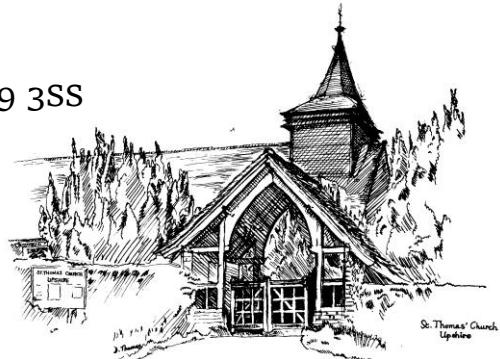


# St Thomas' Church, Upshire EN9 3SS

## Newsletter

### March 2022



Rector: Revd Peter Smith, 01992 767897  
Team Vicar: Revd Jane Yeadon, 07960 604416. email janeyeadon@gmail.com  
Benefice Office: Abbey Church Centre, Waltham Abbey, EN9 1XQ. 01992 767897  
Church address: Horseshoe Hill, Upshire, Waltham Abbey, Essex, EN9 3SS.  
Website: <https://stthomaschurchupshire.com/>  
Editor: Mrs Lyn Wackett, 94 Upshire Road, Waltham Abbey EN9 3PA. 01992 711573.  
Email: lynanddavewackett@hotmail.co.uk

This Newsletter is free: donations to Lyn Wackett. Copy date for April: 14<sup>th</sup> March

We are committed to safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults. The PCC has adopted the Church of England's policies and best practice on safeguarding which may be found on the Church of England website and also on the Diocese of Chelmsford website.

#### SERVICES AND DIARY FOR MARCH

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> 3-4pm MESSY CHURCH

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent  
9.15am HOLY COMMUNION  
Readings: Deuteronomy 26:1-11      Romans 10:8b-13      Luke 13:31-end

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent  
9.15am HOLY COMMUNION  
Readings: Genesis 15:1-12      Philippians 3:17-4:1      Luke 13:31-end

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> 12noon-2pm SPRING LUNCH in the church – 07899 846711 to book

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> 11am-3pm TABLE TOP SALE in church

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent  
9.15am HOLY COMMUNION  
Readings: Isaiah 55:1-9      1 Corinthians 10:1-13      Luke 13:1-9

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> 2.15pm Mothers' Union Corporate Communion in church followed by tea.

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent – Mothering Sunday  
9.15am HOLY COMMUNION  
Readings: Exodus 2:1-10      1 Samuel 1:20-end      Luke 2:33-35  
3.00pm CELEBRATION SERVICE FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY  
Followed by Tea in the Village hall

The church will be open every Monday and Thursday from 11.30am to 12.30pm for private prayer only.

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

You are invited to offer names to be added to our prayer diary to remember those who are unwell or unhappy. 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](mailto:lynanddavewackett@hotmail.co.uk)

This month we pray for Glenis, Laura, Alan & Pam, Lesley, Charlie & John, Anne, Pam & John, Barbara, Vernon, Mal, Louise, Sue, Ann & Cyril, Rosalind, Doreen, Barry, Maureen, Carol & George, Beverly, Dave P, Terry, June, Rose, Peggy, Shirley, Mick, Sarah, Sheila, Jackie, Jean, Barbara, Andrea and her Mum and Dad, Nina, Carmel & the Price family, James, Tim, Dave & Pat.

## The Vicar writes:

Did you know...

In Greece, Greek Orthodox Christians give up meat and all animal products during Lent, and instead eat beans and pasta. They can eat cakes and biscuits but only as long as they don't contain butter. In Italy, bottles of holy water are traditionally given out during Lent for use in blessing homes.

In some parts of Germany, old Christmas trees are burned in Lent to welcome in the Spring. Also, some villages re-enact Jesus' final days, like the great Passion Play staged in Oberammergau every 10 years. In Mexico, the fourth Friday of Lent is called 'La Samaritana', when water, fruit and ice cream is given out to honour the Samaritan woman who Jesus met at the well and who gave him water.

