

The Baldons and Nuneham Courtenay Newsletter



December 2021 – January 2022

FROM REVEREND TERESA STEWART-SYKES

As I write this it is a beautiful November afternoon, I am sitting in my study with the little black kitten, Buster, purring on my lap. The sun is shining through the study windows and autumn colours burnish the bushes outside in the Vicarage garden. I am thinking about the end of the world!

Not just because the Climate Conference in Glasgow, COP26, has just finished with inconclusive decisions, nor because I have the Advent readings about judgement open before me; I am thinking about the end of the world because I am trying to work out why God created it as it is? I guess it is more of a question about what are we here for? What is the point of it all?

Yes, I know, a little bit nihilistic for a Vicar's Christmas reflections! But surely there must be more to be said about Christmas than has already been said by Dickens' social commentary in 'A Christmas Carol', by Rev Clement Clark Moore's vision of childhood in 'Twas the night before Christmas', or by whatever the John Lewis Partnership's Christmas advert is this year. I ask again, what is the point of it all?

As I gaze out of my window at the perfect stripes my husband has created on the lawn, my mind wanders to the dreamlike account of creation in the book of Genesis where these questions are addressed by the poets who wrote what we know as Genesis chapters 1-11. These poets, rather than asking *how* the world came into being, actually try to account for *why* the world is the way it is. In these texts we hear those haunting words of God, walking in the cool of the day and asking the naked and embarrassed Adam and Eve: 'Mortal being, where are you?'. Words which haunt us as we try to make sense of where we are in the world and, just as importantly, where are we going!

Knowing that they are transparent - 'naked', seen through - Adam and Eve have followed their instinct to hide, only to discover two facts of life: (a) that there is no hiding place and (b) being found need not be something to be feared but, instead, something to be prized.

And here at last is my Christmas reflection: God took on human form, being born a naked and vulnerable baby, in order to find us and everyone else who is vulnerable. God seeks us out, God finds us, and God loves us.

A blessed Christmas to you all
Rev Teresa x

The Revd Teresa Stewart-Sykes is Team vicar for *The Baldons with Nuneham Courtenay, Berinsfield and Drayton St Leonard.*

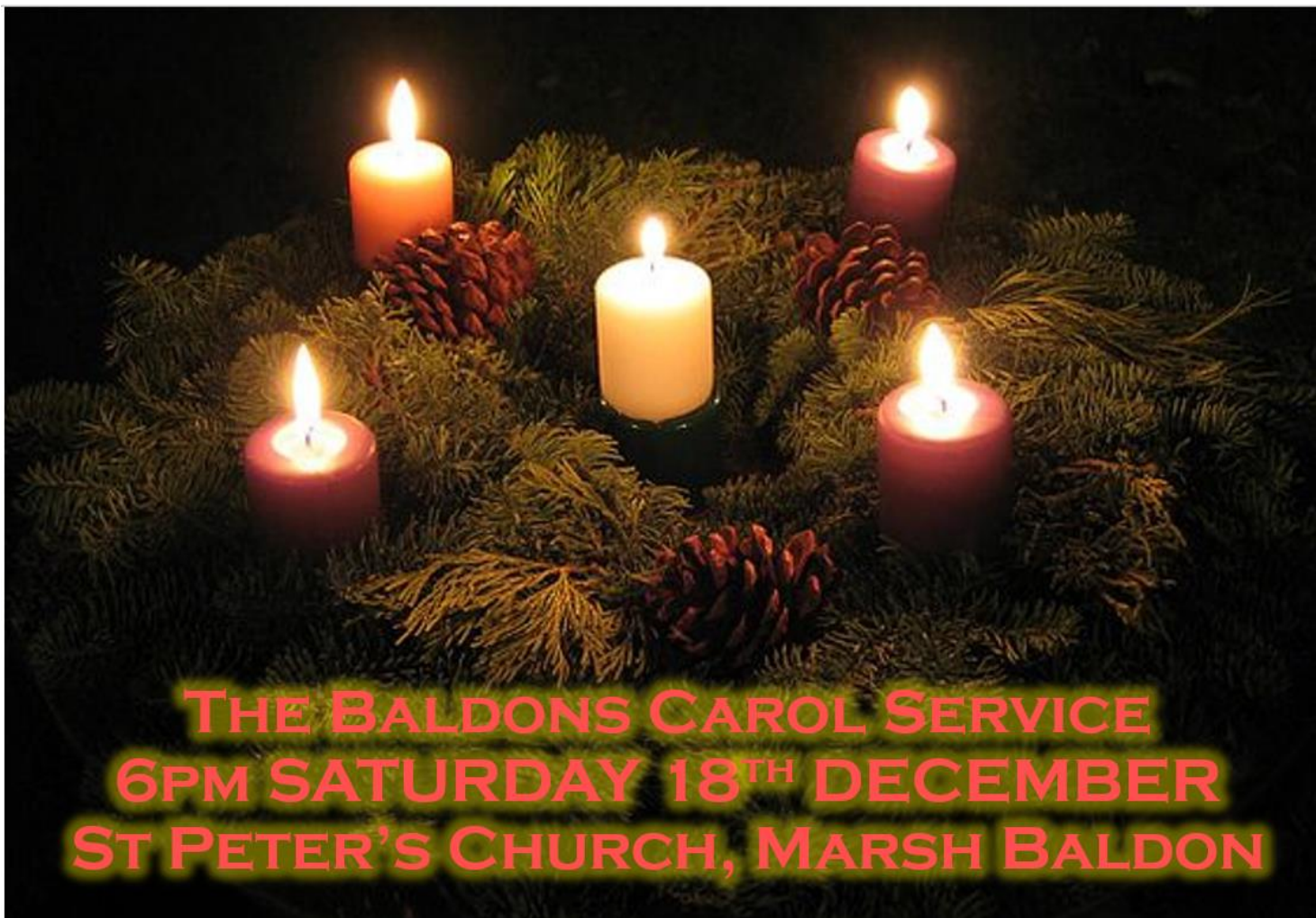
e-mail: RevTeresa@outlook.com and tel: 07823 809112

