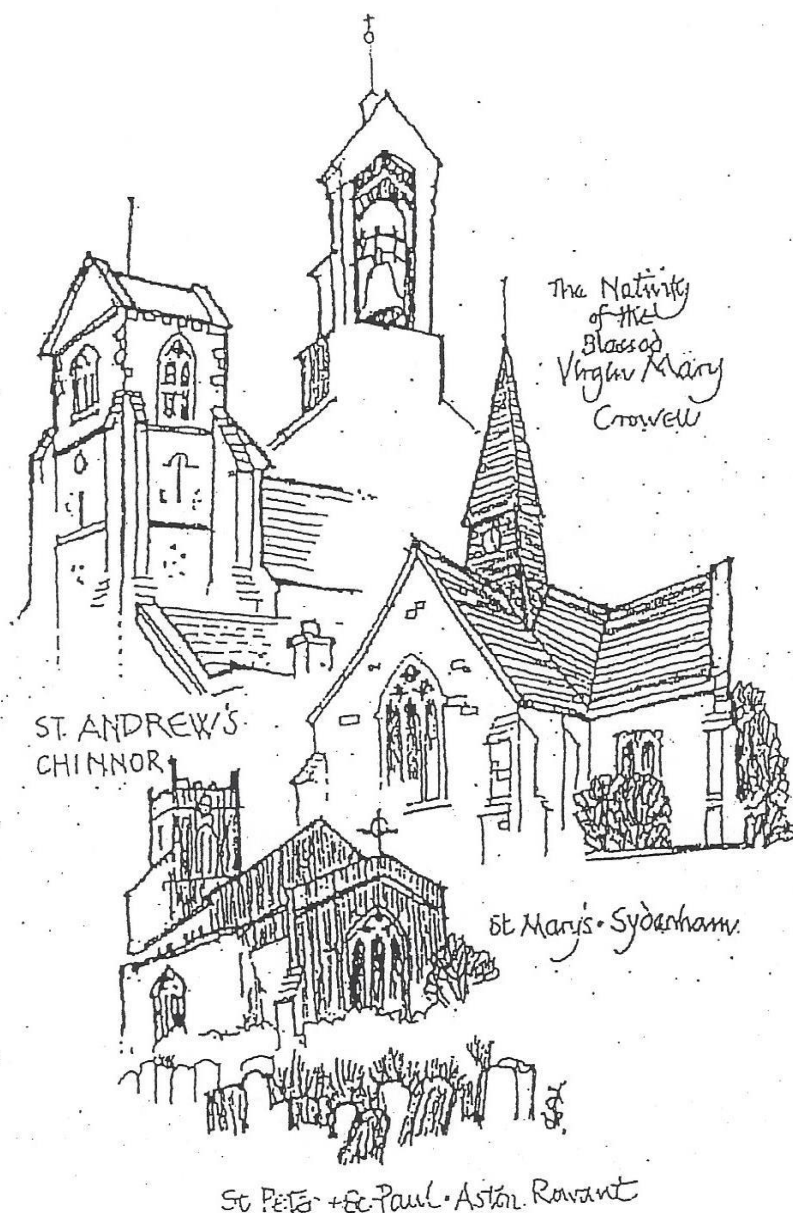


# United Parish Newsletter

THE UNITED PARISH OF CHINNOR, SYDENHAM, ASTON ROWANT and CROWELL



The altar at St. Peter & St. Paul Aston Rowant



**Rector to the United Parish - The Rev'd Maggie Thorne**

**01844 354626 - [maggie53thorne@gmail.com](mailto:maggie53thorne@gmail.com)**

**Chinnor:**

The Rt. Rev'd Brian Skinner 01844 353504  
David Bartlett 01844 351692  
Margaret Poole 01844 281042  
Bob Sluka 01844 355259

**Aston Rowant:**

The Rev'd Des Foote 01844 355945  
The Rev'd Dr. Brian Griffiths 01844 355953  
Tessa Wyatt 01844 351165  
Jo Whitfield 01844 355263

**Crowell:**

The Rev'd Maggie Thorne 01844 354626  
Jo Whitfield 01844 355263

**Sydenham:**

The Rev'd Joan DeVal 01844 353404  
Mark Humphrey 01844 353865

**Parish office**

*Louise Heathcote 01844 352472*

*[csarc@btinternet.com](mailto:csarc@btinternet.com)*

# Pastoral Letter



Dear friends,

The Church's year and the calendar year are a bit out of kilter, but following the feasting at Christmas, January is often the month when we make resolutions to shift a few pounds, eat more healthily and take up some exercise. When you think about it, our lives are ruled by calendars and clocks.

