

Dear Friends,

Q. Do you have a favourite Carol? (Mine used to be a presenter on 'Countdown'...)

Q. Do you have a favourite Christmas carol?

Last year, on the 100th anniversary of the Christmas Truce in the trenches, 'Silent Night', very appropriately, came top of the listeners' poll for Classic FM.

One of my favourite carols had the unique distinction of appearing twice in the Top Ten - at number 4 to one tune (by Gustav Holst) and again at number 6 to another (by Harold Darke).

I can still remember the first time I sang the Darke setting of Christina Rossetti's poem, 'In the Bleak Midwinter' as a young choirboy, at the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols in the candlelit parish church in Brighton, where I grew up.

We trebles had the first verse to ourselves, and then in the last verse as we hit the top G on the last word of the carol, "... give my heart", the hairs on the back of my neck stood up and my skin prickled. The haunting, lyrical tune, the romance of the words and the sudden realisation that I could enter into this magic, not just with my voice but with my heart, my whole being, was a profound and lasting experience.

Many carols have a 'gear change' in the last verse, to enable a response from the singers, and your favourites may do too. Perhaps Christina Rossetti's is the most immediate:

'What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise man, I would do my part,
Yet what I can I give him - give my heart.'

With love and prayers this Christmas, from Pippa and me,
Stephen.

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

Sunday Nov. 29th	Advent Sunday	
10.00am	Morning Worship for Advent Sunday	Ideford
6.30pm	Evensong	Luton
Sunday Dec. 6th	2nd Sunday of Advent	
11.15am	Parish Communion	Ideford
Sunday Dec. 13th	3rd Sunday of Advent	
	<i>No Village Worship at Ideford, but please support 'Messy Advent' on Monday 14th (see page 3) and our Carol Service on Tuesday 15th.</i>	
	<i>No Family Service at Ashcombe - see 17th</i>	
	<i>No Evensong at Luton - see 20th</i>	
Tuesday Dec. 15th		
6.30pm for 7.00pm	Carol Service	Ideford
Thursday Dec. 17th		
6.30pm for 7.00pm	Carol Service	Ashcombe
Sunday Dec. 20th	4th Sunday of Advent	
10.00am	Family Communion at the Crib	Ideford
3.00pm	Carol Service	Luton
Christmas Eve		
11.30pm	Holy Communion	Ideford
Christmas Day		
10.00am	Informal Family Worship	Ideford
11.30am	Holy Communion	Ashcombe
Sunday Dec. 27th	<i>No services at Ashcombe or Ideford</i>	
Thursday Dec. 31st		
3.00pm	Wedding of Matt Cotton and Abi Mahon	Ashcombe

IDEFORD READINGS FOR DECEMBER

	Reading	Readers	Sidesmen
Nov. 29 th	Jeremiah 33. 14-16 Luke 21.25-36	to be arranged	to be arranged
Dec. 6 th	Philippians 1.3-11 Luke 3.1-6	Alan Wooderson Vanessa Morby	Alan Wooderson Vanessa Morby
Dec. 20 th	to be arranged		

Some of our Christmas Services in more detail:

Morning Worship for Advent Sunday - Sunday November 29th

'Welcoming the One who Comes' - starting our preparations with readings, music and a simple Communion

IDEFORD CAROL SERVICE - Tuesday, 15th December at 7.00pm.

Warm, home-made sausage rolls and cider punch served from 6.30pm

FAMILY COMMUNION AT THE CRIB - Sunday, 20th December at 10am.

A celebration before Christmas for all the family.

LUTON CAROL SERVICE - Sunday, 20th December at 3.00pm.

This will be followed by a Festive drink (mulled wine or tea if you are driving) with mince pies etc. in the schoolroom. All are welcome!

CHRISTMAS MORNING IN IDEFORD - 10.00am

A short, informal Christmas Service for all ages. Come along and take a few minutes to remember why we are celebrating Christmas.

Calling all children under 12 and their parents and grandparents!



