

KINGSTON PARISH and CHURCH MAGAZINE



JANUARY 2012

Village Diary

Full details appear elsewhere in the magazine

January

Tuesday 3	Black bin
Saturday 7	Kingston pub night (from 18:00)
Monday 9	Green and blue bins
Thursday 12	Mobile library (12:15)
Saturday 14	Black bin
Sunday 15	Family service (10:30) and coffee (11:15)
Friday 20	Green and blue bins
Sunday 22	Evening prayer (18:00)
Friday 27	Black bin
Saturday 28	Quiz and chips (19:30)

February

tbc	Wine tasting
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March

Saturday 24	Bangers and mash evening
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July

Saturday 14	Village fete
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Vicar's Letter

New year, new light

The beginning of another year - and after recovering from the rush, over-indulgence and fun of Christmas it is that time when we all think of New Year's Resolutions, and just how long we might be able to keep up those promises to ourselves that we will eat less/exercise more/watch less telly/spend more time with family/give up smoking etc etc. It does seem that most of us make resolutions without any expectation that we will be able to keep them, almost like we set ourselves up for failure before we've even begun.

But Jesus can take all our hopes and failures and transform them into something special. January is the month in which the Church celebrates the Feast of the Epiphany, when the 3 wise men arrive to see Jesus and he is revealed to the world outside Israel, bringing light to everyone. With the coming of Jesus light has dawned in the world, scattering the things that keep us in darkness, like failures and disappointments.

Light is very much more important in the winter when everything can seem so dark and plays a large part in our lives. Imagine a house where there were no lights or a world where there was no sun. Many find the short days and long nights of winter hard enough to bear but if there was no light at any time life would be impossible.

Epiphany reminds us of a light more powerful, more important and more special than even the sun. However dark and gloomy life and the world may sometimes appear, God's light will continue to shine, no matter what.

So whether you manage to keep your New Year's Resolutions for the whole of January (or the whole year!) or not, or whether you don't keep them at all, we still have God's light and Jesus is still with us every day of our lives.

Fiona

Full Team Service

Sunday 29th January 10.30 am at Papworth

ALL WELCOME

Papworth Team Ministry



Team Evening Worship

Sunday 15th January, 6.00 pm at Caxton
Speaker: Susie Thomson

Sunday 5th February, 6.00 pm at Caxton

Sunday 19th February, 6.00 pm at Caxton

Praise, Prayer, Teaching

Home Communion

If you are a regular worshipper and become housebound we still want to share in the life of your Christian community. If you are having difficulty getting to church, but a lift would make that possible please contact the team office on 01954 719718 and we will be able to help. If you cannot get out and would like to receive Holy Communion at home please let the office know and we will arrange for the sacrament to be brought to you on a regular basis. This

Chas Simpkins

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Church news

Church services for January

Sunday 15	Family service (10:30) Coffee kindly provided by Deborah Bingley and Miki Ellar (11:15) – all welcome
Sunday 22	Evening prayer (18:00)

Church cleaning

1 st Sunday	Peter and Suzy Stokes
2 nd Sunday	Donal and Monica O'Donnell
3 rd Sunday	Linda Rimmer
4 th Sunday	Janet Clear
5 th Sunday	Lesley Struthers and family

Church flowers and brasses

Sunday 1	Miki Ellar
Sunday 8	Jean McGinn
Sunday 15	Joan Reynolds
Sunday 22	Linda Rimmer
Sunday 29	Linda Smith

Church fundraising 2011

Kingston PCC is very grateful to all those who supported its fundraising events for the Restoration Fund during 2011, which raised in total the remarkable sum of £6,244, with proceeds from the village carol singing still to come. This puts us in a strong position to begin to deal with the recommendations of our architect's quinquennial report on the fabric, due early in 2012. Many thanks again.

Peter Reynolds, Churchwarden

Wave Café Church

Wednesday 4th January at the 'Abantu' coffee shop in Bourn,
7.45 for 8pm until 9pm



For those who are interested in exploring Christianity in a relaxed and informal way with DVDs, quizzes and discussions over coffee, tea and cake.

For more information please contact Fiona Windsor on 01954 267535 or Ruth Terrell on 01954 718575.

Month	Sunday	Title	T.E.W	Bourn	Kingston	Caxton	Longstowe
January	1	Christmas 1		10.30 am Holy Communion at Bourn			
	01/01/2012						
	2 08/01/2012	Baptism of Christ		10.30 am WfA		10.30 am HC	8.30 am HC(2)
	6.00 pm EP						
	3 15/01/2012	Epiphany 2	6.00 pm Caxton	8.30 am HC(1)	10.30 am FS	10.30 am FS	
	4	Epiphany 3		10.30 am	6.00 pm		10.30 am HC
	22/01/2012			M. Worship	EP		
	5	Epiphany 4		10.30 am Full Team Service at Papworth			
29/01/2012							
February	1	Third Sunday before Lent	6.00 pm	10.30 am HC(1)	8.30 am HC(2)	8.30 am	
	05/02/2012		Caxton			HC (2)	
	2 12/02/2012	Second Sunday before Lent		10.30 am WfA		10.30 am MP	8.30 am HC(2)
	6.00 pm EP						
	3 19/02/2012	Sunday before Lent	6.00 pm Caxton	8.30 am HC(1)	10.30 am	10.30 am FS	
	FS						
	22/02/2012	Ash Wednesday		7.30 pm Holy Communion at tbc			
	4	Lent 1		10.30 am M. Worship	6.00 pm		10.30 am MP
26/02/2012	EP						

Village Hall news

Kingston Pub

The next village pub evening will be on Saturday 7 January from 18:00. Cider made from Kingston village apples will be on offer, plus the usual selection of beers, wines and soft drinks. Toys will be available for the children. Do come along for a New Year drink with your neighbours.

