



# Parish News



December 2010

The Diocese of St Albans, Welwyn Team Ministry

Parish of St Peter, Tewin

Price 50p

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Team Vicar:</b>               | Revd. Coralie McCluskey, The Rectory, Brookbridge Lane, Datchworth, Knebworth, SG3 6SU<br>tel: 01438 817183 e-mail: team.vicar@welwyn.org.uk                    |
| <b>Team Rector:</b>              | Revd. Dr. David Munchin, 1 Ottway Walk, Welwyn, AL6 9AS tel: 01438 714150   |
| <b>Parish Office:</b>            | Open every weekday 10.00am to 12.00pm tel: 01438 840964   |
| <b>Clergy Surgery:</b>           | Saturdays at St Mary's 10.00—11.30 am   |
| <b>Reader:</b>                   | Mick Simmons tel: 01707 334805 e-mail: michael.simmons53@ntlworld.com   |
| <b>Churchwardens:</b>            | Mrs Pete Johnson, 11 Jonathan House, Little Hardings, WGC, AL7 2EL [01707 332579]<br>Mr Mike Kersey, 7 Pennyfathers Lane, Welwyn, Herts, AL6 0EN [01438 716817] |
| <b>Parochial Church Council:</b> |   |
| <b>Hon Secretary:</b>            | Mrs Mary Gregg, 20a Hertford Road, Tewin, AL6 0JY, [01438 717544]   |
| <b>Hon Treasurer:</b>            | Mr Graham Spring, Warden's Lodge, 25 Digswell Park Road, WGC, AL8 7NW [01707 375499]  |
| <b>Organist:</b>                 | Rosemary Knight, 1 Nunnery Stables, Cotton Mill Lane, St Albans, AL1 2AS [01727 766871]   |
| <b>Ringers:</b>                  | Mr David Hall [01707 884274]  |

## A Letter from Coralie

Stop what you are doing and relax. Too many of us, including Christians, justify our lives by action, by doing rather than being, filling every minute. The lead up to Christmas is a prime time for this. So often we are so busy organising, packing, meeting people, writing lists, cooking, cleaning.....

Isn't it time to ask yourself - do I really need to do all that shopping, spend all that money when at the end of it you find yourself wondering what it was all about?

This Advent and Christmas might be the time to make the change, to open our eyes to look at the world around us, to recognise what's important, to relax with family and friends or just do nothing.

### An Advent Prayer

*Open our eyes, Lord:*

to gently scan the life we lead, the home we have, the world we inhabit, and so find signs of hope among the uncertainties and the worries.

*Open our eyes, Lord:*

to a bigger vision of what you can do, even with the outsider, the oppressed and lost causes.

*Show us the world as you see it:*

riddled by debt, deceit and disbelief, yet brimming with the possibility for recovery, renewal and redemption.

And in case we fail to distinguish vision from fantasy open our eyes to one person or one place, where we might identify a waiting potential.

*Open our eyes, Lord:*

in yearning for Jesus, wherever we may be:

On the country lane,

In the cities,

Through the corridors of power,

And the streets of despair.

To help, to heal, to confront, to convert,

O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Have a relaxing, peaceful and love filled Christmas.

Coralie



What will you be doing between 9.30 and 12.30 on the morning of 20th December? Don't know? Then why not come along and help decorate St Peter's Church for Christmas? We have a tree to decorate, a crib to set up and lots of different crafts, games to play and stories to listen to. See you there!



## Churchwardens' Notes

The big - and very sad - news in the last month came in the announcement on October 31st that our Team Vicar, Coralie, would be leaving us in the New Year. Whilst this is a big blow to us, our congratulations go to Coralie for being asked to undertake what will clearly be a very challenging job. From our experience over the past six years we know that she is well suited to the task and we wish her all the very best in her new post. Meanwhile Coralie will be with us for another two months and we intend to take full advantage of having her still with us.

The new Team Vicar selection process is getting under way and the Archdeacon has called a meeting for December 7th to outline the programme to the PCCs of both Tewin and Datchworth.

