriever, in his basket when we visit the in-laws-to be. I'm a lucky man to have a wonderful fiancée and a cracking little Jack Russell.

*Guy Shepherd, Duncton*



### **GARDENING NOTES DECEMBER 2022/JANUARY 2023**

Now is a great time to **mulch** the garden. Covering the (weed free) soil with a 10cm. thick layer of well rotted manure or garden compost is nothing short of a miracle cure as it locks moisture into the hungry soil, bringing it to life with explosions of bacteria, beneficial fungi and insect life as it breaks down the soil. It also protects the soil like a blanket and prevents the loss of precious topsoil. Either use individual bags of compost, or - if you can - find green-waste compost from the Council which is heated to a temperature that is perfect for killing any nasties, such as perennial weeds and disease.

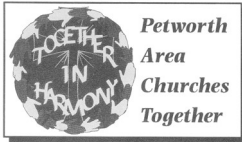
It is still not too late to finish planting **tulips**. Winter prune **fruit trees**. Cut away any diseased or damaged shoots on **climbing roses** and tie in those wayward new shoots; any older and long side shoots need shortening by two thirds of their growth. Finish sowing **broad beans** - 'Aquadulce Claudia' are recommended for early and sturdy plants. Also **onion sets** ('Troy') and **garlic cloves** can still be planted out.

I can hardly believe that I seem to have cured the dreaded **box moth infestation** all over the garden. I hope I haven't spoken too soon, but a soaking of 'Provanto' on each plant followed by a box fertiliser seems to have done the trick. The new shoots (thanks to the gallons of rain) have sprung up where the infestation was cut out. Fingers crossed!

Listen out for those warnings of first frosts after this crazy warm and wet weather!

A very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year,

*Gillie Ross.*



# PACT NEWS

## Petworth Area Churches Together

### PETWORTH FOOD BANK

#### **Harvest Festival Donations**

We are very grateful for all the Harvest Festival donations we received, which have gone far in replenishing our stores. Thanks especially to Northchapel Primary School and St Michael's for over 50 shoeboxes of food, as well all the donations from Petworth Primary School and St Mary's Church. We also welcome the rise in donations to our collection points in Petworth and the surrounding villages. In addition, Wisborough Green Fête committee has recently given Petworth Foodbank £250.

#### **More Foodbank Volunteers Urgently Needed**

Demand on Petworth Foodbank is increasing and we need volunteers to deliver emergency food parcels. We always aim to deliver emergency food parcels on the day of the referral as we know that people often wait until they have run out of food before seeking help.

**We also need phone holders.** This new and much-needed role for Petworth aims to help people beyond just a 3-day food parcel. As well as organising a food parcel delivery, phone holders will be able to point people towards other organisations for further help and advice. Training will be provided for these roles. The 'phone holder' role will be on a rota basis with one person doing one (or more if they wish) days per week from 09.30 to 16.30, Mondays to Fridays only and home-based. We estimate that each phone holder will receive one to two calls per day. A good mobile phone signal is essential and we are looking for compassionate people who can listen without judgement to those who phone through for help.

More details of the above roles, plus online application forms can be found at: <https://chichesterdistrict.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/volunteer/>

If anyone has any questions about either role and would like to speak to someone before applying, please e-mail [info@chichesterdistrict.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@chichesterdistrict.foodbank.org.uk).

#### **Getting help from Petworth Foodbank**

We can only provide food parcels to people once we have received a voucher (usually an online referral voucher). There are many people/organisations who can provide vouchers, such as schools, churches, GPs and charities. We have not received any vouchers this year from any of the local churches and would remind people they can approach their vicar or priest for a voucher, if in need.

*Ines Garcia*  
*Lead Coordinator, PACT Petworth Foodbank*

## MY DESERT ISLAND DISCS

*By Viv Blunt*



**Blow the Wind Southerly** by Kathleen Ferrier. What a wonderful voice she had, and perfect diction - a tragic early loss. First introduced to me by my cousin Raymond, a meteorologist who was sadly shot whilst on duty at Birmingham Airport.

**My Funny Valentine** by Ella Fitzgerald. A reminder of my youth and seeing her at the Fairfield's Hall, Croydon.

**Farewell to Stromness** by Peter Maxwell Davies. Petworth Festival introduced me to this evocative piece of music, so it will be a reminder of the many concerts I have enjoyed and the years I was Administrator.

**Fantasia on a theme by Thomas Tallis** arranged by Vaughan Williams. Just a lovely piece of music.

**Cello Concerto Op 85** by Elgar. Heard at the Royal Festival Hall when a friend and I regularly attended concerts. Happy days!

**The Ashoken Farewell** by Jay Ungar. Played at the Chichester Festival Theatre Christmas Concert – always a favourite with my Mum and I always think of her when I hear this music.

