

# HAZELWOOD and SHOTTLE PARISH MAGAZINE



**HAPPY CHRISTMAS**



**St John's Church, Hazelwood,  
St Lawrence, Shottle  
December 2025**

## Rachel writes . . .

I think every family has its own Christmas traditions, and by the time you read this I expect you'll be looking forward to your own, and may even have started some of them already! And while some of our traditions might be shared with most of the country - for example, sitting down at 3pm on Christmas Day to watch the King's Speech - others might be special to only you and yours.

In Japan, Christmas is mainly a commercial opportunity, since most Japanese people are not Christian. It's not even a public holiday, but a regular working day. But after the post-WW2 occupation by American forces, some Christmas traditions emerged. It might sound hilarious, but the traditional Christmas Eve or Day meal is a giant bucket of fried chicken from KFC ordered weeks in advance, followed by a strawberry cream cake (because red is the colour of Christmas and strawberries are also red). But by the next day all signs of Christmas are gone, as the country gets ready for New Year, which is celebrated with a big clean of the whole house, traditional food, and visits to local shrines or temples to pick up a new lucky charm for the year ahead.

Much closer to us, our European neighbours eat and drink very different dishes to ours and in some European countries, Christmas is not the main event. One of my best friends is Dutch, and several years ago I visited her family towards the end of November, when preparations for *Sinterklaas* (the Feast of St Nicholas) were in full swing. In the evening we each left one of our shoes near the fireplace, with carrots for St. Nicholas' horse and oranges for him and his helper, and sang up the chimney. In the morning we found small gifts in our shoes, and each received a short letter from St Nicholas - in mine he remarked that he had not heard me singing along with everyone else. In my defence I don't speak (or sing) Dutch!

One of the best Christmas traditions I have heard of is the Christmas book flood or Yule book flood (*Jólabókaflóð*) in Iceland. A lot of new books are published leading up to Christmas and people give each other books then spend Christmas Eve curled up with their new books and mugs of hot chocolate - definitely a tradition I would enjoy!

And of course, all over the country on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, deacons, priests and bishops will be leading services. In recent years it has become popular for some clergy (but not your Priest in Charge!) to have a tippie when they get home, taking a selfie and posting it with the hashtag *clergymaltclub*.

Wherever you will be, and however you celebrate, I hope you enjoy your traditions and would like to wish you all a wonderful Christmas season.

Blessings, Rachel CJN

## **PASTORAL VISITS**

If you know of anyone who would like a pastoral visit, or is unable to attend church and would like to receive Home Communion, please contact the Reverend Rachel Burdett on 07340 990483 or email: [revrachelcjin@gmail.com](mailto:revrachelcjin@gmail.com)

## **CHURCH FLOOD LIGHTING SPONSORS FOR DECEMBER**

David & Mary Shaw	The Shaw family remembering Mrs Janet Doreen Shaw, a loving Mother and Grandmother on the 5 <sup>th</sup>
Catherine Raynard	Catherine remembering with love her Mother Shenagh's birthday on 6 <sup>th</sup> December and her Father Reg on 16 <sup>th</sup> December
Sheila Bowling	The Bowling family with loving memories of Aubrey on the 18th
Ros Yates	John remembered on the 20 <sup>th</sup> by Mrs Ros Yates and family with love
Mark Bowler	The Bowler Family in loving memory of Tom and Ann on the 24th

**The floodlighting may be sponsored for £5/week (Cheques payable to "Hazelwood PCC"). If you wish to have a dedication in any month please contact:-**

