

# Amberley Parish Magazine



December 2005

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# Services for December

<b>Sunday 4th Dec</b>	<b>8 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	<b>10 am</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
Wednesday 7th Dec	8 am	Holy Communion ( <i>Ambrose, bishop</i> )
<b>Sunday 11th Dec</b>	<b>8 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> (Methodist led)
	<b>10 am</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
Tuesday 13th Dec	10 am	Amberley Ridge School Carol Service
Wednesday 14th Dec	8 am	Holy Communion ( <i>John of the Cross</i> )
	2pm	Amberley Parochial School Carol Service
Thursday 15th Dec	7.30 pm	Amberley Parochial School Carol Service (Everyone welcome to ALL the above school carol services)
<b>Sunday 18th Dec</b>	<b>8 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	<b>10 am</b>	<b>Family Service</b>
	<b>5.30 pm</b>	<b>Carol Service</b>
Wednesday 21st Dec	8 am	Holy Communion
<b>Saturday 24th Dec</b>	<b>5.30 pm</b>	<b>Christingle Service (see article inside)</b>
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	<b>11.30 pm</b>	<b>Midnight Mass</b>
<b>Sunday 25th Dec</b>	<b>8 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>10 am</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
Wednesday 28th Dec	8 am	Holy Communion ( <i>Holy Innocents</i> )
<b>Sunday 1st Jan</b>	<b>8 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>

*Julian Group (Silent Prayer) from Friday, 9 am - 9.30 am  
in the Littleworth New Room – Everyone welcome*

*'Common Worship' Morning Prayer every weekday at 8 am.  
'Common Worship' Evening Prayer every Thursday 5.30 pm.  
Both in Holy Trinity Church – Everyone welcome*

# The Rector's Letter

Dear Friends,

After the Remembrance Day service on 14<sup>th</sup> November, several people asked me if I could let them have a written copy of my address. Because it concerned the Iraq war, something our thoughts can't escape right now, I decided to use what I said as my letter this month.

In St John's Gospel Jesus says: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."

Everyone knows that you mix black and white to make grey. The more black there is, the darker the grey; the more white, the lighter it is. We talk of things being "black or white" when we mean they are either all wrong or all right. When the situation is not "black or white" we talk about it being a "grey area". (To be politically correct I shouldn't associate black with being wrong and white with being right, and I apologise. Here I'm going to associate white more with light than right, and black more with darkness).

It is our natural inclination to appear "whiter than white", and never more so than when it comes to war. Much to do with war – the destruction of life, property and community, or to use a recent cynical expression "collateral damage" - is black, so it's not surprising that we try to dissociate ourselves from this black side of things.

Two recent news items, with distinct parallels, brought this home to me. In the first, in a television interview, a First World War soldier who is still living spoke of the dreadful choice faced by troops in the trenches when they were ordered to "go over top". They had just six seconds to decide whether to obey the order and face almost certain death, or whether to stay put and face execution for cowardice. Some 300 were shot for cowardice, some under-aged, 16 and 17 year-olds who should never have been there, others shell-shocked. In the last 90 years there have been many campaigns to have these poor men posthumously pardoned, but to no avail.

The shooting of soldiers suffering mental derangement following their experience in trenches was one of blackest features of that ghastly war. Most of those who could have influenced the situation have tried staying on the white side - those ordering the executions by claiming they were necessary or others would have refused to fight, and generations of politicians since then by saying what was done was done through due legal process and ignoring the need for the pardons, for the memory of those executed and for the sake of their descendants.

The second news item was the acquittal of seven soldiers accused of murdering an Iraqi civilian. For all of us the events in trenches happened before we could be aware of them. But the Iraq War and its aftermath are situations of much black-

ness in which we are deeply embroiled, though nothing like our forces who are or have been serving there. In the trenches it was a split second decision, to face the guns of the enemy or those of their own side. So in Iraq, our forces have a split second to decide – whether to shoot in self-defence and risk being court-martialled or whether to hold fire and risk being killed by an insurgent.

The events in Iraq constitute a desperately black situation, and in the face of them we all scurry to be on the white side. And we can stay on the white side by saying we were against the war from the start, by saying that the guilty must be seen to be punished, by blaming politicians for their decisions or by blaming service personnel for their actions, as our “whiter-than-white” media would have us do. Our forces in Iraq and Afghanistan are in horribly black situations, and need us to share some of that blackness rather than staying out of it, resolutely imagining ourselves to be on the white side.

How does all this compare with the words from St John’s Gospel “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” By “loving one another” Jesus meant to enter into the blackness of others rather than striving to stay on the white side. Throughout his ministry Jesus shared the blackness of the lives of sinners, the poor and the sick, people condemned by those whose whole career was aimed at staying on the white side, the priests and levites, the scribes and Pharisees, the religiously pure. It was through their actions that the Son of Man – the perfectly white – was put to death like the blackest of the black. On the cross Jesus took his pure whiteness into utter blackness, for the sake of us all.

When Jesus tells us to love one another as he loved us he is telling us to be like him, to move towards and accept and share in the black we encounter, bringing white to that blackness and “moving towards death for the purpose of life.”

