

Useful Information

DOCTORS

Doctors Surgery: 01647 24272 or 24025

Patient Participation Group, Contacts: Jean Martin 24586, Caryn Tripp 24582

Surgery (No Appointment Necessary) 8 – 9.30 am Monday to Friday.

Out of Hours: Ring Devon Doctors on Call on 0845 6710 270. Medical Advice: NHS Direct on 0845 4647

IN EMERGENCY RING 999

MINOR INJURIES UNIT: Moretonhampstead Community Hospital, Ford Street, Moretonhampstead, open 7 days a week, 10 am – 6pm.
Okehampton Hospital, open 7 days a week, 8 am – 10 pm

POLICE

For all *non emergency* contact please ring **101**

Crimestoppers 0800 555 111
Neighbourhood Watch: Jean Martin 24586
Brian Bryon-Edmond 24696

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Electricity 0800 365 900
Gas 0800 111 999
Water 0800 169 1144
Highways Agency 0845 955 6575
Streetlights, potholes etc: 0845 155 1004 csc.roads@devon.gov.uk

SCHOOL, PLAYGROUP & YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

Cheriton Bishop Primary School 24817

Head Teacher: Mrs Sue Leyman

Secretary: Mrs Linda McCracken

Cheriton Bishop Playgroup

Play Leader: Christine Grist 281205

Young Farmers: Rachel Retter 07792 518439

Fed. Chair of Governors: Terry Tume 61338

PTFA Chairman: Amanda Vooght 24593

Cubs: Karen Morris 07969093975

Scouts: Ollie Milverton 07706695928

LOCAL CHURCHES

Anglican Team Ministry: Rev. Martin Wood, The Rectory, Church Lane, Cheriton Bishop 01647 24119

Church Wardens: Alan Greenslade 24002, Janet Jeffery 24414

Crockernwell Methodist Minister: Rev. David Easton, 21 Dunsford Road, Exeter, EX4 1LG. 01392 255791

Church Secretary: Mrs A MacDonald 24446

West Down Chapel: Derek Coren 24264

HALLS & MEETING ROOMS

VILLAGE HALL

Bookings: Tim Gorringe 24789

SPALDING HALL

Bookings: Les Gare 24639

Key: Jan Mitchell, Underhill, Church Lane.

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR: Sylvia Tripp 24267

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Parish Councillors

Chairman Tim Vooght 24593
Vice Chairman Gill Westcott 24789
Councillors Ian Cowley 24362
Phil Dicker 24450
Paul Mitchell 24405
Peter Endacott 24580
Jenny Grist 281110
Lee Rix

Mid Devon District Councillors

Derek Coren 24264
Peter Heal 01363 884277

County Councillors

Nick Way (CheritonBishop) 01363 777903
James McInnes (Crockernwell) 01837 861364

Parish Clerk

Derek Madge
01392 833969
Mob: 07780 826516
49 Crockwells Rd, Exminster

Members of Parliament

Mel Stride MP (Central Devon)
Write to: House of Commons, London, SW1 1AA

Crockernwell

Crockernwell Ward Parish Councillors: Bill Savage, email: Bill.Savage@drewsteigntonparish.co.uk

Joy Walker, email: Joy.Walker@drewsteigntonparish.co.uk

Clerk to Drewsteignton PC: Bella Snook, 01647 231046 clerk@drewsteigntonparish.co.uk

West Devon Borough Councillor: Paul Ridgers 01822 813600, email: Clr.Paul.Ridgers@westdevon.gov.uk

Member of European Parliament: Giles Chichester, 48 Queen Street, Exeter. 01392 491815

LOCAL SERVICES (Paid adverts)

CHIROPODY HOME SERVICES Mrs Julie Chatfield NMChs SRCH 24382

FUNERAL DIRECTORS C. Burrows & Son Tel: 01363 83258 Mob: 07803 142 357

The News Letter, December 2012

So much rain! The fields are sodden and every drain is swiftly blocked as soon as it is cleared. These dark days of Autumn after such a wet Summer will surely make us even more ready than usual for the warmth and light, good company and good food that we enjoy at Christmas. As always there is much going on in the village and beyond to help see us through the worst of the winter, with warm welcomes assured at every event. Why not make a pre-Christmas resolution to go to something you don't usually go to and join in the ambience – you may be very happily rewarded for your effort!

'Ark, 'tis that angels singing?

This may well be the case at the Playgroup's Nativity performance, this year held in the School Hall. I'm not sure whether angels are being invited to "The Innkeeper's Breakfast", but there's bound to be a few of them milling about and no doubt their voices will bring many a tear to adult eyes. Please see page 5 for all the details.

Despite some *very harsh* words in last month's newsletter (and by *one of their own* too!), the Cheriton folkgroup 'Folkus' have rallied their spirits and, while not having exactly practiced quite as hard as they should, they will be singing with gusto in the Village Hall on the 8th December to hopefully add to the Yuletide atmosphere. (See all that's on offer at this Christmas Fair on page 17).

The School invites everyone to take part in their round-the-houses Carol Singing on page 9. This is a lovely way to get into the Christmas spirit and sing those old carols once again.

If being in the warm and dry sounds more your thing, enjoy the carol service during daylight hours at West Down chapel in the afternoon, or venture out later to our medieval parish church for an evening of carols, both on the Sunday immediately before Christmas (see pages 11 and 14). Bill has been working the choir hard at rehearsals, so will an angelic harmony be the result? We will leave you to judge...

Relief for bookworms

For those of us who were still reeling from the shock of contemplating a bleak year ahead *without* our usual supply of disparate reading matter, our anxieties are over. Read page 17 to find out when and how the village institution of the Annual Book Sale *will again take place* in 2013.

And if you can't wait till then, please don't forget the joys of using and supporting the Mobile Library that comes round to the villages as regular as clockwork every fortnight. See the full update on this service on page 8.

New Year, new ideas

Every so often someone comes up with an idea that seems to just 'hit the spot' when it comes to answering a local need. See page 19 for a delightful idea for bringing people together that could really take off if plenty of people give it a try.

Another idea, this time for people to get together and talk about spiritual stuff is put forward on page 18. If you like sharing your thoughts and hearing other's, this may well be something to look forward to in the New year.

