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All times and events were correct at time of printing but can be subject to change.

Please send contributions for the next issue of Crossroads by the
11th January 2012

Email Address: stmparishoffice@btconnect.com

Views and opinions expressed or contained in articles in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Church, the ministry team of St Michael's or the editorial team.

Advertisements

Whilst every advertisement is published in good faith neither St Michael and All Angels Church nor those acting on its behalf can accept any responsibility for any goods facilities or services herein advertised.

ST. MICHAEL'S DIARY

December

Thurs 1 st	2.15pm	Church Centre Management Committee meeting
Sat 3 rd	2-4.00pm	Church Open
Sun 4 th	8.00am	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Family Eucharist
	2-4.00pm	Church Open
Mon 5 th	7.30pm	Wessex Singers rehearsal in Church
Wed 7 th	10.30am	Holy Communion
	11.30-1.30pm	Centre Rendezvous
Thurs 8 th	2.30pm	MU Christmas Party
	7.30pm	Organ Committee meeting
Fri 9 th	4.30pm	Wardens meeting
Sat 10 th	10-11.30am	Wessex Singers rehearsal in Church
Sun 11 th	8.00am	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Parish Eucharist
	4.00pm	Christingle Service
Mon 12 th	7.30pm	Wessex Singers rehearsal in Church
Wed 14 th	10.30am	Holy Communion
	12.00pm	Centre Rendezvous Christmas Lunch
Thurs 15 th	7.30pm	Wessex Singers rehearsal in Church
Sat 17 th	10.15-12.15pm	Wessex Singers rehearsal in Church
Sun 18 th	8.00am	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Parish Eucharist
	6.00pm	Nine Lessons and Carols
Mon 19 th	7.30pm	Wessex Singers rehearsal in Church
Wed 21 st	10.30am	Holy Communion
	11.30-1.30pm	Centre Rendezvous
	7.30pm	Wessex Singers Christmas Carols

Christmas Eve

Sat 24 th	6.00pm	Blessing of the Crib
	11.30pm	Midnight Eucharist

Christmas Day

Sun 25 th	8.00am	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Family Eucharist



Wed 28 th	No Holy Communion No Centre Rendezvous	
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January

Sun 1st 8.00am No Holy Communion
9.30am Holy Communion (said with prayers)
Mon 2nd 7.30pm Wessex Singers rehearsal in Church
Wed 4th 10.30am Holy Communion
11.30-1.30pm Centre Rendezvous

Epiphany Sunday

Sun 8th 8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Eucharist
Mon 9th 7.30pm Wessex Singers rehearsal in Church
Wed 11th 10.30am Holy Communion
11.30-1.30pm Centre Rendezvous
2.15pm Fundraising Committee meeting
Thurs 12th 2.30pm MU -Sheila Soper - her visit to Sudan
Fri 13th 9.00am Sunday School Teachers meeting



Sun 15th 8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Eucharist:- Bishop Graham celebrating
Mon 16th 7.30pm Wessex Singers rehearsal in Church
Wed 18th 10.30am Holy Communion
11.30-1.30pm Centre Rendezvous
Fri 20th 2.15pm Church Wardens meeting
Sun 22nd 8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Eucharist
7.30pm Sundays at 7.30 Recital
Mon 23rd 7.30pm Wessex Singers rehearsal in Church
Wed 25th 10.30am Holy Communion
11.30-1.30pm Centre Rendezvous
Sun 29th 8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Eucharist
Mon 30th 7.30pm Wessex Singers rehearsal in Church
Tues 31st 8.00pm P.C.C.

Colehill Methodist Church

DECEMBER 2011

Friday 2nd	6.00pm	Short Reflective Service – at Wimborne - all welcome
Sunday 4th	10.45am	Morning worship with Mrs Heather Morgan
Wednesday 7th	2.30pm	Tea Pot Club
Sunday 11th	10.45am	Morning worship with Mr Mark Priestley
Saturday 17th	10.30am - 11.30am	Coffee, Mince Pies and Chat in the hall Everyone is welcome to drop in
Sunday 18th	10.30am	At Broomhill – Joint Service of Holy Communion with Rev. Gwyneth Owen
	4.30pm	Christmas Family Tea followed by our own service of Carols and Readings
Saturday 24th CHRISTMAS EVE	11.15pm	CANDLELIT COMMUNION SERVICE – led by Rev. Gwyneth Owen Everyone very welcome.
CHRISTMAS DAY Sunday 25th	9.30am	United service at Wimborne URC with Rev. Gwyneth Owen



A Happy and Peaceful New Year to Everyone

JANUARY 2012

Sunday 1st	10.30am	United Morning Worship at Wimborne With Rev Gwyneth Owen
Wednesday 4th	2.30pm	Tea Pot Club
Friday 2nd	6.00pm	Short Reflective Service – at Wimborne
Sunday 8th	10.45am	Morning Worship with Rev David Laidler
Sunday 15th	10.45am	Morning Worship with Mr Colin Besant
Sunday 22nd	10.45am	Morning Worship with Mr Alan Colling
Sunday 29th	10.30am	Joint Covenant Service at Corfe Mullen With Rev Gwyneth Owen



letter from the Editors



Dear Readers,

Another year has passed and we are left wondering where the time has gone.

Thank you very much for the articles we have been able to include. These are always welcome. Let us know if there are any subjects that you would like us to cover.

We hope you like the inclusion of more colour and the new style magazine. Several new societies and groups have joined us to spread news of the work and activities they provide in the community.

May we wish you all a very peaceful and happy Christmas and good health in 2012.

Barbara, Jackie, Hilary M and Hilary G



NEW NEIGHBOURS?

**Don't keep a good thing to
yourself!**

**Why not put a copy of Crossroads
through their letterbox ?**



Co.MaD
presents its annual panto

Aladdin

Written and directed by Pam Mizon

Fri Feb 3rd 7.30pm Sat 4th 2.30pm & 7.30pm Sun 5th 2.30pm

Tickets Adults £7 Concessions£5 from Hilary Motson on 01202 886303
Proceeds in aid of the Reef

THE CHURCH FUNDRAISING REPORT

Philip Horobin

Last Monday, I arrived at our Church to check on the poppy tins to find that work had at long last begun on the main door which was covered in a sort of bandage and closed to through traffic. In normal circumstances this would have been a good thing; we have, after all, been waiting for someone to deal with the blistering problem thereon for some years now. But the decision by Mouldings firstly to agree to undertake the task, and then begin work at this particular time, caused considerable angst to your correspondent, one of whose annual tasks is the management of the Remembrance Day Parade, due to take place six days later. Presumably due to the recent and current conflicts, attendance at this event has increased steadily over the past few years and the prospect of trying to funnel hundreds of people in and out of the Church through the clergy dressing room was not one that immediately appealed. Bearing in mind the past problems we've had with our door, John's reassurance that the work would be completed in time for the following Sunday didn't entirely set my mind at rest and, sure enough, when the second application of the stripper was applied, a brown stain showed through which is believed to be bitumen. This is a substance not normally used in the treatment of wood but, and here is a suggestion by Frank Howell, who was, after all, here at the time, paint was in such short supply during the war that bitumen might well have been slapped on by some well-intentioned amateur restorer unaware of the problems he was building up for a later generation. This news initially sent Stuart into a spiral of dark despair which research on the internet did very little to assuage. But, when Stuart spoke to the Mouldings painter later in the week, his view was much more sanguine and, as if to confirm this opinion, when the door had been further treated by white spirit and then meths (which, hitherto, I have always considered to be the same thing, but I now know to be completely different: knowledge that has resulted in the removal of the latter from the cocktail cabinet to the garden shed), the first coat of stain went on, and then dried, without any problem. For a few halcyon days it seemed that the long-standing problem was behind us and that, of more relevance to me, all would be well for Remembrance Day. Then the second coat was applied and, with two days to go, decided to ignore all its instructions on the tin and stay wet. As a result, when I checked the day before the Parade, the "No entry" signs were in place and the world was a darker place. But, when I arrived at the early morning service on Remembrance Day, with no clear idea of how I was going to ensure that the main entrance would be in use, it was to find that Stuart had, as usual, pre-empted everything by rising at, or before, the crack of dawn and covering both doors with cling film, thereby ensuring that passage through the main entrance was risk free.

