

INSPIRE

**DERRY HILL AND STUDLEY
MATTERS**



December
2013

The Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Derry Hill

The Marden Vale Team Ministry

Christchurch, Derry Hill

Christmas Craft and Christingle Making Workshop



Saturday 14th December 10.00am – 12 noon



On Saturday 14th December, the Church will be running a Christmas Craft Workshop for children of all ages. We will be making Christingles for the Christingle Service on the 15th December and also make decorations for the church. There will be lots of different crafts for all to enjoy and you can even decorate your own Christmas gingerbread/biscuit to enjoy as a snack at the Workshop!

This is the first time the children will have created decorations for and used them to decorate their church – it would be great to see as many of you as possible.

We hope you can join us for a hands on crafty morning!

To register your interest, please contact Liz Vaughan on 01249 812672.

A suggested donation of £1 per child to cover costs would be warmly received.



MAGAZINE PRODUCTION TEAM

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EDITORIAL POLICY

Any opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual writers and are not necessarily the policy of this publication or its editor. **All articles submitted for publication are subject to editing.** Deadline for inclusion of material in **next** month's magazine is the **10th** of **this** month.

ADVERTISING RATES

All rates are for insertion in **12** consecutive issues of **inSPIRE**.

	Cost (Grayscale)	Approximate size of advert (width by height) (cm)
1/8 page	£30.00	6 by 4
1/4 page	£60.00	6 by 8
1/2 page	£120.00	12 by 8 or 6 by 16
Full page	£240.00	12 by 16
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*To Let
Please contact the Advertising
Coordinator*

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the twelfth edition of inSPIRE Magazine.

I am now stepping down as Editor to make time to be a Foundation Governor at Derry Hill School. I can't fit everything in! So please send all your contributions to Richard Aylen who will become the Editor if someone will replace him as the Advertising Coordinator. Do get in touch with Richard if you are interested.

On behalf of the team, and myself, I would like to thank you all for your support throughout the year and wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Ed

LADIES' BADMINTON @ LANSDOWNE HALL



We welcome new members of all abilities (including beginners) to our friendly Badminton Club.

We meet at the Lansdowne Hall on **Wednesday evenings 8pm to 9.30pm in term time.**

For further details contact Mary Aylen: **01249 814632**

MOBILE LIBRARY VISITS TO DERRY HILL

Lansdowne Hall Derry Hill, **14:50 - 16:00**

Tuesdays: 10 December, 24 December, 7 January

Kingston House Derry Hill, **10:05 - 10:45**

Mondays: 2 December, 30 December, 27 January, 24 February



DERRY HILL AND STUDLEY CALENDAR

The **Derry Hill and Studley Calendar** for 2014 is now available at **£5.00**.

The calendar features all the brave teddies and friends that took part in **GO TEDDY GO** at the fete in July, as well as Dolls Houses and local photos.

To buy your calendar and arrange delivery please ring Deirdre or Goff on **01249 822157**.



Events at BOWOOD



Bowood House Christmas Extravaganza

See Bowood House decorated for a family Christmas and indulge in a unique shopping experience.

Wednesday 4th December - 4pm-8pm - Evening Preview - £15

Thursday 5th December - 10am-5pm - All day shopping - £8

Friday 6th December - 10am-4pm - All day shopping - £8



The Family Christmas Carvery

Sunday 15th and 22th December - £35 per adult, £17.50 per child

Enjoy a Bowood traditional three course Christmas Carvery. A perfect opportunity to get together with family and friends.

Reservations from 12.30pm.

Festive Lunches in the Shelburne Restaurant

Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday in the lead up to Christmas

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Christmas Day Dining

Christmas Day Carvery in the Kerry Suite

Reservations from 12 - 1:30pm. £65 per adult £32.50 per child.

Gourmet Christmas Lunch in the Shelburne Restaurant

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CALNE WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

(Derry Hill and Studley are a part of the Calne Without Parish)

The Council met on 4th November 2013

The council noted that dog fouling was still going on in Derry Hill, particularly in Church Road. This issue has been reported to the Wiltshire Council Dog Warden.