The Revd Jennifer Morton is Associate Team Vicar and lives in Toot Baldon:
jennifer@morton8.co.uk.

Our current curate is ***The Revd Sorrel Shamel-Wood*** who lives in Berinsfield.

Our safeguarding officer is Sara McDouall: saramcdouall@gmail.com

**A clergy person can always be reached in a pastoral emergency by
ringing the Dorchester Team Office 01865 340007**



**THE BALDONS CAROL SERVICE
6PM SATURDAY 18TH DECEMBER
ST PETER'S CHURCH, MARSH BALDON**

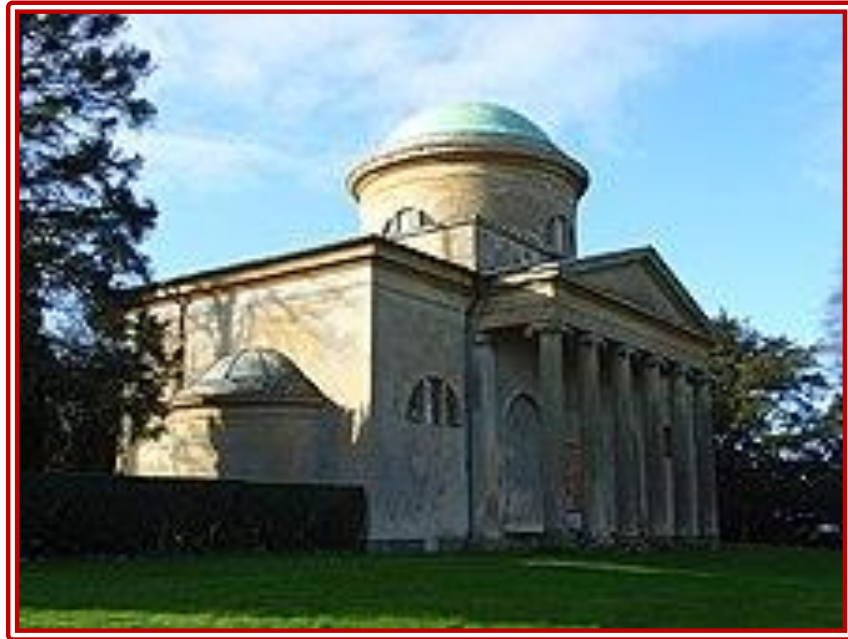


CHRISTMAS CARDS ON SALE

Caddy Attewill has once again generously allowed us to turn one of her paintings into Christmas cards to be sold in aid of church funds.

