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Litchborough Church and Village

Newsletter

December 2024

Happy Christmas to Everyone in the Village



4th December - Garden Club Meeting



6th December - Come and be Merry with Hannah Berry - 7.30pm Village Hall

8th December - Dee Café - Afternoon Tea with Santa 3.00pm-5.00pm and Wreath Making at 6.00pm with Kate - more inside

13th December - Litchborough Ladies



15th December - VILLAGE CAROL SERVICE ...



27th December - Community Cuppa



Youth Club Every Tuesday 7.00pm-8.30pm



Litchborough Playgroup
Tuesdays 9.30am -11.30 am in the Village Hall

Printed in Litchborough by David and Sandy



SMITHS NEWSAGENTS

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Have you got a business or trade or event you would like to advertise here - very reasonable rates Please contact Sandy Aked-Walker

dq2010@btinternet.com / 01327-830077

Mobile
07759326675



THE REVEREND WRITES

If you're anything like me you long for a quiet life where everything moves along smoothly and all is hunky-dory. But real life isn't like that - there's always something which comes along to disrupt things be it illness, bereavement, redundancy, or just a difficult phone call when you're hoping for a quiet evening - that's life! So earlier this year when I came across an article which said that God is most likely to be found in the disruptions of life, I read it with great interest.

Disruptions are nothing new! Just over two thousand years ago a baby was born and whilst that's nothing unusual, this was a very special baby and people must have wondered why he was visited by shepherds and magi; why the skies were filled with angels singing and a special star; why an angel told his mother that he would be called 'the Holy One, the Son of God'. And maybe they just wondered if this baby might be the biggest disruption in human history, wrapped in the most surprising way.

Ever since this baby was laid in a manger, Christmas - and all the events of Jesus' life have captured the hearts of countless people who believe that Jesus is God's rescue plan for our world and that one day all that is wrong will be righted. It might be difficult to believe when we look at the wars, the famines, the issues around climate change and so on, but that is what God has promised. This year I pray that you may see Christmas with fresh eyes and come to understand that this tiny baby is the greatest disruption of all time - a disruption that leads to hope, healing and wholeness.

'And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth' (John 1:14).

With every blessing for a peaceful and happy Christmas

God bless

Revd. Sue

If you would like to talk please contact me on 01327 341307 or email stanley.thehole@btinternet.com

JOY MEAD

CHRISTMAS IN THE CLOISTERS - SATURDAY 7th DECEMBER 2024

Get into the festive spirit and join us for Christmas in the Cloisters at Joy Mead on

Saturday, December 7th, from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM!



Merry Christmas to All Our Customers

Don't forget WE ARE ON LINE



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Benefice Services for December

1st December	First Sunday of Advent	
10:30am	Holy Communion	Blakesley
6:00pm	Benefice Service	Adstone
	Readings, Music and Meditations for Advent	
3rd December	9:30am Holy Communion	Woodend
8th December	Second Sunday of Advent	
9:00am	Holy Communion	Farthingstone
10:30am	Family Service	Blakesley
10:30am	Family Service	Litchborough
6:00pm	Evensong	Maidford
6:00pm	Compline	Adstone
15th December	Third Sunday of Advent	
9:00am	Holy Communion	Maidford
4:00pm	Carol Service	Litchborough
6:00pm	Carol Service	Blakesley
6:00pm	Compline	Adstone
19th December	Thursday	
6:00pm	Carol Service	Maidford
21st December	Saturday	
5:00pm	Carol Service and Nativity	Adstone
22nd December	Fourth Sunday of Advent	
10:30am	Holy Communion	Blakesley
4:00pm	Carol Service	Farthingstone
24th December	Christmas Eve	
4:00pm	Christingle	Blakesley
6:00pm	Holy Communion for Christmas	Farthingstone
25th December	Christmas Day	
9:00am	Family Communion	Adstone
9:30am	Communion by Extension	Maidford
10:00am	Family Communion	Blakesley
11:00am	Family Communion	Litchborough
29th December	First Sunday of Christmas	
10:00am	Benefice Holy Communion	Litchborough



