

# 7 Whole Days ❖

**CHURCH NEWS FOR THE COMMUNITIES OF  
APPLESHAW & CLANVILLE & FYFIELD &  
KIMPTON (WITH PART OF SHODDESSEN) &  
REDENHAM & SHIPTON BELLINGER & THRUXTON**

**December 2017 – March 2018**

## *Services to celebrate the Birth of Christ*

### CHRISTINGLE



Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January Kimpton 5pm

### CAROL SERVICES AND CONCERTS



Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December Thruxton, Village Carol singing led by the PCC, 4.30pm

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December Carols by Candlelight at Thruxton, 5pm

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December Carol Service at Fyfield, 11am

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December Carol Service at Appleshaw, 6pm

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December Carol Service at Shipton Bellinger, 6pm

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December Carols in the village at Fyfield, 6pm

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December, Carols Concert at Kimpton with De Fakto Singers 7.30pm

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, Carols under the tree at Shipton Bellinger, 6pm,

### CHRISTMAS EVE

Crib Service at Shipton Bellinger, 3.30pm

Crib Service at Kimpton, 5.30pm

First Communion of Christmas at Thruxton, 11pm

First Communion of Christmas at Shipton Bellinger, 11.30pm

### CHRISTMAS DAY

Holy Communion with Carols at Fyfield, 8am

Communion with Carols at Kimpton, 9.30am

Family Communion with Carols at Appleshaw, 11am

### NEW YEAR'S EVE

Benefice Eucharist with Carols at Thruxton, 10am

## *The Priest-in-Charge writes...*

### Thank you from Sandra

I wanted to use this opportunity to say thank you so much for the support I've had from around the Benefice leading up to being appointed as Priest-in-Charge and then during the wait to be licensed. To those of you who came to Appleshaw church on that soggy night in October – well done for your perseverance. It was a memorable night and so lovely to see so many people from around the Benefice as well as my close family and friends, sharing in a very uplifting service. Many thanks also to the Church Wardens and PCC's who organised the service and refreshments afterwards – it was great to be able to show off Appleshaw School, so thank you Ian Hickman. I was presented a few days later with two very lovely standard roses complete with lovely blue planters – I will do my utmost to keep them alive!



You'll see from this edition of 7 Whole Days that there is a lot going on as usual as we all look forward to Christmas. I am especially looking forward to seeing what the three schools come up with this year, there's always a slightly different twist at each of their Nativity plays. How can one story be told in so many different and imaginative ways? Maybe that's what makes it so special, the story of a baby born in a manger, to parents with nowhere to live. In our uncertain world it speaks to us as much today as it did over two thousand years ago. Jesus being born amongst the mess of a stable reminds us that God comes to us in the mess of our lives, he comes simply because he loves us and wants the best for us. I know that in the busyness of these weeks I want to take every opportunity to stop and gaze in wonder, just like the shepherds and the Wise Men did in that stable in Bethlehem so long ago. As the carol says, 'O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.'

Whatever you choose to do during this festive season, I pray that you and those you love will have a Christmas full of love, joy and wonder and I wish you a blessed and hope filled 2018.

## *An invitation from the clergy...*

**Please let us know if you would like to arrange a baptism (christening), confirmation, wedding, burial, cremation, communion at home, confession, counsel, pastoral or hospital visit or any other related matter, or if you would like to know more about the local church or the Christian faith. The parish churches welcome people to worship from all parts of the Church, as well as those who would like an enquiring environment in which to explore spirituality, meaning and purpose in their lives.**

Contact details are on the front cover.

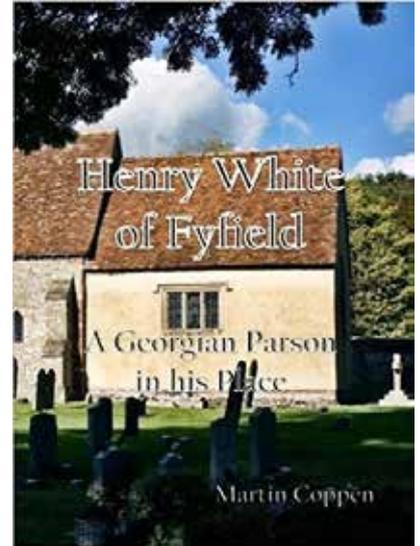
Copy for the April – June issue to the Associate Rector by 10<sup>th</sup> March – preferably electronically.

