



# Parish News



January 2012

The Diocese of St Albans, Welwyn Team Ministry

Parish of St Peter, Tewin

Price 60p

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<b>Team Rector:</b>	Rev'd 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—11.00 am
<b>Reader:</b>	Mick Simmons tel: 01707 334805 e-mail: michael.simmons53@ntlworld.com
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<b>Parochial Church Council:</b>	
<b>Hon Secretary:</b>	Mrs Mary Gregg, 20a Hertford Road, Tewin, AL6 0JY, 01438 717544
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<b>Ringers:</b>	Mr David Hall 01707 884274

## Vicar's letter

*'Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
Ring, happy bells, across the snow,  
The year is going, let him go,  
Ring out the false, ring in the true.'*

*Alfred Lord Tennyson, 1850*

I understand that ringing in the New Year is a tradition with St Peter's bell ringers. They begin with the usual New Year's Eve festivities that some of us might also enjoy, but as the midnight hour approaches you find them heading for St Peter's church tower. Then when the rest of us are fast asleep, watching Big Ben on the BBC or bursting into a chorus of 'Auld Lang Syne', this bunch of campanologists will ring out the old and in the new.

Of course in one way New Year's Day is no different from any other. It is just one more day as time travels on. But in another way it can be used as a significant marker, a time to take breath and look back to assess hopes for the future. As individuals, each one of us will have our own joys and sadnesses for the year past and our own hopes and fears for the year which lies ahead.

But church bells have always played a part in reminding people of our communal relationships. They have rung over the centuries to call people to pray, rejoice or mourn together. In many churches the Sanctus bell is rung during the Eucharistic Prayer in the Communion service — a sign for people to take notice that God is coming in bread and wine to make disparate people into one body, one people bound together through Him.

So this New Year, as well as reflecting on our own individual lives we should also look back at the past year of our communal village life and give thanks for the success of things we have shared together — fetes, fairs, school activities, sporting events, church festivals — there are many of you who know far better than I the achievements of this year. And also we must mark the disappointments and sadness— particularly the loss

of people who have helped make this place what it is. But too, as a village let us look forward to the opportunities which lie ahead in 2012. As a year in which we will celebrate the Olympics and the Diamond Jubilee we are provided with opportunities for events which could strengthen the bonds of our shared life. As a church community we also will be coming together to look where we hope to move forward in the future with a special afternoon of vision making and future planning [more details next month].

But whatever the last year held for you and whatever your hopes for the next I pray that for your loved ones and this community the bells will ring happy.

*Susannah*



## Churchwardens' Notes

At the time of writing, the pre-Christmas snow has just arrived. This had the unfortunate effect of preventing the children getting to St Peter's for their Christingle service. However, we did have the pleasure of welcoming one class two days earlier for their rehearsal and feel sure that all went well for their service held in the School hall.

Earlier in the month, the Scouts held their night hike, using the churchyard as one of their checkpoints. We neither saw nor heard them but hope that they had an enjoyable time. For those who noticed the floodlight on in the middle of the night, this was the reason.

You will see elsewhere in this edition, the results of our Christmas Market. We add our congratulations and thanks to Nick and Clare for their organisation; to all the many helpers and donors and, by no means least, to all who came and supported the event. The £2533 raised is a very important part of our income, so a very big 'thank you'.

Rosemary and our choir have been working hard in preparation for our Carol Service, which this year will have been enhanced by our new speaker in the chancel (see last month's notes). Many thanks to all those involved for their time and efforts.

Leila Eune Shaw was welcomed into St Peter's Church family at her Baptism on 18<sup>th</sup> December.

On a "housekeeping" note, we had our annual Archdeacon's Inspection during December. This was carried out on his behalf by the joint Rural Dean, Carl Garner. This covers an inspection of our inventory, building, churchyard, and all our records and registers. We are glad to say that all was in order!

And on that note, we'll wish you a very happy and hopefully prosperous New Year.

Pete and Mike

**31st December 2011**

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

### **Post Christmas**

With Advent and Christmas behind us, we now enter a season called Epiphany but, truth to tell, it is probably experienced by many of us as a season of attempted diets following the indulgence of Christmas, and of resolutions broken by the second or third of January.

Diets, not just the slimming sort but healthy diets also, are constantly put in front of us in the press with dire warnings about weight gain and the damaging effects of sugar, fats, and salt.

