

# Bishop's Tachbrook Parish Magazine

St Chad's



Issue 10 2017



Your magazine for Bishop's Tachbrook and surrounding areas

[www.bishopstachbrook.com](http://www.bishopstachbrook.com)

December 2017 / January 2018

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# What's in this month's magazine

A real scoop for a Parish Magazine in this issue; an interview with Santa Claus who also gives us his Desert Island Discs!! Unbelievable!!!! Check them out on pages 10 and 11.

There's a thought provoking article on the work of Springfield MIND. Approximately 1 in 4 people in the UK will experience a mental health problem each year. In England, 1 in 6 people report experiencing a common mental health problem in any given week. Christmas brings its own problems, with a third of people with mental health problems self-harming to cope with the pressure, while nearly half have considered taking their own life. Read the article on pages 14 and 15. We'd like to feature the work of local charities in future issues so if you work for, or with, a local charity and would like to describe its work to others we would love you to submit an article.

The business questionnaire returns with an interview with Helen Tudge who runs Pilates classes at the St Chad's Centre. Read the article on pages 26 and 27.

The kids' zone on pages 34 and 35 features some truly dreadful jokes that all adults ought to read as well!

Elsewhere there's the normal mix of reports from clubs and societies plus the inimitable nature page featuring Steve's lovely drawings on page 18.

A BIG THANKS to all our contributors, advisors and distributors for the great work they put into getting this magazine in front of the eyes that are now reading it. Their work, mostly unseen and time consuming, is vital. Thanks also for advertisers whose payments help fund us.

Happy Christmas and a fantastic 2018 to everyone in this wonderful parish of ours.

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Printed by: Cadman Printers Unit 7D Jenton Road, Sydenham Industrial Estate, Leamington Spa CV31 1XS Tel: 01926 423742

"Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!"

—Dr. Seuss, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*

I love Christmas, I love the old films and some of the more modern ones too. I think the colours of red, green and gold put together are magical. I cannot think of anything better than singing Christmas Carols and retelling the story of the first Christmas through verse and music. I challenge anyone not to shed a tear while watching their child or grandchild in a nativity play. Seeing the faces of little ones as they really experience Christmas for the first time is magical.

Yet, none of this—none of the countless garden centre displays, the blaring Christmas pop music, arranging parties and family visits, the worry over the size of the turkey—none of this is what Christmas is really about as the Grinch realised.

Christmas is about God coming to Earth. Coming as a defenceless baby so dependent upon those around him. Leaving his heavenly home and his complete divinity to depend upon others for food, warmth and love. Christmas is about God loving us so much that he became human and lived among us, wanting us to turn to him, to love him and to build a relationship with him. We should never forget that the baby in the

manger, so cutely pictured on Christmas cards, is in fact God. He came to shine as a light into the world which was dark—and despite everything the dark could do it has never overcome that wonderful light.

God, in His love, chose to be born into the desperation of human experience. He chose poverty and not splendour; He chose danger and not security; He chose to be born a long way from “home”. And all this in order to meet us – His people. And God’s coming in Jesus was and is so obscure, so remote, so out of the way, that we easily miss Him. We easily forget that He has come, because we are so caught up with our own lives, our own busyness.

Jesus slipped into our world that Christmas and has done ever since. He comes to side with the poor, with the vulnerable, with those who live in fear and to demonstrate that God chooses to live in surprising places and especially with those whom others don’t want to think about.

The problems for many in the world today are so HUGE we can’t begin to imagine them, but the Christmas story challenges you and me to recognize that God’s love and God’s example calls us to respond to those who need our help this year.

So please have a very joyful Christmas—lots of light, colour, music, family, friends and turkey — but don’t get so carried



away with all the preparation, the gift buying and the card writing that you forget why we celebrate this wonderful birth every year

We look forward to welcoming you and your family to our Nativity Festival or to one or more of our Christmas services where we will share the true meaning of Christmas and enjoy singing lots of carols. Have a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year. With love, Elaine, Jim, Adam, Cordelia and the cats!

"I heard the bells on Christmas Day  
Their old, familiar carols play,  
And wild and sweet  
The words repeat  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

**OUR JOYS AND OUR SORROWS**

**Baptism**

Alexander Owen Thalassinos  
*We welcome him into the Christian Family.*

**Marriage**

Jamie Stevens & Stacey Barnett  
*We offer our congratulations and best wishes for the future.*

**NATIVITY SET**

Do you have a nativity set we could borrow?

Once again St Chad’s will be holding its annual Nativity Crib Festival. If you have an interesting Nativity we could borrow please bring it to church on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December from 6pm onward.

Last year we had over 80 nativity sets from far and wide. Can you help us surpass that this year?

Elaine

**CYCLE OF PRAYER—Praying for our Community**

Praying in December for  
Underhill Way  
Vicarage Rise  
Wright Gardens  
Wychwood Close  
Yardley Way

Praying in January for  
Achilles Close  
Argyle Way  
Banbury Rd  
Banquo Approach  
Beale Close

If there is something or someone you would like us to pray for please let Elaine our Vicar or a member of the congregation know.

Come and join us at St Chad's as we journey to Bethlehem

December 3<sup>rd</sup> 10am Advent Sunday - Holy Communion

December 3<sup>rd</sup> 4pm Christingle service - a fun service for all the family where we raise money for the Children's Society and learn about the meaning of the Christingle.

December 8<sup>th</sup> 10 – 5pm Nativity Festival – Come and see all the Nativity sets / Cribs from around the world.

December 9<sup>th</sup> 10 – 6pm - Our Nativity Festival continues

December 10<sup>th</sup> 11:30 – 6pm – The Nativity festival continues and at 6pm will conclude with Carols on the Green and the lighting of our Christmas tree followed by mince pies and mulled wine.

December 17<sup>th</sup> 6pm Carols by Candlelight – a selection of readings and traditional carols. Everyone welcome.

December 22<sup>nd</sup> 6:30pm Carols at the Leopard - come along, have a pint and sing some carols. All welcome

December 24<sup>th</sup> 4pm Crib Service with our Nativity play. Once again our Nativity Play is open to all. We have a Mary and Joseph but we need, shepherd, Kings, sheep, donkeys, and any other animal you can think of, angels and stars! If you'd like to dress up come 15 minutes before we start and we will try and find you a costume! Parents can dress up too! Do come along and hear this wonderful story of the birth of Jesus. There will also be a refund of taxes paid in the form of chocolate money!

December 25<sup>th</sup> 10am – Family Eucharist – bring your presents but most of all come yourselves and hear once again the Good News of God coming to earth as a baby

*Of course our normal 10am services will continue throughout Advent and there will be Holy Communion at 12pm every Wednesday and Compline at 8pm on Tuesdays*

## **POSADA**

With all the hustle and bustle that surrounds Christmas it is all too easy to forget what should be at the centre of our celebrations!

As in previous years, we at St Chad's are providing a moment of quiet and peace, as a focus for each home in our parish. Mary and Joseph and the donkey will be available to journey through Advent, staying overnight with you. Included with them is a simple prayer – many of us use it with the figures at our main family meal while they are in our home.

