

Bedhampton Parish



January
2025

£1.00p



Happy New Year!

Heading into the New Year for some people can be a little daunting, not knowing what lies ahead. All the Christmas festivities are over, the decorations are gone and the house looks bare.

The bright twinkling Christmas lights certainly add to the joy of Christmas and whilst these are now packed away we can still reflect on the abundance of 'light' shining in our lives and the positivity this can bring.

In the bible 'light' is used as a metaphor on many occasions. Jesus followers are known as light of the world, a beacon unable to be hidden, shining the light of the Lord on others through their words and actions.

Just as lights can guide us in the dark Jesus can also guide us through our lives. Light produces life and growth through the warmth and light of the sun just as Jesus brings us everlasting life. The light of a flame from a fire or candle brings us comfort, just as Jesus provides us with comfort.

Lights expels darkness. Jesus' light can pierce through any darkness.

Whilst we cannot see our future, Jesus can. He can direct us towards God's light. In any situation, no matter how dark it seems, the light of Jesus can shine through



John 8:12 'I am light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life'.

I always like to remember that light can shine through the smallest of cracks.

Tracey Smith
Church Warden



Bubble Church is a free puppet-packed, Jesus-centred coffee-and-croissant fuelled 30 minute kids and families adventure.

Bubble Church at Bedhampton Parish Is on the third Sunday of every month at 9.30am at St Nicholas Church, Belmont Grove.



All are welcome to Messy Church which usually take place on each first Sunday of the month, 10.30am at St Nicholas Church. There are craft activities, songs and stories for the whole family.

Refreshments available.

BEDHAMPTON CALENDAR

Why not take some local photos for a Bedhampton calendar.

Keep taking photos – anything of interest around Bedhampton. They may be submitted for any year.



Pause And Pray

A time to pause and gather together to pray for our Borough for 1 hour.

Monday 14th January, 6 - 7pm
at Hart Plain Church, Waterlooville.

All welcome



St Nick's Flicks

will meet again on

Tuesday

19th January

1.45 for 2pm

at St Nicholas' Church

A free film show with refreshments.

Enquiries to Parish Office.

All welcome – no need to book.



FAMILY NEWS

We send our good wishes to all those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this month, including Ann Partridge, Pete Spencer, Marie Payne and Eleanor Vosper (3).



Cover: Epiphany

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

At the very end of November, the community came together for the Christmas Fayre which was held at St Nicholas. With a great variety of stalls, including gifts, jewellery, books and toys, cakes, a tombola, bottles, tin mine, a grand raffle, guess the weight of the cake and not forgetting the famous Bedhampton jigsaws, Father

Christmas and his elves found a corner to complete the attractions.

Many thanks to the organisers and helpers, and to all who came to enjoy the afternoon.

*Left: checking the cakes!
Right: The Raffle prizes.*



*Top right:
Father
Christmas
receives help
to check his
emails!*

*Left: The ever
popular
Bedhampton
jigsaws.*

Special Collections

The Special Collections during the Christmas period were for the Rowans Hospice and the Children’s Society. Some readers may have attended the *Light up a Life* event at Canoe Lake in Southsea in December, the annual celebration of loved ones who are no longer with us, organised by the Rowan’s Hospice and is quite a magical event in pleasant weather. The idea is that the evening becomes a time of reflection.



This month, our thoughts turn once again to the Mutton family in Kampala. Some readers may remember our Curate from a number of years ago, Rev. Chris Maclay, who was with the parish for a few years and with his wife, Louise, brought up their four daughters, very much part of the St. Nicholas congregation. Chloe grew up and married Sam Mutton and they are living and working in Kampala, Uganda. They send news of their progress from time to time, not least their growing family.

Their big news is that the Bike Park has finally just opened after several years of hard work in creating it. It was on 7th December. Of course in Africa at this time of year it is the summer with warm dry weather.

Sam has also been training riders with the use of the Zwift bikes and computer programmes and indoor equipment, just as cyclists do in this country. (Some of our family use it. – Ed.)



