

# **Dadford and Stowe Parish** **Magazine**

**November - December 2019**



*Photograph by kind permission of Laurence Gibson*

**This magazine is produced every two months for everyone in Dadford Village and Stowe Parish.**

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## DEADLINE FOR THE MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

Please let Lyn East (lmeast@btinternet.com) have submissions (articles, photographs, ads or news items) by the **15th of the month prior to publication** (February, April, June, August, October & December)

## ADVERTISING

If you would like to advertise future events in this magazine then please e-mail Lyn East

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To see a colour copy of the magazine, or to find out where we are,  
visit our website at [www.stowechurch.org.uk](http://www.stowechurch.org.uk)

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I write this after our encouraging Harvest Thanksgiving and splendid Lunch on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

Harvest is a moment when we thank God for his gifts from the natural world of the food we need. Where would be without our farmers and other producers? As Anthony Bewes, our speaker, reminded us, God has promised to “supply all our needs according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4: 19) both materially and spiritually - our NEEDS and not our extra wants! Moreover, we sometimes sing “Praise God from whom all blessings flow in heaven above and earth below” which highlights the wonderfully abundant generosity of God. Consequently, it struck

me that, besides Harvest, we have three further occasions for giving thanks, another now and two more by December.

Firstly, our Roof Appeal, was launched in May at a service where the Bishop of Buckingham preached. We had been claiming in faith the promise of Philippians 4: 19, praying that, as the material elements for the building’s repair were met, so there would be a spiritual effect; “You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house”, 1 Peter 2: 5.

As the building is being repaired and enhanced, so the Church family at Stowe would be strengthened and encouraged. Certainly, the amazingly generous response from members, the fund-raising committee, friends, family and Old Stoics has shown us God giving “abundantly more than we can ask or think” Ephesians 3: 20, which does encourage our faith. Indeed we can, now, consider the final heave to reach the target needed and celebrate, thankfully, God’s generosity.

Secondly, on October 31st we can celebrate Christ’s light of love, sacrifice and purity, so that it shines out instead of the darkness and scariness of Hallowe’en.

Thirdly, there will be Christmas-tide when we can rejoice at God’s gift to the world of Jesus of Nazareth. This giving is the inspiration behind our own present giving. Sadly, it is a commercial excuse for over eating, extravagance and self-indulgence. Can we pray for and seek an approach to Christmas that recalls that “Jesus is the reason for the Season”? Thus, we can offer Jesus our heartfelt thanks not only in words but in deeds - perhaps giving money, time or hospitality to the lonely, the homeless and the needy as the Salvation Army or Tear Fund do.



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## Parish Council Update

We have had confirmation from Silverstone MEPC that section 106 has now been triggered and they are moving forward with their commitment to commence with the Dadford Traffic Calming. There were a couple of changes made to the original plans that had been submitted which were due to comments received from the public consultation, held in June. We don't have the finalised plan yet or a start date, the only thing we can assure you of is that this will all be finished by the end of next summer.

It has been a very busy summer as we have been making improvements to the playing fields/ allotment area, trimming the trees, clearing overhanging branches, making repairs to the park. More work is yet to be done with that and other areas, so watch this space!

We are very excited that we are again sponsoring the Christmas Festivities in the Parish. You should have all now received a leaflet regarding the **Dadford Light Festival**. All details can be found at:  
[www.dadfordlightfestival.weebly.com](http://www.dadfordlightfestival.weebly.com)

There's no pressure to have your own display. However, why not just come along each evening to watch the switching-on of the lights. Festivities will begin on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December, Dadford Village Hall at 6pm. EVERYONE WELCOME!

**Village Hall Hire:** a central hall with black-out blinds, hearing-loop, equipped kitchen, accessible toilet and disabled access. Full central heating and bags of character. Contact:  
[sueboulet@btinternet.com](mailto:sueboulet@btinternet.com).