Our forces in Iraq, in their blackness, don’t need us to claim that we didn’t agree with the war, that we see no excuse for any action other than that governed by high moral principle, or that the politicians are to blame. Even if we demonstrated against the war (and few of us did), even if we ourselves have always behaved in exemplary way in all situations (and few of us have), and even if politicians are responsible for the decisions (and only 6 out of 10 of us could be bothered to vote at the last election), surely Jesus is calling us to move away from the safe white ground to where it is black. Surely he is calling us to identify totally with the other service personnel still awaiting trial on manslaughter charges, together with those shot for cowardice 90 years ago and with all who have served and continue to serve in the blackness of military action on behalf of their country.

We don’t have to think far back – to the Vietnam War when things turned very black in that sad country pelted with napalm and agent orange by the American forces and suffering atrocities by the Vietcong – to remember how the population at home in the United States went for the safe white ground, turning their backs

*(Continued on page 6)*

on their forces and abandoning them to blackness. We musn't do that to our own forces now.

In an age of such whitening devices as the blame culture and political correctness, isn't Jesus calling us to move instead towards the black for the purpose of transforming it, no matter what that costs? Isn't he calling us to hold our forces constantly in our minds and in our prayers, setting aside our love of whiteness to share in the blackness they must bear? For then we'd be doing just what he did, being prepared to lay down something of our lives, our comfortable white lives, for our friends. Then we would be loving others just as Jesus loves us.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."

With every blessing for Christmas and the New Year,

*Mike Tucker*

## **Christmas magazine and card**

We would like to thank Beaudesert Park School for all the drawings and poems they have given us for our Christmas Magazine cover and the Christmas Card.

The standard was excellent and we had great difficulty in choosing the finalists.

## **Decorating the Church for Christmas**

**9.00am Saturday December 24th**

As always, we shall be decorating the church on the morning of Christmas Eve. As it is such a busy time for everyone, we thought it would be a good idea to get underway by 9am. Contributions of seasonal foliage and berries would be appreciated, if possible left at the back of the church in the coffee corner on Friday December 23<sup>rd</sup>, but otherwise very first thing on Christmas Eve morning.

For much of the decorations no great flower arranging skills are needed and we would like to encourage everyone who would like to join in the lovely task of making our church beautiful for the Christmas celebrations to join us. It is always a very happy occasion and all will be welcome.

Further information from :

Margaret Gardner 872230, Sue Pugh 872551 and Sheila Rowley 873377

## CHRISTINGLE SERVICE 2005

The Holy Trinity Church Christingle service will take place as usual on **Christmas Eve, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December, at 5.30pm**. We look forward to seeing you at this great annual event.

The arrangements this year will be the same as those introduced last year. Because of the growing attendance year by year, we have to set an upper limit on the numbers we can accommodate safely within the Church itself. *But this should not deter anyone from coming to the Christingle service.*

Once again we are holding what is effectively a single service in two locations, in the Church and in the Parish Room, with video and audio links between the two. Our clergy and choir will be shared equally between the two locations – half in the ‘Inn’ and half in the ‘Stable’.

We plan to make the service equally enjoyable for those upstairs and those downstairs. If and when the Church reaches capacity, later arrivals will be directed to the Parish Room. And of course you may decide to join the others there even if the Church is not totally full.

**Admission to the Church and the Parish Room will be from 4.45pm.** Seats in the Church will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, and we regret that you will not be able to reserve seats for those arriving later.

As usual the proceeds of the collection will be forwarded to the Children’s Society. Christingle envelopes for your donations will be handed out at Amberley Parochial School and at Amberley Playgroup and Toddlers Group, and will also be available on the night, especially for those wishing to ‘gift aid’ their contributions.

Please come and join us at our ‘double-decker’ service and help us make it a successful and lovely start to the whole Christmas festival.

Mike Tucker

### **Young People’s Diary**

**Quest dates (6.45 - 8 pm):** Dec 11th

**Youth Group dates:**

**Junior (6.30 – 8pm):** Dec 12th (joint end of term party)

**Senior (7 – 8.30pm):** Dec 5th, 12th (joint end of term party)

**Sunday Club :**

4th December Claire Wilkins and Vanessa Owen

11th December Christmas Party

# Uganda

Dear everyone

After two days of madness spent in Kampala 'fast-tracking' my visa, I am glad to be back in Ibanda and the relevant sanity of the school grounds. Although I purchased a three month Visa from the Ugandan Embassy in London, it transpires that at Entebbe Airport the border guard had amended the Visa to be valid for only 30 days. As a result, I had technically been an illegal immigrant for two weeks. I count it as a minor achievement, another thing that 'I once was'!

The carpentry is progressing well. After a week of painting with the pupils whilst the carpenters got on with the shelves, we now have 8 computer tables, 8 benches, 2 desks (complete with doors & shelves) & 14 shelf units. All the furniture in the computer section will be white gloss, and the rest in the library area varnished, and a reading and study area will also be incorporated into the new building. I will have to make a 'Quiet Please' sign as is customary for libraries! I have taken photos of the painting and work being done, including the paint being removed from the heads of the workers - it seems that the paint is magnetically attracted to them! I will try to get more photos developed to send back next time I'm in Kampala.

