

St Andrew's Hagbourne
PARISH MAGAZINE
ALTERNATIVE ISSUE – DECEMBER 2020



A Happy and Peaceful Christmas to all our Readers

Thank you very much to the Parish Councils for giving the Parish Magazine a temporary home on their websites until we are able to safely go back to producing and distributing a printed copy.

www.easthagbourne.net

www.westhagbourne.org

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, HAGBOURNE

The United Benefice of Blewbury, East and West Hagbourne and Upton together with Aston Tirrold, Aston Upthorpe, North Moreton and South Moreton.



Rector's Reflections It's Different This Year

I wonder if you have started to think about your plans for Christmas yet? I'm writing this piece in mid-November, and at the time of writing I think none of us quite know what the next month will bring. The current lockdown is due to end in early December, but what comes next? A return to the "rule of 6"? Will there be new restrictions? No one knows. But one thing we can all agree upon is that Christmas will be different this year.

Sometimes we can assume that "different" means worse, but this isn't necessarily so. Yes, Christmas will be "different", but "different" doesn't necessarily mean worse. It simply means different.

I wonder what's most important to you about Christmas? I was chatting to someone this morning and asked them what was most important to them. They replied that what mattered to them was time with family. They were particularly looking forward to time with their daughter, who was currently away at University.

Time spent with family is really important for many people, especially at Christmas time. There are other things which can be important, such as putting up the decorations, and enjoying seasonal food. And of course there's Christmas music, too. As you might or might not know, music plays a huge part in my life. One of my Christmas traditions is to start the season off by listening to Handel's Messiah. I have already started singing Christmas carols, and soon I shall be playing some of my Christmas CDs!

And for many people, Christmas is also about Carol Services and perhaps going to a Crib Service or to Midnight Mass. Here in our churches, we are planning to hold a variety of special Christmas services, some of which will be online and some of which will take place either in the churches themselves or outside. Do check our website for the latest details (always good to check, as we always comply with the latest Government regulations, and these can change!).

So, yes, Christmas will be different this year. But it will still be Christmas. It will be an opportunity to celebrate, once again, the birth of Jesus Christ. In Jesus we see the light of God's love shining out in the darkness of sorrows and our fears. In Jesus, we have hope for the present, and for the year ahead.

Fr Jason

Christmas Pram Service

Hosted by The Churn Mothers Union

Wednesday 9th December at 12.30pm
in St Michael's Blewbury

A short service to include the nativity story, a Christmas activity, prayer and music for all pre-school children.

Bring a RUG to mark your safe space and your own lunch or order

HAPPY MEAL lunch boxes from

Revd Louise 078387 009 930. Adults, please wear a face covering.



CALENDAR AND DIARY FOR DECEMBER 2020

The Intentions this month are for all who live in Astons & Upton

1 Tuesday	8pm Compline
2 Wednesday	8pm Compline
3 Thursday	8pm Compline
4 Friday	8pm Compline
5 Saturday	

6+Sunday THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

	10.30am Online Benefice Service	
	6pm Advent Carol Service: St Michael's B	
7 Monday	S. Ambrose	8pm Compline
8 Tuesday		8pm Compline
9 Wednesday	Ember Day	8pm Compline
	12.15pm Holy Eucharist: St Andrew's H	
	12.30pm Christmas Pram Service: St Michael's Blewbury	
10 Thursday		8pm Compline
11 Friday	Ember Day	8pm Compline
12 Saturday	Ember Day	

13+Sunday THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

	10.30am Online Benefice Service	
	3pm Carol Service: St Andrew's H	
	4.30pm Carol Service: St Michael's AT	
14 Monday	S. John of the Cross	8pm Compline
15 Tuesday		8pm Compline
16 Wednesday		8pm Compline
17 Thursday	O Sapientia	8pm Compline
	10am Mothers' Union Eucharist: St Michael's B	
18 Friday	O Adonai	8pm Compline
19 Saturday	O Radix	

20+Sunday THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

	10.30am Online Benefice Service	
	4pm Carol Service: St Michael's B	
	5pm Carol Service: St John the Baptist SM	
	6.30pm Carol Service: All Saints' NM	
21 Monday	O Oriens	8pm Compline
22 Tuesday	O Rex	8pm Compline
23 Wednesday	O Emmanuel	8pm Compline
	12.15pm Holy Eucharist: St Andrew's H	

24 Thursday CHRISTMAS EVE

2pm	Crib Service: St Andrew's H (tbc)
3pm	Walking Nativity: North Moreton
4pm	Crib Service: St Andrew's H (tbc)
4.30pm	Crib Service: St Michael's AT
7pm	Online Midnight Mass: Pre-recorded with Fr Jason preaching
9pm	CHRISTMAS MASS: All Saints' NM
10pm	CHRISTMAS MASS: St Michael's AT
11.30pm	MIDNIGHT MASS: St Michael's B
11.30pm	MIDNIGHT MASS: St Andrew's H

Prayer Focus

Thorpe Street A
Aldens Lane U
Alexander Close U
Beeching Close U
Chilton Road U

Our worship, musicians, organists & choirs.

Church Corner U
Church Street U
Fieldside U

High Street U
Newmans Close U
Orchard Close U

Outreach and parish magazines

Pound Lane U
Prospect Road U
Reading Road U
Station Road U

Stream Road U
Aston Street A

Families, pram service and family services.