FRIDAY COMMUNITY CUPPA 27th December



Hello All,



Here we are, the last Friday of 2024 (My goodness, I can't believe I've just written that) Come and join us in the good old V.H. anytime between 3pm and 5pm ... stretch your legs, pop along, and be rewarded with a cup of tea, great company and lively chatter. Folks with glitter in their hair, bits of tinsel, sparkly baubles flashing earrings etc, all very welcome! Look forward to seeing you at CC Carolx

carolhakin120@btinternet.com 07923 985637



**COMMUNITY
HEARTBEAT**
The Community HeartBeat Trust



Village Defibrillator Need it and you are on your own -help is at hand Several people have kindly offered their phone numbers to be contacted to go and get the defib and bring it to you. Sandy and David 01327-830077/07759-326675 Sonia -07929-963976, Anna Prior 07940379650, all are available to help. - if you do need to use the defib and take it away please let David Aked-Walker know so we don't think it has been stolen again! Thank you to the volunteers.



Village Lottery



A veritable plethora of winners this time.

At the end of October Melvina was a winner, on the 9th of this month Catherine was a winner and on the 23rd Barbara's number was the Saturday night Lotto Bonus Ball. Each will be receiving their winners cheque for £25 (with the hope that they will be able to bank it before the year end!)

As always you have to be in it to win it - so contact Ian Lowery on 01327 830823 to secure your lucky number Only £1 per week.

Your Village Newsletter



Have you a special event, a story to tell, news to share or even a moan? Then email me at dq2010@btinternet.com or telephone me on 01327-830077 by the 20th of the month and it can go in the newsletter. It is always good to hear interesting and amusing tales be they from the past or present



Litchborough Garden Club We are now taking bookings for our Christmas wreath making on Wednesday 4th December at 7.30pm in the village hall with Helen

Mandel.

This is a bookable only event due to the numbers able to join in. £10 for members (non refundable) and £15 for non members (non refundable) this includes your wreath, mince pie and mulled wine. If you would like to book your place on this event, please contact Viv at vivienne.green@tycoch.net. Places booking fast so don't delay to book your place.



Litchborough Ladies Friday 13th December

Litchborough Ladies Christmas meeting and Grand Charity Raffle for the Hope Centre (for the homeless) will take place on Friday 13th December at the home of Vanessa Lowery, 41 Towcester Road from 10.30am -12.00 noon. If you would like to donate a prize or something for the hampers, please let me have you donation or bring it with you on the 13th. See you soon
Wishing you all a Very Happy Christmas -
Jan Hutchings 01327-830877

COMMUNITY FOLK CHOIR

The community folk choir has got off to a good start, and I have now booked further dates for your diaries. All sessions are on Wednesdays, once a month, and held in Maidford Village Hall from 7-8pm.

If you are thinking of joining us do get in touch by emailing Meg Pike at meg@stonecottage.me.uk, or by telephone 01327 860186, or by WhatsApp on 07801 291551 **DATES:** 18th December



Candles for Ukraine is an initiative that collects remnants of candles which are melted down to make 'trench candles' to provide light for the displaced who don't have electricity.

There will be a collection box in St Martin's church until mid January. So, if after Christmas, you have any candle stubs or indeed unused candles, please donate them to this initiative. We have also been told that they would be very happy to have any unwanted solar chargers too. Thank you for your help with this

Liz Robinson

POLICE Fraud Scams Cyber Crime Telephone Scams Alarm

Police talk on Staying Safe from Scams

Join us at the **Heart of England Co-op, Towcester** at **10:30 on Tuesday 3rd December**

- Know how to spot and avoid frauds and scams
- Find out how scams can easily be reported
- Protect yourself when using the Internet
- Protect yourself from phone and other frauds
- Protect yourself from fake messages and calls
- Know how to protect your personal information
- Get free safety leaflets for you and your family
- Have a coffee and friendly chat, plus ask questions

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Contact Sonia for details of online lessons
Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas

LITCHBOROUGH DANCE & YOGA

Village Hall & Online



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- Modern jazz
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Also:

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- Modelling
- Bums and tums
- Pilates & yoga

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Advent Windows - Don't forget from 1st December fantastic Advent windows will be appearing around the village. A new window is lit everyday around 4.00pm -so take a stroll (weather permitting) and enjoy- the houses to visit are on the leaflet enclosed Thank you to everyone who is contributing.



