

## Advertisements

### Yoga Class

I am running a yoga class in Childrey Methodist Church Hall on a Monday (term time), 9.45 until 11.00. I teach a dynamic form of yoga that uses the breath as a focus to flow through postures. The class is warm and welcoming, open to beginners as well as more experienced students, modifications are given as needed. We practise to achieve a calm expansive mind and a strong flexible body. Please feel free to drop in and try a class. Contact me, Rebecca Walden, on 07775 811451 or visit [www.rebeccawaldenyoga.co.uk](http://www.rebeccawaldenyoga.co.uk)



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## MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR

If you have any comments, news items, would like to advertise or any events to add to the diary, please contact Mette Bradfield, Veor Farm House, West Street, Childrey, Tel: 751727, [mette@veorfarmhouse.co.uk](mailto:mette@veorfarmhouse.co.uk).

Remember the deadline is the 18<sup>th</sup> of every month. The next issue will be February 2012. Please note that the newsletter is limited to 2 A4 pages and sponsored by Childrey and Sparsholt Parish Councils.

# Childrey and Sparsholt Newsletter



## Diary Dates: December 2011

Date/time	Event/venue	Notes	Contact
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Dec.</b> <b>12.30pm</b>	<b>Tearfund Lunch</b> Appleton House, West St	All are welcome.	Sue Worth: 751563
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Dec.</b> <b>11am</b>	<b>Christingle Service</b> Methodist Church	All welcome.	Sue Worth: 751563
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Dec.</b> <b>11am</b>	<b>Toddler and Pre-school Christingle Service</b> St. Mary's Church	If you are interested in coming please notify Linda Jones, Little Ducks.	Sue Worth: 751563
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Dec.</b> <b>6-9pm</b>	<b>Village Gathering</b> Griffin Memorial Hall	All welcome to enjoy a glass of mulled wine and seasonal goodies with friends and neighbours.	Chris O'Gorman: 751687
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Dec.</b> <b>12-2.30pm</b>	<b>Lunch with Father Christmas</b> Childrey Village Hall	Come and meet Santa, receive your gift and enjoy a delicious lunch. Adults £5, children £3.	Claire Turner: cturner@hp.com
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Dec.</b> <b>7pm</b>	<b>A Taste of Christmas, part of The Big Sing</b> St. Mary's Church	Presented by the Saint James' Singers. Refreshments available. Retiring collection for Christian Aid. All welcome.	Sue Worth: 751563
<b>13<sup>th</sup> Dec.</b> <b>12 for 12.30pm</b>	<b>Childrey &amp; District Tuesday Club</b>	Christmas lunch. Members only.	Jenny O'Hara: 751284
<b>13<sup>th</sup> Dec.</b> <b>7.30pm for 8pm</b>	<b>Village Bible Study</b> 10 Crofts End, Letcombe Regis	Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month. Venues: 10 Croft End, Letcombe Regis & The Shepherd's Cottage, Watery Lane, Sparsholt	Margaret Morton: 751586
<b>18<sup>th</sup> Dec.</b> <b>3pm</b>	<b>Carol Service</b> St. Mary's Church	All welcome.	Sue Worth: 751563
<b>20<sup>th</sup> Dec.</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Childrey &amp; Sparsholt WI</b> Village Hall	Christmas social evening.	Jenny O'Hara: 751284
<b>26<sup>th</sup> Dec.</b> <b>11am</b>	<b>Westcot &amp; Sparsholt Footpath Walkers</b> Meet at Blackberry Cottage, Westcot Lane	Boxing Day Footpath walk. Led by Graham & Barbara Williams. All welcome.	John Bales: 07802 867083
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Jan 2012</b> <b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Parish Council Meeting</b> Village Hall	All welcome.	Chic Cook: 751078

## Dog Walkers

It has come to my attention when walking Emmie, that there are still a few inconsiderate people in this and surrounding villages who do NOT clear up their dogs' excrement. PLEASE do this simple task as besides being a health hazard, it's very unpleasant to tread in and unavoidable at times for anyone walking across village green, verges and footpaths (especially during these dark days), as I have found to my cost! 200 nappy bags are available in Childrey Stores, so NO excuse, then deposit the faecis into the grey non-recyclable bin or dog bins in the village. Please be a responsible owner and when getting the lead, PICK UP A BAG TOO!!

