

Village News

for Bishopstone & Hinton Parva

www.bishopstoneandhintonparva.org

December 2013

Welcome to the new Headteacher

Dear Readers

I have been kindly asked to introduce myself (if you have not already met me!) as the new Headteacher of Bishopstone Primary. I am delighted and passionate about working in such a unique and community spirited school and am looking forward to meeting more of the community.

I grew up mainly in Royal Wootton Bassett and progressed to Cheltenham University where I studied Sports Science, before working for Motorola. I then returned to Bath Spa Uni to complete a teaching degree. After working at Lethbridge Primary School in Old Town I then decided to broaden and deepen my teaching skills, so have been living and working in Ankara,

Turkey at the British Embassy School for the past seven years. Over that time I was a class teacher, PE specialist and Assistant Headteacher. Turkey is the most amazing country, so diverse and I learnt so much, both in school and outside of it and feel privileged to have had that experience.

However, after seven years and with a son of four, I decided it was time to return to the UK to be near family and friends, and

felt ready to face new challenges as a Headteacher (and even the rainy weather)! Leaving Turkey was hard but having just been inspected as an outstanding school, it was the right time. I was extremely focused when looking for a position and was overjoyed when I saw that Bishopstone was advertising for a Headteacher, the perfect job!

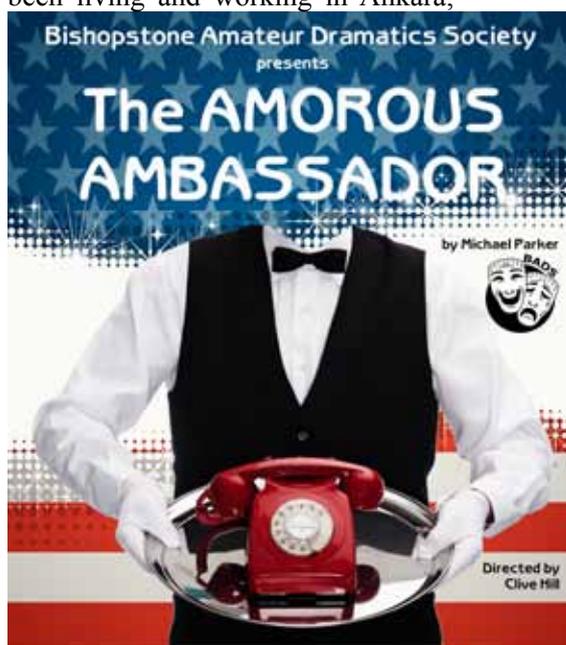
Having been here now for a term I feel I am settled, finally understanding the systems and have many inspired ideas for the future through talking with both parents and children. I firmly believe that Bishop-

Carol Singing
17th December
starting at 6.00pm



Bishopstone School Children
will be delighting you at various spots
around the Village.

Please come out and join in!



Wednesday 4th - Saturday 7th December 2013 at 7.30pm

Bishopstone Village Hall

Tickets £7.50, Concessions £6

Box Office: 01793 790460 or email: carolyn@helenbrowningorganics.co.uk



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stone has the continued potential to be an outstanding school with its nurturing, aspirational and motivational staff. Continuing to interact dynamically with the local community is key to enhancing the children's learning and I am looking forward to building on the links already in place. Building also on the visions that Mrs Walton worked so hard to achieve.

I am always happy to meet, if you have positive ideas that you feel will benefit the children, skills to offer that you could come in and share with them, stories of the past to tell, making history come to life, then please get in touch, we would love to hear from you.

