

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year (well, it is December now after all!)



Earlier and earlier it seems that the Christmas decorations appear in the shops and I find myself looking back fondly of my previous benchmark for the festivities—Woolworths. Somehow their chintzy Christmas and playing of Slade at full volume in the store always marked the end of November, and the countdown to the big day. This year I find myself trying to explain to a 3 year old that, 'Yes, Tesco's have a tree up, but no, it's not Christmas yet, just the first of November and there are still about 60 sleeps to go!!!'

Whether you yearn for Christmases past, or are excited by those of tomorrow, there's no doubt it's coming, and I wish you a very happy one. However if Christmas is all too much, then I wish you a very Happy and Healthy New Year

Editor

Dear Friends

Last month I wondered what our world would look like if God's will were perfectly done. Peace and justice for all, happy relationships, contentment, a good quality of life. Wouldn't it be great? Not like it is now.

At the coming of Jesus into the world on that first Christmas, it wasn't perfect either. The rich / poor divide was vast; the disadvantaged were without hope. There was also a north / south divide in the land of Israel, with one half looking down on the other for their accent and supposed lack of education. So what's new? Although Jesus was born in the south - he was brought up in the north, in Galilee - not a favoured part of the country.

And yet, in the Christmas message there is hope and promise, that one day things will be different so we wait. But do we just sit back and wait passively? No. Like Mary, pregnant women today know what waiting is about and it's far from passive. It involves preparation as well as longing, prayer and work today as well as hope for tomorrow.

And that is where we find ourselves in Advent - waiting; waiting like Mary, full of hope and longing, but also praying and working towards tomorrow when the reality of what we hope for will be evident. Your kingdom come O God.

*With my very best wishes
for a Happy Christmas
and a New Year filled with joy
and peace
Barbara*



Grayswood No 70 Bus service to Haslemere and Guildford could be withdrawn!!



There is a review of Surrey Bus Services taking place. In Phase three they are considering withdrawing the number 70 completely, and stopping the 71 service at Witley, or possibly Chiddingfold. This will mean that there will be no scheduled Bus Service from Haslemere to Guildford, and Grayswood and Brook would have no regular Bus Service.

Please contact your councillors and the SCC if you'd like to keep this service alive. Get the details, from 0345 600 9009, and fill in the survey forms at:

www.surreycc.gov.uk/busreview or email: busreview@surreycc.gov.uk

Alternatively write to Bus Review feedback, Surrey County Council, Room 365, County Hall, Penrhyn Rd, Kingston Upon Thames, KT1 2DY, or to the Mayor at Haslemere Town Council, or email Lisa O'Sullivan at aclerk.htc@haslemere.com

**Consultation closes
31 January 2012**



The Ben Williams Trust
children with arrhythmia ♥ youth cricket initiatives

Trust will be holding a Christmas sale and coffee morning at Crofton, Park Road, Haslemere, GU27 2NL from 10am to 12.30pm on Saturday 10 December. Claire Taylor's highly popular fresh Christmas wreaths will be on sale together with other Christmas decorations, and bring-and-buy cakes. Further information from Gilly (652582). All welcome.

**Carol Singing Round the Village
Everyone Welcome**

Please join us for Carol Singing round the Village. Meet at the Church lych gate at 7pm. Dress warmly and please bring a torch. Carol sheets are provided. Our last Carol will be at the Wheatsheaf.

Contact Shirley Richmond tel 653285 or Doreen Hutton tel 644178 for more details

CHURCH SERVICES

Every Sunday (except Christmas Day): 8am Holy Communion

Every Sunday the main service is at 10am

DECEMBER

Dec 4th Parish Communion with the Baptism of Zach ClarkeDec 11th Parish CommunionDec 18th Nativity service

5pm Carol service followed by punch and mince pies.

*To mark the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible, all readings will be from that version*Dec 24th 4pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Communion

Dec 25th All Age Celebration followed by a shortened Holy Communion

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

(No coffee today)

JANUARY

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Jan 1st Parish Communion

and Renewal of the Covenant

Jan 8th Morning WorshipJan 15th Parish CommunionJan 22nd CHRISTINGLE SERVICEJan 29th 9.45am JOINT SERVICE at St Bart'sSunday School meets during term time (starts in church at 10am)

A Crèche is provided in the Oonagh Jeffrey Room from 9.50

*Coffee is served after the service in the Village Hall.*Mondays 5th & 12th Dec; 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th Jan Informal Morning Prayer 9am

Contacting All Saints

Do contact us if you would like us to pray for you. Phone any number below, send an e-mail, write the name in the book at the back of church, pop a note into Church House, or ask someone to pass a message on. A first name is all we need and confidences are ALWAYS respected.

Sacred space: The church building is open every day from about 9am until dusk in winter, about 6pm in summer. It's a peaceful place to think, meditate, dream, pray.

Contacting All Saints

Barbara Steele-Perkins is officially on duty all day Sunday and Thursday, and Monday and Friday mornings; she also works part-time for the diocese, but both jobs allow for some flexibility. She responds to answer-phone messages every day except Tuesday and will get back to you as soon as possible.

tel: 656504 e-mail: barbarasteelerperkins@tiscali.co.uk

Janet Fry, our church administrator, works in Church Office (in Church House) which is open Mon, Thurs and Fri mornings from 9am-12 noon. At other times you can still leave a message.

tel: 656504 e-mail: office@grayswoodparish.org

Doreen Hutton is the coordinator of pastoral care in the parish. Please contact her if you would like someone to visit you - for whatever reason. You are promised complete confidentiality.

tel: 644178 e-mail: david@dhutton.mail1.co.uk

Fiona Gwynn is our flower coordinator. Contact her if you would like to help with an arrangement for a special festival or donate flowers at any time - in memory of someone or at a special anniversary, etc.

tel: 654728 e-mail: gwynnfamil@sky.com

Concert to be given by the **Instrumental Quintet of London** in All Saints Church Grayswood, on Friday January 27th 2012

The Friends of All Saints Church Grayswood will host a concert of sumptuous music by The Instrumental Quintet of London, led by international flautist Susan Milan, on Friday 27th January 2010 at 8.00pm in the Church.

The programme will consist of music by Mozart, Beethoven, Debussy, Jongen and Damase.

Tickets, £15, from Pauline Lamb, tel: 01428 643798;

email: lamb@haslemere.com

or £25 to include delicious supper at the Wheatsheaf

Events in December/ Jan

Gardening Club 8th December

Book Club 13th December & 10th January

WI 14th December & 11th January

Good News Van 23rd January

Grayswood Toddlers — Each Term Time
Wednesday 9.15 (last 2011 7th December; restarts Jan 11th)

Please contact: us using details overleaf for further information on any of these activities

Thursdays 1st & 15th Dec; 5th, & 19th Jan

Holy Com-

munion 10.15am

Christmas & New Years information for the Toddler Group

Our group has been great this year with lots of new parents, grandparents & carers joining us with tiny new babies & happy toddlers. It's been lovely to meet you all. Our last 2011 session in the Oonagh Jeffrey Room will be on Wed. 7th December, but on Wed.

14th, we will be watching the Nursery Nativity in church at 9.30 am and

then joining them for coffee afterwards—we'd love to see you there. We start back next term on Wed. 11th Jan. If you've any questions, please call Fiona on 654728, or Janet 01483 527390.



VILLAGE PRAYER

In December and January we remember and think about all those who live in Prestwick Lane, The Paddocks, Muddy Lane, Clammer Hill Road, Holdfast Lane, Highercombe Road and everyone who needs a little extra comfort or support during this festive season