

village news

December 2013 & January 2014



And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field,
keeping watch over their flock by night. **Luke 2:8.**

Tessa Garrett (6)

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'And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them'
Tessa Garrett (6)

FROM BATH AND WELLS

THE UNBELIEVABLE TRUTH

I enjoy listening to the radio when I'm travelling around the archdeaconry. On Sunday mornings as I drive home from parishes, I usually turn to Radio 4 to enjoy *Just a Minute*, *I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue* or one of the other comedy shows that form the staple diet of this pre-prandial broadcasting slot. Unless of course *Test Match Special* is on! In recent years a new programme has appeared, *The Unbelievable Truth*. Panel members give a short lecture on a given topic and the aim is to 'smuggle truths' past fellow panellists, who in turn have to 'spot' truth-telling from falsehood. The mini lecture can be very amusing but, apart from five 'truths', is entire fabrication.

I've been thinking about truth-telling in the last week or so. The news has been dominated by coverage of a court case and a Parliamentary enquiry in which at the heart is the question, 'who is telling the truth?' Were three policemen telling lies about a former Cabinet Minister? Was Rebecca Brooks aware of what was going on within the organisation for which she held key responsibility? How good are we at truth-telling? Would you dare tell someone you love their hair looks awful or give an honest answer to the question most husbands dread, 'Does my bum look big in this?' More seriously, are we tempted to collude when others hide from the painful truth that the one they love is terminally ill? When we've been hurt deeply by someone we love, do we say we're fine, or tell them the truth?

What is truth?

- John tells us in his Gospel that Jesus is the **true** light (1:9).
- He came from the Father, **full of grace and truth** (1:13).
- Later he records the words of Jesus himself, 'I am the Way, the **Truth** and the Life' (14:6)
- and 'For this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth.

Everyone on the side of truth listens to me' (18:37).

In Jesus Christ, God's truth is embodied and personified. Jesus makes real for us the truth of God's love and commitment to everyone. His whole life was lived seeking to reveal God's love for us and for all people. As the season of Advent begins, I'm challenged by Jesus who is the Truth to live truthfully. I reckon myself to be on the side of truth so I resolve to live with utter integrity. I want to avoid telling the bald truth without love and I want never to manipulate the truth by exaggeration or telling only that part of a story that reflects well on me. As Jesus came into the world to testify to the truth, I too want to commit myself in all that I am to living a life which speaks of God's love in Christ for me. And to that end I pray the Spirit will fill me with the same grace and truth Jesus showed to all he met. And as we naturally begin to turn our eyes to our celebrations of Christ's first coming, I'm humbled and in awe again of the truth that in this baby, the truth of who God is was truly revealed. Unbelievable? It's the truth.

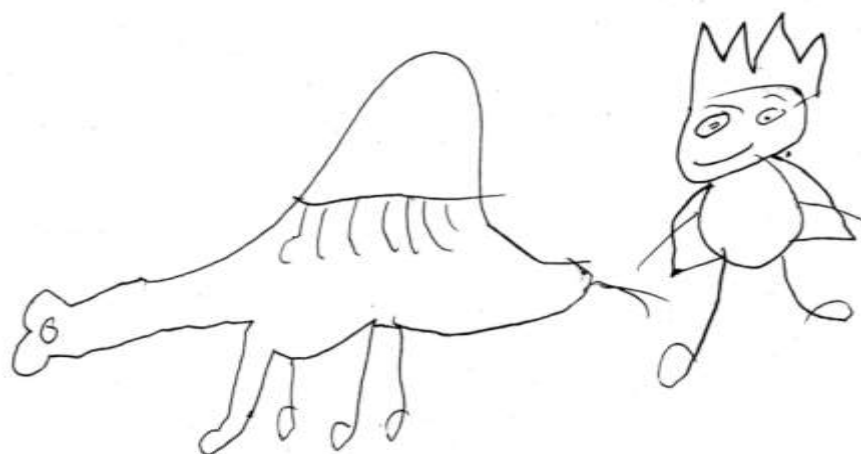
Archdeacon Andy Piggott
The Venerable Andy Piggott, Archdeacon of Bath

FROM THE RECTORY

This year has been quite a year for me; I have become a mother-in-law for the first time! But before you think of all the old jokes, I have to put in that I have a fantastic mother-in-law and I am hoping that I can be at least half as supportive to my son in law, as my mother in law has been to me. She is still a lively lady and in her younger life, was rather feisty while my late father in law was the epitome of calm. He used to say to her, "it takes two to argue and I'm not joining in"!