The manufacturers of foods and fizzy drinks have been very slow to reduce quantities of these ingredients because, if we buy them, they will make them. Perhaps the only way to commercial conscience is through the Balance Sheet, so not buying will send a message.

We know that in excess, sugar and salt etc. will build up for our futures, the consequences of which we are unaware of at the time. Cholesterol, heart disease, and diabetes are the primary examples, all of which have a limiting effect upon our lifestyles.

Food and drink is, however, not the only diet which we consume. What we hear and see in the press, in advertising, in films, on TV and in computer style games plays a large part in our lives. There are harmful ingredients in plenty - violence, explicit and exploitative sex, smutty puerile humour, trivial celebrity and its inevitable exposure and disgrace. If we watch it, if we buy it, the proverbial "they" will make it. What part in phone hacking, one wonders, was played by the fact that it sells tabloids and, unknowingly, by us for reading them?

Like bad food, the effect can be cumulative and creep up on us in terms of lowered standards and too ready a tolerance and acceptance on our part of things which should not be foisted upon us, the general public, and particularly the young. If we were transported back, say, twenty years, I am sure that today's press and TV would astound us.

So, for your own good when giving up some sugar, salt and fat, give some thought to what you might no longer wish to see and hear, perhaps even make your views known to those who could have influence in re-drawing some of the boundaries.

Ted Sharp

At the PCC meeting last month the format and content of the current Tewin Parish News was reviewed. We'd like to ask what you do and don't like about the current publication, or any new items you'd like to see. Please write your ideas below, anonymously if you wish, and leave them at Tewin Stores in the box provided or email the editor. Thank you.

## Christmas Market 2011 — Clare Rawlins & Nick Whiting

As many of you will know, the Christmas Market which was held on the 26<sup>th</sup> November, made a very creditable £2,533. Clare and I would like to thank everybody who helped, contributed, cooked and shopped! As usual, things seemed to come together at the last minute, although we know a lot of work goes on for many weeks before the event. Some people are even at work at the January sales looking for bargains for the next market!

It was a great day and, by reports, much enjoyed but all that depended on everybody helping out and adding to the good cheer.

Thank you all.

## Ladies' Lunch - Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February



Our guest speaker is Rev'd Dr David Munchin, whose talk is entitled:

***'From tyre lever and a broken back to epistemology and Labradors;  
the Rector's life so far'***

Lunch will be served **promptly** at **12.30pm**, followed by the talk.

Tickets at **£9.00** each, available 15<sup>th</sup> January onwards from Pete Johnson at St Peter's.



## Friends of Tewin

Unfortunately I cannot report on the event before Christmas as we have to go to press very early in December, but I am sure the 'Carols around the Christmas Tree' will be well attended and enjoyed by all.

You may have noticed the lights on the tree break down early in December but we rushed out and bought new ones which I think you will agree looked lovely.

We continue to give money for items needed by various groups in the village, eg: a dolls house for Tewin Tots and nets for the Tennis Club, but to see the full list please come to the Friends of Tewin AGM on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2012 at 8pm in Tewin Memorial Hall.

Of course, immediately after that, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February, is our Senior Citizens' meal. You should have received your invite by now and sent it back. We are making it a very special day to start the celebrations of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee year, so if you have not had your invite, please contact me as soon as possible.

Linda Crawford, Chairman, Friends of Tewin

## TEWIN MEMORIAL HALL — SUPPORTERS CLUB

Results for the **November 2011** draw

1<sup>st</sup> £62 Geraldine Marshall, Churchfield Cottages 2<sup>nd</sup> £37 Sue Hayden, Godfries Close  
3<sup>rd</sup> £12 Dagmar Brook, Bishops Road 3<sup>rd</sup> £12 Elizabeth Tyers, Cowpers Way

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

## Treasurer's Notes

### Christmas Market

I would like to add my thanks to all those who worked so hard to make the Christmas Market a great success, raising £2,533 for church funds. Whilst not as big a surplus as last year, in all the circumstances it was a very creditable result and a really buzzing social event.

### Remembrance Sunday

I am pleased to report that the collection on 13<sup>th</sup> November for The Royal British Legion Poppy Day appeal raised £288, including tax recovery. This was a record for St Peter's and a big improvement on the disappointing £147 raised in 2010.

### Welwyn Team Men's Breakfasts

The first breakfast meeting of 2012 is likely to be in February. No details are yet available but they will appear in a Pew Slip nearer the time. Watch that space!

