

# **The Baldons and Nuneham Courtenay Newsletter**



**December 2012 – January 2013**

## JACK GREENAWAY RECEIVES BISHOP'S AWARD

At a special evensong at Dorchester Abbey on 30th September, Jack Greenaway was posthumously admitted to the Fellowship of St Birinus.

This is an award made by the Bishop of Dorchester in recognition of Jack's many years' service to his local church and community. Sadly Jack never got to hear of his award, but his sisters, Josie and Jill collected the award on his behalf, supported by many of Jack's village supporters in the congregation.



## CAROL SINGING ON THE GREEN



*Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2012  
Meet at the Seven Stars at 6:30 pm  
Or at Baldon House at 7:45 pm  
All welcome!*

Dear Friends,

As I expect most of you probably know, Christmas sees the end of my time as curate in the Dorchester Team. I am heading back to my native North to be Chaplain and Solway Fellow at University College, Durham - I'm very excited about the job, which is part university chaplaincy and part research, and I will be returning to my academic work on the seventeenth century Church of England.

I am very excited about the job, and about being back in the north-east, but I am also very sorry to be leaving after 3 and a half years here, and 12 in Oxford and its environs. I have very much enjoyed my time here, and want to thank you for all you have shared with me and all I have learned from you. It has been an enormous privilege.

Christmas in village churches is lovely: I will leave with memories of the cold, the candlelight, the holly, and the precious expectation as - year after year - we hear again the familiar, well-known Christmas story. But the Christmas story is full of journeying - of arrivals and departures, and heading out into unknown futures: Mary had no idea how her baby's future would work out; the journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem was fraught with risk; the shepherds who went to the manger to worship went away to tell everyone the astonishing thing that had happened; the wise men travelled from the East, following a star, unsure where to go and were surprised by what they found and where they found it.

You may be approaching this Christmas with clear plans and expectations; you may be approaching it with anxiety; you may be simply dreading it. The New Year may be a time for new resolutions, new beginnings and new departures - literal or metaphorical. Wherever your Christmas journey takes you this year, I hope you will be surprised again by the familiar story, and go into the New Year rejoicing.

May God grant you a peaceful and joyful Christmas and every blessing for 2013.

With my good wishes, thanks, and prayers,  
Hannah

*The Revd Dr Hannah Cleugh is Curate for The Baldons, Berinsfield and Drayton St Leonard: e-mail hannah.cleugh@yahoo.co.uk and tel: 01865 341382*

*The Revd Ros Latham is Team vicar for The Baldons, Berinsfield and Drayton St Leonard: e-mail: bbdparishoffice@rocketmail.com and tel: 01865 340460*

**Cover Photo – Night Snow towards the Chilterns 2011, James Eliot**

## **BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

### **Closure of Seven Stars**

Following its closure, a group of villagers led by Liz Jones are preparing plans to buy the Seven Stars from David Harding and then run it, through a licensee yet to be appointed, as a village pub. This rescue plan, which was launched at a public meeting in the Village Hall on the 9th October, is being wholeheartedly supported by the Parish Council. Villagers are asked if they can help with this venture, either financially or with their skills, and to give their views on the future Seven Stars in a separate notice in this Newsletter.

### **Flooding in Baldon Lane**

Following another spell of heavy rain in October flooding and sewage out flow again occurred in Baldon Lane. The Parish Council has taken it up again with SODC Environmental Services Officers and with Thames Water who have promised an investigation and said they will report in November. Unfortunately this hasn't materialised at the time of writing.

### **Boundary Commission review of SODC Electoral Boundaries**

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England have now published their draft recommendations for reorganised electoral wards in South Oxfordshire which are based on a reduction from 48 to 36 District Councillor and these are available for public consultation from 14<sup>th</sup> November to 7<sup>th</sup> January. The Parish Council had argued to be included in the same electoral division as Nuneham Courtenay and it is proposed the new ward comprises of Sandford on Thames, Nuneham Courtenay, The Baldons, Clifton Hampden, Culham and Long and Little Wittenham and would be known as the Sandford and Wittenham ward. In making our earlier comments the council had argued against extending the boundary of the ward across the Thames as the focus of villages north of the Thames was towards the City and Wallingford where transport and social links are strong and the river presents a significant degree of separation between communities. However the boundary commission have accepted SODC's recommendations on the composition of the new ward in the interests of creating a degree of numerical equality between wards. The council will be considering a response to the proposals. The report and proposals can be seen on the Boundary Commission web site at the following link [www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/south-east/oxfordshire/south-oxfordshire-fer](http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/south-east/oxfordshire/south-oxfordshire-fer) and anyone can comment during the consultation period up to 7<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

### **Precept for 2013**

Following a long discussion on priorities for expenditure for 2013 the Parish Council has provisionally agreed that we should try to hold the precept at current levels. We will be looking at plans in more detail and believe with care we can do this but will be confirming our recommendation to SODC at the next PC meeting in January.