The computers are still sitting idle until we can purchase power stabilizers. In Kampala I managed to find a shop that could get the right ones at a reasonable price, so as soon as the funds become available I'll be starting to set up the lab. The generous donation from the Amberley Mothers Union Harvest Supper is going towards this so a big thank you. In the meantime Kelly (Peace Corps volunteer) and I have set out a syllabus for teaching basic computing, and I have been working on a reference guide to aid in the basic principles of computing, which will be followed by handouts and worksheets.

The main long annual holidays are over the Christmas period, when the children help their parents with the harvest, and school breaks up in December. I am trying to organise a safari to 'Bwindi Impenetrable Forest' National Park to go Gorilla Trekking, a generous Christmas present from my father. Of the approx. 650 known to be alive world-wide, 320 live in the mountains here. It seems a long way to come not to experience one of the marvels that nature has created in these giant mammals.

Later this week I am invited to the Thanksgiving celebration for the giving-away of the headmaster's youngest sister. The wedding will be in their home village, but we will not be attending. It is still custom in Uganda for the husband's family to provide a dowry to the bride at the time of marriage. This is usually cows as opposed to cash. About 50 people are invited to the celebration (afterwards), but it is usually expected that you can quadruple the number of guests as people see a party and just turn up. I explained to Kosam that in England 'gate-crashing' is considered the height of bad manners, but here in Uganda when they invite 50,

they plan to provide for 200. In any case nothing goes to waste if there is surplus.

I will be in Kampala in December and will be sure to write again soon,

Love to all,

Joseph Lauzier

**Amberley Village Events proudly  
present TAURUS VOICE in**

**Amberley Parish Room**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm**

**Tickets £6 adults £3 children**

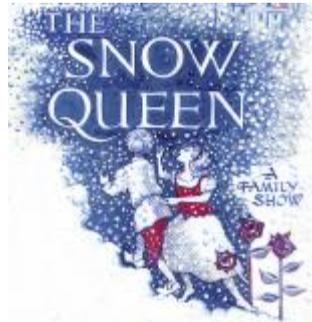
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Kate Bertram 872796

Jennifer Molyneux 872232

Sue Pugh 872551

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‘No tacky tinsel, no pop songs, no cheap jokes, just pure magic.’

‘Breath-stoppingly beautiful, yet earthy and packed with panto-style humour’

This family show, based on Hans Christian Andersen’s fairytale, is suitable for all ages from primary school to 100!

Stroud based Taurus Voice theatre company will be providing workshops for the children at Amberley school in the week preceding the show.

## **Church Christmas Card**

As mentioned in last month’s magazine, the school where Joe Lauzier is working in Uganda has been nominated as the organisation to receive the donations given by those who send greetings by the ‘Church Christmas Card’, in order to help provide basic supplies for the school. However, having learnt of the desperate plight at Akany Avoko (see page 14), it has been decided that any money raised will be divided between the Ugandan school and Akany Avoko.

As last year, you are invited to put your Christmas wishes on an individual card (available from 4 December) which is then tied onto a decorated tree. Envelopes will be available for the donations and where appropriate these donations can be gift aided. Please leave these envelopes in the collection plate at the back of the church at any of the services in the run up to Christmas, along with the regular giving.

Many thanks to Viv Leivers and the children of Sunday Club who have prepared this for us.

## **Christmas is Coming – Quickly!**

Are you short of ideas for Christmas presents?  
Do you think they may already have one?  
Do you dislike wrapping up and posting presents?  
Do you think it's all getting a bit out of hand?

Well, how about this...

You could pay for a goat for £27 ( FARMAfrica)  
or buy 100 school dinners for £6 (Oxfam)  
or train a midwife for £46 (Oxfam)

You could get a mosquito net for £11 (Christian Aid)  
or a teacher's salary for two months for £30 (Christian Aid)

You could send a cow for £750 (Send a Cow)  
or a share in one for £75

You could send 12 footballs for school teams in Africa (World Vision)  
or an emergency cooking set for £12

These are just a few of the ideas in this year's Charity catalogues and most of them come with gift cards for you to send too.

Some useful details:

Oxfam	0870 410 5030	<a href="http://www.Oxfamunwrapped.com">www.Oxfamunwrapped.com</a>
Christian Aid	0845 330 0500	<a href="http://www.presentaid.org">www.presentaid.org</a>
World Vision	0845 600 6449	<a href="http://www.worldvision.org">www.worldvision.org</a>
FARM-Africa	0207 430 0440	<a href="http://www.farmafrica.org.uk">www.farmafrica.org.uk</a>
Send a Cow	0845 660 4670	<a href="http://www.sendacow.org.uk">www.sendacow.org.uk</a>