Something to celebrate?

It is quite possible that nary a national event will in future pass without a show of patriotic fervour in Cheriton Bishop. We might not have the sort of quaint streets between which to festoon bunting, but we have an ideal open space in which to erect that epitome of national pride – a flagpole! With some financial help from Dartmoor National Park (page 4) not only is this soon to be installed, but also *bunting* in various styles with which to decorate village prominences. Now all we need are a couple of volunteers to be Master of the Flagpole, and Mistress of the Bunting, to make sure these are used at each and every opportunity.

A thank you to all who make things happen

A quick count up reminds me that no fewer than thirty-nine people have contributed an item for the editorial pages of this edition! Most of these conscientious individuals are representing groups of many others who are involved in organising the twenty plus events taking place in the next two months. And that's not counting the fourteen regular meetings or groups that happen throughout each month and are so taken for granted by us that they are just given a mention on the regular meetings page. What a healthy community this is! Many thanks for all that you organisers and reporters do – it is appreciated more than you will ever know.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year from Jenny and the team.

DON'T FORGET THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE!: Friday 18th January at 6PM.

Copy should be left in the newsletter box at South Orchard, Woodbrooke Rd, or sent by email (word .doc please) to: jennygrist@talktalk.net

Enquiries: Editorial – Jenny 281110

Advertising – Patience 24350

The News-letter Production Team

Advertising: Patience Netherway 24350,
assisted by Jan Mitchell 24405

Production: Jan Mitchell, Patience Netherway,
Caryn Tripp, John Clark.

Collators: Anne Welham, Paul Mitchell,
Patience Netherway, John Clark.

Editor: Jenny Grist 281110

This month's front cover: designed by Richard Bower

Regular Meeting dates

Parish Council Contact: Derek Madge 01392 833969	<i>every second Monday evening in the month</i>
Coffee Mornings at Crockernwell Contact: Mrs A MacDonald 24446	<i>every second Saturday in the month</i>
Playgroup Contact: Christine Grist 281205	<i>Mon, Tue, Wed, 9.00 – 11.30, Thurs 9 – 3.20 “Lunch Club” until 12.50 pm on Wednesdays. All during term time only</i>
Scouts Contact: Ollie Milverton 07706695928	<i>every Monday evening during term time</i>
Cubs Contact: Karen Morris 07969093975	<i>every Thursday evening during term time</i>
Pilates Contact Adele 07976 427941	<i>every Friday morning, 9.25 am and 10.30 am, during term time</i>
West Down Bible Study & Prayer Contact: Derek Coren 24264	<i>every Monday evening from Oct – May</i>
Horticultural Society Contact: Persis Bower 24303	<i>usually the third Monday evening in the month during the Autumn and Winter</i>
West Country Embroiderers Contact: Janet Grist 281637	<i>every first Tuesday afternoon in the month</i>
Short Mat Bowling Contact Nos: Pat Hill 24201 or David Tripp 24582	<i>every Wednesday, Sept – May</i>
Baby Clinic The Surgery 24272	<i>every Thursday 2 – 3 pm (Clinics held in Tedburn Methodist Chapel)</i>
Young Farmers Contact: Rachel Retter 07792 518439	<i>every 1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings</i>
Art at Caribarn Studio, Pitton Barton Contact: Sue Bloomfield 01647 24840	<i>usually every last Thursday and/or Friday of month 9.30 – 12.30</i>

***Has your organisation been left out? Please let us know so that it can be included on this regular page.
Has someone just moved in next door? Why not pop round with this newsletter and let them know what goes on in Cheriton Bishop and Crockernwell?***

The Mobile Library

Cheriton Bishop: Fortnightly, on Tuesdays

Glebelands	Arrives: 15.35	Departs:	16.05
Hescane Park	16.10		16.55 [16.40 from 15 th January on]

Crockernwell: Fortnightly, on Tuesdays

Stanbury's Orchard	Arrives 15.05	Departs:	15.25
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Diary Dates for December

Saturday 1 st	Christmas Coffee Morning	Spalding Hall	10.30 am
Monday 3 rd	"Seasonal Decorations"	Spalding Hall	8 pm
Tuesday 4 th	Embroiderer's Christmas Gathering	Village Hall	12.30 pm
Wednesday 5 th	Shopping Trip to Sainsbury's		
Thursday 6 th	YFC Whist Drive	Village Hall	8 pm
Saturday 8 th	Christmas Produce & Gift Fair	Village Hall	10 – 12 noon
Sunday 9 th	Playgroup Nativity	School Hall	11.30 am
Monday 10 th	Parish Council meeting	Spalding Hall	7.30 pm
Wednesday 12 th	Acorn Christmas Lunch	Woodleigh CH	12.30 pm
Thursday 13 th	Playgroup Meal out	The Old Thatch	
Saturday 15 th	Christmas Flower Arranging	Parish Church	from 10.30 am
Wednesday 19 th	Shopping Trip to Sainsbury's		
Wednesday 19 th	Playgroup Christmas Party		
Friday 21 st	Community Carol Singing - meet at the	Stone Cross	6.30 pm
Sunday 23 rd	Christmas Carol Service	West Down	3 pm
Sunday 23 rd	Christmas Carol Service	Parish Church	6 pm
Christmas Day	Christingle Service	Parish Church	10 am
Sunday 30 th	Open Mic Night	Old Thatch Inn	7.00 pm

Diary Dates for January

Wednesday 16 th January	Shopping Trip to Sainsbury's		
Saturday 19 th January	Cheese and Wine Party	Hillside House	7.30 pm
Monday 21 st January	Afternoon Chat and Cuppa	Spalding Hall	2 'til 4 pm
Monday 21 st January	Horticultural Society Quiz Night	Spalding Hall	8 pm

Forthcoming Events for 2013

Saturday 2 nd March	Music Day	Parish Church	all day
Saturday 9 th March	Book Sale	Village Hall	10 – 12 noon
Saturday 23 rd March	Spring Show	Village Hall	
Saturday 23 rd March	Music Evening	Village Hall	
Saturday 11 th May	Spring Plant Sale	Village Hall	
Saturday 22 nd June	Mid Summer Show	Village Hall	
Saturday 10 th August	Village Show	Village Hall	

If your organisation has a one-off event planned for next year why not let other organisations know in advance so that dates don't clash?