Have a very Happy Christmas and New Year

Best Wishes, *Emma Lindsay*

CHURCH SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE IN DECEMBER

Sunday	1st December	10.30am	Communion	Bishopstone
	Advent Sunday	6.00pm	Advent Sunday	Wanborough
Sunday	8th December	8.30am	Holy Communion	Bishopstone
	1 st Sunday after Advent	10.30am	Family Communion	Lyddington
		4.00pm	Christingle	Wanborough
Sunday	15th December	10.30am	Family Communion	Wanborough
	2 nd Sunday after Advent	6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva
Wednesday	18th December	6.00pm	Crib Service	Hinton Parva
Sunday	22nd December	6.00pm	Benefice Carol Service	Wanborough
	3 rd Sunday after Advent			
Sunday	24th December	4.00pm	Crib Service	Lyddington
	Christmas Eve	5.30pm	Christingle	Bishopstone
		11.30pm	Midnight Mass	Wanborough
		11.30pm	Midnight Mass	Lyddington
Monday	25th December	9.30am	Family Communion	Wanborough
	Christmas Day	11.00am	Family Communion	Hinton Parva
Sunday	29th December			
	1 st Sunday after Christmas	8.30am	Holy Communion	Lyddington
		6.00pm	Carols and Mincepies	Hinton Hall

The Vicar's Letter

Dear Friends and Neighbours,

What a collision! Harvest has just taken place, Remembrance Sunday is only days away and I am writing to you now for the Christmas edition of our village news. The good news is that we are fast approaching another opportunity for village life to shine and to show the outside world that community is what makes life worth living. The scientific community has brought tremendous advances in healthcare, the delivery of information and the sharing of knowledge, the retail community are at their most active at this time of year as are the postal and delivery communities. Yet how many people in these communities have the opportunity or indeed the reason to be community with their next door neighbours?

A friend of mine and his wife bought a small holding on the Lizard peninsula in Cornwall. We moved them, his boat building equipment and his in-laws on a Friday about a week or so before Christmas. We'd only been on the property for an hour or so and suddenly we were told that we would be *in Chapel* for the Village Christ-

mas Carol Service the next day. This was most definitely an instruction rather than an invitation. While we were still trying to take this in, the informant then told us that we'd then be in the Village Hall where places had been set for us to join the Village Christmas Dinner! Faced with such encouragement we just couldn't resist, and simply had to attend.

As often happens, once dinner had finished people fell into groups of half a dozen or so chatting away. I was informed that male voice choirs were big in the locality and that my attendance would be appreciated. Witnessing the face of disappointment that accompanied the news that I was here simply to help my friend and his in-laws move in, I offered my friend's father-in-law as a possible alternative (it's good to share!). He was with another group of people chatting, hearing everything that I'd said and completely unable to defend himself. My visits to Cornwall were regular, as were his complaints about the persistence of the recruitment officer for the male voice choir. After a year he asked me to hear his confession. In an effort to put an end to any future invitations he had decided to attend a

practise night where it would be realised that his singing was so bad that they would leave him alone. A self employed acoustics consultant, never in his life had he experienced the joy of singing on purpose in the company of enthusiasts. He is now a member of a number of choirs and sea shanty groups. It is this sense of togetherness that gets the harvest brought in, that gets service personnel through dark days protecting our freedom and is the reason for the season of Christmas. Have a good one!

With best wishes and prayers

Bill

Christmas Services

Christingle Services
 Sunday 8th December, Wanborough
 Christmas Eve, Bishopstone
 Both 4.00pm

These are the services where each young person is given a Christingle orange with a candle in it and we sing Christmas Carols by the light if these candles. As in previous years, there will be a collection for the work of the Children's Society at these services.

St. Swithun's Evensong
 Sunday 15th December
 6.00pm
 Mulled wine and mince pies served
 after the service

Crib service
 Wednesday 18th December
 6.00pm
 St. Swithun's Hinton Parva
 The placing of figures into the crib

The Benefice Carol Service
 Sunday 22nd December
 6.00pm
 St Andrew's Wanborough
 Once again we hope to have the
 Church lit by candles for the service

Midnight Eucharist Services
 Christmas Eve
 11.30pm All Saints' Liddington
 11.30pm St. Andrew's Wanborough.



Christmas Day
 9.30am Wanborough
 11.00am HintonParva
 Two Family Services will be held on
 Wednesday 25th December. These
 will be short acts of worship suitable
 for families with children. They will
 not be Communion Services, but
 each will be followed after a break,
 by a short Communion Service.

