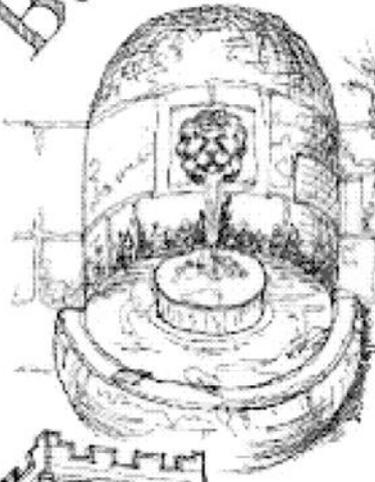


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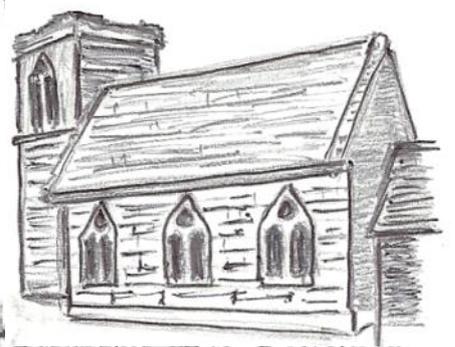
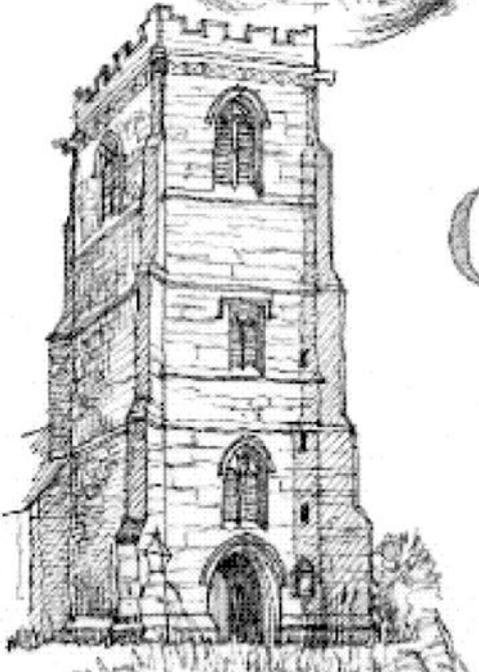


Walton



Christian LINK

December
January
2023/24



Wymeswold



Prestwold

Cotes

Church, Community and Parish News for the villages of
Wymeswold, Burton on the Wolds, Hoton, Cotes, Prestwold and Walton on the Wolds.

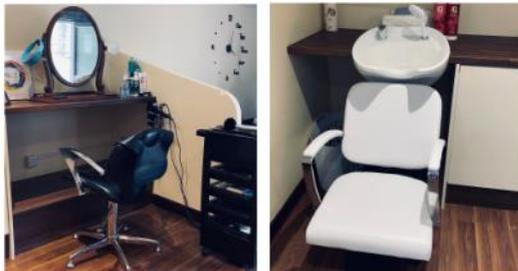


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Dec Willow wreath making, Christmas macrame,
Felt mistletoe, Glass gift tags, Christmas centre
pieces, Christmas crackers, Smartphone
photography, Marquetry pendants...

Jan Felt bowl, Marquetry, Spoon carving, Glass fusion
jewellery, Bookbinding, Stacking ring, Pencil drawing for
beginners, Sewing workshop – duck & fox, Silver bangle...

Feb Stained glass, Duck/Obelisk/Basket Willow weaving,
Earring making, Wool weaving, Silver bangle, Silk
painting..



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December 2023
January 2024

The Christian *Link*

Church News

Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends,

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' (Matthew 1:23)

As we approach this Christmas season, I am acutely aware of the distressing news of conflict coming from the Holy Land of Jesus' birth. I recall my own experience of visiting Bethlehem a few years ago and crossing the borders between there and neighbouring Jerusalem, passing through the dividing wall between Palestine and Israel. These scenes of division, violence, and humanitarian crisis are distressing, and all the more so at this special time of year.

Yet, this is also the context into which Jesus was born. At that time Bethlehem was a city under Roman occupation, with soldiers on the streets and regular conflict between the differing factions. Within the first years of Jesus' life, Herod, the puppet king appointed by the Romans, ordered the massacre of all baby boys. Mary and Joseph fled with the infant Jesus across the border to Egypt, desperate to save their child, they became refugees, seeking asylum, in a neighbouring land. A scene so familiar to us as we watch the news reports today.

But as the Bible, (both Old and New Testament), reminds us Jesus was to be called "Emmanuel, which means, 'God is with us.'" Our Christmas celebrations of the birth of Jesus Christ remind us that God came to our world as an infant in a stable to be "God with us". God comes to be right here in the midst of all the complexity, horror and distress of the world. Jesus comes to share in our humanity and to experience our suffering.

Every year on Christmas day we read from the Gospel of St John; "in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." Christmas time reminds us that not only did Jesus come to be "God with us", but also to bring light and life to all people, a light that all the darkness of our broken world cannot overcome. We light the candles of our Advent Wreath to remind us that Jesus is the "light of the world". In the midst of darkness, the light of a single candle can be

seen for miles around. So it is with Jesus; the light he comes to bring shines as a beacon of hope, the promise of a better world, a reminder of his unconditional love for all people.

So, this Christmas let us be reminded that no matter how much suffering, conflict, division, and sorrow our news reports may bring us, we are celebrating the birth of "God with us"; Jesus Christ the light of the world, a light shining in the midst of darkness, and a light which no amount of darkness can extinguish.

I wish you a peaceful and blessed Christmas, may the love of God and the light of Christ be with us all.

Every blessing,
Rev'd Clive

Mince Pie Morning

AND WELCOMING OF THE
CHRISTMAS TREE
AT ST MARY'S CHURCH,
WYMESWOLD

SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER
10.30AM - 12NOON

Please join us for mince pies and mulled wine
to welcome the arrival of the Christmas Tree.

Children's craft activity and raffle.

Barrow and Wolds Group
HOLY TRINITY • ST. MARY • ST. ANDREW • ST. MARY

What's in this Christian Link?

