White Waltham Church's

Parish Magazine

December 2023 - January 2024



Details of our Christmas Services are on pages 14, 21 & 38. Please do join us.

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The Vicar's Letter

The Vicarage, Waltham Road (corner of Foliejohn Way) Woodlands Park Telephone 01628 822000

Dear Friends of the Parish of White Waltham and Woodlands Park,

The nights are drawing in; it can sometimes feel cozy, sometimes gloomy, and is certainly a time to miss the sunshine and blue skies. Maybe this season can mean extra stress and sadness for you, whether with bills and expenses, or missed loved ones.... It is not a coincidence that this is the season chosen to celebrate Christmas!

We have been hearing the words of the prophet Isaiah at church in which God says "comfort, comfort my people" (Isaiah chapter 40 verse 1). This was to people who were lost in exile, feeling far from home, alone, who had lost their way, were without God, and had no way back....

Maybe some of that is how you are feeling? The world you live in feels a changed and dangerous place, unsettled, unsure.

We all need "tidings of comfort and joy": news that brings us relief, reassurance, and happiness. In our carol singing we often include a jazzy version of God rest you merry Gentlemen, from which these words are taken:

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

(continued over)

THIS MAGAZINE

Published bi-monthly, six times a year.

Delivered free to all homes in White Waltham & Woodlands Park and given to all families at White Waltham School.

Freely available at church services.

Also available on White Waltham Church's Facebook page and website.

Articles for the next edition should be sent to waltham.vicar@btinternet.com

by 10th January 2024

Magazines are usually available on the last Sunday of the month www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk

White Waltham

So, what are these tidings? What comfort? Through Isaiah God tells us:

All has been DONE!

"To save us all from Satan's power, when we were gone astray:" Which means, however you feel about yourself, whatever you might have done, God has done what is needed for you to be forgiven, accepted, loved.

The Lord is coming for you!

For Jesus Christ our Saviour, was born upon this day,

God has done it in sending Jesus into the world for you, for me, as a saviour. He does it through his death as a substitute, his giving himself in our place. And Jesus speaks of when he will come again to take home those who believe in him. He has prepared a place for us, a home with our loving Father God and each other.

This is dependable truth!

From God our heavenly Father, a blessed angel came,

We can depend on it because of the promises, the announcements, and the witnesses of Jesus. Which then demands a response: will you accept these tidings and believe in them for yourself?

All will see!

God rest you merry, gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay,

These tidings are never just a private thing. They are to be accepted, shared, rejoiced, sung. That is what we do at Christmas again, rejoicing in the light despite the dark, in the hope despite the fear, remembering again the Christmas story: the Lord God come for us in the person of Jesus to bring us safely home.

I know there is a lot of suffering, uncertainty, and fear at the moment. I pray you may hear these tidings and receive comfort and joy. And do join us this Christmas – see page 21 for details of our Christingle Service and other Services for All Ages; details of other Christmas Services are on page 14. Please come along to share in the warmth of God's wonderful love through retelling the story and singing the truths again.

And I urge you to find out more through a short course like the Hope Explored course **on page 8.** This is a season when we all need a sure hope to cling to.

Dave

Revd Dave Atallah Tel: 01628 822000 waltham.vicar@btinternet.com



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Tel. 01628 822000

Email waltham.vicar@btinternet.com



Woodlands Park Primary and Nursery School

A place for everyone. Together, we are inspired to grow, learn and achieve.

We hope this newsletter finds you well and in good spirits as we approach the festive season. It has been an eventful term here at Woodlands Park, and we are excited to share some updates and upcoming events with you.

Open Mornings: We are thrilled to announce the success of our recent open mornings and open evening. It was a pleasure to welcome many prospective parents and pupils to our school, and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. If you or someone you know is seeking a nursery or school place, we encourage you to come and see what Woodlands Park School has to offer. Please get in touch with us via email at office@woodlandsparkschool.org to book your place.

Upcoming Festive Events: As the festive season approaches, we have a host of exciting events lined up for our school community. These include:

- Nativity Plays: Our nursery and Key Stage 1 nativities will fill our hearts with holiday spirit as our youngest pupils take the stage to tell the story of Christmas.
- Advent Service at St. Mary's Church: Our Advent service will provide a moment of reflection and anticipation as we enter the Christmas season.
- PTA Christmas Fayre: The highlight of our festive calendar, the PTA Christmas Fayre, will be held on Friday, 1st December, from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. This event promises fun, food, and fabulous stalls for all ages. Join us to help raise money for the school and partake in the merriment of the season. Don't miss out on this wonderful community gathering!