### **Thames Valley Police warnings**

One of our police community support officers attended the meeting and told of the spate of car thefts and burglaries which have been occurring in neighbouring villages. He

advised that car owners should take care to always lock the car, and leave windows closed, and no valuables and property visible.

In the run up to Christmas he also issued a reminder about the risks of burglaries and need for home security.

### **Christmas Refuse Collection**

Monday Dec 31st revised to Monday Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> Grey bin week

Monday 7th Jan revised to Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> Jan Green bin week

Details are also on SODC web site

**Date of next meeting** Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2013 7.30pm Village hall



As indicated in the note from the Parish Council in this newsletter, a small working group is putting together a plan to save the pub. David Harding has very kindly indicated his willingness in principle to sell the pub to a co-operative society to be formed in the village.

The working party is putting together various documents including an "opportunity document" which will explain in detail what is to happen and invite financial participation. That will be made public as soon as possible. In the meantime, anyone who has not already done so is invited to provide feedback as follows:

- (a) What use you currently make of the pub.
- (b) what would make you use the pub more.
- (c) what might make you use the pub less.
- (d) what expertise or services you can offer to help save the pub.
- (e) any other ideas in connection with the pub.

Please send all answers to [laurence.attewill@gmail.com](mailto:laurence.attewill@gmail.com). The timescale is tight so we need answers ASAP please.

In addition, if anyone is willing in principle (subject to the detailed opportunity document to be provided shortly) to put up some money to assist in buying the pub as a community asset, please email [Phil@philcollins.uk.com](mailto:Phil@philcollins.uk.com).

For further information please go to [www.savethesevenstars.com](http://www.savethesevenstars.com)

Liz Jones



## ANOTHER VILLAGE WALK...

Following the success of the first walk in September, I wonder whether there would be any interest in another.

What I have in mind is a footpath walk from the Baldons to Chiselhampton and back on New Year's Day. The walk takes about an hour each way and would incorporate a pub lunch at the Coach and Horses. Let's meet at the Seven Stars car park at 11.15 for 11.30.

It would be helpful if you could let me know ([laurence.attewill@gmail.com](mailto:laurence.attewill@gmail.com)) if you would like to participate so I can make a suitable table booking at the pub, which I'm assured will be open for business!

Laurence

## WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES

### CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR OPENING HOURS:

<b>Christmas Eve</b>	<b>08:00 - 15:00</b>
<b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>Boxing Day</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>Thursday 27/12 to Sunday 30/12</b>	<b>08:00 - 17:00</b>
<b>New Year's Eve</b>	<b>08:00 - 15:00</b>
<b>New Year's Day</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>Wednesday 02/01/13 onwards</b>	<b>Normal opening hours: 8:00-17:00</b>

### ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Items for February 2013 newsletter  
by **16<sup>th</sup> January please**

Any villager is welcome to send items for publication in the newsletter - this can be anything from articles, poems or pictures, to publicising your event. In addition, if you have an image you would like us to consider for the cover, do send it in!  
If you would like to receive a reminder e-mail each month for newsletter contributions please let me know.

Natasha Eliot: [tashaandjames@btopenworld.com](mailto:tashaandjames@btopenworld.com). Alternatively I can be contacted on 340562 or at The Barn House, Baldon House East, Marsh Baldon.  
For advertising queries, please contact Sheila Harris on: [s.harris886@btinternet.com](mailto:s.harris886@btinternet.com) or on 340403.

## BALDONS VILLAGE HALL

The Annual Seniors' Party is on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2013 – Invitations will be going out shortly, so do look out for them.

