

ST THOMAS' CHURCH, UPSHIRE EN9 3SS

NEWSLETTER

April 2019



Rector: Revd Peter Smith, 01992 767897
Churchwardens: Stephen Brown, 07960 809799 Paul Collins 01992 767703
Benefice Office: Abbey Church Centre, Waltham Abbey, EN9 1XQ. 01992 767897
Church address: Horseshoe Hill, Upshire, Waltham Abbey, Essex, EN9 3SS.
Editor: Mrs Lyn Wackett, 94 Upshire Road, Waltham Abbey EN9 3PA. 01992 711573.
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This Newsletter is free: donations to Lyn Wackett. Copy date for May Newsletter: 14th April

SERVICES AND DIARY FOR APRIL

Every Monday: 11.30-12.30pm Open Hour in the church

Every Friday: 11.30-12.30pm Quiet Hour in the church

Saturday 6th 11am-4pm ARTS, CRAFTS & COLLECTABLES in the church

Sunday 7th The Fifth Sunday of Lent – Passion Sunday

9.15 a.m. **HOLY COMMUNION**

Readings: Philippians 3:4b-14 John 12:1-8

Friday 12th 8pm Upshire COMMUNITY FESTIVAL MEETING in the Village Hall
All welcome

Sunday 14th Palm Sunday

9.15 a.m. **HOLY COMMUNION**

Readings: Philippians 2:5-11 Luke 19:28-40

Wednesday 17th 12noon-2pm SPRING LUNCH in church – 07960 809799 to book

Friday 19th Good Friday

12 noon **THE FIRST HOUR AT THE CROSS**

Saturday 20th 9.30 onwards Decorating the Church for Easter

Sunday 21st Easter Sunday

9.15 a.m. **HOLY COMMUNION**

Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Wednesday 24th 2.15 p.m. Upshire Mothers' Union meet in the Village Hall

Thursday 25th 10am Churchyard Tidy with Shared Lunch from 12.30pm

Sunday 28th The Second Sunday of Easter

9.15 a.m. **HOLY COMMUNION**

Readings: Acts 5:27-32 John 20:19-end

2.00 p.m. **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING** in church

Sunday 5th May The Third Sunday of Easter

9.15 a.m. **HOLY COMMUNION**

Readings: Acts 9:1-6 John 21:1-19

READERS (1st Reading)

7th: Gwen H
14th: Olive S
21st: Mike McK
28th: Sue McK
5th May: Carol S

SIDESPEOPLE

Linda & Stephen A
Barbara J & Fred C
Pauline C & Sue McK
Norma B & Barbara J
Fred C & Dave W

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funeral

31st January Iris Geraldine Lane

Memorial Service

28th February Graham John Isaac Skinner

OPEN HOUR/QUIET HOUR

Stephen & Paul, the Churchwardens, will be in the church every Monday morning between 11.30am and 12.30pm for the Open Hour also Fridays at the same time for Quiet Hour. Do pop in if you'd like to have a chat and a cup of tea or coffee, or if you want to sit and have time for reflection and prayer.

FLOWER ROTA FOR APRIL & MAY

April 7th &14th: LENT – no flowers. 21st: EASTER – everyone. We will be meeting in the church on Saturday 20th from 9.30am to decorate the church for Easter. All welcome to come along and help. May 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th available.

If anyone would like to donate towards flowers in memory of a loved one on any of the available dates, please contact Lyn Wackett on 01992 711573 to discuss this with her or to have your name added to the flower rota. For Wedding or special occasion flowers please contact Marion Locke on 07789 643147.

EASTER LILIES

At Easter we decorate our church with lilies and other flowers which are donated in memory of a loved one, with names being entered into a book which is on display in the church during the Easter period. If you would like to donate a lily (£2 each) or make a donation towards other flowers, please contact Lyn Wackett on 01992 711573.

WHEN IS ST THOMAS' CHURCH OPEN?

Every Sunday 9am – 11am for the 9.15am Service.

Every Monday 11.30am – 12.30pm for Open Hour.

Every Friday 11.30am – 12.30pm for Quiet Hour.

The above times and dates are subject to Services not known at the time of publication – check the Newsletter each month for further information.

PRAYER REQUESTS

You are invited to offer names to be added to our prayer diary to remember those who are unwell or unhappy, and to remember special dates, anniversaries, weddings, baptisms, etc.

