

Corscombe

St Mary's Corscombe – February Services

- 6th February 17:00 Evening Worship
(Informal)
- 13th February 11:00 Holy Communion
- 20th February 11:00 All Age Worship
(Village Hall)
- 27th February 11:00 Holy Communion

We look forward to welcoming you at any of the above services.

6th March 17:00 “**Snowdrop Service**”

A special service
to commemorate the memory
of all our loved ones, family and friends,
who have died

Corscombe Community Groups Celebrate Christmas

Wow! What a turnout at the Corscombe Community **Carol Service**. Nearly a hundred people attended the joyful service of lessons and carols with great singing led by the wonderful music group and organist. People were welcomed by a melodious peal of church bells – thanks to the Halstock ringers and new ringers from Corscombe. The lessons were read by representatives of key Community Groups – First Responders, Tuesday Club, Morris Dancers, Ladybirds Group, Youth, the Pantomime, Church Flower Ladies, Prison Visitors, Keep Fit/Pilates and the Church Wardens – so thanks to the readers and to all the members of these groups who supported their reader.

There were two special reflections by a “Mary” and a “Joseph” giving us new insights into how they must have felt about the unborn child. The church was magnificently decorated and there was a special “magic moment” when all the

electric lights were turned off and we just looked at the twinkling candles round the church; it gave us all a moment of reflection to thank God for His many blessings and to think of those less fortunate than ourselves. Wine and mince pies afterwards gave us all an opportunity to meet up.

Around 30 people walked round the village – or nearly all of it – **Carol Singing** supported by recorder, violin and accordion. A very encouraging £187.77 was collected for the work of Save the Children Fund. Thanks to all those who came to their doors to encourage the singers on a really cold evening – the snow really was “deep and crisp”! If we can get a few more singers next year – we can split into two groups and cover the entire village to make sure that everybody has a Corscombe Christmas Greeting. Mulled wine, food and wood fires at Milton Brook warmed the singers and villagers up at the end of a wonderful evening.

The **Nativity/Crib service** at Corscombe Court has been a memorable event for years – thanks again to the Peakes - and this year was no exception as Rev David Harknett and the musicians – amazingly playing so well with frozen fingers – took us through the Christmas events in ways that really appealed to about 80 children, parents and relatives/friends. Maybe “Pass the Parcel” was not done by the Shepherds or Wise Men but it provided a great way of enthusing the children as they joined in the worship. There is something special about sitting on straw bales with animals nearby and celebrating the birth of Jesus.

The **Christmas Morning Service** with Communion at Corscombe was attended by over 80 people – several of them walking some way to get to church. The service was led by Paul Rendell – with a very interesting illustration of a £2 coin at the bottom of a jar of muddy water. A brave volunteer put his entire arm into the jar to get the coin. Paul explained that we celebrate Christmas as the time that God came down – as a newborn baby - to a muddy earth to give us light and direction. Strong singing and a great sense of celebration as we listened to the special Christmas scriptures. “The Peace” – that part of

the Communion service where people greet each other – had a special meaning on Christmas Day.

'Big Breakfast'
The Corscombe First Responders will be holding their highly successful 'Big Breakfast' on the following Saturdays between 9-11am
2011:
5th February
5th March
Come along and enjoy a fine cooked breakfast of local produce.
Look forward to seeing you.
The Responders

Tuesday Club

There were sixteen members present at our AGM when our programme for 2011 and last year's financial report were discussed. We are looking forward to the various events and outings that will be taking place during the year. Pat & Ian Tolin are attempting to arrange a trip to Highgrove but as numbers will be limited and some restrictions may apply, they need to know numbers by early February at the latest.

We have a new Treasurer, Marlene Voil, but the Secretary's job needs to be filled as I will be stepping down in October. If nobody comes forward to take over, the future of the Tuesday Club will be uncertain.

The next meeting on 1st February is at the village hall at 2.30pm, when Tony Castleton, from Halstock, will give a talk on 'Living paintings'. Please come along and support this charity.

Corscombe Quiz Nights are back by popular demand

Come along for another year of brain teasing questions.

7:30pm start on Saturdays:
12th February 2011
12th March 2011

Entrance £2 per person
Baked potato and filling - £2 per person

You can enter a team of up to six, or just turn up and be put in a team on the night.

There will be prizes for the highest score each month and an overall prize for the season. You can book in advance by contacting Sarah on 891481 or Rosemary 891415.

