

**Oving with  
Pitchcott  
Newsletter**



*November 2004*

DECEMBER 04 CONTRIBUTIONS

Please let me have contributions for the December Newsletter  
by Wednesday 10th November

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Many thanks, Valerie Adams, 12 The Pightle, Oving 640296  
Email:- val\_adams@oving.org

**Operation Christmas Child**

Caroline Jenner and Sharon Larmen are coordinating our appeal this year. Please support this worthy cause and help to bring a smile to a child's face this Christmas. Leaflets giving details of what to include in a shoebox will be delivered to every house in Oving and Pitchcott, but if you need any further information, please contact Caroline (641995), or Sharon (640295).

The gift aid service this year will be held at Whitchurch school on 7<sup>th</sup> November at 11:00am. All will be welcome to attend and bring your shoe boxes to the service on that day. Alternatively please contact Caroline or Sharon to arrange for collection.

**ADVENT BIBLE STUDY**

There will be a series of four, weekly, bible study evenings starting on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 7:45pm for 8:00pm.

Venue: Paul and Heather's home, 10 The Pightle.

The theme will be 'Advent'

All are welcome.

**Whitchurch Combined School**

On the 28th September Whitchurch Combined School celebrated their Harvest Festival. All the food that we collected went to the Red Cross, the display looked fantastic because of the assortment of food. Every class took a different letter from the word Harvest and produced their own presentation.

On the 1st October we supported the charities Jeans for Genes and Denim for Diabetes. Everybody donated £1 and we were allowed to wear Jeans for the day. We raised about £200.

## **DO BEARS WALK IN THE WOOD...?**

An atheist was taking a walk through the woods, admiring all that the "accident of evolution" had created. "What majestic trees! What powerful rivers! What beautiful animals!" he said to himself.

As he was walking alongside the river he heard a rustling in the bushes behind him. He turned to look. He saw a 7-foot grizzly charge towards him. He ran as fast as he could up the path. He looked over his shoulder and saw that the bear was closing. He ran even faster, so scared that tears were coming to his eyes. He looked over his shoulder again, and the bear was even closer. His heart was pumping frantically and he tried to run even faster. He tripped and fell to the ground. He rolled over to pick himself up but saw the bear, right on top of him: reaching for him with his left paw and raising his right paw to strike him.

At that instant the atheist cried out "Oh my God!"

Time stopped. The bear froze. The forest was silent. Even the river stopped moving.

As a bright light shone upon the man, a voice came out of the sky: "You deny my existence for all of these years; teach others I don't exist; and, even credit creation to a cosmic accident. Do you expect me to help you out of this predicament? Am I to count you as a believer?"

The atheist looked directly into the light: "It would be hypocritical of me to suddenly ask You to treat me as a Christian now, but perhaps, could you make the bear a Christian?" "Very well," the voice said. The light went out. The river ran again. And the sounds of the forest resumed.

And then the bear dropped its right paw... brought both paws together... bowed its head and spoke: "Lord, for this food which I am about to receive, I am truly thankful."

### **Sunday School - November**

**Sunday School will be held on the 28th November at the Parish Church between 11.00 – and 12.00.**

**All children between the ages of 5 – 11 are welcome.**



**If you would like more information then please contact  
Jeremy Shields on 641020.**

## Church Going

Someone pointed out to me recently that if you want to come to church in a rural area, you have to be fairly determined because its more difficult to understand the services plan than Einstein's theory of relativity.

And its true. All 11 of the local churches appear in the village magazine showing various start times in a very tiny grid with the most peculiar abbreviations. So I thought I would have a go at some FAQs.

**First question – why can't village churches have a service at the same time every week?**

Answer – because everyone wants the mid-morning slot and there are only 4 clergy.

**Second question – What do all the abbreviations mean?**

**HC/PB** = Prayerbook Holy Communion. This is a very traditional service in ancient language – lots of 'thees and thous' and 'th's' stuck on the end of words. This makes the service very mysterious and majestic – but difficult to access if you haven't ever been before. The service has no hymns and often no sermon, therefore it lasts less than half an hour. But it is a very tranquil way to start the day.

**FS**= Family Service. This would be the antithesis of the above. There is no communion. The service is in modern language with modernish hymns. The 'sermon' is usually aimed at the young is often very visual. As the name suggests, this is aimed at, and popular with, families and should last less than half an hour.

**HC** = Holy Communion. A communion service in modern language, although the hymns tend to be traditional. There will be a short sermon (because the vicar needs to get away to take the next service in the next village). Often there will be a Sunday school where children come into church towards the end of the service. The service should last less than an hour.

**MS**= Matins. The traditional morning service from the prayerbook, again in ancient language. It is often 'chanted' by the minister. It usually includes hymns and a sermon.

**ES**= Evensong. The traditional evening service from the prayerbook in ancient language. Usually chanted, including hymns and a sermon.