The cards, which are £5 for 5, can be ordered from Veronica (343367 or vsandilands@btinternet.com) or Catherine (343503 or catherinevmason@gmail.com)

**OLD ALL SAINTS CHURCH, NUNEHAM PARK, OX44 9PQ
FAMILY CAROLS TELLING THE CHRISTMAS STORY FOR
CHILDREN**



Saturday 18 December 2021 at 3.00 pm

Revd Teresa Stewart-Sykes taking a half hour service

**Please wear very very warm (as for outside) clothes -
there is no heating**

**The church will be candlelit and please bring your own
candle in a jam jar if you would like**

**Please park either in the Global Retreat Car Park if
possible - otherwise approach through the gate near the
postbox**

**Please note there is neither a toilet nor electricity at Old
All Saints**

**Cover Image: Christmas Wreath by Lizie Giraudeau: see p5 for details of the
Wreath Making Workshop**

BALDONS AND NUNEHAM COURTENAY CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING 2021



All welcome:

*Sunday 12th December 10.30 to 12:30
Marsh Baldon Village Hall
£15 (for basic materials and refreshments)*

*Please bring extra foliage...
Green/silver/variegated, berries and cones
and anything you would like to
experiment with.*

*We have some... But there is never too
much!*

*Remember to bring your own
secateurs, wire clippers and scissors.*

*Continuing our tradition, coffee,
mulled wine and mince pies will be
provided!*

*We hope to be outside... But if the
weather is bad we will be inside so
numbers will be limited.*



*To book a place please email
Lizie.....liziegiraudeau@gmail.com
or Dianadianabelli@btinternet.com*

*This year profits will be in aid of the
upkeep of the village orchards.*

*We look forward to seeing many of
you there.*



Carolling on the Green

TUESDAY
DECEMBER 21ST

MEET AT THE SEVEN STARS AT 5.30 P.M.
AFTERWARDS AT BALDON HOUSE
FOR MULLED WINE, MINCED PIES,
AND MORE CAROLS!

ALL WELCOME!



Tuesday 14th December
7.30pm
Marsh Baldon Village Hall
BREAD AND STARLIGHT: SEE POSTER OPPOSITE

Please note different day of the week from usual –
TUESDAY, 14th December.
Dress warmly. Heating will be on but windows and doors will be
opened periodically for ventilation. Masks to be worn during
performance please, except when medical exemption.
Book early - limited seating.

Contact Sarah (see poster opposite) if cost is an issue. All are welcome!

LAMPS

presents

bread & starlight

**Please join us this Advent
at the Filling Station,
Baldons Village Hall,
The Croft, Marsh Baldon, OX44 9LL**

on Tuesday, 14th December

Doors open at 7.30pm

Performance begins at 7.45pm

Mulled Wine and Mince Pies from 8.45pm

Tickets £7 on the night, Cash or Cheque.

**Please book your place by emailing Sarah Hunnings on
sarah.hunnings@btinternet.com or texting her on 07747 624780**

**Please let us know your numbers for catering and seating
purposes - and do invite family and friends along!**

Any questions please contact Sarah on 07747 624780

*The story of Elizabeth... a grown-up
pause for breath before Christmas*



Baldon Runners

The running group meets at 8am on Saturdays outside the cricket pavilion, in Marsh Baldon.

We are a group of mixed abilities and we welcome anyone who would like to run, whether beginner, occasional or regular marathon runner. We divide into different groups after a warm up and no one gets left behind.

Our esteemed Captain is Nic DeFillion and our deputy Captain (otherwise known as Hill Captain) is Mark Tidmarsh.

We also enjoy coffee and breakfasts from time to time - so do come along and try us out!

POPPY APPEAL

This year the villages raised £772.34 for the Poppy Appeal. Thank you very much to all who contributed to this worthy charity: it is very much appreciated.

Also thanks go to those who walked our villages collecting.

I. Wright

BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

20MPH Speed limits

The Oxfordshire County Council have recently agreed to promote 20mph speed limits in villages and are already undertaking pilot schemes in five locations and are planning to roll this out over the next 3 years. The proposal is intended to promote safer driving and traffic in villages but requires villagers to support an application. A tool kit has been provided as a guide to doing this.

At the council meeting villagers in attendance were unanimous in support of the council pursuing application and councillors agreed. Stephen Dance is to lead this. It would be helpful to have a wider village view of this proposal so please let Stephen have your views, for or against, via his Parish Council email stephen.dance@baldonspc.org.

