



SPOTLIGHT

The magazine of Offington Park Methodist Church

December 2018 -
January 2019

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EDUCATION, EDUCATION, EDUCATION!

For our **ADVENT GIFTS** this year, we will be collecting items that are needed for our schools. Any of the following gifts will be gratefully received:

- ◇ Pritt Sticks
- ◇ Rulers
- ◇ Pencils
- ◇ Crayola wax crayons
- ◇ Plastic pocket files
- ◇ Laminating pouches (A4)
- ◇ White erasers
- ◇ Pencil crayons

Please see the church notice sheet for other items we are happy to accept



The Editors would like to thank everyone who has contributed to Spotlight throughout the year.

We would like to wish all our readers and contributors a very

**Happy Christmas
and a peaceful and God-filled New Year.**

Dear Friends,

Just in case you haven't heard the Good News, I need to tell you that, subject to ratification by Conference, we will be welcoming a new minister, the Rev. Dr. Frank Okai Sam, to be the minister of Southwick and Storrington from August 2019. We are delighted that Frank and his wife Patience have accepted this position and we look forward to their arrival. Please pray for them as they prepare to leave their congregations in the Doncaster area.



My letter once again is full of thanks! Thank you to all those who contributed to the Special Remembrance Day by knitting poppies. They looked stunning and gave those who pass by our church each day a real reminder of the time of year. Thank you too to the bells who played throughout the service. The Last Post is always moving, but was especially poignant this year played on the bells. Thank you to those who sat out in the vestibule at the Remembrance Service to allow visitors to sit in the church itself - it showed a wonderful sense of care and welcome.

Thank you to Mike, Tim and Adam who enabled the funeral of Olive Grommet to be streamed via Skype to her grandchildren in Australia. This was also videoed, as technology can sometimes be unreliable, and a link is available to those who wish to see it, on application to the Church Office.

The team are looking into streaming the service in the not too distant future to those who are unable to attend church on a Sunday. We have been talking for some time about a camera for church and were hoping this would be available for Christmas this year. A project like this is a bit like cleaning a room. You start with one bit and then it shows up other things that need doing too. It is important that we get this right, and so it will be delayed a little while longer until we are as sure as we can be that we are buying the best kit for our needs. We are very grateful for the generous gifts we have received for this project and we do hope that early in the new year the project will be completed and new equipment installed.

We are almost at the time of the year when most churches receive extra visitors to special services. We have a number of events that will appeal to those who are not regular church attenders and they are all listed in church news and elsewhere in Spotlight. Please support them with your prayers, attendance and personal invitations to your friends, family, neighbours and work colleagues.

(continued overleaf)

Dawn's Letter (continued)

A huge amount of time, work and prayer occurs behind the scenes to make these events and services memorable. We have so much Good News to share with our community.

Finally, Advent starts on 2 December with our young people taking responsibility for the whole of the service. I am so looking forward to participating in an act of worship prepared by our incredible young people. I know that you will join me in giving thanks for the diversity of worship our tradition encompasses, and I pray that through this service we are all blessed by the Spirit of God.

With love and prayers for a peaceful and joy filled Christmas.

Dawn



We are meeting on 11 December to have a good old grump about what grumpiness we can inflict on ourselves and others in 2019 through talks, meals and other grumpy-style events. Details on time and venue can be obtained from the church office on 205722.

On 9 January we are having our Grumpy Christmas Lunch (we DON'T LIKE December parties!) Details available from John Carr in due course. We'd love to welcome new members, grumpiness optional.

JC's "Little Nuggets"

Religious Culture in the North East

Yes, hard to realise I know, but the earliest surviving complete Bible was not written in Geordie, but Latin. It has been recently returned to Britain for an exhibition of culture in Anglo-Saxon England at the British Library. The Bible was made in the North East at a Monastery in Wearmouth-Jarrow and taken to Italy in 716 as a gift to the Pope. Geordies were clearly cultured and found God very early! The exhibition, which has so many other unique gospels and prayer books, runs until 19 February 2019.