It takes two to argue and it takes two to make peace. Peace doesn't just happen. Peaceful homes, peaceful communities, a peaceful world isn't just going to happen. At this time of year we are beginning to hear all the Christmas carols piped through the shops as we buy our presents. Later in December, we might listen to carol singers or sing carols ourselves around the tree, or at Carol services. As we take in the words, we can't fail to notice that one of the themes of these old songs is peace. It is a theme right at the heart of the story of Jesus' birth. As the story is written in St Luke's gospel, after the angels had told the shepherds on the hillside that the prince of peace had been born in Bethlehem, they sang, "Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace to all those of good will", words we still use in church services, Sunday by Sunday. But God is not like the United Nations troops imposing peace by diktat and force of arms. If peace is to come in our families and our world, it is we who have to grow it. Christmas is not just about God doing something for us, it is also about God calling us to join in the work of healing the world starting with our own hearts and lives. When Jesus grew up, one of his first sermons included the words, "Blessed are the peacemakers". Christmas is a time to celebrate but it is also a time to realise that just like puppies, peace is for each day of the year, not just for Christmas.

Jo



Wise Man with Camel

Jack Giles (6)

BENEFICE NEWS

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2013



Tessa Garrett (6)

Christmas Tree Festival 2013, St Andrew's Church Stoke Trister, Friday 13th, Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th December 2013

Final call! There are still a few places available. Do not delay as there is limited space in the church. Please contact Diana Noble on 01963 31071 for further details.

The event will open on 13th December with a Cheese & Wine Evening at the church from 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm. The ticket price is £5.00 per adult; children are free and there will be soft drinks and mince pies for them!

On the Saturday and Sunday the church will be open from 1.00 pm – 4.00 pm. Entrance is free but donations will be most welcome. **At 3.00 pm on the Saturday** there will be congregational singing of advents carols, plus a children's choir who will perform seasonal music.

We still need lots more paper chains for the children's tree (don't forget this also includes the young in heart!). The chains can be any colour and decorated with stickers, glitter or pictures. The links should be approximately 30 cm x 4 cm and then stuck together in the normal manner. The paper chain can be any length you want – the longer the better! Diana and Maggie will need to know how much chain they will have on the day so they can determine its height and structure. Please let Maggie (33147) or Diana (31071) have your chains by 10th December. (Paper and glue is the order of the day for playtime in the next few weeks!).

ST STEPHEN'S AND ST JOHN'S, CHARLTON MUSGROVE



Church Wardens: Veronica White 01963 32928
Jonathan Hand 01963 828930

Decorating the churches: we will be decorating St. Johns, mostly with greenery, on Thursday morning **December 19th** from 10 am; St. Stephens on the next morning, **Friday 20th** also from 10 o'clock.
Everyone most welcome to come and help.

ST ANDREW'S STOKE TRISTER AND BAYFORD CHAPEL



Church Wardens: Alan Lyall Grant 01963 34178
Nigel Noble 01963 31071

The Bells of St Andrew's Church, Stoke Trister

Thanks to the efforts of our bell ringers and donations from linked charities, we have raised the £8k needed to repair our bells! If all goes according to plan, the cracked bell will be removed on 13th January and returned in early March. Allowing for repairs to some bell fittings, we are very hopeful that the ring will be back in action by Easter. Grateful thanks to all those who helped raise funds locally, and in particular to Brian and Jennifer Jackson whose barn sale raised over £700.

Nigel Noble

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH BELL APPEAL

Thanks to all who supported the Boot to Barn Sale at Culverwell Farm. The weather turned wet and cold - considering all this we made, with donations, over £700. Thanks to Nigel for his untiring effort to find some £8,000 to remedy the bells. Further donations will be most acceptable for bell ropes etc. ***The Ringing Team***

Congratulations to Brian and Jennifer Jackson on the fantastic results of their Boot to Barn Sale at the end of October. All their hard work produced the marvellous sum of £700 for the restoration of Stoke Trister Church bell appeal, and together with their supporters at the sale, including Mike Wheeler, bolstered by the delicious coffee and cakes, the target of £8,000 has now been reached, and work will start on the bell restoration in the New Year. We hope to hear the bells ringing out again in March or April.

P M Vaux, A R Warren or R C W Warren. Does anyone in Stoke Trister or Bayford know the current address or contact details of: P M Vaux, A R Warren or R C W Warren? Any information would be most grateful received by the Churchwarden, Nigel Noble, on 01963 31071 or nigel.noble@btinternet.com.

