

Little Normans Northwold Pre-School



The Pre-School is very busy and full of excitement as Christmas draws nearer. The children are practising daily, their Nativity play and all the Christmas songs. With over 40 children now on the register this will be our biggest challenge yet! The craft table is full of glitter and sparkle ready for our decorations, as always we will be decorating a tree for the Church Tree Festival on Sunday 12th December.

This years Nativity is being held on Wednesday 8th December @ 11am in the Village Hall. We will be serving refreshments and a raffle during this event.

The Primary School has kindly invited the children that attend Pre-School on a Friday morning, to watch a rehearsal of their Christmas Production on Friday 2nd December.

Friday 17th December is Party Day. The fun starts at 11.30am in the Village Hall. We start the party with an entertainer, followed by food and if everyone has been good, a visit from Santa. Following this the parents are invited to join the staff for a well earned night out. A table is booked at the Chinese restaurant in Swaffham for anyone who would like an evening out, please add your name to the list in the Pre-school foyer.

Friday 17th December is also the last day of term, we return to school on Wednesday 5th January 2005.

If you wish to register your child please telephone or contact the Pre-School (01366 728804). From the start of Spring Term 05 we will be opening an additional session, this will be a Thursday afternoon.

Can we take this opportunity to thank everyone that has been involved or helped with the Pre-School in anyway during 2004, as always it is very much appreciated.

On behalf of all the Staff & Committee

at Little Normans - A very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Prosperous New Year to you all.

Tina

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Village Life

NORTHWOLD & WHITTINGTON

Issue: Dec. 2004/Jan. 2005

Copy date for the next issue is;

25th January 2005

copy@northwold.net

Tel. 01366 728233

Meet The New Owners of The Crown

Ben and Val Morgan have taken over The Crown.

Ben comes from Montego Bay in Jamaica where he lived and worked in the Hotel trade until five years ago, when he met Val who was on holiday there.

Val is Kings Lynn born and bred, and tells me that she is proud to be Norfolk through and through. Until two years ago she was a psychiatric nurse, working in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital at Kings Lynn.

Ben tells me that he loves cricket, and when you meet him it will not be surprising and at 6 feet 4 inches in height could probably have sent down a fair old "bouncer" in his youth.

Restaurant and Bar meals are the speciality and the available menu is vast. When you come into the bar it is almost guaranteed that you will be greeted with a broad welcoming smile.

But don't take my word for that. The best thing to do is to visit the Crown and see for yourself.

VAL AND BEN



Plough Monday

We will be celebrating this traditional event on Monday 10th January 2005.

We will start from The Crown Public House and will follow the plough and the Molly Dancers in a torchlight procession to the Lynch gate at The Church.

There, the plough will be blessed and the first of the dances performed. Then we will take the procession round the village via Church Lane, School Lane, Methwold Road and then to John Haylock's at West End for mulled wine and more dancing.

The evening ends back at the The Crown where refreshments are available and the merriment continues.

Please do join us and take part, or simply watch this colourful occasion.

Jane and Brenda

Bowls Club 100 Club draw for October

1st. R. Knights £ 20

2nd. B. Ayres £ 15

3rd. C. Ambrose £ 10

Sylvia Knights

St. Andrew's Church Diary Of Events

December

5th Sunday after Advent

11am Holy Communion at Northwold

Christmas Tree Festival.

Carols By Candlelight.

Sunday 12th December At 6.30 pm

Music, readings, mince pies and mulled wine.

All Welcome.

Collection in aid of the Quidenham Children's Hospice and St Andrew's Church.

Crib And Christingle Service

At St Andrew's Church, Northwold on Sunday, 19th December, at 4pm

If your child would like an envelope to receive a Christingle at The Crib and Christingle Service, please contact :- Jenny Langley on 728831 or the School Secretary, (before Friday 17th December)

Midnight Mass

On Christmas Eve at St Andrews Church at 11.30 pm.

Canon John Rowsell is coming to conduct this service for us again this year.

We will be lighting the Church with Candles and Christmas Trees for this very special service.

We welcome all of you to join us.

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If your child would like an envelope to receive a Christingle at The Crib and Christingle Service Please Contact:-

Jenny Langley on 728831 Or The School Secretary before Friday, 17th December.