### Gift Aid Envelopes

These envelopes are placed on the pew fronts and at the back of the church, but please only use the envelopes if you are a taxpayer and you want us to recover tax on your gift. If so, it is essential that name and address details are filled in. To help those who do not have a pen with them when they come to church, some pens are now provided for your use.

### Graham Spring



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

## Our News

Before writing about the New Year, it has to be said that pupils enjoyed a particularly festive end of term in December, with our wonderfully inventive recycled Christmas tree, made and decorated entirely with "rubbish"! And looking great. We also enjoyed our traditional oversized Advent Calendar which, over the festive season, turned into a gallery exhibiting wonderful examples of our pupils' art work. Pupils enjoyed the Pantomime 'Aladdin', performed by a troop of visiting actors - most generously arranged by the school's Parent Association.

The School Nativity was well attended – by *Tewin Tots*, *Tewin Under Fives*, parents, friends and members of the wider community. It created that special feeling, reminding us all of the real meaning of Christmas. Our final *Christingle Service*, held on the last day of term and led by our Caterpillar class, was also particularly special, and it is always a privilege to worship in our very own beautiful Parish Church of St Peter's.

We said a fond farewell to Mrs. Burman after a term standing in for Mrs. Wright. We were hugely grateful for her enthusiasm and commitment to our school and the youngest pupils. We all wish her well, and we were equally delighted to welcome back Mrs. Wright, who returns in January.

Swimming instruction for our year 4, 5, and 6 pupils began with lessons each week at Hartham pool in Hertford. In the first week an assessment of the pupils' skills resulted in many award criteria being already met, and for this I think we can reflect on how lucky we are to have our school swimming pool and the swimming committee who keep it viable.

On Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, we'll hold the Prayer Group's Supper - on this occasion we welcome the parents of our newest pupils, as well as new governors and staff and our 'Reading Grandmas'. A splendid event, hosted by Mrs. du Plessis, Mrs. Cox and Mrs. Colligan.

May I end with a reminder that everyone is welcome to worship with us on Wednesday each week at 10.25am, when our assembly is conducted by Rev. Susannah Underwood.

It just remains to say, somewhat belatedly but no less heartfelt ... Happy New Year!

The Staff Team

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

Happy New Year to all our members

### **Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> January 2012 - THACS AGM, 8pm in Tewin Memorial Hall and a talk on Wildlife Photography**

Please remember our eleventh THACS AGM. The Tewin Society Award presentation will start the evening, followed by the AGM, a talk from a guest speaker and refreshments. The talk will be '*A Passion for Nature*', showing the natural world from a pictorial photographer's angle. It will be given by Anne Miles, an established and successful photographer, lecturer and tutor. This is an important meeting for THACS and all members are urged to attend. Non-members are very welcome but not able to vote.

### **Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2012 - Visit to Anglesey Abbey gardens, Cambridgeshire**

THACS has arranged a visit to Anglesey Abbey gardens to see their beautiful and inspirational winter garden. A path wends its way for almost a quarter of a mile though spectacular colours created by groups of Dogwood, Willow and Whitewashed Bramble. Scent and colour are provided by winter flowering shrubs, including Viburnum, Mahonia, Sarcococca and Chimonanthus. Coloured tree barks and many different types of bulb and ground cover plants give added colour and interest. The Winter Garden contains some 150 species of plants chosen for their attractiveness in winter and it offers an oasis of colour when most gardens look grey and dull.

During your visit, you will also have time to explore other areas of the wider 20th-century landscaped garden with its drifts of white snowdrops and yellow aconites and superb collection of classical statuary. Our summer garden visits have been very popular but this is the first time we have organised a visit to a winter garden. Don't be put off by the thought of winter weather—just wrap up warm and dry and come along for a memorable visit to probably the best winter garden in England.

Redwoods Restaurant is self-service and offers delicious home-cooked food, made with fresh local ingredients. There is also a shop and a plant centre. Wheelchairs and electric buggies available for the less mobile, but a maximum of three buggies available per group and only usable for one hour as the batteries have less range in the colder months. Consequently, it is essential to book these buggies in advance.

National Trust members get free entry to the property but must bring their membership cards with them on the day. The group rate for entry to the gardens for non-NT members is only £5.30 and consequently the prices are:-

	<b>With National Trust Membership</b>	<b>Without National Trust Membership</b>
<b>THACS Members</b>	<b>£11</b>	<b>£16.30</b>
<b>Non- Members</b>	<b>£12</b>	<b>£17.30</b>

The visit includes an optional guided tour at £3, which should be particularly useful to you if this is your first visit to the gardens. The tours will last about an hour and group sizes are limited, so booking is essential.

