

THE PARISH MAGAZINE Ashford in the Water and Sheldon https://ashfordparishchurch.com December 2024



ASHFORD SERVICES

Sunday 1st December: Advent Sunday: 9.45am Morning Worship Sunday 8th December: Advent 2: 9.45am Sung Eucharist Sunday 15th December: Advent 3: 9.45am Sung Eucharist Sunday 22nd December: Advent 4: 9.45am Sung Eucharist Christmas Eve: 4pm Crib Service by Candlelight Christmas Day: 10.00am Christmas Sung Eucharist Sunday 29th December: Christmas 1: 10.00am Benefice Eucharist at Rowsley

SHELDON





Sunday 22nd December: 4.00pm Carol Service Christmas Day: 9.00am Christmas Eucharist





A prayer for Christmas:

May God, who has called us out of darkness into his marvellous light, bless us and fill us with peace and love this Christmas. Amen

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Wednesday 18th December 6pm: Village Carol Singing round the tree near to the Sheepwash Bridge (at the WM Institute if wet)



Tuesday 24th December Christmas Eve 4pm: Crib Service by Candlelight





Wednesday 25th December Christmas Day 10am: Christmas Sung Eucharist



Dear Friends

A recent poll following the news of the Archbishop of



Canterbury's retirement reported that over 40% of those asked either didn't know who he was or that there was such a post. Over 70% felt that the Church of England was irrelevant to their lives and experiences and had nothing to offer or say that would make any impact upon their lives. As a priest and member of the C of E it reminded me that whilst I believe in a God of love, healing, compassion, peace, and reconciliation, the local church exists for those who are not members of it. In times of need, sorrow, joy and thanksgiving, they can through the loving ministry of people of faith, discover God's strength, comfort and presence.

The Season of Advent that leads to Christmas and then to The Epiphany offers the opportunity to engage with the meaning of Christmas and to allow ourselves to reflect on the reason for the season as we embrace traditions and memories of past Christmas school nativity plays, carol singing, visiting Santa and those with whom we have spent (and may continue to spend) Christmas Day. Whether we have a faith or not, or are interested to know more, or enjoy the moment for what it holds for us before it is gone, this time of the year speaks to us of hope, promise, relationship, goodwill and love. Advent collects together important themes of looking forward to a time when all things will be gathered up in God's presence, when righteousness, truth, justice, light, peace and reconciliation will prevail and wars will cease, tears will be wiped away, and people will walk in the peace that passes all understanding.

Advent points to this beginning when God comes to earth and takes human flesh, being born in poverty, becoming a refugee, in order to identify with the suffering, the poor and vulnerable, as well as the powerful and influential. Christmas celebrates God's gift of life being shared and offered for all people. The exchange of our presents, greetings and celebration of parties etc. with family and friends are a reminder of God allowing us to see the image of the divine every time we look into one another's eyes and notice friend and stranger.

We are all familiar with the story of the Birth of Christ and all who were part of this, ordinary people who did extraordinary things through the invitation, encouragement and will of God. The Epiphany - the visit of the Magi (Wise People) symbolises the sharing of the light of God shining into the darkest places of people's hearts and lives. It offers hope and reassurance that nobody should ever feel abandoned or rejected if we love one another generously, courageously, compassionately and without condition. The gifts the Magi offered the Christ Child are symbols of seeing that all power comes from God and the wealth we may enjoy is only true wealth when it is shared and used wisely and justly.

The Christian belief is that Jesus came to save people from the consequence of sin, restore them in God's image and draw them into God's eternal presence to love and be loved forever. This will only be achieved through sacrifice on a cross in order to bring life through Easter.

In order to be relevant, and true to the call to share God's good news of love, the Church exists for those who are not members, but who one day we pray, will become part of God's family and know how precious they are all in his sight. Part of this call as God's people, the Church, is to share in your Christmas and enable you to rejoice, sing, reflect and enjoy the meaning of this season. As we move into a New Year, we are called not only to make it better than 2024 for ourselves and others, but to keep and make real the pledge to be kind, thoughtful, peaceful, loving and generous in our care for all of our neighbours wherever they are in the world.

Happy Christmas.

With love, Canon Tony



Jessica (nee Wildgoose) and Robert Templeman after their wedding on the 8th November. Robert is the grandson of Karen and Sid Templeman. Jessica looked stunning and her smiles lit up a rather dull November day. We wish them much happiness in their future lives together.



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Memories of David Lee Eulogy

Vivien, Paula, Claire and Kirsten have received so many cards, calls and letters since David died but there were some common words used that sum David up; kind, professional, gentlemanly and fun. He balanced warmth with integrity and brought joy to many around him.