Peace and Justice Group

**PILATES**

at Amberley Parish Room

**Two 6 week courses:**

**Mondays 5, 12, 19 Dec & 9, 16, 23 Jan at 2 pm**

**Thursdays 1, 8, 15 Dec & 12, 19, 26 Jan at 5 pm**

**Please call Nicolette for further information or to book  
your place - 01453 873216**

## **WE HATE SAYING GOODBYE “EVER”**

We do not need to tell you how much Amberley has been so much a part, and such a happy part of our lives. We hate saying goodbye. We have moved so many times in our lifetime during our army life and you know that friends are friends for ever, even if leaving hurts for a short time. We have loved being part of this village. The most important being our church life here. This is closely followed by Art, Golf, Bridge, Conservatives, Mothers' Union, British Legion, Probus, New-comers Parties, Friday Cuppa and Scottish Dancing. They have all been a huge part of our life at sometime and long may they continue. We have loved our little gatherings at 8am Communion, our cosy after Friday Cuppa fish and chips at the Black Horse and the many private parties we have shared. This has all added up to a wonderful unique experience. Even being ill here was a wonderful time with so many people praying and loving you back to health every step of the way. Amberley was a refuge to us when we lived in Baghdad and during the Gulf War in Abu Dhabi and the many difficult times during our long stay in the Middle East. The contrast between the two places was enormous, and the strength we gained each time we returned was huge. Amberley kept us “grounded” during all those crises. Our family reminiscences include the birth of our now 17 year old granddaughter Jenny (and her first bath in our sink) when Elaine returned from Sudan for the birth. Victoria's very tearful wedding was in Amberley as was our recent Golden Wedding Anniversary. Thank you Amberley for being a constant in a very busy eventful life as we are sure it has been for so many of the lucky few who have lived in Amberley for many a year.

So we start a new life again, this time in our old (twenty years) flat in London. Such a contrast but again we shall be going back to a church and friends who are still there and life changes again. Our address we shall leave with Mike at Church and with the great ladies who get this magazine out to you each month. To those who we gave cards – the post card is wrong it should be W9 1AL (not SW9.) We shall miss all of you but will not say goodbye to any of you. We love you all and have never been reticent to show our love and to us that is the important thing. Hope you will love the new custodians of our wonderful house at Woodvale. If God wills it we will be back; we are sure he has the right house for us in his plans!

Merry Christmas to you all.

Maureen and Terry Finney

### **Woodchester Priory Services**

Vigil Mass	Saturday, 6 pm
Mass	Sunday, 10.30 a.m.

# A QUESTION & SOME ANSWERS

## *What Nationality was Jesus?*

### *Three characteristics that suggest Jesus was Puerto Rican:*

- His first name was Jesus
- He was bilingual
- He was always being harassed by the authorities

### *Three characteristics that suggest Jesus was Black:*

- He called everybody “brother”
- He liked Gospel
- He couldn't get a fair trial

### *Three characteristics that suggest Jesus was Jewish:*

- He went into his father's business
- He lived at home until he was 33
- He was sure his Mother was a virgin, and his Mother was sure he was God

### *Three characteristics that suggest Jesus was Italian:*

- He talked with his hands
- He had wine with every meal
- He worked in the building trades

### *Three characteristics that suggest Jesus was a Californian:*

- He never cut his hair
- He walked around barefoot
- He started a new religion

### *Three characteristics that suggest Jesus was Irish:*

- He never got married
- He was always telling stories
- He loved green pastures.

### *And now the most compelling evidence:*

### *Three characteristics that suggest Jesus was a woman:*

- He had to feed a crowd at a moment's notice, when there was no food
- He kept trying to get the message across to a bunch of men who just didn't get it
- Even when he was dead, he had to get up because there was more work to be done

## Amberley Gardening Club

We were entertained at our November meeting with a talk given by Frank Hardy, who had worked in many roles in the horticultural world before becoming vice-principal of Pershore College. Now retired, he enjoys writing and lecturing and his relaxed style and insistence on audience participation made the evening a great success.

His subject 'All Our Yesterdays – Changes in Gardening since 1945' was a wide subject but his enthusiasm and knowledge, illustrated by slides and the many plants he brought with him made it a very enjoyable evening.

The plant of the 1960's was the rose, but how did people buy them generally? We were surprised to hear that mail order was the purchasing method for many thousand bare rooted roses and innovation was needed to wrap them in plastic! The advertisements for roses were placed in national newspapers and which one do you think attracted the most responses? 'The News of The World' was the surprise answer.

Can you remember when the first Garden Centre opened? Or what sales pitch was used to market plastic pots? Do you remember the rhubarb trains or old wooden wheelbarrows? How about when tin cans were used for potting plants? If you are curious to know the answers, I am sure members of the Gardening Club could enlighten you.

Do come to our next meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> February and hear the speaker from the lovely National Trust garden 'The Courts' near Bradford on Avon, which the club will be visiting in April. Remember non members are very welcome to attend our meetings and join us on our outings.

## W.I. Dates

**13th Dec.** We are looking forward to our Christmas Party – a traditional one this year. It is being organized by a sub-committee and will include party games and entertainment. Please bring a wrapped gift to the value of about £2.

**17th Jan.** Lunch at the Hare and Hounds, Westonbirt – 12.00 for 12.30. Cost £12 to include tip to be paid in advance. Please make sure your name is on the list if you want to come.

The committee have arranged a programme of interesting talks for the year, and visitors and new members are always welcome.

## **News from Akany Avoko**

Because of the ongoing problems of inflation in Madagascar, the home is being forced to take in more children who are being abandoned by their parents because of extreme poverty and the increasingly high cost of living. This means there are now 160 children being cared for instead of the 80 expected. No child is turned away but this means that all funds must be directed to feeding the children and there is little left for the education of the older children who, of course, need training if they are able to compete in the increasingly competitive world around them.

The political situation has improved and there is more financial aid and debt relief reaching the country but this, of course, will take a long time to filter down to those at the bottom of the pile. Akany Avoko struggles on and as any visitors will confirm, there is a lot of laughter and happiness surrounding the children but the need for help from concerned people is always there.