John Carr

Christmas Tree Festival & Fair

Offington Park Methodist Church

7 - 9 December

Tree Trail

Quizzes

Christmas Raffle

Christmas Punch &
Mince Pies

Festive Stalls

Lunches
(Saturday only)

Festival Hours

Friday Dec 7: 4:00pm – 7:30pm

Saturday Dec 8: 10:00am – 4:00pm

Family Film Night: 6:00pm

Sunday Dec 9: 12:00pm – 3:00pm

*Admission
Free*

The Spirit of Christmas

An evening of Christmas music
with the

**Lancing and Sompting Concert Band
& friends**

Conductor: James Lelean
Offington Park Methodist Church
South Farm Road, Worthing
BN14 7TN

Friday 14th December 2018, 7:30pm

Tickets: £6.00

Available from
Offington Park Church Office
or from the Box Office: 01273 595675

Christmas Music, Mince Pies and Festive Cheer
Come and share this Christmas Time



We are looking for someone to take over the **Minibus Rota** from 1 January 2019. *Just four times a year*, this entails simply asking drivers for dates they are available on Sundays and making up the quarterly rota for the drivers. You will not have any active involvement with the bus (this includes driving) as this is purely an administration role.



The role is ideally suited to someone who is retired, can use a telephone or basic email and is able to make up a simple rota. We are happy to consider role-sharing too.

Are we describing you? Do please give prayerful consideration as to whether this role (whether fully or as a job share) is something you might be being called to do. If you would like more details or would simply like to discuss this important role in enabling folk to get to worship more easily, please speak to Chris Lance 01903 264602.

Christian Aid Coffee Morning



Such was the demand for the toasted teacakes from those who came to the Christian Aid coffee morning on 10 November that they SOLD OUT part way through the morning, giving the Tyneside Toastmaster an hour or so off! A big thank you to all who contributed in any way towards raising a magnificent sum of **£270.63** from the sale of drinks, teacakes, fancy cakes, and crafts.

The money raised will go towards one of the Christian Aid campaigns such as supporting those who are forced from their homes and are classified as one of the millions of displaced persons.



In 2017, there were **30.6 million new displacements** associated with conflict and disasters across 143 countries and territories — that's the equivalent of 80,000 displacements (or roughly the city of Bath) every single day. Please continue to be as generous as you can.

CHRISTMAS CAPTION COMPETITION



“Think you can beat me? You’re nuts!”

A bit of Christmas fun.

Have a go at our caption competition.

Can you come up with something better than the Editors?

Send your caption idea to the Editors at:

offingtonspotlight@gmail.com

A small prize will be available!

We will print the winning caption, prize details
and winner in the next edition.

GET YOUR SPOTLIGHT EARLY AND FOR FREE!

If you would like to have *SPOTLIGHT* delivered FREE to your email inbox (this is normally a few days ahead of publication date) please send a blank email to offingtonspotlight@gmail.com with **“Digital Spotlight Request”** as the subject of your email. Thank you.

The Eds



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Sunday 16 December

**Join us at 12:45pm for a
delicious 4-course meal
after morning worship**

Tickets Available now!

