

ST THOMAS' CHURCH, UPSHIRE EN9 3SS

NEWSLETTER

January 2019



Rector: Revd Peter Smith, 01992 767897
 Churchwardens: Stephen Brown, 07960 809799 Paul Collins 01992 767703
 Parish Administrator: Louise Wackett, 01992 573589
 Church address: Horseshoe Hill, Upshire, Waltham Abbey, Essex, EN9 3SS.
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This Newsletter is free: donations to Lyn Wackett. Copy date for February Newsletter: 14th January

SERVICES AND DIARY FOR JANUARY

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

Sunday 6th Epiphany
 9.15 a.m. **HOLY COMMUNION**
 Readings: Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12

Sunday 13th The Baptism of Christ
 9.15 a.m. **HOLY COMMUNION**
 Readings: Acts 8:14-17 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Friday 18th 8pm Upshire Community Festival Meeting in the Village Hall – all welcome

Sunday 20th The Third Sunday of Christmas
 9.15 a.m. **HOLY COMMUNION**
 Readings: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 John 2:1-11

Saturday 26th 7 for 7.30pm Upshire Millennium Committee QUIZ NIGHT in village hall

Sunday 27th The Fourth Sunday of Christmas
 9.15 a.m. **HOLY COMMUNION**
 Readings: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a Luke 4:14-21

Sunday 3rd February Candlemas
 10.30 a.m. **BENEFICE SERVICE in Waltham Abbey Church**
 No service in St Thomas' Church today.

READERS

6th: Maureen S & Alison C
 13th: Carol S & Joyce S
 20th: Olive S & Alison C
 27th: Barbara J & Alex G
 3rd Feb: No Service at St Thomas'

SIDESPEOPLE

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

*A HAPPY NEW YEAR
 TO YOU ALL*

FROM THE REGISTERS

Holy Matrimony

1st December

Sarah Elizabeth Catlin & Keith James Shadbolt

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 JANUARY & FEBRUARY

January 6th & 13th available. 20th: Mr R. Hammond. 27th: available

February 3rd: available 10th: Lyn Wackett 17th: in memory of Harry Harvey 24th: 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.

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, Graham, Lesley, Charlie & John, Brenda & Tony, Jacqui & Bob, Anne, Pam & John, Barbara, Janet, Len, Rita, Carla, Vernon, Mal, Glen, Louise, Sue, Cyril, Christine, Tim, Andy, Rosalind, Tom, Cathy, Barry, Bill, Maureen, Vivien, George & Doreen.

COPPER JAR

Our thanks to the people who donated their coppers and small change to the Disability Fund via the Copper Jar, raising £16 in November.

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.

New Year's Resolution

I always make the same resolution and I have never once broken it: every year I resolve to give something up for Lent and then when Lent comes I give up my New Year's resolution.

CHURCHWARDENS' CHATTER

We hope you have invigorating Christmas celebrations and are looking forward to an exciting New Year. Our Quinquennial Inspection report was received last month. The summary read as follows: "The church is sound, access issues are now in hand (2019), there are a few minor items left off the list from last time, still to be undertaken, and I am more concerned about the vestry chimney than I was last time. Otherwise, the church is in good order, it is clear that it has a good community spirit and is keen to play its full role within the community."

The refurbishment works to the basement are now complete inside to the satisfaction of the architect and structural engineer, also the external works to the north side of the church. The works to the east side of the church including the access to the basement together with the health and safety issues with surrounding iron railings will commence on the required paperwork is in place.

The Enfield Brass Band Christmas Concert was well attended in early December with a wide range of tunes including many excellent solo performances from the Band. We would like to thank the catering team for the refreshments provided during the interval which completed an enjoyable afternoon's entertainment.

The Christmas Market proved to be a very social event with slow footfall on the Friday evening but this was made up for on the Saturday. Our thanks go to all those who prepared the church for this event and who packed it all away in time for the Sunday service; thanks also to the stall holders and catering crew.

Notes for your diary 2019:

There will be no 9.15am service at St Thomas' on 3rd February as there will be a Benefice Service in Waltham Abbey Church at 10.30am.