KASANJE BIKE PARK

▶ 7TH DECEMBER 9AM ▶

OPEN DAY

OPEN DAY AND PUMP TRACK RACE

BIKE PARK IS ALWAYS FREE - TO ENTER PUMP TRACK RACE 20.00GUX

FASTEST TIMED LAP WINS* PUMP TRACK

REGISTER:

ONLINE: KASANJEBIKEPARK.CO.UK TRAILS

IN PERSON: KICK OFF SPORTS BAR, BUKOTO CAFE

PRIZES: 1ST - \$800 SPECIALIZED ROCKHOPPER BIKE

2ND: 1/2B NIGHT FOR TWO AT NKIMA FOREST LODGE

3RD: B&B NIGHT FOR TWO AT A SELECTION FROM NATURE LODGES

4TH: PIZZA AND BEER TOWER AT KICK OFF SPORTS BAR AND GRILL

*FOR RACE INFO AND RULES GO TO WWW.KASANJEBIKEPARK.CO.UK

Sam's and Chloe's news in early December:

1. The Bike Park officially opens on the 7th December. It's going to get kicked off with a pump track race with exciting prizes for the four fastest laps on the track!
2. The winner of the Bike Raffle wanted to remain anonymous as they would like us to sell it and use the money towards furthering the Bike Park!
3. We have £8,000 to match fund on 3rd December for Musizi Joy and the Bike Park! This would set up both our teams for a year's salary and would be INCREDIBLE!

We just can't thank you enough for all your prayers, support and financial donations which has made this possible !! There have been many times Sam was ready to pack it all in, many highs and lows, lots of learnings and struggles! But the fact the Bike Park is officially opening is just incredible. We just want to thank each one of you for making it possible. Any contribution towards us as a family or to the Bike Park has made an impact! Thank you thank you! We are so excited to see more and more people use the space, to host events, to champion young people! This Bike Park is going to bless so many, it already is! Kids play on the Playpark daily! And the pump track is used weekly! We have so many more dreams and hopes for how to develop the space but for now we are thrilled to open, to have a café, toilets, water and power!!!

We are excited to make some more money for the Bike Park by selling the bike, so thank you for our generous winner!

Finally our Big Give campaign started on 3rd December for a week! If you fancy having your funds doubled and helping staff get year long contracts the link is here:

<https://donate.biggive.org/campaign/a056900002TPWZpAAP>

By now of course it is too late to support this particular event but there will undoubtedly be more to come.



REMEMBERING SALLY HONEYCHURCH



Sally (Mum) was born in Stockport to Alan and Constance Hobbs and was the eldest of four children. Her Dad, Alan, was an English teacher and in 1939 started work at Bay House School in Gosport so the family moved south to be by the sea. World events at the time meant the family were evacuated to Eastleigh but stayed together as her Mum, Constance, was an evacuation officer. After the war the family stayed in Chandlers Ford, later moving to Otterbourne.

Mum went to Nottingham University to study Economics and became treasurer of the conservative

association. It is fair to say that whilst at university she lived life to the full. One fresher's week she had a bet with a friend that she couldn't have a different date every night of the week. That year Dad, John, was a fresher and decided with his friend they needed to join the conservative association – not for a love of politics but because they met in the ladies' college. Dad asked mum for a date – he was Friday in her bet week. She lost the bet as she didn't make it past Friday. They married on 1st August 1959 and Mum started teaching while dad finished studying.

After University, Dad went to work in industry as a management consultant, travelling the country with his work. Four children came along, born in four different houses in less than five years. As Dad said at Sarah's 18th birthday celebrations, 'that meant there were four different milkmen!' Taking a break from having children Mum and Dad built their own house in Derbyshire, moving the family into a static caravan on site while the house was being built. The building process wasn't helped by the three-day week and shortage of supplies in the early 1970s. This didn't deter them, and on many occasions, Mum was sent out in her long leather boots and short skirts to pick up building supplies which were hard to come by.

Family holidays during this time usually involved the caravan and long road trips to Cornwall, the Lake District and even one to Scotland.

