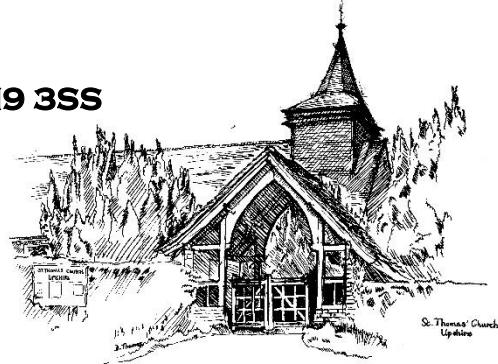


ST THOMAS' CHURCH, UPSHIRE EN9 3SS

NEWSLETTER

January 2024



Rector: Revd Peter Smith, 01992 767897
Team Vicar: Revd Jane Yeadon, 07960 604416. Email janeyeadon@gmail.com
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This Newsletter is free: donations to Lyn Wackett. Copy date for February Newsletter: 14th January

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 JANUARY

Saturday 6th	3-4pm	SEEDLINGS meet in the church
Sunday 7 th	Epiphany 9.15am HOLY COMMUNION Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6	Matthew 2:1-12
Sunday 14 th	Second Sunday of Epiphany 9.15am HOLY COMMUNION Readings: 1 Samuel 3:1-10	John 1:43-end
Sunday 21st	Third Sunday of Epiphany 9.15am HOLY COMMUNION Readings: Genesis 14:17-20	John 2:1-11
Wednesday 24 th	2.15pm Upshire Mothers' Union meet in the Village Hall	
Sunday 28 th	Presentation of Christ in the Temple 9.15am HOLY COMMUNION Readings: Malachi 3:1-5	Luke 2:22-40
Sunday 4 th February	Second Sunday before Lent 9.15am HOLY COMMUNION Readings: Proverbs 8:1, 22-31	John 1:1-14

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER:

Our mailing list to receive the electronic version is now in excess of 100 participants so if you are not one of those and wish to be included please send your email address to : lynanddavewackett@hotmail.co.uk We are looking to reduce our 'paper footprint' for climate change by printing fewer copies – your contribution will help.

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, childhood memories, something that happened to make you smile, it all makes for interesting reading.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL

THE VICAR WRITES:

Cologne Cathedral, in Germany, is home to an extraordinary relic: the Shrine of the Three Kings, a magnificent gilded sarcophagus believed to hold the remains of the Biblical Magi, or Three Wise Men.

This grand reliquary was crafted between 1180 and 1225 and is the largest of its kind in the Western world. Its creation involved renowned medieval goldsmith Nicholas of Verdun and features intricate gold sculptures depicting scenes from Christ's life and figures of the apostles and prophets.

The relics' journey began in Constantinople, moved to Milan in 314, and finally reached Cologne in 1164, gifted by the Holy Roman Emperor Frederick Barbarossa to the city's Archbishop, Rainald of Dassel.

Such is the continued fascination with the Biblical Magi the reliquiae has drawn a constant stream of pilgrims to Cologne ever since.

We celebrate the visit of the Magi each year on 6th January, the feast of the Epiphany. On this day three crowned figures, often one European, one Asian and one African, take pride of place in our nativities alongside the shepherds. The nativity scene we know so well is finally complete!

But actually that nativity scene is a rather romanticized view of what probably happened.

For a start it's unlikely that all the figures would have been there at the same time.

Scholars now know that the Magi didn't arrive immediately after the birth of Jesus, but some time later – possibly up to two years later. We do know that they came to Bethlehem so the family were still there but were by now, probably living in a house. There is also no indication that the foreign visitors were kings or indeed that there were 3 of them, 2 could be 5 or 8 or 11 for all we know..... but none of that should distract us from the story that their arrival tells.

For however many they were, wherever they were from and whenever they arrived these were not local people, with local values, and a local upbringing. These were odd folk from some foreign land, the kind of people that the Scriptures warn good religious people to stay away from.

