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|----------------------------|---------|--|
| 13 Dec | (Tues) | 11.15am Said service of Morning Prayer in St Peter's Church 12.30pm Meadow Room Christmas Lunch at All Saints'. |
| 14 Dec | (Wed) | 7.00pm The Wednesday Bridge Club meets in GCVC 7.30pm Upper Clatford Parish Council meets in UC Memorial Hall |
| 15 Dec | (Thurs) | 7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice at St Mary's 7.45pm Benefice Choir Practice St Peter's |
| 16 Dec | (Fri) | 10.00am Goodworth Clatford WI Walking Group 10.00am Abbots Ann School Service at St Mary's. |
| 17 Dec | (Sat) | 9.30am St Mary's Church decoration for Christmas - page 5 7.30pm in St Mary's Church, Andover, Concert by The Harmonium Singers in aid of Andover Foodbank. |
| 18 Dec | (Sun) | <u>(The Fourth Sunday of Advent)</u> Full service details – page 2 8.00pm Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbots Ann |
| 19 Dec | (Mon) | 6.00pm Christmas in Clatford, at Goodworth Clatford Village Club. 6.30pm at Poplar Farm Inn, Carol Singing in Little Ann - page 5 |
| 20 Dec | (Tues) | 10.00am to 11.30am in St Peter's Room – Goodworth Clatford Community Coffee Morning. Final day for Christmas Markets at Winchester Cathedral. 11.15am Said service of Morning Prayer in St Peter's Church 7.30pm Goodworth Clatford WI meets in GCVC |
| 21 Dec | (Wed) | 6.30pm at The Eagle, Carol Singing in Abbots Ann - page 5 7.00pm The Wednesday Bridge Club meets in GCVC 7.30pm Upper Clatford WI meets in Upper Clatford Memorial Hall. |
| 22 Dec | (Thurs) | 7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice at St Mary's. 7.45pm Benefice Choir Practice St Peter's |
| 24 Dec | (Sat) | <u>Christmas Eve</u> – full service details – page 2 |
| 25 Dec | (Sun) | <u>Christmas Day</u> Full service details – page 2 |
| 27 Dec | (Tues) | 11.15am Said service of Morning Prayer in St Peter's Church |
| 29 Dec | (Thurs) | 7.30pm Abbots Ann WI meets in Abbots Ann War Memorial Hall. |
| <u>JANUARY 2017</u> | | |
| 1 Jan | (Sun) | <u>(The Second Sunday of Christmas)</u> full service details – page 2 8.00pm Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbots Ann |
| 2 Jan | (Mon) | Bank Holiday Monday NO Way Inn Lunch Final day for Ice Rink at Winchester Cathedral. |
| 3 Jan | (Tues) | 11.15am Said Service of Morning Prayer in St Peter's Church 7.00pm Goodworth Clatford Parish Council meets in GCVC |
| 4 Jan | (Wed) | 7.00pm The Wednesday Bridge Club (Partnership Meeting) in GCVC |
| 5 Jan | (Thurs) | 10.30am Goodworth Clatford WI Coffee Morning 7.00pm Abbots Ann Parish Council meets in AA Memorial Hall 7.00pm Hand Bell Ringing at 9 Catherine's Walk. 7.45pm Benefice Choir Practice St Peter's |
| 8 Jan | (Sun) | <u>(The First Sunday of Epiphany)</u> The Baptism of Christ 8.00pm Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbots Ann |
| 9 Jan | (Mon) | 12.30pm Way Inn Lunch at St Peter's |
| 10 Jan | (Tues) | 11.15am Said Service of Morning Prayer in St Peter's Church 12.30pm Meadow Room Lunch at All Saints'. |

St Mary's Church, Abbots Ann

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| <u>Priest-in-charge</u> | Revd. Katrina Dykes revdkatrina@gmail.com (Her day off is Friday) | 07922 153765 |
| <u>Ministry Team</u> | Revd. Nicky Judd clive@judd47.plus.com Tim Tayler tim.tayler@talk21.com Peter Eastwood peter@eastwood.me.uk | 729075 710201 353320 |
| <u>Churchwardens</u> | | |
| St Mary's | Gordon Howard 4 St Mary's Meadow, Abbots Ann gw_eo_howard@btinternet.com | 710830 |
| St Peter's | Jane Eastwood John Milne | 353320 361206 |
| All Saints' | Eleanor Jakeman Bill Mitford | 362502 357675 |

Details of church officers and activities can also be found on the village website - <http://www.abbottsann.com/amenitiesservices/church/>

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|--------|
| Choir Practice | Thursdays 7.45pm, St Peter's, Goodworth Clatford | |
| Bell Ringing practice | Thursdays 7.30-9.00pm, St Mary's, Abbots Ann Handbells 7.00pm 1st Thursday each month Tower Captain: Dudley Alleway | 710646 |

| | | |
|--|---|--------------|
| <u>Parochial Church Council</u> | | |
| Secretary | Mrs Jo Brookes 3 Slessor Close, Monxton Road | 07967 484581 |
| Treasurer | Jenny Gorski | 364196 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------|
| <u>Abbots Ann Magazine</u> | | |
| Editor | Andrea Jackson 5 Timothy's Field, Abbots Ann editor@abbottsanmagazine.co.uk | 710630 |
| Advertising Manager | Mark Stevens ads@abbottsanmagazine.co.uk | 710908 |

SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE IN DECEMBER 2016

Please note change of services and times at all churches.

