

VILLAGE CUDDINGTON VOICE



**December/
January
2014/15**

**VOLUME
SEVENTEEN**

Seasons Greetings



*And there were in the same country shepherds abiding
in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.*

Luke 2:8



Christmas Services in St Nicholas

Christingle Service, Sunday 7th 3.00 p.m.

Family Gift Service, Sunday 14th 10.00 a.m.

Christmas Communion Service, Sunday 21st 10.00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Carol Service "Carols by Candlelight", Wednesday 24th 7.00 p.m.

Christmas Day Communion Service, 8.00am

Family Carol Service, Christmas Day, 10.00 a.m.

Carols Round the Village

Monday, December 22nd
(Or Tuesday 23rd if poor weather)

*You are invited to join in the Carol Singing,
which will start at 6.30 p.m. round the
Christmas Tree on the Village Green
followed by refreshments at Tyringham Hall
by kind invitation of Sherry Scott*



The Church of St. Nicholas

warmly invites you to the
Playing Fields Clubhouse for
"Christmas in the Club"

Tuesday 16th December 2014 at 7p.m.
**Come to celebrate Christmas with
Supper and Carols**

*Please let Sarah Wood (290214) or
Caroline Thompson (291485)
know if you can come.*

The Bar will be open
There will be a charge of £3.50
(payable at the door)



*St Nicholas' very
popular Christingle
service is being held
at 3pm on Sunday
7th December.
All are welcome!*



*All are welcome at
our festive Bring &
Buy at Tyringham
Hall on Thursday
4th December at 2.30pm –
bargain Christmas gifts, raf-
fle and refreshments. Please
come - proceeds will be put
towards the Sunshine Club
Christmas party.*

*Our Recycling Appeal con-
tinues; we can turn unwanted
mobile phones and used ink
cartridges into funds for our
Club. These can be left at the
Village Shop – a big thank
you to John and Elaine and
to everybody who is already
supporting us.*

*The Family Gift
Service, with
Nativity, is being
held on Sunday 14th
December at 10am.*



*Gifts are for women and children
in the Aylesbury Refuge, run by
Women's Aid.*



**JESUS LIGHT OF THE
WORLD** is the theme of our
Carol Service being held at
Cuddington Methodist
Church on Sunday 21st De-
cember. Join us for festive
food at 4.00 pm followed at
5pm by a Christmas Kaleido-
scope of carols, readings and real life sto-
ries from many nations. Come and hear that
there is hope for our world as we hear what
changes people are making to their society.

Thought for the Month



Ian Herbert writes.....

A reflection for December

December has arrived; the nights have drawn in, the cold dark mornings linger on, and by mid-afternoon, we find ourselves drawing the curtains switching the lights on, and lighting the fire. For many the lack of daylight and the long cold days are a tough time, when they find themselves going into some kind of seasonal depression. We also find ourselves heading into the pressures and stresses of the pre-Christmas rush and the unrealistic expectations of perfect Christmas celebrations. For some, December can be a dark, lonely time. However, in the midst of the darkness, we have a light and hope in Jesus Christ. Christmas is the time when we celebrate that wonderful gift

from God, the gift of life in Jesus Christ who is the light in the darkness.

Therefore, in the darkness this December, we will be lighting many candles; candles on our Advent wreath, candles for our carols by candlelight service, candles with oranges and sweets full of symbolism for the family Christingle service, and the candle that represents Christ that we will light on Christmas day. So as we enter this season let's all remember that even the smallest of candles shine brightly in the darkest of times, and it's that light that symbolises the hope that Jesus came to bring to us all. May there be the light of hope in the dark areas of our lives.

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.' John 8:12

So may God's light shine on us and on those we love this Christmas time, and let's pray together for peace throughout our world. Amen.

Calendar 2015



The perfect Christmas gift is the latest 2015 Calendar with beautiful images of Cuddington and the surrounding area.

The calendar is available exclusively in Cuddington Stores!