The coach will leave Tewin (from the bus stop opposite the Rose & Crown) at 9.30am, and leave Anglesey Abbey for the return journey at 4.00pm. Please complete the booking form and send it, with your cheque (payable to **THACS**) to:- **Pat Fulford, 27 Bishops Road, Tewin, AL6 0NP by Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> January 2012**. You can get the booking form from the **THACS** page on the Tewin website ([www.tewinvillage.co.uk](http://www.tewinvillage.co.uk)) or from Pat Fulford (01438 798717).

## Welwyn Floral Group - 2012 Programme

1 <sup>st</sup> February	AGM plus ....	- Digswell Nurseries
7 <sup>th</sup> March	Jo Bromwich	- 'Around the World in 80 days'
4 <sup>th</sup> April	Jackie Watson	- 'Elements'
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Alan Smith	- 'Spring Symphony'
6 <sup>th</sup> June	Margaret Rumens	- NATIONAL - 'Summer Wine'
4 <sup>th</sup> July	Lisa Howarth	- 'With a Curl and a Twirl'
August	Garden Tea Afternoon .....	TBA
5 <sup>th</sup> September	Linda Kingscott	- 'The Greenman & Friends'
3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Stevenage Ladies	- REMEMBER THE DATE!
7 <sup>th</sup> November	Gill McGregor	- 'Winter is Nigh'
5 <sup>th</sup> December	Lesley Sturdy	- 'Christmas is Coming'



Visitors and new members always welcome

Meetings held first Wednesday of the month starting at 7.30pm  
The Civic Centre, Welwyn. AL6 9ER – Visitors £5.00

Enquiries 01438 815599

50+

### NEW CLUB for the Over 50's in Tewin!

The inaugural meeting will take place on **Thursday, 12th January 2012, from 1pm-4pm** in the **Kimberley Room** in **Tewin Memorial Hall**. Memberships will be available at £5 per year at the meeting. The Club will then meet every Thursday.

The Club will provide opportunities for residents in the village to meet, talk and enjoy social contact over a cup of tea and a slice of cake. Also available will be card games, dominoes and everyone can join in a game of Bingo for the last hour.

Volunteers to help serve refreshments would be most welcome.

**Ann Kevis, 01438 717473**

50+

### Could you make a real difference to the lives of children and young people in your area? Think about fostering for Hertfordshire.

We really need people in your area able to offer a caring and stable home for children and young people in Hertfordshire. There are many types of fostering and we need carers for children and young people of all ages to provide care from a few weeks up to several years or more.

Currently, we need foster carers with more than one spare bedroom to care for brothers and sisters, ensuring they stay together while going through some tough times. To become a foster carer, you need plenty of enthusiasm for working with children and young people and have at least one room to spare.

In return, you will receive a competitive weekly fee and allowance as well as on-going training, access to support groups and a dedicated social worker. Foster carers come from all walks of life... find out if fostering could be for you. Come along to one of our open evenings from **6.30 - 8.30pm** and talk to our staff and foster carers about what fostering involves.

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2012**

**Ramada Hotel, Hemel Hempstead Road, Redbourn, AL3 7AF**

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2012**

**Novotel, Knebworth Park, Stevenage, SG1 2AX**

Please ring **0800 917 0925** if you'd like to attend. Or ring if you can't attend but want to find out more about fostering, or visit [www.hertsdirect.org/fostering](http://www.hertsdirect.org/fostering) You can also find out about supported lodgings and shared care for children with disabilities.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2011 - Tewin Shoe Boxes

Thank you, everyone! Tewin villagers and friends provided 186 boxes for collection on 23<sup>rd</sup> November and several sacks of soft toys and other toys, mostly donated by Tewin Jumble Sales organisers. and collected by the school. The collectors loading the van are always amazed how many there are and are extremely appreciative of the village efforts. The boxes will go to Madagascar and Swaziland where the hats, scarves and gloves will be used as it's very cold at night. A special tribute to the knitters for their valuable contribution.

Jackie Beadle, Caverswall, Queen Hoo Lane, Tewin, AL6 0LT. 01438 798 247



## FRIENDS OF DANESBURY & QUEEN VICTORIA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

A very Happy New Year to you All

As always the run up to the Christmas Holiday was very busy. Our Knebworth and Welwyn shops saw many customers, old and new, looking for bargains and, thanks to our donors, there were plenty to be found.

