

Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> 2003

## BISHOPSBOURNE

**Correspondent:** Malcolm Mitchell,  
The Old Cottage, , Bishopsbourne,  
CT4 5HT

**Parish:** Matins will be held at St Mary the Virgin Church at 10am on Sunday, December 7.

Those members of the congregation unable to attend will find a welcome at any other the other services in the Barham Downs united benefice, of which Bishopsbourne is a member:

Holy Communion will be celebrated at St John the Baptist, Barham, at 8am and the Eucharist at St Margaret of Antioch at 10am. There will also be morning worship at Barham Methodist Chapel at 10am.

The Christmas bazaar on Saturday in the Conrad Hall was well attended and proved highly successful. It raised about £327 for St Mary's funds which, church treasurer Pat Austin said, was "truly amazing."

The Rector, the Rev David Roper, thanks all who helped at the bazaar or supported it.

A special choir is being created to lead the worship at the benefice carol service at St Margaret of Antioch, Womenswold. Anyone interested in joining the choir is invited to attend rehearsals at St Giles's Church, Kingston, at 11.15am on Sundays December 14 and December 21.

For more details on any of the above or any other church matter contact the Rector at The Rectory, Barham, phone 01227 831340, or the reader, Miss Mary Ambrose, phone 01227 830856.

**Quiz night:** A wine and wisdom evening is being held at the Conrad Hall on Saturday, December 6, at 7pm.

The event is in aid of hall funds and tickets at £3 each can be had from hall trustees Sheila Castle, phone 831184, or Philipa Burniston, 01227 830341. They can also be obtained from Mermaid landlord Colin Relf during opening hours.

**Musical soiree:** Whitstable Hoodeners will perform traditional songs and music at the Mermaid Inn on Tuesday, December 9, from 8pm onwards.

**Damage:** The old Scout hut, built in 1937 by Sir John Prestige as headquarters for the then flourishing village Scout troop, suffered severe damage during the gales last week, when the roof collapsed. The hut had not been used for many years following the disbandment of the Scouts.

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## BRIDGE AND PATRIBOURNE

Correspondent: J Anderson, 7  
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**Bridge Pharmacy:** With the departure of Sarah Preston to her native New Zealand, after running the business for the Paydens Group, Des Dhesi has now taken over in her place. He intends to maintain the same high standards to which the village is accustomed and looks forward to meeting all his customers in the area..

**History Society:** Bridge and District History Society is holding a Christmas get-together at The Red Lion, Bridge, on Tuesday December 16 at 7 for 7.30pm. It will be a hot and cold Christmas buffet supper with a Round Robin prize quiz. Members pay £8, non-members £10 including the first glass of wine and refreshments. For details and booking phone John Bishop on 01227 832596.

**Senior Citizens:** An afternoon of entertainment is to be held in the Bridge School Hall on Tuesday December 16 from 1.30-3. Refreshments will be served while members listen to children singing their favourite carols. Phone Bridge School on 01227 830276 to reserve a place. Transport can be arranged.

**CVRS:** Following a recent talk to the Caring and Sharing Group by David Lathom a paramedic team leader in the Kent NHS Ambulance Trust, it was felt that there should be a Community Volunteer Responder Scheme operating in Bridge. It is a scheme where volunteers are trained by the Kent Ambulance Service to be the first responders in cases of cardiac arrest or other medical emergencies.

Sudden death from cardiac arrest is the single leading cause of deaths in the UK, and one reason effective help not arriving in time. Survival rates decline by 10% with each minute passing. Research has shown that early defibrillation is the most important factor.

In 2000 the Kent Ambulance Service pioneered a scheme to

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train volunteers in life-saving resuscitation including the use of an automatic defibrillator. This scheme now operates on a daily basis in both the Bluewater Park and on the Isle of Sheppey. Community responders are taught how to administer emergency first aid to a number of life threatening conditions such as choking, uncontrolled bleeding, breathing difficulties and cardiac arrest can be alleviated with correct intervention thus buying time for the patients while the ambulance is on its way.

While Community Responders are volunteers and not employed by the Kent Ambulance Service, they are offered the same support as members of staff. They are contacted by the Ambulance Service 999 emergency control via a pager and mobile phone that are provided by the service.

