



# BRAMSHALL NEWS

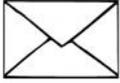


*"Happy Christmas"*

**December 2020**

Send your stories, photos and news for the next edition of Bramshall News!

**December deadline is Monday 14th December 2020**



Rev John, Bramshall News Interim Editor

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Tel: 565228. email: bramshallnews@gmail.com

**Bramshall Village Community**

On facebook? Then join up to the  
Bramshall Village Community Page for all the latest.



**How to find your local PCSOs (Police Community Support Officers)  
details for your areas.**

Log on to [www.Staffordshire.police.uk](http://www.Staffordshire.police.uk) website and enter your post code in 'Find your area'. This will link you to your local policing team under the tab 'your team'. This page will also allow you to contact your local officers if you have anything to report.

.....  
Thanks to those who offered to distribute the Bramshall News around Mallen's Croft etc. However, it was the family of Laura, Andy, Betty & little Ada who were first to contact me, so I am delighted to welcome them to our team of distributors - thank you so much.  
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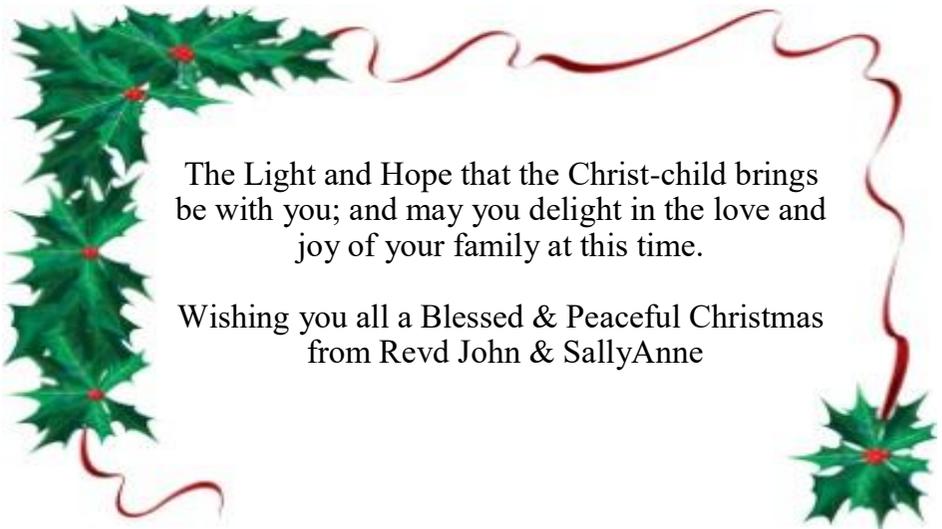
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Please remember, this is everybody's News Sheet and the editor would be delighted to receive contributions about anything interesting or important, celebrations, forthcoming events, reflections, anything... and photographs make any item more engaging.  
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## “A Covid Christmas”

It's a little different this year  
So we've heard since March  
We must stay 2m near  
Though it may be harsh  
We must stay indoors  
It might be the 2nd time  
But it's for a just cause  
And while we're waiting for a sign  
We will miss our loved ones like never before  
We will appreciate them even more  
And though Christmas this year is not the same  
Songs and praises will be exclaimed  
Hopes will be higher  
Spirit will be lighter  
Christmas dinner will taste even better  
We will appreciate every present, card and letter  
We will spend November apart and Christmas together



Thanks to Jess for this poem - contributions like this are brilliant; and it's good to showcase local talent.



The Light and Hope that the Christ-child brings  
be with you; and may you delight in the love and  
joy of your family at this time.

Wishing you all a Blessed & Peaceful Christmas  
from Revd John & SallyAnne

# Church News

The Uttoxeter Area of Parishes  
Parish Church of St. Lawrence Bramshall  
Vicar Revd John Lander  
revjls@aol.com 565228

## Covid-19 Latest Guidelines

As we emerge from 'Lockdown 2' the regulations concerning places of worship have not been clarified prior to going to print. Consequently, the service schedule published below is subject to public worship being allowed (incorporating guidelines as before). Otherwise, if the current restrictions continue the church will be open Sunday morning 10 – midday for private prayer only. Please refer to church notice boards or the Bramshall Community Facebook page for any updates

## Services for December

6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	11.00am	Holy Communion
13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	11.00am	Readings & Christmas Music
20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	11.00am	Holy Communion
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00am	Christmas Day Communion
27 <sup>th</sup> Dec		NO SERVICE

## Zoom Services

While public worship was suspended during 'Lockdown 2', we embraced modern technology and introduced Zoom services. But this was only achieved with the generous assistance of Chris Heinich who provided the essential internet connectivity in church. Thank you Chris.