Parking and driving on the South side of the Green

Posts have now been installed on a length of the south side of the green from just beyond the cricket outfield to just beyond Durham Leys farm entrance which appear to be having the desired effect of deterring cars and other vehicles from driving regularly over the green. The council has also had discussion with BNCS the pub committee to try and manage better the overflow parking from the pub and the damage to the edges of the green which ensues.

BNCS have proposed to the council that the stretch of green along the outfield mainly used for short term parking be repaired and monitored by them every 6 months, the corner of the green off the road be built up to prevent cars cutting the corner and signage improved. The parish council have supported this plan and agreed to review it in 12-month subject also to the approval of the land agents for Queens College.

Toot Baldon mains drainage

John Maskell updated the council on the progress being made by Thames Water in their plans for installing mains drainage in Toot Baldon. The council is aware of the concern that the SODC drainage system that serves Wilmots is not currently planned to be integrated as part of the Thames water plans and has supported the letter to the Thames Water chief executive and our MP on behalf of residents to press for this to happen.

Budget for 2022

The council held a preliminary discussion on the precept that will be needed in 2022 and agreed to finalize this in January when more information is available.

Planning applications

2 Queens Barn Toot Baldon P21/S4414/HH: An application for a 2 Bay timber garage log store and upstairs storage facility. The parish council is considering its response

Aldworth Cottage Marsh Baldon P21/S3625/HH The council has agreed to support this application for a garden room.

Solar Farm. P20/S4360/FUL An amended application has been submitted by the developer. The amendments deal mainly with landscape and planting plans and related issues as the applicants response to issues raised by consultees and SODC officers. Although the Parish Council will be responding there appears to be insufficient reason for us to change our fundamental objections. Responses are needed by 25th November.

Culham Bypass Oxfordshire County Council have notified us of the major planning application for a Highway scheme to create a new river crossing at Culham to join the A415 and the creation of a Clifton Hampden pass to join the B4015. This proposal has been around for some time and is intended to assist managing increases in traffic flow from Didcot. There are concerns that it will increase the pressure on the Golden Balls roundabout and A4074.

Plans can be seen on OCC planning display pages Ref R3.0138/21. The Parish council will be considering a submission comment. Responses are needed by 11th December.

Platinum Jubilee

There has been a preliminary discussion between the Parish Council and Baldons Events Committee about how we might celebrate HM Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June 2022. More on this nearer the time.

Date of next meeting: January 10th 7.30pm Village Hall



Nuneham Courtenay Sports
& Playing Fields Association

This playground is temporarily closed for health and safety reasons until further notice.

To see our exciting plans, visit our website ncspfawebly.com or use this QR code.



Please read the link for volunteers on the website and email us as some have already done at ncspfawebly@gmail.com.

Thank you from the trustees of the NCSPFA.

NUNEHAM COURTENAY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Christmas tree collection-point

The parish council has arranged with the district council for Nuneham Courtenay to have a Christmas tree collection-point, like the last two years. You will be able to leave your Christmas tree at the piece of land that is meant to serve as a car park for users of the Village Hall. The trees should be collected on Wednesday 12th January. A few of you left your tree there last year but, unfortunately, Biffa did not collect them until April or May.

Housing Infrastructure Fund 1 Relief Road

At its November meeting, the Council decided to oppose the construction of the Housing Infrastructure Fund 1 Relief Road, associated with the Didcot Garden Town development, which will consist of four separate but interdependent highway schemes from the A34 Milton Interchange to the B4015 east of Clifton Hampden, in view of its likely impact on the village.

The Council also decided to join the group of four parish councils already working together to combat the proposals – Appleford, Burcot & Clifton Hampden, Culham and Sutton Courtenay. The County Council has submitted a planning application to itself for the road and the deadline for responses is 11th December.

Next Council meeting

The Council's next meeting is on Tuesday 4th January at 7pm in the Village Hall. This is the meeting where the Council has to agree its budget for 2022-23 and decide how much the addition to your Council Tax bills will be next year to cover the work of the Council – this year and the year before the addition to your Council Tax has been £60 for a Band D property, a little over £1 per week.

Nicola Misseldine, who was co-opted to the vacant place on the Council in June, has been conducting very thorough research on traffic calming and pedestrian crossings. She shared her initial findings with the Council at its last meeting and undertook to do some more research. So, at that meeting the Council decided it would consider at its next meeting in January whether to apply for a 20mph limit through the village and whether to try to commission a seismological survey to measure damage to the houses along the main road from passing traffic.