### New booklet available in Fyfield Church

Thank you to Canon Martin Coppen for donating copies of his new booklet to be sold in Fyfield church. Here is a brief introduction from Martin.

#### **Henry White, Rector of Fyfield**

Every village has been shaped by those who lived there before. What they did, built or decided, may survive in some way which we can observe as we consider the often hard lives they lived. The route of a lane, the shape of a field, those bumps in the meadow with the river running through, houses and cottages and of course, the church, are the tangible legacy of previous generations of villagers. But we don't always understand what we see.



Meticulous observation and interpretation was the talent shared by members of the 18th century White family. Gilbert White raised observation of the natural world to a new level with his famous book, *The Natural History of Selborne*, which has never been out of print since publication in 1789. Henry, Gilbert's youngest brother and rector of Fyfield from 1762-1788, shared his own nature observations with his brother, who often came to stay with him.

Henry White was very much a man of this place. As rector he conducted the Sunday and personal, occasional services of Fyfield and a number of neighbouring parishes (a ministry which continues through the present clergy). He was deeply engaged in his farming and gardening and so was as dependent as his parishioners on the weather and harvest. He ran a small private school. He was an accomplished musician. He kept a very detailed log of his nature and weather observations, the farm work, his activities as rector and his social and busy family life—he and his wife Elizabeth had ten children. Happily, six years of his log books from the 1780s have survived and they give a very rich insight into the life of a remarkably talented and energetic 18<sup>th</sup> Century clergyman.

A newly researched, illustrated booklet celebrates Henry White in Fyfield, 38 years after Clive Burton's, *The Diaries of an 18th Century Parson*. It tells his story and lists the lasting signs of his life that can still be seen locally and in the wider area. It is hoped that it will be of great interest to parishioners and local historians. The guide is sold in and for the benefit of St Nicholas church.

Martin Coppen, *Henry White of Fyfield: A Georgian Parson in his Place* (Andover, 2017), 16 pages, with 13 illustrations in full colour. £4.00.

# What's On...

## Churches together in Shipton



**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2018 4-6pm**

At Shipton Bellinger Village Centre

Activities and games, short celebration story and songs, finishing with a meal.

Messy Church is for children and adults of all ages to enjoy together.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

*All Welcome!*

For more information please contact

Rev Sandra 01980-731551

sandra.williams3@btinternet.com

or Andrew Sullivan 01980-846034

Supported by The Community Church and St Peter's Church

## To get us ready for Lent 2018

Look out for details of Pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> February, early next year.

### As Lent starts:

Benefice Eucharist with Ashings on Ash Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February at Shipton church, 7.30pm

Benefice Lent Course will start Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February, look out for details nearer the time.

Lent Lunches will start on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, The Parish Room, Shipton Bellinger, 12.30pm.

Look out for details of others around the Benefice early next year.

## Carols at Kimpton

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December, 7:30pm,**

In Kimpton Church with The De Fakto Singers, festive traditional carols for both choir and all to join in.

Interval wine, soft drinks and mince pies.

Entrance and interval refreshments free, but contribution towards the Facilities Fund will be most welcome.

## SHIPTON BELLINGER TODDLER GROUP

Shipton Bellinger Village Centre

**For under 5's and their carers**

Thursdays 9.30 – 11.00am (during term time)

The Health Visitor attends every 2nd Thursday of the month, no appointment needed.

Easy parking, toys, crafts, story, refreshments.

Information from: Michelle Painter 07495084047

Supported by St Peter's Church, Shipton Bellinger

## COMMUNITY CAROLS UNDER THE TREE

Bring family and friends to Christmas Carols and Songs in St Peter's Church Yard

6pm Friday 22nd December

Festive refreshments too!

Donations to The Children's Society

## Village Carol Singing

The Choir at St Peter's Church, Shipton, has offered to bring Christmas Carols to your door!

Dates and times to be determined by requests received from Shipton Bellinger people who are housebound.

Please contact Sheila Hymas-Parry:

01980-847904

parryhymas@aol.com



## Christmas Appeal

Children across South Sudan and Burkina Faso do not have enough to eat. This Christmas, every pound

you give the UK Government will match. Will you ensure there is enough for everyone?