**Linda Phillips on 01773 550932**

**or email: [lindaiphillips127@gmail.com](mailto:lindaiphillips127@gmail.com)**

# The Parish Church of St John the Evangelist, Hazelwood

## Principal Services

<b>7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Advent 2</b>	<i>Colour: Purple</i>
<b>Hazelwood</b>	<b>11am Parish Eucharist</b> With the Revd Rachel Burdett First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10 Read by: Linda Phillips Second Reading: Matthew 3:1-12	
Ambergate	No Service	
Christ Church	11am Sung Parish Mass with the Revd Alison Roome	
Heage	6.30pm BCP Evensong with Diane McHarg	
Holbrook	10.45 Holbrook Moor Methodist Church	
Turnditch	9.30am Parish Eucharist with the Rev Rachel Burdett	
<b>Shottle</b>	<b>3pm Carol Service with the Rev Rachel Burdett</b>	

<b>14<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Advent 3</b>	<i>Colour: Purple</i>
<b>Hazelwood</b>	<b>9.30am Parish Eucharist</b> with the Revd Harold Dobbin First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10 Read by: Tricia Kellogg Second Reading: Matthew 11:2-11	
Ambergate	9.30am Holy Communion with the Revd Rachel Burdett	
Christ Church	11.00am Sung Parish Mass with the Rev Canon Dave Perkins	
Heage	4.00pm Carol Service with the Rev Rachel Burdett	
Holbrook	11.00am Parish Eucharist with the Revd Rachel Burdett	
Turnditch	No Service	

<b>21<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>Advent 4</b>	<i>Colour: purple</i>
<b>Hazelwood</b>	<b>3.00pm Carol Service</b> <b>With the Revd Rachel Burdett</b> <b><i>Followed by Mulled Wine and Mince pies</i></b>	
Ambergate	No Service	
Christ Church	11am Sung Parish Mass with The Revd Harold Dobbin 4.00pm Carol Service with the Revd Alison Roome	
Heage	9.30am Christingle with the Revd Rachel Burdett 6.30pm BCP Communion with Richard Chapman	
Holbrook	10.45am Holbrook Moor Methodist Church 6.30pm Carol Service with the Rev Rachel Burdett	
Turnditch	9.30am Parish Eucharist with the Revd Alison Roome	

If readers are not able to read on a given date and are unable to arrange a swap, would they please call Miss Elizabeth Turvey on 07714484099

**4<sup>th</sup> January**  
**Hazelwood 11am Parish Eucharist with the Rev Harold Dobbin**

<b>24<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b>	<i>Colour: White</i>
<b>Hazelwood</b>	No Service	
Ambergate	No Service	
Christ Church	9.30am Midweek Mass with the Rev Val Hart 4.00pm Crib Service/Christingle with the Rev Rachel Burdett 11.30pm Midnight Mass with the Rev Rachel Burdett	
Heage	4.00pm Nativity with the Rev Helen Thake 9.30pm Christmas Communion with the Rev Rachel Burdett	
Holbrook	No Service	
Turnditch	No Service	

<b>25<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>	<i>Colour: White</i>
<b>Hazelwood</b>	<b>9.30am Christmas Eucharist</b> With the Revd Helen Thake First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10 Read by: Sue Brice Second Reading: John 1:1-14	
Ambergate	No Service	
Christ Church	10am Said Mass with Carols with the Rev Alison Roome	
Heage	No Service	
Holbrook	10am Christmas Eucharist with the Rev Val Hart	
Turnditch	10am Christmas Eucharist with the Rev Rachel Burdett	

<b>28<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Christmas 1</b>	<i>Colour: White</i>
<b>Hazelwood</b>	<b>9.30am Parish Eucharist</b> With the Rev Rachel Burdett First Reading: Isaiah 63:7-9 Read by: Elizabeth Turvey Second Reading: Matthew 2:13-end	
Ambergate	10.30am Morning Service (Meths)	
Christ Church	11am Sung Parish Mass with the Rev Rachel Burdett	
Heage	9.30am Family Service with Christine Rose 6.30pm BCP Communion with the Ven Andie Brown	
Holbrook	11am Parish Eucharist with the Rev Canon Dave Perkins	
Turnditch	No Service	

## **MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS 2026**

The magazine subscription for the year is due from the **1<sup>st</sup> January**. Can I please ask you to pay the subscription fee of **£6** to the person who normally delivers your copy, clearly stating your name, address, and who delivers your copy. Cheques should be made payable to 'Hazelwood PCC' please. Any queries please contact Eileen Chadwick on 01773 550063.