To book the hall, or hire some of the other equipment that is in the hall, please contact Ali or Darren on: 01865 340264 or [dbaber@rm.com](mailto:dbaber@rm.com)

## NUNEHAM COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL

Join us for our annual Christmas Bingo on Friday the 7th of December. Doors open at 7:30 for Eyes down at 8 pm. Prizes include donations from our fantastic local community and some lovely Christmas treats.

### *Marsh Baldon School PTA Christmas Fayre Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 3.15pm*

#### *Please Help Buy the School new ICT Equipment!!!*

*The PTA have set the aim of raising at least £800 to buy new laptops and learning support software for the school and hope the Fayre will go a long way towards reaching this target. So please do help in any way you can!!!*

*In particular, we would welcome any donations of **bottles and cakes** which you could bring into the school hall on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December.*

*Also, there will be **second hand toys and clothes** stalls - so if you are having a pre-Christmas clear out please bring them into school at any point over the next three weeks and leave them under the table in the foyer where we will collect and sort them prior to the event.*

*Any queries, or if you have goods you would like us to collect, please contact Sarah Singleton on [joeandsarahsingleton@btinternet.com](mailto:joeandsarahsingleton@btinternet.com) or 341397.*

## **Need some help around your home?**

I live in Marsh Baldon and can help with various chores from cleaning, shopping, collecting prescriptions or dry cleaning to helping you get to a doctor's appointment.

I am hard working, trustworthy and reliable.

I charge £11 per hour and am available Mon-Fri

If you could use a little help around your home then please call me, Pippa, to discuss your requirements, on **01865 343488**



During my recent Village Tour I was asked why when you see footage of proceedings in Parliament on the television the Chamber is often quite empty. The reason is that at any one time there are many different debates and meetings going on in the Palace of Westminster and MPs have to divide their time among these. It is therefore not always possible to be in the Chamber.

If you want to know just what is going on in Parliament full details are published on the Parliament website and verbatim reports of main debates in the Chamber are published in Hansard. If you want to find out more about the work of Parliament and the progress of specific Bills you can find full details at <http://www.parliament.uk>.

I am often asked by constituents about visiting Parliament. This is indeed possible. You can attend debates, watch committee hearings, go on a tour of the buildings and also climb the Elizabeth Tower. Details of this can be found at <http://www.parliament.uk/visiting>

In this regular newsletter I report on some key issues which may be of particular interest. This month there are three that I would like to draw to your attention.

### **Growth and Infrastructure Bill**

A recent key debate has been on the Growth and Infrastructure Bill. This seeks to reduce delays in the planning system through various means, including referring certain projects to the Secretary of State to be determined. It also has provisions relating to telecommunication equipment and energy infrastructure and gas transport. To promote development, the Bill would allow for planning obligations (section 106 agreements) relating to affordable housing to be renegotiated to make a development economically viable again. To promote economic growth, it makes provision for a planned revaluation of business rates in England to be postponed and to create a new employment status of employee owner.

### **Libraries**

The future of local libraries has been an issue dear to several communities within the constituency for some time now. On 6th November 2012, the Commons Culture, Media and Sport Committee published a report which indicated that some local authorities, under considerable pressure to quickly find cost savings, have drawn up plans without taking proper account of local needs for library services and the variety of options available to provide them, and are therefore in danger of failing in their statutory duty to provide a 'comprehensive and efficient' library service. Other councils, however, have found innovative and cost-effective ways of continuing to supply - and in some cases improve - their library service.



## **Reserve Forces**

On 8<sup>th</sup> November the Defence Secretary, Philip Hammond, made a Statement to the House on measures to overhaul Britain's Reserve Forces to create a fully integrated Armed Forces. These measures will be part of a wide-ranging consultation 'Future Reserves 2020: Delivering the Nation's Security Together'. The consultation proposes more training for reservists, a 'kitemark-type' award for supportive employers, and the idea of changing the Territorial Army's name to reflect their enhanced role.

For more information, my website is regularly updated and offers information on my work both in Westminster and in the constituency. Its address is [www.johnhowellmp.com](http://www.johnhowellmp.com) In addition, if you would like to subscribe to my free e-newsletter please e mail me at: [john.howell@oxfordshireconservatives.com](mailto:john.howell@oxfordshireconservatives.com)

## **Christmas Wishes**

Although this newsletter looks back at October and early November it may be December before this is published. I would therefore take this opportunity to wish all constituents a peaceful Christmas. It is my wish for us all that 2013 will be a good year. May I also say thank you to all those who work hard in our communities to make them special for the rest of us. It is always a pleasure when I get the opportunity to visit community activities and I look forward to learning yet more about what is being done in 2013.