Both QVM and Danesbury patients had entertainment organised during the holiday period. At Danesbury, patients and volunteers were treated to a 'Sing Along' with entertainers, Ami and Rob. Everyone enjoyed the show - lots of tapping feet and joining in - then made the most of the Xmas goodies provided by the Friends. At QVM it was more singing and even more tasty treats. It is not a great time to be away from family and friends so it is important to make life as enjoyable as possible. Many thanks to all the staff and volunteers who help to make this possible.

Each year **The Goat Players**, led by Johnny Tait, organise a pantomime, the proceeds of which come to the Friends. It has become a firm favourite for many. This year's show was **'Peter Pan and The Pirates'**, which will have added many to the band of dedicated followers. Brilliantly performed, always hilarious, it left the audiences itching to know what the 2012 show will be! *The Friends* cannot thank Johnny and his colleagues enough for their generosity.

We look forward to 2012. It is certain that the need for your support will be as great as ever to enable us to continue to help our hospitals. Meantime we wish you all a peaceful New Year.

Friends of Danesbury and Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital

01438 840514

E mail: [danburyqvm@btconnect.com](mailto:danburyqvm@btconnect.com)

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



### ISABEL HOSPICE — Welwyn Hatfield

We are pleased to announce the following events supporting your local Hospice

Any queries please ring Gill Macdonald on 01707 382500



**Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> January 2012: 'Sarathon' Charity Fitness Day, 10.15 onwards,  
Parkwood Health & Fitness Centre, Darkes Lane, Potters Bar, EN6 1AA**

Open to members and non-members. Donations of £5 per class. Choice of Combat Fit @ 10.15; Power Pump @ 11.30; Hi Lo Attack @ 12.30 and Spin @ 13.30, with refreshments and raffle in Café Bar upstairs.

**Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2012 Big Band Night 19.30 onwards Chancellors School, Pine Grove,  
Brookmans Park, Hatfield, Herts AL9 7BN**

Further details to follow.

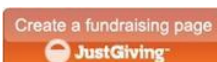
**Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2012- Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2012 'Midnight Swim' 20:00 onwards**

Our 2nd annual MIDNIGHT swim! Two venues available, **Haileybury Swimming Pool, Hertford Heath, SG13 7NU** and **Hatfield Swim Centre, Lemsford Road, Hatfield, AL10 0XR**. The evening includes the sponsored swim and Boat Race Challenge. 'Sun & Surf' is the theme so don your bikini or board shorts and join the fun!

For more info. email Katie Robertson or call our Fundraising team on 01707 382500.

**Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2012 Social Dance Evening 19:30 - 23:15 Newgate Street Village Hall, Newgate Street, Herts SG13 8RA.**

Please bring your own drinks and glasses. For more information contact John Hankins on 01707 873894.





# Tewin Parish Council



## **Christmas Tree & Carols**

The Parish Council would like to thank Friends of Tewin for all their time and effort in arranging the beautiful Christmas tree this year and the Carol singing event.

## **Panshanger Aerodrome**

Panshanger Aerodrome has advised the Parish Council that they do care about the local residents in Tewin and have put a reminder to pilots flying within the area to abide by their noise abatement procedure designed in accordance with the CAA. They have also agreed not to do circuits on a Sunday morning.

## **Local Development Framework (“LDF”)**

The next stage of the LDF will be the formal public consultation on Core Strategy Preferred Options, which is currently scheduled for early 2012. No details of individual housing sites will be available until 2013.

## **Playground**

The Parish Council has agreed to acquire new harder wearing 50mm sq black knotted UV-protected polypropylene netting, which should last at least ten years.

## **Precept**

In accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Council they unanimously agreed that the precept should increase by £1,500 to £26,300 due to the loss of footpath funding from the Parish Paths Partnership.

## **Parish Council Information**

The next **Parish Council** meeting:

**Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> February 2012 - 7.45pm, Tewin Memorial Hall.**

## **PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**

Minutes of Council meetings, newsletters and dates of Parish Council meetings are published on the Tewin website, [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 also displayed at Tewin Stores, the Memorial Hall and at the 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**

**Police Community Team: 01707-354192** – For non-emergency purposes

**PCSO Karen Broad - 01992 533671**

**Police Control Room – 0845-3300222**

**Highways Fault Line: 01438-737321** - For reporting potholes, flooding etc

**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 and Tree Preservation Orders.

**Herts County Council: 01992-555555** or [www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org)

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