First names only are required as God will know who we are praying for.

Contact Lyn Wackett on 01992 711573 or email lynanddavewackett@hotmail.co.uk

This month we pray for Carol & Allan, Glenis, Laura, Alan & Pam, Lesley, Charlie & John, Brenda & Tony, Jacqui & Bob, Anne, Pam & John, Barbara, Janet, Len, Rita, Vernon, Mal, Glen, Louise, Daniel, Sue, Cyril, Christine, Tim, Rhys, Pennie, Andy, Rosalind, Tom, Cathy, Eleanor, Barry, Bill, Maureen, Vivien, George, Doreen, Nathan, Beverly, David, the Price family and the White family.

ANAGRAM

Unscramble this 10 letter anagram: UPSETCREED. The answer will be found elsewhere in the Newsletter.

COPPER JAR

Our thanks to the people who donated their coppers and small change to the Disability Fund via the Copper Jar, raising £9 in February.

UPSHIRE COMMUNITY FESTIVAL will take place over three days – 7th, 8th and 9th June.

It will be a WEEKEND OF FUN, FOOD, FLOWERS, ARTS AND CRAFTS.

CHURCH FLOWER FESTIVAL – “Through the Decades – 1900s-2020”.
Various stalls in the churchyard.

Events in the Village Hall for 80th ANNIVERSARY OF UPSHIRE PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Sponsors, volunteers, stewards, ideas/suggestions welcome.
Will you help bring our community together?

The next meeting is at 8pm on Friday 12th April in the small hall of Upshire Village Hall –
do come along, everybody welcome, come and meet your neighbours!

FLOWER FESTIVAL COFFEE MORNING

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Coffee Morning at Lyn & Dave's on 9th March. We were hoping to raise enough money for the flower arrangements to be done by the members of the Mothers' Union and the 'Teas Ladies' – about £60-£70 hopefully. However, we had a good choice of cakes with a number of whole cakes to buy, also a very good raffle and bring and buy stall. We had several donations from sponsors and including those we raised £248.60, enough to buy flowers for several of the other arrangements too. We also had two people offer to be stewards in the church on one of the days of the festival, special thanks to them.

If you would like to sponsor a flower arrangement (with your name going in the programme), possibly to remember a special person or occasion, or could offer an hour or two to be a steward in the church, please contact Steve on 07960 809799, Marion on 07789 643147 or Lyn on 01992 711573.

PLANT SALE

Our Plant Sale this year is on Saturday 18th May between 11am and 3pm and during Teas on Sunday 19th May, 2.30 – 5.30pm. Please remember us when you are pricking out your seedlings or splitting perennials, we'd love to have any surplus you no longer want. All plants of any variety appreciated, contact Lyn or Dave on 01992 711573.

We will provide a good range of plants including bedding plants for that instant display of colour in the garden, also perennials, shrubs, biennials, vegetable plants, hanging baskets, etc, all at very reasonable prices.

Refreshments and light lunches will be available throughout the day on Saturday, with the usual choice of delicious cakes and savouries during Teas on Sunday.

Do come along and bring your friends too, you will be sure to find many interesting bargains.

CHURCHWARDENS' 'THANK YOU' TEAS

Sunday 28th April, 3.00– 5.30pm in St Thomas' church
Hot drinks FREE; cakes £1 per slice

CHURCHWARDENS' CHATTER

We would both like to thank you all for your support during our terms of office which come to an end at the end of this month at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 28th at 2pm in the church. This means that new scribes will fill this slot in the Newsletter from then on.

Our contractors commenced the brickwork refurbishment to the basement entrance with a view of completion this month, weather permitting. The refurbishment of the metalwork and its health and safety requirements may take a little longer to complete.

The programme for the works to complete 'Access for all' is still to be concluded but is imminent.

Important Notice

While the 'Access for All' works are being carried out public access to the church will be through the west door (under the tower) with the construction area being fenced off for health and safety reasons, with no public access.

There will be a number of events held at the church during April:

6th April, 11am-4pm The Arts, Crafts and Collectables day. Refreshments & stalls in church.

17th April, 11.45am for noon-2pm, Spring Lunch with a menu of roast beef, new potatoes, Yorkshire pudding, mixed vegetables and gravy, sweet with custard or cream and a hot drink. Vegetarian option available. All for £6.50 per person. Please call 07960 809799 to order your meal.