For much more information about Cheriton Bishop, Crockernwell and the surrounding area please visit the Cheriton Bishop Web Site: www.cheritonbishop.org.uk
Contact for Website: Tony Bott email: anthonydbott@aol.com

CHERITON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

The November meeting of the Council took place on Monday 12th in the Spalding Hall Church Lane at 7.30 pm. The Parish Councillors present were Tim Vooght (Chairman), Paul Mitchell, Phil Dicker and Peter Endacott, with Gill Wescott, Ian Cowley and Jenny Grist sending apologies for absence.

Also present were: the District Councillors, Derek Coren and Peter Heal; and County Councillor Nick Way; and the Clerk, Derek Madge.

Parish road matters:

The Chairman confirmed that local residents will be undertaking the hedge-cutting in Church Lane, but the broken drain cover had still not been repaired. Councillor Coren had been chasing this up. It was agreed to write to the DCC Highways Officer regarding the lack of progress on this and the repainting the of road signs at Yeoford road. Councillor Endacott asked if there had been any progress in repairing the road surface on the Woodleigh overbridge as it was getting dangerous. The Chairman had been chasing this up but was getting little response. It was agreed to add this to the letter about highways problems.

Notice of Road closure: from Fourcross Ways to Venbridge Hill at The Cottage on 16th to 18th January 2013.

Free Range Peacocks: The peacocks are still a problem and Councillors are working on a solution with the possibility of moving them to another location!

School Entrance: Councillor Mitchell was pleased to report that he had been in touch with DCC and the cast iron gates at the school would be preserved as well as some steps.

Footpaths: Councillor Dicker had received the footpath maps and started walking some of them. A gate had been moved in the path between Pitton Farm and Hittisleigh Mill and wooden barriers were broken at the bottom of Southcombe Hill.

Planning applications

12/01404/FULL Horselake Farm, Cheriton Bishop, erection of two holiday units with parking area:
The Council objected to the application on the grounds that it is continued over-development of the site.

12/01497/CAT Croft House, Cheriton Bishop, notification of intention to fell 1 ash tree 1 oak tree crown lift 1 sycamore tree (Declaration of personal interest by Councillor Endacott) : Object to the removal of the oak as no reason had been given for its removal.

12/01446/CAT Brackenwood, Church Lane, Cheriton Bishop, notification of intention to fell 4 oak trees: Council supports the application.

Planning decision by the Dept. of Environment: Argermay, Cheriton Bishop: appeal allowed.

Councillor Vacancy

One application had been received by the closing date and it was unanimously resolved to co-opt Mr Lee Rix onto the council.

To consider purchasing a flag pole and bunting

Councillor Mitchell had obtained further prices for a flag pole and associated equipment with the total cost being £1070 including VAT. He had also been successful in obtaining a grant of £400 towards the cost of the flagpole from the Dartmoor National Park's "Celebrate Your Community Grant". It was resolved to purchase a flagpole with associated equipment and bunting.

The Next Meeting will be on Monday 10th December, starting with the Public Open Session at 7.30 pm.

Changes to the Mobile Library

Each year Devon Libraries review the Mobile Library timetables to ensure that each village's stop is safe, well-used, and that the vehicle has enough travelling time between stops to reach their borrowers promptly. The Mobile Librarians also consult their borrowers to see how we can tailor the service to the community's needs.

As you will be aware the Mobile Library currently stops in Cheriton Bishop on alternate Tuesdays in Glebelands 15.35-16.05; followed by Hescane Park 16.10 - 16.55. The Mobile Librarian has consulted the borrowers and as a result from 15th January 2013 we propose to make a change.

With the agreement of the borrowers, we propose to reduce the stop duration at Hescane Park by 15 minutes i.e 16.10 - 16.40. This will ensure that there is enough time for the borrowers to choose their books.

To ensure that everyone is able to access Devon Libraries, we work closely with the WRVS Home Library Service whose volunteers deliver our books and spoken word CDs to anyone confined to home, or who are no longer physically able to reach a library. If anyone in the village needs this help, please contact me via email pauline.anderson@devon.gov.uk or by telephoning 01392 384315.

Timetables for 2013 will be distributed as soon as possible.

For those unfamiliar with the Devon Library Service this is what we offer....

We have something for everyone!

Our fleet of 8 mobile libraries visits over 500 locations in communities across Devon giving access to books, audio books, Large Print and DVDs to people who cannot easily reach one of our 50 static libraries.

Membership is FREE, no ID needed. Join at any age – babies too!

There is no charge for borrowing books, and there's a great choice.

You may hire a DVD from as little as £1 for a fortnight.

Non-fiction books, Large Print, and children's books can be reserved FREE.

You can even reserve books online, and collect them from the mobile library.

Children have extra fun joining the Book Track and Summer Reading Challenge.

There is something to offer everyone on board so why not hop on and take a look?

Pauline Anderson
Outreach and Rural Services Manager
Newton Abbot Library
Passmore Edwards Centre
Tel: 01392 384040
E-mail: pauline.anderson@devon.gov.uk
Website: www.devon.gov.uk

Dog Control in the Mid Devon District

With effect from 1 December, Mid Devon District Council will be introducing two new Dog Control Orders:

1. Fouling of Land by Dogs (Mid Devon) Order 2012
2. Dogs on Lead by Direction (Mid Devon) Order 2012

The Orders can be viewed on our website at <http://www.middevon.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=1593> or at Mid Devon District Council, Legal Services, Phoenix House, Tiverton, Devon EX16 6PP.

Councillor's comments

Thank goodness we have had the Jubilee Celebrations, the Olympics and the Para Olympics to brighten a year that has been extremely wet and overcast from Spring-time onwards.

In Cheriton Bishop there have been many well-organised and well-attended events over the past year and these have always been well-advertised in this News Letter.

Worthy too, of a mention, are all those who have worked so hard to earn Cheriton Bishop a runners up award in the class for 'Larger Villages' in the Best Kept Village Competition. Well Done!