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Items for the February 2022 newsletter

by 16th January please

Any villager is welcome to send items for publication in the newsletter. Please send copy to Natasha Eliot: tashaandjames@btopenworld.com. Alternatively, I can be contacted on 343478 or at Baldon House East, Marsh Baldon.

For advertising queries, please contact Leanna Maggs on:
leanna.maggs@gmail.com or on 01865 340 521

THE BALDONS FUEL CHARITY

(but not just fuel)

For the past 50 years, the Baldons Fuel Charity has been helping some residents living in Marsh, Toot or Little Baldon with their energy costs. Financial support has also been given towards personal alarm systems for the elderly, a new boiler, mobility aids, training expenses, costs of education such as uniforms or school transport and in many other situations when financial help makes life a bit easier.

The Charity has an annual income of about £15,000.

If you could do with a little extra financial help, or know anyone in the villages who does, please let us know. Either talk to one of us or obtain an application form for a grant from the Clerk, Emma Timms (341461). All applications are dealt with in the strictest confidence by the Trustees.

**PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU NEED HELP
THAT IS WHAT THE CHARITY IS FOR!**

Trustees:

Ali Barne – 343624

Bruce Don – 343330

David Greenaway – 343496

Alan Johns – 343268

Chris Nichols - 343388

Alison Porter – 340405

Help with energy costs may also be available from the National Energy Foundation
www.nef.org.uk

FROM JOHN HOWELL MP

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all constituents a peaceful Christmas and to send my best wishes for the year ahead. I am sure that we all hope it will be a happier and easier one than this year has been. I know that for some the pandemic and bereavement have left life forever changed. No words can ease that and I offer my deepest sympathies to all of you who face such loss. For others the struggles have been different with livelihoods and mental health challenged. I cannot list all of the difficulties that people have faced but for all I do sincerely hope that the peace of the Christmas season may bring some comfort.

Whilst next year will bring its own concerns I am optimistic that the tide is turning. May I take this opportunity to pass on my heartfelt thanks to all who have worked in these times to ease the problems of others - those in our health services and

many beyond in our communities who have worked supporting others. Thank you all. Whatever your beliefs may I wish you the peace and joy of the season.

Last month I said that during the parliamentary recess I would be meeting with representatives from a number of parish councils across the constituency. This proved to be a helpful use of time there were some key themes emerging around transport, health services and planning.

The lack of buses was raised in several parishes. I know that this has been a concern for some time, and I have met with bus companies to discuss possible strategies. In recent years there have been some good local initiatives to try to address this, but something more needed to be done nationally. The Government has indeed recognised the importance of the bus network and has published a National Bus Strategy which is an ambitious shake-up of the bus sector which is backed with a £3 billion fund to which local councils can bid to support local investment. I am pleased that the county council is now taking advantage of this Government Strategy and has established an Enhanced Partnership with local bus companies.

There have been a number of concerns raised with me over local health services, particularly access to GPs which have also been picked up in the media. In response to these concerns I have recently met with some of our local doctors which proved very interesting. It is true that the pandemic has created a backlog at primary care level as well as in our hospitals. However there are ways of working in health that have been slowly changing prior to the pandemic which have been accelerated, perhaps too quickly, as a result of pandemic. This has meant that transitions have not been communicated and a mismatch in the availability of GPs and demand from patients. Things such as online consulting, the passing back of some functions from hospitals to local practice, and pent-up demand as a result of lockdown have put additional pressures on our GPs. The reality is that it is going to take some time to get back onto a level, but I am seeking meetings with senior teams in NHS Oxfordshire to discuss what can be done.

Last but by no means least there are concerns about planning and development. I am certainly very aware of these and there is no one answer which would address many individual issues. The planning system is complex and different issues need to be tackled in different ways. One issue is what is known as permitted development. This is where building or change of use can take place without the need for planning permission. Whilst the purpose behind this is well meant I do think that some carte blanche permissions, which have been of benefit in urban areas, have had an adverse effect in rural areas. Change of use of a building from business use to residential use is one such permission. I have recently raised this in debate in the House. Another concern is the cumulative effect of development on a community. In planning every application has to be considered in its own right, but where different developers bring forward parallel applications there is no means to assess the overall impact that together the developments would bring to a community and make provision for that within the planning system.