In 1979, Dad was made redundant from Viners and, wanting to be his own boss, moved the family to the Isle of Wight where they brought a grocer's shop. With Dad working in the shop, Mum went back to full time teaching as a maths teacher at the newly built Medina High School. Outside of work Mum was active in the WI, becoming their President

and writing and directing many pantomimes for them where she was usually cast as the villain. Always a performer, we have happy memories of her being 'Gandhi' on one of the carnival floats. She also joined a lady's vocal group, Harmony, and enjoyed performing with them, manged the church hall, was a member of the church choir, organised the annual summer show and was also an avid knitter. In her 'spare' time she would often take us all to Compton beach for us to do a spot of surfing while she enjoyed a moment's peace to read a book and drink a cup of coffee.

By the time Mum retired from teaching they had sold the shop. Never one to waste time, Mum soon found an empty shop in the village and persuaded the landlord that the building wasn't well kept but she would look after it for him if he let her run a charity shop from the premises and so Faith, Hope and Charity was founded. Initially this was a charity shop run for the church and with church volunteers but Mum soon made it into a real community venture. She was sad to hand over the reins when in December 2015 they moved to Havant. With dad's health declining it was important to be closer to family. They both briefly joined Havant Light Opera with Polly which they loved; their last show together was Yeoman of the Guard.

Family was always important to Mum. She loved her three younger siblings - Richard, Charles and Belinda - and was immensely proud of her four children, eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Mum didn't have any cousins of her own so was delighted that Dad had a large family. She also loved her wider family of 17 nephews and nieces, 24 great nephews and nieces, 47 great, great nephews and nieces, and 2 great, great, great nephews and nieces! A visit to Cornwall would always mean meeting lots of family.

Mum and Dad brought us all up to believe that we could achieve anything we wanted to with our lives and mum always thought that we were all 'the best' at whatever we did. She was delighted when Sarah completed her doctorate, told everyone who would listen that Nick was the brightest mathematician she had ever taught, was convinced that Polly, only two months after being ordained deacon, had become a bishop and that Lucy is in charge of the National Trust for the whole of Cornwall. Whilst the last two of those may not be true what is true is that mum was immensely proud of us all.

Right until the end, Mum was fiercely independent and insisted on doing everything for herself. We are grateful that she accepted Sonia as her carer, someone who mum came to love and respect and who enabled mum to stay in her own home for as long as possible. Sarah read the poem 'Warning' by Jenny Joseph in which it states that she will wear purple. Mum did grow old and wore purple. (as did guests at her funeral.) Despite the family's efforts, she was also a terrible hoarder - with her collection of pewter and Britannia metal teapots!

When Dad died in December 2022, Mum lost the love of her life. On the night Mum died, the skies across the country were lit up with the Northern Lights as Dad was clearly throwing a great party for her arrival. Mum, we all miss you.

Polly Honeychurch

COMMUNITY

FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Havant Orchestras

New website: havantorchestras.org

Havant Chamber Orchestra
Charming Chamber Music



An afternoon of chamber ensembles
Sunday 26th January, 2025 2.30pm
St Thomas Church, Bedhampton

Portsmouth Music Festival 2025

New website
**Portsmouth Festival
of Performing Arts**

www.pfpa.org.uk

Chantry Choir

Come and Sing

Monteverdi Vespers

Saturday 1st February 10am-5pm

St Mary's Church, Easebourne

Nr. Midhurst GU29 0AG

www.chantryquire.org.uk

Solent Symphony Orchestra

Saturday 8th March, 2025

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025 – 18th to 25th January

Noonday Prayers – all services at 12 midday (except Sunday 21st)

Thursday 18th January at Havant URC, North Street.

