

Corscombe

St Mary's Corscombe – December Services

5 th December	17:00	Evening Prayer BCP
12 th December	11:00	Holy Communion
19 th December	17:00	Carol Service (followed by mulled wine and mince pies)
24 th December		Christmas Eve
	17:00	Crib Service (Corscombe Court)
	23:30	Holy Communion at Halstock
25 th December		Christmas Day
	10:00	Holy Communion All Age

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

Corscombe 120 Club

The winners for November are:

1 st	Ms Dizzie Simms	£6
2 nd	Mrs Deborah Childs	£4
3 rd	Mr Ellis	£2

Carol Singing in Corscombe

Come and join the fun
Carol Singing round the Village
(walking this year!)

on

Monday December 20th

Meet 5:30pm at the Church Car Park
For those unable to walk - all welcome to
join us for
Refreshments at 7:30pm onwards
at Milton Brook

'Big Breakfast'

The Corscombe First Responders
will be holding their
highly successful 'Big Breakfast'
on the following Saturdays between 9-11am
2010:

4th December

2011:

5th February

5th March

Come along and enjoy a fine cooked breakfast of
local produce

Look forward to seeing you
The Responders.

Corscombe & Halstock Community First Responders

We have been asked how Responders are called to an incident. The answer is that we are **not** called directly by the public but by the Ambulance Service.

If you have a medical emergency, then you should call 999. Ambulance Control will dispatch an ambulance, if appropriate, and also decide whether or not to request Responders to attend.

In fact, Responders are not allowed to attend the scene of an accident or incident without first gaining permission from Ambulance Control. If we are approached directly by the public, then we must first contact Ambulance Control, who will then either ask that we respond, and/or dispatch other suitable resources.

Because we are a small team of volunteers, we are not able to provide cover 24 hours a day. We generally provide cover from early evening until the following morning, most days of the week. Ambulance Control knows when we are available and when we are not, and so is able to deploy us when needed without wasting time.

We would like more volunteers to join our team. Anyone joining receives training, and is well supported by the Ambulance Service and by the team. Why not contact us to ask for more information. Call Chris Chapman on 01935 891015, or Dick Thorne on 01935 891847. You can email chris@passedit.com if this is more convenient.

Finally, thank you to all who support us through attending the Big Breakfast in Corscombe (first Saturday of the autumn / winter months – see www.corscombe.org for details) and in other ways. The funds raised go to provide the Responders vehicle and also equipment and ongoing training

Corscombe & District Players

PRESENT

Wizard of Oz

(the panto!)

We're off to see the wizard.....on..

January 20th, 21st & 22nd @7.30pm
Saturday Matinee 2pm
at Corscombe Village Hall

Box Office: Paula 891494
Barbara 891691
Halstock Village Shop

Tuesday Club

Our skittles evening was a great success with Steve Whitlock being champion once more. We even made the press thanks to Paula Denham, our resident reporter.

The talk on 2 November about the Fleet and Chesil Beach was very popular, our best attended meeting for sometime. Now we are all eager to go out and explore this unique area.

Our last, but not least, exciting event of the year is our Christmas Lunch in early December, which only leaves me to send our best wishes to everyone for the festive season.

Our AGM at the Village Hall will be on 4th January 2011.

Heather Starkings

New Year's Eve Ceilidh Party

Babylon will again be hosting their famous New Year's Eve Ceilidh Party

Music by 'Rum and Kidney' + Guests
All welcome to come along and enjoy an evening of music, dance and good company

Corscombe Village Hall
8pm till late

FREE admission, just bring drink and a plate of food to share



Corscombe Quiz Nights are back by popular demand

Come along for another year of brain teasing questions.

7:30pm start on Saturdays:

11th December 2010

8th January 2011

12th February 2011

12th March 2011

Entrance £2 per person

Baked potato and filling - £2 per person

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

There will be prizes for the highest score each month and an overall price for the season.

You can book in advance by contacting Sarah on 891481 or Rosemary 891415.



Corscombe Village Hall – Christmas Tree Appeal

Are you thinking of replacing your artificial Christmas Tree? Or maybe using it this year but deciding not to keep it for next? If so, Corscombe Village Hall would like to hear from you.