Neighbourhood Planning can help with this, but I would like to see it being given more prominence in the process. Along with many others I am waiting with interest to see what the long-awaited planning reforms bring forward.

If there is an issue that concerns you please do let me know. you can email me at howelljm@parliament.uk or write to me at the House of Commons (House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA) or my constituency office (PO Box 84, Watlington, OX49 5XD).

If you would like to know more about my work on behalf of the Government and the Constituency please do look at my website which is regularly updated. The address is www.johnhowellmp.com. Further details of the work of Parliament is available on the parliament website at www.parliament.uk. As always, I am interested to hear constituent's views on the proposals before the House.

CITIZENS ADVICE INFORMATION ON VANISHING ENERGY SUPPLIERS



Many people have recently had the disconcerting experience of seeing their energy supplier break up and go out of business during the recent energy price fluctuations. It sounds pretty drastic, but the situation isn't as bad as it seems.

If you are one of those affected, remember these key facts: first of all, the gas or electricity supply itself won't be interrupted, so don't be concerned about that. Next, you should know that Ofgem, the industry regulator, will automatically move you to a new supplier. This usually takes a few weeks.

Wait for your new supplier to contact you. They will explain what will happen with your new account. But contact the new supplier yourself if you haven't heard from them within two weeks. You can check on www.citizensadvice.org.uk ("check who's taken over your energy supply") if you're not sure who your new supplier is.

While you're waiting to hear from the new supplier, it's a good idea to take meter readings (and a photo of the readings) as they might prove useful later. Make a note of your account balance too. Keep any old bills you have, as these can help prove your payment history, credit balance or debt.

If you aren't happy with your new supplier or tariff, you can switch suppliers. Look at "switch energy supplier" on our website or ring the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on 0808 223 1133.

Many people are seeing their energy bills increase significantly. If you are one of them, and worried about being able to meet these higher energy payments, please contact Citizens Advice on our Adviceline number 0808 278 7907.

Citizens Advice has slightly different advice for small businesses whose energy suppliers have gone out of business. Please visit the Citizens Advice website.

Merry Christmas from The Maple Tree!



A great place to grow

Christmas Trees for sale: This year we are again joining with the Wheatley Scouts to buy Christmas trees in bulk from Scotland and to sell them in aid of the Scouts and The Maple Tree. All of our trees are grown on sustainable plantations in Scotland and are premium quality fir.

Deadline for orders: Wed. 1st December at 5pm for delivery Sat. 11th Dec. To order call 01865 236700 or email: xmastrees@mapletree.org.uk and ask for a leaflet and order form as soon as possible.

Christmas Gifts: On the Christmas tree collection day, Sat 11th Dec., we will have refreshments and mince pies at The Maple Tree and a sale of Christmas gifts from 9.30am – 2:00pm. All welcome!

Magic Show: We are pleased to announce the return of our New Year Magic Show with Magic Pete on Sat. 15th January. A family afternoon with 2 performances, one for 2-5's and a second for 6-10-year-olds. Please contact The Maple Tree for further information and tickets: 01865 236700 and info@mapletree.org.uk

We are here to help you, if you need help, advice or support: 01865 236700 or 07849 466249. Our sessions are bookable through Eventbrite; bit.ly/mapletreeeb. There is a suggested donation of £2.50 per family per session. We welcome everyone!

Monday: Messy Mondays at 10:00-11:30am

Tuesday: Story and Rhyme Time at 10:00-11:30am

Wednesday: Maple Babies at 10:30-11:30am and 1:00-2:00pm

Thursday: Little Explorers at 10:00-11:30am and Twinnies at 2:00-3:30pm
Social Butterflies at 10:00-11:30am (drop in)

Family Fun at 10:00-11:30am 3rd Saturday in month

Village Outreach: The Maple Tree at Forest Hill Village Hall on Thursdays from 11:00am-12:00pm (drop in)

Ways to volunteer: Become a trustee, help in one of our sessions, or fundraising.

Check out our Website and Facebook pages for our online sessions, special events and helpful information!

Email: info@mapletree.org.uk

Website: www.mapletree.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheMapleTreeWheatley

Laura Spencer

The Maple Tree Centre Manager

ARE PEOPLE STILL INTERESTED IN GARDENS?

I was asked only last week, “Are people still interested in doing anything with their gardens, apart from putting down decking, that often becomes a slippery death trap when damp, or putting down hard standing for off-road parking?”