Keep Fit Spring Term 2011

The Spring Term will run until the 4th of April. (No session on Monday the 21st February)

Mondays 2:30 to 3:30 in the Village Hall.

All enquiries and cheques payable to Jean Mosser 891096

(If any one would like to join our group please contact me as we now have a vacancy)

Coffee Morning

This month's Coffee Morning will be on February 9th at 10:30am at Malbrook, Church Farm, by kind invitation of Charles and Dot Gaskell. All Corscombe residents welcome.

Ladybirds Playgroup and Toddlers

We are delighted to welcome two new children, Ashton and Florence to Ladybirds, we hope they soon make some really good friends and enjoy their time with us. We were very sad to say goodbye to Willow who moved away from the area and wish her all the best in the future.

In addition to working with the children our staff team are busy in their spare time (as if there is such a thing!) with additional qualifications. Marie is putting in lots of hours on her Level 3 course at Yeovil College. Sarah is working hard on her Forest School Leaders coursework and Lindsay has just completed her Forest School qualification which had a good deal less paper work attached to it.

We are delighted that Adele Jakeman has agreed to continue to treat the Ladybirds children to her Mini Maestro music sessions on a regular basis in 2011. We all love singing and playing instruments with her and look forward to seeing which friend she has brought along with her to surprise us at the end of each session.

If you would like to learn more about our Forest or Playgroup sessions at Ladybirds please ring Lindsay on 07845 118177 or 01460 73005.

The Pudding Club

Come and enjoy an
EXTRAVAGANZA
of Puddings!

2 Course Dinner
followed by as many puddings
as can tempt you!

Saturday 26 March 2011
Corscombe Village Hall

Booking Essential with group bookings
available
Further details to follow

Rainfall

The rainfall for December was 41mm.

Rainfall for 2010 was 972mm.

This compared with 1277mm in 2009 and
1105mm in 2008.

Birthdays

We wish the happiest of birthday's to:
Poppy Roberts who will be 6 on the 1st
Eve Harknett who will be 5 on the 4th

Remember

South West Coaches Bus Times

This picks up at Lindisfarne, High Street at approximately 10.35/40am (ish), then stopping at The Barton, Pine Close and Church Farm (if people are waiting there), returning from Tesco's

Yeovil at 1.45pm and the Borough Memorial at 1.50pm. The bus runs on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Recycling and Library Dates

Both of these events are on Thursday's, the 10th and 24th of the month.

HALSTOCK

Church Flowers

6th Liz Stuckey
13th Liz Stuckey
20th J Gove
27th Liz Dowding
March 6th Liz Dowding

Side Altar

T Young

Church Cleaning

Jennifer Smith

"In the bleak mid winter" – are we bovered!!! Not in the least!

On Saturday, 18th December nearly 30 children, with Mums, Dads and others, braved the snow and ice and gathered at the Village Hall for this year's Children's Christmas Party. A great time with activities, games and song was had by all, as well as delicious food and a much anticipated visit by Father Christmas and his elf. Many thanks to all who made this a really enjoyable afternoon – not only did the children have a good time, but thanks to the kindness of those attending a donation of just over £42 was made to 'Julia's House', the Dorset Children's Hospice at Poole.

On the following morning a further trail of intrepid travellers was seen progressing somewhat slipperly towards the church, including the travelling nativity set perched atop a sledge, to celebrate the Christmas Story at the Crib Service. It was wonderful to see so many children and their families who had made the effort to get there. A big thank you to Adele Jakeman and her Mini Maestros who formed the core of the nativity scene, but also to the many angels, shepherds and stars who helped to swell the throng. Thank you too to Tyler Coombs, Fergus Rees, Frankie & Millie Balch, Ben &

Bella Leather, Erin Cassingham and Adam Harris who led us through the Christmas story with readings from the Bible.

The retiring collection from this service together with that taken at the Christingle Service and the collecting candles has resulted in a donation of more than £175 being made to the Children's Society.

LAST CALL ... If by any chance you still have a collecting candle it is not too late to swell this donation by leaving your candle at the shop.