ST LAWRENCE'S CUCKLINGTON



Church Wardens: Karen Dunford 01963 34220
Brian Trueman 01747 841014

Flower Ladies - This year we will be decorating St Lawrence for Christmas on Saturday 21st December from 10 am onwards. We would be very grateful for any help, greenery, berries and flowers.

OUR VILLAGES

New Year's Eve Ball – in aid of Cancer Research UK: In memory of my darling father Richard Gardner we are holding a New Year's Eve Black Tie Ball at the Arthur Morison Memorial Hall, Cucklington. Come and see out the old year and welcome in the new one

with friends and neighbours. Charity auction, entertainment, buffet and cash bar. Tickets on sale now £50 per person (includes a bottle of wine) from Claire Vincent, 1 Ridgeway, Cucklington or call me on 07941 568766. Doors 7.30 pm, carriages 1 am. See our face book page www.lovelifeliveit.com. Claire.

CUCKLINGTON



Carols Round the Village: Carols around the village this year will take place on Saturday 21 December - meet at 6.00 pm outside Longhill Farm.

THE ARTHUR MORISON MEMORIAL HALL (Cucklington and Stoke Trister with Bayford)

Friday 29th November at 7pm

Reputation: Built over a lifetime, lost in a minute'

A talk by Roland Rudd: Certainly not to be missed!

Tickets £7.50 from Brian Trueman or Karen Dunford, to include small eats. Cash bar.
All proceeds to St Lawrence Church.

Coffee Mornings. The next Village Hall Coffee Morning will be on **Saturday 30th November starting at 10.00 am**. This will be the last one of the year so do come along to enjoy delicious coffee and home made cakes and a good chat. The first Coffee Morning of the new year will be on **Saturday 18th January** starting at 10.00 am.

Quiz Night Pat, Karen and Jane would like to say a really big thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make the Quiz Night such a success. To everyone who came,

we hope you had a good time and enjoyed the delicious supper. We hope to do another one in March. Nearly £400 was raised for the Village Hall funds.

Hall Cleaning The date of the next Village Hall Cleaning was incorrectly given as Saturday 7th December in the last newsletter. **The next Cleaning Days will be Monday 9th December at 2.00 pm and Saturday 1st February 2014 at 9.30 pm.**

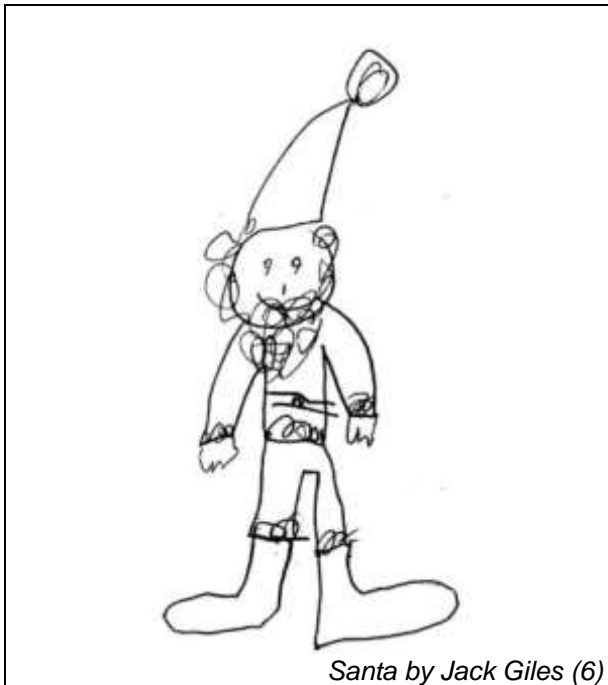
Cucklington Village Hall 100 Club

Results for October: Mrs H P Woods and Mr M Stevens
and for November: Miss R Spencer and Mr K Rawlings

**The Xmas Party will be on the 20th December at 7.30pm in the hall.
All are welcome.**

Hall bookings should be made through Jenny Rawlings (01963 33320) who holds the keys