Baker Street A
Chalk Hill A
Downs View A



DECEMBER CALENDAR AND DIARY continued

25 Friday

CHRISTMAS DAY

8am Holy Communion: St Andrew's H
9am PARISH EUCHARIST: St Mary's U
 10.30am Online Benefice Service
 10.30am Family Service: St Andrew's H
10.30am PARISH EUCHARIST: St John the Baptist SM
 8pm Compline



26 Saturday **S. Stephen First Martyr**

Martyrs

27+Sunday JOHN THE APOSTLE

All the churches in our Benefice

10.30am Online Benefice Service

28 Monday The Holy Innocents 8pm Compline

Young Children

29 Tuesday 8pm Compline

Edlins Cottages A

30 Wednesday 8pm Compline

Fullers Road A

31 Thursday 8pm Compline

Hagbourne Road A

CALENDAR AND DIARY FOR THE BEGINNING OF JANUARY

The Intentions this month are for all who live in West Hagbourne & Moretons

1 Friday The Naming & Circumcision of Jesus

Those to be baptised

8pm Compline

2 Saturday Ss. Basil the Great & Gregory of Nazianzus

Our Bishops

3+ Sunday EPIPHANY

10.30am Online Benefice Service



During the current situation provisional bookings for Weddings, Baptisms etc. may be made by contacting the office via email office@churnchurches.co.uk

You can contact the clergy & staff on: -

Revd Jason 01235 850267 office@churnchurches.co.uk

Revd Louise 07837 009730 revlouiseb@aol.co

Dawn 07434 686044 office@churnchurches.co.uk

***The Benefice Administrator, Dawn Saunders, is in the office from
 12pm – 4pm Monday & 9am – 5pm Tuesday to Friday.***

Please note: all Services and Events are subject to last minute changes or cancellations if Government social restrictions change due to Covid 19.



Funerals in the Benefice

14th November at St Andrew's Hagbourne

Jill Napper

Aged 86

18th November at South Oxfordshire Crematorium

Lal Gunawardena

Aged 67

26th November at St Andrew's Hagbourne

Jessie Hill

Aged 56

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.



Christmas Services at St Andrew's

St Andrew's Church welcomes you to their services:

Sunday 13th December at 3pm - Carol Service

Christmas Eve - Thursday 24th December

2pm & 4pm - Crib Services, we very much hope to run one or more Crib Services at St Andrew's - final details will be published in the Churn and on our website. **Please check 11.30pm - Midnight Mass**

Christmas Day - Friday 25 December

8am - Holy Communion 10.30am - Family Service

Important: To ensure there is social distancing in the church, you ***must*** notify the Benefice Office if you wish to attend and avoid the disappointment of being turned away at the door. Face coverings must be worn. Contact: office@churnchurches.co.uk, 850267 or the Administrators mobile 07434 686044.

There will be **Online Services** for those not able to attend a church:
CHRISTMAS EVE at 7pm, Pre-recorded Midnight Mass with Fr Jason preaching.
CHRISTMAS DAY at 10.30am Online Benefice Service and 8pm Compline,
and on **SUNDAY 27th December** 10.30am Online Benefice Service.
Please see the Churn website for access codes and how to join in.



The Trees are coming, ho ho, ho ho



Friday 11th December is the big day – a lorry load of trees have been ordered for collection from the Pavilion (Great Mead) between 2pm and 8pm. And then it is up to you to light and decorate and turn the streets of East and West Hagbourne into a glittering array of Christmas spirit. The 'Alternative' Christmas Tree Festival celebrating 10 years of the Festival, will run from Saturday 12th December.



This year the festival is raising money for **St Andrew's Church and Homeless Oxfordshire**. Homeless Oxfordshire is the largest supported accommodation provider for homeless people in Oxfordshire. Each night it accommodates over 200 people. But Homeless Oxfordshire is not just bricks and mortar as, through eleven innovative projects, it provides a range of support to help people rebuild their lives.

We are also organising a **RAFFLE** with 10 exciting prizes to celebrate the 10 years of the Festival. Look out for tickets which will be available when you collect your tree and also from the Community shop and Festival committee members. £1.00 per ticket.

The raffle will be drawn on Sunday 20th December at midday in the church yard (Covid restrictions permitting). **So please enjoy the 'Alternative' Christmas Tree Festival, give generously by buying lots of raffle tickets and have a wonderful Christmas.**

There will be 10 trees in the church yard of St Andrew's for visitors to come and enjoy. Ten trees to represent ten years of the Festival. In addition, to the church yard trees and the other 130 or so other trees around the villages, there will also be three trees inside the Church including the Bellringers tree, the much loved 'Knitwits' tree and the Memory Tree where you can write a note to attach to the tree in memory of a loved one. The church is open for private prayer (when you can see these trees) at the following hours at the time of writing. Wednesdays: 10-12pm. Saturdays: 2-4pm. Please wear a face covering when entering the Church.

Thank you to all who have sponsored the trees in East and West Hagbourne and have joined in with an amazing response to the 'Alternative' Christmas Tree Festival in its new format due to the Covid-19 restrictions. There is an outline of the Christmas Tree Festival logo on page 21 to download for children to colour and display. Please keep everybody safe by respecting social distancing as you view the trees over Christmas.

Churn Benefice Online Church Services

Sundays at 10.30am. Login or connect to chat before the service.

Weekday evenings – Compline at 8pm. You can join in using a computer, laptop, tablet, smart phone or landline. Please check the website or the Churn leaflet for the service access codes and full details of how to join each week www.churnchurches.co.uk



St Andrew's Church open for Private Prayer and midweek Communion

FOR PRIVATE PRAYER: Wednesdays – 10am to 12noon **Saturdays** - 2pm to 4pm

For the safety of others please wear a face covering when you enter the church.

FOR COMMUNION: This will take place following Private Prayer on **Wednesdays 9th and 23rd December** 12.15 at the High Altar. Please wear a face covering

Advent Carol Service by candlelight, St Michael's, Blewbury

Sunday, 6th December at 6pm Everyone in the Benefice is invited to attend this popular, traditional Advent Carol Service. Please notify the Benefice Office if you wish to attend – office@churnchurches.co.uk or 850267 **Important:** To ensure there is social distancing in the church, you must notify the Benefice Office if you wish to attend and avoid the disappointment of being turned away at the door. Face coverings must be worn. Contact: office@churnchurches.co.uk, 850267 or the Administrators mobile 07434 686044.

Short daily reflection and prayer During weekdays Fr Jason is writing a short reflection and prayer. You can find these on the Churn website www.churnchurches.co.uk or if you would like to receive these please contact the Benefice Office on 01235 850267 or email the Office office@churnchurches.co.uk

Where's The Basket?