Pages 3-5	Church News
Pages 6-9	Wymeswold News
Page 10	Burton and Hoton News
Page 11-13	General news
Page 14	Church Services and contacts

Christian Link

To advertise contact **Chris Keeling**
75, Melton Road, Burton on the Wolds. Tel 880515.
Thanks to **Liz Gray** for desktop publishing.
Thanks to **Julian Gray** for proof reading this issue.
Thanks to **Susan Crinage** for the original cover design.

Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 Draft Pastoral Scheme

This draft Scheme provides for the union of the benefice of Barrow upon Soar with Walton le Wolds and the benefice of Wymeswold and Prestwold with Hoton (their constituent parishes to remain distinct), for the appointment of the first incumbent of the new benefice and for his parsonage house to be that of the benefice of Barrow upon Soar with Walton le Wolds, for the transfer to the Leicester Diocesan Board of Finance for diocesan purposes of the parsonage house of the benefice of Wymeswold and Prestwold with Hoton and for the future patronage arrangements for the new benefice, all in the diocese of Leicester.

A copy of the draft Scheme may be inspected at: Holy Trinity Barrow, St Mary, Walton-le-Wolds, St Mary, Wymeswold, St Andrew, Prestwold
You may also access the draft Scheme on the Commissioners' website at www.ccpastoral.org or obtain or inspect a copy during normal office hours by applying to me.
Large print and/or audio copies are available on request.

Anyone may make representations to the Church Commissioners **for** or **against** all or any part or parts of the draft Scheme (please include the reasons for your views) in writing or by email to reach them no later than Tuesday 5th December 2023. **Please send your representation marked for the attention of Matthew Crowe, Pastoral Division, Church Commissioners, Church House, Great Smith Street, LONDON SW1P 3AZ (e-mail: matthew.crowe@churchofengland.org).**

If they have not acknowledged receipt of your representation before this date, please ring 020 7898 1784 or e-mail them to ensure it has been received. For administrative purposes, a petition will be classed as a single representation and the Commissioners will only correspond with the sender of the petition, if known, or otherwise the first signatory – "the primary petitioner".

When making a representation, please also indicate the nature of your interest in the proposals (e.g. parishioner, member of parochial church council, etc) and whether you would like an opportunity to speak to the Committee regarding your representation if the Commissioners decide a hearing should be held regarding the case. If the Commissioners receive representations against the draft Scheme, they will send them, and any representations supporting the draft Scheme, to the Bishop whose views will be sought. Individual representors and the primary petitioner will then receive copies of the correspondence with the Bishop (including copies of all the representations) and will be told whether a hearing is to be held. They and individual petitioners may comment further to the Commissioners. Copies of all of the representations received and associated correspondence will be published on the Commissioners' website if the matter needs to be considered by the Commissioners.

If a hearing is held, anyone may attend the meeting of the Mission and Pastoral Committee that considers the case and representors may have an opportunity to speak to the Committee. Otherwise the case will be considered in private.

When the Commissioners acknowledge representations they will let individual representors (and the primary petitioner) know the next few dates of the Committee's meetings. They will confirm the actual date if a hearing is to be held nearer the time. The Commissioners' Mission and Pastoral Committee will decide if the draft Scheme should proceed when it considers all the representations on the basis of a paper prepared by the Commissioners' staff and any points raised at the meeting.

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The Commissioners will notify all representors of their decision and give a statement of the reasons for it. If they so decide the Scheme should proceed, any representor or petitioner against the draft Scheme may seek leave from the Privy Council to appeal against the decision. Please see www.ccpastoral.org for further information about the procedure.

Kind regards,
Andrew Brockbank, Secretary Leicester Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee



Wymeswold Methodist News

On behalf of everyone at Chapel I would like to say a big Thank You to both the Duck Race Committee and the Garden Walkabout Committee for the grants made to Chapel, which we will be using to help with our redecoration following the installation of our new boiler earlier this year.

Advent and Christmas are always busy times and provide us with opportunities to welcome new people who may not have been into Chapel to join us: we are a friendly bunch. On Saturday 2nd December come and have a mince pie and coffee or tea at our Christmas Mini Market. There will be a couple of stalls, with home-made cakes, pastries, pickles and jams, jigsaws and gifts as well as a raffle. We will also be accepting donations of food and toiletries for donation to the Food Bank. Our Christmas events continue on Wednesday 13th December at 7.30pm when the Wolds Choir will hold their annual Advent Concert at Chapel. Another event that we always look forward to is Christingle, and we will be joined by Rev Karen Beecham on Sunday 17th

December, for an informal Christingle service. These events are a lot of fun so why not come along and get into the Christmas spirit? On Christmas Day we will have a short family-friendly service at 9.30am led by Rev Sandra Marshall.

Once the festivities are over we will take a short break from our regular coffee mornings and resume these when the brighter weather returns, probably in March. On the 2nd Sunday in January we will be holding our annual Covenant Service, a time for us as Methodists to renew our promises to God, much like many of us make our New Year's resolutions.

There is much to look forward to in the coming months. We hope that we will see some of you over Christmas and the New Year. If you haven't been into Chapel before, please do pop in and see us at one of these events. We would love to see you.



News Items and Adverts for next issue



Deadline date for the February issue is Monday, 8th January.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New year from the Link Team

Items submitted after the Deadline Date may not be included in the Link.

Please send *News Items, Articles or Social Adverts* to **Jenny Bokor** at 3, Rectory Place, Wymeswold.
Tel: 881428, E-mail: jennybp54@aol.com

Please send *Commercial Adverts* to **Chris Keeling** at 75, Melton Road, Burton on the Wolds
Tel 880515, E-mail: chriskeeling38@gmail.com

Please note all *Commercial Adverts* should be sent in **JPEG Format** whenever possible, otherwise it causes a lot of work so **we may need to charge for the time spent creating them.**

Apologies, but we **cannot distribute any additional material** with the Christian Link, e.g. flyers.

From everyone at Wymeswold Methodist Chapel
We wish you and your loved ones a Peaceful Christmas and
a Happy & Healthy New Year.

Margaret Folwell

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, PRESTWOLD

Well, it's here – Christmas – Where has the year gone? My excuse is that we have been busy coping with weather – high winds, drought, plenty of rain, floods, heat, cold – in fact it has been so unusual we don't appear to discuss it any longer - most UnBritish!