**First Sunday**= This is an informal, praise style of service with lots of modern hymns and a longer sermon.

**Kids Praise** – very informal worship for 5-10 year olds with crafts and snacks and puppets etc.

**UM**= United Methodists. Some villages still have Methodist chapels and we share some worship slots. Methodist worship has historically been less formal with a longer sermon.

**On 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays** the team clergy usually like to put on something a bit different as a team service, offered for all the churches but in just one church.

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Sometimes this will be 'Taize'. This service is named after a French monastery which recently rediscovered Gregorian chant. These chants are very easy to pick up. It is an evening service which is simple and atmospheric. It is popular with teenagers in France but hasn't caught on with them over here!

**Third Question – Can I have my baby Baptized?** – If you live in the village, you can get your child 'christened' but we do usually ask you to come along a few times before hand. We usually do this in the context of a family service.

**Fourth Question - Can I get married/buried in church?** – If you live in the village you can get married in church/buried in the churchyard.

**Fifth Question - What if I'm divorced?**– In certain circumstances we can now marry divorcees. But the first criterion is to be at least an occasional attender. We can always offer a service of blessing after a civil ceremony if we can't perform a wedding.

**6<sup>th</sup> Question – How much should I put on the collection plate?** Parish churches have to be self financing or they get closed. Old buildings are expensive to maintain. We need £5 per adult per service to remain solvent. The CofE prides itself on its diversity. As village churches we recognize that we can't meet the needs of everyone in our tailor-made, pick and mix culture but we do try! What we can offer is a gathering place for the village community and it is usually this local element that people value rather than the style or content.

Remember – whether you are a regular, an occasional, or a four-wheeler (weddings, funerals and christenings – you arrive by Rolls Royce, Hearse or Pram) – it's your village church and your church council and vicars are always interested to hear your views on all that we offer.

Revd. Andy Bell

## CAT MISSING

### BLACK AND WHITE CAT

(mainly white with black flecks)

NAMED 'HARRY' - MICROCHIPPED.

IF SEEN PLEASE CALL KAY OR BRIAN LEWIS ON

01296 641000

THE OLD CHANDOS - WHITCHURCH

## Green Scene – We are what we do

**We are what we do** is all about inspiring people to use their everyday actions to change the world. Most people lead such hectic lives that being able to do small actions that make a difference to the planet and people has got to be a good thing. The ideas come from the book called '*Change the World for a Fiver*'. It's all to do with bringing that sense of community back – not just in your street and village, but seeing yourself as part of a global community. There has never been such variety and speed of communication – yet the quality of our relationships has declined. Personal consumption has soared, but buying things hasn't made us any happier. So although there is still poverty in the UK in the monetary sense, more people are impoverished in other ways - in spiritual fulfilment, isolation, lacking direction with their life and without a sense of community.

So here are some ideas about how to get involved – I have chosen some of the more environmental ideas naturally.

- Learn more, do more, smile and smile back
- Do something for nothing
- Use both sides of every piece of paper
- Decline plastic bags wherever possible
- Fit at least one energy saving light bulb in your home
- Use a mug not a disposable cup
- Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth
- Buy fairly traded products
- Grow something with a child
- Adopt a street or area to keep litter free
- Find out how your money is invested
- Turn your thermostat down by 1°

You'll do some good and feel good for having done it. For more information go to [www.wearewhatwedo.org](http://www.wearewhatwedo.org) The following short tale about the hummingbird in the forest may inspire you to do 'your bit'.

*Once in the Amazon basin, a part of the forest had just caught alight and all the animals started to stampede away from the flames. However the hummingbird flew to the dew-pond nearby and picked up a drop of water in his beak and flew back to the burning forest. The animals asked him where he was going and laughed at him saying "What good will one drop of water do?" The hummingbird answered "If we all carried some water we could put the fire out."*

## QUAINTON WEA [Workers Education Ass:]

Our new season's classes have long been selected and we have started the first of three courses we have to offer this coming autumn and winter with Art.

### RAILWAYS-STEAM REVIVAL

This second course is a follow on from the course last year, same Tutor, Roger Bowen, same venue, the very popular Quainton Station. [Worth coming to see the new Rewley Road station] This will, as last year, be a day course on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 10am to 4pm. Roger will take us through the story of the steam railway to its decline in the 1950's. Course fee is £17

### LITERATURE COURSE [afternoon's]

Prize Winning Novels is the title of our last one and again we are pleased to welcome the return of Indrani Gleave, a tutor who has visited us many times. We have three novels to read prior to coming on the course, which will be starting on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2005 Tuesdays at 2pm -3.30pm for 6 weeks. Course fee, £24 this will be held in a member's home. Plenty of time to get these three novels read before then.

#### Reading List:

1. The True History of the Kelly Gang. by Peter Carey
2. The God of Small Things. By Arundhati Roy
3. The Stone Diaries by Carol Shields

I will endeavour to place some WEA booklets in your local Post office where all the above information will be, along with other branch courses on offer. Please contact me for more information and/or to enrol for one of the above courses.

