

# PARISH OAK



DECEMBER 2016

# Parish Oak Activity Calendar

December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>
10.00am St George's: Communion					Morning The Green besides St George's: Cake Stall  12.30pm Choices Activity Centre, Enham: Christmas Lunch	
11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>
10.00am Christ Church: Communion  3.00pm St George's: Carol Service		3pm Smannell & Enham School: Messy Church 7pm Museum of Army Flying: Christmas Carol Service	The Oak, Smannell: Quiz Night 1.15pm Christ Church: Smannell & Enham School Carol Service	7pm Museum of Army Flying: Who Sank the Tirpitz?		Enham Country & Western Club: Martin Jaye
18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>
10.00am St George's: Communion  6.00pm Christ Church Carol Service						5.00pm Christ Church: Crib Service  11.30pm Christ Church Communion
25 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup>	27 <sup>th</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>	29 <sup>th</sup>	30 <sup>th</sup>	31 <sup>st</sup>
10am St George's: Communion						7 - 12.30pm The Enham Club: Family New Year's Eve Party  7.30pm The Oak, Smannell: American Banquet

# USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

## The Church

Parish Priest	Rev. Val Gagen	748065
Pastrow team Priest-in-charge	Rev. Alex Randle-Bissell	512161
Churchwarden - Smannell	Irene Wilson	359950
Churchwarden - Enham	Emma Kinchenton	0783 7736681
PCC Treasurer	Noel Pope	352968
PCC Secretary	Margaret Smith	357487
Gift Aid Secretary	Rod Bowker	357201
Parish Magazine Editor	Peter Calcraft	512262

## Local Services

Smannell & Enham (CE) School		323201
Enham Club, Landale Wilson Hall		352098
Enham Parish Council	Chairman: Leslie Francis	335678
Smannell Parish Council	Chairman: Rod Bowker	357201
Test Valley Borough Council		368000
Enham Service Station		352651
Enham Shop and Post Office		335678
Enham Trust		345800
Andover Leisure Centre		323355
The Oak (Public House)		363075

## Emergencies

Hospitals Andover Memorial		358811
Royal Hampshire County		01962 863535
NHS 111		111
Neighbourhood Watch	Richard Budge (Smannell)	351129
	Meg Chant (Little London)	355167
	Tim & Leslie (Enham)	335678
<b>Police</b>		<b>999 or 101 or 0845 045 45 45</b>
RSPCA		08705 555 999
Samaritans		0845 7909 090
Social Services - Andover		387400

## Utilities

Southern Water		0330 3030368
Southern Electric - Emergencies		0800 0727282
British Gas - Emergencies		0800 111 999

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## EDITORIAL

The October editorial in the Parish Oak touched briefly on the splendour of the British seasons, but writing now two months later, it is fair to say that this autumn has been spectacular. The trees are shedding their leaves in an abundance of colour, and I am writing this with the window blind drawn so I can see the computer screen against the setting sun, with the window wide open on the last day of October.

It surely must get colder and wetter soon. Certainly the garden needs more moisture otherwise digging the dry soil will be a daunting task. Time will inevitably roll on, and soon Halloween and Bonfire Night will be a distant memory as Christmas approaches.

I am sure that most of us, regardless of our age, still get a buzz from the Christmas season and the coming of the New Year. It would be great if the autumn passed into cold crisp frosty days culminating in a covering of snow on Christmas Eve!

In America they celebrate Thanksgiving as much, if not more, than they do Christmas. Always on the fourth Thursday of November, this day dates back to 1621 when early colonists celebrated their first harvest reaped on American soil. One wonders if it will be such a jubilant event in 2016, falling as it does just 16 days after the US presidential election. We might moan and groan about our politicians but the Americans have set the bar at a very low level this time around.

I think the tradition of Christmas in the UK takes some beating. Perhaps the Alpine countries with mountains, fir trees, and the snow have the edge on us, but I for one would not want to be anywhere else but at home over the festive period. I was once on a business trip in the tropics in early December, listening to Christmas carols being played at breakfast over the hotel's audio system. With the sun beating down, the temperature around 80 degrees, and a sweat already starting, it really didn't trigger the Christmas spirit for me.