## **SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR ELIZABETH GILLESPIE WRITES...**

The year has been a difficult one for everyone but hopefully there is a bright light at the end of the tunnel. Central Government's policy changes on health, education and planning are slowly being interpreted and implemented. On the planning front, whilst recognizing that a certain freeing up of the planning system needed to be achieved I have been very disappointed with much that has come forward, and at the lack of response to my and other's submissions, i.e. that our enforcement powers need to be strengthened in order to give validity and robustness to those policies that still hold good. The enforcement powers remain unchanged.

Also we have put the case that Lawful Permitted Development orders (LPD), which were conceived with an urban area in mind, should be excluded from rural environments where they are leading to an effective abuse of our local policies and creating eyesores in our communities. This sadly remains unchanged.

The Electoral Boundary Commission's review recommends that the Baldons ward be united with Nuneham Courtenay, Sandford on Thames, Clifton Hampden and the Wittenhams. Garsington is to be in a ward together with Horspath and Cuddesdon and Denton. The public consultation on this recommendation will last until January 7th 2013. This is something about which I have had some reserves. However, I am sure that any Councillor representing these wards will continue to act in the best interests of each of the villages.

The South Oxfordshire Core Strategy has been passed by the Inspector and is in the process of being adopted by the Council. SODC is currently working with many Parish Councils on their Neighbourhood Plans which, as they have become more defined, would appear to offer some real democratic voice on some issues for our villages.

On the issue of the Green Belt, the push from City Council to build on the Green Belt and in South Oxfordshire, south of Grenoble Road remains ever present. A new Central Government's directive mandating Neighbouring Councils to co-operate has encouraged the City to attempt to justify meeting their housing needs by expanding into the Green Belt, yet again. It is a point of note that Inspector Foster, at the hearing for SODC's Core Strategy, accepted that this directive requiring co-operation would only be valid if it were in the mutual interest of both Councils. City Council continues to greenlight, almost exclusively, new business premises within the city. This creates a housing need that can only be solved within Oxford by sprawling out into the Green Belt. The better solution, which is definitely in the best long term interest of Oxford city itself, is to put more housing within the city and locate businesses to Oxfordshire's numerous Science and Business centres which are currently running well under capacity.

SODC will continue to fight any proposals to build on the Green Belt around Oxford, especially Grenoble Road. Our mindset has always been to develop our county towns, distributing a small amount of the housing in our villages. I believe that we also have a responsibility for Oxford city itself, which is of historical, cultural, archaeological and international renown, and is unique. We have a duty of care to protect its integrity for posterity.

I would like to take this opportunity to assure everyone that I will continue to do my best to support the interests of our villages. I would also like to thank everyone for their support over the year, and to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

## **LOCAL BUS TIMETABLE**

### **89 The Baldons – Kings Copse – Cowley Centre Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays Only**

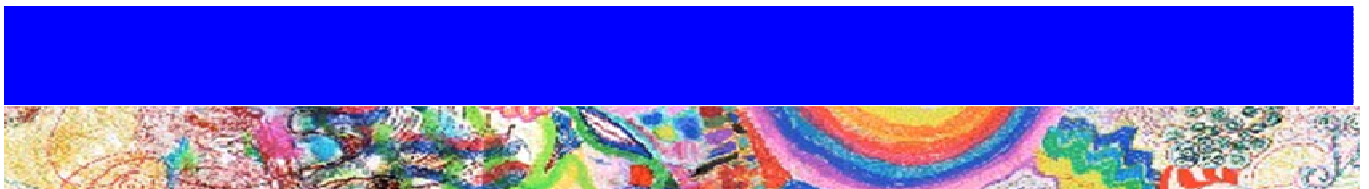
<b>Marsh Baldon, Baldon Lane</b>	<b>0935</b>
<b>Toot Baldon, Wilmots</b>	<b>0939</b>
<b>Kings Copse</b>	<b>0945</b>
<b>Watlington Road, Bobby Fryer Close</b>	<b>0947</b>
<b>Cowley Centre, The Nelson</b>	<b>0954</b>
<b>Cowley Centre, The Nelson</b>	<b>1325</b>
<b>Watlington Road, Bobby Fryer Close</b>	<b>1331</b>
<b>Kings Copse</b>	<b>1334</b>
<b>Toot Baldon, Wilmots</b>	<b>1340</b>
<b>Marsh Baldon, Baldon Lane</b>	<b>1344</b>

## POPPY APPEAL



A big thank you to everyone who gave so generously to this year's Poppy Appeal. We raised a staggering **£920.81**, which is wonderful for such a small community like ours. My grateful thanks also to those who walked around our villages selling poppies, without you we would not raise such a great sum.

