



**CHURCH NEWS FOR THE COMMUNITIES OF  
APPLESHAW & CLANVILLE & FYFIELD &  
KIMPTON (WITH PART OF SHODDESSEN) &  
REDENHAM & SHIPTON BELLINGER & THRUXTON**

**November 2011 – January 2012**

## *Services to celebrate the birth of Christ*

### **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

Thrupton 6pm Carols by candlelight

### **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

Fyfield 11am Carol Service

Appleshaw 5pm Carol Service

Sipton Bellinger 6pm Carol Service

### **CHRISTMAS EVE**

Kimpton 5pm Children's Carol Service at the Crib

Sipton Bellinger 4.30pm Crib Service

MIDNIGHT MASS 11.30pm Thrupton

11.30pm Sipton Bellinger

### **CHRISTMAS DAY**

Fyfield 8am Communion with carols

Kimpton 9.30am Communion with carols

Appleshaw 11am Communion with carols

Sipton Bellinger 10am Family Communion with carols

### **FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012**

Thrupton 10am Benefice Eucharist

Revd Stuart Kersley  
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## *The Rector writes...*

**BEING REAL** is at the heart of faith. This is as true for personal belief as it is for organised religion. For example, most people in the parishes do not attend their parish church. They are free, of course, to go elsewhere if



they are a Christian, or may be an adherent of another faith. My guess is that the majority of parishioners, however, if they are agnostics or atheists would think it hypocritical to be present during worship. Indeed, it would not even occur to them to be there in church. For them, it is a matter of integrity, which I respect.

But for vicars, they like to see their parishioners in church and so they try to make the services dignified, relevant and even fun, so that people are attracted to them. They like to welcome them, and try to make getting over the threshold of the building easy and expectant. It will be good to see familiar faces on Remembrance Sunday, Christingle and Carol Services, and at Christmas. So do come along – it is your parish church and the seats are free!

I continue to find organizing the life of village churches really interesting. There are some very motivated and pleasant people around who contribute as volunteers, to keep things going and to develop what is on offer. A particular emphasis for me at the moment is what is known, in church speak, as the ministry of hospitality. Recently, we had an example of this by the use of the brand new nappy-changing facilities in Fyfield's lavatory for the first time, by a couple attending a funeral.

I am often teased about my present desire to see lavatories and catering units in or near each of our five parish churches in the benefice, for which I am responsible with local laity. But I am not deterred. The use of such spaces in churches, for the benefit of communal gatherings and putting visitors at their ease, complements the other areas surrounding the altar and font, which are the foci of the celebration of all life at its most profound.

During the new year, as a fellow parishioner, I shall make an appeal for your support of our parish churches in 2012 and onwards, whatever your faith-position, or whether heritage or aesthetics or historic interest is your particular approach to these ancient sites of community life. It will be entitled Calling All Well-wishers!

The task – of progressing the development of the fabric and folk of our parish churches – is a

too significant and an attractive one to miss in our generation, through failing to ask for help from everyone, who can offer their particular contribution.

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### **Winchester Cathedral Christmas Market**

Founded in 2006, the Christmas Market is recognised as one of the best in Europe, renowned for its unique location, high quality exhibitors and bustling atmosphere. Wonderful Christmas gifts, decorations and festive foods can be found in abundance.

#### **About the Christmas Market 2011**

The Christmas Market is situated in the Cathedral Inner Close and will be running for an incredible 28 days from Thu 24 Nov to Wed 21 Dec. Open every day, 10am-6pm from Sun-Wed and 10am-7.30pm from Thu-Sat. Many of our exhibitors will be attending for the full 28 days but some will only be here for the first 14 days with new exhibitors filling the chalets for the last 14 days. There's plenty of choice when it comes to food and drink at the Christmas Market.

#### **British crafts**

We invite many British craftspeople to take part in the Christmas Market. If you're looking for that special something make sure you visit the jewellers, painters, glass makers and textile artists selling unique gifts and decorations.

#### **Access and facilities**

Although there is wheelchair access throughout the site, we cannot provide access to all of our chalets. We have a team of stewards on duty at all times who are happy to provide assistance if requested.

Disabled toilets and baby changing facilities are available in the Cathedral Visitors' Centre.

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## *An invitation from the clergy...*

**Please let us know if you would like to arrange a baptism (christening), confirmation, wedding, burial, cremation, communion at home, confession, counsel, pastoral or hospital visit or any other related matter, or if you would like to know more about the local church or the Christian faith. The parish churches welcome people to worship from all parts of the Church, as well as those who would like an enquiring environment in which to explore spirituality, meaning and purpose in their lives.**

**Contact details are on the front cover.**

Copy for the February – April issue to the Rector by 6<sup>th</sup> January – preferably electronically.

Bring **JOY** this Christmas  
**'The angel said to them,  
'Do not fear; for see – I am  
bringing you good news of great joy for  
all the people.'** Luke 2:10



The people of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) have had a lot to fear. Despite huge deposits of minerals (such as diamonds) and an abundance of natural resources (such as timber), 80 per cent of the population live on less than 13 pence/14 euro cents per day. Fragile leadership and escalating conflict over recent years have resulted in large-scale civilian massacres, widespread rape and sexual violence, and many thousands of people forced to abandon their villages.

And yet, while the DRC has sometimes been publicised in our media as a place of nothing but despair, Christian Aid partners are telling stories that speak of deep joy and profound hope, even within this challenging context of poverty and violence.

