

News and Notes

For Bodenham, Britford, Charlton All Saints, Nunton and Odstock

December 2017

500th
Edition

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News & Notes

Editor:

Heather Norris
07725 400485
(email below)

Deadline:

18th of each month

As I update the details for the December edition, I have noticed that this is the 500th edition of News & Notes which by my calculations is 41 years and 8 months. Making the 1st edition back in April 1976. I wonder how many of you can remember that?

So I thought it would be an opportune time to say a big thank you to all past and present who have been, or still are, part of the army of volunteers who help to produce and deliver News and Notes to you. Also to our advertisers, without whom we could not fund the production.

Thank you all

Heather Norris

The Radnor Hall Update

October edition of News and Notes contained reference to the Radnor Hall, under the Parish Council update section. We are concerned that the impression given by the update could be misleading.

There is certainly room for additional users however the hall is relatively busy, with many regular users including the WI and singing and dance groups. It also remains popular as a venue for parties and receptions.

The hall has healthy financial reserves and for the moment there is no prospect of closure. While at present our income from hire of the hall is not covering day to day running costs this situation is amply compensated by income from fund raising activities such as car boot sales.

The real threat to the future of the hall would lie in any failure to maintain an active and committed management committee with associated volunteers. The pressing need now is for a younger element to get involved providing new ideas and enthusiasms. We are on the look out!

There are many new events that could be provided given the facilities offered by the warm and welcoming environment that is the Radnor Hall. Why not a film club, a book club, a music society? The list is endless, but needs new and enthusiastic supporters to give us new directions.

We plan to hold one or two open evenings over the next few months, at which we can discuss the future – come along and get involved!

Harry Joynt, Chairman 01722 329782

Brian Clarke, Treasurer and Secretary 01722 340261

November meeting of Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham WI

The November meeting, presided over by the President, began as usual with announcements of future events and activities. She reminded members that it was 'World Kindness Day' and asked everyone to keep the spirit of the WI and be aware of those who they think might be lonely.

A member of the Pins and Needles group explained a little about trauma teddies, the group's latest community initiative. It is hoped that a target of 100 knitted teddies is achieved. These teddies will be donated to the Emergency Services to be given out when meeting children involved in accidents / trauma.

Following coffee and chat time, members enjoyed a talk and demonstration by Rachel Phillips entitled Ideas for Christmas. Using her flower arrangement skills she showed how to turn ordinary presents into beautifully wrapped gifts. Cones, evergreens and flowers were incorporated with Christmas decorations to create table decorations fit to enhance any home. Rachel kindly donated the table arrangements for a raffle, and four members were delighted with their wins.

The meeting was well attended and was thought to be a good start to the Christmas Season.

Susie Appleford

13 November 2017

Community News & Events

Volunteers needed

The Wiltshire Wildlife Conservation Volunteers (WWCV) carries out reserve management on a number of important wildlife sites throughout Wiltshire. In south Wiltshire we help maintain Blackmoor Copse, Middleton Down and Coombe Bissett Down for the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, Pepperbox Hill for the National Trust and Martin Down for Natural England. We work most Saturdays from October to April. Tasks are open to anyone and provide a great opportunity to develop new skills, make new friends and learn more about the management of the countryside. All tools are provided and no previous experience is necessary.



If you care about our wildlife and would like to help us, please contact the Southern Task Leader; Rod Poynting at rod-poynting@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01722 322236.

See the WWCV website for more information and our 2017-2018 Task List for workdays. Registered Charity No 1063811

Coombe Bissett & Homington Drama Club presents

Red Riding Hood



A pantomime by Norman Robbins

6th - 9th December 2017, 7.30 pm

Coombe Bissett Village Hall

Tickets £8 Children under 10 £4 (bench or seat)

Box Office 01722 718 850 from 6th November

Charities for this year are John McNeill and Stars Appeal

Dear All,

Firstly, many apologies for not sending a personal message to the readers of News and Notes sooner.

I am very proud to inform you that just before half term we received a visit from Ofsted. The official report has arrived. WE ARE GOOD!!!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff of Longford for their tremendous hard work, and to thank the Governing Body for the exceptional support they provide, often behind the scenes. We are all dedicated to ensuring the children of Longford School are happy and well educated.

I would also like to thank the local community. Over the past two years, the kindness and generosity of the community has been heart-warming, from the Village Hall and Parish Council, Britford Farm shop, Artcare-SDH, St Peter's Church, ONB Fete and Longford Estate, to other lovely people, such as our parents and local volunteers. We are very proud to be your local school and we look forward to working

with you and getting to know you more in the future.