As far as St Andrew's is concerned the month of December is a very important time of the year with special services – Carol Service, Christingle, School Service, Midnight Mass - visits to those unable to attend the services and generally ensuring that as much as possible is done to celebrate the birth of Christ. All this information is in **The Link**, on **Church Noticeboards** and on the following online sites; so, please look at these as you are most welcome to join us **Our Website** - www.barrowandwoldsgroup.com; **Facebook** (@barrowandwoldsgroup4230) and **Twitter** (BAWG_Churches).

October was the first afternoon tea to be held at Burton-on-the-Wolds Village Hall and as usual, was well attended. Just to reiterate, the dates are as follows - December, 12th, January 9th, February 20th and March 12th - from 2.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Everyone is welcome – we would love to see you. We really do appreciate your support.

By the time this Link is distributed the **Christmas Fete** on December 3rd at Hoton Village Hall from 1.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m., will only be a few days away and from what I read, the variety of stalls is very impressive – something for everyone. That excludes the stalls being run by St Andrew's – the tombola, raffle and of course, cakes and drinks (always a priority for us)! Do hope we will see you there – you will be supporting your Parish Church – St Andrew's.

This report is produced to cover December and January and for this reason I must mention and thank those who take so much time ensuring that St Andrew's has a service every Sunday (except when there is a 5th Sunday in the month when it is a Group Service at one of the churches), also those who ensure that Weddings, Christenings, Funerals take place - Reverend Clive, Reverend Simon, Reverend Fiona, the clerical support staff, organists, bell ringers, the various Council members, the Church office, the wedding administrator and anyone I have forgotten - thanks very much indeed for your dedication – the time you have spent on ensuring that St Andrew's is so successful is very much appreciated. We recognise that at times organising all the services can be likened to a swimming duck – it looks so calm as it swims along but it is paddling like anything under the water.... You are so professional in ensuring we don't know about it.

On behalf of all at St. Andrew's we wish you a very happy Christmas, a good New Year and hope to meet you all sometime during the year.

God Bless
Adena Hecks

St Mary's Walton News

Our annual 'Act of Remembrance' took place on Saturday 11th November and was led by Rev. Clive. The plate collection has been donated to the Royal British Legion. An early evening social is planned for Saturday 2nd December details to follow. Our next 'Open Church' is on 5th December during which we are planning to decorate the

church for Christmas. This year, we will be joining Holy Trinity in Barrow for a Carol Service on 17th December. On 21st December St Mary's will host a special Christmas music evening with mulled wine and mince pies and on 24th December a family / all age Crib Service with carols will be held at 4pm.

The Walton Apple Juice project has been a tremendous success with over 300 bottles having now been sold.

L. Jackson
Holy Trinity and St Mary's PCC

News from St Mary's Wymeswold

Christmas is nearly upon us but before I turn to details of St Mary's plans for Christmas, I want to mention Remembrance on the 12th November where the village came together to remember all those, especially from Wymeswold, who gave their lives in war. St Mary's looked lovely thanks to our talented flower arrangers who set the scene with large displays of poppies. It was wonderful to hear the march as it approached St Mary's along Far Street and touching to see all the children, some very young. Thank you to the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and children from Wymeswold School who all contributed to the service. We also want to thank the bands, the buglers and our visitors from the Armed Services, Revd David Stoter for an excellent sermon and of course, Peter Blount who organised it all. This was a very special occasion with all ages actively involved. The collection raised £483.21 for the Royal British Legion.

Our first event in December is the **Mince Pie Morning** on Saturday 9th December at 10.30am when we welcome the arrival of the Christmas tree into the church and decorate it while we enjoy mince pies and mulled wine. There is also a Christmas themed craft activity for children and a Raffle. We will have new lights and decorations for the tree - some of you will remember last year when the lights failed! The following evening, December 10th, at 6pm we will have our **Carol Service**, with traditional readings and congregational carols led by the choir. Refreshments will be served after the service.

Nearer Christmas, we will have the great pleasure of welcoming the children of Wymeswold School, their families and friends for the **school's Christmas service**. Our **Crib Service** will be held on Sunday 24th December at 4pm as always, one of the highlights of Christmas with its air of excitement and anticipation as families bring their little ones to church.

Last but not least, we have our **Family Communion** at 10.30am on Christmas Morning. There is also a Midnight Communion service at 11.30pm on Christmas Day in St Andrew's Prestwold. Details of all the events listed above and across the Barrow and Wolds Group will be appearing on posters around the village during December.

If you would like to help with or take part in the Mince Pie Morning or the Carol Service, please contact Elizabeth on 881656 or by email at ekritchley@btinternet.com. All ages are welcome to participate so readers and musicians please contact Elizabeth.

Do come along to join us at any of our services or events; you will be most welcome and we look forward to seeing you there. I wish you all a very happy Christmas on behalf of everyone at St Mary's.

Elizabeth Critchley



Wymeswold News

Wymeswold Garden Walkabout

The allocation of the 2023 grant awards are as follows:

- Wymeswold Church Appeal Fund £650
- Wymeswold Methodist Church £650
- Wymeswold Parish Council £200
- 1st Wolds Scout Group £350
- Wolds First Response Trust £600
- Wymeswold Pre-School £250
- Girl Guiding Wymeswold £350
- Wymeswold PTA £267.59

The dates for next year's Garden Walkabout are Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th June. Please keep those dates free for your diary.

We would like to extend our thanks to Mary Opie, who has stepped away from the Walkabout Committee. She has served as Secretary since 2019 and also organised the sale of teas and cakes over the Walkabout weekends. We thank her for her dedicated hard work and wish her well in her future endeavours.

The Walkabout Committee are now looking for a new Secretary to help us with the organisation and planning of future Walkabouts. We are also always open to welcoming new committee members to join our team. If you are interested in taking on the role of Garden Walkabout Committee Secretary, or you feel you have other skills you can bring to the Committee, then please contact Andy on andythegardener@googlemail.com for further details.