Our bedroom alarm clocks wake us, our oven clocks time our meals, our living room clocks decorate our walls and shelves, and all of them remind us that we divide our lives into seconds, minutes and hours. Similarly, a calendar divides our lives into days, weeks and months. We talk about losing time, finding time, wasting time, making time, being ahead of time or behind time, passing time or taking time, but we cannot stop time from happening, and the world tells us that time matters.

This is not the case with God. Eternity is not limited by time and eventually, we too will pass beyond the boundaries of time and enter eternity. But here at the beginning of 2016, a new calendar year, God gives us time to do what we must do in the world. Every time we look at a clock or turn the page of a calendar, we're reminded of the infinite love of God, so perhaps a New Year's resolution for us can be to share more of our time with God, because time spent with God is time well spent, and surely the world needs our prayers.

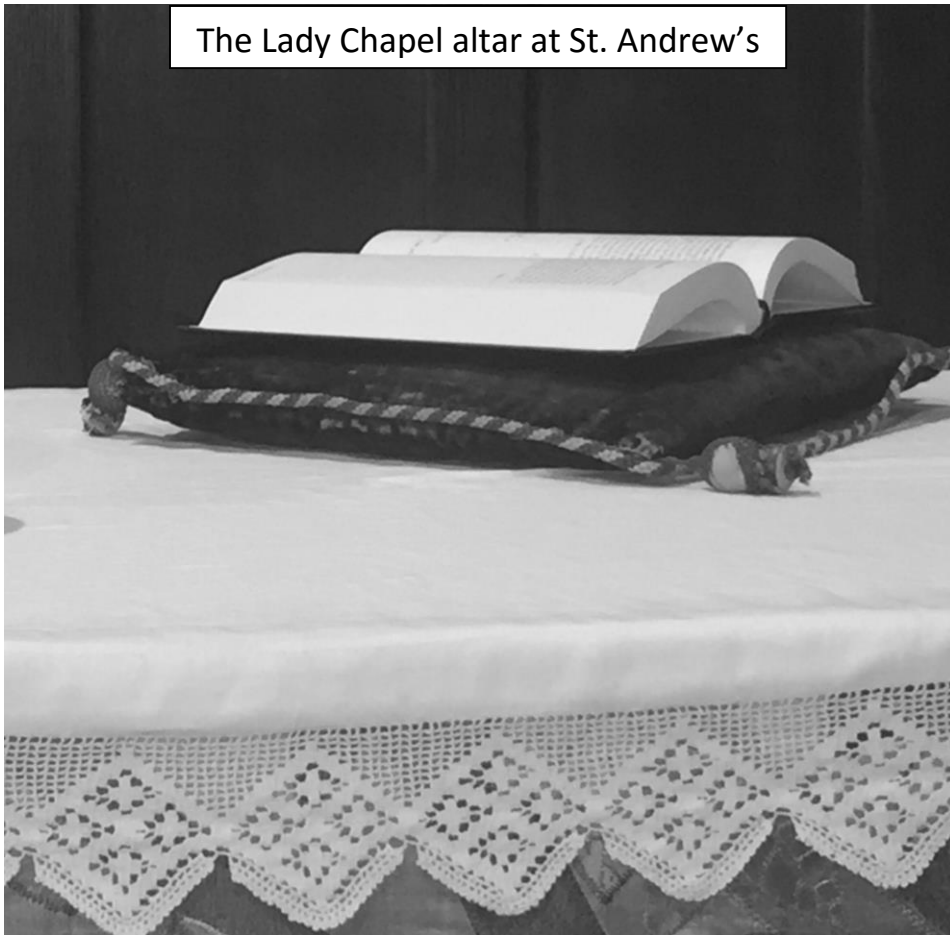
Have a very happy and peaceful New Year.  
Every blessing  
Maggie

Thank you from Maggie & Richard for all the Christmas cards and good wishes. A big thank you to all who have participated in any way to the Christmas services.