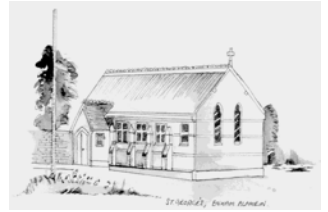
One blink of an eye, and Christmas is over. So much preparation, so much work in the kitchen, and before you know it Boxing Day is there, and a week later, the New Year has started. January and even February can be an anti-climax so we try to arrange something over those two months to especially look forward to.

Wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas, and all Health and Happiness for 2017.

*Noel Pope*



## CHURCH IN SMANNELL & ENHAM



### **Ramblings from the Rectory ...**

Today, as I write my article for the December magazine, we have just held our Remembrance Sunday service at Christ Church as well as our village service with the school children on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Both were very well supported.

In my address on the Sunday I spoke about why we remember each year, but I particularly talked about peace. Peace isn't just an absence of war, but something that goes much deeper inside each one of us. The real battle for peace is an internal one. It would be wonderful if we could all manage our emotions or channel the negative aspects into constructive rather than destructive action. If we could try to do good to those who may have hurt us, then peace would be attained. Perhaps we could all make a concerted effort to see the positives, rather than grumbling about the negatives and for this we need God's spirit in our hearts. It's the struggle to be merciful and forgiving even when all our emotions are wanting revenge and conflict. It's about being open with each other and listening to God and to each other. We all fear change, but change happens, nothing carries on the same for ever. It is only God who doesn't change and the only way to find true peace is to trust God rather than give in to fear. It is the way of Christ that all Christians are called to practise. As Jesus himself put it, blessed are the peacemakers.

And it is at Christmas time that we remember that Jesus came as the Prince of Peace. We would love to welcome you to one, or more, of our Christmas services. Both churches have a carol service (at St George's on the 11<sup>th</sup> at 3pm and at Christ Church on the 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm) and we also have the school Carol Service in Christ Church on the 14<sup>th</sup> at 1.15pm. There is also our special Christmas Crib Service for the children and their families on Christmas Eve at 5pm at Christ Church. Further, there is our Midnight Mass at 11.30pm at Christ Church and our Christmas morning Communion Service at St George's at 10am. You are very welcome to any of these services.

It is with great pleasure that we can now announce a new addition to our Pastrow Team. We have a new Associate Priest coming to join us in the New Year, Rev. Trevor Lewis. He will live in Hurstbourne Tarrent but you may see him about with the rest of the team. Do help to make him and his wife, Margaret, welcome. Thank you.

Please remember too that we have a new administrator, Jude Appleby, who can be contacted on 07999 352585 for any general enquiries in the Pastrow Benefice. If you would like to book a wedding or a baptism can you kindly please continue to come to Vestry Hour at Charlton on Wednesday's. Once our administrator is more established the plan is that she will be able to take over these bookings. Do please phone me if you have any other concerns though, and I will be happy to come and visit you individually to talk these through.

With every good wish for this season of Peace and Blessings. May you be touched by the light and love of Christ this Christmas time.

Your Parish Priest,

God bless,

Val

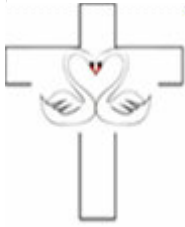
**Rev. Val Gagen**  
**01264 748065**

## PARISH REGISTER

### ***Wedding***

Kieron Peter Brady and Julie Ann Croombs on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2016  
at Christ Church, Smannell

*God is love, and those who live in love, live in God and God lives in them.*  
*1 John 4:16*



*To love, to learn, to live ... to leave a legacy*

## **SMANNELL & ENHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

If you happened to pass the school one Wednesday afternoon in November you may well have wondered why there was a lorry from a well-known high street food and clothes store in the playground. You may have been even more surprised to see children trying to hide from the lorry. It was all for a very good reason. Our children had the opportunity to learn all about road safety from the point of view of a lorry driver. Don't worry they weren't hiding, they were just learning about the size of a lorry driver's blind spot.

