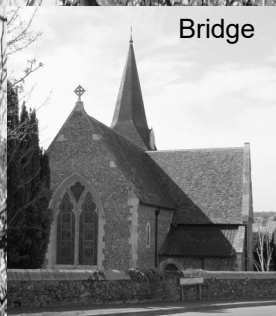




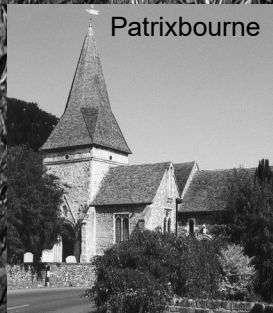
# On the Nail

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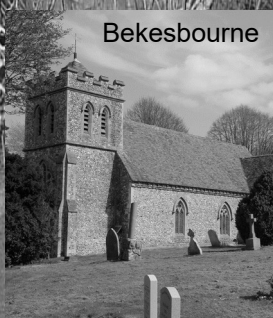
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## **THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS !**

An exhibition in which artists and photographers living in Kent respond to the theme 'The True Meaning of Christmas !' They were invited to submit artwork to answer this question "*What does Christmas really mean to you ?*" Their submissions could be inspired by any or all of these prompts (i) A time to bring happiness ? (ii) To think about loved ones who are not with you ? (iii) A gaudy Christmas tree ? (iv) The birth of Christ ? This exhibition embraces the melancholic, the absurd and the uplifting. It runs from 9 Nov to 12 Jan in The Beaney 18 High Street, Canterbury.

## **Bekesbourne 100 Club**

The 100 Club lottery is about to enter its twentieth year and prospective new members are welcomed. Since its formation in 2001 nearly £25,000 has been raised to help to fund the maintenance of our lovely church and its churchyard. Each ticket costs £24 a year. There are monthly prizes of £50, £25 and £15 plus special summer and Christmas prizes of £100 and £250 respectively. If you would like to join, please arrange a standing order in favour of Bekesbourne 100 Club from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 in the sum of £24 (or multiples thereof) and e-mail me, the organiser, at [stevethomas91@gmail.com](mailto:stevethomas91@gmail.com) giving me your name and address. The bank details are: 20-71-64 80667226.

## **Flower arranging at St Peter's**

There is a meeting of flowers arrangers for St. Peter's Bridge at The Archway s on Wednesday 4th December to discuss decorations for Christmas and next year's rota. Everyone is welcome especially new members who have a couple of hours a Year to spare. Do pop in and see how you could help. Any queries contact Viv on 830981. Thank you.

## **Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute**

Our December meeting will be held on the second Tuesday of December, namely **Tuesday 10th** (7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall). This year we have a practical evening with a festive theme as we shall be making lanterns with our guest speakers Bridget and Barbara, this session will be followed by festive refreshments and the chance to chat with friends.

The competition for the month is for an interesting item beginning with the letter "W". At the time of writing, sadly our WI is unsure of its future. Please do watch out for further information on the Bridge Village Website, the relevant Facebook pages, the Kentish Gazette and our own noticeboard outside the village hall.

## Nailbourne Horticultural Society

Firstly, a quick reminder of our **Christmas Quiz** with a light festive supper and Christmas raffle on **Tuesday 3 December** at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall. Everyone is welcome and there will be a charge of £5 to include refreshments and a glass of wine. We start 2020 with our **AGM** in Bridge Village Hall on **Tuesday 28 January** at 7.30 pm. We have a full programme of varied and interesting talks as well as an evening outing for the coming year, not forgetting our Spring and Summer Shows, the schedules for which will be available at the AGM. Subscriptions for the year are due then, with an increase, as agreed at the last AGM, to £8 for single and £15 for joint/family membership. Watch out for details of the local **guest speaker** for the AGM nearer the time.

Like every society we are always on the look-out for members and committee members. So, please encourage your friends to come along and if you feel you have a little time to give, we would welcome you as a member of the committee. Please do make yourself known at the AGM.