There was some discussion on a report by a resident of Derry Hill on lorries speeding down Old Derry Hill in a threatening manner, particularly where the road narrows. This has been referred to the Highways Department of Wiltshire Council for investigation.

I gave an update on the progress of Neighbourhood Planning. This council and Calne Town have agreed in principle to co-operate in making a joint plan and this is about to be registered with Wiltshire Council. A Steering Group will then be formed and work will begin.

At various stages consultation will take place with residents and then the plan will have to be voted on in a referendum. The purpose of the plan is to express what and where the community of Calne Town and Calne Without Parish want development. This plan has to be in line with the County's Local or Strategic Plan.

The Emergency Planning Document has now been finalised. This enables Councillors to help in an emergency with details of vulnerabilities and resources in their area, especially when the emergency services are unable to attend.

It was noted that the 'dip' in the road (junction of Lansdowne Crescent East and Church Road) has re-appeared and is bound to get worse. This has been reported to Wiltshire Council's Clarence.

These are my unofficial jottings from the meeting, which I hope you find informative.

A full list of Councillors and minutes of previous meetings are available on the web site, <http://www.calnewwithout.org>

Richard Aylen, Parish Councillor

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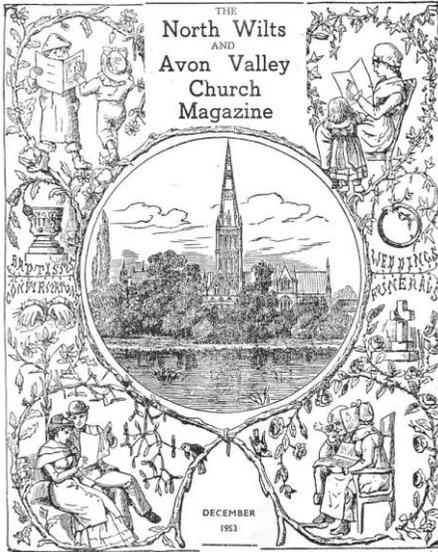
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ARTICLE FROM THE PAST

No. 981



....for Derry Hill, December 1953.....

My dear Parishioners,

Such mild weather makes it hard to realise that Christmas is quickly slipping into the 'present' and will soon be in the 'past'. How strange it must seem to be sunbathing and picnicking in the open air on Christmas Day, as the Australians do. But whatever the climate, wherever the place, Christians all over the world commemorate the Birth of the Saviour of the World, He Who brings light and hope to an otherwise dark and hopeless situation. Just as we express our

good feelings to others, in the greeting 'Happy Birthday', so in the Name of Jesus Christ we extend those good feelings to all and sundry with the greeting 'HAPPY CHRISTMAS'. Here in Derry Hill we shall be celebrating in the truly Christian fashion. For Christ's Birthday is to be found in the Lord's Own House, at the Lord's Own Table. Holy Communion will be celebrated on Christmas Morning at 7.30am and 9.30am. The latter service is intended for the whole family to attend, with those who are confirmed communicating. It will be fully choral, with carols and sermon. It is being held at 9.30am in order that every member of every family will be able to take part and still get home in time to cook the traditional Christmas Dinner. We hope that we shall have our choir in their robes for the first time.

Our Christmas Tree this year will be at the back of the Church, where we ask you to leave your gifts of toys, books, sweets, etc. for the Church of England Children's Society. The Children's Gift Service will be held on the Sunday after Christmas at 2.30pm.



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A new venture which we hope to develop into an annual event will be the Derry Hill School Carol Service, in Church on the afternoon of the Feast of St Thomas, December 21st. Parents and friends are warmly invited. Old scholars are particularly welcome.

Have you seen the calendar with the fine photograph of the Church, on the notice-board in the Porch? Copies, with envelopes, are available now at 2/6 each. They make good Christmas and New Year gifts.

The Derry Hill Church Calendars, given each year by the Vicar, are now on hand. It will not be possible for me to deliver them all in person, so I shall leave a supply on the table in the Church Porch, in the hope that you will take one with my warmest greetings.