But that's the point.... The arrival of the Magi is a salutary reminder in this Christmas period that the saving word of God, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, is not for some, but for all. Not for the perfect only, but also for those whose lives bear the scars of unmentionable human pain. Not for the local crowd only, but for those also on the other side of the tracks, the next postcode over or halfway around the world. Not for those who believe just like we do, but also for those who are struggling to believe anything at all, or those who have lost their faith.

Some years ago, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York plastered the city with posters of the altar of St. Patrick's Cathedral lavishly decorated for Christmas. It was a warm and inviting sight. The poster's caption was simple: "Come home." No matter where you've been or who you have been with, no matter what you've been up to, or how long you have been away, "Come home."

That is the invitation implicit in the Christmas story "Come home." Home is for everybody. Even for wise guys from the east who stumble upon the Lord of Lords, and the King of Kings.

The home for the Christ Child is in every heart that will have him.

I pray that this new year – your heart is one of them..... AMEN

Revd Jane Yeadon

Team Vicar St Thomas, Upshire and Holy Innocents, High Beech

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

This month we pray for Glenis, Laura, Alan & Pam, Lesley, Charlie & John, Anne, Pam & John, Barbara, Vernon, Mal, Louise, Sue, Ann & Cyril, Rosalind, Doreen, Maureen, Carol & George, Beverly, Terry, Jackie, Andrea & her Mum & Dad, Nina, Carmel & the Price family, Dave, Pat, Kathrine & Paul, Nigel, Lola, Steve, Val, Derek, Reg, Susan & Alan.



ST THOMAS' SEEDLINGS

1st Saturdays of each month (unless otherwise stated)

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, 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

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

ST THOMAS' CHURCH COMMUNITY LUNCHES 2023

NO LUNCH IN JANUARY 2024

NEXT LUNCH IS FEBRUARY 21st 2024 then every 3rd Wednesday

Please book your place to confirm attendance: 07899 846711

If after booking you are unable to come, please phone to cancel, we can then offer a place to people on the waiting list.

GROWERS CORNER

With Christmas and New Year celebrations over and the decorations taken down we can now concentrate on what we can and cannot do in the garden.

A bird feeder with a small amount of food (give only what they can eat in the day to prevent rodents) placed outside your sitting room window will be a great help to small birds and a joy to watch whilst browsing through your seed catalogues. I recommend Chilterns Seeds 01491 824675 for a wide range of vegetables i.e. 24 varieties of tomato and 10 varieties of runner beans. Also don't forget to fill water bowls for the birds daily.

There are a number of jobs to be done in the garden or greenhouse but wrap up warm, the east wind can be a killer even when the sun is shining.

Any bare-root plants that you haven't planted yet should have their wrappings removed and heeled into a trench at the same level as they originally came out of the ground, this will protect them from the frost and they will not dry out but don't forget them as they need to be planted no later than the end of March to give best results. Watering and feeding during the summer is very important for the first year after being transplanted.

With the amount of rain we've had working on the garden is not a good thing and you only have this month to trim or shape an ugly hedge as next month is out of the question as our little birds we have been feeding during winter will start nesting from late January until late summer. By the way it is a legal regulation not to cut hedges back hard after the end on January/February.

Check the greenhouse/polytunnel and cold frame for any gale damage and repair as soon as possible. Check that any outside plants still have the protection you gave them earlier before the wind and rain we've had lately; also check for rodent damage as they may have moved during the cold spell, checking among your pots and seed trays as they look for a warm, sheltered spot.

Water when needed any plants in the greenhouse/polytunnel or cold frame before lunch so surplus water can drain away before the frost later in the day.

Water indoor plants by standing them in a saucer of water then allowing them to drain, watering overhead is difficult to carry out without making a mess and damaging the plants in question.

You may consider putting up a few bird nesting boxes in your garden on the north side of your sheds and trees.

Remember that the more they hatch the more little mouths to feed so less pests left in your garden.

