

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT EDITION - FRIDAY 3rd
JANUARY 2003 TO ANNE BRAITHWAITE AT THE MILL,
TEL. No: 831282; e-mail: ascottmill@btpenworld.com**

MAKING HOLY SPACE

We have recently acquired a Black Labrador puppy named Bega – after the Lakeland Saint – although I am seriously considering re-naming her ‘Chaos’! I am actually enjoying getting up at 6.30 a.m. and taking her for a walk before Morning Prayer. It is so peaceful at that time in the morning and being away from the ‘phone and all the distractions of the house gives me space to think and just ‘be’. It has reminded me just how important it is to create ‘holy space’ both for ourselves and for others.

Throughout history humans have marked off special areas as sacred spaces used for worship and religious ceremonies. Universally, these places are known as Temples and indeed the word temple means just that. It is derived from templum, the Latin word for a sacred, ceremonial space. I believe that for us having these holy places is vital because it is in such places that we can encounter God. It might be in a particular Church, or a place of natural beauty and stillness, on the mountain top or by a lake - or anywhere where we feel close to God. These are the places where we can encounter God.

Christians throughout the centuries and in different traditions have sought to make holy places where they can pray to God. In the old Celtic Church, people would draw a circle around themselves on the floor to keep out evil spirits and in which to pray. It was an acknowledgement of God’s protection and presence with them.

Again, in the Orthodox tradition each house has its holy corner - a place that is sacred and where there is an icon, a candle and a bible. This is the place where members of the family go to and offer prayers to God. It is not usually a separate room but an ordinary corner of the main living room and it is there that they encounter God.

We can learn much from these examples of making holy places. Each one of us needs a place where we can encounter the living God in our daily lives. Perhaps it will be a candle that we light when we have our first cup of tea in the morning. Perhaps it is whilst we are walking the dog every morning. Perhaps it is sitting on a favourite seat on the Green and watching the world go by. Whatever it is, by making a holy place for God, you are creating your own temple - a place where you can encounter God.

As Christmas fast approaches I hope that you will find time to step aside from the tinsel, presents and cards and just ‘be’ and in your ‘be-ing’ to encounter God.

With my very best wishes

Mark Abrey

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SERVICES AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, ASCOTT-UNDER-WYCHWOOD

Full details of times of services in Ascott and the rest of the Chase Benefice can be found on the notice board in the Church porch and on the various boards around the village. Our normal pattern of worship is:

Sunday	Time	Service
1st	11.00 a.m.	Matins
	4.00 p.m.	Family Service
2nd	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
3rd	11.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
4th	11.00 a.m.	Holy Communion

Morning and Evening Prayers are said in Church every Friday at 8.00 a.m. & 4.00 p.m.

For further details, or to book a Christening or Wedding, please telephone Mark Abrey on 01608 676572.

Memorial Service for the Departed

There will be a special service for the recently [and not so recently] bereaved on Sunday 3rd November at St. Kenelm’s Church, Enstone at 6.00 pm. This will be a quiet service for the whole Benefice during which we remember by name all those who have died in the past year or so as well as our own loved ones. A list will be placed in each of the Churches for the names to be included. If you have been recently bereaved or if you know someone else who has please do come along. Should you wish to have a visit from the Clergy before the service, please contact Mark Abrey on 01608 676572.

Calling all parents!

We are considering changing the format of the monthly Family Services in Ascott-under-Wychwood [currently held on the First Sunday of the month at 4.00 p.m.] and would like to find out what you — as parents and your children — would like. We would therefore be grateful if you would spend a few moments answering the enclosed questionnaire and returning it to Mark Abrey as soon as possible [The Vicarage, Church Road, Chadlington, Oxon. OX7 3LY]. If you have other ideas that you would like to talk about — or want to offer to help — please contact Mark on 01608 676572 and he will arrange to visit. Thanks for your time!

P.S. If there is not a questionnaire with your edition of Grapevine please contact Anne Braithwaite who will make sure one is delivered to you!

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Christmas Services in Ascott

Sunday, 1st December: Christingle Service at 4.00 p.m.
Monday, 23rd December: Carol Service at 7.00 p.m.
Christmas Eve: Crib Service at 3.00 p.m.
Midnight Communion at 11.30 p.m.
Christmas Day: Time to be announced
Please lookout for posters around the Village with dates and times of services and other Christmas activities.