Contrast that busy afternoon to the peace and quiet of the village Remembrance Service on November 11<sup>th</sup>. This year the autumn sun was peeking through the trees and it seemed to add to the spirituality.

Our oldest children in Swallows Class have extended their learning this term by journeying to the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. Despite a very long day they were full of excitement on their return. As part of their learning they have been exploring Ancient Islamic Civilisations. Of course the V & A has a wealth of treasures from this time. One of the real highlights of the day was creating their own patterns which they did quite simply by drawing. However, what made it really special was the very modern twist - using computers they were able to turn their simple designs into symmetrical repeating patterns and some of them have even become wrapping paper or book covers.

***Peter Shaw***  
***Head Teacher***





## **SMANNELL PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Little London Road:**

At the suggestion of Little London residents, two parish councillors moved the 30 mph sign at the village entrance to the village to improve visibility. Also, the suggestion for a hard standing by the bus stop outside the village is being reviewed by the Hampshire County Council.

### **Defibrillators:**

Training was given by the Ambulance Service at the Augusta Park Community Centre and some 20 members of the public attended. It was very disappointing that the defibrillator in the phone box in Little London was vandalised. The unit was ripped off the wall, breaking the withholding strap. A smashed bottle was left on the floor. It is not known whether the damage was caused by residents, visitors, or perhaps vandals passing through.

### **Dog-bins in Little London:**

It was proposed at the meeting by members of the public that two dog-bins be installed, one at the top of Big Street the other by the playing fields. Councillors considered the idea to be sound but we have requested comments from other residents. Please contact the Smannell Parish Council chairman.

### **Green Lane traffic speed:**

Hampshire County Council has advised that it knows of very few accidents in Upper Enham and as such it is not wishing to have a 30 mph limit on the road. Residents who can give details of accidents on this road are asked to contact the Smannell Parish Council chairman.

### **Theft:**

Break-ins have occurred around the parish and all residents are cautioned to keep their houses and property secure.

### **Smannell Road Footway:**

Hampshire County Council has now agreed to the funding for the footway from Augusta Park to Smannell village. To re-cap: there would be a footway from Augusta Park to the first two cottages on the left around the bad bend, after this section the verge will be flattened to provide a refuge until Ashley Copse where a path may be put in. The council has said it would prefer a tarmac path but the Parish Council has objected and has said, if necessary, it would be willing to pay for any upkeep of a gravel path and have no paved path by Ashley Copse.

***Rod Bowker***

***Chair, Smannell Parish Council***

# Enham Alamein Village Christmas Lunch

Friday 9th December

12.30pm

Choices Activity Centre

**£5 per head - Advance Booking Essential**

Spiced Fruit Punch on arrival, Turkey and Ham salad  
with chips or Watercress Soup and a bread roll selection.

Christmas Pudding with custard or cream or  
Festive Cheese Cake. Coffee, Tea and Mince Pies.

**Raffle | Carols | Table Service**

Email

[diana.smith@enhamtrust.org.uk](mailto:diana.smith@enhamtrust.org.uk)

## **Enham Alamein Shop and Post Office**

We have been nominated for a Rural Oscar in the Countryside Alliance Awards competition – thank you everyone. If you wish to support us further you can nominate or comment on [www.countryside-alliance.org/ruraloscars/](http://www.countryside-alliance.org/ruraloscars/). Judging will take place in the New Year.

Christmas stamps are now on sale and fast approaching are last posting dates for "land service" to Eastern Europe then Western Europe. There are colourful festive stamps and traditional themes to choose from.

If you call in to the store you will now see a selection of crafted homemade goods and gifts plus essential winter wear. As always there are new things on offer and lots of festive goodies too including Epicure goose and duck fat, bags of traditional nuts, and traditional Turkish Delight.

On Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November we will be holding a Christmas Fayre. From 2-00 pm each day local suppliers will be providing samples and displaying their products for sale and to order. These include Oaktrack Smallholding free range meats and home made cakes, Austwick pies and pastries, Beechwood free range eggs, Cottonworth wines of distinction, Betteridges Brewery beers, Lyburn cheese, Fjordling trout & salmon, Hampshire jam & chutney, Greenfield award winning sausages & pork products, a huge range of handmade cards, gifts, perfumes and much more.

Local author Johanna Jackson will be signing her newly launched novel – 'Casey's Online Diary'. A slightly raunchy romantic novel that would make an ideal treat for your friends and family.

We will also be profiling local artist James Nash 'Winter Wild' children's book and calendars. Such a delightful and charming book with illustrations of the seasonal changes for British wildlife. Talented village photographer Ann-Marie Bentall will have cards and calendars on sale.

We will stay open until 9.00pm each day and do hope you can join us.

***Leslie & Tim***

## **ENHAM ALAMEIN PARISH COUNCIL**

As requested in the previous magazine issue, the Enham Alamein Parish Council is looking for volunteers to join the Community Speedwatch Programme. We are seeking personnel to monitor speeding vehicles through the village. If you can give a few hours please contact me via the email address [leslie.barry@btconnect.com](mailto:leslie.barry@btconnect.com) or speak to me at the village shop.

We would be grateful if all village residents could return the Play Area Questionnaire as soon as possible.

On behalf of all those involved with the Parish Council, the councillors and the clerk, I wish everyone all the best for the festive season.

***Leslie Francis***  
***Chair, Enham Alamein Parish Council***

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### **A Thank You to Mrs Margaret Smith**

After some 13 years in the role as Secretary to the Smannell and Enham Alamein Parochial Church Council, Mrs Margaret Smith has decided to stand down from this position. Across all these years Margaret has prepared the agendas for the PCC meetings, taken and issued the minutes and handled all manner of issues that arise between them, ensuring that PCC members are fully up-to-date with correspondence and emails received from all and sundry.

It is one of those roles from which there is little respite, but Margaret has tackled it throughout with great efficiency and with her usual good humour. At least two of the vicars that she has served under over these years have remarked that she was the best PCC Secretary that they had ever encountered. We thus offer her our sincere thanks for a job well done.

A vacancy now exists for her replacement and if anyone would like to learn more about the role, please contact the Reverend Val Gagen.



**Andover Community Theatre present**

THE  
**WIZARD**  
OF  
**OZ**

*Based on the stories of L. Frank Baum and the music of  
Robert Johnson -Adapted for the Stage by Graeme Fluellen*

**Landale Wilson Hall**

**Saturday 21st January**

**2pm Shorter Matinee and 7.30pm Evening Performance**

**Children Free      Adults just £1**

**Tickets from the Post Office and Enham Trust Reception**



# Enham Trust Charity Shop

Did you know, when you buy  
a gift from a charity shop,  
you are not only giving to the  
person who will receive a gift,  
but also to the charity?

Come Christmas shopping at  
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**Open Mon - Sat from 9:30am - 4:00pm**

**Location: 13 Newbury Rd, Enham Alamein,  
Hants, SP11 6HQ**



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Peta Wilkinson CEO

01264 345800

Hello everyone,

A time of year for celebration, and catching up with friends and family over hearty meals, Christmas brings with it a wealth of opportunities to socialise and be merry. Yet for many disabled or elderly people, Christmas can be a particularly challenging time. When it seems as if everyone is celebrating, it is worth remembering that there are those who may be isolated and lonely.

Here at Enham Trust we deliver care services throughout the year to many of our customers who are disabled, elderly or vulnerable and we are aware of how difficult this time of year can be.

It may surprise you to know that almost 3.5 million disabled people in the UK feel lonely on a daily basis with 350,000 people expected to spend Christmas alone. Here at Enham Trust, we work hard to create various opportunities for our customers to make new friends, learn new skills, and achieve positive emotional wellbeing: opportunities such as Choices, the upcoming 'Hub' café, and our weekly Older Persons' Day Services for those with Dementia.