Money is desperately needed. They do not have enough money to feed all the children until the end of the month. Without immediate help the children will go hungry and the staff unpaid and there are no reserves left. This has been caused by inflation of 20%, the cutting of the EU rice quota, the extra 40 children which means there are now 168 to feed, clothe, house and educate and the freezing of adoptions which mean that abandoned babies have to stay at A.A. indefinitely.

If anyone can help at all, money can be sent via Jan Kirby in Gloucester. Ring 01453 872237 for details.

One piece of great news - one girl has won a place at the University of Antananarivo. This is a marvellous achievement and she is being funded by friends of the home in Cirencester.

Christmas will be a marvellous and exciting time for the children but, of course, their expectations are somewhat lower than the average family in England.

Peace & Justice Group.

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## **Local Books**

"Their Country's Urgent Call: The War Dead of Amberley, Box & Woodchester"  
- last few copies remaining of print run.

£15 per copy, delivery free in Amberley area.

NEW - "The VCs of Gloucestershire & North Bristol" - 150 years of the Victoria Cross from a Gloucestershire perspective.

£20 per copy, delivery as above.

Both books written by N.J. Thornicroft. For details please ring 01452 380922 or 01453 872388.

## **AVE ATQUE VALE**

I had hoped to take farewell of Amberley and particularly Holy Trinity and my friends at the choral Evensong and the harvest supper but a large pulmonary embolus and a few little ones put paid to that and landed me in Cheltenham General. When I left there, I did not return to Amberley. I believe that many of you drank my health before the supper and I thank you most sincerely for your thoughts; I thank you too for the magnificent book with the card containing your signatures which reached me in hospital.

We first entered Amberley Church on Whitsunday, 1958 and were welcomed by the Churchwarden, Norman Grace. Canon Bennett was the Rector and Frank Elliot was the verger - remember Frank? In the years following, Holy Trinity became part of the fabric of our lives. Our children learned to grow up as devout Christians; our sons were trained by Richard Jefferies to be servers; our daughter was married there and our first grandchild was baptised there. In April 1997, Molly lay under Millicent Jefferies' pall and was buried in our churchyard. In God's good time I hope to follow her not, I trust, too far ahead.

I shall never forget you and I thank God for all that Amberley has given me and my family. God bless you all.

Maurice Tuffin.

4, Grasmere Road, Alderley Edge, SK9 7US. 01625 585217.

## **New Neighbours**

We are delighted that a new priest has been appointed to the parish of St Mary Magdalene, Rodborough to replace Revd Sid Riggs who retired in September 2004. The new incumbent will be Revd Peggy Ludlow, who has been curate at Winchcombe for the past four years, and who trained with our own Revd Ann Morris. Peggy's induction at Rodborough will be on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December. Sadly for Ann and I this clashes with the last night of our 'Getting Down to Basics' Course.

Peggy's appointment is also to the new post of Deanery Youth Officer, to take one day a week of her time. Our knowledge of Peggy's gifts in this area gives Ann and I every confidence that she is a most admirable person to fill this important post. Her husband Brian is also ordained, in his case as a non-stipendiary priest. His day job is as Chief Medical Officer for British Nuclear Fuels Limited and he is based at Berkeley. Brian will be licensed to serve in another local benefice.

We wish Peggy and Brian, and those of their six children still at home, every happiness in their new location. Please remember them in your prayers, especially as 13<sup>th</sup> December approaches.

Mike Tucker

## **From the registers ...**

### **Marriage**

**They whom God hath joined...**

29 Oct      Suzy Wood and  
                 John Field

### **Baptism**

**We welcome you**

20 Nov      Frederick John Varley

The Littleworth Hall is open every Friday morning  
for a

## **Friday Cuppa**

from 10.30 am till 12 noon

Why not drop in for elevenses and a chat? Tea, coffee and biscuits available  
If you need transport or would like to help in any way please contact  
Ann Haslam (873632)

## **Churchyard**

We shall be working at the following times:-

Dec 5th      2 pm to 4 pm

A group of us are doing a complete survey of our graveyard, and we are progressing quite well, but we do need someone who would be prepared to do a plan for us of the older top section. We already have a plan of the newer, lower section. We would be pleased to hear from anyone who could undertake this job for us. Margaret Gardner. 872230



# DECEMBER

Items in *italics* are covered more fully in other sections of the magazine  
PR means the Parish Room and LH means Littleworth Hall

Date		Start	End	Location
1 Dec	<i>Pilates Course starts</i>	17:00	18:00	PR
5 Dec	<i>Pilates Course starts</i>	14:00	15:00	PR
5 Dec	Churchyard	14:00	16:00	Churchyard
6 Dec	'Getting Down to Basics'	19:30	21:00	LH
8 Dec	<i>Tyndale Choral concert</i>	19:30	-	Church
11 Dec	<i>Quest</i>	18:45	20:00	Rectory
12 Dec	<i>Youth Group</i>	18:30	20:00	PR
13 Dec	Amberley Ridge Carol Service	10:00	-	Church
13 Dec	<i>WI Christmas Party</i>	-	-	-
13 Dec	'Getting Down to Basics'	19:30	21:00	LH
14 Dec	Amberley School Carol Service	14:00	-	Church
15 Dec	Amberley School Carol Service	19:30	-	Church
18 Dec	Amberley Church Carol Service	17:30	18:30	Church
24 Dec	<i>Decorating the church</i>	09:00	-	Church

**Don't Forget** - as explained in an earlier magazine, **YOU** can add items to the events list on the Amberley web site.  
Contact Steve Goodwin if you can't remember how!