A big thank you to all who throughout the year spend time to deliver the magazines. It is very much appreciated.

## **HAZELWOOD CHURCH ROTAS**

### **Sacristan**

Mrs Eileen Chadwick  
Mrs Tricia Kellogg  
Mrs Catherine Raynard

\*\*\*\*\*

## **CHRISTMAS CHURCH DECORATING**

The Church will be open for decorating on **Friday 19th December** from 10am or by arrangement. As in previous years decorations will be in the theme of greenery, baubles and candles. (Baubles and candles provided). We do like to decorate all the church windows and if anybody new would like to join us decorating a window please contact:-

Elaine Clarke 01332 367025 email: [elaine@johnaclarke.com](mailto:elaine@johnaclarke.com).

You would be very welcome.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **MAGAZINE COVERS - SPONSORS FOR DECEMBER**

This month's magazine covers have been kindly sponsored

By:-

**Sheila Bowling**

**"The Bowling family with loving memories of Aubrey on the  
18<sup>th</sup> December"**

.

Magazine covers can be sponsored at the cost of £10/month.

(Cheques payable to "Hazelwood P.C.C.")

Anybody wishing to share their memories or celebrations please contact:-

**Linda Phillips on 01773 550932**

or email: [lindaajphillips127@gmail.com](mailto:lindaajphillips127@gmail.com)

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> December** St Luke's Heage, Christmas Tree Festival 12-4 free entry. Refreshments, tombola, guess the age of the Santa teddy. Children's activities Sat/Sun 2pm. Raffle drawn 3pm Sunday. Cash only please.

**6<sup>th</sup> December** 10am – 3pm Hazelwood Parish Council are holding their **CHRISTMAS FAYRE**. Lots of stalls including St John's home made cake stall. See advert in this magazine.

**6<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Tree Festival Fayre at Christ Church.** 10am-2pm. Stalls, sausage/bacon cobs, cakes, drinks. Music from Belper Recorder Group. Grand prize draw at 1pm. Free entry

**6<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Tree Festival at Christ Church** 9.30am to 6.30pm (except for church services). Free entry.

**13<sup>th</sup> December** from 10am St John's **CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY** and Open Church  
Please see article in this magazine to see an update of the wonderful work that is being done in our churchyard.

**18<sup>th</sup> December** Christ Church. Derwent Singers concert. Time tbc

**21<sup>st</sup> December** 3pm St John's **CAROL SERVICE** followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

**25<sup>th</sup> December** 9.30am **CHRISTMAS DAY PARISH EUCHARIST at St John's**



**A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS**

# **HAZELWOOD CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

(Festive Crafts, Gifts, Jewellery, Art, Decorations)

**SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> December 2025**

**10AM – 3PM**

**VENUE: HAZELWOOD MEMORIAL HALL**

## **PLEASE CAN YOU HELP**

St John's have secured a table to sell home made cakes at the Parish Council's Christmas Fayre on 6<sup>th</sup> December. We would be very pleased to receive donations of home made cakes for our stall. If you are able to help please contact either:-

Eileen Chadwick Tel: 01773 550063 or Elaine Clarke Tel: 01332 367025

## **CAROL SERVICE**

**Sunday 21st December at 3pm**

**Followed by Mince Pies and Mulled Wine**



## **CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE**

**25<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am**





# **CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY**

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: Saturday 13th DECEMBER  
Saturday 10th JANUARY  
Saturday 14th FEBRUARY**

We had another fine day for outside working and the rain began only as we were clearing up. A big thank you to those who were able to help at the November working party. It was another really worthwhile few hours with everyone tackling the same thing...ivy! Some started on the perimeter walls, some on graves and some worked on trees. We were easily able to fill a brown wheelie bin, ready for the council to make the final collection of this year. There is still plenty of ivy to be cut back....if ever you have a few minutes to spare. While I remember, thank you for the pavement leaf clearance which was done during the week prior to the Saturday.