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### **CAROL CONCERT**

Friends of St Giles Church will again be hosting the Carol Concert given this year by Kent College Choristers. The date has been set for Saturday, December 21st at 6pm in St Giles Church, Kingston, (CT4 6HY), and the Friends are very grateful to Jackie and Rod Spencer who will be arranging the programme for us. Tickets will cost £10 (children free) and will include mulled wine and mince pies.

This is a very popular annual event and booking is highly recommended.

Ticket booking and more information Maureen Taylor (01227 831738 = [maureen\\_taylor3@sky.com](mailto:maureen_taylor3@sky.com)) or John Morgan (01227 831047)

### Merry Christmas From Woodpeckers Nursery

At the end of October Woodpeckers Nursery finally managed to raise the funds needed to secure the lease on the land they use for their building. The Committee are really pleased, couldn't be prouder of this achievement and would like to say a massive THANK YOU to all those people who have helped to make this happen. They are hoping to get all of the paperwork sorted in the next month or so and will hopefully be having a little celebration in the new year when this is all completed!

The focus now turns to the extended opening hours scheduled for September 2020. If any parents locally are interested in reserving a place for their child/children please call Michelle on 01227 831159 or email [info@woodpeckersnursery.co.uk](mailto:info@woodpeckersnursery.co.uk)

The only thing left to say is **Merry Christmas** from the Woodpeckers Team!

### Fish Scheme News

Thanks to everyone who came to the Fish Scheme AGM. The Christmas sale raised a useful £110 for Fish funds. Do come to the December Coffee Pop-In on Wednesday 11th. We hope a volunteer from Hi Kent will be there to help with hearing aids.



CANCER  
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***Charity Coffee Morning***

*in aid of*

***Cancer Research UK***

***10 – 11:45am 8<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020***

***Bridge Village Hall***

*Together we will beat cancer*

## **Celebrating 25 Years of the Friends of Bekesbourne Church**

**3 November 2019**

The Songs of Praise service at St Peter's Bekesbourne was a celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of The Friends of Bekesbourne Church.

Zan Clifford, the first chairman of the Friends and Jane Millyard a former churchwarden gave the congregation of over 60 persons a vivid and thoroughly enlightening and entertaining description of the events leading up to the establishment of the Friends and its history over the years. The personnel involved were and are the most important part of the process and function of the Friends. They come from all areas of the village and are not necessarily churchgoers but have a strong sense of community. It was very evident that so many had played key parts over the years. The honours list was extremely impressive and a resounding affirmation of the many villagers who care about Bekesbourne Church.

(In the interest of fair play I have decided not to mention names because I am sure to offend by omission!)

The church at the time of the establishment of the Friends in 1994 was struggling. No major restoration work had been carried out since the 1880's. The village as a whole were asked if they valued the church as part of the village and wished it to remain open. At a meeting held in the village hall the verdict was a resounding YES and the Friends group was formed.

Initially the funds raised were for use across the Bekesbourne parish for various purposes. Importantly the scope of the application of funds raised was more closely defined on the instruction and advice of the diocese. The new constitution and definition read as follows ... "That the Friends is established to raise funds to maintain, protect and enhance the Church building and churchyard of St Peters Church, Bekesbourne." This remains true as the continuing and abiding scope of the use of the funds raised by the Friends.

Since the foundation of the Group many thousands of pounds have been raised at many and various events including dances, wine and wisdoms, exhibitions, flower festivals etc as well as an impressive Son et Lumiere in 2004.. Bekesbourne also has a Hundred Club which raises sufficient funds to cover the now expensive insurance bill of the church. Major building works including reroofing of the nave, vestry and the tower as well as much needed restoration of the stone work has been carried out. The church also has a regular churchyard working Party which keeps the churchyard in a very good condition. Other ambitious projects were undertaken by the PCC and the Friends funds provided the seed corn for the application for grants. Nearly £50,000 was raised to restore and renovate the Bevington organ and the six bells as recently as 2006. Perhaps the most basic but essential project has been the more recent design and build project of a toilet and a kitchen area, as well as the new heating system to keep us all warm.

