



# THE UNITED BENEFICE of ST LUKE'S, ENDON with ST CHAD'S, BAGNALL

*Encounter, Encourage, Enable ... Committed to Sharing God's Love*

[www.endonstlukes.org.uk](http://www.endonstlukes.org.uk)

Vestry (church office): 01782 502166 or 07517 653370



November 2023

INTERREGNUM Month 41

## REMEMBRANCE & MEMORIAL

Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> November



10.45am SERVICE of

**REMEMBRANCE** followed by wreath-laying at the war memorial in the churchyard. All welcome.



6.30pm

## OUR ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE

for families who have been bereaved. Please pass the name of your deceased relative to Barrie if you would like it to be read out during the service.

If you would like your loved one's name written in the Book of Remembrance please inform Shirley. Contact numbers for Barrie and Shirley are on the back page.



## Don't miss this! CHRISTMAS FLOWER ARRANGING DEMO

Our Flower Club leaders, Pauline Shaw and Jeanette Lackey, will be showcasing their skills and experience at a Christmas themed demonstration on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November** at 7 pm in church.

Tickets are £5 each and include refreshments and a chance to win one of the arrangements. All proceeds to church funds and a donation to charity. Please see Shirley, Sue or Sophie for tickets.

## **NOVEMBER at ST LUKE'S**

**5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY**

**9.15am HOLY COMMUNION –  
Rev Philip**

**11.00am CONNECTIONS**

**12<sup>th</sup> REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

**10.45am SERVICE OF  
REMEMBRANCE\* –**

**Barrie/Roger**

**6.30pm MEMORIAL SERVICE\***

**19<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY**

**9.15am HOLY COMMUNION –  
Fr David Nicol**

**11.00am CONNECTIONS**

**26<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY**

**9.15am MORNING WORSHIP –  
Barrie / Roger**

**11.00am CONNECTIONS**



### **CONNECTIONS**

Sunday at 11am  
at St Luke's CE Academy,  
Leek Road in the school hall.

**THIS IS A FAMILY-FRIENDLY  
SERVICE**

lasting about 40 minutes followed  
by games for the children and  
refreshments.

## **NOVEMBER at ST CHAD'S**

**5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY**

**10.45am FAMILY SERVICE - KH w team**

**12<sup>th</sup> REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

**10.45am PRAYER & PRAISE – KH / MF**

**19<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY**

**10.45am HOLY COMMUNION – Rev BW**

**26<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY**

**10.45am MORNING WORSHIP – KH /  
MF**

*\*Tea and coffee will be served after the  
Service of Remembrance and after the  
Memorial Service on 12<sup>th</sup> November.*

*See front page and page 9 for notices of our  
various Christmas activities. Remember that  
we no longer collect used stamps for TLM.*

### **ST LUKE'S CHURCH OFFICE**

Unless involved with funeral duties  
Barrie mans the office on Mon, Wed,  
and Fri from 10.30am to 1.00pm using  
**07517 653370**. During these times the  
church is open for private prayer.

### **ECUMENICAL MIDWEEK SERVICES on WEDNESDAYS**

**Holy Communion at 9.15am**

Nov 1<sup>st</sup> at St Luke's

Nov 8<sup>th</sup> at Methodist Church

Nov 15<sup>th</sup> at St Luke's

Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> at Methodist Church

Nov 29<sup>th</sup> at St Luke's

## PASTORAL TEAM (Phone nos on back page)

- **HILLSWOOD LODGE CARE HOME** Volunteers are welcome to help boost the singing. There is room for 6 or 7 of us. **The next dates are Wednesdays, November 15<sup>th</sup> and December 20<sup>th</sup> at 11.00am.** Please inform Shirley or Rev Patricia if you are able to come. The residents really do enjoy these services and the chats afterwards.
- **WALKS followed by refreshments:**



Our thanks to Carol Mack who led us on a very enjoyable circular walk on the morning of Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September. We set off from Denford along the Cheddleton branch of the Cauldon canal then followed a clever route alongside the old railway, then across field and river to Leek tunnel returning along the Leek branch of the canal.