If you have an outdoor tap protect it and its pipework using a length of plumbers foam insulation tubing and cable ties, available from your builders merchant. At the same time it might be a good idea to buy a sack of salt. Have your shovel, stiff broom and salt handy to treat the icy patches on the ground.

Steve

GARDENERS NOTE

Free bagged compost ready for collection in the churchyard. Any donation to the church fabric fund would be appreciated. Thank you.

BEWARE OF THE DEER

The rutting season is almost over but large herds of deer are still crossing our local roads day and night. Please drive slowly at this time of the year, what with roadworks, frost and ice plus the deer numbers, speeding on our local roads is not a good thing to do. Driving slowly in our local area will save you time and money in the long run. Steve

ANAGRAM

Unscramble this 8 letter anagram: HAPPYNIE. The answer will be found elsewhere in the Newsletter.

STAMPS Please continue to save your postage stamps and foreign or out of circulation coins as the charities we support can use them to raise funds. At present we collect the coins for Essex and Herts Air Ambulance and The British Legion and stamps for St Clare Hospice. Stamps and coins can be left with Lyn & Dave at 94 Upshire Road – please leave in the porch if no reply. Please leave about $\frac{1}{2}$ " of envelope around the stamps. Thank you.

CHURCH FLOWERS

Thank you to all the ladies who helped decorate the church for Christmas making it very welcoming for the Community Lunch, the Brass Band Concert and all the Christmas Services.

Each month we can create memorial dedications, wedding, anniversary or special occasion flowers – contact Kate Dale: email dalek16@btinternet.com

ANAGRAM

The answer to the anagram is EPIPHANY.

50/50 CLUB

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

1 st :	£35	No. 19	Sarah Gullefer of Welham Green, Hatfield
2 nd :	£25	No. 40	George Green of Upshire
3 rd :	£15	No. 63	John Bugden of Suffolk

Many thanks to the winners who donated their money back to the church over the last year.

It is now time to begin Draw 13 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). Each member is entitled to a maximum of two entries, couples can have four. Please complete the form below and return it to me; payment by Bank Transfer is preferred or alternatively you may pay by cheque or cash to the address stated. Please let me know if you pay by Bank Transfer so I can include your number in the Draw (email lynanddavewackett@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01992 711573).

St Thomas' Church 50/50 Club Draw 13

January to June 2024

I wish to become a member of St Thomas' 50/50 Club and have paid by Bank Transfer to HSBC Bank, A/c St Thomas Church Upshire PCC, Sort Code 404520, A/c No: 00724505.

OR I enclose cash/cheque of £12 per entry (maximum 2 per person). Please make cheques payable to St Thomas' Church Upshire PCC and return your entries to Lyn Wackett, 94 Upshire Road, Waltham Abbey, EN9 3PA.

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Our thanks to all our members for their support of St Thomas' Church. Good luck to everyone who enters. It's not too late to become a member of the 50/50 Club, for further information phone Lyn on 01992 711573

UPSHIRE MOTHERS' UNION

A brief history of Mary Sumner House:

The Mothers' Union was founded by Mary Sumner in 1876 in the parish of Old Alresford, near Winchester, where her husband, George, was the rector. In 1885 Mary and George moved to Winchester, where George was to be an Archdeacon.

The diocese became an important base for The Mothers' Union and by the start of 1888 Mothers' Union had 57 branches within 18 dioceses across the country. As growth continued in 1896, 20 years after the very first meeting, the Central Council of Mothers' Union was formed, with Mary at the helm as President, and a Central Constitution was ratified to bring the members/branches together into a national union.

The following year it became appropriate for a team of women to establish some sort of operational base. A rented locker in the basement of Church House, Westminster, was given over to the first Central Secretary, but it soon became inadequate and in 1899 Mothers' Union rented its first office in the building. By 1900 there were approx. 170,000 members. In the early 1900's the growth in Mothers' Union was not just in the UK but also had branches in Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, India, Madagascar and New Zealand. With this growth two more offices were rented out in 1913 and a fourth in 1916. But this still wasn't enough.