*Pat Eglington*

## Sparsholt Village Gathering

Our traditional pre-Christmas get-together will be on Sat Dec 10. Christmas is always a time for catching up with friends and neighbours, so this is your opportunity! Come along and share a glass or two of mulled wine, and a mince pie, and meet old and new neighbours in the spirit of the season. This event is free to all, sponsored by the hall management committee, so your contribution of seasonal nibbles very much welcome, as are donations of any legal (preferably British) tender!

*Chris O'Gorman*

## Childrey Welfare Trust

Just a note to remind villagers and village clubs/groups etc. that the Childrey Welfare Trust is a village charity here for the general benefit of the inhabitants of Childrey. We welcome applications from both groups and individuals (all individual applications will be completely confidential). To apply for help please contact Sarah Noviss on 751435. More information about the Childrey Welfare Trust can be found on the village website [www.childrey.org.uk](http://www.childrey.org.uk)

## Lunch with Father Christmas, 10<sup>th</sup> December, 12-2.30

Come and join in and help support your Village Hall. Tickets on the door include tea, coffee or a soft drink and children's visit to Santa's grotto. Entrance: adults £5, children £3.

**Festive fun for all. We look forward to seeing you there.**

## Thames Valley goes Live with 101

Thames Valley Police has gone live with 101, the new national single non-emergency number, which replaces the 0845 8 505 505 number. Both numbers will run side by side until the end of March, but if demand for the 0845 8 505 505 number drops it may be discontinued earlier. Calls to 101 (from both landlines and mobile networks) cost 15 pence per call, no matter what time of day the call is made, or the duration of the call. Everyone calling the police for non-emergency matters will now know exactly how much a call will cost them, and can be assured of equal access whether they are on a pay-as-you-go mobile or a home landline. The routing will be based on the same system as 999 calls. If a caller is using a landline the routing will be based on the caller's postcode and the call will be directed to the same area's force. If a caller is using a mobile, the call will route using the mast that the phone is transmitting from. If a call is made to 101 within a force area that has not yet 'gone live', the caller will hear a recorded message telling them to redial using the relevant non emergency number.

## Wantage Poetry Club

Fortnightly fare for poets and lovers of poetry. Are you a budding poet or do you just enjoy reading poetry? Either way, Wantage Poetry Club is for you. Join us on a Monday night in the upstairs lounge at The Bear, Market Place, Wantage. Our meetings are friendly and informal and we meet at 7.00 pm every other Monday. 2011 Dates: 28 November, 12 December, 19 December. For more details please contact Mike on 01235 751656.

## Childrey Bonfire Night

A big thank you to all who attended and helped at the Childrey Bonfire Night on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November. Thank you to the organisers, the fireworks crew, bucket shakers, the chefs on the BBQ and in the kitchen and the fire duty crew. The biggest thank you goes to all who attended; thank you for your continued support. The evening was a great success and enjoyed by everyone.

## Magnificent Fundraising by Childrey Youth FC

Childrey Youth Football Club has raised a magnificent £6,543.76 for CLIC Sargent, inspired by local friend Maisie Norton who is suffering from cancer.

[www.childrey.org.uk](http://www.childrey.org.uk) & [www.sparsholtandwestcot.org](http://www.sparsholtandwestcot.org)

## Parish Council News

### Childrey:

- The next Parish Council meeting takes place on the 9<sup>th</sup> of January at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.
- The closing date for applications for the position of Clerk to the Parish Council has now passed. The Parish Council hope to announce the new clerk in the next edition!
- As you are all aware, 2012 will be the **Queen's Diamond Jubilee** marking 60 years of her reign. The Queen came to the throne on 6 February 1952 and her coronation took place on 2 June 1953. She celebrated her Silver Jubilee (25 years) in 1977 and her Golden Jubilee (50 years) in 2002. The only other British monarch to celebrate a Diamond Jubilee was Queen Victoria in 1897. **Would the village of Childrey like to mark this historic occasion in some way?** Would you like a tea party, a street party, anything at all? The Parish Council would love to hear your ideas or thoughts as to whether the village want to celebrate this wonderful occasion and if so, what would you like? With some support from your local councillors we could try and arrange an event to suit everyone! If you have any suggestions or offers of help, please contact any of the Parish Councillors with your ideas.

### Sparsholt:

Please visit our website [www.sparsholtandwestcot.org](http://www.sparsholtandwestcot.org) for more information about village matters.