**Allotments:** if you are interested in becoming an allotment holder we would love to welcome you. Contact: Councillor Chris Atkinson, 01280 814523 or  
[chrisatkinson565@btinternet.com](mailto:chrisatkinson565@btinternet.com)

The *councillors* are Chris Atkinson, Jamie Boulet, Sue Boulet (Chair), Hilary Hawkins, Colin Stanbrook and Steve Williamson. You can find all the contact details for our councillors on:  
[www.dadfordvillage.com](http://www.dadfordvillage.com)

Should you have any questions or need to get in touch to discuss anything, then in the first instance you can contact our Clerk, Tony Skeggs, on 01296 428392 or email  
[parishclerkstowe@outlook.com](mailto:parishclerkstowe@outlook.com)

All current information will be advertised on our website as well as on the official Parish Council notice board, which sits outside the village Hall.

Future Parish Council meetings –  
Dadford Village Hall  
Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October and  
11<sup>th</sup> December – 19.30

SB

# CHRISTMAS IN DADFORD



We are really looking forward to the month of festivities in Dadford, kindly sponsored by Stowe Parish Council.

Dates for your diary:

*Sunday 24 November, 2-5pm  
Dadford Village Hall*

We are running an adult and children's craft workshop for Stowe residents again this year. Come along and make your window number

or decorations - it's much more fun than making them alone. Free entry.

*Sunday 1 December, 6-8pm, Dadford Village Hall*

Dadford Christmas tree lights switch on with live music, singing, mulled wine and mince pies.

*Sunday 1 - Tuesday 24 December, various venues, Dadford*

From 1-24 December, one window, garden, porch or community space will be lit up at 18.00 pm each night for all to see, culminating in a very bright and festive village by Christmas Day.

Please see leaflets at [www.dadfordlightfestival.weebly.com](http://www.dadfordlightfestival.weebly.com) for further information.

Thank you so much to everyone participating in the festival - we can't wait to celebrate with you all.

*Maddie Coxhill and Hilary Hawkins*



## FESTIVE FAYRE

At

**Dadford Village Hall**

**Saturday 23rd November**

**10.30am to 2.30pm**

**Gifts - Preserves - Handicrafts**

**Refreshments**

**Free entry - all welcome**

## What's been happening at St. James and St. John Church of England Primary School...



The Autumn Term is always exciting as we welcome new children into Foundation Stage and Year 3, as well as a few other new additions. It has been lovely to see their smiling faces and we are always very proud of how our children help them to settle in so quickly!

This is also the time of year that many parents start thinking about school for those children due to start next September. If you would like an individual tour of our lovely school, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Wrigley on 01280 860272 or email [office@stjamesjohn.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@stjamesjohn.bucks.sch.uk).

In a big change this year, Forest School has been pushed out across the whole school. We are very excited to be offering all the children the opportunities this presents through regular sessions out in the woods. Forest Schools have many benefits for children's emotional health, as well as enabling the curriculum to be taught in a hands-on, experimental way, allowing children to take risks in a safe and supportive environment.

At the very end of September, Year 4 enjoyed their Bikeability training: a chance to brush up their cycling skills on the road, as well as learn about basic cycle maintenance and road safety. We have also been busy at both sites with our Harvest assemblies; a chance to say 'Thank You' and to feel grateful for what we have. Thank you to all who have donated! All donations have been passed to the local Food Bank.

Thinking of donations, Akeley site has a new addition: a large, blue recycling bin! Any unwanted adult or child clothing, paired shoes, handbags and linen can be deposited there, helping to raise money for the PTFA and the school.

Finally, dare I mention the 'C' word? It won't be long before preparations start in earnest for all sorts of exciting events in school during December. However, before that we are all looking forward to some festive shopping, refreshments and fun at the **PTFA's Christmas Fayre** on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November, 12noon-3pm**, at **Akeley Village Hall**. We hope to see you there!

CG



## DADFORD ART GROUP

The Dadford Art Group is run by Guy Scott and aims to meet up on the last Friday of the month in Dadford Village Hall at 2pm.

We are a very relaxed group and welcome all abilities. Email Prue, [pruefurseroberts@gmail.com](mailto:pruefurseroberts@gmail.com)

**The Advent Bible** studies, to which ALL are welcome, will take place at 4 Bostock Court at 7.30pm on the following Thursdays.



