

Bedhampton Parish

St Thomas & St Nicholas



50p

February
2019

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Single Fathers

A while back I caught up with a friend of a friend who I occasionally bump into at various social events. I will call him Phil. Eventually, the small talk and blokey banter ran out and we actually got talking about what really matters. For Phil that is his work in a vocational role, a role he loves despite the low pay and pressure. Phil landed a rare job a couple of years ago which fulfils him and allows him time with his daughter who we will call Louise.

Louise lives with his ex-partner and the way Phil speaks of her it is easy to see that he is besotted. Phil spoke of the fact that he had booked all his holiday around school holidays, and was looking forward to spending that time with Louise. He spoke of how his Louise had struggled with mainstream school because of a condition; and how she did not automatically receive a place at a specialist school to help. £10,000 later and the powers that be authorised the aid a day before the appeal court case, he mentioned that there was a possibility that his ex-partner might have to move across the country. There was no negative or malice in his voice, Phil simply said he would have to change the job he loves and move to be near Louise if they did relocate.

Phil is an inspiration; despite the past pains of failed relationships, he is seeking to be the best father he can be in his situation. Despite what we hear sometimes, there are thousands of men out in the world seeking to do just the same as he is. As I pondered this circumstance, and what my reaction should be to a situation of which I had no experience, I was drawn to a verse from James. 'Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.' *James 1:27.*

It's an odd verse to be drawn to, and I won't break it apart here, I will just leave it with you. As for me, I'm off to send an email to Phil, to invite him and Louise to the south some time. I need their inspiration, as much as they need my support.

Max Cross

'Pause and Pray'
Monday 4th February
from 6 to 7pm
St Thomas Church



The Christmas Prayer Tree

St Nick's Flicks

**Tuesday 19th
February**

at St Nicholas Church
1.45pm for 2pm start

All are welcome, no need to book.
Contact the office for film details.
office@bedhampton.church



**Saint Valentine's
Day
14th February**



Saint Valentine's Day, many believe, was named after one or more Christian martyrs and was established by Pope Gelasius 1 in 496 AD. Valentine of Rome was martyred about 269, and this day usually 'belongs' to him.

The first recorded association of Valentine Day with romantic love (1382) is from Geoffrey Chaucer. He wrote, 'For this was Saint Valentine's Day, when every bird cometh there to choose his mate.' This poem was in honour of the first anniversary of the engagement of King Richard II of England to Anne of Bohemia. Valentine Day is referred to by Ophelia in Hamlet (1600-1601).

*To-morrow is St Valentine's day
All in the morning betime
And I a maid at your window
To be your Valentine.*

The modern mention of Valentine's Day can be found in a collection of English nursery rhymes (1784):

*The rose is red, the violet's blue
The honey's sweet, and so are you.
Thou are my love and I am thine
I drew thee to my Valentine.*

**Cover photo: Langstone
Harbour by Richard Jones**



Who found the Stars?

As Advent began, parishioners, especially children, were asked to look around Bedhampton to see if they could find stars which were displayed in the area.

Whilst walking to and from St Thomas More's School, and to the play park at Bidbury Mead, sisters Alice, (5) and 2½ year old Jessica looked carefully each day and spotted 8 posters in several houses and locations en route. Parents David and Ellen Bates said

The Star at St Thomas



the girls had great fun trying to spot the stars. Jessica was rewarded with a small prize for finding the most.

The Star at St Nicholas



The Bedhampton Poetry Group
will meet in March

Read more about "Bishop highlights what happens when we follow the star" on the cathedral website: portsmouth.anglican.org

BEDHAMPTON CARDS

All occasion cards of flower arrangements at St Thomas'

In two separate designs
6 card packs at £3.50 each.
All are available from the Parish Office or contact Jean O'Farrell on 023 9283 3284.

Why not take some local photos for next year's Bedhampton calendar ?
Send to the Parish Office



Right: The first daffodils of the year spotted in Bedhampton by Elaine Pearce on January 9th.



Chinese New Year celebrations take place between 5th – 7th February. 2019 will be the Year of the Pig.

MISSION NEWS

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS 2019

The Mission Committee has been considering which charities for the parish to support and have decided to ring a few changes this year. The January collection was for United Christian Broadcasters, a charity new to us. Some of the charities are local whilst others are national or worldwide. Collections will mostly be every other month.

March 24th	Naomi House and Jack's Place
May 26th	Christian Aid
July, <i>date to be confirmed</i>	Youth With a Mission
September 29th	Beacon Foodbank
November 24th	Médecins sans Frontières

We hope to have visiting speakers from the charities at the Sunday services.