**You Raise me Up** by Josh Groban. A modern song, not like my usual choice but something I have sung with our group of Singing for Fun. It reminds me of the choirs I have been part of and enjoyed so much.

**Violin Concerto No. 1** by Max Bruch. This is a reminder of my single days in a flat in Kensington when this was the only record we owned. Played too often for the neighbours, methinks!

If I could save just one disc it would be the Thomas Tallis.

Book: *Pride and Prejudice*.

My luxury item would be an album of family photos.

## VEGAN WELLINGTON

### Ingredients

- 1 sheet vegan puff pastry, thawed if frozen (about 10"x13")
- 2 tbs ground flax meal + 5 tbs water (I used ground almonds)
- 2 tbs grapeseed oil, or preferred cooking oil
- ½ medium onion, diced, 2 small carrots, diced small, 2 stalks celery, diced
- 4 cloves garlic, minced or crushed
- 1 tsp dried thyme, 1 tsp ground sage, ½ tsp dried rosemary
- 8 oz mushrooms, minced or finely chopped
- 1.5 tbs tamari sauce, low sodium (I used soy sauce).
- 1 15 oz can chickpeas (garbanzo beans), drained well but NOT rinsed
- ¾ cup unsalted walnuts, ground into a course meal (measured whole)
- ½ cup breadcrumbs, more if needed, 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 1.5 tablespoons vegan Worcestershire sauce, ½ tsp salt, fresh cracked pepper to taste
- 1 tablespoon vegan butter, melted

### Instructions

- 1 Preheat oven to 400 °F (200 °C). Line a rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper and set aside.
2. Combine the ground flax and water in a small bowl. Set aside for 10 min. It will thicken and gel up a bit.
3. Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Now add onion, celery, and carrots. Sauté until softened about 6-8 minutes, Add garlic, thyme, sage, and rosemary. Sauté for 1 minute, add mushrooms and sauté until they soften and release their moisture about 5-7 minutes. You want the pan to be dry. Now add the tamari and cook for 1 minute. ***Remove from heat and set aside to cool for 10 minutes.***
4. Add chickpeas to a large mixing bowl and mash with a potato masher. Don't over mash - just mash enough to break down whole chickpeas, but leave lots of texture.
5. Now add the cooled mixture, breadcrumbs, walnut meal, flax mixture, Worcestershire, tomato paste, salt, and pepper. Combine well with a spatula and use your hands if needed. Taste and add more seasoning if preferred. *(If the mixture seems too wet, you can add another ¼ cup of breadcrumbs or rolled oats - you should be able to easily form the mix with your hands).*

6. Using your hands, shape the mixture into a solid log that will fit in the middle of the pastry sheet (*with a few inches of slack*). Make sure log is packed well.
7. Unroll puff pastry sheet and lay it over the baking sheet (*or a flat surface if you need to roll it first*). Place the loaf in the middle of the pastry sheet. Pick up one side and wrap it over the loaf and repeat on the other side. Gently press to seal together (*don't force if it doesn't close, just thin & lengthen the loaf or remove some mixture and form again*). If pastry doesn't seal easily, just lightly brush a little non-dairy milk in that area and seal.
8. Now roll up the ends and press gently to seal. If you have a lot of extra length, you may want to trim the dough first before sealing. Otherwise, the ends of the loaf will be very doughy. Flip the loaf over so the sealed edges are facing the baking sheet.
9. Brush the top and sides with melted vegan butter. Using a sharp knife, gently make diagonal slits across the whole top of loaf about 1 inch apart. Now repeat going the other direction to criss-cross slits.
10. Place in the oven for 30-35 minutes until heated throughout and the pastry is golden brown. Let sit 10 minutes before gently cutting with a sharp knife. I felt it was easiest to cut into the slits that were made earlier. Serve with gravy if desired. Enjoy!



This recipe is from Vegan Hugs, adapted by me.

*Angela Gresham-Cooke*

**PETWORTH**

**TOWN  BAND**

# **Christmas Concert**

**SATURDAY 17<sup>TH</sup>  
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## WELCOME TO FLORAL STREET

Would you ever have guessed that we have a luxe sustainable perfume company here in our midst? - offering clean and vegan collections of award-winning perfumes and ethical home fragrances. Well, to be fair, it is the Finance Director and Operations team based in Dunston, with their Sales and Marketing teams based in London. Floral Street have a small yet passionate team distributing their products globally from offices just near Dunston.

The Floral Street products would make lovely Christmas presents, which is why we wanted to tell you about them this month. Crafted by a master perfumer, using responsibly sourced ingredients, their luxury, mood enhancing fragrances are powered by flowers. I am not saying don't buy for Granny – she may love this modern brand in today's market, with vegan, no-cruelty products bearing zany names like Neon Rose and Electric Rhubarb; and if you ever shop in John Lewis, Space NK & Anthropologie you will come across Floral Street Products.