There is a chart in church where you can sign to be their host. Give your contact details, so that you can then arrange to deliver them to the hosts for the following day. The first hosts will collect them on Advent Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. They will remain on their travels until Christmas Eve when they will be brought to church for the Blessing of the Christmas Crib.

If you would like your name adding to the list please ring Elaine or drop her an email or message via Facebook.

## **CHURCHYARD RAMBLINGS**

Everyone knows that churchyards are consecrated but what does that mean? Well it means made holy or put aside for special uses. So a church is built on consecrated ground and the church and things in it are consecrated for worship and special use. After a Baptism the water remaining after the ceremony has to be poured onto the consecrated ground of the churchyard.

Only a bishop can consecrate grounds or buildings. This means that special permission has to be granted before anything in the churchyard is changed that the general rules do not cover.

At Christmas time many people put wreaths on their loved ones grave. This is acceptable, as the grass no longer needs mowing. We are grateful that families remove these by the end of January. Spring flower bulbs can also be planted as these will die back before mowing begins again.

We need another volunteer to mow the churchyard the help out our two stalwarts, George and Phil. Can you help? Chat to them about what it involves or ask Elaine to direct you to the right person.

With the festive season very soon upon us, I'd like to take this opportunity on behalf of the whole Parish Council to wish all our residents a peaceful and joyous Christmas break and extend best wishes for the New Year. Thanks to Cllr. Graham Leeke and his team we have a Christmas tree and this will soon be erected on the village green.

The Parish Council has been informed by County Highways that road improvements on Europa Way will commence in February 2018 for 12 to 18 months. County Highways have assured the Parish Council that they will try to keep disruptions to a minimum by only closing roads at weekends and in the evenings thus avoiding the peak hours.

With the above in mind we are requesting that the road scheme (designed to slow traffic travelling through the village area of the Parish) on Oakley Wood Road is started as soon as possible. Thanks to some fantastic work by Councillor Leigh Carter this has now been approved but will require a drainage scheme at the point of implementation; as soon as we have a date for this project we will place a note on the website and in the magazine.

The Parish Council is reviewing road signage to ensure that drivers can see the signs and thus, we hope, be mindful of hazards and keep below the speed limit.

If you see any signs that require attention e.g. covered in vegetation, dirty, broken, twisted, etc. please report these to the

County Council either via their website or by calling them.

Additionally, if you see a street light not working please either call the District Council or log on to their website. Street light maintenance is a District Council responsibility for this parish.

The paving slabs on Church Lees have now been inspected by the County Council, the District Council and a contractor. Since the land is not registered to either the District or County Council it is unlikely that they will contribute to any cost in improving the area. We are waiting for a quote from a contractor and we hope to discuss this further at our next meeting. We will, of course, be consulting with residents before work is undertaken. We have also asked for a quote for repairs to the BMX track - hopefully this can be sorted early next year.

The graffiti on the Meadow is being tackled but, as usual, at a cost to residents. If anyone knows who is responsible can they please contact either the Clerk or the Police in confidence.

Dog fouling continues to be an issue; expenditure on the camera has now been approved and this will be used to tackle this problem. Again this is at a cost to residents because of inconsiderate residents. If you know who is 'not picking up after their dog' please do let us know. The District Council has assured us that



finances will be imposed. Please call either the Clerk or the dog warden in confidence.

The working party is doing a great job in keeping our parish looking smart; thanks to all those who attended the bulb planting event in November it will be wonderful to see the early spring flowers emerge next year. If you would like to join Cllr. Paul Whitwood and his team please do give him a call all help is always welcome.

The allotment rents were discussed at the Parish Council meeting and it was decided that these will remain at £15 per plot. Should you wish to rent a plot please contact the Clerk who will inform the allotments manager.

Finally, thank you for all those who have kept the missing Warwick Gates bin in your thoughts, I am delighted to tell you that he has been found in a healthy condition and is back at his post – many

thanks to any residents who helped with this. When questioned the bin said that he had travelled to Weston-super-Mare for a holiday on the seaside, which he felt was a really enriching experience for him. Personally, I think he's full of rubbish...!

The next meeting (hopefully with a box of mine-pies) is on 14<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in the St. Chad's Centre – all residents are welcome to attend.

Merry Christmas

Any questions please contact our Parish Clerk :

Mrs Corinne Hill  
Gaydon Fields Farm  
Gaydon CV35 0HF

Tel: 01926 641220

email:  
[parishclerk@bishopstachbrook.com](mailto:parishclerk@bishopstachbrook.com)/  
[parishclerk85@btinternet.com](mailto:parishclerk85@btinternet.com)

## **CHRISTMAS APPEAL DOGS TRUST (NCDL) AT HONILEY & AVON CAT RESCUE**

We are collecting to help feed the many cats and dogs at the above Rescue Centres.

They urgently need the following:

tins, packets, bags, and boxes of food

Treats, Toys

Used postage stamps

Towels and Blankets which you no longer need.

Please help the animals and give whatever you can. Any of the above will be gratefully received by,

Jackie, at 41 Mallory Road or

Pat at Brookside Farm ( left hand side by the brook ) or

Lynda at 29 Holt Avenue

# The Santa interview

*What do you prefer to be called? Santa Claus, Santy, Kris Kringle, Nick?*

Santa or Santy will do me fine. Maybe Santa Claus on formal letters and correspondence, just to be sure to be sure you get the right man... I won't tell you what Mrs. Claus calls me.

*Why do you love to wear red and white so much?*

The colours flatter me. Matches my nose! Ho, ho, ho!

Ho, ho, ho, you make my belly wobble like a bowlful of jelly, heh, I'm a poet as well! Magic... I would say that I'm talented.

*What is talent to you?*

Same as it is to everyone else, 90% hard work.

*What is your least favourite thing about Christmas?*

In a sense it brings out the best in everyone, there is a lot of sharing, caring, working together and enjoying each other's company. but some people get greedy. Greed is the worst aspect of it. Where some people want to give and give and they take joy out of nothing other than that selfless act of giving, others just take and take and want more and more.

*People like to leave out all sorts of food items for you, what should the people of Bishop's Tachbrook leave you*

To be honest, I'm becoming almost as jelly as I am jolly these days! I need to lose some weight, ho, ho, ho! So, the less I eat on Christmas Eve is probably the better.

*What do you know about Bishop's Tachbrook, if anything?*

Some nice old houses I've been visiting for centuries now plus a lot more over the years. I know there's going to be lot more houses for me to visit in the future so it will keep me busy.

*What do you like about Bishop's Tachbrook?*

I love the people who decorate their houses with such amazing light displays, makes it much easier for the reindeer to find you!

*What do you dislike about Bishop's Tachbrook?*

Some people seem to use the festive season as an excuse to wear really silly jumpers . If I see anyone in the club or Leopard wearing one, no presents next year!

*How are you going to cope on our desert island?*

I like it snowy and cold not sandy and hot, so not very well. Let's get on and talk tracks!

## **Santa's Desert Island Discs**

Something most people don't know about me is that I'm an avid Jazz fan, so these tracks will jazz up your Christmas. I've gone for an eclectic mix of jazz interpretations of some Christmas classics to tracks in which I feature, vain I know!

### ***Jingle Bells by Duke Ellington and his Orchestra***

"Jingle Bells" is one of the best-known and commonly sung songs in the world. It was published under the title "One Horse Open Sleigh" in the autumn of 1857. Rudolph has hated the lyrics ever since because a horse is pulling the sleigh. With no words he likes this version better.