Farewell to Wendy Philps: This term, we bid a fond farewell to a beloved member of our Woodlands Park School family, Wendy Philps. After an incredible 23 years of dedicated service in pastoral support, Wendy is retiring. She has touched the lives of countless families during her time here, providing valuable support and care. We wish Wendy all the best in her retirement and extend our heartfelt gratitude for her exceptional service and unwavering commitment to our school.

Supporting Local Charities – Alexander Devine Hospice and Thames Hospice: We are proud to highlight our commitment to these incredible local charities. Woodlands Park School has always emphasised the importance of community engagement and service. This term, we have taken this commitment a step further by raising funds for Alexander Devine Hospice and Thames Hospice. Both organizations are dedicated to making a difference in the lives of individuals and families in our community.

- Alexander Devine Hospice: This hospice provides essential care and support for children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions. Their team of dedicated professionals goes above and beyond to ensure these children and their families receive the care and comfort they need during challenging times.
- Thames Hospice: Thames Hospice is committed to providing highquality end-of-life care for adults facing serious illness. Their services extend to both inpatient and community care, supporting individuals and their families during their most challenging moments.

Our pupils and staff have come together to organise various fundraising activities and events throughout the term, with the goal of contributing to these two noble causes. We are inspired by the dedication and generosity of our school community, and we are grateful for the opportunity to support organisations that undertake such vital work in our region.

School Site Availability: We are excited to announce that we are exploring the possibility of opening up our school site to the local community. Woodlands Park School premises are currently underused during the evenings and weekends, and we believe it's an excellent opportunity to offer the space to our community. If you or your organisation are interested in utilising our school site, please get in touch with us via email at finance@woodlandsparkschool.org. We look forward to fostering stronger community connections through this initiative.

As we enter the festive season, we remain committed to providing a warm and welcoming environment for our pupils and their families. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in the Woodlands Park School community. We look forward to celebrating this special time of year with you all!

Jamíe Míles, *Headteacher*

> www.woodlandsparkschool.co.uk office@woodlandsparkschool.org 01628 822350

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WHAT'S THE BEST FUTURE YOU COULD EVER IMAGINE?

There are few emotions more powerful than hope.

These days, hope feels hard to come by.

But what if we could find real hope, which delivers on its promise?

The Christian faith claims to offer real Hope: a joyful expectation for the future, based on true events in the past, which changes everything about my present.



Join us on Mondays 15th, 22nd, 29th Jan & 5th Feb via Zoom at 8pm

 $\underline{\text{https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88097533651?pwd=bnkvdkU1dWFiNmdaUUFxQ3pjZ3ZWQT09}}$

Meeting ID: 880 9753 3651 Passcode: hope

Please be in touch if another time or day would suit better.

Contact us on 01628 822000 or waltham.vicar@btinternet.com



Harvest Supper

Harvest Supper, you may well ask yourself, what exactly is it? I was invited along a year ago and felt so welcomed that I joined the church family. So, I was really looking forward to it this year knowing what a fun, happy, church family evening it was going to be.

There is food in abundance, laughter abounds and everyone has a great time. We share our talents by telling a joke, reading a poem or a story, acting out a skit or generally entertaining in some way, shape or form. Some on their own, some as a group or even families. You can join in, or just enjoy the performers.

We sing some songs, the vicar even gets out his saxophone, and enjoy each other's company, oh and did I mention the food?! The food is, frankly, AMAZING!

Harvest Supper is a great way to celebrate the good gifts God has given each of us and to give thanks for all that He provides for us. It helps us to think of others who may not have as much as we do and ways that we can help and support them.



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Tales from the Bells



Mhite Waltham Bell Ringing

The first occasion we rang for after the last magazine was Harvest Festival. This also included a baptism. We had all 6 bells ringing out for the combined celebration of reaping the fields – not only that, but also reaping a Harvest of teaching new learners for the past year.