- November 28th - Messiah's character
- December 5th - Messiah's birth
- December 12th - Messiah's miracles

The studies are based on Handel's oratorio, Messiah, the entire text of which is drawn from Scripture. There are 5 further studies on Messiah which will form the basis for the Lent Bible Studies 2020.

There is not an Advent Bible Study on December 19th as we hope everyone will want to come to the **Parish Carol Service on Wednesday 18th December at 7.00pm**



**Christmas Day Lunch** in Buckingham is put on especially for those local people who would otherwise be on their own on Christmas Day.

Who do you know who could be a potential guest? We also need helpers – however we're encouraging people who could be at home with their family not to volunteer to be part of the team but instead consider inviting a neighbour to share their Christmas lunch or tea.

For more information contact Jill or Stephen Townsend.

[Stephen.Townsend@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:Stephen.Townsend@salvationarmy.org.uk) 07770 380717

**Church News**



There will be a Remembrance Service in Dadford Cemetery on **Sunday 10th November at 11.00** following the service in Stowe Church.

This month sees the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day, plus major anniversaries such as the Fall of the Berlin Wall.

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

**15th December 9.45am**

Christmas Nativity service

**18th December 7.00pm**

Carol Service with mulled wine and mince pies

**24th December 3.30pm**

Carols and cake in Dadford Village Hall. Everyone is welcome

**24th December 11.30pm**

Midnight Communion

**25th December 9.45am**

Family Communion

**Children's Light Party**

**Thursday 31st October 4.00-6.00pm**

**Dadford Village Hall**

All children are welcome to this afternoon of craft, fun, games and tea. Free entry.

Offers of help would be very welcome. Please contact Kay Murray if you are able to help in any way.

Our thoughts and prayers are with **Philip Bach** and family following the death of **Emma** who passed away peacefully after a short illness on 4th August. She was laid to rest in Stowe churchyard with her mother-in-law's ashes.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sue and the family of **John Russell**, a retired farmer, who died following a short illness.

Both were active members of the Stowe Church family and will be greatly missed.

**Memorial Service for Peter Farquhar Sunday 17th November**

**at 2.30pm.** Please join us as we remember this gifted man and his commitment for many years to Stowe Parish Church, not only as a lay-preacher but also as a valued friend, brother and uncle.

Light refreshments will be served after the service.





### **Harvest Lunch at Stowe Church**

The Church had been beautifully decorated in preparation for our Harvest service. Thank you to all who had made the Church look so splendid!

Many people came to the celebration Harvest Service that was led by Rev Val Plumb who included prayers for our farmers. This year has been a particularly good harvest.

Following the service the church was transformed ready for the **Bring and Share Lunch**. There was a real feast of food that people had brought to share - savoury and sweet!

A big thank you , also, to everyone who worked behind the scenes to transform the church into such a beautiful venue for our lunch.

The non-perishable harvest gifts were given to the Buckingham Food Bank.

### **Redundant Hymn Books.**

Thanks to a generous donation of new hymn books, by a member of our congregation, there are a number of earlier versions of Mission Praise available. (They are free).

You might like to have the words, so that you can sing the hymns around the house or just read them. There are some wonderful words in them.

If you would like a copy, please contact me, Rev Pat Howard, on 01280 823837, or a Church Warden.

**Activities:** Ladies' Bible Study, Young Mums, Lantern and Delta Bible Studies continue as usual but Lantern and Delta will combine for the Advent Bible studies, (see page 5 for details).



## **FAMILY SERVICES**

**17th November**

**Luke 4, 14-21**

**Jesus' declaration**

Jesus lived with Mary and Joseph and His brothers and sisters in the town of Nazareth. "He grew and became strong. He was full of wisdom and God's blessings were upon Him."

Every year the parents went to the Passover Festival in Jerusalem and, when Jesus was 12 years old, He went with them. After that we think He became a carpenter like Joseph until, when He was about 30 years old, He was led by the Holy Spirit to the River Jordan to be baptised by John.