Date: **St Mary's Duties:**

Sunday 27th November

08.00 Said Holy Communion
10.00 Sung Family Eucharist
16.00 Advent Evening Service

Advent

St Mary's (NJ) Miss W Casson
All Saints' (KD)
St Peter's (KD)

Sunday 4th December

08.00 Said Holy Communion
10.00 Sung Eucharist
16.00 Family Service Christingle
18.00 Evensong

Second Sunday of Advent

St Peter's (KD)
All Saints' (KD)
St Peter's (KD)
St Mary's (TT)

Sunday 11th December

08.00 Said Holy Communion
09.30 Sung Eucharist

Third Sunday of Advent

All Saints'
St Mary's (Rev Phil Dykes)
Mr/Mrs G Howard

11.15 Sung Matins
18.00 Christingle

St Peter's (TT)
St Mary's (KD)

Friday 16th December

10.00 School Service

St Mary's (KD)

Saturday 17th December

16.00 Carol Service

St Peter's (KD/PE)

Sunday 18th December

08.00 Said Holy Communion
10.00 Sung Eucharist
16.00 Carol Service
18.00 Carol Service

Fourth Sunday of Advent

St Mary's (KD) Mrs N Keene
St Peter's (NJ)
All Saints' (KD/PE)
St Mary's (KD/NJ) Mr/Mrs C Burson

Saturday 24th December

16.00 Crib Service
16.00 Crib Service
16.00 Crib and Christingle Service
23.30 Midnight Communion
23.30 Midnight Communion
23.30 Midnight Communion

Christmas Eve

St Peter's (Rev Phil Dykes)
St Mary's (David Read)
All Saints' (KD)
St Mary's (KD) Mr/Mrs G Howard
All Saints' (Rev Phil Dykes)
St Peter's (NJ)

Sunday 25th December

08.00 Said Holy Communion
10.00 Christmas Family Service
10.00 Christmas Family Service
10.00 Sung Eucharist

Christmas Day

St Peter's (KD)
St Mary's (TT) Ms K Bennett
St Peter's (KD/PE)
All Saints' (NJ)

Sunday 1st January 2017

11.00 Benefice Eucharist

New Year's Day

St Mary's (NJ?PE) Mr/Mrs G Howard

All Saints' Fundraising Committee invites you to:
AN EVENING OF CAROLS
WITH



Monday 12th December at 7.30pm

Village Hall, Upper Clatford

Tickets £5 (incl.seasonal refreshments) from:

Jane Kennedy (Tel:323804), Sylvia Kennedy (323226) Betty Armstrong,
Emily Fabricius, & Margaret Prior.

BENEFICE DIARY - DECEMBER 2016

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------|--|
| 1 Dec | (Thurs) | 10.30am Goodworth Clatford WI Coffee Morning 7.00pm Abbots Ann Parish Council meets in AA Memorial Hall. 7.00pm Hand Bell Ringing at 9 Catherine's Walk. 7.45pm Benefice Choir Practice St Peter's |
| 2 Dec | (Fri) | 7.30pm "Snow White" in Abbots Ann War Memorial Hall – page 6 7.30pm "Peter Pan – The Musical" at Upper Clatford Memorial Hall. |
| 3 Dec | (Sat) | 2.00pm and 7.30pm "Snow White" in Abbots Ann War Memorial Hall. Goodworth Clatford Village Club Quiz Night and Supper 7.30pm "Peter Pan – The Musical" at Upper Clatford Memorial Hall. |
| 4 Dec | (Sun) | (The Second Sunday of Advent) Full service details – page 2 2.00pm "Peter Pan – The Musical" at Upper Clatford Memorial Hall. 4.00pm "Snow White" in Abbots Ann War Memorial Hall - page 6 8.00pm Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbots Ann |
| 5 Dec | (Mon) | 12.30pm Way Inn Christmas Lunch at St. Peter's – page ... |
| 6 Dec | (Tues) | 11.15am Said service of Morning Prayer in St Peter's Church |
| 7 Dec | (Wed) | 7.00pm The Wednesday Bridge Club (Partnership Meeting) in GCVC |
| 8 Dec | (Thurs) | <u>12.00noon deadline for receipt of copy for the January 2017</u> <u>Abbots Ann Magazine – earlier this month.</u> 10.00am in Upper Clatford Memorial Hall, Upper Clatford WI Christmas Coffee Morning. 7.30pm Abbots Ann WI Christmas Party in AA War Memorial Hall p8 7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice at St Mary's. 7.45pm Benefice Choir Practice St Peter's |
| 9 Dec | (Fri) | 5.00pm-7.00pm Pizza Night - Abbots Ann Village Shop page 10 |
| 11 Dec | (Sun) | <u>(The Third Sunday of Advent)</u> Full service details – page 2 Including 6.00pm Christingle Service at St. Mary's. 8.00pm Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbots Ann |
| 12 Dec | (Mon) | 7.30pm Carols with Test Valley Brass, in Upper Clatford Memorial Hall. |

TOP SPANISH MOVIE AT ANDOVER FILM CLUB

Andover Film Club's next presentation at the ODEON will be on Monday December 12th, when the movie will be the 2016 Spanish production "Julieta" (cert 15).

"Julieta" is the twentieth feature from award-winning director Pedro Almodovar, and was nominated for the Palme d'Or, the top level award at this year's Cannes Film Festival. The story is based on three short stories from the 2004 book "Runaway" by Canadian author Alice Munro, and unfolds when a chance encounter causes a woman to confront the tragic circumstances surrounding the disappearance of her daughter. What follows is a stylish melodrama with an absorbing narrative set in two time periods. Almodovar's cinematography is at its best, with extreme attention to lighting, colour and camera angle.