As a result, all three services took place without any clothing disasters and the hundreds of people moving from the Remembrance Service back into the Church were spared the sight of the clergy in their underwear. The numbers of people at the Memorial were greater than ever this year, over five hundred, and I was printing service sheets until the very last moment. The money donated, in the tins, on the plate at the stone and at the service afterwards amounted to £354.08, only a few pounds less than the record amount raised last year. With such large attendances at this important annual event, we will have to think seriously about obtaining a Public Address system for next year and beyond.



Returning momentarily to the door, the general opinion seems to be that the reason for the delay in it drying is mostly due to the very soggy weather conditions that currently prevail and that patience is required for this, and future coatings, to eventually do their job. It is hoped that progressive stain applications will eventually darken the wood to more closely match that of the rest of the Church. The cost will be roughly the £1200 that has already been set aside for this purpose.

The beam that Stuart bought, at a knockdown price, to further support the altar is currently languishing in the organ loft while it gradually dehydrates to a level of 20%, thereby matching the rest of the church woodwork. Stuart periodically stabs it with the magic device and the latest reading of 27% means that it still has time to serve before its installation. The Whitechapel Bell Company are united in their praise of our eight tubular bells that intermittently make their rather asthmatic contribution to disturbing the peace of Colehill.

They do, however, need maintenance work to the belfry, including the striking mechanism, and a new frame is required nearer the pulling end. The cost for this will be around £9000 but this project will remain in abeyance until after the organ problem has been dealt with. And that leads me neatly onto the latest news regarding the organ resuscitation. The current state of play is that we have a definite quote from one local Firm of specialists which is not considered entirely beyond our means, with, hopefully, help from other sources such as the Edward Mouton and Talbot Trusts. We recently received a quote from Willis organs, who bought out the firm of Conacher, makers of our organ, which is well beyond our means, even with help from above, and of a size that suggests they are not especially keen to undertake the task. Not only that, but they have charged us £300 for the privilege of having them grace our organ with their presence: a bill that I would personally overlook until further notice and beyond. A third specialist, Stephen Cook, from Westbury, appeared two weeks ago and made a very thorough inspection of all the bits that remain and was most encouraging. He appeared, wrapped in cobwebs, at the Centre Rendezvous at lunch-time and, clutching a baked potato, returned to his lonely vigil in the sanctuary, where Daphne had thoughtfully provided him with the offertory table. We have yet to receive his quote. Andrew Fearn, an organ builder from the West Country has also been invited to come along and see what he thinks but, as yet, we have had no reply.

But enough of expenditure, what of income? We have three sources of income: our donations, our fund-raising activities and the Church Centre. With an annual levy to Salisbury of over £50,000, and running costs of about £20,000, it always astonishes me that a congregation of some 150 gets anywhere near raising this total. But, year after year, we do. But, of late, each year has seen us miss the target by slightly more and only the annual transfer of £3000 from the Centre has kept our collective heads above water. This year, however, we are currently heading towards a deficit of around £4,500. Under normal circumstances, the Church Centre income exceeds its running costs by well over this amount and so funding this anticipated Church shortfall would not be a problem. However, this year there have been three major projects in the Centre that have been paid for, not out of capital, but out of income: the installation of a corner security cabinet, the laying of extra paving slabs and the roof cleaning and wood treatment. These total almost £4,000, so that, just at a time of need for an increased subsidy for the Church, the anticipated annual profit of the Centre is down to a record low of £2,292. So, to see the Church begin the next financial year in a state of solvency, it will be necessary to use up some of our capital, or increase our giving. Not that there is any particular problem with the former: the Centre has a healthy bank balance and the Church has put aside sums of money for projects, the Quinquennial Review and the organ repair to name but two, that can be un-ringfenced and used to deal with this potential embarrassment, but one should always be on guard against starting to use capital to cover running costs. It's a symptom of possible future trouble. This year's problem has been slightly artificially contrived by using Centre income to fund capital projects, but there is no doubt that our Church income is persistently missing its target. To me, the obvious way forward is to increase the size of our congregation but, using the arcane formulae of the Quota calculation, this also increases the size of our contribution, surely a classic "Catch 22" situation. Asking the existing congregation, almost entirely Retirees, to pay more for their Church membership seems to me equally unattractive and unfair but this is the cleft stick in which we currently, and always will, reside. No-one said religion was easy.

Thus all income will be gratefully received and was so at the first event since my last report, the Harvest Lunch on 2nd October. This was an absolutely splendid feast prepared by John, Alan and Paul, with Stuart sorting out all the infrastructural problems. Both the ham and the beef were beautifully cooked, as was the salmon. Unsurprisingly, the sixty five people attending dealt with everything on offer with enthusiasm and that which was left was auctioned off by the ever-resourceful Paul. The sherry trifle came in for criticism afterwards, but only from those well-known perfectionists John and Paul. Having had three helpings I felt unable to sensibly contribute to the conversation and went off to queue for a fourth. When the overheads were settled, the sum of £502.81 was added to our Church funds. Next came an Art and Crafts Festival week-end on 21st/22nd October. This was centred around a standing exhibition in the Church of items produced by members of our congregation, comprising paintings, woodwork, lacework, jewellery and needlework. The very intimate space for this was created by removing chairs in the southern aisle and rear of the Church, a successful device that will, no doubt, be used in future such events. The quality of all the exhibits was very high as were the refreshments provided by Barbie and her team. From the sales of these and donations, £389.72 was raised for Church funds. The event concluded with an excellent concert organised by Chris Dowie at which a further £300 was collected. This went to The Jigsaw Fund, and thence to the Bournemouth Women's Cancer Unit. Meanwhile, the Sunday School held a "Send a Cow" coffee morning which raised £335.65 to fund the purchase of two and three quarter cows by Oxfam to help families in the poorer regions of Africa. All told, this year so far, we have raised £10,168.18 via our events: £6519.96 of this has gone into our own Fund, and £3648.22 to other good causes.

But, as ever, it's onwards and upwards and the next function is...

The Christmas Story 2pm-4pm Sat. and Sun. from 26th November 2011

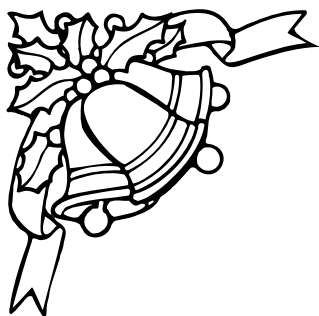
During Advent, the time leading up to Christmas, there will be an ever-changing tableau of large panels in the church showing the evolving story of the Nativity. These panels have been painted by Penny Balding and are based on the works of the old masters, in the style of Botticelli.

On Saturday, 26th November the initial scene will be of Mary and the Angel Gabrielle with the stable in the background. As we progress towards Christmas it will change with additional panels being added to complete the story.

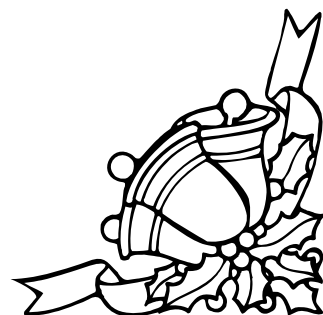
The church will be open each Saturday and Sunday afternoon from 2pm till 4 pm for visitors

A New Year's Eve Party

31st December 2011



All being well, this will be at the Vicarage under the auspices of John and Jo for eighteen lucky people. Watch out for the sign-up sheet to appear at the back of Church. The money raised will go towards the cost of the Nativity Panels.



Parish Lunch

12.30 pm

29th January 2012



This will be run by Sheila and Jill and is absolutely guaranteed to be up to their usual extremely high standard. A sign-up sheet will appear nearer the time. The money raised will go to Church Funds.



Women's World Day of Prayer 2012

"Let Justice Prevail" –by the Women of Malaysia

This year we begin with the **Coffee Morning on Friday 3rd February 10-12 noon at St. Catherine's R.C. Church hall**. As always St. Michaels provides the **Grocery Stall** –so please come, and give generously i.e. tins, packets, and bottles! Box at the back of church, or bring on the day.

The WWDP service is on Friday 2nd March at 10.30am at Canford Magna Parish Church. Lifts will be available if you need one! Refreshments follow the service with a chance to chat with old friends from all denominations. It is always such a joyful, memorable service.

Do come and support both occasions! See you there!