Work on the roads locally seems to have come to a halt. The resurfacing needed at the bridge over the dual carriageway is still waiting at the time of writing this article. Similarly we are still waiting for the repainting of the word "SLOW" on Yeoford road near the junction with the C50. May I encourage you to report these much-needed repairs yourselves by phoning Devon Highways on 0845 155 1004? The volume of calls received has a much greater effect than the position of the person calling (eg Parish or District Councillor). If you do phone or make your report online please make sure you ask for a log reference when you contact Devon Highways.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the News Letter Production Team for the sterling work they do each month in giving us this excellent magazine.

A very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year to all,
Derek Coren (District Councillor – Yeo Ward MDDC)

Crockernwell News from Drewsteigton Parish Council

An application for Golden Lion House at Crockernwell to provide ancillary accommodation was supported. A letter of objection regarding the possible increase in car parking was noted but Highways had made no comment on the application. With the lack of speed enforcement and traffic calming in the village, the Council feel that any vehicles parked in the village act as traffic calming and this has been shown to work.

Our next meeting is at Whiddon Down on Monday 19th November 2012 at 7.30pm.

Open Mic at The Old Thatch Inn

Sunday 30th December, 7.00 pm start

Thank you from Save The Children

Many thanks to the anonymous donor of £100 given to the Save The Children Craft Fair.
The final total for this event was £1,284.47.

Paddy Dornom

Looking for somewhere to grow your veg?

We have a small but useful vegetable area in our garden that needs to be tended by a keen gardener next year. If anyone is interested please ring Alan or Jan on 24659.

The Secret is Out!

With Christmas fast approaching please don't forget that copies of the Cheriton Bishop Cookery Book are still available. Being easily fitted into an A5 size envelope, the book is an ideal present to send as a 'gift from home', packed with recipes and reminiscences offered by friends and neighbours. The books are £5 each, but as an added bonus in the run up to Christmas we are offering the books at the special rate of "*Three for the Price of Two*" – an offer rarely seen outside of Sainsbury's! So all your Christmas present and Stocking filling dilemmas could be quickly solved by ordering your copies from Jenny on 281110 or Sally on 272794, or come along to either the Spalding Hall Coffee Morning on 1st December or the Christmas Produce & Gifts Fair on 8th December at the Village Hall.

Sally Sellick and Jenny Grist

Churchwardens' News

First a big 'thank you' to all who worked in the churchyard or Spalding Hall for the churchyard clear-up day with its attendant lunch. Although fewer in number this year we managed to accomplish a lot, and were fortunate in the weather.

Another 'thank you' to Joan Ley, who has retired from the church -cleaning rota after some years of helping. If there is anybody with a few hours to spare, two or three times a year, who would volunteer to take her place please let me know.

The Remembrance Day service was as moving as ever, and we discovered that at least one member of the congregation had fought in WWII. The collection came to £192.62, and was given to the Royal British Legion.

Our Carol Service is at 6pm on Sunday 23rd Dec. This being so close to Christmas gets the festival started in the right mood and we hope people will stay and chat over mulled wine and mince pies afterwards. There are two midnight communions within the team, 11pm at Whitestone and 11.15pm at Tedburn, but Cheriton saves their biggest service for 10am on Christmas Day when we have our Christingle Communion Service. Normally there are a lot of children there, so it is a noisy celebratory service to share the Christmas message.

In the New Year we are trying a new type of service, called '@4', which will take place in the Village Hall, on Saturday 12th January at 4pm and replace the usual family service due the following day. This service will suit those who find the Hall a more sympathetic environment than the church, who would like a shorter, more informal service with visual aids and where children are most welcome, and we hope they will come and join us.

Going into the New Year dates for your diary are the Cheese and Wine Party on 19th January, the Singing Day on March 2nd (for more details contact billjeffery@talktalk.net) and a repeat of last year's Music Evening with the Gittisham Jazz Band & Mariners Away on March 23rd.

A Happy Christmas to all,
Janet Jeffery, 24414 and Alan Greenslade, 24002

SERVICES AT ST MARY'S CHERITON BISHOP

AND OTHER CHURCHES IN THE NORTH KENN MISSION COMMUNITY

JANUARY 2013

SUNDAY 6th

9.30	Whitestone	<i>Epiphany</i> Holy Communion	Revd Prof Tim Gorringer
9.30	Holcombe Burnell	Holy Communion	Canon John Tutton
11am	Tedburn St Mary	Family Service	Revd Martin Wood
3pm	Pathfinder	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
6pm	Cheriton Bishop	Evening Prayer	Revd Martin Wood

SATURDAY 12th

4pm	Cheriton Bishop	@4	Revd Martin Wood
	Village Hall		

SUNDAY 13th

9.30	Holcombe Burnell	<i>Epiphany 2</i> Holy Communion	Revd Prof Tim Gorringer
9.30	Whitestone	Parish Communion	Revd Martin Wood
3pm	Pathfinder	Prayer and Fellowship	
3pm	Tedburn St Mary	Evening Prayer	Revd Martin Wood

SUNDAY 20th

8am	Tedburn St Mary	<i>Epiphany 3</i> Holy Communion	Canon John Tutton
9.30	Cheriton Bishop	Parish Communion	Revd Martin Wood
11am	Tedburn Methodist	Christian Unity	Lay Led
11am	Whitestone	Family Service	Revd Martin Wood
3pm	Pathfinder	Evensong	Revd Martin Wood
6pm	Holcombe Burnell	Evensong	Lay Led

SUNDAY 27th

8am	Cheriton Bishop	<i>Epiphany 4</i> Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
9.30	Whitestone	Christian Unity	Revd Martin Wood
9.30	Tedburn St Mary	Parish Communion	Revd Prof Tim Gorringer
11am	Holcombe Burnell	Family Service	Revd Martin Wood
3pm	Pathfinder	United service	

EACH THURSDAY

10.30	Pathfinder	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood/ Canon Geoffrey Moore
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Holy Trinity Yeoford

December is a busy but festive month for most churches, and our church is no exception. We begin on our usual second Sunday, **the 9th**, with **Communion by Extension** at 9.30. On Sunday the **16th**, we have our annual **Carol Service of Nine Lessons** at 5pm followed by refreshments. On **Christmas Eve**, a new service for our church, the **Crib Service**, which will appeal to all ages - we shall hear the Christmas story as the children fill the stable with the various characters amidst carols and prayers. This will be held at 4pm. Later on Christmas Eve, our usual earlier **'Midnight' Eucharist** will take place at 9pm. Please join us for some or all of these services to celebrate our Lord's birth. In January our services are Holy Communion at 9-30 on 8th & 22nd of January. We wish you all a very blessed and peaceful Christmas.

