

# ON THE EDGE



*We have a list of folk we know, all written in a book  
And every year when Christmas comes we go and take a  
look.  
And that is when we realise, that these names are a part  
Not of the book they are written in, but of our very heart.  
So never think a Christmas card is just a mere routine,  
Of names upon a Christmas list, forgotten in between,  
For when we send a Christmas card that is addressed to you  
It is because you're on the list of folks we're indebted to...  
And whether we have known you, for many years or few,  
In some way you have had a part in shaping things we do,  
And every year when Christmas comes, we realise anew,  
The best gift life can offer,  
is meeting folk like YOU!*

*By Diana Digby - now aged 100*



*Issue 258*

*December 2019 / January 2020*



The January NN Historical Group meeting will be on:

**Thursday 9 January**  
7.30 at Nibley House

**Speaker:** Paul Barnett

**Subject:** 'Dunkirk's Little Ships'

Members: £3.00

### Interested in the history of your house?

At the November meeting, historian Rose Hewlett spoke about how house histories can be investigated. She suggested a whole plethora of sources, including electoral registers, censuses, rent rolls, land tax records, hearth tax records, sales particulars, newspapers, trade directories and estate records. The Lloyd George Survey of Land Values (1909) is free to access on [bgas.org.uk](http://bgas.org.uk) - publications - online. Zoom in on the map to find your house and its plot number, then enter the plot number in the search facility to find the owner and tenant in 1909.



In November Alan Kennett gave us an illuminating and sobering account of the Homeless in Bristol. An estimate of about 1,000 are homeless for a variety of reasons.

The Julian Trust provides beds for 18 and a hot meal for more with sandwiches etc for those who cannot stay. Clothes are also often provided.

Everyone is a volunteer and should anyone wish to help their website is

[ig007c8648@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:ig007c8648@blueyonder.co.uk) and contact Steve Griffiths 01179 666067.

The Julian Trust works for 48 weeks of the year but at Christmas Caring for Christmas takes over and many more are accommodated for that period. The plight especially of young men is particularly heart-rending and much emphasis was placed on being non-judgemental.

It may not be generally known that the councils have no duty of care for single young men in the way of providing accommodation.

**Monday December 10<sup>th</sup> Christmas Dinner at Nibley House. Contact Pat 845154 to book.**

**Monday Jan 13<sup>th</sup> will be a Social Occasion, Bring and Buy and a Quiz (easy) and most importantly bring your subscription at £25.00 for the year. Visitors £3.00**

**Monday Feb 10<sup>th</sup> Tony Griffith and Magic of Science (a member of the Magic Circle)**

**Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 2.30 in the Village Hall. Visitors and new members welcome.**

### In Memoriam

#### Sally Foster

Sally's family and friends regret to announce that she died aged 68 at Gloucester Royal Hospital on 10th November following a short illness.

She suffered little pain and her family, including her 2 granddaughters, were able to spend precious time talking with her shortly before her death. *John*

The funeral is on Wednesday 27 November at the Memorial Woodlands, BS35 3TA, with tea/coffee at 11 am, a non-religious service at 12 and then catering. Please contact Kirsten Marlow if you are going, [kirsten\\_marlow@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kirsten_marlow@hotmail.co.uk)

#### Jan Symons

We regret to record that Jan passed away on Friday 8 November, after 6½ years with cancer. Jan, Rex and their family have lived in North Nibley for 37 years.

The funeral will be at 1pm on Friday 29 November at St Martin's Church followed by burial at the Cemetery.



### North Nibley Preschool

Looking forward to Christmas, we have lots of activities and outings planned including visiting Father Christmas. See our website, [www.northnibleypreschool.co.uk/news&events](http://www.northnibleypreschool.co.uk/news&events) to see what is planned.

In January we will welcome new families and we will celebrate Chinese New Year – the year of the Rat. Lots of fun using chopsticks and learning about rats! We shall also be celebrating Burns Night and sampling haggis. Both events fall on ... Saturday 25 January 2020. See Facebook to see what we've been up to.

We are always looking for volunteers who can offer 30+ minutes of their time a week to inspire our little ones. Are you artistic or have a passion for gardening? Would you like to do some craft/art things with our children or help them grow plants from seeds? Do you have a hobby which you can bring to the Pre-school and show the children? Or simply, do you have time to read a story or two to them? If you do and this appeals to you, then please get in touch with us

If you are interested in your child joining, we still have some spaces. We accept childcare vouchers and the Nursery Education Grant for eligible children, and have spaces for the 30 hours (free childcare hours). Do get in touch for more information. Also as a registered provider with Gloucestershire County Council, we are able to accept funding for 2 year olds.