NORTHWOLD NEWS

DAILY DELIVERIES OF NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES FOR A FRIENDLY RELIABLE SERVICE CALL DEREK OR CHRIS ON 01366728409 OR 07714588918 OR CALL IN AT: FIVE STAR FRUIT AND VEG, BROOKVILLE

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.....	25kg	£3.50
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The views expressed in submitted items are not necessarily endorsed by Northwold & Whittington Village Life. Whilst we endeavour to ensure that all information contained in the newsletter is correct, we cannot be held responsible for errors. The Editor reserves the right to refuse or omit items without explanation.

Father Christmas visits Northwold

Jolly old father Christmas has enjoyed his visits to Northwold so much that he has decided to take an afternoon out from the hectic preparations at the North Pole (leaving Mother Christmas to hold the fort - typical!) He will be spending some time visiting all the children in Northwold to make sure that they have been good for the last year, and to double check on what they might have put in their letters!

So on WEDNESDAY 22nd DECEMBER between 2pm and 5pm, he and his chief helper will be paying a few home visits, but as he is so busy these have to be booked in advance. To obtain a booking form please ring 01366 727425. There will also be a small cost (even Santa has overheads!) of £3 for the first child, and £2 for every other child visited at that address.

Then in the evening, just to make sure he knows his way round the village proper like, Father Christmas and his team of willing helpers will be accompanying a highly decorated sleigh around the streets of Northwold.

Please come to your doors and say hello, and if you should feel in the festive spirit please give generously to this year's collection which will be split between the Village Hall and the Playground Fund. The float will start at Hall Farm at 6pm and hopefully finish at the pub at about 8pm, where we hope to hold a raffle.

So make sure you are on Santa's list - visits need to be booked by Monday 13th December.

New Years'Resolution

What are you going to have as a new years resolution? It may be giving up chocolate, drinking or cigarettes?

Instead of giving up something why not try giving instead. If it is something that will make you happy, other people happy – a whole family happy, a next generation happy and doesn't cost you anything but a little of your time- what a great resolution!!!

HOME-START is selecting new home-visiting volunteers to train on a ten week, forty hour course (4hours a week), term time and during school hours. Volunteers are welcome to apply from all walks of life, with a variety of life experiences and of all ages. You need to be a parent, be reliable and can offer between 2 and 4 hours a week. You must be willing to visit parents in their own home who have at least one child under the age of 5.

Volunteering is an excellent way to 'give something back', gain confidence and valuable experience. Some use their Home-Start training to help get into further education and paid employment – sometimes within Home-Start as part of paid Scheme staff or in other careers such as childcare and social welfare. If you are not a parent but would like to get

involved you could help at a family group, fund-raising or as part of management committee. If you would like more information please contact Swaffham and District Home-Start (who now also cover the Dereham area.) on 01760 721271.

Other schemes in the Norfolk area are Kings Lynn 01553 775560, Thetford 01842 765206, or Norwich on 01603 616400. There is also a Gt. Yarmouth office, so if friends or relatives are interested in volunteering in other areas – let them know about us.

Eve Harris Co-ordinator

Request for information

I hope you can help me. I am trying to find the history of a house which I have just bought. All I can tell you that it is 23 high street. The house used to be one large house which has now been made into two. At the end of the row there is a sign on the wall saying (I think) Morley 1845, I cannot be really sure. Would you be able to tell me anything about the building and the history of it.

Hope to hear from you soon

Tammy Mallett

This was formerly Odd Fellows Row. Local Historians please. Ed.

BROADBAND IN NORTHWOLD

If you are a computer user you are no doubt aware that the Methwold telephone exchange will soon be upgraded to support Broadband, as mentioned in the last issue of Village Life. This of course means faster Internet access, faster downloads and more 'content rich' sites are accessible.

As with all services these days there is a huge choice of suppliers all offering different packages and it can all get too confusing. Some of the major players are offering cut price deals on Broadband access but as always you need to check the small print.

The most obvious thing larger ISP's will do is to try and tie you in to a minimum 1 year contract often with an offer of a discounted rate for a month or two. You may also find that your access is limited to a certain amount of data per month.

They save money by sending you the equipment which you then have to install yourself although a helpline is provided (how much was that per minute?).

Six years ago I started up the local Internet Service Provider, PW Net, with a colleague. Since then we have built up our business based on good customer support and personal service. We are now providing broadband access, details of which you can find on my website [www.jlevis.co.uk]. Here you can check the availability on your line and even sign up direct if you want to.