Merry Christmas from All at Longford Primary School.

Best wishes, Louise Knipe, Headteacher. Longford Primary School

You can read our report via our website: www.longford.wilts.sch.uk

The Nigel Wait Trophy

Nunton v Odstock, Football Match

31st December, 11am Nunton Field

Followed by a buffet lunch at The Radnor Arms

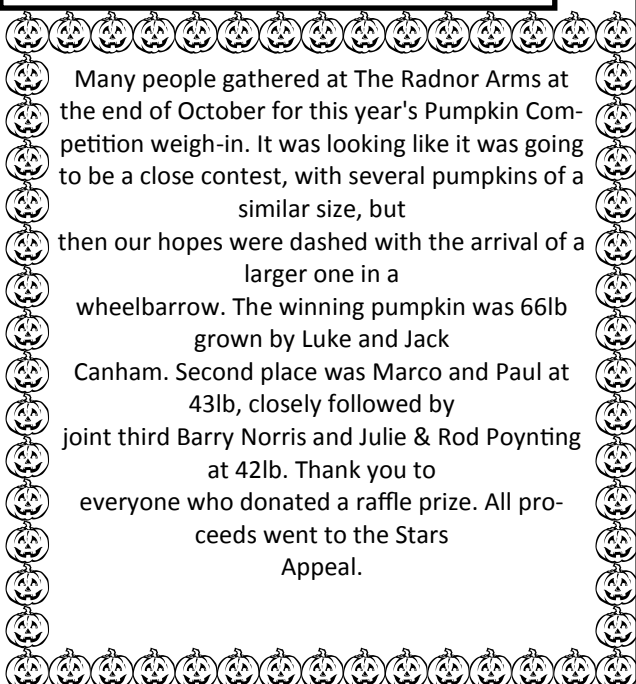
£5 per head

Players needed

For The Nunton Team contact Jim : 07825 627311

For The Odstock Team contact : Deccie 07800 505847

Any donation on the day will go to The British Lung Foundation



Many people gathered at The Radnor Arms at the end of October for this year's Pumpkin Competition weigh-in. It was looking like it was going to be a close contest, with several pumpkins of a similar size, but then our hopes were dashed with the arrival of a larger one in a wheelbarrow. The winning pumpkin was 66lb grown by Luke and Jack Canham. Second place was Marco and Paul at 43lb, closely followed by joint third Barry Norris and Julie & Rod Poynting at 42lb. Thank you to everyone who donated a raffle prize. All proceeds went to the Stars Appeal.



Downton Christmas Tree Festival

St Laurence Church

16th & 17th December 2017

Saturday December 16th: 10:00 – 4:00p.m.

Sunday December 17th: 11:30 – 4:00p.m.

Last year we had several trees on a theme of recycling, edible trees, a tree of teddy bears, a tree of wooden spoons - just a few examples of the ingenuity of our village residents. No doubt this year will prove to be just as interesting!

We hope the Festival will put everyone in the Christmas spirit and that friends and family will come and spend time looking at the exhibits while listening to live music from various local musical groups. As before, tea and coffee with homemade cakes will be available.

Any funds raised during the festival will be divided between Downton Link and other charitable causes chosen by St Laurence Church.

The registered charity 'Downton Link' is a team of local volunteers who offer help with transport and being good neighbours for people in need within the community

Entry is free.

MUSIC PROGRAMME			
Saturday		Sunday	
10:00 – 10:30	The Village Singers		
10:40 – 11:10	DADA Childrens Group		
11:20 – 11:50	The Maudsley Trio	11:45 – 12:00	Elaine Hicks Organ
12:00 – 12:30	Community Choir	12:05 – 12:35	The Maudsley Trio
12:40 – 1:10	Downton Young Musicians	12:45 – 1:15	tbc
1:20 – 1:50	Pat Briddon	1:25 – 1:55	Downton Chamber Voices
2:00 – 2:30	Downton Training Band	2:05 – 2:35	Downton Jubilee Brass
2:40 – 3:10	One Voice Choir	2:45 – 3:15	Ottocorde Mandolins
3:20 – 3:50	Three Folk Instrumental Trio		



Longford
C of E Primary School

You will have read the message from Louise Knipe, Head Teacher of Longford, with the amazing news that Longford School is now rated as GOOD by Ofsted. This was a fantastic result achieved through the hard work of Louise and her Staff, the Governors and all our children and their families.