By the time you read this we will have dressed both our existing trees, but one of them is approaching its 'Use-by' date & we would like to replace it, or even add another one for the Small Hall, for Christmas 2011

Any offers please to Edna on 891645
In anticipation - Many Thanks.

Ice and Snow On The Roads This Winter

I think we all know there are times and conditions when we'll be snowed in. Fact of life. Salting icy roads lowers the freezing point and can help but melted ice on top of not-yet-melted ice is lethal. Compacted snow acts as a thick ice layer too. Please be sensible. Think!

The Highways Dept has stockpiled extra salt this year but are not going to routinely salt as many roads in the county. All the roads between the A356 and A37 are excluded from gritting - Corscombe, Halstock, Benville and Evershot - we are on our own.

The salt bins provided by the Parish Council have been filled, and will be refilled as and when possible. Parish salt is only for use on public roads. People stealing it for their drives etc are antisocial. Please buy your own.

If you can help, use a spade or shovel and spread salt thinly over an icy surface. Thicker layers of salt do not give quicker results and are wasteful. Carry a small bag of grit/sand (not salt) in your car (buy from builder's merchant). A sprinkle of this under tyres can get a skidding car moving. Salt just makes things slipperier.

Don't go out unless you have to. Don't take risks which put you and rescuers in danger.

Happy Christmas!

For further information and to report problems:
Parish Clerk 891448

Fresh Ideas

The ideas have been coming in thick and fast. If you haven't handed in your questionnaire yet it's not too late. Please pop it into Lilac Cottage by 14th December.

When all is safely gathered in, an 'argumentative newsletter' will be produced with discussable topics that have been raised. This will go in the January Chimes, hopefully to amuse and get you thinking after Christmas.

There will be a public meeting at the end of January - after the panto - for more chewing over of ideas and focusing on ways forward. This could be lively!

So far there has been a 20% return from the questionnaire. Major concerns from the questionnaire and the post-its include: road safety, the Fox Inn, plastic recycling, planning processes and decisions, spreading information about events - but there's lots more!

The public meeting will have all the results for you to see.

Any more queries/comments; Freda Hennessy 891448

Common Lane

Please note - Common Lane is closed to all mechanised vehicles (except those needing access to fields). This order is in force until October 2011. The notices are put up and (illegally) taken down so no one seems clear of the situation.

The lane is closed to leisure riders. Please continue to report infringements. This is thankless as either the registration numbers are wrongly reported or are false. But please keep trying. Meanwhile we're all working on trying to get the worst bits walkable - in time for the Olympics??!

Friends of Common Lane

BT Infinity

BT are at present conducting a survey for the establishment of BT Broadband and their Infinity Services within the UK at this present time. This survey is time limited, and BT will then establish the optic connections in the order of preference created by the greatest number of votes made for an area exchange.

The website where you can vote is www.bt.com/infinity and it provides all sorts of information about your own reception capability, the number of votes already recorded for any area, and details of the exchanges already connected throughout the UK.

Please visit the link and vote. We need to get 75% of the 643 subscribers on the Corscombe exchange in order to stand any chance of getting improved Broadband speeds. Freda Hennessy

Ladybirds Playgroup

We are busy arranging introductory sessions for the new children who will be joining us in the New Year They each join us for an induction session which gives the children a chance to become a little familiar with us, and allows us to learn a little about the children from their parents before they start at playgroup. It also allows us to make a start on all the paperwork that needs to be filled in before the first session begins in earnest.

We have just started up a school book club which will help us to buy extra books for the children to enjoy while at playgroup. Many of our much loved books are becoming a little dog-eared and we need some fresh new replacements. There is a web site link to our page if anyone else would like to take advantage of cut priced books for children and help us to raise more funds for new books. It can be found at: <http://clubs-school.scholastic.co.uk/ladybirds-playgroup>

We are really pleased to have been included in a Waitrose good causes scheme at the Dorchester branch. We are asking for support in raising money for new equipment that we can use during our Forest School sessions. Both Sarah and Lindsay are putting the finishing touches to their coursework in order to complete their Forest School qualifications. During our recent sessions in the woods we have been learning to build and light a fire safely, in readiness for the cold weather. We do this in very small steps, learning about safe behaviour and the right size and type of natural materials to gather to light it successfully. We will then be able to make ourselves some warming hot chocolate at snack time and mix and toast some bread. Goldfinch class at Sticklands School are hoping to join us for one morning in the woods before the end of term which will be fun.