Mary and Joseph visit Ascott!

This year something special is happening in our Village – Mary and Joseph are visiting homes during December! We have had a set of knitted nativity figures made and on 1st December at our Christingle service they will be sent out to visit the homes of all the children in the Village for a night, arriving back in Church for the Crib Service on Christmas Eve at 3.00 p.m. If your family would like to take part in the journey of Mary and Joseph please let Mark Abrey, Mrs. Joan Pratley [831090] or Anne Braithwaite [831282] know and they will make sure that your house gets a visit! And please come to the Christingle and Crib services to join in our Christmas fun!

ASCOTT-UNDER-WYCHWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

The new Church gates are now in place and most people seem to agree they look very pleasing. A new plaque is being made to replace and update the wording on the old one. On the same subject the two Jubilee benches are now sitting proudly either side of the sports pavilion and look very smart indeed. We are hoping that work will start soon on the kerbing around the edges of The Green. The notice board at the end of High Street has been repaired and it is now safe to put a notice up without the fear of the whole thing falling apart! Many thanks to Joe Gomm for giving up his time to repair it and doing such a good job. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in July are now on the website [www.ascott-under-wychwood.org.uk]; there was no meeting in August so these are the last agreed minutes.

Margaret Ismail, Parish Council

The New Memorial Gates
**The Act of Dedication will take place as part of the
normal 11 o'clock communion service on
Sunday, 17th November
ALL WELCOME**

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SPEED WATCH INITIATIVE

Would you like to help stop speeding motorists?
The County Council have a gadget called a Mini Gatso Speed Recorder which is available on loan to Parish Councils. The good news is that the device will display accurate vehicle speeds and carry out traffic counts. The bad news is that it is a heavy piece of equipment and needs two people to man it.
If you have some time to spare and would like more information please contact Margaret Ismail [Parish Clerk] on 832829.

WYCHWOODS LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The new season began in September with an excellent talk by very popular speaker, Tim Porter. Tim pointed out the great contrasts in ways of life in the Cotswolds during the Wars of the Roses. In this thirty year period, fighting actually only took up a small proportion of the time and it was also an era of great prosperity for some, especially the wool merchants culminating in the building of some of the great wool churches. The talk was as always accompanied by beautiful slides, examples of Tim's fine photographic skills. In November Lauren Gilmore from the Museum Store at Standlake will be speaking on Archaeology and Outreach at Oxford Museums Store. This will be at Milton Village Hall on Thursday 21st November at 7.30 p.m.
There will not be a meeting in December but in January local speaker John Rawlins will be discussing Recollections of Local Schools 1914-1945. This is again at Milton Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 16th January.
Old and new members are welcome. Subscriptions are £5 for an individual and £8 for a couple which includes a copy of Wychwoods History when published. Visitors welcome at any meeting at £2 per person. Further details from Wendy Pearse on 831023.

REV. SAMUEL YORK - A VOICE FROM ASCOTT'S PAST 1880

1880 is the final year from which extracts of the Leaffield and Ascott Parish Magazine survive.

On 1st January 1880 Rev. York began an address to his parishioners as follows:-

“My dear Parishioners,
May the New Year bring you much comfort and happiness. The twelve months past and gone have not realised the hopes and wishes expressed in the last New Year's address to you, not, at least, in a wordly sense. Agricultural districts, such as our own, have come under very heavy depression in the past

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few months; there never was a period, in the memory of the present generation, when the farming interests of this country showed such depreciation as at the present time. Let us hope, in the New Year, for better and more prosperous times." I expect many of his readers fervently agreed.

But 1880 also started with a Magic Lantern Show for all the children and a supper for the Night School youths, so the young of the village had some moments of enjoyment. Payments for the Clothing and Coal Clubs recommenced and a Draughts Match was held between Ascott and Leafield which the Fieldtowners won. On January 10th a well known man in the area Edward Gomm, grocer and corndealer, was buried. He and his wife together with their many children had lived and run their business from the present Vine House.