Children's Christmas party



The Kingston Christmas Party was held in the Village Hall on 10 December, and was a great success! Twenty five children of all ages had a lovely afternoon. They played games, enjoyed a party tea and were lucky enough to be visited by a very jolly Father Christmas with a sackful of presents! Thank you to the Village Hall Management Committee for funding the event and to all the parents and older children for their support and help. This will no doubt become a regular Christmas season event!

Katherine Stalham, Katherine Reid, Heather Ginn, Annabel Diggle

Christmas Bring and Buy

The Bring and Buy sale took place in the Village Hall on 10 December and raised £265 towards Village Hall funds. There was a lively atmosphere, fuelled no doubt by the heady smell of mulled wine and warm mince pies! It was lovely to see some newcomers as well as our regular customers. Many thanks to all who generously donated or made items for sale, and to all who bought them!

Suzu Stokes, Miki Ellar, Katherine Reid

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Village Hall improvements

The Village Hall Management Committee, in consultation with Simon Draper as Chairman of the Parish Council, has decided that there is a pressing need to upgrade the facilities that the Village Hall has to offer. As part of the upgrade we will need to make alterations to meet recent legislation which affects such buildings, for instance the Disability Act.

A subcommittee of the VHMC, consisting of Katherine Stalham, Pat Draper, Suzy Stokes and Torrie Smith, has been formed to take this project forward. We hope to have appointed professional advisors by early January and have draft plans and proposals by around the end of January. At that time the intention is to consult all those who live in Kingston about the draft proposals and plans.

It is important to recognise that we are still in the very early stages of planning and developing what is likely to prove a fairly significant project. We have identified a number of potential sources of grant funding which will be essential for the project to go ahead and it is likely that there will also need to be a fundraising campaign.

Taking into account the total planning, grant application and fund raising process the project is likely to take some considerable time to come to fruition; in addition, in order to minimise the disruption to village events by the Hall being out of action, it will be desirable to plan the major works to take place during the summer. On that basis it is unlikely that building work could start before Spring 2013.

We will keep you updated as the project develops.

Torrie Smith, Chairman, Village Hall Management Committee

Unwanted door sellers

If you are having problems with unwanted doorstep salespeople, you can obtain a free 'We're not buying it' sticker for your front door. Call Consumer Direct on 0845 4040506 and they will post one to you.

January coffee morning for the Rosie

We are planning to hold a coffee morning in aid of the Rosie Maternity Hospital fund-raising drive at 10:30 on Saturday 21 January. We hope this day might be a good opportunity for a chat and a cuppa after the hectic festive season. Please come along and support this very good cause at Wainstones, Cranes Lane.

Miki Ellar and Suzy Stokes

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KINGSTON QUIZ AND CHIPS

Saturday 28 January at 19:30

As usual, teams will be made up of six people. Tickets are £8.50 per person (£51 per table, as last year). Fish and chips are included in the price of the ticket and we will have a licensed bar. Please email the Village Hall (kingstonvillagehall@gmail.com) to reserve a whole table or seat. We can help individuals find spare seats on tables as bookings come in.

Please book early as this event sells out quickly!

Our village – as it once was

When we came to Kingston in 1956, it had a church (of course – a very old and beautiful one), a chapel, a post office, a pub, a school and a shop: and they were all still being used.

I start with the post office, because it was then just next door. Where Guy Weatherhead now

has his room there was once a little box-like sort of shop where you could buy stamps – and sweets. It was run by Miss Bushby, a tiny old lady, the last member of her family to live there: they had been there for a 100 years it was said. I often walked by while she was hanging over the fence, where there was a post box. I said 'good



Pryor's Cottage, circa 1950, as Kingston Post Office

MARK STEELE

ALL FORMS OF GENERAL BUILDING RENOVATION
AND DECORATING WORK CARRIED OUT

07831 550189

or

01223 264710

**Orchard End Church Lane
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*View along Field Road, circa 1950, with
The White House as The Chequers*

morning' – or whatever – and passed by. I now realise that the poor old thing was desperately lonely, and wanted to talk. Once she told Fay (my wife) about her great grandmother, who having got married in Kingston in the morning, decided to walk into Cambridge that afternoon in order to see a man being hanged! Miss Bushby made one kind of contact with us by coming

round to our house on Sundays with a bag of sweets for the children, till one summer's day she found them in the garden, in a paddling pool, naked and using naughty words. She never quite got over it. The postman in her time was Mr Everitt – tall, lean, white-haired and a convinced communist. He delivered the post, in uniform, and also



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Laura Wood MA, VetMB, MRCVS

Simon Shore MA, VETMB, MRCVS

Dragan Tomovic BVSc, MRCVS

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took his turn in the office to sell stamps and the occasional wine gum. The room was eventually rebuilt, to become part of the residential property.