We operate in North Nibley Village Hall, Monday 9.00am to 1.00pm and Tuesday-Friday 9.00am-3.30pm (term time only). You can contact us, during session times on 01453 297493 or email us on [northnibleypreschool@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:northnibleypreschool@hotmail.co.uk) and we will call/email you back. Alternatively drop in anytime and meet our lovely staff and children.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and thank you for your support.



## Christmas Is Coming...

If you're shopping on-line this year then there's a very easy way you can help the school and that's Amazon smile. There's more information on this at the bottom of the page.

Our Carol Concert will be on Wednesday 18th December this year (see box for details) and I'm hoping that various members of the community will partner with the school to read the lessons as 'Community' is a big part of our work. The evening may also include a rap, although that may turn out to be a 'wrap' depending on how rehearsals go, but do come along and join in.

Next Year (Christmas 2020) we hope to extend the Christmas theme by running an 'Advent Window' and 'Living Advent Calendar' display around the village but we will need 24 local households to 'host' the windows so if you are interested, please contact Paul Batchelor at the school. You read it here first!

It's been a busy few weeks for the school. There were fireworks, and we have to say a big thank you FONNS for an excellent evening - it really went with a bang! Then we marked Armistice Day, which this year fell on a school day, so we were able to observe the silence as a whole school. Poems were read, prayers were said and the children were challenged to consider their roles as peacemakers. It needs to start in the playground, if not before, if we are to win the peace for a new generation. Such an approach is reinforced through our work on our current value - Respect.

FONNS also ran a Christmas shopping evening to raise funds for the school, and the school was packed with visitors once again for our Open Morning. It was a delight to welcome familiar and not-so-familiar faces to the school. Year 6 were excellent role models as they showed the visitors around. Everyone wants the best for their child and the school strives to deliver exactly that.

As I hinted an issue or two back, our results from the summer looked like being exceptionally good, and I can now confirm that in Reading, Writing, Maths, Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation, the percentage of North Nibley School children attaining the National Standard was higher than other schools nationally. More importantly, it has been confirmed that the progress made in Reading and Maths was 'Well Above' the progress made by other schools, so well done all those children and staff for their continued efforts and dedication.



Finally, our new 'breakout space' will be open for use by the time you read this. The space will be providing a place to concentrate for children who find learning tough, a space for groups working under adult supervision (for those occasions when a corridor meeting is just not good enough), and a dedicated working space for visiting specialists such as Speech and Language Therapists. In fact, we'll probably think of lots of new uses for this space - it's a really important addition to the school.

But let me finish by telling you about Amazon smile.

You can find all the information about this FREE service on our website, which is <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/pta-fonns/>, but basically, if you nominate North Nibley School PTFA as your chosen charity, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price of everything you buy on Amazon to the school via the PTA-FONNS. It's surprising how those tiny amounts add up. Thank you.

And that's it. If I don't see you before, have a Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Paul Batchelor, Head Teacher

## Audrey Sewell Remembered

This is an edited version of a Tribute by Peter Hall.

Audrey was born on Lammas Day 1933. Audrey would often hold small Lammastide celebrations, without telling anyone it was her birthday. She didn't want people fussing over her or giving her presents. For those of you not steeped in English rural life, Lammas day is the 1<sup>st</sup> of August. Audrey was 86 on that day this year.



She grew up around Westhoughton in Lancashire. She didn't have an easy childhood. Her mother died when she was very young, and her father remarried. She was sent off to boarding school and in wartime that school was evacuated to a stately home in Staffordshire, with extensive and exotic gardens. It was and still is called Alton Towers.

Audrey married an up-and-coming RAF officer, John Sewell, in March 1955 and would later travel with John to German military bases, and cross into Berlin.

When John left the RAF for Aerospace, they fetched up in Nibley — more than 50 years ago. So began the tending of the garden so dear to her, with flower beds, fruit trees and fruit cage, a life time searching for a squirrel proof bird-feeder, the ride-on lawnmower, and the green house with melons and tomatoes.