### ***O Tannenbaum by the Vince Guaraldi Trio***

This is a German Christmas song better known to you as 'Oh Christmas Tree'. It is based on a traditional folk song, it became associated with the traditional Christmas tree by the early 20th century and sung as a Christmas carol. This jazz version improvises on the tune which is also well known as the tune for The Red Flag.

### ***The Christmas Song by Dexter Gordon***

Commonly subtitled "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire" or, as it was originally subtitled, "Merry Christmas to You" is a classic Christmas song written in 1945 by Bob Wells and Mel Tormé. Here Dexter Gordon plays a really cool version on the Tenor Sax.

### ***White Christmas by Charlie Parker***

"White Christmas" is a 1942 Irving Berlin song. The version sung by Bing Crosby is the world's best-selling single with estimated sales in excess of 100 million copies worldwide. Other versions of the song, along with Crosby's, have sold over 150 million copies. Charlie 'Bird' Parker was a true genius and this is 4 minutes of sheer delight!

### ***Good morning blues by Ella Fitzgerald***

Who cannot love Ella's voice. Here she's making a direct appeal to me to return her lover as a Christmas present. I'm not telling whether I responded or not!

### ***Christmas in New Orleans by Louis Armstrong***

'You'll see a dixieland Santa Claus Leading the band' Louis is singing about me what's not to like? He wasn't a bad trumpet player either!

### ***Snowfall by Ahmad Jamal Trio***

Ahmad Jamal was one of the founders of the 'cool jazz' movement. Here his piano paints an image of snowfall in notes. One of the tracks on my playlist when I'm delivering presents in hot climes because it reminds of the white, white snow of home, much better than green, green grass but Rudolf may disagree.

### ***Here comes Santa Claus by the Ramsey Lewis Trio***

Great piano from Lewis supported by cool bass and tight drums, I really feel this track conjures up something of my personality, I call it laid back cool jolly!

All these tracks are on the net thing, seriously could I get replaced by Amazon! Also I supplied your editor with a Cd of the tracks that I'm sure he'd lend you. Have a great Christmas, I hope you like your presents!

*If you'd like to submit your Desert Island Discs for publication please e-mail  
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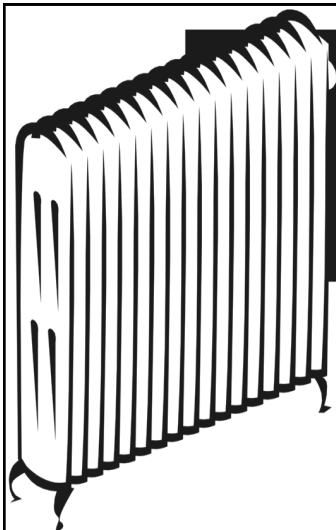
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Mental Health and Wellbeing is a bit of a hot topic these days, which is wonderful, but it's been a long road of battling fear and stigma, and some of that still sticks! Mental health charities have developed over the years, and many grass roots groups have grown in to large organisations. They used to say that all voluntary projects start out of anger, somebody stamping a foot or banging a desk and saying "why isn't there any help here!" which leads some people to take action and form a support group, that grows in to an organisation. Springfield Mind has gone through several formations over the years, but they've never lost sight of the key element, which is to support people on their journey to mental wellbeing, and/or to help them manage and live well with a mental health condition.

Like all locally based Mind projects, we are affiliated to National Mind, which helps us keep informed of the latest developments and research, however our funding comes from local and national fundraising and funding applications, to help us develop projects, employ staff and support volunteers.

There is a strong ethos of inviting people with "lived experience" of mental health problems to work for us and with us, so that we are truly able to both empathise with the people we support, and value the experience that life journeys give us, to role model wellbeing.

Springfield Mind Services range from one to one opportunities for people to explore what is happening and what would help, which is the "Pathfinder Service", Peer Group and Drop in Services, to encourage people with experience to share knowledge and support each other, "Reach Out and Help", which offers people in the Stratford area an opportunity to work with a mentor if they are struggling with life choices, "Green Minds", two beautiful allotments, one in Stratford and one in Leamington, which we are developing as Ecotherapy, and "Dementia Wellbeing Café's", two, two hour sessions in Stratford every Saturday that offer engaging and supportive time for people living with Dementia and their carers.

We work across South Warwickshire and in to Worcestershire, where we have two new projects based in Evesham. Based at Wallace House, we have a peer group and drop in one to one service for the people of Evesham. Alongside our work there we are in the early stages of a pilot project called "Active Monitoring", which is based at two GP surgeries. GP's can refer people with low level anxiety and depression to have sessions over an 8 week period, exploring strategies to improve their mental health. We are pleased to say that we will soon be offering the same service in Bidford, Warwickshire.

As you can see there is a wide and varied number of things that we offer, and much of that is supported by volunteers who

## SPRINGFIELD MIND

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help us in the groups, out at the allotments, and in our offices, helping us stay connected and communicating with the wider community to develop, improve and make a positive impact.

We are always keen to hear from anyone who would like to offer volunteer support, as well as encouraging talk to us if they are concerned about their own mental health, or that of a family member, friend or colleague.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to contribute to the Bishop's Tachbrook Parish Magazine, and we look forward to hearing from any of you who would like to find out more about us and our work.

### Contact details:

Tel: 01789 298615

Email: [enquiries@springfieldmind.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@springfieldmind.org.uk)

In an emergency, if you need to talk to someone urgently outside of our hours of business please call the Mental Health Matters Support line on 0800 616171 or online chat & support [www.mentalhealthmatters.com](http://www.mentalhealthmatters.com) & select live support

## Poetry please

**I am**

**John Clare (1845)**

I am: yet what I am none cares or knows,  
My friends forsake me like a memory lost;  
I am the self-consumer of my woes,  
They rise and vanish in oblivious host,  
Like shades in love and death's oblivion lost;  
And yet I am! and live with shadows tost

Into the nothingness of scorn and noise,  
Into the living sea of waking dreams,  
Where there is neither sense of life nor joys,  
But the vast shipwreck of my life's esteems;  
And e'en the dearest- that I loved the best-  
Are strange- nay, rather stranger than the rest.

I long for scenes where man has never trod;  
A place where woman never smil'd or wept;  
There to abide with my creator, God,  
And sleep as I in childhood sweetly slept:  
Untroubling and untroubled where I lie;

## Charitable articles

If you work for or with a local charity and would like to describe its work to others we would love you to submit an article.

Please contact the editor on: [btparishmagazine@hotmail.com](mailto:btparishmagazine@hotmail.com)

Please note articles should be designed to explain the charities work NOT to raise money



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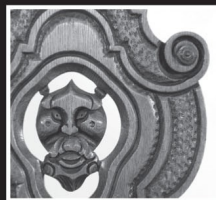
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# *Eternal Flowers*

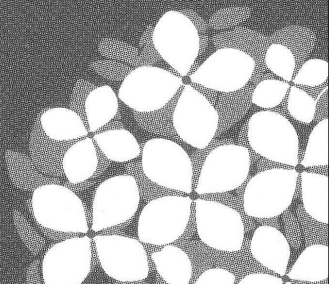
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**[www.eternal-flowers.com](http://www.eternal-flowers.com)**



Orion rises in the late evening sky as days grow shorter and nights stretch longer.