## HIGHLANDS COTTAGE CHARITY

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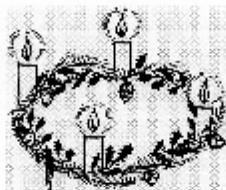


Tyndale Choral Society

Englishwood, County No. 99448601

# Christmas Carol Concert

Conductor: Ian Harrold



Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December  
7.30pm

Amberley Parish Church

Tickets £6 each  
including a glass of wine, a mince pie  
and singing a carol or two

available from Sandra Tucker (01453 878515)  
or Amberley Post Office

## **Amberley Scout Group**

### **A date for your diaries**

We will be holding our Annual Burns Night Supper and Quiz on Saturday, January 28th in Amberley Parish Rooms. Further details and tickets available after Christmas. Tickets are limited.

Jennie Varley tel 832251

# The New Licensing Law

The new law comes into operation on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2005. All the media have concentrated on is the bad effect of all pubs being open for 24 hours and so adding to the problem of young people “binge” drinking.

In fact the new law is far more constructive and wide ranging and it includes village halls. Some explanation might be helpful as the Parish Rooms are covered by the provisions of the new law.

If the parts of the law concerning alcohol are applied and “policed” correctly it means that :-

- no-one under 18 can buy alcohol
- no-one under 18 can consume alcohol (unless they are 16 or 17 and sitting down to a formal meal when they can drink beer, cider or wine.)
- it is a criminal offence to sell alcohol to or buy alcohol for anyone under 18
- it is a criminal offence to sell alcohol to or buy alcohol for any-one who appears drunk or is disorderly
- local authorities now have the duty to issue licences and while they want to have flexibility in “closing times” they have to respond to the needs and objections from the local communities. The number of 24 hour licences are likely to be very very limited and if there are any problems the premises can be closed by the police immediately and then the complete licence will be reviewed.

This should reduce the amount of young people “binge” drinking.

As far as village halls are concerned, it is necessary to have a licence if any of the following events are arranged that are open to the public and or tickets are sold or an entrance fee is charged :-

Dances, plays, films, choir concerts, recorded or live music, dance performance

It is also necessary to have a licence if hot food and drink is sold after 11p.m.

Amberley Parish Rooms will have a licence for up to 200 people for all these, but we will not have a licence for hot food and drink being sold after 11 p.m.

Special licence arrangements apply if alcohol is sold at any event more than 12 times in a year. This will include any event where any charge is made for any alcohol drink during the event. (e.g. a bar at the end of a private wedding party)

The Magistrates will no longer issue alcohol licences as this now comes under the new law. The charge for a Magistrates’ licence has been replaced by a series of charges to get and keep a Premises Licence that includes any alcohol sales.

Amberley Parish Rooms will be licensed for the sale of alcohol but anyone wanting to use this facility in any event will have to sign a special alcohol agreement as well as the normal hire agreement.. They will have to pay an extra amount to the

*(Continued on page 20)*

*(Continued from page 19)*

Parish Rooms to help pay for the licence and the administration of the licence. In the Alcohol Agreement the hirer will be authorised to sell alcohol but he/she will have to agree to comply with the requirements of the new law and agree to be in the Parish Rooms at all times that alcohol is sold. The Parish Rooms licence allows alcohol to be sold between 12 noon and 11.30 p.m. and only consumed within the building. There is no annual limit to the number of times alcohol can be sold at an event.

If you have any questions or issues that you would like to clarify please contact me on 01453 872551

John Pugh – Parish Room Management Committee

## **WHERE THE COW IS KING**

### **The Perfect Christmas Present**

This is the story of the ancient royal demesne of Minchinhampton. It includes nearly 1000 acres of common land that receives thousands of visitors annually and is one of the nation's great natural playgrounds. It is home to one of England's oldest golf courses and has royal connections dating back over 1000 years.

*Available from Amberley Post Office*

For further details and sale points contact the author J.V.Smith on 01453 873697

## **Church Housing Trust**

Amberley Holy Trinity supports and prays for homeless people cared for by Church Housing Trust.

Through the support of our PCC and parishioners Church Housing Trust helps very many homeless people and those in housing need in our communities. Church Housing Trust supports residents in over 70 projects including hostels, move-on housing, foyers, day centres, women's refuges and mother and baby projects. Donations received make a real difference to the lives of homeless people and are used for a variety of purposes including rehabilitation, education, training and resettlement.

Church Housing Trust was founded in 1984 by Church Housing Association, to raise charitable funds to support hostels and provide welfare funds for homeless people in need.

Donations by cheque, charity voucher, MasterCard or charity card (payable to Church Housing Trust) may be sent to Church Housing Trust, PO Box 50296, London EC1P 1WF or via their website [www.churchhousingtrust.org.uk](http://www.churchhousingtrust.org.uk)

# **News from missions and charities**

## **Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP)**

Over the past six months, MAP has focussed on health projects that give the maximum impact for the money available. These include increasing the capacity of local health services, preventative health measures and projects tackling disability stress and trauma, particularly amongst children.