The show will start at 8.00pm, and pre-booking is available at the Club's website, www.andoverfilmclub.org.

Graham Robinson



Homing Enquiries 0345 2601501 or
www.andovercats.org.uk
Fund-raising/volunteers 07733 242196 or
coord@andovercats.org.uk
Items for resale 01256-892773

This is always a quiet time of year for homing but the cats in our pens still need to be provided with food, litter, heating and veterinary care. Why not visit our website and find out how to sponsor a pen as a gift for a friend or buy one of our cats a Christmas dinner via eBay. You could also join our Facebook page and keep up with what we are doing from day to day.



Thank you for all the soft toys that have arrived. We shall be able to resume our fund raising tombolas in the New Year.

Olivia and her sister Jess are nine months old. They are a little timid but very friendly and would like to find a home together. Here is Olivia in her pen enjoying an early Christmas but she would prefer to be in a forever home.

Martin Bevan

ABBOTTS ANN POPPY COLLECTION 2016

This year's Poppy collection is expected to be in the region of £2,450

Dear Friends

I can remember being a little girl, and waiting to hear which part I would be given in the Sunday school nativity play – desperately hoping I would be Mary this year! When allocating parts years later for the crib service, I was taken aback at the sheer enthusiasm of the children to take part, and struggled to maintain some sense of order as children jumped up and down in excitement shouting out repeatedly, 'can I be a shepherd/angel/wise man/sheep'?

As a parent, I remember the mixture of nerves and delight in seeing my own children play their parts in nativity plays, having overcome the challenge of producing an appropriate costume of course!

These days the nursery and school nativity plays are among the highlights of the run up to Christmas for me. Enjoying the moments when children go a little off script and do something a little unexpected!

Not so long ago, I heard of someone attending a children's nativity play and commenting afterwards about how lovely it was and how wonderfully well the young children had done, but, wasn't it the same story as last year?

The Christmas story will be very familiar to many of us, but people are often surprised when it is pointed out that the Gospel accounts don't actually have a donkey, an innkeeper, a stable, oxen or sheep and no Kings!!

Although we listen to the readings read again and again, year after year, do we really hear the story?

The words have echoed around our churches for centuries, in word and song and it is truly wonderful to be a part of all that. But in the familiarity do we hear the wonder and radicalness of the message? Do we miss the message of risk and hope, of peace, joy and freedom, of love and life?

I hope you will join us this year for at least one of our Christmas services (details elsewhere in the magazine) – you will be most welcome! And as you hear the old, old story told again, may you, like the shepherds, be amazed and praise God for what he has done and like Mary, ponder these things deeply in your heart.

Happy Christmas!

Katrina

Anyone unable to carry out their duty and who cannot exchange with another sidesman please contact Kate Bennett or Wendy Casson on 712028. Please note that services are provisional as changes can sometimes be made at short notice. Please check the Sunday Link Sheet.

ST MARY'S CHURCH FLOWERS - AND HOLY DUSTING ROTA

We are so grateful to you all for giving up your time to the Church. Here is the rota. If the dates are inconvenient and you are unable to change with someone else, please ring Sylvia Burson (710852) for flowers and Jill Tayler (710201) for dusting.



Dates:

18 Nov - 1 Dec

2 Dec - 15 Dec

16 Dec - 29 Dec

30 Dec - 12 Jan

13 Jan - 26 Jan

27 Jan - 9 Feb

10 Feb - 23 Feb

Flowers:

Advent

Advent

Christmas

Sylvia Burson

Cathy Seabrook

Margaret Hind

Margaret Hind

Dusting:

Elizabeth Palmer

Polly Whyte

Jill Tayler

Margaret Brooks

Liz Tout

Sheila Robinson

Audrey Cresswell

MARGARET BUTT

I would like to thank all villagers who very kindly sent cards and letters in respect of Margaret's passing. The family very much appreciated your thoughts on this sad occasion. Having endured her illness for some ten years, we knew that the end was inevitable, however it is always a shock, but our happy memories are thriving.

Thank you again.

Mike Butt

From The Registers

Rest in Peace

The funeral of Eva Elizabeth 'Eve' Smallbones was held on Friday 11th November at All Saints' followed by cremation at Basingstoke Crematorium.

If you do not wish to have the information from the registers published, would you please contact Rev. Nicky Judd on 01264 729075.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

All articles printed in the Abbotts Ann Magazine are printed in good faith and are not necessarily the views of the Editor. All contributions must be accompanied by a full name and email address which may be withheld at the Editor's discretion. The Editor reserves the right to amend all contributions. Please support our advertisers; they support the magazine.

LIFE WITH THE TRIBE - OCTOBER 2016

October has been a glorious month in nature and I marvel at the colours of the countryside as I drive along Hampshire roads and lanes lined with ancient native hedgerows and trees. The start of the month sees the trees laden with mostly green leaves and as the days pass they gradually turn. The huge cherry tree in our garden begins to change colour; one day, as the Tribe are sitting in the kitchen, we notice that the tree has transformed into a giant citrus tree! Its leaves, still hanging from branches, have been transformed from dark green to an astonishing sunshine yellow and vibrant lime green. It is beautiful although within days, the leaves continue to change colour to a pale orange.