# United parish weekend services, January 2016

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January. Epiphany</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January Baptism of Christ</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January Epiphany 2</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January Epiphany 3</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January Epiphany 4 &amp; Candlemas</b>	<b>Saturdays</b>
<b>Chinnor</b>	<b>8.00am</b> Eucharist (Said,CW) (Joan)  <b>10.00am</b> Eucharist (Sung,CW) (Joan)	<b>8.00am</b> Eucharist (Said,CW) <b>(Rector)</b>  <b>10.00am</b> .Non- Eucharistic (Margaret & Bob)  <b>6.00pm</b> Evensong (BCP) <b>(Rector)</b>	<b>8.00am</b> Eucharist (Said,CW) <b>(Rector)</b>  <b>10.00am</b> Eucharist (Sung,CW) <b>(Rector)</b>	<b>8.00am</b> Eucharist (Said,CW) <b>(Rector)</b>  <b>10.00am</b> Bread'n'wine (Tea 'n' toast from 9.00am) <b>(Rector)</b>  <b>6.00pm</b> Evensong (BCP) <b>(Rector &amp; Mark)</b>	<b>8.00am</b> Eucharist (Said,CW) <b>(Rector)</b>  <b>10.30/11.00</b> <b>VILLAGE CENTRE Service to mark the week of Christian Unity.</b> (See diary dates)  <b>6.30pm</b> Music at St Andrew's	<b>9.00am</b> Morning Prayer
<b>Aston Rowant</b>	<b>10.00am</b> Non- Eucharistic (Jo, Tessa)	<b>10.00am</b> Holy Communion (CW, with Hymns (Des)	<b>10.00am</b> Holy Communion (CW, with Hymns) (Joan)	<b>10.00am</b> Holy Communion (CW, with Hymns) (Des)	-	-
<b>Sydenham</b>	<b>10.00am</b> Eucharist (BCP) <b>(Rector)</b>	-  <b>4.00pm</b> Christingle (Joan)	-  <b>6.00pm</b> Evensong (BCP) (Joan & Mark)	<b>10.00am</b> Mattins (BCP) (Mark)	-	-
<b>Crowell</b>	<b>6.00pm</b> Evensong (BCP) <b>(Rector)</b>	<b>10.00am</b> High Mass (CW) <b>(Rector)</b>	-	-	-	<b>16<sup>th</sup> Jan.</b> <b>5.30pm</b> Soul Space (Not on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jan)

The Lady Chapel altar at St. Andrew's



## Readings for January

### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January**

#### ***Epiphany***

Isaiah 60.1-6

Ephesians 3.1-12

Matthew 2.1-12

### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January**

#### ***Baptism of Christ***

Isaiah 43.1-7

Acts 8.14-17

Luke 3.15-17, 21-22

### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January**

#### ***2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany***

Isaiah 62.1-5

1 Corinthians 12.1-11

John 2.1-11

### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January**

#### ***3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany***

Nehemiah 8.1-3,5-6,8-10

1 Corinthians 12.12-31a

Luke 4.14-21

### **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January**

#### ***Presentation of Christ to the Temple***

Malachi 3.1-5

Hebrews 2.14-end

Luke 2.22-40



Please pray  
for

Dillon Mitchell  
Miriam Wilcock  
Allan Mayo  
Hilary Devey  
Angela Axham  
Brian Hutton  
Sarah Robinson  
Adam Cromar  
and family  
Richard Price  
Peter Marshall  
Angela Flynn  
Bernard Johnson  
Di Seddon  
Bernard Thomas



Detail from the choir stalls in St. Andrews church.

Rest in  
Peace

Sally Phillips  
Tasha  
Bloomfield  
Daniel Francis  
Alison Hottren  
David Pitcher  
David Spratt  
Ann Clark  
Clive Pusey  
Robin Grose  
Anthea Guest

## Listening Ear

**Every Wednesday 7.30pm – 9.30pm - St Andrew's Church, Chinnor**

Sometimes we feel anxious and lonely, burdened by worry or grief, or overwhelmed by problems and would just like the opportunity to talk to someone about what we are experiencing. Anyone can drop in. We provide a cup of tea or coffee, but more importantly a caring and friendly ear. Someone will listen in a confidential, un-hurried and non-judgemental way. You may wish to socialise, sit quietly and have time to yourself, away from the pressures of daily life. The church is heated and we provide informal candlelit areas and soft music for relaxation or prayer. Please do call in.