St Mary's Church invites you to MESSY ADVENT



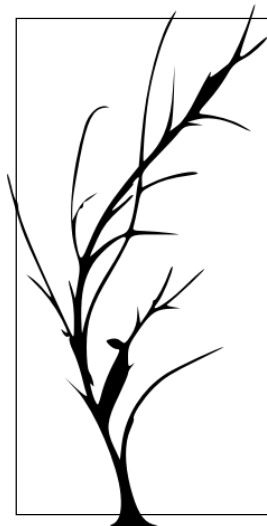
Ideford Village Hall on Monday 14th December 4.30-6pm

Stories, songs, crafts and food to lead us to Bethlehem

Everyone is welcome

Please let Liz Rice know if you would like to come along

lizbays5@hotmail.com or sign list in office at Ideford Garage



Advent Prayer Twigs

will be in Church from the first Sunday in Advent:
29 November 2015.

You are very welcome to pop into Church
anytime to write a prayer and hang it on the tree over the
Christmas period.

SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2016

Sunday Jan. 3rd 11.15am	Epiphany Sunday Parish Communion	Ideford
Sunday Jan 10th 10.00am	Baptism of Christ, 1st Sunday of Epiphany Village Worship	Ideford
6.30pm	<i>No service at Ashcombe</i> Evensong	Luton
Sunday Jan. 17th 10.00am	2nd Sunday of Epiphany Parish Communion	Ideford
Sunday Jan. 24th 11.15am	3rd Sunday of Epiphany Parish Communion	Ashcombe
6.30pm	Evensong	Ideford
Sunday Jan. 31st 10.00am	Sunday of the Presentation Village Praise	Ideford
6.30pm	Evensong	Luton

IDEFORD READINGS FOR JANUARY

	Reading	Readers	Sidesmen
Jan. 3 rd	Ephesians 3.1-12 Matthew 2.1-12	Alan Wooderson Vanessa Morby	Alan Wooderson Vanessa Morby
Jan. 10 th	Luke 3.15-17,21-22	to be arranged	Sara & helpers
Jan. 17 th	1 Corinthians 12.1-11 John 2.1-11	Alan Wooderson Nicki Horseman	Alan Wooderson Nicki Horseman
Jan. 24 th	Nehemiah 8.1-3,5-6,8-10 Luke 4.14-21	Barry Mohan Jill Turner	Barry Mohan Jill Turner
Jan. 31 st	Malachi 3.1-5 Luke 2.22-40	to be arranged	to be arranged

*Ideford with Luton Parochial Church Council
would like to wish you all a very
Happy Christmas and New Year.
Thank you all for your support during 2015.*



A Message from our Team Rector, The Rev'd Roderick Withnell

This article is being written in mid-November and I know that when it is printed it will be for the Christmas and New Year period. The irony is that I am one of those people who dislikes the early Christmas decorations in shops and here I am contributing to the early onset of Christmas. Welcome to the real world some will say!

The thing is that the 'Real World' is exactly where I think our parish churches want to be. In the real world where people live out their lives with all of their hopes, dreams and sometimes, concerns, for their futures. The story of Jesus born at Christmas in a stable to homeless parents is a story of the real world. A story of a family with its own hopes, and fears, of the future.

Our parish churches were built by real people for communities who lived ordinary but real lives to serve their spiritual needs not to serve the needs of the clergy who are appointed to them. Not the needs of the churchwardens and Parochial Church Councils who are also appointed in them.

The church exists to serve the needs of the people around it, which is that it should not be a cosy club for a few people but open its doors to everyone and accept the reality that many people want it there to mark those great rites of passage, which, of course, for many people will mean birth, marriage and death.

It's very clear, from the events in our town and the surrounding villages, that in this part of the world we're very good at marking the events of the two great wars as well as remembering the ongoing needs of armed forces service men and women on Remembrance Sunday.

We try, as communities, to mark and remember these occasions as much as Christmas and they are occasions when the church attempts to serve the real spiritual needs of a parish by giving a voice to the community it serves.