Would you like to help furnish the Chapel with memorial chairs? A church chair in oak, with the name of someone dear to you placed on the back, would cost about 32/6. We also need pieces of carpeting in strips 12" to 15" wide for covering the choir-stall kneelers. Some further carpeting is needed to cover the flooring of the stalls. Donations, either of new or second-hand, will be much appreciated.

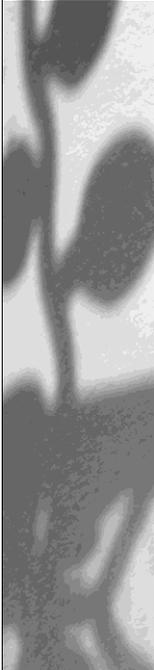
I am making a list for 1954 of ladies to clean the brasses and supply flowers for the Altar each week. If you care to share in this very important work please put your name on the list in the Porch or let me know in person. Of course, with this privilege comes a responsibility – that of regularly worshipping at Church to offer this labour as a gift to God.

Mrs Tapper and her ladies of the Work Party were well rewarded for their efforts. The Bazaar was an outstanding success with a profit of about £80. Thank you very much ladies.

Gifts of flowers, etc., and help in decorating the Church on the 22nd at 2pm will be appreciated. Holy Communion will be celebrated on the 26th and 28th at 7.30am. The Watchnight Service will be at 11.30pm on New Year's Eve.

Mrs Hudson and our family join me in thanking you for all your kindnesses in the past year and in wishing you and yours a very happy Christmas and a prosperous and successful New Year.

Your friend and Vicar,
L. W. G. Hudson.



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with Suzanne

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DERRY HILL AND DISTRICT WI



Who would be a farmer's wife? Not us - not after listening to a talk by Denise Plummer, which was amazing. Not only does she help run the farm but she chairs various organisations, judges at County Shows, does voluntary work and writes a newspaper column! Not sure how she found the time to talk to us, but we were delighted that she did. She told us how much farming had changed since her childhood and she gave us interesting information on the length of time vegetables take to get from farm to shop – frozen vegetables are actually much fresher as they are frozen immediately after harvesting.

Marion brought a selection of books for our winter reading, which was very much appreciated.

Dates for Diaries:

The Church **Christmas Fayre** is on **Saturday 30 November** from **1.30 - 3.30** at **The Lansdowne Hall** and we are running a stall to sell knitted hats. Thank you to all those who have been knitting, and those who have volunteered to (wo)man the stall, but we would be grateful for more hats, if you can spare the time.

The **Christmas Dinner**, by popular request will again be at **The Sign of The Angel in Lacock**, on **4 December** at **7pm**. Obviously a favourite venue as almost all members have signed up to come!

The very talented Janet S has very kindly volunteered to show us **how to ice a Christmas cake** – this will be at **Janet's home**, in Studley, on **Wednesday 11 December** at **2pm**.

There will be a **Christmas Lunch** at **The Dumb Post** on **Wednesday 18 December** – details to follow – and the **Christmas Cocktail Party** will be at **Tina's home** on **Friday 20 December**.

There is no meeting in December, as life is a bit busy. I just wonder if we will have time to fit in Christmas!!

If you are interested in coming to any of the above, or would like to come to a meeting, please phone Sally on **01249 817945** or Tina on **01249 814145**, or just pop in, we'd love to see you. Our meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of every month, at **The Lansdowne Hall**, Derry Hill, starting at **7.30pm**. Sheila

Amanda's



Wednesday: Langley Burrell 10.00am
Thursday: Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill:
9.00 am Improver level
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The Lansdowne Luncheon Club

We meet on alternate Wednesdays in the old meeting room at the Lansdowne Hall.

The club is open to those over 60yrs living in Derry Hill or Studley and we welcome anyone who will enjoy some social contact.

We provide a two-course hot meal, with a current charge of **£3.50** per attendance.

We are always pleased to hear from others who would like to lend a hand in the kitchen, serving meals and washing up. We don't expect any helpers to make a regular commitment unless they wish to do so.