The Winter solstice draws near, a time of equal day and night.

I'm often fascinated by the thought that everyone in history that's walked the earth has seen the same stars and gazed upon the same moon -

Shakespeare, Charlie

Chaplin your Grandparents.

All looked in wonder just like you may have done.

Holly berries perch between the dark prickly leaves inviting Blackbirds and many other thrushes to eat them and carry their seeds away from the mother tree.

Nature always has a plan and sometimes a counter plan. Every morning a small gang of Squirrels scamper down the Cedar tree, tails twitching, claws clattering, bracing themselves for a bit of argy bargy over the peanuts. Each one arrives, eats a few whilst sitting in the classic squirrel pose. Then they dash away and find a spot to bury a few peanuts for later, a deep instinctive urge to have a larder. What they don't see is the Magpie who has a deep instinctive urge to grab anything edible it can. The Squirrels are watched

intently. When they move off the Magpie moves in and snaffles as many as it can remember. Each day, as if by magic, new peanuts arrive, the Squirrels know of the peanuts, the Magpie knows of the Squirrels and I know of the plan.



There is a shoot around here in October. The Pheasants are released, not very hedgerow-wise. Up to thirty strut their stuff around the cottage unaware of the dangers. The odd pile of feathers can be seen where a Fox has got lucky.

When we arrived here I crossed paths with a female Pheasant. She would often visit for breakfast along with the Squirrels. She didn't run away like the other Pheasants and its good to have her around. So, as the shooting started I really hoped she would stay close to the cottage. She must have survived one shoot so she knows the ropes. Sure enough she was there next day. Fingers crossed she will stay clear of the guns and I'll enjoy seeing her.

Just a quick thought whilst scribbling. I recently heard that the Oxford Children's dictionary is removing over a hundred nature words! When I think of how my Granddad worked on the land and my Dad was the first generation to leave the soil. So the gap began. Luckily my Dad cherished his connection to the land and passed it on to me - "thanks Dad!" Words like "Otter" and "Willow" are being removed. As children loose connection to the natural world and their lives become more virtual I wonder will there be a time when a child is read a bedtime story and asks, "Mummy, what is a willow and why does it have wind?" As Shakespeare and Kenneth Graham gazed at the moon they couldn't have foreseen that could they?

I wish you a good Christmas and hope you receive all that makes you happy.

## **Looking for a local builder?**

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*Conservatory bases*

*All aspects considered and reasonably priced*

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*Email: [markrowland247@gmail.com](mailto:markrowland247@gmail.com)*

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**THANK YOU ...THANK YOU ... THANK YOU ... THANK YOU!**

To all who helped in any way, by serving, producing goodies and cards or buying them, a huge thank you. Our Coffee Morning on 18<sup>th</sup> Nov. has raised £390, with a possible further £10 when the last 3 remaining items are sold tomorrow. The money raised will go towards giving Warwickshire families a much-needed holiday, some small gifts for 6 prisoners' children, Literacy classes for overseas people and other Mothers' Union projects. THANK YOU! *Jenny Lister*

### **Christmas Haiku**

Left a glass of milk  
In the morning it's still there  
Brandy is missing!

## **Poetry please**

### **Christmas at the Turn of the**

**Century.** By Elizabeth Matthews—

(written in 1983 by the 90 year old grandmother of Anne Napier, a member of the History Group)

Christmas used to be such fun, in the days when I was young.  
Christmas mornings we were thrilled, to find our stockings had been filled.  
In mine what treats, an orange, nuts and sweets;  
A tiny parcel opened with great care, to find a satin ribbon for my hair.  
These were my gifts although so few  
I was pleased my ribbon was a lovely blue.

Now to breakfast, another treat,  
A whole boiled egg was mine to eat.  
Not to be shared with my sister mind,  
All mine. Father Christmas was so kind.

In my mind I still can see, things that meant a lot to me.  
The big black pot on the hob, a pudding boiling, rising steam;  
A rabbit roasting in the oven, a bunch of ivy on the ceiling beam.

The ivy was our Christmas tree, the only one we ever knew.  
Decorated with apples, oranges and little sugar mice  
Christmas our only treat in all the year,  
oh it was so nice.

To the children of today, my Christmas must seem dull  
With my brothers and my sisters we enjoyed it to the full.  
Christmas, lovely Christmas, it was heaven when I was only seven.





[www.StChadsCentre.com](http://www.StChadsCentre.com)  
[www.facebook.com/stchadscentre/](https://www.facebook.com/stchadscentre/)

### News ...

- A new web link has been created ([www.StChadsCentre.com](http://www.StChadsCentre.com)) to make it easier to visit the website for information or to make a booking online.
- In October, Anne Marie from *Get Cooking* held 'Friday Night Fakeaway' curry cooking class and party to raise funds and for the Centre. Over forty attended, £400 was raised and a fun night was had by all. A Mexican cooking party is being planned
- In November, Julian Atkins from *Salsa Warwick* gave lessons and a party which even those wary of the dance floor enjoyed. An entertaining evening was had by Tachbrookians, who once again generously supported the Centre.
- Thanks to the funds raised and a £2,500 grant from the Warwick Rural West Community Forum, six new tables and 25 chairs for adults have been added, which enables the Centre to host a larger range of events and activities. Trustees are now seeking to raise funds to purchase an additional five children's chairs, so a full school class can be accommodated for birthday parties.
- A band of volunteers have been busy planting bulbs, lavender and a Yew hedge to ensure the Centre will be looking good next spring.

### Watch out for ...

- Grant applications are being submitted to help fund two major projects in 2018:
  - \* Curtains and portable staging for the main hall.
  - \* An access footpath, with low-level lighting, under which Trustees are seeking to install cabling to supply electricity for events on the Village Green.
- 9 February - Live & Local event Point of Echoes: The first commission from the Rural Touring Dance Initiative. A brand new intimate piece of dance theatre from internationally renowned choreographer Ben Wright. Point of Echoes is a haunting tale of love, death and monsters, blending the tones of a Wes Anderson movie with the eerie dread of The Twilight Zone. "giddy, pensive, vulnerable, uncomfortable, sensual.....mysterious yet playfully alive to the moment" *The Times*
- 9 March - Tutored wine tasting (save the date, more details to follow)

### Could you be a Trustee?

If you're interested in learning more about what's involved in becoming a St Chad's Centre Trustee, please contact our Chair, Carol Gabbitas at [stchadscentrebtt@gmail.com](mailto:stchadscentrebtt@gmail.com).

**ST CHAD'S CHURCH**



**CHRISTMAS  
QUIZ**

*Join us for random  
and quirky quiz  
rounds suitable for all  
ages.*

*Teams dressed up in  
the Christmas Spirit  
will get a present  
from the Santa Sack!*

AT THE ST CHAD'S CENTRE  
SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
DOORS OPEN 6PM FOR A  
PROMPT 6:30PM START.

TICKETS WILL COST £3.50 FOR ADULTS AND  
£2.00 FOR CHILDREN.  
TASTY CHRISTMAS NIBBLES WILL BE PROVIDED.

