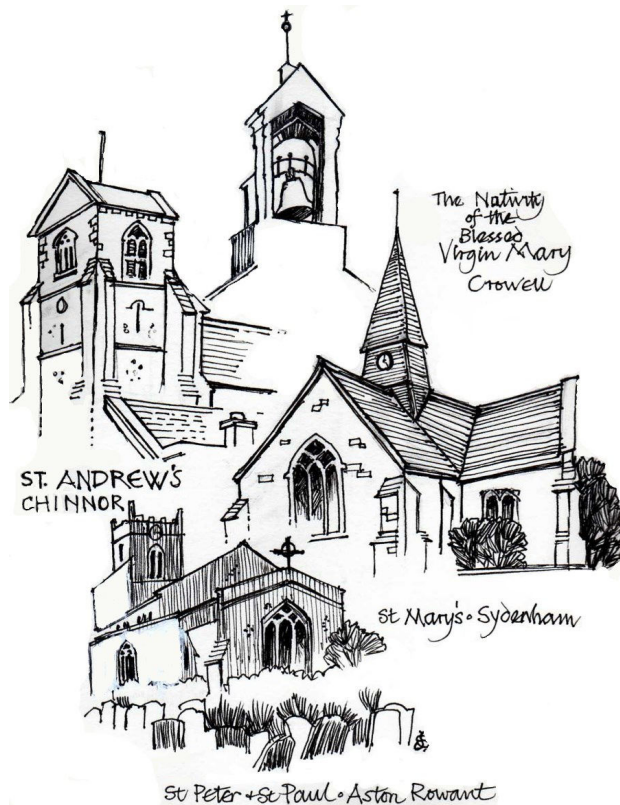




THE UNITED PARISH MAGAZINE

CHRISTMAS 2025

The United Parish of Chinnor, Sydenham, Aston Rowant & Crowell





The United Parish Ministry Team

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Rev'd Joan DeVal

01844 353404

Licenced Lay Minister (L.L.M)

Margaret Poole

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Rev'd Tony Whitaker

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The front cover image and inside cover was edited using AI

Drawing on the front cover - The 'United Parish' - Jean Stanley

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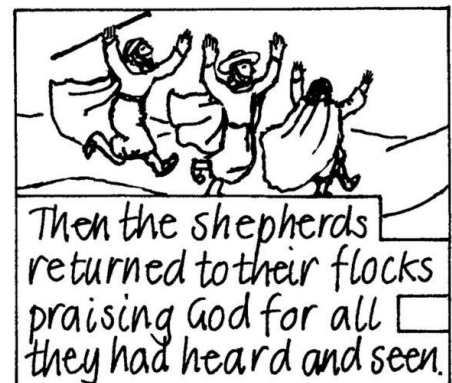
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Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Luke chapter 2 verses 8 to 20

Shepherds were paid to look after the flocks
out on the hillside. Uneducated and rough,
they were usually avoided, or overlooked.



Jacky's Christmas Diary



School Christingle at Aston Rowant



Outdoor Nativity

Luncheon Club Christmas dinner



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Winter Solstice



Emmington



St Andrew's School Carol Concert



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Crib Service at Aston Rowant Church



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Pam Hearne's two great nephews Tom and Ben, playing the organ together on Christmas morning at Aston Rowant morning service.



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FRIENDS OF ST ANDREW'S CHURCH : CHRISTMAS MARKET: SATURDAY 29th NOVEMBER 2025 : 10AM-12 NOON

Thank you to all the stall holders and volunteers who manned the various stalls and for giving up their time and for the generous donations for the stalls. Thank you to Rod Thorpe and Janet for donating their delicious jams and pickles. Thank you to all the visitors to the Christmas market – it was a horrible wet and windy day. The church was warm and it was wonderful to greet and welcome visitors into the church. Special thank you to Father Christmas for visiting. A grand total of £1,812.90 was raised. All funds raised is for the care and maintenance of St Andrew's Church. Rev'd Dr Jacky Barr raised £472.40 as part of United Parish Gift Day

Friends of St
Andrew's Church,
Chinnor



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CROWELL PHOTOS IN DECEMBER



Crowell Carols
19th December



Window Displays



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Starboddler visit to Hempton Field



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Winter Solstice event at Donkey Lane Orchard- Saturday 20th December



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Jacky welcoming the Chinnor U3A members to their Christmas concert at St Andrew's Church



"Goodness! is it time for Christmas Fair organising, carol service planning and nativity play rehearsals already?!"