Cuddington Youth Drama
Proudly Presents:

CYD LION KING

Saturday 24th January, 7 pm

Sunday 25th January, 2 pm

DEATH IN SMYTHE

A DEVISED PLAY BY CYD, DIRECTED
BY BEN STOLL

Saturday 31st January, 7 pm

Saturday 1st February, 2 pm

Bernard Hall

(see posters for ticket details)

CUDDINGTON STORES NEWS

Opening hours for Christmas and New Year

Christmas Eve	8am – 3pm
Christmas Day	CLOSED
Boxing Day	CLOSED*
27 – 30 December	Our normal trading hours
New Year's Eve	8am – 4pm
New Year's Day	9am – 11am
January 2 onwards	Return to normal trading hours

Post Office opening hours are yet to be announced.

*For those who have newspaper subscriptions, we invite you to collect your vouchers for Boxing Day from the shop, so that you can obtain your news elsewhere if you wish.

Bakery Bread ordering

As last year, we will be taking orders for your Cottage Bakery bread requirements for collection on Christmas Eve. The last day for ordering your Christmas Eve bread is Monday 22nd December. NB The Cottage Bakery will be closed between Christmas Eve and Jan 2nd 2015.

Made by Me x products

Elaine's order book for the Christmas and New Year period is already full so we are unable to take any more orders than those already placed. There will be no fresh pies made for shop stock between the Christmas and New Year holidays but there may, however, be her frozen pies available.

Village Voice is published by the Cuddington Parochial Church Council as a service to the community.

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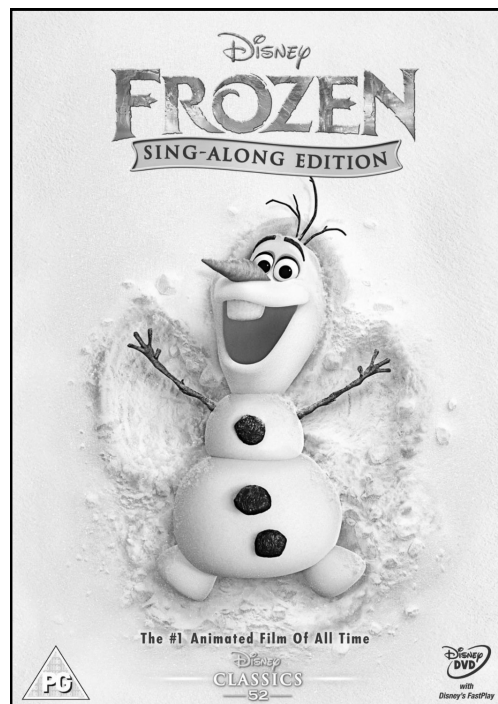
THE VILLAGE PICTURE HOUSE



Kick off the Christmas holidays by singing along to this classic Disney movie as the snowflake bounces over the lyrics. Children must be accompanied by adults.

The classic animated Sing-Along Disney movie has a running time of 102 minutes and will be shown on Friday 19th December at 2pm in the Bernard Hall, doors open at 1.30pm for refreshments.

Tickets from Cuddington Stores or online at www.cuddingtonvillage.com Children £3; Adults £4



Cuddington's Christmas Fayre



The festive season got off to a very happy start at the Christmas Fayre on Saturday, 22nd November. Many people came to the Bernard Hall to do some early Christmas shopping at the various stalls, visit Santa, and enjoy refreshments with friends and neighbours.

A big thank you to everyone who supported the event: the helpers, the stallholders (the youngest of whom was 8 years old!) and those who came and spent money.

As a result, Young Carers Bucks, Florence Nightingale Hospice, Scannappeal, Railway Children charity and Cuddington and Dinton School library fund will all receive donations.

Thank you all very much and best wishes for a happy and peaceful Christmas



Strictly Salsa?! Fireworks!



A five week course of Beginner's Salsa lessons began in November in the Bernard Hall. There are some familiar faces amongst the students and everyone has a lot of fun trying to remember all the steps whilst avoiding standing on partners' toes!

Jenny Willis, the instructor, is very patient and methodical in building everyone up to the next 'move'. You need to be able to count up to seven...

It is likely that this Beginner's class will develop into an intermediates class in the New Year and if there is enough interest for a second Beginner's course, this could run on the same evening too. You don't need a partner to learn and it is great fun!

To find out more visit Jenny's website www.salsahips.co.uk Or call 07767 234532



Another spectacular display by Mark Goodall together with A40 fireworks was put on at the Playing Fields on 1st November!

We were all treated to a great range of Fancy Dress costumes (including a lost Scotsman on holiday!) and a commendable array of pumpkins that had been carved, prepared and lit up. Well done and thank you to all who entered.