Many of the 1.4 million unpaid carers that look after loved-ones continue caring during the festivities, contributing over £22.4 billion-worth of time and energy to the economy while caring for a vulnerable loved one. 166,000 people under the age of 18 will be acting as a young carer for a disabled parent or sibling. All staggering statistics that may be difficult to read at this time of year. However, Christmas is also a time of year for good will and giving; a time when we all come together and help each other to feel safe, supported and not alone on Christmas Day, no matter who we are or what challenges we face.

The importance of strong communities and looking after our loved-ones, friends and neighbours has never been more important than at Christmas, and I'd like to take this opportunity to reach out to everyone reading this today to say: come together, support each other, and have a wonderful Christmas.

More information can be found on our website: [www.enhamtrust.org.uk](http://www.enhamtrust.org.uk)

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peta Wilkinson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Peta Wilkinson, CEO**

## Congratulations to Elizabeth Hall MBE



Elizabeth Hall MBE received a standing ovation when she was presented with the Mayor's Award and the Spirit of Andover Overall Award at a recent celebratory evening at The Lights Theatre.

The Mayor of Test Valley, Councillor Karen Hamilton, in giving the awards, commented that Mrs Hall has inspired an organisation to drive forward. He was referring to the founding of the Andover and District Mencap organisation more than 50 years ago.

Mrs Hall was inspired to set up the support group for people with disabilities and their families while bringing up her son, Jonathan, who had Down's Syndrome and a severe heart condition.

***Editor's Note: The Parish Oak will be commencing an in-depth review of this remarkable lady's life in next month's issue.***



# HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS



We want to make sure that no one in our local community has to go hungry, but we need your help to make this happen. Your gift of financial support, time, business partnership and food can make a real difference.



**TEST PILOTS: THEN & NOW**

**17 NOVEMBER £10 | 7pm**



Paul Beaver interviews the daughters of the 2nd man to fly the Spitfire prototype, Supermarine's Chief Test Pilot a Test Pilot and more in a fantastic VIP line up.

**AIRCRAFT ENTHUSIASTS FAIR**

**20 NOVEMBER £7.50 | 10am**



Every year scores of enthusiasts are lured to the Museum by the numerous stalls containing modelling equipment and aviation memorabilia.

**CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT**

**13 DECEMBER FREE | 7pm**



The Middle Wallop Military Wives Choir and Army Medical Services band fill the Museum with festive sounds in our annual free Christmas Carol Concert

**WHO SANK THE TIRPIT Z?**

**15 DECEMBER £10 | 7pm**



This debate has raged for 70 years. It was a Lancaster but from which squadron? No. IX or No. 617? Paul Beaver debates the facts

[www.armyflying.com](http://www.armyflying.com)



## Notices

### Churchwardens Notices

1. Our annual Harvest Supper was held at Christ Church, Smannell after the Harvest Service on Sunday the 25th September. 31 people attended and £300 was raised. Thank you to those who stayed after the service to enjoy the supper and to all who helped with the preparation.

A Halloween fund raiser took place at lunch time on Monday the 31st October. A very big "Thank You" must go to Pete and Rod Bowker who opened their home and organised this event. Thank you to those who cooked the two-course hot lunch - absolutely delicious. 22 people attended and, as well as a good time had by all, we raised £313.

2. A 'cake stall' will be on The Green beside St. George's Church, Enham Alamein on the morning of Friday the 9th December. Donations of cakes for us to sell will be most welcome. Please give to Pete Bowker, myself or bring to the stall on the morning. Please do visit us if you are able.

3. Here is an update following a previous notice in The Parish Oak on 'Eco Toilets'. A working party has been set up to evaluate and cost our options on toilets at both churches. A decision has been made to begin with St. George's, Enham Alamein and we are currently raising funds and awaiting quotes for St. George's.

