

# Neighbourhood News from Hilmarton Parish

Number 12 - Volume 7 - December 2015

This Newsletter is produced for Hilmarton Parish Council  
Contact the Clerk: c/o Jays Cottage, Compton Road, Hilmarton, Calne,  
Wiltshire, SN11 8SG. Tel: 01249 760401  
Email [jacquie88@btinternet.com](mailto:jacquie88@btinternet.com) - [www.hilmartonparish.co.uk](http://www.hilmartonparish.co.uk)



Parish Council - St Laurence  
Church - The School - Goatacre  
S&SC - The Chapel - Hilmarton  
Moviola - Phoenix Group  
Heritage Society - Gardening  
Club - Bell Ringers - Preschool  
& Toddlers Group - Goatacre  
Cricket Club - Smile - Knitti  
Natters - Breakfast Club  
The Duke

**Beversbrook-Catcombe-Clevancy-Corton-Goatacre-Highway-Hilmarton-Littlecott-New Zealand-Rodwell-Witcomb**

## WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER

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Wed. 2<sup>nd</sup> December  
CAMEO and Christmas  
Draw in Church at 2:30pm

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Bingo 4<sup>th</sup> Dec. in the  
Community Room 6:45pm

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6<sup>th</sup> Dec. Family Carols in  
the Chapel at 4:00pm

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11<sup>th</sup> Dec. Nativity in  
Church at 6:00pm

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13<sup>th</sup> Dec. Carol Service in  
Church at 5:00pm

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19<sup>th</sup> Dec. The Village  
Singers in Church for  
7:30pm

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21<sup>st</sup> Dec. Carols at  
The Duke from 6:00pm

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Contact a Councillor, read  
the Parish Council  
minutes

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

## THE EDITORS WISH YOU HAPPINESS & GOOD HEALTH THIS CHRISTMAS

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# The Village Singers

## Present a musical celebration for Christmas

# Let It SNOW

### St. Laurence's Church, Hilmarton

### Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 7.30 pm

*Tickets now available from:*

Maz:	01249 760662
Sheron:	01249 760572
Jacqui:	01249 760401



*Ticket Price £7.00*

Mince pies, wine and soft drinks will be available

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## PRIVATE ENTRIES

Dependent on available  
space, private entries may be  
accepted for inclusion in the  
Neighbourhood News.  
Donations of a minimum of  
£10 are kindly suggested.  
This donation can go to your  
chosen Parish Group. Copy  
and donation please, to  
Jacquie Henly (760401)

**WILKINS BUILDERS LTD ARE KINDLY SPONSORING THE PRINTED COPIES OF THE  
NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS THROUGHOUT 2015 - TEL: 01249 822433**

VAL AND GEOFF  
PROCTER WOULD LIKE  
WISH ALL OUR FRIENDS  
HILMARTON PARISH  
AND BEYOND A JOYOUS  
CHRISTMAS AND A VERY  
HAPPY NEW YEAR

A donation will be made to  
Julia's House in lieu of Christmas cards.



**CAMEO** Tea, cakes and Christmas Raffle Draw will be held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December in St Laurence Church from 2:30 to 4:00pm following Worship in the Week at 2:00pm. Please feel free to attend either or both.

**FROM THE SCHOOL** - We have just received notification that Rag Bag are no longer going to be collecting from this area with immediate effect, they will be collecting the bin shortly and we have had to close it in the meantime.

We thank all the villagers for their kind support. We are looking into another scheme and will keep you all informed.

Hilmarton Gardening Club

St Laurence Parish Church Hall  
Every 4th Tuesday  
Throughout the year except  
December when there is no meeting  
7.15 pm for 7.30 pm

Speakers  
Garden visits  
Demos  
Social events  
Question time

Demonstrations

Followed by refreshments and a raffle or plant sale

Entrance fee: Members £2  
Visitors £5 Annual Membership £6

For more information call 01249 760312  
hilmartongardeningclub@hotmail.co.uk  
and on Facebook and Flickr

**A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS  
FROM  
HILMARTON  
GARDENING CLUB**

News from the Bell Tower.

There will be no commemorative ringing for WW1 now until May next year.

We are still looking for people to join us and learn to ring. Any one is welcome to come to any of our practices to see what is involved without committing themselves to anything. We will not be practising on Dec 21st as that is the Carols in the Pub event, nor will we practise on 28<sup>th</sup> Dec. We are hoping to ring as usual for New Year although lack of numbers may prevent that.