The Friends have been at the forefront of all these projects and a warm village community has developed fostered by the enthusiasm and zeal of the many committee members who have served and continue to serve over the last 25 years. Thank you so much. Long may this spirit of community live on and prosper.

The next Songs of Praise service will be a Carol Service on the 1<sup>st</sup> December with carols chosen by the congregation.

## **BRIDGE CHRISTMAS FAIR 2019**



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2nd Prize 6 Bottles of Assorted Wines

3rd Prize £25 Voucher from Worgan's Farm Shop

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Christmas Party

Thursday 12th December

9am-11am

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December 2019

Dear Friends

This year as we move into Advent, that period of weeks when we take extra time to consider our faith, a time of preparation and waiting, we are interrupted by Politics. Oh dear, what would Jesus do? - Do you remember those wrist bands that were all the rage some years ago, even among non-church, mostly young people? **WWJD?**

What would Jesus do is an excellent question? Although he was a radical, a rule breaker and a person who challenged the motives and actions of those in authority, Jesus had respect for the law (give to Caesar what is Caesars), he was not against those who ruled justly with care for others. His teaching was that we should give care for the poor, the outcast and marginalised, but he saw a society that had become unjust, selfish and uncaring and sought to bring about change.

As Christians we take on the ministry of Christ, he passes the mantle to us, now it is our turn to care for all of society; the poor, the marginalised, the refugee and to seek equality and fairness for all. So please do vote, no matter how tired you are of Brexit and politics, because our vote has been hard won and is a privilege not every person in the world holds. But when you do, maybe consider this - WWJD?

As we move on to Christmas and consider that very first Christmas, St Luke tells us that the angel Gabriel visited Mary to tell her she would bear a child and that child will be the Messiah for all people 'For nothing is impossible with God' And when the child was born and the shepherds recognised and visited the King of the world 'Mary treasured all these things in her heart'.

We too need to pause and treasure the gift of Christmas in our hearts. Simply the gift of Jesus, true God who became true man, who came to reveal perfectly God's truth and love to us, who died and rose for our salvation, and who founded a Church, a family, where His presence continues in both Word, Sacrament and in Ministry. Jesus, the one and only world leader in whom we can put our complete trust - For nothing is impossible with God.

We look forward to welcoming you in our churches if you choose to join us over the Advent / Christmas period – there is a wide variety of services and events taking place in all our villages in the coming weeks. In January we will release the pace a bit as we seek to worship all together each Sunday in one church – reducing our heating costs and carbon footprint by only heating one church each week and enjoying the enrichment that comes from all joining to worship together.

I pray we will all have a considered and prayerful Advent, a very Happy Christmas and a blessed New Year!

Yours in Christ

Rev. Estella Last, Vicar

<b>December 2019</b>	<b>St Mary NACKINGTON</b>	<b>St Mary LOWER HARDRES</b>	<b>St Peter BRIDGE</b>	<b>St Mary PATRIBOURNE</b>	<b>St Peter BEKESBOURNE</b>
<b>1 December</b> <b>Advent Sunday</b> Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44	<i>All welcome at the other services in the Benefice</i>	<b>11.00am</b> <b>Family Communion (Contemporary)</b>	<b>6.00pm</b> Evensong	<b>9am</b> <b>Sung Eucharist (Traditional)</b>	<b>10.00am</b> <b>Songs of Praise</b>
<b>8 December</b> <b>Advent 2</b> Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12	<b>9.30am</b> <b>Advent Carol Service with Salvation Army band</b>	<i>All welcome at the other services in the Benefice</i>	<b>11am</b> <b>Family Communion (Contemporary)</b>	<i>All welcome at the other services in the Benefice</i>	
<b>Saturday 14 December</b>	<b>Margaret's Christmas Workshop at Lower Hardres Village Hall 9.30-12 noon</b>				
<b>15 December</b> <b>Advent 3</b> Isaiah 35:1-10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11	<i>All welcome at the other services in the Benefice</i>	<b>3pm</b> <b>Crib and Carol Service</b>	<b>6.00pm</b> <b>Carol Service</b>	<i>All welcome at the other services in the Benefice</i>	<b>9.30am</b> <b>Benefice Communion (Contemporary)</b>
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<i>All welcome at Patribourne</i>			<b>7.00pm</b> <b>Carol Service</b>	<i>All welcome at Patribourne</i>
<b>22 December</b> <b>Advent 4</b> Isaiah 7:10-16; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25	<b>9am</b> <b>Sung Eucharist (Traditional)</b>	<i>All welcome at Nackington</i>			
<b>24 December</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b> Isaiah 9:2-7; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2: 1-14 [15-20]	<b>10.00pm</b> <b>Christmas Eucharist</b>	<i>All welcome at the other services in the Benefice</i>	<b>3pm &amp; 5pm</b> <b>Christingle Services</b>  <b>11.30pm</b> <b>Christmas Eucharist</b>	<i>All welcome at the other services in the Benefice</i>	
<b>25<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> <b>Christmas Day</b> Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]; John 1:1-14	<i>All welcome at the other services in the Benefice</i>	<b>9.30am</b> <b>Family Service</b>	<i>All welcome at the other services in the Benefice</i>	<b>9.30am</b> <b>Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>11.00am</b> <b>Carol Service</b>