Are my eyes deceiving me or are the colours richer and more striking this year? Well, apparently not! Our bizarre weather this year - a wet spring together with days of hot, dry sunshine - has provided excellent conditions for an autumn colour extravaganza. According to the Woodland Trust, 75% of the UK's population, don't know why and how leaves change colour, so this is a brief science lesson (as discussed in detail with the Tribe!). The green colour of leaves is caused by chlorophyll in them. The chlorophyll uses sunshine to make energy (photosynthesis) that, combined with water and carbon dioxide, creates sugars in the leaf. The shortening of the days in the autumn leads to a reduction in light, resulting in the breakdown of chlorophyll in leaves. As this happens, the true colour of the leaf can be seen, typically yellow from the chemical, carotene; this colour is there all year just hidden by the green of the chlorophyll, hence leaves being green in the spring and summer. The sugars that are created by the breakdown of the chlorophyll are absorbed back into the tree as the tree prepares itself for the dormancy of winter. Red and purple pigments (anthocyanins) only appear when all the chlorophyll has broken down. Sometimes this doesn't happen before the leaves are dropped after high winds or harsh frosts. The most vibrant display therefore comes with dry, sunny and some cold weather - for this reason we have our fabulous display this year. Cloudy, rainy summers and early autumnal weather leads to much more muted colours. So the tree's colours are very much dependent on the weather; this year, October has seen very few high winds or frosts, so the leaves have stayed on the trees for longer. The last day of the month was ridiculously mild across the whole country. Lesson over! Science besides, it has been and still is spectacularly beautiful - driving all over the countryside has been made a little less tedious!

An update on the Giant Owl Butterfly. Having contacted the Butterfly Conservation organisation, they have confirmed that our find was indeed a Giant Owl Butterfly. I am still awaiting confirmation as to where it may have come from. As I'd surmised, it may have been a stowaway in fruit cargo, or it could be an 'escapee' from a private collection. Having sent dates, times and photographs I am now awaiting confirmation. We're all waiting in anticipation and I'll keep you updated.

Mother of the Tribe - www.lifewiththetribe.com

The 2017 All Saints Winter Lectures, Upper Clatford.

Monday 16th January 2017



James Landale
BBC Diplomatic Correspondent

Brexit: what happens now? A diplomatic correspondent's view.

Monday 30th January 2017



Matthew Dryden MD FRCPATH, FRCPs, FRGS

Antibiotic Armageddon and Plagues – The end of medicine as we know it?

Tickets and Venue

Price

The cost is £12.00 per person. Please make cheques in favour of "All Saints Church".

Tickets

Tickets can be bought at *Clatford Village Store & Post Office, The Abbotts Ann Village Store and The Crook and Shears*. You can also contact Nicki Crosthwaite Eyre (01264 35 25 30 or e-mail: Nicki.eyre@talktalk.net) and send her a stamped addressed envelope to The Old Malthouse, Upper Clatford, Andover, SP11 7QL, stating the number of tickets.

Time & Venue

Doors open at 7pm and the lectures start at 8pm at the King Edward VII Memorial Hall, Upper Clatford, SP11 7QL. Parking is available behind the hall.

Funds raised will be shared between All Saints PCC and a charity to be announced on the day.

CAROL SINGING ROUND THE VILLAGE

Everyone is welcome to sing carols around **Little Ann on Monday 19th December** and **Abbotts Ann on Wednesday 21st**. Song sheets will be provided but please bring lanterns or torches. We will meet at the Poplar Farm Inn on Monday and The Eagle on Wednesday starting at 6.30pm. Singing each evening will last for about two hours and there are refreshments afterwards. If you don't feel up to singing we need people to help with the collection in aid of church funds. For any more details contact Tim Tayler, Lane Cottage (tel: 710201).

Tim Tayler

ST MARY'S CHURCH DECORATION FOR CHRISTMAS

We will be decorating the Church for the Christmas Services on **Saturday 17th December** from 9.30am. Please find a few minutes to come along to help our small band of flower arrangers and enjoy a coffee and mince pie. Flowers and greenery would be most welcome.

If you wish to give a donation towards the purchase of the carnations, then please contact Sylvia Burson.

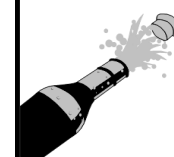
Sylvia Burson -710852

MORNING PRAYER

There is a said service of Morning Prayer at 11.15am every Tuesday in St Francis Chapel, which is the chapel on the right hand side in St Peter's Church. The service lasts about half an hour and is usually taken by Nicky Judd. All are very welcome to attend.

Peter Eastwood

100 CLUB WINNERS 2016



1st prize £30, 2nd prize £20, 3rd prize £10

NOVEMBER 2016 DRAW WINNERS

First Prize : Lady Johnson-Ferguson

Second Prize : Alex Shaw

Third Prize : J Dixon

Lisa Hillier

An amateur production by the Abbotts Ann Players

Snow White

DECEMBER 2016

Friday 2nd, 7.30pm

Saturday 3rd
2.00pm & 7.30 pm

Sunday 4th, 4.00pm

Tickets available from
Abbotts Ann Village Shop

£6 Adults
£4 Concession
£16 Family

Directed by Andrew Hayter
Produced by Lisa Hillier
Written by Alexandra Slater

Abbotts Ann
War Memorial Hall

Abbotts Ann Primary School Christmas Bazaar 2016

November 26th, at 1pm

*Fantastic Seasonal Crafts, Local produce, Games,
Raffle, Refreshments
And
flying in for one afternoon only
Father Christmas*

Craft stalls still available, £10
a table.