Friday 19th January at Havant Methodist Church, Petersfield Road

Saturday 20th January at Redeemed Church of God, The Pallant, Havant

Sunday 21st January at St Faith's Church, Havant – **4pm**

Monday 22nd January at St Thomas Church Bedhampton

Tuesday 23rd January at St John's Church, Rowlands Castle

Wednesday 24th January at Bedhampton Methodist Church

Thursday 25th January at St. Joseph's Church, West Street

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is an ecumenical Christian observance in the Christian calendar that is celebrated internationally. In the Northern Hemisphere it is observed in January and between Ascension Day and Pentecost in the Southern Hemisphere. The theme for 2025 has been chosen by the community of Bose, an ecumenical monastery of brothers and sisters in northern Italy is, **"Do you believe this?"**

Holocaust Memorial Day is particularly significant in 2025. Monday 27th January marks the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp.

How the New Year and Resolutions began

January 1st was not always the start of a New Year. The Babylonians began their New Year on 23rd March. For them, it was a logical choice, as with the arrival of Spring, crops were being planted, and a new cycle of life was beginning.

For centuries the Romans agreed with them, but they chose 1st March for New Year. It was the Romans who brought in the idea of making resolutions at New Year, mostly along the lines of acting more noble, and doing good to others.

Then in 46BC Julius Caesar changed the Roman Empire's calendar. His new Julian calendar realigned the year to the sun, and also began on 1st January. Caesar wanted to honour Janus, the two-faced god who looks backwards into the old year and forward into the new. January 1st didn't have any astronomical or agricultural significance; it was just a random date selected by Caesar.

Reading the Bible in church

'He read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant, which had been found in the temple of the Lord.' 2 Kings 23:2

A friend was unexpectedly asked to read at a service as someone was unwell. He was caught just as he came in the church! Most of us like to look over a reading first and find the meaning of the passage. Some Bible readings are challenging, with difficult names of places and people. If it makes you feel better, no-one else knows how to pronounce these either, because there is no one around from Bible times!

It is not nice to be given a reading at the last minute, but then not good for the minister to suddenly get let down. To tell you the truth I have never liked reading, as it makes me dreadfully nervous. I prefer to preach or lead than read.

People worry about reading in church. Some of them would happily talk to a class of children or a boardroom, but there is something about church which is different. Perhaps we expect too much of ourselves. The best reading I ever heard in church was by a non-church goer. He did not know the reading, so he put a different emphasis on the passage. If you are reluctant, why not slip into church and give it a trial on a Saturday, when no-one is around?

Reading in church is a genuine ministry and is vital. It is important to give it our best try, as a way of learning about our faith. The Bible is meant to be heard as well as read.

David Pickup, Parish Pump

Seen on Facebook . . .

God promised men that good obedient wives would be found in all corners of the world. Then he made the world round.



SAM'S JOURNEY

My desire is to help everyone that wishes to lose weight, but in particular I would like to help new mums, I know how difficult it can be to lose weight in order to get pregnant and the struggles women face after giving birth.

Here's how I know.....

I first started my Slimming World journey back in 2017 – My body had changed so much after trying for a baby via IVF, I was also transitioning from shift work to regular hours which meant I was able to commit to attending a Slimming World group, I was so excited to be able to do this!

I didn't have a positive experience when I first joined the group, I only ever lost around ½ a stone, I was doing everything by the book and just

couldn't understand it. I had become more active, doing more cycling and running so I felt a little disheartened.

I ended up returning to shift work in 2018 so I was unable to commit to my Slimming World group. This is when I realised I had to focus on my fertility journey. I had several baby losses and then Covid hit, it was such a difficult time.

Hormones had such an impact on my body, I had had seven failed IVF rounds, which included three losses – it was just two days after my 51st birthday I decided that losing weight for my final round of IVF was the way forward. I joined Slimming World at The Stride Centre, Warblington where I met a lovely consultant called Martin. This time I started losing the weight, I also learnt a very valuable life lesson – Never judge a book by its cover. This may sound clichéd but it's so true, I thought Martin appeared overweight so I wasn't convinced by him. However, he had lost a staggering 15 stone and was a true inspiration.

I started to feel and see a difference in my body, I had more energy, more focus and my family and friends started to see a difference which really spurred me on. In four months I had lost 1st 9.5lbs so I was ready to embark on my IVF journey again, sadly this was unsuccessful but I continued going to the group and it became about looking good for a holiday!