Prior to the Pandemic, there were Tower Tours on offer to groups and/or individuals. We are looking at restarting this. So, if you belong to a group, please book a tour by contacting us via the email address below or calling the church office. We will run these during the lighter months of the year i.e. from March to September 2024. The Tour will include a description of bell ringing, a view of the bells, a demonstration of bell ringing, and the chance to 'Have A Go' under instruction by an Accredited Ringing Teacher. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

Christmas is drawing ever closer. One of my favourite Christmas Carols (though I do love many others) is Ding Dong Merrily on High, in Heaven the bells are ringing. This brings to mind ringing the bells prior to Sunday services and calling people to worship over the Christmas season (and, of course, throughout the year). It would be wonderful if you are able to come to one of the services and hear the bells beforehand.

And even if you don't make it to the services, the ringers of White Waltham hope that you are able to hear our ringing from your home and that it reminds you of the Birth of Christ – how Jesus came to earth as a tiny little baby (Luke chapter 1 verses 6 and 7).

The ringers of White Waltham wish you a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2024.

Lesley Graves

Bell Captain

Tel: 01628 822000

Email: white.waltham@sdb.odg.org.uk

A BIG THANK YOU

to everyone who helps to distribute these magazines to every household, and many of the businesses, in the Parish. Your help and hard work are very much appreciated!



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St Mary's Flower Guild, White Waltham

CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP Saturday 2nd December at 9.45 for 10am in the Tree House

Come along and make your own wreath or Christmas table decoration. (we will need to know how many are coming so please call Carolyn or Liz on the numbers below for more information). There will be people there to help you if you've never attempted this before.

DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS Saturday 16th December at 10am

All are welcome to join us. The colour scheme will be red and gold this year. Please bring some foliage with you if you have it.

Wrap up warm. Hot drinks and mince pies available throughout the morning.

AGM 2024

We plan to hold our AGM on Saturday 3rd February, where we reflect on 2023 and start to plan our activities for the coming year.

We would love to welcome new members to join our small, friendly group. Throughout the year we have flower arranging demonstrations, fundraising coffee mornings and, in the summer months, garden visits and a garden party. This year, we even had an autumn garden visit!

You do not need to be an experienced flower arranger to join us – you may just be an enthusiastic beginner or a lover of flowers. For any information on our activities, please contact Carolyn Thompson 07834 545967, Liz Atlay 07881 785131 or Julia Hodgson 07904 999685.

We look forward to seeing you.





Special Christmas Services

Christmas Service

Sun 17th Dec at 10.30am

Carols in the Churchyard Weds 20th Dec at 4pm.

A short outdoor service, for all ages. Refreshments served. Bring torches

Family Carol Service

Christmas Eve at 10.30am Especially suitable for families. Come dressed up & ready to join in.

Carol Service by Candlelight Christmas Eve at 6.30pm



Christmas Day All Age Service

at 10.30am Celebration for all ages together

Everybody Welcome!

What's the best Future you can ever imagine?

There are few emotions more powerful than hope. The Christian faith claims to offer real Hope: a joyful expectation for the future, based on true events in the past, which changes everything about my present.



To find our more, join us on 4 Monday evenings from 15th January, on Zoom at 8pm. Please be in touch for Zoom details or if another time or day, would suit better. Contact us on 01628 822000 or email waltham.vicar@btinternet.com



whitewalthamchurch www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk



Little Roots Baby & Toddler Group

For babies and toddlers with their parents/carers

We meet between 9.00 & 11.15am on Mondays during school term time. Come when you can, go when you must – we have a range of toys out for free play, Bible story time and music. We provide appropriate snacks for little ones.

We meet in The Tree House, which is located in the churchyard at White Waltham Church. Some parking is possible at the bottom of Church Hill, and more spaces are available in the yard of Bury Court Antiques (Alistair Price).

We would love to see you!

• Little Roots Toddler Group www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk



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Have you left school?

Are you thinking of full-time training or education?

(apprenticeship/College, university etc.)

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For further information on the areas covered and eligibility, please write to: Clerk to the Trustees, Carolyn Thompson, Spire View, Waltham Road, White Waltham, SL6 3SG or email: carolynt52@icloud.com for an application form







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White Waltham Cricket Club



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Updates

As always at this time of year, not much to report at White Waltham Cricket Club. We were delighted to see some late summer sunshine and extend our season towards the end of September, offering everyone that final cricket fix of the 2023 season.