STOKE TRISTER WITH BAYFORD



**COME ALONG
TO OUR
CHRISTMAS
FAIR!**

**At Bayford Chapel on November 30th
from 10 am – 12 noon**

**Gifts, crafts, toys and games,
nearly new, books, cakes and
produce, lucky dip, tombola and
raffle**

**Entrance 50p
Children Free**

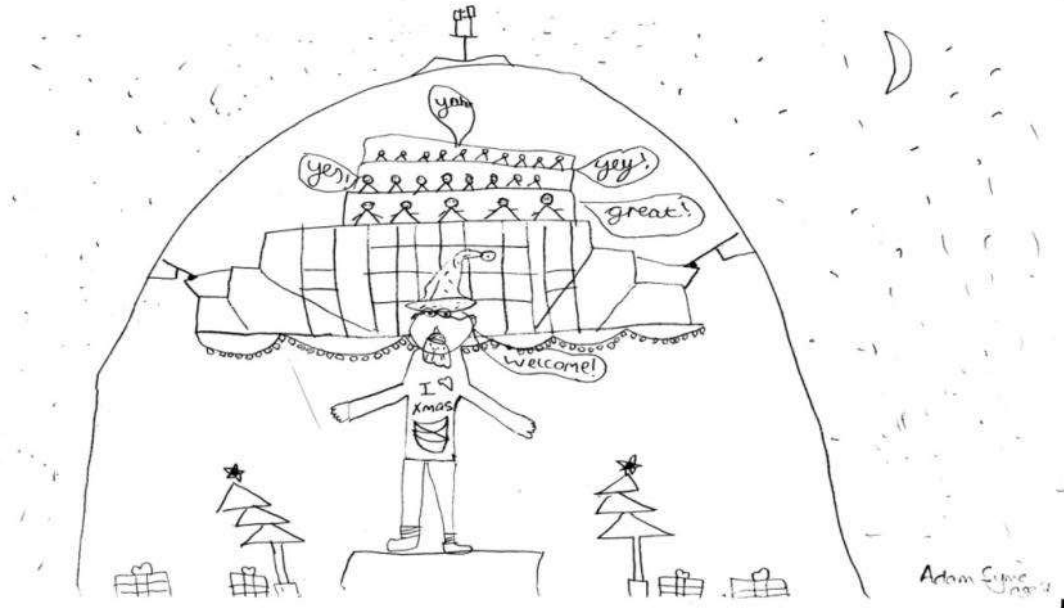
Christmas Tea Party. To be held in Bayford Chapel on **Tuesday 10th December** 3pm- 5pm. Cost £3.00 per head. If you are interested Thelma Trott is collecting names and money. Telephone No 01963 32700 Address, St George, Bayford.

We send our good wishes to Janet Smith who has been in Verrington Hospital and wish her a speedy recovery.

Bayford Coffee Morning

Don't forget the next Coffee Morning is at the Well House on **Thursday 5th December** at 10 am. (No bring & buy, but there is a raffle). **There will be no coffee morning in January** so our first get together of 2014 will be at the Chapel on **February 6th from 10 am – 12 noon.**

Christmas Cakes Pam Gray has offered to provide marzipanned, uniced, or iced and decorated Christmas cakes (4 x 4"). If you would like to order one, please ring Pam (33504) before the Christmas Fair on November 30th when they will be on sale.



I love Christmas!

Adam Syme (7)

CHARLTON MUSGROVE

Charlton Musgrove 100 Club

Winners for November: No 70 Peter Furneaux and No 46 Mike White

**An Amazing Evening of Rich Sumptuous Delights
To celebrate the 3rd anniversary of our village hall on
FRIDAY, 6th DECEMBER, 2013**

**at our hall, Charlton Musgrove 7.30 pm - late
Dancing to live music, Celebratory Punch
and a delicious, home-cooked supper with Scrumptious Sweets
18s and over very welcome. All proceeds go to local charities**

Tickets at £15 available from Helen Bristol (07773 850 472, Bex Kimber (01963 33217 and 07970 149 872), Annie Sutton (01963 31239 and 07811 104 977) and Kate McCarry (01963 31433 and 07939 111873).



CHRISTMAS SPECIAL COFFEE MORNING IN THE VILLAGE HALL

**One week earlier on Friday 13th December at 10.30am
Christmas delights, real coffee and a warm welcome to all**

January's coffee morning will be on Friday 17th January

CHRISTOPHER KELHAM

presents

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

BY CHARLES DICKENS

Charlton Musgrove Village Hall

Thursday 19th December at 7.30pm

And at the Hobhouse Studio Theatre at Bruton School for Girls

Friday 20th December at 7.30pm

**Tickets, including a free glass of mulled wine,
£8.00. Under 15's £4.00 On the door £10 and £5**

Obtainable in advance from: The Bruton Pharmacy
Church Bridge Stores, Bruton or Mike and Marian Kelham, Tel: 01749 812281

VILLAGE 'SAFETY NET'

Remember to phone **01963 31634** for help in Charlton Musgrove if you need to call on the "safety net" which is in place.