If you or a friend is interested in joining, please contact **Rachel Collins** on **01249 817548**, or **Paula Edwards** on **01249 816364**

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DERRY HILL DEFIBRILLATOR



The defibrillators have completely arrived now and we are in the process of installation and getting them linked to the ambulance service. Opening ceremonies and public awareness sessions to come soon.

Thanks to everyone for the donations and support you have given us for our stall at the **Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 30 November**. Very much appreciated.

We will be Carol Singing around the village again this year - warbling along different roads from those we did last year, but still ending up at the Lansdowne Arms, and hoping for less rain!

If anyone new would like to join in the above musical venture along with as many of last year's singers as can make it, meet us at **6.30pm** at the entrance to **Barry Place** on **Monday 16 December** with thermal undies please!



Have a wonderful Christmas everyone!

Emma Dadd: 01249 817438; emmadadd@hotmail.com

Paula Edwards: 01249 816364; bryher3@talktalk.net

ADVANCE NOTICE OF JANUARY SERVICES

5 January 11am	Mattins
5 January 4pm	Praise@4 – Guest Speaker - Sam King
12 January 11am	Holy Communion (CW)
19 January 8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
19 January 11am	Family Service
26 January 11am	Holy Communion (CW)



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the festive period, give us a call

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A MESSAGE FROM LUCY AYLEN

Dear Christ Church family and readers of inSPIRE,
I am back in Australia after my 3 month adventure in Papua New Guinea! And what an adventure!

The aim of the trip was both to work on and alongside the medical ship assisting in the Dentistry, Ophthalmology and Primary Health Care clinics. The intention was to bring people medical aid but always more; to revitalize hope in the people of Papua New Guinea that God does hear their prayers and does care.



One highlight of working in the Ophthalmology clinic that I would like to share, was registering a mother for surgery who was completely blind but had several children of her own. Although her condition was not straight forward, the operation gave her back vision in one of her eyes. She was overjoyed and said, "I will be able to be a mother to my children again". I have so many stories that I would love to share with you all, but this is one that stood out to me and left me so grateful to God for restoring her sight, even if it was partial and breaking through a disability that was limiting so much of her life.

The most incredible time for me was the last 6 weeks of the outreach, when I flew out with a group of seven students to a Province which we were yet, as an organisation, to set foot in: Milne Bay. The beautiful people of Milne Bay are people of hospitality, friendship and have immense pride for their Province. Our main objective for coming to Milne Bay was to scout ahead of the ship and assess the medical needs of the Province to see if we could potentially bring the ship to the Province in the future. Although the Province is home to 66 languages, the people spoke good English and we were soon acquainted with popular phrases such as 'Milne Bay my Home' and 'I hate to say Aioni' (Aioni meaning goodbye).

Thank you so much for your support and encouragement. It really does make a huge difference to me knowing that I am being prayed for. And please do keep in touch with me and let me know how I can be praying for you too.

Speak soon and God bless, Lucy



CHURCH CONTACTS
Christ Church - Derry Hill
St Martin's Church – Bremhill
St John the Baptist – Foxham

www.mardenvale.org.uk

Vicar	Reverend Ann Massey	01249 817926 ea.massey@btinternet.com
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Retired Priest (PTO)	Reverend Jim Scott	01249 813114
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Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPAs) –

Please call if you would like a visit or chat. All in strictest confidence.

<i>Derry Hill</i>	Averil Davis	01249 814411
	Pat Day	01249 814167
	Anita Uttley	01380 859433

Church Wardens

<i>Derry Hill</i>	Mr Stephen Starr	01249 821325
<i>Bremhill</i>	Mrs Nancy Kyte	01249 815073
	Mr William Wyldbore-Smith	01249 814969
<i>Foxham</i>	Mrs Elizabeth Hannah	01249 740619
	Mrs Mary Kellond	01249 740633

PCC Treasurers (Tr) & Secretaries (Sec)

<i>Derry Hill</i>	Mr Simon Strange (Tr)	01249 813378
	Mrs Lucinda Prater (Sec)	01249 823252
<i>Bremhill</i>	Dr David Stevens (Tr)	01249 815337
	Vacancy (Sec)	
<i>Foxham</i>	Mr Robert Pegler (Tr)	01249 740253
	Mrs Jenny Wilton (Sec)	01249 740279

If you wish to discuss arrangements for
Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals
or would like a pastoral visit or meeting arranged then
please contact Reverend Ann Massey as above.