Following the conclusion of the season, our annual end of season renovations were undertaken out on the square, which includes spreading of loam. Our groundsman, Luke, will continue to cut the grass (when the weather allows) throughout the winter too.



Work continues for the committee behind the scenes in preparation for 2024, but for most of the guys we look forward to putting our feet up now for the next few months.

Many thanks,
Johny Mahoney

WWCC Chair

For more information, or if you are interested to join/train with the club, then please visit our website or contact us using one of the below options:

Website: www.whitewaltham.play-cricket.com
Facebook: @WWCC 1879

Twitter: @WWCC 1879

Instagram: whitewalthamcricketclub

You are invited to join us for Carol singing!

(and mulled wine)



In White Waltham on Wednesday 13th December at 6pm in Walgrove Gardens and 7pm in Church View

In Woodlands Park on Thursday 14th December at 6pm outside 64-86 Foliejohn Way (and enjoy the amazing lights raising funds for Alexander Devine Children's Hospice)



Wise Decisions

When I watch The News, I sometimes wonder how much wisdom has been used in the decision-making that is reported. It might be the way that politicians handled their decisions during Covid, which are unravelling at the enquiry. It might be the latest business scandal, where top CEOs are rewarded with such big bonuses that shop floor workers cannot get a pay rise. It might be high-ranked sports people who dally with drugs or gambling. It might be celebrities who are very unwise in their relationships with young people. It might be the pronouncements of the church hierarchy, trying to woo local residents and compromising their biblical position. Are all these people, or are we, wise in our decision-making?

This is the season of wise people! Lots of decisions had to be made in the right way and for the right reasons, all those years ago in Nazareth and Bethlehem.

Mary had a big decision to make when told about her pregnancy and the coming birth of Jesus. Her response to the angel was, "May it be to me as you have said." She had no ifs and buts about what the neighbours might think!

Joseph had a massive decision to make too! Should he marry Mary? It was the angel's reassurance to him in a dream that helped Joseph understand that God was in charge of this amazing situation, not him. Joseph realised he could look after his special wife and new baby with God's help. So, he made the wise decision to marry Mary, whatever might happen after that.

How about somewhere to live? If you have to fill in the census forms in Joseph's hometown of Bethlehem, that would mean moving house for them! Just when you're expecting, this might be a very difficult journey. There was a wise reason for all this too: Bethlehem was the city of David, Israel's greatest king, a direct ancestor of Jesus! It was prophesied that the Messiah would be born there.

And where's the lovely comfy place for the baby to be born? No chance! Just a dingy, dirty stable, as everywhere else is full up with people arriving for the census. God's making all these strange decisions for them which Mary and Joseph wisely follow, as they trust that God knows best.

The stable was 'the palace of the new king'. It was here that the local shepherds had been told to go, by yet more angels! The shepherds were the ordinary folk like you and me, who God invited to meet his son, Jesus, in the stable – while they took a bit of time off work! They saw the most amazing spectacle, just as they had been told. God's son born as a baby. No wonder they told everybody about it and couldn't stop praising God. More wise decisions.

But that's not all. We have the Magi or the Wise Men. They were the clever people: as they had studied and watched the movement of stars, they had understood that something, or indeed some *one*, very special was coming. They followed the star. It was their very wise decision. They knew Jesus would be someone who would fulfil all the things they had wondered about for many years. They wisely gave just the right gifts: gold, incense and myrrh. Gold for buying what Mary and Joseph needed for Jesus and themselves (as well as to signify Jesus' Kingship), incense for offering thanks for answered prayers (and a sign of Jesus' holiness), and myrrh, a precious spice for Jesus' burial in years to come. The Wise Men's final wise decision was to follow God's message and not go back to the vindictive King Herod.

There we are; wise decisions from lots of people in the Christmas story! In 1 Corinthians chapter 1 verse 24, the Bible says "Jesus is the power of God, and the wisdom of God." So, in all his life, Jesus made wise decisions. Maybe this Christmas you could look at the true Christmas story in Matthew chapters 1 & 2 and in Luke chapters 1 & 2 and see how history unfolds in the lives of Mary and Joseph, which still affects our world today. Be wise and have a look! Have you ever thought of making a wise decision to follow Jesus?