That service is available to anyone who uses my site wherever they are but I wanted to be able to offer an extra service to local individuals and businesses so the offer for readers of Village Life is this:

Get in touch with me on 01366 727999 to tell me you have seen this article and are interested in upgrading to Broadband. I will explain exactly what service levels

we provide and for a flat fee of £55.00 + VAT I will do all the work for you. I will check availability, upgrade your line, even come and install the Broadband modem and adapters which I won't charge you for. The contract will only be for 3 months – that's how sure I am that you will like the service we offer.

We have an excellent range of packages available for home users and businesses so there is bound to be one to suit you.

John Levis

J Levis Computers
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Celebration

Married in London on 17th December,1945. Arthur Maynard, to Maureen Cahill. This means that next year is the Big One...

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at Village Life.

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Rita’s Ramblings

First of all, Christmas Greetings to all. I hope that each and every one of you is able to enjoy the time in his or her own way. One of the nice things about December is that, held firmly within its grasp is the winter solstice. This brings with it the promise of lengthening days and the feeling that spring is not too far around the corner. I did finally get my seed order completed (and from what I’ve heard after my last rambling I am not alone in my deliberations!) and I will soon be sowing the first seeds of the year in the greenhouse. Although I thoroughly enjoy gardening I find it hard to summon up the enthusiasm to go and check on the pots and seed trays when it is so cold and dark. I try to encourage myself by thinking of the potential harvest: sometimes the greenhouse wins and sometimes the chair in front of the fire wins. The dogs

WHAT DOES THE DOCTOR THINK THIS MONTH?

DID THE BUNNY RABBIT HAVE AN “OOPSI”? ` There is food for thought here. Boys as a young as eleven are being issued with condoms through clinics controlled by *The Teenage Pregnancy Unit* part of the Department of Education. Girls are being issued with U Cards which fast-track them straight to the GP for the issue of the morning-after pill. One point of view is that all this is promoting under-age, illegal sex and the opposite point of view is that it is a wonderful way of controlling teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted disease. What do you think? (Note for those of you who are not medically qualified – “bunny rabbits” are what some of us call the youngsters who seem to spend all their leisure hours engaged in sexual activity and an “oopsi” (actually UPSI) stands for “unprotected sexual intercourse”).

“GPs NEED RETRAINING” - I have noticed an increasing trend for Government ministers, most of whom we have never heard of, to make announcements such as “GPs

prefer the latter – especially when I have to add more coal or logs – as they can then snuggle up against me and guarantee they will get a few minutes undivided attention. They know it as “doing that fire thing”! Way back in the dim and distant past when we were house hunting we made a list of all the features that were either essential or desirable. An open fire was on the essential list and we have never regretted it; not only does it provide an endlessly fascinating focal point to the room it has also come to the rescue on more than one occasion during power cuts! True it creates a lot of dust, it takes time to get it going, it needs cleaning out, you need to go out into the cold and wet to get more coal/logs, the chimney needs to be swept twice a year……., but you can’t beat the glow of the embers (preferably in the grate and not scorching the carpet). We have been trying to have a bit of a “lifestyle clear out” recently. Over the years we have accumulated the odd

are bad at diagnosing cancer and should be retrained” and “GPs are poor at dealing with allergies and should be retrained”. In fact, we are extremely good at picking up the warning signs for cancer; the problems start when we try to refer the patient to hospital. To be fair, in many specialties, there is a maximum two week wait for suspected cancer patients. However, it is currently taking me 12 – 16 weeks and a lot of ‘phone calls to obtain a “fast-track” appointment for patients with rectal bleeding, a serious sign of possible bowel cancer.

Similarly, we used to have a superb Allergy testing and advice service, known as NADAAS, which has just been withdrawn in Norfolk through lack of funding. Maybe they are spending the money on condoms for eleven year olds!

I have also noticed a very unsettling trend among our political masters to make GPs responsible for the control of obesity. The NHS will now fund GP referrals for a 12 week course at *Weight Watchers*, who are graciously charging the NHS half the

spare item; for example we have a spare kettle or two (4 actually) but they all work and it just doesn’t seem right to throw away perfectly serviceable items. Anyway if I throw them away you can bet your bottom dollar that the one we use every day will break. Likewise I had a filter coffee maker before we got married and we were given an identical one as a wedding present. We thought the original would eventually break and were pleased to have a spare but here we are YEARS later my original one still works and the wedding present is still in the cupboard! I managed to fill a couple of boxes which is not too bad for us; however, my sister in law would see it rather differently as she is much more ruthless and has regular clear out sessions. Perhaps I need to start worrying as she is coming to stay for a weekend this month! Finally, Nigel and I hope that you have a happy and contented new year. Until next year, take care.