And in our own country, the tradition of giving something up for Lent continues to be popular, even amongst people who don't often come to church. Amongst the most common things people give up are chocolate, Facebook and alcohol.

This letter comes to you just as Lent begins. So, what are you doing for Lent this year? This quick survey of Lenten traditions around the world shows us that there are many ways to 'do Lent', but all of them have the same goals – to reflect on our faith, to come closer to God and to prepare us to follow Jesus into Holy Week and on to Easter. Just as Jesus prayed and was tempted in the wilderness for 40 days, the 40 days of Lent call us to remember just how much we depend on God. When our lives can be so busy and distracted for the rest of the year, spending Lent thinking about where our faith and lives are going is immensely valuable. It is for this reason I love Lent, even though I may get grumpy giving up chocolate!

So however you are marking Lent this year, I pray that it will be a time of refreshment and renewal for you. If you would like to join us as Holy Innocents, we will be marking the beginning of Lent with an Ash Wednesday service on 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 6.30pm and our regular weekly services will take on Lenten themes. If you would like some resources for personal reflection the Church of England has various resources available at <https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/what-we-believe/lent-holy-week-and-easter>

This Lent, why not pray this prayer every day as we listen to God's call?

Faithful and loving God,  
we thank you for our life given by you.  
As we look towards the future, And prepare for Easter  
may we hear where you are leading us and  
to what acts of love and service you are calling us.  
help us, we pray, to be bold and courageous to follow wherever it is you are taking us.  
In your holy name,  
Amen.

Every blessing,  
Jane

## **ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER**

Our mailing list to receive the electronic version is now in excess of 70 participants so if you are not one of those and wish to be included please send your email address to : [marionne.locke@btinternet.com](mailto:marionne.locke@btinternet.com). We are looking to reduce our 'paper footprint' for climate change by printing fewer copies – your contribution will help.

**NEWSLETTER DELIVERY** – to ensure continued delivery of our free paper newsletter if there is anyone with free time to deliver to local addresses please contact Lyn Wackett.

## **ANAGRAM**

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



# ST THOMAS' SEEDLINGS

**1<sup>st</sup> Saturdays of each month**

A free Stay and Play church group for children and those who care for them

Join us Saturdays 3-4pm for messy craft, play, songs and stories along with a welcome cuppa

St Thomas' Church, Horseshoe Hill, Upshire, EN9 3SS



## ST THOMAS' CHURCH COMMUNITY LUNCHES 2022

WEDNESDAY 16 MARCH : SPRING LUNCH

WEDNESDAY 20 APRIL : EASTER LUNCH

WEDNESDAY 18 MAY : SPRING LUNCH

WEDNESDAY 15 JUNE : SUMMER LUNCH

WEDNESDAY 13 JULY : SUMMER LUNCH

WEDNESDAY 17 AUGUST : SUMMER LUNCH

WEDNESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER : AUTUMN LUNCH

WEDNESDAY 19 OCTOBER : AUTUMN LUNCH

WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER : AUTUMN LUNCH

WEDNESDAY 7 DECEMBER : XMAS LUNCH

PLEASE BOOK YOUR PLACE TO CONFIRM ATTENDANCE : 07899 846711

## **NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

Thank you to the people who have sent in articles to be included in the Newsletter. Please keep them coming! Anything: maybe a poem you have written, what you have been doing in the garden or indoors to keep occupied during lockdown, etc, it all makes for interesting reading.

## **50/50 CLUB**

Congratulations to the winners of the 50/50 Club Bumper Draw in December, who were:

1 <sup>st</sup> :	£35	No. 91	Bill Wood of Waltham Abbey
2 <sup>nd</sup> :	£25	No. 56	Susan Ellis of Upshire
3 <sup>rd</sup> :	£15	No. 46	Pearl Pegg of Waltham Abbey

Our thanks to all our members for their support of St Thomas' Church.