**ALL MONIES RAISED WILL GO TO ST CHAD'S CHURCH**

ashornehill

## Vacancies at Ashorne

Ashorne Hill is a residential Management Training and Conference Centre in the heart of Warwickshire.

Are you looking for a permanent job but are unable to work a full 40 hours per week? Ashorne Hill Management College are looking for flexible individuals who are willing to work a minimum of 16 hours per week 5 days out of 7. The catering department needs waiters and waitresses to cover our breakfast, lunch and dinner services.

- Requires an outgoing personality and a willingness to learn.
- Previous customer service experience would be an advantage.
- Excellent benefits and a rate of £7.80 per hour.
- Own transport would be needed due to location.

Please send CV to Sue.James@ashornehill.co.uk or contact her on 01926 488055.

We are always interested in recruiting local people. Please keep looking at our website for more opportunities within our organisation [www.ashornehill.co.uk](http://www.ashornehill.co.uk)



Ashorne Hill, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV33 9QW  
01926 708200 [www.ashornehill.co.uk](http://www.ashornehill.co.uk)

# Bishop's Tachbrook Calendar

## What's on in December

Thursday 14th 7.45, **WI, Christmas Party** B T School  
01926 426797

Tuesday 5th Noon for 12.30 **History Group, Festive meal**, The Leopard,  
01926 885938

Saturday 9th 9.30-13.00, **Parish Council Working Party**,  
thewhitwood4@btinternet.com

Saturday 9th 18.00 for an 18.30 start,  
**St Chad's Church Quiz** at St Chad's Centre, 01926 426922

Thursday 13th 19.30, **Parish Council Meeting** at St Chad's Centre

Friday 22nd 6:30pm **Carols at the Leopard**

## What's on in January

Thursday 4th 7.45, **WI, Meal** The Leopard  
01926 426797

Saturday 16th 9.00-12.00, **Coffee Morning in aid of Air Ambulance** at 7 Bishop's Close

## What's on in February

Friday 9th 7.45, **Dance Theatre: Point of Echoes**, at St Chad's Centre

**Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup>** 14.30 in St Chad's Community Centre. **History Group AGM and social**, at St Chad's Centre

## Weekly events

Mondays 18.30-20.00 **Youth Club** at B.T School  
Email: [btyouthclub@gmail.com](mailto:btyouthclub@gmail.com)

Mondays Children 19.25-20.15 Adults 20.30—21.30 **Get Cooking** at St Chad's Centre  
07956955951 [getcooking@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:getcooking@hotmail.co.uk)

Tuesdays 09.30-12.15 **Little Tinkers Soft Play** at St Chad's Centre 079117385747 or Facebook

Tuesdays 14.00-16.00 **Over 50s** at the Sports and Social Club,  
01926 313020

Tuesdays 18.00-19.00 **Pilates** at St Chad's Centre  
01926 259293

Tuesdays 19.15-19.20.15 **Pilates for cyclists** at St Chad's Centre  
01926 259293

Tuesdays 20.00 **Bingo** at the Sports and Social Club,  
01926 421621

Wednesdays 09.15-10.15 **Pilates** at St Chad's Centre  
01926 25929

Wednesdays 10.30-12.00 **Community Cafe** at St Chad's Centre  
01926 259293

Wednesdays 17.00-18.00 **Rainbows** at the Sports and Social Club, 0779 6033471 e-mail: [CarolineIoveday@sky.com](mailto:CarolineIoveday@sky.com)

Wednesdays 18.00-19.45 **Brownies** at the Sports and Social Club, 0779 6033471 e-mail: [CarolineIoveday@sky.com](mailto:CarolineIoveday@sky.com)

Wednesdays 19.00 -20.00, **Tai Chi** at St Chad's Centre,  
01926 338866

Thursdays 09.30-11.00 **Tachbrook Tinies playgroup** for 0-5s at St Chad's Centre, Tachbrook Tinies on Facebook  
2nd Thursday of each month 20.00 **Country Dancing** at the Sports and Social Club, 01926 314286

Fridays 09.30-16.00 **Little Tinkers Soft Play** at St Chad's Centre 079117385747 or Facebook

Sundays 20.00 **Bingo** at the Sports and Social Club,

## Wartime Christmas

Anne Kirby

Walking into the Community Centre for our November meeting was déjà vu for we older members of the History Group, and a revelation for younger members. A large table was covered with games and toys from the 1940s; a second contained a selection of cooking equipment while a

introduced as a representative of the Ministry of Food, who would give us some advice and tips on preparing a few festive dishes out of our meagre wartime rations. The average ration per adult **per week** was: ½ lb sugar, ½ lb margarine, 6 oz cheese, 2 oz of loose tea,



third offered items familiar to us in our childhoods – a Brownie camera, gas masks, including a Mickey Mouse version for 2-5 year olds and a zipped canvas container with viewing window for the baby. The illusion was complete when our speaker, Jane Arnold, appeared in a floral cotton dress, her head covered with a black cap and hairnet. Jane was

meat costing 1s.20d, plus ½ lb jam and ½ lb sweets **per month**.

The Ministry sent greetings in the form of extra rations for the period 17-23 December; this included an extra 1oz of tea for seniors over 70, plus extra points to buy ½ lb apples, or prunes, or sultanas or treacle, as well as extra sweets for the

children (and a reminder to keep any colourful wrappers to use as decorations on the Christmas tree).

Petrol was not available except for emergency and essential services and the traditional feature of bell-ringing at Christmas was prohibited. This was because a peal of bells signified either that we had been invaded, or we had won the war!

Having set the background Jane proceeded to the serious business of preparing mince pies, a Christmas cake and a pseudonym apricot tart. Oatmeal replaced fat in the pastry; British-grown carrots featured largely in the recipes - as apricots in the tart and a filler, along with breadcrumbs, grated potatoes and a generous helping of spices in the cake, which was enhanced by the addition of gravy browning to give the impression of a rich mixture. Mince pies contained spices and a sprinkling of sultanas and dried elderflower berries resembling currants in appearance, if not in taste. Jane happened to have cooked these items earlier, so we were treated or punished with samples of the finished products. The cake tasted like old-fashioned bread pudding and the mince pies were acceptable, but the apricot tart, despite the dollop of jam on top, was short on the apricot flavour. Icing sugar was not available, but the keen cook could hire and decorate with holly a white cardboard imitation cake to contain and disguise her culinary efforts and provide some Christmas cheer.

Jane then turned her attention to decorating the small plain Christmas tree. Paper chains made with scrap paper replaced tinsel; knitted candles were safer than the wax variety, disused light bulbs replaced baubles and any colourful objects and the essential fairy converted the tree to festive mode.



Jane, helped by her assistant, Mrs Thompson (who got on with her knitting during the talk), gave an amusing and instructive presentation; it was in fact based on a Ministry initiative to instruct and encourage women across the

country to be flexible and adventurous in their cooking and to “make-do and mend”. Those of us who lived through those times and took for granted that our mothers would produce regular meals, often with produce grown by the menfolk on their allotments or gardens, came away feeling grateful for all the hard work that enabled us to survive during those difficult times.