Val Chisholm. Tel: 888916

Hilary Motson. Tel 886303

ST. MICHAEL and ALL ANGELS, COLEHILL**BH21 7AB**

(Charity number 1134712)

Vicar:	Canon John Goodall	883721
	The Vicarage, Smugglers Lane, Colehill.	
Parish Priest:	Revd.Lorraine McGregor,Tapiola Marianne Rd07778197618	
Lay Ministers	Mr. Malcolm Chisholm, 121 Middlehill Road	888916
	Mr. Alan Motson, Whiteoaks, Colehill Lane.	886303
	Mr. John Weaver, 17 Paget Close.	882837
Churchwardens:	Mrs. Daphne Jones, 27 Ashmeads Close	885967
	Mr. Stuart Laybourne, Conifers, Park Homer Road.	840490
PCC Secretary:	Mr. Garth Watson, 22 Highland Rd.	882242
PCC Treasurer:	Mr. Alan Motson, Whiteoaks, Colehill Lane.	886303
Gift Aid Secretary	Mr Sam Fox, 5, Park Homer Road.	883810
Child Protection Officer:	Mrs Liz White, 16 Poplar Close, Wimborne.	840270
Vulnerable Adults Officer	Mrs Caroline Jones, 25Wimborne Road	849873
Health and Safety:	Mrs Daphne Jones, 27 Ashmeads Close	885967
PCC Members:	J. Beech, J. Clayton, R.Cooke, N. Davies, R. Ely, M. Groves, P. Groves, P. Horobin, C. Jones, B. King, H. Lowe, R. Rose, F. Smith, J. Spatchet, G. Watson, E. White and L. Wildman.	
Electoral Roll Officer:	Mrs. J. Beech, 46, Bridle Way.	882197
Church Flowers	Mrs. Barbara Watson	882242
	Mrs. G. Weston	885865
Lay Pastoral Assistants:	Mrs. V. Chisholm, Mrs. J. Laybourne, Mrs. H. Motson, Mrs. F. Smith. Mrs D. Jones, Miss B. King	
Director of Music:	Mrs. Jenny Wright	01425473963

CHURCH ORGANISATIONS

Cherubs:

Mothers' Union: Mrs V Chisholm 121 Middlehill Road 888916

CHURCH CENTRE

Office: Open 10 a.m. – 12 noon Monday to Friday 841677

Bookings: Please leave a message on **OFFICE ANSWERPHONE** or on **07940063085** _
or in **CENTRE LETTER BOX**

Church Centre Manager

COLEHILL METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Revd. David Laidler 515108

E-mail: davidlaidler@talk21.com

.Secretary: Mrs. J. Yates, 880420

54 Merley Gardens, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 1TB

Treasurer: Mrs Brenda Gauler, 895756

104 Glenmoor Road, Ferndown BH22 8JJ

Church Steward: Mr. D. Brewer, 889985

3 The Vineries, Wimborne. BH21 2PU

THE CROSSROADS MAGAZINEPlease send contributions to: St Michael's Church Centre, Colehill Lane, Colehill,
Wimborne, Dorset. BH21 7AB**Email Address:** stmparishoffice@btconnect.com

Published by the Editorial Committee: Jacky Kirby, Barbara King, Hilary Motson ,Hilary Gooding.

On Sale at: St Michael's Church - Colehill Methodist Church - CO-OP, Smugglers Lane



PLEASE PRAY FOR

We pray for those who are in any kind of need – the sick in body, mind or spirit, the frail, the lonely and the housebound.

O God, we praise you that your will is life and health and strength. Help all those who are ill or in pain to place themselves in your hands in loving trust, so that your healing life may flow into them to make them well and strong, and ready to do your holy will. Give them the comfort, strength and assurance of your unfailing love through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

We pray for our Parish of Colehill, and for those living in:

Lonnen Road, Little Lonnen, Lonnen Wood Close, Woodview, Rotary Close,
Fourwells Road, Sandy Lane/Close
during December

and in

Colehill Lane, Marshfield, Merrifield, Smugglers Lane, Long Lane, Deans Grove,
Dumpton School, St. Michael's School
during January



We pray for all those preparing for marriage and those who have married. As they grow in love for one another may they grow in love for God.

We pray for those who have died and those who mourn remembering especially those recently bereaved and those who have anniversaries fall at this time.



We pray for those who have been made members of the church through Baptism especially

27th November

*Jacob William Daniel Avey-Hebditch
Holly Louise Martin*



We pray for Peace in our world remembering all those places where there is violence, unrest and oppression. Let hands raised in anger and ready to strike, become hands ready to offer peace.



Chairman's Report

Although the nine libraries affected by the DCC decision on 21 July to withdraw funding are doing all they can to pursue the community option, it seemed quite reasonable, in view of the single vote majority on such an important issue to so many across the county, to challenge that decision. This courageous move was initiated by our county councillor Janet Dover, but needless to say it was not well received. The response from DCC at their meeting on 10 Nov. was very subjective, based it seemed on the old adage 'the best form of defence is attack'. It avoided any serious debate and resulted in a political vote of 25 votes to 14 in favour of the cuts.

The 'Friends' now see their primary role, together with the Parish Council, as supporting a community run library. Response to the questionnaire in the latest *Clarion* has been encouraging and so the Parish Council is inclined to support financing the building from an increase in the precept.

Of course, the other important need is for volunteers and it is encouraging that some have already come forward. However, more are needed and the important morning meeting at the Memorial Hall on Saturday, 3 December will provide more detail of the various activities that have to be covered in this way. A successful future for the library is going to need continuing community support, both direct, staffing the opening hours, and indirect, e.g. light gardening and maintenance, dealing with donated books, fundraising, etc.

In remaining positive, we are working on a complete programme for next year.

By the time of our 10th AGM on Friday, 20 January at St Michael's Church Centre, we expect to have a much clearer picture of what the future holds. After the formalities there will be an opportunity to socialize, and enjoy a glass of wine and a light finger buffet.

With thanks once again for your support; well done to you all, but particularly to Angela and Kathy for all the hard work they have put in over the year to making the library the success it is, in spite of all the difficulties and uncertainties they have had to face during that time.

Best wishes *Derek Henderson*

Future Events – At the library unless noted

Saturday December 3 9:30 –12:30

Parish Council Meeting at the Memorial Hall

"The Future for Colehill Library"

Drop in Session to see the results of the survey and the Business Plan

Thursday Dec 8 10:30

Shirley Turner

"A Miscellany of Christmas Music"

Friday January 20 7:30 PM

FoCol AGM at St. Michaels Church Hall

The Reading Group is Reading

November: Evelyn Waugh *"Brideshead Revisited"*

December: Helen

Simonson *"Major Pettigrew's Last Stand"*

Valerie

We are not alone.

FoCol is part of Ad-Lib, which will continue the fight to save the 9 threatened libraries in Dorset, or to get the best deal that we can for all future community libraries.

This is part of an international trend to close libraries. In the UK 433 libraries are currently under threat, closed, or left council control since 1/4/11 out of about 4612. The Librarian professional body CILIP forecasts 600 libraries are currently under threat.

www.cilip.org.uk

www.publiclibrariesnews.com

A small glimmer of hope is from the Gloucestershire/Somerset legal challenge which was won by the library campaigners and means that their libraries will stay open.

Peter

2012 Subscriptions will be due in January

The Twelve Days of Christmas



On the first day of Christmas my true love said to me,
“I’m glad we bought a real turkey and a proper Xmas tree.”
On the second day of Christmas much laughter could be heard
As we tucked into our turkey – a most delicious bird!
On the third day of Christmas we’d people from next door:
The turkey tasted just as good as it did before.
Day four – relations came to stay (poor gran is looking old);
We finished up the Christmas pud and ate the turkey cold.
On the fifth day of Christmas outside the snowflakes flurried
But we were nice and warm inside: we had our turkey curried.
On the sixth day of Christmas, I must admit, the Christmas spirit died;
The children fought and bickered, we ate turkey rissoles fried.
On the seventh day of Christmas my true love gave a wince
As she sat down at table and was offered turkey mince.
Day eight (our nerves becoming frayed) the dog had run for shelter;
I served up turkey pancakes with a glass of Alka-Seltzer.
On day nine the cat left home; by lunchtime Dad was blotto:
He said he’d have to have a drink to face turkey risotto.
By the tenth day the wine had gone (except the homemade brew)
And if that wasn’t bad enough we served up turkey stew.
On the eleventh day of Christmas the Christmas tree was moulting,
The mince pies were as hard as rock and the turkey was revolting.
On the twelfth day of Christmas father smacked his lips –
The guests were gone, the turkey too. We dined on fish and chips!