As you will all know David was a Geordie through and through and he maintained a love for the beautiful Northumbrian coastline. He believed there were two outstanding attributes relating to the fishing village of Craster, – their delicious kippers and the fact that he was born there. His passion was also illustrated in his love of Newcastle United. A passionate fan for the whole of his life he was always available for any football related chat. It was always a good week if the lads were on a winning streak. Fortunately, he had a cheerful and optimistic personality that carried him through the less successful patches!

As well as a love of football David also had a keen interest in cricket. Test match cricket was the soundtrack to many a summer holiday, despite none of the girls being in the least bit interested. There was much complaining when that they had to listen to test match special on the journey, and were pleased if the trip included crossing the channel because the broadcast could not be picked up very far into France. Fortunately, David was blessed with 3 sons in law and 6 grandchildren with whom he could share his joy of sport, be that as a supporter, spectator or taking part. A sporting activity he did share with the girls was his love of running, which he took up in the 1970's as an aid to health and fitness. As with everything else he did, he took this seriously and decided he needed a goal, which is when he decided to enter the Great North Run, at the age of 60. He

completed 13 half marathons (always the great north run of course), 2 marathons and numerous 10ks, raising money for charity in the process. David always ran with one, or more of his daughters. In fact, he kept running up until the ripe old age of 73. After his quadruple bypass he was most put out when his cardiologist recommended against long distance running. He continued his running adventures vicariously following Paula, Claire and Kirsten's progress. While sport was a keen interest of David's, he was blessed with a career he loved, working until he was in his 80's. He exhibited an entrepreneurial spirit from a young age, breeding rabbits then selling them at the local market for his pocket money. He took it upon himself to study accountancy showing a determination and drive that was present throughout all of his life. Whilst working in industry he was fortunate enough to do a huge amount of travelling during this time, including visiting Japan, Australia, USA as well as many European countries. He thoroughly enjoyed this despite the fact (or maybe because) he left Vivien with 3 young girls. While working for Dunlop he was always proud to say that he was instrumental in Gatwick airport receiving its first moving pavements. During this time, he was also

given the opportunity to take a Senior Managers course at the European branch of Harvard Business School at Vevey in Switzerland which he thoroughly enjoyed.

Eventually he chose to set up his own accountancy practice in Bakewell. Yes, he had a love of numbers (strange!!) but part of the job he loved the most was getting to know his clients, building relationships with them and helping their businesses survive and thrive. Many of his clients went on to become very good friends.

David ALWAYS had a thirst for knowledge and a desire to enrich body, mind and soul. While sometimes this resulted in cranky eating (Vivien drew the line at eating millet) it also led to him being a voracious reader of non-fiction (as well as fiction). The breadth of this stretched from politics and history to theology and philosophy. He didn't take other people's political opinions as his own but read widely around any topic to decide his view. Who knew there were so many books published on Brexit? Always interested in exploring his spiritual side he went on several weekend silent monastic retreats and strove to lead the best life he possibly could by delving into the philosophical world. He was a keen

advocate of the stoic way of life and even had a favourite stoic philosopher – Marcus Aurelius for those who are interested.

David always liked to have a plan, set out the things he'd like to achieve each day – he didn't like to think he was ever wasting time. In 2018, when he was told that he needed 6 rounds of chemotherapy, he decided it was an excellent time to read 'War and Peace', much to the amusement of his haematologist. So, when his treatment made him too tired to work, he set out a plan to read a certain number of pages each day and after breakfast would settle in the sitting room to achieve his goal. He thoroughly enjoyed the book and we understand that this story has been recounted with amusement to other patients in the haematology department.

He was a long serving and valued member of the church community right here and served as treasurer for 40 years. He loved singing tenor in the church choir and was a founder member, since its inception in the 1980's. His love of music was very wide from traditional jazz, classical and opera with a bit of Abba and Barbara Streisand thrown in – eclectic to say the least. David had a generous and caring side, he never really got cross with anyone, even when the girls needed lifts home from parties at the dead of night. Calm and gentle he washed away any of the girls fears or anxieties with a listening ear and a great big hug. His generosity wasn't restricted to his family, he was always a keen advocate for supporting various worldwide charities whether that was personally or through the church. We had many family holidays together and David loved nothing more than being with his wife, daughters, son in laws and grandchildren. He was always delighted when the house was full.

While feeling the sorrow of his absence we take comfort from knowing how widely he was admired and cherished. It's a beautiful legacy to be remembered with such affection and respect.

Vivien and family would like to thank everyone for their very kind messages of sympathy and their happy memories of David. It has provided much comfort at this sad time.