Invitation to
 Come to see the Decorating of
 Hinton Church for Christmas
 Our flower arrangers will be
 gathering at
 2.00pm
 Monday 16th &
 Tuesday 17th December
 It will be a mince pies and
 Christmas cheer party, we will
 be delighted if you can drop in
 and if you can't resist joining
 in, we'll let you!
Mogs Boon

The Vicar: the Rev Bill O'Connell
 The Vicarage, Church Road,
 Wanborough, SN4 0BZ
 01793 791 359
 villagevicar@hotmail.co.uk
For St. Swithun's, Hinton, The
Churchwarden: Marguerite Seaward
 Hillside, Hinton Parva SN4 0DH,
 01793 791 242
 colinspeedway@aol.com

For St. Mary's, Bishopstone, The
Churchwarden: Doug Stevens
 Church View, Bishopstone
 01793 791 107
 doug1996@btinternet.com
The Secretary: Caroline.Brandi
 07768 822 403 or 01793 790 849
 caroline.brandi@danone.com

The Child Protection Officer:
 Jill White 01793 791 102
PCC Representative Bishopstone
School Governor:
 Gill Rankin 01793 791 061

List of Other PCC Members:
 Alan Taylor (Chairman)
 07703 162 523
 r2attaylor@aol.com
 Joanna Jenkins (Vice Chairman)
 01793 790 545
 joannajenkins@hotmail.co.uk
 Mr Paul Bailey (Treasurer)
 paulbailey@dial.pipex.com
 01793 790 103
 Joy Ball 01793 790 293
 Liz Warrick 01793 790 865
 Tom Cripwell 01783 791 148
 Hilary Newton 01793 791 086
 John Lowry 01793 790 271
 john1000000@live.com

Christmas Care in Swindon.....
would be very grateful for all our gift of clothes, blankets and food -
 these can be left in the churches as usual.
www.christmascare.co.uk

Cleaning Rota - St. Mary's Church, Bishopstone, 2013 & 2014

December	Ray & Mary Darling
January	Lorna Ford & Linda Matthews
February	Ros Boot & Gladys Jones
March	Fran Sishton & Frances Shone
April	Caroline Brandi & Jill White
May	Chris Thomas & Gill May
June	Maggie Gill & Jane Golding
July	Liz Warrick & Jane Manktelow
August	Joanna Jenkins & Sarah Bally
September	Jill Rankin & Hilary Pitts
October	Mary Darling & Lisa Fitchett
November	Lorna Ford & Linda Matthews
December	Ros Boot & Gladys Jones

If these dates are not convenient, please could you arrange to swap with
 somebody else.
 More volunteers are much needed to help look after St Mary's – the cleaning
 can be done at any time, it doesn't take long, and it's a very rewarding and
 satisfying to help care for such an ancient building. If you are interested in
 helping, or know of anyone else who might be, do please contact:
 Joanna Jenkins on 790545. Thank you.

From the Benefice Register

Funeral
St. Mary's Bishopstone
 1st November Sandra Stone aged 65

Bishopstone Village Hall - December

All bookings for the village hall will be taken through Bishopstone CE Primary School. If you would like to make a booking please contact Sue Tremlin on **01793 790 521** or visit the village hall website **villagehall.co.nr** to send us an email. You can still contact us outside school hours and leave a message on the answerphone. We will get back to you quickly. If you ring the number during any school holidays there will be a message giving an alternative number to contact. We look forward to getting your bookings for Bishopstone's excellent village hall.

Cost for hiring the hall: £7.50 per hour for Bishopstone and Hinton Parva residents. £11 per hour for all other bookings. Cost for hiring the hall for a full day is £55.