My desire to become a mother didn't disappear, and without telling anyone I went to Cyprus for another round of IVF which was successful! I had lost 2st 2lbs in the lead up to this trip which I'm utterly convinced helped me on my journey.

I continued to attend Slimming World whilst pregnant and at 31 weeks my gorgeous twin girls were born; after ten days I had lost all of my baby weight and more. In total I lost 4st and 3lbs and have continued to stay within my target range. My girls are now 2 years old and 3 months old.

My Slimming World journey has been amazing on both sides of motherhood, it has inspired me to be the best version of me and I want to inspire people the way Martin and all the supportive members of my Slimming World group inspired me.

If my story has inspired you and you would like me to help you on your journey then please consider joining one of my groups, even if it starts with just a conversation – small steps can lead to big changes.

I run a group at St Nicholas Church, Belmont Grove, Bedhampton on a Saturday morning at 7.45am and 9.15am and also run another group at St Michaels & All Angels Church, Dunsbury Way, Leigh Park on a Thursday evening at 5.30pm and 7.00pm.



Carols by Candlelight

On the afternoon of Sunday 15th December, people filled St. Thomas' Church for the annual service of Carols by Candlelight. Led by the voices of local choir Folks in Harmony, the story of Jesus' birth was told in words and music, mostly in the magical atmosphere of candlelight. Once again, we thank the choir for their wonderful singing of familiar carols and less well known music.

An advertisement for Ink Fluence Print. On the left, there are three vertical bars in yellow, pink, and blue. The main text is white on a black background. It includes the company name "INK FLUENCE PRINT." in a stylized font, social media icons for Instagram and Facebook, a location pin icon for "HSDC South Downs, College Road, Waterlooville, PO7 8AA", a phone icon for "023 9271 4060 Mon-Fri 8:30am - 5:30pm", and an email icon for "info@inkfluence-print.co.uk". A circular logo on the right says "PRINT • PRINTED • BY • INKFLUENCE" around the perimeter and "INK FLUENCE PRINT. - EST 2021 -" in the center. At the bottom right, the slogan "YOU IMAGINE. WE CREATE." is written in pink and yellow.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES



1st Bedhampton Scout Group (www.1stbedhampton.co.uk)

January is a time of new beginnings and when we tend to make changes to our life. Sometimes we succeed and sometimes we don't but as the Scout promise says, "Do your best".

Scouts (10-14 year olds) last week invested six new members to join our organisation; four youngsters and two adults which puts us in a good place to build adventure and skills for life over the coming year. My sincere thanks to those adults who have stepped forward to help.



Sadly, Beaver Scouts (6-8 year olds) are still struggling for adult help. They've had to cancel a couple of weeks when there were insufficient adults available to maintain safe ratios. If you or anyone you know can help, please get in contact.

The Beavers have been learning about space and carrying out several experiments. What the result of these experiments were, I do not know! Both the Beavers and Cubs celebrated firework Night whilst the Scouts had a open fire cooking competition. The Cubs and Scouts both decided independently to go climbing at Fort Purbrook one day apart. (Photo opposite). It only temporarily confused the Fort Purbrook administration.

We had a good turn out across the Group at the Remembrance Sunday service in Havant where we paid our respects. We alternate between going to Havant and attending the local service in Bedhampton so next year we look forward to joining the Bedhampton service. Christmas is fast approaching and we are involved in the traditional events. The Cubs are once again running the Parish Carol Singing and the Scouts are delivering Christmas Cards across the Parish for the Elderly, Infirm and anyone else who needs it.

Wishing you a happy and active 2025.

Nigel Vosper - Scout Leader



YOUTH ACTIVITIES



Left: Scouts enjoying the climbing wall at Fort Purbrook

Above: Cub Scouts out Carol singing and raising money for the Children's Society. Well done them all.

The Cartoons of Old

Didn't we love those cartoons of old?
The faintly ridiculous stories they told!
Of cats chasing mice, and dogs chasing cats
Wile E Coyote and his Road Runner traps
That never succeeded, or trapped him instead
We laughed at disaster 'cos no one was dead!
Donald Duck, Mickey Mouse, or dear old Bugs Bunny
There's nothing today that is nearly so funny!