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SHELDON JOTTINGS

WhatamonthNovember turned out tobe! We dealt with damp



weather, low cloud and fog, for the first two weeks of the month and then the cold snap, yes! Beautiful as it made the countryside look with the bright low winter sun and good fun for the youngsters, but not so good for those working outside or for the older folk. At least the Gritter and the Snowplough turned up on the first day but on the final day when the last of the snow fell, 'nowt'!, The village was virtually cut off unless you drove a four track or a tractor or were going down the hill and just HAD to leave the fireside! Apparently a cold snap is not unusual in late November. At least our feathered visitors have joined us for the winter months, the flocks of starlings are once more flying over the village southwards from their roost to their feeding grounds on the moor and wheeling across the landscape as only starlings do. The redwings and fieldfares are also visitors to look out for.

Weather aside, the month did provide us with some excitement and memories to treasure. Bonfire night on the fifth and then our Remembrance Service, a Service not to be forgotten. With everyone in Church a fully grown Shire horse led in by Charlene Blackshaw from Dirtlow Farm appeared in the doorway, fully dressed with poppies for the occasion. She walked sedately, as only shires can, down to the aisle to the front of the Church. Canon Tony dedicated the first half of the Service to the warhorses of the First World War, not forgetting the part they played on both sides and in other wars as well. The Service then continued in remembrance of those who gave their lives in service of their country, particularly of the five young men from Sheldon, the Brocklehurst brothers John and Thomas, Anthony Gyte, Alfred Wildgoose, and John Sherwin whose names are forever remembered on the lovely memorial in the Church.

In December, winter begins, either meteorological winter on Dec 1 and ending on the last day of February, or astrological winter which begins on the first day of the Winter Solstice 21st December and ends on March 20th 2025. We prefer the latter mainly as the 21st is the shortest day of the year and then the days begin to lengthen towards the spring and the appearance of the first snowdrops.

Of course we have the celebration of Christmas to look forward to either in panic, if arrangements for the great day are not finalised, or excited anticipation if you are contentedly sitting in front of the fire and all is ready, but hey! - don't be too smug something is sure to catch you out!

There will be a Christmas Tree Festival in the Church from the 1st of December and don't forget the Church Services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, reminding us all of what the celebration is all about. A time of carols and the telling and re-telling of the wonderful Christmas story of the birth of Jesus Christ.

We would like to wish everyone a very enjoyable and fun filled Christmas with family and friends. Enjoy your Christmas chocolates vou can diet in the New Year!

fridge) you can carry on helping yourself to a glass for the full duration of Christmas – one for each of the 12 days unless the bottle runs dry earlier! This Ten-Year-Old Tawny medals regularly wins Decanter World Wine Awards which I chair every year in April/May. And

> if you want to climb the Tawny ladder. Port Hattersley's have the full range of Sandeman's aged tawnies available: 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 years old. The wines become even smoother and more

colour fades so do the tannins

making this wine super-soft and

smooth with raisin and sloe-like

richness and a touch of savoury

Brazil nut complexity. If you keep a

bottle of this wine cool (or in the



at

the

complex with age but correspondingly more expensive. But there is nothing more comforting than a glass of tawny Port! **Richard Mayson**



Wine of the Month: Sandeman's Ten-Year-**Old Tawny Port**

£28.99 Hattersley Wines

Here's a simply gorgeous wine for drinking over Christmas and the New Sandeman have Year. made a speciality of tawny Port, aged in wooden casks until the wine turns tawny in colour with age. As the



Farming News

We have at last after almost 40 years entered



the 21st century at Broadroods Farm. We have an office, toilet and wash room. Last year we took mains electric from the main road up to the buildings, having relied for years on a generator, which was fine but not a long term solution. When we put the first building up there in 1986, we had a quote from EMEB, as it was then, and the cost was £85,000. So of course it wasn't going to happen.

We applied again last year and it was £16,000 if we did all the digging etc ourselves. It's so much better, particularly on a frosty morning like this morning, struggling to start the diesel generator before we could do anything! Worse still it had run out of diesel!! Seems very odd having lights in the buildings and new workshop. When we took over Highfield from Neil's father Tom, we didn't want to spend large amounts of money putting sheds up here at Highfield, as it is owned by Chatsworth and you never know what the future holds on a tenanted farm. The positives are we don't have the muck or mess down here but it's not ideal not living on the job especially at calving

times. Hopefully Peak Park Planners will agree with us that a house in between two silage pits isn't everyone's dream! They really do have some daft ideas. All fairly quiet on the farm at the moment. The builders have been here for the last fortnight putting roller shutter doors in front of a building for a three bay workshop. Wish our new MP would come and look at the value of everything - a million pounds is nothing when you look round at all the assets on even the smallest farm. Not sure last week's march in London will achieve anything but at least it makes the general public aware of our situation. The sad thing is it may be the end of the small family farm, as we are all cash poor and asset rich which won't pay the average inheritance tax. All the TV channels and the politicians kept quoting the average farm made an £85,000 profit where do they get these figures? Absolute rubbish. Perhaps a few Lincolnshire arable farms do many small family farms won't even have a turnover of £85000. So so annoying!