The Autumn Term brings new challenges to our Leaders as the weather and dark nights restrict our outdoor endeavours.

The Beavers have enjoyed an Xtreme Activity Day which included climbing, archery, orienteering, pop guns, cold cooking, tie dying, crafts, fairground games and CAKE! They put on a 25 years Celebration Parade in Wimborne, followed by a service in the Minster, had sparklers and hot dogs to celebrate 5th November, made some fabulous junk models (one of which was too big to fit in the car to take home!), had a pyjama party with flashlight masks and ghost stories, made lanterns and learnt about the Vietnamese Trung Thu Festival and attended the remembrance parade and service at St Michaels Church. Still to come we have stargazing, making a Christmas Tree Advent Calendar, making and decorating a mini Christmas Cake and will close their 25 years celebrations with a District Christmas Service and party. On a sadder note we have had to reduce Korat Beaver Colony to just 18 Beavers as we don't have enough volunteers ... such a shame to have 6 young people on a waiting list, desperate to get in and enjoy Scouting, for want of a single adult!

The Cubs have been cycling, orienteering, tracking, quizzing, made biscuits, a pinhole camera, Christmas cards, taken an eerie torchlight woodland walk, enjoyed a fancy dress Halloween party, visited the aviation museum and the lifeboats, been visited by raptors and reptiles, played wide games at Delph Woods and fundraised for RNLI by having a Christmas Fairground.

Scouts are more hardy and have been camping this term – they have also been orienteering, cooking, hiking, playing wide games, electronic mapping, stave making, entertaining and slot car racing.

Don't forget all these activities are chosen and structured by our leaders not only to challenge and entertain the Young People, but also to educate through fun and to ensure that they achieve as many of our badges and awards as possible.

While our core leadership team remains solid there is a regular turnover of parent helpers and section assistants so we would welcome volunteers to help maintain our high standards... the more adult help we have, the more challenging our programme can be.

Young adults would be particularly welcome as the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts relate well to a younger role model. Leaving school with no job to go to? Taking a year out? Volunteer and improve your CV, embark on our training programme, which is internationally recognised for its excellence, and add management skills to your resume. Above all, volunteer and you WILL have fun, that's a promise!

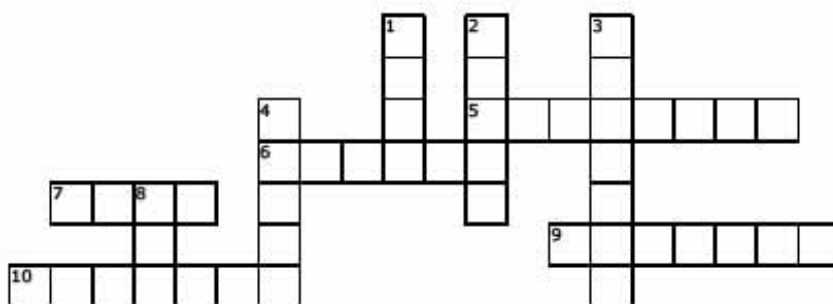
Helen Lynch, Group Scout Leader. H.lynch295@btinternet.com. 01202 883076

Children's Pages

Give Me Oil In My Lamp

Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour. Matthew 25:13 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 25:1-13 (NIV)



ACROSS

5. 12 o'clock at night
6. Not awake
7. A swinging or sliding cover over the place where someone usually enters a room
9. Ceremony in which a man and a woman are married.
10. Someone who does not use good judgment is _____.

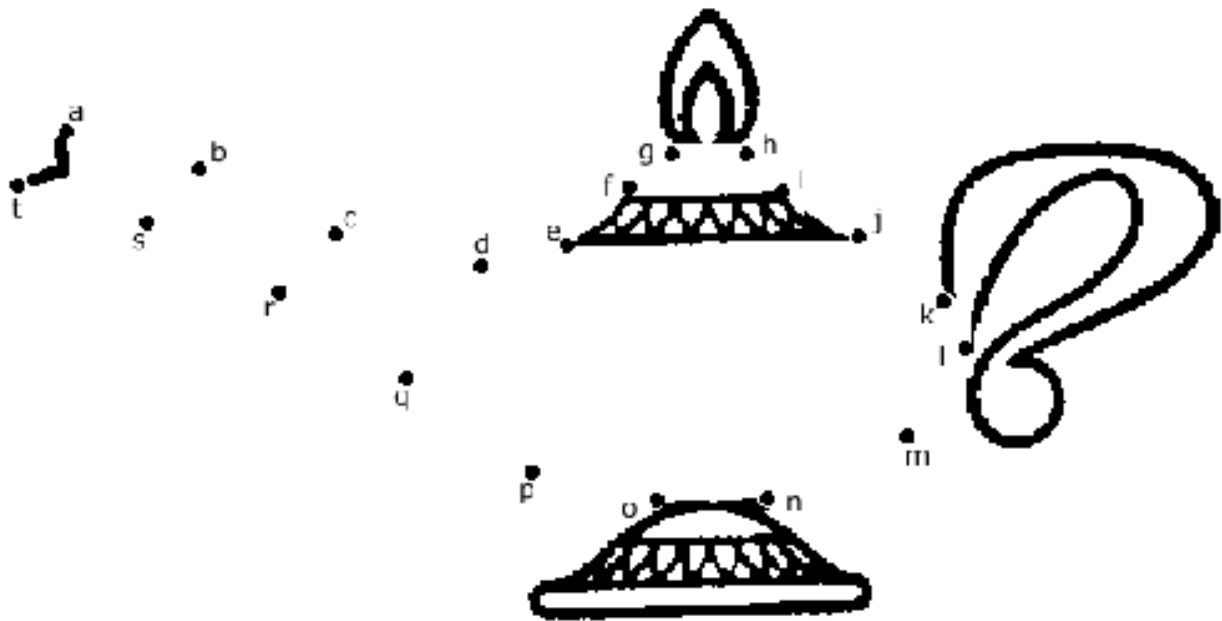
DOWN

1. Someone who has good judgment and makes good decisions is _____.
2. Devices used to produce light
3. A feast or meal held in recognition of some person or occasion
4. To observe or look at something
8. A liquid that is often used to make fuel.

MIDNIGHT	LAMPS	WATCH	OIL	FOOLISH
ASLEEP	DOOR	BANQUET	WISE	WEDDING

Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids

Matthew 25:1-13 (NIV)



Bible Memory Verse

Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.
Matthew 25:13 (NIV)

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Give Me Oil In My Lamp

Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour. Matthew 25:13 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 25:1-13 (NIV)



T Z F E S G H O G Q N O G T A
O B M P K S M I D N I G H T A
G O M Q I N A N H E A V E N S
C A Q L Q T I I E D I J K B L
L P O B R I D E G R O O M A E
M O J K E F D K L X M O H N E
F E O G S W O I H A Z S R Q P
V W E X G B I N O D A T H U X
I T B T P C L G R W R T E E T
R S R C U B O D A A M O Z T E
G S D I K T Y O N T W D W K X
I T T S M W G M G C R F O S W
N V I H O M Z I Z H P W D O Y
S N N T P X E W E D D I N G E
U T C Z G X C D S W I S E E C

FOOLISH	MEET	DROWSY	VIRGINS	BANQUET
MIDNIGHT	WEDDING	TRIMMED	RANG	KINGDOM
BRIDEGROOM	LAMPS	WISE	WATCH	COME
DOOR	ASLEEP	HEAVEN	OIL	WOKE

Art and Craft Exhibition



A huge variety of talents were showcased in our Art and Craft weekend. All of this work was produced by past and present members of the congregation of St Michael's Church.



Those who attended were very complimentary and it was an insight into what members get up to in their spare time.



Art and Craft Exhibition



The 'have-a-go' workshops enabled visitors to have a 'hands on' experience and the refreshments were delicious. We raised a total of £400 for Church Funds.

The musical contributions added an extra dimension and £300 was raised by Chris Dowie's closing concert for the Jigsaw appeal.



Art and Craft Exhibition



Many thanks to all who contributed in any way to the smooth running of this venture.