Rita

usual rate. I predict that, within a very short time, one of the targets set for GPs will be to control the weight of their patients, only being allowed, say 20% who are overweight. Comments from patients such as “I know I’m overweight but my doctor is useless at controlling it” or “I seem to be getting fatter, I’m going to sue my GP” could be commonplace. Whilst I have no problem trying to control patients’ blood pressures, cholesterol levels, etc., I would take serious exception to being responsible for people’s actual weight as I have no control over what they eat or how much they exercise. I can **advise** but I cannot **control**.

GRANNIE’S SAYINGS : *I tried on a thong yesterday – I’ still trying to dig it out. – Men are always whining about how we are suffocating them. Personally, I think that, if you can hear them whining, you are not pressing hard enough on the pillow. – It’s been so long since I had sex that I can’t remember who ties up whom. – When the neighbours play loud music, I dance naked. That soon shuts them up! Don’t think of them as hot flushes; it’s your inner child playing with matches.* Best wishes, Ian G. Nisbet

Northwold News

Reports on activities, news and events in and around Northwold

Annual Remembrance Day

The Annual Service of remembrance was held at the War Memorial and the Church, attended by the Royal British Legion banners.. Wreaths were laid by The Legion, The Church, The Parish Council, The W.I and the Sports and Social Club.

Village hall

Village hall Volunteers hope to get the ceiling painted in the Christmas Holiday. (See Below) A new window for the kitchen should come soon. Two heaters have been repaired. Plans have been approved for a new lady’s toilet, but local firms are all too busy. Father Christmas will tour the village on 22nd December, giving presents and

collecting for the Hall and Play equipment.

Can you spend an hour or two during the Christmas holiday to help in painting the ceiling of the Village Hall? We have the scaffold towers and the paint, now all we need is volunteers with brushes etc. The Hall is not used over the Christmas and New Year period so this should be the ideal time to do the work. Please contact Jim for more details.

Volunteers are also needed for the Community Car Scheme as we have lost 3 drivers for personal reasons. Anyone prepared to drive people to hospital, Doctor or dentist etc. for 40p per mile contact Jim Booty please.

Jim Booty

Whittington Community Event

A Christmas Evening With Watton Silver Band
Friday,17th December. 7.30pm at Whittington Church.

Buffet Supper and hot Mulled Wine.
Adults £5. Concessions £3

For catering purposes all reservations to be made on Answerphone 01366 500591

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The Parishes of All Saints,
Wretton with Stoke Ferry;
and Christ Church, Whittington.
Diary for December 2004

December 5th
9.30am Service of The Word at Wretton

12th December (2nd Sunday after Advent)
9.30am Service of The Word at Whittington

19th December (3rd Sunday after Advent)
9.30am Holy Communion by Extension at Wretton
6.30pm Carol Service (joint with Methodists) at Wretton

24thDecember (Christmas Eve)
2.00pm Crib Service at Wretton

25th December (Christmas Day)
9.30am Service of The Word at Whittington

26th December (Sunday after Christmas)
9.30am Service of The Word at Wretton

January 2004

2nd January (2nd Sunday of Christmas)

9.30am Service of The Word at Whittington



A Christmas Story

Santa was sitting in his grotto when a boy of 6 or 7 years came in. "What would you like me to bring you for Christmas"? asked Santa. Without hesitation the boy replied, "A computer". "Oh" said Santa, and with mild sarcasm, "Would you like anything else"? "Yes a Mountain Bike", came the reply. Santa's thoughts cannot be printed here. Later he began to reminisce. To when he was that age, and how there was a war on. So his pillow case contained very little. He remembered how on one Christmas morning he looked in his pillow case and found to his great joy a toy army tank, made out of odd bits of wood, painted grey, and it ran on cotton reels. He thought he owned the world. And he shakes his head as he sees how greed has taken over, to such an extent that his elves are hard pressed to meet all the demands made of

them, and how unpleasant and dangerous it is now to have to visit some countries, and Rudolf is almost too frightened to pull the sleigh, after what he has seen on the TV. But despite all this it is their duty and they know they must go. So they soldier on to satisfy something that seems to have got out of control. Then one day Santa was looking through his books when he came upon a poem written by Henry Longfellow who lived about 150 years ago. He had written, "And in despair I bowed my Head, There is no peace on earth I said. For hate is strong and mocks the song of Peace on earth good will to men." And Santa thought "Nothing much has changed. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we had this Peace on earth, and the only tanks were made of odd bits of wood running on cotton reels.