Monday	2 nd	School 1.00 - 3.00pm		BADS 7.30 - 10.00pm
Tuesday	3 rd	School 1.00 - 3.45pm	Ballet 3.45 - 6.45pm	Tae Quon Do 7.00 - 8.00pm
Wednesday	4 th			BADS All Day
Thursday	5 th			BADS All Day
Friday	6 th			BADS All Day
Saturday	7 th			BADS All Day
Sunday	8 th	BADS 8.99-12.00		
Monday	9 th	School 1.00 - 3.00pm		
Tuesday	10 th	School 1.00 - 3.45pm	Ballet 3.45 - 6.45pm	Tae Quon Do 7.00 - 8.00pm
Wednesday	11 th	School 1.00 - 3.00pm		
Thursday	12 th	Mothers & Toddlers 9.30 - 11.00am		WI 4.30- 11.00pm
Friday	13 th	School Production 1.30-3.00		
Monday	16 th	School 1.00 - 3.00pm		
Tuesday	17 th	School 1.00 - 3.45pm	Ballet 3.45 - 6.45pm	Tae Quon Do 7.00 - 8.00pm
Wednesday	18 th	School 1.00 - 3.00pm		
Thursday	19 th	School 11.00 - 3.00pm		

Hinton Parva Village Hall Bookings - December

Bridge	Friday	6 th , 13 th , 20 th & 27 th	7.30pm
Parish Council	Monday	2 nd	7.00pm
Card Making	Wednesday	4 th	7.30 - 9.30pm
WI	Thursday	5 th	1.00 - 5.00pm
Children's Christmas Party	Saturday	14 th	4.00 - 6.00pm
Carol Service	Sunday	29 th	6.00pm

Private Parties

Meetings etc welcome

Catering may be available

Free Parking

Please note the new Booking Secretary is Kate Wright - 791 399
£6.00 per hour for residents of Bishopstone & Hinton Parva £8.00 per hour for those living outside the parish

Hinton Parva's Children's Christmas Party



Hinton Parva Village Hall
Saturday 14th December
4.00pm - 6.00pm

Fun, Games & Party Food
Children aged 12 and under
£3.50 to include a small present

Please book no later than
2nd December

Kate Wright on 791 399
Helen Evans on 791 583

your details to another party. Emails are sent in a way to ensure that your address is not able to be seen by other members of the database. For more information contact

Helen Evans 07931 791 583

aussiehelen59@gmail.com

Hinton Parva Annual Village Supper

Hinton Village Hall
Saturday 11th January
7.30 pm

2 course supper £10

BYO: Your own drinks

Contact: Howard 791 171
hintonparvavillagehall@gmail.com

Charity Number 277564

Want to Know What is Going on in Hinton Parva?

Then have your email address added to the Hinton Parva Village Hall Management Committee data base of addresses. It is proving to be a successful and an environmentally friendly way to let people know what is happening at the Village Hall. If you want to be included send an email to: hintonparvavillagehall@gmail.com and we will add your details to the data base. We do promise to use this data base only for relevant village information and we will never pass on

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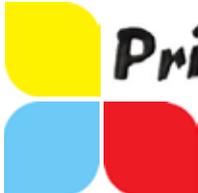
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The children of Bishopstone School and parents have collected apples from around the Village and we have had it professionally made into apple juice. Next year this chap from Savenake will be bringing his press into school and making apple juice with the children. This was on sale at the craft fair but they made 174 bottles!! So please contact the school to buy a bottle, if we have any left over.

Market

Ashbury Village Hall

Sunday 8th December 11.00 - 1.00pm

Come and fill your baskets and your tummies! Stalls will be selling: meat, cakes, plants, jam and preserves, handmade chocolates, local honey, flavoured coffee, hot food, cards and gifts. Tea and coffee served too!



For more information contact:
Yvette Cummings 01793 790 387
yvette3mc@aol.com

In aid of Ashbury Pre-School (registered charity 1047271)

Highworth Choral Society

Christmas Concert

Saturday 7th December 7.30pm

St Michael's Church, Highworth

Handel's Messiah & Carols

Cheryl 791 849



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HINTON PARVA WI**

2013 Christmas Celebrations

On 12th December 2013

at

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commencing at

7.00pm



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Bishopstone Gardening Club.....