In the West Bank, students from communities most adversely affected by the building of the Wall have been selected for training as Community Health Workers. With the difficulties of reaching clinics and doctors imposed by the wall, this will make an important contribution to the health of their village communities.

A reproductive health awareness project for women is taking place in five villages around Bethlehem, focussing on the reduction of early marriages and information about contraception. Emphasis is placed on compatibility with Islam and local religious leaders have been involved.

With the help of two UK doctors, intensive courses in Basic Life Support (including paediatric) have been run in Gaza. This is important as it is frequently impossible to evacuate seriously ill children from this area.

## **Gloucestershire Association for Refugees and Asylum Seekers (GARAS)**

The staff at GARAS continually cope with new situations and legislation. The disbanding of the Asylum Team at Social Services has meant many changes for them.

The Government has decided that it is safe for Iraqis living in some areas to return to Iraq. These people must agree to return, or forfeit their right to support in this country. The policy on returns to Zimbabwe is awaited after a recent judgement in favour of refugees living in Britain.

Several people helped by GARAS have now successfully applied for Citizenship. GARAS continues to meet people coming from new EU countries to work in the UK, some of whom are the victims of employment scams. Efforts to obtain compensation are long and expensive.

At the minute GARAS needs a minute secretary. The time involved is estimated as 4 hours every 2 months, the frequency of committee meetings.

## **A date for your diary ...**

Open ACC meeting on Wednesday January 4<sup>th</sup> 2006 - Amnesty International

The speaker at this open meeting will be Dr David Somervell who is coming to tell us about the work of Amnesty International. Whatever your enthusiasms or reservations about this organisation, come and find out more!

Peace and Justice Group

# Duty Roster

	Readers	Prayers	Chalice	Sidesmen
<b>4th December</b>	<b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b>			
8am	D Piechowiak	D Rowe	S Lauzier	D Rowe
Holy Communion	S Lauzier			R Rowe
10am	P Herbert	Reader	E Walsh	M Gardner
Parish Eucharist	M Meadows		P Herbert	E Haughton
<b>11th December</b>	<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b>			
8am (M)	J Mann	S Rowley	D Makins	J Mann
Holy Communion	R Mann			R Mann
10.00am	S Partridge	J V Smith	A Haslam	B Lane
Parish Eucharist	J Roselli		J Howard	P Herbert
<b>18th December</b>	<b>4th Sunday of Advent</b>			
8am	S Pugh	Clergy	D Patient	A Haslam
Holy Communion	J Varley			S Pugh
10am	Family Service			J Keyte
5.30pm	Nine Lessons and Carols			D Rowe
				R Rowe
<b>24th December</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b>			
5.30pm	Christingle Service			MU
11.30pm	S Goodwin	Clergy	A Aldridge	S Rowley
Midnight Mass	T Adkin		J Howard	S Pugh
<b>25th December</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>			
8am	D Rowe	J V Smith	D Rowe	S Page
Holy Communion	S Page			M Page
10am	D Piechowiak	P Herbert	S Lauzier	B Preston
Parish Eucharist	S Lauzier		P Herbert	A Haslam

## **MAGAZINE**

All copy and articles for the magazine should be left at the back of the Church by the **8th December** or emailed to [Margaret@msgardner.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:Margaret@msgardner.fsnet.co.uk)  
Please could you all ensure that when your January Magazine is delivered you have £3.60 ready for the years payment - or arrange to see that it is available as soon as possible afterwards.

The magazine was produced this month by Heather Pearson, Betty Lane, Pat Woods and Margaret Gardner.

If you would like to help with any duties, please contact Margaret Gardner for magazine (872230) , Heather Pearson for church services (885477) , Rosemary Lea for flowers (872901) , Mary Meadows for church cleaning (872347) , and Peggy Bailey for after-service coffee (873709) .

### **Lifts to Church and for Doctors' or Hospital Appointments**

If you have difficulty in travelling to Church on a Sunday morning, or travelling to attend doctors' or hospital appointments, or if you know anyone else in this position, please get in touch with Mrs Gill Millwood (01453 873546), who will make the necessary arrangements for someone to call for you and give you a lift.

If you are willing to help with this service, and would be prepared for Gill to contact you in the event of a request being received, please let her know.

## **Hair by Nicholas**

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01453 872958

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# THE AMBERLEY INN

## CULVER HILL, AMBERLEY



### News Update!

- \* The AA have awarded us our first Rosette
- \* Michelin have put us in their Red Guide
- \* New Bar Menu
- \* The ladies loos have been refurbished!
- \* Don't forget happy hour is between 12:00 - 1:00 pm and 5:00 - 6:00 pm

**Newly refurbished accommodation is available from only £55.00 per room for bed and full English breakfast**

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01453 872958

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Sat	8.30 am - 12.30 pm
Sun	8.30 am - 12 noon (Shop only)

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## **MINCHINHAMPTON CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY**