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'In Flanders Fields the poppies blow'

Part 11 of a monthly series on the men of Bedhampton who lost their lives in World War 2 and whose names appear on the War Memorial in St. Thomas' or in the graveyard.

William Ernest Irwin (1921-1944)

Electrical Artificer 4th Class RN – Service No. P/MX53497



William or 'Billy' was born on 26th February 1921 in Portsmouth to William Vincent and Susan Lily Irwin (Folland). His father worked as a Ships Joiner in HM Dockyard Portsmouth. Billy's older sister, Gwendoline had been born in 1915. Between the wars the Irwins were living at 32, St. Piran's Avenue, Portsmouth.

Billy was educated at the Northern Secondary School, now called Mayfield School in North End. In 1938 he received the Dawes Cup for the best 2nd year Apprentice Craftsman in the Electrical Dept. of the Naval Dockyard.

In 1943, Billy married Mary Webster in Wallsend, Northumberland which is where she came from. A son, William, was born to them in early 1944.



By that date, Billy was an Electrical Artificer 4th class on HMS Janus. She was a J class destroyer commissioned in 1939. On 22nd January 1944 Janus was supporting the Anzio landings as the allies sought to gain a foothold in Italy with the objective of reaching Rome. On the 23rd January, HMS Janus

was struck either by a glider bomb or a conventional torpedo. There are various conflicting accounts but whatever the weapon was used, the Janus suffered terrible damage and in within 20 minutes had sunk. There were 90 survivors, the rest being missing presumed dead. On 13th April 1944 an advertisement appeared in the Portsmouth Evening News placed by Billy's wife Mary. She asked for any survivors of the sinking of HMS Janus who had information about her husband, who was missing presumed dead, to get in touch with her at 44, Maylands Road, Bedhampton. That was 7 days after another article in the Evening News which had a short piece on Billy, including a picture of him.

It was the second time that naval tragedy had struck the family. In 1891 Billy's grandfather, Edwin Ernest Irwin a gunner in the Royal Navy and was drowned in Bermuda on 28th December. Billy's father died in 1966, his mother in 1976, and his sister Gwendoline in 2006.

David Proud

A Tinseltastic Time!

4th Bedhampton Guides had a 'tinseltastic' time at the end of the year in the build up to Christmas. A roller-disco was 'wheelie' enjoyed by everyone and six girls made their Promise to be a Guide. They were the first girls ever in our unit to take part in an 'enrollerment' on skates!



Who knew that getting into a horseshoe would be so difficult! A moment that the girls and Guiders will never forget!

We enjoyed a Christmas party with food and games and the annual District panto which was 'Cinderella' at the Kings Theatre this year.

CHRISTMAS FEATURE

Finally, we put together a Christmas hamper in the form of a 'reverse advent calendar.' Instead of taking something out each day, we put something in, in the form of non-perishable items such as soup, beans, rice, pasta and biscuits. Our hamper made its way to Petersfield where 'The Directory Group' were thrilled to receive it. We hope to have made someone's Christmas a little brighter this year.

Hayley Gillians



SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE

How do you fit 240 children, together with all their teachers and support staff, into St Thomas Church? The answer is, 'with a bit of a squeeze.' Having tightly filled all the pews, still more were sat on the floor or stood at the back.

The annual end of term Bidbury School Christmas service was led by Rev Max Cross when pupils joyfully sang Christmas carols and songs, interspersed with readings, short talks and Christmas prayers. There was even a puppet show.

CHRISTMAS FEATURE

CHRISTMAS FESTIVE FUN AS WE FOLLOWED THE STAR



Above: The Christmas Choir
Below :The chef, Janice Stott
at the Christmas lunch.



Singers from both
churches came together to
form Bedhampton Festival
Choir. They added some
great music to the service
of Carols by Candlelight.

Photos by Elaine
Pearce, Iain Fairley
and Carol Frogley.

Below: Stella and Brian
Harris as they cut their
cake to celebrate their
Diamond Wedding
Anniversary.



CHRISTMAS FEATURE



Above: Max helping the children to enjoy the party and singing at Fun Club.

Above right: Guess who this might be?

Below: The Nativity Scene at the end of the Children's Crib Service at St. Nicholas.