I look forward to joining together with everyone else as we ask those questions which this season raises; what is my purpose, why do these things happen in our world, is there anything else, and is there a God who loves me? In the new year we will be running an Alpha course which will give people a chance to ask these and many other questions that concern people

The season of Remembrance, Advent and Christmas also help us to ask these questions. The church and faith help us to answer them.

May God bless you richly this year in all you do.

Roderick

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - Regular Events

TUESDAY COFFEE MORNINGS

There is no rota but anyone who is free on a Tuesday morning during December and January is very welcome to come to 1 Town Farm Court for a drink and a chat.

IDEFORD SHORT MAT BOWLING

Tuesdays and Sundays 7.30pm in Ideford Village hall. New members welcome.

ART GROUP

Thursdays from 6.30 - 8.00pm, Ideford Village Hall.

Adults - £5.00 per session, 16 and under - £3.50 per session.

More information from Angie on 01626 854898.

The last Art Group before Christmas will be on Thursday December 17th. We will resume on Thursday January 14th 2016! Why not join in the New Year - everyone welcome!

IDEFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Wednesday 2nd December 2015 at 6.30pm - Village Hall, Ideford.

All Parishioners are invited and welcome to attend. **No meeting in January.**

BISHOPSTEIGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meetings are held at 7.30pm at The Community Centre, Shute Hill

December 7th Parish Council Meeting

December 21st Planning Meeting & 2016/17 Precept Meeting

BELL RINGING PRACTICE

Practices normally in Ideford Church on Thursday evenings from 7.30pm until 9.00pm, Please contact Ann Rigby-Jones (852344) or Martin Sampson (853391) for more information.

IDEFORD SOCIAL GROUP

Tuesday December 8th - Christmas Lunch - venue to be announced.

Members' subscription - £16 per year, £2 per meeting as a visitor.

More information from Enid Vooght 775291, Alicia Normand 773908 or Kath Mortimore 853394.

POLICE SURGERY

With Colin Rider, Police Community Support Officer for Ideford.

December - no surgery

Other Events

**Coffee Morning
and
sale of olive wood Christmas
decorations made in Palestine.**

**In the Schoolroom, Luton
Saturday 5th December at 10.30am
Proceeds in aid of St John's Church.
(Jane Thomas - 01626 725390)**

IDEFORD VILLAGE HALL CHRISTMAS SUPPER 2015

Dear all,

It is with regret that the trustees have taken the very difficult decision to cancel this year's Christmas Supper.

The Good News however, is that thanks to your support, we are very pleased to advise that we have now raised sufficient funds to proceed with the replacement of the ceiling and lighting in the main room of the Village Hall, and this work will be commencing early in 2016.

To celebrate this, we will be arranging a 'grand opening' event once the work has been completed and we hope that you will come along and celebrate with us.

Further details will follow, but for now, we would like to thank you very much for your continued support, and wish you all a very Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year!
Best Wishes

Ideford Village Hall Trustees.

IDEFORD CAROL SERVICE

If you wish to join a choir to support singing at the carol service (Tuesday 15th December) please come along to the church for practices on Monday evenings at 6.00 pm November 30th, December 7th and 14th.



A Christmas Tour

of

Old Forde House, Newton Abbot

Sunday 6th December 2015

Sunday 13th December 2015

Tour commences at 2.00pm and finishes at approx. 4.00pm

MINCE PIES AND SPICED APPLE JUICE AVAILABLE ALONG WITH TEA/COFFEE

JOIN IN WITH CAROLS ROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE



Entrance £4.00

No booking required

www.teignbridge.gov.uk



SAVE THE DATE

21st May 2016

'IDEFORD GREENFEAST'

A day and evening revelry and fun
on the Millennium Green

Watch this space for more information.
or contact Lyn Edwards On 07776 111613

PARISH PLAN - ADVANCE NOTICE!

The Parish Plan was adopted by the Parish Council at its meeting on November 4th, and a printed copy will shortly be delivered to every household in the Parish of Ideford - including Hestow, Higher Sandygate, Ideford Combe and Olchard.