**Friends of St Mary's Church Halstock
100+ Club**

Monthly Prizes: 1st £100; 2nd £40; 3rd £20; 4th £5

Membership costs £4 per month per number

If you would like to become a Member please contact Liz on 01935 891898

January Draw

1st 53 Mrs M Ellis

2nd 73 Mrs T Manning

3rd 41 Mr & Mrs P Frampton

4th 70 Mr & Mrs A O'Brien

Next Draw

Wednesday 9th February 2011

In the Community Room

(after Mid Week Holy Communion)

'100 Club' Coffee Morning: As the first year of the '100 Club' draws to a close we would like to thank everyone who is taking part and in so doing is helping to build up a reserve for the future maintenance and development of St Mary's Church. We would like to show our appreciation of your support by offering free tea/coffee and homemade cakes in the Community Room on Saturday, 19th February between 10 a.m. and 12 noon. If you are not already a member, there are still numbers available and anyone wishing to join for the first time will be equally welcome: there will be an opportunity to join/renew during the morning.

Mid Week Holy Communion: will be celebrated as usual in the Community Room, behind the Shop, on **Wednesday 9th February at 11 a.m.** with an opportunity to stay and chat afterwards over a cup of tea/coffee. If you

would like to come but getting there is a problem please call Liz or Tony on 891898. Or if you or someone you know is housebound and would like to take Communion at home please let us know in advance and every effort will be made to arrange this.

Sunday Club Diary: dates for the coming months are:

Sunday 27th February – 10 a.m.

Sunday 27th March – 10 a.m.

Sunday 24th April (Easter Day) – 10.30 a.m.

We meet in the church for activities, stories and songs based on the Bible. If you haven't been before, come and see what we get up to – everyone (from anywhere in the Team) is welcome. Current ages range from 1-7 (ish), but if older children wish to join in, it would be great to have their help and input. For more information call Liz on 891898.

All good wishes to John and Karen our marvellous Shopkeeper and Post Mistress. Hopefully by the time this edition is published John will be feeling much better and Karen will be enjoying some well deserved rest.

Women's Institute

The Christmas Dinner was held at the Red House and everyone had a very enjoyable evening.

The monthly meeting was the party evening when members of Melbury Osmond W.I., braved the fog to join Halstock Members. The Drama Group entertained and caused much amusement with a look at the first meeting and then how things are now.

This performance was followed by a buffet, provided by members, this was enjoyed whilst solving a picture quiz.

The February meeting will be on Monday 28th February. The speaker will be Mr R Curtis on Turnpikes and Dorset Coaching Days.

Village Hall News

Over a period of time various unclaimed items collect in the Hall. There is one such item that I would like to be able to return to its owner. This

is a yellow ring binder which contains sheets of music and various notes and has been left in the changing room at the rear of the Hall for quite a long time now. If this belongs to you, or you think you know to whom it does belong, would you please contact me as soon as possible. If there is no response by the end of February, it will be disposed of.

Peter Brinck 01935 891822

The Royal British Legion

The next meeting of the Royal British Legion will be held on Tuesday 8th February at the Rest and Welcome at 7.30pm. New members will be made very welcome.

Carol Singing

Thank you to the strolling singers who joined Trish Manning's last-minute carol singing group when the snow and ice caused cancellation of the tractor and trailer. Thank you also to George Geraghty for his excellent refreshments half-way round. We raised £144.53 which is being split between buying Dr John Dearlove a special piece of monitoring equipment for babies, which has been shipped to him, and his Lesotho charity. Well done all.

Pancake Day

Tuesday 8th March from 11am -
2.30pm

Halstock Village Hall

For donations of fillings or any
bookings for Pancake Lunch
or if you would like to volunteer to
help

Please contact Trish Manning on
891394



Artsreach Presents Pentabus Theatre 'Tales of The Country'

Saturday 12th February 7 30pm

Halstock Village Hall

Tickets: Adults £8 U 18 £6 Family £24

Youth club members free

Contact Hazel Darnley 01935 83347

Well stocked Bar and

Selection of Homemade Cakes and Biscuits

'Tales of the Country' tells the story of Brian Viner and his family as they move from a terraced house in London to a rambling grange in rural Herefordshire. It is a beguiling and often hilarious look at the pleasures and pitfalls that await a family from the city chasing a rural idyll. Five actors perform a story which features not only the whole Viner family, including 3 children, a dog and some chickens, but also a succession of colorful characters of all ages.

Bridge Nights are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 7.30pm in the Community Room. Enquiries 01935 891249

A very Happy Birthday to Justin White on 28th February – have a great time.

Three engagements in the Village on Christmas Day, very many congratulations to:-

Craig Frampton and Debbie Heals
Luke Sanger and Lousie Bloomfield
David Irvine and Andrea J R Clark

The Bellringers had better start practising!