Carol Price

Christmas time again!

As we move into the month of December, our attention is often drawn towards the 25th December, Christmas Day. It seems to dominate everything around it. So much so, that people with birthdays feel neglected and hidden behind the shadow of Christmas Day. If we take a week either side of Christmas Day then approximately 4% of the population or 1 in 25 people have a birthday within a week of Christmas. It is a significant number of people. I know people who say that it is hard to get all your birthday and Christmas presents within a week of each other and then have to wait a whole year for it to come around again. Some people, like the queen, celebrate an unofficial birthday in June to compensate!

It is hard to explain why Christmas is so dominant in our culture. Sadly, I do not believe it is wholly out of religious conviction. Nor do I think it arises out of having two consecutive bank holidays back to back. But having a forced holiday and shops closing on Christmas Day does make time for people in non-essential work to get together. It has a strong family tradition and an acceptance of giving and receiving gifts. In a quest to be seen to be generous, it might have become excessive in many people's minds. It often becomes a large task of sorting presents and buying food just to name two things to be done! Yet whilst these things are true it does not explain its dominance. Perhaps it has become dominant because it has been allowed to be, unchecked by everyone in their state of business and readiness. I am more than a little concerned that it has become more important commercially and encouraged to be so. Yet we each have a simple choice: do we carry on regardless or step back and work out what or who is really important?

As we turn back to Jesus' birth we know who was really important, it was Augustus as the emperor and Quirinius the governor. Everyone had to go home to be registered, with their family. You might wonder why this was happening. It was a count for taxes to ensure that the right amount was paid to the Romans. It sounds familiar, a way to ensure maximum return on their taxes. What is so interesting is that God breaks through simply with a baby born to Mary and Joseph in humble surroundings. Nothing really stops and takes notice, only God and heaven wait with Mary and Joseph with joyful expectation. Perhaps we cannot do anything about what is going on all around us at Christmas. Instead we can draw close to those around us and work out what is really important and try to make the most of each other in quite simple terms. I am equally convinced that God is most concerned with the love we share or withhold from those closest to us. What is the best present or perfect Christmas meal seems much less important over the Christmas feast.

WEST DOWN EVANGELICAL CHAPEL

Yeoford Road, Cheriton Bishop. Telephone 01647 24660/24264

Services for December 2012

Sunday 2nd December

11 am Morning Worship

3 pm Family Service with

Mr Bob Werrett

Sunday 9th December

11 am Morning Worship

3 pm Family Service with

Rev David Cole

Sunday 16th December

11 am Morning Worship

3 pm Family Service with

Mr John Allen

Sunday 23rd December

11 am Morning Worship

3 pm **CAROL SERVICE**

CHRISTMAS DAY

10.30 -11.15am

Family Service with Communion

Sunday 30th December

11 am Morning Worship

3 pm Family Service

*Prayer Meeting and Bible Study on Mondays at 7.30pm
3rd Bob Werrett, 10th Home Prayer Fellowship, 17th Gerald Downs*

Reflections on 2012

As I begin to write this Christmas article there are still signs of Autumn colours showing among the trees but by Christmas there will be little left apart from the Holly, Firs and Ivy. Looking at some of our carols recently, I looked more closely at the carol "The Holly and the Ivy. Although we sing it at Christmas, the majority of the verses point us to Easter and Calvary. This carol has a mixture of both Christian and pagan ideas. Let us look at some of the verses. "The Holly bears a blossom as white as a lily flower". In the early part of the year the tree does bear a beautiful white flower - a picture of the Holiness of the Lord Jesus. He did no sin and knew no sin. He was without spot or blemish. "The Holly bears a berry as red as any blood" reminds us of the precious shed blood of Jesus before, and on, the Cross. "The Holly bears a prickle as sharp as any thorn". This gives us a picture of the crown of thorns that was placed upon the head of the Lord Jesus. "The Holly bears a bark as bitter as any gall" is interesting. Jesus was offered wine to drink, mixed with gall, *but after tasting it, he refused to drink it.*(Matt.27v34.) Gall with wine would be an anaesthetic and would tend to diminish the sense of suffering. The Lord Jesus wanted to be sensitive and aware of all that was happening to Him. Why write this at Christmas when it is a time to be joyful and happy? I love Christmas, especially now that we have grandchildren. Some times we look at a view or object in the distance and are unable to see it clearly. We pick up the binoculars, adjust them, and what was not clearly defined, then becomes clear. When we recognise the purpose of the Easter story, we see more clearly the reason for Christmas. If you read this and sing the carol "The Holly and the Ivy" this Christmas, I trust you will acknowledge the deeper meaning that is to be found within the words.

Derek Coren

Wishing you a Happy and Peaceful Christmas

West Down Services for January 2013

Sunday 6th January

11 am Morning Worship

3 pm Family Service with
Rev David Cole

Sunday 13th January

11 am Morning Worship

3 pm Family Service with
Dr Ken Kite

Sunday 20th January

11 am Morning Worship

3 pm Family Service with
Mr Dennis Hayes

Sunday 27th January

11 am Morning Worship

3 pm Family Service with
Mr Danny Chipps

Prayer and Bible study Monday evenings at 7.30pm

7th Home prayer fellowship, 14th 21st David Cole 28th Mission Focus with David Cole

Come and join us at.....

Spalding Hall

on

Saturday 1st December, 10.30am

Christmas Coffee Morning

Seasonal fayre to enjoy and buy

Mince pies, mulled wine, raffle and more

Proceeds in aid of the Hall refurbishment

PAID ADVERT

Winter Holiday?