Many thanks  
Iris Wright



## BERINSFIELD LIBRARY



Join us at Berinsfield Library for our  
**Christmas Story and Craft Time**

Wednesday December 19<sup>th</sup> 2012

At 3.45pm

All Ages Welcome

Children to be accompanied by an adult Please



Here to help

**join in ● explore ● discover ● log on**



## NUNEHAM COURTENAY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on Tuesday 6 November. Two members of the Parish and County Councillor, Lorraine Lindsay-Gale, attended. Suzanne Deakin sent her apologies.

**Public matters:** A number of issues were raised in the open session:

**Road crossing.** The provision of a crossing was again discussed. Cllr Lindsay-Gale explained the position. Shillingford will shortly get a crossing, and Berinsfield will follow in 2013/14 if funding and road speeds can be addressed. Nuneham's requests have been considered but the big issue is the lack of street lighting, which County Highways insists has to be present for a crossing to be installed. It was noted that there are crossings in villages without street lights. It was also noted that the provision of street lighting is costly and unlikely to find favour with villagers and heritage bodies – but this needs to be discussed with parishioners. Lorraine will continue to discuss the crossing with County Highways.

**Nuneham Park - signs and dogs.** Two e-mails expressing concern in relation to the Savills' letter were noted. A response to one is out-standing. Issues with dog mess in the lane on the west side of the village have also been raised again. Separate discussions with County's Rights of Way Officer and Savills have taken place. The former has suggested a meeting at which matters could be discussed with all parties focussing on issues such as location of footpath and the control of dogs and the regulations concerning dog mess on and off public footpaths. Signage - Savills are concerned that signs may encourage rather than discourage visitors to the Park and needed further consideration. The PC however felt that signage is needed to deal with increasing incidence of lost delivery drivers and emergency vehicles. It was noted that sheep are likely to be kept in fields adjoining the footpaths in the near future.

**Footpath diversion.** A public footpath at Lower Farm was discussed. The PC indicated that, if a request was made to the County to divert the public footpath off of gardens and onto the gravel track, then it would be unlikely to oppose such a request

**Buses.** The deterioration of the X39/X40 services, both in time-keeping and quality of buses, was discussed. Parishioners were encouraged to express concerns to Thames Travel directly ([www.thames-travel.co.uk](http://www.thames-travel.co.uk) ; tel.: 01491 837988; e-mail: [office@thames-travel.co.uk](mailto:office@thames-travel.co.uk)). Lorraine Lindsay-Gale has subsequently sent an e-mail to Rodney Rose (County Councillor with responsibility for transport) expressing the concerns of a number of Parish Councils.

### **Councillor's report**

**Minerals Strategy.** Progress with the Minerals and Waste Strategy was discussed. This is now with the Planning Inspectorate and is likely to be examined in February 2013. The document remains as last reviewed by the County with Nuneham excluded from the list of gravel extraction sites. It is expected that NCPC will attend the examination.

**Funding.** The Councillor's community fund (£10k per annum) and the County's Big Society Fund were seen as potential sources of funding for possible Nuneham projects and to support the Village Plan.

### **Village Plan**

Jasminde Love reported on the proposed business forum and progress towards the questionnaire. ORCC no longer provides funds to support community plans. The PC agreed to continue to support the Plan financially but noting some opportunities for parts of the Plan to be funded from other sources.

### **Finances**

It was agreed to keep the Precept for 2013/14 at the same level of 2012/13 – based on £50 per band D property. The outcome of the audit was noted – the big issue is to ensure an internal auditor is appointed for 2012/13 audit. Minor points concerned a £1 rounding error and capital assets were noted. The Parish Council considered the level of budget for 2013/14. It was agreed £2,400 is needed to be held as a statutory reserve, but that the balance in the account is now at a level where money is available for supporting local needs.