## Parking in West Street

Several villagers have expressed concern about the parking in West Street recently. Please could all car owners ensure that they park on their drive where possible and leave the road clear for emergency vehicles, dustmen etc. Please also note that vehicles should not be parked within 10 metres from a junction as it blocks the view of drivers thereby causing risk of accidents. Highways have been asked to look into the situation. Any villagers with spare parking spaces on their drive please help your neighbours if convenient.

*The editor*

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## Sparsholt Tuesday Club

Sparsholt Tuesday Club is a small group run for the more senior members of our villages. At the moment the group meets once a month throughout the year and are self funding. Activities vary from tea parties in the village hall, pub lunches, local outings with a bigger outing once or twice a year, picnics, watching films and visiting entertainers and speakers but all of these events rely on volunteers for transport, cake/sandwich making, washing up, organising and hosting events. At the end of the year I am stepping back from my involvement with the club and so it is in great danger of not running anymore which would be a shame as it is one of the few opportunities for this age group to meet together. If you feel that you could help with any of the outlined tasks - or even better would like to take on the running of this group - please contact me (Jane Jackson) on t: 01235 751795 or e-mail [janejackson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:janejackson@hotmail.co.uk).

## Advent Meetings

You will have read here and elsewhere that the Ridgeway Churches are currently without a vicar and are working together on the lengthy process of appointing Alan's replacement. The season of Advent offers an opportunity to hold meetings to pray for the future, whilst at the same time revisiting the Gospel Christmas story and sharing our different understanding and perspectives. The dates of the two meetings are **Wednesdays 30th November and 14th December at 7:45 pm**. The group is not just for St Mary's members but is open to all who care about Christmas and the community. It will be hosted by Peter & Chic Cook at their home in Childrey. If you think you might like to join in, please let them know (telephone 751078). If numbers reach a certain level, we shall meet instead at the Methodist Chapel, which has kindly offered its support.

## Sparsholt Carol Singing

Monday 19th December is time to don the insulated boots and gloves and come and spread some Christmas cheer for the annual Sparsholt carol singing around the village. We will start at 6pm at the far end of Watery Lane and finish up at The Star. The more the merrier so please bring your friends, your granny, all the aunts, cousins and anyone else you can persuade! All contributions will be donated to Church of the Holy Rood, Sparsholt. Contact Ruth Corfield for more information on 01235 751951.

## Christmas Lights in Oxford

Following last year's success when more than 20,000 people enjoyed the lantern procession, the Christmas markets and Unsilent Night, this year's event has been moved to St Giles - allowing more people than ever before to enjoy the festivities. Highlights of this year's event, which takes place on Friday 2 December, will include children's lantern procession, supported by MINI Plant Oxford, the St Giles Stage with live singing, dancing and celebrations and Phil Kline's Unsilent Night. The event will run this year from 5pm to 10pm with the lantern procession starting at the Old Fire Station in Gloucester Green at 6.15pm and the Christmas lights being switched on in Broad Street at 6.45pm. Read more on [www.oxfordinspires.org](http://www.oxfordinspires.org).

## Childrey and Sparsholt WI

What have we been up to? A very busy and interesting year – not only Jam and Jerusalem! A relaxing evening stroll round Mill House gardens at Woolstone started with a drink and snacks and ended with a lovely supper at The White Horse public house – what could be nicer?

We have dipped in to martial arts with a little 'taster' of Tai Chi, tried some painting on ceramics, made a Christmas wreath, and done a bit of origami style folding and miraculously ended up with a charming gift box – apparently anyone can do it! We also had a singing evening under the guidance of a music therapist who coaxed (and coached) us into several songs and we sounded surprisingly good.

Our legendary Garden Party triumphed in the face of adversity on a horrid wet day in August and we had a fine selection of beautifully decorated hats in our competition. (Oh, and there was just a bit of jam on this occasion but it was on the scones!).

In between all these events we managed to learn about army life in the Falklands, garden birds, polar bears in the Arctic and the author C.S.Lewis. A trip to Buckingham Palace was considered to be the highlight – for the Queen that is!

Visitors will always get a warm welcome – the first visit is free and yearly membership for 2012 is a bargain at only £31.50. Watch this space for news of next year's activities. Contact Tina on 01367 718377 or Jenny on 01235 751284.