It's not too late to join the 50/50 Club; Draws take place every month with 3 prizes: £35, £25 and £15, but in the sixth month we have a Bumper Draw with 5 prizes: £45, £35, £25 and two at £20. It costs £12 for each 6 month session or £2 per month. If you are interested contact Lyn Wackett on 01992 711573, [lynanddavewackett@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lynanddavewackett@hotmail.co.uk) or at 94 Upshire Road. Cheques should be made payable to St Thomas Church Upshire PCC or payment by Bank Transfer (details elsewhere in the Newsletter). Cash is also accepted.

## **CHURCH FLOWERS**

MARCH and signs of SPRING abound as we progress to the start of Lent on 2 March through to 16 April. Easter Lilies will then be the focus for display with memorial in the dedication book. These are required to be ordered in advance (£2.50 per stem) so please confirm your order in good time.

Each month we can create memorial dedications, wedding, anniversary or special occasion flowers – all can be arranged for any week – email [marionne.locke@btinternet.com](mailto:marionne.locke@btinternet.com) to discuss.

## CHURCHWARDEN'S CHATTER

Last month's Community Lunch was well attended following the January lunch being cancelled due to Covid restrictions.

This month's lunch will be on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>, but you must book your place by contacting Pauline on 07899 846711. The Spring Lunch costs just £8 for 2 courses plus tea or coffee. There will also be our produce stall and raffle.

This month we have a Table Top Sale on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March, 11am-3pm (stall holders from 10am). Stalls include hot and cold refreshments, toys, new clothing, cards & jewellery, needlework, books, cakes, eggs & honey, jams & other preserves, white elephants plus many others, including a book signing. Admission free but children must be accompanied by an adult.

With the Covid restrictions being eased we are able to plan extra items/events at St Thomas Church this year but will require extra volunteers to assist us. If you are able to help please contact any member of the PCC as soon as possible.

Our local roads are still in poor condition in places and with the deer roaming night and day a number of cars have found it difficult to stay on the road – one damaged wall and a demolished fence in the village in the last month. Please be aware of the local speed restrictions.

The Seedlings group are going from strength to strength each month with their many activities on monthly Saturday afternoons. It is open to all so bring your children along and while they are busy enjoy the light refreshments and a chat for a relaxing time.

Stephen Brown 07960 809799

## GROWERS CORNER

We are starting to get our first show of colour from the bulbs we planted last year. Snowdrops, crocus, dwarf iris and daffodils, with bluebells and tulips next month. Primrose and violets will bloom before the month is out followed by the flowering trees such as the prunus family.

Please note the hazel and willow trees produce large amounts of pollen at this time of the year which the bees take full advantage of to increase their numbers before the spring/summer nectar flow.

If you have a frost free conservatory or greenhouse, with the aid of a propagator (check it is still working) you could start sowing seed for this year's crops. Please note everything must be spotlessly clean as we do not want your new seedlings 'damping off'. Read the seed packets carefully before opening them, have your seed and plug trays ready, also some F1 seed compost and sharp sand to hand. Fill the trays with compost and sand mix as required, then stand your trays in a bath of water, remove to drain when soaked through. Sow your seeds thinly or one per cell and cover as instructed, then place in the propagator. Check daily, do not over-water or allow to dry out. When the first adult leaves start to appear, ease the seedlings out one at a time and place into individual pots containing compost for the next stage of growing on. Always hold the seedlings by the leaf, not the stem as this also causes damping off.

Sowing seeds directly into the ground is not carried out until you have a fine tilth of soil and the ground is warm enough to sit on without your trousers on. (*My imagination is running riot! Ed*)\*

Once your broad beans/sweet peas are hardened off you should plant them out as soon as possible.

With your winter digging complete you can begin spring digging, remove all weeds via the wheelbarrow to the compost heap and break down all lumps of soil as only the spring rain will break it down from now on so take your time and produce a neat finish on your plot.