Future Meetings: **Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup>**

**December**, noon for 12.30 - *A festive Meal at the Leopard Inn*

No Meeting in January

**Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018** - 2.30 in St Chad's Community Centre. **AGM AND SOCIAL**

*Name:* Helen Tudge

*Business:* Self employed Chartered Physiotherapist/ Pilates Instructor

*Year business started:* 2012

*Tell us a bit about what your business does/classes offered?*

I offer individual physiotherapy in my treatment room in Warwick but also run Pilates classes in several Warwickshire villages, the newest venue being the St Chad's Centre. I offer general mat classes, seated Pilates and as my own sport is cycling I run Pilates for Cyclists classes.

*Give us a bit of background to the business?*

I worked in the NHS for 18years . After general experience I specialised in musculoskeletal conditions and then worked in a back pain clinic. I found teaching patients the right exercises to manage their back pain and improve their posture was a particularly satisfying part of my job . I therefore trained as a Pilates instructor as well, to enable me to reach more people by running classes.

*What sets you apart from other businesses?*

As a Pilates instructor being a Chartered Physiotherapist with 30 years experience does set me apart from most other instructors running classes in village locations. My anatomy knowledge and years of experience of treating patients with musculoskeletal conditions does mean I can ensure exercises are safe and

appropriate for each customer.

*What are your business principles or values?*

To empower people to look after their bodies and manage their back /neck/joint pain with appropriate exercises to give them more control over their aches & pains and help them fight the fight against gravity!

*What made you choose Bishop's Tachbrook to host your activity/class?*

A lady from the village who attended a class I used to teach in Leamington suggested Bishop's Tachbrook would be a good place for me to set up a new class. Fortunately she then came along with a merry group from the local WI.

*Where do you see your business in 5 years?*

I now run 9 Pilates classes of my own per week and that feels like enough so I don't think I'll be expanding my timetable of classes but do hope they are all still running in 5 years time. I have only recently acquired my own treatment room so am hoping to build up my physiotherapy clients. As I said I enjoy cycling and hope I can attract more local cyclists both to Pilates and also for individual assessment.

*Who is your target market?*

Absolutely anybody who is interested in taking some responsibility for their body.

*What did you do before you ran your business? Or as a child what did you want to be when you grew up?*



# The business questionnaire

Jenny Bevan

NHS physiotherapist.

*How long have you lived in Bishop's Tachbrook? (if applicable) or the Leamington area?*

I did my Physiotherapy training in Coventry and moved to Leamington in 1993 when my eldest daughter was 1.

*What is the best thing about running your own business/your job?*

Seeing customers get genuine benefit and make progress particularly when the class enjoys a bit of banter and has a laugh whilst they are at it.

*What is the worst thing about running your own business/your job?*

Feeling a little bit guilty whenever I have time off.

*What might surprise people about you?*

People are always surprised to learn this about me, but...I've run 2 marathons in France, one in Paris finishing in 4 hours 7 mins but I'm far prouder of the one that took me 7 hours 45mins (that was through Medoc vineyards dressed as a cavewoman stopping for a sample of wine at every Chateaux !)

*Space for a free plug for your class or activity!*

Come and join your local Pilates class at St Chad's Centre

Tuesday 6.15pm, general class, perfect for straight after work or

Wednesday 9.15am very friendly class and you can even stay for coffee after or

Tuesday 7.15pm Pilates for Cyclists.

# REVIVAL

## Holistic Treatments by Kerry

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**Aromatherapy** from £25.00

**Body Massage** from £21.00

**Hopi Ear Candles** £18.00 (Children), £23.00 (Adults)

**Indian Head Massage** £28.00

**Get Fresh Spa treatments** from £26.00

**Reflexology** £16.00 (Children), £28.00 (Adults)

**Special combined treatment offers\***

**Back Massage & Hopi Ear Candles** £35.00 (Usually £44.00)

**Back Massage & Reflexology** £36.50 (Usually £49.00)

**Gift Vouchers available**

**Free parking**

**Call for our latest offers and further information on any of the above treatments**

\* Combined treatment offer only applicable when taken together during a single appointment



# Brownies



- ♥ Make new friends ♥
- ♥ Learn new skills & crafts ♥
- ♥ Play lots of noisy games ♥
- ♥ Go on cool trips & outings ♥
- ♥ Camp indoors ♥
- ♥ HAVE HEAPS OF FUN! ♥



Are you aged 7 - 10 years?

Are you free on Wednesday evenings 6.15pm - 7.45pm?

## WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

To join in the fun contact:  
[CarolineLoveday@sky.com](mailto:CarolineLoveday@sky.com)



**Girlguiding UK**  
*girls in the lead*







**Bishop's Tachbrook Pre-School**  
**01926 313508**  
[btpreschoolnursery@gmail.com](mailto:btpreschoolnursery@gmail.com)

Spaces available for September 2017

Full day rates 8am - 3.30pm only  
 £32.50 (£15 per a hour session per day)

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 Nov 2014



Playgroup for 0-4 years

Thursday 9:30 - 11:00

St Chads Centre, Bishops Tachbrook

Bouncy Castle

Baby Area

Toys and activities



Crafts

Nursery Rhymes

Tea/Coffee &  
Children's snack



£1.50 per adult

50p per child

Term Time Only

St Chads Centre  
 Mallory Road, Bishops Tachbrook



## Bishop's Tachbrook Junior Youth Club

Monday 6.30-8pm in the School Hall

During Term Time Only

£1.50 per session and yearly  
 membership of £2 payable  
 in September.

For more information  
 contact Club leader: Gianni Antoniazzi  
 Tel: 07972 824540  
[bt youthclub@gmail.com](mailto:bt youthclub@gmail.com)  
 or come along on a Monday.

We desperately need more adult  
 volunteers to come and help at our club,  
 if you can spare a couple of hours on an  
 odd Monday then please let me know.



## CHRISTMAS APPEAL DOGS TRUST (NCDL) AT HONILEY & AVON CAT RESCUE

We are collecting to help feed the many  
 cats and dogs at the above Rescue  
 Centres. They urgently need the following:

tins, packets, bags, and boxes of food

Treats, Toys

Used postage stamps

Towels and Blankets which you no longer  
 need.

Please help the animals and give whatever

you can. Any of the above will be  
 gratefully received by,

Jackie, at 41 Mallory Road or

Pat at Brookside Farm ( left hand side by  
 the brook ) or

Lynda at 29 Holt Avenue

# Bishop's Tachbrook Sports and Social Club

## Winter Entertainment

### December

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> December – Simply Sarah**

Simply Sarah returns to entertain with a mixture of rock & pop hits.

#### **9<sup>th</sup> December - Quiz**

Quiz nights are great fun and remember a prize for every team.

#### **16<sup>th</sup> December – Bottle Bingo**

Join us for a fun night of Bingo where there are plenty of drinks to be won. We will also be drawing the Christmas Raffle – ask behind the bar for details ).

#### **24<sup>th</sup> December – Bob Poole**

Local musician Bob Poole will be here singing a mixture of classic rock, blues and acoustic hits.

#### **31<sup>st</sup> December – Distorted Decade/Bugs**

Join us on New Year's Eve to celebrate the countdown into 2018!

Distorted Decade are an energetic band who cover all music from 50's rock & roll through to current day and everything in between.