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<https://bedhamptonvillage.com>

is a not for profit community website for all Bedhamptoners to contribute to, thereby improving communication, awareness, interest and support of Bedhampton life.



bedhamptonvillage.com

Email

bedhamptonvillage@gmail.com

Facebook, groups:- Bedhampton Village

FORTHCOMING EVENTS



FRIDAY 1st FEBRUARY, 8.00pm

Sachin Gunga

Organ Recital

Portsmouth Anglican Cathedral

SUNDAY 9th FEBRUARY, 7.30pm

‘Up with the Lark’

Havant Chamber Orchestra

Ferneham Hall, Fareham

PORTSMOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL

February 1st - March 31st

Crookhorn & Park Community Colleges

www.portsmouthmusicfestival.co.uk

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admission fees.

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for more details.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES



1st Bedhampton Scout Group

www.1stbedhampton.com

It's early January and it's starting to get cold as I write this. My thoughts are therefore turning to running a Winter Camp as we're a hardy bunch and we're up for any challenge. The photo shows a tent from one such camp a few years back. I had to break through a layer of ice just to get out of the tent!



Looking back to December the Scouts delivered Christmas cards in the parish for the elderly and infirm. They also had their annual Christmas camp when guests were treated to a wonderful Christmas meal followed by entertainment that can be found nowhere else.

The Cubs organised the parish carol singing which raised £110 for the Children's Society. Well done to all who came and sang. The Beavers and Cubs also had Christmas Parties.

Whether you are directly involved in Scouting or are a supporter from afar I hope you are having an adventurous 2019 and succeeding in your own goals and challenges no matter how big or small.

Nigel Vosper

Group Administrator and Assistant Cub Scout Leader

FUN CLUB CHRISTMAS FUN

On 13th December Fun Club had its first Christmas celebration when Max came and told the nativity story and Roger played nursery rhymes but not as we know them !! A wonderful manic but joyous occasion.



The following week, 44 small children welcomed Father Christmas to our end of term party where they received a present from Fun Club together with the nativity story book and the most important reindeer food.

Come and join us on Thursday mornings during term time between 9 and 11 o'clock where you will be sure of a warm welcome by a great team of people.

Sally Tritton

PUZZLE PAGE

Wordsearch The Presentation of Christ in the Temple or Candlemas

Candlemas, on 2nd February, comes exactly 40 days after Christmas. In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first 'public appearance'. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child, to 'present Him to the Lord'. Thus, we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. (Luke 2: 22-40) So where does the Candlemas bit come in? Jesus is described in the New Testament as the Light of the World, and early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this.

P B P Y O D E I B P N N M G
T N W F R M L S I A N I H R
W T L E T A P R P F B S N S
T W T S N D M P O S I Y A F
N F N T A G E R A W D M I A
A N O I T A T N E S E R P V
D E C V R Y N J L L S H L R
A E A A O T E T D T C Y I I
B T N L P P M N N H R L G T
S C D D M S A M T S I R H C
E E L B I C T P J G B A T I
S W E Y E A S A H O E E I B
A W S Y A D E T Y N D F N A
P U B L I C T I Y G C I G G

Candlemas	boy
forty	first
days	public
after	appearance
Christmas	Mary
New	Jewish
Testament	temple
important	festival
age	presentation
baby	described
light	candles
world	lighting
	early

Answers next month



JANUARY WORDSEARCH SOLUTION

I A H S G I M M E A I G
M S C R T O E Y L B E G
E T N S I T M G R U W N
D F D A P E E R F R E S
P I E C T N W M E I H G
R G V R T H G I P A O E
O A P I H S R O W L O H
M M L F N W T E D I E T
I E V I D E N C E A K I
S P I C E J N E N I P A
E S N E C N I K N A R F
S S P K I N N G J I V E



Christmas Events with Mothers' Union

As I write this it doesn't seem possible that all the Christmas celebrations of carol singing, the Christmas Fair and our Christmas Luncheon at the Castle Inn at Rowlands Castle are behind us. We have celebrated our much loved first Wednesday communion service of the New Year. We find these a great source of peace and comfort, especially as some of our members are no longer able to get to other communion services.

We are in the process of planning this year's programme and looking forward to our first meeting of the New Year which will be our AGM. Several members continue to enjoy the Friday morning coffee at St. Nicholas where you can guarantee you will have a laugh even if the singing entertainment is not quite as it should be. The St. Nick's Flicks are another enjoyable outing (not least because of Janice's wonderful selection of cakes.) Members are looking forward to helping at Fun Club and playing their part in helping at church services.

We hope we will be able to have our usual quiet day in March, Annual Service and Rectory Garden Party in July and outing in August. We are looking forward to the visit of our Deanery Leader, Sheila King, in January when she will be enrolling new members, and hopefully our Diocesan Leader, Elizabeth Groves, sometime in the year. We also look forward to some of you visiting us to join in some of our meetings. All are welcome at any event.