Whilst working, someone arrived to spray a cleaner on our war grave, which was good. This clears it of environmental discolouring and has been done in previous years. We don't request it, a volunteer just turns up! We thank you.

It was good to have Alan joining us again and be able to chat with him as we worked. Also it was great to welcome Marnie, who did sterling work on a section of the wall.

So thank you again for turning up, for working so hard and for making the time a good social occasion. We nearly got through the cheese sandwiches! If anyone would prefer a change of filling next time, please let me know and if I can, I will provide your choice.

I hope to see some of you on 13th December.

*Elizabeth Turvey*



# HAZELWOOD CROWN GREEN BOWLS CLUB

We have now reached the end of the season and bowled our final bowls until April. We had our finals day on Sunday September 28th, some excellent playing, the first competition was the Bemrose cup won by Andy Waumsley, the runner up was Ken Kirk. The Ann Bowler mixed doubles was won by Lynne Frost and Andy Waumsley and runners up Liz Lycitt and Paul Stokes. The village cup was Richard Hodgkin. The day ended with a pie and pea supper



*Andy Waumsley*



*Lynne Frost & Andy Waumsley*



*Richard Hodgkin*

We have now started bowling in the memorial hall, there are two sessions Monday evening and Tuesday afternoon. This year we have been bowling for forty years.

To celebrate this some of our members enjoyed lunch at the Hanging Gate. This was organised by Aileen and Howard Froggatt. Aileen's father was a founder of the club and Aileen and Howard have carried on his legacy.

Di Ottewell



*Aileen and Howard Froggatt*

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## **HAZELWOOD** **WALKING GROUP**



Our next walk will be Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. As usual we will meet [at 9.30am](#) in the Hazelwood Memorial Hall car park.

We try to find interesting walks, usually around 4 miles, followed by an optional pub lunch. All are welcome to join us.

Further details from David Shaw on Mobile: 07896 536487

Although great care is taken in selecting and leading the walks, please note that your safety is your responsibility.

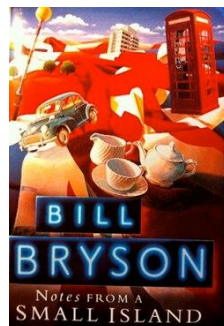
*David Shaw*

# **BOOK REVIEW**

## **NOTES FROM A SMALL ISLAND**

by

**BILL BRYSON**



First published in 1995, these are the observations made by American author Bill Bryson as he travels the length and breadth of Britain. Bill had already lived in North Yorkshire for twenty years. His aim was to take stock of the country and to analyse the quirky nature of the country and why he loves it.

It is interesting to read it thirty years later to see how things have changed and what has stayed the same. It is a very funny book and certainly made me laugh out loud in places. His route followed a lot of train lines but sadly much of the Midlands was not covered in his journey. His observations are interesting and of their time and should be read with that in mind.

*Francine Franklin*

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## **FRIENDS OF SHOTTLE CHURCH**



The Friends of Shottle Church wish everyone a Happy Christmas and good New Year. Love to see you at our Carol Service on 7<sup>th</sup> December at 3.00pm, followed by mulled wine and mince pies and a catch up with all the local gossip!!

Jean Dilks

## **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

Our Remembrance Sunday service was led by the Rev Val Hart. The names of all who died in both the First and Second World Wars from Milford and Hazelwood were read. A wreath was laid on behalf of the parish by Keith Walker.