We are also looking for a team of villagers to organise and serve teas and cake over the weekend of the Walkabout. You can offer as little of an hour of your time. Maybe a group of friends could come together and co-ordinate this? You do not have to be part of the Committee to be on the Tea Team! Again, if you are interested in being part of this, contact Andy for further details.

Also, if you are an artist or crafter and wish to demonstrate and/or display your work at next year's event, please contact Gill on gillfeetham@hotmail.com

Finally, keep a watch out for Andy's Hints and Tips on Gardening in future issues of The Link.

Mel

on behalf of the Wymeswold Garden Walkabout Committee

Wymeswold Parochial Charities

If you would like to try your hand at growing your own fruit and vegetables, there are some allotments currently available on East Road.

If you are interested
Please contact
Jo Collington
(Clerk to the Parochial Charities)
jocollington@sky.com
07504661861

Wolds Community First Responders Group



The following is a summary of the Wolds CFR Charitable Trusts Chairman's Report to the AGM.

It helps explain the important role that your CFRs perform for you to keep you safe.

First of all THANK YOU for donations towards the Wymeswold village Defibrillators.

The Wolds CFR scheme started just over 9 years ago in 2014.

We work on behalf of East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) and respond to 999 Category 1 & 2 calls directed to us by emergency phone.

We also respond to local calls for advice and support and often scale up local calls to emergency EMAS.

We are also registered on the GoodSam 999 network for close-by Cardiac Arrests. We have responded to many of these calls.

We are proud to say that we have saved lives.

Volunteer staffing:

We currently have four trained CFRs and have trained and employed a total of 14 CFR volunteers over the past 9 years.

We have three level 3 CFRs (Peter, Howard and Will) one level 2 (Carla).

Our geographical area is a 5 mile radius from Wymeswold. However, level 3 CFRs get call outs to around 10 miles from time to time.

CFR Training

CFRs are trained by EMAS and there are different competency levels and also individual training on other aspects e.g. falls and Entonox etc.

EMAS keep us up to date with new medical skills and changes and new initiatives.

To continue to be operational CFRs have to pass a drugs test and a Basic Life Support (practical) test every year.

Recruitment:

We are always recruiting although we don't have anyone going through training at the moment.

We currently have vacancies.

Funding:

All our funding comes mainly from Wymeswold donations and bequests and a small amount from public training donations.

We do not receive any funding from the outlying villages that we cover but that is down to our own PR activity.

Hours and Calls:

Since 2014 we have volunteered 8,890 Hours, averaging **1,110 hours per year**

Since 2014 we have attended 1,336 - 999 emergency calls, averaging **167 calls per year**. (Excluding Covid and breaks).

CFR Car:

We have the privilege of having been donated a car which is liveried as the EMAS Community First Responder car.

We also use our own cars. It is likely that the current car may not last so we will soon be considering some sort of sponsorship arrangement.

EMAS do offer liveried CFR cars but these are on lease.

Funding for an EMAS car is being considered

Local CPR (heart start) training and Defibrillator familiarisation training:

EMAS expect the local CFR groups to provide local CPR training.

We regularly provide CPR training to local schools, organisations and open drop in training.

We have trained over 250 people in 2023 to date.

Local Public (Wymeswold) AEDs

We maintain and manage three Defibrillators in the village of Wymeswold.

These have recently been renewed, after ten years, from local donations and current finances and all the CFR and villages AEDs are compatible to allow flexible use between the Group and public access AEDs.

The Future:

We need to recruit two more local CFRs.
We need regular funding for an EMAS CFR car.
Thank you for your support

Pete Blount
Wolds CFR Chairman & Group Coordinator

Wymeswold C of E Primary School

Autumn term is moving along at pace and the children and staff are working as hard as ever.

Year 6 children began the half term with a trip to the Warning Zone in Leicester – a charity who aim to teach children how to keep safe, including when on-line. The children in Year 6 went along for a day of activities aimed at helping prepare them for the move to secondary school, and for the challenges they face as they grow older. Our children were a credit to us with exemplary behaviour and attitudes.

We have also had a whole school day celebrating Diwali – the Festival of Light. Children have learned about the festival traditions and created cards, diva lamps, rangoli patterns, made samosas and much more.

As I write our school council are busy making preparations for Children in Need and are organising a pyjama day, plus lunchtime activities, to raise money to help children who need help the most.

And, finally, the children in EYFS and KS1 are very excited as they begin rehearsals for their upcoming nativities. Roles have been allocated and songs are being learned – the school awaits with anticipation!! It is such a special time of year and on behalf of the staff, children and Governors at Wymeswold school may I wish you a very happy Christmas, and a joyful and peaceful New Year

Nicole Cooper
Parent Governor

Wymeswold Parish Council News

The monthly Parish Council meeting took place on Monday 6th November 2023.

The Council were excited to welcome Councillor Janet Beaumont as their newly co-opted Parish Councillor. Janet is a huge supporter of the village, has a wealth of knowledge and experience, and will be a great asset to the team.

Biodiversity and Landscaping: We would like to extend our gratitude to the Garden Walkabout Committee for their kind grant enabling us to plant more bulbs in the village.

1st Wolds Scouts: Huge thanks to the Scouts who have cleaned all the street signs in October as part of their community badge.

Leicestershire County Council (LCC) Members

Highway Fund: Thank you to Councillor Richard Shepherd and LCC for their efforts in securing funds for a replacement Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) on East Road which was fitted this month.

Wymeswold Sports Pavilion and Sports Field is a community resource and is available for events subject to availability. Please contact the Clerk for more details if interested.

Forthcoming Temporary Traffic Restriction Orders:

A46 Lifecycle Extension Work (LEW) scheme between Six Hills and Widmerpool - Work is due to start on **25th September 2023** and is scheduled for completion by the **end of March 2024**.

Zouch Road, Hathern – to allow LCC to undertake urgent patching works on the bridge. The temporary road closure will be either side of Zouch Bridge for **1 day 9am-3pm on 23rd November 2023**.

Wysall Lane, Wymeswold - to allow LCC to safely undertake carriageway patching works. This will incorporate a temporary road closure. The duration of the restriction is not anticipated to exceed a period of **1 day commencing on the 30th November 2023**.