Audrey had trained as an optometrist and she worked for many years at Stroud Hospital. After retirement she did a spell as a volunteer at an eye hospital in Jerusalem.

Of course, there was music: especially choral singing: Tyndale, Oriana, church choirs here and St Mary's. As well as singing, she enjoyed concerts, and was delighted to encourage and support the Wotton Concert Series. She played a very active part in the North Nibley Arts Bursary scheme over many years, until very recently. When we were churchwardens, she phoned me one day, and said, "I've just done a terrible thing, I've bought a grand piano for the church. It was very expensive." She just felt that our old piano was not good enough and we had to have a new one. Over the years, the church did pay her back for the piano, but to Audrey, that was of secondary importance. Her last outing, just a week before her final fateful stroke, was to attend a concert by the Voller string quartet in the church, and she heard the beloved piano being played wonderfully.

And finally, a word about Audrey's faith.....it was utterly unshakeable. When things went wrong for friends, or operations or examinations or other trials loomed over them, Audrey would often say "I'll bother God about it." May she rest in peace.

## With Sympathy and Thanks

Sophie Chinner has asked On the Edge to publish a letter she recently sent to the North Nibley Arts Bursary Trustees. Audrey Sewell used to help submit her application for the arts bursary every year. *(It has been edited for reasons of space.)*

Dear North Nibley Arts Bursary,  
I am a recent dance graduate from Tring Park School for the Performing Arts with Distinction in the Trinity Level 6 Diploma in Professional Dance. Since 2012, I have been receiving an annual bursary from NNAB, so upon hearing the news of the loss of Audrey Sewell, I thought it would be a good time to express my thanks to the Trust that has made so much possible for me over the years and to update you on where your money has been directed to assist my career journey.

I began dancing age six and progressed through the Royal Ballet School Associate Programme before being accepted at Tring Park School, Hertfordshire. I lived there for three years and was grateful to win "Tring Park Dancer of the Year" in my final year of training.

Recently, I have participated in a short film project in collaboration with English National Ballet, I have also danced at the "Alien" perfume launch event, as well as for a major supermarket Christmas advert. In 2019 I've worked as a member of ENCORE Dance Company embarking on a national tour culminating at Sadlers Wells Lillian Baylis Theatre. Performing pieces from ENCORE, including a duet choreographed on myself by former Royal Ballet Principal, Anthony Dowson, at the Swedish National Ballet School's 70th Jubilee Dance Gala in June was an unforgettable experience.

NNAB has made all the countless numbers of pointe shoes, summer schools, train and bus journeys feasible. It has helped me fund portfolio photo-shoots, short training courses as well



as, of course, supporting my training at Tring Park. I couldn't be more grateful for the help you have provided. As a token to Audrey I want to take this opportunity to praise arts funding such as this bursary scheme, that continues to support everyone and their passion. I hope it encourages more people to follow their creative impulses and consider a career in the Arts industry.

With sincerest thoughts and kindest regards,  
Sophie Catherine Chinner

# News from the Parish Council

Next Meeting  
Monday 2nd December  
7:30 p.m.  
in the Village Hall

At its November meeting, the Parish Council discussed the public consultation drop-in event which was organised by the prospective developers of the proposed 'affordable housing' led scheme on land off Wotton Road. This meeting, held on 29th October, was not a Parish Council event and it was felt that insufficient notice and publicity had been given by the organisers, although a significant number of people attended. More importantly, the Parish Council felt there was a serious lack of information on the affordable housing content and the likely Housing Association involvement. The Parish Council therefore considers greater clarity is required, and are seeking clarification from Stroud District Council about the Affordable Housing content, qualification criteria, and controls to ensure local people are given the first priority on any future allocations should the scheme be supported by Stroud as Housing and Planning Authority. Once received this information will be made available to parishioners through On the Edge and on the Parish Council website. Should a planning application be submitted there will be a further opportunity for parishioners to make comments and representations to both the Parish Council and Stroud District Council. The proposed site plan and accompany notes are reproduced here for information.

The proposal contains a range of dwelling types such as detached, semi-detached, terrace and bungalows:

- House Type A - 1 bed, 2 person
- House Type B - 2 bed, 4 person
- House Type C - 3 bed, 5 person
- House Type D - 2 bed, 4 person
- House Type E - 3 bed, 6 person
- House Type F - 4 bed, 8 person
- House Type G - 3 bed, 6 person



*Site Plan*

The proposal is for a linear housing development, set on an east/west axis.