The school has a very close link with St Peter's in Britford and will be holding their Nativity Service on Wednesday 20th December at 12.00 pm – please do join us if you can, it would be lovely for the children to know how much they and their families are supported by the community.

I have mentioned the School Governors – rather a happy bunch and very dedicated to raising standards in the school even further but we cannot do it on our own – we are seeking another co-opted Governor for our team. If you feel you would like to know more about this or just know that this rewarding post is for you please contact Mrs Louise Knipe on:

head@longford.wilts.sch.uk

Christmas and New Year waste and recycling collection changes

Normal collection day	Revised household waste, black box, plastic bottles and cardboard collection day	Revised garden waste collection day
Mon 25 December	Wed 27 December	No collections
Tues 26 December	Thurs 28 December	No collections
Wed 27 December	Fri 29 December	No collections
Thurs 28 December	Sat 30 December	No collections
Fri 29 December	Tues 2 January	No collections
Mon 1 January	Wed 3 January	No collections
Tues 2 January	Thurs 4 January	No collections
Wed 3 January	Fri 5 January	No collections
Thurs 4 January	Sat 6 January	No collections
Fri 5 January	Mon 8 January	No collections
Mon 8 January	Tues 9 January	Tues 9 January
Tues 9 January	Wed 10 January	Wed 10 January
Wed 10 January	Thur 11 January	Thur 11 January
Thur 11 January	Fri 12 January	Fri 12 January
Fri 12 January	Sat 13 January	Sat 13 January
Mon 15 January	Back to normal	Back to normal

There will be no waste or recycling collections on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

There will be catch up collections on Saturday 30 December, Saturday 6 January and Saturday 13 January.

Garden waste collections will be suspended from Monday 25 December for two weeks and resume on Tuesday 9 January. Collections will be one day later than normal during this week.

All collections, including garden waste, will return to normal from **Monday 15 January 2018**.

If you have paid for a garden waste collection you can leave your real Christmas tree alongside your garden waste bin on your first garden waste collection day in January, and we will ensure it is composted.



Check your collection days at:
www.wiltshire.gov.uk/rubbish-collection-days

Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters



LONGFORD ESTATES

Tel: 01722 411616

Email: office@longford.org.uk www.longfordestates.co.uk

Trafalgar Fisheries

Given the significant waters that run through the Estate, the River Avon from Britford to South of Downton and the Ebbles its tributary from the Homington Meadow to the its confluence with the River Avon in Longford Park as well as a complex set of 'carriers and hatch systems' which, sadly to a lesser degree today support water meadows, it was only natural that the 8th Earl and his River Keeper Tom Williams considered diversifying given such a plentiful natural resource.

A pioneering project therefore evolved in the early 1970s whereby Rainbow trout were held in captivity and supplementary fed to see whether a fish could be commercially farmed in river water. The project was successful and a small fish farm was developed in Longford Park using a system of earth ponds with gravity fed fresh water from the Ebbles.

In 1974 Trafalgar Fisheries was formed and during the 1980-90's the business developed to meet consumer requirements. As demand grew so did the farms and, at the very peak of its existence, ten fish farms made up the dynamic business. Farms were located mainly in the Avon Valley but extended into Dorset and Hampshire.

In the early years trout was considered quite a speciality and a luxury food similar to say a Pheasant. However nowadays with such a range of different foods from around the world regardless of its health benefits, a trout is not seen as quite as 'sexy' as it once was.

With a solid client base of approximately 250 stretching from Port Soy in Aberdeenshire to St Ives in Cornwall Trafalgar Fisheries grew to being the largest inland Fish Farm in England. It decided to take a step further and started processing trout from fillet, butterfly, canoe, round and added seasoning and spices. I even believe that the team tried to 'batter' a trout but for some strange reason it did not seem to have the caché of Cod!

A smokehouse was also developed and this continues today serving multiple and wholesale clients.

In addition an import business evolved to support the mainstay. It is not unusual therefore for a client to ask for 10 boxes of Trout, Squid Ink and Samphire Grass all of which is sourced from our trusted suppliers throughout Europe and beyond.

I like to think that the business USP is how fresh our products are. We are able to provide counter fresh fish from swimming in our ponds onto the supermarket shelves within 16 hours. This is a marvellous achievement from our dedicated staff who process, market and deal with logistical distribution.

