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Childrey & Sparsholt Newsletter



BURNS NIGHT SUPPER

FRIDAY 22ND JANUARY 7PM

3 COURSE MEAL BAR AVAILABLE
TICKETS £20 AT CHILDREY VILLAGE STORES

Available from 8th Jan. Please advise at time of purchase if vegetarian option is required.

All proceeds in support of Childrey Village Hall



JANUARY 2016

www.sparsholtandwestcot.org

www.childrey.org.uk

Contact for newsletter articles: Claire Turner - 751275 or

childreyandsparsholtnewsletter@yahoo.co.uk

Please submit articles by the 18th of the month.

Diary Dates for January

Date & Time	Event / Venue	Notes	Contact
5 th January 2:30	Childrey & District Tuesday Club Childrey village hall	January 5th John Sandalls will be hosting a New Year Quiz	Pat Eglinton 751663
11 th January 7:30	Childrey Parish Council Meeting Childrey village hall	All Welcome	Debbie Lewis-Pryde 751923
19 th January 7:30	Childrey & Sparsholt WI Childrey village hall	Catherine Jones will give that talk 'Guns & Roses to Hearts & Flowers'	Pauline Higgs 751544
19 th January 7:30	Sparsholt Parish Council Meeting Griffin Memorial hall	All Welcome	Debbie Lewis-Pryde 751923
20 th January from 8:30	Wantage Farmers Market The Market Square	Wantage Farmers' Market is in the Market Square, usually on the last Saturday of every month from 8.30am until 1pm	Info 763459
22 nd January 7pm	Burns Night Supper Childrey village hall	Tickets £20 from Childrey Stores available from Friday 8 th January	Claire Turner 751275



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New Year Bin Collection Dates

All bin collections that usually take place on Mondays will be picked up on the following dates –

Wed 6th Jan. Grey bin & Food bin.

Tues 12th Jan. Green bin, brown bin & food bin.



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**NEWS FROM ST. MARY'S ~ Looking Back and Looking Forward**

**Happy New Year everyone!!** We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and those attending any of the Christmas Services found them enjoyable and uplifting.

**Review of 2015 -**

2015 was a busy and successful time in the life of the church, dominated by **the building project** which was concluded just in time for Christmas. The final part of the external work is will soon be finished too. Our sincere thanks to our local building contractors Stuart Ackrill and his team of skilled craftsmen, as well as our project managers Rob Soames and Julian Worth, for all the excellent work they have done.

There were six Christenings including one family involving their three 3 children. Do get in touch if you're interested in using the church for a **christening or a wedding** - with our new facilities, we look forward to having many more very special family occasions to celebrate.

In February, on Education Sunday **Bishop Colin** visited to mark 500 years of education in English in Childrey. Bishop Colin will return for the official opening of our new facilities on **20th March**. We hope you will be able to help us to pack the church again.

In **April** we hosted, for the first time, an audience to support **King Alfred's 'A' level music students**, all of whom achieved at least an 'A' grade for these performances. Look out in forthcoming

- Newsletters for the date for your dairy for this year!  
The annual **Church Fete** in June was very successful again - the weather held and we raised £5,000 for the building project. Put the date for 2016 in your diary now ~ **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June**  
For the first time we hosted a **Barn Dance** in the village in September which was a great hit with everyone and surpassed all expectations. Watch this space!  
There were the usual special services for Easter, Christmas, Mothering Sunday, and Harvest which remain popular and well supported. We would like to thank our **village and school choirs** who always help make these events such memorable occasions.
- Finally, **a big thank you to everyone** who does so much good work behind the scenes: bell ringing, acting as sidespersons, flower arranging, singing and playing, helping clean the church, providing refreshments, welcoming visitors, reading at services and much more. If you would like to help in any way please come and talk to us - you don't have to be regular attenders at church. **Going forward St. Mary's needs your practical support!!**
- **Looking Ahead**  
Watch out for news of some new and exciting ideas for 2016 as well as the traditional annual village events in next month's newsletter. Contact the Churchwardens: Linda tel: 751297 lindasoames@home.3b.co.uk and John tel: 751809 martin@perrenwellstation.freemove.co.uk

## What Is Value? What Do We Value?

How can we assess it?

Nowadays people often quantify what they value in terms of money. It is convenient and accepted in most places, so we all buy into this conceit, even though we all know money is only a medium of exchange (and the rise of virtual money such as bitcoins makes this artificiality more and more obvious); and we dislike the way the skewed distribution of monetary wealth fosters social dislocation; and though more money might be nice, in the UK we know we are much better off than millions of others in this world.