## Village Prayers

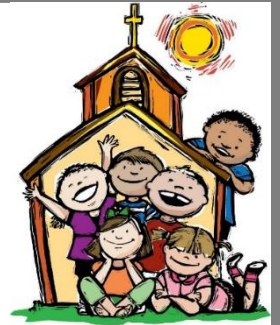
This month we are praying for the residents of The Avenue, Chinnor.

**Prayer for our neighbours and those who support them in word and deed.**

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your love for us revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ. You call us to make your love known to others in this parish and neighbourhood. Help each of us to respond to this challenge and as visits are made, go before us, show us how to best use our opportunities, help us to speak a word in season, and in all we say and do, may we commend our Lord and further his kingdom, to the glory of your name. Amen.

United parish family services and events.

## Come and experience one of our family-friendly services!



Everyone is welcome to all our services, although the services that will particularly appeal to families are:

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday each month: 10.00am      Aston Rowant      Family Friendly**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday each month: 10.00am      Chinnor      Family Friendly**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday each month: 9.00am      Chinnor      Tea 'n' Toast**

**10.00am      Chinnor      Bread 'n' Wine.**

**Join us for breakfast! Followed by a Short Communion service.**

**Every Thursday:      11am      Chinnor      Toddler Church**

**Term-time only. Songs, bubbles, toys, squash & biscuits!**

St.Andrew's Church, Chinnor

### 'Toddler Church'



~ Story-time, songs, bubbles and toys! ~

Thursday~ 11.00am, during school term-time.

Squash & Biscuits for the Children

Tea & Coffee for Parents and Carers

Everyone welcome however old or young!

## Weekly: Weekday services and church group meetings.

### Monday

7.30am	Ministry team - breakfast prayers.	
8.00am	Morning Prayer at St. Andrew's	Chinnor
10.00am	Mothers Union Intercessions	Chinnor.



### Tuesday

8.00am	Morning Prayer - 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan. = Aston R., 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan. = Crowell, 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan. = Sydenham, 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan. = Chinnor.	
5.00pm	Young People's Group.	Chinnor
7.30pm	Bell ringing Practice	Aston Rowant

### Wednesday

8.00am	Morning Prayer	Chinnor
11.00am	Holy Communion MU	Chinnor (The Rector)
12.30am	Luncheon Club	Church Hall
7.30 - 9.30pm	Listening Ear	Chinnor

### Thursday

8.00am	Morning Prayer	Chinnor
11.00am	Toddler Church, begins 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept.	Chinnor
6.30pm	Choir Practice	Sydenham

### Friday

8.00am	Morning Prayer	Chinnor
6.00pm	Treble Choir practice.	Chinnor
6.45pm	Choir Practice	Chinnor
7.30pm	Bell ringing Practice	Chinnor



## Pilgrim: A Course for the Christian Journey



The Pilgrim Course will run on Sunday afternoons at 4pm. It will run on a 3 weeks 'on' and then a break basis. It comprises 8 different aspects of our faith which each divide into 6 sessions. This is intended for any who wish to be confirmed, those who would like to do some gentle Bible study and for any who want to explore their faith a little more. This term we will be covering the subject 'Turning to Christ', which explores what Christians believe. Each session lasts for approximately 1.5 hours and will include refreshments. You can join

The forthcoming dates for 2016 are **10, 17, 24 Jan; 7, 14, 28 Feb**  
For further details, please contact Maggie.

# Notable dates for your diary in January.



## Sunday 10th January, 4pm, Sydenham

Christingle with Revd Joan DeVal.

## Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January St Andrew's Church Hall

Speaker: Chris Foote, talking about her work with PACT (Parents and Children together) All Welcome.

## Thursday 14th January, 10am, Sydenham, Old School Room

New Year Coffee Morning 10am -12noon

## Tuesday 26 January, 10am, Aston Rowant Church

10.00am - 12noon - Coffee and Craft for 0 - 100 years.

## Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January, Chinnor Village Hall 10.30am

10.30am Coffee, 11.00am service followed by bring and share lunch. Surnames beginning: A-M (savoury) N-Z (sweet). Further details from Jane Honeyball: 351096

## Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January, St. Andrew's Church, Chinnor, 6.30pm

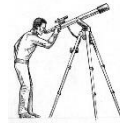
Music at St. Andrew's, watch a fabulous musical concert from the young musicians from Harrow School – free admission, donations accepted at the end.

### ANY UNWANTED CHRISTMAS GIFTS???

If you have any unwanted Christmas Gifts, the United Parish Churches would be very pleased to receive them. We do lots of charity and fundraising events throughout the year and it would be wonderful to be able to put these gifts towards raffle prizes etc.

Please put gifts in the labelled boxes at the back of St. Andrew's & Aston Rowant churches. With Many Thanks.

# Looking ahead....



## Tuesday 9th February , Sydenham

Pancake Day Races from 3.30pm onwards down Brookstones,

With delicious hot pancakes afterwards in the OSR.

Do come & join the fun & bring the youngsters!



## Sunday 14 Feb. 14.00 - 16.30, Aston Rowant Church

Snowdrop Teas & duck races



## Tuesday 16 February, Aston Rowant

10.00am - 12noon - Coffee and Craft for 0 - 100 years, at Aston Rowant Church

## Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2016, Chinnor Village Hall, 2pm – 4pm



Chinnor Chocolate Challenge! With Will Torrent, expert Chocolatier, judging your entries and giving a tasty demonstration! See ad. for more details.

### **WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER      Friday 4th March 2016**

This year we will be celebrating Women's World Day of Prayer with a service prepared by Christian women in Cuba. The theme **"Receive children. Receive me"** reflects St Mark's Gospel (Chpt 10 v 13-16) reminding us that everyone is a child of God and equally worthy of our love and respect. All are welcome to join us for one or both of the services this year at:

**Chinnor Community Church  
High Street  
Chinnor  
at 10.45am and again at 7.30pm**

Refreshments will be served from 10.15am before the morning service and from 7pm before the evening service in our "Welcome Café".

Women's World Day of Prayer is an international, ecumenical, prayer movement that invites women, from a different part of the world each year, to prepare a worship service through which their hopes and fears for their country may be brought before the whole world in prayer. It is estimated that from the first service held on the island of Samoa to the final service some 35 hours later as the sun sets off the coast of American Samoa 3 million people in over 170 countries and islands will have gathered to observe the day of prayer written by Christian women in Cuba. It has been translated into over 60 languages and 1000 dialects. In the British Isles alone over 6000 services will be held!

**All are welcome** ...Anne Marie Lord, Monica Bartlett, Sue Marshall, Sheila Hazell and Kim Hopwood.  
Women's World Day of Prayer Committee in Chinnor.

# Parish News

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The Ministry Team celebrated Serena's 80th birthday in December and also had to say a 'Goodbye' to her as she will be retiring at the end of the year. Serena isn't moving away and will doubtless appear at the odd service in case of need. She thanks you all for your support, friendship and fellowship over the last 20 years.

**Congratulations on your birthday, and THANK YOU, Serena!**



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## St Andrew's Church Christmas Market

A big thank you to all who helped, donated or just spent their money at the Christmas Market this year. The final total was £1598.68, a truly magnificent total. It was a lovely and very rewarding morning. Thank you all again

Shirley and Una

# Parish News

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A festive



lunch at

Aston Rowant church.



# Parish News

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## ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, CHINNOR : CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL : THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS

Challenging, thought provoking, a wonderful way of telling the story of Jesus, a winter Wonderland – just some of the comments made by visitors during the nine days of the Christmas Tree Festival.

I would like to thank all those who helped in any way, to the Committee members, to the volunteers manning the refreshments and the door, all the visitors – from young to old - who came along to see the trees and the local organisations, charities and groups who decorated the trees to such a high standard. A special thank you to all who worked so hard in setting up the trees and clearing the church once the festival had finished. The festival was truly a celebration of Christmas by the community for the community.

A grand sum of £1400 was raised from donations from the door, sale of refreshments and the sale of Christmas trees after the festival. This will go towards the general maintenance of St Andrew's Church, Chinnor.

Every Blessing

The Rev'd Maggie Thorne

# Parish News

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Parishioners performed a miracle play, at St. Peter and St. Paul church, Aston Rowant on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2015. It was great success.