Another article in the January magazine was entitled "Statement of John Honeybone of Ascott" and dealt with spiritual manifestation. In Rev. York's words, "surely we must believe in what Scripture narrates of spirits appearing to those here on earth (as in Job iv. 15 and 1 Samuel xxviii. 14) and allow that there may still be such appearances."

The following narrative is given by John Honeybone of this Parish, of an occurrence which happened to himself in the year 1840 and which was much talked of in the village at the time - "It was early in June, I was hoeing in one of Mr. Lardner's fields, when looking up, I saw a figure coming towards me along the furrow. It came within a distance of about ten chains from me when I saw plainly that it was my mother. I was about to call out to her when suddenly the figure disappeared. I began to doubt if I had really seen anyone, when there came running up a few minutes after my eldest girl, crying "O father, grandmother is taken so bad, come at once".

"Ah I said, she's dead, I am sure she's dead", "No my daughter said, she is not dead but she is very bad". I then told her of what I had seen, and when we reached home my mother was lying dead, she had passed away at the very time as far as I could judge, as when I saw the figure in the field. In the Parish Register is entered the burial of Mary Honeybone aged 64, on June 14th 1840.

February seemed to be an unfortunate month for accidents. On the 4th John Morris, landlord of the Churchill Arms, fell from his dog-cart close to his own door and was so severely injured that his life was feared for. A fortnight later George Smith aged 50, employed on Mr. Chaundy's Yew Tree farm, was alone with a cutting machine when it seems to have caught him by his smock and dragged him in causing instant death by strangulation. He had been a valuable and faithful servant to Mr. Chaundy for 25 years and left a widow and five children. However a meeting of the Heythrop Hounds on Ascott Green with about fifty horsemen and a large gathering of spectators presented a pretty and animated scene whilst the annual Conservative Dinner at the Churchill Arms was pronounced to be the most pleasant that had ever been held.

Presumably by then John Morris was also beginning to make an improvement in health.

March 17th brought a "Sale at Ascott House (The Grange) of the furniture of Sir Morgan Crofton who has left Ascott: the sale by auction of eleven of his horses took place in January, he then shot his favourite hunter rather than it should be sold. The story of his life is a sad one; in 1861, when he had scarcely reached the age of 11, his father, Colonel Crofton of the 40th Regiment, was accidentally shot dead at Preston by a soldier, who had purposed, for revenge, to have killed the adjutant of the Regiment. Six years after, Sir Morgan succeeded his grandfather to the Baronetcy, receiving his education at Eton. On his coming of age he became possessed of Molhill Castle and a large estate in Leitrim, Ireland, but unhappily joining the Turf and horse-racing he soon found himself stripped of the chief portion of his property".

The school inspectors made their annual visits to both the school and night school and at the end of March, the Court Leet and Court Baron and Easter Vestry Meetings all took place.

The school report was not so favourable as the previous one but allowance was made for disturbance due to the building of the new Infants Classroom which together with the new window were highly commended.

May-day was bright and cheerful for the May garland procession of the 106 schoolchildren who subsequently enjoyed their tea-treat in the Vicarage garden.

A few days later, Mr. J. Gomm of Coldstone Farm relinquished his tenancy and held a sale of sheep and other property. Then on the 11th Mr. Anthony Townsend of Long House Farm, Lord Churchill's oldest farming tenant, celebrated his 88th birthday. Anthony, Rev. York pointed out, was a good old latin name meaning flourishing and he was glad to say, Mr. Townsend maintained considering his years, the credit of his name.

Baptisms continued to be recorded and on June 6th Emily, child of Nathan and Mary Ann Edginton.

The same month another letter from the Rev. C.E. York in the Mediterranean read as follows:

"Royal Naval Hospital, Malta, April 17th 1880.

It is now more than a month since I took to my bed, but the time does not seem so very long. God has blest me with the gifts of patience and calmness. There are 10 officers of the Fleet in the Hospital and about 60 men, very many of them suffering from the same disorder as myself, known as the Maltese fever; it brings on fearful pains in the limbs and has attacked me very severely in the hip, so that I have not been able to turn to the right hand or to the left without terrible agony. They have given me a water bed, so I am free from bed sores. I have a good experienced nurse, he was in the Therapia Hospital at the time of the Crimean War, and has seen much service. The doctors have held a consultation over me and have decided to send me to England, if thought able

to bear the voyage, at the end of next month. You may think it sad for me to be laid by in a Hospital but everything is very comfortable here, and every one most kind to me, in fact, under the circumstances, I could not be in a better place."