Elaine Leighton (Tower correspondent)

**Look out for the *Grand Christmas Raffle* held in aid of St Laurence's Church  
It will be drawn on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at an afternoon event (involving tea and cake, of course!)  
Tickets available from PCC members**

#### **HILMARTON MOVIOLA**

The team at Hilmarton Moviola would like to wish our moviegoers a very joyful Christmas and Happy New Year. We have no film in December but here are the dates for Spring, all Saturday 7.00 for 7.30.

SATURDAY 16TH JANUARY

SATURDAY 20TH FEBRUARY

SATURDAY 12TH MARCH

SATURDAY 16TH APRIL

If you would like your name added to the E-mail list please let us know on hilmartonmoviola@hotmail.co.uk or call 01249 760312 and we will keep you informed of the forthcoming films.

You may have a pre movie supper at The Duke for a special price call 01249 760634

There will be no Christmas cards for all my local friends, instead a donation to the Church.  
Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2016 from Trish Joel.

A big thank you to all who assist in the distribution of our Newsletter and to everyone who regularly contribute to its varied content.



**BINGO** Come along to your friendly Bingo game. All cash prizes and a Bumper Christmas Raffle. Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December, 6:45 for 'eyes down' at 7:00pm In the Community Room - Poynder Place  
Our 'Snowball' is now £50!!!!  
The draw for the November Ten Score Club will also take place.

**HILMARTON COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH (CSW)**

As you are probably aware, CSW sessions have ceased due to a critical shortage of willing volunteers. Hopefully this is only a relatively temporary situation, and whilst the recent wet weather is not conducive to the effectiveness of the speed monitoring device, maybe we could resume visible activities in the Spring. If you would like a chance to increase awareness of excessive speed through our Villages, you could attend one of the training sessions being held at Police HQ in Devizes – time/dates are as follows:

- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2016 6pm – 8pm
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2016 5pm – 7pm
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2016 5pm – 7pm
- Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2016 10am – 12pm
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016 6pm – 8pm

Please contact me on 760572 or [melwilkins@live.com](mailto:melwilkins@live.com) for an application form or any further information.

There is now a dedicated Volvo CSW car, which we can 'borrow', to assist in raising awareness of speed monitoring



**THE DUKE HOTEL  
HILMARTON**

**Christmas & New Year Opening Times**

- Mon. 21<sup>st</sup> Dec. 12-3pm & 6pm Carol Service
- Tues. 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec. 12-3pm & 6-11pm
- Wed. 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec. 12-3pm & 6-11pm
- Thurs. 24<sup>th</sup> Dec. Open all day - Food 12-8pm
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Dec. Bar Only 11-2pm
- Sat. 26<sup>th</sup> Dec. Open all day - Food 12-8pm?
- Sun. 27<sup>th</sup> Dec. Lunchtime only 12-3pm
- Mon. 28<sup>th</sup> Dec. 12-3pm & 6-11pm
- Tues. 29<sup>th</sup> Dec. 12-3pm & 6-11pm
- Wed. 30<sup>th</sup> Dec. 12-3pm & 6-11pm
- Thurs. 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. Open all day - Food 12-6pm
- Fri. 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. Closed all day
- Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan. Open all day - Food 12-2:30pm & 6-8:30pm



Saturday 5th December  
7pm – Late at the Duke Hotel, Hilmarton

**Sophie's Beauty Spot Fundraiser Launch in aid of Jack's Bench & MPS Society**

Please join us for a night of festive fun to celebrate the launch of Sophie's Beauty Spot!

The night will include sponsored leg wax, a raffle full of amazing prizes and music through until late.

Come along, support a great cause and get into the Christmas spirit... All be it a bit early!!!

**NEW YEARS EVE PARTY**  
**AT THE ONLY PUB IN THE VILLAGE**  
**FANCY DRESS OPTIONAL**  
theme is **SPOTS & STRIPES**  
**TICKET ONLY FREE LATE BUFFET**  
**AVAILABLE FROM 10pm**  
Phone 760634 for your free tickets

**The Library Bus will visit the School Hall car park 10:15 to 10:45am TUESDAY - 29<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

CHAPEL ACTIVITIES IN DECEMBER		
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Family Carol Service with tea	4:00pm
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Service at St Laurence Church	5:00pm
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Service	6:00pm
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> /29 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee Morning	10:00am
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies Meeting	2:00pm
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> /11 <sup>th</sup> /18 <sup>th</sup>	Prayer Group at Audrey Peglar's, Dauntsey	2:30pm

On Storytelling My mind is full of pictures from various stories at the moment. The Christmas story lies ahead as I write this and I'm looking forward to the ways that story will be told in carols and nativity plays, in churches and schools; through Advent Calendars and through the traditions that different people and families have.