The rain which was forecasted held off and all those gathered were able to enjoy the occasion to the full – mulled wine, hot chocolate, hot dogs and burgers from Simon Parminster in Haddenham, as well as the fireworks themselves, although some of the younger viewers felt safer watching from the protection of the Clubhouse!

Thank you to everyone who helped support and put on yet another great village event and to everyone who came and supported the event.

Council Jottings

Frank Crowdy

Frank has reluctantly decided to resign from the Parish Council, due to ill health. He has been a member of the current Parish Council, after being elected three and a half years ago. This is in addition to serving spells in the past. Frank has always been heavily involved in many aspects of village life, giving much time and energy for the benefit of other people. He is now going to take things a bit easier! The Parish Councillors and, I'm sure, many villagers would like to thank Frank for his contribution and wish him well in his 'retirement.'

It was decided that the PC would not be having an election or co-opting a replacement for Frank, at this time, as there is an election in May, when a new PC will be elected. Although several months away, it is not too early to encourage everyone to seriously consider playing a part in the well-being of Cuddington by putting yourself forward for election, or encouraging others to do so! More details will be available in the Spring.

Road to Chearsley

A man with a measuring wheel and a can of spray paint was seen a week ago on Bridgeway! The results of his visit are visible all along the road and beyond Cuddington Mill. It looks like we may not have to wait too long for works to start. Let us hope that the tarmac stays in the holes longer than a pot-hole that was patched the day after the man's visit!

Christmas Tree

We are again purchasing a Christmas tree for installation on the Upper Green. Dorothy Woodford, who died earlier this year, took great pleasure from seeing the tree outside her cottage. We always made sure that the lights on the back of the tree were as good as the front!! If any fit persons are willing and able to help with the erection of the tree around 13/14 Dec, please contact Ken on 292921.



A Gift Only You Can Give

Over the Christmas period it is important that blood stocks are maintained, you could save a life. Only 4% of adults are donors, but each donation can help up to three people so please make a difference and become a blood donor. The next local session is:

Monday 16th December
Haddenham Village Hall

1.30pm - 3.30pm

&

4.15pm - 7.30pm

Appointments can be made or you can just walk in,
for more information see

www.blood.co.uk

Two World Wars Remembered

During the Remembrance commemorations St Nicholas Church presented 'Two World Wars Remembered', an evening of readings and music from both wars. Jennifer Schram de Jong introduced poems, written by the soldier poets of the Great War, reflecting different aspects and attitudes to the conflict; and Nan Cattell presented memories of the Second World War as experienced by some of Cuddington's residents who served in the forces. The programme had been compiled by Peggy Cattell, and the music skilfully chosen by Jane and David Benson linked the items into a coherent whole



**The Poppy Display at
the Tower of London**

The church was decorated with poppies, and lit in a such as way as to reflect the sombre mood of the occasion; which only enhanced the way the words were brought to life, by the team of excellent readers.

We would like to thank the catering committee for the great array of canapés, drinks and other refreshments provided for the interval.

And finally Village Voice would like to thank Peggy, Jennifer, David and Jane for arranging such a thought provoking and excellent programme of remembrance, which was put together in aid of the Royal British Legion Poppy Fund.



Our President, Caroline Thompson, began the meeting on 11th November with the sad news that Brenda Weldon's husband had recently died. Caroline had written to express the deep sympathy of us all.

Caroline then passed on to happier news; our Institute had been granted £250 from the Fete proceeds, and, more importantly, because five names had been put forward for next year's committee our branch should be able to continue in 2015. More details about this in our December meeting.

Our speaker for the afternoon was Mrs. Marilyn Wright whose subject was Spinning. She told us how enthusiastic she had been about it over many years and this enthusiasm was very apparent as she spoke to us. However it was her knowledge of the subject which really impressed us. She must have done a great deal of research for she was able to describe the practice of the art of spinning over thousands of years and across many far-flung countries. Mrs. Wright then showed us her spinning wheel and described its workings and talked to us about the use of the spinning wheel in different parts of the British Isles over many centuries.

On behalf of us all Meryl Stevens thanked Mrs. Wright for her most interesting talk.

As in previous years, the December meeting will start at 2 p.m.