We look forward to the end of term; David Harknett has kindly offered to lead a Christmas celebration in the church. Afterwards we will enjoy a Christmas party and if we have all been good we hope Father Christmas himself will be able to find time in his hectic schedule to visit us with a present for each of the children, before we break up for the holidays.

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

Ladybirds Playgroup Bonfire Night

We would like to say a huge thank you to everybody who contributed to the Ladybirds Bonfire Night. It was a big success and raised important funds for our village Playgroup.

We would particularly like to thank Adrian Franklin for a fantastic firework display, Giselle Park for kindly contributing some extra fireworks, Crabbs Bakery for providing the rolls, Mr Holloway for the use of his field, Henry and Rosemary Lovegrove for the sausages and for running the bar. And not forgetting all of the hard work from our Committee and local parents.

Thanks to everyone in the community for coming and supporting this event - we hope you had a really good evening. We look forward to seeing you all at the next one!

The Ladybirds Committee

Weldmar Hospice Trust

Weldmar Hospice Trust (Joseph Weld) would love your used postage stamps. There is a collection point in the paper shed, or they may be dropped into the mail box at Lower Farm. Please leave a small margin of paper around the stamps as you cut them from envelopes, parcels or postcards. Thank you

Sallie Else

Coffee Morning

There will be no coffee morning this month as we will all be too busy getting ready for Christmas.

Rainfall

The rainfall for October was 147mm

Silence

The silence this month will be held at "Gatcombe", the home of Helen and John Perris on Monday 20th December at 5:00pm.

Birthdays

We wish the happiest of birthday's to:
Sam Harvey who will be 7 on the 6th
Jessica Pring who will be 15 on the 18th

Remember

South West Coaches Bus Times

This picks up at Lindisfarne, High Street at approximately 10.35/40am (ish), then stopping at The Barton, Pine Close and Church Farm (if people are waiting there), returning from Tesco's Yeovil at 1.45pm and the Borough Memorial at 1.50pm. The bus runs on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Recycling and Library Dates

Over the Christmas period please look in local newspapers and on Notice Boards for the dates because they are different in December.

Please read the article on the Dorset Country Car Scheme on the Community page in case you can help.

Janet Lister

HALSTOCK

Church Flowers

5th D Clark
12th D clark
19th Christmas
26th Christmas

Side Altar

T Young

Church Cleaning

Maureen Gould

Brass Cleaning

Sheila Sanger

Still Looking!!

"The Friends of St Mary's Church Halstock" is still looking for a volunteer to join its Executive committee as Treasurer to relieve the pressure on Rosemary Bawn, so that she can concentrate on her much busier role as Treasurer to the PCC.

"The Friends" are an entirely separate organisation to the PCC and exist to provide financial contributions towards maintenance of our Church building and its assets. We are now on the first step of the path to achieving a more regular income and so the work load has increased but is not onerous and Rosemary will remain available to offer advice if required. If you would like and feel able to fulfil this role as part of a lively and business-like committee working hard for the community towards this worthy end, then please give our chairman Mike Clark a call on 01935 891331.

Mid Week Holy Communion will be celebrated as usual in the Community Room, behind the Shop, on **Wednesday, 10th November at 11 a.m.** with an opportunity to stay and chat afterwards over a cup of tea/coffee.

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

PHONE .. Liz on 891898 or Max on
891720

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

Monthly Prizes: 1st £100; 2nd £40; 3rd £20; 4th £5
Membership costs £4 per month per number
If you would like to become a Member please
contact Liz on 01935 891898

November Draw

1 st	59	Mrs T Bright
2 nd	28	Mrs S Grenville-Jones
3 rd	31	Mrs E Dowding
4 th	49	Mrs S Else

Next Draw

Wednesday 8th December
In the Community Room
(after Mid Week Holy Communion)

**Crib Service
&
Nativity Scene**

Sunday, 19th December
At 10 a.m.