He experienced the temptations in the wilderness to prepare Him for His life of dependence on God's will. The Holy Spirit gave Jesus the power to begin His ministry of teaching and healing, of bringing people to understand love and forgiveness and service. Jesus went as usual to the synagogue in Nazareth on the Sabbath. Worship began with a prayer, the ten commandments, eighteen benedictions, the readings and the psalms (from the Old Testament), the sermon and the blessing.

On this particular day Jesus was given a passage from Isaiah 61 to read. All eyes were upon Him as He declared that the promise in Isaiah had come true at that very instant. He was the one sent by God to bring good news, to liberate and to proclaim freedom from the captivity of sin and evil, to release people from spiritual darkness.

This was Jesus' mission statement. It formed the base line of the early Church and still is ours today - *Loving God, loving our neighbour.*

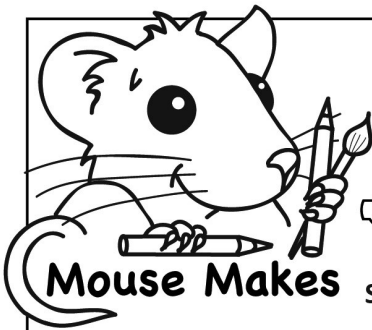
**15th December**

**Matthew 1, 18-25 Luke 2, 1-20**

**Love came down**

No matter where you step into the Bible story the focus is always the same. The Old Testament leads to the Messiah and Matthew and Luke tell us that He has come and all the promises regarding the Messiah have come true. Jesus said, before He ascended to heaven, "Everything written about Me in the Law of Moses, the writings of the prophets, and the psalms, had to come true." Do we reject, neglect or accept Him?

We hope all the children will join in in presenting the **Nativity** story during the Service. The rehearsal will be in church on **Friday 13th at 5pm**. *All are welcome.*



**BIBLE JOURNEYS**

Where did Noah's ark come to rest after it's journey?

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Genesis 8:4



Where did God tell Samuel to travel to to find a new king?

-----  
1 Samuel 16:1-4



To which city did God send Jonah?

-----  
Jonah 1:1-2



Which town did Joseph take Mary to before Jesus was born?

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Luke 2:4

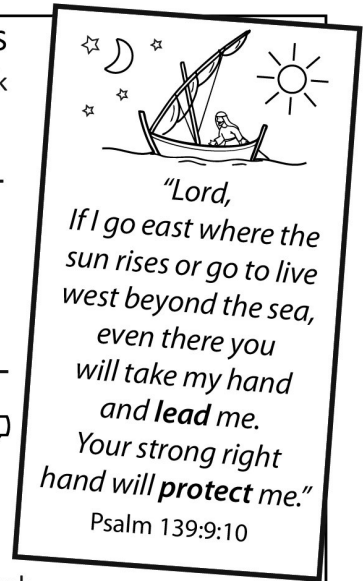


Where did Mary and Joseph flee to to get away from Herod?

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Matthew 2:13

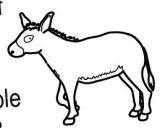
Where was Saul (Paul) going to when Jesus spoke to him?

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Acts 9:1-18

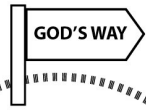


"Lord,  
If I go east where the sun rises or go to live west beyond the sea, even there you will take my hand and lead me. Your strong right hand will **protect** me."  
Psalm 139:9-10

What kind of transport goes with each bible character?



- |        |           |
|--------|-----------|
| NOAH   | DONKEY    |
| BAALAM | CHARIOT   |
| MOSES  | SHIP      |
| JONAH  | ARK       |
| ELIJAH | BIG FISH  |
| PHILIP | BASKET    |
| PAUL   | WHIRLWIND |

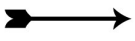


"God is our God for ever and ever, He will be our guide even to the end."  
from Psalm 48:14

"People can plan what they want to do, but it is the Lord who guides their steps."  
Proverbs 16:9

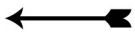


Find the travel words in the word search



JOURNEY

- FLEE • LEAVE • TRAVEL  
• **GOD WITH US** •  
DONKEY • CAMEL  
HORSE • CHARIOT  
BOAT • RIDE • WALK  
PATH • ROAD  
• DIRECTION •  
GUIDE • MAP • SIGN  
VILLAGE • TOWN • CITY