For hire between Dec 2012 and the end of March 2013 – a two bedroom flat in Calpe on the Costa Blanca within 3 minutes walk of the sandy beach and, in the opposite direction, the shops. You can usually expect some winter sunshine, and being out of season, it is much quieter than in summer. Linen, towels etc. provided, on-site manager. Off street parking can be arranged if necessary. Calpe is 30 miles from Alicante airport, which is served by flights from Bristol. Cost £125 per week.

Contact Bill and Janet Jeffery 24414



Christmas Produce and Gift Fair

Cheriton Bishop Village Hall on Saturday 8th December 2012 between 10 and 12 noon.

There will be coffee and cakes to enjoy and plenty of stalls to browse. Goods on offer include chutney, jam, bunting, venison, jewellery, appliqué work and silk paintings, willow and natural wood products, framed pictures, the Cheriton Bishop cookery book, cakes, cards, second-hand books, raffle, and white elephant stall.

Please come and support Borneo or Bust* and local food and craft producers.

Folkus will be providing live festive music.

For more information please call 01647 24369

* Fundraising event for Robert O'Neill's Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition to Borneo summer 2013.

BOOK SALE

The Cheriton Bishop Book Sale/ Fair will be held in the Village Hall on Fri 8th March from 6.00 to 7.00 pm for the bookworms in the village, and on Sat 9th March from 10.00 to 12.00 am for the bookworms in the village and elsewhere.

THANK YOU from all of us to PERSIS for her competent organisation of the Book Sale for many years. She has kindly agreed that books and boxes can be left, as in previous years, at South Orchard from Twelfth Night.

Proceeds this year will go to the Acorn Community Support Group, who are there to help each and all of us, quietly and efficiently. Unsold books will be collected by Force, the cancer charity support group.

I hope that I can organise the Book Sale as well as Persis did, and would welcome any helpers (transporting books, setting up in the Village Hall, on the door etc).

If you can spare the time on either date, please contact me on 24843.

Thank you
Jane Chilvers

And from the 'retiring' organiser...

It was with great relief that I heard there were volunteers to run the Book Sale 2013. I was worried about my future reading material as were many others!

I have agreed that all boxes and books can be left here at South Orchard as normal, and the new gang will take them away and store them until the great day. So after Twelfth Night, you can start to collect the boxes and sort your books.

Thank you for all your support over the last 27 years or so..

Persis Bower

Dialogue Group: Beliefs and Values

I'd like to propose a group for talking about what is most important to us and our beliefs and values, so that we can learn from and inspire one another. Opportunities like this don't crop up much in ordinary social conversation, but everyone has insights and ideas. The group could be open to those of any denomination, religion or spiritual path, and those who belong to none but have a concern or interest, or have experience to share, without being an adherent of a particular religious group. The approach will be one of openness and curiosity, and conversation in a confidential setting.

We might talk about where we find inspiration, what are some of the key writings or words that speak to us, practices we find helpful, challenges and learnings in life; using a particular theme for each session. I imagine we might meet for five or six weekly or fortnightly sessions, at a time convenient for everyone (if that can be managed!), starting in the New Year.

If you are also interested in this idea, please get in touch
Gill 01647 24789

WEST COUNTRY EMBROIDERERS

The **Tuesday December 4th** meeting will be our Christmas Gathering and will start at the earlier time of 12.30 when we all contribute a plate of food for the "Bring and Share" lunch in the Village Hall. We also have a 'Secret Santa' where everyone brings a small wrapped gift either sewn or to do with embroidery – a skein of thread etc.

There will be a chance to 'show and tell' – it is lovely to see what other members have been making for Christmas so bring along some of your creativity!

A Quiz has been arranged for the afternoon and it is the meeting at which we pay our subscriptions (£16) and receive the much anticipated new year programme.

The January meeting will be a week later than usual because of New Year and it will be on **Tuesday 8th January**. The Village Hall opens at 1.30 for a start at 2pm. The subject is expected to be Applique and how to make a Pencil Case – but we have not yet seen the programme !

New members always welcome.

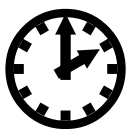
Any queries please contact the Group Representative : Nicky Westcott 01837 82517 or local contact: Janet Grist 01647 281637

PAID ADVERT

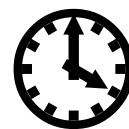
Hooperton Farm Beef

We again have our organically-reared Aberdeen Angus beef . Please see the selection of cuts in the freezer in our "shed ". Mince and stewing cuts for week day meals and steaks and joints for weekends!

For any query please contact the Grist family on 281637 or 281205.



pop in for a chat and a drink



In the New Year we are going to trial a monthly 'drop-in for an afternoon catch-up' at the **Spalding Hall**.

The doors will be open from **2 til 4** and our first one will be on **Monday 21st January 2013**.

Open to absolutely everyone, right through the generations from young to those of more mature years!

There will be a good choice of drinks on the menu – hopefully something to suit everyone – so, in addition to tea and coffee, we'll offer herb / fruit teas, decaff tea and coffee, cappuccino, and a chilled fruit juice. We'll also have some biscuits or brownies!

There will be **no charge**. It will be a pleasure to see who pops in to join us.

Taking the dog for a walk? – call in on your way home

Need a lift from your home? – ring Paul 24405 or Jean 24586 beforehand and we'll
arrange to come and fetch you

New to the village? – come and say hello

Out for a stroll? – call in on your way past

Out walking with your kids? – come in for a break

Just fancy a chat? – come on down Church Lane (the Spalding Hall is next
door to the school)!

If you have any questions, ring Jean Martin on 24586.

Art @ The Surgery

We have received many positive comments on the fantastic Art Work that we have been displaying at the Cheriton Bishop and Christow Surgeries. We are now very privileged to be able to share with you the work of Award-winning coloured pencil artist, Brian Ainsworth. Brian was awarded the Faber Castell Award at the UK Coloured Pencil Society's Open International Exhibition in 2010 and his Snow Leopard was voted runner up in the Ken Bromley Art Supplies Cover Competition in 2012. We do hope you enjoy these incredible drawings that Brian is enabling us to share with you. We are fortunate to be able to exhibit some of his original work and also some of the impressive print canvases. Perhaps you could amaze a loved one this Christmas by gifting them with one of Brian's stunning drawings?