Ashford WI

Former Ashford in the Water resident, Elizabeth Holloway, gave a fascinating and heart-felt talk at last month's WI meeting about her late mother Doris Walsh, one of the last of her generation of Sheffield Little Mesters. Born on the eve of World War I in Pitsmoor, Doris started work at the age of 14, first as an errand girl before becoming an acid etcher at the tool and cutlery factory Butchers Wheel. During World War II she was conscripted at Firth Browns where she helped manufacture small parts for the Spitfire aircraft. After a brief interlude to join her husband in Ireland, she returned to Sheffield and set up as an etcher in her own right, working on a range of objects from knives and tankers to scissors and swords. A collection of Bowie Swords etched by Doris are even on display in the Alamo Museum in Texas.

In recounting the story of her mother's life through two world wars and massive social change, culminating in her being honoured as one of Sheffield's 'Women of Steel', Elizabeth managed to bring the sights and smells of 1900s industrial Sheffield vividly back to life, reminding everyone of the city's heritage as a cutlery empire and highlighting the important role women like Doris played in that success.

Fittingly, last month's competition was for best piece of Sheffield cutlery. Congratulations go to winner Val, who

managed to score a double whammy by winning the raffle too!

Also in November, a group of WI members spent a rewarding morning filling 20 Christmas bags for families with young carers in our area (see picture). The goods were bought with the funds generated from our coffee day in September. As well as some essential food items and lovely treats, each bag contained a book and a toy shop voucher for the young carer. It was very satisfying to see how Derbyshire Carers are using the funds we raised.



The next Ashford WI meeting will be given over to the Christmas Party which will be held at the Institute on December 5th.

If you would like to join the Ashford in the Water WI, please email us on: <u>AshfordWI28@gmail.com</u>

New members are always very welcome!



CHRISTMAS QUIZ

 Which country first started the tradition of putting up a Christmas tree?

2. In Home Alone where is the family going on holiday for Christmas?

3. Which King was crowned on Christmas Day in 1066?

4. What is the name of the shortest day of the year?

5. What is a male turkey called?

6. How many times does the number 1 appear on an Advent calendar with 24 doors?

7. What gift did the Little Drummer Boy give the newborn Christ?

8. What is the name of the Grinch's dog?

9. What well-known Christmas carol became the first song ever broadcast from space in 1965?

10.What is Father Christmas called in Germany?

Answers on last page.

POT LUCK

Special Christmas Stuffing





Ingredients:

- 2 oz (50g) dried apricots, chopped
- 6 oz (175g) bacon lardons
- 1 large onion chopped
- 2 sticks celery, finely sliced
- 4 oz (100g) brown breadcrumbs
- 8 oz (225g) pork sausagemeat
- 3 oz (75g) pinenuts

2 good tablespoons chopped parsley

¹/₂ teaspoon salt Plenty of ground black pepper 1 egg beaten

Method:

1. Pour boiling water over the chopped apricots and leave to soak for a couple of hours. Drain well.

2. Put the lardons in a non-stick frying pan and cook slowly at first, then drain out the fat and set aside, and fry until crisp.

3. Add the onion to the pan, add reserved fat and brown, then in a large bowl, mix with all the other stuffing ingredients.

4. Use it to stuff the turkey, or put in a greased tin or dish, cover with foil, and cook for 50-60 minutes at 180°C. Remove the foil for the last 15 minutes of cooking time.

Ashford in the Water Parish Council

For information about the village and surrounding area, and the activities of the Parish Council, please visit

http://www.ashford-in-thewater-pc.gov.uk



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Please remember if you need to seek medical advice and the surgery is closed contact **111**.

CHRISTMAS QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Germany 2. Paris 3. King William 1st (the Conqueror)

4. Winter Solstice 5. A stag 6. 13 7. He played a song on his drum. 8. Max 9. Jingle Bells 10. Der weihnachtsmann

The deadline for the January magazine is 23rd December 2024.

Please send any poems, photos, articles, recipes, puzzles, thoughts or reminiscences to <u>stone.mary@sky.com</u>. Thank you!