Adult: £10.00

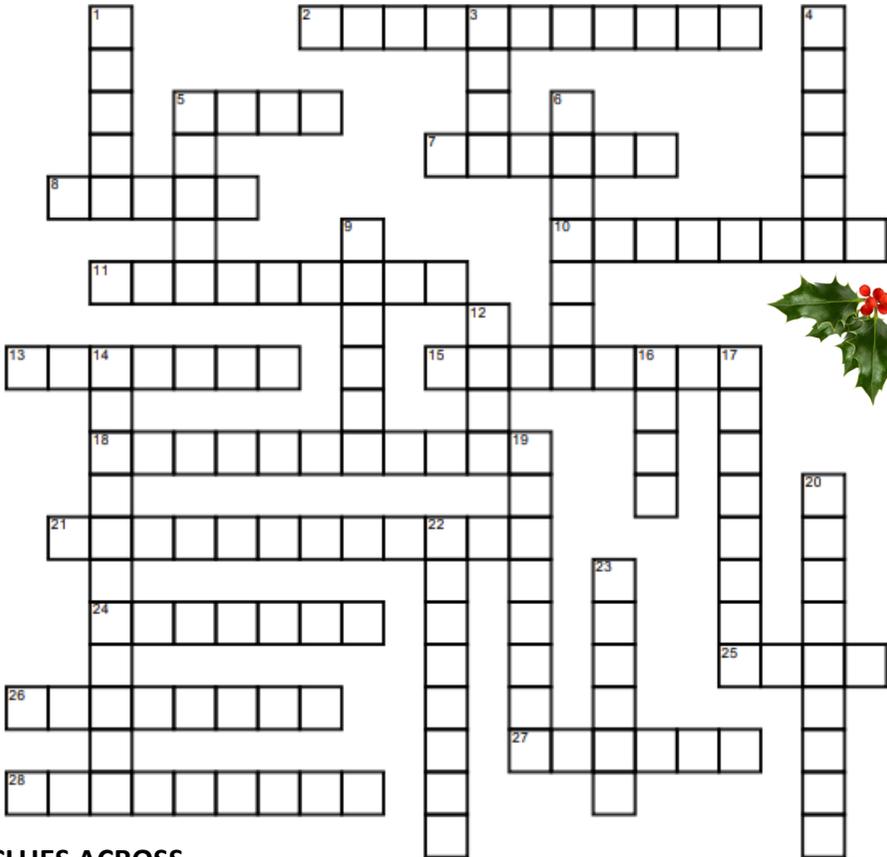
Family: (2 + 2) £25.00

from Church Office or after morning services

**Need a lift?
Please ask
the Office**

This is a TICKET ONLY event, so book early! Spaces are limited

FAMILY CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>2. Let Rich sing! (anag) (11)</p> <p>5. A bit of a joker (4)</p> <p>7. Hangs round at Christmas (6)</p> <p>8. Gloomy gift (5)</p> <p>10. Ant's partner ends up with hot coal for festive month</p> <p>11. Come on and... (9)</p> <p>13. Hides a sixpence, perhaps? (7)</p> <p>15. What Mrs. Henderson does for gifts (8)</p> | <p>18. Saucy little fruits! (11)</p> <p>21. Comic Mr. Skinner's anger! (12)</p> <p>24. They are usually glad (7)</p> <p>25. Gift fit for a King! (4)</p> <p>26. Only one here, but normally seen in pairs (8)</p> <p>27. University professor adds solution to create animal (6)</p> <p>28. With turkey, helps to make the Yuletide gay (9)</p> |
|---|---|

CLUES DOWN

1. Prickly plant used in 7 across (5)
3. Seen in the East (4)
4. In short, saint is initially good at finding birthplace (6)
5. Lady's name mostly heard at Christmas (5)
6. Mr. Barker wanted four (7)
9. Paris resident is ready to eat (6)
12. Norwegian spruce, perhaps? (4)
14. Medals (11)
16. Leon returns to find old Disc Jockey (4)
17. A sage way to use onion (8)
19. Sheepish occupation! (8)
20. Little Town (9)
22. Sounds like Holy Family seen here (8)
23. Short commercial for overall arrival of attached air duct (6)



£1 a child

UNITE KIDS

Primary school ages

Christmas party!

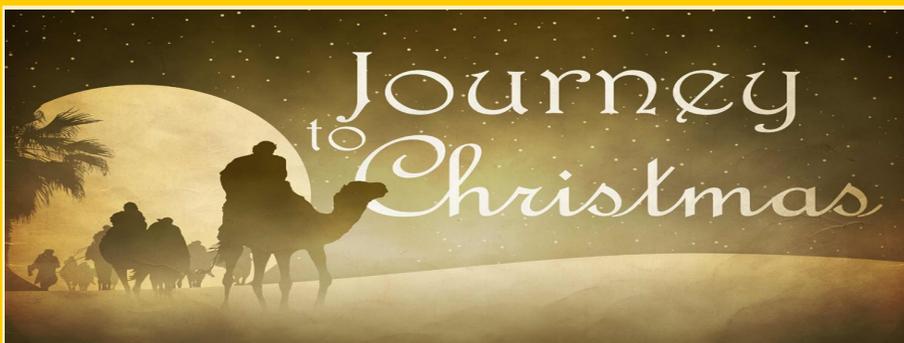
Christmas Music // Party Games //
Food // Crafts // Christmas Jumpers!