*Especially for the children
(although **everyone is welcome**)*
And do stay for
festive refreshments which will be served
afterwards

**St Mary's Church, Halstock
Children's Christmas Party**



(for children aged 7 years and under)

Fun activities, party food,
entertainment and surprises
At Halstock Village Hall

on

**Saturday, 18th December 2010
3 - 5.15 p.m.**

Invitations are being delivered to all
those children known to us
BUT... we don't want to leave anyone out
SO If you didn't come last year but
would like to join in ..

St Mary's Church Halstock

It was heartening to see so many, both young and old in church to celebrate our Harvest Festival and that so many also enjoyed the Harvest Lunch afterwards in the village Hall. This was due in very large part to Lucy Peach and Suzaane Edmunds, who provided a splendid main course of roast beef, Yorkshire pudding and lots of different vegetable for 70 people. They were ably assisted by four young people, who worked extremely hard, waiting on tables and clearing away afterwards and we thank them all. Thanks must also be given to those ladies who provided a variety of desserts. The whole occasion was much enjoyed by all present. Harvest gifts donated at the Harvest Festival were delivered to elderly person in the village during the afternoon. A big thank you to the ladies who made these deliveries.

We should like to wish everyone in Halstock a peaceful and blessed Christmas as we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ and hope you may join us at one (or more!) of our Christmas Services: the Carol Service on December 12th, the Crib service on December 19th or Midnight Holy communion on Christmas Eve.

Halstock Sequence Dancing Class

It now seems likely that the class will continue in the New Year.

If this is so we will confirm it in the next issue of the Chimes.

Meanwhile still contact Jim and Dot for any details on 01935 872473.

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

Halstock W.I. would like to thank all those who came & supported our Mah Jong day on 23rd October. We all had a fun & informative day. Many thanks to Stephen Frost for his patience and humour and to the team in the Kitchen who worked so hard to feed us throughout the day. Several players thought that they might like to start a group in the village in the New Year . If you are interested please ring Betty on 891998 so we can get ideas of numbers.

Community Room News

The new display in the Community Room will be on St Mary's Church and will start in early December.

Don't forget we have the handsome Halstock Village Shop Christmas cards and notelets for sale.(£3.50 for 6 or 60p each) - all profits to the Village Trust.

There will be a Christmas Market in the Community room on Friday 3 December from 2pm – all enquiries to Carol on 891553

Computer Course - we are hoping to start a new course in mid January 2011. If you would like to join us please ring Adele Kemp on 01308 863047 or Betty Harris on 891775.

The **MILE OF PENNIES** for our Village Hall is rapidly approaching the ¼ mile mark - £198.00, many thanks to all who have contributed.

Finally, don't forget we have lots of good books for your winter reading.

Christmas Market in the Community Room

Friday 3rd December from 2pm

Crafts, Cakes, Jams & Chutneys,
Cards

Ideal gifts, locally made
Refreshments

Enquiries - 891553

New Year's Eve



Party

Halstock Village Hall

(31st December!!)

8 for 8.30pm

Music by Mike C

Tickets £10 from

Heather 01935 83435

Diana 01935 891753

Halstock Village Shop

Bring your own drink & glasses

Royal British Legion

The annual Branch Lunch will take place on Saturday 15th January 2011 at the Winyards Gap

Inn at 12.30pm. any member wishing to attend should contact Peter Bell as soon as possible on 01460 271456. The cost is £15 per head.

The next meeting of the branch will be held on Tuesday 14th December at 7.30pm at the Rest & Welcome Inn. Anybody interested in joining the Legion would be made most welcome.