Dear St Andrew's Congregation,

Those many of you that have given generously to past Advent collections for Oxford's homeless may be wondering what will happen this year, given the CoViD-19 problem.

Support the Christmas Tree Festival, Support the Homeless

Good news! Even though we can't do the normal collection and delivery of items, we are able to make financial donations. To that end, the Action Group are delighted that The St Andrew's Christmas Tree Festival committee has chosen to support those homeless in Oxfordshire as a joint beneficiary of this year's Festival. Half of the proceeds of the "Alternative" Tree Fest will be donated to **Homeless Oxfordshire**.

Other Donations Still Welcome

Thank you all so much for your continuing support for the homeless, so if you can spare some cash to make a direct donation, you can do so here . . .

<https://homelessoxfordshire.uk/support-us/donate/>

Even a little helps. The Action Group

'Light up December for Advent'

Some families in East and West Hagbourne are lighting up their windows during Advent to raise money for **Helen and Douglas House in Oxford**. There is a list available in the Community Shop and also on Facebook showing the houses taking part. Please consider giving a donation to Helen and Douglas House to support their wonderful work.



Please keep safe and observe social distancing when viewing the windows

Christmas Fun

Bells were ringing,
People were singing,
Joy, having Christmas fun.
Wine, for some a drinking time.
Love, eyes meet
As each other we greet.
Bells chime,
People were singing in rhyme.

Time, the Christmas bell for us
Still does chime.
Hear the call,
The Maker is giving
For all who want more.
Have a good release, hope, peace,
Time, the Christmas bell for us
Still does chime.
Don't away run,
Have some Christmas fun.

Thank you to Roger the Poet



The Crib Service at St Andrew's on Christmas Eve, 24th December at 2pm and 4pm



This is the chance for your child to hear the wonderful story of the first Christmas. We hope to have a Crib Service at 2pm and have another at 4pm so that your family can come along to the one which is most convenient to you. Why not come along dressed up as an angel or a shepherd and be part of the celebration.

Please check details below to notify the Benefice office that you would like to come and to make sure that this has not had to change.

Important: To ensure there is social distancing in church you must notify the Benefice office if you wish to attend and to avoid disappointment of being turned away at the door. Face coverings must be worn. Please contact: office@churnchurches.co.uk, 850267 or the Administrators mobile: 0734 686044

Please note that these Services are subject to last minute changes or cancellations if Government social restrictions change due to Covid 19.

With Sympathy We send our heartfelt sympathies to all the family and friends of Jill Napper who passed away on 27th October, aged 87. Jill had lived for many years in West Hagbourne. Her Funeral Service took place at St Andrew's on 14th November.

Church Finances Update – Down, But Not Out!

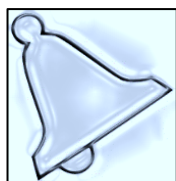
From the start of lockdown in late March, as each month passed, we witnessed deficits between income and expenditure. It has been encouraging that Planned Giving donations were maintained, in most cases, throughout the year, but the almost total loss of income from church events and activities has had a significant adverse impact. In late June I updated my earlier Budget Forecast to take account of this loss, in a worst-case scenario of no significant 'activity' before the end of 2020. That Forecast showed that the full-year cumulative deficit would be substantial and of the order of £19,125.

With five weeks remaining of this financial year and, barring any unforeseen expenditure, I am now confident that this figure will not be exceeded but, of course, our Cash Reserves will diminish by up to this amount going into 2021. As we still have a relatively sound position financially, we can withstand the impact resulting from Covid 19 limitations likely to be imposed until the Spring of next year, but we face major challenges beyond that in meeting our ongoing obligations, while preserving our Reserves and, hopefully, enhancing our income as the year progresses.

The responses to my earlier pleas for donations has been most heartening for which St Andrew's PCC is most grateful. And maybe with the spirit of Christmastide approaching, there are readers of this Magazine who might wish to make a donation to mark this special season. Donations can be made either by cheque or online: cheques should be made payable to 'Hagbourne Parochial Church Council' and sent to me at 45, New Road, East Hagbourne, OX11 9JX. Alternatively, please phone me on 01235 815605 and I can provide details for a bank transfer.

Wishing you all a safe and joyous Christmas.

Trevor Goss, Treasurer



Tower Talk On Sunday, 8th November we were going to ring four of our bells for Remembrance Sunday, half muffled. Sadly, due to the coronavirus and a second lockdown this was cancelled and our bells are silent again. We had also been given permission to ring the four bells, regularly, on a Sunday from 10.00 for 15 minutes but again this has

been postponed until permission is given again, as for New Year ringing – your guess is as good as mine!

Shirley Goss.

Birthdays: Shirley Goss - 13th December Thomas Addison - 13th December.



The Bell Ringers would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Very Happy and Prosperous New Year



Football in East Hagbourne Hagbourne United Football Club are looking for new players to play in the North Berks league divisions 4 & 5. The Club currently fields two men's teams for age 16+ but will be pleased to hear from players of all ages and abilities. Please contact John Symonds at jesymonds29@gmail.com or 07831 714 076.

December News from HUGS

(Hagbournes and Upton Group for Sustainability)

Thanks very much to all those who have ordered bare root native trees and shrubs with us this month. We've had 341 trees and shrubs ordered - which is fantastic! They will soon be delivered, then they'll be planted in our gardens and some along foot paths – how exciting! Our villages are already feeling even greener!

Next, we're excited to tell you about our new HUGS Owl Project. Lu Barton, our local owl expert, is working with us to help support our owl population. Together we'll be mapping the owl population, putting up nest boxes, installing nest box webcams and working to improve local habitat for owls.