.....Finale

We finished off the gardening year in style with a quiz and delicious pot luck supper (amazing how if you just leave people to bring their favourite dish it always works out to be a gourmet feast). Out of the seven very competitive teams the victors were the 'Sunflowers' AKA Mogs Boon, Conta Cripwell, Caroline Brandi and Dan Griffiths. Well done to them. It's been a great year with interesting and informative talks, a profitable plant sale, a delightful visit to Pam Lewis's gardens near Devizes and a lovely annual show.

We're now gathering ideas for next years schedule and would welcome your input - please ring:

Doreen on 792 965 or email gardensoc@hotmail.co.uk.

Thanks to all for your support and we look forward to seeing you next year.

Cheryl

Hinton Parva Quiz Night

Do you know in what decade the Hinton Parva village school closed down? What year saw the most recent floods in the Coombe and village? How many bus stops between the 30 mile signs in the village? Can you name Mayfair in Swindon's newly launched Monopoly board? How tall a structure could you build with 40 plastic cups in 5 minutes? What about Christmas Carols played in reverse; do you think you could recognise Away in a Manger played backwards?

Just a small sample of the challenges that faced the participants during the Hinton Parva Quiz Night on 19th October. The evening was a great success and this is due to many people; those who generously donated food which included appetising fillings for the baked potatoes and delicious puddings; those who cooked the potatoes; those who contributed raffle prizes; committee members and helpers who willingly gave their time to co-ordinate the evening and last but not least to the attendees who participated in the quiz with such enthusiasm, fun and laughter.

It was wonderful to welcome 44 participants to the old school house that closed down in 1927 and to raise £365 to contribute towards the replacement costs of its wooden floor

which was left worse for wear after the flood of July 2007. By far the majority of people were from Hinton Parva or nearby villages so they did not have to brave the Magic roundabout, aka Swindon's Mayfair but they probably had to pass at least couple of the seven bus stops in the village to arrive at the Village Hall for this evening of challenging fun.

With heartfelt thanks to all those involved.

Helen Evans

Bishopstone 100 club November Winners

1st 91 Pam Deal
2nd 55 Sue Bone
3rd 43 Stuart McGuigan

The club is to support Bishopstone Village Hall and you have a chance to win £20, £10 or £5 each month.

Contact: Jo Selbourne 790 485
You can also check if you have won on our website:

www.bishopstoneandhintonparva.org

Hinton Coomb

Thank you to *Ian Thompson* for the photograph of work in progress in the coomb. Sorry there isn't room to include a larger image, but I will send it to Andy Greenhalgh for inclusion on the website.

Editor

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The Ridgeway Link

Gail, our transport co-ordinator, wishes to retire/resign her position next year. Gail has been our very successful co-ordinator for some nine years and we are extremely sorry she plans to finish, however, we respect her wish to do so.

To continue our service we need someone to take over this position. Basically it is to liaise between people needing a lift and our volunteers. Gail will be pleased to give more details to anyone interested. We supply a dedicated telephone including the line and an answering machine and we pay all cost of installation and running.

The position might be ideally suited to someone who is at home during the day or cannot get out much but enjoys contact with other people. Anyone who is interested, or who knows someone who is, please contact Gail in the first instance on 791 192.



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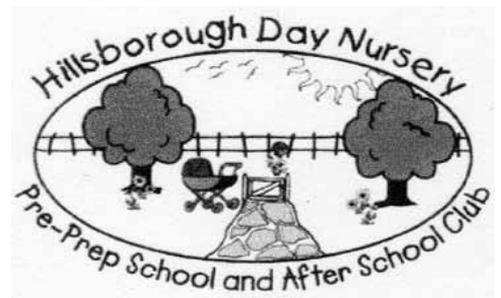
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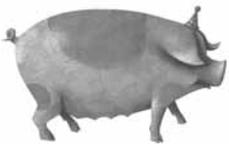
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The Royal Oak Diary



This scruffy old place with a roaring fire and lovely staff has just been voted 38th best place in the country to eat (*if had to spend my own money to eat out*) by Giles Coren in the Times, mid November. He'd like us even more if he knew that we'd had a small feast for £7 each (main courses) to celebrate the seventh birthday of our tenure here, on November 21st; do you recall the drug dealing in the car park, the condemned cookers, the noisy TVs and the pink walls we inherited, or has it faded?