Once again we had a good attendance for our Remembrance Service with 110 people stood at the War Memorial followed by around 85 in church. With the current situation in Afghanistan more and more people are appreciating the relevance of Remembrance.

It was a shame that the school were unable to undertake the walk to St.Peter's for their Remembrance Service due to the severe weather conditions, but obviously their safety was of paramount importance. We look forward to seeing them in church for their school Christingle Service in December.

After our comments last month regarding the trees, the PCC has agreed to further work on the trees in the churchyard.

As on the last occasion when Boxing Day fell on a Sunday (2004) there are services of Holy Communion at St.Mary's, Welwyn at 8.00am and 9.30am but **no services at St.Peter's**. However all are very welcome at All Saints, Datchworth to a service of carols and readings at 4pm followed by tea in the church hall.

A warm welcome goes to the children baptised at St.Peter's on November 21st:-

Imogen Rose Winters and Georgia Rose Farnsworth

Pete and Mike



**Tewin Parish News 2011 Subscriptions are now due!!!!**



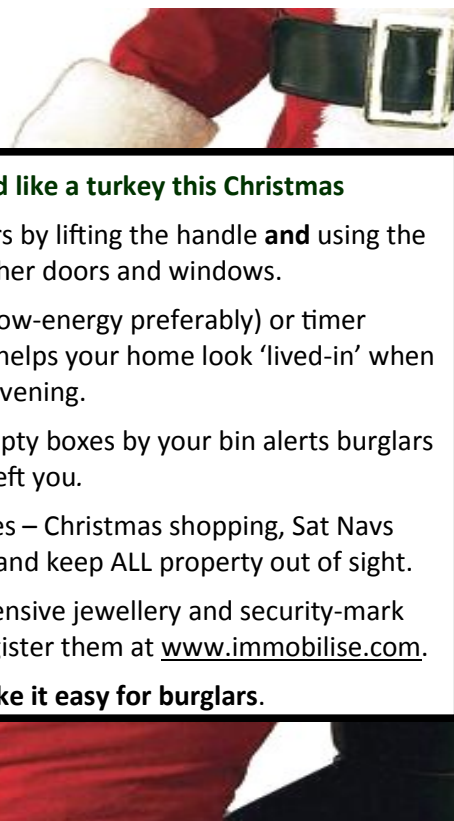
The cost remains unchanged at £5 for 12 editions. Please assist you Parish News Distributor by having your subscription ready for them when they call. Thank you for your support.

Sue Whitbourn

**31st December 2010**

The bells of St Peter's will be rung in memory of Kit & Bert Fernee, both lying here in Tewin.

The Haggar family



**Don't get stuffed like a turkey this Christmas**

- Lock any PVCu doors by lifting the handle **and** using the key - and lock all other doors and windows.
- Leaving a light on (low-energy preferably) or timer switches for lamps helps your home look 'lived-in' when you are out in the evening.
- Remember new empty boxes by your bin alerts burglars to what Santa has left you.
- Remove all valuables – Christmas shopping, Sat Navs etc - from your car and keep ALL property out of sight.
- Photograph all expensive jewellery and security-mark other items and register them at [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com).

**Don't make it easy for burglars.**

**HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM YOUR  
SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM**



*Friends of Tewin*

Those people who came to the Tewin Tea Party enjoyed meeting their friends, eating some beautiful home made cakes, fresh scones with cream and jam and the singing from the children at Tewin Cowper School ..... but where was everyone else? What are we doing wrong that we do not have the same numbers as the lunch? Especially as the Tea is open to all Tewin residents. Any suggestions for or against us holding the Tea Party will be appreciated.

The Book Sale turned out to be a very pleasant day with a stream of people from start to finish. The story time for the children was again enjoyed by those who came. The Hall will announce the result later.

We don't anticipate snow again this Christmas but we are expecting Father Christmas to arrive on Lower Green at approx 6.15pm on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> December. We will be there from 6pm serving hot mulled wine and chocolate with minced pies. We will also have our Christmas Raffle to help raise funds for the Senior Citizens Lunch followed by carols sung around the Christmas tree along with live music.