Tawny Owl

photo: Ron Blackburn

Lu has already been looking into where our local owls are around the 3 villages. Do help her by emailing her (Lusowls@btinternet.com) to tell her if you've seen or heard owls near you. Lu has also been hosting fascinating Facebook live sessions about each of our local owl species; Tawny, Little and Barn owls. She's joined in the sessions by her own gorgeous owls and she tells us more about each type of owl and what we can do in our gardens and on our land to support them better. If you missed the first Facebook lives you can watch again on our HUGS Facebook page and there will be more to watch too!

<https://www.facebook.com/HUGS-Hagbournes-and-Upton-Group-for-Sustainability-103209344941834/>

For more info about our owl project have a look at our new HUGS Owl page

<https://www.hugsustainability.org/owls> If you're interested in any of the projects we have so far – our Wild Walk, the tree planting and the Owl Project – do get in touch with us. If you'd like to get involved and / or have other ideas around nature or living sustainably we'd love to hear from you.

Do email us at hugsustainability@gmail.com <https://www.hugsustainability.org>

Thanks, and Happy Christmas from HUGS!

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Because of the present Pandemic, Hagbourne Village Hall held its Annual General meeting via Zoom this year. Whilst the Hall is presently not available during this present lockdown, the Pre-School is still able to operate, as it has a special exemption.

Whilst revenues and general expenses were both down on previous years, a grant from South Oxfordshire District Council covers our current shortfall and will provide continued support into the coming year.

Revenues must be expected to be down for the year 2020/2021, but the Village Hall Committee believes it has sufficient reserves to weather the present difficult conditions, so is not increasing its hire fees for the 5th year running.

The committee is presently developing a strategic plan for developments at the hall for the future. To this end, if anyone in either East or West Hagbourne has any ideas as to what we could usefully do to improve the Village Hall, you are asked to communicate with a member of the committee, or to use the email details on the village website.

Keep Safe!

Richard Elliott, Chairman, Hagbourne Village Hall Management Committee
Charity Registration number 900090

Comments from the Parish Council Chairman

Housing Development by the Village Hall

The planning officer is still examining the latest amendment to the plans (P19/S0357/RM-5) with drainage still being one of the main outstanding issues. Of course, as you are probably aware, the drainage issue was highlighted by the heavy rainfall on Saturday 14th November leading to significant flooding over Main Road by Parsonage Lane on the Sunday. It is presumed that this was because of blocked culverts under Main Road. This certainly increased our concerns over what might happen when even more run off is directed into this drainage system. We made sure that the SODC case officer for this application was made aware of this flooding. Unrelated to this event, Deanfield Homes are undertaking a full survey of our drainage system that is planned to take place on Monday 23rd November.

The current situation with the development is that Deanfield Homes Ltd are in the process of buying the land from Mactaggart and Mickel. If the contract is exchanged soon and the plans are approved then Deanfield Homes hope to commence building in the spring of 2021. They are apparently a small and sympathetic builder, not so unlike Mactaggart and Mickel. You may want to check them out on their website: <https://deanfieldhomes.co.uk>.

Village Improvements

It is one more frustrating consequence of the pandemic that we are unable to have a village meeting to discuss the many suggestions for village improvements that we have listed on the village website:

https://easthagbourne.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/EHPC_Community-Project-Strategy_20200918.pdf.

Naturally we really want and need to have an open discussion when it comes to some of the more major proposals. However, we are concerned to keep the momentum for village improvements moving even during the pandemic. Two initiatives that we are looking at just now and hope to fund or find funding for are to install picnic benches on Butts Piece and to renovate some of the bench art works on the Sustrans path on the railway embankment.

One improvement which is perhaps less obvious has been the installation of LED lighting in the village car park. One result of this has been a dramatic reduction, by a factor of around 5, in the running costs because of much reduced electricity bills.

District Planning

We anticipate the report from the inspector on the SODC Local Plan around the end of November. If this is the case and he does report the plan as being sound, then the plan moves to the SODC Cabinet on December 8th. If it is then approved, we should have a local plan in place and fully adopted before the end of the year. This will be a huge benefit to us both as a community and as a Parish Council since it should avoid a surge in speculative building applications that will certainly occur if no local plan is in place. Talking of speculative applications, we await the decision of the inspector on the appeal from A2 Dominion for their bid to build 325 houses east of Sandringham Road. This was robustly defended by the District Council, and it was clear that the imminent arrival of our local plan is a key factor if this appeal is refused.

Parish Meetings The Parish Council will continue to hold Parish Council meetings on-line and, as in normal times, members of the public are welcome to join the meeting through the Zoom link that will be included on the agenda. The next meeting will be held starting at 7.30pm on Thursday 17th December. I have cancelled my face-to-face surgeries but am very willing to talk on the telephone or online with any parishioner. You can get details of how to do this by phoning 07891 551851 or emailing the Parish Clerk (easthagbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com).

Let me remind you that this is not a formal or even approved article from the Parish Council but is rather a few words from me. Thus, anything in this article should not be construed as coming from or endorsed by the Parish Council.

Iain Duff.



CONTACT DETAILS:

Parish Clerk, Laura Lloyd
Telephone: 07891 551 851

Email: easthagbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com



Councillor Community Grant Scheme

Each District Councillor currently has £5,000 to award to projects or services that offer community benefits in their ward area. The money is available to non-profit community organisations whose primary purpose is to benefit the residents of South Oxfordshire. There is particular interest in supporting projects which focus on protecting and restoring our natural world; action on the climate emergency and improved economic and community well-being. This is a great opportunity so for further information please contact your local District Councillor or visit the website hemre



New Dog Waste Bin Location

The Parish Council are planning to install a larger dog waste bin at the top of the Harwood Road footpath to Millennium Wood, as the existing bin is too small for the location. We are also planning a new location for a small dog waste bin location on the Wilcher Close green area next to the entrance to North Croft. It will be mounted on its own post and positioned away from the Poets' Trail plaque nearer to the hedge. An approximate location is shown in the photo. Any residents who have concerns regarding this location should contact the clerk.