<b>January 2020</b>	<b>St Mary NACKINGTON</b>	<b>St Mary LOWER HARDRES</b>	<b>St Peter BRIDGE</b>	<b>St Mary PATRIBOURNE</b>	<b>St Peter BEKESBOURNE</b>
<b>29 December</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas Isaiah 63:7-9; Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23	<b>10am Benefice Communion</b>				
<b>5 January</b> Epiphany Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12					<b>10am Epiphany Songs of Praise with Communion</b>
<b>12 January</b> Baptism of Christ Isaiah 42:1-9; Acts 10: 34-43; Matthew 3:13-17			<b>10am Benefice Communion</b>		
<b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Messy Church 4-6pm at Bridge and Patribourne CEP</b>				
<b>19 January</b> Epiphany 2 Isaiah 49:1-7; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42		<b>10am Benefice Communion</b>			
<b>26 January</b> Epiphany 3 Isaiah 9:1-4; 1 Corinthians 1:10- 18; Matthew 4:12- 23				<b>10am Benefice Communion</b>	
<b>2 February</b> Candlemas / Presentation of Christ	<i>All welcome at the other services in the Benefice</i>	<b>11.00am Family Communion</b>	<b>6.00pm Evensong</b>	<b>9am Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>10.00am Songs of Praise</b>

Dates for the diary – December 2019

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>**

9:30am	-	Holy
Communion, St Peter Bridge		
3:00pm	-	Holy
Communion, Bridge Haven		
7.30pm	-	After 8s at
Mansfield Court		

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>**

9.00am-11.00am	Little Lambs Toddler Group	
7.30pm	-	Salvation
Army Concert at Bridge School		

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup>**

8.45am	-	Parents
Prayer Meeting at St Peter's Bridge		

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>**

10.15-11.30am	Coffee & Cake & Concert at St	
Peter's Bridge		
10.00am	-	Bekesbourne Friends
Christmas Bazaar		
1pm-4.30pm	Bridge Village Christmas	
Fayre		

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup>**

7.30pm	-	Caring and
Sharing		

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>**

9:30am	-	Holy
Communion, St Peter Bridge		
2:30pm	-	Carol
Service, Mansfield Court		

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>**

10:00am	-	FISH pop-in coffee, #
Bridge Village Hall		

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup>**

2.00pm - Senior  
Citizens Tea Party at Bridge School

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>**

9:30am - Holy  
Communion, St Peter Bridge

3:00pm - Holy  
Communion, Saxon Lodge

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>**

2.00pm - Carol  
Service at Bridge Haven

Nailbourne Scout Group Christmas Celebration at

St Peter's, Bridge

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>**

6.00pm - Carols &  
Raffle at The Red Lion, Bridge

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup>**

7.00pm - Carol  
Service at St Mary's Patrixbourne

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>**

3.00pm & 5pm Christingle at St Peter's Bridge  
10.00pm - Christmas Eucharist  
at St Mary's Nackington