PLEASE DON'T FORGET – all the artwork on display is for sale with a percentage of all sales contributing to the Medical Equipment Fund at the Surgery.

CHERITON BISHOP & TEIGN VALLEY PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

Part of the remit of the Patient Participation Group is to work alongside the surgery and produce a survey to enable us to understand how you, the patient, feels the service is running. This recently took place, with 145 random patients being asked to complete the survey as they arrived at the surgery.

A full report of the survey and patient comments are available on the surgery practice website www.cheritonbishoppractice.co.uk, under the PPG tab. In general, the feedback from patients was very positive and it was interesting to note a variety of comments most of which are below:

Availability of appointments with a doctor or nurse at Christow.

There is a doctor and nurse at Christow at some point every working day. Taking into consideration that Christow is a branch of the main surgery at Cheriton, which holds several surgeries every day, it is unlikely that this will change in the near future. Should a Christow patient need to see a doctor urgently and cannot get to Cheriton, try telephoning Acorn Community Support, as they may be able to arrange transport for you.

Dispensary Comments

Problems with dispensary refusing to supply medication/I should be able to get what I want.

It is the GP who authorises your medication after assessing your needs. Not the dispenser. Dispensers are only authorised to dispense repeat medication, any acute medication must be sanctioned by a GP.

Working people needing Bloods taken and flu injections

Nurse doesn't start till 9a.m. which is too late.

The health care assistant starts at 8.30a.m. Also you could enquire if a one off, 8a.m., could be arranged.

Saturday Morning opening. No doctor available. If you are not well it is too long to wait till Monday.

There is never a need to wait till Monday to see a doctor. Devon Docs are always available. Their number is 08456710270 or for advice ring NHS Direct on 08454647.

6 years ago children took priority - 99% seen same day, now can wait 3 days.

The surgery policy is: babies seen immediately. Under 5s that day. Of course there is always the open surgery 8-9.30 every morning.

There should be a glass partition for privacy at reception, you can hear receptionist on telephone.

You can always ask to speak to someone in private. If at all possible receptionists do try to not use the name of the person they are speaking to, therefore keeping identity confidential.

Shrubs in Car Park need cutting back. Danger.

These are not the surgery's responsibility. They belong, as does the car park, to the village hall. I will write and inform them of this comment.

Lastly I would like to emphasise that if you have a comment or difficulty, the Practice Manager, Julia Mercer, not only keeps an open door policy, but is very keen to hear from you. Failing this, we the Patient Participation Group, can liaise for you with most things except medical queries. Please do not hesitate to contact us. We are there for you.

Jean Martin (Chairperson) 0164724586.

News from Elsewhere: Macmillan Big Breakfast!

We are having a Big Breakfast/ Brunch, and Bazaar on Saturday 8th December at Longdown Village Hall from 10 a.m. to 1p.m. Come along and enjoy breakfast or brunch being cooked for you, plus you may even find some Christmas Gifts.

Sheila Friend 01392 811821

Cheriton Bishop Horticultural Society

Work in Progress

In 2010, Heather and Brian Aldridge kindly invited members of the Horticultural Society to tea when they moved to Belstone Corner. Members were asked to put forward suggestions for the development of their proposed garden, then a patch of greenery surrounded by mature trees.

Not only is Brian a dab hand with a camera and computer, as the resulting slideshow proved, but he and Heather have boundless energy. Preparation of raised beds, laying down of patios and hard-standing, erection of sheds; there was no end of activity. A holiday visit to Portugal was definitely in order. But in their absence there was a visitation of deer, which resulted in another burst of work to provide protection for crops and shrubs. By the time tea and biscuits were served, we, the audience were quite exhausted, but full of admiration.

The final date for DT Brown Seed order is Monday 3rd Dec, when they may be handed to Janet Jeffery at the Christmas workshop to be held in the Spalding hall at 8pm. Christmas refreshments will be served while **festive decorations** are made. If you still have your wreath base from last year, bring it along. Some greenery will be provided; berries, depending on the birds. Anyone with yards of virginia creeper might like to cut it and that can be turned into wreath bases too. Anyone with some new and interesting ideas for decorations are invited to share them with us all.

The Annual Quiz, the traditional 'discussion' between the quizmaster and the correct answers, and the combatants who are sure their answers are the right ones, will take place in the Spalding Hall, at 8pm on 21st January. Guests from Drewsteignton help to maintain a sense of decorum.

Thank you to everyone who helped prepare and serve the Annual Dinner, and to all those who came and made merry. And who helped clear the hall and take away the washing up. They were the stars!

Persis Bower

Cheriton & Tedburn YFC

To start November off we had the County final of the After Dinner Speaking competition. Becky Grist, Dan Grist and Vicki Gilbert were in the team with two Bow members and the team came a very respectable 2nd. Becky was chosen to go through to the next round as chairman, with Vicki as reserve for the team.

We have had great success at the carnivals this year and everyone has enjoyed taking part and being on the float. At Okehampton we got 2nd prize and received a trophy for 'Best in Procession'. At South Zeal and Hatherleigh we picked up 3rd prize.

Our Bonfire night on Friday 9th November was well attended and thanks must go to Mr and Mrs A. Bowden for allowing us to host the event at Bowbeer Farm. We have just had our Bingo at Tedburn Village Hall, again this was well attended and we would like to thank everyone that came and supported the event. These two events have helped build funds to allow us to compete in the Drama competition, which will take place in February. We are currently searching for a script so we can start rehearsing to put up a good fight for the competition.

Rachel – Secretary

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Cheriton Bishop Lunch Club – The lunch club will be meeting at Woodleigh Coach House, Cheriton Bishop at 12.30pm and on 12th December. Roast beef, dessert, tea or coffee all for just £9. If you would like to join us please ring Jean Martin 01647 24586 a week in advance to book your place, also let her know if you will require transport.