Christmas seems to be almost upon us—we have special menus for anyone who wants them, all the way through to Christmas Eve—and we're already busy Christmas Eve, so beware. The best lunches here tend to be Boxing Day and New Year's Day—noisy parties of steaming people drying off in front of the fire after a long walk (longish, anyway) tucking into generous ribs and burgers and pies.

New Year's Eve: we often just sort of throw the place open for an informal family style party, and we plan to do the same this year—feeding lots of you generously and cheaply, from about 7.30 ish for a couple of hours; local music meisters the Cheesehouse Band will probably come along and entertain us, as will the Bob Bowles Band, all being well, so music and dancing

from about 10pm past midnight. No entry fees, no catches, nothing smart, big tables welcome; just when you think the food is finished, more turns up, that sort of thing. You ought to tell us if you want to eat with us that night. I suspect it will be a core of village people that make it entertaining; full of people you know.

Bottle man has disappeared this past two months, so we're bereft, of course. Has he discovered other recycling methods? We're also planning on knocking down our B'n'B rooms, and building some straw houses in the garden for people to stay in. We'll keep you posted.

Next year, expect more pig racing, more book-ish lunches (have you read *A Sting in the Tail* by Dave Goulson? Just amazing story about bees, worth every penny—we've asked him for lunch), more track days, and better and better food—and, if I say it myself, better and better beers from Arkells, if this year is anything to go by.

Pip pip

Tim Finney & Helen Browning

Millennium Wood

Bishopstone was recently urged to use the football pitch or lose it. Another Eastbrook Farm community resource is the Millennium Wood off the footpath to Idstone. It is showing well this autumn after only thirteen years, a triumph when you consider that ancient hedgerows showing the same diversity

have developed over a 1000 years. Of the trees silver birch, ash, small leaved lime, field maple and oak have done well. Some cherry are fine but unfortunately others look to be succumbing to the effects of last winter's flooding. I have even spotted a sweet chestnut and a strong walnut. Of the fruiting shrubs they have responded to our good summer. Spindle berries are so attractive just now with their leaves of magenta almost matching their pink berries. I will nearly forgive them their guilty fault in harbouring overwintering aphids. Rowan and guelder rose and hawthorn show other contrasting shades of red, dogwood displays its black berries and viburnum have both black and red fruits, hazel shows emerging catkins but are as far as I could tell, still without nuts and I even spotted a few emerging sloes from blackthorn. Do continue to shut the gate when you visit. These trees are still vulnerable to deer predation.

Richard Green



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Or visit us at the Farmers' Market Wanborough or Swindon Outlet Village'

Mobile Library

Wednesday 4th & 18th December

Bishopstone 10.00 - 10.55am

Hinton Church 11.00am

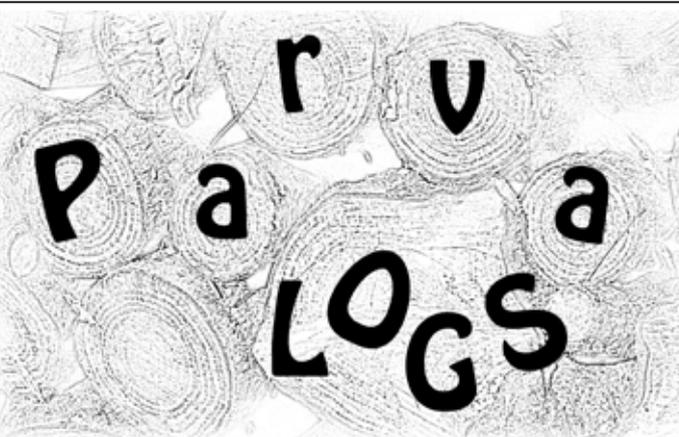
West Hinton Farm 11.20am

The Mobile Library will next be in the villages on the above dates. Wide range of books available, including large print and children's.