Diane Coe

Short Mat Bowls at Charlton Musgrove Village Hall – Fun Matches

Tuesday 10th December 2013 and January 14th and 28th 2014– 2pm to 5pm

Come along for a laugh, we are a friendly non-competitive group Cost - £2.50 per session - Tea & Coffee will be served. Please bring along smooth soled shoes to wear for the sake of the mats.

Brian & Stella Wheeler – 01963 34331 : Robert & Jackie Parker – 07769913475

Tai Chi Exercise classes in Charlton Musgrove Hall will start on the **9th January, Thursday from 4.30 pm for an hour**. The first class is a taster session and is free including the tea and biscuits. **The class is open to all ages and to anyone with health issues**. For further information please ring Paul Hodge on 01749 346774 or email him on taichiforhealth@outlook.com.



Jack Giles (aged 6)

NEW YEAR VILLAGE WALK

Friday 3rd January 11am

To celebrate a circular village walk with improved and repaired stiles with dog gates

which the Walkers, riders and cyclists group have been busy working on this autumn.

Everyone welcome with or without dogs
– approx 1 hour walk

Meet at the village hall car park
Mulled wine, hot drinks, sausage rolls and mince pies will be served in the village hall after the walk

COUNCIL NEWS

Cucklington Parish

VOLUNTEERING

In these times of austerity we have to be prepared to take actions ourselves to help others less able to help themselves. We are also adopting responsibility in areas previously covered by other authorities. The local authorities and voluntary organisations offer such opportunities.

- **Winter Fuel Allowance** – there are people who have sufficient funds to be fully independent but still receive the Winter Fuel Allowance from the government, raised through taxation. Four years ago Somerset Community Foundation started “Surviving Winter”, a project enabling those who feel able to “recycle” their allowance to the Foundation, who, working with local charitable groups, help older people who may be struggling to keep warm. The overwhelming success of the scheme led to all Community Foundations in the country raising funds in this way, also its adoption by Saga magazine. Contact 01749 344949 or go to www.somersetcf.org.uk/surviving_winter_appeal.html. Local people donating their allowance include Michael Eavis, the Bishop of Bath and Wells and Lord Ashdown
- **Somerset You Can Do Services** – provide advice and guidance on a wide range of issues such as housing, disability, skill development and independent living
 - to find what services are offered call 01278 664188
 - to offer assistance as a mentor contact Jenny Wood on 01278 664180
- **Community Council for Somerset** – contact Keeley Rudd on 01823 331222
- **Balsam Centre (Balsam Park, Wincanton BA9 9HB)** - The Balsam Centre provides a wide range of services and activities that are easy to access, enjoyable and that have lasting benefits. The Centre is a friendly, vibrant space where many people come every day for meetings, activities and creative or quiet time. Tel. 01963 31842
- **Local Choices** - In order to reduce costs to the authority Somerset County Council are starting a scheme called Local Choices whereby Parishes will adopt some responsibility for services in their area. Tasks such as identifying potholes and local snow clearance are included and training and resources are to be made available for this. Anyone interested should contact the Chair of the Parish Meeting, Gordon Czapiewski on 01963 32076.

Regular Contacts

Online check re status of **Planning Applications**: www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planningsearch

To report **Fly Tipping** online go to: www.southsomerset.gov.uk/online

Telephone numbers for reporting to the council (office hours) are:

General, inc. fly tipping 01935 462462

Highways, inc. Blocked drains 0845 345 9155

You may contact me by phone (01963 32076) email gordonczapiewski@hotmail.co.uk or in person.

Gordon Czapiewski

NHW co-ordinator - Brian Trueman 01747 841014. Non urgent calls to police – 101, the charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 11 www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Stoke Trister with Bayford Parish Council

The next meeting of the Stoke Trister with Bayford Parish Council will be held in Bayford Chapel at **7.30 pm on Thursday, 9th January. All residents of Stoke Trister with Bayford Parish are welcome.** *Agendas will be posted on village notice boards at least 3 days before the meeting.*

Local produce, goods and services in our villages

Roz Hartley and Geoff Syme are **Cost Management Specialists**, saving businesses time and money by managing their overheads.