June 20th was the 42nd anniversary of the Accession of Queen Victoria and Rev. York extolled the virtues of her reign. "Never before has there been such a progress in our national and social well being. At the time of Her Majesty's accession in 1837, the post horn of the mail coach had not yet succumbed to the shriek of the locomotive [there were in fact no railways], neither had ironclad ships replaced the "wooden walls" in which old England used to place her trust. Dynamite and torpedoes, huge Armstrong guns carrying their 400 lb. Shot, Martini rifles firing easily 25 rounds a minute. Nasmyth steam hammers able to crush the most ponderous pieces of iron and also to crack a tiny nut. The telegraph had not learnt to flash our messages with the speed of light from one extremity of the earth to the other. Photography had not yet developed its marvellous powers. There was no penny post or penny newspaper. Neither had chloroform been discovered to deaden pain or the stethoscope to reveal the state of our lungs. Nor were our fields ploughed up or our harvests gathered in by the aid of steam engines or machinery. This advance extended to higher things. 50 years ago very little of Missionary spirit, very little done for the spiritual help of the poorer classes at home, and still less for the heathen in foreign lands. But during the past few years 3000 new churches have been built, 60 Bishopricks have been established in the colonies, each with a staff of clergy and lay helpers, so that now there is not a known nation on earth where the Gospel of Christ is not preached. England's Church is with its Rule, a Kingdom, a vast Empire on which the sun never sets".

Harvest began on August 16th with very favourable weather and the promise of good crops and on the 20th, the school broke up for the harvest holidays. All hands were urgently required to help with the harvesting especially after the disasters of the previous year.

By 22nd August, Rev. C.E. York had arrived back in Ascott, seemingly recovered from his very debilitating illness. He preached the evening sermon wherein he contrasted the terrible conditions of parts of Turkey and Armenia with that of England where "all classes know liberty, security, immunity from a foreign invader and [not withstanding much depression of late] comparative prosperity. "The school reopened on 20th September under a new schoolmaster. Mr. Nutley had decided to move on to Eversley School in Hampshire and Mr. and Mrs. Hurst from Southall School near London had been appointed from fifteen applicants.

Harvest Thanks-giving took place on September 26th and at the evening service the Church was so crowded that some were unable to find room.

On October 23rd James Claridge of Chilson married Sarah Kilby of Ascott.

Their two sons were to die in the First World War, William in France in 1916 and John in Flanders in 1918.

The Reading Room and Night School re-opened in October and the Penny Bank continued. The Clothing and Coal Clubs issued tickets on the 6th December.

The final extract refers to Mr. Hyatt who had held one of Lord Churchill's Ascott Farms for nearly 50 years. He lived at the present Ascott Earl House. The registers showed that the Hyatt family had been resident in the parish for 300 years and at the time of the Enclosure in 1838 had actually owned around 50 acres. However unable to raise enough money to cope with the cost of Enclosure, they had been bought out by Lord Churchill and then became his tenant. Rev. York finally states that Mr. Hyatt's "grandson Frank, son of Mrs. T. Gomm, and also Alfred and Edwin, sons of Mrs. E. Townsend, sailed on October 28th for Adelaide, Australia, on the ship "Potosi": let us heartily wish them "God speed". A sign of things to come?

Rev. York himself left Ascott for Fifield in 1883 and I can only believe that it was with great sadness that the parishioners watched his departure.

Wendy Pearse

MANOR FARM CAR BOOT SALE - an explanation

The Car Boot Sale advertised to take place at Manor Farm on the day before the Sports Club's Car Boot Sale on the village playing field, has caused us great embarrassment. This was organised, without our knowledge or permission, by the Stewards of the Oxford District Association Camping and Caravanning Club.

We were very angry to discover what had happened and have decided not to invite the Club back next year. We are sorry that this has occurred, but delighted that the 'official' Car Boot Sale was such a success for the Sports Club.

