

Wishing you and yours all the best in 2011. May you share peace, love and happiness with those who touch your life. Cindy

Please note that due to the increased cost of printing the Newsletter from January 2011 will now be 25p per month including the "See Round". Delivery is free, if you would like your Newsletter delivered please contact either Cindy Woods 888849 or Bill Littler 881444.

Please pray for...

All those who are cold and hungry at this time of the year.
All those suffering from sickness in body or mind.
All those for whom the New Year brings sadness and not joy.

Coffee Morning

The first coffee morning for next year will be held on Saturday 8th January from 10:30—12 noon at Homelands, High Street, Turvey by invitation of Anne Claypole White. There will be a raffle and bring-and-buy for which contributions would be very welcome. We need more venues to complete our 2011 programme. If you would like to host a coffee morning, Anne Claypole White (881661) would be delighted to hear from you! The events take place on the second Saturday of each month. We provide cups and any additional help you might need.

Loving God, the birth of your Son Jesus Christ brought great joy to Mary and Joseph. We give thanks to you for everyone whose birthday we celebrate this month. May they ever grow in your faith, hope and love. We ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

Turvey Church Choir

The following was taken from "Journeys Into Turvey" by Jennifer Ford:

The Turvey Church Choir has a long tradition of making fine music and choral singing. "Mr C.L. Higgins had been the Choirmaster and Organist of Turvey Church since early manhood and in 1862 he presented a large, beautiful organ to the church. At that time the church had a strong choir comprising of sixty male and female voices. This led to Mr. C. L. Higgins forming the 'EOP' the Ely, Oxford and Peterborough Church Music Society.

The clergy within reach of Turvey accepted the proposal that their choirs combine to hold an annual Choral Festival in Turvey Church. This great Choral Festival was held in July each year between 1862 and 1877. Each year up to seven hundred choristers and their clergy attended these festivals. (From The Rev Munby MA :Former Days at Turvey 1908)

In the 1900's the local Festival was revived in Turvey Church by the Rural Deanery of Felmersham. The choir would have been under the direction of Mr. George Edward Hopkins followed after his retirement by Mr. Joe Wooding in the mid 1920's. Mr. Joe Wooding was succeeded by Mr. Reid during the 1950's. Mrs Enid Wadsworth became organist and Choir mistress in 1957.

Cindy says that Enid Wadsworth began playing in 1957 just after moving into the village due to the previous organist having a hand injury. She also took on the responsibility of the choir. She says she very much enjoyed being organist, especially when accompanying the choir. She also said you have to think of the congregation when you are working the services out.

Can you imagine having a choir of 60 now! All robed out too they were and lots of youngsters. Thinking about it they did not have television or other distractions and the whole family went to church, many were involved with the choir or bell ringing. It must have been wonderful to have so many choristers for the services. Nancy Waters our longest standing member of the choir was recently presented with a medal from the Royal School of Music. She has been singing in our choir for over 68 years!

More on the choir in next month's issue

The first time I sang in the church choir; two hundred people changed their religion.
Fred Allen

Christmas Fair

The total raised at the Christmas Fair after expenses was a whopping £2171.88. A big thank you to all who helped and all who attended this fun event.

Swimathon Update

The Swimathon raised a total of £723.33, this is to go to St. John's Hospice at Moggerhangar. Well done to the following who took part: Sandra Nightingale, Rob Spray, Nessie Elliott, Lucy Taylor, Chris Knell and Abby (a friend of Lucy's).

Thought for the Month

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world"

Anne Frank

Araminta Edwards a profile by Cindy Woods

Araminta was born in Fareham in Hampshire because they had just blitzed the Nursing Home where she was supposed to be born! Her Father was a career Naval Officer and her Mother stayed at home to look after the family. Araminta's three younger brothers were born over the next 11 years. All the children were educated privately in independent Primary Schools and Araminta boarded for her secondary School years in Surrey. She attended Schools from the age of 9-11 in Malta as the family was posted there.

After secondary School Araminta attended Northampton College to study Occupational Therapy. Her parents by this time were already farming in a village called Piddington, not far from Northampton. After leaving College she went to work for a while at Stoke Mandeville Hospital in Aylesbury and then went to South Africa and Rhodesia for a year to work and see some of the world.

She returned to England in 1965 and was married within eighteen months! She met her husband Jeremy while carol singing with the Young Conservatives in South Bucks. He was at the time about to take up a job as Technical Author in New York where they started their married life. They returned after two years as Jeremy had to register for the draft and did not want to risk going to war in Vietnam. Jeremy was now working as a Consultant Engineer and the family settled in Watford where their children, two sons and a daughter were born. After seven years in Watford the family moved to Reigate, Surrey.

The family then moved to South Devon for 20 years, Jeremy was then involved with vintage cars in a place he had always wanted to

live. During this time Araminta worked as an occupational Therapist, working sometimes part time around the family, she worked in both Hospitals and the community. Finally she was a member of the Board of four different Housing Associations.

On retirement the couple decided to be nearer to their children, who were located in London and Bedford and settled on a house that was being built in Turvey. They moved in in 2006 and settled down to village life here. Their first grandchild was born and their daughter was married, they live in Great Denham, Jeremy and Araminta were actively involved with childcare as Verity their daughter teaches full time. Araminta says she has always attended Church so it was natural for both grandchildren, Connor and Ruby to be baptised at All Saints. Connor goes to Turvey Lower School and Ruby will join him later this year. Jeremy was a great singer and lover of music, cars and also an avid reader. Jeremy and Araminta celebrated his 70th Birthday in Venice by chance meeting up with their sons in St. Marks Square! Unfortunately Jeremy was taken ill shortly after his Birthday and died soon afterwards in September 2007. Araminta misses him and all the DIY jelly around the house.

Araminta's hobbies include sewing, she makes all her own soft furnishings. She enjoys the Theatre when she has the opportunity and loves travelling. She went with one of her sons last year to Rwanda and saw the mountain gorillas and this year her other son took her to Shimla in Northern India, where they visited her grandmothers birth place. She has also been to Africa three times.

Her eldest son is marrying a girl from Malawi and the whole family are planning to go to the wedding in August. Araminta says as her future Daughter-in law is African her son has to pay for 6 cows for his bride but has to put down payment on only one which roughly amounts to £60! Unfortunately Araminta has not been well over the past year but hopes to be well enough to celebrate a big Birthday at the beginning of this year with old friends and family, I hope you enjoy yourself Araminta, you deserve to!