Jo, Dorothy, & Daphne



Remembrance service at the War Memorial



picture courtesy of K D Johnson

Martin Ward

Painter & Decorator



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**Hayeswood
First School
Cutlers Place
Colehill
Wimborne
Dorset BH21 2HN**

Tel: (01202) 882379
Fax: (01202) 848199
Email: office@hayeswood.dorset.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr. J.A. Bagwell

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs. S. Fairman

Pants for Russia and Smellies for Salisbury

The title may be a little unusual but it has been a busy time at Hayeswood during the past two months. As a school we support a number of different charities during the year. One of the main events was the Harvest festival held at St Michaels Church on a beautiful Autumn morning. The children really enjoy visiting the church and especially for a special event. They donated produce and toiletries for the women's refuge in Salisbury.

We also decided to support a charity for less fortunate children in Russia. Last year we collected socks and this year we collected pants for the charity to give to the children who have very little. All of these events are extremely well supported by the children and parents in the school. It just goes to show that children really do think about others and are very passionate about helping people.

J.A.Bagwell
Headteacher



COLEHILL FIRST SCHOOL*

Middlehill Road, Colehill, Wimborne BH21 2HL

*

Colehill children help Bournemouth Homeless

Children at Colehill First School presented a cheque for £250 to BCHA's Bournemouth night shelter, St Pauls, after a harvest fundraising event.

BCHA support up to 40 homeless people each night at St Paul's, providing them with a warm place to sleep. Staff work with service users helping them to work through any issues they may have, helping them to find a more permanent solution to their problems and find a way forward with their life.

Will Deans and Mark Horsford, representing BCHA, collected the cheque from Maddie Jukes and Oliver Hann during the School's weekly 'well done' assembly.

Mark Horsford commented: "This harvest donation from the children will really make a difference, helping us to provide – • Breakfasts for those who've been sleeping rough overnight • Emergency transportation for those needing urgent medical care • Blankets for our 'Winter Watch' provision – a service which sees our day centre transformed in to accommodation so as more people can escape the freezing and wet conditions outside."

Ty Stroud from Year 4 said "the School Council chooses the charity to receive our families' donations, and this year we learned about the vulnerable people living close to us that need our help".

The harvest fundraising event is just one of a number of fundraising and community events that Colehill First School is involved in.



Colehill SNT

I am pleased to report that both Halloween and Guy Fawkes passed with very few reported incidents of anti social behaviour.

So as we look towards the Festive Season it is timely to remind everyone of some common sense measures to help reduce the risk of becoming a victim of crime over Christmas.

Do not leave your Christmas shopping unattended in the car. Try not to leave a nice pile of beautifully wrapped presents where they can be seen by someone looking through your windows. If you are going away take all the same precautions you would when going on holiday. Inform a neighbour, cancel regular deliveries, use timer switches so lights come on and go off and make sure your house is fully secured. After all the excitement of unwrapping your pressies don't leave a pile of cardboard by the bin that tells thieves exactly what lovely goodies you have to steal.

Thanks from Colehill Safer Neighbourhood Team for all your support again this year and we hope you have a Great Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Steve & Matt

Word Challenge

Lexophilia (i.e., "love of words" you know Like . . . You can tune a piano, but you can't tuna fish Or, I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger Then it hit me .etc.).

Here are a few (answers found on page 26)

1. To write with a broken pencil is . .
2. When fish are in schools they sometimes . .
3. A thief who stole a calendar . .
4. When the smog lifts in Los Angeles , . .
5. The professor discovered that her theory of earthquakes . . .
6. The batteries were given out . . .
7. A dentist and a manicurist married. . . .
8. A will is a . . .
9. With her marriage, she got a new name
10. Show me a piano falling down a mineshaft and I'll show you . . .
11. You are stuck with your debt if . . .
12. Local Area Network in Australia : . . .
13. A boiled egg is . . .
14. When you've seen one shopping center . . .
15. Police were called to a day care where a three-year-old was
16. Did you hear about the fellow whose whole left side was cut off? . . .
17. If you take a laptop computer for a run you could . . .
18. A bicycle can't stand alone;
19. In a democracy it's your vote that counts; in feudalism, . . .
20. When a clock is hungry
21. The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine . . .
22. He had a photographic memory . . .
23. Those who get too big for their britches will be . . .
24. When she saw her first strands of gray hair . . .

No Father Christmas

From a collection of poems by Francis McPake

She left her play, my little child,
Her manner trusting, shy and mild.
Like tendrils soft of some sweet vine
She laced her fingers into mine.
What ails you, little one, said I,
That tears should mist your shining eye?
The tears, she said, are there because
They say there is no Santa Claus.
No Father Christmas cloaked in red
Or reindeer pulling Santa's sled.
I smiled and said – they tell you lies;
Now make a wish and close your eyes,
Then say, 'I do! I do believe
That Santa comes on Christmas Eve.'
The cynics have their answers pat,
They sneer at this and scoff at that.
Nothing exists beyond themselves;
How can they see the Christmas elves
Or hear the herald angels sing
When merry Yuletide joy bells ring?
No Santa Claus! You might as well
Insist there is no magic spell
To make the wind-blown snowflakes dance
In a whitened world of pure romance
Or say as plain as anything:
Truly a blackbird cannot sing;
He merely makes a deal of sound
When strewing grace notes all around.
Or say the stars that twinkle bright
Are merely distance points of light.
No magic dwells in anything;
No miracle lives in a finch's wing
But why stop there? Why not discard
The mistletoe and greetings card?
The ivy bough and leaves of holly
And Mister Pickwick, fat and jolly?
Then, while we're at it, why not shove
Our friends aside and throw out love?
When all that's done, let's weep because,
There's no place here for Santa Claus!

Sunday School's 'Send a Cow' Coffee Morning

You may remember that for Harvest 2010 the Sunday school performed a play based around the theme of sustainable farming in Africa and how the organisation 'Send a Cow' can help to change the lives of farmers, families and whole communities. We were so struck by the importance of this message that we decided that we as a Sunday school should do something practical to help. Send a Cow works hand in hand with communities to provide not just livestock (chickens, bees, goats, rabbits and donkeys as well as cows) but ongoing support and development that helps whole communities to become self-reliant and prosperous.

A local African cow costs £130 and we set this as a target to reach. We decided to organise a coffee morning to coincide with this year's Harvest Festival. We had produce, books, toys and jewellery as well as coffee and cakes. The unseasonably hot October weather may have tempted people to the beach but we had a steady attendance and a good atmosphere. The children worked really hard baking cakes and manning stalls. Jenny and John Spatchet provided some informative displays on the Send a Cow charity and these were also on display at the harvest service on Sunday.

We were thrilled to find that we raised a total of £500 from the coffee morning and donations given at the Harvest lunch. This far exceeded our expectations of money for one cow! We were able to provide nearly four cows.

As a Sunday school, it is important to look beyond our own community. Thank you all for supporting the Sunday school's fundraising and enabling us to provide such valuable and practical help to families in Africa. If you wish to continue to support this vital work you can view their online gift shop at www.sendacow.org.uk.

“This cow is transforming our family life. She is providing milk for our children, which we could not afford before. We have a surplus to sell, which covers school expenses and family healthcare. Her manure fertilises our garden, which yields enough vegetables to eat, share with neighbours, and sell. We are helping our neighbours set up their own vegetable gardens, which is deepening our friendships. This season, we expect good crops of bananas and beans – that will be a real life-changing opportunity.” Margaret Mukabasinga, Rwanda

Word challenge answers

1. Pointless
2. Take debate
3. Got twelve months
4. U C L A
5. Was on shaky ground
6. Free of charge
7. They fought tooth and nail
8. Dead giveaway.
9. And a dress.
10. A-flat miner.
11. You can't budge it.
12. The LAN down under.
13. Hard to beat.
14. You've seen a mall.
15. Resisting a rest.
16. He's all right now.
17. Jog your memory.
18. It is two tired.
19. it's your Count that votes.
20. It goes back four seconds.
21. Was fully recovered.
22. Which was never developed.
23. Exposed in the end.
24. She dyed.



Gardening Page

In mid-winter when days are cold and dark, many people close the door on their garden waiting for the warmth of spring to push up the crocus and daffodils and herald a new beginning to the gardening calendar.