Halstock Sports & Social Club
Carol Singing around the village
(weather permitting)

Monday 20th December
Assemble at the Village Hall at
6.45pm for 7.00pm start
Collection for VSO - Lesotho
Hospital
(John & Bridget Dearlove)



Saturday 8th January 2011
In conjunction with The Fox Cricket
Club

Race Night
Halstock Village Hall
7.45 pm for 8.00 pm start
Licensed Bar
Bangers & Mash Supper
Tables booked early get a free bottle of
wine (minimum of 6 people)
Ring - Liz Dowding - 891480
(See January Chimes for more details)

Halstock Village shop

John and Karen would like to say a big thank you for all the support and best wishes after the Halstock Village Shop Ltd. AGM. We now look forward to the next ten years (God and Lease willing).

It was suggested the shop should stay open on Wednesday afternoons and we shall now stay open until 4.30pm until 6th January. (The rest of the week as before).

Last but not least, on Tuesday 14th December, the shop will be open until 9pm for wine and nibbles and so customers can place their orders for Christmas and the New Year. With our love and best wishes

John and

Karen

Women's Institute

The Mahjong day was a great success with the beginners having to concentrate hard to remember the moves and sets, helped by the old hands and our very informative tutor Stephen Frost. Everyone enjoyed it, especially the superb lunch halfway through.

The monthly meeting was a Members' Night when, after a Fish and Chip Supper, Members enjoyed a Picture Quiz. Next year's proposed programme was gone through which sounds very varied, interesting and entertaining.

Six members attended the Autumn Council Meeting at Poole where the expected Speaker was to have been Anne Widdecombe but Edwina Currie stood in at the last minute.

A Christmas Shopping Trip has been organised to Bath in November and four members have reached the finals of the Dorset W.I. Quiz.

At the November meeting Mr Bates will take members on "A Walk Through 17th Century Dorchester". The December meeting will be a Christmas Party.

Improved Broadband Service For Corscombe & Halstock

BT is presently involved in work to upgrade the quality of Broadband service throughout the country over the next 5 years. This is being done on a priority basis, partly depending on the result of a poll which is being conducted on a dedicated website - www.racetoinfinity.bt.com/. Because the Corscombe exchange has less than 1000 subscribers we need to get 75% of ALL subscribers (not just those with broadband service) to vote. We need to get 483 votes (there are 643 subscribers) and at the time of writing (Nov 3) we had 90 votes cast. We need 393 more!

So, ALL phone subscribers who are on the Corscombe exchange – phone numbers beginning 891---, if you have not yet voted, PLEASE, go to the above website and cast your vote. If you do not use a computer/the internet please ask someone else to vote for you to help us reach the target. They will need you name, address (including Postcode) and phone number. One vote per premises.

Because we have less than 1000 subscribers on the exchange, we must get 483 votes before BT will even talk to us about getting this improved service so PLEASE cast your vote. Voting closes on December 31st 2010. This is a legitimate and perfectly safe website to access for those of you concerned about viruses.

VOTE NOW!

Mrs Margaret Mary Clark, Halstock

Margaret Clark passed away on 1st September at Yeovil Hospital after being admitted a few days before, following a fall in her home.

Margaret was born on 25th April 1920 at her parent's home in Enfield, only daughter of Frank and Florence Stamford. Her father was a schoolteacher although from a long established farming family rooted in Bassingbourne and her mother was of the well known Cater and Death clothing families of Colchester and also a qualified teacher. Both were strictly Edwardian in their outlook and approach to life and this very much influenced and shaped Margaret's attitudes and values throughout her own life – which neither WW2 or the post-war liberalisation had much success in changing. Her father had a deep interest in political history and natural science and she often recounted how he used to take her on long walks in the countryside studying flora and fauna, and also to political rallies and speeches by notable orators of the time. Her mother was not amused, this being considered an 'inappropriate' education for a girl!

Nevertheless Margaret had a deep sense of humour as well as a talent for art and her ambition was to become a cartoonist with a regional or national newspaper. However her mother felt that teaching would be a much more 'appropriate' career and on matriculation in

1938 she started college in London training as a teacher in domestic science. In her latter school years she developed an aptitude for tennis and through the Enfield Tennis Club, played successfully at County standard tournaments. She met her husband-to-be Richard Clark, another highly competitive player, at the Club and was also at school with his sisters Joyce and Muriel (later Hibbitt).

