

Here's the news email for the Parish of Medstead and Four Marks for this week.

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### **Services on Sunday - 7th December 2025**

**8am at COGS - Communion Service**

**9.30am at COGS - All Age Service with sung worship, kids church and creche**

**11am at St Andrew's - Communion Service**

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### **December Boon Day at St Andrew's - Tomorrow**

6th December is the first Saturday of the month and is the monthly 'Boon Day' at St Andrew's, Medstead. We will, once again, meet at the church at 10am to do tidying up and maintenance tasks. There will, all being well, be coffee and biscuits.

Thanks for your help and support for our church.

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### **Service for Roger Fletcher - tomorrow**

There will be a Celebration of Roger's Life Service on Sat 6<sup>th</sup> December, 12 noon at COGS. Those who knew him are welcome to join in, but please let Carol know for catering ([cjfletcher@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:cjfletcher@tiscali.co.uk))

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**Christmas Carols around the tree  
with mince pies and mulled wine  
Tomorrow - 4pm, 6th December  
at Oak Green Parade  
Do join us, if you can**



**Christmas is coming soon. Information of various events and services are being added to the website (click the image to see what's there so far).**

**In the porch at COGS are some cards for Carols by Candlelight, Crib service and Tea & Praise. Do take to pass on.**

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#### **Reading at the 14-December Carols by Candlelight (4 & 6 pm)**

COGS will be hosting two carol services on Sunday 14 December at 4 & 6pm. If you would like to read at either service, please contact Lyndsay ([lyndsapp@gmail.com](mailto:lyndsapp@gmail.com) / 07835 141818) or add your name to [this document](#).

Also, if you would like to join the reading rota and read occasionally at the 9:30 am COGS service in 2026, please contact Lyndsay.

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#### **You are invited to be part of the team this Christmas!**

There's a lot planned for the next few weeks and there are plenty of ways to be involved. We're looking for help at our Messy Church & Christingle service (Sunday 7th), Carols by Candlelight at COGS (Sunday 14th) and the Nativity Trail (Monday 22nd), and at a range of other services and events.

There's a board at the back of COGS listing the ways to be involved and help out or click here to view [Update 2 Come and be part of the team this Christmas 2025.pdf](#) . Please have a look and see what you could do. As well as practical help we are also hoping for people to commit to praying for all that is going on in December. Please write your name and the event on a star and add it to the board!

## Come and be part of the team this Christmas

### Families

Christingle			
Date	Time	Event	Notes
12th Dec	7.00	Christingle service	For all families
13th Dec	7.00	Christingle service	For all families
14th Dec	7.00	Christingle service	For all families
15th Dec	7.00	Christingle service	For all families

Nativity trail			
Date	Time	Event	Notes
12th Dec	10.00	Nativity trail	For all families
13th Dec	10.00	Nativity trail	For all families
14th Dec	10.00	Nativity trail	For all families
15th Dec	10.00	Nativity trail	For all families

Crib service			
Date	Time	Event	Notes
12th Dec	7.00	Crib service	For all families
13th Dec	7.00	Crib service	For all families
14th Dec	7.00	Crib service	For all families
15th Dec	7.00	Crib service	For all families

### Under 5's

Pre-schools			
Date	Time	Event	Notes
12th Dec	10.00	Pre-schools	For all pre-schools
13th Dec	10.00	Pre-schools	For all pre-schools
14th Dec	10.00	Pre-schools	For all pre-schools
15th Dec	10.00	Pre-schools	For all pre-schools

Tots Nativity			
Date	Time	Event	Notes
12th Dec	10.00	Tots Nativity	For all tots
13th Dec	10.00	Tots Nativity	For all tots
14th Dec	10.00	Tots Nativity	For all tots
15th Dec	10.00	Tots Nativity	For all tots

### Children

School visits to Church			
Date	Time	Event	Notes
12th Dec	10.00	School visits	For all schools
13th Dec	10.00	School visits	For all schools
14th Dec	10.00	School visits	For all schools
15th Dec	10.00	School visits	For all schools

Youth Christmas party			
Date	Time	Event	Notes
12th Dec	7.00	Youth Christmas party	For all youth
13th Dec	7.00	Youth Christmas party	For all youth
14th Dec	7.00	Youth Christmas party	For all youth
15th Dec	7.00	Youth Christmas party	For all youth

### Services

Carol service			
Date	Time	Event	Notes
12th Dec	7.00	Carol service	For all families
13th Dec	7.00	Carol service	For all families
14th Dec	7.00	Carol service	For all families
15th Dec	7.00	Carol service	For all families

#### Pray

**Prayer Stars:**  
Write your first name along with the event you are praying for on a star and place it along the edge of the board.

#### Other ways to help

##### Dole:

Cakes makers are needed for Nativity trail 22nd December (speak to Jane)

##### Craft:

Prepare crafts at home for Messy Church Christmas 7th December or Nativity trail 22nd December (speak to Jane)

#### Re-set

**Set up/put away:**  
Join the what's app group that moves the tables and chairs setting up for each event and help when you can (speak to Jane or Virginia to be added to the group)



# Messy Church

## with Christingle

### 7th December

### 3.45-5.45pm

Scan the code to book your space






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**COGS Tots**  
with Nativity

**Tuesday 9th December**  
**9-11am**

 **Craft**  
Christmas colouring  
Scratch art nativity stars

 **Activity**  
Dress up nativity clothes 

**Nativity with story and songs**  
at 9.45am 



Everyone is invited to be part of the story and join in the singing

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**CAROLS**  
*round the trees*  
*with mulled wine and hot chocolate*  
**6.30pm, 12th December**  
*@St Andrew's, Medstead*

**Carols Round the Trees**  
6.30pm, Friday 12th December at St Andrew's Medstead  
with mulled wine and hot chocolate



### **Christmas Tea & Praise - 3pm, 21st December at COGS**

A traditional Christmas service followed by tea and cake

As usual, we are requesting assistance with providing cakes and savouries, and serving on the day.