We think of autumn as the season for the rich colours of trees and shrubs with their accompanying abundance of berries, for vibrant colours of dahlias in our gardens that are all too soon cut down at one swipe by the first frost. Autumn seems to be nature's final fling at abundance before the dark joyless days of winter set in.

But winter gardens need not be dreary and dull. In the warmer south, even in a neglected garden, there is usually a flower to be seen throughout the year, thanks to our mild climate encouraging plants to flower out of season. Whilst not having the rich abundance of autumn colour, nevertheless with a little careful planning and thought for plants that are at their best in winter, the garden can provide colour and scent to brighten even the dreariest day.

TREES: Recommend a tree for a garden and the cry goes up "but my garden is too small". However many gardeners find room for the winter flowering cherry *Prunus Subhirtella* which has tiny white flowers that open up before the last leaves have fallen. In time the flowers fade to pink. If the weather is too mild it will stop flowering and begin again in the new year. This tree can be pruned to a manageable size and forms a delicate backdrop to the winter garden. A much larger tree providing blue/grey foliage is the Gum Tree *Eucalyptus Gunnii*. The Snow Gum *Eucalyptus Niphophila* is hardier and has beautiful 'snakeskin' bark. Many winter trees are planted for their colourful bark. The Silver Birch *Betula Pendula*, has the whitest bark and can look stunning against a dark background. The Tibetan Cherry *Prunus Serrula* has beautiful mahogany red polished and peeling bark. It begs the passerby to touch and delight in its unusual form. However, it can grow to 30 feet so for the smaller garden the many types of *Cornus* are recommended. The colours of these dogwoods come in yellow, brown, red, grey and bright green and would suit a variety of situations.

DECIDUOUS SHRUBS: no winter garden should be without a few of the following. Many winter flowering shrubs are very fragrant – a bonus when one can pick small twigs in the depth of winter and bring indoors to open up in a warm room and then find they have perfume as well as colour. In January *Hamamelis Mollis* (*Pallida* is the most conspicuous) burst into sweetly scented yellow flowers. A similar shrub is the Winter Sweet. Both come from China and although slow growing can reach 10 feet. However, picked twigs to open indoors helps the pruning. There is a winter flowering honeysuckle *Lonicera Fragrantissima* which has creamy flowers and is sweetly scented. *Viburnum Bodnantense* 'Dawn' has clusters of strongly fragrant pink flowers but I find they can be affected by frost.

EVERGREEN SHRUBS: There are many types of *Mahonia* to choose from. Flowering for a long period, the tiny yellow fragrant flowers emerge from divided prickly leaves. After flowering berries soon appear but are quickly swallowed up by blackbirds. *Garrya Elliptica* or Silk Tassel Bush is another unusual shrub. It grows to a height of 15 feet but if trained against a sunless wall to accommodate its spread of 5 feet, the male form produces pendant grey/green catkins up to 8" long from mid-winter to spring and is an interesting feature for a winter garden. Perhaps the best evergreen shrub of all is *Pieris*. This shrub provides interest throughout the year and I wouldn't be without it in the garden. Sweetly scented tassels of flowers smelling of lily of the valley give way to young leaves turning from yellow to lime to red. The form "Xmas Cheer" is pink in bud. Another favourite shrub is *Daphne Odora*. Interesting in its variegated form, it has the most penetrating scent of all the shrubs mentioned. Originating in China and Japan, if given a sunny sheltered

position, the rosy purple starry flowers open around Christmas time – even quicker if sprigs are brought into a warm room. The Sarococca bush of the box family must not be forgotten. This shrub has insignificant tufts of stamen and stigmas that are sweetly scented. Not all Camellias flower in spring. Camelia Japonica flowers in late winter and has red gold stamened flowers.

HEATHERS AND CLIMBERS: at this time of year garden centres abound with winter heathers of all shades to give small patches of ground cover but if a winter flowering climber is required no garden should be without the yellow Jasmine Nudiflorum. Masses of starry yellow flowers burst forth in winter but can be damaged by prolonged rain. It is a good plant for a north wall. Ivys too can be trained up fences and walls and come in many forms of variegations.

FOLIAGE: Elaeagnus, especially the variegated form has bright yellow edging to shiny green leaves. New leaves have a gold/grey appearance. From the yellow splashes of the Elaeagnus to the green and white markings of Euonymus to the red leaves of Bergenia, there are many useful plants giving winter foliage colours. Some winter cyclamen have interesting markings on the leaves as does Arum 'pictum'. The many colours of winter conifers, blue, yellow, green give a solid backdrop to smaller plants at their feet.

BERRIES: We think of autumn as the time for berries. Most will have been eaten by Christmas. Rose hips, holly, pyracantha and cotoneaster will have fallen prey to birds but skimmias pernyettas and the lovely violet jewels of the callicarpa should survive to well into the new year.

FLOWERS: i could never be without the little Iris Unguicularis. It thrives with ill treatment. If given a poor stony but sheltered situation beautiful little flowers appear from November till March, but beware, slugs love them. If picked in tight bud you can watch them open in a couple of hours in a warm room. Then after Christmas the Hellebores begin to appear. Starting with Hellebore Niger, the Christmas Rose, but usually not flowering till after December – with these little flowers interest is added in the garden at a low level. Snowdrops and Aconites then make their way to the surface and the promise of spring is just around the corner.

But winter has its beauty too and with all these trees, shrubs and flowers, the garden need never take on a dead, lifeless appearance.



Wimborne Horticultural Society

Meetings are held in the Main Hall, Allendale Community Centre
on the 2nd Monday of the month
Visitors are welcome, entrance £1.00

December 12th 7.30p.m. “Addis Ababa to Kenya” by David Daniels
Third visit to the Society by this amazing
retired dentist who always enthral us with his
adventures.

Followed by Christmas nibbles; please provide.

Centre Rendezvous Newsletter No: 1

“You’ve turned us into a proper village again,” said a fan at an early stage of Centre Rendezvous’ existence.

There couldn’t be a better vindication for the vision of Colehill priest Lorraine McGregor for a weekly “café” in the church centre as a way of reaching out to the wider community.

Asked if she’d done her market research when she put her idea to volunteers, Lorraine looked startled. She hadn’t done any survey but she felt Colehill needed a welcoming meeting place – with coffee and homemade cakes.

Her instinct proved sound – right from the get-go in early August there was a buzz about Centre Rendezvous with numbers attending around the 40 mark. And its popularity continued after the children went back to school in September.

Manager Marjorie Shaw has a job keeping up with the demand for rolls, homemade soup, jacket potatoes and cake while kitchen staff are often run off their feet – in the nicest possible way. More troops have had to be drafted in.

Of course it’s great to see just how many church members support the venture. But it’s even nicer to see other villagers turn up. Lorraine was thinking working people, mums and toddlers, singletons and grandparents shouldering childcare would be glad of Centre Rendezvous and all of these people have been represented.

One group she maybe hadn’t thought of was teenagers and young adults so it is particularly gratifying to welcome students and staff from Beaucroft School. They are a valuable part of our village life and we hope they will continue to patronise Centre Rendezvous long into the future.

Christmas Market

Mulled wine, mince pies, traditional nativity scenes, the lighting of the community Christmas tree and the opportunity to buy Christmas goodies, stocking presents and much more will be on offer at St Michael’s and All Angels’ Christmas Market from 5.30 to 7pm on Saturday, November 26.

Christmas Lunch

Centre Rendezvous is offering a ticket-only Christmas lunch on December 7. Tickets will go on sale on Wednesdays between 11.30am and 1.30pm . Also available from the church office on other weekday mornings between 10 and noon. Telephone 01202 841677.....Roast Turkey and all the trimmings – vegetarian option available.

Christmas Closing

Centre Rendezvous will close for only one Wednesday over the holidays – December 28. We look forward to seeing you again on January 4.

Those little extras

Would you like a day out? Centre Rendezvous is thinking of organising a coach trip in the spring to further the village spirit. Do you have any suggestions for a destination?

Are you happy with the sandwich fillings on offer or do you secretly hanker for smoked salmon and cream cheese? Do you have any other ideas as to how we could improve our service?

Many thanks to those who brought fresh garden produce for sale at Centre Rendezvous during the summer. This goes with the idea of making our Wednesdays a real community event, a time when we can function as a proper village.

Lots of puzzles are piling up for exchange – but no one seems to be taking any. Should we think about stopping it? Please contact Marjorie on Wednesdays if you would like to comment.