At the start of WW2 Margaret's training college was relocated to a requisitioned hotel in Bournemouth where she completed her studies and on graduation, returned to London as a supply teacher in the Enfield and Edmonton areas. Richard volunteered for service in the Royal Navy and after brief training at Dartmouth RN College at rank of Warrant Officer Schoolmaster; they married in Enfield on 20th August 1942. Immediately his first posting was to the Isle of Man Gunnery School and Margaret went to join him, taking out Manx citizenship. By mid September 1942 however he was re-posted to Chatham RN Dockyard and they relocated to a rented flat in Chatham, whilst Richard joined the cruiser HMS Ajax for post-refit trials and crew gunnery training. He remained with the ship when it sailed for the Mediterranean, so Margaret returned to Enfield to resume supply teaching and was involved in fire watching and civil defence duties at schools in the heavily targeted area of north east London for the rest of the War.

For much of the War she had little idea where her husband was, except one day when he turned up suddenly with a trunk full of luxuries from New York, where HMS Ajax had finished up for repairs after being bombed in Bone. He spent much of the rest of the War at the Portsmouth Gunnery Training School, out of reach and contact behind the D-Day security cordon and it wasn't until the end of 1945 that they were fully re-united.

On extricating himself from the Navy her husband obtained a teaching position in the Enfield area, they bought their first house and first son Michael was born in August 1946, followed by Peter in May 1950. Then taking up his appointment as Head of Science at one of the

UK's first and experimental comprehensive schools in Hillingdon, they relocated to Ickenham for the next 14 years, during which time Margaret resumed teaching domestic science at Swakely's Girls Secondary Modern School in the same borough. She left teaching when Richard was appointed Head of a secondary modern school in Neasden (featured in the location shots of the BBC TV series "Please Sir") and he remained as Head when it became one of London's largest comprehensive schools. This was a very deprived area of London with 75% of the pupils being of immigrant background with English not their first language, so Margaret's role in supporting her husband at a very challenging time was key and demanding.

They moved to Pinner in 1964, her husband retired in 1971 but continued in part time teaching at a private school until 1980. Then in 1986 with his health declining they moved to St. Juthware Close in Halstock to be near to son Michael and sister Muriel Hibbitt. Richard died in November 1989 after a long illness, during which Margaret was his devoted carer until he was admitted to a specialist care home in Weymouth for the last few months of his life.

Thereafter she had control of her own life, something which she relished and she became more involved with the village community and her wider family which included three grand-daughters, Andrea, Corinna and Claire in their teenage years. She was prominent in helping to start the Pot Luck Lunch initiative and stayed with it until her own health became less robust in the new Millennium. In her 70's she took up occasional tennis again, "to teach her grand-daughters how to play properly", and she treasured her car and freedom to drive where she wanted. Her husband had taught her to drive in the 1960's but was always an outspoken 'back seat driver' in her regard, so in earlier days she was not beyond "borrowing" her sons' sporty cars to escape for some peace and quiet on the open road. She also had acquired a taste for foreign travel from visiting old friends relocated in France and Denmark and then more ambitiously, Michael and Diane in North West Frontier, Pakistan; so there followed trips to the

USA, Italy and Portugal. Notably and perhaps mercifully, the only times in her life that she truly relaxed and did not want to be in schoolmistress mode of being in charge of everything, was on an aeroplane!

Even in her final years with her mobility and eyesight declining, she took great pride in those things she could achieve within her control and she never compromised her standards and the way she wanted things done and to be, particularly her garden and the organisation of her home. She was immensely happy to live to see a great-grandson and very proud of her three grand-daughters achievements academically and in mapping their own careers, something she had never been allowed to do.

Margaret was essentially a loving, caring and supportive wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and whilst she kept a very firm grip on management of family and home, she was never at ease with the compromises and pressures on her standards that life in the last half of the 20th Century brought upon her. We, her sons, remember and appreciate happy childhoods full of freedom, encouragement and self confidence instilled in us by her and key to achieving our own ambitions; she is loved in our memory of her and will be much missed.

Michael & Peter Clark

Please read the article on the Dorset Country Car Scheme on the Community page in case you can help.

Janet Lister