The minimum age of a Community Responder is 21. Ideally they should be First Aid qualified with experience in voluntary or first aid/health related sectors. They should also have a car, good interpersonal skills, good verbal and written communication skills, be a problem solver, have good organisational and time management skills, be self motivated, be able to demonstrate initiative and be decisive.

In the village the size of Bridge there must be some residents with these attributes. Already there are two volunteers for a CVRS in Bridge, ideally we would like a team of 10. For more details phone Peggy Pryer on 01227 832058, mobile 07860591887, e-mail ppryer@hotmail.com

**Church diary:** For Monday, December 8 Caring and Sharing Group, 7.30pm, Christmas decorations at 32 Riverside Close.

Friday December 12, noon-8pm  
Open House at the Vicarage, 23

**Church diary:** For Monday, December 8 Caring and Sharing Group, 7.30pm, Christmas decorations at 32 Riverside Close.

Friday December 12, noon-8pm Open House at the Vicarage, 23 High Street Bridge. Join Judy and Paul Filmer for a glass of mulled wine or ginger beer and a mince pie. A voluntary donation on the day will go towards the cost of Kate's trip to Africa to work with a group of Christian teenagers helping at a hospital and aiding village life in Tanzania.

Monday December 15 Caring and Sharing Group Christmas Social, venue to be arranged.

The Churchwarden of St Peter's Church Bekesbourne has says there will not be a Nativity service on December 22 at that church.

**Darts:** The Red Lion, Bridge darts team captained by Andy Smith were welcomed to the Royal Oak Blean Common on Thursday November 27 in the second division of the Canterbury and District Rola Cola League. The previous week both teams had won 14-7, so a keen match was in the offing. John Colclough, opening for the Oak, once again took the first game of the evening and the home team briefly held the lead at 2-1, but from the fifth game it was all down hill as the visitors slowly drew ahead. Glen Smith with 132, and captain Daniel King with two 140s led a mini revival, but Red Lion members P Betts, N. Buddy and J. Mears all threw 140. Faced with the prospect of a home defeat, the Blean men staged a spirited rally but went down eventually by three games at 9-12.

**Local post:** Bridge Scouts are doing their local Christmas mail delivery, of correctly addressed and stamped mail for Bridge addresses only. They regret however that the price of the stamps will be 15p each this year, to help to raise much needed funds for equipment. The Christmas collection boxes and the special stamps will be found from this week at The Plough and Harrow, The White Horse Inn, The Red Lion, Bridgeway Stores, Laurie Wakeham Butchers, Nicholas James Hairdresser. The mail will be collected on Thursdays December 11 and 18 only for delivery. The Scouts are unable to collect and deliver mail after December 18.

**Fish Scheme:** This neighbourly help group is holding its Coffee Pop-In in Bridge Village Hall on Wednesday December 10 from 10-

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11.15am and will include mince pies. Anyone requiring a lift phone Ann Medhurst on 01227 830762.

**Parish council:** The next meeting will be in the village hall on Thursday December 11 at 6.45pm, immediately preceded by a planning committee meeting. All parishioners are invited to attend.

**Carol singers:** A now established popular annual event will take place on Wednesday December 17 at 8pm. The Charlton Choral under the leadership of Dr Peter Giles will be visiting the hostelrys and restaurants singing Christmas carols, in aid of the Pilgrims Hospices in East Kent. Starting at the White Horse they will proceed to Skippers Restaurant followed by the Plough and Harrow and finishing at the Red Lion.

**Church services:** Sunday  
December 7 Advent 2. 8am BCP Communion the Rev J. Shorrocks, St Mary's Church Patricbourne;  
9.30am Holy Communion Mr Shorrocks, St Peter's Church Bridge.  
.Other churches in the Bridge Group, 10am Family Service, Mrs. P. Kusel, St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne; 11am Holy Communion the Rev. Bretherton, St Mary the Virgin Church, Lower Hardres; 11am Bridge Methodist Church Service led by the Rev B.Heather.

na penny.  
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## BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE

**Correspondent: J Anderson, 7  
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**Gardeners:** At the Christmas meeting of Nailbourne Horticultural Society in Bridge Village Hall last week there was a Cheese for Christmas Evening. The presentation was made by David and Eleanor Robins of Say Cheese of Lewes in East Sussex, who provided a humorous but tutored tasting of various types of cheeses from cows, ewes, goats, and water buffalo, all produced in Great Britain to a high quality.