You do not need to trek to the shops, just go to the website to shop on-line for these award-winning fragrances, home candles, diffusers, scented reeds, and room fragrances made by this independent British brand, which are equally loved in the USA and as far as Australia; you will be supporting a sustainable brand that is a great ambassador for British design and innovation all round the world.

Trust me, the animal derived ingredients of traditional perfumes are not something you would want to spray behind your ears. And if you do not trust me, just look up what animal products go into traditional perfume, and you will see why Floral Street is different and just right for the twenty first century.

You might have spotted that we have a bit of a candle theme going on in this month's magazine and we have a Floral Street White Rose Candle and Fragrance Discovery Set to give away to one lucky reader in time for Christmas. This lovely gift will go to the first person to e-mail Three Parishes with the name of the founder of Floral Street Fragrances – clue – the answer is on the website. Send your e-mails please to [3parishesmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:3parishesmagazine@gmail.com). But if you are not quick enough to win the lovely candle and Fragrance Discovery Set, you can place orders at [www.floralstreet.com](http://www.floralstreet.com). Your girlfriends will love you for it.



## **Our thoughts on Remembrance by children at Duncton School**

### **SILENCE**

When I first signed up to the army I thought it would be fun!  
I thought I would be a hero.

I was wrong; all I felt was pain and suffering with screams of  
innocent soldiers echoing across the battlefield.

The screeching of shells above, machine guns blazing, sending  
bullets flying everywhere, shattering people's dreams.

Then SILENCE... as I fall back into a muddy grave of poppies  
and debris.

*By Tyler*

Brave determined soldiers fighting for their country

Silver metal bullets soaring through the air

Some leaving scars and some are bleeding to death.

Spitfires whistling high in the sky,

People will cry, food rationed.

Children evacuated.

*By Bailey*

### **Gladness after sadness**

Through the trenches many die,

The silver bullets still fly by.

The machine guns burst of fury,

Followed by a silence, eerie.

Over the mud the tanks are rumbling,

Enemy's fortifications are crumbling.

Corpses littered coast to coast,

Though pilots suffer more than most.

The Navy, the Army, the Air Force,

Each and every member are fighting.

For the freedom of others,

At the cost of their lives.

*By George*





## NEWS FROM THE VALLEY

Angela has certainly set us a challenge this month to write a piece for the magazine on a memorable Christmas at Upwaltham.

The family and I are privileged to live in the valley of Upwaltham, a timeless place really except for the busy road. We can stand in our valley field and look over the fields to the church, and the view has looked the same for hundreds of years. The little downland church has seen a 1000 years of religious ceremonies, marriages, baptisms, funerals, Easters, Harvest Festivals and Christmases.

Our family all live close by and we have celebrated over sixty years of Christmas together, the family getting bigger as the years go on. Boxing Day is our big family day. So, so many memories, but it is the little moments that are special. Being happy together, seeing our little great-grand-children's faces of wonder. As a group making our way up to the church, lighting the candles, singing carols to the music off the children's mobile phones. As you enter the ancient church, time stands still, and you think about all the people that have come to worship before us.

The other special moment for me is the lighting of the Bethlehem candle. This is the 36th year of the Peace Light from Bethlehem. Each year a child from Austria kindles a flame from the "Eternal Flame" from the Nativity Grotto in Bethlehem where Jesus was born. The flame is distributed at a service of Dedication to delegations across Europe who take it back with a message of Peace to their own countries. We have crossed fingers that the flame will reach St Mary's Upwaltham in time for our service on 18th December. I find it unbelievable that this little flame of hope has travelled all those miles to burn brightly in the window of St Mary's.

The Peace message for 2022 was 'Plant a tree in the hope of Peace'.

May the kindly spirit of Christmas spread its radiance far and wide,  
So all the world may feel the glow, of this Holy Christmastide.  
So may this light of peace today that has travelled many miles,  
Bring joy and hope to many, and fill each face with smiles.  
So may every heart and home continue through the year,  
To feel the warmth and wonder of this season of good cheer.

Our very Best Wishes and Happy Christmas from the valley

*Sue Kearsey*

## FOX

by *Michael Blencowe* of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

Christmas is almost here, folks, and it'll soon be time for that fella in the red coat to come sneaking around. Yep, your neighbourhood Fox is on the prowl and shortly after Santa has finished pulling presents out of his sack, your local Fox will be busy trying to pull half a turkey out of your bin bag.