Clay Street, Wymeswold - to allow LCC to safely undertake lamp column replacement works. This will incorporate a temporary road closure and temporary prohibition of waiting and loading at any time restriction. The duration of the restriction is not anticipated to exceed a period of **1 day commencing on the 30th November 2023**.

Contact Details for Parishioners Reporting of Village Issues: Parishioners can report village issues as they arise:

<https://www.wymeswold.com/contact-details-for-parishioner-reporting-of-village-issues/>

Full minutes of all Parish Council meetings can be found on the village website www.wymeswold.com
The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 4th December at the Sports Pavilion, Burton Lane, Wymeswold at 7pm. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

Clare Higgins - Wymeswold Parish Clerk
wymeswoldpc@hotmail.co.uk

BEAUMANOR HALL

Festive Gift Fair 2023



10am – 4pm on
Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 November,
Saturday 2 and Sunday 3
Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 December

£3 entry per person (payment by card or cash). Free entry for children age 12 and under.
Enjoy the sparkling splendour of Victorian Beaumanor Hall while you browse more than 70 stalls – each packed full of beautifully prepared and carefully crafted Christmas gifts, pampering treats and home accessories!

There'll be some delicious food and drink stalls to tempt your taste buds too!

Your festive shopping experience at Beaumanor Hall includes:
Refreshments available throughout the day including mince pies and mulled wine.
Festive music
Winter BBQ
Lounge area and bar to relax

Parking on site is free.
Cash or card payments accepted

IN AID OF ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, PRESTWOLD

COME AND VISIT OUR

Christmas FAYRE

A RANGE OF AMAZING LOCAL BUSINESS AND CRAFT STALLS, HOMEMADE CAKES, HOT DRINKS, SANTA VISIT, RAFFLE AND TOMBOLA,

SING IT HAPPY CHOIR AND A STRING QUARTET PLAYING CHRISTMAS MUSIC

3RD DECEMBER

1PM TO 4 PM

HOTON VILLAGE HALL

Barrow and Wolds Group

Ofsted rated 'Good' | Funded places available | SENCO available

Wymeswold

PRESCHOOL

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Monday - Friday 9am - 3pm

Close links to Wymeswold C of E Primary School
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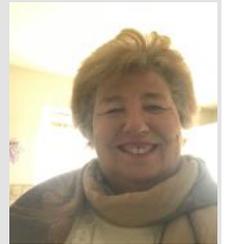
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www.wymeswoldpreschool.com

Charity Number 1027215

To all new Residents in Wymeswold & Burton on the Wolds

We know that some of the new houses are being occupied and we are trying to make sure you receive your ten monthly copy of the Link Community Magazine which is free on delivery. You will find useful information inside the Link, whether it be local events, local community groups, local pubs or local advertisers. We hope it helps with finding your way around the villages if you are new to the area. The Wolds is a very inclusive community and the Link magazine is the "link" between us all.



The Link is run by a group of volunteers including our much valued distributors. If you would like to distribute the Link on your estate then please let us know on email: jennybp54@aol.com. This would be no more than circa 25 copies and they are distributed towards the end of each month. So the next issue for December is distributed around 25th of November.

We are non profit making and literally raise just enough money to cover our production costs. That revenue comes from the annual donation run in March/April each year and from the advertisers. Rates for advertising are very reasonable and if you run your own business, then please contact Chris Keeling on email: chriskeeling38@gmail.com or tel: 01509-880515 if are interested in advertising.

Donations raise the other form of income and we send out envelopes with the March issue to be filled, which are then collected in April by your distributor or you can post it through a certain letterbox in your village.

Please phone or email me if you are not getting the Link. Welcome to the Wolds!

Regards & Merry Xmas
Jenny and the Team
email: jennybp54@aol.com
tel: 07854 869909

Wymeswold Church Fund Appeal

Gala Dinner – Monday 15th January 2024

The Hammer and Pincers have again very kindly agreed to host a gala dinner from 7pm on Monday 15th January 2024. As before this is a five-course dinner with the option to buy wine / wine flight / other drinks on the night, plus an auction. The cost will be £60 per head (payable in advance). Please contact Janet Beaumont (janet.wymeswold@gmail.com) to purchase your tickets (stating any dietary requirements and seating requests). This event has always been a sell-out, so don't delay!

Janel Fone, Chair, Friends of St Mary's

Hire Burton on the Wolds Village Hall

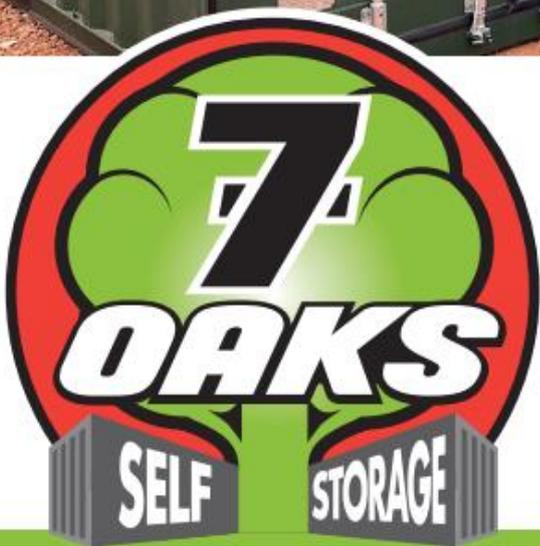
To book please contact

BOTWVillageHall@gmail.com
Or telephone 07421307029

NEW

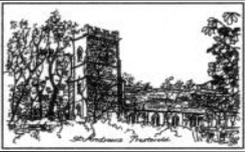
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News

Burton Hoton Cotes Prestwold

BURTON ON THE WOLDS, COTES AND PRESTWOLD PARISH COUNCIL

CONCERNS REGARDING STURDEE POULTRY FARM PLANNING APPLICATION – ACCESS.

Concerns were raised by members of the public regarding the access to the proposed Sturdee Poultry Farm site reducing from two already approved in the Outline Planning Permission, to just one via the Saints estate on the Reserved Matters application. The Parish Council has written to development control regarding this matter and reiterated their objection to this application.

HISTORICAL MINUTES NOW ONLINE!