Dastardly, Muttley, in those great Wacky Races,
Whose schemes always left them both sunk without traces
Or Fred of the Flintstones, and Wilma, and Barney
We laughed at their tales of prehistory blarney!
The unending feuding of Tom and of Jerry
Which always succeeded in making us merry!
Those hand-drawn cartoons made us rock like a jelly
Who needed computers to bring us good telly?

By Nigel Beeton



PUZZLE PAGE

Wordsearch – Gifts of the Wise Men

What about their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh? One Victorian scholar has offered a possible explanation. He was the Rev John Henry Hopkins, an American Episcopalian minister, who in 1857 wrote the much-loved Christmas carol, ‘We Three Kings of Orient Are’. Gold, said John Henry Hopkins, was a gift that would have been given to a king. Frankincense had traditionally been brought by priests as they worshipped God in the Temple. Myrrh was a spice that the ancients used in preparing bodies for burial.

If that is true, then you could say that the Wise Men, in choosing their gifts for this infant, honoured Jesus with gold because He was King of the Jews, with frankincense because He was to be worshipped as divine, and with myrrh, because He would also become a sacrifice and die for His people. The Wise Men were the very first Gentiles ever to worship Jesus. What faith they had!



- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Gifts | Worship |
| Gold | Temple |
| Frankincense | Spice |
| Myrrh | Bodies |
| Henry | Burial |
| Hopkins | Honoured |
| Carol | Divine |
| Three | Sacrifice |
| Kings | Die |
| Orient | Gentile |
| Ancients | faith |

DECEMBER SOLUTION



Answers
next
month



BACK IN TIME in January

- 150 years ago on 14th January 1875, Albert Schweitzer, German theologian, philosopher, physician, musicologist, writer and humanitarian, was born. He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1952.
- 125 years ago on 14th January 1900, the premiere of Italian composer Giacomo Puccini's opera *Tosca*, took place in Rome.
- 100 years ago, on 3rd January 1925, Benito Mussolini declared himself dictator of Italy.
- 90 years ago, on 8th January 1935, Elvis Presley ('The King') was born. An American rock and roll singer, guitarist and actor, he died in 1977.
- 80 years ago, on 16th January 1945, Adolf Hitler took up residence in the Führerbunker, a subterranean bunker complex in the garden of the Reich Chancellery in Berlin. It became the headquarters of the Nazi regime, and he remained there for the rest of his life. He committed suicide there in April 1945.
- 80 years ago, on 27th January 1945, the Soviet Red Army liberated Auschwitz Concentration Camp in southern Poland. It was the largest Nazi concentration camp and at least 1.1 million prisoners died there.
- 75 years ago, on 6th January 1950, the UK officially recognised the Republic of China and established diplomatic relations.
- 75 years ago, on 23rd January 1950, Israel declared Jerusalem was its capital city. Palestine also claims it as its capital.
- 70 years ago, US President Dwight D Eisenhower gave the first televised presidential news conference. It was filmed in the morning and broadcast that evening. The first live conference was given by John F Kennedy in Jan 1961.
- 60 years ago, on 4th January 1960, T S Eliot, American-born British poet, playwright, literary critic and editor died. He won the 1948 Nobel Prize for Literature.
- 60 years ago on 24th January 1965, Winston Churchill died. He was Prime Minister 1940-45 and again in 1955, and one of the greatest wartime leaders of the 20th century. He was named as 'the greatest Briton of all time.' He won the 1953 Nobel Prize for Literature "for his mastery of historical and biographical description as well as for brilliant oratory in defending exalted human values."
- 50 years ago on 20th January 1974, Bob Dylan's album *Blood on the Tracks* was released.
- 40 years ago on 1st January 1985, the first mobile phone call in the UK was made by the comedian Ernie Wise. He rang Vodafone's head office in Newbury from St Katherine's Docks in London.
- 40 years ago, on 23rd January 1985, a debate from the House of Lords was televised live for the first time.
- 30 years ago on 1st January 1995, the World Trade Organisation was established.
- 25 years ago, on 1st January 2000, the calendar switched over to the year 2000, with no major computer problems from the Y2K 'Millennium Bug'.