Bob Crittenden

The Duell & Hawes and Shottesbrooke Charities committee invite you to



a service and lunch for our more senior local residents on Tuesday 23rd January 2024, 11-1pm at White Waltham Church

There will be food & friendship, and light & joy in the gloomy winter season



To book, please get in touch with your local representative if you know them or Carolyn Thompson

(carolynt52@icloud.com or 07834 545967)

Do join us for our

All Age Services

Christingle Service

Sunday 3rd December at 10.30am

A service celebrating the light of Christ



Family Carol Service

Christmas Eve at 10.30am

Christmas Day

at 10.30am



Everyone is welcome to join us



Read this short story from the Bible...

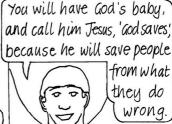


A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Luke 1:26-56 & Matthew 1:18-25 ln Israel, about 2000 years ago, a young woman, Mary, was going to marry Joseph. The weddings were in two stages.

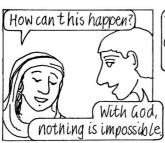












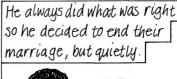




When Joseph heard that (This will bring Mary was pregnant, he was very upset



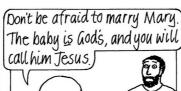
shame on me and my family.

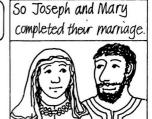




But the angel came to him in a dream.







...and complete this Wordsearch about it!

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Spring or Autumn or...

I write this almost at the end of October, which for you is autumn and for us in New Zealand, is spring. Today is pretty cool – say 12°C and bright sunshine. Two days ago it was wonderfully warm sunny and 21°C, but yesterday it was 6°C at its highest and we had a blizzard. Such is spring in Dunedin! It is not often that we have such wide changes in the weather, but they do happen. It turned my thoughts to the ways in which our planet in the solar system works.

First there is our sun, which overall maintains a temperature range suitable for all the life forms on Earth. It supplies power in huge quantities and we make use of this with solar panels. Because of the earth's axis, the sun

regulates the seasons, allowing us to grow the foods we need. The moon, which man seems to think is worth exploring and to use as the base for more space exploration, is what controls the ocean tides, without which Earth would not support life.





So how did all this come about in our solar system? I realise many folk will tell you it all happened by chance, following a big bang. But as a student in mathematics, I find this impossible to accept. For me it all points to a unique creative force, someone who

set this solar system of ours in a special place and our earth in the most beneficial place in the solar system.

To me, this is all a clear argument for a creative mind – who for me is God. He is described as being omniscient – that is He knows everything; and omnipotent – that is having limitless power. But much more than that, it means He did all this not out of blind chance, but because He wanted to do it!

Then again, we need to consider all of life on earth, which survives only because of the earth's unique position in space. Clearly, I am no fan at all of evolution! One day I sat down and asked myself a few questions, like "How did caterpillars and butterflies exist before their evolution was complete? How did people (as well as animals etc.) manage to procreate as each gender evolved separately and totally by chance?".

To me, it can only be explained in terms of the God I love and try to serve day by day. And why did God do all this? Because of His great love. This is the God who sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die at Calvary, to pay the price of all mankind's sinful failures. So of course, having accepted that, I want my life to reflect that and to show my love for Him.

Heaven awaits... but so does hell! How are you responding to your creator God?

Eric Green eric.green@xtra.co.nz









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Harvest Thankyou

FOODSHARE MAIDENHEAD

Dear Rev. Atallah,

We collected a lot of donations last week from St. Mary's; once again, the support from everyone has been very generous, and especially valuable at this time when Foodshare is regularly helping over 600 people each week in the Maidenhead area.

We are busy at the food bank, sorting through the large volume of donations we happily receive at this time of the year. Like the harvests in days of old, that will help us to provide food to people in need through the winter months, when demand for support is at its peak.

The demand on the charity feels unrelenting, but we are always gladdened and encouraged by the great goodwill that abounds in the community. Many thanks to everyone who donated.



With best wishes,

Lester Tanner & Debbie Gee

Trustees, Foodshare Maidenhead

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Medium

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Twyford & District

Polehampton Close The Twyford Centre Polehampton Close Twyford RG10 9RP

0118 934 4040

Twyford Centre News

Lunch Club

Monday & Thursday

Two Course Lunch - £8.00 inc Tea/Coffee Lunch is served at 12.30pm Exercise & 2 Course Lunch £10.00



Our members enjoy a home cooked two course meal and social time at our centre which is held twice weekly, £8.00 per person 12-2pm.