In my experience, few people don't appreciate the great outdoors, but the numbers are growing that could be considered in various ways, to be disconnected from it. Giving rise at times I notice, to a lack of imagination with what to grow, or even fears that gardening is hard.

I've seen inexperienced gardeners take on new gardens, with huge amounts of vigour, and experiencing success and disappointment in equal measure. Whilst experienced gardeners would be happy with the ratio of 50% success and 50% perceived failure. When starting out though, even the slightest amount of disappointment, or perceived failure, can make gardening newbies give up, and down tools.

It's always worth pushing through and persisting during this initial apprenticeship. Go on, have a second go, a third, or even, dare I say it, a fourth go. As many goes as needed is my approach, and instead of seeing barriers, start to see opportunity, everywhere. If you are starting out in gardening though, and speak to an experienced gardener for advice, it'll soon be obvious, they are worth their weight in Marigolds.

Happy Gardening! Stuart Mabbutt
Wildlife Gardening Specialist: 01865 747243, www.wildmaninspires.co.uk



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BAKED TO ORDER**

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Website:
[*https://maibakes.wixsite.com/website](https://maibakes.wixsite.com/website)



HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED BENEFIT SANCTIONS?

HELP US SHAPE A FAIRER SYSTEM

Get in touch to find out how you can share your experiences and help shape a fairer system for all

Call: 020 7843 1268
Email: c.selman@publiclawproject.org.uk
Visit: publiclawproject.org.uk/latest/benefitsanctions

WITH YOUR HELP, WE CAN MAKE CHANGE POSSIBLE

Public Law Project is a charity independent of the DWP:
www.publiclawproject.org.uk

BENEFIT SANCTIONS: HELP SHAPE A FAIRER SYSTEM

The Public Law Project is researching the barriers that claimants face when challenging benefit sanctions. As part of this they are keen to speak to:

- Benefit claimants who have been sanctioned by DWP (either recently or in the past)
- Advisors and other individuals who have experience of providing advice or other support to sanctioned claimants.

Taking part would involve a one-off phone or video call with PLP's Research Fellow, Caroline Selman, to hear about your experience of the sanctioning process.

Your insights will be used to help shape a strategy for improving access to justice for claimants who have been unfairly or unlawfully sanctioned. All responses will be anonymised in publication.

Further information is available on their website here: <https://publiclawproject.org.uk/latest/benefitsanctions/>

They are keen to ensure that the research is accessible to all – if you would like to participate in a different format or have any accessibility or language requirements please let them know using the contact details below.

If you are interested in taking part, or if you would like to find our more, please contact Caroline by either:

- Emailing c.selman@publiclawproject.org.uk or
- Phoning 020 7843 1268

MUSICAL EVENTS IN DORCHESTER ABBEY

Thursday 9th December 7.30pm: Elinor Carter Christmas Songs

Local mezzo-soprano Elinor Carter will bring you a bit of Christmas sparkle in the more intimate Shrine Chapel of Dorchester Abbey. She and pianist Muriel Phillips will perform seasonal favourites such as "In the Bleak Midwinter", "Oh Holy Night" and "I'm Dreaming Of A White Christmas", and there will be opportunity for audience participation! Tickets are £15 (£10 children/students) to include a glass of mulled wine or fruit juice and a mince pie and should be booked in advance by contacting Elinor on 07711 319444 or elinormezzo@gmail.com

Saturday 11th December 7.00pm OSJ Concert

Britten Ceremony of Carols: Celebrate the festive season with Britten's vibrant Ceremony of Carols, alongside all your favourite festive songs. Tickets £15 to £20 from www.osj.org.uk

Wednesday 15th December 7.00pm Beautiful Star

Have you ever stood in the mountains, no city lights around, looking up, seeing all these stars above you? It's very impressive and it may be that this experience has made many generations before us turn to the stars for company, support or guidance. Every year at Christmas we take the tale of the Star of Bethlehem for granted. The story tells us that it led the three wise men to the birthplace of Jesus. Astronomically speaking it has caused quite a lot of controversy amongst historians and scientists - so we thought we'd just tell its story through music. With Susanne Mecklenburg – voice, William Hancox – piano, Sophie Hebden – oboe and Michael Eisinger – viola. Donations.