Although the above paints a rosy picture this business, it has had to adapt to meet changing environmental economic and welfare standards. In the mid 2000's feed prices began to rise following the BSE crisis. Diet formulas had to change and a reliance on feed with a high content of fish oils had to be implemented. As we all know sea fish are becoming more scarce as consumer demand outstrips supply. Our feed costs therefore doubled within a year.

Jim Love, the General Manager and I have worked closely to try to revitalise the business in recent years in an 'audit' lead fashion. With his hard work, knowledge and determination we have restructured the business with the support of his team of 40 or so employees which at times has not been easy.

Although 'niche' the business is highly regulated and we have a very good working relationship with the Environment Agency, CEFAS and Natural England.

In any business accreditation is important, and Trafalgar Fisheries is no different. We demonstrate the highest standards of welfare not only for livestock but Safe Working Systems for staff as well as hygiene. We retain status via the Soil Association, accreditation via the British Retail Consortium and Global Gap. We have regular unannounced audits by our customers which means that standards are maintained at all times.

I hope that this gives you an insight in this amazing business located on your doorstep, and when you are next walking the fish aisle in Waitrose do look out for a Longford trout!

Church News & Events

Charlton All Saints Messy Christingle

on

21st December 2017

4.00 p.m.



Come and Join us!!

**Tuesday 12th December
7.30 pm
Downton Band Concert
in
Charlton All Saints Church
Usual festive refreshments**

Christian Meditation

A Meditation Hour is held every 2nd Wednesday of the month at Lodge Farmhouse, Broad Chalke starting at 3.30pm (home of Janet Roe).

A short introductory talk is followed by 20-25 minutes of silence (with tea and chat to finish if you would like to stay on).

The group uses the John Main tradition of meditation where a mantra is repeated silently to oneself to aid concentration.

Dates for 2017 are:

13th Dec.

For more information contact Anna Watson (01722 780028) or Janet Roe (01725 519242)

Carol Singing

Odstock – Monday 18th December at 6.30pm. Please meet at Odstock crossroads. Ring Caroline 01722 324915 for more details.

Nunton – Wednesday 20th December at 6.30pm Please meet at the bus shelter, Nunton. Ring Adrian 01722 325862 for more details

Bodenham – Saturday 23rd December at 6pm Please meet at The Old Post Office, finishing at Warmans for drinks and nibbles. Ring Margaret 338868 or Debby 329769 for more details

All welcome, carol sheets provided, but please bring warm clothes and torches.

Collections in aid of the charity Embrace



I wonder how many Christmas cards you have already received? We have bought ours but have not yet tackled that mighty task of writing and posting them! I am constantly amazed at being told by the media, about all the ways that will make our Christmas extra special, extra meaningful, extra elegant, extra delicious..... I am sure you all know what I mean. It truly is a wonderful season and it can be all those things even though I at least never seem to quite measure up to those amazing adverts! But always those nagging questions remain at the back of our minds amidst all this jollity – questions about those who do not have enough money to buy luxurious food let alone presents, about those who live alone and don't have family or friends. Christmas must just add to their stress and their loneliness.

Now we cannot solve all of everyone's problems and hardships by ourselves but, before we settle down to enjoy our celebrations, what about giving something back to God this Christmas by coming to worship in our lovely churches, (all our services are listed nearby!) by giving something to those in need or by showing how much you care to someone who is lonely.

After all Christmas is not simply one day in the year - it grows to become Easter to become Ascension Day to become Pentecost – God's gift of the Christ child is a life-long gift for each and every one of usand **this** gift of God to us is absolutely FREE!!

Christmas in Britford and Charlton All Saints, Nunton, Bodenham and Odstock would then certainly be that extra special time for everyone!

A Very Happy and Blessed Christmas from all the clergy to all of you!

Revd Jenny Taylor



Church of England Services



3 December 1st Sunday of Advent	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	Parish Communion (CW) Family Communion (CW) Family Service Evensong (BCP)	Britford Coombe Bissett Nunton Homington	JT JC AT JP
10 December 2nd Sunday of Advent	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Parish Communion (CW) Family Service Choral Mattins (BCP)	Odstock –Nunton Coombe Bissett Charlton All Saints	CB CB MC
17 December 3rd Sunday of Advent	11.00am 4.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm	Parish Communion (CW) Carol Service Carol Service Carol Service	Hommington Britford Coombe Bissett Odstock	JP JT JT JP
24 December 4th Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve	11.00am 6.00pm 11.00pm	Short Family Communion Nine lessons & Carols Midnight Eucharist (CW)	Odstock Hommington Coombe Bissett	AP JT JT
25 December Christmas Day	8.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) Family Communion (CW) Family Communion (CW) Family Service (CW)	Hommington Charlton All Saints Nunton Coombe Bissett	CB AAJ AAJ JT
7 January Epiphany	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	Parish Communion (CW) Family Communion (CW) Family Service Evensong (BCP)	Britford Coombe Bissett Nunton Homington	JT JT AT JT