You could start chitting your early potatoes in trays to encourage shoots, cover with a light sack or similar, place in a cool, frost free place ready for planting next month.

Have you checked if your mower is ready for collection as the grass is only waiting for a warm spell – some councils have cut the grass already!

Steve \*After double-checking that I had read Steve's writing correctly, I was told this is called bare-bottoming! You learn something new every day! Ed.

**PUZZLE** – What is it?

Legs I have a pair, handles I have two,  
I go forward loaded just to help you.

You will find the answer elsewhere in the Newsletter.

**KNITTERS WANTED!**

Knitters wanted to make jumpers for babies and child refugees. Any size, any colour, any style, all will be appreciated.

Also to knit hat, scarves and mittens (or gloves if you're so inclined!) ready for shoe boxes for next year. Thank you to everyone who donated wool, we now have lots if anyone needs any to knit the above items!

**UPSHIRE MOTHERS' UNION**

In January we held our Annual General Meeting. Ann, Eleanor and Kate continue in their roles as Branch Leader, Treasurer and Secretary. This year our donation will go to the English for Women project.

Our next meeting on 23rd March will be Corporate Communion in St Thomas' Church followed by tea in church. All are welcome.

Tea Hostesses: Joan O'Mullane and Gill Negus. Raffle: Kate Dale.

Further information from Ann Smith of 01992 767809.

**FLY TIPPING**

If you see anyone fly tipping in the forest, please take a note of the registration number of the vehicle, the make of the vehicle and any other information which might help track the perpetrators and then pass this information to the Corporation of London. If you find any fly tipped rubbish please report it to the Corporation on the number below. The sooner such instances are reported, the better chance there is of finding out who is responsible.

The number to ring is **0208 532 1010** which is a **24** hour number and messages will be passed onto the duty team.

St Thomas Church, Upshire    Bank details

St Thomas Church Upshire PCC

HSBC Bank    Sort Code 40 45 20    Account number 00724505

Any queries regarding setting up a Standing Order, giving a donation to the church, Gift Aid or about joining the Parish Giving Scheme please contact our Treasurer, Ruth Moore on 07852 668633

[Ruth4366@gmail.com](mailto:Ruth4366@gmail.com)

If you are able to Gift Aid donations this increases your gift without any extra cost to yourself.

Thank you

**TIM WACKETT DECORATING SERVICES**

Tim Wackett is no longer able to continue with his painting and decorating business due to health problems. Tim would like to thank all his customers over the last 25-odd years and is sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

**A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

A Charity event is being held at Upshire School on the field on June 11<sup>th</sup> (11am-4pm) for the Lullaby Trust for SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome). If you can help in any way please contact 01992 805151 during office hours Monday to Friday 9am-3pm.

## MEMORIES

### Living without electricity

I was about 6 years old and attending High Beach Primary School when my parents moved to Springfield Cottage, a semi-detached dwelling in Lippits Hill, High Beach. There was no electricity or gas, the loo was in a shed in the garden – but we did have one functioning cold tap in the scullery!

There was a kitchener range in the kitchen fired by wood, or if we could afford it, coal. When I was older I used to scavenge along the golf links behind the cottage and in the copse beyond and drag the wood home. We stored it in a dry shed and chopped it into logs as needed; it was usually hornbeam. This range was the sole means of heating and cooking. Hot water was obtained by boiling a kettle or saucepan on it. When I was older I had a primus stove and bucket in the shed to wash! Light was provided by an oil lamp or tilly lamp. Candles were taken upstairs at night. Downstairs comprised of a scullery with sink, kitchen and small ‘front room’, upstairs had two small bedrooms at the back and a slightly larger one in front.