Merry Christmas

St Andrew's Church

It was with great pride and satisfaction that we were able to fly the Union Jack at St Andrew's Church for Remembrance, and the Remembrance Service on Sunday, November, 14th. This was due to the generosity of an anonymous donor.

The flag and the gesture are much appreciated!

Thank You..

Church Rotas. St Andrew's

Dec 24 th .	Mrs J. Elliot
	Mrs V. Hutchby
Dec 31 st .	Mrs P. Coles.
	Mrs B. Akers.
7 th Jan.	Mrs B. Ayres.
	Mrs V. Legge.
Jan 14 th	Mr and Mrs Everett.
Jan 21 st	Miss J. Luckman
	Mrs S. Randell.
Jan 28 th	Mrs Akers.
Feb 4 th	Mr and Mrs Cundy.

Urgent Warning About "Scams" That Can Cost You Dear

You have probably all seen on TV about so called Scams. These are operated by criminals who have found a new way to steal your money. This is very serious and everybody should be made aware of the pitfalls of getting involved with them.

Below are set out three of the current ones.

The Prize winning call Scam. If you are phoned and told you have won a prize, DO NOT have anything to do with it. Put the phone down immediately. DO NOT press any other number on your keypad. Nobody is going to give you something for nothing, especially these people

The mobile phone scam. If you see a message on you mobile phone telling you that you have missed a call, and the number is there to return the call, and you don't recognise the number that is supposed to have called, then don't have anything to do with it. If the person is genuine they will phone again. Remember, these are not like the double glazing people who merely pester you, these people can literally cost you hundreds of pounds in a very short time.

The credit card scam. On receiving the call from somebody who says they are an investigator from your credit card company. DO NOT give any details of your card, or on any account give them the number that is on the back of the card near your signature. That is the one they are really after as without that they cannot use your card fraudulently. The genuine card company already have all your card details so they won't ask you for them. On receiving such a call put the phone down and immediately call your Card company they will then tell you if the call was from them or not. It's that simple really! DON'T GET CAUGHT. You have been warned.

A True Story about a Horse As told to Mike Coley

This is a true story of a very remarkable Horse that was born at "High House Farm" in Shipdham, between Watton and East Dereham, Norfolk. He was bred and owned by a real Norfolk man, Mr Oliver Anderson.

My interest in the animal came through my father, Mr Robert Andrews who was not only himself also a Norfolk man, but the village farrier at Yaxham since 1910. He was known generally as "Charlie" and I am his youngest daughter.

"Sunsalve" as the foal was later to be named, had something of a charmed life. When he was born, the Vet wanted to put him down because he was born with a bent leg and thought that he would not survive, let alone grow into the star he was to become.

Mr Anderson would not agree to the Vet's wishes until he had consulted my father who, after wracking his brain asked for Mr Anderson's permission to shoe the young horse with a half shoe. The owner agreed and the animal was thus shod from the age of six weeks.

Eventually the leg straightened and "Sunsalve" went on to become a famous show jumper, ridden originally by the owner's daughter Elizabeth, he went on to win the "Queen Elizabeth Cup". After an unfortunate split in the family, "Sunsalve" went on to be ridden by several other riders including 'Pat Smythe'. Pat was one rider that didn't get on too well with the horse, thinking that he had a defect in his feet, although that was not so. Later he was ridden by David Broom who

won a bronze medal on "Sunsalve" in the Rome Olympics and eventually the "George Gold Cup".

His was a remarkable record, one that as far as I know has never been equalled, because the Elizabeth Cup is for Lady riders and the king George is for gentlemen riders.

I feel that "Sunsalves" story should be more widely known in the County, he having being born and bred in Norfolk. Owned by a Norfolk man and shod by a Norfolk blacksmith, this makes him a true Norfolk Hero.