SAVE THE DATE
8th February 2025
Film to be notified later





Litchborough Library We may not have one but there is a huge selection of books for adults and children as well as tapes in the box pew in St. Martins Church. Do go and check it out-the church is open from 10.00am-4.00pm every day A small donation is appreciated or just borrow and return when read.



VILLAGE CAROL SERVICE
Sunday 15th December 4pm



Hello All, Just a reminder about this lovely event, to which everybody is more than welcome. It would be brilliant if we could have lots of children to come along and help read the lovely story leading up to the birth of Jesus and of course, Christmas Day. Party clothes would be great and all ages are very welcome. Glitter and sparkle quite acceptable! Readings need not be long, can be shared with brothers, sisters, friends etc



Then enjoy mince pies and mulled wine afterwards
Let me or Rev Sue know if you can help, we'd just love you to come along and of course, grown up children are very welcome also!

Carolx07923 985637 carolhakin120@btinternet.com




THE OLD RED LION



Our usual opening hours are

Friday 4.00pm - 10.00pm

Saturday and Sunday 12.00noon to 10.00pm

 Wishing you a very Happy Christmas and these are our **Christmas opening hours**

20th Dec.-4.00pm -10.00pm

21st Dec.- 12.00noon -10.00pm

22nd Dec.- 5.00pm -10.00pm

23rd Dec.- **Closed**

24th Dec. 12.00noon - 10.00pm

Christmas Day 11.00am-2.00pm

Boxing Day & 27th Dec. Closed

28th Dec.-12.00noon-10.00pm

29th Dec -12.00noon - 10.00pm

30th Dec.- **CLOSED** for Private Party

New Years Eve - 4.00pm - 1.00am

New Years Day 6.00pm - 9.00pm (Not Monday Club)

2nd January 2025 **Closed** until Friday 24th January

Look forward to seeing you all then



Dee Cafe and all the staff would like to thank the local customers for their custom and support over the last 4 weeks, it has been such a pleasure meeting so many lovely and friendly people.

The cafe has now expanded the menu to include breakfast, jacket potatoes, omelettes and much more and here's a few events happening in the next few weeks.

We started with a games afternoon on Sunday 24th November which we are hoping to make a regular event.

There's a Psychic evening on Saturday 30th November which can be booked online.




Sunday 8th December Afternoon Tea with Santa 3.00pm-5.00pm

Also **Wreath making**, pizza, shops and dips with the fabulous Kate from thistle and Flo on Sunday 8th at 6.00pm

Tickets are available to purchase from the cafe for both events.

There'll also be lots of Christmas craft activities coming up in December

 for you to book in with your children, also some Christmas themed snacks available to try in December! Will post all updates on village the facebook page. Hope you see you there



Christmas Facts you may not know



1. **Speedy Santa** US scientists calculated that Santa would have to visit 822 homes a second to deliver all the world's presents on Christmas Eve, travelling at 650 miles a second.
- 2. **Robins** on cards were a joke 150 years ago when postmen wore red tunics and were named after them.
- 3. **Mince Pies** ALTHOUGH now mostly vegetarian, in Victorian times, mince pies were made with beef and spices.
- 4. **Tangerines** THE tradition of putting tangerines in stockings comes from 12th-century French nuns who left socks full of fruit, nuts and tangerines at the houses of the poor.
- 5. **Wassailing** CAROLS began as an old English custom called wassailing, toasting neighbours to a long life.
- 6. **Carols** weren't sung in churches until they were introduced by St Francis of Assisi in the 13th century.
- 7. **Stockings** HANGING stockings out comes from the Dutch custom of leaving shoes packed with food for St Nicholas's donkeys. He would leave small gifts in return.