 At their November meeting, Gardening Club members were presented with a slide show of Somerset and Wiltshire gardens which demonstrated a "potted" history of English gardening history following different horticultural fashions over the past 200 odd years. The talk was given by Chairman, Elsie Frost, whose husband, James had taken all the photographs.

We started with the hotel, Ston Easton which sits in parkland created by Humphry Repton, regarded as the last of the great English Landscape Designers and a successor to Capability Brown. Iford Manor followed, an Italianate garden formed into terraces by Harold Peto, an architect turned gardener in the Edwardian era. The fascinating Cloisters which he



built in 1913 are used for intimate opera performances during the summer.

East Lambrook Manor was the home of Margery Fish from 1937 to 1969. She had one of the most important influences on gardening in the 20th Century with the creation of her quintessential Cottage Garden which gave a homely and informal feel with plants such as pinks, sweet Williams, astrantia and hardy geraniums. Hanham Court Gardens are designed for romance and fragrance by Julian and Isabel Bannerman, with the Yeo Valley Organic Garden following contemporary trends and themes. The final garden is almost brand new and belongs to the well-known garden designer and author, Penelope Hobhouse. She had the lawn taken up and has packed this small courtyard area with all her favourite plants!



The December meeting takes place on Monday 1st, 7.30 pm in the playing field clubhouse.

There will be a talk "Wildlife in a Buckinghamshire Garden through the Seasons" to be given by amateur photographer, Beryl Hulbert who lives in Oakley. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served by the Committee.

The Annual Social Evening is arranged for Monday 19th January at 7.30 pm.

The Gardening Club is looking for a deputy chairman, who can understudy the role of Chairman and be willing to take over from Elsie at the AGM in February 2015.

An in depth knowledge of horticultural matters is not essential, just an ability for organisation and an enjoyment of gardens in general. Should you be interested please contact Elsie on 290768 to discuss the details.

Please note that the programme of speakers for 2015 has already been arranged.

The Gardening Club has been established for over 20 years; has a thriving membership of approx 75 people and an enthusiastic committee. Elsie has been Chairman for the past 8 years but it is now time for a different pair of hands bringing in a fresh approach and new ideas. We need to keep renewing ourselves - the community spirit of a village such as ours depends on the organisations contained within.

More Treats than Tricks!



A variety of ghosts, ghouls and monsters were to be seen around the village on Halloween. The code that Cuddington families have adopted is only to knock on those doors where carved pumpkin lanterns and other spooky decorations are on display hinting that goodies may be on offer!

This year the residents of Frog Lane put on an amazing display of all things spooky, a skeleton buried in the lawn, Halloween verses and images projected onto the garage door with the sounds of cackling witches and howling wolves. The children were absolutely fascinated and it was a struggle to pull them away in search of yet more sweets.

Some of the pumpkin carving was incredible with images ranging from Peppa Pig in Bernard Close to ghoulish hands and howling dogs at the Devey's!



It will be hard to beat next year!!

the Crown

This year forget the stress of cooking for everyone and leave the washing up behind as the Crown will be open for Christmas Day lunch!

With plenty of choice from the set menu, you'll be able to keep everyone happy. Prices are £65 per adult and £39.50 for children under 10 years old.

In addition to the Christmas Day lunch, the Crown also has festive set menus for any social gatherings you might be organising with two courses for £20 and three courses for £25 available Monday to Saturday for lunch and dinner.

For more information, menus and booking please visit www.thecrowncuddington.co.uk or call 292222.

Merry Christmas!



THE VILLAGE PICTURE HOUSE



Our first event of the new year, on 8th January, is *Saving Mr. Banks*, a hugely entertaining film about Walt Disney's efforts to persuade Mrs P.L. Travers to let him turn her *Mary Poppins* book into a movie. Starring Tom Hanks as Walt Disney and Emma Thompson as P.L. Travers, this was one of the best films of 2013.



On 22nd January we present *Treasure Island*, Robert Louis Stevenson's thrilling story of murder, money and mutiny broadcast live from the National Theatre. There'll be an encore with family-friendly prices during half-term week. On 29th January, Richard Linklater's ground-breaking film *Boyhood* explores the pains of growing up as seen through the eyes of a child. Filmed over twelve years with the same cast, Mason (a breakthrough performance by Ellar Coltrane) literally grows up on screen before our eyes.

