



The Whatcote Village News

Hello and a very Happy New Year to you all. Hope that you had a happy Christmas and are enjoyed the festive season. Actually, it's pretty much the festive season all year here in Whatcote.

So what's new? Well, a little less news than the last couple of editions (it's a little community after all) but, if you've been keeping an eye on the village website you'll have noticed regular updates, not least on the front page (www.whatcotevillage.co.uk).

Do check into the website from time to time, we'll continue the printed Village News of course but we can maintain newsier news online.

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EDITORIAL...AND ASK FREDDIE

A warm welcome to the Village News. It's that time of year when the Christmas decorations are put away and the supplies of Christmas cake are dwindling. It's a good opportunity to look ahead to new and, hopefully, exciting, things or perhaps just time to put a few more logs on the fire and find a good book. Whatever you choose, I wish you a warm and happy winter. Do take extra care in the ice.

Freddie had a happy Christmas...and I see that he has a letter from Peter, a local motorcycle enthusiast:

"Dear Freddie, please could you tell me where the rubber flapper valve that connects to the scuffle pump is located on my 2009 model Harley Davidson Dyna Fat Bob?"

"Dear Peter, that's a good question. I think it's just below the rear sprocket under the auxiliary turbo injector. Best of luck with it."

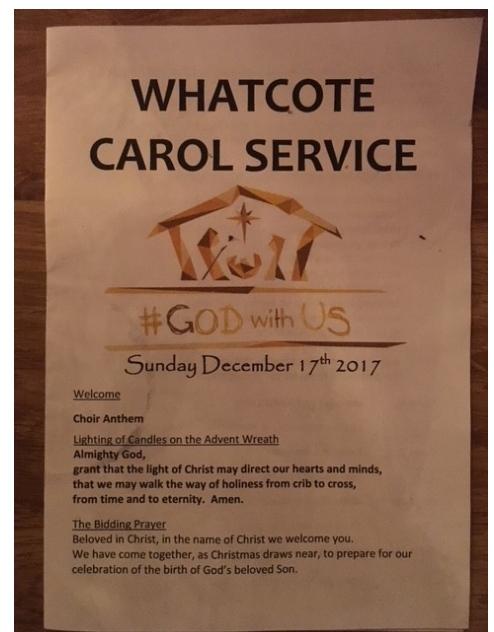
"To The Royal Oak, my friends, for 'tis high time for a pint and perhaps a game of dominos" (uncredited, possible out take by W Shakespeare)



VILLAGE CAROL SERVICE

To me St Peter's is at its most beautiful for the Carol service, candlelit, infused with the scents of mulled wine and mince pies and every seat filled. There were readings and carols for the telling of the Nativity, a beautiful choral arrangement and a wonderful solo of Once in Royal David City.

Gwen Payne



NEWS
FROM THE
DEANERY
FEBRUARY
2018

Dear Everyone,

The beginning of February sees Candlemas, when we take one last look at Christmas, then turn to face Easter. To mark it, St. George's Church, Brailes, is hosting a Royal School of Church Music 'Come and Sing' Candlemas Eucharist on Saturday, February 3rd. Anyone who enjoys singing is really welcome to come along and join in, either as an individual or as a choir. All the music will be provided. Rehearsals begin at 2.30, and it will end about 6.00 pm. Everyone is invited to come and join the Eucharist at about 5.15pm. If you would like to come it would be helpful if you could let me know.

Just after that, Deanery Synod will be meeting in Pillerton Village Hall on Tuesday, February 6th at 7.30pm. Our speaker will be Jerry Marshall, Chief Executive of Germinate: The Arthur Rank Centre – a organisation committed to helping rural churches and rural communities to flourish. Jerry is a passionate and inspirational advocate of life in small rural churches, and it will be lovely to welcome him. Easter is fairly early this year: Ash Wednesday is Valentine's Day- February 14th. So the following week see the start of our Deanery Lent Services – based on the Cathedral's Lent Course on Reconciliation. As ever, all services begin at 7.30pm. This year we are looking forward to welcoming several of the newcomers to our Deanery to be our speakers.

20th February	Shipston	Components of Reconciliation
Very Revd. John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry		
27th February	Ettington	Truth
Rev. George Heighton		
6th March	Tredington	Justice and Peace
Rev. Sharon Goble		
13th March	Whichford	Mercy and Forgiveness
Rev. Ben Dyson		
20th March	Tysoe	Living Reconciliation
Rev. Sarah Edmonds		
27th March	Newbold	Eucharist
Rev. Canon Dr. Jill Tucker		

THE
DEANERY
AND TYSOE
PRIMARY
SCHOOL

Finally, a note for your diaries: 2018 is our Centenary Year as a Diocese, and we are delighted that Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury, will be visiting Coventry between May 2nd and 5th . In particular you might like to note Saturday, May 5th when there will be a special all-day celebration at the Cathedral, for the whole family, to which everyone is invited.

Every blessing, Jill

Tysoe Church of England Primary School – January News

Last term was very busy with two very successful concerts: a traditional nativity performed by our younger children and a very moving production by KS2 about the plight of refugees which ended with a touching nativity tableau. The children also enjoyed a variety of seasonal treats including the Dick Whittington Pantomime, class parties and a lovely Christmas meal. The term ended with a Carol Service in St Mary's Church, led by the children and hosted by Church members, who welcomed the many parents and visitors with hot drinks and mince pies.