Dad cycled to Chingford, left his bicycle at a garage and got on a bus to Walthamstow for work – he was a wood machinist. While my father was working, my mother walked through the forest to either Chingford or Loughton to bring back the weekly shopping. The only food that we grew in the garden were potatoes and runner beans – wild blackberries were a treat in the summer. Some of the farm workers over the road went rabbiting and few came our way! But remember, in those days so much of our food was delivered – greengrocer Micky Smith with a good choice in his van, the butcher from Loughton, old Grimsby; both delivered weekly. Milk came from the local farm and bread was also delivered. We did keep a few laying hens, any excess eggs we pickled.

After the birth of my brother, sometime during 1940 my father was called up into the Royal Army Service Corps (RASC). As a driver, he ended up with the 8<sup>th</sup> Army in the desert, we had very little news from him, or about him during the war years.

While my father was away we had ‘ack-ack’ guns placed at the top of Lippits Hill to shoot at enemy planes approaching London. These guns were huge, it took 11 men to work each gun which was bolted to the ground in cement.

Our old cottage began to suffer with large cracks appearing along the front, our landlord moved my mother, my little brother and me to a hut behind the owl pub. We walked up the farm for water. Luckily this was in the summer! After 2-3 months the house was made safe and we returned. When the war ended my father eventually returned to this country and came home one evening in a taxi from Loughton. He strode into our small cottage and seemed to fill the room, with his kit-bag on his back!

There was a small sum of money given to those who made it home – my father decided to have electricity put on to the house! Until the day we left however, we still used a toilet in a garden shed and washed in the scullery!

Fred Corsham, dictated to Maureen Smith.

**Do you have any memories you would like to share with us – I’m sure the readers would love to read about them.**

### ANAGRAM

The answer to the anagram is MARVELOUS.

### 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 Essex and Herts Air Ambulance. Stamps and coins can be left with Lyn and Dave at 94 Upshire Road and left in the porch. Note: please remember to leave about  $\frac{1}{2}$ ” of envelope around the stamp. Thank you.

## ST THOMAS CHURCH EVENTS FOR 2022 TO NOTE IN YOUR DIARIES:

MARCH	SATURDAY 19	TABLE TOP SALE
MAY	SUNDAY 15	SUNDAY TEAS - PLANT SALE
JUNE	SUNDAY 5	SUNDAY TEAS - HMQ 70 <sup>TH</sup> TEA CELEBRATION
JULY	SUNDAY 17	SUNDAY TEAS - SUMMER FAYRE
SEPTEMBER	FRIDAY 23	MCMILLAN COFFEE MORNING/CAKE COMPETITION
DECEMBER	SATURDAY 10	CHRISTMAS FAYRE

\*\*\*\*\*

### PUZZLE

The answer to the puzzle is: A Wheelbarrow.

### MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE

There will be a special celebration service on Mothering Sunday (27<sup>th</sup> March) at 3pm in the church. During the service all the ladies will be presented with a posy of flowers. The service will be followed by tea and cakes in the Village Hall. Donations of cakes and plates of food will be appreciated.

The posies will be made in the church from 10.30am on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup>, helpers welcome.

### LENT COURSE

A Lent Course is being arranged and details will be posted on the church website:  
<https://stthomaschurchupshire.com/>

ST THOMAS' CHURCH, UPSHIRE EN9 3SS

## TABLE TOP SALE in the church

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March, 11am-3pm

Stalls include toys, new clothing, cards & jewellery,

Eggs, honey, cakes, jams and preserves  
And many others including a book signing.

Hot & cold refreshments throughout the day.

Admission free: children to be accompanied by an adult

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1/2 page advertisement £10 a month or £100 per year  
1/2 page advertisement £20 a month or £200 per year  
Full page advertisement £40 a month or £400 per year

Cheques payable to 'St Thomas Church Upshire PCC'

Enquiries to Lyn Wackett, 94 Upshire Road,  
Waltham Abbey EN9 3PA 01992 711373

\*Min spend £25

We are grateful to all those who, by advertising, help to finance the production of the Newsletter. However, the PCC and members of St Thomas' Church accept no individual or joint liability for the veracity of any of the advertisements contained in the Newsletter nor for the quality of any of the work or services offered.