Wimborne Music Society

Saturday 3rd December

Wimborne Minster at 7.30

J.S.Bach Mass in B minor

Wimborne Choral Society Wessex Singers Wimborne Chamber Orchestra.

Wednesday 21st December, 2011

St Michaels, Colehill at 7.30 pm

Music and readings for Christmas

Wessex Singers

Retiring collection

For full details of the above please visit Wimborne Music Society's website:-

<http://www.wimbornemusicsociety.co.uk>

**Colehill Evening Women's
Institute**

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

At the October meeting business was kept to a minimum as it was Member's Evening.. Member Val Sedden and her husband Bill had arranged a very colourful display of part of their large ceramic collection and related to members how from their early married days they had been collecting this ware and then in retirement turned this hobby into a major interest travelling all over the country and into Europe.

.The evening ended with members splitting into groups and having been given coloured tissue paper, cardboard, scissors and glue vied in competition to produce a picture, a real Playgroup Atmosphere ensued, not 5's plus but 55's plus - but the noise level was the same.

In November the President welcomed members and 4 visitors to a very well attended meeting. The President said this year's ACWW donations would be going to under privileged ladies in Bangladesh and to this end a new book exchange would be run every month whereby books could be donated and either borrowed or purchased for a small contribution to this fund. Final details of the forthcoming theatre outing to see White Christmas at the Mayflower in Southampton and arrangements for the Christmas Party were given.

The speaker for the evening was Hilary Warner, paying a return visit. She gave a very, very interesting talk on her time spent working at the BBC, rising from a very young entrant to becoming a senior programme Controller. The December meeting is on Wednesday 12th.

For any further information please ring 01202 885923

One Day a Farmer...

One day a farmer's donkey fell down into a well. The animal cried piteously for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do. Finally, he decided the animal was old, and the well needed to be covered up anyway; it just wasn't worth it to retrieve the donkey.

He invited all his neighbours to come over and help him. They all grabbed a shovel and began to shovel dirt into the well. At first, the donkey realized what was happening and cried horribly. Then, to everyone's amazement he quieted down.

A few shovel loads later, the farmer finally looked down the well. He was astonished at what he saw. With each shovel of dirt that hit his back, the donkey was doing something amazing. He would shake it off and take a step up.

As the farmer's neighbours continued to shovel dirt on top of the animal, he would shake it off and take a step up. Pretty soon, everyone was amazed as the donkey stepped up over the edge of the well and happily trotted off!

Life is going to shovel dirt on you, all kinds of dirt. The trick to getting out of the well is to shake it off and take a step up. Each of our troubles is a stepping stone. We can get out of the deepest wells just by not stopping, never giving up! Shake it off and take a step up.

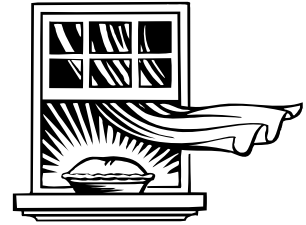
Remember the five simple rules to be happy:

1. Free your heart from hatred - Forgive.
2. Free your mind from worries - Most never happen.
3. Live simply and appreciate what you have.
4. Give more.
5. Expect less





Recipe Page



Vegetable Soup – serves 4-6 people

I love soups and I love making them. Soup is relatively cheap (you can often use up leftover items), extremely nutritious and healthy (as long as you don't put too much double cream in it!!) and usually meets many of the "5-a-day" targets. This is one I have made for Centre Rendezvous lunches. If you have a freezer, remember that soup freezes very well so I suggest you make a large batch like this, enjoy some and then put the rest into meal size quantities in separate plastic tubs and freeze them.

For the base ingredients

- 2 tbsp olive or sunflower oil, or 30g/1oz butter
- 1 onion, peeled and chopped
- 1 garlic clove, peeled and chopped
- 1 bouquet garni

For the main ingredients

- 1 potato, or other thickener if needed, peeled and cut into chunks
- 500g/18oz mixed vegetables, prepared as appropriate and roughly chopped

For the liquid

- 1-1.5 litres/1 $\frac{3}{4}$ -2 $\frac{3}{4}$ pints) vegetable or chicken stock, or vegetable cooking water, or a mixture of water and milk

Seasonings

- salt
- freshly ground black pepper

Preparation method

1. Heat the oil or butter gently in a large saucepan, then add the base ingredients and sweat the onions and garlic gently on a low heat for 2-3 minutes until the onion has softened. Then add the bouquet garni and the main ingredients. Stir around to coat everything in the fat, and then continue to sweat these very gently for 10-15 minutes. All this draws the flavours out of the vegetables.
2. Add 1litre/1 $\frac{3}{4}$ pints of stock or other liquid, saving the rest for thinning down (if necessary), and season with salt and freshly ground black pepper. Bring up to the boil, then simmer gently for about 20 minutes until all the vegetables are tender.
3. Liquidise in several batches, and return to the pan. Thin down with the reserved stock, water or milk as required, and check the seasoning
4. Reheat when needed.
5. The soup goes well with a good chunk of bread or, if you prefer, a piece of toast.

As I write this the weather has become considerably colder. Quite noticeable now as the temperature has been unseasonably mild for some time. I hear reports of another harsh winter so I hope you have all had your 'flu jabs and are building up your vitamin C reserves.

Many thanks go to Alex Cooke for giving us his talk on Love Russia Charity last month. Yet again we learn of another area of the world where things are not as they should be.

Unfortunately we were unable to have our Christmas table decorations demonstration in November. Doreen Mulford was unwell and unable to come and talk to us. We wish her a speedy recovery and perhaps next year she will be able to come and see us. We had an afternoon of readings and, thanks to Ann Legge and Janet Ford, some impromptu decorations made from things brought by Janet and Katie.

Diary Dates:-

- Thursday December 8th 2.30pm - Christmas party in the hall
Wednesday December 15th 2.00pm - NO Prayer group owing to Deanery Carol Service
Wednesday December 28th - NO Corporate Communion (Christmas week)

2012

- Thursday January 12th 2.30pm - Sheila Soper talking about her Sudan visit
Thursday January 19th 2.00pm - Prayer Group in the Alec Moore Room
Wednesday January 25th 10.30am - M.U. Corporate Communion

Tea for the Christmas Party will be organised by the committee, but extra contributions most welcome.

Tea and biscuit rota for 2012 not yet complete, so we will inform those concerned for January.

QUICK REMINDER:-

Deanery Carol Service in the Minster December 15th at 2.15pm
Committee meeting will be held on January 23rd at 2.00pm in the Alec Moore Room.

Hilary has agreed to take over from Liz running the Bring and Buy stall with Daphne and Barbara. Thanks to Liz for her hard work in the past, she will be on hand to give advice if needed, but it would be helpful if everyone can remember to keep the stall stocked up so the work is not too onerous.

You will be receiving next year's programme shortly. It's almost completed. It seems amazing that 2012 is upon us and Val, Marjorie and Di wish you all a joyous Christmas time and a healthy and happy New Year.

With love from we three at the end of our 2nd year of leadership.

Picture taken from

ACADEMY ARCHITECTURE

(1)

AND

(Annual) Architectural Review,

1895.

Vol. 2
EDITED BY

ALEX. KOCH, Architect.

Academy Architecture, 1895.



1548. *SS. Michael and All Angels, Colchill, Wimborne, Interior View, W. D. CARÖE, M.A., Architect.*
(For Exterior View, see vol. iv. p. 62.)

FOR THE WANT OF A PRIEST !

Philip Horobin

The Puma Helicopter was a bit late picking us up so, by the time we arrived at San Pedro boatyard, the best boats had already been hired for the day. All that was left was a very small one with a cabin far too restricted for us to seek shelter from the Belizean sun. Indeed, it only just housed the cool box, full of San Miguel beer cans that we were carrying. Also, the boat boy was certainly well below the legal age for taking responsibility of three adults, the entire Field Surgical Team, on which the hopes of the whole Belizean Garrison rested should they require any surgical intervention, on a day's fishing trip along the dangerous coral reef three miles off the harbour. But beggars can't be choosers, and the fishing equipment looked pretty sound, and so, cursing the RAF, I negotiated the rate for the day and handed over the dollars to a boy aged no more than thirteen who seemed to speak barely a word of English. But he knew enough to understand that we wished to spend the whole day trawling for barracuda just inside the reef, with the occasional pause for snorkelling in the beautifully clear water to be found there.