The crowd funded digitisation of historical minutes is complete and the records are available to view at <https://archive.org/details/burton-cotes-prestwold-documents>

CLERK VACANCY

Applications are invited for the position of Parish Clerk to Burton on the Wolds, Cotes and Prestwold Parish Council, a small, but busy parish, with an electorate of around 1,000. There are eight Councillors covering three Wards. In addition to monthly Council meetings there is a Plantation Management Committee which meets approximately six times a year.

The post is for 14 hours per week, at least two 3 ½ hour periods of which will need to be at fixed, agreed times and includes attendance at evening Council meetings held at Burton on the Wolds village hall, and committee meetings held at the playing field pavilion in Burton on the Wolds.

The successful applicant will work from home and be well-organised and self-motivated to ensure that work is prioritised and completed in a timely manner. You will be required to provide professional support and guidance in all aspects of the Parish Council's work, including procedure and finance. Previous experience is desirable but not essential as full training will be provided. Starting salary is negotiable depending on experience.

Please contact the Clerk for an application pack with job description, person specification and application form. Anyone wishing to have an informal discussion with the outgoing Clerk can contact her on 01509 889 770 or by emailing burtoncotesprestwold@gmail.com

The closing date for applications Sunday 10th December 2023.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 5th December 2023 at 7.30 p.m. unless advised otherwise.

*Stephanie Massey
Clerk & RFO*

*E burtoncotesprestwold@gmail.com,
www.burtoncotesprestwoldparishcouncil.org.uk*

Plantation Newsletter

We were very lucky with the weather for our volunteer session on Sunday 5th November. After a week of heavy and persistent rain we had a lovely mild, sunny morning in the wood.

The crown of several trees near the car park entrance to the Plantation were lifted, ferns planted, two young oaks and a wild cherry transplanted.

There was also a lot of clearing to do. The Springfield entrance area was cleared of nettles, the snowberry clearing continued, and we made a start on the lamia and brambles. Quick to write but a lot of work involved. Thanks as ever, to our volunteers.

We have a Plantation Management Committee meeting at 7pm in the Pavilion on Wednesday 22nd November. Members of the public are welcome especially with ideas for our upcoming anniversary in 2024.

The next Plantation volunteer sessions will be on Sundays December 3rd and January 7th.

Enjoy the autumn colours – and have a good Christmas!

*Lyn Cooper
Plantation Volunteer Co-ordinator*

ST MARY'S WYMESWOLD



Carol Service

6PM SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER

READINGS : CAROLS : REFRESHMENTS




*Merry Christmas and a
Happy New year*

*from Jenny, Chris, Rex, Liz and
Julian on the Link Team*

*Many Thanks to Everyone that has Advertised
and donated over the past year to help keep the
Christian Link going*



General News

GREEN ISSUES IN CHARNWOOD

The Government has just announced plans to lay a subsea cable to power British homes using Moroccan wind & solar energy. The XLinks solar & wind farm in the Sahara would provide 8% of UK energy needs supplying 7 million homes with reliable daily energy. This is a project of "national significance" and will reduce our dependence on fossil fuels from war torn countries. We will be emulating this in Charnwood on a much smaller scale with our neighbouring partners.

As such a climate emergency has just been declared by Charnwood Borough Council. The motion was unanimously passed at a council meeting on November 6 and it commits the Council to working with partners and communities to reduce carbon emissions and help limit global warming. The Borough Council will be using that declaration to continue to build on its current climate change strategy. The Council will also accelerate work with partners across the county and region to develop and implement best practice methods that can deliver carbon reductions and help limit global warming.

As you know The Wolds leads the Borough in the generation of Renewable Energy with four solar farms in the ward (with another on the way), solar panels on community buildings and scattered wind farms or singular masts. The solar farm on Wymeswold Airfield was the largest in the UK when it was installed 10 years ago and produces six times the energy we consume in The Wolds villages by powering 8000 homes, so we are in carbon credit not just net zero.

The Council has already taken steps to reduce its impact on the environment. Since 2018, the Council has reduced net carbon emissions related to its operations by over 30 tonnes. It has also planted 14,000 trees at Hathern, introduced more electric vehicles to its fleet and is using more renewable electricity. All new housing developments in the Borough have to provide even more green spaces, tree planting and where possible, integrated solar roof panels and is working towards decarbonising its own housing stock. It is currently installing electric vehicle charging points in Sileby and Anstey council car parks and has worked with other councils to help homeowners save money on solar panels. There are also many more commercial EV points springing up across Loughborough eg Shell garage on Belton Road, the Golf Range at Dishley & McDonalds.

You can keep up to date with the latest information from the Council by signing up for our email newsletters: charnwood.gov.uk/alerts.

*Cllr Jenny Bokor
Charnwood Borough Council
email: jennybp54@aol.com
tel: 07854 869909*



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Burton on the Wolds Pre-school Playgroup offers a warm welcome to all children from two years old to school age.

Based in Burton on the Wolds Village Hall on weekdays during term time.

Monday – Friday:

options of: 9am-12pm, 9am-1pm, 1pm-3pm or 9am-3pm

We aim to provide high quality care and education for children, enabling them to learn and develop in a fun and stimulating environment. We have a dedicated team of experienced and caring staff who will support your child as they take their first steps in education.

- Ofsted rated 'good'.
- Close links with Burton on the Wolds Primary School.
- For more information or to arrange a visit please call **07528 657859** or email botwplaygroup@gmail.com



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The next WHO talk is Tuesday **12th December** when **Peter Liddle** will talk about the recently-discovered **Rutland Roman Villa** with its internationally-significant mosaics, including a set depicting Achilles and Hector. The villa itself sheds light on the significance of south Rutland in the Roman and early Anglo-Saxon eras.

**WHO
WOLDS
Historical
Organisation**

Peter is a very entertaining and informative speaker. Bring friends and family as this is an internationally-important archaeological discovery less than thirty miles from the Wolds which deserves to be as famous as, say, the burial of Richard III.

Note this is the **second** not the third Tuesday in the month. The talk will take place at the WHO's usual venue: the **Jubilee Room of Wymeswold Memorial Hall, Clay Street, Wymeswold, LE12 6TY** and start promptly at **7.45 p.m.** Non-members most welcome but will be asked to contribute £3.00. There is a lift to the Jubilee Room if visitors have difficulty with stairs.