Seeking shelter Shukuru Binguru was only 12 years old when she heard rebel soldiers approaching her school: 'I heard explosions and shouting. I said to the others "can't you hear that? We must leave and go and find our families".'

She ran home to find her three younger siblings distressed and alone. Their father was out working in the fields and their mother was away at market. Shukuru and her siblings joined the crowds of people leaving for Goma. In an unknown city, with no idea whether their parents were alive or dead, they had a lot to fear.....

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, it cost: 85p to feed a child for a day at the CBCA centre. £9 to provide medical care for one child for six months of their stay. £36.50 to provide the total lodging cost for one child for six months.

Obviously this is only part of the story, the complete article can be found at:

<http://www.christianaid.org.uk/images/christmas-2011-church-mag-article.pdf>

## What's On...

### Festival of Christmas Trees

St Peter's Church Shipton Bellinger is holding an exhibition of decorated trees in the church on:

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 11:00am - 6:30pm

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 11:00am - 5:30pm

Mince pies and hot drinks available, Entry Free, Donations welcome – in aid of Shipton Bellinger Preschool.



### Appleshaw Ride and Stride

The Walnut Tree, Friday 25 November, 7.30pm there will be a gathering to say thank you to Ride and Stride supporters. Please do come along.

For those who don't know about Ride and Stride, it is an annual event which takes place on 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in September. It is good fun, and people meet others from around the area on bikes or walking. The event takes place across the county and in many other counties.

This year's Ride and Stride received 64 people at Appleshaw. £1265 has been raised so far, with a little more promised. If you'd like to help us reach our target we're aiming for £1500. Please send cheques to HIHCT and post to The Rectory, Ragged Appleshaw SP11 9HX or online [www.justgiving.com/Appleshaw-St-Peter-in-the-Wood](http://www.justgiving.com/Appleshaw-St-Peter-in-the-Wood).

### Notes from Shipton Bellinger Parish

On Michaelmas Day, we had the privilege of hosting the Deanery Synod Eucharist at the start of their triennial. Good to hold the event in a rural setting. Then came Harvest Thanksgiving and our harvest lunch, again enjoyably shared with the Community Church. The harvest gifts went to the Andover Crisis Centre – in addition to our regular support for the Food Bank. The School generously provided a colourful display of Harvest artwork and the harvest loaf as part of the church decorations.

We were entertained on 8<sup>th</sup> of October by the EVOC music group playing a variety of classical and more recent pieces. A wonderful evening, reminding us of the tradition of the church being used for community occasions.

Now we look forward to Advent and Christmas.

News of two members of our congregation – Ordinand Nick Adley has started his time at Theological College, please pray for him and his family. And Simon Hearn is preparing for an expedition to the North Pole next April, to raise money for The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards Caring for Courage Fund. Details on the website: [www.bmycharity.com/northpoleexpedition](http://www.bmycharity.com/northpoleexpedition).

**Thrupton Bazaar** is on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December, Thrupton Memorial Hall from 11.30am to 1.30pm. Hot dogs with Newlyn's sausages available for lunch. Lots of stalls and there may be an appearance from Father Christmas if he's not too busy. Further details - Christine Barrett 01264 772904 or Valerie Wakeman 01264 772094.

# Sunday Services for November, December 2011 - January and part February 2012

Sunday Services	Appleshaw	Kimpton	Thrupton	Fyfield	Shipton Bellinger
6 <sup>th</sup> November 3 <sup>rd</sup> Before Advent	11am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	8am Holy Communion	8am Holy Communion 10am Family Worship
13 <sup>th</sup> November 2 <sup>nd</sup> Before Advent	10.50am Service for Remembrance Sunday	9.30am Family Worship for Remembrance Sunday	10.50am Service for Remembrance Sunday	8am Holy Communion for Remembrance Sunday	8am Holy Communion 10.50am Service for Remembrance Sunday
20 <sup>th</sup> November Christ the King	11am Family Worship	9.30am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	8am Holy Communion	8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Communion
27 <sup>th</sup> November Advent 1	11am Parish Communion	9.30am Morning Worship	9.30am Parish Communion	8am Holy Communion	8am Holy Communion 4.30pm Christingle
4 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 2	11am Morning Worship	9.30am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	11am Christingle at Nicholastide	8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Communion
11 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 3	11am Christingle	9.30am Parish Communion	Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> 6pm Parish Communion	8am Holy Communion	8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Communion
18 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 4	5pm Carol Service	9.30am Morning Worship	9.30am Parish Communion	11am Carol Service	8am Holy Communion 6pm Carol Service
25 <sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day	11am Communion with carols	9.30am Communion with carols	Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve 11.30pm	8am Communion with carols	10am Family Communion with carols
1 <sup>st</sup> January 2012 Christmas 1			10am Benefice Eucharist		
8 <sup>th</sup> January Baptism of Christ	11am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	8am Holy Communion	8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Communion
15 <sup>th</sup> January Epiphany 2	11am Family Worship	9.30am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	8am Holy Communion	8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Communion
22 <sup>nd</sup> January Epiphany 3	11am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	9.30am Family Worship	8am Holy Communion	8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Communion
29 <sup>th</sup> January Epiphany 4	11am Parish Communion	9.30am Morning Worship	9.30am Parish Communion	8am Holy Communion	8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Communion
5 <sup>th</sup> February 3 <sup>rd</sup> before Lent	11am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	8am Holy Communion	8am Holy Communion 10am Family Worship
12 <sup>th</sup> February 2 <sup>nd</sup> before Lent	11am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	8am Holy Communion	8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Communion