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### **CHILD SPONSORSHIP**

If you responded to the appeal on Compassion Sunday recently, or sponsor a child through any other charity, please may we have a photo for our revised sponsorship notice board?





We can scan the photos and return them to you. Please ensure your name, the child's, and their home country are on the reverse, and give them to Matt or Chris McGrath, thank you

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### **Pilgrim accommodation**

A pilgrimage from Winchester to Canterbury, with members from St Peter and St Paul's Church, Wantage, will be stopping in Four Marks on 10th March.

The group, which is likely to be 2 or 3 gentlemen, are wondering if anyone might be able to put them up for the evening.

If anyone thinks they can help, please let Matt know, and he can put you in contact with the group leader, the curate of the parish.

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**Mike Saltmarsh's Christmas Quiz will be available on Sunday 14th December.**



**We have two Alpha Courses currently running**

One is a youth alpha taking place on Tuesday afternoons.

The other course follows on from Monday's Tiny Tots and is open to our baby and toddler families to explore Alpha together

Please pray for all those participating in the courses.

**We are planning another Alpha course in the new year - do be thinking and praying about who you could invite.**

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**Bookstall**

Christmas Cards, Advent Candles & Advent Calendars are now available for sale from the Church Bookstall.



**We are well into our autumn teaching series at COGS. Catch up on previous sermons on our website or YouTube channel.**

**Click the image to view the series card.**

**Paper copies available at COGS.**

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## Pop-Up Carols

Come and join us for  
**Alton Churches**  
**POP-UP  
CAROLS**  
On a green space near  
you 2025  
Everyone is welcome

Scan here  
for dates  
and locations

The Lord has  
come...  
Luke 2:11

[www.harvestchurch.uk](http://www.harvestchurch.uk) [www.resurrectionbenefice.org](http://www.resurrectionbenefice.org) [www.thebuttschurch.org.uk](http://www.thebuttschurch.org.uk)

### POP-UP CAROLS

On a green space near you this December

Friday 5	6.30pm Barleyfields, nr Holybourne
	7.00pm Charrington Close, Rivermead Gardens
Sunday 7	5.00pm Wentworth Gardens
Monday 8	6.30pm Vyne Close
Tuesday 9	6.30pm Hop Field Place
	7.30pm The Butts Green
	8.30pm Alton Sports Centre
Thursday 11	7.00pm Ridgeway (between Lingfield Close and Fontwell Drive)
	7.30pm Northanger Close
	7.30pm Sandringham Close
Friday 12	5.30pm Beech Village Hall
Saturday 13	5.00pm Lipscombe Rise
Monday 15	2.00pm The Lawn Care Home
Tuesday 16	7.00pm Holland Drive, Medstead
Thursday 18	2.00pm Brendon Care
Monday 22	7.00pm The White Hart Pub, Holybourne

For Christmas service details please visit our websites

[www.harvestchurch.uk](http://www.harvestchurch.uk)  
[www.resurrectionbenefice.org](http://www.resurrectionbenefice.org)  
[www.thebuttschurch.org.uk](http://www.thebuttschurch.org.uk)  
[www.altonmethodist.org.uk](http://www.altonmethodist.org.uk)

Alton Concert Band,  
Alton Choral Society & Ancora  
Present in aid of

**FREE ENTRY**

**HOME START**

# The Wonder of CHRISTMAS

A CONCERT OF CHRISTMAS  
MUSIC & CAROLS

Saturday 6 December 2025  
Doors open 6.30pm for 7.00pm  
Alton Maltings

Entry only with a ticket available from

[www.altonchoral.org.uk](http://www.altonchoral.org.uk) or  
scan the QR code or  
call 01420 85994

Sponsors:  
Alton Maltings  
Alton Co-operative  
Beer Festival  
Tesco Bordon







# **Join Alton Choral Society**

**Happiness is singing in a Choir!**

ACS is a friendly choir welcoming singers of all abilities and voice types.

We perform regularly and raise much needed funds for local charities

Singing in a choir is also proven to improve health & wellbeing

We perform music from a broad range of musical genres and there is no audition. Rehearsals take place on Wednesday evenings from 7.30 in The Salvation Army Hall in The Market Square Alton

**For more information please contact us:**

Email: [welcome@altonchoral.org.uk](mailto:welcome@altonchoral.org.uk)

Visit our website: [www.altonchoral.org.uk](http://www.altonchoral.org.uk)

Call: 07715 771489



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**Vicar: Howard Wright**

Tel: 07746 066046 | Email: [vicar@pmafam.co.uk](mailto:vicar@pmafam.co.uk)

**Family Worker: Jane Hughes**

Tel: 07711 407831 | Email: [families@pmafam.co.uk](mailto:families@pmafam.co.uk)

**Youth & Children's Minister: Virginia**

Tel: 07724 141267 | Email: [youthandchildren@pmafam.co.uk](mailto:youthandchildren@pmafam.co.uk)

**Church Office: Matt Senior**

Tel: 01420 560622 | Email: [office@pmafam.co.uk](mailto:office@pmafam.co.uk)