(Some of us spotted a kingfisher....Ros nearly

saw it too!) We revived ourselves with a welcome cup of coffee at the Holly Bush! Listen up for details of the next walk. Do join us.



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## The Methodist Church

- **Every Sunday** 10am Worship with Special Service: November 12<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day
- **Monday** 10am – 1.30 Community Café (not bank holidays)
- **Wednesday** 9.15 Holy Communion Alternately with St Luke's Parish Church
- **Thursday** 10.30 Fit-as-a-fiddle: Exercise, conversation and coffee
- **Thursday** November 16th 2pm – 3.30pm Bereavement Café
- **Fridays** 10am – noon Carers' Café: November 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> activities, tea and chat
- **Friday** 6pm 'Blast' – youth club for 7-11 year olds (during term time)
- **Christmas Fayre: Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November** 10am – 1pm
- Book now for **Community Christmas Dinner: Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November** at 12noon. Suggested donation £12.



Further information from  
Rev Eleanor Smith  
[Eleanor.smith@methodist.org.uk](mailto:Eleanor.smith@methodist.org.uk)



# CANDLE DEDICATIONS for NOVEMBER

For £2.50 you can keep the Candle of Hope or the Sanctuary Light burning for a week with a dedication. **Please contact Shirley Brindley on 504089 if you would like a particular date.**

Nov	CANDLE OF HOPE	SANCTUARY LIGHT
5 <sup>th</sup>	Maureen Foster in loving memory of her parents, George and Catherine Davenport	The candle is kept burning by Marilyn Plant
12 <sup>th</sup>	Lyn Pickering in loving memory of Ronald Pickering on his birthday (Nov 15 <sup>th</sup> ) from all the family	Linda Foster in loving memory of Ken Davis who died on Remembrance Day
19 <sup>th</sup>	The candle is kept burning by Marilyn Plant	The candle is kept burning by Mabel McGrath
26 <sup>th</sup>	In loving memory of June Pope	The candle is kept burning by Marilyn Plant



## NOVEMBER GREETINGS to

Lauren Benson (22<sup>nd</sup>), George Greatbatch (23<sup>rd</sup>)  
*If you would like your own or a family birthday included here please contact Ros 504137*



Sainsbury's efforts end. Thank you to the food bank.

## HARVEST at St Luke's

Thank you to everyone who brought items and donations for Leek food bank and to Alan Williamson who provided us with a traditional sheaf of corn. Thank you also to the Flower & Craft Club members who created the floral displays in church.



At Connections we enjoyed a very successful Harvest Lunch despite to scupper the buffet! All sorted in the Barrie who delivered all the items to £129 was collected in donations.





**Come follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad**

## Lichfield Diocesan Digest Sound Magazine

The Diocesan Digest was founded in 1989 and is the Sound Magazine for Lichfield Cathedral and the Diocese. Volunteers produce a full audio magazine every month which gives news and conversation for people who are blind and partially sighted, as well as anyone else who is interested. It continues to appear online each month and is also sent out on memory sticks with listeners all over the country and in many parts of the world.

And there really is something for everyone. This month as well as the latest news from the parishes around the diocese there is the headlines from the wider church, what's on at the cathedral, a Pastoral Letter, music plus longer interviews with people making the news and performers appearing in the region. Some members see articles in magazines or newspapers and bring them along to the recording while others read whatever the editor selects for them. In addition volunteers record longer interviews on a wide range of subjects. Recently you would have heard chats with performers at the Lichfield Festival, a local author who has just had his first novel published and from the project managers behind the very visible and major restoration work currently being undertaken on the central spire of the cathedral.

We also get into the undergrowth of churchyards to learn more about the fauna and flora courtesy of our friends at the charity Caring for God's Acre and there is always some music sent in by talented listeners.



Digest members come from all walks of life. Some have broadcasting and sound editing experience, others have none at all but are just keen on helping to make sure as many people as possible hear about what is happening in the diocese. We meet once a month in a small studio equipped with the latest recording software.