Winter Warmer Lunches in the church on Wednesdays, 11.45am for 12 noon start on 20th February, 20th March and 17th April. To book phone Stephen on 07960 809799.

Mothering Sunday 31st March 2019

Arts, Crafts & Collectables: Saturday 6th April, 11am-4pm and Sunday 7th April, 11am-4pm

To book a stall contact Stephen on 07960 809799

Important Notice

While the 'Access for All' works are being carried out in 2019 public access to the church will be through the west door (under the tower) with the construction area being fenced off with no public access for health and safety reasons.

Stephen Brown 07960 809799

Paul Collins 01992 767703

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.

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 may be taken to the Salvation Army on Wednesdays and Fridays between 4.30 and 5.30pm. Thank you.

TEA DANCE

You are invited to join us at the Tea Dances held every Monday between 1.30pm and 3.30pm in Waltham Abbey Community Centre, Crooked Mile, Waltham Abbey.

Just come along or contact Joyce on 01992 610998.

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST – Guided Walks 2018

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.



The GUIDED WALKS PROGRAMME 2019 is not yet available, see next month's Newsletter or check the website. Led by knowledgeable Forest enthusiasts, these walks provide an opportunity to find out more about the Forest. Some 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.

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

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: position vacant

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.

50/50 CLUB

Congratulations to our winners in November, who were:

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----|--------|---------------------------------|
| 1 st : | £35 | No. 61 | Pam Atkinson from Waltham Abbey |
| 2 nd : | £25 | No. 22 | David Tyers from Theydon Bois |
| 3 rd : | £15 | No. 66 | Carol Wilkins from Loughton |

January is here again and it's time to begin Draw 3 of St Thomas' 50/50 Club. There will still be monthly draws and the entry fee is £12.00 every six months (or £2 for every month of membership). The first two draws, nominally for January and February, will take place at the end of February to allow for the maximum number of entries. Each member is entitled to a maximum of two entries, couples can have four. Please complete the form below and return it to me, along with your subscription, either on a Sunday morning after the service or to the address stated. Good luck to everyone who enters.

St Thomas' Church 50/50 Club Draw 3

January to June 2019

I wish to become a member of St Thomas' new 50/50 Club and enclose cash/cheque for £12 per entry (maximum 2 per person). (Please make cheques payable to **St Thomas' Church** and return your entries to Lyn Wackett, 94 Upshire Road, Waltham Abbey, EN9 3PA or see me after church any Sunday).

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

ANAGRAM

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

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 November Grahame Williams gave us an interesting and amusing talk on '19 Years on the Bench'. Grahame became a magistrate 29 years ago at Waltham Forest. Back then a person had to be nominated, then interviewed, if you passed the interview your home would be inspected before you were asked to be a magistrate. Today things have changed, you put your own name forward and are interviewed; if you pass the interview you are then allowed to become a magistrate. Magistrates are from all walks of life, i.e. bus drivers, teachers, etc. They also try to have an equal mix of men and women and also a mix of different religions and political views where possible. Each court setting will have 3 magistrates who should be different types of people, 1: a disciplinarian, 2: middle of the road and 3: a softie (as Grahame put it!), to give a balanced judgement. Magistrates are expected to work 28 days a year, usually in half days. All cases start in a Magistrates Court, some are then referred to a Crown Court. 98% of cases are dealt with in a Magistrates Court. Grahame's first case was Indecent Exposure, his last case was Sexual Abuse against a 14 year old girl. Grahame retired 19 years ago, as magistrates cannot work past the age of 70.

Our next meeting will be on 23rd January when Bryn Elliott will give a talk on 'Lippitts Hill Camp in War and Peace'. All are welcome. Tea hostesses: Lyn Wackett and Jean Brewster. Raffle: Ann Smith.

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

ANAGRAM

The answer to the anagram is POPULATION.



Patron Her Majesty The Queen

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.

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. 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.