We were very happy to donate £1200 from the Classic Car show towards the refurbishment of the pavilion as promised.

The Friends of Tewin Committee send Christmas greetings and a Happy New Year to all.

Linda Crawford, Chairman, Friends of Tewin



## *Thank You!*

Dear Tewin neighbours and villagers

Lia Parkinson and Diane Meeson would like to thank all those of you who have supported us this year to raise funds to enable us to travel to Tanzania and help 500 primary school children there have a better place to learn.

Now safely back home, it's quite hard to find words to describe the trip in a few sentences, but we can honestly say that it was one of the most worthwhile and rewarding things we've ever done. Lia has merged the best of everyone's photos of the trip into an album, which we think probably tells the story best, and we hope to get the opportunity to show you sometime.

Our group of 12 volunteers collectively exceeded the fundraising target, raising a fantastic £30,000, enabling us to provide the children of Uwa School with a playground, as well as renovate two classrooms and a nursery block, inside and out. We were all particularly proud of our brightly coloured murals, from numbers and jungle animals in the nursery, to educational diagrams and illustrations in the older children's classes. Completing these ahead of schedule, we also painted other exterior areas, windows, doors, desks and benches, to transform the school, much to the delight of the teachers, children, parents and villagers. For a week we were part of this welcoming, grateful, happy (and impoverished) community. We witnessed a totally different culture, visited a beautiful part of the world and experienced a way of life that we could never before have imagined. Yes, it was hard work (but not all the time), and facilities were definitely basic, but our temporary 'hardships' were nothing in comparison – water is Tanzania's most precious commodity. Many of the group (13 including our inspiring **Childreach** International UK representative) were virtual strangers at the outset, but returned ten days later as firm friends and new Ambassadors for **Childreach** International, humbled and enriched by our life-changing experience.

We couldn't have done this without your help. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

With love from Lia and Diane

(PS We now have the challenge of finding more volunteers to hand-over our '**Childreach** batons' to – so if you or anyone you know would like to visit Tanzania and continue the work for these children, please visit: [www.childreach.org.uk](http://www.childreach.org.uk))



## BASSETT-LOWKE SOCIETY

Vintage model train show

Tewin Memorial Hall

Sunday, 9th January 2011 from 10am–5pm

Admission: £2 adults, 50p children

Running layouts in gauges 0 and 1 .... plus LIVE STEAM!

Static & working models will be on display together with many sales tables and a 'Bring & Buy' stall

Contacts: 01438 717323 or 01462 454537



### TEWIN MEMORIAL HALL — SUPPORTERS CLUB

Results for the October 2010 draw

|                 |     |                             |                 |     |                             |
|-----------------|-----|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----|-----------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | £63 | Pat Fulford, Bishops Road   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | £38 | Marion Horgan, Bishops Road |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | £13 | David Batten, Harwood Close | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | £13 | Ann Lee, Orchard Road       |

Membership forms from Lisa Bove [Tel 798546] or [lisa.bove@btinternet.com](mailto:lisa.bove@btinternet.com)  
or any member of the Hall Committee

### *Annual New Years Eve Party*

At Tewin Village Hall, 8.00 'til late ...

Featuring Paul David



bring your own food & drink

Tickets £10.00 by phoning 01438 714909 or

e.mail [village.ents@btinternet.com](mailto:village.ents@btinternet.com)

Raffle in aid of Moorfields Eye Hospital

Book your tickets early to avoid disappointment!



Headteacher: Mrs A Simpson  
email: [admin@tewincowper.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@tewincowper.herts.sch.uk)  
Tel: 01438 717378

### Our News

This half term is proving to be an especially busy one, both at school and in planned activities for our friends in the wider community, so please note the dates at the end of this missive.

On Monday November 8<sup>th</sup>, pupils and members of the community were offered an insight into the preparations for the London Olympics by Mr. Owens, a parent of the school and a member of the Olympic development design team. It was most insightful and enthused us all.

