

Twelve Days: Words & Music



In Little Gidding
Church

December 6th
2024 at 4.30 pm

Stuart Henson reads from his pamphlet of
Christmas-card poems with accompaniment on
melodeon and guitar by folk musician
John Crawford

To begin the season of expectation, a reading from Stuart's little book of poems sent over the years as greetings on Christmas cards: poems about bells, birds, beasts, berries... and, of course, the Nativity.

Stuart is joined by melodeon-player John Crawford who has selected traditional melodies from the English and French traditions to go with the poems—and who has written a new tune for the newly-written 'Kissing-Bough Carol'.

John will play along with and inbetween the poems.

The reading will last about 45 minutes and take place in the beautiful, intimate setting of the church at Little Gidding.

Twelve Days is illustrated by scraperboard artist Bill Sanderson who has made a decorative initial letter for each of the twelve poems. Bill was awarded the Michael Marks Illustration prize in 2022 for his work on the pamphlet, published by Shoestring Press, which will be on sale at the event.



Christus natus est nobis; venite, adoremus