Saturday 18th December 7pm: OSJ Handel Messiah

Hallelujah, it's time for Handel's Messiah! Don't miss this festive favourite, featuring the fabulous Hannah Fraser-Mackenzie, Charlie Tetley, Xavier Hetherington and Frazer Scott as soloists Tickets £15 to £20 from www.osj.org.uk

Friday 31st December 6pm OSJ New Years Eve Concert

See in the New Year with us at Dorchester Abbey with a selection of joyful overtures and dances. From all-time favourites such as Strauss' Blue Danube to lesser known gems such as Anderson's The Typewriter, you'll be whistling these tunes into 2022! Tickets £15 to £20 from www.osj.org.uk

FOREST CHURCH



At November's Forest Church we celebrated the feast of Christ the King by making crowns. Forest Church will return on 30 January 2022.



A FOND FAREWELL TO REV CANON SUE BOOYS

Our wonderful Dorchester and Team Rector is retiring!

We are organising several opportunities for you to say thank you and goodbye to Sue so please save the following dates.

Saturday 8th January 10am-12pm there will be a drop in café in the Abbey so you can have a cuppa with Sue and say thank you and goodbye.

Sunday 16th January 10.30am Festival Eucharist at the Abbey for all ages at which we will celebrate with Sue and share memories from her ministry among us. There will be a bring and share fork lunch afterwards at the back of the Abbey and an opportunity for you to say your personal farewells to Sue.

If you'd like to contribute to a leaving present for Sue then we would prefer a bank transfer to Dorchester Abbey PCC Sort Code: 200109 A/c: 20327603 ref: Sue present or send a cheque payable to Dorchester Abbey PCC to 73 High Street, Dorchester on Thames. Alternatively contact Nick Forman on 07917 701976.

Malcolm Lucas and Gail Thomas
Dorchester Abbey Churchwardens



continuum
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A brand new chiropractic health centre
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The Old Smithy
Yew Tree Courtyard
Nuneham Courtenay
OX44 9NY

www.continuum-chiropractic.co.uk

Online bookings available
www.continuum-chiropractic.co.uk

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Rhymes for the Under 5's

Wednesdays 10.30am

Storytime

Wednesdays 3.30pm

IT Drop in Thursdays 2.00pm

Knit and Natter 2.30pm

Tuesday 7th December & 4th January

Reading Group 2.30pm

Thursday 9th December & 20th January

Coffee Morning 10.30am

Tuesday 21st December & 18th January

All Welcome

Berinsfield Library Opening Times

Tuesday - 10.00 – 1.00 & 2.00 – 5.30pm

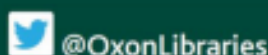
Wednesday - 10.00 -1.00 & 2.00 - 5.30pm

Thursday - 2.00 - 5.30pm

Friday 10.00 – 1.00 & 2.00 - 5.30pm

Saturday - 10.00 - 12.30

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CHURCH SERVICES FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

5th December	10.30am	Marsh Baldon	All Age Holy Communion
12th December	4.00pm	Toot Baldon	Holy Communion
Saturday	3.00pm	All Saints Chapel Nuneham Park	Family Carols
18th December	6.00pm	Marsh Baldon	Baldons Carol Service
19 th December	8.00am	Marsh Baldon	BCP Holy Communion
25th December	10.30am	Toot Baldon	Family Christmas Communion
26 th December	9.00am	Dorchester	Team Service
2 nd January	10.30am	Toot Baldon	Holy Communion
9 th January	4.00pm	Toot Baldon	Evensong
16 th January	10.30am	Dorchester	Team Service to say goodbye to Canon Sue Booy, followed by shared lunch
23 rd January	10.30am	Stadhampton	Team Service led by families
30 th January	9.30am	Marsh Baldon	All Age Holy Communion
	3.00pm	Marsh Baldon	Forest Church

Note that there will be a baby shower for Rev Sorrel and Rev Andy at Berinsfield Church at 11.45am on 30th January – everyone is welcome

Decorating the Churches

Christmas is a wonderful time for decorating the churches, which will have been devoid of flowers during Advent. Traditionally we decorate for the Carol Service which will be on Saturday, 18 December in St. Peter's, Marsh Baldon. We would greatly appreciate holly or other beautiful greenery you may have in your gardens at that time. Do please get in touch if you can spare some.

We are also hoping that more of you might like to exercise your creative skills and help with decorating! Do let us know if you would like to help at Christmas or any other time. It would be lovely to have more volunteers.

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