11.30pm - Christmas Eucharist  
at St Peter's Bridge

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>**

9.30am - Family  
Service at St Mary's Lower Hardres

9.30am - Sung  
Eucharist at St Mary's Patrixbourne

Dates for the diary – January 2020

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>**

9:30am	-	Holy
Communion, St Peter Bridge		
3:00pm	-	Holy
Communion, Bridge Haven		
7.30pm	-	After 8s
at Mansfield Court		

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>**

10:00am	-	FISH pop-in
coffee, Bridge Village Hall		
2-3.30pm	-	
Lower Hardres Community Café at the		
John Baker White Hall		

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>**

9.00am-11.00am	Little Lambs Toddler Group Returns
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**Friday 10<sup>th</sup>**

8.45am	-	Parents
Prayer Meeting at St Peter's Bridge		

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup>**

7.30pm	-	Caring
and Sharing		

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>**

9:30am	-	Holy
Communion, St Peter Bridge		
2:30pm	-	Holy
Communion, Mansfield Court		

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>**

9.00am-11.00am	Little Lambs Toddler Group,
Bridge Pavillion	

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>**

### **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

9.00am-11.00am  
Bridge Pavillion

Little Lambs Toddler Group,

### **Friday 24<sup>th</sup>**

8.45am -  
Prayer Meeting at St Peter's Bridge

Parents

### **Monday 27<sup>th</sup>**

7.30pm -  
and Sharing

Caring

### **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>**

9:30am -  
Communion, St Peter Bridge

Holy

### **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>**

9.00am-11.00am  
Pavillion

Little Lambs Toddler Group, Bridge

## **News from Lower Hardres**

### **Christmas Workshop**

On Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup> there will be a Christmas Workshop at John Baker White Hall from 9.30am to noon. There will be lots of activities for children and refreshments for ALL. Please book early so we can cater appropriately. Ring Julie 788316, Margaret 765598 or email [bridgeoffice23@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeoffice23@gmail.com). Do come it will be fun.

### **Crib and Carol Service**

On December 15<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm we are having our CRIB SERVICE combined with our Carol Service. It is a very special service when the children will assemble our Crib for Christmas. It would be lovely if the children could dress-up. Our charity this year will be the Food Bank. Please bring along your Festive Food gifts and make Christmas 2019 special for others.

### **Christmas Day**

Lower Hardres will have a short, friendly service and a chance to meet friends and worship at 9.30am on Christmas Day.

### **Benefice Service**

The Benefice Service at Lower Hardres will be held at 10am on JANUARY 19<sup>th</sup> which is our usual Family Communion we will celebrate Epiphany when the Wise Men came

## Nailbourne Scout Group news

Nailbourne Scout Group has had a busy start to the year. Back at the beginning of October, **Scouts** took part in an expedition hike. The Scouts themselves planned the route for their hike, navigated there in teams, built shelters, cooked their evening meals and camped for the night, before hiking back - all to gain their Expedition Challenge Award!

*'Whilst the heavens poured down on us, the expedition was great fun! We learnt and developed our map skills very well, and whilst we did get lost, we found our way eventually. It was really fun and was a great bonding experience.'* (Finn, 13)

During half-term, **Cubs** went to Lower Grange Farm in Maidstone for the Cub County Science Day – with an alien invasion theme!

*'I really enjoyed the Alien Adventure Day. My favourite bit was when we made alien food (sherbet) and alien poo (slime) with Professor P (not a real professor!). I also liked finding out about meteors.'* (Harry S, 10)

Some of our **Beavers** were lucky enough to join 14<sup>th</sup> Canterbury group for a sleepover in Legoland, where they had an amazing but exhausting time!

*'We got to spend a whole weekend there going on the rides, watching a 3D movie and having an unlimited pizza and pasta dinner! We camped in the Discovery Centre and woke up the next morning for tons of fun. It was brilliant but I was so tired I fell asleep on the coach home.'* (India, 8)

Nailbourne Scout Group also has lots planned for December, including a Christmas sleepover for Beavers and Cubs, a whole-group Christmas performance, a stall at Barham school fair and the Scout Christmas post!