19th April, 12noon, Good Friday: The First Hour at the Cross

21st April, 9.15am, Easter Sunday service

25th April, 10am Churchyard tidy with shared lunch from 12.30pm

28th April, 1.30pm for 2pm start, Annual Parochial Church Meeting in church.

Followed by Churchwardens 'Thank You' Teas with sandwiches and cake at £1 a slice.

And a note for your diary: Don't forget the Plant Sale on 18th & 19th May.

We will shortly have completed the ramps to the storage containers so we can gain wheel access for all equipment. The erecting of trellis and fencing is in progress and it is hoped to be completed by the start of summer Teas.

Reduction of the ground level surrounding the church within the confine of the path have commenced and is an effort to reduce damp penetration into the church. Once at the required level the areas will be reseeded.

All our church electrical equipment has been tested and passed the P.A.T. test, our Lincat water heater serviced ready for the summer Teas season and we await for the lightning conductor to be certified this month, likewise the fire extinguishers.

We sill have a number of tasks to complete which include removing the old timber shed and clearing away, decorating the picnic benches and the toilet block, these will be carried out by the Community Pay Back Team as and when they are available and the weather conditions on the day. They also carry out mowing and strimming as and when available which is a great help in keeping the churchyard tidy, for which we thank them.

Summer afternoon Teas start this year on Sunday 5th May at 2.30pm until 5.30pm.

The April Friday meeting for the Upshire Community Festival will be in the small hall of Upshire Village Hall at 8pm on 12th, a week earlier than normal to avoid the Easter weekend.

Stephen Brown 07960 809799

Paul Collins 01992 767703

CAR PARKING can be a problem and we are trying to resolve this in conjunction with the Village Hall Trustees. For the 9.15am Service you can park in the Village Hall car park but only ON THE GRAVEL as this will allow the hirers of the hall to park on the tarmac and unload from their cars, etc. At all other times please observe the parking notices and follow their instruction as hirers of the village hall have sole rights to park there. Thank you.

When parking in the churchyard, we respectfully ask you not to park outside the containers or along the right side of the roadway to the car park, in front of the Garden of Remembrance or block the access to the church. It is vital to keep this area clear should it be necessary for any of the emergency services to come up to the church. Thank you.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON TEAS

Sunday Afternoon Teas at St Thomas' begin again on Sunday 5th May between 2.30 and 5.30pm until Sunday 29th September. Come and enjoy one (or more!) of our delicious home made cakes or savouries and a welcome cup of tea, coffee or a soft drink whist enjoying our beautiful views overlooking the Lea Valley from the front and towards London from the rear of the church. Look for the sights of London – on a clear day we can see the Wembley arch and the BT tower.

On some Sundays we will be entertained by organ music, depending on the availability of our organist. We also have our Charity Stall each week with lots of bargains! When in season we will have home grown produce and preserves. We would be grateful for any items for the stall, but no electrical items, please, as we are not allowed to sell them unless they have been recently PAT tested.

All help with teas, whether serving, baking, setting out and clearing up or helping in the kitchen will be very much appreciated – contact Lyn on 01992 711573 if you are able to help in any way on the occasional Sunday.

CHURCHYARD TIDY & SHARED LUNCH

We will be meeting in the churchyard at 10am on Thursday 25th April for a churchyard tidying session. Everyone is invited to come along and help. Refreshments are available throughout the day, but we stop work at 12.30pm for our shared lunch in the church with a chance to relax before continuing work in the churchyard. If you are able to spare an hour or two throughout the day you will be most welcome. You don't have to join in the churchyard tidying to come to the lunch, all we ask is that you bring some food, either sweet or savoury, to share with everyone else. We always have a good time, lots of work gets done but we still have time for a chat – do come along and join us. Our churchyard tidies in May are 9th & 30th.

ARTS, CRAFTS & COLLECTABLES

Saturday 6th April

in St Thomas' Church 11a.m. to 4 p.m.

Hot and cold refreshments throughout the day

To book a stall (£10):

Stephen Brown 07960 809799

Admission free: a warm welcome awaits all
Stalls, demonstrations, etc.

IN AID OF CHURCH FUNDS

YOUR PCC NEEDS YOU!