Last term, Year 6 pupils attended a Geography Game Show morning at Tudor Hall School presented by Neal Nicholls and attended by other local schools. Mr Nicholls has a photographic memory and can draw a detailed world map from memory. The children won the fantastic map and Ben achieved a wooden mask from Bali as an individual prize. The treasured map is now on display in school. Many children in Willow Class took part in the Primary Maths Challenge and certificates were awarded: two gold, three silver and five bronze levels, with five children also highly commended. We are particularly proud of Ben who achieved gold standard and has won through to compete against other schools nationally in February. A great success!

To start the new term, we have had a focus on keeping healthy and the importance of exercise. A popular new event was launched to improve fitness and develop stamina for children in Years 2 to 6, who will participate in a weekly run or jog around the school field. Certificates will be awarded for accumulated distances of 10km, 15km, 20km and a half marathon.

Prospective parents are always welcome to visit the school. Contact Mrs Horrocks in the office on 01295 680244. **Jenny Coates Head of School**



The Origins of the Over 60s Christmas Lunch

Some of you who are new to the village may like to know how the over 60's Christmas Lunch came about.

One of the charities of Richard Badger, a benefactor from Shipston on Stour, was the distribution of coal to the deserving poor in local villages. The charity ceased in the early 1970's.

As a consequence, a suggestion was put to the Whatcote Village Association and approved to cover the cost of a Christmas Lunch for the senior members of the village cooked by a group of young ladies from the village.

The turkey and trimmings having been cooked, were conveyed to Oxhill Village Hall, followed by a convoy of cars carrying the senior citizens.

Ramona Richards, from Tysoe, came and played the piano to accompany the singing of carols.

Eventually, the lunch took place at the Royal Oak and twice Phil Wreford had the honour of carving the turkey. Following the re-ordering of the church to accommodate the Community Centre in 2003/4, the lunch is now held there.

The ladies who began producing the lunch are now of a certain age where they can sit down and enjoy the lunch, now cooked and served by Bev Webb and her team.

In recent years in order to help with the cost a raffle is held which this year raised £56 and together with donations raised £106.

On behalf of the Senior Citizens of Whatcote - a big thank you to Whatcote Village Association and hope it will continue for many a year.

St. Peter's Church Whatcote - Christmas Puddings 2017

All the puddings were sold making a profit for church funds of £462.79. May I say thank you to all our regular and new customers and to wish you all a happy and peaceful 2018.

June Wreford



More snow, ice and disruption in December and therefore loss of time at the orchard doing maintenance!

However we started pruning the apples and pears mid January in order to get them completed by the end of the month. With the cider apples and perry pears also ready for a prune there was plenty to do! It is interesting to see the different rates of growth of the trees, some are getting big with strong growth and others are languishing with weaker growth. They have all been treated the same apart from the pruning so maybe that is where the answer lies.

We also pruned the nut trees, walnuts, hazel and filbert, which are looking very big and strong.

Preparation for the Wassail centred around the gathering of material for the BIG bonfire! Our fire master (David Sewell!) did a valiant job in collecting material and we had quite a few christmas trees to add to the wood from the orchard itself. What better way to recycle real trees!

The demise of the Joan J autumn raspberries has been mourned by many at the orchard! The area has now been cleared and leaves a large patch for us to consider what we do next. No raspberries but maybe other fruits!

Other clearing of mainly weeds continues and hopefully it won't be long before we are looking to feeding and mulching, spraying and cleaning and generally welcoming the warmer weather as spring approaches!

Do come along to see us, maybe help out, and enjoy your community orchard behind the allotments along the Shenington Road in Tysoe! Why not join us and enjoy the fruit we grow.

Contact one of us for more information

Liz Atkinson (680045), Paul Sayer (680451), Sue and Mike Sanderson (688080)

And it's farewell
again from
me ...until the
next episode so
stay tuned

THE WRITE STUFF

Any contributions to the Village News are always welcome although the Editor reserves the right to amend or edit them. Don't be upset if I forget to add your article—a gentle email reminder or two will ensure extra coverage in the next edition. Please contact Will Payne at the address below

Equally, if you would like a digital copy, do let me know—saves paper, ink...and walking!

Thank you for reading and supporting this

whatcotevillage@gmail.com



Oak tree on the Centenary Way (this one and front page (view to Idlicote) thanks to Penny F)

Here's a few (possibly) useful contact numbers:

- Stratford District Council: 01789 267575
- The Royal Oak, Whatcote: 01295 688100
- Tysoe Village Stores: 01295 688333
- Tysoe Post Office: 01295 680632
- Lower Oxhill Development Corporation: 1-800 DIG
- Whatcote No-Longer a Secret Underground Bunker (switchboard): 0368 1003585
- NASA: Telephone 001 (202) 358-0000
- CBSO: 0121 616 6500
- MET Office: 0370 900 0100



To do list

If you have the time, why not?

(If you don't, why not come along anyway for a bit?)

Sunday Services at St Peter's Church, Whatcote

February 4th	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev George Heighton
February 11th	9.30 am	Morning Worship	Jennie Rake
February 18th	6.30 pm	Evensong	Rev Canon Dr Jill Tucker
March 4th	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Canon Dr Jill Tucker
March 11th	Mothering Sunday 9.30 am	Morning Worship	Jennie Rake
March 18th	Passion Sunday 6.30 pm	Evensong	Rev George Heighton

And also there will be Morning Prayer with Rev George Heighton in Church every Thursday morning at 8.30 am, if anyone would like to join him, and perhaps stay for a chat afterwards.

Other events

January 27, 2018, 7.30pm in the Community Centre Live and Local, Dreaming the Night Field

April 1, St Peter's (hopefully) the Easter Bunny will visit us...

Don't forget... www.whatcotevillage.co.uk