## Flowers by Danielle

Special Offer: **10% OFF\*** with this advert

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## MARCH WORDSEARCH

All the words in the list contain the letters 'MAR' and are hidden in the diagram below.

AMARANTH	MARMITE	A N I R A M S E L B R A M A R I T I M E
AMARYLLIS	MARMOT	S M A R A C A S E E P H M A N E E R T N
BEAUMARIS	MAROON	U M A R A R F A N R N A A O R N M A A A
CALAMARI	MARQUEE	O L V R M M U U I O R O H L I Q M A R M
DEMARKATION	MARQUIS	L E T A Y M A M L A I T B R L A U A R S
EARMARK	MARRIAGE	L E R R A L A L N M A T A W R M M E N K
FULMAR	MARROWBONE	E K G R A R L T A R A M A S O I A A E R
GRAMMAR	MARS	V T I A Y M H I A C B R H K L R I R R A
HALLMARK	MARSHALL	R S E R I T A M S U S A S E R T R A K M
MARACAS	MARSHMALLOW	A E A K R R A R S S L A T I R A M A A W
MARASCHINO	MART	M M M A R R R N I L S N R A U M M R M O
MARATHON	MARTIANS	A A M A Z A A A M N O E M G A Q C E Y L
MARAUD	MARTINA I	R S R I R R M A M M E A N R I H R R D L
MARBLES MARCH	MARTINI	I O P A A K R R M A R I G O L D A A D A
MARCHIONESS	MARTYR	O A S M S M A A E J R N M M I M R U M M
MARDI GRAS	MARVEL	N I I E A C R B O P I I A A M H A A A H
MARE	MARVELLOUS	E R R L M T H R L G U R N U R R C R M S
MARGIN	MARY	T R A A I A A I R E L S S E A T G R R R
MARGOT	MARZIPAN	T D A N M M R A N I T R A M R O Y A A A
MARIGOLD	MONTELIMAR	E T I M R A M Y N O O R A M T O M R A M
MARINA	OMAR	
MARINER	PRIMARY	
MARIO	REMARK	
MARIONETTE	REMARKABLE	
MARITAL	ROSEMARY	
MARITIME	SMART	
MARJORAM	SUBMARINE	
MARKSMAN	SUMMARY	
MARLIN	SUPERMARKET	
MARMALADE	TAMAR	
	TRIMARAN	
	ULTRAMARINE	

Words are printed across, up, down or diagonally, but always in straight lines.

Letters may be used more than once.

Nigel Beeton writes: "One thing that never seems to improve as we get older is the deepening mystery of the power that computers have over us, and the utter confusion that results when they do something that we don't expect!"

### **The Computer Swallowed Grandad!**

The computer swallowed Grandad!  
Yes! Honestly! It's true!  
He pressed Control and Enter -  
And disappeared from view!  
It devoured him completely  
The thought just makes me squirm!  
He must have caught a virus  
Or been swallowed by a worm!  
I've searched through the recycle bin  
And files of every kind;  
I've even searched the internet  
But nothing did I find.

### **Looking**

In Swansea there used to be a well-known firm of solicitors called W G Christian and Sons. A letter sent to them from overseas was addressed simply: W. G. Christian, South Wales. It eventually arrived at their office with a note from the Post Office attached. It read: "No Christians in Cardiff – try Swansea."

### **Less calories**

A minister took his young daughter to the grocery store with him. In addition to the healthful items on the carefully prepared shopping list, they returned with a box of sugar-laden biscuits. The minister noticed the glare of his wife and quickly said, "It's okay, this box of biscuits has one-third fewer calories than usual."

"And why is that?" she asked. "Because we ate a third of them on the way home," he replied.

I went to Mr Google  
My searches to refine  
His reply was in the negative,  
'Nothing found' was Google's line.

So, if inside your inbox  
my Grandad you should see -  
Please copy, scan and paste him  
and send him back to me!

*by Nigel Beeton*