BOOK NOW.....
(new layout with extra Stalls added for 2016)

Contact: Rachel 07505807540,
email: Rachel.ewatkins@btinternet.com
School Office: 01264 710244



many of whom had been at the 'Fun Club'.
Further concerts may be planned...

The entertaining continued, and it transpired that my father was as good a cook as my mother (he had a long apprenticeship!) Many of the tributes paid by friends and relatives testify to his fabulously crafted dinner parties, served up with fine wine and fascinating conversation, as Andrew was very widely read and an insightful historian. Although, following Jill's death, Andrew attempted to fill the emptiness by giving his heart and soul to the Church and the community, he also found plenty of time to read. His preference was for biographies mostly, and he also joined a book club. The library he leaves is testimony to a very lively and inquisitive mind. He also loved classical music and regularly took himself off to concerts in London and Basingstoke.

But cancer struck. Andrew typically refused all treatment other than pain killers as he saw no reason to prolong his life. He had achieved everything he could have wanted to achieve, and continued to miss his beloved wife, whom he knew he would rejoin soon. He did not want to go into a home and battled to remain independent until the very end. For the last few days when he was in the Countess of Brecknock Hospice, we would join Andrew for an early evening glass of wine and a chat. He was at peace, not in pain, and on his last night appeared very comfortable, he even gave us all a most cherished smile as we bid him goodnight. Within four hours he had died – a death as dignified, quietly courageous and as exemplary as his life. He had spent a lifetime studying how to live a Christian life, and in his own modest way teaching it by example. Nowhere has his example received a more heartfelt and clear acknowledgement as in his most cherished community of Abbots Ann. I know because so many of you have told me so.

Charles Liddell. 11.11.16

THERMAL IMAGING
Do you have high heating bills
Are you wasting energy?

AAGA will arrange a thermal imaging survey of your house at the cost of £10 to help you find where you are losing heat without realising it, and where you could save energy.

Contact: Ann Hopwood tel: 710090
Email: jann.hopwood@gmail.com

HOMES IN ABBOTTS ANN FOR ABBOTTS ANN PEOPLE

In April this year a Housing Needs Survey was delivered to every home in the village. More than one in three of us completed it and returned it – a good result for this kind of survey. Many thanks to those who completed it.

When Action Hampshire analysed the returns, they found that eight out of ten of those who responded said they would like to see a small housing development in Abbots Ann. Some are in favour of building affordable homes for people who belong to the village but can't afford open market prices. Others support a mixed scheme of affordable homes and small dwellings for people who want to down-size because they are living in homes which have become too large for them.

Now the Abbots Ann Housing Project Team would like to bring you our ideas for how such a development should be progressed for the benefit both of those needing housing and of the village as a whole

Our Parish Council supports it. Now it's time to tell you all about it and hear your views at a

Public Meeting

at

Abbots Ann School

on

Thursday 19th January from 7.00 pm
Presentation at 7.30 pm followed by
question and answer session

More information from:

Beth Deacon 711041

Ray Lucas 710037

John Patience 710001

David Read 710090

ABBOTTS ANN WI - OCTOBER 2016

It was like time had slipped at this month's meeting; the Calendar showed October, indeed the autumn colours have been stunning this year, thoughts are reluctantly beginning to turn to Christmas and there was our speaker talking about Easter Eggs - but not the chocolate variety.

Our speaker this month, Mark Wilson has a passion for all things Fabergé which was sparked whilst on a cruise to the Baltic. Previously, whilst serving in the Army he studied in his spare time to be a silver-smith. Indeed he was so successful he now has his own hallmark registered at Goldsmiths' Hall.

Mark has been fortunate to be up-close-and-personal with these stunning items of incredible craftsmanship, both at the Hermitage in Russia and Buckingham Palace - HM the Queen owns some 700 pieces - but we had to make-do with slides. Peter Carl Fabergé took on the family business in St Petersburg when he was just 24; his apprenticeship had been served by travelling all over Europe learning the trade. Of course, the name Fabergé is most closely associated with the Easter Eggs commissioned by the Russian Royal Family. Each egg contained a surprise. The first one comprised of a ring, within a Crown, within a chicken, within the egg. In all 50 eggs were created and the last egg produced in 1917 was different from the previous 49, as it was made of steel rather than precious metal and stones.

Unfortunately, the Russian Revolution meant that the business had to close in 1917 and Fabergé himself fled to Switzerland, but he left his business to his 600 workers who all took a share in unsold merchandise, with the exception of one employee who took his share in machinery and set up his own business in his homeland of Germany.

Earlier in the evening our president, Kate Bennett, announced we had been awarded fete funds towards our Centenary events next year. There are already dates on the calendar for 2017.

Several of us had travelled to The Anvil in Basingstoke for Hampshire Federation's Autumn Meeting, where we were treated to Wendy Cope's poetry in the morning and The Jersey Boys in the afternoon. The audience was encouraged to get up and dance, but only one of our members joined in!

Likewise the Anton Danebury Group held its autumn meeting at Weyhill and again some of our members attended an excellent enjoyable afternoon.

As usual December's meeting will be earlier in the month; please mark the 8th on your calendars. Members will each bring a plate of festive food as a contribution towards the buffet supper and we also have Nick Crump and his Amazing Instruments as entertainment.

Sharon King

for sale. So the borrowing of children continued, and many of you will have heard the tributes paid at his funeral by his grandson Marcus, to the inventive games, and other entertainments my father dreamt up to amuse him and his sisters.