To make a donation, please see page 39

Christingle service held at St Andrew's Church on Sunday 14th
December

£179.25 was donated to the Children's Society and £170.45 was raised
from the sale of Christmas cards.



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Nine Lessons and Carols service at St Andrew's Church - Sunday 21st December.

A big thank you to the St Andrew's Church Flower Guild for decorating the church so beautifully.



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ST ANDREW'S LUNCHEON CLUB

The St Andrew's Luncheon Club had a great time at our Christmas lunch on Wednesday 17th December and this is because of all the support given to us by local people.

Our heartfelt thanks go to Callum of Ludlows of Chinnor who supplied the fantastic turkeys at a very reduced price.

Cash donations from the Co-op towards our celebrations, The Thame Runners to provide transport, Chinnor Parish council for the purchase of new cookers and a Food and Warmth Grant to provide food.

Raffle prizes from Chinnor post office, Florence Nightingale Chinnor, Trinity Wellness, Biker Bean, Grapes and Flavours, Porters, Chinnor bakery, Haddenham Garden Centre, Waitrose, Majestic Wines, Umbertos, Candelo Lounge, Tesco and Morrisons.

And last but not least our thanks go to the children of St Andrew's Church of England Primary School who sang lovely Christmas carols to everyone.

Without all of this support the Luncheon Club would not be able to provide such a valuable service in the village.

J Walker/P Mahon (Co-ordinators)





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FRIENDS OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH : CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL : 6 -14 DECEMBER 2025 : SANTA'S WORKSHOP

For many in the Chinnor community, the Christmas Tree Festival marks the start of the build-up to Christmas. Over the nine days of the event, St. Andrew's Church welcomed visitors to hear talented local school choirs and musicians and enjoy the display of 30 Christmas trees within the beautiful surroundings of the Grade 1 listed church.

St Andrew's Church relies almost exclusively on voluntary donations to stay open, every day, in the heart of Chinnor. Its share of the money raised will be used, as it has been since the festival started, to help with the significant costs of keeping Chinnor's finest Grade 1 Listed building open every day for the local community and to continue providing regular services, weddings, baptisms, and funerals, as well as valuable children's clubs.

A BIG THANK YOU to all who took up the challenge of the theme of "Santa's Workshop" and made beautiful decorations to depict their chosen topic:

WELCOME TO SANTA'S WORKSHOP: Decorated by Carol Paton and Kate Scott

CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS: Sponsored and decorated by the Methodist Church

LOLLIPOPS: Decorated by the children from Starboddlers

SANTA'S LETTERBOX: Sponsored and decorated by Jack & Jill Preschool

SANTA'S FAVOURITE BOOK: Decorated by Chooseday Club

SANTA'S FAVOURITE MUSIC: Decorated by the Chinnor Community Church

TOY MAKING TREE: Decorated by the Windmill Nursery

NORTH POLE TREE: Decorations made by the Chinnor Library users

SANTA'S FAVOURITE FOOD: Decorated by Debra Dinnage and Carole Harvey - Hearing Dogs for Deaf People

SANTA'S CHRISTMAS TREE: Decorated by the Mill Lane Community Primary School Art Hub

GINGERBREAD MEN: Decorated by Wendy Jennings for the St Andrew's Luncheon Club

SANTA'S WARDROBE: Decorated by the Chinnor Village Centre Fundraising Team & Trustees

SANTA'S PRESENTS: Decorated by the Chinnor Women's Institute

ELF TREE: Decorated by Ladybird Pre-school

SANTA IN CHINNOR: Sponsored and decorated by the Chinnor Parish Council

SNOWFLAKES TREE: Decorated by the 1st Chinnor Beavers

SANTA'S MAILROOM TREE: Decorated by Marion Daleki

REINDEER STABLE TREE: Decorated by the Red Kite Family Centre

NUTCRACKERS: Decorated by the Chinnor Royal British Legion

NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS: Decorated by the Hempton Field Nursing Home

SANTA'S WRAPPING STATION: Sponsored and decorated by Peggy Miles

SANTA SAYS, "TEACH THE CHILDREN": Decorated by the United Parish Ministry team

UNSTOPPABLE HOPE: CELEBRATING 80 YEARS: Decorated by Chinnor Christian Aid

UP AND UP AND AWAY: Decorated by Laretta Milligan

SANTA AROUND THE WORLD: Decorated by St Andrew's Church of England Primary School

SANTA'S HELPERS : Decorated by Aston Rowant Church of England Primary School

SANTA'S FAVOURITE TIPPLE: Decorated by the Chinnor Wine Circle

SANTA'S SUMMER HOLIDAY!: Decorated by the Chinnor and Watlington District Girl Guiding

SANTA'S HELPERS TEDDY FAIR: Decorated by Tracey Gardener and Val Welford

CHRISTMAS DAY: Decorated by Joanne Humphrey.