Christmas is a time that is about fun – eating and drinking, presents and Santa and stockings, and the gathering of family and loved ones; seasonal films or the Queen's speech and holly and reindeer.

But of course, we can tell stories, including the Christmas one in very different ways.

Christmas is a time that is about stress - feeling too full or having 'one too many' too many times, unwanted gifts and debt loneliness because there's no one under the mistletoe to kiss this year, and family and loved ones quarrelling over the mincepies, or about what to watch on TV.

I think the stories we tell ourselves and each other matter – not just when we're happy or the world looks a good place to be alive, but perhaps even more when we're sad or the world seems too full of stories of terror and hatred. I'm grateful for people who in those times can still tell stories of courage to overcome fear and love that is greater than hate – they help me keep going with the stories that sustain my trust in Love and Joy.

And you can tell the traditional Christmas story in different ways:

It's about a single mum giving birth, some agricultural labourers hallucinating, and some fools who are looking for a prince in a derelict outbuilding. It's about Mary, and Joseph choosing to love and support her although the baby isn't his; about shepherds terrified by seeing angels and some wise astronomers whose study of the stars leads to a pilgrimage of years and distance.

But whatever way you tell it the heart of the story is always the baby – a vulnerable newborn, Jesus.

His story too can be told in different ways and his life and message of loving your neighbour transforms and challenges the world to this day.

However you tell the Jesus story I hope that we can all still find as much courage as the shepherds who encounter messengers that frighten them but still go and find the baby.

I hope we can have the kind of companionship that Mary and Joseph discover that helps us share the care of the vulnerable and needy.

And may there be more fun than stress in all your Christmases so that New Year resolutions for 2016 enrich and bring joy to our lives and all who are part of the stories of the communities in which we live.

Reverend Rachma Abbott, Priest in Charge Woodhill Benefice, The Vicarage, Clyffe Pypard, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN4 7PY.

Tel 01793 731134

Date	HILMARTON	Date	Other Benefice Churches
<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec</b>	<b>2pm Worship in the Week in the Church Communion followed by CAMEO tea and Christmas raffle.</b>		
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>		Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10:30am Benefice Communion, Broad Town 4:00pm Christingle, Tockenham
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>5pm Carol Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies</b>	Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9:00am Benefice Communion, Clyffe Pypard 10:00am Service to mark 40 years of priesthood for Rev'd Alan Taylor at St Barts, Royal Wootton Bassett
<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>		Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6:00pm Carol Service, Broad Town
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>10:30am Benefice Communion</b>	Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	5:00pm Carol Service, Clyffe Pypard
<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Carols in the Pub - in the Duke, Hilmarton from 6:00pm</b>		
<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>		Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6:00pm Carol Service, Tockenham 11:30pm Midnight Mass, Broad Town
<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>10:30am Family Communion</b>	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9:15am Family Service, Clyffe Pypard
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>		Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10:30am Benefice Communion, Tockenham

For enquiries about Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals or other special services please phone Rev'd Abbott (01793 731134), Lay Pastoral Assistant – Val Procter (760312) or Churchwarden, John Henly (760401)

NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS-EDITING TEAM NOTES - **ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE JANUARY EDITION BY 18<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER PLEASE** TO: Mel Wilkins 760572 [melwilkins@live.com](mailto:melwilkins@live.com) - Jacquie Henly, Jays Cottage, Compton Road, Hilmarton 760401 [jaquie88@btinternet.com](mailto:jaquie88@btinternet.com) - Geoff Procter, Breda Cottage, Church Road, Hilmarton 760312 [geoffhilmarton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:geoffhilmarton@hotmail.co.uk)  
**PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR ENTRY IN Microsoft 'WORD' FORMAT**

# Hilmarton Preschool

## Christmas Nativity

*Hilmarton Pre-schoolers would like to invite you all to come and join us at our...*

*Christmas Nativity.*

*On: 11TH December 2015 at 6pm*

*At: ST Lawrence's church, Hilmarton*

*Tea, Coffee and mince pies will be available plus mulled wine and cider.*

*We hope you can join us for a traditional retelling of the Nativity.*

*From Hilmarton Pre-School*