IDEFORD BEATING OF THE BOUNDS 2015

Over 30 people turned out to support the great tradition of Beating the Bounds on Sunday 18th October. We were blessed with good weather and everyone had a great day out. Over 24 people completed the whole route with a few extras doing the shorter afternoon section. A well-earned lunch of homemade bread and soup was enjoyed under an awning at Ash Barn before going on to complete the walk. Although this was not essentially a fund raising event, due to the generosity of those taking part, we raised £100 for the Millennium Green.

L.E.

'MEMORIES' AFTERNOON

Thanks so much to everyone who took time to sort out so many fascinating photographs tracing the history of their families in our lovely parish. So many memories of special moments and events to share. Although we were a small group, the afternoon was full of 'great chat' and delicious refreshments.

Ideford Parish Council

What better way to spend a dismal November Sunday afternoon, than drinking tea, eating cake while poring over old photos and chatting to people who were brought up in our parish, about how things have changed - or not, over the years. Photos, newspaper cuttings, copies of the first parish newsletters dating back to the early 1970s - it was all there - and more! Some of our residents have such interesting stories to tell about our villages, and those who couldn't make it missed a treat! Hopefully the Parish Council can be persuaded to put this event on again in the future?

J.A.

PARISH TIDY UP

Thank you to everyone who turned out on October 31st to help tidy up our parish. The weather was kind and several bags of rubbish, leaves and weeds were collected, and notice boards were cleaned and tidied. Thank you to Angie for providing everyone with a welcome soup and bread lunch in the Village Hall at the end of the morning.

Thanks also to Teignbridge Council for supporting the event by providing high visibility jackets, litter pickers and rubbish bags - and for collecting the bags of rubbish.

It is hoped that this will become a regular event - so watch this space!

Cllr. Hill

The Cycle of Endings and Beginnings

It is with joy that I am writing this article to say that I have now completed my Curacy training. The implication of this is that I am now available to focus on the next part of my journey in ministry. Many curates move on to widen their ministry and experiences in different parishes and take on the responsibilities of priest-in-charge, or vicar. This is a time when expectations and perceptions of ministry take into account the curate's particular character and their God-given gifts. To this purpose, after much prayer and consultation with others, I feel affirmed in my calling to prison ministry at HMP Channings Wood and will be working there one day a week, plus two Sundays, every month. As a part-time priest, this raises the question of how much time I can commit to working within the parish and, although this decision will result in a reduction of time available in the parish, I am pleased to say that I have been offered a new Licence by Bishop Robert that will enable me to remain within the Haldon Team. This new Licence will focus on presiding at one worship service each month and the nurturing and encouraging of new disciples.

The nature of the Church has changed, and it has gone on changing throughout the generations ever since Christ was born and revealed to the people who journeyed from the East. The ending of my Curacy training means a new beginning, and I now need to be bold and confident in shaping my own future and in articulating what is possible, and what is not possible, and in recognising my gifts and who I am under God.

I thank you for your support, encouragement and prayers during my curacy and I look forward to worshipping with you all and being part of the next phase in the life of the Haldon Team Ministry as, together, we seek the will of God communally, and in our individual lives.

With blessings and all good wishes for this Christmas and the New Year.

Yours, *Val Atkinson*

IDEFORD 100 CLUB

The lucky winners for October 2015:

£ 20 Liz and David Spencer

£ 10 David and Janet Aylmore

£ 5 The Royal Oak



THANK YOU to all members for raising funds for St Mary's Church ,Ideford

WE WILL HAVE SPACE & CHANCES FOR NEW MEMBERS IN 2016

To join, call Carrie 01626 854794

Temporary Prohibition of Through Traffic & Parking Reference TTRO1612657

Devon County Council hereby gives notice that that from Monday, 11 Jan 2016 until Wednesday 13 Jan 2016 inclusive, no person shall cause or permit any vehicle to proceed or wait on the sections of the road past Underhayes and outside Well House in Olchard. All efforts will be made to maintain access to properties within the area of the closure and to minimise disruption.