The proposal includes two storey houses and bungalows. The bungalows are situated in key locations to minimise impact to existing houses whilst respecting the close proximity of the existing cemetery.

The main spine of proposed homes is in such a location that also minimises views from the north. The proposal also includes rear gardens backing on to the existing ecological corridor to reduce impact.

Equally, the southern boundary has been left intentionally open, as to keep views from the south as free as possible into the site, minimising a hard edge.

Proposed access into the site is via an existing entrance point.

Key Points

5. 9 affordable houses.
- 7 open market houses.
- Policy compliant car parking provided to each plot.
- Wide variety of house types to create interest.
- Ecological corridor to the north remains undisturbed.
- Existing access utilised.
- Public rights of way to western edge and site edge to remain as existing.

16 new homes adjacent to New Road



**Other News:**

The Council also received a proposal from a resident for a new set of children's playground equipment on part of the playing field. The Council were shown several examples from nearby villages, and the costs ranged from £50,000 - £125,000. Clearly this is something that needs to be thought about very carefully, and we would welcome any feedback about this idea.

**First Aid Course:**

So far we have had three expressions of interest for the First Aid Course proposed in the October edition. There needs to be a minimum of 15 attendees so if anyone else is interested please get in touch at [waterley@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:waterley@tiscali.co.uk) and let us know which days and time would be suitable.

## We finally opened ...

On 24 October we opened our doors and since then we haven't let the grass grow under our feet. We have been asking customers what they would like to see stocked in the shop and have responded where possible. In addition to the very popular local eggs, milk and bread, we have introduced a small range of meat products from Cam Butchers, Pittcourt honey from Robert Maxwell's hives and greetings cards of local views from Claire Failes. As we expand our refrigeration facilities we will similarly expand our range of fresh, chilled and



frozen products. Our selection of dried and canned grocery products, pet food, household goods, toiletries, sweets and drinks is also constantly under review and new lines are arriving all the time. Tarragon's T & Cakes Coffee Shop has proved to be a roaring success and she has received much praise for the deliciousness of her cakes and scones but also from some

diehard aficionados for the range and quality of the coffees and teas on offer. You only have to read the feedback we have received to realise what a success this has become very quickly – and it's such a lovely environment in which to meet friends or bump into folk you haven't seen in a while. Some afternoons we have run out of tables!

The very best way to keep up with what we are offering at The Hub and in the Coffee Shop is to follow our Facebook page, where updates are posted on a regular basis. Or come in and take a look!

## New offerings of note



Posey Rose, our Nibley based florist, makes the most fabulous arrangements, and we are currently taking orders for her Christmas fare – wreaths, table centres and bouquets. Pictures and order forms are available in the shop for your perusal, or check out our Facebook page for images of her work.

Dry cleaning, laundry, repairs and alterations can be collected and delivered back on a Thursday by *Hard Pressed for Time*. We have their price list at the counter – ask to have a look.

High quality, low priced bird food is now available in kilo bags – sunflower hearts, peanuts and suet pellets. Look after our feathered friends this winter at extremely competitive prices.

## Featured Artists

*Lyd's Paint Shop* has provided a flying start to our scheme to feature local artists on the walls of the Coffee Shop. Lydia had to restock after the first week because so many of her appealing images were sold, and the sales have continued with new paintings appearing all the time. This has exceeded our wildest expectations and we now have several artists lined up to be the next featured. Space will be available from early spring next year, so get in touch if you are, or know a local artist who would like to use our walls to show off artwork for a very reasonable charge.

## Grants received

We are extremely grateful to Renishaw Charities Committee and to the Gloucestershire County Council (Growing Our Communities Fund) for their generous support which will allow us to replace items of furniture and fittings that we were loaned to get us up and running. Councillor John Cordwell was our sponsor for the latter and we would especially like to extend our thanks to him for his work on this grant.

See [www.nnvs.co.uk/thanks](http://www.nnvs.co.uk/thanks) for a full list of donors and supporters so far.



## Did you know?

**Hours of opening are Thursday to Sunday 9am to 4.30pm**

We take card payments for all purchases over £1 in the shop or the coffee shop

We stock the Wotton Times (did you see our double page spread in last month's edition?!)