Our original Fireworks Display planned for Friday November 5<sup>th</sup> was disappointingly rained off but rescheduled for the following Wednesday and proved to be every bit as successful and enjoyable. Thanks to the army of organisers and special thanks to Nigel Walker who arranged the display.

On Thursday November 11<sup>th</sup> the school held its annual Service of Remembrance at St Peter's. Pupils read their prayers for peace and laid the school's wreath. We were delighted to be joined by members of the parish. That same evening a Prayer Group Supper was held in the school hall, this year it took the form of a drinks and desserts evening, so diets were laid aside and a culinary extravaganza was enjoyed. Pupils' prayers were on display, including alternative graces and prayers in response to world events.

Our pupils and their parents made us *so* proud when we were able to hand over festively wrapped shoe boxes for the Christmas shoe box appeal. It is very gratifying to think that we are able to make a difference in the lives of children less fortunate and to bring them some of the Christmas delight we are able to take for granted.

On November 25<sup>th</sup> the whole school will be visiting the National Art Gallery in London and enjoying lectures designed to heighten our awareness and appreciation of works of art. The following day we will be holding workshops in school to produce our own fine works of art and explore different styles in a range of medium. Later, on December 3<sup>rd</sup> our youngest class, the Ladybirds, will be meeting Father Christmas at Willows Farm! On December 7<sup>th</sup> the whole school will be off to the Pantomime at Stevenage, to see '*Aladdin*'. A **BIG** thank-you to the Parents Association who kindly funded the trip.

Now for the **Dates for your Diaries**...You are warmly invited to join us for ...

**The Tea Dance:** December 9<sup>th</sup> at 4.30 p.m. in the school hall. Guests are invited to join our pupils who have been learning ballroom dancing, so please bring your dancing shoes! Refreshments will be served.

**The Christmas Concert:** December 15<sup>th</sup> at 9.30 a.m. in the school hall. An opportunity to watch the school's presentation of the Nativity.

**The School's Christingle Service:** December 17<sup>th</sup> at 9.30 at St Peter's Church.

**Carol singing on Lower Green:** December 20<sup>th</sup> from 6pm

We hope you may join us at some of the above mentioned events and it just remains to say that we wish all our pupils, their families and our friends in our community a joyous and blessed Christmas.

The Staff Team

## **THACS - TEWIN HORTICULTURAL ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY**

### **THACS membership**

If you are not already a member of *THACS*, then now is a good time to join. The annual membership runs from 1st November so, if you join now, you'll be able to take full advantage of the membership benefits for the whole year.

*THACS* aims to promote the good cultivation of gardens and allotments, to foster interest in garden design and plants and to encourage village arts and crafts.

In order to achieve these aims, we run Spring and Autumn Shows hold meetings for lectures, demonstrations and workshops, organise various outings and other appropriate events, produce a regular newsletter and distribute it to all members and post information on the society's pages on the village website.

During 2010, we held a wide range of successful events, including:-

Spring and autumn shows, Open Gardens, visits to "The Real Van Gogh" exhibition at the Royal Academy and to Beth Chatto's garden in Essex, talks on "The history of paper making and printing" and "The garden in autumn and winter", sale of local Arts & Crafts, calligraphy and jewellery workshops and the *THACS* 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary party

So ..... something for everyone, do come along and join us!

*THACS* membership for 2010/2011 still costs only £5 per person. Members receive substantial discounts on *THACS* outings and events and they also receive our newsletter at no extra charge, so this membership fee represents remarkably good value.

Details about joining *THACS* from the Hon. Treasurer, Pat Fulford (telephone 798717) or go to [www.tewinvillage.co.uk](http://www.tewinvillage.co.uk) then click on *THACS*.

### **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2010 - Art & Craft sale**

Our congratulations and thanks go to Hilary Tipping, who organised the successful Arts & Crafts sale for *THACS*. Although Hilary is a member of *THACS*, she is not on the committee and yet she volunteered to organise the event. What a wonderful example of support!