CB = Revd Catherine Blundell, JT = Revd Jenny Taylor,

DB = David Blundell, AP = Revd Ann Philp, MC = Michael Chandler, AT = Adrian Taylor

JC = Jane Charman, TM = Tony Monds, AH = Anthony Hawley, AAJ = Archdeacon Alan Jeans, JP = Jonathon Plows

Team Rector ~ Revd Catherine Blundell: 01722 780134 Team Vicar ~ Revd Jenny Taylor: 01722 503081

Team Administrator ~ Mrs Helen Atkinson: 01722 781112

BCP = Book of Common Prayer (Traditional Language), CW = Common Worship (Contemporary Language)



This is a great time of year to get planting. Fill gaps in your garden with a tree or shrub, such as hawthorn or holly, which are great news for birds and insects

Facts about Honey

Honey bees make honey from the nectar they collect from flowering plants. They do this by evaporating most of the water content of the nectar and then packing the finished honey into wax cells. Once each cell is full, the bees seal it with a wax cap to prevent the honey from absorbing moisture. Most honey contains around 18% water; if the water content is above 20% honey can ferment.

As long as it is sealed, honey keeps indefinitely. Honey found in the Egyptian pyramids was still sound after being stored for three thousand years.

As well as glucose, fructose and other sugars, honey also contains pollen, minerals, vitamins, organic acids, aromatic compounds, proteins, amino acids, and other trace substances. These other constituents are what gives honey its complex flavours; without them it would taste simply of sugar syrup.

Over time most honey will granulate to form 'set' honey. Honey with a high glucose content (such as honey from oil seed rape or ivy nectar) granulates very quickly, with a fine, smooth texture. Honeys which are slow to granulate tend to have a coarser, more grainy texture.

The colour of honey ranges from almost colourless through to black. It is the pollen content which gives it colour. (Pollen is not found naturally in flower nectar; it is added by the bees during the production process!) Every species of flowering plant has its own pollen, and some are quite distinctive. For example, horse chestnut pollen is brick red and phacelia is dark blue. And if you spot a bee carrying bright orange pollen on her back legs she has probably been foraging on snowdrops or dandelions.

Locally-produced honey ('wildflower' honey) contains a unique combination of many different nectars and pollens, which vary continuously over the course of the year. The honey can even vary between different hives in the same apiary, depending upon where each colony has been foraging.

Honey bees forage mainly within a mile of their hive although they will travel further for a really good nectar source, such as oil seed rape (OSR). Honey bee colonies in the Nunton area forage on a diverse range of species of plants and trees in the local hedgerows, field margins and gardens, producing a mixed flower honey. In areas where more flowering crops are grown, mono-floral honeys may be produced, such as borage, clover, lavender or field bean honey. Bees kept near the New Forest forage in August on ling heather, which in good years may yield heather honey.

The best plants for honey bees are those which are available close to the hive in large quantities and which produce nectar with a high sugar content. In the Nunton area the major sources in most years are: sycamore, willow, OSR, dandelion, clover, hawthorn, wild cherry, horse chestnut, lime trees, blackberries and ivy. Garden plants are also very important for our local bees, especially when none of the major sources are in flower. Some of the best garden flowers for bees are: alliums, campanulas, nepeta (cat mint) flowering cherries (single-flowered), fruit trees, foxgloves, lavender, cotoneaster, pyracantha, soft fruit bushes, stachys, echinops (globe thistle), marjoram, thyme, mint, hardy geraniums (cranesbill), asters, hellebores, pulmonarias (lungwort), snowdrops, crocus.

Sally Nelson

Getting to know you
Louise Penny – The Radnor Arms

As many of you know, Louise was born whilst her Mum and Dad, Richard and Lesley ran The Radnor Arms. She lived there then until the family left in 1999, just before Louise's 15th birthday.
Now back at The Radnor and in charge since August this year, I thought it would be nice to know a little more about what interests Louise.