Didcot Garden Town – Residents Sounding

Local residents and community groups are invited to get involved with the Didcot Garden Town projects by joining a brand-new resident sounding board event which is taking place online at 5.30pm on Monday 30th November. If you want to speak in a two-minute slot or just attend the meeting, please register via southoxon.gov.uk/didcot-garden-town.



Coronavirus Support Group

The group is still active although requests for assistance have dropped, so please do get in touch if you need help. easthagbournecovid19@gmail.com or call/text 07568 395228.



Defibrillators The village defibrillators are available 24/7 at the following locations:
Outside the Village Shop at 114 New Road
Hagbourne Village Hall next to the main entrance

In an emergency, call 999 – they will give you the access code.

Planning applications received since the last meeting:

P20/S3622/HH 50 Bishops Orchard, East Hagbourne – Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension

P20/S3785/HH 11 Windsor Crescent, East Hagbourne - Proposed pitched roof timber clad garden room and store

P20/S3561/HH Cobblers Cottage, 1-2 Shoe Lane, East Hagbourne - Erection of a single storey garden room

P20/S4152/HH Tindaya, 14 Main Road, East Hagbourne - Demolition of conservatory and replacement with single storey side extension, and conversion of garage

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Thursday 17th December 2020. This will be held virtually using the Zoom platform. The Zoom details will be included on the agenda for anyone wishing to join the meeting.

All Council meetings are open to the public and we welcome your participation.

Agendas and Minutes of previous meetings are published at www.easthagbourne.net



East Hagbourne Community Shop

find us on the East Hagbourne village website:

www.easthagbourne.net

EHCS Fund – Giving Back to the Community What an overwhelming response – over 600 votes cast before balloting closed 28th November! The Shop is donating £1000 across 3 local charities or projects, **winners to be announced before Christmas**. Thank you for your support for our shop and our community!

Spread Seasonal Cheer to loved ones across the globe with **locally created cards** featuring East Hagbourne in photos or illustrated scenes. For unique gifts, consider our **bone china mug** illustrated with village scenes plus cocoa mix; our **Village tea towel** tucked around home-baked treats; or pop gifts into our **jute Shop bag**. **Prepaid cards** from the Post Office suit everyone. Don't forget the **stollen, homemade cakes and crumbles**, wrapping paper and charity Christmas cards! **NOTE:** the last of our scrumptious "cake bakes" is **17th December**, resuming 7th January.

New Releases by Local Authors make excellent gifts: *Past and Present Bloodlines* by Yen Rickeard; *The Four Seasons*, an anthology by local poets, illustrated by Linda Benton; or *The Thought Crystal* by Rachel Waters.

Marcopolo - Final 2020 Delivery is 19th December, resuming 9th Jan. Please order by 4pm Wednesdays in Shop, or email to easthagbourneshop@btopenworld.com

Recommended Last Posting Dates UK are 18th December for 2nd class, 21st Dec for 1st class and 23rd Dec for Special Delivery Guaranteed. For International dates, pick up a brochure from the Post Office, or check the Community Shop Page on Facebook.

December and Christmas Operating Hours

POST OFFICE: Open - Monday to Thursday, 9am to 12pm; Saturday 9am to 12:30pm. **CLOSED FRIDAYS. CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS: 25th, 26th & 28th December and 1st and 2nd January**

SHOP: Open - Monday to Friday 9-4pm, Saturdays 9-12:30pm.

Early Closing at Noon 24th & 31st December.

CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS: 25th, 26th & 28th Dec. & 1st Jan. & 2nd January.



We wish our customers and all of our community a wonderful Festive Season!



New PA System in St Andrew's

So here we are as I write this in November, locked down once again. Over the past couple of months we have reopened St Andrew's church for private prayer and taken the first tentative steps to reopening the church for worship. However, all of that has been suspended for at least the next month.

However, things have not stood still during this period. The PA system in the church has been refurbished thanks to donations from Cliff Garlick's memorial service. The existing system has served us well over the past 25 years, although less well in recent years. While preaching we got used to Clifford's hand behind the ear signal, that the microphone was not working, and that he couldn't hear us. Or worse, feedback leading to the person leading the service to turn the mic off...

When services do resume, we now have a fully functional state of the art system which should keep us going for another 25 years! Thanks Cliff!

Andrew Kaye, St Andrew's PCC Chairman



Churn Benefice Men's Breakfast Group

There has been a long-standing Churn Benefice Men's Breakfast Group, which in normal times has met for one hour once a month (on the first Saturday of each month) to eat breakfast together and chat in the Churn Benefice Centre in Blewbury.

During the past eight months this group has continued to meet virtually using the Benefice GoToMeetings facility. The Group currently has space for some new members. If you think that you might be interested in joining this group, please contact:

Ian Parsons (iandjparsons@aol.com or 850753)
or Roger Murphy (roger.murphy65@gmail.com or 851244)

St Andrew's Singers – Everybody welcome!

You will be pleased to know that our new community choir, the St Andrew's Singers, is still going ahead! We will be learning some Christmas carols and songs and will sing them at the St Andrew's Carol Service on Sunday 13th December and perhaps on other occasions as well. Because of the current lockdown restrictions we've had to move our rehearsals online and have changed the day to Monday evenings.



We will be using GoToMeetings, and the times and link for 7th December is as follows:

Monday 7th December 7.15 – 7.45pm

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/233910909>

We will have a rehearsal in St Andrew's Church on Wednesday, 9th December from 7.15pm to 8.15pm.

Everyone is very welcome, from those who have never sung before to experienced singers, and it's not just for folk from the Hagbournes! Do email the office or give me a call on 01235 850267 if you would like a list of the carols we will be singing.

It will be lovely to see you! Father Jason.

HAMS Spam

The ~~Show~~ Festival Must Go On

It may be winter but it's Festival time at HAMS.

Not only are we proud to have one of the 10 commemorative Christmas trees in St Andrew's Churchyard for the TreeFest, but also, we are taking part in our very first drama festival.

Have you ever heard of the Oxfordshire Drama Network? The ODN, as it is known, is an umbrella association for Oxfordshire am-dram groups; big and small, new and old, town and country; so, of course, HAMS are members.