Thanks also go to all of the stallholders for coming along and making it such a successful event.

### ***The History of Tewin by the People of Tewin'***

As previously reported in the Parish News, *The History of Tewin* book has already raised £4000 for Tewin Memorial Hall having now sold 659 copies. We have learnt much from the memories and documents which continue to be given to us to copy and record. Nor does oral history ever rest: when Sir Norman Wisdom died this autumn, someone who has lived in the village for most

of her long life mentioned in church that he used to visit the cottage at Tewin Orchard when she helped Howard and Janet (possibly Carter) who lived there in the 1950s.

Howard was connected with the film industry, possibly working at studios in the county, and Sir Norman probably visited Tewin as guests during filming. *The Welwyn & Hatfield Times* featured 'Norman Wisdom's Hatfield years' in their October obituary to him and she added: 'He insisted on doing one of his trade-mark falls down the stairs even though we warned him it was made of concrete, not wood!'

Our local resident, who wishes to remain anonymous, said that he stayed in the cottage and she met him several times when she was doing the daily chores and when she helped with their dinner parties. She recalled the stairs incident vividly, when he stood on the top step, looked at her and said, 'Do you dare me to roll down these stairs?' She told him: 'It's your own business if go ahead and break your b\*\*\*\*\* neck!'

When the cottage was added at a right angle to the original 1931 Orchard House in 1946 there was a shortage of building materials, particularly timber, after WW2 and red tiles were laid on a cement base instead of wood on the stairs. Later, presumably because the tiles proved slippery, a concrete scree was laid across them. The stairs are now covered in wall-to-wall carpets, but the stone-finish was when the Clarks first moved to the cottage from Cuffley in 1969.

The delightful account has perfect provenance, therefore, and one hopes that the actor did not suffer any lasting injury. From his great success and numerous falls on film, it seems unlikely.

Our thanks for this story which has given us yet more local history we did not know about before!

We also know from a *THACS* nostalgia competition entry that Linda Crawford once met Sir Norman, too, (in Stevenage) and she has kindly given us permission to reproduce a detail from the photograph here.



The Friends of Tewin Book Committee

## **FRIENDS OF DANESBURY & QUEEN VICTORIA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL**

At the Friends' AGM in October Alan Toms announced his resignation as Trustee and Chairman. For the past 18 years Alan has been central to all the charity's activities, initially in raising the money to build a new Danesbury home and most recently funding the construction of the Day Room extension which will be ready for use on time at the beginning of December.

As Chairman of the Trustees Alan has been tireless in his efforts on behalf of the residents, respite patients, their families and the staff for whom Danesbury and QVM provide either a home or support at times when it is most needed. He will be greatly missed by all involved.

Volunteers are urgently required for our shop in Welwyn and we will be delighted to hear from anyone who can spare some time to help. Age or experience is immaterial. The money raised by our shops in Welwyn and Knebworth enable us to provide the support which is so vital to Danesbury and QVM so any help you can give will be invaluable.

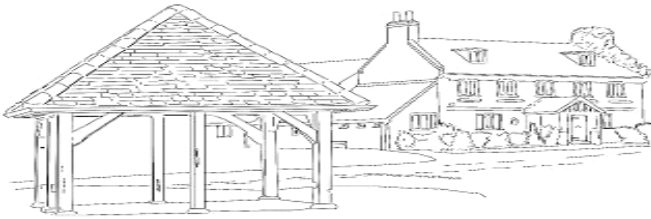
As we enter the Christmas season do please remember that your donations to the shops are most welcome – and of course do not forget that there are plenty of gift ideas to be found by a browse through our shelves!

Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year to all our volunteers and supporters.

**Friends of Danesbury & Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital      01438 840514**

[www.danesburyqvm.co.uk](http://www.danesburyqvm.co.uk)





## Tewin Parish Council

### Tewin Pavilion

The refurbishment is now finished and bookings taken. Rates, facilities and contact details can be found under "Tewin Pavilion" on [www.tewinvillage.co.uk](http://www.tewinvillage.co.uk)

### Tewin Stores Bike Stand

The Parish Council gave Tewin Stores permission to put a bicycle stand on the Village Green opposite the shop selecting the specific location where it would not be a trip hazard or impede grass cutting.