G O D W I T H U S C S F C T  
D I R E C T I O N H I L I R  
O W O R A V I L L A G E T A  
N A A I M M J O U R N E Y V  
K L D D E A O G U I D E A E  
E K J E L P A T H O R S E L  
Y L E A V E B O A T O W N T



## National Trust Stowe

### National Trust

We can't quite believe we're looking ahead towards Christmas. Autumn colour progressed steadily this year and we're hoping it will still offer a bright display of colour to enjoy throughout November. We'll be embracing December with a new 12 days of Christmas map with big displays in the landscape, crisp winter walks, Christmas meals, carols and a festive shopping season to choose from. The New Inn offers the warmth and chatter of the festive season, where there's an opportunity to escape the twenty-first century world. The gardens are open daily throughout the season, including Boxing Day and New Year's Day 10am to 4pm (closed 24 and 25 December).

### 12 Days of Christmas

Pick up a map from the visitor welcome centre at Stowe and head out on a winter wonderland walk through the frost-kissed garden. Discover 12 displays in the garden celebrating the Georgian tradition of the Twelfth Night with a final flourish at the Temple of Concord and Victory.

The first 11 locations are across the garden with displays of wreaths, kissing boughs and foliage designs reflecting different aspects of Christmas traditions that still resonate today such as carol singing, family get togethers, games, gifts and even panto! Supported by artist duo Mossy Crow, we've asked local community partners to think of festive traditions close to their hearts to inspire their individual creations.



The twelfth and finale of all the displays will be at The Temple of Concord and Victory where the huge interior will be filled by a decorated feasting table. Created with foliage from the gardens at Stowe and other found objects, this elaborate display will feature lights, drama and the Twelfth Night king and queen.

Along the way you'll need to find ingredient clues for a Twelfth Night cake to note down on your map. Complete the challenge and take home a recipe card. Strike a pose by standing in the costume of the king and queen with your head emerged through the collar for a photo.

## Lovingly local – Christmas at Stowe

Seeking an escape from the hustle and bustle of shopping centres? Discover a variety of local stallholders selling lovingly homemade and traditional homeware, art, jewellery, tasty treats and gifts.

Between 18 November and 22 December, drop in to the historic Parlour Rooms at the New Inn to browse at your leisure. There'll be plenty of variety throughout the season as stallholders switch every few days. It's a great excuse to make a coffee catch-up date with friends in the café and enjoy some relaxed shopping and the best bit is it's free of charge to enter the event and the New Inn visitor centre.



### **Natural Pampering will be showcasing their products during the shopping season.**

If slaving away over the roasting tin basting and cleaning the dishes fills you with dread, the chefs in the Nevillery café will rustle you up a special treat. Christmas lunches are now open for booking, with a tempting menu of two or three courses to choose from followed by tea or coffee.

Available Monday-Friday from 2nd-20th December, 12noon-4pm. To make a booking contact Beverley Tyrrell on 01280 817156 or [beverley.tyrrell@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:beverley.tyrrell@nationaltrust.org.uk). To see the full menu, take a look on the website [nationaltrust.org.uk/Stowe](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/Stowe). £22 two courses, £27 three courses.



### **Second-hand bookshop**

We've re-located our second-hand bookshop to the restored Parlour Rooms within the New Inn. We lovingly name our parts of building after their original historic use and after visitor and on-line voting was complete, The Old Dairy Bookshop was named and is now open. Drop in to browse a selection of genres and our rare collection. If you're looking for an alternative for advent calendars for your children, how about a new wrapped book every day that gives the gift of reading and it'll last a whole year through!

*MW*

## Events Listings

NAA=Normal admission applies  
B = Booking essential 0344 249  
1895 or via [nationaltrust.org.uk/  
stowe/whats-on](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/stowe/whats-on)

### Available daily until 30 Nov Family explorers – Autumn adventures

Pick up a free guide and see which of nature's treasures you can find, from the Farmhouse Garden harvest to fruits in the orchard. Try our favourite seasonal '50 things to do before you're 11¾' challenges to get closer to nature.