Bugs are a classic cover band playing hits from the 50's, 60's and 70's.

A night not to be missed, both bands are guaranteed to get you up dancing into the New Year

### January

#### **6<sup>th</sup> January - Quiz**

Gather your smartest friends and head over to test your knowledge against The Judge! Lots of fun and great prizes to be won.

#### **13<sup>th</sup> January - Mistreated**

Rock covers of all your favourite songs sang the Mistreated way. Don't forget to bring your air guitar!

#### **20<sup>th</sup> January – Skittles Night**

Skittles nights are great fun for all the family.

#### **27<sup>th</sup> January – Insomnia**

After popular demand Insomnia are back to rock the night away with classic rock & pop covers from a band born to entertain.

### **February**

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> February – The Mustard Band**

The Mustard Band will be playing a varied set of rock classics from the 60's, 70's and 80's.

#### **10<sup>th</sup> February – Quiz**

Quiz nights are great fun and remember a prize for every team.

#### **17<sup>th</sup> February – Rob Alton**

Rob Alton will be entertaining us singing a mixture of rock & pop hits through the night.

#### **24<sup>th</sup> February – Muve-On**

Muve-On will be playing classic rock covers from The Eagles, Pink Floyd, U2, Coldplay, Stereophonics plus many more. Come on down for a great night.

## FUNCTION ROOM FREE TO HIRE

(T's & C's apply)

Please visit our website: [www.bishopstachbrookclub.co.uk](http://www.bishopstachbrookclub.co.uk) for details or

Telephone: 01926 421621, Email: [enquiries@bishopstachbrookclub.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@bishopstachbrookclub.co.uk).

You can also visit our Facebook Page: [bishopstachbrookclub](https://www.facebook.com/bishopstachbrookclub) or call Karen Anderson on 07855709051 for more information.

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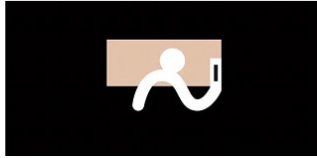
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Traditional Farm Fresh Turkey Association



## ***SC PLASTERING.***

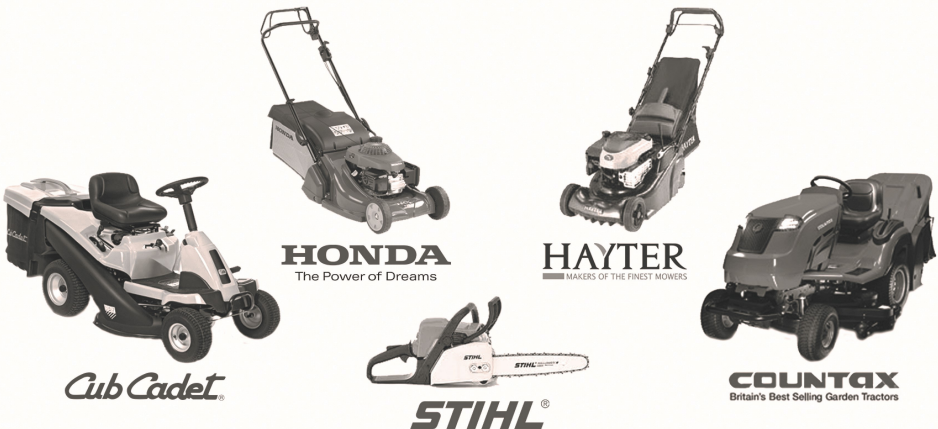
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**MURLEY  
GARDEN  
MACHINERY**



## Community CAFE

Every Wednesday  
10.30am - 12.00

St Chad's Centre  
Filter Coffee/Tea & Cake  
£2  
Also available to take  
away



## Wag About Town Pet Services

I provide a friendly, professional and reliable dog walking and pet care service in the South Leamington area. I can walk your dog, feed your cat and look after your small furry animals, all carried out in your home.

Please contact me if you would like to chat about your requirements.

07598 240703

wagabouttown.petservices@gmail.com



## Poetry please

### The trouble with snowmen

Roger McGough

The trouble with snowmen,  
Said my father one year  
They are no sooner made  
than they just disappear.

I'll build you a snowman  
And I'll build it to last  
Add sand and cement  
And then have it cast.

And so every winter,'  
He went on to explain  
'You shall have a snowman  
Be it sunshine or rain.'

And that snowman still stands  
Though my father is gone  
Out there in the garden  
Like an unmarked gravestone.

Staring up at the house  
Gross and misshapen  
As if waiting for something  
Bad to happen.

For as the years pass  
And I grow older  
When summers seem short  
And winters colder.

The snowmen I envy  
As I watch children play  
Are the ones that are made  
And then fade away

# The kids' zone

## Sudoku

1		9		6				
		8	7	5				
	6					9		8
	5		1	4		7		
8	2	4				6	3	1
		7		3	8		4	
3		2					1	
				2	6	8		
				8		4		3



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

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CANDLES  
CANDYCANE  
CARDS  
CELEBRATE  
CHIMNEY  
CHRISTMAS  
RUDOLPH  
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SLEIGH  
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TREE  
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ELVES  
FROSTY  
GIFT  
GIVING  
GREETINGS  
HOLIDAY  
JOLLY  
JOY  
MERRY  
MISTLETOE  
NOEL  
NORTHPOLE  
REINDEER

## Christmas jokes

- What does Santa suffer from if he gets stuck in a chimney?  
*Claustrophobia!*
- Why does Santa have three gardens?  
*So he can 'ho ho ho'!*
- What says Oh Oh Oh?  
*Santa walking backwards!*
- What goes Ho Ho Whoosh, Ho Ho Whoosh?  
*Santa going through a revolving door!*
- Why does Santa go down the chimney on Christmas Eve?  
*Because it 'soots' him!*
- What do you call Santa's little helpers?  
*Subordinate clauses!*
- What did Santa say to the smoker?  
*Please don't smoke, it's bad for my elf!*
- Where does Santa go when he's sick?  
*To the elf centre!*
- What do you call a bankrupt Santa?  
*Saint Nickel-less!*
- Why are Christmas trees so bad at sewing?  
*They always drop their needles!*

## Santa dot to dot



### My snowball friend

I made myself a snowball,  
As perfect as could be,  
I thought I'd keep like a pet,  
And let it sleep with me.

I made it some pyjamas,  
And a pillow for its head,  
Then last night it ran away,  
But first — it wet the bed.

### The ill reindeer

A reindeer of Santa's grew ill  
So the vet gave the patient a pill.  
His ears went all droopy.  
And then he went loopy.  
So your present is over the hill!

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**Five New Year facts**

1. England didn't adopt January 1 as New Year's Day until 1752, more than 150 years after Scotland. Before that the year began on March 25, the feast of the Annunciation.
2. The first French Republic changed its calendar in 1793, fixing New Year at the autumnal equinox. Thirteen years later, Napoleon reinstated the Gregorian calendar now in general use.
3. The ancient Egyptians, Chinese and Romans all celebrated New Year on different days. Even within western Christianity, the day has drifted, with Christmas Day, Easter Day and March 1 and 25 all popular. Because the festival was linked to the pagan event of Saturnalia, early Christians called for the New Year to be marked by prayer, fasting and 'humiliation'.
4. The most emotional New Year's Eve party is at the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, where hundreds of thousands toast the reunification of Germany.
5. India, which is 82 per cent Hindu, opts for the international New Year on January 1. Tamil, Sikh and Punjabi New Years are independent celebrations on different dates. And Nepal will celebrate between April 17 and 18.