### Tewin Christmas Tree & Carols

The Parish Council gave permission for a Christmas tree on Lower Green over the Christmas period and a £150 donation towards the purchase of the tree. Carols on the Green will be on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2010 from 6pm.

### Salting/Gritting of Tewin

Hertfordshire Highways has advised that Orchard Road, Upper Green, Upper Green Road, Lower Green, School Lane & Churchfield Road are back on the usual precautionary salting route and will be salted when required with the rest of the network.

### Upper Green Road Verge from Godfries Close to Entrance to Footpath 26

The Parish Council agreed to clear the scrub up to the hedge on the verge north of Godfries Close towards the entrance to FP26 with a view to make it available for pedestrians.

The Parish Council will also consider a better surface for walking along the verge. Residents on the opposite side of the road and the owners of the fields adjacent to the verge will also be notified.

### Temporary Closure of Hertford Road, Tewin

This will be up to 3 days, between 13<sup>th</sup>—17<sup>th</sup> December 2010, with signs in place and an alternative signed route provided for traffic. This is due to the new water main installation and electricity service.

### Development Control

The Parish Council does not check for every minor infringement of planning permission, but if you are worried about any development, you can contact us. If we cannot answer the query, we can refer it to East Herts Planning Enforcement.

Parishioners are reminded that full details of recent Planning Applications can be viewed - under P, Planning Applications, follow the link to the online search page. Select TEWIN in the Parish field and 3/10\* in the Planning Reference field. Search, then select the application, Media Items -> Associated Documents on [www.eastherts.gov.uk](http://www.eastherts.gov.uk)

### NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting is on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2010

at 7.45pm at the Tewin Memorial Hall.

### Other meeting dates are:

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2011 at 7.45pm

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at 7.45pm

### AGENDA

Please notify the Clerk at least one week before the meeting if you wish to suggest items for discussion. The agenda is published on the Notice Board outside Tewin Stores 3 working days before the meeting.

**ALL PARISHIONERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND AND ARE INVITED TO MAKE COMMENTS AT THE START OF THE MEETING MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS. NEWSLETTERS AND MEETINGS DATES ARE PUBLISHED on [www.tewinvillage.co.uk](http://www.tewinvillage.co.uk). (The minutes do not appear on the website until approved and signed at the subsequent meeting).** Minutes are displayed on the noticeboard by Tewin Stores, the Memorial Hall & bus shelter opposite Desborough Drive.

If you have any queries or comments concerning the above, please contact:

**Chairman, Kristina Lawson Tel: 01438-717256**

**Clerk, Caroline McFarlane Tel: 01438-798969**

E-mail - [caroline.mcfarlane@virgin.net](mailto:caroline.mcfarlane@virgin.net)

### East Herts District Councillors:

North Ward:

Cllr Michael McMullen Tel: 01920-463430

South Ward:

Cllr Linda Haysey Tel: 01992-582151

### Herts County Councillor:

Cllr Bryan Hammond Tel: 01438-798298

### Other Useful Numbers/Websites

**Operation Arable – 01992-533000** For reporting motorcycles

### Police Community Team – 01707-354192

For non-emergencies:

**Police Control Room – 0845-3300222**

**Highways Fault Line: - 01438-737321**

Reporting potholes and any other damage to roads

**East Herts District Council: 01279-655261 or**

[www.eastherts.gov.uk](http://www.eastherts.gov.uk) - For reporting smoke and noise nuisance, flytipping, flyposting, dead animals on the road, stray dogs, dog fouling, abandoned vehicles, Environmental Health, Pest Control, Waste Services, Planning Tree Preservation Orders, Parking Warden for parking offences.

**Herts County Council: 01992-555555**

[www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org)

### Tewin Parish Council

**Playground** - please report any damage, accidents or other problems to the Parish Clerk on 01438-798969.