Nailbourne has expanded rapidly over the last few years, and is currently looking to establish an Explorers unit. If you might be interested in volunteering to help with this, know somebody who might or would like some more information, please contact Nick Gore, Group Scout Leader, at [skipnailbourne@gmail.com](mailto:skipnailbourne@gmail.com).

**Nailbourne Scout Group welcomes both boys AND girls and meets every Wednesday during term time, usually at Barham Village Hall (although they are often out and about, especially in the warmer weather!). Times are as follows:**

**Beavers (6-8 years) – 5.30–6.30pm**

**Cubs (8-10 years) – 6.30–7.30pm**

**Scouts (10-14 years) – 7.45–9.15pm**

**For more information on joining or volunteering, please email [skipnailbourne@gmail.com](mailto:skipnailbourne@gmail.com) or visit our Facebook page (Nailbourne Scout Group – public).**



# **Margaret's Christmas**

## **Workshop**

**Saturday 14th December**

**9.30am-12noon**

**John Baker White Hall**

**Lower Hardres**

Activities, games and much more!

To book call Julie 788316 ,Margaret 765598 or email [bridgeoffice23@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeoffice23@gmail.com)



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**7:30pm Prompt SATURDAY 18<sup>th</sup> JANUARY**

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Tables from 6 to 8 team members can be booked by calling  
Graham on 01227 830271 or Vicki on 01227 379126

Entry price at the door: **£5.00** per person

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

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## AGM

with local guest speaker (to be announced)

Tuesday 28 January at 7.30 pm  
Bridge Village Hall

Annual Subscriptions Payable

New Members Needed

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

Christmas  & Social Evening



with light festive supper



Tuesday 3 December at 7.30 pm  
Bridge Village Hall

Christmas Raffle

All welcome

Admission £5 (to include refreshments & a glass of wine)

St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

## SONGS OF PRAISE

Benefice Service with Family Communion



10am Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January



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## Submissions to On the Nail

If you would like to submit something to On the Nail for publication, please ensure to meet the following submissions criteria:

All submissions for On the Nail should be received by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the preceding Month at the **latest** to [bridgeoffice23@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeoffice23@gmail.com)

Two versions of any poster must be provided portrait **and** landscape.

Attachments should be clearly labelled as to content.

Files should be submitted in .doc, .pdf, .pub or .jpg format

Content is included at the discretion of the editorial team.

St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

# CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

10.00 am Saturday



7th December 2019



## Bekesbourne Village Hall



Santa



Stalls



Gifts



Raffle



Refreshments



Proceeds for Bekesbourne Church and Bekesbourne Brownies



# **Come and help the Messy Church Team Celebrate their First Birthday.....**

**Saturday 18th January**

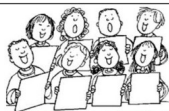
**4pm-6pm**

**Bridge and Patrixbourne School Hall**

**Craft activities, singing, stories and a hot meal for the whole family.**

**Donations to cover costs welcome!**

**For more information contact Rev Estella on 01227 206272**



## **St Peter's, Bridge Carol Service 2019**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 6.0pm.**



St Peter's Choir welcomes singers in all voice parts (soprano, alto, tenor or bass) who would like to join them for this year's Carol Service.

We will be rehearsing in Bridge Church on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 7.0-9.0pm, Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 7.0-9.0pm and Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 3.45-5.30pm.

Ability to read music in the harmony parts would be useful,  
but the music will be singable and not too challenging!

Please let me know if you would like to sing:

Jean Barber 01227 831956 / [scriven06@gmail.com](mailto:scriven06@gmail.com)



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Wednesday 4.30-6.00pm

Thursday 10.00-11.30am

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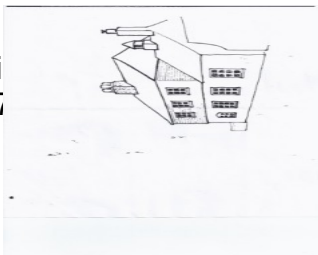


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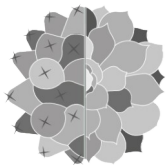
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