

Burpham & Wepham News



A Happy Christmas to One and All!

The Monthly Newsletter of the village of Burpham & Wepham

Your Village Website:

<http://Burpham.arun.gov.uk/main.cfm>

Friends of Burpham Church:

fbc@fbcburpham.org.uk

From the Vicarage, December 2017

Dear Friends,

Love, peace and joy! The Christmas message. As we approach the celebrations of Christmas Day we have a habit of moving into a frenzy of activity and activities. Love there certainly must be, the love of our families and our friends, because the frenzied activity is all about getting ready to celebrate together. The presents and the food and the decorating of our homes are all gestures of love. And that is just what it should be! But among all this busyness there is sometimes a lack of peace and quite a lot of anxiety before the great day arrives! So it might help if we pause a little and reflect on what and why we are doing these things right now. We do, after all, love our families and friends all the year round, not just at Christmas. So why now, why at Christmas? If you are familiar with the Christmas story, then pause and reflect on the Christmas gift we were given over two thousand years ago. The gift was a promise that human kind would overcome evil through the life and death of a very special baby – Jesus the Christ Child, born in a lowly manger.

The birth of this very special baby changed the world. His life and death gave us hope for the future. In John's gospel we are told that through God's grace and love we all have the opportunity to live life in all its abundance. Our part in this is to live as Jesus taught us: to love one another as he loves us. So the best Christmas activity is not just to think about what we can do for others but put our thinking into action too. It's good to remember that no matter how small the action might be, your kindness to others will make a difference and help make the world a better place to live in. Living such a life will give us all love, peace and joy, the message we hear at Christmas time.

This Christmastide come and celebrate God's wonderful gift to us at one of our Christmas services. Carol services and midnight mass will be held in both Burpham and Poling and a crib service at 3.00pm in Burpham on Christmas Eve too. Dates and times are in the magazines. Whatever you prefer, the churchwardens and I shall look forward to welcoming you to one or more of our Christmas services. We wish you all a blessed and peaceful Christmas and a joyful and prosperous new year.

With love and blessings.

Celia

Priest in charge; St Mary the Virgin, Burpham & St Nicholas, Poling.

Rev. Celia Woodruff: celia.woodruff1@gmail.com Tel. 07807 899119

Carol Service at St Mary's Sunday 17th

December. Come and take part in a Christmas choir to make our Carol Service extra special! No particular singing experience needed. We'll be singing a couple of easy Christmas songs on our own and supporting the congregational carols as well.



Two one-hour rehearsals to prepare: Sat 9th and Sat 16th at 10.00am, both at Hillside Cottage, Burpham. Also a warm-up on the day, time tbc.

It would be very helpful to know if you are coming so do get in contact.

Monica Cooper 885349/07951 718262 or moncooper@yahoo.com

Village Events for December

- **Christmas Quiz - Saturday, 9th December, 7.30 in the Village Hall**
Christmas themed quiz evening with Nick John plus Christmas Raffle - bring your own tipple. **Tickets £5 from Heather Birch 882839.**
- **Children's Seasonal Film Show - Walt Disney's Peter Pan - Thursday, 28th December at 2.30pm for 3.00pm start - followed by shared tea.**



Please let us know how many places you would like for the film - **Heather Birch 882839**

2018

Shuffleboard Evening - Saturday, 3rd February

2018 - details to follow. Happy Christmas from Heather!

Village Walk - Saturday 2nd December. We will again be meeting at the Village Hall for the next walk. All are welcome, and we will meet at the Village Hall at 10.00am. Not sure how far it will be (haven't decided a route yet), but



back by about 12.00 noon, coffee and cake on return. **Contact Steff 884909 /07880 738705/ steffmichel@yahoo.co.uk**

On Your Own on Christmas Day? You are warmly invited for lunch and festivities on Christmas Day at the Norfolk Centre, Mill Road, Arundel, from 12.00noon until 3.00 p.m. The cost is £5.00 and transport is available. (Couples also alone on Christmas Day included).

For more information or to book a place please **telephone Gemma Odde on 01903 883469.**

Village Companions.

- **Annual Christmas Skittles & Supper, the Maypole, Yapton - Monday 11th December.** Car share arranged, cost £8.50pp, all are welcome to come to this annual event. Please bring the right money on the night if you can. **Contact Bob 883667**
- **Village Companions' Meeting - Monday 22nd January at 7.30pm**
The next meeting will be held at Court Leet Cottage, all welcome, if you'd like to come, **please let Gill know on 883667**
- **Friday 9th February 2018 – Murder Mystery dinner at the Jailhouse, Arundel.** If you want to go - tickets are selling out quickly - **please contact Sandra as soon as possible on 916581.**



Everyone is welcome to come along to all our meetings and events, any further queries, please **contact Bob 883667 or Heather 882839**

At The George

- **Christmas Tree Light Up - Friday 1st December** plus complimentary mulled wine and mince pies – see enclosed Flyer
- **Christmas Day.** Please note that The George will once again open its doors on Christmas day from 12noon until 2.00pm. **Sue 883131**

George Writers go Viral! 7.00pm–10.00pm Burpham Country House. Simon Brett's George writers will read the very best of their short pieces of recent work to brighten up your dark winter evenings. **All** are welcome!

- January winters warmers drinks and buffet will be provided
- Donations requested for Chestnut tree Hospice

RSVP to info@burphamcountryhouse.com, so Jackie and Steve know how much to brew.

Poppy Day Collections 2017. Burpham and Wepham together raised a total of £650 for the support of Servicemen and their dependents who have suffered as a result of combat. The Royal British Legion thanks everyone from our villages who again donated so generously to the Poppy appeal.



Forthcoming Events

Fri 1 Dec	5.00pm	Christmas Tree Lighting at the Pub	The George
Sat 2 Dec	10.00am	Village Walk	Village Hall
Sun 3 Dec	10.30am	Family Service, Coffee & Produce	St Mary's
Wed 6 Dec	All Day	'Downton Abbey' Christmas Fayre	Highclere
Sat 9 Dec	7.30pm	Christmas Quiz & Raffle	Village Hall
Sun 10 Dec	10.30am	Family Service	St Mary's
Mon 11 Dec	6.30pm	Xmas Skittles & Supper, Maypole	Yapton
Thu 14 Dec	6.00pm	Carols Around the Village	Village
Sat 16 Dec	10.30am	Decorate Church & Christmas Tree	St Mary's
Sun 17 Dec	10.30am	Family Service	St Mary's
	6.00pm	9 Carols & Lessons by Candlelight	St Mary's
	7.00pm	Mince Pies & Mulled Wine	Village Hall
Sun 24 Dec	3.00pm	Children's Crib Service & Tea	St Mary's
	9.00pm	Prayer Book Holy Communion	Poling St Nicks
	10.45pm	Midnight Mass	St Mary's
Mon 25 Dec	9.00am	Poling Family Carol Service	St Nicholas
	10.30am	Christmas Eucharist with carols	St Mary's
Thu 28 Dec	2.30pm	Children's Christmas Film Show	Village Hall

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Please send your articles for the January 2018 Newsletter to Bob Baynes at Court Leet Cottage, or preferably by e mail to baynes755@btinternet.com by the last week of December 2017. All your articles of interest to the Village are welcome. With very many thanks, Bob Baynes