Thank you to all who provided musical entertainment throughout the festival :

AllSorts

Bodger's Wood & Friends

Edward Thompson

Ken Brazier & The Bonjovi Revival

Mike & Julia Todd

Mill Lane Community Primary School Choir

Nick Austen

Radnage Church of England Primary School Choir

The Ukulelians

Thank you to all who organised refreshments; all the Meeters and Greeters; and lastly by no means least, the Christmas Tree Festival Committee. Thank you also to Rod Thorpe for his very generous donation of jams, pickles, etc.

A special thank you to all the sponsors of the trees, especially Motec, and Parkers Properties.

Thank you to all the visitors to the 15th Christmas Tree Festival in helping St. Andrew's Church make the Festival such a memorable community event and raising funds for the upkeep of the historic building of St. Andrew's Church. A grand total of £1 874.20 was raised through door, hamper and refreshment donations.

FRIENDS OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH



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Christmas News from Sydenham

Christmas in Sydenham, not unlike all the other United Parish strongholds was certainly festive with a capital F.

Here is a flavour of the many and varied events taking place accompanied by an album full of pictures!

Following our choir on tour visit to St Andrew's in November (as reported in the last issue), Christmas activities followed rapidly not relenting until it was all over!

Our Christmas fayre in early December, attended and supported across the Parish (thank you) was a happy occasion raising in just two hours around an amazing £2,400. The hard work put in by the villagers gladdened the heart as well as church coffers!

Christmassy cakes were on offer at the December coffee morning then surrounded by beautiful floral displays.



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Our traditional Carol Service with mince pies and sherry was lovely with further 'Carols round the Trees' later in the week - a jovial event with favourite pieces sung with gusto.

Swiftly following on the heels was the Countryside Carols then it was a romp home via Santa's sleigh through the village to the 130+ well attended Crib service pleasingly packed with the village 'young uns' concluded by a quieter and more reflective Midnight Mass before the big day itself.





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St Mary's choir, well rehearsed by choir master Chris. had a busy time supporting all the above plus additionally performing as the visiting choir at Hempton Fields, Emmington and Stonor whilst Hugh sparkled, in more ways than one, at the piano! Happy New Year !





The United Parish of Chinnor, Sydenham, Aston Rowant and Crowell



To make an online donation, our bank details are

CAF Bank (*who are a bank for charities*)

Account name: **United Parish of Chinnor**

Account number: **0001 9680**

Account sort code: **40 52 40**

If you would like to donate through our **Just Giving** page, here is our QR code



<https://www.justgiving.com/unitedparish-chinnor>

If you are able to gift aid your donation, please contact the Church Office.

May God bless you and we thank you for your generosity.



Parish Office

For all enquiries concerning baptism, confirmation and matrimony
please contact the Parish Office.

Rector: Rev'd Dr Jacky Barr

Parish Office: Tricia Prescott

St Andrew's Church, Chinnor, OX39 4PG

01844 352472 - office@unitedparish.church

Treasurer: Vacancy

Opening Hours: subject to change, please call or email ahead if you are
planning to visit

Monday **Closed**

Tuesday **1.30 – 3.30pm**

Wednesday **1.30 – 3.30pm**

Thursday **1.30 – 3.30pm**

Friday **Closed**

The best way of contacting the parish office is by emailing: office@unitedparish.church

Parish Magazine:

Editor: Nicholas Milligan

Submissions should be emailed to magazine@unitedparish.church

DEADLINE: February and March Magazine is 21st January

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Vacancy

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Roy Harrison 01844 353887

Vacancy

Nativity of B.V.M. Crowell

Andy Warman 01844 351909

Maggs Warman 01844351909



Dear Reader,

I hope you enjoyed this special issue as much as I enjoyed editing it. A massive thank you goes out to all our volunteers and parishioners for supporting our services and events.

I hope you had a very Merry Christmas and I wish you a very happy New Year!

See you in 2026!

Nic Milligan

Magazine Editor