### **MEMORIES OF WAR by Gina Clarke**

My cousin Peter Moore (an only child) aged 19 years trained as a crew member of a Lancaster bomber – he was the wireless operator. His Captain was Dave from Australia and Buster, who was the rear gunner, came from New Zealand. On leave they both stayed at my grandmother's house. After many sorties over the Ruhr they were hit by flak from the ground. Buster went mad so they knocked him out. Dave steered the plane so that my cousin and a fellow English service man could be saved. They were picked up in a field in Holland and handed over to the Germans. He spent some time as a prisoner of war in camp 18 and later in 3 (scene of the Wooden Horse story). The war ended. My cousin and his English crew member returned. News came that Peter would be on a train to Matlock Bath Station. All the village went to the station to see the returning service men. He came down the platform, I still have his silver bracelet, he was wearing his flying jacket and his boots, carrying a bar of chocolate for me in his pocket. We hugged everyone. He said that he only wanted some fish and chips. My Auntie soon obtained these but about an hour later he was sick. At the station gate waiting for the train to arrive was Mrs Birks. She had only one child Ronnie while everyone was waiting on the platform she stood aside. He did not get off the train, she never knew what happened to him. I give my cross each November to him and look at his name on the war memorial.

## **CHARITABLE COLLECTIONS**

There is a collection box for the Belper Foodbank at the back of church, please feel free to drop in any daytime and bring donations of tinned food and/or toiletries which we will take down as the box gets filled. We also have a box for used stamps which are going to support the RNIIB towards paying for guide dogs for the blind.

# THE ALPORT LOVE FEAST

In the 1970's, my Father purchased a book entitled 'Folklore Myths and Legends of Britain'. It contained a piece about the 'Alport Love Feast' which is held on the first Sunday of July, in the hamlet of Alport in the North Derbyshire moors. After over 50 years of waiting, I finally attended the feast this year. It's a simple Methodist service with unaccompanied hymns, and water and fruitcake instead of the usual communion wine and wafers. It is linked by association with the persecution of the Covenanters under the 'Act of Uniformity' in 1662. In this remote barn, both men and women assembled to worship God in their own way and kept quietly away from their enemies. Tradition has it that John Wesley himself once preached in the barn.

As I approached the farm, all seemed quiet, and I almost walked away, but I bumped into a Peak Park Ranger, who was also attending, and suddenly people appeared from nowhere.

The congregation sat on wooden trestles, supported by bales of hay, with the minister asking for hymns and personal thoughts. There was rousing singing of mainly Wesleyan hymns, but a classic by John Bunyan struck a chord with me - 'He Who Would Valiant Be'.

The word Pilgrim is repeated, and I suddenly had a revelation. I was brought up in the outdoors, and farms are no stranger to me. I worked on a relative's farm as a child and always loved nature, animals and the outdoors. Worshipping in a barn seemed normal as I've always felt closer to God when I'm in the outside, particularly when on expedition. I had recently returned from Alaska, to record the 25th anniversary of my life changing accident, which was more than an exercise in film making. I suddenly realised that it was a pilgrimage, and I felt overwhelmed in the moment. When the minister asked for thoughts and feelings, I had to speak out and share my revelation with the congregation. I felt that my life of expeditions and travels were all pilgrimages, and they had shaped me into the man I have become.

May there be many more...

*Nigel Vardy*

## November Well-Read Book Club at the Wonderful-Well-Kitchen-Cafe!

Thank you for making us so welcome, Amita, as always the food was delicious. This month the book out of the ***Random Selection Box*** was ***The Stranger Beside Me*** by Ann Rule, it was Lynn's choice. She shared her fascination with this true life story. It explores deception, lies and identity and is very frightening!

The themes for the November meeting were ***Communication & Rebellion***. The following books were shared:

**The Four Winds by Kristen Hannah** A devastating drought shatters Elsa's life, her husband abandons her. She is forced to make a life-altering decision: stay and fight for her farm or take her children in search of a better future. A story of survival, hope, and the strength of a mother's love during a dark time in American history.