**Free NAA**

### Tue 5 Nov, 3 Dec 10.30am-12.00noon Toddler Tuesdays

Play, sing songs, hear stories and make toddler crafts in a child-friendly environment.

**Free**

### Sat 9 Nov 10.30am-12noon Ranger walk

Join the rangers on a vigorous walk through the parkland as they'll talk you through the conservation, wildlife surveying and restoration work that goes into caring for this special place.

**Free**

### Thu 7, 14, 21, 28 Nov, 5, 12, 19 Dec 2-3.30pm

#### Photography walks

Michael and Diana from Active Bucks will lead weekly walks to take you to some of the best spots to find interesting shots and introduce you to a creative way of getting active.

**Free NAA**

### Mon 18 Nov – Sun 22 Dec 10am-4pm Christmas shopping season

Throughout the season you'll find a select group of stallholders in our atmospheric Parlour Rooms selling homemade and traditional products. Make shopping a leisure-time treat with a catch-up over coffee with a friend before browsing our shop for Christmas gifts.

**Free**

### Tue 19 Nov, 17 Dec 11am-12noon New parents walk and talk

A monthly walk and talk session aimed at new parents who want to enjoy the great outdoors with their little one and meet others experiencing their first months of parenthood.

**Free**

### Wed 20 Nov, 18 Dec 10.30am-12.30pm Man's best friend monthly dog walks

Join the dogs of Stowe on a paw patrol with a different theme and leader each month.

**Free NAA**

### Weekends 30 Nov-01 Dec, 07-08, 14-15, 21-22 Dec 10.45am-2pm Carols in the courtyard

Get together at the New Inn; enjoy carols in the courtyard, roasted chestnuts and mulled wine.

**Free**

### Sat 30 Nov – Fri 03 Jan 2020 10am-4pm

#### 12 days of Christmas walk

Pick up a map from the visitor welcome centre and head out on a winter walk through the frost-kissed garden. Discover 12 displays celebrating the Georgian tradition of the Twelfth Night with a final flourish at The Temple of Concord and Victory.

**Free NAA**



For our September meeting we gave a very warm welcome to Nikki Day a talented Silversmith. After illness in 2014 Nikki had to find a hobby to fill her time, so after a course at Denman College her hobby turned into a small business.

We were privileged to be able to see the fruits of her labour and hard work, which is now a high standard of silver work. We were shown how pieces were crafted and also a process using PMC, Precious Metal Clay, a bit like plasticine, which you mould and then heat to make small pieces of silver jewellery.

With her portfolio of commissioned work we learned how Nikki obtained her own hallmark, and the process of the assay office.

We thoroughly enjoyed our evening and one or two members started their Christmas shopping.

Unfortunately, at the last minute, our speaker for October had to cancel, so we had to amuse ourselves! Some members told of their recent holidays and things that had happened recently. Our Christmas meeting was up for discussion and further details will be available from members later.

The 14<sup>th</sup> November will be our Annual Meeting, but not all business, we have one or two things up our sleeve and our Christmas Meeting is on 12<sup>th</sup> December.

Our programme for 2020 is nearly finished so do ask for a copy and come along and join us in the New Year. So on behalf of all WI members we would like to wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year. Do try and join us in 2020, a warm welcome awaits.

*Loreen*

**VEGETABLE AND CHEESE  
CASSEROLE - Serves 4 - 6**

A tasty warming dish, easy to prepare and cook

**50g Butter**  
**200g Onions, sliced**  
**450g Carrots, sliced**  
**3 level tbsp Cornflour**  
**600ml Milk**  
**200g Cheese, Cheddar**  
**2 tsp Mustard English**  
**350g can Kidney Beans**  
**1 Red Pepper, sliced**  
**Seasoning**

*Recipe from NFWI Website*

1. Saute the onions and carrots gently in the butter for about 10 mins.
2. In another pan, blend the cornflour with a little milk then gradually add the rest of the milk
3. Bring this to the boil, stirring continuously and simmer for 2 mins
4. Remove from the heat, add half the cheese, mustard, onion, carrots, beans, red pepper. Adjust the seasoning if needed
5. Pour into an ovenproof casserole, cover and bake 170C , Gas Mark 4 for about 45 mins until the vegetables are cooked
6. Sprinkle with the remaining cheese
7. Serve with salad and hot garlic bread



# Nature Notes

## Extinction Britain!

The State of Nature report 2019 makes for very shocking reading indeed.