Hopefully we will have some exciting times together in 2019.

Marion Machell

Revelation (Luke 2:22-35)

Sometimes old people see things,
sometimes they understand,
their years and experience lending wisdom –
sometimes.

But that day in the Temple
was beyond human sight and understanding,
beyond human wisdom.
That day in the Temple,
God moved.

And Simeon saw, with Holy Spirit sight,
with revelation light,
the realisation of God's promise.
Simeon held Jesus and knew his Saviour,
The pain - and the peace.

by Daphne Kitching



**'The Presentation in the Temple'
by Guercino 1591 – 1666**

*The scene is captured in this
beautiful painting of 1623 that
hangs in the National Gallery.*

COMMUNITY

MOTHERS' UNION FEBRUARY

6th HOLY COMMUNION &
HEALING PRAYER
9.30 am *St Nicholas*

26th Tuesday 2.00pm
at *St Nicholas*

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Thursday 14th February 7.30 pm

**Conan Doyle
& the Mysterious World of Light**

Speaker: Matthew Wingett

St Nicholas Church

All welcome

From the Parish Registers

THANKSGIVING

We give thanks for
Elsie Froom



BAPTISMS

We welcome into the
church family
William Huntley

REST IN PEACE

We pray for the families of
Margaret Brown
Joan Harris



FAMILY NEWS

We send good wishes to
several people who
celebrate birthdays
this month;

Mike Case, Janice Stott,
Pete Spencer, Margaret Stanger,
Pam Facer, Eileen Newman, Betty
Morley and Margaret Fitzgibbon.



DATES FOR YOUR FEBRUARY DIARY

Monday 4th : Pause and Pray 6pm at
St Thomas

Tuesday 12th : Manor Trust Coffee Morning
10 -12 noon at The Elms

Tuesday 19th : St Nick's Flicks, 1.45pm

February 25th-10th March: Fairtrade Fortnight

Thursdays: Folks in Harmony 023 9224 1633

MARCH 2019

Magazine



For information about advertising and the
'Magazine by mail' service, contact the Parish
Office (see below)

We warmly welcome advertisers to our
magazine but the Parish does not accept
responsibility for the quality of work
carried out.

All material for the next issue should be sent to
the Parish Office, St Nicholas Church, Belmont
Grove, Bedhampton, PO9 3PU by
10 am on **Wednesday 30th January**
office@bedhampton.church

Rector : Rev Max Cross 023 9248 3013

Email : max@bedhampton.church

Churchwardens : Sandra Matthews 023 9248 4669

Ann Partridge 023 9247 2180

Parish Administrator : Pam Hasted 023 9248 3013

Parish Office open 9 am – 12.30 pm on Monday to Friday

Enquiries for Weddings, Baptisms, etc. – Wednesday 6 – 8 pm by appointment.

Email: office@bedhampton.church

Services for FEBRUARY 2019

SUNDAY 3rd

(Presentation of Christ in the Temple)

St Thomas	8.00 am	Holy Communion
<i>St Nicholas</i>	<i>9.30 am</i>	<i>All Age Morning Worship</i>
St Thomas	11.00 am	Morning Prayer
St Thomas	4.00 pm	Compline

SUNDAY 10th

(4 before Lent)

St Thomas	8.00 am	Holy Communion
<i>St Nicholas</i>	<i>9.30 am</i>	<i>Morning Worship</i>
St Thomas	11.00 am	Holy Communion

SUNDAY 17th

(3 before Lent)

St Thomas	8.00 am	Holy Communion
<i>St Nicholas</i>	<i>9.30 am</i>	<i>Holy Communion</i>
St Thomas	11.00 am	Morning Prayer
St Thomas	4.00 pm	Celtic Evening Prayer

SUNDAY 24th

(2 before Lent)

St Thomas	8.00 am	Holy Communion
<i>St Nicholas</i>	<i>9.30 am</i>	<i>Morning Worship</i>
St Thomas	11.00 am	Morning Prayer

MID-WEEK HOLY COMMUNION SERVICES

Wednesday 6th	<i>St Nicholas</i>	<i>9.30 am Holy Communion</i>
Wednesday 13th	St Thomas	9.30 am Holy Communion
Wednesday 20th	St Thomas	9.30 am Holy Communion
Wednesday 27th	St Thomas	9.30 am Holy Communion

Edited and produced by the Churches of St Thomas and St Nicholas

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