At the 1916 Central Council meeting Emily Wilberforce, Central President, told delegates that a dedicated building was needed 'not only to strengthen and consolidate all the existing work of Mothers' Union but to provide space and opportunity for wider constructive and educational work to be undertaken'.

Before the end of 1916 a resolution had been passed by the Central Council, stating that Mother's Union shall acquire such premises as funds permit for 'The Mary Sumner House' which shall be the Central Institute for Mothers' Union work, and shall comprise of a Chapel, Library, rooms for Meetings, Lectures and model Classes. The scheme was commended by the Archbishop of Canterbury as well as being approved by Queen Mary, and the challenging process of fund raising began.

The building fund was opened and a letter was published in The Times, outlining the appeal for £50,000. A letter was also sent directly to every Mothers' Union member detailing the reasons for building independent headquarters in Westminster, as well as the opportunity it presented to members to be part of such a momentous campaign. In the letter it stated, 'If every member of the Mothers' Union would promise to give one shilling a year for three years, the whole sum required would be guaranteed. We hope every member will be able to manage this small sum, which means setting aside a penny each month, but even smaller contributions than this will be welcomed as we want everyone to feel she has a share in the gift, and that the matter belongs unto her right of her membership.

Many will be able and willing to promise to give or collect larger sums each year, and cards for the gathering of various sums will be provided. Small sums definitely promised and regularly sent in will be of greatest value to the Finance Committee of the Scheme, for they will then know on what they can depend'.

In the meantime, the four original offices at Church House were abandoned and in April 1917 the Central Secretary and staff moved into a new temporary headquarters at No 8 Dean's Yard. There was still a long way to go but Mothers' Union was one step closer to independence.

Although financial support for Mary Sumner House began to come in almost immediately, the scheme was not without controversy. The country was in the middle of a brutal war and some officials felt bad about asking people for money in such times. Despite the dire financial circumstances faced by the country in the post-war years by January 1922 £8,000 had been raised, but more was needed.

Meanwhile there was another issue of finding a suitable site. In December 1922, Mothers' Union Central Council empowered the finance committee to negotiate for a corner site in Tufton Street and Wood Street (now Great Peter Street) for £11,000. Claude Ferrier was hired as the architect for the building and Paul Waterhouse was asked to design the Chapel. The decision was made to create a building that was bigger than necessary, not only to allow for growth but also with the idea that rooms could be rented out as a source of income. There was £14,000 in the bank with another £4,000 promised. More was needed as the initial cost was £36,000 but it was enough to get started.

In 1923 the foundation stone of the building that is known and loved by thousands of Mothers' Union members around the world today was laid by Mary's daughter, Louisa Gore-Brown. It was a momentous occasion that drew a crowd of more the 2,000 people to witness the dedication and blessing of the site. Sadly, Mary was never to see how successful the new headquarters would prove to be as she passed away on 9th August 1921 at the age of 93. There were delays along the way, with difficulties within the building trade and last-minute decisions to build a fourth storey, to keep up with the growth of the Mothers' Union, but the opening ceremony was arranged for 21 July 1925.

Although the building wasn't strictly complete 400 guests attended with the Archbishop of Canterbury leading the proceedings. Next, Central President, Edith Barclay welcomed and thanked visitors, talked about the miraculous provision that had allowed them to come this far. £46,000 had been raised against the £54,000 total needed, with just £1,000 coming from outside the Mother's Union. The members had, without a doubt, shown their support and dedication. Princess Mary followed and said how pleased she was to declare the building officially open. The Archbishop concluded with a sermon.

As well as creating an administrative centre and honouring the name and memory of its founder, the building of Mary Sumner House cemented Mothers' Union's identity and status in Westminster. Like many that have gone before them, today's members are most welcome to call in and have a look around Mary Sumner House, as well as attending arranged events. The team who work in the Mothers' Union headquarters not only love their base but are also very knowledgeable about it.