So we set off: me, Peter, a Royal Navy Auxiliary Commander (in real life a Professor in Orthopaedic Surgery at Liverpool General) and John, a Territorial Army Major (A Consultant Anaesthetist from Manchester) who were both serving their compulsory two weeks annual "camp" in Belize. As the long-term resident, I was in charge of the group entertainment during their stay and had offered fishing as one of the few distractions available in this third world ex- Colony. I had explained that there were two types available: hauling in dozens of red snapper on one of the mosquito-ridden lakes or spending the day doing what we were about to do; lazing around in a boat in a tropical lagoon, drinking beer while trailing lines in the distant, and not previously experienced, hope that a barracuda might suddenly decide to commit suicide. They had made their choice.

We reached the site about mid-morning and immediately began trawling along the reef. As I had warned the others, periodically there would be a heavy tug on one of our lines, for all the world like a bite from some enormous fish. The boat boy would put the engine into reverse, the owner of the boat would start reeling in like mad and, eventually, we would end up directly above the spot where his hook had snagged the coral. We would try and free it for several minutes and then, if this was unsuccessful, cut the line and begin again. In three months and many of these trips, I had never seen any barracuda actually caught.

And so a very pleasant morning passed. At mid-day we broke open another San Mig., ate our sandwiches, and then began again. Almost immediately, John had a tug on his line that nearly took his rod over the side. Clearly another coral snag, we followed the usual procedure while John reeled in, hoping to save his hook. It was some time before we realised this was the real thing and it was to considerable excitement that we eventually hauled aboard a two-foot long barracuda. It was then that we discovered that we had come without a priest or any other club.

For those unfamiliar with the general topography of the barracuda, it has all the usual features of its kind and would be unexceptional were it not for its mouth. This is enormous and unsmiling: and full of very sharp teeth.

When the fish came over the side, it was immediately apparent to all of us that it was very, very cross. It was thrashing around the deck like a thing possessed and we could actually hear its teeth gnashing, while a Professor in Orthopaedics, a Consultant Anaesthetist and the second senior officer in Belize danced around the restricted space trying to stay free from a nasty bite whilst shouting "Hit it," to each other. After an age of this vigorous exercise, one of us thought of using a beer can and we all rapidly joined in beating this monster to death.

Eventually it lay still, and peace was restored. We unhooked it, put it into the cool box (it only just fitted) and resumed fishing. Five minutes later, the lid flew off the cool box and our friend rejoined the fray.

His appearance was as unwelcome as it was unexpected. The Morris dancing began again with even greater intensity and showed every sign of continuing indefinitely until our thirteen year old boat boy, despairing of us all, stamped on its head and chucked it back into the box. Shamefacedly, we regained our grips on our respective rods and resumed our positions at the stern of the boat. We had almost recovered our collective poise when Peter had a bite. "Coral again," I assured my fellow incompetents and told the boat boy to hit the reverse lever.

This fish wasn't as big as his predecessor but every bit as fed up. To make matters worse, as we dragged him over the side, the top flew off the cool box yet again and his friend and, possibly, relation joined him in the confusion that prevailed in the cockpit. My, how we danced! Eventually, after what, to those present, seemed, and may well have been, an age, and after much wielding of cans, things settled down again with the cool box even fuller and the beer even fizzier. But by now there was a general air of uncertainty and I could sense the word of their tour guide was no longer considered gospel by his fellow tourists.

However, we pressed on relatively undaunted. The sun shone, the sea was beautiful, and, as we chugged up and down, and the lid on the cool box remained closed, we all settled back into the routine we had enjoyed before lunch.

It was mid afternoon, the beers had all gone and we'd had a lot of overhead sun, and I was thinking that we ought to be heading back if we were not to run the risk of missing the Puma, when John had yet another bite. We'd had dozens in the previous couple of hours and we'd actually started to tire of the routine. We had also had to cut free a fair number of hooks and I sensed the boat boy was running out of them, as well as patience. But he stuck to the job, reversed the engine and John began reeling in.

We were all standing in the stern looking into the crystal clear water, waiting to see where the hook was lodged, when a large shape passed directly under the boat. It was utterly unmistakable. "SHARK !!!" came the traditional shout from all four of us. " SHARK ! SHARK ! SHARK ! " we bawled just in case there was any possible confusion.

As though it had been summoned, the shape reappeared, clearly prevented from further excursion by the fact that it was attached to John's line. It was at least five feet long and very well-built. "CUT THE LINE, " we all shouted and began dashing about looking for the knife we had already used many times. Strangely, it was nowhere to be found, so we widened the search to include anything that might resemble a knife, and then anything that might have an edge sharp enough to sever the line. Suddenly I remembered that the boat boy had had it last and I turned to ask him what he'd done with it.

It was then that I discovered he was operating according to a completely different agenda to the rest of us for, presumably sensing profit, he was still winding in the line! The shark was, by now, thrashing around immediately below the stern and the boy had the gaff in his hand ready to hook it into the creature's gills. We were about to share an already crowded boat with a killer roughly my size and weight with more teeth than you could shake a stick at.

"LOOK !" I shouted to my colleagues and they turned as one. Experts in their fields, they were no slouches in the assessment of situations.

We attacked a thirteen year old boy with the enthusiasm born of self-preservation. John regained control of the rod, Peter held him while I frisked him and, when I had located the knife, I cut the line.

The atmosphere on board during the long trip back to the boatyard can best be described as strained. We left the barracuda as a peace offering.



The Vicar Writes

Dear Friends

As November draws to a close the pace of life begins to quicken as Christmas draws near – particularly so this year since with Christmas day on a Sunday it feels as if we have much less time to prepare than normally. I'm not sure why it should be so, but it is certainly how it feels! I am very excited about the prospect of being able to use our Stable in the Sanctuary for the whole of Advent and Christmas. The panels that Penny Balding has been painting will be both dramatic and stimulating as we use them for the focus of our preaching through Advent. For the four Sundays of Advent we shall allow the four figures in the nativity story to challenge us with their questions – Why are we waiting? What are we waiting for? How are we waiting, and is it worth waiting for? The Angel, Joseph, Mary and the Shepherds will each in their turn confront us about the meaning of the nativity both in the Christian tradition but also, and maybe more importantly in our lives of discipleship today. The panels which I have commissioned have taken Penny many hours of work - she began work in the summer whilst teaching in Italy. I hope we will raise the money in two stages: We shall hold a New Years eve supper party to see in the New Year at the Vicarage and the profits will go towards it. We shall also offer a West African Curry evening in February and the proceeds of that will go towards it. If you would like to make a donation towards them, then please put it in an envelope clearly marked and hand it to one of the Churchwardens, the Treasurer or myself. I hope they will create sufficient interest to attract people to come to Church to see them and as you know we shall open church on Saturday and Sunday afternoons through December.

We are holding our usual Christingle service on 11th December at 4pm and as in previous years expecting a large turnout. We shall hold a collection for the Children's Society. In preparation for this, Lorraine and I take an assembly in each of the first schools, give out collecting candles and invite the children to come to the Christingle with their parents. It is always very well attended. Do come and join us – it is a lovely experience to join with so many children in church who are enjoying themselves so much and a wonderful moment when we have lit all of the candles in a circle round the church – well over a 100 – and then put the lights out. The faces of the children lit by the candlelight are well worth coming for.

I am pleased to report that Bishop Graham has asked if he can come to join us for a Sunday service, so I have invited him to attend the Parish Eucharist on January 15th. I will ask him to celebrate and preach. You may wish to put that date in the diary – we don't get a bishop to visit us very often so it will be good to have him with us. It will be his first visit to Colehill.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas, and every blessing for 2012.

With my love

John Goodall

Vicar



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The remaining 5% Discount of the Labour cost will be donated to St. Michael's Church Charity Fund.



Nativity figures painted by Penny Balding

The church is open to view the panels Saturday and Sunday 2-4pm through Advent

Christmas Services

Sunday 11 th December	Christingle Service by candlelight at 4pm
Sunday 18 th December	Service of 9 Lessons and Carols at 6pm
Christmas Eve	Blessing of the Crib at 6pm 'A living tableau' will replace the panels
Christmas Eve	Midnight Communion at 11.30pm
Christmas Day	Holy Communion at 8.00am Family Eucharist at 9.30am