Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year Communication Building Community

03

December 2019

Prince of Peace

'Its hard to think of Jesus as being the 'Prince of Peace' when the world is so violent. There were at least 7 conflicts in 2019 that claimed more than 1,000 lives. Sometimes it feels rather hopeless. Remember though, that Jesus came from heaven as a baby to a country under foreign occupation. Within days his family had to flee to a third country as refugees. Jesus came to begin to sort things out. When I was young we used to pray in church each week for South Africa and Northern Ireland. We prayed about it so often I asked my Dad why we bothered. Yet, thirty years later those two countries are totally transformed. They may not be perfect but they are broadly at peace. So Jesus understands the problems we face and in quiet ways seems to be working miracles in our world. We'd love to see you at church over Christmas. Come and find out more about this Prince of Peace. Happy Christmas to you all! Rev Chris Smith, new Rector'.

Minal Village Hall needs your help as we get better facilities including free Wi-Fi and bookings are up! Join the small team – we need: A General Secretary and A Committee Member Tel: Rob Bailey 0787-232-6177 for



Sports and Social Club Church News Village Hall Parish Council News

What's on in our village **BINGO Evening**

Friday 6th December in the Village Hall Fun for all the family and friends No entry fee, bingo sheets on sale for each round Lots of lovely prizes. Refreshments available All welcome!

Minal Munch in the Village Hall

The next' Munch' is on Friday 13th December 2019 at the village hall. 3:00pm - 4:30pm A way to meet new people Free tea/coffee/cake and a catch up. Everyone is welcome

Blazing Success for Bonfire Night

Over 300 people it was estimated attended the welcome return of Minal's Bonfire Night. Thanks to our reinvigorated Sports and Social Club's endeavours, the evening was considered one of the best ones for years, as young and old thronged to the sports field from both the village and beyond

Carols by candlelight

Sunday 15th December 4pm

CHURCH DIARY

December 2019

Sunday 1 December 9:30am Parish Communion

Sunday 8 December 8.00 am Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 15 December 4pm Carols by candlelight Revd Chris Smith

Sunday 22 December No service at Minal

Tuesday 24 December 5pm Nativity with carols Horseshoe Inn and Village Hall carpark

Wednesday 25 December 9:30am Family Communion Christmas Day

Sunday 29 December No service at Minal

Bell ringers needed

According to a long term bell ringer, Tom Otley, "No previous experience is needed and you do not even have to be a churchgoer. However, you will be fully trained. Also, ringing is fun and a sociable experience as well as providing a much needed service to the village.

"We are a very friendly band so if you might be interested, please get in touch - without any commitment."

Contact : tomotley@btinternet.com

NHS Prompts

Its not too late to get your flu jab

Ask your pharmacist for advice before winter illnesses get worse

Parish Coucil Footpaths

The Parish Council has applied for a grant towards replacing some of the aging stiles in the parish with aluminium self-closing gates. The new gates will allow safer and easier access to the countryside and will not require ongoing maintenance. The riverside stretch of the Werg footpath to Stitchcombe has recently been relaid by WCC with logs provided by Ramsbury Estates

Minal Nativity

If you would like to take part in this year's non-speaking tableau Nativity Play, please contact Gilly Price on Marlborough 512191 or 07785568513

Novembers issue was the first to be distributed through the Perspex boxes so do feedback any thoughts to any of those listed below about improvements that can be made. But also If you know of someone who is unable to pick a copy from the boxes around the village, please do think about delivering one to them.

We are always looking for information about what is going on in the village, if you would like something to go into the newsletter, please email <u>christopherwebb2@me.com</u> by the 15th of the previous month and he will put it on the website and we will pick up the information from there.

Perspex boxes are located at the Village Hall, Church, Phone box, The Horseshoe Pub and the bus shelter..

A copy of Minal News is carried on the website but ilf you would like to receive future issues of by email then please email Tom Otley

at <u>tomotley@btinternet.com</u>, providing full name and email address. Your details will not be used for any other purpose and will not be visible to others when the issue is emailed out"

Thank you

Gilly Price, Rob Bailey, Derek Moss, Milly Carmichael, Clive Scholefield, Sue Hines