COMMUNITY NEWS

25 years ago, on 5th January 2000, Steve Jobs announced that he had again become the CEO of Apple Computer. (He had been ousted from the job in 1985.)

25 years ago, on 13th January 2000, Bill Gates announced he was stepping down as chief executive of Microsoft. Company president Steve Ballmer took over, while Gates remained as chairman and chief software architect.

15 years ago, on 4th January 2010, the Burj Khalifa in Dubai opened. It is the world's tallest structure, standing 2,722 feet (829.8 metres.)

15 years ago, on 12th January 2010, the Haiti earthquake took place. The capital, Port-au-Prince, was devastated and at least 100,000 people were killed and buried in mass graves.

10 years ago, on 7th January 2015, the Charlie Hebdo shooting in Paris took place. Two Muslim brothers forced their way into the offices and opened fire. 12 people were killed and 11 injured.

Remembering TS Eliot – author of *The Wasteland*

Sixty years ago, on 4th January 1965, T S Eliot, American-born British poet, playwright, literary critic and editor, died. He won the 1948 Nobel Prize for Literature.

Born in 1888 in St Louis, Missouri, his family were prominent Unitarians, with roots in Boston. However, he had a Roman Catholic nanny, of whom he was very fond, and who took him to her church. This may have had some bearing on his converting to Anglicanism in 1927, the year he became a British citizen. He was baptised and confirmed secretly in Oxfordshire, saying he hated spectacular conversions.

He identified as Anglo-Catholic, saying he was "classicist in literature, royalist in politics, and anglo-catholic in religion". Much later he said he combined "a Catholic cast of mind, a Calvinist heritage and a Puritanical temperament".

Eliot married twice but had no children. His first wife was Vivienne Haigh-Wood, who he married in 1915 – the year that his first "professional" poem, *The Love Song of J Alfred Prufrock*, was published. But the marriage was fraught, because his wife had mental problems and eventually went into an asylum. They separated in 1933. His second wife was his much younger secretary Esme, whom he married in 1957.

Eliot lived through two world wars but remained optimistic through his Christianity. He wrote *The Waste Land* in 1923 and *The Four Quartets* were published in 1941 after he became British and an Anglican. He died in London and is buried in Somerset. There is a plaque in his memory in Poets' Corner in Westminster Abbey.

Eliot is also known for his collection of whimsical poems *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats* (1939), about feline psychology and sociology. They formed the basis of Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical '*Cats*'. Among his plays is '*Murder in the Cathedral*'.



DECEMBER EVENTS

On Tuesday 10 December our MU branch members were joined by friends from Trefoil and gathered at The Castle in Rowlands Castle for our Christmas lunch. We were spoilt for choice with an extensive menu, including traditional Christmas fayre with turkey and all the trimmings. It was a chance to get together and celebrate and as you can see from the photos, there was much laughter and quite a lot of noise!!! Our thanks go to Sarah and her staff at The Castle for the delicious food and warm and friendly atmosphere.



Our good wishes to everyone for a blessed Christmas and a very healthy, happy New Year. Our AGM is on 28th January at St Nicholas and there is an extensive and varied programme for 2025. Please come along and join us on the fourth Tuesday afternoon each month. Full details from Marie Payne, Branch Secretary at margaretpayne11@hotmail.co.uk.

Marie Payne

Left:: Marion: "Just the one for Mrs. Wembley"



He takes all our hopes and fears and gives us His Peace and His Spirit in return, to sustain and equip us this New Year and always. Thank you, gracious Father.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

MOTHERS' UNION



MOTHERS' UNION JANUARY

*Wednesday 8th Holy Communion
9.30am at St Thomas*

*Tuesday 28th AGM
and Afternoon Tea
All welcome*

Contact: Marie Payne: 07929 776687

The Arts Society
Portsmouth



What Really Happened at the Yellow House in Arles in 1888

Speaker: Julian Halsby

**Thursday 9th January 2pm
at the Spring Arts Centre, Havant**



FUN CLUB

For babies and toddlers
parents or carers
at St Nicholas on

Thursdays 9 – 11 am in term time

Lots of fun things to do;
songs, art and craft;
tea and chat for adults.