"Sunsalve's" last rider was Tony Holden from Norwich but unfortunately the horse suffered a heart attack whilst exercising at Shipdham after which he died in about 1992. My Father and I then went to the knackers yard in Fakenham to retrieve his two front legs so that my father could prove that the horse had no disease in his feet. They turned out to be perfect. We had the feet preserved and I have one, whilst as far as I know Mr Anderson has the other.

I do hope that this has been of interest and would love to talk to anyone that may wish to find out more about this magnificent beast, which it has to be said, owed his life to the expertise of my dear old Dad.

Yours Sincerely, Mrs Vera Youngman, Yaxham, Norfolk.

Anybody who remembers the Horse Of The Year Show on the old Black and white T V will remember this horse, which was quite famous. Ed.

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News from Whittington

Whittington Community Event

The Whittington Community events Committee held it's annual Halloween Quiz at The Church on Saturday, 30th October. There were nine teams competing for the prestigious First Prize and Gold Certificates. The same nine teams were all hoping to avoid winning the Booby Prize Pumpkins and Booby certificates for last place. The teams were, The Old Witches, The Bridge Road Gang, The Riversiders, The Ferry Farmers, The Muckers, The Girlies, The Shifty Lifters, The A Team and the Tiller Girls. It was nice to see that "The Old Witches" had finally faced up to reality and had stopped calling themselves, "The Young Ones". They had just about got away with it for the last three Quizzes but really, no one's imagination is that good. The Tiller Girls were also fooling themselves and probably would have needed the

help of artificial aides to have got their legs above knee level, that is all apart from the one with the flogging fetish but the least said about that the better. As for "The A Team", I think the "A" stood for Asylum, they all appeared to have been let out for the evening. The competition was fierce apart from "The Muckers" who were lucky to get into double figures for their final score. At half time we all took a break and enjoyed good old fashioned nosh of bangers and mash with onions and beans. Throughout the evening, copious amounts of hot mulled wine were consumed and a thoroughly good time was had by all. Even though the questions varied from the very difficult to the very easy, may I remind the whinging member of "The A Team" that it was a level playing field and as such it was the same for everyone.

Congratulations to everyone for completing the quiz and remaining mentally intact, especially "The Shifty Lifters" who won 1st place

and "The Muckers" who walked away with the Booby prize for last place.

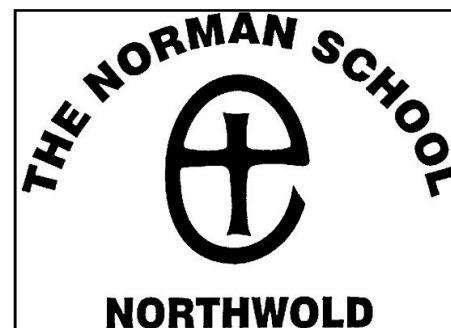
A Great Big Thank You to everyone who attended for making it a successful Fun evening, we of the organizing body salute you and look forward to seeing you all again at the next Halloween Quiz.

Rotas for Church cleaning & flowers

December Christ Church Mrs S Warner & Mrs J Elsie All Saints Mrs P Willis and Mrs H Durrance
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From The Head Teacher

In my opinion being a teacher is the best job in the world, it is never boring, very busy and a great privilege to work with wonderful children and to play a part in their education!

The never boring, when I think about this article it is more about what to leave out as there is always so much happening in school. Last week we had the last of the computers upgraded, networked and in proper use for the first time since last January. This is both exciting and very important to us as all of the children are living in a world of fast communication and access to the Internet etc.

The very busy, there have been several visitors in school during the last few weeks who have been impressed by the building but most importantly by the children who are polite, confident and welcoming.

This week we are holding our Official Opening Ceremony and are delighted to have Bishop John with us to conduct a short service and

Mrs. Shephard to perform the official opening. The children have written their thoughts about the school, some of which will be read out on Friday but we almost found it impossible to choose which ones to include as they were all delightful we would therefore like to publish a few through this column.

The great privilege, on Friday 19th we held another Charities event in school and raised the magnificent sum of £175 to be shared between our three chosen charities. Thank you to all who supported this event in any way.

The next Charities Morning will be held on 4th February 2005 and members of the community will be welcome to join us on that occasion.

Marion Dawe

School Building Work. By Callum Peate.

Before The Building Work:

Before the building work I thought the School was a bit old fashioned and it was a bit dark. The School was quite small and cramped and there was only three classrooms and teachers didn't have much office space.