Coffee Morning

Whilst the mobile library is outside Bishopstone Village Hall a coffee morning is held in the Hall.

Contact: Doreen Cooper 792 965



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Toby's Tales of past Times



I have been asked by the editor if I could write a few lines or so to take the place of the previous ladies who gave us so much pleasure with their stories and recipes – I'm afraid I cannot offer any such food readily – the only recipe I know is how to make sloe gin, a nip of which is very pleasant on a cold morning. This year has been a good one for most fruit both orchard and hedgerow.

As I have at last retired from churchwarden I thought that I would put down some of my memories from when we first came to Hinton Parva 50 years ago, these are just memories and I have to put them down as I go, jumping about from year to year. The first vicar I met was the Rev. John Prior - a nice young clergyman who liked

a glass of sherry or two. I must say that I enjoyed my time involved in church life and I hope that I shall be able to sit in my same pew for a few more years.

I remember some of the characters of Hinton and Bishopstone – Arthur Nash who was a man of many parts – he was responsible to church commissioners for the water supply to Bishopstone – Bishopstone had a lovely flint foot path under the church wall and when lorries came to the church – the lead on the roof had been stolen – nobody knew until it rained, so the late Frank Harding told me that the path was ruined which caused much distress to the Bishopstone folk – but it was too late, the damage had been done.

The metal gates at Bishopstone were taken to a man at Ashbury who added about 18 inches each side so that vehicles could get into the churchyard. I believe Mrs. Mawle of Hinton paid for this Bishopstone work.

In those days we had a very large choir: four ladies; four gents; and

four children. At Harvest Festival we had one service at each church on Tuesday evening and again on Sunday.

Another episode that springs to mind happened on a morning service. Mrs. Elsie Pill was the general factotum, she prepared the altar, rang the bells and many other duties. On this particular morning, she had to leave the church and slip off home for a few minutes, in the meantime, Miss Legge who lived in Orchard House (now The Old Rectory) - the old school at Wroughton was named Legge House after her - came and sat down at the old organ which she played for the service – looked up at the altar and noticed the candles were not lit, so she ambled up and lit them and went back to the organ, then Mrs. Pill returned, took one look at the altar and blew her top.....then went and blew the candles out and relit them.....I couldn't believe what I had just seen!.....

(to be continued).

Toby Ford

The picture top left is of the parish council of 1968, I think that we can all recognise Toby but I'd love to know the names of the other chaps.

Editor

And Finally.....

So we have a new contributor to the back page, welcome Toby. As a historian, I love it when people start to reminisce, I hope that you will also. Interesting revelation to come..... more fodder for another quiz?



Thank you to Richard Green for his article on the Millennium Wood, it's the random copy send in by readers that make this newsletter more interesting, so please continue to do so chaps. I must confess I really didn't know anything about the wood, not even that it is between Bishopstone and Idstone, so I thought that I better include a map in case somebody else does not know the location. I planned to walk over and take a photograph on one of those gorgeous November days we enjoyed this year

but Thing 2's camera seems to have packed up, so it didn't happen.

Have you done anything towards Christmas yet? Not me. I'm just waiting for a nice man to come and service the Aga, winter draws on as they say.

Have a massively Happy Christmas,
mogs X

ADVERTISING

The advertising part of the newsletter, which of course, helps to fund the enterprise, is organised by Angie Alcock. For business advertising rates please contact her: email angiealcock@hotmail.co.uk or telephone 07976 645 229.

We must warn you that adverts received without payment will not be included. For people with small, one-off advertisements there is a minimum fee of £1.00.

As to advertising on the village

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