20TH DECEMBER 2018
DROP OFF - 4PM PICK UP - 5:30PM
OFFINGTON PARK METHODIST CHURCH
SOUTH FARM RD // BN14 7TN

Book your place at:

www.maybridge.org.uk/unitekidschristmasparty

For more information, speak to Gill Powell



Sunday 23 December

10:30am:

All-age Nativity Service



6:00pm:

Carols by Candlelight

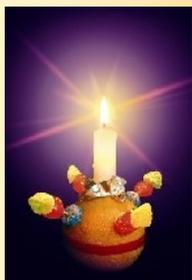


Christmas Eve

3:30pm: Christingle Service with Nativity

5:00pm Christingle Service with Nativity

11:15pm: Christmas Communion



Christmas Day

10:30am

Christmas Day Family Service



DECEMBER DIARY

Sun	2	8:00am	Rev Dawn Carn	Holy Communion
		10:30am	Offington's Young People	Advent Service
		6:00pm	Rev Tony Trevithick	Holy Communion
Mon	3	10:15am	Getaway Club	For carers and toddlers
		11:15am	Keep Fit	
		12:00pm	Tuesday Lunch & Social Club	Drivers: Alison Wright & Adam Cook
		4:30pm	Offington Bells	
Wed	5	10:15am	Getaway Club	For carers and toddlers
Thu	6	9:45am	Paint Along With Me	Art Club
		11:00am	Bible Fellowship	Advent 2: Douglas
		2:00pm	Short Mat Bowls	
Fri	7	4:00pm	Christmas Tree Festival	Until 7:00pm
Sat	8	10:00am	Christmas Tree Festival and Fair	Until 4:00pm
		6:00pm	Christmas Film Night	See posters for details!
Sun	9	10:30am	Rev Dawn Carn	Holy Communion
		12:00pm	Christmas Tree Festival	Until 3:00pm
		3:30pm	Rev Dawn Carn	Messy Church
Mon	10	10:15am	Getaway Club	For carers and toddlers
		7:00pm	Offington Bells	
Tue	11	10:00am	Grumpy Old Men	Discussing 2019 events
		11:15am	Keep Fit	
		12:00pm	Tuesday Lunch & Social Club	Drivers: Doug Sibley & Meg Hopkins
		7:30pm	Tuesday Group	Christmas Celebration
Wed	12	10:15am	Getaway Club	For carers and toddlers
		10:30am		Midweek Holy Communion

DECEMBER DIARY

Thu	13	9:45am	Paint Along With Me	Art Club
		11:00am	Bible Fellowship	Advent 3: Adam
		2:00pm	Short Mat Bowls	
Sun	16	8:00am	Breakfast Church	
		10:30am	Mr Adam Cook	
		12:45pm	Christmas Lunch	Tickets from Church Office
		6:00pm	Mrs Gill Seymour	
Mon	17	10:15am	Getaway Club	For carers and toddlers
		7:00pm	Offington Bells	In the church
Tue	18	11:15am	Keep Fit	
		12:00pm	Tuesday Lunch & Social Club Christmas Lunch	Drivers: Liz & Chris Lance
Wed	19	10:15am	Getaway Club	For carers and toddlers
Thu	20	9:45am	Paint Along With Me	Art Club
		11:00am	Bible Fellowship	Advent 4: Joy
Sun	23	10:30am	Mrs Joy Barnes	Nativity
		6:00pm	Rev Dawn Carn	Candlelit Carol Service
Mon	24		CHRISTMAS EVE	
		3:30pm	Rev Dawn Carn	Christingle Service with Nativity
		5:00pm	Rev Dawn Carn	Christingle Service with Nativity
		11:15pm	Rev Dawn Carn	Midnight Holy Communion
Tue	25	10:30am	CHRISTMAS DAY Rev Dawn Carn	Christmas Day Family Service
Sun	30	10:30am	Rev Bob Sneddon	

JANUARY 2019 DIARY

Happy New Year!