All tastings were accompanied by a high quality apple juice, as being the best vehicle for cheese sampling. The president John Anderson thanked the couple, all the committee for their hard work in producing the buffet and mince pies, and those who donated raffle prizes.

**Church news:** Money raised through Smartie Tubes will be given to the Children's Society. Take them to the crib service, the Christingle or any other Christmas service.

The collection goes towards raising funds for this charity to continue its work for more than 40,000 needy children. It helps young runaways, homeless, those in poor communities and is now tackling the serious problem of bullying in and out of schools.

Carol services at the residential homes: Tuesday December 16 6pm; New Close, Wednesday December 17 2.30pm. Saxon Lodge. Monday December 22 2.30pm Highfield.

**Church services:** Sunday December 14 Advent 3, 10am Matins Chris MacLean St Mary's Church Patribourne. Other churches in the Bridge Group: 8am BCP Communion the Rev J. Shorrocks, St Peters Church Bekesbourne. 9.30am Holy Communion Canon Humphriss St Mary's Church Nackington; 6pm Evensong and Carols Mrs M. Clarke, St Mary the Virgin Church Lower Hardres; 11am Bridge Methodist Church service led by Mrs M. Beckwith.

**Salvation Army:** The annual carol concert took place last week, before an appreciative audience of both adults and children in the Bridge CE Primary School hall, led by the Bandmaster Martin Neeve. As well as the carols sung with great gusto by all present, the children sang Away in the Manger and performed the Calypso Carol on percussion instruments. The lessons were read by, members of the band. Headmistress Mrs Anna Newton thanked them all and refreshments were served.

**Scout Post:** Within the village of Bridge only, last dates for collections are Thursdays December 11 and 18.

Draw.

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# BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE

**Correspondent: J Anderson, 7  
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**PARISH COUNCIL:** At the meeting held in the village hall on Thursday, december 11, members were told that the council had received £1,395 from Canterbury City Council to install an additional streetlight along

**Continued next page**

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**From previous page.**

Conyngham lane.

**Resignation:** Bill Oakey had resigned as a city councillor of the North Nailbourne Ward. Anyone wishing to stand as a city councillor for the ward should obtain nomination papers from the returning officer, Military Road, Canterbury Kent CT1 1YW.

Completed papers should be sent back to the returning officer not later than Monday, December 22.

**Annual meeting:** The annual parish meeting is to be held in village hall on Thursday, March 25.

**Street light:** The parish council is awaiting a quote from Seeboard for a replacement street light outside 38 Western Avenue.

**Next meeting:** Members will meet next at 7.30pm on January 8. Members of the public are invited to address the council between 7.30 and 7.45pm.

**Planning:** Cllr Hill accepted the post of the new chairman of the planning committee.

The committee agreed that it had no objection to the planning applications listed below:

Ca/03/01619/Bri 20 Windmill Close, garage extension to provide side extension to side, Ca/03/01616/Bri, Church Cottage, 104 High Street, single storey rear extension, Ca/03/00137/Bri, Church Cottage, 104 High Street, single storey rear extension (listed building consent), Ca/03/01649/Bri, 1 Renville New Cottages, two-storey side extension, Ca/03/01649/Bri, 1 Renville New Cottages, two-storey side and rear extension (revised scheme).

**Church services:** Sunday December 21 Advent 4. 10am Benefice Service, Bishop Stephen Venner; 6pm carol service St Peter's Church Bridge. 3pm crib service Mrs. M. Clarke, St Mary the Virgin Church Lower Hardres. At this service unwrapped gifts for children of any age would be appreciated for the Children's Refuge.

No other services in the Bridge Group this Sunday.

**WI:** Bridge and Patricxbourne branch held its Christmas meeting



WI: Bridge and Patrixbourne branch held its Christmas meeting last week in the village hall. At the beginning of the meeting, while singing Jerusalem, members remembered Eileen Davies the retiring treasurer who died the week before. After a short business session during which Jean Foster was presented with the competition cup, five members performed a Japanese pantomime. There followed a sing-along accompanied by Doug Inkpen on the piano-accordion. He joined members in a buffet supper complete with mulled wine. For the first meeting of the new year Ann Catoor will speak on The life of the Amish on Tuesday January 20 in the village hall at 7.30pm. The competition is an article beginning with F.

**Fish news:** This neighbourly help group's January Coffee Pop-In will be from 10-11.15am in the village hall and there will be a special winter lunch there on Wednesday January 21 to honour the retirement of their founder Mrs Joan Warren.