Wandsworth's loss was Abbotts Ann's gain as both Jill and Andrew quickly threw themselves into the Church community. Andrew served as Church Treasurer for 5 years, and Jill became a Church Warden. They also ran a bible study group and helped with the development of the village shop. Children were never far from their hearts and they were founder members of the St Mary's Fun Club at Abbotts Ann School. Andrew wrote a total of 6 plays for the club to perform. These plays are still available to Churches, clubs and drama groups to perform via the Religious Drama Society of Great Britain. My mother used her sewing skills to run up wonderful costumes for the plays. The Fun Club continues to this day.

Fun and adventure were never far away when my father was around. In fact, it was a trait inherited from his mother! Andrew was born in East Sussex but spent his childhood in Devon. He described his mother as 'the queen of fun' who used to challenge her four sons and one daughter to mad and sometimes dangerous pursuits. Their nanny once found them standing under a muddy shower of water from an overflowing gutter, having been put up to it by their mother. Needless to say, with no washing machines in those days, Nanny came near to resigning! (In fact she continued to live with my granny until she died in the 1980's.) As a west country boy Andrew also had a great love of the countryside, and his extensive knowledge of wild flowers and birds made him a very interesting companion on a country walk. Horses were never far from his childhood life (after all, cars were not so common in those days.) His father had a general rule that a child had to fall off a horse seven times in order to become a competent rider. This did not stand my father in very good stead in later years when he bought a moped to get through the London traffic, and he soon gave up on it after falling off just once. The only time he watched television was on Saturday afternoons when the horse racing was on, and Grand National was always celebrated with a family sweepstake (we won, he paid - which made him the ultimate Christian bookie!)

But fun did not just mean 'derring-do'. Jill and Andrew were also famously good hosts. My mother was an excellent cook, and a witty conversationalist with a mischievous streak. My father, generous with the wine, and a little more measured in his conversation!

But In 2009 tragedy struck. As my father lay in hospital recovering from a brain haemorrhage, my mother caught Norovirus and died at home from pneumonia. Andrew was utterly devastated but survived, and rebuilt his life with great dignity and courage, despite being plagued by ill health. He raised significant funds for St Mary's Church, putting on classical concerts and becoming a music promoter for the talented young musicians of Abbotts Ann,



ANDREW LIDDELL 10.10.26 to 22.09.16.

"Though shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these." Mark 12.31

My father, Andrew Liddell who died just 3 weeks short of his 90th birthday, was described by Tim Taylor at his funeral as 'an extraordinary example of how to lead a Christian life in the service of others.' He was renowned throughout Abbots Ann for his unfailing generosity, kindness, warmth and wisdom. All the letters and cards of condolence we received made this abundantly clear. He was also described as the 'treasure of Abbots Ann' and in September 2015 he was awarded the Hibbert Cup for outstanding, voluntary, unpaid contributions to the community. His name was put forward again this year but he suggested instead that he should endow a new cup, the Liddell Cup, for outstanding contributions to a single and significant project that benefits the community. It was both a modest and a very generous gesture.

He did not just confine his attentions to his village, as he was also unfailingly generous to his family. When my cousin Emma's husband was suffering from cancer while still a young man, my mother and father tirelessly helped look after her children, taking them on outings to Whipsnade or the London Dungeon and so giving Emma some precious time with her dying Charlie. He helped my cousin, Susan, whose husband, Anthony succumbed to dementia, contributing to the cost of his nursing home. He also gave extensively to various charities throughout his life.

He was fortunate because as a banker he had built up a good pension. Some of you will have read his articles about our family life, traipsing through Africa, France, Switzerland, Hong Kong and Japan with our intrepid and adventurous parents. But while many might have settled for a comfortable and well deserved retirement, my father took a different view. He once wrote 'During one's working life, young children, schools, mortgages and such like make it difficult to do other things, but as one retires it becomes 'pay-back' time; time to give service to the community as a whole...' So he started working as a prison visitor in Wandsworth prison, for an AIDs charity and then as treasurer for Wandsworth Mind for 5 years. He and my mother raised funds for St Mary's Church, Wandsworth, which was also much embellished by the local Church sewing group which my mother started.

In 1996 Vicky and I and our children left London for the good life in Hampshire. We had been living close to my parents in Wandsworth which allowed them to borrow our children at the weekends. They missed us and soon decided to follow, and it was with great luck that we found April Cottage



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*One Poll Research from the Care Choice Gap Report 2014

Andover Film Club

for moving pictures

Do you enjoy great films and live near Andover? On the 2nd Monday of the month, and in the comfort of the local ODEON cinema, we bring films to the town that wouldn't normally come here. From independent titles to world cinema we show films that deserve to be seen on the big screen.

Recently we've shown *Taxi Tehran*, *Carol*, *Gemma Boverly*, *Au revoir les enfants* and *Love & Friendship*

Non-members welcome. Admission £6.50

www.andoverfilmclub.org email: info@andoverfilmclub.org

Available now: **PICTURE MAD**, our book on the history of Andover's cinemas. Available to buy at Andover Museum or amazon.co.uk. The Savoy, the Rex, the Odeon and much, much more. 160 pages, £7.50





ABBOTTS ANN VILLAGE SHOP & POST OFFICE

Shop Manager: Tim Abram
Deputy Shop Manager: Carol Murphy
Sub Post Mistress: Maureen Flood

December Pizza Night

Friday 9th December - 1700 to 1900

Varieties:- Christmas special
Pepperoni
Vegetarian
Abbots Ann.