Thu	3	11:00am	Bible Fellowship	
Sun	6	8:00am	Rev Dawn Carn	Holy Communion
		10:30am	Rev Dawn Carn	Covenant Service
		6:00pm	Rev Dawn Carn	Covenant Service
Mon	7	10:15am	Getaway Club	For carers and toddlers
		7:00pm	Offington Bells	
Tue	8	10:00am	Grumpy Old Men	
		11:15am	Keep Fit	
		12:00pm	Tuesday Lunch & Social Club	Drivers: Doug Sibley & Meg Hopkins
		7:30pm	Tuesday Group	Members evening: 'Fings ain't wot they used to be'
Wed	9	10:15am	Getaway Club	For carers and toddlers
Thu	10	9:45am	Paint Along With Me	Art Club
		11:00am	Bible Fellowship	
		1:30pm	Knit'n'Natter	
Sun	13	10:30am	Rev Douglas Graham	
		3:30pm	Rev Dawn Carn	Messy Church
Mon	14	10:15am	Getaway Club	For carers and toddlers
		7:00pm	Offington Bells	
Tue	15	11:15am	Keep Fit	
		12:00pm	Tuesday Lunch & Social Club	Drivers: Liz & Chris Lance
		7:00pm	Patchwork People	
Wed	16	10:15am	Getaway Club	For carers and toddlers

JANUARY 2019 DIARY

Wed	16	10:30am		Midweek Holy Communion
Thu	17	9:45am	Paint Along With Me	Art Club
		11:00am	Bible Fellowship	
Sun	20	8:00am	Rev Dawn Carn	Breakfast Church
		10:30am	Rev Dawn Carn	
		6:00pm	Rev Gabriele Britton-Voss	
Mon	21	10:15am	Getaway Club	For carers and toddlers
		7:00pm	Offington Bells	
Tue	22	11:15am	Keep Fit	
		12:00pm	Tuesday Lunch & Social Club	Drivers: Dorothy Burgess & Frances Barrell
		7:30pm	Tuesday Group	Tony Trevithick: 'From Penzance to Paddington'
Wed	23	10:15am	Getaway Club	For carers and toddlers
Thu	24	9:45am	Paint Along With Me	Art Club
		11:00am	Bible Fellowship	
		1:30pm	Knit'n'Natter	
Sun	27	10:30am	Mrs Wendy Corney	
		6:00pm	Rev Dawn Carn	Café Style Service
Mon	28	10:15am	Getaway Club	For carers and toddlers
		7:00pm	Offington Bells	
Tue	29	11:15am	Keep Fit	
		12:00pm	Tuesday Lunch & Social Club	Driver: Adam Cook
Wed	30	10:15am	Getaway Club	For carers and toddlers
Thu	31	9:45am	Paint Along With Me	Art Club
		11:00am	Bible Fellowship	

HELP WANTED AT ART CLUB

Art Club is looking for someone willing to help them once a week in term time for one hour between 9:30am and 10:30am. The role is just collecting subscriptions and welcoming members. We are grateful to Irene, who has done this job for over a year now and is standing down. Thank you Irene for your time and friendship.

Please speak to me if you are willing to help us. You do not need to know anything about art! Thank you.



Jenny Guy



O COME ALL YE TUNEFUL...

Samantha decided to go carol singing on Christmas Eve. She knocked on the door of a house and began to sing. A man, holding a clarinet, opened the door to the house. In a few seconds tears were streaming down his face. Samantha continued singing for at least a further 20 minutes. She sang every carol she knew. At last she stopped. 'I understand,' she said softly. 'You are remembering your happy childhood Christmas days. You really are extremely sentimental.' Choking back the tears the man answered between sobs, 'No.....I'm a musician.'

LOVE IN A BOX REPORT

Thank you! This year we have managed to send over 60 shoeboxes to Moldova.

If you have sent a shoebox, thank you for your generous support.



Margaret Hallard

The logo for 'that's Life' features the words in a white, sans-serif font on a dark red rectangular background. 'that's' is in a smaller font size above 'Life'.

A lady called her insurance company to report an accident and asked if her insurance premium would go up. "Our underwriting department determines that," was the reply. Asked for her number plate, she said "NMF". "NMF, said the insurer, as in Nancy, Mary and Frank?" "Yes," said the lady. "but please tell your underwriters that it's also N as in 'not,' M as in 'my,' and F as in 'fault'?"

Winter Changes by Sue Head

Autumn winds gave leaves their hues of red and gold and brown
With colder nights and fading light the cue to let them down.

They crunch when walking on the ground
and change the autumn scene

To whirling pools of coloured leaves, which decorate the green

Skeletal branches reach up high to meet the chilly air
Defying winter's coming threat, leaves cling to trees laid bare.