This year, ODN could not run its usual festival of one act plays so instead, it is going virtual, and HAMS is taking part. Spurred into action, HAMS folks are getting creative and producing short video projects to be posted online in the New Year as a part of the festival - all very exciting!

All our HAMS friends will also be able to see the results of our work online, so look for details in the January Parish Mag.

**Merry Christmas and a better New Year to all our friends.
All the best from HAMS.**

It's great to be meeting up and working together again as we approach Christmas, even if it is only by Zoom, so here is a small Christmas drama quiz to celebrate.

A Christmas Drama Quiz from HAMS

- 1) Who is the cross-dressing female lead in Shakespeare's Twelfth Night?
- 2) In Dicken's Christmas Carol, what was the name of young Scrooge's boss ?
- 3) In which year's Eastenders Christmas Special did Den serve divorce papers to Angie?
- 4) Who wrote the story "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King"?
a) Brothers Grimm b) Hans-Christian Andersen c) Ernst Hoffmann
- 5) In Love Actually, to which tune does Hugh Grant dance around No.10 Downing Street?

**See @HAMSdrama on Facebook
or www.thehams.co.uk email info@thehams.co.uk**

Answers: 1) Viola – 2) Fezziwig – 3) 1986 – 4) Hoffmann – 5) Jump (For My Love), Pointer Sisters



Didcot • Blewbury • Harwell Campus
Mondays to Fridays, except Public Holidays

Notes	F1/SaH			Ho1			M-ThSaH F1/SaH		
Bus Number	94	94	94	94	94	94	94	94	94
Didoct, St Brinua School				1430		1430			
Didoct, Lloyd Park				1438		1338			
Didoct, Parkway Station, stop A4	0640	1010	1140	1840	1445	1510	1545	1555	1715
Didoct, Orchard Centre	0644	1014	1144	1844	1440	1514	1540	1550	1710
Didoct, Sandringham Road	0650	1018	1148	1848	1454	1514	1554	1604	1724
East Hagbourne, War Memorial	0653	1021	1151	1851	1457	1521	1557	1607	1727
West Hagbourne, Moor Lane	↓	↓	↓	↓	1508	↓	1608	↓	↓
Upton, Village Hall	↓	↓	↓	↓	1507	↓	1607	↓	↓
Brewbury, The Blueberry	0601	1020	1150	1850	1514	1520	1614	1615	1735
Upton, Village Hall	0607	1035	1205	1405	↓	1535	↓	1621	1741
West Hagbourne, Horse and Harrow PH	0608	1036	1206	1406	↓	1530	↓	1622	1742
Chilton, Main Street	0610	1048	1218	1418	↓	1544	↓	1630	1750
Harwell Campus, Bus Station	0623	1050	1220	↓	1551	↓	↓	1737	1825
Aston Upthorpe, The Chaucery PH				1528		1628			
South Monston, The Crown PH				1529		1629			
North Monston				1635		1635			
Didoct, Orchard Centre				1545		1645			
Didoct, Parkway Station				1540		1640			

Notes:
Sch - Schooldays only
Hol - School Holidays only
Fri - Fridays only
M-Th - Mondays to Thursdays only

Harwell Campus • Blewbury • Didcot
Mondays to Fridays, except Public Holidays

Notes	Sch	Hol	M-Th/Sat				Hol	Hol	Fri/Sch	
Bus Number	94	94S	94	94	94	94	94	94	94	94
Hawell Campus, Bus Station	0535			0920	1035	1225	1425	1425	1555	1800
Chilton, Main Street	0540		0800	0931	1101	1251	1431	1431	1601	1805
East Hagbourne, War Memorial	↓	0729	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
West Hagbourne, Moor Lane	↓	0734	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
West Hagbourne, Horse and Harrow	0540	0737	0806	0937	1107	1257	1437	1437	1607	1812
Upton, Village Hall	0548	0741	0806	0939	1109	1259	1439	1439	1609	1814
Bewbury, The Bluebell	0550	0740	0816	0945	1115	1245	1445	1445	1615	1820
Aston Upstoke, The Chequers PH	↓	0739	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
South Moreton, The Crown PH	↓	0804	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
North Moreton	↓	0810	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Drabot, St Elnora School	↓	0824	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Drabot Girls' School	↓	0832	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
East Hagbourne, War Memorial	0704	↓	0824	0935	1125	1255	1435	1435	1625	1825
Drabot, Sandringham Road	0707	↓	0827	0935	1125	1255	1435	1435	1625	1828
Drabot, Orchard Centre	0712	↓	0832	1001	1131	1301	1501	1501	1651	1703
Drabot, Parkway Station	0710	0839	0859	1005	1135	1305	1505	1505	1655	1707

Notes:
 Sah - Schooldays only
 Hal - School Holidays only
 Fri - Fridays only
 M-Th - Mondays to Thursdays only

Didcot • Blewbury • Harwell Campus
Saturdays

Bus Number	94	94	94	94	94	94
Diabot, Parkway Station, stop R4	0840	1010	1140	1340	1510	1710
Diabot, Orford Centre	0844	1014	1144	1344	1514	1714
Diabot, Sandringham Road	0848	1018	1148	1348	1518	1718
East Hagbourne, War Memorial	0851	1021	1151	1351	1521	1721
Blewbury, The Bluebury	0850	1030	1150	1350	1520	1720
Upton, Village Hall	0908	1038	1208	1408	1538	1738
West Hagbourne, Hones and Harrow PH	0906	1036	1206	1406	1536	1736
Chilton, Main Street	0918	1048	1218	1418	1548	1748
Harewell Camous, Bus Station	0920	1050	1220	1420	1550	1750

Harwell Campus • Blewbury • Didcot
Saturdays

Bus Number	04	04	04	04	04	04
Harwell Campus, Bus Station		0020	1005	1220	1435	1650
Orlton, Main Street	0600	0931	1101	1261	1431	1601
West Hagbourne, Horse and Harrow PH	0808	0937	1107	1267	1437	1607
Upton, Village Hall	0808	0939	1109	1269	1439	1609
Blewbury, The Blueberry	0814	0945	1115	1245	1445	1615
East Hagbourne, War Memorial	0822	0938	1128	1238	1438	1628
East Hagbourne, Road	0825	0939	1126	1236	1436	1626
Dialot, Orchard Centre	0830	1001	1131	1301	1501	1631
Dialot, Parkway Station	0834	1005	1135	1305	1505	1635

**NEW Local Bus
Timetable which
starts on
4th January**

Please note that there are a **lot of changes** with the new timetable and the bus will no longer be taking a circular route around the villages.