Foxes have lived among us for centuries and, just like Christmas, they're celebrated in folklore and myths all around the world. Whether the story belongs to the Greeks, Japanese, Celts, Native Americans, Disney or Roald Dahl it is always the same – the Fox is portrayed as cunning, slippery and devious. I prefer intelligent, adaptable and resourceful – and it's these traits that have helped the Fox to survive in the modern world. It was the modern world that transformed the Fox's wild woods into endless agricultural fields, towns, cities, tower blocks and cul-de-sacs. Traditionally, in the face of development Britain's wildlife has silently been displaced and died. But where others fled destruction, the Fox, like any shrewd opportunist, saw a brave new world of golden opportunities where the dustbins overflowed and where the streets are paved with cast away kebabs and finger-lickin' chicken.

And for me this is the chapter in the Fox's story that does indeed seem mythical: that in urban Britain there are wild dogs living among us. I can look out my bedroom window and see a relative of the Wolf, Dingo, Jackal and Coyote casually sauntering across my lawn. It's a touch of the Serengeti in suburban Sussex. Studies undertaken by the University of Brighton have estimated that there are 20 Foxes per square kilometre in the city. Of course, tradition dictates that some people do not like Foxes. As I child I always viewed the Boxing Day hunt as the antithesis to Christmas, a reminder that amidst this season of goodwill there are still people who are proud to dress up in costumes in a public celebration of their cruelty.

It's in the bleak midwinter that Foxes are at their most vocal. The blood-curdling, human-like scream of the vixen sounds like something from a Hammer Horror film. This foxy lady is only fertile for a few days and her scream advertises her availability and sparks bow-wows, barks and bickering from amorous dog Foxes. Her cubs will be born about fifty-two days after mating and emerge from their earths in April.

So this Christmas if you've had it with the plastic snowmen, the fake tree and the fake sentiments take a short walk away from it all and out into the darkness. Listen for the sound of wild dogs howling at the moon, the sound of survival. Let it stir something wild in your heart. Merry Christmas everybody, and best wishes for 2023.



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# THE ARTS SOCIETY SOUTH DOWNS

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022

## CHRISTMAS WITH GILES, GRANDMOTHER AND FAMILY by Barry Venning

The cartoonist Carl Giles was as much a part of the festive season as the Christmas tree, crackers and the Queen's Speech. The talk looks at Giles's life and work with a particular emphasis on his seasonal cartoons, particularly those featuring Grandma and the Giles family.

Talks are in Fittleworth Village Hall, RH20 1JB. 10.45 am, Coffee from 09.50.

Further details on: [www.theartssocietysouthdowns.org.uk](http://www.theartssocietysouthdowns.org.uk)  
or from Jane Allison (01798 813314)

## The Arts Society West Sussex

On Tuesday December 6th, Sandy Burnett will give a talk on  
**“Tchaikovsky to Tin Pan Alley”**

Celebrated musician and broadcaster, Sandy Burnett will share a selection of much loved Christmas music from

The Nutcracker to JS Bach

Mulled Wine will be served after the talk

**Talks held at 2pm in Fittleworth Village Hall RH20 1JB**

Non-members welcome for £7 (cash only please). Contact Jackie Buckler on 01903411086 or email [westsussex@theartssociety.org](mailto:westsussex@theartssociety.org)

## PETWORTH & DISTRICT OVER 60S – THE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE DECEMBER 2022

Our Coffee Morning on 22 October raised the amazing sum of £327.51 after the hire of the Hall. Our thanks to all who donated, helped and spent money – it is all much appreciated.

Our Bingo sessions this month are on Wednesdays 7th and 21st December at 2.00 pm. The minibus will be available to take you to the Centre. Thank you to our members, Betty Exall, who is decorating a Christmas Tree in the United Reformed Church, and Pat Turland, who is providing a Nativity scene in St Mary's Church.

With the help of Lady Egremont, our President, we are planting an oak tree in the Hampers Road Cemetery in memory of the late Queen, Elizabeth II and our past members. The date for this ceremony has yet to be decided.

The Centre will close on Wednesday 21 and re-open on 3 January 2023 after the break. We wish all our members a happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

*Caroline Stoneman* – House Committee Chairman (01798) 342942

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Friends of Tillington Church	Jo Clevely	07973 258469
Men's Breakfast	Gerald G-Cooke	01798 342151
Monthly Lunches	Gillie Ross	01798 342231
Neighbourhood Watch (T'ton)	Gerald G-Cooke	01798 342151
Petworth Community Minibus	Caroline Stoneman	01798 342942
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T'ton Charitable Trust	Hugh Rolfe	01798 861369
T.L.C.	Tillington Local Care	07910 234862
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**TILLINGTON** – See front pages for Church, Bell Ringing, Parish Council and Village Hall.

**DUNCTON** – See front pages for Church, Parish, Council and Village Hall.

**UPWALTHAM** -See front pages for Church.

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