The Nibley 2020 calendars are selling fast – 3 sizes, 3 prices and we can post for you if necessary

We have a great selection of second hand books for just 50p

We sell tickets for events at the Village Hall, School etc

We have a community noticeboard for local businesses and events to advertise (A5 or smaller, please)

Walkers Bakers deliver on Thursday and Saturday – in addition we take orders for specific products

Severnfresh deliver milk, cheese, butter and other chilled products

Cam Butchers deliver a range of meat products on Thursday - or order from their full range

The T & Cakes Coffee Shop has a loyalty card. Buy 10 drinks, get one free

We have free wifi at a very acceptable speed. Customers can borrow our laptop while they are in The Hub

## Christmas is coming

We are delighted to be part of St Nicholas' journey around the village. **On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>,** we will be a centre of activity with Christmas decorations for sale in aid of the local Donkey Sanctuary. Other pre-Christmas events at The Hub will be announced on Facebook during December.



**Please note, The Hub and Coffee Shop will be closed from 23<sup>rd</sup> December to 1<sup>st</sup> January inclusive. We will open for business again at 9am on Thursday 2 January 2020**



**We would like to thank all our loyal customers, donors, suppliers, visitors, and volunteers for their fantastic support in 2019, wish you all the merriest Christmas and much happiness and good health in 2020.**

## Contact us:

Carolyn: [carolyn@nibleyhub.co.uk](mailto:carolyn@nibleyhub.co.uk) 01453 542494  
 Marjory: [marjwright54@gmail.com](mailto:marjwright54@gmail.com) 01453 542511  
 Alison: [nibley50@gmail.com](mailto:nibley50@gmail.com) 01453 546251

Information on becoming a shareholder:

Charles: [charleslamplugh58@gmail.com](mailto:charleslamplugh58@gmail.com) 01453 549016

Facebook: **North Nibley Community Hub**  
 Instagram: **north\_nibley\_community\_hub**  
 NNVSA website: [www.nnvs.co.uk](http://www.nnvs.co.uk)

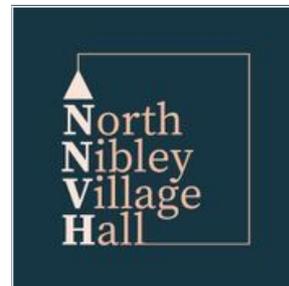


North Nibley Community Choir  
 Christmas carols at the Black Horse  
 Tuesday 10th December @ 7.30pm



# HALL NEWS

www.northnibleyhall.org.uk



We hope you like the fresh images we have adopted. Created for us by Lizzie de Pass of Design for Good they reflect the village icon of Tyndale's Monument and the two versions offer flexibility depending on where and on what we use them. As you can see below we have also kept the Hall4All concept of mutually supporting venues working together for the village with a strap line that sums up what its creators envisaged ten years ago.



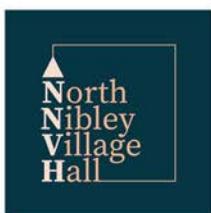
Yes it is that long since David Drew and Edna Purnell opened the revamped and extended hall, and it has served the community well. That it ever happened was due in large part to the efforts of Ruth Kirkup, a village stalwart who was also involved in fund

raising for the Chapel and the Sports pavilion.



To record her efforts and commitment to North Nibley in perpetuity the Hall Trustees decided to name the Meeting Room in her honour. This we did on the 12th November in the presence of her immediate family and Trustees past and present in an informal and poignant ceremony.

Draft web site header



## North Nibley Village Hall



HOME ABOUT EVENTS REGULARS CALENDAR BOOKING & FEES CONTACT

MONDAY LUNCHES:  
1230 for 1pm

*2nd December*  
Tickets £7

*Christmas Lunch*  
next is 27th January



### ADVANCE WARNING !!

### THE SCHMOOZENBERGS

**FRIDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2020**

Their line up is two guitars, violin and upright bass, same as the classic Django Rheinhardt quartets. Gypsy swing is The Schmoozenbergs' bread and butter. The musicianship is excellent, laidback and accomplished. Clearly, these four enjoy playing together. [www.schmusic.co.uk](http://www.schmusic.co.uk)

- BAR

**TICKETS £10** (in the New Year from The Hub or ticketsource)

**DOORS OPEN 7PM**

# News from The Chapel

[www.northnibleychapel.org.uk](http://www.northnibleychapel.org.uk)



The Chapel is available for weddings, christenings, and funerals.  
 Contact: Rosie Casken, Chapel Development Worker,  
[mailmeroses@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mailmeroses@yahoo.co.uk) 07977454083  
 Dave Purnell  
[davidpurnell48@hotmail.com](mailto:davidpurnell48@hotmail.com) 07775876738  
 You are welcome to hire the Chapel for your event.