**Christmas services:** For the Bridge Group. Tuesday December 23 7pm carol service, St Mary's Church Patrixbourne. Christmas Eve, 4pm christingle service, the

Rev John Thackray and 11.30pm holy communion, Canon Gordon Manley, St Peter's Church, Bridge. 11.30pm holy communion Canon Humphriss St. Mary the Virgin Church Lower Hardres. 11.30pm holy communion the Rev. J. Shorrocks St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne.

Christmas Day 8am BCP communion Canon Dr. G. Walker, St Mary's Church, Nackington.

9.30am holy communion Canon J. Packer St Mary's Church Patrixbourne. 10am family service Mrs M. Clarke, St Mary the Virgin Church Lower Hardres. Sunday December 28 8am BCP communion

Canon Dr. G. Walker, 9.30am holy communion Canon R. Diss St Mary's Church Nackington. 6pm evensong Mrs M. Clarke St Peter's Church Bridge.

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Bridge Methodist Church Sunday  
December 21 11am christingle  
service led by the Rev David  
Marshall. Sunday December 28 1am  
service led by Miss. J. Hall.

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[www.kentonline.co.uk/news](http://www.kentonline.co.uk/news)

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**School news:** A busy term at the Primary School came to an end with a Christmas Assembly. Year 5 explained what Christmas would be like for a Victorian family and the Christmas story was told by readers from Years 3, 4 and 6.

December had begun with two services in St Peter's Church to mark the beginning of Advent. The Band of the Salvation Army held its annual evening of carols and readings, enjoyed by children and parents, villagers and staff at the school.

A successful Christmas bazaar was held at the beginning of December, including various stalls, Father Christmas, a Christmas Cafe and lucky dip.

Children from the Reception classes and Years 1 and 2, performed plays telling the Christmas story to three packed audiences. They again sang some of the songs from their plays to senior citizens who enjoyed a Christmas tea on December 16. Visitors were also entertained by the older children and joined in singing carols.

On the penultimate day of term, eight coaches took the whole school to see Jack and the Beanstalk at the Theatre Royal Margate.

**Carols:** Last Wednesday the village was filled with the true atmosphere of Christmas. The Christmas trees donated by the parish council and friends had been erected on buildings and illuminated down the length of the High Street and carols were sung by the Charlton Choir, a talented group conducted by Dr. Peter Giles, whose annual visit tours all pubs and restaurants in aid of charity. This year they raised £197.67p for the Pilgrims Hospices in East Kent. Thanks go to all those who took part in either of the enterprises.

History Society

**History Society:** The History Society of Bridge and District held its Christmas get-together last week in the Red Lion Inn. Members were supplied with a hot and cold Christmas buffet supper with a Round Robin prize quiz. The competition was so great, that a tie-breaker was needed to determine the winner, David Gilmore.

The next meeting will be in the School Hall on Tuesday January 13 at 7.30pm. The subject is What Made Christopher Marlowe? Born in Canterbury, his brilliant career electrified Elizabethan London and left many questions unanswered. Marjorie Lyle will bring to life this great playwright, poet and secret agent, whose turbulent 29 years were filled with drama. Members pay £2, non-members £3, including refreshments.

**Election:** Following the resignation of Cllr Bill Oakey for personal reasons, the local Conservative Ward committee has selected John Anderson as its candidate for the by-election in the North Nailbourne Ward on Thursday January 22. He recently retired as chairman of the parish council, and has lived in the area for more than 30 years.

**Church services:** Church services for the Bridge Group. Christmas Eve: 4pm christingle service, the Rev John Thackray and 11.30pm holy communion, Canon Gordon Manley, St Peter's Church, Bridge; 11.30pm holy communion Canon Humphriss, St Mary the Virgin Church, Lower Hardres; 11.30pm holy communion the Rev John Shorrocks, St Peter's Church Bekesbourne

Christmas Day: 8am BCP communion Canon Dr G. Walker, St Mary's Church, Nackington; 9.30am holy communion the Rev John Packer, St Mary's Church, Patricxbourne; 10am family service Mrs Margaret Clarke, St Mary the Virgin Lower Hardres; 11am family carol service St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne.