Day Centre

The Centre is open five days a week. We offer full day care facilities with a home-cooked midday meal from our 5 Star Kitchen. Members can join in a wealth of activities.

To all our members we offer companionship, friendly care and the opportunity to make new friends and share interests. Please give us a call for further information and also to book a free taster day.

President: Lady S Watt Registered Charity 1163722

Just a Thought...

'The world seems made for potters'. Earth, water and fire are the basic elements of the craft. We can go further – the world was made for us all. This planet on which we find ourselves really does yield everything needed to support life – and a God-given technology enables us to utilize its raw materials – such as clay.

In a potter's hands, the clay becomes the finished object in minutes, but by contrast, the heat of the kiln will enable that object to survive for millennia, reminding us of eternity – though its fragility suggests the vulnerability of human life.

The contrast between eternity and our own mortality is something we should all bear in mind as we each live out our brief life. We are given abilities and we have potential, but relationships are all-important, for during our brief sojourn here, it is God's wish that we find peace with one another. Often this demands some tolerance.

An opportunity of knowing God personally is everyone's birthright and it is principally through establishing and maintaining that possible relationship with Jesus Christ that we learn he is a loving God. This love for us is revealed in so many ways. As well as being assured of his provision and protection, we only need to look around us to see the awesome things created for our wonder and our delight. We are custodians and are entrusted with its care – its survival lies in our hands.

So, we are granted a beautiful creation and are given the opportunity to add to it, and care for it, but the true completion of its beauty is the achievement of that peace between men, which makes the world a place where everyone is enabled to experience God's love, can recognize and shun evil, and on reflection, learn of the opportunity of gaining eternal life.

Bob Packer



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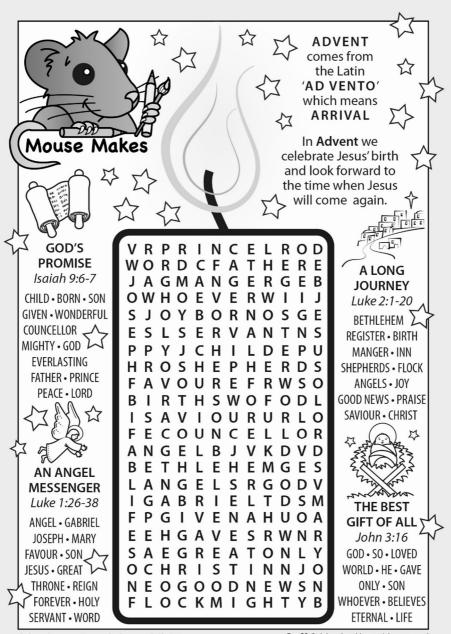
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Colour in one star each day until Christmas

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News from your Borough Councillors



Maureen Hunt cllr.hunt@rbwm.gov.uk



George Blundell cllr.blundell@rbwm.gov.uk

We are looking forward to Christmas and all the wonder this very special time of the year brings, starting with the 'Christmas Light Switch On' in Maidenhead on Saturday 25th November at the Town Hall. This marks the start of the festive season with a bustling market, a selection of stalls, street food and children's funfair rides, always making this annual event fun for the family. The countdown to the light swich on begins just before 6pm and depending on weather followed by the grand fireworks display.

In White Waltham we have the fabulous annual White Waltham C of E Academy Christmas Market to look forward to on Saturday 2nd December. There will be an array of stalls for young and old and lots of homemade

Christmas gifts and gorgeous products for you to shop, being an event for the whole family!

This year's Community Lantern Parade will be held on Saturday 9 December. The parade will begin at Maidenhead Town Hall at 4.30pm and will process through the town. The Town Crier, Chris



Brown, and special guests will kick off the celebrations on Norden Farm's stage outside the Town Hall. The parade is a joyful gathering of local people, showcasing weird and wonderful lantern creations set to fabulous live music, and you can come along with a lantern of your own to help light up the night.

All in all, a really good start to the Christmas festive season.

Parking in Maidenhead



With the Nicholsons Car park in Maidenhead no longer available for the foreseeable future, you may like to park in Hines Meadow, Grove Road or West Street car parks. If you've joined the Resident Parking Discount Scheme, you can get an hour's free parking each day in all three car parks. You can still apply to join, completely free.