Irene Wilson 359950

Emma Kinchenton 0783 7736681

Christine Kinchenton 324011

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### Valentine's Lunch

On Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at 12 o'clock there will be a Valentine's Lunch with a twist at Jubilee House to raise funds for the parish churches. The price will be £15 per person. Ladies, please wear something red.

Please contact Pete Bowker on 357201.

## **Thank you!**

A big thank you to Margaret Hughes, Philip Gagen and Pete Bowker who raised a total of £340 for the Ride and Stride. Well done to all of you!

## **Update on the Family services:**

Beginning on the 2nd Sunday of January, the 8th, at 10.30am.

We are going to use Launch Pad, a tried and tested series of family services by the Bible Reading Fellowship. It is directly aimed at children and their families in order to present the gospel in clear and exciting ways.

So do come and give it a go. See you there!

## **Matins:**

Matins will continue from January on the 2nd Sunday of the month, but at the earlier time of 9.30am.

***Val***



## The Christmas Story

Long ago, about 2000 years, when King Herod ruled Judea (now part of Israel), God sent the angel Gabriel to a young woman who lived in the northern town of Nazareth. The girl's name was Mary and she was engaged to marry Joseph.



The angel Gabriel said to Mary: 'Peace be with you! God has blessed you and is pleased with you.' Mary was very surprised by this and wondered what the angel meant. The angel said to her 'Don't be afraid, God has been very kind to you. You will become pregnant by the Holy Spirit and give birth to a baby boy and you will call him Jesus. He will be God's own Son and his kingdom will never end. 'Mary was very afraid but she trusted God. 'Let it happen as God chooses', she replied to the angel. Gabriel also told Mary that her cousin, Elizabeth who everyone thought was too old to have children, would have a baby boy whom God had chosen to prepare the way for Jesus.

Mary said goodbye to her family and friends and went to visit her cousin Elizabeth and her husband Zachariah. Elizabeth was very happy to see Mary. She knew that Mary had been chosen by God to be the mother of his Son. An angel had already told Zechariah that Elizabeth's baby would prepare people to welcome Jesus. He was to be called John. Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then returned home to Nazareth.





Joseph was worried when he found out that Mary was expecting a baby before their marriage had taken place. He wondered if he should put off the wedding altogether. Then an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and said: 'Don't be afraid to have Mary as your wife'. The angel explained that Mary had been chosen by God to be the mother of his Son and told Joseph that the baby would be named Jesus which means 'Saviour' because he would save people. When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel had told him to do and took Mary as his wife.

At this time, the land where Mary and Joseph lived was part of the Roman Empire. The Roman Emperor Augustus wanted to have a list of all the people in the empire, to make sure they paid their taxes. He ordered everyone to return to the town where their families originally came from, and enter their names in a register (or census) there. Mary and Joseph travelled a long way (about 70 miles) from Nazareth to Bethlehem, because that is where Joseph's family came from. Most people walked but some lucky people had a donkey to help carry the goods needed for the journey. Joseph and Mary travelled very slowly because Mary's baby was due to be born soon.



When they reached Bethlehem they had problems finding somewhere to stay. So many people had come to register their names in the census, that every house was full and every bed was taken in all of the guest rooms. The only place to stay that they could find was with the animals. People often kept animals in the house, especially at night, and used them like 'central heating'! People normally slept on a raised/upper level with the animals below to give them extra warmth.

So in the place where the animals slept, Mary gave birth to Jesus, the Son of God.

In those days it was the custom to wrap newborn babies tightly in a long cloth called 'swaddling clothes'. Jesus' bed was the manger from which the animals ate their hay,

In the hills and fields outside Bethlehem, shepherds looked after their sheep through the long night. As the new day began, suddenly an angel appeared before them and the glory of God shone around them. The shepherds were very, very scared, but the angel said, 'Don't be afraid. I have good news for you and everyone. Today in Bethlehem a Saviour has been born for you. You will find the baby lying in a manger'.