For Christmas Events at the Chapel — see Back Page

A light hearted look at Epiphany



Come and join us for an Informal service  
 In the Chapel  
 Sunday January 5<sup>th</sup> at 5.30pm

A last chance for mulled wine and mince pies!



As the community of North Nibley  
 Let's celebrate the special spirit of  
 This village  
 With a laid back lunch in the  
 Village Hall



on Sunday January 26<sup>th</sup> 12 for 12.30.  
 Tickets @ £5 per person (£3 for Primary Children)  
 from the Chapel, the Church, or The Hub

Bring your own bottle!



## Mini Mondays

### Praise and Play



Stories, songs  
 and half an hour of play  
 2-3pm, Mondays in the Chapel



Messy Church  
 January 18<sup>th</sup>  
 10.30am – 12.15pm  
 ending with lunch.

## REGULAR COMMUNITY EVENTS

For more details contact :Rosie Casken 07977454083

### TABLE TENNIS

Tuesdays in term time  
 10 - 11.30 am  
 £1.50 includes coffee and biscuits

### COMMUNITY CHOIR

Tuesday evenings 7.30pm  
 Led by Rowan Armes  
 (Term time only)

All welcome to join—any queries to:

[rowanarmes@btinternet.com](mailto:rowanarmes@btinternet.com)



Wednesday  
 10am-12pm

### CHAPEL CAFÉ

Come and enjoy  
 coffee, tea, cake and  
 good company.  
 ALL WELCOME!



### ART CLUB

Every Wednesday  
 10.00am - 12.30pm

A very peaceful way to spend a morning. Not sure if it's for you? Pop your head round the door and come in for coffee and chat. No regular commitment.

### DANCEFIT

Every Thursday  
 10.00 - 11.00 am  
 £5 a session  
 Pay as you go.  
 Come and join us!

### DRAMA CLUB

Every Friday 6.00 - 7.00 pm  
in term time  
 For kids in years 5,6 & 7. £2.50 a session.

# ST MARTIN'S PARISH CHURCH

Rev'd Peter Marsh 01453 547521  
(not after 7.00 pm, please)

[pcemarsh@gmail.com](mailto:pcemarsh@gmail.com)

Churchwarden, Wynne Holcombe  
01453 542091

WEBSITE [northnibleychurch.uk](http://northnibleychurch.uk)



## SERVICES IN DECEMBER

Sunday 1st:

9.30am Parish Eucharist

6.00pm Advent Carols

Sunday 8th :

8.00am Holy Communion

*9.30am Family Service  
With Archdeacon Hilary*

Wednesday 18th

*6.30pm North Nibley School Carols  
Everyone most welcome!*

Sunday 15th:

9.30am Parish Eucharist

Sunday 22nd :

9.30am Family Communion

**Christmas Eve**

10am Journey to Bethlehem

6.00pm Christingle

11.30pm Midnight Mass



**Christmas Day**

*9.30am Family  
Communion*

Sunday 29th

8.00 am Holy Communion

9.30am Matins

6.30pm Carols and Readings

**SERVICES IN JANUARY**

5th January CELEBRATING EPIPHANY

9.30am Parish Eucharist

12th January

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Family Service

19th January

9.30am Parish Eucharist

26th January

9.30am Family Communion



**Advent Carols**

"From Darkness to  
Light"

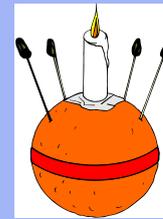
Sunday 1st December  
at 6.30pm

**Christmas Carols and Readings**

Sunday 29th December  
at 6.30pm

*Mulled Wine  
& Mince Pies*

*All Welcome!*



**Christingle**

Collect envelopes  
or "candles" from  
Church or School  
for the fundraising

in aid of the Children's Society  
and bring back full to the service

at St Martin's Church

at 6pm on Christmas Eve

## The ramblings of the Assistant Priest — Revd. Peter Marsh

There is a new god that many people worship – 'The god of Electronics'.