**Twice the impact!** For every pound you give, the UK Government will give a pound more.\* That's double the support for people living in poverty.

**\*Donations made to the Christmas Appeal between 6 November**



**2017 and 5 February 2018 will be matched up to £2.7 million.**



We will use your donations for projects such as those featured below. The UK Government's match will fund our work in South Sudan.

## How your donation will help

In response to the food crisis in South Sudan, we will continue to provide life-saving food vouchers to families like Mary's who don't have enough to eat. Mary and her family have struggled to find food for the last three months. They survive on one meal a day, but her daughter, four-year-old Manut, is

highly malnourished and underdeveloped for her age.

Most of the farmers in Mary's village in northern South Sudan haven't had a successful harvest since September 2016. Over three years of devastating conflict has left millions of people in the country in desperate need of humanitarian assistance. Many families have resorted to fishing in a nearby river, but as a result, it has been exhausted of all its fish. For the last two weeks, Mary's husband has gone out to fish, but has come home hungry and empty handed. If food scarcity continues at this alarming rate, children will continue to become malnourished and die. With your support we can scale up our response and provide life-saving food vouchers to vulnerable families like Mary's so they have enough to survive.

At Christmas, a time of plenty, when we come together with family and friends to celebrate, relax and often overindulge, it feels particularly unjust that so many families will go without food, security and hope. More than three years of devastating conflict in South Sudan has displaced nearly four million people, disrupted harvests, food prices have soared and the economy has collapsed. Half of the population urgently need food. You can donate at [www.christianaid.org.uk/Christmas-appeal](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/Christmas-appeal).

# *Sunday Services December '17 January, February and March '18*

<b>Sunday Services</b>	<b>Appleshaw</b>	<b>Kimpton</b>	<b>Thrupton</b>	<b>Fyfield</b>	<b>Shipton Bellinger</b>
<b>17<sup>th</sup> December</b> Advent 3	6pm Carol Service	9.30am Parish Communion with carols	<b>SAT 16<sup>th</sup> 5pm Carol Service</b>	11am Carol Service	6pm Carol Service
<b>24<sup>th</sup> December</b> Advent 4 Christmas Eve	10am Benefice Eucharist for Advent 4	5.30pm Crib Service	11.00pm First Communion of Christmas		3.30pm Crib Service 11.30pm First Communion of Christmas
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December</b> Christmas Day	11am Family Communion	9.30am Parish Communion		8am Holy Communion	
<b>31<sup>st</sup> December</b> Christmas 1			10am Benefice Eucharist with carols		
<b>2018</b>					
<b>7<sup>th</sup> January</b> Epiphany / Baptism of Christ	11am Morning Worship	5pm Christingle	9.30am Parish Communion	8am Holy Communion	11am Family Worship
<b>14<sup>th</sup> January</b> Epiphany 2	11am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	9.30am Morning Worship	8am Holy Communion	11am Parish Communion
<b>21<sup>st</sup> January</b> Epiphany 3	11am Family Worship	9.30am Morning Worship	9.30am Parish Communion	8am Holy Communion	11am Parish Communion
<b>28<sup>th</sup> January</b> Epiphany 4 Presentation	11am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	9.30am Morning Worship	4pm Evening Worship Taizé
<b>4<sup>th</sup> February 2<sup>nd</sup></b> before Lent	11am Morning Worship	9.30am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	8am Holy Communion	11am Family Worship
<b>11<sup>th</sup> February</b> Sunday before Lent	11am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	9.30am Morning Worship	8am Holy Communion	11am Parish Communion
<b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup></b> February Ash Wednesday					7.30pm Communion with Ashing
<b>18<sup>th</sup> February</b> Lent 1	10am Benefice Eucharist				
<b>25<sup>th</sup> February</b> Lent 2		10am Benefice Eucharist			
<b>4<sup>th</sup> March</b> Lent 3			10am Benefice Eucharist		
<b>11<sup>th</sup> March</b> Lent 4 Mothering Sunday	11am Service for Mothering Sunday	9.30am Parish Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	8am Holy Communion	11am Service for Mothering Sunday
<b>18<sup>th</sup> March</b> Lent 5 Passion Sunday				10am Benefice Eucharist	
<b>25<sup>th</sup> March</b> Palm Sunday					10am Benefice Eucharist



Due to unforeseen circumstances it may be necessary to change these services at short notice