This temporary restriction is considered necessary to enable the repair of a leaking pipe by Kier acting on behalf of South West Water. For additional information contact SWW on 08443 462020

The Parish Council has received several complaints about near miss incidents, verbally abusive drivers or drivers forcing their way past the School Bus during morning collection and afternoon drop off times.



In a narrow road, rural community it is with regret that the bus does have to stop and momentarily restrict the flow of traffic and that due to the positioning of the bus and regulations that prevent it reversing to a safer location, the doors therefore open onto the road.

Please be patient when you see the School Bus in Central Ideford, it will only stop for a few minutes - your help in keeping the Children safe would be very much appreciated.



With no sign of any additional work being carried out on the Chudleigh 3 cabinet or to the infrastructure that supports central Ideford or Olchard the Parish Council is currently working to see if there is the potential to work with BT or another supplier to find a self-help solution to provide superfast broadband to the 150 properties that currently have an exceedingly poor service.

Initial survey results and a ball park cost should be available in early December. On behalf of the Parish Council, thank you to the parishioners who have expressed an interest in reviewing the survey data and options when they become available - we will be in touch. If you have an idea, would like to raise a question or would like any additional information please email the Parish Clerk via idefordclerk@hotmail.co.uk

Even more reason to come along to village worship!

Those who attended the Service of Remembrance on November 8th enjoyed coffee and Alan's Sticky Gingerbread before the service (it was so delicious, some of us were seen to take a few slices home to enjoy later!)

Thank you Alan for sharing the gingerbread recipe this month. If you have thought about attending a Village Worship service in Ideford on the 2nd Sunday of the month, but haven't got there yet, why not come along in January. Everyone is welcome to this informal service - and now there is an added incentive - cake!!

Sticky Gingerbread

Ingredients :-

- 150gms butter
- 200gms golden syrup
- 200gms black treacle
- 125gms dark muscovado sugar
- 2 tsp finely grated fresh ginger,
- 1 tsp ground ginger
- 1tsp ground cinnamon,
- pinch of ground cloves
- 250ml full fat milk
- 2 beaten eggs
- 300gms plain flour
- 1 tsp of bicarbonate of soda dissolved in 30ml of warm water



Method :-

- pre heat oven to 170 °C and line an ovenproof baking dish (30cms x 20cms and 5cms deep) with baking parchment.
- In a saucepan melt the butter over a medium heat with the sugar, syrup, treacle, the 2 gingers, cinnamon and cloves.
- Take off the heat when melted and then add milk, eggs, and dissolved bicarb in its water
- Put the flour in a large mixing bowl and pour all the liquid ingredients in, beating until well mixed.
- It will be a very liquid batter!!
- Pour into the lined baking tin and put in the oven for 45/50 mins until well risen and firm to the touch. Do not overcook as it loses some of its stickiness if you do
- Let the gingerbread cool in the tin before cutting into 20/24 pieces

Ideford Parish Council would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year



DON'T MAKE IT A MERRY CHRISTMAS FOR THIEVES!

Christmas is a wonderful time of the year, but there is an increase in crime leading up to the festive period. By taking note of the following advice, you and your family can help reduce that risk.

- Ensure your car is fully locked when you park.
- Don't leave anything of value on view in your car including loose change for parking, sat-navs, coats, CDs etc. When getting into your car, keep your handbag with you until you are in and then lock the doors. There has been a recent handbag theft from a car by the thief opening the kerb side door and snatching it where it was placed on the seat, while the lady settled herself into the driver's seat.
- Try and use a car park rather than on street parking. If you return to your car during shopping, make sure your purchases are placed in the boot out of sight.
- Keep your wallet and purse secure and keep your coat or handbag in sight when trying on clothes.
- Be wary of being jostled in a crowd. This is when a pick-pocket can operate.
- If you draw out cash try and use a well-lit area or an indoor machine at the bank.
- If you're buying from the internet, always use a credit card rather than a debit card.
- At home don't leave presents on view around the tree if it can be seen from outside.
- Keep your windows and doors locked when out.
- Fit timer switches to standard or table lamps so your house is never in darkness.
- Never reveal your card PIN to anyone especially on the phone. Banks will never ask for it by telephone.