Minibus trips to Sainsbury's from Cheriton – Our popular fortnightly minibus trip to Sainsbury's Alphington supermarket provides an opportunity for you to be collected and returned to your door with your shopping carried for you. We run a minibus service on alternate Wednesdays from Drewsteignton, Crockernwell, Cheriton Bishop, and Tedburn, this month it will be 5th and 19th December and 16th January 2013. Please phone Sylvia on 01647 24267. Help is provided in store and a wheelchair service is also available. The fare is £3 return.

Teign Valley Memory Café now twice monthly - We are now running two morning cafés on the second and last Thursday of each month 10.30 to 12.30. This month it will be Thursday 13th December only because, due to Christmas and the New Year break, there will not be a café on 27th December. We will resume Thursday 10th January. Please call Margaret on 01647 252622 for more details. Meetings are held at Strawberry Hill, Dunsford on the B3212 – look out for the sign.

Acorn Services - Should you need transport to an appointment, a prescription delivered or any other Acorn service, please phone Sylvia Tripp on 01647 24267. Please leave a message on her answering machine if she is not at home and she will call you back. If you have not heard back within 24hours please call Jean Martin on 01647 24586.

Acorn Coffee Morning at Strawberry Hill – On alternate Tuesdays 10 – 12, we have a new drop-in coffee morning at Strawberry Hill, near Dunsford. It's in the old café and has a lovely atmosphere – attractive surroundings. It's run by a small team of friendly volunteers. It's a great place to bring a friend – and there's ample parking. Only one coffee morning this month on 4th December due to Christmas but we will resume Tuesday 15th January 2013. Volunteer drivers can collect you if transport is a problem. Please ring Jackie on 01647 252701 if you need a lift.

Winter Salt - The Trustees have purchased small bags of rock salt and we will soon be distributing it to the elderly and vulnerable in our community. If you know of anyone who would benefit from receiving some please contact: Sylvia 01647 24267 or Jackie 01647 252701.

New Trustees - At our Annual General Meeting held in September, we elected two new Trustees to the Board; Jon Morton from Christow and Mary Graham from Crockernwell. We elected one new officer - Paul French was elected to Deputy Chair. Beryl Westcott retired following 3 years service. Claire Purser resigned after 2 years service. Thanks to both for their valued service. There are currently 10 Trustees – full details available from the office. Acorn Trustees, staff and volunteers would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

News from Elsewhere: DADS' 2012 PANTOMIME "TREASURE ISLAND"

Rehearsals are underway for the Dunsford Amateur Dramatic Society's (DADS) 2013 pantomime "Treasure Island" which will run in the Village Hall from Saturday 12th to Saturday 19th January. There will be matinee performances each Saturday at 2.30 pm and evening shows each day at 7.45pm, except Sunday.

"Treasure Island", written and directed by Ed Brook, is a traditional family pantomime version of Robert Louis Stevenson's famous tale. It features young Jim Hawkins (principal boy) who is given a map by Captain Billy Bones showing where Old Captain Flint's treasure is buried on an island in the Caribbean. Jim is pursued by a number of cut-throat pirates wanting to get their hands on the treasure. Lots of laughter and excitement on the way as Jim finally wins the day.

Tickets go on sale on 3rd December and will be available from Juliet Speed at the DADS's Box Office at East Butts (01647 252161), price £5 and £4 for evening performances and £4 for all matinee seats. Demand is again expected to be high so early booking is recommended.

For further information contact Bob Raggett

Telephone: 01647 252025

Email: Bob@raggett1.eclipse.co.uk

DADS is run by the local community for the local community. It has staged pantomimes almost every year since 1948. Ticket prices are kept low to cater for the widest possible audience. Profits are made available to local voluntary organisations and charities.

Letters to the Editor

A Pleasant Surprise

On Hallowe'en, our doorbell rang twice. The first time there were a number of small vampires, witches etc., who were very polite and grateful for the sweets I gave them.

The second was a group of rather larger witches etc., who were also polite and grateful, but offered me a bit of cake they had made. It had "blood-red" icing but was very tasty.

What a pleasant surprise.

John Tutton

Thank you!

I would like to say a huge thank you to Jean Martin, Janet Jeffery, Marie (from shop) and neighbours as well as our doctors, Julie and her superb staff at the surgery for their wonderful support shown to me over these past three months. Thank you all.

Jan T

Time to pass on by?

People living in rural areas are often willing "good Samaritans", ready to help those in difficulty such as stranded motorists, but a recent experience made me realise that we may all need to be a little more wary these days.

A couple of weeks ago, at about 10a.m. and shortly after driving across the Woodleigh Junction bridge heading for Tedburn, I was waved down by two gentlemen with what appeared to be a broken down car. The younger man came to the window and explained in broken English that they had run out of petrol and he had to get back to London as a matter of urgency. Pulling what appeared to be a large gold coloured ring from his finger he offered it to me in exchange for money to fill the car up so that they could continue on their way. I explained that I had no money on me, (in fact I had only about £5,

roughly the equivalent of a teaspoon of petrol at current prices), but offered him a lift to Fry's in the village. They must have come off of the A30 as they were clearly unaware that they were within walking distance of fuel, but anyway, it was no surprise when he refused my offer and impatiently waved me on, whilst scanning the road for another potential victim.

I informed the police but by then of course they were probably miles away. If this should happen to you the advice is: do not hand any money over, do not let them into your car, do try to make a note of the make and number of the vehicle ("it was big and a sort of greyish colour" is apparently not much use!).

Nearly everyone carries a mobile phone these days so they are able to get in touch with a garage or motoring organisation without your help. Don't get caught out by those who see people from outside the big cities as easy targets. Although your instinct may be to help, always be careful and be aware.

Mary Graham

Thanks for the annual 'Treasure'!

I feel I must write to say how grateful I am personally for all the years of Book Sales that Persis has run. They have provided me with such a wealth of useful reference books, beautiful 'coffee table' art books, non-fiction and novels I would never have found or thought of reading in any other circumstances. Each year, I have been treated to a treasure trove of new and exciting finds! And the fact that each year I have been able to recycle back to the Book Sale all those I have finished with has made it an even better experience— otherwise I would by now be completely buried under books of every genre!!!

Thank you Persis for all the hard work.

I'm delighted to hear that the Book Sale will not be stopping just yet because it has been taken on for March 2013 by Jane Chilvers.

Jan

Mitchell