**The Book Thief by Marcus Zusak** Set in Nazi Germany during World War II, this is the story of a young girl, sent to live with foster parents. She develops a love for books and words, she steals books from various places, including a Nazi book burning and the mayor's wife's library. Her foster family hides a Jewish man in their basement, the two form a bond over shared stories. Read of her experiences, friendships, and the devastating air raid that destroys her home and family.

**The Death Ray - The Secret life of Harry Grindell Matthews by Jonathan Foster** Using disclosed files marked 'secret' held at the National Archives, newly discovered documents and personal recollections from those who knew him, this is a gripping account of one of the greatest, visionary, inventors of the twentieth century.

**Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout** explores Olive's relationships with her kind husband, Henry, their resentful son Christopher, and various community members. The stories, told over a span of 25 years, explore themes of grief, love, and the human soul.

**The Lighthouse by Michael D O'Brien** Ethan McQuarry is a young lighthouse keeper on a tiny island, on the Atlantic Ocean. He has no family, and sees himself as a vigilant, performing his duties courageously year after year. He cherishes his solitude and is grateful that his interactions with human beings are rare. Even so, he is haunted by his aloneness in the world and by a feeling that his life is meaningless.

**The Bigamist by Mary Turner Thompson** The true story of lies in epic proportions! Mary is happily married then one day the phone rings, and a woman introduces herself as 'the other Mrs Jordan'... A raw account of deception on a grand scale, Turner Thomson recounts what happened after she discovered every word he'd said, from the very first moment, was a lie.

**Please Mr Postman by Alan Johnson** The memoir covers Johnson's journey from a struggling young father to a trade union activist, which ultimately set the stage for his political career as an MP. A feel good read!

**A History of the World in 21 Women by Jenni Murray** From Hatshepsut to Marie Curie; Joan of Arc to Angela Merkel - Murray explores and celebrates the lives of some amazing and courageous WOMEN!

**Next Meeting: Saturday February 7th 2026**

**Randomly Generated Themes: Solitude & Surveillance**

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## **SHOTTLEGATE & DISTRICT. (EST.1918)**

**Meet first Wednesday of each month @ 7.00pm**

### **NOVEMBER MEETING**

Elaine Hobson, Vice Chair, welcomed members and guests to our meeting to hear a talk by Chris Fisher, "The Blind Woodturner".

After the meeting Elaine introduced Chris who was accompanied by his wife, Nicola and guide dog Bamber.

Chris spoke about losing his sight overnight at the age of 39 and how this affected his mental health and he is Patron of UK Mens Shed Association. RNIB were very supportive and he attended courses. Chris started creating plates, bowls, spoons and candlesticks out of wood using his hands to feel the shape of the wood. Chris has also appeared on the television programme "Something for Nothing" and enjoyed this new experience. Chris later realised he needed a hobby and started painting the paints "talk" to him so he knows the colours. Using acrylic paints, he uses his hands to feel the texture and outline of his work. Chris showed his excellent art work and a painting "Blue Moon" was purchased.

Elaine thanked Chris for his inspirational and interesting talk.

Refreshments were served which included delicious home made cakes.

The next meeting is on the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026 7pm.

Visitors welcome.

Contact for WI information: Eileen Chadwick telephone: 01773 550063.



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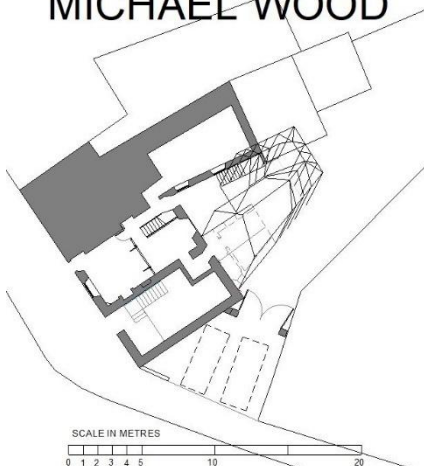


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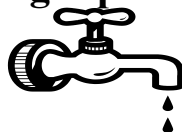
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