The report, which is compiled and produced by the National Trust and 50 other wildlife charities, states clearly that *one in seven British species is threatened with extinction*.



Dormice are in severe danger and are only hanging on in Southern England and Wales. The hedgehog has declined 75% since 2002. The water vole, once a common sight on waterways, has declined by 90% since the 1970s and our beloved common toad is no longer common with a 68% loss in recent years. 30% of our pollinators have gone.

The report was given early access to Channel 4 news on 3<sup>rd</sup> October when Jon Snow went to National Trust's Wimpole Hall in Cambridgeshire and met with Professor Rosie Hales, the Scientific Director of Nature and Science at the National Trust, and Phil Jarvis, Chair of the Environment panel at the National Farmers Union.



Jon Snow's introduction told us that the report stresses the serious loss of our wildlife from the effects of climate change but even more so from agriculture. . He quoted from the report declaring that farmers are poisoning the soil, a very harsh accusation and one which directly lays the blame for the loss of our wildlife on farmers.

The truth of the matter is that the National Trust, the Crown Estates and many other land owners are farming organically. The Government Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, together with the farmers have been addressing the decline in our natural species for the past 20 years or more. Under an agri-environment scheme farmers are supported to leave wide margins around arable fields and to let their hedges grow wild. The margins are permanent, they grow indigenous species of grasses and wild flowers creating habitats and food for wildlife and birds.

We employ the precision farming firm Soyl to test our arable land for fertility or depleted nutrients, the results are digitally transferred to our field maps and our Agronomist oversees the various applications recommended.



Some farmers, like us, have opted to leave part of their arable land to “set aside”, fitting it in with their crop rotation each season. Livestock farmers are being blamed because cattle and sheep release methane into the atmosphere, we are told “don’t eat beef”. But grazing cattle and sheep are essential to maintain the balance of nature on pasture and grassland, it has been so for centuries.

NFU farmer Phil Jarvis pointed out that there are twelve million more people living in the UK than in the 1970’s, whereas the area of agricultural land has declined by around 60.000 acres per year over the past 20 years. In our own county thousands more acres are due to be lost to the building of the new Oxford, Milton Keynes, Cambridge Corridor which is threatening wildlife and nature reserves, land and habitats lost for ever.

We are aware that the HS2 project is under review but preparation to destroy ancient woodlands, which support thousands, probably millions of insects and invertebrates that live in the trees and on the woodland floor, still continues.

We hear very little criticism of flying from the conservationist, but surely the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere and oceans daily must make an impact on our seabirds and marine life.



In 2018 The National Farmers Union appointed a Lady President, the first lady president in 111 years. She is Minette Batters and she farms in Wiltshire.

She is working hard to get farmers a fair press and to encourage our young people to look at nature as a whole and appreciate the fragility of the threads which support it. Being a vegetarian or vegan is a personal choice, but Minette is looking for ways to encourage us all to source locally grown food and to consider the air miles our food may have travelled. Most of us eat rice at sometime or other, but we cannot grow rice in this country and the farmers in China are already pollinating by hand.

DJW

## A Christmas Carol by G K Chesterton

The Christ-child lay on Mary's lap,  
His hair was like a light,  
(O weary, weary were the world,  
But here is all aright.)

The Christ-child lay on Mary's breast,  
His hair was like a star.  
(O stern and cunning are the kings,  
But here the true hearts are.)

The Christ-child lay on Mary's heart,  
His hair was like a fire.  
(O weary, weary is the world,  
But here the world's desire.)

The Christ-child stood at Mary's knee,  
His hair was like a crown,  
And all the flowers looked up at Him,  
And all the stars looked down.



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Coming to Stowe tickets on sale now!