### **Planning**

It was noted that applications for the change of use and refurbishment of Brewer's Garage have been approved by SODC (without the residential unit). PC concerns regarding some detailed matters have been taken on board.

The proposals for linking and conversion of the stable and garage at 3-4 Lower Farm Lane were discussed. The PC has no objections to the proposals.

### **Highways**

Works to replace the drains linking the road drainage to the ditch system at the south end of the village are in progress. Concerns were noted with ponding on the lane and field edge to the north of the lane to the Park – the flows into the head of the culvert system need to be checked. Blocked gulleys in pavements and roadways and the leaf fall need to be cleared – pressure is required on the County.

### **Next meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 2 pm on Monday 21 January 2013 in the Village Hall.

### **Seasonal Greetings**

Can we thank everyone for their efforts on behalf of the Parish and for their helpful support and comments over the last year – we hope we have taken on board the concerns raised and have tried to address issues as best we can, even where there may be differing views in the community. We wish you well for the coming festivities and for 2013.

Frank, Tara, Suzanne, Jasminde and Colin

Colin George: 01865 343767 [colin.george@virgin.net](mailto:colin.george@virgin.net)  
e-mail: [Nunehampc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Nunehampc@yahoo.co.uk)  
website: [www.nunehampc.webs.com](http://www.nunehampc.webs.com)

## THRUSHES AND BLACKBIRDS IN THE GARDEN

Autumn and winter our gardens are full of Fieldfares and Redwings and spring and summer you get an influx of Song Thrush, Mistle Thrush and Blackbirds. All these species are members of the Thrush family.

Focusing on the Song Thrush and the Blackbird both these types spend many hours trying to find and eat ground based invertebrates amongst leaf litter, grass of different lengths and in borders. They also eat insects within trees and shrubs and also rotting fruit in autumn. Both species like dense hedges and foliage within which to nest. To continue to attract these birds, make sure you have ample ground cover. This can be made up of shrubs, herbaceous plants and alpines. Slug pellets should be avoided on any level as these species in particular will be poisoned by them. As always providing a wide range of flowers, trees and shrubs will provide these birds with somewhere to feed, sleep and breed.

Blackbirds very often can be seen feeding on short mown grass very close to some dense ground cover. They prefer short grass for worms and the longer vegetation is where they get more wide ranging food as more insects use that. Using meal worms is a good supplementary food to put on your bird tables too.

Both species have more than one brood a year often a Blackbird can have up to 5 broods so finish cutting your hedges by February and then thoroughly check for further nests when you commence pruning your hedges in July time. These simple steps are all you need to encourage these thrushes into your garden.

Happy gardening  
Stuart Mabbutt, Wildlife Gardening  
Specialist, 01865 747243



## VINTAGE TEAPARTY

You are warmly invited to the  
annual Tea Party at the  
Global Retreat Centre,  
Nuneham Courtenay.

Sunday 6th January 2013  
from 4.00 until 6.00pm

Please come and join  
us for an old fashioned  
vintage tea party.

R.S.V.P.  
By 2nd January

Tel: 01865 343551

E mail: [info@globalretreatcentre.org](mailto:info@globalretreatcentre.org)



## **E-BOOKS BY MARCUS BRAYBROOKE**

Three of my books which were out of print are now available as e-books from Kindle iBookstore; or [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com) (go to 'Buy' and then type Marcus Braybrooke in 'Search')

### **Hinduism: A Christian Reflection By Marcus Braybrooke**

The author shares in a personal way how study of Hinduism and meeting with Hindus has enriched and deepened his Christian faith. It has helped him to recognise the mystical heart of all religions and to see God's presence in all faiths. The book also tells how Marcus has become more concerned for the poor, committed to non-violence and reverence for all life.

### **Peace in Our Hearts, Peace in Our World : A Practical Interfaith Daily Guide to a Spiritual Way of Life by Marcus Braybrooke**

This book is a practical guide to a peaceful heart and to helping create a more peaceful world. For each day of the year there is an inspiring quotation, a meditation and a suggestion for practical action. The book draws on the teaching of many world religions and spiritual traditions. The book will be a source of hope in a troubled world and a comfort to all who are anxious about the future

### **Islam: A Christian Reflection by Marcus Braybrooke**

Hostility and prejudice between Muslims and Christianity is still a threat to peace. This book shows what Christians can learn from the Qur'an and the Prophet Muhammad. It makes clear that Muslims highly respect 'Isa', Jesus. On subjects such as wealth, power, forgiveness the two religions complement each other. Instead of a 'Clash of Civilizations,' we need a partnership of religions to promote peace and justice, food and health for the poor, and respect for the Earth. May Christians and Muslims join in praise of the One God of Mercy and together be a blessing to all people.