That leads me to the shop because, when the Bushby reign ended, the post office went down to the house in Rectory Lane occupied by Mrs Chapman. She had come to Kingston with four children by one or more husbands as well as Jill, whose father was a builder in Comberton and who worked on the farm there. Mrs Chapman got her final married name by marrying Bert Chapman, a Kingston farm worker, known as Uncle Bert. Sybil Marshall's mother (see below for this family), surveying this new family from the schoolhouse, called them 'a real mixed grill'.

Mrs Chapman acted as postman for several years before turning her shop into what we now know as The Old Post Office (not the oldest, as I have shown). She had one blind eye, with a diagonal gaze. As well as six cats, she kept a few bantams, among them a tame cockerel called Charlie who perched on the back of her armchair in the evenings, took a sip of tea from a saucer, watched television, and then went to roost on the edge of the bath – unless some newly hatched chicks were keeping warm there. One of the daughters, Gay, came to look after our Catherine and Peter when she left school.

We had two celebrities – as they are now called – in the village. One was Nancy Wilkinson who became famous as the first 'Mastermind' on the famous Magnus Magnusson TV show. She taught French in what used to be 'The Tech' in Cambridge (now the Anglia University).

When she was not performing, the Brain was not evidently operating – in particular she rarely managed to catch the bus, so Fay often found her wandering along in the road, hoping to get a lift.

Sybil Marshall was a real star. She was the teacher in the village school, and was the supreme example of the old-style single teacher, teaching all subjects to all pupils of all ages. She had had an unfortunate marriage during



Sybil Marshall – a real star

the War, came to Kingston with her 18 month old daughter, Prue, and her old parents (former Fen farmers) and taught here for 18 years, until the school – like all the other tiny village schools – closed down. She became famous – partly because I got Cambridge University Press, where I was an editor, to publish her book *An experiment in education*, which told how she went about it, and which was filled with examples of the children's writings, poems, songs, drawings, paintings and paper-mosaics. Readers in the village recognised their children, talking and singing. Jill became a star for composing a beautiful little song. The book was widely reviewed, was paper-backed, and eventually led to her being asked to appear on television and run a series. But immediately she went up to Cambridge (as the expression goes) to become a mature student at New Hall, graduated in English, became a Lecturer at Sheffield and then at Sussex, gave radio talks, wrote *Fenland Chronicle*, based on her parents' memories, also several successful novels – and remarried.

Her second husband was Ewart Oakeshott, a rather small man who was an expert on medieval arms and armour, and was occasionally seen entirely clad in steel from helm to spur, carrying large swords,



WILLIAM HELLYER

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and about to give an illustrated lecture on his specialism. (When he was at home the armour was kept in the airing cupboard so that it wouldn't rust). They first met on her 50th birthday, when she came rather grandly down a stairway on some public occasion, and he went up to her and said 'I've been looking for you all my life – I just didn't know there would be so much of you' (she was on the large side). They finally retired to Ely, where she died aged 90.

Michael Black

E-Cops

Council tax

Cambridge Police Authority will face a difficult decision in the coming months about council tax. The Government is encouraging all local authorities not to increase their council tax in 2012-13. To offset this financial pressure it is offering local authorities a one-off additional government grant instead of raising council tax to fund services, including policing, in 2012-13. For the Police Authority the grant would be £1.5m.

Ruth Rogers, Chair of Cambridgeshire Police Authority said 'On the face of it, this looks like an easy decision. After all, who would turn down the offer of additional money? However, this grant is for one year only, whereas a council tax increase provides ongoing funding in future years. Unless this lost, ongoing funding can be recovered by a council tax increase in 2013-14 – over and above the increase required to pay our increasing costs – then the police service in Cambridgeshire would need to find a further £1.5m per year in savings. This is the equivalent of 37 police officers. This leaves the Authority with a dilemma – raise the council tax from April 2012 or take the grant and leave the new Police and Crime Commissioner with the decision either to raise council tax significantly from April 2013 or accept a further £1.5m per year in cuts.'

For more information on this story, and to have your say, visit the police authority website or email police.authority@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Priorities

The following priorities have been agreed by the neighbourhood policing team: target non-dwelling burglaries in Cambourne; focus on speeding and obstructive parking across the neighbourhood; target anti-social behaviour and drug abuse in Cambourne car parks and open spaces, and shops in Caldecote.

British Legion poppy appeal

Thank you to everyone who donated to the house-to-house collection in Kingston and helped us to achieve a brilliant total of £139.67 for this year's appeal.

Jill Coleman

Mobile library

The mobile library will visit the crossroads by the Village Hall on Thursday 12 Janury between 12:15 and 12:30. For enquiries phone 0345 045 5225 or visit www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library



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Kingston Parish and Church Magazine

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