## 100 Club Results: November

1 <sup>st</sup>	No 52	Philip Sargeant	£30
2 <sup>nd</sup>	No 97	Steve & Deb Passam	£25
3 <sup>rd</sup>	No 174	Helen Lowe	£20
4 <sup>th</sup>	No 61	Paddy Hind	£15

## Christingles



During Advent, a Christingle is a traditional way to help young children learn about Jesus. Each part of the Christingle has a significant meaning, which can be talked about as children assemble one of their own. The literal meaning of the word Christingle is ‘Christ’s Light’.

The orange represent the world. The fruits or sweets represent God’s creation and goodness. These are put on sticks and placed in all ‘four corners of the world’. In other words, God’s love and goodness is seen all over the world. There are four of these, also representing the four seasons which are part of the wonderful world God has created for us. The red ribbon signifies Jesus’s blood and sacrifice to save all people. The candle helps us remember that Jesus is the light of the world and, at Christmas, we celebrate his birth.

Perhaps you and your little one (or bigger ones!) may like to make a Christingle this year when joining the village on the Advent walk. They are simple to make and don’t cost much at all.

### How to make a Christingle

You will need:

an orange: some red ribbon (or red adhesive tape): glue/tape or a dress pin:  
four cocktail sticks: a selection of dried fruits (raisins, sultanas, cherries, etc)  
and/or sweets (dolly mixture, fruit pastilles, etc.): a candle and small square  
of tin foil (a birthday cake candle works just as well)

First, place the red ribbon around the centre of the orange and fasten with tape, glue or a pin.

Next, ask an adult to make a cross in the top, centre of the orange with a sharp knife and place the foil over the cross. Then, push the candle into the cross. The foil will catch any hot candle wax and prevent this from dripping on your child’s hands.

Finally, put a selection of dried fruit and/or sweets onto the top half of each cocktail stick, then stab the cocktail sticks evenly around the base of the candle.

*Laura Hill*

## Uttoxeter Area of Parishes - December Clergy Letter

Dear friends,

As I write this letter, we are not even in Advent yet and everyone is wondering what Christmas will be like this year. Will the coronavirus pandemic still be raging on December 25<sup>th</sup>? Will it be possible for us to visit our loved ones, even if they live fairly near to us, to share presents in the flesh and relish the warmth of a beautiful family Christmas dinner?

It is possible that festive greetings may have to be on smartphones and iPads and tablets instead of face to face this year, rather than around the dinner table. Work parties and dinners look likely to be off the menu in 2020 in every part of the country as no more than six people may be allowed to gather in any area. The days of people inviting their neighbours to drop round for Christmas or New Year drinks are also on hold.

But can Christmas ever really be cancelled or ruined because of unusual circumstances? I read in the newspaper today that a Paris hospital director was calling upon President Macron to cancel Christmas. People think that it was “banned” in the time of Oliver Cromwell but, at that time, Parliament frowned upon the kind of celebrations of Christmas that were in vogue, not the fact of Christmas, disliking all the waste, extravagance, disorder and immorality of the Christmas celebrations. They were encouraging people to keep it as a time of fasting and to spend it in respectful contemplation. Shops and markets were told to stay open on 25 December, and in the City of London soldiers were ordered to patrol the streets, seizing any food they discovered being prepared for Christmas celebrations!

When Christmas approaches, let's remember how lucky we are that the smell of our turkey being cooked and the sight of holly decorating our front door won't make us liable for arrest!

Advent is a time of waiting and preparation for the Church, not just the run up to the celebration of the birth of a baby, at Christmas, but a time of looking forward to when this baby, Jesus, will return; not this time as a helpless baby but in all his power and glory as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. So really, it is impossible to cancel Christmas but we just may have to celebrate it a bit differently!

May I wish you a stress free Christmas and a peaceful New Year that fulfils your expectations as we celebrate the birth of a very special baby who grew up to change the world. Whatever you are hoping and waiting for in 2021, I hope and pray that it will be worth the wait.

Yours in Christ

Irene

*Revd Irene Smith is Local Vicar at Checkley*



Advent is the season of hope and expectation as we look longingly towards the great joy of Christmas.

## BRAMSHALL 100 CLUB

Our established “100 Club” is entering its fourteenth year and we are hoping that you will consider joining or renewing your membership for 2021.