UPSHIRE MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE

QUIZ NIGHT

in Upshire Village Hall

on Saturday 26th January 2019, 7 for 7.30pm start

Tickets £10 to include buffet; please bring your own drinks

Tables maximum of 8. Contact Stephen on 07960 809799

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 18th January: St Albans. The first 1000 years – Sally Pearson

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

Ten things God won't ask you when you die

God won't ask what kind of car you drove;

He'll ask how many people you drove who didn't have transportation.

God won't ask the square footage of your house,

He'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.

God won't ask about the clothes you had in your wardrobe,

He'll ask how many people you helped to clothe.

God won't ask which diet you were on;

He'll ask how many hungry people you helped to feed.

God won't ask what your highest salary was;

He'll ask if you compromised your character to obtain it.

God won't ask what your job title was;

He'll ask if you performed your job to the best of your ability.

God won't ask how many friends you had on Facebook;

He'll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.

God won't ask in what neighbourhood you lived;

He'll ask how you treated your neighbours.

God won't ask about the colour of your skin;

He'll ask about the content of your character.

God won't ask why it took you so long to seek Him;

He'll lovingly take you into his Kingdom, not leave you at the gates of Hell.

VILLAGE NEWS

The cost of installing the donated DEFIBRILLATOR at the Village Hall was originally estimated to be in the region of £300, however we have since discovered that the box to put it in and all the necessary work involved will now be nearer £900! Any donations towards this cost should be sent to P.O. Box 459, Waltham Abbey, Essex EN9 3ZT with cheques made payable to Upshire Village Hall (defibrillator). Our thanks to the people who made donations at the Christmas Market in the church. Thank you.

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 – 1930s-2020”. 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? Next planning meeting is at 8pm on Friday 18th January in the small hall of Upshire Village Hall – do come along, everybody welcome.

THE MILLENNIUM TRUST QUIZ NIGHT will be on Saturday 26th January 2019, 7 for 7.30pm in Upshire Village Hall. Tickets £10 include buffet. Bring your own drinks. Tables maximum of 8. To book phone Steve on 07960 80799.

THANK YOU

We would like to offer our sincere thanks to Upshire Co-op for their donation of tea, coffee, bread and sausage rolls for our Sunday Afternoon Teas, also the mince pies for the Carols by Candlelight, as well as raffle prizes for our various events. Thanks also to Tesco at Waltham Abbey for donating prizes for our Summer Fair and Christmas Bazaar; also to Bemor Building Supplies, Verdes Hair Designs and Flowers by Danielle for prizes, and to Waltham Abbey Market traders, local shops and businesses for supporting us by advertising in our Newsletter and leaflets. If I have forgotten anyone, my sincere apologies, but you are appreciated just as much as all these other kind and generous people. Thank you.

WALTHAM ABBEY CHURCH activities for January

Music for Lunch Saturdays 12.30pm.

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

12th: David Maxwell Anderson *baritone* and John Paul Elkins *piano*.

19th: Veronica Henderson *cello solo*

26th: Fumi Otsuki *violin* and Jonathan Lilley *piano*

Sunday 6th: Choral Communion for Epiphany, 6.30pm

Saturday 19th: Burns Night, 6 for 6.30pm at the Abbey Church Centre.

Tickets £10 include Burns Night Meal. Kilts optional!

Tickets now available from Linda Anderson on 01992 787263,

Margaret Gillett on 01992 716481 or Laura MacNeill on 01992 716473.

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

Help our hedgehogs – or lose them forever

The UK has lost half of its hedgehog population since the year 2000. The Christian conservation charity, A Rocha UK, is out to stop the decline. ‘Project Hedgehog’ is one result, a joint initiative between A Rocha UK and the Lea Brook Valley Project.

‘Project Hedgehog’ provides purpose-built, cat-proof hedgehog boxes for private gardens. There are also detailed information leaflets on how to make gardens hedgehog-friendly.

‘We need to do this, for God, for nature and for people – and we need your help,’ says Andy Atkins, CEO of A Rocha UK.

If you could help hedgehogs, visit: <https://arocha.org.uk/>