

## December 2018 Newsletter

### Church services in the Benefice for December (**Duns Tew in Bold**)

02.12.18	<b>5 pm at Duns Tew</b>	<b>Benefice Advent Carols</b>
09.12.18	4pm at Sandford St Martin	Benefice Christingle Service
15.12.18	<b>6 pm – 7 pm</b>	<b>Carols in the Churchyard</b>
16.12.18	<b>9.30 am at Duns Tew</b> 4 pm at Steeple Barton	<b>Eucharist</b> Benefice Service of Lessons & Carols with Choir
23.12.18	<b>5 pm at Duns Tew</b>	<b>Service of Lessons &amp; Carols</b>
24.12.18 (Mon.)	4pm at Westcote Barton <b>11.30 pm at Duns Tew</b>	Benefice Crib Service <b>Christmas Eve</b> <b>Midnight Mass</b>
25.12.18 (Tues.)	<b>11 am at Duns Tew</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b> <b>Eucharist</b>
30.12.18	9.30 am at Sandford St Martin	Eucharist
31.12.18 (Mon)	5 pm at Westcote Barton	New Year's Eve service <i>Followed by drinks at the Rectory</i>

### **Advent Carols Service (with Benefice Choir) - Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 5pm in church followed by Advent Supper in Village Hall at 6pm**

Please come and join us for a delicious supper at 6pm.

Adult: £7.50 - Child: £4.00 - Family £20 (2 adults+2 children)

Please give names to Martin & Karen Fairfax-Cholmeley (347106)

(email: karencholmeley@yahoo.co.uk)

**– proceeds from the supper in aid of Romanian Foyer Trust which supports young people who receive no state help on leaving orphanages in Romania.**

### **Decorating the Church for Christmas**

Please come to the church on *Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December* at 10am, if you would like to decorate the Church Christmas Tree or help decorate the church for Christmas. **All welcome.**

### **\*\*\*\*CHANGE OF DATE\*\*\*\***

### **Carols at the Lychgate – NOW on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December, 6.00pm – 7.00pm**

Instead of singing at different points around the village, this year we invite everyone to gather near the Lychgate at the Church, either to listen to, or to sing their favourite carols. Mulled wine and other refreshments will be available for a suggested donation of £3.

Enter into the Christmas spirit....All proceeds go to the Children's Society which helps some of the most disadvantaged children and young people in the UK.

Musicians : it would be wonderful if someone could play an instrument for us, to keep the singers in tune, as our usual cornet player is not available. If you could help with this, please contact Clare.

Bring torches and wrap up warm. If it is raining on the night, we will sing inside the church.



Carol sheets will be provided.

If anyone would like to donate to the Children's Society but is unable to attend, please contact Clare (see below) – I also have gift aid envelopes for The Children's Society. For more information, or if you could donate mince pies or any savoury food, please contact Clare Burgess 347382, [clarebugress@gmail.com](mailto:clarebugress@gmail.com) (my email address really is BUGR.. not BURG... !!!!!)

### **Christmas Carol Service Sunday 23rd December at 5.00pm**

We have booked George the donkey and some sheep to join us for our carol service again this year, as well as children acting out the Christmas story. If you are under 18 and would like to take part, please contact Stephanie Lacey ([stephanielacey@btconnect.com](mailto:stephanielacey@btconnect.com) or 01869 347350). The actors just have to dress up and walk about, and we also need some children to read some short passages from the Bible.

There will be a rehearsal for anyone wanting to take part in the Carol Service on Tuesday 18 December at 5.30pm in the church.

At the service there will be additional accompaniment by the recorder group, 'Fumb and Forefinger', plus mulled wine, mince pies and other refreshments afterwards!

### **Church administrator:**

Part-time paid church administrator (four hours a week) needed for the Barton Benefice.

Very flexible working arrangements.

For further information and an application form please contact: Stephanie Lacey ([stephanielacey@btconnect.com](mailto:stephanielacey@btconnect.com))

Closing date: 14 December

**Collections for Polly's homeless people** As always food donations (within date) welcome in the basket in church. The Charity Plate for the last quarter raised £159 for Polly.

**Remembrance Sunday:** following the service, donations of £106.82 each have been sent to Combat Stress and the Royal British Legion.

### **Church Charitable Giving during December**

The Charity Plate donations during December will be given to Ripple Africa (see below).

The Collection Plate cash collection taken during the December services will be donated to the following charities:

Carol Service, 23rd December: *Open Doors is an international ministry serving persecuted Christians; our donations will go particularly to support families in Syria and Iraq.*

Midnight Mass, 24<sup>th</sup> December: *Home-Start (Banbury & Chipping Norton Branch)*

*Home-Start is a voluntary organisation offering support, friendship and practical help to families at home with at least one child under 5*

Christmas Day, 25<sup>th</sup> December: The Children's Society which fights child poverty and neglect, and helps all children have a better chance in life.

### **Charity of the Quarter**

For November/December/January, we are again supporting Ripple Africa whose aims are:

To improve the standard of education and healthcare

To preserve and sustainably develop the environment

To create opportunities for local communities in Nkhata Bay District of Malawi.

(For more information, please go to: [www.rippleafrica.org](http://www.rippleafrica.org)).

Please give generously – the charity plate is available for donations at the end of each service. If you wish to donate at any other time, please place money in an envelope marked for RIPPLE Africa, and give to Carol Rigby (Nonesuch, Hill Farm Lane).

### **Christmas Cards**

In support of St Mary Magdalene, Duns Tew

By local artists Ann Weighell & Michael Kelly

5 cards

£2.00



'Church' 134mm square  
Wishing you Peace  
at Christmas



'3 Kings' A6  
Merry Christmas &  
a Happy New Year



'Snowdrops' A6  
Merry Christmas &  
a Happy New Year

Order form in the Church or Contact: Carol Rigby [nonesuchcarol@gmail.com](mailto:nonesuchcarol@gmail.com)  
(340632) or

Stephanie Lacey [stephanielacey@btconnect.com](mailto:stephanielacey@btconnect.com) (347350)