But is valuing everything in terms of monetary value the only way? Does this obsession cut off humankind's capability to invent (or re-invent) different ways of judging what is important to us? Do our rational, measured ways of thinking inadvertently shut down other approaches? Could different understandings of value even help to sort out the internecine and cultural clashes (fuelled by money and power objectives) which bring turmoil to the Middle East and elsewhere? Do any of you know about and like

jawing about such issues and many others, probably without any practical outcome (but who knows?) and if so, how about meeting and putting the world to rights every so often in eg, the Hatchet? If interested, please contact Rob Soames (751297).

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## Save the 67 Bus Service

There is now an on-line petition to try to save our 67 bus service. The link is <https://www.change.org/p/ed-vaizey-keep-the-67-67a-town-service>

We need as much pressure as possible on the OCC councillors before they take their decision next February to remove all bus subsidies. Even if you use the local buses only occasionally, please take a few moments to support the petition.

# Community Policing

PCSO Howard Pack C9600

Thames Valley Police

Boldog új évet (Happy New Year)

My big event of 2015 was spending 4 days in Hungary to see my eldest son get married and I'm setting myself a task for 2016 to learn enough Hungarian for a very basic conversation without the need to resort to the 'GOOGLE' Translate App.

As always the New Year will have Events that are interesting and enjoyable; on my 'menu' are my middle son's wedding in July, a visit to Family in Germany and the European Football Cup.

I've no doubt that 2016 will also be a year of changes at Thames Valley Police and I'm looking forward to the challenges ahead.

As part of Thames Valley Police's on-going campaign against Burglary I've included below some advice for residents;

**NEW YEAR Crime Prevention advice** - Help us to help you prevent burglary

By taking just a few simple measures you can dramatically reduce the chances of it happening to you.

Most burglaries tend to be opportunistic rather than planned. So if your home does not look secure, seems un-lived in, or provides unobserved access, it could be at risk. Understanding what burglars look for when choosing their target will help you identify weak spots in your home's security.

## 10 Top Tips:

1. Mark or etch your property with your postcode, house or flat number or the first three letters of your house name.
  2. Register items with a serial number at: [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)
  3. Do not leave your car keys or ID documents near doors, letterbox or windows.
  4. Always check who's at the door and don't open it if you feel anxious.
  5. Close and lock all your doors and windows, even if you are only going out for a few minutes.
  6. Keep your valuables out of sight.
  7. Leave some lights on if it will be dark before you get home.
  8. Install a visible burglar alarm.
  9. Always keep sheds and outbuildings locked.
  10. Cancel milk or other deliveries if you will be away for days or weeks at a time. ~~101 Car or vans at a time. deliveries if ou~~
- Please use 101 to report any 'Non-Urgent' Crime related matters...Report it so that we know about it. If you'd like to receive FREE crime alerts and info about where you live by Email, Phone or Text then please contact me on 101 or when you see me on patrol and I will be happy to 'sign you up' alternatively please register at [www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk](http://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk) and [www.thamesvalley.police.uk](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk) to visit our Website. Dial 999 in emergencies.

Regards, Howard

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## Parish Council

Next Meeting Dates:

**Childrey Parish Council** Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2016 starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. [clerk.childreyipc@aol.co.uk](mailto:clerk.childreyipc@aol.co.uk)

**Sparsholt Parish Council** Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Jan at 7.30pm at the Griffin Memorial Hall, email the clerk on [clerk.sparsholtpc@aol.co.uk](mailto:clerk.sparsholtpc@aol.co.uk)

Clerk to both parishes: Debbie Lewis-Pryde 01235 751923.

Both Parish Councils reserve the right to change the meeting dates, times and venues, please always check the notice board for correct information - Agendas are published three clear working days before each Parish Council meeting. Planning meetings will be inserted periodically to allow the Parish Council to discuss and respond before the VOWHDC deadlines and the Agenda will

be published on the notice board 3 working days prior to the meeting. Planning applications can be viewed on the VoWHDC planning register.

**Christmas Tree Recycling** will take place once again on the Childrey Playing Field. Christmas Trees must be deposited in the sectioned off area just inside the gate **before the collection date of Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016**. Please do not leave your trees after this date as they will not be collected and this will be considered fly tipping!

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## Childrey & Sparsholt WI

Meeting on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Jan at 7:30 in Childrey village hall when Catherine Jones will give that talk 'Guns & Roses to Hearts & Flowers'

More information from Pauline Higgs 751544