### **And one new book**

### **Christians and Jews Building Bridges by Marcus Braybrooke**

This book reflects on Christian-Jewish relations during the last twenty years - to coincide with the 70th anniversary of the founding of the British Council of Christians and Jews (CCJ). It is a personal point of view by Marcus Braybrooke, who has wide experience in the field. It is not an official history.



# KARATEDO SEIKUKAI

# 空手道誠空会

Junior Class (Age 6+)

Membership £10

£5 per lesson

1 hour lesson

Kakuto Class (Age 16+)

Membership £10

£7 per lesson

1.5 hour lesson

**FREE TRIAL  
LESSONS**

Marsh Baldon : Dec 18th Jnr 17:30 Kakuto 19:00

Sensei trained & taught in Japan for 15 years at a dojo described as  
*"THE SEMINAL COMBAT STYLE IN WEST JAPAN"*

01865 341 929 OR 07950 187 000

[WWW.SEIKUKAI.COM/ENGLISH](http://WWW.SEIKUKAI.COM/ENGLISH)

# ROBOTSCOOL

## SCHOOLS FOR BUILDING COOL ROBOTS

Building robots,  
building imagination,  
building together

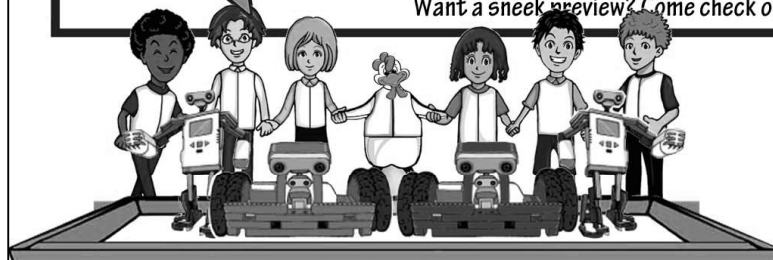
Utilizing LEGO TECHNICs® and LEGO MINDSTORMS® we throw down the challenge for kids to design, build, program & test robots. Journeying through the cognitive steps of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering Maths) and within that process gain Learning Skills & Life Skills.

In a nutshell "Empowering kids with 21st Century Skills."

Robotscool believes "Learning how to learn" is the only recipe for success.

Trail lessons for robotics courses will commence in December & January.

Want a sneak preview? Come check out our family and friends EVENT, details below



## "THE CHICKEN RUN"

Day : Saturday 8th December Time : 1pm to 2:30pm

Location : Marsh Baldon Village Hall

Cost : £10 per chicken (Max. 6 humans per chicken)

call/text:07950 187 000

mail:more@robotscool.com

web:www.robotscool.com

**LESSONS** start Jan 2013

Fees & Schedule :

Membership £20 - Monthly £12

Twice a month, 55 minute lesson

8 lessons per course

Trial lessons in December & January



## CLERGY

### **Revd Ros Latham**

Ros is from rural North Yorkshire, having been a farmer's wife and an RE teacher before becoming a vicar. She joined the Dorchester team as team vicar for the Baldons, Berinsfield and Drayton St Leonard in October 2007, living in Berinsfield. She is married to Peter and between them they have six children.

### **Revd Hannah Cleugh**

Hannah is our curate. She grew up in the north-east, and came to Oxford as a student to read Theology. After graduating, she stayed on to do research into the English Reformation. She trained for ordination at Ripon College, Cuddesdon and she and her husband David (who is Curate-in-Charge of the parishes of Stadhampton, Newington and Warborough) joined the Dorchester Team in July 2009.

## **ADVENT SUNDAY 2ND DECEMBER – SERVICE IN DORCHESTER ABBEY**

There will be a service for the Team at 6pm on Advent Sunday in Dorchester Abbey. This will give members of the Team the opportunity to wish David and Hannah farewell, and there will be drinks and nibbles after the service.