Mary Sumner House became a Grade-II listed building on 23rd March 2000, it offers 10 meeting rooms, ranging in size from six people in a boardroom layout up to 120 people in a theatre-style layout. They provide flexibly catering options as well as giving the freedom to bring in your preferred caterers. The rooms are fitted with audio-visual equipment for seamless hybrid meetings or events. All profits from the hiring of the rooms goes towards their programmes which have supported communities worldwide for over 100 years.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 24th January, our AGM in the Village Hall followed by tea and cake. All are welcome. Tea Hostesses: Gill Negus and Kate Dale. Raffle: Lyn Wackett

PUDDING BASINS

I would be grateful if you would save unwanted pudding basins for me ready for Christmas Puddings for next Christmas. All basins, whether Pyrex, china or plastic are all acceptable in any size up to 2lb – we were a bit short for 2023 and had to use larger basins for smaller puddings making them look a bit short on contents! They can be left in the church or in the porch at 94 Upshire Road or phone 01992 711573. Thank you.

WALTHAM ABBEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MONTHLY TALKS - JANUARY TO MAY 2024

19th January Dead Man's Vision - The Murder of a Police officer at Stapleford Abbotts, in 1927, that shocked the nation. Speaker: Martyn Lockwood
16th February Pilgrimage for Queen Elizabeth II - An unplanned 50 mile walk to experience the sights and sounds from the Queen's death until the funeral cortege left London. Speaker: The Revd John Merrill
15th March Annual General Meeting and President's Address President: Tony O'Connor
19th April The Puddephatt Lecture – This England – Where did it come from? An exploration into the great Upheavals in society that fed into what was to become England and eventually Great Britain Speaker: Revd Dr Nicholas Henderson
17th May The role of a Verderer past and present, and research, findings and speculation about Loughton camps being much larger than initially considered Speaker: Paul Morris, Verderer
All Friday evenings at 7.30pm at the Baptist Church, Paradise Road, Waltham Abbey, EN9 1RL
Visitors welcome: donation of £2 per person requested.

POST CHRISTMAS

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When kings and princes return home,
When shepherds are back with their flocks,
Then the work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken in spirit,
To feed the hungry,
To release the oppressed,
To rebuild nations,
To bring peace among all peoples,
To make a little music with the heart.....
And to radiate the Light of Christ, every day, in every way,
In all that we do and in all that we say....

Then the work of Christmas begins.

Howard Thurman

NEW YEAR

As you begin a new year, a chance to make a brand new start,
Try with all your heart and deepest desire
To always be friendly and forgiving,
To live a little better,
To bring some hope, some warmth, some sunshine,
To the surroundings and the resent world we live in.
Renew your Faith and trust in God.

NEWS & NOTES

Last month's Christmas Lunch was well attended and everybody enjoyed themselves. All our cooks, servers and helpers are having a well-earned rest so there will be no lunch in January but don't forget to book for the February lunch on 21st by ringing Pauline on 07899 846711.

The Christmas Fair in the Village Hall the previous month was a success so thanks are due to everyone who worked so hard on the stalls and refreshments.

I would like to thank our flower arranging team, it is always beautiful to see their work and skills with colours and shapes – we are so lucky.

Steve.

All aboard for an Indian

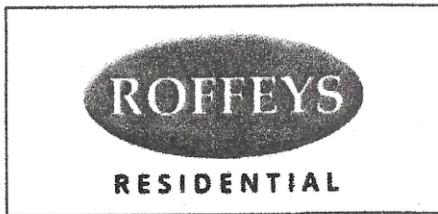
Regular readers of my ramblings will be well aware that I have some particular interests, peculiar some might say, one of which is railway locomotives and by connection, train journeys. Give me a route, any route for that matter, but if it's designated as 'scenic' then all the better. It's surprising how far one can go in a day and return: my longest being a day trip to Avignon in France but more of that later. By the time you read this I will have been to Holyhead and back. Why Holyhead you might ask as it is not the most glamorous of places to visit, in fact most people are passing through to or from Ireland but the journey there is spectacular. Up the spine of England then around the delightful Chester racecourse on a viaduct, along the Dee estuary and then follow the Liverpool Bay coastline past Snowdonia, along cliffs and through tunnels to cross the Menai Strait into Anglesey. If one is observant enough, you'll see the name of a station the train passes through just after the Menai crossing having the longest name of any station in Britain or Europe: Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogogoch which one of course knows means in English "Saint Mary's Church in the hollow of the white hazel near a rapid whirlpool and the Church of St. Tysilio of the red cave".