MARDEN VALE TEAM - SERVICES IN DECEMBER

1 Dec.	8.00am	Bremhill	Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.30am	Foxham	Holy Communion (CW)
	11.00am	Derry Hill	Service of Preparation for Christmas
	4.00pm	Derry Hill	Praise@4 Cloth for the Cradle and Toys
	4.00pm	Bremhill	Advent Service
8 Dec.	9.30am	Foxham	Christingle Service
	11am	Derry Hill	Holy Communion (CW)
	4pm	Bremhill	Christingle Service
15 Dec.	8.00am	Derry Hill	Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.30am	Foxham	Holy Communion (CW)
	4.00pm	Derry Hill	Christingle Service
	6.00pm	Bremhill	Carols by Candlelight
18 Dec.	6.00pm	Foxham	Carol & Crib Service
22 Dec.	9.30am	Bremhill	Crib/Nativity Service
	6.00pm	Derry Hill	Carols by Candlelight
24 Dec.	3.00pm	Derry Hill	Crib Service
	6.00pm	Bowood Chapel	Carol Service
	11.15pm	Bremhill	Midnight Mass
	11.30pm	Derry Hill	Midnight Mass
25 Dec.	9.30am	Bremhill	Family Communion (CW)
	9.30am	Foxham	Family Communion (CW)
	11.00am	Derry Hill	Family Communion (CW)
29 Dec.	10.00am	St Mary's, Calne	United Benefice Communion

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MOTHERS' UNION – DERRY HILL

When the Mothers Union met in Christ Church on November 6th, Deirdre led the prayers and a candle was lit in memory of

our most senior member Mrs. Joyce Marsh. We were pleased to hear that £200 had been raised from the Harvest Supper to give to Church funds.



Members discussed arrangements for the Christmas Fayre on November 30th and volunteered to man the various Mothers Union stalls. A discussion on speakers for next year's programme followed with member suggesting various topics. Our theme next year is "Help us to grow". This year it was decided to go out for our **Christmas tea**, so as our summer party was such a success we are going to **Beechfield House** on **18 December** at **2.30pm**.

New members and visitors are always welcome, for information please phone Deirdre on **01249 822157**

POPPIES 2013

I would like to say thank you to all throughout the village who very kindly added to the collection recently carried out - the total was **£525.55**.

Many thanks to all the collectors for without you the above figure would not have been achieved.

Cathy Liddle PAO for Derry Hill.

PARISH REGISTERS – ALL AT CHRIST CHURCH

We welcomed into the Christian faith through Baptism

Ieuan Christian Davies on 20th October 2013

Oliver James Tassell on 20th October 2013

Lywelyn Owain Jones on 10th November 2013

We remember:

26th October 2013 – Gladys May Jarvis

1st November – Joyce Elizabeth Madge Marsh

May they rest in God's peace



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REVEREND ANN WRITES

I wonder how many people are saying 'I can't believe it's nearly Christmas again. Time seems to have gone even faster this year'.

So it seems to be as we get older – time just disappears. Where does it come from? Where does it go?

Thank goodness for markers in the year so that we can at least try and remain in some sort of rhythm with time. In January we sit back and relax after Christmas; the year starts to build from spring when activity in the garden restarts. Life gains a momentum through the summer and in the autumn the harvest is gathered and stored; a well-earned rest is around the corner, but no - Christmas is here! Or that is how it seems – and there is so much to do!

We pump ourselves up for the task of preparations for the festive season. Each year we seem to try to do better than the year before. But is this what people really want? Lots of presents, activities, games, parties over the Christmas period? Or is it a time for refuelling the batteries? Is a different sort of Christmas needed?