The sky is changing colour now and shows a deeper hue

From bright and light, which cheers the soul;
to sombre shades of blue

Frost leaves sparkling, shining trails that twinkle in the sun
The air so crisp and clean and cold reminds us what's to come
Then leaden skies drop freezing rain which batters all below
Until the sky relinquishes its gentle falls of snow

The silent earth's now clothed in white as far as the eye can see
The air is still; and all seems hushed; and life moves quietly
Winter halts the changing seasons; nothing needs to grow
While preparation for the spring, unseen, goes on below

All seems lost, no buds, no leaves, no colour, warmth or light
The cold, dull days are leading on to darker, longer nights.
Although we cannot see the life beneath the frozen land
We know there will be spring once more, as this is in God's plan

All that was has now been changed for life to spring anew
Another spring, another summer, another autumn too.
God gives us yet another chance to alter what we do
A chance to grow, to learn, to change; our lives to live anew.



RECRUITING NOW!

Are you *passionate* about Worthing Town Centre?

Do you want to *help* make the Town Centre a better place to be at night?

Are you driven by Christian *love* to reach out to the night-time economy?

Street Pastors could be for you!

Are you a member of a local Church?

Can you offer one night per month to go on patrol*?

If you think the answer may be **YES**, drop us a line at:

worthing@streetpastors.org.uk

for further details (with no obligation)

Also, visit www.worthingstreetpastors.org for more information

*patrols are from 9:30pm – 4:00am (Friday or Saturday evening)

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS



Birth

Cobie Rose Chiverton

4 November 2018

to Rebecca (Becki) and Robert Chiverton -
a granddaughter for Gill & Mike Powell
Many Congratulations!

Prayer Book

Please uphold in prayer the members of the church family and other friends mentioned in our Prayer Book who are unwell at this time. The Prayer Book is kept in the Church foyer and you are welcome at any time to add prayer concerns. Please ensure the people mentioned are happy for their names to be added. Just a Christian name will suffice as we need to be aware of how we use personal information. The Prayer Book is placed on the Communion Table each Sunday as a focus on those in need.

OFFERTORIES

21 October	£514.15	4 November	£665.80
28 October	£397.31	11 November	£741.99
		18 November	£544.40

Giving by standing order each month currently averages £2,970.

Thank you for all you give - both financially and with service

Please remember opportunities for Gift Aid if you a taxpayer



From a schoolboy's mathematics paper:

Q: Explain the terms "total" and "remainder."

A: The total is when you add up all the numbers, and a remainder is an animal that pulls Santa's sleigh."



Things
You Can
Recycle
(YOU MIGHT NOT
KNOW ABOUT)

UK company Terracycle is enabling eco-groups such as Offington to recycle unusual household items that normally go straight into the rubbish bin.

Not only is this helping the global waste position, but through Terracycle funds are raised from recycling for the benefit of charities and community groups. Here is a list of a few items you might not know you can recycle:

These items can be recycled at the church:

- * All brands of crisp bags and snack bags such as Hula Hoops
- * Kenco coffee jars and tins, including the plastic lids
- * Kenco eco refill packs
- * All biscuit and cracker wrappers, including individually wrapped ones such as Penguin - and their outer packets too
- * Tassimo coffee discs and foil packets
- * Milk bottle lids - red, green, blue all accepted

These items can be recycled only at the collection points:

- * Trigger sprays (spray part only, not the plastic bottles)
- * Aerosol can tops
- * Liquid soap pumps
- * Fabric softener lids
- * Washing-up-liquid tops



The nearest collection points to Offington are: Sainsbury's, Lyons Farm and Wyevale Garden Centre, Findon.

DO NOT PUT THESE ITEMS INTO THE KERBSIDE COLLECTION BINS

**REMEMBER: if we do nothing,
the problem won't go away!**

THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS (TURKEY)

On the first day of Christmas, my true love said to me
I've bought a fresh turkey and a proper Christmas tree.

On the second day of Christmas, much laughter could be heard
As we tucked into our turkey, a most delicious bird.

On the third day of Christmas, came the people from next door.
The turkey tasted just as good as it had the day before. . .