St Thomas' Annual Parochial Church Meeting (AGM) is on Sunday 28th April, please arrive at 1.30 pm for a 2.00 pm start. This is everyone's chance to discuss how the church is run; hear how your money is spent; and decide who will represent you on the PCC for the next year. Everyone on the Electoral Roll is eligible to vote. All of the PCC members, including the Churchwardens, are up for re-election and new members are always welcome. Perhaps you could take the minutes, manage the accounts, act as churchwarden or represent St Thomas' at the quarterly Deanery Synod meetings. If you are not yet ready for a specific role, we are also looking for dynamic individuals who will help with the day to day running of the church.

Election forms for PCC members and Churchwardens can be found at the back of the church. Roles such as Lay Chair, Treasurer and Secretary are decided by the PCC at a meeting following the APCM, although volunteers are welcome to come forward. Each prospective PCC member needs to be proposed and seconded by two non-related individuals and, if there are a large number of applications, elections will take place at the ACPM. This is your only chance to influence the makeup of the PCC this year.

Please come along and support us. We look forward to seeing you.

NEW ELECTORAL ROLL

This year, we are required to prepare a new Church Electoral Roll. Any person wishing to have their name on the new Roll, whether or not their name is on the present Roll, should complete an application form and return it to the church by April 7th. Forms are available in the church, or may be obtained from a member of the PCC. The new Roll will come into operation on April 14th. Anyone wishing to vote at the Annual Church Meeting on 28th April, or stand for office in the church must be on the Church Electoral Roll. We look forward to receiving your completed application forms. Thank you.

STAMPS!

Please continue to save your postage stamps and foreign or out of circulation coins – many charities can use them to raise funds. At the moment we are supporting the Herts and Essex Air Ambulance. Stamps and coins can be left with Lyn and Dave at 94 Upshire Road, or brought along to church any Sunday.

Note: please remember to leave about ½" of envelope around the stamp. Thank you.

ANAGRAM

The answer to the anagram is PERSECUTED.

UPSHIRE MOTHERS' UNION

Come and Join Us!

We are a friendly group who meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month in the Village Hall, Upshire at 2.15pm until 4pm or in St Thomas' Church for our Corporate Communion Services at 2.15.



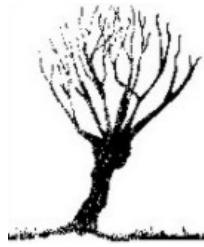
In February we held our Annual General Meeting. Ann, Eleanor and Kate continue in their roles as Branch Leader, Treasurer and Secretary. Money raised from our Ploughman's and Autumn lunches will be donated to 4 Mothers' Union Projects: Away From It All (holidays for people in need), Literacy & Numeracy, Support for Families, and 6 chickens to start a Poultry Business. Thank you to you all who support and enjoy our lunches.

Our next meeting will be on 24th April when Gwen Hall will talk about 'The Waltham Abbey Tapestry'. All are welcome to come to this meeting. Tea Hostesses: Jean Brewster and Glenis Fletcher. Raffle: Gill Negus.

For further information about forthcoming meetings contact our Branch Leader, Mrs Ann Smith on 01992 767809.

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST – Guided Walks 2019

Friends of Epping Forest have now merged with Epping Forest Centenary Trust to form EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST. The aim is, as ever, to work to preserve Epping Forest and increase people's knowledge, understanding and engagement with the Forest.



FOREST WALKS AND MORE

Join our programme of Forest walks or come along to our family activity session at the Epping Forest Visitor Centre. Enjoy the Forest with us and discover more of its heritage. Some walks are a gentle stroll, while others are taken at a faster pace. These walks are free but donations to support the work of the Trust are welcome. Please come suitably dressed for walking in the Forest, which can be wet and muddy.

Thursday 4th April, 10.30am-12.30pm

Memories of Edwardian Times in Snaresbrook

Join Georgina Green for a walk to hear about children's games at the Hollow Ponds, Cockneys at the Rising Sun and find out how the area is connected with the Buxton family.

Meet at the Forest car park on the south side of Snaresbrook Road, London E18. Grid Ref TQ395890

Thursday 18th April - Drop in between 11am & 2pm

Family Easter Discovery Activities

Eggs and more, bird mobiles and hopefully we'll see baby birds through our webcam. Free but donations encouraged.