Website details: www.auditel.co.uk/rozhartley

Office: 01963 31541 Mobiles: 07715 668 248 or 07949 239 864

Pete Pugsley Ex-Police Advanced Driving Instructor. Teaching Safe Driving for Life

Tel 01963 31377 Mob: 07791462484 email peter.pugsley@o2.co.uk

Facebook: Pete Pugsley's Driving School

Farmers and Gardeners: Don't let unsightly mole hills spoil your lawn and wreck your mowers: **ROY TROTT** has over sixty years' experience at catching the little critters. 01963 32200 or 07919952583

The Unicorn Inn, Bayford

Real Ale and Ciders, good pub food, special offers Tel: 01963 34941

Dave Gillam, Carpenter, Tel 01963 33522

Rectory Farm House

A boutique B and B in Charlton Musgrove

Telephone Lavinia and Michael Dewar on 01963 34599 and see their website

www.rectoryfarmhouse.com

The Vale Centre

Courtyard of The Manor House, Stoke Trister, Wincanton, Somerset: Holiday Cottages to let

Telephone **01963 33360** info@valecentre.co.uk or visit www.valecentre.co.uk

We are Common Farm Flowers
for nationwide delivery of British-grown bouquets by post,
wedding and occasion flowers, workshops.

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More information on our website www.skibz.co.uk

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Quality home produced meats, raw milk and local produce.

Open Tuesday – Saturday

www.kimbersfarmshop.co.uk or Tel 01963 33177 or email info@kimbersfarmshop.co.uk

HELEN'S CELEBRATION CAKES

Helen can supply amazing decorated /themed cakes for any occasion from wedding, christening, birthday etc. You can call her on 01963 33465

or email helen@andrewchesterman.orangehome.co.uk

Roger Jones. Chiropody in your home. Telephone **01963 31500**

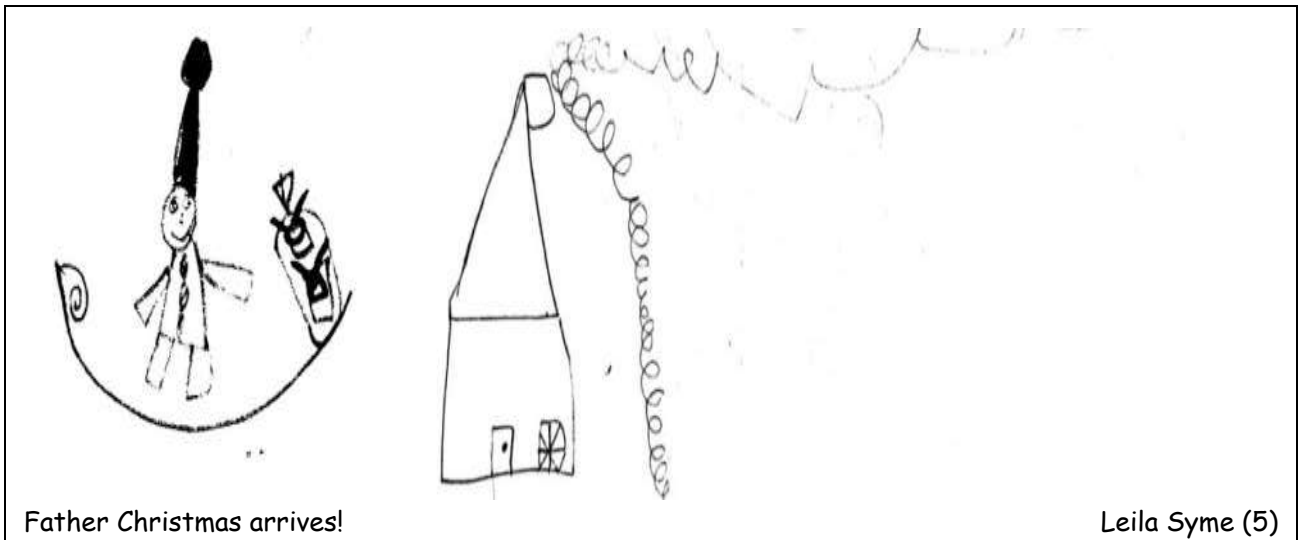
The Willows Health and Beauty Clinic,

Willow Cottage, Leigh Common BA9 8LE

Ring Lisa Clothier on 01747 841521

J S ROSE, Electrician, based in Charlton Musgrove

Tel: **07545842050**



Happy Christmas
everyone
and a peaceful
year
in 2014