During The Building Work:

During the building work it was very noisy and very loud, so when you were listening to the teacher it was very hard to hear what they were saying. It was also very dusty and everywhere had to be cleaned. When the building work was going on we had a restricted playground to play in.

After The Building Work:

After the building work was finished it looked brilliant. It is now very light and modern and very spacious. We now have four classrooms and loads of space for the teachers to use when they are not in the classrooms. It is now very clean and tidy and it was worth all of the noise and dust because we now have the best School in Norfolk

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REMEMBER, REMEMBER

These months are months of remembrance. ‘Remember remember the 5th of November’, we used to chant as children. We remember the date and have great fun, although the reasons for the celebration are almost forgotten. Our remembering has matured and is harmless.

Sunday School – All Welcome!

There is a Sunday School during the main 11am Sunday services at St. Andrew's Church, Northwold (except for Sunday's with All Age Worship). This is open to any school age child living in the villages of Northwold, Wretton, Stoke Ferry, Whittington and Brookville. If you are not able to stay with your child please drop them off by 10.50 am and collect them by 12.15pm

The Cenotaph Service does just that and no more and is moving, coherent and sufficient in so far as it does do just that. But if all we do every year is to have such a service and then put it behind us for another year, then that is not sufficient. It is no good extolling the virtues of soldiers, sailors and airman doing their duty and more, without also questioning if their sacrifice was and is sensible – which involves no criticism of the heroes themselves or their achievements. One of the glories of being British is that we have an almost unique ability to celebrate heroism for its own sake, without looking necessarily at the outcome. So we celebrate the way we handled, at Dunkirk, the consequences of a massive defeat. We remember fondly the disaster of the Charge of the Light Brigade in the Crimea (the fact that recent research suggests that it was nothing like the disaster that the poem records is not now relevant, except to historians).

My prayer is that as we Remember

One of the prayers that we said began with the words – ‘Eternal God, in whose perfect realm no sword is drawn but the sword of justice’ – This reflects the Church’s teaching that even as God will insist on justice, so must we be ready to seek justice, if necessary with the sword. Armed protection against terrorists is, we believe, justifiable and right. I personally, as those who know me have heard me say many times, believe that it was right to attack Iraq last year. That is a point of view, which is contested by many and I have considerable sympathy with those different views. Moreover, whether going in was right in principle has nothing to do with the good or bad conduct of the war or the good or bad handling of the aftermath. Clearly much of that conduct has been less than perfect. But God judges us on our motives, not on our actions – on our hearts, not on our hands. Jesus said that it is thoughts that make the adulterer, before any action. I do not think that the poor handling of Iraq since the war was won early in 2003 has yet created an irremediable situation, such that we should get out regardless of the rights or wrongs of the original action – although we could reach that position.

I am probably trying too hard to be

The words of Bill, an ex-soldier living in Luton, were read out in our local Churches. I reproduce them here.

A Veteran's Lament
So, here we stand again. A year has
passed. Once more our sorrow
turns to millions killed.
What have we learned? What do
you say to us, dear soldier, from
your eternal silence? Do you
implore us to improve our killing
efficiency, to make bigger and better

bombs, condemning more millions
to your sad fate?
Do you cheer us on in our blindness?
How many thousands have we added
to your number this past year?
'No' – I hear you plead now. I hear
you cry across the years: 'Weep not
for me, but for those yet unborn.
Go! – save your own children from
my fate. Go! – thank me, by
walking away today to reject the
futility, the waste, and the lie that
you have repeated over and over –
even as you stand – for where do
your billions go, if not to ensure that
far more will know the hell I knew?'
'It is too late for me. I have no
voice but yours. Please – speak for
me. So, when you stand here again,
when this next year has passed,
come here in certainty – certainty
that you have taken some small step
along a different road.'

Keith MacLeod
Licensed Lay Minister

Notice to all Christmas Tree Decorators

The Trees will be in St Andrew's Church labelled and in position from 10am on Tuesday, 7th December. Brenda and Jackie would be grateful if all trees could be decorated by 5pm on Saturday, 12th December. For further information phone Brenda on 728565 or Jackie on 728571.

We will once again be putting carnations in the Church for Christmas. If anyone would like to make a donation towards these, please see Brenda Ayres, tel. 728565 or Veronica Legge, tel. 728500.

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Wednesday	8am-1pm
Thursday	8am-1pm, 2pm-5.30pm
Friday	8am-1pm, 2pm-5.30pm
Saturday	7.30am-1pm