The podcast duration is about two hours but the best thing about it is you can listen however you wish. You can hear a few minutes, switch off and

then come back later and pick up where you left off.

The Digest is funded entirely by donations and any financial help is gratefully received.

*Paul Marriot is the leader of the Diocesan Digest team having escaped a career in BBC local radio.*

*To get in touch to let the team know what's going on in your parish, email us at [soundmag@lichfield-cathedral.org](mailto:soundmag@lichfield-cathedral.org).*

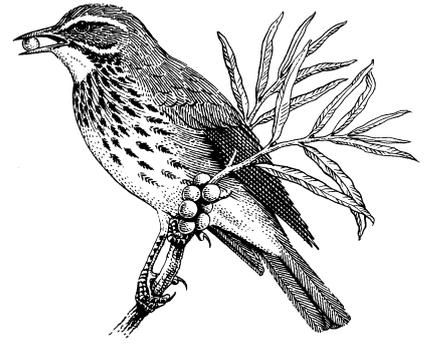


*The postal address is The Editor, Diocesan Digest, St Mary's House, Lichfield WS13 7LD. The latest edition is available at [www.lichfield-cathedral.org/about-us/diocesan-digest](http://www.lichfield-cathedral.org/about-us/diocesan-digest)*



## Bountiful Berries

Have you ever noticed how many holly berries there are in November but not by the time you may want to use them for Christmas wreaths



and other decorations? Autumn is the best season to enjoy berries and this year seems to be particularly rich, with hawthorn trees glowing a colourful orange. The combination of a dry, warm spring with a wet summer has led to this plethora.

Berries are a crucial food source for many birds and animals that are building up their energy reserves before winter, so between now and Christmas a great many get eaten. Rodents such as mice, voles, shrews and squirrels eat a range of berries as do less obvious animals including foxes, badgers and hedgehogs. Deer love plants from the *Rosaceae* family which includes roses and brambles and will delicately pick off berries and hips. Birds love berries and can make quite a mess! Look out for members of the thrush family including song and mistle thrush as well as blackbirds. Winter migrants arrive in the autumn so you may see both redwing and fieldfare in your churchyard feasting on yew and other berry-bearing trees such as holly, hawthorn and rowan. Brambles carrying blackberries are popular and feed a range of birds, animals and also insects. You can often find the next stage of the food web with spiders spinning webs to catch creatures attracted to the berries.

If you are planting shrubs within your churchyard how about choosing berry-bearers, particularly native species such as spindle and guelder rose. If you already have shrubs or a hedge then try and delay any pruning work until the berry feast is over. The end of winter is a good time to cut back hedges and other shrubs, this gives birds and animals food, plus shelter from the winter weather (and from predators such as cats), whilst getting things under control before birds start to build nests in the spring.

We'd love to know what creatures you see eating the berries in your churchyard, please put a record onto iNaturalist or let us know by email.

All the best,  
Harriet Carty

*Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, [harriet@cfga.org.uk](mailto:harriet@cfga.org.uk),*

[www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk) - individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code **diomem22**



**Lindsey writes...**

Thank you for your recent harvest donations. With everything in pretty short supply, all donations are very gratefully received. Pasta is now on the list.

Longlife semi-skimmed milk  
Pasta sauce  
Tinned vegetables  
Instant mash  
Tinned potatoes  
Tinned soup  
Ketchup/brown sauce

Fruit squash  
Sponge puddings  
Tinned rice pudding  
Rice  
Tinned fish  
Custard  
Pasta

Cereals  
Tinned tomatoes  
Coffee  
Tinned meat  
Tinned fruit  
Biscuits/snack bars

**Household cleaning products:**

Washing up liquid  
Multi surface cleaner  
Cleaning cloths/sponges  
Laundry liquid/capsules/powder

**Toiletries:**

Shampoo and conditioner  
Shower gel and soap  
Toothpaste and toothbrushes  
Deodorant  
Razors and shaving foam

**Babies:**

Nappies – all sizes PARTICULARLY NEED SIZE 2 AT THE MOMENT  
Nappy bags  
Wet wipes  
Baby shampoo and bath lotion  
Cotton wool  
Talcum powder

If you are a donor, please try to deliver your donations at the Foodbank on Tues and Fri between 10.00 am and 12 noon – as it gets very busy with clients after this time. Alternatively, you may use any of our Permanent Collection Points which are still available at various locations listed on our website <https://leekdistrict.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>. We are also able to collect any large donations - please contact the Foodbank to arrange this.