June Hanson Tel 01296 655249

#### LADIES NIGHT

(Quilting, stitching, knitting or whatever takes your fancy)

The next meeting will be on Wednesday  
10th November  
Newcomers welcome. Call Val on  
640296 for info - 7:30 pm till late

#### BOOK CLUB

The next meeting will be on Thursday  
4th November at 7:30 pm  
Newcomers welcome. Call Jo on  
641644 for info.

The Friends of Whitchurch Surgery



Coffee Morning  
and  
Christmas Raffle Draw

Saturday 4 December 2004

10 a.m. to 12 noon

at

Quaker Barn

Market Hill

Whitchurch

(By kind permission of Mr & Mrs Cochrane)



## GIOCOSO CONCERT BAND

Do you play a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument? If so, why not come and join us! The Giocososo Concert Band was formed last year and is always on the look out for new players. The name 'Giocososo' means playing in a friendly, humourous manner and that is exactly what we try to do! We meet every Thursday evening from 7.45pm to 10pm in Swanbourne Village Hall. Everyone is welcome and there are no auditions.

Since its formation, the Giocososo Concert Band has performed at engagements such as summer fetes, local music festivals, and community Christmas Carol concerts. With a repertoire comprising music ranging from Mozart through to the Beatles there is usually something for everyone!

On Saturday 4th December, for the first time, the Giocososo Concert Band will be putting on a concert of its own. With a selection of Christmas music, together with some of our favourite pieces, we hope it will be a thoroughly enjoyable and festive evening! The concert will take place in Swanbourne Village Hall and will start at 7.30pm. If you are interested in joining the Giocososo Concert Band, or in buying tickets in advance for our inaugural concert, then please phone David Sharp on (01908) 503461 for more details.

### All Saints Church Oving



### Quiz Night



Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2004

The Black Boy, Oving 7.30 pm

Tickets (£7.50) from Linda Nicholls (641 209)  
or any PCC member

## SCHORNE TEAM CHURCHES

Date	Granboro'	N.Marston	Oving	Dunton	Hoggeston
07-Nov	8:00 HC/PB		11:00 Family Gift Service Whitchurch School		
3 b/f Advent		10:00 FS/UM			9:30 HC/PB
Red	6:00 1st Sunday			6:00 UM	
14-Nov					
2 b/f Advent	11.00 FC	9:30 HC	<b>10:45</b> for 11:00 Remembrance	9:30 HC Patronal Festival	
Remembrance					
Red					
21-Nov					
1 b/f Advent		9.30 FS	11:00 FC		11:00 MS
Christ the King					
Red	6:00 ES		6:00 UM		
28-Nov					
Advent 1	11.00 FS	9:30 HC			
Purple	<b>ADVENT TEAM SERVICES</b>				
05-Dec	8.00 HC/PB				
Advent 2		10:00 UM	11:00 FS		9:30 HC/PB
Purple	6:00 1st Sunday		6:00 UM		

Notes: HC = Holy Communion /PB = Prayer Book 1662  
 FC = Family Communion MS = Matins  
 ES = Evensong FS = Family Service  
 UA = United Service at the Parish Church  
 UM = United Service at the Methodist Church  
 +B = With Baptism  
 Other services according to Common Worship

Clergy:

Rev. Andy Bell	670298	Rev. David Meakin	641606
Rev. Martin Partridge	655237	Rev. Liz Welters	655069
Janet Bayly	670245		

Holy Communion is celebrated each Thursday at Weeden Schoolroom at 10.00am.

## Services for November

Hardwick	Whitchurch	Quainton	Waddesdon	Westcott	Winchendon
9:30 HC/PB	11:00 FC		11:00 FC	9:30 HC/PB	
		6:30 HC			
			8:00 HC/PB		
11:00 MS	11:00 Remembrance	9:30 FS +B	11:00 Remembrance		9:30 FS
		3:00 Remembrance			
		8:00 HC/PB			
9:30 HC	11:00 FC		11:00 FS	9:30 FC	
		6:30 ES			
	8:00 HC/PB				
9.30 FS at Weedon		9:30 FC	11:00 UM		9:30 MS

### SERVICE - WHITCHURCH 6:00 PM

9:30 HC/PB	11:00 FC		11:00 FC	9:30 HC/PB	
		6:30 HC			



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<b>ROTAS</b>							
		07-Nov	14-Nov	21-Nov	28-Nov	05-Dec	12-Dec
11.00 am	Gift Service Whitchurch School	10:45 am Remembrance Service	Family Communion	Sunday School	Family service		
Sidesmen		N.Shields S.Berriman	T.Baker D.Fagg		C.Jenner C.Roberts		
Readers at 6.00pm	United at Chapel M.Ponsford		United at Chapel H.Bowen	Team Advent at Whitchurch	United at Chapel E.Corbett		
Chancel	J.Brunswick	J.Brunswick	K.Couper	K.Couper	M.Hodges		