All at £12.95, made to order at the time convenient to you.

Note the seasonal topping!

Books

The book shelf is back, with paperbacks at only 50p each and hard backs at £1. Check the shelf for your Christmas reading.

Soup

We have a new range of soups in the chiller, including Smoky Tomato and Spicy Carrot.

Beers

We now stock a wide range of beers, some of them are local. The labels look interesting and I am sure the contents will live up to the label.

Wines and Spirits

Check out your village shop for all your festive drinks. We have a good selection of wines, spirits, champagne and mulled wine too.
p.s. For the non-drinkers, Shloer is back!

Chocolates/Turkish Delight

For those among you with a sweet tooth Abbots Ann Labelled chocolates (English or Belgian) are an ideal gift. We also stock a variety of Summerdown Mints (made in Basingstoke). If you are looking for something different for that special gift then try our range of Turkish Delight. We have three flavours available – Fig & Walnut (£2.79), Pistachio (£3.99), Rose & Lemon (£2.89).

Biscuits

If you need more ideas for gifts, we have large boxes of Border Biscuits, different tins of biscuits (the Westies tin is really cute) and, by popular demand, Grandma Wild biscuits are back on the shelves.

It was noted that several trees had recently been cut down around the Church Road area, not least the large chestnut tree on Church Path. Permission to fell had been applied for, but some people were shocked that it was hewn down before the end of the normal period of public consultation.

The tree warden confirmed it was diseased and that the Borough Council tree officer had considered it to be in imminent danger of collapse. For the sake of public safety, it had to be felled immediately. The owner, who was present at the meeting, explained that if landowners did not react to such a report, their insurance would be invalid. Several tree surgeons had been asked for their opinion and all had agreed the chestnut was unsafe. It could not be razed to the ground as it had barbed wire growing through it, but it was hoped that the trunk might produce a canopy in due course.

The Council will be looking at all the trees in the parish to consider if any Preservation Orders need removing or applying. It is not necessary for trees in a conservation area to have a TPO, but it has apparently become convention in Test Valley. Councillors were anxious to manage changes to the landscape caused by unavoidable losses – perhaps by replacing with new stock.

Wood is a traditional rural material. One councillor had noticed some new, white Parish Council notice boards, of unknown substance, in Stockbridge and wondered, rather tentatively, if Abbots Ann should have something similar. Ours are made by Harry Stebbings, from natural, oiled oak. Some previous councillors used to clean them voluntarily, but now algae on the Perspex windows renders the contents indecipherable, particularly at the War Memorial Hall. Maybe preserving the craft heritage by renovation would be more appropriate than replacement.

One downside of trees is the amount of foliage they shed. The church warden had written to ask if the Council was planning an ‘autumn clean-up’ of the burial ground and churchyard before Remembrance Sunday. Councillors said they could not help: maintenance work was being put to tender and contracts were not yet arranged. In previous years, people have volunteered for this task, usually members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). Sometimes, the youngest volunteer has been over seventy! Despite the disappointing response from parish councillors, the church warden subsequently managed to attract volunteers from the village. A couple of hours sweeping leaves seems a small sacrifice to honour the sacrifice made by village volunteers of a century ago...

To return to the dissatisfied little fir tree: he had his moment of glory, admired and decorated for Christmas Day. And then he was chopped up by the children who had fêted him, and thrown on the bonfire. His story – ‘history’ – forgotten.

Why not plant a tree to preserve a record of *your* history in the village – and to replenish the landscape! Happy Christmas!

Rosemary Groves

VIEW FROM THE REAR STALLS

'I think that I shall never see a poem lovely as a tree...' wrote the American poet, Joyce Kilmer, and so warbled Perry Como, Mario Lanza, and the incomparable Paul Robeson.

Hans Christian Andersen recounted the cautionary tale of a little fir tree, who wanted to grow up and be somewhere more exciting than the forest. Kipling opined 'Of all the trees that grow so fair, Old England to adorn, greater are none beneath the Sun, than Oak, and Ash and Thorn'.

This county is blessed with a verdant grandeur of trees, even after much of the mediaeval forest was cut down for 'heart of oak' ships. Trees are the living record of our history: the Royal Oak of Boscobel Wood, supposedly descended from an acorn of the tree in which the future King Charles II hid after the Battle of Worcester in 1651; the Major Oak in Nottinghamshire, which legend says sheltered Robin Hood and his Merry Men; the Birnam Oak immortalised by Shakespeare, with its Sycamore companion; the Ankerwycke Yew in Wraysbury, where a love-lorn Henry VIII trysted with Anne Boleyn; the Defynnog Yew near Sennybridge in Powys, possibly 5,000 years old (although Perthshire's Fortingall Yew might challenge the title of oldest tree in Britain); even the timbers in our cottage are said to have been growing when William the Conqueror landed!

Trees are a link to our roots as well as being an adornment to our present surroundings – and a stunning adornment, too, this autumn. Their longevity means that the full-grown specimens have been there as long as most of us can remember. When one of these seemingly permanent parts of our life suddenly disappears, emotions can run high. It seems that something valuable and antique has been destroyed for the sake of passing modern fancy.

The Parish Council spent time considering trees at its meeting in November, where an application to fell a beech and a sycamore aroused contention. Earlier applications to fell the beech had been opposed by previous councils: this time, the tree warden felt its time was probably nigh. Although not yet dead, it was certainly dying. Moreover, its felling might encourage the growth of nearby trees as well as new growth from its own root stock.