If any of you would like to discuss anything relating to the Foodbank or arrange a visit, please contact me at [projectmanager@leekdistrict.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:projectmanager@leekdistrict.foodbank.org.uk) or on 07916 005064. We continue to welcome corporate volunteers, school groups and individual volunteers, and we are always very happy to show people around and share with them the work we are doing. Love, best wishes and blessings to you all.

**Lindsey Stockton, Project Manager**

***NEXT COLLECTION at St Luke's and Connections  
Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup> to include Christmas donations.***

# FLOWER & CRAFT CLUB\*



At our October meeting two star arrangers tackled a pedestal with fantastic results! All the arrangements were impressive and an enjoyable time was had by everyone.

**The next meetings:**  
**Wednesdays**  
**8<sup>th</sup> November**  
**6<sup>th</sup> December**  
**in the Chapter House**  
**from 1pm to 3pm**

*\*Christmas demo on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. See front page for details.*

The meeting on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November will include a parallel arrangement suitable for the Remembrance season. If you would like to come and watch, have a cuppa and a chat or bring knitting, you would be very welcome too. *Sue*



## and OUR NEW ART CLUB...

*Sue writes....*

We have had two very successful meetings already this term and the feedback is very positive. The group is still oversubscribed but I'm keeping a waiting list for future reference.



The next session is on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November** from 10am until noon when members will be looking at autumn foliage and poppies. Pencils, crayons and sketch pads will be needed. Nicola demonstrates techniques for drawing still life and is very encouraging to those who feel they have no talent in this area!



A **£2** donation covers tea, coffee and biscuits.

You don't need to come every time and can book on to sessions that interest you.

**For any further information about the Art and Flower & Craft Clubs please contact Sue Forrester on 07854 043187.**

## CHILDREN'S ART CLUB

As part of our outreach, we hold a termly children's art club on a Saturday morning from 10am to 11am.

## BIBLE STUDIES:

After a gap of over 3 years bible studies have begun again! They are opportunities to meet and discuss the Bible readings on the sheet the previous Sunday. Keep your Readings Sheet and bring it with you. Meet at 19.30 at Claremont, St George's Avenue (home of James and Ros). The next meetings will be on **Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> & Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup>**. All are welcome. If you need a lift or can offer a lift to someone please contact Rev Patricia.

## YOUR FAVOURITE HYMNS

### *Rev Patricia writes...*

Please let me know if there are any hymns you would like to sing in church that are not in Mission Praise. We are making a leaflet with the words of these hymns so that we don't have to keep printing them out. Work is underway. Ideas continue to come in for hymns and the new sheet is being produced. You can speak to me at church, call or text 07854 418 488 or email [pmrobinson51@gmail.com](mailto:pmrobinson51@gmail.com)



## CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP

**Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December from 2.00pm**

As Endon village hall is booked up, this very popular workshop will be taking place in church this year.

The ticket price of **£22.50** includes all you need to make a wreath with the exception of your individual decorations e.g., lights, baubles and bows. This year we will be weaving the wreath ring from ivy strands making it a very organic and recyclable Christmas decoration. Please see Sue for tickets. Only 20 spaces.

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

As usual I will be happy to include greetings in our December newsletter with donations to the Christian Blind Mission. Please let me have your wording and donation by **November 21<sup>st</sup>**. This is important so that a cheque can be sent off before Christmas. (Sometimes Sheila receives the odd donation in mid-Jan when the cheque has been dispatched!) **Ros**



## TOY SERVICES: **Sunday, December 3rd**

Toys collected this year will be offered to Leek Salvation Army and to Leek Food Bank. We invite gifts appropriate for teenagers, babies and toddlers as well as toiletries. **PLEASE DO NOT WRAP YOUR GIFTS** but donations of wrapping paper would be appreciated. Thank you!