Q1. Tell us something you remember from your childhood...?

A. I remember I went to South Africa in 1997 for a term on an exchange programme, pretty exciting!

Q2. Let's do favourites, your favourite food, music, colour and pet?

That's a lot to think about.

Food is a good homemade spaghetti bolognese.

Colours, turquoise and purple.

Music, my favourite song of all time is 'fix you' by Coldplay. As for bands, there are so many; Coldplay, Snow patrol, Mumford and Sons, Jack Savoretti, I could go on...

And pets, Rolo my gorgeous standard poodle without a doubt.

Q3. Which actress would play you in the story of your life?

Renee Zellweger as Bridget Jones, in the big knickers.

Q4. What is your ideal evening out and your ideal to wake up to in the morning?

A nice evening out would involve eating out with tasty food and drink and a concert at the O2, to see Freddie Mercury or Snow patrol.

I like to wake up to smoked salmon and scrambled egg.

Q5. List your top 4 people (dead or alive) you would like to invite for a dinner party?

My Mum & Dad, my brother BT and my Fiancée George. *No celebrities Louise?* No, I like my family and loved ones around me.

Q6. Where in the world is your favourite place and anywhere you would like to visit?

Thailand, for the food and the beaches, I was there last January when George and I got engaged. I would like to try Bali sometime too.

Q7. Some more likes and favourites to finish off, something you really like, your favourite book or film and pastime?

I like beer, I do not really have time to read or watch films but my favourite TV show is Neighbours and sport is Rugby, but only to watch (*may be something to do with BT being a rugby player...*)

Britford

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e-mail radnorhallbookings@gmail.com

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Nail Tidy + Polish - £15

Hand soak, nail file, cuticle tidy + nail varnish (includes base and top coat)

Gel Pedicure - £30

Foot soak, nail file, cuticle tidy, exfoliation, lower leg and foot massage + gel nail varnish (includes base and top coat)

Toenail Tidy + Polish - £20

Foot soak, nail file, cuticle tidy + nail varnish (includes base and top coat)



Contact
Jane
07787 686790

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The aim of FP is to identify basic postural imbalances through Pilates based exercises to increase muscular balance and strength, improve posture and improve core and back strength

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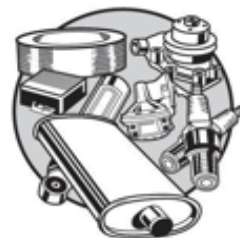
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Regular Events	
WI	Second Monday of the month, 10.00am, The Radnor Hall, Bodenham
Singing Group	Tuesdays (ex. Aug/Dec), 4.30pm or 7.00pm, The Barker Room, contact Adrian Taylor on 07753 829027
Mobile Library	Britford (The Green), 10.10am – 10.30am (Wednesday 8 th November)
Acorn Club	Coffee Morning – Wednesdays 10.30am at The Orchard
'Local Vocals'	Singing group for everybody. No need to read music. 1 st and 3 rd Mondays each month. The Radnor Hall, 7.30 - 9.30pm. Please check with Clare Chitty 07899 71878
Circle Dancing	Simple dances from many countries to join in with, no partner or previous experience necessary. 2 nd and 4 th Mondays at The Radnor Hall. 7.30pm – 9.30pm. Contact Clare Chitty 07889 718780
Village Prayers	If you'd like prayers to be said for someone you know, a particular situation or yourself, you may either put a note in the Village Prayers box at St Andrew's, Nunton or St Mary's, Odstock, email details to villageprayers@live.com or come along. Next meeting: 14th December 7pm. The Barker Room, Nunton.
Diary Dates	
6 th -9 th December	Red Riding Hood, Coombe Bissett (see page 2)
12 th December	Downton Band Concert, Charlton all Saints (see page 5)
16 th – 17 th December	Downton Christmas Tree Festival (see page 3)
18 th December	Carol Singing, Odstock (see page 5)
20 th December	Carol Singing, Nunton (see page 5)
21 st December	Messy Christingle, (see page 5)
23 rd December	Carol Singing, Bodenham (see page 5)
13th July 2018	Ebblefest Dance
14th July 2018	Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham Village Fete

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Thank you to the person who found my scarf at Charlton all Saints after the Remembrance Service on Sunday morning and tied it to the hand-rail at the Village Hall. I did not see it but my Grandson noticed it blowing in the wind and retrieved it for me. Thank you for your thoughtful act.

Pam Trubshaw