Annie Gripper

ASCOTT-UNDER-WYCHWOOD SPORTS CLUB

Fund raising events for the Sports Pavilion:-

Saturday, 1st March 2003

FOLK NIGHT in the Tiddy Hall with NOEL MURPHY, The Last Straw and other artists

Doors open 7.15 for 8.00 p.m. start. Tickets £8. Bar.

Tickets available from: 830114 or 830227

**The Car Boot Sale on August Bank Holiday Monday raised over £500.
Thank you to all who helped and supported the event.**

Do you need a BABYSITTER?

If so, ring Leisha Braithwaite on 01993 831282

NATURE NOTES - HOW TO SURVIVE THE WINTER

This year is drawing to a close, harvest is gathered-in and the hedgerows have been laden with fruits and berries, thanks to a mild frost-free spring. We are now past the autumn equinox, that time of the year when day and night become equal and when the tilt of the Earth's axis points the Northern Hemisphere away from the sun reducing the heating effect of the sun's rays. We have also experienced our first slight ground-frost on 22nd September.

Our reaction to the coming winter is to turn up the thermostat on the central heating and to check that we have an adequate supply of logs for the fire, but wildlife has to adopt other strategies in order to survive.

The most obvious sign of approaching winter is the colour of leaves before leaf-fall. This leaf colour is actually present all the year round but is masked by the presence of green chlorophyll. In the autumn this is chemically broken-down and all the starches and sugars contained in the leaves are returned to the tree. Once this happens the tree forms a seal between itself and the leaf stalk and the colourful, but dead leaf, is discarded.

In woodland the leaf fall adds to the humus-rich litter in which fungi thrive. These strange organisms, neither plant nor animal, reveal their fruiting bodies in the damp days of autumn. Like an iceberg most of their bulk is invisible, hidden under-ground as a mass of thread-like hyphae feeding on decaying plant and animal matter. These hyphae gather together and produce a spore-bearing toadstool. Without fungi breaking-down the leaf litter we would be buried, up to our necks, in the leaves of previous generations!

Many of the birds commonly seen in summer move south, as winter approaches, ending their journeys around the Mediterranean or in Africa. If you are an insect eater you have no choice. Swifts will have departed in September; swallows and martins in October; cuckoos in August and chifchaffs and warblers by November. Winter visitors, such as fieldfares and redwings, travelling south from Scandinavia, will replace them in our fields and hedgerows.

If you cannot flee from the approaching winter you have to adapt your lifestyle in order to survive as the temperature falls and food becomes scarce.

Cold blooded creatures, such as frogs, toads and grass snakes become inactive.

Unlike mammals they cannot generate their own body-heat and rely on outside heat sources, either conducted from their surroundings or from the sun's rays. A grass snake needs to maintain a body temperature of 25-32C (77-90F) in order for muscles, senses and digestion to function. In spring and autumn a great deal of their time is spent basking in the sun in order to raise their body temperature. During the winter they hibernate in wall crevices and under tree roots. Toads hibernate from mid-October to mid-March under logs or stones, sometimes singly but often in small groups. They prefer dry places, not too far away from their breeding ponds. Frogs hibernate during the same period but choose damper spots, often in the mud at the bottom of a pond.

Most of our local mammals are active throughout the winter; only the hedgehog, bats and dormice truly hibernate. The remainder become less active but will still be searching for food, particularly during warmer spells.

During late summer and early autumn the hedgehog will feed voraciously to build up reserves of body-fat. As the temperature falls and insect food become scarce he will seek a dry place, perhaps in the leaf litter at the bottom of a hedge or in a garden compost-heap to sleep through the winter. His temperature will fall to that of his surroundings, his heart will beat at one-tenth of the normal rate and his whole metabolism will slow-down. The stored fat is in two forms; white fat under his skin and in his abdominal cavity which will feed him throughout winter and brown fat, in lobes around his shoulders, which will provide instantly available energy when he awakes.

Pipestrelle bats, which are common in Ascott, will seek a winter roost when their main food source, flying insects, are no longer available. This might be a cave or disused railway tunnel. The main requirements are that the temperature should be cool and even together with reasonable humidity, which will stop their wing membrane from drying-out. This roost, which is called hibernacula, usually houses several bats. They will remain there until the beginning of April, although in warm spells they may come out of hibernation. If this happens too often or they are regularly disturbed they may lack sufficient fat-reserves to survive until spring.