### **FELLOWSHIP GROUP: 7.30PM, 10<sup>th</sup> December**

Please note provisional dates for January are Monday 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>  
For venues or other information please contact Jennifer Morton Tel. 343302  
email: [jennifer.morton@givemail.co.uk](mailto:jennifer.morton@givemail.co.uk)

## **FLOWERS AT ST PETER'S - ALL HELP GREATLY APPRECIATED**



We will be decorating St. Peter's for Christmas on Saturday 15 December in time for the Carol Service on 16th. If you are able to donate holly and/or can spare half an hour to help with the decorating, please could you get in touch with Veronica - 01865 343478 or [vsandilands@btinternet.com](mailto:vsandilands@btinternet.com). Time can be flexible to suit people but it really makes a big difference if we know in advance who may be able to come along.

## **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AT ST LAWRENCE'S**

All help would be greatly appreciated to decorate St Lawrence's for Christmas on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 10am. Please contact Ann Druce 343382 with any questions.



## SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2012 AND JANUARY 2013

2 <sup>nd</sup> December	9.30am	Holy Communion	Toot Baldon
	6.00pm	Advent Carol Service	Dorchester Abbey
9 <sup>th</sup> December	6.00pm	Reflective Communion	Toot Baldon
16 <sup>th</sup> DECEMBER	5.00PM	<b>CAROL SERVICE</b>	<b>MARSH BALDON</b>
<i>Please note time</i>			
23 <sup>rd</sup> December	8.00am	Said Holy Communion	Marsh Baldon
	9.30am	One4All	Marsh Baldon
Christmas Eve	11.30pm	Midnight Communion	Marsh Baldon
Christmas Day	10.00am	Family Communion	Toot Baldon
30 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30am	Team Service	Dorchester Abbey
6 <sup>th</sup> January	9.30am	Holy Communion	Toot Baldon
13 <sup>th</sup> January	6.00pm	Evening Prayer	Toot Baldon
20 <sup>th</sup> January	9.30am	Holy Communion	Marsh Baldon
27 <sup>th</sup> January	8.30am	Said Holy Communion	Marsh Baldon
	9.30am	One4All	Marsh Baldon
2 <sup>nd</sup> February	9.30am	Holy Communion	Toot Baldon

**Prayer in St Peters: Thursdays 8.15am**

### SIDESDUTY

	Marsh	Toot
2 <sup>nd</sup> December		9.30 am Jenny van Dijk
9 <sup>th</sup> December		6.00 pm Graham Hobbins
16 <sup>th</sup> December	5.00 pm Stephen Dance	
23 <sup>rd</sup> December	9.30 am John Mason	
24 <sup>th</sup> December	11.30 pm Ian Gillespie	
25 <sup>th</sup> December		10.00 Jennifer Morton
6 <sup>th</sup> January		9.30 Ann Druce
13 <sup>th</sup> January		6.00 pm Sonia Hobbins
20 <sup>th</sup> January	9.30 am Richard Barnett	
27 <sup>th</sup> January	9.30 am Tom Saw	

### FLOWERS

	Marsh	Toot
6 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup> January	E Gillespie & A Lyall	H Maskell & J Knight
20 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup> January	C Attewill & L Barnett	N Wells & V Bowler
3 <sup>rd</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> February	W Barclay & V Sandilands	J Brook & E Denning

# JOIN SCRIBBLE

...as he discovers the true meaning of Christmas

AN INVITATION TO FRIENDS OF THE  
GLOBAL RETREAT CENTRE TO CELEBRATE  
THE SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE OF CHRISTMAS.

SUNDAY  
16th  
DECEMBER

5.30 - 7.30 PM



AN OUTDOOR EVENT

Wrap up warm and bring brollies...  
just in case

**RSVP** by  
12/12

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

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*Next Film  
Night at  
Nuneham  
Village Hall is  
25<sup>th</sup> January.*

Doors open at 7:30 for  
an 8pm start.

We are awaiting  
confirmation for Anna  
Karenina. This epic  
Russian novel was  
filmed partly in nearby  
Didcot with Karl  
helping with the trains.  
If you don't know it, get  
reading now!

Our fall back film will be the Best Exotic Marigold Hotel. Details will be on the parish website, as usual. Contact Jenny on 01865 343459 or [jenny@datadaysolutions.com](mailto:jenny@datadaysolutions.com) to reserve your tickets.