# ST CHAD'S NEWS

Sheila Tipper writes...



## What a Harvest service!

Talk about enthusiasm, joy and laughter. It was a really uplifting and entertaining service. The church was full from the very small to the rather more elderly with plenty in between. In fact in the picture, the only spare seat that I can see is mine!

It was so lovely to see all the familiar faces as well as old friends and new friends and even some first timers.

The speaker was Lindsey Stockton, manager at Leek foodbank and the only paid member of the team. She gave a really interesting talk about how it all works and their affiliation with the Trussell Trust. Food vouchers are issued by such organisations as social services etc but they try hard never to turn away anyone in need. They also offer advice and help where they can.

The church looked amazing and the feeling inside St Chad's was fantastic. Dave, as always at family services, was at the piano and the final song for the service was "You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace" which gets faster and faster with each verse. Luckily the roof stayed on but I bet they could hear us in Endon!!!!

## And so to the village hall.....

I didn't count personally but I was told that there were 54 people present and as everyone arrived and met friends and



neighbours, it certainly sounded like a multitude! We enjoyed a choice of pie, peas and gravy served at table by Grace and Arnie and then a choice of dessert provided by members of the church, and what a selection there was. For a diabetic like myself it's a nightmare but I really enjoyed the cheese and biscuits as everyone else tucked into trifles, gateaux, muffins and more.

## And finally.....

Around 250 items were packed into the boot of Barbara and Peter's car, with our blessing to all the people who use Leek foodbank.



# Kath is now official!



**Another very special day at St Chad's was Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> when Kath Howell was finally licensed as Lay Funeral Minister by Bishop Matthew.**

*Sheila T...* What a great service! Bishop Matthew Parker, Bishop of Stafford joined us to lead the service of Holy Communion and officially to authorise and license Kathryn as a lay worker for funerals.

It was a really happy and uplifting service with just the right amount of humour. Bishop Matthew led the service to a nearly full church (I counted between 35 and 40 people but don't know the official numbers) ranging in age from the very young (Florence) to the not quite as young, covering most decades in between!



The official part of the authorisation and licensing official and full of legalese oath and documents were Bishop Matthew asked how performing funeral services which Kath replied in a soft voice, very tongue in cheek "twelve years". To which Bishop Matthew replied "It's about time we made an honest woman of you!"

service, the of Kathryn was very but she declared her signed and delivered. long she'd been without the license, to

Kath, when asked to say a few words, responded that physically she may feel like a wreck at this time (she's not been too well with one thing and another) but spiritually she felt on top of the world. And it showed; she had a huge smile and a sparkle in her eye.

We had special cup cakes to celebrate the occasion with our coffee and I and, I'm sure, most of the other people at that service went home uplifted and smiling. Kath has been doing this job for 12 years!

*Ros adds...I don't know how many of our Churches would keep going without people like Kath and many other devoted volunteers. Congratulations Kath and may the Lord continue to bless you in all you do.*

# **Bagnall Community Christmas Fayre**



**Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December  
at 2pm in Bagnall village hall**

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Endon Methodist Church

**The New Look  
Christmas Fayre**

**Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> November  
10.00am - 1.00pm**



Stalls   FairTrade   Games   Light Refreshments   Lunches

Endon Village Hall Committee is holding a  
**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS FAYRE**  
on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November from 12noon – 4.00pm  
in the village hall.

Donations of chocolate, bottles as well as volunteers to man  
stalls would be very welcome.