This Christmas I urge you to take a deep look into what is a race against the clock for many. Do you need to race or take this time for reflection? Reflection on how to have a peaceful Christmas with loved ones and friends. Are expensive presents, entertainment and so on necessary? Could you be the one to say to your guests – your presence is a sufficient gift in itself. Each of us is a gift from God – just like his Son was to us and whose birth we celebrate on the 25th December; a birth that brought definition and clarity to what is meant by following in the ways of God. Jesus - a light from God to spread goodness through us to the world. That is, in itself, what we celebrate.

This Christmas let us absorb the light of Christ into our lives and bring God's goodness to all our neighbours. Let us relax together and not put ourselves under huge pressures to meet demands, which if we don't meet them, make us feel like failures.

Let us remember Christ is at the centre of our celebrations and honour him alone.

May the peace of the Christ Child be with you throughout Christmas and 2014. Reverend Ann

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THE PRAYER NET!

The Prayer Tree has become a Prayer Net!

We invite you to come to offer prayers with us on **Thursday 5th and 19th December and 2nd January 2014 at 2.30pm in Christ Church, Derry Hill**. Please note the new time! All are welcome to this short, contemplative service and to a cup of tea afterwards.



Alternatively, if you cannot get to church for any reason then just let Reverend Ann, or one of the LPAs know what you would like us to pray for. See the Contacts page for details of how to contact us. All are welcome.

GARDENING STEVE

Well a year has nearly ended. Where has this year gone? December in the garden is somewhat of a quiet time. The days are short until the 21st when it is the shortest day. Borders and trees are sleeping.

It is cold, so for this month I decided to have a look back over the year. This year has been a difficult year for the gardener with different weather patterns. The start of the year was cold which is what you would expect for winter and often wet, but it remained cold right up to the end of May which meant that spring was late coming. The spring bulbs were still flowering when it was time to put the summer bedding out. Also the vegetables and fruit were late - but they do say nature always sorts itself out in the end. Rainfall so far this year up to November 10th was 21.77 inches, which was a good amount.

If you want to you can now order all your seeds for next year. This will mean you can get the variety you want. Also keep feeding all the birds and keeping the bird baths full of clean water. Until I write next month I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a good New Year.

Stephen Starr
Bowood Gardener.

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Are there any loose or missing tiles on the roof? Are your gutters clear of leaves? Are there any damp patches on the walls? Use a known and reputable company to do any repair work now! Get your boiler serviced, or chimney swept. Make sure smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are working. If you haven't got any get some installed. They could save your life. Draft proofing, loft insulation and lagging your hot water tank all help keep your home warm and lower heating bills. An electric blanket which is designed to stay on low all night is more beneficial to your body warmth than keeping the temperature high in your bedroom at night and cheaper!

If you think we can help you to find the services you need then give us a call on **07557 922029** or

e-mail calnegnc@communityfirst.org.uk

DERRY HILL THEATRE GROUP

Derry Hill Theatre Group are rehearsing hard and will stage our seasonal **Pantomime** at the **end of January**.

Tickets will be on sale soon at **£5.00** per adult and **£2.50** per child.

It's not too late to get involved, check us out on www.derryhilltheatre.co.uk

Richard Boyd



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SCHOOL REPORT

We are all back into the swing of things after our half term break with lots planned for this coming term. The children seemed to have enjoyed their well-earned rest after a busy and long Term 1.

At the end of last term, Year 6 children enjoyed a fantastic trip to the STEAM Museum where the children all dressed up in the spirit of World War 2. There were some fantastic costumes! The children took part in a craft workshop, understanding how families, during the war, prepared for birthdays and events such as Christmas. They also found out how families used their rations to provide meals for their families during the war.

During last term we also had a visit from the Open-Air Mission charity whose purpose is to help explain the Christian faith to children. They worked with the Key Stage 2 children using an exhibition and display of boards with pictures and words, telling the stories and message of the Bible. The helpers were dressed as various characters from the Bible and told their own story. Our Key Stage 2 children found the visit “very informative and a fun way of bringing the bible to life” quoted Charlotte Foster-Bazin.

At the end of last term, we sadly said goodbye to our Caretaker, Steve Bull who took retirement after working at the school for nearly 7 years. Steve was a key member of staff, and we wish him a long, health and relaxing retirement.