**Christmas Haiku**

Warm Christmas mulled wine  
Sipped on a cold winter's night  
Makes everything right



Our November meeting is the first of the new committee. New committee you say, well rejigged previous committee really. Some of us have changed jobs others happy to carry on.

Our speaker was Mr Andrew Hamilton with his talk entitled " Meet at Dawn Unarmed ". He first explained how his grandfather Capt. Robert Hamilton from Tiddington had met and married Irene Mordaunt of Walton Hall. After various postings joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment together with Monty and the war cartoonist Bruce Bairnsfather ( of Old Bill fame) . His diary dated from August 4th 1914 until just after Christmas that year gave a fascinating insight into what it was really like at the front. The talk was illustrated by either original photos or ones taken when Andrew actually visited France Reoccurring themes were the mud and loss of so many lives.

On Christmas Eve the Germans asked to meet an officer Capt Hamilton agreed to meet.....at dawn, unarmed. This meeting resulted in a 48 hour armistice when football was played by some, gifts exchanged and the fallen from both sides buried not just in one place but various points along the front line. Andrew had researched well, giving us a little taste of what life had been like. A very interesting and thought provoking talk.

Our own forthcoming events include a visit to the Leopard in January, instead of the usual meeting and the Countess of Evesham next May, this is to celebrate

100 years since the Warwickshire Federation formed. Our Christmas party is the next big event, food is organised, entertainment in rehearsal, carol sheets found and crackers bought . Ring me if you want to come along. Visitors £6:00 not bad for a fun night out.

Events organised by the federation include a tai chi taster day, short mat bowls, and a lecture on Richard 3rd entitled Going Deeper. These together with the county quiz and darts tournament give us a busy start to the new year.

Could your New Years resolution be to come and find out what we get up . Give me a ring or just come along in February when there speaker will be David Fry talking about the Marton Museum of Country Bygones and in March David Howe is going to tell us about The Partners of Prime Ministers

Don't forget to keep your used postage stamps for me and also if Santa brings you new undies we recycle bras for Bravissimo who donate £1 per kilo to a chosen charity. Have a lovely Christmas and best wishes from the ladies of Bishops Tachbrook WI.

There will be a coffee morning in aid of the Air Ambulance on January 6th hosted by Wendy and Piers at 7 Bishops Close. From 10:00am. A perfect opportunity to come along and meet us and support a very worthwhile charity.

Anne Allen 424135

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## Bonfire Night

Have you seen the U-Tube drone pictures of the fireworks? The first few moments scan around the crowd, and it is amazing how many people came along. It's fantastic that we get such great support from everyone, both before the night with purchasing the raffle tickets, and of course on the night when you all turn up whatever the weather.

As usual there are a few special thank yous. A big thank you has to go to Bob and Ian from The Sports & Social Club, Adrian at Linleigh Electrical, Murley Agriculture, Edmundsons Electrical, Piers, Kieran, Alan & all of the others for helping to gather the wood and build the fire. Then Greg, Gordon, Sue and all of the volunteers from Co-Op Energy for helping out on the night. A massive thank you also goes to the many dog walkers who on Saturday morning helped collect the rubbish off the field, and the Community Payback Team who once again re-laid the turf on Sunday. Without everyone's help, we would not be able to carry on with the evening.

If anyone is happy to share some of their pictures with us, please e-mail them to [cathy.herbert@btinternet.com](mailto:cathy.herbert@btinternet.com) or post them on our Facebook page.

And lastly....a date for your diary...2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018, when we hope to see you all again.

Cathy, Martin, Mick, Julie & Ali - Events Group Committee

Winners of the Draw were:

£100 First prize	C. Quarlbrough
Prosecco Basket	R. Evans
Gin Basket	C. Robinson
Wine	M. Edworthy
Biscuits	Mr & Mrs Hawkins

Dear Four Legged Friends

Did you suffer as I did over the last few months? First I lay in my bed listening to the fireworks on Warwick Gates celebrating Diwali then the club celebrations, the dreaded bonfire night. I wasn't in my bed by then but hidden behind my dad in his chair. They give me special medicine now which works really well but I have to have loads of it when it's really bad. If you want to know what it is just ask me, it does help. Roll on New Year then we can all relax until next time.

Love Pickle

# NOTICE BOARD

## THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

After the latest box emptying for The Children's Society I have banked £226 14p.  
Thank you to all those generous contributors.  
Liz Sheehan.

You are invited along to a

## **COFFEE MORNING**

on Saturday 16<sup>TH</sup> Jan at 7 Bishop's Close, Bishop's Tachbrook  
10 am – 12 noon  
In aid of the  
**AIR AMBULANCE**

## **TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF B4087 OAKLEY WOOD ROAD, BISHOPS TACHBROOK 11/12/2017**

Warwickshire County Council will close Oakley Wood Road between Church Hill south junction and Church Hill north junction, to vehicles for hedge flailing works.

The Order will commence on 11 December 2017 and will last for a period of 18 months, or until the works are completed, whichever is the earlier. However, it is anticipated that the works will be completed in one day on 11 December 2017, weather permitting.

## **A NICE CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR NEWCOMERS TO THE PARISH:**

"Bishop's Tachbrook Past and Present" an interesting, illustrated book about the Parish: £12.

"Tachbrook Times" – ½ hour Film on DVD about the Parish: £5  
Available from Tachbrook Stores or from 01926 336749

## **JENNY [EX POSTPERSON]**

I would like to thank -you for all of your kind wishes for my retirement after doing the post for Bishop's Tachbrook for over 35 years hopefully I will see you round the village. Thanks again for the cards and presents.

The next deadline for magazine items is 17th January 2018 for the February 2018 issue. Please send to items to [BTparishmagazine@hotmail.com](mailto:BTparishmagazine@hotmail.com)



# The Leopard

## New Year's Eve Menu

£35 per person

### Starters

Cream of woodland mushroom soup with a smoked chicken & tarragon parcel  
Oak smoked salmon with a warm blue cheese scone, crème fraiche and watercress  
Cod & potato koftas with roasted bell peppers and a beetroot relish& chorizo  
Chicken terrine wrapped in pancetta with a aubergine caponata and onion toast  
Arancini with sundried tomatoes & black tapenade

### Mains

Pan roasted duck breast served pink with honey roast root vegetables, thyme infused fondant potato and a blackberry jus  
Duo of lamb with a lamb & black pudding croquette with dauphinoise potatoes, heritage carrots and a rosemary jus  
Chargrilled flat iron steak with a garlic & coriander Chimichurri, confit tomato & sweet potato fries  
Pan roasted salmon supreme, lemon mash, crusted courgettes and a pea puree  
Baked aubergine Parmigiana with parmesan polenta chips and a rocket salad

### Desserts

Bailys crème brulee with a double chocolate shortbread  
Sticky toffee & banana trifle  
Strawberry, white chocolate & pistachio cheesecake with white chocolate ice cream  
Black forest Eton mess with boozy berries

