



# ST. PETER'S CHURCH DECEMBER 2016

# BROADSHEET

A MONTHLY NEWS ROUND-UP FOR THE PARISH OF ALDBOROUGH HATCH

## Services

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December

*Second Sunday of Advent*

8am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Prayer

6.30pm Holy Communion

### Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December

*Third Sunday of Advent*

8am Holy Communion

10.30am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

8am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Service  
with Carols

6.30pm Service of Nine  
Lessons and Carols

### Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December

*Christmas Eve*

4pm Christingle and  
Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Holy  
Communion

### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December

*Christmas Day*

10.30am Holy Communion

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January

*Second Sunday of Christmas*

8am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Prayer

6.30pm Evensong

### Weekdays

The church is open for private prayer

Wednesday (10.30am to 12noon)

Wednesdays

10am: Holy Communion

## Christmas at St Peter's Aldborough Hatch

### Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Concert – A London Christmas

7pm for 7.30pm in the Church (*see overleaf*)

### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December

10.30am Family Service with Carols

6.30pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

### Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

6.30pm Carols around the Christmas Tree

*Come and listen to the choir around the Christmas Tree and wave them off to sing around the Hatch - and join them if you like.*

Seasonal Refreshments – Raising funds for Haven House Children's Hospice

### Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Eve

4pm Christingle/Crib Service in aid of The Children's Society

11.30pm Midnight Holy Communion

### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Day

10.30am Family Communion

## Homeless at Christmas!

When I was about ten-years-old my family found themselves to be homeless suddenly. It was a mixture of unemployment, alcoholism and not paying the rent that ended in my mother, father, brother and myself literally walking the streets after being locked out of 'our' home. We had to travel from Taffs Well to Cardiff to see the then DSS and we walked around from department to department until eventually we ended up in a bed and breakfast. It was an experience that rocked my world as a child, suddenly discovering my parents were not in control of their destiny, let alone mine.

So when it comes to charity I tend to be a little biased towards giving towards those charities that look after the homeless, a lot of whom are not so lucky as I was.

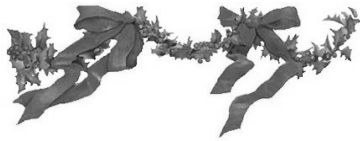
We come across homeless people kipping down in the porch of the church sometimes and this year we seem to have had a few more than usual. So on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016, I am going to sleep in the church porch as a sponsored sleep-out in aid of the Church Urban Fund who do so much to help those men, women and children who find themselves homeless. Of course, I will not be alone as I already have one or two volunteers to join me. This will not be a comfortable night, but it is a challenge for me to see a little into what it might be like to have to sleep out rough especially in winter. I hope the challenge will remind me to count my blessings as we have so much at Christmas and a chance to give a little back.

If you would like to join the team and raise money or make a donation towards my sponsorship, you can go to this web page <https://adventsleepout2016.everydayhero.com/uk/kate-2> and donate or you can sign a sponsorship form or drop some money into church or the Vicarage with your name. Among other things the Church Urban Fund provides some 4,000 beds for the homeless each winter. I would like to help them make up a few more. Have a wonderful Christmas everyone.

**Revd Kate Lovesey, Priest-in-Charge**

**Christmas  
Concert  
A London  
Christmas  
Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>  
December  
in the church  
*See overleaf!***

# Christmas Concert A London Christmas



**Saturday  
17th December  
7pm for 7.30pm  
in the Church**

*A Christmas concert of festive  
songs and readings for all the  
family by members of  
St. Peter's and  
Ilford Operatic and Dramatic  
Society*

**Tickets £10 – including seasonal  
refreshments – from  
Shirley Rudge (020 8590 5882)  
A Christmas Treat for all  
the family**

## William Torbitt School at Dick Turpin Orchard

Students from Year Three had a fun time at the restored Orchard at the end of October, learning about the fruit trees and how they need to be nurtured and looked after if they are to produce good fruit. Led by Stephanie Irvine of the Orchard Project, they made bark rubbings and masks for the trees.

*This is a project of the Aldborough Hatch Defence Association*



Early last month some 98 shoeboxes packed with seasonal gifts were sent on their way to orphanages, children and families in Eastern Europe who would have nothing at Christmas but for these lovingly packed boxes. The charity Children in Distress was started in the 1980s by the Revd John Walmsley, then Vicar of St. Lawrence's Barkingside. St. Peter's was one of the first churches to collect shoeboxes and has continued the tradition. Of the 98 shoeboxes, 40 came from Staplehurst in Kent, with the remainder being packed by members of St. Peter's and friends in Aldborough Hatch. In addition, £344 was donated to assist with transport costs. Thanks to all who took part. Packing the van, it seemed that Christmas is just around the corner!

## Tea and Talk Coronation Regalia

**Saturday 21st January  
2.30pm  
St. Peter's Church Halls  
Tickets £5**

*More news next month!*

*Christmas is a time for memories. Here a resident galloping towards his mid-80s looks back on a*

## Wartime Christmas

Christmas was a secular affair at home, for whilst I knew the story of the nativity, it had little relevance in my family where we went to church for weddings, christenings and funerals. Christmas was about Father Christmas coming down the chimney and putting a few goodies into one of my father's socks which was hung over the bottom of the bed.

We made paper chains – strips of coloured paper bought in packs, made

into circles and interlinked, the joins being secured with flour and water paste – the same paste that was used when wall-papering.

Christmas in the war years found us having somewhat frugal fare. My mother cried one Christmas Eve because we would have so little different from the normal food we had all year round. We did not send or receive Christmas cards. One Christmas I decided to spend my pocket money on cards for the family, but the Christmas cards in Woolworths on Seven Kings High Road were too expensive, so I bought picture postcards. In my innocence I had purchased the Bamforth seaside postcards with scantily dressed fat ladies and red faced men – saucy and near the knuckle. My mother was not amused and at first I was upset that my generosity with my pocket money was not appreciated, but Mum explained the problem and I felt better.

The evenings of Christmas Day and Boxing Day were for partying. Our aunts and uncles joined us. The furniture in the dining room was moved back to give space for dancing in the centre. The wind-up gramophone played Victor Sylvester, Mantovani and Henry Hall (my mother told us that she once went out with Henry Hall!). My father's friend Wally and his wife would join us for the evening. My father spent much of the time dancing with Wally's slim and attractive wife, to my mother's clear annoyance.

Later in the evening games of cards would be played – for matchsticks. I wanted the music to continue, but the gramophone was turned off and cards took over. I disliked card games then and refused to learn how to play poker or whist or anything else. Staying up late was part of the fun of Christmas, but when the cards came out I went to bed. I dislike card games to this day.

The Christmas holiday was two days only – Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Offices and factories closed on Christmas Eve and re-opened the day following Boxing Day, unless it happened to be a Sunday. New Year's Eve and New Year's Day were normal working days – we did not sit up to see the New Year in for my father would be off to work early next morning.

## St. Peter's Organisations

**Monday Club – Monday 2pm  
Beaver Scouts – Monday 6.30pm  
Cub Scouts – Monday 6.30pm  
Scouts – Monday 8pm  
Brownie Guides – Tuesday 7pm  
Guides – Wednesday 7pm**

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