Squirrels do not hibernate but in bad weather may retire to their nests or "dreys" until hunger forces them outside to find food. In autumn they will store hazelnuts, acorns and beechnuts singly in shallow holes in the ground ready to retrieve during the winter months. Their drey is 30 to 60cm in diameter, made of inter-woven twigs with the leaves still attached and lined with leaves, grasses or soft strips of bark and may be shared by several squirrels. Usually it would be built

in the fork of a branch, close to the trunk, or in a hollow.

Amongst the smaller mammals, such as wood mice, shrews and field voles, winter is a time of high mortality with populations peaking in late autumn and

then declining until the first young are born in the spring. Most of these small rodents survive only one winter. This year's juveniles tend to live through the winter but last years adults do not. Shrews born in the spring and summer this year will moult and grow a thicker winter coat but those born last year will not. This is nature's way of ensuring the survival of the species at a time of food scarcity.

Most predators remain active during the winter months, weasels and foxes will still be hunting, indeed the foxes peak mating month is January with the cubs being born fifty days later in early spring. The foxes can survive the rigours of winter because of the wide variety of foods that they will consume, for example: earthworms, beetles, fish, pheasants, apples, rabbits, mice and unfortunately domestic fowl.

Badgers do not hibernate but will become lethargic and tend to remain in their setts after December. The sows will be giving birth between January and March, and they and the cubs will remain below ground for the following eight or nine weeks.

The cold of winter stops most insect activity, except for the whitefly in my greenhouse! At this time of year the bees and wasps are feeding on the last major source of nectar, the ivy flowers. All wasps and bumble- bees die in the winter, except for the mated queens. The queens seek shelter in outbuildings, lofts or hollow trees to emerge and start new colonies in the spring. Honey-bees fare a little better. The workers (females) drive the drones (males) from the hive as winter approaches. The older workers die and the reduced population, together with the queen can survive on honey collected and stored in the summer.

Butterflies too, have their own survival strategies. Some, such as the red admiral, small tortoiseshell peacock and comma will find a barn or shed and sleep the winter through. Others like the skippers, the gatekeeper, speckled wood and ringlet spend the winter as larva hidden at the base of grass clumps. Cabbage whites and orange tips pupate and you can find their chrysalises under the eaves of outbuildings or other sheltered places. The earliest spring butterfly, the brimstone, hibernates as an adult but chooses to hang in the hedgerow, looking like a dried leaf.

So there you have it - how to survive a winter in Ascott! I know what I'm going to do," turn up the thermostat and pass another log for the fire please!"

Stuart Fox

WYCHWOOD DAY CENTRE

Do you have an hour to spare on a Thursday, perhaps once a month? Drivers are needed to transport Clients to the Day Centre at the Beaconsfield Hall. If you can help please contact Ingrid Pilling, the Co-ordinator, on 830404 or 0781 0566899.

ASCOTT PRE-SCHOOL for children aged two and a half to five.

The Pre-School continues to thrive and this term we welcomed seven new children. Our current theme is nursery rhymes and traditional stories and after half term we will start our preparations for Christmas with a Christmas Concert planned for Friday, 13th December.

We would like to invite you to support our Fancy Dress Coffee Morning at the Tiddy Hall on Saturday, 9th November from 10-11.30 a.m. All children are welcome to come along in fancy dress and there will be seasonable activities for them while everyone else can enjoy coffee and home made cakes. All welcome.

The children continue with their usual activities including painting, baking, play dough, story time, dressing up and each morning a specific activity linked to our theme. We recently had an impressive re-enactment of "The Three Little Pigs".

Pre-School runs Monday-Thursday morning, Monday afternoon and there is a Toddler Group on Friday, all at the Tiddy Hall. For those getting ready for school there are Prepare for School sessions on Tuesday and Thursday from 11.45 – 1.30 p.m. and these will soon also be running on Wednesday.

If you would like to find out more please contact Pauline Plant, Supervisor, on 830349 or call in to one of the sessions.