I am still regularly updating the WHO's web site with information about the history of the Wolds villages. All is revealed at www.hoap.co.uk/who/

*Bob Trubshaw
Vice-Chair, Wolds Historical Organisation
01949 850631
bobtrubs@indigogroup.co.uk*

County Council News

Stubbing out smoking

Leicestershire has the lowest rate of smoking by adults in the East Midlands. New figures show that just 9.4 per cent smoke, compared with 11.2 per cent in 2021.

The County Council's Quit Ready service has helped over 11, 000 people to stop smoking for good since 2017 and is on hand to offer support for anyone ready to stop smoking by means of tailored programmes. Quit Ready advisors provide a free and confidential 12-week programme. People are shown to be three times more likely to stop smoking if they have support from an advisor. That help, together with the use of e-cigarettes and vapes, can help smokers reach the important 28-day milestone by when they are five times more likely to quit for good.

Plans are being drawn up to expand the service following the announcement that the Government is proposing to give the Council £660,000 – doubling its budget – to increase support, target key groups and focus on vaping in young people. It is expected that the Council will receive this Government grant by next April.

Anyone who would like to get in touch with Quit Ready Leicestershire is asked to call 0345 646 66 66, text "ready" to 66777, or go to www.quitready.co.uk

Fostering

There are over 700 children and young people in care in Leicestershire and so there is still an urgent need for foster carers. Anyone who would like to find out about fostering is asked to visit the fosteringinLeicestershire website, email the team at fostering@leics.gov.uk, or call them on 0116 305 0505.

The final in-person event of the year at which residents can find out more about how they can help has now taken place. However, it is still possible to register for a forthcoming virtual event, to be held in the evening of Tuesday, 12th December, by completing the "Join a fostering event" form.

Mental health

The County Council's Mental Health Friendly Places scheme, which was launched in September, has already been joined by more than 15 organizations, including both businesses and charities. The training offered will help people in any organization recognize the signs and symptoms of poor mental health, have healthy conversations and signpost to local mental health and wellbeing services. The initiative is funded by NHS England and is in partnership with Leicester City Council and Rutland County Council.

Leicestershire residents can also learn more about mental health and suicide prevention through a Start a Conversation online course. Anyone who is interested in finding out about Start a Conversation, is looking for support concerning their own mental health, or would like to register their own organization to become a mental health friendly place, is asked to visit the Start a Conversation webpage.

However, if you are worried about your own immediate health and safety, or that of anyone else, the advice is to contact 999. Worldwide, 1 in every 100 deaths is the result of suicide.

Richard Shepherd, County Councillor
Telephone: 01509 413903
Email: richard.shepherd@leics.gov.uk

1st Wolds Scout Group

1st Wolds Scout Group Bonfire

Huge thankyou to the whole Scout team for their hard and dedicated work in ensuring the removal of inappropriate materials which people had added to the bonfire stock, checking no hedgehogs were in there, preparing the Scout hut and making fabulous food, and for serving and clearing before and after the bonfire.

The presence of so many young volunteers among the 30+ good folks who turned up to help during the day and the night and then came back to help clear the astonishing amount of fire debris the next morning was absolutely heart warming. A few hundred people have good reason to thank you all for a great night of good fun, good food, and good friendship.

After an expensive year (£18,000 for drainage renewal and a new septic tank in 2023, for instance) and the refurbishment of the hut kitchen to look forward to in 2024 all profits from the event are well spoken for. (Publication of our annual accounts will show further details for anyone interested.

REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE AND SERVICE

Thank you to everyone for their help for the Remembrance Day Parade and Service. Thank you to the marshals, Flag bearers, leaders, Church, readers etc.
Another successful village event.

Volunteer Leaders recruitment

We are getting to the point where we will be postponing some Cub, Beaver, Scout evenings due to lack of uniformed Leaders.

Please consider joining us. It's not every week (one or two evenings in a month).

Its great fun, you learn such a lot and make new friends with some lovely people.

Please give Peter a phone call to find out more. (077 1825 1502)

Peter Blount
1st Wolds Scout Leader

What's On.....Wymeswold Memorial Hall

Monday - Friday

Pre-School 9am – 3pm

Monday

Move Academy 4pm - 6pm

On Broadway dance fitness class 6.45pm – 8.15pm.

Tuesday

Ballet 4pm.- 8pm

Indoor Model Flying 8pm – 9.30pm

Yoga 6.30pm – 7.45pm

WHO meetings every 3rd week 7.30pm – 9.30pm

Wednesday

Art textile group every second Wednesday 9.30am – 3pm

Yoga 5.30pm – 6.30pm

Move Academy 4pm – 9pm

Thursday

Baby Ballet 4pm – 6pm

Pilates 7pm – 8pm

Friday

Dance Academy 4.30pm – 6.30pm

Saturday

Baby Ballet 9am – 12pm

Move Academy 12pm – 2pm

Sunday

RARE Productions 2pm – 6pm

The Hall is available to hire for birthdays, weddings, special events, charity fundraisers, etc. For details of room/Hall hire please contact Mel at wymeswoldbookings@gmail.com or ring 07904 518410 between the hours of 10am & 5pm Monday to Friday.

Please note the Hall is run by volunteers and we may not always be immediately available to answer emails & calls, but feel free to leave a message.