On 12th February our film will be *Leviathan*, the new Russian film about a man living on a peninsula by the Barents Sea who struggles against a corrupt mayor wanting his piece of land. This beautiful, astounding film won Best Screenplay at the Cannes Film Festival and Best International Film at the Munich Film Festival.



On 26th February we're screening *American Hustle*, the true story of one of the most stunning scandals to rock the United States: the 1980 undercover congressional sting operation set up by the FBI. Postponed from December, this film was nominated for ten Oscars and won 74 awards including three Golden Globes and three BAFTAs.

Looking further ahead, we'll be showing *Mr. Turner* (Timothy Spall superb as the artist J.M.W. Turner), *The Imitation Game* (Benedict Cumberbatch as the WW2 code-breaker Alan Turing), *Interstellar* and *Gone Girl*. Watch this space or the website for more details. www.cuddingtonvillage.com/cinema

Marriages at Christmas 1914

Christmas 1914 was not only celebrated by the famous football match between soldiers on the frozen mud of No Man's Land. In Cuddington two couples were married in St Nicholas Church. Each bridegroom had returned on leave from active service on the Western Front. Rev Allan Cameron Alford officiated and the weddings were a red letter day for the church and the village.

Mr and Mrs Alton

James, or 'Harry' Alton hailed from Derbyshire but had moved south to work as Colonel Bernard's groom at Winchendon Hall. He enlisted in the Oxford and Bucks regiment with the Colonel and was responsible for the horses – at this time artillery was drawn by horse-power. 'Harry' went on to have a successful military career. He was promoted to Sergeant and was one of the two soldiers in the village to be awarded the Military Medal for "devotion to duty" and "acts of bravery". This was confirmed in the London Gazette in October 1917. Unfortunately he was also gassed and suffered from a chest problem for the rest of his life.

His bride, Agnes Watson, was born in Cuddington in 1883. She had proved an able pupil at the village school and stayed on to train as a pupil-teacher. In 1905 she had achieved fully qualified teacher status.

Mr and Mrs Rose

Lewis John, or 'Sonny' Rose was born in Haddenham in 1895. His father, Jack, was originally from Cuddington. 'Sonny' worked as a steward in the Officers' Mess in Halton Camp and cycled there and back each day. He was over six feet tall, very fit, and had enlisted in the Coldstream Guards.

His bride, Edith Kate, also aged nineteen, came from a well-known village family. Her parents, Frederick and Sarah Oakley, had also been married in St Nicholas Church in 1877. Frederick had a thriving business selling milk to the Nestle factory in Aylesbury and rearing pigs. He also worked as a builder and built the brick wall in front of the Wesleyan Chapel in Lower Church Street. Sarah was very resilient in spite of her constant confinements. She had twelve children, two of whom died in childbirth. She was also a lacemaker, like so many village women at this time.

Sonny returned to France after his brief honeymoon. He was wounded when his jaw was struck by shrapnel. When he returned home safely he used to exhibit his army greatcoat which was riddled with bullet holes.

For a time Sonny and Edith lived in a new home, 'Woodbine Cottage' on Lower Green. The cottage was named by Edith, keen to make a point about Sonny's addiction to that brand of cigarette.



(Continued on page 7...)

Dates for your Diary

Glory to God in highest heaven,
Who unto man His Son hath given;
While angels sing with tender
mirth,
A glad new year to all the earth.

Martin Luther



December

Monday 1 st 2.00pm	Sunshine Club in the Clubhouse till 4.00pm
Monday 1 st 7.30 pm	Gardening Club - "Wildlife in a Bucks Garden"
Wednesday 3 rd 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 4 th 7.00pm	<i>The Crucible- live from the Old Vic</i> ; Village Picture House
Sunday 7 th 10.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 7 th 3.00 pm.	Christingle Service
Tuesday 9 th 2.30pm	WI - Annual Meeting
Tuesday 9 th 8.00pm	JOHN NTLive – the Village Picture House
Sunday 14 th 10.00am	Family Gift Service & Nativity
Monday 15 th 12.30 pm	Sunshine Club Christmas Party in the Bernard Hall
Tuesday 16 th	Christmas Family Assembly (School Only)
Tuesday 16 th 7.00pm	Christmas in the Club
Thursday 18 th 7.30pm	<i>Miracle on 34th Street</i> - the Village Picture House
Friday 19 th 2.00pm	<i>Frozen (Sing-along)</i> - the Village Picture House
Sunday 21 st 10.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 21 st 4.00pm	Christmas Kaleidoscope, Methodist Church
Monday 22 nd 6.30pm	Carols around the Village (starts Upper Green)
Wednesday 24 th 7.00pm	Carols By Candlelight Service
Thursday 25 th 10.00am	Family Carol Service
Sunday 28 th 10.00am	Benefice Communion _ Haddenham
Sunday 28 th 2.30pm	<i>The Crucible- Encore from the Old Vic</i> ; Village Picture House