Arriving at the bakery at 3:50am, I was told that my van was being repaired and I was to use the hire van which turned out to be a brand new Merc. I jumped in expectantly and sat there in the pitch black cab unable to 'wake it up'. It was keyless. I worked it out and pulled out of the parking bay only to run over the traffic cone that was in front of it. Evidently, parking sensors weren't thought necessary by the manufacturers. By the half way point of my delivery route I had worked out how to turn the radio on and get tuned to Radio 4. Things were looking up. As time progressed I discovered that there were audible alarms for handbrake applied whilst moving, non-use of seatbelt, lights left on and spinach stuck to teeth but not one for driving up a dual-carriageway and roundabout with the side loading door wide open. I had to rely on other motorists bringing that to my attention. By the three quarters point I managed to get the dash to display the vehicle mileage (which I needed for my paperwork) instead of my 'brake to acceleration ratio'. On arrival back at the bakery, I devised my own 'parking sensors' and executed a controlled, slow speed collision with the wall at the rear of my parking bay.

When I got home, in my 20 year old, non-electronic car, I went into my shed, took down my scythe and sharpening stone and went into my field and mowed some grass: not because it needed it, but because I needed to get back in touch with my God, the one who doesn't need to impress me with short term gizmos. He is loving, patient, unchanging, and omnipresent. I know where I am with my God: oh, and He loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. Ultimately, that Christmas present is a whole lot more use than any electronics.

Peter

## DECEMBER CLEANING ROTA

1st Liz Pedley  
8th Dawn Shepherd & Sarah Aston  
15th Pam Lewis & Sue Devine  
22nd Wynne Holcombe  
29th Anita Fletcher & Di Findlay

## NO FLOWERS IN ADVENT

23rd Please help decorate for Christmas

*Christmas*

*With Oriana*

**Monday December 16<sup>th</sup>**

**St Martin's North Nibley 7.30pm**

**Thursday December 19<sup>th</sup>**

**St Dominic's Dursley 7.30pm**

*Tickets £8 include refreshments*

*On the door or email the choir at  
[oriansingers@hotmail.com](mailto:oriansingers@hotmail.com)*

*Proceeds towards the church*



The  
Children's  
Society

**Annual Collection Box Opening and Cream Tea**  
**Sunday 12th January at 2.30pm in Village Hall**  
*New box holders welcome contact [suedevine@hotmail.com](mailto:suedevine@hotmail.com)*

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# Catholic Church of the Holy Cross

Masses at Thornbury: Sunday 8.30&11am

**Weekday Masses:** usually twice weekly 9.15am - check bulletin & website

[www.ck-thornbury.org.uk](http://www.ck-thornbury.org.uk)

During ADVENT, there will be Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 5.00-5.20pm before the 5.30pm Vigil Mass at **Holy Cross**, W-u-E, starting on Saturday 30th November

**Tuesday 24th December, Christmas Eve** - 5pm Carols & Readings prior to Vigil Mass of Nativity at 5.30pm

11.30pm Carols followed by Midnight Mass at Christ The King Thornbury

**Wednesday 25th December, Christmas Day** - 8.30am & 10.00am, Masses at Christ The King, Thornbury

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Before or after Masses as required  
**Emergency: Father George Malecki on 07539 289248 or Parish Office on 01454 412223**

**Wotton-under-Edge  
VIGIL MASS 5.30pm SATURDAY  
NO Mass on Sundays**



## On The Edge

### Editors & Contact Details

The **DEADLINE** for **SUBMISSIONS** for

the **FEBRUARY 2020** issue is

**10th JANUARY 2020**

to: [nibleyote@gmail.com](mailto:nibleyote@gmail.com)

Sue Devine	543748
Dave Earle	546659
Di Hay	544965
Alan Shrimpton	544409
Alison Edwards	543441
Shirley Chalmers	542717
Dave Beer	546251

If any other publication wishes to use items from this newsletter, kindly contact an editor.

## Personals

**David, Sheila, Troy** and all the family would like to thank the village most sincerely for all their help and support.



**Sue and Mike Convery** would like to make donations to Thyroid UK and Coeliac UK instead of sending you all cards.



We wish all our lovely friends in North Nibley a very happy Christmas and New Year and hope you appreciate this.



**Eliz Miller** wishes all friends and neighbours in North Nibley every blessing and good wishes for Christmas and a peaceful 2020!