Then there's crossing Yorkshire on the Settle Carlisle line or traversing the Kent marshes and many more, each different but showing English countryside at its best. Although I take reading material I tend to spend my time looking out of the windows at the passing scenery, apart from the different types of countryside there's also the wildlife one can see if you're lucky. On one journey it was a flock of Red Kites, on others across the Fens it's been husks of hares and if you know where to look one can often spot deer grazing in the fields. However, my fellow passengers seem to spend their time either talking to each other or working on their laptops, or even worse, gazing at their smart phones! Before covid got in the way I had planned a trip on the Rosslare to Dublin line. An overnight coach ride from Victoria via the Irish Ferries to Rosslare to catch the train which travels through Wexford along the pavement past the harbour then across the marshlands north of the town, alongside beaches where the Irish Sea storms constantly ravage the line and then through the Wicklow mountains in tunnels and vertigo defying cuttings built by Brunel to Dublin where it would have been straight back in order to catch the return overnight coach to arrive in Victoria the next morning. Still a possibility, one never knows, but just need to renew my passport although I've been told that if you're travelling to the Republic by ferry then all you require is a bus pass so long as it has your photo on it!

So how does one plan a journey on a scenic route? In my case I use a copy of 'The Thomas Cook Visitor's Railway Map of Great Britain and Ireland', now sadly out of print, which shows all the main lines and depicts those that are designated as 'scenic'; unfortunately minor branch lines aren't included but you can't have everything! I also use DVDs of railway journeys for my research, there being several companies producing these. However, I tend to concentrate on one particular firm which specializes in what they call 'drivers eye view' as they mount a camera in the driver's cab looking down the line with other cameras filming through side windows and in some instances also either in a helicopter or a drone overhead. Although they concentrate on British lines they do also venture abroad and this is how I ended up travelling to Avignon. Their DVD filmed from Marseille to Paris contained some extraordinary scenery as the train passed through the Alps and I subsequently became aware that Eurostar were running a direct service from St Pancras to Marseille. My intention was to decant at Avignon to see the famous bridge which as school children we used to sing about: 'Sur le pont d'Avignon'. Unfortunately the station was on the other side of town and too far from the bridge to visit in the time I had. Poor planning by me. I must check to see if Eurostar are still running the service... The DVD company has also filmed Strasburg to Paris and a section of the Milan to Paris line to cover the route from Turin to Chambery through the Italian Alps and the Frejus Tunnel. That particular train, a TGV capable of two hundred miles per hour travels considerably slower along the slopes and valleys of the Alps which gives one an excellent view of the beautiful summer countryside. Reaching an elevation higher than Snowden the line passes towering mountains, travels through tight narrow valleys past beautiful rivers on its journey north to Paris, something well worth a visit sometime!

Recently I found out that this firm has now filmed in India. India, of course, relies heavily on its railway system carrying hundreds of thousands of people each day along its huge network. However, the lines filmed although well used are not the usual run of the mill for one is of a tram ride in Calcutta or Kolkata as it is now known. If you think London rush hour traffic is horrendous then you obviously haven't been to Calcutta! It's an eye opener. The other line, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway built as a narrow-gauge railway by the British in 1881 to enable them to escape the heat of the Bengal summers to the cooler foothills of the Himalayas. We, as a nation, know much about India but these films show Indian life in the raw, however, their story will have to wait till next time.

Adrian J Liddle



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Enquiries to Lyn Wackett, 94 Upshire Road,
Waltham Abbey EN9 3PA 01992 711573

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www.flowersbydanielle.co.uk info@flowersbydanielle.co.uk

*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.