MUSICIANS!

The **Praise@4** team would warmly welcome extra musicians of any age to play at this new style, relaxed service on the **first Sunday of each month at 4pm**. All instruments welcome!!

Contact: maryaylen@aol.com or ring **01249 814632**.



CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

It all begins on **30th November** at the Christmas Fayre where we hope to find volunteers to host Mary and Joseph each night as they journey to Bethlehem (Christ Church) for Jesus' birth on Christmas Day.



Derry Tots

Derry Tots is your friendly local Under Fives Playgroup. We meet every Wednesday morning during term time at the Lansdowne Hall in Derry Hill.

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Check out our website or contact us by email: enqdhuf@gmail.com

www.derrytots.co.uk

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Once again Christ Church is requesting nearly new toys, this time to be brought and left in the church for the service on the **1st December Praise@4 service** in the afternoon. There are many children who will not receive anything without your generosity. Do come to the service too as there is plenty for the children to do as we will be preparing the Crib for the baby Jesus.

On the **9th December** (Monday) the **MASK** choir come along and entertain with a Christmas medley of song and readings. This is a light hearted evening and costs you absolutely nothing! Refreshments at the interval, no charge! There will be a raffle and donations are always welcome.

On the **14th December** Liz Vaughan is running a children's **Christmas craft morning in Christ Church from 10am – 12 noon**. Bring your children and join in the preparations to get the church ready for the concert in the evening. Children will be able to help decorate the tree and make the Christingles for the following day. There will be lots to do! The Bath Bach Male Voice Choir and Bath Chorus promise a great evening for us all at the end of the day! Stephen Starr will sell you a ticket! (01249 821325)

The following day, The **Christingle** will happen at 4pm when the children will collect their Christingles which they have made the day before!

The Carol Service is on the **22nd December** in Christ Church and Bowood too will be having their Carol Service on Christmas Eve again. This year it will be led by the Archdeacon: the Venerable Ruth Worsley.

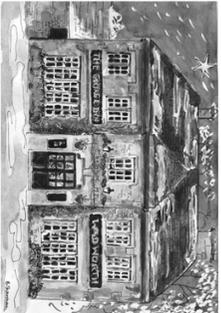
Last year we had a very successful **Crib Service at 3pm on Christmas Eve** and we hope it will be equally successful this year! Come dressed as a character (or animal) from the Nativity and meet Mary and Joseph as they arrive at Christ Church. This is a short service to start Christmas in the 'right' way!

Nearly there..... but don't forget there is **Midnight Mass at 11.30 and 11am Family Communion on Christmas Day** for all the family to join in!

I hope to see you at some of these events, there is always a lot over the Christmas period for children to join in so I do hope that many of you will come along and enjoy worshipping together in Christ Church.

Oh! And a demonstration bell will be in church for you to see if you have the knack to become a campanologist for Christ Church!

Happy Christmas to all!



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FLOODLIGHTING THE SPIRE

This is a lovely thing to do to remember loved ones and to celebrate special anniversaries and birthdays. The Spire is currently lit between 9pm and midnight, though this varies with the time of year. Floodlighting the Spire can be arranged through Dave Massey Tel. 01249 817926 or jd.massey@btinternet.com. A donation to the church for the cost of the powerful halogen lighting is welcome.

ALTAR GUILD

Flowers in Church: The Flower Guild are inviting flower sponsorship for the single pedestal in Christ Church, Derry Hill each week. If you would like to do this or sponsor part of a pedestal, in memory of a special occasion then, to find out more contact Claire Satchell, on 07968 091217 or email newleaf floristry@hotmail.co.uk



MASK



*Monday 9th December at 7.30pm,
Christ Church Derry Hill*

MASK present their annual Christmas Concert, featuring a medley of carols and popular seasonal songs old and new. This is always a most enjoyable night and an excellent lead into the festive season.

There will be refreshments and a raffle, and we welcome any donations of prizes.

Entry is free with all donations gratefully received for Christ Church funds.

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Or email friends-tickets@mardenvale.org.uk

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