Be careful what you reveal to cold callers whether at the door or on the 'phone. Don't let them know you will be away for Christmas or New Year or not in the following evening etc. Information like that can be very useful to a criminal.

HAVE A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Take care and stay safe.

PCSO Colin Rider

(contact details on page 16)

MEXICAN EVENING.

Thank you to all who helped and contributed food to the Mexican Evening - it was a lovely evening enjoyed by all. Good Food, wine and very good company. Thank you all.

Kath Vooght

ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS CRAFT & COFFEE MORNING

Thank you to everyone who supported the St Mary's Christmas Craft and Coffee Morning on November 21st - a magnificent £414.18 was raised for church funds.

IDEFORD SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

Teignbridge League Results

Ideford	63	Kingsteignton	22
Bishopsteignton	56	Ideford	23
Kingsteignton	61	Ideford	36
Ideford	40	Christow	42



LUTON ALTAR FLOWER AND BRASS CLEANING

December	Emma Vooght
January	M Reddaway

IDEFORD CHURCH FLOWERS

Please contact Liz Hill (854934) if you can help with decorating St Mary's Church for Christmas.

IDEFORD CHURCH KEY ROTA

December	Suzanne (Glen Kea, Church Road))
January	David & Janet (Corner Cottage)
February	Bill Wilkins (Linden Lea, Butts Lane)

Thank you to Suzanne and Bill for responding to our plea for volunteers to go on the key rota.

WEBSITES AND SAT. NAV.

Haldon Team Website	www.haldonteam.org.uk
Ideford Parish Website	www.ideford-parish.co.uk

Church post codes for Sat Nav:	St Mary's, Ideford TQ13 0BA
St John's, Luton TQ13 0BN	St Nectan's, Ashcombe EX7 0QD

ASHCOMBE VILLAGE CLUB

Opening times: Tuesday, Thursday 7.30pm -11pm.
Friday 7.30pm - Midnight.
3rd Saturday of the month 7.30pm - 11pm
Sunday 1pm - 5pm.

Skittles Tuesday & Thursday.
Meat Bingo 1st Wednesday of the month.
Early Doors 1st Friday of the month.

Membership: Single £10, Couple £15.



See website for further details: www.ashcombe-villageclub.co.uk

CHUDLEIGH LIBRARY

Monday	10.00am - 1.00pm	Tuesday	3.00pm - 6.00pm
Wednesday	10.00am - 1.00pm	Thursday	Closed
Friday	2.00pm - 5.00pm	Saturday	10.00am - 1.00pm

MOBILE LIBRARY

December 23rd and January 20th

Ideford (Royal Oak)	15.45 - 16.15
Luton (Church Street)	16.25 - 16.45

Tunes for Toddlers

Come and listen to stories, make simple things to tie in with the stories and sing songs.
Every Thursday during term time, 10.30am - 11.30am.

No need to book - just turn up!

IDEFORD VILLAGE TRANSPORT TIMETABLE

Ring & Ride	Destination	Fares (return)
Monday	Newton Abbot (will stop at Sainsbury's)	£4.25
Wednesday	Newton Abbot (will stop at Tesco)	£4.25
Thursday	Teignmouth	£2.75

How to make a Ring & Ride Journey

- Choose which day you wish to travel.
- Telephone 01626 888777 between 9am-3pm, Monday to Friday, answer phone service available at all times.
- Please be ready by 9.30am.
- Be ready at 1.00pm to be collected at the 'Boarding Point' for your journey home.
- Please cancel booking if you are not able to travel.
- Please wear seat belts at all times.

Dawlish Community Transport Service operates in the area to provide transport for all ages whether they are disabled, frail, infirm or not...in fact anyone wishing to use this service will be very welcomed. All our vehicles are adapted to take wheelchair seated passengers, have lowered steps and tail lifts.

For more information please telephone 01626 888890