Donations in lieu of Cards for:

**BORDERLANDS BRISTOL, MACULAR SOCIETY & PLAN INTERNATIONAL**



**Ruth Barker** and **Sarah** and **Nick Sparks** wish their friends in North Nibley a Very Merry Christmas. This year they are giving to the "Nathan Chapman Wheelchair" appeal in lieu of Christmas cards.



## Fundraising for Nathan's Wheelchair

Calling all adult actors!

Have you always fancied having a go at acting but:

- A) haven't got time for rehearsals; and
- B) are worried about learning lines?

If either or both of the above applies to you I have the perfect solution! I have a very funny, published script by a playwright, to use for a one-off performance, free of charge. If enough people are interested I'm going to direct it to perform in the chapel in Spring 2020.

There will be just 3 rehearsals and you get to hold the script in your hand for the performance, which will be very informal. The event will be free to watch.

There are 12 characters (7 male, 5 female) of various ages ranging from late 20s. There won't be auditions and parts will be allocated on a first-come basis. It's just for fun!

Here's your chance to have the fun of acting with no stress.

So if you're 16 or over and interested email me on

[sarahannehopkins@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sarahannehopkins@hotmail.co.uk)

All proceeds will go towards Nathan's wheelchair.

## WOTTON FARM SHOP

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Welcome to Mike and Ashley, who have moved into the Old Brewery, Pitt Court. They lived in Pitt Court about 15 years ago with their then teenage children and are loving being back.



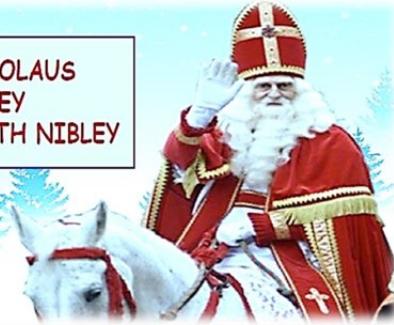
If anyone has any old photos of the Old Brewery they would love to see them. Please contact [mikeclark32@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mikeclark32@hotmail.co.uk)



**St Nikolaus at the Church  
4pm on Friday 6th December**

**SANKT NIKOLAUS  
JOURNEY  
THROUGH NORTH NIBLEY**

6-8<sup>th</sup> December



Walk along Barrs Lane and The Street and look out for the decorated Christmas windows as you go.

**At St. Martin's:**

### **Christmas Crib's Display**

Storytelling, children's crafts.

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup>: 4 - 8pm**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>: 10am - 5pm**

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>: 11.30am - 4.00pm** (9.30am Informal Service - all welcome)

Refreshments: Glühwein, stollen, mince pies, tea and coffee.

Donations welcome for Church funds.

**At the school: FONNS Christmas Fayre Friday 6<sup>th</sup> 5 - 7pm**

**At the Village Hub:**

**Saturday & Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>: 9am - 4.30pm**

Serving Christmassy flavoured hot beverages and cakes.

Winter Wonder Christmas Decorations on sale. (Proceeds to Donkey Sanctuary, Sidmouth.)

**Black Horse Inn** welcomes hungry travellers. **Parking.**



**Come and join us for our  
Living Crib service.  
In the Chapel  
December 15<sup>th</sup> at 3pm**



**Journey to Bethlehem on  
Christmas Eve  
Starting from St Martin's  
at 10am  
and walking to the Chapel  
for seasonal refreshments  
Everyone Welcome**

**20th DECEMBER 6.00pm**

## **CHRISTMAS BEDTIME STORIES**

Everyone is invited along to the chapel for 30mins (approx) of our annual Christmas stories evening. Wear pyjamas, bring teddy, a pillow, a blanket and snuggle down to listen.

There'll be a Magic Lantern show to enjoy, too! Hot chocolate and a biscuit will be served to the children and there'll be a nice bedtime tittle for their grown-ups, too.

No charge, but donations for refreshments, welcome.

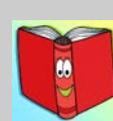
Absolutely everyone is welcome with or without children!



Could you buy an extra gift this Christmas for a child who may not get a present?



The Church and the Chapel are supporting the Kid's Stuff appeal to help parents who cannot afford to buy anything for their children.



New unwrapped toys can be left

in the Chapel foyer until December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Gifts for older children would also be appreciated.

Last date for donations is at the Living Crib Service.