TIDDY HALL

Forthcoming Events:

Saturday, 2nd November

FOLK NIGHT with The Yetties
Tickets £10 - Wine & Beer Bar
Doors open 7.15 for 8.00 p.m. start

Saturday, 9th November

CRAFT FAIR - Sorry, CANCELLED

Saturday, 25th January 2003

ANNIVERSARY DANCE

Tiddy Hall is available for all those family and social events that just will not fit into your own home, i.e. Children's parties, birthday parties, anniversary parties, wedding receptions etc. New cutlery and crockery is available for hire.

For further details contact:-

Booking Clerk: Rosemary Dawbarn - Tel. 831632

MAVIS MORTIMER

Mavis Mortimer moved to Ascott from Milton. Sadly she was widowed but she continued to live happily in the village. Mavis was a member of The British Legion for fifty four years and the Representative for the County. She had distributed the Red Poppies throughout Ascott for twenty years and she presented the wreath of poppies at the service at the Memorial Gates each November. She served in the A.T.S. during the war.

She had been brought up as a Baptist, but was later confirmed and became a faithful communicant at Holy Trinity Church at Ascott and also was on the Parochial Church Council for several years. She joined the Women's Institute at its opening and remained a keen member until her death on 7th June at the age of 80, after some years of ill health. Her son Peter and his wife who live in Chadlington were able to be in frequent touch with her. Mavis was also a member of the Wychwood Handicraft Society.

E..J.C.

National Childbirth Trust Annual Christmas Fair

By kind permission of Kingham Hill School

Saturday 2nd November, 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

**A large selection of gifts and goodies
from around the world.**

**For adults and children, from clothes to toys,
to food to accessories.**

Homemade refreshments available.

Entry: £2 per adult, children free.

The NCT is a registered charity, no.801395.

Accommodation available in friendly BED AND BREAKFAST

THE MILL, MILL LANE, ASCOTT-UNDER-WYCHWOOD

Please contact: Anne and Nigel Braithwaite [01993 831282]

TREE SURGEON

Andrew Jackson

Ascott-U-Wychwood

Tel: 01993 832607

Mobile: 07816 901455

**All Tree Surgery & Hedge Cutting Considered
Fully Qualified & Fully Insured**

ROMAN CATHOLIC MASSES

Burford - Church of SS. John Fisher and Thomas Moore
Sundays at 9.15 a.m. & 11 a.m.; Holy Days 10 a.m. & 7 p.m.

Chipping Norton - Holy Trinity Church
Sundays at 10.30 a.m.; Holy Days 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.

Charlbury - St. Teresa's
Sundays at 11 a.m.; Holy Days 9.30 a.m. & 7.30 p.m.

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Burford - Friends Meeting House, Pytts Lane (off Witney Street) - Sundays 11 a.m.

For further information, contact Nigel Braithwaite on 01993 831282

Charlbury - Friends Meeting House, Market Street - Sundays 10.30 a.m.

For further information, contact Andrew or Patricia Pymer on 01993 882848

THE "POST OFFICE" STORES

Milton-under-Wychwood

Open: Mon.-Fri. 7.a.m. – 5.30 p.m. (Closed 1-2 for lunch)

Open Saturday 7 a.m.-1.00 p.m. & Sunday 8 a.m.-12 noon

POST OFFICE SERVICES AVAILABLE AT

"THE SWAN", ASCOTT

MONDAY 10.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. Bank Holiday Excepted
John, Edna & Staff will be pleased to serve you with newspapers
and magazines, greetings cards, fresh bread.

Fresh flowers for all occasions

Agents for: **LOCAL SHOE REPAIRS and**

SUPA-SNAPS PHOTO PROCESSING

Tel. No: Shipton-under-Wychwood 830213

Dates for your Diary:-

- Saturday 2nd November* ***FOLK NIGHT, Tiddy Hall***
7.15 for 8.00 p.m. start
- Saturday, 9th November* ***Pre-School FANCY DRESS***
COFFEE MORNING
10.00 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.
- Saturday, 9th November* ***CRAFT FAIR - cancelled***
- Friday, 13th December* ***Pre-School CHRISTMAS***
CONCERT
- Saturday, 25th January* ***ANNIVERSARY DANCE***
- Saturday, 1st March '03* ***FOLK NIGHT***

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