If you'd like to save money and don't mind a 10-minute walk into the town centre, the new Vicus Way car park at Stafferton Way is affordable and always has spaces available, also including plenty of Electric Vehicle chargers. Three hours parking for £3 is at least £1.50 cheaper than any town centre car park, with all-day long-stay parking just £6. Also at Vicus Way car park, you can park at the weekend from 4pm on a Friday to 11pm on a Monday for £10, which is ideal if you have a planned visit for a weekend and take the train.

Consultation for closure of Train Station ticket offices in the Borough

As many are aware, there were plans by the rail companies to close the ticket offices in England. These have now been scrapped and this is very welcome news. As a council, we submitted a strong objection during the



official consultation period, raising significant accessibility concerns on behalf of our borough's local residents and visitors and joining the chorus of objectors calling for a national re-think. This is the best possible outcome, because clearly this move would have disadvantaged many

vulnerable passengers in the Royal Borough and elsewhere.

Remember, you can report potholes, overhanging vegetation etc. directly to the council on the council's website – www.rbwm.gov.uk and enter 'report it form' in the Search box or via:



https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/home/apply-pay-report/report-it

If you find yourself struggling with the cost-of-living crisis, please remember our borough has a thriving Voluntary and Community Sector, which plays a crucial role in supporting local communities. A wide range of voluntary organisations and community groups provide advice, assistance, and practical support to residents.

https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/home/community-and-living/community-support/here-help

Please remember we are both here to help you with any council issues you may have so do get in touch.

We wish you all a Very Happy Christmas

Maureen and George

Maureen Hunt and George Blundell



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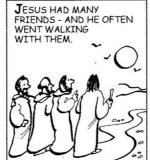
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Words and Actions









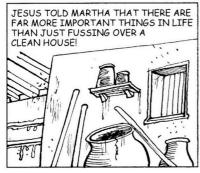
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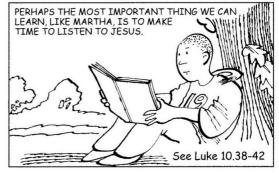
TOO AND WANTED TO











Shottesbrooke and White Waltham Charities

Clerk – Carolyn Thompson: 07834 545967, carolynt52@icloud.com

Shottesbrooke and White Waltham Welfare Fund

This fund was established by the Charities Commission in 1912 to help those living in the 'area of benefit' (the Civil Parishes of Shottesbrooke and White Waltham and the Ward of South Hurley).

How we can help:

The Charity income may be used to help generally, or help individual people living in the 'area of benefit' who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress. It can do this by making grants of money or by providing or paying for items, services or facilities.

Restrictions:

The trustees cannot help pay for rates, taxes or other public funds. However, it may use its funds to add to help that is already being provided out of public funds.

Each application for funding will be considered separately. Applications that are successful on one occasion may not be successful in future.

If you believe you would qualify for funding, please get in contact with the clerk by email (carolynt52@icloud.com) or telephone (07834 545967) and you will be contacted by your local Trustee.

A letter of support will be required from:

a Social Worker, a Vicar/Priest, a Head Teacher, or another official body.



Funeral Service followed by Cremation at Slough

1st November Lynn White aged 73 years

Services at White Waltham Church

Sunday Services at White Waltham Church are at 10.30am *with activities for children every Sunday*

Services are in person and live via Zoom from the church building: http://www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk/zoom

N.B. you can join us in one click on our website's main page

Services for All Ages coming up this Christmas

Christingle Service

Sunday 3rd December at 10.30am

Family Carol Service

Christmas Eve at 10.30am

Christmas Day All Age Service

Christmas Day at 10.30am

Everyone is welcome

Some content is available on our Facebook page

II White Waltham Church

Do come and join us – everyone is welcome at White Waltham Church



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And/or visit our website...

You can also catch up with this magazine online.

Visit www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk
and you'll find the Parish Magazine under the 'Resources' tab.

You can get the current issues as well as being able to download earlier versions from the past year.



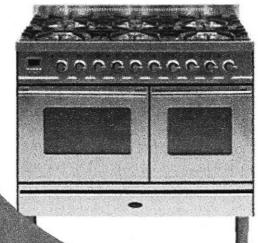
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