THE BOOK OF DARKNESS & LIGHT  
PRESENTS

# A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Saturday 21 December, 7pm,  
Roxburgh Hall

Stowe School, Buckingham, MK18 5EH  
Tickets: £13 | £11 Members | £9 under 16s  
Bookings: [www.artsatstowe.co.uk](http://www.artsatstowe.co.uk)  
Box Office: 01280 825710

arts *Stowe*

## Stowe Parish Church Rotas

<b>Date 2019</b>	<b>Sidesmen</b>	<b>Prayers</b>	<b>Refreshments</b>
<b>Nov 3rd</b>	Tony and Heather Meredith	Julia Morten	Kay Murray
<b>Nov 10th</b>	Bernadette Matthews and Pat Howard	Kay	Remembrance Sunday
<b>Nov 17th</b>	Julie and Family	Children	Brenadette Matthews
<b>Nov 24th</b>	Robin and Nancy Shepherd	Sally Drummond-Hay	Gill Smith
<b>Dec 1st</b>	Richard and Essex Close-Smith	Andrew Rudolf	Tamara Kimpton
<b>Dec 8th</b>	Laurence Gibson	Liturgy	Frances Orger
<b>Dec 15th</b>		Children	Elsbeth Mullineux
<b>Dec 22nd</b>	Ray and Lyn East	Julia Morten	Lyn East
<b>Dec 24th</b>			
<b>Dec 25th</b>		Kay Murray	
<b>Dec 29th</b>		Rev Pat Howard	Margaret Ryley
<b>2019</b>	<b>Flowers</b>	<b>Cleaning</b>	<b>Prayer Board</b>
<b>Nov 3rd</b>	Gillian Macdonald		Kay Murray
<b>Nov 10th</b>		Rosie Cowdy and Pat Walton	John Kimpton
<b>Nov 17th</b>	Ivy Cakebread		Pat Howard
<b>Nov 24th</b>		Chris Close-Smith and Venice	Lyn East
<b>Dec 1st</b>	Loreen Williams		Gill Smith
<b>Dec 8th</b>		Neil and Susan Fraser-Smith	Margaret Ryley
<b>Dec 15th</b>	Diana Wyatt		Tamara Kimpton
<b>Dec 22nd</b>		Chris and Philippa Atkinson	Gillian Macdonald
<b>Dec 24th</b>			
<b>Dec 25th</b>			
<b>Dec 29th</b>	Rosie Cowdy		Kay Murray

Date 2019	Day	Time	Service	Theme	Reading/ Gospel	Lead/ Preach
Nov 3rd	4th Sunday before Advent	8:00	Said 1662 Communion			Pat
		9:45	Morning Prayer	All Saints	Psalm 149 Ephesians 1:11-23	L - Gillian P - Val
Nov 10th	3rd Sunday	9:45	Remembrance Service			L - Andrew P - Val
		11:00	Remembrance Service in Dadford			Pat
Nov 17th	2nd Sunday	9:45	Family Service	Jesus' declaration	Luke 4:14-21	L - Pat P - Kay
Nov 24th	Sunday before Advent	9:45	Common Worship Communion		Jeremiah 23:1-6 Luke 23:33-43	L - Val P - Paul Mileham
Dec 1st	Advent 1	8:00	Said 1662 Communion			Pat
		9:45	Morning Prayer		Isaiah 2:1-5 Romans 13:11-14	L - Gillian P - Tony
Dec 8th	Advent 2	9:45	1662 Communion		Isaiah 11:1-10 Matthew 3:1-12	L - Val P - Val
Dec 15th	Advent 3	9:45	Family Service			L - Kay
Wed Dec 18th		19:00	Carol Service			L - Val
Dec 22nd	Advent 4	9:45	Common Worship Communion		Isaiah 7:10-16 Mathew 1:18-25	L - Pat P - Andrew
Tuesday Dec 24th	Christmas Eve	15.30	Carols and Cake			Pat
		11.30pm	Communion		Hebrews 1:1-4 John 1:1-14	L - Pat P - Pat
Wed Dec 25th	Christmas Day	9:45	Christmas Morning Communion		Isaiah 9:2-7 Luke 2:1-14	L - Val P - Val
Dec 29th	Christmas 1	9:45	Morning Prayer		Numbers 6:22-27 Luke 2:15-21	L - Gillian P - Andrew