Then many more angels appeared, lighting up the sky. The shepherds heard them praising God singing: 'Glory to God in highest, and peace to everyone on earth.' When the angels had gone the shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem to see what has happened. So the shepherds went to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph. The baby Jesus was lying in a manger as they had been told. When they saw him, they told everyone what the angel had said and everyone who heard the story were astonished. Then the shepherds returned to their sheep, praising God for sending his Son to be their Saviour.

When Jesus was born, a brand new bright star appeared in sky. Some Wise Men in faraway countries saw the star and guessed what it meant. They were very clever men who studied the stars and had read in very old writings that a new star would appear when a great king was born. They set out to find the new king and bring him gifts.

The Wise Men followed the star towards the country of Judea and when they got to the capital called Jerusalem they began to ask people: 'Where is the child who is born to be king of the Jews?' Herod, the king of Judea, heard this and it made him very angry to think that someone might be going to take his place as king. Herod sent for the Wise Men to come to him. He told them to go on following the star until they had found the baby king. He said: 'When you have found him, let me know where he is, so that I can go and worship him.' But Herod did not tell them that he really had an evil plan in mind to kill the new king.



The Wise Men followed the star towards Bethlehem (where it said that the king would be born). It seemed to stop and shine directly down upon the place where Jesus was.

The Wise Men entered the house where they now lived and found Jesus with Mary; they bowed down and worshipped him. The Wise Men spread before Jesus the gifts they had brought. The gifts were gold, frankincense and myrrh. The Wise Men were warned in a dream, by God, not to go back to Herod. So they returned home to their countries in the East by a different way.



When the Wise Men had gone, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. 'Get up,' the angel said, 'take Jesus and Mary and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for Jesus to kill him.' So Joseph got up during the night and left for Egypt, taking Jesus and Mary with him. They stayed in Egypt until Herod died.

When Herod realized that he had been tricked by the Wise Men, he was furious and he gave orders to kill all the boys aged two or younger in Bethlehem and the surrounding area. This was to try and kill the new king, as his plan to find the location of the new king from the Wise Men had failed.

After Herod had died, Joseph had another dream in which an angel appeared to him. The angel said, 'Get up, take Jesus and Mary and go back to Israel, for those who were trying to kill Jesus are dead.'

So Joseph got up, took Jesus and Mary and they went back to Israel. But when he heard that Herod's son was now king of Judea, he was afraid to go there. So instead they went to Galilee, and lived in their old town of Nazareth.



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*December 2016*

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**ADVENT 2**

Holy Communion

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

10.00am Christ Church, Smannell  
3.00pm St George's, Enham

**ADVENT 3**

Holy Communion  
Carol Service

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

10.00am St George's, Enham  
6.00pm Christ Church, Smannell

**ADVENT 4**

Holy Communion  
Carol Service

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

5.00pm Christ Church, Smannell  
11.30pm Christ Church, Smannell

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

Crib Service  
Holy Communion

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

10.00 am St George's, Enham

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

Holy Communion

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

10.00 am St George's, Enham

**CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST**

Holy Communion

**Enquiries for baptisms and wedding to the Priest in Charge, Rev. Val Gagen, at vestry hour at Charlton Church on Wednesdays from 5.30-6.30pm.**

**Submission Deadline  
for the January Parish Oak issue:**

**Friday 9th December, 2016**

**Contact: [editor@parishoak.co.uk](mailto:editor@parishoak.co.uk)/Tel: 01264 512262**



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## Parish Oak Advertising Rates

The Parish Oak is a monthly magazine that has an excellent avid readership and covers all households in Smannell, Little London, Enham Alamein, Finkley and Upper Enham.

Full page (12 issues per year)      £ 140  
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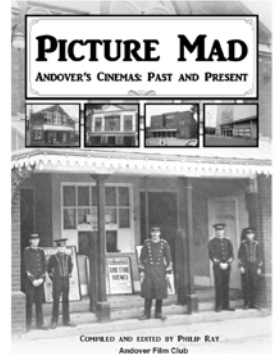
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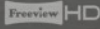
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