Contact 07783 357454

# November Prayer Focus

- The truly horrendous situation in Israel and Gaza and especially the hostages
- The release of all hostages and desperately needed aid getting into Gaza
- Those dealing with severe flooding in parts of Scotland and England
- Many thousands experiencing dire living conditions and deep sadness having lost loved ones as a result of the recent severe flooding in Libya and the earthquake in Morocco as well as aid agencies trying desperately to help
- Inhabitants of the Hawaiian island Maui devastated by wild fires and those in danger of wildfires in other places
- Parts of Ukraine devastated by bombing and the people affected
- The serious consequences of shipments of grain being prevented from reaching their destinations, especially the African countries
- Those taken prisoner by the Russians
- An end to the war
- Serious concerns about the growth of Artificial Intelligence and its influence on all our lives
- Safe passage for those caught up in the current fighting in Sudan and an end to the conflict
- King Charles III and all working members of our royal family
- The recent upsurge of violence in Northern Ireland
- The current threat from China and N Korea supporting Russia in the war in Ukraine
- The threat to Taiwan from China
- Those in Turkey, Afghanistan and Syria still in desperate need after devastating earthquakes
- All aid agencies and volunteer recovery teams
- Our NHS
- Climate change and that the COP27 conference will bear fruit
- Those affected by the severe floods and landslides and those trying to help them
- Those seeking justice for women in Iran and regime change
- For those on low incomes in the light of the rise in energy bills
- Organisations striving to get aid into Afghanistan where women have been banned from working as aid workers
- East African countries on the verge of famine
- The problem of people-trafficking across the Channel and those seeking asylum
- All hostages in Iran awaiting release especially Morad Tahbaz and Mehran Raoff
- Improved safety for women on our streets
- The huge problem of loneliness
- Refugees in Yemen and the US border with Mexico
- All suffering at the hands of deeply corrupt governments
- Loved ones in our parish who are currently unwell
- Our church wardens and worship leaders during the interregnum
- The future of our benefice following more than 3 years of interregnum
- Those affected by the recent upsurge in knife crime
- The widespread drug problem especially in Stoke-on-Trent
- Lou Macari's hostel for the homeless in Hanley
- The problem of the millions of plastic bottles afloat in our oceans and the tons of 'space junk' orbiting our planet
- All who have lost loved ones recently
- The Trussell Trust food banks still needed as much as ever

Roger Simpson, St Luke's warden / worship / PCC chair	01782 502006
Barrie Jackson, reader / St Luke's PCC Sec / Administrator (* tel no for church enquiries)	07510 074097 07517 653370*
Rev Philip Robinson (minister w Permission to Officiate)	07983 863372
Rev Patricia Robinson (organist, also minister w PtO)	07854 418488
Revs Philip & Patricia Robinson (landline)	01782 502448
Sue Forrester, Flower & Craft Club / Foundation gov / Safeguarding Officer / St Luke's Facebook / Art Club	07854 043187
Deb Podmore, Connections / school chaplain	01782 773383
Sheila Simpson, St Luke's Electoral Roll Officer	01782 502006
Shirley Brindley, candle dedications / pastoral tm	01782 504089
Steve Dale, St Luke's treasurer	07894 098011
Sheila Hurst, St Luke's Gift Aid Sec / MU rep	01782 503622
Ros Benson, newsletter / St Luke's website	01782 504137
Kath Howell, St Chad's PCC chair / warden / worship leader	01782 304616
Julia Podmore, St Chad's warden / treasurer	07980 802121
Pat Saul, St Chad's PCC vice-chair / secretary	07973 863930
Muriel Finney, St Chad's worship leader	01782 302229
Peter Millard, St Chad's buildings / warden's team	01782 505338
Emma Ashworth, St Chad's warden's team	07861 730806
Claire Houston-Brown, St Chad's Safeguarding Officer	07779 667470
Sheila Tipper, St Chad's news contact	01782 534647

For the duration of the interregnum the newsletter is available on-line as a PDF attachment and on the church website.

Paper copies are available for those without internet access.

Please submit notices for our next newsletter to Ros Benson

by **Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> 2023.**

either by e-mail [jandrbenson@btinternet.com](mailto:jandrbenson@btinternet.com) or phone 504137.

## ENDON COMMUNITY CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT

This will be held in the Methodist Church on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm. Please contact Ros or Ann if you would like tickets.