Contact Sally at the Parish
Office 023 9248 3013
or just come along.



St Nicholas Church

Two halls and a well-equipped kitchen
available for private hire, children's parties,
etc.

Please contact the office
on 023 9248 3013

Hello@Bedhamptonparish.org.uk

**St Nicholas
Belmont Grove
Bedhampton**



Come and join us
Once a week
Friday morning
From 10.30 to 12 noon
Enjoy coffee or tea and cake
Everyone welcome

**New advertisements
welcome**

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the Church Family

Alice Vosper
Noan Sims
Jackson
& Zackary Hatfield



Dates for your diary

Saturday 18th – 25th January: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity; details see page 8.
Sunday 26th January: Concert at St Thomas: p.8

REST IN PEACE

We pray for the families of those who have recently died

Frank Cooper
Maria Small



FEBRUARY 2025

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 **Monday 6th January**
Office@Bedhampton.church

MAGAZINE

There will be no price increase for the magazine for 2025. If you wish to continue to receive it, please be sure to pay your annual fee of £12 so that distributors will deliver. When paying, please advise your name and address. Contact the Parish Office. Thank you.

Rector :	Rev Max Cross	023 9248 3013
Email :	Max@Bedhampton.church	
	<i>Day off: Saturday</i>	
Curate:	Rev Jo Lorimer	07588 713665
Email:	Jo@Bedhampton.church	
Churchwardens :	Ann Partridge	023 9247 2180
	Tracey Smith	
Deputy Churchwardens :	Sandra Matthews	023 9248 4669
	Mike Tritton	023 9247 5078
Parish Administrator :	Deb Vears	023 9248 3013
	<i>Parish Office open 9.30 am – 12.30 pm on Monday to Friday</i>	
	Enquiries for Weddings, Baptisms	
	Email: Hello@Bedhampton.church	

Services for JANUARY 2025

SUNDAY 5th

St Thomas 9.00 am
St Nicholas 10.30 am
 St Thomas 6.00 pm
 On-line service 5.00pm

(Christmas 2)

Holy Communion
Messy Sunday
 Compline
 (St Thomas)

SUNDAY 12th

St Thomas 9.00 am
St Nicholas 10.30 am

(Baptism of Jesus, Epiphany 1)

Holy Communion
Morning Worship

SUNDAY 19th

St Thomas 9.00 am
St Nicholas 9.15am
St Nicholas 10.30am
 St Thomas 6.00 pm
 On-line service 6.00 pm

(Epiphany 2)

Holy Communion
Bubble Church
Morning Worship
 Celtic Evening Prayer
 (*St Nicholas*)

SUNDAY 26th

St Thomas 9.00 am
St Nicholas 10.30 am

(Epiphany 3)

Morning Praise
Holy Communion

ON-LINE: Where an on-line service mentions a church,
 at www.Bedhampton.church/tv and Facebook
On-line services are usually available for both services each week.

MID-WEEK HOLY COMMUNION SERVICES

Wednesday 8th	St Thomas	9.30 am	Holy Communion (M.U.)
Wednesday 15th	St Thomas	9.30 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 16th	St Thomas	9.30 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 29th	St Thomas	9.30 am	Holy Communion

Edited and produced by the Churches of Bedhampton Parish

www.Bedhampton.church

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Hospitals

Queen Alexandra, Portsmouth
02392 286000

St. Richard's, Chichester
01243 788122

Bedhampton Surgery
02392 474777

Havant Borough Council
02392 446019

Citizens Advice Bureau
0344 411 1306

National Rail Enquiries
0345 748 4950
www.nationarail.co.uk

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