It will not be calling at Coscote or into West Hagbourne but will stop at the Horse & Harrow.

The School Service 94S
on this route will be
calling in West
Hagbourne

There will now be an extra Service on a Saturday.

The route and larger size timetable can be found on the East Hagbourne website.

**Thank you to all
our bus drivers who
have been keeping
the Services going
through these
difficult times.**



Hagbourne Garden Club would like to wish all our members and visitors a very happy Christmas and a more peaceful and healthy 2021. We hope we will be able to resume meetings in January and look forward to a visit from John Tyler on Thursday, **28th January** at the Pavilion when he will be giving us a talk on: **The World of Plants** - tracing their life cycle from seed to flower and their relationship with animals and humans.

The talk will commence at 7.30pm and the usual safety precautions will be in place. For further details contact Sally on 01235 352275.

Churn Churches Climate Action Group Makes Plans

The decisions being made now about how to reboot after coronavirus will shape our economy, society and climate for decades to come. This we believe is a crucial moment in the fight against climate change, which is affecting lives everywhere and pushing some people further into poverty. A new local action group has been formed to campaign and coordinate a programme of activities designed to address environmental issues and the problem of climate change. It is called the **Churn Churches Climate Action Group (CCCA)**. It includes people associated with the six Anglican churches in the Churn Benefice, along with others living in the Churn area who have a range of religious affiliations.

Sign the Climate Coalition's Declaration

This group is starting by encouraging as many people as possible to sign the Climate Coalition's declaration, which calls on the UK government to lead the world in delivering a healthier, greener, fairer recovery by limiting warming to 1.5°C. If you are interested in signing this, you can view it at theclimatecoalition.org/declaration

The Future of our Food

CCCA is working together with other local groups who are concerned to address environmental issues and will be holding its first public event very soon – probably in December. The Future of our Food will focus on the issue of UK Food Standards. The reason for choosing this topic for the first CCCA public event is because as part of the Brexit Transition process the government is having to negotiate new trade deals outside the EU. Such deals are being brokered with countries such as the USA, which have very different food standards and animal welfare requirements to those followed in EU countries.

The outcome of such deals will determine where our food comes from for years to come, and the lower standards that may be imposed on us. This will impact upon the environment, consumers, and also our farmers, who in order to compete may come under pressure to lower the food standards that they currently apply. This event will be an on-line discussion involving Jeff Powell, a local Hagbourne farmer and a representative from Sustain, the national alliance for better farming that campaigns for food and agricultural policies and practices that enhance the health and welfare of people and animals. The date of this event will be announced very soon. To register interest in CCCA and/or be sent the log-in details for its first event please email penny@brassell.org.uk

With Sympathy We send our heartfelt sympathies to all the family and friends of Jessie Hill. Jessie passed away on the 8th November, aged 57, and her Funeral Service took place at St Andrew's on 26th November.

Congratulations to Alicia – A Local Champion!

Many congratulations to Alicia Robinson who came second in the FIM (International Motorcycling Federation) Trial2 Women World Trials Championship. Alicia writes about her experience in the trails:

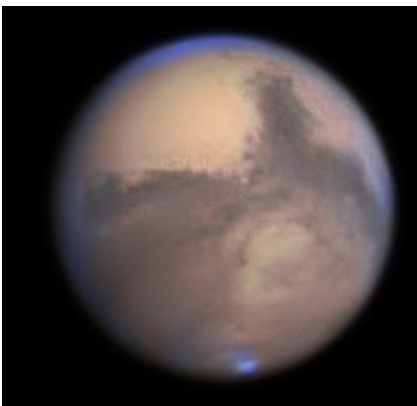
"After a rocky start to the season due to the current global pandemic, the championship was rescheduled to run over 3 consecutive weekends, with the first round being held in the small French ski town of Isola 2000, up in the French Alps. With admin control, section inspection and practice being completed on the Friday this meant riders had an early start Saturday morning to get the competition underway. A new set up saw the competition consist of three laps of ten sections over an eight kilometre lap, which was rode Saturday and Sunday in the picturesque village.

I finished the weekend with two fourth place's, which wasn't the start I was hoping for. Onto Pobladura De Las Regueras, located in Northern Spain, in a small traditional Spanish village with the competition taking place on two different terrains, half the sections located along the river and the other half located within the steep wooded hillside. With temperatures reaching 30 degrees, I managed to keep my head together and fight all the way to the end, where I took a second place on day one and then bettered my result on the Sunday, taking the top spot of the podium.

Gaining a first place provided me with those all-important championship points, of which helped me in the close championship standings. Moving onto the last round in the popular town of Sant Julia de Loria, Andorra, I battled amongst ten other competitors within my class to gain myself second position on the Saturday and Sunday. This gave me enough points to finish 2nd in the overall championship standings in the Trial 2 women class.

Myself and my family are all very grateful for the continued support from all of my amazing sponsors, who without them I would not have been able to achieve what I have.

A special thank you to: The Fleur De Lys, Top Trial Team, BetaUK, Utopia Discos, Standlake Vehicle Services, Bicester Tyre & Exhaust, MPA Liquid Screed, Acklams Beta, Rock oil, Absolute Casing, Auto Cycle Union, GLL Sport Foundation, Ben Owen Sport Specific, SY Services and Derek Does All."