Meet at the Epping Forest Visitor Centre

Sunday 19th May, 10.30am-12.30pm

Gateway to the Park

Join Judy Adams to explore Bush Wood and Jubilee Pond. Find out about Lake House and the stone gate posts.

Meet at the Jubilee Pond Car Park, Lake House Lake Road, Leytonstone. Grid Ref: TQ401864

For further information email: enquiries@efht.org.uk Tel: 020 8508 9061 or speak to Sue McKinley in church. www.efht.org.uk

If you would like to become a member, email: membership@efht.org.uk or write to EFHT, Warren Lodge, Loughton, Essex IG10 4RN.

UPSHIRE SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

We are looking for new members. Everyone is welcome to come along and join our friendly club. No experience is necessary.

We meet at **UPSHIRE VILLAGE HALL** on Monday afternoons from 2-4.30pm, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings from 7-9.30pm. Free Car Parking.

Please phone for more information – or just pop in.

Monday: Sarah Dodds, 01992 610542

Tuesday: Kitty Warner 01992 788660 or Fred Corsham 01992 711720.

Wednesday: Jackie Sullivan 07541 082064 or Dave Wackett 01992 711573.

If you are interested please give us a ring or leave your name and number and we will contact you.

WALTHAM ABBEY FLORAL ART SOCIETY

We meet at the Royal British Legion Hall, Brooker Road, EN9 1HY. Doors open at 7.15pm for a 7.45pm start, all are welcome.

Chairlady: Marjorie Chapman, 01992 712975 Secretary: Chris Beales, 01992 712704

Tuesday 23rd April: Workshop

June – outing to be arranged

Tuesday 24th September: Demonstration “A Night at the Opera”

Tuesday 22nd October: AGM and workshop making a Christmas wreath

Tuesday 26th November: Demonstration “Tis the season to be jolly”

Tuesday 10th December: Our Social Christmas Evening

WALTHAM ABBEY SALVATION ARMY

Join us for coffee and biscuits and browse in our shop – open every Tuesday between 9.30 am and 12noon in the Salvation Army Hall, Sewardstone Street, Waltham Abbey. We appreciate donations of new and good second-hand items for the shop.

FOOD BANK

The local Food Bank based at the Salvation Army, Sewardstone Street, Waltham Abbey is in need of donations of cash, canned and dried foods as the reserves are being stretched to the limit.

Some families' circumstances are such that they are no longer able to feed their families of small and vulnerable children. Are you able to help in any way?

Donations of food for the Food Bank may be brought in on Wednesdays and Fridays between 4.30 and 5.30pm. The Food Bank are having to spend £100 a month to buy food to stock the food parcels, any donations of food or money would be gratefully and joyfully received.

Waltham Abbey Foodbank will move to Waltham Cross on the Holdbrook Estate within the coming months, which will give access 4 times a week. Further information will be printed in the Newsletter as it becomes available.

SOUTH WEST ESSEX CHOIR

ROSSINI Petite Messe Solennelle

Rossini wrote on his score - 'Have I just written sacred music, or rather, sacrilegious music?' In reality the work has stood the test of time, as a wonderful example of a unique set of operatic skills applied to the spiritual business of composing a mass.

**Saturday 6th April 2019 – 7.30pm
St Gabriel's Church, Aldersbrook Road, Wanstead E12 5HH**

Tickets for all concerts may be purchased via our website
www.southwestessexchoir.org.uk

WALTHAM ABBEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Established 1953. President: Stan Newens.

Waltham Abbey Historical Society's aims are to promote the study and appreciation of local history, to encourage archaeological and documentary research, and to ensure the preservation of local records.

Friday 12th April: Annual General Meeting & Presidential Address

All meetings are at 8pm in the Waltham Abbey Baptist Church Hall, Paradise Road, Waltham Abbey, EN9 1RL. Visitors are always welcome at our meetings (£1 per person).

Visit our website: www.walthamabbeyhistoricalsociety.org.uk

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH, NINEFIELDS

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 11th May at 7.00 pm

Cost £10.00 per person

Tickets from Valerie: 01992 713996

WALTHAM ABBEY CHURCH activities for April

Music for Lunch 12.30pm.