Sunday December 28 Christmas 1: 8am BCP communion Canon Dr G. Walker, St Mary's Church, Patricxbourne; 9.30am holy communion, Canon R. Diss, St. Mary's Church, Nackington; 6pm

evensong Mrs M. Clarke, St. Peter's Church, Bridge.

Sunday January 4: 8am BCP communion the Rev John Shorrocks, St Mary's Church, Patricxbourne; 9.30am holy communion Mr Shorrocks, St Peter's Church, Bridge; 10am family service and baptism Mrs P. Kusel and the Rev Bretherton, St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne; 11am holy communion Canon R. Diss, St Mary's Church, Nackington; 11am Bridge Methodist Church service led by Miss. J. Hall.

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# BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE

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Tug of war: The usual popular annual event took place on Boxing Day on the water meadow off Mill Lane. The Red Lion team were hoping to avenge last year's defeat against the stalwarts of the Plough and Harrow. The umpire Bill Oakey was there to see that fair play prevailed. Alas after three pulls the score was the Plough and Harrow 3 and the Red Lion 0.

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**Parish Council:** The next meeting will be held in the Bridge Village Hall on Thursday January 8, at 7.30pm after the planning committee meeting if required at 7pm.

**Church diary:** Monday, January 5, at 7.30pm Caring and Sharing Group, 8 Green Court Bridge. Bring and show Christmas gift.

Tuesday, January 5, 2.30pm Holy Communion The New Close Bridge.

**Carol services:** Carol services held in the Parish of Patricxbourne and Bridge this year were both highly successful events.

In St Peter's Church, Bridge, the poems and lessons were organised by David Hover, while the singing performed with a supplemented choir were accompanied and conducted by Martin Miles. The service itself was conducted by the Rev. John Shorrocks. Barry Whiting read a poem by Robert Southwell.

The lessons were read by Giles Robinson, Penny Spencer, Rosemary Whatley, Bill Oakey and Tina Conradi. The Rev Shorrocks read the Gospel and the final poem by T.S. Eliot was read by the Seigneur of Sark.

At St Mary's Church, Patricxbourne, before a packed congregation, the choir collected from far and wide by Rosalee Stacy the organist was directed by the Rev Raymond Gilbert and accompanied by Robert Scott. The soloists were Iona Coltart and Katie Bradburn.

**Church services:** Sunday, January 4: Epiphany, 8am BCP Communion Rev J. Shorrocks, St Mary's Church, Patricxbourne; 9.30am Holy Communion the Rev J. Shorrocks, St Peter's Church Bridge. Other churches in the Bridge Group: 10am Family service and Baptism Mrs P. Kusel and the Rev Bretherton, St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne; 11am Holy Communion the Rev Paul Filmer, St Mary the Virgin Church, Lower Hardres; 11am Bridge Methodist Church, the Rev G. Baugh (Covenant Service).

**Election:** The candidates for the North Nailbourne city council by-election on January 22 are: John Anderson (Conservative), Janet Horsley (Liberal Democrat), John Moore (UK Independence) and Paul Todd (Labour).

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## BISHOPSBOURNE

**Correspondent:** Malcolm Mitchell,  
The Old Cottage, , Bishopsbourne,  
CT4 5HT

**Church news:** Church services were extremely well attended over the Christmas period in all four parishes making up the Barham Downs united benefice, Bishopsbourne, Barham, Kingston and Womenswold.

A Christingle service at St Giles's Church, Kingston, on Sunday, December 21, raised £230 for the Children's Society.

Particularly well attended was the midnight Mass for all four parishes, held at St Mary's, Bishopsbourne.

On Sunday, December 28, the Eucharist was celebrated at St Mary's and on Sunday, January 4, there will be the traditional Matins service at Bishopsbourne at 10am.

Otherwise, there will be the following services at other churches within the four parishes:

Holy Communion will be celebrated at St John the Baptist, Barham at 8am and the Eucharist will be celebrated at the same time at St Margaret of Antioch, Womenswold. There will also be morning worship at Barham Methodist Chapel at 10am. A special service to celebrate the Epiphany will be held at St John's, Barham, at 6pm.

For details of any of the above or any other church matters contact the Rev David Roper, at the Rectory, Barham, telephone 01227 831340, or the Reader, Mary Ambrose, on 01227 830856.

**Parish council:** The next meeting of the parish council will be held on Wednesday, January 19, at 7.30pm in the Conrad Hall. All are welcome and time will be allowed at the start of the meeting for questions from the public.