On the fourth day of Christmas, our snowman big and bold
Looked in through the window as we ate our turkey cold.

On the fifth day of Christmas, outside the snowflakes flurried
But we were warm and snug inside. We had our turkey curried.

On the sixth day of Christmas, the Christmas spirit died.
The children fought and bickered and we had our turkey fried.

On the seventh day of Christmas, my true love he did wince
When he sat down at table and was offered turkey mince.

On the eighth day of Christmas, the dog had run for shelter.
He'd seen our turkey pancakes and the glass of Alka Seltzer.

On the ninth day of Christmas, by lunchtime Dad was blotto.
He knew the bird was back again - this time as risotto.

On the tenth day of Christmas, we were drinking homemade brew.
As if this wasn't bad enough, we were eating turkey stew.

On the eleventh day of Christmas, the Christmas tree was moulting.
With chilli, soy and oyster sauce the turkey was revolting.

On the twelfth day of Christmas,
we had smiles upon our lips:
The guests had gone. The turkey too.
We dined on fish and chips!



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REGULAR ACTIVITIES AND CONTACTS

Minister:	Revd Dawn Carn	01903 260356
Church Administrator:	Mrs Mary Pirie	01903 205722
Lay Worker:	Adam Cook	01903 217588
Youth & Children's Worker:	Mrs Gill Powell	01903 529664

Church Stewards

Chris Lance (Senior Steward and first point of contact):		264602
Shaun Griffith	535764	Alison Wright 237588
Hilary Colbourn	211942	Douglas Sibley 202509
Brian Sleeman	207452	

Church Officers

Church Treasurer:	Alison Wright	237588
Safeguarding Officer:	Joy Barnes	691867
Property Co-ordinator:	David Barnes	691867

Sunday Worship at 10.30am & 6.00pm (unless otherwise advertised)
Early morning communion: First Sunday of month at **8.00am**

Weekly Meetings

Getaway Club	Monday/Wednesday	(10.15am)
Keep Fit	Tuesday	(11.15am)
Lunch Club	Tuesday	(12:00 noon on)
7 ₂ 11 Youth Club	Wednesday	(6.00pm)
Senior Youth Club	Wednesday	(7:30pm)
Bible Fellowship	Thursday	(11.00am)
Short Mat Bowls	Thursday	(2.00pm)

Uniformed Groups

2nd Worthing Brownies	Monday	(6.15pm)
10th Worthing Scouts	Monday	(7.30pm)
12th Worthing Brownies	Tuesday	(6.00pm)
12th Worthing Guides	Tuesday	(6.30pm)
Rainbow Guides	Wednesday	(5.00pm)
10th Worthing Beavers	Thursday	(5.15pm)
13th Worthing Brownies	Thursday	(6.15pm)
10th Worthing Cubs	Thursday	(6.45pm)
Rainbow Guides	Friday	(5.00pm)
13th Worthing Guides	Friday	(6.30pm)

OTHER REGULAR MEETINGS

Offington Bells: **Mondays** as arranged
Grumpy Old Men: 2nd **Tuesday** of month (10.00am)
Tuesday Group: 2nd and 4th **Tuesday** of month (7.30pm)
Midweek Communion: 3rd **Wednesday** of month in Quiet Room (10:30am)
Paint! Art Club: **Thursdays** (10:00am)
Knit 'n' Natter: Alternate **Thursdays** 1:30pm in Quiet Room
Jubilate Choir: **Fridays** as arranged (7.30pm)

NEXT EDITION

Copy Deadline

Publication Date

Wednesday 16 January

Sunday 27 January

Please submit material for the next edition
to the Editors at:

offingtonspotlight@gmail.com

It was Christmas Day and Lee, aged seven, was having dinner with his family. His Mum asked him to say thanks for the Christmas dinner.

The family members bowed their heads in expectation. Lee began his prayer, thanking God for his Mummy, his Daddy, his brother, sister, Grandma, and all his aunts and uncles. Then he began to thank God for the food.

He gave thanks for the turkey, the stuffing, the Christmas pudding, even the cranberry sauce. Then he paused, and everyone waited ... and waited.

After a long silence, the young lad looked up at his mother and asked, "If I thank God for the Brussels sprouts, won't he know that I'm lying?"



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