Admission free: retiring collection. Refreshments served 12noon-12.30pm

Saturday 6th: Ivan Hovorun, *piano*

Lent Course

Thursdays 4th & 11th: The History of Christianity, 7.30pm in the Abbey Church

Lent Lunch

Saturdays 6th & 13th: Soup, bread, cheese, tea or coffee. 12 noon-2.30pm, Abbey Church Centre, £3.50

Eggstravaganza – Saturday 13th: Activities for children, 10am-12noon, St Lawrence Church, Ninefields.

Sunday 14th: Palm Sunday, Choral Evensong, 6.30pm

Wednesday 17th: Stations of the Cross, 8pm, St Lawrence Church, Ninefields.

Thursday 18th: Maundy Thursday, The Eucharist of the Last Supper with Vigil, 8pm

Friday 19th: Good Friday: 12pm to 2pm – Two Hours at the Cross

2pm to 3pm – Quiet Hour

Sunday 21st: Easter Day: Festal Evensong, 6.30pm

Further information from the Parish Office, The Abbey Church Centre, Abbey Gardens, Waltham Abbey (01992 767897) parish.office@walthamabbeychurch.co.uk



THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Brooker Road, Waltham Abbey.

We are extending a warm welcome to the headquarters for visitors, locals and friends...

We have a fully licensed bar which is open all week except

Thursdays, facilities for social events i.e. line dancing, bingo sessions and live entertainment on Saturday nights, and good car parking facilities at rear of the building.

Please come along from 7pm, you will be most welcome.

ST THOMAS' CHURCH, UPSHIRE EN9 3SS

SPRING LUNCH in the church

Wednesday 17th April, 11.45am for 12 noon – 2pm

Menu: Roast beef, Yorkshire pudding, new potatoes, mixed vegetables and onion gravy

Hot and cold desserts with custard or cream, tea or coffee
A vegetarian option will be available

£6.50 per person

Please book with Stephen on 07960 809799

50/50 CLUB

Congratulations to our January and February winners of the 50/50 Club Draw 3. They are:

January	1 st : £35	No. 4	Mrs Barbara Headland of Waltham Abbey
	2 nd : £25	No. 11	Ms Ruth Moore of Upshire
	3 rd : £15	No. 36	Ms Jennifer Lewin of Chingford
February	1 st : £35	No. 42	Mrs Gwen Hall of Waltham Abbey
	2 nd : £25	No. 32	Ms Carmel Price of Chingford
	3 rd : £15	No. 38	Mr Geoff Maidment of Waltham Abbey

Thank you to all our members for your support, 50% of the money raised helps with the upkeep of St Thomas' Church and 50% is returned in prizes. We still have a few spaces available for new members, you can join at any time for just £2 a month for each of the remaining months of the Draw, i.e. £6 for April, May and June. Contact Lyn Wackett on 01992 711573 if you are interested.

WALTHAM ABBEY TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

2019 COACH TRIPS

Trips depart from Quaker Lane at 9am unless otherwise stated. All trips are £22, concession £20 unless otherwise stated and should be paid in full at time of booking. Cancellations will not be refunded. Book at the Information Centre, 6 Highbridge Street, Waltham Abbey EN9 1DG. 01992 660336, email tic@walthamabbey-tc.gov.uk

Saturday 11th May: MILTON KEYNES MUSEUM (HISTORY FESTIVAL)

Tickets include coach travel and museum. Tickets: adults £28, concession £26. Depart 9.30am

Refreshments are available at the museum but you are welcome to bring a picnic.

Friday 7th June: SOUTHEND ON SEA

Saturday 22nd June: BROADSTAIRS DICKENS FESTIVAL

Thursday 11th July: BRIGHTON Depart 8.30am

Saturday 20th July: WHITSTABLE (OYSTER FESTIVAL)

Saturday 3rd August: HASTINGS (OLD TOLD CARNIVAL)

Thursday 29th August: SOUTHWOLD Depart 8.30am

Saturday 14th September: FAVERSHAM (FOOD FESTIVAL)

Wednesday 23rd October: MYSTERY TRIP

Saturday 23rd November: BURY ST EDMUNDS (CHRISTMAS MARKET)

Tuesday 10th December: HYDE PARK (WINTER WONDERLAND)

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, HIGH BEACH

Wednesday 17th April: 7.30 p.m. Tenebrae (see separate article)