The sycamore was a different issue, as it appeared to be in good condition. It was also a significant feature on the landscape (albeit perhaps not quite as historic as the Birnam Sycamore!) However, there was no doubt it was causing distress to some residents, as was clear from a statement read out on their behalf. The chief complaint was its excessive shading and interference with gardening activities. The fact that it was in robust health was seen as no reason for keeping it – weeds were not protected just because they were healthy! Some councillors expressed personal sympathy with the problems caused by overhanging trees. So, the venerable sycamore was duly condemned. No doubt the tulips will be delighted.

Some councillors were less happy about the loss of the village's visual amenity.

Christmas Cards

We have Abbots Ann cards at £2.00 for 6 and Isabel Brent cards at £1.99 each.

Christmas Puddings

The ever popular 'Ultimate' Christmas Puddings have arrived – 1lb at £4.99 and 2lb at £8.99.

ORDERS

Orders for Christmas are now being taken. Place your order by 17th December for collection on 23rd December. Orders can include most foods – Turkeys, chickens, beef, pork, bacon, sausages,, all your fruit and vegetables, bread, milk, cream and so on.

SUPPORT YOUR VILLAGE SHOP THIS CHRISTMAS

Opening Hours:-

| | |
|---|--|
| Friday 23 rd December | 0830 to 1900 |
| Saturday 24 th December | 0800 to 1230 |
| Christmas Day | CLOSED |
| Monday 26 th December (Boxing Day) | 0900 to 1200 (please order any croissants needed) |
| Tuesday 27 th December (Bank Holiday) | 0900 to 1200 (please order any croissants needed) |
| Wednesday 28 th December | 0830 to 1730 |
| Thursday 29 th December | 0830 to 1730. |
| Friday 30 th December | 0830 to 1730 (please note - no late opening) |
| Saturday 31 st December | 0830 to 1230 |
| Sunday 1 st January | CLOSED |
| Monday 2 nd January (New Year Holiday) | 0900 to 1200 (please order any croissants needed) |
| Tuesday 3 rd January | normal opening hours - 0830 to 1730. |

GET INTO THE HABIT – SHOP LOCAL

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year from your committee to our dedicated staff and volunteers, but especially to all our customers without whose continued support there could not be an
Abbots Ann Village Shop & Post Office.

Elizabeth Howard
Shop Volunteer & Committee Member

p.s. Are you new to the village, or an existing resident finding time on your hands, if so why not become a shop volunteer? It is a wonderful way of getting to know people – Join in with your community.

ABBOTTS ANN POST OFFICE

Royal Mail 1st Class

Send a parcel up to 1kg for just £3.35 (max. size 45cm x 35cm x 16cm)
Aims to be delivered next working day, including Saturdays

Royal Mail 2nd Class

Send a parcel up to 2kg for just £2.85 (max. size 45cm x 35cm x 16cm)
Aims to be delivered in 2-3 working days, including Saturdays

Whether it's a letter or parcel, you can be confident that your item is in safe hands. You can request a certificate of posting (proof of postage). Every 1st Class and 2nd Class item is covered against loss or damage up to £20 compensation or the value of the item, whichever is lower.

Received an item that doesn't fit the bill?

26% of us return items bought online (Source: Royal Mail Delivery Matters 2015).

We know that this process can be time consuming so we're always trying to improve your experience in-store to help you return parcels easily.

Returns postage is often free but if you do need to pay, prices start at £2.85.

Latest UK Recommended Posting Date

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Tuesday 20th Dec | - 2nd Class and 2nd Class Signed For |
| Wednesday 21st Dec | - 1st Class and 1st Class Signed For |
| Thursday 22nd Dec | - Special Delivery Guaranteed |

Happy Christmas and New Year to all our customers

The Post Office team: Gail, Hazel, John and Maureen

ANYBODY SEEN NOEL (WILDERS-PRATT)?

Numerous parishioners have approached me enquiring of the whereabouts of Shop Volunteer Noel. He was a longstanding friend of mine (neighbours in Goodworth Clatford) and we were volunteer colleagues in our Village Shop for many years. I shared the news of his joining the Shop team in the September 2008 Parish Magazine Shop/PO report. I recall writing 'He's no milquetoast'.

Wednesday morning became his domain. Invariably he arrived well before 0830, spic and span, collar and tie, ready to dispense customer service and repartee. He was a truly popular volunteer and always willing to contribute his musical skills with the keyboard at Shop events.

Noel and his wife Annita left the village in late September. I'm sure customers will wish him well in his new life in a nearby cathedral city. He made a significant contribution to our community so let's celebrate it!

Geoff Dinkele

St Mary's Fun Club Christmas Toy Appeal



In St Mary's Fun Club we are supporting Test Valley Christmas Toy Appeal this term. You will see our posters up at school and around the Village.

The Toy Appeal is to collect **new toys** for less fortunate children than ourselves in the Andover area who do not usually get toys at Christmas.

We are collecting the toys at school and at Abbots Ann Village Shop where you will find boxes to put **UNWRAPPED toys** in.

If when you are at the shops you would buy just one extra little toy for a child of any age from baby through to teenager that will help us make other children have a happy Christmas. Once you have the toy please take it unwrapped and put it in our box in the Village Shop or the School office **by Friday 9th December**.

Or bring unwrapped toys to the **Christingle Service at St Mary's Church Abbots Ann on Sunday, 11th December at 6:00pm**.

A big thank you for your support.
St Mary's Fun Club