Wymeswold Memorial Hall



Diary Dates

December

Friday 1st

First Friday and Christmas light switch on at Hoton Village Hall

Saturday 2nd

Christmas Mini Market at Wymeswold Chapel 10.30-noon

Sunday 3rd

Hoton Christmas Fete

Saturday 9th

Mince Pie morning at Wymeswold St Mary's 10.30-noon

Tuesday 12th

Coffee and cake at the Pavilion, Burton on the Wolds 2.30-4pm

January 2024

Tuesday 9th

Coffee and cake at the Pavilion, Burton on the Wolds 2.30-4pm

February

Tuesday 20th

Coffee and cake at the Pavilion, Burton on the Wolds 2.30-4pm

Friday 23rd

Maybe Dick - Storytelling with a comic twist - Bar opens 7.30pm, Performance 8pm at Wymeswold Memorial Hall

March

Tuesday 12th

Coffee and Cake at the Pavilion Burton on the Wolds 2.30-4pm

Church Services for December 2023

Sunday 3rd December

9.15am St Andrew's, Prestwold: Holy Communion
11.00am St Mary's, Wymeswold: Holy Communion

Sunday 10th December

9.15am St Andrew's, Prestwold: Morning Praise
6pm St Mary's, Wymeswold: Carol Service

Sunday 17th December

9.15am St Andrew's, Prestwold: Holy Communion
11.00am St Mary's, Wymeswold: Morning Praise
4pm St Andrew's, Prestwold: Carol Service

Christmas Eve

11am St Mary's, Wymeswold: Holy Communion
4pm St Andrew's, Prestwold: Cribble (Crib and Christingle)
4pm St Mary's, Walton: Crib Service
4pm St Mary's, Wymeswold: Crib Service
11.30pm St Andrew's, Prestwold: Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

10.30am St Mary's, Wymeswold: Christmas Holy Communion

Church Services for January 2024

Sunday 7th January

9.15am St Andrew's, Prestwold: Holy Communion
11am St Mary's, Wymeswold: Holy Communion

Sunday 14th January

9.15am St Andrew's, Prestwold: Morning Praise
6pm St Mary's, Wymeswold: Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 21st January

9.15am St Andrew's, Prestwold: Holy Communion
11.00am St Mary's, Wymeswold: Morning Praise
6pm Holy Trinity, Barrow: Healing Service

Sunday 28th January

9.15am St Andrew's, Prestwold: Holy Communion BCP
11.00am St Mary's, Wymeswold: Holy Communion
6pm St Mary's, Wymeswold: Evensong BCP

Morning Prayer

is held every Monday morning at 9.30am during
December and January.

On the first Monday of each month it is ecumenical and rotates
between Holy Trinity and the Baptist Chapel. The rest of each
month it is on zoom.

Please go to www.barrowandwoldsgroup.com for Church
services at Holy Trinity, Barrow

Wymeswold Methodist Services – December

Sunday 3rd December

at St Mary's 11am

Sunday 10th December

at Chapel 11am Rev Sandra Marshall - Utd Holy Communion

Sunday 17th December

at Chapel 11am Christingle Family Friendly Rev Karen Beecham

Sunday 24th December

at St Mary's 11am

Monday 25th December

at 9.30am Rev Sandra Marshall Christmas Day Family service

Sunday 31st December

at Trinity Methodist Church Loughborough at 10.45am

2024 - January Services

Sunday 7th January

at St Mary's 11am

Sunday 14th January

at Chapel 11am Rev Sandra
Marshall-Covenant Utd Holy Communion

Sunday 21st January

at St Mary's 11am

Sunday 28th January

at Chapel 11am

Local Arrangement

Roman Catholic Services: East Leake & Keyworth:

Father Michael (Parish Priest), Our Lady of the Angels, Main Street, East Leake (01509 852147).

www.grasshopper-hosting.co.uk/eastleakeandkeyworth/04_MassTimes/MassTimes.html

Holy Mass- Saturday (Vigil) at 6.00 pm, Sunday Mass 11am, Children's Liturgy available at each Sunday morning Mass. Our Lady of the Angels, Main Street, East Leake

Sunday at 11 am St Margaret Clitherow, Willow Brook, Keyworth

St Mary's, Ashby Road in Loughborough Holy Mass Saturday 6pm, Sunday 9am and 11.15 am Parish priest Fr Paul Gilham IC
Tel 01509 262123

Methodist

Rev Sandra Marshall, 18 Kingfisher Road, Mountsorrel, LE12 7FG (01162304689) Day Off: Monday

Superintendent Minister: Rev Karen Beecham, Logos House, 23 Lemontree Lane, Loughborough, LE11 2QS (01509219804) Day Off: Friday

Circuit Administrator: Mrs Josephine Wills, c/o Trinity Methodist Church Centre, Royland Road, Loughborough: (01509807441)

Office hrs: Mon, Tues, Thur, Fri 10am to 2pm loughboroughmethodist@gmail.com

Church Stewards: Margaret Folwell (880770).

Barrow Baptist Church

Ministers: Rev Neil Jones, Beveridge Street, Barrow upon Soar, 01509 416603 office@barrowbaptist.org.uk

Services are held at 10am on Sunday mornings. There are various mid-week groups for all ages, please contact us for more information.

Barrow & Wolds Group of Churches

Anglican - Barrow and Wolds Group

Holy Trinity, Barrow with St Mary, Walton, and St Andrew, Prestwold with Hoton and St Mary, Wymeswold.

For more information and details of services please check the website: www.barrowandwoldsgroup.com

Priest in Charge: Rev'd Clive Watts (Day off Friday)

T: 07534 899522

E: rev.clive.watts@barrowandwoldsgroup.com

A: The Rectory, 27 Cotes Road, Barrow-upon-Soar, LE12 8JP

Associate Priest: Rev'd Fiona Cotton-Betteridge (Working days, Fri-Sun)

T:07903 665912

E: rev.fiona@barrowandwoldsgroup.com

Rev Simon Richardson

T: 01509 856623

E: rev.simon@barrowandwoldsgroup.com

Administrator: Mrs Hannah White (Office Hours, Mon/Tues 10am-2pm and Wed 10-11am

T:01509 416520

E: enquiries@barrowandwoldsgroup.com

Churchwardens:

St Mary's Wymeswold: Richard Bimson and Michael Henshaw (880218).

St Andrew Prestwold: Melanie Castledine

Holy Trinity, Barrow & St Mary, Walton: Richard Hudson, Andrew Garner, Jeremy Bowman and Kath Eastwood-Paramore

Weddings Administrator: Collette Webster-Jones: contact weddings@barrowandwoldsgroup.com 07881 449588

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10 SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER 7.00PM
DECEMBER THE 'BIG' CHRISTMAS QUIZ
MAX 6 PER TEAM
PLEASE RESERVE YOUR TABLE TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

16 SATURDAY 16TH DECEMBER 10AM -12PM
DECEMBER 'BREAKFAST WITH SANTA'
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31 SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER 7.00PM
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