For those new to the village – whether you have a direct connection with Church or not – this can be a way of showing your care and support by purchasing a number for £12 (or more if you are feeling very generous!). We pay out half the proceeds in winnings and the other half is put towards keeping our lovely Church in the condition it is in at the moment.

The cost remains at £12 for the year for each number (£1 per month up front) and follows the usual format of monthly draws with the winners being notified and their names published in the Bramshall News Sheet.

Cheques should be made payable to: **Bramshall 100 Club**, placed in an envelope stating your **name and address, phone number and email address please, and given to:** Rev John Lander, 9 Overcroft, or phone 565228 to arrange collection.

For those of you who are more technologically proficient (and there seems to be quite a lot who are) you may wish to pay directly into the 100 Club Account. For this option please use: Natwest, Uttoxeter Sort Code 60-22-09 Account 64540138 **Bramshall 100 Club** – Ref: put your name. An email to [pjsaj@aol.com](mailto:pjsaj@aol.com) saying you have paid this way would be exceedingly helpful; especially if you are a new member - we can then allocate your number/s.

I know that not everyone can be a ‘winner’ (you can include the vicar in that category!!), so please do not be discouraged - and on behalf of the Parochial Church Council we thank you very much for continuing to support the church in this way.



Now, where did that  
number 56 ball go to??  
Still no sign of it again  
this year.

## BRAMSHALL CALENDAR 2021

Thank you to all who have purchased one of our 'limited edition' calendars. We are still distributing, but lockdown has introduced a degree of challenge—so, if you are still waiting please contact the editor to arrange a convenient time and place.

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### **SANTA & HIS REINDEER ARE COMING TO BRAMSHALL**

**Saturday 12th December  
3.00pm- 4.00pm**

**Cancelled—Tier 3 regulations**

Unfortunately, this event is now full to capacity; so, sadly, no more children can be accepted due to the available space and social distancing rules. But I am sure there may be an opportunity to see Santa & his Reindeer while they are at the Parish Hall car park...even if from a slight distance

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### **Village Christmas Eve Nativity Walk**

There was only a limited response to the Village Advent Calendar suggestion, but I am sure that many houses will have stars, angels etc displayed over the coming weeks. We still intend to have a family Christmas Eve walk around the village admiring all the decorations and lights, ending with a nativity scene in a secret location. Of course, if restrictions are in place we may be limited in numbers and what we can do. But the aim will be to come together in the Parish Hall car park at 3.00pm Thursday 24th December for a walk lasting about half an hour before arriving at the nativity scene. Glow sticks will be issued to bring a little more light as the dusk descends. There may be the chance to hear the Christmas Story and sing a favourite carol before returning safely home.

**Cancelled—Tier 3 regulations**

# Penny's Recipe of the Month

## Christmas Stock

### Ingredients:

Left over carcass / bones  
1 carrot  
1 medium onion,  
1 leek  
Parsley  
Dried herbs



Hello Readers, well I hope all is well with you and your families. My recipe for this month is one to use after Christmas celebrations.

Whatever you have on Christmas day, either a Turkey or a Chicken when you have had enough meat keep the carcass and any bones - put in a large saucepan with 1 carrot cut into chunks, 1 onion quartered, 1 leek sliced, some parsley stalks and some dried herbs I tend to use dried bay leaves, Thyme and 3-4 stalks of parsley. Add 2pints of cold water and salt and pepper. Bring the pan to the boil and simmer with the lid on gently for 2hours. After the two hours strain the stock into a container and leave to cool. Once cool remove any fat from the surface and then freeze.

By doing this you will be able to make lovely flavoursome soups - my favourite which I make is brussel sprout soup, the flavour is great. I always remember my mother would never buy sprouts until there had been a frost as it would slightly sweeten them and give out a lovely nutty flavour, which it does. Trust me I am from Yorkshire and a farmer's daughter!!!

Hope you have a lovely Christmas despite the current situation.

*Penny Gilpin*

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AEDdonate has provided a container to collect clothing and shoes, which are suitable for recycling. The bin has been located in the corner of the Parish Hall car park, so as to have the least impact on parking space.

AEDdonate is committed to improving survival from out of hospital, cardiac arrest, supporting the placement and use of an automated external defibrillator to local communities.

Collection will be weekly or fortnightly, depending on volume of donations. The money raised will be used to fund the Defibrillator programme.

As part of BKV, having a recycling collection point is seen as a positive on the Village Assessment. If the scheme is not successful then the bin will be removed, but the facility should be of benefit to the community - so please use this properly and responsibly.

# **DOG GROOMING AT BRAMSHALL**

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*We look forward to hearing from you.*