WEATHER WORDSEARCH

All the words in the list are hidden in the diagram below. Words are printed across, up, down or diagonally, but always in straight lines. Letters may be used more than once.

ANEMOMETER	HUMIDITY	N L O W P R E S S U R E E C I K C A L B
ATMOSPHERE	HURRICANE	O F O D S R T N D H Z A E I O W N O E I
AURORA	ICICLES	I N A U A R E R A E A N I O C O I A L N
BEAUFORT SCALE	INDIAN SUMMER	S J R H A N A C E C T I N N R I U N I D
BLACK ICE	JET STREAM	S G E T R Z R R I I I I L O D F C A D I
BLIZZARD	LIGHTNING	E D U T Z E B O G P H R C S O R R L R A
BREEZE	LOW PRESSURE	R S U I S C N R T C I L R R T L O E E N
CENTIGRADE	METEOROLOGY	P A L O I T A H O R I T T U A O T P I S
CHILL	MIST	E B I R L D R V E M E S A I H E N M S U
CHINOOK	MISTRAL	D R R N E C E E A I C D T T M S B E Y M
CIRRUS	NIMBUS	A U U L B R L T A A T N N O I U U G S M
CLIMATE	OVERCAST	S T A S C O E I L M E E M U S O O L Y E
CLOUDS	PRECIPITATION	S G M A S T W E G R R E V U H L N T S R
COLD	RAIN	U I S O S E N L R H N O N A O T I I E L
CORONA	RAINBOW	L T R O S O R O L A T S T R W D E L A A
CUMULUS	RAINDROPS	U L R O L P T P U A H N O S I T Z E W R
CYCLONE	SIROCCO	M F I C C F H R H I U E I M W Z A A L T
DEPRESSION	SLEET SLUSH	U I Y H O C O E N G T Q U N I E H E S S
DEW	SNOW SQUALL	C C S G C R O E R E I H S R G T D U H I
DRIZZLE	STORM	E R U T A R E P M E T H D R O U G H T M
DROUGHT	STRATUS	
FAHRENHEIT	SUNSHINE	
FOG FROST	SURGE	
GALE	TEMPERATURE	
GUST	THAW	
HAILSTONES	THUNDER	
HAZE	TORNADO	
HEAT WAVE	TORRENTIAL RAIN	
HIGH PRESSURE	WIND	

TEDDIES FOR TRAGEDIES

Tricia Gibb from Teddies for Tragedies sent this message just before Christmas:

"A really big thank you to everyone for all the Teddies (more than 600) and bags which I have received since the last newsletter. Welcome, too, to new knitters.

Since my brief newsletter update in August, just over 500 more Teddies have gone to Poland to be included in food parcels being taken into Ukraine. This means that in the past 18 months or so, over 2500 of your Teddies have now gone to Ukraine plus another 255 which I sent last year to welcome centres in County Durham and Edinburgh for Ukrainian refugees. Thank you all for making this possible but can you keep knitting, please, as I have been told that the charity would like more to include with their food parcels.

Thank you all again for your support. Here's to another year of bringing a little happiness to children affected by the terrible events in the world and please keep those Teddies coming!

Happy New Year! Tricia"

Why? A young couple invited some people to dinner. At the table, the mother turned to their six-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?" "I don't know what to say," the girl replied. "Just say what you hear Mummy say," the father answered. The daughter bowed her head and said, "O Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"

Windows A wife texted her husband on a cold winter morning: "Windows frozen." Her husband texted back: "Pour some lukewarm water over it." The wife texted back five minutes later:

"Computer's completely not working now."

A true story from a Parish in Chester: A member of our PCC floated the idea of opening the church during the Warm Spaces hours, for anyone wishing to sit in church and light a candle.

The sermon A little girl became restless as the preacher's sermon dragged on and on. Finally, she leaned over to her mother and whispered, "Mummy, if we give him some money now, will he let us go?"