



ENGLESEA BROOK CHAPEL AND MUSEUM
 INVITE YOU TO A
CAROL SERVICE
 * 3PM SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2023

A service of carols, readings and sketches in the beautiful and atmospheric setting of the Englesea Brook Chapel, to be followed by seasonal refreshments.

Englesea Brook Chapel and Museum, Englesea Brook Lane, CW2 5QW
www.engleseabrook.org.uk

Free entry, parking available

Scan to find us on Google Maps




From The Rectory.

Birthdays are important, something we all have a special day each year. Perhaps some wish they didn't come round so quickly! I have my birthday - you have yours - people and who belong to us family and friends have theirs. Birthdays are something we celebrate a time for showing and sharing happiness.

At Christmas we show and share happiness because we celebrate the birth of Christ who came to share our earthly life. He came for everybody – so everyone should celebrate. What we celebrate is God giving us a great gift – the best he could give. Christmas is a time to be thankful to God for all he gives.

Also thankful for our families and friends for all they give, for remembering, caring, loving and listening.

Christmas is a real time for sharing : it is not truly real unless we share. At the First Christmas God showed us how we could share his life.

This month we will celebrate the Birth of Christ and we have plenty happening at St Bertoline's leading up to and including Christmas itself...

There will be some Carol singing around the Parish
 speak to Simon Gresty about dates and times.

The Young Farmers will be having a Carol Service in church on Thursday 14th December at 7.30pm.

Nine Lessons & Carols will be on Sunday 17th December at 7pm followed by Mince Pies and Mulled Wine.

Christmas Eve on Sunday 24th December there will be our annual Nativity with Christingle service at 4pm.
 A service for all ages.

Christmas Day will be a Holy Communion Service at 10.30 with Carols.

At these services our minds go back to the First Christmas when Christ was born in a stable, bringing the people of the time a real reason for hope and for a future. The reasons are no less valid today, which is why we worship this God who came to earth. Please join us as we celebrate His Birthday.

With Every Blessing

Peter

Christmas Eve

Special Children's Crib Service with Christingle

Sunday 24th December at 4pm.



Time For A Smile

A young curate visiting the local primary school listened in on a lesson about Jacob's ladder. At the end of the story a little boy asked, "If they were really angels, why did they have to climb the ladder? How come they didn't just fly?"
 As the Curate gathered his thoughts, a little girl replied, "Our chickens can't fly when they're moulting; happen them angels were moulting"

IN REMEMBRANCE



The image on the front cover of this issue is from a photograph of a stained glass window in the small chapel of St. Thomas of Canterbury in Pourville-sur-Mer

Two miles west of Dieppe lies the Village of Pourville. Its beach, code-named Green Beach during the Dieppe Raid, is isolated from the Dieppe beaches by tall cliffs that dominate on both sides. The attack on Pourville was one of the four simultaneous flank attacks to precede the main attack during the Dieppe Raid.

The Canadians were fortunate enough at Pourville to achieve some degree of surprise. The initial opposition was light as the South Saskatchewan Regiment and Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada assaulted the beaches. Resistance stiffened as they crossed the River Scie and pushed toward

Dieppe proper. As a result of heavy fighting, the South Saskatchewan Regiment was stopped well short of the town. Meanwhile, the main force of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders pushed on toward their objective, an inland airfield, and advanced some three kilometres before they too were forced to halt. Both regiments then attempted to withdraw.

The two regiments lost heavily during the withdrawal. The enemy was able to bring fierce fire to bear upon the beach from dominant positions east of Pourville and from the high ground to the west. Allied landing craft came in through the resulting storm of fire with self-sacrificing gallantry and, supported by a courageous rearguard, the greater part of both units successfully evacuated, though many of the men were wounded. Unfortunately, the rearguard itself could not be brought off and, when ammunition ran out and further evacuation was impossible, the men were forced to surrender.

On October 2, 1942, Lieutenant-Colonel Cecil (Charles) Merritt was awarded the Victoria Cross for his leadership and courage at Pourville. Despite the bravery and dedication of Merritt and his men, the death toll on Green Beach was devastatingly high. In just a few short hours, 84 of the South Saskatchewan Regiment and 76 of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders lost their lives. Their sacrifice is commemorated on the Pourville Memorial.

During our frequent trips to France we do try to capture images suitable to grace our parish Magazine. ED

Tea Set

Everyone is most welcome to the Tea Set, it doesn't matter whether or not you live in Barthomley.

For the Christmas Tea Set we are having a Christmas Party. Instead of the raffle everyone is asked to bring a bagged / wrapped 'Secret Santa' gift, maximum value of £3.

There will be various Christmas themed items, followed by Christmas Afternoon Tea, please put the date in your diary.

Tuesday Dec 12th @ 2pm
£3 per person

2024 - Tuesday 16th January, 2pm

Dennis Dunn will be speaking about his interesting and important role as the current High Sheriff of Cheshire.

Admission £3 per person, including afternoon tea. Any raffle prizes welcome.



We will resume our usual monthly meetings at Barthomley Village Hall in February, when in addition to our guest speaker, we'll also be exploring and discussing the merits of four Resolution Proposals for 2024, before deciding on which one we will support with our vote. Each proposal is a call for change on a current issue in society and after nationwide consultation, the chosen resolution is taken to the AGM at The Royal Albert Hall for the final debate and vote.

From a historical perspective, it has been fascinating to read a little book I found entitled; 'Eighty Years of Aston-by-Stone Women's Institute' 1925 – 2005. Resolutions were obviously part of their yearly agenda and in 1968 during a difficult time for local farmers, they recorded "There was an outbreak of brucellosis and a resolution was discussed at the Albert Hall regarding compensation for farmers whose herds were affected". I think Barthomley members would definitely have voted for that too!

Another extract illustrates the way that history can repeat itself. In 1950 it was suggested - "As food was still in short supply -and rationing still in force for some items, it was agreed that something like a bag of sugar would be most acceptable as a raffle prize". Is this cause for reflection?

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INSPIRING WOMEN