Astronomy Notes - Mars

This month - another of my Martian images. This one from 3rd November. Above the small southern Polar cap, lies the huge, pale, and roughly round feature known as the Hellas Basin. Measuring 1,400 miles (2,300km) across, and 7,152m (23,465ft) deep, it is believed to be the largest impact crater on Mars. Formed around 4 billion years ago, when a protoplanet or large asteroid hit the planet.

Above this feature we see the dark, roughly triangular feature known as Syrtis Major, an area of volcanic basaltic rock.

Its dark appearance is due to the relative lack of the red Martian dust. This rocky part of Mars has the honour of being the first documented feature on another planet in 1659.

Note for your diary: If it happens to be clear around the middle of December, keep an eye out for meteors. It is time for the annual **Geminid meteors**. Maximum number occurring during the night of 13/14th. **John Napper – 01235 818853 napperjohn@gmail.com**

www.flicker.com/photos/67647466@N08/



Happy Christmas from the Knitwits

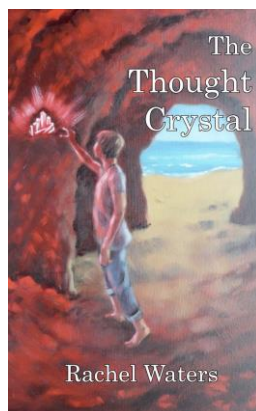
Best wishes for a peaceful Christmas from the Knitwit Group and **THANK YOU** to all who have knitted various items and sewn up blankets for us during 2020.

It has been a difficult year for everyone but we have been able to send lots of items to Knit for Peace, to Hope and Aid Direct and to the Samaritans Purse Christmas Shoe Boxes who have all been able to direct knitted items to where they are needed.

Our brilliant knitters have made hundreds of squares this year from which we have been able to make up and send over 25 large colourful blankets. We have also sent over 60 children's jumpers and over 50 hats and scarves as well as 3 large boxes of small knitted and sewn items for the annual Children's Shoe Box Appeal.

We are once again appealing for 6" knitted squares as our supply is running low. The pattern for these is as follows: Size 4mm needle (old size 8) Double knit yarn in all colours. Cast on 32 stitches and knit 56 rows in garter stitch (i.e. knit every row). Please leave the long ends as this helps with sewing up. You may need to adjust the number of stitches and rows according to your yarn and tension – as long as the squares measure 6 inches. Please email magtemp5@gmail.com for further information. Thank you.

Christmas Gift ideas from local authors

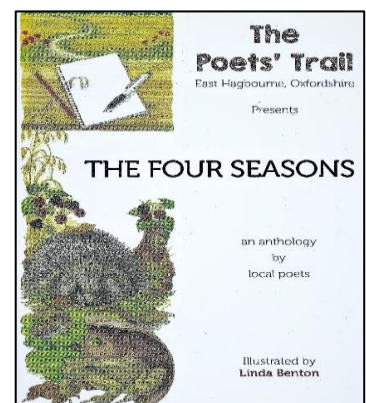


The Thought Crystal is a children's book by Rachel Waters.

It is the story of twins, Tabitha and Theo and their amazing adventures in another world. It is an entrancing, engaging story for ages 8-12. The book costs £5 and is available from Hagbourne village shop or from Amazon - also £5, e-book £4. amzn.to/2xbdIuw (third letter from the end is a capital i) Rachel works at Hagbourne Primary School at the After School Club



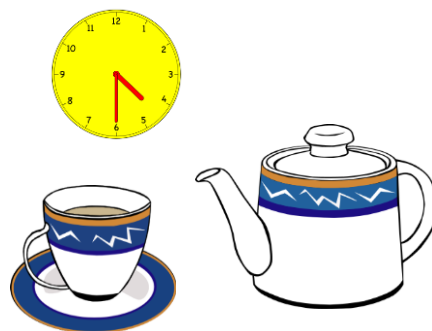
The Poets' Trail news: Copies of the **Four Seasons** book are selling well at the Post Office Shop, Poems by twelve local writers are included in the fully illustrated book, which is an ideal size to post for Christmas. The book costs £5. We are proud to announce that the book has been accepted into the collection at the Oxfordshire History Centre.



Yen Rickeard is still working on the Danny Sharp Series set in the present day and Late Iron Age. **Book 8 Past and Present – Bloodlines** is now on sale, and our wonderful Village Shop is stocking it! There is also a Christmas special of all 5 of the prequel (books 1 to 5) for £30, available until January. Also available from Amazon, Kindle and book shops by order. <https://www.timeandagain.website>

Churn Benefice Afternoon Tea

A chance to have some company and a chat on a Thursday afternoon. Join in an online drop-in teatime session at 4.30pm now that the days are getting shorter and darker.



The Teatime sessions will be hosted by Lesley Botchway and will start on **Thursday, 26th November** and will be for an hour and then **weekly**. Someone will always be there and the sessions are open to all. The links to join in on a GoToMeeting are published each week on the Churn website: www.churnchurches.co.uk



Lines from Invocation of Peace

Deep peace, pure white of the moon to you;
Deep peace, pure green of the grass to you;
Deep peace, pure brown of the earth to you;
Deep peace, pure grey of the dew to you,
Deep peace, pure blue of the sky to you!
Deep peace of the running wave to you,
Deep peace of the flowing air to you,
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.

By Fiona Macleod (19th century Celtic visionary)

JANUARY 2021 PARISH MAGAZINE

We hope that as many of our readers as possible will be able to see the Parish Magazine on our temporary home. We apologise to our advertisers that it is not possible to include the advertisements at present but will resume our usual format as soon as it is safe to do so.



Please let us have any copy for the January parish magazine by **19th December** to **magtemp5@gmail.com**

Thank you.

Keep safe and well.

Janet Corderoy, Joy Napper
and the parish magazine committee.



**LOGO FOR THE 10th ANNIVERSARY 'ALTERNATIVE' CHRISTMAS TREE
FESTIVAL FOR CHILDREN TO COLOUR AND DISPLAY.**