2015

January

Wednesday 7 th 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting
Saturday 17 th 7.30pm	Manor House String Quartet, St Nicolas Church
Monday 19 th 7.30 pm	Gardening Club - Annual Social Evening
Thursday 22 nd 7.00pm	<i>Treasure Island</i> NTLive – the Village Picture House
Saturday 24 th 7.00pm	CYD The Lion King, Bernard Hall
Saturday 31 st 7.00pm	CYD Death in Smythe, Bernard Hall

Marriages at Christmas 1914

Continued from page 6...



In 1943 Sonny became landlord of 'The Crown'. Edith Kate played a full part in its management and was known to villagers affectionately as "Auntie Kit". Sadly, later in life, she was permanently disabled when she tumbled down into the cellar. Nevertheless, The Crown proved a very successful enterprise. Sonny recalled his war service by exhibiting his bayonet in a case on the wall of The Crown.

Subsequently the lives of the two couples were intertwined. Agnes taught the Rose children at the village school and both Agnes and Harry were loyal customers of The Crown. Harry enjoyed playing darts and dominoes and chatting with his pals. They responded well to his party trick of placing his big toe in his mouth! However, Harry rarely drank with his wife. Agnes was partial to a glass of beer laced with a shot of whisky. However, as few women frequented the pub at this time, she drank alone in a secluded room and then wended her way home to Rose Cottage in Spurt Street. She showed a mastery of timing. She died on Christmas Day 1964, fifty years after her marriage.

tial to a glass of beer laced with a shot of whisky. However, as few women frequented the pub at this time, she drank alone in a secluded room and then wended her way home to Rose Cottage in Spurt Street. She showed a mastery of timing. She died on Christmas Day 1964, fifty years after her marriage.

Peter Wenham

Weather

Cuddington's Sky

December is the time of the annual Geminid meteors - one the best meteor 'showers' of the year; and so called because these 'shooting stars' appear to emanate from the constellation of Gemini. Unfortunately, this year, a last quarter moon will brighten the night sky, preventing all but the brightest meteors from being seen.

Their peak activity will be reached during the night of 13th/14th. More meteors will be observed after midnight than before because the rotating earth has then aligned the morning sky in the direction that the earth travels around the sun, with the consequence that more of these tiny meteoric dust particles collide with our atmosphere head-on and are heated to incandescence by friction.

The geminids are well known for their brilliant fireballs - let's hope that the sky is clear.



Cuddington's Weather: October 2014

Like September, October was warm with an overall temperature of 16.0°C (61°F), just above the long term average. It was our warmest October since 2011 (12.8°C, 55°F). Both rainfall and sunshine were a little below average.

Maximum daytime air temperature in October averaged 16.0°C (61°F), long term average is 14.6°C (58°F). The highest day time air maxima occurred the 31st (20.6°C, 69°F), and the lowest occurred on the 6th (11.7°C, 53°F).

Night time air minimum temperature averaged 9.1°C (48°F), the long term average is 7.1°C (45°F). Highest night time air minima occurred on the 19th (14.0°C, 57°F) and the lowest on the 5th (1.0°C, 34°F). The lowest temperature just above the grass tips also occurred on this date, minus 1.0°C (30°F).

Bright sunshine was close to average amounting to 100.99 hours – the long term average is 111 hours.

Rainfall for the month was also close to average with 70.3 mm (2.77 in); the average is 74.2 mm (2.92 in).

Sean Clarke



Since announcing that we had been awarded a grant work has been going on a-pace installing new equipment in the Infants' outside play areas. The children are very excited by the new coloured safety surface and ball playing area. New climbing frames and activity apparatus are due in very soon!

A few weeks ago a small band of Foundation children travelled to a sports event at Haddenham Infants School. A great time was had with boccia boules, golf and frisbee and our children came home as reigning champions and holders of a beautiful gold trophy and individual medals.