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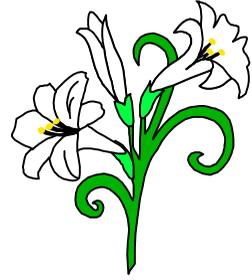
**Alternatively, our Home Care service provides help and support in people's homes and Meals-on-Wheels can be delivered to your door.**

**The purpose built Day Centre offers a warm, friendly atmosphere in which to socialise and offers a wide range of facilities including an extensive activities programme, hairdressing, bathing, aromatherapy and chiropody.**

**If you require further information, please contact Jenny Martin at Horsfall House. Telephone 01453 731227**

## Flower Rota

Dec 3	Advent - No flowers
Dec 10	Wedding
Dec 17	Advent - No flowers
Dec 24	Christmas
Dec 31	Crib
Jan 7	Crib



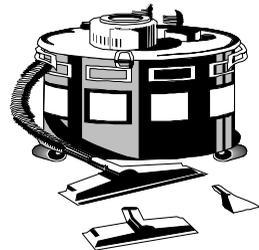
## Coffee Rota

Dec 4	Betty Lane and Maureen Anderson
Dec 11	Laurie and Jean Needham
Dec 18	MU
Dec 25	Christmas Day
Jan 1	Joyce Newton and Sarah Clifford
Jan 8	Ron and Ivy Corry



## Church Cleaning Teams

Dec 5	Anne Shepherd
Dec 12	Alison Bell
Dec 19	Ann Haslam
Dec 26	Margaret Gardner
Jan 2	Mary Meadows



# **The Parish Church of the Holy Trinity, Amberley**

## **Amberley Churches Together**

Rector	Revd Canon Dr Mike Tucker	878515
Methodist Minister	Revd Roger Bayliss	01452 814809
Curate	Revd Ann Morris	872587
Churchwardens	Mrs Sarah Goodwin	873381
	Mr Tim Adkin	762491
Reader	Mrs Anne Seymour	873272
Verger	Mrs Cynthia Cooke	872602
Director of Music	Mr Steve Goodwin	873381
Head Server	Mrs Jan Howard	872689
Stewards	Mrs Di Rowe	873497
	Mrs Betty Lane	872416
ACC: Secretary	Mrs Pat Woods	872652
Treasurer	Mr Harry Davie	872787
Chairman	Mr John Gilbert	836275
Vice Chairman	Mrs Sue Pugh	872551
	Mr Danek Piechowiak	882379
	Mrs Sue Lauzier	882379
	Dr Alistair Smith	762513
	Mrs Elizabeth Haughton	872496
	Mrs Deborah Patient	872546
Deanery Synod Reps	Mrs Sandra Tucker	878515
	Mrs Anne Seymour	873272
	Mr Michael Bullock	01452 771282
Planned Giving Secretary	Mrs Sarah Goodwin	873381
Social Committee Secretary	Mrs Jane Peters	762591
Church Grounds Comm Chmn	Mrs Margaret Gardner	872230
Sunday Club	Mrs Clare Wilkins	835864
Youth Group	Mrs Sue Partridge	873141
Quest	Mrs Sue Pugh	872551
Parish Magazine Editor	Mrs Margaret Gardner	872230
Advert Secretary	Mrs Betty Lane	872416
Church Flower Rota	Mrs Rosemary Lea	872901
Friday Cuppa	Mrs Ann Haslam	873632
MU Secretary	Mrs Pat Woods	872652

## Village Organisations

<b>Amberley Parochial School</b>	873349
Head Teacher - Jo Woolley	
<b>Amberley Playgroup</b> - Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9.30-12.15	
Play Leader - Fiona Ellen	832379
<b>Toddlers Group</b> - Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9.45-11.45 am	
Leader - Fiona Ellen	832379
<b>Royal British Legion</b> - Joint Men & Women's Branch	
Second Tuesday of even months at 7.30 pm at the Old Lodge	
Chairman - Brian Preston	833360
<b>Women's Institute</b>	
Third Tuesday in each month at 2.30 pm in the Parish Rooms	
Mrs Joyce Newton	885324
<b>Littleworth Hall</b>	
Booking Secretary - Mrs Di Rowe	873497
<b>Parish Room Management Committee</b>	
Letting Secretary - Mrs Cynthia Cooke	872602
<b>Highlands Cottage Charity</b>	
Secretary	873272
<b>The Drake Scout HQ - Culver Hill</b>	
Group Scout Leader - Mr Bob Lawson	835079
<b>Scouts</b> - Fridays 7-9 pm	
Leader - Mr. Dave Middlemiss	840003
<b>Cub Scouts</b> - Thursdays 6.30-8 pm	
Leader - Mrs Coral Rice	872124
<b>Beaver Scouts</b> - Saturday 5-6 pm	
Leader - Sarah Martin	872573
<b>Venture Scouts</b>	
Leader - Mr Chris Rowley	882166
<b>Guides</b> - Wednesdays 7.30-9 pm	
Mrs Heather Pearson	885477
<b>Brownies</b> - Wednesdays 6.00-7.30 pm in the Parish Rooms	
Miss Joy Hopkins	834767
<b>Baby Sitting Circle</b>	
Mrs Lisa Haymon-Collins	873796
<b>Amberley Gardening Club</b> - 2nd Wed of each month - Parish Room	
Mrs Anne Shepherd	872237

Website - [www.amberley.org.uk](http://www.amberley.org.uk)

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