Miracle plays were traditionally performed by amateur members of medieval guilds to celebrate festivals in the Church year and our script is drawn from the few play cycles that have survived. Traditionally each guild vied to out perform their neighbours, however, ours will be a gentler affair and our intention is to tell this beautiful story in a way that is accessible and magical, particularly for children.

It was a wonderful opportunity for members of the parish to walk together and to share the beautiful story of the nativity remembering those who have for centuries walked to church along Coffin Way and in a wider sense those members of the international family who, like Mary and Joseph, could find no room at the inn. At the end of the performance refreshments were served in the church.



The miracle play at Aston Rowant.



# Parish News

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## Christmas Tree Festival, St. Andrew's Church





# **CHINNOR CHOCOLATE CHALLENGE**

**AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

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**SATURDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2016**

**2.00PM – 4.00PM**

**WILL TORRENT, EXPERT CHOCOLATIER WILL BE ALONG TO  
JUDGE YOUR ENTRIES, AWARD PRIZES AND TO GIVE A  
DEMONSTRATION. REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE.**

**~ Q&A SESSION WITH WILL ~**

**~ STALLS – INCLUDING TRADCRAFT ~**

**~ CHOCOLATE RAFFLE ~ CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES ~**

**ENTRY: DONATIONS ON THE DOOR OR £3.00 FOR ENTRY TO THE CHALLENGE  
ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE FROM ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH CHINNOR  
OR CALL 07792 878906**

**ALL PROCEEDS TO TEARFUND'S CAMPAIGN 'STOP THE TRAFFIK'  
& THE UNITED PARISH OF CHINNOR.**



## Music at St. Andrew's

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016 at 6.30pm

For our first concert of 2016 we welcome back the very impressive musicians of Harrow School. Many will remember their predecessors' visit to Chinnor when they delighted us with their versatility and ability to present mature, technically assured performances. On this occasion they will be playing chamber music by Mozart, Schubert, Borodin, Elgar – and probably others!

There has been extensive discussion in the press in recent months concerning the place of music and the arts in schools and in our public examination system, where there is constant pressure to reduce their importance in the compulsory element of the curriculum in favour of subjects deemed to be of infinitely greater importance on account of their basic "relevance". Schools that are in a position to make excellent provision for the practice of music, drama, design and the fine arts have no doubts about the decisive benefits that they make in developing intellectual judgement, imagination and creativity in the context of a broadly based education. Harrow is one such school and it is of significant interest that it seeks to attract music scholars, particularly from across the Far East, who are just as likely to be A\* pupils and to study science and mathematics at university as they are to pursue musical careers.

Do come and enjoy the music-making of these talented and motivated young people. There are no charges for admission. A collection will be taken to assist with expenses.

Graham Smallbone



**Sunday 14 Feb. 14.00 - 16.30.**

# **Snowdrop Teas**

**at Aston Rowant Church.**

Visit the wonderful snowdrops in  
Church Lane at Fiveways.

There will be duck races along the stream.

Please wear boots or wellies!

There will be a small charge  
for the duck races.

Viewing the snowdrops is free!

Being organised jointly by **the Church and Aston Rowant  
Parish Council.** All profits for the Church Funds.

## The United parish Churchwarden contact details.

### St Andrew's, Chinnor

David DeVal 01844 353404

Mark Humphrey 01844 353865

### St. Peter & Paul, Aston Rowant

John Wyatt 01844 350221

### St Mary's, Sydenham

Adele Stancliffe 01844 352805

Roy Harrison 01844 353887

### Nativity of the Blessed Virgin, Crowell

Sarah Phillips 01844 353754

Paul Phillips 01844 353754

### PARISH OFFICE INFORMATION

*For all enquiries concerning baptism, confirmation and matrimony please contact Maggie Thorne at The Rectory.*

**The Rectory telephone number & email:**

**01844 354626 - [maggie53thorne@gmail.com](mailto:maggie53thorne@gmail.com)**

**Parish Office telephone number:**

**01844 352472**

**The Parish Office in St Andrew's church is open:**

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday**

**9.15am – 2.15pm**

**The opening times do sometimes vary. Messages left on the office answering machine are always acted on. Alternatively you can email [csarc@btinternet.com](mailto:csarc@btinternet.com)**

**DEADLINE for February newsletter: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2015**