Good Friday, 19th April: 10.00 a.m. Walk of Witness followed by hot cross buns and activities for children

Easter Saturday, 20th April: 2.00 p.m. & 6.00 p.m. "Come Sing, Faure Requiem" (see separate article)

Easter Sunday, 21st April: 5.15 a.m. Dawn Service starting outside and moving into the church

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion

10.30 a.m. Family Communion followed by Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday 5th May until

Sunday 29th September. 2.00-5.30p.m. Sunday afternoon tea with home-made cake. All welcome

UPSHIRE VILLAGE HALL

Hall for hire: Weekend bookings – Margaret 07432 532619

Weekday bookings – Karen 07432 532621

www.upshirevillagehall.com

Events in the Village Hall

Coming soon....**MAGIC EVENING** Saturday 11th May. Magic acts at tables and stage show.

Tickets £10 from Margaret on 07432 532619 Bring your own nibbles and drinks.

Reporting back on the Shoe Box Appeal

Just what he needed

Presented with a box of gifts from Blythswood's 2018 Shoe Box appeal, a homeless man living on the streets of Sliven, Bulgaria, discovered items that were immediately useful to him.

"Encho was overjoyed with the contents of his box," says Danny Muschate whose church in Inverness processes all the boxes for Bulgaria. "He was especially pleased with a tin mug that he can use to heat drinks on an open fire. He was also really delighted with a wind-up torch and with some new socks to keep himself warm. Without a doubt, this box was meant for him."

Blythswood's 2018 Shoe Box Appeal produced 107,073 boxes that were distributed in Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine. The members and friends of St Thomas' donated 91 of these boxes, a great big thank you to you all.

Blythswood's chief executive James Campbell says: "I want to thank everyone who filled a shoebox for Blythswood and all the volunteers who helped us process the boxes. Your generosity brought joy to children and adults living in poverty."

It's not too soon to start collecting items for the 2019 Shoe Box Appeal, also don't forget to save your shoe boxes! Watch out for special offers and add a small item to your trolley when you're shopping. Items and shoe boxes can be given to Lyn or Dave at 94 Upshire Road.

SPECIAL NOTICE

We understand that the local Food Bank are giving out over 70 cartons of semi-skimmed milk a week, so when you are shopping pop a carton into your trolley and leave it in the Food Bank collection bin in Tesco. If everyone donated one item each week it would be a tremendous help. Thank you.

GOOD FRIDAY MARCH OF WITNESS

Members from the Benefice churches, the Catholic Church, the Baptist Church, the Lea Valley Church and the Salvation Army have joined together to organise a March of Witness on Good Friday, 19th April. The March will have stops along the way for a Bible reading, prayer and hymn. It starts at 9.30am at Ninefields Shopping Centre, stopping at 10.15am at the Catholic Church, 10.30am at the Lea Valley Church, 10.45am at the Market Square, 10.55am at the Abbey Church and finishing at 11.10am at the Baptist Church. Hot cross buns and refreshments will be provided by the Baptist Church in the church hall. You are welcome to join us – march all the way with us, or join us at any of the stops along the way.

CRAFT MARKET

There will be a Craft Market in Waltham Abbey Town Hall on Tuesday 16th April, 10am-2pm. Free entry. Refreshments available – and much more!

YOUTH 2000

Youth 2000 are hosting Indoor Table Top Sales in the hall at 154 Brooker Road, Waltham Abbey, EN9 1JH (Opposite Pixel Building on right hand side) on Saturday April 13th and May 11th and then every 2nd Saturday of the month. 10.30am-3.30pm (sellers from 9.30am). Table hire from £8 – call or text 07496 237695 or message us on our Facebook Page to book your space (Tables are supplied).

**There may be spaces on the day, but please call to avoid disappointment.

COME AND GRAB A BARGAIN! Toys, books, clothes, homeware, craft stalls, bric-a-brac, small furniture items, pre-loved items. Pop-up Café with delicious home-made cakes & snacks.

Helping raise funds for Youth 2000. Find us on Facebook @ Table Top Sale Waltham Abbey

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Too many people pray like little boys who knock at doors, then run away. Anon
A clenched fist produces anger; an open hand produces harmony. Anon
A mother can touch a whole generation just by loving her own child well. Anon