We have recently suffered an outbreak of a nasty bug which meant many children were off school and various activities had to be curtailed; it meant a lot of juggling around but we are now thankfully over it.

Trust has been the school value which we have been concentrating on for this half term and have been using the Bible passage from John 14:1 (Jesus' words to his disciples) as a means of studying it with the children, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me."

We are very pleased to say that Mrs Price is recovering well from her operations and is hoping to be able to call into school towards the end of term – especially to share in some of the Christmas events.

So meanwhile all the children and staff are busy getting things ready for the Christmas production and other activities.

We wish the whole community a very Happy Christmas and thank you for your patience while all our various building works have been going on.

Mr Matt Tomson, Acting Headteacher

Services at St. Nicholas

(Churchwardens: David Benson 01296 433757 and Graham Carr 290000)

December & January

7th & 4th	10.00 am	HOLY COMMUNION
14th & 11th	10.00 am	FAMILY SERVICE
21st & 18th	10.00 am	HOLY COMMUNION
28th Dec	10.00 am	BENEFICE COMMUNION (Haddenham St Mary's)
25th January	10.00 am	MORNING WORSHIP
	11.15 am	HOLY COMMUNION (BCP)

Opportunities for praying together in church are each Thursday at 9 a.m. and each Sunday at 9.10 a.m.

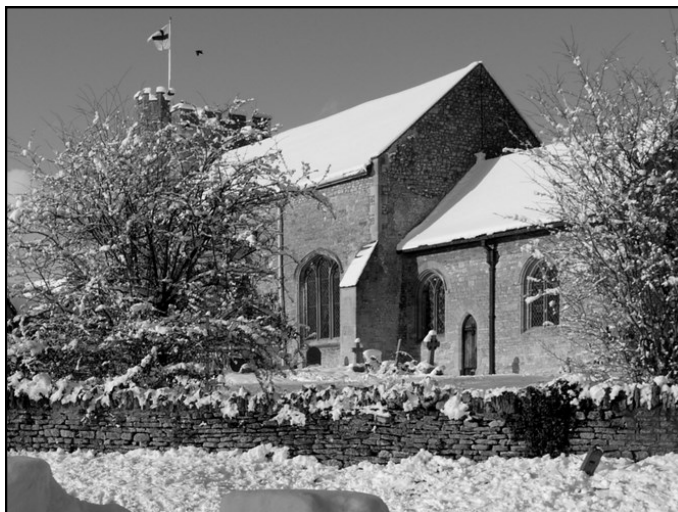
There is a service at 5.30 pm every Sunday evening at Cuddington Methodist Chapel.



Greener Cuddington

*Christmas is coming, the geese are getting fat,
Please put a penny in the old man's hat,
If you haven't got a penny, a halfpenny will do,
If you haven't got a halfpenny then God bless you!*

This childhood rhyme derives from a time when Christmas didn't mean spending loads of money on stuff to give to people who don't necessarily want it. In our society, we have developed the custom of giving presents to show our love or regard for someone at Christmas, so the socks and soap, trinkets and trifles are received gracefully whether they are needed or not.



Environmentally speaking, consumption of goods adds to the problem of over-exploitation of resources and the environmental cost of manufacture and transport in pollution and other damage (blue whales around the World are being killed by ships in increasingly large numbers by our huge cargo for instance).

So a 'green' gift is something that limits the environmental costs, such as something home-made, or that gives pleasure but is not manufactured from raw materials or that involves a lot of travel. Subscriptions, tickets for a show, your time maybe, or a gift to their favourite charity.

If this is boring and you want to give something bought, then you will want to wrap it. The green choice is to minimise packaging and use wrapping paper that isn't shiny and metallic as this can't be recycled and adds to land-fill.

The 'old man' may be any age or gender, and the 'hat' may be the Crisis web site, but a gift to someone in need is the oldest and best.

For more information about any of this, contact doug@doug-kennedy.com



Around the World in Eighty Days

The Witchert Chorale is celebrating its 10th Anniversary with an evening's entertainment entitled "Around the World in Eighty Days". Inspired by the original novel by Jules Verne.

Tickets £12 (£10 concessions, £3 children)

Saturday 6th December

7.30pm

Haddenham St Mary's